APPENDIX C

**CULTURAL MEMO** 

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November 16, 2018

Ms. Candice Woodbury Senior Project Manager Meridian Consultants, LLC 920 Hampshire Road, Suite A5 Westlake Village, CA 91361 Transmitted via email to <u>cwoodbury@meridianconsultantsllc.com</u>

# **RE:** Cultural Resource Records Review for the Palm Springs Unified School District Modernization Projects in Riverside County, California

Dear Ms. Woodbury:

At the request of Meridian Consultants, LLC, PaleoWest Archaeology conducted a cultural resource records review for the Palm Springs Unified School District (PSUSD Projects in Riverside County, California. This cultural resource study was limited to a cultural resource literature review and records search of the California Historic Resource Information System (CHRIS) and a review of the Sacred Lands File (SLF) by the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC). This memorandum summarizes the results of the cultural resource records review for the Desert Hot Springs High School and the Palm Springs High School.

The literature review and records searches were conducted by Roberta Thomas, Senior Archaeologist, on November 1, 2018 at the Eastern Information Center (EIC) housed at University of California, Riverside. The records searches included the Project areas (the Desert Hot Springs High School campus and the Palm Springs High School campus) as well as a quarter-mile radius. The purpose of the records searches was to identify any known cultural resources within the immediate vicinity of the Project areas. The records searches also included a review of the Office of Historic Preservation Archaeological Determination of Eligibility and the Office of Historic Preservation Directory of Historic Properties Data File.

#### **Desert Hot Springs High School**

The records search indicated that no less than six previous studies have been conducted within a quarter-mile of the Project area since 1978 (Table 1). One of these studies appears to include the Project area (RI-08264). The records search also indicated that no cultural resources were identified within the Project area. Additionally, no cultural resources were identified within a quarter-mile of the Project area.

Report No.	Year	Author(s)	Title
RI-00459	1978	Nancy A. Whitney- Desautels	Archaeological Survey Report on Two Parcels of Land Located in the Desert Hot Springs Area of the County of Riverside
RI-01983	1985	Robert E. Parr	An Archaeological Assessment of Tract 12832 (12832), Lots 1,2, and 3, in the City of Desert Hot Springs, Riverside County, California
RI-05192	2005	Michael Dice and Jay Keasling	Phase I Cultural Resource Survey, Negative Results at the Eagle Point Project, APN No. 664-190-004, -036, -037, and -038, City of Desert Hot Springs, California
RI-05599	2004	Robert S. White and Laura S. White	Archaeological And Paleontological Assessments of Tentative Tract 32360, a 10.18-Acre Parcel Located Northwest of the Intersection of Desert View Avenue and Cholla Drive, City of Desert Hot Springs, Riverside County
RI-06510	2006	Bai Tang and Michael Hogan	Historical/Archaeological Resources Survey Report, Assessor's Parcel No. 663-290-003, in the City of Desert Hot Springs, Riverside County, California
RI-08264*	2009	Carla Allred	Letter Report: Proposed Cellular Tower Project(s) in Riverside County, California, Site Number(s)/ Name(s): LA-3666A/ Desert Hot Springs High TCNS# 53627

Table 1Previous Cultural Resource Studies within a Quarter-Mile of the Project Area

\*Project Area Included in the Report

PaleoWest contacted the NAHC for a review of the SLF on November 5, 2018. The objective of the SLF search was to determine if the NAHC had any knowledge of Native American cultural resources (e.g., traditional use or gathering area, place of religious or sacred activity, etc.) within the immediate vicinity of the Project area. The NAHC responded on November 15, 2018, stating that the SLF was completed with negative results. However, the NAHC did state that the absence of specific site information in the SLF does not indicate the absence of Native American cultural resources. As such, the NAHC recommended that 11 Native American individuals and/or tribal groups be contacted to elicit information regarding cultural resource issues related to the proposed Project (see Exhibit A for a copy of the response letter received from the NAHC).

#### **Palm Springs High School**

The records search indicated that no less than five previous studies have been conducted within a quarter-mile of the Project area since 1973 (Table 1). One of these studies appears to intersect the Project area (RI-10008). In addition, no prehistoric archaeological resources were identified as a result of the records search. However, two previously recorded historic-period built-environment resources (33-007568 and 33-015329) were identified within a quarter-mile radius of the Project. One of these historic-period built environment resources, Palm Springs High School (33-007568) is located within the Project area. The Department of Parks and Recreation Historic Resource Inventory form for the Palm Springs High School (33-007568) indicates that the resource appears to be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (Terell 1983). If the current Project is anticipated to impact the resource additional cultural resource management is recommended. Specifically, the resource should be re-evaluated for significance given that the initial evaluation was conducted more than 35 years ago.

