

# 2019 QUARTERLY REPORT

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TAHOE REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY  
Second Quarter: April – June 2019



TAHOE  
REGIONAL  
PLANNING  
AGENCY



*Photo by Drone Promotions*



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## TRPA STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

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The Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) is moving forward with strategic initiatives the Governing Board identified as significant priorities for the agency. These initiatives align directly with the four objectives in the agency's Strategic Plan.

### TRANSPORTATION

#### U.S. 50 South Shore Community Revitalization Project

The U.S. 50 South Shore Community Revitalization Project is a transformational and regionally significant project identified as a top Regional Plan implementation priority for Lake Tahoe. The project will catalyze improvements to the south shore's housing, transit, parking management, recreation access, and business development by realigning approximately one mile of U.S. Highway 50 behind Heavenly Village and the casino core. The redevelopment will create a pedestrian-friendly and transit-oriented local main street corridor that extends throughout the project area in Stateline and South Lake Tahoe.

In November 2018, the TRPA Governing Board approved the U.S. 50 South Shore Community Revitalization Project with the caveat of meeting three conditions before road construction can start:

1. Develop a Main Street Management Plan for the former U.S. Highway 50 corridor;
2. Construct 109 units of replacement housing; and,
3. Plan for community connectivity improvements and amenities for the Rocky Point Neighborhood.

TRPA, in coordination with the Tahoe Transportation District, is the lead agency for the development of the Main Street Management Plan. During this past quarter, the stakeholder working group, meeting for the second time, held its first public open house on the Main Street Management Plan to gain input on the goals and objectives for the future design of a main street stretching from Lake Parkway to Pioneer Trail. The stakeholder working group, the body guiding the policy and design of the main street plan, is organizing goals for four categories: community, transportation, economy, and the environment. Goals included improving air and water quality, ensuring

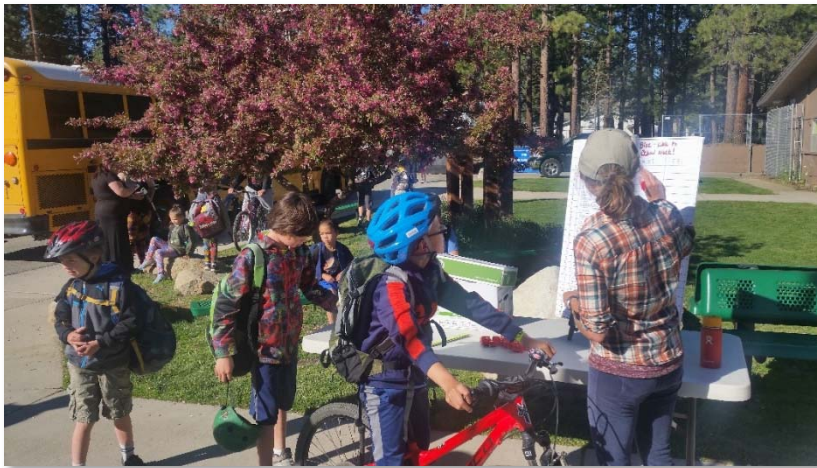


*First public open house for the Main Street Management Plan.*

safety for all modes of transportation, and establishing the south shore as a year-round destination. During this first open house, the public was asked to provide input on the goals and objectives, general design preferences, travel patterns, and what they envisioned main street would ultimately become. This was the first of four planned open houses.

### **Tahoe Bike Challenge**

During the second quarter of 2019, TRPA teamed up with the Lake Tahoe Bicycle Coalition to lead the 14th annual Tahoe Bike Challenge. During the first two weeks of June, 285 people



*Students at Bijou Community School logging their bike rides and walks to school during the bike and walk to school week.*

around the Basin biked 20,420 miles, preventing an estimated 6,945 pounds of carbon dioxide emissions. The Tahoe Bike Challenge also included bike and walk to school week for students within the Lake Tahoe Unified School District. Nearly 600 elementary and middle school students walked or rode their bikes to school and helped reduce congestion on streets and roadways.

Students received bike safety prizes for riding or walking to school and winners of the Tahoe Bike Challenge were awarded ski lift tickets, mountain bike tickets, day passes to the climbing gym, local gift cards, and free yoga! The Tahoe Bike Challenge will return in June 2020.

### **Travel Management Application**

TRPA staff worked with the startup TOTAGO (<https://www.totago.co/>), a travel management company during this past quarter to develop a mock recreation travel tool for the Tahoe Region. This tool would allow residents and visitors to plan their trips to popular recreation sites and trails without using a personal vehicle. The mock travel app was presented to several stakeholder groups for feedback. Overall, there was interest from partners to further develop the travel tool. The Regional Transportation Plan and Bi-State Consultation on Transportation both identified the development of a travel management application as a priority.

### **Regional Grant Program**

In April the Tahoe Metropolitan Planning Organization issued a call for projects for the Regional Grant Program. Approximately \$6.3 million in funds are available, from congestion mitigation air quality grants, surface transportation block grants, and Nevada transportation alternatives program funds. Sixteen applications were received requesting over \$21 million in funding. Out of 16 applications, eight projects were recommended for funding, including

bicycle and pedestrian facilities, roadway projects that include bike and pedestrian improvements, free to the user transit, and the U.S. Highway 50 South Shore Community Revitalization multi-benefit project. All awarded projects implement the Regional Transportation Plan and its goals and policies.

