



# BASS LAKE BULLETIN

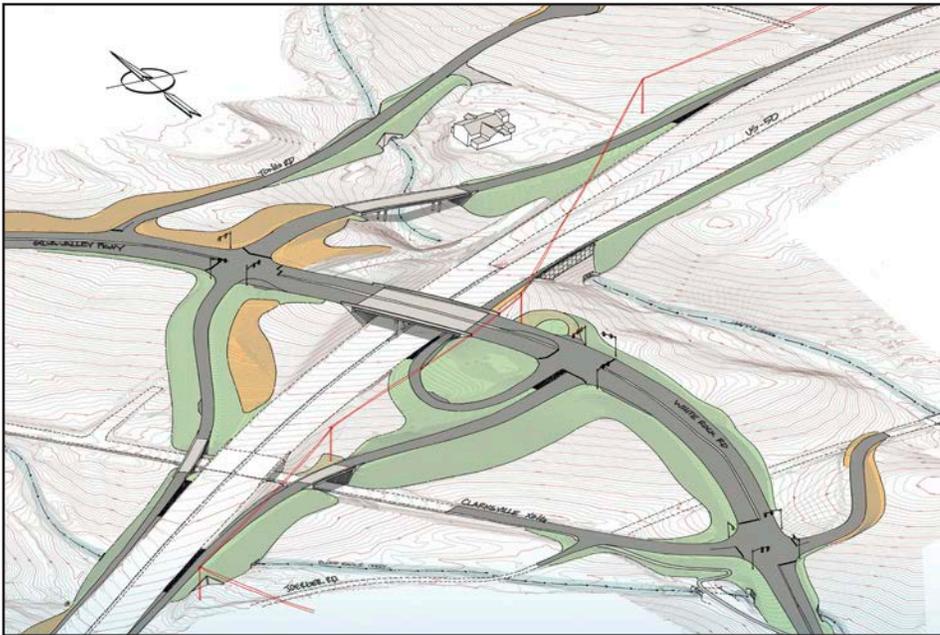
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## SILVA VALLEY INTERCHANGE OPENS



Engineer's conceptual drawing of the completed interchange

### *Long-anticipated highway project finally opened*

El Dorado County opened the U.S. 50/Silva Valley Parkway Interchange to motorists on June 1, 2016, culminating years of planning and months of construction.

The interchange project has been identified in the County's General Plan since the 1990s.

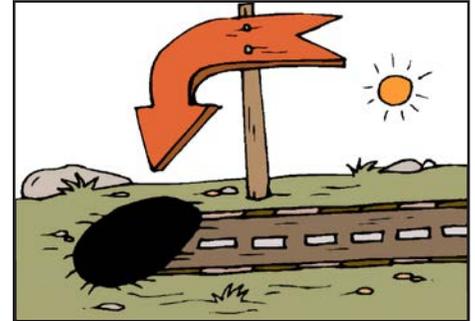
The total projected cost for Phase 1 is approximately \$56 million. While final costs for the project are being calculated, it is anticipated that the project will be approximately \$4 million under its 2010 Phase 1 budget. The project was primarily funded by a combination of traffic impact mitigation fees and developer fees.

This successful project was made possible with the assistance of many partners. The County Community Development Agency, Transportation Division was responsible for overall project management, while project design was prepared by Mark Thomas and Associates and construction was performed by Myers and Sons Construction.

Other partners who made delivery of this

project possible include residents and developers in El Dorado Hills who contributed to the funding of the interchange through payment of traffic impact mitigation fees and developer fees. In addition, the County received cooperation from PG&E, Caltrans, and the El Dorado County Irrigation District on the project.

The interchange will be the eastern end of the Capital Southeast Connector, a 35-mile parkway-style facility that will connect Interstate 5, south of Elk Grove, to Highway 50 in El Dorado County, designed to offer motorists an alternative to plodding through the congested central core of Sacramento, battling heavy traffic, and experiencing long delays, especially during rush hour. ~



The Road Funding Sinkhole

## EL DORADO COUNTY SUFFERS AS STATE ROAD FUNDING FALLS

California road funding has been in the news lately, with state funding for local roads projected to be cut due to plummeting gasoline tax revenue, according to those familiar with the situation. El Dorado County depends on the state funding road repairs in the county, which is usually a dedicated allocation.

California Transportation Commission has announced that the state would cut transportation funding by \$754 million, a 38% decrease, because revenue from the state's levies on gasoline sales, which provide much of that funding, plummeted as gas prices dropped and more fuel-efficient vehicles proliferated. Those falling prices cut the state's gas excise tax revenue from 18 cents a gallon two years ago to 12 cents last year, and revenue is expected to sink to 10 cents in July. Every penny in revenue lost per gallon means a \$140-million drop in transportation funding."

Due to the cuts, for the first time in a decade the state has been asking counties to terminate some of the 200-plus projects previously offered funding according to Susan Bransen, chief deputy director of the California Transportation Commission.

*(continued on page 2)*



## ROAD FUNDS *(continued)*

El Dorado County has seen its gas tax dollars decrease, and the County will continue to see a decrease according to state projections. For example, in 2014, El Dorado County received \$10.1 million and it is projected to receive just \$6.5 million in 2017. It is difficult for the County to maintain current roads and plan for future road infrastructure when its state allocated road funds are continuing to decrease and there is no action at the state level to alleviate the problem.

Despite an appeal by Governor Brown for the legislature to find more funds for road repairs in a special legislative session, prospects for an immediate solution to bridge the shortfall appear dim. ~



Your Flag and My Flag  
Your flag and my flag,  
And how it flies today  
In your land and my land  
And half a world away!

Rose-red and blood-red  
The stripes forever gleam;  
Snow-white and soul-white -  
The good forefathers' dream;  
Sky-blue and true-blue,  
With stars to gleam aright -  
The gloried guidon of the day,  
A shelter through the night.

— Wilbur D. Nesbit



## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Hello All,

This month's Bulletin is a short one, because we are in the Summer Dol-drums - nothing much is happening.

It appears that we got Bass Lake Road repaved just in the nick of time, as the bottom has fallen out of local road funding from the state, due to lower gas tax revenue. I have heard from some sources who ought to know that the state general revenue may be going the same way, as California is overly-dependent on the Silicon Valley for a great deal of its tax revenue, and it looks like the the Valley may be slowing down.

It seems like we just celebrated Memorial Day, and here is Fourth of July fast approaching. The July Bulletin will probably not be out before the Fourth, so let me take this opportunity to say that we should always be proud that we live in a country in which we can celebrate many unbroken years of independence from foreign domination.

And let's always remember our young men and women in the Armed Services, who help to keep us free and independent.

God Bless America!

*John E. Thomson*

President

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## BLAC BOARD SETS AUGUST 1 AS NEXT MEETING DATE

The next regular board of directors meeting of the Bass Lake Action Committee will be held on August 1, 2016, at 7:00 PM at the home of John and Fran Thomson, 501 Kirkwood Court in Woodridge, El Dorado Hills, 530-677-3039. The date and time of the December Annual General Membership Meeting will be on the agenda.

As always, all BLAC members are cordially invited to attend all meetings. For further information about BLAC meetings and membership, please contact Vice President Kathy Prevost at 530-672-6836. ~



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