



Report for the Community Advisory Committee and the Community Enhancement Collaborative

September 16, 2026

RE: Reaffirm and approve all past actions taken by the CAC and the CEC

BACKGROUND

The Palo Verde Irrigation District ("PVID") and the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California ("MWD") are jointly administering a community grant program with the purpose and goal of providing funds to generate short and long-term economic and quality of life impacts and social benefits within the PVID's service area. This includes, but is not limited to, economic and community development, job creation, vocational training programs, increasing service access, supporting sporting and social ventures, increasing the tax revenue base, and supplementing educational endeavors.

The goal is to provide grants that foster the attraction, formation, and/or expansion of businesses, municipalities, local governments, and nonprofit organizations within the community, which will stimulate the local economy and further the missions of the nonprofit organizations.

The program's objectives are to have the CEC establish the CAC to evaluate potential projects based on criteria established by the CEC and for the CAC to make funding recommendations to the CEC; the CEC will make final project and funding determinations.

Attachment A provides a list of all prior actions taken by the CAC and the CEC of the current operating documents, procedures, and approvals.

Attachment B contains copies of the CAC memorandums regarding recommendations on grant awards and non-awards.

- April 23, 2026: 3 Grant Applications recommended for Award, 8 Grant Applications recommended for Non-Award.

- June 4, 2026: 4 Grant Applications recommended for Award, 2 Grant Applications recommended for Non-Award. Due to time constraints, the 2 Applications recommended for Non-Award were not processed by CEC at their next meeting, so those are on the July 22, 2026 CAC report again and were processed at the CEC meeting thereafter.
- June 21, 2026: 2 Grant Applications recommended for Award. These 2 Applications recommended for Award were carried over to the July 22, 2026 report.
- July 22, 2026: 1 Grant Application recommended for Award, the 2 Grant Applications recommended for Non-Award from the June 4, 2026 report, and the 2 Applications recommended for Award from the June 21, 2026 report.

The award for the grant to the Palo Verde Museum Society was originally awarded as \$30,000 but due an administrative error members of the CEC and CAC agreed to award \$35,000.

Attachment C contains copies of the corresponding notes and/or minutes for each of the meetings.

Attachment D contains copies of current documents and/or policies that have been adopted.

RECOMMENDATION AT CAC

Pursuant to the Brown Act (California Government Code Section 54960.1(a) to address any issues related to California Government Code Section 54954.2, reaffirm and approve all past actions taken by the Community Advisory Committee

RECOMMENDATION AT CEC

Pursuant to the Brown Act (California Government Code Section 54960.1(a) to address any issues related to California Government Code Section 54954.2, reaffirm and approve all past actions taken by the Community Enhancement Collaborative

Attachment A

Grants APPROVED to date				
Round 1	Amount Awarded	Date CAC Voted to Recommend	Date Awarded By CEC	Project Description
Blythe Police Dept - Boat	\$185,000*	4/15/2026	5/1/2026	Current Department boat exceeded its useful life
Blythe Cancer Resource Center	\$100,000	4/15/2026	5/1/2026	Assistance for cancer patients while going through treatment
Palo Verde Museum and Society	\$35,000	4/15/2026	5/1/2026	General fund and maintenance repairs
Round 2				
Taylor Calabrese	\$199,799	5/20/2026	6/26/2026	Mobile spay and neuter trailer
Wade Dental - Tiffany Wade	\$125,000	5/20/2026	6/26/2026	Upgrade of equipment and new advanced dental machine
BNB Golf Course	\$633,894	5/20/2026	6/26/2026	Upgrade of pump lift station and irrigation system
City Christmas Decorations	\$110,000	5/20/2026	6/26/2026	Replacement of old city decorations and new tree at city hall
Round 3				
Palo Verde College Foundation - EMT classes	\$44,000	6/17/2026	7/24/2026	Tuition, supplies, and fees for approximately 19 students
KJMB (Blythe Radio, Inc.) - Radio Station	\$200,000	7/17/2026	7/24/2026	Replacement of old faulty equipment. Emergency broadcast systems
Palo Verde Valley District Library	\$40,000	6/17/2026	7/24/2026	Replacement of old computers for public use
Total	\$1,487,693			

*This is an up to amount

Grants Non-Awards Actions	Date	Reason
Valley Beverage	4/24/2026	No expansion of business, no increase in employment, equipment purchase only. Refer to CIF
Standage Tire	4/24/2026	No expansion of business, no increase in employment, facility maintenance only. Refer to CIF
Frye Chapel	4/24/2026	No expansion of business, no increase in employment, facility maintenance only. Refer to CIF
Mayra Insurance	4/24/2026	No expansion of business, no increase in employment, building maintenance only. Refer to CIF
Nails and Hair	4/24/2026	No expansion of business, no increase in employment, building maintenance only. Refer to CIF
Palo Verde Hospital	4/24/2026	Reason for application is no longer needed - otherwise funded
Extreme Autobody	4/24/2026	No expansion of business, no increase in employment, facility maintenance only. Refer to CIF
Fernando's - Emma's Hall	4/24/2026	Grant purpose (construction) nearing completion. Question about building's suitability and if use is allowed by the City. Possible referral to CIF.
Intuitive Agile Solutions, LLC	5/20/2026	Applicant seeks funds to buy 2 manufactured homes. Recommended to CIF. May reapply later
Dr. Steve Montgomery, DVM, Circle H	5/20/2026	Applicant seeks fundings for assisting in sale of business, with funds directly paid to him

Other "Actions Taken" to Date	Date of CEC Action	Minutes	Date of CAC Action	Minutes
CEC establishes CAC	9/18/2024	9/18/2024	N/A	N/A
Approving the CAC Bylaws	9/22/2025	9/22/2025	3/25/2026	3/25/2026
Approving the Grant Policy	9/22/2025	9/22/2025	3/25/2026	3/25/2026
Hiring the Administrator**	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Approving the Conflict Of Interest Policy	5/29/2026	5/29/2026	4/15/2026, members signed	N/A
Approving the Confidentiality Policy	N/A	N/A	4/15/2026, members signed	N/A
Approving of current Grant Application	4/29/2026	4/29/2026	N/A	N/A
Approve drafting General Grant Agreement	5/1/2026	5/1/2026	N/A	N/A
Discuss Grant Decision Matrix	3/26/2026	3/26/2026	N/A	N/A
Extending CAC Member Term limit 1 yr	5/1/2026	5/1/2026	N/A	N/A
Current CAC Membership Appointments	5/29/2026	N/A	N/A	N/A
Approve Sublease with Cutting Edge Properties	12/16/2025	12/16/2025	N/A	N/A
Grant Award letter	5/29/2026	5/29/2026	N/A	N/A
** included for information but no action was taken				

April 23, 2026

To: Co-Chairs Cynthia Kurtz and Nisha Noroian and the entire CEC Committee

From: Community Advisory Committee

Re: CAC recommendations, April 2026

The CAC has begun processing CEC grant applications and we are striving to attain a very streamlined process for applicants, our admin, and both committees. We are establishing flows and documents to support a process which benefits everyone.

Attached to this report are:

The CAC to CEC Grant Application Pathway

The CAC Annual Project Flow Recap as of 4-23-26

3 Grant Applications with a CAC recommendation of Award

8 Grant Applications with a CAC recommendation of Non Award

3 Grant Applications with CAC recommendation of Award

a. File 25-011 Blythe Police Department (BPD) Marine Enforcement Vessel

Note: Members Crecelius and Spraggins recused themselves from the discussion and voting.

