

# Hidden Meadows Community Trail and Pathway Plan

## *Trails: The Community Connection*

The Community Trails Master Plan will be utilized to develop a system of interconnected regional and community trails and pathways. These trails and pathways are intended to address an established public need for recreation and transportation, but will also provide health and quality of life benefits associated with hiking, biking, and horseback riding throughout the County’s biologically diverse environments.

Community trails serve a different function than regional trails, which are focused on the provision of long linear distances. Instead, community trails are “local public facilities” in close proximity to residents that provide transportation, recreation, access, infrastructure, linkages and safe routes throughout a community. The Community Trails Master Plan (CTMP) involves both trail development and management on public, semi-public and private lands. The CTMP has established two forms of non-motorized facilities called “Trails” and “Pathways” that provide passive recreational, and alternative modes of transportation.

**Trails** are typically away from vehicular roads that are primarily recreational in nature but can also serve as an alternative mode of transportation. They are soft-surface facilities for single or multiple uses by pedestrians, equestrians, and mountain bicyclists.

**Pathways** are a non-motorized transportation facility located within a parkway or road right of way. A riding and hiking trail located in the road right of way is considered a pathway. They are soft-surfaced facilities intended to serve both circulation and recreation purposes. Pathways help make critical connections and are an integral part of a functional trail system.

## COMMUNITY TRAIL STATEMENT

Hidden Meadows is a unique residential community, often referred to as one of inland North County's best-kept secrets. Most of the home sites are between 1/2 and 4 acres. A 1500 foot altitude means a pleasant year round climate with ocean breezes. Usually, Hidden Meadows is above the fog, which makes for more sunshine than coastal regions.

This cul-de-sac community with only one paved road in and out makes for less crime and very little traffic. There are dramatic views of mountains and valleys including Palomar Mountain and San Geronio, which are snow-clad in winter. We enjoy an abundance of wildlife, bright stars, stunning sunrises and sunsets. A small town atmosphere and pastoral way of life result in truly friendly people.

Because the neighborhood is normally traversed by auto, there are no sidewalks, bike trails, or walking paths for the residents. The population has increased substantially over the past ten years and the increased vehicle traffic has made it dangerous for residents walking or jogging along the roads. Furthermore, there are no cross-country trails for more strenuous exercise.

### **Community Boundaries**

The Hidden Meadows community is commonly defined with boundaries of North View Court on the north, Interstate 15 on the west, Jesmond Dene on the south, and Daley Ranch/Turner Lake on the east. The Hidden Meadows Community Sponsor Group planning area covers the Jesmond Dene and North Broadway areas down to the City of Escondido. The Alps Way area on the east side and the North View Lane area on the north are traditionally considered part of Hidden Meadows and the Sponsor Group is working to include these areas in its territory.

Twenty-four miles of trails are planned in this area that include trails located in the central Hidden Meadows area, trails that connect to the Bonsall trail system, the Lawrence Welk Village, Valley Center and the Jesmond Dene/North Broadway area to the south.

### **Proposed Trail Overview**

The trails in Hidden Meadows will consist of pathways along busy streets and trails away from homes and auto traffic.

The pathways are designed primarily to increase the safety of the residents and encourage people to get out and walk more. These pathways are located next to the busiest roads in the community.

The proposed trail #6 would be for those seeking more strenuous exercise as it climbs and falls 500 feet several times over its entire length. This proposed trail is unpaved and could be located on the Sempra easement. Also challenging, proposed trail #9 falls 700 feet in 2 miles, and is a dirt sewer access road located on the Valley Center Water District easement.

Trail connections to neighboring communities have been taken into account. Up to three connections can be made to the Valley Center Trails System and one connection is planned for Daley Ranch. Three trails terminate at the City of Escondido a trail has been identified for future trail connection to the Twin Oaks

community and another trail connects to the proposed Bonsall trails system.

## THE NEED FOR TRAILS

The community trail needs are based on an equation established by the Trails System Assessment (TSA) in 2001, which identified a minimum baseline level of service for each community by population. The Baseline Level of Service or Trail Need is 0.8 miles of trail per 1,000 people.

