

Dec 2014 / Jan 2015

Monthly Report



City

Of

Ridgecrest



City Manager Memo

➤ COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM

At the regular City Council meeting of November 19, 2014, the Council conducted a noticed Public Hearing to discuss and prioritize proposed Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Projects for the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Annual Application for Community Development Programs within the County of Kern. The anticipated fair share amount for FY 2015-2016 is \$129,882.00. Public comments were received and heard before approval of the selected project. After deliberation and discussion, the Council chose the rehabilitation of the Senior Center Parking Lot as the selected project. The Resolution confirming the allocation of funds at the conclusion of the Public Hearing was filed, along with the project application, with the County of Kern

➤ AN ECONOMIC INCENTIVE AGREEMENT WITH EH GROUP

At the regular City Council meeting of November 19, 2014, the Council approved an Economic Incentive Agreement with the EH Group. The purpose of this Agreement is to generate a comprehensive study which assesses the feasibility of a biomass energy project as a vehicle to promote the economic welfare of the City and enhance the wherewithal of the City to provide municipal services and to provide jobs within the City. This will be accomplished by the preparation and delivery to City by the Participant of a feasibility study.

The City will provide assistance in this agreement in the form of a grant of \$80,000.00 for the production of this feasibility study. The remaining \$420,000 of allocated funds will be utilized in a potential second agreement and possibly third agreement; for the establishment of the refinery if the feasibility study results are favorable. This agreement is for only stage one of the overall Bio- Mass refinery project (the production of a project feasibility study).

➤ EH GROUP BACKGROUND

EH Group is a strategic development company specializing in projects that combine strong technology solutions with innovative approaches.

- They match technology with possibility, and have a track record of outstanding results
- They are a global team, immersed in cultures and climates that make the EH Group uniquely suited to understand the art of adaptation
- They take pride in promoting projects that contribute to the green environment, health, and security of the global community
- EH Group is a Veterans Administration Certified Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business and committed to supporting veterans with their transition to the civilian workforce

➤ LEASE AGREEMENT OF A CITY OWNED BUILDING LOCATED FOR USE AS AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCUBATOR

At the regular City Council meeting of November 19, 2014, the Council approved a lease agreement of a vacant City owned building. The proposed use of the property is as an Economic Development Incubator for the firm Water Blasters. Water Blasters is owned by local individuals who wish to establish their manufacturing, shipping, and sales operations in Ridgecrest.

Water Blasters sought economic development assistance in the relocation and start up process in the form of rental assistance. Rather than offering direct rental assistance funds to this firm, it was more desirable to offer a short term lease. This lease agreement serves the needs of Water Blasters while providing income to the City.



RIDGECREST POLICE DEPARTMENT

The following tables reflect Part 1 Crime Data, of offenses reported to the Ridgecrest Police Department in January through December. The data listed below is collected from our Records Management System, and then sorted into Part 1 categories per Department of Justice reporting standards.

2014 Monthly Part 1 Crime Report

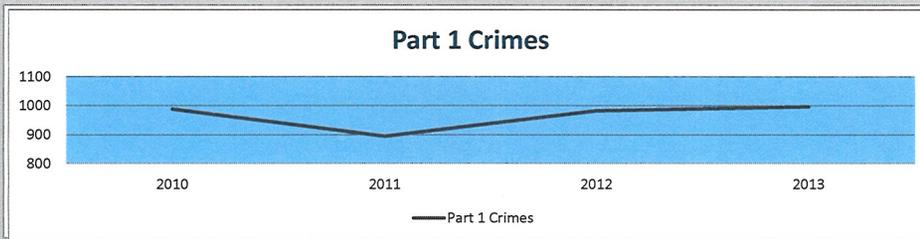
2014	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	year to date % chg 2014/2013
Homicide	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-100%
Rape	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	3	0	8	-11%
Robbery	1	2	0	0	2	0	3	1	2	1	0	0	12	-43%
Aggravated Assault	9	11	14	9	6	9	2	6	7	10	2	0	85	-28%
Simple Assault	23	14	18	21	14	14	15	24	20	16	27	0	206	-18%
Burglary	15	12	5	11	7	16	23	14	18	3	5	0	129	-35%
Larceny	27	18	19	22	24	22	30	25	21	20	23	0	251	-10%
Auto Theft	5	4	0	5	5	5	7	1	6	2	17	0	57	43%
Arson	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	5	-50%
Total Part One	81	61	56	69	59	66	82	73	74	53	79	0	753	-19%
% Change Same Month Previous Year	-18%	-18%	-32%	0%	-36%	-13%	-2%	-20%	-20%	-40%	0%	0%		

