

May 6, 2021

National Nurses Day

Community Update

By City Manager Charlie McClendon

Council Develops Budget to Meet Community Priorities

One of the most important roles of a City Council is the review and approval of the city budget. Cathedral City uses a biennial budgeting approach meaning that a two-year budget is prepared and adopted. Over the past nine weeks, the City Council has spent approximately 18 public meeting hours conducting a detailed review of the proposed two-year budget including a review of the staffing levels required in each department; the individual line items proposed in each departmental budget; and the capital improvements proposed to maintain and improve our streets and parks. Given the amount of time necessary to develop and thoroughly review the budget it has proven to be more efficient to develop a two-year budget rather than an annual budget. This approach (biennial budgeting) also requires the City to do a better job planning for the future as the budgets are developed.



The budget review process was completed on Wednesday, May 5, and the Council gave direction to prepare the formal budget documents for preliminary Council approval on May 26 and formal Council adoption on June 9. The final budget document will be available for public review as the agendas for those two meetings are produced and posted online, and of course, public comment on the budgets is greatly welcomed. In fact, members of the public have already participated in all the budget review meetings held over the past nine weeks and some have provided invaluable comments at these public meetings. Additionally, the Parks and Community Events Commission provided significant input by identifying needed park improvements throughout the City. Many of their suggestions have been incorporated into the biennial budget.

Highlights of the proposed budget include the following:

- Staffing reductions necessitated by the COVID-19 economic recession have been restored in both the Police and Fire Departments. No sworn positions were ever cut from the budget, but some vacant positions were held vacant while some support positions were eliminated. The new budget restores these reductions.
- Personnel have been added in both the Planning and Building Department and the Engineering and Public Works Department. Positions were eliminated in both during the pandemic resulting in difficulty processing development plans, permits and inspections in a timely manner. The staffing

additions will help improve turn around times for development review.

- Over \$2 million has been allocated to make improvements to Panorama, Century, Ocotillo and Dennis Keat Soccer parks. Improvements will include repairs to playground safety surfaces; repairs to ballfields, tennis courts and turf areas; installation of shade structures at playgrounds; restroom repairs and improvements; and modifications to improve access to park facilities for persons with disabilities.

- Additional funding has been added from the City's general fund to supplement designated gas tax and Measure A funding for streets. This will allow an improved ability to address a backlog of needed street repair projects.

- City events, cut from the budget a year ago and prohibited by COVID-19 restrictions, will return beginning in the fall of 2021. Look for information soon on the return of this fall's Halloween Spooktacular, Cathedral City Hot Air Balloon Festival, and an observation of the 40th Anniversary of Cathedral City's incorporation.

The budgets for each of the next two fiscal years (FY21-22 and FY22-23) show anticipated deficits (expenses exceeding revenues) for both years. This is due to a continued lag in revenues caused by the pandemic. The City Council anticipates the use of federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding to close the deficits and has identified a backup plan to reduce expenditures and close a budget gap if the anticipated ARP funds cannot be fully allocated as planned.

Be sure to watch for additional information on the proposed budgets as the Council agendas are posted online in advance of the May 26 and June 9 Council meetings at <http://cathedralcityca.iqm2.com/Citizens/>. Agendas are normally available online the Thursday afternoon prior to each Wednesday council meeting.

COVID-19 INFORMATION

COVID-19 Info

Get the latest on Coronavirus Disease 2019



Business Support

Cathedral City Economic Development



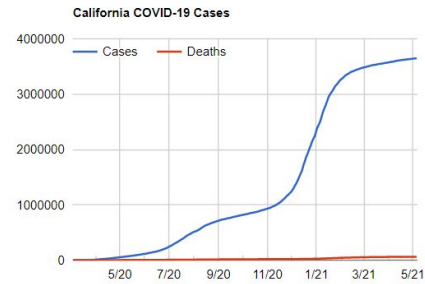


By the Numbers:

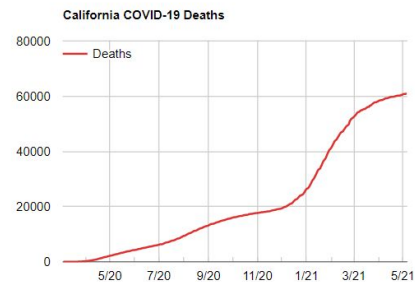
As of May 6, 2021, Cathedral City had a total of 7,130 confirmed COVID-19 cases (+10 since last week) and 110 reported deaths (+0 since last week). Other Coachella Valley cities are reporting the following:

Coachella 7,906 cases (+9), 97 deaths (+2)
Desert Hot Springs 4,219 cases (+10), 73 deaths (+0)
Indian Wells 196 cases (+1), 6 deaths (+0)
Indio 12,294 cases (+23), 223 deaths (+0)
La Quinta 3,426 cases (+11), 61 deaths (+0)
Palm Desert 3,950 cases (+10), 118 deaths (+0)
Palm Springs 3,737 cases (+4), 125 deaths (+0)
Rancho Mirage 1,100 cases (+1), 50 deaths (+1)

Riverside County has reported 298,939 COVID-19 cases (+573), 4,585 deaths (+17), and 292,840 recovered cases (+862).



