

City Council Hybrid Meeting (Closed Session - 5:00 PM and Open Session - 6:00 PM)

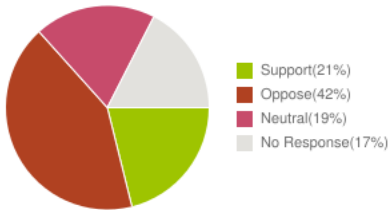
04-25-23 17:00

Agenda Name	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
b) REPORT 23-0247 ADOPT ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING PERMANENT OUTDOOR PERMIT PROGRAMS AND DOWNTOWN LANE RECONFIGURATIONS AND ACCOMPANYING RESOLUTIONS (Environmental Programs Manager Doug Krauss)	109	23	46	21

Sentiments for All Agenda Items

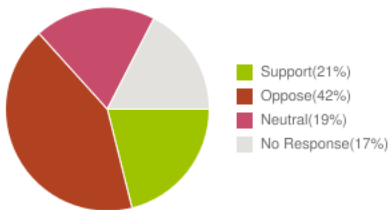
The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

Overall Sentiment



Agenda Item: eComments for b) REPORT 23-0247 ADOPT ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING PERMANENT OUTDOOR PERMIT PROGRAMS AND DOWNTOWN LANE RECONFIGURATIONS AND ACCOMPANYING RESOLUTIONS (Environmental Programs Manager Doug Krauss)

Overall Sentiment



Ann Gotthoffer

Location:

Submitted At: 2:59pm 04-25-23

Re: Permanent Outdoor Permit Program.

Clearly extensive surveys, studies and thought has gone in to these thorough staff recommendations. As always, the "devil is in the details" and it is a lot of complex information to digest. I haven't read every linked document or all previous ordinances, nor have I attended every meeting where this topic was discussed. I've been a resident over 40 years, but tend to avoid downtown at night so admittedly I am a poor eye-witness.

Overall, I strongly agree with basic recommendation to continue with outdoor dining decks and lane configurations as is. However, in my opinion the primary goal of these once termed "dining decks" should be for dining and not late night drinking.

I don't understand why many businesses are permitted to have outdoor areas open for alcohol service after

midnight, and others would be prohibited after 11. (Perhaps the reasoning is in a footnote or link somewhere.) In my opinion this only increases bar capacity in a city that was already saturated prior to the COVID measures I believe. It seems to me the 11 pm time should apply to all the establishments. I understand that the logistics of closing patios when the interior space is full seems difficult, but I suspect true dinner patrons are done with dinner by 11, drinkers could go inside earlier if getting spots is difficult?

Also, I know this was decided previously, but it doesn't seem that unwieldy to recognize just a few "legacy" patio agreements, such as apparently one held with The Lighthouse.

Additionally I would like generous space and fee consideration be given to restaurants such as Good Stuff and Martha's.

I want to thank Staff and Council for all their work on this. I cannot attend tonight, but will watch the video and look forward to having a deeper understanding of these issues.

Cassidy Nelson

Location: 90505, Torrance

Submitted At: 2:58pm 04-25-23

Good Stuff has been a prominent fixture of Hermosa Beach for over four decades, and its current outdoor space should be kept. The area they currently occupy has never been too crowded for beachgoers to get to the beach and the umbrellas do not block the view of the ocean. Please help support family-owned local businesses. Locals and visitors benefit from establishments like Good Stuff.

I appreciate your consideration.

Cassidy

Laura Pena

Location:

Submitted At: 2:57pm 04-25-23

Dear Mayor, Councilmembers, and Staff,

I support our cities efforts to transition our Temporary Outdoor Dining / Retail Program as well as our Lane Reconfiguration on Pier and Hermosa Avenue into a sustainable, thriving Permanent Program. It is paramount that any changes to our outdoor spaces are guided by principles outlined in PLAN Hermosa that support a high quality of life while contributing to economic and fiscal stability.

As noted in the Chamber report, our economy is ill and the effects it has on our business community are real with less than 20% doing better than they were pre-Covid. With eight restaurants currently interested in moving out of Hermosa, we need to act wisely to ensure our decisions are carefully deliberated. We have significant competition from surrounding shopping districts. We need to build a better Hermosa experience in our downtown core that utilize our outdoor spaces, encourages live music, and highlights our rich history and beach culture. Incorporating designated bike lanes into our urban design is a welcoming feature for a pedestrian-oriented district. Creating engaging outdoor spaces that are clean and well lit will foster community connection.

We have an incredible opportunity to support our existing businesses while attracting high performing operators if we create policies that stimulate and encourage investment. We also need a regulatory environment that is flexible and open to exploring new ways of working with our businesses, like the private-public opportunity that has been presented with Loreto Plaza. If the city has the opportunity to build privately funded placemaking, which is sorely needed in our downtown, at minimum it should be explored.

But I don't want to stop there...we should be open to exploring public parklet (i.e., San Diego, San Francisco, Berkeley) options so any business can have a deck in front of their business. In addition, with a more economic development focus we could redesign our downtown along Pier and Hermosa avenue with 20 foot sidewalks (ROMA study) by removing the center medians. I understand that this isn't what today's agenda item is about, but if don't start asking ourselves how to create the best Hermosa experience we will be left with debating issues like queuing (which I support) and closing deck times (which should align with the CUP). I believe in what is written on our community center, "Where There Is No Vision The People Perish." I hope the decisions made today will provide the opportunity for entire community to flourish.

I appreciate your thoughtful consideration.
Thank you.
Laura Pena

Ali N

Location: 90503
Submitted At: 1:54pm 04-25-23

I support outdoor dining. Specifically, I appreciate and support the outdoor dining at Good Stuff Hermosa Beach. I've been a customer for years, and the restaurant contributes to the fun beach vibe. There is an accessible path to the beach adjacent to the seating and the umbrellas do not block any view. Hoping you keep this restaurant's and other restaurants outdoor seating open!

Carlos Gonzalez

Location: 90504, Torrance
Submitted At: 1:47pm 04-25-23

i oppose the measures,

Jon David

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach
Submitted At: 1:45pm 04-25-23

I advocated heavily for the decks since the very beginning of the pandemic and have spent many hours in discussions with the economic development advisory committee and Doug Kraus. I have been such a strong proponent of the program because I believe outdoor dining and placemaking in general are valuable for both economic development and resident lifestyle. It is much bigger than the needs of restaurants.

For this reason, I hope the city can envision this program in three-time frames. The first is the short term which should have as the goal of retaining the existing decks for the sake of our downtown's economic health. The City should do nothing to shock those decks into being taken down.

The second timeframe should focus on a much more studied and thought-out long-term program that focuses on the best and highest use for our public spaces. This would focus on policy that combats under-utilization and the lack of public placemaking opportunities in our downtown. In this phase, we can envision possibly communal spaces.

Additionally, since the staff-proposed program limits the number of parking spaces that can be used for the on-street program, protecting against underutilization becomes even more essential. We need to do this because we need our downtown to have an active vibe, and we need our decks to be available to the business that can really utilize them. Our downtown economy is in a fairly rapid decline. This only reverses itself when high-performing businesses enter our city and give residents a reason to stay local, and visitors a reason to travel to our city. The high-performing business won't come in until they have a reason, which very well may access to provide outdoor dining.

The third and final timeframe should include capital improvement projects that once and for all provides the urban design that should have been many years ago to encourage the downtown vibrancy a city like ours should have. Over a decade ago, when the Upper-Pier Revitalization project was incepted, we were promised 20 ft sidewalks with outdoor dining. Those key elements were taken out and as a result, the residents and businesses have lost out on all those years of downtown vibrancy and an enhanced lifestyle. Also, as a result, the council now has to circle back and address the outdoor dining issues...and in a less efficient manner.

As far as the permanent lane reduction, the environment study proves we don't need a 4-lane highway throughout downtown. Reducing Pier Ave from 4 lanes to 2 has shown safety benefits and commerce benefits. It also matches the long-term livings streets vision of PLAN HERMOSA. Time will continue to build bike and foot traffic and we will look back at this change as being one of our better decisions.

Big Picture - we need you all to be leaders and see past the individual needs of a handful of businesses and residents. Keep the lane configuration as is and make a short-term "permanent" outdoor dining program that keeps the existing decks while the city works on a longer-term program that addresses underutilization and

improves our urban design to be more supportive of downtown vibrancy and living streets.

Finally, regarding the details of the proposed deck program that will be decided tonight, I suggest:

- Slowly ease rate increase over time to prevent deck closures.
- Allow decks to match the closing time of the indoor restaurant. Late-night decks are a visitor and resident draw that do not on the surface cause negative issues.
- Allow queuing to continue, especially in a venue like The Lighthouse that would find it hard to operate otherwise. Also, although no one wants to wait in lines, they help with the vibrancy of the area.

Stephanie Hicks

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach
Submitted At: 1:37pm 04-25-23

As someone who has grown up in Hermosa Beach, I am a firm believer in the importance of the outdoor dining program for our community. It's a great way to enjoy our often beautiful weather while dining or sharing a drink with friends. On summer evenings it's nice to step outside for fresh air and take a break from the noise inside even if it's after midnight. Closing the decks early puts women at risk as well, because I feel much safer in a busy environment rather than on a dark and empty street. I was disheartened to hear council members claim support for the program, yet propose policies that would significantly reduce the size of the decks at Hennessey's, Good Stuff, and Brews Hall. and impose burdensome fees and regulations that could kill the program for many businesses. It's important to be honest and transparent about the impact of these rules on the program and the community's desire to maintain it. Thank you for considering my perspective.

Joshua Francis

Location: 90043, Los angeles
Submitted At: 1:33pm 04-25-23

Keeping the outdoor patio can be more pet-friendly and allow parents with kids to dine without concern. People come from all over to experience the great weather and good food. Removing outside dining would take away from the whole concept.

