

The



BASS LAKE BULLETIN

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www.basslakeaction.org



Map showing the approximate location of the planned development

PLANNERS OK BASS LAKE HILLS PROJECT

A 90-home residential development within the Bass Lake Hills Specific Plan was approved by the El Dorado County Planning Commission at its January 26 meeting.

The 38.6 acre development is located north of Highway 50, east of Bass Lake Road and bounded by Sienna Ridge Road to the west in El Dorado Hills. The developer, Norm Brown/NC Brown Development Inc., asked the commission to rezone the property from Residential Estate 10 Acres to Single-Unit Residential-Planned Development and approve the creation of 90 single-family residential lots, four open space lots and two right-of-way lots.

Speaking against the project was James Greenwald, who said he lives west of the project. Discussing traffic safety concerns, he asked that a stoplight or stop sign be a condition of approval. Another resident submitted a letter asking for a 30-day delay until traffic concerns were addressed.

A representative from the Rescue Union School District discussed the impact on the

nearby school, saying the school impact fees collected from the development won't cover the more than \$40 million it would cost to build a new K-8 school.

Shingle Springs resident Lori Parlin also asked for a delay in approving the project, saying the public needs more time to study all the documents and changes to the conditions of approval and that Measure E applies to the project, although the staff report states it does not.

In response to the questions about traffic, Brown said if and when the new road is built an access road would be added that would alleviate Greenwald's concerns. He also said a traffic analysis of the intersection indicated a signal is not yet warranted.

The commissioners unanimously approved the project, which will next be considered by the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors.

The project will go to the Board of Supervisors on February 28, so there is still time to comment if you wish to do so, according to BLAC vice president Kathy Prevost. ~

Credit: Dawn Hodson, Mountain Democrat



SUPERVISOR HIDAHL REVIVES EDH COUNCIL

Less than a month into his four-year term representing District 1, Supervisor John Hidahl is making good on a campaign pledge to bring back the El Dorado Hills Community Council created by former supervisor Sam Bradley in the 1990s.

For years many El Dorado Hills constituents have complained that they don't have a voice when decisions are being made at the county level. Board of Supervisors meetings in Placerville are long and during the work week.

"The El Dorado Hills Community Council was made up of only District 1 members," Hidahl explained. "They got to be the voice of District 1, but that fell by the wayside after Bradley left office."

The EDH Area Planning Advisory Committee was an extension of the council, and the only lasting part of it, Hidahl explained. APAC meets monthly to discuss land use projects proposed in El Dorado Hills and Hidahl has been a longtime member. Members study a project and give their input to the District 1 planning commissioner before the Planning Commission and ultimately the Board of Supervisors vote on it. Hidahl recently appointed Jeff Haberman to be the new commissioner, replacing Ron Mikulaco's appointment, Rich Stewart. APAC will continue to meet, but Hidahl plans to include more categories for the council to study and report back about.

At a kick-off meeting inside the El Dorado Hills Community Services District's Norm Rowett Pavilion last Thursday, Hidahl

(continued on page 2)

PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Dear Members and Supporters,

I certainly hope everyone is safe from the continuous rain storms we have been having over the last few months. While all of us, over the last few years, have been praying for more rain I don't think we could anticipate the volume that Mother Nature has decided to provide.

I guess the old saying is true... sometimes you get what you ask for and then some.

The El Dorado Hills Fire Protection District has completed its "Traffic Calming Standard Survey." This survey was to perform an evaluation of policy on vertical roadway deflection devices for the best practices for traffic calming devices.

It was discovered that over 55% of the recorded vehicles exceeded the posted speed limits. While further studies and evaluations need to be made a number of proven, low-intensity traffic calming measures, if used, must never physically slow emergency vehicles whatsoever: radar trailers, speed feedback signs, speed legends, optical speed bars, speed reduction markings, raised pavement markings, rumble strips, textured pavement, and high-visibility crosswalks are now being considered.

