

TAHOE REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY
TRANSPORTATION PERFORMANCE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tahoe Regional Planning Agency
Zoom

January 19, 2024

I. CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

TRPA Planning Manager, Michelle Glickert called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m.

Members present or online: Michelle Glickert (TRPA Transportation Program Manager), Dan Segan (TRPA Chief Science and Policy Advisor), Ken Kasman (TRPA Research & Analysis Department Director), Nick Haven (TRPA MPO Director), Ryan Murray (TRPA Associate Transportation Planner), Josh Schmidt (TRPA Transportation & Analytics Analyst), Kira Richardson (TRPA Senior Transportation Planner), Jaime Wright (Placer County), Emily Dougherty and Anush Nejad (City of South Lake Tahoe), Dave Solaro (Washoe County), George Fink (Tahoe Transportation District), Julia Tohlen (Truckee North Tahoe Transportation Management Association), Steve Teshara (South Shore Transportation Management Association), Mona Elbadawy (Caltrans), Gavin Figer (League to Save Lake Tahoe), Jon Erb (Douglas County), Donald Palaroan (El Dorado County),

Additional representatives from various counties, City of South Lake, Caltrans, transportation management associations, non-governmental organizations, TRPA staff, including transportation planning team, and research and analysis department representatives.

Michelle Glickert, TRPA Planning Manager, welcomed all attendees to the first meeting of the Transportation Performance Technical Advisory Committee. She outlined the purpose of the meeting, which is to guide the development of the 2024 Regional Transportation Plan Sustainable Community Strategy (RTP) and the Analysis and Recommendations Report.

Jessica Gillies was designated as the minutes recorder for the meeting.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Michelle Glickert removed Agenda Item No. III Approval of Minutes from the Agenda, noting that this is the first meeting of the Transportation Performance Technical Advisory Committee and there are not Minutes to Approve at this meeting. The agenda was approved as amended.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

This item removed from the agenda.

IV. PUBLIC HEARINGS ITEMS

- A. Review of high-level transportation metrics to track implementation of Vehicle Miles Traveled reduction and achievement of other Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy Goals (Discussion and Possible Direction/Action)

Michelle Glickert provided an overview of the RTP, emphasizing its importance in setting the vision for the transportation system in the region. She highlighted the goals of the RTP, including improving safety, enhancing connectivity, supporting economic vitality, protecting the environment, preserving the transportation system, and coordinating operations. Michelle explained the reporting cycle and the role of the Transportation Performance Technical Advisory Committee in evaluating performance and drafting management responses. Various transportation metrics and trends, including transit ridership, active transportation, and auto metrics including vehicle miles traveled per capita were identified. Michelle Glickert discussed the importance of tracking these metrics for evaluating performance and making policy modifications and invited input and discussion from the committee members on the presented metrics. Transit trends were presented.

Jaimie Wright, Placer County Transportation shared insights into the challenges faced by transit operators, particularly in recruiting drivers. She discussed staffing shortages, housing affordability issues, and the impact of AB 5 on contracting.

George Fink, Tahoe Transportation District (TTD) highlighted trends in ridership and productivity, emphasizing the challenges faced in maintaining service levels and fleet management. He discussed issues related to electric buses, route deviations for charging, and the impact on service frequency.

Committee members engaged in a discussion on staffing challenges and potential solutions. Topics included competitive wages, housing affordability, recruitment strategies, and the implications of labor shortages on service levels. Michelle Glickert emphasized the importance of addressing staffing issues to ensure the effective operation of transit services in the region.

The discussion shifted towards the challenges and opportunities associated with implementing electric buses in the region, particularly regarding the placement of charging infrastructure and the need for careful planning to ensure reliable service. George Fink, Tahoe Transportation District (TTD) highlighted the importance of strategic placement of charging infrastructure to support electric bus operations across the service area, especially in areas like Gardnerville and Carson City. The committee recognized the need for collaboration with local entities to ensure adequate charging infrastructure is available to support electric bus operations.

- B. Provide guidance on program policy and project modifications necessary to attain and maintain Transportation and Sustainable Communities Threshold Standard (Discussion and Possible Direction/Action)

Michelle Glickert redirected the discussion to the comparison between transit services on the North Shore and South Shore, emphasizing the unique challenges and costs

associated with serving different communities. The focus shifted to exploring potential route changes, such as reestablishing a connection from South Shore to Carson City via Highway 50 and Spooner, as proposed in TTD's short-range transit plan.

Steve Teshara provided an update on the Lake Link service, highlighting increased ridership and expanded service areas in Douglas County. He discussed efforts to integrate Lake Link and TTD's transit services through a unified app and explored potential funding mechanisms to support the transit service. Michelle Glickert highlighted the importance of addressing staffing challenges and expanding transit services while maintaining reasonable wait times for passengers. The committee discussed potential programmatic changes and policy adjustments to enhance transit services and active transportation options in the region.

Michelle outlined the schedule for future meetings and the timeline for completing the performance report, with a focus on identifying key trends and potential recommendations for TRPA's board. The committee acknowledged the need for ongoing collaboration and data collection to inform future transportation planning efforts and ensure the success of regional transit initiatives. The meeting concluded with a reminder of the upcoming schedule and the importance of continued engagement and collaboration among committee members to address transportation challenges in the region effectively.

The meeting concluded with a brief discussion on additional agenda items for future meetings and any other business to be addressed. Committee members to review the presented transportation metrics and provide feedback for further analysis. Operators to explore potential solutions for addressing staffing challenges and improving service reliability.

V. PUBLIC INTEREST COMMENTS

None

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Michelle Glickert adjourned the meeting at 3:13 p.m.

The next meeting of the Transportation Performance Technical Advisory Committee will be held on March 1, 2024

Transportation Performance Technical Advisory Committee
January 19, 2024

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Gillies,
Senior Management Assistant

The above meeting was recorded in its entirety. Anyone wishing to listen the recording of the above-mentioned meeting may find it at <https://www.trpa.gov/meeting-materials/>. In addition, written documents submitted at the meeting are available for review. If you require assistance locating this information, please contact the TRPA at (775) 588-4547 or virtualmeetinghelp@trpa.gov