PARKS AND RECREATION IN CATHEDRAL CITY

Cathedral City is the only Coachella Valley city without its own local parks and recreation department. As a result, local children, families and seniors have access to far fewer parks, recreation programs and related services than residents in surrounding communities. In addition, Cathedral City is unable to maintain local parks to the same standard as other communities or offer facilities like community and recreation centers.

For over 70 years Desert Recreation District (DRD) has maintained neighborhood parks, open spaces, community centers, sports fields, pools and provided quality recreational programs for children, families and seniors in many communities around the Coachella Valley such as Palm Desert, La Quinta and Indio. DRD also provides meals, food distribution, emergency shelters and cooling and warming centers for people in need.

CATHEDRAL CITY — DRD: A PARTNERSHIP FOR BETTER PARKS AND RECREATION

Cathedral City and Desert Recreation District are exploring a partnership that would allow DRD to upgrade the condition of local parks, keep them well maintained and offer improved parks and recreation services to Cathedral City children, families and seniors.

PARK MAINTENANCE

Upgrading maintenance of Cathedral City parks to the same high standard as DRD parks throughout the region will help maintain safe drinking water at parks, repair deteriorating park bathrooms, buildings, sewer and gas lines, improve energy efficiency and water conservation, improve access for residents with disabilities and upgrade security lighting and fencing.

IMPROVING RECREATION, HEALTH AND SAFETY

Expanding community recreational programs and facilities will provide Cathedral City's 14,000 children and youth after-school, weekend and holiday programs to keep them engaged in healthy activities, off the streets and away from the temptation of gangs, drugs and vandalism. With over 65 days of temperatures of 106 degrees or more last summer in Cathedral City, DRD will operate essential services such as emergency cooling centers like those offered in other communities for residents without air conditioning, those who are experiencing power outages, or need a safe place in extreme heat or a natural disaster.

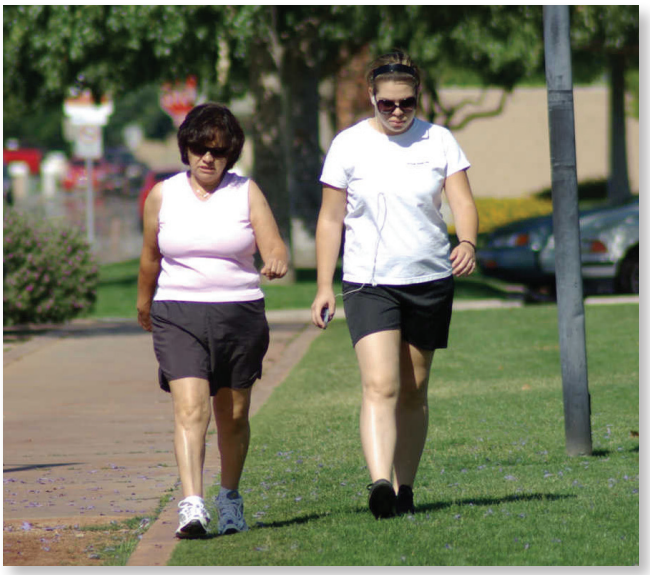
PARKS AND RECREATION IN CATHEDRAL CITY

LOCALLY CONTROLLED FUNDING FOR CATHEDRAL CITY PARKS AND RECREATION

To provide dedicated and locally controlled funding for parks and recreation, Cathedral City is considering placing a local funding measure on the November 2022 ballot.

If approved by voters, this measure would cost property owners 15¢ per building square foot annually on single-family residential units to:

- Provide safe and clean parks, playgrounds and recreational facilities in Cathedral City
- Maintain and improve neighborhood park safety
- Maintain safe drinking water and improve water conservation
- Enhance youth drug and gang prevention programs
- Provide affordable after-school and senior programs
- Address homelessness in local parks



MANDATORY FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY AND OVERSIGHT

A local funding measure for Cathedral City parks and recreation would require strict fiscal accountability protections, including:

- Every penny must stay here in Cathedral City for parks and recreation only
- No funds could be used for administrator salaries or pensions
- An independent citizens' oversight committee and annual audits would be required
- No funds from a potential measure could be taken by the State

SHARE YOUR INPUT AND ASK YOUR QUESTIONS

Please share your input as Cathedral City plans for the future of local parks and recreation. For more information, to share feedback on local priorities or to ask questions, please contact DRD General Manager Kevin Kalman at kkalman@drd.us.com or (760) 347-3484 or Cathedral City Manager Charles McClendon at cmcclendon@cathedralcity.gov or (760) 770-0372.

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