

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if special assistance is needed to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk's office at (310) 618-2780. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. [28CFR35.102-35.104 ADA Title II]

The Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission is an advisory body to the City Council that meets on the first Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m. All meetings are open to the public. Agendas, staff reports, and minutes are available for review on the City webpage at www.TorranceCA.gov/Environmental-Quality-Commission-Agendas-Minutes

Direct questions or concerns to the Commission Liaison at (310) 618-5912, or individual department head prior to submission to the Commission. Parties will be notified if the complaint will be included on a subsequent agenda.

Members of the public may provide comments related to any items on the meeting agenda. Oral comments are limited to one minute per speaker for items on the agenda and limited to one minute per speaker for items not on the agenda. Everyone interested in speaking on an agenda item will be heard at the meeting. Speakers are asked to come forward to the podium, speak clearly, and provide their name and address for the record. Meetings are audio recorded. If presenting handout material to the Environmental Commission, please provide 10 color copies to staff before speaking.

Written comments may be submitted via email to EnvironmentalCommission@torranceca.gov. Written comments may also be delivered by mail or submitted in-person to the Permit Center (Environmental Counter) in the Community Development Department located at the above referenced address, open 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday, open alternate Fridays. Comments must include in the subject line "Public Comment" and the record number. Comments must be pertinent to the agenda item and must not include personal remarks. All personal signatures, personal addresses, personal telephone numbers and personal email addresses must be omitted or will be redacted. Repetitive comments and/or duplicate copies of petitions and flyers are neither necessary nor helpful.

Comments that are submitted no later than 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday the day before the Environmental Commission meeting will be included as a supplemental agenda item and will be posted on the City webpage no later than 5:00 p.m. on Thursday the day of the meeting. A copy of the supplemental agenda item will be available at the back of the Commission room. Comments that are submitted in writing after 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday the day before the Environmental Commission meeting will be filed with the public record.

**TORRANCE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AND ENERGY CONSERVATION
COMMISSION AGENDA
DECEMBER 05, 2024
REGULAR MEETING
6:00 P.M. IN WEST ANNEX COMMISSION MEETING ROOM
AT 3031 TORRANCE BL.**

**ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AND ENERGY CONSERVATION COMMISSION MAY
TAKE ACTION ON ANY ITEM LISTED ON THE AGENDA**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

ROLL CALL: Commission members: Ahmed, Gunnar, Hill, Love, Seferian, Zhang and Chair Jendrucko

2. FLAG SALUTE: Commissioner Love

3. REPORT OF THE STAFF ON THE POSTING OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was posted on the Public Notice Board at 3031 Torrance Boulevard. and on the City's Website on Wednesday, November 27, 2024.

4. ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED, AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS (Limited up to a 15-minute period)

*This portion of the meeting is reserved for comments on items on the Consent Calendar or not on the agenda. Under the Ralph M. Brown Act, the Commission cannot act on items raised during public comment but may respond briefly to statements made or questions posed; request clarification; or refer the item to staff. **No longer than 1 minute per speaker.** If presenting handout material to Commission, please provide 10 copies to staff before speaking.*

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

Matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion and one vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed by a Commissioner from the Consent Calendar and considered separately.

6A. Approve Commission Minutes: November 7, 2024

7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

7A. Accept and File Presentation on Refuse Collection in Torrance

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS

9. COMMISSION ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

10. ADJOURNMENT

10A. Adjournment of Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission Meeting to Thursday, February 06, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in the West Annex Commission Meeting Room.



**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE
TORRANCE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY &
ENERGY CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The Torrance Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission convened in a regular session at 6:10 p.m. on Thursday, November 7, 2024, in the West Annex Commission Meeting Room.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Ahmed, Love, Zhang and Chair Jendrucko.

Absent: Commissioners Gunnar, Hill, and Seferian.

Also Present: Senior Environmental Quality Officer Nora Duncan, Planning Manager Gregg Lodan, and Community Development Director Michelle Ramirez.

MOTION: Commissioner Love moved to excuse the absence of Commissioner Hill. Commissioner Ahmed seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected a 4-0 approval (Commissioners Gunnar, Hill, and Seferian absent).

MOTION: Commissioner Ahmed moved to excuse the absence of Commissioner Gunnar. Commissioner Love seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected a 4-0 approval (Commissioners Gunnar, Hill, and Seferian absent).

MOTION: Commissioner Love moved to excuse the absence of Commissioner Seferian for the October and November meetings. Commissioner Ahmed seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected a 4-0 approval (Commissioners Gunnar, Hill, and Seferian absent).

2. FLAG SALUTE

Commissioner Love led The Pledge of Allegiance.

3. REPORT OF STAFF ON THE POSTING OF THE AGENDA

Senior Environmental Quality Officer Duncan reported that the agenda was posted on the Public Notice Board at 3031 Torrance Boulevard on Thursday, October 31, 2024.

4. ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED, AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

Senior Environmental Quality Officer Duncan reported a Supplemental Item regarding Item 7A.

