



SOUTHWOOD

Homeowners Association Newsletter

April Calendar

Torrance City Council Meetings
6:30 p.m. at 3031 Torrance Blvd.
4.9 & 4.23

TUSD Board Meeting
7 p.m. TUSD Board Room
2336 Plaza del Amo
4.15

Cherry Blossom Festival
Columbia Park, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.
4.7

**American Cancer Society
Relay for Life**
Downtown Torrance
12 p.m. – 8 p.m.
4.20

Japanese Cultural Festival
11 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Ken Miller Recreation Center
4.20 – 4.21

Save the Date!

Southwood HOA
General Meeting
May 8, 2024
6:30 p.m.
Anza Elementary

Guest speakers on
topics of interest!

Scholarship Winner
Presentation!

Keep Up with the Trends!

You can be in the know about the latest hot topics in Torrance by visiting the “Trending in Torrance” website (trendingintorrance.com). Here are the nine topics covered in mid-March:

1. **February Storm Updates** – Vista Montana (Mesa St. to Via Corona) remains closed indefinitely due to a landslide on February 5 that caused a water main break in the hillside between Vista Montana and Vista Largo below. A detour is in place.
2. **Airport Matters** – Check out the latest with the changes at Torrance Airport. There is a table provided with specific topics and their status.
3. **Metro's C Line (Green) Extension to Torrance** – See when upcoming City and L.A. Metro meetings are scheduled on this topic.
4. **Homeless Services** – Watch a video about Torrance Homeless Services along with information on how you can help.
5. **Housing Corridor Overlay** – The Housing Corridor Study has led to the creation of a new option for property owners who want to develop their industrial or commercial properties for residential use.
6. **Opposing New Zero-Bail Protocol** – In October 2023, Torrance City Council unanimously voted to join nearly two dozen cities in taking a stance against Los Angeles County’s recently adopted zero-bail protocol.
7. **Sidewalk Vending at Public Events** – Rules for sidewalk vending at the annual neighborhood coordinated light display in the Seaside Ranchos area of Torrance is addressed.
8. **Public Safety and Retail** – Read a message from Torrance Police Department Chief Jay Hart about TPD’s dedication to “provide all community members with a safe and positive experience when visiting Torrance.”
9. **Illegal Cannabis Operations in Torrance** – All forms of retail sales of cannabis are currently prohibited in the City of Torrance, including dispensaries and non-storefront retail. See the Q&A on this page for more information.



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www.southwoodhomeowners.com

Anza Ave. Upgrades

We have all been patiently waiting for a smooth ride down Anza Ave. It turns out there is much more planned for Anza Ave. than just a repaving. The City is in the midst of completing Project I-144. The improvements include pavement reconstruction and/or overlay; repair of uplifted or damaged curbs, gutters and sidewalks; installation of ADA curb ramps; parkway and median landscape upgrades; traffic signal upgrades and sign replacements.

The construction contract was awarded on December 12, 2023. Work began in February 2024 and is anticipated to be completed in Summer 2024.

City Council Observer Report

By Andrew Lee

At the March 12 City Council meeting, the council reaffirmed its support of extending the C Line to Torrance along the “right-of-way option”. The LA Metro Board of Directors is the governing body that will make the final decision on the project sometime this year.

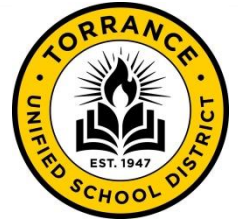
Changes to the Torrance City Charter could go before voters in the General Election in November 2024. The City Council will be discussing proposed changes to Torrance’s charter, which, if enacted, would make the city manager and city attorney positions “at-will” jobs, enable the city to hold run-off elections, and raise compensation for councilmembers.

Torrance City Council set regulations for new pickle ball courts. The ordinance mandates a minimum distance of 250 feet between the center of each new court and residential properties, as measured by the parcel lines.

School Board Observer Report

By Kim Nokes

The following is a brief summary of the March 4, 2024, meeting of the TUSD Board of Education. The board members present included Jasmine Park, Betty Lieu, and James Han. Absent were Dr. Anil Muhammed and Dr. Jeremy Gerson. The meeting is available to view in its entirety on the TUSD website www.tusd.org/boe/board-meetings.