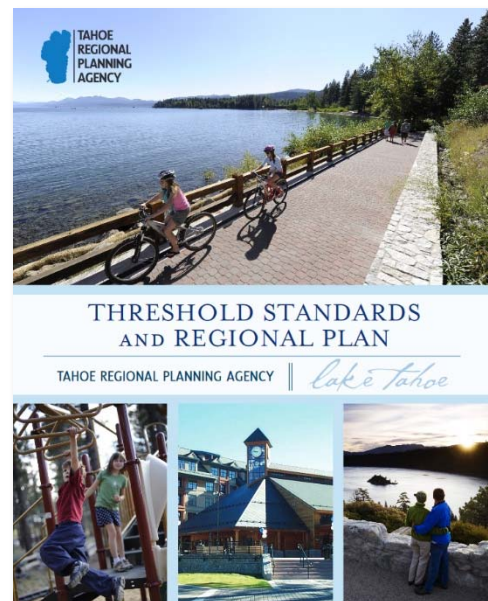
## THRESHOLDS AND PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT



The strategic initiative to review and streamline the threshold standards and regional performance management measures continues with positive progress this last quarter. The threshold working group, the Tahoe Science Advisory Council, and TRPA staff have worked for 11 months to review and evaluate the system TRPA uses to manage data to support adaptive management.

To provide a coherent and seamless connection between the threshold standards and the Regional Plan, and to continue to bring the threshold standards in line with best practices, in April the Governing Board approved two system improvements. The first colocated the threshold standards with the Regional Plan, and the second removed six narrative policy statements as threshold standards. The adoption follows unanimous recommendations from both the Advisory Planning Commission and the Regional Plan Implementation Committee.

The Governing Board also adopted the recommendation of the Tahoe Science Advisory Council for a more structured system for the review and amendment of threshold standards and for evaluating adaptive management. The new system led to a first set of technical corrections and the removal of six narrative policy statements as threshold standards because they did not meet best practice standards of being measurable and specific. Removal of the policy statements as thresholds standards does not alter the policies or implementation of the Regional Plan.



## FOREST ECOSYSTEM HEALTH

### Funding Awarded for Fuels Reduction Work

During this past quarter, the U.S. Department of Interior awarded approximately \$3.25 million to Lake Tahoe forest health projects as part of Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act Funding Round 17. The funding includes \$3 million for Lake Tahoe West Restoration Partnership planning and \$250,000 for Tahoe Douglas Fire Adapted Communities work.



## Lake Tahoe West Restoration Partnership

The Lake Tahoe West Restoration Partnership completed a draft of the landscape restoration strategy and released it for stakeholder review this past quarter. The strategy describes restoration goals and outlines strategies to meet those goals on the 60,000-acre landscape for the next 20 years. Scientific modeling of different scenarios supports the landscape restoration strategy recommendations. TRPA staff are contributing authors to the document and provided GIS support. A final draft is expected this summer.

## Forest Practice Code Changes


In the wake of many of the most destructive forest fires in recorded history, forestry and fire agencies at all levels are hard at work streamlining forest management practices in order to deliver forest health treatments needed to combat the “new normal” of fire threats. TRPA’s part involves review of Chapter 61 (Vegetation and Forest Health) of the TRPA Code of Ordinances. The kick-off in April began with presentations to the Governing Board from federal and state partners on the latest forest health issues, where TRPA was urged to be proactive in updating our forest management policies and Code. In June, the TRPA Governing Board Forest Health and Wildfire Committee reviewed the scope of the issues to be addressed in Chapter 61 and developed a workplan to bring the chapter up to date with current forestry practices.

## TAHOE KEYS WEED MANAGEMENT

### Environmental Analysis

Developing a feasible, effective, and widely supported solution to the Tahoe Keys aquatic weeds infestation is one of Tahoe’s toughest challenges. This quarter, the Stakeholder Committee collaboratively developed a test project proposal to be analyzed, along with other alternatives, in a comprehensive environmental study. TRPA and the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board released in June a notice of preparation for a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Draft Environmental Impact Report and a TRPA Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Tahoe Keys aquatic weeds control methods test project. The joint environmental document will analyze the potential environmental effects of the test project. The goal of the project is to test “control techniques” on populations of aquatic weeds in the in the unique environment of the Keys lagoons and to reduce the spread of these plants to other parts of Lake Tahoe.

Two public hearings to gather public input on the scope of the analysis were held in June with another workshop scheduled in July. Comments on the notice of preparation will be collected through August 2, 2019. Additional information can be found at <https://tahoekeysweeds.org/>.



**TAHOE KEYS AQUATIC INVASIVE WEEDS  
PUBLIC WORKSHOPS**

**Public Workshops Coming Up!**  
Please come and provide your input on the Tahoe Keys Aquatic Weeds Control Methods Test environmental analysis.

