

June 21, 2021

Mayor Massey and members of the Hermosa Beach City Council  
City of Hermosa Beach  
1315 Valley Boulevard  
Hermosa Beach, CA 90254

**Re: 14C—TEMPORARY EXPANDED OUTDOOR DINING AND RETAIL AND TEMPORARY LANE RECONFIGURATIONS IMPLEMENTED TO HELP BUSINESSES DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

Dear Mayor Massey and members of the City Council:

The City Council has demonstrated great leadership throughout the duration of a global pandemic including prudent action to support businesses while enhancing safety and livability with the pilot outdoor dining and retail expansion program and the “Shared Streets” lane reconfigurations.

We applaud the city’s efforts to support local businesses and create opportunities for people to walk and bike safely while adhering to physical distancing requirements during COVID-19 and ask for the extension of both programs that will undoubtedly continue to enhance livability for the community.

Beach Cities Health District has worked closely with the city of Hermosa Beach to enhance Living Streets concepts through our Blue Zones Project. We appreciate the collaboration with our city partners to elevate livability, health and wellbeing through projects and policies that promote active transportation, healthy and vibrant communities and enhanced social connections. As we have seen with the transformation of downtown Hermosa Beach, outdoor dining activates the public realm, using people-first street design to encourage more pedestrian activity and economic vitality along the corridor. The lane reconfigurations give space for all users of street, enhancing health through active transportation and improved traffic safety.

As we plan for life in our cities after the pandemic, we have an extraordinary opportunity to focus on some long-term goals of creating more livable, equitable and resilient neighborhoods and communities. We applaud the Council on aggressively exploring and acting on these types of living streets solutions and hope that you consider making these successful pilot projects a permanent fixture in Hermosa Beach. BCHD is committed to continuing to partner with the city on sustained efforts to promote healthier, more economically competitive, and more resilient communities.

Sincerely,



Tom Bakaly  
Chief Executive Officer  
Beach Cities Health District