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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **CITY OF HERMOSA BEACH PARTNERS WITH BEACH CITIES HEALTH DISTRICT, SURFRIDER FOUNDATION TO HOST PUBLIC FORUM ON SMOKING IMPACTS**

**HERMOSA BEACH, Calif.** - (June 21, 2016) - The City of Hermosa Beach, in partnership with Beach Cities Health District (BCHD) and the South Bay Chapter of the Surfrider Foundation, will host a Public Forum on **Wednesday, June 29th from 7-8:30 PM in Council Chambers** (City Hall, 1315 Valley Drive).

The informational forum will seek to explore the health and environmental impacts of smoking in Hermosa Beach, as well as various strategies that cities have implemented to curb these impacts and ensure safe and healthy public spaces.

The forum will be moderated by Lauren Nakano, director of BCHD's Blue Zones Project, and will feature five professional panelists, each representing a unique perspective on smoking-related impacts at the local level: from environmental and health issues to enforcement and business community challenges. The City of Hermosa Beach would like to invite the South Bay community to join us as we strive towards a healthier future. Light refreshments will be provided.

The City of Hermosa Beach currently prohibits smoking in various public places, with an emphasis on the downtown area, the beach, The Strand, public parking lots, the Pier and Pier Plaza. Enforcement of this ordinance is currently in effect. The Hermosa Beach City Council will consider expanding the existing smoking ordinance to a citywide ban at its July 12<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Questions relating to the public forum should be directed to Shawn Park at (310) 318-0213 or email at [spark@hermosabch.org](mailto:spark@hermosabch.org).

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### **About Hermosa Beach**

Founded in 1907, Hermosa Beach is known as "The Best Little Beach City." Named "Southern California's Greenest City" for its work to protect the environment, it is a thriving community of some 20,000 residents located on the southern end of Santa Monica Bay in Los Angeles County, and its beaches have been ranked among the best in the world. To learn more, please visit [www.hermosabch.org](http://www.hermosabch.org).