

4.7.1 INTRODUCTION

This resource section evaluates the potential environmental effects related to hazards and hazardous materials from implementation of PLAN Hermosa. Natural hazards related to flooding, tsunamis, and sea level rise are addressed in Section 4.8, Hydrology and Water Quality, seismic and other geotechnical hazards are addressed in Section 4.5, Geology and Soils, and hazards related to climate change are addressed in Section 4.6, Greenhouse Gas Emissions. The analysis includes a review of state hazardous materials databases, hazards related to schools, and emergency response procedures related to hazardous materials. PLAN Hermosa Public Safety Element policies and implementation actions ensure new development, businesses, and public safety are prepared for emergencies and the potential release of hazards or hazardous materials in the planning area.

NOP Comments: No comments were received in response to the Notice of Preparation (NOP) addressing hazards or hazardous materials. Comments included written letters and oral comments provided at the NOP scoping meeting.

Reference Information: Information for this chapter is based on numerous sources, including the PLAN Hermosa Technical Background Report and other publicly available documents. The Technical Background Report prepared for the project is attached to this EIR as **Appendix C**.

4.7.2 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

Appendix C-10 describes the regional and local conditions related to hazards and hazardous materials. Key findings of the environmental setting are presented below.

HAZARDOUS SITES

A hazardous material is any material that, due to its quantity, concentration, or physical or chemical characteristics, poses a significant present or potential hazard to human health and safety or to the environment if released. Hazardous materials include but are not limited to hazardous substances, hazardous wastes, and any material that a business or local implementing agency has a reasonable basis to believe would be injurious to the health and safety of persons or would be harmful to the environment if released.

The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) maintains the GeoTracker database, which provides information to easily identify the location of a hazardous waste site and details regarding the type of contamination and remediation action. In 2014, when the Technical Background Report included in **Appendix C** was compiled, GeoTracker reported one leaking underground storage tank (LUST) site in the planning area (SWRCB 2014). As of 2015, GeoTracker identified the site's status as "completed – case closed," meaning there are no active LUST sites in the planning area (SWRCB 2015). Including the site mentioned above, GeoTracker identifies 15 LUST sites that have completed cleanup and monitoring activities (SWRCB 2015).

In addition to the information sources listed above, the E&B Oil Drilling and Production Project Final Environmental Impact Report certified in 2014 identifies the City Maintenance Yard at 555 6th Street as contaminated from historical uses, with existing lead and total petroleum hydrocarbon (TPH) contamination in the northeast corner of the yard and extending onto the property to the immediate north. Ten of the 73 soil samples taken at the site exceeded Regional Water Quality Control Board guidelines for TPH. Six of the samples exceeded the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 9 Industrial Regional Screening Levels for lead. In addition, a series of groundwater borings conducted in 2013 found the presence of TPH, lead, barium, and arsenic in the groundwater below the yard that exceeded the Maximum Contaminant Levels established for drinking water by the Regional Water Quality Control Board (City of Hermosa Beach 2014).

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SCHOOLS

Please refer to Section 4.13, Public Services, Community Services, and Utilities, for additional information regarding schools in the planning area.

AIRPORT HAZARDS

No airports are located in the city. The nearest airports are Torrance Airport 5.4 miles to the southeast, Los Angeles International Airport 5.5 miles to the north, and Hawthorne Municipal Airport 5.9 miles to the northeast.

TRANSPORTATION OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) provides a summary of all registered routes for transportation of hazardous material in the state. As of February 2014, there were no registered routes in Hermosa Beach (DTSC 2015). However, the City has designated truck routes that can be used for transportation of hazardous materials. Such major transportation include Pacific Coast Highway (State Route 1) and portions of Pier Avenue, Valley Drive, Herondo Street, and Artesia Boulevard. When acutely toxic hazardous materials are transported, the California Highway Patrol must be notified; the Hermosa Beach Police Department and the Hermosa Beach Fire Department must also be notified if city streets are used. The City does not designate specific haul routes for hazardous materials.

FIRE HAZARDS

Public Resources Code Sections 4201–4204 and Government Code Sections 51175–51189 require identification of fire hazard severity zones in California. Fire hazard severity zones are modeled based on vegetation, topography, weather, fuel load type, and ember production and movement within the area in question. Fire hazard severity zones are defined as moderate, high, and very high fire hazard severity by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire). Fire prevention areas considered to be under state jurisdiction are referred to as state responsibility areas, while areas under local jurisdiction are called local responsibility areas.” Cal Fire (2007) has not identified any fire hazard severity zones in the planning area.

