



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 Zachery Longacre

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: March 28, 2025

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1. The **Needles Pride Program** continues to unite **residents, property owners, and businesses** in a shared effort to **beautify neighborhoods**, promote **civic pride**, and improve **property maintenance**. The next community clean-up will be held on **Saturday, March 29th, at 9:00 a.m.** on **Clary Drive near the Rodeo Grounds**. Volunteers will help remove **illegal dumping and litter**. **Bags, gloves, and pickers will be provided**. As part of ongoing **fire abatement**, **Public Works crews** focused **tree trimming efforts** this week at the **Needles Cemetery** to enhance **public safety** and **aesthetics**. Today, crews from the **Public Works, Electric, and Water Departments** began **cleanup efforts** in the **San Clemente** neighborhood, collecting **half a dozen bags of trash**. This work will continue **as time allows**, contributing to improved **neighborhood appearance** and overall **public safety**. I also want to thank the residents who took advantage of **Republic Services' free bulky item pickup program**. The attached photos show recently collected items from **K Street**. Residents can call 1-800-364-3754 to request up to **three free bulky item pickups per year**.

In addition to these community-driven efforts, the **City remains committed to investing in critical infrastructure**. This week, the **Wastewater Department** installed **two new pumps** at the **Bazoobuth Lift Station**, significantly boosting **system efficiency** and ensuring **long-term reliability**. **New fencing** was also installed along **Pete Rodriguez III Memorial Field** to prevent youth from chasing balls into **Flip Mendez Parkway**, and an **ADA-compliant fence** was completed at the **Rodeo Grounds box office gate**, just in time for the upcoming rodeo. Refer to the attached images for a **peek at the new fencing**. To report issues such as **potholes, sidewalk damage, or vegetation overgrowth**, please call **760-326-2115 (press #9)** or use the **Needles Connect app** on [Google Play Store](#) and the [Apple Store](#). These efforts reflect our ongoing commitment to **public safety, service reliability, and community pride**.

2. The **City of Needles** remains The **City of Needles** remains committed to improving its **aging street infrastructure** through a **15-year Pavement**

Management Plan funded by **cannabis tax revenues**. Since the program's launch in **2020**, the City has invested over **\$10 million** to **resurface or reconstruct approximately 45%** of its **45-mile roadway network**, replacing **water service laterals** where needed. Last month, **Phillips Excavating** began the **Water Service Lateral Replacement Project**. It has already made progress through the **Vistas** neighborhood and is now working in the **Downtown streets**. **Look at their progress in the attached photo.**

In the second half of **Year 4**, the **City Council** allocated **\$3.6 million** this fiscal year to support critical **street and waterline improvements** outlined in **Exhibit 2 – Phase IV-B**. On Tuesday, the Council approved the **\$1.39 million Phase IV-B Street Improvement Project**, which includes **Desoto Street, El Monte Street, Carty Way, Carty Circle, Carty Place, I Street, G Street, H Street, Crestview Drive, and La Mesa Way**. A ribbon-cutting ceremony is scheduled for **late April** to mark the start of construction. **Refer to the attached exhibit for additional details on the Phase IV-B project plan.** We appreciate the **community's patience and support** as we continue making **Needles an even better place to live, work, and visit!** For more information about the **Pavement Management Plan**, please contact **Development Services Director Kathy Raasch** at **(760) 326-2115 ext. 126** or **kraasch@cityofneedles.com**.

