

# CITY OF PALM DESERT STAFF REPORT

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MEETING DATE: September 25, 2025

PREPARED BY: Shawn Muir, Community Services Manager

SUBJECT: STUDY SESSION: UPDATE ON MEDIAN LANDSCAPE MASTER PLAN  
DEVELOPMENT (PROJECT NO. CFA00011)

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## **RECOMMENDATION:**

Receive an update on the current design and progress on the master planning document for the City's medians and parkways.

## **BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS:**

As part of the Fiscal Year 2024-25 Annual Budget, the Palm Desert City Council authorized funding to develop a citywide master plan for the improvement of streetscapes, open spaces, and approximately 300 acres of medians. The concept is to create a more standardized approach to the landscaped areas in the public rights of way for ease of maintenance, and to create a more cohesive landscape design to bring a sense of place when in Palm Desert.

Staff initiated a Request for Proposals in September 2024, leading to Council's approval of Hermann Design Group, Inc. on November 14, 2024. Since their selection, the design team has undertaken assessments, conducted drone flyovers, and created a master planning document that presents three tiers of landscape design.

Staff is presenting the Landscape Master Plan in a draft form to the City Council prior to finalizing designs and will be requesting plan approval at a subsequent meeting. An informational presentation of the proposed concepts was also provided to the Architectural Review Committee on June 24, 2025. The Committee asked questions that were answered by staff and the consultant, and positive feedback was given overall.

## **Legal Review:**

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

## **FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

There is no fiscal impact associated with this presentation, as no formal action is requested at this time. Funds for completion of the Landscape Master Plan and to initiate preparation of construction documents have been allocated under the Public Works Department operations budget in the approved FY 2025-26 Financial Plan and Capital Improvement Project (CIP) List.

## **ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Median Master Plan Presentation