

# **Town of Yucca Valley Community Update September 12, 2014**



**Welcome to another edition of the Town's Community update. We trust that you will find this information useful and interesting. While some of the highlighted projects are significant and easily identifiable as you travel around Town, we also like to highlight other important tasks and accomplishments that might not be quite as obvious. As always, we appreciate your participation and feedback at any time. Visit the Town's website for contact and additional information at [www.yucca-valley.org](http://www.yucca-valley.org).**

## **SR 62 Traffic and Pedestrian Improvements from Apache Trail to Palm Avenue (PLHD)**

The project includes construction of curbs, gutters, sidewalks, and raised median islands on SR 62, between Apache and Palm Avenue and the construction of a traffic signal at SR 62 and Church Street. In addition, there will be traffic signal modifications at SR 62 and Acoma/Mohawk. The Project was awarded by the Town Council on November 19, 2013 to Match Corporation in the amount of \$2,798,000.

### **Status:**

Rain has caused some delays on this project, however there has been considerable progress. The drain pipe extensions on the eastbound side will be complete soon. Curb, gutter and sidewalk pours are continuing and almost complete. Southern California Edison provided the information needed to allow work to resume on the Church Street signal installation. Construction of the raised median island will begin the week of September 15<sup>th</sup>. The project is on schedule to be completed by the end of October 2014.

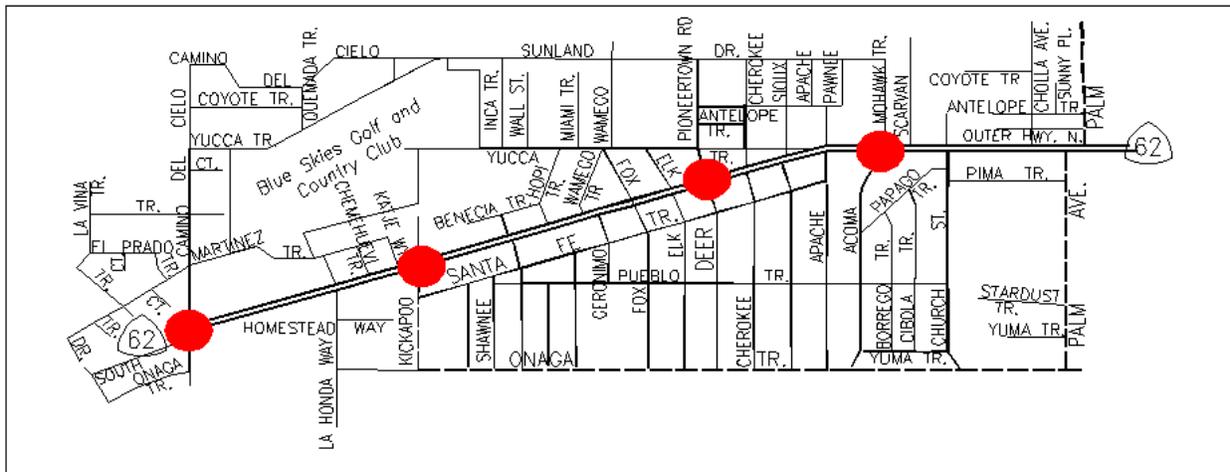


## **Signal Synchronization Project, Phase I**

This project includes the synchronization of the traffic signals between Camino Del Cielo and Acoma Trail. Phase 1 is fully funded by grant resources.

### **Status:**

The Town Council awarded the construction of the project to DBX of Temecula on July 15, 2014. The project is anticipated to be complete in late fall 2014. The project construction will begin when Caltrans provides the backbone equipment necessary for the system. The equipment is currently on backorder and Caltrans has not been able to provide a delivery date.



## **SR 62 at Dumosa Traffic Signal**

The project consists of the design and construction of a traffic signal at the intersection of SR62 and Dumosa Avenue.

### **Status:**

The Town Council awarded this project to DBX, Inc. on September 2, 2014. Manufacturing of the signal mast-arms can require up to 16 weeks to complete, followed by Caltrans District 8 inspections and approval. Construction is estimated to be completed in early 2015.



### **Conditional Use Permit, CUP-3-11, Senior Housing Project**

The project includes the construction of a 74 unit affordable senior housing development and the construction of all improvements associated with the project. A managers unit will also be constructed.

