

**TRPA  
APC  
PACKETS**

**JUNE  
1985**

June 1985 6-85  
APC Packet

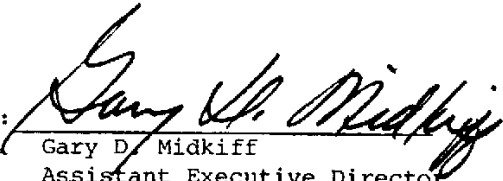
NOTICE OF MEETINGS OF THE  
ADVISORY PLANNING COMMISSION AND OF THE  
LAND USE COMMITTEE  
OF THE TAHOE REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on June 12, 1985, at 9:30 a.m. at the hearing room of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, located at 2155 South Avenue, South Lake Tahoe, California, the Advisory Planning Commission of said agency will conduct its regular meeting. The agenda for said meeting is attached to and made a part of this notice.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that on June 12, 1985, at 1:30 p.m. in the same location the APC's Land Use Committee will meet to discuss Chapter I (General Provisions) of the Code of Ordinances.

Date: June 3, 1985

By:

  
Gary D. Midkiff  
Assistant Executive Director  
Tahoe Regional Planning Agency

TAHOE REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY  
ADVISORY PLANNING COMMISSION

TRPA Office, 2155 South Avenue  
South Lake Tahoe, California

June 12, 1985  
9:30 a.m.

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PRELIMINARY AGENDA

- I CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM
- II APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- III DISPOSITION OF MINUTES
- IV ADMINISTRATIVE MATTER
  - Election of Deputy Vice Chairman
- V PLANNING MATTERS
  - A. Finding of Technical Adequacy, South Tahoe Public Utility District, EIS, Wastewater Treatment Plant Modification, TRPA File #83114
  - B. Status of Regional Plan Framework
  - C. Status of Discussions Regarding Changes in Use Provisions
- VI APPEAL
  - S & M Investment Co., Brian Stack, Appeal Requesting Extension of Project Approval (Tahoe Carriage), El Dorado County
- VII REPORTS
  - A. Staff
  - B. Legal Counsel
  - C. Public Interest Comments
  - D. APC Members
- VIII RESOLUTIONS
- IX CORRESPONDENCE
- X PENDING MATTERS

TAHOE REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY  
ADVISORY PLANNING COMMISSION

TRPA Office, 2155 South Avenue  
South Lake Tahoe, California

May 8, 1985  
9:30 a.m.

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Chairman Bill Combs called the meeting of the Advisory Planning Commission (APC) to order at 9:40 a.m.

Members Present: Ms. Temple, Mr. Renz, Ms. Jamin, Mr. Ryerson, Mr. Hoefer, Ms. Becker, Mr. James, Mr. Dodgion, Mr. Pyle, Mr. Hansen, Mr. Curtis (present at 10:25 a.m.), Mr. Poppoff, Mr. Harper, Mr. Combs

Members Absent: Mr. Hoole, Ms. McMorris, Ms. Adams, Mr. McMullen

Mr. Combs asked that the APC appoint a Deputy Vice Chairman for this meeting in Vice Chairman Sam McMullen's absence.

MOTION by Mr. Hansen, with a second by Mr. Pyle, to nominate and appoint John Renz. The motion carried unanimously.

II APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION by Mr. Harper, with a second by Mr. Hansen, to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

III DISPOSITION OF MINUTES

Mr. Harper asked that the fifth line in the second paragraph on page 11 be amended to read: "The developers are anticipating possible commencement of construction late this summer, although the County believes that a start in 1985 may not be possible because of the extensive mapping process yet to be completed ~~is-trying-to-convince-them-to-start-in-1986-because-of-the-extensive--mapping-process-yet-to-be-completed.~~"

Mr. Combs noted typographical errors in the fourth line of the second paragraph on page two ("building license" should read business license) and in the first line in the second to last paragraph on page 3 ("Angelocci" should read Angelocci).

MOTION by Mr. Harper, with a second by Mr. Poppoff, to approve the minutes as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

(Mr. Stan Hansen left the meeting for jury duty.)

