



June 9, 2026

Sent Via Email

Mayor Evan Trubee  
73510 Fred Waring Drive  
Palm Desert, CA 92260

Subject: City of Palm Desert Cody-Designed Entry Sign

Dear Mayor Trubee,

The Palm Springs Preservation Foundation's (PSPF) mission is to educate about, and advocate for, the historic preservation of structures and objects throughout the Coachella Valley. To accomplish our mission, we have a grant program that funds worthy projects.

At our February 2026 board of directors meeting, we were briefed by a PSPF member regarding the City of Palm Desert's (hereinafter "city") interest in exploring the potential replication of the architect William F. Cody-designed entry sign that once marked the boundary between Palm Desert and Rancho Mirage. The PSPF board supports the replication of this sign as it is an important example of midcentury design and a fitting reminder of Palm Desert's often underappreciated architectural history. We unanimously agreed we should support the city in advancing this effort.

To that end, through our grant program, PSPF proposes to reimburse the city up to \$30,000, at no cost or financial obligation to the city, for the preparation of architectural documentation and conceptual design drawings for the historic Cody-designed entry sign. The city would be solely responsible for selecting, procuring, and managing the consultant services through its standard competitive Request for Proposal (RFP) process and in accordance with applicable city procurement requirements. PSPF grant funds would be provided directly to the city solely for this purpose.

The selected consultant would be tasked with researching the historic sign and preparing conceptual design drawings sufficient to establish its dimensions, materials, finishes, and architectural character. The intended outcome of this effort would be a professionally prepared conceptual design package that accurately documents the historic sign and serves as a foundation for future engineering, site-specific design, permitting, and preparation of plans, specifications, and estimates (PS&E), should the city elect to pursue construction.

PSPF understands that completion of the documentation and conceptual design drawings would not obligate the city to construct or otherwise implement the project to replicate the sign. Any future decisions regarding the sign would remain solely at the discretion of the city. That said, we would strongly encourage the city, and its selected consultant, to avail

itself of the resources of the Palm Desert Historical Society and the expertise of local historian Luke Leuschner.

PSPF requests the city indicate if it is interested in partnering with PSPF on this effort. Should the city wish to proceed, PSPF requests that the city identify an appropriate staff contact to coordinate administration of the proposed grant. To date, the assistance of city staff, notably senior project manager Chris Gerry, has been invaluable.

This letter supersedes our letter of May 4, 2026. The PSPF point of contact for this grant matter is Ron Marshall at [info@pspreservationfoundation.org](mailto:info@pspreservationfoundation.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary Johns". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Gary Johns  
President

Copy to:  
Chris Escobedo, Palm Desert City Manager