



THE EL DORADO TRAIL

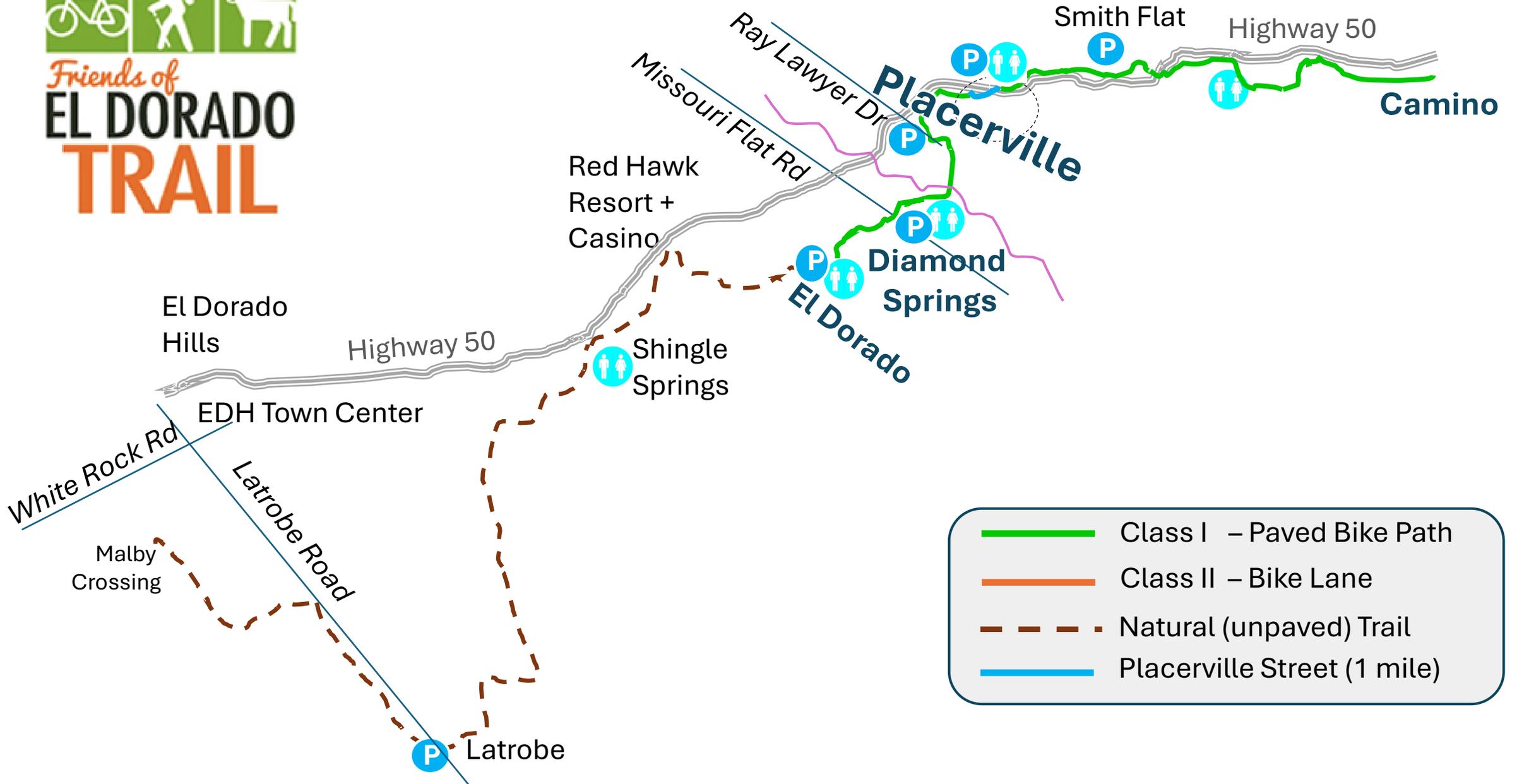
So Much Potential

Don Rose

Friends of the El Dorado Trail

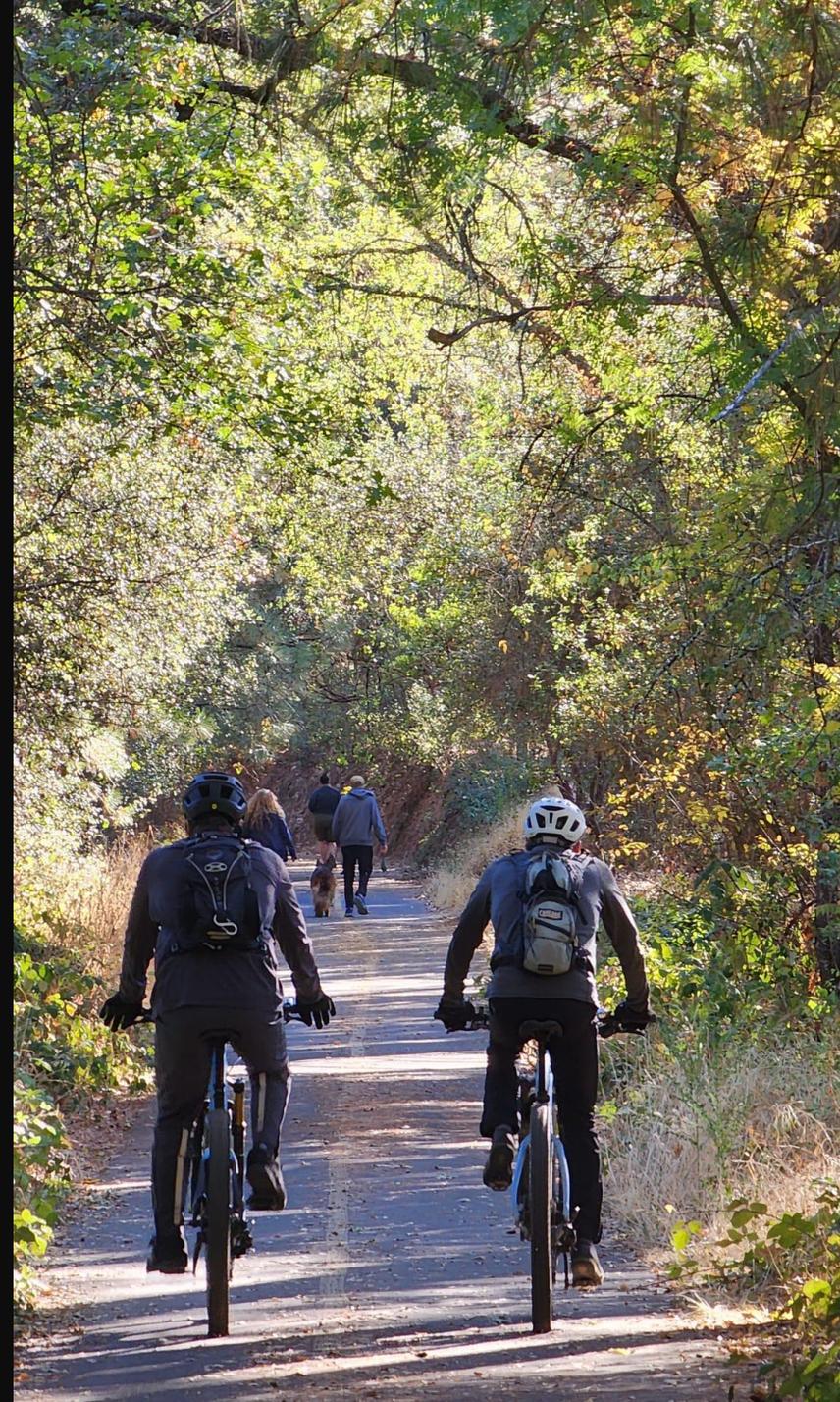


Friends of
EL DORADO
TRAIL



GOAL

- Continuous paved and unpaved trails.
 - Folsom to Placerville
 - Existing paved path continuing to Camino
 - Included in all planning documents.
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OWNERSHIP

- Ray Lawyer Drive in Placerville to Camino:
 - Owned by City of Placerville or El Dorado County depending on location.
 - Most is the former Michigan/Calif. RR right-of-way, with track removed.
- Folsom to Ray Lawyer Drive in Placerville:
 - Former Placerville Branch of the Southern Pacific Railroad.
 - RR track still in place as far as Diamond Springs,
 - limited tourist train operations.
 - Owned by the Sacramento Placerville Transportation Corridor Joint Powers Authority.
 - El Dorado County, Sacramento County, City of Folsom, and Sac RT.

CONNECTIONS - WEST

- Folsom and El Dorado Hills trails.
- American River Bike Trail
- Sacramento River Parkway Trail
- Del Rio Trail in South Sacramento
- Potential 80 mile Class 1 bike path from Freeport to Camino
- Great California Delta Trail
 - Will connect Sacramento to the Bay Area
 - Planning stages, some sections in place.



CONNECTIONS - EAST

- Pony Express Trail – Pacific House to Tahoe
- Brockliss Bridge rebuild at Pacific House .
- 11 mi. gap Camino to Pacific House
- East and west connections –
-cross state trail system.



BENEFITS



- **2015 study - \$12 million in annual economic benefits from a complete trail with parallel unpaved dirt trail**
 - Based on 800,000 annual uses.
