



## STATUS REPORT 7/8/2026

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

**FROM:** Gustavo Romo, City Manager

**SUBJECT:** Written Report Pursuant to Government Code section 65858: Measures Taken to Alleviate Conditions Which Led to Adoption of Urgency Ordinance No. 1229

---

This report is submitted in accordance with Government Code Section 65858(d), which requires a written report describing the measures taken to alleviate the threat to the public health, safety, or welfare caused by the potential development of a data center within the City that led to the adoption of a temporary moratorium prior to any extension of that moratorium.

On June 4, 2025, City Council adopted Urgency Ordinance No. 1229, establishing a 45-day moratorium on the approval of any land use entitlement and/or agreement that would allow the operation of data centers in the City. The moratorium was enacted in response to growing concerns regarding:

- The threats data centers pose to electrical infrastructure and grid reliability;
- The concerns data centers raise with respect to water supply and drought resiliency;
- The public health impacts caused by data centers; and
- The concerns data centers raise with respect to fire and emergency response, and public safety generally.

Since the adoption of Urgency Ordinance No. 1229, City staff has undertaken the following efforts to study and address these concerns:

1. **Review of Existing Regulations:** Staff has conducted a comprehensive review of Title 17 of the Coachella Municipal Code, as well as other current municipal code provisions that would regulate potential data centers within the City.
2. **Research of Best Practices:** Staff has examined regulatory frameworks used by other California cities to effectively mitigate the impact of data centers on infrastructure, utilities, and public health and safety.
3. **Public Engagement:** The City has held public hearings to discuss the presence of data centers within the City between members of the community.
4. **Zoning Analysis:** Staff has evaluated zoning strategies to best regulate the presence of data centers within the City.
5. **Coordination with Legal Counsel:** The City Attorney's Office has been consulted to ensure any proposed regulations are legally defensible and consistent with state law.

Based on the above efforts, staff is preparing a proposed ordinance to amend Title 17 of the Coachella Municipal Code that would permanently prohibit data centers and related uses within the City. This proposed ordinance is currently scheduled to go before the Planning Commission on July 18, 2026, and it is thereafter schedule to go before the City Council at the meeting on August 12, 2026. If the City Council decides to approve the permanent prohibition, it would go into effect after the end of the 45-day moratorium imposed by Urgency Ordinance No. 1229.

To avoid a lapse in the prohibition of data centers within the City, staff recommends that the City Council adopt another urgency ordinance extending the moratorium for an additional ten (10) months and fifteen (15) days, through June 4, 2027. This extension of the moratorium ensures that City Council can either, approve the proposed amendment to Title 17 of the Coachella Municipal Code and have it go into effect, or provide staff with alternative direction, before the end of the moratorium.

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

For questions or additional information, please contact:

Gustavo Romo

City Manager

(760) 398-3502

[gromo@coachella.org](mailto:gromo@coachella.org)