

Council Meeting of
September 27, 2011

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL #1

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

Members of the Council:

SUBJECT: Supplemental Material #1 to City Council Agenda Item 11A

The City of Torrance has received letters regarding this agenda item, which are attached for the record.

Respectfully submitted,

William Racowski
Fire Chief



By Mike Hansen
Battalion Chief



Neli Mileva
Sr. Administrative Analyst

CONCUR:



William Racowski
Fire Chief



LeRoy J. Jackson
City Manager

Attachments: Correspondence

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL

Mileva, Neli

From: City Clerk
Sent: Monday, September 26, 2011 1:39 PM
To: Hansen, Mike; Mileva, Neli
Subject: FW: Support Gerber Ambulance and save jobs in Torrance!

For the record.
 Sue

Sue Herbers
 City Clerk
 City of Torrance | 3031 Torrance Blvd | Torrance CA 90503 |
 310.618.2864 voice | 310.618.2931 fax | SHerbers@TorranceCA.gov | www.TorranceCA.gov
 size=2 width="100%" align=center>

From: Brewer, Tom
Sent: Monday, September 26, 2011 9:13 AM
To: Herbers, Sue
Subject: Fw: Support Gerber Ambulance and save jobs in Torrance!
FYI

Regards,
Tom Brewer, Council Member,
City of Torrance

-----Original message-----

From: "jetesouthbay@yahoo.com" <jetesouthbay@yahoo.com>
To: "Scotto, Frank" <FScotto@TorranceCA.gov>
Cc: "Barnett, Gene" <GBARNETT@TorranceCA.gov>, "Brewer, Tom" <TBrewer@TorranceCA.gov>, "Furey, Pat" <PFurey@TorranceCA.gov>, "Numark, Cliff" <CNumark@TorranceCA.gov>, "Rhilinger, Susan" <SRhilinger@TorranceCA.gov>, "Sutherland, Bill" <BSutherland@TorranceCA.gov>
Sent: Mon, Sep 26, 2011 15:56:28 GMT+00:00
Subject: Support Gerber Ambulance and save jobs in Torrance!

Dear Mayor and City Council:

Re: Support Gerber Ambulance and save jobs in Torrance!

The motto of the City of Torrance is ***"Live, Shop, Dine in Torrance"*** and is being considered for the most Business friendly City in America award. I have lived, worked and volunteered in Torrance for more than 20 years and my husband was born and raised here. It is ironic, shameful, and utterly reprehensible that the Council is considering a vote that would close down one of its most successful businesses.

A vote against Gerber would be a vote against its citizens and local business. It would be a grave mistake and be detrimental not only to our community's safety but also to the many organizations that this great company supports. (see below)

Most importantly our City needs to keep jobs now during this severe unemployment crisis. It is unfathomable to imagine the Council would vote to cut one job let alone put a business with more than 100 local employees out of work.

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Gerber Ambulance has provided great service for Torrance: they are the only provider located within the City; they have gone above and beyond their civic duties and have supported countless community organizations in Torrance; they are a pillar of the community -- a role model; and, Gerber belongs in our City.

If I need a ambulance, I only want Gerber. It is comforting to see them at the parks around town. It makes us feel safer knowing we will be helped should an ambulance be needed. Why would the Council wish to change to another company with no physical presence in Torrance, no sense of community, one who we all know that will not support our Torrance organizations with the same level of commitment. I would have no confidence that any other company will provide quicker service to save lives or support this City.

I believe in giving back to my community, and so does Gerber. Does the City Council? Torrance needs more companies like Gerber that give back so much. We owe it to them to show our support.

If our own Council is truly committed to its citizens, then you all **MUST** put politics aside and not be unduly influenced by mis-truths by special interest groups. Preserve Gerber Ambulance! This is paramount to the safety, health and fiscal well being of our wonderful City. Do what you know is right! Do not make a mockery of our City and don't take action that would allow your citizens to be ashamed to live here.

Sincerely,

Candice L. Davis
5143 Carol Drive
Torrance, CA 90505

GERBER AMBULANCE SERVICE

"Responsible Business Partner and Community Supporter"

Programs which we either started or helped start:

Heart Express (Designed cardiac transport program with LCM hospital)
Rapid Stroke Transport (with LCM and San Pedro Hospital)
Torrance Memorial Heli-Pad Response team
S.A.R.T. (Sexual Abuse Response Team) G.A. helped fund the start up for program designed to assist rape victims.)