 - Higher now due to e-bikes, Covid, inflation.
 - Tourist rail benefits est. <\$1 million with 50,000 users.
- **Trails generate significant health benefits for users.**
- **Trails increases property values and real estate tax revenue.**
- **Safe commute routes to work and schools.**



INCREASING ECONOMIC BENEFITS

- Shuttle buses – Folsom to Placerville
 - Trail is nearly all downhill from Camino
 - River raft companies already run shuttles.
 - Increase tourism without increasing traffic.
 - Parking in or near Folsom
 - Proof of concept.
 - Virginia Creeper Trail
 - Route of the Hiawatha

ROUTE OF THE HIAWATHA

- 15 miles of mostly downhill.
 - Shuttle bus to the top.
 - 400 users per day, June-Sept.
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CHALLENGES

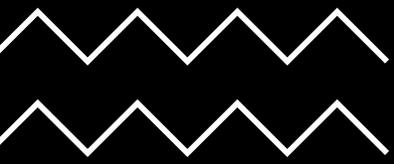
- Funding and cost
 - Grant funding is possible
 - Grants subject to competitive process
 - Lower cost per mile projects have an advantage
- Fitting all three uses in the rail corridor
 - Paved path
 - Natural unpaved trail
 - Excursion rail
- Building off the rail bed will at least triple the cost of building on the rail bed.



NEXT STEPS

- Engineering study to determine how best to construct the paved path.
- Continue improving the natural trail.
- Begin the process of fundraising.





FRIENDS OF THE EL DORADO TRAIL

- President: Ginny McCormick
- Vice President: Sarah Henjum
- Treasurer: Katrina Whitmore
- Secretary: Katrina Whitmore
- Board Member: Eileen Crim, Don Rose
- <https://eldoradotrail.org/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/eldoradotrail>





EL DORADO TRAIL

EL DORADO COUNTY