

Ask the Chief Town Hall

Bear Valley Springs Talking Points



Opening

Good evening, everyone. Thank you for being here. One of my priorities as your Chief of Police & for the department is maintaining an open dialogue with our community. Tonight is about listening as much as speaking. I want to answer your questions, provide updates on the work your Police Department is doing, and discuss the challenges we face together. Bear Valley Springs is a unique community, and keeping it safe requires a partnership between residents, volunteers, the Community Services District, BVSA, and your Police Department. I appreciate your willingness to participate in that partnership tonight.

State of the Police Department

- Current staffing levels.
- Operational hours
- Recent additions to the department.
- Ongoing officer training and professional development.
- Continued focus on community policing.
- Current budget

Crime in Bear Valley Springs

- Scam awareness and fraud prevention.
- Importance of reporting suspicious activity promptly. (See something, Say something!)
- Encourage use of Nixle notifications.
- Calls for Service. Non-Emergency 661-821-3110, Emergency 911!
- On-line reporting (CSD webpage)
- Barking Dogs

Traffic Safety

- Traffic safety remains the department's top priority.
- Update on efforts to regain California Vehicle Code enforcement authority. (Sept 1)
- Explain the process with Kern County.
- BVCSA approval of administrative ordinance for traffic enforcement.
- Discuss recent speed studies and reduced speed limits.
- Importance of voluntary compliance while awaiting enforcement authority.
- Traffic complaints and data driven enforcement once authority is restored.
- Enforcement outside the gate. (Managers Minutes)
- Radar signs.
- Equestrian Crossings

Flock Safety Camera Program

- Purpose of the cameras.
- Crimes solved with license plate reader technology nationwide.
- Data retention and privacy protection.
- Recent vandalism of the cameras.
- Placement of the cameras.
- Replacement and future security measures.
- Address common misconceptions about facial recognition and data sharing.

Emergency Preparedness

- Wildfire evacuation planning.
- Importance of emergency radios.
- Nixle alerts and emergency notifications.
- Coordination with Kern County agencies.
- Community preparedness.
- Handheld radios (BVERT)
- Genasys Protect, Nixle, Watch duty, ReadyKern, Pulsepoint, etc. (Know your evacuation zones)

Community Partnerships

- Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS).
- Police Foundation support.
- Neighborhood involvement.
- National Night Out.
- Community education programs. (Scam Awareness Classes, Situational Awareness, etc.)
- Coffee with a Bear (monthly)

E Bikes, Golf Carts, and Off Highway Vehicles

- Current laws and regulations.
- Safe operation.
- Parental responsibility.
- Courtesy around pedestrians, equestrians, and wildlife.

Wildlife and Public Safety

- Increase in wildlife activity.
- Reporting injured animals.
- Driving safely during dawn and dusk.
- Coexisting with bears, deer, and elk.

Future Goals

- Restore full traffic enforcement.
- Reduce speeding related collisions.
- Continue building trust through transparency.
- Improve emergency preparedness.
- Expand community outreach.
- Maintain a highly trained police department.

Thank you to all residents who care deeply about our community and take the time to share their concerns and ideas. We encourage respectful dialogue, even when opinions differ, because public safety is a shared responsibility. We welcome continued feedback by phone, email, or in person. The Bear Valley Police Department remains committed to professionalism, accountability, and dedicated service to our community.



One of my responsibilities as your Chief, and a fundamental responsibility of every law enforcement officer is the prevention of crime. Certainly, we track down, arrest, and hold accountable those who commit crimes in our community. But preventing crime before it occurs is simply smart business.

Bear Valley continues to maintain one of the lowest crime rates in the County. This message is not prompted by an increase in crime. In fact, recent statistics show our crime rates remain stable. However, statistics do not lessen the impact on those who become victims. Property crimes, thefts, etc, can leave residents feeling violated and frustrated, regardless of how low overall crime numbers may be. Even one victim is one too many, and we can always strive to do better.

I would like to take a moment to mention a few practical crime prevention tips to help protect your home, your vehicles, and your neighborhood.

Options for Protecting Your Home

Thieves are opportunists. They look for easy targets and typically bypass homes that appear well-secured.

Always lock your doors. Lock your house, garage, and sheds. Make it a consistent habit.

Lock your windows. Unlocked, low-level windows are a preferred entry point second only to weak doors.

Do not leave garage door openers in plain view inside vehicles.

Consider installing a camera system. Modern systems are affordable, easy to install, and often allow viewing from your smartphone. When used alongside an alarm system, they are extremely effective deterrents and investigative tools.

Things to Protect Your Vehicle

Remove valuables from plain view. If you would not leave it on a public bench, do not leave it visible in your vehicle.

Secure loose change. Instead of leaving coins in open cup holders or ashtrays, consider storing them in a small container out of sight.

Do not leave personal identification inside your vehicle, including your driver's license or mail.

Always lock your vehicle. Many petty thieves look only for unlocked cars and will move on if doors are locked. We have recently experienced a small rash of these types of thieves and are actively addressing them.

Help Protect Your Neighborhood

Know your neighbors. A connected neighborhood is a safer neighborhood. Work together and maintain awareness.

Report suspicious activity immediately. If something feels out of place, trust your instincts. Do not hesitate to call. We would much rather respond to a false alarm than miss an opportunity to prevent a crime.

Pay attention to unusual activities. Be mindful of unfamiliar vehicles or suspicious behavior. There is no shame in being observant when it comes to community safety.

Protecting Yourself from Scams

Scammers frequently use telephone calls, text messages, emails, social media, and online marketplaces to target victims. They may impersonate law enforcement officers, government agencies, financial institutions, utility companies, or family members. Never provide personal information, account numbers, passwords, verification codes, or payment to an unsolicited caller. Legitimate agencies will not demand immediate payment through gift cards, cryptocurrency, wire transfers, or payment applications. If you receive a suspicious request, stop communicating, independently verify the information, and contact the Police Department before sending money.

We Offer Community Services

Vacation Patrol Check Program

If you are planning a vacation, stop by the Police Department and sign up for our Vacation Patrol Check Program. Forms are available at the front counter. These confidential checks allow us to monitor your home while you are away.

Stay safe,

Chief Dain Hurst

Bear Valley Police Department



STAFF REPORT
JUNE 2026 PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT



Meeting Date: July 23, 2026

Prepared By: Dain Hurst – Chief of Police

Agenda Title: June 2026 Public Safety Staff Report

The Bear Valley Police Department provides year-round public safety services focused on emergency response, crime prevention, and community support. For 2026, officers will continue to meet a wide range of service demands while working to maintain low crime levels and strong response times.

