

**CVAG**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
AGENDA**

**MONDAY, APRIL 27, 2026  
4:00 p.m.**

**Coachella Valley Water District  
Steve Robbins Administration Building Training Room  
75515 Hovley Lane East  
Palm Desert, CA 92260**

**Members of the Committee and the public may attend and participate by video at the following remote location:**

**Blythe City Hall  
235 N Broadway, Room A  
Blythe, CA 92225**

Members of the public may use the following link for listening access and ability to address the Executive Committee when called upon:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89953510275?pwd=Rwaww5lZAe1myDOqr4lUaAT6cQgXQH.1>

**Dial In: + 1 669 900 9128  
Webinar ID: 899 5351 0275  
Password: 749184**

Public Comment is encouraged to be emailed to the Executive Committee prior to the meeting at [cvag@cvag.org](mailto:cvag@cvag.org) by 5:00 p.m. on the day prior to the committee meeting. Members of the public joining the meeting by Zoom can also provide comment by using the “raise hand” feature of hitting \*9 on the phone keypad.

As a convenience to the public, CVAG provides a call-in and internet-based option for members of the public to virtually observe and provide public comments at its meetings. Please note that, in the event of a technical issue disrupting the call-in or internet-based options, the meeting will continue unless otherwise required by law.

**THIS MEETING IS ADA ACCESSIBLE.  
ACTION MAY RESULT ON ANY ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chair V. Manuel Perez, Supervisor, County of Riverside  
Roll Call P6  
Pledge of Allegiance  
Agenda Modifications  
Conflict of Interest Disclosure
  
2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS**  

This is the first of two opportunities for public comment. Any person wishing to address the Executive Committee on items appearing on this agenda may do so at this time. At the discretion of the Chair, comments may be taken at the time items are presented. Please limit comments to three (3) minutes.
  
3. **CHAIR / EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ANNOUNCEMENTS**
  
4. **CONSENT CALENDAR**
  
- A. **Approve the minutes of the December 1, 2025, joint meeting of the Homelessness Committee and Executive Committee** P7
  
- B. **Approve the minutes of the March 16, 2026, special meeting** P16
  
- C. **Authorize the Executive Director, in consultation with the CVAG Chair, to execute the contracts necessary to host an in-person dinner event for the 2026 CVAG General Assembly** P25
  
- D. **Authorize the Executive Director to execute Amendment No. 2 with Kimley-Horn and Associates for an amount not to exceed \$128,326 to conduct transportation model updates utilizing available Regional Early Action Planning (REAP 2.0) grant funding** P26
  
- E. **Adopt a 3.9-percent increase in Transportation Uniform Mitigation Fee (TUMF) rates to take effect January 1, 2027, and update the TUMF Handbook to reflect the revised fee upon its effective date** P30
  
- F. **Authorize the Executive Director to execute Amendment No. 5 to the agreement** P34

with Anser Advisory (also known as Accenture Infrastructure and Capital Projects LLC.) for an additional not-to-exceed amount of \$950,000 for construction management services of CV Link

- G. **Authorize the Chair and Executive Director to execute on-call services agreements for CV Sync traffic signal repair and maintenance with Crosstown Electrical & Data, Inc., St. Francis Electric, LLC, and Yunex Traffic, LLC for a combined, not-to-exceed total of \$300,000 annually through June 2028** **P44**
- H. **Receive and file the quarterly report for the CV Housing First program, representing clients served in the first quarter of 2026** **P46**
- I. **Receive and file the 2025 Annual Report for the Alan Seman Bus Pass Program** **P49**
- J. **Authorize the Executive Director to take the necessary steps to accept funding from Coachella Valley Water District and the Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District for the region's Landscape Certification Program, and then scale the program's scope to the available budget** **P52**

4.1 **ITEM(S) HELD OVER FROM CONSENT CALENDAR**

5. **DISCUSSION / ACTION**

- A. **Amendment to the Reimbursement Agreement for the South Palm Canyon Drive Bridge Replacement Project Over Tahquitz Creek – Julie Mignogna** **P54**

**Recommendation:** Authorize the Chair and Executive Director to execute Amendment No. 2 to the Reimbursement Agreement with the City of Palm Springs for the South Palm Canyon Drive Bridge Replacement Project Over Tahquitz Creek, increasing CVAG's regional share to \$2,125,717.50

- B. **Amendment to the Reimbursement Agreement for the Monroe Street / Interstate 10 Interchange Project – Julie Mignogna** **P61**

**Recommendation:** Authorize the Executive Director to execute Amendment No. 8 to the Reimbursement Agreement with the City of Indio and the County of Riverside for the Monroe Street / Interstate 10 Interchange Project providing \$56,531,115 for construction, inclusive of \$30.848 million already obligated

- C. **California's Encampment Resolution Funding – Erica Felci** **P70**

**Recommendation:** Authorize the Executive Director to take the necessary steps to partner with Riverside County on an application for the California Department of Housing and Community Development's Encampment Resolution Funding

- D. **Request from Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians to Amend the CVAG Joint Powers Agreement – Erica Felci** **P72**

**Recommendation:** Review the options for addressing the request from Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians related to staff member alternates on the Executive Committee and provide direction to the Executive Director on next steps

**E. Public Hearing: Compliance with Assembly Bill 2561 P91**

- 1) Receive the Staff Report – Erica Felci
- 2) Open Public Hearing and Receive Testimony/Public Comments
- 3) Close Public Hearing

**Recommendation:** Pursuant to Assembly Bill 2561 requirements, hold a public hearing to receive information on CVAG’s staffing vacancies and recruitment efforts

**6. INFORMATION**

- a) Executive Committee Attendance P102
- b) Regional Transportation Project Status Report P103
- c) Update on California Association of Councils of Governments P105
- d) I-REN’s Public Sector Projects Policy and Fiscal Year 2026-27 Budget P106
- e) Local Efforts to Address Hexavalent Chromium (Chromium-6) P109
- f) Commercial Electric Lawn & Garden Equipment Program P111
- g) Annual contributions to the CV Housing First Program P112
- h) Federal funding shifts to Continuums of Care P114

**7. LEGISLATIVE ITEMS –**

- a) Recap of CVAG’s Legislative Advocacy Efforts – Emmanuel Martinez P115
- b) Update from the League of California Cities – Jesse Ramirez, Regional Affairs Manager, Riverside County Division

**8. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

This is the second opportunity for public comment. Any person wishing to address the Executive Committee on items of general interest within the purview of this committee may do so at this time. Please limit comments to two (2) minutes.

**9. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next meeting of the **Executive Committee** will be held on Monday, June 1, 2026, at 4:00 p.m. at the Coachella Valley Water District, Steve Robbins Administration Building Training Room, 75515 Hovley Lane East, Palm Desert, 92260.

**10. CLOSED SESSION**

Pursuant to the provisions of Government Code Sections 54956.9(d)(2), the Committee will adjourn to Closed Session.

**Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation**

Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2) (one potential case)

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

**ITEM 1**

**Executive Committee  
Fiscal Year 2025-26 Roster**



<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Members</b>
City of Rancho Mirage, <b>Past Chair</b>	<b>Lynn Mallotto</b> Mayor
City of Desert Hot Springs	<b>Scott Matas</b> Mayor
City of Coachella	<b>Frank Figueroa</b> Mayor
City of Palm Springs	<b>Naomi Soto</b> Mayor
City of Indio	<b>Glenn Miller</b> Councilmember
Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians	<b>Darrell Mike</b> Tribal Chair
Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians	<b>Joseph Mirelez</b> Tribal Chair
Cabazon Band of Cahuilla Indians	<b>Brenda Soulliere</b> Tribal Councilmember
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians	<b>Jeff Grubbe</b> Chairman
City of Indian Wells	<b>Toper Taylor</b> Mayor
City of Cathedral City	<b>Raymond Gregory</b> Mayor
City of Palm Desert	<b>Evan Trubee</b> Mayor
City of La Quinta	<b>Linda Evans</b> Mayor
City of Blythe, <b>Vice Chair</b>	<b>Joseph DeConinck</b> Mayor
County of Riverside, <b>4<sup>th</sup> District Chair</b>	<b>Jose Medina</b> , 1st District Supervisor <b>Karen Spiegel</b> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> District Supervisor <b>Chuck Washington</b> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> District Supervisor <b>V. Manuel Perez</b> , 4 <sup>th</sup> District Supervisor <b>Yxstian Gutierrez</b> , 5 <sup>th</sup> District Supervisor

**ITEM 4A**

**Joint Meeting of the Executive Committee and  
Homelessness Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
December 1, 2025**



The audio file for this meeting can be found at: <http://www.cvag.org>

**1. CALL TO ORDER OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The meeting was called to order by Chair V, Manuel Perez, County of Riverside, at 4:01 p.m. at the Coachella Valley Water District Steven Robbins Administration Building Training Room, 75515 Hovely Lane East, in Palm Desert.

- 2. ROLL CALL** - Roll call was taken and it was determined that a quorum was present. Mayor Jan Harnik, representing the City of Palm Desert, participated remotely via Zoom pursuant to the just cause provisions of Assembly Bill 2449.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mayor Lynn Mallotto  
Mayor Scott Matas  
Mayor Ron deHarte  
Mayor Glenn Miller  
Tribal Chair Joseph Mirelez  
Tribal Chair Reid Milanovich  
Mayor Bruce Whitman  
Mayor Nancy Ross\*  
Mayor Jan Harnik (via zoom)  
Mayor Linda Evans  
Mayor Joseph DeConinck , *Vice Chair*  
Supervisor V. Manuel Perez , *Chair*

**AGENCY**

City of Rancho Mirage  
City of Desert Hot Springs  
City of Palm Springs  
City of Indio  
Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians  
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians  
City of Indian Wells  
City of Cathedral City  
City of Palm Desert  
City of La Quinta  
City of Blythe  
County of Riverside 4<sup>th</sup> District (*arrived at item 9A*)

*\*Mayor Ross left the meeting after Item 12, and Mayor Pro Tem Raymond Gregory took over as the representative for Cathedral City*

**MEMBERS NOT PRESENT**

Mayor Steven Hernandez  
Tribal Chair Darrell Mike  
Tribal Member Brenda Soulliere  
Supervisor Kevin Jeffries  
Supervisor Karen Spiegel  
Supervisor Chuck Washington  
Supervisor Yxstian Gutierrez

**AGENCY**

City of Coachella  
Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians  
Cabazon Band of Mission Indians  
County of Riverside 1<sup>st</sup> District  
County of Riverside 2<sup>nd</sup> District  
County of Riverside 3<sup>rd</sup> District  
County of Riverside 5<sup>th</sup> District

**3. CALL TO ORDER OF THE HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Waymond Fermon, County of Riverside, at 4:02 p.m. at the Coachella Valley Water District Steven Robbins Administration Building Training Room, 75515 Hovely Lane East, in Palm Desert.

4. **ROLL CALL** - Roll call was taken and it was determined that a quorum was present.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

City of Blythe  
City of Cathedral City  
City of Coachella  
Desert Healthcare District  
City of Desert Hot Springs  
City of Indian Wells  
City of Indio  
City of La Quinta  
City of Palm Desert  
City of Palm Springs  
City of Rancho Mirage  
Riverside County – District 4  
Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians

**AGENCY**

Vice Mayor Johnny Rodriguez  
Mayor Pro Tem Raymond Gregory  
Councilmember Yadira Perez  
Director Carole Rogers, RN  
Councilmember Jan Pye  
Councilmember Toper Taylor  
Councilmember Waymond Fermon, *Chair*  
Councilmember John Peña  
Councilmember Joe Pradetto  
Mayor Ron deHarte  
Mayor Lynn Mallotto  
Supervisor V Manuel Perez  
Tribal Chair Joseph Mirelez, *Vice Chair*

**MEMBERS NOT PRESENT**

Coachella Valley Housing Coalition  
Martha's Village and Kitchen  
Coachella Valley Rescue Mission  
Shelter from the Storm

**AGENCY**

Pedro S.G. Rodriguez  
Samuel Hollenbeck  
Darla Burkett  
Angelina Coe

5. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

A. **Moment of Silence for Cathedral City Councilmember Mark Carnevale**

Homelessness Committee Chair Fermon led the Committees in the Pledge of Allegiance. The members also remembered Councilmember Carnevale, a longtime member of the Homelessness Committee who recently passed away.

6. **AGENDA MODIFICATIONS (IF ANY)**

None

7. **PUBLIC COMMENTS ON JOINT COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEMS**

None

8. **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CHAIR / HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE CHAIR ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Executive Committee Chair Perez provided the Committees with a recap of the Coachella Valley Dust Summit, hosted by the South Coast Air Quality Management District, in partnership with his office, that took place on Thursday, November 6, 2025, at UC Riverside in Palm Desert.

9. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Executive Director Tom Kirk provided meeting logistics to the Committees, noting that ceiling-mounted microphones are in use. He also announced that the Coachella Valley Water District's board room, located near the building's entrance, would be available for members of the public to wait while the Committees are in closed session. Mr. Kirk also offered an update on recently secured transportation funding for the Coachella Valley, as well as funding allocated by the South Coast Air Quality Management District to support PM10 mitigation efforts.

10. **JOINT CONSENT CALENDAR**

- A. **Authorize the Executive Director to execute Amendment No. 3 to the Memorandum of Understanding with Beacon Associates for behavioral health referrals, authorizing a not-to-exceed amount of \$90,000 through December 1, 2027**
- B. **Receive and file the quarterly report for the CV Housing First program, representing clients served in the third quarter of 2025**
- C. **Authorize the Executive Director to reset the CV Housing First's CV 200 prospective client list as compiled in partnership with law enforcement and local healthcare partners**

**HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE:**

**IT WAS MOVED BY MAYOR PRO TEM GREGORY AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER PENA TO APPROVE THE JOINT CONSENT CALENDAR**

**THE MOTION TO CARRIED WITH 13 AYES AND NO MEMBERS ABSENT**

<b>VICE MAYOR RODRIGUEZ</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>MAYOR PRO TEM GREGORY</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER PEREZ</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>DIRECTOR ROGERS</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER PYE</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER TAYLOR</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER FERMON</b>	<b>AYE</b>

COUNCILMEMBER PEÑA	AYE
COUNCILMEMBER PRADETTO	AYE
MAYOR DEHARTE	AYE
MAYOR PRO TEM MALLOTTO	AYE
SUPERVISOR PEREZ	AYE
TRIBAL CHAIR MIRELEZ	AYE

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

**IT WAS MOVED BY TRIBAL CHAIR MIRELEZ AND SECONDED BY MAYOR MILLER TO APPROVE THE JOINT CONSENT CALENDAR**

**THE MOTION TO CARRIED WITH 12 AYES AND 7 MEMBERS ABSENT.**

MAYOR MALLOTTO	AYE
MAYOR MATAS	AYE
MAYOR HERNANDEZ	ABSENT
MAYOR DEHARTE	AYE
MAYOR MILLER	AYE
TRIBAL CHAIR MIKE	ABSENT
TRIBAL CHAIR MIRELEZ	AYE
TRIBAL COUNCILMEMBER SOULLIERE	ABSENT
TRIBAL CHAIR MILANOVICH	AYE
MAYOR WHITMAN	AYE
MAYOR ROSS	AYE
MAYOR HARNIK	AYE
MAYOR EVANS	AYE
MAYOR DECONINCK	AYE
SUPERVISOR JEFFRIES	ABSENT
SUPERVISOR SPIEGEL	ABSENT
SUPERVISOR WASHINGTON	ABSENT
SUPERVISOR PEREZ	AYE
SUPERVISOR GUTIERREZ	ABSENT

**10.1 ITEMS HELD OVER FROM JOINT CONSENT CALENDAR**

None

**11. ADJOURNED TO CLOSED SESSION**

**CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – POTENTIAL LITIGATION**  
**Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2) & (3): One (1) potential case**

Chair Perez moved the Committees into closed session at 4:12 p.m.

Closed session ended at 5:33 p.m. with Chair Perez announcing no reportable actions from closed session.

**12. ADJOURNMENT OF HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE MEETING**

Chair Fermon adjourned the meeting of the Homelessness Committee at 5:37 p.m.

**13. CONSENT CALENDAR FOR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**IT WAS MOVED BY MAYOR MILLER AND SECONDED BY TRIBAL CHAIR MIRELEZ TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR**

- A. Approve the minutes of the September 30, 2025, meeting**
- B. Approve the minutes of the October 27, 2025, Special Meeting**
- C. Authorize the Executive Director to 1.) increase the cost of implementation support services from Oracle by \$7,709 and add employee center licenses necessary for payment of meeting attendance stipends to elected officials; and 2.) authorize the number of end user and employee center licenses be modified annually based on allocated positions and number of committee members so long as costs remain with CVAG's approved operating budget each fiscal year**
- D. Adopt Policy No. 25-02 to establish a Claims Policy**
- E. Authorize the Executive Director to approve replacement material purchases for CV Link through June 30, 2030 at an amount not to exceed \$400,000 from Landscape Forms, Inc. and an amount not to exceed \$300,000 from Urban Solar Corporation**
- F. Approve Amendment No. 1 to the Operational Activities, Maintenance, and License Agreement for CV Link between the Coachella Valley Water District and CVAG**
- G. Adopt CVAG Resolution 2025-002 to authorize the Executive Director to take the necessary steps to accept \$619,710 from the Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Program for the Coachella Valley Multimodal Corridor Plan, including executing the required agreements with the State of California**
- H. Approve Amendment No. 7 to the Reimbursement Agreement with the City of Indio and the County of Riverside for the Monroe Street / Interstate 10 Interchange Project, extending the time trigger to commence construction to December 31, 2026**
- I. Adopt minor technical amendments to CVAG's Federal and State Legislative Platform**
- J. Authorize the Executive Director to:**
  - 1. Execute Amendment No. 1 to the services contract with Sweeping Corporation of America for regional street sweeping services, adding an additional \$279,311 a year and extending through December 31, 2027;**
  - 2. Take the necessary steps to secure additional funding for the program, including funding from South Coast Air Quality Management District and the County of**

**Riverside**

**3. Execute Amendment No. 7 to the AB 2766 Vehicle Registration Revenue Memorandum of Understanding with each jurisdiction, increasing the funding contribution from 75 to 100 percent and extending the term through June 30, 2028**

- K. Receive and file the San Bernardino-Ontario-Riverside Metropolitan Statistical Area's Comprehensive Climate Action Plan**
- L. Authorize the Energy & Sustainability Committee Chair, Vice Chair, and CVAG's Executive Director to approve the 2028 I-REN application and business plan to continue existing programs and continue the advocacy for expansion of programs that benefit residential homes as well as small and medium commercial buildings**
- M. Adopt Resolution 2005-03 and approve the updated start time for the CVAG Executive Committee's regular meetings**

**THE MOTION TO CARRIED WITH 12 AYES AND 7 MEMBERS ABSENT.**

<b>MAYOR MALLOTTO</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>MAYOR MATAS</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>MAYOR HERNANDEZ</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>MAYOR DEHARTE</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>MAYOR MILLER</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>TRIBAL CHAIR MIKE</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>TRIBAL CHAIR MIRELEZ</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>TRIBAL COUNCILMEMBER SOULLIERE</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>TRIBAL CHAIR MILANOVICH</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>MAYOR WHITMAN</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>MAYOR PRO TEM GREGORY</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>MAYOR HARNIK</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>MAYOR EVANS</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>MAYOR DECONINCK</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>SUPERVISOR JEFFRIES</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>SUPERVISOR SPIEGEL</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>SUPERVISOR WASHINGTON</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>SUPERVISOR PEREZ</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>SUPERVISOR GUTIERREZ</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>

**14. DISCUSSION/ACTION BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

- A. Amending the Reimbursement Agreement for Jefferson Street Widening (Avenue 38 to Sun City Boulevard)**

Transportation Program Manager Julie Mignogna presented the staff report.

**IT WAS MOVED BY MAYOR MILLER AND SECONDED BY MAYOR WHITMAN TO APPROVE AMENDMENT NO. 2 TO THE REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF INDIO**

**FOR THE JEFFERSON STREET WIDENING PROJECT (AVENUE 38 - SUN CITY BOULEVARD), INCREASING THE REGIONAL FUNDING SHARE BY \$1,953,750 AND EXTENDING THE TIME TRIGGER TO DECEMBER 31, 2027 TO ALLOW FOR COMPLETION OF THE PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS AND ENGINEER'S ESTIMATE (PS&E)**

**THE MOTION TO CARRIED WITH 12 AYES AND 7 MEMBERS ABSENT.**

<b>MAYOR MALLOTTO</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>MAYOR MATAS</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>MAYOR HERNANDEZ</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>MAYOR DEHARTE</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>MAYOR MILLER</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>TRIBAL CHAIR MIKE</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>TRIBAL CHAIR MIRELEZ</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>TRIBAL COUNCILMEMBER SOULLIERE</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>TRIBAL CHAIR MILANOVICH</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>MAYOR WHITMAN</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>MAYOR PRO TEM GREGORY</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>MAYOR HARNIK</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>MAYOR EVANS</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>MAYOR DECONINCK</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>SUPERVISOR JEFFRIES</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>SUPERVISOR SPIEGEL</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>SUPERVISOR WASHINGTON</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>SUPERVISOR PEREZ</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>SUPERVISOR GUTIERREZ</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>

**B. Reimbursement Agreement Amendment for the Avenue 50 Widening (Jefferson Street to Jackson Street) Project**

Transportation Program Manager Julie Mignogna presented the staff report.

**IT WAS MOVED BY MAYOR MILLER AND SECONDED BY MAYOR MALLOTTO TO APPROVE AMENDMENT NO. 2 TO THE REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF INDIO FOR THE AVENUE 50 WIDENING PROJECT (JEFFERSON STREET TO JACKSON STREET), ADDING AN ADDITIONAL \$1,936,815 IN REGIONAL FUNDING AND EXTENDING THE TIME TRIGGER TO DECEMBER 31, 2027 TO ALLOW FOR COMPLETION OF THE PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS AND ENGINEER'S ESTIMATE (PS&E)**

**THE MOTION TO CARRIED WITH 12 AYES AND 7 MEMBERS ABSENT.**

<b>MAYOR MALLOTTO</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>MAYOR MATAS</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>MAYOR HERNANDEZ</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>MAYOR DEHARTE</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>MAYOR MILLER</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>TRIBAL CHAIR MIKE</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>TRIBAL CHAIR MIRELEZ</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>TRIBAL COUNCILMEMBER SOULLIERE</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>TRIBAL CHAIR MILANOVICH</b>	<b>AYE</b>

MAYOR WHITMAN	AYE
MAYOR PRO TEM GREGORY	AYE
MAYOR HARNIK	AYE
MAYOR EVANS	AYE
MAYOR DECONINCK	AYE
SUPERVISOR JEFFRIES	ABSENT
SUPERVISOR SPIEGEL	ABSENT
SUPERVISOR WASHINGTON	ABSENT
SUPERVISOR PEREZ	AYE
SUPERVISOR GUTIERREZ	ABSENT

**C. CV Link Project Close Out**

Director of Transportation Jonathan Hoy presented the staff report.

A brief discussion ensued. Mr. Hoy addressed Committee inquiries concerning completed sections still needing minor refinements and noted that a punch list would outline the outstanding items before the project's close out was complete.

**IT WAS MOVED BY MAYOR MATAS AND SECONDED BY TRIBAL CHAIR MILANOVICH TO AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ACCEPT AND FILE NECESSARY PROJECT CLOSE OUT DOCUMENTS, INCLUDING NOTICES OF COMPLETION, FOR CV LINK**

**THE MOTION TO CARRIED WITH 12 AYES AND 7 MEMBERS ABSENT.**

MAYOR MALLOTTO	AYE
MAYOR MATAS	AYE
MAYOR HERNANDEZ	ABSENT
MAYOR DEHARTE	AYE
MAYOR MILLER	AYE
TRIBAL CHAIR MIKE	ABSENT
TRIBAL CHAIR MIRELEZ	AYE
TRIBAL COUNCILMEMBER SOULLIERE	ABSENT
TRIBAL CHAIR MILANOVICH	AYE
MAYOR WHITMAN	AYE
MAYOR PRO TEM GREGORY	AYE
MAYOR HARNIK	AYE
MAYOR EVANS	AYE
MAYOR DECONINCK	AYE
SUPERVISOR JEFFRIES	ABSENT
SUPERVISOR SPIEGEL	ABSENT
SUPERVISOR WASHINGTON	ABSENT
SUPERVISOR PEREZ	AYE
SUPERVISOR GUTIERREZ	ABSENT

**15. INFORMATION**

- a) Executive Committee Attendance
- b) Regional Transportation Project Status Report

- c) Coordination of Clean Energy Programs for Residential, Commercial and Industrial Sectors
- d) Native Planting Palette Resources for the Coachella Valley
- e) Local Government Waste Tire Amnesty Grant - TA7 Annual Report

These items were placed in the agenda packet for members' information.

## 16. **LEGISLATIVE ITEMS**

- a) Update from the League of California Cities – Jesse Ramirez, Regional Affairs Manager, Riverside County Division

Mr. Ramirez joined the committee via Zoom and provided a brief update on the League's legislative efforts.

- b) Recap of CVAG's Legislative Advocacy Efforts – Emmanuel Martinez

It was announced that League Leaders event hosted by the League of California Cities in Rancho Mirage will take place on December 5-6<sup>th</sup>, with their Board meeting being held on Friday, December 5<sup>th</sup>.

## 17. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next meeting of the **Homelessness Committee** will be held on Wednesday, January 21, 2026, at 10 a.m. at Coachella Valley Behavioral Health, 81555 JFK Court, Indio, 92201.

The next meeting of the **Executive Committee** will be held on Monday, January 26, 2026, at 4 p.m. at the Coachella Valley Water District, Steve Robbins Administration Building Training Room, 75515 Hovley Lane East, Palm Desert, 92260.

## 181. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chair Perez adjourned the meeting at 5:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Elysia Regalado*  
Deputy Clerk

**ITEM 4B**

Meeting of the Executive Committee  
Special Meeting Minutes  
March 16, 2026



The audio file for this meeting can be found at: <http://www.cvag.org>

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chair V, Manuel Perez, County of Riverside, at 4:00 p.m. at the Coachella Valley Water District Steven Robbins Administration Building Training Room, 75515 Hovley Lane East, in Palm Desert. Teleconferencing was also available from the City of Blythe, California and the City of Tempe, Arizona.

A roll call was taken, and it was determined that a quorum was present. Those in attendance were as follows:

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mayor Lynn Malotto, *Past Chair*  
Mayor Scott Matas  
Mayor Pro Tem Frank Figueroa  
Mayor Naomi Soto  
Councilmember Glenn Miller  
Tribal Councilmember Brenda Soulliere  
Tribal Chair Reid Milanovich  
Mayor Topper Taylor  
Mayor Raymond Gregory  
Mayor Evan Trubee  
Mayor Linda Evans  
Mayor Joseph DeConinck, *Vice Chair*  
Supervisor V. Manuel Perez, *Chair*

**AGENCY**

City of Rancho Mirage  
City of Desert Hot Springs (joined via Zoom)\*  
City of Coachella  
City of Palm Springs  
City of Indio  
Cabazon Band of Cahuilla Indians  
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians  
City of Indian Wells  
City of Cathedral City  
City of Palm Desert  
City of La Quinta  
City of Blythe (joined via Zoom)  
County of Riverside 4<sup>th</sup> District

*\*Arrived at 5A*

**MEMBERS NOT PRESENT**

Tribal Chair Darrell Mike  
Tribal Chair Joseph Mirelez  
Supervisor Jose Medina  
Supervisor Karen Spiegel  
Supervisor Chuck Washington  
Supervisor Yxstian Gutierrez

**AGENCY**

Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians  
Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians  
County of Riverside 1<sup>st</sup> District  
County of Riverside 2<sup>nd</sup> District  
County of Riverside 3<sup>rd</sup> District  
County of Riverside 5<sup>th</sup> District

Mayor Soto led the Executive Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance. There were no agenda modifications or conflicts of interest announced.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS**

None

### **3. CHAIR / EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Executive Director Tom Kirk welcomed attendees and provided an overview of meeting logistics. He shared an update on Congressional earmarks, noting that CVAG submitted three requests: funding to bring CVSync into Rancho Mirage, a \$5 million request for Varner Road, and a separate \$5 million request for an extension of CV Link into the community of Thermal.

