



# SOUTHWOOD

## Homeowners Association Newsletter

### September Calendar

#### Torrance City Council Meetings

6:30 p.m. via Teleconference and in-person at 3031 Torrance Blvd. Meetings now occur twice monthly 9.14 & 9.28

#### TUSD Board Meeting

7 p.m. via Teleconference 9.7 & 9.20

### Contact State Reps

Let your state representatives and the governor know how you feel about SB 9 and SB 10. For example: "I oppose SB 9 and SB 10. These bills will do nothing to increase affordable housing, and will destroy single-family neighborhoods. Developers will build multiple, market-rate units on a lot. Parking and water/sewer lines will be inadequate. Vote No!"

#### Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi

310.375.0691

Email: [assemblymember.muratsuchi@assembly.ca.gov](mailto:assemblymember.muratsuchi@assembly.ca.gov)

3424 W. Carson St., Suite 450  
Torrance 90503

[a66.asmdc.org/contact](http://a66.asmdc.org/contact)

#### Senator Ben Allen

310.318.6994

Email: [senator.allen@sen.ca.gov](mailto:senator.allen@sen.ca.gov)

2512 Artesia Blvd., Suite 320  
Redondo Beach 90278

[sd26.senate.ca.gov/contact/message](http://sd26.senate.ca.gov/contact/message)

#### Governor Gavin Newsom

916.445.2841

1303 10<sup>th</sup> St. Suite 1173

Sacramento, CA 95814

[govapps.gov.ca.gov/gov40mail](http://govapps.gov.ca.gov/gov40mail)

### Save Our Neighborhoods!

As of this writing, Housing Bills SB 9 and SB 10 have already passed the State Senate and are being decided in the State Assembly. If passed in the Assembly, these bills will be on the Governor's desk by September 10.

#### SB 9 Facts:

- Every single-family lot in the state will automatically be **rezoned to allow up to 6 units per lot** with only 4 foot setbacks required. There is nothing the City government can do to overrule this.
- Inadequate number of off-street parking spaces required.
- No requirements for upgrades to water/power infrastructure despite the increased demand.
- No affordable units required – all sold at market rate.
- Developers can buy up lots, tear down and rebuild a multi-unit dwelling right next door to you.

#### SB 10 Facts:

- Local city councils may adopt an ordinance to zone single-family lots for up to 10 units at a height specified in the ordinance.
- No affordable units required.
- No infrastructure improvements or adequate parking required

Write/call/email your state legislators and the governor today! (See sidebar.) They need to hear from each of us. Legislators have heard overwhelming opposition from individuals, cities, and grassroot organizations, yet SB 9 and SB 10 may still pass. Let's do our part to stop these bills.



Southwood Homeowners Association

4733 Torrance Blvd. #155, 90503

424.226.6428

[southwood.homeowners@gmail.com](mailto:southwood.homeowners@gmail.com)

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

[www.southwoodhomeowners.com](http://www.southwoodhomeowners.com)

## Scanning Southwood

Welcome to the Neighborhood!

Shirley & Colin Searles  
(Ladeene Ave.)

If you have any news to share related to births, deaths, marriages, new jobs, moving in, moving away, etc., please let us know. Call or text us at 424.226.6428 or email us at [southwood.homeowners@gmail.com](mailto:southwood.homeowners@gmail.com).

## Environmental Commission Report

By John-Milo Ernst

The Robert F. Kennedy Institute of Community and Family Medicine (RFKI) gave a presentation promoting smoke-free, multi-unit housing. The Commissioners asked the City staff to request proposed language for a smoke-free policy from the presenters. The staff will report back.

The City Council decided against passing an ordinance to phase out gas-powered leaf blowers in Torrance. Instead, they chose to limit the hours of operation.

## Seeking Singers

Calling all choral singers! Los Cancioneros Master Chorale has openings for singers in all voice parts as they resume in-person rehearsals in September.

For audition information, email [yufahn.yuen@gmail.com](mailto:yufahn.yuen@gmail.com) and put "LC Auditions" in the subject line. First concert of the season will be December 19 at the Armstrong Theatre. Please consider joining!

## Chuckles

Autocorrect has become my worst enema.

Two peanuts walk into a bar, one was assaulted.

## SHA Board Openings

Thank you for voting via email for the 2021-2022 Board of Officers. We received 93 emails in June, all approving the slate of officers!

If you'd like to join the board, we would appreciate the extra help and additional neighborhood voices. We have the following positions open:

- **3<sup>rd</sup> VP Activities** – Pitch in to help plan Association meetings.
- **Newsletter Advertising Chair** – Coordinate renewal of back page advertisers.
- **Commission Observer** – The City of Torrance has many commissions that meet monthly (virtually and possibly live). As an observer, you would attend the meetings and report back a short summary to the newsletter editor. If any of the commissions listed below match your interests, it'd be a great way to serve your community.

