

CITY OF PALM DESERT STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: October 12, 2023

PREPARED BY: Veronica Chavez, Director of Finance
Martin Alvarez, Director of Public Works
Jess Culpeper, Director of Capital Projects

REQUEST: TROPICAL STORM HILARY RECOVERY UPDATE

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive and file update on the August 2023 Weather Event Storm Recovery and Redevelopment.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS:

On August 20, 2023, Tropical Storm Hillary wreaked havoc on the Coachella Valley. An emergency declaration was immediately put in place within the City of Palm Desert. Under the direction of the City Manager, staff took immediate action to procure needed services to protect life and property as authorized by the emergency declaration. City staff worked tirelessly to ensure the community endured minimal impact. Part of that work included engaging various vendors to provide necessary supplies and services in support of emergency operations, in addition to costs anticipated to be incurred as a result of the response to the weather event.

On September 14, 2023, the City Council approved an appropriation of \$1,765,000 to cover the initial emergency response, as well as any immediate anticipated recovery costs. The City Council later approved a \$2,000,000 appropriation on September 28th for costs associated with the Mid Valley Channel, as it relates to this recovery effort. Moving forward, City staff will be providing updates in order to facilitate expeditious response to provide an efficient recovery, as well as prepare for future storms by redeveloping and shoring up infrastructure weaknesses identified as a result of Hillary. Below is the most recent update relative to this effort:

<i>Description</i>	<i>General Disaster</i>	<i>Freedom Park</i>	<i>Spanish Walk</i>	<i>Combined Total</i>	<i>Mid Valley Channel</i>
<i>September Appropriations</i>	\$1,146,455	\$317,651	\$300,894	\$1,765,000	\$2,000,000
<i>Invoices to date</i>	\$311,313	\$17,651	\$150,894	\$479,858	\$0.00
<i>Balance Remaining</i>	\$835,142	\$300,000	\$150,000	\$1,285,142	\$2,000,000
<i>Anticipated Costs</i>	\$632,846	\$300,000	\$150,000	\$1,082,846	\$2,000,000
<i>Balance Remaining</i>	\$202,296	0	0	\$202,296	0

Legal Review:

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

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

At this time, City staff believes the appropriations in place are sufficient to cover immediate costs. As studies are completed and infrastructure identified as necessary components to storm recovery and/or preparedness, additional appropriations may be necessary. 20% of the 2023-24 Budgeted General Fund Revenues (\$15,110,893) have been reserved and set aside for this purpose. Additional monies are identified in both the Facilities Reserve \$19M (infrastructure, parks, etc.) and CIP Reserve \$14M categories and may be used at City Council's direction, for this purpose.