

817 Third Street, Needles, California 92363 (760) 326-2113 • FAX (760) 326-6765 www.cityofneedles.com

Mayor, Janet Jernigan Vice Mayor Ellen Campbell Councilmember Tona Belt Councilmember Jamie McCorkle Councilmember JoAnne Pogue Councilmember Henry Longbrake Councilmember Larry Ford

City Manager Patrick J. Martinez

MEMORANDUM

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: PATRICK J. MARTINEZ, CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: WEEKLY MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 11, 2025

1. Supporting Youth Development & Recognizing Community Partnerships I'm pleased to share the final designs for the new monument signs at **Bob Belt** Beach Park and Manny Morris Park, generously donated by Arrowhead Credit Union. See attached image for a description of the donation. These signs enhance our public spaces and reflect Arrowhead's continued investment in our community. For nearly a decade, Arrowhead has been a valued partner supporting initiatives such as toy drives, food distributions, and senior lunches. Please join me in thanking them for their ongoing commitment to the City of **Needles**, and be sure to express your appreciation when you see one of their representatives. Additionally, Saturday, July 12, Arrowhead Credit Union will be hosting a free financial literacy workshop, "On The Money," for youth ages 12-18 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM at the Needles Recreation Center. This event directly supports the City Council's goal of prioritizing youth **development** by offering real-world educational opportunities that help prepare our young residents for the future. I encourage everyone to stop by and show support for this critical initiative.

2. County Spotlight Highlights Needles' Historic Legacy

San Bernardino County recently featured the City of Needles in its official newsletter, drawing regional attention to our community's unique heritage and growing importance in the county. The article celebrated Needles as one of the oldest cities in San Bernardino County—tracing our origins back to the establishment of the railroad in 1883, the construction of the iconic El Garces Hotel in 1908, and our prominence along historic Route 66. References to notable events like General Patton's training maneuvers and cultural ties to Peanuts creator Charles Schulz further underscore the city's rich and diverse legacy. While our community and Council know this history well, this countywide spotlight is a welcome recognition that supports the City Council's ongoing efforts to promote tourism, strengthen public relations, and foster civic pride. The article also affirms Needles' strategic role in regional economic development. Located at the crossroads of Interstate 40 and Highway 95, Needles remains a vital logistics corridor for goods movement across the western United States. This strategic location continues to drive investment opportunities and economic resilience—further advancing the Council's vision

for sustainable growth and business-friendly development. We thank San Bernardino County and the Assessor-Recorder-Clerk's Office for highlighting Needles and helping elevate our profile throughout the region.

3. Well No. 11 Treatment Facility Now Online

The City of Needles is proud to announce that the Well No. 11 Treatment Plant is now fully online and operational, marking a major milestone in our long-term investment to modernize local water infrastructure. This \$8.9 million project—supported through funding from the State Water Resources Control Board, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and California Climate Investments—is actively treating groundwater from Wells No. 11, 12, and 15, now delivering cleaner, safer drinking water across the system. The facility is part of a broader \$14.3 million infrastructure program that includes booster station upgrades, pipeline improvements, and new emergency power systems. These improvements directly advance the City Council's goals to protect public health, ensure sustainable essential services, and improve overall quality of life. This achievement is a clear example of how strategic planning and strong interagency collaboration can deliver long-term benefits to our community. The City is grateful to all funding partners and staff who helped make this critical investment a reality.

4. Citywide Beautification and Storm Recovery Efforts

In alignment with the City Council's goals to enhance public safety, improve infrastructure, and promote community pride, City staff continues to respond swiftly to ongoing maintenance and beautification needs. This week, the Public Works Department launched targeted sidewalk repairs in areas affected by buckling and storm damage. Crews have removed compromised sections and are actively framing and preparing to pour new concrete in the neighborhoods of Lillyhill, D Street, and F Street. In addition, storm cleanup remains a priority citywide. Crews are actively clearing debris to ensure roads and public spaces remain safe and accessible. The street sweeper, which had been temporarily out of service, will be back in operation Monday after staff successfully sourced and installed a replacement part from a local vendor. Cleanup efforts will focus on impacted neighborhoods first and continue until all areas have been addressed. These efforts demonstrate our commitment to proactive service delivery, resident safety, and the long-term beautification of Needles.

5. Rural Transit Day: Free Rides on July 16

In recognition of Rural Transit Day on Tuesday, July 16, Needles Transit Services—which include NAT's deviated fixed-route service and Dial-A-Ride (DAR) curb-to-curb service for seniors and individuals with disabilities—will participate in a countywide initiative led by the San Bernardino County Transportation Authority (SBCTA) to promote public transit in rural communities. As part of this effort, free rides will be available all day on both Needles Area Transit and Dial-A-Ride. Reservations are required for Dial-A-Ride; to request a ride, please call 760-326-4789. Thank you to SBCTA for supporting this regional effort. For more information, visit needlestransit.com or call 760-326-2113 ext. 115. A flyer is attached for reference.

