

TAHOE REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY

128 Market Street
Stateline, Nevada
www.trpa.org

P.O. Box 5310
Stateline, NV 89449-5310

(775) 588-4547
Fax (775) 588-4527
Email: trpa@trpa.org

NEWS RELEASE

Contact Jeff Cowen, Community Liaison (775) 589-5278

For Release Immediately

November 2, 2007

COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS TO BE PRESENTED AT COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Lake Tahoe CA/NV— Concept designs of smart-growth projects that could break ground as early as May 2008 will be presented at two public meetings next week where the community can provide feedback directly to the property owners and the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA). Concepts proposed in the south shore area will be presented November 5 from 6 to 9 pm at the TRPA meeting rooms in Stateline, Nev. Concept designs being proposed on the north and west shores will be presented 6 to 9 pm November 7 at the North Tahoe Community Conference Center in Kings Beach, Calif.

The Community Enhancement Program (CEP) was launched in August as part of the Pathway process to update the TRPA Regional Plan. Property owners with innovative project ideas were invited to submit pre-applications for mixed-use, transit-oriented projects that could help inform TRPA and local agencies how rules could be updated to promote smart growth projects.

“The program is grounded in stopping pollutants coming from our urban core areas while implementing the community’s vision for walkable town centers,” said Brenda Hunt, CEP manager for TRPA. “Only the best of these projects can go forward under the program and although we’ve gotten a lot of input on the pre-applications from experts and community representatives, now we need more community input to help make the projects consistent with their vision.”

The Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA), in partnership with local jurisdictions, is updating Lake Tahoe’s 20-year Regional Plan. Over the past two years, more than 1,800 public workshop participants shared their vision for what they would like to see in Tahoe’s urban centers. The Regional Vision document, accepted by the TRPA Governing Board in June, can be viewed online at www.regionalplanningpartners.com.

“The biggest opportunity we have for cutting down on pollutants and fine sediments coming from urban lands is to revitalize and reinvest in our aging commercial areas,” Hunt said. “This is the first step in a process to help make the community’s vision a reality.”

Redevelopment and revitalization in Kings Beach was identified through the north shore place-based planning process as the priority area for redevelopment and reinvestment.

At the Kings Beach meeting Wednesday, November 7, seven concept projects will be presented, five of which are within the commercial core of Kings Beach, one on the Biltmore site in Crystal Bay and one at Homewood Mountain Resort. Two pre-applications in the “Y”

area of South Lake Tahoe, one at the prior site of Mikasa and the other at the current site of Raley's, will be presented Monday, November 5 at the south shore meeting.

The public is invited to give further input to the TRPA Governing Board at its regular monthly meeting November 28. Additional public hearings will be held over the coming months. The Governing Board will consider staff recommendations on which projects should be designated Community Enhancement Projects at its January 2008 meeting. All CEP projects will require additional environmental review and must adhere to TRPA's thorough standards.

The Tahoe Regional Planning Agency cooperatively leads the effort to preserve, restore, and enhance the unique natural and human environment of the Lake Tahoe Region now and in the future.

###