



City of Needles

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: February 13, 2026

1. **Pavement Management Program Progress – Phase V**

This week, community members, City officials, and City staff gathered to celebrate the ribbon cutting of the Phase V Street Paving Improvements Project, continuing the City's long-term investment in critical infrastructure. Phase V includes improvements to Parkway Street, Lillyhill Drive, Coronado Street, Cortez Street, Peru Street, and Balboa Street, representing an approximately \$1.5 million investment funded through Measure I transportation funds and local cannabis tax revenues. In 2019, the City adopted a 15-year Pavement Management Plan for all 47 miles of city streets—and just a few years in, nearly 40% of that system has already been improved. Since 2020, the City has invested \$11,993,299.34 in street and infrastructure upgrades, rehabilitating approximately 18 miles of roadway. In coordination with the paving improvements, the Phase V Water Service Lateral Replacement Project was completed, representing a \$555,933.81 investment funded through Water Asset Replacement Funds to modernize underground infrastructure prior to resurfacing. Completing utility upgrades before paving protects the City's investment, reduces long-term maintenance costs, and ensures lasting reliability. These coordinated projects reflect the City Council's continued commitment to infrastructure reinvestment, public safety, and improving quality of life throughout Needles.

2. **Vandalism Enforcement Update**

Last year, the City formed a multi-agency task force to address growing concerns related to graffiti and vandalism through increased surveillance, coordinated enforcement, and clear accountability. This week, those efforts resulted in a felony arrest in connection with vandalism exceeding \$400 in damage in the 1200 block of 3rd Street. Deputies from the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department – Colorado River Station / Needles Police Department responded promptly, and the suspect remains in custody pending a court hearing. The City will pursue all available legal avenues to recover costs associated with the damages. Our Code Enforcement team continues coordinated efforts with SBCSD and regional partners to proactively identify violations and support investigations. We encourage residents to be part of the solution by reporting graffiti to SBCSD's non-emergency line at 909-387-8313.

These actions reinforce the City Council's commitment to accountability, neighborhood safety, and preserving the pride and quality of life in Needles.

3. Needles Theatre – Route 66 Centennial Marquee Update

This week, Councilmember Larry Ford and Heather Timmons partnered with Needles Theatre owner Armen Ghadimian to update the historic theatre marquee in recognition of the Route 66 Centennial. The updated display celebrating 100 years of Route 66 enhances the Broadway corridor and highlights one of Needles' most iconic historic landmarks. Originally constructed in 1929 by the Masonic Order and opened in 1930, the 700-seat theatre once served as a cultural centerpiece for film, live performances, and community events. Though privately owned today, the theatre remains an important symbol of Needles' heritage and revitalization potential. The City appreciates Mr. Ghadimian's willingness to participate in the Centennial celebration and support downtown activation efforts. Small visual improvements such as this contribute to civic pride, tourism visibility, and ongoing efforts to preserve and celebrate Needles' historic assets. This initiative aligns with the City Council's goals of promoting tourism, enhancing public spaces, and celebrating the community's rich history.

4. Route 66 100th Anniversary Kickoff – Final Reminder

This is a final reminder that the City will officially kick off the Route 66 100th Anniversary tomorrow, **Saturday, February 14, 2026, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** (PST) at El Garces, 950 Front Street. The celebration will feature the Classic Car Show (entries pre-1975), Route 66 information and memorabilia, food trucks, live music, vendor drawings, and complimentary El Garces tours. Car show registration begins at 7:00 a.m., with awards including Best in Show, Rat Rod, Under Construction, and People's Choice. All Route 66 vendors are invited to participate at no charge. This milestone event marks 100 years of Route 66 and highlights Needles' historic role along America's Main Street while activating downtown and supporting local businesses. Residents and visitors are encouraged to attend and help us launch this once-in-a-generation Centennial celebration.

5. Red Dog Saloon Ribbon Cutting – Downtown Reopening

The community is invited to attend the Red Dog Saloon Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on Saturday, February 28, 2026, at 1:30 p.m. The celebration will include live music and a food truck, creating a welcoming atmosphere as the business officially reopens. The Red Dog Saloon has long been part of Needles' downtown character, and its reopening represents continued private investment and renewed energy within the corridor. Events such as this demonstrate positive momentum in local economic development and small business growth. We encourage residents to attend and show their support as we continue strengthening downtown Needles.