- 6. Weekly Mobile Medical Clinic in Needles
 As a reminder, the San Bernardino County Department of Public Health
 continues to operate a weekly Mobile Medical Clinic in Needles every
 Thursday from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the Transitional Assistance
 Department lot (1090 E. Broadway). Offered through the County's On-TheGo Health initiative, the clinic provides no-cost primary and urgent care
 services, including health screenings, chronic disease management,
 pregnancy testing, minor wound care, and Medi-Cal enrollment assistance.
 No insurance is required, and services are open to all California residents.
 Appointments are strongly encouraged by calling (800) 722-4777 (Press 5).
 Please continue helping us share this valuable resource with the community.
- 7. Fourth of July Enforcement Summary Marine and Fireworks Activity From Friday, July 4, to Sunday, July 6, 2025, the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department Marine Enforcement Unit conducted its Fourth of July Holiday Operation along the Colorado River, which includes the Needles area. During the operation, the department deployed nine patrol vessels, an OHV team, and a Sheriff's Department helicopter. A total of 112 enforcement stops were conducted, resulting in 66 citations issued. One boating under the influence arrest involved a resident of Needles, CA. For additional details, please refer to the attached press release. In addition, the Sheriff's Department implemented zero-tolerance fireworks enforcement in Needles. Only "safe and sane" fireworks are permitted anything that **explodes or becomes airborne is illegal**. While the department reported five fireworks-related calls for service between June 25 and July 6, we continue to encourage residents to report violations by calling Sheriff's Dispatch at (909) 387-8313. As a reminder, 9-1-1 should only be used for emergencies that require immediate law enforcement, fire, or medical response.
- 8. Rural Hospital Funding Colorado River Medical Center (CRMC)
 The recently enacted federal budget includes Medi-Cal Disproportionate
 Share Hospital (DSH) payment reductions scheduled to begin in Fiscal Year
 2025–26 and continue through 2027–28. Based on guidance from CMS and
 DHCS, these cuts are projected to reduce funding by approximately 55.31%.
 These payments have historically helped stabilize rural hospitals that serve high
 numbers of Medi-Cal patients. Although the City of Needles does not operate
 CRMC, the hospital is a critical part of our local infrastructure and the only fullservice healthcare facility. Recognizing its importance, the City has been
 actively working with CRMC leadership to monitor the situation and
 identify potential strategies to help safeguard services for Needles
 residents. We will continue to stay engaged on this issue and support the
 hospital's efforts to navigate the upcoming financial challenges while
 maintaining access to care in our community.
- 9. 2025 City of Needles Assessment Roll Continued Growth
 The San Bernardino County Assessor-Recorder-Clerk's Office has released
 the 2025 Assessment Roll for the City of Needles, reflecting a total assessed
 property value of \$593,071,256. This marks a 5.3% increase from 2024 and a

remarkable 93% increase since 2017. The assessment roll captures the total value of locally assessed real estate, business, and personal property that has increased due to ownership changes or new construction. This upward trend is a direct reflection of the City Council's goals to promote economic development, attract investment, and strengthen the long-term financial health of the city. The city's progress in recent years highlights the alignment between policy direction and outcomes that benefit both residents and the local economy. Refer to the attached chart for a visual summary of our assessment growth over time.

- 10. Jack Smith Memorial Boat Launch Peak Season Activity
 I want to extend my appreciation to our Recreation staff for their
 exceptional work at the Jack Smith Memorial Boat Launch this season. The
 facility has seen high traffic throughout the summer, particularly during the
 recent holiday weekends. Our team has gone above and beyond—
 managing operations, keeping the area clean, and ensuring a safe,
 welcoming environment for both residents and visitors. Their efforts paid off:
 all 750 annual launch passes have __SOLD OUT__ well ahead of the
 October season-end, underscoring the launch's popularity. Thanks to this hard
 work, the boat launch continues to shine as one of Needles' most popular and
 well-used recreational assets, helping drive regional tourism and
 community pride. Great job to the entire team for their continued
 dedication during our busiest time of year.
- 11. Aquatics Programming Enhances Community Health and Engagement The **City of Needles** continues to see strong participation in its **morning water** exercise classes at the Needles Aquatic Center. These low-impact fitness sessions provide a safe, enjoyable, and healthy way for adults of all ages to stay active during the summer months. "A local resident recently commented: "Thank you for providing an excellent exercise program for the citizens of Needles!" This type of community feedback reinforces the City Council's ongoing commitment to promoting health, wellness, and quality of life through accessible recreation. In addition to the morning exercise classes, the City offers a variety of **aquatics programs** throughout the season, including open swim, swim lessons for both children and adults, family swim nights, and **lifeguard certification courses**. These offerings are designed to support youth development, promote public safety, and provide intergenerational recreational opportunities for residents and visitors alike. We thank our Recreation staff for their continued dedication and effort in making these programs a success. For more information about current aquatic offerings, view the flyer here or contact (760) 326-3866.

