

Comment Letter 31 – Purvance, Clinton, Barton Health, 10/17/14



2170 South Avenue
South Lake Tahoe
CA 96150

530-541-3420 TEL
www.bartonhealth.org

October 17, 2014

Mr. David Landry
Senior Planner
Tahoe Regional Planning Agency
PO Box 5310
Stateline, NV 89449
dlandry@trpa.org

Dear Mr. Landry:

HEAVENLY MOUNTAIN RESORT EPIC DISCOVERY PROJECT AND DRAFT
EIR/EIS/EIS COMMENTS

1 Our organization supports Heavenly Mountain Resort's proposed Epic Discovery project. I agree with the stated Purpose & Need for the proposed project and have reviewed the draft EIR/EIS/EIS.

The project will be a benefit to both visitors to and residents of our community. It is consistent with our region's economic base of tourism and outdoor recreation. The project will further the goals of the TRPA's Regional Plan Update and the recently-adopted local area plans by providing high-quality sustainable public outdoor recreation. The range of activities that Heavenly has proposed is appropriate to the site and will help create the necessary critical mass of activities that will successfully attract and retain visitors.

In particular, I support the development of the Forest Flyer alpine coaster in the Adventure Peak area and the mountain bike park proposed for the East Peak Basin area. These are activities that are currently missing from the inventory of outdoor activities in the South Lake Tahoe area and will appeal to a wide cross-section of the public. The proposed locations for each activity are logical and well thought-out. Both activities are consistent with the 2011 Forest Service Summer Uses legislation and the management direction for Heavenly. We also support the development of the public multi-use trail identified in the document as the Panorama Trail in the route proposed.

I further believe that the environmental education program proposed as part of the Epic Discovery project will result in many positive benefits to our visitors and residents. The program will help them gain an enhanced understanding of our unique natural environment and how they can join our collective efforts to restore and conserve it.

Taking your health to **new heights**

Mr. David Landry
October 17, 2014
Page 2

- 1 The additional employment that will be required to support the project elements will enhance the overall health of our community by providing more year-round jobs and improved economic stability.

Please ensure this comment letter is provided to all three lead agencies reviewing the project. I appreciate the opportunity to share our input with you and the other agencies on this very worthwhile project.

Sincerely,

BARTON HEALTH



Clinton Purvance, M.D., CPE
Chief Medical Officer

- Comment 31-1 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.

Comment Letter 32 – Atherton, Patrick, Tahoe Chamber of Commerce, 10/18/14

October 18, 2014

Mr. David Landry
Senior Planner
Tahoe Regional Planning Agency
PO Box 5310
Stateline, Nv 89449

RECEIVED
OCT 20 2014
TAHOE REGIONAL
PLANNING AGENCY

Dear Mr. Landry

Heavenly Mountain Resort Epic Discover Project and draft EIR/EIS/EIS comments

1 I have had the pleasure of living in this community for over 37 years. Over that period, I have observed the south shores emphasis on gaming erode. Economically, recreation now plays a fundamental and vital role to the vitality of this community. To that end, the array of activities that Heavenly has proposed is needed to attract and retain year-round visitors.

Specifically, the development of the Forest Flyer alpine coaster in the Adventure Park area and the mountain bike park for the East Peak Basin area. These two projects would add a new dimension to Lake Tahoe's recreation appeal.

I believe that the environmental education program and the additional year-round employment would benefit and bolster the economic health of the community.

This project, as I understand it, is in alignment with the goals of the Regional Plan Update.

I STRONGLY RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THIS PROJECT.

Please ensure this comment letter is provided to all three lead agencies reviewing the project.

Sincerely,


Patrick Atherton, Government Affairs Committee member, TahoeChamber.org

Comment 32-1 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.

Comment Letter 33 – Noll, Steve, Design Workshop, 10/21/14

Design Workshop, Inc.
Landscape Architecture
Land Planning
Urban Design
Strategic Services

October 21, 2014

Mr. David Landry
Senior Planner
Tahoe Regional Planning Agency
PO Box 5310
Stateline, NV 89449
dlandry@trpa.org

Dear Mr. Landry:

HEAVENLY MOUNTAIN RESORT EPIC DISCOVERY PROJECT AND DRAFT
EIR/EIS/EIS COMMENTS

Mr. Landry,

1 I have had the opportunity to review the Draft EIR/EIS/EIS for the Heavenly Mountain Epic Discovery project as well as attended public presentations where answers to my questions were provided and agree with the conclusions reached in the document.

As a Board Member for the Tahoe Chamber this project will be a benefit to both visitors to and residents of our community and is consistent with our region's economic focus on tourism and outdoor recreation. The project will further the goals of the TRPA's Regional Plan Update and the recently-adopted local area plans by providing high-quality sustainable public outdoor recreation. I also believe that the environmental education program proposed as part of the Epic Discovery project will result in many positive benefits to our visitors and residents. The program will help them gain an enhanced understanding of our unique natural environment and how they can join our collective efforts to restore and conserve it.

As a business owner in the community for over 17 years, I know firsthand how the seasonality of our community affects the schools, available work force and businesses. When complete these improvements will provide additional employment opportunities that will enhance the overall health of our community by providing more year-round jobs and improved economic stability.

As a resident in the community, my friends with their families and relatives visit me frequently throughout the year. On several occasions I had the opportunity to participate on the summer activities that currently exist. I was impressed by the facilities, the staff and the overall care for the environmental all while providing healthy, clean recreational activities for people of all ages.

DESIGNWORKSHOP

Asheville • Aspen • Austin • Denver • Phoenix • Salt Lake City • Tahoe
128 Market Street, Suite 3E PO Box 5666, Stateline, NV 89449 • (tel) 775-588-5929 • (fax) 775-588-1559
www.designworkshop.com

1 Based on my understanding of the proposed project, I strongly support the range of activities that Heavenly has proposed at the locations illustrated on the project master plan. This includes the Forest Flyer alpine coaster in the Adventure Peak area, the mountain bike park proposed for the East Peak Basin area and the development of the public multi-use trail identified in the document as the Panorama Trail in the route proposed.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my thoughts and input with you and the other agencies on this very worthwhile project and please ensure this comment letter is provided to all three lead agencies reviewing the project.

Sincerely,

DESIGN WORKSHOP, INC.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Noll', with a stylized, cursive script.

Steve Noll, Principal

Comment 33-1 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.

Comment Letter 34 – Cardoza, Dustin, 10/22/14

From: [Dustin Cardoza](#)
To: [David Landry](#)
Subject: Heavenly Bike Park Comments
Date: Wednesday, October 22, 2014 10:26:12 PM

Dear Mr. Landry,

- 1 I'd like to add my endorsement for the proposed bike park at Heavenly. As a full time resident of the Reno/Tahoe area, I've always wanted more fun outdoor activities for my family. The trail system around Heavenly provides some amazing riding, but a bike park that could connect into that trail system would be epic. I seems that places like Colorado offer a much richer riding experience because of lift assisted trails. Something like this proposed park would really help put South Lake Tahoe on the map as a true summer destination. I'd even love to see some alpine
- 2 slides go in for even more summer family fun.

Kind Regards,
Dustin Cardoza

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-dc

- Comment 34-1 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.
- Comment 34-2 The commenter suggests the development of alpine slides at Heavenly Mountain Resort, which are not a part of this proposal. This is not a comment on the content or adequacy of the DEIR/EIS/EIS. This information is passed on to the Project proponent and decision makers for consideration.

Comment Letter 35 – Chirdon, Lindsay, 10/22/14

From: [Lindsay Chirdon](#)
To: [David Landry](#)
Subject: MTB support of Heavenly Bike Park/Epic Discovery
Date: Wednesday, October 22, 2014 9:17:41 AM

Dear Mr. Landry,

- 1 I would like to show my support for the Heavenly Bike Park and the Epic Discovery Project for the following reasons. The creation of the Panorama Trail will provide much needed connections to the Rim Trail at Mott Canyon to Monument Pass and a lake side connection to the Van Sickle Trail. Currently Heavenly is a black hole, void of mountain bike trails and this public connection is greatly needed. It will connect the town to the mountains better for biking and hiking. The bike park should be considered for future expansion with popularity, eventually even to the base areas of Stagecoach and/or California Base Lodge. The project is proposed in an existing developed recreational site that is in the core of the existing mountain, utilizing existing infrastructure such as lodge buildings and chair lifts. Additional connector trails will improve the recreation experience and provide better connections. More people will access the National Forest through the gondola, hiking and biking, connecting the highest bedbase in Tahoe to the mountains better. High quality recreational experiences in the Forest breeds additional stewardship for the outdoors. The design includes a number of resource protection measures that will reduced or avoid negative environmental effects. Furthermore, the approval of
- 2 events, such as races and festivals, should be included in the approval of the project. The USFS should include mountain bike events in the NEPA process for approval.

Thank you

Lindsay

- Comment 35-1 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.
- Comment 35-2 Special events are not proposed. If special events are proposed in the future, additional review will occur at that time and a separate special use permit would be issued for such events.

Comment Letter 36 – Colburn, Justin, 10/22/14

From: [Colburn, Justin](#)
To: [David Landry](#)
Subject: Heavenly Bike Park Support
Date: Wednesday, October 22, 2014 8:37:02 AM

Dear Mr. Landry,

1 I would like to take a few moments of your time to share my support for the development of a Bike Park at Heavenly. There are several reasons this is a worthwhile endeavor for Heavenly and the region.

- Currently Heavenly is devoid of bike trail unlike the surrounding area. Further development of trail within the property allows for a more complete and seamless connections to existing trail.
- Including Heavenly in the overall regional trail plan connects several pieces of world class trail and allows for the Tahoe region to continue to grow itself as part of the overall mountain bike scene. Tahoe has everything that makes a world class mountain bike destination, except a cohesive trail network.
- The development not only benefits bikers but also allow for lift assisted access to hikers and other trail users that would not generally access the Tahoe backcountry.
- This project provides additional and sustainable year round jobs for many in the region; not only in the park but across the business spectrum.
- Plans for additional expansion, as the area sees success from this initial investment in trails & infrastructure demand will force additional development further growing economic activity for the region.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my position on the bike park and providing my thoughts to the approval agencies!

Sincerely,

Justin Colburn

Comment 36-1 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.

