

Council Meeting of  
February 9, 2010

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

**Members of the City Council:**

**SUBJECT: Approve City of Torrance 2010 State Legislative Agenda and Priority Capital Projects**

**RECOMMENDATION**

Recommendation of the 2010 State Legislative Advocacy Ad Hoc Committee that Council approve the City of Torrance 2010 Legislative Agenda and Priority Capital Projects.

**BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS**

On January 26, 2010 the Mayor appointed members to the 2010 State Legislative Advocacy Ad Hoc Committee. Members of the Committee are: Mayor Frank Scotto, Councilmember Gene Barnett and Councilmember Susan Rhilinger. The role of the Committee is to work with staff and State lobbyists in achieving the City's legislative goals at the state level.

On February 5, 2010 the Committee met to review and discuss the City's 2010 Legislative Agenda and Priority Projects. The agenda included: Review of the draft 2010 Legislative Agenda, discussion of recommended State Priority Capital Projects and the upcoming State legislative visit (Attachment A). The handout materials included: Draft 2010 Legislative Agenda, recommended State Priority Projects and other reference materials.

Following review and discussion, the Committee recommended one change to the Draft 2010 Legislative Agenda. The change was made to the sixth bullet under the Economic Development Section as follows:

Support legislation that will fund local government's costs of implementing AB 32 and SB 375 until funding sources becomes available or bills are repealed.

The change is reflected in the 2010 Legislative Agenda (Attachment B). The Committee approved the 2010 Legislative Agenda with the change noted above.

With regard to the State Priority Capital Projects the Committee directed staff to gather more information from Joe A. Gonsalves & Son to assist in determining State priority projects. Based on discussion with staff and Joe A. Gonsalves & Son the following State Priority Capital Projects are being recommended based on potential funding opportunities: Torrance Transit Center, Pueblo Park, Bishop Montgomery Basin Project (2011 phase), Revitalization

of Downtown Torrance/Workforce Housing, Storm water Basin Enhancement Program and North Torrance Well Field (Attachment C). The firm additionally recommended that as part of the meeting with Cal Trans, the relinquishment of Hawthorne Boulevard and the current and planned use for two parcels owned by Cal Trans should be discussed.

The Committee would like to request concurrence from Council to approve the 2010 Legislative Agenda and State Priority Capital Projects.

Respectfully submitted,

2010 STATE LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY AD HOC COMMITTEE



Mayor Frank Scotto, Chair



Councilmember Gene Barnett, Member



Councilmember Susan Rhilinger, Member

Attachments:

- A.) Agenda – February 5, 2010 State Legislative Advocacy Ad Hoc Committee Meeting
- B.) 2010 Legislative Agenda
- C.) State Priority Capital Projects

## AGENDA

### AD HOC 2010 STATE LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

DATE: Friday, February 5, 2010

TIME: 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

PLACE: City Manager's Assembly Room, Third Floor

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Mayor Frank Scotto  
Councilwoman Susan Rhilinger  
Councilman Gene Barnett

STAFF: LeRoy J. Jackson, City Manager  
Mary Giordano, Assistant City Manager  
John Fellows, City Attorney  
John Neu, Police Chief  
Eric Tsao, Finance Director  
John Jones, Community Services Director  
Kim Turner, Transit Director  
Jeff Gibson, Community Development Director  
Eleanor B. Jones, Management Associate

SUBJECT: 2010 Legislative Agenda and Priority Capital Projects

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|-------|--|------------------|
| I.    | Welcome and Introductions  | Mayor Scotto     |
| II.   | Purpose of Meeting   | Eleanor B. Jones |
| III.  | Review Draft 2010 Legislative Agenda   | Committee        |
| IV.   | Discuss Priority Projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify State Priority Projects</li> </ul>   | Committee        |
| V.    | Sacramento 2010 State Legislative Visit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tentative Schedule</li> <li>• Handout Materials</li> <li>• Discussion Points</li> </ul> | Committee        |
| VI.   | Committee Questions/Discussion   | Committee        |
| VII.  | Direction from Committee   | Committee        |
| VIII. | Adjournment  |                  |



**DRAFT  
CITY OF TORRANCE  
2010 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA**

**Purpose:** The Legislative Agenda for the City of Torrance is to maintain and protect local control and self-governance, and generate increased revenue by pursuing grant opportunities that are aligned with the Strategic Plan to protect the environment, energy, transportation infrastructure, safety, and pursue economic growth.

The City seeks to form strategic partnerships and build coalitions with surrounding cities and organizations to provide the City and the economic region with a stronger presence in the legislative process.

**Legislative Priorities**

The City's legislative objectives are:

**Economic Development**

- Promote economic incentives as a means to attract or retain businesses.
- Flexibility in the use of redevelopment authority as a tool for cities that encourages economic development.
- Legislation that provides tangible and productive tools and incentives for job creation and retention.
- Legislation to enhance workforce development efforts in demand occupations.
- Support legislation regarding implementation of AB 32 and SB 375 that recognizes the constraints of built-out cities such as Torrance.
- Support legislation that will fund local government's costs of implementing AB 32 and SB 375 or delay its implementation until funding sources becomes available or repealed.
- Protect redevelopment funding sources.
- Support legislation that establishes funding and incentives for programs that encourage walking and biking and other alternative modes of local transportation.

