

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.



WOODRIDGE OPEN SPACE - HOMEOWNER VOLUNTEER WORK DAY

By David Smith

Happy Spring Woodridge Homeowners! It has been quite a winter this year with good rainfall, but also lots of wind. And, as you know, the wind has caused some damage in the neighborhood, including in the open spaces. There have been at least 8 large oak trees fall this winter in the subdivision's open space. A group of homeowners is concerned that these down trees will create an increased fire danger to the neighborhood and would like to take action to alleviate some of the hazard.

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WOODRIDGE HOMEOWNER VOLUNTEER WORK DAY

(con't)

We are asking for homeowner volunteers to work with us to help reduce the fire danger from these fallen trees.

We are scheduling a Saturday Work Day on April 6, from 8am to 12pm (rainout reschedule day would be April 13).

Our goals for the workday are to 1) cut and remove the small limbs, brush and leaves from the fallen trees, 2) drag the limbs and brush to central piles, strategically located so a chipper can access the limbs/brush piles, 3) buck the main tree limbs so they lay flat on the ground in large sections, and spread out the debris that will remain in the open space.

This work will require some chainsaw use, hand or pole saws, loppers and axes/hatchets. If you have tools, and wish to help, please sign up! The larger limbs/trunks would be available for firewood gathering.

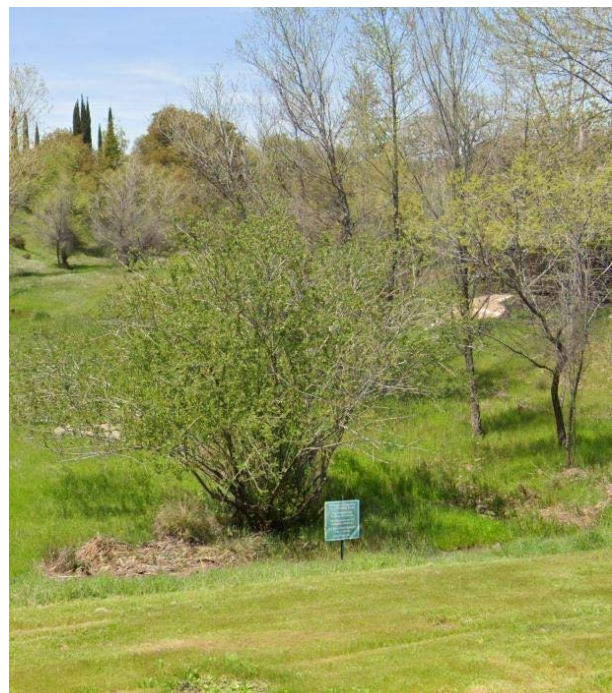
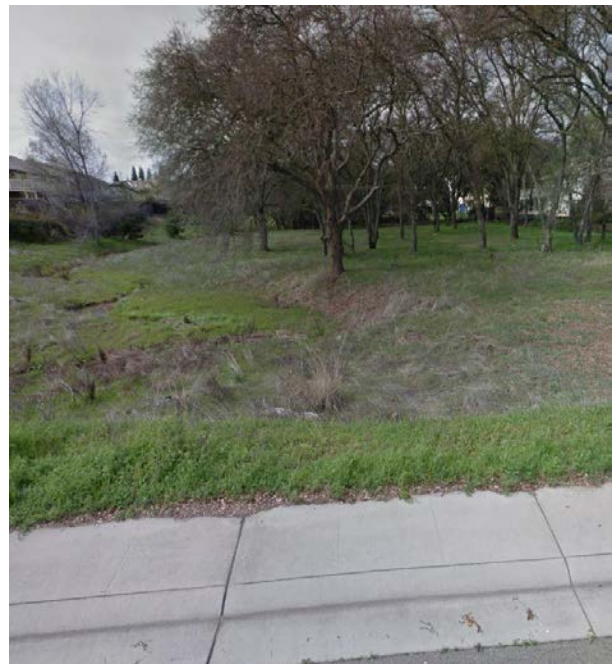
Two reminders regarding the Open Space: debris cannot be left in the creek alignments, and motor vehicle access into the open space areas is prohibited.

