

CITY OF PALM DESERT STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: September 25, 2025

PREPARED BY: Anthony J. Mejia, City Clerk

SUBJECT: RATIFICATION OF LETTER CALLING FOR AN EQUITABLE
ALLOCATION OF PROPOSITION 4 SALTON SEA FUNDING

RECOMMENDATION:

Ratify the issuance of a letter calling for an equitable allocation of Proposition 4 funds between the Salton Sea Authority and the Salton Sea Conservancy.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS:

The City received a request from the Salton Sea Authority to provide support for the equitable allocation of funds included in Proposition 4, which was approved by California voters in 2024. Proposition 4 allocates \$10 million under Public Resources Code Section 91033(b) for the benefit of either the Salton Sea Authority or the newly formed Salton Sea Conservancy, but the measure does not prescribe how funds should be distributed between the two entities.

The Authority has emphasized the importance of continued funding for projects that address environmental restoration, public health, and economic revitalization in and around the Salton Sea. These include the North Lake Pilot Demonstration Project, the Desert Shores Channel Restoration Project, federal feasibility studies in partnership with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the development of an air monitoring task force.

At the same time, the Salton Sea Conservancy, created by statute in 2024, is in its formative stage and requires foundational resources to effectively launch and carry out its mission.

The City Council Subcommittee on Legislative/Governmental Affairs reviewed this request and authorized issuance of the letter. The attached letter urges the Legislature to allocate \$5 million to the Salton Sea Authority and \$5 million to the Salton Sea Conservancy.

Legal Review:

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

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There is no financial impact to the City associated with this action.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Letter of Support
2. Proposition 4 Allocation Matrix – Salton Sea Authority and Conservancy