

# INDIAN WELLS CITY COUNCIL

## January 15, 2026



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**To:** City Council  
**From:** Public Works Department  
**Prepared by:** Dina Purvis, Public Works Director  
**Subject:** **Request for Authorization to Proceed with Civil Design for the Eisenhower Walk of Honor Extension Project**

### RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

Council **AUTHORIZES** Staff to proceed with the civil design phase for the extension of the Eisenhower Walk of Honor project; and

**FINDS** the project to be exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15311 (Class 11, Accessory Structures) as it includes construction of minor structures accessory to (appurtenant to) existing commercial facilities, including, but not limited to, (a) On-premise signs.

### DISCUSSION:

The Eisenhower Walk of Honor is a cherished community feature dedicated to recognizing and commemorating Indian Wells residents who honorably served in the armed forces. The recognition is currently facilitated through engraved stones placed along the existing walkway.

The existing stone used for annual additions is now nearing capacity. To address this need, Staff initiated a project to extend the Walk of Honor. Staff engaged a licensed landscape architect to develop several conceptual plans for the extension, focusing on maximizing new recognition space while maintaining the aesthetic integrity and solemn nature of the site.

The conceptual plans were presented to the Community Activities Committee (Committee), the body responsible for coordinating the annual Veterans Day event and familiar with the project's significance and utilizing the site for various community activities. Staff incorporated the input and suggestions received from the Committee into the final conceptual design. This refined plan is a direct reflection of the Committee's input and ensures the expanded Walk of Honor will serve the community's needs for years to come.

The design recommended for approval adds a new stone while still preserving space for a fourth future stone. Benches will be incorporated to match the existing ones. It includes new landscaping under the existing trees and relocating the water fountain into the shade. The design also adds a walkway from the parking lot, with a decorative tile inset of the City's logo. If approved, the project will move to the civil and structural design phase with the intent of completing construction prior to the next Veteran's Day event.

The Committee recommended the improvements included in Attachment 1. The Committee also recommended planting of Palm Trees, not included in Attachment 1 due to cost. The conceptual plans the Committee reviewed are included as Attachment 2.

### **CITY COUNCIL STRATEGIC GOAL:**

This project is included in the 2025 City Council Strategic Planning Goals, as a part of Goal #6, Investing in Infrastructure and Amenities.

### **OPTIONS:**

The City Council has the following options:

1. Authorize the City Manager to execute all necessary documents to proceed with civil design process for Committee recommended design Option #1.
2. Choose a different design option for civil design work.
3. Provide Alternative direction

### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

The cost for the detailed civil design phase will come from the existing Capital Improvement Program (CIP) – Eisenhower Memorial Extension budget. \$100,000 of the \$400,000 from the Approved CIP budget has been set aside for design work.

### **CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA):**

This project has been assessed in accordance with the authority and criteria contained in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the State and local CEQA Guidelines, and the environmental regulations of the City. The City acting as Lead Agency, has determined the project is exempt from CEQA review under CEQA Guideline section 15311 (Class 11, Accessory Structures) as it includes construction of minor structures accessory to (appurtenant to) existing commercial facilities, including, but not limited to, (a) On-premise signs. Additionally, the project would not have the potential to trigger any of the exceptions identified in State CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 prohibiting the use of a categorical exemption. The project is not located within a sensitive environment, the effects would not combine with other potential projects that could contribute to a cumulative effect, there is no evidence that a significant effect would occur, the site is not located near a scenic highway, it is not located on a hazardous waste site pursuant

to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code, and there are no historical resources onsite. Project compliance with existing regulations and project design features will avoid any potential impacts to resources, such as biological resources and cultural resources. None of the CEQA exceptions apply to the site; therefore, the project is exempt from further CEQA review.

## **ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Committee Recommended Conceptual Plan 1
2. Conceptual Drafts