Comment Letter 37 – Greenman, Chris, 10/22/14

From: David Landry
To: "Chris Greenman"
Subject: RE: Heavenly Bike Park (Epic Discovery Project)
Date: Tuesday, October 28, 2014 11:14:00 AM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)

Good Morning,

Thank you for submitting your written comments on the draft environmental impact report for the Heavenly Mountain Resort Epic Discovery Project. Your comments will be considered as part of the ongoing environmental review process and addressed in a final environmental impact report.

Thanks Again,

David L. Landry AICP, CPTED-CPD, LEED Green Associate
Senior Planner
Planning Department

T: 775-589-5214
F: 775-588-4547
E: dlandry@trpa.org



PLEASE NOTE: The TRPA front counter is open M, W, Th, F 9am – 12pm/1pm - 4pm,
Closed Tuesday. New Applications are accepted until 3pm.

From: Chris Greenman [<mailto:cgreenman@tahoe fracture.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 22, 2014 9:39 AM
To: David Landry
Subject: Heavenly Bike Park (Epic Discovery Project)

- 1 | Mr. Landry, first I want to thank you for the good work you/TRPA do(es) to protect the beauty of the lake, but still allowing access to enjoy the beauty. Nearly 17 years ago we first moved to South Lake and have enjoyed its beauty and recreation ever since. Even though we have since moved off the hill, we do have a vacation home near the base of Heavenly. The addition of the Heavenly bike park and corresponding trails will help foster a culture of human powered recreation and enjoyment which is currently still lacking, in my opinion, in the Tahoe basin. Please consider the following points while doing your due diligence.

- 1
- Creation of the Panorama Trail will provide much needed connections to the Rim Trail at Mott Canyon to Monument Pass and a lake side connection to the Van Sickle Trail. Currently Heavenly is a black hole, void of mountain bike trails and this public connection is greatly needed. It will connect the town to the mountains better for biking and hiking.
 - The approval of events, such as races and festivals, should be included in the approval of the project. The USFS should include mountain bike events in the NEPA process for approval.
 - The bike park should be considered for future expansion with popularity, eventually even to the base areas of Stagecoach and/or California Base Lodge.
 - The project will create a significant number of additional year-round jobs.
 - The project is proposed in an existing developed recreational site that is in the core of the existing mountain, utilizing existing infrastructure such as lodge buildings and chair lifts.
 - Additional connector trails will improve the recreation experience and provide better connections.
 - More people will access the National Forest through the gondola, hiking and biking, connecting the highest bedbase in Tahoe to the mountains better.
 - High quality recreational experiences in the Forest breeds additional stewardship for the outdoors.
 - The design includes a number of resource protection measures that will reduced or avoid negative environmental effects.
 - Heavenly has a proven track record of providing high quality recreation and environmental protection.

Thank you for your consideration of these issues.

Chris Greenman MBA/MHA CMPE
Administrator
www.tahoefracture.com
Tahoe Fracture & Orthopedic Medical Clinic, Inc.
973 Mica Drive, Suite #201
Carson City, NV 89705
Phone: 775-783-6130
Fax: 775-783-6170
Email: cgreenman@tahoefracture.com



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Comment 37-1 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.

Special events are not proposed. If special events are proposed in the future, additional review will occur at that time and a separate special use permit would be issued for such events.

Comment Letter 38 – Hood, Chris, 10/22/14

From: David Landry
To: "Chris"
Subject: RE: Heavenly Bike Park
Date: Tuesday, October 28, 2014 11:10:00 AM

Good Morning,

Thank you for submitting your written comments on the draft environmental impact report for the Heavenly Mountain Resort Epic Discovery Project. Your comments will be considered as part of the ongoing environmental review process and addressed in a final environmental impact report.

Thanks Again,

David L. Landry AICP, CPTED-CPD, LEED Green Associate
Senior Planner
Planning Department

T: 775.589.5214
F: 775.588.4547
E: dlandry@trpa.org

PLEASE NOTE: The TRPA front counter is open M, W, Th, F 9am – 12pm/1pm - 4pm, Closed Tuesday. New Applications are accepted until 3pm.

-----Original Message-----

From: Chris [<mailto:falconbiz@gmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 22, 2014 10:41 PM
To: David Landry
Subject: Heavenly Bike Park

- 1 Adding a bike park to Heavenly is a good idea. It will help the local economy and help people get access to the forest. The infrastructure is already there and new trails are built using much better techniques than old ones. I used to live in Tahoe and now live in Park City where we have three resort with bike lifts in the summer. I see wildlife all the time and there is no negative environmental impact from the trails.

--
Cheers,
Chris Hood
<http://webdesign.chrishood.me>

Comment 38-1 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.

Comment Letter 39 – Juha, Hani, 10/22/14

From: [Hani Juha](#)
To: [David Landry](#)
Subject: Support for the Heavenly bike park
Date: Wednesday, October 22, 2014 1:28:12 PM

Dear Mr. Landry,

- 1 I would like to show my support for the Heavenly Bike Park and the Epic Discovery Project for the following reasons. The creation of the Panorama Trail will provide much needed connections to the Rim Trail at Mott Canyon to Monument Pass and a lake side connection to the Van Sickle Trail. Currently Heavenly is a black hole, void of mountain bike trails and this public connection is greatly needed. It will connect the town to the mountains better for biking and hiking. The bike park should be considered for future expansion with popularity, eventually even to the base areas of Stagecoach and/or California Base Lodge. The project is proposed in an existing developed recreational site that is in the core of the existing mountain, utilizing existing infrastructure such as lodge buildings and chair lifts. Additional connector trails will improve the recreation experience and provide better connections. More people will access the National Forest through the gondola, hiking and biking, connecting the highest bedbase in Tahoe to the mountains better. High quality recreational experiences in the Forest breeds additional stewardship for the outdoors. The design includes a number of resource protection measures that will reduced or avoid negative environmental effects.
- 2 Furthermore, the approval of events, such as races and festivals, should be included in the approval of the project. The USFS should include mountain bike events in the NEPA process for approval.

Thank you

--

Hani Juha

www.menlobikeclub.com

Comment 39-1 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.

Comment 39-2 Special events are not proposed. If special events are proposed in the future, additional review will occur at that time and a separate special use permit would be issued for such events.

Comment Letter 40 – Lamb, Jonathan, 10/22/14

From: [Jon Lamb](#)
To: [David Landry](#)
Subject: Proposed Heavenly Resort mountain biking
Date: Wednesday, October 22, 2014 12:16:31 PM

Dear Mr. Landry,

I would like to show my support for the Heavenly Bike Park and the Epic Discovery Project for the following reasons. The creation of the Panorama Trail will provide much needed connections to the Rim Trail at Mott Canyon to Monument Pass and a lake side connection to the Van Sickle Trail. Currently Heavenly is a black hole, void of mountain bike trails and this public connection is greatly needed. It will connect the town to the mountains better for biking and hiking. The bike park should be considered for future expansion with popularity, eventually even to the base areas of Stagecoach and/or California Base Lodge. The project is proposed in an existing developed recreational site that is in the core of the existing mountain, utilizing existing infrastructure such as lodge buildings and chair lifts. Additional connector trails will improve the recreation experience and provide better connections. More people will access the National Forest through the gondola, hiking and biking, connecting the highest bedbase in Tahoe to the mountains better. High quality recreational experiences in the Forest breeds additional stewardship for the outdoors. The design includes a number of resource protection measures that will reduced or avoid negative environmental effects. Furthermore, the approval of events, such as races and festivals, should be included in the approval of the project. The USFS should include mountain bike events in the NEPA process for approval.

Thank you

Jonathan Lamb
408-623-8391 cell

- Comment 40-1 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.
- Comment 40-2 Special events are not proposed. If special events are proposed in the future, additional review will occur at that time and a separate special use permit would be issued for such events.

Comment Letter 41 – Poth, Todd, Getaway Reno/Tahoe, 10/22/14

October 22, 2014

Mr. David Landry
Senior Planner
Tahoe Regional Planning Agency
PO Box 5310
Stateline, NV 89449
dlandry@trpa.org

Dear Mr. Landry:

1 My name is Todd Poth. I am the publisher of Getaway Reno/Tahoe and longtime resident of Stateline NV. I wanted to let you know that I and my company supports Heavenly Mountain Resort's proposed Epic Discovery project. I agree with the stated Purpose & Need for the proposed project. I have reviewed the Draft EIR/EIS/EIS and agree with the conclusions reached in the document.

The project will be a benefit to both visitors to and residents of our community. It is consistent with our region's economic base of tourism and outdoor recreation. The project will further the goals of the TRPA's Regional Plan Update and the recently-adopted local area plans by providing high-quality sustainable public outdoor recreation. The range of activities that Heavenly has proposed is appropriate to the site and will help create the necessary critical mass of activities that will successfully attract and retain visitors.

In particular, I support the development of the Forest Flyer alpine coaster in the Adventure Peak area and the mountain bike park proposed for the East Peak Basin area. I have seen these activities successful implemented in Europe and New Zealand, where I have lived before. These are activities that are currently missing from the inventory of outdoor activities in the South Lake Tahoe area and will appeal to a wide cross-section of the public. The proposed locations for each activity are logical and well thought-out. Both activities are consistent with the 2011 Forest Service Summer Uses legislation and the management direction for Heavenly. We also support the development of the public multi-use trail identified in the document as the Panorama Trail in the route proposed.

We further believe that the environmental education program proposed as part of the Epic Discovery project will result in many positive benefits to our visitors and residents. The program will help them gain an enhanced understanding of our unique natural environment and how they can join our collective efforts to restore and conserve it.

The additional employment that will be required to support the project elements will enhance the overall health of our community by providing more year-round jobs and improved economic stability.

Please ensure this comment letter is provided to all three lead agencies reviewing the project. We appreciate the opportunity to share our input with you and the other agencies on this very worthwhile project.

Sincerely,



Todd Poth
Owner/publisher Getaway Reno/Tahoe
Local Citizen, husband and father.

Comment 41-1 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.

Comment Letter 42 – Press, David, 10/22/14

From: [David Press](#)
To: [David Landry](#)
Subject: In support of Heavenly Bike Park
Date: Wednesday, October 22, 2014 9:37:58 AM

Dear David Landry,

I'm writing to voice my support for the proposed Heavenly Bike Park - and all mountain biking trail projects in general!

