



CATHEDRAL CITY WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

July 23, 2020

Community Update

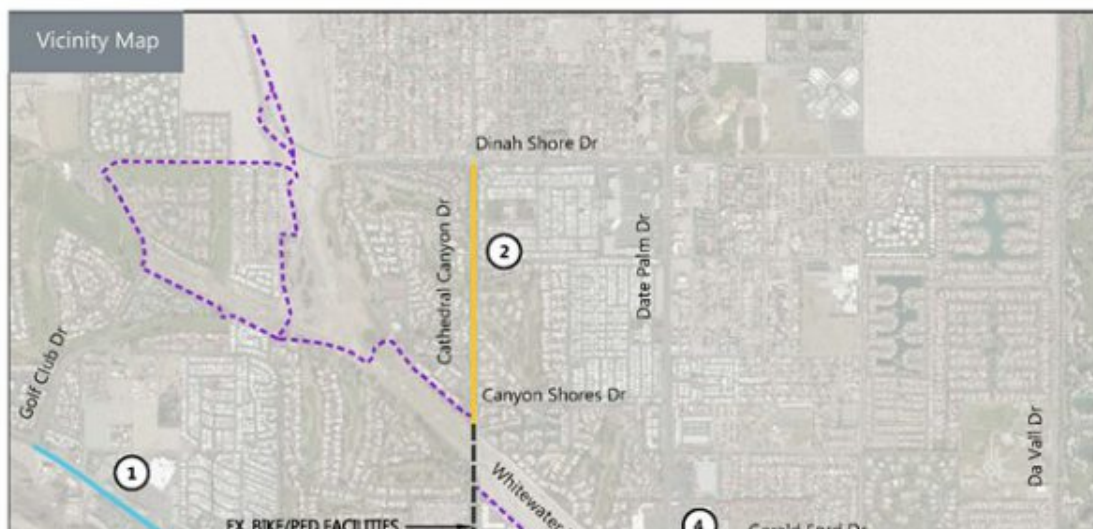
John A. Corella, P.E. – Director of Engineering/Public Works

Upcoming ATP Grant Application – Are you Connected to Win?

Last December, the City and Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) embarked on a joint Project to get some previously identified active transportation projects ready for an upcoming Grant Opportunity. Active transportation projects generally are projects that involve pedestrian, bicycle or neighborhood elective vehicle (NEV) modes of travel.

The joint Project, currently underway, has paid for the consulting services of KOA Corporation (KOA) to get the design of five (5) Projects completed up front and ready for the upcoming Active Transportation Project (ATP) Cycle 5 Grant (Grant) deadline of September 15, 2020. (Yes, this is the fifth offering of this ATP Grant which is administered by the Cal Trans and is offering \$440 million of funding across the State, \$11 million available within Riverside County).

The funding for this Grant comes from a combination of Federal, State SB1 and State Highway Account funding. The Proposed Projects in Cathedral City are as shown here:



As shown on the map are:

1. East Palm Canyon Bike Lane Project
2. Cathedral Canyon Drive Bike Lanes, Sidewalk and Multi-Use Trail Project
3. Cathedral Canyon Channel East (CCCE) Multi-Use Trail Project
4. Gerald Ford Drive Bike Lanes Project
5. Date Palm Drive Bike Lanes and Sidewalks Project

Unfortunately, in the past, Cathedral City and other Valley cities have not been very successful securing this Grant in the past four (4) Cycles. Doing some research on what it takes to get a successful grant application, it was found that projects that are shovel ready (ready for construction) and had good public outreach prior to the application, have the best chance of securing the grant.

So, the first step was for CVAG to award a 75/25 grant to this City for getting the proposed Project's designed up front. The 75 represents CVAG paying for 75% of the design cost and the City paying for 25% of the design costs. The contract for the design work by the consultant was just under \$1 million. Our City Council approved our contribution to the design work in an agreement with CVAG in December 2019. This is well underway in choosing which Projects to submit as they were discussed at the July 22, 2020 City Council Study Session.

The second step in this process is securing good public input, meaning your input. From the onset of this Project, it was planned to have public meetings on the five (5) Projects here at City Hall and at various onsite locations. Traditionally, this would have worked well, and we would have had traditional meetings with water, sodas, handouts and cookies. Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic forced us to cancel the planned public meetings and instead utilize "Virtual Engagement Outreach" by KOA Corporation to secure public comments. We evaluated KOA's past results that were achieved with public input and we knew that this was the way of the future, "Virtual Engagement Outreach." Both the City and CVAG were impressed with how the website was both interactive and informative. So, KOA was tasked with producing a website for us. Launched in early June, "Connect Cathedral City" was available for public comment. 36 responses within the first 48 hours.

