



City of Needles, California Request for Board Action

☐ CITY COUNCIL ☐ NPUA ☒ CEMETERY ADVISORY COMMISSION
☒ Adjourned Regular ☐ Special

Meeting Date: January 25, 2024

Title: City Manager's Weekly Reports to City Council for December 15, 2023; December 22, 2023; December 29, 2023; and January 5, 2024

Background: Attached

Fiscal Impact:

Environmental Impact:

Recommended Action: Information Only

Submitted By: Cheryl Sallis

City Management Review: *Ratner*

Date: 1-18-24

Approved: ☐

Not Approved: ☐

Tabled: ☐

Other: ☐

City Manager's
Agenda Item: Weekly Reports



City of Needles

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

www.cityofneedles.com

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

City Manager Patrick J. Martinez

MEMORANDUM

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: PATRICK J. MARTINEZ, CITY MANAGER

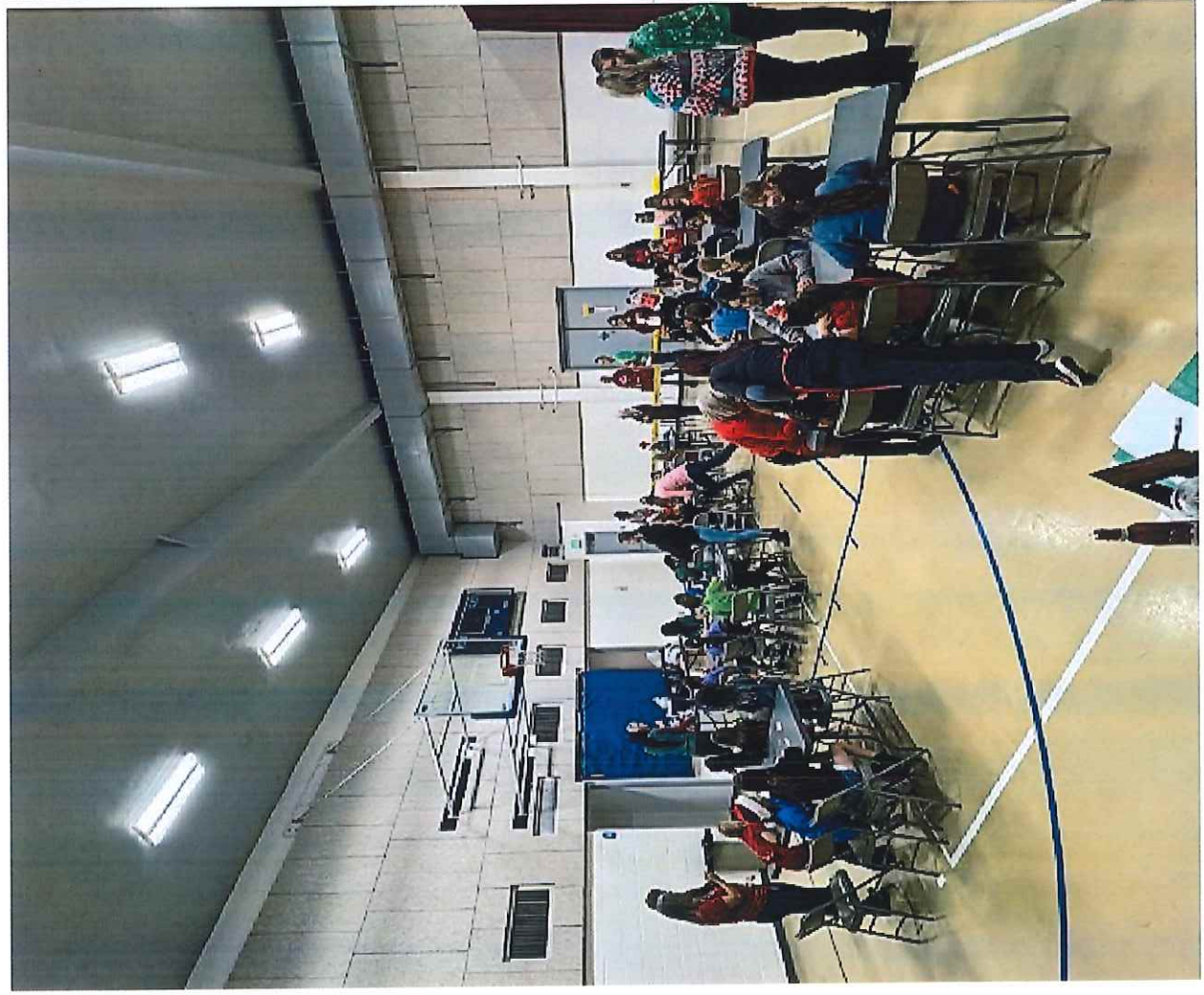
SUBJECT: WEEKLY MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 15, 2023

