

# COACHELLA VALLEY PUBLIC CEMETERY DISTRICT Quarterly Newsletter

Q4 • Oct – Dec 2024

## What's New

Día de los Muertos

Cemetery Hours

CSDA Award Winners

Veterans Day Ceremony

Budget Book Now Available

## Cemetery Transforms for Annual Día de los Muertos Celebration

The Coachella Valley Public Cemetery will host a spirited celebration of Mexican culture that is expected to welcome more than 10,000 visitors with its annual festivities on **November 2, 2024, from 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.** This free event is open to all and offers the community a unique opportunity to honor their loved ones who have passed.



Families and friends are invited to gather together, honor their loved ones and create stunning altars decorated with colorful papel picado, marigolds, and photographs. Live music and dance performances will bring the cemetery to life, with music and Folklorico dancers showcasing the rich heritage of Mexico.

While most of the activities and festivities occur on November 2, the Coachella Valley Public Cemetery will also be open the day prior, on November 1, until 7:00 p.m. in observance of the holiday. Gates open to the public on both the 1st and the 2nd at 7:00 a.m.

Please note the cemetery will have parking and traffic restrictions in place on both days. Guests will not be allowed to park on the grounds, and will instead need to park in the back lot adjacent to the cemetery. Due to the amount of traffic expected, there is also no parking or stopping along Avenue 52 during these dates. The District thanks you in advance for your understanding.

## Mark Your Calendars – Cemetery Hours Are Changing

As the winter months approach, the cemetery hours will be updated to reflect the shorter days. Beginning November 3rd, the cemetery will close its gates at 5:30 p.m. and remain on this schedule through February 14th. Gates will continue to open at 7:00 a.m. throughout the year. For a complete list of the cemetery closing times for the year, please visit the District's website at [CVPCD.org](http://CVPCD.org).



**Beginning November 3, the closing time will change to 5:30 p.m. and remain on this schedule through February 14, 2025.**

[CVPCD.org](http://CVPCD.org)

## Paying Respect to Our Armed Forces This Veterans Day

CVPCD is partnering with the American Legion Post 739, Indio, to host a Veterans Day ceremony on **Monday, November 11, 2024, at 11:00 a.m.** This free annual event will take place at the Veterans Memorial, located in the center of the cemetery.



There will be plenty for guests to experience during this event, including a traditional Honor Guard salute, remarks by elected officials, a benediction, and singing of the National Anthem. Seating and shade will be provided to all guests in attendance.

Veterans Day is a federal holiday in the United States observed annually on November 11 to mark the anniversary of the end of World War I and to honor and celebrate the service of all military veterans of the United States Armed Forces. For more information about the event, contact the CVPCD at (760) 398-3221.

## District's Budget Book Now Available Digitally

CVPCD's 2024 Budget Book is now available in a convenient digital format and is available as a free download on the District's website. A hard copy of the book is also available at the District's front office.

The 2024/2025 Fiscal Year budget is based on total revenues of more than \$4.5 million and total operating expenditures of \$3.6 million. The District's capital expenses for the year total \$1.5 million, with the combined total expense for the year being \$5.1 million.

The District possesses a Capital Expense reserve fund of over \$1,000,000 to help address deferred capital expenses, primarily covering necessary road repairs. This reserve fund will sufficiently cover additional projected capital expenditures where required. Additionally, staff continues to pursue alternative revenue options to assist with financing our capital expenditures, including supplemental state and federal funding for our road construction project.



A complete copy of the budget, along with other important financial information, is contained in detail within the book. The District is proud to present this critical information to its constituents as part of its ongoing commitment to transparency and sound governance.

To view the budget book, visit <https://qrco.de/CVPCD>, [CLICK HERE](#) or scan the code.





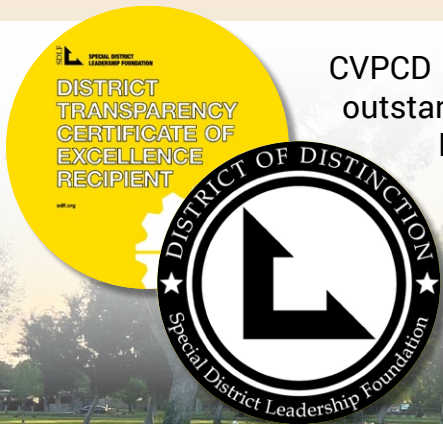
# CSDA Recognizes District For Leadership Excellence and Public Engagement Success

CVPCD was recently honored with two prestigious awards at the annual California Special Districts Association (CSDA) conference held in Indian Wells from September 9th-12th to commemorate more than 3,200 Special Districts statewide.

CVPCD General Manager Joshua Bonner was recognized for his commitment and contributions to the District, the Special District community, and the local community, with the General Manager of the Year award. This award illustrated his outstanding leadership and significant contributions in community commitment, legislative advocacy, financial management, and public relations.



Since joining the District in 2021, Bonner has exemplified exceptional leadership, working with the Board on numerous achievements including the 2022 Special District Risk Management Authority's Earl F. Sayre Excellence in Safety Award, the 2022 Special District Leadership Foundation's (SDLF) Transparency Certificate of Excellence, and the 2023 SDLF District of Distinction Accreditation, among others. Bonner's dedication to improving community services and fostering innovation has significantly contributed to CVPCD's success and reputation throughout the community.



CVPCD also received the Exceptional Public Outreach & Advocacy Award for its outstanding efforts in increasing visibility and improving communication. The District's "What to Expect" video series has been praised for its effectiveness in preparing families for the interment process and providing valuable information on the day of their service. This initiative exemplifies the District's dedication to clear, compassionate, and informative communication.

## Board Meeting Update

The Coachella Valley Public Cemetery District Board of Trustees meets on the second Friday of each month, at 8 a.m, unless otherwise changed to accommodate an observed holiday. The public is welcome to attend and encouraged to submit ideas and suggestions at the meetings, which are held at 82-847 Avenue 52 in Coachella. For information, visit [coachellacemetery.org/governance/board](https://coachellacemetery.org/governance/board).

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