- ✓ *Consistent call volume reflects an ongoing need for local, on-duty police services.*
- ✓ *Visible patrols and proactive efforts helps keep crime low.*
- ✓ *A sizable portion of police work involves community care and problem-solving, not just enforcement.*
- ✓ *Low crime levels are supported by consistent police presence and timely response.*
- ✓ *Officers respond when necessary and exercise discretion whenever appropriate.*

Working Together for a Safe Community

The Bear Valley Police Department remains committed to protecting residents, supporting visitors, and maintaining the quality of life that makes Bear Valley unique.

Community:

Join us in building a safer, stronger Bear Valley. Meet your local Public Safety Personnel.

National Night Out

Tuesday, August 4th

5:00 -8:00 PM

Cub Lake

****Families are encouraged to attend****

Stay Informed During Emergencies

Bear Valley residents are encouraged to obtain a handheld emergency radio through the Bear Valley Emergency Radio Team (BVERT). If an emergency disrupts power, internet, cellular service, or other normal communications, these radios provide a reliable way to receive real time emergency information and community updates as they are transmitted.

Emergency radios are available for purchase on the **third Saturday of each month** at the **Bear Valley Equestrian Center** during the following times:

- **9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.**
- **3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

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Being prepared before an emergency occurs helps keep you and your family informed when it matters most.

Noteworthy Reminders & Updates:

On-Line reporting option is now available on the CSD website. Go to the CSD website, "Click" on Police Department & scroll down to File a Crime Report Online, then follow the prompts. This option allows you to quickly and securely submit non-emergency reports at your convenience.

Community Safety & Situational Awareness Reminder – Bear Valley Springs:

*We ask everyone to visit the BVCSD Web Page and sign up for **Nixle Alerts**. "When emergencies happen, information saves lives. Nixle Alerts provides real time notifications directly from public safety officials about wildfires, evacuations, road closures, severe weather, and other critical incidents. Signing up is free, takes only a few minutes, and helps ensure you and your family receive important information when it matters most. Don't wait until an emergency occurs. Sign up today and stay informed." Nixle delivers critical information directly to your phone, email, or computer when seconds matter".*

Bear Valley Springs is a private, gated community, it is important to remember that we are not immune to criminal activity. Residents are encouraged to remain alert, be aware of their surroundings, and mindful of overall personal and property safety.

Please take proactive steps to safeguard your home, vehicles, and personal information. Use caution with online interactions, unsolicited communications, and unfamiliar contacts. Simple measures such as locking doors and vehicles, securing valuables, and using exterior lighting (as authorized) can significantly reduce opportunities for crime.

Residents are also reminded to collect mail and packages promptly upon delivery, as unattended items can attract thieves. Any suspicious activity, persons, or vehicles should be reported immediately to law enforcement.

Community vigilance and shared responsibility remain our strongest tools in preventing crime and maintaining a safe environment for everyone in Bear Valley Springs.

Additionally, residents should remain aware of the increasing occurrences of telephone, text message, and online scams targeting communities nationwide. These scams often involve individuals impersonating government agencies, financial institutions, utility providers, or law enforcement officials to obtain personal or financial information or solicit fraudulent payments. These communications frequently create a false sense of urgency or request immediate payment through unconventional methods such as gift cards or electronic transfers. Residents should be advised not to provide personal, financial, or account information in response to

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unsolicited communications and to verify any suspicious requests by contacting the organization directly through official channels.

Bear Valley Wildlife:

With the assistance of our Wildlife Specialist, we will continue to monitor and document all reported wildlife-related incidents.

Residents should always expect deer, elk, and other wildlife to cross roadways unexpectedly particularly during dawn and dusk significantly increasing the risk of vehicle collisions.

Residents are reminded to use extra caution when driving during early morning and evening hours, secure trash, and other wildlife attractants, and immediately report any unusual or aggressive wildlife behavior to the department.

Staffing and Operations

Our department is continuing to actively recruit additional officers, with two undergoing a background investigation.

We would also like to welcome Officer Nathan Madrigal to the Bear Valley Police Department. Officer Madrigal is an eight-year law enforcement veteran who joins us from the Bakersfield Police Department. He brings a wealth of experience in traffic safety, traffic enforcement, and collision investigation. We are excited to have Officer Madrigal join our team and look forward to the professionalism, knowledge, and dedication he will bring to serving the Bear Valley community.

Steps being taken to mitigate staffing impacts include:

- Leveraging Volunteers in Policing (VIPs) for non-enforcement functions.
- Reassigning administrative staff to support field operations when feasible.
- Continued Recruitment efforts with a \$10,000 signing bonus for full-time officers and \$5000 for part-time officer.
- Reserve Officer Program (1) Line Level 1 Reserve.
- Continued advertisement with California Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST), social media, and local newspapers.

"A well-supported and properly funded police department operates with stability, retains experienced officers, and attracts qualified lateral officers. This consistency strengthens the department's ability to serve our community effectively."

Until staffing stabilizes, BVPD will continue to prioritize based on urgency, call volume, and time of occurrence.

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Activity, crime and arrests:

General department activity:

Category	May	June
Calls for Service	131	108
Avg. Response Time (min/sec)	3:36	9:46
Officer-Initiated Investigations	14	6
Information Reports	17	10
Traffic Stops	3	10
Traffic Citations	1	7
Warnings Given	1	3
Administrative Citations	0	0
Gate Incidents	0	0
Patrol Checks	25	20
Senior Wellness Checks (Admin Check)	68	64
Check the Welfare	20	20
Ambulance Calls	13	13

Reported Crime Occurrences

Category	May	June
Mail Thefts	0	0
Thefts (other than Mail)	1	1
Fraud/Scam Cases	1	1
Domestic Violence Incidents	1	1
Other Misdemeanors	3	3
Burglaries	1	0
Other Felonies	1	3
Non-Criminal Reports	15	7
Citizen Reports	2	0
Total Cases Generated	38	16

Additional notes:

Traffic Collisions	May	June
	2	3
Animal Incidents	3	3

Administrative Citations: 0

Gate Incidents: 0

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Category	May	June
Misdemeanor Arrest	0	0
Felony Arrest	1	1
Total Arrest	1	1

Key Takeaways & Recommendations:

1. Service expectations.
2. Staffing levels.
3. Operational Priorities.
4. Crime trends and analysis.

Police ORI	CA0151500
Create Date.Calendar	June 2026
Canceled	No

Row Labels	Call Count	Dispatch to Arrival - By Agency
460A - AUDIBLE ALARM	1	6,747
901A - AMBULANCE REQUEST	7	489
930 - SEE THE SUBJECT	14	281
C6 -CODE 6	10	36
CTW - CHECK THE WELFARE	8	540
CVC - CA VEH CODE VIOLATION	7	442
PATCK - PATROL CHECK	20	252
AOD - ASSIST OTHER DEPARTMENT	2	295
TRAFHAZ - TRAFFIC HAZARD	4	261
KTP - KEEP THE PEACE	1	1,104
SUSINV - SUSPICIOUS INVESTIGATION	1	450
415V - PEACE DISTURBANCE VERBAL	1	865
ATC - ATTEMPT TO CONTACT	1	565
415I - PEACE DISTURBANCE INV	3	687
487I - GRAND THEFT INV	1	0
530.5I - IDENTITY THEFT INVESTIGATION	1	2,502
901T - ACCIDENT W/INJURIES	1	4
905N - BARKING DOG	3	147
MISSING PERSON	1	810
SUSVEH - SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	1	768
240I - ASSAULT INV	1	361
242 - BATTERY	2	1,222
242I - BATTERY INV	1	0
273A - CHILD ENDANGERMENT	1	1,195
503I - EMBEZZLEMENT INV	1	0
597 - CRUELTY TO ANIMALS	1	375

