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STAFF REPORT

Date: October 11, 2023
To: TRPA Governing Board
From: TRPA Staff
Subject: 2020 U.S. Census demographics for the Tahoe Region and Other Available Data

Summary and Staff Recommendation:

This informational item will review population and demographic information from the recently released U.S. Census data products from the 2020 Decennial Census and the most recent available American Community Survey data. Additional discussion will include recently released reports related to Lake Tahoe travel times and congestion, traffic count data, paid overnight visitation, and new research related to travel patterns.

Background

In May 2023, the complete data from the 2020 U.S. Decennial Census were released providing a robust look at demographic and socioeconomic change in the region over the last ten years. The report highlights that the loss of jobs, businesses, and residents that occurred between 2000-2010 stabilized during the last decade.

The population in the Tahoe Region was virtually unchanged between 2010 and 2020, with population increasing just 0.2% to 55,836 residents. At the community level, the Nevada communities in the Lake Tahoe Region added 979 residents, while the California side lost 750 residents.

TRPA staff has evaluated several data sources to evaluate, analyze, and identify trends related to population, day and overnight visitation, recreation activity, and travel patterns. This presentation will summarize the available data to establish a common understanding as TRPA continues with its current strategic priorities, future strategic planning discussions, and the upcoming Threshold Evaluation report.

Accompanying detailed reports from the TRPA Research and Analysis department on these topics are also available at the following links:

- 1) Demographics page on Tahoe Open Data: explore high-level 2020 Census data and other key demographics on this new page: <https://data-trpa.opendata.arcgis.com/pages/demographics>.
- 2) 2020 Census Report: TRPA prepared a detailed report on the 2020 Decennial Census results for the Lake Tahoe Region and surrounding areas. This report highlights the population, housing, income, workforce, jobs, and Industries data from the U.S. Census Bureau from 1990 to 2020. This report is available at <https://monitoring.laketahoeinfo.org/socioecon>.
- 3) Tahoe Roadway Congestion Report: this report uses data from the Federal Highway Administration and INRIX to evaluate travel times on 12 roadway segments in the Lake Tahoe

Region and to quantify congestion patterns on Tahoe roadways from 2016 to 2022. This report is available at <https://monitoring.laketahoeinfo.org/MonitoringProgram/Detail/77>.

Contact Information:

For questions regarding this agenda item, please contact Ken Kasman, Research and Analysis Department Director, at kkasman@trpa.gov or (775) 589-5253.

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