

SUPPLEMENTAL #1

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

Members of the Council:

Subject: Finance – Supplemental Information to Item 13B

This supplemental includes additional comments received from the public and employee organizations since the posting of Item 13B on Friday, June 11, 2010.

Respectfully submitted,



Aram Chaparyan,
Assistant to the City Manager

CONCUR:



LeRoy J. Jackson
City Manager

Herbers, Sue

From: Scotto, Frank
Sent: Monday, June 14, 2010 9:32 AM
To: Herbers, Sue
Subject: FW: Program cancellations

2:00 PM (UTC-5)
Sue Herbers
2010/6/14 9:32 AM

From: ltstemitstone@aol.com [ltstemitstone@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, June 14, 2010 9:23 AM
To: Scotto, Frank
Subject: Program cancellations

Dear Mayor Scotto,
Please consider that Wild Wednesdays and Concerts in the Park may be the only concerts that the unemployed, the retired and the disabled may have the opportunity to attend when you contemplate canceling them.
Thank you
Leslie Stem

Herbers, Sue

From: Scotto, Frank
Sent: Monday, June 14, 2010 9:31 AM
To: Herbers, Sue
Subject: FW: Tournament float

2010 JUN 14 11:51 AM

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

From: Darlene Perrotta [djp821@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, June 14, 2010 9:27 AM
To: Scotto, Frank
Subject: Tournament float

Hi Mayor: I am writing to ask you and the council members to please work together to find a way to budget for the Torrance float in the Rose Parade. As you are a 50 year resident, it must mean something to you to have Torrance represented. I have always enjoyed your town's efforts and wait to see your particular float each year. It brings so many such enjoyment and reward for hard work done as a team. I hope you will reconsider. It is an important community treasure. Darlene Perrotta

The New Busy is not the old busy. Search, chat and e-mail from your inbox. [Get started.](#)

Herbers, Sue

From: Redbird [redbirdi@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, June 11, 2010 11:14 PM
To: Scotto, Frank; City Clerk
Subject: Please keep the TTC Summer Musicals

2010/11/11 11:14 AM
City Clerk's Office

Dear Mayor Frank Scotto and Torrance City Council,

As a permanent resident of the City of Torrance, for over 12 years now, I am delighted and proud of the Cultural Arts Department and the Cultural Services Division of our city, and the very important and valuable programs they offer.

The Torrance Theatre Company is especially important as the quality and caliber of the performances and production are extremely professional and attract people from all over the Los Angeles area. The Summer Musical is the *big show* of the year and is anticipated by myself and many of my friends, neighbors, church members and professionals from Torrance and the surrounding cities.

I have attended as many of the shows from the past as possible and was so impressed I put aside my spare time 2 summers ago to be a part of the cast of "Seven Brides For Seven Brothers". It was a wonderful experience and again brought more interest to the great community and City of Torrance. I will never miss another summer musical. Nor will all the friends I've *turned on* to the Torrance Theatre Company.

Please continue to support the efforts of the TTC and the summer musical. It is a worthwhile program for all those involved and especially valuable to our community and reputation of the City of Torrance.

Thank you for hearing and considering our concerns.

Sincerely,

Noelle Rose Balloy

6/14/2010

Herbers, Sue

From: Scotto, Frank
Sent: Monday, June 14, 2010 3:49 PM
To: Herbers, Sue
Subject: FW: Rose Float

Attachments: Rose Float



Rose Float

2010.06.14 03:49:30

City Clerk's Office

Herbers, Sue

From: Marie Arevalo [marie.arevalo@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, June 14, 2010 3:49 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: 2010 Summer Musical - TTC

Dear Mayor and Council,

I understand the predicament that you are in and that no one wants to cut funding for any community program. But please, let me implore you to not cut the budget for the Torrance Theatre Company's summer musical.

