

Council Meeting of
February 27, 2007

Honorable Mayor and Members
of the City Council
City Hall
Torrance, California

Members of the Council:

SUBJECT: Community Services Department – Update of Library and Park Improvement Projects in the Central Torrance Area.

The Community Services Department provides a wide range of informational, recreational, cultural, and educational programs and services for persons of all ages and abilities with an emphasis on serving the City's youth. In addition, the Department is responsible for providing proper management, maintenance, and stewardship of the City's libraries, recreational facilities, parks, landscaped areas, and natural resources.

The following list provides an update of enhancements to the library and park facilities that serve the Central Torrance community.

Central Torrance Library and Parks Improvement Projects Update

- **Delthorne Park**
 - Replacement of wood tables with vinyl-clad wire mesh tables in the future.
- **Hickory, and Sur La Brea Parks**
 - Replacement of wood tables with vinyl-clad wire mesh tables in the future.
 - Walkway security lighting to be upgraded.
- **Greenwood Park**
 - Consideration to install safety fencing around portion of the park utilized by TUSD.
- **Pueblo Park**
 - Continued plans for the development of the new Pueblo Park.
 - Walkway security lighting to be upgraded.
- **Wilson Park**
 - Wheelchair accessible Tree house added to the park.
 - Park tables and benches planned to be upgraded in several locations.

- Pond water treated and water quality upgraded.
- Skateboard park ramps improved and upgraded.

➤ **Torrance Park**

- Master Plan completed.
- Request for Proposal being developed to solicit a Landscape Architect to develop plans, specifications, and bid documents for the Master Plan Improvements.
- Improvements will include:
 - Improvements to interior walkways
 - Installation of a new irrigation system.
 - Construction of new shade and picnic structures.
 - Upgraded sports and walkway lighting.
 - Replacement of perimeter fencing and baseball field backstop.
- Staff is working with the Torrance Historical Society to assure that historical elements are maintained in the park.

➤ **Southeast Branch Library**

- New Homework Center scheduled to open in early March
- Funding provided by the Torrance Public Library Foundation
- Four new technology stations with software, furniture, textbooks, student reference sources, and supplies
- Homework help – in-library assistance and remotely through “Live Homework Help”
- Earthquake braced book shelving to be installed
- New carpeting
- Electrical upgrade of the facility
- New Circulation Desk

➤ **Katy Geissert Civic Center Library**

- Main floor remodel scheduled for 2007-2008 to include:
- Earthquake braced book shelving
- Public restrooms remodel and upgrade for ADA accessibility
- New lounge reading areas added
- Enhanced entry foyer and display area
- Additional outlets for laptop computers
- Additional study/conference room
- New carpeting and paint
- Technology upgrade for Meeting Room including improved sound and projection system (cooperative project with Office of Cable and Community Relations)

➤ **Madrona Marsh**

- Native plant garden planned and implemented.
- Animal exhibits planned for Nature Center.

➤ **The ATTIC**

- Future exterior improvements to include:
 - Fence repair
 - Picnic area and picnic tables upgrades
 - Parking lot and security lights improved.

➤ **Benstead Plunge**

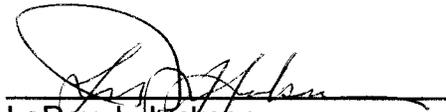
- Plunge Building interior painted.
- Installed new ceiling tiles and light fixtures.
- Installed a new pool heating system.

Respectfully submitted,



Gene Barnett
Community Services Director

CONCUR:



LeRoy J. Jackson
City Manager