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Cabazon Economic Development in the Works

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Four public works projects collectively valued at roughly \$30 million are in the design or construction phase in Cabazon to promote economic development, job attraction and retention in the area, county officials said Tuesday.

The Redevelopment Division of the county's Economic Development Agency is overseeing each of the projects, which include a new civic center, fleet services station for county vehicles, fire station and sewage system.

Supervisor Marion Ashley spearheaded the work in her Fifth District.

"The improvements we are making in this community are critical for economic development, job attraction and retention, and are vast improvements over existing services, which will be of great benefit to our Cabazon residents," Ashley said.

The Cabazon Civic Center complex, to be located downtown at Broadway and Carmen avenues, will cost an estimated \$18 million and include a 6,000-square-foot library, 11,000-square-foot day care center, maintenance facility and skate park, according to EDA spokesman Tom Freeman.

Projects now under construction include the \$4.6 million Cabazon Heavy Urban Fire Station, a 16,000-square-foot facility at 14668 Broadway, and the nearby Cabazon Fleet Services complex, a \$5 million facility to be arranged around a fueling station, service bays and car wash for county vehicles, Freeman said.

Fifteen jobs will be created to run the facility, he said.

A master sewage and trunk line system for the area are in the planning stage, Freeman said, with finishing touches on the design work likely to wrap up in a year and actual construction to last another 2.5 years.

There was no immediate estimate on the cost of the project.

"Supervisor Ashley has asked us to double our efforts in Cabazon, and these projects combined will bring approximately \$30 million in public investment to the area," said EDA Executive Officer Robin Zimpfer.

Cabazon is located along Interstate 10, halfway between Banning and Palm Springs.



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