4.7.3 REGULATORY SETTING

Federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and policies pertain to hazards and hazardous materials in the planning area. They provide the regulatory framework for addressing all aspects of hazards and hazardous materials that would be affected by implementation of PLAN Hermosa. The regulatory setting for hazards and hazardous materials is discussed in detail in **Appendix C-10**. Key regulations used to reduce potential impacts of the proposed project are summarized below.

FEDERAL

- **Resource Conservation and Recovery Act:** At the federal level, the principal agency regulating the generation, transport, and disposal of hazardous substances is the EPA, under the authority of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). The RCRA established an all-encompassing federal regulatory program for hazardous substances that is administered by the EPA. Under the act, the EPA regulates the generation, transportation, treatment, storage, and disposal of hazardous substances.
- **Hazardous Materials Transport Regulations:** The US Department of Transportation (USDOT) regulates transportation of hazardous materials between states. The USDOT Federal Railroad Administration enforces the Hazardous Materials Regulations, which are promulgated by the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration for rail

transportation. These regulations include requirements that railroads and other transporters of hazardous materials, as well as shippers, have and adhere to security plans and also train employees involved in offering, accepting, or transporting hazardous materials on both safety and security matters.

- **Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act:** Congress enacted the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, commonly known as Superfund, in 1980. The act established prohibitions and requirements concerning closed and abandoned hazardous waste sites; provided for liability of persons responsible for releases of hazardous waste at these sites; and established a trust fund to provide for cleanup when no responsible party could be identified
- **Regulation of Polychlorinated Biphenyls and Lead-Based Paint:** The Toxic Substances Control Act of 1976 (Title 15, United States Code, Section 2605) banned the manufacture, processing, distribution, and use of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB) in enclosed systems. The EPA Region 9 PCB Program regulates remediation of polychlorinated biphenyls in several states, including California. The Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992 amended the Toxic Substances Control Act to include Title IV, Lead Exposure Reduction. The EPA regulates renovation activities that could create lead-based paint hazards in target housing and child-occupied facilities and has established standards for lead-based paint hazards and lead dust cleanup levels in most pre-1978 housing and child-occupied facilities.

STATE

- **California Hazardous Materials Release Response Plans and Inventory Law:** The California Hazardous Materials Release Response Plans and Inventory Law of 1985 (Business Plan Act) requires hazardous materials business plans to be prepared and inventories of hazardous materials to be disclosed, including an inventory of the hazardous materials handled, facility floor plans showing where hazardous materials are stored, an emergency response plan, and provisions for employee safety and emergency response training (California Health and Safety Code, Division 20, Chapter 6.95, Article 1).
- **Hazardous Waste Control Act:** The Hazardous Waste Control Act is codified in California Code of Regulations Title 26, which describes requirements for the proper management of hazardous wastes. The act created the state's hazardous waste management program, which is similar to but more stringent than the federal RCRA program.
- **Government Code Section 65962.5 (Cortese List):** The provisions of Government Code Section 65962.5 are commonly referred to as the Cortese List. The Cortese List is a planning document used by the state and local agencies to provide information about hazardous materials release sites. Government Code Section 65962.5 requires the California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA) to develop an updated Cortese List annually, at minimum. The DTSC is responsible for a portion of the information contained in the Cortese List. Other state and local government agencies are required to provide additional hazardous material release information for the list.
- **California Emergency Response Plan:** California has developed an emergency response plan to coordinate emergency services provided by federal, state, and local governments and private agencies. Response to hazardous material incidents is one part of this plan. The plan is managed by the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services, which coordinates the responses of other agencies, including Cal/EPA, the California Highway Patrol, the Regional Water Quality Control Board, and the Los Angeles County Emergency Services Program.

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- **California Coastal Act:** The California Coastal Act of 1972 created the California Coastal Commission to enact policies and standards in its coastal development permit decisions. Among many issues, the California Coastal Commission and the coastal development permit program protect against oil and hazardous substance spills and regulate the disposal of hazardous substances at sea.

