



SOUTHWOOD

Homeowners Association Newsletter

October Calendar

Torrance City Council Meetings

7 p.m. at 3031 Torrance Blvd.
10.1, 10.8, 10.15 & 10.22
10.29 – no meeting

Torrance Planning Commission

7 p.m. at 3031 Torrance Blvd.
10.2 & 10.16

TUSD Board Meetings

7 p.m. at 2336 Plaza Del Amo
10.7 & 10.21

Torrance Public Library

- **Craft Delight for Adults**
Wednesdays, 12-2 p.m.
Henderson Library
- **Lego WeDo for Children**
Saturdays by appointment
Walteria Library

Madrona Marsh Community Service Opportunity for “National Make a Difference Day” – Habitat Restoration

10.26, 8:45 a.m.-12 p.m.
3201 Plaza del Amo

Torrance Arts Presents Los Cancioneros Master Chorale’s “Music for the Imagination”

10.27, 7-10:30 p.m.
James R. Armstrong Theatre

For information on these events + MANY more events, go to www.torranceca.gov

A Message from Your Southwood President

I know it’s only October, but the holidays are around the corner and I thought it would be helpful to review some tips on how to keep your house safe while you are away. I reached out to the Torrance Police Department Community Affairs Division. They promptly emailed a couple of very helpful handouts. The handouts are posted on our “Southwood Torrance Homeowners Association” [Facebook](#) page, so please check them out! There are particularly good details on how to secure many different kinds of doors and windows. Here are a few tips from the handouts:

- Besides stopping regular deliveries of mail and newspapers, it is best to have someone regularly pick up advertising circulars or other flyers (including the Southwood Newsletter ☺).
- According to statistics, a large number of property theft and residential burglaries occur because a garage door is left open and unattended.
- Don’t leave door keys hiding anywhere obvious. Many insurance companies will not honor claims unless there has been a forced entry.
- One of the best deterrents to crime is you – the neighbor. Write down descriptions of suspicious persons. Write down the license numbers of suspicious vehicles. Then call the police (non-emergency number 310-328-3456) – “That’s what we’re here for.”
- The best possible location for exterior lights is under the eaves to illuminate the walls and expose anyone next to the home.
- Doorknob locks offer no security. Violating a doorknob lock is one of the two most common means of forced entry. All exterior doors should have a deadbolt lock mounted in a solid-core door.

Also, our annual membership drive starts next month. The November newsletter will include a short membership form and a self-addressed return

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Southwood Homeowners Association

4733 Torrance Blvd. #155

424.226.6428

southwood.homeowners@gmail.com

[Facebook.com/southwoodHOA](https://www.facebook.com/southwoodHOA)

City Treasurer Recall

Many of you may already be aware there is a petition being circulated for a recall election of the Torrance City Treasurer, Dana Cortez. For more information, including signing the recall petition, please visit the website www.curedc.online or call 310-346-7425. Briefly, Dana Cortez has not reported to work since October 2018, shortly after she was stripped of half her duties and half her pay following allegations of mismanagement. She has provided doctor's notes citing unresolved medical issues. The deadline for the close to 13,000 signatures required is October 21, 2019.

City Charter Changes



On August 27, 2019, the City Council discussed bringing Charter changes to public vote. The proposed changes include:

- Changing the City Clerk and City Treasurer from elected to appointed positions
- Extending the time period from 30 days to 60 days for appointing a replacement to fill a vacancy in an elected position

Agendas, minutes, and videos from past City Council meetings are available on the [City Council](#) page of the City of Torrance website.

President Message Con't

envelope. After 21 years, membership dues have been increased by \$5. The dues are now \$20 per household as voted on by the members via email this past June as part of the proposed changes to the bylaws. Your membership dues (plus any additional appreciated donations!) help fund the 10 monthly newsletters each year, along with timely Torrance City Council, school board and mayoral candidate forums, an annual scholarship award to a Southwood area graduating West High senior, and gifts to our local schools. Please look for the membership form in next month's newsletter and support your Southwood Homeowners Association!

Laurie Craig, SHA President

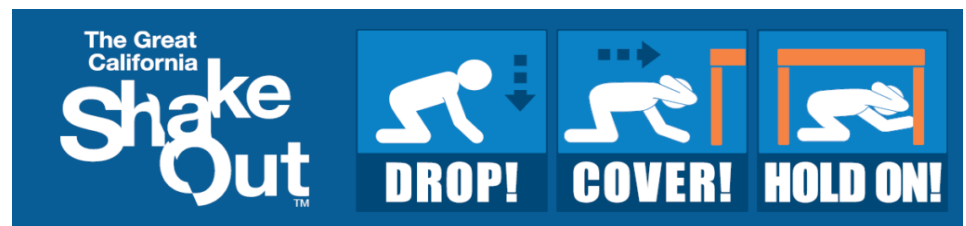
Residential Recycling Bin – Did You Know?