IV PLANNING MATTERS

- A. Request for Comments, South Tahoe Public Utility District, EIS, Wastewater Treatment Plant Modification, TRPA File #83114

Mr. Angelocci reminded the APC that at the last meeting copies of a supplemental report on the EIS for STPUD's wastewater treatment plant modifications were

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distributed to APC members. Today, comments from APC members are being requested. It is anticipated that the APC will be asked on June 12 to recommend technical adequacy of the EIS, and, following that on June 26, the Board will be asked to certify the document. Written comments have been received from the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Mr. Renz commented that the underlying assumption of these modifications is that the land application of the water will meet discharge standards. Currently, the land application waters are getting into the Carson River in violation of Nevada's water standards. He could not support proceeding with this project if the water being applied to the land could not be properly managed.

Mr. Dodgion concurred with these thoughts and advised that the State of Nevada has serious concerns with this project, in light of the mismanagement of the South Tahoe PUD effluent in the past. The State is also concerned about the possible modification of the approved land application scheme in Alpine County, which is called for in the original Facilities Plan. There is reason to believe that it is the intent to make some modifications to this land application scheme that would make it not only more likely but, in fact, probable that the tail waters will get into Indian Creek and into the Carson River.

Mr. James commented that the Lahontan Regional Board is going to take measures to insure that the law, which requires that the effluent not enter surface waters and the watershed (including Indian Creek), will be complied with. The Board will take every measure to prevent this violation from occurring; the Regional Board is going to have a higher level of control than it has had in the past and is considering wastewater reclamation requirements for all of the irrigation users of the effluent in Alpine County. Lahontan's written comments were submitted to TRPA in a May 6 letter. Because the issues raised were not major, there should be no problem addressing them.

Executive Director Bill Morgan suggested that, in view of the schedule for the APC to make a finding on the technical adequacy of the EIS on June 12, staff would request that any concerns with regard to this document be transmitted to staff by June 1.

Assistant Executive Director Gary Midkiff asked if there were comments submitted by the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection or Lahontan on the documents circulated under NEPA and CEQA environmental regulations. Mr. Dodgion explained that Nevada's concern related to a change in the Facility Plan and the intent of the project. The comments to be submitted at this stage will be substantially different from earlier ones.

B. Status of Potential Settlement in State of California/League to Save Lake Tahoe v. TRPA

Mr. Morgan presented an update to the APC on the current state of the litigation, explaining that over the last several months there had been approximately 18 settlement conferences between the Special Litigation Committee and the plaintiffs in the suit. Because of the Board's acceptance in January, 1985 of a partial framework for settlement, the Committee continued to work with the plaintiffs. As new issues were explored, it became evident that there were concerns in the Nevada legislature about some of the items being negotiated. There was an effort to proceed with a pullout bill, and the Assembly did pass

such a bill. Nevertheless, the Committee and plaintiffs put together a more complete draft (known as Draft #10) in March for the Board's consideration. The Board, rather than taking action to endorse or reject it, conducted a public hearing on Draft #10 on April 15. Over 60 people testified, the majority being opposed to certain features of the proposed settlement. The Board's reaction to this was to conclude that settlement was not possible with this framework.

Staff subsequently put together a different framework in anticipation that there was still a middle ground acceptable to TRPA, the plaintiffs and the Nevada legislature. This 4/19/85 draft was released for public comment, and there were a number of meetings with Nevada legislative leaders as well as the Nevada Governor to consider this draft. This draft, however, was not acceptable to all parties concerned, and there were serious concerns in Nevada that it might still withdraw if even this revised framework were pursued. It was as late as last Wednesday that it was concluded that Nevada would support and fund TRPA, provided the Agency did not continue to attempt to resolve these major differences through settlement but instead continue on with the polishing of the Plan adopted in April 1984. It was intended that this Plan would be refined sufficiently to pass muster before the Federal court. A statement, which was mailed to APC members, summarizes this position. Nevada will remain a party to the Compact and continue to fund TRPA in its defense of the lawsuit and in its continuing work effort mandated in the Compact.

This statement was taken up before the Special Litigation Committee on May 2, and the Committee agreed to send on a recommendation to the Board calling for the Agency to get on with defending itself in court and concentrating its efforts in refining the Plan. The Agency should continue to pursue the appeal of the injunction scheduled for May 15 and invite the plaintiffs to participate through workshops or other forums that are available to refine the Plan. The Board is scheduled to hear this recommendation on May 10, and there is not reason to believe that there is much opposition to this position.

