

**Community Focus Statement C:** Improve the local road system for increased safety and function.

**Action Statement C.5:** Explore desert road development standards that downplay the need for urban street improvements such as street lighting, curb and gutter, and sidewalks except as needed for safety.

**C5**

**Benchmark:** County Development Code is amended to include desert road requirements and County Standard Plans to reflect rural desert characteristics.

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

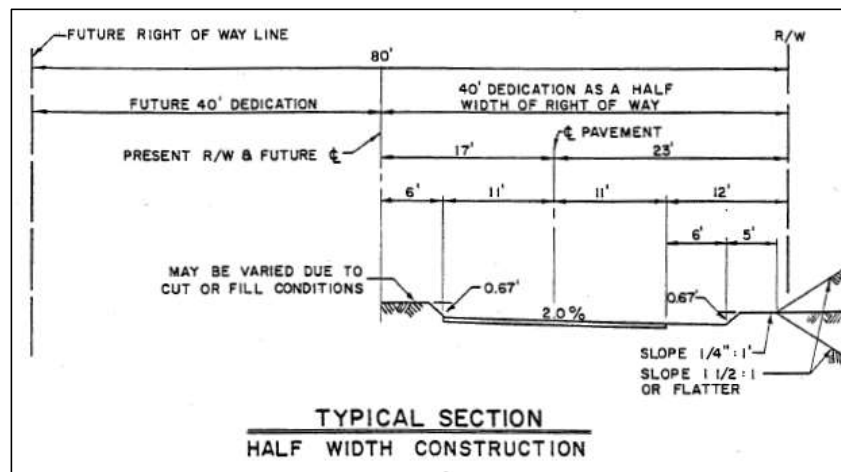
**Estimated Cost:** None

The current County Development Code often requires curb, gutters and sidewalks for new development, although a variance process exists. As part of the Countywide Plan, the County is amending the Development Code including creating separate road requirements by region. The new standards are expected to better preserve the community’s preferred character, by implementing desert road development standards for local streets.

As illustrated in the County’s development standards for Half Width Desert Roads, desert road standards replace the elements associated with the typical improved road standards, paved streets, curbs, gutters, sidewalks, street lighting, and/or sidewalk amenities, with elements that better complement the desert landscape, unpaved streets and shoulders, and a lack of lighting and amenities. This treatment is appropriate for roads that traverse Lucerne Valley’s low-density residential neighborhoods and serve a relatively low volume of pedestrians, but for safety reasons should be avoided in other locations and with greater numbers of pedestrians.

The San Bernardino County Standard Plans currently include the following relevant standards, which should be considered as the Development Code is amended:

- Half Width Desert Road – 112
- Half Width Desert Road – 113



The community should support the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors in adoption of a desert option for the County’s local street typology. Once the street section containing potential improvements or guidelines is adopted, the Board of Supervisors can direct the Public Works Department to design and implement the typology.

Action	Action Leader	Timeline	Resources
1. Form a Roads committee to review County Code amendments related to rural desert roads.	Champion	Month 1	San Bernardino County Public Works, County Maintained Road System <a href="http://sbcountypw.maps.arcgis.com">http://sbcountypw.maps.arcgis.com</a>
2. Coordinate with other communities, such as Homestead Valley and Joshua Tree, which may be interested in similar recommendations.	Roads Committee	Month 2	
3. Approach the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors along with other communities and encourage support of recommended changes to the rural desert roadway design standards options for use in future projects.	Roads Committee	Month 3	San Bernardino County Standard Plans <a href="http://cms.sbcounty.gov/lus/LandDevelopment/CountyStandards.aspx">http://cms.sbcounty.gov/lus/LandDevelopment/CountyStandards.aspx</a>
4. Coordinate with San Bernardino County Public Works to detail specifics of the desired standards and discuss potential recommendations.	Roads Committee	Months 4–16	University of California Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources – Rural Roads: A Construction and Maintenance Guide for California Landowners <a href="http://anrcatalog.ucanr.edu/pdf/8262.pdf">http://anrcatalog.ucanr.edu/pdf/8262.pdf</a>  Mendocino County Road Design Standards <a href="http://www.co.mendocino.ca.us/dot/rspdf/C_RoadDesignStandards.pdf">http://www.co.mendocino.ca.us/dot/rspdf/C_RoadDesignStandards.pdf</a>