3. This week, City staff met with the regional **Codes & Standards Administrator** from the **California Department of Housing & Community Development (HCD)** to establish a stronger working relationship and ensure access to state support for **mobile home and RV park oversight**. HCD's **Mobilehome and Special Occupancy Parks Program** enforces **health and safety regulations** for privately owned parks throughout California. Given the number of RV parks in Needles—including **Santiago Estates, Fenders, Desert View, Needles Marina, Rainbo Beach, Calizona, The Palms River Resort, and KOA Journey**—this partnership is vital to protecting the welfare of residents and visitors alike. **HCD** remains the lead agency for ensuring compliance and supporting park tenants. Residents with concerns related to **park conditions, lease disputes, or health and safety issues** are encouraged to contact the **HCD Mobilehome Assistance Center**. The center can assist directly or help connect individuals to the appropriate agencies. They can be reached by phone at **1-800-952-5275** (toll-free) or **1-916-323-9801** (Sacramento area), by email at **MHAssistance@hcd.ca.gov**, or online at www.hcd.ca.gov.
4. As a reminder, the **Pancakes in the Park** event will take place this **tomorrow Saturday, March 29, 2025**, from **9 AM to 12 PM** at Santa Fe Park (950 Front Street, Needles). **Organized by Billet Health**, the event is being held to honor **Vietnam Veterans**. It features a meaningful program, including a JROTC opening ceremony and rifle spinning performance, a "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans" address by Commander George DeLeon (Post 404), a POW/MIA remembrance, and a 13-Folds Flag Ceremony. A complimentary **pancake breakfast** will be provided for all veterans and community members in attendance. Councilmembers and residents are encouraged to participate in this important event, which supports the City Council's goals of **community**

engagement and **family support** by honoring our veterans and bringing people together in a show of civic pride. For more information, please get in touch with event organizer Maria Bower at 928-444-7401 or refer to the **attached flyer**.

5. **Mayor Jan Jernigan** attended the **Grand Re-Opening** of the **Route 66 Mother Road Museum** on **March 22, 2025**, in **Barstow**, joining communities from across the region to celebrate the historic corridor's **legacy and future**. The **City of Needles** hosted a booth at the event to showcase **recent accomplishments** and invite travelers to **visit and explore Needles**. The display highlighted the city's **economic growth, job creation, infrastructure improvements**, and upcoming plans for the **Route 66 Centennial in 2026**. Attendees responded **positively** to Needles' progress, noting the community's ongoing **beautification efforts** and **renewed energy**. The event supported the **City Council's goals** to **boost tourism, strengthen regional partnerships, and promote Needles** as a **welcoming and vibrant destination** on the Route 66 corridor. Refer to the attached image for a glimpse of our booth.
6. **Caltrans** has issued a **Public Notice of Intent** to adopt a **Mitigated Negative Declaration** for the **I-40 Bridge Replacements and Rock Slope Protection** project near **Needles**. The project includes replacing **four bridges** and stabilizing slopes to improve **safety** and **roadway reliability**. The **public review period** is open through **April 21, 2025**, and **construction is anticipated to begin in March 2026**. While the work may cause **temporary lane closures** or **detours** along I-40, potential impacts to **Needles** are expected to be **minimal and manageable**. **City staff** has voiced concerns regarding potential **construction setbacks** for the community, and **Caltrans** has hired a dedicated **outreach team** to inform the public and keep the entire community **apprised** throughout the duration of the project. Staff is **reviewing the environmental documents** and will continue **coordinating with Caltrans** to address any construction-related concerns. **For more information, see the attached notice**.
7. The City of Needles is proud to share the continued momentum at **Rivers Edge Golf Course**. In 2020, the City Council awarded management services to **Touchstone Golf, LLC**, which began with Pro Shop operations and expanded to full-course maintenance in 2021. Since then, Touchstone has **transformed course conditions**—enhancing turf coverage, improving playability, and elevating the golf experience. These improvements have led to a noticeable increase in rounds played and a surge in regional interest in Needles as a golf destination. This week marks an exciting development: [Touchstone has merged with KemperSports](#), a national leader in golf, sports, and hospitality. Together, they oversee more than **200 properties nationwide**, bringing new resources, enhanced guest services, and expanded growth opportunities. This **strategic partnership** is expected to raise the course's profile, attract more events, and contribute to local economic development.

