

Proposed CHARTER of the City of Torrance California To Be Voted Upon April 11, 1932

ARTICLE I. NAME AND SUCCESSION

The City of Torrance shall remain and continue to be a municipal corporation under the same name, and by such name shall have perpetual succession.

ARTICLE II. BOUNDARIES OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

The boundaries of the City of Torrance shall continue as now established until changed in some manner authorized by law.

ARTICLE III. COUNCILMANIC DISTRICTS

Section 1. Number and Description:

The City of Torrance shall be divided into five Councilmanic Districts, numbered and bounded as follows, to-wit: (a) Councilmanic District No. 1:

Beginning at the point of intersection of the center line of 213th Street with the easterly boundary of the City of Torrance, as the same existed on November 24th, 1931; thence westerly along such center line of 213th Street to the southeasterly prolongation of the center line of Border Avenue as such center line is shown opposite Block 72 of Torrance Tract, as recorded in Map Book 22, pages 94 and 95, Records of Los Angeles County, California; thence northwesterly along such center line of Border Avenue to the center line of Lot E, Tract No. 1427, as recorded in Map Book 22, pages 82 and 83, Records of Los Angeles County, California, said point being in the center line of Torrance Boulevard, (108 feet in width); thence in a westerly direction, along the center line of such Lot E to the center line of Madrid Avenue, as shown on Map of Torrance Tract, above referred to; thence southerly along said center line of Madrid Avenue to the center line of Carson Street; thence easterly along center line of Carson Street in a direct line to the easterly boundary of the City of Torrance, thence northerly to the point of beginning.

(b) Councilmanic District No. 2: Beginning at the point of intersection of the center line of Carson Street with the easterly boundary of the City of Torrance; thence westerly along the center line of Carson Street in a direct line to the northwesterly prolongation of the center line of Plaza Del Amo; thence southeasterly along the center line of Plaza Del Amo to the prolongation westerly of the center line of 222nd Street; thence easterly along the center line of 222nd Street to the center line of Lot G of Tract No. 1427, previously referred to; thence southerly and southeasterly along the center line of said Lot G to its intersection with the center line of Lot C of said Tract No. 1427; thence southeasterly along the center line of said Lot C to the easterly boundary line of the City of Torrance; thence northerly along such easterly boundary line to the point of beginning.

(c) Councilmanic District No. 3: Beginning at the point of intersection of the center line of 213th Street with the easterly boundary of the City of Torrance; thence westerly along such center line of 213th Street to the southeasterly prolongation of the center line of Border Avenue as shown opposite Block 72 of Torrance Tract; thence northwesterly along such center line of Border Avenue to the center line of Lot E, Tract No. 1427, said point being in the center line of Torrance Boulevard, (108 feet in width); thence in a westerly direction, along the center line of such Lot E to the center line of Cota Avenue; thence northerly along the prolongation of the center line of Cota Avenue to the southerly line of the McDonald Tract as shown on map recorded in M. R. 15, Pages 21 and 22, Records of Los Angeles County, California, said southerly line of the McDonald Tract being the center line of 190th Street; thence westerly along such last described line to the northerly prolongation of the westerly line of Hawthorne Avenue, being a point in the boundary line of the City of Torrance as such boundary existed November 24th, 1931; thence northerly along said last mentioned northerly prolongation, northerly and north-easterly and northerly along the westerly boundary lines of the City of Torrance to a northeasterly corner of the City of Torrance, said last point being in the southerly line of Redondo Beach Boulevard; thence southerly, westerly and southerly along the boundary of the City of Torrance to the southerly line of Strawberry Street as shown on map of said McDonald Tract; thence easterly to the westerly line of Western Avenue; thence southerly following the various courses of boundary line of the City of Torrance to the point of beginning.