**Status:**

Flooring and other interior improvements are currently underway in Building one. Application of the stucco exterior finish is underway on Building 2.



## **Site Plan Review, SPR-1-14, Hawks Landing Golf Club at Blue Skies**

The project involves the reconstruction of the former Blue Skies Golf Course.

### **Status:**

The pouring of concrete for the footing and slab for phase I of the clubhouse has been completed. Framing and other construction trades are underway on the clubhouse



## **Site Plan Review, SPR-02-13, Marshalls/Petco**

The project involves the construction of 34,650 square feet of retail space for a Marshalls/Petco commercial building at the Home Depot front parcel.

### **Status:**

Signs for the Marshalls building have been completed. Interior fixture installation is expected to begin in early September.



## **Ross Department Store, Tenant Improvements**

The project involves a tenant improvement at 57646 29 Palms Highway, inside the former Rite Aid lease space at the Vons Center.

**Status:** Ross has pulled permits for the tenant improvements. The contractor anticipates to complete the project in November 2014.

## **Safe Route to School Project Sidewalk Construction Project**

The project includes the construction of sidewalks on Sage Avenue, between Onaga Trail and SR62. The project also includes the replacement of existing flashing beacons by Yucca Elementary, Onaga Elementary, and La Contenta Jr. High School.

**Status:**

This sidewalk segments of the project were completed before the start of school. Delivery is the new radar speed indicator signs for installation at the schools sites is anticipated in the next two- to- three weeks.

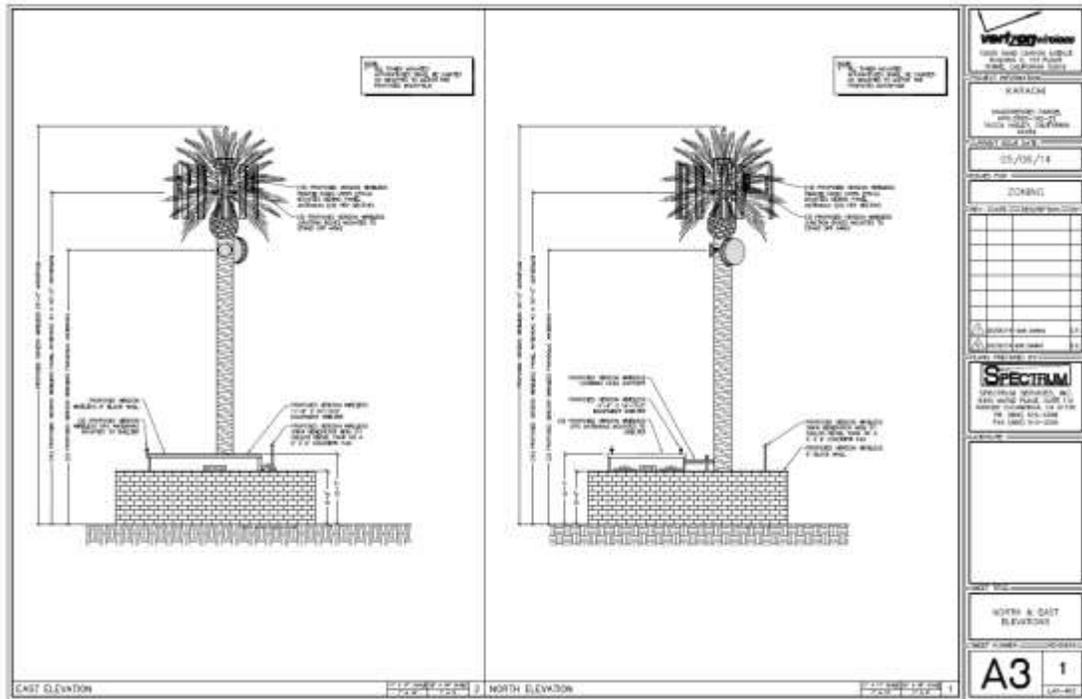


## **Conditional Use Permit, CUP 01-14 Spectrum-Verizon**

This project is a Conditional Use Permit for the construction of a 60 foot cellular tower disguised to look like a palm tree. The project is located on vacant/undeveloped land on-Primrose Drive and is also identified as APN 595-192-23.

