Trail Report by Jim Konopka

After almost 22 years as the Trail Planner for the City of Folsom I have decided to hang up my trail shoes (retire) and see what the next phase of my life brings.

It has been such a great experience working with everyone at the Friends of Folsom Parkways (FOFP) over the years and helping pursue the goals and mission of the FOFP.

Always enjoyed the annual Trails Day event and working with the many volunteers that did so much for the community. I feel very fortunate to have been able to provide so many trails for the entire community to enjoy.

There are still some trail projects that continue to move forward:

Lake Natoma Trail Gap Closure Project

This Class IV bike project that parallels Leidesdorff Street from Reading Street to Scott Road is nearing completion and should be open to the public by the first part of January, depending on the weather.

The Oak Parkway Trail Undercrossing

The trail undercrossing at Natoma Street is well underway and PG&E is in the process of relocating their two gas lines that are in conflict with the new tunnel. The project has required night closures so PG&E can do their work safely and efficiently. The project is expected to be completed by June of 2019.

Folsom/Placerville Rail Trail

This project includes a Class I trail along the JPA (railroad) corridor and extends from the Humbug-Willow Creek Trail to Iron Point Road.

Project is in the environmental analysis/preliminary engineering stage and that should be complete in the spring of 2019. Final design will start soon after and construction is anticipated to start in the spring of 2020.

The City is also pursuing grant funding for a trail overcrossing at Folsom Boulevard near the intersection with Woodmere Road. The overcrossing would extend the Humbug-Willow Creek Trail over Folsom Boulevard and the light rail line and would provide a seamless connection between the Humbug-Willow Creek Trail and the State Parks Lake Natoma Trail. The City submitted for State and Regional ATP grant funding last July and should know the status of the grant in late December.

Bicycle Rentals for the Trails

Did you or a friend arrive in Folsom and forget your bike? If so the Pedal Stop, 905 Leidesdorff St, right next to the Light Rail Station in Historic District can solve your dilemma. The city has arranged with Practical Cycle of Folsom to rent both human and electric powered bikes so you will not miss out on our great trail system.

Eduardo Garza of Practical Cycle is there to make your bike rental experience as simple and easy as possible. All of their bike rentals include a bike helmet, lock, handlebar bag, and bike route map. That way you can focus on the fun of exploring what our local community has to offer.

Hourly bike rentals are available in person on a first come, first served basis, with a two hour minimum rental period. For your convenience, reservations are available for full day bike rentals.

If you are riding around the area on your own bike and have a problem they also can make any repairs you may need. If you forgot something they can provide you with anything you may need to make your ride more enjoyable.

To make a reservation call (916) 706-0077 ext 2. Their hours are Thurs - Sun: 10AM - 6:30PM and Monday 1PM - 6:30PM

The Next Meeting...

The next regular Friends of Folsom Parkways meeting will be held on **December 13th** at 7:00 p.m. in The Parkway at Folsom Owners' Association Building, 1455 Willow Bend Road, Folsom.

To get to this meeting take Blue Ravine east, past Oak Avenue Parkway to Parkway Drive. Make a right turn on to Parkway Drive. Go one block and turn left on to Willow Bend Road. The club house is immediately on the right.

Our Vision

Our vision is to promote the usage, preservation and development of parkways within the City of Folsom.

Our Mission

Our mission is to make the citizens of Folsom aware of the parkways, raise funds for parkway development, work to educate the community on parkway issues, work to influence development proposals to the benefit of the parkways, and work to identify areas of Folsom worthy of inclusion in the parkway system.

Look for us on Facebook, on Meetup, and at our web site
http://www.enjoyfolsomtrails.org/

Volume XXVII Number 12

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Vice Pres.	Lynn LePage
Treasurer	Jim Ramstad
Secretary	Jan O'Brien
Historian	Carol Ramstad
Publicity	Peggy Blair
Newsletter Editor	Jim Kirstein
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Parkways South of 50
Lynn LePage

Publicity
Peggy Blair

Trails
Jim Konopka

NEWS BITS

Gifts That Give Back

Commemorative Johnny Cash Trail items make great gifts, whether you're looking to top off a stocking or wow the recipient with a one-of-a-kind item – or treat yourself! Johnny Cash Trail branded items for sale include mouse pads and medals, marble coasters, tote bags, shirts, cycling jerseys and shorts.

A limited-edition "JCASH50" California legacy license plate is also available, beautifully framed with a photo of Johnny Cash standing in front of Folsom Prison's east gate in 1968 – the day of his famed live performance for an inmate audience – and an engraved silver plate of commemoration. Only 100 of these special license plates were made in honor of the 50th anniversary of Cash's performance at Folsom State Prison.

Find samples and purchase any of these unique items at the Folsom Senior and Art Center, 48 Natoma Street; open 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. The framed license plates may also be purchased online; find details and more information about the trail at www.FolsomCashArtTrail.com.

All proceeds from these items benefit the Johnny Cash Trail Art Experience, and are specifically earmarked for "Cash's Pick" – two 7-foot-tall bronze guitar picks that will anchor each end of the trail.

