

**Janet Phillips**  
**Special to the Sun**

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## **Give Back Tahoe: Tahoe-Pyramid Bikeway closer to connecting Truckee, Reno**



The 2015 section of Tahoe-Pyramid Bikeway near Farad is easily seen from I-80 eastbound. This section will be completed in summer 2016.

**POWERED BY**  
**TAHOE TRUCKEE**  
**COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**

Work resumed May 1 on the Tahoe-Pyramid Bikeway's push through the Truckee River Canyon after a much-needed wet winter slowed construction. By mid-summer, people will be able to hike, run or mountain bike 11 miles from Floriston to Verdi along the Truckee River.

With that work done, the nonprofit volunteer group expects to complete the last four miles of trail from Floriston to the bridge near Hirschdale Road in 2018. That will open the canyon for bike rides from Truckee to Reno, which has been a dream of many area residents.

The last four miles will require more than \$2 million in construction to maneuver the trail across the steep, rugged canyon west of Floriston. Two major grants are pending: \$2 million from the federal Recreational Trails Program and \$200,000 from California's River Parkways program.

When we are sure about the grant funding, I believe donors will be eager to help with the last 10% to complete the Truckee Canyon trail. Over the last 12 years, the Reno-based bikeway group has worked with land owners to open 33 miles of trail along the Truckee River in Nevada.

The trail would not exist without the support of landowners, donors and advocates from both California and Nevada. Special assistance has come from the Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation in the form of grants, and the Truckee Donner Recreation and Park District as the public agency partner for the Bikeway project in California.

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Detailed maps for exploring the trail, photos and stories can be downloaded from the Bikeway website: [www.tpbikeway.org](http://www.tpbikeway.org).

Anyone who would like to help with the bikeway project, including maintaining the trail, should email [tahoepyramidbike@aol.com](mailto:tahoepyramidbike@aol.com). The group's first "trail work day and picnic" is scheduled for June 5. The group hopes to recruit up to 40 volunteers that day.

Janet Phillips is Tahoe-Pyramid Bikeway founder and president.