

City of Palm Springs

Development Services Department Office of Sustainability

TO: Sustainability Commission

FROM: Patrick Tallarico, Manager

SUBJECT: Demonstration Garden Update

MEETING DATE: April 20, 2021

City staff met with the Demonstration Garden subgroup on April 7. Sustainability and Airport Commission members were present. The group confirmed interest in including a public art piece at the "front" of the garden. The installation would be subject to approval and would have to meet strict parameters so as not to obstruct the view of the airport or the fountains/mountain. The group also discussed the idea of "hidden" art pieces inside the garden as an addition to or in place of the sculpture in front, if the larger sculpture was not feasible. City Staff will follow up on with the Public Arts Commission to assess the feasibility and their interest in providing an installation.

The group also discussed signage. The group favored a hexagonal-shaped sign at the front of the garden to mimic the roofline of the airport, and smaller hexagonal-shaped signs near each bench to describe the plants in each quadrant. QR codes will be used for plant descriptions to maximize flexibility and language options. The Mid-century motifs would be used sparingly. The group also discussed the need to select a durable sign material and one that would not get too hot to the touch.

The group discussed gravel color and preferred a more multi-colored selection rather than the plain gray that was discussed earlier in the process.

The Consultant informed City staff that the irrigation line that runs down the center of the garden also controls the water for the small diamond of plantings where the fountain plaque is located. This area will need to be planted with similar plantings as the demonstration garden to accommodate the new watering patterns. This can be done by the current landscape contractor and does not have to be part of the garden.

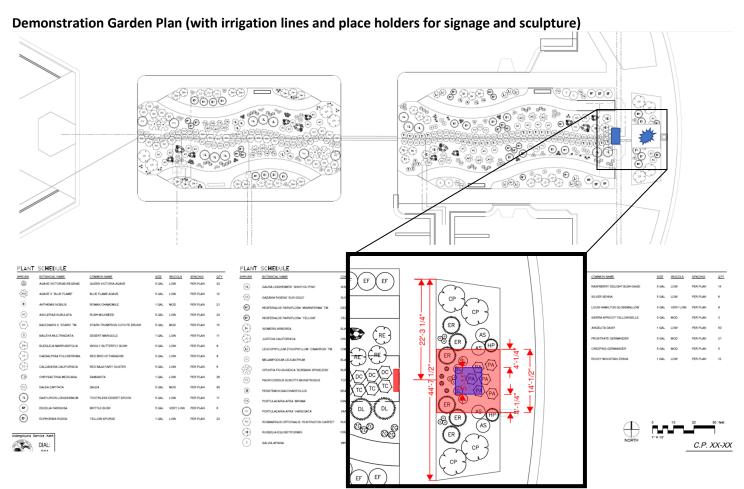
The group continues to work on a name and ideas for sponsorships.

City staff will meet with Maintenance to review the updated design and assess any maintenance concerns.

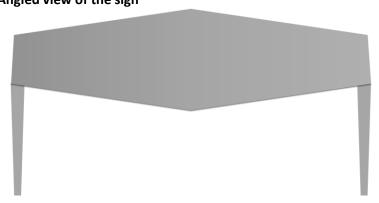
These elements will be shared with both the Sustainability Commission and the Airport Commission for final approval so that the Consultant can finalize construction documents.







Angled view of the sign





Top view of sign



Welcome to the Palm Springs Airport Demonstration Garden. This garden is designed to show residents and visitors the beauty of water efficient landscapes. Signage throughout the garden provides more information on the plants in each section. Scan the QR codes on the signs for more information.

The garden features a variety of plants available in the Coachella Valley and were selected for their ability to survive in our harsh environments.

This demonstration garden was made possible by the City of Palm Springs, Palm Springs International Airport, the Office of Sustainability, Desert Water Agency, State of California Water grant.



Example of smaller signs using QR codes for plant information