If you are willing to help, please contact David Smith, one of the Woodridge homeowners. He can be reached at

davidbsmith101@gmail.com, or
916 761 4594.

We will appreciate any and all help offered, regardless of whether you have operated trimming/cutting equipment.

Sincerely,
Concerned Homeowners of
Woodridge Subdivision.



BOS SUPERVISOR DISTRICTS 1, 2, & 3 INITIAL PRIMARY BALLOT RESULTS

By John Davey

Initial results from The March 5, 2024 Presidential Primary Elections (as of March 15th - another counting will be reported March 21st).

In terms of local elections in El Dorado County, the Board of Supervisors seats for 2024 are of interest to Bass Lake Area residents. Winning Candidates will start their terms at the beginning of 2025.

In El Dorado County, a candidate with more than 50 percent of the ballots wins out, and no run off race will occur in the General Election in November.

Based on the reporting from the County Elections Department, the following candidates will be sworn in for 2025:

District 1 Supervisor
Greg Ferrero

District 2 Supervisor
George Turnboo
(reelected incumbent)

District 3 Supervisor
Brian Veerkamp
(prior 2 year supervisor, elected for a third term, after one term out of office)

District 1

County Supervisor 1st District

Precincts Reported: 19 of 19 (100.00%)

		Total	
Times Cast		15,231 / 28,520	53.40%
Candidate	Party	Total	
GREG FERRERO		9,205	63.68%
MARGARET FORTUNE		4,183	28.94%
LINDA CAMPBELL		1,067	7.38%
Write-in		0	0.00%
Total Votes		14,455	

District 2

County Supervisor 2nd District

Precincts Reported: 17 of 17 (100.00%)

		Total	
Times Cast		14,641 / 26,882	54.46%
Candidate	Party	Total	
GEORGE TURNBOO		7,123	54.39%
KEVIN W MCCARTY		3,508	26.79%
CHRIS COCKRELL		2,464	18.82%
Write-in		0	0.00%
Total Votes		13,095	

District 3

County Supervisor 3rd District

Precincts Reported: 17 of 17 (100.00%)

		Total	
Times Cast		12,986 / 24,246	53.56%
Candidate	Party	Total	
BRIAN K VEERKAMP		6,626	54.67%
LEXI BOEGER		3,720	30.70%
GARY MARTIN		1,133	9.35%
BRIAN N DE BERRY		640	5.28%
Write-in		0	0.00%
Total Votes		12,119	

The Bass Lake Action Committee extends thanks to all candidates that were willing to stand for election, and for promoting their concerns and ideas to improve governance in El Dorado County.



EL DORADO COUNTY CIVIL GRAND JURY SEEKS JURORS

Gina Posey

In June 2023, the EDC Civil Grand Jury released its investigative report on the Building and Planning Department. It received considerable press coverage and generated a lot of discussion/actions from the department and within the BOS meetings.

The report was written by County residents that volunteered to join the EDC Civil Grand Jury. Maybe YOU could make that difference?

The EDC Civil Grand Jury's annual enrollment is now open.

The EDC Civil Grand Jury's annual enrollment is now open. Applications are due by May 5th. The California Grand Jurors' Association - El Dorado County Chapter will be holding informational meetings. Even if you don't have the time to join, come show your support by attending a

meeting to learn what the EDC Civil Grand Jury does, how it operates and how YOU are important to helping to make change happen.

Questions? Send an email to EDCchapter. CGJA@gmail.com Help make government more efficient!