LOCAL

- **Certified Uniform Program Agency:** The Los Angeles County Fire Department Health Hazardous Materials Division is the designated Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA) for Hermosa Beach. The CUPA was created by the California legislature to minimize the number of business inspections and fees imposed on businesses.
- **City of Hermosa Beach Local Hazard Mitigation Plan:** The City's Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, last updated in 2005, meets the requirements of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000. The act requires local governments to prepare plans that identify hazards and risks within a community, and create appropriate mitigation. The purpose of the plan is to integrate hazard mitigation strategies into the City's daily activities and programs.
- **City of Hermosa Beach Emergency Operations Plan:** The City's Emergency Operations Plan addresses Hermosa Beach's planned response to emergencies associated with natural disasters, technological incidents, and national security emergencies (City of Hermosa Beach 2011). It provides an overview of operational concepts, identifies components of the City's emergency management organization in the Standardized Emergency Management System and National Incident Management System, and describes the overall responsibilities of the federal, state, and county entities and the City for protecting life and property and ensuring the overall well-being of the population.

4.7.4 IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

THRESHOLDS OF SIGNIFICANCE

For the purposes of the EIR, impacts on hazards and hazardous materials would be considered significant if adoption and implementation of PLAN Hermosa would:

- 1) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials.
- 2) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and/or accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment.
- 3) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school.
- 4) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, create a significant hazard to the public or the environment
- 5) For a project located within an airport land use plan, result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area.
- 6) For a project locate within 2 miles of a private airstrip, result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area.
- 7) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan.

- 8) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires.

No sites in Hermosa Beach are included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5. There is no airport located in the planning area, and the city is not in a fire hazard severity zone as identified by Cal Fire; therefore, the EIR does not evaluate impacts 4, 5, and 6.

ANALYSIS APPROACH

The impact analysis is based on the likely consequences of PLAN Hermosa implementation compared to existing conditions. The following analysis of impacts on hazards and hazardous materials is qualitative and based on available hazards and hazardous materials information for the planning area. The analysis assumes that all future and existing development in the planning area would comply with applicable laws, regulations, design standards, and plans.

DRAFT PLAN HERMOSA POLICIES AND IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS

PLAN Hermosa policies and implementation actions that address potential hazards and hazardous materials include the following:

Policies

Governance Element

- **7.5 Evaluation and disclosure.** Require an evaluation and disclosure (e.g. Health checklists, Health Impact Assessments) of environmental and health impacts or benefits for major discretionary projects.

Public Safety Element

- **3.1 Hazardous material setbacks.** Restrict the storage and transport of hazardous materials only to areas where risks to residents are adequately minimized through setbacks or other measures.
- **3.2 Hazardous material incident response.** Coordinate with allied agencies to prepare for and respond to hazardous materials incidents.
- **3.3 Use, storage, and transport.** Require businesses that use, store, or transport hazardous materials to ensure that adequate measures are taken to protect public health and safety.
- **3.4 Hazardous materials in coastal zone.** Restrict the siting of new uses involving hazardous materials in the Coastal Zone to coastal-related industrial uses in the Cypress District.
- **3.5 Safe disposal practices.** Maintain City's website and other outlets with information regarding the safe handling and disposal of household chemicals.
- **4.1 Public awareness.** Increase public awareness of hazards, emergency response, and recovery through updated evacuation routes and informational signage.
- **4.2 Promote community-based programs.** Promote community-based programs in fire safety and emergency preparedness, including neighborhood-level programs and programs with businesses.
- **4.3 SEMS and NIMS training.** Increase City employee capacity through the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) and the National Incident Management System (NIMS) compliant training and Emergency Operations Center (EOC) drills to identify hazards, and assist in emergency preparedness, response, and recovery.

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- **4.4 Utilize City media resources.** Establish communication protocols and utilize City media resources to provide information prior to, during, or after events posing risk to community health, safety, and welfare.
- **4.5 Responsive neighborhood groups.** Encourage neighborhood groups to identify, consider, and prepare for the needs of neighbors with access and functional needs to adequately respond to disasters.
- **4.6 Vulnerable populations.** Establish an emergency plan to take care of vulnerable populations, such as children, the elderly, and tourists during hazardous events.