The “Trail Need” is the minimum length of trail miles (baseline level of service) for each Community and Subregional Plan Area. The TSA calculations for community trail needs are as follows:

- **Trail Need** = (Community Population /1,000 residents x 0.8 miles of trails)
- **2000 Trail Need** = (2000 population /1,000 residents x 0.8 miles of trails)
- **2020 Trail Need** = (2020 population /1,000 residents x 0.8 miles of trails)

Population statistics from the 2000 U.S. Census were used to determine the current trail needs in Hidden Meadows. Based on the census, the population of the Hidden Meadows Community Plan Area is 6,472 and there is a current need for 5 miles of community trails. In the year 2020, the population is projected to increase to 11,290 and there would be a future need for 9 miles of community trails.

For additional information about the baseline level of service and trail needs, please refer to the discussion under “**The Need for Trails**” and **Tables NT-1 and NT-2** in the CTMP.

## COUNTYWIDE TRAIL GOALS AND POLICIES

The “**Countywide Goals and Policies**” contained in the CTMP apply to all community and sub-regional plan areas. Community-specific goals and policies are intended to accommodate specific needs and they will be implemented when feasible. Where Community-specific goals and policies are not addressed, the “**Countywide Goals and Policies**” contained in CTMP shall apply.

## DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION GUIDELINES

Countywide trail guidelines in the Community Trails Master Plan apply to all community and sub-regional plan areas. Community-specific guidelines are intended to accommodate specific community needs and they will be implemented when feasible. Where Community specific guidelines are not addressed, the Countywide “**Design and Construction Guidelines**” contained in the CTMP shall apply.

## HIDDEN MEADOWS COMMUNITY TRAIL IMPLEMENTATION INFORMATION

### **Implementation Alternatives**

Because the Hidden Meadows Trails Plan is straightforward and limited to nine trails covering 24 miles, there is no presumed need for alternatives. Hidden Meadows proposes that the community trails plan be implemented one trail at a time based upon usage demand.

### **Implementation Goals**

The goals of implementing trails in the Hidden Meadows community include resident safety, exercise opportunities, and pleasant walks in this beautiful neighborhood.

### **Implementation Funding**

It is the community's desire to utilize PLDO funds to build these trails and have requested the release of those funds by the County. This is imperative and necessary to even begin the first trail.

### **Trail Maintenance**

The design of the trails will not result in high maintenance costs. Most trails will be simple in design. Fencing may be appropriate for one or two trails but not all. Debris and litter along the trails is expected to be minimal, as regular walkers will typically pick up any trash they see. Serious

consideration will be given to an "Adopt-a-Trail" program.

## HIDDEN MEADOWS COMMUNITY TRAILS MAP SUMMARY

As a result of the community trails outreach process for development of the CTMP, the Hidden Meadows Community Sponsor Group completed several tasks, and prioritized community trails and pathways as well as their special features. Each trail and pathway was labeled and recorded producing a community trails map and index.

Proposed trails shown on trails maps contained in the Community Trail Master Plan depict corridors of general alignments. The term "general alignment" is used to describe the general location of a future trail within a designated corridor so that the specific alignment can be determined during the review and approval process when a discretionary application is submitted for a development permit for land that includes a trail corridor. The designated corridor is approximately one-quarter mile wide. A general alignment is useful because it allows the trail to be located to avoid extreme topographical conditions, sensitive habitat or other site-specific constraints. To aid in locating trails and pathways, beginning and ending coordinates for each are included in the index.

### HIDDEN MEADOWS COMMUNITY TRAILS MAP INDEX

The following community trails map index was completed by the Hidden Meadows

Community Sponsor Group and will be used as a reference tool. Neighboring communities are italicized and where trail or pathway connections exist, the community trail name and number are included.

