



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: February 21, 2025

1. Today, **City staff** met with the **District Director** and **Deputy District Director – Design for Caltrans District 8** to discuss **infrastructure projects, grant funding, and strategic partnerships**. The meeting focused on **Caltrans’ ongoing investments** in Needles, which include:
 - **\$5 million+** for **off-ramp improvements** (California Sign Project)
 - **\$2.17 million** from the **Clean California Grant Program (APWA Award)**
 - **\$245,000** from the **Sustainable Communities Planning Grant**
 - **\$758,000** in **federal funding** for the **Olberholte Street Project**
 - **\$2 million+** for the **Active Transportation Plan**Discussions covered the **City’s Off-Highway Motor Vehicle (OHMV) Pilot Program** and its implementation. Additionally, the City highlighted **Needles’ role as a BNSF railway hub** and explored the potential for **developing a vehicle charging hub** to advance **renewable energy and electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure**. **Safety and traffic flow improvements** were key topics, particularly **enhancements to Highway 95** and the need for **improved lighting on the D Street Bridge**. The meeting **strengthened collaboration** between the **City and Caltrans**, reinforcing the importance of **state and federal investments in transportation infrastructure** to support **economic growth, mobility, and community development** in Needles.
2. The **Needles Pride Program** is thriving, inspiring residents to take an active role in improving their neighborhoods, fostering community pride, maintaining properties, and ensuring compliance with city codes. One of the program’s greatest successes has been its ongoing community clean-up efforts, and the next event is set for **tomorrow, February 22, 2025, at 9 AM**. **Councilmember Zachery Longacre** will lead the charge to **clean up J Street Hill**, and all community members are invited to join. Volunteers should meet near **Dollar General (Corner of J Street and Hospitality)**, where bags, gloves, and pickers will be provided—bring your enthusiasm and dedication to keeping Needles beautiful! At the same time, **fire prevention remains a top priority** for the city. Many property owners have already stepped up to clear and maintain their lots,

and our **Public Works crew is actively trimming trees throughout the city this week** to enhance safety and aesthetics. As we gear up for the season, take a sneak peek at the attached photo of our team hard at work at **Jack Smith Park**. Additionally, the swim area at Jack Smith park is now ready for the summer season. This work is being performed annually to ensure a better experience for everyone at our beaches. Let's keep the momentum going and continue positively impacting our community! **Refer to the attached flyer for more information.**

3. The **City of Needles** is taking another significant step in improving essential infrastructure with the upcoming **Water Service Lateral Replacement Project**. **Phillips Excavating** will begin work **next week**, launching a **\$500,000 investment** to upgrade water service laterals across several key neighborhoods. The project will start on **El Monte Street** and extend to **Carty Way, Carty Circle, Carty Place, Desoto Street, I Street, H Street, G Street, and Crestview Drive**. Now entering the **second half of its fourth year**, the City has committed **\$3.6 million this fiscal year** toward comprehensive **waterline and street upgrades**, ensuring **residents receive reliable, modernized infrastructure**. In addition, **the city is preparing to go out to bid for the paving portion of the project**, ensuring that once underground improvements are complete, the affected streets will be repaved for enhanced durability and safety. This initiative aligns with the **City Council's goal to enhance infrastructure and public spaces**, reinforcing Needles' dedication to creating a **sustainable, functional, and attractive environment for residents and visitors**. Investments like these **improve essential services, increase long-term sustainability, and support economic growth** by making Needles a more **resilient and connected community**. **Refer to the attached exhibit for additional details on the Phase 4B project plan**. We appreciate the community's patience and support as we continue making Needles an even better place to live, work, and visit!
4. The **Billet Health team** comprises of professionals specializing in **mobile physicians, remote patient monitoring, home health, hospice, and primary care**. The **City of Needles** collaborates with Billet Health to support our **Veterans Housing Program**, ensuring that local veterans receive the necessary care and resources. Today, Billet Health launched its **"Donuts and Coffee for Veterans"** initiative to **honor and thank our veterans for their service**. This event will now be held **monthly** at the **Sage Motel (1624 W Broadway Street, Needles, CA 92363)**, providing a welcoming space for veterans to connect and receive support. The **next "Donuts and Coffee for Veterans" event** will occur on **March 21, 2025, at 9:00 AM**. Please see the **attached flyer** for the full schedule and refer to the **attached images** for highlights from today's event. This initiative strengthens our ongoing commitment to **supporting veterans in our community**, and we appreciate Billet Health's dedication to this effort.
5. City officials, business owners, community members, and the **San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department - Colorado River Station** came together on