While all these new options are now being considered we all can take control of our speeding habits by driving the posted speed limits. Please remember all residential neighborhoods, when posted or not, have a maximum speed limit of 25 mph.

Please respect your neighborhoods and the safety of our children, walking adults and pets and please never exceed this 25 mph speed limit. As our local CHP and Sheriff always say, speed kills.

Vision is the art of seeing what is invisible to others.

Sincerely,

Dale A. Chambers

President

www.basslakeaction.org

HIDAHL (continued)

shared the community council's original bylaws written in 1994 and proposed to align the council with the county's 2016-19 Strategic Plan, including its five elements:

1. Economic development. Enable a prosperous and vibrant economy. This would be done by attracting, developing and retaining businesses that provide economic sustainability; increasing employment opportunities and investing in infrastructure. Hidahl also said he would like to see residents develop a community plan. "Do we want a community center?" he asked. "More rec fields? Specific kinds of housing we don't have now?"

2. Infrastructure. Provide, operate and maintain infrastructure, public facilities and associated services that protect the community, environment and economic well-being. This would be done by ensuring safe and healthy communities through regulatory and policy compliance and a safe, well-planned and maintained transportation network, anticipating the needs of the county. Hidahl brought a newly completed road index, showing nine roads that have either failed or need upkeep in District 1 alone.

3. Good county governance. This equals transparency, Hidahl said, and accountability with respect to laws, regulations and policies.

4. Public safety. This protects the community, prevents crime, enforces the law, administers justice, provides rehabilitative services and promptly responds to emergencies and calls for service. "Issues surrounding home invasions would fall under this category," Hidahl said.

5. Healthy communities. Improved health, well-being and self-sufficiency of El Dorado County communities, residents and visitors. This would be done by protecting against adverse outcomes among children, adults and senior citizens and the homeless population in the community at large. "This includes not just treating people with mental health needs, but also looking at how we maintain good mental health," Hidahl said.

Information gained from these sub-committees would then be shared via a website with various tabs, including APAC letters and recommendations, links to Planning Commission meetings, county meeting agendas and mental health care links.

The next meeting has not been set, but one thing is for certain when the community council gets going. "I want to see action," Hidahl said, "not just discussion." ~

Credit: Julie Samrick, Village Life



EID DECLARES EMERGENCY TO FIX STORM DAMAGE

During a special meeting held on February 13, 2017, the El Dorado Irrigation District (EID) Board of Directors adopted a resolution declaring an emergency to address damaged District facilities. The emergency was called in response to the intense rainfall that has saturated soils, overwhelmed sewer facilities and caused collapses, soil failures, and earth movement affecting vital District infrastructure and threatening to disrupt the District's ability to provide essential public services.

The emergency declaration allows EID staff to take necessary measures to complete temporary repairs and hire the engineers and contractors needed for immediate remediation efforts.

Soil Collapses and Failures

From January 6 through February 11, 2017, 21 distinct soil collapses, failures, and slides have impacted the District's hydroelectric and water transmission systems. Three major soil collapses will require remediation that is likely to take multiple months to complete.

In one collapse near EID's Flume 10, a 60-foot section of canal located 26 miles east of Placerville was breached when soil and debris blocked the canal. With the breach, approximately 160 feet of canal bench collapsed. District crews have already begun the steps necessary to build access to the site in order to begin efforts to dewater and stabilize the slope.

Another collapse is affecting Flume 5, where approximately 1,500 cubic yards of saturated soil is collapsing onto the flume section. The material is being held by the flume, with part of the walkway broken by the pressure. The remote site will require helicopter access for equipment and supplies and will require removal of several sections of flume to remediate the affected hillside.

A third collapse of soil material has the potential to affect the 24-inch Moose Hall

(continued on page 3)

EID *(continued)*

water transmission main that delivers water in Pollock Pines. This repair will require significant trench stabilization and hillside restoration.