The BPD's current law enforcement vessel is 9 years old and is beginning to cost thousands of dollars in repairs each year. BPD has a strong presence on the 8+ miles of the Colorado River during boating season, April through September. During the 3-day holiday weekends, the vessel is active on the water all 3 days for at least 10-hour shifts. BPD coordinates mutual aid enforcement with Arizona and California State Fish and Game as well as Riverside County Sheriff. In addition to patrol and enforcement, BPD Marine officers and equipment are relied on for search and rescue operations for accidents, injuries, and unfortunate drownings. The BPD has 7 qualified Marine Enforcement Officers who have completed their training and certifications.

The amount initially requested from BPD was \$170,000. Since the initial grant application nearly a year ago, the price of the vessel increased to \$180,167. Additionally, BPD has a grant application into the State of California Department of Boating and Waterways for equipment to complete the outfitting of the vessel with Sonar/radar equipment, Public Safety and Marine radios, emergency lighting and more. The amount of the other grant is \$50,000.

Marine enforcement and emergency response along the stretch of the Colorado River inside the city limits and as mutual aid for other law enforcement agencies is vital to the community and its visitors. The purchase is not part of the past or upcoming city budget. Having two grants work toward the asset purchase and outfitting continues the services offered by the local law enforcement community with updated equipment and technology.

The CAC unanimously voted (6-0 with Crecelius and Spraggins recused) to recommend the CEC grant an Award of (the invoice not to exceed) \$185,000 to the City of Blythe Police Department.

b. File 25-024 Palo Verde Historical Museum & Society

The local Palo Verde Historical Museum has been in existence since 1981 and is located in a downtown building/property donated by the Port family, now in its 4th generation in the valley. The entity has a 7 volunteer Board of Directors who meet monthly. The all-volunteer staff have the museum open seasonally, Tuesday through Saturday.

The museum houses a variety of historical preservation items from throughout the valley including photos, school documents, farm implements, and many artifacts. The 3rd grade classes of the elementary schools have a field trip to the museum each school year. The museum is the sponsor of the annual Hall of Fame ceremony which honors inductees who have been successful in athletics after their graduation from the local high schools.

The museum sells memberships to raise annual funds, which many members of the CAC were unaware of. All CAC members expressed a desire to become members of the Museum. The annual income of approximately \$7,000 covers the annual expenses of approximately \$6,300. The museum is in need of repairs to the front of the building where the roofline meets the large plate windows that are ceiling height.

CAC Member Crecelius offered to assist the Museum with some marketing on the City of Blythe website and newsletters, and CAC members indicated the same should be available at the Chamber of Commerce as well as the CEC once social media pages are established.

The CAC unanimously voted (8-0) to recommend the CEC grant an Award of \$30,000 to the Palo Verde Historical Museum & Society. This amount represents the funds needed to complete the repairs on the roof/front to prevent leaks into the building (\$7,000) and to provide additional operating funds (\$23,000) to the organization. Additionally, the CAC will place this applicant in a pending status for potential additional funding in approximately one year.

c. File: 25-047 Blythe Cancer Resource Center (BCRC)

Blythe Cancer Resource Center is a long-standing (17 year) non-profit entity supporting the citizens of the Palo Verde Valley who are diagnosed with cancer and are being treated outside the area (there are zero local resources for diagnosis or treatment). The BCRC has a 9-member volunteer Board of Directors who meet monthly and 3 volunteer patient advocates who meet with newly diagnosed

patients to assist them with resources for their particular cancer. The advocates are also available for additional counseling or resource allocation as the patient continues their journey. The BCRC holds an annual fundraising walk – Steps for the Cure – which now (2025) yields approximately \$80,000. The closure of Chuckawalla Valley State Prison in 2024 significantly reduced the amount by about \$40,000, as the employees and inmates from that facility were major contributors.

BCRC has allocations to patients in the amount of (3) \$1,000 payments per year for the cost of travel to their medical treatments. With the closest cancer care facility 118 miles away from Blythe, the costs of fuel, meals, and hotels are exorbitant. Some patients are receiving care much further away in Phoenix, San Diego or Los Angeles if their cancer requires additional specialists. BCRC also gives an annual \$10,000 donation to the Hanson House next to Desert Hospital in Palm Springs, California to assist with patient housing.

BCRC is desirous of continuing their current level of service and allocation per patient and potentially increasing the per patient amount as prices of transportation and accommodations increase. In 2025, BCRC assisted 26 new and 34 returning patients for a total of \$109,700 and thus far in 2026, they have assisted 24 returning and 7 new patients with \$43,600 distributed.

The CAC unanimously voted (8-0) to recommend the CEC grant an Award of \$100,000 to the Blythe Cancer Resource Center, an asset to the citizens of Blythe providing a much needed funding service to community members in need.

8 Grant Applications with CAC recommendation of Non Award

The following 8 applications are being recommended for non award due to not meeting the grant policy goals toward economic benefit, increased employment, increased tax basin, or increased service access. Most applicants (as noted) may be suitable for referral to the Community Improvement Fund (CIF) for potential funding.

- a. File: 25-014 Valley Beverage - No expansion of business, no increase in employment, equipment purchase only. Refer to CIF.
- b. File: 25-016 Standage Tire - No expansion of business, no increase in employment, facility maintenance only. Refer to CIF.
- c. File: 25-040 Frye Chapel - No expansion of business, no increase in employment, facility maintenance only. Refer to CIF.
- d. File: 25-041 Mayra Insurance - No expansion of business, no increase in employment, building maintenance only. Refer to CIF.
- e. File: 25-049 Nails and Hair - No expansion of business, no increase in employment, building maintenance only. Refer to CIF.
- f. File: 25-053 Palo Verde Hospital – reason for application is no longer a need – otherwise funded.

- g. File: 25-054 Extreme Autobody - No expansion of business, no increase in employment, facility maintenance only. Refer to CIF.
- h. File: 25-057 Fernando's - Grant purpose (construction) nearing completion. Question whether building is suitable for the purpose stated and if use is allowed by the City. Possibly Refer to CIF.

The CAC unanimously voted (8-0) to recommend the 8 applications as Non Award to the CEC.

We thank you for your patience as we navigate new processes and refine them as we progress. If there is anything the CEC wishes to see changed or enhanced, please do not hesitate to let us know.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Leslie Jessop-Watkins', written over the printed name.

Leslie Jessop-Watkins
CAC Chair
760-285-1024

June 4, 2026

To: Co-Chairs Cynthia Kurtz and Nisha Noroian and the entire CEC Committee

From: Community Advisory Committee

Re: CAC recommendations, May 2026

As we conclude our first cycle of grant awards and begin the 2nd, the CAC wishes to thank each of you for your support as we continue working toward efficiencies in our processes.

Included with this report is:

The CAC Annual Project Flow Recap as of 5-31-26

When our new Admin is seated, we will forward the zip files containing the applications reported herein:

4 Grant Applications with a CAC recommendation of Award

2 Grant Applications with a CAC recommendation of Non-Award

4 Grant Applications with CAC recommendation of Award

a. File 25-017 Dr. Tiffany Wade, DDS

Dr. Wade has been in practice in Blythe for 6 years after purchasing a local dentist's office. Dr. Wade's application is to facilitate the increase of local dentistry services with the purchase of state-of-the-art equipment for her office. The current method for crowns, bridges and dentures is a cumbersome and lengthy process using an outside lab. The equipment purchases would reduce the amount of time for patients to receive their new dental items from several weeks to less than a week. The equipment would allow Dr. Wade to create the dental items locally using 3D technology (she purchased the printer since her application submission), a scanner, mill and oven.

In addition to Dr. Wade's goal to increase local resources, she is very aware of the socio-economic factors in our valley, and is an in-network dentist for many insurance companies, receiving less compensation than most dentists for the services she provides. Dr. Wade has a well-thought process and plan to increase the local level of service and decrease the amount of time residents wait for their dental items.