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS - None.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

6A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: OCTOBER 3, 2024

MOTION: Commissioner Love moved to approve the October 3, 2024 minutes. Commissioner Ahmed seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected a 4-0 approval (Commissioners Gunnar, Hill, and Seferian absent).

7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

7A. PRESENTATION: MARY SIMUN, SOUTH BAY PARKLAND CONSERVANCY

Senior Environmental Quality Officer Duncan presented Item 7A.

Ms. Mary Simun, Vice President, Education Director, and biologist for the South Bay Parkland Conservancy, presented a PowerPoint presentation:

- The South Bay Parkland Conservancy is a non-profit that has been around for 20 years with a goal to “re-wild” the South Bay with native plants. Several different projects are underway, and the community is encouraged to participate in the South Bay Parkland Conservancy’s goals and objectives.
- With a community garden and native plant garden in Redondo Beach, a partnership with Hey, Sunshine Kitchen in Culver City has been established where pollinator plants are provided and passed out to customers on Mondays when meals are bought.
- The Wilderness Park in Redondo Beach hosts educational programs, monthly nature walks, plantings, and habitat restoration.
- The South Bay Parkland Conservancy is involved in the Preservation of the Blue Butterfly Project, El Segundo Blue Coalition, Surf Rider Foundation, Gardena Willows, and various local organizations.
- With coastal erosion linked to climate change, the planting of native plants help to stabilize the dunes and the bluffs, provides habitat to native species, help to mitigate coastal erosion, and helps reverse harmful trends.

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS – None.

9. COMMISSION ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Senior Environmental Quality Officer Duncan announced that the Beautification Awards are set to go before City Council on December 17, 2024.

Commissioners showed interest in manning a booth at the annual Turkey Trot. Community Development Director Ramirez stated that an email will be sent out to Commissioners regarding the event and ways to move forward.

Senior Environmental Quality Officer Duncan announced that a Public Works presentation will take place during the December 2024 meeting and that a Transit presentation will take place in February 2025.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: At 6:46 p.m. Commissioner Ahmed moved to adjourn the meeting to Thursday, December 5, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. Commissioner Love seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected a 4-0 approval (Commissioners Gunnar, Hill, and Seferian absent).

###

Subject to Approval

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7A

DATE: December 05, 2024

TO: Members of the Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission

FROM: Neighborhood Services Division

SUBJECT: Accept and File Presentation on Refuse Collection in Torrance

At the October 3, 2024, Torrance Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission meeting, Chair Jendrucko asked if the City of Torrance Public Works could present information to the Environmental commission regarding the City's efforts in refuse collection, recycling and organic waste management. For tonight's Environmental Commission meeting of December 5, 2024, Liliana Myers, with the Public Works department will present information regarding their work with refuse collection in Torrance.

ATTACHMENT

1. Presentation on Refuse Collection in Torrance

STAFF CONTACT

Nora Duncan, Supervising Senior Environmental Quality Officer
NDuncan@TorranceCA.gov

REFUSE COLLECTION IN TORRANCE

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
AUGUST 2024

Refuse Collection in Torrance

- Public Works provides weekly residential collection to approximately 29,500 accounts, including properties up to 4 units
- Three cart system: Refuse (black), Organic waste (green), and Recycling (gray/blue)
- Refuse and Organic waste disposed at Allied Waste Services transfer stations located in Gardena, Wilmington, and Compton
- Recycling processed at Potential Industries in Wilmington



Note: Multifamily (5+ units) and businesses, serviced by private license haulers

History of California Solid Waste Legislation

AB 939 (1989) – Integrated Waste Management Act

- 50% Landfill diversion after year 2020

AB 341 (2012) – Mandatory Commercial Recycling

- 4 cubic yards per week of municipal solid waste (MSW)

AB 1826 (2014) – Mandatory Commercial Organics Recycling

- 50% reduction of organics to landfill by 2020 (given 2014 levels. Excludes food for multifamily)

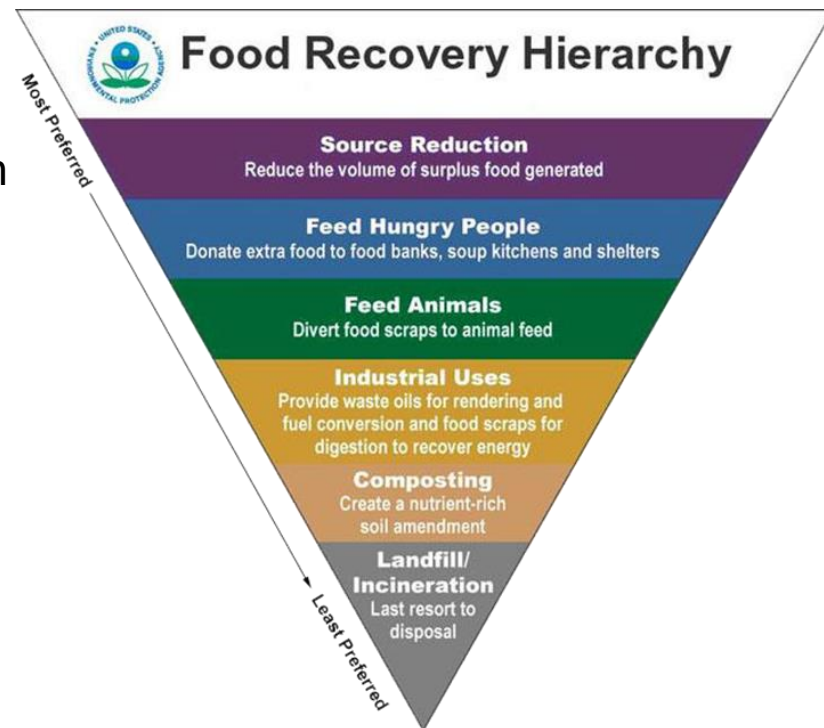
SB 1383 (2016) – Short-Lived Climate Pollutant Reduction Act