**Status:**

The application is incomplete and the applicant is preparing the materials required by the Town's wireless communications facility regulations.



## **Tract 16471, 105 Single Family Residential Unit Development, Senior Community**

The project involves the construction of a 105 senior single family residential development on the east side of Palm Avenue, South of 29 Palms Highway. Twenty-nine of the 105 single family units have been constructed.

### **Status:**

The four latest homes are ready for final inspection. The owner has indicated they plan on starting construction on the next four single family residential structures in the near future.



## **Tract 16587, 55 Single Family Residential Unit Subdivision**

The project involves a residential development of 55 single family residential units on Acoma Trail, south of Onaga Trail. Seventeen of the 55 single family units have been constructed and completed.

### **Status:**

Four single family residential structures are currently under construction.



## **Teens Are Invited To Apply For The Town of Yucca Valley Youth Commission**

### **Deadline for Applications – October 2, 2014**

Did you know that the Town of Yucca Valley has a Youth Commission? The Youth Commission was established in 1995 to provide for communication between Yucca Valley's elected officials and the young people of the community.

Students in grades 7 through 12 who attend school in Yucca Valley are eligible to serve on the Yucca Valley Youth Commission. Up to twenty commissioners can be appointed each year, with an effort to represent a variety of schools and grades. Previous commissioners may be reappointed to serve additional terms. Appointments are made in the fall with Youth Commission members serving throughout the school year. The Youth Commission is not active in the summer months.

Each year, the commissioners jointly determine what they want to accomplish during their term. The objectives are generally based on creative and effective ways to communicate with the young people of the community, and with local government officials. In recent years, the Youth Commission has produced informative video programs, presented forums to local schools and volunteered at community parades and special events.

The Youth Commission meets regularly with Town of Yucca Valley staff members in formal public meetings and in less formal workshops. Activity reports are presented to the Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Commission and an annual report is given to the Town Council. Meetings are at 6:30 p.m. on the first Monday of each month; workshops are scheduled as needed. All Youth Commission meetings are open to the public.

Students may apply to serve on the Youth Commission by completing an application. Applications are available at the community center or online at [www.yucca-valley.org](http://www.yucca-valley.org). The deadline to return a completed application has been extended to October 2, 2014.

For more information contact the Community Services Office, Monday through Thursday from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at 760-369-7211.

## **Recreation Department – Upcoming Events and Activities**

### **Holiday Craft Faire**

The Town of Yucca Valley is now accepting vendor applications for its popular Holiday Craft Faire on Saturday, December 6, 2014 from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm at the Yucca Valley Community Center. Vendor tables are sold on a first come, first served basis at a cost of \$25 per space. All items sold must be handmade and sold by the artist or family member. No commercial products are allowed. Vendors must provide a valid seller's permit from the State Board of Equalization by November 13, 2014. Food vendors must provide insurance and health permit. Space is limited, early registration is encouraged. For more information contact the Community Services Department at (760) 369-7211.



### **Youth Basketball**

Play basketball for the Town of Yucca Valley! The Youth Basketball Program provides a fun and positive sports experience for boys and girls in grades 1st through 8th. Registration opens on September 23; closing on November 21 or when filled. The cost is \$60.00 per child and includes a team jersey and complimentary picture package. Youth Coaches and Referees are also needed! Share your experience and enjoyment of sports with the youth of our community. Contact the Community Services Department at (760) 369-7211 for more information.



## **Hi Desert Nature Museum – Brown Bag Lunch Lecture Series**

### **History of the Civil War Through Its Artifacts**

**October 2, 12:00 p.m.**

**Admission - \$5 or Free for Members**

The “History of the Civil War Through It’s Artifacts” is a hands-on display of hundreds of authentic relics from the 1860s with descriptions of each and a power point presentation that describes how they impacted/reflected the conflict between the states. Originally presented to Phi Alpha Theta (the National Honorary Historical Fraternity) in 1983, the display has grown over the years and been presented to Civil War Roundtables, multiple colleges/universities, local high/middle schools and more recently the National Social Studies Association. Participants may handle photos (tintypes and daguerreotypes), documents, newspapers, money, bullets, shrapnel, weapons, equipment and even games that tell the triumphs and tragedies of the war.

