

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

**Action Statement E.3: Encourage rapid maintenance of key roadways immediately following storm events.**

**E3**

**Benchmark:** Key roadways identified and a list and/or map provided to the San Bernardino County Public Works Department. Community members are trained to provide information to the County Public Works Department in the event of storm-related roadway issues.

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

**Estimated Cost:** \$300–\$1,500 (storm event costs assumed to be included in annual County Department of Public Works budget)



Pothole in the right-of-way. Photo source: [Bart Everson](#)

Roadway networks are critical to the daily operation of a community in that they provide access to and from employment, education and health services, and social opportunities. While roadway and water systems are designed to handle a certain amount of storm activity, at times these systems can become overwhelmed. Responding to impacts on infrastructure facilities due to storm events, primarily rain in the case of Joshua Tree, helps to ensure access to daily functions and promotes safe and efficient travel operations. Timely response to storm impacts such as insufficient drainage and roadway washout is important to keep the community functioning and to support emergency services access.

The San Bernardino County Public Works Department is responsible for maintaining over 2,500 miles of roadway in the unincorporated areas, which is known as the County Maintained Road System (CMRS). The County has a process in place to respond to storm event issues; however, community involvement in the identification of such issues can help to promote rapid and efficient response in the event of a significant storm. Requests can be made to the County Department of Public Works in the case of an event where infrastructure has been impacted.

The San Bernardino County Public Works dispatch center can be contacted to report storm-related infrastructure issues (909-387-8063). The center can be reached Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Action	Action Leader	Timeline	Resources
1. Identify County-maintained roadway facilities in Joshua Tree.	Champion and Roads Group	Month 1	San Bernardino County Public Works, County-Maintained Road System <a href="http://sbcountypw.maps.arcgis.com">http://sbcountypw.maps.arcgis.com</a>  San Bernardino County Public Works Dispatch Center (909-387-8063) available Monday through Friday from 8 AM to 5 PM
2. Based on past community experience, identify a list of roadways that have been impacted by storm events multiple times and those that are critical community access links.	Roads Group	Month 2	
3. Develop a community communication plan to identify storm-related infrastructure issues and a key contact person responsible for providing information to the County Public Works Department.	Roads Group	Month 3	
4. Prior to storm events, contact the San Bernardino County Public Works Department with the list of identified critical roadways and locations.	Roads Group	Month 4	
5. In the event of a storm, contact the San Bernardino County Public Works Department to report any issues via the Public Works Dispatch Center.	Roads Group	Month 5	