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## ***INITIAL DETERMINATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT CHECKLIST***

**Project Name:**

Tourist Core Area Plan Amendment (Tahoe Wellness Center)

**Area Plan Amendment Description:**

The proposed amendments affect Appendix C, Table 1: Permitted Uses by Land Use District and Table 2: List of Primary Uses and Use Definitions of the Tourist Core Area Plan as follows:

- Allow small scale manufacturing, industrial services, and wholesale and distribution land uses within the Tourist Center Gateway (TSC-G) District, Special Area #1.
- Add a provision that the subject land uses would only be allowed in connection with a retail commercial use where it will enhance the visitor experience and is limited in size to 30% of the associated retail space.
- Amend the land use definition of industrial services to better reflect the goals and intent of the TCAP.
- Add a land use definition for wholesale and distribution consistent with the goals of the TCAP.

**The following questionnaire will be completed by the applicant based on evidence submitted with the application. All "Yes" and "No, With Mitigation" answers will require further written comments.**

**I. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:**

**1. Land**

Will the proposal result in:

- a. Compaction or covering of the soil beyond the limits allowed in the land capability or Individual Parcel Evaluation System (IPES)?

Yes                       No

No, With Mitigation       Data Insufficient

- b. A change in the topography or ground surface relief features of site inconsistent with the natural surrounding conditions?

Yes                       No

No, With Mitigation       Data Insufficient

c. Unstable soil conditions during or after completion of the proposal?

- Yes             No
- No, With Mitigation     Data Insufficient

d. Changes in the undisturbed soil or native geologic substructures or grading in excess of 5 feet?

- Yes             No
- No, With Mitigation     Data Insufficient

e. The continuation of or increase in wind or water erosion of soils, either on or off the site?

- Yes             No
- No, With Mitigation     Data Insufficient

f. Changes in deposition or erosion of beach sand, or changes in siltation, deposition or erosion, including natural littoral processes, which may modify the channel of a river or stream or the bed of a lake?

- Yes             No
- No, With Mitigation     Data Insufficient

g. Exposure of people or property to geologic hazards such as earthquakes, landslides, backshore erosion, avalanches, mud slides, ground failure, or similar hazards?

- Yes             No
- No, With Mitigation     Data Insufficient

## 2. Air Quality

Will the proposal result in:

a. Substantial air pollutant emissions?

- Yes             No
- No, With Mitigation     Data Insufficient

b. Deterioration of ambient (existing) air quality?

- Yes             No

No, With Mitigation       Data Insufficient

c. The creation of objectionable odors?

Yes       No

No, With Mitigation       Data Insufficient

d. Alteration of air movement, moisture or temperature, or any change in climate, either locally or regionally?

Yes       No

No, With Mitigation       Data Insufficient

e. Increased use of diesel fuel?

Yes       No

No, With Mitigation       Data Insufficient

### 3. Water Quality

Will the proposal result in:

a. Changes in currents, or the course or direction of water movements?

Yes       No

No, With Mitigation       Data Insufficient

b. Changes in absorption rates, drainage patterns, or the rate and amount of surface water runoff so that a 20 yr. 1 hr. storm runoff (approximately 1 inch per hour) cannot be contained on the site?

Yes       No

No, With Mitigation       Data Insufficient

c. Alterations to the course or flow of 100-yearflood waters?

Yes       No

No, With Mitigation       Data Insufficient

d. Change in the amount of surface water in any water body?

Yes       No

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> No, With Mitigation | <input type="checkbox"/> Data Insufficient |
| e. Discharge into surface waters, or in any alteration of surface water quality, including but not limited to temperature, dissolved oxygen or turbidity? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No     |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> No, With Mitigation | <input type="checkbox"/> Data Insufficient |
| f. Alteration of the direction or rate of flow of ground water?   | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No     |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> No, With Mitigation | <input type="checkbox"/> Data Insufficient |
| g. Change in the quantity of groundwater, either through direct additions or withdrawals, or through interception of an aquifer by cuts or excavations?   | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No     |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> No, With Mitigation | <input type="checkbox"/> Data Insufficient |
| h. Substantial reduction in the amount of water otherwise available for public water supplies?  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No     |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> No, With Mitigation | <input type="checkbox"/> Data Insufficient |
| i. Exposure of people or property to water related hazards such as flooding and/or wave action from 100-year storm occurrence or seiches?                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No     |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> No, With Mitigation | <input type="checkbox"/> Data Insufficient |
| j. The potential discharge of contaminants to the groundwater or any alteration of groundwater quality?   | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No     |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> No, With Mitigation | <input type="checkbox"/> Data Insufficient |

#### 4. Vegetation

Will the proposal result in:

- a. Removal of native vegetation in excess of the area utilized for the actual development permitted by the land capability/IPES system?