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653MI - ANNOYING PHONE CALLS INVESTIGATION	1	1,149
901H - DEAD BODY	1	461
902TI - ACCIDENT W/NO INJURIES INV	1	4,873
GTAI - THEFT MOTOR VEH INV	1	3,928
MSGPERI - MISSING PERSON INVESTIGATION	1	1,364
PROBATION EVENT	2	1,147
SUPPINV - SUPPLEMENTAL INV	5	982
SUSCIR - SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE	1	888
Grand Total	108	35,190

YEAR-TO-DATE
ACTIVITY AND CRIME STATISTICS
2026

GENERAL ACTIVITY	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	YTD TOTAL
Calls for Service	119	99	82	122	131	108							661
Avg. Response Time (min/sec)	5:14	6:45	10:33	3:36	4:10	9:46							
Officer-Initiated Inv.	5	4	10	4	14	6							43
Traffic Stops	2	0	0	2	17	10							31
Traffic Citations	0	0	0	0	1	7							8
Patrol Checks	16	11	12	30	25	20							114
Senior Wellness Check	94	49	48	53	68	64							376
Case Numbers Generated	19	20	15	25	38	16							133

CRIME OCCURANCES	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	YTD TOTAL
Mail Thefts	3	0	0	0	0	0							3
Thefts (other than mail)	1	5	2	2	1	1							12
Dom. Violence Incidents	1	1	1	1	1	1							6
Other Misdemeanors	2	2	4	4	3	3							18
Burglaries	0	0	0	0	1	0							1
Other Felonies	1	0	0	3	1	3							8
Non-criminal reports	5	5	8	12	15	7							52
Animal Incidents	0	0	0	1	5	0							3
Traffic Collisions	1	1	1	1	2	3							9
Ambulance Calls	12	8	13	17	13	7							17

ARRESTS	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	YTD TOTAL
Misdemeanor Arrests	2	0	0	0	0	0							2
Felony Arrests	1	0	1	0	1	1							4
Total Arrests	3	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	6

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Chief of Police
Dain Hurst

OFFICER JOAQUIN PARRINO
OFFICER JAY STELLA

JOB WELL DONE

At the beginning of 2026, Officer Jay Stella and Joaquin Parrino assumed responsibility for completing the California POST approval process necessary to conduct required Perishable Skills Program (PSP) training in Use of Force and Arrest and Control.

As the BVPD Training Manager and the department's Arrest and Control Instructor, you successfully obtained approval from California POST to instruct these critical skills to department personnel. This accomplishment reflects a significant commitment to professional development, officer safety, and the continued advancement of this department's training standards.

On June 24, 2026, you instructed the first sessions of the Use of Force and Arrest and Control courses for department members. Both courses were presented in a professional, organized, and facilitator-led format consistent with California POST adult-learning principles. The training encouraged class participation, discussion, and practical engagement, which helped reinforce the material and strengthen the learning environment. Additionally, the PowerPoint presentation was well designed, clearly organized, and contributed to the overall effectiveness of the instruction.

Your efforts in bringing this training in-house provide a substantial benefit to the department. By conducting the training locally, the district can reduce costs associated with travel, lodging, and outside training providers, while also minimizing scheduling conflicts for department personnel. More importantly, this training ensures that our officers receive consistent, high-quality instruction in critical areas directly related to officer safety, lawful enforcement practices, and service to the community.

In addition to providing required training for officers within this department, POST approval allows the courses to be listed in the California POST Course Catalog and offered to personnel from outside agencies on scheduled training dates. This not only enhances the department's

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credibility as a professional training resource but also reflects positively on BVPD's commitment to maintaining high standards and contributing to the broader law enforcement community.

Your dedication, initiative, and professionalism in obtaining POST approval and delivering this training represents an asset to the department, the district, and the community we serve.

Respectfully,

Sgt. J. Rivera
Bear Valley Police Department

**For Immediate Release
Bear Valley Police Department
25101 Bear Valley Road
(661) 821-3239**



**Bear Valley Police to Begin Enforcement of Rules Restricting Use of Golf Carts and
Unregistered Motor Vehicles on Roads**

JULY 27, 2026 - The Bear Valley Police Department is preparing to begin enforcing District Code that prohibits golf carts and other unregistered motor vehicles on roads within Bear Valley Springs.

In the summer months, Bear Valley Springs typically sees a significant increase in the use of golf carts and similar unregistered vehicles on BVS roads. However, this practice is unsafe. These vehicles generally lack basic safety equipment such as seatbelts, lights, and signals. Roads in Bear Valley Springs are not designed for golf carts, and the speed limits are higher than what you would typically see in a golf-cart-friendly community.

Based on those reasons, golf carts and other low-speed vehicles (except farm equipment) are not allowed on roads in Bear Valley Springs. District Code 4-1-11-A states, "No person shall operate a sled, skateboard, **unregistered motor vehicle**, or unregistered motorcycle on district roads."

District Code 4-1-7-A states that the Bear Valley Police Department has the authority to "Enforce the traffic and road regulations of the district and the state vehicle laws **applicable to road traffic in the district**". District Code grants the Police Department the power to issue Administrative Citations with **finest up to \$1,000**.

Starting July 1, 2026, Bear Valley Police Officers began issuing warnings to people driving golf carts or other unregistered motor vehicles in violation of District Code.

Starting August 1, 2026, after a one-month warning period, those found in violation of the District Code will receive an Administrative Citation.

This enforcement comes as the Bear Valley Community Services District and Bear Valley Police Department continue working to make our roads safe, while preparing to resume enforcing the California Vehicle Code.

In late 2025, the Bear Valley Police Department was forced to stop enforcing the California Vehicle Code after questions were raised about Bear Valley's legal road classification. Since then, the CSD has been working closely with Kern County to resolve the matter and anticipates resuming full Vehicle Code enforcement on October 1, 2026.

We thank you for your understanding and cooperation as we take steps to make our roads safer for all members of our community.

