



CITY OF PALM DESERT

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October 26, 2023

Cal OES
3650 Schriever Avenue
Mather, CA 95655

Dear Cal-OES:

I am writing on behalf of the City of Palm Desert to express our enthusiastic support for The Living Desert's application for the CAL OES California State Nonprofit Security Grant Program. The Living Desert is one of 6 accredited members of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums in the US and is recognized globally for its participation in the Species Survival Plan.

Over the past few years, The Living Desert has experienced a notable escalation in security concerns and vulnerabilities. It is imperative that proactive measures be taken to address these challenges and bolster the safety and security of their guests, staff, and assets. The proposed initiatives outlined in The Living Desert's application, particularly the installation of security fencing, deployment of a state-of-the-art security camera system, and procurement of a utility vehicle, are crucial steps toward achieving this goal.

- **Security Fencing:** The installation of a comprehensive security fence around The Living Desert's perimeter will deter unauthorized access and protect both the property and the residents of the surrounding community.
- **Security Cameras:** The implementation of a state-of-the-art security camera system will provide continuous surveillance, ensuring that any suspicious activities are promptly identified and addressed. Additionally, these cameras will serve as invaluable tools in the event of security incidents, providing essential evidence for investigations.
- **Utility Vehicle Procurement:** A utility vehicle is an essential asset for The Living Desert's security personnel, enabling them to respond swiftly to incidents and access areas that may be otherwise challenging to reach. This acquisition will significantly bolster response capabilities and overall security measures.

The Living Desert plays a crucial role in Palm Desert, not only as a cherished institution for education and conservation but also as a vital hub for local and visiting families. Ensuring the safety of its patrons and the continued success of its mission is of paramount importance.

Thank you for considering this important matter and for your continued support of initiatives promoting the safety and security of our communities.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Kelly, Mayor
City of Palm Desert