



Press Release

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CITY OF CHINO HILLS SENDS LETTER TO GOVERNOR NEWSOM CALLING FOR IMMEDIATE REMOVAL OF "DEATH ROW" INMATES TRANSFERRED TO CIM

Chino Hills, CA – On April 23, 2024, City of Chino Hills Mayor Cynthia Moran sent a [letter](#) calling for Governor Gavin Newsom to remove the condemned inmates recently transferred from San Quentin State Prison's Death Row to the California Institute for Men (CIM) in Chino effective immediately, and cease sending additional condemned inmates until proper infrastructure improvements are made to ensure the safety of the community. Residents are encouraged to let their voices be heard and express their concerns by contacting Governor Newsom and the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) Secretary, Jeff Macomber. Contact information and sample letters are available on the City's website at www.chinohills.org/CIM.

The City of Chino Hills and the City of Chino were recently made aware that CIM began receiving condemned inmates as early as February 2024 and are working collaboratively to address significant safety concerns for residents, schools, and businesses of the Chino Valley. As one of the oldest institutions in the State, local leaders including Chino Hills Mayor Cynthia Moran, Chino Mayor Eunice Ulloa, and their corresponding Council Members, have raised significant concerns regarding CIM's capability to securely and safely house such high-risk individuals.

The CDCR's decision and action to transfer condemned inmates to CIM is part of a statewide initiative and influenced by Proposition 66, a voter-approved measure in 2016. Prop 66 allows condemned inmates to participate in prison programs, including prison jobs that would help them pay restitution to their victims. As a result, CDCR began phasing out the segregated death row cells and instituted a Condemned Inmate Transfer Program to facilitate moving inmates to facilities that have an electrified fence, such as CIM.

In a 2008 report issued by the Inspector General, it was stated that CIM has fallen into an unacceptable state of disrepair due to years of neglect and would require \$28 million annually to maintain the facility in its current "poor" condition. The report further warned that if funding is not dramatically increased, the condition of CIM will deteriorate to a level by 2014

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that would necessitate its demolition and replacement. There is no indication that the state has allocated the necessary funding to improve the condition of CIM.

The Cities of Chino Hills and Chino are working collaboratively and taking immediate action to advocate for policy changes with local and State leaders to ensure the safety of all Chino Valley residents. Members of the Chino and Chino Hills City Council joined in Sacramento last week to have in-person meetings with State representatives and the newly appointed CDCR Director of Division of Adult Institutions, Ronald Broomfield.

Together the Chino Hills and Chino City Councils extended an invitation to Mr. Broomfield, who oversees CDCR's Condemned Inmate Transfer Program, to visit CIM and witness firsthand the security concerns, decaying infrastructure, and serious lack of safety protocols. Mr. Broomfield has yet to visit CIM himself since being appointed in August 2023 and the Cities are hopeful to continue conversations with him and host him in the Chino Valley very soon.

The Cities of Chino and Chino Hills are in the process of creating a local task force and working with our area elected officials to create action items on how to move forward. Learn more and stay informed by signing up to receive news and announcements from the City of Chino Hills at www.chinohills.org/NotifyMe, or follow the City on Facebook ([@CityofChinoHills](https://www.facebook.com/CityofChinoHills)), Instagram ([@CityofChinoHillsGov](https://www.instagram.com/CityofChinoHillsGov)), and X ([@Chino_Hills](https://twitter.com/Chino_Hills)). To learn more about the recent transfers, visit www.chinohills.org/CIM.

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