Under the leadership of **JJ DeLeon**, Rivers Edge continues to thrive. The **26th Annual Flip Mendez Youth Fundraiser** is officially **sold out**, a testament to

strong community support. **Sponsorship opportunities** are still available for those looking to contribute. All proceeds benefit the **Flip Mendez Youth Foundation**, a nonprofit dedicated to providing **recreational sports opportunities for underprivileged youth** who otherwise may be unable to participate due to financial constraints. Whole hole sponsors will have their **name or business promoted on a tee box**, visible to every golfer. **Contact JJ DeLeon directly at (760) 326-3931 to sponsor this important fundraiser.** Looking ahead, the **2025 Twilight League** kicks off on **April 1**, featuring 5-person teams, weekly formats, and prize payouts. (See the attached flyer for complete details.) With **top-tier management, growing community engagement, and dynamic programming**, Rivers Edge Golf Course is well-positioned for long-term success. Call (760) 326-3931 to **reserve your [tee time](#)** or contact JJ DeLeon for tournament coordination. For more information, visit the Rivers Edge Golf Course [website](#).

8. IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES:

- City staff has **carefully curated a comprehensive community events calendar** to keep residents informed about **Needles' diverse activities and happenings**. The community events calendar can now **be found on the Needles Connect App!** Organizations are encouraged to **collaborate with the City Clerk's Office** to add or update events, ensuring a vibrant and inclusive calendar for all. For contributions or modifications, please **contact Candace Clark at cclark@cityofneedles.com**. Your **active participation** helps strengthen our community and enrich local experiences. **Check the attached calendar for the remaining 2025 events** and stay engaged with all that Needles has to offer!

1. CITY BEAUTIFICATION



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NEEDLES PRIDE

Needles residents care about their community and so should you! The Needles Pride initiative is a neighborhood focus program aimed at improving the community by working in partnership with property owners, area residents, and local businesses to clean up neighborhoods and maintain compliance with City Codes.

Please take the time to evaluate your property and correct any violations you may have.

How to Participate in the City-Wide Clean-Up



BEAUTIFICATION

Maintain Landscaping

Maintain landscape in healthy condition by proper irrigating, trimming, edging, and removing weeds, and dead plants



Clear Storage

Outside storage including but not limited to furniture, household items, yard equipment, building material, vehicle parts, and appliances must be kept out of public eye.



Park in Designated Areas

Vehicles are required to be parked on existing driveways or approved surfaces. Parking is not allowed on dirt, vacant lots, front yards, or decorative landscapes.



CODE VIOLATIONS

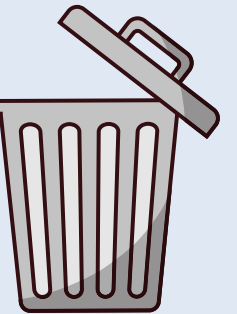
Inoperative Vehicles

Vehicles that are unlicensed, wrecked, damaged, or in disrepair may not be stored in public view.



Trash Containers

Trash containers shall not be stored in front yards or on sidewalks except when placed in areas of collection at the time permitted.

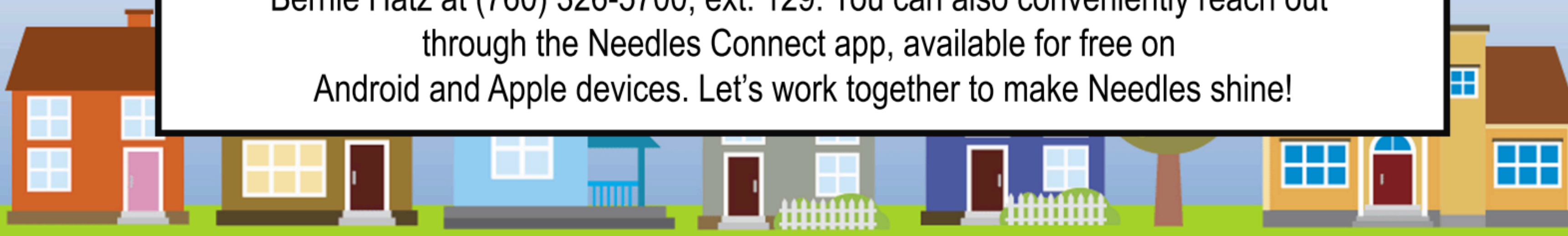


Bulky Items

Keep sidewalks clear of discarded household items such as furniture, appliances, electronics, and more. You may schedule up to three (3) bulky item pick ups per year by calling Republic Services at 928-758-9135.



