

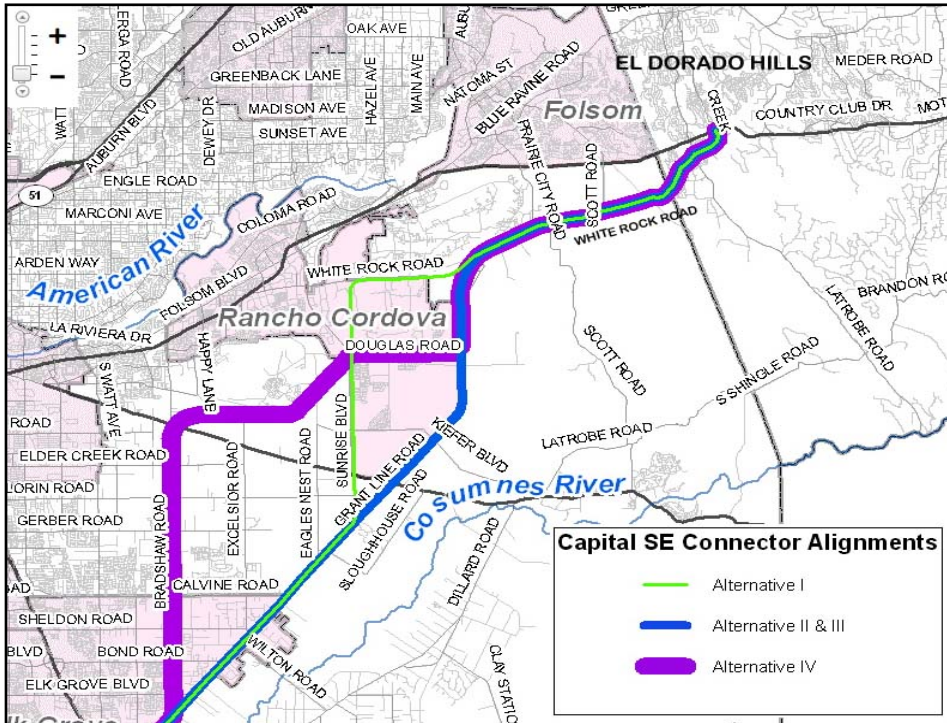
# BASS LAKE BULLETIN

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The Voice of the Bass Lake Community

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Alternative alignments of the Connector that will terminate in El Dorado Hills

## CONNECTOR SPARKS CONTROVERSY IN EDH

Some residents of El Dorado Hills are upset at the thought of thousands of cars and trucks clogging El Dorado Hills streets because of the proposed Connector road that will link Elk Grove and El Dorado Hills. The connector, which is slated to range from four to six lanes wide along its route, will link Interstate 5, Highway 99 and Highway 50.

Identified in both the Sacramento Area Council of Government's Blueprint plan and their 2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan, the Connector is one of the major projects funded partially by Measure A that Sacramento County voters passed in 2006. The Connector is being implemented by the Connector Joint Powers Authority (JPA), with representatives from the cities of Elk Grove, Folsom and Rancho Cordova and El Dorado and Sacramento counties.

Several local El Dorado Hills citizens groups have expressed the concern that Sacramento County is paying little attention to the traffic congestion that ending the Connector at Latrobe Road in El Dorado Hills

will create. They point out that the traffic count forecast for White Rock Road in El Dorado County in the year 2045 was cited at the April 24, 2009, JPA meeting as 20,000 average daily trips, relative to 8,000 in current conditions; however, the actual current conditions are already 10,000 average daily trips for White Rock Road at the Latrobe Road intersection. This traffic is expected to increase substantially when the southern portion of El Dorado Hills is built out in the near future.

Some El Dorado Hills residents believe that, because of the impacts that the expanded Connector will bring, the connector should not be permitted to enter El Dorado Hills on White Rock Road. Instead, they suggest that alternative Connector routes should include new roadway choices which would carry regional traffic between Sacramento County and El Dorado County to the north or south of El Dorado Hills, bypassing the commercial, business, and high density housing areas currently existing or planned

in El Dorado Hills.