Friends of Folsom Parkways Board Meeting Minutes November 8, 2018

OPENING

The meeting was called to order by President Jim Kirstein at 7:03pm

PRESENT

Jim & Carol Ramstad, Don Krueger, Allen Harrison, Jim Kirstein, Glenn Hermanson, Jim Konopka, Lynn LePage, Steven Zawid, Jan & Jay O'Brien.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Jim Ramstad moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting, seconded by Jim Konopka, motion passed.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Jim commented how gratifying it is to hear positive comments from people when he attends other meetings such as the Sacramento Bike Hikers and they say such nice things about our trails in Folsom. Jim reminded us that we need to be alert on the trails and report problems that need fixing.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Jim Ramstad presented each attendee with a printed treasurer's report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Parkways South of 50: Lynn LePage reported that construction at Mangini Ranch is moving right along. Lynn said that the challenge now for trail construction is that some developers go ahead and build the trails right away and others wait until the money becomes available to pay them back before proceeding to build trails. Lynn said that those who have already built the trails have found them useful during construction but that it's not such a great idea when they run heavy equipment on the pavement that was not intended to carry that weight.

Trails: Jim Konopka reported that construction of the undercrossing of Natoma Street that will connect the Oak Parkway Trail with the Johnny Cash Trail is coming right along. PG&E has started moving gas lines and the contractor has started his work. PG&E works at night and the contractor during the day.

OLD BUSINESS

Jim Konopka reported on the progress of the Lake Natoma Trail Gap Closure and said they are hoping for completion by the end of November.

NEW BUSINESS

President Jim talked about nominations for next month's election and we had a brain storming session on fund raising.

CALENDAR

Next meeting on December 13, 2018.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.

Respectfully submitted by: Jan O'Brien, Secretary

Membership Renewal

The Friends is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to make the citizens of Folsom aware of the parkways, raise funds for parkway development, work to educate the community on parkway issues, work to influence development proposals to the benefit of the parkways, work to sustain the parkways, and work to identify areas of Folsom worthy of inclusion in the parkway system.

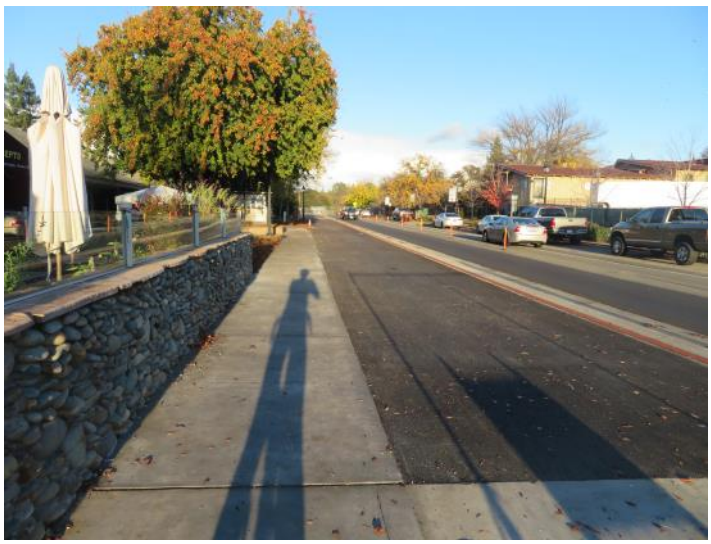
The Friends of Folsom Parkways was created 28 years ago, to serve as a steward of the parkways in Folsom. Over the years, the Friends has helped in determining areas to be included in the parkway system, provided financial assistance to improve the parkway, and worked with over 2,000 volunteers installing trails, planting trees, building bridges, removing invasive plants, and other trail improvement efforts. With the development of the south of 50 area of the city things are about to get really interesting and we need you! We need your support. This is the time of the year to renew your membership. It is easy to do, just fill out the membership form on the back of this newsletter and mail it to Friends of Folsom Parkways, P. O. Box 1501, Folsom, CA 95763-1501 or go online to our web site http://www.enjoyfolsomtrails.org and click on the "Join Us" tab.

