

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.



Bass Lake Rd at Bridlewood Dr. image credit - Ron Cassity

STAFF PROVIDES UPDATE ON COUNTY ROAD MAINTENANCE TO BOS

By John Davey

El Dorado County Department of Transportation (DOT) staff presented a comprehensive update on county road maintenance and operations at a recent Board of Supervisors meeting, outlining current responsibilities, completed projects, funding constraints, and future plans.

DOT Highway Maintenance Superintendent David Marino

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UPDATE ON COUNTY ROAD MAINTENANCE

(con't)

began the presentation with an overview of the DOT Maintenance Division's organizational structure and core duties. He explained that maintenance responsibilities are divided among specialized crews, each tasked with specific functions across the county's extensive road network.

According to Marino, the Bridge Crew is responsible for "bridge maintenance, curb, gutter and sidewalk repairs, graffiti removal and guardrail repairs," while the Traffic/Signal Crew handles "sign maintenance, traffic signal and lighting maintenance and striping and marker maintenance." The county's Equipment Shops, located on both the West Slope and in Tahoe, maintain and repair heavy equipment.

Marino added that Road Crews carry out a wide range of activities, including "dead animal removal, drainage culverts, erosion control, grading, roadside ditching, right-of-way brushing and herbicide application, road maintenance, road repairs and street sweeping."

He emphasized that staffing is flexible during emergencies, noting, "I do want to note that when ... snow removal conditions exist all of these crews come together and do a collaboration of making sure snow removal happens

and they also respond to emergency situations, as needed."

Pavement Preservation and Completed Projects

DOT staff also reviewed the pavement preservation techniques used to extend the life of county roads. These include micro-milling, which removes high points in existing pavement to improve ride quality; micro-surface treatments, a thin application designed to address surface wear and minor rutting; and rubberized chip cape seals, an integrated treatment that provides added durability and a quieter, smoother ride. Marino noted this type of repair "can last a decade or more."

During the most recent construction season, completed projects included Governors Subdivision Phase 2 in El Dorado Hills; E-16 Phase 2 (Pleasant Valley Road to Four Corners); Larsen and Barkley roads Phase 1 in Camino; Salmon Falls Phase 2 (Gallagher Road to Green Valley Road); Christmas Valley Area Phase 1 in South Lake Tahoe; and improvements to Cable Road.

Funding Sources and Strategy

DOT Senior Administrative Analyst Ashley Johnson explained that funding for road maintenance and

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UPDATE ON COUNTY ROAD MAINTENANCE

(con't)

repair projects come from multiple sources, including Senate Bill 1 (SB 1) gas tax revenues, Tribal funds, Transient Occupancy Tax revenues, grants, and Measure S in the Tahoe Basin. She cautioned that “each of those funding sources do have limitations as you know.”

When allocating less-restricted funds such as SB 1, DOT staff evaluate road needs across all five supervisorial districts. The goal, Johnson explained, is to focus on a mix of roadway conditions. Presentation materials note, “Ideally, road selections consist of 80% of fair roads and 20% of bad roads.”

Johnson explained the reasoning behind that approach: “When we address a smaller portion of our bad roads, we are able to address a greater amount of roads countywide.” She added that, despite limited funding, the county has seen improvement in its pavement condition index, stating that the CPI increased from 64 in 2018 to 69 in 2024, with hopes for further improvement when the next report is released.

Supervisor Feedback and District Concerns

Supervisors expressed appreciation for DOT staff and crews. District 2 Supervisor George Turnboo praised recent work in his area, saying, “I just appreciate E 16. I made it all the way to Holliday Market all the way to River Pines. It’s beautiful - outstanding job.”

District 4 Supervisor Lori Parlin also commended staff, stating, “Your responsiveness, it’s amazing with the number of miles of roads we have and how remote some of them are.”

At the same time, supervisors raised concerns about disparities among districts. District 5 Supervisor Brooke Laine said that while she respects the work being done, she believes her district remains at a disadvantage. “The fact of the matter is, for District 5, just under 50% of our roads are either categorized as poor or failing,” she said, contrasting that with lower percentages in other districts.