12. Support for Local Youth Leadership

City Manager Patrick Martinez submitted a formal letter of recommendation in support of Robert Yankee's Eagle Scout candidacy, highlighting the City's continued support for youth achievement and civic engagement. Robert's Eagle project—a thoughtfully crafted bench at Lynne's Garden—adds lasting value to one of Needles' key public spaces and reflects the City Council's goals to promote youth leadership, civic pride, and enhancement of community

assets. Beyond his project, Robert has excelled in **academics**, **athletics**, **and public service**, and is preparing to begin basic training to become a **firefighter** in the **U.S. Navy**. The City proudly supports Robert's path and recognizes him as a rising citizen-leader dedicated to service and community improvement.

13. Excessive Heat Warning – Cooling Centers and Fire Safety Preparedness
The National Weather Service has issued Excessive Heat Warnings for the
Tri-State area over the past few weeks. In response, the following facilities in
Needles are available to the public as designated cooling centers: the Needles
Aquatic Center at 1101 Civic Center Drive, the Needles Senior Center at
1699 Bailey Avenue, and the San Bernardino County Public Library –
Needles Branch at 1111 Bailey Avenue (hours of operation vary). Residents
are encouraged to stay hydrated, limit outdoor activities, and remain aware
of the signs and symptoms of heat exhaustion and heat stroke.
In addition to health concerns, forecasters are warning that the prolonged heat
will continue to elevate fire weather conditions, increasing the potential for
wildfire activity. It is important for residents to be prepared and take preventive
measures to reduce wildfire risk. Cal Fire has published a Wildfire Evacuation
Guide, click on this link for your reference.

14. Interstate 40 Pavement Rehabilitation Project

Caltrans District 8 has initiated the **Design Phase** for the **Interstate 40 Pavement Rehabilitation Project** near **Needles**, covering a segment of westbound I-40 from **approximately 2 miles east of Five Mile Road to I Street**. The project will include pavement rehabilitation, safety enhancements, and the installation of a **concrete median barrier** to address collision risks, particularly during rainy weather events. Currently in the **Plans, Specifications & Estimates (PS&E) Phase**, construction is anticipated to begin in **mid-2026**. The estimated cost is **\$8.6 million**, funded through a combination of **federal and state sources**. This corridor is part of a critical transcontinental route used heavily by freight and regional traffic. The project supports safer travel conditions improved surface quality, and aligns with the **City Council's infrastructure improvement priorities**. The City values its continued partnership with Caltrans and will remain engaged as the project advances. **See the attached Caltrans Fact Sheet for additional details**.

15. Advancing Community Wellness Through Partnership

Tri-State Community Healthcare continues to be a vital partner in supporting the City Council's goals of improving public health, expanding youth recreation, and strengthening community engagement. On Saturday, August 2, Tri-State will sponsor a free Night Pool Party at the Needles Aquatic Center from 6:00–9:00 PM, featuring complimentary hot dogs, drinks, snacks, and water bounce house slides. This event offers families a safe, festive environment to enjoy summer recreation and connect with one another. To further encourage youth physical activity, Tri-State is distributing 100 free pool passes to local children. Passes are available for pick-up at their West Broadway Clinic (820 W Broadway St) and are valid during open swim (Monday–Thursday) at the Aquatic Center. In addition to recreational support, Tri-State is advancing nutritional wellness. On July 9, they hosted another free produce distribution

event, providing over **35,000 pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables** to Needles residents. These initiatives represent **Tri-State's strong and ongoing investment in Needles' health and quality of life,** and they directly advance the Council's vision for a more active, connected, and resilient community.

16. Celebrate Freedom - 4th of July Pool Party

The Needles Elks Lodge hosted its annual "Celebrate Freedom" 4th of July Pool Party at the Needles Aquatics Center, drawing 133 attendees and raising \$550 through donations and concessions. The family-friendly event featured open swim, games, prizes, and the return of the Miss Freedom and Mr. Firecracker contest for children ages 4–5. The City of Needles was proud to support this community tradition, which aligns with the City Council's ongoing commitment to community engagement and recreational programming. We extend our sincere thanks to the Needles Elks Lodge for organizing and leading this celebration. We also wish to thank Assemblymember Jeff Gonzalez for sending a representative to attend and support the event, further reinforcing the importance of civic partnership in building strong community connections.

17. Needles Women's Club Lunch Fundraiser (NEXT TUESDAY)

The Needles Women's Club invites the community to participate in their July fundraiser on Tuesday, July 16, 2025, offering a Chicken Teriyaki Bowl with dessert for just \$10. Proceeds support scholarships, youth programs, women's empowerment, and civic engagement across Needles. Meals are available for pickup or delivery (3 or more orders) within the local area. Orders must be placed in advance using the official online form by clicking here. Pickup and delivery will take place between 11:00 AM and 1:00 PM on July 16. We thank the Women's Club for their dedication and Billet Health for serving as this month's lunch sponsor. Your participation helps strengthen our community and support meaningful local causes.

