City of Indian Wells
Monthly Newsletter
July 2026



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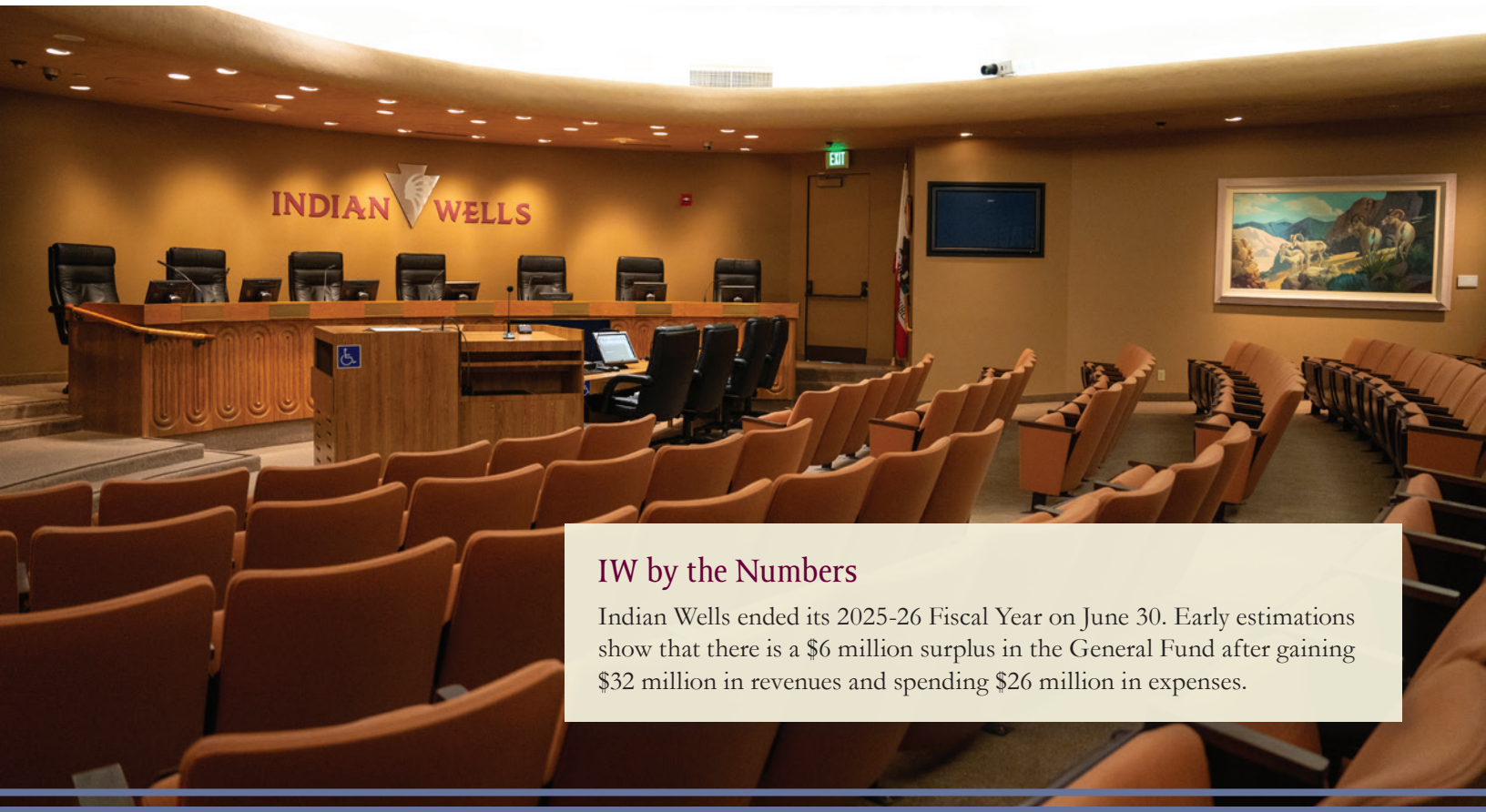
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IW by the Numbers

Indian Wells ended its 2025-26 Fiscal Year on June 30. Early estimations show that there is a $6 million surplus in the General Fund after gaining $32 million in revenues and spending $26 million in expenses.

Letter From the City Manager

Dear Indian Wells Residents,

This summer brings a historic season of celebration not just to Indian Wells, but the entire nation. This Independence Day is extra special as the country joins together to honor America's 250th anniversary. We proudly celebrate this milestone and the enduring American spirit that comes with it.