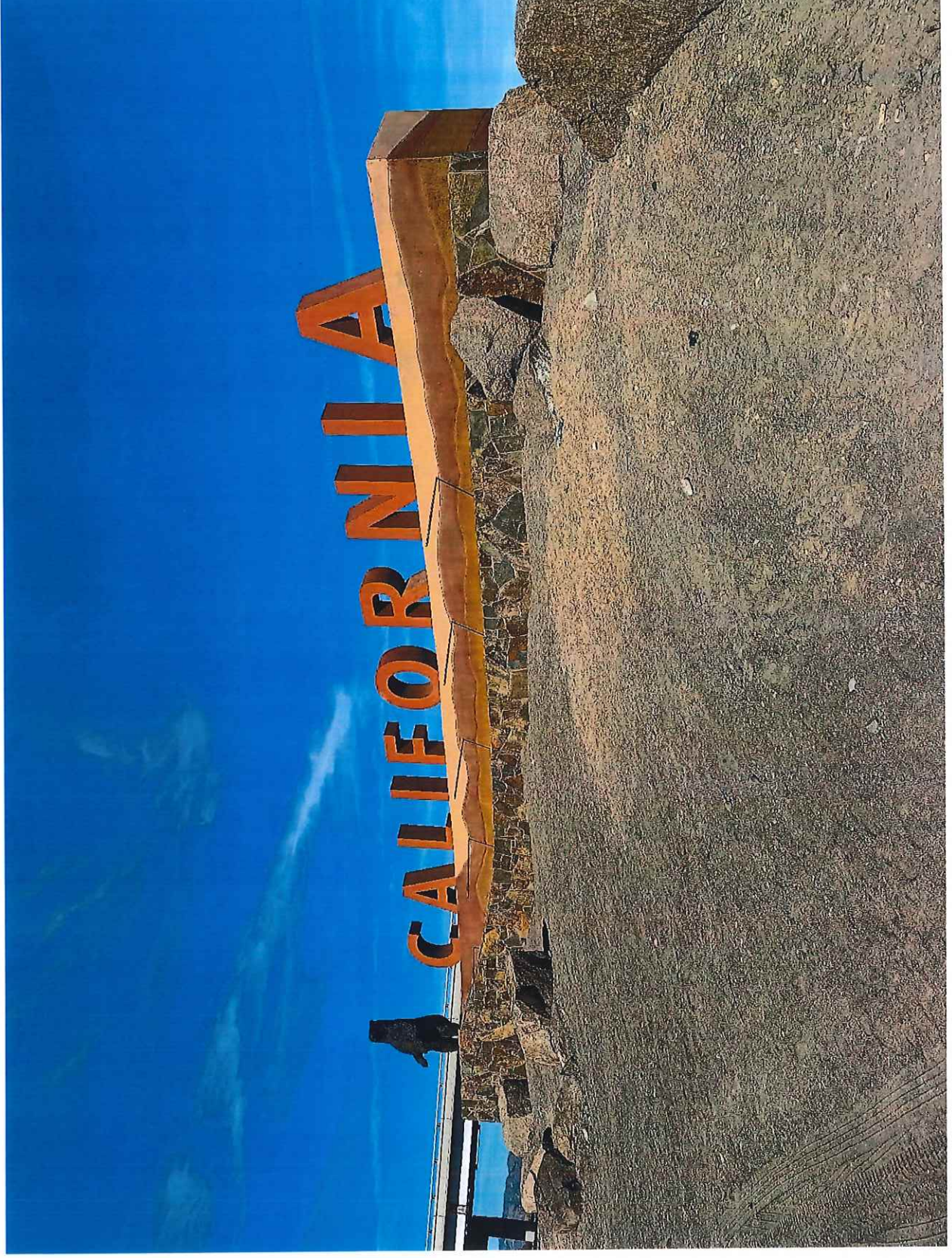
1. In partnership with Arrowhead Credit Union, the City hosted Santa's Workshop—a heartwarming event for 47 children filled with joy and giving. As the children savored lunch, Santa's surprise appearance delighted them. Each participant chose new shoes and socks, capturing the moment with Santa in a photograph. Thoughtfully, jackets were provided for all attendees and their families, ensuring warmth and comfort during the festive season. It was a heartening display of generosity and holiday spirit for everyone involved (image attached).
2. Caltrans conducted a photo shoot on December 6, 2023, at the newly constructed Needles Gateway Monument sign, joined by City Councilmembers and City Staff. This shoot marked Caltrans' involvement in Governor Newsom's \$1.1 billion Clean California initiative, awarding a \$5.9-million beautification project in Needles. The project involves erecting a gateway monument wall featuring "California" lettering and a California Bear figure within the Caltrans right-of-way at 5 Mile Rd. Additionally, it includes enhancing existing on/off ramps at Needles Hwy, J Street, and E. Broadway with new landscaping materials like gravel, mulch, and rock blankets. Completion is slated for the first quarter of the upcoming year (image attached).
3. The new Duke Watkins pump track saw the completion of its concrete work on Thursday, December 14, 2023. This project was made possible through a \$3,965,400 grant from California's Proposition 68 Statewide Park Program (image attached).
4. Today, City staff underwent vital cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and first aid training, equipping our teams with essential skills, including the operation of automated external defibrillators (AEDs) to save lives during cardiac emergencies (image attached).

5. Last night, a power outage occurred in the vicinity spanning Clary Drive to Casa Linda Street, caused by an unfortunate incident involving an alleged drunk driver colliding with an NPUA transformer. Immediate responses from City Staff (including public works and the electric department), SB County Sheriffs, Fire Department, and Baker Ambulance swiftly followed. The combined efforts of public works and electric departments resulted in site cleanup and power restoration within just 2 hours of the incident (image attached).
6. On December 9, 2023, IEHP (Inland Empire Health Plan) organized a "Community Social and Job Fair" at Palo Verde Community College, offering crucial health service access to low-income and working-class individuals and families via the Medi-Cal program. Post-event, IEHP, and Tri-State Community Health conducted a productive dialogue with Needles' healthcare providers to assess the community's current needs and enhance resident services. Furthermore, both organizations plan to establish a recurring food bank at the Tri-State parking lot for ongoing community support.