Tuesday for the **Coffee with a Cop** event. This initiative provided a valuable opportunity for residents to engage in open conversations with local law enforcement, fostering stronger relationships and reinforcing our shared commitment to public safety. As part of our ongoing efforts to protect the community, the **City of Needles recently formed a multi-agency task force** in partnership with **SBCSD, Caltrans, and the Needles Unified School District** to combat vandalism and graffiti. These acts will not be tolerated, and I want to personally commend **SBCSD** for their dedication to keeping our city safe. On **Monday, February 17, 2025, at 6:44 p.m., Needles deputies** responded to a report of a juvenile brandishing a firearm near **Flip Mendez Parkway**. When approached, two juveniles fled on foot but were quickly detained after a pursuit. Deputies recovered a **semi-automatic handgun** in the area. A **16-year-old on probation** was arrested and remains in custody without bail, while the second juvenile was released to a guardian, with a report submitted to the **Juvenile District Attorney** for review. Our **commitment to public safety** remains unwavering. Through continued collaboration with law enforcement, local agencies, and engaged community members, we will ensure that Needles remains a safe and welcoming place for all. For more details, please see the **attached press release**.

6. This week, **City officials attended Pacific Clinics' SPIKES Clubhouse Member Appreciation Day**, recognizing the vital services the center provides to the community. Since opening in **November 2024, Pacific Clinics** has served residents **18 and older**, focusing on **behavioral health recovery, peer support, and essential resources**. Beyond mental health services, the center offers **assistance for families, individuals affected by domestic violence, those facing food insecurity, and support for healthy living and community engagement**. Pacific Clinics, a **California non-profit public benefit corporation**, operates under contract with the **San Bernardino County Department of Behavioral Health** to provide mental health services statewide. For a glimpse into the event, see the **attached images**, and for more information on available programs, refer to the **attached flyer** or contact **Sonia Vicario** at 626-753-8725 or sonia.vicario@pacificclinics.org.
7. The **47th Annual Colorado River Round-Up** returns to **Needles, California, on April 4-5, 2025**, bringing a **weekend full of rodeo action, live entertainment, and family-friendly activities**. Hosted at the **Needles Rodeo Grounds (1001 San Clemente Street)**, this **Grand Canyon Professional Rodeo Association (GCPRA) sanctioned event** highlights the **tradition, skill, and excitement of rodeo competition**. Attendees can enjoy **rodeo performances, local vendors, a cornhole tournament, the Junior Barrel Race, Mutton Bustin', and live music, with a Rodeo Dance featuring "Littletown" each evening**. Presale tickets are available **March 31 - April 3, 2025, at the Rodeo Store (920 W. Broadway) from 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM**. Prices are **\$15 for a 2-day adult pass and \$5 for kids**. Regular admission is **\$10 for adults (18+), \$5 for youth (6-17), and free for children 5 and under**. This **premier rodeo event** aligns with the **City Council's goals to enhance community engagement, promote public celebrations, and support**

tourism-driven economic growth. With a weekend full of **rodeo action, live music, local vendors, and exciting competitions**, this event is a **must-see for residents and visitors alike**. For more details, see the **attached flyer**, visit www.needlesrodeo.com, or contact **Judy Thornton at 760-333-5255**. Join us in celebrating the spirit of rodeo and community in Needles!