Mr. Kirk also announced that the California Secretary of Transportation, Toks Omishakin, and other top State officials were in the region to acknowledge a partnership to address safety issues on Varner Road between Bob Hope and Monterey Avenue. He further recognized that CVAG Transportation Chair and City of Palm Desert Councilwoman Jan Harnik received a leadership achievement award from the California Association of Councils of Government (CALCOG), and that CVAG was honored with the Eureka Award for its work on CV Link.

Lastly, Mr. Kirk provided an update on CV Link and drones being used to monitor some areas of the multi-modal pathway.

### **4. CONSENT CALENDAR**

Prior to the vote, Mayor Trubee requested to pull item A from the consent calendar for further discussion.

**IT WAS MOVED BY MAYOR EVANS AND SECONDED BY MAYOR GREGORY TO APPROVE ITEMS B-I ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR:**

- B. Receive and file the CV Housing First report for 2025, representing clients served throughout the calendar year**
- C. Adopt Resolution No. 2026 002-EC authorizing the CVAG Executive Committee, as an eligible multijurisdictional body, to utilize the teleconferencing provisions established under Senate Bill 707**
- D. Authorize the Executive Director to execute a two-year services contract with Southern California Mountains Foundation (SCMF) for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$45,000 through October 2027 to administer the Waste Tire Amnesty Grant Program, contingent upon receipt of TA8 grant funding from the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle), with the option for two one-year terms if additional funding is secured**
- E. Authorize the Executive Director to approve replacement equipment purchases for CV Sync at a total not-to-exceed amount of \$650,811.41 from CT West, Bosch, Iteris, Yunex and various vendors**
- F. Authorize the Executive Director to execute a one-time expenditure for a 2026 Chevrolet Silverado Truck from Jessup Chevrolet for the CV Sync program at a cost not to exceed \$52,377**

- G. Authorize the Executive Director to: 1. Execute an amendment to the Cooperative Agreement with the Riverside County Transportation Commission to accept \$1,012,408.45 in additional Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) funds and to extend the term to September 30, 2026; 2. Execute an amendment to the Professional Services Contract with Chen Ryan Associates to provide an additional \$1,012,408.45 through September 30, 2026, inclusive of \$84,908 in contingency so long as grant funding is available
- H. Receive and file the 2025 Pavement Management Report
- I. Authorize additional funds in an amount not to exceed \$5,512.50 to Euna Solutions for one additional year of the Budget Book Studio software subscription

**THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 12 AYES, AND 7 MEMBERS ABSENT**

MAYOR MATAS	ABSENT
MAYOR PRO TEM FIGUEROA	AYE
MAYOR SOTO	AYE
COUNCILMEMBER MILLER	AYE
TRIBAL CHAIR MIKE	ABSENT
TRIBAL CHAIR MIRELEZ	ABSENT
TRIBAL COUNCILMEMBER SOULLIERE	AYE
TRIBAL CHAIR MILANOVICH	AYE
MAYOR TAYLOR	AYE
MAYOR GREGORY	AYE
MAYOR TRUBEE	AYE
MAYOR EVANS	AYE
MAYOR DECONINCK	AYE
SUPERVISOR MEDINA	ABSENT
SUPERVISOR SPIEGEL	ABSENT
SUPERVISOR WASHINGTON	ABSENT
SUPERVISOR PEREZ	AYE
SUPERVISOR GUTIERREZ	ABSENT
MAYOR MALLOTTO	AYE

**4.1 ITEM(S) HELD OVER FROM CONSENT CALENDAR**

Deputy Executive Director Erica Felci provided a response to Mayor Trubee requested clarification on CV Housing First program’s use of rapid response and case management to house clients.

**IT WAS MOVED BY MAYOR GREGORY AND SECONDED BY MAYOR EVANS TO APPROVE ITEM 4A ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR:**

- A. Adopt CVAG Resolution 2026-001 and authorize the Executive Director to submit grant applications for the CV Housing First program, including seeking \$114,225 in Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG) funding for the CV Housing First outreach efforts

**THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 12 AYES, AND 7 MEMBERS ABSENT**

MAYOR MATAS	ABSENT
MAYOR PRO TEM FIGUEROA	AYE
MAYOR SOTO	AYE
COUNCILMEMBER MILLER	AYE
TRIBAL CHAIR MIKE	ABSENT
TRIBAL CHAIR MIRELEZ	ABSENT
TRIBAL COUNCILMEMBER SOULLIERE	AYE
TRIBAL CHAIR MILANOVICH	AYE
MAYOR TAYLOR	AYE
MAYOR GREGORY	AYE
MAYOR TRUBEE	AYE
MAYOR EVANS	AYE
MAYOR DECONINCK	AYE
SUPERVISOR MEDINA	ABSENT
SUPERVISOR SPIEGEL	ABSENT
SUPERVISOR WASHINGTON	ABSENT
SUPERVISOR PEREZ	AYE
SUPERVISOR GUTIERREZ	ABSENT
MAYOR MALLOTTO	AYE

**5. DISCUSSION/ACTION**

**A. CVAG’s Audit for Fiscal Year 2024-25 and Related Reports**

Director of Finance Claude Kilgore presented the item.

Brief member discussion ensued with Mayor Evans commending Mr. Kilgore and his staff on a job well done.

This item was received and filed with no vote.

**B. Establishing a Fraud Hotline**

Mr. Kilgore presented the staff report detailing the plan to roll out the STOPit fraud hotline.

Brief member discussion ensued with Mr. Kilgore answering questions from the Committee regarding reporting and tracking mechanisms.

It was requested that this item be placed on a future agenda update members on how concerns are tracked.

**IT WAS MOVED BY MAYOR TAYLOR AND SECONDED BY MAYOR GREGORY TO APPROVE THE ROLL OUT PLAN FOR THE STOPIT FRAUD HOTLINE AND INCLUDE THE CHAIR OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE AND LEGAL COUNSEL AS PART OF THE ELEVATED REPORTING PROCESS AND PROVIDE AN UPDATE OF TRACKING MECHANISMS AT A FUTURE MEETING**

**THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 13 AYES, AND 6 MEMBERS ABSENT**

MAYOR MATAS	AYE
MAYOR PRO TEM FIGUEROA	AYE
MAYOR SOTO	AYE
COUNCILMEMBER MILLER	AYE
TRIBAL CHAIR MIKE	ABSENT
TRIBAL CHAIR MIRELEZ	ABSENT
TRIBAL COUNCILMEMBER SOULLIERE	AYE
TRIBAL CHAIR MILANOVICH	AYE
MAYOR TAYLOR	AYE
MAYOR GREGORY	AYE
MAYOR TRUBEE	AYE
MAYOR EVANS	AYE
MAYOR DECONINCK	AYE
SUPERVISOR MEDINA	ABSENT
SUPERVISOR SPIEGEL	ABSENT
SUPERVISOR WASHINGTON	ABSENT
SUPERVISOR PEREZ	AYE
SUPERVISOR GUTIERREZ	ABSENT
MAYOR MALLOTTO	AYE

**C. Next Steps for the Arts and Music Line Project**

Assistant Director of Transportation Randy Bowman presented the staff report.

Brief member discussion ensued with Mr. Bowman answering members' questions on CV Link connections, including any planned connections near the Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians land.

**IT WAS MOVED BY MAYOR TRUBEE AND SECONDED BY MAYOR MILLER TO ADOPT CVAG RESOLUTION 2026-003 AND AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO:**

- 1.) TAKE THE NECESSARY STEPS INCLUDING EXECUTING AGREEMENTS TO ACCEPT \$20 MILLION IN CONGESTION MITIGATION AND AIR QUALITY PROGRAM FUNDING FOR THE ARTS AND MUSIC LINE PROJECT; AND
- 2.) BE DELEGATED AS THE OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVE TO TAKE ALL ACTIONS REQUIRED, PURSUANT TO FEDERAL AND STATE LAW, TO EXECUTE NECESSARY AGREEMENTS AND PERMITS, AND EXPEND FUNDS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE THE RIGHT-OF-WAY ACQUISITION PROCESS FOR THE ARTS AND MUSIC LINE PROJECT; AND
- 3.) AMEND AGREEMENTS WITH THE CITIES OF LA QUINTA, INDIO, AND COACHELLA FOR FUNDING REIMBURSEMENTS; AMEND AN AGREEMENT WITH COACHELLA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT FOR FUTURE MAINTENANCE; AND EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE FOR RELATED TRAFFIC SIGNAL WORK

**THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 13 AYES, AND 6 MEMBERS ABSENT**

MAYOR MATAS	AYE
MAYOR PRO TEM FIGUEROA	AYE
MAYOR SOTO	AYE

COUNCILMEMBER MILLER	AYE
TRIBAL CHAIR MIKE	ABSENT
TRIBAL CHAIR MIRELEZ	ABSENT
TRIBAL COUNCILMEMBER SOULLIERE	AYE
TRIBAL CHAIR MILANOVICH	AYE
MAYOR TAYLOR	AYE
MAYOR GREGORY	AYE
MAYOR TRUBEE	AYE
MAYOR EVANS	AYE
MAYOR DECONINCK	AYE
SUPERVISOR MEDINA	ABSENT
SUPERVISOR SPIEGEL	ABSENT
SUPERVISOR WASHINGTON	ABSENT
SUPERVISOR PEREZ	AYE
SUPERVISOR GUTIERREZ	ABSENT
MAYOR MALLOTTO	AYE

**D. Additional Authorities for CV Sync Phase II Construction**

Transportation Director Jonathan Hoy presented the staff report.

**IT WAS MOVED BY MOVED BY MAYOR MALLOTTO AND SECONDED BY MAYOR PRO TEM FIGUEROA TO AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ADD A CONTINGENCY TO THE CV SYNC PHASE II CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT WITH CROSTOWN ELECTRICAL & DATA, INC. AND EXECUTE ADDITIONAL CHANGE ORDERS FOR A NOT-TO-EXCEED AMOUNT OF \$8,670,461**

**THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 13 AYES, AND 6 MEMBERS ABSENT**

MAYOR MATAS	AYE
MAYOR PRO TEM FIGUEROA	AYE
MAYOR SOTO	AYE
COUNCILMEMBER MILLER	AYE
TRIBAL CHAIR MIKE	ABSENT
TRIBAL CHAIR MIRELEZ	ABSENT
TRIBAL COUNCILMEMBER SOULLIERE	AYE
TRIBAL CHAIR MILANOVICH	AYE
MAYOR TAYLOR	AYE
MAYOR GREGORY	AYE
MAYOR TRUBEE	AYE
MAYOR EVANS	AYE
MAYOR DECONINCK	AYE
SUPERVISOR MEDINA	ABSENT
SUPERVISOR SPIEGEL	ABSENT
SUPERVISOR WASHINGTON	ABSENT
SUPERVISOR PEREZ	AYE
SUPERVISOR GUTIERREZ	ABSENT
MAYOR MALLOTTO	AYE

**E. Continued Analysis of Cash Flow Concerns**

Mr. Hoy presented the staff report.

Brief member discussion ensued with Mr. Hoy answering questions from the Committee regarding the composition of the ad-hoc committee, Transportation Uniform Mitigation Fee (TUMF) and potential future tax measures.

**IT WAS MOVED BY TRIBAL CHAIR MILANOVICH AND SECONDED BY MAYOR EVANS DIRECT THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO FORM AN AD HOC COMMITTEE COMPRISED OF TRANSPORTATION, FINANCE AND/OR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS, AS WELL AS MEMBER JURISDICTIONS' STAFF, TO CONSIDER AND RECOMMEND POLICY CHANGES ADDRESSING CASH FLOW, INCLUDING THE TRANSPORTATION UNIFORM MITIGATION FEE, REDUCING REGIONAL COSTS AND INCREASING REGIONAL REVENUE**

**THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 13 AYES, AND 6 MEMBERS ABSENT**

<b>MAYOR MATAS</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>MAYOR PRO TEM FIGUEROA</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>MAYOR SOTO</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER MILLER</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>TRIBAL CHAIR MIKE</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>TRIBAL CHAIR MIRELEZ</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>TRIBAL COUNCILMEMBER SOULLIERE</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>TRIBAL CHAIR MILANOVICH</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>MAYOR TAYLOR</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>MAYOR GREGORY</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>MAYOR TRUBEE</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>MAYOR EVANS</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>MAYOR DECONINCK</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>SUPERVISOR MEDINA</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>SUPERVISOR SPIEGEL</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>SUPERVISOR WASHINGTON</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>SUPERVISOR PEREZ</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>SUPERVISOR GUTIERREZ</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>MAYOR MALLOTTO</b>	<b>AYE</b>

**F. Indian Wells Mayor Taylor's Request to Discuss Flight Patterns at Palm Springs International Airport and Associated Noise Concerns**

Mayor Taylor provided an update on noise concerns in their city and neighboring communities following changes to flight patterns into Palm Springs International Airport by the Federal Aviation Administration.

Member discussion followed on this topic. Staff was directed to follow up with members and provide flight pattern maps.

No action was taken, as this was an information-only item.

**6. INFORMATION**

a) Executive Committee Attendance

- b) Regional Transportation Project Status Report
- c) Conflict of Interest Guidance
- d) California’s Prohousing Designation Program
- e) Overview of Coachella Valley Behavioral Health
- f) Riverside County Continuum of Care’s Annual Impact Report
- g) Drone Deployment by Local Law Enforcement
- h) Countywide and Statewide Efforts to Address Reoccurring 911 Outages in the Coachella Valley
- i) Addressing Air Quality in the Coachella Valley
- j) Inland Regional Energy Network’s Business Plan and Public Sector Update
- k) Status of the Salton Sea Conservancy
- l) 2025 Annual Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Report
- m) Update on the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Project
- n) Unaudited investment report through September 30, 2025
- o) Unaudited investment report through December 31, 2025
- p) Indirect Cost Rates Report and Implementation
- q) Coachella Valley Conservation Commission’s Coordination on the Burrowing Owl

These items were included in the agenda packet for members’ information.

**7. LEGISLATIVE ITEMS –**

- a) State Legislative Update – Kiana Valentine of Politico Group  
Ms. Valentine joined the meeting via Zoom and provided an update on the ongoing legislative advocacy efforts in Sacramento.

**8. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

None

9. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next meeting of the **Executive Committee** will be held on Monday, April 27, 2026, at 4:00 p.m. at the Coachella Valley Water District, Steve Robbins Administration Building Training Room, 75515 Hovley Lane East, Palm Desert, 92260.

10. **CLOSED SESSION**

Pursuant to the provisions of Government Code Section 54957(b)(1), the Committee will adjourn to Closed Session.

*Public Employee Performance Evaluation*  
Government Code Section 54957(b)(1)  
Title: Executive Director

Chair Perez moved the Committee into closed session at 5:30 p.m.

Closed session ended at 5:50 p.m. with CVAG Legal Counsel Nicholas Norvell announcing no reportable actions from closed session.

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting at 5:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Elysia Regalado, Deputy Clerk*

**ITEM 4C**

Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
Executive Committee  
April 27, 2026



**STAFF REPORT**

**Subject:** Authorization to Secure Location and Related Vendor Services for the General Assembly

**Contact:** Elysia Regalado, Deputy Clerk ([eregalado@cvag.org](mailto:eregalado@cvag.org))

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**Recommendation:** Authorize the Executive Director, in consultation with the CVAG Chair, to execute the contracts necessary to host an in-person dinner event for the 2026 CVAG General Assembly

**Background:** The General Assembly is CVAG's governing body. It is comprised of the entire City Councils from CVAG's member cities – Blythe, Cathedral City, Coachella, Desert Hot Springs, Indian Wells, Indio, La Quinta, Palm Desert, Palm Springs, and Rancho Mirage – as well as the five Riverside County Board of Supervisors, and the Tribal Councils of the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, Cabazon Band of Cahuilla Indians, Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians, and Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians.

The General Assembly meets annually on the last Monday in June and serves as CVAG's largest meeting of the year. During this meeting, the General Assembly elects a Chair and Vice Chair and adopts the agency budget for the upcoming fiscal year.

Traditionally, this significant event is accompanied by a dinner and a presentation. Last year's General Assembly took place on June 30, 2025, at the Westin Mission Hills Country Club in Rancho Mirage.

This year's General Assembly is scheduled for 6 p.m. on June 29, 2026. Based on feedback from Riverside County Supervisor V. Manuel Perez, who is CVAG's Chair, both the General Assembly and the preceding Executive Committee meeting will be held at the Fantasy Springs Casino in Indio. CVAG staff is recommending the Executive Director be authorized to negotiate agreements for event logistics that could be covered through sponsorships and dinner ticket sales.

**Fiscal Analysis:** Staff uses sponsorships to cover the majority of costs associated with hosting the General Assembly. Additionally, dinner tickets, typically priced between \$50-\$70 per person, are offered to help offset remaining expenses.

**ITEM 4D**

**Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
Executive Committee  
April 27, 2026**



**STAFF REPORT**

**Subject:** Vehicles Miles Traveled (VMT) Project Update and Contract Amendment

**Contact:** Peter Satin, Conservation Program Manager ([psatin@cvag.org](mailto:psatin@cvag.org))

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**Recommendation: Authorize the Executive Director to execute Amendment No. 2 with Kimley-Horn and Associates for an amount not to exceed \$128,326 to conduct transportation model updates utilizing available Regional Early Action Planning (REAP 2.0) grant funding**

**Transportation Committee: Concurred (Meeting of April 6)**

**Background:** In September 2023, CVAG staff provided to the Transportation Committee information on the Regional Early Action Planning Grants of 2021 (REAP 2.0), a State of California-funded program to accelerate meeting the State's housing and climate goals. REAP 2.0 is being administered regionally by the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), which has set aside \$80 million for use in its County Transportation Commission (CTC) Partnership Program. The CTC Partnership Program is designed to facilitate the development of transit and other multimodal services to reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and promote infill development.

Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) staff invited CVAG staff to put forward potential projects for funding through the program and were eventually awarded \$11,088,635 for five projects countywide. Of these five projects, two CVAG proposals were selected for funding: a regional VMT study was fully funded for \$2,005,000, and a community connectors active transportation planning project was partially funded for \$1,700,000. In September 2024, CVAG's Executive Committee authorized the execution of a Memorandum of Understanding with RCTC to accept the REAP 2.0 funds, and then in December 2024 authorized the execution of two professional services contracts with CR Associates (CRA) and Kimley-Horn and Associates to conduct the community connectors project and the VMT study, respectively. In June 2025, CVAG amended each of the above agreements to extend the performance period from the original ending date of December 31, 2025, to June 30, 2026.

Significant progress has been made on each project. The community connector team has identified 44 regional active transportation corridors that would enhance access to CV Link from local neighborhoods, commercial centers, and public facilities. These corridor alignments also include proposed buildouts, taking into account rider comfort, roadway space, and safety needs. CVAG recently authorized an amendment to the contract for the community connector project in response to additional funding from SCAG to allow for additional design and engineering work on the top scoring alignments to better situate the projects for future grant competitiveness.

The recommended action would authorize some additional work on the VMT project. The team has conducted extensive outreach with the public and CVAG member jurisdictions to better understand growth and development trends, mitigation needs, and mobility preferences. Collected data has been used to compile VMT reduction strategies tailored to meet the specific needs of the Coachella Valley,

and will be further utilized in assessing the VMT mitigation needs and reduction opportunities within CVAG's Transportation Project Prioritization Study (TPPS) and the associated Active Transportation Plan and Transportation Uniform Mitigation Fee (TUMF) nexus study, all currently under revision.

A critical component of the VMT study involved establishing baseline VMT thresholds for use in the preparation of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) environmental review documentation. In order to do so, the project team had proposed updating the Coachella Valley portion of the regional transportation demand model, RIVCOM, from its current 2018 base year to 2023, the most recent year for which American Community Survey data was available. While conducting the update, it was identified that, in many Transportation Analysis Zones (TAZ; the primary geographic unit within a transportation demand model), development was improperly distributed, which could result in inaccurate project-level VMT calculations and therefore mitigation requirements. This was resolved by redistributing development based on historical TUMF data or by splitting larger TAZs into smaller TAZs that better reflected development patterns.

Although the abovementioned work was sufficient to establish current VMT thresholds in accordance with the needs of the project, the team observed that updating the growth projections for the RIVCOM horizon year of 2045 would better inform recommendations of the need for any regional VMT mitigation program, such as a VMT mitigation bank, as well as its potential scope and scale. Outreach with CVAG member jurisdictions' staff was conducted to determine where within each jurisdiction's boundaries growth was projected, and how much. The growth projections generated through this approach, and the resulting VMT calculations, suggested that the need for a regional VMT mitigation program was minimal –and the project team therefore did not apply any further constraints to the projects provided by member agency staff.

CVAG staff coordinated these updates to RIVCOM with the Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG) staff, who manage and maintain the model, to ensure that any work conducted under the VMT project could be easily passed to WRCOG for integration into the existing model version. During these coordination efforts, WRCOG staff informed the VMT team that they would be embarking on a wholesale update to RIVCOM to bring it in line with SCAG's most recent regional transportation plan, Connect SoCal 2024. This would include updating the base year to 2024, the horizon year to 2050, and constraining growth projections in accordance with parameters imposed by SCAG's planning requirements.

CVAG staff is recommending an amendment to Kimley-Horn's contract in order to utilize remaining REAP funding to conduct these final model update steps. This means that the work already conducted – notably the reallocation of existing development and TAZ splits – can be easily integrated into the general RIVCOM update being undertaken by WRCOG. These final steps include updating the CVAG sub-regional base line year from 2023 to 2024, updating the horizon year from 2045 to 2050 and simultaneously constraining the growth projections already received in accordance with SCAG's control projections, incorporating trip generation from outside Riverside County, and revising the population synthesis methodology to accommodate the updated inputs.

**Fiscal Analysis:** CVAG's VMT study was originally awarded \$2,005,000 in REAP funding from SCAG. Of that, CVAG advertised a project budget of \$1,800,000. Kimley-Horn's original proposal was projected to cost \$1,670,485, and remains on budget. The remaining RIVCOM updates are projected to cost \$128,326, bringing the contract total to \$1,798,811, which remains within the original advertised budget.

**Attachment:** Draft Amendment No. 2 to the Kimley-Horn Professional Services Agreement

**AMENDMENT NUMBER TWO**  
to the  
**KIMLEY-HORN AND ASSOCIATES, INC**  
**SERVICES CONTRACT**  
for  
**COACHELLA VALLEY REGIONAL VEHICLE MILES TRAVELED STUDY**

This **AMENDMENT NUMBER TWO** is made and entered into this **6<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2026** by and between the **Coachella Valley Association of Governments**, a California joint powers agency (**CVAG**), and **Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. (Consultant)**, and is made with reference to the following background facts and circumstances. All other terms and conditions shall remain the same as stated in the original Agreement dated **December 2, 2024**, Coachella Valley Regional Vehicle Miles Travelled Study.

- 1. This Amendment Number Two authorized the additional scope of services as described in Exhibit A. Scope of Work for the not-to-exceed amount of \$128,326.00.**
- 2. The total amount payable under this agreement shall not exceed \$1,798,811.00.**

Original Agreement	December 2, 2024	\$1,670,485.00
Amendment Number One	June 18, 2025	No Cost
Amendment Number Two	April 6, 2026	<u>\$128,326.00</u>
<b>Total Agreement Not-to-Exceed</b>		<b>\$1,798,811.00</b>

Consistent with CVAG Policy 21-02, this amendment shall be executed with the use of electronic or digital signatures in order to be in effect.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the parties hereto have caused this **Amendment Number Two** to be executed by their duly authorized representatives on this date:

**COACHELLA VALLEY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS**

**KIMLEY-HORN AND ASSOCIATES, INC.**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tom Kirk, CVAG Executive Director

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Michael Schmitt, Project Manager

## **Exhibit A. Scope of Work**

A critical component of the Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) study involved establishing baseline VMT thresholds for use in the preparation of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) environmental review documentation. In order to do so, the project team had proposed updating the Coachella Valley portion of the regional transportation demand model, RIVCOM, from its current 2018 base year to 2023, the most recent year for which American Community Survey data was available. While conducting the update, it was identified that, in many Transportation Analysis Zones (TAZ; the primary geographic unit within a transportation demand model), development was improperly distributed, which could result in inaccurate project-level VMT calculations and therefore mitigation requirements. This was resolved by redistributing development based on historical Transportation Uniform Mitigation Fee (TUMF) data or by splitting larger TAZs into smaller TAZs that better reflected development patterns.

Although the abovementioned work was sufficient to establish current VMT thresholds in accordance with the needs of the project, the team observed that updating the growth projections for the RIVCOM horizon year of 2045 would better inform recommendations of the need for any regional VMT mitigation program, such as a VMT mitigation bank, as well as its potential scope and scale. Outreach with CVAG member agency staff was conducted to determine where within each jurisdiction's boundaries growth was projected, and how much. The growth projections generated through this approach, and the resulting VMT calculations, suggested that the need for a regional VMT mitigation program was minimal, and the project team therefore did not apply any further constraints to the projects provided by member agency staff.

CVAG staff coordinated these updates to RIVCOM with the Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG), who manage and maintain the model, to ensure that any work conducted under the VMT project could be easily passed to WRCOG for integration into the existing model version. During these coordination efforts, WRCOG staff informed the VMT team that they would be embarking on a wholesale update to RIVCOM to bring it in line with Southern California Association of Governments' (SCAG) regional transportation plan, Connect SoCal 2024. This would include updating the base year to 2024, the horizon year to 2050, and constraining growth projections in accordance with parameters imposed by SCAG's planning requirements.

CVAG staff is proposing to utilize remaining REAP funding to conduct these final model update steps such that the work already conducted – notably the reallocation of existing developments and TAZ splits – can be easily integrated into the general RIVCOM update being undertaken by WRCOG. These final steps include updating the CVAG sub-regional base line year from 2023 to 2024, updating the horizon year from 2045 to 2050 and simultaneously constraining the growth projections already received in accordance with SCAG's control projections, incorporating trip generation from outside Riverside County, and revising the population synthesis methodology to accommodate the updated inputs.

The remaining RIVCOM updates are projected to cost \$128,326, bringing the contract total to \$1,798,811, which remains within the original advertised budget.

**ITEM 4E**

**Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
Executive Committee  
April 27, 2026**



**STAFF REPORT**

**Subject:** TUMF Inflation Adjustment for Calendar Year 2027

**Contact:** Peter Satin, Conservation Program Manager ([psatin@cvag.org](mailto:psatin@cvag.org))

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**Recommendation:** Adopt a 3.9-percent increase in Transportation Uniform Mitigation Fee (TUMF) rates to take effect January 1, 2027, and update the TUMF Handbook to reflect the revised fee upon its effective date

**Transportation Committee:** Concurred (Meeting of April 6)

**Background:** The Transportation Uniform Mitigation Fee (TUMF) was established in 1989 as a one-time impact fee charged on all new development occurring within the CVAG region. Monies collected through the TUMF program are applied to transportation-related capital facilities and infrastructure required to serve new growth within the Coachella Valley and are intended to compliment revenue generated through Riverside County's Measure A sales tax. To date, TUMF has provided less than the intended share of match toward Measure A funding.