- 50% reduction of organic waste to landfill by 2020, 75% by 2025
- 20% recovery of disposed edible food by 2025



SB 1383 – Why Organic Waste?

- Organic Waste in Landfills emits:
 - 20% of the state’s methane, a climate super pollutant 84 times more potent than carbon dioxide.
 - Air pollutants like PM 2.5, which contributes to health conditions like asthma.
- Edible Food Recovery
 - 40% of food in the U.S. goes uneaten
 - 1 in 6 Americans lack a secure food supply
 - Nearly 25% of people in LA County are food insecure
 - To address this, certain businesses now required to donate all excess edible food to local food rescue organizations
 - New Challenge Ministries and Community’s Child.



Where Does our Waste Go?

From this --



Landfills are forever!

To This!



LANDFILL

- **BLACK** = non-recyclable trash, no longer of use



NO!



RECYCLING

BLUE/GRAY = loose recyclables that are **EMPTY** without liquid or food



**No food waste or yard waste, liquids, hazardous waste, pet waste, or trash*

But What About...?

Chasing Arrows symbol does not mean “recyclable”



“Recyclable” does not mean it will get recycled

- Plastics #1, #2, and #5 = Accepted
- Plastics #3, #4, and #7 = Not Accepted

Materials with mixed packaging also = not accepted



4-Inch Minus Rule (i.e. straws, lids, utensils)



ORGANICS

GREEN = Organic waste: plant matter, food scraps and food-soiled paper



****No bioplastics***

Electronic Waste (E-waste)

- Unwanted or broken electronic equipment
 - Plugs into an outlet
 - Uses light bulbs or batteries
 - Contains electronic circuit board or wiring
- Disposal Options
 - Deliver to S.A.F.E. Collection Center
 - City hosts biannual e-waste collection event
 - LA County also hosts mobile events
 - For large items, City-serviced residents can use Large Item Pickup Service offered by PW
 - For apartments and businesses, check with waste hauler



Household Hazardous Waste

- Labeled toxic, poisonous, corrosive, flammable, combustible, or irritant
- Disposal (prohibited by State and Federal laws)
 - Illegal to dispose in trash, recycling, organics, sinks, or storm drains
- Proper Disposal
 - Residents - S.A.F.E. Collection Centers & collection events
 - Small business quantities – S.A.F.E. Centers by apt. only
- Businesses – Check with your waste hauler
- More info: (888) CLEAN-LA or visit CleanLA.com



Large Item Pickup

City-Serviced Customers

- Consider donation first. Large item pickups are landfilled (except for mattresses and large appl).
- 1 free pickup per year, up to 20 items

Businesses

- Private Waste hauler

Multifamily (5+ units)

- Private Waste hauler, 1 free pickup per quarter

Examples:

- Appliances
- Carpets/rugs
- Mattresses
- Water heaters
- Furniture
- Tree Trunks

NOT ACCEPTABLE

- Automobile parts
- Batteries
- Bulbs
- Liquid waste
- Medical products
- Construction & demolition debris (i.e. dirt, concrete, tile, drywall and rock, etc.)
- Hazardous waste



Sharps Disposal

Hypodermic needles, pen needles, intravenous needles, lancets, & other devices used to penetrate the skin of people or animals

Collection Device:

- Red sharps collection container
- Clearly marked puncture-proof containers (i.e. coffee can or detergent bottles)

Disposal:

- **Do NOT place in any recycling, landfill, or organics container!**
- Residential
 - County S.A.F.E. Collection Center (may also have sharps containers)
 - Some senior citizen facilities, pharmacies, and health clinics



Additional Services Provided by Sanitation Division

- Illegal dumping/hot spots – 750 annually
- Holiday tree collection – 3 weeks after Christmas
- Bi-annual e-waste and paper shredding events in Spring and Fall
- Used oil collection program
- Keep up to date at www.TorranceRecycles.org



Recycling Guide



Recycle Curbside



Recycle With Plastic Bags



Beverage Containers



Hazardous Waste



Recycle With E-Waste



Put in Organics Bin



Put in Garbage



Large Item Pickup



Most Requested



Top Troublemakers

QUESTIONS?

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT