

From: Jessica TuckerMohl <Jessica.TuckerMohl@doj.ca.gov>
Sent: 8/27/2024 6:43:28 PM
To: Public Comment <PublicComment@trpa.gov>
Subject: Public Comment, 8/28 GB Meeting, Transportation Committee, Agenda Item No. 4
Attachments: [AG Letter toTRPA Final 8-27.pdf](#)

Hello,

Attached is a letter we are submitting in connection with tomorrow's Transportation Committee meeting, Agenda Item No. 4. We recognize this letter is arriving after 4pm; nevertheless if you could provide a copy to members of the Transportation Committee we would appreciate it, and/or have the letter read into the record as our public comment. I may be able to participate in the meeting and read the letter in myself, if needed.

Best regards,
Jessica

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C A L I F O R N I A

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August 27, 2024

RE: TRPA Transportation Committee, Aug. 28, 2024 Governing Board Meeting, Item No. 4

Dear Chair Hill, and Members of the Transportation Committee of the TRPA Governing Board:

The California Office of the Attorney General submits these comments to the Transportation Committee in the spirit of collaborative engagement and support for achieving the region's environmental goals, specifically goals relating to reduction of Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) in the Tahoe Basin.

When TRPA adopted the amended VMT threshold in 2021, it committed to develop and implement an ongoing, self-perpetuating source of funding under the label 'regional revenue'; this requirement is currently codified via Regional Plan Policies DP 5.2 and 5.3. We understand TRPA is currently updating its Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS) for 2025. One of the important elements of an RTP/SCS is its funding strategy. We appreciate and applaud the strong success of the funding effort referred to as the "7-7-7" strategy, referring to sources of funding from three sources: federal, state and local/private partners. We, however, encourage TRPA to focus on development of a "Fourth Leg" of funding (as characterized by TRPA's Executive Director in April 2024) - a sustainable source(s) of transportation revenue (also referred to as an ongoing regional revenue funding source) that would not be subject to budgetary fluctuations.

The staff report for the August 28, 2024 Transportation Committee meeting does not provide any updates on progress towards developing a sustainable funding source, and includes a suggestion that the "Tahoe Sustainable Funding" line item from the prior RTP/SCS will not be included in the upcoming RTP/SCS. We understand that TRPA staff have at times indicated that work on updating funding policies related to VMT is separate from, albeit closely related to, work on the 2025 RTP/SCS; we further understand the distinction between constrained and unconstrained sources of funding (e.g., funding sources with higher certainty such as 7-7-7 vs. more speculative ones). However, we are eager to receive updates about evaluating sources of sustainable VMT funding and hope that you will encourage staff to report back on that at a subsequent committee meeting.

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TRPA has the unique authority, pursuant to the Bi-State Compact, to step up as a leader and develop, once again, innovative, cutting-edge solutions to tackle the uniquely challenging issue of VMT in the Basin. Consistent with your previous commitments, we encourage you to call on all resources to do so.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jessica Tucker-Mohl". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

JESSICA E. TUCKER-MOHL
Supervising Deputy Attorney General

For ROB BONTA
Attorney General