The current TUMF rates were adopted in 2018 upon the completion of a revised Nexus Study, Transportation Project Prioritization Study (TPPS), Regional Arterial Cost Estimate (RACE), and Active Transportation Plan (ATP). Prior to their adoption, the fee had remained unchanged at \$192/trip for over a decade. The 2018 Nexus Study originally proposed a revised fee of \$751/trip; however, this fee was reduced to the current \$245/trip after re-evaluating which regional transportation projects would likely be built in the near-term. This rate equates to \$2,313 for a single-family dwelling. By comparison, the Western Riverside Council of Governments has four fee tiers depending on the square footage of the single-family dwelling, ranging from \$12,380 to \$19,344.

The 2018 TUMF Handbook allows for the consideration of an annual inflation adjustment:

*The inflation factor shall be the same one utilized by the Coachella Valley Local Development Mitigation Fee, based on the Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario Consumer Price Index (CPI). Such CPI will be reviewed annually by the Executive Committee which will determine whether or not to apply the inflation factor.*

The Local Development Mitigation Fee (LDMF) inflation factor is calculated on the CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), All items, as the over-the-year percent change, measured as of December in the calendar year which ends in the previous fiscal year. The Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario CPI is measured every other month, and does not include data for the month of December. To approximate a data point for an unrecorded month, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) recommends taking the square root of the product of the indexes for the preceding and subsequent months, in this case November and January. This approximated December data point can then be used to calculate the over-the-year percent change.

Applying regular increases due to inflation is a preferred approach to infrequent increases to catch up over time. An inflation factor of 2-percent was applied across each of CVAG’s TUMF categories by the Executive Committee at its April 2025 meeting. In accordance with California’s Mitigation Fee Act, and to allow member jurisdictions time to update their local TUMF ordinances as needed, implementation of the inflation factor did not go into effect until January 1, 2026.

The CPI-U, All items for the Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario metropolitan area rose by 3.88-percent for calendar year 2025. BLS notes that some entities choose to calculate “core” inflation on the CPI-U, less food and energy (the latter of which includes motor fuel), as these items tend to be more volatile in their pricing. Removing these volatile items from the regional CPI results in an inflation factor of 4.13-percent, largely due to reductions in the price of fuel and other energy sources.

CVAG staff recommend applying the CPI-U, All items inflation factor of 3.88-percent to the current fee assessments, as described in the below table.

<i>TUMF Category</i>	<i>Current Rate</i>	<i>Proposed Rate</i>	<i>Difference</i>
<u><i>Residential (per dwelling unit)</i></u>			
<i>Single family detached</i>	<b>\$2,900</b>	<b>\$3,010</b>	\$110
<i>Multi-family attached</i>	<b>\$1,670</b>	<b>\$1,735</b>	\$65
<i>Nursing/congregate care</i>	<b>\$615</b>	<b>\$640</b>	\$25
<i>Transit oriented single family</i>	<b>\$2,465</b>	<b>\$2,560</b>	\$95
<i>Transit oriented multi-family</i>	<b>\$1,425</b>	<b>\$1,480</b>	\$55
<u><i>Non-Residential (per 1,000 sq. ft)</i></u>			
<i>Retail</i>	<b>\$7,535</b>	<b>\$7,825</b>	\$290
<i>Office</i>	<b>\$2,995</b>	<b>\$3,110</b>	\$115
<i>Industrial</i>	<b>\$1,520</b>	<b>\$1,580</b>	\$60
<i>Fuel - gas (per dispensing unit)</i>	<b>\$10,800</b>	<b>\$11,220</b>	\$420
<i>Fuel - electric (per dispensing unit)</i>	<b>\$110</b>	<b>\$115</b>	\$5
<i>Hotel (per room)</i>	<b>\$4,400</b>	<b>\$4,570</b>	\$170
<i>Golf course (per acre)</i>	<b>\$1,155</b>	<b>\$1,200</b>	\$45

The revised rates would be implemented January 1, 2027 so that member jurisdictions will have sufficient time to amend local ordinances. The rates listed in the TUMF Handbook will also be updated at that time to reflect the adjustment.

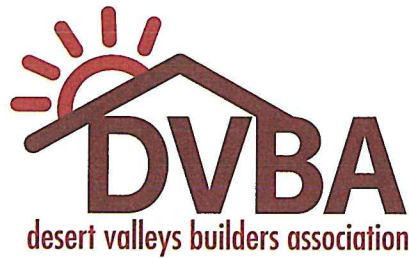
This information was provided to the Desert Valleys Builders Association (DVBA) for comment on March 3, 2026. They have submitted a response letter (attached) That includes a request for a revised fee study. CVAG staff would note that an update to the TUMF nexus study is currently underway as part of the broader TPPS update, and for which CVAG recently authorized the Executive Director to create an ad-hoc committee. In the event the revised nexus study is ready for implementation in early 2027, CVAG staff will work with its Committees and member jurisdictions to prioritize the updated program over this inflationary adjustment.

Staff recommends authorizing this inflationary adjustment to the current fee schedule to accommodate any delays in the TPPS and TUMF update processes.

**Fiscal Analysis:** Based on TUMF revenues generated in Fiscal Year 2024-25, adjusting current TUMF rates based on the CPI-U, All items inflation rate of 3.88-percent would result in additional revenue of \$131,675.

Revising the TUMF Handbook will have no fiscal impact.

**Attachment:** DVBA Comment Letter dated March 20, 2026



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March 20, 2026

**Coachella Valley Association of Governments**

Peter Satin, Conservation Program Manager  
74-199 El Paseo, Suite 100  
Palm Desert, CA 92260

RE: Annual TUMF CPI Increase

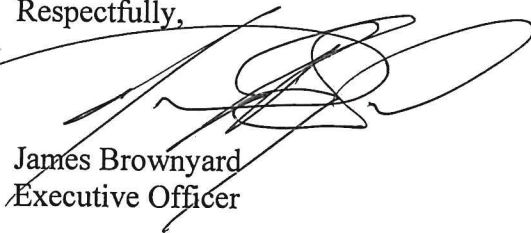
Dear Mr. Satin,

Thank you for providing the Desert Valleys Builders Association the opportunity to review the annual inflationary increase of the Coachella Valley Association of Government's Transportation Uniform Mitigation Fee program.

We understand and support CVAG's use of the Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index for the Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario region. The calculation of 3.88 percent appears to have been calculated appropriately and is a reasonable increase, keeping the TUMF amount in line with inflation.

However, based on the latest amendments to the Mitigation Fee Act, the "Nexus Study" and its associated studies expire after 8 years. The Desert Valleys Builders Association requests that an appropriate Mitigation Fee Act compliant study be conducted prior to the Coachella Valley Association of Governments request that its partner local agencies increase the Transportation Uniform Mitigation Fee rate based on an inflationary adjustment.

Respectfully,

  
James Brownyard  
Executive Officer

**ITEM 4F**

Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
Executive Committee  
April 27, 2026



**STAFF REPORT**

**Subject:** Amendment to the agreement with Anser Advisory for CV Link

**Contact:** Jonathan Hoy, Director of Transportation ([jhoy@cvag.org](mailto:jhoy@cvag.org))

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**Recommendation:** Authorize the Executive Director to execute Amendment No. 5 to the agreement with Anser Advisory (also known as Accenture Infrastructure and Capital Projects LLC.) for an additional not-to-exceed amount of \$950,000 for construction management services of CV Link

**Transportation Committee:** Concurred (Meeting of April 6)

**Background:** CV Link was the largest active transportation project in the state, if not the nation, when it was first launched by CVAG. Largely located along the Whitewater River/ Coachella Valley Storm Water Channel, CV Link provides a safer alternative to walking and biking along the Coachella Valley's fast-moving roadways, where too many cyclists and pedestrians have been hit or killed. CV Link also provides significant environmental, health, air quality and economic benefits to generations of current and future residents and visitors.

In November 2025, CVAG officially celebrated the project with grand opening events in each of the participating jurisdictions. On December 1, 2025, the Executive Committee authorized the Executive Director to accept and file the necessary project closeout documents, including Notices of Completion, for CV Link.

As part of the closeout of CV Link, staff is recommending a final contract amendment for Anser Advisory Group. CVAG hired Anser, which is now Accenture Infrastructure and Capital Projects, LLC, in 2020 as construction projects of CV Link's scale typically necessitates the involvement of a construction manager. Over the years, several amendments have been approved to add additional funding and extend the term of the contract, which is set to end on June 30, 2026.

Although the project is open to the public, closeout of CV Link has been delayed due to the ongoing construction of the Avenue 44 undercrossing in Indio, the processing of numerous change orders, and final negotiations with the contractors. Closeout has been further hampered by personnel turnover within the contractor's project management team, including the replacement of both their Field Engineer and Project Manager.

Part of the recommended authorization will cover approximately \$106,000 in costs that CVAG has already incurred. Unfortunately, it has come to staff's attention that a data error occurred when CVAG transitioned this contract from the former, paper-based tracking system to the new Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system. This resulted in CVAG showing a larger available balance than actually existed.

CVAG staff is now recommending an amendment to the contract with Anser Advisory Group. This would cover ongoing costs related to the final closeout of the project. The recommended contract amendment would also allow the Executive Director and/or Legal Counsel to make minor, clarifying contract changes prior to execution.

**Fiscal Analysis:** Amendment No. 5 with Anser includes an additional, not-to-exceed amount of \$950,000. Anser was first hired in January 2020 for a not-to-exceed contract of \$9,022,988.37. Amendment No. 1 added no additional costs to the contract. Amendment No. 2 added \$6,000,000. Amendment 3 added \$2,276,000. Amendment 4 added no additional costs to the contract. This amendment will bring the total amount to about \$18.2 million.

The cost of the contract amendments will be paid from existing funding sources for CV Link, including regional transportation funding.

CVAG has previously secured funding commitments from an array of sources for CV Link's planning and construction, which is reflective of the broad support the project has had. These include:

State Active Transportation Program:	\$	21,692,000
State Transportation Improvement Program:	\$	18,655,000
South Coast Air Quality Mitigation District:	\$	19,125,603
Federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality:	\$	12,600,000
Desert Healthcare District:	\$	10,000,000
California Strategic Growth Council:	\$	1,000,000
Riverside County Parks:	\$	750,000
Bicycle Transportation Account Grant:	\$	748,500
Caltrans Environmental Justice Grant:	\$	291,000

**Attachments:**

1. Amendment No. 5 to Anser Advisory's professional services agreement
2. Anser Advisory LLC letter dated March 24, 2026

**AMENDMENT NUMBER FIVE  
to the  
ANSER ADVISORY LLC  
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT  
for the  
CV LINK PROJECT**

This **AMENDMENT NUMBER FIVE** is made and entered into this **27<sup>th</sup> day of April 2026**, by and between the **Coachella Valley Association of Governments**, a California joint powers agency (**CVAG**), and **Anser Advisory LLC (Consultant)**, and is made with reference to the following background facts and circumstances. All other terms and conditions shall remain the same as stated in the original Agreement dated January 27, 2020 for the CV Link Project.

- 1. This Amendment Number Five authorizes the additional scope of services as outlined the attached Anser Advisory LLC letter dated March 24, 2026 for the not-to-exceed amount of \$950,000.00. The total amount payable shall not exceed \$18,248,988.37.**

Original Agreement	January 27, 2020	\$9,022,988.37
Amendment Number One	November 1, 2022	No Cost
Amendment Number Two	June 24, 2024	\$6,000,000.00
Amendment Number Three	April 28, 2025	\$2,276,000.00
Amendment Number Four	December 12, 2025	No Cost
Amendment Number Five	April 27, 2025	<u>\$950,000.00</u>
<b>Total Agreement not-to-exceed</b>		<b>\$18,248,988.37</b>

Consistent with CVAG Policy 21-02, this amendment shall be executed with the use of electronic or digital signatures in order to be in effect.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the parties hereto have caused this **Amendment Number Five** to be executed by their duly authorized representatives on this date:

**COACHELLA VALLEY ASSOCIATION  
OF GOVERNMENTS**

**ANSER ADVISORY LLC**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tom Kirk, CVAG Executive Director

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tyson C. Atwood, P.E.  
Senior Vice President



March 23, 2026

Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
Mr. Jonathan Hoy  
Director of Transportation  
74-199 El Paseo, Suite 100  
Palm Desert, CA 92260

**RE: CV Link Construction Management Change Order Request  
Agreement No. CVAG 2020-007-01**

Dear Mr. Hoy,

Accenture Infrastructure and Capital Projects, LLC (Accenture) respectfully requests an increased fee time and materials change order amendment to the subject contract agreement based on the following changes which have occurred since the time of our Amendment No. 03 request in March '25:

Segment 1 Construction

Amendment #3 anticipated that all punch list work and close-out would be completed by Dec '25. The contractors' Project Management turnover was worse than originally anticipated, as they lost both a Field Engineer and a Project Manager. Not only did the contractor fail to provide the necessary resources to quickly close out the punch list items under their control, they also struggled with their subcontractors performing original contract work. For example, the cable railing subcontractor did not complete all the contract cable railing scope on the project until December '25.

Furthermore, due to the turnover, the contractor has been very slow to submit the required close-out paperwork and change order documentation. The construction management team gave deadlines to the contractor for which all paperwork had to be submitted so that the project could be closed out. To date, we believe that all change order requests have been submitted. We are now anticipating that the project will be fully closed by May '26 deadline.

Segment 3/4/5 Construction

The contractor failed to complete their contract scope of work as we were originally told due to resource constraints. They also had challenges with their subcontractor related to the construction of the canopy and flood gate warning systems related to work within the UPRR right-of-way. To date, the high detection warning system remains contract work which has yet to be performed.

It should be noted that due to the contractors' failed performance, there may be an opportunity to recoup some of Accenture's cost through to the liquidated damages clause, though further negotiations would have to be had due to owner caused time delays due in large part due to environmental constraints and unforeseen conditions related to work within the UPRR right-of-way.

Segment 6 Construction

While the Segment 6 project substantially completed as anticipated, there have been a number of linger issues which have resulted in extended management costs. For example, the work on Lawrence/Crossley Road had to be significantly redesigned due to safety concerns. This coordination was done with the City of Palm Spring, which required their approval prior to the work beginning. This pushed a large portion of the street work toward the end of the project. This intersection also had delays associated with SCE completing their work associated

with installing a new service meter for the signal. All these delays required extensive coordination and field re-design efforts on Accenture behalf.

While Ramon Road Undercrossing was always part of the original contract, due to delays in being able to obtain right-of-way, this scope was moved to the end of the project. The scope of work started in November '25 and took place entirely after the rest of Segment 6 was substantially completed, thus resulting in higher management costs because it was not completed concurrently with other scopes of work. Accenture to put mitigation efforts into place by providing part-time inspection services while also working toward closing out other aspects of the project.

While originally planned to be completed in May '25, the Highway 111 scope of work did not start until August '25, significantly later than anticipated during our original cost estimate. During construction, there were several grade and unforeseen condition challenges which required extensive coordination with the designer. Landscape and irrigation were always an unknown on the project, so the inspection team had to tediously document the location of the existing irrigation system, so that it could be replaced in a like condition after the pathway was construction.

#### Additional Projects and Scopes

After our amendment, CVAG has requested additional scopes of work that could not have been foreseen at the time. This includes management of the following:

- Coachella Community Connector – Accenture provided both constructability review, construction management and inspection services for this project which featured very similar features to the CV Link project. This project experienced unforeseen challenges in the form of manmade buried objects at multiple locations. The scope of work was substantially more involved than expected given the small size of the project.
- Avenue 44 Gap Connector – CVAG's strategy for completing this project shifted after the amendment was executed, in which Accenture was much more involved with this project. The project was ultimately sole sourced by CVAG so that it could be constructed at the most cost effective and efficient manner possible. Accenture was tasked with putting contract documents together, negotiating costs, and ultimately managing the project in coordination with the City of Indio Avenue 44 Bridge project.
- Cathedral City: Cathedral Canyon Crossing – While identified as a needed project that would likely be added as a change order, this project required significant coordination with both the Cathedral City and their design team. Accenture was ultimately tasked with completing the constructability review, negotiating the change order, and overseeing this scope after Segment 6 had been substantially completed.
- Wayfinding Design Changes – Due to public comment, the entire Wayfinding design package was changed, requiring an extensive design review effort on Accenture's behalf. The Accenture team also took the lead in taking down Wayfinding signs throughout the project which were causing confusion to the traveling public until such time as the new design package could be completed.

Accenture has prepared an estimated cost to complete of the federally funded portion of the CV Link program based on the most currently known information available. The details of this estimate are shown in the attached Exhibit A. Based on this estimate, Accenture respectfully requests an increase to our original contract value of **\$950,000.00**.



Accenture appreciates the opportunity to complete this exciting program. Should you have any questions or would like to discuss further, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tyson C. Atwood". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ty" being particularly prominent.

Tyson C. Atwood  
Senior Vice President  
tyson.atwood@accenture.com

# EXHIBIT A

## Summary

Row Labels	Sum of Total Cost
<b>Segment 1/2</b>	<b>\$225,931.37</b>
Anser	\$156,931.37
CA Consultants	\$0.00
Danken	\$59,000.00
DESI	\$7,500.00
ECORP	\$2,500.00
Geocon	\$0.00
Michael Baker International	\$0.00
<b>Segment 3/4/5</b>	<b>\$222,940.16</b>
Anser	\$138,940.16
CA Consultants	\$0.00
Danken	\$59,000.00
DESI	\$10,000.00
ECORP	\$5,000.00
Geocon	\$5,000.00
Michael Baker International	\$5,000.00
<b>Segment 6</b>	<b>\$284,289.02</b>
Anser	\$259,289.02
CA Consultants	\$0.00
Danken	\$0.00
DESI	\$10,000.00
ECORP	\$5,000.00
Geocon	\$5,000.00
Michael Baker International	\$5,000.00
<b>Anser ODC's</b>	<b>\$31,552.50</b>
Anser ODC	\$31,552.50
<b>Ave 44 Gap</b>	<b>\$162,931.02</b>
Anser	\$141,431.02
DESI	\$0.00
ECORP	\$8,500.00
Geocon	\$13,000.00
<b>Wayfinding Signs</b>	<b>\$15,300.00</b>
Anser	\$15,300.00
DESI	\$0.00
<b>Public Outreach</b>	<b>\$7,000.00</b>
Burke Rix	\$7,000.00
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$949,944.07</b>

**Total Requested Add**

**\$950,000.00**

Row Labels	Sum of Total Cost	Sum of Jan '26	Sum of Feb '26	Sum of Mar '26	Sum of Apr '26	Sum of May '26	Sum of Jun '26	Sum of Jul '26
Anser	\$711,891.57	\$113,318.32	\$151,748.34	\$169,358.37	\$137,910.77	\$86,267.03	\$53,288.74	\$0.00
Burke Rix	\$7,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$1,000.00			
CA Consultants	\$0.00							
Danken	\$118,000.00	\$18,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	
DESI	\$27,500.00	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00			
ECORP	\$21,000.00	\$12,500.00	\$12,500.00	\$7,500.00	\$1,000.00			
Geocon	\$23,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$3,000.00			
Michael Baker International	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00					
Anser ODC	\$31,552.50	\$4,800.00	\$6,922.50	\$7,612.50	\$6,112.50	\$3,712.50	\$2,392.50	\$0.00
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$949,944.07</b>	<b>\$136,118.32</b>	<b>\$226,670.84</b>	<b>\$222,470.87</b>	<b>\$179,023.27</b>	<b>\$109,979.53</b>	<b>\$75,681.24</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

Segment	Company	Position Role/Title	Jan '26	Feb '26	Mar '26	Apr '26	May '26	Jun '26	Jul '26	Total Cost
										\$0.00
Anser ODC's	Anser ODC	Office Costs								\$0.00
Anser ODC's	Anser ODC	Vehicle Costs	\$4,800.00	\$6,922.50	\$7,612.50	\$6,112.50	\$3,712.50	\$2,392.50	\$0.00	\$31,552.50
Anser ODC's	Anser ODC	Misc (Permits, etc)								\$0.00
Segment 1/2	Anser	Construction Management	\$30,718.58	\$42,558.00	\$39,904.36	\$22,446.24	\$15,062.12	\$6,242.06	\$0.00	\$156,931.37
Segment 1/2	Danken	Document Control	\$9,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00		\$59,000.00
Segment 1/2	CA Consultants	Utility Coordination								\$0.00
Segment 1/2	DESI	Labor Compliance		\$2,500.00	\$5,000.00					\$7,500.00
Segment 1/2	Michael Baker International	Survey								\$0.00
Segment 1/2	Geocon	Material Testing								\$0.00
Segment 1/2	ECORP	Environmental		\$2,500.00						\$2,500.00
Segment 3/4/5	Anser	Construction Management	\$27,474.91	\$34,882.93	\$28,537.23	\$29,073.08	\$14,231.18	\$4,740.84	\$0.00	\$138,940.16
Segment 3/4/5	Danken	Document Control	\$9,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00		\$59,000.00
Segment 3/4/5	CA Consultants	Utility Coordination								\$0.00
Segment 3/4/5	DESI	Labor Compliance		\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$5,000.00				\$10,000.00
Segment 3/4/5	Michael Baker International	Survey		\$5,000.00						\$5,000.00
Segment 3/4/5	Geocon	Material Testing		\$5,000.00						\$5,000.00
Segment 3/4/5	ECORP	Environmental		\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00					\$5,000.00
Segment 6	Anser	Construction Management	\$36,205.12	\$48,053.74	\$60,027.01	\$50,601.67	\$35,851.83	\$28,549.65	\$0.00	\$259,289.02
Segment 6	Danken	Document Control								\$0.00
Segment 6	CA Consultants	Utility Coordination								\$0.00
Segment 6	DESI	Labor Compliance		\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$5,000.00				\$10,000.00
Segment 6	Michael Baker International	Survey		\$5,000.00						\$5,000.00
Segment 6	Geocon	Material Testing		\$5,000.00						\$5,000.00
Segment 6	ECORP	Environmental		\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00					\$5,000.00
Ave 44 Gap	Anser	Construction Management	\$13,819.71	\$21,153.66	\$35,789.78	\$35,789.78	\$21,121.89	\$13,756.19	\$0.00	\$141,431.02
Ave 44 Gap	Geocon	Material Testing		\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$3,000.00				\$13,000.00
Ave 44 Gap	DESI	Labor Compliance								\$0.00
Ave 44 Gap	ECORP	Environmental		\$5,000.00	\$2,500.00	\$1,000.00				\$8,500.00
Wayfinding Signs	Anser	Construction Management	\$5,100.00	\$5,100.00	\$5,100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15,300.00
Wayfinding Signs	DESI	Labor Compliance								\$0.00
Undercrossing Lighting	Anser	Construction Management	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Undercrossing Lighting	DESI	Labor Compliance								\$0.00
Misc Project	Anser	Construction Management	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Public Outreach	Burke Rix	Public Outreach		\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$1,000.00				\$7,000.00

\$949,944.07

Audit OH Rate: 115.12%  
 Fee: 7%

Segment	Position Role/Title	Name	Raw Rate	Loaded Rate	Jan '26	Feb '26	Mar '26	Apr '26	May '26	Jun '26	Jul '26	TOTAL Hours	Total Cost
Segment 1/2	Sr. Resident Engineer	Tyson Atwood	\$136.64	\$255.00	15	16	20	20	20	10		101	\$25,755.00
Segment 1/2	Asst. RE	Ben Torres	\$80.20	\$184.60	60	60	80	80	40	20		340	\$62,765.05
Segment 1/2	Asst. RE	Kenny Casados	\$70.00	\$161.12	16	16	16	16	16			80	\$12,889.99
Segment 1/2	Office Engineer	Gysandra Preciado	\$42.91	\$98.77	20	20	20	20				60	\$6,572.51
Segment 1/2	Document Control	Rachael Highley	\$47.59	\$109.54	60	80	40					180	\$33,145.69
Segment 1/2	Lead Inspector (PW)	TBD	\$80.00	\$184.14	\$30,718.58	\$42,558.00	\$39,904.36	\$22,446.24	\$15,062.12	\$6,242.06	\$0.00		\$141,128.24
Segment 3/4/5	Sr. Resident Engineer	Tyson Atwood	\$136.64	\$255.00	15	16	20	20	20	10		101	\$25,755.00
Segment 3/4/5	Asst. RE	Kirk Streets	\$75.38	\$173.51	60	80	80	80	40			340	\$58,992.88
Segment 3/4/5	Office Engineer	Gysandra Preciado	\$42.91	\$98.77	20	20	20	20				120	\$13,145.03
Segment 3/4/5	Document Control	Rachael Highley	\$47.59	\$109.54	60	80	40					180	\$33,145.69
Segment 3/4/5	Lead Inspector (PW)	TBD	\$80.00	\$184.14	\$27,474.91	\$34,882.93	\$28,537.23	\$29,073.08	\$14,231.18	\$4,740.84	\$0.00		\$131,098.60
Segment 6	Sr. Resident Engineer	Tyson Atwood	\$136.64	\$255.00	15	16	20	20	20	20		111	\$28,305.00
Segment 6	Office Engineer	Gysandra Preciado	\$42.91	\$98.77	60	60	60	80	80	80		160	\$15,803.13
Segment 6	Document Control	Rachael Highley	\$47.59	\$109.54	24	24	24	24	24	24		144	\$15,774.03
Segment 6	Asst. RE	Prashanth Javvaji	\$79.31	\$182.55	60	80	80	80	40	40		260	\$47,464.17
Segment 6	Asst. RE	Ben Torres	\$80.20	\$184.60	80	80	80	40	40	40		380	\$70,149.17
Segment 6	Lead Inspector (PW)	TBD	\$80.00	\$184.14	80	80	80	40	40	40		280	\$51,559.96
Ave 44 Gap	Sr. Resident Engineer	Tyson Atwood	\$136.64	\$255.00	\$36,205.12	\$48,053.74	\$60,027.01	\$50,601.67	\$35,851.83	\$28,549.65	\$0.00		\$259,289.02
Ave 44 Gap	Asst. RE	Prashanth Javvaji	\$79.31	\$182.55	15	15	15	15	15	15		90	\$22,950.00
Ave 44 Gap	Document Control	Rachael Highley	\$47.59	\$109.54	24	24	24	24	24	24		144	\$15,774.03
Ave 44 Gap	Lead Inspector (PW)	TBD	\$80.00	\$184.14	40	60	80	80	40	40		300	\$55,242.82
Wayfinding Signs	Sr. Resident Engineer	Tyson Atwood	\$136.64	\$255.00	\$13,819.71	\$21,153.66	\$35,789.78	\$35,789.78	\$21,121.89	\$13,756.19	\$0.00		\$141,431.02
Wayfinding Signs	Asst. RE	Prashanth Javvaji	\$79.31	\$182.55	20	20	20					60	\$15,300.00
Wayfinding Signs	Lead Inspector (PW)	TBD	\$80.00	\$184.14								0	\$0.00
Undercrossing Lighting	Sr. Resident Engineer	Tyson Atwood	\$136.64	\$255.00	\$5,100.00	\$5,100.00	\$5,100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$15,300.00
Undercrossing Lighting	Asst. RE	Prashanth Javvaji	\$79.31	\$182.55								0	\$0.00
Undercrossing Lighting	Lead Inspector (PW)	TBD	\$80.00	\$184.14								0	\$0.00
Undercrossing Lighting	Document Control	Rachael Highley	\$47.59	\$109.54								0	\$0.00
Misc Project	Sr. Resident Engineer	Tyson Atwood	\$136.64	\$255.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Misc Project	Asst. RE	Ben Torres	\$80.20	\$184.60								0	\$0.00
Misc Project	Document Control	Rachael Highley	\$47.59	\$109.54								0	\$0.00

Total Cost: \$113,318.32 \$151,748.34 \$169,358.37 \$137,910.77 \$86,267.03 \$53,288.74 \$0.00 \$688,186.88

Total Hours: 640 923 1,015 815 495 319 0

FTE's: 4.0 5.8 6.3 5.1 3.1 2.0 0.0

**ITEM 4G**

**Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
Executive Committee  
April 27, 2026**



**STAFF REPORT**

**Subject: On-Call Traffic Signal Repair Services and Maintenance for CV Sync Network**

**Contact:** Mark Lancaster, Assistant Director of Transportation ([mlancaster@cvag.org](mailto:mlancaster@cvag.org))

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**Recommendation: Authorize the Chair and Executive Director to execute on-call services agreements for CV Sync traffic signal repair and maintenance with Crosstown Electrical & Data, Inc., St. Francis Electric, LLC, and Yunex Traffic, LLC for a combined, not-to-exceed total of \$300,000 annually through June 2028**

**Transportation Committee: Concurred (Meeting of April 6)**

**Background:** CVAG established specified equipment to optimize the performance of the CV Sync regional signal synchronization program. This also ensures compatibility between the traffic controller, video detection, closed circuit television, controller cabinets, remote sensing units, fiber optic cabling and other traffic signal equipment across the entire network of more than 500 intersections across the Coachella Valley.