CONNECT



As I stated, the City Staff is doing its part in getting the Projects designs done. We ask you to provide us with your input and help the City secure a grant. Go to the website and provide your input on each or all of the Projects. Your input as we stated, is very important as we will include your comments/statistics on the Grant application. The website is:

Connect Cathedral City: https://bit.ly/_connect-cc or www.DiscoverCathedralCity.com and click on Connect Cathedral City. Easier yet, just type in "Connect Cathedral City" on your web browser and a link should appear.

Just an FYI, you will not see the Gerald Ford Drive Bicycle Lanes Project on the Connect Cathedral City website now as the City was awarded a separate SB 821 Grant to complete this Project. Another goal achieved and a WIN for the City!

Lastly, and to sweeten the pot, if you go to the website and participate, you will have an opportunity to win a \$50 gift card to a local business, yes, another win!

If you have any questions regarding this Community Update and the Projects discussed, please call me, John A. Corella, P.E. at 760-770-0327 or email me at JCorella@cathedralcity.gov

COVID-19 INFORMATION

COVID-19 Info

Get the latest on Coronavirus Disease 2019



Business Support

Cathedral City Economic Development



By the Numbers:

As of July 23, Cathedral City had a total of 1,219 confirmed COVID-19 cases and 15 reported deaths. Other Coachella Valley cities are reporting the following:

Coachella - 1,753 cases, 15 deaths

Desert Hot Springs - 621 cases, 8 deaths

Indian Wells - 31 cases, 1 death

Indio - 2,371 cases, 54 deaths

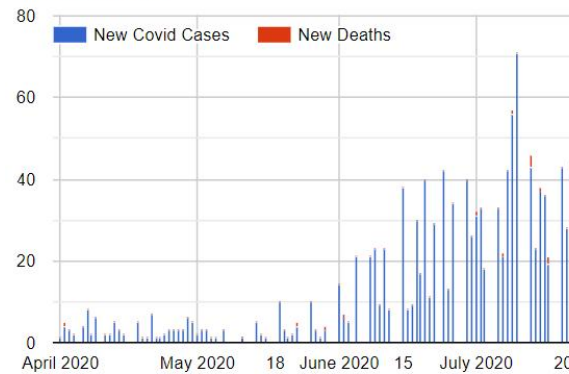
La Quinta - 522 cases, 14 deaths

Palm Desert - 718 cases, 39 deaths

Palm Springs - 653 cases, 24 deaths

Rancho Mirage - 175 cases, 13 deaths

Cathedral City Daily Number of Increase by Date for COVID Cases/Deaths

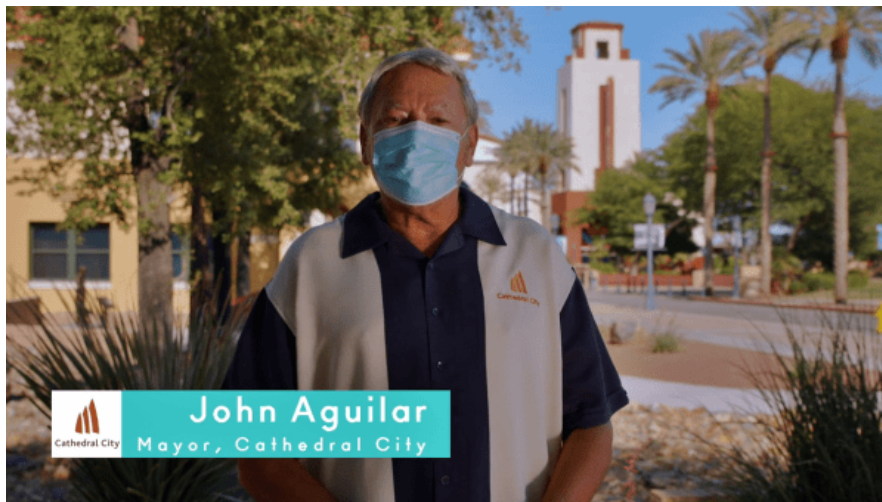


Riverside County has reported 32,813 COVID-19 cases, 637 deaths, and 11,514 recovered cases.

