

# INDIAN WELLS CITY COUNCIL

## April 4, 2024



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**To:** City Council  
**From:** City Manager Department  
**Prepared by:** Christopher Freeland, City Manager  
**Subject:** **Letter Supporting the Continued Funding of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the Cal State San Bernardino-Palm Desert Campus**

### RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

Council **AUTHORIZES** staff to develop a letter of support for the continued funding of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the Cal State San Bernardino-Palm Desert Campus.

### DISCUSSION:

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at the Cal State San Bernardino-Palm Desert Campus provides affordable, high-quality, non-credit educational programs and experiences for the large and growing 50+ population in the Coachella Valley. The program also enables participants to enjoy learning and share cultural and social activities in an interactive and friendly environment.

The OLLI program does not include exams or grades. It is intended to allow participants to delve into subjects that individuals may have been interested in for years, but simply didn't have the time to study. The program is not just the educational component, but also provides the opportunity for mature adults with shared interests to meet and mingle, as well learn from those with different perspectives. The social aspect of the program is a wonderful way for mature adults to build new and rewarding friendships.

According to the OLLI website, "Our dynamic learning community is full of diversity, insight, wisdom, and intellectual stimulation. Come enjoy lively conversations, share opinions, and discover new ideas!"

- Continue learning: You're never too old to learn. Explore a wide variety of topics as you engage intellectually, challenge your thinking, and build your knowledge.

- Participate in interesting discussions: Become part of a dynamic learning community that's full of diversity, insight, wisdom and intellectual stimulation. Enjoy lively conversations, share opinions and discover new ideas.
- Meet new people: Meet and mingle with mature adults who share your interests and those with very different perspectives. You'll build new and rewarding friendships.

It has come to the City's attention that the State of California is considering not providing the funding necessary for this program to continue, which would have adverse effects to the residents of the community. As such, staff is seeking Council's approval to send a letter to our elected State officials supporting funding for the OLLI program.