Dain Hurst
Chief of Police
Bear Valley Police Department



Golf Cart & Low-Speed Vehicle Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the difference between a Golf Cart and a Low-Speed Vehicle (LSV) or Neighborhood Electric Vehicle (NEV)?

Golf carts have a maximum speed of 15 mph, a two-passenger limit, and a legal weight limit of 1,300 lbs. If required by local ordinance, all drivers must have a valid driver's license and insurance. If a golf cart has been modified to go faster than 15 mph or can seat more than two passengers, it is no longer a golf cart and is an LSV or NEV.

LSVs and NEVs have a maximum speed of 25 mph, a legal weight limit of 3,000 pounds, must meet Federal Safety equipment (seatbelts, lights, signals, etc.) and California emissions requirements, be registered with the DMV, and drivers must have a valid driver's license and insurance. Children under 8 years old must be in approved car seats or booster seats and sit in the back seat of the vehicle.

Golf Cart



- Maximum Speed of 15 mph
- Two-passenger limit
- 1300 lbs. legal weight limit
- Minimal safety equipment (lights, seatbelts, etc.)
- Not insured
- No VIN or license plate

Low Speed Vehicle (LSV)



- Maximum speed of 25 mph
- 3000 lbs. legal weight limit
- Requires federal safety equipment (lights, seatbelts, etc.)
- Must meet CA emission requirements
- Must be registered and insured
- Requires VIN and license plate
- Driver must have a license

2. If the California Vehicle Code (CVC) allows golf carts on roads with speeds up to 25 mph and LSVs and NEVs on roads with speeds up to 35 mph, why can't we drive on District roads with those speed limits?



Based on the recent engineering and traffic survey, only two District roads have been designated with a maximum speed of 25 mph – Pinedale Drive and Jamaica Dunes Drive. The CVC also restricts the distance a golf cart may be driven to within one mile of the golf course, if allowed by local ordinance.

3. Why are all District roads not designated as residential with 25 mph speed limits?

According to CVC section 515, a residential district is a section of road that, within a quarter of a mile, has at least 13 contiguous properties with dwelling units or business structures on one side or 16 contiguous properties on both sides of the road. Since many District roads have empty lots within quarter-mile segments, this lowers the density and prevents BVS roads from being classified as residential.

District roads that do not qualify as residential because of low density are instead classified as rural. The prima facie (default) speed on District roads is 35 mph, which is above the golf cart speed limit. To set speed limits other than the default, the District conducts an engineering and traffic survey every seven years. The most recent survey was conducted earlier this year, and new speed limits were adopted on some roads as a result. However, not all District roads were included in the current and past studies due to cost.

4. BVS is a golf cart community, so why can't we drive golf carts on the roads?

BVS is **not** a designated golf cart community. Per the Streets and Highways Code sections 1950-1961, in order to be designated as a golf cart community, Kern County would have to develop a specific golf cart transportation plan for BVS, and the Board of Supervisors would have to approve it by resolution or ordinance. **The District does not have the legal authority to designate BVS as a golf cart community.**

As part of the transportation plan, **all roads in a designated golf cart community must have speed limits less than 25 mph** as determined by an engineering and traffic survey. The recent survey only identified two roads with 25 mph speed limits.

5. Why can't the District change the District Code to allow golf carts on its roads?

The CVC does allow golf carts on roads with a max speed of 25 mph **if authorized by local ordinance**. The District is in the process of passing an ordinance to allow this. However, several roads have been designated with speed limits exceeding 35 mph, which would not allow for golf cart, LSV, and NEV use regardless of a change in District code.

If the District were to adopt lower speed limits on other roads to allow golf carts, LSVs, and NEVs, it would not be able to enforce the CVC related to speed limits because the lower limits would not comply with the engineering and traffic survey findings.



6. The District can't enforce the CVC because its roads are private, so why doesn't the District allow golf carts or unregistered LSVs and NEVs on its roads?

The District is pursuing approval by the Kern County Board of Supervisors to enforce the CVC on its roads. The Board of Supervisors is scheduled to consider this on September 1, 2026. If approved, **the District will enforce the CVC**, including speed limits. The roads with speed limits more than 35 mph, which have been determined by traffic surveys and engineering studies, exceed the CVC maximum for golf carts, LSVs, and NEVs.

If the County does not approve enforcing the CVC on District roads, the CSD Board could consider adopting lower speed limits on all or some of the roads and, potentially, allow golf carts, LSVs, and NEVs on the roads near the golf course. However, the Police Department would not be able to issue motor vehicle speed violations on District roads and could only issue administrative citations.

7. If the District Code does not allow golf carts, LSVs, and NEVs on its roads, can't they be driven on the side of the road and not in the traffic lane?

District Code section 4-1-2-B states that "No person may operate a motor vehicle upon district-owned property or rights-of-way which are not designated as a road without express written permission of the district."

8. Why did the District decide to begin enforcing the code now when it hasn't before?

The District determined that it was in the best interest of the community to enforce the District Code related to golf carts and unregistered vehicles on its roads for safety reasons and to reduce liability. Allowing these vehicles on District roads is concerning because they can be modified to go faster than 25 mph.

The common misperception is that, because these vehicles travel at a slower speed than a traditional automobile, they are safer. These are still motorized vehicles that travel at speeds that can cause serious injuries in an accident.

- According to the Consumer Product Safety Commission, there were 147,696 golf cart-related injuries between 2008 and 2018.
- The National Electronic Injury Surveillance System reports an estimated 13,000 golf cart-related accidents on roads and streets each year in the US.
- Golf cart-related accidents on roads result in an average of 40% more severe injuries than those that occur on golf courses.
- Accidents involving young passengers often result in traumatic brain injuries.
- Many accidents happen in planned communities and resort areas where the vehicles are more often used as a common mode of transportation.



- Lack of safety features and structural protection can make sharing the road with traditional automobiles a greater risk for golf carts, LSVs, and NEVs.
- Because these vehicles can weigh between 1,300 and 3,000 lbs., a collision with a pedestrian, bicyclist, or equestrian can cause catastrophic injuries.

Bear Valley Police Department

Automated License Plate Readers (ALPRs)

Frequently Asked Questions

Why does the Bear Valley Police Department use Flock Safety cameras?

The Bear Valley Police Department uses Automated License Plate Readers (ALPRs) as an investigative tool to help protect our community. These cameras assist officers in locating vehicles associated with reported crimes, stolen vehicles, missing persons, wanted suspects, and other criminal investigations.

The cameras are intended to support investigations. They do not replace officers or serve as the sole basis for enforcement action.

What information do the cameras collect?

The cameras capture:

- License plate numbers.
- Vehicle make, model, and color.
- Vehicle characteristics, such as decals, roof racks, or damage.
- The date, time, and location where the vehicle was observed.

The cameras are designed to identify vehicles, not people.

Do the cameras use facial recognition?

No.