1 Creation of the Panorama Trail will provide much needed connections to the Rim Trail at Mott Canyon to Monument Pass and a lake side connection to the Van Sickle Trail. Currently Heavenly is a black hole, void of mountain bike trails and this public connection is greatly needed. It will connect the town to the mountains better for biking and hiking. The bike park should be considered for future expansion with popularity, eventually even to the base areas of Stagecoach and/or California Base Lodge.

More people will access the National Forest through the gondola, hiking and biking, connecting the highest bedbase in Tahoe to the mountains better.

I look forward to using these trails myself, as well as the benefits from additional year-round tourism jobs they will contribute to.

Sincerely,
David Press
2080 Mewuk Dr
South Lake Tahoe, CA

Comment 42-1 The commenter expresses support for the Project and suggests further expansion of mountain bike trails. Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.

Comment Letter 43 – Scharer, Chuck, Edgewood Companies, 10/22/14



212 Elks Point Road, Suite 230 | Zephyr Cove, NV 89448
USPS: P.O. Box 2249 | Lake Tahoe, NV 89449
(775) 588-3400 | www.edgewoodcompanies.com

October 22, 2014

Mr. David Landry
Senior Planner
Tahoe Regional Planning Agency
P.O. Box 5310
Stateline, NV 89449

RECEIVED

OCT 27 2014

TAHOE REGIONAL
PLANNING AGENCY

Dear Mr. Landry:

HEAVENLY MOUNTAIN RESORT EPIC DISCOVERY PROJECT AND DRAFT EIR/EIS/EIS COMMENTS

1 I am writing in strong support of Heavenly Mountain Resort's proposed Epic Discovery project. Heavenly has a long history of providing exciting activities for our residents and visitors, doing so in an environmentally responsible manner. The proposed project is an extension of that tradition.

A key element of the project is that these wonderful mountain recreational activities will be easily accessible to visitors and residents in our area. One of the major environmental goals in our region is to reduce vehicle miles traveled. These fun and educational activities will be within walking distance of several thousand hotel and motel rooms located in the tourism core area, accessible via the Heavenly Village Gondola. Outdoor recreation activities that currently require our visitors to get back in their automobiles and drive to an access point will now literally be outside their front door. Heavenly's project is a big step toward the goal of reducing VMTs.

In recent years, Heavenly has invested millions of dollars in our community's economic base of tourism and public outdoor recreation; The Epic Discovery project will be a continuation of this strong commitment. These new summer activities have been planned to complement their winter ski and snowboard operations. In addition to creating memorable experiences for our locals and visitors, the project will provide sorely needed new employment opportunities, in many cases transforming current seasonal jobs into year-round jobs.

Importantly, the project is planned in an existing developed recreation site. This area has for decades been set aside for public outdoor recreation and Heavenly has managed their operations as responsible stewards of the land. This, coupled with the easy access, make Heavenly Mountain Resort the perfect place for this project.

Edgewood Companies feels that the Epic Project is consistent with the goals and objectives of the recently approved Regional Plan Update, as well as the recently adopted South Shore Area Plan, both of which emphasize providing more recreation opportunities. Expanding recreation in our area will help strengthen and sustain our Tourism based economy.

Please ensure this comment letter is provided to all three lead agencies reviewing the project. We appreciate the opportunity to share our input with you and the other agencies on this very worthwhile project.

Sincerely,

Chuck Scharer
President and CEO

Comment 43-1

Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.

Comment Letter 44 – Calderwood, Marius, 10/23/14

From: [Marius Calderwood](#)
To: [David Landry](#)
Subject: Heavenly Bike Park - Support letter
Date: Thursday, October 23, 2014 7:18:04 PM

To whom it may concern,

1 Please consider this letter as PRO regarding the new biking project to be 'Heavenly Bike Park'.
I am an avid cyclist, participating in both disciplines: road cycling and mountain biking, and also an enthusiast snowboarder (ranked #1 snowboarder at Heavenly on EpicMix during 10/11 season) and one of the biggest fan of Tahoe, which I proudly call home.

As a South Lake Tahoe resident I am a huge fan of the local hill Heavenly and believe that creating a bike park is something that most of the folks evolved more or less with cycling locally have been waiting for. Environment is very important for all of us and Heavenly/Vail will most likely do a good job about taking care and respecting the woods we like to enjoy. There is already a network of trails that is being used without any supervision and maybe not in the best interest of the forest, a project backed up by actual studies and involving people that actually know what they are doing can only be beneficial. The impact on the community will be a good one, creating more jobs and also taking care of the environment, while getting people to be more active.

There are a lot to be said, but I will conclude with the fact that I am hopeful and happy that such a project finally takes shape.

Best regards,
Marius Calderwood

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[Drop by and say 'Hi' on facebook](#)

Comment 44-1 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.

Comment Letter 45 – Choi, Cindi, 10/23/14

From: [Cindi Choi](#)
To: [David Landry](#)
Subject: Support for the Heavenly Bike Park and the Epic Discovery Project
Date: Thursday, October 23, 2014 11:44:28 AM

Dear Mr. Landry,

1 I would like to show my support for the Heavenly Bike Park and the Epic Discovery Project for the following reasons. The creation of the Panorama Trail will provide much needed connections to the Rim Trail at Mott Canyon to Monument Pass and a lake side connection to the Van Sickle Trail. Currently Heavenly is a black hole, void of mountain bike trails and this public connection is greatly needed. It will connect the town to the mountains better for biking and hiking. The bike park should be considered for future expansion with popularity, eventually even to the base areas of Stagecoach and/or California Base Lodge. The project is proposed in an existing developed recreational site that is in the core of the existing mountain, utilizing existing infrastructure such as lodge buildings and chair lifts. Additional connector trails will improve the recreation experience and provide better connections. More people will access the National Forest through the gondola, hiking and biking, connecting the highest bedbase in Tahoe to the mountains better. High quality recreational experiences in the Forest breeds additional stewardship for the outdoors. The design includes a number of resource protection measures that will reduced or avoid negative environmental effects. Furthermore, the approval of
2 events, such as races and festivals, should be included in the approval of the project. The USFS should include mountain bike events in the NEPA process for approval.

Thank you.

Best, Cindi
+1-832-398-8015

- Comment 45-1 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.
- Comment 45-2 Special events are not proposed. If special events are proposed in the future, additional review will occur at that time and a separate special use permit would be issued for such events.

Comment Letter 46 – Welch, Martha, 10/23/14

From: [Martha Welch](#)
To: [David Landry](#)
Subject: Heavenly Epic Discovery Project -- Public Input
Date: Thursday, October 23, 2014 7:22:17 PM

Date: October 23, 2014
To: Mr. David, Landry, Tahoe Regional Planning Agency – Email: dlandry@trpa.org
From: Martha Welch – Email: marthaw4@yahoo.com
Re: Heavenly Epic Discovery Project – Public Input

Dear Mr. Landry,

1 I am a homeowner and part-time resident in South Lake Tahoe, and would like to submit input regarding the Heavenly Epic Discovery Project. I have read the draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) relative to the project, and based upon the information in the reports, I support the Project and feel that it should be approved.

Based on the information in the EIR/EIS, I feel that the environmental concerns relative to the impact of Project are being addressed by Heavenly Resort. Based upon Heavenly Resort's past actions when developing and maintaining the existing Heavenly Ski Resort, they have shown that they are very concerned with the environmental impacts and have worked with the various agencies to address any issues of concern and to actively minimize the impacts where possible. In addition, Heavenly Resort has proven its environmental stewardship in the past by protecting and restoring areas such as the "High Meadows" area and disturbed Stream Environment Zones (SEZs). The EIR/EIS were extremely extensive and addressed items highlighted by each agency involved in the approval process.

As stated in the reports and various informative articles, there are many positive aspects to the implementation of the Project, including economic, educational, conservation, and recreational impacts. The information highlighted the fact that the Tahoe area has been trying to move from a "gaming-driven destination to a recreation-based destination". The addition of recreational activities proposed by the Project is consistent with this goal. The Heavenly Resort is only being used part of the year, which means it is an existing "resource" that is being under-utilized. The reports stated that the number of visitors in the summer would not exceed the number of winter visitors, thus having no increased impact to the Heavenly Resort and surrounding Tahoe area.

The addition of summer activities at Heavenly Resort will provide increased revenue for the Tahoe area, especially since much of the infrastructure is already there such as the Gondola, chairlifts, restaurants, hotels, and bus system. The summer activities will also provide additional employment opportunities, especially for seasonal employees that were only

1

employed during the winter ski season.

The EIR/EIS information also addresses the Project's goal of providing educational opportunities for the public relative to the Tahoe area, the environment, and conservation of our resources and wilderness areas. These programs would aim to "engage the public and to introduce new user groups to the National Forest Service lands in order to create more environmental awareness". Education is key to environmental conservation, and I feel that by Heavenly including this as part of their project, they are committed to the environmental and sustainability goals of the various agencies and the people who live in and visit the Tahoe area.

Finally, another significant goal and potential outcome of the Project is to promote more recreational opportunities and outdoor activity in the Tahoe area. The report addresses the fact that many people want or need recreation "in a more managed setting with organized and developed activities"; many people are not comfortable or not knowledgeable enough to pursue recreation in the wilderness without guidance, and many people do not have the necessary equipment to pursue certain activities (this equipment would be provided at the Heavenly Resort). By opening up summer activities in a "managed setting", Heavenly would provide the opportunity for people to participate in outdoor recreation who otherwise would not pursue these activities. By increasing participation in recreation in NFS lands, the awareness level of individuals will also increase which will lead to greater stewardship to the environment.

For the individuals that are already pursuing recreation in the Tahoe area, the proposed Project would enhance those activities. Specifically, the Project proposes the addition of a mountain bike park, mountain bike trails, hiking trails, and other various outdoor activities. The Project proposes building many connector trails for both biking and hiking; these trails would allow for greater access to the surrounding area and "will connect the town to the mountains better". The existing and additional trails will be easily accessible by using the already existing Gondola. The bike park would allow individuals to learn new skills or practice certain skills in a "protected" setting so they are ready for the trails and will be safer when encountering the various obstacles on the trails. The bike park would also be instrumental in introducing trail riding to individuals that have never ridden on trails, some of whom might not be comfortable trying trail riding on their own in a wilderness setting.