Ridgecrest Police Department Statistics

Nov 2014

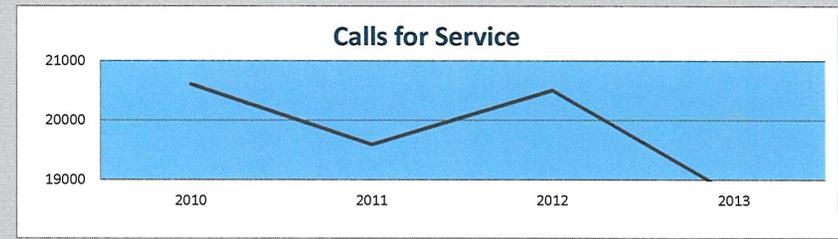
Crime

	Monthly Comparison			Year To Date		
	Nov 13	Nov 14	% Change	2013	2014	% Change
Violent Crime	29	32	10%	409	314	-23%
Murder	2	0	-100%	4	0	-100%
Rape	0	3	300%	9	8	-11%
Robbery	3	0	-100%	23	12	-48%
Assault	24	29	21%	373	294	-21%
Property Crime	50	47	-6%	530	442	-17%
Burglary	26	5	-81%	201	129	-36%
Larceny	19	23	21%	279	252	-10%
Auto Theft	5	17	240%	40	57	43%
Arson	0	2	200%	10	4	-60%
Part 1 Crimes	79	78	-1%	930	759	-18%



Performance Measures

	Monthly Comparison			Year To Date		
	Nov 13	Nov 14	% Change	2013	2014	% Change
Patrol Activity						
Total Incidents	2320	2590	12%	27977	29114	4%
Calls for Service	1372	1403	2%	17388	16960	-2%
Officer Initiated Incidents	948	1187	25%	10589	12154	15%
Traffic Stops	273	336	23%	3617	4646	28%
Other OIA Incidents	675	851	26%	6972	7508	8%
Reports Taken	311	361	16%	3971	4043	2%
Total Arrests	165	221	34%	2295	2433	6%
Felony Arrests	48	37	-23%	629	571	-9%
Juvenile Arrests	12	28	133%	187	168	-10%
Drug Related	23	38	65%	354	474	34%



Personnel

	Allocated	Filled	Vacant
Total	49	49	0
Sworn	32	32	0
Professional Staff	17	17	0

Vacant Positions	Status

Investigation

	Monthly			Year to Date		
	Nov 13	Nov 14	% Change	2013	2014	% Change
News Cases	242	328	36%	3651	2956	-19%
Cleared DA or Other	102	104	2%	1661	949	-43%
Arrests	16	45	181%	225	344	53%
Inactivated	34	22	-35%	547	427	-22%
Active	68	168	147%	3204	928	-71%

K-9 Deploy

	Monthly			Year to Date		
	Nov 13	Nov 14	% Change	2013	2014	% Change
Deployments	3	5	67%	54	39	-28%
Apprehensions	0	0	0%	6	2	-67%
Building Searches	1	2	100%	22	8	-64%
Vehicle Searches	2	1	-50%	18	12	-33%
Drug Finds	1	0	-100%	7	6	-14%

