



*City of Needles*  
817 Third Street, Needles, California 92363  
(760) 326-2113 • FAX (760) 326-6765  
[www.cityofneedles.com](http://www.cityofneedles.com)

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

City Manager Patrick J. Martinez

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## MEMORANDUM

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
FROM: PATRICK J. MARTINEZ, CITY MANAGER  
SUBJECT: WEEKLY MEMORANDUM  
DATE: June 27, 2025

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### 1. **Arrowhead Credit Union Community Investment**

This week, the City Manager met with Arrowhead Credit Union leadership, including CEO Darin Woinarowicz, to discuss their continued commitment to the City of Needles. A valued partner for nearly a decade, Arrowhead has supported numerous community initiatives including toy drives, food distributions, and senior lunches. Most recently, Arrowhead invested **nearly \$100,000** in upgrades to their **Needles branch**, including new signage and the addition of an **on-site ATM**. They are also **donating monument signs** for **Bob Belt Beach Park** and **Manny Morris Park**. As part of their investment in local youth, Arrowhead is hosting **"On The Money,"** a hands-on financial literacy event for ages 12–18 on **Friday, July 12**, from **10:00 AM to 12:00 PM** at the **Needles Recreation Center**. The program aligns with the **City Council's goals to support youth development and financial education**. We thank Arrowhead Credit Union for their continued leadership and meaningful contributions to our community. **Register by next week July 7:** [Registration Link](#)

### 2. **City Council Appointment Update**

The **City of Needles is proud to welcome a new member to the City Council**, filling the vacancy left by the resignation of Councilmember Zachery Longacre. The appointee brings **over 50 years of service to the community**, including time on the **Housing Commission, Cemetery Advisory Commission**, a prior term on the **City Council**, and **18 years as Commander of the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Search and Rescue**. He will serve through the remainder of the term, which expires on **December 12, 2028**. As a **Charter City**, Needles is governed by its own local rules. The **Mayor** is elected to a two-year term, and the **six Councilmembers** serve four-year terms. Together, they guide city policy and make key decisions to improve the community. A **Vice Mayor** is selected by the Council after each election. We look forward to this Councilmember's continued contributions to the City of Needles.

3. **Jr. Lifeguard Training Program Begins June 30**

The **City of Needles Aquatic Center** is launching its **Jr. Lifeguard Training Program** starting **Monday, June 30 at 9:00 AM**. Open to youth **ages 11 and up**, this **volunteer-based program** gives participants the opportunity to **shadow certified lifeguards** and take part in **daily in-service training**. Designed to teach responsibility, teamwork, and safety skills, the program offers a firsthand look at what it takes to become a lifeguard. **Jr. Lifeguard shirts will be provided**, and a **release form is required** for participation. This initiative supports the **City Council's commitment to youth development and public safety education**. For details, contact the Aquatic Center at **760-326-FUNN**. A flyer is attached for reference. Come be a part of this amazing program!

4. **Affordable Housing Units Coming Online at 1707 Needles Highway**

The City of Needles is proud to share that the affordable housing project at **1707 Needles Highway** is moving forward, with **29 micro-apartment units** set to come online, along with an **onsite manager unit**, **laundry facilities**, **perimeter fencing**, and a **recreation area** for residents. This project is a key part of the City's broader efforts to expand housing access and eliminate local blight. Supported by a **\$445,000 grant** from the **California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD)** under the **Prohousing Incentive Pilot (PIP) Program**, the City issued a **forgivable loan of \$410,000** to repurpose the former motel into long-term affordable housing. All units will serve residents earning **80% or less of the area median income**, with **affordability restrictions in place for 55 years**. A **ribbon-cutting is anticipated this fall**, and the City looks forward to celebrating the addition of these vital units with the community. See the attached images for an update.

5. **4th of July "Celebrate Freedom" Community Event**

The City of Needles, in partnership with the **Needles Elks Lodge**, will host the annual **4th of July "Celebrate Freedom" Pool Party** on **Friday, July 4, from 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM** at the **Needles Aquatics Center**. This free, family-friendly event will include **open swim for all ages**, games, prizes, and a variety of festive activities. As part of the celebration, we will also crown **Miss Freedom and Mr. Firecracker**, open to children ages 4–5. This event highlights the **City Council's ongoing commitment to community engagement and recreational programming** that brings families together in celebration of our nation's independence.

