

July 22, 2004

Honorable Mayor and Members of
The Hermosa Beach City Council

Regular meeting of
July 27, 2004

**RECOMMENDATION TO ESTABLISH CONTRACT WITH
THE WHALE RESCUE TEAM ORGANIZATION**

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that Council:

1. Authorize the City Manager to establish a contract with the Whale Rescue Team organization to conduct marine mammal rescues on the beaches of Hermosa Beach.

BACKGROUND

On occasion marine mammals such as seals come ashore on the beaches of Hermosa Beach. When these mammals are in distress it is important that they are rescued. The community services officers of the Police Department (our parking and animal control officers) have been trained in doing such rescues and have been doing these rescues for many years. There are approximately 3-5 rescues that occur per year.

ANALYSIS

Mr. Peter Wallerstein of the Whale Rescue Team has made an offer to the City to conduct these rescues at no cost. Mr. Wallerstein and the Whale Rescue Team are well known in the area for providing these services.

Staff recommends that a contract be developed with the Whale Rescue Team to provide these services. In the event that the Whale Rescue Team is unable to respond, our community services officers will still be able to conduct the rescue if needed.

Respectfully submitted,

Concur:

MICHAEL LAVIN, CHIEF OF POLICE
HERMOSA BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT

STEPHEN BURRELL
CITY MANAGER