

Coachella Valley Public Cemetery District Newsletter



Excellence in Safety Award

The Coachella Valley Public Cemetery District (CVPCD) was named the 2022 Earl F. Sayre Excellence in Safety Award winner by the Special District Risk Management Authority (SDRMA).

The Cemetery District was selected as a result of its low loss ratio, longevity in the SDRMA Property/Liability program, and achievements in their Credit Incentive Program. Joshua Bonner, CVPCD General Manager, credits the award to the Cemetery District's on-going investment in district operations. "California has over 3,000 special districts, and many of them are part of SDRMA," says Bonner. "It's a great honor to be recognized by a statewide organization for our efforts. With strong leadership from our Board of Trustees, the District has not only invested in safety efforts, quality equipment, and education for our team, but has maintained a strong focus on quality and care of service at every level of the organization. This award reflects our efforts."

The award was received at the California Special District Association Annual Conference.

WHAT'S NEW

FUTURE EXPANSION

The District begins future development work

DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS

The annual celebration is fast approaching

2022-23 BUDGET BOOK

Review the District's budget and spending priorities

AND MORE...

Future Expansion

The Coachella Valley Public Cemetery District recently began execution of what is planned to be a major development effort on the property adjacent to the current cemetery. Approximately 30 acres of land to the west hosts the District's maintenance facility, and until recently three buildings that were previously utilized for employee housing. One of the units has since been converted into transitional office space for both administration and Board meeting use, while the other two units were decommissioned by the Board of Trustees and scheduled for removal. The land clearing efforts took approximately two months, with the project being completed in September of this year. The images displayed show demolition of the east building in progress (Right) and completed (Below).



The District currently plans to use the additional 30 acres for cemetery development and possibly future administration building(s). Preliminary engineering studies are currently being conducted and will be part of on-going development planning by the Board.



CVPCD BOARD WELCOMES PUBLIC COMMENT

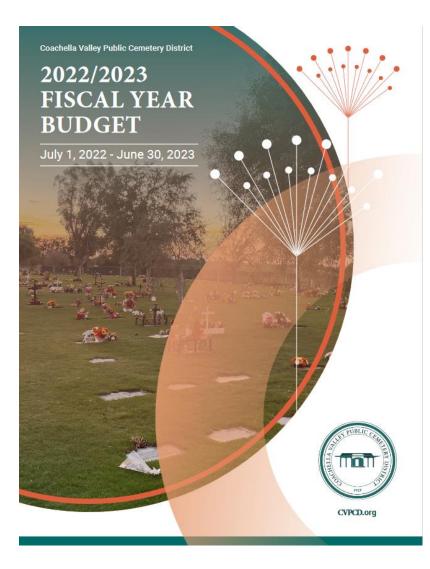
The Coachella Valley Public Cemetery District Board of Trustees welcomes feedback from the public. All upcoming board meetings are posted on our website under Governance/Upcoming Board Meetings. There is time set aside at each meeting for members of the public to comment. If you cannot attend the meeting in person, we welcome comments through email (info@cvpcd.org) or by phone at (760) 398-3221.

Día de los Muertos

The District is already preparing for its annual Día de los Muertos celebration. There will be some significant changes to the event for this year. Jackson St. between Ave. 52 and Ave. 50 will no longer be blocked off for parking during the celebration event on November 2nd, instead all parking will be on-site utilizing the empty lot immediately to the west of the cemetery. Additionally, the cemetery will not be open for vehicle traffic on November 1st, parking will also be directed to the adjacent lot.

For more information and on-going updates, visit the event <u>page</u> on our website. You can also follow us on Facebook or like (follow) the Facebook event <u>page</u>.



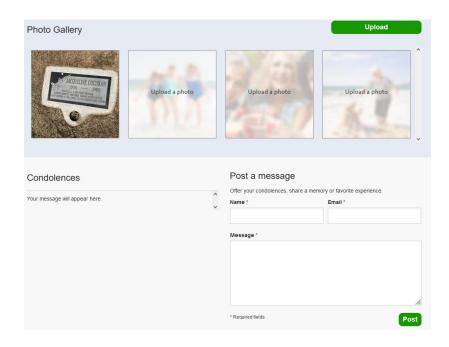


2022-2023 Budget Book

The Coachella Valley Public Cemetery District has released its 2022-2023 Budget Book for public review. The annual document informs the public on the District's fiscal budget for the upcoming business year, as well as detailing its spending priorities.

Some of the highlights of this year's budget include significant investments into capital projects. The District's roads are scheduled to be repaved, which the Board of Trustees has set aside \$500,000 for project completion. The District is also scheduled for needed repairs and replacement parts to its well pump that supplies irrigation water to the grounds, and landscape improvements to the islands located in the road medians. There is also a feature on the District's commitment to investing in workforce development and support.

To view the budget book, please visit our website at CVPCD.org. The <u>document</u> can be found and downloaded from the Transparency section of the site, under Budget and Salary Information.



New Website Features

Visitors to our website will see a nice upgrade in the memorial section. The new feature allows for family members and friends to leave a message of condolence. The District also completed a months-long effort to photograph and record every headstone currently in the cemetery. Each memorial listing will now feature a recent photo.

This section of the website can be found by clicking on "Find A Loved One" and searching the name of the deceased. The search results will take you to the feature page.

New Security Team

The District is welcoming a new security team to the cemetery. Please say hello to Southwest Security when you meet them on the grounds. The District has security in place daily to ensure the best possible experience for our visiting public. Southwest Security was chosen as part of a competitive review of our overall security needs.

As with all our on-going contracted services, the District will periodically undertake a formal procurement process for service providers. The Request for Proposal (RFP) process allows the District to evaluate current services and pricing to ensure the best use of taxpayer resources. RFP's are posted to the District's website under the "Public Notices" section. The District welcomes local businesses to monitor and respond to these requests.



Did You Know - What is a Special District?

The Coachella Valley Public Cemetery District (CVPCD) is a Special District; a special-purpose governmental unit that exists independent from local governments such as counties and cities. The CVPVD is one of over 265 public cemetery districts in California which are supported, in part, by property taxes. A small portion of the property tax revenue that is collected from taxpayers within the Special District is part of the revenue the Cemetery relies on for its annual budget. Individuals who do not reside in or pay property taxes in this Special District are required by law to pay a surcharge to the District for interment in the Cemetery. To learn more about the District, visit our website at CVPCD.org!