

**WHEREAS**, outdoor workers provide many essential services throughout California; and

**WHEREAS**, industries like emergency services, landscaping, renewable energy, public utilities, agriculture, professional sports, tourism, and construction depend heavily upon the labor of outdoor workers; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition to the physical hardships, outdoor work is particularly difficult in the summer months when temperatures regularly exceed 90 degrees Fahrenheit and reach up to 120 degrees in desert regions; and

**WHEREAS**, outdoor workers who provide vital services to Californians during these months face heightened risk for heat illness, smoke exposure, and heat-related death, much of which is related to climate change; and

**WHEREAS**, in the last decade, the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics reported 344 worker deaths due to environmental heat exposure, and workplace safety experts believe that the actual number of heat-related fatalities may be underreported or misreported as another cause, such as heart attacks; and

**WHEREAS**, employers are now required to protect outdoor workers by providing adequate rest time, water, and shade during the summer; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Palm Desert, upon the initiative of local companies, hosted a successful citywide event to show community appreciation – an event that was extensively covered by news media and successfully raised local awareness; and

**WHEREAS**, outdoor workers tirelessly dedicate their efforts to maintaining and improving our communities, while facing numerous challenges, including exposure to extreme weather conditions, physical exertion, and occupational hazards; and

**WHEREAS**, the contributions of outdoor workers often go unnoticed and underappreciated, despite their indispensable role in the daily lives of all Californians; and

**WHEREAS**, recognition and appreciation of outdoor workers promotes better working conditions, safety, and productivity.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Karina Quintanilla, Mayor of the City of Palm Desert, and the entire City Council, do hereby proclaim July 15-19, 2024, as

## **Outdoor Worker Appreciation Week**

in the City of Palm Desert and encourage all residents to join us in celebrating their contributions to our city.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and have caused the Official Seal of the City of Palm Desert, California, to be affixed this 11<sup>th</sup> day of July 2024.