

Public Comment #30
BOS RCVD 6/16/2025

From: [jennifer calvin](#)
To: [BOS-Clerk of the Board](#)
Subject: Multi Use path connecting Coloma and Lotus communities
Date: Friday, June 13, 2025 5:08:18 PM

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Good afternoon El Dorado County Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to share my support for the construction of a multi-use path which would connect the communities of Coloma and Lotus, California.

I have been a resident of the LoCol community for the last 24 years. I raised my son playing at Henningsen Lotus Park, rafting and kayaking on the river, celebrating Halloween with Pumpkins on the Bridge, attending the Coloma Lotus Tree Lighting Ceremony, going to Gold Rush Days in the state park and so much more! We have enjoyed living in this valley but, it has never been safe to ride a bike or walk on Lotus Road. It has no shoulder to walk or ride a bike on safely and vehicle traffic continues to drive faster each year.

The construction of a multi use path Lotus Road connecting the two communities would benefit everyone. Drivers using the roadway may feel more comfortable if cyclists and pedestrians were not on the road and then the obvious, cyclists and pedestrians would be safer not being on the road, but on their own path. This path would enhance travel for everyone.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice my opinion and your attention to this topic.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Calvin
5480 Petersen Lane
Lotus, California 95651

jenniferjcalvin@gmail.com

Public Comment #30
BOS RCVD 6/16/2025

From: [Matt Semonsen](#)
To: [Jonathan J. Balzer](#); [BOS-Clerk of the Board](#)
Subject: HLP Trail Project comment letter attached
Date: Saturday, June 14, 2025 8:15:00 AM
Attachments: [HLP Trail Project.docx](#)

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To John Balzer and the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors

The HLP Lotus Road trail is, in concept, a potentially useful and helpful project. Unfortunately, it will be a waste of time and funds as this trail will experience little use as intended.

Why would a visitor to HLP will be compelled to walk/bike along a busy, noisy, large truck roadway to the commercial space and back? They won't! Why would a visitor to the commercial space be compelled to walk/bike along same roadway to HLP and back? They won't.

Be aware, there is a small local minority (the rare Lotus Road biker/walker), and special interests (businesses on both ends of the trail) shouting their support, and asking their followers to join them.

Locals and visitors alike have our fantastic trails systems (BLM managed Cronin, Magnolia, Greenwood, Dave Moore, Acorn Creek) and Marshall Gold Discovery State Park) for our walking/hiking/biking needs.

There are better use of the funds. The Dave Moore Nature Trail was originally constructed as a handicap accessible trail, which has fallen into disrepair, and is no longer accessible to challenged individuals. Why not fix it instead of a used-less trail.

There is no logic to building this trail. I urge you to see this logic and vote against the project.

Given the rare use from locals why make the local community endure the construction?

Matt Semonsen

Public Comment #30
BOS RCVD 6/16/2025

From: [Kary Danielson](#)
To: [BOS-Clerk of the Board; Jonathan J. Balzer](#)
Subject: Support for Henningsen/Lotus Road Class I Multi-Use Trail Project (CIP #36109015)
Date: Saturday, June 14, 2025 11:08:20 AM

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To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in strong support of the ****Henningsen/Lotus Road Class I Multi-Use Trail Project (Capital Improvement Program #36109015)****.

As a member of the Coloma/Lotus community, I believe it's crucial to provide a ****safe walking and biking path**** for both local residents and visiting tourists. Currently, people often walk on the narrow shoulder of the road, which poses a ****significant safety risk****. Our county has an opportunity to do better by implementing this vital infrastructure.

Beyond safety, this trail will also foster ****increased pedestrian and bicycle traffic****, which directly translates to ****increased revenue for our local businesses****. More foot and bike traffic means more patrons for our shops, restaurants, and other establishments, strengthening our community's economic well-being.

My hope is that this project marks just the beginning of increased bike and walking paths throughout the western slope of El Dorado County.