The Flock Safety cameras used by the Bear Valley Police Department do **not** use facial recognition technology and are not designed to identify the occupants of a vehicle.

Are residents being tracked?

No.

The cameras are not used to monitor the daily activities of law abiding residents.

The system is intended to identify vehicles connected to legitimate law enforcement investigations, including:

- Stolen vehicles.
- Wanted persons.
- Missing persons.
- Vehicles associated with criminal investigations.

Does an alert automatically result in a traffic stop or arrest?

No.

A camera alert is only investigative information.

Before taking enforcement action, officers must independently verify the information and evaluate the totality of the circumstances. An alert alone is not sufficient to justify an arrest or citation.

Who has access to the data?

Access is limited to authorized law enforcement personnel.

Use of the system is governed by:

- California law.
- Department policy.
- Audit requirements that record user activity.

Improper use of the system is prohibited.

Why are these cameras important?

Modern criminal investigations often extend beyond city and county boundaries.

ALPR technology helps law enforcement:

- Locate stolen vehicles.
- Identify suspect vehicles involved in crimes.
- Assist in locating missing or endangered persons.
- Generate investigative leads more quickly.
- Share information with partner law enforcement agencies.

Are these cameras controversial?

Yes.

Across the country there is an ongoing discussion regarding privacy, technology, and public safety. The Bear Valley Police Department respects those discussions and supports transparency regarding the tools we use.

The department continually evaluates all technology based on:

- Public safety benefits.
- Legal requirements.
- Fiscal responsibility.
- Community expectations.

Our Commitment

The Bear Valley Police Department is committed to balancing public safety with the privacy rights of our residents.

We will continue to evaluate all public safety technology based on its effectiveness, legality, transparency, and value to the community.

If you have questions regarding the department's use of ALPR technology, we encourage you to contact the Bear Valley Police Department.

Bear Valley Police Department

"Serving Our Community Through Professionalism, Integrity, and Service."



BEAR VALLEY SPRINGS

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS QUICK GUIDE

PREPARING FOR DISASTER

- Know your evacuation routes
- Review refuge point locations
- Prepare emergency supplies for your home
- Prepare emergency go-bag
- Sign up for Nixle*
- Reinforce defensible space around your home
- Review homeowner insurance
- Know what zone you are in**

NOTIFICATION PROCESS

- Emergency activation ordered by emergency agency
- Emergency messages sent via:
 - CSD Nixle
 - CSD Website
 - CSD Social Media Sites
 - KCFD Alert Systems
- Alerts will include information on activated evacuation routes and refuge points

EVACUATIONS AND REFUGE POINTS

- If evacuations are possible, prepare to leave:
 - Grab a go-bag with necessities, including medications
 - Shut off gas to your home
- If evacuations are ordered, leave as quickly as possible
- Keep roads clear for emergency vehicles until evacuations are ordered
- Main Evacuation Route: Bear Valley Road through Main Gate
- Secondary Evacuation Routes***:
 - 29670 Skyline Drive
 - Deertrail Drive

AFTER THE DISASTER

- Don't return home until given clearance by official agencies
- Be aware of safety issues including washed out roads, contaminated water, gas leaks, broken glass, downed power lines, etc.
- Inform local authorities about any health and safety concerns
- Document all damage to your property, including taking pictures
- Check on your neighbors

***To sign up for Nixle, visit bvcsd.org/nixle**

*****Secondary routes are secured with locked gates. When they are activated, alerts will be sent with the combination to the locks.**

****To view your zone, scan Genasys Protect code or visit protect.genasys.com/**



Bear Valley Refuge Points



REFUGE POINTS ARE PLACES WITHIN THE VALLEY THAT CAN PROTECT RESIDENTS UNTIL EVACUATION ORDERS ARE LIFTED AND IT IS SAFE TO RETURN TO YOUR HOME, OR UNTIL EMERGENCY OFFICIALS CAN FACILITATE AN ORDERLY EVACUATION OUTSIDE BEAR VALLEY.

Bear Valley Refuge Points

Clubhouse Parking Lots

- Located on Lower Valley Road Near Rolling Oak Drive
- Parking space on upper-level asphalt for approximately 70 vehicles
- Parking space on upper-level asphalt lot for approximately 160 vehicles

Golf Driving Range

- Located on Lower Valley Road and Rolling Oak Drive
- Parking space on mowed and compacted dirt for approximately 10 vehicles
- Parking space on mowed dirt on the driving range field for approximately 200 vehicles

Ken Beaubien Athletic Field and immediately surrounding areas

- Located at the intersection of Bear Valley Road and Lower Valley Road
- Parking space on compacted dirt for approximately 50 vehicles.
- Parking space on mowed dirt and grass adjacent to the parking lot for approximately 150 vehicles.

Ron Samuels RC Field

- Located next to Jack's Hole, accessed by dirt road from the Transfer Station.
- Parking space on compacted dirt for approximately 30 vehicles

Four Island Lake Parking and Picnic area

- Located on Lower Valley Road at the intersection of Lower Valley Road, Bear Valley Road and Cumberland Road
- Parking space on asphalt for approximately 60 vehicles.

BVS Market and Whiting Center

- Located on Bear Valley Road and Jacaranda Drive
- Parking space on asphalt lot for approximately 60 vehicles.

Mulligan Room, Golf Pro Shop and BVSA Administration Office

- Located on Rolling Oak Drive
- Parking space on asphalt lot for approximately 40 vehicles

Cub Lake

- Located on Bear Valley Road between Lower Valley Road and Cumberland Road
- Parking space on asphalt for approximately 35 vehicles.
- Parking space on mowed and compacted dirt for approximately 150 vehicles.