**Tues., June 25, 5-7 p.m.**  
Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board Annex Building  
971 Silver Dollar Ave.  
South Lake Tahoe, CA

**TRPA Governing Board Meeting  
Wed., June 26, 9:30 a.m.**  
Tahoe Regional Planning Agency  
128 Market St.  
Stateline, NV

**Tues., July 16, 5-7 p.m.**  
North Tahoe Events Center  
8318 North Lake Blvd.  
Kings Beach, CA

Scoping period: June 17 – August 2, 2019.  
Please submit comments at the public workshops or send via email to [tahoekeysweeds@trpa.org](mailto:tahoekeysweeds@trpa.org).

For project information and updates, please visit:  
**[tahoekeysweeds.org](https://tahoekeysweeds.org)**

TAHOE REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY  
LAHONTAN REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD

## LIVABLE AND SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

### Shoreline Plan Implementation

Implementation of the shoreline program approved by the Governing Board this past October continues. Recent highlights include:

***Mooring Registration Program:*** Phase 1 of the mooring permitting and registration system began this past quarter and is open to those with existing moorings. The program uses a new online registration and permitting system accessed on the Lake Tahoe Info website (<https://parcels.laketahoeinfo.org/MooringRegistration/Welcome>). By the end of June, more than 400 applications/registrations had been submitted using the online platform and approximately 175 applicants have paid their fees and are registered. Submitted applications for moorings include 1,483 buoys, 140 boat lifts, and 78 boat slips. Phase 1 of the permitting and registration system will continue until September 30, 2019. Phase 2 will begin in January 2020 for permitting of new moorings.

***New Pier Permitting Program:*** In the first two years, the Shoreline program allows TRPA to accept up to 12 new pier applications, selected according to prioritization criteria outlined in the TRPA Code of Ordinances. TRPA began accepting new pier proposals for single-use and multiple-use piers June 1. By the end of the month, TRPA had received 89 permit applications. TRPA staff will review applications in advance of the single parcel pier lottery and then notify the applicants for multiple parcel piers which have been prioritized for review.

### ***Boating App Launch***

The Shoreline program emphasizes boater education and outreach to minimize the danger to swimmers and paddlers who generally recreate closer to shore. The 600 foot no wake zone is a “go-slow zone” for motorized boats. The new Tahoe Boating app from TRPA and its partners is now available for Tahoe boaters. The app can be downloaded from the app stores and



Tahoe Boating

Tahoe Regional Planning Agency

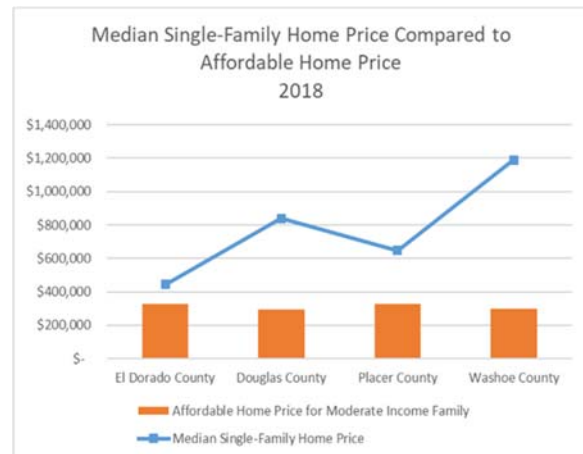
Everyone

partners is now available for Tahoe boaters. The app can be downloaded from the app stores and <https://TahoeBoating.org>. Using the app, boaters can now see where their boat is operating in relation to no wake zones. It also highlights dozens of interest points around the lake, including locations of marinas, public piers, boat ramps, and public restrooms. The new Tahoe Boating app also includes safe boating information and clean boating tips.

### TRPA Partners on South Shore Housing Needs Assessment

As the Region begins to consider policy solutions to help ease the housing crisis, a key baseline data study has been launched – what is the actual shortage of homes on the south shore? The Tahoe Prosperity Center, with funding support from south shore entities

including TRPA, is taking the lead on producing a South Shore Housing Needs Assessment and Action Plan. The needs assessment and action plan will quantify the number of homes needed in different income categories for south shore's residents and workforce and will lay out a set of implementation strategies that will be most effective to close the workforce and resident housing gap for the Tahoe Region. TRPA, along with many other regional partners, is an active member of the needs assessment advisory group and is looking forward to the completed product, due by early 2020. The Tahoe-Truckee Community Foundation completed a similar needs assessment for the north shore and Truckee Region in August 2016.



Source: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, County Multiple Listing Services.

## Executing the Plug-In Electric Vehicle Plan

***Mono County Local Transportation Committee:*** TRPA staff presented on the Tahoe-Truckee Plug-In Electric Vehicle Readiness Plan to the Mono County Local Transportation Committee. Mono County, CA is embarking on its own readiness plan and looked to Tahoe as a case study for a successful readiness plan. Deployment of electric vehicle infrastructure in Mono County provides a critical link between California and Nevada's charging networks that will eventually connect Lake Tahoe to Mono County via U.S. Route 395.

***Deploying Charging Infrastructure:*** TRPA staff completed three site visits and pre-project consultations for new electric vehicle charging stations inside the Tahoe Basin. These consultations allow project proponents to plan infrastructure installations and to better understand permitting requirements up front. Site visits included Carnelian Bay, the Crossings at the Y, and the Stateline area of the south shore. Playing an active role in the deployment of charging infrastructure helps implement the Tahoe-Truckee Plug-In Electric Vehicle Readiness Plan and reduces greenhouse gas emissions from vehicles.