The other resource, 33-015329, is a former World War II era military air field currently the Palm Springs International Airport (Tang and Ballester 2006), located outside of the Project area. 33-015329 is an individual property recognized as historically significant by local government.

Report No.	Year	Author(s)	Title
RI-00114	1973	Philip J. Wilke	Casa Parocella: Expected Impact on Archaeological Resources.
RI-00251	1977	N. Nelson Leonard, III and James Swenson	Final Report: A Cultural Resource Evaluation of Four Parcels of Land on the Agua Caliente Indian Reservation, Palm Springs, Riverside County, California
RI-06179	2004	Marnie Aislin-Kay	Letter Report: Records Search and Site Visit Results for Cingular Telecommunications Facility Candidate SB-387-01 (Sunrise Plaza), 450 South Sunrise Way, Palm Springs, Riverside County, California
RI-06428	2004	Bai Tang, Michael Hogan, Matthew Wetherbee, and John Eddy	Historical/Archaeological Resources Survey Report, the Aqua Project, in the City of Palm Springs, Riverside County, California
RI-10008*	2012	Amy Glover, Sherri Gust, Melinda C. Horne, and Janell Mort	Archaeological Survey Report Palm Springs Signal Synchronize Project City of Palm Springs, Riverside County, California

Table 1
Previous Cultural Resource Studies within a Quarter-Mile of the Project Area

\*Project Area Included in the Report

PaleoWest contacted the NAHC for a review of the SLF on November 5, 2018. The objective of the SLF search was to determine if the NAHC had any knowledge of Native American cultural resources (e.g., traditional use or gathering area, place of religious or sacred activity, etc.) within the immediate vicinity of the Project area. The NAHC responded on November 15, 2018, stating that the SLF was completed with negative results. However, the NAHC did state that the absence of specific site information in the SLF does not indicate the absence of Native American cultural resources. As such, the NAHC recommended that 11 Native American individuals and/or tribal groups be contacted to elicit information regarding cultural resource issues related to the proposed Project (see Exhibit A for a copy of the response letter received from the NAHC).

It has been a pleasure working with you on this Project. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at <u>rthomas@paleowest.com</u>.

Sincerely,

Roverta DV

Roberta Thomas, MA, RPA Senior Archaeologist PaleoWest Archaeology

## **References**

Tang, Bai "Tom", and Daniel Ballester

2006 Department of Parks and Recreation Series 523 Form for P-33-015329. Housed at the Eastern Information Center, University of California, Riverside.

Terell, J.

1983 Department of Parks and Recreation Historic Resources Inventory Form for P-33-007568. Housed at the Eastern Information Center, University of California, Riverside.

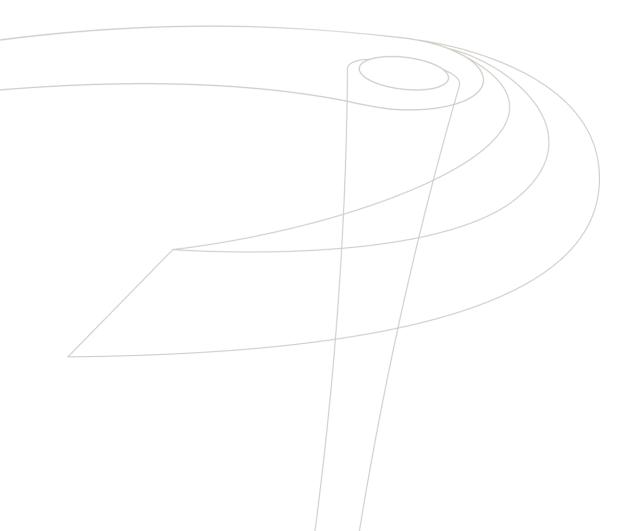
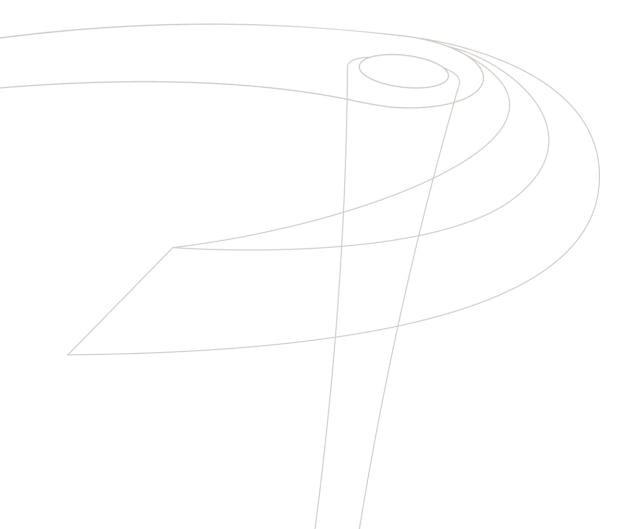