The CAC unanimously voted 8-0 to recommend the CEC grant an Award of (invoices not to exceed) \$125,000 to Dr. Tiffany Wade for the needed scanner, mill, and oven. These pieces of equipment will increase dental services available locally and drastically reduce the amount of time to process and fit the prosthetics.

b. File 25-025 Dr. Taylor Calabrese, DVM

Note: Member Calabrese recused himself from the discussion and voting.

Dr. Calabrese was born and raised in Blythe, and after graduation from Midwestern University, she returned to Blythe and is currently working at Circle H Veterinary Hospital. Dr. Calabrese is very dedicated to the health and well-being of the animal population in Blythe and her grant application is to purchase a mobile veterinarian trailer and generator to offer mobile, low-cost vaccination and spay/neuter services.

Dr. Calabrese has forged a relationship with local animal control services to provide services at 3 clinics since her arrival back in Blythe 3 years ago. She is aware of the inability of some residents to provide healthcare needs to their pets, and she wishes to reduce this gap with the provision of low-cost clinics in conjunction with grant funds from the local animal control agencies. Dr. Calabrese indicated during her interview that the sheer number of unvaccinated animals coupled with a lack of spay/neuter clinics has created a population and unhealthy animal burden which are very difficult for the community. The CAC members were in complete agreement of the community-wide animal issues during the interview. Dr. Calabrese is prepared to outfit the trailer with the purchase of ancillary supplies and she has a solid inception plan for her program.

The CAC unanimously voted (7-0 with Michael Calabrese recused) to recommend the CEC grant an Award of \$199,799 to Dr. Taylor Calabrese for the purchase of the mobile veterinary trailer and generator. This grant will benefit the community with a new start-up small business providing low-cost animal health services to the residents.

c. File: 25-060 City of Blythe Christmas Decorations

Note: Members Crecelius and Spraggins recused themselves from the discussion and voting.

The City of Blythe's Christmas decorations have outlived their lifespan and have become dilapidated over the last few years. Mr. and Mrs. Dan Lazenby, two local lifelong citizens, approached the City to ask if they could research the CEC grant and source replacement pole decorations and the purchase of a Christmas tree and over-the-street banner for the City. The City does not currently have a Christmas tree or banner, and if purchased, the tree would be erected at City Hall in the center of town and the banner would hang over Hobsonway between Spring and Main Streets. The existing pole decorations are hung annually from the first week of December until just after Christmas.

The Lazenby's vision is to boost the look and feel of the downtown area during the holiday season, which in turn would increase community pride. The purchase of pole decorations and banner for Hobsonway and the tree for City Hall would enhance the community atmosphere and provide a more attractive downtown area for everyone in the valley to enjoy, including during the Christmas parade.

The CAC unanimously voted 6-0 (members Mallory Crecelius and Summer Spraggins recused) to recommend the CEC grant an Award of \$110,000 to the City of Blythe for the purchase of pole decorations, over the street banner and a 26' tree.

d. File 25-013 BNB Golf

Note: Members Crecelius and Spraggins recused themselves from the discussion and voting.

BNB Golf has leased and operated the Blythe Golf Course (owned by the City of Blythe) since 2009 and has continually struggled with the aging course equipment. Over the years, BNB has purchased used equipment to replaced failed components including pump stations, irrigation systems and many of the 1000+ sprinklers/controllers.

Blythe Golf Course is used by a variety of patrons and is a main source of non-profit entity revenue with golf tournaments held throughout the year by many organizations. The high school golf teams use the course year-round without charge including many hosted tournaments with visiting teams. The clubhouse is used as a venue for business meetings, law enforcement training, celebrations and other events.

There are 3 components needing replacement at the golf course: the 2 pumps stations, the 1000+ sprinklers and their 60 stations, and a smart control AI-enabled system to reduce watering and water usage by approximately 30%. This includes the placement of a weather station within the smart controls to gain data from the golf course. The obvious water savings of approximately 100 million gallons per year in conjunction with the reduced use of the pumps and sprinkler systems creates a system which drastically reduces electricity consumption and establishes a long-lasting, much more efficient and responsible asset in the community.

The CAC unanimously voted 6-0 (members Mallory Crecelius and Summer Spraggins recused) to recommend the CEC grant an Award of \$633,894 to BNB Golf for replacement of the two pump stations including labor (CAC named this Phase 1 of the project). The CAC further recommends this applicant apply for a grant from the Community Improvement Fund to complete Phase 2, the purchase and installation of new sprinklers and stations. Finally, the CAC is recommending to place this application at a 6-month status review for the potential of further CEC funding of Phase 3, the AI Smart Control System.

The golf course is an essential community venue providing recreation for our residents, youth teams, and winter visitors. The numerous golf tournaments to fundraise for our non-profit organizations benefits our citizens with many services, purchase of needed items, expenses for youth sporting events and travel, and scholarships for high school graduates.

2 Grant Applications with CAC recommendation of Non Award

The following 2 applications are being recommended for non-award due to not meeting the grant policy goals toward economic benefit, increased employment, increased tax basin, or increased service

access. Applicants (as noted) may be suitable for referral to the Community Improvement Fund (CIF) for potential funding.

- a. File 25-065 Intuitive Agile Solutions, LLC. Applicant wishes to purchase two manufactured homes for placement on acreage to house elderly patrons. The CAC recommends this applicant be referred to CIF for potential funding of the home purchases, and when the placement is complete, the applicant may apply to CEC for potential funding of ancillary items needed for the homes/business.
- b. File 26-001 Dr. Steve Montgomery, DVM - Circle H Veterinary Hospital. Applicant seeks funding to assist in the sale of his business by providing an incentive to potential buyers with a significant amount of the stated business worth/purchase price with grant funds paid directly to him.

The CAC unanimously voted (8-0) to recommend the 2 applications as Non-Award to the CEC.

We thank you for the opportunity to make these recommendations on behalf of our community. If there are any questions or additional information needed, please do not hesitate to let us know.

Respectfully,



Leslie Jessop-Watkins
CAC Chair
760-285-1024

June 21, 2026

To: Co-Chairs Cynthia Kurtz and Nisha Noroian and the entire CEC Committee

From: Community Advisory Committee

Re: CAC recommendations, June 2026

Included with this report are

The zip files containing the applications reported herein:

2 Grant Applications with a CAC recommendation of Award

2 Grant Applications with CAC recommendation of Award

a. File 25-044 Palo Verde College Foundation – EMT Class student scholarships

Note: Member Jessop-Watkins recused herself from the discussion and voting.

Palo Verde College has not held an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) class in Blythe for many years, and is offering the one semester class beginning 8/12/26. The Palo Verde Valley is lacking in local EMTs with only 4 on the local City Volunteer Fire Department and 2 at the local AMR operation, Blythe Ambulance Service. In a local emergency, our valley is severely handicapped due to the lack of certified staff. Palo Verde College Foundation wishes to offer scholarships to EMT students to cover tuition, books, uniforms, boots, insurance, holster/scissors, testing and certification. These costs equate to approximately \$1,500 per student. Dr. Robinson, VP of Instruction and Dr. Becker, Dean of Nursing and Allied Health attended the interview and explained to the committee that these funds are for students, not the equipment for the course, as those items are already procured. The class will garner students from fire departments, law enforcement, the high school and the public. The EMT class is a basic 1-semester course from which to launch into Emergency Medical Services (EMS) or other medical fields.

The CAC unanimously voted 7-0 (member Leslie Jessop-Watkins recused) to recommend the CEC grant an Award of \$44,000 to the Palo Verde College Foundation for student needs for the upcoming Emergency Medical Technician course. The CAC wishes to review this file for additional funding after the first EMT course if the PVC Foundation so requests.

b. File 26-005 Palo Verde Valley District Library

Library representatives Kime Williams and Amelia Aguirre attended the interview and gave a presentation on the purpose of their grant request.