18. Community Events Calendar Now Live on City Website

As part of the City's newly launched website, we're excited to introduce a comprehensive Community Events Calendar designed to keep residents informed about the many activities and happenings across Needles. We invite local organizations and event organizers to collaborate with the City Clerk's Office to add or update events—helping ensure the calendar remains vibrant, inclusive, and reflective of our community's diverse offerings. To contribute or request modifications, please contact Candace Clark at cclark@cityofneedles.com. Your participation helps strengthen community spirit and enrich the local experience for residents and visitors alike.

1. ARROWHEAD CREDIT UNION



PLAY & LEARN

On The Money is a financial game that guides students through real-world financial decisions.

- Manage on-time bill payments
- Pay taxes from each paycheck
- Cash paychecks
- Make purchase decisions

- Choose to live alone or with roommates
- Handle unexpected expenses, like a flat tire
- Raise credit scores
- Balance wants vs. needs

STUDENTS ARE INVITED!

_{Date} Saturday, July 12

Time 10am – 12pm

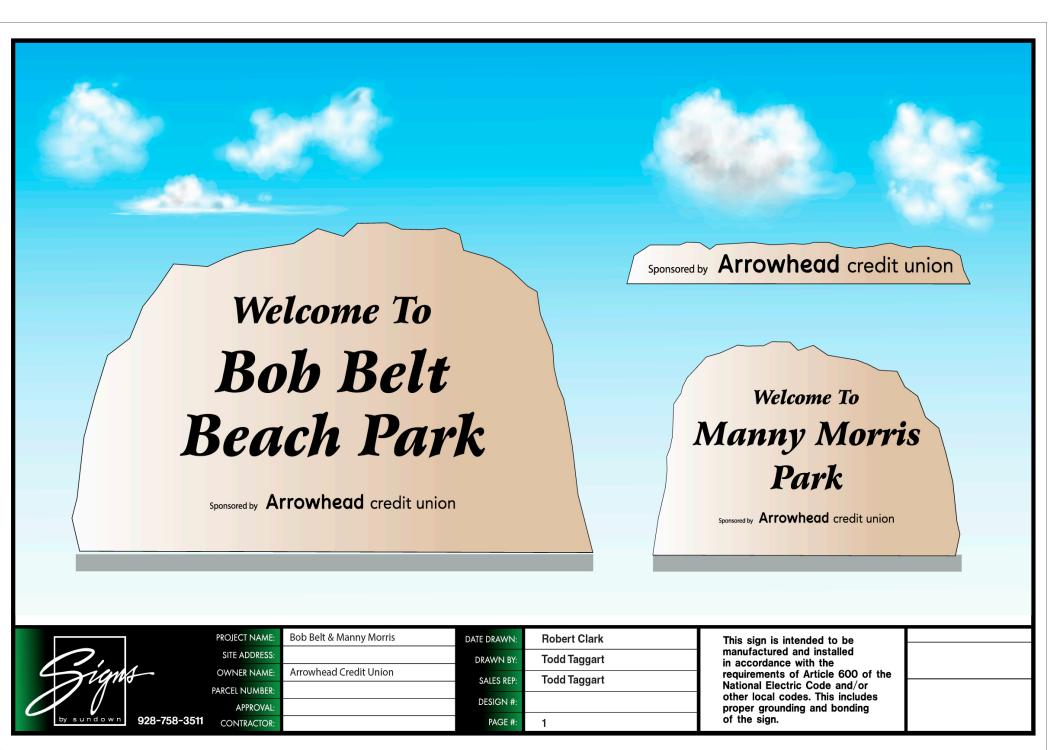
Needles Recreation Center 1705 J St Needles, CA 92363