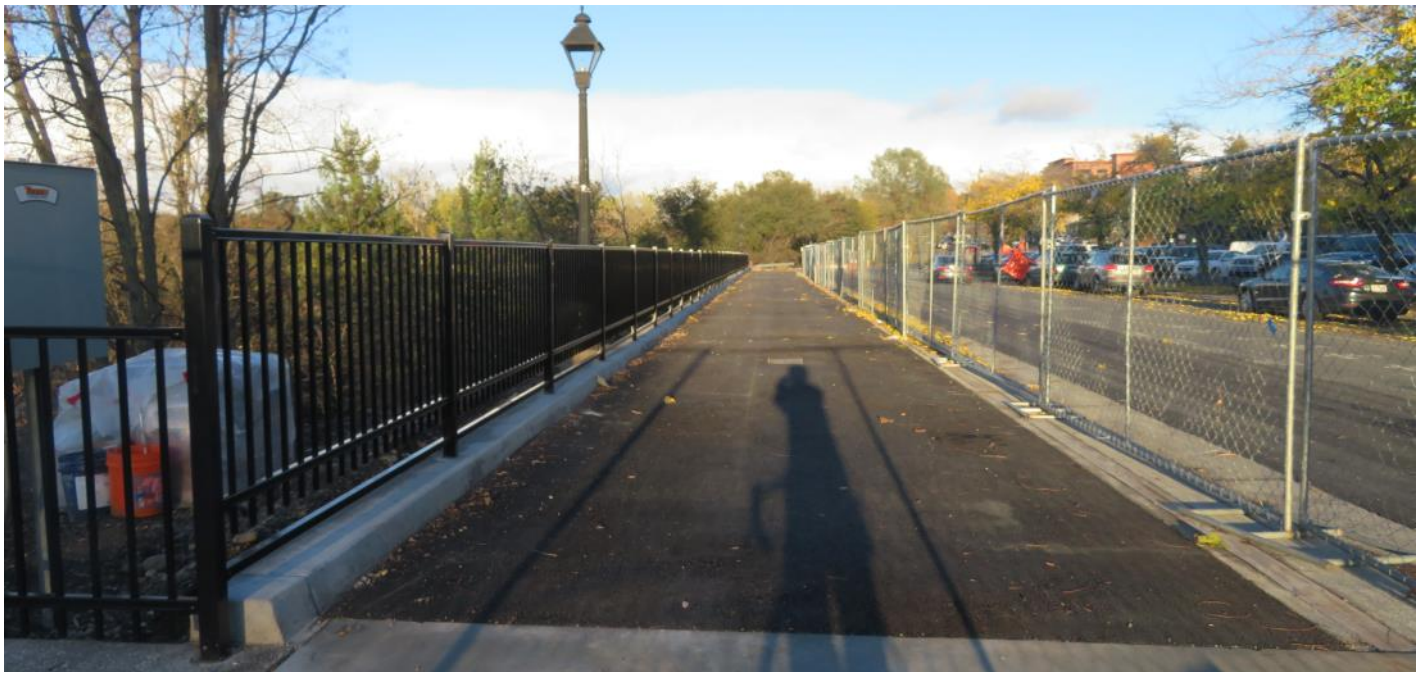
The Friends encourage our members to connect to the parkway in many ways; as an advocate, a volunteer, a sponsor, a trail steward and/or a donor. Membership in the Friends runs from January through December.

The Class IV Bikeway in the Historic District is nearing completion.

The Class IV Bikeway in the Historic District is nearing completion. It was started in May of 2018 and as you can see in the pictures below has made great progress in November in spite of the smoke from the Camp Fire that made working outdoors difficult and is expected to be complete by the first part of January.

This is a very important trail segment filling the final gap in the Lake Natoma Trail around Lake Natoma. The trail segment extends along Leidesdorff and Riley Streets from Scott Street to Gold Lake Drive. The project is very challenging with many constraints along the trail corridor.





FUTURE TRAIL ADDITIONS

The environmental analysis and preliminary engineering preparation is underway for a new 2-mile Class I Trail that begins behind Mercy Hospital and parallels East Bidwell Street to Iron Point Road. Funding is secured with a $1 million State of California Active Transportation Program grant, and construction is expected to begin in early 2020. The trail will make a direct connection to the Folsom Lake College campus and is planned to include a bike/pedestrian overcrossing that connects to the Palladio.

Oak Parkway Trail Undercrossing of East Natoma

This project makes a connection between the newly constructed Johnny Cash Trail and the Oak Parkway Trail. The project includes a trail undercrossing at E Natoma Street, between Fargo Way and Prison Road to provide a safe and seamless connection between the Oak Parkway and Johnny Cash Trails for cyclists and pedestrians.

Work began early October. This project will create a tunnel directly under East Natoma Street and provide a seamless and safe route for trail users to transition between the two trails. Motorists are encouraged to use caution during the first phase of this project as traffic on East Natoma Street will be shifted with a reduced speed limit of 25 mph between Fargo Way and Prison Road.

CALENDAR

Dec 13	**FOFP Monthly Meeting**
Dec 15	**Lake Natoma Trail – Gap Closure Grand Opening**
Jan 10	**FOFP Monthly Meeting**

Membership Form

I would like to renew my membership or become a new member of Friends of Folsom Parkways for 2019. My yearly membership fee of $15.00 individual / $20.00 family is enclosed made out to: **Friends of Folsom Parkways**. Send to Friends of Folsom Parkways, P. O. Box 1501, Folsom, CA 95763-1501
or go to http://www.enjoyfolsomtrails.org/ to join.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Day Telephone:_____ Evening Telephone: _____

Email Address:_____

Circle the activities you are interested in helping with:

TRAIL WALKS	TREE PLANTING	ADOPT-A-CREEK/TRAIL	PROJECT REVIEW
TRAILS	FUND RAISING	MEMBERSHIP	WILDLIFE HABITAT
FUN RUN	TRAIL DAY	BIKE PATHS	FINDING SPONSORS