Mr. Rick Skinner, representing the California Attorney General's office, explained that the State was discouraged that the litigation mode was continuing. It is not possible to settle if TRPA does not want to settle. He is still willing to discuss ways and means by which to resolve the litigation. Obviously, the Attorney General will continue to pursue his position in the court until TRPA wants to come back and try another avenue. To the extent the Attorney General's office can participate with the Commission in revising the Plan in an appropriate fashion to meet the Compact requirements, he would be happy to participate.

Mr. Morgan explained that the appeal hearing before the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals is scheduled for May 15 in San Francisco. Beyond that, there is no trial date set for the original case. The length of time needed to resolve this lawsuit is unknown at this time. Staff's most optimistic view is that within six months the Agency staff, with the aid of the APC and any other participants, will be able to deliver to the Governing Board all the elements of a plan that will meet the requirements of the law. The Board would need time to deliberate and to conduct hearings. Optimistically, a year from now the Agency may be able to go to the Federal court and ask for dismissal of the case.

There has been no organized reaction as yet in the California legislature. The only reading is by way of processing of TRPA's budget, and it appears that the

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requested budget will be approved. Staff had intended to ask for an additional \$1/2 million to be used to implement an individual lot evaluation system. The estimate to complete this program is \$770,000. Because the Senate committee was initially opposed to it, it was not really brought up. There also was not time to develop a full explanation of, or support for, the program. These monies are, therefore, not expected in the coming fiscal year. There also were some random comments from some of the legislators expressing concern that the State was funding both sides of the lawsuit.

It is anticipated that a decision in the appeal hearing will be available in six to eight weeks. TRPA will continue to explore with the plaintiffs possible exemptions to the preliminary injunction for the judge's consideration. The plaintiffs have been fair in considering a while host of exemptions; another meeting to consider new proposals is scheduled for the 17th. It is anticipated that the same degree of cooperation will continue. Mr. Harper commented that Washoe County, and most likely other counties as well, have projects on line which they would like to see be able to go forward.

Mr. Combs, member of the Special Litigation Committee, commented that, while it was unfortunate that the litigation settlement activities have come to an end, it is good to know that all avenues were explored. Numerous hours were spent trying to find agreement; the process is now moving into the next phase with the knowledge that there was an absolute impasse on certain issues. Mr. Morgan agreed and suggested that these settlement talks did define very clearly what the major issues were and produced many possible solutions, some of which, no doubt, will end up in the final Plan. This was a worthwhile activity.

D. Discussion of Regional Plan Framework and Possible Recommendations to the Governing Board

Mr. Dave Ziegler, Chief of the Long Range Planning Division, distributed copies of a document entitled, "Briefing Notes: Regional Plan Framework", May 8, 1985, and outlined its contents. The goal of the Agency at this point is to create almost a perfect Regional Plan, i.e., an unassailable record. Since the Agency is not in a settlement mode at this time, the goal is to create a plan that will stand on its own merits. This briefing notes contain a listing of the elements of the Regional Goals and Policies Plan (Land Use, Transportation, Conservation, Recreation, Public Services and Facilities, and Implementation) with a statement on their status relative to the litigation, required work task, the staff lead for these tasks, and their interrelationships. Also included are additional programs to be finalized (Plan Area Statements, Code of Ordinances, Other Regulations, and Implementing Programs). Staff is shooting for a six-month time frame to deliver a complete package to the Governing Board.

Mr. Morgan explained that the Board does not intend to void the adopted Goals and Policies Plan. The Board feels it is a good plan, but it can be improved. There will be selected areas to be amended. A detailed summary of the document was presented by Mr. Ziegler.

At the conclusion of the summary, Ms. Jamin commented that the six-month time frame was very optimistic, considering the number of staff members available to carry on the work. The public tends to latch on to these deadlines, and once they have lapsed, gets very agitated about the progress that has or has not been made. It is unfair to establish this deadline, unless it is a realistic

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one; six months is not adequate time to accomplish all the tasks outlined. Mr. Midkiff explained that, assuming the funding is available, TRPA will be advertising for an air quality person, someone to work on capital improvement programs and related implementation, a land use person to work on ordinances, and a land use/natural resource conservation person.

