



## El Dorado County | Parks and Trails Master Plan Update

### Community Workshop #4 Summary

April 5, 2023, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. | Pollock Pines Community Center

### Introduction

On Wednesday, April 5, 2023, from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m., El Dorado County hosted the fourth of five community workshops regarding the Parks and Trails Master Plan Update. At this workshop, participants were presented with background information about why the Master Plan is being updated and then formed into three smaller breakout groups to provide their feedback on what should be prioritized in the plan. A total of 34 community members attended the workshop, held at the Pollock Pines-Camino Community Center located at 2675 Sanders Drive.



*Attendees listen to the opening presentation by the project team.*

### Project Overview

In 2004, a new General Plan for El Dorado County was adopted. It called for the development of a Parks Master Plan as well as an update of the Hiking and Equestrian Trails Master Plan (which was adopted in 1989 and amended in 1990). In 2008, the decision was made to combine these efforts into a single, comprehensive planning document. The El Dorado County Parks and Trails Master Plan, finalized in 2012, provides direction and implementation strategies to guide the acquisition, development, and operation of County-owned parks and trails. In the past 10 years, there have been many changes in the area's demographics, population, economy, and more, which led the County to revisit and update the 2012 plan to reflect the community's current needs.

El Dorado County is in a unique situation. The major population centers like El Dorado Hills, Cameron Park, the City of Placerville, and the City of South Lake Tahoe have systems to manage their own parks services. Therefore, this Parks and Trails Master Plan only includes the unincorporated areas of El Dorado County not serviced by another jurisdiction.

### Workshop Purpose & Format

To get the best picture of the wants and needs of El Dorado County residents and users of parks and trails, the County is hosting five workshops in different areas, including a Zoom workshop to provide multiple avenues for community input. This is the fourth workshop of the series. Once the workshop series is complete, the project team will use the data collected on community member priorities and update the Parks and Trails Master Plan accordingly.

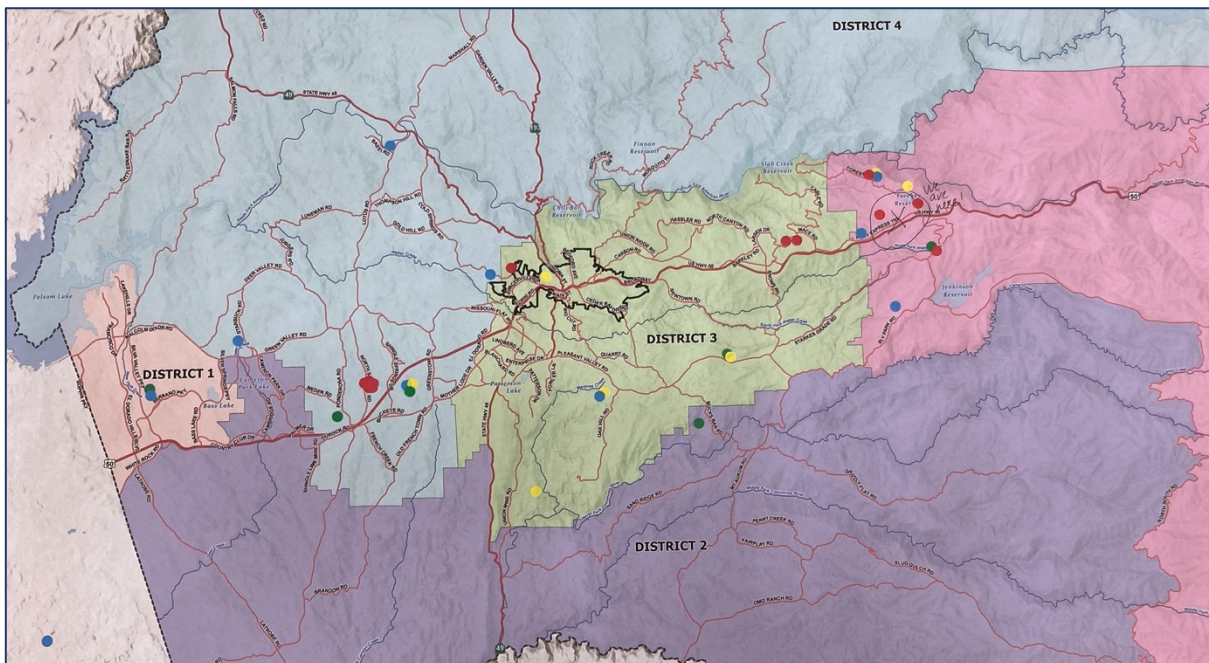


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The workshop was structured in three parts: first, a short presentation about the Master Plan and some background, next, small breakout group discussions, and finally, a section where participants provided their feedback using dot stickers on the group discussion boards. A detailed description of the workshop follows:

### County Map

Next to the welcome table was a large map of El Dorado County, where community members were asked to identify where they live in the County using dot stickers. Below is a photo of the map after the workshop with dot stickers included.



