

COUNCIL MEETING
April 10, 2007

PUBLIC HEARING

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

Members of the Council:

SUBJECT: Community Services -- Adopt an ORDINANCE adding Section 49.2.9 to the Torrance Municipal Code prohibiting the parking of vehicles in parking areas serving public parks
Expenditure: Not applicable

RECOMMENDATION

The Community Services Director and the Chief of Police recommends that City Council adopt an ORDINANCE adding Section 49.2.9 to the Torrance Municipal Code related to **PARKING OF VEHICLES IN PUBLIC PARKS AND PARKING LOTS SERVICING PUBLIC PARKS BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 10 P.M. AND 6 A.M.** and approve the attached summary of the ordinance for publication.

Funding

Not applicable

BACKGROUND

Presently, the City of Torrance has in place ordinance Section 49.2.1 which states that "No persons shall enter or remain in any park between the hours of 10:00 P.M. - 6:00 A.M. except when engaged in an activity scheduled or expressly permitted by the City." The ordinance was passed in an attempt to curb graffiti, and vandalism to our City parks. However, it is applicable to people only.

ANALYSIS

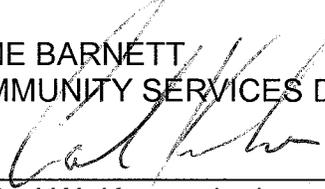
Staff has expressed concerns regarding overnight parking of vehicles in the park parking lots. Under the existing ordinance, the Police Department is not able to require that these vehicles be removed from city property. With the addition of new housing units adjacent to our city parks, staff are now finding that the residents of these developments are using the city parking lots as extra parking for their vehicles. Additionally, the Farmers' Market program has frequently experienced vehicles parked overnight at Wilson Park that are blocking the set-up for the market.

Staff believes that an ordinance that applies to vehicles on park property after hours of operation would serve to curb potential vandalism and eliminate conflict with city programs as well as mirror the existing ordinance that restricts people from being on city parks, between the hours of 10 P.M. – 6 A.M. The passage of ordinance Section 49.2.9, "No Parking on City parks between the hours 10:00 P.M. And 6:00 A.M.", will reinforce the hours of operation for all City Parks in the City of Torrance.

The Community Services Director and Chief of Police recommend that Your Honorable Body adopt a new ORDINANCE adding Section 49.2.9 to the Torrance Municipal Code related to **PARKING OF VEHICLES IN PUBLIC PARKS AND PARKING LOTS SERVICING PUBLIC PARKS BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 10 P.M AND 6 A.M.** and approve the attached summary of the ordinance for publication.

Respectfully submitted,

GENE BARNETT
COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR

By 

Carl W. Kaemerle Jr.
Senior Recreation Supervisor

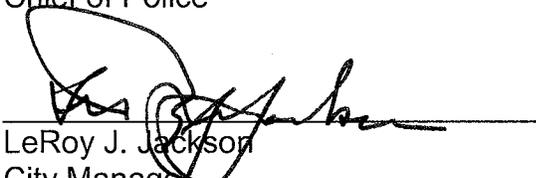
CONCUR:



Gene Barnett
Community Services Director



John Neu
Chief of Police



LeRoy J. Jackson
City Manager

- Attachment: A) Copy of Proposed Ordinance
B) Ordinance Summary

ATTACHMENT A

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ADDING A NEW SECTION 49.2.9 PROHIBITING THE PARKING OF VEHICLES IN PARKING AREAS SERVICING PUBLIC PARKS IN THE HOURS BETWEEN 10 P.M. AND 6 A.M.

The City Council of the City of Torrance does ordain as follows:

SECTION 1

A new Section 49.2.9 of the Torrance Municipal code is added, to read in its entirety as follows:

“Section 49.2.9 PARKING OF VEHICLES IN PUBLIC PARKS AND PARKING LOTS SERVICING PUBLIC PARKS BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 10 P.M. AND 6 A.M.

- a) No person shall stop, stand, or park any vehicle in any Public Park or Park Parking lot servicing the Park or attached thereto between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. Violators will be subject to citation, towing, or both. Violators will be towed at owner’s expense.
- b) All Public Parks and Park parking lots must be posted to provide notice of parking prohibition and consequential towing. The prohibition will not be effective unless the required signs are posted.
- c) The prohibition in subsection (a) does not apply to those vehicles parked in Public Parks or Park parking lots approved by a City department with jurisdiction over the Park or Park parking lot for an event approved by such a department allowing parking between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. Every vehicle so approved shall display a permit issued by such a department in the bottom left hand corner of the front windshield.
- d) Any vehicle found parked in a Public Park or Park parking lot between the prohibited hours listed in subsection (a) will be cited, towed at the owner’s expense, or both.”

SECTION 2

Any inconsistent provisions of the Torrance Municipal Code, or any other inconsistent ordinances of the City, are repealed, to the extent of the inconsistencies.

SECTION 3

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by the decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, then the decision will not affect the validity of the remaining portion of the ordinance. The City Council declares that it would have passed this ordinance and each of its sections, subsections, sentences, clauses and phrases, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses or phrases might be declared invalid or unconstitutional.

SECTION 4

This ordinance will take effect thirty days after the date of its adoption. Within fifteen days following adoption, this ordinance or a summary of this ordinance, if authorized by the City Council, will be published at least once in the Daily Breeze, a newspaper of general circulation, published and circulated in the City of Torrance.

INTRODUCED AND APPROVED this ____ day of _____, 2007.
Adopted and passed this ____ day of _____, 2007.

Frank Scotto, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sue Herbers, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

John L. Fellows III
City Attorney

By: _____
Ronald T. Pohl
Assistant City Attorney

ATTACHMENT B

ORDINANCE NO. _____

SUMMARY

On _____, the City Council of the City of Torrance adopted Ordinance No. _____ a new ordinance prohibiting the parking of vehicles in parking areas servicing public parks in the hours between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m.

The new ordinance provides that no person shall stop, stand, or park any vehicle in any Public Park or Park Parking lot servicing the Park or attached thereto between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. Violators will be subject to citation, towing, or both. Violators will be towed at owner's expense.

The ordinance provides that the parking lots must be posted to provide notice of the parking prohibition and consequential towing. The prohibition will not be effective unless the required signs are posted.

The parking prohibition does not apply to those vehicles parked in Public Parks or Park parking lots approved by a City department with jurisdiction over the Park or Park parking lot for an event approved by such a department allowing parking between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. Every vehicle so approved shall display a permit issued by such a department in the bottom left hand corner of the front windshield.