Student Age 12 to 18 years old Register by July 7





1. ARROWHEAD CREDIT UNION



2. COUNTY SPOTLIGHT

San Bernardino County history: Needles

July 3, 2025
COUNTY HISTORY | COUNTYWIRE





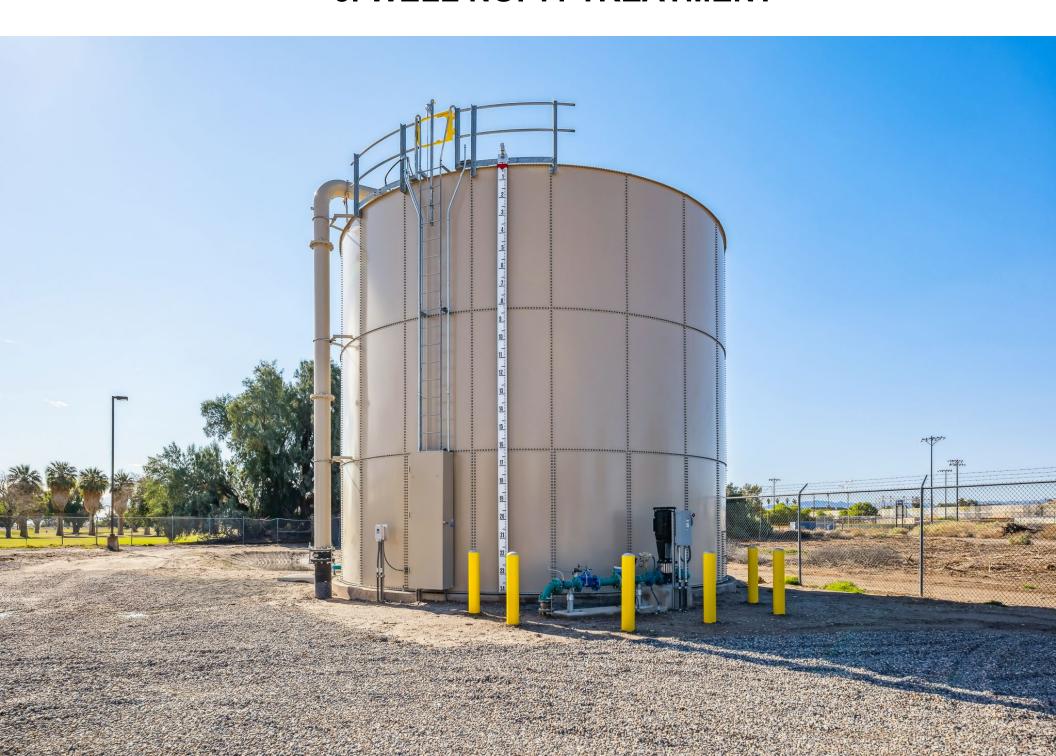
Wooden wagon on Route 66 welcomes drivers to Needles.

Needles is one of the oldest cities in San Bernardino County, located in the eastern portion of the county near the borders of Arizona and Nevada.

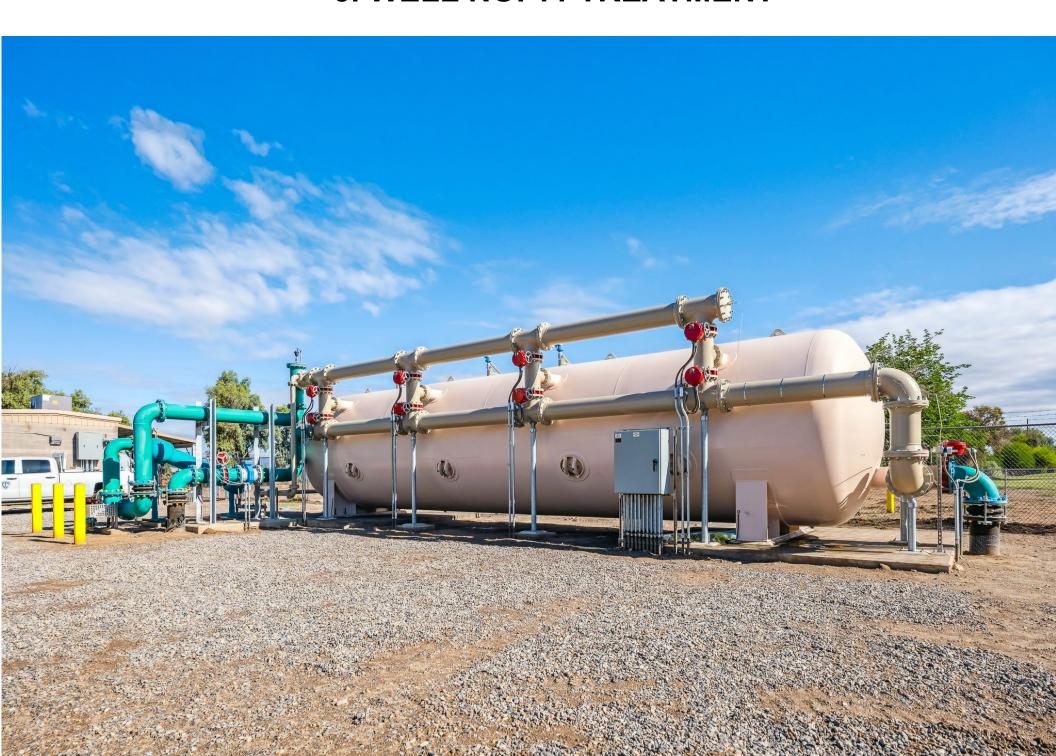
In 1859, the United States Army established Camp Colorado (later renamed to Ft. Mojave) on the east side of the Colorado River in this region. By 1883, the first railroad crossed the Colorado River from Topock, Arizona to the present-day site of Needles, which led to the town's formation.