Ann Torrico

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach
Submitted At: 1:24pm 04-25-23

As a 21+ year resident of Hermosa Beach, I firmly support continuing permit programs for outdoor dining. This program has brought life back to Hermosa after the pandemic shut it down. Our business neighbors are thriving again, our personal lifestyles are flourishing, and our exposure to tourism has increased. I would think that any nay-sayers voting against making this program permanent are either making up data (that people can't access the beach from the parking structure? Really? Show me the data.) or they have never enjoyed an outdoor dining experience. In either case, I would encourage our Council to find a way to negotiate outdoor space and rent with restaurant owners as opposed to threatening the program, altogether. This is a matter of collaboration.

EILEEN FUIAVA

Location: 90059, Los Angeles
Submitted At: 1:14pm 04-25-23

Being able to sit outside and enjoy good company and the environment makes your mental health better. Not all enclosed in the tight spaces of the establishment

Kevin Sanchez

Location:
Submitted At: 1:14pm 04-25-23

Outdoor patio dining is a part of the experience when you go to the beach. You go to the beach to eat outdoors and enjoy the beach. It doesn't make sense to take it away. You're losing money for space that isn't going to make a difference. Keep outdoor patios. The fact that this is even an argument is ridiculous. Are you even local? People come to the beach to eat outdoors. This is insanity

Sarah Nahrwold

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach

Submitted At: 1:10pm 04-25-23

As a long-time local resident, I fully support the original and pandemic established decks for our businesses in Hermosa Beach. I listened during the council debates as every candidate claimed they "supported" all the decks, yet now those same council members are proposing drastic cuts to the decks at Hennessey's, Good Stuff and Brews Hall, as well as draconian fees and rules that would kill the dining decks for most businesses. It's dishonest to claim "support" while implementing rules you know absolutely will have a negative impact on the program the community wants. Thank you for your time.

Raymond Dussault

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach

Submitted At: 12:53pm 04-25-23

A last note, the devil is in the details as they say, and I am concerned that in proposing these convoluted regulations we are not being precise in the regulatory language that will guide future staff and council. For example, the statement in the staff proposal, "No customer shall be permitted in the dining area until the customer has been notified by the restaurant that he or she can be seated (Section IV, M, 3)," could be misinterpreted to apply to the interior dining areas of a business. If this unnecessary regulation is implemented, please clarify that it only applies to the "PATIO" dining area to avoid any confusion.

Similarly, however well-intentioned, a uniform patio closing time ordinance is going to require very precise language to explain what that means. How quickly do I have to cross the patio to not be counted as "on" a closed patio. If I forget and stop for a conversation, can I be arrested? And how does that make any sense when I can step a few feet further and lean on the very same railing, but from the other side, and be completely legal?

Jessica Accamando

Location:

Submitted At: 12:52pm 04-25-23

Dear Hermosa Beach City Council,

It will be no surprise that the Chamber is writing to support the outdoor dining program permanence. The program has proven to be one of the few true benefits to rise from the pandemic and this community wants to keep it—71% of our survey respondents support it. The program promotes healthy lifestyles, attracts great businesses, brings curbside beauty to downtown, and creates a sense of community and meeting place which is a highlight of Plan Hermosa. For better economic activity and walkability of Hermosa, we need to distribute people beyond the Pier Plaza so they are drawn to places up Pier Ave and to North and South Hermosa. Dining decks are one of the best ways to pull people out to explore other parts of downtown.

(paragraphs removed for public posting - see attachment for full letter)

For all of these reasons and more, the Chamber makes the following more specific recommendations.

USAGE & HOURS

- At a minimum, to be open full hours of business operations (weather permitting).
- Encourage use across all-day parts, especially when parking demand is high, further optimizing the contribution to the City's vision of having living streets.
- Businesses that may be closed during busy daytime hours should be encouraged to find ways to minimize the visual of a closed business.
- Enhance outdoor green space and other CIP improvements that allow these outdoor spaces to be inspiring, even when closed. Decks should add value to the adjacent space and neighborhood.

AESTHETICS & SPACE

- Design and architecture of decks should be thoughtfully made, aesthetically pleasing, true extensions of primary indoor establishments, and in the spirit of the character of Hermosa Beach.
- Businesses with limited frontage (trees, emergency lanes and other obstructions) should be permitted to find space near their frontage with permission from adjacent business(s).
- Consider trying ideas before prohibiting them (ie. busing station on patio, tvs, etc).

- Explore public parklets, outdoor public tables, and other long-term ideas like San Diego, Berkeley, and San Francisco to enhance the program (both public and private spaces for outdoor enjoyment).
- Maintain the adjusted single lane in each direction on Pier Avenue and Hermosa Avenue in the downtown area for the safety of patrons on the dining decks.

ENCROACHMENT FEES

On-sidewalk (non Pier Plaza) \$1/sq ft

On-street \$2/sq ft

On Pier (close midnight or earlier) \$3/sq ft

On Pier (close after midnight) \$5.50/sq ft

THINKING BEYOND

- Continue the experimental period for long term decisions to allow for more thoughtful considerations based on data and feedback (ie. aesthetics, hours, etc).
- Request an Impact Report after a certain period to gauge success of plan and make further enhancements.
- Form an advisory group that includes economic development professionals, business owners, residents and other key stakeholders to develop best practices.
- Revisit guidelines annually to ensure the program is effective, valuable and thriving.
- Better communicate where free and more parking is, including 50+ free parking along Valley Ave, Ardmore, and top of Pier Ave east of Ardmore.

(paragraphs removed for public posting - see attachment for full letter)

Please continue to support the amazing outdoor experiences in Hermosa and keep them affordable so that our businesses can invest in their home, Hermosa Beach.

Best regards,
The Board of Directors and
The Economic Development Action Committee (EDAC)
Hermosa Beach Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Bureau

Raymond Dussault

Location: 90254, HERMOSA BEACH

Submitted At: 12:47pm 04-25-23

As a resident, I am pleased with the city's efforts to formalize the outdoor dining program. The proposal for parklets and sidewalk dining is a positive step towards supporting local businesses. However, I am concerned with some of the proposed rules for Pier Plaza.

Restricting the size to 1,000 square feet would result in a significant loss of deck space for signature establishments like Hennessey's Tavern, Brews Hall, and Good Stuff. I think a better approach is to stick with the pandemic policy, proposed by Council Member Mike Deto at the last meeting, of restricting patio encroachments to 25 feet within the boundaries of the business footprint. This parallels the documented desires of the community.

Having some experience as a Department of Justice researcher on effective policing strategies, I also question the effectiveness of enforcing a policy that would prohibit patrons from decks after midnight. I believe it is possible to balance safety concerns with the desire for a vibrant social community and robust economic development. To do so, we must ensure that regulations proposed with the best intentions have the intended impact and avoid unintended consequences that could compromise public safety and the community's well-being.

According to a study published in the Journal of Environmental Psychology, busy areas with high pedestrian activity tend to have lower levels of crime and disorder due to natural surveillance. The study indicates that implementing a uniform patio closing time could reduce natural surveillance, by turning patrons inward, making our community less safe.

It would also confuse patrons who would not understand why they cannot enjoy our beautiful summer evenings after midnight or even step outside to make a phone call or have a conversation. It raises significant enforcement

questions, by potentially putting our officers into conflict with patrons over a trivial rule about why they can make a phone call on one side of a railing but not the other side.

Additionally, prohibiting structured lines overseen by restaurant staff could lead to uncontrolled clusters of people wandering the town waiting for a seat to dine, which would create a public safety risk.

Lastly, I want to highlight a study titled "Broken Windows" and the NYC Police Department: The Relationship Between Disorder, Complaints, and Crime by George L. Kelling and William K. Sousa, which found that addressing physical disorder leads to a decrease in crime. Queuing allows restaurant staff to oversee people waiting for a chance to come in, creating order out of disorder. Therefore, allowing queuing would increase natural surveillance and decrease the likelihood of public disorder.

In conclusion, I urge you to reconsider supporting the proposed uniform closing times and no queuing policies for outdoor patios in Hermosa Beach. Linking patio closing times to businesses' closing times and allowing managed queuing would ensure public safety while still promoting economic development and a vibrant social community.

Overall, I am grateful for the city's support of outdoor dining and the positive impact it has had on the community. Let us work together to ensure that any final regulations support local businesses while maintaining public safety.

Branden O

Location:

Submitted At: 12:35pm 04-25-23

I think it would be detrimental to the community as well as the workers of the city to lose the extended patios. The loss of these spaces would lead to a loss of tax revenue for the city as well as a loss of shifts for the workers struggling for shifts and employment opportunities. More people now than ever prefer outdoor seating but the proposed time limitations for all of the outside areas as well as the cost to keep these patios would far outweigh the price per square foot. Please consider a realistic solution that would benefit all parties.

Nic Mullins

Location:

Submitted At: 12:33pm 04-25-23

All for exterior patios, but closing it early for late night bars is ridiculous. At smaller bars, people want to step outside and catch their breath, or enjoy a drink with the ocean breeze rather than being around a bunch of people, and overheating. Closing patios early while the bars are still open gets rid of that opportunity, they can't take a drink outside the gate because that isn't legal on the pier. What's the point of the pier if people can't enjoy it. Also raising the price per square footage way past market value, isn't fair to bars who can't afford the pricing, when they were able to beforehand. Therefore I'm completely for keeping exterior patios, but not the restrictions and pricing they're trying to put on them.

Kelley Johnson

Location: 98391, Bonney Lake

Submitted At: 12:26pm 04-25-23

I'm not a permanent resident but my family is and this is disheartening to hear that the city is considering to limit outdoor dining, tax businesses more to maintain outdoor spaces when they have been fighting to stay afloat since Covid. When I fly down to visit my family the first stop we make is Good Stuff, Hermosa. We sit outside enjoy the beautiful beach, and weather. I can't imagine not having that opportunity. Don't prevent businesses from having outdoor seating it's one of my favorite places to visit and I tell everyone about stopping at Hermosa Beach for the great food, vibe and atmosphere.

