

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](http://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  
AUGUST 28, 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 Bickford, De La Rosa, Furey, Johnson, Leys, Wright, Chair Pryor

**2. FLAG SALUTE:** Commissioner 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 August 20, 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 ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED, AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS**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. APPROVE MINUTES: JULY 24, 2025**

**7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

**7A. APPROVE THE 2025 VETERANS APPRECIATION LUNCH AND RESOURCE FAIR**

**7B. ACCEPT AND FILE PRESENTATION FROM TORRANCE HOMELESS STREET OUTREACH TEAM**

**8. COMMISSION ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

- 9A.** Adjournment of the Social Services Commission Meeting to Thursday, September 25, 2025, at 6:00 pm for a regular meeting in the West Annex Commission Meeting Room



**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, July 24, 2025 at the West Annex Commission Meeting Room, Torrance City Hall 3031 Torrance Boulevard

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Commissioners \*De La Rosa, \*\*Furey, Johnson, Leys, Pryor, Wright and Chair Bickford

Absent: None

Also Present: Deputy City Manager Hoang and Staff Liaison Lauren Allen and Staff Liaison in-Training Irene O'Neill

**MOTION:** Chair Bickford moved to approve the excused absences of Commissioners \*De La Rosa and \*\*Furey; motion was seconded by Commissioner Wright. The motion passed by a 5-0 roll call vote. (Absent: Commissioners \*De La Rosa and \*\*Furey.)

**2. FLAG SALUTE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Wright.

**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 July 10, 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 Allen stated that there were no items and noted that there were minutes and staff presentations available at the table.

**5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

None

\*Commissioner De La Rosa arrived at 6:03 p.m.

**6. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**6A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: June 26, 2025**

Chair Bickford request that the minutes been pulled for separate consideration.

Deputy City Manager Hoang noted that Commissioner Wright had requested that the start time for the next month's meeting in the adjournment minutes for June 26, 2025 be amended to 6:00 p.m.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Wright moved to approve Item 6A, as amended; motion was seconded by Commissioner De La Rosa. The motion passed by a 5-0 roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners De La Rosa, Leys, Pryor, Wright and Chairperson Bickford  
Noes: None  
Abstain: Commissioner Johnson  
Absent: \*\*Commissioner Furey

**7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

**7A. APPOINT COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIRPERSON FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026**

Staff Liaison-in Training Allen presented the report for the item and explained the procedure for electing the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson. She announced that nominations or self-nominations could now be made.

Commissioner Wright nominated Commissioner Pryor for Chair. There were no more nominations or self-nominations for Chair.

Roll call vote for Chair 6-0: All Commissioners voted for Commissioner Pryor as Chair (Absent: \*\*Commissioner Furey)

Staff Liaison-in Training Allen requested nominations or self-nominations for Vice Chair.

Commissioner Leys nominated Commissioner Furey for Vice Chair. There were no more nominations or self-nominations for Vice Chair.

Roll call vote for Vice Chair 6-0: All Commissioners voted for Commissioner Furey as Vice Chair (Absent: \*\*Commissioner Furey)

**MOTION:** Commissioner Wright moved to approve Commissioner Pryor as Chair and Commissioner Furey as Vice Chair for Fiscal Year 2025-2026; motion was seconded by Commissioner Leys. The motion passed by a 6-0 roll call vote. (Absent: \*\*Commissioner Furey)

**7B. ACCEPT AND FILE PRESENTATION FROM THE TORRANCE POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY LEAD OFFICER DETAIL**

Staff Liaison-in Training Allen presented the report for the item and introduced Lieutenant Ahmad, Sergeant Kim, Detective Craft and Detective Vogel.

\*\*Commissioner Furey arrived at 6:18 p.m.

Detective Vogel introduced himself and discussed the role of the Community Officers: which included Homeless Outreach, Neighborhood and Business Watch and Community Events. He noted that Community Officers were involved in quality-of-life issues, looked to build partnerships and include the community in the solution making process. He explained that the four Lead Officers were assigned to different areas within the City and used referrals to investigate various issues. He added that the team looked to identify recurring issues and crime trends and to develop long term solutions to improve public safety.

Detective Vogel described Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) Site reviews which looked for ways to alter the environment to maximize the potential for prevention of a crime as well as the apprehension of a criminal. He noted that sites could be improved by lighting, landscaping and access control as well as by mechanical and natural security.

Detective Vogel discussed the makeup and location of the Tiny Home Village and noted that the goal was to provide housing stability and support services while assisting residents in attaining permanent housing. He listed their outreach services partners: Torrance Homeless Team, Los Angeles Homeless Services (LAHSA), Family Promise of South Bay, Harbor Interfaith, People Assisting the Homeless and US Department of Veteran's Affairs. He noted the statistics from the Homeless Outreach Team as of June 2025. He described the Neighborhood Watch and Business Watch programs and education on crime prevention and crime trends. He noted the Community events they attended: such as National night out, coffee with a cop, school events, City yard open house, recruitment events and town hall meetings.

A member of the public spoke.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Leys moved to accept and file Item 7B, Update from the Torrance Police Department Community Lead Officer detail; motion was seconded by Commissioner Furey. The motion passed by a 7-0 roll call vote.