Whether you're planning to spend the holiday by the pool, on vacation or at a fireworks show, I urge you to take the proper precautions and stay safe. As a reminder, all fireworks, including those labeled as 'Safe and Sane,' are illegal in Riverside County. If you'd like to attend a fireworks show, be sure to check out Palm Desert's annual Independence Day Celebration.

The festivities continue this July as it's also Indian Wells' anniversary! The City of Indian Wells was incorporated as a California city on July 14, 1967, making this year our 59th birthday. We were the 400th city in California to be incorporated. On behalf of our City Council and all of us here at City Hall, we look forward to continuing to serve you for many years to come. Stay tuned for news on what we're planning for our big 60th anniversary celebration — we're celebrating all year long!

For those of you staying in Indian Wells this summer, thank you in advance for your patience as we have construction projects in progress to keep our community beautiful and well-maintained.

If you have any questions, please visit us at City Hall or call (760) 346-2489. Safe travels, and we look forward to seeing you back soon!



Dr. Chris Freeland

Dr. Chris Freeland
City Manager



Council Meeting Highlights: June 2026



Dr. Toper Taylor
Mayor



Brian M. Penna
Mayor Pro Tem



Bruce Whitman
Council Member



Greg Sanders
Council Member



Dana Reed
Council Member

- The City Council received updates from the Dr. George Charity Car Show Co-Chair Craig Korthase on the success of this year's event and the SunLine Transit Agency CEO Mona Babauta on the progress of SunLine Rides Reimagined Phase II.
- The City Council voted to explore a sponsorship of Indian Wells Military Tattoo. This would include providing one of the City's two annual no-cost rental uses of the Indian Wells Tennis Garden.
- The City Council received an update on the success in tourism over the past fiscal year and approved the Marketing Plan for Fiscal Year 2026-27, as recommended by the Marketing Committee.
- The City Council approved the Highway 111 Drought Tolerant Landscape Project and the contract for Onyx Paving Company, Inc.'s work on the Local Roads Paving Phase 5.
- The City Council approved an increase to the resident golf rate and guest rate at the Indian Wells Golf Resort in accordance with the CPI index, including an annual 3% increase cap. In addition, a half-day window for residents to book tee times has been added, giving residents 14 and a half days out to book.
- The City Council approved several appointments to the following committees and boards:
  - **Community Activities Committee:**
    - Joseph Cinquini (July 2026 - June 2028)
    - Doug Gammon (July 2026 - June 2027)
  - **Indian Wells Golf Resort Advisory Committee**
    - Conner McCall (July 2026 - June 2028)
    - Patrick Truninger (July 2026 - June 2028)
    - Jim Kent (July 2026 - June 2028)
  - **Grants in Aid Committee**
    - Tricia Cole (July 2026 - June 2028)
    - James Lee (July 2026 - June 2027)
    - Hamilton Holmes (July 2026 - June 2027)
    - Tyler Shigenaga (July 2026 - June 2028)
  - **Joslyn Senior Center Board**
    - Susan Paresky (July 2026 - June 2028)
- The City Council approved the recommendation to move forward with amendments to the City's telecommunications ordinance based on the City's Wireless Master Plan.

Council Meeting Agendas
CityofIndianWells.org/City-Hall/Current-Future-Agendas

Indian Wells Golf Resort News

Please note the following summer hours for the Indian Wells Golf Resort:*

Kestrel: A Richard Blais Kitchen + Lounge

Monday & Tuesday
Closed

Wednesday & Thursday
Lunch: 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

Friday & Saturday
Lunch: 11 a.m.-3 p.m.
Happy Hour: 3-5 p.m.
Dinner: 5-9 p.m.

Sunday Brunch
11 a.m.-3 p.m.

Beverage Cart

Daily: 7 a.m.-12 p.m.

Fairway Grille

Daily: 6 a.m.-12 p.m.

Golf Shop

Sunday-Thursday
6 a.m.-2 p.m.

Friday & Saturday
6 a.m.-5 p.m.

