

Chapter 6. Agency Coordination and Consultation

6.1 Public/Agency Involvement Process

Early and continuing coordination with the general public and appropriate public agencies is an essential part of the environmental process to determine the scope of environmental documentation, the level of analysis, potential impacts and mitigation measures and related environmental requirements. Agency consultation and public participation for this project have been accomplished through a variety of formal and informal methods, including: project development team meetings, interagency coordination meetings, (continue list as appropriate). This chapter summarizes the results of the Caltrans' efforts to fully identify, address and resolve project-related issues through early and continuing coordination.

Coordination and consultation with various federal, state, local agencies, and other individuals from the neighborhoods and communities within the project corridor were conducted through a variety of means, including public agency coordination, consultation, and the public scoping process.

6.1.1 Notice of Preparation

NEPA specifically requires the federal lead agency to consult with federal agencies that have jurisdiction over the proposed action by law or special expertise. The lead agency must also solicit appropriate information from the public during preparation of the environmental document. Scoping is the process by which the lead agency conducts these activities. This process helps determine the scope of the environmental document, including the extent of the action, the range of the alternatives, and the types of significant adverse effects to be evaluated. The lead agency's scoping process may

include early scoping meetings that can be incorporated with other aspects of the federal agency planning process.

CEQA specifically requires that when one or more state agencies will be a responsible or trustee agency, an NOP must be filed with the State Clearinghouse (CEQA Guidelines Section 15082 [d]). The NOP is provided to appropriate state agencies and invites them to offer comments during the scoping period, which lasts a minimum of 30 days following the filing of the NOP. The NOP for this document was released on November 18, 2002. Currently, Placer County distributed an NOP of a draft EA/EIR/EIS for the proposed action on November 30, 2002. This began the start of a comment period that lasted until December 23, 2002. A public notice was printed in four local newspapers. In addition, Placer County held a public scoping meeting on the proposed action on December 5, 2002, so that the public could provide input regarding issues they wanted addressed in the document.

Public agencies formally or informally contacted and consulted during the preparation of this environmental document and agencies on the distribution list are shown below. These agencies received notification of the proposed EA/EIR/EIS and the public scoping meeting.

Federal

- Federal Highway Administration
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- United States Fish and Wildlife Service

State

- Placer County
- Caltrans-District 3
- California Department of Fish and Game-Region 2

- State Historic Preservation Office

Local

- Tahoe Regional Planning Agency
- North Tahoe Public Utility District
- Lahontan Water Quality Control Board
- California Tahoe Conservancy
- North Tahoe Regional Advisory Council
- Truckee-North Tahoe Transportation Management Association
- North Lake Tahoe Resort Association
- North Tahoe Business Association and Commercial Property Owners
- League to Save Lake Tahoe

6.2.1 Public Outreach Activities

Public workshops regarding the Kings Beach Commercial Core Streetscape Plan were held on the following dates:

- Workshop 1—May 7, 2003
- Workshop 2—May 21, 2003
- Workshop 3—June 25, 2003
- Workshop 4—July 30, 2003
- Workshop 5—August 20, 2003

All meetings were held at the North Tahoe Convention Center from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The workshops were facilitated by the SWA Group, and Placer County representatives attended each of the workshops.

In addition, Placer County has held eight public workshops/meetings during the 60-day public comment period to receive questions and solicit comments to aid the decision makers for their consideration during project deliberation to assist in choosing a preferred alternative based partly on input from the community:

- Open House: April 25, 2007 at the North Tahoe Conference Center.
- Public Workshop: May 1, 2007 at the North Tahoe Conference Center.
- Public Workshop: May 2, 2007 at the Kings Beach Elementary School.
- Public Workshop: May 15, 2007 at the North Tahoe Conference Center.
- Public Workshop: May 29, 2007 at the North Tahoe Conference Center.
- Placer County Planning Commission: April 26, 2007 at the Granlibakken Conference Center.
- TRPA Advisory Planning commission: May 9, 2007 at the South Lake TRPA Office.
- TRPA Governing Board: May 23, 2007 at the North Tahoe Conference Center.

6.1.1.1 Letters of Consultation

The following agency correspondence is included in this environmental document:

- Letter from the Office of Historic Preservation (Appendix D)
- Letter from the SHPO (Appendix D)
- USACOE verification letter regarding Waters of the United States (Appendix I)
- North Tahoe Public Utility District (Appendix O)
- Placer County Department of Public Works (Appendix O)
- USACOE verification letter regarding the wetland delineation (Appendix Q)
- USFWS Letter of Consultation regarding Regional Species of Concern (Appendix Q)
- Title VI Policy Statement (Appendix R)

6.1.2 Summary of Major Concerns

The major concerns expressed by the public at these workshops are described below.

- Request that businesses take precedence over the locations of roundabouts.
- Determine what spaces in the Kings Beach area are “sacred.”
- Request to enhance the entrances to the Kings Beach area.
- Request to improve the east side of town.
- Request to increase access to the lake.
- Request to make SR 28 less of a barrier.
- Request to reduce impervious surfaces and increase landscaping and buffers.
- Request to include signage program and bus stops/bus shelters, to repaint crosswalks, and to include better town trashcans.
- Comment regarding lack of community theme.
- Comments regarding snow removal.
- Comments regarding loss of parking.
- Comments regarding maintenance costs.
- Comments regarding signalization, traffic flow, and traffic calming.