The Equestrian Center

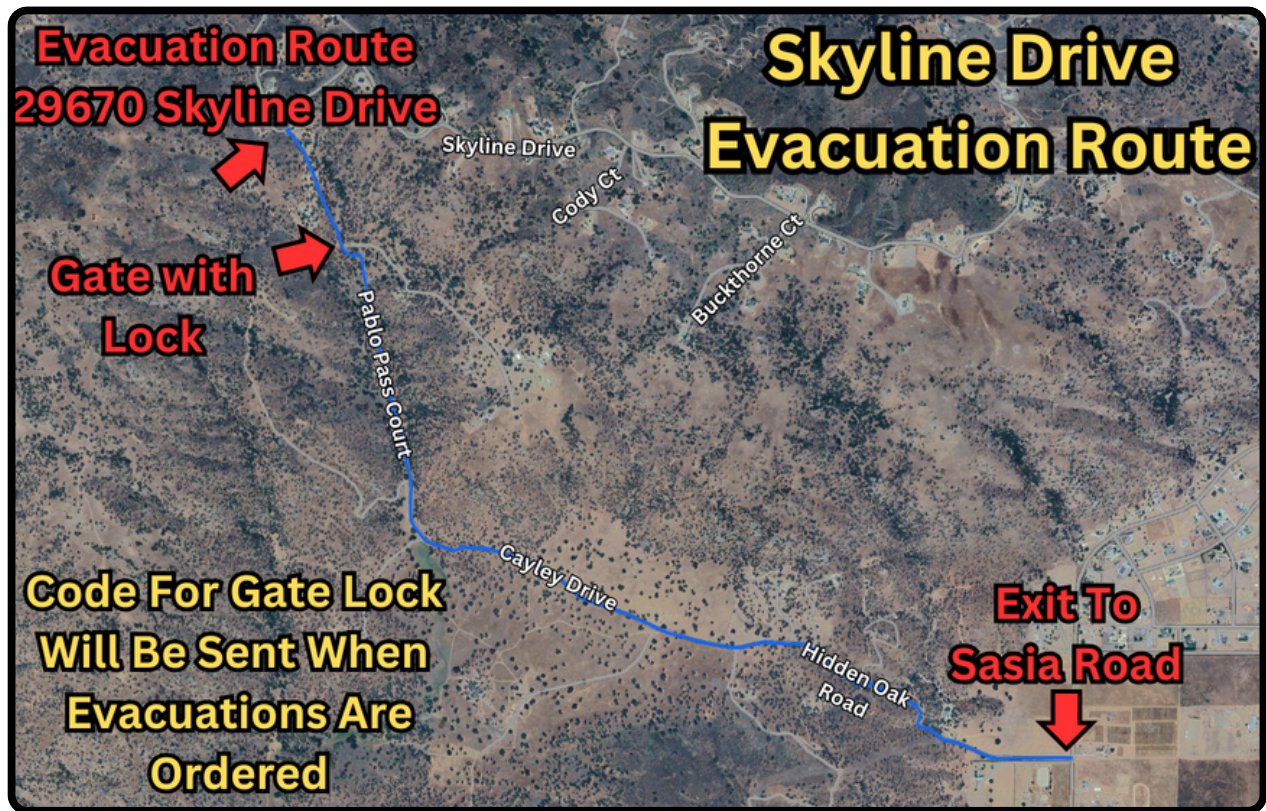
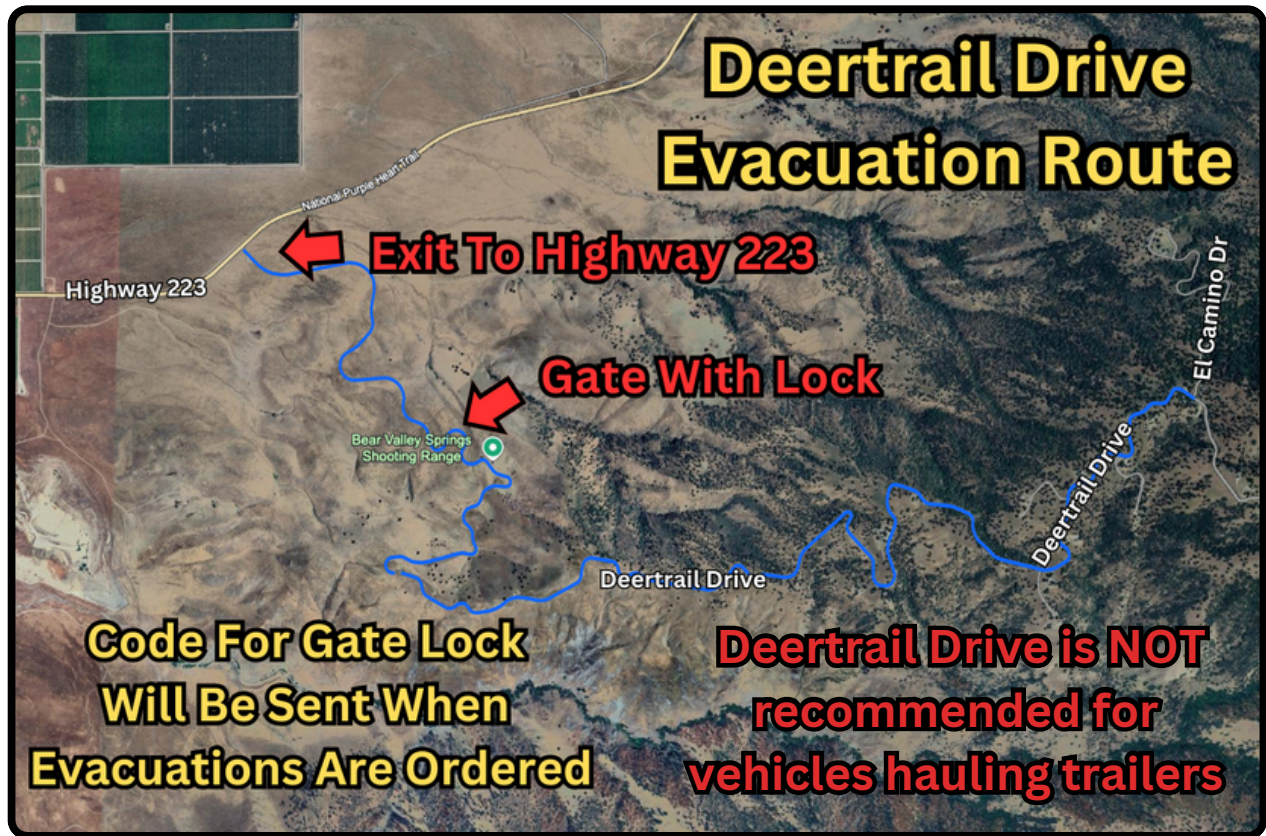
- Located on Bear Valley Road between Rowel Court and Serra Place.
- Parking space on asphalt for approximately 50 vehicles.
- Parking space on mowed and compacted dirt for approximately 150 vehicles.

Transfer Station and BVCSD Offices

- Located on Lower Valley Road at the intersection of Lower Valley Road, Bear Valley Road and Cumberland Road.
- Parking space on asphalt for approximately 50 vehicles.
- Parking space on mowed and compacted dirt for approximately 50 vehicles.



BEAR VALLEY EVACUATION MAPS



Evacuation Routes are secured by gates with combination locks.

When the evacuation routes are activated, alerts with the combination will be sent to the community via Nixle, on BVCSD.org, and CSD Social Media Pages





Stay Informed

Board Meetings



Board meetings
are held the
second and fourth
Thursday of Every
Month at 6:00 PM

Full Schedule:
bvcsd.org/agendas



Emergency Alerts



Sign up for Nixle!
Visit bvcsd.org/Nixle
to receive emergency
alerts via text and
email



Email Updates

Visit BVCSD.org and
click "Sign Up For
Email Updates" to
have information from
the CSD sent straight
to your inbox!