If you have questions about the Needles Pride initiative contact Code Enforcement Officer Bernie Hatz at (760) 326-5700, ext. 129. You can also conveniently reach out through the Needles Connect app, available for free on Android and Apple devices. Let's work together to make Needles shine!



2. PAVEMENT MANAGEMENT IV-B



City of Needles Capital Projects

Street Improvements & Water Service Replacement

PHASE 4B



VISTA AREA

ELMONTE STREET (Parkway to Coronado St)
 CARTY WAY (El Monte to Coronado St),
 CARTY CIRCLE,
 CARTY PLACE
 DESOTO ST (Parkway to Balboa St)



DOWNTOWN AREA

I STREET (Third Street to Broadway Ave)
 H STREET (Third Street to Broadway Ave)
 G STREET (Third Street to Broadway Ave)
 CRESTVIEW (Third Street to End)

LEGEND

 **PHASE 4B - PAVING IMPROVEMENTS**
 Including Water Services

3. HCD RV PARK ENFORCEMENT

OFFICE OF THE MOBILEHOME OMBUDSMAN



Mobilehome Assistance Center

Do you have any of these questions or concerns?

- Are you concerned about possible health or safety issues in your mobilehome park like unsafe sewer, water, electrical, or gas conditions?
- Do you need assistance with the installation, inspection, maintenance, or alteration of manufactured homes, accessory structures, or park grounds?
- Do you suspect unlawful or unlicensed mobilehome sales practices by dealers or salespersons?
- Do you need information on the Mobilehome Residency Law and where to obtain assistance for lease or rent disputes with park management?
- Do you need assistance with your mobilehome ownership documents?
- Are you seeking compensation for a fraudulent mobilehome sale?
- Do you need information on local resources available to you?

**If you've answered "yes" to any of the above,
or have similar questions, we can help!**

**Even if we can't help you directly,
we can point you in the right direction.**

Contact the Mobilehome Assistance Center:

Call us: 1.916.263.4742 (Sacramento area)
1.800.952.5275 (Toll Free)
1.800.735.2929 (TTD Number)

Email us: MHassistance@hcd.ca.gov

Find us online: www.hcd.ca.gov

Write to us at: The Office of the Mobilehome Ombudsman

Mobilehome Assistance Center

Department of Housing and Community Development
PO Box 278690; Sacramento, CA 95827-8690

The Mobilehome Assistance Center cannot mediate or offer any legal advice on these matters.
You should seek or obtain legal advice from a licensed attorney, legal aid, or contact your local government officials for further assistance.



4. BILLET HEALTH VETERANS EVENT



SPONSORED BY



Billet Health™



PANCAKES IN THE *Park*

Honoring Vietnam Veterans



29 MARCH 2025

9AM-12PM

Santa Fe Park

950 Front Street Needles, CA 92363



9am Mohave High School JROTC Opening
Ceremony

10am Rifle Spinning JROTC

10:30am Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans
Presented by George DeLeon Commander
Post 404 Commemorative Coin Presentation