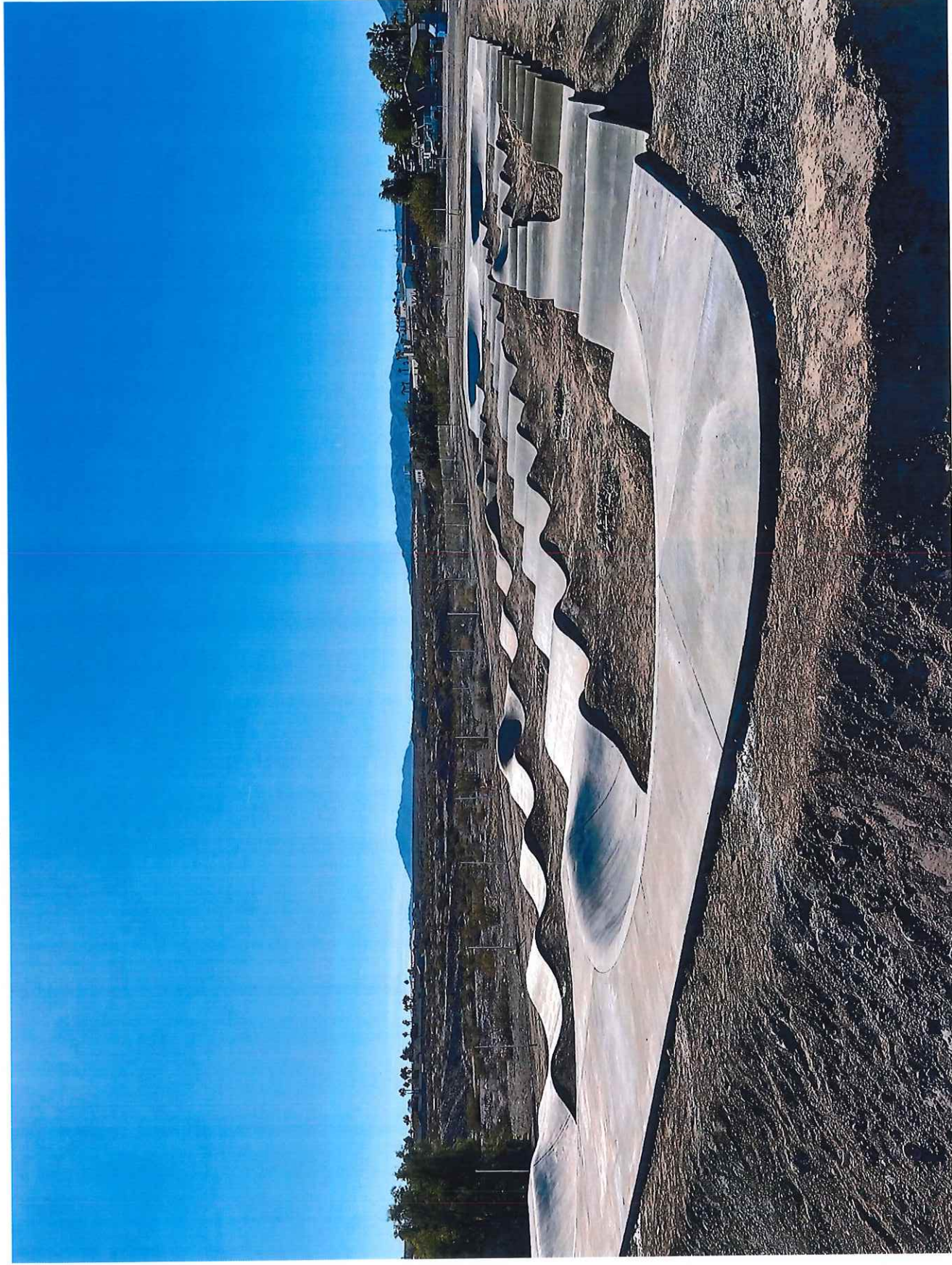
1. SANTA'S WORKSHOP



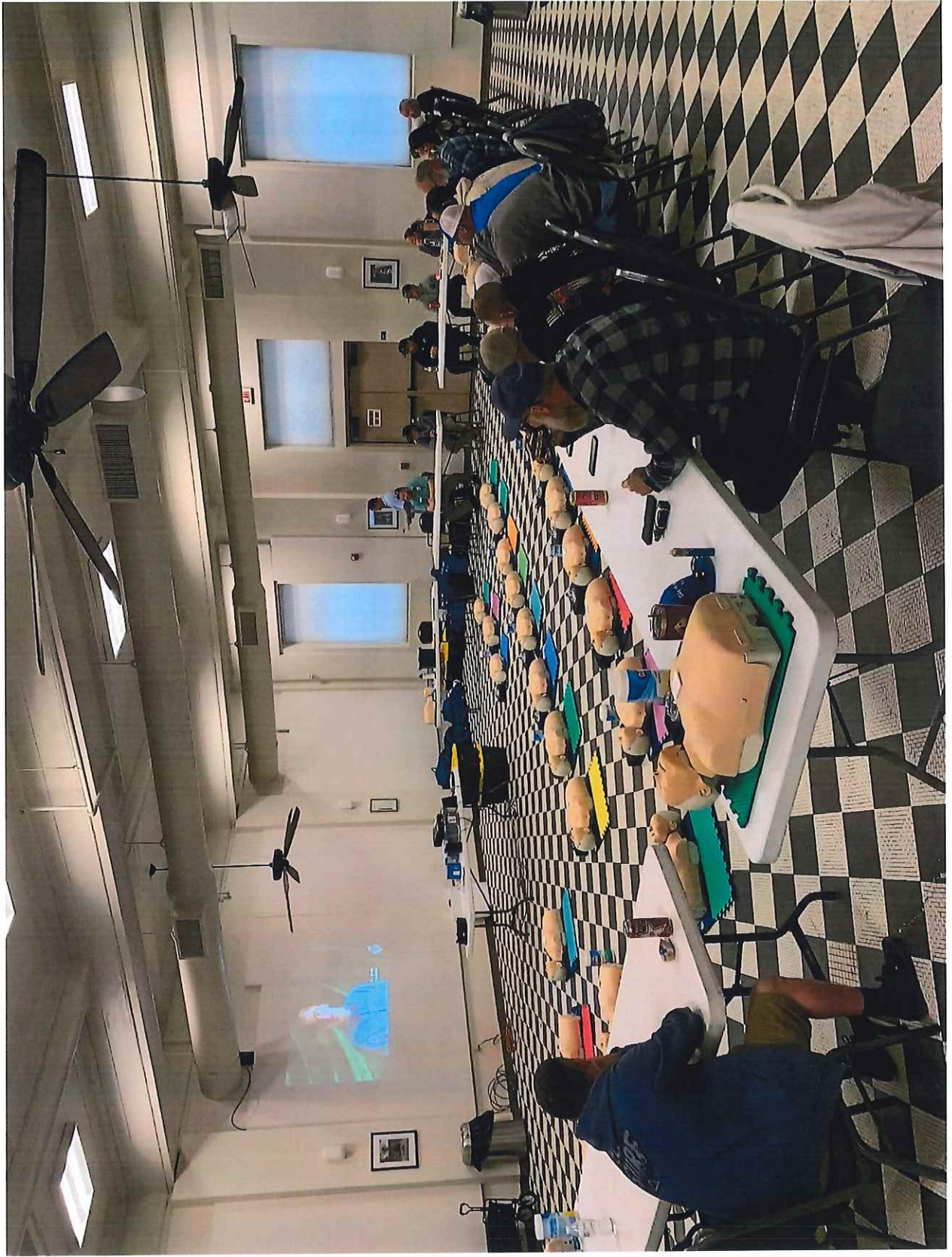
2. NEEDLES GATEWAY MONUMENT SIGN



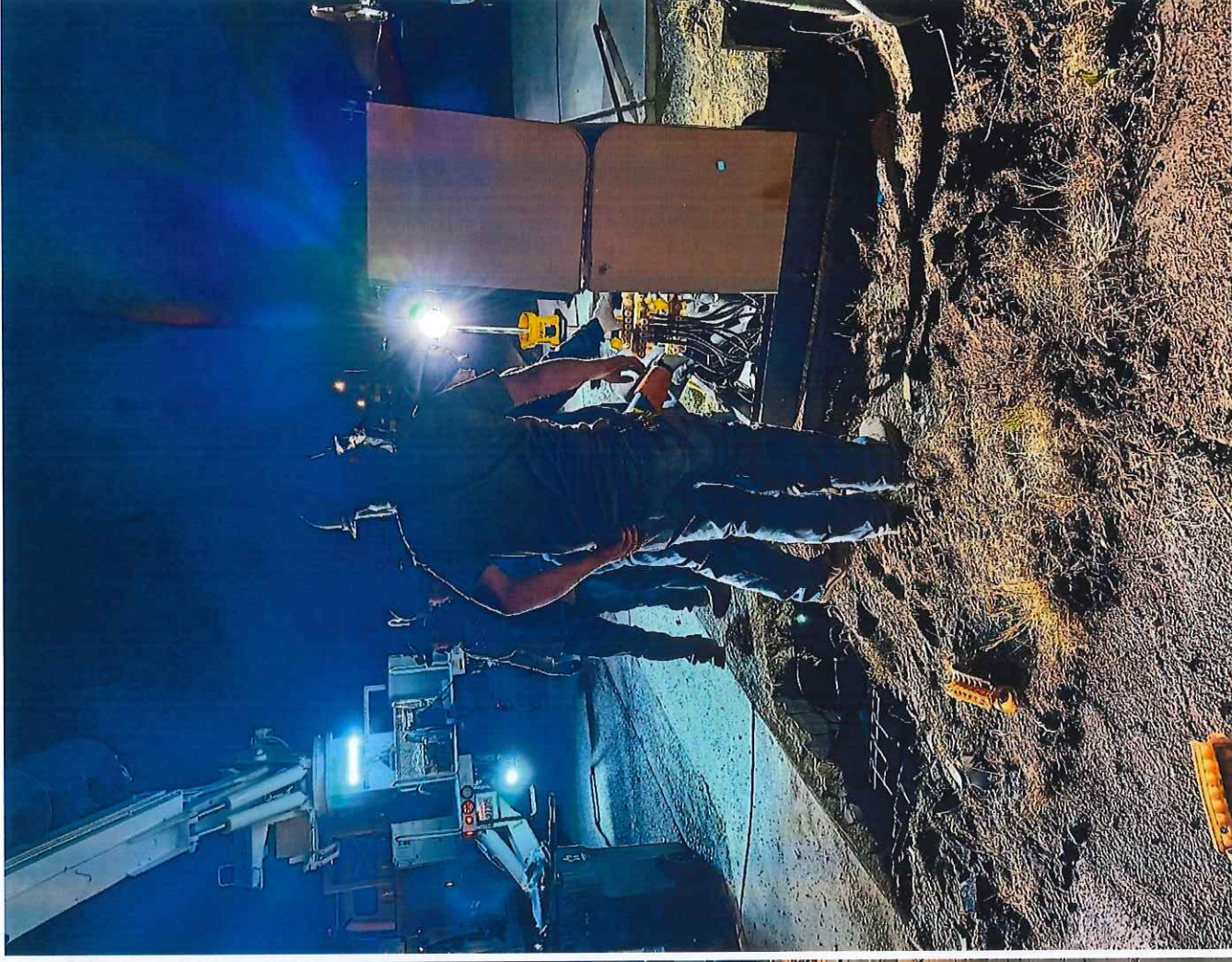
3. DUKE WATKINS PUMP TRACK



4. CPR AND AED TRAINING



5. LILLYHILL POWER OUTAGE





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MEMORANDUM

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: PATRICK J. MARTINEZ, CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: WEEKLY MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 22, 2023

1. City Hall will be closed on Monday, December 25, and Tuesday, December 26, in observance of Christmas. Normal operations will resume on Wednesday, December 27, starting at 8:30 AM. In emergencies, don't hesitate to contact City Staff directly at 760-326-5700. Our after-hours answering service will promptly direct your call to the right staff member.
2. On November 10, 2023, I reported to the City Council that the Needles Area Transit hosted a Community Open House on November 7, 2023, to discuss residents' transit service needs. In addition to the input received from the eight interviews that were conducted with stakeholders, such as the Needles Unified School District, Chamber of Commerce, Palo Verde College Needles Center, and the Department of Behavioral Health, the consultant firm wanted to reach out to members of the community through a survey. The outreach intends to help improve public transit in Needles (refer to the attached survey).
3. Over the weekend, tragedy struck as five children lost their lives in a house fire at a Bullhead City duplex. In response, Bullhead City Councilmember Grace Hecht orchestrated a touching candlelight vigil at Rotary Park on Wednesday. Notably, representatives from the City of Needles and the Needles Unified School District stood in solidarity at this event. The River Fund has established a dedicated fund to aid the affected families. Those willing to contribute can securely donate through the River Fund's online portal at www.riverfundinc.com.
4. City Staff recently convened with Dr. Georgina Yoshioka, the Director of Behavioral Health (DBH) for SB County, to discuss transferring contract responsibilities from MHS, Inc. to a different community-based organization (CBO) effective January 1, 2024. This transition will not impact Substance Use Disorder and Recovery Services (SUDRS) programs in Needles.