(d) Councilmanic District No. 4: Beginning at the point of intersection of the center line of Lot E, Tract No. 1427, previously referred to, with the center line of Cota Avenue; thence northerly along the prolongation of such center line of Cota Avenue to the southerly line of the McDonald Tract, said southerly line of the McDonald Tract being the center line of 190th Street, thence westerly along such last described line to a northwest corner of the City of Torrance; thence southerly and southwesterly along the boundary of the City of Torrance to the easterly boundary of the City of Redondo Beach; thence southerly along the boundary of the City of Torrance to the westerly prolongation of the northerly line of Huntington Street as shown on Map of Tract No. 2895, recorded in Map Book 33, page 94, Records of Los Angeles County, California; thence easterly along the last described prolonged line and the northerly line of said Huntington Street to the westerly line of Hawthorne Avenue as shown on Map of said Tract No. 2895; thence southerly along the westerly line of Hawthorne Avenue and its prolongation southerly to the southerly line of Torrance Boulevard, (50 ft. wide); thence westerly along the southerly line of Torrance Boulevard and its prolongation westerly to the easterly line of the City of Redondo Beach; thence southerly along the easterly line of the City of Redondo Beach to the southeast corner thereof; thence easterly along the southerly line of Long Beach and Redondo Road, (25 ft. in width), and the prolongation of the last described line easterly said last described line also being the northerly line of the Rancho Los Palos Verdes; thence southeasterly along said last described ranch line to its intersection with the prolongation southerly of the center line of Cedar Avenue, as shown on Map of Tract No. 10185 recorded in Map Book 145, pages 27 to 34; thence northerly along the last described prolonged line and the center line of Cedar Avenue to the center line of Carson Street; thence easterly along the center line of Carson Street to the center line of Madrid Avenue; thence northerly along the center line of Madrid

Avenue to the center line of Lot F of Tract No. 1427; thence easterly along the center line of said Lot F to the point of beginning.

(e) Councilmanic District No. 5: Beginning at the point of intersection of the easterly boundary line of the City of Torrance with the center line of Lot C of Tract No. 1427, said point of beginning being at Western Avenue and Plaza Del Amo; thence northwesterly along the center line of said Lot C to the center line of Lot G of Tract No. 1427; thence northwesterly and northerly along said last mentioned center line to the center line of 222nd Street; thence westerly along the said center line of 222nd Street and its prolongation westerly to the center line of Plaza Del Amo; thence northwesterly along the said center line of Plaza Del Amo and its extension northwesterly to the center line of Carson Street; thence westerly along the center line of Carson Street to the center line of Cedar Avenue; thence southerly along the center line of Cedar Avenue and its prolongation southerly to the northerly line of the Rancho Los Palos Verdes, said last mentioned Ranch line being in Sepulveda Boulevard; thence northwesterly and westerly along the last mentioned Ranch line to the westerly boundary of the City of Torrance as same existed November 24th, 1931; thence southerly along said boundary to the northerly line of Redondo and Wilmington Boulevard as the said northerly line existed November 24th, 1931; thence westerly and northwesterly following the boundary line of the City of Torrance to the easterly line of Redondo Beach; thence southerly and westerly along the westerly and northerly boundary of the City of Torrance and its prolongation westerly, and along the various courses of the Torrance City boundary, southerly to the most southwesterly corner of the City of Torrance; thence easterly, southeasterly and easterly along the boundary line of the City of Torrance to the most southerly corner thereof said most southerly corner being the southwest corner of Tract No. 954 as recorded in Map Book 17, page 16, Los Angeles County Records, thence along the boundary line of the City of Torrance northerly, easterly, northerly, easterly and northerly to an angle point in said boundary line said point being at the intersection of said last described northerly line with a prolongation westerly of the northerly line of Lot 10, Tract No. 440 as recorded in Map Book 18, page 147; thence easterly, northerly, easterly along the boundary line of the City of Torrance as the same existed November 24th, 1931, to the easterly line of Walnut Street as shown on map of Tract No. 437, Map Book 14, page 162; thence along the boundary line of the City of Torrance southerly to the northerly line of Tract No. 222, Map Book 13, page 177; thence easterly along the northerly line of said Tract No. 222 to an intersection with the westerly boundary line of the City of Los Angeles; thence northerly along the easterly line of the City of Torrance to point of beginning.

Section 2. New Territory Part of Contiguous Councilmanic District:

Should the boundaries of the City of Torrance, as now established, be altered and enlarged in some manner authorized by law, the boundaries of the Councilmanic District or Districts as in this Charter described, shall thereby be extended in a straight line to embrace all such new territory contiguous thereto. The provisions of this section are self-executing.