In 2006, my life changed when I was cast in the TTC summer production of Grease. While I had been taking music and dance lessons on and off for my whole life, I was always afraid I wasn't really good enough to be on the stage. When I found out about the Grease production, I just had a feeling that this time I had to face my fears and audition. Sure enough, it wasn't easy to stand in room that was practically empty other than me, a piano, and a table full of people who were there for the sole purpose of judging the performers. However, everyone was very warm and welcoming. Something changed in me that day. At some point during the dance portion of the audition, I started feeling that this was something that I could actually do, and do pretty well. That little seedling of confidence steadily grew throughout the rehearsal period until it blossomed on opening night. I was 26 years old, but I felt like I had finally found myself. Having the support of the cast and crew of the TTC made it happen.

Because of my involvement with the TTC, my life is so much better than I ever could have imagined. I truly believe that if I had not gained confidence in myself during the summer musical, I never would have had the guts to meet and fall in love with the man I am going to marry in just a few months.

So please do not cut into the TTC summer musical budget. Not for me, even though I cannot wait to see this year's performance, but for the people who lives may be changed by participating in such an amazing event with a wonderful organization.

*Thank you,
 Marie Arevalo*

Herbers, Sue

From: Wells, Cindy [CWells@tUSD.org]
Sent: Monday, June 14, 2010 10:03 AM
To: Scotto, Frank
Subject: Rose Float

2010 JUN 14 10:03 AM

CITY OF TUSD
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

My name is Cindy Wells and I am the current 1st Vice President of the Rose Float Association. I also work for TUSD and know about budget cuts. As you know we are experiencing horrible cuts of our own. I understand that employees are very important to the city and their jobs as well, and cutting fluff vs. employees is not that hard of a decision. That being said, 2012 is the City's 100th birthday and that year's Rose Float would be a very important part of the parade, representing our City. As you know the Rose Float Parade is a wonderful way of advertising for the City, it brings people from out of town into our town. I am the one who schedules all the volunteers to decorate. There are several volunteers who are from out of the area and out of state, sometimes out of the county who come back each year to decorate. This helps the revenue for our restaurants, businesses, and hotels...not to mention our big Senior Citizen groups that help each year. All 600 volunteers that work on the float, look forward to this each year, they plan family reunions, trips, family vacations, etc. around this. I hope that we at least can keep the float going through 2012, to celebrate our City's 100th birthday.

Thank you for your time.

Chaparyan, Aram

From: Jackson, LeRoy
Sent: Tuesday, June 15, 2010 1:48 PM
To: Chaparyan, Aram; Herbers, Sue
Subject: FW: Please do no cut Aquacade

-----Original Message-----

From: Gurrola, Toni
Sent: Tuesday, June 15, 2010 1:10 PM
To: COUNCIL2
Subject: Please do no cut Aquacade

A concerned citizen whose daughter is involved in the Aquacade would like the City Council to consider NOT cutting this program from the budget.

Toni Gurrola
City Manager's Office
City of Torrance | 3031 Torrance Blvd | Torrance CA 90503
310.618.5880 | 310.618.5891 fax | tgurrola@TorranceCA.Gov | www.TorranceCA.Gov

Herbers, Sue

From: Sutherland, Bill
Sent: Tuesday, June 15, 2010 7:26 AM
To: Herbers, Sue
Subject: FW: Budget Cuts - Synchronized Swimming/Aquacade

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Green

2010 JUN 15 11:21 AM
 0
 1

Regards Bill Sutherland Torrance City Councilman -----Original Message-----

From: Roni Osbern <roni.osbern1@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, June 14, 2010 11:11 PM
To: Sutherland, Bill <BSutherland@TorranceCA.gov>
Subject: Budget Cuts - Synchronized Swimming/Aquacade

Dear Mr. Sutherland,

Travel committments prevent me from attending tomorrow night's City Council meeting, hence this email. I entreat you to allow the Torrance Recreation program's Synchronized Swimming and related Aquacade programs to continue. My daughter has been involved with these programs for just 18 months, but I have seen her passion for the sport develop during this time. We regularly visit the Plunge so that she can practice her routines, and we invite family members to cheer during the competitions, as far away as San Diego.

