



June 9, 2017

Honorable Robert Moon
Mayor, City of Palm Springs
3200 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way
Palm Springs, CA 92262

Dear Mayor Moon,

The Palm Springs Preservation Foundation applauds the city's public outreach regarding the program for the proposed downtown park.

In December of 2012, and in July of 2015, the *Desert Sun* newspaper published articles about the historical elements removed in the years leading up to the demolition of the Fashion Plaza (i.e., the Nellie Coffman star and the County of Riverside plaque commemorating the Desert Inn). As reported in those articles, the city manager and Wessman Development principals assured the public that those elements would be re-incorporated into the downtown redevelopment scheme. We ask you to ensure that those promises be kept.

The city has historically named its parks after its illustrious female pioneers (e.g., Ruth Hardy Park and Frances Stevens Park) and it seems fitting to continue that tradition. Accordingly, we strongly suggest that the new park be named after Nellie Coffman, owner of the Desert Inn and one of the city's most notable philanthropists. Additionally, we understand that the gates of the Desert Inn are still extant and could be a historical element that would connect the proposed park to its historical precedent.

We trust that the city will take advantage of this extraordinary opportunity to connect visitors and residents alike to the storied history of the Desert Inn which played a pivotal role in making Palm Springs a world-renowned resort destination.

If you require any additional information, please contact PSPF board member Steven Keylon at (760) 837-7117 or by email at info@pspreservationfoundation.org.

Sincerely,

Erik Rosenow
President

Copy to:
Palm Springs City Council members (Foat, Roberts, Kors and Mills)
Rios Design Studio, LLC