Applications due by May 5th . For more information and to apply, please visit: <http://edcgov.us/Grandjury>

Local Presentations

Cameron Park Library Thu Mar 28 6PM
EDH Library Tue Apr 2 1:30PM



Civil Grand Jurors' Association of California- El Dorado County Chapter

CIVIL GRAND JURY INFORMATIONAL MEETING

Get answers and ask questions after a brief presentation

- What is the purpose of the Civil Grand Jury?
- Who can apply to be on the Civil Grand Jury?
- How does it work? Selection of issues, and inspections?
- What happens with the Jury's findings / recommendations?
- How to file a complaint for potential investigation?

Choose one of these presentations at your local library

Cameron Park Library	Placerville Library	El Dorado Hills Library	Georgetown Library	South Lake Tahoe Library
Thursday March 28 th 6 PM (evening)	Tuesday March 26 th 6 PM (evening)	Tuesday April 2 nd 1:30 PM (afternoon)	Saturday April 6 th 1:30 PM (afternoon)	Wednesday March 27 th 6 PM (evening)
2500 Country Club Dr Cameron Park, CA (530) 621-5500	345 Fair Lane Placerville, CA (530) 621-5540	7455 Silva Valley Pkwy El Dorado Hills, CA (916) 358-3500	6680 Orleans St, Georgetown, CA (530) 333-4724	1000 Rufus Allen Blvd., South Lake Tahoe, CA (530) 573-3185

Questions? Send an email to EDCchapter.CGJA@gmail.com

Help make government more efficient!

Applications due by May 5th. For more information and to apply, please visit:

<http://edcgov.us/Grandjury>

EDH CSD REPLACES GENERAL COUNSEL

By John Davey

The El Dorado Hills Community Services District (EDH CSD) recently announced a change in its legal counsel. David Tyra, who previously served as general counsel with the firm Kronick Moskovitz Tiedemann & Girard (KMTG), will no longer be with the district.

Public Input and Board Concerns

The announcement follows comments from members of the public and board members Heidi Hannaman and Steve Ferry at a February meeting, where concerns were raised regarding the level of support provided by the previous legal counsel.

Interim Legal Services

In the interim, the district will receive legal services from Derek Cole and Elizabeth Fratarcangeli of Cole Huber. The press release highlights their experience in municipal law, specifically working with special districts and cities.

Future Legal Representation

While Cole Huber assumes interim duties, the EDH CSD will conduct a search for permanent legal counsel. The district's press release indicated that KMTG may continue to be

involved on specific matters such as existing litigation, land negotiation, and CC&R advisement.

At the March 14th EDH CSD Board of Directors meeting Interim General Counsel Derek Cole reported in his General Counsel update:

"... The second item I know is an item of interest, and that is, there has been an investigation into the prior general manager. There is nothing that we can report at this time. Our office is as the general counsel, now interim General counsel is in full possession of the final report. We are the stewards of that report, but that report is attorney, client, privileged.

And we have obligations that the bar requires us to honor, with respect to the confidentiality of that report.

What we will be doing is allowing or providing an opportunity for all 5 Board members to review that report in full. Not all 5 board members have been able to do that yet, so we will be working with you to do that within a confidential setting.

And then at some meeting in the future, a decision can be made about whether and to what extent that report can be released. But I know there's an intense interest in this

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EDH CSD REPLACES GENERAL COUNSEL *(con't)*

report. I'd certainly understand why but in order for us to do our job properly and to make sure you have as board members the ability to understand the report and make a knowing and understanding decision whether to release it or to release some summary of it. We need to work with you to give you that opportunity, and so I hope to have more to report at our next meeting, but that's the only thing we can report at this time on that subject."

Another matter remains entangled with the resignation of the prior District General Counsel, David Tyra. Mr. Tyra's firm Kronick Moskovitz Tiedemann & Girard (KMTG) remains under contract to provide litigation and CC&R legal services to the EDH CSD. Several public comments were submitted by residents about the appropriateness of allowing Mr. Tyra's firm to remain the lawyers litigating the Austin v. El Dorado County case (to which the EDH CSD and EDH Fire Department remain parties to, in regards to Mitigation Fee Act reporting requirements), as well as the EDH CSD v. El Dorado County & County Auditor Joe Harn in regards to annual LLAD assessments not being included on the past two years

Property Tax Statements, and lastly the Concerned Citizens of Heritage El Dorado v. EDH CSD case.