An informational meeting about the coming Connector will be held by the JPA at the Four Seasons Lodge on June 8, 2009, at 6:30 PM for those interested in finding out more about the planned connector. The Lodge is located in the Four Seasons Community at 3186 Four Seasons Drive in El Dorado Hills, accessible from the White Rock Road gated entrance. For further information, please contact Patti Ransdell at the JPA at 916-658-0180. ~



## MASONRY WALL, FENCING, AND STREET LIGHTS FOUND AT BASS LAKE ZONE B LLAD

As readers of the Bulletin are probably aware, Bass Lake Action Committee (BLAC) recently looked into the activities of the El Dorado Hills Community Services District (CSD) with respect to the Bass Lake Village Landscape and Lighting Assessment District Zone B (LLAD), also known as the Woodridge neighborhood on Bass Lake Road. Earlier this year, it was discovered that Oak Knoll Park, for which the Woodridge residents had been paying LLAD assessments to maintain, was in actuality not in their assessment district, and refunds were paid to the residents who had been incorrectly assessed.

As a part of their investigation, BLAC found that, pursuant to Proposition 218, any assessment for a LLAD must be supported by a detailed engineer's report prepared by a registered professional engineer certified by the State of California. Upon examining the

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**WALL FOUND** *(continued)*

engineer's reports prepared for Bass Lake Village LLAD Zone B, the description of the LLAD's assets (fences, walls, signs, etc.) in the engineer's report did not seem to reflect what could be seen in the LLAD.

It seemed to BLAC that an engineer's report that contained a description of assets such as walls, fences, landscaping and streetlights would be the work product of an engineer that physically examined the assets on site and determined the assessment, at least in part, from that inspection. However, BLAC was informed by the CSD that a physical inspection is not part of the engineer's report. As a matter of fact, the engineer is given the asset descriptions and the budget numbers by the CSD staff and the engineer's report is written up based on that data.

Inasmuch as the assets in prior years' engineer's reports did not seem to reflect what was actually in the LLAD, BLAC asked the CSD to conduct an inspection of the LLAD and determine what exactly were the assets upon which the residents were being assessed.

The on-site inspection by the CSD turned up some assets that were not listed in the prior engineer's reports: 1,042 feet of six-foot-high masonry wall on each side of the Madera Way entry to Woodridge, 200 feet of tubular (imitation wrought iron) fencing in the northern part of the LLAD, and five additional street lights in the neighborhood.

The new engineer's report correctly reflects the assets of the LLAD. Persons who are interested in what assets are listed for their particular LLAD may view the preliminary EDH CSD's 2009-2010 Engineer's Report posted on the BLAC website. ~



**FLAG DAY**  
**JUNE 14TH**



Roman Goddess Juno

**THE MONTH OF JUNE**

June is the sixth month of the year in the Gregorian calendar, with a length of thirty days.

The month is named after the Roman goddess Juno, wife of Jupiter and equivalent to the Greek goddess Hera. She was the goddess of marriage and childbirth. Juno was an ancient Roman goddess, the protector and special counselor of the state. She is a daughter of Saturn and sister (but also the wife) of the chief god Jupiter and the mother of Juventas, Mars, and Vulcan. Her Greek equivalent is Hera.

Junius was the Latin name for the fourth, and later the sixth, month of twenty-nine days in the Roman Pre-Julian lunar calendars of Romulus and Numa, respectively.

The Julian calendar, the reformed Roman calendar, was introduced by Julius Caesar in 46 BC, and in that calendar Junius remained the sixth month, but gained a day to become thirty days long.

The month of Junius was later renamed by other emperors: Nero renamed Junius as Germanicus; Commodus was unique in renaming all twelve months after his own adopted names, and the sixth month was called Aelius, but apparently none of these changes survived the emperors' deaths.

The Julian calendar with Junius as the sixth month remained in use in Europe until 1582, when Pope Gregory XIII promulgated the present Gregorian calendar, in which Junius became June and remained as the sixth month, with thirty days. Note that the letter j was not introduced into our alphabet until the 16th century, so Junius was spelled Iunius prior to then.

June is the month with the longest daylight hours of the year in the Northern Hemisphere, and the shortest daylight hours of the year in the Southern Hemisphere. Spring ends and Summer begins on June 21 in the Northern Hemisphere, and that date marks the occurrence of the Summer Solstice, or the longest day of the year, in 2009.

The traditional June birthstone is the pearl. The June birth flower is the rose, or the honeysuckle, as roses and honeysuckles bloom throughout June.

