



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF
NORTH TAHOE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
April 9, 2015**

Pursuant to notice given, the regular meeting of the North Tahoe Regional Advisory Council (NTRAC) was held on Thursday April 9, 2015 at the North Tahoe Event Center in Kings Beach, California.

1. Call to Order

JEWETT called the meeting to order at 6:06 PM. A quorum was established.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jewett, Rosenberg, McFadden, Lowy, and Drake

MEMBERS ABSENT: Hill, Chillemi, Roeder, and Kupec

STAFF PRESENT: Montgomery, Kastan, and Friedman

2. MAC Member Introductions

a. Introduction of new NTRAC member, Rebecca McFadden

Everyone introduced himself or herself.

3. Approval of Agenda

DRAKE/ROSENBERG/UNANIMOUS

4. Approval of Minutes of March 12, 2015

Motion to approve the March minutes as amended. LOWY/JEWETT/Carried with abstentions from Drake, Rosenberg, and McFadden.

5. Supervisor / Tahoe Field Representative Reports

SUPERVISOR MONTGOMERY reported continuation of last summer's construction of the Kings Beach Commercial Core Improvement Project begins this month. There is a lot of underground work to be done this summer, however it is anticipated to be completed this season. If so, this will be a 2 year project, rather than the 3 years anticipated.

The Alpine Sierra proposal will be coming back to NTRAC. MONTGOMERY said she has asked Allen Breuch of Placer County Planning to update NTRAC on some County projects.

MONTGOMERY reported she is working with the County Public Information Officer and Department of Agriculture and Solid Waste to produce a video about human and animal interaction. She announced that May 5 is the Big Day of Giving, a regional event focused on soliciting donations to non-profits. The new Donner Memorial State Park opens this summer, with the official opening events taking place in June.

The Board of Supervisors is being asked to give direction to staff regarding growing medical marijuana in unincorporated areas of Placer County. This item will be coming to the MACs for comment. The Board is meeting in Tahoe April 27 and 28. There will be a presentation on the 27th regarding the general economic status of the east side of the County, specifically what dollars are generated in this area and how they are spent.

6. Community Reports

TRACEY TOWNER, Park and Facilities Supervisor for the North Tahoe Public Utility District, announced the NTPUD Parks Commission has been re-established. The District has a new General Manager, Duane Whitelaw. Towner reported on upcoming events and meetings.

RON TREABESS, Tahoe City Public Utility District Board member, announced TCPUD is developing regulations to meet Governor Brown's edicts regarding the drought, including water cutbacks of 20-35%.

RON TREABESS, speaking for the North Lake Tahoe Resort Association, announced dates for public workshops regarding the Tourism Master Plan update. He said the NLTRA Capital Investment Transportation Committee makes recommendations for allocating TOT to the NLTRA Board, which are then approved by the Board of Supervisors. The Infrastructure projects will be presented under Item 9B. Transportation projects recommended for funding include the Airport Express, Ski Shuttle, Night Rider, and the Water Shuttle. The NLTRA recommended approval of \$22,000 to repair the fireworks barge, used in Kings Beach and Tahoe City over the 4th of July holiday. Approximately \$2.9 million in projects was recommended.

The Wayfinding Signage project was started in 2006. Caltrans has recently approved the design. Treabess distributed a packet of pictures showing existing signs, proposed new signage, and a map of sign locations. It is expected that 8 – 14 new signs will be installed at various locations late this spring.

7. NTRAC Member Reports

LOWY announced Creekside and Squaw Prep schools are hosting a fundraising event at North Tahoe Event Center on May 3.

JEWETT announced State Parks and California Tahoe Conservancy held a public workshop regarding rebuilding the pier in Kings Beach. Comments can be submitted online.

ROSENBERG announced the bridge project at Highway 89 and Alpine Meadows Road has begun. Alpine Meadows residents are being kept well informed of the project.

8. Public Comment

LINDA SLACK CRUZ reported on her meeting with Supervisor Holmes regarding the animal shelter in Tahoe Vista. She described the efforts being made to keep the animal shelter in the Basin and not merging the facility with the shelter in Truckee.