11am POW-MIA Remembrance Ceremony

11:30am 13 Folds Flag Ceremony

WE WILL BE PROVIDING A PANCAKE
BREAKFAST FOR ALL VETERANS AND
THE COMMUNITY



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
MARIA BOWER (928)444-7401

5. ROUTE 66 MUSEUM RE-OPENING

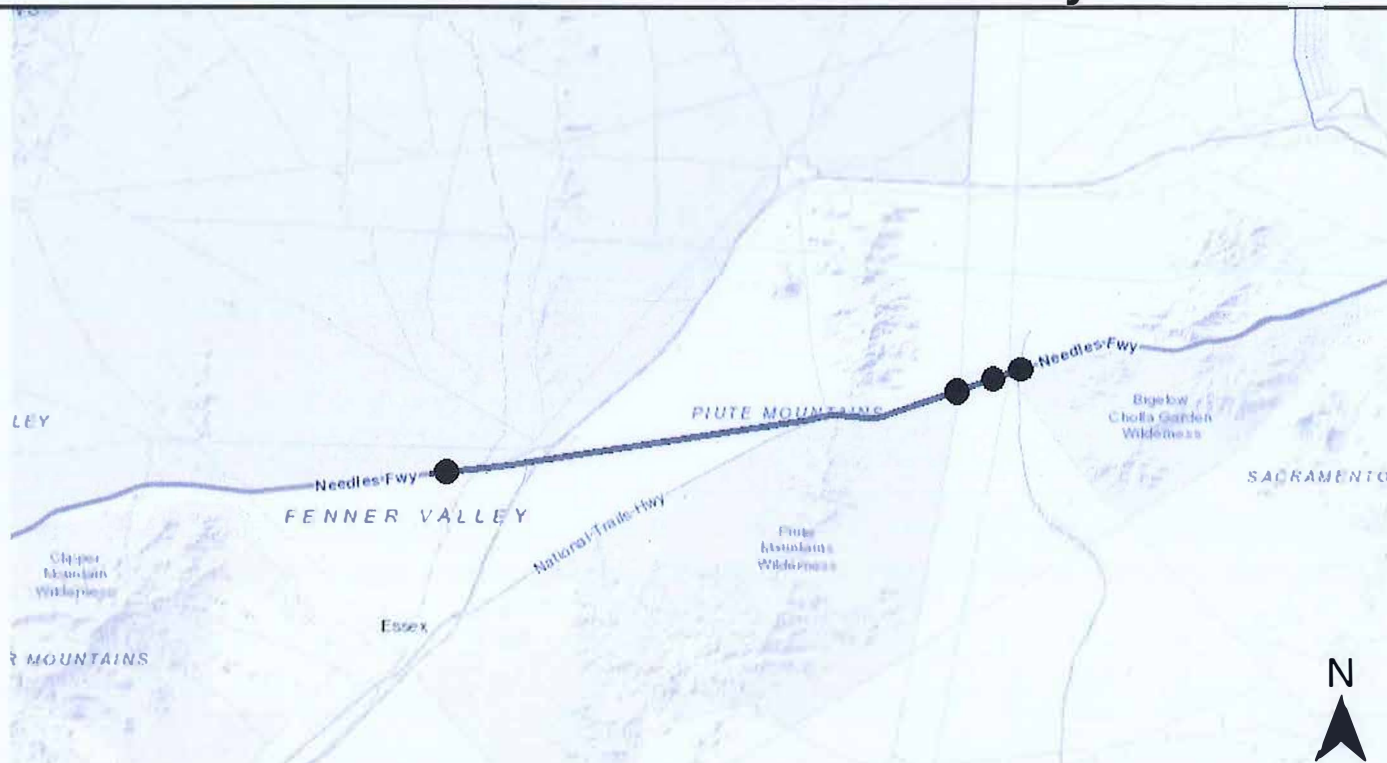


6. CALTRANS PROJECT MND

PUBLIC NOTICE



Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration Announcement of Opportunity for Public Hearing I-40 Bridge Replacements and Rock Slope Protection Replacements near Needles, CA Located in San Bernardino County