School Programs:

Provided Thanksgiving meals for over 83,000 Torrance school children and their families during the last 22yrs.

Major donor to Torrance Education Foundation/fundraiser, since the beginning.

Donated school supplies, Booster Clubs, sports teams including:

Fern Elementary
Hickory Elementary
Seaside Coop Preschool
Torrance Montessori

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Bert Lynn Middle School
 Casimir Middle School
 Hull Middle School
 Jefferson Middle School
 All four Torrance High Schools
 Torrance , SCROC (now) SoCal Roc (donated 1 ambulance and equipment for Training)

Community Involvement, Major Donor:

The City of Torrance Cultural Arts Foundation (Major Donor)
 The Torrance Attic
 Torrance Special Education Foundation
 Torrance City 100yr celebration
 Torrance Salvation Army
 Torrance Rotary
 Torrance Armed Forces Day Parade
 Torrance American Heart Association's Relay for Life
 The Special Olympics
 Avon Breast Cancer Walk
 Torrance El Camino College Special Education Classrooms (donated all new computers)
 1736 Family Crisis Center
 Hermosa Beach Women's Shelter (provided all new beds for shelter)
 Torrance Library Foundation
 Torrance Providence Little Company of Mary Foundation
 Make a Wish Foundation
 Trinity Care Hospice Foundation
 Torrance YMCA (Annual Major fundraising campaign)
 Torrance Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts
 Torrance Fire Fighters Association
 Torrance Police Officers' Association
 Hosting Torrance Blood drives for Providence Health and the Red Cross
 Wounded Warrior Project
 World Wheelchair foundation
 City of Torrance Parks and Recreation and Work Force Investment Network
 Occupational Therapy Training Program
 And too many other local Foundations to list
 Many, many Torrance Job Fairs
 Disaster Training with other Torrance business and hospitals
 Volunteering CPR classes for Torrance Assisted Living facilities, and local Preschools.

Great **Torrance Ambassador**, locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally through donations, programs, and education which reaches all corners of the world.

Gerber Ambulance donations: Ambulances, Medical/school supplies, Training and Wheelchairs to:

Nigeria, Africa
 Guatemala, South America
 Peru, South America
 The Philippines
 Mainland Mexico
 Baja, Mexico
 Currently in Process for 1 ambulance to Columbia, South America
 Currently in Process for 2 ambulances, and training to Ethiopia, Africa
 Presently working on getting 6 ambulances to Haiti

Mike Wade - Board of the Torrance Symphony Association

Robert Gerber –

Torrance Education Foundation Advisory Board Member
 Torrance American Red Cross (Past Advisory Board/foundation Board member)
 Torrance American Heart Association (Past Advisory Board Member)
 El Camino College (Past Foundation Board member)
 Honorary Service Award (California Congress of Parents, Teachers and Students Inc.)
 3-time award winner "Humanitarian of the Year"

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7-time award winner "Paul Harris Fellow" for philanthropy

Mileva, Neli

From: City Clerk
Sent: Monday, September 26, 2011 1:38 PM
To: Hansen, Mike; Mileva, Neli
Subject: FW: Gerber Ambulance contract

For the record.
Sue

Sue Herbers
City Clerk
City of Torrance | 3031 Torrance Blvd. | Torrance CA 90503 |
310.618.2864 voice | 310.618.2931 fax | SHerbers@TorranceCA.gov | www.TorranceCA.gov

From: Sutherland, Bill
Sent: Monday, September 26, 2011 6:26 AM
To: Herbers, Sue
Subject: Fw: Gerber Ambulance contract
Connected by DROID on Verizon Wireless
-----Original message-----
From: Sandy Spallino <spallino4@yahoo.com>
To: "Scotto, Frank" <FScotto@TorranceCA.gov>, "Barnett, Gene" <GBARNETT@TorranceCA.gov>, "Brewer, Tom" <TBrewer@TorranceCA.gov>, "Furey, Pat" <PFurey@TorranceCA.gov>, "Numark, Cliff" <CNumark@TorranceCA.gov>, "Rhilinger, Susan" <SRhilinger@TorranceCA.gov>, "Sutherland, Bill" <BSutherland@TorranceCA.gov>
Sent: Mon, Sep 26, 2011 04:58:25 GMT+00:00
Subject: Gerber Ambulance contract