Sincerely,

Kary Danielson
852 Beach Court
Lotus, California, 95651

Public Comment #30
BOS RCV'D 6/16/2025

From: [Noël R](#)
To: [Jonathan J. Balzer; BOS-Clerk of the Board](#)
Subject: Hennigsen/Lotus Road Class I Multi-Use Path
Date: Sunday, June 15, 2025 2:43:14 PM

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To the Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the Hennigsen/Lotus Road Class I Multi-Use Path. As a resident of Lotus for over 20 years, I can attest that this project is not only long overdue but essential for the safety and well-being of our community.

Reflecting on my time here, I often wish my now-grown children could have enjoyed the freedom and safety that this new path will provide. The reconstruction of the Highway 49 Bridge was a tremendous improvement, particularly for pedestrian and cyclist safety, and I use that bridge and trail regularly.

Having served as Director of Development and Marketing for the American River Conservancy, I understand the dedication and perseverance required to bring projects like this to fruition. The Coloma-Lotus Valley is a true gem—cherished by residents and visitors alike—but the current corridor remains perilous for pedestrians and bicyclists.

Last week, I participated in a Community Bike Parade (**see photos**) along the proposed trail route. The community's excitement and support were unmistakable. This multi-use path would offer residents and visitors a safe and accessible connection from Hennigsen-Lotus Park to Marshall Gold Discovery Park and the many businesses along Highway 49. For years, these destinations were off-limits to my children due to safety concerns, especially considering this corridor's 45 mph speed limit.

I urge you to support this trail project and help make our valley a safe and welcoming destination for all. Thank you for your consideration and commitment to our community's future.

Sincerely,
Noel Robinson
5625 Lodestar Lane, Lotus
530.651.3027







Public Comment #30
BOS RCVD 6/16/2025

From: [MIKE JUDD](#)
To: [BOS-Clerk of the Board](#)
Subject: Bike/multi uses path
Date: Monday, June 16, 2025 6:48:17 AM

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Board,

I believe for the safety of the public and the easy of transportation between the parks. This multi use bike path should be approved. As a long time resident I have not seen any use of the land that the path will follow. So it seems to me if it's not in use, it would be a perfect spot to put the bike pad through.

Thank you
Mike Judd
Sent from my iPhone

Public Comment #30
BOS RCVD 6/16/2025

From: [Justin Boyd](#)
To: [BOS-Clerk of the Board; Jonathan J. Balzer](#)
Subject: HLP Lotus Road Trail Project
Date: Monday, June 16, 2025 11:22:57 AM

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Greeting to whom it may concern,

My name is Justin Boyd, I have worked and lived in the Lotus area since 1994 when I became a raft guide straight out of high school. I have been a business owner at Marcos Cafe since 2007 and employed over 200 local people during that time. At the old location at 7221 Hwy 49, we survived the bridge construction, road realignment, which was a difficult Summer of dust and traffic control. In the end we praised the new sidewalk and safety for pedestrians from town and over the river.

Now located at 986 Lotus Road we have new challenges. People constantly drive 55 down the road from the bridge (in a 35 zone) with absolutely no safe spots for people to walk or ride as the edge of the road crumbles into broken pavement and rocks. This multi-use trail would be such an amazing addition to our community, for locals and visitors alike. I believe it will greatly increase local foot traffic from park to park and to the local businesses in town. These kinds of projects will create long lasting positive results as well as an increase in tourism, health and safety.

I have included some photos below of the fun ride we helped to put together from last week 6/12/25 from the Coloma Community Market in Marshall Gold State Park to Henningsen Lotus Park. We unfortunately had to tell a mother and her children not to join as the current road conditions are not safe for families. We will continue to do these fun rides and build up support until we see the changes needed to make this a safe journey for all to take.

It is just a short distance between the parks but a huge part of the history of this area, and a magnet for families and visitors alike to enjoy the river valley and all it has to offer.

