

October 7, 2021

National LED Light Day

Community Update

By Tami Scott, Administrative Services Director



What are Facilities Services and Management?

The pandemic has made us rethink this very important role....

As in many businesses, the City's Facilities Department provides a wealth of services to aid the City of Cathedral City's departments in their decision making, including information on building construction, maintenance and renovation. The City of Cathedral City Facilities Department is responsible for managing, maintaining, and securing all public facilities including the downtown parking structure. This consists of six major buildings - City Hall, Police Station, (3) Fire Stations, Emergency Operations Center, Public Library, Public Works Building, fountains, stage structures, and restrooms. These facilities have a total square footage exceeding 345,000 square feet in addition to indoor and outdoor lighting systems, and two solar arrays. The department installs new equipment, repairs existing equipment, renovates office space, provides for daily maintenance and repair of HVAC, plumbing, roofing, and electrical systems; installation and monitoring of building security and cameras, just to name a few. The department is also responsible for project management/oversight of construction of new facilities, such as the most recent completion of the city's new fire station.

The management and maintenance of these facilities can include, but not limited to, carpentry, custodial service, electrical and HVAC work, locksmith services, painting, and plumbing. Facilities Management also provides power, lighting, installs equipment, renovates office space, programming the coloring of lights on City Hall and chimes on the bell tower, installation and monitoring of building security and cameras as well as provides services to the city's special events.

Although Facilities Management has long been integral to the smooth running of our departments, all too often it has been seen as a back-room discipline. This attitude had been undergoing

something of a change prior to the COVID-19 pandemic with the gradual realization that without the contribution made by Facilities, workers wouldn't perform to their optimum levels and productivity could suffer. The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic only accelerated the process when facilities management helped deliver essential services and managed the needs of workers. There is now the realization that Facilities Management expertise is crucial. Research has indicated that more than a third (35%) of workers are concerned their offices aren't COVID secure. This puts a lot of pressure on Facilities Management to make the workplace a safe and comfortable work environment.

The pandemic has kept us guessing. No one has been able to predict with any certainty the route it would take. Facilities Managers, for all their forward-planning and organization qualities, don't have a crystal ball, so deciding what the future of the workplace might look like is, arguably, an impossible task. However, evaluation is an important tool in the Facilities Manager's ("FM") armory. Taking time to run a full assessment of the organization enables FMs to pre-empt concerns and prepare best for the return of the workforce. It's essential to evaluate, in detail, the needs of your facilities. Considerations should be employee centric and tested before permanently implementing change. Tapping into employee behavioral attitudes is vital to your success. Remember that everyone is different and will have varying feelings and reactions. Be sympathetic and avoid applying too much pressure. Take into account the toll the pandemic has had on employees mental and physical health. Consider introducing strategies that help employees switch-off and readjust back to workplace hours. Prioritize health basics – good hydration, hygiene, and cleanliness protocol.

To assist in this endeavor, Facilities has strived to adhere to guidelines from the CDC with increased cleaning frequencies and disinfecting of high-touch surfaces in all common areas, public spaces, break rooms, kitchens, and other areas throughout city spaces. It plans to sustain enhanced cleaning and disinfecting services and frequencies for all high-use areas as city hall reopens to the public.

In addition to regular cleaning services, Facilities staff have been:

- Cleaning and disinfecting these areas/surfaces daily:
 - All building common area touch points (e.g., entrance doors and handles, lobby and interior elevator buttons, water fountains, etc.)
 - All door handles, light switches and desktops in conference rooms, computer labs, research labs, study rooms, classrooms and auditoriums
 - All restrooms, including all touch points and fixtures, with many high-use restrooms receiving multiple cleanings and disinfections per day
 - All kitchenette doorknobs, light switches, countertops, sinks, faucets, tabletops and floors
- Monitoring soap supplies in all restrooms, kitchenettes and other areas with soap dispensers to ensure that people can wash their hands frequently per CDC recommendations.
- Increasing disinfection of stairwell handrails and access doors.
- Performing regular quality assurance inspections to ensure staff understand and are following proper cleaning and disinfection protocols and use proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) as required during their daily performance of duties.
- Working with vendors to ensure that we have adequate supplies and equipment to keep city facilities cleaned, sanitized, and well stocked with all essential products.
- Purchased new equipment, such as electric disinfectant sprayers, which has allowed staff to disinfect large areas quickly and efficiently.
- Coordinated installation of hand sanitizer dispensers at all building entrances.
- Examining cost-effective opportunities to optimize cleaning processes.