Mr. Combs asked that this process get moving as quickly as possible and that programs ready to go be brought back to the APC in June. Get as much on the agenda as possible. Mr. Ryerson agreed that the APC should start immediately; six months is very optimistic, and the time frame should be revised because of the public expectation. The APC may be facing two-day meetings to get all this work completed. Ms. Temple suggested the first priority was making amendments to the Land Use and Implementation Elements; how much of a role are the APC and the committees to play in these amendments? Mr. Ziegler responded that there first must be consensus by the Board on where the Agency is going and how it will get there. Mr. Combs asked what could be done on the Land Use Element prior to the release in six or eight weeks of the appeal court decision. Mr. Morgan commented that the appeal was not related so much to the adequacy of the Plan as to the appropriateness of the injunction, based on the Plan that is challenged in court. The results of the Ninth Circuit review will not change the work elements listed on this outline.

Mr. Rick Skinner commented there were some substantive issues on appeal that will be resolved one way or the other. To the extent, however, the APC wants to take a look at the Land Use Element, he did not think that there was anything in the appeal beyond the coverage issue that would be addressed. There will not be a whole laundry list of substantive topics to come from the appeal.

Mr. Harper suggested that the outline has staff trying to do everything at once. He would prefer that staff identify which elements need to be revised, which code sections or other regulations or programs relate to that element and to work on those. That would be a first task. The second task would be to work on the independent unrelated code sections. These tasks would then be followed by finalizing Plan Area Statements and other programs and regulations. He would not be anxious to jump back into this planning process and to devote the hours that are necessary without a clear idea of the end goal. He would like to know that, when the APC progresses from one thing to another, it will not be revised again and again. The Agency is asking for a very difficult commitment from the APC. Mr. Renz agreed with Mr. Harper's suggestion that one element be dealt with along with all its pertinent ordinance sections. This will provide a complete package. Mr. Ryerson agreed but suggested there needed to be a good deal of front-end work to this "vertical slice" approach. It will take a lot of pre-thought to insure that nothing is left out.

Mr. Morgan agreed that the vertical slice approach was probably the best way to proceed so that everything fits when the process is completed. Because of the time factor and because the Board will likely want to limit the amount of change in the Goals and Policies Plan, the APC should concentrate its efforts on certain areas. The Board's position is that the adopted Plan is adequate to satisfy the law; what is proposed will improve the Plan. Not every goal and policy or ordinance provision will be examined anew.

Mr. Poppoff asked if staff had considered contracting with consultants to help with this work. Mr. Ziegler explained that this really would need to be a staff



effort. Some of the tasks that seem very threatening may not be as tough as they seem. He would reserve judgement on this until costs can be determined. He really didn't have a response at this time.

Mr. Pyle commented specifically on the design requirements set forth under the capital improvements program and available financing for some of these efforts. Also, because of the past commitment to the Regional Plan process and the hope that it would, by now, have been completed, he was not sure exactly how much time he could devote to this effort. Anybody working with budgeted money from the states, local governments or other sources is going to be faced with these same determinations.

Mr. James suggested that, while the vertical slice is a good approach, it is not necessarily the way to go with all aspects of the Plan. One task might be a vertical slice to include an ordinance and a related policy; a committee can be assigned to work on this specific task. Another task might warrant a horizontal approach. The time commitment is a critical factor. When more staff is hired, the APC might want to consider channeling recommendations on staff task assignments through Mr. Morgan, and much of the work can be done at staff level rather than having the APC argue over fine points. There should be a differentiation between what the staff is to do and what committees are to do.

Mr. Harper asked that the Governing Body actually "charge" the APC with the work program outlined by staff. He would like to see this assignment forwarded to all local governments; it becomes increasingly difficult for local planners to justify the expense and time for TRPA activities. Mr. Renz agreed that he was faced with the same considerations in Douglas County, and it was particularly difficult because the County did not necessarily support the Agency's efforts. Ms. Temple agreed that a determination on what time was necessary should be a first step. Once a commitment is given, however, it should be kept.

Mr. Combs summarized the APC's direction as follows: 1) to reconfirm its involvement in the planning process; 2) to focus on key changes to the Regional Goals and Policies Plan identified in the litigation process; 3) to use, for the most part, a vertical approach with some exceptions; 4) to begin with the June APC meeting to actively schedule hearings on completion of the ordinances; this may involve two day meetings, if necessary; 5) to firm up the productivity of time spent at committee meetings; this will include development of agendas and adherence to them; and 6) to be careful about any promises that are made on completion of the process, especially to the public.

