

Newberry Community Service District

Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program (RTCA)

10/1/24 Meeting Notes:

Project Summary:

The Newberry Community Service District (NCSD) is working to upgrade their parkland to meet community needs for mobility, exercise, and recreation. This includes urban greening and low impact development strategies as well as interpretive pathways that promote the surrounding public lands including the Newberry & Rodman Mountain Wilderness and the nearby Mojave Trails National Monument.

An upgrade to the NCSD parkland will improve air quality and water retention in the area and make the park more accessible. The renovation will also include features that promote environmental awareness, physical activity, reduce chronic diseases, improve mental health, and foster community connections. These improvements will benefit the local residents as well as visitors to the Mojave Desert region.

Working with Carlos Flores, our project lead from the National Park Service RTCA Technical Assistance Program, we will develop a concept and implementation plan for the parkland improvements. Community partners include the Newberry Springs Chamber of Commerce, Main Street Murals, Inc., Newberry Springs Economic Development Association and Foundations for Future Generations.

Mission Statement:

- To enhance existing parkland for residents and visitors through infrastructure improvements and recreation/education activities.

Vision Statement:

- A vibrant sustainable parkland that enhances the quality of life for residents and visitors, promotes environmental awareness and fosters community.

Notes from 10/1/24 Meeting:

Present: Carlos Flores (NPS), Mike Matson (CSD), Margie Roberts (CSD, Rose Beardshear, Jane Brockhurst (MSM), Gwen Patrick (FFG), and Pastor Charles (NSEDA).

We need to develop a strategy to complete the following goals for the project:

1. Stakeholder Analysis
2. Stakeholder Outreach and Engagement
3. Concept Plan for Parkland
4. Implementation Strategy
5. Funding Strategies

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10/1/24 Meeting Notes:

February 6, 2025 (in person) Time?? at the CSD building. This is a community kick-off meeting and design workshop. We will have a 1-hour site walk, a 1-hour presentation and spend 1 hour capturing ideas.

Carlos mentioned that one of his projects is in Bakersfield. Below is their website. He said that they are a good model to follow. They have developed a logo and stickers and are building support through a petition.

[Kern Gateway Trail](#)

The team likes Newberry Springs Community Parkland as a project name. Mike had ideas for a sticker.