## Development Rights Implementation Activities

***New Webpages:*** During the quarter, TRPA launched new development rights and area plan webpages to provide a user-friendly guide explaining the recently amended development rights program. The guide includes how to acquire development rights, options for conversions and transfers of development rights, and summaries of development incentives and bonus units. The new area plan website provides a guide for the public and agency partners to learn more about local governments' adopted area plans including the relationship to the regional



plan, how local area plans are developed and used, and resources for developing or amending an area plan.

These websites can be found at <http://www.trpa.org/permitting/development-rights/> and <http://www.trpa.org/regional-plan/area-plans/>.

***Training on Development Rights Program:*** During the second quarter of 2019 TRPA staff presented training for local partners and real estate groups covering the newly amended development rights program and transfer incentives to further the goals of the Regional Plan. Training is critical to educating relevant stakeholder's about recent changes made to the development rights system and promotes the use of new incentive programs for local housing projects.

## ONGOING INITIATIVES AND ANNUAL ACTIVITIES

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### LONG RANGE & TRANSPORTATION PLANNING DIVISION

#### Sharing the Tahoe Story

TRPA has long been a leader in promoting environmental conservation at Lake Tahoe. TRPA staff was invited to share our story and experience with others around the country to help them implement more environmentally friendly practices in their communities. This quarter, TRPA sponsored a tour of Lake Tahoe for the Innovation Alliance's, Transforming Local Government Conference. The conference, held in Reno for the first time, hosted 600 attendees from the United States and Canada. John Hester and Devin Middlebrook led a tour of Lake Tahoe for nearly 60 visitors who learned about the TRPA, the Tahoe Environmental Research Center, Sand Harbor, Kings Beach redevelopment, California State Parks improvement plans, and about the work of the Mountain Housing Council. The group also gained insight about the workings of the Truckee River Basin that stretches from Lake Tahoe to Pyramid Lake in Washoe County.

In April, TRPA staffer Devin Middlebrook presented Tahoe's story at a conference in Bozeman, Montana entitled, Sustaining the New West II: Bold Visions, Inspiring Actions. The conference, hosted by Future West, brought together experts from the west to begin tackling the issues of booming population growth, sustainable recreation, and landscape conservation.

In 2019, the American Planning Association celebrated the 50th anniversary of "transfer of development rights programs." TRPA Senior Planner, Jennifer Self, highlighted the Tahoe Region's transfer of development rights system during a panel discussion in April 2019 at the American Planning Association's national conference in San Francisco, California. The panel also highlighted the City of Mountain View, California's property rights transfer program, as well as lessons learned from other planning professionals.

TRPA was also featured in the "State of Sustainability and Climate Planning in Northern Nevada and California" conference held in Reno, Nevada. Devin Middlebrook participated

in a panel discussion focused on climate actions in Northern Nevada, and the need for more action on climate issues facing the region.

## **Sustainable Recreation**

***Science Council Work Kick Off:*** The Sustainable Recreation Working Group kicked-off a \$175,000 work program with the Tahoe Science Advisory Council to develop new metrics and shared monitoring protocols for recreation in the Tahoe Region. The deliverables from this project will lead to a consistent set of metrics to better measure public access, quality recreation experience, and natural resource conditions leading to an update of the Region's recreation thresholds and performance measures.

***Tahoe Chamber Annual Tourism Forum:*** TRPA staff presented on sustainable recreation at the annual Tourism Forum hosted by the Tahoe Chamber in South Lake Tahoe, California. The theme for this year's forum was "responsible tourism" and featured multiple speakers and presentations about how to create a more sustainable tourism industry in Tahoe.

## **CURRENT PLANNING DIVISION**

### **Residential Allocations Distributed**

In April, the TRPA Governing Board approved the distribution of another 236 residential allocations to local jurisdictions. An "allocation" is a "ticket to build," but the applicant must combine it with a potential residential unit of use and sufficient land coverage before construction can be authorized. Residential allocations are considered for distribution to local and county governments every two years. The Regional Plan identifies the potential total number of allocations that can be released every four years by the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA). Distribution to the local jurisdictions is based on a performance review system which considers whether the local jurisdiction has met specified Code criteria: review of issued residential permits, code compliance audits, and water quality compliance as measured by Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) targets.

In connection with this year's release of residential building allocations, the Governing Board endorsed a code amendment to make neighborhood compatibility of short-term rentals an additional criterion of the performance review system. The TRPA Local Government and Housing Committee convened a stakeholder work group, including neighborhood, business, environmental, agency, and other interests, to identify short term rental neighborhood compatibility approaches for consideration and adoption. The stakeholders met in June, approving the Draft Short-Term Rental Neighborhood Compatibility Work Program, and will provide input on a proposed Code amendment to address the short-term rental and neighborhood compatibility issue by the end of the year.

### **Permit Application Review**

The number of permit applications received this quarter is down compared to the same quarter last year.

