



# **Tahoe In Brief**

## **Governing Board Monthly Report**

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July 2022

## TRPA CALENDAR AT-A-GLANCE

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### *JULY 2022*

- July 25: Transportation Performance Technical Advisory Committee Meeting
- July 27: TRPA Governing Board Meeting

### *AUGUST 2022*

- August 4: TRPA Hearings Officer Meeting, 2 p.m.
- August 10: TRPA Advisory Planning Commission Meeting, 9:30 a.m.
- August 16: Lake Tahoe Summit, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m., Sand Harbor State Park, NV
- August 24: TRPA Governing Board Meeting

### *SEPTEMBER 2022*

- September 14: TRPA Advisory Planning Commission Meeting, 9:30 a.m.
- September 28: TRPA Governing Board Meeting including a tour of the South Tahoe Events Center

### *OCTOBER 2022*

- October 12: TRPA Advisory Planning Commission Meeting, 9:30 a.m.
- October 26: TRPA Governing Board Meeting

## TRPA STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

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# TRPA STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

Set by the Governing Board, these strategic initiatives reflect the agency's commitment to protect Lake Tahoe's environment while improving regional transportation, increasing diverse housing options, and facilitating community revitalization.

- **Building Resiliency: Climate Change and Sustainability**
- **Keeping Tahoe Moving: Transportation and Sustainable Recreation**
- **Tahoe Living: Housing and Community Revitalization**
- **Restoration Blueprint: Environmental Improvement Program Implementation**
- **Measuring What Matters: Thresholds and Monitoring Update**
- **Digital First: Innovation**

## ***BUILDING RESILIENCY: CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGIC INITIATIVE***

Every TRPA initiative includes strategies to strengthen the resilience of Tahoe’s environment, communities, and economy to the emerging stresses of climate change and to improve the region’s sustainability. Resilience is the ability to prepare, plan for, absorb, and recover from extreme climate impacts when they occur (e.g., work to make forests more resilient to fire, insects, and disease). The Climate Change Strategic Initiative harmonizes the goals of both states and local governments in the Tahoe Region while maintaining the region’s reputation as a global leader in sustainability.

**Climate Smart Code:** TRPA staff will be performing surveys and interviews with stakeholders over the next few months to identify potential Code of Ordinance changes to accelerate implementation of climate goals through development and redevelopment projects. Potential Code changes will promote renewable energy resilience, electric vehicle infrastructure deployment, energy efficiency, and housing. The Code changes will be brought before the TRPA Governing Board for input and consideration for adoption later this winter.

**Climate Resilience Dashboard:** To better track progress toward Tahoe’s climate resilience goals, TRPA will be updating the existing Lake Tahoe Info Sustainability Dashboard (<https://sustainability.laketahoeinfo.org/>). The update will identify new metrics to tell the story of climate resilience at Tahoe and engage the broader community in implementing needed climate actions.

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### **Associated Working Group(s)/Committee(s):**

- Tahoe Interagency Executive Steering Committee

### **Website(s):**

- <https://www.trpa.gov/programs/climate-resilience/>
- <https://sustainability.laketahoeinfo.org/>



## ***KEEP TAHOE MOVING: TRANSPORTATION & SUSTAINABLE RECREATION STRATEGIC INITIATIVE***

This initiative includes an update of the Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy, which encompasses greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction, the work of the Bi-State Consultation on Transportation, destination stewardship planning, and ongoing transportation corridor planning.

**East Shore Corridor Management Plan:** An informational briefing on this plan will be held at the August Governing Board Meeting. The plan will develop alternative designs to improve roadway safety, transit, trails, and innovative mobility options between Spooner Summit and Stateline on the South Shore.

**Transportation Action Plan:** The Bi-State Consultation on Transportation endorsed the final Transportation Action Plan outlining the funding strategy and priority projects to fill the \$20 million per year funding gap in the Lake Tahoe Regional Transportation Plan. With endorsement of the action plan, partners will shift their focus to implementation including a formal funding request to the Nevada legislature, analysis of corridor zonal pricing, and submittal of grant applications.

