



SOUTHWOOD

Homeowners Association Newsletter

December Calendar

Torrance City Council Meetings
6:30 p.m. at 3031 Torrance Blvd.
1.9 & 1.23

TUSD Board Meeting
7 p.m. via Teleconference or TUSD
Board Room, 2336 Plaza del Amo
1.16 (Tuesday)

Save the Date!

- ★ City Council ★
- ★ Candidate Forum ★
- ★ February 7, 2024 ★

Districts 2, 4 and 6 will be electing new City Councilmembers on March 5, 2024.

Our District 2 candidates are Bridgett Lewis and Andrew Lee. West Torrance HOA and Southwood HOA will be holding a joint candidate forum on Wednesday, February 7, 2024, at Bert Lynn Middle School starting at 7:00 p.m.

Please be sure to mark your calendars for the event!

Get to know the candidates to make your best, informed choice.

Check out each candidate’s website:
[Andrew Lee](#)
[Bridgett Lewis](#)

The forum will be live-streamed and recorded as well.

Message from Your President

Best wishes to everyone for a wonderful new year!

If you haven’t done so already, please join/renew today and become a member of the Southwood Homeowners Association for 2024. You may go online to print the membership form and mail it in, or join/renew online. Go to www.southwoodhomeowners.com/join.

We have especially appreciated the extra donations that members have contributed beyond the \$20 membership fee! We also wanted to sincerely thank you for the number of very nice comments we received regarding the SHA Board and the newsletter.

We hope you find the newsletter informative and worth supporting its distribution to nearly 2,300 Southwood homes. Your membership fee also goes towards an annual scholarship, gifts to our local elementary and middle schools, community events, as well as candidate forums for local elections.

Most importantly, however, is that by becoming a member, you may then receive occasional emails in a timely manner regarding the latest news concerning Southwood. We also send you the newsletter online so you can easily click on the links in the articles.

Laurie Craig, SHA President

Metro C-Line Extension Status

As reported previously, the LA Metro Board of Directors will not vote on the [C-Line Extension](#) to Torrance until early 2024. The issues being discussed are not only which pathway option should be taken, but if the train should be extended to Torrance at all (due to safety concerns). Recently, LA County Supervisor Holly Mitchell asked for federal dollars to even out the costs for the more expensive route down Hawthorne Blvd.

Contact LA Metro (greenlineextension@metro.net) or the Torrance City Council (CityCouncil@TorranceCA.gov).



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424.226.6428
southwood.homeowners@gmail.com
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Environmental Commission Report

By John-Milo Ernst

The Environmental Commission approved a three-year extension on five oil facilities around Torrance. The commission posed questions to a representative of Power Oil Company on the safety and air quality of the pumps before approving the three-year extension. Power Oil will install new air quality monitors near the pumps to more accurately measure amounts of methane gas released from the pumps. Three of the five pumps are close to Southwood: one is in the West High School student parking lot, and two are behind the apartments on the west side of Anza Ave. between Spencer St. and Del Amo Blvd.

The Environmental Commission continues to accept nominations for the Climate Smart Award. Nomination forms can be found on the [Environmental Commission's page](#) on the city website.

Parks & Rec Report

By Ed Candioly, Vice Chair Parks & Rec Commission

All baseball diamond service and daily maintenance to all City parks, including Civic Center and downtown, is on track for its regular monthly crew visits. In Paradise Park specifically, concrete crack repairs to courts have been done. Additionally, new tennis court signs, numbers, and QR codes have been completed.

Staff continue to work preparing the Madrona Marsh for winter rains through mowing, downed tree and limb removal, plus vegetation and thatch maintenance.

Planning Commission Vacancy

There is an immediate opening on the City of Torrance Planning Commission. Elizabeth Pino, a Southwood resident, will be stepping down as she is relocating to the east coast. It would be valuable to have a representative from District 2 to replace her.

The Planning Commission works with the Community Development Department in the preparation of master plans and zoning studies that affect the growth and development of Torrance. The Commission meets on the first and third Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

If you are interested in serving as a Commissioner, it is required you attend one of the City's training sessions *before* applying. The program is a two-hour training class hosted by City staff at the Torrance Civic Center. There is no charge for this training.

Commission applications are accepted at any time during the year. There will be another opening in June 2024. For more information, please go to the Torrance City [Commissions website](#).

TUSD School Board Report

By Kim Nokes

At the December 11 School Board Meeting, the Board held its election of officers for 2024:

President: Mrs. Jasmine Park
Vice President: Dr. Anhil Mohammed
Clerk: Mrs. Betty Lieu



The Board of Education rotates officers annually so that each Board member has the opportunity to serve as President.

The Board recognized the service of outgoing President Dr. Jeremy Gerson, and appointed Dr. Tim Stowe, School Superintendent, to serve as secretary to the Board.

