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**To:** [Marja Ambler](#)  
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**Subject:** Public Comment Aug 23rd meeting  
**Date:** Sunday, August 20, 2023 7:11:40 PM

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Dear Governing Board,

Please enter into record for agenda item VI. A. State Route 28 Corridor Plan Implementation: Chimney Beach Trailhead Parking Lot Improvements.

The East Shore Trail is the perfect example of a disaster to Lake Tahoe. Not only was there an attempt to replace roadside parking with a parking lot but also created a trail opening up public access. This created additional tourism demand and the answer is now trying to ramrod a bus station into the lowest income neighborhood of Incline Village.

Creating amenities, parking lots, trails and other recreational opportunities exponentially drives up visitation demand and congestion in the Tahoe Basin.

I also do not believe that parking lots will one for one replace roadside parking. There is obviously very little respect for the law around Lake Tahoe these days. Many people with money are breaking the speed limit, passing dangerously, and parking wherever they want, not to mention breaking noise ordinance, burnouts, sideshows, and spewing smoke out their tail pipes.

A moratorium should be placed on all amenity creation, parking lot creation, recreation creation, etc until public transit to and from the basin is addressed.

This is the opposite of the abhorred strategy of the Tahoe Transportation District. Of the chicken and egg problem, we must address transit to and from the basin before we address it within the basin.

This is how I propose tackling this situation.

How do you increase public transportation participation and what should be done?

Make it more convenient,  
more stops,  
better routes,  
more frequency at the stops.

That's it. The only thing else you can do is FORCE public transit by taking away people's cars and increasing prices to drive cars.

TTD and TRPA apparently wants to increase transit centers, hubs and stations, amenities, and trails within the basin FIRST.

They have no proof that this will work and in fact it makes things worse by bringing in more traffic regardless of how congested it gets people will still drive until gridlock.

Why is TTD's (and TRPA's) plan bad?

It creates amenities, services and reasons for people to drive here.

It encourages people to drive TO these hubs.

It increases congestion rather than reducing it to-from the basin or within the basin.

It is more marketing to bring people to Tahoe!  
It increases light, noise and litter pollution.  
Crime is associated with these locations.  
It increases the burden on natural resources.  
It increases fire risk due to more people interacting with the forest.

Additionally, Why it won't work

Why would someone give up their car after already driving to Tahoe?  
It takes away limited land resources for "affordable" housing and local services.  
It encourages conversion to STRs by conveniently locating hubs near neighborhoods.  
Why would locals drive under 1 mile to give up the freedom of their own car and packing their belongings and often work tools to board a bus?

Don't build things that are more reasons for people to come here when we already have an affordable housing crisis, environmental crisis, congestion and fire safety crisis. There will always be demand and we can create and open up public access until the basin is a literal garbage dump that reduces demand. Destroying the very things people seek.

Sincerely,  
Aaron Vanderpool  
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