8. I am excited to announce that the **Needles High School boys' and girls' basketball teams** have won the **2025 Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association (NIAA) Class 2A Southern Regional Championship**. Their outstanding performance has secured a place in the **2025 NIAA Class 2A State Basketball Championship** semi-finals, which begin **today**, with the **girls' team playing at 3:30 PM** and the **boys' team at 5:15 PM**. The **State Finals** will take place **tomorrow, Saturday, February 22, 2025, at Cox Pavilion (4505 S Maryland Pkwy #2022, Las Vegas, NV 89154)**, with the **girls' championship game tipping off at 2:00 PM** and the **boys' game at 3:45 PM**. This is a tremendous achievement for our student-athletes, and we encourage the community to rally behind them as they compete for the **state title**. **Join us in celebrating their success and the spirit of sports in Needles!** Refer to the **attached brackets** for additional tournament details.
9. The **City** continues working with the **Bureau of Land Management (BLM)** to develop a **coordinated plan** to relocate the **four burros roaming Rivers Edge Golf Course** safely. The **Burro Extraction Team** remains actively engaged, and a **designated feeding area** has been established—a critical first step in preparing a **humane trapping method** for relocation. **BLM is still awaiting authorization from Washington, D.C., to proceed safely**. This effort has been **ongoing**, and City staff **continue to meet regularly with BLM** to advance the process. With **boating season** approaching and the **Jack Smith Boat Launch** reopening for weekend use next month, **public safety remains a top priority**. The **City will continue monitoring** the situation to mitigate potential hazards for drivers and visitors. We appreciate **BLM's collaboration** and will provide updates as they become available.
10. Get ready for an **action-packed week** as **Needles High School Spring sports** kick off with **two major tournaments**, reinforcing the City's commitment to **sports tourism and community engagement**. The **Needles High School Baseball and Softball Colorado River Invitational Tournament** will run from **February 27 through March 1, 2025**, with games hosted at **Needles High School Field** and **Nikki Bunch/Franz Flowers Ball Fields** (refer to the **attached brackets for more information**). **Donations** for the **snack shack** are being accepted throughout the week, with **baseball donations collected at the Eagles** and **softball donations collected at Nikki Bunch Ball Fields** to support these events and our student-athletes. Rounding out the week, the **18th Annual Needles Spring Classic Basketball Tournament** will occur on **March 1-2, 2025**, featuring **27 teams** competing at the **Needles Recreation Center**. These tournaments align with the **City Council's goals to enhance public spaces, foster economic growth, and position Needles as a premier sports tourism destination**. By hosting regional sporting events, the City **attracts**

visitors, boosts local businesses, and strengthens community engagement, reinforcing Needles' identity as the **Gateway to California on Route 66 and the Colorado River**. We encourage residents and visitors to join us in celebrating the spirit of sports and supporting these exciting tournaments!

11. IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES:

- **March 1, 2025 – Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event**
The event will take place at the **Needles City Public Works Yard (112 Robuffa Street)** from **7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.** Residents are encouraged to properly dispose of **used motor oil, batteries, paint products, and household cleaners**. For inquiries, contact the **Household Hazardous Waste Program at 909-382-5401 or 1-800-OILY-CAT**.
- **March 11, 2025 – Well No. 11 Treatment Plant Project Ribbon Cutting**
The event will take place adjacent to the Needles Golf Course Maintenance Yard **at 10 AM**. This **\$8.9 million project** is a major step in strengthening Needles' water infrastructure, ensuring a long-term, reliable supply of high-quality drinking water.
- **March 15, 2025 – Chamber Lucky Greens Tournament**
Registration is open for the tournament. Reserve your spot today! Contact the Chamber for sponsorship opportunities 760-326-2050 or click on this [link](#).
- **March 19, 2025 – 3rd Annual Job and Resource Fair**
Hosted by **San Bernardino County Supervisor Dawn Rowe**, this event at the **El Garces Historic Train Depot (950 Front Street, Needles, CA)** from **10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** will provide **networking opportunities** for residents, city staff, and public officials to connect with agencies and organizations offering **job placement and essential services**.
- **April 10-12, 2025 – Art in the Park Save the date!** The **second annual Art in the Park** will showcase **art pieces from across the Tri-State region** in partnership with the **River Valley Artist Guild**. This event celebrates local creativity and community engagement. **More information to come.**
- **April 19, 2025 – Needles' 1st Annual World-Famous Chili Cookoff**
Hosted by **The River Community Coalition & Firehouse Ministries**, this exciting new event will take place at **10:00 a.m.** Santa Fe Park (950 Front Street). Attendees can expect **delicious chili, friendly competition, and a celebration of community spirit**.
- **April 21-27, 2025 – Route 66 Bike Week**
This **weeklong event** celebrates the **historic Route 66** with a **scenic ride from Needles to Seligman**, highlighting the spirit of the **open road and motorcycle culture**.
- **April 24, 2025 – Needles Animal Shelter Spay/Neuter Clinic**
The **Needles Animal Shelter** will host a **spay/neuter clinic** to promote **responsible pet ownership**. Space is **limited**, and residents must **RSVP** by completing an application and providing proof of residency. A portion of the cost is **subsidized** to make the service more accessible. For more details or to schedule an appointment, call **(760) 326-4952**.

