



# City of Desert Hot Springs

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **City of Desert Hot Springs Mayor Condemns Legislature's Illegal Budget - Loss of Redevelopment Threatens City of Desert Hot Springs**

**Desert Hot Springs, California (June 20, 2011)** - California legislators took an illegal action when passing a State budget that eliminates redevelopment agencies and extorts so-called "voluntary" payments from local governments to balance the State budget. It is unlikely that our Agency/City will be able to afford the significant payment to the State required to let us continue to operate.

"I am extremely disappointed in the State lawmakers who passed not only a reckless but an illegal budget yesterday, ignoring the dire consequences their irresponsibility will have on local communities. This elimination and hostage taking of local redevelopment funds sends our City and the entire State of California on the wrong track. At a time when California, the Nation and World fear a double-dip recession, it is unconscionable that the State Legislature would vote to shut down our most powerful job-creation tool," said Mayor Yvonne Parks.

Shutting down the City of Desert Springs Redevelopment Agency will have dire consequences for our community:

- Loss of \$5 million a year in total tax increment generated within the City boundaries
- No new libraries
- No new public safety facilities like fire and police stations
- No new community centers
- No rehabilitation of streets
- Stops the Neighborhood Renewal Program (NRP) -Assistance for homeowners in rehabilitating blighted homes with new roofs, landscaping, paint, stucco, heating/cooling, weatherization, with the goal of 500 homes to be improved
- Eliminates all the jobs created from the NRP program (1,184 jobs provided to date)
- Stops the renovation of downtown buildings

"The City greatly respects and thanks Assemblymember Manual Perez and Senator Bill Emmerman for their leadership and continued support of local job creation that helps our City improve our neighborhoods. I call on Gov. Jerry Brown to do the right thing and veto AB 1X 26 and AB 1X 27 and help put California back on a road to economic recovery," said Mayor Parks.

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