June is known for the large number of marriages that occur over the course of the month. Since June is named after Juno the goddess of marriage, some consider it good luck to be married in this month. ~

**EID LIFTS DROUGHT STAGE 1 STATUS**

On May 27, the El Dorado Irrigation District (EID) announced the end of their Stage 1 drought declaration for El Dorado Hills and the rest of their service area. The Stage 1 drought condition was put in effect in March, when local reservoirs were low, and the federal Bureau of Reclamation said that it planned to reduce the EID's allocation of water from Folsom Lake, water which serves El Dorado Hills.

The EID board of directors terminated the Stage 1 drought declaration after a discussion of customer response to the drought declaration, the effects of the wet spring, and a decision by the Bureau of Reclamation to allow the EID all of its allocation of water from Folsom Lake.

The Stage 1 drought water rates that went into effect in April were also lifted. Future water bills will be calculated under the Stage 0 non-drought rates, and bills will be prorated as necessary.

Significantly, from the time that the Stage 1 drought was declared, customer water demand dropped nearly twenty-six percent in response to the EID appeal for water conservation. The EID board expressed the hope that customers would continue to use water wisely, noting that their current progressive water rates reward those who use less water.

The EID continues to encourage customers to follow sensible water management practices, including watering outside only when necessary, sweeping rather than washing paved areas, repairing leaky faucets, and washing only when your dishwasher and clothes washer are full. ~

## THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Hello All,

Fran and I were sitting around after dinner the other night when the lightning started to flash and the thunder started to roll.

Being a native of Southern California, I had never seen a thunderstorm up close. We went outside to see the flashes and hear the claps of thunder. On and on it went, lightning bolts flashing among the clouds and thunder pealing across the sky.

We sat in wonder under our arbor as the rain pattered down and the spectacular light and sound show went on. "When will it stop?" we asked each other, but the flashes and booms just kept on coming. We agreed that this was certainly a demonstration of Nature's power, and a sign of our own pale and insignificant presence here on the Earth. I awoke during the night to lightning flashes out the window.

By morning the storms had passed, but not without leaving behind the feeling that we had witnessed a powerful display of the power of Nature.

This Spring has been a bit unusual, first with the drenching rain earlier this month, and now with these dazzling thunderstorms.

When Fran and I moved to Bass Lake, we expected our life to be different. But we didn't expect it to be as exiting as it has turned out to be, nor did we envision meeting and working with all the fine people that we found here, and being with those whose friendship means a lot to us.

We wouldn't live anywhere else.

*John E. Thomson*

President



Map showing possible location of new RUSD school at Bass Lake

### SITE CHOSEN FOR NEW SCHOOL AT BASS LAKE?

The Bulletin has learned from persons familiar with the matter that the Rescue Union School District (District), which has embarked on an odyssey of sorts trying to decide where to build the new school slated for the Bass Lake area, may have decided on a location off of Serrano Parkway and Bass Lake Road.

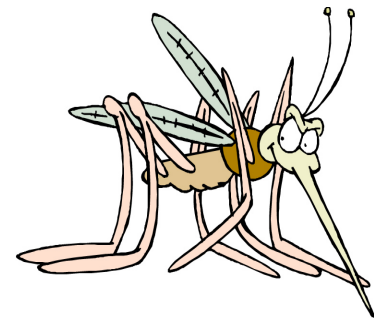
The District has received permission to conduct a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) on a parcel of land northwest of the intersection of Bass Lake Road and Serrano Parkway (see map).

An ESA is a report prepared for a real estate holding which identifies potential or existing environmental contamination liabilities. The analysis typically addresses both the underlying land as well as physical improvements to the property; however, techniques applied in a Phase I ESA never include actual collection of physical samples or chemical analyses of any kind. Scrutiny of the land includes examination of potential soil contamination, groundwater quality, surface water quality and sometimes issues related to hazardous substance uptake by plants.

The examination of a site may include a definition of any chemical residues within structures; identification of possible asbestos-containing building materials, an inventory of hazardous substances stored or used on site; assessment of mold and mildew, and an evaluation of other indoor

air quality parameters.