Traffic

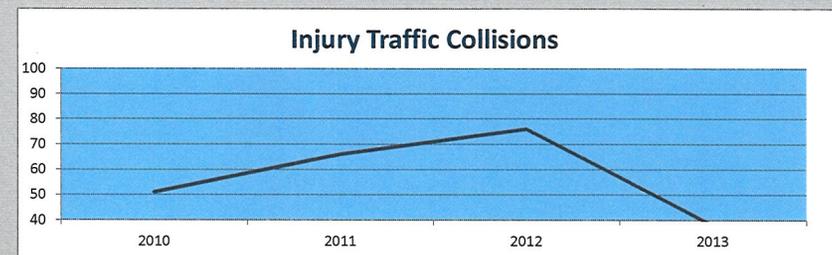
	Monthly Comparison			Year To Date		
	Nov 13	Nov 14	% Change	2013	2014	% Change
Citations						
Moving	36	14	-61%	528	589	12%
Non-Moving	17	3	-82%	106	63	-41%
RMC Violation	4	11	175%	117	94	-20%
Collisions	21	20	-5%	225	178	-21%
Fatal	0	0	0%	0	0	0%
Injury	4	4	0%	42	41	-2%
Non-Injury	15	13	-13%	165	122	-26%
DUI Related	2	3	50%	18	15	-17%

Top 5 Collision Intersections YTD

1. N. Downs St./W. Kinnett Ave.
2. W. Drummond Ave./N. Downs St.
3. W. French Ave./N. China Lake Blvd.
4. S. College Hgts./W. Kendall Ave.
5. S. China Lake Blvd./E. Ridgecrest Blvd.

Top 5 PCFs YTD

1. Failure to yield
2. Fail to stop at red light
3. Unsafe speed
4. Failure to yield to pedestrian
5. Unsafe speed





RIDGECREST POLICE DEPARTMENT

The following tables reflect Part 1 Crime Data, of offenses reported to the Ridgecrest Police Department in January through December. The data listed below is collected from our Records Management System, and then sorted into Part 1 categories per Department of Justice reporting standards.

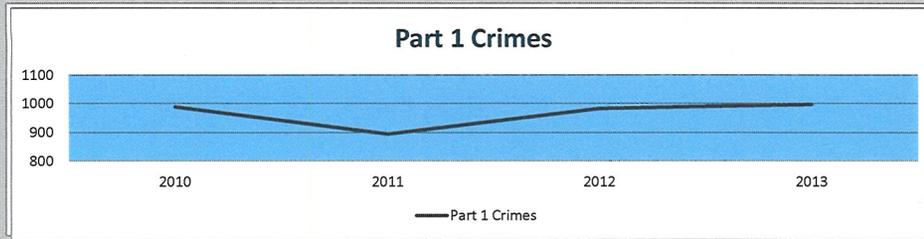
2014 Monthly Part 1 Crime Report

2014	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	year to date % chg 2014/2013
Homicide	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-100%
Rape	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	3	1	9	0%
Robbery	1	2	0	0	2	0	3	1	2	1	0	1	13	-46%
Aggravated Assault	9	11	14	9	6	9	2	6	7	10	2	11	96	-21%
Simple Assault	23	14	18	21	14	14	15	24	20	16	27	29	235	-10%
Burglary	15	12	5	11	7	16	23	14	18	3	5	10	139	-34%
Larceny	27	18	19	22	24	22	30	25	21	20	23	21	272	-13%
Auto Theft	5	4	0	5	5	5	7	1	6	2	17	2	59	31%
Arson	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	5	-50%
Total Part One	81	61	56	69	59	66	82	73	74	53	79	75	828	-17%
% Change Same Month Previous Year	-18%	-18%	-32%	0%	-36%	-13%	-2%	-20%	-20%	-40%	0%	12%		