In conclusion, take the time to evaluate your facilities' needs in depth. Listen to individuals' needs before you communicate changes. Mitigate risks by utilizing new technologies that embrace touch-free operations! Be mindful of and sensitive to the wellbeing needs of the workforce after what has been a tough time. Sustainability is back on the agenda, but simple environmental strategies are often the most effective. The hybrid working world is fluid by its very nature and only likely to change, so keep an open mind.

COVID-19 Information

Vaccine & COVID-19 Info

Get the latest on Coronavirus Disease 2019



Business Support

Cathedral City Economic Development



News

“Bat Art Contest” for Kids through the S.C.R.A.P. Gallery

It's that ghoulish time of year and the S.C.R.A.P. Gallery is getting into the spirit of Halloween with their “Bat Art Contest” for kids. Use your creativity to draw, paint, or make a bat or bats for their contest and possibly win your very own bat house! Why bats? Bats don't just “hang around” for Halloween – they hang ... [Read more.](#)



Individual Seat Tickets Now on Sale

Tejano Music Festival – Saturday, March 5, 2022
CATHEDRAL CITY, CALIFORNIA



Individual Seat Tickets Now on Sale for the 2022 Tejano Music Festival

Individual seat tickets are now available for purchase for the 2022 Tejano Music Festival that occurs on Saturday, March 5, 2022 from 5 pm to 11 pm at the Cathedral City

Community Amphitheater. This year's festival will feature Tejano Music Legend Ram Herrera as well as Tejano Highway 281, Xplosion, and local Tejano favorite Chalito Zapata y Los Traviesos ... [Read more.](#)

CCHS Homecoming Parade & Rally – Thursday, October 14th

The Cathedral City High School Homecoming Parade and Rally returns to Downtown Cathedral City on Thursday, October 14th from 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm. The parade route will mirror the route used last time in 2019 where it starts south of Perez Road on Cathedral Canyon Drive and continues south to Avenida Lalo Guerrero and turns left. Once on Avenida ... [Read more.](#)



Virtual Meatball Festival Benefiting the Boys and Girls Club of Cathedral City

The 9th Annual Sammy's International Meatball Festival is happening virtually now through Sunday, October 17, 2021. Being virtual, one must use their imagination on how "tasty" the meatballs are through videos submitted by various individuals, groups, and organizations. You can view the videos (some instructional, many humorous) and vote with dollars for your favorite meatball video. Awards are ... [Read more.](#)

Riverside County Offering a Free Online Class to Learn How to Clean and Garden Green

Looking for a safe, socially-distanced way to learn how to create homemade cleaning and garden products out of items you may already have in your pantry? On Saturday, October 9th at 9:00 am to 10:00 am, the Riverside County Department of Waste Resources will host a free virtual green cleaning and green gardening class that can be accessed on any ... [Read more.](#)



Fun-O-Rama Lived Up to Its Name

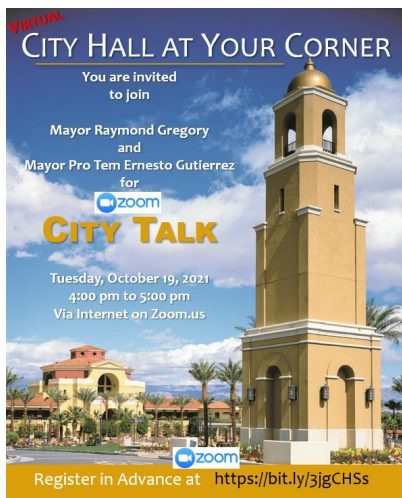
Several hundred residents came to the first-ever Fun-O-Rama event at Ocotillo Park on Saturday, October 2nd from 9 am to 1 pm. Families enjoyed free breakfast and snacks, art projects for kids thanks to S.C.R.A.P. Gallery, Lawn Games sponsored by Desert Recreation District, and a fierce Tug-of-War competition between the Cathedral City Fire and Police Departments, which ended in a ... [Read more.](#)