Summary of TRPA Project Applications Received Quarter 2 2018 through Quarter 2 2019					
	Q2 CY2018	Q3 CY2018	Q4 CY2018	Q1 CY2019	Q2 CY2019
<b>Applications Received<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>278</b>	<b>293</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>230</b>
Residential Projects <sup>2</sup>	83	63	33	57	57
Commercial Projects <sup>2</sup>	5	7	2	5	6
Recreation/Public Service Projects <sup>2</sup>	11	9	5	10	12
Environmental Improvement Construction Projects	5	2	2	2	4
Shorezone/Lakezone Projects <sup>2</sup>	22	4	2	6	9
Grading Projects	12	14	6	3	10
Verifications and Banking <sup>3</sup>	94	145	96	52	99
Transfers of Development	14	14	9	6	10
Other <sup>4</sup>	32	35	19	20	23
<u>Notes:</u>					
1 Does not include Exempt projects, Qualified Exempt declarations, Tree Removal applications, Administrative applications, or mooring permitting and registration submittals, or preliminary pier lottery applications.					
2 Includes New Development and Additions/Modification					
3 Includes Soils/Hydrology Verifications, IPES, Land Capability Verifications, Land Capability Challenges, Verifications of Coverage, Verifications of Uses, Site Assessments and Standalone Banking Applications					
4 'Other' includes Historic determinations, Lot Line Adjustments, Temporary projects, Scenic, Underground Tank Removal, Subdivision of Existing Uses, Sign, Allocation Assignments, and other miscellaneous project types					
<u>Source:</u> TRPA Accela Permit Records					

### Hearings Officer Meetings

The Hearings Officer approved 11 project applications this quarter:

- Installation of three Liberty Utilities transformer pads at the Heavenly Mobile Home Park.
- A joint utility conversion project for Liberty Utilities and Southwest Gas at the Tahoe Verde Mobile Home Park in South Lake Tahoe, CA.
- Undergrounding of utilities in the Douglas County, NV right-of-way, to replace overhead power, phone, and cable lines.
- Installation of three cellular antennas on top of an existing commercial building on State Route 28 Incline Village, NV.
- Installation of telecommunications equipment on the North Tahoe Fire District building rooftop in Kings Beach, CA.
- Demolition and reconstruction of a lakefront single family dwelling in Placer County, CA.
- A shoreline protective structure to stabilize the shoreline in front of a residence in Dollar Point, CA to prevent further shoreline erosion.
- A shoreline protective structure to stabilize the shoreline that has experienced significant erosion due to wave action within the City of South Lake Tahoe, CA.



- The extension of two existing fences to the highwater line of Lake Tahoe in Douglas County, NV.
- A land capability challenge.
- An addition to an existing commercial property in Kings Beach, California.

## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM DIVISION



### Tahoe Interagency Executives Steering Committee

The TIE Steering Committee finalized the Lake Tahoe Restoration Act project priority list for the fiscal year 2020 this quarter. The list requests \$78.3 million in federal funding for EIP projects. The U.S. Forest Service submitted the request in April.

### Mitigation Fund Releases

During the second quarter of 2019, the TRPA Governing Board, upon recommendation from the TRPA Operations & Governance Committee, approved the release of \$135,000 in mitigation funds to local jurisdictions. These releases included:

- \$50,000 in water quality mitigation funds to Placer County to address stormwater quality along Brockway Vista Avenue.
- \$20,000 in Placer County in operations and maintenance funds for maintenance of west shore stormwater treatment facilities.
- \$65,000 in El Dorado County stream environment zone mitigation funds for the Country Club Heights Stormwater Management/Erosion Control Project.

### Environmental Improvement Program Project Implementation

A number of important EIP projects started or continued construction during this quarter:

***Stateline to Stateline Bike Trail, Incline Village to Sand Harbor:*** This three-mile long bike and pedestrian path officially opened to the public at the end of June. The path provides both stunning views for public enjoyment along Lake Tahoe's shoreline and a link between Incline Village and Sand Harbor. Its completion marks one of the most difficult segments to construct in a planned trail circling Lake Tahoe.

***Highway 50 Y to Trout Creek Water Quality Improvement Project:*** Caltrans began construction on the final phase of this multi-year project within the City of South Lake Tahoe. The project improves safety by adding sidewalks and bike lanes, and includes storm drainage improvements.

***Meyers Highway 50/Stateline Route 89 Intersection Improvements:*** Construction on this project started to replace the existing "T" intersection in Meyers with a roundabout. The roundabout will improve safety and walkability in the Meyers area.

***Sierra Boulevard Complete Streets Project:*** The City of South Lake Tahoe is constructing this project which will bring a complete streets design to Sierra

Boulevard. The project will provide better opportunities for nonmotorized transportation with the addition of bike lanes, a shared use (bike and pedestrian) path, additional landscaping, along with water quality improvements.

## **Stormwater Management Program**

***Best Management Practices (BMP) Certificates Issued:*** TRPA issues best management practices (BMP) certificates to recognize parcel compliance with stormwater management requirements set out in TRPA's Code of Ordinances. The Stormwater Management Program at TRPA targets priority properties for BMP compliance in coordination with local jurisdictions to achieve required pollutant load reductions. Focusing BMP compliance on commercial and large multifamily properties (six or more units) has been shown by the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) to have a more significant impact in reducing sediment load as compared to those of single-family residential properties. This quarter, TRPA issued 25 BMP certificates: 17 for single family residential parcels, four for multi-family parcels, and four for commercial parcels.