The local library is a hub for many people in the valley including our youth, winter visitors and those without computers, WiFi or printers. The library offers many services including year-round preschool programs, after-school and summer reading programs, craft and artist fairs, and a bank of computers for customer use. The computers at the library are over 15 years old and are in need of replacement. The library's computers are in high demand, requiring a 2-hour time limit for use. The library offers printing and faxing services at a nominal fee and wishes to increase the efficiency of the services with new printers, software and supplies. The new system will enhance the customer experience, significantly reduce the amount of time to process requests, and will provide user-friendly software for the staff. Members Mallory Crecelius and Rachel Angel are providing the library representatives with additional resources for sourcing the computers, printers and software to obtain more competitive pricing. Member Troy Fabanich wishes to see the library property fenced in the future, and member Michael Calabrese inquired to any needed infrastructure and kitchen area repairs.

The CAC unanimously voted 8-0 to recommend the CEC grant an Award of \$40,000 to the Palo Verde Valley District Library. The grant will allow the library to increase services to their customers with updated computers, software and printing/fax services. This grant will benefit the community and visitors with more efficient library operations and expanded services, particularly for those citizens who do not have a computer/printer.

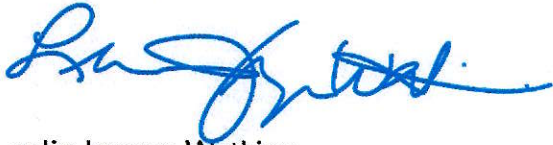
CAC Annual Project Recap 2026

	3/31/26	4/23/26	5/31/26
TOTAL Applications	70	74	76
Apps Received during the month		4	2
Apps Grant Committee Review	9	9	15
Apps CAC Review	9	9	7
Apps Documents Requested	45	0	3
Apps Interviewed	0	7	3
Apps > CEC w/Recommend Award	0	3	4
Apps > CEC w/Recommend Non Award	0	8	2
Apps Funded	0	0	0
Total Funding Disbursed	0	0	0

Our new Administrator, Natalie Cardenas, began work Tuesday 6/16/26, and is quickly immersing herself into her CEC/CAC role and the responsibilities set forth to her. We experienced a slight delay in applicant processing, and our July CAC meeting (7/15/26 – you have a meeting invite) will be limited to numerous file reviews toward the CAC's decisions for applicant interview. Our next applicant interviews will be in August.

We thank you for the opportunity to make these recommendations on behalf of our community. If there are any questions or additional information needed for the applications or our processes, please do not hesitate to let us know.

Respectfully,



Leslie Jessop-Watkins
CAC Chair
760-285-1024

July 22, 2026

To: Co-Chairs Cynthia Kurtz and Nisha Noroian and the entire CEC Committee

From: Community Advisory Committee

Re: CAC recommendations, July 2026

This is an **updated report** to include the past information from May and June reports with recommendations from CAC to CEC for Award and Non-Award of CEC Grant Applications. The applications and their affiliated documents for all were sent from Natalie 7/21/26.

Included with this report are:

- 1 Grant Application with a CAC recommendation of Award from the July CAC meeting – urgent item
- 2 Grant Applications with a CAC recommendation of Award from the June CAC meeting
- 2 Grant Application with a CAC recommendation of Non-Award from the May CAC meeting

1 Grant Application with CAC recommendation of Award July 2026 – urgent item

File 25-055 Blythe Radio, Inc. (KJMB)

KJMB has been serving the Palo Verde Valley for several decades and is the only area Emergency Broadcast radio system. Owner Jim Morris has lived in Blythe since 1983 and has been at KJMB since then, the last 15 years as the owner-operator.

KJMB is a vital resource in our valley, serving our community in a variety of ways including reporting of news, broadcasting interviews with officials from many organizations, providing essential updates during emergencies or other critical events such as COVID, announcing special events and local sporting contests and much more. In the last 10 years, there has been a severe decline in local advertising at the radio station which equates to an inability to continually upgrade the equipment. Despite a decline in revenue and increasing repair costs, Jim has continued operating (and wishes to continue operating) the radio station, knowing the importance of having the radio station in the Palo Verde Valley. Jim is known as a dedicated and loyal citizen of Blythe with 33 years of service to the Blythe Volunteer Fire Department. Jim DJs local events for non-profits, is the primary fireman who visits elementary schools for presentations, and volunteers for fundraising events for our youth and non-profit agencies.

Our community is in jeopardy of losing KJMB due to the declining condition of the radio equipment. The CEC application was submitted last August. Since then, failures of the equipment have continued, leaving the valley without an Emergency Broadcast system several times. Technicians from the Los Angeles area have been very gracious in assisting KJMB with repairs, but have warned that the equipment will become irreparable at any time. Last week, we were without KJMB for 2 ½ days.

KJMB's application last August was for \$175,000. A new bid was received for the radio equipment replacement, and an additional bid to add a small solar field to the station in support of the high electricity costs for the transmitter was obtained. The replacement of the two air conditioners is a separate bid and is attached. In total, the three bids equal \$239,522.

The CAC discussed all aspects of the project and the absolute need for the radio station in the valley. Some CAC members would like to ask for a solar company bid to confirm the quoted solar system will be adequate for the system it will support. The CAC discussed the project being recommended for an award of \$200,000 to complete the installation of the new radio equipment and Air Conditioning/Heating units and for Mr. Morris to return to the CAC to review the solar field bids/installation.

The CAC unanimously voted (7-0) to recommend the CEC award \$200,000 to Blythe Radio, Inc. for the radio equipment and AC replacements and for the applicant to return with a second solar installation bid for consideration of additional funding.

2 Grant Applications with CAC recommendation of Award June 2026

File 25-044 Palo Verde College Foundation – EMT Class Student scholarships

Note: Member Jessop-Watkins recused herself from the discussion and voting.

Palo Verde College has not held an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) class in Blythe for many years, and is offering the one semester class beginning January 2027 (updated from previous August 2026 date).

The Palo Verde Valley is lacking in local EMTs with only 4 on the local City Volunteer Fire Department and 2 at the local AMR operation, Blythe Ambulance Service. In a local emergency, our valley is severely handicapped due to the lack of certified staff. Palo Verde College Foundation wishes to offer scholarships to EMT students to cover tuition, books, uniforms, boots, insurance, holster/scissors, testing and certification. These costs equate to approximately \$1,500 per student.

Dr. Robinson, VP of Instruction and Dr. Becker, Dean of Nursing and Allied Health attended the interview and explained to the committee that these funds are for students, not the equipment for the course, as those items are already procured. The class will garner students from fire departments, law enforcement, the high school and the public. The EMT class is a basic 1-semester course from which to launch into Emergency Medical Services (EMS) or other medical fields.

The CAC unanimously voted 7-0 (member Leslie Jessop-Watkins recused) to recommend the CEC grant an Award of \$44,000 to the Palo Verde College Foundation for student needs for the upcoming Emergency Medical Technician course. The CAC wishes to review this file for additional funding after the first EMT course if the PVC Foundation so requests.

File 26-005 Palo Verde Valley District Library

Library Representatives Kime Williams and Amelia Aguirre attended the interview and gave a presentation on the purpose of their grant request. The local library is a hub for many people in the valley

including our youth, winter visitors and those without computers, WiFi or printers. The library offers many services including year-round preschool programs, after-school and summer reading programs, craft and artist fairs, and a bank of computers for customer use.