### Presentation on the Master Plan Update

Katie DeMaio, President and CEO of AIM Consulting, welcomed attendees and began a brief presentation about the Master Plan and why it needs updating.

### Why the Plan Update Now?

Under Policy 9.1.1.8 of the General Plan, Parks, and Recreation Element, the County must prepare and implement a Parks and Trails Master Plan. This was fulfilled in 2012. A brief update occurred in 2017, but most of the plan has been implemented, and new needs and opportunities are available. The County Strategic Plan includes an infrastructure point that instructs County staff to *analyze needs, coordinate and plan for County facilities, parks, and trails including ongoing maintenance, operations, and replacement*. Updating the plan helps fulfill this requirement.



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### Community Feedback

Community feedback will serve as the foundation of the effort to update the Master Plan to ensure that residents' growing needs are met and that superior quality of life is ensured throughout El Dorado County. This community workshop has three goals: to build community awareness about the Master Plan, to develop a shared understanding of the project's goals and constraints, and to obtain input on concerns and desires from various perspectives.

### Timeline

Katie then turned the presentation over to Vickie Sanders, Parks Manager, to go over the project timeline. The engagement process started last fall with stakeholder meetings. Now, the project team is conducting community workshops to gather broader public input from unincorporated areas, which will occur throughout the winter and early spring of 2023. Findings from the workshops and stakeholder meetings will then be summarized and analyzed to be incorporated into the plan update.

### Breakout Group Directions

The breakout group discussion revolved around four questions:

- What is your dream park experience in El Dorado County?
- How often are you traveling to other parks for activities? What if they had some of those amenities?
- If you had \$100 to spend on a Parks & Trails Master Plan opportunity, how would you spend the money?
- What specific amenity or improvement would you make to an existing park?



### Breakout Groups

The bulk of the workshop was devoted to a small-group discussion around the previously noted questions. Each group had 10 people in it, and a facilitator took notes on easel paper. Approximately 45 minutes were spent on this activity. Following the breakout group session, community members were given four different colored dot stickers. Community members were instructed to use the pink dot to indicate their top choice, the yellow for something they would drive to, the green for what they would spend tax dollars on, and orange for something they would work/volunteer at. After using the stickers to vote on their own group's list, participants were encouraged to visit other groups' boards and use stickers to vote on those. What follows is the data from each group's work:



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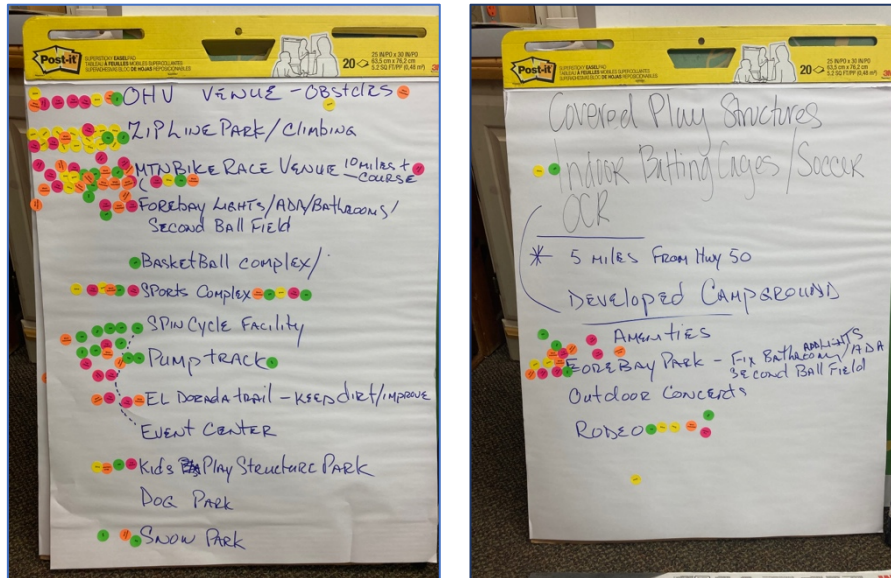
#### Group 1

This board had the following answers and colored dot breakdown.