As interested parents, we would be happy to work with you to ensure these programs' success. Please let us know what metrics must be met for the city to allow these programs to continue.

Do we need to increase the seasonal fees? What is the minimum number of swimmers required to make these programs profitable for the city? I have been astonished at the low numbers of attendees, and would be willing to market the program to my daughter's schools and to my peers in an effort to increase registration. Last, during competitions we, as Torrance residents, visit neighboring pools including some in Lakewood, San Diego and Cerritos. Why not allow a competition to be held here in our beautiful Plunge? This would bring in some 100-200 parents to spend money in Torrance.

We have a wonderful program that is allowing our children to stave off obesity through fitness, develop healthy coping mechanisms through sport, and develop the thrill of team sports. While other sports are available, not all girls choose to play soccer or learn ballet.

Last, synchronized swimming is now a recognized sport not only in the Olympics, but also at major universities. My goal is that my child be able to develop this skill with the hopes that, one day, she will be qualified to join a university team such as those at Stanford or Columbia. If this program is cut, there are simply no other options that would enable her to pursue this sport since the nearest competitive teams are as far away as Orange County and Northern Los Angeles.

I trust that you will allow us to keep Synchronized Swimming/Aquacade as part of the City of Torrance's Recreation Program. We will work actively to ensure its success.

Sincerely,
 Roni Osbern
 310-697-9172
 6202 South Pacific Coast Hwy, 90277
 roni.osbern1@yahoo.com

Herbers, Sue

From: Scotto, Frank
Sent: Monday, June 14, 2010 9:33 AM
To: Herbers, Sue
Subject: FW: Budget Cuts to AFSCME positions

*2010 JUN 14 11:17 AM
 AFSCME DISTRICT*

*From: Moorman, Jeannie
 Sent: Saturday, June 12, 2010 8:01 PM
 To: Scotto, Frank; Sutherland, Bill; Furey, Pat; Brewer, Tom; Rhilinger, Susan; Barnett, Gene; Numark, Cliff
 Subject: Budget Cuts to AFSCME positions*

*First of all I want to congratulate Frank, Bill, Tom and Cliff on their re-election.
 Good job!
 We look forward to another four years of working with all of you.*

I will try to keep this note short and will opt not to speak on Tuesday evening (unless something unusual happens) as I know that there will be several other speakers that evening and the meeting will be long.

We know that you have a lot of hard decisions to make and we do not envy your position. We all support the arts, music, theater and recreation programs and no one likes to see these items cut. We take pride in watching the Rose Float and the longest running Armed Forces Day parade in the nation. As public servants we are patriotic and truly believe in the American dream, fireworks and parades. However, these economic times call for painful budget cuts, cuts that make good common sense and don't cut important services that would impact infrastructure or core services that all cities should be able to provide. Someone said we have cut the fat and these cuts are looking at cutting into the meat and bone.

Please keep in mind when making your decisions about budget cuts that AFSCME represented positions are the meat and bone of the City. We are not fat, fluff or fun. We don't sit up in offices analyzing work done or dreaming up new projects to do.

AFSCME represented members have provided over 100 suggestions for budget savings, including voluntary furloughs, holiday closure furloughs and a 4/10 work week, extending hours to provide better customer service and reduced overtime costs. These ideas were presented in an effort to save our positions in the City, as when our positions are cut, those employees who remain end up taking on more work stretching ourselves thin. We also made these suggestions in an effort to save our salaries from further erosion which will result with the retirement cuts proposed.

AFSCME workers in Torrance do the day to day hard jobs that directly provide service and impact the residents and businesses in Torrance. We are out there building, repairing, cleaning, maintaining and monitoring the parks, buildings, streets, sidewalks, trees, city vehicles, traffic lights and signs, water lines and meters. We drive the busses and provide reference, readers advisory and story-times at the library. We provide direct support to police and fire as we answer the 911 calls, do parking control, and take care of the prisoners in jail. We monitor and maintain safe drinking water and operate the desalinization plant. We maintain, monitor and ensure a safe airport. We pick up your trash, recycling and greenwaste, sweep your streets and keep your sewers working and much more. We do the jobs that make Torrance work and we want to continue to make Torrance a wonderful place to live, work and play.