ANNE NICHOLS reported a Master Plan effort is underway for Speedboat Beach. She feels the \$57,000 allocated to the Plan by NLTRA could be better used in the area. NICHOLS is concerned that the Beach is already overused and there is a lack of parking. She hopes the County will drop the idea of additional signage for the Beach and feels promoting use would change the complexion of the neighborhood.

9. Information Non-Action Items

A. Tahoe Public Art (TPA) Program – Marguerite Sprague, TPA Program Coordinator and Steve Miller, North Tahoe Business Association Board Member and TPA Executive Team Member

MARGUERITE SPRAGUE updated the group on TPA, which is a collaboration of North Tahoe Business Association, Tahoe City Downtown Association and North Tahoe Public Arts. She explained the mission and goal of the Program and discussed the benefits of public art. Currently the Program is focused on artwork for the Kings Beach roundabouts and 2 pieces have been selected. However, Caltrans has frozen installation of public art on their property until copyright and donor issues are settled. SPRAGUE answered questions regarding the components of the pieces selected.

The topic was open to public comment.

ANNE NICHOLS said she has heard complaints about visual pollution given the number of signs on the highway.

Public comment was closed. JEWETT asked if Caltrans needs to approve the actual art work. SPRAGUE explained Caltrans does have some say regarding materials and movement. If they do not approve the pieces selected, the artists will have an opportunity to change the design somewhat.

B. Approved North Lake Tahoe Resort Association 2015-16 Capital Projects – Cadence Matijevich, Assistant to Jennifer Merchant, Deputy County Executive Officer, Placer County Executive Office
CADENCE MATIJEVICH introduced herself and reviewed the 10 capital projects NLTRA is recommending for funding. A full report was sent to MAC members prior to the meeting. She and RON TREABESS answered questions regarding the projects.

C. Tahoe Basin Area Plan Update – Crystal Jacobsen, Principal Planner, Advanced Planning, Placer County Planning Services

CRYSTAL JACOBSEN presented an overview of the Area Plan updates. She explained the process, which has been going on since 2012, and the next steps. JACOBSEN presented highlights addressed in each area. Part of the challenge has been to make the Plans compliant with the TRPA RPU. Revisions have to do with environmental improvements, economic incentives in town centers, mixed use in commercial areas, updating ordinances, and a pilot program to transfer Commercial Floor Area (CFAs) to Tourist Accommodation Units (TAUs) Zoning centers outside town centers or additional regulatory modifications are not included. The draft EIR should be out in May for public comment. It is expected the Board of Supervisors will approve the Area Plans in January 2016. After that, the Plans will be submitted for TRPA approval. There is an associated pilot program proposed for Tahoe City.

The topic was open to public comment.

ANNE NICHOLS, a Plan Team member and speaking for the North Tahoe Preservation Alliance, voiced concern about TAU conversions, which are not clearly defined and could be used for condominiums or anything else besides single hotel rooms. There are growth inducing impacts. A consultant was brought in by Placer County to complete the process and NICHOLS feels the community desires are not being respected. She does not want more density or height. She feels this has been piecemeal planning. The real reason there is not development is that it costs too much money.

DAVE FERRARI asked if there is an economic analysis component. JACOBSEN said yes, a study was done as part of the existing conditions report. That report indicated the need for improved lodging. Another study done recently by the Placer County CEO's office had similar findings and recommendations on how to address the issue. FERRARI said the issue is not just lodging, it's also driving occupancy.

Public comment was closed. LOWY asked for clarification of current uses being permissible if there are to be zoning changes. JACOBSEN explained that issue is no longer being considered in this phase of the Area Plan updates. There are some areas that TRPA down-zoned. However, it will be addressed as a second phase to this process as zoning compliance issues are considered to maintain businesses but allow for improvements. The conflict is with TRPA zoning, not Placer County.

Discussion continued as the approval process was clarified.

10. Future Agenda Items

- NLTRA Tourism Master Plan
- Auditor's Office report on TOT and how it's collected and tracked
- Hwy 89 Realignment Project
- TCPUD update on projects

**11. Date and Time of Next Meeting – May 14, 2015 at the Tahoe City Public Utility District Board Room
221 Fairway Drive, Tahoe City, California**

12. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Judy Friedman, Recording Secretary