



DESERT RECREATION DISTRICT – CATHEDRAL CITY FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT IS DESERT RECREATION DISTRICT?

Desert Recreation District (DRD) is the largest parks and recreation district in California and serves communities throughout the Coachella Valley. For over 70 years DRD has maintained neighborhood parks, open spaces, community centers, sports fields, pools and provided quality recreational programs for children, families and seniors. DRD also provides meals, food distribution, emergency shelters and cooling and warming centers for people in need.

HOW COULD PARKS AND RECREATION IN CATHEDRAL CITY BE IMPROVED?

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 fewer parks and recreation programs and services than residents in surrounding communities.

HOW CAN CATHEDRAL CITY WORK WITH DRD?

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.

HOW IS DRD PLANNING TO IMPROVE PARKS AND RECREATION IN CATHEDRAL CITY?

Upgrading maintenance of Cathedral City parks to the same standard as DRD parks throughout the region will help maintain safe drinking water at parks, repair deteriorating facilities and improve security lighting and fencing. DRD would also expand community recreational programs and facilities to 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 out of trouble. DRD will also operate cooling centers like those offered in other communities for residents without air conditioning or who need a safe place during extreme heat or a natural disaster.

HOW WOULD IMPROVEMENTS TO CATHEDRAL CITY PARKS AND RECREATION PROGRAMS BE FUNDED?

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, a local funding measure to improve Cathedral City's parks and recreation services would cost property owners 15¢ per building square foot annually on single family residential units.

HOW WOULD DEDICATED LOCAL FUNDING HELP UPGRADE CATHEDRAL CITY'S PARKS?

A local funding measure would provide a dedicated, locally controlled source of revenue 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 conservation
- Enhance youth drug and gang prevention programs
- Provide affordable after-school and senior programs
- Address homeless in local parks



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HOW MUCH WOULD A MEASURE COST?

If approved by voters, a local funding measure to improve Cathedral City's parks and recreation services would cost property owners 15¢ per building square foot annually on single family residential units. The typical homeowner in Cathedral City would pay about \$240 per year.

WHAT IF I CANNOT AFFORD THE COST OF THE MEASURE?

Exemptions from the cost of the measure would be available for low-income seniors to ensure the cost is not a burden to those on limited or fixed incomes.

COULD THE STATE CUT OR TAKE FUNDING FROM A LOCAL MEASURE?

No. By law, revenue from a local funding measure could not be taken by the State. All funding generated by the measure must stay here in Cathedral City for parks and recreation only.

HOW CAN I BE SURE FUNDS WOULD BE SPENT AS PROMISED?

The measure would require fiscal accountability protections, including independent citizens' oversight, mandatory financial audits, and public disclosure of all spending to the community. By law, all funds must be spent on local parks and recreation programs, and none of the money can be used for administrator salaries or pensions.

HOW LONG WOULD THE TAX MEASURE LAST?

The proposed funding measure would last until it is ended by voters, ensuring that DRD has the revenue needed to maintain well-maintained, safe and clean neighborhood parks and facilities.

WILL CATHEDRAL CITY HAVE ELECTED REPRESENTATION IN THE GOVERNANCE OF DRD?

Yes, if the local funding measure is approved by voters, Cathedral City will become part of the Desert Recreation District and will elect a representative on the DRD Board of Directors.



HOW CAN I LEARN MORE?

As Cathedral City and DRD plan for the future of parks and recreation, we welcome your feedback and questions. For more information 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 cmclendon@cathedralcity.gov or (760) 770-0372.