

CITY OF PALM DESERT STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: September 12, 2024

PREPARED BY: Anthony J. Mejia, City Clerk

SUBJECT: RATIFY A LETTER OF SUPPORT TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION FOR THE COACHELLA VALLEY ASSOCIATION OF
GOVERNMENTS' ACCESS INDIAN CANYON DRIVE PROJECT

RECOMMENDATION:

Ratify a letter of support to the U.S. Department of Transportation for the Coachella Valley Association of Governments' ACCESS Indian Canyon Drive Project.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS:

The U.S. Department of Transportation is seeking grant applications for the Wildlife Crossing Pilot Program. The Wildlife Crossings Pilot Program (WCPP) is a competitive grant program aimed at reducing wildlife vehicle collisions while improving habitat connectivity for terrestrial and aquatic species. The application period closed on September 4, 2024.

On August 20, 2024, the Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) requested letters of support from Coachella Valley cities for the ACCESS Indian Canyon Drive Project. The proposed project scope includes two all-weather bridge systems, undercrossings to create a wildlife corridor, sand fencing, and an active transportation pathway. The City Council Ad Hoc Committee on Legislative Affairs authorized the immediate issuance of the letter of support, and the City Council is requested to ratify issuance of the letter of support.

Legal Review:

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

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There is no financial impact associated with this action.

ATTACHMENT:

1. Letter of Support