Airport Commission	Historic Preservation Commission
Planning Commission	Library Commission
Traffic Commission	Social Services Commission
Civil Service Commission	Water Commission
Commission on Aging	Youth Council
Cultural Arts Commission	

Please contact us at [southwood.homeowners@gmail.com](mailto:southwood.homeowners@gmail.com) or 424.226.6428 (via text or voicemail).

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## Torrance City Council Report (8.10.21 Meeting)

By Jane Roseman

- Torrance Fire Dept. will hold a car seat safety check event on September 10, 2021, from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. in front of the George Nakano Theatre at 3330 Civic Center Drive. To reserve a spot, see the City of Torrance Fire Dept. website. Statistics show over 90% of youngsters are not properly buckled up.
- The first human West Nile Virus case in the South Bay was confirmed. June through November are peak months for mosquitos. To reduce the risk, remove standing water, cover any water receptacles, install screens, remain indoors at dawn and dusk. For more information, visit [www.lawestvector.org](http://www.lawestvector.org).
- A new city ordinance will be implemented regarding power gardening equipment. The hours will be as follows: Monday thru Friday 7:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., and Sunday 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. (for property owners only).
- Reminder to drive carefully as school is starting up again. It's been a while since we've had car traffic with drop-offs and pick-ups. Be sure to slow down and look around carefully for children.
- Los Angeles County Public Health is looking for volunteers to be part of its COVID-19 Community Ambassadors Program. If interested, visit [publichealth.lacounty.gov](http://publichealth.lacounty.gov) and search for "ambassador".

# Torrance School Board Report

By Kim Nokes

## Appointment of Superintendent

The Board of Education appointed Tim Stowe as Superintendent of the Torrance Unified School District. Dr. Stowe had previously served as the Interim Superintendent during the 2020-2021 school year. He began his career with the District in 1993 as a teacher, and held numerous administrative positions, including Principal, Senior Director of Secondary Schools, and Deputy Superintendent.

## 2021 - 2022 School Year:

TUSD students will return to full-time, in-person instruction five days a week for the 2021-2022 school year with expanded academic and socio-emotional support, beginning Thursday, August 26, 2021.

As students return to campus, the District will continue to work closely with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health to adhere to health guidelines and to practice multiple mitigation measures to prevent the spread of the virus, including:

- **Masks** are required to be worn by all individuals indoors
- **Physical distancing** indoors (3 ft. recommended)
- **Daily health screening** (completed at home before school)
- Continue practicing **good hygiene** (hand washing, sanitizing, etc.)

Other layers of mitigation include improved ventilation systems to increase indoor airflow, regular cleaning routines around campus, controlling indoor/outdoor foot traffic with designated paths, and utilizing outdoor spaces for lunchtime and other activities. Additionally, the District will not require COVID-19 testing, but will make it available in cases of close contacts at school.

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## School Supplies Collection for TUSD



Calling all Southwood residents! Let's help TUSD students experiencing homelessness start the school year prepared and excited! Recently, the Torrance Social Services Commission and TUSD Building Bridges program teamed up to sponsor a school supply drive. Their drive has ended, but they will still happily accept any donations from our SHA drive. Here is a list of suggested supplies (new items only please):

Pencils	Staplers	Sweatshirts	Gluesticks
Highlighters	Notebooks	Books	Water Bottles
Markers	Calculators	Binders	Folders
Scissors	Paper	Umbrellas	Hairbrushes
Lunch Bags	Backpacks	Crayons	Socks

Please drop off your donations at Postal Solutions, 4733 Torrance Blvd. by September 30. Let them know it's for mailbox #155. Thanks, everyone!

September 2021

## Thank You for Joining SHA!

This list is based on dues received from 5.14 to 8.16.

Dino & Karen D'Emelia  
Kurt & Delta Natter

That's 421 members for 2021 so far!

### Haven't joined/renewed yet?

Please go to our website to either print a membership form and mail it in, or join securely online at [southwoodhomeowners.com/join](https://southwoodhomeowners.com/join).

## Library Accepting Donations Again

The Friends of the Library are now accepting book donations and have resumed book sales!

Donations may be placed in the donation bins inside the Katy Geissert Library or in the large donation bin near the loading dock.

Gently used, bargain-priced hardback and paperback books are now being sold in the Katy Geissert Library lobby.

## Poet Laureate?

Could you be the City of Torrance's first Poet Laureate? The City is seeking qualified poets to apply. The Poet Laureate will serve for 2 years attending special events and creating a feature poem about Torrance.

Applicants must be 16 years of age or older. The application requires 5 original poems, a letter of recognition or reference and a personal statement.

Applications must be submitted to the Torrance Cultural Service Division by 5:00 p.m., September 9, 2021. For additional information, please contact Eve Rappoport at 310.618.2380 or [ERappoport@TorranceCA.Gov](mailto:ERappoport@TorranceCA.Gov)

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