The computers at the library are over 15 years old and are in need of replacement. The library's computers are in high demand, requiring a 2-hour time limit for use. The library offers printing and faxing services at a nominal fee and wishes to increase the efficiency of the services with new printers, software and supplies. The new system will enhance the customer experience, significantly reduce the amount of time to process requests, and will provide user-friendly software for the staff. Members Mallory Crecelius and Rachel Angel are providing the library representatives with additional resources for sourcing the computers, printers and software to obtain more competitive pricing. Member Troy Fabanich wishes to see the library property fenced in the future, and member Michael Calabrese inquired to any needed infrastructure and kitchen area repairs.

The CAC unanimously voted 8-0 to recommend the CEC grant an Award of \$40,000 to the Palo Verde Valley District Library. The grant will allow the library to increase services to their customers with updated computers, software and printing/fax services. This grant will benefit the community and visitors with more efficient library operations and expanded services, particularly for those citizens who do not have a computer/printer.

2 Grant Application with CAC recommendation of Non-Award May 2026

The following 2 applications are being recommended for non-award due to not meeting the grant policy goals toward economic benefit, increased employment, increased tax basin, or increased service access. Applicants may be suitable for referral to the Community Improvement Fund (CIF) for potential funding.

File 25-065 Intuitive Agile Solutions, LLC. Applicant wishes to purchase two manufactured homes for placement on acreage to house elderly patrons in the county area of Blythe. The CAC recommends this applicant be referred to CIF for potential funding of the home purchases, and when the placement is complete, the applicant may apply to CEC for potential funding of ancillary items needed for the homes/business.

File 26-001 Dr. Steve Montgomery, DVM - Circle H Veterinary Hospital

Applicant seeks funding to assist in the sale of his business by providing an incentive to potential buyers with a significant amount of the stated business worth/purchase price with grant funds paid directly to him.

The CAC unanimously voted (8-0) to recommend the 2 applications as Non-Award to the CEC.

As indicated in our June report, the CAC spent our July meetings reviewing several applications for determination of being interviewed. We have one set of projects that a subcommittee completed a site visit to resulting in a request for updated bids and inclusion of necessary ADA compliance items. Natalie has done a tremendous job conducting file reviews, document requests and follow-ups with applicants. She received 3 new applications in the last few weeks, making our total ~80. We will not have a meeting in August and our next applicant interviews will be in September pending receipt of all required documents from applicants.

We thank you for the opportunity to make this recommendation on behalf of our community. If there are any questions or additional information needed for the application or our processes, please do not hesitate to let us know.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Leslie Jessop-Watkins", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Leslie Jessop-Watkins
CAC Chair
760-285-1024

Community Advisory Committee

Minutes of the

June 5, 2025 Committee Meeting

Committee Members Present: Jason Rollo, Ned Hyduke, Leslie Jessop Watkins, Michael Calabrese, Troy Fabanich, Summer Spraggins, Bruce Moses, Racheal Angel and Mallory Crecelius

Absent: Jeff Getchell and George Thomas.

Staff Present: Administrator, Bruce K. Wilson.

Others Present: Marissa Johnson, PVID Assessor's Assistant.

- **Call to Order/Roll Call** by Interim Chairperson Bruce K. Wilson at 12:00 p.m. in the Holt Group conference room.
- **Agenda** – Leslie Jessop Watkins moved to approve the agenda. Rachael Angel seconded the motion. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.
- **Public Comments** - None.
- **Minutes** – This is the first meeting of the Community Advisory Committee; therefore, there are no minutes to approve.

- **Committee Reports**

- Grants - Troy Fabanich, Chair - No report.

- **Old Business:**

- a. NONE

- **New Business**

Introductions - Around the room, all the committee members introduced themselves.

Purpose of the CAC - Bruce K. Wilson, Administrator, read the mission statement for the Community Advirosary Committee.

- a. **Nominations for Committee Chairperson.** After a committee discussion, Mallory Crecelius moved to elect Leslie Jessop Watkins as chairperson. Ned Hyduke seconded the motion. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Grant Decision Matrix															
	Criteria	DECISION-MAKING CRITERIA												RATING	
		Low				Medium			High						
		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10			
1	Project Relationship with/to Community of Blythe	No relationship				Some relationship			Well-developed relationship						
2	Alignment with mission/purpose	Not aligned: low priority, limited impact				Moderate alignment: focuses on priority with			High alignment: major priority/high potential						
3	Documented community need	Only anecdotal, qualitative information –				Partial data set available from internal or external			Multiple, high quality internal and external						
4	Applicant's skills and experience	No experience or skills in area				Some experience, related skills			Extensive experience, exceptional skills						
5	Allicant's time commltment availability	No time to commit, cannot reassign staff				Limited time available			Required time commitment can be met by staff						
6	Project oversight required	Extensive				Moderate			Minimal						
7	Project longevity/sustainability	Short term				Medium term			Long term						
8	Partnerships	No identified partners or collaborative				Potential partners or collaborators identified			Longstanding relationships with						
9	Potential to generate additional funding sources	Does not generate revenue, no future funding identified				Future funding sources identified to cover some costs			Diverse set of future funding sources identified to cover all costs						
10	Applicant's project contribution	Requires minimal or no investment of resources				Requires some investment of resources			Requires significant investment of resources,						
11	Likelihood of success	Low				Medium			High						
12	Future funding requirements	Significant funds required				Moderate funds required			Minimal or no funds required						
13	Sufficient funds to meet budget	Fund insufficient to meet need/not in budget				Fund meets some of need			Fund meets total need/ funds budgeted						
14	Need for funding	Low				Medium			High						
15	Community impact and people served	Low				Medium			High						
									TOTAL					0	
16	Grant term - no numerical rating	Short term				Medium term			Long term						
						0-31 = Low, do not apply 32-63 = Medium, apply if matching funds available 64-80 = High, apply even if matching funds not available									

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

CONFIDENTIALITY POLICY

In the course of your service on the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) members may have access to confidential information, including but not limited to the identity of grant applicants, information provided by grant applicants, the information in grant applications, the applicants' financial data, or the confidential information of Palo Verde Irrigation District (PVID), Metropolitan Water District of California ("MWD"), or its subsidiaries (collectively, "Confidential Information"). CAC Members shall not disclose or disseminate Confidential Information to third parties without the express written consent of PVID and MWD. PVID and MWD shall have the right to enforce this paragraph by legal proceedings, including the right to seek injunctive relief.

Acknowledgment

I, the undersigned committee member, acknowledge the following regarding the CAC Confidentiality Policy, dated April 3, 2026.

- I have received a copy of the policies and procedures.
- I have read and understand the contents.
- I agree to comply with all policies and procedures as a condition of my service on the committee.
- I understand that it is my responsibility to ask questions if anything is unclear and to stay informed of any future updates or revisions.

Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

1. Purpose

The purpose of this conflict-of-interest policy is to protect the Community Advisory Committee's (CAC or "Committee") integrity and interests when evaluating grant applications and to assess whether a particular grant application might benefit the private interest(s) of a Member of the CAC.

2. Definitions

Any Member of the Committee who has a direct or indirect financial interest, as defined below, is an *Interested Person* (the "Interested Person").

A person has a *Financial Interest* (the "Financial Interest") if the person has, directly or indirectly, through business, investment, or family:

- A. An ownership or investment interest in any entity seeking a grant through the CAC/CEC.
- B. A compensation arrangement in any entity seeking a grant through the CAC/CEC.
- C. A potential ownership or investment interest in, or compensation arrangement with, any entity or individual seeking a grant through the CAC/CEC. Compensation includes direct and indirect remuneration as well as gifts or favors that are not insubstantial.

A *Financial Interest* is not necessarily an actual or possible conflict of interest. A person who has a *Financial Interest* may have a conflict of interest, which can be determined by the Committee when reviewing a grant application.