6. Legacy Foundation Grants – Needles Unified Success

Seven Needles Unified School District educators were recognized through the BHHS Legacy Foundation's Inspiring Educators Grant Program, underscoring the strength and innovation within NUSD classrooms. Honorees included Ms. Doss, Mrs. Martinez, Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Mercado, Mrs. Cornelison, Mrs. Eastman, and Mrs. Sloan. Six teachers received \$500 classroom grants, and

Mrs. Sloan earned the \$2,500 top award for her innovative proposal. Having seven recipients from Needles Unified reflects the district's continued focus on academic excellence, creativity, and student-centered instruction. These awards highlight the dedication of our educators and reinforce NUSD's commitment to expanding learning opportunities for students. Supporting educational achievement aligns with the City Council's goal of fostering a strong, family-friendly community and investing in the next generation. We extend our sincere appreciation to the BHHS Legacy Foundation for its continued investment in the City of Needles and our students. Learn more at: www.bhhslegacy.org.

7. City Hall Holiday Closure – Presidents Day

City Hall will be closed on Monday, February 16, 2026, in observance of Presidents Day. Regular operations will resume on Tuesday, February 17, 2026, beginning at 8:30 a.m. For emergencies, please contact City staff at (760) 326-5700; the after-hours answering service will promptly direct calls to the appropriate staff member.

8. Needles Sunday Farmers Market at Santa Fe Park

The Needles Sunday Farmers Market continues to draw residents and visitors to Santa Fe Park each week, supporting local vendors and small businesses. Hosted by Tumbleweed Markets Inc., the market features a rotating selection of fresh produce, baked goods, coffee, flowers, handmade items, and other locally made products. The market is held every Sunday through **March 31, 2026**, from **8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** at Santa Fe Park. New vendors continue to join the lineup, expanding opportunities for local entrepreneurs and artisans. This ongoing event supports the City Council's goals for community engagement and local economic vitality. Vendor information is available by contacting Market Manager Patrick Lauterio at (760) 848-8289 or needlesfarmers@gmail.com.

9. Community Events Calendar Now Live

The City's new website now features a [Community Events Calendar](#)—a single source for community events, civic meetings, and community programs. Local organizations are invited to submit or update events through the City Clerk's Office to keep the calendar current and inclusive. Contact **Candace Clark at cclark@cityofneedles.com** to participate. Residents can subscribe and sync the calendar to mobile devices for real-time updates, making it easier to stay informed and engaged.

10. 48th Annual Colorado River Round Up Rodeo

The 48th Annual Colorado River Round Up Rodeo returns to Needles on April 3–4, 2026, at the Needles Rodeo Grounds, 1001 San Clemente Street. This longstanding community tradition celebrates western heritage and professional rodeo competition while bringing residents and visitors together for a weekend of family-friendly entertainment. Hosted by the Needles Rodeo Association, the event will feature rodeo performances, local vendors, the Junior Barrel Race, Mutton Bustin', the 8th Annual Cornhole Tournament, and a Rodeo Dance presented by the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe. Presale tickets will be available at the Rodeo Store from March 30 through April 2. The Colorado River Round Up continues to activate community spaces, support local businesses, and draw

regional visitors to Needles. This annual event aligns with the City Council's goals of promoting tourism, strengthening community engagement, and celebrating the cultural traditions that define our city.

11. River Valley Artists Guild – 2026 Art in the Park Show & Sale

The River Valley Artists Guild will host the Needles Art in the Park Show & Sale at El Garces, 950 Front Street, from March 26–28, 2026. The judged exhibition is open to original artwork across multiple categories, including painting, photography, sculpture, mixed media, ceramics, fiber art, jewelry, and digital arts (AI-generated artwork is not permitted). Artists may submit between three and eight entries, with applications and fees due by Monday, March 16, 2026. The show will include a public artist reception and awards ceremony on Friday, March 27, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. This multi-day event highlights local and regional artistic talent, activates the El Garces cultural corridor, and supports small business and creative entrepreneurship. Events such as Art in the Park contribute to tourism, community engagement, and the vibrancy of downtown Needles. The City appreciates the River Valley Artists Guild for continuing to expand arts programming and cultural opportunities within our community.