After significant discussion, which included comment from the Interim General Counsel Derek Cole that it is unlikely that his firm would be able to take over the existing litigation cases, the Board provided direction to Staff and interim General Counsel to come back to the Board at a future special meeting with recommendations for a new law firm to assume the litigation cases of the EDH CSD v. El Dorado County & County Auditor Joe Harn case, and the Concerned Citizens of Heritage El Dorado v. EDH CSD case. The CC&R contract will remain with KMTG, as a separate lawyer at the firm has provided those services, and not Mr. Tyra. Additionally, Mr. Tyra has not been the lead counsel on the Austin v. El Dorado County case, and the case is projected to be resolved in a short time frame, and will also remain with KMTG.

The EHD CSD Board of directors scheduled a Special Closed Session Meeting for March 19th, which included the Staff recommendation to approve an agreement for litigation services with Colantuono, Highsmith & Whatley, PC (CHW)
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EDH CSD REPLACES GENERAL COUNSEL *(con't)*

Also at the March 14th meeting, the Board approved having staff begin the Request For Proposals (RFP) for a new permanent General Counsel.

Another agenda item approved allowed for Interim General Manager Mark Hornstra to use up to \$40,000 within his existing authority to extend interim General Counsel Services with Cole Huber until the RFP process for selecting a new permanent General Counsel is completed.

The Board also explored financing options for purchase of the remainder 40-plus acres of the EDH Golf Course within the remaining 16 month option period. A bond issue, a general obligation loan, public-private partnerships, as well as several other funding mechanisms were discussed with Staff, which resulted with the Board providing direction to Staff solicit RFPs for opinion polling for community engagement on the issues.

[View Meeting Recording](#)



BUDGET CONCERNS PRESENT DIFFICULTIES FOR EL DORADO COUNTY

By John Davey

El Dorado County is facing a more challenging budgetary landscape in the upcoming year, according to a mid-year report presented to the Board of Supervisors on February 27th, 2024.

The report, presented by Assistant Chief Administrative Officer Sue Hennike, projects a net General Fund balance of just under \$17 million on June 30th, 2024. This represents a significant decrease from the previous year's ending balance of \$25.9 million.

Breakdown of the Lower Balance

A closer look at the report reveals several factors contributing to the tighter budget picture. Departmental savings, a key source of year-end funds for El Dorado County, have shrunk from nearly \$9 million last year to \$5.5 million this year. This decline is attributed in part to a more conservative budgeting approach by departments themselves, but also to lower-than-anticipated public safety sales tax revenue. Public safety sales tax, a half-cent sales tax imposed by Proposition 172, is a vital source of funding for county law enforcement

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BUDGET CONCERNS FOR EL DORADO COUNTY *(con't)*

and emergency services. A decline in this revenue stream could potentially impact public safety services in the upcoming year.

Beyond Departmental Savings

The report also highlights a significant decrease in unanticipated revenue, or general excess funds. This source of income typically comes from conservative sales tax budgeting that occasionally yields higher-than-projected revenue. However, the county has adopted a more cautious approach to sales tax projections, resulting in a decrease in this category. Additionally, the effects of changes in online sales tax collection methodologies, implemented in 2020, are starting to level off. These changes, which aimed to ensure online retailers collect sales tax where applicable, previously resulted in spikes in unexpected revenue. With the methodology now established, the county is no longer experiencing these windfalls.

Rising Costs and Reserve Drawdown

Adding to the budgetary pressure are rising costs due to inflation. The report indicates that expenses are outpacing revenue growth, further straining the county's financial

resources. The situation is compounded by a decrease in El Dorado County's discretionary reserves. These reserves, typically used for unforeseen expenses or capital projects, have been drawn down by \$22 million due to increased construction costs. This decrease in reserves limits the county's ability to tap into emergency funds during the upcoming budget year.

