

# TRPA “Planning 102”

TRPA enabling legislation, mandates, and authority:

- Bi-state compact
- Metropolitan Planning Organization
- Water Quality Management Planning Agency

Comparison to typical state local government planning legislation

Questions and discussion

# Bi-State Compact



As illustrated in the figure to the left, the Bi-State Compact that established TRPA requires the Governing Board to (1) adopt Threshold Standards and (2) a Regional Plan and Code to achieve and maintain the Threshold Standards it has adopted. The transportation planning mandate in the Compact is also addressed through the federal and state transportation planning mandates discussed below.

The Bi-State Compact also mandates implementation of the Regional Plan through adoption and administration of ordinances, rules, and regulations, as well as the inclusion of projects, proposals, and time schedules for implementation. Thus, like many Federal, state, and local government plans, the Lake Tahoe Regional Plan is implemented through both (3) regulatory actions such as development and redevelopment permitting and compliance and through (4) projects and programs that are funded predominantly by the public through various implementation partners with significant private sector participation (i.e., the Environmental Improvement Program).

# Metropolitan Planning Organization

Federal law established the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency Governing Board, with the addition of a representative from the US Forest Service, as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Governing Board for the Lake Tahoe Region, thus making it responsible for the regional transportation plan, transportation improvement program, and federal transportation grants administration. In recognition of the significant visitor population in the Lake Tahoe Region it also designated the Tahoe MPO as a large MPO. This designation has increased both the level of federal funding and MPO responsibilities.

California law requires all MPOs to prepare a sustainable community strategy (SCS) along with the regional transportation plan (i.e., the RTP/SCS). California law also designates MPOs as the Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA) for their respective areas of jurisdiction in California, increasing funding to the region (e.g., funding for transit agencies like TTD and Placer County to implement the RTP/SCS and associated transit plans). TRPA effectively addresses the dual Compact and Federal/State transportation planning mandates through preparation and update of the RTP/SCS. Per California state law, the SCS must also show that the Region has the capacity and the zoning in place to address regional affordable housing needs. TRPA's unique land use planning and permitting authority also allows it to holistically address the relationship between land use (the source of the demand for transportation) and transportation (the system to meet the demand).

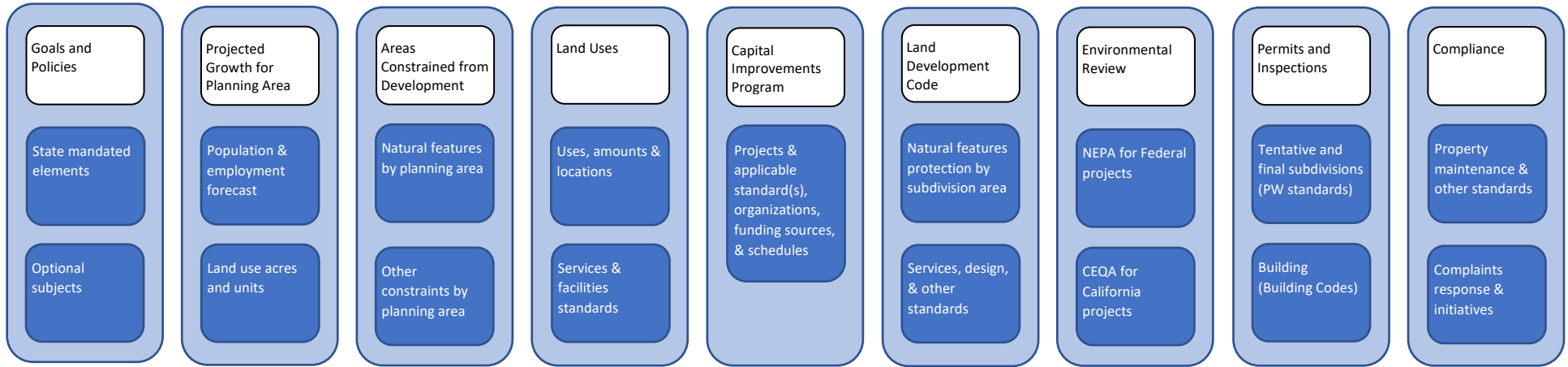
# Water Quality Management Planning Agency

To protect and enhance the unique environment of the Lake Tahoe Basin, the California and Nevada Governors, with approval by the US Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA), designated TRPA as the areawide planning agency for the Tahoe Region under Section 208 of the Clean Water Act. In this role, TRPA is responsible for the Lake Tahoe Water Quality Management Plan. The Lake Tahoe Water Quality Management Plan (also known as the 208 Plan or WQMP) is a framework that sets forth the components of the water quality management system in the Lake Tahoe Region, the desired water quality outcomes for the Tahoe Basin, and the mechanisms adopted by all the relevant entities to achieve and maintain those outcomes.

The WQMP complements and supports both States and local jurisdictions with implementation of the 2011 US EPA approved Lake Tahoe Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) to restore Lake Tahoe's water clarity. It is organized to reflect the water quality management plan elements required by regulations at 40 C.F.R. Section 130.6, which implements Sections 208 and 303(e) of the Clean Water Act.

# Comparison to Typical State Local Government Planning Legislation

## General State Law Planning Frameworks



## General TRPA Compact Planning Framework

