



## **ROUTE 66 VETERANS MEMORIAL CORRIDOR PROJECT FAQ**

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### **WHAT IS “THE ROUTE 66 VETERANS MEMORIAL CORRIDOR PROJECT”?**

The “Route 66 Veterans Memorial Corridor” is a multi-year tree planting project honoring veterans along the 400 miles of iconic Rte 66 in San Bernardino County from Upland (on the LA County border) to Needles (on the AZ border). When completed, this project will provide improvement, revitalization, and maintenance of the Route 66 Veterans Memorial Corridor

### **WHY ROUTE 66**

Route 66 is a symbol of American ingenuity, spirit, determination. For millions it represents a treasure chest of memories, a direct link to the days of two-lane highways, family vacations, picnic lunches at roadside tables. During WWII Route 66 became a military conduit, a fast flowing artery of men, munitions, equipment. Route 66 in California was the final leg of the journey. Today Route 66 is a somewhat discontinuous collection of original roadbed, abandoned fragments, interstate frontage roads, state and local highways. Yet all of it remains in one form or another to be explored, enjoyed, experienced. Advocates are working to reinforce its place in transportation history as “the highway that’s the best”. Route 66, America’s Mother Road, is alive and well!

### **FUNDED BY CAP AND TRADE DOLLAR**

Funding for this project provided by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection as part of the California Climate Investments Program.

“The Route 66 Veterans Memorial Corridor” is part of California Climate Investments, a statewide program that puts billions of cap-and-trade dollars to work reducing greenhouse gas emissions, strengthening the economy and improving public health and the environment—particularly in disadvantaged communities. The cap-and-trade program also creates a financial incentive for industries to invest in clean technologies and develop innovative ways to reduce pollution. California Climate Investment projects include affordable housing, renewable energy, public transportation, zero-emission vehicles, environmental restoration, more sustainable agriculture, recycling and much more. At least 35 percent of these investments are made in disadvantaged and low income communities.

### **HOW MANY AND WHERE WILL GUARDIAN TREES BE PLANTED?**

3000 shade trees will be planted along the 400 miles of iconic Route 66 in San Bernardino County to improve, revitalize, & maintain many of the communities along the way including the Gateways Community Project; and as connectors between these gateways. Trees may also be planted at roadside rest-stops and conversion of vacant areas into pocket parks along Route 66. The economic, environmental, and social aspects of this project are considerable. Importantly there is the public health impact from trees mitigating traffic pollution, storm-water run-off, and heat island effects.

### **HOW WILL TREES BE DESIGNATED FOR EACH MILITARY VETERAN?**

The trees planted along this corridor will serve as a living legacy honoring our county's veterans. It will be the first of its kind in the nation spanning a long and iconic route. It will be a memorial that includes veterans serving in all the wars including post-World War II conflicts and wars. A permanent tree marker will be placed at each tree planted along the Route honoring veterans (past, present, living or deceased, retired, reserve, or active duty) of all wars and conflicts in the county as well as peace time duty. The marker will include the veterans name, branch of service, years of service and the GPS coordinates for the location of the tree. This information will be inscribed on a set of dog tags. One tag will be embedded in the permanent marker and the other tag will be given to the veteran's family.