Section 3. Change of Boundaries of Councilmanic Districts:

The City Council of the City of Torrance shall have the right and power to fix and change the boundaries of any or all of the Councilmanic Districts of the City of Torrance at any time, provided, however, that in event said boundaries are so changed, each Councilmanic District, as near as may be, shall embrace one-fifth of the inhabitants of said City, excluding those ineligible to citizenship; and provided further, that as soon as practicable, after each Federal decennial census, said boundaries shall be so changed, if each Councilmanic District does not contain approximately one-fifth of such inhabitants.

ARTICLE IV. TRANSFER AND CONTINUATION OF EXISTING RIGHTS, DUTIES AND LIABILITIES

Section 1. Property Succeeded to and Liabilities Assumed:

The City of Torrance, as successor in interest of the municipal corporation of the same name, created, organized and existing as a city of the sixth class under the general laws of the State of California, shall own, hold, possess, use, lease, control, and in every way succeed to and become the owner of all the rights and all the property, of every kind and nature, by said existing municipal corporation, owned, held, controlled, possessed, used, leased or claimed, and shall be subject to all the debts, obligations, liabilities, dues and duties of said existing corporation.

Section 2. Existing Ordinances, etc. Continued in Force:

All resolutions, ordinances, contracts, bonds, orders, permits, licenses, pending actions and proceedings, authorizations issued, and/or any other action taken by the City Council or any department or division of the government of said City of Torrance organized and existing as said city of the sixth class, or any officer thereof, or by the electors of the city, in effect in said city when this charter becomes effective, and not in conflict herewith, shall be continued in force and effect until the expiration thereof, and/or until the same shall be rescinded, dismissed, altered, repealed, or otherwise nullified by the proper authority, or as in this charter provided.

Section 3. Public Improvement Proceedings:

All proceedings providing for any public improvement pending and incomplete at the time this charter becomes effective shall be continued in accordance with the law or ordinance under which such proceedings were commenced, unless such proceedings be abandoned or otherwise terminated in accordance with the provisions of such law or ordinance.

Section 4. Powers, Duties and Functions of Existing Officers and Employees:

All persons, officers, employees and/or other lawful authorities, in office and/or in the employment of the City of Torrance at the time this charter becomes effective, shall remain in such office and/or employment until their successors are elected or appointed and/or until the powers, duties, or functions theretofore and then being performed by them, or any of them, are assumed by the proper person or authority hereunder; and such officers, employees and/or other lawful authorities shall continue to perform such powers, duties and functions until their respective successors in office, employment, or duties, powers and/or functions are elected or appointed and qualified.

ARTICLE V. ELECTIONS

Section 1. Classes of Elections:

Elections to be held in the City of Torrance for the purpose of electing the officers of said City and for all other City purposes are of two kinds: (1) General Municipal Elections.

(2) Special Municipal Elections.

Section 2. General Municipal Elections:

General municipal elections shall be held on the second Monday in April of even numbered years, under and pursuant to the provision of the general laws of the State of California in force at the time governing nominations and elections in the cities of the sixth class so far as the same may be applicable, and except as herein otherwise provided,

and/or under and pursuant to the provisions of the general laws of the State for the holding of general elections of municipalities in force at the time, and the City Council shall have power to make all the necessary arrangements for holding elections in accordance therewith and herewith.

Any matter required to be submitted to a vote by the constitution, this charter, general laws, or ordinances of the City of Torrance may be submitted to a vote of the electors at said General Municipal Election.

Section 3. Special Municipal Elections:

All elections held by authority of the Constitution of California, this charter, the general laws or ordinances of the City Council, except General Municipal Elections, shall be called and known as Special Municipal Elections, and shall be called and held substantially as in this charter provided for general municipal elections.

Section 4. Authority of City Council:

Any provision herein to the contrary notwithstanding after the first general municipal election, the City Council shall have plenary powers to amend, alter, repeal, or otherwise change or supersede any provision of the general law in regard to general municipal elections or special municipal elections.

Section 5. Declaration of Candidacy—Elective Officer:

Any person desiring to become a candidate for any elective office hereunder shall not less than thirty days prior to said municipal election file with the City Clerk a statement of his candidacy in substantially the following form:

I, \_\_\_\_\_, residing at No. \_\_\_\_\_ Street, Torrance, California, being duly sworn declare myself a candidate for the office of \_\_\_\_\_ municipal election to be held in the City of Torrance on \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_\_.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA )  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES )  
Subscribed and sworn to before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_\_.