***Noncompliance letters:*** During the second quarter of 2019, TRPA issued notice of failure to install and maintain BMPs letters to the owners of 31 noncompliant parcels.

***Lake-Friendly Businesses:*** At the end of June, 115 businesses were members of the Lake-Friendly Business Program, up from 95 businesses at the same time last year. This incentive program recognizes local businesses that complete and maintain BMPs by publicly acknowledging them as good stewards of the lake through print advertisements and social media campaigns.

***Areawide water quality treatment:*** TRPA presented to the parcel BMP working group the findings and recommendations from an areawide treatment analysis. The review evaluated infiltration site constraints at a neighborhood level instead of a parcel-level scale. The report recommended establishing areawide treatment at 17 locations throughout the Basin, 15 of which already have partial stormwater treatment in place.

***Education and outreach:*** TRPA participated in two shoreline training sessions this quarter for lakefront property owners, providing parcel owners with information specific to BMPs for shoreline properties which will be required as a part of registration and permitting for moorings.

## **Aquatic Invasive Species Program**

### ***Prevention***

- The lakewide boat inspection program began its eleventh season. Inspections started again at the four off-ramp locations in May. So far this season, watercraft inspectors stopped 18 vessels containing invasive species, including one instance of quagga mussels.

- The new state-of-the-art decontamination unit purchased in 2018, is now up and running at the Truckee inspection station.

### ***Control***

- Planning for further testing of ultraviolet light for control of aquatic plants began this quarter. This second round of testing will occur at Lakeside Beach and Marina to gain further information on the feasibility of scaling up ultraviolet light treatment technology to large acreage.
- Control work for aquatic invasive plants is being implemented this summer at Elk Point Marina, the Truckee River, and the southeast shoreline of Lake Tahoe in Nevada. Treatment for invasive clams will continue this summer at Sand Harbor.

### ***Monitoring***

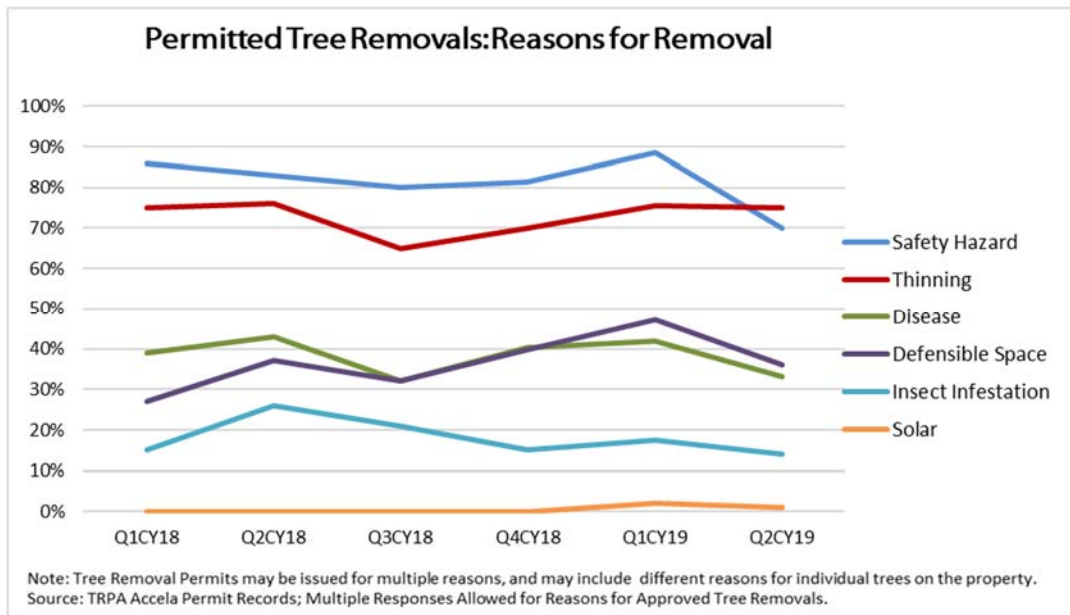
- Monitoring during the quarter detected AIS plants in several shoreline locations. Discovery of invasive plants was detected along the south shore in California and on the southeast shore on the Nevada side of Lake Tahoe. This survey information led to the Tahoe Resource Conservation District successfully obtaining grant money to remove these small infestations of invasive plants before they spread. Funding came from the California Tahoe Conservancy and the Nevada Division of State Lands.

### **Urban Forestry/Tree Removal Permits on Private Property**

TRPA's Forester is part of the network of forestry and fire professionals who help private landowners keep their property safe and defensible from wildfire. The Forester provides expertise in tree risk assessment and serves Tahoe's private property owners with thorough tree evaluations. In the second quarter of 2019, TRPA received 340 tree removal applications. Trees removed due to thinning is now the primary reason for marking trees for removal with safety hazard close behind.

