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## STAFF REPORT

Date: April 21, 2021

To: Tahoe Metropolitan Planning Organization Governing Board

From: TRPA Staff

Subject: Adoption of the 2020 Linking Tahoe: Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy

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### Summary and Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends TMPO Governing Board approval of 2020 Linking Tahoe: Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy and associated Final Environmental Initial Study/Initial Check List.

### TTC Recommendation:

At the April 9, 2021 meeting, the TTC recommended TMPO approval of the 2020 Linking Tahoe: Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy.

### Required Motions:

To recommend approval of the 2020 Linking Tahoe: Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy in Attachment A, the TMPO Governing Board must make the following motions. An affirmative recommendation requires a majority vote of the quorum present:

- I. A motion to adopt the Negative Declaration based on the 2020 Linking Tahoe: Regional Transportation Plan/ Sustainable Communities Strategy Final Environmental Initial Study/ Mitigated Negative Declaration/ Initial Environmental Checklist, at Attachment B.
- II. A motion to approve TMPO Resolution 2021-\_\_, adopting the 2020 Linking Tahoe: Regional Transportation Plan/ Sustainable Communities Strategy in accordance with California Government Code Section 65080 et seq., Title 23 CFR Part 450 of the federal regulations, and all other applicable federal and state regulations, at Attachment C.

### Background:

On September 11, 2020, TRPA/TMPO released a Draft Linking Tahoe: 2020 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (2020 RTP/SCS), and the associated environmental analysis in accordance with Article VII of the Tahoe Regional Planning Compact, Chapter 3 of the TRPA Code of Ordinances, and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Comments on the 2020 RTP/SCS were

accepted until October 25, 2020. The purpose of the comment period was to gather input from the public, Tahoe Transportation Commission (TTC), Advisory Planning Commission (APC) and TRPA/TMPO Governing Board members on the Draft 2020 RTP/SCS. Staff presented the full plan at the April TTC and the APC and Regional Planning Implementation Committee on the goals and policies. All comments have now been incorporated into the Final 2020 RTP/SCS. All final documents and details for the Final 2020 RTP/SCS, Final Initial Study / Mitigated Negative Declaration/ Initial Environmental Checklist/ Finding of No Significant Effect, and public comment summary are available at [trpa.gov/rtp](http://trpa.gov/rtp) and additionally, the TRPA Governing Board Packet agenda item VII B. contains the full report on the plan.

Contact Information:

If you have questions regarding this item, please contact Michelle Glickert Senior Transportation Planner, TRPA, at (775) 589-5204 or [mglickert@trpa.gov](mailto:mglickert@trpa.gov).

Attachments/Hyperlinks:

- A. [2020 Linking Tahoe: Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy](#)
- B. [2020 Linking Tahoe RTP/SCS Final Initial Study / Mitigated Negative Declaration/ Initial Environmental Checklist/ Finding of No Significant Effect](#)
- C. TMPO Resolution 2021-\_\_, adopting the 2020 Linking Tahoe: Regional Transportation Plan/ Sustainable Communities Strategy in accordance with California Government Code Section 65080 et seq., Title 23 CFR Part 450 of the federal regulations, and all other applicable federal and state regulations

Attachment A

[2020 Linking Tahoe: Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy](#)

Attachment B

2020 Linking Tahoe RTP/SCS Final Initial Study / Mitigated Negative Declaration/ Initial  
Environmental Checklist/ Finding of No Significant Effect

Attachment C

TMPO Resolution 2021-\_\_

TAHOE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
TMPO RESOLUTION 2021-\_\_

ADOPTION OF 2020 LINKING TAHOE: REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN / SUSTAINABLE  
COMMUNITIES STRATEGY

WHEREAS, the Tahoe Metropolitan Planning Organization (TMPO) was established in 1999 under authority of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) to carry out a “continuing, comprehensive, cooperative” transportation planning program in the Lake Tahoe Region; and