## **8. COMMISSION ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

Commissioner Wright requested a presentation from the Dream Center.

Deputy City Manager Hoang welcomed the two new Commissioners.

Deputy City Manager Hoang announced that the Homeless Outreach Team would attend one of the next two meeting dates to report to the Commission.

Deputy City Manager Hoang announced that Veterans Event would take place on November 7, the Homeless Count was tentatively scheduled for Thursday, January 22, 2026.

## **9. ADJOURNMENT**

**9A.** At 6:59 p.m., Commissioner Furey moved to adjourn the meeting to August 28, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at the West Annex Commission Meeting Room, Torrance City Hall. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bickford. The motion passed by a 7-0 roll call vote.

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

Members of the Commission:

**SUBJECT: Approve the 2025 Veterans Appreciation Lunch and Resource Fair**

**RECOMMENDATION**

Recommendation of staff that the Social Services Commission approve the Veterans Appreciation Lunch and Resource Fair for 2025.

**BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS**

Since 2017, the Social Services Commission has coordinated an annual event to honor the nation's Military Veterans through an in-person event, and during the COVID pandemic, a virtual event. This year, Veterans Day will be observed on Tuesday, November 11, 2025.

In recent Commission meetings, your Honorable Body has discussed elements that you wish to see in the 2025 Veterans Appreciation Lunch and Resource Fair. This staff report provides your Honorable Body an overview of the key elements, based on recommendations from the Commission and based on feedback from participants at past events.

This evening staff is respectfully requesting that your Honorable Body approve this event so that staff may immediately begin coordinating the event, and securing supplies and vendors. Staff will return to the Commission in the coming months with updates and requests for Commission members to volunteer their time to support these elements.

**Date and Time of Event:** Friday, November 7, 2025

**Location of Event:** Toyota Meeting Hall and Tarino Plaza

**Major Event Elements:**

- Staff Set Up: 7 am – 9 am
- Resource Fair Participants Set Up: 8 am
- Event Opens to Veterans and Guests: 10 am
- Resource Fair: 10 am – Noon
- Lunch and Brief Program
  - Brief Welcome and Remarks from the Commission
  - Posting of Colors, Pledge of Allegiance, National Anthem, Blessing of the Meal
  - Appreciation from Torrance Mayor
  - Open Mic
- Event Closes: 1 pm
- Staff Clean up: 1 pm – 3 pm

**Meal Caterer for Event:** Gaetano's Restaurant

**Raffle:**

- A raffle will be conducted for Veterans who are in attendance at event.
- Commission members will solicit donations for raffle prizes September & October 2025.

**RSVPs for the Event:**

- Each Veteran and one guest can RSVP to the City Manager's Office October 1 – October 31, 2025.
- Maximum number of Veterans and guests that will be able to attend the event is 180.

**Marketing of Event:**

- City's standard marketing avenues: digital billboards, City website, mailers, social media, weekly CitiCABLE broadcast.
- List of Veterans who have requested to be notified of future events maintained by the City Manager's Office.
- City Council meeting announcements:
  - October 7, 2025
  - October 21, 2025

**Solicitation of Appreciation Messages for Veterans:**

- Online submission via City's official website.
- Coastal Clean Up Day at Torrance Beach: Saturday, September 20, 2025.

**Veterans Organizations Resource Booths**

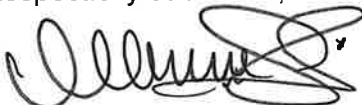
- Recruitment of organizations is currently underway and will continue through October 30, 2025.

**Military Veterans Appreciation Week in the City of Torrance:**

November 9 – November 15, 2025

**Adoption of Proclamation Declaring Military Veterans Appreciation Week in the City of Torrance by Social Services Commission: September 25, 2025****Adoption of Proclamation Declaring Military Veterans Appreciation Month in the City of Torrance by City Council: October 21, 2025**

Respectfully submitted,



LeAnne Chen  
Veterans Event Coordinator

Commission Meeting of  
August 28, 2025

Honorable Members of the Social Services Commission  
City Hall

Torrance, California

Members of the Commission:

**SUBJECT: Accept and File Presentation from Torrance Homeless Street  
Outreach Team**

**RECOMMENDATION**

Recommendation of Staff that the Social Services Commission accept and file a presentation from the Torrance Homeless Street Outreach Team.

**BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS**

The Street Outreach Team leads the City's efforts in locating, identifying, and building relationships with people experiencing homelessness in Torrance, with the ultimate purpose of connecting individuals with services necessary to support them in attaining permanent housing.

The City's Street Outreach Team, comprised of four Outreach Coordinators, works closely with the Torrance Police Department's Community Lead Officers (CLOs) to respond to many incoming requests from community members. The Street Outreach Team and CLOs also partner with other nonprofits and government agencies to provide services to the unhoused community.

The City's Street Outreach Team operates Monday through Saturday, 7:30 am – 5:30 pm.

During tonight's meeting, your Honorable Body will hear from Outreach Coordinators Valerie Hernandez, Norma Olvera and Irene Sanchez, and Zulma Gent, who manages the Street Outreach Program, with an update on the City's progress in addressing homelessness.

Respectfully submitted,



Lauren Allen  
Staff Liaison to the Commission



Viet Hoang  
Staff Liaison to the Commission