I have had many opportunities to enjoy the Tahoe area – in the wilderness and surrounding town. I mainly enjoy biking and hiking in the wilderness, so I am particularly interested in seeing this Project approved. I would love to have more trails accessible in the wilderness. I have ridden and hiked trails at various ski resorts such as Northstar in North Tahoe, Mammoth Mountain, and Big Bear Mountain Resort. It is really great to have access to trails at the top of a mountain by taking a chairlift (trails that may not be accessible if an individual cannot, or would rather not, ride or hike up a steep mountain).

- 1 I believe that a potential benefit of the Project being approved would be that Heavenly Resort could host various events such as races and festivals. I have participated in a few Adventure Races at the Northstar Resort in the North Tahoe area -- these races included mountain biking and hiking at the Northstar Resort. The events were really great and the trails were very well maintained and beautiful. I met new people, both Tahoe locals and individuals from outside the Tahoe area. It was a great way to promote recreation and a sense of community in the area. The group I did the races with stayed in lodging and ate in the restaurants at or near the Northstar Resort. The impact of the race was that it allowed for individuals to have access to the Northstar Resort in the summer and it provided economic stimulus for the Northstar Resort and surrounding area. These impacts would be the same for Heavenly Resort and the surrounding area.
- I hope that the Heavenly Epic Discovery Project will be approved. I think it is a project that, if implemented, has the potential to have a significant impact on the South Lake Tahoe area, both for locals and visitors. I believe opening up the Heavenly Resort for summer activities would be a wise use of the already existing Heavenly Resort area. Based on the EIR/EIS information provided, Heavenly has proved to be environmentally conscientious and has continued to provide high quality recreation in the past; the reports indicate that this will also be Heavenly Resort's approach for the proposed project.
- Finally, the fact that there are many agencies involved, all with different perspectives and goals relative to the Tahoe area, will ensure that Heavenly Resort follows the necessary guidelines when implementing and maintaining the various aspects of the Project.

Comment 46-1 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.

Comment Letter 47 – Carroll, Sean, 10/24/14

From: [Sean Carroll](#)
To: [David Landry](#)
Subject: Heavenly Bike Park
Date: Friday, October 24, 2014 10:17:34 AM

Dear Mr. Landry,

- 1 I would like to show my support for the Heavenly Bike Park and the Epic Discovery Project for the following reasons. The creation of the Panorama Trail will provide much needed connections to the Rim Trail at Mott Canyon to Monument Pass and a lake side connection to the Van Sickle Trail. Currently Heavenly is a black hole, void of mountain bike trails and this public connection is greatly needed. It will connect the town to the mountains better for biking and hiking. The bike park should be considered for future expansion with popularity, eventually even to the base areas of Stagecoach and/or California Base Lodge. The project is proposed in an existing developed recreational site that is in the core of the existing mountain, utilizing existing infrastructure such as lodge buildings and chair lifts. Additional connector trails will improve the recreation experience and provide better connections. More people will access the National Forest through the gondola, hiking and biking, connecting the highest bedbase in Tahoe to the mountains better. High quality recreational experiences in the Forest breeds additional stewardship for the outdoors. The design includes a number of resource protection measures that will reduced or avoid negative environmental effects.
- 2 Furthermore, the approval of events, such as races and festivals, should be included in the approval of the project. The USFS should include mountain bike events in the NEPA process for approval.

Thank you,

Sean Carroll

- Comment 47-1 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.
- Comment 47-2 Special events are not proposed. If special events are proposed in the future, additional review will occur at that time and a separate special use permit would be issued for such events.

Comment Letter 48 – Fong, Curtis, TGFT Productions/Bike the West, 10/25/14



October 25, 2014

Mr. David Landry
Senior Planner
Tahoe Regional Planning Agency
PO Box 5310
Stateline, NV 89449
dlandry@trpa.org

Dear Mr. Landry:

HEAVENLY MOUNTAIN RESORT EPIC DISCOVERY PROJECT AND DRAFT EIR/EIS/EIS COMMENTS

1 Bike the West supports Heavenly Mountain Resort's proposed Epic Discovery project. We agree with the stated Purpose & Need for the proposed project. We have reviewed the Draft EIR/EIS/EIS and agree with the conclusions reached in the document.

The project will be a benefit to both visitors to and residents of our community. It is consistent with our region's economic base of tourism and outdoor recreation. The project will further the goals of the TRPA's Regional Plan Update and the recently-adopted local area plans by providing high-quality sustainable public outdoor recreation. The range of activities that Heavenly has proposed is appropriate to the site and will help create the necessary critical mass of activities that will successfully attract and retain visitors.

In particular, we support the development of the Mountain Bike Park proposed for the East Peak Basin area as well as the Forest Flyer alpine coaster in the Adventure Peak area. These are activities that are currently missing from the inventory of outdoor activities in the South Lake Tahoe area and will appeal to a wide cross-section of the public. The proposed locations for each activity are logical and well thought-out. Both activities are consistent with the 2011 Forest Service Summer Uses legislation and the management direction for Heavenly. We also support the development of the public multi-use trail identified in the document as the Panorama Trail in the route proposed.

We further believe that the environmental education program proposed as part of the Epic Discovery project will result in many positive benefits to our visitors and residents. The program will help them gain an enhanced understanding of our unique natural environment and how they can join our collective efforts to restore and conserve it.

The additional employment that will be required to support the project elements will enhance the overall health of our community by providing more year-round jobs and improved economic stability.

Please ensure this comment letter is provided to all three lead agencies reviewing the project. We appreciate the opportunity to share our input with you and the other agencies on this very worthwhile project.

Sincerely,

Curtis Fong
Event Director
TGFT Productions, LLC
Bike the West

P.O. Box 5123 * 313 Tramway Drive, Suite 15 * Stateline, NV 89449 * 775.771.3246 * tgft@bikethewest.com

Comment 48-1 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.

Comment Letter 49 – Galles, Ryan, Sierra House Elementary, 10/26/14

Ryan Galles
Principal

Shandi Ashmore
Principal's Secretary

Dianne Pollock
Office Assistant



Robin McClary/Jordan Wolf
School Psychologists

Margaret McKean
District Nurse

Wendy Copple
Librarian

SIERRA HOUSE ELEMENTARY

1709 Remington Trail
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150
Phone: 530-543-2327
Fax: 530-543-2330

To: US Forest Service and the Lahontan Regional Water Resources Control Board

From: Ryan Galles, Principal Sierra House Elementary

Re: Heavenly Mountain Resort Epic Discovery Project

Date: October 26, 2014

1 I am writing you to let you know that I am in strong support of the Heavenly Mountain Resort Epic Discovery project. I support this project because I believe that it is in alignment with the goals of the Regional plan and I believe it will create incredible experiences for residents and visitors alike. I like the fact that this project will help create opportunities for locals to be employed year round and I believe it will accelerate the area's transition from an antiquated gaming-based economy to a recreation-based economy.

As an educator, I believe that we need more opportunities for outdoor recreation in the summer for our youth. The past several years, our school district has not been able to offer a summer school for our students. I believe many community partners will be able to take advantage of the opportunity that heavenly provides to get kids to be active and learn more about their natural surroundings.

Many of the students in our school district don't get opportunities to experience the outdoor environment of Lake Tahoe. Our community suffers from high poverty, but our students should not be deprived of opportunities to experience things like this. Heavenly has been an amazing partner for us and has given our students opportunities that they wouldn't have otherwise experienced. We know this will continue with the expansion of the Epic Discovery Project. Lake Tahoe is the best classroom that a student can have and I believe Heavenly is committed to making these experiences, the experiences of a lifetime for youth in our community.

I believe the location is a perfect spot for outdoor public recreation and I am convinced this project will have little to no adverse environmental effects. Many of the project elements are located off the ground and have little or no land coverage associated with them.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Ryan Galles

Principal
Sierra House Elementary School

Comment 49-1 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.

Comment Letter 50 – Hassett, Bob, Camp Richardson, 10/26/14



CAMP RICHARDSON

Historic Resort & Marina

October 26, 2014

Mr. David Landry
Senior Planner
Tahoe Regional Planning Agency
PO Box 5310
Stateline, NV 89449
dlandry@trpa.org

Dear Mr. Landry:

HEAVENLY MOUNTAIN RESORT EPIC DISCOVERY PROJECT AND DRAFT EIR/EIS/EIS COMMENTS

1 Camp Richardson Resort supports Heavenly Mountain Resort's proposed Epic Discovery project. We agree with the stated Purpose & Need for the proposed project. We have reviewed the Draft EIR/EIS/EIS and agree with the conclusions reached in the document.

The project will be a great amenity for locals and guests to the basin. At a time when it is recognized that tourism and recreation are an incredible asset to our region, it is important to expand those opportunities. It will also further the goals of the TRPA's Regional Plan Update by providing high-quality sustainable public outdoor recreation. The site that Heavenly has proposed is very appropriate for the activities. It will attract guests and further fuel the local economy.

As I grew up in Northern New Jersey, I had opportunity and enjoyed the alpine coaster at Vernon Valley. With fond memories, I support the Forest Flyer and believe Adventure Peak is a well thought out and wise location for it. As an avid bicyclist, The East Peak Basin area is also a good choice for the mountain bike park. The 2011 Forest Service Summer Uses legislation and direction in the management of Heavenly, indicate that both activities are appropriate for the area. The Panorama trail (as proposed) would also add to the amenities.

As a company that believes we all play a role in preserving this beautiful and precious place, it is important that the proposed environmental education program be implemented. Education is key for locals and guests to understand their part in keeping the Lake Tahoe Basin special.

Being a recreation provider and outdoor enthusiast myself, I believe it is important to expand upon outdoor recreation in the basin. This will increase tourism, create jobs and drive the local economy. Healthy businesses allow for more money to be invested in the Lake Tahoe basin.

Please make sure this is passed on to other appropriate agencies. We appreciate the opportunity to comment on a project, which will enhance the recreational amenities in South Lake Tahoe.

Sincerely,

Bob Hassett
President

1.800.544.1801 • P.O.Box 9028 • 1900 Jameson Beach Rd • So. Lake Tahoe, CA 96158 • Fax 530.541.1802

Comment 50-1

Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.

