

The Social Services Commission is an advisory body to the City Council that generally meets on the fourth Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m. The Commission may make recommendations to the City Council on Veterans affairs, homeless issues, adults with development disabilities, and children with special needs. All meetings are open to the public except for those portions that under law may be considered in closed session.

Staff reports are available for review at the Civic Center Main Library and the City Clerk's Office. Direct any other questions or concerns to the Social Services Commission liaison at 310.618.5880. Agendas are posted on the City of Torrance Home Page www.TorranceCA.Gov.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Manager's office at (310) 618-5880. 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]

TORRANCE SOCIAL SERVICES COMMISSION AGENDA
MARCH 27, 2025
REGULAR MEETING
6:00 P.M. WEST ANNEX COMMISSION MEETING ROOM
SOCIAL SERVICES COMMISSION MAY TAKE ACTION ON ANY ITEM
LISTED ON THE AGENDA

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

ROLL CALL: Commission Members Furey, Leys, Pryor, Reynolds, Sansalone, Wright, Chair Bickford

2. FLAG SALUTE: Chair Bickford

3. REPORT OF STAFF ON THE POSTING OF THE AGENDA The agenda was posted on the Public Notice Board at 3031 Torrance Bl. and on the City's Website on March 18, 2025.

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 ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED, AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

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

*This portion of the meeting is reserved for comment on items on the Consent Calendar or items 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 the 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. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: FEBRUARY 27, 2025

7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

7A. APPROVE PRESENTATION CONTENT AND SCHEDULING OF PRESENTATIONS TO THE COMMISSION ON AGING AND YOUTH COUNCIL

8. COMMISSION ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

9. ADJOURNMENT

9A. Adjournment of the Social Services Commission Meeting to Thursday, April 24, 2025, at 6:00 pm for a regular meeting in the West Annex Commission Meeting Room.



February 27, 2025

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
TORRANCE SOCIAL SERVICES COMMISSION**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance Social Services Commission convened in a regular session at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 27, 2025 at the West Annex Commission Meeting Room, Torrance City Hall.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Furey, Pryor, Reynolds, Wright and Chair Bickford

Absent: Commissioners Leys and Sansalone

Also Present: Deputy City Manager Hoang, Staff Liaisons-in Training Candice Lau and Lauren Allen

MOTION: Commissioner Wright moved to approve the excused absences of Commissioners Leys and Sansalone; motion was seconded by Commissioner Pryor. The motion passed by a 5-0 roll call vote. (Absent Commissioners Leys and Sansalone)

2. FLAG SALUTE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Reynolds.

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

Staff Liaison-in Training Allen stated that the agenda for the Social Services Commission was properly posted on February 13, 2025 on the Public Notice Board by the City Clerk's office and on the City's website.

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

Staff Liaison-in Training Lau stated that there were no withdrawn or deferred items, but noted that there were supplemental items available of hard copies of the presentation for Item 7A.

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

6A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: January 23, 2025

MOTION: Commissioner Furey moved to approve Item 6A, as submitted; motion was seconded by Commissioner Pryor. The motion passed by a 5-0 roll call vote. (Absent Commissioners Leys and Sansalone)

7 ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

7A. ACCEPT AND FILE PRESENTATION BY TORRANCE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BUILDING BRIDGES COLLABORATIVE

Deputy City Manager Hoang introduced Dr. Gutierrez, Torrance Unified School District (TUSD) Coordinator of Parent and Community Engagement, and Homeless/Foster Liaison presented the report for the Building Bridges Collaborative and noted the following:

- Building Bridges Collaborative had been developed to eliminate the overlap in programs and to create a multi-disciplined team to network and support students and

families in the vulnerable populations: McKinney Vento, Foster, Low Income, English Language Learners and listed the support each population received

- McKinney Vento's educational definition of homelessness varied from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) definition by also including those who were living doubled up with other people, which made up 83% of TUSD's vulnerable populations
- Various populations within TUSD were increasing at the same levels as the County and noted that 85% of the McKinney Vento students who had been with TUSD were long-time Torrance residents
- She listed the ways used to identify homeless students: through consolidated enrollment and family welcome staff, nutrition services, poster in schools and interns who meet with students and families
- She discussed the types of Building Bridges/McKinney-Vento Program ongoing services, as well as special events, distributions of school supplies, holiday gifts and food, and collaboration between the various agencies.
- She listed types of help that the public could provide: promote awareness, provide speakers and classes, raise funds, support a student, and contribute to supply drives, suggest grants.