- **May 14, 2025 – Run for the Wall (RFTW)**
This **annual tribute honoring Vietnam Veterans** will welcome over **300 motorcyclists** passing through Needles. The riders will **arrive at the historic El Garces at noon**, offering a meaningful opportunity to **honor their service**.
- **Community Calendar**
Local organizations are encouraged to coordinate with the City Clerk's Office to add or update events, keeping the calendar accurate and beneficial for the community. To submit an event or request changes, contact Candace Clark at **cclark@cityofneedles.com**.

1. CALTRANS SITE VISIT



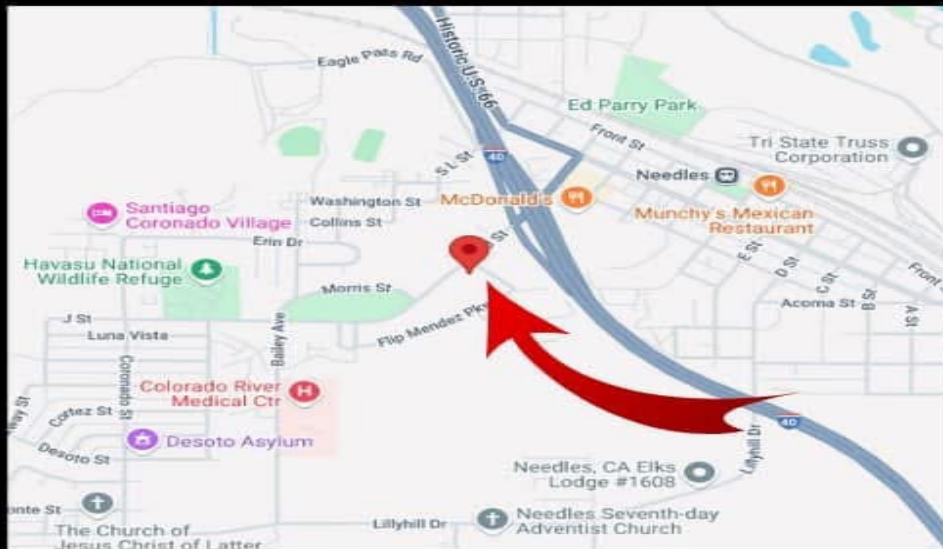
2. COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP

**COMMUNITY
CLEAN-UP DAY!**
NEEDLES!!
Let's Come
Together & Help
Clean Up
J STREET!

**Saturday, February 22, 2025
9:00 a.m.**

**Near Dollar General
J Street and Hospitality**

SEE YOU THERE!



2. COMMUNITY BEAUTIFICATION



City of Needles Capital Projects
Street Improvements & Water Service Replacement
PHASE 4B



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)

PHASE 4B - PAVING IMPROVEMENTS Including Water Services

4. BILLET HEALTH DOUGHNUTS & COFFEE





Billet Health™

DONUTS & COFFEE FOR VETERANS

To honor and thank our veterans for their service, we're offering free donuts and coffee to all veterans and guests! Stop by and say hi!