- Photos of the Week -

Fun-O-Rama Held on Saturday, October 2nd at Ocotillo Park



Events



“City Hall at Your Corner” Happens October 19 – Register Now

Register now for September’s virtual “City Hall at Your Corner” as Mayor Raymond Gregory and Mayor Pro Tem Ernesto Gutierrez host the event for an informal discussion of issues in Cathedral City. This virtual event will take place on Tuesday, October 19, 2021 from 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm on Zoom.us. You must register for the event in ... [Read more.](#)



Dinner with Patsi Fundraiser for Cathedral City High School Choir

Patsi is looking to raise some “green” for the Cathedral City High School Choir during the monthly “Dinner with Patsi” charity benefit. Prior to Wednesday, October 20, call The Barrell District Restaurant at (760) 537-7431 and order your

meal choice, then on October 20th, go to The Barrell District Restaurant to dine-in or pick-up your dinner(s) curbside between 5 pm ... [Read more.](#)

Halloween Spooktacular

Cathedral City’s Halloween Spooktacular features trick or treating with over 40,000 pieces of candy! Join friends, neighbors, and family for a Spooktacular time including



activities such as Halloween costume contests (two bikes given away each hour), police and fire exhibitions, music, and family games. Presented by Crockett Law Group and sponsored by the City of Cathedral City, Cathedral City Police ... [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. [Read more.](#)

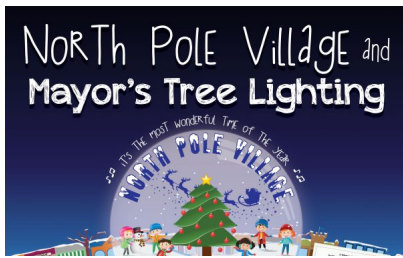


7th Annual Cathedral City Hot Air Balloon Festival and Food Truck Fiesta

Get the cameras ready for the festival that offers the best selfies. Agua Caliente Casinos present the 7th Annual Cathedral City Hot Air Balloon Festival and Food Truck Fiesta on November 19-21, 2021 featuring nearly 30 hot air balloons, balloon rides, two balloon glows, and three morning balloon launches seen throughout the Coachella Valley. Attendees will capture the beauty of ... [Read more.](#)

Mayor's Tree Lighting Ceremony & North Pole Village

Bring the entire family to the "Mayor's Tree Lighting Ceremony" and "North Pole Village" presented by Agua Caliente Casinos in Downtown Cathedral City on Wednesday, December 8, 2018 from 5 pm to 7 pm to celebrate the "most wonderful time of the year!" The annual event includes a lit Hollywood-style movie set



themed as Main Street at Santa's North Pole. ... [Read more.](#)



Tejano Music Festival

Tejano PowerHouse Entertainment, City of Cathedral City and Diaz Enterprises invites you to the 4th annual Tejano Music Fest in Cathedral City featuring the best Tejano music, fiesta food and spirits on Saturday, March 5, 2022 from 5 pm to 11 pm at our new location, the Cathedral City Community Amphitheater, 68526 Avenida Lalo Guerrero, in Cathedral City, California. You ... [Read more.](#)

Jobs Openings

Cathedral City is looking to fill the following positions:

- Ambulance Operator
- Code Compliance Officer I/II
- Finance Analyst I/II
- Payroll Coordinator
- Background Investigator - Part Time



For more information or to see all other jobs currently available, go to
<https://www.JoinCathedralCity.org>

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



