

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
PALM SPRINGS OPPOSING THE PROPOSED
WHITewater LOCATION OF THE RIVERSIDE COUNTY
REGIONAL DETENTION CENTER

WHEREAS, the City of Palm Springs is world-renown as a tourist destination and place for relaxation and escape; and

WHEREAS, the economy of the area has grown to both nurture and rely on the area's reputation as the "ultimate desert playground" where visitors can enjoy natural beauty, a relaxed urban scene, unique cultural events, and a connection to the ancient past and recent modern history; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes that the continued success of the local economy is greatly dependent on the preservation the area's recreation and tourism appeal; and

WHEREAS, the County of Riverside has determined that there is a need for additional jail facilities; and

WHEREAS, the County has selected a site for a new regional detention center located in the Whitewater area, north of the Interstate 10 freeway, west of Highway 62; and

WHEREAS, the proposed site is located at the entry to the Coachella Valley and the City of Palm Springs and will be one of the first desert landmarks encountered by commuters, tourists, vacationers and others who travel to or through the Coachella Valley; and

WHEREAS, the impact of such a facility on the perceptions of visitors and tourists could significantly and detrimentally affect their desire to visit Palm Springs and surrounding area, such that the City and local businesses could experience losses in convention bookings, hotel and lodging reservations, and retail sales; and

WHEREAS, the County has identified other sites which could serve as a location for the proposed detention center, yet which would not pose a threat to any local economy; and

WHEREAS, the County has prepared a draft Environmental Impact Report, which insufficiently and inaccurately analyzes the adverse economic impact that the proposed detention center would have on the Palm Springs and the Coachella Valley; and

WHEREAS, the City of Palm Springs has offered separate comment on the draft EIR, identifying how the proposed detention center would create significant and manifest economic losses to local businesses and the City.

NOW THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PALM SPRINGS DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The City Council calls upon the Riverside County Board of Supervisors to recognize that the Riverside County Regional Detention Center at the proposed Whitewater location would have a detrimental affect on the economy and residents of the City of Palm Springs and the Coachella Valley.

SECTION 2. The City Council hereby opposes the development of the Riverside County Regional Detention Center at the proposed Whitewater location.

SECTION 3. The City Council further recommends that the County Board of Supervisors immediately halt the CEQA review of the Whitewater site and identify one of the alternative locations as the preferred site for the Riverside County Regional Detention Center.

ADOPTED THIS ____ DAY OF DECEMBER, 2010.

David H. Ready, City Manager

ATTEST:

James Thompson, City Clerk

CERTIFICATION

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE) ss.
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS)

I, JAMES THOMPSON, City Clerk of the City of Palm Springs, hereby certify that Resolution No. _____ is a full, true and correct copy, and was duly adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Palm Springs on _____, by the following vote:

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AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:

James Thompson, City Clerk
City of Palm Springs, California