



# PRESS RELEASE

## City of Ojai

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

### **City of Ojai and County of Ventura Celebrate Ribbon Cutting of Renovated Ojai Valley Trail**

**Ojai, CA – Thursday, November 13 – On Wednesday, November 12, The City of Ojai and the County of Ventura celebrated the grand reopening of the Ojai Valley Trail with a ribbon cutting ceremony that marked the completion of a major renovation project. The event highlighted the power of partnership and the shared commitment to enhancing quality of life for residents and visitors alike.**

The Ojai Valley Trail, a beloved route for cyclists, walkers, runners, and equestrians, has undergone significant improvements to ensure greater safety, accessibility, and enjoyment for all users. The renovation included resurfacing, updated signage, improved drainage, and enhanced trailheads, all designed to preserve the natural beauty of the area while supporting active transportation and outdoor recreation.

Mayor Andy Gilman, shared his personal connection to the trail and the importance of the project:

“As a lifelong resident of Ojai, I’ve always cherished the Ojai Valley Trail: it’s a vital part of our community’s identity and daily life. Seeing the City of Ojai and the County of Ventura come together to complete these much-needed renovations is truly inspiring. The improvements not only enhance safety and accessibility but also reflect our shared commitment to preserving the natural beauty and spirit of this trail for generations to come.”

Supervisor Matt Lavere echoed the sentiment, emphasizing the value of collaboration:

“The Ojai Valley Trail is one of Ventura County’s most beloved outdoor spaces, and these improvements reflect what we can accomplish when the City and County work together. Thanks to this project, residents and visitors alike will enjoy a safer, more accessible, and more beautiful trail for years to come.”

The project was made possible through funding approved by the County of Ventura Board of Supervisors, with the primary \$3.2 million upgrade for 9.5 miles of the Ojai Valley Trail funded by a

federal grant through the America Rescue Plan Act of 2021. Today, the trail stands as a model of sustainable infrastructure and regional cooperation.

Community members, local officials, and trail enthusiasts gathered at the ceremony to celebrate the reopening of the newly renovated path.

With the completion of the Ojai Valley Trail renovation the City of Ojai and the County of Ventura reaffirm their dedication to working together to create a more connected, active, and vibrant region.