

March 18, 2003

Honorable Mayor and Members of
the Hermosa Beach City Council

Regular Meeting of
March 25, 2003

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH AND CERT PROGRAMS REPORT

Recommendation: That the City Council review the attached material concerning both programs and the recommendations of both the Fire and Police Chiefs concerning the further implementation of these programs.

Background: The City Council, at its meeting of February 25, 2003, directed staff to return with a report on both the Neighborhood Watch Program operated by the Police Department and the implementation of a CERT Program that would be operated by the Fire Department. CERT stands for Citizens Emergency Response Team and was initially developed for communities to take care of themselves in the event of a disaster when first responders are overwhelmed or unable to respond due other reasons. There are reports on both programs attached to this staff report for your review and consideration that go into some detail about the programs and the cost of operating them. Each of these programs enlist the assistance of the community in accomplishing the goals of the programs and both require the expenditure of some resources in order for them to operate at a level that would be beneficial to the community.

If the City Council is interested in putting additional resources into these programs, I would suggest that it be done as part of the budget process when all of the services and programs are reviewed.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen R. Burrell
City Manager