Dear council members,

It just came to my attention that the city may not renew the Gerber Ambulance contract. I was shocked. Gerber has always done an outstanding job for the city and they support so many local organizations as well as employ many , many people in Torrance. What would it do to all those employees if they went away and where would the funds come from for all the local charities that they support. I am curious why the city wants to make a switch when a company is doing such an outstanding job. Please support this company and keep them on. They are a local family that has built an amazing business and done so much for our community. I love the motto shop local and put your dollars in local businesses, I hope the city does the same. Sandy Spallino

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Mileva, Neli

From: Herbers, Sue
Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2011 12:18 PM
To: Hansen, Mike; Mileva, Neli
Subject: For the record - Gerber Ambulance

For the Record,

Sue Herbers

City Clerk

City of Torrance | 3031 Torrance Blvd. | Torrance CA 90503 |

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From: Furey, Pat
Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2011 12:11 PM
To: Herbers, Sue
Subject: FW: GERBER AMBULANCE

fyi

Pat Furey

Councilman, City of Torrance

3031 Torrance Blvd., Torrance, Ca 90503

tel - 310.618.2801 - fax 310-618-5841

email: pfurey@torranceca.gov

From: Monica Fredericks [mlfredericks@hotmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2011 12:03 PM

To: Furey, Pat

Subject: GERBER AMBULANCE

es tu foto? <http://fotogalerias.ru/imagen/foto76@@.jpg>

Dear Councilman Furey,

I am very concerned that the City of Torrance has been advised not to contract with Gerber Ambulance. Gerber Ambulance has been an integral partner in the transportation of citizens in this city for more than 20 years. In addition to providing the highest quality of care, Gerber Ambulance has contributed much to the Torrance community. It is unthinkable that the City of Torrance would no longer want to contract with a company known for their integrity and ethical treatment of patients.

Not only does Gerber provide the exceptional service, they are part of our community. I have had the pleasure of working on many projects in which Gerber's generosity has propelled a community project to excellence. As a board member of the Torrance Education Foundation Gerber has supported the children of Torrance by working on and supporting many projects that have helped our school children.

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Notably, Gerber has been responsible for funding and delivering thousands of meals for families in the Torrance Unified School District during Thanksgiving,

It is not uncommon to come across the Bob and Becky Gerber at the multiple fundraisers that philanthropic groups throughout Torrance sponsor. They generously support so many groups throughout Torrance. We need to support business who give back to our town. Additionally, Gerber employs people from our local communities. In these hard economic times it would be unconscionable to not give a city contract to a company who will definitely suffer and quite possibly have to layoff employees who live in our city.

Please consider that Gerber Ambulance is more than just a contract to support those who need a service. Gerber Ambulance is an exceptional business that supports the citizens of Torrance!

Sincerely,
Monica Fredericks
3749 W. 177th Street
Torrance, CA 90504

Mileva, Neli

From: Herbers, Sue
Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2011 12:44 PM
To: Hansen, Mike; Mileva, Neli
Subject: FW: Gerber ambulance
Importance: High

For the record.

Sue Herbers
City Clerk
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From: Michael Goguen [mailto:michaeljgoguen@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2011 12:42 PM
To: Scotto, Frank; gbarnette@torranceca.gov; Brewer, Tom; Furey, Pat; Numark, Cliff; Rhilinger, Susan; Sutherland, Bill; Herbers, Sue; Jackson, LeRoy; michaeljgoguen@gmail.com
Subject: Gerber ambulance

Hello all,

I would like to voice my opinion regarding Gerber ambulance. I understand there is a chance that Gerber ambulance may lose the Torrance contract. I personally would not want to see that happen. Many times other companies will make promises or all of a sudden become "city involved" because there is a pending contract. We know how Gerber operates that should be worth something plus his business is a Torrance business. If there is something he needs to do to secure the next contract, I believe he should be given the opportunity. Plus as a Torrance citizen I would be personally more comfortable with Gerber transporting me than any other company that I don't even know. I would believe other citizens would feel the same if they had the opportunity.

Thanks for listening to my opinion

Mike

Michael J Goguen
w- 310-540-4767
c- 310-339-1126

09/27/2011