Ryan Correa

Location: 90501, Torrance

Submitted At: 12:14pm 04-25-23

Hermosa Beach should keep their outdoor patios! It's the best seat in the house when you're by the beach! It also brings a different atmosphere to every establishment down there.

Duke Noor

Location:

Submitted At: 12:11pm 04-25-23

Outrageous. There's plenty of room to pass and plenty of view to be had around and through the umbrellas. I'm not a fan of the "Parkletts" on our public streets, but I'm a big fan of outdoor dining in and around the Plaza as long as there is free and equal access for all. Thank you for your consideration to keep the outdoor dining without excess "surcharges or takes" bestowed upon them. Remember they had almost NO business for 2 years !!! Thank You, Duke Noor, Hermosa Beach.

Christopher Sanchez

Location: 90043, Los Angeles

Submitted At: 11:50am 04-25-23

The outdoor patios are part of the tourist attraction when I visit I always ask to have a table outside so I can enjoy my food in the sun

Randy Balik

Location:

Submitted At: 11:50am 04-25-23

I've been pretty wordy on this subject for quite a while now. To be clear at the outset, my "opposition" to this issue is directed at the proposed changes - this need to select "Oppose," "Neutral," or "Support" for an issue like this confuses many. Once again, I SUPPORT outdoor dining. I'd like to see MORE of it. I'd like to see a long-term city plan/vision that more permanently incorporates it. I also SUPPORT other retailers using outside space in front of their storefronts. We should encourage people to be outside MORE, not less. We should add MORE energy and vibrancy to our outdoors. I OPPOSE any measure meant to curtail it...that includes any reduction of current size, any fees that make it untenable for our businesses, and any rules that address problems that don't exist solely because of patios and decks. The reductions in size, reductions in operating hours/allowances, and increases in fees that have been proposed are nonsensical, without basis in facts, and are completely unfair to our local businesses. Yes, they should pay a FAIR price for encroachment fees...a price that is affordable and keeps this outdoor vibrancy alive. No, they should not be hit with fees and reduced sizes such that it no longer works for them. We, the people of Hermosa Beach, have spoken overwhelmingly in favor of outdoor dining, so make it work rather than put up barriers that cause it to go away.

Vanessa Castorena

Location:

Submitted At: 11:41am 04-25-23

Hermosa Beach should be able to keep their outdoor patio areas. It gives the community a place to sit and enjoy the beautiful ocean view and have an area to enjoy company while you're eating.

Estelle Murphy

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach

Submitted At: 11:40am 04-25-23

Establishing permanent outdoor seating has no negative outcome and is a non issue to the community. It positively promotes revenue to the businesses on the pier and those who work hard to create an excellent experience for hermosa resident's while also expanding their outdoor lifestyle. It would be disappointing to all those involved if outdoor seating was lost.

Diana Varela

Location: 90277, redondo beach

Submitted At: 11:39am 04-25-23

As a born and raised local of the south bay, I've witnessed first hand the hood outdoor seating has brought to town. We seen an increase in people coming to town, booming restaurants, and just a happier hermosa. Furthermore, if we have the weather for it why? we've gotten so accustom to outdoor seating that when it is gone we would have wished to never gotten rid of it

Keani Andaluz

Location:

Submitted At: 11:23am 04-25-23

Hermosa Beach should keep outdoor patios, it brings the community together be able to enjoy the sunshine, fresh air and ambiance of the beach life. Having outdoor patios available will also provide opportunities for restaurants to bring in more customers.

Alivia Alvarez

Location: 90248, gardena
Submitted At: 11:22am 04-25-23

I believe taking away outdoor dining is a HUGE disservice not only to the city but to the community and it's employees as well. a big attraction to the pier is being able to eat outdoors and enjoy the scenery. i feel it brings people together in an atmosphere that is inviting and happy.

tawni maglinti

Location: 90745, Carson
Submitted At: 11:14am 04-25-23

Outdoor dining plays a huge part of why guests love coming to eat on the pier! Most guests request outside dining and usually turn away if there is none. If we keep it, we will continue to give guests the opportunity to enjoy all of what Hermosa Beach has to offer, which is its beautiful ambiance and atmosphere! I think taking this away will only hurt the community, rather than help it.

JASON CORREA

Location: 90601, Torrance
Submitted At: 11:13am 04-25-23

Keep outdoor patios in Hermosa !!!

Rose Garcia

Location: 90717, Lomita
Submitted At: 11:12am 04-25-23

Lomita

Greg Newman

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach
Submitted At: 11:11am 04-25-23

I appreciate everyone's time and effort in navigating the difficult challenges to make the extended patios permanent.

On many occasions, including at council meetings and in the Chamber's recent surveys, the community has overwhelmingly supported the extended dining decks. The original decks went out 13 feet from a business' frontage. During COVID we were allowed to add 12 feet to that encroachment. The community has embraced the greater opportunity to dine outside, and it is in line with the Roma study's finding that the plaza's public area was too wide and felt empty.

PATIO CLOSING TIME: Patios should close in line with the business' Conditional Use Permit (CUP). This enhances public safety through natural surveillance which creates an additional layer of oversight for the Plaza. This is especially important during evening hours when visibility is reduced. Eliminating the ability to sit on the patios after midnight would remove this natural surveillance and make the Plaza less inviting to well-behaved patrons.

Also, closing the patios early would be confusing to patrons, who want to step out on the patios for fresh air, have a conversation or make a phone call. Residents and visitors want to embrace Hermosa's natural environment and it is unclear how such a rule would be enforced by the businesses and city staff.

Finally, if patios must close at midnight that would put all business in the \$3/square foot rate, costing the city needed funds.

QUEUING: As for the elimination of lines, lines overseen by restaurant staff improve public safety. When patrons are overseen by restaurant staff in structured lines, they are more likely to remain in a designated area and are less likely to engage in disruptive behavior like public drinking. An unstructured queuing situation risks disagreements among patrons who are hovering in clusters and arguing over who is next in line, while managing patrons in line enables our staff to maintain order and eliminate disputes.

Regarding Loreto Plaza, the area was previously underutilized and mainly attracted the homeless and smokers. During COVID, the city generously allowed us to use the space for outdoor dining. We were the first restaurant to

invest heavily in extended dining and transformed Loreto Plaza into an attractive area with decorative planting, soft lighting, and quality furnishings. We propose to keep half the space as a patio and work with the city to redesign the rest of the space into a public seating area that engages with the community through a public/private partnership. We are happy to finance the public portion of the project as a gift to Hermosa Beach's Pier Plaza and we are hopeful that it could be a model for other public/private opportunities in the city.

Thank you for considering my perspective on these issues. I look forward to discussing this further with you.

Best regards,
Greg Newman

Brandon Correa

Location: 90717, Lomita
Submitted At: 11:10am 04-25-23

I think hermosa beach should be allowed outside patios , it's fresh air and it brings people together .

Ms Sberna

Location:
Submitted At: 11:01am 04-25-23

Dear HBCC,

STOP trying to reimagine Hermosa the way you want it to look! These disastrous ideas ruin the very small town vibe that most of us locals cherish.

Your latest scheme negatively impacts locals businesses and would change the landscape of our town!!! and for what? Just so you can have even more control of how businesses operate??

Good Stuff Restaurant has been on the strand for a lot longer than any of you have lived here yet these new ideas would ruin his business. Dining on the strand, eating Good Stuff's yummy pancakes is something no one should miss out on... perhaps some of you should get out more and explore the Hermosa strand/pier scene. Just take a look at how many folks are enjoying dining and drinking OUTSIDE, enjoying the sunshine!

Stop being so anti-biz!

Veronica Mccree

Location: 90254-4917, Hermosa Beach
Submitted At: 10:57am 04-25-23

I fully support the outdoor dining areas because they have been such a great addition to all of the restaurants and businesses in the community. Not only does it attract the tourists, but it allows the residents of Hermosa to feel a sense of community amongst themselves. With that being said, adding too many regulations that aren't fair to the regular market price would make it harder for businesses to want to add something like outdoor dining that brings in tourism and added revenue for the community. Please keep the outdoor dining without making the additional costs for the encroachment that hasn't caused any nuances to the community, especially since this will be ruining the safe community that we have all tried to create in Hermosa Beach.

Rayana Noriega

Location: 90249, Gardena
Submitted At: 10:56am 04-25-23

I cant imagine the amount of money the city and our restaurants would lose out on not having these patios that help us seat many more people and bring in more overall cashflow. Not only that, having these extra seating areas, unrestricted, allows for more employment within Hermosa Beach. We should be able to keep all extended outdoor dining decks, again unrestricted, to accommodate the numerous amounts of visitors and locals that find themselves at the pier wanting to dine. Not having these would result in longer wait times across the pier, leaving potential customers hungry and irritable. Especially those with dogs, which is most people local to Hermosa. Losing out on these tables to dine at would most definitely result in less overall customers, which means my colleagues and I losing shifts they depend on for their livelihood.

Zach Harris

Location: 90250, Hawthorne
Submitted At: 10:54am 04-25-23

Families love to seat outside in Hermosa Beach, meaning how crucial it is to keep exterior patios in Hermosa Beach. Most people come from outside areas to dine at the pier on outside patios to get the experience of food /

drinks / sun all in one. Keeping the outer patio allows for more people to have a good time in Hermosa, more revenue will be involved, changes in positives ways, and allows our restaurants to give people what they want.

Molly Tamir

Location: 90275, Rancho Palos Verdes
Submitted At: 10:49am 04-25-23

Dear City Council Members of Hermosa Beach,

The beauty of Hermosa is that it's a beach city, many people from inner cities and tourists enjoy coming down to the pier to enjoy the sunrays and fresh air. Getting rid of outdoor seating will significantly affect the businesses that are in the city. The outdoor patio seatings have made the Pier become more of a community, it allows people to get together with their loved ones and enjoy food and drinks. Getting rid of it would negatively affect the community and the businesses, psychologically and financially. It has been psychologically proven that more access to outdoor spaces increase physical and mental health. Furthermore, as an employee at the Pier, it would be detrimental to all the employee's financial stability. Housing rate is going up in all of California and especially in Hermosa, rent is higher due to the environment. Getting rid of the outer patio would cut a lot of the employee's salary, making it harder for people to make ends meet, causing more stress and decline in mental health for the whole community.