Item	Top (Pink)	Drive (Yellow)	Pay (Green)	Work (Orange)
Off-highway vehicle (OHV) venue with obstacles	4	3	1	3
Zipline park/climbing	3	15	2	1
Mountain bike race venue (10 mile+ course)	9	4	6	10
Amenities at Forebay park (lights, ADA-accessible bathrooms etc.)	7	2	4	8
Basketball/sports complex			1	
Spin cycle facility			5	1
Pump track	4		6	2
El Dorado trail (keep the dirt and make improvements)	2			2
Event center				
Kids play structure park	1	1	1	1
Dog park				
Snow park			2	1
Covered play structures				
Indoor batting cages/soccer		1	1	
Developed campground				
Outdoor concerts				
Rodeo	1	3	2	1



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*Group 1 Breakout Discussion Board*

**Group 2**

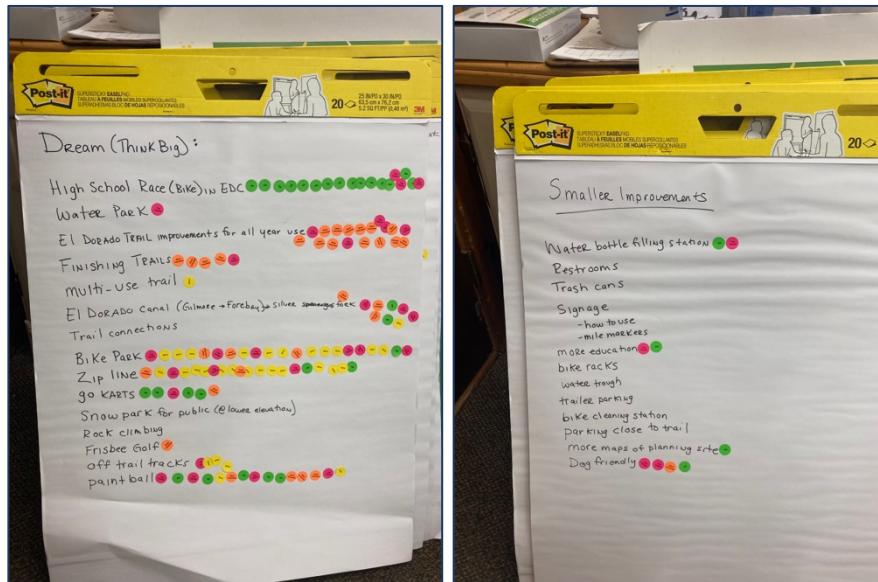
This board had the following answers and colored dot breakdown:

Item	Top (Pink)	Drive (Yellow)	Pay (Green)	Work (Orange)
Water bottle filling station	1		1	
Restrooms				
Trash cans				
Signage (how to use; mile markers, etc.)				
More education	1		1	
Bike racks				
Water trough				
Trailer parking				
Bike cleaning station				
Parking close to trail				
More maps of planning site			1	
Dog-friendly	2		1	1
High school race (bike)	3		15	
Water park	1			
El Dorado Trail improvements for all-year use	5			13
Finishing trails	1			4
Multi-use trail		1		
El Dorado Canal (Gilmore > Forebay > Sliver Fork)	3	1	2	3



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Trail connections				
Bike park	6	11	1	3
Zip line	3	13	2	2
Go carts	1		4	1
Public snow park at lower elevation				
Rock climbing				
Frisbee golf				1
Off trail tracks	1	3		
Paint ball	4	2	5	4



*Group 2 Breakout Discussion Boards*

**Group 3**

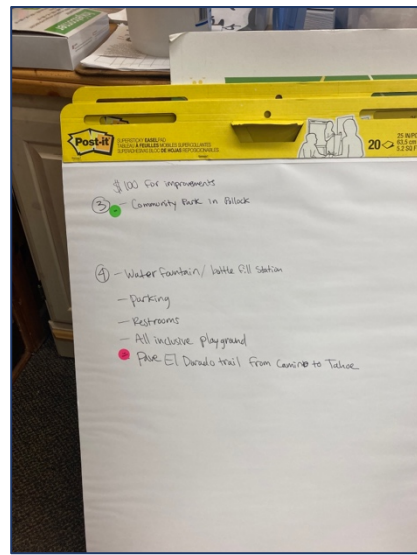
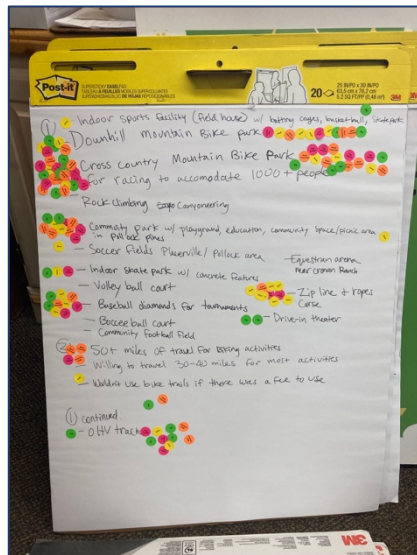
This board had the following answers and colored dot breakdown:

Item	Top (Pink)	Drive (Yellow)	Pay (Green)	Work (Orange)
Indoor sports facility with batting cages, basketball, etc.		1	1	
Downhill mountain bike park	2	4	2	3
Cross country mountain bike park	11	7	12	14
Rock climbing/canyoneering				



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Community park with playground, education, community space/picnic area	3	3	3	4
Soccer fields		1		
Indoor skate park with concrete	1	1	1	
Equestrian arena				
Zip line and ropes course	2	7		1
Drive-in theater			2	
Volleyball court				
Baseball diamonds for tournaments	2	3	2	2
Bocce ball court				
Community football field				
OHV track	3	2	5	3
Free, public biking activities	1	1		3
Water fountain/bottle filling station				
Parking				
Restrooms				
All-inclusive playground				
Pave El Dorado Trail from Camino to Tahoe	1			



Group 3 Breakout Discussion Board



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#### Takeaway Card

The workshop ended after the colored dot voting activity. As community members left, a project team member handed them a card with the project website, project email address, and a QR code encouraging them to take an online community survey.

#### Publicity & Noticing

AIM Consulting created a stakeholder database of 122 contacts that span organizations (sports, youth, and recreation), Chambers of Commerce and major employers, environmental advocates, other County commissions and departments, local schools/districts, and more. To spread awareness for all five workshops, two rounds of emails were sent out on March 16 to let the public know about all upcoming workshops, and on March 27, recipients were invited to the workshop and encouraged to share within their organization. Additionally, the workshop was advertised weekly in various Facebook groups related to El Dorado County and the surrounding areas.

#### Community Input

In the middle of the room was a table with comment cards and pens to encourage the community to give input on the project. A total of 4 community members submitted feedback via comment cards during the workshop.

The following comments were submitted:

- We see people driving to Tahoe to ride their mountain bikes because Tahoe has awesome bike trail. These people are spending their money there as well. If we had a better trail system for mountain biking here, they wouldn't need to go all the way to Tahoe. More money spent here helps the community and we don't have to drive as far to ride great trails. Lots of potential if we had a venue to hold mountain biking races as well.
- The Snowline Little League board has discussed Forebay Field at length as well as collected feedback from our snowline families. The following is a list of specific needs and desires for Forebay Park: Lights for the field, handicap accessibility for the ball field, a net to protect neighbors, paved parking, upgraded/renovated snack bar, bathrooms, a second field that accommodates both baseball and softball, a new LED scoreboard, a play structure that is visible from the bleachers, a carport or some kind of cover over our batting cage, a new door on the equipment shed (current one was vandalized), basketball courts, and (if there's space), a dog park. Our water has a leak and the hot water is turned off with no access to turn it back on.
- I think that of all the topics discussed, one future is biking. With all ages able to do it now, with e-bikes being available. Having cross country and downhill park available would







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bring people from all over the world as well as build our local community. Which in the end would grow our economy in a number of ways. The sport is getting kids outside together, competitive or leisure. Please consider investing in this opportunity.

- I would love to see our country invest in our mountain bike community (youth and adult). Currently, we have to travel to any venue and it would be a great investment to bring people into our county that will need lodging, places to eat, and shop. The high school mountain bike teams are only growing. Cross country racing and downhill racing would be appreciated. Another thing I would love to see is a cycling training center. Our kids are having a hard time finding a place to train inside.

### Next Steps

There will be more opportunities for the public to provide input on the Parks & Trails Master Plan. Information is forthcoming on the project website linked below. Additionally, an online survey is available at <https://arcg.is/OGSzPG0>

Once all five workshops conclude, the project team will summarize and analyze the data from the workshops and previous stakeholder meetings to craft a draft plan. People can stay up to date on the status of the project by visiting the project website at [www.eldoradocountyparksandtrailsplanupdate.com/](http://www.eldoradocountyparksandtrailsplanupdate.com/) and/or by emailing [ParksUpdate@EDCGOV.US](mailto:ParksUpdate@EDCGOV.US).