



STAFF REPORT
10/14/2026

To: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Celina Jimenez, Director of Economic Development

SUBJECT: Approval of the Third Amended and Restated Joint Powers Agreement
Amending the Purpose and Powers of the Joint Powers Authority for Visit
Greater Palm Springs

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Visit Greater Palm Springs (VGPS) is asking each of its member agencies to approve a Third Amended and Restated Joint Powers Agreement. The amendments do two things: (1) expand VGPS's purpose to include regional economic diversification and destination-enhancing infrastructure such as sports complexes, entertainment venues, and meeting facilities; and (2) expand VGPS's authority to form assessment, benefit, or financing districts, including districts made up of only those members that choose to participate.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council consider approving the third amended and restated Joint Powers Agreement for Visit Greater Palm Springs and authorize the Mayor and City Manager to execute the agreement.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the third amended and restated Joint Powers Agreement for Visit Greater Palm Springs and authorize the Mayor and City Manager to execute the agreement
2. Not approve the action

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this action.

BACKGROUND:

Visit Greater Palm Springs (VGPS) is a joint powers authority (JPA) established under the Joint Exercise of Powers Act (Cal. Gov. Code § 6500 et seq.). The City of Coachella is a member of VGPS along with the cities of Palm Desert, Cathedral City, Coachella, Desert Hot Springs, Indian Wells, Indio, La Quinta, Palm Springs, Rancho Mirage, and the County of Riverside. The current operative agreement is the Second Amended and Restated Joint Powers Agreement, approved in June 2024. On June 26, 2026, the VGPS Executive Committee approved Resolution No. JPA 2026-003, approving amendments to the purpose and powers of the JPA and authorizing the Third Amended and Restated Joint Powers Agreement to be presented to the JPA member agencies for consideration.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS:

Approval of the Third Amended and Restated Joint Powers Agreement does not establish a new district, impose an assessment, or approve a specific sports complex project. Rather, approval expands the purpose and powers of VGPS and provides a framework for VGPS and participating member agencies to consider these opportunities in the future.

The Third Amended and Restated Joint Powers Agreement expands VGPS's stated purpose beyond its existing tourism and hospitality functions to include initiatives that strengthen and diversify the regional economy and facilitate destination-enhancing improvements and infrastructure. The agreement specifically identifies sports complexes, entertainment venues, and meeting facilities as examples of such improvements.

The proposed agreement also expands VGPS's powers related to the formation, renewal, and modification of assessment, benefit, or financing districts. These powers may be exercised regionally or within defined subareas of the JPA's territorial boundaries, allowing a regional district to include only those JPA members participating in the district.

For a regional district that does not include all JPA members, the formation, rate, and management district plan would be subject to approval by the legislative bodies of the JPA members within that district, consistent with applicable law. The agreement further authorizes VGPS to plan, finance, develop, construct, acquire, operate, and maintain tourism-related infrastructure and facilities, either directly or in partnership with public or private entities.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Third Amended and Restated Joint Powers Agreement
2. Redline of Third Amended and Restated Joint Powers Agreement
3. VGPS Resolution No. JPA 2026-003
4. VGPS Staff Report