Yes                       No  
 No, With Mitigation       Data Insufficient

- b. Removal of riparian vegetation or other vegetation associated with critical wildlife habitat, either through direct removal or indirect lowering of the groundwater table?

Yes                       No  
 No, With Mitigation       Data Insufficient

- c. Introduction of new vegetation that will require excessive fertilizer or water, or will provide a barrier to the normal replenishment of existing species?

Yes                       No  
 No, With Mitigation       Data Insufficient

- d. Change in the diversity or distribution of species, or number of any species of plants (including trees, shrubs, grass, crops, micro flora and aquatic plants)?

Yes                       No  
 No, With Mitigation       Data Insufficient

- e. Reduction of the numbers of any unique, rare or endangered species of plants?

Yes                       No  
 No, With Mitigation       Data Insufficient

- f. Removal of stream bank and/or backshore vegetation, including woody vegetation such as willows?

Yes                       No  
 No, With Mitigation       Data Insufficient

g. Removal of any native live, dead or dying trees 30 inches or greater in diameter at breast height (dbh) within TRPA's Conservation or Recreation land use classifications?

- Yes  No
- No, With Mitigation  Data Insufficient

h. A change in the natural functioning of an old growth ecosystem?

- Yes  No
- No, With Mitigation  Data Insufficient

## 5. Wildlife

Will the proposal result in:

a. Change in the diversity or distribution of species, or numbers of any species of animals (birds, land animals including reptiles, fish and shellfish, benthic organisms, insects, mammals, amphibians or microfauna)?

- Yes  No
- No, With Mitigation  Data Insufficient

b. Reduction of the number of any unique, rare or endangered species of animals?

- Yes  No
- No, With Mitigation  Data Insufficient

c. Introduction of new species of animals into an area, or result in a barrier to the migration or movement of animals?

- Yes  No
- No, With Mitigation  Data Insufficient

d. Deterioration of existing fish or wildlife habitat quantity or quality?

- Yes  No
- No, With Mitigation  Data Insufficient

## 6. Noise

Will the proposal result in:

- a. Increases in existing Community Noise Equivalency Levels (CNEL) beyond those permitted in the applicable Area Plan, Plan Area Statement, Community Plan or Master Plan?

Yes       No  
 No, With Mitigation       Data Insufficient

- b. Exposure of people to severe noise levels?

Yes       No  
 No, With Mitigation       Data Insufficient

- c. Single event noise levels greater than those set forth in the TRPA Noise Environmental Threshold?

Yes       No  
 No, With Mitigation       Data Insufficient

- d. The placement of residential or tourist accommodation uses in areas where the existing CNEL exceeds 60 dBA or is otherwise incompatible?

Yes       No  
 No, With Mitigation       Data Insufficient

- e. The placement of uses that would generate an incompatible noise level in close proximity to existing residential or tourist accommodation uses?

Yes       No  
 No, With Mitigation       Data Insufficient

- f. Exposure of existing structures to levels of ground vibration that could result in structural damage?

Yes       No  
 No, With Mitigation       Data Insufficient

## 7. Light and Glare

Will the proposal:

- a. Include new or modified sources of exterior lighting?

Yes  No  
 No, With Mitigation  Data Insufficient

- b. Create new illumination which is more substantial than other lighting, if any, within the surrounding area?

Yes  No  
 No, With Mitigation  Data Insufficient

- c. Cause light from exterior sources to be cast off -site or onto public lands?

Yes  No  
 No, With Mitigation  Data Insufficient

- d. Create new sources of glare through the siting of the improvements or through the use of reflective materials?

Yes  No  
 No, With Mitigation  Data Insufficient

## 8. Land Use

Will the proposal:

- a. Include uses which are not listed as permissible uses in the applicable Plan Area Statement, adopted Community Plan, or Master Plan?

Yes  No  
 No, With Mitigation  Data Insufficient

- b. Expand or intensify an existing non-conforming use?

Yes  No  
 No, With Mitigation  Data Insufficient



## 9. Natural Resources

Will the proposal result in:

- a. A substantial increase in the rate of use of any natural resources?

- Yes             No
- No, With Mitigation     Data Insufficient

- b. Substantial depletion of any non-renewable natural resource?

- Yes             No
- No, With Mitigation     Data Insufficient

## 10. Risk of Upset

Will the proposal:

- a. Involve a risk of an explosion or the release of hazardous substances including, but not limited to, oil, pesticides, chemicals, or radiation in the event of an accident or upset conditions?

- Yes             No
- No, With Mitigation     Data Insufficient

- b. Involve possible interference with an emergency evacuation plan?

