



Friends of the
Desert Mountains

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Media Advisory

Long Canyon Trailhead Opening on December 3

The Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy (CVMC), the Friends of the Desert Mountains (FODM) and the Coachella Valley Conservation Commission (CVCC) are thrilled to announce the grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony for the new trailhead at the base of Long Canyon in the City of Desert Hot Springs.

The event will take place at **9 a.m. on Friday, December 3, 2021** at the trailhead, which is located about one mile north of the intersection of Long Canyon Road and Hacienda Avenue. It will be followed by an inaugural hike led by FODM.

The new trailhead and approximately 1.5-mile trail connect the Coachella Valley to the approximately 9.1-mile Long Canyon Trail Route within Joshua Tree National Park (JTNP). It provides stunning, picturesque views of the preserved desert. From there, the JTNP trail corridor winds through the natural wash and climbs Long Canyon, ending in Yucca Valley.

The longer trail corridor is in a wilderness zone and is not improved but usable by most hikers, becoming increasingly strenuous after a few miles. This new connection in Desert Hot Springs facilitates “in and out” or one way hiking that begins quite easy but becomes moderately difficult and later strenuous, so hikers can decide how far they can or want to hike.

The project was completed in partnership by the CVMC, FODM and City of Desert Hot Springs. It was made possible through the CVMC funds from Propositions 12 and 68 and in-kind contributions from DHS and FODM volunteers. The two parking lots and trailhead lie on land owned by the CVCC.

This event will feature remarks from partner agencies that made the trail possible and conclude with the optional, inaugural hike. Event speakers will include La Quinta Councilmember Kathleen Fitzpatrick, CVMC Board Chair; FODM Executive Director Tammy Martin; Desert Hot Springs Councilmember Gary Gardner; CVCC Executive Director Tom Kirk; and Joshua Tree National Park Superintendent David Smith.

A map showing the trailhead location, trail route and vicinity is attached.

Long Canyon Trailhead – Desert Hot Springs