WHEREAS, the TMPO is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 134 (d) for Lake Tahoe Region as defined by the TRPA Compact [P.L. 96-551,1980], and as such, is responsible for preparing and updating the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and the Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 134 et seq., 49 U.S.C 5303 et seq., and 23 CFR 450.312; and

WHEREAS, “2020 Linking Tahoe: Regional Transportation Plan / Sustainable Communities Strategy” (2020 RTP / SCS) has been prepared in accordance with federal regulations and requirements, including the recent provisions of Fixing America’s Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act) [P.L. 114-94, 2015], and 2020 RTP / SCS identifies all transportation facilities, assesses capital investment and other measures necessary to preserve the existing transportation system as well as make the most efficient use of existing transportation facilities to relieve congestion, improve public mobility and address environmental impacts of the transportation system; and

WHEREAS, the 2020 RTP / SCS is determined to be fiscally constrained and includes transportation project needs identified in the Lake Tahoe Region, including the identification of revenue to support public mobility improvements over the life of the Plan; and

WHEREAS, 2020 RTP / SCS includes a Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) demonstrating reductions in per-capita greenhouse gas emissions from automobiles and light trucks and meets the intent of California Senate Bill 375 and the associated requirements of California Government Code Section 65080 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, an Air Quality Conformity Analysis was completed for 2020 RTP / SCS and it was found to conform to the State Implementation Plans for air quality in California and Nevada under 42 CFR Sec 7506 (c) (2) and 40 CFR Sec 93, 100-128 and 23 CFR Sec 450.322(d) of the Federal Clean Air Act and under 23 CFR Part 450 and 1410; and

WHEREAS, prior to the adoption of this resolution, the TMPO made the necessary findings, including a finding of no significant effect/Negative Declaration based on the 2020 RTP / SCS Final Environmental Initial Study prepared for the plan as in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act; and

WHEREAS, the 2020 RTP / SCS must be consistent with all other applicable provisions of federal and state law including:

- (1) The Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) (23 U.S.C. §134 et seq.);
- (2) Fixing America’s Surface Transportation Act (FAST) [P.L. 114-94, 2015];
- (3) The metropolitan planning regulations at 23 C.F.R. Part 450, Subpart C;
- (4) California Government Code §65080 et seq.; Public Utilities Code §130058 and 130059; and Public Utilities Code §44243.5;
- (5) §§174 and 176(c) and (d) of the federal Clean Air Act [(42 U.S.C. §§7504 and 7506(c) and (d))] and EPA Transportation Conformity Rule, 40 C.F.R. Parts 51 and 93
- (6) Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act and the Title VI assurance executed by the State pursuant to 23 U.S.C. §324;
- (7) The Department of Transportation’s Final Environmental Justice Strategy (60 Fed. Reg. 33896; June 29, 1995) enacted pursuant to Executive Order 12898, which seeks to avoid disproportionately high and adverse impacts on minority and low-income populations with respect to human health and the environment;
- (8) Title II of the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. §§12101 et seq.) and accompanying regulations at 49 C.F.R. §27, 37, and 38;
- (9) Senate Bill 375 (Steinberg, 2008) as codified in California Government Code §65080(b) et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the TMPO provided the opportunity for public review and input for the development of the 2020 RTP / SCS in accordance with the TMPO’s approved Public Participation Plan, including noticed public workshops commencing early in the process and public hearings in March and April 2020 on the draft plan and a hearing in April 2021 on the Final 2020 RTP / SCS.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the TMPO Governing Board adopts the 2020 Linking Tahoe: Regional Transportation Plan / Sustainable Communities Strategy in compliance with applicable federal and state laws and regulations.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Governing Board of the Tahoe Metropolitan Planning Organization at its regular meeting held on \_\_\_\_\_, by the following vote:

Ayes:

Nays:

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Mark Bruce – Chair  
Tahoe Metropolitan Planning Organization  
Governing Board