

June 7, 2007

Honorable Mayor and Members of
the Hermosa Beach City Council

Regular Meeting of
June 12, 2007

**HERMOSA VERDE – COOL CITIES PROGRAM
SUBCOMMITTEE**

The following subcommittees working on the Cool Cities Program will be present to provide an update on their activities:

1. Green Building – Report attached.
2. Landscape
3. Other Subcommittee

The subcommittee reports will be forwarded as they are available or presented at the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephen R. Burrell
City Manager

Hermosa Beach Residential Green Building Committee
Monday, June 4, 2007, Meeting with City Manager Burrell Report

Committee Members in Attendance: Dency Nelson – Chair, Jeff Duclos, Michael Keegan, Larry Peha (Steve Burrell)

City Staff in Attendance: City Manager Steve Burrell, Acting Planning Director Ken Robertson

Visitor: Ray Waters

A quick review of just what “Cool Cities” is all about was suggested by the Chair. (Go to: www.hermosabch.org, click on “Living in Hermosa Beach,” and then click on “Cool Cities Program.”)

The Chair then offered a brief report of what we as a committee have discussed to date (May 19 Meeting Report). Discussion of the general objectives and specific proposals, including many presented in the May 19 Report, followed. Out of that discussion came these priorities:

1st priority, directed to the City Manager, is to have “Cool Cities” more prominently accessible on the city’s website. It was decided that it is more appropriate to have the information from this committee available on the city’s official website rather than the Hermosa Verde website, although a link to Hermosa Verde could be included. The “Cool Cities” Home Page should then provide a link to the “Hermosa Beach Residential Green Program,” following a format similar to the City of Santa Monica’s. The Chair offered the following links as examples:

www.smgreen.org/introduction/introduction.html

www.smgreen.org/introduction/introwhatbuildinggreen.html

www.smgreen.org/introduction/tableofrecommendedpractice.html

The other links suggested by the chair were:

www.globalgreen.org/gbrc/whygreen.htm

www.globalgreen.org/greenbuilding/resources/01_what_is_green_building.html

(The Chair had a conversation with Brandon McNearly of the City of Santa Monica’s Sustainable City Program, who has granted permission to use their language and format on our website.)

2nd priority is to deliver to the City Manager an initial list of additions to the Building Code for staff action ASAP. The list includes but is not limited to the following, in no particular order:

- 1) A requirement for tankless water heaters for all new construction and major remodels.
- 2) A requirement for a certain % of driveway, side yard, and patio surface to be permeable for runoff water retention.
- 3) A monetary incentive for solar PV installation within height limits for new construction.

- 4) An expedited building permit process for green builders as an incentive to adopt green building practices.
- 5) Incentives for recycling/re-using demolition materials.
- 6) An incentive for drought resistant and native landscaping.
- 7) A ban on wood-burning fireplaces (natural gas or alcohol OK).

Other items that were discussed and will be pursued:

-A posting at the Building Department's front desk notifying builders and architects of the "Cool Cities" program and directing them to the city's website.

-A pledge that builders and architects can sign onto, making a commitment to the program.

-A tag, flag, sticker, or sign awarded to projects that have adhered to the "Cool Cities" principles, identifying them as, perhaps, a "Hermosa Verde Sustainable Building Project."

The City Manager requested that the language for "Priority 1 – The Website" be submitted to him, and he would act on this immediately; and that the list for "Priority 2 – The Building Code" be provided ASAP. To that end, the Chair requests input from all committee members by Sunday, June 10, for submission to the City Manager by Monday, June 11. The Chair will also solicit from the committee members suggestions for the time and place for our next meeting.

Submitted to the Committee and All Interested Parties:

Dency Nelson – Chair of the Hermosa Beach Residential Green Building Committee
June 5, 2007