

**Community Focus Statement E:** Create or provide a cost-effective approach to developing equestrian trails and trails for non-motorized vehicles.

**Action Statement E.1:** Establish a community equestrian center and park areas in coordination with existing local equestrian groups.

E

**Benchmark:** An equestrian center is established, maintained and accessible and public parks and trails on which equestrians can ride in the Phelan and Piñon Hills area.

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

**Estimated Cost:** Variable depending on proposed projects.



Los Angeles Equestrian Center. Photo source: [Cbl62](#)

Animal raising and equestrianism have long been a part of the history of Phelan Piñon Hills. Additional equestrian amenities, such as an equestrian center, parks, and trails, would be valuable assets in the community and have been shown to increase well-being. Well-built equestrian facilities can provide recreation and mental and physical benefits to residents. The National Recreation and Park Association website states, “There is a well-known link between the physical activity associated with parks and recreation programs and reductions in chronic diseases such as type II diabetes and heart disease.” An equestrian center complete with riding parks and trails can provide these benefits as well as serve as a needed

resource for equestrians.

Local equestrians and community members can facilitate the identification and development of trails and facilities for equestrian use and influence the process by offering a local perspective, providing private funding through donations or fundraisers, and aiding in the creation and implementation of a long-term maintenance plan. Development of new recreational facilities and parks can often be costly. The National Recreation and Park Association has developed a crowdsourcing platform called Fund Your Park to help raise local funds for park construction. Grants can also be used for funding new recreational facilities.

The community could also vote to create a Special District and pay rates to be used for equestrian trails and facilities. County Special Districts can assist in the process in establishing a Special District.

Action	Action Leader	Timeline	Resources
1. Identify local equestrian stakeholders	Champion	Month 1	National Recreation and Park Association, Fund Your Park <a href="http://www.nrpa.org/fund-your-park/">http://www.nrpa.org/fund-your-park/</a>  American Trails, Volunteers are making ambitious trail partnerships work <a href="http://www.americantrails.org/resources/volunteer/trail-partnership-backcountry-horsemen.html">http://www.americantrails.org/resources/volunteer/trail-partnership-backcountry-horsemen.html</a>
2. Working with equestrian groups, establish the location and infrastructure and amenity improvements for an equestrian center and parks.	Champion with Equestrian groups	Months 2 – 6	
3. Identify which entity would be best suited to lead the operation and maintenance of the equestrian center.	Champion with Equestrian groups with support from Community Services District and County Special Districts	Months 4 – 6	
4. Establish a maintenance plan for the newly created facilities.	Designated lead, with support from Community Services District and County Special Districts	Months 6 – 18	
5. Use a variety of resources to fund the creation of the equestrian center and parks, including private contributions, Fund Your Park, creation of a Special District or expansion of Community Services Districts responsibilities and federal and state grants.	Designated lead and equestrian groups	Months 8 – 18, on-going for additional amenities	
6. Carry out the construction and plan implementation for the facilities.	Designated lead, with support from Community Services District and County	Month 18 – on-going	
7. Evaluate maintenance plan and facility completeness, and revise plan if necessary.	Designated lead	Year 2	