

**Community Focus Statement E:** Improve roads and other public infrastructure throughout the community while preserving the desert landscape and rural character.

**Action Statement E.1:** Design a trail system for both bicycles and pedestrians, connecting the downtown with surrounding open space and communities.

E

**Benchmark:** A Joshua Tree focus group, coordinates new projects by obtaining funding and ensuring completion of design, construction, and/or implementation of plan projects.

**Champion:** Volunteer group or person or can be identified by the community

**Estimated Cost:** \$300–\$5,000,000



SANBAG worked with jurisdictions in San Bernardino County to develop the Non-Motorized Transportation Plan to guide development of a comprehensive system of cycling facilities, pathways, and trails. For more information, visit: [www.sanbag.ca.gov/planning](http://www.sanbag.ca.gov/planning)

San Bernardino County Transit Authority (SBCTA) is responsible for regional active transportation planning in collaboration with its member agencies. Once San Bernardino County adopts its community plans, projects proposed in the community plans could become eligible for grant funding through the Active Transportation Program.

Alternative transportation options maintain the health and quality of life of a community and reduce air quality impacts and greenhouse gas emissions. Creation of a bicycle and pedestrian master plan for the community of Joshua Tree would be a first step toward planning for an easy-to-use and safe system of pedestrian and bicycle trails. The plan would include priorities for projects and estimates of the cost of proposed improvements. After the master plan is adopted, individual projects will require additional steps, which may include design, environmental clearances, feasibility studies, funding, and maintenance planning, depending on project location.

Bicycle-related components of the plan can be written to align with requirements for federal and state funding sources like Caltrans. A successful plan would understand where residents and visitors would like to go on foot or by bike and evaluate where gaps exist in connections to key destinations. Potential projects include adding or improving bicycle lanes, sidewalks, pathways, off-road cycling, signage, crossings, and Safe Routes to Schools improvements.

The preferred facilities and priorities should be developed through an understanding of local conditions, both in terms of environmental factors and community characteristics and desires. Research on options that have worked well in other similar communities and the latest developments in bicycle and pedestrian facilities would also be important to a plan that meets the needs of the Joshua Tree community.

The County of San Bernardino Public Works Department is working with Morongo Basin communities on the Morongo Basin Active Transportation Plan. The County has limited resources to dedicate to the plan and its implementation. Partnership with other agencies and private property owners is necessary to implement projects.

Other agencies and property owners include the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), the San Bernardino National Forest, and private landowners such as the Mojave Desert Land Trust and utility companies.

Action	Action Leader	Timeline	Resources
1. Create a Trails Group	Champion	Month 1	San Bernardino County Non-Motorized Transportation Plan, March 2011 (revised May 7, 2014)
2. Review the San Bernardino County Non-Motorized Transportation Plan and select one or more priority projects to discuss with the County Special Districts Department. Conduct feasibility study and needs assessment for the proposal of any new facilities.	Trails Group	Month 1	<a href="http://www.sanbag.ca.gov/planning2/pdf/NMTP-RevisedMay2014.pdf">http://www.sanbag.ca.gov/planning2/pdf/NMTP-RevisedMay2014.pdf</a>  San Bernardino County Regional Parks <a href="http://cms.sbcounty.gov/parks/parks/santaanarivertrailandparkway.aspx">http://cms.sbcounty.gov/parks/parks/santaanarivertrailandparkway.aspx</a>  SBCTA Non-Motorized Transportation Plan <a href="http://www.sanbag.ca.gov/planning2/plan_non-motor.html">http://www.sanbag.ca.gov/planning2/plan_non-motor.html</a>
3. Meet with the County Special Districts Department to discuss the selected projects and identify critical partners.	Trails Group	Month 2	California ATP Funding, Caltrans Division of Local Assistance <a href="http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/LocalPrograms/atp/">http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/LocalPrograms/atp/</a>
4. Conduct a meeting with the community advocate and critical partners to discuss facility type, measures of community need, project funding, and measures of project competitiveness such as increased users, improved safety, access to transit, safe routes to school, and disadvantaged communities. Use funding and implementation information contained in the Non-Motorized Transportation Plan.	Trails Group with County Special Districts Department, SBCTA	Month 3	FHWA Innovative Intersection Safety Improvement Strategies and Management Practices <a href="http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/intersection/other_topics/fhwasa06016/">http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/intersection/other_topics/fhwasa06016/</a>  Intersection Safety, A Manual for Local Rural Road Owners, FHWA <a href="http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/local_rural/training/fhwasa1108/fhwasa1108.pdf">http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/local_rural/training/fhwasa1108/fhwasa1108.pdf</a>  US Department of Transportation Livability Grants and Programs <a href="https://www.transportation.gov/livability/grants-programs">https://www.transportation.gov/livability/grants-programs</a>
5. Collect data needed to complete the grant application.	Trails Group determined by participants in action 4	Months 4-10	FHWA Bicycle and Pedestrian Program <a href="http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bicycle_pedestrian/index.cfm">http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bicycle_pedestrian/index.cfm</a>
6. Co-author grant applications with SBCTA and the County Special Districts Department.	Trails Group	Years 1 – 5	



			<p>US Department of Agriculture Rural Development Programs &amp; Services <a href="http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services">http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services</a></p> <p>US Department of Housing and Urban Development Recovery Grant Program <a href="http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/recovery">http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/recovery</a></p>
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