APPENDIX "A"

COASTAL ZONE

#### APPENDIX A

## HERMOSA BEACH COASTAL ZONE

# Hermosa Beach - Physical Description

The City of Hermosa Beach, California, a general law city, is located approximately 17 miles southwest of downtown Los Angeles on the shore of the Pacific Ocean. Bounded by Redondo Beach on the south and east, and Manhattan Beach on the north, Hermosa Beach provides a vital link in the South Bay communities. Pacific Coast Highway (State Highway 1) traverses the City north to south and acts as the major vehicle access route to and through the City.

The basic development of the City occurred in the early part of the century and resulted in the construction of narrow irregular streets and small 25-30 foot substandard lots. Through the past 30 years, Hermosa Beach has reflected the residential expansions prevalent in Southern California; however, most development has been with multiple rather than single family dwellings. As a result, Hermosa Beach is the most densely populated city in Southern California. The City has a population of more than 21,000 people in an area of only 1.3 square miles. Since its inception, the town has grown from a small summer vacation village to a full service urban community.

### Background

In 1972, the people of California passed the Coastal Initiative which provided the establishment of the California Coastal Commission. In 1976, this agency was renewed and instructed the California State Legislature to assist local coastal communities develop a master plan for the preservation and enhancement of its environs. This plan, designed as the Local Coastal Plan (LCP), is to be undertaken by the City, in accordance with the California Coastal Act of 1976, to establish policies for the preservation of its environment.

Through a review process by the City, the South Coast Regional Coastal Commission, and the State Coastal Commission a work program was established for preparing the Local Coastal Plan. The tasks ennumerated in the work program relate only to the coastal issues within the designated coastal study area of the City (see Figure 1). These issues basically are: access, primarily for parking and housing availability; recreation, concerned with the regional importance of the City's coastal amenities; development, potential adverse or beneficial development actions open to the City; and various complimentary tasks most important of which is public participation.

#### Coastal Zone

The Coastal Zone within Hermosa Beach is located roughly between the City boundaries on the north and south and from Valley Drive, west of the beach. The Zone, divided into 3 Areas (see Figure 1), represents approximately one-half of the City's total land area.

AREA III COASTAL ZONE AREA II CALIFORNIA 1980 Boundary-CITY HERMOSA

FIGURE I