Sewer System Emergencies

In addition, three areas in the sewer system collections system have necessitated emergency actions

The Town Center Force Main, which has seen seven breaks since 2014, had another break along Mother Lode Drive. In 2016, the District began designing the replacement of a large section of the Town Center Force Main, and expects to construct the project later this year. Recent storm activities have saturated the ground surrounding the pipe which has exacerbated its rate of failure and necessitated immediate action. "The pipe is in such a state of failure that the most recent breaks required immediate replacement of nearly 400 feet in order to connect to stable pipe," said EID Director of Operations Margaret Washko.

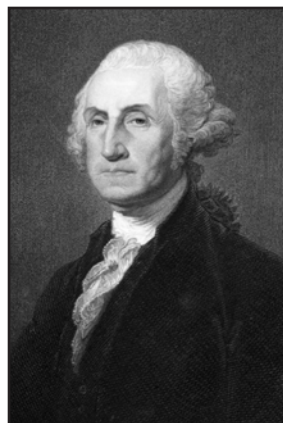
Emergency pumping at the El Dorado Lift Station was required during the intense rain of the past weeks. The intense rain overwhelmed the pumps at this wastewater lift station and the nearby equalization pond was filled to regulatory capacity. Contract pumping and truck hauling was needed to avoid a violation of wastewater regulations.

Emergency pumping and hauling was also needed for the Camino Heights wastewater treatment facility in order to stay within regulated discharge rates. With the emergency pumping done so far, EID has avoided potentially costly regulatory fines.

"EID's crews in the field and staff at headquarters have done a tremendous job in safeguarding public health and safety," said EID General Manager Jim Abercrombie. "We at EID appreciate our community's patience and understanding as we tackle some very complex fixes."

For more on the emergency, go to www.eid.org/emergency2017. Signup or edit your eNews preferences to receive notice when information is posted to this webpage. ~

Credit: Jesse Saich, EID Public Information Officer



ORIGIN OF GEORGE WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY HOLIDAY

Following President George Washington's death in 1799, his February 22 birthday became a perennial day of remembrance. At the time, Washington was venerated as the most important figure in American history, and events like the 1832 centennial of his birth and the start of construction of the Washington Monument in 1848 were cause for national celebration.

While Washington's Birthday was an unofficial observance for most of the 1800s, it was not until 1879 that it became a federal holiday. The holiday initially only applied to the District of Columbia, but in 1885 it was expanded to the whole country. At the time, Washington's Birthday joined four other nationally recognized federal bank holidays—Christmas Day, New Year's Day, Independence Day and Thanksgiving—and was the first to celebrate the life of an individual American.

In the late 1960s Congress proposed a measure known as the Uniform Monday Holiday Act which sought to shift the celebration of several federal holidays from specific dates to a series of predetermined Mondays. The Act also included a provision to combine the celebration of Washington's Birthday with that of Abraham Lincoln's, which fell on the nearby date of February 12. The idea of renaming naming the holiday "President's Day" proved to be a point of contention for lawmakers from George Washington's home state of Virginia, and that proposal was eventually dropped. The Act took effect in 1971 following an executive order from President Richard Nixon. Washington's Birthday was then shifted from the fixed date of February 22 to the third Monday of February.

While Nixon's order plainly called the newly-placed holiday Washington's Birth-

day, the shift to calling it "Presidents' Day" soon began. The move away from February 22 led many to believe that the new date was intended to honor both Washington and Abraham Lincoln. Marketers used the misunderstanding to exploit the three-day weekend with promotions called Presidents' Day sales.

By the mid-1980s Washington's Birthday was referred to by many as Presidents' Day. By the early 2000s about half the states had changed the holiday's name to Presidents' Day on their calendars.

Despite this popular notion, the United States Code still designates the third Monday in February as Washington's Birthday. Lincoln's Birthday has never been a U.S. Federal Government holiday.

