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COLLEGE OF THE DESERT TRUSTEES APPROVE ORIGINAL CATHEDRAL CITY ROADRUNNER MOTORS LOCATION

Today, at the April 22, 2022, regularly-scheduled Board of Trustees meeting, the board voted unanimously in favor of approving the original Ecoplex property location as the future site of Roadrunner Motors.

The decision follows input from the Wednesday, April 6, College of the Desert special board meeting to present three sites for the facility. The sites included the original option of the Ecoplex, which is adjacent to the Cathedral City Auto Center; an alternate location in Cathedral City along Perez Road; and a location in Indio near the Auto Center.

Today, the Board approved moving forward with a key decision:

- Approved and confirmed the College's original Ecoplex property in Cathedral City as being the site of the College's future Roadrunner Motors project.

"We are grateful for our joint effort with Cathedral City to move this important project forward to create educational and employment opportunities for local students," said Board Chair Rubén Aríaztlán Pérez.

Today's board action is in part due to the overwhelming support by the community both prior to and at the special meeting. Participants were strongly in favor of the Ecoplex Cathedral City location.

"Roadrunner Motors will make a big difference in the lives of Cathedral City residents and we appreciate the College of Desert's work on bringing this project forward," said Cathedral City Mayor Ernesto Gutierrez. "Having Roadrunner Motors in our backyard will provide invaluable opportunities to our community."

In October 2021, after careful consideration, College of the Desert sought alternative sites, due to significant rising costs quoted for the original site. Information presented by College staff included an in-depth analysis of the options before the College as well as a deep financial review of the original site and comparable sites. This was necessary to ensure that the College is being a good fiscal steward of public funds.

"Pausing the project to thoroughly review site options and projected costs was necessary in order to be prudent with public dollars," said Pérez.

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