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## **NEWS RELEASE – SEPTEMBER 15, 2009**

### **HISTORIC PLAZA UPDATE**

Moving one step closer to beginning construction on the Historic Plaza redevelopment project, formation of the Historic Plaza Maintenance Assessment District was approved at the Twentynine Palms City Council meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 8.

Following a public hearing and tabulation of the ballots issued to Historic Plaza property owners in July, the assessment district was declared “passed by majority,” with eight of 11 property owners voting in favor of the levy of the proposed assessment and three not voting.

Annual fees collected through the new assessment district, calculated according to each property’s linear foot frontage in the Historic Plaza, will fund the annual cost of \$7,800 to maintain the landscaping and irrigation equipment installed in connection with construction of the planned Historic Plaza improvements.

After tabulation of the ballots at the meeting, the City Council then adopted Resolution 09-26 of the Redevelopment Agency Board, approving the plans and specifications submitted by Charles Abbott and Associates and authorizing a call for bids for the improvements to be constructed in Historic Plaza.

The redevelopment project will include sidewalks, parking lot improvements, landscaping, street furniture, lighting, signage, a pocket park, and public art within the Historic Plaza area.

According to City Manager Michael Tree, the Redevelopment Agency plans to put the project out to bid in early October and is hopeful that the City Council will be able to approve a bid and award a contract at their first meeting in November. Assuming no complications arise in the bid process and allowing time for insurance, bonding, and other construction details with the contractor, the project could be ready to break ground in December.

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