

# THE BASS LAKE BULLETIN

The Voice of the Bass Lake Community  
<http://basslakeaction.org>

## THE BASS LAKE ACTION COMMITTEE

The Bass Lake Action Committee was formed by a group of concerned property owners in the Bass Lake Area and incorporated in 2003 as Non-profit organization, a 501(C)(4) corporation.

### Our Mission Statement:

To provide a voice for Bass Lake homeowners in dealing with the county and other community agencies.  
To keep homeowners informed about issues and meetings.



image credit - John Davey

## HIDAHL REMEMBERED BY EDH FIRE, COMMUNITY, WITH ROAD DEDICATION

By John Davey

The El Dorado Hills community, El Dorado County staff, and local first responders gathered on March 26th to honor the life and legacy of the late District 1 Supervisor John Hidahl. The ceremony, held at El Dorado Hills Fire Station 85, marked the official dedication of "John Hidahl Way," the entrance road leading to Station 85, the headquarters of the

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**JOHN HIDAHL WAY** *(con't)*

Fire District where Hidahl served as an elected member of the Board of Directors for over three decades.

The dedication follows a unanimous vote by the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors to rename the drive in memory of Hidahl, who passed away in November 2024. The event served as a tribute to a man whose public service spanned more than 40 years in El Dorado County.

District 2 County Supervisor George Turnnoo observed that Hidahl had “dedicated his life to this community.”

District 1 County Supervisor Greg Ferrero identified Hidahl as a generous mentor as he approached his campaign for the District 1 seat, as Hidahl was termed out.

El Dorado Hills Fire Chief Mike Lilienthal and other officials highlighted Hidahl’s pivotal role in the department’s growth. Before his election to the Board of Supervisors in 2016, Hidahl served as an elected director of the El Dorado Hills County Water District (Fire Department) for 33 years. He was instrumental in the development of Station 85 and the creation of the department's state-of-the-art training facility, a task which took decades to achieve.

In addition to his work with the fire department, many attendees highlighted Hidahl’s reputation for his "Service Before Self" motto. This dedication was felt deeply by residents, and many local organizations, including the Bass Lake Action Committee. Supervisor Hidahl was a long-time friend and advocate for the Bass Lake Action Committee, frequently engaging with the group on land use and community safety issues affecting the Bass Lake area.

Attendees at the dedication included members of the Hidahl family, District 1 Supervisor Greg Ferrero, the El Dorado Hills Fire Department Board of Directors, and various community leaders. Supervisor George Turnboo, who brought the naming recommendation forward, reflected on Hidahl’s intellect, good humor and commitment to El Dorado Hills.

The placement of "John Hidahl Way" at the fire station ensures that his contributions to the safety and infrastructure of El Dorado Hills will be remembered by future generations of residents and first responders alike.

**Sources:**

[Village Life March 30, 2026 reporting by Noel Stack](#)

## BOS TO SUBMIT LETTER TO STATE TO SEEKING FUNDING

*By John Davey*

Facing ongoing budget pressures and the prospect of deeper cuts, the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors voted April 7 to support sending a formal letter to state leaders requesting funding assistance tied to new state mandates.

The action comes as counties across California prepare for additional responsibilities under House Resolution 1, the “One Big Beautiful Bill Act” which shifts certain Medi-Cal and CalFresh duties from the state to counties without corresponding funding.

The letter will be sent to Governor Gavin Newsom, the President pro Tempore of the Senate, and the Speaker of the Assembly, urging action to address what county officials describe as significant fiscal and operational impacts on local safety net programs.

The California State Association of Counties (CSAC) estimates the cost of these changes to counties statewide could range from \$6 billion to \$9.5 billion. The organization is advocating for \$1.9 billion in the 2026–27 state budget and \$4.5 billion the following year.

El Dorado County is still evaluating its specific financial exposure. Director of Communications and Deputy Chief Administrative Officer Carla Hass indicated the cost is “likely in the millions of dollars,” covering services such as indigent care, Medi-Cal and CalFresh eligibility, and behavioral health programs.

During the board’s discussion, supervisors expressed concern about the impact of additional mandates without funding.

“Counties can only do what the state funds us to do,” said District 4 Supervisor Lori Parlin. “But I don't know if the legislators know that. I feel that they come up with these mandates and pieces of legislation ... (but) counties can't run in a deficit. Do they know that? I mean, there's just fundamental things I don't know if the folks at the state level understand.”

District 3 Supervisor Brian Veerkamp emphasized the need for broader advocacy. “I'm not sure how we get their attention. Obviously, this letter of support would be good, and I think ... there'll be a lot of counties unified in it,” Veerkamp said. “But, they don't tend to listen very well so we've got to get their attention somehow.”

