

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

**Members of the Council:**

**SUBJECT:** City Manager – Accept a Blue Star Memorial Highway Marker from the Riviera Garden Club

Expenditure: None

**RECOMMENDATION**

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council accept a Blue Star Marker as a donation from the Riviera Garden Club to the City of Torrance in honor of our Armed Forces to be placed at Fire Station 4.

**Funding**

If approved, funding is available in the Operating Budget.

**BACKGROUND**

The Blue Star Memorial Highway Program started as a nationwide movement after the World War II to pay tribute to the nation’s armed forces by designating various State and national routes as “Blue Star Memorial Highways.” In 1945, the National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc. approved the Blue Star Memorial Highway Marker program. California Garden Clubs, Inc. accepted the program in 1947. The Blue Star name comes from the blue star in the service flag. The blue star was chosen to symbolize the memorial because it was used during World War II on flags and homes of families that had a son or daughter in the armed forces.

The text on the marker is as follows:

BLUE STAR MEMORIAL HIGHWAY  
A tribute to the Armed Forces  
that have defended the  
United States of America  
SPONSORED BY  
Riviera Garden Club - founded 1957  
IN COOPERATION WITH  
California Garden Clubs, Inc.  
AND  
The City of Torrance

**ANALYSIS**

On August 18, 2008, the City Manager received a letter from Geneva Martin expressing a desire to have the City accept this marker which will be located at the corner of Calle Mayor and Pacific Coast Highway. The Riviera Garden Club purchased the Blue Star Marker to honor our Armed Forces and to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Riviera Garden Club.

It is recommended that the City Council accept this donation and assume responsibility for the maintenance of the marker in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

LeRoy J. Jackson  
City Manager

  
By: Eleanor B. Jones  
Management Associate

CONCUR:

  
LeRoy J. Jackson  
City Manager