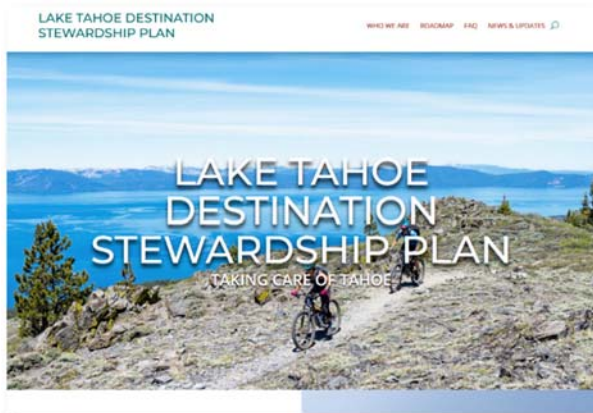


*Map of the US 50 East Shore Corridor Management Plan.*

**Transportation Metrics:** The Transportation Performance Technical Advisory Committee will have its first meeting on July 25. Additional meetings will occur until December with a presentation to the Governing Board Environmental Improvement Program Committee and final Governing Board approval in December.

Cambridge Systematics will be supporting the Technical Advisory Committee. Tasks include creating a high level of transportation metrics based on achieving the Lake Tahoe Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) goals and a new threshold standard for vehicle miles traveled (VMT) reduction. Along with the metrics there will be a review to revise and recommend more efficient data and data collection that align with tracking these metrics. Finally, a framework for a Transportation Performance Report will be utilized to report out VMT reduction and to assist in preparing the next RTP per Regional Plan Implementation Goal 5.

**Lake Tahoe Destination Stewardship Plan: *Taking Care of Tahoe.*** TRPA, in coordination with a Destination Stewarding Core Team, the Center for Responsible Travel (CREST), and the Travel Foundation launched the Destination Stewardship project in May.



This project will create a ground-breaking destination stewardship plan to ensure outdoor recreation and tourism enhances community well-being, supports local businesses and workers, and protects the lake. Over the next few months, TRPA and contractors CREST and the Travel Foundation will lead regional partners through a community engagement process, as well as a robust State of Tourism

analysis. Funding strategies and implementation plans will eventually be brought forward to the Governing Board.

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**Associated Working Group(s)/Committee(s):**

- Lake Tahoe Sustainable Recreation Working Group
- Bi-State Consultation on Transportation
- Transportation Performance Technical Advisory Committee
- Tahoe Transportation Implementation Committee

**Website(s):**

- <https://www.trpa.gov/transportation/#programs>
- <https://www.trpa.gov/programs/sustainable-recreation/>
- <https://stewardshiptahoe.org/>

**Newsletter:** Sign up to receive news by sending an email to [enews@trpa.gov](mailto:enews@trpa.gov) and put “Transportation” or “Sustainable Rec & Tourism” in the subject line.

**TAHOE LIVING: HOUSING & COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION STRATEGIC INITIATIVE**

This initiative addresses strategies for implementing affordable and achievable workforce housing as a key component of healthy, sustainable communities in the region. The Tahoe Living initiative implements the Regional Plan, the Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy, the Regional Housing Needs Allocation, and other identified regional housing needs.

**Phase 2 Housing Amendments –**

**Development Standards:** TRPA will present an update on the work of the Tahoe Living Working Group and the current status of the Phase 2 Housing Amendments at the July 27 Governing Board meeting. After incorporating Governing Board input on conceptual policy changes to development standards to better encourage multi-residential and “missing middle” development, TRPA will move this phase into the environmental analysis, and expects to bring draft code amendments forward for Tahoe Living Working Group, APC and board committee hearings in the early winter.