Construction of CV Sync Phase I was completed in June 2024 across 139 intersections along Highway 111, Washington Street and Ramon Road and is now being operated and managed by CVAG staff. Construction of Phase II is expected to be completed in summer 2026 and will bring improvements to approximately 400 additional intersections across the Coachella Valley. Once construction of the Phase II project is completed, the total number of intersections for both phases will exceed 500 intersections. Intersections that are part of the Phase II project will be under warranty for one year after project acceptance and any issues that arise with those intersections will be repaired under warranty by CVAG's current contractor, Crosstown Electrical and Data.

Much like CVAG member jurisdictions that employ professional contractors to perform field maintenance, CVAG staff recommends doing the same for CV Sync to ensure operational and maintenance activities are addressed as soon as they are identified. Staff is now recommending the creation of an on-call list of qualified contractors that are available to deploy for the efficient repair or replacement CV Sync network components is in the best interest of CVAG. The number and type of maintenance or repair call outs needed in a given fiscal year will vary due to a range of factors including weather, vandalism, malfunction and traffic accidents that damage CV Sync equipment.

On January 30, 2026, CVAG issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) to provide On-Call Traffic Signal Repair Services and Maintenance. Four firms responded to the RFP: Bear Electrical Solutions, LLC; Crosstown Electrical & Data, Inc.; St. Francis Electric, LLC and Yunex Traffic, LLC. An evaluation committee comprised of CVAG staff and a representative from the City of Palm Desert reviewed and ranked the proposals. The evaluators found all four firms qualified to

perform the services listed in the RFP. All four firms have experience with video detection systems, closed circuit television, traffic controller cabinets, remote sensing units, fiber optic cabling and switches as well as other traffic signal equipment. The evaluation committee unanimously agreed on the ranking of the vendors and is recommending entering into on-call agreements with Crosstown, St. Francis and Yunex, which were the three top ranking firms. All three contractors initially will be addressing issues with the Phase 1 intersections. However, Crosstown would not be engaged to work on Phase II signals until the warranty period for them expires, which is anticipated to be in summer 2027, or unless it is first determined that the problem does not relate to anything under warranty.

This item prompted some discussion when it was reviewed by the Transportation Committee on April 6. The Committee concurred with the recommendation, but noted that the amount seemed lower than what may ultimately be needed. Committee members also asked about coordination between participating jurisdictions and CVAG when it comes to expediting repairs, particularly on the weekends or after hours. CVAG staff will continue to work with its member jurisdictions to find ways to streamline response times and ensure good communication.

Staff is recommending the creation of an on-call list with three contractors, and authorizing the Executive Director to finalize agreements with Crosstown, St. Francis and Yunex. In addition, it would be the intent to revisit this on-call list no less than ever two years to ensure there are enough responsive contractors available. and to provide opportunities for others.

**Fiscal Analysis:** The recommended action would authorize the Executive Director to approve agreements with Crosstown Electrical & Data, Inc.; St. Francis Electric, LLC, and Yunex Traffic, LLC. These contracts would be on a time-and-materials basis for a combined total not to exceed \$300,000 annually through June 30, 2028. Regional transportation funding is available for these agreements.

**ITEM 4H**

Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
Executive Committee  
April 27, 2026



**STAFF REPORT**

**Subject:** CV Housing First’s Quarterly Report for First Quarter of 2026

**Contact:** Candice Graff, Management Analyst II ([cgraff@cvaq.org](mailto:cgraff@cvaq.org))

**Recommendation:** Receive and file the quarterly report for the CV Housing First program, representing clients served in the first quarter of 2026

**Homelessness Committee:** Concurred (Meeting of April 15)

**Background:** CVAG is in its sixth year of operating the CV Housing First program with staff. The program is focused on the CV 200, a by-name list of chronically homeless individuals residing in desert cities that have frequent contacts with law enforcement and who are likely to be shelter resistant or who have already fallen out of housing. The list was developed in partnership with CVAG’s member jurisdictions and local law enforcement. It is also maintained in partnership with those agencies.

The CV Housing First team uses two primary methods to get clients to housing solutions: rapid resolution and crisis stabilization units, which are residential units, apartments and hotel rooms that CVAG rents to case manage CV Housing First clients.

Updates on the program’s metrics are provided quarterly to the Homelessness and Executive Committees. CVAG staff has committed to adjusting CV Housing First programming based on the data and based on available funding.

CV Housing First Clients – By the Numbers through March 31, 2026

CV 200 as of 3/31/2026	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	TOTAL
Clients housed in Crisis Stabilization Units (CSH)	41				41
Clients being helped through Rapid Resolution (RR)	0				0
Clients returned to the street (failures)	15				15
Clients moved into permanent housing from CSH (successes)	14				14

Clients moved into permanent housing through RR (successes)	0				0
Clients moved into permanent housing through Outreach (successes)*	4				4
<b>TOTAL HOUSED FROM LIST OF 200</b>	<b>18</b>				<b>18</b>

<b>NON CV 200 Clients</b>	<b>Q1</b>	<b>Q2</b>	<b>Q3</b>	<b>Q4</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Households Housed in CSH Units	1				1
Households being helped through RR	0				0

Households returned to the street (failures)	1				1
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Households moved into permanent housing from CSH (successes)	0				0
Households moved into permanent housing from RR (successes) *	0				0
<b>TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS HOUSED</b>	<b>0</b>				<b>0</b>
<b>TOTAL INDIVIDUALS HOUSED</b>	<b>0</b>				<b>0</b>

<b>Year</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>
<b>Total Clients Housed</b>	72	54	58	50	53
<b>Clients Still Housed</b>	18	26	40	30	43
<b>Clients No Longer Housed</b>	17	13	12	17	7

The data is divided by CV 200 clients – the by-name list of chronically homeless individuals that CVAG maintains in partnership with law enforcement and code enforcement – and non-CV 200 clients. There was one, non-CV 200 client served in the first quarter of 2026.

CVAG staff has set an internal goal of permanently housing 65 individuals this calendar year; in order to meet this goal, CV Housing First will need to house at least 16 individuals each quarter. The first quarter puts CVAG staff off to a strong start towards reaching this goal. One of the reasons why the CV Housing

First program had such a solid quarter was due to the 11 clients who had housing referrals and were pending move-in at the beginning of 2026. This includes housing individuals in the newly opened Desert Marigold project in Cathedral City. The CV Housing First program is anticipating a reduction in project-based vouchers available in 2026 since new projects have fully leased up and there have been no announcements regarding new project openings in the near future. Staff are anticipating these changes and have been working hard to focus on connecting clients to other programs that can lead to housing in the future such as detox/rehabilitation centers, Community Assistance, Recovery and Empowerment (CARE) Court, Prop 47, workforce solutions, and others.

The total number of clients housed or returning to the streets is less than the total helped each quarter, as the grand total includes clients who may remain in their units at the end of the quarter. CVAG continues to refine its data metrics in order to be transparent about how many and how quickly individuals are housed. CVAG also tracks clients who are being permanently housed by the CV Housing First program via outreach efforts, and not case management based in the crisis stabilization units.

CVAG staff also tracks how long individuals are staying in the program before being housed or returning to the street. The goal is to exit clients within 90 days to permanent housing solutions. Over the past five years, it is not uncommon for the length of stay to exceed 100 days. For the first quarter, the CV 200 clients who successfully exited the program into permanent housing stayed in a crisis stabilization unit on average for 86 days. Those CV 200 clients who exited the program unsuccessfully stayed on average 35 days.

**Fiscal Analysis:** The CV Housing First program, including the staffing and CV 200 program, is incorporated into the CV Housing First budget, which has been funded by contributions from cities and Riverside County grants.

## **ITEM 4I**

# Coachella Valley Association of Governments Executive Committee

April 27, 2026



## **STAFF REPORT**

**Subject:** Alan Seman Bus Pass Program 2025 Annual Report

**Contact:** Candice Graff, Management Analyst II ([cgraff@cvag.org](mailto:cgraff@cvag.org))

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**Recommendation:** Receive and file the 2025 Annual Report for the Alan Seman Bus Pass Program

**Homelessness Committee:** Concurred (Meeting of April 15)

**Background:** Since 2007, CVAG has provided a bus pass program that works in conjunction with non-profit agencies throughout the Coachella Valley to ensure homeless or near homeless individuals can get access to case management services, employment opportunities and medical care. The program is named in honor of Alan Seman, a longtime Rancho Mirage Councilmember and member of CVAG's Homelessness Committee who was a strong advocate for the program.

In recent years, CVAG staff has worked with agencies that receive passes through the Alan Seman Bus Pass program to better track how they are being used. This includes providing passes to the following organization serving people who are homeless, or at risk of being homeless: Shelter from the Storm; Coachella Valley Rescue Mission; CVAG's CV Housing First; Desert Hot Springs Family Resource Center; Jewish Family Services of San Diego; Mama's House; Mecca Family & Farmworker's Service Center; Safe House of the Desert; Marthas Village and Kitchen; Galilee Center; and Well in the Desert.

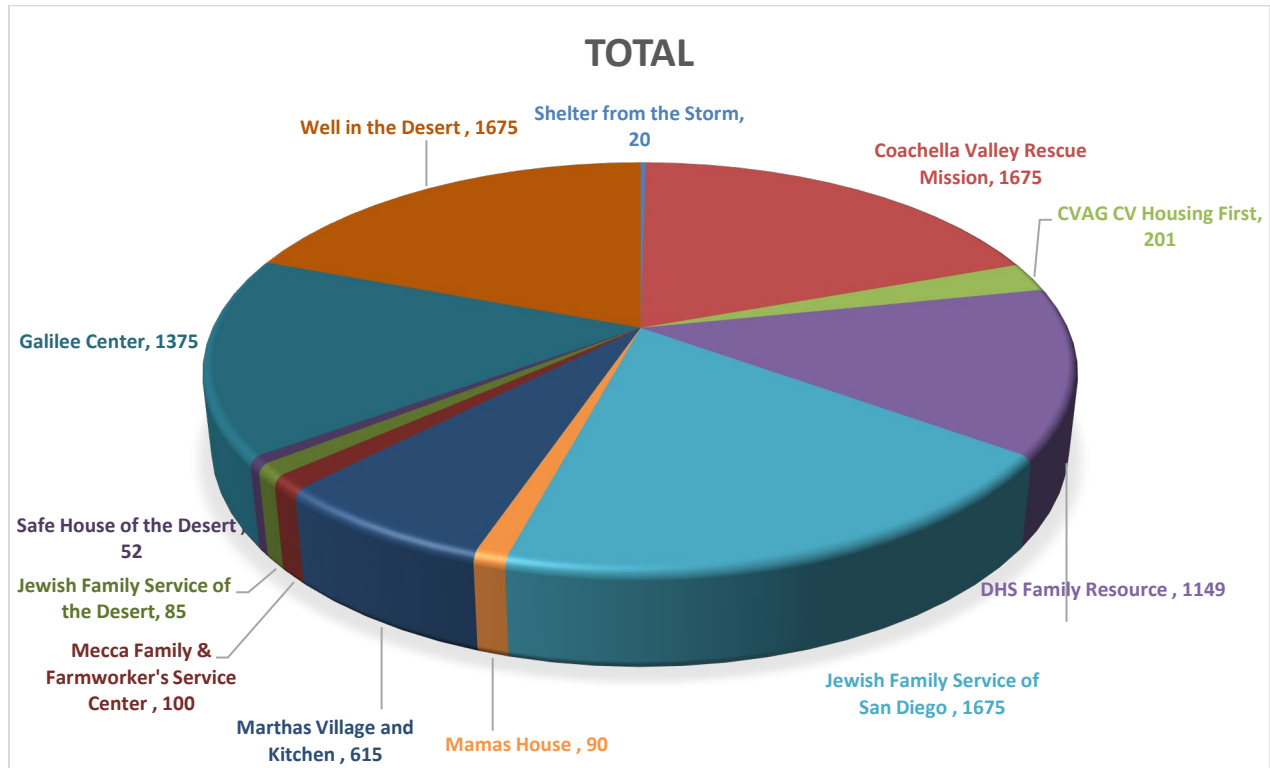
A total of 8,712 passes were distributed in 2025, including single day passes for adults, youth, and seniors. CVAG utilizes 31-day passes for CV Housing First clients who will be in crisis stabilization units, usually for an average of 30-90 days. These bus passes allow clients to search for housing, address outstanding legal issues, job search, gather vital documents, and have transportation to mental health facilities.

CVAG staff has also had initial conversations with SunLine's General Manager about ways to improve the projects. In the coming year, CVAG staff will be looking at its partnerships with local police departments to see if there are additional opportunities to connect homeless individuals that they encounter to services. Staff is also considering what ways the program can be streamlined and made more effective in order to maximize available funding.

**Fiscal Analysis:** The Alan Seman Bus Pass Program is funded through \$3,000 contributions that CVAG member cities contribute annually.

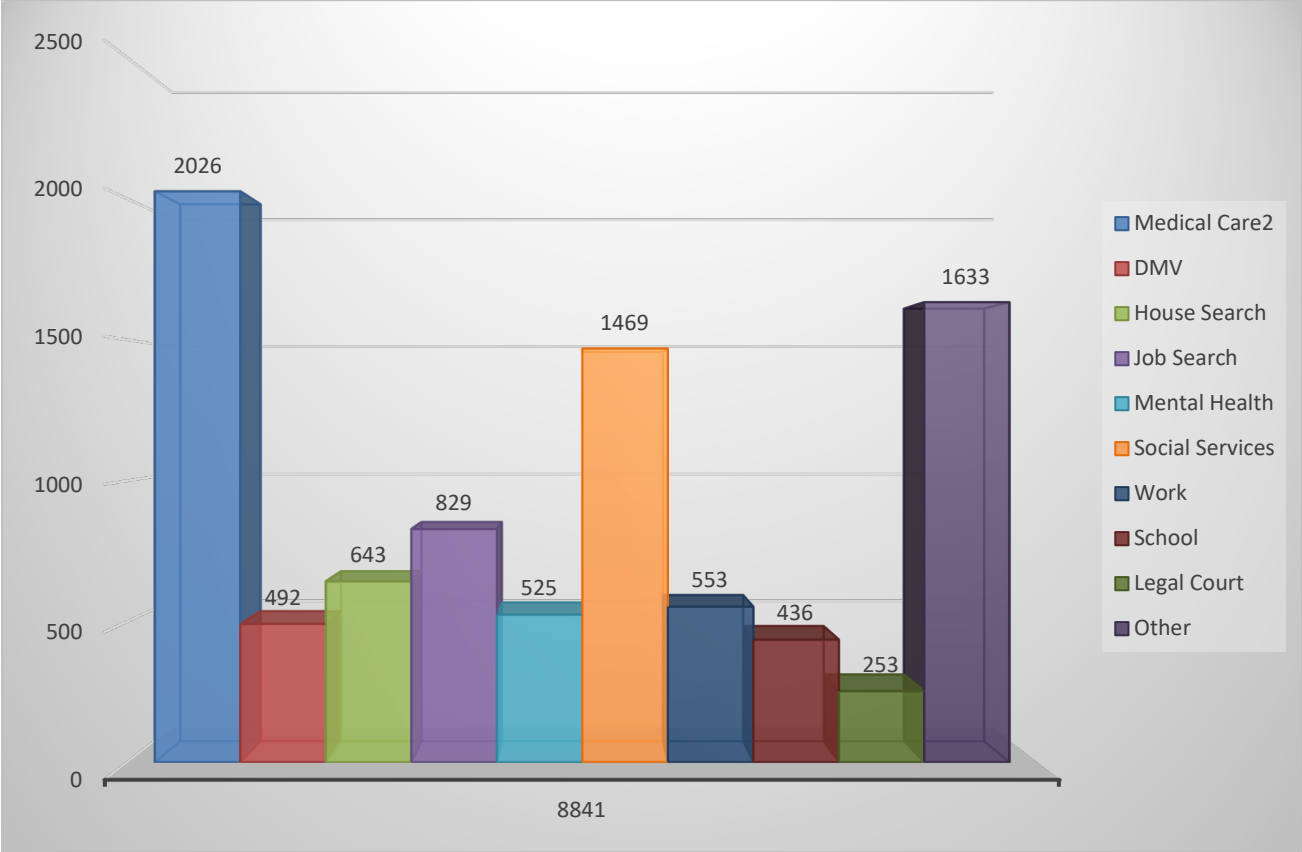
**Attachment:** 2025 Bus Pass Report

# Totals Passes Used by Agencies



Agency	Adult Day Passes	Youth or Senior Day Passes	31-Day Adult Passes	31-Day Senior Passes	Totals
Shelter from the Storm	20	0	0	0	20
Coachella Valley Rescue Mission	675	1000	0	0	1675
CVAG CV Housing First	6	0	153	42	201
DHS Family Resource	1149	0	0	0	1149
Jewish Family Services	590	1085	0	0	1675
Mamas House	90	0	0	0	90
Marthas Village and Kitchen	315	300	0	0	615
Mecca Family & Farmworker's Service Center	100	0	0	0	100
Jewish Family Service of the Desert	50	35	0	0	85
Safe House of the Desert	52	0	0	0	52
Galilee Center	965	410	0	0	1375
Well in the Desert	600	1075	0	0	1675
<b>Totals</b>	<b>4612</b>	<b>3905</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>8712</b>

# Top Uses of Bus Passes



**ITEM 4J**

**Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
Executive Committee  
April 27, 2026**



**STAFF REPORT**

**Subject:** CVAG's Landscape Certification Program

**Contact:** Emmanuel Martinez, Assistant Director – Energy & External Affairs  
([emartinez@cvaq.org](mailto:emartinez@cvaq.org))

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**Recommendation:** Authorize the Executive Director to take the necessary steps to accept funding from Coachella Valley Water District and the Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District for the region's Landscape Certification Program, and then scale the program's scope to the available budget

**Energy & Sustainability Committee:** Concurred (Meeting of April 9)

**Background:** CVAG, in partnership with College of the Desert (COD), and Coachella Valley Water District, administers the regional [Landscape Certification Program](#). This program ensures that landscape companies operating within the Coachella Valley meet required standards for overseeding practices, to help reduce PM 10 and prevent lawn scalping. The program also provides companies with best practices related to water conservation, and sustainable landscape management. Certification is a prerequisite for landscape companies to conduct business within CVAG-member jurisdictions. Landscape companies seeking a new, or renewing an old, business license are required to complete the certification course.

CVAG partners with COD to deliver training, testing, and certification services to landscape professionals. The program is widely used by local jurisdictions, HOAs, and private landscape companies to ensure compliance with regional standards. The program includes mandatory online courses covering overseeding practices and water conservation. These courses are required for certification and must remain accessible to participants throughout the year. Last year, the program was updated to include a component related to mosquito abatement. CVAG partnered with the Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District (CVMVCD) to integrate the new component into the program, expanding the program and increasing educational benefits to companies that can help improve the region's health and safety.

In September 2025, the CVAG Executive Committee, at the recommendation of the Energy & Sustainability Committee, authorized the Executive Director to take the necessary steps to accept \$40,000 from the Colmac Air Quality Enhancement Fund Grant Program. This had been a longtime funding source for the program, utilizing mitigation funding from the Colmac energy facility in Mecca. As noted in the staff report at the time, the funding source was depleted as environmental concerns related to pollutant emissions and action by the Environmental Protection Agency had led to the plant being shut down.

Given the funding issue, CVAG staff reached out to its partners at CVMVCD and Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) about how to maintain the program. Both agencies have agreed to consider splitting the funding costs, assuming the budget could be reduced and agreed upon.

CVAG staff also worked with COD to reshape the program budget to address funding reductions, while the essential components of the program remain intact.

For next year, the cost for hosting the online training is \$15,000, which includes the following deliverables:

- Hosting the CVAG Online Overseeding and Water Conservation Courses on the COD webpage;
- Technical support, including troubleshooting and periodic functional checks;
- Participant use of COD computers, available Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; and
- Bilingual assistance.

Staff is now recommending the Executive Director be authorized to finalize negotiations and accept the funding from CVWD and CVMVCD, and scale the landscaping program's scope to the available budget.

**Fiscal Analysis:** Under the proposed funding plan, CVWD and CVMVCD will each contribute \$7,500 for the yearly cost to operate the program. COD is able to operate a streamlined program under the \$15,000 budget, which will be reflected in CVAG's Fiscal Year 2026-27 Budget when it is presented in June.

CVAG staff will also continue to coordinate the program with its member jurisdictions to ensure compliance with the established requirements and provide reports and updates to pertinent committees as needed. Additionally, staff will continue to seek outside funding for the program and will report back accordingly on funding and programmatic changes to it.

Should either CVWD or CVMVCD not commit to funding the program, staff would evaluate funding sources, including asking participating member agencies to help address funding gaps.

**ITEM 5A**

Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
Executive Committee  
April 27, 2026



**STAFF REPORT**

**Subject:** Amendment to the Reimbursement Agreement for the South Palm Canyon Drive Bridge Replacement Project Over Tahquitz Creek

**Contact:** Julie Mignogna, Transportation Program Manager ([jmignogna@cvag.org](mailto:jmignogna@cvag.org))

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**Recommendation:** Authorize the Chair and Executive Director to execute Amendment No. 2 to the Reimbursement Agreement with the City of Palm Springs for the South Palm Canyon Drive Bridge Replacement Project Over Tahquitz Creek, increasing CVAG's regional share to \$2,125,717.50

**Transportation Committee:** Concurred (Meeting of April 6)

**Background:** In January 2014, the Executive Committee approved a Reimbursement Agreement in the amount of \$76,476 with the City of Palm Springs to provide 75% of the local share of costs for environmental approval and final design (Preliminary Engineering) for the South Palm Canyon Drive Bridge Replacement Project over Tahquitz Creek.

This project ranks 51 with a score of 10 points on the Transportation Project Prioritization Study (TPPS). The existing bridge dates back to 1930, and it has been deemed structurally deficient in addition to creating a bottleneck for traffic near downtown. The new bridge is 98 feet long, includes reconstruction of the roadway approach at both ends of the bridge to improve safety, traffic flow, and mobility connection. It will have two lanes in both directions, as well as widened, eight-foot sidewalks and a dedicated bike lane in each direction. Cyclists will have easier accessibility from the new bridge to CV Link, which starts near Sunny Dunes and runs along Riverside Drive.

In 2017, CVAG approved Amendment No. 1 to the agreement to provide additional regional funds for the right-of-way and construction phases. By that time, the City had secured Federal Highway Bridge Program (HBP) funding to cover 88.53% of the costs for the environmental and design phases of the project. It also had expanded the project scope to include additional elements necessary to meet current design standards, which were approved by Caltrans.

Construction was awarded in October 2024 and is nearly 50% complete. The construction is anticipated to be completed by August 2026. The City is now requesting Amendment No. 2 for an additional \$1,260,391.50 of regional arterial program funding to account for increased project costs. The increased project costs are due to increases in the preliminary engineering costs from higher than anticipated permitting fees, review fees, unforeseen interagency coordination, the redesign of right of way constraints, and additional management fees. The construction costs also increased to include cultural monitoring during construction as well as to account for the rising bid prices. The current estimate is based on the awarded amount for construction.

CVAG staff supports the City of Palm Springs' request and is recommending approval of Amendment No. 2 to provide additional funds for the project. The recommended action would

also authorize the Executive Director and/or Legal Counsel to make clarifying revisions before execution.

**Fiscal Analysis:** Amendment No. 2 would increase the regional arterial program funding for the South Palm Canyon Drive Bridge Replacement Project over Tahquitz Creek from \$788,850 to \$2,125,717.50, an increase of \$1,260.391.50 for CVAG. Regional Transportation Funds are available for this request.

With approval, the project's funding sources include:

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Funding Amount</b>
Federal Highway Bridge Program	\$ 13,611,000.00
Desert Water Agency	\$ 876,710.00
Southern California Gas	\$ 30,000.00
CVAG Funding Share	\$ 2,125,717.50
City Funding Share	\$ 1,600,000.50
<b>Total Costs:</b>	<b>\$ 17,352,000.00</b>

**Attachments:**

1. Amendment No. 2 to the Reimbursement Agreement
2. Project map
3. Request for funding

**AMENDMENT NUMBER TWO  
TO THE REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT  
BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF PALM SPRINGS AND CVAG  
SOUTH PALM CANYON DRIVE BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT  
OVER TAHQUITZ CREEK**

**THIS AMENDMENT NUMBER ONE, effective this 27<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2026, by and between the City of Palm Springs (lead Agency) and the Coachella Valley Association of Governments, a California joint powers agency, (CVAG), and is made with reference to the following background and circumstances: All other terms and conditions shall remain the same as stated in the existing Reimbursement Agreement for the South Palm Canyon Drive Bridge Replacement Project Over Tahquitz Creek dated January 27, 2014.**

- 1. This Amendment Number Two authorizes CVAG to provide additional funding for the South Palm Canyon Drive Bridge Replacement Project. CVAG share of this amendment is \$1,260,391.50 (75%).**

**Summary:**

Original Reimbursement Agreement, dated 01-27-2014	\$ 76,476.00
Amendment Number One, dated 04-24-2017	\$ 788,850.00
<u>Amendment Number Two</u>	<u>\$ 1,260,391.50</u>
<b>Total Authorized CVAG Allocation to Date</b>	<b>\$ 2,125,717.50</b>

All other provisions in the existing Reimbursement Agreement for the South Palm Canyon Drive Bridge Replacement Project Over Tahquitz Creek shall remain in full force and effect.

Consistent with CVAG Policy 21-02, this amendment shall be executed with the use of electronic or digital signatures in order to be in effect.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the parties hereto have caused this **Amendment Number Two** to be executed by their duly authorized representatives on this date:

**ATTEST**

**CITY OF PALM SPRINGS**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Scott Stiles, City Manager

\_\_\_\_\_  
Naomi Soto, Mayor



**ATTEST**

**COACHELLA VALLEY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tom Kirk, Executive Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
V. Manuel Perez, CVAG Chair

# South Palm Canyon

-  Project Location
-  CV Link

0 210 420 Feet





# City of Palm Springs

## Engineering Services Department

3200 East Tahquitz Canyon Way • Palm Springs, California 92262  
Tel: (760) 323-8253 • Fax: (760) 322-8360 • Web: [www.palmspringsca.gov](http://www.palmspringsca.gov)

March 4, 2026

Jonathan Hoy  
Director of Transportation  
Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
74-199 El Paseo, Suite 100  
Palm Desert, CA 92260

**Subject: Request for Amendment 2 for the South Palm Canyon Drive Bridge Replacement Project over Tahquitz Creek Agreement between CVAG and the City of Palm Springs, City Project No. 12-02, Federal Project No. BRLS-5282(042).**

Dear Mr. Hoy,

The City of Palm Springs respectfully requests the Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) approve Amendment No. 2 to the Agency Reimbursement Agreement between the City of Palm Springs (City) and CVAG for the South Palm Canyon Drive Bridge Replacement Project over Tahquitz Creek between East Sunny Dunes Road and Mesquite Avenue increasing the Regional Arterial Program Funding Contribution from \$865,326 to \$2,125,717.50; an increase of \$1,260,391.50.

