To achieve the intent, building should transform both the design and orientation as well as the public realm and streetscape within the Cypress area.

Cypress District

The Cypress District currently includes a range of professional design, light manufacturing, and warehousing uses, and is home to many of the locally renowned surfboard shapers. The City operations yard occupies a large portion of this area.

Future Vision

The intent is to transform both the building design and orientation as well as the public realm and streetscape within the Cypress District. This area is the creative, production and light industrial center of Hermosa Beach where ideas, spaces, and creativity are easily shared. The Cypress District includes a variety of flexible use spaces, co-working offices, and creative or “maker” industries.

Intended Distribution of Land Uses

The Cypress District is exclusively designated for creative light industrial uses, with preference toward production uses aligned with green economy. While the area should allow some retail uses, the focus is on specialty trade services and must be accessory to the design or production uses. The Cypress District should support the development of new uses that will bring a wide range of high-quality jobs accessible to people with a variety of skill levels, including research and development and light industrial uses.

Desired Form and Character

Building Design and Orientation

- This area should be comprised of industrial buildings or lofts with entries that are visible from the street.
- The development or use of existing buildings to serve as incubators, co-working space, or other creative sharing spaces should be encouraged.
- Greater flexibility in the application of aesthetic standards should be provided to encourage artistic expression and creation of unique public spaces.
- Rooftops should provide green space, renewable energy and decks.
- Adjacent residences should be buffered through the use of landscaping, setbacks, or other techniques from businesses which produce noise, odors, high traffic volumes, light, or glare.
Public Realm Design

- Cypress Avenue, with enhanced streetscape design, is an ideal space for community-oriented art walks or sidewalk sales.
- Common gathering areas and meeting spaces are provided to facilitate the sharing and exchanging of ideas.
- Unique signage, decals, or artworks should pay homage to the area’s history as a surfboard manufacturing center.
- Artistic flair is provided through building design, signage, and murals to enliven the area.
- Cypress Avenue should be used as a space for public gathering and special events through the redesign of the narrow right of way as a shared street for all modes of travel that is comfortably scaled and designed for lower speeds.
- Parking is provided behind or to the side of buildings via driveways and alleys, or in small-scale parking structures to serve the district and nearby public facilities.