

Council Meeting of
June 26, 2007

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

Members of the Council:

SUBJECT: City Manager – Accept and file the second quarterly report from the Blue Ribbon Committee to study Ethics and Integrity in City Government

RECOMMENDATION

The City Manager recommends that City Council accept and file the second quarterly report from the Blue Ribbon Committee to study Ethics and Integrity in City Government covering the period February 2007 – June 2007.

FUNDING

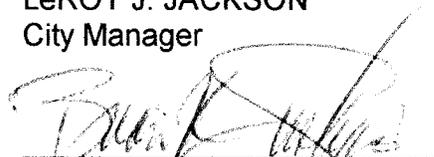
Funding is not required for this item.

BACKGROUND/ ANALYSIS

Pursuant to the requirements of the enabling Resolution, the subject Committee is transmitting their second status report to the City Council. It is recommended that the report be accepted and filed upon completion of a brief presentation from the Committee.

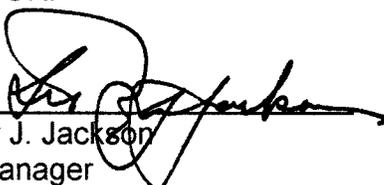
Respectfully submitted,

LeROY J. JACKSON
City Manager



By: Brian K. Sunshine
Assistant to the City Manager

CONCUR:



LeRoy J. Jackson
City Manager

Attachment:

Blue Ribbon Committee to study Ethics and Integrity in City Government
quarterly status report

**CITY OF TORRANCE COMMITTEE TO STUDY
ETHICS AND INTEGRITY IN CITY GOVERNMENT**

REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL AS OF JUNE 26, 2007

The committee, through its subcommittee efforts and extensive work within the committee has completed its work on Ethical Values and Standards. The committee is now developing an implementation plan which will include long-term sustainable components.

WORK ACCOMPLISHED FROM 2/7/07 THROUGH 6/6/07

Recap of action from Committee meetings:

1. February 7, 2007
 - Approved first quarter report for transmission to City Council
 - Discussed post employment lobbying in Torrance
 - Agreed to develop one ethics code with the same values and standards but scenarios tailored to targeted groups
 - Subcommittees presented 3-5 standards for each of the five values
2. March 7, 2007
 - Developed a list of ethical issues in Torrance
 - Discussed whether scenarios should be written to standards or to ethical issues
 - Ethical issues were grouped with corresponding standards in order to write scenarios
3. April 4, 2007
 - Compiled a number of scenarios that can be used as examples of ethical behavior
 - Reviewed possible consolidation of some standards
 - Assistant City Attorney Pohl reviewed and discussed laws and regulations regarding ethical conduct with the committee
4. May 2, 2007
 - Deputy City Attorney Heather Whitham completed the review and discussion of laws and regulations regarding ethical conduct
 - Initial discussion on the implementation plan

5. June 6, 2007

- Approved word changes to the Standards
- Approved 2nd quarterly report for transmission to City Council
- Continued discussion on implementation plan

WORK STILL TO BE ACCOMPLISHED AS OF JUNE 26, 2007

- Develop a framework for presenting the code of ethics, including a preamble
- Complete the implementation plan of the sustainable ethics program

The first phase will focus on application of the code for:

- Elected officials
- Appointed officials including commissioners and ad hoc committee members
- Candidates for elected and appointed offices

The second phase will address City of Torrance employees:

One code will apply to all groups

- Determine if additions or modifications to city codes, within the ethics framework, are appropriate
- Determine if additions or modifications to existing city ethics codes are appropriate
- Implementation of a sustainable ethics program within the city

