

Council Meeting of
September 25, 2007

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

Members of the Council:

SUBJECT: Accept and file report of the City Council Committee on Citizen Development and Enrichment joint meeting with the Torrance Unified School District. Expenditure: N/A

RECOMMENDATION

City Council Committee on Citizen Development and Enrichment recommends that Council receive and file a report on the August 28, 2007 joint meeting with the Torrance Unified School District (TUSD).

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

The City Council Committee on Citizen Development and Enrichment and two members of the TUSD Board met in a joint session on August 28, 2007. The meeting was held at Torrance City Hall. School Board members attending were Albert Y. Muratsuchi, Clerk of the Board of Education, and Dr. Michael Ernst, Vice President of the Board. A full list of attendees is noted on the attached agenda cover. The joint Committee meeting began with a discussion of several informational items regarding upcoming issues that impact TUSD and the City.

TUSD Information Items

Potential Bond Election

TUSD has decided to go to the voters for a bond election, but a date has not been set as yet. Potential dates for the election include either June 2008 or November 2008, since there will not be any election data prepared before February 2008. TUSD Board members expressed a desire for City Council support for the bond issue. Council committee members stated that the City will confer with the City Attorney to explore the option of TUSD producing an information piece on Citicable as a venue to present the findings of the Report of the TUSD Facilities & Asset Review Committee. This program would be designed to communicate the Report to the public in an objective and informative manner. TUSD will be able to deliver detailed parameters for such a piece on Citicable by November 2007.

Victor Mowing Project

At the February 13, 2007 Joint Meeting of TUSD and the Citizen Development and Enrichment Committee, staff was requested to explore a pilot project with TUSD to mow the fields of Victor School in order to determine benefits to the District and the City. The goal of this pilot project is to determine if the City of Torrance can assist the District with the maintenance of their school sites and what impact it would have on both the District and the City. Since Victor School is adjacent to Victor Park, the concept would be for City crews to mow the school site on the same day they mow the park in order to verify efficiencies and impacts. The long range goal is that TUSD and the City achieve efficiencies through sharing of maintenance of contiguous fields.

City Staff met with TUSD staff to develop this pilot project. The following points were considered:

- Time of mowing of the school site by City staff to avoid mowing areas where children are present and to minimize the equipment noise so as not to interfere with classes, recess or lunch periods.
- Employee Relations – TUSD and the City will need to review this pilot program with their respective employee organizations.
- Pilot project to run October – November 2007, with the goal of TUSD and the City to identify the pros and cons of this project.
- Project to only involve field mowing.

The Joint Committee concurred in recommending to the City Council that the Park Services Division be authorized to proceed with this project as an endeavor to improve the quality of the fields at Victor School that could result in a larger project to improve Torrance school fields all over the community. If concurred with by the Council, representatives of the Division and TUSD will coordinate scheduling and monitoring of this pilot project. A report on the results of the project focusing on the impact to the City and the realization of improved efficiencies for TUSD would be provided to the Committee and each agency at the end of the year.

City Information Items

Update on Hull/Levy Transition

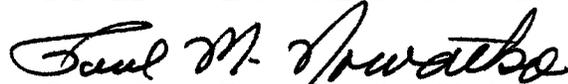
Community Development, Public Works, and Police department staff led a traffic presentation on the Hull/Levy transition. There has been a good response from students regarding the use of public transportation and the first week use of the bus route demonstrated that there would be less difficulty with traffic congestion. TUSD also wanted to thank City staff for their contribution in coordinating a smooth and successful move from the Hull School to the Levy School.

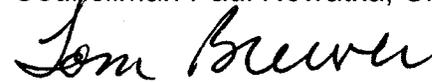
Future of Griffith Adult Center

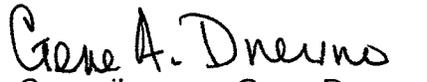
In regards to the inquiry about the omission of the Griffith Adult Center from the TUSD Facilities & Asset Report, TUSD explained that the school was not listed as it cannot be considered an asset by TUSD due to the restrictions on the property when it was transferred to TUSD by the Navy.

Respectfully submitted,

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON CITIZEN
DEVELOPMENT AND ENRICHMENT


Councilman Paul Nowatka, Chair


Councilman Tom Brewer


Councilwoman Gene Drevno

MKG/dle

Attachment: A) Joint Meeting Agenda – August 28, 2007

JOINT MEETING OF THE TORRANCE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
AND THE
TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL
CITIZEN DEVELOPMENT AND ENRICHMENT COMMITTEE

AGENDA

DATE: Tuesday, August 28, 2007

TIME: 4:00 p.m.

PLACE: Torrance City Hall
City Manager's Assembly Room, Third Floor
3031 Torrance Boulevard, Torrance

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Councilman Paul M. Nowatka, Chair Dr. Michael Ernst, T.U.S.D. Board of Education
Councilman Tom Brewer, Member Albert Y. Muratsuchi, T.U.S.D. Board of Education
Councilwoman Gene Drevno, Member

STAFF: Dr. George Mannon, T.U.S.D. Superintendent
Dr. Donald Stabler, T.U.S.D. Deputy Superintendent
LeRoy J. Jackson, City Manager
Mary K. Giordano, Assistant City Manager
Fran Fulton, Management Associate
Mike Wilson, Park Services Manager
Jason Minter, Senior Business Manager
Jeff Gibson, Community Development Director
Ted Semaan, Transportation Manager, Community Development Director
Craig Bilezerian, Project Manager, Public Works Department
Capt. Marc Wilkins, Torrance Police Department

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- I. Welcome and Introductions** **Councilman Paul Nowatka**
- II. T.U.S.D. Information Items**
- A) Potential Bond Election
 - B) Victor Mowing Project *
 - C) Maintenance of Fields
- III. City Information Items**
- A) Update on Hull/Levy transition
 - B) Future of Griffith Adult Center
- IV. Oral Communications**
- V. Adjournment**

** Material attached*