6. **Selected for Rural Capacity Building Program to Support Housing Goals**

The City of Needles is excited to announce that we have been accepted into the **Rural Capacity Building for Community Development and Affordable Housing Program (RCB)**, a multi-year technical assistance initiative funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Administered by the **Housing Assistance Council (HAC)**, the RCB Program is designed to strengthen the capacity of rural communities to plan and implement affordable housing and community development projects. Participation in this initiative directly aligns with the **City Council's goal to attract and expand affordable housing**. Through this program, Needles will receive expert support and

technical assistance to help advance our housing development strategies and long-term planning efforts. This selection is a major step forward in building the tools and partnerships needed to meet our community's housing needs.

**7. Summer Meal Program Expands Citywide Access**

Needles Unified School District's **free Summer Meal Program** will run from **June 26 through August 7, 2025**, ensuring local youth have access to healthy meals throughout the summer. The program has expanded to serve **10 neighborhood locations across the city**, with meals delivered every **Thursday** by refrigerated van. Each child will receive a **grab bag with five days' worth of breakfast and lunch**—no registration required. Meals will be available outside City Hall (**817 Third St**) from **9:00 AM to 9:15 AM**. This initiative supports the **City Council's priorities around youth health, wellness, and food access**. For full details and location times, please refer to the **attached flyer**.

**8. Featured as One of California's Most Affordable and Charming Towns**

We're excited to share that Needles was recently featured in a travel article highlighting [California's most affordable and charming towns](#). The piece celebrates Needles for its **historic character, scenic location along the Colorado River, and welcoming small-town feel**—qualities we know and love about our community. While the article comes from a family travel blog, it reflects growing interest in Needles as a **family-friendly, recreation-oriented destination**. This kind of recognition helps build positive visibility and supports the **City Council's ongoing efforts to promote tourism, economic development, and community pride**. We're happy to see Needles getting attention and will continue to share these spotlights as they help tell our story to a wider audience.

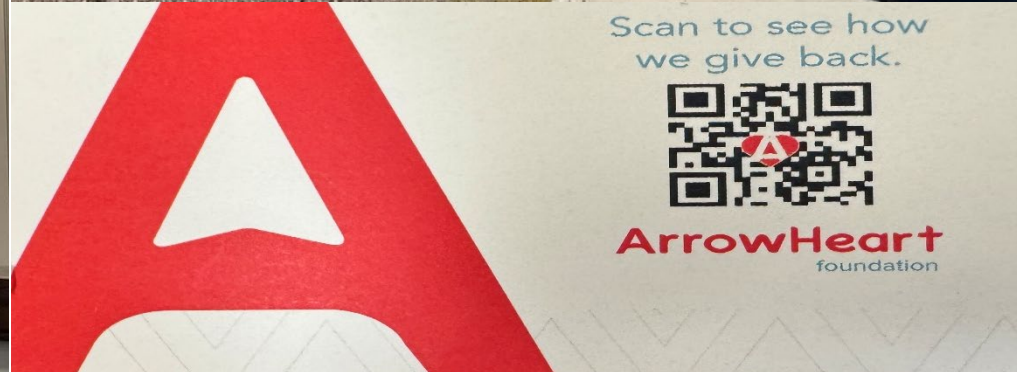
**9. Enhanced Transit Access: Fort Mohave–Bullhead City Shuttle Starts July 1**

Beginning **Tuesday, July 1**, Needles residents can take advantage of a **new public shuttle service** connecting to **Fort Mohave and Bullhead City**. Operating every **Tuesday and Thursday**, the shuttle provides **two round trips per day**, departing from the **El Garces West Parking Lot (950 Front Street)** at **8:15 AM** and **11:30 AM**, with return trips at **10:15 AM** and **1:15 PM**. **Zone 1** service up to Fort Mohave includes stops at **Safeway, Smith's, and CVS** for a **\$9.00 roundtrip** fare, while **Zone 2** service to Bullhead City extends up to **Silver Creek Road** for **\$12.00 roundtrip**. **Reservations must be made by 11:00 AM the day before travel** by calling the **Needles Senior Center** at **760-326-4789**. This new service supports the **City Council's goal** to expand **mobility options** and improve **transportation access**, especially for **seniors and residents without personal vehicles**. It enhances **regional connectivity** and provides reliable transportation to **essential destinations** such as **grocery stores** and **medical facilities**. For full route and schedule details, please refer to the **attached flyer**—and help spread the word!