**Regional Early Action Planning Grant:** Building on feedback from local jurisdictions and the Tahoe Living Working Group, TRPA began the development of a draft program of projects for submittal to California’s Regional Early Action Planning (REAP 2.0) program, administered by the California Department of Housing and Community Development. The REAP 2.0 grant program goals are to accelerate infill housing development, reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT), increase housing supply at all affordability levels, further fair housing, and facilitate the implementation of adopted regional and local plans to achieve these goals. TRPA anticipates using some of this funding to support priority housing actions identified for Phase 2 and later phases of the Tahoe Living Housing and Community Revitalization Initiative.

Over the summer and fall, TRPA will reach out to a wide variety of stakeholders, including representatives from communities disproportionately impacted by the pandemic, to solicit input on the draft program of projects in preparation for applying to the state of California in December.

**“Achievable” Housing Definition Updates:** At the May Local Government and Housing Committee meeting, TRPA gathered feedback on updates to the “achievable” housing definition, including closing a remote worker loophole. TRPA will move this code update forward for final input when a related, large code package is ready to be reviewed by the APC, RPIC, and Governing Board.

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**Associated Working Group(s)/Committee(s):**

- Tahoe Living Working Group
- TRPA Governing Board Local Government & Housing Committee

**Website(s):**

- Meeting materials are posted here: <https://www.trpa.gov/tahoe-living-housing-and-community-revitalization-working-group-2/>
- Tahoe Housing Story Map: <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/62ae9110d85c43ecb381eb3f3ccec196>

**Newsletter:** Sign up to receive housing news by sending an email to [enews@trpa.gov](mailto:enews@trpa.gov) and put “Housing” in the subject line.

## **RESTORATION BLUEPRINT: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**

This initiative includes implementing transportation and community revitalization projects of regional significance, seeking additional funding sources for the Environmental Improvement Program (EIP), creating forest health implementation tools based on the results from the Lake Tahoe West landscape-scale restoration project, implementing the Aquatic Invasive Species Control Action Plan, and focusing on area-wide stormwater management projects with multiple benefits. EIP restoration programs will be responsive

to climate adaptation and resilience measures as they are developed under the Climate Change Strategic Initiative.

**Federal Summit:** The 26<sup>th</sup> annual Lake Tahoe Summit will be held on Tuesday, August 16 at Sand Harbor Nevada State Park. The annual summit is a chance for Tahoe Basin partners to come together and reflect on the progress made to protect and restore Lake Tahoe and the challenges that lay ahead. Participants can RSVP for the event at <https://takecaretahoe.org/events/2022-lake-tahoe-summit/>. The event begins at 10 a.m. and will also be live streamed for those who are not able to attend in person.

**Tahoe Fire and Fuels Team Coordination:** TRPA is working collaboratively with the Tahoe Fire and Fuels Team to identify and finalize the 2022 Incident Action Plan including priority projects for the 2022 field season and developing a prioritization scheme for Lake Tahoe Restoration Act 2022/2023 funding. A Governing Board update presentation on the 2022 fire season and work is anticipated later this fall.

**Green Infrastructure Planning:** Area-wide stormwater projects elevate the role of natural infiltration strategies to meet water quality standards and achieve multiple-benefit adaptations to climate change. Over the next two months the TRPA Stormwater Management Program staff will finalize the design for the Lower Kingsbury Area-wide Treatment Project, issue permit approvals, and execute a Nevada Tahoe Conservation District subcontract for construction grant funds. The team will complete the Mountain to Marina Green Infrastructure Planning stakeholder assessment and issue a request for proposals for planning and engineering tasks associated with this project.



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**Associated Working Group(s)/Committee(s):**

- Governing Board Environmental Improvement Program Committee
- Tahoe Interagency Executives Steering Committee

**Website(s):**

- EIP Project Tracker: <https://eip.laketahoeinfo.org/>
- Stormwater Management Program: <https://tahoebmp.org/>

## MEASURING WHAT MATTERS: THRESHOLD & MONITORING UPDATE STRATEGIC INITIATIVE

This initiative focuses on how information is collected, analyzed, and applied to support better decisions that accelerate environmental improvement. The initiative's scope includes review of the threshold standards that establish



TRPA's goals and updating the suite of performance measures the agency uses to assess effectiveness of all components of the Regional Plan.