Actual sampling of soil, air, groundwater and/or building materials is typically not conducted during a Phase I ESA. The Phase I ESA is generally considered the first step in the process of environmental due diligence. Potential school sites receive more environmental scrutiny pursuant to state and federal environmental regulations because of the greater effect of pollution or contamination on school children. ~



### TIME TO BE AWARE OF THE WEST NILE VIRUS

The California Department of Public Health and the El Dorado County Department of Health are reminding Californians to prevent West Nile virus (WNV) infections by protecting themselves from mosquito bites. The arrival of warm weather promotes the breeding of mosquitoes that carry West Nile virus.

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**WEST NILE** *(continued)*

While no predictions can be made about the severity of West Nile virus this season, Californians should take precautions to protect themselves from mosquito bites by applying insect repellent and eliminating all sources of standing water that can support mosquito breeding.

WNV is transmitted to humans and animals through a mosquito bite. Mosquitoes become infected when they feed on infected birds. The most effective ways for individuals to prevent exposure to mosquito bites and WNV are as follows:

(1) Apply insect repellent containing DEET (N,N-Diethyl-meta-toluamide), picaradin, oil of lemon eucalyptus or IR 3535 (n-acetyl-N-butyl-ethyl ester) according to label instructions. Repellents keep the mosquitoes from biting you.

(2) Wear clothing that reduces the risk of skin exposure.

(3) Mosquitoes that carry WNV bite in the early morning and evening so it is important to wear repellent at this time. Make sure that your doors and windows have tight-fitting screens to keep out mosquitoes. Repair or replace screens with tears or holes.



*The Swing*

*How do you like to go up in a swing,  
Up in the air so blue?  
Oh, I do think it the pleasantest thing  
Ever a child can do!*

*Up in the air and over the wall,  
Till I can see so wide,  
River and trees and cattle and all  
Over the countryside—*

*Till I look down on the garden green,  
Down on the roof so brown—  
Up in the air I go flying again,  
Up in the air and down!*

— Robert Louis Stevenson

(4) Mosquitoes lay their eggs on standing water. Eliminate all sources of standing water on your property, including flower pots, old car tires, rain gutters and pet bowls. If you have a pond, use mosquito fish or commercially available products to eliminate mosquito larvae.

Most individuals who are infected with WNV will not experience any illness. Approximately 80 percent of people (about 4 out of 5) who are infected with WNV will not show any symptoms.

Up to 20 percent (about 1 in 5) of the people who become infected will display symptoms which generally last for just a few days, although even previously healthy people have been sick for several weeks.

Less than one percent (about 1 in 150 people) of individuals infected with WNV will develop severe illness.

Individuals 50 years of age and older have a higher chance of getting sick and are more likely to develop serious symptoms when infected with WNV.

Be aware of what you can do to protect yourself from WNV. Additional information is available from the El Dorado County Public Health Department website. ~

**ILLEGAL SIGN REMOVAL**

BLAC has received complaints that Bass Lake Road is being littered with a number of roadside signs. Of course, if someone places a sign on private property with the consent of the owner of the property, that is generally permitted. However, the El Dorado County Code prohibits the erection or placement of

Bass Lake Action Committee  
501 Kirkwood Court  
El Dorado Hills, CA 95762

any obstructions, including signs, which are placed in, under or over any portion of the right-of-way of any county roadway, and the fine for violating the ordinance is \$500.

The county will remove signs that are placed in the road right-of-way. Complaints about roadside signs may be directed to Jeff Russert, El Dorado County Environmental Management, telephone 530-621-6654. ~

**BLAC BOARD MEETS IN JUNE, SETS JULY MEETING**

The board of directors of Bass Lake Action Committee (BLAC) met on June 1 for the regular June board meeting. Topics discussed included Serrano Village J Development, Bass Lake Village Landscape and Lighting Assessment District, and the EID meeting May 27th.

The next BLAC Meeting will be held on Monday, July 6, at 7:00 PM, at the home of Tom and Andi Stuchell, 2206 Summer Drive, El Dorado Hills. Contact BLAC Vice President Kathy Prevost for further information. ~

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John E. Thomson, Ph.D.  
President and Editor  
doctorjet@basslakeaction.org  
530-677-3039

For additional information see our website [basslakeaction.org](http://basslakeaction.org) or contact

Vice President Kathy Prevost  
[kathyp@basslakeaction.org](mailto:kathyp@basslakeaction.org)  
530-672-6836