



City of Carson Report to Mayor and City Council

January 15, 2013
New Business Consent

SUBJECT: CONSIDER REVIEWING THE CITY COUNCIL DIRECTIVE TO LOWER THE CITY OF CARSON FLAG TO THREE-QUARTERS' STAFF

Submitted by David C. Biggs
City Manager

Approved by David C. Biggs
City Manager

I. SUMMARY

This item is placed on the agenda at the request of Councilmember Santarina.

Councilmember Santarina has requested this item be placed on the agenda because a number of citizens have inquired as to why the City of Carson flag is lowered to three-quarters' staff. Furthermore, the Council also needs to consider if the City of Carson flag shall continue to fly at three-quarter' staff until U.S. troops come home from Afghanistan.

II. RECOMMENDATION

TAKE the following actions:

1. RECEIVE and FILE.
2. CONSIDER extending the City Council directive to lower the City of Carson flag to three-quarters' staff until U.S. troops come home from Afghanistan.

III. ALTERNATIVES

TAKE another action the City Council deems appropriate.

IV. BACKGROUND

On October 4, 2005, the City Council unanimously voted to lower the City of Carson flag to three-quarters' staff until the end of the Iraqi war (Exhibit Nos. 1 and 2).

The Iraq War was an armed conflict in Iraq that consisted of two phases. The first was an invasion of Ba'athist Iraq by the United States and the United Kingdom, and assisted by smaller forces from several other countries, starting in March of 2003. It was followed by a longer phase of fighting, in which an insurgency emerged to oppose Coalition forces and the newly formed Iraqi government. The U.S. completed its withdrawal of military personnel in December 2011. However, the Iraqi insurgency continues and has caused thousands of fatalities. Since U.S. military personnel have been withdrawn from Iraq; the Councilmember would like to continue flying the flag at three-quarters' staff until all troops return home from Afghanistan.

V. FISCAL IMPACT

None.

VI. EXHIBITS

1. City Council Meeting Staff Report of October 4, 2005, Item 17. (pgs. 3-4)
2. City Council Meeting Minutes of October 4, 2005, Item 17. (pgs. 5-6)

Document8

Prepared by: Lisa Berglund, Principal Administrative Analyst

TO: Rev09-04-2012

Reviewed by:

City Clerk	City Treasurer
Administrative Services	Public Works
Community Development	Community Services

Action taken by City Council

Date_____ Action_____



City of Carson Report to Mayor and City Council

October 4, 2005
New Business Discussion

**SUBJECT: PROPOSED LOWERING OF THE CITY OF CARSON FLAG TO HALF-STAFF
UNTIL THE END OF THE IRAQI WAR**

Submitted by Jerome G. Groomes
City Manager

Jerome G. Groomes
Approved by Jerome G. Groomes
City Manager

I. SUMMARY

This item is on the agenda at the request of Councilman Santarina.

In an effort to show Carson's support for the soldiers that have served in the war in Iraq, Council is being asked to consider a proposal to lower the City's flag to half-staff until the end of the war. Should this suggestion be approved, the dedication ceremony will coincide with the City's Veterans Day commemoration.

II. RECOMMENDATION

DISCUSS the proposal to lower the City of Carson flag to half-staff until the end of the Iraqi War.

III. ALTERNATIVES

REJECT the request.

IV. BACKGROUND

On March 19, 2003, President George W. Bush formally declared war on Iraq. The following day, the United States launched Operation Iraqi Freedom. As of June 30, 2005, approximately 169,200 soldiers have been deployed to Iraq.

In an effort to honor the men and women of the armed forces, it has been proposed that the City of Carson flag be lowered to half-staff until the end of the war in Iraq. Should this suggestion be approved, the ceremony would take place on Veterans Day, to coincide with the City's annual commemoration. Federal, state and local dignitaries would be invited to the event, as well as Veterans groups.

V. FISCAL IMPACT

None at this time.

VI. EXHIBITS

None.

City of Carson

Report to Mayor and City Council

October 4, 2005

Document1

Prepared by: Luchie S. Magante, Administrative Analyst

sf:Rev061902

Reviewed by:

City Clerk	City Treasurer
Administrative Services	Development Services
Economic Development Services	Public Services

Action taken by City Council

Date _____ Action _____

ITEM NO. (17) PROPOSED LOWERING OF THE CITY OF CARSON FLAG TO HALF-STAFF UNTIL THE END OF THE IRAQI WAR (CITY MANAGER)

Public Comments

Robert Lesley, P. O. Box 11634, Carson, California 90746, felt that standards should be maintained and the flag should fly high and lowered on specific occasions to recognize a specific event.

(Council Member Gipson reentered the meeting at 9:45 P.M.)

Council Member Santarina discussed the proposed lowering of the City of Carson Flag to half-staff until the end of the Iraqi War. He felt that it would serve as a daily reminder of the men and women of the armed forces. It would also send a message of hope to our citizens that they would come home safely to us. He encouraged his colleagues to vote on this item this evening because it would allow the City to prepare for the dedication ceremony on November 11. He wanted Carson to be the first City to do this because we intend to invite local elected officials from our neighboring cities to this event..

Council Member Williams felt that this matter should be part of a policy issue and since time was not of the essence, he suggested this matter be remanded to the Policy Council Committee.

RECESS: The City Council was Recessed at 9:58 P.M. by Mayor Dear.

RECONVENE: The City Council was Reconvened at 10:02 P.M. by Mayor Dear with all members previously noted present.

RECOMMENDATION for the City Council:

1. **DISCUSS** the proposal to lower the City of Carson flag to half-staff until the end of the Iraqi War.

ACTION: It was moved to approve the following: 1) that the City of Carson Flag be lowered to three-quarters' staff and to so remain until the War in Iraq is over; 2) that the City Council convene a flag lowering ceremony to be part of the annual Veterans Day commemoration to be held on November 5, 2005, at 10:00 A.M., on the lawn of City Hall; and 3) to include the Veterans Commission to participate in the planning processes on motion of Santarina and seconded by Gipson.

Mayor Dear inquired into the status of the Blue Star Family Program that was supported by the Veterans Commission and would recognize the families in Carson who have a family member in the armed services.

Mayor Dear inquired whether Council Member Santarina would be willing to attend the Veterans Commission meeting and to be flexible with any discussion, if this item were to be approved this evening.

EXHIBIT NO. 02



Council Member Santarina stated that he would make the effort to attend the meeting and explain the details of the program that he has envisioned for this event. He clarified that it is not his intention to be disrespectful to the Veterans Commission – in fact, prior to his being elected, he served on the Veterans Commission. He emphasized that time was of the essence.

Mayor Pro Tem Ruiz-Raber offered a substitute motion to remand this item to the Veterans Commission and brought back to the City Council for consideration and died for lack of a second.

Council Member Williams offered a friendly amendment to the motion for Council Member Santarina to meet with the Veterans Commission and explain what he is trying to accomplish and to provide an opportunity for the commission to discuss this item, which was accepted the maker and the second and unanimously carried by the following vote:

Ayes:	Mayor Dear, Mayor Pro Tem Ruiz-Raber, Council Member Santarina, Council Member Williams, and Council Member Gipson
Noes:	None
Abstain:	None
Absent:	None

