

Council Meeting of  
December 11, 2007

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

Members of the Council:

**SUBJECT: Community Development - Environmental Quality  
Commission 2006- 2007 Annual Report.**

**RECOMMENDATION**

Recommendation of the Community Development Director that the City Council accept and file the Environmental Quality Commission's 2006-2007 Annual Report.

**BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS**

The Annual Report of the Environmental Quality Commission for 2006-2007 is attached for your information and review. The Environmental Quality Commission reviewed this report at their meeting of November 1, 2007. At that time, they approved the report and recommended that it be forwarded to Council for review.

Respectfully Submitted,

JEFFERY W. GIBSON  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

By *Linda Cessna*  
for Linda Cessna  
Deputy Community Development Director

CONCUR:

*Jeffery W. Gibson*  
JEFFERY W. GIBSON  
Community Development Director

NOTED:

*LeRoy J. Jackson*  
LeROY J. JACKSON  
City Manager

Attachment: A) Environmental Quality Commission 2006-2007 Annual Report

**TORRANCE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION**

October 4, 2007

TO: Chairman McCabe and Members  
of the Torrance Environmental Quality Commission

SUBJECT: Environmental Quality Commission Annual Report 2006- 2007

Attached is the revised Annual Report for the Environmental Quality Commission for 2006-07. Should the report meet with your approval, staff would recommend forwarding it to the City Council on December 11, to coincide with the joint Council/TEQECC meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Cessna  
Deputy Community Development Director

## TORRANCE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION

### Annual Report 2006- 2007

The Environmental Quality Commission may make recommendations to the City Council on any matter concerning environmental quality or energy conservation in the City. The Commission has jurisdiction over the sign review process, the removal of abandoned or wrecked vehicles and hears appeals from the Animal Control Program. The Commission presents awards for outstanding development, design and maintenance, as well as for exemplary programs in energy conservation.

Following is a review of the cases heard by the Environmental Quality Commission in 2006-2007, as well as the workshops, presentations and other activities that took place at Commission meetings.

**Sign Hearings:** The Environmental Commission heard six sign cases, four of which were requests for electronic readerboards. The Commission also discussed sign twirlers, window signs in furniture stores and spent several meetings discussing a policy for electronic readerboards in the City. The denial of an electronic readerboard was appealed to the City Council.

**Animal Matters:** The Commission heard testimony and considered the issue of feral cats over a three-month period. A recommendation was forwarded to the City Council.

**Environmental Matters:** The Commission heard presentations from the City Recycling Coordinator and toured a Recycling Center. Presentations regarding Cool Cities and the dangers of polystyrene were also heard over the course of the year. The Cool Cities presentation resulted in a recommendation to the Council that the City become a signatory to the Mayor's Agreement, and adopt the ideals and mission of the Kyoto Protocol regarding reduction of greenhouse gases. In addition, the Commission forwarded Green Building guidelines to the Council, which were also adopted and are now available to the public.

In November, the Commission hosted a joint meeting with the City Council and gave brief presentations on areas of interest such as Green Building, Recycling, Energy Conservation, Green Policies and Outreach. Members of the Commission also joined staff at the Toyota Energy Fair and Expo in April.

The Commission also presented three Pride in Torrance Awards this year: Virginia Hilker for her work in bringing the Cool Cities program to Torrance; Old Torrance Neighborhood Association for their Community Clean-up Program and West High Students Daniel Coffee and Arohi Sharma for their work bringing the issue of polystyrene to the Commission and Community.