City Manager Recommended Cuts to AFSCME Represented Positions

- 1.6 Maintenance Workers – Park Services*
- 1 Sr. Custodian – General Services*
- 1 Maintenance Worker – Public Works- Concrete*
- 1 Equipment Operator – Public Works – Concrete*

1 Cement Finisher – Public Works- Concrete
1 Library Assistant

If the opportunity presents itself to save any of the AFSCME represented positions, we respectfully request that funds be used to save our positions from being cut. Our priority is to save at least one, if not both, of the Maintenance Worker positions in Park Services, followed by the Senior Custodian, the Maintenance Worker, Equipment Operator and Cement Finisher in Public Works and the Library Assistant. We are basing our priorities on the feedback from our members as well as observation and knowledge of workloads in each of the respective areas impacted.

Park Services continues to add new parkland and area to be maintained but has cut several positions over the last several years. This has resulted in some tasks taking longer to do and some not getting done at all. We understand that the City continues to look at land to be converted to open space such as pocket parks. Those new projects, once completed, will need to be maintained. Staff is stretched thin now and cutting two more bodies (1.6 Maintenance Worker positions) will only create greater hardships.

It is important to note that any reductions in staff without corresponding reductions in work load has been proven to lead to more stress and more injuries which ultimately increases overall costs to workers compensation, overtime due to leave coverage required to fill in for the injured/ill employees, increased training costs, etc. We cannot continue to cut workers and not reduce corresponding services.

The Custodial division of General Services continues to get hit with position cuts to the line workers, even though there are more and more demands placed on the employees to meet standards for a clean and sanitary environment for staff and public. The work base is nearly half the size it was 20 years ago. The proposal to cut a Sr. Custodian does not make sense as all four Sr. Custodian positions are filled (there used to be six Sr. Custodians) and none of the four have plans to retire in the next five years. This is a cut in name only as no savings will be realized in this budget or the next. Sr. Custodians are the working supervisor position with each of the four Sr Custodians leading crews in City Hall/Bartlett, branch libraries, Cable/Plunge, Police and Library, City Yard and night crew. The satellite offices used to have their own Sr. Custodian as did the Police building. We are not sure how the work will be divided as these Supervisors have already absorbed additional duties without any additional compensation.

Maintenance Workers are the skilled laborer positions in the City and these employees do all of the heavy labor tasks that are needed in the field services. As Maintenance Workers are in nearly all divisions from Transit, Refuse, Parks, Traffic, Streetscape, Concrete/Asphalt and more, the abilities and versatility of these employees make them a valuable asset and much needed to respond in emergencies and to do all of the real work that is done in the field. Maintenance Workers typically grow in skill level and promote to more specialized skilled positions as well as supervisory positions. In many cases the Maintenance Workers are similar to apprentices in the various skilled trades they assist. Cutting a Maintenance Worker position in concrete takes away that apprenticeship opportunity to learn the skilled concrete trade.

Equipment Operators and Cement Finisher are important in that they provide specialized trade skills that are difficult and necessary in field operations. These positions require expertise that is learned over a period of time. Cement Finishing is a very specialized skill that is similar to an art that not just anyone is capable of doing. Operating the heavy machinery that is necessary for concrete work is a very difficult job that requires talents and abilities that are not easy to find.

Maintenance Workers learn these specialized skills in hopes of promoting one day. Elimination of these promotional opportunities will result in workers trained in Torrance taking their skills to other agencies where promotions are available. The costs and time invested in training will be lost if not enough promotional opportunities are available within Torrance.

Library Assistants work in all areas of the library providing individualized public service, assisting patrons in finding the books they need, managing the clerical duties such as tracking and retrieving overdue materials, registering patrons with new library cards, adding new books into the catalog through data entry, repairing materials for longer shelf life, processing payroll, receiving and distributing mail, processing payment of invoices, keeping statistics, etc. Losing this employee will result in other employees picking up more duties impacting their ability to provide quality/timely customer service and support.