Notary Public in and for the County of Los Angeles, State of California, or Justice of the Peace.

Section 6. Form of Nomination Petition:

The petition for nomination of elective officers of the City of Torrance shall consist of not less than 25 nor more than 50 individual certificates which shall read substantially as follows:

Petition of Nomination (individual certificate)

I, the undersigned, certify that I do hereby join in a petition for the nomination of \_\_\_\_\_ Street, City of Torrance, to be voted for at the municipal election to be held in the City of Torrance on \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_\_, and I further certify that I am a qualified elector of the City of Torrance and Councilmanic District No. \_\_\_\_\_ and am not at this time a signer of any other petition nominating any other candidate for the above named office, (or, in case there are several places to be filled in the above named office, that I have not signed more petitions than there are places to be filled in the above named office;) that my residence is at No. \_\_\_\_\_ Street, Torrance, California, and that my occupation is \_\_\_\_\_.

(Signed) \_\_\_\_\_  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA )  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES )  
CITY OF TORRANCE )

\_\_\_\_\_ being duly sworn, deposes and says that he is the person who signed the foregoing certificate and that the statements therein are true and correct.

(Signed) \_\_\_\_\_  
Subscribed and sworn to before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_\_.

Notary Public or Justice of the Peace.

(Note: The petition of nomination of which this certificate forms a part shall, if found insufficient, be returned to \_\_\_\_\_ at No. \_\_\_\_\_ Street, Torrance, California. In no event, shall more than one Certificate be signed.)

Section 7. City Clerk to Furnish Nominating Certificates:

It shall be the duty of the City Clerk to furnish upon application a reasonable number of forms of individual certificates of the above character.

Section 8. Requisites of Nominating Certificates & Execution:

Each certificate must be a separate paper. All certificates must be of a uniform size as determined by the City Clerk. Each certificate must contain the name of one signer thereto and no more. Each certificate shall contain the name of one candidate and no more. Each signer must be a qualified elector of the City and in case of nominations of councilmen of the Councilmanic District of which the candidate he nominates is a resident and elector, and must not at the time of signing a certificate have his name signed to any other certificate for any other candidate for the same office, nor in case there are several places to be filled in the same office, signed to more certificates for candidates for that office than there are places to be filled in such office. In no event shall more than one certificate be signed for the office of councilman. In case an elector has signed two or more certificates all such certificates shall be rejected.

Each signer must verify his certificate and make oath that the same is true before a notary public or Judge of the Superior Court or Justice of the Peace. Each certificate shall further contain the name and address of the person to whom the petition is to be returned in case said petition is found insufficient.

Section 9. Date of Presenting Petition:

A petition of nomination consisting of not less than twenty-five nor more than fifty individual certificates shall be presented to the City Clerk not earlier than forty-five days nor later than thirty days before the date of election. The Clerk shall endorse thereon the date upon which the petition was presented to him.

Section 10. Examination of Petitions by City Clerk:

When a petition of nomination is presented for filing to the City Clerk, he shall forthwith examine the same and ascertain whether it conforms to the provisions of this article. If found not to conform thereto, at any time before thirty days prior to the date of election he shall then and there in writing designate on said petition the defect or omission or reason why such petition cannot be filed, and shall return the petition to the person named as the person to whom the same may be returned in accordance with this article. The petition may then be amended and again presented to the Clerk as in the first instance, provided that the same as amended shall be presented not less than twenty days prior to the date of election. The clerk shall forthwith proceed to examine the petition as hereinbefore provided, and if, after amendment, it is found insufficient,

the same shall be returned to the person designated thereon, and may not thereafter be filed. If necessary, the City Council shall provide extra help to enable the City Clerk to perform satisfactorily and promptly the duties imposed by this section.

Section 11. Withdrawal of Signature:

Any signer to a petition of nomination and certificate may withdraw his name from the same by signing before the City Clerk or a Deputy City Clerk a revocation of his signature not less than thirty days prior to the date of election and not otherwise. He shall then be at liberty to sign a petition for another candidate for the same office.

Section 12. Withdrawal of Candidate:

Any person whose name has been presented under this article as a candidate may, not later than twenty-five days before the day of election, cause his name to be withdrawn from nomination by filing with the City Clerk a request therefor in writing, and no name so withdrawn shall be printed upon the ballot. If upon such withdrawal the number of candidates remaining does not exceed the number to be elected, then other nominations may be made by filing petitions therefor not later than twenty days prior to such election, but there shall be no amendments of said petitions if insufficient.