3. Procedures

A. Duty to Disclose

In connection with any actual or possible conflict of interest, an Interested Person must disclose the existence of the Financial Interest and be given the opportunity to disclose all material facts to the members of the Committee considering the proposed grant application.

B. Determining Whether a Conflict of Interest Exists

After disclosure of the Financial Interest and all material facts, and after any discussion with the Interested Person, if a Member of the CAC believes he or she is an Interested Person as defined under this policy, the Member must recuse themselves from participating in any discussion or deliberation on the grant application at issue. If the Member does not believe he or she has a conflict, but members of the committee do, the Member shall leave the Committee meeting while the conflict of interest is discussed and voted upon as a Committee Resolution. If the Committee determines there is a conflict, and the Member disagrees, the Member can still choose to vote on the matter, and the CEC will be briefed accordingly.

C. Procedures for Addressing the Conflict of Interest

An Interested Person may make a presentation at CAC meeting, but after the presentation, the Interested Person shall leave the meeting during the discussion of, and the vote on, the grant involving an actual or possible conflict of interest.

4. Violations of the Conflicts of Interest Policy

- A. If the CAC reasonably believes that a Member has failed to disclose actual or potential conflicts of interest, it shall inform the Member of the basis for that belief and give the Member an opportunity to explain the alleged failure to disclose.
- B. If, after hearing the member's response and conducting further investigation as appropriate, the CAC determines the Member has failed to disclose an actual or potential conflict of interest, it shall take appropriate action.

5. Records of Proceedings

The minutes of the Committee shall contain:

- A. The names of the persons who disclosed or otherwise were found to have a Financial Interest in connection with an actual or possible conflict of interest, the nature of the Financial Interest, any action taken to determine whether a conflict of interest was present, and the governing Committee's decision as to whether an actual or possible conflict of interest in fact existed.

- B. The names of the persons who were present for discussions and votes relating to the transaction or arrangement, the content of the discussion, including any alternatives to the proposed transaction or arrangement, and a record of any votes taken in connection with the proceedings.

6. Statements

Each Member of the Committee shall, at the beginning of their term, sign a statement which affirms such person:

- A. Has received a copy of the Conflict of Interest Policy;
- B. Has read and understands the policy;
- C. Has agreed to comply with the policy; and
- D. Understands the Committee has an obligation to protect the Committee's interest and uphold the Conflict of Interest Policy

Acknowledgment

I, the undersigned committee member, acknowledge the following regarding the CAC Conflict of Interest Policy, dated December 9, 2025.

- I have received a copy of the CAC Conflict of Interest Policy.
- I have read and understand the contents.
- I agree to comply with all policies and procedures as a condition of my service on the committee.
- I understand that it is my responsibility to ask questions if anything is unclear and to stay informed of any future updates or revisions.

Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT COLLABORATIVE CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

1. Purpose

The purpose of this conflict-of-interest policy is to protect the Community Enhancement Collaborative's (CEC) integrity and interests when evaluating grant applications and to assess whether a particular grant application might benefit the private interest(s) of a Member of the CEC.

2. Definitions

Any Member of the CEC who has a direct or indirect financial interest, as defined below, is an *Interested Person* (the "Interested Person").

A person has a *Financial Interest* (the "Financial Interest") if the person has, directly or indirectly, through business, investment, or family:

- A. An ownership or investment interest in any entity seeking a grant through the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) or CEC.
- B. A compensation arrangement in any entity seeking a grant through the CAC or CEC.
- C. A potential ownership or investment interest in, or compensation arrangement with, any entity or individual seeking a grant through the CAC or CEC. Compensation includes direct and indirect remuneration as well as gifts or favors that are not insubstantial.

A *Financial Interest* is not necessarily an actual or possible conflict of interest. A person who has a *Financial Interest* may have a conflict of interest, which can be determined by the CEC when reviewing a grant application.

3. Procedures

A. Duty to Disclose

In connection with any actual or possible conflict of interest, an Interested Person must disclose the existence of the Financial Interest and be given the opportunity to disclose all material facts to the other members of the CEC before the CEC considers the proposed grant application.

B. Determining Whether a Conflict of Interest Exists and Addressing Any Conflict

After disclosure of the Financial Interest and all material facts, and after any discussion with the Interested Person, if a Member of the CEC believes he or she is an Interested Person as defined under this policy, the Member must recuse themselves from participating in any discussion or deliberation on the grant application at issue. If the CEC determines that there is a conflict, then the CEC will take appropriate action.

4. Violations of the Conflicts of Interest Policy

- A. If the CEC reasonably believes that a Member has failed to disclose actual or potential conflicts of interest, it shall inform the Member of the basis for that belief and give the Member an opportunity to explain the alleged failure to disclose.
- B. If, after hearing the Member's response and conducting further investigation as appropriate, the CEC determines the Member has failed to disclose an actual or potential conflict of interest, it shall take appropriate action.

5. Records of Proceedings

The minutes of the CEC shall contain:

- A. The names of the persons who disclosed or otherwise were found to have a Financial Interest in connection with an actual or possible conflict of interest, the nature of the Financial Interest, any action taken to determine whether a conflict of interest was present, and the governing CEC's decision as to whether an actual or possible conflict of interest in fact existed.
- B. The names of the persons who were present for discussion and votes relating to the transaction or arrangement, the content of the discussion, including any alternatives to the proposed transaction or arrangement, and a record of any votes taken in connection with the proceedings.

6. Statements

Each Member of the CEC will sign a statement which affirms such person:

- A. Has received a copy of the CEC Conflict of Interest Policy;
- B. Has read and understands the policy;
- C. Has agreed to comply with the policy; and

D. Understands the CEC has an obligation to protect the CEC's interest and uphold the policy.



DRAFT Procedures for Appointing Community Advisory Committee Members

1. Members of the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) are appointed by a voting majority of the Community Enhancement Committee (CEC).
2. The CAC includes:
 - Four institutional members representing the City of Blythe, Palo Verde Community College, Palo Verde Unified School District and the Blythe Chamber of Commerce,
 - Three members at large selected by the CEC from applications submitted by community members,
 - One staff member from PVID and one staff member from MWD selected by their respective agencies.
3. Terms of members are for ____ years unless changed by majority vote of the CEC.
4. Institutional representatives may be replaced by their nominating agency at any time. A written notification from the executive director, superintendent, chair of the governing board, or other decision-makers stating the change in representative should be sent to the CEC.
5. By majority vote the CEC may replace an institutional member or member at large for non-attendance, not adhering to the CAC Conflict-of-Interest Policy or any other actions disrupting the work of the CAC.
6. Appointments of new institutional representatives should be sent in writing to the CEC. Appointments of new at-large representatives should be in writing and signed by the CEC Co-Chairs.
7. Changes made regarding any at-large representative must be approved by a voting majority of the CEC.

BYLAWS OF COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

1. General Powers

The business and affairs of the Community Advisory Committee (CAC or "Committee") will be managed under the direction of the Community Enhancement Collaborative (CEC). The CEC may revise these Bylaws and the Conflict of Interest Policy at its discretion.

2. Committee Contact

The Administrator, chosen by the CEC, will keep the Committee roster current. All CAC Member information is confidential and only accessible to the Committee Members and the Administrator.

3. Membership: Number, Tenure, and Quorum

A. The Committee will consist of nine members, each a natural person and a voting member. It will include four Named Agency representatives, three At-Large members, and one representative from both PVID and MWD. The Named Agencies are the City of Blythe, Palo Verde College, Palo Verde Unified School District, and the Blythe Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center. Named Agency members will be recommended for appointment by their respective agencies and confirmed by the CEC. The CEC will appoint all At-Large members.