The town was named after "The Needles," a distinctive group of rock pinnacles and mountain peaks in Mohave County, Arizona, which ranged from 1,207 to over 1,600 feet. In 1890, the railroad company built a high cantilever bridge ten miles downstream from Needles, which was known as the Red Rock Bridge.

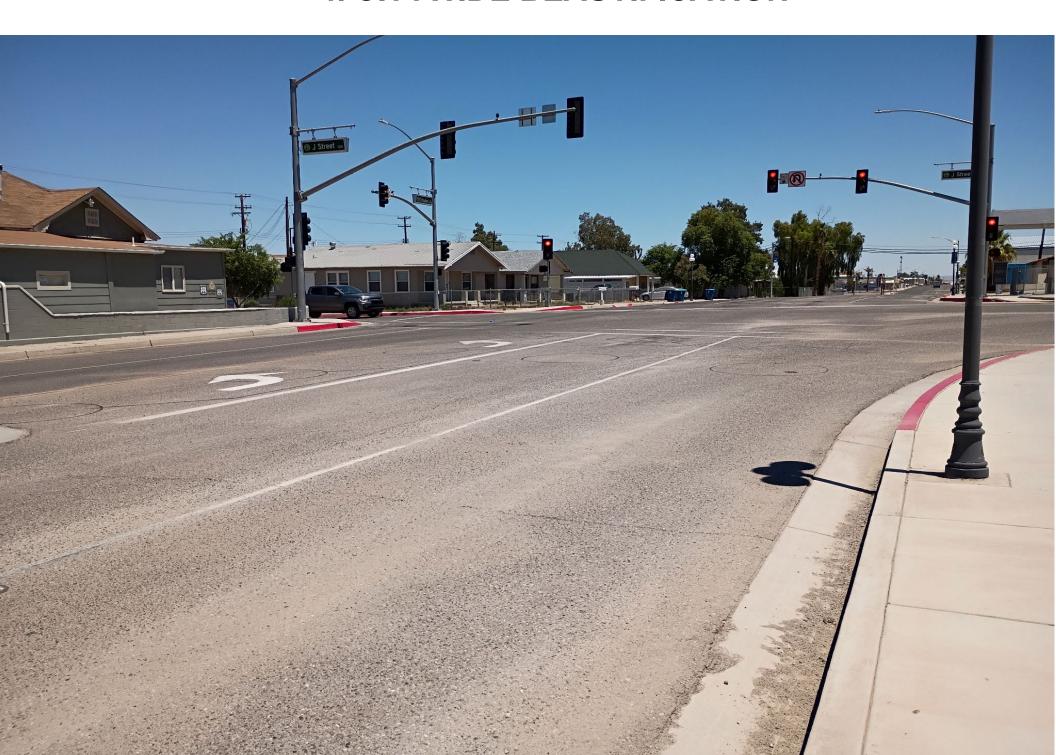
3. WELL NO. 11 TREATMENT



3. WELL NO. 11 TREATMENT



4. CITYWIDE BEAUTIFICATION



4. CITYWIDE BEAUTIFICATION



5. SBCTA TRANSIT DAY

Celebrate Rural Transit Day, July 16!

Rural transit benefits us all.



Victor Valley Transit, Mountain Transit, Basin Transit, and Needles Area Transit are free all day.









powered by



6. ON-THE-GO HEALTH



On-The-Go Health

Mobile Medical Clinic in Needles

No insurance? We can help!



Open to Medi-Cal patients and those who have applied for Medi-Cal.

Primary care services

- · Annual adult health screening physicals
- Point of Care screenings/testing: Hypertension, hemoglobin, and diabetes (HgbA1c, glucose)
- Pregnancy testing
- Chronic disease management medication refills (e.g. hypertension, diabetes, arthritis, thyroid)

Public Health

Urgent care services

- Urine tests/Urinary Tract Infections (UTI)
- Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI):
 - Gonorrhea, chlamydia, syphilis, HIV
- Rash
- Fever/cold/flu
- Hepatitis C screening
- Minor wound care



Offering convenient healthcare for California residents!

Appointments highly recommended.

Weekly visits every
Thursday,
starting from
8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Parking lot of the
Transitional
Assistance
Department
1090 E. Broadway St.
Needles, CA

To apply for Medi-Cal, scan the QR code or visit the link below:

bit.ly/SBCMedi-Cal









7. SBSD MARINE ENFORCEMENT



SBSD - Colorado River Sheriffs Department

Monday July 7th, 2025 :: 10:27 a.m. PDT

Advisory

Holiday Marine Enforcement Operation Results in Eight Arrests and 66 Citations Issued

DATE: July 7, 2025

INCIDENT: Holiday Marine Enforcement Results

LOCATION: San Bernardino County

SUMMARY: The San Bernardino County Sheriff Department's Marine Enforcement Unit conducted its 4th of July Holiday Enforcement Operation starting on Friday, July 4th through Sunday, July 6th. The operation was conducted along the Colorado River, from the California/Nevada state line to the Riverside County line, as well as Big Bear Lake and Lake Arrowhead.

