

CITY OF PALM DESERT STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: September 14, 2023

PREPARED BY: Pedro Rodriguez, Code Compliance Supervisor

REQUEST: RESOLUTION EXTENDING PARTICIPATION IN THE RIVERSIDE COUNTY SERVICE AUTHORITY ABANDONED VEHICLE ABATEMENT PROGRAM UNTIL MAY 31, 2034

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a resolution entitled, "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PALM DESERT, CALIFORNIA, AUTHORIZING THE EXTENSION OF THE SERVICE FEE COLLECTED ON BEHALF OF THE RIVERSIDE COUNTY ABANDONED VEHICLE ABATEMENT SERVICE AUTHORITY UNTIL MAY 2034."

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS:

Adoption of the proposed resolution will allow the City to receive reimbursement from the Riverside County Abandoned Vehicle Abatement Service Authority for staff time and costs incurred by the City in the abatement and disposal of abandoned, wrecked, dismantled, or inoperative vehicles.

In 1990, the California State Legislature enacted legislation allowing for the creation of county-based vehicle service authorities, pursuant to the provisions of Vehicle Code Section 22710. In June 1994, the Riverside County Abandoned Vehicle Abatement Service Authority was formed and imposed a one-dollar vehicle registration fee on vehicles registered to all owners with addresses in the County of Riverside.

Vehicle registration fees are collected by the Department of Motor Vehicles and allocated to the Riverside County Abandoned Vehicle Abatement Service Authority by the State Controller pursuant to Vehicle Code Section 9250.7. Fees are then allocated to the Riverside County Abandoned Vehicle Service Authority as a whole. Each of the twenty-five participating entities receives disbursement for expenditures related to the abatement and disposal of abandoned vehicles based on each entity's size and population based on the number of vehicles abated by each entity.

From July 1997 to June 2023, the City of Palm Desert has received \$1,222,519 in disbursements from the Riverside County Abandoned Vehicle Abatement Service Authority for code compliance officers' staff time in abating 10,520 abandoned, wrecked, dismantled, or inoperative vehicles within the City.

The participating entities are the County of Riverside, and the Cities of Banning, Beaumont, Blythe, Calimesa, Canyon Lake, Cathedral City, Coachella, Corona, Desert Hot Springs, Eastvale, Hemet, Indio, Jurupa, La Quinta, Lake Elsinore, Menifee, Moreno Valley, Murrieta, Norco, Palm Desert, Perris, Riverside, San Jacinto, and Temecula.

Since the program's inception, the Riverside County Abandoned Vehicle Abatement Service Authority has disbursed \$35,128,331, to participating cities for reimbursement of staff time for the abatement of 186,776 abandoned, wrecked, dismantled, or inoperative vehicles. The current service authority program is scheduled to sunset in May 2024. Senate Bill 106 (SB 106), chaptered in August 2001, allows local agencies to extend the Abandoned Vehicle Abatement Service Authority program every 10 years with the approval of the county and a majority of the cities comprising a majority of the population of the incorporated areas.

A majority of the 25 participating cities are currently in the process of adopting their respective resolutions approving the 10-year extension of the Service Authority. Adopting the attached resolution is the first step of this important program that is necessary before submitting the Service Authority extension package to the Riverside County Board of Supervisors for their review and approval.

Therefore, staff recommends that the City Council adopt a resolution extending the Abandoned Vehicle Abatement Program until May 14, 2034.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The abandoned vehicle abatement program generates approximately \$60,000 annually to the General Fund.

ATTACHMENT:

Resolution