Please consider keeping the outdoor patios without the additional restrictions so that our community can flourish and grow to its full potential.

Thank you for your time,
Molly T

Anjelica Correa

Location: 90505, Torrance
Submitted At: 10:22am 04-25-23

The outdoor dining decks have been such a positive and fun addition to the city of Hermosa Beach! People enjoy the fresh air, people watching, bringing their dogs, and there is sense of community! The outdoor patios are not only enjoyable for tourists and residents, but we are creating more jobs for our city as well. Having outdoor patios is absolutely more inviting for people as well!

Mark Martelli

Location: 90277, Redondo Beach
Submitted At: 10:03am 04-25-23

The outdoor patios in Hermosa Beach are a vital part of the community especially here in the beach cities. As we get closer towards summer it's important that we can ensure our outdoor areas are ready and available as soon as possible.

Thank you

Abby Kahan

Location:
Submitted At: 9:56am 04-25-23

(Neutral because I support outdoor dining without any added restrictions or regulations)

I fully support keeping outdoor dining for our local restaurants! I oppose any changes that would eliminate, reduce or increase pricing for our businesses.

Outdoor patios have been such a blessing to our local restaurants and are greatly enjoyed by all! I have worked on the pier for the last 15 years and I've first hand seen and experienced the positive changes it's brought to our community. It's been incredibly successful for all of us and the loss of, it reduction of would be detrimental for us. Not just the business owners, but these patios have been beneficial to the employees and have created shifts and more jobs due how successful they've been.

Losing patios would result in the loss of shifts for employees. And that's such a scary thought for a lot of us! I fully support keeping outdoor dining for our local restaurants! I oppose any changes that would eliminate, reduce or increase pricing for our businesses.

As far as the hours, and size restrictions and price gouging them, please do not exploit these businesses and their employees!! The local community as well as tourists LOVE spending time outdoors and we've worked so hard to make it a beautiful space for everyone to continue to enjoy!

Please support outdoor dining. Support your local businesses and the best interest of the workers who keep Hermosa a beautiful community to live and visit!!

DJ Palma

Location: 90505, Torrance

Submitted At: 9:52am 04-25-23

The exterior seating in hermosa beach is one of the most beloved things by employees and guests alike, it consistently lures guests from everywhere to take a visit and support all the amazing businesses as well as enjoy the beautiful city that hermosa beach is.

As amazing as the outside seating is, any change to the price for the extensions is only shooting down the potential for hermosa. By charging over market prices business owners won't be financially inclined to focus on building beautiful extended patios that draw people in for both the city and the business.

Bennett Murphy

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach

Submitted At: 9:45am 04-25-23

As a Hermosa beach resident and someone who recognizes just how special this town and community is, it would be such a shame for our restaurants to lose their outdoor dining spaces. In my opinion, it really gives such a boost to the Hermosa experience and the restaurants are such a vital part of the robust Hermosa community. As someone who's livelihood and work depends on restaurants I feel very strongly that the businesses, their workers and their families would certainly suffer and take a hit if the restaurants had to give back their outdoor dining decks not limiting back to precovid size

maria gonzalez

Location: 90504, Torrance

Submitted At: 9:43am 04-25-23

I support outdoor dining decks and believe they should be able to stay, just like many others. Hermosa beach is known for its beautiful and fun pier life that every local & non local enjoy. A big part of this include all of the outdoor dining decks that multiple business have and operate. On any given day, look around and you will see children, families, friends, business partners, and so on on dining decks either enjoying some food, people watching, or simply just relaxing to get away for a while. People come down to the beach and the pier to feel the beautiful weather we have as well as enjoy the place they live. Taking away outside dining decks would not only completely ignore what most people are begging for you to keep but it would also hurt many local businesses and employees that provide to the city. Restaurants should be able to keep these outside dining decks at a fair market price, and without so many regulations that honestly do not make much sense. Closing patios down at midnight doesn't allow for people who are out having a good time to step outside to get some fresh air or get away from the loud scenes at times. Having outside decks even during later times like this also creates a sense of safeness in the community when you have younger and older people out having a good time. It feels more safe when you have people outside, than everyone stuffed in small buildings. Covid showed us that being outside is healthier and better than being in. Do not take this away! You will be ruining your city and the people who live in it.

Peter Doykos

Location:

Submitted At: 9:38am 04-25-23

Since the beginning of the pandemic, outdoor dining options were the only way the most iconic restaurants and bars on the Hermosa Pier managed to keep themselves from going under. I chose the "neutral" position in order to specify that I support retaining patio dining, but also argue that the proposed regulations will unnecessarily

hinder both the stability of the businesses and the comfort of the guests - locals and tourists alike. I fail to see the benefit of suddenly limiting the outdoor space and imposing stringent regulations/fees on business owners who only wish to maintain the vitality of the pier, stimulate the culture, and deliver fabulous dining and night life experiences to as many people as possible. Please reconsider jumping the gun on bureaucratizing such a simple matter that has warranted no complaints from the people who stand to benefit on all sides. This includes the city of Hermosa itself due to the revenue loss that will most certainly be evident if we reduce access to our very special place that we've helped cultivate and thrive together over decades of hard work.

Daniel Palma

Location:

Submitted At: 9:38am 04-25-23

I support the ability for local businesses to keep outdoor seating in Hermosa Beach. I also support that this initiative be accomplished with our local businesses best interest kept at the forefront. Eliminating these spaces would decrease the volume of residents and tourists that frequent the pier and drastically decrease the revenue of our local businesses. The overall impact to the city of Hermosa Beach would be devastating. I strongly urge you to do what is right for our residents, our city and especially our local business owners by keeping these spaces open without causing financial hardship to the businesses that would be impacted.

Austin Thompson

Location: 90245, El Segundo

Submitted At: 9:31am 04-25-23

Any change to our exterior patio and rooftop dining areas will only make it harder for honest, hardworking, and genuine people to achieve their goals and aspirations. As many of you are aware, the service industry can be another rung in the ladder of life, and stepping stone to more lucrative careers.

Speaking personally, any change could greatly affect my personal finances. Remember when some of you were in college and had to eat ramen every night for dinner, and worry about where rent would come from week to week? The industry I work in, and particularly, the outdoor dining spaces at palmilla allow me and my peers the opportunity, to escape that reality.

Not only this but hermosa beach is a fun area known for its night life. Closing at or before 12am would be counterintuitive to the majority of the traffic, at least to the pier promenade. If we close earlier, the people will just go elsewhere.

Extended dining patios have been a critical part of a multitude of businesses during and after the pandemic, please listen to the people who know what is best for the community and allow fair extended dining decks for everyone.

Ryan Sullivan

Location:

Submitted At: 9:29am 04-25-23

Dear City Council Members of Hermosa Beach,

The extended patios have created such an improved environment in our already beautiful city and it would be a huge shame to lose them. That being said, it would also be a travesty to charge restaurants anything above market price for these extensions as it would impact the ability to even afford to keep or maintain these patio spaces. Additionally, restricting operating hours and cutting back the size of any extended patios would further negate what they are really meant for, the further and continued beautification of our downtown pier.

Thank you for your consideration, please make the decision in support of our local businesses which will ultimately support our local economy with continued ability to provide more service to our residents and tourists alike.

narcisa palma

Location:

Submitted At: 9:26am 04-25-23

Outdoor seating and dining year round is why we live in Southern California. This draws out the community and tourists to enjoy our amazing weather and to support our local businesses. Please permanently allow outdoor seating.

Dino Capaldi

Location: 90254, Hermosa beach
Submitted At: 9:23am 04-25-23

I believe that the outdoor dining decks have made a huge improvement to the culture of Hermosa Beach . Tourists and residents love to be able to relax and eat outside and take advantage of the beauty that is Hermosa Beach. It would be a shame to see them slowly disappear. When you make your decisions keep in mind how your personal experience has been with the decks and vote with your hearts. God Bless and thank you. Dino

Angelique Assayag

Location: 90277, Redondo Beach
Submitted At: 9:16am 04-25-23

Closing the outdoor patio would be so dumb. It stimulates business which helps hermosa economy. Palmilla is a great loved restaurant by everyone and it would be a disgrace to get rid of our outdoor patio. It is also not in the way of anything, it brings a lot of money into the city and I know you like to sit there as well. It makes no sense to close it. For what? Nothing and no one is being harmed.

JD Ciasulli

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach
Submitted At: 8:40am 04-25-23

Just to clarify, I chose "Neutral" because I am in support of Permanent outdoor decks, but not with some of the stipulations attached in the proposal.

Dear City Council,

When the city created the Pier Plaza in 1997, we put Hermosa Beach on the map by creating the beautiful downtown area, a spot for tourists and residents alike to gather and enjoy our beach city. This is evidenced by how often photographs of the plaza are published both regionally and nationally. We really have an opportunity to make Hermosa Beach very special and a one-of-a-kind city. While neighboring cities are shutting down their outdoor covid areas, our city is set up so that we can maintain these larger outdoor dining areas, without losing too much to parking, safety concerns, or public gathering space. For us to take advantage of this golden opportunity to put Hermosa Beach on the map worldwide, we need to make these larger dining decks a permanent fixture. In order to accomplish this, I ask to you to work with the business owners toward achieving the mutually beneficial goal.

First off, charging more than fair market price for encroachment fees will exploit business owners and may even cause some to not build big, beautiful patio spaces. Wouldn't we prefer the business owners have that money spent towards construction and beautification of patio spaces, rather than nickel and diming them to the point that they don't want to join us in achieving this communal goal.

