

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

Members of the Council:

SUBJECT: Community Services - Accept and Appropriate a Donation for improvements to the Madrona Marsh Nature Center.

Expenditure: \$3,000

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation of the Community Services Director that City Council Accept and Appropriate a donation of \$3,000 from the Friends of Madrona Marsh (FOMM) to pay for the acquisition and installation of security lighting at the Madrona Nature Center.

Funding:

A donation in the amount of \$3,000 was received from the Friends of Madrona Marsh. No City funds will be expended.

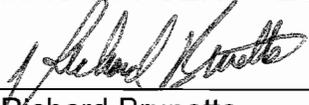
BACKGROUND/ ANALYSIS

Friends of Madrona Marsh and City staff have been offering programs at night in the Nature Center for several years. Staff and volunteers have received a number of comments from visitors, program participants, and volunteers that the steps from the building and the parking lot are very dark when they return to their cars after evening programs.

The Friends of Madrona Marsh have offered to fund the installation of two lights at a cost of \$3,000 that will be placed on the Nature Center building's west exterior wall (Attachment A), thus, improving the lighting at the buildings exit steps and a portion of the parking lot. Both the General Services Department and Community Services Department staff have evaluated and approved the lighting improvements.

Respectfully Submitted,

JOHN JONES
COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR

By 

Richard Brunette
Recreation Services Manager

CONCUR:



John Jones
Community Services Director



LeRoy J. Jackson
City Manager

ATTACHMENT: A) Letter from the Friends of Madrona Marsh (FOMM)

ATTACHMENT A**LETTER FROM THE FRIENDS OF MADRONA MARSH (FOMM)**

September 16, 2010

Mayor Frank Scotto
3031 Torrance Boulevard
Torrance, CA 90503

Dear Mayor Scotto,

For some time the Board of Directors of the Friends of Madrona Marsh have been concerned about how dark some areas of the Nature Center parking lot are, presenting a hazard to people attending evening meetings at the center. In response to our pleas, Manager Tracy Drake has obtained a bid for installation of two Title 24 compliant security floodlights, to be mounted on the west wall of the Nature Center. In addition, the contractor proposes to reverse the direction of four existing light fixtures, to increase illumination near the entrance. The cost estimate for this work is slightly under \$3000.

The Friends realize the City is currently facing extreme budget pressures and we would like to donate to the City of Torrance the full cost of the security light installation. We appreciate all that Manager Tracy Drake and her staff have done and continue to do to make the Madrona Marsh Preserve a premier part of the City's Park system, and we are proud of the cooperative spirit with which the City and the Friends have supported the Preserve since its dedication 26 years ago.

Yours truly,

Bill Arrowsmith, President
Friends of Madrona Marsh

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cc John Jones, Community Service Director
Tracy Drake, Manager and Naturalist, Madrona Marsh Preserve