Co-presenters:

Christopher H. Hunt, BA, MA, MA, EdD University of Redlands

Christopher L. Hunt, BA, MA. Redlands Unified School District

Bring your lunch, bring your friends, or just bring yourself to our Brown Bag Lunch Lecture Series once a month. Speakers will present topics of special interest for high desert residents. The lectures start at 12:00 p.m. Admission is \$ 5 – Free for Members - beverages will be served.



## **Kid EdVentures at the Hi-Desert Nature Museum**

**Paleontology – Dig for Dinos**

**Saturday September 20, 2014**

**10:30am – 11:30am**

**Admission is Free**

The Hi-Desert Nature Museum is kicking off a brand new education program this September! Join us for Kid EdVentures, an hour long program that gets kids immersed in different fields through hands-on activities just like the professionals.

In coordination with the ending of our Hatching the Past exhibit, this month kids will be EdVenturing into the field of paleontology to learn more about dino eggs and development by participating in a dig and using their new skills to determine what fossils they have found.

This interactive program will take place on September 20 from 10:30am-11:30am and is free!



## **Hi-Desert Nature Museum Presents “Hatching The Past”**

**Ending September 20, 2014**

This year the Hi-Desert Nature Museum is celebrating its 50th anniversary. In the course of the festivities the museum will show its first rental exhibit since 2009. “Hatching the Past” takes a rare and exciting look at the life of dinosaurs through their eggs, nests and embryos. “Hatching the Past” blends the arts and sciences with an astounding array of dinosaur eggs and nests collected from all over the globe, including those of each major plant and meat-eating dinosaur group.

The exhibit will be on display from May 30th through September 20<sup>th</sup>



## **Animal Shelter – Helen Woodward Center Comes to the Rescue**

The Helen Woodward Center (HWAC) is a unique, private, non-profit organization in San Diego County that, for over 40 years, has been committed to the philosophy of people helping animals and animals helping people. Located in Rancho Santa Fe, their nationally recognized Center

provides a variety of services that benefit their community through educational and therapeutic programs for people, and humane care and adoption for animals.

For a fourth time within a year, this rescue group has come out to the Yucca Valley Animal Shelter to take dogs and cats from our shelter to theirs for the purpose of adoption. Our animal shelter pets and staff continue to have a strong working relationship with HWAC. We are very thankful for their help in placing our pets. The HWAC website is [animalcenter.org](http://animalcenter.org). They are well worth checking out!



## **Animal Shelter Visitors and Adoptions**

### **Recent Adoptions**

Recent cat & dog adoptions at the Yucca Valley Animal Shelter include the adopters shown below. Fees for dog and cat adoption are as follows: Dogs over 4 months of age are \$92.00. This includes annual vaccinations and the pet being altered. Dog licenses must also be purchased at the time of adoption for dogs living in the Town or the unincorporated areas of San Bernardino County. Puppies under 4 months old are \$85.00 because they haven't received a rabies vaccination yet. Cats and kittens are \$55.00, which includes annual vaccinations and being altered. If you are looking for a companion, come in and visit us at the Yucca Valley Animal Shelter located at 4755 Malin Way, Yucca Valley. We would be happy to show you our pets!



## **Last Animal Vaccination Clinic for 2014**

**October 16, 2014  
4 – 6 p.m.**

The Town of Yucca Valley will be holding its final animal vaccination clinic for calendar year 2014. The clinic will be on October 16th, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., at the Yucca Valley Community Center. Residents from the Town of Yucca Valley and the Morongo Basin are welcome to attend. Rabies Vaccinations will be given from \$6.00 each. Annual vaccinations for dogs and cats will be available. All vaccinations are to be paid by cash only. If you wish to purchase a license at the time your dog receives its rabies vaccination, both the Town of Yucca Valley and San Bernardino County will be selling dog license. The Town accepts cash or checks, the County accepts only cash. If you decide not to purchase your dog's license at the time of its rabies vaccination, remember to get a proof of rabies vaccination from the Town or County staff at the clinic. If you have any questions, please call the Yucca Valley Animal Shelter at 760-365-3111 or 760-365-1807 and we would be happy to help you.

