

## Community Focus Statement D: Attract new development to Helendale while maintaining the existing community character and rural desert lifestyle

### **Action Statement D.3: Establish a local Design Committee to provide advisory input to the County on land development matters.**

# D3

**Benchmark:** Design committee's draft design guidelines for the community, property owners, and future developers to follow in the Helendale community are adopted by the County.

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

**Estimated Cost:** None



*Committee meeting at a local residence. Photo source: Frank Schulenberg*

Design review is a milestone in the land development process where a design is evaluated against requirements and regulations. In San Bernardino County, the County's Land Use Services Department performs plan reviews for new construction, residential and commercial additions, grading, and erosion control projects. Any applicant must follow County guidelines when developing projects in Helendale.

In order for Helendale to provide meaningful input to the County on land development matters, an advisory Design Committee could be formed. The Helendale committee could consist of members from the Helendale Community Services District, the Silver Lakes Association, or other community volunteers with real estate, planning, or architectural experience. To ensure consistency, the committee could create draft guidelines to evaluate projects proposed in the community for review and adoption by the County. Once precise design guidelines are created, property owners and future developers will understand the community's expectations. New development would be held to a higher standard of design, and community cohesiveness would be encouraged.

The advisory Design Committee could operate as part of Action Statement A.7, which promotes communication between the County and the Helendale Community Services District.

Case Study: Community committee of business owners in Crestline created draft sign guidelines adopted by the County.



Action	Action Leader	Timeline	Resources
1. Contact residents and organize volunteers to serve on a design committee.	Champion	Month 1	SB County Planning Department <a href="http://cms.sbcounty.gov/lus/Planning/PlanningHome.aspx">http://cms.sbcounty.gov/lus/Planning/PlanningHome.aspx</a>  Crest Forest Sign Program – San Bernardino County Development Code 83.13.035 <a href="http://www.sbcounty.gov/Uploads/lus/DevelopmentCode/DCWebsite.pdf">http://www.sbcounty.gov/Uploads/lus/DevelopmentCode/DCWebsite.pdf</a>
2. Select a leader to serve as chair who will provide leadership and champion the committee	Design committee	Month 2	
3. Establish design guidelines and expectations for the Helendale community.	Design committee	Months 3–6	
4. Submit the design guidelines to the Silver Lakes Association and the Helendale Community Services District for their review.	Silver Lakes Association, Helendale Community Services District	Months 7–8	
5. Incorporate the Silver Lakes Association’s and the Helendale Community Services District’s comments into the design guidelines.	Design committee	Month 9	
6. Work with San Bernardino County to review and adopt the design guidelines for projects future development projects within the community.	Design committee, San Bernardino County Planning Department	Month 10–16	