

SECTION 12.0 COACHELLA VALLEY RECREATION & PARK DISTRICT

12.1 Overview

The Coachella Valley Recreation and Park District (District) was reviewed in the *Southern Coachella Valley Municipal Service Review* (2005). Because it provides services within the study area, the District is included in this service review to ensure a comprehensive evaluation of recreation and park services. The District was formed in 1950 for the purpose of providing recreational facilities within the Coachella Valley area. The District's current boundaries encompass approximately 1,800 square miles, including the Cities of Palm Desert and Indian Wells, and a portion of Rancho Mirage (see *Figure 12.1, Coachella Valley Recreation and Park District*). The District is exploring the possibility of expanding its SOI and eventual boundaries to include all of Rancho Mirage and Cathedral City.

The District has five service divisions, established by geographic area:

- Division 1 – Thermal, Mecca, Oasis, North Shore, Vista Santa Rosa
- Division 2 – Coachella
- Division 3 – Indio, Indio Hills
- Division 4 – La Quinta, Indian Wells, Bermuda Dunes
- Division 5 – Palm Desert, Rancho Mirage, Thousand Palms

District membership is required for facility use and to participate in programs. The current annual membership fees are as follows:

- Indio and Palm Desert Residents - \$10
- Other District residents - \$25
- Non-district residents - \$120

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Insert Figure 12.1 – Coachella Valley Recreation and Park District

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Insert Figure 12.2 – District Facilities

12.2 Facilities and Programs

The District offers several resources within the study area, including the following:

Table 12.1
Recreation Facilities within Division 5

Facility / Location	Amenities	Owner	Operator	Maintenance
Palm Desert Community Center and Civic Center Park 43-900 San Pablo Avenue	Racquetball courts, basketball courts, community room, gymnasium, kitchen, 4 lighted baseball fields, volleyball courts, basketball courts, soccer fields, tennis courts, amphitheater, dog park, skateboard park	City of Palm Desert	CVRPD (Community Center: lease and operate; Civic Center Park: schedule only)	City of Palm Desert / CVRPD
Palm Desert Soccer Park 74-735 Hovley Lane	5 full size soccer fields	City of Palm Desert	CVRPD (schedule only)	City of Palm Desert
Portola Community Center 45-480 Portola Avenue	Multipurpose meeting room, some office space	City of Palm Desert	CVRPD	City of Palm Desert / CVRPD
Cook Fields Sports Complex 43-570 Phyllis Jackson Way	4 lighted baseball fields, picnic areas	City of Palm Desert	CVRPD (schedule only)	City of Palm Desert / CVRPD
The Golf Center at Palm Desert 74-945 Sheryl Avenue	9-hole par 3 course, driving range, lighted putting green, clubhouse	CVRPD	CVRPD	CVRPD
Thousand Palms Community Center and Park 31-819 Robert Road	Multipurpose room, picnic areas, three baseball fields, space for soccer	County of Riverside	CVRPD	CVRPD

The District offers the following programs to residents of Division 5:

Table 12.2
CVRPD Programs – Division 5

Facility / Location	Program
Palm Desert Community Center and Civic Center Park 43-900 San Pablo Avenue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After School Program • Summer Tot Camp • Summer Day Camp • Belly Dancing • Swing and Salsa • Classic and Ballroom • Square Dancing • Jazzercise

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Facility / Location	Program
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Music Lessons • Yoga • Youth Basketball • Adult Softball • Skateboarding Class
The Golf Center at Palm Desert 74-945 Sheryl Avenue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Golf Lessons
Thousand Palms Community Center and Park 31-819 Robert Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self Defense • Water Safety • First Aid • CPR

The District also offers an after school program at the Palm Desert Middle School. The District's programs and facilities within Division 4 are based in La Quinta and include the La Quinta Community Center and Park and the Coral Mountain Interpretive Center by Lake Cahuilla County Park. Programs offered at the La Quinta Community Center include a Summer Tot Camp, Summer Day Camp, Pom-Pom Cheers, Ballet, Jazzercise, Self-Defense, and an after school program.

The District completed its *Recreation and Parks Master Plan* in 2006. The Plan includes observations provided by stakeholders and residents in order to improve and focus services in the future. The observations pertinent to the study area are listed below:

- **Division 4 – La Quinta, Indian Wells, Bermuda Dunes**
 - District contributions are critical, but identity is lost among other service providers
 - Programs and services are well received and quality is appreciated
 - Cooperation between providers would help avoid program duplication
 - The District should claim unique venues that represent their niche in facility and program services
 - Children's programs, particularly those focused on out-of-school hours, are an important service for the District to provide
 - Most citizens are unaware of which agency provides services and if services are connected.
- **Division 5 - Palm Desert, Rancho Mirage, Thousand Palms**
 - Parks and recreation services are critical for youth as schools move away from physical education requirements.
 - The District should help the Valley by providing a clearinghouse of information about programs and services.
 - New facilities should be large scale destination-based, providing a multitude of user options.