CVAG previously authorized and obligated the following:

Original Reimbursement Agreement, dated 01-27-2014	\$ 76,476.00
Amendment 1, dated 04-24-2017	\$ 788,850.00
This Proposed Amendment Request would add	\$ 1,260,391.50
<b>Total CVAG Funding Authorization to date:</b>	<b>\$ <u>2,125,717.50</u></b>

The Project's cost estimate per phase is:

Phase	Estimated Cost
PS&E	\$ 1,600,000
Right of Way	\$ 840,000
Construction	\$ 10,512,000
Construction Management	\$ 2,800,000
Contingency	\$ 1,600,000
<b>Total Costs:</b>	<b>\$ 17,352,000</b>

The Project's funding includes:

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Funding Amount</b>
Federal Highway Bridge Program	\$ 13,611,000.00
Desert Water Agency:	\$ 876,710.00
Southern California Gas:	\$ 30,000.00
CVAG Funding Share:	\$ 2,125,717.50
City Funding Share:	\$ 708,572.50
<b>Total Costs:</b>	<b>\$ 17,352,000.00</b>

The increased project costs are due to increases in the preliminary engineering costs to account for higher than anticipated permitting fees, review fees, unforeseen interagency coordination, the redesign of right of way constraints, and additional management fees. The construction costs also increased to include cultural monitoring during construction as well as to account for the rising bid prices. The current estimate listed above is based on the awarded amount for construction.

Construction was awarded in October 2024 and is nearly 50% complete. The construction is anticipated to be completed by August 2026. The City of Palm Springs appreciates CVAG's consideration of increasing the Regional Arterial Program funding contribution toward the South Palm Canyon Drive Bridge Replacement Project over Tahquitz Creek.

Please feel free to contact me, Joel Montalvo, at (760)322-8339 or by email at [Joel.Montalvo@PalmSpringsCA.gov](mailto:Joel.Montalvo@PalmSpringsCA.gov) with any questions.

Sincerely,



Joel Montalvo, PE, MPA  
City Engineer

Enclosures:

- 1) Project Map
- 2) CVAG Amendment Request Checklist

**ITEM 5B**

**Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
Executive Committee  
April 27, 2026**



**STAFF REPORT**

**Subject:** Amendment to the Reimbursement Agreement for the Monroe Street / Interstate 10 Interchange Project

**Contact:** Julie Mignogna, Transportation Program Manager ([jmignogna@cvag.org](mailto:jmignogna@cvag.org))

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**Recommendation:** Authorize the Executive Director to execute Amendment No. 8 to the Reimbursement Agreement with the City of Indio and the County of Riverside for the Monroe Street / Interstate 10 Interchange Project providing \$56,531,115 for construction, inclusive of \$30.848 million already obligated

**Transportation Committee:** Concurred (Meeting of April 6)

**Background:** CVAG has been a funding partner to the County of Riverside and City of Indio on the Monroe Street/ Interstate 10 (I-10) interchange project since 2007. The project is tied with Avenue 50 from Jackson to Van Buren Street in ranking as the region's number one project in the current Transportation Project Prioritization Study (TPPS). The interchange was initially funded through the \$10 million Interchange Preparation Fund, which the Executive Committee created in 2007 to support the preparation of interchange projects. CVAG has been a steadfast partner in the project, with several amendments to the reimbursement agreement being approved to fund additional stages of the project. At the same time, CVAG staff has highlighted the project as part of its cash flow analysis, as rising project costs were on the horizon.

The recommended action will solidify CVAG's commitment to the project as it enters the construction phase. With this action, staff is recommending CVAG's commitment be increased by \$25,683,115 for the construction phase. This action is being requested in order to solidify funding commitments prior to securing construction bids. It also is the same approach CVAG took for Jefferson Street, which was the last I-10 interchange to be completed.

The recommended action builds on the authorization provided in December 2022, when the Executive Committee authorized a regional funding commitment to support the project and strengthen its competitiveness for state funding. At the time, CVAG was inking a new Memorandum of Understanding with Riverside County Transportation Commission related to formula funds and available outside funding. CVAG identified a \$30.848 million regional funding commitment to secure Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) and Local Partnership Program (LPP) funds. As project costs evolved, CVAG continued to support funding strategies, including a September 2023 Executive Committee action to program an additional \$6.778 million in available STIP funding. In parallel, Riverside County and the City of Indio successfully secured \$30 million through the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) from the Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) programs.

In December 2025, the Executive Committee authorized Amendment No 7 which provided a time trigger extension to begin construction by December 31, 2026.

Approval of the Plans Specifications & Engineering (PS&E) package is anticipated for this spring 2026, with ROW certification anticipated to be approved in the coming months. The County anticipates advertising the project in August 2026 and requires funding to be secured prior to advertising. Construction is anticipated to begin in January 2027, and the County has selected a construction management firm for the constructability review and intends to award a contract for the full construction management by May 2026. As such, the City and County are now requesting regional funding for construction of the project.

CVAG staff supports the City of Indio's request and is recommending approval of Amendment No. 8 and the obligation of construction funds for the project. The recommended action would also authorize the Executive Director and/or Legal Counsel to make clarifying revisions before execution.

**Fiscal Analysis:** To date, CVAG's Executive Committee has authorized about \$12.1 million in regional transportation funding for the project via contract, and committed another \$30.848 million in funding. This amendment would memorialize the total \$30.848 million funding commitment from the Executive Committee's December 2022 action, and increase the Regional Arterial Program Funding Contribution from \$12,102,900 to \$68,634,015 via contract amendment, an increase of \$56,531,115. The Monroe Street/ I-10 Interchange project is scheduled to advertise for construction in August 2026. The project's current estimate is \$181 million.

The project cost estimate per phase is:

Phase	Estimated Cost
PA/ED (Includes PSR)	\$ 3,300,000
PS&E	\$ 5,765,200
Right of Way	\$ 6,572,000
Construction	\$127,181,400
Construction Management	\$ 25,436,280
Contingency	\$ 12,718,140
<b>Total Costs:</b>	<b>\$180,973,020</b>

The City, as well as CVAG and the County, continue to look for outside funding. The project's current funding breakdown is as follows:

Funding Source	Funding Amount
Outside Funding (STIP):	\$ 14,329,000
Outside Funding (STBG 2023):	\$ 26,232,000
Outside Funding (STBG 2025):	\$ 30,000,000
Outside Funding (LPP):	\$ 14,263,000
Outside Funding (CPFCDs):	\$ 2,350,000
Outside Funding (Earmark Repurpose)	\$ 500,000
Outside Funding (ATP Cycle 7):	\$ 2,287,000
CVAG PSR Funding*:	\$ 1,500,000
Local Funding Share** (25%):	\$ 22,378,005

CVAG Regional Funding Share (75%):	\$ 67,134,015
<b>Total Costs:</b>	<b>\$ 180,973,020</b>

\*CVAG share includes 100% of the original agreement cost (\$1,500,000) for the PSR.

\*\* Final proportionate local share estimates will be calculated based on the ratio of trips generated by each jurisdiction using the Monroe Street I-10 Interchange, as determined through the Monroe Street Proportionate Cost Share Analysis underway.

The current anticipated funding gap for the Monroe/Interstate 10 Interchange Project is \$89,512,020. With the approval of Amendment 8, the total CVAG Regional Funds commitment will then become \$68,634,015, or 75% of the anticipated project costs not covered by outside fundings. The local 25% funding share is \$22,387,005.

This local share will be divided based on the ratio of trips generated by each jurisdiction as determined by the Monroe Street Interchange Proportionate Cost Share Analysis currently underway. The results of the Proportionate Cost Share Analysis will be presented to the Transportation and Executive Committees for feedback and approval prior to entering into agreements with the member agencies.

While the Monroe Street Proportionate Cost Share Analysis is still underway, the initial data and calculation of jurisdictional share are identified below:

<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>% Trips</b>	<b>Cost Share</b>
Indio	62.6%	\$ 14,008,631.13
Riverside County	9.7%	\$ 2,170,666.49
Coachella	8.7%	\$ 1,946,886.44
Palm Desert	7.1%	\$ 1,588,838.36
Rancho Mirage	3.6%	\$ 805,608.18
Cathedral City	2.3%	\$ 514,694.12
La Quinta	2.2%	\$ 492,316.11
Palm Springs	1.9%	\$ 425,182.10
Desert Hot Springs	1.1%	\$ 246,158.06
Indian Wells	0.8%	\$ 179,024.04
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$ 22,378,005</b>

**Attachments:**

1. Amendment No. 8 to the Reimbursement Agreement
2. Project map
3. City's request for funding

**AMENDMENT NUMBER EIGHT  
TO THE  
REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN  
CVAG AND THE CITY OF INDIO AND COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE  
FOR THE  
MONROE STREET / INTERSTATE 10 INTERCHANGE PROJECT**

This **AMENDMENT NUMBER EIGHT** is made and entered into this **27<sup>th</sup> day of April 2026**, by and between the **Coachella Valley Association of Governments**, a California joint powers agency (**CVAG**), the **City of Indio (City)**, and **County of Riverside (County)**, and is made with reference to the following background facts and circumstances: All other terms and conditions shall remain the same as stated in the amended and restated Agreement adding the County dated January 9, 2018, and currently in the Right-of-Way Acquisitions and Final Engineering phase.

1. This Amendment Number Seven authorizes CVAG to provide additional funding for the Monroe Street /Interstate 10 Construction Phase. CVAG share of this amendment is \$56,531,115 (75%) and the City (Local) share is \$18,843,705 (25%) for a total funding commitment of \$75,374,820.

**Summary**

Original Authorization (\$1,500,000) <i>Split: CVAG Share (100%): \$1,500,000**; Indio share (0%): \$0.00</i> <i>** Actual Amount Paid by CVAG for PSR (\$700,000)</i>	= \$	1,500,000.00
Amendment Number One (No Cost)	= \$	00.00
Amendment Number Two (\$1,800,000) <i>Split: CVAG Share (75%): \$1,350,000; Indio share (25%): \$450,000</i>	= \$	1,350,000.00
Amendment Number Three (No Cost)	= \$	00.00
Amendment Number Four (\$5,765,200) <i>Split: CVAG Share (75%): \$4,323,900; Indio share (25%): \$1,441,300</i>	= \$	4,323,900.00
Amendment Number Five (\$6,572,000) <i>Split: CVAG Share (75%): \$4,929,000; Indio share (25%): \$1,643,000</i>	= \$	4,929,000.00
Amendment Number Six (No Cost)	= \$	00.00
Amendment Number Seven (No Cost)	= \$	00.00
Amendment Number Eight (\$75,374,820) <i>Split: CVAG Share (75%): \$56,531,115;</i> <i>Indio (Local) share (25%): \$18,843,705</i>	= \$	56,531,115.00
<b>Total Authorized CVAG Allocation to Date</b>	<b>= \$</b>	<b>68,634,015.00</b>

Consistent with CVAG Policy 21-02, this amendment shall be executed with the use of electronic or digital signatures in order to be in effect.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the parties hereto have caused this **Amendment Number Eight** to be executed by their duly authorized representatives on this date:

**ATTEST**

**CITY OF INDIO**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bryan Montgomery, City Manager

\_\_\_\_\_  
Glenn Miller, Mayor

**ATTEST**

**COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
V. Manuel Perez, Board Chair

**ATTEST**


**COACHELLA VALLEY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tom Kirk, Executive Director

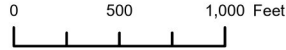
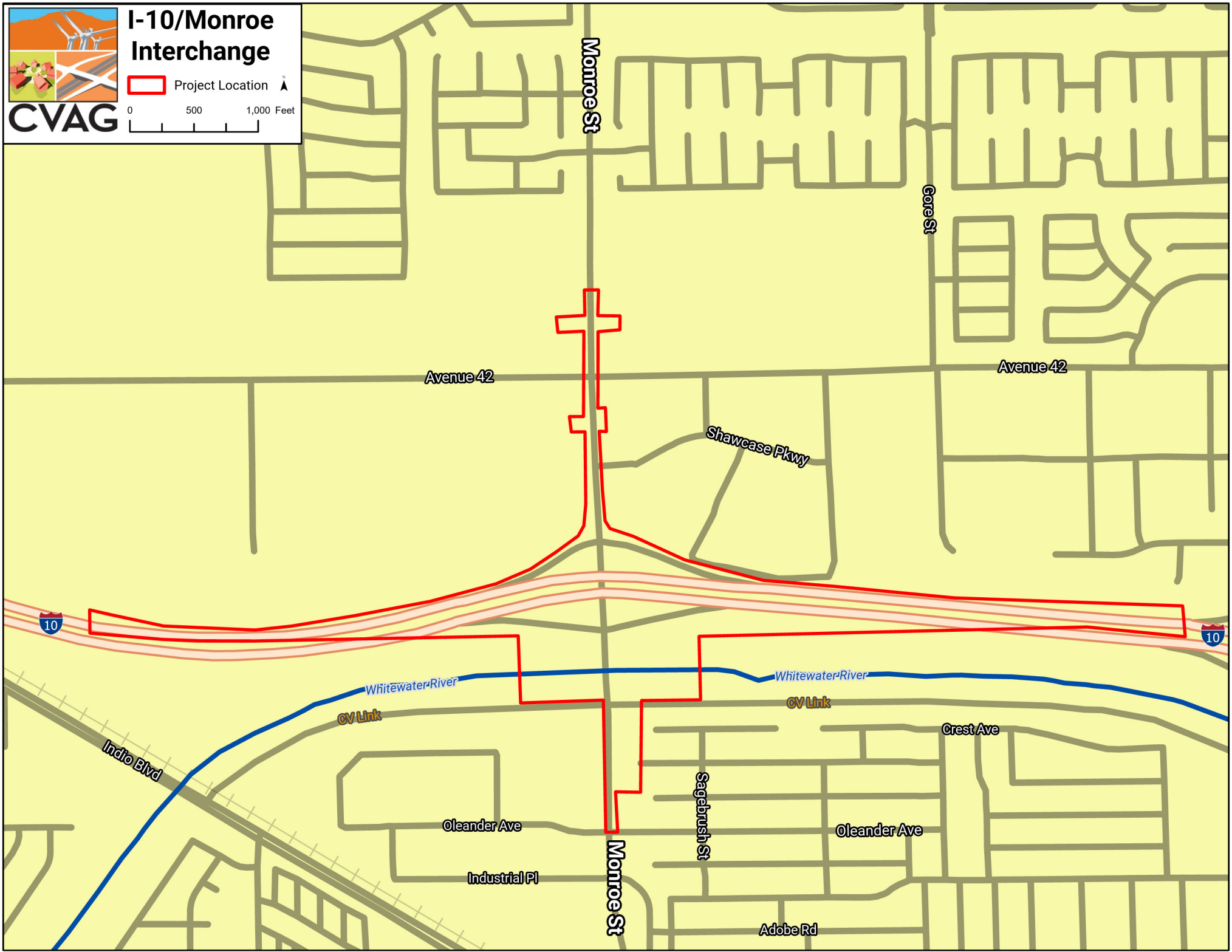
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V. Manuel Perez, CVAG Chair



# I-10/Monroe Interchange

Project Location 

0 500 1,000 Feet

March 9, 2026

Jonathan Hoy  
 Director of Transportation  
 Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
 74-199 El Paseo, Suite 100  
 Palm Desert, CA 92260

**Subject: Request for Amendment 8 for the Monroe Street/I-10 Interchange Project Agreement between CVAG, the City of Indio, and the County of Riverside.**

Dear Mr. Hoy,

The City of Indio respectfully requests the Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) approve Amendment No. 8 to the Agency Reimbursement Agreement between the City of Indio (City), the County of Riverside (County), and CVAG for the Monroe Street/I-10 Interchange Project increasing Regional Arterial Program Funding Contribution from \$12,102,900 to \$68,634,015 an increase of \$56,531,115.

CVAG previously authorized and obligated the following:

Original Reimbursement Agreement, dated 10-17-2007	\$ 1,500,000
Amendment 1, dated 03-12-2009	\$ 0
Amendment 2, dated 09-26-2016	\$ 1,350,000
Amendment 3, dated 01-30-2017	\$ 0
Amended and Restated Agreement dated 01-09-2018	\$ 0
Amendment 4/Restated Amendment 1 dated 01-01-2018	\$ 4,323,900
Amendment 5/Restated Amendment 2 dated 12-06-2021	\$ 4,929,000
Amendment 6/Restated Amendment 3 dated 02-26-2024	\$ 0
Amendment 7/Restated Amendment 4 dated 12-01-2025	\$ 0

This Proposed Amendment Request would add \$ 56,531,115

**Total CVAG Funding Authorization to date: \$ 68,634,015**

The Project's cost estimate per phase is:

Phase	Estimated Cost
PA/ED	\$ 3,300,000
PS&E	\$ 5,765,200
Right of Way	\$ 6,572,000
Construction	\$ 127,181,400
Construction Management	\$ 25,436,280
Contingency	\$ 12,718,140
<b>Total Costs:</b>	<b>\$ 180,973,020</b>

The Project's funding includes:

Funding Source	Funding Amount
Outside Funding (STIP):	\$ 14,329,000
Outside Funding (STBG 2023):	\$ 26,232,000
Outside Funding (STBG 2025):	\$ 30,000,000
Outside Funding (LPP):	\$ 14,263,000
Outside Funding (CPFCDs):	\$ 2,350,000
Outside Funding (Earmark Repurpose)	\$ 500,000
Outside Funding (ATP Cycle 7):	\$ 2,287,000
City Funding Share:	\$ 22,378,005
CVAG PSR Funding*:	\$ 1,500,000
CVAG Funding Share:	\$ 67,134,015
<b>Total Costs:</b>	<b>\$ 180,973,020</b>

\*CVAG share includes 100% of the original agreement cost (\$1,500,000) for the PSR.

The increased project costs of the project are due to the project advancement to the next phase of development. The City is pleased to inform you that the 100% PS&E package is being finalized and the ROW and utility coordination is complete. Approval of the PS&E package is anticipated for March 2026, with ROW certification anticipated to be approved by April 2026. As the engineering phase is coming to a close, the City and County desire to secure funding for the construction phase. The County anticipated advertising the project in August 2026 and requires funding to be secured prior to advertising. Construction is anticipated to begin in January 2027, and the County has already selected a construction management firm for the constructability review and intends to award a contract for the full construction management by May 2026.

As detailed above, the construction phase including construction, construction management, and contingency is estimated be \$165,335,820. The City, County, and CVAG have all worked together to secure \$89,961,000 in various federal and state funding sources

The City appreciates CVAG's consideration of increasing the Regional Arterial Program funding contribution and time trigger toward the proposed Monroe Interchange Project.

Please feel free to contact me, Timothy Wassil, at (760) 391-4042 or by email at [twassil@indio.org](mailto:twassil@indio.org) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

*Timothy T. Wassil*

Timothy T. Wassil, PE  
Director of Public Works

CC: Azan Junaid, Riverside County Transportation Department

Enclosures:

- 1) Project Map
- 2) CVAG Amendment Request Checklist

**ITEM 5C**

**Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
Executive Committee  
April 27, 2026**



**STAFF REPORT**

**Subject:** California's Encampment Resolution Funding

**Contact:** Erica Felci, Deputy Executive Director ([efelci@cvag.org](mailto:efelci@cvag.org))

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**Recommendation: Authorize the Executive Director to take the necessary steps to partner with Riverside County on an application for the California Department of Housing and Community Development's Encampment Resolution Funding**

**Homelessness Committee: Concurred (Meeting of April 15)**

**Background:** The state's Department of Housing and Community Development's (HCD) Encampment Resolution Funding (ERF) program is part of California's broader effort to invest in programs that resolve homelessness. ERF is a competitive grant program that focuses on addressing the safety and wellness of people within encampments by transitioning individuals into interim shelter and then using low-barrier, data driven solutions such as the housing first model to connect them with permanent housing.

In March 2026, HCD released a notice of funding availability for the fifth round of ERF, which will make \$93 million available. Applications are being accepted on a rolling basis until June 30, 2026, or until funds are depleted, whichever occurs first. Eligible applicants include counties, cities and Continuums of Care.

Riverside County has been successful in securing ERF funding for three rounds, including more than \$12 million to deliver services in the San Jacinto River bottom that helped more than 180 individuals. The City of Palm Springs also received ERF funds in 2024, with more than \$5.1 million coming to the City to address homelessness in areas such as the Tahquitz Creek stormwater channel.

In April 2026, in an aim to distribute grant funding across the county, Riverside County Housing and Workforce Solutions staff approached CVAG staff about their intent to apply for the current round of ERF with an eye on bringing funds to the Fourth District this year. Initial conversations have identified a partnership with CVAG's CV Housing First program to supplement the services in the region. Staff have also identified an opportunity with the Coachella Valley Conservation Commission, a separate agency that owns large swaths of habitat land across the Coachella Valley. While these lands are ideal habitat for endangered and threatened species, these vacant, open desert properties are also attractive sites for homeless to gather. The CVCC, which is staffed through contract by CVAG, has refocused its efforts to address these homeless encampments. In 2025, the CVCC undertook a massive cleanup on land in and near the City of Desert Hot

Springs through a \$500,000 grant from CalRecycle. The success of this cleanup has prompted additional conversations with CalRecycle staff about other, future funding as well.

Staff is still finalizing the scope of a grant application, but it will likely involve both CVAG's Housing First program and the CVCC's lands in unincorporated communities, which can be considered an "encampment zone" under the grant requirements. Given the timing and rolling application, CVAG staff is now recommending that the Executive Director be authorized to take the steps necessary to partner with Riverside County to apply for this ERF funding. This item will also be presented to the CVCC at its next meeting.

**Fiscal Analysis:** There is no cost to CVAG for applying for this grant. Riverside County would serve as the lead applicant, and CVAG can use existing staff time to cover any coordination.

CVAG and CVCC staff will look to leverage existing resources and programs, including the CalRecycle partnership, to strengthen the application.

## **ITEM 5D**

Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
Executive Committee  
April 27, 2026



### **STAFF REPORT**

**Subject:** Request from Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians to Amend the CVAG Joint Powers Agreement

**Contact:** Erica Felci, Deputy Executive Director ([efelci@cvag.org](mailto:efelci@cvag.org))

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**Recommendation:** Review the options for addressing the request from Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians related to staff member alternates on the Executive Committee and provide direction to the Executive Director on next steps

**Background:** CVAG has a 53-year track record of coordinating government services in the Coachella Valley. CVAG was formed in November 1973 with the approval of the first Joint Powers Agreement (JPA). CVAG only amended the JPA three times in its entire history. The first was in 1989, after voters passed Measure A and CVAG needed to specify its role as the regional transportation authority. The JPA was amended again in 1998 to include the City of Blythe as a member and again in 2018 to establish the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians and the Cabazon Band of Cahuilla Indians as formal members. Addendums were later approved to include the Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians (in 2020) and the Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians (in 2021). For efficiency reasons, these tribes were added as members through addendums that did not make any substantive changes to the JPA itself; they only served as ways to admit each Tribal Nation as a member subject to all the rights, obligations and responsibilities.

Since CVAG's inception, JPA member jurisdictions agreed that the Executive Committee would be made up of the mayors of the member jurisdictions or their alternate/designee, so long as they are sitting elected members of the city. All five Riverside County Supervisors were also made members of the Executive Committee. The Third Restatement of the JPA, authorized in 2018, expanded that to include "the Tribal Chair from each Indian Tribe" and noted that "any Indian Tribal Council may appoint one of its current council members in place of the Tribal Chair."

In December 2025, CVAG and its member jurisdictions received a request from the Twenty-Nine Palms Chair Darrell Mike to amend the CVAG JPA as it pertains to the alternates who can represent a member at the Executive Committee. The request is to amend the JPA to allow Tribal staff, specifically Chief Executive Officer George Nicholas Jr, to serve as the Tribe's representative on the Executive Committee.

CVAG's attendance records show that no one from the Tribe has ever attended the annual General Assembly meeting. Chair Mike attended one Executive Committee meeting in April 2022, which was a Zoom meeting he joined mid-way through the agenda. Prior to CVAG receiving correspondence from the Tribe, Mr. Nicholas had requested that he represent the Tribe for the Executive Committee meetings in October 2025 and December 2025 – both times when the Executive Committee had sensitive discussions related to litigation exposure in closed sessions.

At the heart of this discussion is Section 2.4.3 of the JPA, which specifies the alternates on CVAG's Executive Committee:

*2.4.3 Each participating member on the Executive Committee shall also have an alternate, who must also be a current member of the legislative body of the party such alternate represents, with the exception of the alternates to the members representing the County of Riverside, who need not be elected officials. The name of the alternate members shall be on file with the Executive Committee. An alternate member shall assume all rights and duties of the absent member.*

The Tribe's first letter was received in December 2025 and CVAG's Executive Director provided correspondence in response. A second request was received on April 6, 2026. CVAG has also received letters from its three other Tribal members. The Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians and Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians support the request from Twenty-Nine Palms, and the Cabazon Band of Cahuilla Indians neither supports nor opposes it.

Staff is now seeking direction on whether to whether or not to proceed with an amendment to Section 2.4.3 of the JPA and has developed three options for consideration.

*Option A: Amendment proposed by Twenty-Nine Palms*

In its latest, April 6, 2026 correspondence, the Twenty-Nine Palms Tribe proposed the following amendment to the Section 2.4.3:

*Each participating member on the Executive Committee shall also have an alternate, who must also be a current member of the legislative body of the party such alternate represents **or formally appointed by resolution of the legislative body of the party such alternate represents**, with the exception of the alternates to the members representing the County of Riverside, who need not be elected officials. **Any alternative representative must be the highest-level executive or administrative officer of the participating member's governing body or organization, and cannot be an employee or representative of another participating member.** The name of the alternate members shall be on file with the Executive Committee. An alternate member shall assume all rights and duties of the absent member.*

The language proposed by the Tribe is a slight modification from the language that the Tribe first proposed in December 2025, and it provides more clarity on the type of staff positions that would be eligible to serve as an alternate. While not specific to the Tribe in the text, the correspondence from Twenty-Nine makes it clear that this is related to ensuring participation of sovereign Tribal nations. There is no mention of applying it equally to cities. This language would complicate any alternates from the County of Riverside. All five members of the Riverside County Board of Supervisors already have votes at CVAG, and Option A language would mean that the only person would could serve as the alternate for any of them would be the County Executive Officer. If Option A is supported, it would be possible for at least Tribal Nations and the County of Riverside to have alternates that are staff members and not elected officials.

*Option B: Alternate amendment drafted by CVAG staff and Legal Counsel*

Staff and Legal Counsel also reviewed Section 2.4.3 of the JPA.

