

## Community Focus Statement B: Enhance pedestrian safety and mobility along Mentone Boulevard (Highway 38).

**Action Statement B.4: Advocate the development and expansion of pedestrian pathways and trails that connect Mentone to open space areas such as the San Bernardino Mountains and Santa Ana River.**

**Benchmark:** A complete, connected network of trails and open space with a plan for continued maintenance, funding, and facility upgrades.

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

**Estimated Cost:** Variable.

IN PROCESS



Example of a trail and pedestrian crossing. Photo source: Michael Baker International

Multi-use Trail: ADA-compliant asphalt for bicycle and pedestrian facility = \$30 per linear foot

Multi-use Trail: decomposed granite material suitable for pedestrians/equestrians = \$20 per linear foot

With its natural beauty and nearby forestland, Mentone offers ample opportunity for outdoor recreation such as hiking and horseback riding. While there are not currently any County-maintained official trails in the area, Phase IV of the Santa Ana River Trail, which will run from California Street in Redlands to Garnet Street in Mentone and up to the San Bernardino National Forest, is currently under way. Consideration of extending the Orange Blossom Trail from Redlands through Mentone could also occur. Mentone residents have

emphasized the importance of preserving the area's natural resources and enhancing the area's recreational amenities.

In recognition of residents' desire for additional trail facilities and connections, Mentone should coordinate with the County, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, US Fish and Wildlife Service, San Bernardino Water Conservation District, US Forest Service, and neighboring cities to draft a community trails plan for the area that would include an inventory of existing and new trails that would connect to the Santa Ana River Trail extension.

Parks, open space, trails, and Mill Creek all offer places for the community to enjoy aspects of nature such as fresh air, water, sunlight, plants, and wildlife. These natural spaces enhance the environment by improving air quality and water quality and increasing habitat for plants and wildlife. The planning team should work with the community to identify potential locations for Mill Creek access points/viewing platforms and associated amenities. Additionally, the trails plan should give special consideration to connecting the community to nearby open spaces such as the Dump Trail Scenic Vista and Wildwood Canyon State Park. New pedestrian and bicycle links are encouraged from pedestrian activity areas such as schools, parks, commercial centers, the Mill Creek Visitor Center, and Crafton Hills Community College to the nearby street and/or trail system.

## IN PROCESS

Action	Action Leader	Timeline	Resources
1. Organize a group of stakeholders to form a local trails committee and advocate for the expansion of trails in the area.	Champion	Year 1 - Year 3	NRPA Fund Your Park <a href="http://www.nrpa.org/fund-your-park/">http://www.nrpa.org/fund-your-park/</a>
2. Identify and prioritize trails for expansion or development.	Trails committee	Year 1 - Year 3	San Bernardino County Regional Parks <a href="http://cms.sbcounty.gov/parks/Activities/Trails.aspx">http://cms.sbcounty.gov/parks/Activities/Trails.aspx</a>  USDA Forest Service, San Bernardino National Forest <a href="http://www.fs.usda.gov/sbnf/">http://www.fs.usda.gov/sbnf/</a>  Orange Blossom Trail (City of Redlands)  Santa Ana River Trail <a href="http://cms.sbcounty.gov/parks/Parks/SantaAnaRiverTrailandParkway.aspx">http://cms.sbcounty.gov/parks/Parks/SantaAnaRiverTrailandParkway.aspx</a>
3. Meet with local entities responsible for trail creation and management, including the San Bernardino County Regional Parks District and the USDA Forest Service, to present and discuss trail locations and funding options.	Trails committee	Year 1 - Year 3	
4. Work with the local entities to create a trail expansion plan that identifies priority projects, funding mechanisms, and maintenance responsibility.	Trails committee	Year 1 - Year 3	
5. Adopt a trail plan.	Trails committee	Year 1 - Year 3	
6. Seek funding sources to implement the trail plan, including Fund Your Park, private donations and sponsorships, and grants.	Trails committee	Year 1 - Year 3	
7. Implement the trails plan as funding is available.	Trails committee	Year 1 - Year 3	