CITY OF PALM DESERT
STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: November 17, 2022

PREPARED BY: Ryan Gayler, Senior Project Manager
                Andy Ramirez, Deputy Director of Public Works

REQUEST: ADOPT A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A WIND FENCE POLICY

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a Resolution establishing a wind fence policy.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS:

In the spring and summer of 2022, the City experienced significant wind events that resulted in lane closures from sand and debris. As a result, staff presented a contract for approval for the installation of wind fencing at problem locations near undeveloped land. On October 13, 2022, the City Council authorized staff to draft a resolution creating a policy governing the City's installation of wind fencing.

According to the policy, the City may install wind fencing at locations where either or both of the following occur, following notification of the City Council:

- sand reduces the travel lanes creating unsafe driving conditions
- sand obstructs right-of-way multiple times in a week causing a hardship for maintenance crews

The locations that meet the above criteria are candidates for fencing due to potential safety impacts, and/or financial and productivity burdens on staff. The policy specifies that the fencing must be installed within the City's right-of-way, or within an easement. The policy does not apply to sites that have been graded or otherwise disturbed.

Strategic Plan:
The proposed solution will further the goals of the strategic plan by providing a safe, efficient, and reliable transportation system for residents and visitors.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There is no financial impact associated with this action.

Item 1K-1

REVIEWED BY:

Department Director:	*Martin Alvarez*
City Attorney:	*Robert Hargreaves*
Finance Director:	*John Ramont*
Assistant City Manager:	*Chris Escobedo*
City Manager:	*Todd Hileman*

Attachment: Resolution

Item 1K-2

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PALM
DESERT, CALIFORNIA, ESTABLISHING A POLICY GOVERNING
THE CITY'S INSTALLATION OF WIND FENCE

WHEREAS, the City experiences wind events that result in wind-blown sand collecting in streets and other rights-of-way; and

WHEREAS, the accumulation of sand has necessitated the closure of travel lanes; and

WHEREAS, the removal of sand from streets and other rights-of-way cause a financial and productivity burden on the City's maintenance crews; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to adopt a resolution establishing a policy governing the City's installation of wind fencing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Palm Desert, California, as follows:

SECTION 1. The City Council finds that it is in the general interest of the City to establish a barrier between undisturbed vacant land and city streets prone to the accumulation of blow sand.

SECTION 2. The City Council orders that the location of the wind fence meet one or both of the following criteria:

- Sand has accumulated in an adjacent street creating a safety hazard.

- City maintenance crews have responded to the same location multiple times within a weeks' time to clean sand from the street or right-of-way.

SECTION 3. The City Council orders that the installation of wind fence only applies to locations where the source of the sand is an undisturbed, or re-naturalized vacant lot.

SECTION 4. The City Council orders that the fence must be installed within the City's right-of-way, or within an easement which permits the installation of wind fence.

Item 1K-3

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-____

ADOPTED ON _____, 20__.

_____
JAN C. HARNIK
MAYOR

ATTEST:

_____
ANTHONY J. MEJIA
CITY CLERK

Item 1K-4

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-____

I, Anthony J. Mejia, City Clerk of the City of Palm Desert, hereby certify that Resolution No. 2022-___ is a full, true, and correct copy, and was duly adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Palm Desert on _____, by the following vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:
RECUSED:

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of the City of Palm Desert, California, on _____, 20__.

_____
ANTHONY J. MEJIA
CITY CLERK