Summary of TRPA Tree Removal Applications & Permitting Activity Quarter 2 2018 through Quarter 2 2019					
	Q2 CY2018	Q3 CY2018	Q4 CY2018	Q1 CY2019	Q2 CY2019
Tree Removal Applications Received	<b>217</b>	<b>334</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>340</b>
Number of Trees Permitted for Removal	1,431	1,155	812	184	1,358
Percent Applications Submitted Online	69%	73%	75%	60%	77%
<u>Source:</u> TRPA Accela Permit Records					





## Tree Service Workshop

In May of this quarter, TRPA held a tree service workshop for property owners as well as tree service companies. The free seminar included an overview of TRPA's tree removal rules, guidance on how to use TRPA's online tree removal application tool, and a presentation on creating defensible space. Notably, the percentage of tree removal permits processed online has steadily increased, streamlining this important service for landowners.

## RESEARCH & ANALYSIS DIVISION

### Parcel Tracker Updates

The Lake Tahoe Info Parcel Tracker (<https://parcels.laketahoeinfo.org/>) is the best source of detailed public information about parcels in the Lake Tahoe Basin. Information on almost 400 parcels was brought up to date in the tracker during the quarter.



TRPA responded to 125 unique requests for help through the Parcel Tracker. Property owners, real estate agents, and local government partners requested updated permitting information on parcels. The number of help requests submitted through the Parcel Tracker is up partly due knowledge of the site's property information becoming more widespread and because of increased use of the new mooring registration portal on the Parcel Tracker.

### New Navigation System

Research and Analysis geographic information systems staff created a new and improved navigation system for use on TRPA's boats. The new system replaces outdated technology by deploying high accuracy GPS receivers, along with newly created bathymetric mapping layers, giving the TRPA boat crew unprecedented navigation information. Mobile devices on TRPA boats can easily display this information. Updating the old system would have cost thousands of dollars compared to the minimal cost of a few new mobile devices along with staff time to complete most of the work.

## EXECUTIVE

The annual TRPA Governing Board retreat occurred in May and was held in the Guinn room inside the Nevada State Capitol Building, evoking the transition for the two states to new Governors' administrations. Following Carson City Mayor Bob Crowell's welcome, both Governor Sisolak and Lieutenant Governor Kate Marshall made brief opening remarks about the importance of Tahoe and its protection. The Governing Board and TRPA executive staff reviewed and discussed top priority initiatives in transportation, recreation, and sustainable communities throughout the day-long retreat. Governing Board members also toured Carson City's revitalized downtown area as an example of what's possible for Tahoe from the U.S. Highway 50 South Shore Community Revitalization Project. The Carson City revitalization project occurred by rerouting U.S. Highway 395 around the downtown core to create a business, visitor, and pedestrian friendly main street around the state capitol grounds.

## EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

TRPA supports a culture committed to public education, outreach, and community engagement to implement the Tahoe Regional Plan. The external affairs team leads public engagement initiatives in collaboration with a wide variety of agency and nonprofit stakeholders. This quarter, TRPA continued ongoing education and outreach in the Lake Tahoe Region to raise awareness about Lake Tahoe's issues and improve public understanding of TRPA's role and the EIP multi-sector collaborative partnership.

### Legislative Affairs

The EIP partnership held a pre-summit educational workshop for U.S. Senate and House staffers, as well as California and Nevada officials, ahead of the upcoming Lake Tahoe Summit in August. TRPA and partner agency representatives briefed nearly 20 attendees on forest health and management initiatives, science, sustainable communities and recreation work, and aquatic invasive species programs. Staffers toured the Heavenly Village and U.S. Highway 50 project area, Ski Run Marina, and Van Sickle Bi-State Park. At the park, attendees saw firsthand an active forest fuels removal operation underway by Nevada Division of Forestry crews. Including partner agency representatives, nearly 50 people participated in the briefing which served to educate new state and federal staff on Tahoe's most current and pressing issues ahead of the Tahoe Summit on August 20.

### Public Outreach

The outreach campaign is underway to educate the public on new Lake Tahoe shoreline rules and regulations including no-wake zones and mooring registration. Completed tactics include an updated website, fact sheets, rack cards, stickers, signage, press releases, a newspaper opinion piece, TV interviews and 30 second spots, and Tahoe In Depth articles.

The External Affairs team supported the development and launch of the Tahoe Boating app to inform boaters on where they are within the no-wake zones as well as points of interest, weather, and safety tips. All outreach materials were distributed around the lake before the fourth of July holiday.



Other outreach included supporting the public open houses on the U.S. Highway 50 Main Street Management Plan, and public meetings on proposed test methods for fighting weeds in the Tahoe Keys lagoons.

The team invested in a new full-frame mirrorless Nikon camera, which enables staff to better tell the story of the TRPA and enhance messaging for the agency. The 24 mega pixel camera is also capable of shooting 4k high-definition video and will allow the agency to produce a range of videos for the website and social media.



Cover of the summer 2019 edition of Tahoe In Depth.

## Tahoe In Depth

TRPA and its partners published the summer 2019 issue of Tahoe In Depth. This issue's cover story features the "Impossible Trail." The Tahoe East Shore multi-use trail is now open to the public and runs for three miles between Incline Village and Sand Harbor.

