

CITY OF TORRANCE INTEROFFICE COMMUNICATION

Date: January 22, 2021

TO: All City of Torrance Employees

FROM: Mayor Patrick J. Furey and Aram Chaparyan, City Manager

SUBJECT: New Year's Message of Hope!

A year has passed since the first case of Covid-19 was reported in the United States. The past year has significantly altered our collective experience starting with the March Cyber Incident, followed by the declaration of health emergency due to Covid-19, business closures, several budget reductions as a result of revenue loss, and the departure of many city employees due to retirement.

Throughout the past year, our City family has experienced unimaginable grief, mental and physical pain, heartache and agony. Yet, despite these challenges, we have realized the power of our collective spirit to persevere. We've learned to conduct business in a virtual environment, adjust our dining and shopping habits, and find alternative ways to celebrate the joyous moments in our lives.

We would like to take this opportunity to once again express our sincere appreciation to all of you for your genuine commitment to public service and for being at the front-lines of the Covid-19 response and recovery. As a result of your dedication to public service, Torrance residents, businesses and visitors continue to receive service delivery they expect and deserve, in an exceedingly challenging environment. You have managed to maintain an impeccably clean community, process permits, respond to emergency calls, provide bus service, support local businesses, create and share educational content on social media, maintain our streets and roadways, and manage the day to day operations of a full-service city. This herculean effort does not go unnoticed by the City Council and residents of Torrance.

As we embark on a New Year, you all play a vital role in our recovery and reconstitution of operations. Our Emergency Operations Team continues to meet weekly to plan for vaccine distribution to city employees and community members. With this week's administration transition in Washington, D.C., we continue to advocate for federal support for cities and small businesses to help offset the loss of significant revenue as a result of Covid-19 impacts. While the road to recovery will present many challenges, we believe by continuing to work together and keeping focused on our core mission, we will place Torrance on a sustained path of success.

Best wishes for a happy and healthy New Year!