**Energy Efficiencies**

- Advocate increase funding to public agencies to encourage reduced consumption of energy, develop alternative energy sources and shift usage to non-peak hours.
- Support legislation that assist local government funding to convert fleets to alternative fuels to improve air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

- Support legislation to develop and increase the availability of alternative fuel and refueling infrastructure.
- Resources to upgrade facilities to accommodate indoor repairs and maintenance of natural gas fueled vehicles.
- Support legislation that will lessen the financial impact of state and federal unfunded mandates for compliance requirements.
- Advocate legislation that supports flexibility as well as funding to pursue cost effective, sustainable, responsible environmental programs that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve air quality, and encourage use of potable, reclaimed, waste and storm water as well as solid waste removal and recycling.
- Support legislation that provides incentives for environmentally responsible green design and construction.

### **Environment**

- Advocate for funding acquisition to develop and to rehabilitate parks and recreational facilities and open space.
- Advocate for State and Federal funding legislation for storm water infrastructure improvements and storm water quality programs.
- Support for reclaimed water projects that will lower the region's demand on imported water and lower the City's long term water costs.

### **Fiscal**

- Promote stable revenue for local governments and redevelopment agencies.
- Watchful of Pension Reform and Workers' Compensation Reform and impact on fiscal and local control.
- Support legislation that mitigates the costs to comply with State and Federal mandates.

### **Public Safety and Homeland Security**

- Secure funding to redesign existing crime lab into a "state of the art" Certified Forensic Lab to conduct DNA screening by certified crime scene experts.
- Legislation to provide funding to expand existing counseling programs, such as Juvenile Diversion and Victim Assistance Programs.
- Support legislation and other efforts and strategies that promote and fund emergency preparedness for all hazards as well as recovery efforts at the local level.
- Advocate funding opportunities for local emergency preparedness/homeland security programs including new technology and equipment that does not supplant other City funding, services or operations.

**Technology**

- Track state and federal discussion and funding proposals regarding the Los Angeles Regional Interoperable Communications System (LA RICS) Project. Keep the City of Torrance aware of all LA-RICS state legislative discussion and activity.
- Support Federal legislation referencing “Local Community Radio Act.” The bill would permit the FCC to alter its frequency coordination criteria and increase access to airwaves by community groups, allowing the City to provide additional sources of vital information during emergencies. Notify the City of Torrance of its status.
- Support legislation protecting the confidentiality of personal information on any media technology. Review all legislation regarding personal information and data security and notify the city of Torrance to help us ensure compliance.

**Transit and Transportation Infrastructure**

- Advocate appropriation of new monies directly to cities and counties for the preservation, maintenance and rehabilitation of local streets and road system.
- Protect and enhance funding sources and the flexible use of all State and Federal transit and transportation revenues and programs.
- Advocate and support legislative measures that will increase funding for:
  - Street and highway capital improvements, maintenance, and traffic management systems.
  - Local and regional transit systems for capital and operating purposes.



## City of Torrance State Priority Capital Projects Summary

### Economic Development/Redevelopment / Parks & Recreation

1. Pueblo Park Renovation Project (Community Services): Redevelopment of existing site; construct classroom, multi-purpose room, multi-use hardscape for basketball, skateboarding, and community events, tot lot, picnic/bbq area, and native landscaping  
Note: will seek funding in 2010
2. Bishop Montgomery Basin Project (Community Services): Multi-use project for parking and recreational sports; water reclamation  
Note: will seek funding in 2011
3. Revitalization of Downtown Torrance (Redevelopment): Transit oriented service facility; parking structure
4. Workforce/Senior Housing and Services (Redevelopment): Transit related non-contiguous workforce housing; renovate Bartlett Center
5. CalTrans/State Properties: Look into purchases for infrastructure improvements

### Transit/Transportation Infrastructure

1. Torrance Regional Transit Center (Transit): Create multi-modal transit center to enhance service quality for South Bay transit riders
2. Hawthorne Rehabilitation (Public Works): Relinquishment of Hawthorne Blvd. between Pacific Coast Highway and Redondo Beach Blvd from CalTrans; pavement rehabilitation; curb, gutter and sidewalk repairs; and drainage repairs; modify 21 traffic signals to convert to City system

### Water

1. Storm water Basin Enhancement Program (Public Works): Amie, Henrietta and Entradero Basins; improved wetlands treatment, infiltration and trash screens at basins; ability to comply with Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) that limits amount of bacteria discharged into Santa Monica Bay from Torrance.
2. North Torrance Well Field (Public Works): Water project that will diversify drinking water supplies; lower the regions demand on imported water and lower the City's long term water costs