Secondly, we want to make sure we have enough space on these patios to accommodate both residents and tourists. Now that residents have been given the taste of bigger outdoor dining decks, reducing the size may result in locals not being able to get outdoor seating at their favorite places. We all know tourism is great for the city, but we wouldn't want the tourism to come at the expense of our residents.

Lastly, closing all patio space at midnight would make no sense at all. I think covid has taught us that being outdoors is better than being indoors. On top of that, not only would it make the pier less safe without all the public eyes on it, but the plaza would feel like a scene from one of the many post-apocalyptic movies. Not allowing guests to get a breath of fresh air without leaving the establishment; that's laughable. Coming out of the covid state of emergency, I think we can all agree that this proposed change is illogical.

We have an amazing opportunity to gain global recognition for the amazing beach town that we know we are. Please work WITH the business owners and FOR the residents, and let's make larger, more beautiful decks a permanent staple of Hermosa Beach.

Sincerely,

JD Ciasulli
15 15th street, Apt 16
Hermosa Beach, CA 90254

Katie Sotheran

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach
Submitted At: 7:45am 04-25-23

The extended outdoor seating in Hermosa has been such an improvement - it really creates such a nice atmosphere walking down Pier and has helped many businesses expand their capacity. I especially hope you will allow Good Stuff to retain their outdoor seating - it's a local icon and should be helped to continue to thrive.

Kathryn Russell

Location: 90504, Torrance
Submitted At: 6:45am 04-25-23

As a long time resident of the South Bay, my family and I have enjoyed the outdoor dining patio at Good Stuff for 30 plus years. It is one of the reasons (besides the food) we like to go there. We hope the council will continue to allow Good Stuff to keep their current patio configuration. I have met many friends down there who were walking the strand as we were eating or vice versa. There is a strong community culture on that patio. That space doesn't impact the flow of people trying to access the beach or pier. There is always plenty of space to access the strand and beach. Thank you.

Chris Wells

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach
Submitted At: 1:47am 04-25-23

I am a local resident of Hermosa Beach going on four years now. I do provide a unique perspective though because I am a pier employee at Baja Sharkeez as well. For four years as both employee and resident, and that includes a patron, I've adored the welcoming and enjoyable experience Hermosa outdoor dining has provided me.

The multitude of factors that have contributed to my enjoyment are the following:

- It's a dog friendly atmosphere which is very important to all locals.
- The health benefits as we know allow guests to feel comfortable and safe.
- It's the beach, outdoors is in high demand. I personally am from the east coast, so when friends and family visit I am excited to take them down hermosa plaza and enjoy the weather outside.
- And from an employee perspective quite a few of my coworkers and friends would lose out on hours and it would greatly impact their economic well-being.

Megg Sulzinger

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach
Submitted At: 10:52pm 04-24-23

I oppose this ordinance as written. I support a permanent dining plan that mirrors the current setup. Plain & simple. If it's not broken, don't fix it. The current dining program is working perfectly fine & doesn't need to be adjusted.

Leave the operating hours, size restrictions & no lines alone. Asking people to wait in their car is ridiculous. Having lines allow the businesses to control the flow and regulate the people waiting and is ultimately safer than sending people to go sit in their car or go back home to wait for a table or get into a venue to see live music.

The dining decks has given us an amazing opportunity to be an example for other communities. Some people are still not comfortable eating inside.

Additionally the dining decks have not only created a large revenue source that previously wasn't available but they also are now responsible for maintaining the decks which was previously a city responsibility. So they are giving the city a steady source of revenue but also helping with maintenance.

Manhattan Beach restaurants saw a large decrease in revenue which also resulted in the retail businesses losing money as well.

Let's show the other surrounding areas that Hermosa supports local businesses and outdoor dining.

Rudy G

Location:

Submitted At: 10:17pm 04-24-23

Please make the car-lane reduction and bike lanes permanent on hermosa and pier avenues. This change has made walking and biking much safer, and has reduced dangerous speeding cars. Foot traffic is best for business, and adding more dangerous car-lanes will decrease business by making hermosa less pleasant. Furthermore, outdoor dining should remain, with rents as cheap as possible. Outdoor dining increases jobs in hermosa, and is enjoyed by residents and visitors alike.

Silvio Petoletti

Location: 90250

Submitted At: 9:33pm 04-24-23

Please let the lighthouse continue using their outdoor patio.
i love sitting out there in the fresh air__

Scott Friedman

Location: 90277, Redondo Beach

Submitted At: 9:20pm 04-24-23

Please keep the extended outdoor dining and sidewalk dining. It's an incredible addition to our community that is long overdue and brings a beautiful experience to our beachside businesses. The additional dining in Pier Plaza and at the Good Stuff restaurant next to the hotel is something that should have been in place many years ago and should be made a permanent element of the area. It truly elevates the look and appeal of our area to both residents and guests.

eyner guerrero

Location:

Submitted At: 9:02pm 04-24-23

Dear City Council Members,

I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposed plan to cap all decks at 1,000 square feet and require the closing of all patios at midnight, regardless of business hours. I believe that these restrictions would have a detrimental impact on our local restaurants.

The proposed deck size cap would significantly affect many popular restaurants in the area. These establishments have invested significant time and resources into creating larger outdoor dining areas to accommodate more customers. By capping the deck size at 1,000 square feet, these businesses would lose much if not all of their extended dining decks, which would have a severe impact on their operations and revenue. Furthermore, requiring the closing of all patios at midnight, regardless of business hours, is another ill-conceived restriction that would harm local restaurants. The economic damage caused by this restriction is significant, and it would also reduce public safety by turning the plaza indoors at midnight, eliminating the natural surveillance created by patrons and staff. Criminals tend to work best when not observed, and by forcing restaurants to close their outdoor dining areas at midnight, the community would be left with fewer eyes on the street.

In conclusion, I urge the city council to reconsider these proposed restrictions and instead work with local businesses to find ways to continue supporting outdoor dining while also addressing any legitimate public safety concerns. We must support our local restaurants, which are essential to the fabric of our community, and ensure that they can operate in a manner that allows them to remain profitable and sustainable.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Reid Luna

Location:

Submitted At: 8:47pm 04-24-23

Dear City Council Members,

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed plan to not allow restaurants to allow queuing. I believe that this restriction would have a negative impact on local restaurants and ultimately harm the community. By not allowing restaurants to allow queuing, the proposed plan would require all restaurants to implement a phone notification system. If no table is available, the restaurant would be required to ask patrons to wait in their cars until notified a seat is available. This requirement would be particularly challenging since some establishments do not use hostess so it would make it harder to keep track having guests sat. Additionally, the proposal's language is sloppy and unclear, suggesting that businesses may not be allowed to have patrons wait inside their place of business either. This would be particularly problematic for establishments with limited outdoor space, and it would also create issues for customers who may have to wait outside in inclement weather conditions.

In conclusion, I urge the city council to reconsider this proposed restriction and instead work with local businesses to find ways to continue supporting queuing while also addressing any legitimate public safety concerns. We must support our local restaurants, which are essential to the fabric of our community, and ensure that they can operate in a manner that allows them to remain profitable and sustainable.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Reid Luna

Maddie O'Connor

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach

Submitted At: 8:25pm 04-24-23

Environmental Determination by city staff and City CEQA Consultant for Lane Reconfiguration is INCORRECT. Staff Report states that

"The proposed project is Categorically Exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act as defined in Section 15300 of the CEQA Guidelines, as follows:

The Lane Reconfiguration component of the project is exempt in accordance with Section 15301, which addresses MINOR ALTERATION of existing public facilities; and Section 15304, which addresses MINOR ALTERATIONS to public land. More specifically, the following two subcategories of exemption both apply." On Page 118 of the city's General Plan (PLAN) adopted in 2017 it clearly identifies Pier Avenue as a "designated truck route": To quote: "Truck routes in Hermosa Beach are designated along major arterial and collector roadways that include Pacific Coast Highway, Aviation Boulevard, Artesia Boulevard, PIER AVENUE, and the segment of Valley Drive south of Pier Avenue (in the southbound direction). Most areas of the city requiring truck route access are adequately served by the existing system, with the exception of the northwestern portion of the city along Greenwich Village, 27th Street, and Manhattan Avenue. This designated truck route system directs heavy truck traffic away from local (residential) roadways in order to help maintain pavement quality on local streets and manage noise and air pollution in residential areas." Consequently LANE REDUCTION (to ONE) on a Designated Truck Route can hardly be considered a MINOR ALTERATION.

<https://www.hermosabeach.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/9872/637001018228830000>

Daniel Godwin

Location:

Submitted At: 8:02pm 04-24-23

Dear City Council,

The proposed report does show progress in formalizing extended patios and the bike lane configuration. For that I commend the city staff and stakeholders who contributed. I fully support the proposed dedicated bike lanes on Pier Ave and Hermosa Ave because it does provide additional safety to our residents and visitors. However, I recommend that the city continue to investigate innovative ways to improve traffic flow on Pier Ave (between the Green Belt intersection & Monterey Ave).

With respect to extended patios, they have injected a refreshing appeal to our community and have provided much needed financial relief to our local business. One exception is that I have heard of some businesses on Pier

Ave where lesser parking has reduced access to their respective establishments. The city should continue to periodically assess these impacts in this area specifically. Additionally, there are other areas of concern that should be addressed before approval/implementation.

- 1) Extended patios should NOT be capped to 1,000 sq feet. It should be based on current allowances, as long as there is suitable right of way. For Loreto Plaza, 25 feet from the storefront appears to be adequate. Please allow current allowances and protect our local businesses (e.g. Hennessey's, Good Stuff, American Junkie, Brews Hall).
- 2) Please, please, please do NOT ban line queueing. This has been a standard business practice and paramount to local business revenue. If this passes, we sadly see many of our restaurants leave our lovely town.
- 3) Encroachment fees should be incremental (on an Annual/Biannual basis) and not a 'slap in the face'. I believe that 5-20% increases are equitable and fair. 33-100% increases are egregious to places that are barely getting by and doesn't incentivize long standing establishments to stay. Please maintain the current \$1.50 fee for off-pier locations as they are more disadvantaged compared to other establishments.
- 4) Extended patio (encroachment areas) hours of operation should be based on their business license and public safety. A midnight restriction for Loreto Plaza appears to be arbitrary and not conducive to warm/peak business times of the year.

