

The following bullet items summarize the factual basis for the ATC's concerns regarding the County's current trail policies and the proposed revisions to the trail portions of the Acton Community Standards District ("CSD"). It is hoped that members of the equestrian community will help us get these issues addressed by reaching out to county staff and sharing their trail concerns and experiences; the bullet items below can provide a foundation for such comments. At the bottom of this list, email addresses for key County staff are provided.

- Acton has been an equestrian community since the 19th century, and equestrian uses are integral to our heritage. For Acton to continue as an equestrian community, our neighborhoods, businesses, and open spaces must be interconnected and configured in an equestrian- and pedestrian-friendly manner.
- This is the foundation for all community trail objectives in Acton.
- Acton Community Trail Objectives are sustained and secured by the adopted trail policies and goals set forth in the County General Plan and the Antelope Valley Areawide Plan that were approved by the Board of Supervisors in 2015 and which govern and direct all development in the unincorporated areas.
- These adopted plan policies direct the County to secure both mapped regional trails as well as unmapped connector and feeder trails.
- Currently, the Department of Parks and Recreation only commits to securing mapped trails and makes no commitment to the development of unmapped feeder and connector trails; accordingly, current Parks and Recreation trail development practices are not consistent with adopted County Plan policies.
- The regional trails that have been "mapped" by the Department of Parks and Recreation within the Community of Acton are largely constrained to the existing County Highway facilities where traffic speeds often exceed 60 mph and which have little or no "shoulder" for pedestrian or equestrian opportunities. Therefore, many of the "mapped" trails that the Department of Parks and Recreation directs equestrians and pedestrians to use are far too dangerous.
- To address these concerns, the Community of Acton recommended that the Department of Parks and Recreation amend the trail "map" to include all existing streets and roadways in Acton; this will achieve trail connectivity and provide far safer trail opportunities for equestrians and pedestrians. However, and unfortunately, the Department of Parks and Recreation conveyed a disinclination to implement this recommendation.
- For the reasons set forth above, the trail program envisioned by the Department of Parks and Recreation for the Community of Acton does not achieve community trail objectives and it will not provide a safe and connected equestrian and pedestrian trail system. To garner

community support, the Department's trail strategy in Acton must be broadened and expanded in a manner that comports with adopted General Plan and Area Plan policies and achieves community trail objectives.

- The proposed revisions to the Acton CSD removes mandatory trail language for subdivisions and defers all future trail decisions and development in Acton to the discretion of the Department of Parks and Recreation; with this change, Acton community trail objectives will never be met because the Department's trail strategy in Acton does not include a commitment to securing unmapped feeder and connector trails and it constrains many of the trails in Acton to dangerous highway locations.
- For these reasons, the Acton CSD cannot be supported until the trail strategy adopted by County agencies is revised to achieve Acton Community trail objectives and thereby comply with trail policies adopted by the Board of Supervisors in the County General Plan and the Antelope Valley Area Plan policies.

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