To ensure uninterrupted care for current patients, both virtual and in-person services will be available at an Apple Valley County Facility. DBH is committed to sustaining SUD outpatient and CalWORKS behavioral health treatment services until a new provider is established, mitigating treatment gaps. For those needing these services or aware of someone requiring assistance, please get in touch with Jennifer Alsina, Assistant Director of Behavioral Health, via email at Jennifer.Alsina@dbh.sbcounty.gov or by calling directly at 909-388-0808.

MHS/Turn (Center for Change) provides a Driving Under the Influence (DUI) Program. Attached is a list of DUI Programs that can provide telehealth for individuals referred to a DUI Program. DBH is working to get a new DUI provider to serve the Needles area (refer to attached SBCBH Document).

5. City staff recently supported Needles Military Moms by installing around 40 Hometown Hero Banners along Broadway. These banners are a tribute to our active military personnel, with eight currently stationed overseas. To contribute to the Needles Military Moms' 501c3, individuals can conveniently donate by visiting Hardware Express or scanning the QR Code featured in the Needles Desert Star (refer to the attached image).
6. On December 19, 2023, a productive meeting occurred between the San Bernardino County Office of Emergency Services (SBCOES) and City Staff at City Hall. The gathering served as an introduction to the new members of the SB OES team and provided an opportunity for the staff to familiarize them with the City of Needles. During the session, the city's history was briefly shared while addressing its potential vulnerabilities, notably severe monsoon rains, extreme heat, and high winds.

The primary objective of the meeting was to establish a robust relationship with SBCOES and explore avenues for future collaboration, especially in the case of emergency scenarios. Discussions centered around identifying ways to effectively collaborate and support each other in handling potential emergencies that might arise in the future.

2. NAT SURVEY

Help Improve Public Transit in Needles

for the NAT, Dial-A-Ride and Arizona Medical and Shopper Shuttles

**We would like your input
by completing a short survey!**

You can complete the paper version on the reverse of this letter and return it with your utility payment, or you can take the online survey by using the weblink below or scanning the QR code.

www.surveymonkey.com/r/SurveyNeedles

We look forward to hearing from you!



cta

San Bernardino County
Transportation Authority



*Needles Transit Services
Short-Range Transit Plan
FY 2025-2030*



NEEDLES TRANSIT SERVICES HOUSEHOLD SURVEY

Please help us improve Needles Transit Services by completing this survey. Check or PRINT your answers.

1. Have you or anyone in your household ever used one of the following

Needles public transit services? (check all that apply)

- ☐ Needles Area Transit (NAT) bus ☐ Needles Dial-A-Ride
☐ Needles Dial-A-Ride Medical ☐ Shopper Shuttle

2. If you are a current public transit user, how often do you ride?

- ☐ Daily ☐ Weekly ☐ Monthly ☐ Rarely ☐ Not a user

3. If you use or were going to use public transportation in Needles, which of the following would be the primary reason? (check all that apply)

- ☐ Work ☐ Recreation (fun/friends/family)
☐ School/College ☐ Social Service Appointment
☐ Shopping ☐ Other _____
☐ Medical/Dental Appt. ☐ I would never use public transportation

4. What method of transportation does your household normally use to go to work, school or your most frequent destinations? (check all that apply)

- ☐ Car/truck, drive alone ☐ Bicycle
☐ Carpool/vanpool ☐ Walk
☐ Motorcycle ☐ Taxi/Uber/Lyft
☐ Public transit (bus/dial-a-ride) ☐ Other _____

5. If you or your household members could no longer drive, how would you get to your most frequent destinations? (check all that apply)

- ☐ Get a ride from family/friends ☐ Ride my bike ☐ Taxi/Uber/Lyft
☐ Use public transit ☐ Walk ☐ I don't know

6. If you do not use public transit, why not? (check all that apply)

- ☐ Service not available near my house ☐ I don't feel safe riding the bus
☐ Service doesn't go where I need it to go ☐ I had a bad experience before
☐ I don't know how to use the service ☐ Cost to ride is too expensive
☐ Buses don't run frequently enough ☐ Trips take too long to make
☐ Service not available at the time I need it ☐ I prefer to drive myself
☐ No bench/shelter at bus stop ☐ Other _____

7. In the past six months have you or your household members seen any advertising for any Needles public transit services?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, where did you see the advertising? (print)

8. How important is bus service over to Fort Mohave, AZ to you? (check one)

- ☐ No opinion ☐ Not Important ☐ Somewhat Important ☐ Very Important

9. How important is bus service into Bullhead City, AZ to you? (check one)

- ☐ No opinion ☐ Not Important ☐ Somewhat Important ☐ Very Important

10. For what types of trips would you travel to Fort Mohave or Bullhead City?

- ☐ Shopping ☐ Medical/Dental ☐ Work ☐ Catch Greyhound
☐ Recreation ☐ School/College ☐ Social Services ☐ Other _____

11. Among these possible improvements, which two would be most important to you. Please select ONLY two.

- ☐ More frequent service ☐ Service to Victorville ☐ Sunday service
☐ Unlimited ride day-pass ☐ More shelters at stops ☐ Earlier or later service

12. How many members of your household have a valid driver's license?

- ☐ None ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 or more

13. How many working vehicles do you have in your household for transportation?

- ☐ No vehicle ☐ One vehicle ☐ Two vehicles ☐ 3 or more vehicles

14. In what area of Needles do you live?

- ☐ West End ☐ East End ☐ Downtown ☐ Northside
☐ On the Hill ☐ Needles Village ☐ Other _____

15. How do you or your household members connect to the internet?

- ☐ Smartphone with data ☐ Home internet ☐ Public Wi-fi/Hotspot
☐ I do not have access to the internet