Dr. Stowe announced that the **State of Our Schools Annual Report** was mailed to all Torrance households. The Annual Report includes information about district happenings and provides data about our school district.

Proudly, for the 2021-2022 school year (the most recent data available), out of 91 similar districts, TUSD ranked #1 in the top five most important performance indicators: English Language Arts, Math, Student Attendance, English Learner Progress, and Graduation Rates. In fact, TUSD has a 96.6% graduation rate!

School Board meetings are held once or twice monthly and are open to the public. The TUSD School Board meeting schedule, agendas, and minutes are available online. In addition, meetings can be viewed live on Zoom, and past meetings are viewable on YouTube. All of this information is available at the [TUSD Board Meeting Schedule/Recordings](#) site.

Thank You to All Who Have Joined the Southwood Homeowners Association for 2024!

This list is based on dues received from 11.8 to 12.12. Additional names will be listed in the February Newsletter.

Steve Aharonian	Tom & Anita Frost	Ted & Patricia Leavenworth	Michael & Joanne Romanelli
John & Pam Anderson	Patrick & Nobuko Fujino	Ken & Kathy Lee	Edward & Chikako Roper
Bart & Roberta Babbitt	Lloyd & Atsuko Fujita	Douglas & Karla Leeds	Jane S. Roseman
Betsy & Bill Bailey	Raymond & Glenda Fukunaga	Pat & Dave Lewis	David & Myriam Rosendale
Colleen & Eric Baker	Andrea Garcia	Eric & Gitte Lieber	Marc & Bessie Saldana
Jeff & Eli Barris	George Gilley	Haein & Louis Vieira Lisboa	Michael & Elaine Sams
Stacey & Edgar Bautista	Reed & DeDe Gimian	Raymond & Andrea Livingston	Charles & Mary Schreiber*
Kathleen Bawolski	Tracy & Lori Goya	Hau & Hanh Luu	Stefan Schwarz
Jay & Jessica Bell	Ron & Carol Grassl	Kevin Lynch	Antoinette & Thomas Sexton
Daniel & Cheryl Blake	John O'Brien & Susan Griffith	Jim & Linda Mader	James & Michelle Shank
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Ed & Donna Candiotti	Ann & Dan Hall	Joanne Marks	Lowell & Joan Shields
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Kelly & Pattie Cordill	Bob & Arlene Hernandez	John Nuchols	Mas & Cheryl Tachiyama
Larry & Michelle Corrao	Tony & Karen Herrada	Lynne Onak	Rod Taylor
Elaine Cote'	Jon & Mariko Hiroshima	Howard G. Orpe	Lori Thayer
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Louise Dobler	Howell & Nikky Jaynes	Sam & Milly Quan	David & Carole Whitehead
Marilyn Dubas	Bruce Jephcott	Carolyn Quijada	John & Rosalie Wider
Lori & Chuck Edwards	Judith Jones	Salil Pradhan & Anamika Ray	Greg & Cheryl Wilton
Howard & Noeline Elexis	Joshua & Selilah Kalev	Karla & Guy Richmond	Yasue Yamada
John & Sharon Federle	Peter Kappelos	Joseph & Linda Ritacco	Thomas & Kat Yeh
Charles & Helen Fischer	Ken & Debbie King	Ram Rivas	Gloria Younkin*
Greg & Stephanie Franklin	Dale & Alison Krumland	Donna & Geoff Rizzo	Donna Zahn
James Frobish	Evelyn Laney	Duane & Dina Roberts	Marsha Zeller
	Les & Nora Latner	Valerie & Denis Rodgers	Yunfeng Shao & Jinghua Zhou
		Dottie & Jon Rodman	

*Charter Member

Torrance City Council Observer Report (11.28)

By Andrew Lee

Electric Vehicle Charging Services

The "One Mile, One Charger" project completed in 2016 provided 6 fast charging and 14 level II charging stations at each of six public sites chosen in Torrance. The Council approved an agreement with Blink Network, LLC of Miami to replace all charging stations at each location with new Blink-branded charging equipment.

Blink Network will replace, operate, and maintain the new charging stations for a seven-year period. The stations are located at the Civic Center, Wilson Park, Columbia Park, Walteria Park, McMaster Park, and the Post Avenue parking lot.

Torrance Airport

Any individual pilots or organizations, excluding military, public safety, and medical operations, will face a minimum fee of \$6 for each landing at Zamperini Field. However, the ordinance made an exception for Robinson Helicopter Co. This is the latest effort to ultimately reduce noise at the airport.

Torrance Homelessness

The 3290 Temporary Housing Village has had some success housing the unhoused, but continues to confront challenges. The 40 tiny homes have consistently been occupied at full capacity. The number of people experiencing homelessness in Torrance has jumped from 306 to 398 people from 2022 to 2023.

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