July 9, 2003

Honorable Chairman and Members of the   Regular Meeting of
Public Works Commission   July 16, 2003

RESIDENTS' REQUEST FOR THE EXEMPTION OF THE SOUTH SIDE OF 29TH STREET, BETWEEN INGLESIDE DRIVE AND MORNINGSIDE DRIVE, FROM THE SIDEWALK REQUIREMENT OF SUBSECTION (b) OF SECTION 12.08.010 GENERAL REQUIREMENT OF CHAPTER 12.08 STREET, SIDEWALK, CURB AND GUTTER CONSTRUCTION OF THE HERMOSA BEACH MUNICIPAL CODE

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Public Works Commission:

1. Not support the request for sidewalk exemption; and

2. Consider the use of alternative surfaces to concrete sidewalks.

Summary:

On July 2, 2003, staff received a petition from residents of 29th Street requesting that the south side of 29th Street, between Ingleside Drive and Morningside Drive, be exempt from requiring the construction of a sidewalk during a rebuild or remodel of private property. Below is a list of the reasons why they want the exemption:

- The south side of the 400 block of 29th Street consists of 14 properties of which 13 properties on the block have a mixture of grass, trees, flowers, natural stone and brick.

- The residents want to preserve the current character of the neighborhood.

- The residents feel that the neighborhood can only be enhanced by natural stone, brick, etc. mixed with the grass, trees and flowers rather than 4 feet of concrete on the small buffer of space between their properties and the curb.

The residents noted that at the October 10, 2000 meeting of the City Council, exemption from this requirement was approved for the north side of 29th Street at the same location.

Staff is open to considering use of brick, paving stones, decomposed granite, or other ADA accessible surfaces that provide safe pedestrian access, which is aesthetically appropriate for the residential neighborhood.

Attachments: 1. Residents' request with petition
                      2. Public Notice

Respectfully submitted,

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Richard D. Morgan, P.E.
Director of Public Works/City Engineer