**Hours subject to change*

Upcoming events at Kestrel

Smoke House Night: July 17 at 5 p.m.
Features slow-smoked brisket, ribs and sausage paired with elevated sides, indulgent desserts and live music

Sinatra & Supper Night: August 14
Brings a classic supper club atmosphere with steakhouse favorites and live music

Luau Night: September 11 at 5 p.m.
Featuring Hawaiian-inspired cuisine, tropical cocktails and en energetic island-themed atmosphere

At the beginning of June, the City of Indian Wells implemented changes to the resident tee-time booking process at the Indian Wells Golf Resort following a decision by the Indian Wells City Council at the April 16 meeting. These updates are intended to increase tee time availability for all Residence Benefit Card (RBC) holders and enhance Golf Resort usability for our community. Please note the following:

- Resident tee times are now available 14.5 days in advance at 8 a.m., rather than 6 a.m.
- All advance resident tee times must be booked online. The Golf Shop no longer books advance tee times. Residents may still book in person at the Golf Shop for a same-day reservation.
- An Indian Wells resident's name can only appear on the tee sheet once every six hours. Please make sure you enter other residents' names in the time slots when making your reservation online.

This summer and fall, the Indian Wells Golf Resort courses will be closed for alternating periods for annual maintenance. These scheduled closures will ensure the best playing conditions throughout the year.



Indian Wells Receives the California Contract Cities Association's John S. Todd Award





The City of Indian Wells is proud to have received the John S. Todd Award from the California Contract Cities Association (CCCA) in recognition of the City's Cove Communities partnership model with the cities of Rancho Mirage and Palm Desert.

The CCCA John S. Todd Award was presented at its Annual Municipal Seminar on Saturday, May 16. This prestigious designation is given annually to a member city that exemplifies the contract cities model, in which a municipality outsources one or more of its core public services. Indian Wells outsources law enforcement, fire protection, recreational opportunities and more to maintain essential services without the burdensome cost of establishing independent services.

Together with the cities of Rancho Mirage and Palm Desert, Indian Wells founded the Cove Communities Fire Commission in 1981 to coordinate regional fire protection and medical emergency services while remaining fiscally responsible. As the cities grew, so did their ability to expand emergency services. In 2005, the Cove Communities shifted to maintain a broader regional focus and began contracting for fire services individually. With this change, the Commission was renamed the Cove Communities Services Commission.

Today, this Cove Communities partnership offers residents of all three cities access to opportunities and facilities that would otherwise be unavailable to each municipality. Currently, the Commission actively works to improve the quality of life for residents through the Joslyn Center, the Children's Discovery Museum of the Desert, the YMCA of the Desert and other shared facilities and resources that nurture residents' mental, social, emotional and physical well-being throughout every stage of life.

Indian Wells is honored to receive the John S. Todd Award and looks forward to continuing our partnership with Rancho Mirage and Palm Desert for many years to come.

IW Fast Fact

Indian Wells was incorporated on July 14, 1967. This month, the City is celebrating 59 wonderful years of desert luxury in our amazing community.

Indian Wells Renews Contract with Abode Communities

At the May City Council Meeting, the Indian Wells City Council and staff decided to renew the City's contract with Abode Communities, a property management company that oversees the Mountain View Villas and the Indian Wells Villas.



During the first quarter (January-March), Abode has completed 13 of 21 improvement goals, with the remaining eight goals in progress.

Additionally, both communities are 98% occupied as of April, with 118 active applicants on the waiting list at Indian Wells Villas and 140 at Mountain View Villas. In total, there are 258 applicants across both properties, demonstrating that demand continues to outpace facility availability.

Abode's four focus areas for quarter one included:

1. **Community Safety:** Maintaining safe, secure environments at both communities.
2. **Employee Training:** Ongoing professional development for site staff.
3. **Events & Activities:** Local partnerships to enhance resident quality of life.
4. **Unit Inspections:** Proactive inspections to preserve asset quality.

Indian Wells is excited to continue our partnership with Abode Communities and looks forward to seeing the quality-of-life improvements for residents at Mountain View Villas and Indian Wells Villas throughout the year.



Save the Date

Grants in Aid Applications Open on July 13

Mark your calendars, Indian Wells! Starting July 13, the City will accept applications for the Grants-in-Aid program. The application for the program will be available at CityOfIndianWells.org/GrantsInAid.



