

Permitting Assistance “Welcome Mat” 2015-2020 Strategic Initiative Summary Sheet

Strategic Plan Objective(s): Accelerate Threshold Attainment, Operate as a High Performance Team

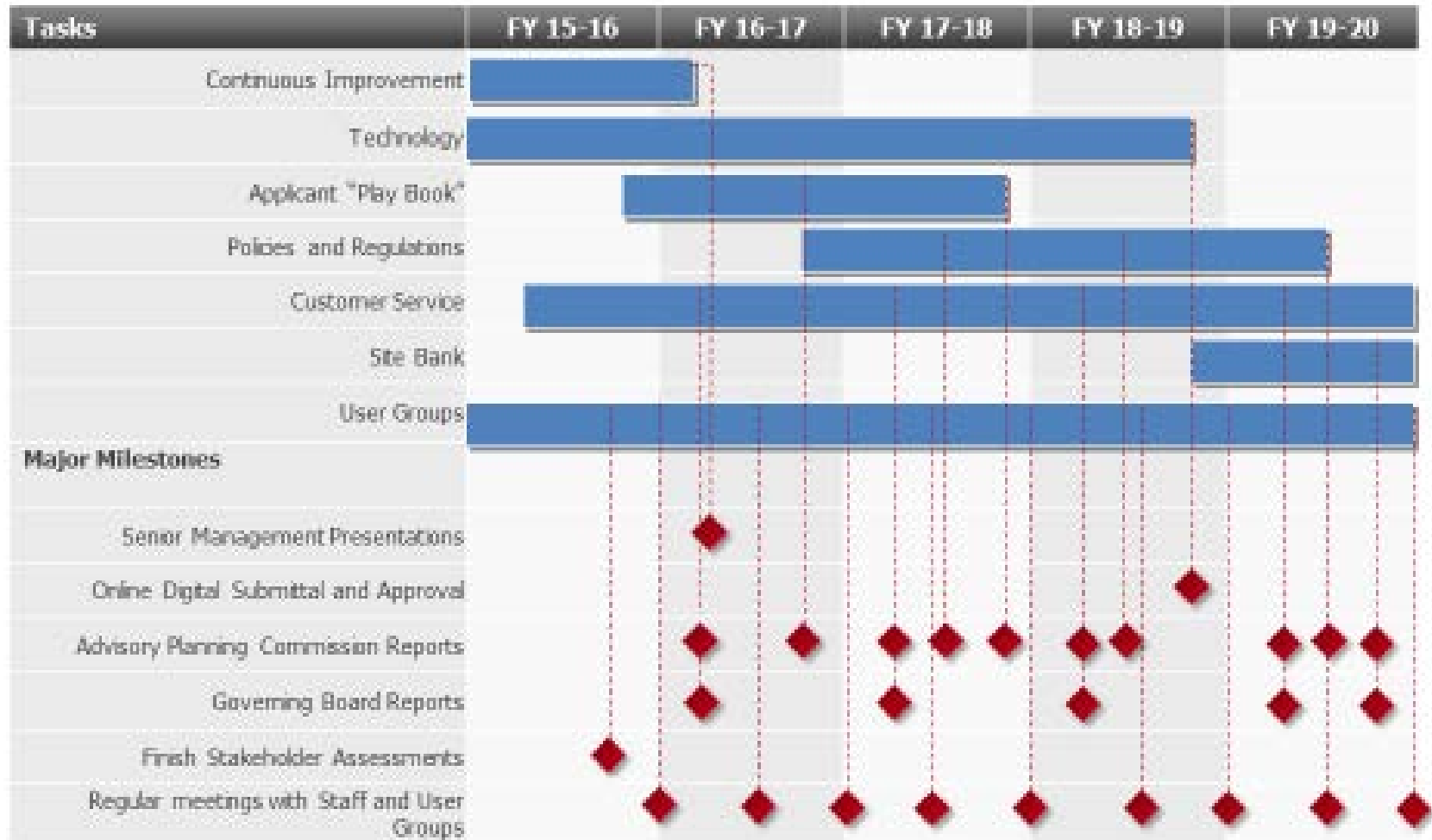
Description: Complicated and overlapping multi-jurisdiction permitting processes can make obtaining permits in the Lake Tahoe Region difficult and time consuming for investors in projects that would remove and replace older, obsolete, legacy development. This initiative will create a multi-jurisdiction coordinated permitting assistance “Welcome Mat” program to enhance consistency and predictability in the permit process and encourage environmental redevelopment.

Desired Outcomes: A consistent, predictable, and integrated permitting process that coordinates TRPA, local jurisdictions and partner agencies. The creation of a transparent and more navigable permitting process with increased predictability.

General Process/Approach: The processes that are envisioned for this initiative are use of stakeholder assessments (to be coordinated with the Commodities Initiative), creation and regular utilization of staff and applicant focus groups, and periodic local government/TRPA staff exchanges and cross-training. The tasks that comprise this initiative are listed below. The Advisory Planning Commission will be responsible for convening workshops to receive reports and provide direction related to tasks 3-6.

1. Continuous Improvement: Implement identified process improvements internal to TRPA designed to streamline the application process (i.e., recommendations from continuous improvement process teams);
2. Technology: Implement planned technology improvements to create consistent, automated processing of permit applications (e.g., expand use of Accela modules, add digital plan submission and checking capability);
3. Applicant Playbook: Review and utilize appropriate recommendations to be implemented from the recently completed City of South Lake Tahoe and Placer County studies on removing development barriers including creation of an “applicant playbook”;
4. Policies and Regulations: Review TRPA policies and regulations in relation to nationwide best practices, identify changes that should be implemented in the Region, and present those to the Governing Board on an annual basis;
5. Customer Service: Identify best practice processes and customer service programs in jurisdictions and consortia of jurisdictions, identify changes that should be implemented in the Region, and present those to the Governing Board on an annual basis;
6. Site Bank: Develop a regional site bank which will include preapproved sites for economic development and affordable housing purposes; and
7. Ongoing Advisory User Groups: Create advisory user groups (e.g., multi-jurisdictional staff, applicants) to provide regular feedback on what is working well and what could be improved in processing applications in the Basin, and use this feedback to implement appropriate changes.

Schedule:



Team:

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