TAHOE REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY

TRPA
PO Box 5310
128 Market Street
Stateline, NV 89449

STAFF REPORT

Date: July 15, 2026

To: TRPA Governing Board

From: TRPA Staff

Subject: Release of Placer County Air Quality Interest Mitigation Funds ($38,000.00) for the Tahoe Transportation District for the 2026/2027 Emerald Bay Shuttle and Parking Management Project

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Summary and Staff Recommendation:
Staff recommends that the Governing Board approve Placer County's request for the release of $38,000 in Air Quality Interest Mitigation Funds for the Tahoe Transportation District (TTD) for implementation of the 2026/2027 Emerald Bay Shuttle and Parking Management Project (EIP Project No. 03.02.03.0037), subject to the conditions cited below.

This request is consistent with the Environmental Improvement Program (EIP) objectives, the TRPA Code of Ordinances, and the Governing Board's policy guidelines for the release of mitigation funds.

Required Motion:
To approve the release, the Board must make the following motion:

1) A motion to approve the release subject to the conditions contained in this staff report.

In order for the motion to pass, an affirmative vote of any eight Board members is required.

Project Description/Background:
Placer County is requesting the release of $38,000 in Air Quality Interest Mitigation Funds to TTD to support implementation of the 2026/2027 Emerald Bay Shuttle and Parking Management Project. The project is an important component of Tahoe Transportation District's Transit Operations – Short Term 2030 Project.

The request is part of a multi-jurisdictional effort involving El Dorado County, Placer County, Keep Tahoe Blue, TTD, TRPA, the U.S. Forest Service, and other partners to provide transit alternatives to personal vehicle travel within the corridor.

The State Route 89 Recreation Corridor is heavily visited and provides access to Emerald Bay, Fallen Leaf Lake, Desolation Wilderness, and numerous other destinations along Lake Tahoe's West Shore. The corridor experiences significant seasonal congestion and parking demand that adversely affects

transportation efficiency, public safety, visitor experience, and environmental resources. More than one million vehicle trips occur within the corridor annually.

The Emerald Bay Shuttle and Parking Management Project advances recommendations identified in the State Route 89 Recreation Corridor Management Plan. The project seeks to improve access to recreation destinations while reducing congestion, vehicle miles traveled, and associated environmental impacts through transit service, parking management, and transportation demand management strategies.

The project will operate during the peak recreation season and will provide enhanced transit service to Emerald Bay and surrounding recreation destinations. The project is intended to reduce reliance on personal vehicles, alleviate congestion, improve safety, and support air quality goals by reducing vehicle miles traveled (VMT) within the Basin.

As of May 31, 2026, the unencumbered balance in Placer County's Air Quality Interest Mitigation Fund account was $41,780.91. This balance is sufficient to cover the requested release.

Conditions:
Staff recommends approving the release of these funds subject to the following conditions of approval:

1. The County and TTD shall use the funds only for the project identified in this staff report and as approved by TRPA.

2. TRPA reserves the right to withhold funds to ensure project priorities, goals, and objectives are consistent with those of the Environmental Improvement Program and TRPA's Regional Plan.

3. The County and TTD agree to comply with all applicable laws, codes, and regulations adopted by federal, state, and local governmental authorities.

4. TTD agrees to maintain a report detailing the use and expenditure of all funds used on the project. These records shall be made available for review and audit by TRPA within 30 calendar days of a written request.

5. All mitigation funds not used as described above shall be returned to TRPA. Upon written approval from TRPA, these funds may be reallocated to another project.

6. TTD agrees to report the applicable EIP Performance Measures achieved by this project in the EIP Tracker.

Contact Information:
For questions regarding this agenda item, please contact Tracy Campbell at tcampbell@trpa.gov, or by phone at (775) 589-5257.

Public Comment:

- Written**:** Please submit comments by 3 p.m. the day before the meeting.
- Email: You may email comments to publiccomment@trpa.gov. Include meeting details and agenda item in the subject line or write "General Comment" for non-agenda items.
- You may also send by mail, fax to (775) 588-4527, or drop off in person at 128 Market Street.

Attachment A

EIP Project Fact Sheet

Sustainable Recreation and Transportation

Lake Tahoe
ENVIRONMENTAL
IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

TTD Transit Operations - Short Term 2030

Project Number	03.02.03.0037
Action Priority	Operate and Maintain Transit Systems
Implementers	Tahoe Transportation District
Primary Contact	Jason Burke (jburke@tahoetransportation.org)
Stage	Implementation
Duration	2025 - 2030

Transportation Program › Operate and Maintain Transit Systems

This project covers the existing TTD transit service, focused on moving residents, workers, and commuters. Carson Valley commuters can link to South Shore services and access businesses along the US50 corridor. Local service runs between the South Y Transit Center and Kingsbury Transit Center. The East Shore Express operates during summer months-linking Incline Village remote parking to the Tahoe East Shore Trail and Sand Harbor State Park in the SR 28 Corridor. The Emerald Bay seasonal service can connect to Emerald Bay along SR 89. Paratransit service exceeds the requirements of the Americans with Disability Act (ADA) and serves the greater South Lake Tahoe area, including much of Meyers.

Gillig Hybrid Buses

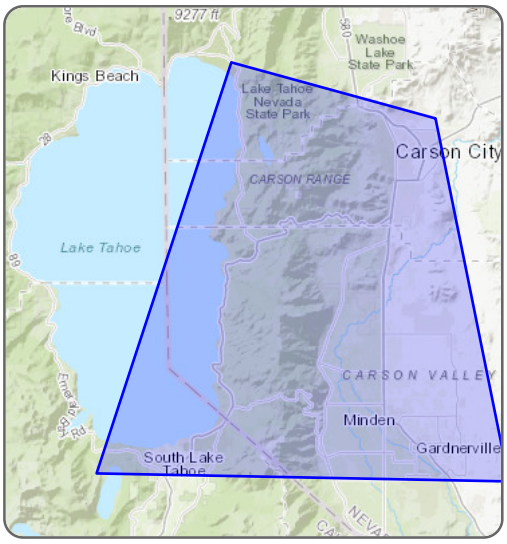
Key Accomplishments

- People Served: **394,515**

Threshold Categories

- Transportation and Sustainable Communities

Location



Expenditures

Expenditures by Funding Source to Date: $7,325,497
(Estimated Cost:)

- Congestion Mitigation and Air... (FHWA): $1,000,000
- FTA 5307 (Operating) (FTA): $1,346,484
- FTA 5310 Enhanced Mobility for... (FTA): $38,010
- FTA 5311 Rural Formula Program... (FTA): $1,558,997
- Nevada State Parks (NV State Parks): $85,000
- El Dorado County Transient Oc... (ELDO): $67,458
- Fare Box (TTD): $27,528
- TTD Interest Income (TTD): $13,571
- LCTOP - (Low Carbon Trans... (Caltrans): $302,536
- SB 125 (CalSTA): $148,135
- TDA-LTF (Caltrans): $1,224,344
- TDA-STA (Caltrans): $417,525
- Toll Credits (Caltrans): $1,030,909
- Private (Business) (Private): $65,000

Photos

During

Route 55 - Ski Run Blvd

Route 22 - Driving up Kingsbury grade

Route 22 - Driving Kingsbury grade to connect Minden/Gardnerville to the Stateline and Kingsbury Transit Centers

East Shore Express (Route 28) at Tunnel Creek Parking Lot

Route 50 at LTCC Mobility Hub (2025)

East Shore Express (Route 28)

Learn more at restoretahoe.org

Project Fact Sheet Data as of 07/14/