It is important to note that cuts to any of these positions will require meet and confer due to the impact of the decision to the working conditions of the remaining workers who will now have to absorb the duties.

Thank you for your consideration and your hard work in making these very difficult decisions. We are available to answer any questions you may have or to provide clarification or further information.

*Jeannie Moorman
President AFSCME Local 1117*

From: Dittman, Curt

Sent: Monday, June 14, 2010 5:11 PM

To: Barnett, Gene; Brewer, Tom; Furey, Pat; Giordano, Mary; Jackson, LeRoy; Numark, Cliff; Rhilinger, Susan; Scotto, Frank; Sutherland, Bill; Chaparyan, Aram

Cc: Beste, Robert; Gibson, Jeff; Golden, Robert; Kazandjian, Richard; Weldin, Jill; Enis, Bob; Waterman, Jeff; Schaper, Sandy; Hazen, Bill; Segovia, Felipe

Subject: Revised Budget - Public Works Inspectors

Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

RE: Public Works Inspectors (Group B of the Proposed Budget)

There are currently four Public Works Inspectors (PWI's) in the Community Development Department (CDD) that are responsible for inspecting all construction in the public right of way related to private construction, water lines and Capitol Improvement Projects (CIP's) as assigned. With only four inspectors to cover the entire City it is critical that the PWI's coordinate inspections on a daily, weekly and monthly basis. Physically moving two inspectors to the Public Works Department as proposed would seriously undermine their ability to provide adequate service to the public.

Inspectors on projects in the public right of way are often required to remain on the construction site while work is under way to insure construction methods, materials used and protection of the public meet the high standards required for public projects. Reducing the number of inspectors available to provide coverage would require projects to be prioritized and some would have to shut down while waiting for a PWI to make it to the job site. With the four inspectors working together to coordinate vacations and scheduled days off, inspections for private construction and CIP's can be ably covered.

Further, separating CIP work and private construction work will limit the experience of each two man inspection group. This will make it very difficult to get the experience needed to perform inspections effectively, and/or qualify for transfers or promotions between these groups.

Placing PWI's directly under the Project Manager in charge of the CIP may appear to be an efficient way of completing the project in a timely manner; we feel this configuration presents an inherent conflict of interest. The Project Manager, the Public Works Department in general, as well as the contractor, are very concerned with completing the project on time. As they should be. The PWI should not be a part this equation; his primary concern is that the public interest is served by insuring construction is in compliance with the plans and specs, public safety is protected and any changes due to field conditions are addressed quickly and comply established best practices and procedures.

Working as a team is vital to the timely completion of any large project, we understand the need to flexible and proactive, but when elements of public safety and financial liability are such a huge part of every CIP, there needs to be an objective overseer whose primary interest is insuring that construction materials meet specifications, workmanship is on par with what is expected, field changes are adequately addressed and vetted, and public safety is forefront.

Placing the designers and managers in charge of the regulators is a conflict of interest that flies in the face of common sense and will put the City of Torrance at risk. By moving two of the PWI's to Public Works there will major coverage issues, two classes of PWI's will be created and will eventually prohibit one PWI group from performing the duties of the other PWI group to due lack of experience.

We respectfully request that all PWI's remain in Engineering Division of CDD and funding remain as proposed in the revised budget.

Sincerely,

Curt Dittman, President

Richard Kazandjian, 1st VP.

Robert Golden, Secretary

Jill Weldin, Treas.

Council Item 13B – June 15, 2010

-----Original Message-----

From: Chaparyan, Aram
Sent: Tuesday, June 15, 2010 3:18 PM
To: Jackson, LeRoy
Subject: Further Clarification of PW Inspector Position
Importance: High

The initial proposal was to delete 1 Public Works Inspector position in the Community Development Department, resulting in budget savings of 50% to the General Fund, since the rest of the position was funded through Capital Projects. The Engineers Association expressed opposition to the proposal to delete the position and raised concerns regarding the usage of outside contractors on Public Works Capital projects. Upon further review of the Engineers Association concerns, the Community Development Director and the Public Works Director decided to remove the position from deletion by shifting the remainder of the funding as well as the position to the Capital Projects in the Public Works Department.

