

Community Focus Statement D: Grow the local economy in a manner consistent with the rural desert character.

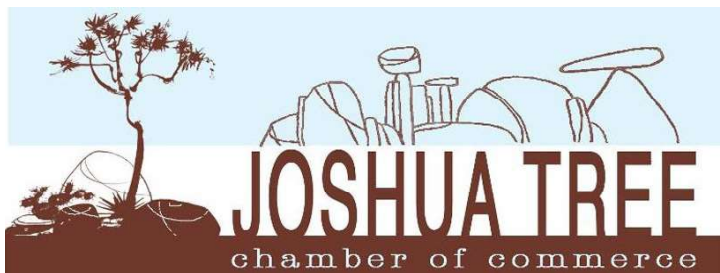
D6

Action Statement D.6: *Explore opportunities to strengthen the Joshua Tree Chamber of Commerce, partner with the Yucca Valley Chamber of Commerce and the Twentynine Palms Chamber of Commerce to coordinate business attraction, marketing, and business support activities.*

Benchmark: Quarterly coordination meetings and monthly conference calls occur to discuss regional economic development issues and opportunities.

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

Estimated Cost: Dependent upon resources needed.



The Joshua Tree Chamber of Commerce is active in the community's business community and could coordinate with the Yucca Valley Chamber of Commerce and the Twentynine Palms Chamber of Commerce. These organizations know the history and recent status of the majority of businesses in the area and are often the first point of contact for

new business owners. In partnership, the three Chambers of Commerce could have a more regional reach than each Chamber individually.

By combining resources, the Chambers of Commerce could assist small businesses in the area by providing assistance or business education. The Chambers could help businesses comply with federal, state, and local regulations, maintaining cash-flow and financials, and handling human resource issues. The Chambers can also serve as a liaison with County departments to help resolve issues or streamline the application process.

Together, the Chambers of Commerce could become a one-stop shop, able to address:

- All planning and development matters of concern to local business
- Local economic indicators and labor market statistics
- Local development plans
- Land availability
- Building regulations and permits
- Business licensing and related permits
- Connections with local financing and capital providers

Action Statements D4, D5, and D6 could be completed together.

Action	Action Leader	Timeline	Resources
1. Assess the current status of the Chamber and the community. Draft an informational report to send to the Twentynine Palms and Yucca Valley Chambers of Commerce.	Economic Enforcement Team with Joshua Tree Chamber of Commerce	Month 1	Joshua Tree Chamber of Commerce http://joshuatreechamber.org/
2. Organize a kickoff conference call to discuss the ability and logistics of joint Chambers of Commerce.	Economic Enforcement Team Joshua Tree Chamber of Commerce	Month 2	Twentynine Palms Chamber of Commerce http://www.29chamber.org/ Yucca Valley Chamber of Commerce http://www.yuccavalley.org/
3. Establish "point people" in charge of coordination between the chambers.	Economic Enforcement Team Chambers of Commerce Coalition	Months 3 – 5	San Bernardino County Economic Development Agency http://www.sbcountyadvantage.com/insite.aspx
4. Organize a monthly conference call with a representative of the San Bernardino County Economic Development Agency to discuss issues and opportunities.	Economic Enforcement Team Chambers of Commerce Coalition	On-going	
5. Organize quarterly meetings between Chamber representatives and the County to talk about regional issues and opportunities.	Economic Enforcement Team Chambers of Commerce Coalition	On-going	