



City of Brawley
City Manager's Office
Contact: Emmet Fried
Assistant to the City Manager
(760) 351-3057

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 17, 2025

Brawley City Council Meeting Highlights – December 16, 2025

Brawley, CA — The Brawley City Council convened for its regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, December 16, 2025, to recognize dedicated City employees, take action on key public safety and operational items, and share updates on City projects and upcoming events. The following is a summary of major actions and announcements from the meeting:

Council Approvals and Actions

- The City Council proudly recognized the dedicated service of Raul Bernal and Gustavo Rodriguez, longtime Public Works Department employees who will retire this month after decades of committed service to the City of Brawley. Council members expressed their sincere appreciation for their professionalism, hard work, and lasting contributions to the community's infrastructure and operations.
- The Council approved the acceptance of a donated bait vehicle from Nationwide Bait Vehicle for use by the Brawley Police Department. The vehicle will support the Department's auto theft prevention efforts and enhance proactive enforcement strategies aimed at reducing vehicle-related crimes within the community.
- The Council approved revisions to the Parks and Recreation Manager job description to broaden the applicant pool by allowing progressively responsible experience to substitute for formal education requirements, while maintaining the high standards necessary for the role.

These updates will help ensure the position remains competitive, aligns with best practices in parks and recreation management, and provides greater clarity for both applicants and staff regarding the scope and expectations of the position.

- The Council approved a Consumer Price Index (CPI) rate adjustment to commercial and residential refuse services provided by Republic Services. The annual CPI adjustment is a term outlined in the City's contract with Republic Services and is capped at 4 percent. In years when CPI exceeds that amount, the rate adjustment cannot exceed the contractual cap.

Announcements

- The City reported steady progress on the Lion's Center Pool repair project, with demolition nearly completed and preparations underway for the next phase of construction. The project remains on schedule for completion in Spring 2026.
- The City Manager announced the appointment of Assistant Chief Jonathan Blackstone to serve as Interim Police Chief for the Brawley Police Department beginning January 1, 2026, upon the retirement of Chief Jimmy Duran. This appointment will ensure continuity and operational stability within the department while providing an opportunity to further evaluate long-term leadership needs.
- Santa Tour Update: The annual Santa Tour began on Monday, December 15, 2025, and will continue every evening through Friday, December 19, 2025. Santa will cruise through neighborhoods throughout the City beginning at 6:00 p.m., with assistance from the Brawley Fire and Police Departments, bringing holiday cheer directly to families across the community.
- City Administration Offices will be closed in observance of the holidays on the following dates:
 - Christmas Eve – December 24
 - Christmas Day – December 25
 - New Year's Eve – December 31
 - New Year's Day – January 1, 2027

The Brawley City Council remains committed to transparent governance, public safety, and the responsible stewardship of City resources while continuing to invest in services and programs that enhance quality of life for 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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