Social Media



nextdoor



LinkedIn





The Bear Valley Springs Emergency Radio Team (BVSERT) is part of the official Bear Valley Springs emergency response system.

During major emergencies, cell phone, internet, and power service can fail—but amateur (ham) radio continues to operate independently, providing a reliable way to communicate.

The Resident Radio Program (RRP) allows Bear Valley Springs residents to receive emergency information directly from the Bear Valley Police Chief or their designated representative. For a \$25 donation, participants receive a pre-programmed, battery-powered radio that is receive-only, FCC-compliant, and can operate for up to 48 hours on a full charge.

The radio is activated only during emergencies, providing timely, Bear Valley Springs-specific updates when other communication systems may be unavailable.

To learn more about the Resident Radio Program, sign up for a radio, or become a licensed amateur radio operator and join BVSERT, visit ac6ee.org.

A MATTER OF SAFETY FOR ALL OF US

Protecting our riders, our walkers, and our drivers — one crossing at a time



The Bear Valley Springs Police Foundation is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit organization (#630994)



THE PROBLEM

Bear Valley Springs is horse country. Our trails, roads, and open spaces are shared by equestrian riders, pedestrians, and drivers every single day. But at many of our crossings, riders and walkers are simply not visible until they are right at the road's edge — leaving drivers with little to no time to react. The result is a dangerous, potentially life-threatening situation that puts everyone at risk.

THE SOLUTION

The Bear Valley Springs Police Foundation is raising funds to purchase manually activated flashing light crossing signs designed specifically for equestrian and pedestrian crossings.

With a simple button press, a rider or pedestrian can activate bright flashing warning lights — alerting approaching drivers well in advance and giving everyone the time they need to stop safely.

PLEASE GIVE TODAY

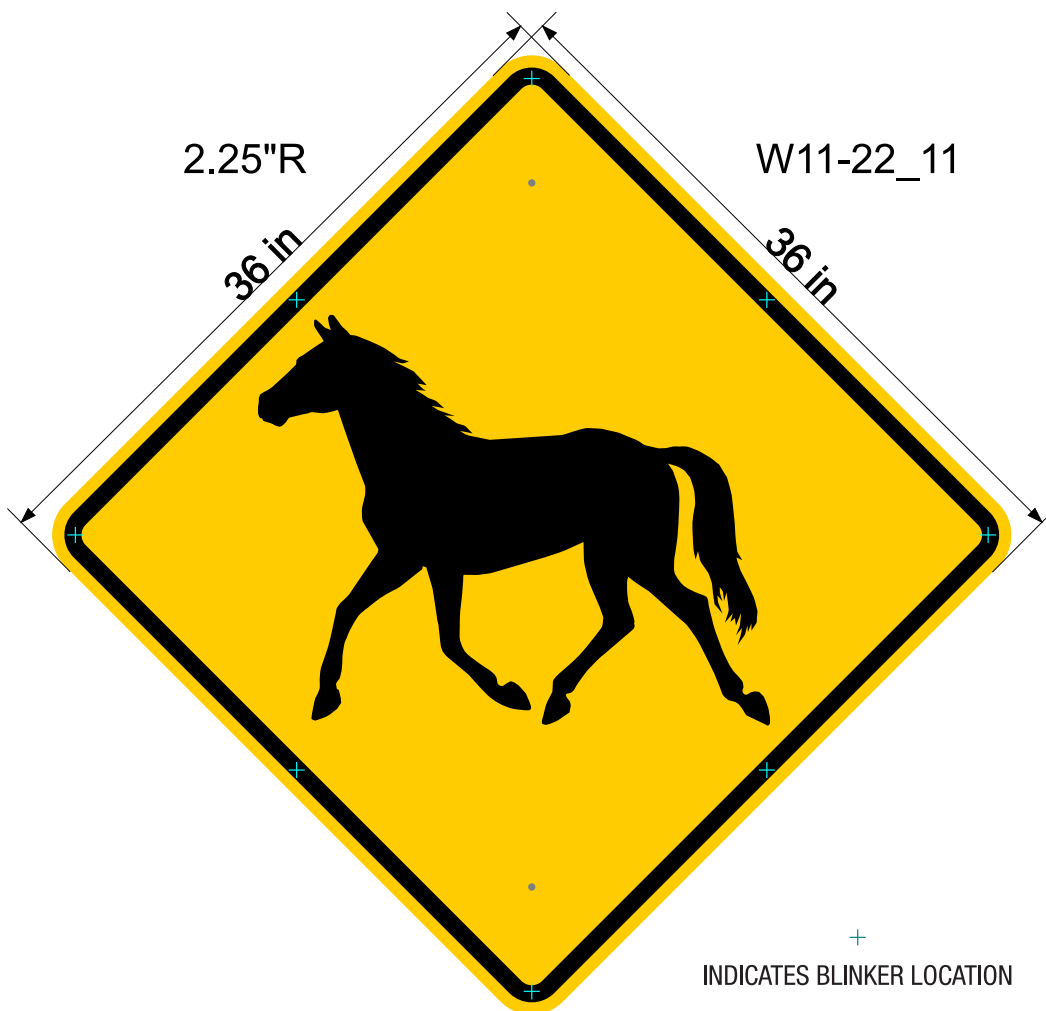
This is about more than signs. It's about making sure every rider, walker, and driver can share our roads without fear.

Mail a check: Bear Valley Springs Police Foundation
25101 Bear Valley Rd
Tehachapi, CA 93561
Or scan the QR Code



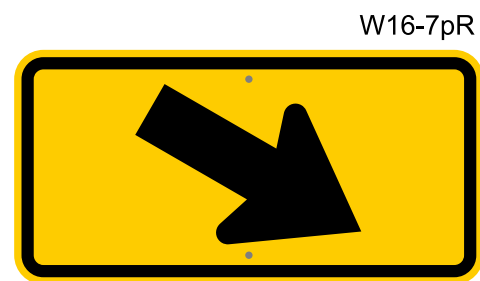
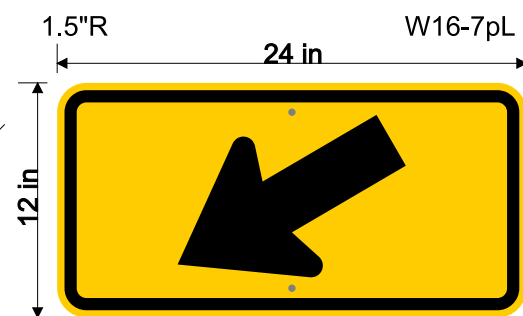
current sign design

version **B**



36" Diamond .080 gauge, 2.25" Rad
w/(2) 3/8" holes 36" apart on center
Sheeting: DG3 Yellow

C1704165



24"x12" .080 gauge, 1.5" Rad
w/(2) 3/8" holes 1.5" in
Sheeting: DG3 Yellow

Customer **Bear Valley Police Department**

Customer # **C122154**

Sales order # **SOQ26006862**

Sales person **Brittany S**

File name **Q26006862** .fs

By checking "Approves for Production" and signing below, customer agrees to purchase sign as it appears on this artwork proof. Once this approval is received by TAPCO production will begin and any changes and/or cancellations will not be possible.

