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**City of Palm Springs Slated to Receive \$10 Million for Homeless Assistance
in Governor Gavin Newsom's 2019-20 State Budget**

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Homeless residents in need of shelter, behavioral health assistance, employment opportunities and other services in order to get off the streets and back on their feet now have real hope thanks to the work of state Assemblymember **Chad Mayes**, Palm Springs Mayor pro tem **Geoff Kors** and Councilmember **Christy Holstege**. Working with the City of Palm Springs, Mayes led the effort in Sacramento to secure \$10 million for one-time homeless assistance in the 2019-20 State Budget. Thanks to support from Gov. **Gavin Newsom** and legislative leadership, the appropriation is expected to reach the Governor's desk by the end of next week.

"The state's funding formulas often overlook smaller communities like those of the Western Coachella Valley whose homelessness issues are just as severe. By partnering with the State, Palm Springs will now have the tools it needs to address the root causes of homelessness," said Mayes. "This funding would not have happened without the tireless work of Mayor pro tem Geoff Kors and Councilmember Christy Holstege who have led the City's Homelessness and Affordable Housing Subcommittee. We must recognize that the Governor and legislative leaders have heard the refrain that homelessness affects all of us, not just the major cities."

Over the past several years, Palm Springs has worked to help address homelessness, starting new programs that have resulted in 200 residents being housed, emergency overnight cooling shelters during the summer, and wrap around services. In the last two years, the City, in partnership with Desert Healthcare District, has allocated more than \$1.4 million towards these efforts.

With that in mind, Kors and Holstege worked with Mayes to secure additional funds to help address homelessness in Palm Springs. During a recent lobbying trip to Sacramento, the Subcommittee met with the Governor and legislators, including Speaker **Anthony Rendon**, to support Mayes efforts.

"This \$10 million award to address homelessness in our community is a huge game-changer for Palm Springs. Our new programs have proven successful, but we need more resources to implement them to help even more people. Over the past few years, Palm Springs has put more focus on meeting with lawmakers in Sacramento and advocating for our fair share of resources," said Kors, who noted larger cities and regions often receive the majority of state funding because they have more staff, larger populations and therefore more political power.

"I want to thank Governor Newsom, Speaker Rendon and particularly our State Assemblyman Chad Mayes for listening to our needs and addressing housing and homelessness in Palm Springs as one of their highest priorities," said Holstege. On behalf of our residents, we cannot thank them enough for taking the bold action required to ensure that Palm Springs will now have the funds necessary to significantly address the needs of our homeless population and create permanent solutions to homelessness."

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