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**CITY OF HERMOSA BEACH MEMORANDUM**

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**TO:** STEPHEN BURRELL, CITY MANAGER  
**FROM:** LISA LYNN, COMMUNITY RESOURCES DIRECTOR  
**SUBJECT:** FORT LOTS O' FUN PARK REOPENING  
**DATE:** 10/5/2005

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**Friends of Parks and the City of Hermosa Beach present  
3<sup>rd</sup> annual PUMPKINS IN THE PARK  
FORT LOTS O' FUN PARK GRAND REOPENING**

Saturday, October 22, 2005  
6<sup>th</sup> Street & Prospect Avenue  
11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

- Ceremonial Ribbon Cutting
- BBQ Lunch
- Pumpkin Patch
- Trick-or-Treat Candies
- Popcorn Wagon
- Cookie Decorating
- Raffles, Games & Prizes

The Friends of the Parks (FOP) community foundation, comprised of Hermosa Beach residents, serves to provide needs assessment of Community Parks and Recreation Programs. Upon its formation in 2003, the organization deemed equipment replacement at Fort Lots O' Fun as a priority project. FOP raised \$10,000 toward equipment replacement and spearheaded the renovation project.

In coordination with Recreation Commissioners and City staff the organization combined fundraising events with opportunities for resident feedback regarding the project. In October of both 2003 and 2004, a 'Pumpkins in the Park' event held at Fort Lots O' Fun generated extensive feedback from neighboring residents. Both written and verbal commentary were documented and considered throughout the development phase. Predominant issues of concern were the provision of safe, aesthetically pleasing equipment, installation of rubber ground surfacing, and landscaping.

The Friends of Parks Board held a public meeting at the Community Center on November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2004 to select a park design that addressed residential wants and concerns. The new park design incorporates updated playground equipment, while maintaining green space for open play and includes a peripheral tricycle-track. This collaborative effort exemplifies the community spirit of Hermosa Beach and serves to enhance the quality of outdoor recreation experiences.