



CITY OF PALM DESERT
CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

Date: September 28, 2023
To: Honorable Mayor and Councilmembers
From: Anthony J. Mejia, City Clerk
Subject: City Council Meeting of September 28, 2023

Below you will find questions received from the Mayor or Councilmembers and answers provided by City staff regarding tonight's City Council meeting:

ITEM 13a: APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL, SUCCESSOR AGENCY, AND HOUSING AUTHORITY MINUTES

City staff notes a correction will be made to the September 14, 2023, Study Session Minutes to reflect the absence of Councilmember Nestande.

ITEM 13c: APPROVAL OF THE 2023 PALM DESERT GOLF CART PARADE

Q1: Is the \$25K for Golf Cart parade our contribution to the Chamber via police services or is this in addition to it?

A1: This \$25,000 is in addition to the \$60,000 sponsorship as the City Council previously approved in-kind police services related to this event. The \$25,000 will not be paid to the Chamber of Commerce. It is a budget transfer from one City account to another.

Q2: Will Burrtec have compost bins on site? Will they be available for the vendors?

A2: For the Golf Cart Parade, Burrtec will provide cardboard trash and recycle bins as there won't be many food vendors present. For the City's 50th Anniversary Celebration (The Party in the Park), the City will ask Burrtec to provide compost containers for food vendors and attendees. Additionally, beginning in 2024, in accordance with SB 1383, all events taking place in the city with over 2,000 attendees that serve food will be required to work with FIND Food Bank to set up an edible food recovery system. Staff will also work with Burrtec on a plan for collecting non-edible food waste at large scale City-produced events.

ITEM 13i: APPROVE THE ADDITION OF IMPROVEMENTS FOR PUBLIC PARKING AND OPEN SPACE TO APN 620-400-625 TO THE CITY'S CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Q1: What is the reason for the \$76K surplus? Have all of the needs been met? Is there any deferred maintenance or costs that may have been overlooked? Can this be used for training, such as professional development seminars to strengthen support to the volunteers and the community?

A1: This fund is restricted to items that supplement direct law enforcement service. Last fiscal year, there was \$161,284 carried forward from previous years of unspent revenue. This is on top of the new annual allocation. Our goal has been to expend the previous years' amounts to reconcile this fund and supply the Sheriff's department with equipment, tools, and staffing resources. We were able to take care of immediate needs but did not exhaust all the previous year's grant amounts. Going forward with this plan, we will expend the \$76,000 surplus and new allocation on equipment like tactical vests, crime suppression and speed enforcement programs.

ITEM 14a: APPROVE AN AGREEMENT WITH KINGDOM CAUSES DBA CITY NET FOR CITY HOMELESS OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT SERVICES

Q1: In addition to the email, phone, and text communication listed, will City Net have access to the Homelessness Support requests made on the PD App? If so, how soon after the report is made?

A1: Yes, City staff will continue to manage all incoming requests for homeless support coming from our City App, email, and phone; and coordinate responses with City Net. Once they have learned the resource system here in Palm Desert, we will work to integrate them into our service request system.

Q2: What is the success rate of Landlord Engagement? How is success measured?

A2: Program staff will assist all clients on a pathway to housing. That can include a variety of options through coordinated entry, income, and landlord engagement to find viable housing options. Landlord engagement is difficult as rental occupancy rates are very high, leaving limited availability throughout the state. The team makes every effort to identify and engage landlords. Success rates will vary depending on region. Success is measured by identifying viable landlords open to renting to our unhoused participants, and successfully connecting them to move-in.