Because all five members of the Riverside County Board of Supervisors already have votes at CVAG, the existing exception was needed so they provide an alternate. But in practicality, this has been utilized in only rare instances. While they all have votes, the historic practice has been that only Riverside County Supervisors with districts that fall within the Coachella Valley have actually attended the

Executive Committee meetings on any regular basis. Over the years, the County has consistently been represented the Fourth District supervisor, namely Corky Larson, Roy Wilson, John Benoit and now V. Manuel Perez. When Marion Ashley was serving as supervisor of the Fifth District – which at the time included parts of the Coachella Valley – he also became a regular attendee at CVAG meetings. But since redistricting occurred, the supervisors for the First, Second, Third and Fifth Districts have made it more of a practice to attend General Assembly meetings and, on occasion, the Executive Committee meeting that precedes it. They do not send alternates to other meetings during the year, and this governance structure has worked for many years.

Should there be an interest in amending Section 2.4.3 to allow for staff alternates, CVAG staff would recommend the alternate exception be applied more broadly. If an alternate exception is needed for Tribal Nations, which generally have more than one elected official through their Tribal Councils, it seems it should also be available to cities, which also have more than one elected official through their City Councils. Option B would amend the JPA as follows:

*2.4.3 Each participating member on the Executive Committee shall also have an alternate, who must also be a current member of the legislative body of the party such alternate represents **or a current employee of the member jurisdiction that is appointed through formal action by their governing body.** ~~with the exception of the alternates to the members representing the County of Riverside, who need not be elected officials.~~ The name of the alternate members shall be on file with the Executive Committee. An alternate member shall assume all rights and duties of the absent member **to the extent permitted by applicable law.***

If Option B is supported, it would be possible for any member jurisdiction to have alternates that are staff members and not elected officials. It would not restrict any member to just the top executive, thereby eliminating the restriction that the Tribe's language would have on the County's alternate.

#### Option C: No Amendment

The third option would be to leave the JPA and its alternate provisions as is.

CVAG's governing structure has served it well for more than five decades. Regular meetings of the Executive Committee follow a consistent schedule that is provided at the start of each fiscal year, and members are given ample notice when meetings are held outside of that schedule.

It should also be noted that CVAG had previously had formal voting opportunities for staff, including the Technical Advisory Committee that was comprised of City Managers, the County Executive Officer and Tribal Nations' top staff. The Technical Advisory Committee was disbanded at the Committee members' own request in late 2018 after member jurisdictions' executive staff members identified predicaments when they had to vote in lieu of their Council members. Top staff are now briefed in ad hoc roundtable meetings, which representatives from Twenty-Nine Palms attend occasionally.

#### Next Steps

Staff is seeking direction on Option A (amendment language by the Tribe), Option B (alternate amendment language by staff) and Option C (retaining the existing JPA language).

If the direction is to support Option A or Option B, staff would return at a future meeting with the formal Amendment to the Third Amendment and Restatement of the Joint Powers Agreement. Such an amendment would be drafted so it was implemented once it receives 100 percent approval from CVAG's

membership, thereby avoiding any confusion or any scenario where some of CVAG's members did not fully approve the entire JPA. Staff would also recommend that the amendment include an attendance provision to further encourage participation in CVAG's meetings, including an automatic transition to non-voting roles at the Executive Committee for member jurisdictions who do not regularly participate as well as a process to return to voting roles.

Additionally, CVAG staff would return with a recommendation that CVAG's By-Laws be amended to make it clear that staff alternates on the Executive Committee cannot serve as CVAG's officers. This will help the agency avoid a scenario where a member jurisdiction's staff is governing over elected officials. Article II, Section 2B of the By-Laws would be amended as follows:

*The Executive Committee, as defined in Article III, shall recommend nominees for Chairman and Vice-Chairman. Ordinarily, the Vice-Chairman will succeed the Chairman at the conclusion or his or her term of office. Except as provided below, the nominees shall be rotated among the member agencies in the following order: Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, Indio, Cabazon Band of Mission Indians, Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians, Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians, Palm Springs, Coachella, Desert Hot Springs, Rancho Mirage, Riverside County's Fourth Supervisorial District, Blythe, La Quinta, Palm Desert, Cathedral City, Indian Wells, and Riverside County's Fifth Supervisorial District. New members will be added last in order to the rotation. **The Chairman and Vice-Chairman must be members of their member jurisdiction's governing body.** The jurisdiction next in order to serve as an officer will be passed over and moved to the end of the rotation if its representative or **alternative alternate** have not attended seventy-five percent or more of the Executive Committee meetings in the previous year. Based on a recommendation of the Administrative/Personnel Committee, the Executive Committee may in making its nominations deviate from the strict rotation set forth above if determined to be in CVAG's best interests.*

Lastly, amending CVAG's JPA is a lengthy process that requires a vote by each member jurisdiction, not CVAG itself, which equates to 15 separate actions at City Council, Tribal Council and Riverside County Board of Supervisors meetings once a consensus is even reached at CVAG. This is part of the reason that CVAG has only amended the JPA on rare occasion in its five decades of existence. Staff would note that the Third Amendment in 2018 was agendized more than once on CVAG's meetings, and ultimately had to be recirculated among members mid-process after another revision was identified by the Executive Committee.

**Fiscal Analysis:** There is no fiscal impact to the JPA amendment. Should an amendment move forward, the costs involved in recirculating the JPA would need to be covered under staff time and expenses for legal services.

**Attachments:**

- Section 2.4 of CVAG's Third Amendment and Restatement of the Joint Powers Agreement
- Request from Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians, December 24, 2025
- Response to the Tribe from CVAG Executive Director, January 23, 2026
- Correspondence from Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, February 26, 2026
- Correspondence from Cabazon Band of Cahuilla Indians, March 12, 2026
- Correspondence from Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians, March 18, 2026
- Correspondence from Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians, April 6, 2026

## 2.4 Governing Body.

2.4.1 CVAG shall be governed by a General Assembly with membership consisting of the County of Riverside and each member city and Indian tribe which is a signatory to this Agreement. Each member agency of the General Assembly shall have five (5) votes in the General Assembly and each vote shall be vested in and be exercised by a mayor, council member, a tribal council member or county supervisor or each of the entities' representatives' respective appointed delegees, who need not be elected officials. The General Assembly shall act only upon a majority of a quorum. A quorum shall consist of a majority of the General Assembly provided that a majority of the member agencies are present. The General Assembly may adopt and amend by-laws for the administration and management of this Agreement.

2.4.2 There shall be an Executive Committee that exercises the powers of this Agreement between sessions of the General Assembly. Members of the Executive Committee shall be the mayor from each of the member cities, the tribal chair from each Indian tribe, and the five members of the Riverside County Board of Supervisors, except any city council, at its discretion, may appoint a mayor pro tem or other current city council member in place of the mayor and any Indian tribal council may appoint one of its current council members in place of the tribal chair. The Executive Committee shall act only upon a majority of a quorum. A quorum shall consist of a majority of the member agencies.

2.4.3 Each participating member on the Executive Committee shall also have an alternate, who must also be a current member of the legislative body of the party such alternate represents, with the exception of the alternates to the members representing the County of Riverside, who need not be elected officials. The name of the alternate members shall be on file with the Executive Committee. An alternate member shall assume all rights and duties of the absent member.

2.4.4 Each participating member and alternate shall hold office from the first meeting of the Executive Committee after their appointment until a successor is named.

Participating members and alternates shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of their appointing body and may be removed at any time, with or without cause, at the sole discretion of the legislative body of the party such member represents.

2.4.5 Participating members and alternates of the Executive Committee shall receive no compensation but may be reimbursed for expenses necessarily and reasonably incurred in connection with their service on the Executive Committee.

2.5 Principal Office.

The principal office of CVAG shall be established by the Executive Committee and shall be located within the Coachella Valley. The Executive Committee is hereby granted full power and authority to change said principal office from one location to another within the Coachella Valley. Any change shall be noted by the Secretary under this section but shall not be considered an amendment to this Agreement.

2.6 Meetings.

The Executive Committee shall meet at the principal office of the agency or at such other place as may be designated by the Executive Committee. The time and place of regular meetings of the Executive Committee shall be determined by resolution adopted by the Executive Committee; a copy of such resolution shall be furnished to each party hereto. Regular, special, and adjourned meetings shall be called and conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Ralph M. Brown Act, Government Code Section 54950 *et seq.*, as it may be amended.

2.7 Powers and Limitations Thereon.

All of the powers and authorities of the agency shall be exercised by the General Assembly and its Executive Committee. Unless otherwise provided herein, each member or participating alternate shall be entitled to one vote, and a vote of the majority of those present and qualified to vote constituting a quorum may adopt any motion, resolution, or order and take any other action they deem appropriate to carry forward the objectives of the agency.



# **TWENTY-NINE PALMS BAND OF MISSION INDIANS**

46-200 Harrison Place . Coachella, California . 92236 . Ph. 760.863.2444 . Fax: 760.863.2449

December 24, 2025

## **Via U.S. Mail**

Supervisor V. Manuel Perez  
Chair of Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
74-199 El Paso, Suite 100  
Palm Desert, CA 92260

**Re: Appointment of Alternate Representative to the Executive Committee of the Coachella Valley Association of Governments**

Dear Chairman of the Coachella Valley Association of Governments,

On behalf of the Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians (“Tribe”), I am requesting that the Coachella Valley Association of Governments (“CVAG”) confirm the Tribe’s ability to appoint an alternate to the Executive Committee of CVAG that is not a member of the Tribe’s legislative body. As discussed below, the Tribe desires to appoint its Chief Executive Officer as its alternate representative on the Executive Committee. The current Joint Powers Agreement of CVAG, however, may restrict this appointment. This restriction is inconsistent with the Tribe’s governing structure and has impeded its ability to fully participate as a member of CVAG.

Unlike most of the entities that are CVAG members, the Tribe does not have elected legislators. While all adult members are eligible to serve as the Tribal Council, there is no formal election or appointment process under the Tribe’s laws. Instead, the Tribe’s laws and customs allow only the election of a Tribal Chairman and Tribal Secretary, who serve as the Officers of the Tribal Council.

The Tribe’s Chief Executive Officer is the highest non-elected, non-legislator position within the Tribe. Moreover, the Chief Executive Officer is the only employee that is hired and supervised directly by the Tribal Council. In that role, the Tribal Council has entrusted the Chief Executive Officer with representing its interests in the Tribe’s dealings with various entities, boards, commissions, and governments. I rely on and expect the Chief Executive Officer to carry forth the Tribe’s interests and my directives as the Tribe’s elected Chairman.

Currently, the Third Amendment and Restatement of the Joint Powers Agreement of the Coachella Valley Association of Governments (“JPA”) provides that the Executive Committee exercises the powers of CVAG in between sessions of the General Assembly. In my capacity as Chairman, I am automatically a member of the Executive Committee, unless the Tribal Council appoints a Council Member in my place. While the JPA purports to allow members to select an alternate, it provides that such alternates “must also be a member of the legislative body of the party such alternate represents” with an exception provided to the County of Riverside for alternates “who need not be elected officials.” JPA at Sec. 2.4.3.

The Tribe is therefore requesting consent from CVAG to appoint the Tribe's Chief Executive Officer, George Nicholas, Jr., as its alternate member on the Executive Committee to serve in my absence.

To the extent that this will require further amendment to the JPA, the Tribe proposes that CVAG adopt the following amendment to Section 2.4.3 of the JPA as follows:

Each participating member on the Executive Committee shall also have an alternate, who must also be a current member of the legislative body of the party such alternate represents or formally appointed by resolution of the legislative body of the party such alternate represents, with the exception of the alternates to the members representing the County of Riverside, who need not be elected officials. The name of the alternate members shall be on file with the Executive Committee. An alternate member shall assume all rights and duties of the absent member.

With this simple change, the Tribe's customs, laws, and governing structure can be respected and the Tribe's interests in CVAG can be adequately represented in my absence.

Should you have any questions, or if further discussion is needed on this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

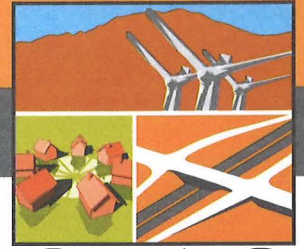


Darrell Mike, Tribal Chairman  
Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians

Cc: Supervisor Jose Medina, County of Riverside 1<sup>st</sup> District  
Supervisor Karen Spiegel, County of Riverside 2<sup>nd</sup> District  
Supervisor Chuck Washington, County of Riverside 3<sup>rd</sup> District  
Supervisor Yxstian Gutierrez, County of Riverside 5<sup>th</sup> District  
Mayor Steven Hernandez, City of Coachella  
Mayor Glenn Miller, City of Indio  
Mayor Linda Evans, City of La Quinta  
Mayor Bruce Whitman, City of Indian Wells  
Mayor Jan Harnik, City of Palm Desert  
Mayor Ted Weill, City of Rancho Mirage  
Mayor Nancy Ross, City of Cathedral City  
Mayor Ron deHarte, City of Palm Springs  
Mayor Scott Matas, City of Desert Hot Springs  
Mayor Joseph DeConinck, City of Blythe  
Tribal Chair Reid Milanovich, Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians  
Tribal Councilmember Brenda Soulliere, Cabazon Band of Mission Indians  
Tribal Chair Joseph Mirelez, Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians

# COACHELLA VALLEY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

74-199 El Paseo Drive, Suite 100, Palm Desert, CA 92260 · (760) 346-1127 · www.cvag.org



January 23, 2026

Chairman Darrell Mike  
Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians  
46-200 Harrison Place  
Coachella, California 92236

Honorable Chairman,

As Executive Director of the Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG), I am writing in response to your December 24, 2025 letter that was sent to CVAG Chairman V. Manuel Perez as well as the local Mayors, Tribal representatives and Riverside County Supervisors, most of whom are voting members on CVAG's Executive Committee. The letter expressed interest in modifying CVAG's Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) in order to provide the Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians (Tribe) with an alternate to the Executive Committee who is not a member of the Tribe's legislative body. I want to note that while CVAG staff will bring this issue to its leadership, amending CVAG's JPA is not a simple or straightforward task, which is why it has only been done a few times during CVAG's entire existence.

The Tribe's membership with CVAG dates back to 2021, when CVAG's member jurisdictions approved an addendum to the JPA in order to incorporate the Tribe as a member. This was done at the request of the Tribe, and your February 2021 letter stated *"the Tribe would like to become a full participant in evaluating regional/ sub regional single/multi-modal transportation projects that improve access and commerce across the Coachella Valley."* CVAG's attendance records show that no one from the Tribe has ever attended the annual General Assembly meeting, and only once has the Tribe attended an Executive Committee meeting, which was a Zoom meeting in April 2022 that you joined mid-way through the agenda. In more recent memory, the only time anyone representing the Tribe has indicated interest in CVAG's meetings was when Tribal Chief Administrative Officer George Nicholas, Jr. wanted to attend the Executive Committee meetings in October 2025 and December 2025 – both times when the Executive Committee had sensitive discussions related to litigation exposure in closed sessions. Note that even if CVAG's JPA had allowed those meetings to be attended by an alternate, as the Tribe is requesting in its letter, the Tribe's staff alternate would have had to leave the room for closed session as California's Brown Act states that alternates attending closed session must also be members of the jurisdiction's legislative body.

CVAG has a nearly 53-year track record of coordinating government services in the Coachella Valley, and the JPA is one of its most important governing documents. CVAG itself was formed in November 1973 with the approval of the first JPA. In 1989, after Riverside County voters passed the Measure A sales tax, CVAG amended and restated the JPA to specify its role as the regional transportation authority. In 1998, the JPA was amended again to include the City of Blythe as a member.

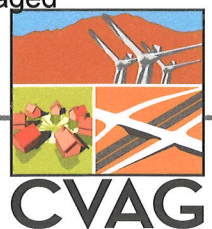
CVAG's Third Amendment and Restatement of the JPA was initiated in 2018 in large part to solidify Tribal Nations as official members. In 2011, the Governor had signed Assembly Bill 307, legislation authored by then-Assemblymember Brian Nestande (R-Palm Desert), that clarified federally recognized Indian tribes could enter into joint powers agreements in California. Long before that, the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians and the Cabazon Band of Cahuilla Indians (which was the Cabazon Band of Mission Indians at the time) had a seat at CVAG's table through Memorandums of Understanding that provided for their participation in regional decisions related to transportation, energy, sustainability, conservation and other issues. The Third Amendment solidified their membership and made way for membership of both your Tribe (in 2021) and the Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians (in 2020). For efficiency reasons, these tribes were added as members through addendums that did not make any substantive changes to the JPA itself; they only served as ways to admit each Tribal Nation as a member subject to all the rights, obligations and responsibilities.

The Executive Committee is the governing arm of the General Assembly. This structure was created for efficiency due to the complexities in coordinating a General Assembly quorum for monthly meetings to conduct CVAG business. Since CVAG's inception, JPA member jurisdictions agreed that the Executive Committee would be made up of the Mayors of the member jurisdictions or their alternate/designee, so long as they are sitting elected members of the city. All five Riverside County Supervisors were also made members of the Executive Committee. The Third Restatement of the JPA, authorized in 2018, expanded that to include "the Tribal Chair from each Indian Tribe" and noted that "any Indian Tribal Council may appoint one of its current council members in place of the Tribal Chair."

In its December 24, 2025 letter, the Tribe is now requesting a new alternate provision be added to Section 2.4.3 of the JPA as it relates to the Executive Committee. The proposed wording from the Tribe is that the alternate could "formally appointed by resolution of the legislative body of the party such alternate represents." This wording is overly broad and could result in unintended consequences. As written, it would not restrict the Tribe to appointing a staff member, as the letter suggests as the intent of this request. It also does not restrict the alternate to being someone within the Tribe or member jurisdiction. Nor does it restrict the alternate to being at all affiliated with the Tribe or member jurisdiction, outside of this appointment. The proposed amendment to the JPA could theoretically even result in anybody serving as the Tribe's representative on the Executive Committee – perhaps even another Executive Committee member themselves.

Beyond the challenges with the language itself, it should be noted revising CVAG's JPA would require a vote by each member jurisdiction, not CVAG itself, which equates to 15 separate actions at City Council, Tribal Council and Riverside County Board of Supervisor meetings. And that only occurs once a consensus on the approach is even reached among CVAG's 19 Executive Committee members. Such a process involves significant CVAG and member agency staff time to agendize the matter. The Third JPA Restatement and Amendment took months to circulate and get approved, and CVAG staff had to ask a handful of jurisdictions to review and vote on it twice as there were clarifying changes requested in the middle of that process.

Lastly, I want to stress that CVAG welcomes and promotes its Tribal members' participation. I was personally struck by remarks that then-Chairman Jeff Grubbe of the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians made at our meetings when he was CVAG Chair about how rare it was for a Tribal Chair to lead an organization like ours. I know we all benefit from the input we get from the Agua Caliente, Cabazon and Torres Martinez representatives, who are all regular, engaged attendees at our meetings.



Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have additional questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Tom Kirk  
CVAG Executive Director

CC:

Supervisor V. Manuel Perez, County of Riverside 4th District, CVAG Chair  
Supervisor Jose Medina, County of Riverside 1st District  
Supervisor Karen Spiegel, County of Riverside 2nd District  
Supervisor Chuck Washington, County of Riverside 3rd District  
Supervisor Yxstian Gutierrez, County of Riverside 5th District  
Mayor Steven Hernandez, City of Coachella  
Mayor Elaine Holmes, City of Indio  
Mayor Linda Evans, City of La Quinta  
Mayor Toper Taylor, City of Indian Wells  
Mayor Jan Harnik, City of Palm Desert  
Mayor Lynn Mallotto, City of Rancho Mirage  
Mayor Raymond Gregory, City of Cathedral City  
Mayor Naomi Soto, City of Palm Springs  
Mayor Scott Matas, City of Desert Hot Springs  
Mayor Joseph DeConinck, City of Blythe, CVAG Vice Chair  
Tribal Chair Reid Milanovich, Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians  
Tribal Councilmember Brenda Soulliere, Cabazon Band of Mission Indians  
Tribal Chair Joseph Mirelez, Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians





AGUA CALIENTE BAND OF CAHUILLA INDIANS  
TRIBAL COUNCIL

---

REID D. MILANOVICH CHAIRMAN • ANTHONY W. PURNEL VICE CHAIRMAN  
SAVANA R. SAUBEL SECRETARY-TREASURER • JOHN R. PRECKWINKLE III MEMBER • VINCENT GONZALES III MEMBER

February 26, 2026

Supervisor V. Manuel Perez  
Chair of Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
74-199 El Paso, Suite 100  
Palm Desert, CA 92260

**Re: Letter of Support for Appointment of Alternate Tribal Representatives for the Coachella Valley Association of Governments**

Dear Chairman Perez,

I am writing to express my support for the request made by Chairman Mike of the Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians on December 24, 2025, to expand the ability of tribal CVAG members to appoint alternates to the CVAG Executive Committee. As indicated by Chairman Mike, the current CVAG Joint Powers Agreement restricts tribal participation by limiting authorized representatives to Tribal Chairs or other members of Tribal Council in a manner that limits tribal participation. Therefore, we encourage CVAG to consider this request and support Chairman Mike's proposed language to accomplish this accommodation.

As you know, tribal governance structures vary from tribe-to-tribe and do not often mirror or match an equivalent state or local government. Thus, it is imperative to allow Indian tribes to participate in entities such as CVAG in a manner that reflects their tribal customs, traditions, and political structures.

I look forward to the opportunity to support Twenty-Nine Palm Band of Mission Indians' request for such revisions to the JPA.

Sincerely,

Reid D. Milanovich  
Chairman, Tribal Council  
AGUA CALIENTE BAND OF  
CAHUILLA INDIANS



Cc: Supervisor Jose Medina, County of Riverside 1<sup>st</sup> District  
Supervisor Karen Spiegel, County of Riverside 2<sup>nd</sup> District  
Supervisor Chuck Washington, County of Riverside 3<sup>rd</sup> District  
Supervisor Yxstian Gutierrez, County of Riverside 5<sup>th</sup> District  
Mayor Steven Hernandez, City of Coachella  
Mayor Glenn Miller, City of Indio  
Mayor Linda Evans, City of La Quinta  
Mayor Bruce Whitman, City of Indian Wells  
Mayor Jan Harnik, City of Palm Desert  
Mayor Ted Weill, City of Rancho Mirage  
Mayor Nancy Ross, City of Cathedral City  
Mayor Ron deHarte, City of Palm Springs  
Mayor Scott Matas, City of Desert Hot Springs  
Mayor Joseph DeConinck, City of Blythe  
Tribal Councilmember Brenda Soulliere, Cabazon Band of Mission Indians  
Tribal Chair Joseph Mirelez, Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians



**Doug Welmas/Tribal Chairman**

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March 12, 2026

Via US Mail

Supervisor V. Manuel Perez  
Chair of Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
74-199 El Paso, Suite 100  
Palm Desert, CA 92260

**Re: Letter Regarding Appointment of Alternate Tribal Representatives for the Coachella Valley Association of Governments**

Dear Chairman Perez,

The Cabazon Band of Cahuilla Indians writes to state that it neither supports nor objects to the request made by Chairman Mike of the Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians on December 24, 2025, seeking expanded ability for tribal CVAG members to appoint alternates to the CVAG Executive Committee. Cabazon takes no position on this request and defers to CVAG and its member governments on the matter.

Cabazon appreciates the importance of ensuring that all tribal governments are able to participate in regional bodies in ways that reflect each Tribe's customs, traditions, and governmental structures. This correspondence is intended solely to clarify Cabazon's neutral position while respecting the government-to-government dialogue between CVAG and the Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians.

Sincerely,



Doug Welmas

Chairman

Cabazon Band of Cahuilla Indians

Cc:

Supervisor Jose Medina, County of Riverside 1st District

Supervisor Karen Spiegel, County of Riverside 2nd District

**Supervisor Chuck Washington, County of Riverside 3rd District**

**Supervisor Yxstian Gutierrez, County of Riverside 5th District**

**Mayor Steven Hernandez, City of Coachella**

**Mayor Glenn Miller, City of Indio**

**Mayor Linda Evans, City of La Quinta**

**Mayor Bruce Whitman, City of Indian Wells**

**Mayor Jan Harnik, City of Palm Desert**

**Mayor Ted Weill, City of Rancho Mirage**

**Mayor Nancy Ross, City of Cathedral City**

**Mayor Ron deHarte, City of Palm Springs**

**Mayor Scott Matas, City of Desert Hot Springs**

**Mayor Joseph DeConinck, City of Blythe**

**Tribal Chair Reid Milanovich, Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians**

**Tribal Councilmember Brenda Soulliere, Cabazon Band of Cahuilla Indians**

**Tribal Chair Joseph Mirelez, Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians**



TORRES MARTINEZ DESERT CAHUILLA INDIANS

P.O. Box 1160

Thermal, CA 92274

(760) 397-0300 - FAX (760) 397-8146

March 18, 2026

Supervisor V. Manuel Perez  
Chair of Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
74-199 El Paso, Suite 100, Palm Desert, CA 92260

**Re: Letter of Support for Appointment of Alternate Tribal Representatives for the Coachella Valley Association of Governments**

Dear Chairman Perez,

I, the undersigned Chairman of the Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians, offer my support for the request made by Chairman Mike of the Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians on December 24, 2025, to expand the ability of tribal CVAG members to appoint alternates to the CVAG Executive Committee. As indicated by Chairman Mike, the current CVAG Joint Powers Agreement restricts tribal participation by limiting authorized representatives to Tribal Chairs or other members of Tribal Council in a manner that limits tribal participation. Therefore, we encourage CVAG to consider this request and support Chairman Mike's proposed language to accomplish this accommodation.

As you know, tribal governance structures vary from tribe-to-tribe and do not often mirror or match an equivalent state or local government. Thus, it is imperative to allow Indian tribes to participate in entities such as CVAG in a manner that reflects their tribal customs, traditions, and political structures.

We look forward to the opportunity to support Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians' request for such revisions to the JPA.

Sincerely,

  
Joseph Mirelez, Tribal Chairman

Cc:

Supervisor Jose Medina, County of Riverside 1 <sup>st</sup> District	Mayor Bruce Whitman, City of Indian Wells
Supervisor Karen Spiegel, County of Riverside 2 <sup>nd</sup> District	Mayor Jan Harnik, City of Palm Desert
Supervisor Chuck Washington, County of Riverside 3 <sup>rd</sup> District	Mayor Ted Weill, City of Rancho Mirage
Supervisor Yxstian Gutierrez, County of Riverside 5 <sup>th</sup> District	Mayor Nancy Ross, City of Cathedral City
Mayor Steven Hernandez, City of Coachella	Mayor Ron deHarte, City of Palm Springs
Mayor Glenn Miller, City of Indio	Mayor Scott Matas, City of Desert Hot Springs
Mayor Linda Evans, City of La Quinta	Mayor Joseph DeConinck, City of Blythe
Tribal Chair Reid Milanovich, Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians	
Tribal Councilmember Brenda Soulliere, Cabazon Band of Mission Indians	



# TWENTY-NINE PALMS BAND OF MISSION INDIANS

46-200 Harrison Place . Coachella, California . 92236 . Ph. 760.863.2444 . Fax: 760.863.2449

April 6, 2026

## Via U.S. Mail

Supervisor V. Manuel Perez  
Chair of Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
74-199 El Paso, Suite 100  
Palm Desert, CA 92260

**Re: Appointment of Alternate Representative to the Executive Committee of the Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG)**

Dear Chairman Perez,

On behalf of the Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians (“Tribe”), I am responding to your letter of January 23, 2026, regarding the Tribe’s request to enhance its participation as a member of CVAG. While we appreciate the challenges noted in your letter, we respectfully do not believe those challenges impede our request and strongly urge that this item be placed on the agenda for the next regularly scheduled meeting for consideration by the CVAG Board.