## Aquatic Invasive Species Outreach

TRPA continues to educate boaters on the Clean, Drain, and Dry messaging by using billboards, rack cards, advertising, social media, and TV spots. A public service announcement created by TRPA and produced by Novus Select tells the important story of keeping invasive species out of Lake Tahoe. The campaign is working – boaters are arriving aware of the program and are supportive of boat inspections.



## Take Care Tahoe

Just under 2,000 users visited the updated Take Care website (<https://takecaretahoe.org/>) in June 2019, the second most for a month in the website's history. Partners in the campaign, including TRPA staff, were also featured as keynote speakers during the 2019 Tahoe Chamber



Tourism Forum, which highlighted responsible tourism. The Take Care program garnered considerable exposure with south shore lodging properties at the Chamber forum. The partnership is distributing 40,000 rack cards throughout the Tahoe Basin this year to gain more awareness and participation in the Take Care program.

### Environmental Education

Staff member Adam Jensen spoke to more than two dozen participants in the Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders about successful redevelopment and environmental policy. A flagship program of the Young African Leaders Initiative, the fellowship empowers young leaders from Sub-Saharan Africa through academic coursework, leadership training, and networking opportunities.

External Affairs staff conducted two weeks of educational programs for South Shore elementary schools, reaching hundreds of students with Next Generation Science Standards curriculum highlighting the importance of water quality and environmental protection at Lake Tahoe.

### Social Media Outreach

Posts on TRPA's Facebook page between April 1 and June 30 reached nearly 20,000 users and generated more than 1,500 likes, shares, comments, or clicks. An April 8 post announcing mooring permitting reached more than 6,700 people and was clicked more than 700 times.



*April 8 post on TRPA's Facebook page announcing mooring permitting.*

## FINANCE, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, & FACILITIES

### Finance Update

California and Nevada completed their budget processes, finalizing their contributions to TRPA for the 2019/2020 fiscal year. California is providing a total of \$5 million, with Nevada contributing \$2.3 million. The agency obtained added funds to provide for the same annual salary increases that California and Nevada are giving their employees. Also approved for TRPA is an allocation of funds for the 2019 Threshold Evaluation Report, as well as funding to reduce the substantial gap between the employer contribution under TRPA's retirement plan and the retirement benefits offered by both states to its employees.

TRPA's Governing Board approved the fiscal year 2019/20 budget at its June 26 meeting. Budget priorities for the coming year include the continued implementation of the shoreline plan, development rights initiatives, and the U.S. 50 South Shore Community Revitalization Project.

Third quarter grant billings are complete, and the fiscal year closed June 30. TRPA's external auditor has completed its preliminary field work for the agency's fiscal year 2018/2019 independent financial audit.

### **Facilities/Information Technology Update**

Tahoe Epic Curling, a tenant in the TRPA building, has completed the first phase buildout and submitted plans for phase two. The General Services Administration extended its lease for a portion of the second floor. All other tenants have extended their leases. The building is fully leased out at this point.

## **HUMAN RESOURCES**

The agency welcomed several new hires (see new employees' section below) and welcomed back seasonal staff during the quarter. Matt Miller with the Code Compliance team transitioned to a new role in shoreline permitting in support of the shoreline initiative.

Christina Restaino left her position as the forest and ecosystem health program manager. Hiring of a new program manager is complete, and that person will be starting in August.

Last year's watercraft team (Ted Truscott, Kris Morehead, and Jeff Miller) rejoined TRPA along with additional watercraft team members Cory Talbot and Brenden Phillips. This year's larger watercraft team will have expanded responsibilities this summer due to the new shoreline regulations.

Three of five summer interns also joined the Agency during the past quarter: Allison Kerley in Research and Analysis, Emma Gregory in Environmental Improvement and Communications, and Matthew DeSimone in Finance. Two more interns will start in July. Helping to find these great interns, TRPA staff attended the Cal Poly San Luis Obispo intern career fair in April.

There were several employee learning and development events in the second quarter. Alison Gaulden of the University of Nevada Reno Reynolds School of Journalism returned for a "Writing for Results" refresher workshop; University of Nevada Reno Extended Studies delivered a custom workshop on "Government and Public Finance"; and managers attended a workshop on harassment prevention which addressed federal and Nevada law and employer/manager responsibilities.

### **New TRPA Staff**

#### ***Chris Larson, External Affairs***

Chris Larson joined TRPA's External Affairs team at the end of March in the role of Public Information Officer. Larson previously worked at WBTV, the CBS affiliate in Charlotte, North Carolina, where he was midday meteorologist and hosted the talk show "Morning Break" during the stations 9 to 10 a.m. hour. He graduated from Appalachian State University and Mississippi State University and has degrees in communications and broadcast meteorology. He holds the Seal of Approval from the American Meteorological Society.

***Rachel Lopez, Code Compliance***

Rachel Lopez joined TRPA in May as an environmental specialist in the Code Compliance program. She previously worked at Placer County in the Tahoe office where she served as a planning technician implementing TRPA's ordinances and guidelines through the current memorandum of understanding with Placer County. Rachel has a Bachelor of Arts in environmental studies from the University of California, Santa Cruz.