Proactive Measures and Maintaining Morale

Despite the challenges, the county administration is taking a proactive approach. Staff will be working with department heads to identify cost-saving measures and explore revenue enhancement opportunities. The focus will be on improving overall efficiency while maintaining a positive work environment. The report emphasizes the importance of recognizing departmental sacrifices during the budget development process. The county administration acknowledges the need to restore funding to departments once the county's financial situation stabilizes, ensuring that employee morale and productivity remain high.

Looking Ahead

The mid-year budget report paints a picture of a more constrained financial future for El Dorado

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County. With lower departmental savings, reduced unexpected revenue, and rising expenses, the county administration faces a difficult task in balancing the upcoming budget. However, the proactive approach outlined in the report suggests a commitment to finding innovative solutions and ensuring long-term financial stability. The coming months will be crucial as the county navigates these budgetary challenges.

EL DORADO COUNTY OES LAUNCHES NEW EVACUATION TOOL: PERIMETER

By John Davey

The El Dorado County Office of Emergency Services (OES) operated by the El Dorado County Sheriff's Office (EDSO) has introduced a new online resource to help residents prepare for and respond to emergencies. Perimeter, a web-based evacuation tool, provides real-time information during critical situations like wildfires and floods.

Enhanced Situational Awareness

Perimeter offers a countywide map that displays evacuation zones, evacuation orders and warnings in effect. Residents can easily see if their area is impacted and identify designated evacuation routes. This

level of detail can empower residents to make informed decisions during emergencies.

Beyond Evacuation Zones

The website goes beyond just evacuation zones. It also displays crucial resources available during emergencies, including:

Sandbag locations

Evacuation shelters

Food Bank of El Dorado County distribution sites

Road closures

Flood zones

This comprehensive information can be invaluable for residents seeking assistance during a crisis.

Staying Informed

While Perimeter is a valuable tool, Lt. Troy Morton of EDSO emphasizes it's not a replacement for the Sheriff's Office emergency notification system, RAVE.

Residents are encouraged to sign up for RAVE alerts at

https://www.edcgov.us/Government/CAO/preparedness/Pages/be_inform_ed.aspx.

Additionally, door-to-door notification by deputies remains a primary method for communicating evacuation orders.

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EL DORADO OES LAUNCHES NEW EVACUATION TOOL *(con't)*