Laine added, “We are so far behind all the other districts I feel there has to be some kind of plan for how we’re going to catch up,” emphasizing the importance of equitable access in areas that include major tourist destinations.

Johnson responded that limited funding makes balancing those needs difficult, but noted that Measure S,

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UPDATE ON COUNTY ROAD MAINTENANCE

(con't)

approved by Tahoe area voters, should help address some of the disparity by increasing funding for road maintenance and snow removal in the basin.

Public Comment and Next Steps

During public comment, Woody Deloria, executive director of the El Dorado County Transportation Commission, noted that SB 1 revenues are declining and distributed based on population rather than road usage. “Our piece of the pie is getting much smaller because the gas tax revenue is declining and it is not taking into account who’s actually using the system,” Deloria said.

Assistant County Transportation Department Director John Kahling emphasized that staff follows board direction on funding priorities, telling supervisors, “If the board wants us to do things differently, here we are.”

Supervisors acknowledged the complexity of the issue. “It’s not a simple process,” said District 3 Supervisor Brian Veerkamp, adding, “overall, we’re doing pretty darn good.”

DOT staff are expected to return to the Board later this winter with an updated

pavement condition report, followed by the SB 1 funding resolution for fiscal years 2026–27 in the spring. Projects planned for the 2025–26 construction season include additional phases of Larsen and Barkley roads, North Canyon Road, Sly Park Road, and multiple neighborhood and connector road improvements across the county.

Sources: [EDC BOS Meeting Minutes Mountain Democrat November 21, 2025 Reporting by Noel Stack](#)

NEWLY ELECTED DIRECTOR KINGHORN SWORN IN AT EDH CSD BOARD MEETING

By John Davey

The El Dorado Hills Community Services District (EDH CSD) Board of Directors convened with a full five-member board following the swearing-in of newly elected Director Gary Kinghorn at its recent Board meeting.

The meeting opened with the administration of the Oath of Office to Director Kinghorn. Upon completion of the oath, the Board offered congratulations before proceeding with roll call, confirming the presence of all five directors.

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EDH CSD DIRECTOR KINGHORN SWORN IN

(con't)

Following the oath, Director Kinghorn was invited to lead the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance, after which the Board observed a moment of silence in honor of “service members, military, law enforcement, fire, and emergency personnel.”

Agenda Adoption and Initial Board Actions

With the Board fully seated, directors moved to adopt the meeting agenda. A motion was made to approve the agenda with two modifications:

- relocating page 43 of the agenda packet to Agenda Item 21, and
- removing Agenda Item 24 from the regular agenda for consideration at a future strategic planning session.

The discussion that followed centered on how and when certain policy-related items should be reviewed, and whether they were more appropriate for immediate Board consideration, a future strategic planning workshop, or referral to Board subcommittees.

One discussion point noted that moving the items was intended to ensure they were reviewed “at an

appropriate time... to see where they fall on the district’s agenda,” particularly in light of an upcoming strategic planning session with the interim general manager.

Public Comment and Transparency Concerns

During public comment on the agenda item, community member Dean Getz congratulated Director Kinghorn and commented on the agenda changes, stating that it was “hard to know what item number 24 is” for those following the meeting remotely. Getz added that many of the items appeared “urgent in nature,” expressing concern that “the district’s business is getting done” amid repeated agenda adjustments.

Discussion on Strategic Planning and Committees

A substantial portion of the discussion focused on the distinction between districtwide strategic planning, which must occur in open session, and goal-setting for the general manager, which may occur in closed session under Brown Act provisions.

District counsel Frank Splendorio explained that strategic planning sessions are “pretty common among public agencies” and emphasized that “there’s no closed session exception

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EDH CSD DIRECTOR KINGHORN SWORN IN

(con't)

for it” when the discussion concerns district goals rather than personnel matters.

Interim General Manager Stephanie Jantzen addressed the Board, stating, “My priority is getting direction from the board as to what you want us to focus on this year,” adding that clear goals would allow both the Board and the public to measure performance. Interim General Manager Jantzen also acknowledged confusion surrounding the agenda items and apologized that staff reports had not been prepared, describing the situation as “an unusual circumstance.”