EXHIBIT A



#### STATE OF CALIFORNIA

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION Cultural and Environmental Department 1550 Harbor Blvd., Suite 100 West Sacramento, CA 95691 Phone: (916) 373-3710 Email: <u>nahc@nahc.ca.gov</u> Website: <u>http://www.nahc.ca.gov</u> Twitter: @CA\_NAHC



November 15, 2018

Roberta Thomas PaleoWest Archaeology

VIA Email to: rthomas@paleowest.com

RE: PSUSD Modernization Projects (18-377) Desert Hot Springs High School, Riverside County.

Dear Ms. Thomas:

A record search of the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File (SLF) was completed for the information you have submitted for the above referenced project. The results were <u>negative</u>. However, the absence of specific site information in the SLF does not indicate the absence of cultural resources in any project area. Other sources of cultural resources should also be contacted for information regarding known and recorded sites.

Attached is a list of Native American tribes who may also have knowledge of cultural resources in the project area. This list should provide a starting place in locating areas of potential adverse impact within the proposed project area. I suggest you contact all of those indicated; if they cannot supply information, they might recommend others with specific knowledge. By contacting all those listed, your organization will be better able to respond to claims of failure to consult with the appropriate tribe. If a response has not been received within two weeks of notification, the Commission requests that you follow-up with a telephone call or email to ensure that the project information has been received.

If you receive notification of change of addresses and phone numbers from tribes, please notify me. With your assistance we are able to assure that our lists contain current information. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at my email address: katy.sanchez@nahc.caz.gov.

Sincerely,

Katy Sanchez

Katy Sanchez Associate Environmental Planner

Attachment

Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians Jeff Grubbe, Chairperson 5401 Dinah Shore Drive Cahuilla Palm Springs <sup>,</sup>CA 92264 (760) 699-6800 (760) 699-6919 Fax

Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians Patricia Garcia-Plotkin, Director, THPO 5401 Dinah Shore Drive Cahuilla Palm Springs <sup>,</sup>CA 92264 ACBCI-THPO@aguacaliente.net (760) 699-6907 (760) 699-6924 Fax

Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians Amanda Vance, Chairperson P.O. Box 846 Cahuilla Coachella <sup>,</sup>CA 92236 (760) 398-4722

Cabazon Band of Mission Indians Doug Welmas, Chairperson 84-245 Indio Springs Parkway Indio ,CA 92203 (760) 342-2593 (760) 347-7880 Fax

Cahuilla Band of Indians Daniel Salgado, Chairperson 52701 U. S. Highway 371 Anza ,CA 92539 Chairman@cahuilla.net (951) 763-5549 (951) 763-2808

Cahuilla

Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla and Cupeno Indians Shane Chapparosa, Chairman P.O. Box 189 Cahuilla Warner Springs ,CA 92086-018 Chapparosa@msn.com (760) 782-0711 (760) 782-0712 Fax

Morongo Band of Mission Indians Robert Martin, Chairperson 12700 Pumarra Road Cahuilla Banning ,CA 92220 Serrano (951) 849-8807 (951) 922-8146 Fax

Ramona Band of Cahuilla Joseph Hamilton, Chairman P.O. Box 391670 Cahuilla Anza ,CA 92539 admin@ramonatribe.com (951) 763-4105 (951) 763-4325 Fax

Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians Steven Estrada, Chairman P.O. Box 391820 Cahuilla Anza ,CA 92539 (951) 659-2700 (951) 659-2228 Fax

Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians Joseph Ontiveros, Cultural Resource Department P.O. BOX 487 Luiseno San Jacinto ,CA 92581 Cahuilla jontiveros@soboba-nsn.gov (951) 663-5279 (951) 654-4198 Fax

This list is current as of the date of this document and is based on the information available to the Commission on the date it was produced.

Distribution of this list does not relieve any person of statutory responsibility as defined in Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code, Section 5097.94 of the Public Resources Code, or Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code.

This list is only applicable for contacting local Native American Tribes for the proposed: PSUSD Modernization Projects (18-377) Desrt Hot Springs High School, Riverside County.

Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians Michael Mirelez, Cultural Resource Coordinator P.O. Box 1160 Cahuilla Thermal ,CA 92274 mmirelez@tmdci.org (760) 399-0022, Ext. 1213 (760) 397-8146 Fax

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Sincerely,

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