Deputy City Manager Hoang stated that he would forward the Commission information and meeting schedules for the Building Bridges Collaborative.

MOTION: Commissioner Wright moved to accept and file the presentation by Dr. Gutierrez, Torrance Unified School District on the Building Bridges Collaborative; motion was seconded by Commissioner Reynolds. The motion passed by a 5-0 roll call vote. (Absent Commissioners Leys and Sansalone)

7B. ACCEPT AND FILE PRESENTATION ON THE DEPARTMENT OF BEACHES AND HARBORS BEACH ACCESS MATS PROGRAM

Commissioner Furey presented an overview of the Beaches and Harbors Beach Access Mats Program and referenced the handouts for the Los Angeles County beaches with beach access mats and those beaches which could provide beach wheelchairs. She added that additional information on access at other California beaches outside of Los Angeles County could be found at <https://coastal.ca.gov/>

There was no public comment.

MOTION: Commissioner Pryor moved to accept and file the presentation on the Department of Beaches and Harbors Beach Access Mats Program; motion was seconded by Commissioner Wright. The motion passed by a 5-0 roll call vote. (Absent Commissioners Leys and Sansalone)

8. COMMISSION ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Chair Bickford requested that staff bring back an item to a future Commission meeting to assign members of the Commission to attend future meetings of the Youth Council and the Commission on Aging, as well as inviting a representative of each of the Commissions to attend a meeting of the Social Services Commission.

The Commission concurred.

Commissioner Wright stated that she would investigate how best to share some essays from the 8th grade participants from the Students and Government Day.

Deputy City Manager Hoang thanked the Commissioners and staff for their expert assistance in the Homeless Count.

9. ADJOURNMENT

9A. At 7:05 p.m., Commissioner Furey moved to adjourn the meeting to March 27, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. at the West Annex Commission Meeting Room, Torrance City Hall. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wright. The motion passed by a 5-0 roll call vote. (Absent Commissioners Sansalone and Wright)

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Honorable Members of the Social Services Commission
City Hall
Torrance, California

Members of the Commission:

SUBJECT: Approve Presentation Content and Scheduling of Presentations to the Commission on Aging and Youth Council

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation of staff that the Social Services Commission approve of presentation content, identify members of the Commission to deliver the content, and approve scheduling dates for presentations to the Commission on Aging and Youth Council.

BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS

During the February 2025 Commission meeting, Chair Bickford requested, with concurrence of the Commission, that staff bring back an item to a future meeting so that the Commission can discuss assigning members to make presentations at a future Youth Council and Commission on Aging meetings. Chair Bickford noted that during the presentations, members of the Commission can share with each appointed body an overview of the Social Services Commission and the work that is performed, and to invite each appointed body to explore areas of potential collaboration.

The Commission on Aging provides a voice for senior citizens and deals with the needs and issues confronting senior citizens. The Youth Council is an advisory board to the City Council on matters pertaining to youth in Torrance.

Staff recommends that your Honorable Body review upcoming Commission on Aging and Youth Council meeting dates and identify Commission members and staff who are available to present at the meetings. To ensure compliance with the Brown Act so that these presentations do not constitute a Social Service Commission meeting, staff respectfully recommends that no more than two Commission members make the presentation at each meeting.

The Commission on Aging meets the first Tuesday of each month. Staff recommends proposing the following dates to the Commission on Aging:

- Tuesday, May 6, 2025, 9:30 AM
- Tuesday, June 2, 2025, 9:30 AM
- Tuesday, July 1, 2025, 9:30 AM
- Tuesday, August 5, 2025, 9:30 AM

The Youth Council meets the first and third Wednesday of each month. Staff recommends proposing the following dates to the Youth Council:

- Wednesday, April 16, 2025, 7 PM
- Wednesday, May 7, 2025, 7PM
- Wednesday, May 21, 2025, 7PM
- Wednesday, June 4, 2025, 7PM

Staff also recommends that your Honorable Body approve a general framework for the presentations. Staff can prepare the presentation deck based on your Honorable Body's discussion tonight. A general framework for discussion tonight might include:

1. Social Services Commission Jurisdiction and Populations
2. How the Commission gets work done
3. Major annual events
4. Specific ask of each Appointed Body: What ideas does your Council/Commission have that might be areas of collaboration?
5. Specific Invitation: Come to a future Social Services Commission meeting to share your thoughts

Following each presentation, staff will agendaize an item so that the Commission members who presented can discuss ideas generated for potential collaboration.

Respectfully submitted,



Lauren Allen
Staff Liaison-In-Training



Candice Lau
Staff Liaison-In-Training