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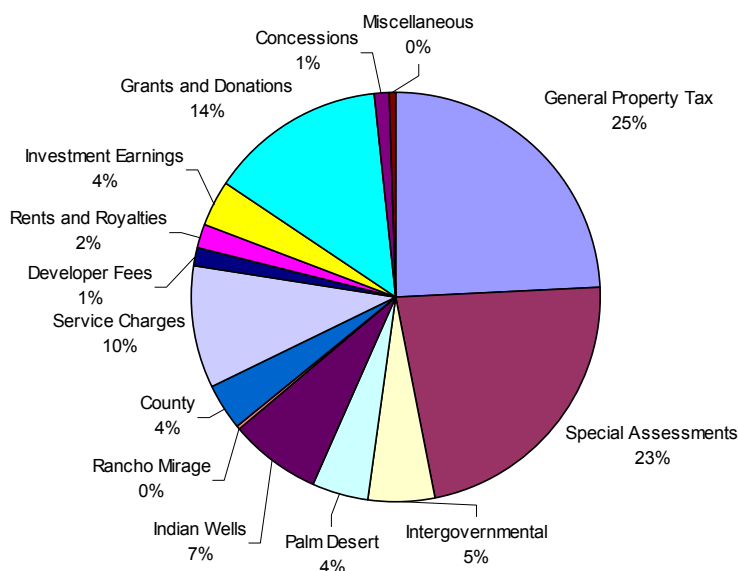
- Major venues should be located along Interstate 10, allowing for quicker travel routes, easy access and large group use.
- New facilities needed include a swimming pool, expanded indoor facilities and sports-based fields.
- New complexes should be placed in east and west side locations.

It is noted in the *Master Plan* that there is a significant need for a full service outdoor aquatic facility within the western end of the District. In addition, there is a significant need for a large scale indoor recreation facility within the Indio/Bermuda Dunes/Sun City/Palm Desert area. The Plan includes a range of funding sources for future consideration, but no specific plan of action on moving forward with either of these facilities.

12.3 Financial Condition

The District is funded through a combination of property taxes, special assessments, intergovernmental revenues, charges for services, developer fees, grants and donations and other miscellaneous income. The District prepares an annual budget which identifies revenues and expenses by category, department, and fund. *Figure 12.3* summarizes the District's budgeted revenues for FY 2007:

Figure 12.3 – CVRPD Revenues, FY 2007 Budget



Because it was formed prior to Proposition 13, the District receives a share of the 1 percent property tax. In addition, the District receives tax revenue through the redevelopment agencies within the County and

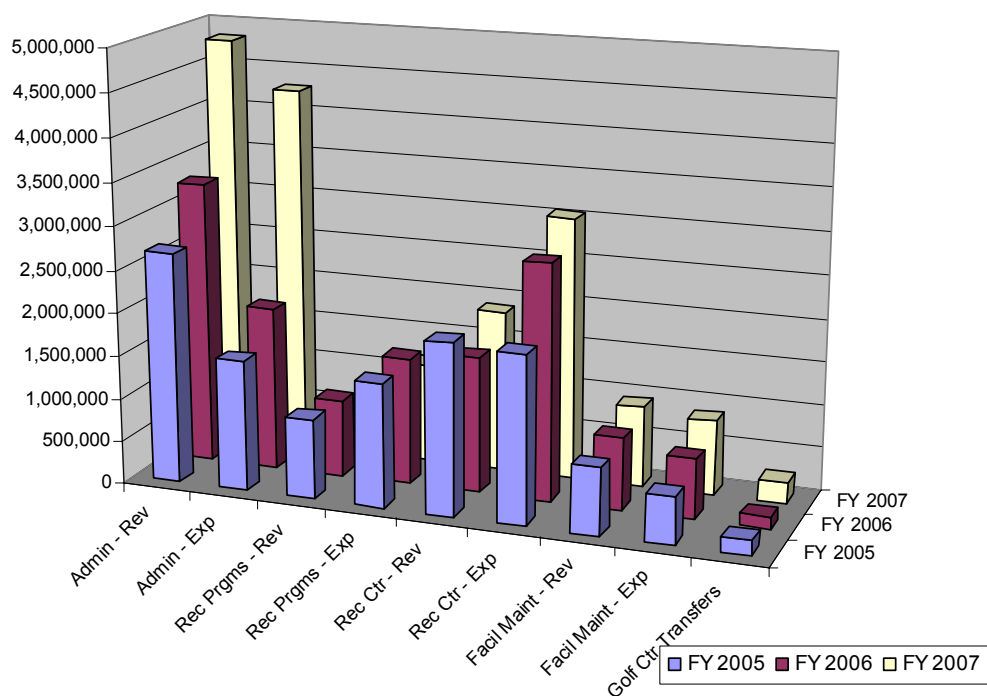
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the cities within the district boundaries. For FY 2007 the District will receive approximately \$1.0 million in grant funding, primarily through Proposition 12.

Palm Desert contracts with the District to provide recreation and park services for the City; the City employs one staff member to manage the contracts. The District has budgeted \$144,300 in revenue from activities at the Palm Desert Community Center, which the District leases from the City. In addition, the District will receive \$233,525 from Palm Desert for its service contract associated with City facilities along with \$80,100 in rents and royalties for city facilities and \$40,000 in concessions.

The District's budget by department for FY 2007 indicates a 1 percent increase in revenue and a 9 percent increase in expenses, as shown below in Figure 12.4:

Figure 12.4 – CVRPD 3 Year Budget History



The Administrative Department budget is funded through the General Fund (45%), the Building Replacement Fund (30%) and the Park Development Fund (25%). The FY 2007 budget includes \$2.4 million in capital outlay with funding from the Building Replacement and Park Development Funds identified above.