Do **not** include:

- Liquids, napkins, tissue paper (Kleenex), and anything soiled with food
- Photographs and blueprint, carbon, or NCR paper
- Small Styrofoam pieces (called popcorn or peanuts) or any plastic bottle, bag, or container without a number in the triangle
- Glass dishes, light bulbs, mirrors, ceramic cups, drinking glasses, plates, porcelain, or window glass
- Pots or pans, propane or helium tanks, or scrap metal from plumbing or construction materials

Learn more about [Residential Trash and Recycling](#) from the City of Torrance website, www.torranceca.gov, or contact the Trash and Recycling Customer Service Center at 855-354-5623.



The Great California Shake Out

Are you prepared for an earthquake? On October 17, 2019, at 10:17 a.m., millions of Californians will participate in the Great California Shake Out. More information is available on the Great California Shake Out website, www.shakeout.org/california. And for more details on how to prepare for, survive, and recover from an earthquake, visit the Earthquake Country website, www.earthquakecountry.org.

Torrance Board of Education Observer Report

At the meeting of the Board of Education on September 3, 2019, the Board approved the following motions regarding activities and construction work:

- That the District enter into an agreement with Tilly's Life Center to provide lessons from the "I AM ME" curriculum, to be implemented from September 4, 2019, through January 31, 2021, at West High School, for a total cost not to exceed \$15,000. With rising mental health concerns on campus, West High has been looking into possible Social Emotional Learning (SEL) programs to offer students on campus. Through SEL, students learn skills in the areas of self-awareness, self-management, responsible decision-making, relationship skills, and social awareness.
- That the District accept bids for flooring and draining projects, and the completion of modernization at Anza elementary.

The Torrance Unified School District Board of Education meets twice monthly. Meetings begin at 7 p.m. and are open to the public. The board room is located in the Education Materials Building (EMB) at 2336 Plaza Del Amo.

Board of Education agendas are available for study at all school sites, city libraries, and on the tusd.org website. Additional information on agenda items is available on the website.

The meetings are cablecast live on Spectrum Channel 30 and Verizon Channel 37. Board of Education meetings will rerun Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 7 p.m., and Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays at 9 a.m., 2 p.m., and 7 p.m. starting the day after the live broadcast until the next meeting.

Landscape and Turf Removal Classes

Save Water, Energy, Money, and the Environment

Remove your turf and successfully convert your landscape into a sustainable drought-tolerant garden. These classes will help you understand and meet rebate program requirements.



- California Friendly Landscape: 9 a.m.-12 p.m., October 19, 2019, Madrona Marsh
- Turf Removal: 9 a.m.-12 p.m., November 16, 2019, West High, Café 5
- California Friendly Landscape: 9 a.m.-12 p.m., December 14, 2019, West High, Café 5

To attend these Saturday classes, contact the South Bay Environmental Services Center at 310-371-7222 or register online at www.sbesc.com.

City Council Meeting Highlights – 9.10.19

If you are interested in serving on a city commission, the City of Torrance requires that you be certified through the City of Torrance Commissioner Certification Training Program. The next certification training class will be held on Thursday, October 17, 2019, from 6-8 p.m. in the Katy Geissert Civic Center Library Meeting Room. For more information on commission service or the training program, please contact the Office of the City Clerk at 310-618-2879.

Torrance council voted 6-1 to adopt a \$70,000 annual coyote trapping program. Trapping will begin in October and the population culled to a manageable level. Residents still need to remain vigilant and follow the city's original [2016 Coyote Management Plan](#) which can be found on the City of Torrance website, www.torranceca.gov.

Tree Trimming

Trees reduce air temperature by blocking sunlight. They also absorb and block noise, and reduce glare. But at some point, they might need to be trimmed, removed, or replaced. Learn more about [Tree Trimming & Removal FAQs](#) and policies regarding maintaining trees from the City of Torrance website, www.torranceca.gov/trees, or contact the Public Works Department at 310-781-6900.

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- O’Neil & Associates Realtors • 3987 Pacific Coast Highway • Torrance 90505 • SHA Member Office: 370-1020 or Cell: 365-6846
- Rahul & Surbhi Bhagat • Realty ONE Group • Residential Real Estate Specialist • Rahul@propertycove.com • SHA Member753-7016
- South Bay Financial Partners help you define, plan and achieve your dreams by utilizing your money effectively. We are your financial
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