

Community Profile

The City of Shafter is in the San Joaquin Valley in central California in the County of Kern between Interstate 5 and Highway 99, approximately 110 miles north of Los Angeles. The City encompasses about 38 square miles of territory and has a population of approximately 19,721.

The City of Shafter incorporated on January 11, 1938. Shafter is rural in character yet a progressive community. The City operates under the Council/Manager form of government. Shafter, employing 229 full-time staff members providing a full-range of services within eight Administrative Divisions. These include General Government, Administrative Services, Public Works, Community Development, Public Safety (Fire Services are contracted), Community Correctional Facility, Economic Development, Schools, and a Recreation Program. Fire Protection services are provided by the County of Kern. Water, Sewer and Trash services are also provided by the City. The City of Shafter's operating budget in FY 2018-19 is approximately \$42.2 million for all funds combined and an additional \$26.1 million in capital projects budgets.

Shafter boasts an intense sense of community spirit and pride that coupled with an exceptional "small town" quality of life. Shafter, which traces its roots to the completion of the Santa Fe Railroad in 1898, has evolved from a community of prosperous farming companies that today is home to many local family owned businesses in its central business district and an industrial center that is home to several distribution companies.

Also located in Shafter, is a public use airport owned by the Minter Field Airport District that is ideal for corporate aircraft with three active runways.

The Minter Field Air Museum is a non-profit museum with the purpose to educate the public about Minter Army Air Field and Kern County aviation's impact on local, regional, and global history through preservation efforts, specialty presentations, and community outreach programs.

The Shafter Depot Museum and the Harlin P. Wilson Agricultural Museum are non-profit museums displaying local agricultural and railroad heritage. Art in Public Places is an in-depth profile of the community on local murals, their creation, artists, and preservation of over 100 years of local history.

The Green Hotel is a private, non-profit museum which is the preservation of the Shafter's first commercial building constructed in 1913.

Shafter offers outstanding recreational, civic, and religious opportunities to suit all interests. From many community events and festivals, to various boating, fishing,

camping, and golfing facilities within a short drive. Shafter is home to seven parks totaling 30 acres, a community pool, and sports complex. Higher education is provided at the nearby California State University Bakersfield campus, and off-campus courses offered in cooperation with local community colleges. School aged children receive their public education at the Richland School District's 3 elementary school campuses and a junior high campus, at the Grimmway Academy, a public charter school. The Shafter High School campus educates approximately 1,500 students and offers at-risk students an education at Central Valley High School. The Shafter Learning Center hosts classes that challenge advanced students and enriches education in Shafter through an education partnership of the Richland School District, the County of Kern, and the City of Shafter. The Learning Center also offers access to the Shafter Branch of the Kern County Library, computers available to the public, and enrichment classes to adults, and during the summer and after school to youth. Shafter's civic organizations include the Chamber of Commerce, the Historical Society, Kiwanis, Lions, Rotary, Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion Veterans and Ladies Auxiliary, Women's Club, and Scouting Clubs for boy and girls. Daily print media is provided by county-wide newspaper, the Bakersfield Californian, and, a weekly newspaper, the Shafter Press. Public youth sports programs are offered through the Shafter Recreation and Parks District and are also offered through for-profit and non-profit leagues.

There are five medical offices that offer primary and specialized care, and facilities that offer urgent care, radiology and laboratory services. The three offices that provide dental care, Adept Dental, Omni Family Health Center, and Shafter Family Dental Care. The three pharmacies are Rite Aid, Omni, and Shafter Medical Pharmacy. Golden Living Center is a skilled living facility providing short-term rehabilitation and long-term skilled nursing. Carrington is an assisted living residential facility.