



City of Brawley
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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Brawley City Council Meeting Highlights – April 21, 2026

Brawley, CA — The Brawley City Council convened for its regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, April 21, 2026, to consider a range of items related to fiscal policy, community programs, infrastructure improvements, and legislative advocacy. The following is a summary of key actions, approvals, and announcements from the meeting:

Presentations & Recognitions

- The City Council recognized Vanessa Yanez, Police Officer, as the City of Brawley Employee of the Month for March 2026, honoring her professionalism and dedication to the community. She has demonstrated a strong commitment to mentoring youth through the Police Explorer Program. Officer Yanez also recently represented the City with distinction during a multi-agency Honor Guard detail at the County Fair.
- The Council presented a Proclamation in recognition of Romualdo “Rom” Medina, Director of Public Works Operations & Maintenance, for his dedicated service to the City of Brawley. During his tenure, Mr. Medina’s leadership contributed to the successful delivery of major projects such as the Main Street Waterline and Pavement Project and Street Maintenance Phase I, helping to enhance the safety, reliability, and long-term sustainability of the City’s infrastructure. The Council recognized his professionalism, collaborative approach, and lasting contributions to the organization and community, and extended its appreciation and best wishes in his future endeavors.

Council Approvals and Actions

- The City Council held a public hearing and adopted amendments to the City’s Master Fee Schedule. These updates are intended to improve cost recovery, ensure fees remain reasonable and equitable, promote consistency and transparency across departments, and reduce reliance on the General Fund to subsidize fee-based services. The proposed Special Event Fee Schedule was continued to a future meeting for further Council consideration.
- The Council approved in concept the design of a proposed Veterans Memorial Way Arch, recognizing the service of veterans from all military branches. The project, brought forward by community member and Gulf War veteran Brian Floyd in partnership with United Desert Communities, will proceed with further steps including engineering review, permitting, and coordination of maintenance

responsibilities. No City financial commitment or fee waivers were approved as part of this action.

- The Council adopted a resolution declaring support for California Cities Week (April 19–25, 2026), recognizing the essential role cities play in delivering services, supporting community well-being, and promoting civic engagement.
- The Council approved a fee waiver for the Lion’s Center Gym for the La Gente Youth Boxing Club’s amateur youth boxing showcase scheduled for May 2, 2026. Proceeds from the event will support youth programming, including reinvestment into the boxing club and contributions to the Brawley Police Activities League (PAL) Boxing Program.
- The Council approved a service agreement with Big Big Pools and Spa, Inc. for the rehabilitation and recoating of the Lion’s Center Pool decking. This work addresses significant deterioration and is a critical component of the broader pool rehabilitation project, helping to ensure safety and long-term durability while keeping the project on schedule.

Council Discussion and Direction

- The City Council provided direction to support the proposed Small Community Grant Access Act, a legislative concept introduced by Councilmember John Grass aimed at improving access to state grant funding for smaller communities with limited fiscal capacity. The proposal would establish a scaled approach to local match requirements based on factors such as fiscal capacity, population, and rural or underserved status. As part of this action, the Council authorized the Mayor to submit a letter to the City’s State Legislative Delegation advocating for the proposal’s consideration and provided direction on the City’s potential role in supporting or advancing the concept as it moves forward.
- The Council directed staff to initiate the formal process to rename Cesar Chavez Street, including required public outreach and a petition process to obtain support from affected property owners. Consistent with City policy, the process requires demonstrated support from a significant majority of impacted property owners before the item may return to the City Council for further consideration.

Announcements

- The City Manager provided an update on the Lion’s Center Pool Rehabilitation Project, noting continued steady progress. Tile and gutter installation have been completed, and crews are preparing for plastering, scheduled for May 1. Mechanical room work is also underway and on track for completion by the end of April. The project remains on schedule, with staff working through final steps toward reopening in the coming months, barring any unforeseen delays.

The Brawley City Council remains committed to fiscal responsibility, community investment, and transparent governance through thoughtful decision-making and ongoing communication with residents.

For additional information about upcoming events, meeting recordings, agendas, and supporting documents are available on the City of Brawley's website: www.brawley-ca.gov.

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[Photos attached]

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