

CITY OF PALM DESERT STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: August 28, 2025

PREPARED BY: Anthony J. Mejia, City Clerk

SUBJECT: INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES AMENDING THE PALM DESERT MUNICIPAL CODE TO RENAME THE CULTURAL RESOURCES PRESERVATION COMMITTEE AND THE RESOURCE PRESERVATION AND ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Introduce an ordinance entitled “AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PALM DESERT, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING CHAPTER 29.30 OF THE PALM DESERT MUNICIPAL CODE TO RENAME THE CULTURAL RESOURCES PRESERVATION COMMITTEE TO THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE.”
2. Introduce an ordinance entitled “AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PALM DESERT, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING CHAPTER 2.66 OF THE PALM DESERT MUNICIPAL CODE TO RENAME THE RESOURCES PRESERVATION AND ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE.”

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS:

Following recent interviews related to the City’s appointed bodies, concerns were raised regarding the similarity between the names “Cultural Resources Preservation Committee” and “Resource Preservation and Enhancement Committee.” This similarity has led to confusion among applicants, staff, and the City Council.

To address this, the Council Subcommittee on Boards and Committees, comprised of Councilmember Pradetto and Mayor Harnik, recommended updating both committee names to reflect widely recognized terminology used by other jurisdictions in the fields of environmental policy and historic preservation. The revised names aim to more clearly convey each committee’s purpose and improve public understanding.

The following changes are proposed:

- Resource Preservation and Enhancement Committee to Environmental Resources Committee
- Cultural Resources Preservation Committee to Historic Preservation Committee

These are name changes only. No changes are proposed to the committees’ membership, responsibilities, or meeting schedules.

Legal Review:

This report has been reviewed by the City Attorney’s Office.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There is no financial impact associated with this action.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Ordinance: Cultural Resources Preservation Committee
2. Ordinance: Resource Preservation and Enhancement Committee