Revised Motion and Vote

Following extended discussion, the original motion was amended to:

- retain the agenda correction, and
- refer the items listed under Agenda Item 24 to appropriate Board subcommittees, including Administration and Finance and Parks and Planning, for further review before returning to the full Board.

While some directors expressed frustration with revisiting items that had previously been discussed, others emphasized the need for adequate documentation and committee review

to ensure transparency and informed decision-making.

The amended motion passed by a **3-1 vote**, with Director Kinghorn abstaining.

Later in the meeting, Wayne Lowrey, Director Kinghorn’s opponent in the November 2025 special election to fill the Board vacancy, welcomed Director Kinghorn, stating the Board had gained “a tremendous board member with a lot of background,” and expressed hope that the newly seated director would help bring cohesion following a challenging year with only four sitting board members.

The meeting then adjourned into closed session.

Sources: [EDH CSD December 12, 2025 Board Meeting Video Recording](#)



image credit - John Davey

CONCEPTUAL CONNECTOR ROAD BETWEEN LATROBE RD AND SAC COUNTY ADDED TO GENERAL PLAN

By John Davey

El Dorado County has moved forward with a conceptual update to its transportation planning by adding a potential new connector road between Latrobe Road and the Sacramento County line to the county's General Plan circulation map. The action, taken by the Board of Supervisors in December 2025, reflects long-range planning rather than an imminent construction decision.

General Plan Amendment Adds Connector Concept

At the Dec. 9 Board of Supervisors meeting, the county's Department of Transportation presented an update on a proposed project known as the Latrobe West Connector (Capital Improvement Program project #36105084). Staff advised the board to receive a traffic operations analysis for a potential roadway connecting Latrobe Road — near Wetsel-Oviatt Road — westward to the Sacramento County line, and to consider amending the Transportation and Circulation Element of the General

Plan to show the conceptual roadway on the county's circulation map.

The board conceptually approved adding the connector to the General Plan's Transportation and Circulation Element. This step preserves the potential corridor for future consideration and ensures that the county's long-range planning framework anticipates growth and transportation needs.

Transportation staff emphasized that placing the corridor on the General Plan map does not commit the county to immediate construction. According to staff materials, this planning move is intended to be “proactive, fiscally responsible, and set the county up for success” by preserving the option for future infrastructure if conditions warrant such development.



image courtesy El Dorado County

Traffic Analysis and Future Studies

Work already underway includes a

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LATROBE CONNECTOR ROAD *(con't)*

traffic analysis prepared by consultant Kimley-Horn and Associates, which evaluates existing and future traffic conditions with and without the proposed connector. The study considers different alignment alternatives and potential connections within Sacramento County toward either Empire Ranch Road or Savannah Parkway.

County documents note that roads can take decades to plan and build, and that retaining conceptual routes in the General Plan helps ensure that future development — including anticipated growth near the county line — would *not outpace available infrastructure*.

The county currently has funds available in the CIP to complete a Phase I Environmental Assessment and General Plan amendment. However, if an addendum to the county's Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is required, additional funding would be necessary.

What This Means for Timing

At this stage, the connector remains a conceptual element of planning rather than a confirmed project with a construction schedule. Inclusion in the General Plan gives county staff the ability to preserve right-of-way and

seek funding and environmental clearance as future conditions evolve.

Because the analysis and planning phase are still in early stages, there is no identified timeline for construction, and future construction would depend on several steps, including:

- Additional environmental review or EIR amendments, if required
- Identification of funding sources for design and construction
- Board direction on project prioritization after further studies

These steps would unfold over multiple years if the county and stakeholders choose to advance the project after planning and CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act) processes are complete.

Long-Term Planning Context

Including the Latrobe West Connector concept in the county's Transportation and Circulation Element aligns with broader planning efforts that anticipate traffic growth in the El Dorado Hills area and beyond. Similar long-range planning documents analyze future conditions — often out to 2045 or later — to prioritize investments and preserve corridors for future needs.