B. Commencing upon initial organizational CAC meetings, four Members, selected at random by the CAC, will hold his or her seats for three years, and/or until that Member's successor is appointed or until that Member's resignation or removal. Upon expiration of the initial three-year term, all Member appointments will expire every two years thereafter. The remaining three members will hold his or her seats for two years and/or until that Member's successor is appointed or until that Member's resignation or removal, thereby creating staggered terms. PVID and MWD CAC representatives are exempt from staggered appointments, and serve at the pleasure of the CEC. Upon expiration of Member appointments, Members are permitted to apply for reappointment. The CEC will consider these applications, as well as those of any other

interested community members, to fill expiring Member appointments. Any Member may resign at any time upon notice given in writing or by electronic transmission to the Committee.

C. To conduct business at a CAC meeting, a quorum, which is at least five CAC members, must be present. A majority vote of the Members present at a CAC meeting where a quorum is present is required for official Committee action.

D. In order to maintain an appropriate separation between the CAC and the Palo Verde Valley Community Improvement Fund (CIF), a CAC Member may not serve concurrently on the CAC and the CIF.

- i. Notwithstanding this prohibition, the current CAC Member representing the Blythe Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center may serve the remainder of her two-year term on the CAC even though she also serves on the CIF; upon the end of her two-year term or upon her replacement on the CAC, whichever comes first, the prohibition on concurrent service will apply to that position.

4. Regular Meetings

Regular meetings of the Committee will be held once a month, within the State of California. The Committee may elect to forgo a meeting if there is no business to conduct. If the Committee elects to forgo a monthly meeting, notice of such action will be provided to the CEC and posted on the CEC website. An annual Committee meeting will be held in January beginning in 2026.

5. Special Meetings

Special meetings of the Committee may be called by or at the request of the Chair of the Committee, by the Administrator, or by a majority of the Members. The person or persons calling a special meeting of the Committee may fix any date, time, or place, within the State of California, for holding that special meeting.

6. Notice

Written notice of the date, time, and place of a meeting of the Committee will be given at least 72 hours prior to the meeting. Written notice can be given personally, by mail, by email, or by facsimile.

7. Remote Communication Meetings

A. Remote communication means any electronic communication including conference telephone, video conference, or any other method or forum currently available or developed in the future, allowing Members not present in the same physical location to communicate with each other simultaneously.

B. A meeting of the Committee may be held by any means of remote communication by which all persons authorized to vote or take other action at the meeting can hear each other during the meeting and each person has a reasonable opportunity to participate. This remote participation in a meeting will constitute presence in person at the meeting.

8. Newly Created Membership and Vacancies

In the event of a vacancy for a Named Agency representative, the Named Agency may appoint a new representative and seek CEC approval for their proposed replacement. When an At-Large representative vacancy occurs, the CEC will select a new replacement.

9. Removal

The CEC, in its sole discretion, may remove any Member with or without cause. Named Agencies may remove their representative at their sole discretion by notifying the CEC and CAC.

10. Organization

Meetings of the Committee will be led by the Chair. The Chair will carry out any other powers and duties delegated by the Committee as needed. The Vice Chair may take on the role of Chair in the Chair's absence.

11. Compensation

There is no compensation to any Committee Members.

OFFICERS

12. Appointment of Officers

The Officers of the CAC will consist of the Chair, the Vice Chair, the Grant Liaison Officer, and any other Officers and Assistant Officers as determined in these Bylaws. All Officers shall be nominated and voted on by a quorum of the Committee at the annual meeting.

13. Officer's Term of Office

Each Officer will hold office for a term of two years. At the end of the term, nominations and voting will be held by a quorum of the Committee. Vacancies of officer positions will be filled by the same nomination and voting process of the Committee at a meeting with a quorum, and newly selected Officers will serve the remaining term of the vacated Officer position.

14. Chair

The Chair will perform the following duties: preside at all meetings of the Committee; supervise, direct, and control the Committee's activities.

15. Vice Chair

The Vice Chair will perform the following duties: assist the Chair in the performance of his or her duties; in the absence of the Chair, the Vice Chair will assume the role of the Chair.

16. Grant Liaison Officer

The Grant Liaison Officer will perform the following duties: work closely with the CAC/CEC Administrator and CAC Chair to review grant request applications, verifying the completion of grant applications and supporting documents, and submit them to the CAC for final approval, denial, or referral for further review.

17. Periodic Reviews

To ensure the CAC functions in accordance with the program Bylaws and the CEC mission statement, periodic reviews may be carried out by the CEC. The CEC may amend these Bylaws at its discretion.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

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B. Determining Whether a Conflict of Interest Exists

After disclosure of the Financial Interest and all material facts, and after any discussion with the Interested Person, if a Member of the CAC believes he or she is an Interested

Person as defined under this policy, the Member must recuse themselves from participating in any discussion or deliberation on the grant application at issue. If the Member does not believe he or she has a conflict, but members of the committee do, the Member shall leave the Committee meeting while the conflict of interest is discussed and voted upon as a Committee Resolution. If the Committee determines there is a conflict, and the Member disagrees, the Member can still choose to vote on the matter, and the CEC will be briefed accordingly.

C. Procedures for Addressing the Conflict of Interest

An Interested Person may make a presentation at CAC meeting, but after the presentation, the Interested Person shall leave the meeting during the discussion of, and the vote on, the grant involving an actual or possible conflict of interest.

4. Violations of the Conflicts of Interest Policy

- A. If the CAC reasonably believes that a Member has failed to disclose actual or potential conflicts of interest, it shall inform the Member of the basis for that belief and give the Member an opportunity to explain the alleged failure to disclose.
- B. If, after hearing the member's response and conducting further investigation as appropriate, the CAC determines the Member has failed to disclose an actual or potential conflict of interest, it shall take appropriate action.

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The minutes of the Committee shall contain:

- A. The names of the persons who disclosed or otherwise were found to have a Financial Interest in connection with an actual or possible conflict of interest, the nature of the Financial Interest, any action taken to determine whether a conflict of interest was present, and the governing Committee's decision as to whether an actual or possible conflict of interest in fact existed.
- B. The names of the persons who were present for discussions and votes relating to the transaction or arrangement, the content of the discussion, including any alternatives to the

proposed transaction or arrangement, and a record of any votes taken in connection with the proceedings.

6. Statements

Each Member of the Committee shall, at the beginning of their term, sign a statement which affirms such person:

- A. Has received a copy of the Conflict of Interest Policy;
- B. Has read and understands the policy;
- C. Has agreed to comply with the policy; and
- D. Understands the Committee has an obligation to protect the Committee's interest and uphold the Conflict of Interest Policy

The Community Enhancement Collaborative has duly adopted the Bylaws on this 22nd day of September, 2025.



Nisha Noroian
Co-Chair, CEC



Cynthia Kurtz
Co-Chair, CEC

Community Enhancement Collaborative (CEC) and Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Grant Policy

1. PURPOSE and GOAL

- a) The purpose of the Community Enhancement Collaborative (CEC) Grant Program is to provide funds to generate short and long-term economic and quality of life impacts and social benefits within the Palo Verde Irrigation District's (PVID's) service area. This includes, but is not limited to, economic and community development, job creation, vocational training programs, increasing service access, supporting sporting and social ventures, increasing the tax revenue base, and supplementing educational endeavors. The purpose of the program is not to benefit an individual's business or profits.
- b) The goal is to provide grants which foster the attraction, formation, and/or expansion of businesses, municipalities, local governments and nonprofit organizations within the community which will stimulate the local economy and further the missions of the nonprofit organizations.

2. OBJECTIVE

- a) This policy establishes guidelines for the receipt, consideration, and awarding of monetary grants to qualifying community businesses, municipalities, and nonprofit organizations.
- b) It is the objective of this policy to expedite grants whenever possible.