Know Your Zone Campaign

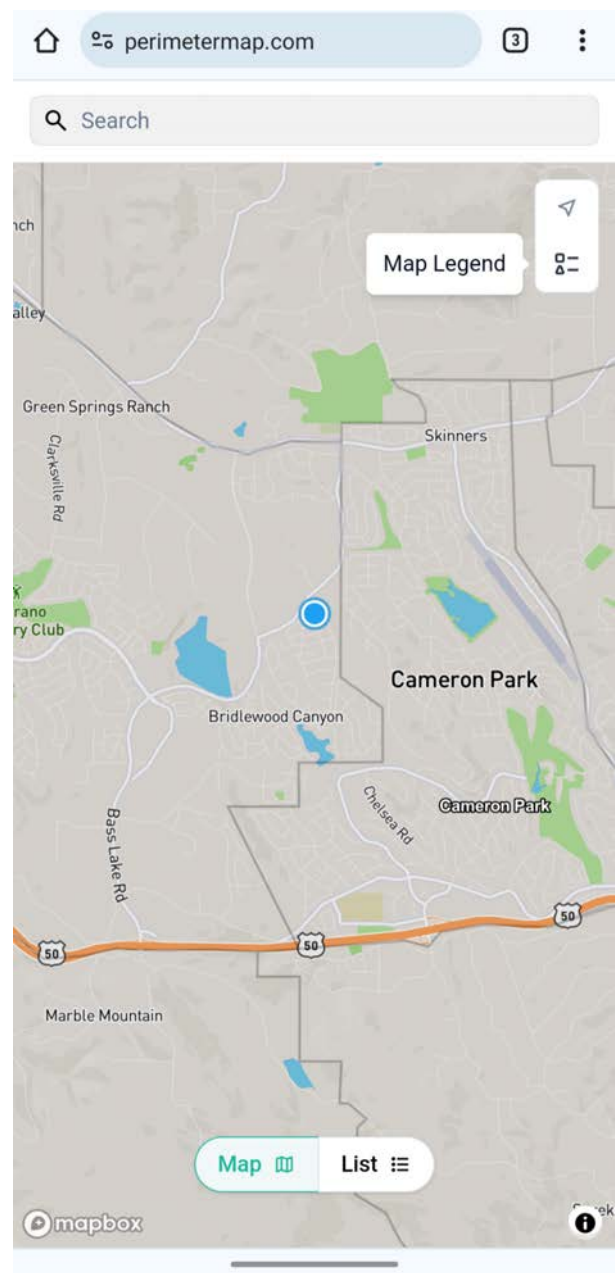
The launch of Perimeter coincides with EDSO's "Know Your Zone" campaign. This initiative aims to educate residents about their evacuation zones and evacuation routes. The campaign will utilize Perimeter, RAVE, and community outreach events, including a town hall on evacuations and wildfire preparedness scheduled for May 18th at Union Mine High School.

Taking Proactive Steps

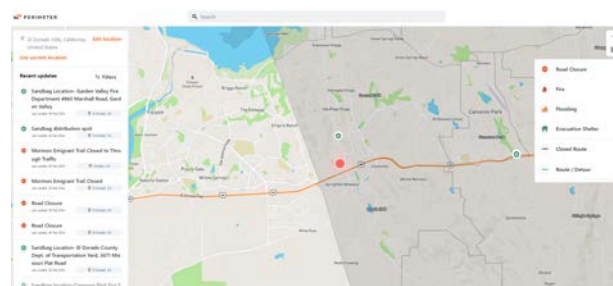
EDSO emphasizes residents should be prepared regardless of the situation. Having an evacuation kit with essential items like medications and documents readily available is crucial. Finally, during emergencies, residents are encouraged to obtain information from trusted sources like EDSO, local fire departments, and police departments. When in doubt, the message from EDSO is clear: "If you think you need to leave, just leave."

Lt Morton and EDH Fire Dept Deputy Chief Mike Lillenthal provided an OES Perimeter discussion at the March El Dorado Hills Community Council Meeting. [Watch the meeting video recording.](#)

Using a cell phone, or a web browser visit perimetermap.com



Perimetermap.com on a cell phone



Perimetermap.com in a web browser

MARCH LOCAL MEETING RECORDINGS

By John Davey

Recordings of local meetings in El Dorado Hills and El Dorado County in March 2024.

El Dorado Hills Community Council Meetings: First Monday of each month.
March Meeting

<https://youtu.be/fpce0Lqde-s>

El Dorado Hills Area Planning Advisory Committee Meetings: Typically the second Wednesday of each Month

March Meeting

<https://edhapac.org/apac-march24-meeting>

El Dorado Hills Community Services District Board of Directors Meetings: Second Thursday of each month

March Meeting

<https://basslakeaction.net/edhcsd-mar-2024>

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 -

<https://www.youtube.com/@eldoradoirrigationdistrict3994>



OR VISIT:

<https://basslakeaction.net/SUBSCRIBE>

BASS LAKE ACTION BOARD MEETING



The first quarterly meeting of the Bass Lake Action Committee Board of Directors was held on February 12, 2024. The next Board meeting will be held at 7PM, on Monday May 13, 2024 in-person & virtual via ZOOM. Members will receive the Agenda & Meeting link/location details via email.

For more information about meetings and membership, please contact Vice-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>