



CITY OF PALM DESERT

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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

April 29, 2024

Braden Kay
Extreme Heat Program Manager
Governor's Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: CV Cool Asphalt and Shading Plan – Support

Dear Mr. Kay,

I am writing on behalf of the City of Palm Desert to express our strong support for the Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) application to the Extreme Heat and Community Resilience Program under the Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program.

The Coachella Valley, located in Southern California's arid desert, is facing an urgent and escalating problem-extreme temperatures that persist for extended periods. In response, CVAG has collaborated with Kounkuey Design Initiative, Inc., the Coachella Valley Housing Coalition, local Tribal Nations, and city governments throughout the Coachella Valley to propose a Cool Pavement and Shade Plan. This initiative aims to enhance community resilience to extreme heat, focusing particularly on protecting the most vulnerable populations.

While the Coachella Valley is celebrated for its natural beauty and cultural wealth, it also faces significant heat-related challenges during the summer. Implementing cool pavements and strategic shading can effectively mitigate these challenges. Cool pavements utilize advanced materials and technologies to lower surface temperatures and reduce the urban heat island effect. This innovation not only cools the environment, enhancing pedestrian comfort and reducing energy use, but also integrates shade structures to create enjoyable outdoor spaces that promote physical activity, social interaction, and community cohesion. These improvements will make our outdoor environments more welcoming and accessible for everyone, enhancing the quality of life in our region and moving us closer to our goals of sustainability, climate resilience, and equity.

By implementing these combined strategies, we can provide substantial relief from the intense sunlight, making our outdoor environments more welcoming and accessible for

everyone. This improvement in our community infrastructure will elevate the quality of life in our region and move us closer to our goals of sustainability, climate resilience, and equity.

Taking proactive steps to address the adverse effects of extreme heat will foster a healthier, more sustainable environment for both present and future generations. Therefore, I urge you to prioritize the implementation of the Cool Pavement and Shade Plan in Coachella Valley, utilizing all available resources and partnerships to maximize its impact.

Sincerely,



Karina Quintanilla

Mayor