16. What is your approximate household income?

- ☐ Less than \$15,000 ☐ \$15,000 to \$24,999 ☐ \$25,000 to 44,999
☐ \$45,000 to \$74,999 ☐ \$75,000 to \$99,999 ☐ \$100,000 or more

17. What is your age?

- ☐ Ages 17-24 ☐ Ages 25-44 ☐ Ages 45-54
☐ Ages 55-64 ☐ Ages 65-74 ☐ Ages 75+

18. What best describes you?

- ☐ Employed full-time ☐ Employed part-time ☐ College student
☐ Middle/HS Student ☐ Not employed ☐ Retired

19. Do you have any additional comments about public transit in Needles? (print)

4. DB COUNTY DUI PROGRAMS



Department of Behavioral Health

Driving Under the Influence (DUI) Programs

DESERT/MOUNTAIN REGIONS

Barstow – Jackson-Bibby Awareness Group: 222 East Main Street, Suite 218, Barstow, CA 92311. (760) 256-6114
Hours: Wednesday 2:30 - 5:30 p.m. Thursday Noon to 5:30 p.m. Friday 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Victorville – Dalton & Associates: 12209 Hesperia Road, Suite G Victorville, CA 92392. (760) 241-1777
Hours: Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Victorville – Jackson-Bibby Awareness Group: 14420 Civic Drive Suite 3 Victorville, CA 92392. (760) 241-3300
Hours: Monday – Friday 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

EAST VALLEY

Redlands – Jackson-Bibby Awareness Group: 1200 Arizona, Suite A-10 Redlands, CA 92374. (909) 792-6925
Hours: Monday – Friday 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

San Bernardino – Prodigy Healthcare: 688 N. Arrowhead Ave. Suite 101 San Bernardino, CA 92401. (909) 888-0149
Hours: Monday – Friday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.

San Bernardino – Pegasus: 2020 N. Waterman Ave. Suite C San Bernardino, CA 92405. (909) 881-1570
Hours: Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday and Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, 7 a.m. to noon

WEST VALLEY

Chino – Alcohol Education & Recovery Services: 12560 Central Ave. Chino, CA 91710. (909) 591-4761
Hours: Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Saturday, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Fontana – Rehabilitation Alcohol Program: 17205 Arrow Blvd. Fontana, CA 92335. (909) 356-9390
Hours: Monday – Thursday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Friday 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.


Ontario – Valley Improvement Programs: 210 West “B” Street. Ontario, CA 91762. (909) 983-3665
Hours: Monday – Thursday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday – Saturday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Rancho Cucamonga – Valley Improvement Programs: 8540 Archibald Ave. #A-18 Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730.
(909) 987-4036 Hours: Monday – Thursday 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday – Saturday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Upland – Valley Improvement Programs: 1589 West Ninth Street, Suite E Upland, CA 91786. (909) 985-2785
Hours: Monday – Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday – Saturday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

5. NEEDLES MILITARY MOMS

Needles Military Moms



DONATE NOW TO REACH

OUR GOAL

3000

1500

500

How it Works

Needles Military Moms is hosting an end of the year dollar for dollar matching challenge to raise funds to purchase Military banners to honor our Hometown Heroes on the roads of Needles.

Contact Info

Needles Military Moms
760-219-1287 - Lindsey
760-217-1123 - Donna
Email: NeedlesMilitaryMoms@gmail.com

made with PosterMyWall.com





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MEMORANDUM

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: PATRICK J. MARTINEZ, CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: WEEKLY MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 29, 2023

1. As we approach the end of the year, I want to express my gratitude for the incredible teamwork and dedication displayed by each member of our council and the city staff. The past year has been a testament to our collective commitment to enhancing our community.

We've made significant strides in various initiatives to elevate our city's infrastructure, foster community engagement, and ensure sustainable growth. Your guidance and support have been instrumental in driving these endeavors forward.

Reflecting on the accomplishments of this year ignites excitement for what lies ahead:

- \$17 Mil. in Capital Projects:
 - Lillyhill and L Street Booster Station \$3 Mil.
 - Water Treatment Plant \$6 Mil.
 - Needles Bridge Rehabilitation \$1.4 Mil.
 - Duke Watkins, Jack Smith Park, and Bob Belt Beach Park \$6.5 Mil.
- General Plan Updates to Various Elements (Lane Use, Housing, Transportation) \$500,000
- The acquisition of the Housing Authority of the City of Needles is 52 Public Housing Units, 23 Section 8 Vouchers, and 30 Veterans Housing Vouchers.

As we stand on the threshold of a new year, I am eager to continue our collaborative efforts, building upon past successes and exploring innovative strategies to address the challenges and opportunities awaiting us.

In the coming year, I look forward to further collaboration with the council to embark on new projects, implement policies, and prioritize the well-being of our citizens. Together, we can continue to steer our city toward a future defined by progress, inclusivity, and prosperity.

Thank you once again for your unwavering support and dedication to our city. I am honored to serve alongside such a passionate and visionary council. I wish you all a joyful holiday season and a prosperous New Year.

2. City Hall will be closed on Monday, January 1, and Tuesday, January 2, in observance of the New Year. Normal operations will resume on Wednesday, January 3, starting at 8:30 AM. In emergencies, don't hesitate to contact City Staff directly at 760-326-5700. Our after-hours answering service will promptly direct your call to the right staff member.
3. City Staff recently convened with Touchstone's local and Regional Corporate representatives overseeing Rivers Edge Golf Course, marking a pivotal moment as the course reaches its peak condition in years. With a remarkable surge in golf rounds and Touchstones' skilled staff gearing up for the bustling Spring season (January-April), our Director of Golf, JJ Deleon, leads the way with monthly public clinics, private lessons, and expertly managed golf tournaments. For inquiries about these opportunities, kindly contact the Director of Golf, JJ Deleon, at 760-326-3931. Moreover, to attract new enthusiasts, the Touchstone staff has crafted enticing "Stay and Play" packages available through regional hotels and casinos such as Harrah's, Riverside Resort, Edgewater, and Aquarius Resort.
4. The ongoing Street Sign Replacement Project, sanctioned by the City Council in 2021 for three years, is now in its final phase. City Staff has diligently progressed to 65% completion. Additional street signs have been procured and installed to enhance the city's infrastructure.