- Yes             No
- No, With Mitigation     Data Insufficient

## 11. Population

Will the proposal:

- a. Alter the location, distribution, density, or growth rate of the human population planned for the Region?

- Yes             No
- No, With Mitigation     Data Insufficient

- b. Include or result in the temporary or permanent displacement of residents?

- Yes             No

No, With Mitigation       Data Insufficient

## 12. Housing

Will the proposal:

- a. Affect existing housing, or create a demand for additional housing?

To determine if the proposal will affect existing housing or create a demand for additional housing, please answer the following questions:

- (1) Will the proposal decrease the amount of housing in the Tahoe Region?

Yes       No  
 No, With Mitigation       Data Insufficient

- (2) Will the proposal decrease the amount of housing in the Tahoe Region historically or currently being rented at rates affordable by lower and very-low-income households?

Yes       No  
 No, With Mitigation       Data Insufficient

Number of Existing Dwelling Units: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Proposed Dwelling Units: \_\_\_\_\_

- b. Will the proposal result in the loss of housing for lower-income and very-low-income households?

Yes       No  
 No, With Mitigation       Data Insufficient

## 13. Transportation/Circulation

Will the proposal result in:

- a. Generation of 100 or more new Daily Vehicle Trip Ends (DVTE)?

Yes       No  
 No, With Mitigation       Data Insufficient

b. Changes to existing parking facilities, or demand for new parking?

- Yes  No
- No, With Mitigation  Data Insufficient

c. Substantial impact upon existing transportation systems, including highway, transit, bicycle or pedestrian facilities?

- Yes  No
- No, With Mitigation  Data Insufficient

d. Alterations to present patterns of circulation or movement of people and/or goods?

- Yes  No
- No, With Mitigation  Data Insufficient

e. Alterations to waterborne, rail or air traffic?

- Yes  No
- No, With Mitigation  Data Insufficient

f. Increase in traffic hazards to motor vehicles, bicyclists, or pedestrians?

- Yes  No
- No, With Mitigation  Data Insufficient

**14. Public Services**

Will the proposal have an unplanned effect upon, or result in a need for new or altered governmental services in any of the following areas?

a. Fire protection?

- Yes  No
- No, With Mitigation  Data Insufficient

b. Police protection?

- Yes  No
- No, With Mitigation  Data Insufficient

c. Schools?

- Yes  No
- No, With Mitigation  Data Insufficient

d. Parks or other recreational facilities?

- Yes  No
- No, With Mitigation  Data Insufficient

e. Maintenance of public facilities, including roads?

- Yes  No
- No, With Mitigation  Data Insufficient

f. Other governmental services?

- Yes  No
- No, With Mitigation  Data Insufficient

## 15. Energy

Will the proposal result in:

a. Use of substantial amounts of fuel or energy?

- Yes  No
- No, With Mitigation  Data Insufficient

b. Substantial increase in demand upon existing sources of energy, or require the development of new sources of energy?

- Yes  No
- No, With Mitigation  Data Insufficient

## 16. Utilities

Except for planned improvements, will the proposal result in a need for new systems, or substantial alterations to the following utilities:

a. Power or natural gas?

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No, With Mitigation | <input type="checkbox"/> Data Insufficient |

b. Communication systems?

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No, With Mitigation | <input type="checkbox"/> Data Insufficient |

c. Utilize additional water which amount will exceed the maximum permitted capacity of the service provider?

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No, With Mitigation | <input type="checkbox"/> Data Insufficient |

d. Utilize additional sewage treatment capacity which amount will exceed the maximum permitted capacity of the sewage treatment provider?

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No, With Mitigation | <input type="checkbox"/> Data Insufficient |

e. Storm water drainage?

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No, With Mitigation | <input type="checkbox"/> Data Insufficient |

f. Solid waste and disposal?

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No, With Mitigation | <input type="checkbox"/> Data Insufficient |

**17. Human Health**

Will the proposal result in:

- a. Creation of any health hazard or potential health hazard (excluding mental health)?

- Yes  No
- No, With Mitigation  Data Insufficient

- b. Exposure of people to potential health hazards?

- Yes  No
- No, With Mitigation  Data Insufficient

**18. Scenic Resources/Community Design**

Will the proposal:

- a. Be visible from any state or federal highway, Pioneer Trail or from Lake Tahoe?

- Yes  No
- No, With Mitigation  Data Insufficient

- b. Be visible from any public recreation area or TRPA designated bicycle trail?

- Yes  No
- No, With Mitigation  Data Insufficient

- c. Block or modify an existing view of Lake Tahoe or other scenic vista seen from a public road or other public area?