Most of the operation was focused on the waterways with resorts, launch ramps and marinas along the river and lakes. A total of nine patrol vessels, an OHV team, and a Sheriff's Department helicopter were deployed throughout the area. The Marine Enforcement Unit conducted a total of 112 enforcement stops throughout the holiday weekend. There was a total of eight arrests made for boating under the influence. The following are the names of the individuals arrested during the operation:

Brandon Frere, 49 years of age, Glendora, Ca. (Boating under the influence) Douglas Miller, 23 years of age, Glendale, Az. (Boating under the influence) Olivia Lindholm, 22 years of age, Tempe, Az. (Boating under the influence) Nathan Smith, 20 years of age, Las Vegas, Nv. (Boating under the influence) Sharli Taylor, 50 years of age, Mohave Valley, Az. (Boating under the influence) Samuel Wallace, 27 years of age, Lucerne Valley, Ca. (Boating under the influence) Devin Tittle, 24 years of age, Brea, Ca. (Boating under the influence) John Romero, 33 years of age, Needles, Ca. (Boating under the influence)

Approximately 66 citations were issued for various boating law violations as well as hundreds of verbal warnings. The Marine Enforcement Unit investigated two minor injury boat accidents, a propeller strike that occurred on the Parker Strip and a skier mishap that occurred on Lake Havasu. A drowning occurred at Black Meadow Landing on Lake Havasu; the circumstances of the incident are still under investigation at this time.

The Colorado River Station Marine Enforcement Unit urges all California residents to go online to www.californiaboatercard.com and take the online test to obtain their boater card, which is now required by law, regardless of age. The Colorado River Station Marine Enforcement Unit is, as always, dedicated to providing a safe boating atmosphere for the public and reminds everyone to wear their life jackets and to boat sober.

For press releases, news and information, follow the Colorado River Station on Twitter at: @CORiverStation, Facebook @SBCSDColoradoRiverStation and/or Instagram @SBCSDColoradoRiverStation

Refer: Sergeant Travis Vessells

Station: Colorado River Station

Phone No. (760) 326-9200

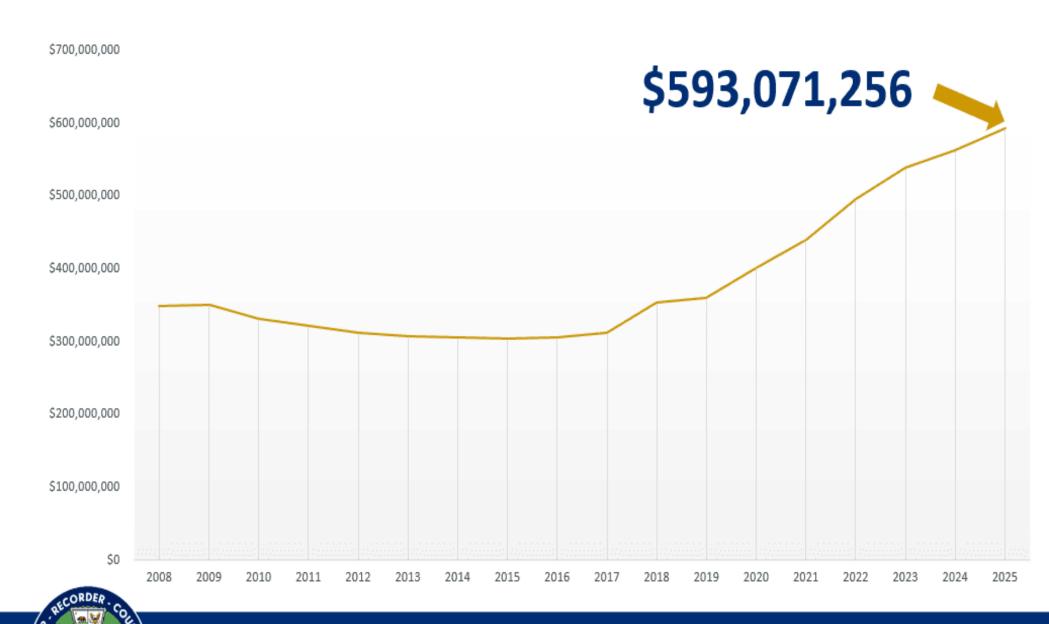
SHANNON D. DICUS, Sheriff-Coroner San Bernardino County Sheriff-Coroner Department Address/Location