FEBRUARY 21ST

9am

MARCH 21ST

9am

APRIL 18TH

9am

MAY 29TH

9am

at Sage Motel

1624 W Broadway St, Needles, CA 92363

5. COFFEE WITH A COP



Full Notification



SBSD - Colorado River Sheriffs Department

Tuesday February 18th, 2025 :: 07:27 a.m. PST

Advisory

Two Juveniles Flee from Deputies After Brandishing a Firearm on Flip Mendez Parkway

DATE/TIME: Monday, February 17, 2025, at approximately 6:44 p.m.

INCIDENT: PC 417a (2) (A) - Brandishing a Firearm in Public and PC 148(A)(1)- Resist, Delay, or Obstructing an Officer

LOCATION: 1500 block of Flip Mendez Pkwy, Needles, CA

SUSPECT(S): Confidential Male Juvenile, 16 Years Old, Resident of Needles, CA
Confidential Male Juvenile, 15 Years Old, Resident of Mohave Valley, CA

VICTIM(S): Confidential

SUMMARY: On Monday, February 17, 2025, at approximately 6:44 p.m., deputies assigned to the Colorado River Station/Needles Police Department responded to the 1500 block of Flip Mendez Pkwy, reference a juvenile brandishing a gun at people. When deputies arrived on scene they attempted to contact two juveniles who matched the description given in the call. The juveniles refused to follow the commands given and fled from deputies on foot. After a lengthy foot pursuit, both juveniles were detained. A search of the area of the foot pursuit resulted in the recovery of a semi-automatic handgun.

The 16-year-old juvenile was found to be on probation and was consequently arrested on the above mentioned charges and was transported and booked at the High Desert Juvenile Detention and Assessment Center. He remains in custody with no bail, awaiting a court hearing. The second juvenile was released to a guardian with a report prepared and forwarded to the Juvenile District Attorney for review.

Anyone with information regarding this incident is urged to contact Deputy B. Moore of the Colorado River Station/Needles Police Department at (760) 326-9200. Callers wishing to remain anonymous may contact the We-Tip Hotline at 1-800-78CRIME (27463) or can leave information on the We-Tip website at www.wetip.com.

For press releases, news, and information, follow the Colorado River Station/Needles Police Department on Facebook and Instagram @SBCSDDColoradoRiverStation or X at: @CORiverStation.

Refer: Deputy B. Moore

Station: Colorado River Station / Needles Police Department

Phone No. (760) 326-9200

Case No. 212500135

SHANNON D. DICUS, Sheriff-Coroner
San Bernardino County Sheriff-Coroner Department

6. PACIFIC CLINICS



7. RODEO



47TH COLORADO RIVER ROUND UP APRIL 4 & 5, 2025 NEEDLES RODEO GROUNDS SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY, APRIL 4

4 PM: GATES AND VENDORS OPEN

6 PM: GCPRA RODEO PERFORMANCE

8 PM: RODEO DANCE FEATURING "LITTLETOWN"
RODEO QUEENS SIGNING AUTOGRAPHS

SATURDAY, APRIL 5

9 AM: GATES OPEN

RODEO SLACK

CORNHOLE TOURNEY REGISTRATION

10 AM: CORNHOLE TOURNEY PRESENTED BY THE
HUNTER FAMILY

1 PM: JUNIOR BARREL RACE PRESENTED BY
CAMPBELL REDI-MIX

1-3 PM: MUTTON BUSTIN' REGISTRATION

3 PM: MUTTON BUSTIN'

6 PM: GCPRA RODEO PERFORMANCE

8 PM: RODEO DANCE FEATURING "LITTLETOWN"
RODEO QUEENS SIGNING AUTOGRAPHS

Presented by Needles Rodeo Association
(No outside alcohol permitted)



PRESENTS THE

47TH COLORADO RIVER ROUND UP

APRIL 4 & 5, 2025

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.

