



City of Needles, California Request for City Council Action

CITY COUNCIL NPUA

Regular Special

Meeting Date: June 23, 2026

Title: Letter of Support for Assembly Bill 1821 Regarding Updates to the California Public Records Act.

Background: Assembly Bill 1821 proposes updates to the California Public Records Act ("CPRA"). The bill was amended in the Senate on June 10, 2026, and continues to include an important clarification changing certain CPRA response periods from calendar days to business days, including the initial response period and extension period.

The CPRA establishes the process by which members of the public may request access to public records maintained by local agencies. The City supports transparency, public access, and accountable government, while also recognizing the need for clear, workable procedures that allow public agencies to respond to records requests accurately and efficiently.

The proposed change from calendar days to business days would provide local agencies with more practical response timelines, particularly when requests are received before weekends, holidays, City Hall closures, or during periods when necessary staff may be unavailable. This clarification would assist agencies in providing complete and accurate responses while maintaining the public's right to access records.

The June 10, 2026 amendments also include provisions related to designated methods for submitting public records requests, including a required physical office location and specified email address, as well as agency authority to designate other reasonable submission methods, such as an online portal. The amendments further address search and review fees for certain commercial use requests, exemptions for specified requesters, and a court process for determining whether a request was submitted with malicious intent before search and review fees may be imposed in that circumstance.

Authorization from the City Council would allow the Mayor to sign the attached letter of support and direct the City Clerk to submit the City's position through the Legislature's official position letter portal in accordance with the City's legislative advocacy procedures.

Fiscal Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Authorize the Mayor to Submit a Letter of Support for Assembly Bill 1821 Regarding Updates to the California Public Records Act.

Submitted By: Candace Clark, City Clerk

City Manager Approval: Patrick J. Martinez Date: 6/18/2026

Other Department Approval: _____ Date: _____
(when required)