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MEMORANDUM

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: PATRICK J. MARTINEZ, CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: WEEKLY MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 5, 2024

1. On January 5, 2024, a groundbreaking initiative commenced as the San Bernardino County Registrar of Voters unveiled the inaugural BallotMobile: a pioneering Traveling Voter Education event. The BallotMobile embarked on its journey from Needles and is slated to traverse all 24 cities, disseminating vital voter education materials, offering giveaways, and facilitating voter registrations. The event garnered participation from members of the public, City Staff, and the esteemed City Council, as depicted in the attached photo.
2. The City Staff's dedication shines through their proactive approach to promptly addressing streetlight outages. Their weekly inspections ensure swift replacement within a day of detection. In this recent instance, City Staff efficiently tackled outages along Lillyhill Drive, as depicted in the attached photo. For any streetlight outage reports, the public can engage by reaching out to the City of Needles billing office at 760-326-2115 press #9 or leveraging the convenient Needles Connect app, available for download on both Android and Apple products (refer to attached Needles Connect download instructions).
3. On January 3, 2024, the Planning Commission greenlighted a 160-foot Telecommunication Tower (monopole) designated for Verizon Wireless on National Old Trails Highway. This project is designed to accommodate up to four additional wireless carriers and involves installing a chain-link fence enclosure, complete with privacy slates encompassing the proposed 50'x50' leased area. Moreover, the project incorporates the installation of multiple Verizon Antennas strategically located adjacent to an existing tower on the same parcel. To ensure safety, the Planning Commission conditioned the inclusion of a flashing lighting system on the structure to alert low-flying aircraft. Refer to the attached image of the project.

4. On January 3, 2024, the Planning Commission appointed Bob Rath as Chair and Michael Wright as Vice Chair for 2024, entrusting them with leadership roles pivotal to the commission's operations and decisions.
5. On the evening of Monday, January 1, 2024, City Staff received an alert regarding a sewer overflow at the golf course's back nine bathroom. The issue originated from a surge at the River Road lift station triggered by a high water alarm. This surge activated both pumps, resulting in a significant overflow of wastewater into the line connected to the golf course restrooms, as the golf course directly ties into the River Road Lift Station.

In a swift response on Tuesday morning, January 2, 2024, City Staff confirmed an approximate spillage of 500 gallons of effluent. They promptly identified the cause and immediately cleaned and sanitized the affected area, eliminating any potential hazards to the public. Adhering to the guidelines outlined in the Needles Sewer Overflow Prevention and Response Plan, the City Staff notified the State Water Resources Control Board.