Implementation Actions

- SAFETY-16. Include updated hazardous materials considerations in regular Emergency Operation Plan updates and work with the County of Los Angeles to update local Hazardous Materials Area Plans on a regular basis.
- SAFETY-17. Provide information, opportunities, and incentives to the community for the proper disposal of toxic materials to avoid environmental degradation to the air, soil, and water resources from toxic materials contamination.
- SAFETY-18. Designate an emergency response team to monitor and respond to regional disasters such as oil spills and other shoreline disasters. Such a team must maintain an emergency response plan that includes coordination with other agencies and jurisdictions in the region on initial response, aid, and recovery.
- SAFETY-24. Periodically update the emergency operations plan.
- SAFETY-25. Periodically update the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan and concurrently amend the Public Safety Element to maintain eligibility for maximum grant funding.
- SAFETY-29. Identify hazard-specific evacuation routes and share with the public, businesses, and other government agencies.

IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

IMPACT 4.7-1 *Would PLAN Hermosa Create a Significant Hazard to the Public and Environment Through the Transport, Use, or Disposal of Hazardous Materials? Implementation of PLAN Hermosa would guide future development in the city in a manner that could result in the public's exposure to hazardous materials from increased transport, use, or accidental release of hazardous materials. Compliance with existing federal and state regulations and implementation of PLAN Hermosa policies would reduce risks of accidents associated with the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials to a **less than significant** level.*

PLAN Hermosa would guide future development and reuse projects in the city. New development could result in increased transport, use, storage, and disposal of hazardous materials in the planning area. Of particular concern are facilities that would handle hazardous materials such as light industrial uses, gas stations, automotive repair shops, and dry cleaners. Facilities developed consistent with PLAN Hermosa that would use hazardous materials on-site would be required to obtain permits and comply with appropriate regulatory agency standards designed to avoid hazardous waste releases and protect public health.

The transport, use, and storage of hazardous materials would be required to comply with all applicable local, state, and federal regulations as noted above. Facilities that use hazardous materials are required to obtain permits and comply with appropriate regulatory agency standards designed to avoid hazardous waste releases. Federally, the Resource Conservation and Recovery

Act gives the EPA the authority to control the generation, transportation, treatment, storage, and disposal of hazardous waste.

Additionally, the City will continue to enforce disclosure laws that require users, producers, and transporters of hazardous materials and wastes to clearly identify the materials that they store, use, or transport, and to notify the appropriate agencies in the event of a violation. By recognizing these hazards and ensuring that an educated public is able to work with City officials to minimize risks associated with hazardous materials in the urban environment, safe conditions would be maintained throughout the planning area.

The amount of hazardous materials transported through the planning area on roadways, local routes, and Pacific Coast Highway (State Route 1) may increase as a result of PLAN Hermosa implementation. The US Department of Transportation governs the transportation of hazardous materials. The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration issues regulations concerning highway routing of hazardous materials, including hazardous materials endorsements for a commercial driver's license, highway hazardous material safety permits, and financial responsibility requirements for motor carriers of hazardous materials.

The following PLAN Hermosa Public Safety Element policies recognize and account for potential risks associated with hazardous materials and support compliance with and enforcement of state and federal hazardous materials regulations. Policy 3.1 ensures that the storage and transport of hazardous materials is restricted only to areas where risks to residents are adequately minimized. Policy 3.2 directs the City to coordinate with allied agencies to prepare for and respond to hazardous materials incidents. Policy 3.3 requires businesses that use, store, or transport hazardous materials to ensure that adequate measures are taken to protect public health and safety. Policy 3.4 directs the City to restrict the siting of new uses involving hazardous materials in the Coastal Zone to coastal-related industrial uses in the Cypress District. Policy 3.5 directs the City to maintain its website and other outlets with information regarding the safe handling and disposal of household chemicals. Policy 4.1 directs the City to increase awareness of hazards, emergency response, and recovery. Finally, implementation action SAFETY-16 directs the City to work with the County of Los Angeles to update local Hazardous Materials Area Plans on a regular basis.

Continued compliance with and enforcement of existing federal, state, and local regulations concerning the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials, supported by implementation of PLAN Hermosa policies and implementation actions, would reduce potential impacts to a **less than significant** level.

Mitigation Measures

None required.