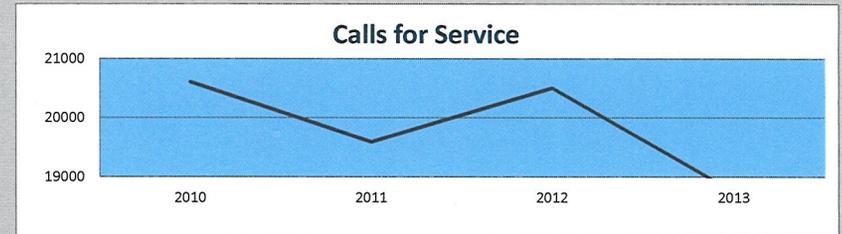
Ridgecrest Police Department Statistics

Dec 2014

Crime	Monthly Comparison			Year To Date		
	Dec 13	Dec 14	% Change	2013	2014	% Change
Violent Crime	15	42	180%	424	356	-16%
Murder	0	0	0%	4	0	-100%
Rape	0	1	100%	9	9	0%
Robbery	3	1	-67%	26	13	-50%
Assault	12	40	233%	385	334	-13%
Property Crime	52	33	-37%	582	475	-18%
Burglary	13	10	-23%	214	139	-35%
Larceny	34	21	-38%	313	273	-13%
Auto Theft	5	2	-60%	45	59	31%
Arson	0	0	0%	10	4	-60%
Part 1 Crimes	67	76	13%	997	835	-16%



Performance Measures	Monthly Comparison			Year To Date		
	Dec 13	Dec 14	% Change	2013	2014	% Change
Patrol Activity	2195	2611	19%	30172	31725	5%
Total Incidents	1357	1470	8%	18745	18430	-2%
Calls for Service	838	1141	36%	11427	13295	16%
Officer Initiated Incidents	262	292	11%	3879	4938	27%
Traffic Stops	576	849	47%	7548	8357	11%
Other OIA Incidents						
Reports Taken	300	377	26%	4271	4420	3%
Total Arrests	154	203	32%	2449	2636	8%
Felony Arrests	52	39	-25%	681	610	-10%
Juvenile Arrests	11	25	127%	198	193	-3%
Drug Related	41	28	-32%	395	502	27%



Personnel	Allocated	Filled	Vacant
	Total	49	49
Sworn	32	32	0
Professional Staff	17	17	0

Vacant Positions	Status

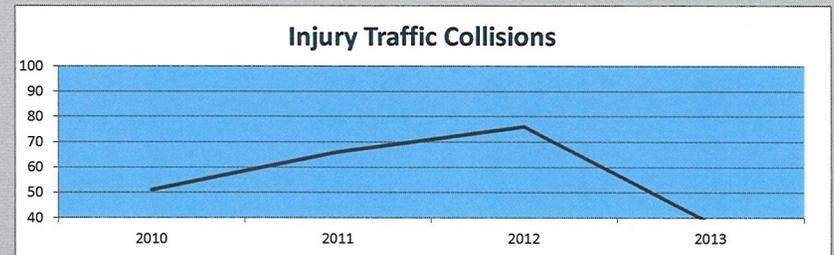
Traffic	Monthly Comparison			Year To Date		
	Dec 13	Dec 14	% Change	2013	2014	% Change
Citations			0%			0%
Moving	51	6	-88%	579	595	3%
Non-Moving	13	10	-23%	119	73	-39%
RMC Violation	2	6	200%	119	100	-16%
Collisions						
Fatal	21	18	-14%	246	196	-20%
Injury	0	0	0%	0	0	0%
Non-Injury	4	5	25%	46	46	0%
DUI Related	15	10	-33%	180	132	-27%
DUI Related	2	3	50%	20	18	-10%

Investigation	Monthly			Year to Date		
	Dec 13	Dec 14	% Change	2013	2014	% Change
News Cases	280	364	30%	3931	3320	-16%
Cleared DA or Other	86	140	63%	1747	1089	-38%
Arrests	22	44	100%	247	388	57%
Inactivated	50	31	-38%	597	458	-23%
Active	120	160	33%	3324	1088	-67%

- Top 5 Collision Intersections YTD**
1. W. Perdeew Ave./N. Wayne St.
 2. W. Bowman Rd./S. China Lake Blvd.
 3. N. Balsam St./W. French Ave.
 4. E. Ridgecrest Blvd./S. Gold Canyon
 5. S. China Lake Blvd./Radar Ave.