Section 13. Filing of Petitions by Clerk:

If either the original or the amended petition of nomination be found sufficiently signed as hereinbefore provided, the Clerk shall file the same fifteen days before the date of election. When a petition of nomination shall have been filed by the Clerk it shall not be withdrawn nor added to and no signature shall be revoked thereafter.

Section 14. Preservation of Petitions:

The City Clerk shall preserve in his office for a period of two years all petitions of nominations and all certificates belonging thereto filed under this Article.

Section 15. Election Proclamations:

Election proclamations shall be issued and published in the manner prescribed by the general law, except that the City Council may alter, modify, or otherwise change the same by ordinance.

Section 16. Requirements of Ballot:

All ballots printed shall be precisely of the same size, quality, tint of papers, kind of type, and color of ink, so that without the number it would be impossible to distinguish one ballot from another; and the names of all candidates printed upon the ballot shall be in type of the same size and style.

A column may be provided on the right hand side for charter amendments or other questions to be voted upon at the municipal elections, as provided for.

Section 17. Arrangement of Offices on Ballot:

The offices to be filled shall be arranged in separate columns in the following order:

- "For Mayor (if any) vote for one."
- "For Police Judge (if any) vote for one."
- "For Councilman, Councilmanic District No. 1, (if any) vote for one."
- "For Councilman, Councilmanic District No. 2, (if any) vote for one."
- "For Councilman, Councilmanic District No. 3, (if any) vote for one."
- "For Councilman, Councilmanic District No. 4, (if any) vote for one."
- "For Councilman, Councilmanic District No. 5, (if any) vote for one."
- "For City Clerk (if any) vote for one."
- "For City Treasurer (if any) vote for one."
- "For \_\_\_\_\_ (here insert names of additional offices using as many columns as offices (if any) vote for (giving number)."

Section 18. Sample Ballots:

The Clerk shall cause to be printed sample ballots identical with the ballot to be used at the election and shall furnish copies of the same on application to registered voters at his office at least five days before the date fixed for such election and shall mail one such ballot to each voter entitled to vote at such election, so that all sample ballots shall have been mailed at least three whole days before said election.

Section 19. Precincts:

(a) Voting Precincts: Each Councilmanic District shall constitute one, or may be divided by the City Council into more than one voting precinct at all general or special municipal elections. When possible, however, and unless otherwise designated in the ordinance adopted by the City Council calling the election, the voting precincts of such election shall be such precincts as are provided by law for the holding of county elections in said City.

(b) Consolidated Precincts: The Council may in ordering the holding of an election consolidate said voting precincts in each Councilmanic District into one consolidated voting precinct, providing each such consolidated precinct, shall contain not more than three of said voting precincts and such consolidated precincts shall be numbered consecutively, and shall for the purpose of said election be known by the number so designated.

Section 20. Election Officials:

The City Council shall appoint all election officials, clerks, judges, and employees, and shall prescribe the manner of selection and appointment, and the powers, duties and salaries of the same, except as herein provided. In ordering the holding of any general municipal, or special municipal election, the Council may limit the number of officers of an election for each voting precinct, or each consolidated voting precinct, to one Judge, one Inspector and two Clerks.

Section 21. Consolidating Elections:

(a) Contents of Ordinance—Municipal Elections: Two or more municipal elections may be consolidated by the City Council. It shall not be necessary to set forth the precincts, polling places, and officers of elections in more than one of the ordinances calling the election.

(b) Consolidations with State and County: A municipal election may be consolidated with a State or County election, and in such event it shall not be necessary to set forth the precincts, polling places and officers of election if the ordinance calling such State or County election sets forth the same, but reference to such ordinance shall be made in the municipal ordinance calling such election.

(c) Publication of Ordinances: The manner of the selection and appointment of officers of election shall be determined by the City Council. All ordinances ordering the holding or consolidation of elections shall be published in the official paper of the City at least twice in case such paper is published weekly or semi-weekly or if such paper is published daily said notice shall be published at least five times prior to the time appointed for holding such election.

Section 22. Failure of Person Elected to Qualify:

If a person elected fails to qualify, the office shall be

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