10. **Set Free Church Fireworks Fundraiser – June 27 to July 6, 2025**  
Set Free Church, in partnership with TNT Fireworks, will be holding their annual fundraiser by operating a **safe and sane fireworks stand** at **207 Needles Highway**. Sales will run from **noon on Friday, June 27 through Sunday, July 6, 2025**. This community fundraiser helps support the ongoing programs and outreach efforts of Set Free Church. For additional information, residents may contact the church directly at **760-326-2941**.
11. **Recognition of Needles High School Student Athletes**  
The **City of Needles City Council** recently recognized the outstanding achievements of the **Needles High School Girls' Softball and Boys' Baseball teams** during its June meetings. The **Girls' Team earned the 2025 NIAA Class 2A State Championship**, while the **Boys' Team finished as State Runners-up**. The Council commended the athletes, coaches, school staff, and families for their dedication, teamwork, and leadership. These accomplishments reflect the strength of our local youth and align with the **City Council's commitment to investing in youth, families, recreation, and community pride**.
12. **Ribbon Cutting to Celebrate Continued Investment in Local Business**  
**Save the Date: Friday, August 15, 2025 | 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM**  
The City will join the **Needles Chamber of Commerce** in hosting a **ribbon cutting ceremony** for **Needles Smash Burgers**, located at **2205 Needles Highway**. While the restaurant celebrated its grand opening in October, **new ownership** assumed operations in January and has worked to further solidify the business as a Route 66 destination. The owners, who also operate **Kush 66 Dispensary and Lounge**, are being recognized for their **ongoing investment in the Needles community**. The event will run from **10:30 AM to 11:30 AM**, with **lunch service beginning at 11:00 AM**. Attendees will receive **20% off their order** as part of the celebration.
13. **City Hall Closure – Independence Day, Friday, July 4, 2025**  
City Hall will be **closed on Friday, July 4, 2025**, in observance of **Independence Day**, a federally recognized holiday celebrating the birth of our nation. **Regular business hours will resume on Monday, July 7, 2025, at 8:30 AM**. For urgent matters during the closure, residents may call **760-326-5700**, where our after-hours answering service will route calls to the appropriate City personnel. A public notice has been posted at the entrance of City Hall.
14. **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\*\*](mailto:cclark@cityofneedles.com). Your participation helps strengthen community spirit and enrich the local experience for residents and visitors alike.



# 1. ARROWHEAD CREDIT UNION



# 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

Location

Needles Recreation Center  
1705 J St  
Needles, CA 92363

Student Age

12 to 18 years old

Register by  
July 7



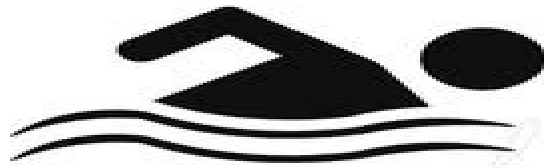
**Arrowhead**  
credit union



## 2. CITY COUNCIL APPOINTMENT



### 3. JR LIFEGUARD TRAINING



CITY OF NEEDLES

## NEEDLES AQUATIC CENTER



**Ages 11 yrs. and up**

**Volunteer Basis Only**

You will participate in daily Lifeguard In-Service training and will shadow the Lifeguards while they are on duty.

**Jr. Lifeguard Shirts will be provided**

- COME LEARN WHAT IT TAKES TO BE A LIFEGUARD



 760~326~FUNN

A release form will be required for participation in the program



## 4. RIVER VALLEY INN HOUSING 29-UNITS





## 4. RIVER VALLEY INN HOUSING 29-UNITS





## 5. POOL PARTY JULY 4<sup>TH</sup> CELEBRATION





## 7. NUSD FREE MEALS



NEEDLES UNIFIED  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

**FREE  
SUMMER  
MEALS**

**FOR KIDS & TEENS!**

**JUNE 26 – JULY 10**

**NO REGISTRATION  
REQUIRED**



**FREE  
SUMMER  
MEALS**

**JUNE 26TH-  
JULY 10TH**

Pick up on Thursdays

**Delivery Sites in Needles**

- Colorado River Market, 2100 Needles Hwy. 9am-9:15am
- Needles Utility Office, 817 Third St. 9:20am-9:35am
- Katie Hohstadt, 600 Cibola St. 9:40am-9:55am
- River Garden Apartments, 1970 Clary Dr. 10am-10:15am
- Terrace View Apartments, 1501 Lillyhill Dr. 10:20am-10:35am
- Mormon Church, 2001 E El Monte St. 10:40am-10:55am
- Buy Rite, 1932 J St. 11am-11:15am