WHAT'S BEING PLANNED?	The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) proposes to restore rock slope protection (RSP) at Ardis Ditch Bridges, Tank Tower Ditch Bridges, and Homer Wash Bridges, and to replace Woods Wash Bridges on Interstate 40 (I-40) west of the City of Needles in San Bernardino County. The project purpose is to preserve the structural integrity of the identified bridges. Caltrans is the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).
WHY THIS NOTICE?	Caltrans has studied the effects this project may have on the environment. The studies show the project will not significantly affect the quality of the environment. The report which explains why is called an Initial Study with Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration (ISMND). This notice is to tell you of the preparation of the ISMND, of its availability for you to read, and to offer the opportunity for a public hearing.
WHAT'S AVAILABLE?	The Proposed ISMND and other project information such as associated maps and technical studies are available for review and copying at the Caltrans District 8 Office (address below) on weekdays from 8am-5pm, or by email upon request to Vivian.Ho@dot.ca.gov
WHERE YOU COME IN	<p>Do you have any comments about processing the project with an ISMND or disagree with the findings of the study? Would you care to make any other comments on the project? Would you like a public hearing?</p> <p>Please submit your comments or request for a public hearing in writing no later than April 21, 2025, to: Vivian Ho, Acting Senior Environmental Planner California Department of Transportation 464 West Fourth Street, Mail Station 827 San Bernardino, CA 92401-1400 or via e-mail to: Vivian.Ho@dot.ca.gov Please include "I-40 Bridge and RSP Replacements" in the subject line.</p> <p>The date we will begin accepting comments is March 21, 2025. If there are no major comments or requests for a public hearing, Caltrans will proceed with the project's design.</p>
CONTACT	For more information about this study or any transportation matter, contact the Caltrans District 8 Office of Public Affairs at (909) 383-4631. For individuals with sensory disabilities, this document can be made available in Braille, in large print, on audiocassette, or on computer disk. To obtain a copy in one of these alternate formats, call or write to Vivian Ho, Acting Senior Environmental Planner, 464 W. 4th Street, 6th Floor MS-827, San Bernardino, CA 92401; (909) 292-6694; or use the California Relay Service 1 (800) 735-2929 (TTY to Voice), 1 (800) 735-2922 (Voice to TTY), 1 (800) 854-7784 (Spanish and English Speech to Speech), or dial 711.

7. RIVERS EDGE GOLF COURSE

THE EDGE PRESENTS
2025
TWILIGHT
LEAGUE
BEGINS APRIL 1st '25

WEEKLY GAMES
5-PERSON TEAMS (1 ALTERNATE)
DIFFERENT FORMATS EACH WEEK
HANDICAPS TBD BY SCORES
WEEKLY PAYOUTS
LIMITED TO FIRST 10 TEAMS



NOW TAKING TEAM ENTRIES
\$25 EACH WEEK PER PLAYER
WEEKLY GAMES: SKINS/KP



RIVERS EDGE
GOLF COURSE




MORE INFO AT WWW.GOLFNEEDLESCA.COM

TEL: 760 326-3931

March 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION CITY PUBLIC WORKS YARD 112 ROBUFFA 7AM - 11AM
2 16TH ANNUAL SPRING CLASSIC BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT 3RD-8TH GRADES MAY 1 - 2	3	4	5 PLANNING COMMISSION 4pm	6	7	8 HARVEST BIBLE CHURCH GOLF TOURNAMENT
9	10	11 WOMEN'S CLUB LUNCHEON CITY COUNCIL 6 PM	12	13	14	15 LUCKY GREENS ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT RIVER EDGE GOLF COURSE 
16	17 PARKS & RECREATION 4pm HAPPY  St. Patrick's DAY	18 BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES 4pm	19 JOB AND RESOURCE FAIR EL GARCES 10AM - 2PM ASSEMBLYMAN GONZALEZ'S REPS MOBILE OFFICE 10AM-5:30PM NEEDLES TOURISM OFFICE 920 W BROADWAY	20 GOOD MORNING NEEDLES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & VISITOR CENTER BREAKFAST 9-11AM EL GARCES 950 FRONT ST., STE A 9-11	21	22 JJ's GOLF CLINIC 10AM RIVERS EDGE GC
23	24	25 CITY COUNCIL 6 PM	Needles High School Music/Culinary Department Proudly Presents The Meat Eat A Fundraising BBQ  performances by The Blue Notes, The Advanced Band & The Needles High School Choir NEEDLES HIGH SCHOOL GYM 6PM \$10 / PLATE	27	28	29  HONORING VIETAM VETERANS PANCAKES IN THE PARK SANTA FE PARK 9AM COMMUNITY CLEANUP SAN CLEMENTE ST. 

