



City of Needles, California Request for City Council Action

☒ CITY COUNCIL ☐ NPUA

☒ Regular ☐ Special

Meeting Date: September 23, 2025

Title: Letter of Support – Palo Verde Healthcare District and Palo Verde Hospital

Background: The Riverside Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) has released a Municipal Service Review (MSR) for the Palo Verde Healthcare District. The report highlights severe financial distress and the suspension of surgical and inpatient services at Palo Verde Hospital in Blythe. The MSR identifies the key goal: *to bring Palo Verde Hospital back to a fully operational facility for the long-term.*

Palo Verde Hospital serves approximately 18,000 residents across 1,022 square miles and is the only hospital within 100 miles. The City of Needles shares many of the same rural challenges as Blythe, including geographic isolation, limited healthcare access, and disadvantaged community status. A letter of support has been prepared to emphasize the importance of restoring services and ensuring long-term sustainability.

Fiscal Impact: N/A

Recommended Action: Approve the letter of support for the Palo Verde Healthcare District and Palo Verde Hospital.

Submitted By: Patrick Martinez, City Manager

City Manager Approval: Patrick J. Martinez

Date: 9/18/2025

Other Department Approval (when required): _____

Date: _____