12. Active Transportation Plan – Community Outreach

The City continues advancing development of its Active Transportation Plan and is seeking broad community participation through an online interactive mapping platform. This plan will guide future investments in sidewalks, curb and gutter, bike lanes, and pedestrian safety improvements to enhance connectivity and mobility throughout Needles. Public input submitted through the interactive map will directly shape project priorities and strengthen the City's competitiveness for state and federal infrastructure funding. Community feedback is critical to ensuring the plan reflects real neighborhood needs and travel patterns. Stakeholders are encouraged to share the informational flyer and invite residents to provide input at <https://www.needlesatp.com/provide-input>.

13. County Mobile Dental Clinic Returning to Needles – CRMC

This is a final reminder that the San Bernardino County Department of Public Health Mobile Dental Clinic will be at the Colorado River Medical Center parking lot, 1401 Bailey Ave., from February 17–20. The clinic will provide essential services for low-income California residents, including screenings, exams with dental x-rays, cleanings, fluoride varnish, fillings, and limited root canal treatments and extractions for Medi-Cal recipients and uninsured residents. This is an important opportunity for residents who may not otherwise have access to dental care. Appointments are strongly recommended and space is limited. Residents are encouraged to schedule as soon as possible by calling 1 (800) 722-4777 (press 5). Additional information is available on the County Department of Public Health website at this [link](#).

14. Needles Branch Library – Program Reminder

This is a reminder that the Needles Branch Library's winter programming continues through February, with several upcoming activities for youth and families. A featured event is the Family Paint Night on Tuesday, February 17, at 5:30 p.m., where participants will create a guided "Spring Tree Path" artwork in a step-by-step session designed for all skill levels. The Library will also host the nationwide "Read for the Record" storytime event on Thursday, February 26, at

3:00 p.m. Residents are encouraged to participate before the Library observes a brief off-session period from February 15–28 with limited programming. These programs continue to promote literacy, creativity, and family engagement within our community.

1. PAVEMENT MANAGEMENT PHASE V



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2. VANDALISM ENFORCEMENT



 **SBSD - Colorado River Sheriffs Department**

Wednesday February 11th, 2026 :: 04:23 p.m. PST

Advisory

Deputies Arrest Torrance Man on Vandalism Charge

DATE/TIME: Wednesday, February 11, 2026, at approximately 11:55 a.m.

INCIDENT: PC 594(B)(1) - Felony Vandalism

LOCATION: 1200 Block of 3rd Street, Needles, CA

SUSPECT(S): Abraham Jehoon Kim, 27-Years Old, Resident of Torrance, CA

VICTIM(S): Confidential

SUMMARY: On Wednesday, February 11, 2026, at approximately 11:55 a.m., deputies from the Colorado River Station / Needles Police Department responded to a call for service reporting a vandalism near the 1200 block of 3rd Street in Needles.

Upon arrival, deputies contacted 27-year-old Abraham Jeehoon Kim. During the investigation, Kim was found to be in violation of PC 594(B)(1) - Vandalism over \$400.

Kim was subsequently arrested and transported to the Colorado River Station jail for booking. Kim remains in custody of the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department with a bail amount of \$30,000.00, awaiting a court hearing.

Anyone with information regarding this incident is urged to contact Deputy C. Bevan at the Colorado River Station / Needles Police Department at (760) 326-9200. Those wishing to remain anonymous may call the We-Tip Hotline at 1-800-78-CRIME (27463) or may leave information online at www.wetip.com.

For press releases, news, and information, follow the Colorado River Station on Facebook and Instagram at [SBCSDColoradoRiverStation](#) or X at [CORiverStation](#).

Refer: Deputy C. Bevan

Station: Colorado River Station/ Needles Police Department.