Thank you,

Justin Boyd
Marcos Cafe Owner
Coloma Community Market Manager
Golden Road Gathering Music Festival Founding Partner



noelberryrobinson



Lotus Multi-use Trail Project

[LEARN MORE](#)









Public Comment #30
BOS RCVD 6/16/2025

From: [Crystal Center](#)
To: [BOS-District IV; Jonathan J. Balzer; BOS-Clerk of the Board](#)
Cc: [Dan Bolster](#)
Subject: Public Letter in support of HLP-Lotus Rd Trail Project
Date: Monday, June 16, 2025 12:27:50 PM
Attachments: [HLP Lotus Rd Trail Project Letter.6.16.25.pdf](#)

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Dear All-

Please see attached community letter submitted in support of Item No. 30 on BOS Agenda for Tues, June 17 at 10am. If you need anything further from me, please reach out.

Thank you -



Crystal Center | Attorney, Partner
Becker Nelson Center & James
263 Main St., Placerville, CA 95667
530-295-6400 | bncj-law.com

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June 16, 2025

Clerk of the Board
El Dorado County Board of Supervisors
Via email at: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Jon Balzer
El Dorado County Department of Transportation
Via email at: Jon.Balzer@edcgov.us

Lori Parlin
District IV Supervisor
Via email at: bosfour@edcgov.us

Subject: Public Letter in Support of the Henningsen/Lotus Road Class I Multi-Use Trail Project (Capital Improvement Program number 36109015)

Dear Board of Supervisors:

We are long-time residents of the Lotus-Coloma Valley community, writing to express our enthusiastic and unanimous support for the HLP-Lotus Road Trail Project. Each of us believe this project represents a meaningful investment in the health, safety, and vitality of our valley by connecting green spaces and expanding access to outdoor recreation for our community and visitors to this unique area.

The **Henningsen/Lotus Road Multi-Use Trail** will offer numerous benefits to our community and visitors, including:

- **Better Access to Local Spots and Businesses:** The benefits of the trail are substantial despite the small construction footprint. The trail is ideally located to connect the facilities at HLP and local business with the 49 bridge access out to its connecting bike trails beyond. The Coloma-Lotus valley hosts a large number of visitors a year, and the trail will increase foot traffic to key spaces and make it easier for residents and visitors to explore our region without the need for a vehicle.
- **Increased Recreational and Family Use Access:** The proposed trail will provide a safe, accessible space for walking, strolling, rolling, biking, jogging, river access and other outdoor activities that can be enjoyed by individuals of all ages and abilities. It will provide a safe, level walkway for elderly people and those with access needs to enjoy an area that is presently inaccessible. It offers families a free and local option for spending time together outdoors while promoting healthy lifestyles. One can envision the trail offering a wonderful stroll for users during some of our key community events, such as Pumpkins on the Bridge and the tree lighting events at the 49 Bridge, and during soccer

and baseball games at the HLP, as well as a stop-over for numerous visitors to our state parks and foothills trails.

- **Reduced Traffic Congestion and Pollution:** Encouraging active transportation alternatives like walking and biking helps reduce reliance on cars, which in turn decreases noise, dust, traffic congestion, air pollution, and greenhouse gas emissions. This trail is a crucial step toward building a more sustainable and livable community.
- **Equitable Access to Public Spaces:** Trails like this serve as public commons that are open to everyone, regardless of income or background. They enhance community connectivity and inclusivity and give the public access to enjoy our unique and beautiful outdoor spaces.

We urge the Board of Supervisors to move forward with approving and adopting the CEQA report and design plan, and urge the County to take a proactive approach to the next step: securing funding. Investments in active transportation and green infrastructure are key to fostering a healthy, vibrant, and environmentally responsible community and this trail is an example of forward-thinking projects of great benefit to El Dorado County on many fronts. Let's encourage folks to get outside and experience our beautiful valley.

Thank you for your consideration and for your commitment to improving the quality of life for residents through thoughtful planning and development.

Sincerely,

Crystal and Charlie Center

Alice Butler

Thomas Van Ord

Barbara Alkema

Deanna and Danny Lulla

Nick Urquhart

Robin Center

Angie Jae

Heather Brooks Freer

Karen Mulvany

Kay Osborn

Tim Pierce

Marta and Martin Harris

Harmony and Nick Wimsett

Annie Burkhardt

Justin and Veronica Boyd

Jacquelyn and Robert Hughes

Mary and Phil DeRiemer

Terry Allen

Hilde Schweitzer

Kevin and Jessica James