#### D. Discussion of Provisions Regarding Changes in Use

Senior Planner Rick Angelocci explained that the Transportation/Air Quality Committee had met since the last APC meeting to discuss the change in use process and specifically to investigate what triggers review of a change in use, to simply the application form and process, to reevaluate the criteria for considering a use as vacant, to consider the 12-month vehicle credit, and to reevaluate the draft Air Quality/Transportation Ordinance in light of these points. (An addendum to the staff summary in the packet was distributed.) The Committee recommended a two-tiered process. A commercial change in use which decreases or stays within its range of vehicle trips would not be required to undergo review for traffic impacts. In this case, minor increases in vehicle trips generated would likely fall within an exempt category. The second tier

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would take effect when the commercial change in use results in a higher range of vehicle trips. Under this tier, the standard trip table in the draft ordinance would be used to specifically evaluate the proposal's impacts. Thirty-five dollars per vehicle trip would be charged for increases; and, to make this consistent with the trip range concept, the first 100 vehicle trip increase would not be assessed a mitigation. A fee would be assessed from 101 trips up. The Committee also decided that changes in hours of operation or days of the week should not trigger a review unless the hours of operation increase above 16 hours per day.

In terms of the vehicle trip credit, under the terms of the Indirect Source Review Ordinance, there is a suggested guideline of a 12-month previous vehicle trip credit from the date of the application for the change in use. What the Committee has recommended is that the previous use on the site, for the purpose of comparing traffic generation, shall be the most intensive permanent use which existed for more than three consecutive months within the last 24 months, or the most recent permanent use which existed for more than three consecutive months within the last 48 months. Previous permanent use is defined as something that existed for three or more consecutive months.

With regard to further investigation of Capacity Plan Areas, staff is still working on alternative approaches to traffic mitigation. Additional modifications have been made to simplify the review process for minor changes in use, i.e. repairs and ordinary maintenance and interior and exterior remodeling. It is anticipated that approval of these minor modifications and the first tier review will be delegated to local governments.

In terms of vehicle trips generated, the Committee recommended no limit on vehicle trips under the proposed review process, feeling that the economic cost of \$35 per vehicle trips relative to the mitigation fee would, in itself, limit large increases in vehicle trips. Staff, however, after further review, feels there is a possible opening here for those who are willing to pay the mitigation fee and increase traffic by a substantial amount. Under this scenario, there would not be a trigger for environmental review. As such, staff is recommending that a ceiling be placed on the increases on an interim basis of 200 vehicle trips per day. The 200 vehicle ceiling will be used to determine what is a project requiring full project review with environmental documentation. If the injunction continues over the next year, staff will approach the plaintiffs to see if they would be willing to process under a project review mode those projects which generate more than 200 vehicle trips per day. Under the current injunction, even an increase of 1 vehicle trip is not permitted. This new approach will be discussed with the plaintiffs as an interim policy. The plaintiffs are sympathetic to the problems which have arisen because of the injunction. Although it hasn't yet been determined who would be making the interpretations on similar uses within the identified ranges, to be on the safe side with the plaintiffs, these interpretations should be referred to TRPA staff.

Mr. Pyle asked that K (thousand square feet of gross floor area) and O.P.C. (off-premise concession) be defined. The transportation staff is to be complimented for this simplified form and process.

Mr. Combs asked what procedure would be followed if modifications are required in a structure to bring it up to building code standards or to install safety

features. This has become a conflict in recent months because of the injunction. Would the repairs and ordinary maintenance exemptions take care of these modifications? Mr. Angelocci explained that modifications required by the Uniform Building Code (fire safety, access for the handicapped) are being processed and approved now under the injunction. Mr. Harper asked that this be clearly set forth.

Mr. Rick Skinner asked if a project which expands its square footage and increases its trips but which remains within the same range would require review. Is such an expansion exempt because it stays within the same range? Mr. Angelocci explained that the expansion would be considered a new use where no use had existed before; it would not be exempt. Mr. Skinner suggested this was ambiguous as now drafted; it should be clarified. Similarly, how would the ordinance propose to handle remodeling or conversion of, say, storage space into a use that will generate more traffic? While this isn't an actual change of use, it is something that should be addressed. If the gross floor area is properly defined, this concern can be alleviated. The definitional problems in this process are immense, and there is a great deal of room here for dispute. As an example, an ice cream parlor falls in range two; a specialty food store is in range five; where would a yogurt shop fit? Is it an ice cream store or a specialty food store? Disputes of this sort will be common, and involve major differences in mitigation fees and levels of review. There needs to be a good deal of work on definitions at the outset to have a more objective, broader system. There are many books in the transportation planning field that can help with this.