3. POLICY

- a) Monetary grants will be awarded on a short-term and non-recurring basis. The CEC has the exclusive right and authority to fund or deny any grant request brought to its attention. There is no maximum amount of an individual grant.
- b) Each grant shall not assure continued or recurring funding. However, multiple grants to qualified agencies or entities will be evaluated on their individual merit(s) by the Community Advisory Committee (CAC).
- c) Each grant shall be selected for funding on a case-by-case basis.
- d) The funding of each grant shall be at the CEC's prerogative and shall be fair and impartial in all cases.
- e) Where possible, and at the discretion of the CEC, each submittal will be considered and approved/denied at the next meeting of the CEC.

4. AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY

- a) Initial contact with potential grantees is the responsibility of the Administrator. This includes communication of the CEC and CAC grant scope and objectives, and the receipt of applications. Timing of application review by the CAC and CEC will be at their discretion.**
- b) The CAC makes recommendations for grant awards to the CEC. Awards of grants will be determined by the CEC.**

5. PROCEDURE

- a) The CAC will have at least five Members. A minimum of three Members will be from the community at large, and at least one member who is currently on the PVID Board, MWD, or any combination of Named Agency Members to fully seat the Committee. The Committee's responsibility will be to recommend approval or denial of each grant proposal to the CEC. Ultimate recommendation of approval or denial of any grant request shall be decided by a majority vote of the CAC. The recommendations for approval or denial of grant applications will be sent to the CEC for consideration and final approval/disapproval.**
- b) Grants awarded by the CEC committee will have 12 calendar months during which the funds are encumbered for a specific project. If the grant proponent cannot go forward with the project within the time frame, a letter directed to the CEC can request an approval for an additional 12-month extension. Approval of an extension is on a case-by-case basis, is not automatic, and will be at the sole discretion of the CEC. After 24 months, those specific unused grant funds become unencumbered.**
- c) Grant requests shall identify a specific dollar amount requested along with a detailed breakdown of anticipated expenditures.**
- d) The CAC may review this Grant Policy and recommend refinements for the CEC's consideration and adoption. The CEC may revise this Grant Policy at its discretion.**

e) Grant applications must include the following:

GRANT APPLICATION REQUIRED DOCUMENT	Non Profit	Business	Gov't/ Municipality
APPLICATION completely filled in and signed	X	X	X
LIST OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS/AGENCY AUTHORITIES with name, email and phone	X	X	X
ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION FORMATION and BYLAWS	X	X	
IRS TAX ID LETTER	X	X	X
PROOF OF GOOD STANDING WITH IRS and/or STATE OF CALIFORNIA	X	X	X
LATEST SIGNED TAX RETURN	X	X	X
CURRENT YEAR BUDGET	X		X
ITEMIZED PROJECT BUDGET AND TIMELINE WITH SUPPORTING EXPENSE DOCUMENTS	X	X	X
A SIGNED RESOLUTION AND MEETING MINUTES AUTHORIZING GRANT REQUEST	X	X	X
A LIST OF THE LAST 3 YEARS OF GRANTS AND LOANS RECEIVED with detail	X	X	X
LATEST AUDIT COVER LETTER WITH LETTER TO MANAGEMENT	X		X

Application Process**Phase 1 - Grant Application: Proposed project information****Phase 2 - Grant Application: Budget, financial disclosures/information and supplemental information specific to the project being reviewed****Phase 3 - Community Advisory Committee (CAC) interview****Phase 4 - Community Enhancement Collaborative (CEC) Review: CAC presents funding recommendations to the CEC for approval**

Community Enhancement Collaborative (CEC) and Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Grant Policy

1. PURPOSE and GOAL

- a) The purpose of the Community Enhancement Collaborative (CEC) Grant Program is to provide funds to generate short and long-term economic and quality of life impacts and social benefits within the Palo Verde Irrigation District's (PVID's) service area. This includes, but is not limited to, economic and community development, job creation, vocational training programs, increasing service access, supporting sporting and social ventures, increasing the tax revenue base, and supplementing educational endeavors.**
- b) The goal is to provide grants which foster the attraction, formation, and/or expansion of businesses, municipalities, local governments, and nonprofit organizations within the community, which will stimulate the local economy and further the missions of the nonprofit organizations.**

2. OBJECTIVE

- a) This policy establishes guidelines for the receipt, consideration, and awarding of monetary grants to qualifying community businesses, municipalities, and nonprofit organizations.**
- b) It is the objective of this policy to expedite grants whenever possible.**

3. POLICY

- a) Monetary grants will be awarded on a short-term, emergency, and non-recurring basis. The CEC has the exclusive right and authority to fund or deny any grant request brought to its attention. There is no maximum amount of an individual grant.**
- b) Each grant shall not assure continued or recurring funding. However, multiple grants to qualified agencies or entities will be evaluated on their individual merit(s) by the Community Advisory Committee (CAC).**
- c) Each grant shall be selected for funding on a case-by-case basis.**
- d) The funding of each grant shall be at the CEC's prerogative and shall be fair and impartial in all cases.**
- e) Where possible, and at the discretion of the CEC, each submittal will be considered and approved/denied at the next meeting of the CEC.**

4. AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY

- a) Initial contact with potential grantees is the responsibility of the Administrator. This includes communication of the CEC and CAC grant scope and objectives and the receipt of applications. Timing of application review by the CAC and CEC will be at their discretion.**
- b) The CAC makes recommendations for grant awards to the CEC. Awards of grants will be determined by the CEC board.**

5. PROCEDURE

- a) The CAC will have at least five members. A minimum of three members will be from the community at large, and at least one member who is currently on the PVID Board, MWD, or any combination of Named Agency Members to fully seat the Committee. The Committee's responsibility will be to recommend approval or denial of each grant proposal to the CEC. The CAC will review and refine the Grant Policy and forward it to the CEC for final approval. Ultimate recommendation for approval or denial of any grant request shall be decided by a favorable two-thirds majority vote of the CAC. The recommendations for approval or denial of grant applications will be sent to the CEC for consideration and final approval/disapproval.**
- b) Grants awarded by the CEC committee will have 12 calendar months during which the funds are encumbered for a specific project. If the grant proponent cannot go forward with the project within the time frame, a letter directed to the CEC can request an approval for an additional 12-month extension. Approval of an extension is on a case-by-case basis, is not automatic, and will be at the sole discretion of the CEC. After 24 months, those specific unused grant funds become unencumbered, and the CEC is no longer liable for forwarding previously awarded grant proceeds to the initial grantee.**
- c) Grant requests shall identify a specific dollar amount requested, along with a detailed breakdown of anticipated expenditures.**

d) Grant applications must include the following:

GRANT APPLICATION REQUIRED DOCUMENT	Non Profit	Business	Gov't/ Municipality
APPLICATION completely filled in and signed	X	X	X
LIST OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS/AGENCY AUTHORITIES with name, email and phone	X	X	X
ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION FORMATION and BYLAWS	X	X	
IRS TAX ID LETTER	X	X	X
PROOF OF GOOD STANDING WITH STATE OF CALIFORNIA FTB	X	X	X
LATEST SIGNED TAX RETURN	X	X	X
CURRENT YEAR BUDGET	X		X
ITEMIZED PROJECT BUDGET AND TIMELINE WITH SUPPORTING EXPENSE DOCUMENTS AND BIDS	X	X	X
A SIGNED RESOLUTION AND MEETING MINUTES AUTHORIZING GRANT REQUEST	X	X	X
A LIST OF THE LAST 3 YEARS OF GRANTS AND LOANS RECEIVED with details	X	X	X
PROOF OF BUSINESS LICENSE AND INSURANCE	X	X	X
BUSINESS PLAN (NEW BUSINESS)		X	
LATEST AUDIT COVER LETTER WITH LETTER TO MANAGEMENT	X		X

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