



City of Needles
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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: May 31, 2024

1. Today, **May 31, 2024**, the City of Needles Utility Departments swiftly responded to a water main break on Beach Drive. The 6-inch main line ruptured, but the team efficiently repaired it, restoring water service within a couple of hours. If you need to report water leaks, please contact the City of Needles billing office at 760-326-2115 or use the convenient Needles Connect app, available for download on Android and Apple devices. Please refer to the attached images for a visual update on the water break and subsequent repair.
2. On **May 30, 2024**, Palo Verde College held its graduation ceremony at the Needles Educational Center campus. Over 100 people gathered to celebrate 15 graduates, supported by their parents, friends, and family members. Former City Manager Rick Daniels delivered the keynote address, offering words of advice to the graduates. Palo Verde College also celebrated its inaugural phlebotomy class, which graduated nine students. By investing in the Needles community, Palo Verde College provides residents with valuable educational opportunities that contribute to economic development and future success. Please refer to the attached picture for more details.
3. On **May 27, 2024**, Memorial Day services occurred at the Needles Riverview Cemetery, where dozens gathered to honor the brave men and women who sacrificed their lives defending our nation and its cherished freedoms. The annual ceremonies were organized by Natalie Johnson of FatCatDJ services and featured contributions from over two dozen participants. Among the attendees were City of Needles officials and staff, including Mayor Jan Jernigan and Councilmember JoAnne Pogue, representatives from the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe, the California Highway Patrol, the San Bernardino County Sheriff's and Fire Departments, Pastor Lam, and members of the American Legion. Please refer to the attached picture for more details.

4. Over the weekend, Code Enforcement and the City's Parks and Recreation Department managed a surge of visitors from Nevada, Arizona, and Southern California to Jack Smith Park. This increased activity boosted local tourism and the economy, promoted community engagement and outdoor activities, enhanced the visibility and use of city parks, supported local businesses through increased spending, and encouraged regional collaboration and connectivity. Please refer to the attached picture for more details.
5. In early May, the City of Needles initiated Phase I of the River's Edge Golf Course Irrigation Efficiency Project. This project, which is being funded by a substantial \$715,538 grant from the California Department of Water Resources under the 2021 Urban and Multi-benefit Drought Relief Grant Program, is a testament to the department's commitment to water efficiency. The project involves the replacement of 660 manual sprinkler heads with advanced water-efficient models and the implementation of a new automatic irrigation system. I'm pleased to report that the project is progressing smoothly, and I invite you to review the attached images for a comprehensive status update.
6. The Needles City Manager recently met with other city managers from the region to discuss opportunities for future collaboration. Recognizing the communities of Bullhead, Lake Havasu, Kingman and Needles face similar challenges, the meeting aimed to foster a spirit of cooperation to address these issues collectively. By working together, the city managers are optimistic that they can create strategies to encourage sustainable growth, share resources and best practices, and tackle regional concerns such as economic development, infrastructure improvements, and environmental sustainability. This collaborative approach is expected to strengthen each community, enhancing the quality of life for all residents in the region.
7. Earlier this week, the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe (FMIT) undertook the demolition of the Desert Mirage Inn and Suites, a property that had been vacant for some time. The City extends its gratitude to FMIT for their efforts in addressing the property's condition.
8. **IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES:**
 - **Needles Aquatics Center Opening, June 1, 2024**, For the pool schedule and pricing, visit [the City of Needles website](#).
 - **Grand opening** of the long-awaited second bridge connecting Laughlin and Bullhead City, Arizona is scheduled for **Friday June 7, 2024 at 9:30am**.

1. WATER LEAK BEACH DRIVE



2. PALO VERDE NEEDLES GRADUATION



3. MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES



4. JACK SMITH PARK BOAT LAUNCH



Image Source: Colorado River Sheriff's Department

5. GOLF COURSE PHASE I IRRIGATION PROJECT

