The beach and coastline access are a unique and important part of Hermosa’s identity. This tour will take us through the aspects of the natural and built environment that enhance coastal access, the amenities that provide a quality experience for residents and visitors, and protect us from coastal hazards such as flooding, tsunami, or sea level rise.

The city’s culture and local economy thrive on year-round recreational activities and special events that take advantage of the beautiful views and scenery, but must be balanced with resident desires to limit nuisances associated with such events.

Access to the coastline is a key feature in Hermosa. The Strand and 22 Walk Streets provide a safe and comfortable space to walk or bike, with more than 1,000 people traveling along The Strand per hour on a weekend afternoon. The nearby parking supply and visitor-serving uses provide opportunity for everyone to access the California coast.

While an important part of Hermosa’s identity, the beach and coastline are a natural feature subject to constant change and vulnerable to hazards that may be exacerbated in the coming years due to sea level rise. This tour will discuss the City’s efforts to protect our coastline and community from coastal hazards.
6.8 High quality connections. Support high quality connections to adjacent jurisdictions along The Strand to promote safe and efficient circulation of pedestrians, bicyclists, and other non-motorized uses.

6.9 Maximize open space. Create additional parkettes, open space, and pedestrian amenities along The Strand.

6.10 Paid parking. Strive to provide parking payment systems that respond to demand and improve ease of use.

Recreation/Beach Amenities

7.1 Beach maintenance. Maintain the beach and ocean as natural recreational resources, not only for the city but also for the Southern California region.

7.2 Amenity upkeep. Continue to update, replace, and add new public restrooms, water fountains, and other City-maintained beach facilities on an ongoing basis.

7.3 Recreational asset. Consider and treat the beach as a recreational asset and never as a commercial enterprise.

7.4 Beach structures. Restrict buildings and structures on the beach with regard to size and number consistent with current access, safety, and beach use.

7.5 Preferred recreational uses. Consider devoting certain portions of the beach to different preferred recreational uses while providing access for all users and meeting the recreation needs of visitors and residents.

7.6 Recreational equipment. Limit children’s recreational equipment to slides, swings, and climbing apparatus of a non-obstructive design.

Efficient Parking Management

Mobility Goal 4. A parking system that meets the parking needs and demand of residents, visitors, and employees in an efficient and cost-effective manner.

4.1 Shared parking. Facilitate park-once and shared parking policies among private developments that contribute to a shared parking supply and interconnect with adjacent parking facilities.

4.2 Encourage Coastal access. Ensure parking facilities and costs of such facilities are not a barrier to beach access by the public.

4.3 Reduce impacts. Reduce splitrow parking impacts due to seasonal and event-based demands.

4.4 Sufficient bicycle parking. Require a sufficient supply of bicycle parking to be provided in conjunction with new vehicle parking facilities by both public and private developments.

4.5 Sufficient bicycle parking. Require a sufficient supply of bicycle parking to be provided in conjunction with new vehicle parking facilities by both public and private developments.

6.4 Transit access. Coordinate with regional agencies and neighboring jurisdictions to improve regional and local transit access to beach access points.

6.5 Bicycle and pedestrian access. Maximize bicycle and pedestrian access and safety getting to and around the Coastal Zone through infrastructure and wayfinding improvements.

6.6 Universal access. Provide resources that improve accessibility to the beach for all visitors.

6.7 Minimal impact to access. Require new development and substantial redevelopment projects to minimize impacts to existing public access to and along the shoreline.

6.8 High quality connections. Support high quality connections to adjacent jurisdictions along The Strand to promote safe and efficient circulation of pedestrians, bicyclists, and other non-motorized uses.

6.9 Maximize open space. Create additional parkettes, open space, and pedestrian amenities along The Strand.

6.10 Paid parking. Strive to provide parking payment systems that respond to demand and improve ease of use.

Special Events

Parks + Open Space Goal 8. Special events are balanced to support community recreation and economic development without restricting coastal access or impacting the community.

8.1 Cumulative special events limit. Limit the number of days during summer months (between Memorial Day and Labor Day) that the beach may be used for special events.

8.2 Off-peak season events. Incentivize event producers to host special events during off-peak seasons through reduced fees or accommodating location/reserved area preferences.

8.3 Community-focused events. Prioritize the approval of special events that enhance the sense of community, improve economic vitality, and foster a healthy environment and active lifestyles.

8.4 Family-focused events. Prioritize events that are family-focused or appeal to a wide segment of community members.

8.5 Volleyball courts. Protect volleyball courts for public use and continue to limit the number of simultaneous volleyball special events occurring north and south of the Pier.

8.6 Special event impact fees. Require special event applicants to pay a fair share of costs associated with impacts on City services and facilities required to support special events.

8.7 Public access. Ensure that special events do not impede public access to the beach, the Pier, and The Strand.

8.8 Event transportation. Enhance alternative transportation options during special events to improve public access to special events as well as other portions of the beach.

8.9 Special event review process. Employ a multi-departmental special event review for large events.

8.10 Sustainable events. Improve sustainability and environmental protection associated with special events.

8.11 Safe events. Identify evacuation routes and capacity levels to maximize safety during large events.

Sea Level Rise + Coastal Hazards

Public Safety Goal 2. The anticipated effects of sea level rise are understood, prepared for, and successfully mitigated.

2.1 Integrate resilience. Integrate resilience to anticipated sea level rise impacts into project designs whenrepairing and replacing aging infrastructure.

2.2 Mitigate impacts. Require new development and redevelopment projects to consider and mitigate relevant sea level rise impacts.

2.3 Enhance awareness. Enhance local understanding of sea level rise and keep decision-makers and the community aware of potential impacts based on best available science.

2.4 Provide public information. Provide public information describing new flooding risks under a 55-inch sea level rise scenario in areas previously not affected by flooding.

2.5 Maintain beach widths. Maintain current beach widths under changing sea level conditions.

2.6 Consider sea level rise. Consider the combined effects of sea level rise when evaluating potential tsunami and storm surge impacts.

2.7 Support regional approaches. Support regional approaches to sediment management, beach replenishment, and adaptive shoreline protection to allow Hermosa Beach to voice its needs, allow for coordination with neighboring jurisdictions, and identify creative finance mechanisms to continue the replenishment program.

These are just a highlight of relevant goals and policies. Visit the city's website for full draft of plan Hermosa http://www.hermosasbch.org/index.aspx?page=767