



Trails and Bikeway System

The County of Riverside contains bicycle, pedestrian, and multi-purpose trails that traverse urban, rural, and natural areas. These trails accommodate hikers, bicyclists, equestrian users, and others as an integral part of the County's circulation system. These multi-use trails serve both as a means of connecting the unique communities and activity centers throughout the County and as an effective alternate mode of transportation. In addition to transportation, the trail system also serves as a community amenity by providing recreation and leisure opportunities as well as identifiable separations between communities. The Area Plan trail system can be found in Figure 6, Trails and Bikeway System.

Policies:

- LMWAP 7.1 Develop a system of local trails that enhances recreational opportunities in the Lake Mathews/Woodcrest area and connects with the Riverside County regional trails system.
- LMWAP 7.2 Implement the Trails and Bikeway System, Figure 6, as discussed in the General Plan Circulation Element.

Scenic Highways

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The purpose of the California Scenic Highways program, which was established in 1963, is to "Preserve and protect scenic highway corridors from change which would diminish the aesthetic value of lands adjacent to highways."

The Scenic Highways program adds to the pleasure of the traveling public. The fact is, most of us experience the remarkable environmental setting of Riverside County through the windows of an automobile. Moreover, scenic highways play an important role in encouraging the growth of recreation and tourism—both important aspects of the Lake Mathews/Woodcrest economy. Scenic Highway designations recognize this value and place restrictions on adjacent development to help protect scenic resources for future generations.

The Lake Mathews/Woodcrest area contains a number of County-Eligible Scenic Highways, including Mockingbird Canyon Road, La Sierra Avenue, El Sobrante Road, and Cajalco Road. With the presence of dramatic and defining natural features such as the Lake Mathews Reservoir and the Estelle Mountain Reserve, it is important to maintain the quality of views along those scenic corridors. Figure 7, Scenic Highways, details the location of County-Eligible Scenic Highways in Lake Mathews/Woodcrest.

Policies:



- LMWAP 8.1 Protect scenic highways from change that would diminish the aesthetic value of adjacent properties in accordance with policies in the Scenic Corridors sections of the Land Use, Multipurpose Open Space, and Circulation Elements.
- LMWAP 8.2 Preserve and protect outstanding scenic vistas and visual features such as Gavilan Peak and Steele Peak.
- LMWAP 8.3 Apply County-Eligible Scenic Highway standards to Van Buren Boulevard, Washington Avenue and Trautwein Road.



LMWAP 8.4 Avoid strip commercial uses along Eligible Scenic Highways.

Van Buren Boulevard



Commercial uses along Van Buren Boulevard

The Van Buren Boulevard corridor is a popular route for commuters traveling between Interstate 215 and SR-91. The combination of several adjacent commercial and residential uses along with high travel speeds has resulted in unsafe driving conditions, including several accidents.

Policies:

LMWAP 9.1 Improve traffic safety on Van Buren Boulevard by restricting future direct access and intersections or by requiring frontage roads. Road crossings shall generally be at ½-mile intervals.

Community and Environmental Transportation Acceptability Process (CETAP) Corridors

The population and employment of Riverside County are expected to significantly increase over the next twenty years. The Community and Environmental Transportation Acceptability Process (CETAP) was established to evaluate the need and the opportunities for the development of new or expanded transportation corridors in western Riverside County to accommodate the increased growth and preserve quality of life. These transportation corridors include a range of transportation options such as highways or transit, and are developed with careful consideration for potential impacts to habitat requirements, land use plans, and public infrastructure. CETAP has identified three priority corridors for the movement of people and goods:

Banning/Beaumont to Temecula, Hemet to Corona/Lake Elsinore, and Moreno Valley to San Bernardino County.

The Hemet to Corona/Lake Elsinore CETAP Corridor passes through the Lake Mathews/Woodcrest Area Plan along Cajalco Road east of Lake Mathews and El Sobrante Road north of the lake, then rejoins Cajalco Road west of the lake. These corridors could accommodate a number of transportation options, including vehicular traffic and High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes, and are conceptually depicted on Figure 5.

Policies:



LMWAP 10.1 Accommodate the Hemet to Corona/Lake Elsinore CETAP Corridor in accordance with the Scenic Corridors and Local Agency Coordination sections of the General Plan Circulation Element.