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## BOS TO SUBMIT LETTER

(con't)

District 1 Supervisor Greg Ferrero focused on state spending priorities. “We've been paying our fair share for decades. They're spending it wrong,” Ferrero said. “They have a \$350 billion budget. Realign the money. Let's stop spending the money on things like ... the bullet train, and hold people accountable for fraud. There's money. They're just not spending it correctly.”

CSAC Chief Executive Officer Graham Knaus, who presented to the board, indicated that awareness of the issue is growing among state lawmakers, though outcomes remain uncertain. “I believe there should be an expectation of dollars coming out of the state budget connected to this,” Knaus said. “What that looks like — I don't know. ... But I do know that the only way we're going to get there is to have them hear from you and your colleagues across the state.”

In addition to sending the letter, supervisors committed to contacting El Dorado County's representatives in the state Legislature. The motion passed 4–0, with Supervisors George Turnboo, Lori Parlin, Greg Ferrero, and Brian Veerkamp in support. District 5 Supervisor Brooke Laine was absent.

### Sources:

[Village Life April 10, 2026](#)

[reporting by Noel Stack](#)

El Dorado County Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes and Recording

## 24TH ANNUAL FOLSOM GARDEN CLUB GARDEN TOUR

*Press Release*

The 24th annual Folsom Garden Club Garden Tour will be held April 25 & 26, featuring six unique gardens plus one bonus garden at the Murer House.

The gardens vary in size and feature a variety of colors, textures, art, patios, pools and waterfalls. Artists and Master Gardeners will be present at several homes, as well as a raffle and food trucks. Our ever-popular annual plant and bake sale are back and Poppy's birdhouse will once again make an appearance. Proceeds benefit scholarships, grants, community projects and educational programs.



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## FOLSOM GARDEN CLUB GARDEN TOUR *(con't)*

The Folsom Garden Club is a nonprofit established in 1934. The mission of club is to educate and foster relationships among people who have a love of horticulture and to promote beautification of the city of Folsom. Speakers at monthly meetings, field trips, and other activities help to educate members about gardening.

For more information call (916) 205-3720. Purchase tickets online at <http://folsomgarden.org/>

## EXPECT DELAYS ON PONDEROSA ROAD

[Carla Hass / El Dorado County Chief Administrative Office Apr 17, 2026](#)

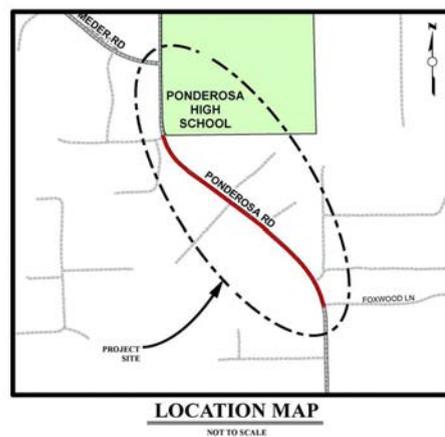
El Dorado County's Department of Transportation will be performing road work beginning April 20 and continuing through approximately August as part of the Ponderosa Road Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements Project.

The work will require occasional shoulder and lane closures during which motorists should expect delays. These closures are necessary to ensure motorist and worker safety while the county's contractor adds class II bike

lanes and pedestrian sidewalk improvements on Ponderosa Road from Foxwood Lane to Mineshaft Lane.

Motorists are advised to slow down through the work zones and allow extra time in order to arrive at their destinations on time. Project improvements are planned to minimize impacts during school peak hour traffic with most improvement activities and working hours extending during the summer season.

For questions regarding this project contact the DOT main line at (530) 621-5900 (select Option 3 for Engineering).



## SUPERVISORS HEAR SALARY CONCERNS

*By John Davey*

The El Dorado County Board of Supervisors recently approved a new, data-driven approach to evaluating employee compensation, following a detailed discussion on salary structures and public feedback regarding pay equity across county positions.

The March 24 board meeting focused on updates to Section 602, which governs salaries and benefits for unrepresented (non-union) employees, as well as its connection to voter-approved Charter Section 504.

The board directed staff to conduct regular compensation surveys, develop clearer benchmarks for positions, and bring forward an annual review of salaries each fall. The updated approach is intended to incorporate factors such as fiscal outlook, vacancy rates, and hard-to-fill positions.

A significant portion of the discussion centered on how Section 602 links certain leadership and administrative salaries to those established under Section 504, which sets compensation for law enforcement roles based on comparable regional agencies. Section 504 of the County Charter was codified by El Dorado County voters via a ballot issue.

Human Resources Director Joseph Carruesco addressed concerns that these linkages result in automatic pay increases.