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LATROBE CONNECTOR ROAD *(con't)*

For now, the connector's addition to the General Plan confirms that county officials are thinking ahead about how the road network might evolve in the decades ahead, while separating that long-range planning from any specific construction commitments

Sources: [County BOS Meeting Minutes](#)

[Village Life December 12, 2025](#)

[Reporting by Noel Stack](#)

[Sacramento Bee December 18 2025](#)

[Reporting By Ariane Lange](#)

EDH CSD BOARD APPROVES FUTURE DISC GOLF CONCEPT IN BASS LAKE AREA

By John Davey

The El Dorado Hills Community Services District (EDHCSD) Board of Directors has approved moving forward with a conceptual plan for a future disc golf course in the Bass Lake area, marking an early step toward a potential new recreational amenity for the community.

The Board voted unanimously to approve staff's recommendation to designate the parcel on the south side of Country Club Drive, near Holy

Trinity Church at Tierra de Dios Drive, as a potential site for a disc golf course. The action allows the project to be included in the district's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) and authorizes staff to begin preliminary design and analysis work. No construction plans or final designs have been approved at this time.

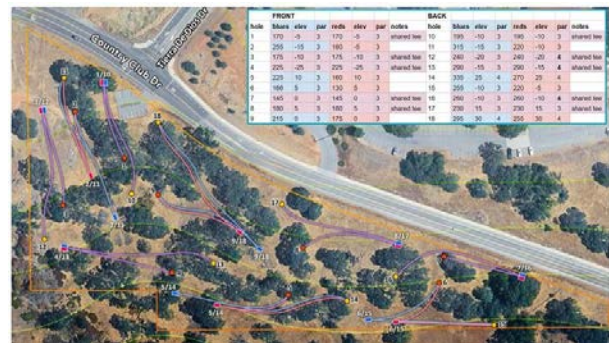


image credit - EDH CSD Planning Dept

Early-Stage Concept, Not a Final Project

Principal Planner Jeff Kernan emphasized that the Board's action represents an initial phase of project development. Approval allows staff to pursue professional design services and begin evaluating feasibility, costs, and regulatory requirements.

"This is asking to make it a project in the part of the CIP," Kernan explained, noting that staff would issue a request for proposals for professional services to begin design work. "We would come back when there's costs known for the next step."

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EDH CSD DISC-GOLF *(con't)*

Any future disc golf course would still require additional analysis, public review, and county approvals, including requirements related to parking, access, landscaping, ADA compliance, and coordination with county transportation and planning agencies.

Community-Driven Idea

The concept grew out of community interest and volunteer involvement. Kernan highlighted the role of local volunteers and partners, including John Schulters, who worked with district staff over several months and helped organize a well-attended disc golf exposition earlier this year.

“That really showed the support and, I think, need for a disc golf course in El Dorado Hills,” Kernan said.

Schulters described disc golf as an affordable, low-maintenance recreational option that works well with challenging terrain. “Disc golf happens to be very affordable, is low to no maintenance, and can take advantage of difficult, challenging terrains in a way that actually benefits its use,” he said. He added that the sport is designed to embrace the natural environment, with no proposal to remove trees or significantly alter the landscape.

Potential Site and Design Considerations

Board members and speakers noted that the Country Club Drive parcel is a steep, hillside property above US 50 that has been difficult to program for traditional park uses, but offers expansive views and natural features well suited for disc golf.

Several directors expressed enthusiasm for the concept while also acknowledging that many details remain unresolved, including parking, pedestrian access, and restroom facilities. Staff noted that parking requirements and safety improvements, such as crosswalks, would be evaluated through the county review process. Kernan also stated that the design phase would explore opportunities for seating, scenic viewing areas, and amenities that could be enjoyed by non-players as well.

Public Support Expressed

Public commenters voiced strong support for the concept, frequently citing the project’s relatively low cost compared to other park facilities and its potential to provide significant community value.