Let's support local business in Hermosa, not inhibit it! Thank you for your consideration.

Jennifer Svensson

Location: 90254

Submitted At: 7:03pm 04-24-23

Please save our outdoor dining!

Judy Deutsch

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach

Submitted At: 6:41pm 04-24-23

Continue the decks at restaurants in Hermosa Beach

Cody Lauterbach

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach

Submitted At: 6:23pm 04-24-23

Dear City Council Members of Hermosa Beach,

I am writing to advocate for the continuation of outdoor extended patio dining in Hermosa Beach with the current rules and regulations currently in place. I support the existing downtown and Pier Ave area dining decks and oppose any rules or regulations that might cause the elimination or reduction of the size of those dining decks. The recent extension of our outdoor patio and rooftop dining deck during the pandemic has allowed us to provide a unique intimate experience for our guests and has been a great benefit to our community.

One key point that I would like to touch on is the fact that the price per square foot for our outdoor dining area should be comparable to market rates, which are currently \$3-\$5 in Hermosa Beach, CA. This makes it a worthwhile investment for businesses to maintain and expand their outdoor dining options within these price points.

Another benefit of outdoor dining is the ability to keep patios open during normal business hours and not closing down early. This provides guests with the opportunity to get fresh air and have a comfortable conversation while enjoying their meals. Additionally, patios provide a much safer and hospitable feel by having extra sets of eyes on things on the pier.

Tower 12 would be open to using a portion of Loreto Plaza for mixed public use and would even be willing to help finance a vibrant outdoor public space. This would be a win-win situation for both businesses and the community, as it would encourage more people to spend time outdoors and enjoy the beauty of Hermosa Beach.

In conclusion, the expansion of our patio has allowed us to focus much more on the dining aspect of our business and cater to many more locals, tourists, and families looking to enjoy delicious food surrounded by Hermosa

Beach's greatest attribute, its outdoor beauty. Let's not install new rules and more regulations that make it harder for business to benefit from the only good outlier of the pandemic. I urge the City Council to consider the benefits of outdoor dining and to continue supporting this option in the most fair way for businesses in Hermosa Beach.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Cody Lauterbach
Tower 12, Baja Sharkeez

Shaun Albin

Location: 90503, Torrance
Submitted At: 6:01pm 04-24-23

Dear City Council Members,

I am writing to urge you to consider allowing our local restaurants to keep their outdoor dining areas, which have become a lifeline for many businesses during the pandemic.

Over the past year, outdoor dining has been a crucial tool for restaurants to continue serving their customers while adhering to social distancing guidelines. Many establishments have invested significant time and resources to create comfortable and safe outdoor dining spaces, which have become a popular and essential part of our community.

However, I understand that some members of the community have expressed concerns about the impact of outdoor dining on the environment, traffic, and noise levels. While these concerns are valid, I believe that we can find solutions that address these issues without taking away this vital resource from our local businesses.

For example, we can work with restaurant owners to ensure that their outdoor dining areas are well-maintained and adhere to specific guidelines regarding noise levels and traffic. Additionally, we can explore the possibility of implementing more environmentally-friendly practices in outdoor dining areas, such as composting and recycling.

Furthermore, I believe that outdoor dining has significant economic benefits for our community. By allowing restaurants to keep their outdoor dining areas, we can help support our local businesses and preserve jobs that are crucial for our city's economy. Additionally, outdoor dining areas can attract visitors and contribute to the vibrancy and liveliness of our city.

In conclusion, I strongly urge the City Council to consider the benefits of outdoor dining and work with restaurant owners to find solutions that address concerns while preserving this valuable resource. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Shaun Albin

Kathy Holzer

Location: 55057, NORTHFIELD
Submitted At: 6:00pm 04-24-23

We spend a couple of weeks each year staying at the SeaSprite, enjoying the local businesses, biking the Strand, and eating breakfast and lunch every day OUTDOORS at Good Stuff. Being from Minnesota, outside seating is a huge draw for us, even in winter months, and does not hinder pedestrian or bike traffic or beach access. This is a family friendly establishment that is a gem for us in Hermosa Beach. Please support continued outdoor seating for Good Stuff.

Steve Moseley

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach
Submitted At: 4:08pm 04-24-23

Love the outdoor dining, but okay with increasing costs to restos. Midnight shut down is good.

Huge fan of lane reductions! Better for bikes, slows cars down, and traffic is virtually unaffected (only at a few peak times, so walk or bike instead!)

Bonnie Moton

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach
Submitted At: 3:46pm 04-24-23

Stars Antique Market is against the continued pop outs that take up parking spaces. All businesses had difficulty during the pandemic and the city did what was needed to help the restaurants at that time - but the pandemic is over and Hermosa needs its parking spaces back. I urge you to come up with a solution to give retail business owners some if not all public parking spots back. We are located on upper Pier Ave and the parking near our building has been reduced by 12 spaces over the last 18 years to provide security for the Police Dept, which we support.

Just hoping for a solution that will benefit all businesses.

Ira Ellman

Location:
Submitted At: 3:15pm 04-24-23

Good Stuff's owners seems OK with an incremental space reduction from 900 sq ft to 500 sq ft. I am supportive of this outcome. Good Stuff, unlike a few plaza bar/restaurants, is not a drain on HBPD and other city resources as it is not open evenings and doesn't have patrons that get DUI's, trash neighborhoods or get in fights.

Ira Ellman

Location:
Submitted At: 3:15pm 04-24-23

Good Stuff's owners seems OK with an incremental space reduction from 900 sq ft to 500 sq ft. I am supportive of this outcome. Good Stuff, unlike a few plaza bar/restaurants, is not a drain on HBPD and other city resources as it is not open evenings and doesn't have patrons that get DUI's, trash neighborhoods or get in fights.

Joseph Ciasulli

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach
Submitted At: 3:09pm 04-24-23

I support the existing Pier Avenue area dining decks and oppose any rules or regulations that might cause the elimination or reduction of the size of those dining decks.

My wife and I love the post-pandemic Pier Avenue and, in particular, the Pier Plaza. Almost every night we walk the few blocks from our apartment to enjoy the excitement on Pier Avenue. Maybe we'll stop in to get an ice cream from the Baked Bear; maybe we'll stop and get a slice of pizza from Paisanos; maybe we'll sit down and have dinner on a dining deck at one of the many fine-dining establishments; or maybe we'll simply sit at one of those dining decks and have a drink and just people watch. So many things to do. Hermosa's downtown area is alive, vibrant and exciting and we think that in large part it's because of the dining decks. The decks give it a European feel with so many people sitting outside. There is a noticeable difference between Pier Avenue without dining decks and Pier Avenue as it is now. We much prefer the area with the decks.

We understand that you are now considering revising some of the rules and regulations relating to the decks. Please don't do anything that will result in the owners eliminating or reducing the size of the dining decks. This

would be a step backward and would negatively affect the Pier Avenue experience. It's just not the same when everybody is sitting inside.

Accordingly, we strongly urge you to work closely with the owners in fashioning your new rules and regulations to ensure that the owners maintain the existing dining decks and the present Pier Avenue experience. Anything less would be extremely disappointing.

Joseph Ciasulli

Josh Royal

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach

Submitted At: 2:43pm 04-24-23

As the operating manager of Lighthouse, I wanted to express my concerns regarding some of the recommendations, while also expressing my full support for outdoor dining.

Firstly, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to the City Council for the steps taken to help us get through the challenges posed by Covid. Your decision to expand patios and allow live music was a lifeline for our business and greatly benefited our employees and customers. Your business-friendly actions helped us immensely during a difficult time, and for that, we are truly grateful. Thank you!

I also feel fortunate to have been given the opportunity to get involved in an iconic venue such as The Lighthouse. I love operating the Lighthouse and keeping the past traditions alive. As a city and community, I hope you share in feeling privileged to have such an amazing iconic venue in our town. That being said I think as a community and city, we should take steps to support the Lighthouse. We are asking to keep the existing agreement in place before Covid and not asking for anything additional. I think honoring an agreement is important and we have come to rely on this patio for our operations as it was before Covid. I believe the intention of the Patio Dining Program is to help businesses and not add wording that will hurt businesses such as the Lighthouse. The current system of the patio falling in line with the conditional use permit and keeping the same closing time as the business works well.

The Lighthouse's has a cozy small space and the partnership with the City in 2007 to expand the patio has been invaluable. The patio has become an integral part of our business, offering a much-needed respite from the hustle and bustle of the interior. Customers can indulge in an appetizer or meal while enjoying the refreshing ocean air and that has made the patio a beloved feature that patrons use and relish.

Eliminating patio access at midnight will be difficult to explain and enforce. Furthermore customers are safer and less prone to be victims of crime while in a supervised area. Conversely, if customers are asked to relocate to the smaller indoor space and then decide to move out into the plaza after midnight, it likely will create confusion and could compromise their safety. In light of this, I hope the council will reconsider any proposed restriction on patio access after midnight.

Regarding the issue of lines in the plaza, I am hoping for a compromise. We often book popular music that draws a crowd, creating a line. Asking customers to disperse the line will be difficult, and I am hoping that lines can be viewed as a business privilege, restricted only when a particular business is irresponsible in managing their line. At Lighthouse, we work hard to keep lines orderly and have a policy to stop the entry of patrons demonstrating signs of being overly intoxicated. We believe this helps set a tone that over-intoxication is not acceptable.

Once again, I would like to express my gratitude to the City Council and staff for the patio and outdoor music programs during Covid. They were crucial for our business, and we hope that this lifeline will continue. Thank you again!