I want to specifically highlight that we believe that the participation of the Tribe and other sovereign tribal nations in the Coachella Valley on the CVAG Executive Committee adds important value to regional transportation planning. First, tribal lands represent a significant portion of the valley’s geography and future growth areas, making tribal participation essential to ensure transportation planning reflects the region’s full development and mobility needs. Second, tribal governments hold a federally recognized self-governance designation with the U.S. Department of Transportation, allowing them to plan and implement transportation programs as governmental partners. Third, tribes can access federal transportation funding sources that are specifically designated for tribal governments, bringing additional resources that can complement local, county, and state infrastructure investments. Finally, having tribes, cities, and counties working together at the same table strengthens coordination across jurisdictions, helping ensure transportation planning is cohesive and benefits the entire Coachella Valley region.

To address one of the concerns noted in your letter, which is that the language was overly broad and could result in unintended consequences, the Tribe proposes the following modifications to its proposed amendment to the JPA as follows:

Each participating member on the Executive Committee shall also have an alternate, who must also be a current member of the legislative body of the party such alternate represents or formally appointed by resolution of the legislative body

of the party such alternate represents, with the exception of the alternates to the members representing the County of Riverside, who need not be elected officials. Any alternative representative must be the highest-level executive or administrative officer of the participating member's governing body or organization, and cannot be an employee or representative of another participating member. The name of the alternate members shall be on file with the Executive Committee. An alternate member shall assume all rights and duties of the absent member.

While we believe these additional changes fully address your concerns, we continue to be open to other ways to improve this language.

The effort to increase the ability of the Tribe to actively participate in the CVAG Executive Committee is supported by the attached letters of support from the Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians and the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, who are members of CVAG. We also note that the Cabazon Band of Cahuilla Indians does not oppose this request. We hope that CVAG considers the requests of the Tribe and the support of its neighboring sovereign nations in this endeavor.

Furthermore, we understand that changes to the JPA are not to be taken lightly and involve a lengthy process. We continue, however, to stress the importance of increasing tribal participation in CVAG through these changes to accommodate the customs and governing structure of the Tribe. We look forward to discussing this further with CVAG and its membership and are willing to assist agency staff in their consideration and processing of this request. In that regard, we will prepare a draft resolution by March 13 for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Darrell Mike, Tribal Chairman  
Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians

Cc: Supervisor Jose Medina, County of Riverside 1<sup>st</sup> District  
Supervisor Karen Spiegel, County of Riverside 2<sup>nd</sup> District  
Supervisor Chuck Washington, County of Riverside 3<sup>rd</sup> District  
Supervisor Yxstian Gutierrez, County of Riverside 5<sup>th</sup> District  
Vice Mayor Dr. Frank Figueroa, City of Coachella  
Mayor Glenn Miller, City of Indio  
Mayor Linda Evans, City of La Quinta  
Mayor Bruce Whitman, City of Indian Wells  
Mayor Evan Trubee, City of Palm Desert  
Mayor Lynn Mallotto, City of Rancho Mirage  
Mayor Raymond Gregory, City of Cathedral City  
Mayor Naomi Soto, City of Palm Springs  
Mayor Scott Matas, City of Desert Hot Springs

Mayor Joseph DeConinck, City of Blythe  
Tribal Chair Reid Milanovich, Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians  
Tribal Councilmember Brenda Soulliere, Cabazon Band of Mission Indians  
Tribal Chair Joseph Mirelez, Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians

**ITEM 5E**

**Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
Executive Committee  
April 27, 2025**



**STAFF REPORT**

**Subject:** Public Hearing: Compliance with Assembly Bill 2561

**Contact:** Erica Felci, Deputy Executive Director ([efelci@cvag.org](mailto:efelci@cvag.org))

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**Recommendation: Pursuant to Assembly Bill 2561 requirements, hold a public hearing to receive information on CVAG's staffing vacancies and recruitment efforts**

**Background:** In 2024, the California Legislature passed, and the Governor signed, Assembly Bill 2561 to provide additional transparency related to government job recruitments and vacancies. Among other requirements, the bill mandates that public agencies such as CVAG present the status of vacancies, recruitment and retention efforts during a public hearing before the agency's governing body at least once per fiscal year. The bill was enacted into law and is codified at Government Code section 3502.3. The new law was effective January 1, 2025.

CVAG has about 42 full-time equivalent positions ranging across its transportation, administration, finance, conservation and energy and sustainability departments. CVAG staff, through staffing agreements, also serve as the staff for the Coachella Valley Conservation Commission (CVCC), Desert Community Energy (DCE) and, as of this fiscal year, the Coachella Valley Power Agency. CVAG does not have any bargaining units or unions.

In recent years, CVAG staff has worked with the Administrative/Personnel Committee to address CVAG's staffing needs now and in the long term. This has culminated in an overhaul of CVAG's classifications, total compensation, salary structure and performance management system that was implemented in phases starting in 2023.

CVAG has a range of classifications, with many classifications having levels that are defined based on scope of responsibility, complexity of work, supervision received and exercised, authority for making decisions and taking action, type and level of required knowledge, skills, abilities, education, training, and experience. Based on the results of the most recent performance evaluations, the Fiscal Year 2026-27 Budget will include some new classifications and reclassifications into the organizational chart.

When this item was presented to the Executive Committee last year, staff noted that there would be a strong focus on staff training as part of the retention efforts.

In 2025, CVAG staff brought in Integral Advantage, an organizational leadership consulting firm led by former La Quinta Councilmember Robert Radi. As part of their work, Integral Advantage led a survey for all CVAG staff in order to get feedback on leadership and organizational structure. The survey results were shared with the entire staff at a summer workshop, and also are attached to this report. The E2 assessment evaluates nine indicators of organizational performance grouped across three dimensions: leadership clarity, organizational environment, and

organizational outcomes. The results are compared with a benchmark population comprising 593 individuals from multiple public and private-sector organizations in order to provide a reference point for interpreting CVAG's results relative to broader organizational patterns. As stated in the report (page 2): *"Across all nine indicators, CVAG scores above the benchmark population. This means that employees participating in the assessment perceive CVAG's leadership conditions, workplace environment, and organizational outcomes more positively than individuals in the benchmark population."*

CVAG's strong record of risk management, including how it pertains to staffing issues, has been recognized by the California Joint Powers Insurance Authority (JPIA), which honored CVAG with the 2025 Risk Management Award for Best Overall Performance – Liability Program. As a follow up, CVAG staff asked JPIA for an analysis of CVAG's employment related claims during my tenure, and compared it to other regional organizations as well as Coachella Valley city clients that don't have law enforcement. The analysis is also attached for members' information.

At the public hearing, staff will highlight the benefits that the new classification study and performance evaluation system have had in terms of recruitments and retention. Staff is not recommending any changes in the recruitment policies, procedures or practices at this time.

**Fiscal Analysis:** There is no additional cost to this update.

Personnel costs for Fiscal Year 2026-27 will be presented to the Finance Committee as well as the Executive Committee as part of the budget review. Management has also incorporated future training costs into the upcoming budget.

**Attachments:**

1. Integral Advantage's summary report of CVAG's organizational assessment
2. JPIA's Liability Program Loss Data, March 9, 2026



Integral Advantage - a California Corporation  
79-405 HWY 111 Ste 9-318  
La Quinta, CA 92253  
Unique Entity ID: G865HW1174J8  
CAGE/NCAGE: 8WZX1  
D-U-N-S number: 033079168  
IACET Accreditation Number: 5660446-2  
<https://integraladvantage.com>

## **ORGANIZATIONAL PERFORMANCE CONTEXT**

### **Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG)**

#### **Interpretation of the Entrusted Empowerment® (E2) Assessment Results**

MARCH 15, 2025

#### **Cover Page (1) Report Pages (6)**

Prepared & Submitted by  
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#### **ACCREDITATION**



## INTRODUCTION: BACKGROUND AND METHODOLOGY

This report interprets the quantitative results of the Entrusted Empowerment® (E2) Organizational Assessment conducted for the Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG). The purpose of the report is to place the assessment results in context by examining how employees experience the organization's leadership clarity, workplace environment, and operational effectiveness.

The E2 assessment evaluates **nine indicators of organizational performance** grouped across three dimensions: leadership clarity, organizational environment, and organizational outcomes. These indicators examine whether employees understand the organization's strategic direction, experience fair and capable workplace systems, and perceive the organization as engaged, effective, and adaptable.

The assessment was administered to CVAG staff during the data collection period, from February 18 to March 3, 2025. A total of **31 participants** completed the survey. Participation was voluntary, and responses were collected anonymously to encourage candid feedback.

The results are compared with a benchmark population comprising **593 individuals** from multiple public and private-sector **organizations**. Benchmark comparisons provide a reference point for interpreting CVAG's results relative to broader organizational patterns.

It is important to note that the E2 assessment evaluates **organizational systems and workplace conditions**, not individual performance. Organizational diagnostics of this type are widely used because employee perceptions of clarity, fairness, and capability are strongly associated with engagement, coordination, and the ability of organizations to perform effectively over time.

The sections that follow summarize the assessment results and explain what the findings suggest about CVAG's organizational alignment, workplace environment, and performance outcomes.

## SECTION 1. SUMMARY OF QUANTITATIVE RESULTS

The Entrusted Empowerment® (E2) assessment evaluates nine indicators that collectively describe the conditions under which organizations perform effectively. These indicators examine three aspects of organizational performance:

- clarity of leadership direction and operational alignment
- the internal workplace environment experienced by employees
- resulting organizational outcomes such as engagement, performance, and adaptability (such as changing conditions and innovation)

It is important to note that the purpose of this analysis is not to evaluate individual performance but to interpret how employees experience the organization’s internal clarity, workplace environment, and operational effectiveness. These psychometric perception-based indicators are widely used in organizational research because they are strongly associated with employee engagement, coordination, and organizations' ability to perform effectively over time.

The results for CVAG are summarized below.

Indicator	CVAG Score	Benchmark	Above Benchmark
Strategic Clarity	<b>3.74</b>	3.73	<b>+0.01</b>
Operational Clarity	<b>4.08</b>	3.76	<b>+0.32</b>
Execution Clarity	<b>3.83</b>	3.68	<b>+0.15</b>
Sustained Competency	<b>4.09</b>	3.76	<b>+0.33</b>
Contextual Fairness	<b>3.82</b>	3.50	<b>+0.31</b>
Autonomy	<b>4.00</b>	3.73	<b>+0.27</b>
Engagement	<b>4.02</b>	3.71	<b>+0.31</b>
Performance	<b>4.09</b>	3.81	<b>+0.28</b>
Adaptability	<b>4.48</b>	3.92	<b>+0.57</b>

Across all nine indicators, CVAG scores **above the benchmark population.**

This means that employees participating in the assessment perceive CVAG’s leadership conditions, workplace environment, and organizational outcomes more positively than individuals in the benchmark population.

## **SECTION 2. WHAT THE RESULTS MEAN AT A GLANCE**

The nine indicators measured in the E2 assessment follow a simple organizational logic:

**Leadership clarity → Healthy workplace environment → Strong organizational outcomes**

CVAG scores above the benchmark across all three parts of this chain.

### **Clarity of Direction and Operations**

CVAG scores above the benchmark in Strategic Clarity (3.74 vs. 3.73), Operational Clarity (4.08 vs. 3.76), and Execution Clarity (3.83 vs. 3.68).

These results indicate that employees generally understand the organization's direction, how strategic priorities translate into operational programs, and how responsibilities are carried out across the organization.

### **Healthy Workplace Environment**

CVAG also exceeds the benchmark in Sustained Competency (4.09 vs. 3.76), Contextual Fairness (3.82 vs. 3.50), and Autonomy (4.00 vs. 3.73).

These indicators suggest that employees perceive the organization as capable, fair in its internal systems, and supportive of professional responsibility.

### **Strong Organizational Outcomes**

Finally, CVAG scores above the benchmark in Engagement (4.02 vs. 3.71), Performance (4.09 vs. 3.81), and Adaptability (4.48 vs. 3.92).

These results indicate that employees generally feel engaged in their work, view the organization as performing effectively, and believe it is capable of adapting to evolving regional challenges.

Taken together, the results suggest a well-aligned organization where leadership clarity, operational systems, and workplace conditions reinforce one another.

## **SECTION 3. LEADERSHIP CONDITIONS WITHIN THE ORGANIZATION**

The first group of indicators evaluates whether employees experience clarity in the organization's direction, operations, and execution.

### **Strategic Clarity**

CVAG's score for Strategic Clarity is **3.74**, slightly higher than the benchmark score of **3.73**.

Strategic clarity reflects whether employees understand the organization's mission, priorities, and long-term direction. The result suggests that staff generally understand CVAG's purpose and how their work contributes to broader regional objectives.

### **Operational Clarity**

CVAG's Operational Clarity score is **4.08**, compared with a benchmark score of **3.76**, representing a difference of **+0.32**.

This is one of the strongest advantages over the benchmark in the assessment. Operational clarity measures how effectively strategic priorities translate into operational programs and daily work processes. The result suggests that employees see a strong connection between CVAG's strategic objectives and the organization's operational activities.

### **Execution Clarity**

CVAG's Execution Clarity score is **3.83**, compared with the benchmark score of **3.68**, representing a difference of **+0.15**.

Execution clarity reflects whether responsibilities, resources, and accountability structures are clearly defined. The result indicates that employees generally understand how work is organized and how responsibilities are carried out within the organization.

## **SECTION 4. ORGANIZATIONAL ENVIRONMENT**

The second group of indicators reflects how employees experience the internal workplace environment.

### **Sustained Competency**

CVAG's Sustained Competency score is **4.09**, compared with the benchmark score of **3.76**, representing a difference of **+0.33**.

This indicator reflects the organization's ability to maintain a capable workforce capable of responding effectively to complex challenges. The results suggest that employees perceive CVAG as having strong professional expertise and problem-solving capacity.

### **Contextual Fairness**

CVAG's score for Contextual Fairness is **3.82**, compared with the benchmark score of **3.50**, representing a difference of **+0.31**.

Contextual fairness reflects whether decisions regarding roles, expectations, and resource allocation are perceived as reasonable and aligned with organizational priorities. The results suggest that employees generally perceive the organization's internal systems as fair and rational.

### **Autonomy**

CVAG's Autonomy score is **4.00**, compared with the benchmark score of **3.73**, representing a difference of **+0.27**.

Autonomy reflects whether employees feel trusted to carry out their responsibilities while remaining aligned with organizational processes. The result suggests that staff experience a balance between accountability and professional independence.

## **SECTION 5. ORGANIZATIONAL OUTCOMES**

The final group of indicators reflects outcomes that tend to emerge when leadership clarity and workplace conditions function effectively.

### **Engagement**

CVAG's Engagement score is **4.02**, compared with the benchmark score of **3.71**, representing a difference of **+0.31**.

Employee engagement reflects the level of commitment individuals feel toward their work and the organization's mission. The result indicates that employees generally feel invested in the organization's work and motivated to contribute to its success.

### **Performance**

CVAG's Performance score is **4.09**, compared with the benchmark score of **3.81**, representing a difference of **+0.28**.

This indicator reflects whether the organizational system enables employees to produce high-quality results and deliver effective outcomes.

### **Adaptability**

CVAG's Adaptability score is **4.48**, compared with the benchmark score of **3.92**, representing the largest difference in the assessment at **+0.57**.

Adaptability reflects the organization's capacity to respond effectively to changing conditions and emerging challenges. The strong advantage in this area suggests that employees perceive CVAG as highly capable of adapting to the complex, evolving regional environment in which it operates.

## SECTION 6. ORGANIZATIONAL RESILIENCE AND ADAPTABILITY

Among all indicators measured in the assessment, Adaptability shows the largest positive difference relative to the benchmark. CVAG's score of **4.48** compared with the benchmark score of **3.92** suggests that employees perceive the organization as particularly capable of responding to change and navigating complexity.

For a regional organization operating in a dynamic environment spanning multiple jurisdictions, evolving policy priorities, and shifting funding opportunities, adaptability is an important organizational capability.

## SECTION 7. ORGANIZATIONAL ALIGNMENT

Another notable aspect of the results is the **consistency across all nine indicators**.

CVAG exceeds the benchmark not only in organizational outcomes such as Engagement (4.02 vs. 3.71), Performance (4.09 vs. 3.81), and Adaptability (4.48 vs. 3.92), but also in the conditions that typically produce those outcomes, including Operational Clarity (4.08 vs. 3.76), Sustained Competency (4.09 vs. 3.76), and Contextual Fairness (3.82 vs. 3.50).

This consistency suggests that the organization's leadership clarity, operational systems, and workplace environment function in alignment rather than producing isolated strengths or weaknesses.

## SECTION 8. OVERALL INTERPRETATION

Collectively, the assessment results indicate that CVAG demonstrates strong organizational alignment relative to the benchmark population.

Across all nine indicators of organizational effectiveness, CVAG **scores above benchmark levels**. Employees participating in the assessment report a clear understanding of the organization's direction, strong alignment between strategy and operations, a capable and fair workplace environment, and positive organizational outcomes, including engagement, performance, and adaptability.

For an organization such as CVAG—whose work requires coordinating programs, policies, and priorities across multiple jurisdictions, these conditions are particularly important. Regional collaboration depends not only on strategic vision but also on operational coordination, internal capability, and the ability to respond effectively to evolving regional needs.

The assessment results suggest that CVAG possesses these foundational organizational conditions. Employees participating in the assessment perceive the organization as clear in its direction, aligned in its operations, and capable of adapting to the complex and dynamic environment in which it operates.



# LIABILITY PROGRAM LOSS DATA

Cvsg | March 9, 2026

# Benchmarking

Member: CVAG

Losses Valued as of 9/30/2025

Employment Practices Liability Total Frequency (# of Claims)						
Coverage Years	CVAG	SCAG	Indian Wells	La Quinta	Desert Rec	Palm Desert
2009-10 to 2024-25	1	3	3	2	6	7

Employment Practices Liability Frequency per \$1M Payroll						
(Total Frequency / Payroll) x 1M						
Coverage Years	CVAG	SCAG	Indian Wells	La Quinta	Desert Rec	Palm Desert
2009-10 to 2024-25	0.04	0.01	0.05	0.02	0.08	0.04

Employment Practices Liability Total Severity (Cost of Claims)						
Coverage Years	CVAG	SCAG	Indian Wells	La Quinta	Desert Rec	Palm Desert
2009-10 to 2024-25	\$11,909	\$637,289	\$614,434	\$255,652	\$414,744	\$626,232

Employment Practices Liability Loss Rate per \$100 of Payroll						
(Total Cost of Claims / Payroll) x 100						
Coverage Years	CVAG	SCAG	Indian Wells	La Quinta	Desert Rec	Palm Desert
2009-10 to 2024-25	\$0.04	\$0.27	\$1.07	\$0.23	\$0.54	\$0.32

Payroll						
Coverage Year	CVAG	SCAG	Indian Wells	La Quinta	Desert Rec	Palm Desert
2024-25	\$2,565,023	\$23,761,907	\$3,930,272	\$7,791,659	\$6,923,882	\$12,445,116
2023-24	\$2,087,412	\$20,749,062	\$3,698,616	\$7,134,030	\$5,423,146	\$10,757,449
2022-23	\$1,927,148	\$17,474,219	\$3,674,168	\$7,554,492	\$4,279,148	\$11,106,175
2021-22	\$1,806,882	\$15,633,410	\$3,491,176	\$7,703,660	\$5,481,553	\$10,990,430
2020-21	\$1,764,563	\$15,230,686	\$3,572,645	\$6,815,452	\$5,060,712	\$12,225,429
2019-20	\$1,809,294	\$15,686,571	\$3,484,707	\$6,786,170	\$4,982,312	\$11,869,349
2018-19	\$1,662,109	\$15,257,241	\$3,367,561	\$6,430,748	\$4,770,206	\$11,736,840
2017-18	\$1,598,182	\$14,670,424	\$3,336,137	\$6,183,412	\$4,150,869	\$11,285,423
2016-17	\$1,505,164	\$13,354,114	\$3,167,457	\$5,782,587	\$4,208,258	\$11,851,305
2015-16	\$1,432,930	\$12,710,009	\$2,880,152	\$6,417,957	\$3,954,433	\$11,905,711
2014-15	\$1,363,682	\$11,918,370	\$3,030,300	\$7,220,884	\$3,885,215	\$12,072,702
2013-14	\$1,372,414	\$11,698,803	\$4,216,978	\$6,212,865	\$4,873,648	\$12,141,078
2012-13	\$1,552,626	\$10,684,109	\$4,163,856	\$8,155,693	\$4,735,685	\$13,014,096
2011-12	\$1,561,794	\$10,502,000	\$3,832,669	\$7,785,184	\$4,735,685	\$14,921,364
2010-11	\$1,462,712	\$11,315,034	\$3,878,123	\$7,490,587	\$4,735,685	\$14,769,870
2009-10	\$1,462,712	\$11,315,034	\$3,878,123	\$7,490,587	\$4,735,685	\$14,769,870
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$26,934,648</b>	<b>\$231,960,993</b>	<b>\$57,602,941</b>	<b>\$112,955,968</b>	<b>\$76,936,122</b>	<b>\$197,862,207</b>

Note: Grey highlight indicates assumed payroll due to lack of available data.

**ITEM 6a**

**2025/26 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE ROSTER**



CVAG JURISDICTION	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT*	NOV(Dec)**	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR*	APR	MAY(JUN)	JUN
Blythe	-	-	✓	✓	✓	-	-	-	✓			
Cathedral City	-	-	✓	✓	✓	-	-	-	✓			
Coachella	-	-	Absent			-	-	-	✓			
Desert Hot Springs	-	-	✓	✓	✓	-	-	-	✓			
Indian Wells	-	-	✓	✓	✓	-	-	-	✓			
Indio	-	-	✓	Absent		-	-	-	✓			
La Quinta	-	-	✓	✓	✓	-	-	-	✓			
Palm Desert	-	-	✓	✓	✓	-	-	-	✓			
Palm Springs	-	-	✓	Absent		-	-	-	✓			
Rancho Mirage	-	-	✓	✓	✓	-	-	-	✓			
Riverside County	-	-	Absent		✓	-	-	-	✓			
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians	-	-	Absent		✓	-	-	-	✓			
Cabazon Band of Cahuilla Indians	-	-	Absent		Absent		-	-	✓			
Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians	-	-	Absent		✓	-	-	-	Absent			
Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians	-	-	Absent		Absent		-	-	-	Absent		

- Absent
- No Meeting -
- Present ✓
- Special Meeting \*
- Joint meeting with Homelessness Committee \*\*

**ITEM 6b**

Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
Executive Committee  
April 27, 2026



**STAFF REPORT**

**Subject:** Regional Transportation Project Status Report

**Contact:** Julie Mignogna, Transportation Program Manager ([jmignogna@cvag.org](mailto:jmignogna@cvag.org))

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**Recommendation: Information**

**Background:** CVAG staff provides regular updates to the Transportation and Executive Committees on regionally significant projects through project status reports. This Regional Project Status Report includes the latest updates organized by project type: interchange, bridge, arterial, active transportation, and regional projects led by CVAG.

**Fiscal Analysis:** Funding for these projects has been budgeted through the project phase indicated and secured through various funding sources.



COACHELLA VALLEY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
Regional Transportation Project Status Report  
4/21/2026

Project Description	Lead Agency	CVAG Funded				Status
		PSR	PAIED	PS&E	ROW	
<b>Interchanges</b>						
Avenue 50 @ 86S	COA					CVAG approved funding for PS&E & ROW.
Avenue 50 @ I-10	COA					PS&E underway.
Jackson Street @ I-10	COR					PAIED completed, 95% Plans are being prepared, ROW acquisition underway.
Monroe Street @ I-10	COR					PAIED completed, 100% PS&E package complete and approval expected imminently, ROW cert approval expected spring 2026, County intend to advertise in August 2026, Construction is anticipated to begin in January 2027, Item on agenda to request construction funding amendment.
Portland Avenue @ I-10	COR					Caltrans agreed to shelve, Suspend until funding for ROW, utilities and construction is obtained.
<b>Interchange Preparation Fund Projects</b>						
Da Vall Drive @ I-10	CC					PSR complete, Project on-hold until funding for next phase is available.
Dillon Road @ I-10 & SR86	TNP					PSR complete, PAIED complete, Close out for project with City of Coachella, Twenty Nine Palms Tribe of Mission Indians has become lead agency.
<b>Arterial Links</b>						
Avenue 48 (Van Buren St to Dillon Rd)	COR					Construction complete pending completion of minor punch list items.
Avenue 50 (Calhoun St to Harrison St)	COA					PS&E & ROW underway, Construction of Phase I complete.
Avenue 50 (Jefferson St to Jackson St)	Indio					PAIED and PS&E underway.
Date Palm Drive (I-10 to Varner Rd)	CC					Phase II is completed, PS&E for Phase III is underway.
Varner Road (Palm Drive to Date Palm Drive)	CC					PS&E is underway.
Jackson Street Widening (Ave 49 to Ave 52)	Indio					Phase I widening CON) completed, Phase II (undergrounding, signals, sidewalk, ) ROW underway, CON anticipated mid 2026.
Jefferson Street (Ave 38 to Sun City Blvd)	Indio					PAIED complete, PS&E underway.
<b>Bridges</b>						
Airport Boulevard Bridge	COR					PS&E Complete, Submittal package under review, ROW cert expected by July 2026, Construction anticipated by April 2027.
Avenue 44 Bridge over WWR	Indio					Environmental cleared, ROW cleared, Under construction.
Avenue 50 Bridge over WWR	COA					PS&E & ROW underway, 100% plans being reviewed, ROW certification under review with Caltrans, Construction anticipated by in third quarter 2026.
Avenue 50 Bridge over LQEC	LQ					Project in PS&E phase.
Dillon Road over WWR	TNP					CEQA and NEPA complete, Twenty Nine Palms Tribe of Mission Indians has become lead agency.
Dune Palms Road Bridge over WWR	LQ					Project opened, Contractor completing final punch list items.
East Palm Canyon Drive Bridge over Palm Canyon Wash	PS					RFA CON Approved by Caltrans, City procuring construction management team.
Indian Canyon Drive (Garnet Inld. RR Crossing)	PS					Project in construction, Schedule delayed due to environmental conditions, Construction has resumed.
Ramon Road Bridge	PS					ROW ongoing and plans being updated to latest Caltrans standards.
South Palm Canyon Drive Bridge over Tahquitz Creek	PS					Project in construction, Construction expected to be complete in August 2026, Item on agenda to request funding amendment.
Vista Chino Bridge over WWR	PS					Project is in PS&E phase, Extensive negotiations with SCE for utility relocation.
<b>Regional Projects</b>						
Broadband Strategic Plan	CVAG					Market Assessment, Needs Assessment, Gap Analysis, Governance, and Request for Expressions of Interest from ISPs are complete, High Level Design underway.
CV Sync - Phase II	CVAG					Project construction 95% complete.
CV Sync - Phase III & I-10 Bypass Study	CVAG					CV Sync Phase III in design & Varner Rd, Feasibility Study (I-10 by-pass) completed, 65% complete plans for CV Sync Phase III have been circulated to local agencies for review.
Flooding and Blowstand - ACCESS Indian Canyon Drive	CVAG					Revised Hydraulic Models and Hydrology Report were submitted to CWD for approval, Geometric Approval Drawings (GAD) are being developed, A draft wind study was completed.
Flooding and Blowstand - Varner Road	CVAG					Geometrical Approval Drawings and 30% Plans Completed - Under Review.
Transportation Project Prioritization Study Update	CVAG					Study underway, Executive Director creating ad hoc to address related funding issues.
<b>Active Transportation Projects</b>						
ATP - Arts & Music Line	CVAG					NEPA approved in May 2024, ROW acquisition underway, Design nearing 100% complete, Construction award anticipated in Q1 2027.
ATP - DHS CV Link Extension	DHS					PS&E 90% complete.
CV Link	CVAG					Project close-out being completed.
CV Link - DHS Extension	CVAG					Project authorization and kickoff in September 2025, Feasibility Study Underway.
CV Link - Mecca/North Shore Extension	CVAG					Project authorization and kickoff in May 2025, PSR Underway.
CV Link - Community Connector (Coachella)	CVAG					Construction complete, Project close-out being finalized.
CV Link - Community Connector (Cathedral City)	CC					Construction complete, Project close-out being finalized.

