

# CITY OF PALM DESERT STAFF REPORT

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MEETING DATE: March 28, 2024

PREPARED BY: Amy Lawrence, Deputy Director of Economic Development

REQUEST: APPROVE PLACEMENT OF PEACE POLE AT THE COMMUNITY ROSE GARDEN IN CIVIC CENTER PARK

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## **RECOMMENDATION:**

Approve Placement of Peace Pole at the Community Rose Garden in Civic Center Park.

## **BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS:**

Mr. Tom Swann-Hernandez, Post Commander of Frank Moulton American Veterans (AMVETS) Post 66 of Palm Springs, has requested to place a "Peace Pole" at the Community Rose Garden at the Civic Center Park. The eight-foot-tall Peace Pole is made of upcycled white vinyl PVC and will have four panels with black lettering that reads: "May Peace Prevail on Earth" in four languages – English, Spanish, Hebrew, and Arabic, as well as a brass braille plate. AMVETS will provide the Peace Pole with a brass dedication plate that reads "*PEACE POLE – DEDICATED ON (date) BY AMVETS POST 66*".

Maintenance should be minimal and only include cleaning the PVC pole, which will be installed by the City in one of the planters onsite. AMVETS understands that the Peace Pole may deteriorate over time and it will either need to be replaced at their cost or removed to maintain the integrity of the Community Rose Garden and the park.

The Peace Pole Project was started in Japan by Masahisa Goi (1916-1980) who dedicated his life to spreading the message, May Peace Prevail on Earth, after the destruction caused by World War II. The Peace Pole Project is a signature project of May Peace Prevail on Earth International inviting peace makers throughout the world to plant Peace Poles in their communities. It is estimated that there are over 200,000 Peace Poles in the world on every continent which have been planted over many decades.

## **Legal Review:**

This report has been reviewed by the City Attorney's office.

## **FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

Funding for installation of the Peace Pole is estimated at \$200 and is available in Public Works Account Number 1104611-4391000.

## **ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Written Request for Peace Pole Installation
2. Photos of Peace Poles
3. Photos of Community Rose Garden