

INDIAN WELLS CITY COUNCIL

October 16, 2025



To: City Council
From: City Manager Department
Prepared by: Eric Ceja, Assistant City Manager
Subject: **Summary of Actions related to the 2025 City Council Strategic Plan**

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

Council **DISCUSSES** the actions taken to effectuate the 2025 City Council Strategic Plan; and

FINDS the action exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review under Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3).

BACKGROUND:

On April 17, 2025, the City Council and Housing Authority adopted the 2025 City Council Strategic Plan (Plan). The Plan, which establishes eight (8) broad goals, focused on:

1. Safeguarding the Community
2. Fiscal Responsibility and Sustainability
3. Encourage Development and Tourism
4. Investing in Infrastructure and Amenities
5. Enhancing Quality of Life
6. Housing Authority
7. Indian Wells Golf Resort; and
8. Various Other City Strategies and Initiatives

From these eight goals, a total of **48** priorities were identified; each providing a specific timeframe in which to complete; one-year, 1-3-years, and 3+ years. With adoption of the Plan in April, the City's budget was adjusted accordingly to accommodate these priorities, which were also reflected in the City budget that was approved in June 2025. The City's budget officially took effect on July 1, 2025, and October 2025 represents the first 3-months of effort to achieve completion of the Plan.

1st Quarter Progress (October 2025)

Due to the diligent effort of City staff, committee members, and the City Council and Housing Authority, nearly 11% of these priorities are complete. The completed priorities contributed to the partial achievement of five (5) of the eight (8) goals, including:

1. **Safeguarding the Community** - Review of the Police Deployment Model for Efficiency and Effectiveness, implementation of the Opticom system at gated communities, and completion of Emergency Operations Plan.
2. **Fiscal Responsibility and Sustainability** - An Adjustment to Policies for More Efficient Use of City Funds, expanded Cove Community project partnerships, and continue efforts to obtain grant funds.
3. **Encourage Development and Tourism** - Evaluation of the City's relationship with various economic development organizations.
4. **Enhancing the Quality of Live** – approved funding for holiday decorations and additional community events.
5. **Indian Wells Golf Resort** - Identification of a dedicated funding source for future Celebrity Course improvements at the Indian Wells Golf Resort.
6. **Various City Strategies** - Creation of a City Council Ad-Hoc Governance Committee to review various items related to City Council procedures, policies, and legislative efforts.

Although not complete yet, the City Council is set to review another four (4) priorities at the October 16, 2025, meeting, including: Updates to the City's Branding, Commercial Kitchen Inspections, an update on the Resident Benefit Cards, and a supplemental appropriation to complete work related to the Renaissance Esmeralda. Other significant goals are also scheduled to be completed in the next few months, including the opening of the Player's Course, Cellular Master Plan, and entitlements for the proposed Cocun Resort development.

Thirty-two (32) of the remaining 39 priorities are currently in various stages of progress, with the majority of those anticipated to be completed by the 4th quarter of 2026. Seven (7) priorities have yet to be initiated due to their multi-year and multi-party efforts. These priorities are anticipated to begin prior to fall 2026.

A much more comprehensive summary of progress on the various City Council Goals and priorities is attached (Attachment No. 1). Staff will also provide a verbal update at October 16, 2025, City Council meeting.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact to accepting this report. Fiscal impacts of individual priorities will be reviewed with the City Council on a case-by-case basis.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA):

This report and the attachment summarizing the actions taken to complete various City Council approved initiatives is not a “project” as defined by the CEQA and therefore is not subject to the CEQA.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Q1 Update to 2025 City Council Strategic Plan