Comment Letter 51 – Cefalu, John, 10/27/14

p.2

JOHN N. CEFALU
753 LAKEVIEW AVE.
SOUTH LAKE TAHOE, CA. 96150

October 27, 2014

Mr. David L. Landry, AICP,CDP
LEED Green Associates, Senior Planner
Planning Department
Tahoe Regional Planning Agency
P.O. Box 5310
Stateline, Nevada 89449

Re: Heavenly Mountain Resort Epic Discovery Project

Mr. Landry,

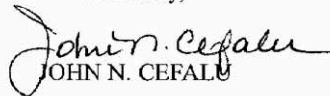
1 I am commenting as a proponent of Heavenly's Epic Discovery Project and I consider the design of this project to be in total harmony with the direction that Heavenly is taking in developing off-season activities for the Mountain.

As a resident of this community when Heavenly was first developed into a major ski area in the region, a business owner for many of those years and former member of the Governing Board of TRPA, I am in complete and total support for the investment that Heavenly is prepared to make in order to see the year-around activity occur on the Mountain.

I have witnessed the dramatic changes to the economy in this community and it is fitting that as we become more recreation oriented that the development of these sorts of facilities designed for the family visitors and residents, become reality. The consideration that TRPA has extended to the economy as a means of accomplishing many of the environmental goals that are necessary is a compelling reason why projects such as this one, need to be encouraged. Not only for the capital investment but, as well, the environmental improvements that will become a part of the project.

I applaud Heavenly Mountain Resort for their willingness to make the investment in a community that has struggled to attract the capital necessary to improve the quality of our facilities and the visitor experience, so that we remain competitive in the tourist economy. Further, I am confident that the Management of Heavenly Mountain Resort, will responsibly fulfill the environmental conditions of this project and are considered excellent stewards of their facilities.

Sincerely,


JOHN N. CEFALU

Comment 51-1 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.

Comment Letter 52 – Lowe, Brian, 10/27/14

From: [Brian Lowe](#)
To: [David Landry](#)
Subject: Bike park
Date: Monday, October 27, 2014 3:55:52 PM

- 1 | I long to live and raise my children in a proper Mountain town. The South Shore is so very far behind many other Mt. communities. In my view one way to catch up is to support trail development and a proper bike park.

Sincerely, Brian Lowe South Tahoe citizen.

Sent from my iPhone

Comment 52-1 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.

Comment Letter 53 – Sidney, Ray, 10/27/14

From: raysidney@gmail.com on behalf of [Ray Sidney](#)
To: [David Landry](#)
Subject: Comments on Epic Discovery project
Date: Monday, October 27, 2014 2:42:58 PM

October 27, 2014

Mr. David Landry, Senior Planner
Tahoe Regional Planning Agency
PO Box 5310
Stateline, NV 89449

Dear Mr. Landry,

I am writing to you in advocacy of Heavenly's Epic Discovery project.

- 1 I have lived in Stateline and Zephyr Cove since the end of 2004, when I moved to Tahoe to enjoy the wonderful activities that the region supports. Since then, I have been very involved in the community up here, particularly in matters of education and the environment.

In brief: I believe that the Epic Discovery project is an excellent idea both for Heavenly and for the South Tahoe region, and I hope that it is completed and up and running as quickly as possible.

Over the years, Heavenly has performed much development on the mountain for the enjoyment of both locals and visitors. This development is used heavily during the winter, and much less at other times of the year. The Epic Discovery project will significantly increase the ability of people to enjoy the mountain, while requiring minimal additional land to be developed. Most of the infrastructure needed for supporting the project and its full use—hotels, parking, restaurants, gondola—is already in place. It would be wonderful for all of it to be used to its full potential.

Like many ski resorts, Heavenly provides seasonal employment for a large number of people. With the completion of the Epic Discovery project, many of those employees will be able to continue working for Heavenly year-round. This increased job security will help stabilize the region's economy and community.

Thus, overall, this project is a very environmentally efficient way to bring additional tourists and jobs in to the South Shore economy. It will strongly enhance the Tahoe "brand" in a world of increasingly competitive branding.

It is worth mentioning that this project brings together a large number of different activities that are not readily available to most visitors in the South Shore region. It is not merely a copycat that provides yet another version of the same limited activities. I myself look forward to making use of the the mountain bike part and various other parts of this project when they are completed.

Heavenly has shown itself to be a responsible environmental steward and community member. I trust Heavenly and its executives—some of whom I have spoken with in person about this project—to continue to behave in this way and to take into account the needs of the community, Tahoe tourists, and the environment

1 | for this project and for other projects in the future. I believe that the Draft EIS accurately lists the potential environmental effects of this project, and that Heavenly will work hard to ensure that this project is about preserving the beautiful Tahoe environment and sharing it with people. I even dare to hope that the environmental education component of the Epic Discovery project will make a real difference in people's understanding of the environment and will help preserve it for future generations.

The future of Tahoe lies in environmentally responsible recreation. Heavenly has long been a leader in providing precisely that, and this approval of this project will help it continue to do so.

Please arrange that this comment letter be sent to all three agencies reviewing the Epic Discovery project.

Thank you,
Ray Sidney
775-901-0557

Comment 53-1 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.

Comment Letter 54 – Tanaka, Randy, 10/27/14

From: [Randy Tanaka](#)
To: [David Landry](#)
Subject: Heavenly Bike Park
Date: Monday, October 27, 2014 5:27:12 PM

1 | Mr. David Landry,
Greetings. As a fairly long time member of the Tahoe community (since 1995) I would like to voice my support of the Heavenly Bike Park. Our family recently got back from a trip to Whistler for world class bike park riding. While there are a few places around Tahoe to ride park, they are not in my opinion world class (yet). This bike park would be a chance for the basin to have a world class destination bike park. The additional stimulation to the local economy will impact me directly and I'm all for it! The ability to use the existing lifts/infrastructure seems like an obvious choice. While we know gambling is not holding the economic impact like it used to, this is a chance for Tahoe to shine with what it should be known for. Awesome outdoor activities!

While I am no expert at the design and upkeep for a park, I can tell you what is attractive to me and my peers for riding (mostly people aged 21-50, college educated people that tend to travel when not hitting our favorite trails around Tahoe). If you ever want an opinion from a slightly older crowd that has been around for a while please hit me up. We are more than willing to provide one point of view from riders leveled beginner through pro.

Thank you for your efforts on this matter and considering the input from the community.

Sincerely,
Randy Tanaka
Heavenly Employee 1995-96
Pass holder for the past 10+ years.

Comment 54-1 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.

Comment Letter 55 – Warlow, Jim and Kim, The Cork and More, 10/27/14

From: [Jim Warlow](#)
To: [David Landry](#)
Subject: FW: Letter of support for Heavenly's Epic Discovery Project
Date: Monday, October 27, 2014 4:22:47 PM

From: Jim Warlow [mailto:jim@thecorkandmore.com]
Sent: Monday, October 27, 2014 4:19 PM
To: 'dlandry@trpa.org.'
Cc: 'astrain@vailresorts.com'
Subject: Letter of support for Heavenly's Epic Discovery Project

Dear Mr. Landry,

1

My name is Jim Warlow. My wife, Kim, and I have owned The Cork And More: a wine ,gift, and specialty food shoppe in South Lake Tahoe, for 38 years. During our 40 years in S.L.T. Jim has worked at Heavenly Mountain Resort for 35 years as a ski patrolman[now retired]. We both have enjoyed and recreated in Lake Tahoe during all seasons. As well as being a business owner in S.L.T., Jim resides on the board of directors of the S.L.T. Chamber of Commerce, which makes us very interested in improving the economic vitality of the neighborhood.

To the point, we believe Heavenly's Epic Discovery Project totally falls into line with the Chambers 2020 Vision Project and redevelopment of S.L.T. and Lake Tahoe's creation of the most positive visitor experience for travelers from throughout the world.

We were pleasantly surprised last spring upon visiting Heavenly's Top Gondola station the number of people from a variety of lifestyles that were milling about[non-skiers]and enjoying the mid-mountain environment. They were being afforded a chance to experience what we locals enjoy thru skiing or mountain biking. We believe Heavenly's Epic Discovery Project is a chance for our visitors to experience what we locals know and love about our home. Heavenly's project will centralize and provide an opportunity for visitors to have a brief wilderness experience with a minimal of impact on our environment. This will in turn successfully attract and retain visitors. We would like to express our surprise that the US Forest Service and their permit holders have not used the designated space to provide more year round opportunities to more people on pretty much an existing footprint.

In conclusion, we hope the powers in charge of moving forward on Heavenly's Epic Discovery Project will agree with their stated purpose and need for the proposed project. We hope you will in turn take this opportunity to partner with this proven player in developing our region's economic base of tourism and outdoor recreational needs.

Respectfully,

Jim and Kim Warlow
The Cork And More

Comment 55-1 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.

Comment Letter 56 – Woodward, Todd, 10/27/14

From: [Todd Woodward](#)
To: [David Landry](#)
Subject: Heavenly mountain bike park
Date: Monday, October 27, 2014 6:35:49 PM

Mr Landry

- 1 | Please approve the heavenly bike park. I love mountain biking and I think heavenly is a great place to add more mtn bike trails. Not every one has the ability to climb up a mountain to ski or mountain bike, but many more have the ability to go down. The more people recreating the better. Connecting vansickle to the rim trail is a no brainer. Please approve the heavenly bike park.

Todd Woodward

Comment 56-1 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.

Comment Letter 57 – Wetter, Matt, 10/28/14

From: [Matt Wetter](#)
To: [David Landry](#)
Subject: Support for Bike Park
Date: Tuesday, October 28, 2014 5:57:30 PM

Hello Mr Landry,

- 1 This email is being sent to express my support for the proposed heavenly bike park. I am an avid biker, hiker, and skier in the area and fully support the development of a bike park in slt for economic and recreational reasons. More specifically please see below.
- # Creation of the Panorama Trail will provide much needed connections to the Rim Trail at Mott Canyon to Monument Pass and a lake side connection to the Van Sickle Trail.
- #It will connect the town to the mountains better for biking and hiking.
- 2 #The approval of events, such as races and festivals, should be included in the approval of the project. The USFS should include mountain bike events in the NEPA process for approval.
- #The bike park should be considered for future expansion with popularity, eventually even to the base areas of Stagecoach and/or California Base Lodge.
- 3 #The project will create a significant number of additional year-round jobs.
- #The project is proposed in an existing developed recreational site that is in the core of the existing mountain, utilizing existing infrastructure such as lodge buildings and chair lifts.
- #Additional connector trails will improve the recreation experience and provide better connections.
- #High quality recreational experiences in the Forest breeds additional stewardship for the outdoors.
- #The design includes a number of resource protection measures that will reduced or avoid negative environmental effects.

