

Council Meeting of
November 20, 2007

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

Members of the Council:

SUBJECT: City Manager – Adopt ORDINANCE regulating cash campaign contributions.

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council:

- 1) Adopt an **ORDINANCE** adding a new Section 6 to Article 1 of Chapter 7 of Division 1 of the Torrance Municipal Code limiting cash campaign contributions to \$20 or less; and
- 2) Approve an ordinance summary for publication.

FUNDING

Funding is not required for this item.

BACKGROUND/ ANALYSIS

The Blue Ribbon Committee on Ethics and Integrity brought an item before Your Honorable Body on November 6, 2007 recommending the adoption of the attached ordinance.

The proposed ordinance would add a new Section 6 to Article 1 of Chapter 7 of Division 1 of the Torrance Municipal Code. The new Section would limit cash campaign contributions to \$20.00 or less. This new Section will not limit an individual's ability to make donations; it only limits the amount of cash that can be given. The purpose of this new Section is to create a paper trail on donations that are larger than \$20.00. This new Section does not affect the reporting requirements.

The City Council reviewed this proposed amendment and after discussion voted 7- 0 to have it brought back for adoption.

Respectfully submitted,

LeROY J. JACKSON

City Manager



By: Brian K. Sunshine
Assistant to the City Manager

CONCUR:



LeRoy J. Jackson
City Manager

Attachments:

- A. **ORDINANCE**
- B. Ordinance Summary

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ADDING A NEW SECTION 6 TO ARTICLE 1 OF CHAPTER 7 OF DIVISION 1 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE REGULATING CASH CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS.

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

SECTION 1

That a new Section 6 is added to Article 1 of Chapter 7 of Division 1, entitled "CASH CONTRIBUTIONS." This section reads in its entirety as follows:

"SECTION 17.1.6. CASH CONTRIBUTIONS.

No person may make, and no candidate for City of Torrance elective office, or controlled committee of that candidate, may solicit or accept, any cash contribution in excess of \$20."

SECTION 2

Any provisions of the Torrance Municipal Code or its appendices, or any other ordinances of the City inconsistent with this ordinance, to the extent of the inconsistencies and no further, are repealed.

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, the decision will not affect the validity of the remaining portions of the ordinance. The City Council declares that it would have passed this ordinance and each section, subsection, sentence, clause and phrase, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses or phrases are 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 the ___ 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

ORDINANCE NO. _____

SUMMARY

On _____, 2007, the City Council of the City of Torrance adopted Ordinance No. _____. This ordinance adds a new section to the City's campaign contribution ordinance limiting cash contributions to candidates and their controlled committees to \$20.

*****City Clerk to add a paragraph stating that copies of the ordinance are available at the City Clerk's office and stating the names of the City Council members that voted in favor and those that voted against.*****