In California, Government Code designates the third Monday in February as a holiday (though unnamed), and the Education Code designates Lincoln's Birthday as a school holiday on the Monday or the Friday of the week into which February 12 falls. ~



CLOCKS TO CHANGE ON SUNDAY MARCH 12

Readers are reminded that when local standard time is about to reach 2:00 A.M. on Sunday, March 12, clocks are to be turned forward one hour to 3:00 A.M. local daylight savings time (DST) instead. Sunrise and sunset will be about 1 hour later on that day, resulting in more light in the evening.

Although they did not fix their schedules to the clock in the modern sense, ancient civilizations adjusted daily schedules to the sun more flexibly than DST does, often dividing daylight into twelve hours regardless of daytime, so that each daylight hour was longer during summer. For example, the Roman day was divided into 12 hours (horae) of light and twelve hours of darkness. The hours from sunrise to sunset each lasted 44 minutes at the winter solstice, but at the summer solstice they lasted 75 minutes.

After ancient times, local equal-length civil hours eventually became the norm, so the hours no longer varied by season.

(continued on page 4)

CLOCKS *(continued)*

Eighteenth-century Europe did not even keep precise clock time. However, this soon changed as rail transport and communication networks came to require a standardization of time and the international time zone arrangement was established based on Greenwich Mean Time (GMT), which became Coordinated Universal Time (UTC). UTC is often still referred to as GMT.

Germany and Austria-Hungary were the first to use DST, starting in 1916, as a way to conserve coal during World War I. Britain and many European countries soon followed suit, and the United States adopted DST in 1918.

Broadly speaking, DST was abandoned in the years after World War I. However, it was brought back for periods of time during the following decades, and during World War II.

It became widely adopted, particularly in North America and Europe, starting in the 1970s as a result of the energy crisis. Hawaii and most of Arizona are the only states that do not currently use DST. ~



The Rain

I hear leaves drinking rain;
I hear rich leaves on top
Giving the poor beneath
Drop after drop;
'Tis a sweet noise to hear
These green leaves drinking
near.

And when the Sun comes out,
After this Rain shall stop,
A wondrous Light will fill
Each dark, round drop;
I hope the Sun shines bright;
'Twill be a lovely sight.

—William Henry Davies



WINTER COLD WILL CONTINUE, SAYS PUNXSUTAWNEY PHIL

A large crowd turned out to see Punxsutawney Phil on Groundhog Day, Thursday, February 2nd, waiting to learn whether the animal saw his own shadow on Gobbler's Knob. Phil was in an unusually feisty mood, but once he settled down, he saw his own shadow, officials deemed.

Aficionados of the annual ritual will say that means we're in for six more weeks of cold weather.

This year was the 131st time Punxsutawney Phil has shared his meteorological ideas with a grateful nation, and this time around, the information was hard-won. His eponymous day seemed to sneak up on Phil, and despite more than an hour of loud music and the adoring shouts of human admirers that preceded the sunrise event, his handlers had to grapple with the groundhog so he could have his moment in the sun (or shade).

The animal, known in his hometown as "the seer of seers," was then displayed to the crowd before being placed on a stump to determine whether he might see his own shadow. An official decree was then read aloud, declaring our cold future.

Since Phil the groundhog has been right only 39% of the time in the past, we shall see if his prediction proves to be correct. ~

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BLAC BOARD MET, NEXT MEETING SET IN MAY

The February Bass Lake Action Committee (BLAC) Board Meeting met on Monday, February 13, 2017. The topics under discussion included the disposition of the Bass Lake property, The Bass Lake B Landscape and Lighting District, and the status of Serrano Lots J5 and J6 .

The next Board Meeting will be on Monday, May 22, 2017, at 7:00 PM at the home of Dale and Anh Chambers, 2188 Summer Drive, El Dorado Hills, CA 95762, 530-350-8763. All BLAC members are cordially invited to attend Board Meetings.

For further information about BLAC meetings and membership, please contact Vice President Kathy Prevost at 530-672-6836. ~



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