- Yes  No
- No, With Mitigation  Data Insufficient

- d. Be inconsistent with the height and design standards required by the applicable ordinance or Community Plan?

- Yes  No
- No, With Mitigation  Data Insufficient

e. Be inconsistent with the TRPA Scenic Quality Improvement Program (SQIP) or Design Review Guidelines?

- Yes                       No
- No, With Mitigation                       Data Insufficient

**Discussion (Item 18.a):** The proposed amendments will affect development that will be potentially visible from US Highway 50. Such development would be authorized under current standards. Any development is subject to compliance with citywide design standards and guidelines, which are designed to ensure compatibility with scenic thresholds. Development can only be approved when consistent with relevant height-related findings in Chapter 37 of the TRPA Code of Ordinances, which further ensure scenic compatibility. Because these area plan amendments would not make structures more visible, no impact to visibility is anticipated.

**Discussion (Item 18.b):** Please see the above discussion for Item 18.a. The amendment could potentially affect land within proximity to the Class-I multi-use trails along US Highway 50. The amendment would not result in impacts to views from these facilities, as the amendment would not result in more visually imposing structures than what is currently allowed by the area plan.

**Discussion (Item 18.c):** Please see the above discussion for Item 18.a. The proposed amendment will not affect views from the lake. Resulting development may be visible from public roads, but the amendment would not result in more visually imposing structures than what is currently allowed by the community plan.

**Discussion (Item 18.e):** The proposed amendment affects the Tourist Center Gateway District, Special Area #1, which is adjacent to Scenic Roadway Unit #33 (The Strip), which is in non-attainment for the scenic threshold. The 2015 threshold evaluation notes that redevelopment, remodeling, and façade improvements help to provide incremental benefits to scenic quality. As the proposed amendment is intended to encourage additional tourist-related uses and redevelopment it can be seen as promoting scenic quality improvement.

**19. Recreation**

Does the proposal:

a. Create additional demand for recreation facilities?

- Yes                       No
- No, With Mitigation                       Data Insufficient

b. Create additional recreation capacity?

- Yes                       No
- No, With Mitigation                       Data Insufficient

c. Have the potential to create conflicts between recreation uses, either existing or proposed?

- Yes       No
- No, With Mitigation       Data Insufficient

d. Result in a decrease or loss of public access to any lake, waterway, or public lands?

- Yes       No
- No, With Mitigation       Data Insufficient

**20. Archaeological/Historical**

a. Will the proposal result in an alteration of or adverse physical or aesthetic effect to a significant archaeological or historical site, structure, object or building?

- Yes       No
- No, With Mitigation       Data Insufficient

b. Is the proposed project located on a property with any known cultural, historical, and/or archaeological resources, including resources on TRPA or other regulatory official maps or records?

- Yes       No
- No, With Mitigation       Data Insufficient

c. Is the property associated with any historically significant events and/or sites or persons?

- Yes       No
- No, With Mitigation       Data Insufficient

d. Does the proposal have the potential to cause a physical change which would affect unique ethnic cultural values?

- Yes       No
- No, With Mitigation       Data Insufficient

e. Will the proposal restrict historic or pre-historic religious or sacred uses within the potential impact area?

- Yes       No
- No, With Mitigation       Data Insufficient



## 21. Findings of Significance.

- a. Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California or Nevada history or prehistory?

Yes                       No  
 No, With Mitigation             Data Insufficient

- b. Does the project have the potential to achieve short-term, to the disadvantage of long-term, environmental goals? (A short-term impact on the environment is one which occurs in a relatively brief, definitive period of time, while long-term impacts will endure well into the future.)

Yes                       No  
 No, With Mitigation             Data Insufficient

- c. Does the project have impacts which are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (A project may impact on two or more separate resources where the impact on each resource is relatively small, but where the effect of the total of those impacts on the environmental is significant?)

Yes                       No  
 No, With Mitigation             Data Insufficient

- d. Does the project have environmental impacts which will cause substantial adverse effects on human being, either directly or indirectly?

Yes                       No  
 No, With Mitigation             Data Insufficient

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Determination:

On the basis of this evaluation:

- a. The proposed project could not have a significant effect on the environment and a finding of no significant effect shall be prepared in accordance with TRPA's Rules of Procedure.

Yes       No

- b. The proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, but due to the listed mitigation measures which have been added to the project, could have no significant effect on the environment and a mitigated finding of no significant effect shall be prepared in accordance with TRPA's Rules and Procedures.

Yes       No

- c. The proposed project may have a significant effect on the environment and an environmental impact statement shall be prepared in accordance with this chapter and TRPA's Rules of Procedure

Yes       No



\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Evaluator

Date November 30, 2021

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jennifer Self, Principal Planner  
Title of Evaluator