CVAG Funding Phase Legend	
PSR	Project Status Report
PAIED	Preliminary Engineering / Environmental Document
PS&E	Plans Specifications & Estimates
ROW	Right of Way
CON	Construction

COA=County of Riverside; IM=Inland Empire; MCP=Morongo Valley; NCP=North Palm Springs; CC=Coachella; LQ=La Quinta; TNP=Twenty Nine Palms Tribe of Mission Indians  
Other Acronyms: PAIED = Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Design; PE = Preliminary Engineering; PS&E = Project Status Report; RR = Railroad; UPRR = Union Pacific Railroad  
LATA = Local Agency Technical Assistance; RFP = Request for Proposal; REP = Request for Bid; RQC = Riverside County Flood Control

**ITEM 6c**

**Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
Executive Committee  
April 27, 2026**



**STAFF REPORT**

**Subject:** Update on California Association of Councils of Governments

**Contact:** Emmanuel Martinez, Assistant Director – Energy & External Affairs  
([emartinez@cvag.org](mailto:emartinez@cvag.org))

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**Recommendation: Information**

**Background:** The [California Association of Councils of Governments](#) (CALCOG) is a 49-member organization that serves councils of governments such as CVAG, metropolitan planning organizations, and regional transportation planning agencies. CALCOG works to improve the working relationships between member agencies, local governments, transit agencies, and state regulatory authorities. CALCOG also develops statewide consensus between its members on issues related to transportation, regional planning, climate change and funding. Additionally, CALCOG works to improve the inter-relationship between regional and local government by coordinating policy development with agencies such as the California State Association of Counties and the League of California Cities.

CVAG has been a CALCOG member since 2014 and is represented by Palm Desert Councilmember Jan Harnik on the CALCOG Board of Directors. The CALCOG Executive Director is Bill Higgins, who was the keynote speaker for the 2017 CVAG General Assembly. In 2025, Councilmember Harnik is also serving as Chair of CALCOG's Board, and was instrumental in bringing the organization to the desert for its November meeting. Councilmember Harnik provided an update on these regional efforts at the April meeting of CVAG's Transportation Committee.

A key updated provided by Councilmember Harnik highlighted was the recognition of CV Link for its regional and transformational impact. In February 2025, at its Regional Leadership Forum, CALCOG awarded CVAG the Eureka! Award in recognition of the completion of CV Link. The Eureka! Award recognizes initiatives that tackle complex challenges – like transportation, housing, sustainability, and public health, that transcend local boundaries. Last year, CVAG's CV Sync was awarded the Eureka! Award. In addition to policy advocacy, CALCOG also administers the California Academy for Regional Leaders (CARL) which helps professionals seeking to strengthen their organizations by helping them develop leadership skills and increase their knowledge of systems that impact their organization.

Councilmember Harnik also highlighted CALCOG's advocacy in Sacramento. CALCOG'S involvement helps to influence public policy on matters that are pertinent to the region, such as modernization of SB 375. Additionally, as efforts are underway in Sacramento to codify the Regional Early Action Partnership (REAP) program, and Councilmember Harnik noted the regional coordination and collaboration on Regional House Needs Assessment and providing input on related policy issues.

**Fiscal Analysis:** There is no cost to CVAG for this update.

## **ITEM 6d**

**Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
Executive Committee  
April 27, 2026**



### **STAFF REPORT**

**Subject:** I-REN's Public Sector Projects Policy and Fiscal Year 2026-27 Budget

**Contact:** Jacob Alvarez, Program Manager ([jalvarez@cvag.org](mailto:jalvarez@cvag.org))

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#### **Recommendation: Information**

**Background:** CVAG is collaborating with Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG) and San Bernardino Council of Governments (SBCOG) on a joint Regional Energy Network (REN), known as the Inland Regional Energy Network (I-REN). I-REN is governed by an Executive Committee, with CVAG's votes represented by the Energy & Sustainability Committee Chair, or Vice Chair as needed.

Because the CVAG representative carries all three votes at IREN, CVAG's policy calls for the Energy & Sustainability Committee to review key items before they are considered by the IREN Executive Committee in order to provide direction on the vote. At its April meeting, CVAG's Energy & Sustainability Committee authorized the support a suspension of the current policy limiting an agency's concurrent Cash for Kilowatts projects, so long as it maintains the overall project cap and approving the Fiscal Year 2026-27 I-REN Budget.

#### *Cash for Kilowatts*

I-REN's Public Sector Programs offer no-cost energy efficiency support to public agencies served by Southern California Edison or Southern California Gas in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties. This includes cities, school and water districts, special districts, and tribes. I-REN provides customized resources for strategic energy plans and efficiency projects to address unique implementation barriers. Additionally, the Cash for Kilowatts program offers a \$2 per kWh incentive for energy saved on qualifying upgrades, which helps local governments finance project costs.

On January 16, 2024, the I-REN Executive Committee capped the number of Cash for Kilowatts projects for each agency to ensure equitable funding and prevent rapid resource depletion. Agencies are limited to two concurrent projects (eight total), while counties may manage four at once (16 total). Initiating new projects requires the completion of existing ones, regardless of an agency's capacity. This decision followed a discussion in late 2023 of different participation models, including one that would be "first-come, first-served" until the budget runs out, which could mean some agencies benefit more than others. At that time, the Energy & Sustainability Committee endorsed the current option to balance regional equity with the needs of larger well-funded agencies.

In an informational item at the February meeting, CVAG staff shared that the "two-projects-at-a-time" limit would be re-evaluated at the April meeting of the I-REN Executive Committee. This remains a priority for CVAG staff, as the current cap can restrict agencies ready to implement multiple energy-saving measures before the cycle ends on December 31, 2027. As of March 2026, these restrictions have placed 37 projects from six agencies on hold, many of which involve facilities that must be divided into multiple projects due to complex meter configurations.

As of March 2026, I-REN has committed over \$1.1 million in Cash for Kilowatts incentives applications for 19 projects approved by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). These include Coachella Valley projects such as the City of Indian Wells and the City Palm Springs' fire station and public works yard upgrades. I-REN has identified an additional \$4.9M in potential incentives throughout its territory and is currently assisting agencies with those applications.

The I-REN Business Plan funding cycle concludes on December 31, 2027, with a \$10 million budget allocated for Cash for Kilowatts incentives. Unspent funds do not roll over to the next cycle, meaning any resources not committed through CPUC-approved applications by the 2027 deadline will be forfeited.

CVAG's Energy & Sustainability Committee supported WRCOG's staff is recommendation that the I-REN Executive Committee suspend the limit on concurrent Cash for Kilowatts projects, with the goal of ensuring funds are fully utilized before they expire. This change aims to maximize project completions within the remaining timeframe, as staff does not anticipate any agency exceeding their total allowable project count for the cycle and CVAG member jurisdictions would benefit from this policy change.

### *2026/2027 I-REN Budget*

I-REN was established as a collaborative initiative among WRCOG, CVAG, and SBCOG to address regional energy efficiency needs. The CPUC formally approved I-REN's Business Plan in November 2021, authorizing a six-year budget of \$65.6 million for program years 2022 through 2027.

Since its inception, I-REN has adjusted its budget and programs through CPUC advice letters to meet actual expenditures and regional needs. I-REN Executive Committee consideration is required to ensure full expenditure of allocated funds by 2027 and to align future budget requests with demonstrated outcomes and regulatory expectations for transparency and cost-effectiveness.

As of March 2026, I-REN is entering the final years of its initial funding cycle and staff is planning to accelerate activity across all sectors. The previously approved Fiscal Year 2025-26 budget reflects significant expenditure increases driven by matured portfolios, expanded public sector technical assistance, and high participation in Workforce Education and Codes & Standards programs. This trajectory continues with the Fiscal Year 2026-27 proposal, which accounts for higher contractor costs and additional staffing at WRCOG to improve compliance and delivery. Recent technical analyses have justified these budget increases based on documented regional needs and program outcomes.

The I-REN Executive Committee reviewed the proposed Fiscal Year 2026-27 budget at its April meeting. A preview of the budget was presented

<b>Sector</b>	<b>FY 25-26</b>	<b>FY 26-27</b>	<b>Percentage Change</b>
Public	\$7,496,501	\$9,177,905	22%
Workforce, Education & Training	\$3,898,752	\$4,316,542	11%
Codes & Standards	\$1,377,962	\$1,882,980	37%
Evaluation, Measurement & Verification (EM&V)	\$120,000	\$200,000	67%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$12,893,215</b>	<b>\$15,577,427</b>	<b>21%</b>

The Energy & Sustainability Committee supported staff's recommendation to approve the budget, which the I-REN Executive Committee approved on April 21. This will provide IREN staff with guidance on resource allocation, ensuring continued compliance with CPUC directives and the achievement of regional energy efficiency goals.

**Fiscal Analysis:** There is no additional cost to CVAG for these items. Staff time dedicated to I-REN and the costs of the services of consultants are covered through the I-REN budget.

## **ITEM 6e**

**Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
Executive Committee  
April 27, 2026**



### **STAFF REPORT**

**Subject:** Local Efforts to Address Hexavalent Chromium (Chromium-6)

**Contact:** Emmanuel Martinez, Assistant Director – Energy & External Affairs  
([emartinez@cvaq.org](mailto:emartinez@cvaq.org))

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### **Recommendation: Information**

**Background:** Hexavalent Chromium or chromium-6 is a naturally occurring heavy metal found in the geology of the Coachella Valley groundwater basin. Although the majority of the chromium found in drinking water occurs naturally, industrial activities can also contribute to groundwater contamination of chromium, especially when industrial sites fail to follow safe disposal procedures. According to health assessments, long-term exposure (70 years) to chromium-6 can result in cancer. To address naturally occurring chromium in drinking water and potential health impacts, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) established a [chromium-6 maximum contaminant level](#) (MCL) of 10 parts per billion (ppb), which became effective October 1, 2024. This new standard was set to align with [public health goals](#), established by the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHAA).

California is the first and only state in the nation to adopt a drinking water standard for chromium-6. All other states adhere to the federal drinking water standard for total chromium, which is 100 ppb, including chromium-3 and chromium-6. The California drinking water standard for total chromium is 50 ppb, including chromium-3 and chromium-6. In the Coachella Valley, the average level of natural occurring chromium-6 in CVWD's wells is 9.4 ppb, with a range of 0 to 22 ppb.

Adhering to the new drinking water standard for chromium-6 can have a significant financial impact. The new standard presents a significant financial challenge to local public water systems and the ratepayers they serve. According to the Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD), the cost of complying with the new regulation exceeds \$350 million, which will likely impact water rates for CVWD customers. Costs of implementing new filtration technology and related infrastructure upgrades has been a concern since the time the new MCL was first adopted by the SWRCB in 2014, and then later invalidated by the courts. In 2014, recognizing the financial burden, the California Legislature enacted SB 385 in 2015, which authorized the SWRCB to grant public water systems a variance for complying with the new MCL standard. In 2017, the MCL was invalidated by the courts for not sufficiently analyzing the economic feasibility. The 2024 rulemaking addresses the financial concerns by updating cost estimates and assessments, compliance plans, and financial assistance programs for affected agencies. Most recently, the Legislature passed Senate Bill 466 in 2025 which provides legal protection to water agencies actively implementing approved chromium-6 compliance measures, shielding them from lawsuits while remediation efforts are underway.

The new MCL compliance schedule is as follows:

<b>System Size (as of regulation's effective date)</b>	<b>Compliance Schedule</b>	<b>Compliance Monitoring Begins</b>
10,000 service connections or more	2 years from regulation's effective date	October 1, 2026
1,000 to 9,999 service connections	3 years from regulation's effective date	October 1, 2027
Less than 1,000 service connections	4 years from regulation's effective date	October 1, 2028

Establishing a MCL for chromium-6 has been an ongoing effort, and the new 2024 rulemaking is also being challenged in court for inadequate economic analysis and for not sufficiently exploring alternatives, including failing to meet the state's Human Right to Water Policy. While the courts adjudicate the issue, public water agencies in the Coachella Valley are working to comply with the new MCL standard. Coachella Valley Water District and other local water agencies have [notified customers](#) regarding this issue as mandated by state law. The District has submitted the required compliance and implementation plans to the State, developed large-scale ion exchange treatment projects, and built a demonstration project in 2017, which successfully reduced chromium-6 to chromium-3 using stannous chloride. CVWD is also working on integrating this technology with its pipeline delivery system.

Joanne Le, Coachella Valley Water District's (CVWD) Director of Environmental Services, attended the April meeting of the Energy & Sustainability Committee to provide an update on the district's efforts related to chromium-6. Members expressed an interest in having CVAG engaged on this issue. As addressing chromium-6 is not currently in CVAG's legislative platform, staff will return to the Committee with potential additions to the platform that address the issues raised by the Energy & Sustainability Committee members.

CVAG staff would note that Indio Water Authority, Coachella Water Authority, and Mission Springs Water District are also working towards adhering to the new standard, including submitting compliance plans to the State and notifying customers. Desert Water Agency is the only entity in the Coachella Valley that has not detected chromium-6 above MCL in its water distribution. Water system consumer confidence reports and hexavalent chromium testing information is available on California's [Drinking Water Watch](#).

**Fiscal Analysis:** There is no cost for providing this update to the committee.

**ITEM 6f**

Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
Executive Committee  
April 27, 2026



**STAFF REPORT**

**Subject:** Commercial Electric Lawn & Garden Equipment Program

**Contact:** Jacob Alvarez, Program Manager ([jalvarez@cvag.org](mailto:jalvarez@cvag.org))

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**Recommendation: Information**

**Background:** The South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) administers the Commercial Electric Lawn & Garden Equipment Program, which provides incentives to replace older gasoline- or diesel-powered commercial lawn and garden equipment with new zero-emission, battery-electric alternatives. The program is available to commercial landscapers, local government agencies, schools and non-profit organizations, and requires the scrapping of one operable gasoline- or diesel-powered piece of equipment to qualify for incentive funding toward replacement equipment.

The program supports regional air quality goals by reducing emissions from small off-road engines and provides point-of-sale discounts, through a voucher-based process, to lower the cost of adopting electric equipment.

South Coast AQMD staff previously introduced this program to CVAG member jurisdictions' staffs during the inaugural Energy & Sustainability Roundtable on February 11, 2026. To further highlight available resources and participation opportunities, Danielle Soto, South Coast AQMD's Local Government/Community Outreach Manager, provided an overview at the April meeting of the Energy & Sustainability Committee. This presentation also provides an opportunity to connect member jurisdictions and local businesses with incentives that advance regional air quality and electrification goals.

The Electric Lawn & Garden Equipment Program reduces the purchase price of the commercial-grade battery electric lawn and garden equipment. The program provides up to a 85% discount, subject to funding caps. Additional program details, including eligibility and participating retailers, are available on the South Coast AQMD's [program webpage](#). Additionally, a comprehensive list of eligible equipment can be found [here](#).

**Fiscal Analysis:** There is no cost to CVAG for this informational update.

**ITEM 6g**

**Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
Executive Committee  
April 27, 2026**



**STAFF REPORT**

**Subject:** Annual contributions to the CV Housing First Program

**Contact:** Erica Felci, Deputy Executive Director ([efelci@cvag.org](mailto:efelci@cvag.org))

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**Recommendation: Information**

**Background:** Since 2009, CVAG has funded its regional homelessness programs – first Roy’s Desert Resource Center, and then later programs that evolved into CV Housing First – by contributions from member jurisdictions. Since 2021, these contributions have been solidified through Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) with participating cities.

In December 2024, at the recommendation of the Homelessness Committee, the Executive Committee authorized the Executive Director to execute MOUs with member jurisdictions to increase the CV Housing First contribution from \$100,000 to \$125,000 in Fiscal Year 2025-26 and provide for annual inflation adjustments that are reviewed by the Homelessness Committee. This was the first contribution increase that had been requested in more than 15 years.

The authorization led staff to include an annual inflation adjustment into the MOUs. The inflation factor was identified as the same one utilized to budget other CVAG programs, which is based on the Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario Area Consumer Price Index (CPI). Such CPI is identical to the one reviewed by the Finance and Executive Committees when considering an increase to membership dues during the budget process. This inflation factor is calculated on the CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) as the over-the-year percent change, measured as of January. The CPI-U, All items for the Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario metropolitan area rose by 3.2 percent during the January-to-January time period.

At its April 15 meeting, the Homelessness Committee supported staff’s recommendation to adopt the 3.2-percent increase to the CV Housing First contribution in Fiscal Year 2026-27. Staff would note that this is less than the percentage being recommended for the Transportation Uniform Mitigation Fee (TUMF) rates, as the time period for the adjustment is different in order to mirror what is used by the Coachella Valley Conservation Commission.

CVAG staff will be informing cities of the increase. To date, the following cities have approved multi-year MOUs for CV Housing First: Cathedral City, Indian Wells, Indio and Palm Springs. The Cities of Palm Desert and La Quinta have one-year MOUs, which was based on their preference. The City of Rancho Mirage’s staff is actively working with CVAG to finalize its agreement, inclusive of the CPI adjustment. CVAG staff has been in communication with city leaders in Coachella as they consider their budget, and CVAG staff paused its programming in the City until the agreement is finalized. As previously noted to the Committee, the City of Desert Hot Springs is not participating in the program and instead investing in a city-specific program. Separately, the County of Riverside, which has been instrumental in helping CVAG secure additional funds

through grants, has an agreement for general fund contributions of \$359,711 through the current fiscal year. CVAG staff has reached out to County staff to solidify future contributions.

**Fiscal Analysis:** The action will increase the annual contribution by participating cities by 3.2 percent in Fiscal Year 2026-27, raising it from \$125,000 to \$129,000.

Until Fiscal Year 2023-24, CV Housing First operations were fully funded by member jurisdictions' contributions as well as a now-ended contribution from the Desert Healthcare District/ Foundation and occasional grants. This had allowed CVAG to develop a fund balance and start planning for future needs. Even with the recommended increase, the program now is operating at a deficit, as rents of the crisis stabilization units continue to increase and other costs go up.

## **ITEM 6h**

Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
Executive Committee  
April 27, 2026



### **STAFF REPORT**

**Subject:** Federal funding shifts to Continuums of Care

**Contact:** Erica Felci, Deputy Executive Director ([efelci@cvag.org](mailto:efelci@cvag.org))

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#### **Recommendation: Information**

**Background:** Housing First is a nationally used approach to ending homelessness. It centers on the philosophy is that once someone has a stable housing situation, they can then focus their attention on issues like maintaining employment, and addressing addiction or mental health issues – ultimately putting them on the path to maintaining a permanent housing solution. CVAG shifted to the CV Housing First model in 2017 based on extensive review by the CVAG Homelessness Committee and expert analysis that was funded by the Desert Healthcare District/ Foundation. Today, the CV Housing First program is run by CVAG staff and it includes an array of services like rapid re-housing and the use of crisis stabilization units, which are hotel rooms and apartments, to get someone under a roof almost immediately.

In July 2025, President Trump issued an Executive Order called “Ending Crime and Disorder on America’s Streets” that called for an end of federal financial support of Housing First policies. A few months later, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has released a Continuum of Care (CoC) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), making \$3.9 billion in competitive grants available. Riverside County’s COC is eligible to apply for \$22,997,584 in funding. In line with the Executive Order’s direction, the NOFO introduces substantial policy shifts that include an emphasis on transitional housing and supportive services, as well as a new funding cap of \$5,222,010 for permanent housing projects. In Riverside County, this cap is expected to affect more than 430 households currently receiving permanent housing assistance.

The issue is now being addressed in the courts, and Riverside County is preparing for the various alternative outcomes in order to strategically position the region to secure the most funding. At the same time, programs across Riverside County continue to support the Housing First approach. he County’s Housing and Workforce Solutions (HWS), as well as the COC, are looking to strategically position the region to secure the most funding.

Greg Rodriguez, HWS’ Deputy Director for Government Affairs and Community Engagement, attended the April meeting of the Homelessness Committee to brief members about the federal funding shift and its impact on the County.

**Fiscal Analysis:** There is no cost to CVAG for this informational report. The funding shift will not directly impact CVAG’s CV Housing First budget, which are largely funded by member jurisdictions’ contributions, but could ultimately reduce the grant opportunities that CVAG can compete for.

**ITEM 7a**

**Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
Executive Committee  
April 27, 2026**



**STAFF REPORT**

**Subject:** Recap of CVAG's Legislative Advocacy Efforts

**Contact:** Emmanuel Martinez, Assistant Director – Energy and External Affairs  
([emartinez@cvag.org](mailto:emartinez@cvag.org))

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**Recommendation: Information**

**Background:** As noted in a March 2026 briefing to the Executive Committee, CVAG staff and advocacy representative in Sacramento, the Politico Group, reviewed newly introduced legislation for impacts to CVAG and its member jurisdictions. February 20 was the last day for legislation to be introduced. In 2026, 1,798 bills were introduced. Now that bill introductions are complete, and spot bills amended into substantive proposals, staff and CVAG's advocacy team have been working to review bills to identify pertinent legislation that may impact CVAG and its member agencies.

[SB 1087](#) by Senator Cabaldon is intended to make changes to the Sustainable Communities Strategy guidelines. Specifically, the bill aims to modernize SB 375 framework for regional, climate, land use and transportation planning. By way of background, SB 375 is landmark legislation that was enacted in 2008 and reshaped local governments' general plans, housing elements and transportation investments. The goal of these policies was to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by changing development patterns towards transit-oriented development. SB 1087 bill is designed to streamline the Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) planning process; increase alignment between state funding and regional plans; provide the California Transportation Commission (CTC) with authority to evaluate whether a SCS meets its target; and increase transparency related to the GHG reduction targets established by the California Air Resources Board (CARB). Specifically, among other things, the bill would:

- Extend the SCS planning cycle from four to eight years (with a midpoint progress report), freeing up Metropolitan Planning Organizations' (MPO) staff capacity for on-the-ground implementation;
- Align the \$250 million Solutions for Congested Corridors Program (SCCP) with regional transportation plans, prioritizing near-term projects that help regions hit their 2035 GHG targets, and eliminates the duplicative Comprehensive Multimodal Corridor Plan requirement;
- Require the timing and scope of regionally significant State Highway Operations and Protection Program (SHOPP) projects to be consistent with the SCS;
- Exempt SCS plan adoption from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements when an MPO conducts enhanced public participation, while preserving project-level environmental review.

- Leverage the CTC to work in tandem with the CARB and provides a new perspective that's grounded in transportation expertise, allowing CARB to retain responsibility for setting the targets and charging the CTC with developing the SCS guidelines and determining whether a region's SCS meets the target;
- Expand GHG targets to cover all on-road transportation emissions and requires them to reflect the combined effect of policies, regulations, and investments from all levels of government, including fleet efficiency improvements already underway from state regulations; and
- Require targets to be grounded in what is achievable for each region, accounting for existing conditions, built environment, and financial constraints.

SB 1087 passed out of the Senate Environmental Quality Committee on April 8, 2026 and is set to be heard in the Senate Transportation Committee on April 21. This bill currently is supported by Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), Association of Bay Area Governments, among other local and regional governments. CVAG staff and advocacy team will continue to monitor this bill.

[SB 1423](#) by Senator Henry Stern (D-Malibu) is a new bill that refocuses State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) funding on active transportation. This bill was amended on March 25 to require 50% of future allocations from the STIP to be spent on active transportation projects, with priority given to projects located in transit-oriented development (TOD) areas pursuant to SB 79 (Wiener, 2025). The STIP includes both a 75% share allocated at the regional level through the Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) and a 25% share allocated to interregional travel via Caltrans (ITIP).

RTIPs have often supported complete streets projects, as well as larger road and highway capacity projects, while the ITIP has primarily been used to fund highway improvements that support travel between regions and, more recently, intercity rail projects.

SB 1423 would have potentially significant implications for CVAG's ability to deliver regional priority projects. It is also important to note that CVAG previously had a greater role in programming STIP funding and has allocated it for active transportation projects in the past. Retaining this flexibility is critical to meeting the transportation needs of the region. Additionally, the Coachella Valley does not have any TOD areas that would get priority under SB 1423. For these reasons, CVAG sent an opposition letter to the Senate Transportation Committee, which will hear the bill on April 21.

Another bill impacting how transportation projects are funded in the region is [AB 2560](#) by Assemblymember Schultz. This bill would codify the goals within the Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure (CAPTI), including reducing vehicle miles traveled. As currently drafted, this bill would require the CAPTI goals to apply to existing funding programs such as the Local Partnership Program, Trade Corridor Enhancement Program (TCEP), and Solutions for Congested Corridors Program (SCCP), which are programs that help to address roadway capacity in the Coachella Valley. This bill would constrain the ability for the region to secure funding for needed capacity improvements, exacerbating issues related to cash flow and securing outside funding. As a result, per the adopted legislative platform, CVAG staff in coordination with the Politico Group, submitted a letter in opposition.

Related to CV Rail, [AB 1855](#) by Assemblymember Gonzalez was referred to the Assembly Natural Resources Committee but has yet to be set for a committee hearing. Sponsored by the Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC), the bill would expand the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) exemptions to certain passenger rail projects, such as CV

Rail. CVAG has submitted a letter in support of AB 1855 and will continue to coordinate with RCTC and other stakeholders on this effort.

### *State Budget Update: Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund Proposals Heard in Assembly*

Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 4 heard the Administration's proposals on the expenditure of Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) revenues for 2026-27 on March 11. Transit advocates and regional agencies lined up to express concerns about the Governor's GGRF expenditure plan excluding \$230 million for the Zero Emission Transit Capital Program (ZETCP) in 2026-27. This funding was part of the SB 125 deal in 2023 and allows regional agencies to flex funding between capital and operational needs to support transit recovery.

Transit advocates are also pushing for funding certainty for the GGRF-funded Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) and the Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP).

Several regional agencies and a statewide housing advocacy group offered support for aspects of the Governor's proposed Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC) trailer bill, which would divide the housing (70% of funding) and sustainable communities (30% of funding) components of the program. Housing California testified in support due to the difficulties that developers sometimes face in coordinating with local agencies on transportation-related investments and asked that the housing component continue to prioritize projects that support GHG-reductions. Several regional planning agencies supported the Governor's proposal to refocus the sustainable communities portion of the program on catalytic infrastructure investments aligned with regional plans.

CVAG staff and advocacy team will continue to monitor GGRF proposals to assess impacts to the Coachella Valley.

In addition to the legislation detailed above, CVAG has also taken support positions on [AB 35](#) (Alvarez): Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024: Administrative Procedure Act, and on [SB 58](#) (Padilla), related to air quality standards and hydrogen sulfide.

### *Federal Update: Fiscal Year 2027 Appropriations*

In March, the Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 Community Project Funding or earmarks process was opened for solicitation by CVAG's federal delegation. CVAG worked to submit funding requests for key projects, which include:

- \$5 million request to Rep. Ken Calvert for the CV Sync Phase IV/ Rancho Mirage interconnection;
- \$5 million request to Rep. Raul Ruiz for the Thermal Community Connect Project, to connect the community to CV Link; and
- \$5 million requests to both Senator Alex Padilla and Senator Adam Schiff for the Interstate 10 emergency bypass and safety improvement project along Varner Road.

CVAG staff will monitor the appropriations process and work with the offices of CVAG's federal delegation to provide necessary background as these funding requests are vetted through the appropriations process.

**Fiscal Analysis:** There is no cost to provide this legislative update. Legislative advocacy efforts are covered under CVAG staff time and CVAG's lobbying contract.