- Top 5 PCFs YTD**
1. DUI
 2. Fail to stop at stop sign
 3. Unsafe speed
 4. Fail to yield from public/private dr.
 5. Fail to yield from stop sign

K-9 Deploy	Monthly			Year to Date		
	Dec 13	Dec 14	% Change	2013	2014	% Change
Deployments	6	8	33%	60	47	-22%
Apprehensions	0	0	0%	6	2	-67%
Building Searches	1	2	100%	23	10	-57%
Vehicle Searches	3	1	-67%	21	13	-38%
Drug Finds	2	0	-100%	9	6	-33%



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT

Winter Driving Can Be Dangerous

During the winter season, particularly when snow is forecasted, it is important to recognize and prepare for driving in adverse weather conditions. The ability to control a vehicle is greatly reduced. As a reminder to the driving public, Caltrans offers the following advice:

Winter driving on roads and highways in the snowcapped mountains of California can be a pleasant adventure or it can be frustrating, tiring and sometimes even hazardous. The California Department of Transportation provides the following information to help make your mountain driving safe and pleasant.

Before Heading for Snow Country:

- Make sure your brakes, windshield wipers, defroster, heater and exhaust system are in top condition.
- Check your antifreeze and be ready for colder temperatures. You may want to add special solvent to your windshield washer reservoir to prevent ice from forming.
- Check your tires. Make sure they are properly inflated and the tread is in good condition. Always carry chains. Make sure they are the proper size for your tires and are in working order. You might want to take along a flashlight and chain repair links. Chains must be installed on the drive wheels. Make sure you know if your vehicle is front or rear wheel drive.
- Other suggested items to carry in your car are an ice scraper or commercial de-icer, a broom for brushing snow off your car, a shovel to free you car if it is "snowed in", sand or burlap for traction if your wheels should become mired in snow and an old towel to clean your hands.
- It is also a good idea to take along water, food, warm blankets and extra clothing. A lengthy delay will make you glad you have them.
- Weather conditions may warrant detouring traffic from the main roadway. It is strongly suggested that drivers always keep an updated map containing the areas of travel.
- If you have a cellular telephone, pre-load the Caltrans Highway Information Network (CHIN) phone numbers for convenient, updated road conditions.
- Put an extra car key in you pocket. A number of motorists have locked themselves out of their cars when putting on chains and at ski areas.

Driving Tips:

- Allow enough time. Trips to the mountains can take longer during winter than other times of the year, especially if you encounter storm conditions or icy roads. Get an early start and allow plenty of time to reach your destination.
- Keep your gas tank full. It may be necessary to change routes or turn back during a bad storm or you may be caught in a traffic delay.

- Keep windshield and windows clear. You may want to stop at a safe turnout to use a snow brush or scraper. Use the car defroster and a clean cloth to keep the windows free of fog.
 - Slow down. A highway speed of 65 miles per hour may be safe in dry weather, but an invitation for trouble on snow and ice. Snow and ice make stopping distances much longer, so keep your seat belt buckled and leave more distance between your vehicle and the vehicle ahead. Bridge decks and shady spots can be icy when other areas are not. Remember to avoid sudden stops and quick direction changes.
 - Be more observant. Visibility is often limited in winter by weather conditions. Slow down and watch for other vehicles that have flashing lights, visibility may be so restricted during a storm that it is difficult to see the slow moving equipment.
 - When stalled, stay with your vehicle and try to conserve fuel while maintaining warmth. Be alert to any possible exhaust or monoxide problems.
-

STREETS DEPARTMENT

With the Election of a New City Council the Public Works Department would like to take the time to update some of the projects that might have appeared in previous Monthly Reports and let the new Council see what is happening in the Department:

