

February 1, 2005

Honorable Mayor and Members of
the Hermosa Beach City Council

Regular Meeting of
February 8, 2005

WAVE/TRANSIT CHANGES

Recommendation:

That the City Council review and approve the changes to the WAVE Program as outlined in the subcommittee report and further modified at the meeting of December 14, 2004; direct the City Manager to inform the City of Redondo Beach of the City Council's action; and direct the City Manager to report back on the number of Hermosa Beach residents that sign up for the service by the second meeting in April.

Background:

This issue was last considered by the City Council at its December 14th meeting. No action was taken and staff was directed to return the issue for this to be decided by a full City Council. A copy of the staff report, City Council subcommittee report; and the minutes of the 12/14/04 meeting are attached.

The City of Redondo Beach has implemented its new transit routes and has scaled back the number of WAVE buses in service. These new transit lines are intended to provide service to the general public riders. The WAVE program will continue through 6/30/05 serving both seniors and disabled and the general public riders. The new WAVE type service will begin on July 1, 2005, and it will only provide service to senior and disabled riders that have been issued ID for this purpose. (As you are aware the City presently provides dial a ride service through the WAVE and our own taxi voucher program). These ID's will provide a good database for future decisions because we will know how many residents are using the system. We have a similar database for those Hermosa Beach residents that use the taxi voucher program. Sign-ups for Hermosa Beach residents to use the new WAVE service will be held on Wednesday, February 9th from 9:00am to 10:30am at the Clarke Building and thereafter at the Community Resources Dept. anytime.

The discussion at the December 14th meeting revolved around, on one hand, providing notice now that beginning on July 1st Hermosa Beach residents would be transferred to the taxi voucher program while, on the other hand, to wait until the ridership numbers were developed prior to making a decision to transfer our residents to the taxi voucher program. A third option that may be available for consideration would be to use the data on the number of users from the ID card sign ups for senior and disabled from Hermosa Beach residents to determine whether or not the City will participate in the program with Redondo or continue to provide the service only through the taxi voucher program. It would appear that we would have this information so the City Council could review it in April and decide whether to continue to offer both programs. This would allow time to make any transition to the taxi voucher program should that be the decision before June 30th.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen R. Burrell
City Manager