Phone No. (760) 326-9200

Case No. 212600133

3. ROUTE 66 CENTENNIAL MARQUEE



3. ROUTE 66 CENTENNIAL MARQUEE



4. ROUTE 66 CENTENNIAL KICK-OFF



Entries: Pre- 1975

CLASSIC CAR SHOW

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2026

9:00AM ~ 2:00PM

Registration begins at 7am

COST: \$20.00 (payable in cash, check or zelle)

LOCATION: EL GARCES
950 FRONT ST NEEDLES, CA

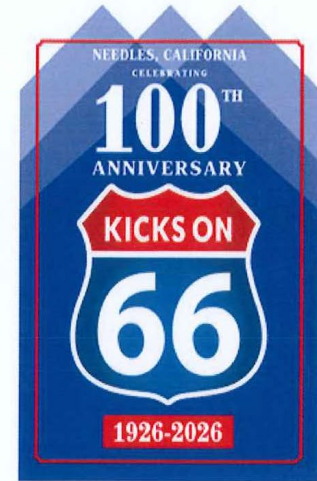
RAFFLE PRIZES AND A 50/50
RAFFLE

CATEGORIES:
*BEST IN SHOW
*UNDER CONSTRUCTION
*RAT ROD
*PEOPLE'S CHOICE



CONTACT JAN JERNIGAN FOR INFORMATION
at 760 221 3211

*Have some fun with us at
El Garces on Route 66 Needles!*



*Let's KICK OFF
our 100th Anniversary!*

*Saturday, February 14th, 2026
9am - 2pm (PST)*

Featuring...

- ★ Route 66 Information
- ★ Route 66 Books
- ★ Route 66 items/memorabilia
for sale
- ★ Food Trucks
- ★ Complimentary El Garces
- ★ Tours
- ★ Vendor Drawings



All Route 66 Vendors Invited!

No Charge for vendor tables / Setup begins Friday at Noon / Call to reserve a table

Questions or Vendor Reservations? - Call Jan Jernigan at 760-221-3211

6. NEEDLES UNIFIED RECOGNITION



7. CITY HALL CLOSURE



**THIS OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED
MONDAY FEBRUARY 16, 2026, FOR
PRESIDENTS DAY.**

**WE WILL REOPEN TUESDAY
FEBRUARY 17, 2026, AT 8:30 A.M.**

8. NEEDLES SUNDAY MARKET

Fresh Produce & Handmade Goods!



**NEEDLES
SUNDAY
MARKET**

SANTA FE PARK
950 FRONT ST
NEEDLES, CA

EVERY SUNDAY
NOVEMBER THRU MARCH
8AM - 12PM PST

Follow Us on Facebook - Needles Sunday Farmers Market

10. 2026 NEEDLES RODEO



PRESENTS THE

48TH COLORADO RIVER ROUND UP

APRIL 3 & 4, 2026

NEEDLES RODEO GROUNDS

1001 SAN CLEMENTE STREET



* RODEO DANCE *

"Littletown"

Presented by the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe

* SPECIAL EVENTS *

Junior Barrel Race presented by Campbell Redi-Mix

Call Mike Shott at 760-218-4891 to register.

8th Annual Cornhole Tourney

Call Wade Evans at 760-220-1039

Local Contestants -

Call Mike Shott at 760-218-4891 from March 1-27

Mutton Bustin' - call Judy Thornton at 760-333-5255



* THE RODEO STORE *

March 30-April 2

920 W. Broadway in Needles

10am-4pm

* TICKETS *

Ages 5 and under - free

Ages 6-17 - \$5

Ages 18 and over - \$10

PRESALE TICKETS

2-Day Adults - \$15

2-Day Kids - \$5

Rodeo Store only

Coordinated by Needles Rodeo Association

Facebook at Needles Rodeo/CRRU

needlesrodeo@outlook.com

www.needlesrodeo.com

For more info, call Judy Thornton @ 760-333-5255

(NO OUTSIDE ALCOHOL PERMITTED)

VIP AREA
Presented by



11. ART IN THE PARK SHOW

**CALLING ALL
ARTISTS**

THIRD ANNUAL

ART *in the* PARK

AT EL GARCES, NEEDLES, CA

River Valley Artists Guild, Inc.

Needles Art In The Park Show & Sale

Show dates: March 25-28, 2026

Applications: artguildRVAG.com/workshops

Application Deadline Monday, March 16

**Submit Your
Route 66
100th Anniversary
Artwork**



**River Valley
Artists
Guild**

Questions Contact: Victoria 951-334-8454 or memberrvag@gmail.com

12. ATP COMMUNITY OUTREACH

THE CITY OF NEEDLES IS
DEVELOPING THEIR ACTIVE
TRANSPORTATION PLAN,
WE NEED YOUR INPUT!



