

# CITY OF PALM DESERT STAFF REPORT

---

MEETING DATE: November 13, 2025

PREPARED BY: Anthony J. Mejia, City Clerk

SUBJECT: RATIFICATION OF LETTER SUPPPORTING THE LIVING DESERT ZOO  
AND GARDENS' CENTRAL VALLEY POLLINATOR PATHWAY PROJECT

---

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

Ratify the issuance of the letter supporting *The Living Desert Zoo and Gardens' Central Valley Pollinator Pathway Project* and its grant application to the Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy.

## **BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS:**

The Living Desert Zoo and Gardens submitted a grant request to the Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy for the *Central Valley Pollinator Pathway Project*, a four-year, two-phase effort to restore native habitat and enhance pollinator corridors across the Central Coachella Valley. The project includes propagation and outplanting of native species to replace invasive vegetation, improve drought resilience, and support at-risk pollinator species. The total estimated project cost is \$908,290, with \$568,893 requested in grant funding and \$339,397 provided as matching support.

The City of Palm Desert's letter expresses support for the project's ecological and educational benefits and acknowledges The Living Desert's leadership in regional habitat restoration. The letter was addressed to Ms. Elizabeth King, Executive Director of the Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy, and issued on October 17, 2025. The City Council Subcommittee on Governmental Affairs reviewed and approved the issuance in advance of formal ratification by the City Council.

## **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. Letter of Support – Central Valley Pollinator Pathway Project