

CITY OF PALM DESERT STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: January 25, 2024

PREPARED BY: Gary Shaffer, Director of Library Services

REQUEST: INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE ADDING CHAPTER 2.74 TO TITLE 2 OF THE PALM DESERT MUNICIPAL CODE, ESTABLISHING A MUNICIPAL LIBRARY FOR THE CITY, AND MAKING A FINDING OF EXEMPTION UNDER CEQA

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt an Ordinance entitled, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PALM DESERT, CALIFORNIA, ADDING CHAPTER 2.74 TO TITLE 2 OF THE PALM DESERT MUNICIPAL CODE, ESTABLISHING A MUNICIPAL LIBRARY FOR THE CITY, AND MAKING A FINDING OF EXEMPTION UNDER CEQA."

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS:

The City is taking over local library services from the County of Riverside and its library operator LSS, beginning July 1, 2024. At its regular meeting on October 12, 2023, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 2023-047 approving the City's withdrawal from the Riverside County Library System and assumption of the provision of library services in the City as of July 1, 2024, and indicating the City's intent to establish an independent municipal library. Staff is currently negotiating an agreement with the County of Riverside to establish the terms of the withdrawal, including the transfer of tax revenues and library property, and hiring of library staff.

The next step is to adopt an ordinance to formally establish the municipal library, pursuant to the City's authority to govern its municipal affairs provided in Article XI, Section 5 of the California Constitution and Section 101 of the City Charter. Once adopted, the ordinance will:

- Meet the legal requirements,
- Designate the City Council as the legislative body and outline parameters for the annual budget for library services, and
- Provide authority to the City Manager to manage this new service as with all other services,

Legal Review:

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

Environment Review:

This action is exempt under CEQA.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

This action will have no direct financial impact.

ATTACHMENT:

1. Draft Ordinance