“The salary alignments ... are not ‘automatic pay increases’ for those 602 classifications,” Carruesco said. “In fact, we have to bring an item to the board for your approval every year, and the board could simply choose not to apply those increases to those classifications.”

Chief Administrative Officer Sue Phillips reinforced that point, noting the board retains discretion in approving compensation adjustments.

“You have complete discretion over adopting that (salary) resolution when it's brought to you each year; you could simply choose not to,” Phillips said.

Public comment reflected ongoing concerns about wage equity and the perceived imbalance between higher-level administrative salaries and lower-paid county employees.

“When the discussion is about management, department heads or unrepresented leadership, the language is always positive - retention, competitiveness, attracting the best,”

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## **SALARY CONCERNS** *(con't)*

said El Dorado County Local 1 President Jen Rimoldi. “But when Local 1, OE3 and other lower-paid workers ask for livable wages, the conversation suddenly becomes about costs, limits and what the county supposedly cannot afford.”

Union representatives also emphasized challenges in retaining lower-wage employees.

“Those at the lowest levels are underpaid. We can't recruit. We can't keep people,” said Shannon Starr of Operating Engineers Local 3. “We get them, and we're a training ground ... it's time to start making those lower wage employees fairly paid and stop inflating the salaries of those high-paid officials automatically.”

Community groups have also raised concerns about the broader application of Section 504. The coalition Hold El Dorado Accountable has filed a ballot initiative seeking to eliminate salary linkages not originally approved by voters, while a related legal review is underway.

The past two **County Charter Review Committees** have attempted to address concerns regarding Section 504 being applied outside of the original voter intent of applying a

consistent salary formula to Deputies of the El Dorado County Sheriff's Office, but did not receive support from past Board of Supervisor members.

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*In El Dorado County, the Charter Review Committee is required to be convened by the Board of Supervisors at least once every five years.*

*Under Section 701 of the County Charter, the committee must conduct a formal review and hold at least two public hearings before making any recommendations for amendments or revisions to the Board.*

### ***Key Timelines & History:***

*Mandatory Frequency: Within 5 years of the last charter review period.*

***Recent Review:*** *The most recent committee was appointed in June 2022.*

***Previous Reviews:*** *Prior to the 2022 cycle, a significant review took place during the 2017–2018 period.*

### ***Role of the Charter Review Committee***

*The committee acts as a*

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## SALARY CONCERNS *(cont.)*

*non-partisan advisory body.*

*While the Board of Supervisors may suggest specific topics for the committee to focus on, the members are also empowered to review and recommend updates to any portion of the Charter they deem necessary.*

*If the committee proposes changes, those recommendations are presented to the Board, which then decides whether to place the proposed amendments on a ballot for voter approval.*

During the discussion, county officials noted that the number of positions directly affected by Section 602 is relatively small compared to the broader workforce tied to Section 504.

“The seven classifications that are outlined in Section 602 ... are a very small fraction of the total number of employees that have their salaries linked to 504,” Carruesco said.

Supervisors emphasized the importance of balancing fiscal responsibility with the need to remain competitive in hiring and retaining employees.

District 3 Supervisor Brian Veerkamp advocated for a straightforward

compensation philosophy focused on base wages.

“In my opinion, we need to keep it as simple as possible, and that's really addressing base wage,” Veerkamp said. “It really comes back to that base wage. That's what somebody's really looking at.”

District 2 Supervisor George Turnboo highlighted the need to address current gaps in compensation.

“We're way behind right now, and now we have to play catch-up, especially when it comes to our employees,” Turnboo said.

The board ultimately approved the direction to staff in a unanimous 5–0 vote.

### Sources:

[Village Life April 8, 2026 reporting by Noel Stack](#)

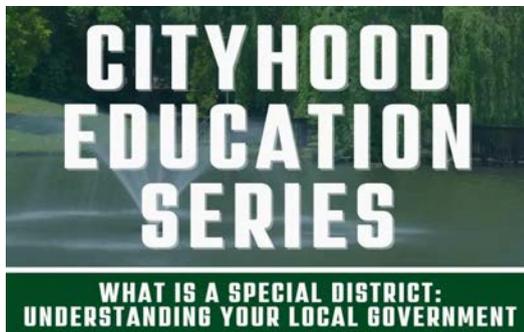
El Dorado County Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes and Recording



## **EL DORADO HILLS PUBLIC MEETINGS OPPORTUNITIES FOR EDH RESIDENTS TO GUIDE OUR FUTURE**

*By John Davey*

The El Dorado Hills Community Services District (EDH CSD) continues to host public informational meetings and discussions, providing opportunities for residents to share feedback and help define the needs and the future of El Dorado Hills. All meetings are held at the EDH CSD's Norm Rowett Pavilion, located next to the Community Park, 1021 Harvard Way in El Dorado Hills.