The Threshold Update Initiative Stakeholder Working Group, a Governing Board sanctioned working group chaired by the APC Vice Chair, held a meeting on July 13 that covered the Threshold Standard Outline and recommended modifications to the Forest Health Threshold Standards. Documents for both of these items are available online (see below).

There are meetings scheduled in the upcoming months. Topics that will be discussed at these meetings include:

- Watersheds and Water Quality standards (August)
- Biodiversity and Air Quality threshold standards (tentative October)

Materials for these meeting will be posted on the TRPA website (<https://www.trpa.gov/meeting-materials/>) one week prior to the meetings.

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### Associated Working Group(s)/Committee(s):

- Threshold Update Initiative Stakeholders Working Group
- Tahoe Science Advisory Council

### Website(s):

- Tahoe Science Advisory Council: <https://www.tahoesciencecouncil.org/>
- Threshold Dashboard: <https://thresholds.laketahoeinfo.org/>

## DIGITAL FIRST: INNOVATION INITIATIVE

This initiative recognizes the key agency opportunity to address external events, technology changes, and pursue continuous improvement. It involves significantly improving the ability of the agency to provide services in a "digital first" way by rethinking processes, using new technology.



A Digital First Strategic Initiative briefing will come to the Governing Board in August. This briefing will outline progress to date on the initiative and upcoming milestones. It will include the Current Planning Process Improvement Action Plan that will be presented by the project consultant. The Action Plan will include process improvements that will help set some of the parameters for the technology improvements that are part of this initiative, as well as identify needed general process improvements.

TRPA will begin a record scanning and digitization project to scan and enter data for approximately 200,000 agency records, historical documents, and permitting records for land use activities in the Tahoe Region. By creating and maintaining these documents electronically, TRPA will better support the public and reduce staff time needed for file request from property owners, realtors, or prospective buyers. The project will also facilitate staff remote work, reduce application processing times, improve TRPA's disaster recovery preparedness, and free up space in TRPA's office currently used for file storage.

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**Website(s):** Not a direct website for the initiative but associated ones include:

- <https://www.laketahoeinfo.org/>

## ADDITIONAL UPCOMING ITEMS OF INTEREST

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### *UPCOMING DEVELOPMENT/REDEVELOPMENT PROJECTS*

**Community Revitalization of the Former Lakeside Casino Property:** TRPA staff is working closely with representatives of Barton Hospital and Douglas County, NV to explore community revitalization opportunities of the former Lakeside Casino property. Barton purchased the 7.5-acre site to establish a robust medical presence within both California and Nevada and to allow health and wellness services to a greater number of patients. The new facility may include an ambulatory building and oncology, specialty care, surgery center, and destination medicine center. The proposed development would be located within the Tahoe Village Town Center of the existing Douglas County South Shore Area Plan. With proximity to local workforce housing, Rabe Meadow, and the Highway 50 Corridor, the proposed project could have a wide range of benefits for the implementation of the Lake Tahoe Regional Plan.

**Lake Based Safety Facilities:** Expanding public safety facilities on Lake Tahoe is a high priority of the Shoreline Plan as these enable public safety agencies to better respond to emergencies on the lake. With greater fluctuations in lake level expected as a result of climate change, TRPA is working with public safety and land management agencies to identify public safety needs and preferred pier and mooring locations throughout the

Basin. A presentation of the results from this effort is planned for the Governing Board and APC this fall.



*A delegation of European scholars at the University of Nevada, Reno visited TRPA in early July.*

### **Summer 2022 Cultural Exchanges:**

Educational and cultural exchanges through regional universities are back. TRPA supports many of these programs as part of the Community Engagement work of External Affairs. Staff members have hosted delegations from all across Europe, Brazil, and soon Korea. More are planned and offer informational exchange opportunities to further TRPA's mission.