Customer...

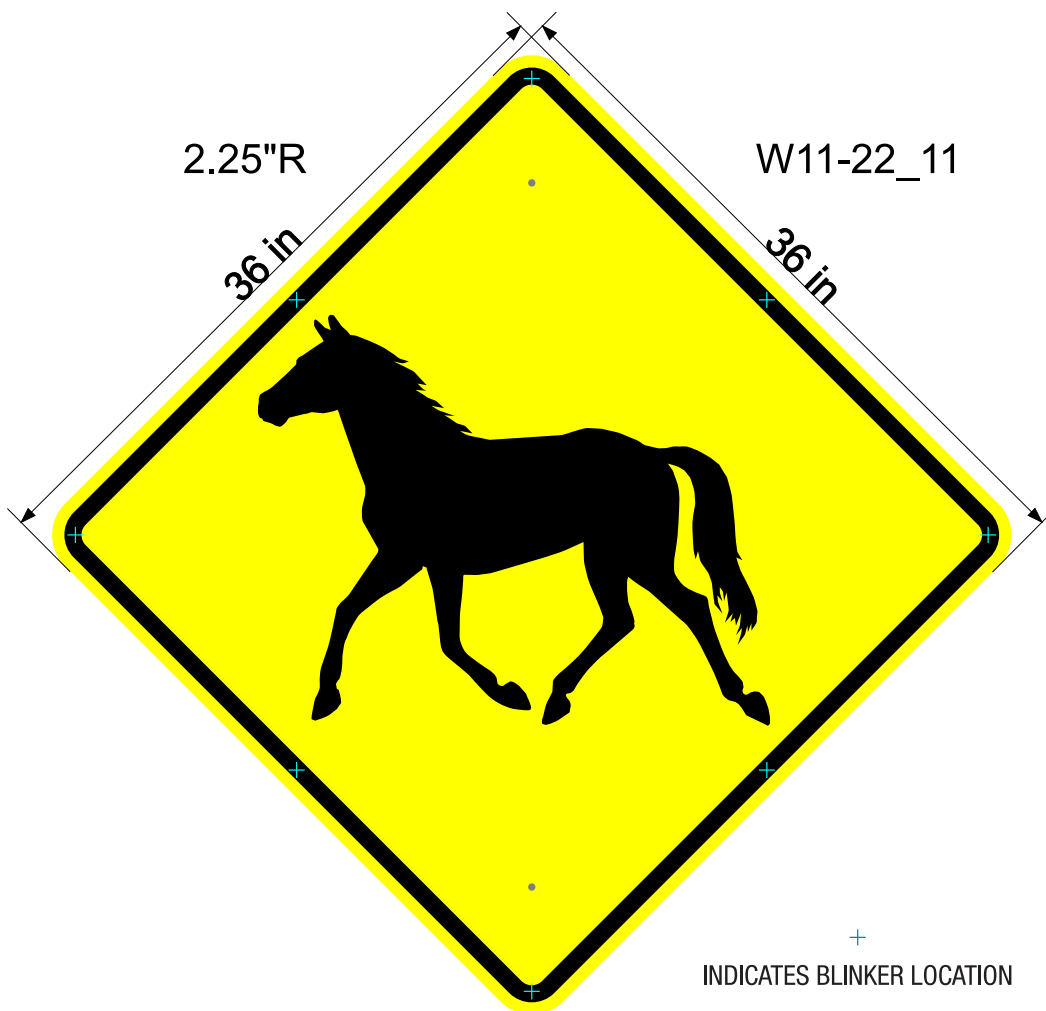
... approves for production ☐

**Signature not required when
scope of work has been signed.**

... requests changes / additions ☐ (please describe below)

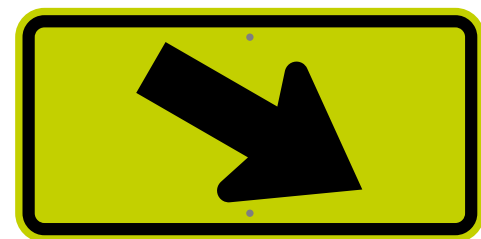
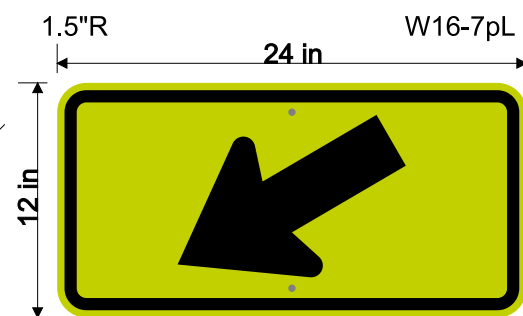
current sign design

version **A**



36" Diamond .080 gauge, 2.25" Rad
w/(2) 3/8" holes 36" apart on center
Sheeting: DG3 Fluor. Yellow

C1704165



24"x12" .080 gauge, 1.5" Rad
w/(2) 3/8" holes 1.5" in
Sheeting: DG3 Fluor. Yellow-green

Customer **Bear Valley Police Department**

Customer # **C122154**

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BUILDING A
SAFER, STRONGER
BEAR VALLEY
TOGETHER!

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2026



An evening of community,
partnerships and preparedness.



TUESDAY
AUGUST 4, 2026



5:00 PM
TO 8:00 PM



CUB LAKE
BEAR VALLEY

★ ★ **FREE FAMILY EVENT!** ★ ★

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

- ★ Meet Your Local Public Safety Personnel
- ★ Police and Emergency Vehicle Displays
- ★ Wildfire Preparedness Information
- ★ Evacuation Route and Emergency Planning Resources
- ★ Emergency Radio Program Information
- ★ Children's Activities and Safety Education
- ★ Community Resource Booths
- ★ Giveaways and Safety Materials



TOGETHER
WE CAN MAKE
BEAR VALLEY
SAFER, STRONGER
& BETTER
PREPARED!

National Night Out strengthens partnerships between residents and public safety professionals while promoting crime prevention, emergency preparedness, and community engagement.

FOOD & REFRESHMENTS



HOT DOGS



COLD DRINKS



ICE CREAM



**WHEN NEIGHBORS
★ KNOW NEIGHBORS, ★
COMMUNITIES
BECOME SAFER.**



**BEAR VALLEY
POLICE DEPARTMENT**



KERN COUNTY



POLICE FOUNDATION



COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT



VIPS
Volunteers in Police Service



FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT THE BVPD:
661-821-3239 | WWW.BVCSD.ORG