On another point, Mr. Skinner asked how the ordinance would account for cumulative impacts of the exemptions. Most of the changes in use will not occur within the first four ranges but in the fifth range, which is well down in the exempt range. Potentially, there could be a large number of cumulative impacts not accounted for. This is something to keep in mind. Mr. Combs responded that there was an earlier concern about giving credit for changes in use that actually reduce trips; the possible answer to this concern is that the range would provide for potential reductions in trips as well.

Mr. Skinner's final comment related to credit for an abandoned use and the four-year carryover. This is too generous. There is nothing wrong with trying to accommodate a limited abandonment and something should be done to take care of the shoulder season changes. But to go four years from a closed casino, which does exist, to a new use and to give the new use credit for that previous operation really wipes out any commercial change of use mitigation, even though it is a substantial difference in traffic patterns four years later. At first glance, there does not appear to be rationale to support this approach. With the bad traffic that exists at Tahoe and particularly with the big and most intense uses, there may be a different consideration given to big generators. What policy is being addressed here? Who is being accommodated and what problems are being solved? Finally, the commercial change in use with respect to the injunction is recognized as a problem area; staff was asked to come back to the plaintiffs with a more workable way to handle these changes, and efforts will be underway shortly to come up with a more workable process.

Chairman Combs asked that this topic be placed back on the June agenda after discussion with the plaintiffs. Mr. Poppoff suggested that the appropriate way to proceed, too, is to have an additional meeting of the Transportation/Air

Quality Committee before the next APC meeting. Staff agreed to meet with the plaintiffs and to schedule a subsequent meeting of the Committee before the next APC meeting.

E. Discussion of Reasonable Further Progress Report, 1982 Air Quality Plan

Mr. Ziegler explained that no action on the plan was requested today. He would just be presenting an update report. A summary of the April 12 meeting with EPA, California Air Resources Board and the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection was presented. The Air Quality Plan was adopted in 1982, and a first RFP report should have covered 1983. There is a lag time between the end of the calendar year and the date at which the regulatory agencies expect the RFP report. TRPA didn't miss a deadline until August of 1984. The next deadline to work on is August 1985, at which time it would be wise to have the report cover both calendar years 1983 and 1984. The memo in the staff packet outlines the 12 generic comments received on the RFP to date. Some of the key points relate to determining correct emissions factors for automobiles in the Tahoe region, the accuracy of an assumption of a 4% annual growth rate in traffic volumes on Highway 50, and the comparison of violations of the CO standard at Tahoe to Los Angeles.

Mr. Combs asked if the numbers for residential or commercial growth under the scenarios proposed in the litigation package had been modeled. Mr. Ziegler suggested this would have to be looked at to ensure compliance with the Regional Plan. At the meeting with EPA there was no discussion of a "reasonable efforts approach", whereby the region would have to show reasonable efforts towards meeting the standard. It was decided that certain of the technical questions should be resolved first before it is determined whether annual reports will continue to be submitted or whether there will be an amendment to the SIP. Mr. Ryerson suggested there appeared to be enough technical work to be done to justify a two-year report. There is precedence for this. If reassessment of growth and emission factors used in the 1982 Air Quality Plan yields significantly different results, is it staff's intention to modify the Air Quality Plan, and therefore the SIP? Mr. Ziegler explained it would depend on the magnitude of the change. For the APC's information, EPA did encourage TRPA to proceed with a grant application to staff up its air quality positions.

F. Scenic Corridor Designation of Highway 50 and Highway 89

Mr. Brennan explained that in 1983 El Dorado County asked Caltrans to evaluate designating Highway 50 from Echo Summit to Statement and Highway 89 from Luther Pass to the El Dorado County/Placer County line as scenic. The Caltrans review evaluates scenic beauty and significant historical factors, and the review of these two highway segments indicates that each is eligible for designation. The designation may help in programming of projects through the State Transportation Improvement Program for erosion control, realignment, or capital improvements. It has been noted that the scenic corridor designation does appear to carry weight in processing of projects in these areas. Any segments that are not endorsed by the City of South Lake Tahoe will not receive the designation and will not affect the remainder of the proposed highways. Ms. Temple explained that the criteria for review of projects in the scenic corridor are fairly general in scope. All the designation does is permit the County to be more critical in its evaluation of projects located within the corridor. In terms of