Sincerely,

Josh Royal

Andrew and Leanne Clifton

Location:

Submitted At: 12:38pm 04-24-23

Good Stuff is really a historic establishment in Hermosa Beach. Cris Bennet has been serving food to the people of Hermosa Beach for probably longer than any of you council people have ever even lived here. We have been eating there since he opened, it is not just another bar. His establishment does not ever require police action. It is a fine family restaurant and if the bars can have extra outdoor seating, Good Stuff should surely be able to keep their extra seating. The additional outdoor seating has been wonderful, we don't have to wait nearly as long for a table.

We have no idea who could think that beach goers do not have enough room to walk from the parking to the strand and sand. As regulars at Good Stuff we have firsthand knowledge that it does not hinder beach goers in the least. We sit outside and watch the beach goers easily pass by all the time!! Umbrellas blocking the beach view?? The view from the parking structure, from the bank, from Starbucks, the view from the street while you are suppose to be driving? You have got to be kidding. Please use some common sense and leave Good Stuff the way it is. The Pier Plaza extra outdoor dining works very nicely also.

We do have reservations about the street extra outdoor dining. It takes up a lot of parking space which really hurts the businesses that are not bars and restaurants.

Rocky Ciasulli

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach

Submitted At: 12:33pm 04-24-23

The city can't have both of these things:

1. Take a position of supporting local business
2. Gouge local businesses financially the point that it's not worth it for local business owners to operate in Hermosa Beach

The ordinance as it is currently set up (charging fees way over market value for extended outdoor dining decks, limiting the size of outdoor decks to half of the current allowance, requiring closure of all outdoor areas by midnight, not allowing any type of queuing system on pier plaza) severely neuters local businesses' ability to thrive in our community. Struggling local businesses employ less local residents, infusing less money into our local economy, and threatening the vitality of our neighborhood.

The stipulations of this ordinance as it is currently formatted do not support local business. And with it, the city is doing a disservice to the community it has been entrusted to protect

Bartt Gunter

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach

Submitted At: 12:17pm 04-24-23

I support businesses using public areas as long as it is not a gift of public funds. If City areas are to be used by private entities, then they need to pay a market rate for the right to use those areas. Otherwise, public resources are being used for private enterprise.

ERIC findlay

Location: 90254, hermosa beach

Submitted At: 10:52am 04-24-23

The outdoor dining patios are great for all. If they were removed it would result is shifts and income being lost to the employees. Wouldn't HB want to see their businesses and employees earn and excel? Those patios are always full, clearly the business and people of Hermosa Beach enjoy the extra space and being outdoors. If rent needs to be paid to the city from the business it should lean in favor of the business. DON'T TAKE THE PATIOS AWAY!

Vincent Busam

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach

Submitted At: 10:34am 04-24-23

Outdoor dining and travel lane configurations have been a big improvement to our community. I strongly support keeping them. Also, the restaurants should be fairly compensating the city for the additional space.

Ned Garrett

Location: 90505

Submitted At: 10:10am 04-24-23

I support allowing Good Stuff to maintain outdoor seating according to the plan they propose. I ride past there frequently on a bike at various times of day and have never noted any problems of access for anyone. I have seen first responder vehicles navigating the area without difficulty during somewhat crowded times. It's never a good idea to start limiting successful local businesses like this, especially when they are really not negatively impacting an area in a significant way, and especially when they are a definite attraction to the area. Be smart and either let them be, or take up Good Stuff's proposal.

KIM BRIGHT

Location: 90277, REDONDO BEACH

Submitted At: 10:10am 04-24-23

Outdoor dining is strongly supported by the community. Good Stuff had outdoor dining long before it was even a thing. It is what they are known for and why we love dining there. Don't take away something that is good and healthy for our community!

Nathan Smith

Location: 37174, Spring Hill

Submitted At: 8:40am 04-24-23

Keep the patio dining option for Good Stuff. This iconic established business has overcome so much in the past 3 years with the pandemic, lockdowns, labor crisis, etc. Please pass laws that are in favor of local owned businesses. The people of the city love the open air patio dining options. It's what the city is known for. Just the other day Mark McGrath was filming a promo video for the Beach Life Festival from a table on the patio of Good Stuff. He mentioned the scenery and location as ideal for a great meal with a great view. This patio space doesn't hurt anyone or impede any traffic flow.

Kyle Sterling

Location: 90250, Hawthorne

Submitted At: 7:46am 04-24-23

This is regarding encroachments for outdoor dining, mainly on Pier Plaza. First of all, you mismanage the money you get from businesses already. If you didn't, your greedy little hands wouldn't be proposing this stupidity. What are the plans for the additional revenue. You claim it's needed yet you don't disclose your plans for using the revenue. Secondly, there is no encroachment into any public space on Pier Plaza that is causing any harm or hindered mobility through the plaza. This is nothing more than a power money grab and you should all be ashamed of yourselves. As a city council your job is to protect the businesses that generate the revenue for the city. By burdening these businesses with additional fees and regulations so you can make a quick extra buck shows the disgusting nature of clowns like you running things. As someone that frequents Pier Plaza, has a spouse that works there, and knows many business owners throughout the city, I can say with 100% confidence that no one wants this. Seems only the greedy city government does. Shame on you all. Stop being greedy scum and do the right thing for the businesses in the community.

Mia Falkenstein

Location: 90277, Redondo Beach

Submitted At: 6:48am 04-24-23

I strongly oppose ordinance 23-0247 in the current way written. The outdoor usage for our community is an important element to our southbay life.

Mary Chinchilla

Location: 90277, Redondo Beach

Submitted At: 6:46am 04-24-23

Mr Bennett is a generous sponsor of South Bay schools, Little Leagues, Hands on Art programs at South Bay schools, and gave thousands of dollars of meals to healthcare workers at TMMC and LCOM during the

pandemic. He worked hard to keep his people employed and to serve the beloved South Bay community. Good Stuff restaurants are not only local favorites, but wonderful, attractive, not to mention delicious spots that are visitors to LA seek out.

The outdoor dining at Hermosa location existed before outdoor dining became a solution to the LA County Covid restrictions. The outdoor dining has become so popular everywhere- it's a shame to diminish it and / or eliminate it altogether.

A crowded beach day is something most visitors are looking for when visiting the South Bay and Hermosa Beach especially!

It's short sighted of the city council to punish an involved, local, hard working business because of sun umbrella blocking view from the alley or parking garage. In the 90's, that sidewalk alley would be lined with chairs on weekends and summer mornings with Good Stuff patrons waiting for indoor dining!!!

Good stuff is popular, they are good stewards to the South Bay community, and Mr Bennett constantly gives back to all of the South Bay! Please keep the beautiful outdoor dining! Thank you

Shawn Shepherd

Location: 90274, Rolling Hills Estates

Submitted At: 10:54pm 04-23-23

I'm writing to express my deep and strong support to maintain the current, existing outdoor seating that is available to Good Stuff customers today and that it not be altered by any legislation or order.

The concerns that have been noted about ample access between the beach and the parking garage and the "view" that is obstructed by the umbrellas are both absurd and unfounded.

Good Stuff was the very first place my wife and I ate when we moved to California and it remains a favorite spot to this day.

The Good Stuff team did everything they could to continue to serve the community and take care of their employees during the pandemic. Their efforts should be applauded and acknowledged, not ignored and discounted only to become part of the political turmoil that never seems to cease in the South Bay.

I strongly encourage actions by this council that support thriving businesses that draw both locals and visitors to the area and further improves the economy.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

T J

Location:

Submitted At: 10:50pm 04-23-23

No bad

Sara schonfeld

Location: 90278, Redondo beach

Submitted At: 8:36pm 04-23-23

Please keep outdoor dining at good stuff!!! We don't have enough outdoor dining for our beautiful beach town

Marianne Kelchner

Location:

Submitted At: 5:52pm 04-23-23

My family and I have been dining at Good Stuff in Hermosa Beach for decades. It's our go-to place to bring out-of-town guests to enjoy their sidewalk patio dining and beautiful ocean view. We find it healthier to dine outdoors whenever possible. Please do not restrict the ability of Good Stuff and other Hermosa Beach restaurants to offer outdoor sidewalk dining to their guests. Please support Hermosa businesses and allow them to keep this outdoor space, which, of course, will generate more revenue for the City, as well!

Taylor SimonGarvey

Location: 90094, Playa vista
Submitted At: 5:46pm 04-23-23

The outdoor dining space at Good Stuff should remain as is. There is still plenty of sidewalk space for walking to and from the strand. Good Stuff is an iconic establishment in Hermosa beach and having the current extra outdoor space just allows more people to enjoy the amazing food and atmosphere that it has always provided. We need to support our local restaurants!

Karen Klink

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach
Submitted At: 2:39pm 04-23-23

There seems to some confusion as to what is opposing and support for Outside dining decks. The comments I read that say oppose are for Outside dining so maybe one of doesn't understand the question?

I think most of us, myself included want to keep the decks as much as we can, perhaps there are some that take up too much street and should be scaled back. A fair price should be negotiated. There are some bars crying poverty that we are not being truthful. I don't want to be like Manhattan and get rid of them all but they had way more street decks. I think people forget that a deck may help restaurants but hinder other merchants and that needs to be taken into consideration.

kelly Kinnon

Location:
Submitted At: 1:40pm 04-23-23

First, I think in this case the support/oppose choice is confusing as there are several options presented in the latest Staff Report. I didn't know what to put so I put neutral, but I support outdoor dining 100%. Seems like the vast majority of comments support outdoor dining, though many are listed as "oppose". So hopefully you ignore the designation and read the letters.

In any event, I am a longtime Hermosa resident. Old enough to remember when it was Howard Rumsey's Lighthouse and there was no Pier Plaza. I'm old! Anyway, the Lighthouse remains a Hermosa Beach jewel. All efforts should be made to support its success, including expanded outdoor seating at a fair and reasonable price.

