

# The Palm Springs Public Arts Commission Presents

## BEAUTIFUL SHADE

**Shade equity** in public parks is a concept aimed at ensuring that all members of the Palm Springs community have equal access to comfortable and safe shaded areas within these outdoor spaces AND access to Public Art.

It recognizes that some individuals or neighborhoods may have limited access to shaded areas due to factors like socioeconomic disparities or geographic location. The goal is to rectify these inequalities by strategically placing **artful and original shade structures in parks** to benefit everyone.

This concept promotes inclusivity, as it acknowledges that people of all backgrounds and ages should have the opportunity to enjoy public parks comfortably, and surrounded by Public Art regardless of where they live or their economic status. By addressing shade equity, communities can create more welcoming and accessible outdoor environments for all residents.

**Working with the Parks & Recreation Commission**, PSPAC plans will create a “Call For Artists” to design fully functional, permanent art pieces which create shade. We will jointly engage with each initial community to target specific areas and needs within their parks. These will be art pieces, not architectural installations.

The primary target list includes: Victoria Park, James O. Jessie Desert Highland Unity Center and Demuth Park. Each of these areas has unique and distinct environmental challenges that would benefit from this program.

The current strategy is that the initial wave of designs and prototypes could be funded by the PSPAC Fund, and then greater manufacturing could be funded by a Measure J Community grant. Much like the recent bike rack initiative, we may end up with multiple designs being approved, or decide to simply focus on one creative solution. At that point, these structures could be manufactured and installed in more locations and in more city parks.

On the next page are some designs, solely as **thought starters**. Chosen designs will maximize shade and artistry.

We welcome your input as we formulate this exciting and much needed joint program.

Gary Armstrong  
Chair, Palm Springs Public Arts Commission



