News Headlines 06/11/2020

- Semi truck bursts into flames on Interstate 15 Freeway in Fontana on June 10
- 1 airlifted, several others injured in crash on Highway 138
- Tractor-trailer fire on the SB I-15 spreads to nearby brush
- How they voted: Needles City Council
Firefighters extinguished a fire which erupted on a semi truck on the Interstate 15 Freeway in Fontana on June 10. (Contributed photo by Mike Myers)

The San Bernardino County Fire Department responded to a report of a semi truck on fire in northwestern Fontana on June 10.

At about 12:02 p.m., firefighters battled a fully involved trailer fire attached to the cab on the southbound Interstate 15 Freeway south of Duncan Canyon Road.

According to authorities, the trailer of the big rig containing meat products erupted into flames. The driver was able to pull to the right shoulder.

The fire extended into the roadside vegetation and burned an eighth of an acre before being extinguished.

The No. 1 lane was closed for several hours as crews worked to clear the scene.

Details of the fire and the cost of the loss of the cargo and trailer were not immediately available.

There were no reports of any injuries.

PHELAN, Calif. (VVNG.com) — One person was airlifted and several others were injured following a head-on crash on SR-138 Wednesday morning.

It happened at about 8:14 AM on Highway 138 between Sheep Creek Road and Highway 2 on June 10, 2020.

San Bernardino County Fire responded and located a GMC with moderate front-end damage and a minivan with major front-end damage, according to CHP incident logs.

Emergency personnel reported one person with major injuries and four other’s with less critical. A helicopter landed near the Stater Bros shopping Center and subsequently airlifted the critical patient to an out of area trauma center.

Additional information and details into the crash were not available at the time of this article. Eastbound (heading towards the I-15) on SR-138 was blocked due to the accident.

The California Highway Patrol is handling the crash investigation.

Tractor-trailer fire on the SB I-15 spreads to nearby brush
Staff Writer, Victor Valley News Group
Posted: June 10, 2020

FONTANA, Calif. (VVNG.com) — Two lanes of the southbound I-15 were closed after a tractor-trailer caught fire and spread to nearby brush on Wednesday afternoon.

It happened on June 10th at about 12:11 PM on the SB-15 south of Duncan Canyon Road in Fontana.

Firefighters responded to the incident and found large flames in the trailer of a Hirschbach Motor Lines semi with the cab still attached.

San Bernardino County Firefighters reported the semi fire extended into approximately 1/8 acre of vegetation, according to a tweet. Additionally, County Fire reported the forward rate of spread had been mitigated as of 12:21 PM.

According to CHP incident logs, the incident was blocking the no. 4 and 5 lanes and prompted an extended SigAlert to allow for clean-up and full containment of the fire.

Motorists traveling through the area should expect some delays. The official cause of the fire is under investigation.

How they voted: Needles City Council
Saul A. Flores, Needles Desert Star
Posted: June 10, 2020

How they voted: Needles City Council, Needles Public Utility Authority meeting in regular session on June 9. Councilors Tona Belt, Louise Evans, Shawn Gudmundson, Zachery Longacre, Vice Mayor Ed Paget M.D., Timothy Terral and Mayor Jeff Williams were present.

Report from executive session: There was no executive session held.

Recess NCC, convene joint NCC/NPUA

NPUA/NCC action item: Approve the 2020-21 fiscal year proposed budgets for the city of Needles and NPUA.


NPUA/NCC consent calendar including:

Authorize purchase of an additional load of 40’-45’ poles from Stella-Jones Corporation (formally known as McFarland Cascade Supplier) of Douglas Fir Power Poles not to exceed $30,000.

Accept the annual report to the California Energy Commission Power Source Disclosure Program for the year ending Dec. 31, 2019, as attested by Rainei Torrance on May 26.

Authorize the city manager, Rick Daniels, to execute Western Power Administration (WAPA) Agreement Number 10-DSR-12165, Exhibit B NMD, Revision No. 3 for ownership, operation, maintenance, replacement and financial responsibilities of certain equipment at AMPS’ Nora McDowell Switchyard.

Award a two-year contract for FY21 and FY22 with Reinke Heating and Air Conditioning, Inc. to be the sole source vendor for the Energy Efficiency HVAC Installs.

Awar bid to Water Works Engineers to complete tasks 1 and 3 of Well No. 11 Groundwater Treatment Analysis for a not to exceed contract amount of $18,757.


NPUA/NCC action item: Appoint not more than three council members to the Wastewater Terms and Conditions Responsibilities of Service Connections Ad Hoc Committee. Councilor Terrall was appointed to the Ad Hoc Committee.

Adjourn joint meeting, reconvene NCC


NCC action item: Approve adopting “Vehicle Miles Traveled” thresholds of significance for purposes of analyzing transportation impacts under the California Environment Quality Act (CEQA), Senate Bill 743.


NCC action item, consent calendar including:

Approve warrants through June 9, 2020.

Approve Change Order #1 to Task No. 3 of the Electrical General Services Contract working under the Electric Circuit Reliability Program rebuilding electric circuits in allies in the Vista Subdivision to include the alley between Luna Vista and Flora Vista from Balboa to Parkway at an additional cost not to exceed $80,000 (total project cost not to exceed $280,000).

Accept the work completed by Phillips Excavating Inc. for installation of the 12-inch water distribution pipeline project under the emergency declaration in conjunction with the 20-foot steel water main pipe rupture and direct staff to issue a notice of completion and record with the SBC Recorder’s office.

Waive the reading and adopt Resolution 2020-23 approving the release of the Agreement to Abate Code Violations with Jason Benka for the building located at 510 D Street.

Waive the reading and adopt Resolution 2020-35 calling for the holding of a General Municipal Election to be held on Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2020, for the election of certain officers as required by the provisions of the Charter.


NCC action item: Approve Resolution 2020-32 approving the consent to assignment and assumption of the lease agreement between Assignor Joseph and Loretta LaCarte, Assignee Kristin and Scott Baran and landlord city of Needles for the River’s Edge Golf Course Concession.


NCC action item: Discussion on preparing an ordinance for no smoking in the playground and designate the smoking areas in all other recreational areas within the city limits. A motion was made to direct staff to propose an ordinance to ban smoking at parks and playground equipment.


NCC informational item: Emergency declaration status updates.

Key: Y is a yes vote, N is a no vote, A is abstain from voting. Council members must abstain in the case of a conflict of interest. Mayor Jeff Williams, or the presiding officer in his absence, votes only in the case of a tie. The presiding officer does vote on the actions of the Needles Public Utility Authority, Public Financing Authority and Successor Agency to the Redevelopment Agency. Ordinances require two separate readings and affirmative votes of at least four council members for passage. Emergency ordinances may be passed on
one reading but require five affirmative votes. Resolutions require one reading with four affirmative votes and take effect immediately.