1. BALLOTMOBILE: TRAVELING VOTER EDUCATION



2. STREETLIGHT OUTAGE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM

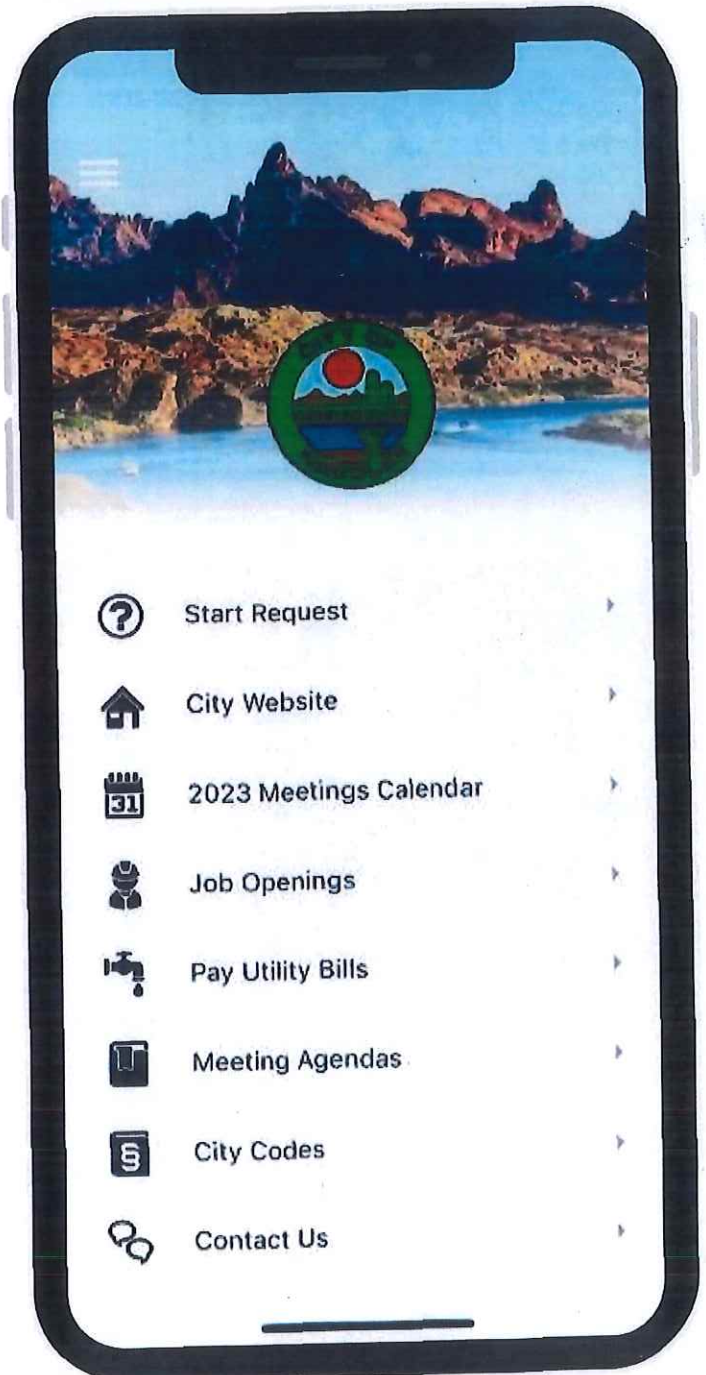


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CA-1374

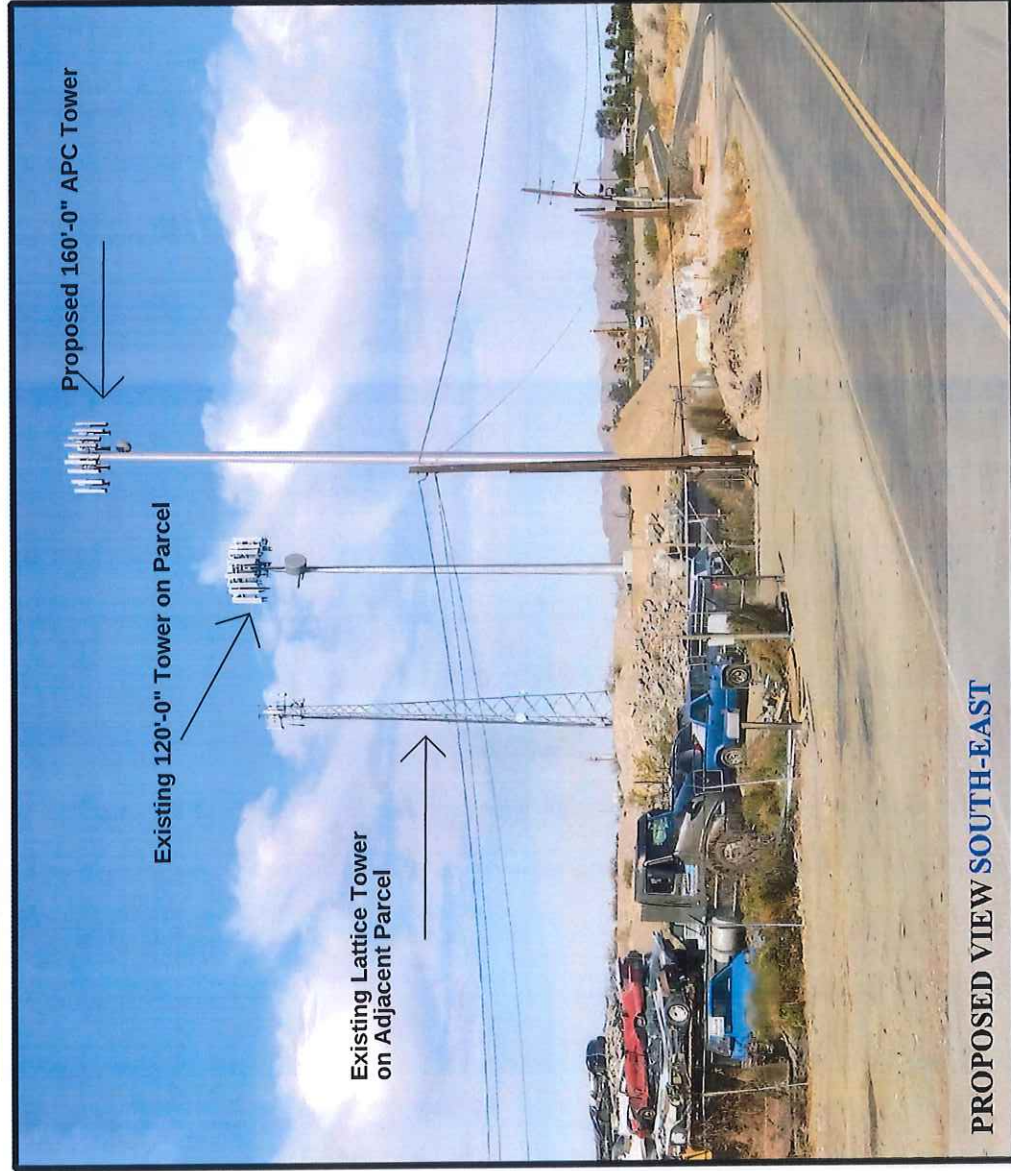
APCTowers

NSB

National Old Trails Rd., Needles, CA 92363



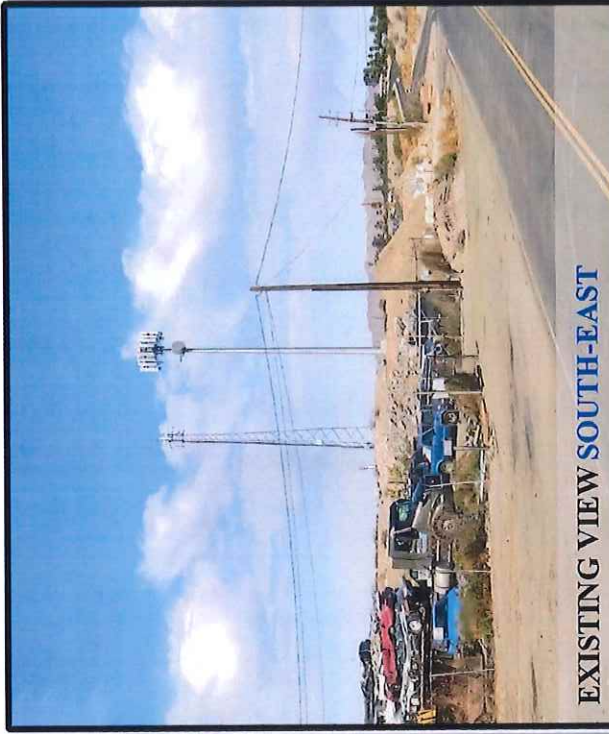
Eukon Group
65 Post, Suite 1000 - Irvine,
CA, 92618 - (949) 553-8566



Proposed 160'-0" APC Tower

Existing 120'-0" Tower on Parcel

Existing Lattice Tower
on Adjacent Parcel



EXISTING VIEW SOUTH-EAST

SITE COORDINATES

Latitude: 34° 51' 57.74"

Longitude: -114° 38' 07.81"



SHEET NUMBER



SITE LOCATION