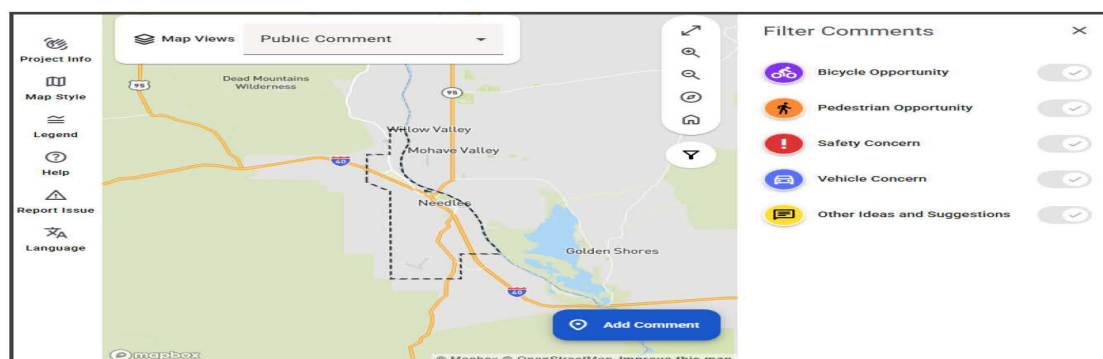
Active
Transportation
Plan

How will this impact me?

The Active Transportation Plan aims to create safe, connected, and reliable active transportation for nearby residents and businesses in the area! Whether you walk, bike, or drive to your next destination, the focus is to meet the community need for a better, connected environment!



Interactive Map Preview



Goals for ATP

- Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Strengthening the Economy
- Improving Public Health & Environment

Get Involved

- Share an Idea on the Interactive map at www.NeedlesATP.com
- Sign up for alerts by scanning the QR code
- Call **760-326-2113** or email info@NeedlesATP.com



<https://www.needlesatp.com/provide-input>

13. DENTAL CLINIC



Dental Services

Mobile Dental Clinic On-The-Go

No insurance? We can help!



Public Health

Appointments are strongly recommended



Who Can Benefit?

Open to low-income California residents

Services Provided

- Basic dental screenings, and assessments
- Preventative care and oral health education
- Comprehensive exam with dental x-rays for diagnosis and treatment planning
- Cleanings
- Application of topical fluoride varnish
- Fillings
- Limited root canal treatments and extractions

Where?

Colorado River Medical Center
(Parking Lot)
1401 Bailey Ave., Needles

When?

- Tuesday, Feb. 17, noon-3:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, Feb. 18, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
- Thursday, Feb. 19, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
- Friday, Feb. 20, 9 a.m.-noon

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

bit.ly/SBCMedi-Cal



1 (800) 722-4777

To make an appointment, press 5



dph.sbcounty.gov

14. NEEDLES LIBRARY PROGRAMS

NEEDLES Branch Library

1111 Bailey Ave, Needles, CA 92363 • 760-326-9255

SESSION 1 (January 4–February 14)

Kid Zone (6-11 years)

Craft Corner

Create wonderful themed projects and learn new skills using all sorts of artistic supplies.

Tuesdays

3:00 PM

Storytime

The whole family can be part of the reading adventure at this wonderfully fun and engaging storytime with great stories, songs, rhymes, a craft, and more.

Wednesdays

1:30 PM

Adult Programs (18+ years)

Basic Computer Class

Adults are invited to an introduction to common computer tasks, from how to use a mouse and keyboard, to basic typing, internet, and email functions.

Mondays

4:00 PM

OFF SESSION (February 15–February 28)

Kid Zone (6-11 years)

Storytime

The whole family can be part of the reading adventure at this wonderfully fun and engaging storytime with great stories, songs, rhymes, a craft, and more.

Wednesdays

1:30 PM

Special Events/Meetings

Family Paint Event

Encourage your inner artist at this step-by-step painting lesson and leave with a masterpiece of your own

Tuesday,
Feb 17

5:30 PM

Read For the Record

Join us for a special storytime as we try to set a new record high for this year's Jumpstart Read for the Record! We're joining millions of readers across the country to celebrate the importance of literacy! Stop on by and let library staff engage you with "See Marcus Grow" by Marcus Bridgewater!

Thursday,
Feb 26

3:00 PM

All County Library branches will be closed on Jan 19 & Feb 16