IMPACT 4.7-2 *Would PLAN Hermosa Create a Significant Hazard to the Public or Environment Through Accidental Release of Hazardous Materials into the Environment? Implementation of PLAN Hermosa would guide future development in the city in a manner that could lead to accidental release of hazardous materials into the environment. Compliance with existing federal and state regulations and implementation of PLAN Hermosa policies would reduce risks associated with the accidental release of hazardous materials. However, development of the City's Maintenance Yard or other sites in the city could release known or unknown hazardous materials, which would be **potentially significant**.*

Known Contamination

As described above there is only one location of known contamination in Hermosa Beach, the City's Maintenance Yard. The contaminated site is currently operational and is not included in the

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GeoTracker database. Given the history of the site, which has been used in a similar capacity since the late nineteenth century, potential contamination could come from a number of activities related to the function of the site, including oil changes and fleet maintenance, storage of materials such as paint or cleaning materials, and collection of waste or debris from sites throughout the city. These are common activities at maintenance yards, and it is not uncommon for these sites to be further evaluated for potential contamination. According to PLAN Hermosa, land uses allowed on and around the City Maintenance Yard would be light industrial. Nonetheless, any construction on the site that would entail uses for commercial or residential purposes would require remediation and cleanup activities be implemented as outlined in 40 CFR Part 260, Hazardous Remediation Waste Management Requirements. Because development could potentially take place on the existing City Maintenance Yard site, impacts would be **potentially significant**.

Unknown Contamination

Future development that would take place in the city under PLAN Hermosa could encounter unknown hazardous materials contamination. PLAN Hermosa Public Safety Element policies recognize and account for potential risks associated with accidental release of hazardous materials into the environment. Policy 3.5 directs the City to maintain its website and other outlets with information regarding the safe handling and disposal of household chemicals, while Policy 4.1 directs the City to increase awareness of hazards, emergency response, and recovery. Policy 4.4 would establish communication protocols and utilize City media resources to provide information prior to, during, or after events posing risk to community health safety, and welfare, such as exposure to unknown contaminants. Implementation action SAFETY-16 directs the City to work with the County of Los Angeles to update local Hazardous Materials Area Plans on a regular basis. Implementation action SAFETY-18 designates an emergency response team to monitor and respond to regional disasters such as oil spills and other shoreline disasters.

Compliance with existing regulations concerning the upset and/or accidental release of hazardous materials, supported by implementation of PLAN Hermosa policies, would ensure that the general public would not be exposed to any unusual or excessive risks related to accidental upset and/or release of hazardous materials into the environment. Nonetheless, unknown contamination during construction activities could be discovered and this impact is **potentially significant**.

Mitigation Measures

- MM 4.7-2a** For any development activities that would encroach upon or take place at the City's Maintenance Yard, the City shall require the preparation and implementation of a Human Health Risk Assessment (HHRA) and a Remedial Action Plan (RAP) to be approved by the appropriate agencies.
- MM 4.7-2b** Future discretionary projects involving the use of hazardous materials that may be accidentally released or encountered during construction shall be required to implement the following procedures:
- Stop all work in the vicinity of any discovered contamination or release.
 - Identify the scope and immediacy of the problem.
 - Coordinate with responsible agencies (Department of Toxic Substances Control, Regional Water Quality Control Board, or US Environmental Protection Agency).

- Conduct the necessary investigation and remediation activities to resolve the situation before continuing construction work as required by state and local regulations.

Significance After Mitigation

Implementation of mitigation measures **MM 4.7-2a** and **MM 4.7-2b** would ensure that accidental release of hazardous materials into the environment, either from redevelopment at the City Maintenance Yard or from unknown contamination, would be remediated in accordance with state and local regulations in a manner that would protect public health during construction activities and later use of the site. Project impacts would be reduced to a **less than significant** level.

IMPACT 4.7-3 *Emission or Handling of Hazardous or Acutely Hazardous Materials, Substances, or Waste within One-Quarter Mile of an Existing or Proposed School. PLAN Hermosa implementation would guide future development in the city. Such development, which could emit or handle hazardous waste, could occur in the proximity of new or existing schools. Compliance with existing regulations would reduce the risk of emissions or the handling of hazardous materials near schools to a **less than significant** level.*

PLAN Hermosa implementation could lead to development that would emit or handle hazardous materials within a quarter mile of a school. Schools located in the city are mostly surrounded by residential development, and future development under PLAN Hermosa concentrates on both residential and nonresidential development. Hazardous materials handled in residential neighborhoods are typical of household hazardous materials like cleaners and yard maintenance materials, and are usually in small quantities that do not pose threats to school uses.

