El Paseo Farmers' Market Proposal PALM DESERT COUNCIL, AUG. 22, 2024

REQUEST

- Weekly Farmers' Market on El Paseo
- Between Lupine Lane and Sage Lane
- Saturdays, October through May, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- City to cover the cost of street closures

CONCERNS

- As proposed, the market would require completely closing El Paseo for one block to through traffic every Saturday during high season from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Historically, the EPPBID has been opposed to closing the street.

ALTERNATIVES

- Staff met with the Vendor on 6/19/24 to discuss possible alternative locations and/or times.
- Vendor remained committed to the proposal as presented.

EL PASEO INPUT

- El Paseo PBID Board 6/19/24
- EPPBID Merchant Survey
 - 146 Surveys Completed

BOARD FEEDBACK

- The EPPBID Board of Directors supported the idea of a Farmers' Market adjacent to or near El Paseo.
- The Board unanimously opposed closing the street on Saturdays.

SURVEY FEEDBACK

- There is support for a weekly market in the area. (56% Favorable)
- Respondents also expressed opposition to the street closure. (57% Against)

POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVES

- Alternate locations
 - The Shops at Palm Desert Parking Lot
 - Civic Center Park
 - El Paseo Side Streets or Parking Lots
 - North Palm Desert
- Alternate Days: Wednesdays or Sundays

RECOMMENDATION

Based on the opposition to closing the street, staff recommends rejecting the current proposal as presented.