Questions: (760) 326-3891



# 9. DAR FORT MOHAVE/BULLHEAD SHUTTLE

## Who can use the Ft. Mohave/Bullhead Shuttle

The shuttle is for everyone and can be used for any type of trip – shopping, medical appointments or to connect with other transportation. Space is limited and reservations are accepted on a first come/first served basis.



## Where can you go on the Shuttle

The shuttle serves shopping, medical and other destinations within a limited area of Fort Mohave and Bullhead City. You can be dropped off and picked up within the area shown on the map inside this brochure. All destinations must be within 1 mile of Hwy 95 and no further north than Silver Creek Road. Popular destinations include:

- **Ft. Mohave** – Walmart, Safeway, Smith's, CVS and Valley View Medical Center
- **Bullhead City** – Target, Walmart, Smart & Final and numerous medical facilities

When making a reservation, be prepared to provide your desired destination.

## Other Transit Services in Needles



### Needles Dial-a-Ride Specialized Transportation Service

The Needles Dial-a-Ride provides curb-to-curb service within the Needles city limits for seniors (60+) and persons with disabilities. It operates Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM to 1:15 PM. The fare is \$1.25 per one-way trip and exact cash is required. Riders going to the Senior Center for lunch pay a discounted fare of only \$1.25 per round trip.

To register for Dial-a-Ride or request a ride, call 760-326-4789. Rides are requested on the day you wish to travel.



### Needles Area Transit

NAT provides deviated fixed-route bus service hourly, Monday through Saturday. You can catch the bus at a bus stop or request a deviation to pick you up at your curb (available as time allows). Regular fare is \$1.35 from a bus stop, \$2.00 with a deviation. Seniors (60+) and persons with disabilities ride for \$1.25 or \$1.90 with a deviation (requires City issued photo ID). Call 1-866-669-6309 for deviation services.

Complete information about DAR and NAT transportation services can be found at [www.needlestransit.com](http://www.needlestransit.com) or their respective Riders Guide.



760-326-4789  
[www.needlestransit.com](http://www.needlestransit.com)



## Shuttle Service Between Needles, Ft. Mohave and Bullhead City

Every Tuesday and Thursday  
Effective July 1, 2025



A City of Needles project operated by  
Transportation Concepts

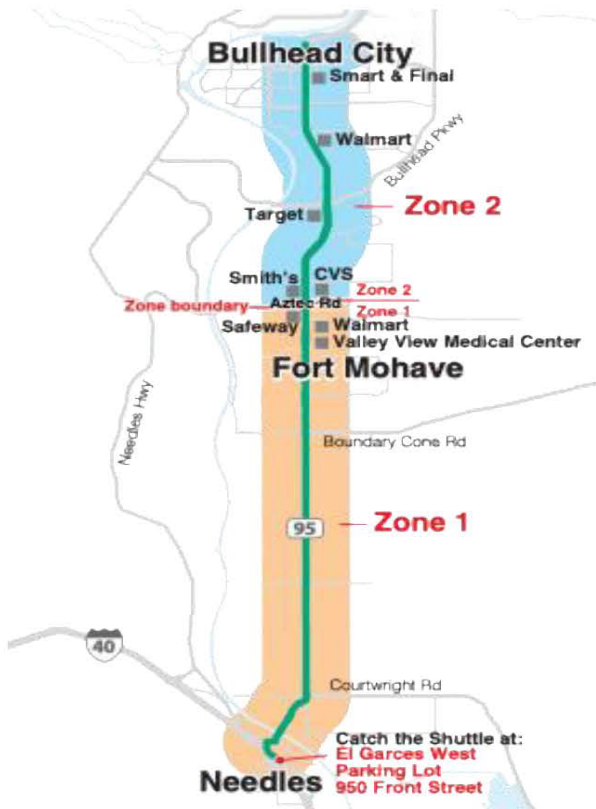
760-326-4789  
[www.needlestransit.com](http://www.needlestransit.com)



[www.cityofneedles.com](http://www.cityofneedles.com)  
760-326-2113, ext 115  
817 Third Street  
Needles, CA 92363

# 9. DAR FORT MOHAVE/BULLHEAD SHUTTLE

## Route and Service Area



## How to Make a Reservation for the Shuttle

**Prepaid advance reservation is required no later than 11 AM the day prior to taking a trip.** Reservations can be made for any trip during the current month or for the next month during the last week of the current month. The service operates on a first-come, first-served basis and seating is limited. Call the Needles Senior Center at **760-326-4789** for information or to schedule a trip.