Cathedral City Total Number of COVID Cases by Date



NEWS



Join Mayor John Aguilar in Pledging to Keep Cathedral City Safe

We as a community have to work together to keep Cathedral City safe. Together, we can all help our communities. Learn more about the Safer Together, Greater Together Pledge at www.gpsPLEDGE.com. [Read more.](#)

Nighttime Cooling Center Opens in Cathedral City

Riverside County has opened 15 Cooling Centers in Riverside County to offer a salvation from the record daytime heat. However, thanks to Councilmember Mark Carnevale, County of Riverside County, Coachella Valley Rescue Mission (CVRM), and the Elks Club, there is a new place to escape the summer nighttime heat at [Cathedral City Elks Club](#). Anyone seeking a cool place to stay...[Read more](#)



City Council Calls for a Special Meeting on STVRs

In accordance with the procedures specified by State Law and the Rules of Procedure for Council Meetings and Related Functions and Activities, a special meeting of the City Council of the City of Cathedral City to be held on Wednesday, July 29, 2020, 8:00 am, in the City Council Chambers, 68-700 Avenida Lalo Guerrero, Cathedral City to confer and discuss ...[Read more](#).



Safety Is the Highest Priority for the Agua Caliente Casino Job Fair in Cathedral City

The City of Cathedral City has been apprised of the many safety protocols that Agua Caliente is planning to implement at its Job Fair for its new Cathedral City Casino on Monday, July 27, 2020 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. located at the Mary Pickford Theatre, 36850 Pickfair Street in Cathedral City. Personal safety for the job applicants, staff ...[Read more.](#)

Chiefs Provide an Update on Firework Arrests and Fires

Police Chief George Crum and Interim Fire Chief Blake Goetz provided an update on the firework complaints, arrests, citations, and fire calls to the city council last night. Their data encompassed calls of service from May 27 – July 6, 2020 from the police department and June 27 – July 20, 2020 from the fire department. The police department ...[Read more.](#)



“Shelter from the Storm” Here to Help Victims of Domestic Violence during COVID-19

Throughout the world, the COVID-19 pandemic has placed additional stress on families including domestic violence. As people shelter in place at home, the underlying issues that may have caused domestic violence before having only been exacerbated during the coronavirus crisis. Shelter from the Storm, the Coachella Valley’s only comprehensive domestic victim assistance service and shelter provider organization, is here ...[Read more.](#)

Learn about Connect Cathedral City and Its Proposed Projects - Video

CCTV Host Conrad Angel Corral interviews City Engineer John Corella and Economic Development Director Stone James about 4 proposed projects that are part of Connect Cathedral City. These are four alternative transportation projects that will give more access to bike lanes, walking paths, and neighborhood electric vehicles (a.k.a. golf carts). The plans include adding bike lanes on East Palm.



New State Guidance for Outdoor Restaurants, Hair Salons, and Personal Care Services

The State of California has issued new guidance for restaurants, hair salons, and personal care services while operating outdoors. Indoor operations are prohibited until rescinded by the State Public Health Officer. These protocols are established to prevent community spread of COVID-19, which is occurring at elevated rates in Riverside County...[Read more.](#)

LIVE Entertainment Prohibited for All Venues

Riverside County issued an Advisory on Monday specifically pointing out that restaurants, bars, and wineries are not allowed to host LIVE entertainment under current health restriction imposed by the State Public Health Officer in order to avoid large gatherings of people outside of their households. This includes all LIVE entertainment whether indoors or outdoors. It specifically states that all restaurants ...[Read more.](#)



Last Week for Input on Connect Cathedral City

Connect Cathedral City is in its last week of gathering public input on upcoming projects! Take a quick moment to check out

Check out upcoming walking and biking projects in the City for a chance to win one of three \$50 gift cards to a local business!



https://bit.ly/_connect-cc and fill out the project survey! Help us make the City a more walkable and bikeable destination in the Coachella Valley! Whether its accessing shopping centers, entertainment venues, parks, or trails, these projects aim to create more ...[Read more.](#)



Cathedral City Businesses Ranked “Best of the Best” – Palm Springs Life

Each year, the readers of Palm Springs Life vote for their favorite businesses in multiple categories. The votes are in and Palm Springs Life has just released the “Best of the Best” Honorees.

Thirty-nine Cathedral City businesses made the “Best of the Best” for the entire Coachella Valley. Several businesses got multiple recognitions including AJ’s on the Green located in ...[Read more.](#)

Rental Assistance Grant Deadline Is Friday, July 25

Are you behind in your rent due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, such as your employer being closed due to COVID-19? Have you lost your job or are receiving reduced work hours?

There is a rental program available only to Riverside County renters providing up to \$3,500 per family to help with back rental payments since April ...[Read more.](#)



Get a Rental Assistance Grant

Up to \$3,500 per Family

EVENTS



For Questions or Comments, Contact Chris Parman, Communications and Events Manager
cparman@cathedralcity.gov

