



# CALEXICO *California*

WHERE CALIFORNIA AND MEXICO MEET

July 2024

## VIVA CALEXICO NEWSLETTER



Dear Citizens of Calexico,

I am excited to introduce the inaugural edition of our City of Calexico Newsletter. As your Acting City Manager, it is both an honor and a privilege to connect with you through this new communication channel.

Our goal with this newsletter is to keep you informed, engaged, and connected with the latest news, updates, and initiatives happening right here in our community.

The Calexico community represents the unified voice we at city hall will use to focus on Operational Efficiency, Neighborhood Sustainability, and Economic Development.

Our community will also become our operational call to action, organizing the steps of our municipal departments, local leaders, private and nonprofit organizations, residents, and businesses toward a shared vision for improving service delivery and fulfilling the city's mission.

Now is an essential time for the city, and its growth and development must reflect how our citizens and stakeholders choose to live, work, and serve to achieve its full potential. Sound leadership and collaboration have positioned us for greatness, and continued partnerships and community building must enlighten our strategic path forward.

I am grateful to have a supportive mayor, city council, executive team, and community.

We collectively look forward to the progress that the City of Calexico has made and will continue to achieve through our collective efforts!

Enjoy this month's newsletter!

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*Welcome  
to our team!*

LUIS ESCOTO &  
CHRIS MORALES

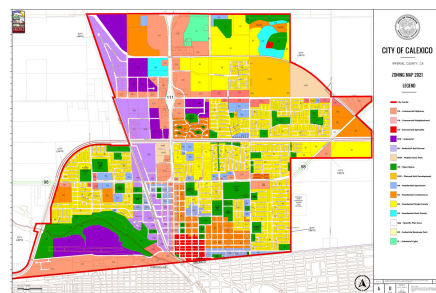
## City Administration

- Conduct daily operations and ongoing business items
- MOU agreement with Vincent Memorial scheduled for July 23rd
- Met with citizens and heard complaints and concerns regarding cannabis, rent
- Hearthstone Community townhall held on July 22nd
- Acquired updated contract for interpreting services
- Scheduled special meeting regarding Hearthstone for July 25th
- Request sent to CUSD to use school facilities for Fire Station 2 townhall meeting set for August 12, 2024
- Met with BID and Community Services Commission Chairs for introduction and strategic planning



## Human Resources

- Volunteer waivers and liability packets provided for upcoming baseball field and parks community projects
- Calexico Police Sergeant swearing in ceremony held on July 8th
- Held fire captain written tests on July 23rd - 24th
- Fire Captain Arnold Rivera's official retirement was July 14th
- Updated firefighter announcement to firefighter lateral/paramedic position
- Held engineer manipulative testing on July 16th



## Planning/Building Dept.

- Worked with Fire inspector to use vehicle/weed abatement Fire Prevention Services (FPS) to clean La Jolla parcel (Hearthstone)
- Ongoing work to demolish the remains of the Fiesta building
- Scheduled meeting with contractors regarding new business proposal
- Working on downtown lighting project
- Heard citizen's complaints and concerns regarding plans and pending parcel sales

# Camarena Memorial Library



- Waiting for repairs to the sewer line located in the parking lot
- Addressed citizen concern and issues
- Over 530 are registered for the Family Summer Reading Program (including children, teens & adults). Several daily activities are offered free of charge. Visit the library's webpage at <https://calexicolibrary.org>
- Daily Lunch is served for children ages 0-17, it includes books and a craft activity

- Received two collections of books (48 titles in total) from the California State Library's First Partner Summer Book Club. This is an annual initiative to help children cultivate a love of reading and books
- Reinstated the Braille Institute Library partnership. Library users who are visually impaired may apply for this free service



## Calexico Recreation Department

- Registration for swimming classes began on June 25th, classes begin on July 30th
- Update on Cordova Park and completion date set for mid-August to early September

- Budget amendment brought up to city council for Fund 255 - American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) for the replacement of an air conditioning unit at the community center
- Free glucose and blood pressure measurement at the Community Center on July 17th, 24th & 31st from 10:10 am to 11:00 am

- Placed banner at pool facilities to promote summer pool program
- Summer classes and activities continue at the Community Center, Carmen Durazo Cultural Arts Center and Tessada Gym. Visit the website for more information <https://calexicorecreation.org>



## Calexico Police Department

- Addressed the encampment issue at the old Chamber of Commerce at 111 & 98
- Promoted 3 police officers to sergeants  
CONGRATULATIONS Sergeant Carbajal, Sundahl and Ruiz!
- Command staff attended a townhall meeting regarding public safety issues
- Hosted the first ever “Red-Dot” user course in the Imperial Valley and the department transitioned to this new platform
- Participated in a press release hosted by the U.S. Border Patrol (USBP) in reference to border security
- A NEW female officer started her first week on patrol



## Calexico Fire Department

- Brush-11 back from deploy with one 1-Engineer
- 2670 ambulance patient compartment a/c not cooling was repaired and back in service
- NEW hire Firefighter Luis Escoto first week on in-house academy completed
- NEW hire Firefighter Chris Morales started academy
- Building at 352 E. 1st St caught fire on July 14th. Building is a total loss as well as a health and environmental hazard. Will reach out to ICAPCD for assistance
- NEW fire engine purchase request sent on July 17th
- 333 calls for service (July 1st-29th), 254 EMS calls, 66 service/false alarms/good intent calls, 13 fires (1 commercial fire and 12 rubbish/trash/brush fires)

## Public Works Department

- Staff recommended purchasing 24 LED light fixtures for Daniel Gutierrez Field
- Contacted Imperial County Air Pollution Control District for possible funding for additional parking at Cordova Park
- Request for Proposal (RFP) for Demo & Asbestos Abatement Services for 311 Cesar Chavez scheduled
- Water main break occurred at 1000 Paulin Ave. Residents and businesses around the area are being affected. The Water Distribution crew will be working on the repair
- Fenced 352 E. 1st & Chamber of Commerce buildings for safety & security
- Sink hole on 1st St. & Heber Ave. addressed

*Thank you for reading!*



CITY OF CALEXICO	760-768-2110
www.calexico.ca.gov	608 Heber Ave. Calexico, CA