<p><b>Trail #:</b> 1</p>	<p><b>Name:</b> Mountain Meadows Road North Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Status:</b> ( ) Existing (X) Proposed</p> <p><b>Trail Type:</b> ( ) Trail (X) Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Priority:</b> (X) 1 ( ) 2 ( ) 3</p> <p><b>Estimated Trail Length in Miles:</b> 1.90 38 minute walk</p> <p><b>Coordinates:</b> From: 33.215190, -117.110490 To: 33.238820, -117.119440</p>	<p><b>Connections: Trail Name (Trail #)</b> Mountain Meadows Road South Pathway (2) Hidden Meadows Road (3) Meadow Glen West Pathway (9A) Meadows Staging Area</p>	<p><b>Trail Priority Criteria:</b> Connectivity Large user opportunity Safety Setting</p> <p><b>Special Features:</b> Popular central Hidden Meadows north/south connection. Varied topography.</p>
<p><b>Trail #:</b> 2</p>	<p><b>Name:</b> Mountain Meadows Road South Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Status:</b> ( ) Existing (X) Proposed</p> <p><b>Trail Type:</b> ( ) Trail (X) Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Priority:</b> (X) 1 ( ) 2 ( ) 3</p> <p><b>Estimated Trail Length in Miles:</b> 1.33 32 minute walk</p> <p><b>Coordinates:</b> From: 33.238820, -117.119440 To: 33.198550, -117.122870</p>	<p><b>Connections: Trail Name (Trail #)</b> <i>Twin Oaks Valley/Deer Springs Road Pathway (2)</i> Deer Springs Staging Area Welk Pathway (7) Jesmond Dene Road Pathway (5) Hidden Meadows Road (3) Mountain Meadows Road North Pathway (1)</p>	<p><b>Trail Priority Criteria:</b> Connectivity Loop</p> <p><b>Special Features:</b> I-15 connection. Steep incline.</p>
<p><b>Trail #:</b> 3</p>	<p><b>Name:</b> Hidden Meadows Road Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Status:</b> ( ) Existing (X) Proposed</p> <p><b>Trail Type:</b> ( ) Trail (X) Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Priority:</b> (X) 1 ( ) 2 ( ) 3</p> <p><b>Estimated Trail Length in Miles:</b> 1.60 29 minute walk</p> <p><b>Coordinates:</b> From: 33.210934, -117.107859 To: 33.215856, -117.087077</p>	<p><b>Connections: Trail Name (Trail #)</b> Mountain Meadows Road North Pathway (1) Mountain Meadows Road South Pathway (2) Sempra Trail (6) Cougar Pass Road Pathway (4)</p>	<p><b>Trail Priority Criteria:</b> Connectivity Loop Large user opportunity Setting</p> <p><b>Special Features:</b> Daley Ranch connection. Easy golf course loop trail.</p>

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<p><b>Trail #:</b> 4</p>	<p><b>Name:</b> Cougar Pass Road Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Status:</b> ( ) Existing (X) Proposed</p> <p><b>Trail Type:</b> ( ) Trail (X) Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Priority:</b> (X) 1 ( ) 2 ( ) 3</p> <p><b>Estimated Trail Length in Miles:</b> 5.00</p>	<p><b>Connections: Trail Name (Trail #)</b> Valley Center/Betsworth Road Pathway (21) Valley Center/Wilkes Road Pathway (46) Hidden Meadows Road (3) Valley Center/Mirar de Valle Trail (5A) Escondido Border/Daley Ranch-Cougar Ridge Trail Cougar Pass Staging Area Escondido Border</p>	<p><b>Trail Priority Criteria:</b> Connectivity</p> <p><b>Special Features:</b> Valley Center, Daley Ranch and Escondido connection. Uses Valley Center Water District road.</p>
<p><b>Trail #:</b> 5</p>	<p><b>Name:</b> Jesmond Dene Road Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Status:</b> ( ) Existing (X) Proposed</p> <p><b>Trail Type:</b> ( ) Trail (X) Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Priority:</b> (X) 1 ( ) 2 ( ) 3</p> <p><b>Estimated Trail Length in Miles:</b> 3.10 1 hour 37 minute walk</p> <p><b>Coordinates:</b> From: 33.217790, -117.090570 To: 33.156826, -117.092234</p>	<p><b>Connections: Trail Name (Trail #)</b> Deer Springs Staging Area Welk Pathway (7) Mountain Meadows Road South Pathway (2) Sempra Trail (6) Escondido Border</p>	<p><b>Trail Priority Criteria:</b> Connectivity Loop Safety</p> <p><b>Special Features:</b> High speed traffic. Picturesque.</p>
<p><b>Trail #:</b> 6</p>	<p><b>Name:</b> Sempra Trail</p> <p><b>Trail Status:</b> ( ) Existing (X) Proposed</p> <p><b>Trail Type:</b> (X) Trail ( ) Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Priority:</b> (X) 1 ( ) 2 ( ) 3</p> <p><b>Estimated Trail Length in Miles:</b> 4.70 1 hour 30 minute walk</p> <p><b>Coordinates:</b> From: 33.224463, -117.093575 To: 33.171726, -117.103691</p>	<p><b>Connections: Trail Name (Trail #)</b> Jesmond Dene Road Pathway (5) Hidden Meadows Road (3) Faircrest Loop Trail (8) Valley Center/Wilkes Road Pathway (46)</p>	<p><b>Trail Priority Criteria:</b> Connectivity Loop Setting</p> <p><b>Special Features:</b> Rugged. Utilizes utility easement.</p>
<p><b>Trail #:</b> 7</p>	<p><b>Name:</b> Welk Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Status:</b> ( ) Existing (X) Proposed</p> <p><b>Trail Type:</b> ( ) Trail (X) Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Priority:</b> (X) 1 ( ) 2 ( ) 3</p> <p><b>Estimated Trail Length in Miles:</b> 3.30 1 hour 58 minute walk</p> <p><b>Coordinates:</b> From: 33.232540, -117.145150 To: 33.168753, -117.091874</p>	<p><b>Connections: Trail Name (Trail #)</b> Deer Springs Staging Area Mountain Meadows Road South Pathway (2) Jesmond Dene Road Pathway (5) Champagne Trail (9) Champagne Staging Area Bonsall/Old Highway 395 Pathway (4)</p>	<p><b>Trail Priority Criteria:</b> Connectivity Loop Setting</p> <p><b>Special Features:</b> Welk Village and Bonsall trail connections. Existing bike path.</p>