Sincerely,
Matt Wetter
916.201.8337

- Comment 57-1 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.
- Comment 57-2 Special events are not proposed. If special events are proposed in the future, additional review will occur at that time and a separate special use permit would be issued for such events.
- Comment 57-3 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation. .

7.6 RESPONSES TO MEETING COMMENTS

Three public meetings were held to accept comments on the Draft EIR/EIS/EIS:

- 58. Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, Advisory Planning Commission Meeting, 9/10/14
- 59. United States Forest Service, Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit Meeting, 9/18/14
- 60. Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, Governing Board Meeting, 9/24/14

Fifteen (15) comments were received from 10 participants during the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency Advisory Planning Commission meeting on September 10, 2014:

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| 1. Trout, Roger | 9. Fish, Ben |
| 2. Donohue, Charlie | 10. Grubb Clay |
| 3. Donahue, Charlie | 11. Guevin, Eric |
| 4. Curry, Joy | 12. Guevin, Eric |
| 5. Humphries, Phil | 13. Guevin, Eric |
| 6. Chaplin, Carol | 14. Guevin, Eric |
| 7. Rusk, Lon | 15. Guevin, Eric |
| 8. Garrison, Dan | |

Six (6) comments were received from three participants during the USDA Forest Service, Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit meeting on September 18, 2014:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Dobrowolski, Christine | 4. Dahler, Russ |
| 2. Dobrowolski, Christine | 5. Miller, Nils |
| 3. Dobrowolski, Christine | 6. Miller, Nils |

Thirty (30) comments were received from 22 participants during the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency Governing Board meeting on September 24, 2014:

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Shute, Clem | 16. Rusk, Lon |
| 2. Lawrence, Jim | 17. Proctor, Chris |
| 3. Lawrence, Jim | 18. Thomaselli, Lauren |
| 4. Carlson, Tim | 19. Chaplin, Carol |
| 5. Aldean, Shelly | 20. Newberger, Michael |
| 6. Beyer, Casey | 21. King, Bobby |
| 7. Beyer, Casey | 22. Poth, Todd |
| 8. Beyer, Casey | 23. Howard, Deb |
| 9. Beyer, Casey | 24. Gorman, Bea |
| 10. Santiago, Norma | 25. Fish, Ben |
| 11. Waller, Ellie | 26. Gallas, Ryan |
| 12. Waller, Ellie | 27. Moss, Mimi |
| 13. Waller, Ellie | 28. High, Ryan |
| 14. Waller, Ellie | 29. Aldean, Shelly |
| 15. Humphries, Phil | 30. Cole, Hal |

Comment Letter 58 – TRPA APC Meeting, 9/10/14

TRPA APC Hearing – September 10, 2014

Advisory Planning Commission comments/questions

1 | Roger Trout - Why did we do an EIR? Concerned that the EIR will allow for potential overriding considerations for significant impacts..
Rob Brueck explained that TRPA would require the mitigation measures.
Bud Amorfini pointed out that the updated WDR will also require that the mitigation measures are implemented.

2 | Charlie Donohue – Related to nesting birds and Marten. How where the buffers developed? Wants to make sure that future survey data is also shared with Nevada wildlife agencies.
Rob Brueck answered that buffers were developed with input from USFS bio staff and USFWS for migratory birds.

3 | How would the monitoring be conducted on the connector trails?
Jonathan Cook Fisher pointed out that proposed on mountain activities will likely be used by families and people new to the mountain and won't likely increase the number of advance trail riders, so most of the new use of the connector trails would be experienced riders and hikers. The connectors are not designed to be downhill mountain bike trails.

4 | Joy Curry – Hiked the Van Sickle Connector yesterday and noted that there was no problem between hikers and bikers on the existing trail.

Public comments

5 | Phil Humphries – Supports the project – will be a benefit to visitors and provide access to forest environment that some people can't currently find on their own. Educational opportunities would be fantastic.

6 | Carol Chaplin – Lake Tahoe Visitor's Authority. Improves recreational offerings for the area and includes educational opportunities. Located in the existing operational boundary so has minimal environmental impacts. The current visitors are looking for more active adventures today than in the past (example, ecotourism).

7 | Lon Rusk, Lakeside Inn and Casino Manager. Gaming economy has changed – we have to market both gaming and outdoor activities available to the visitor. This project will increase opportunities and benefit the entire region's economy. Believes it is well thought out because the mountain is already developed and has existing infrastructure. The education component will also help to reduce impacts from human use in the forest in the whole Region.

8 | Dan Garrison, Ridge Resorts. Agrees with the previous comments in favor of the project. The projects will enhance the guest experience in Tahoe. Agrees that the existing monitoring and mitigation program will protect the environment.

- 9 Ben Fish, TAMBA President. Fully supports the Project, makes best use of existing infrastructure to provide for greater good of residents and visitors. Membership supports the improvements proposed in the mountain bike park and trail connections to existing trails. The more people that engage the forest, the more people will have a greater appreciation for the forest. This project satisfies existing demand for better mountain bike facilities.
- 10 Clay Grubb. Supports the proposed trails. Has found that if you don't build environmentally sensible trails, users will build them and they won't be sustainable, and will have greater impacts. Better to design them appropriately. The Mountain Bike Park and connector trails planning has been in the works for many years. The connector trails should be called multi-use trails because they will provide for both hikers and trail riders. The connector trails won't benefit Heavenly as much as it will the exiting residents and riders of existing trails. Regarding user surveys, the Tahoe Rim Trail is required to do annual surveys of use and potential conflicts. So, there is existing monitoring already in place. Past monitoring of the Van Sickle trail has shown no identified user conflicts – only some concerns about dust during dry months. People already use transit to access the existing Van Sickle trails. There is a huge benefit proposed for the TRT near Mott Canyon.

APC Comments/Questions

- Fire Marshall Eric Guevin and Assistant Chief Novak. Tahoe Douglas Fire Protection District
- 11 Will send written comments. Request fire modeling be done to determine size and locations of necessary safety zones – in case of wildfire that threatens mountain activities.
- 12 Requests revision of Section 7.5-34 that Tahoe Douglas Fire District would be first responder in East Peak Basin. Would like EIS to require provisions (pre planning)
- 13 for adequate fire evacuation capacity in an event of an emergency.
- 14 Recommend that 3.1.6.2 and 2.3.5 include road management plans for emergency responders to evacuate the mountain on roadways – make sure roads can support such a need.
- 15 Strongly support the proposed gondola winter snowcat evacuation route for public safety. Would ask that trails be clearly marked with signs so that users can provide responders their location if rescue is needed.
Would like helicopter landing zones to be identified on the mountain if needed for evacuation.

- Comment 58-1 Rob Brueck and Bud Amorfini responded to this question during the meeting and explained that mitigation measures are required by TRPA and Lahontan and therefore an EIR has been prepared. No further response is necessary.
- Comment 58-2 Rob Brueck responded during the meeting that buffers were developed with input from Forest Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife staff. No further response is necessary.

- Comment 58-3 Jonathan Cook Fisher responded that most new use of the connector trails would be by experienced riders and hikers and not novice trail riders. He also stated the connectors are not designed to be downhill mountain bike trails. Annual monitoring along the Tahoe Rim Trail will continue to track use and identify potential user conflicts.
- Comment 58-4 Comment noted. This is not a comment on the content or adequacy of the DEIR/EIS/EIS and no further response is warranted.
- Comment 58-5 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.
- Comment 58-6 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.
- Comment 58-7 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.
- Comment 58-8 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.
- Comment 58-9 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.
- Comment 58-10 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.
- Comment 58-11 Refer to response to comment 1-2 regarding fire modeling and safety zones.
- Comment 58-12 Refer to response to comment 1-4 regarding the status of Mitigation Measure 7.5-34 (Ensure Adequate Police/Sheriff/Fire Capacity).
- Comment 58-13 Refer to response to comment 1-2 regarding fire evacuation capacity.

HEAVENLY MOUNTAIN RESORT EPIC DISCOVERY PROJECT EIR/EIS/EIS
RESPONSES TO COMMENTS

- Comment 58-14 Refer to response to comment 1-2 regarding road management plans for emergency access and evacuation.
- Comment 58-15 Refer to response to comments 1-5 and 1-6 regarding trail markings and helicopter landing zones.

Comment Letter 59 – USDA Forest Service, Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit
Public Workshop, 9/18/14

Written Comment for the Heavenly Epic Discovery Project: We welcome and invite your written comments and input on the Heavenly Epic Discovery Project. To preserve your full rights of participation in the Heavenly Epic Discovery Project, please be sure to include your name and address. Your comments will be most helpful if they are specific as possible, telling us what you like or don't like and why.

1	1. TRAILS IN BIKE PARK NEED TO BE <u>FUN</u> - SHOULD INCLUDE BIRMS, JUMPS (EVEN A BLUE BE CAN BE BE BUILT WITH LOTS OF JUMPS - WAVE BE ^{FUN!} BE AS MUCH AS CORRAL - IF NOT BUILT SIMILAR (OR BETTER) THAN CORRAL, WHY WOULD RIDERS PAY?
2	2. NEED ADVANCED TRAILS TO DISPERSE RIDERS - THE FAMILY WITH THE 6 Y.O. & 16 Y.O. WILL BE RIDING DIFFERENT TRAILS - THE 16 Y.O. WHO RIDES HARD SHOULD NOT BE ON A TRAIL WITH AN INTERMEDIATE RIDER (<u>CONFLICT!</u>)
3	3. THE LUGE (SP?) SHOULD NOT BE BUILT IN THE PINNACLES AREA, WIND REMOVES SNOW AND SKIERS WILL BE IMPACTED. THE TUBING HILL IS A BETTER OPTION.

(You may attach additional pages if desired)

Name CHRISTINE DOBROWOLSKI

Mailing Address 1464 STERLING CT, SLT

Email christine.dobrowolski@gmail.com

You may also email comments to dlandry@trpa.org
Subject: "Heavenly Epic Discovery Project"
<http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/lbmu/HeavenlyEpicProject>

Written Comment for the Heavenly Epic Discovery Project: We welcome and invite your written comments and input on the Heavenly Epic Discovery Project. To preserve your full rights of participation in the Heavenly Epic Discovery Project, please be sure to include your name and address. Your comments will be most helpful if they are specific as possible, telling us what you like or don't like and why.