### **Cityhood Education Series - Part 1**

**Tue, Apr 28, 5PM - 6:30PM**  
1021 Harvard Way, El Dorado Hills,  
CA

Join us for the first of two meetings regarding Cityhood Education on Tuesday, April 28 at 5:30 PM in the CSD Pavilion!

We're pleased to welcome special guest Dane Wadlé, California Special Districts Association (CSDA) Director of State Field Operations, who will discuss the topic "What is a Special District: Understanding Your Local Government."

It can be challenging to understand the possible reorganization of your local government if you don't understand your current form of government.

Can't attend in person? Tune in live on YouTube and watch the recording following the meeting:

<https://www.youtube.com/edhcsd> For questions, please contact the Resident Services Office at 916-933-6624 ext. 0.

### **Shaping EDH Panel Discussion**

#### **E-bikes and e-scooters Public safety challenges Discussion**

**Wed, Apr 29, 5:30PM - 6:30PM**  
1021 Harvard Way, El Dorado Hills,  
CA

Join us live at the CSD or on our YouTube page:

<https://www.youtube.com/edhcsd> for this important discussion regarding public safety challenges related to the use of e-bikes and e-scooters. This panel includes stakeholders in public

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## EDH PUBLIC MEETINGS

(con't)

safety that will offer what's happening now, and answer questions you may have about this issue.

This panel includes Sheriff Jeff Leikauf (El Dorado County Sheriff's Office), Andrew Brown (California Highway Patrol), Dr. David Roth (Buckeye Union School District), Jackie McHaney (Buckeye Union School District), Jim Shoemake (Rescue Union School District), and Principal Aaron Palm (Oak Ridge High School).

**SHAPING EDH  
PANEL DISCUSSION**

**APRIL 29**  
5:30 PM | CSD PAVILION

**TOPIC:** Ride Smart: A Community Conversation on E-Bikes & E-Scooters

**PANELISTS**

**SHERIFF JEFF LEIKAUF** | **ANDREW BROWN** | **DR. DAVID ROTH**  
El Dorado County Sheriff's Office | California Highway Patrol | Buckeye Union School District

**JACKIE MCHANEY** | **JIM SHOEMAKE** | **AARON PALM**  
Buckeye Union School District | Rescue Union School District | Oak Ridge High Principal

If you're unable to attend in person, you can join us via YouTube Live and watch past meetings on our page.

Learn about safe riding practices, current regulations, and how to stay informed. For more information, please contact the Resident Services Office at 916-933-6624 ext. 0.

## El Dorado Hills CSD Master Plan Update Community Workshops

**Workshop 2 Thu, May 21, 6PM - 8PM**

**Workshop 3 Wed July 8, 6PM - 8PM**  
1021 Harvard Way, EDH, CA

Join us at an upcoming community meeting to share your input for the El Dorado Hills Master Plan. Each workshop will feature a unique survey for attendees to complete, helping guide the future of our community. The Master Plan process will continue throughout the year, with new information added to the project website as it evolves. If you're unable to attend a meeting or miss a survey, you can still participate at any time by submitting feedback through the "Provide Your Feedback" button at [eldoradohillsmasterplan.com](http://eldoradohillsmasterplan.com). All input is regularly reviewed and considered by the project team. Raffle prizes and refreshments will be available at each meeting. For questions, please contact the Resident Services Office at 916-933-6624 ext. 0.



## APRIL LOCAL MEETING RECORDINGS

By John Davey

Recordings of local meetings in El Dorado Hills and El Dorado County in April 2026.

### El Dorado Hills Area Planning Advisory Committee Meetings:

Typically the second Wednesday of each Month

#### April 8th Meeting

CANCELED: Next Meeting May 20th

### El Dorado Hills Community Services District Board of Directors Meetings:

Second Thursday of each month

#### April 9th Regular Meeting

<https://basslakeaction.net/edhcsd-4-9-26>

### El Dorado Irrigation District Board

EID Meetings, Agendas, Minutes -

<https://www.eid.org/about-us/board-of-directors/meetings-agendas-and-minutes>

### EID Recorded Meetings on EID YouTube Channel -

[www.EID.org/YouTube](http://www.EID.org/YouTube)



OR VISIT:

<https://basslakeaction.net/SUBSCRIBE>

## BLAC BOARD MEETING



The next quarterly business meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for May 11, 2026

Members will receive the Meeting location details via email invitation. All Members are welcome, and are encouraged to attend.

For more information about meetings and membership, please contact President John Davey at 530-676-2657, or email [basslakemembers@gmail.com](mailto:basslakemembers@gmail.com).

**Bass Lake Area Residents** can also visit our online membership form at <https://basslakeaction.net/members>