



City of Needles, California Request for City Council Action

CITY COUNCIL NPUA RDA

Regular Special

Meeting Date: October 26, 2021

Title: Designation of a Downtown Area

Background: On October 12, Councilor Campbell requested that the City Council consider a designation of a downtown area. The matter is agendized to determine if the City Council wants to consider an action on the matter at a subsequent meeting. The following tools are available to designate a Downtown Area:

- **Exclusionary Overlay Zone-** A regulatory tool that creates a special zoning district, placed over an existing base zone, which could exclude defined uses within it. An overlay zone would define the boundaries of the downtown area and what is permitted in the area. A CEQA Initial Study would be required.
- **Rezone-** A Regulatory tool that is any change or amendment to the zoning map to move land from one zoning district to another. Would create a new zoning classification or designation in the downtown. A CEQA Initial Study would be required.
- **Downtown Specific Plan-** Is a regulatory tool that local governments use to guide development in a localized area and to systematically implement the general plan. It is intended as a more detailed development plan that is a general plan. A CEQA Environmental Impact Report would be required.
- **City of Needles General Plan Land Use Element Update-** The City is currently updating our General Plan Land Use Element. A CEQA Environmental Impact Report would be required and can be completed with the rest of the general plan update.

All of the above processes are available to Council to designate a new Downtown area. City Staff recommends that we utilize the General Plan Land Use Element Update as a means to address the designation of a new downtown. Public workshops are taking place on Thursday November 18, 2021 at the Needles Recreation Center from 4:00pm to 7:00pm.

Fiscal Impact: Costs to utilize a consultant to complete the overlay zone, rezone, or a Downtown Specific Plan. The General Plan Land Use Element is paid through a SB 2 Planning Grant from the California Department of Housing and Community Development.

Sylvia Miledi Sm

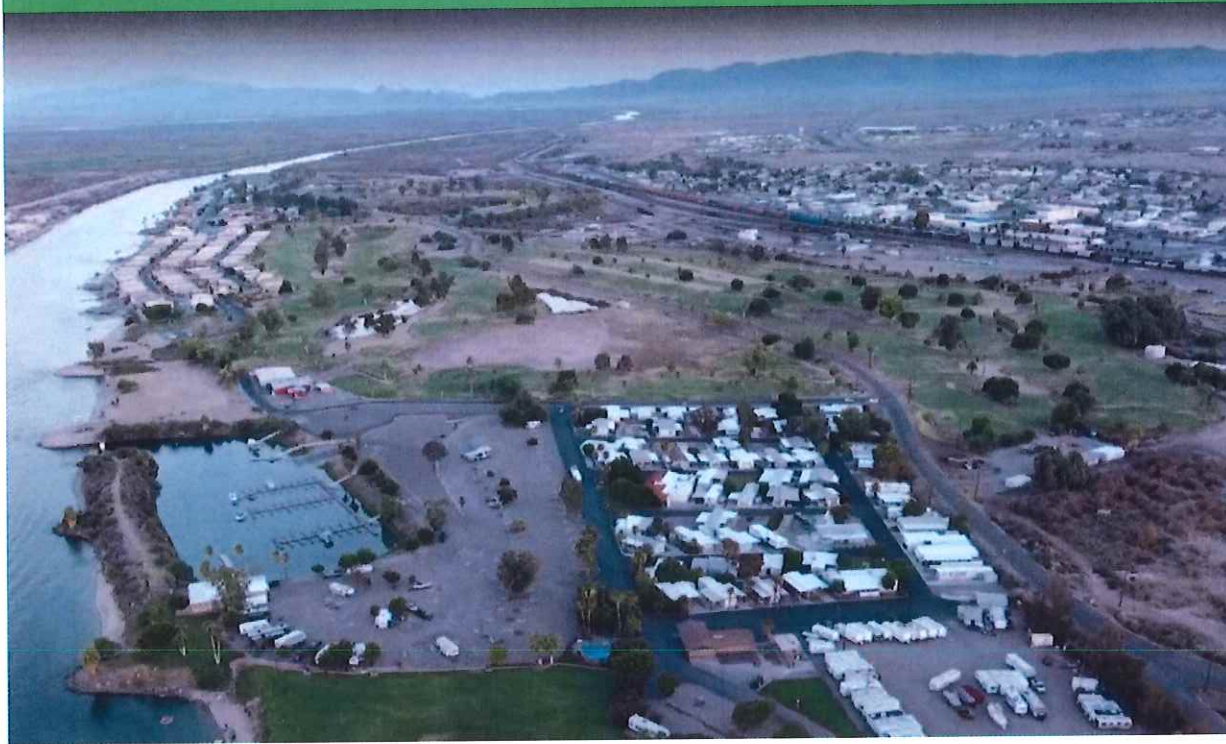
Recommendation: Provide direction on whether the Council wants agendized this matter for action at a subsequent meeting to designate a downtown, and, if so, direct staff to develop the methodology to do so.

Submitted By: Councilor Ellen Campbell

City Management Review: Rick

Date: 10/21

Approved: <input type="checkbox"/>	Not Approved: <input type="checkbox"/>	Tabled: <input type="checkbox"/>	Other: <input type="checkbox"/>
			Agenda Item: <u>11</u>



**COMMUNITY
OPEN HOUSE**

YOU'RE INVITED TO HELP CREATE THE FUTURE OF NEEDLES

The City is hosting an open house to share information about citywide planning efforts and obtain your input on a variety of topics including:

- ▶ Places to protect, celebrate, and rehabilitate
- ▶ The Downtown and other areas of improvement
- ▶ Types of new development
- ▶ Options to enhance walking and biking
- ▶ Improvements to the streets and highway
- ▶ Ways to create new business opportunities

Activities the open house will include:

- ▶ GIANT maps
- ▶ idea wall
- ▶ coloring station
- ▶ surveys

Attendees will also have a chance to win **GIFT CERTIFICATES** from local businesses

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18TH
Needles Recreation Center

#1 | 2:30 to 4:00 PM
Let's hear from the Kids!
Parents are also welcome

#2 | 4:00 to 7:00 PM
Let's hear from Everyone!
All are welcome