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<p><b>Trail #:</b> 8</p>	<p><b>Name:</b> Faircrest Loop Trail</p> <p><b>Trail Status:</b> ( ) Existing (X) Proposed</p> <p><b>Trail Type:</b> (X) Trail ( ) Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Priority:</b> (X) 1 ( ) 2 ( ) 3</p> <p><b>Estimated Trail Length in Miles:</b> 0.71 12 minute walk</p> <p><b>Coordinates:</b> From: 33.224463, -117.093530</p>	<p><b>Connections: Trail Name (Trail #)</b> Sempra Trail (6)</p>	<p><b>Trail Priority Criteria:</b> Connectivity Loop Setting</p> <p><b>Special Features:</b> Proposed Faircrest Park. Two beautiful overlook points. Untouched chaparral.</p>
<p><b>Trail #:</b> 9</p>	<p><b>Name:</b> Champagne Trail</p> <p><b>Trail Status:</b> ( ) Existing (X) Proposed</p> <p><b>Trail Type:</b> (X) Trail ( ) Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Priority:</b> (X) 1 ( ) 2 ( ) 3</p> <p><b>Estimated Trail Length in Miles:</b> 1.50 40 minute walk</p> <p><b>Coordinates:</b> From: 33.215590, -117.110490 To: 33.219282, -117.139528</p>	<p><b>Connections: Trail Name (Trail #)</b> Welk Pathway (7) Meadow Glen West Pathway (9A)</p>	<p><b>Trail Priority Criteria:</b> Connectivity Loop Setting</p> <p><b>Special Features:</b> Beautiful views of stream and chaparral.</p>
<p><b>Trail #:</b> 9A</p>	<p><b>Name:</b> Champagne Trail Meadow Glen West Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Status:</b> ( ) Existing (X) Proposed</p> <p><b>Trail Type:</b> ( ) Trail (X) Pathway</p> <p><b>Trail Priority:</b> (X) 1 ( ) 2 ( ) 3</p> <p><b>Estimated Trail Length in Miles:</b> 0.50 40 minute walk</p> <p><b>Coordinates:</b> From: 33.215590, -117.110490 To: 33.219282, -117.139528</p>	<p><b>Connections: Trail Name (Trail #)</b> Champagne Trail (9) Mountain Meadows Road North Pathway (1) Meadows Staging Area</p>	<p><b>Trail Priority Criteria:</b> Connectivity Loop Setting</p> <p><b>Special Features:</b> Beautiful views of stream and chaparral.</p>

## STAGING AREAS

- Deer Springs, I-15 and Deer Springs Road
- Meadows, Mountain Meadows Road and Meadow Glen Road
- Champagne, Champagne Boulevard and South Fork Moosa Canyon River
- Cougar Pass, Cougar Pass Road and Escondido's Daley Ranch-Cougar Ridge Trail