Speaking of price, \$5 psf seems pricy btw, and comparing to fully built out space is not a fair comparison. While we focus on weekend afternoons in the summer when we see these places full of customers, there are many slow months Nov - April and many days (weekdays) when it isn't really that busy. So figure out how to create a win/win with the pricing (either less in the off-months or average that in to the pricing).

I think generally the outdoor dining is an excellent amenity to both residents and visitors, and I think the City should bend over backwards to support business given the relatively small business base in the City. Had brunch today at Palmilla, listening the some melodious jazz wafting from the Lighthouse. Lovely.

Taking Good Stuff as one example, this is also an iconic business that epitomizes Hermosa beach life. I walked past it today and folks were enjoying the food and the sun. It was a beautiful thing to see. There is plenty of room for pedestrians on the north side of the seating, the umbrellas (which come down at 3 anyway) don't block anything but the sun (which is a good thing, having had my face carved up for various sun-related issues) and folks walking up 13th street for a minute or two (but not driving, since it is one-way east). I can't think of a better use for that strip of land than extended seating for Good Stuff. To me, it's a no-brainer to continue to permit this use as is, without any reduction.

So generally, I strongly support keeping the status quo for most outdoor dining. Seems like the benefits strongly outweigh the negatives. I know that we would eat out a lot less and spend a lot less money with our local businesses if places like Good Stuff and North End didn't offer outdoor dining.

If it ain't broke, don't fix it. Support Hermosa businesses. Don't mess with success.

The proposed Ordinance says it all:

"E. The creation and activation of these spaces for pedestrian oriented

uses such as outdoor dining have been beneficial to the Pier Plaza and Downtown areas of the City. These programs have provided residents and visitors with the unique ability to patron City businesses via outdoor dining. Further, businesses have been able to avail themselves to this new opportunity which provides for a more robust economic environment and business friendly environment.

F. The City has received positive feedback from residents, visitors and businesses about all of the benefits of these expanded outdoor dining programs."

Thanks for your consideration.

Denise Freeman

Location: 91941-7842, LA MESA
Submitted At: 12:04pm 04-23-23

I am writing in support of keeping the outdoor dining at Good Stuff as it is. I grew up in the South Bay and Good Stuff was my go to all the way through college and beyond. It provides the best atmosphere--a perfect place to enjoy breakfast, lunch or dinner outside in the ocean breeze. I still go there whenever I'm in town. I don't understand why a few people want to change what the majority enjoy...Good Stuff's patio dining has never been a problem. Keep the fun stuff.

Darrell Greenwald

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach
Submitted At: 11:25am 04-23-23

Dear Council,

I am a 47-year, second-generation resident of Hermosa Beach. Here are some of the reasons why I think Good Stuff's sidewalk dining should remain:

1. With their outdoor seating, there is still 12ft of unobstructed access from the parking lot to the beach. Plenty of room for emergency access and people walking to the beach. It's never been an issue, even on busy weekends with large volleyball events.
2. The umbrellas shield customers from the sun and don't block the view of the beach from anywhere but part of the alley behind.
3. Good Stuff is an iconic family dining establishment that is frequented by locals and visitors alike. A real slice of our beautiful community! Their outside dining areas are the #1 requested sitting!
4. The City Council should focus on real problems like homeless encampments, crime, and children recklessly driving electric bikes throughout the city.

Warmest regards,
D. Greenwald
10th Street

Teresa Fisher

Location: 90245, El Segundo
Submitted At: 10:55am 04-23-23

We like the outdoor seating at Good Stuff and it allows more people to enjoy a meal at the beach. Although I go to the one in our town more often, come summer I enjoy a change of venue. I have never been inconvenienced by the outdoor seating, in fact, it has made it easier to get a meal (i.e. more seating) since it is such a popular restaurant. It takes away the quaintness of our beach cities.

Russell Mark

Location: 90293, Playa Del Rey
Submitted At: 10:11am 04-23-23

I am strongly in favor of keeping Good Stuff Restaurant exactly as it is. This restaurant has been gracing that location for as long as I can remember. It always makes me smile to see people eating there and enjoying the atmosphere. It's a quiet little place in an area that tends to be "too much" (too noisy, too crowded, too many flashing lights). Good Stuff is not blocking anyone's view - unless you enjoy gazing at a barren grey parking structure. I have eaten there and enjoyed it. Mostly I enjoy seeing people there as I pass by on the boardwalk. It really adds to the "hometown" feel at Hermosa Beach. The kind of place locals would go, as opposed to the overpriced restaurants and bars nearby filled with drunken tourists. Please don't destroy this last bastion of humanity by taking the outdoor dining away! Hermosa Beach's essential nature is a quiet beach town. "Beautiful" Beach should remain beautiful, and not turn into simply a drinking destination!

Edwin Ong

Location: 90503, Torrance
Submitted At: 8:37am 04-23-23

Stop trying to change Hermosa.

Geraldine AthasVazquez

Location: 90254
Submitted At: 11:15am 04-22-23

I am in support of letting businesses have the patios on the Pier open past midnight as they have been for years and years. Can't ruin the businesses because you don't want to fund more police patrols on weekends.

Charles Rich

Location: 90254
Submitted At: 8:42pm 04-21-23

The existing arrangement with the Lighthouse should be respected and remain in place without the proposed changes.

Isabel Ferrera

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach
Submitted At: 4:50pm 04-21-23

Please maintain the current patio hours for restaurants, including Lighthouse.

Abigail Henderson

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach
Submitted At: 4:44pm 04-21-23

Keep Hermosa Hermosa! This isn't a quiet retirement community. Why would we try to make it that way. We have two young children and we frequent many of the restaurants on Pier Plaza weekly! Part of the reason we moved to Hermosa was to escape the sleepy nature of Santa Barbara and enjoy the lively, friendly, fun atmosphere of this great Beach City! Strongly oppose!

VICKI HICKS

Location: 90266, MANHATTAN BEACH
Submitted At: 4:41pm 04-21-23

What we saw during the Pre-pandemic on our pier was there were outdoor patios that worked really well for our businesses that were still open late. Patios have become new sources of revenue for them. Let's be CLEAR AND NOT forget that covid is not gone!! Dinners are often more comfortable eating outside while listening to live music, that's what sets Hermosa Beach apart from other beach cities. The outdoor dining area can draw in passersby to dine. Why would you want to take that away?? Closing the pier patios early and eliminating lines to access venues makes zero sense PLEASE allow for lines in the patio or pier plaza area

Jaclyne Friedman

Location: 90254, Hermosa beach
Submitted At: 3:30pm 04-21-23

The lighthouse, like the Comedy and magic club, are the part of hermosa vibe that doesn't create problems.

Please allow the continued use of the patio and figure out a way for people to line up before a show. Comedy club has a line before shows and it works fine .

Jay Philbrick

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach
Submitted At: 3:14pm 04-21-23

A ridiculous proposal which will impose undue burden on bars and restaurants at pier plaza. City Council needs to get out more. Check out other cities and other cultures. We need outdoor dining and more live music in our town.

Randy Maxwell

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach
Submitted At: 2:40pm 04-21-23

Closing pied patios early and eliminating lines to access venues makes nonsense. It has worked for 20 years so please let the Hermosa Vibe remain. I didn't move here to see you restrict my access to my favorite venues at my favorite times.

Matthew OapostropheReilly

Location: 90254, HERMOSA BEACH
Submitted At: 2:40pm 04-21-23

Just here to voice opposition to the proposal of closing pier restaurant patios at midnight, specifically The Lighthouse. This was obviously recommended by people who have never visited the pier after midnight and have no idea what The Lighthouse has done for Hermosa Beach, historically, as a music destination. The city of Hermosa Beach needs The Lighthouse and city council should be bending over backwards to make sure their needs as a business are met. The Lighthouse is one of the few places that gives Hermosa Beach any sort of "Counter culture credibility". In a SEA of eye sore McMansions and vacant lots of bulldozed cottages, The Lighthouse is just that. A beacon of light for those of us looking to escape the bro'd out sports bars (who should also be allowed to use their patios as they have been) of the pier.

Put some respect upon The Lighthouses' name!

That being said they should be allowed to continue operating their patio as they have for the last 20 years. Was that not the point of pier plaza to begin with? May as well put parking spots back in if we are going to limit the use of patio space and add time constraints.

I yield my time.

George Branch

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach
Submitted At: 2:15pm 04-21-23

The proposed changes to the patio/outside dining areas for Pier Plaza are poorly considered and would have a significantly negative impact on the businesses in that areas. Restricting outdoor dining to midnight on actual streets such as Hermosa Avenue makes sense, but placing these new restrictions on the Plaza businesses feels very much like overreach and out of scope. The plaza is unique.

Helen Constable

Location: 90254, HERMOSA BEACH
Submitted At: 1:55pm 04-21-23

Lighthouse is often a loud venue, and it has been nice to be able to get away from the loud music. It would genuinely be hard to carry a conversation let alone eat a meal without a patio. If lighthouse were to get rid of their patio they will lose money because 1. Patrons won't stay as long 2. People will also order less food. The patio also allows people to appreciate the outdoors and beauty of Hermosa beach and the walk way space isn't fully utilized anyways.

Tom Shortridge

Location: 90503, Torrance
Submitted At: 1:48pm 04-21-23

My family patronize the Lighthouse and other pier plaza businesses at least 2-3 times a week - supporting Hermosa Beach businesses and contributing to the sales tax base. Please oppose the limits on the outdoor patios and wait lines. These uses have very minimal impact on the area residents and I cannot image a closed-door empty-patio plaza especially during summer evenings.

Jamie Lovelynn

Location: 90254, Hermosa Beach

Submitted At: 12:47pm 04-21-23

I fully support outdoor seating for restaurants. I specifically seek out restaurants and cafes where I can sit in the sun and enjoy the California sunshine. I believe it enhances the Hermosa experience to have the outdoor dining areas. I will truly be sad and disappointed if they are removed. Truthfully, I will spend less time at the restaurants if the outdoor area is removed. Thank you for your consideration.