Council Meeting of
December 22, 2009

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

Members of the Council:

SUBJECT: Police - Accept and file Disaster Council 2008-2009 Annual Report. Expenditure: None.

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation of the Chief of Police and the Disaster Council that City Council accept and file the Disaster Council 2008-2009 Annual Report.

BACKGROUND

The Annual Report for July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009, as prepared by the Disaster Council, is attached for the City Council's information and review. The Disaster Council approved this report at its meeting on October 28, 2009.

Respectfully Submitted,

DISASTER COUNCIL

Melvin Glass
Chair

JOHN J. NEU
Chief of Police

By Tracy Bonano
Tracy Bonano
Emergency Services Coordinator

CONCUR:

John J. Neu
Chief of Police

NOTED:

LeRoy J. Jackson
City Manager

Attachment A: Disaster Council 2008-2009 Annual Report

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Attachment A

ANNUAL REPORT

TORRANCE DISASTER COUNCIL

CITY OF TORRANCE POLICE DEPARTMENT

EMERGENCY SERVICES DIVISION

JULY 2008 – JUNE 2009

Attachment A

ANNUAL REPORT
TORRANCE DISASTER COUNCIL
CITY OF TORRANCE
JULY 2008 - JUNE 2009

Members of the Council

	Term	Term Expires	First Appointed
Melvin Glass - CHAIR	1-16-2007	1-15-2011	1-14-2003
Kathleen Galbasin - VICE CHAIR	1-16-2009	1-16-2013	1-11-2005
Kristin Matsuda	1-16-2006	1-15-2010	1-10-2006
Ghislaine Davis	1-16-2008	1-15-2012	1-16-2008

Staff support was provided by Lt. Jon Megeff, Lt Rod Irvine and Tracy Bonano of the Torrance Police Department.

Purpose of the Commission

The Disaster Council is governed by the Torrance Municipal Code, Division 1, Chapter 6, Article 2, Section 16.2 and 16.2.2. It provides recommendations to the City Council on matters pertinent to the development of mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery plans and programs for any potential local emergency. It performs surveys of disaster readiness in the city and disseminates alert information to the public. Disaster Council meetings also provide for communication and coordination between the public and private sectors of the city in analyzing local hazards and developing response plans.

The Council consists of four appointed Commissioners plus representatives of city departments, Torrance businesses, industry, citizen groups and organizations concerned with the City's disaster preparedness.

The Disaster Council held eleven monthly meetings this past year on the fourth Wednesday of the month for communication between all interested groups. An agenda of each meeting is prepared and distributed prior to the scheduled meetings. These are also posted on the Torrance Commission web site.

Summary of Council Activities

In October, our proposal for the City to co-sponsor CPR training for Torrance residents with Torrance Memorial Medical Center (TMMC) was held and very successful. The Disaster Council thanks the City Council for approving our recommendation.

In November, the Golden Guardian exercise was held throughout California. The simulation of a large earthquake at the southern end of the state was to test Emergency Preparedness. Fourteen city departments participated. Other organizations included Providence Little Company of Mary (LCM) and TMMC hospitals as well as the Torrance Unified School District (TUSD), Torrance Amateur Radio Association (TARA), Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), Animal Disaster Team (ADT),

New Horizons and assorted Torrance neighborhood organizations. The exercise was a good way to see what worked and what needed to be corrected.

In January, Commissioner Galbasin was reappointed to another term on the Council.

During the year we discussed updating the City's Emergency Preparedness Manual for Senior's and also acquiring defibrillators for city libraries. We also looked into personal protective equipment (PPEs) for city staff. The TMMC donated two defibrillators and one of their doctors donated a third. Our recommendations for the Emergency Preparedness Manual for Senior's and PPEs for city staff have been approved by the Disaster Council and forwarded for processing through Emergency Services and to City Council for approval.

The Council also received status reports from TUSD, American Red Cross (ARC), Torrance Police Department (TPD), Torrance Fire Department (TFD), Torrance Libraries, TMMC and LCM Hospital. The council also was informed by various Torrance businesses and Home Owners Associations (HOA's) about their efforts in disaster preparedness.

In a continuing effort to bring together the City Disaster Service Volunteer (DSV) groups, the Annual DSV Picnic was again held in August 2008 at Wilson Park. CERT, TARA, ADT, and Neighborhood Watch enjoyed the 5th Annual DSV Picnic with support from the City Council, TPD and TFD Departments, and the Disaster Council. A good time was had by all. We also want to thank the City E-PREP Committee for doing all the cooking.

Summary

Emergency preparedness is of great importance to the members of the community. The Disaster Council wishes to thank each city department, members of the community and businesses who work together to see that the City will be well prepared for any contingency.

Additionally, the Disaster Council thanks the members of the City Council for their support and leadership and appreciates being part of the effort to keep Torrance a safe place to live and work. We also want to thank Lt. Jon Megeff and Lt. Rod Irvine of the Torrance Police Department for their untiring support and help this past year. We wish them well in their new assignments. The Council also wishes to thank the TPD for its assistance to the Disaster Council and DSV organizations.

Finally, we would like to welcome, and thank, Tracy Bonano for her support the past few months. She is doing an excellent job as the new Emergency Preparedness Coordinator.

Respectfully submitted,

Commissioner Melvin Glass
Chairperson, Disaster Council
City of Torrance