SBSD - Colorado River Sheriffs Department 1111 Bailey Ave Needles, CA 92363

Contact

Emergency: 9-1-1

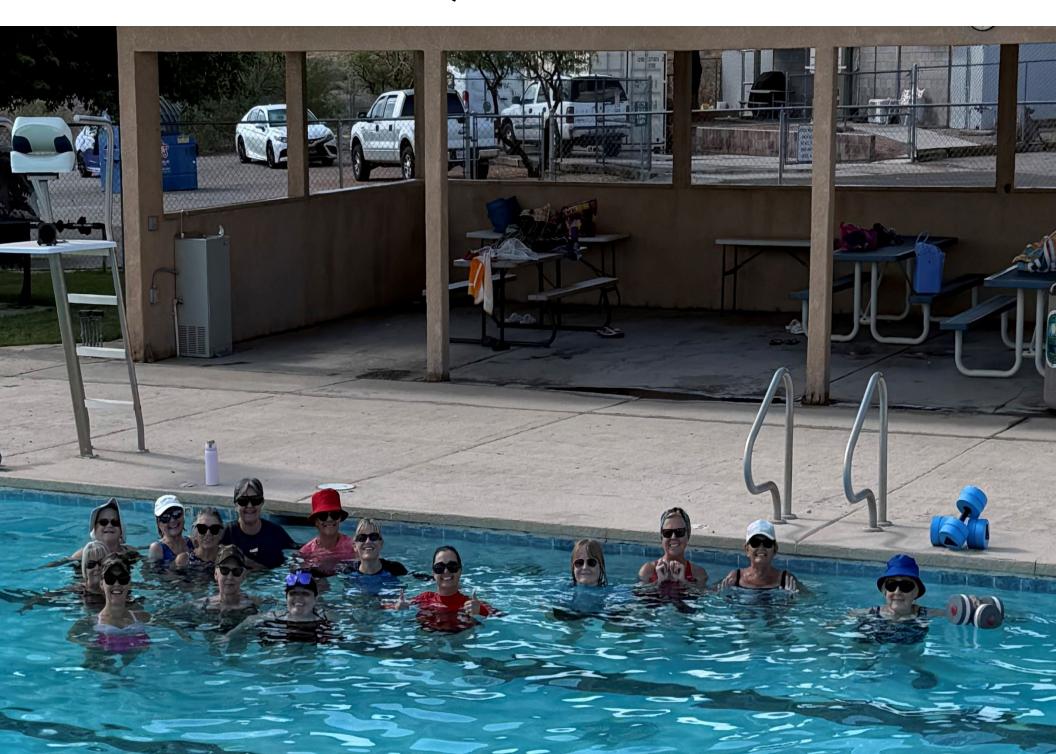
9. 2025 NEEDLES ASSESSMENT ROLL



2025 City of Needles Assessment Roll

Josie Gonzales | Assessor-Recorder-County Clerk

11. AQUATICS PROGRAM



12. EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT



14. CALTRANS PROJECT I-40

Improving lives and communities through transportation

District 8

PROJECT FACT SHEET



Interstate 40 Pavement Rehabilitation Project Near Needles

Project Overview

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) District 8 will deliver a pavement rehabilitation project on westbound Interstate 40 (I-40) near the City of Needles in San Bernardino County, approximately twelve miles west of the Arizona State Line. The project will provide an asphalt overlay and cold plane paving in the existing two westbound lanes of I-40 for approximately two miles between Fox Wash and L Street. The work will also install rumble strips on the inside and outside shoulders, upgrade guardrail, add a high-tension cable barrier and in the median. The purpose of the project is to reduce the frequency and severity of collisions during rainy events by improving the pavement surface condition and reducing crossover collisions by installing the median barrier.

Purpose

The purpose of this project is to reduce the frequency and severity of collisions during rainy events by improving pavement surface condition within the project limits and reducing crossover collisions by installing median barrier.

Need

The number of collisions has increased along westbound during rainy events and skid test showed numbers below the minimum required threshold. This segment of I- 40 has also been identified in the most recent Table C and Table C Wet reports for investigations. Also, this segment of I-40 was identified in the 2020 crossover collision monitoring program report. The project is needed to address these current deficiencies.

Travel Impacts

Project Approval & Project Initiation **Environmental Document** I-40 is a major transcontinental highway that begins at the junction with Interstate 15 (I-15) in Barstow and travels Begin Construction End Construction to the Arizona State Line in California. It is a major east/west corridor primarily used by the trucking industry, recreational vehicles, and 2025 2026 2022 2024 motorists traveling to and from California.

Total Estimated Cost

\$8.0 Million

Funding Source

Federal and State

Project Manager

Gobishanker Rajaskanthan (909) 665-3603 gobishanker.rajaskanthan@dot.ca.gov





Needles

15. TRI-STATE COMMUNITY HEALTCHARE



16. POOL PARTY JULY 4TH CELEBRATION



17. WOMEN'S CLUB FUNDRAISER



FUNDRAISER FOR NEEDLES WOMEN'S CLUB

CHICKEN TERIYAKI BOWL

TUESDAY JULY 15, 2025

LUNCH & DESSERT ONLY \$10

Order for pick up or delivery







https://bit.ly/TeriChick