4	Keep up the Good work!
(You may attach additional pages if desired)	
Name	Russ Dähler
Mailing Address	1944 Venice S. Lake Tahoe 96150
Email	

You may also email comments to dlandry@trpa.org
Subject: "Heavenly Epic Discovery Project"
<http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/ltbmu/HeavenlyEpicProject>

Written Comment for the Heavenly Epic Discovery Project: We welcome and invite your written comments and input on the Heavenly Epic Discovery Project. To preserve your full rights of participation in the Heavenly Epic Discovery Project, please be sure to include your name and address. Your comments will be most helpful if they are specific as possible, telling us what you like or don't like and why.

5

I Fully Support This Project.

I agree with the concept of NOT letting cyclists off the Gondola mid-station, since ~~letting~~ letting them off there would give downhill access to Van Sickle & would result in DH biking/hiker conflict

6

I would NOT like to see the Ski Meadows Coaster located in Pinnacles area (Alt #1)

(You may attach additional pages if desired)

Name Nils Miller

Mailing Address _____

Email ny.miller@sbcglobal.net

You may also email comments to dlandry@trpa.org
Subject: "Heavenly Epic Discovery Project"
<http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/tbmu/HeavenlyEpicProject>

- Comment 59-1 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.
- Comment 59-2 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision

maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.

- Comment 59-3 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.
- Comment 59-4 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.
- Comment 59-5 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.
- Comment 59-6 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.

Comment Letter 60 – TRPA Governing Board Meeting, 9/24/14

TRPA GB Hearing – September 24, 2014

Governing Board comments/questions

- 1 Clem Shute – Asked about traffic analysis and whether there will be an increase in traffic. Asked about mitigation for roadway management plan and how that relates to water quality mitigation measures. When will a roadway mitigation plan be introduced – I am skeptical that it will be initiated if only a plan at this point.
Sue Norman and Bud Amorfini replied to questions to ensure that roadway maintenance and water quality mitigation measures will be implemented before new impacts occur. Requirements will become part of the USFS Special Use Permit and part of Lahontan's updated Waste Discharge Requirements.
- 2 Jim Lawrence – Asked about SEZ impacts other than Sky Meadows. Any others?
Rob Brueck answered that there are other locations with SEZ crossings (e.g., trail crossings), but the only SEZ impact considered to be significant was Sky Meadows because findings for new land coverage/disturbance could not be made for a non-linear facility.
- 3 Asked about the 2011 Act authorizing increased summer activities. Understand that it would allow for the consideration of summer activities. Is it also a mandate or directive to provide summer activities?
Nancy Gibson said she is not aware that it is a directive to provide such uses, only to study them as possibilities.
- 4 Tim Carlson – Believes that the USFS and special use permittee are encouraged to work to expand. Wants to know if there is more economic development data in the EIS. Thinks this information should be presented and included in the record for review of this project. What potentially beneficial impacts would the job growth create? Thinks that EIS documents should also include reasons for bringing the project forward.
John Marshall clarified that the purpose of the EIS is not to look at the reasons for doing the project, but the impacts associated with the Proposal and alternatives. The reasons suggested by Tim could be explained in the staff summary when a Project is brought forward for consideration after completion of the EIS process.
- 5 Shelly Aldean suggested that perhaps the project proponent could provide further details on potential economic benefits.
Nancy Gibson stated that the environmental analysis doesn't need to provide detailed economic benefit analysis (she referenced the purpose and need section of the EIS), but needs to address potential socioeconomic impacts.
- 6 Casey Beyer – Asked for the Resort's carrying capacity in winter.
Andrew Strain stated that it is capped at approximately 17,000 persons at one time. Currently it is operating at approximately 10,000.

- 7 | There is a mention of approximately 100,000 visitors currently in summer and a proposed increase of approximately 50,000. What is the season for these projects?
Andrew stated that most activities are summer use (mid June to mid Sept) but some would be used in winter as well.
- 8 | How will we monitor if there are too many persons using the off mountain connector trails?
Andrew stated that Heavenly will monitor operations working with USFS and other organizations that currently monitor use.
- 9 | How do you ensure that the activities do not conflict with each other – e.g., ziplines conflicting with trails on the ground.
Andrew mentioned that these types of potential conflicts were reviewed during initial planning by the experts brought in to layout the proposed above ground activities.
- 10 | Norma Santiago – How does Lahontan’s WDR update process line up with the consideration of Epic Discovery Project approval and implementation.
Bud Amorfini suggested that the WDR update will go concurrently with the start of Epic Discovery implementation. Mitigation of cumulative water quality impacts identified in the EIR/EIS/EIS will be addressed before or during implementation of the applicable Epic Discovery projects.

Public Comments

- 11 | Ellie Waller
Has substantial comments that she will submit in writing. How many new amenities are needed? This is a big package of amenities and should be looked at with the facilities added this summer.
- 12 | Alternative 1 just moves the forest flyer from one location to another, does not remove it from the Project.
- 13 | Has Lahontan looked at Northstar projects in the cumulative? A forest flyer is being litigated at Northstar because it was studied as a Neg Dec.
- 14 | Are there AQ issues with the guided tours – from the use of motor vehicles?
- 15 | Phil Humphries
Supports the Epic Discovery Project. Thinks that the project aligns well with the RPU. Area proposed for development is best suited for these improvements – I have hiked the area in the summer for many years and believe the projects fit in well. This project will help produce more year round jobs – helping us move away from the past gaming economy. This will help Heavenly attract more quality employees and families.
Type of activities proposed that are not currently provided are going to appeal to wide range of visitors – young to older, inactive to active, etc. These activities will be also be accessible to persons with disabilities, offering them another option for discovering the forest.

- 16 | Lon Rusk. Lakeside Inn and Casino.
Supportive of moving economy forward with increased outdoor activities. Thinks that we already offer many hiking, cycling, water activities in the Basin – thinks the multitude of choices proposed in Epic Discovery will result in incremental increases in “days of visits” for the average visitor.
Thinks the educational component will improve the way visitors treat the forest in other places.
- 17 | Chris Proctor. Barton Health
In favor of the project based on its health benefits and ways to increase cooperation with other health providers.
- 18 | Lauren Thomaselli. City of SLT Rec Manager.
The Project aligns wells with the proposed South Tahoe Recreation Master Plan. First, the SLT Plan is jointly funded by City and El Dorado County. City and County recognized that recreation is a key to our future economy. Heavenly’s project would increase year round recreational use of the mountain.
Epic Discovery is consistent with key goals of the Rec Master Plan.
The proposed Rec Master Plan Bijou Bike Park and other bike improvements are consistent with Heavenly’s Project. Will help residents improve biking skills so they can take them up on the harder trails at Heavenly and elsewhere in the Basin.
The need for better trails and connections showed up during Rec Master Plan public involvement and surveys.
The interpretative and educational component of Epic Discovery will connect visitors to the land that inspire better stewardship.
- 19 | Carol Chaplin. Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority
Supports the recreational activities that will help the area move from a gaming economy to a world class outdoor recreational area.
The project is planned for an existing development area.
- 20 | Michael Newberger. LTVA Marketing
Supports many of the positive comments already made by others.
Heavenly has been a good steward of their lands.
Regarding whether this is too much – increased opportunities provide reasons for visitors to return and the associated economic benefits.
- 21 | Bobby King. Edgewood Golf Course.
Concurs with much of what has been said before – supports the project.
Community needs more recreational opportunities – especially since they are located on a site previously disturbed for recreational use.
Edgewood is supportive of Projects that increase year round employment.

- 22 | Todd Poth.
Do we realize how lucky we are living here. I didn't grow up in Tahoe – grew up in Ohio without the outdoor activities we have here.
In other places I have traveled (e.g. Europe and New Zealand), they make better year round use of their recreational facilities. This Project better uses the National Forest lands and will educate visitors to be better stewards of the lands that they recreate within.
Thinks that increasing year round employment will result in better engagement by the residents – will be better land stewards than the transient employees that are not here full time.
- 23 | Deb Howard.
Is in favor of the Project. It will have a positive impact economically and socially. Project helps change travel behaviors – getting people out of their cars.
Emphasizes south shore's transition from gaming based economy to well rounded recreational based economy.
Year round employment will help employees become more involved in the community since they don't have to continually find new seasonal employment.
- 24 | Bea Gorman. Tahoe Chamber.
Tahoe Chamber has come out in support of Epic Discovery Project because of its alignment with our adopted community vision from 2013.
The opportunity to introduce visitors to our forest/environment will help educate visitors.
Year round jobs help the community attract better employees who will benefit the entire community.
Investment provides new capital to the Basin that will result in ripple effects and fund future projects and environmental improvements.
- 25 | Ben Fish. President TAMBA.
Fully supports the project. Heard overwhelming support for the mountain bike park aspects of the project. Allows easier access to more people – the more people engaged in our projects the better – breeds better stewardship when recreating in the forest.
Provides a safe place for families to recreate together.
- 26 | Ryan Gallas. Principal of Sierra House Elementary
Supports the Project.
Thinks the Project will improve economy – likes the opportunity for education on the mountain that can benefit our youth. Connecting local kids with nature and the mountain helps build life skills and reinforces healthy habits.
Our District has a unique partnership with Heavenly – the outdoors is the best classroom possible for science, stewardship, self discovery, etc.

Governing Board Comments

- 27 | Mimi Moss – This proposal contemplates many of the activities included in our Douglas County South Shore Plan. Local communities have identified these types of recreational opportunities as a need.
- 28 | Ryan High - Would any of the projects be used year round?
Rob Brueck explained that the aerial projects could be operated year round during both summer and winter operation periods.
- 29 | Shelly Aldean – Asked if any of the activities have to be removed for winter operations.
Rob Brueck explained that only temporary summer barriers (e.g., fencing near sensitive areas or along walkways/trails) would be removed at the end of the summer operating season. Aerial activities would remain in place and would not conflict with winter operations.
- 30 | Hal Cole – City supports the Project. At a time when public dollars are hard to come by, appreciates private investment in recreation.

Comment 60-1 Sue Norman and Bud Amorfini responded during the meeting to Board member Shute's questions to ensure that roadway maintenance and water quality mitigation measures will be implemented before new impacts occur. Requirements identified in the DEIR/EIS will become part of the Forest Service Special Use Permit and part of Lahontan's updated Waste Discharge Requirements.