- The Street Maintenance Department had road work taking place in several areas throughout the city of Ridgecrest during October 28, 2014 through November 7, 2014.
- The Street Maintenance Department along with the contractor reconditioned the roadways between:

DOWNS STREET: LAS FLORES AVENUE TO RIDGECREST BOULEVARD

DOWNS STREET: DRUMMOND AVENUE TO LAS FLORES AVENUE

DOWNS STREET: UPJOHN AVENUE TO BOWMAN ROAD

LAS FLORES AVENUE: DOWNS STREET TO NORMA AVENUE

UPJOHN AVENUE : MAHAN STREET TO DOWNS AVENUE

UPJOHN AVENUE: MAHAN STREET TO GUAM AVENUE

DOLPHIN AVENUE: MAHAN STREET TO DOWNS AVENUE

- The roadways remained opened during the resurfacing period, with some side street closures to the main streets. The Streets Department would encourage the City Council members to take the time and drive these streets to see the new condition of the roadway or ask the public works director about the process that was used on these roadways.
- **These roadways were being mostly funded by Measure L Tax Dollars and Tab Allocation Bonds.**

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

On the **West Ridgecrest Boulevard Reconstruction Project** the Public Works Department along with the Contractors will start signalization of the Traffic Signals at the intersections at Downs Avenue and West Ridgecrest Boulevard and also at Norma Avenue and Ridgecrest Boulevard will be activated on Tuesday, January 20, 2105.

The Traffic Engineers will start in the morning and work through the day to get them activated. If they have any trouble, the lights will be in a flashing mode until they are able to fix any situation. After the lights have been activated the light poles along the corridor will be illuminated.

The **South China Lake Boulevard** overlay project between Upjohn Avenue and Bowman Road has finished its paving and the project is in the final close out phase. This will be going to the City Council on February 4, 2014 for the Notice of Completion

The new **Transit Bus Garage and City Corporation Yard Improvement Project** rejected bids due to non-responsive bids and is in the process of re-scoping and getting ready to go back out to bid.

The **Downs Street Project** from Upjohn Avenue to West Ridgecrest Boulevard has completed the design process and is in the progress of property acquisition. Plans of the design have been distributed to the utility companies. The Engineering Department will be presenting different options to the City Council in the near future to discuss how the City Council would like to proceed with the project.

Two new Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Projects have moved forward with the Engineering Firm Quad Knopf doing the Design and Construction Management. These Projects are the **North Warner Street Project** from Drummond Avenue to West Howell Avenue and **South Graaf Street Project** from North Sierra View to North Norma Street. Both of these projects have submitted their Request for Authorizations to proceed with Preliminary Engineering and have had their Field Reviews on October 16, 2014.

Our biggest news in the Engineering Department is that we are welcoming a new staff member to our team Ryan Brooks. The Engineer in Training began working on October 27, 2014. Ryan is a native from San Diego, where he went to school at San Diego State University where he majored and graduated in Civil Engineering. He was also on the Dean's List while attending the University. While in school Ryan was the Lead Project Manager on the Pedestrian/Bike Pathway that was part of his senior project. This project provided connections to public transportation at various bus stations and trolley stations for commuters. The goals were to provide access to recreational enjoyment for the community, shopping experiences at Fenton Marketplace, and access to the Mission Valley Library for the pathway users. He also volunteered at Caltrans, District 11 in San Diego for four years while attending school. Ryan enjoys watching his Aztec Basketball team and playing golf. He is looking forward to the feel of a small town environment and working on engineering project for the City of Ridgecrest.

WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT

The City of Ridgecrest Wastewater Treatment Facility operated within design and compliance directives issued under Board Order No. 6-00-56.

The Department inspected and passed (2) new connections to the sanitary sewage system.

The Department responded to (1) requests for service, which were related to homeowner lateral problems.

The Department as SSMP & SSO Board Order compliance performed routine maintenance (Hydro Flushing) on 6,045 ft. of main line collection system.