“This seems like a great project,” one speaker said. “It’s hard to think of

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EDH CSD DISC-GOLF *(con't)*

anything that's got a bigger bang for the buck."

Another commenter described the concept as "obtainable," noting that while parking and pedestrian safety will be important considerations, the project represents "something you can get done" and that would add a unique recreational opportunity to the area.

Next Steps

With the Board's approval, staff will begin the next phase of work, which includes engaging design professionals and coordinating with county agencies. Any future construction would depend on the results of that analysis, funding availability, and required approvals.

As Kernan noted, "We'll explore all opportunities, and if there's anything that comes up that's strange... you'll hear about it."

The Board's action reflects early support for exploring a new recreational use, while leaving significant decisions about design, cost, and implementation for future consideration.

Sources: [EDH CSD December 12, 2025 Board Meeting Video Recording](#)

EDC DIRECTOR OF PLANNING & BUILDING DEPARTMENT RECOGNIZED WITH 2025 AWARD

El Dorado County's Planning and Building Department Director Karen Garner has received statewide recognition for her contributions to public service and community engagement.

Garner was honored with a [2025 California On Location Award in the Public Employee of the Year category](#).

The award acknowledges individuals in California who demonstrate leadership, dedication, and impact in their roles serving local government and their communities.

The California On Location Awards are presented annually to public sector employees and agencies that have made notable contributions to their fields, including efforts that support economic development, community resilience, and public service excellence. Garner's recognition highlights her work leading El Dorado County's Planning and Building Department through ongoing development and permitting challenges, as well as her involvement in initiatives that intersect community

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AWARD FOR EDC DIRECTOR OF PLANNING

(con't)

priorities and regulatory processes.

As Director, Garner oversees permitting, land use planning, inspections, and coordination with other county departments and external stakeholders, helping to guide orderly growth and development across the county.

County officials and community partners celebrated the award as a reflection of both Garner's commitment and the broader efforts of the Planning and Building Department. The recognition underscores the important role of planning and building services in supporting safe, sustainable growth and quality of life for county residents.

Garner's California On Location Award adds to El Dorado County's record of local leaders being acknowledged for effective public service at the state level.

Source: [Village Life December 12, 2025 News Release](#)

EDH CSD DIRECTORS ELECT 2026 TERM BOARD PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT

By John Davey

At the conclusion of the December 11, 2025 El Dorado Hills Community Services District (EDH CSD) Board meeting, the Board of Directors conducted its annual election of officers for the 2026 term.

Following the opening and closing of public comment, with no comments received, the Board moved into discussion and nominations. A motion was made by Director Mike Martinelli to appoint Director Noelle Mattock as Board President and Director Heidi Hanneman as Vice President for 2026. The motion was seconded and brought forward for a vote.

The Board voted unanimously in favor of the slate, with no opposition noted. With the vote, Director Mattock and Director Hanneman were confirmed to serve in their respective leadership roles for the 2026 calendar year.

The meeting was adjourned shortly after the election concluded.

Sources: [EDH CSD December 11, 2025 Board Meeting Video Recording](#)

DECEMBER LOCAL MEETING RECORDINGS

By John Davey

Recordings of local meetings in El Dorado Hills and El Dorado County in December 2025.

El Dorado Hills Area Planning Advisory Committee Meetings:

Typically the second Wednesday of each Month

December 17th Meeting

<https://youtu.be/4oSbux4jp5k>

El Dorado Hills Community Services District Board of Directors Meetings:

Second Thursday of each month

December 12th Regular Meeting

<https://basslakeaction.net/edhcsd-12/11/25>

Shaping EDH with the GM

Dec 2, 2025 Meeting

<https://www.youtube.com/live/eas8vJxnMqI>

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



OR VISIT:

<https://basslakeaction.net/SUBSCRIBE>

BLAC BOARD MEETING



The BLAC Annual Meeting and Holiday Party was held on December 6, 2025.

The current Board has been reelected for the 2026 Term: President John Davey, Vice President Ron Cassity, Secretary Jan Buxton, Treasurer Phyllis Lee, and Director at Large David Smith.

The next meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for February 9, 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.

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