## **Animal Control Call For Service**

### **Animal Control Is For the Birds (Literally)**

In the last week Animal Control officers have been busy responding to concerns related to injured and trapped wildlife and nuisance domestic fowl. Although most of the services calls for Animal Control relate to domestic animals (dogs and cats), officers are sometimes called upon to

handle wildlife issues and zoning complaints particularly during the summer months. Here are a few highlights:

An officer responded to an address on Church Street after a resident reported a large, injured bird in her front yard. The officer impounded a young Turkey Vulture that appeared weak, but uninjured. Turkey Vultures are a migratory species that are often seen in large groups resting in trees, or flying over the Morongo Basin in late summer. After a few days of rest and re-feeding, the Turkey Vulture was released to continue his journey.

A resident in Paradise Valley contacted Animal Control to report a stray chicken in her yard. The property was located in a residential neighborhood that does not allow for the keeping of chickens or other fowl. The chicken was removed, and will be re-homed after a legal holding period. A second resident in the Western Hills area has contacted Animal Control twice in the last week to report several stray chickens in her yard, also in a residential neighborhood. The elusive chickens have not yet been located. Raising of “backyard chickens” and other fowl is popular, and Animal Control is often contacted when neighbors are affected by noise and odor from confined animals. Zoning regulations limit the size of the property on which chickens and other fowl can be kept and people frequently obtain animals without checking to see if they are properly zoned.



## **Code Compliance**

### **Property Maintenance – Twentynine Palms Hwy**

Code has been receiving complaints in regards to overgrown vegetation around the Town of Yucca Valley. Code has been working with the clean team along with the assistance of the property owners to get the dry and dead vegetation cleaned up as soon as possible. Fifty-four courtesy letters went out to property owners along 29 Palms Hwy and the outer highway in regards to dead, dry, vegetation this month.



## **Property Maintenance**

Code received several complaints about a homeless man living in the vacant lot by a church. Code sent out a notice to the property owner. The property owner worked with Code and the clean team to have the homeless man relocate. The property was brought into compliance.



### **Property Maintenance**

Code received an anonymous complaint about a homeless people squatting in a lot on Santa Fe Tr. Code sent out a courtesy letter to the property owner and worked with the owner to have the squatters removed. Within 30 days the property was brought into compliance.



### **Property Maintenance**

Code received an anonymous complaint about a property where the residents were storing outside items in the public view, in addition to an inoperable vehicle being worked on in the front yard. Code sent the owner an administrative citation and requested that they have the property cleaned. The Property owner made contact with code, and the property was cleaned up and brought into compliance.



## **Parks Division Repairs and Improvements**

### **Community Center Repairs and Maintenance**

Making sure that the limited turf provided to Yucca Valley residents stays healthy and green, the Parks Division spends time monthly repairing and maintaining irrigation systems at the Town's park sites. The Parks Division also recently replaced damaged railroad ties at the Community Center.



### **Essig Park Improvements**

The Parks Division recently added a new sign to Essig Park, informing dog owners that dogs are not allowed in the playground area. This action was taken due to concerns expressed by a number of park users.



### **Pool Repairs and Maintenance**

The Parks Division also maintains the Yucca Valley High School's pool. In the picture below, the Parks Division is maintaining the chlorinator at the pool.



The Parks Division also recently removed weeds from a vacant lot owned by the Town. Weed removal is part of keeping our Town clean.



## Streets Division Repairs and Improvements

### **School Zone – Repainting and Maintenance**

In order to get ready for the start of school, the Streets Division repainted school zones and cross walks to make them more visible to motorists. The roads are thoroughly cleaned of debris before the paint is applied using stencils.



### **Shafter Avenue – Storm Drain and Berm Repair**

The Streets Division recently repaired a storm drain and berm on Shafter Avenue, which had become damaged and was eroding away the street's asphalt. To repair the drain and berm, the Streets Division first cleared away the vegetation which was blocking the roadway and drain. Then they removed the loose sand to prepare the drain for new asphalt to be installed. Then they were able to reconstruct the damaged berm using 25.23 tons of asphalt, which completed the repair.



### **Storm Clean Up**

The west end of Town experienced heavy rain on Monday, September 9, 2014, which washed sand and debris onto some of our roads. The Streets Division began their cleanup efforts the next day, by scraping thick sand and dirt of the road in preparation for the street sweeper. The pictures below show the Street Division removing dirt and sand from Santa Fe Trail and Onaga Trail.