The Department also performed maintenance on the Pond #3 Aerator; new drive coupling and motor were installed.

The Department continued pond maintenance activities, road repair, additional rip rap added to strengthen pond retaining walls.

The Reclamation Department reclaimed 1.1 million gallons of secondary effluent for use as fodder crop irrigation.

The Department as compliance with EPA Part 503b sludge generation requirements, collected samples for laboratory analysis for compatibility with the land application parameters.

TRANSIT DEPARTMENT

Ridgecrest Ridgerunner

The Transit Department is busy with daily operations in addition to managing nine grant projects. Below is a list of current grants and their status:

Public Transportation Modernization, Improvement and Service Enhancement Program (PTMISEA) Grants

- (PTMISEA) Maintenance Facility Project - \$830k- funds received
Bidding is in process to rebid.
- (PTMISEA) Hub Transfer Station Project - \$300k- funds received
Property in Inyokern purchased and bid packet being created.
- (PTMISEA) Corporation Yard Security Enhancement Project - \$11,055- funds received
Project to replace west gate and is part of the Corporation Yard Project. Quotes are being solicited.
- (PTMISEA) Purchase of Two Gasoline buses – \$193,510-awaiting funding
Pre-Application submitted, needs to go before Council

(PTMISEA) Total \$1,334,565

California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES)

- (CalOES) Corporation Yard Security Alarm & Lighting System - \$21,565- Funds received
Quotes are being solicited through IT Department at this time. Part of the Corporation Yard Project.
- (CalOES) Corporation Yard Security Camera System - \$23,193- funds received
Quotes are being solicited through IT Department at this time. Part of the Corporation Yard Project.
- (CalOES) Transfer Station Security Camera System - \$21,565
Quotes are being solicited through IT Department at this time.
- (CalOES) Corporation Yard Security Gate - \$21,565- awaiting funding
Project to replace east main gate. Quotes are being solicited. Part of the Corporation Yard Project.

(CalOES) Grants Total \$87,888

Federal Transit Administration (FTA)

- (FTA) FY13-14 5311 Operating Assistance Grant - \$111,643-awaiting funding
Processing reimbursement

(FTA) Grant Total \$111,643

Combined Grant Totals \$1,534,096

December 2014 –Total Ridership				
Coyote	Roadrunner	Rattlesnake	Mid-Day Express (2 hour run)	County Contract
286	268	192	99	134

NOTE: Numbers reflect all ridership, i.e. Cash, Punch, and Monthly, Free, Attendant or Transfer rides. Total for December = 979*

***December numbers are a direct reflection of the School holiday closure. Average monthly ridership is about 1600 riders.**

Purpose:

The purpose of this project is to improve free flow movement and reduce the risk of traffic collisions on State Route (SR) 178, between Inyokern Road and Gemstone Street in the City of Ridgecrest. The construction of a raised center median in this 2.1-mile segment will meet current design standards and help improve safety in this corridor.

Description:

This project will consist of construction of a 10-foot wide raised curb median from Inyokern Road and China Lake Boulevard to Drummond Avenue. A 14-foot wide raised median island will be constructed from Drummond Avenue to Gemstone Avenue. This will take place over the course of three stages:

- Stage 1—From Inyokern Road to Main Hospital Entrance, and Las Flores Avenue to French Avenue;
- Stage 2—From hospital entrance to Las Flores Avenue, and French Avenue to Gemstone Street;
- Stage 3—Left turn pockets between Ward Avenue and Ridgecrest Boulevard.

During this project, no two consecutive intersections will be closed at the same time, and emergency access to the Ridgecrest Regional Hospital will remain open.

Construction Cost: \$1.6 Million

Begin Construction: End of January 2015

End Construction: Fall 2015

Funding Sources: State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP)

Project Partners: California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)
Kern Council of Governments (COG)
City of Ridgecrest
City of Ridgecrest Police Department

Prime Contractor: Desert Concepts Construction, Inc.

Project map on reverse



Project Map