The California Department of Education enforces school siting requirements through its School Site Selection and Approval Guide, and based on these requirements, new school facilities would not be constructed within one-quarter mile of facilities emitting or handling materials. CEQA Guidelines Section 15186, School Facilities, requires that school projects, as well as projects proposed to be located near schools, examine potential health impacts resulting from exposure to hazardous materials, wastes, and substances. Furthermore, permitting requirements for individual hazardous material handlers or emitters, including enforcement of Public Resources Code Section 21151.4, would require evaluation and notification where potential hazardous materials handling and emissions could occur in proximity to existing schools.

Compliance with existing regulations for both known and unknown contamination as well as handling of hazardous materials, as outlined above in the Regulatory Setting subsection, would minimize impacts from implementation of PLAN Hermosa to a **less than significant** level.

Mitigation Measures

None required.

IMPACT 4.7-4 *Would PLAN Hermosa Cause Interference with an Adopted Emergency Response Plan? Implementation of PLAN Hermosa would guide future development and reuse projects in the city in a manner that would ensure conformance with countywide emergency response programs and continued cooperation with emergency response service providers. Therefore, this impact would be **less than significant**.*

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PLAN Hermosa implementation could generate additional peak traffic conditions that could interfere with emergency response and evacuation plans, while new development could create new hazards in the city that would require emergency response personnel in case of a man-made or natural disaster.

The Los Angeles County Fire Department (LACFD) Health Hazardous Materials Division is the Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA) for the City of Hermosa Beach, with the Hermosa Beach Fire Department (HBFD) authorized as a participating agency. The LACFD and the HBFD work together to implement the City's Emergency Operations Plan that addresses Hermosa Beach's planned response to emergencies.

The City's Local Hazard Mitigation Plan includes mitigation measures to ensure emergency response in the city is done in a coordinated manner. For example, the plan includes measures to continually assess emergency response operations, gather data regarding hazards in the city to enhance emergency response plans, and continue local mutual aid agreements for emergency response with other jurisdictions. Additionally, the City maintains an Emergency Preparedness Advisory Commission and operates a Community Emergency Response Team to educate and prepare the public to respond and survive in case of natural or man-made disasters.

PLAN Hermosa Public Safety Element policies and actions support implementation of the City's Emergency Operations Plan and Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. For example, Policy 4.1 directs the City to increase public awareness of hazards, emergency response, and recovery, while Policy 4.2 promotes community-based programs in fire safety and emergency preparedness, including neighborhood-level programs and programs with businesses. Policy 4.3 increases City employee capacity through SEMS- and NIMS-compliant training and EOC drills to identify hazards and assist in emergency preparedness, response, and recovery. Policy 4.4 would establish communication protocols and utilize City media resources to provide information prior to, during, or after events posing risk to community health safety, and welfare. Policy 4.5 encourages neighborhood groups to identify, consider, and prepare for the needs of neighbors with access and functional needs to adequately respond to disasters. Implementation action SAFETY-29 directs the City to identify hazard-specific evacuation routes and share them with the public, businesses, and other government agencies.

Implementation of PLAN Hermosa policies and programs as outlined above and compliance with existing federal, state, and local laws and regulations would minimize impacts on emergency response and evacuation plans from new development. Therefore, PLAN Hermosa implementation would result in **less than significant** impacts related to emergency access.

Mitigation Measures

None required.

CUMULATIVE SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

The cumulative setting for hazards and human health risks associated with PLAN Hermosa includes Hermosa Beach, surrounding cities, and the surrounding areas in Los Angeles County. Most hazardous materials, human health, and safety impacts are site-specific and not cumulative in nature.

IMPACT 4.7-5 *Would PLAN Hermosa Contribute to a Cumulative Impact on the Transport, Use, or Disposal of Hazardous Materials? Implementation of PLAN Hermosa, along with increased urban development in Los Angeles County, would not result in cumulative hazards impacts. This impact would be less than cumulatively considerable.*

Potential exposure to or generation of hazardous conditions in the city is site-specific rather than associated with the combination of other hazards in the region resulting in a significant effect. As described in Impacts 4.7-1 and 4.7-2, adherence to existing federal, state, and local regulations regarding the handling, transport, and disposal of hazardous materials, as well as implementation of PLAN Hermosa policies, would minimize potential risks associated with accidental release and exposure to hazardous materials. Therefore, this impact would be **less than cumulatively considerable**.

Mitigation Measures

None required.

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4.7.5 REFERENCES

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