Refer to Master Response 2 for additional discussion of the transportation impact analysis.

Comment 60-2 Rob Brueck responded during the meeting that there are other locations with SEZ crossings, but the only significant SEZ impact was Sky Meadows because findings for new land coverage/disturbance could not be made for a non-linear facility.

Comment 60-3 Nancy Gibson responded during the meeting that the 2011 Act (SAROE) directs that studies occur to identify possible summer activities, but does not believe the 2011 Act is a directive to provide them.

Comment 60-4 John Marshall responded during the meeting that the purpose of the EIS is not to evaluate the reasons for implementing a project, but to evaluate the impacts associated with the Proposal and alternatives. Economic development data could be provided in the staff summary during the decision-making process that occurs after completion of the EIS process.

The comment states that the Draft EIR/EIS/EIS should include more economic development data. Specifically, the commenter requests analysis of potential job

growth and other economic benefits. The purpose of the Heavenly Epic Discovery Draft EIR/EIS/EIS is to provide an evaluation of the proposed project's effects on the physical environment. Economic development information does not pertain to the adequacy, accuracy, or completeness of the environmental document, and therefore economic effects are not evaluated as part of the environmental impact analysis. The reviewing agencies may provide additional information on economic impacts as part of their consideration of the proposed project separately and independently from the environmental analysis of the EIR/EIS/EIS.

- Comment 60-5 Nancy Gibson responded during the meeting that the environmental analysis need only address potential socioeconomic impacts and is not required to provide a detailed economic benefit analysis. Refer to response to comment 60-4.
- Comment 60-6 Andrew Strain responded during the meeting that the carrying capacity of Heavenly Mountain Resort is approximately 17,000 persons at one time and currently operates at approximately 10,000 persons at one time.
- Comment 60-7 Andrew Strain responded during the meeting that the proposed uses would be primarily used in summer from mid-June to mid-September, but that some proposed uses would remain open in the winter.
- Comment 60-8 During the meeting, Andrew Strain responded that Heavenly will monitor operations, working with the Forest Service and other organizations currently monitoring trail use. The monitoring and mitigation protocol regarding adjacent NFS trails has been developed since the DEIR/EIS/EIS through cooperation with interested parties, and is included in Chapter 2.3.5 of the FEIS/EIS/EIS as the "Panorama multi-use trail partnership commitment." Among other things, this plan clearly defines roles, responsibilities, and appropriate measures to ensure the maintenance of facilities and the recreational experience across nearby recreational resources. The reader is referred to Section 2.3.5 of the revised DEIR/EIS/EIS for additional information.
- Comment 60-9 During the meeting, Andrew Strain responded that the types of potential conflicts were reviewed during the initial planning and layout of the proposed activities. The potential visibility and noise impacts of the proposed projects were analyzed and disclosed in the DEIR/EIS. The projects would be visible and could produce some noise, but otherwise would not result in impacts on activities on the ground. Guests at Heavenly Mountain Resort (a developed recreation area) would likely expect to see and hear other guests, so it is not anticipated that this would adversely impact their recreational experience.
- Comment 60-10 Bud Amorfini responded during the meeting that the WDR update will be concurrent with the start of implementation of the Epic Discovery Project and that mitigation of cumulative water quality impacts identified in the DEIR/EIS/EIS will be addressed before or during implementation of the applicable components of the Epic Discovery Project. Lahontan's waste discharge requirements were last updated amended in November 2013 under Board Order Number R6T-2003-0032A2 and will be updated again in response to the adoption/approval of the Epic Discovery Project to incorporate the requirements specified in Mitigation Measures WATER-C1a: CA-1 Erosion Reduction Measures and WATER-C1b: Amendment to MPA 07 Mitigation Measure 7.5-2, Ongoing Environmental Monitoring Program. The WDRs will also be responsive to the results, conclusions and recommendations presented in the annual

and cumulative monitoring reports that have been submitted for the on-going Environmental Monitoring Program. Mitigation Measure WATER C1a specifies that “prior to or concurrent with new permanent or temporary disturbance in the Sky Basin, the highest risk (i.e., those with the greatest potential for sediment loading to a channel) sources of erosion or “hotspots” that would have a direct effect on Heavenly Valley Creek channel and BMI scores shall be mitigated, as outlined in Appendix 3.1-F”. The status of implementation and effectiveness of these mitigation measures will be documented through mitigation measure 7.5-2 (ongoing Environmental Monitoring Program) and reported to TRPA, Forest Service and Lahontan in annual monitoring reports.

Comment 60-11 Responses to the referenced written comments can be found in the responses to comment Letter 17. Please refer to the Purpose and Need statement for the Project located in Section 1.3 on pages 1-3 through 1-5 of the DEIR/EIS/EIS. The third paragraph under Section 1.3 states that the Project has been proposed in response to policy direction to provide year-round recreational opportunities and in response to visitor preferences. As evidenced by the letters in support of the Project, there is an existing demand, and Heavenly Mountain Resort has developed the components of the project in response to user demand. The Purpose and Need statement indicates that the Project has been proposed in response to the growing popularity of and demand for resource-based activities, including the addition of already successful attractions and new activities that broaden the appeal and range of activities for multi-generational visitors.

As stated on page 2-1 of the DEIR/EIS/EIS under Section 2.1, the Project was developed in response to the Federal Ski Area Recreational Opportunity Enhancement Act of 2011, which directs that studies occur to identify possible summer activities within ski resorts operating on National Forest System lands. The Project also supports goals of the TRPA Regional Plan Update, South Shore Area Plan, and Tourist Core Area Plan to develop and implement public outdoor recreation opportunities. The 2011 Act and TRPA plans do not establish a number or limit to new amenities, but suggest that such amenities be proposed and analyzed.

Chapter 3.13 Recreation provides recreational needs background. Please see the Environmental Setting in Section 3.13-2 beginning on page 3.13-1. The text under Section 3.13-2 includes the data on tourism, recreation engagement of visitors and the local population, and recreational goals and policies. Section 3.13-2 also provides data on existing activities at Heavenly Mountain Resort, wait times for existing recreational activities, and limitations of existing trails that may limit segments of the population from engaging in activities. The text also refers to recreational surveys conducted by Heavenly Mountain resort (page 3.13-5). These surveys indicate summer visitors at the top of the Gondola view the current range of activities as insufficient. Impact REC-C1 analyzes the Project’s cumulative impact to recreational uses and resources (page 3.13-36). The analysis finds that cumulatively, the Project would improve the variety of recreational opportunities and provide more diverse opportunities to appeal to a broader group of visitors.

Comment 60-12 The comment correctly states that Alternative 1 maintains the inclusion of a mountain coaster as a proposed facility, but in a different location within Heavenly Mountain Resort than the Project. While the Project proposes to locate the coaster

within Adventure Peak, Alternative 1 proposes to locate the coaster within Sky Meadows Basin.

The commenter appears to oppose development of a mountain coaster. An alternative with no mountain coaster was considered but eliminated from detailed study because elimination of this component would not meet the stated Purpose and Need for the Project by failing to offer a sufficient range of additional summer activities as stated in Chapter 2, Section 2.5, page 2-41 of the DEIR/EIS/EIS. It was determined that a mountain coaster broadens public access to an experience otherwise unavailable to a significant portion of the visiting public.

Comment 60-13 Lahontan has considered the effects of cumulative projects on the affected watersheds (see the analysis in Chapter 3.1 of the DEIR/EIS/EIS); however Northstar and Heavenly Mountain Resort are located in different and unconnected watersheds at opposite ends of the region. Projects proposed at Northstar are under Lahontan's jurisdiction, but are located outside the Tahoe Basin and are in the area north of the greater Lake Tahoe region as opposed to the Epic Discovery Project located within the Lake Tahoe Basin in South Lake Tahoe. Projects at Northstar would not be applicable to this Project from Lahontan's watershed impact perspective. Unlike the Epic Discovery Project, projects at Northstar are located on private land, outside the jurisdiction of the Forest Service and the TRPA.

The environmental review process requires documentation and analysis of the proposed Project. While cumulative effects need to be considered, litigation of other projects and the type of environmental review of other projects is not required to be analyzed and is not applicable as litigation on the type of environmental document of other projects does not represent a physical change to the environment. Litigation of a project due to the type of environmental analysis conducted for that project would have little bearing on this Project, which is analyzed at the EIR/EIS/EIS level.

Comment 60-14 Air quality is addressed in Chapter 3.5 of the DEIR/EIS/EIS. As discussed in Section 3.5-5.7 on page 3.5-45 of the DEIR/EIS/EIS, the Mountain Tours are included in the air emissions calculations for operations. Operations emissions, specifically including Mountain Tour vehicle engine exhaust, are shown in Tables 3.5-17, 3.5-18, 3.5-19, and 3.5-20 on pages 3.5-49 through 3.5-52 of the DEIR/EIS/EIS. The evaluation of the tables in sections 3.5-5.8, -5.9, and -5.10 on pages 3.5-48 through -53 indicate no significant impact. As shown in the tables and discussed in the impact analysis on pages 3.5-45 through 3.5-57 of the DEIR/EIS/EIS, no significant impacts are associated with construction or operation, including operation of the Mountain Tour vehicles.

Comment 60-15 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.

Comment 60-16 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision

maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.

- Comment 60-17 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.
- Comment 60-18 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.
- Comment 60-19 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.
- Comment 60-20 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.
- Comment 60-21 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.
- Comment 60-22 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.
- Comment 60-23 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.
- Comment 60-24 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.

- Comment 60-25 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.
- Comment 60-26 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.
- Comment 60-27 Comment noted. This is not a comment on the content or adequacy of the DEIR/EIS/EIS and no further response is warranted.
- Comment 60-28 Rob Brueck responded during the meeting that the aerial projects could be operated year round during both summer and winter operating periods.
- Comment 60-29 Rob Brueck responded during the meeting that only temporary summer barriers such as fencing near sensitive areas or along walkways and trails would be removed at the end of the summer operating season and that other aerial structures would remain in place and would not conflict with winter operations.
- Comment 60-30 Comments that state a position for or against a specific alternative are appreciated as this gives the Agencies a sense of the public's or other agencies feeling and beliefs about a proposed course of action. Such information can only be used by the decision maker(s) in arriving at a decision and not for improving the environmental analysis or documentation.