

Council Meeting of
December 9, 2008

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

Members of the Council:

SUBJECT: Community Development - Environmental Quality Commission
Annual Report, 2007- 2008

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation of the Community Development Director and the Torrance Environmental Quality Commission that City Council accept and file the Environmental Quality Commission's 2007-2008 Annual Report.

BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS

The Annual Report of the Environmental Quality Commission for 2007-2008 is attached for your information and review. The Environmental Quality Commission reviewed this report at their meeting of November 6, 2008. At that time, they approved the report and recommended that it be forwarded to Council for review.

Respectfully Submitted,

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION



Paul A. McCabe
Chairman

CONCUR:



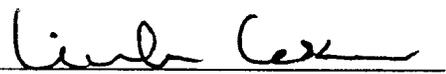
JEFFERY W. GIBSON
Community Development Director

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Community Development Director

NOTED:



LeROY J. JACKSON
City Manager

By 

Linda Cessna
Deputy Community Development Director

Attachment: A) Environmental Quality Commission 2007-2008 Annual Report

TORRANCE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION

November 6, 2008

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

Subject: Environmental Quality Commission Annual Report 2007- 2008

Attached is the Annual Report for the Environmental Quality Commission for 2007-08. Should the report meet with your approval, staff would recommend forwarding it to the City Council on December 9, to coincide with the joint Council/TEQECC meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Cessna
Deputy Community Development Director

TORRANCE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION

Annual Report 2007- 2008

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 2007-- 2008, as well as the workshops, presentations and other activities that took place at Commission meetings.

Sign Hearings: The Environmental Commission heard one sign case; a request for an electronic reader board that was approved.

Animal Matters: The Commission heard an appeal of a vicious dog hearing regarding a pit bull that had attacked a mailman. They prepared for a second appeal, which was first continued and then withdrawn.

Oil Matters: The Commission heard the first of several three year extension requests for non-conforming oil wells in the City.

Environmental Matters: The Commission heard presentations from the City Recycling Coordinator regarding the recycling efforts in the City, discussed the Community Resources Element of the General Plan and learned about green initiatives in Santa Monica and Manhattan Beach. They discussed the benefits of formulating a green purchasing policy for the city. A presentation regarding an Environmental Fair was given by the Environmental Protection Network, requesting that the Commission join them in sponsoring a Torrance Environmental Fair. The Commission had been looking at sponsoring an Environmental Fair, and welcomed this proposal.

In December, 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 and the City's Green Action Team at the City Yard Open House and sponsored a coloring contest for youngsters at the event.

The Commission also presented Pride in Torrance Awards this year to a number of environmentally friendly Cleaners, to the North Torrance HOA

for their tree planting project and to Eagle Scout Ryan Omori for his Downtown cleanup project.