Since all Capital Projects are currently handled by the Public Works Department, the Directors proposed to move the second Public Works Inspector (100% funded by Water) to the City Yard to work on Capital Projects. According to Rob Beste, the proposal to move Public Works inspectors assigned to construction projects to the Public Works Department does dedicate those employees to the capital projects. This is how most cities staff this operation. Having two inspectors in Public Works will allow for coverage of projects. Public Works inspectors on capital projects are used to ensure that projects are completed in accordance to the plans and specifications. They are not assigned a regulatory function as they are when they inspect private work in the public right-of-way. There is a wide variety of work for both the private and public sectors and the inspectors will gain knowledge of public works construction working in either department.

The email below from Curt Dittman raises concerns about the physical move of the two inspectors. The latest budget material addresses this concern by proposing to shift **only 1 PW Inspector position** that was initially identified for deletion. The second Public Works Inspector will remain in Community Development, however since the position is funded by the Water fund, it may also be eventually transferred to Public Works. The Engineers Association favors shifting of the budget only while keeping all inspectors in the Community Development Department. This option removes direct oversight from Public Works and creates operational challenges with coordination and ensuring adequate project support.

Current distribution of Inspectors at Community Development

1. Public Works Inspector - 100% funded by Water
- 2. Public Works Inspector - 50% funded by Capital Projects (Propose to move to Public Works to work on Capital Projects only)**
3. Public Works Inspector - 100% funded by the General Fund
4. Public Works Inspector - 100% funded by the General Fund

June 15, 2010

Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

The Torrance City Employee Association appreciates the opportunity to address your honorable body during these critical budget workshop sessions. I have had the honor of meeting with all of you individually, and would like to re-address the importance of retaining the clerk typist position in the Community Services Department.

The Clerk Typist position in the Recreation Services Division supports 16 full time staff and is responsible for facilitating the public counter, coordinating the Central Services reprographic orders, coordinating all supply orders for the division, processing all New World requisitions, in addition to supporting the Division Secretary. Eliminating this position would highly impact the daily operation of this Division.

It would only seem equitable that the Community Services Department would have the opportunity to decide which programs from Group D to eliminate to retain this vital position. As stated before, TCEA would like you to consider cutting the following programs as noted in the Group D alternate program list:

- Concerts in the Park -----\$ 25,000
- Oodles of Noodles -----\$ 16,500
- 4th of July Celebration
 - Community Services -----\$ 50,000
- Aquacade -----\$ 7,500
- Halloween Carnival -----\$ 5,500

In the event the Rose Float is funded, may I recommend a few alternate cuts for your consideration?

Torrance Cultural Art Center Foundation subsidy

	\$48,000	Cash
	\$25,000	In-kind services
	\$46,000	In-kind theatre labor & rental costs
100% of the Community Grants	\$40,000	In the Parks & Recreation Commission Budget
100% of the Cultural Art Grants	\$ 5,000	In the Cultural Arts Commission Budget
Torrance Symphony Subsidy	\$16,000	In the Cultural Services Division Budget
General Services - vacant position .5 Typist Clerk	\$21,900	This position was originally allocated to the Parks and Rec. Department and reallocated to General Services when the Cultural Arts Center was opened) The person in this position has recently retired.

Group D proposed cuts include several long standing programs in the Community Services Department. As difficult as cutting these programs will be, your consideration should also go to cutting the subsidy to the Torrance Symphony Association for their annual free concert in the summer and the Cultural Arts Center Foundation.

I understand these suggestions are being made in the eleventh hour, but I believe these additional recommendations are worth considering. Again, TCEA would agree to support a temporary worker for a long term assignment (no more than two years).

Thank you again for your consideration and thoughtful deliberation in this budget process.

Sincerely,

Debbie Collins

Debbie Collins, TCEA President