Indian Wells Public Works Staff

Vacation Time Safety

Summer in Indian Wells is the perfect time to escape the heat and go on vacation. However, going on vacation can leave your home vulnerable to burglaries. Follow these steps to keep your home safe so you can enjoy your vacation:

- Ask a trusted neighbor or friend to keep an eye on your residence.
- Stop mail and paper deliveries unless you have arranged for someone else to pick them up daily.
- Set the volume on your landline phone down so it won't ring unanswered.
- Disconnect your electric garage door opener and manually lock the garage.
- Connect your indoor and outdoor lights to an automatic timer in order to give the appearance that someone is home.
- If you mow and rake your lawn regularly, have someone continue doing so while you are away.

If you have any questions about vacation time safety, please contact the Riverside County Sheriff's Department at (760) 836-1600.

Public Works Week Recap

From May 17-23, the City honored our Public Works team in celebration of National Public Works Week. This year's theme, "Rooted in Service, Powered by Community," reflects the dedication and work our staff pours into our community every day.

Throughout the week, City staff participated in a variety of activities that highlighted service, teamwork and appreciation for our Public Works Department. These activities included:

- Assembling 50 non-perishable food bags for the homeless in partnership with the Coachella Valley Rescue Mission to give back to our community.
- A celebratory lunch sponsored by consultant partners GHD, Universal Landscaping, RHA Community Works and Annealta Group.
- Recognition during the City Council Meeting.
- A breakfast to celebrate City staff and thank our Public Works Department for their dedication to our community.

Protecting Our Rainwater

Rain Ready California

Summer buildup of litter, pesticides and grime eventually washes into our storm drains. To keep our water clean, Indian Wells is participating in the **Rain Ready California initiative.** You can help today by reducing pesticide use, limiting single-use plastics and properly disposing of trash.

Residence Benefit Card Discounts: Indian Wells Preservation Foundation

The Indian Wells Preservation Foundation (IWPF), an organization that seeks to document, preserve and promote the unique character and rich history of Indian Wells, has partnered with the City of Indian Wells to offer our **RBC holders a 10% discount on annual and monthly memberships through 2026.**

- All Participants will receive their newsletter, an invitation to attend their annual meeting, and invitations to their special events.
- Benefactor Members will receive an IWPF logo mug, discounted admission to IWPF events, and an opportunity for member spotlight recognition on their website.
- Corporate Members will receive a framed recognition certificate, recognition on their website and at their special events, some cool IWPF swag, and discounted admission to IWPF events.
- Lifetime Members will receive an IWPF logo mug, a framed recognition certificate, complimentary admission to IWPF events, and an opportunity for member spotlight recognition on their website.

You must present a valid RBC to receive these benefits. Be sure to check back next month for another RBC benefit spotlight!

Businesses in Indian Wells interested in partnering with the City to offer an RBC benefit are encouraged to contact Indian Wells City Hall at (760) 346-2489.







Upcoming Events

July 17 Nine Cities Blood Drive
Indian Wells Golf Resort

July 25 Shred Event
7-11 a.m.
Returns to Burrtec Parking Lot

Aug. 5 Coffee with a Cop
8-10 a.m.
Indian Wells Golf Resort Player's Room

Upcoming Meetings

Dates and times are subject to change; please check the City Calendar.

July 2 Special City Council Meeting
Indian Wells City Hall

July 28 Indian Wells Golf Resort Advisory Committee Meeting
Indian Wells Golf Resort

July 30 Planning Commission Meeting
Indian Wells City Hall

July 9 Community Activities Committee Meeting
Indian Wells City Hall



Submit Pictures of Indian Wells for a Chance to be Featured!

Capture the golden glow of summer in Indian Wells and the vibrant spirit of the desert during our sunniest months. Submit your original photos for a chance to be featured on our official social media channels or in an upcoming newsletter.

Send your photos to **Community@IndianWells.com** for an opportunity to be highlighted and shared with the community.

Please ensure photos showcase locations within Indian Wells and do not include identifiable people, including children. By submitting, you authorize the City to use your photo in promotional materials, including social media, videos, newsletters, the City website and IW-TV.

Contact Indian Wells

Visit City Hall

44-950 Eldorado Drive
Indian Wells, CA 92210

Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
(Closed for lunch 12-1 p.m.)

Contact Indian Wells
CityOfIndianWells.org/ContactUs

Contact the City

City Hall .....(760) 346-2489

Indian Wells Golf Resort .....(760) 346-4653

For Emergencies 911

Police Department..... (760) 836-3215, ext. 5

Fire Department ..... (760) 568-5252

For General Inquiries, contact
Community@IndianWells.com

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