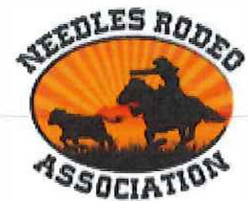
8th Annual Cornhole Tourney

Call Wade Evans at 760-220-1039

Local Contestants -

Call Mike Shott at 760-218-4891 from March 1-26

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



* THE RODEO STORE *

March 31-April 3

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



8. STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

2025 NIAA Girls Basketball Playoffs

2025 2A State Girls Basketball

Location Las Vegas, NV

Feb 21
SEMIFINALS

G1 2/21 @ 3:30p
1S Needles 2N North Tahoe
at Faith Lutheran

G2 2/21 @ 6:50p
1N Pershing County 2S Lincoln County
Watch Live Stream

Feb 22
CHAMPIONSHIP

CHAMPIONSHIP
G3 2/22 @ 2p
Winner G1 Winner G2

2025 NIAA Boys Basketball Playoffs

2025 2A State Boys Basketball

Location Various Cities, NV

Feb 21
SEMIFINALS

G1 2/21 @ 5:10p
1S Needles 2N West Wendover
Watch Live Stream

G2 2/21 @ 8:30p
1N Incline 2S Lincoln County
Watch Live Stream

Feb 22
CHAMPIONSHIP

CHAMPIONSHIP
G3 2/22 @ 3:45p
Winner G1 Winner G2
at Cox Pavilion

10. SPORTS TOURISM

2025 COLORADO RIVER BASEBALL INVITATIONAL

* All games are to be 7 innings or DROP DEAD at 2 hours. All teams assist with foul balls

*All game times are CANV time

Feb 27th -March 1

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

10. SPORTS TOURISM

Colorado River Invitational Softball Tournament 2025

POOL A		POOL B		POOL C		POOL D	
Fernley		Elko		Boulder City		Camp Verde	
Pahrump		Doral Red Rock		Lowry		Faith Lutheran	
Palo Verde Blythe		Needles		SECTA		Legacy	
Williams		Yuma Catholic		Tolleson		Spring Creek	
Pool Play Nikki Bunch	Thursday Time	Pool Play Franz Flower		Pool Play Nikki Bunch	Friday Time	5 Innings Franz Flower	
Fernley Pahrump	10:00 AM	Palo Verde Blythe Williams		Palo Verde Blythe Fernley	8:00 AM	Williams Pahrump	
Needles Yuma Catholic	11:20 AM	Elko Doral Red Rock		Needles Elko	9:20 AM	Yuma Catholic Doral Red Rock	
Williams Fernley	12:40 PM	Pahrump Palo Verde Blythe		Lowry Tolleson	10:40 AM	Boulder City SECTA	
Doral Red Rock Needles	2:00 PM	Yuma Catholic Elko		Legacy Camp Verde	12:00 PM	Spring Creek Faith Lutheran	
SECTA Tolleson	3:20 PM	Boulder City Lowry		Bracket Play Nikki Bunch	Friday Time	6 Innings Franz Flower	
				B#1	1:30 PM	G#1	
Camp Verde Faith Lutheran	4:40 PM	Legacy Spring Creek		G#4		B#4	
				B#2	3:00 PM	G#2	
Tolleson Boulder City	6:00 PM	Lowry SECTA		G#3		B#3	
				R#1	4:30 PM	Y#1	
Spring Creek Camp Verde	7:20 PM	Spring Creek Faith Lutheran		Y#4		R#4	
				R#2	6:00 PM	Y#2	
				Y#3		R#3	

10. SPORTS TOURISM

Colorado River International Softball Tournament 2025

Bracket Play 6 innings

Championship 7 innings

POOL A		POOL B		POOL C		POOL D	
Fernley		Elus		Bozidar City		Camp Verde	
Pahrump		Coral Red Rock		Lowry		Faith Lutheran	
Pale Verde Bayliss		Needles		SECTA		Legacy	
Williams		Yuma Catholic		Tehachan		Spring Creek	

Top Team Denotes Home Team - Home Team is in 3rd Base Outpost

ALL TIMES Are California Time

Home Teams will keep official book.

Run Rules & Time will be in effect for Pool Play & Bracket Play.

Bracket Play Run Rule - 10 after 4 - 5 after 5

Bracket Play Time Limit 80 Min.

Even Seeds will flip a coin to determine home team.

Unmanufactured Tie Breaker will be used for games that end in a tie. NO TIES.

If a CA team wins all of games, they automatic will move on no matter the outcome of the game.

Games 13 - 14 - 15 & 16 are drop dead games. This is being done to help keep tournament running.