



# INDIAN WELLS CITY COUNCIL

## January 15, 2026

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**To:** City Council  
**From:** City Manager Department  
**Prepared by:** Angelica Avila, City Clerk  
**Subject:** **City Council Member Annual Attendance at Events**

### RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

Council **APPROVES** the attendance of Council Members at the 2026 events identified in Attachment No. 1; and

**AUTHORIZES** reimbursement for ordinary and necessary expenses incurred by Council Members in connection with the approved events, consistent with City policy; and

**FINDS** the action exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review under CEQA guidelines section 15061(b)(3).

### BACKGROUND:

Section 101 of the City Charter requires prior City Council approval for the reimbursement of ordinary and necessary expenses incurred by Members of the City Council, Mayor Pro Tem, and Mayor while performing official duties. Eligible reimbursable expenses include travel, lodging, registration fees, mileage, and meals associated with official City business.

Council Members are appointed to represent the City on various committees, boards, and external organizations. These assignments often require participation in meetings, conferences, and events throughout the year. This report identifies recurring events and conferences where Council Members regularly incur reimbursable expenses in connection with their official roles. These events are listed in Attachment No. 1 for pre-approval.

Additionally, Council Members attend special events sponsored or co-sponsored by the City or events where the City is an official participant. Attendance at these events promotes intergovernmental coordination, strengthens regional partnerships, and enhances the City's visibility and leadership. Costs associated with Council Member attendance at sponsorship events are generally included in the approved sponsorship expenditure.

Council-approved sponsorships include Council Member attendance as part of the sponsorship benefit. In accordance with the Political Reform Act, all applicable sponsorships and related Council Member attendance are reported on FPPC Form 802 and disclosed in compliance with state reporting requirements.

The following is a list of pre-approved sponsorships for 2026:

- Acrisure Arena Events
- Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival Events
- BNP Paribas Tournament Events
- California State University San Bernardino Events
- City of Indian Wells Sponsored Events
- City of Indian Wells Internal Committee Travel
- College of the Desert Events
- Desert Town Hall Lecture Series Events
- Epson Tour Championship of Indian Wells
- Hospitality Award Events
- Indian Wells, Greater Coachella Valley Chamber of Commerce, or other Local Chambers of Commerce Events
- Indian Wells Historical Preservation Events
- Indian Wells Pro Am Golf Invitational Events
- Modernism Week Events
- Palm Springs Air Museum Events
- Palm Springs Film Festival
- Public Safety Award Events
- Visit Greater Palm Springs Events

Pre-approving Council Member attendance at recurring events and conferences ensures compliance with the City Charter, promotes transparency, and supports effective representation of the City in regional and statewide initiatives. This action facilitates planning, budgeting, and reporting while reinforcing the City's commitment to accountability and intergovernmental engagement.

### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

All reimbursable expenses are subject to Council policy and applicable budget limitations for travel and training. Funding is included in the FY 2025–27 Council budget.

## **CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA):**

The action is not a project within the meaning of Section 15378 of the State of California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") Guidelines, because it has no potential for resulting in physical change in the environment, directly or indirectly; and that the action is nonetheless exempt from the requirements of CEQA in that the activity is covered by the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects that have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. (14 CCR 15061(b)(3).)

## **ATTACHMENTS:**

1. 2026 Council Event Attendance