



City of Palm Springs Development Services Department Office of Sustainability

TO: Sustainability Commission

FROM: Tracy Sheldon, Program Coordinator

SUBJECT: Update Summary – Staff Comments

MEETING DATE: December 21, 2021

The Office of Sustainability would like to provide this update on activities since the last Commission meeting to help speed discussion at the in-person meeting. The following items can be discussed in more depth at the meeting, if desired by the Commission.

- **Past and Upcoming Council Meeting Topics**
 - November 18, 2021 – Solid Waste Ordinance
 - December 9, 2021 – Public Hearing on Solid Waste & Recycling Rate Increases, second reading of Solid Waste Ordinance
 - Anticipated January 2022 - Franchise Agreement Draft
 - January 2022 - Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy
 - TBD – Large Commercial Facility Renewable Energy Ordinance

- **Airport Demonstration Garden** – City staff held a project kick-off meeting with Marina Landscaping on November 30, 2021 for the Airport Demonstration Garden. Art Cervantes is the Project Manager from Engineering and will be overseeing the implementation of the project. Todd Holmes from David Evans & Associates who led the design will also be available for project support. Project Coordinator Sheldon is working on the designs and requesting quotes for the monument and smaller accent signage for the project.

- **Certified Farmer’s Market (CFM)** – Program Coordinator Sheldon and Chair Clark hosted an information booth at the CFM on December 4, 2021, and distributed reusable produce and grocery bags to attendees. City staff and Commissioners have been hosting an informational Sustainability booth at the Certified Farmer’s Market (CFM) on the first Saturday of each month from 8:30am – 1:30pm. The January booth will be staffed on the second Saturday, January 8, 2022 due to the New Year’s holiday. Please advise city staff if you are interested in volunteering at one of these events.

- **EV Charger Expansion progress** – The contractor, Carbon Solutions Group (CSG), has completed most of the work at the Museum Garage with four (4) DC Fast Chargers were energized and operational on December 15, 2021. The installation at City Hall is due for completion the week of December 20, 2021. Design work is being completed for projects at the Convention Center, Parking lot at Belardo and Baristo, and the Downtown Parking Garage on Baristo. Francisco Jaime in Engineering will continue to

be the primary point of contact for the project.

- **Pedestrian Safety and Safe Routes to School** – The consultant, KOA, hosted a virtual workshop on December 15, 2021 and presented the recommendations that will enhance pedestrian safety and connectivity here in Palm Springs. These recommendations emerged from a year-long public engagement process and reflect input from all 5 Districts. This FINAL Pedestrian Plan will be used by Engineering to prioritize future projects and to facilitate grant funding requests.
- **Sustainability Scholarships** - City staff continues outreach to local businesses to apply for the Sustainability Scholarship program which focuses on assisting food vendors with compliance of the Food Ware Ordinance, EV chargers and electric leaf blowers. No applications have been received since the November Commission meeting.
- **Strategic Planning** – City staff has updated the list of priorities based on the feedback from the October 5th special meeting and the draft is included in this month’s agenda packet.