- The Board met in closed session to discuss the possible sale, lease or exchange of approximately 10.05 acres of real property located at 2606 West 182nd Street, Torrance, CA 90504, known as the Hamilton Adult Center.
- Torrance Refining Company presented a \$61,000 check to TUSD to support the 2024 Innovation Fest to be held March 23 at El Camino College.
- City of Torrance staff presented an update on the Civic Center Master Plan and Economic Feasibility Study.

Mayor Community Meeting Recap

Mayor Chen held a Community Meeting on February 28, 2024, in the City Council Chambers at 3031 Torrance Blvd. Turnout was light – probably about 35 residents plus City Staff. The following topics were presented:

- Sidewalk Vending – Use myTorranceCA app to report popup vendors. The fruit stand in front of the Galaxy Sports Complex is the only known legal vendor.
- Cannabis – Torrance does not allow cannabis retail sales. Three illegal vendors have been removed so far.
- Finance Update – Torrance currently has approximately 2.5 months of expenses in its reserve fund. The goal is 6 months of expenses. The SST funds are helping to rebuild the reserve fund.
- Public Works – City Yard distributed 4,500 sand bags to the public before recent rain storms.
- TPD – Increase in strong arm robberies (people taking merchandise out of stores): 64 in 2022, 83 in 2023. Overall crime is down 9% in 2023 from 2022. A real-time response center will go live in a couple of months and will be staffed with specialized personnel. Cameras and other technology will be used to assess active crime scenes before sending in police.
- Airport – Touch & go’s ban started March 9. Landing fees started Feb 1. In six months, report due to council on removing leaded gas.

Are You Using the Correct Bins?

The City of Torrance is performing random audits of curbside refuse, recycling, and organic bins. If they find something that doesn't belong in a particular bin, an "Oops!" tag will be attached to the bin. There are no penalties. This is just a way for the city to educate the residents.



Here are the items that are most frequently put in the wrong bin:

Food Scraps & Soiled Paper – Put in the Green Bin. The Green Bin is not just for lawn clippings anymore! It's also for food scraps and soiled paper products such as greasy pizza boxes, napkins, paper plates, and paper towels.

Frozen Food Boxes – Put in the Garbage Bin. Since they contain a layer of plastic, they cannot be recycled.

Paper Cups – Put in the Garbage Bin. Paper cups are lined with plastic or wax to prevent leaking, so cannot be recycled.

For more details on what goes where, go to www.torranceca.gov/our-city/public-works/what-goes-in-waste-bins.

Del Amo Mall Sets New Policy

Del Amo Mall's new Youth Supervision Policy went into effect on Friday, March 1. All visitors under 18 must be accompanied at all times by a parent or adult, age 21 or older, after 3:00 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. Here are the details:

- Guests under age 18 are required to be accompanied by and remain with a parent or adult, age 21 or older, at all times, after 3:00 p.m., on Fridays and Saturdays.
- Unsupervised guests under age 18 must leave the property by 3:00 p.m. on Fridays or Saturdays or immediately be joined by a parent or adult age 21 or older.
- Acceptable proof of age may be required for the youth or adult. Individuals who lack acceptable identification, or do not abide by the shopping center's Youth Supervision Policy will be asked to leave the property.
- Acceptable identification includes a state-issued driver's license or ID card, a military ID, a school ID card, or a passport. The identification must include a photograph and date of birth. Those without acceptable identification will be denied entry or asked to leave the property.
- One adult may accompany up to four youths. All accompanied youth must remain with the adult at all times.
- Adults are responsible for the actions of all of the youth they accompany.

Thanks for joining Southwood HOA!

This list is based on dues received from 2.7 to 3.12.

Ann Vaughn & Ken Antell
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Mia Fogh, Andreas Pfander
Arda & Rob Searles
Lisa Shoemaker-Coleman
Sheila & Steve Ton

Haven't joined/renewed yet?

Please go online at southwoodhomeowners.com/join to either print a membership form and mail in, or join securely online.

Parks & Rec Report

By Ed Candioty, Vice Chair Parks & Rec Commission

The City is planning a community outreach day at Paradise Park in the near future. Officials will be presenting preliminary plans for the new playground and swing amenities as well as revisiting the scope of other park upgrades.

Civic Center Survey

The survey period has been extended to at least March 31. To share your input on a new Master Plan for the Civic Center, please go to:

www.torranceca.gov/our-city/civic-center-master-plan

or scan the QR code here.



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