**Reservations can be made Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM to 1:00PM.** Be prepared to tell us your Arizona destination and return time.

If you are unable to keep your reservation, please call to cancel, otherwise, you will be charged for the trip.

## Fort Mohave/Bullhead Shuttle

### Shuttle Service Between Needles, Fort Mohave and Bullhead City

Every Tuesday and Thursday,  
2 round trips per day

Available to everyone, by prepaid advance reservation

#### Serving:

- Grocery Stores
- Drugstores
- Walmart
- Medical Centers and Offices

## Shuttle Schedule

Precise pickup and drop off times in Fort Mohave and Bullhead City will depend on the number of riders and their destinations. The time ranges shown in the schedule below provide a window for use in scheduling appointments. Be sure to schedule your appointments after the drop-off window for your location.

Needles to Fort Mohave and Bullhead City		
Leave Needles	Drop Off in Fort Mohave	Drop off in Bullhead City
8:15 AM	8:35-8:55 AM	9:05-9:20 AM
11:30 AM	11:50 AM - 12:10 PM	12:20-12:35 PM

Bullhead City and Fort Mohave to Needles		
Pickup in Bullhead City	Pickup in Fort Mohave	Drop off in Needles
10:15-10:30 AM	10:35-10:55 AM	11:15 AM
1:15-1:30 PM	1:40-2:00 PM	2:20 PM

## Roundtrip Fare from Needles

(exact cash is required)

**Destinations in Fort Mohave (Zone 1) \$9.00**

**Destinations in Bullhead City (Zone 2) \$12.00**

## Where to Catch the Shuttle

You will catch the shuttle at El Garces West Parking Lot, 950 Front Street in Needles.

## Guidelines for Riding the Shuttle

### Holidays

The Shuttle operates Tuesdays and Thursdays except official holidays. These include New Year's Day, President's Day, Memorial Day, Juneteenth, 4th of July, Labor Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving Day, Day after Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and New Year's Eve.

### Rules of the Road

We try to serve as many people as possible, on a space-available basis. Please help us by following these guidelines.

- If you are unable to keep your reservation, please call to cancel, otherwise, you will be charged for the trip.
- The driver is unable to assist with boarding and deboarding so if you need assistance, please plan to have someone accompany you (fare applies).
- No more than two grocery bags and one case per passenger will be allowed. The driver cannot help loading or unloading them from the vehicle.
- There is no smoking, eating or drinking on the vehicle.
- No loud talking, loud radios and/or use of profanity. This infringes on others' rights.
- Talk to the driver only when necessary. The driver must concentrate on driving and be 100% focused at all times for the safety of all concerned.
- The City of Needles and its contract operator, Transportation Concepts, reserve the right to refuse service to any person that it feels it cannot transport safely or who may jeopardize the safe transport of others.



## 11. BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL CITY COUNCIL





## 12. SAVE THE DATE RIBBON CUTTING



GET  
**20%**  
OFF YOUR  
ORDER!

# Ribbon Cutting

 **FRIDAY**  
15 August, 2025

 **START AT**  
10:30 am - 11:30am

 **NEEDLES SMASH BURGERS**  
2205 Needles Hwy, Needles, CA

**YOU'RE INVITED TO THE RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY FOR NEEDLES SMASH BURGERS!**  
We're flipping the switch (and the patties) on something special — come help us celebrate our official partnership of Needles Smash Burgers with the Needles Chamber of Commerce with a classic ribbon cutting event! Lunch service will begin at 11am. Guests will receive 20% off their order!



(760) 983-7865



[www.needlessmashburgers.com](http://www.needlessmashburgers.com)



## **13. CITY HALL CLOSED**



**THIS OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED  
FRIDAY JULY 4, 2025,  
WE WILL REOPEN ON  
MONDAY JULY 7, 2025, AT 8:30 A.M.**