



Date: February 11, 2025

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: George K. Chen, Mayor | [GChen@TorranceCA.gov](mailto:GChen@TorranceCA.gov)

Subject: Mayor – Adopt a **RESOLUTION** approving the appointment of the City of Torrance’s Representative to the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Board of Directors. Expenditure: None

---

## RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation of the Mayor that City Council adopt a **RESOLUTION** approving the appointment of Raymond Jay as the City of Torrance representative on the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Board of Directors for the remaining balance of the term ending December 31, 2028.

## FUNDING

Funding is available in the Public Works Department’s Fiscal Year 2024-25 Water Fund operating budget and is anticipated to be available in subsequent fiscal years.

## DISCUSSION

Russell Lefevre, the City of Torrance’s longtime director on the Metropolitan Water District Board (MWD) announced his pending retirement in November 2024. Mr. Lefevre has served with great dedication and distinction as the City’s MWD director since 2013.

The procedure for appointment of a new MWD director for Torrance is set forth in Ordinance 3387 adopted in January 1994. Pursuant to the ordinance, the City’s MWD Director “shall be appointed by the Mayor with the approval of City Council”. The ordinance also stipulates that the director will serve a four-year term of office and be paid a stipend of \$200 per month. In accordance with the ordinance, “the person appointed to fill the vacancy shall hold office for the unexpired term of his or her predecessor”. In this instance, the new MWD director would serve the duration of the unexpired term, which runs through December 2028.

The recruitment was announced by the Mayor during November City Council meetings and the position was advertised on the City’s website and NEOGOV. An ad hoc committee consisting of the Mayor and City Council members Mattucci and Sheikh reviewed the qualifications of each candidate that submitted their resume and cover letter. After careful review, the Mayor’s ad hoc committee is recommending the appointment of Raymond Jay as the City’s new representative on the MWD Board of Directors. Mr. Jay has an extensive background including 30 years of experience in the water industry and is currently a MWD employee in their Water Resources Section. In addition, Mr. Jay has been a member of the Torrance Water Commission for seven years and served as the chair for three years.

Mr. Jay will receive a conditional offer to serve as the new Torrance MWD Director effective April 1, 2025. Prior to the beginning of his appointment, Mr. Jay will be required to resign from his current position with the Metropolitan Water District. In the interim, Mr. Lefevre has agreed to remain as the City's MWD Director. The City's new director must be certified by MWD's legal department and be formally seated and sworn in by the Metropolitan Board at a regular board meeting.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Resolution
2. Ordinance 3387

## RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE  
APPOINTING RAYMOND JAY TO FILL THE UPCOMING POSITION AS THE CITY OF  
TORRANCE'S DIRECTOR ON THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN  
CALIFORNIA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**WHEREAS**, the vacancy to the City of Torrance's position on the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Board of Directors is due to the upcoming retirement of Director Russell Lefevre; and

**WHEREAS**, the vacant position is to be filled by the nomination of a candidate by the Mayor and approval of the City Council: and

**WHEREAS**, an ad hoc committee selected Mr. Jay from a list of qualified candidates to be the City's new representative on the MWD Board of Directors; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Jay has an extensive background including 30 years of experience in the water industry; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Jay has indicated a willingness to serve as the City's representative on the Metropolitan Board of Directors; and

**WHEREAS**, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California does not designate a fixed term of office, the City of Torrance, with the adoption of Ordinance No. 3387 on January 4, 1994, has established a four-year term of office.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City Council of the City of Torrance does hereby consent to and approve the nomination by the Mayor to appoint Raymond Jay as the City of Torrance's representative to the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California for the remainder of the four-year term from April 1, 2025 through December 31, 2028.

**THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, DOES  
HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:**

**INTRODUCED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED** this 11<sup>th</sup> day of February 2025.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor George K. Chen

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rebecca Poirier, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
PATRICK Q. SULLIVAN  
City Attorney

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Patrick Q. Sullivan, City Attorney

ORDINANCE NO. 3387

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ADDING A NEW ARTICLE 6 TO CHAPTER 2 OF DIVISION 1 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO THE APPOINTMENT OF THE CITY REPRESENTATIVE TO THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT

---

The City Council of the City of Torrance does hereby ordain as follows:

SECTION 1

That a new Article 6 shall be added to Chapter 2 of Division 1 of the Torrance Municipal Code to read in its entirety as follows:

"ARTICLE 6

REPRESENTATIVE OF THE  
METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT

SECTION 12.6.1. CREATION, COMPENSATION

a) There is hereby created the position of Representative, Metropolitan Water District Board of Directors.

b) Commencing February 1, 1994, and monthly thereafter for so long as the Representative shall serve, he or she shall be paid, in lieu of ordinary and necessary expenses, the sum of Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) per month.

SECTION 12.6.2. APPOINTMENT AND TERM  
OF REPRESENTATIVE

a) The representative shall be appointed by the Mayor with the approval of the City Council. The term of office shall be four (4) years commencing on January 1, 1997, and expiring on December 31, 2000, and each four years thereafter.

Original

b) The representative shall serve until the expiration of his or her term, or until his or her successor has been appointed and qualified.

c) A person appointed to fill a vacancy shall hold office for the unexpired term of his or her predecessor.

d) Notwithstanding the generalities of the above, the term of office vacated by the death of the incumbent in December 1993 shall be presumed to have been for a period ending December 31, 1996.

### SECTION 12.6.3. REMOVAL OF REPRESENTATIVE

The representative to the Metropolitan Water District may be removed from office by a vote of the majority of all the members of the City Council."

## SECTION 2

Any provisions of the Torrance Municipal Code or appendices thereto, or any other ordinances of the City inconsistent herewith to the extent of such inconsistencies and no further, are hereby repealed.

## SECTION 3

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by the decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of the ordinance. The City Council hereby declares that it would have passed this ordinance and each section, subsection, sentence, clause and phrase thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses or phrases be declared invalid or unconstitutional.

## SECTION 4

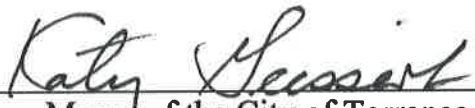
Any person violating any of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be guilty of an infraction and, upon conviction thereof, shall be subject to a fine as provided for in Section 36900 of the California Government Code.

SECTION 5

This Ordinance shall take effect thirty (30) days after the date of its adoption and, prior to the expiration of fifteen (15) days from the passage thereof, shall be published at least once in the Daily Breeze, a newspaper of general circulation published and circulated in the City of Torrance.

INTRODUCED AND APPROVED this 4th day of January, 1994.

ADOPTED AND PASSED this 11th day of January, 1994.


  
Mayor of the City of Torrance

ATTEST:

  
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

JOHN L. FELLOWS III  
City Attorney

By   
William G. Quale  
Assistant City Attorney

mew(MWDdir.ord)

TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL ORDINANCE NO. 3387

STATE OF CALIFORNIA                    )  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES                )        ss  
CITY OF TORRANCE                        )

I, John A. Bramhall, City Clerk of the City of Torrance, California, do hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance was duly introduced and approved by the City Council of the City of Torrance at a regular meeting held on the 4th day of January, 1994, and adopted and passed by said Council at a regular meeting held on the 11th day of January, 1994, by the following roll call vote:

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS: Applegate, Hardison, Lee, Nakano,  
O'Donnell, Wirth and Geissert.

NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS: None.

ABSENT: COUNCILMEMBERS: None.

ABSTAIN: COUNCILMEMBERS: None.

John A. Brinkhall  
Clerk of the City of Torrance