April 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 TWILIGHT LEAGUE RIVERS EDGE GOLF COURSE BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES 4 PM	2 PLANNING COMMISSION 4 PM	3	4 47th ANNUAL COLORADO RIVER ROUND UP	5 
6	7	8  WELL 11 TREATMENT PLANT 9AM WOMEN'S CLUB LUNCH CITY COUNCIL 6 PM	9	10 	12 	
13	14	15 BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES 4 PM	16  CITY COUNCIL TRAINING & GOVERNANCE SESSION 4-7PM EL GARCES	17  GOOD MORNING NEEDLES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & VISITOR CENTER BREAKFAST 9-11AM EL GARCES 950 FRONT ST., STE A 9-11 CEMETERY COMM. - 3 PM	18	19  EASTER EGG HUNT FACE PAINTING & PHOTOS WITH EASTER BUNNY JACK SMITH PARK 9:30 AM 1ST ANNUAL WORLD FAMOUS CHILI COOKOFF SANTA FE PARK 10AM
20 	21 PARKS & RECREATION 4 PM ROUTE 66 BIKE WEEK	22 CITY COUNCIL 6 PM ROUTE 66 BIKE WEEK	23 HOUSING COMMISSION 4 PM ROUTE 66 BIKE WEEK	24 	25 APRIL 21 - 27	26
27 ROUTE 66 BIKE WEEK	28	29	30	OTHER EVENTS IN APRIL		

May 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6 BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES 4 PM	7 PLANNING COMMISSION 4 PM	8	9	10
11	12	13 WOMEN'S CLUB LUNCH CITY COUNCIL 6 PM	14 	15 GOOD MORNING NEEDLES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & VISITOR CENTER BREAKFAST 9-11AM EL GARCES 950 FRONT ST., STE A 9-11	16	17 Rabies and Licensing Clinic Needles Animal Shelter 1662 Flip Mendez Pkwy Needles, CA 92363 May 17th 9:30-12:30 CASH ONLY
18	19 PARKS & RECREATION 4 PM	20 BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES 4 PM	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 CITY COUNCIL 6 PM	28 HOUSING COMMISSION 4 PM	29	30	31

June 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES 4 PM	4 PLANNING COMMISSION 4 PM	5	6	7
8	9	10 WOMEN'S CLUB LUNCH CITY COUNCIL 6 PM	11	12	13	14
15	16 PARKS & RECREATION 4 PM	17 BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES 4 PM	18	19 GOOD MORNING NEEDLES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & VISITOR CENTER BREAKFAST 9-11AM EL GARCES 950 FRONT ST., STE A 9-11	20	21
22	23	24 CITY COUNCIL 6 PM	25 HOUSING COMMISSION 4 PM	26	27	28
29	30	1	2	3	4	5

July 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES 4 PM	2 PLANNING COMMISSION 4 PM	3	4	5
6	7	8 WOMEN'S CLUB LUNCH CITY COUNCIL 6 PM	9	10	11	12
13	14	15 BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES 4 PM	16	17 GOOD MORNING NEEDLES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & VISITOR CENTER BREAKFAST 9-11 AM EL GARCES 950 FRONT ST., STE A 9-11 CEMETERY COMM. - 3 PM	18	19
20	21 PARKS & RECREATION 4 PM	22 CITY COUNCIL 6 PM	23 HOUSING COMMISSION 4 PM	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		