Larger



NEWS





CATHEDRAL CITY

2021

STATE OF THE CITY

VIRTUAL ADDRESS

MAYOR RAYMOND GREGORY



AGUA CALIENTE CASINO CATHEDRAL CITY

AMAZON

D.R. HORTON HOMES

OFELIA BRINGAS MEMORIAL BRIDGE

BACK TO LIFE

Virtual “State of the City” Happens on May 25th

Hosted by the Greater Coachella Valley Chamber of Commerce, Mayor Raymond Gregory will present a virtual “State of the City” on Tuesday, May 25, 2021 beginning at 10 am. You can view the live stream by going to www.DiscoverCathedralCity.com and then clicking on the State of the City – Watch Now. The chamber will first conduct their business awards honoring ... [Read more.](#)

City Buildings Open to the Public by Appointment Only

Now that the community spread of the coronavirus has dropped significantly over the past few months with more and more people being vaccinated, city buildings are now open to the public by appointment only during the hours of 10 am to 3 pm. Additionally, as a measure of safety, a limited number of people will be admitted into the front ... [Read more.](#)

CITY BUILDINGS
OPEN BY
APPOINTMENT
ONLY

For more information or to
schedule an appointment, contact
the city department listed at
[https://www.cathedralcity.gov/ser
vices](https://www.cathedralcity.gov/ser
vices)



Restaurant
Revitalization Fund
Apply Now!

\$28.6 Billion Available for Restaurants,
Bars, Bakeries, Caterers, & Food Trucks

Restaurant Revitalization Fund - Apply Now!

The Small Business Administration has begun accepting applications on Monday, May 3, 2021 for the Restaurant Revitalization Fund. Click here to access an application: [application portal](#). The application portal will remain open to any eligible establishment until all funds are exhausted. [Read more.](#)

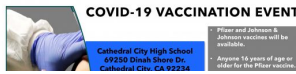
County Waste Department, Burrtec to Provide Free Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event in Cathedral City on Saturday

The Riverside County Department of Waste Resources, in cooperation with Burrtec, has scheduled a free household hazardous waste collection event from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, May 8 at the Edom Hill Transfer Station, located at 70-100 Edom Hill Road, Cathedral City, CA 92235. The event is open to all Riverside County residents, whether one lives in one ... [Read more.](#)



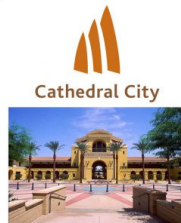
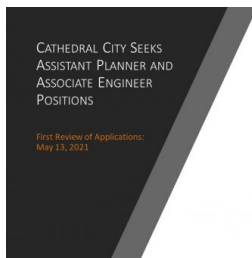
COVID-19 Vaccination Event at Cathedral City High School this Saturday

A collaboration of multiple healthcare groups has teamed up to bring a Free COVID-19 Vaccination Event to Cathedral City High School this Saturday, May 8, 2021 from 9 am to 2 pm. Located at 69250 Dinah Shore Drive, the event will offer FREE Pfizer (16 years+) and Johnson & Johnson (18 years+) vaccines to anyone. No insurance is necessary, walk-ins ... [Read more.](#)



Decorate Your Bike Helmet Art Contest for Kids

The Month of May is National Bike Month and the City of Cathedral City and S.C.R.A.P. Gallery are teaming up to offer a “Decorate Your Helmet” art contest for kids. Decorate the paper bike helmet below with scraps and strips, add color, and show your style. Then, take a photo of your art and email it to info@scrapgallery.org ... [Read more.](#)



Cathedral City Hiring for Two Positions

The City of Cathedral City is hiring for two positions, Assistant Planner and Associate Engineer. For more information and to apply, go to: www.joincathedralcity.org First review of applications:

Thursday, May 13, 2021 Download Flyer [Read more.](#)

City Job Opening: Building & Safety Manager – Apply Now

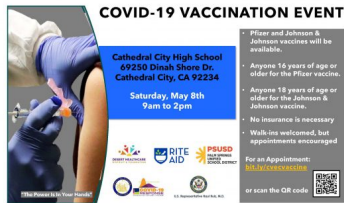
The City of Cathedral City is seeking a Building and Safety Manager. The ideal candidate, under administrative supervision, directs, manages, supervises and coordinates the activities and operations of the Building Safety Division; coordinates activities of the division with those of other City departments and outside agencies; including inspection of building construction activities, and issuance of building permits; coordinates plan checking ... [Read more.](#)





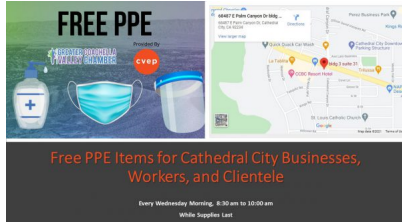
First Fridays Art Walk on Perez Road

Looking for an opportunity to walk and view some amazing art at the same time? Then come wearing your face mask and social distance at the First Fridays Art Walk on Perez Road from 5 pm to 8 pm. The nine art galleries are located at 68845 & 68895 Perez Road in the “H” and “I” buildings. Due to ... [Read more.](#)



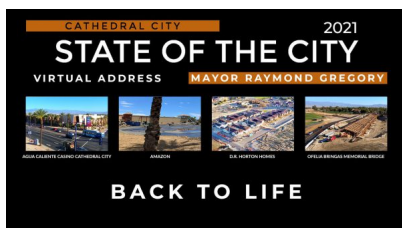
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Free PPE Equipment for Cathedral City Businesses, Workers, and Clientele

Do you operate a business in Cathedral City and want FREE PPE items, such as face coverings and hand sanitizer for your employees, workers, or clientele? Thanks to Coachella Valley Economic Partnership (CVCPEP), Greater Coachella Valley Chamber of Commerce and the City of Cathedral City, PPE items will be available for pick-up at the Chamber Office: Every Wednesday ... [Read more.](#)



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“Coffee with the Chiefs” Scheduled for June 28 - Register Now

The City of Cathedral City is hosting a new event called, “Coffee with the Chiefs” that will provide an opportunity for the community to discuss issues about public safety in an informal manner with our two public safety leaders. The conversation will include both Police Chief George Crum and Fire Chief John Muhr. In June, Fire Chief John Muhr ... [Read more.](#)



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

