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STAFF REPORT

Date: April 21, 2021  
To: Environmental Improvement, Transportation, and Public Outreach Committee  
From: TRPA Staff  
Subject: State and Federal Transportation Legislative Update and Possible Direction

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Summary and Staff Recommendation:

Hear a briefing on a wide range of state and federal transportation funding opportunities and give direction to staff to support the pending Travel Act, a bill sponsored by U.S. Senator Catherine Cortez Masto (D, Nev.).

At the Committee meeting, staff will brief Committee members on a host of state and federal transportation funding options. Among them, TRPA staff members are requesting board direction to offer support for the pending Travel Act sponsored by U.S. Senator Catherine Cortez Masto (D, Nev.). TRPA staffers have worked with congressional staff for more than a year on various provisions in the pending legislation to provide new funding opportunities for transportation projects in the Tahoe Basin.

Required Motion:

Direction to staff to endorse the Travel Act upon the bill's introduction in the U.S. Senate.

Background and Summary

Historically, Lake Tahoe's small resident population and large visitor base has strained the transportation network and presented funding challenges. The Travel Act is drafted to advance transportation networks in states where tourism is a key economic driver. The bill is intended to improve transportation networks not only for the visitors, but the workforce and communities that provide them world-class hospitality. The legislation would provide direct funding, and is also intended to provide a more competitive playing field for various projects for the Tahoe region given our recreation-travel pattern.

Contact Information

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