

**Update on Specific Timelines for Completion of
The Desert Fashion Plaza Revitalization Project**

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In response to the Planning Commission's denial of the Development Agreement for Desert Fashion Plaza in downtown Palm Springs, Mayor Steve Pougnet wants to reaffirm to the community that specific timelines for the completion of the revitalization project is part of the Public/Private Partnership which is still being negotiated between the City of Palm Springs and Wessman Development.

"As part of its obligations under this partnership, Wessman Development will complete the revitalization of Desert Fashion Plaza by November 2014," Pougnet said.

"The Bank of America building will be demolished within 30 days of voter approval of a general tax measure on Nov. 8, 2011," indicated the Mayor.

The City Council will consider a Development Agreement with Wessman at its June 15 meeting.

"The Development Agreement is only one part of the partnership; a separate Project Finance Agreement, which is still being finalized, will detail all of Wessman Development's performance obligations including appropriate default remedies for the City," Pougnet emphasized.

The City Council will consider the Project Finance Agreement at its July 20 meeting.

The proposed agreement presented to the City Council will also include timelines that call for final project design to commence before the end of this year and construction documents to be prepared during 2012. Construction would begin in May 2013.

"The revitalization of Desert Fashion Plaza is the top priority of the Palm Springs City Council and we are committed to that goal," said Pougnet.

“I encourage Palm Springs citizens to attend these important upcoming meetings and learn more about the proposed plan for the future of this critical property in our downtown.”