

August 19, 2014

Although a little late, following is a recap of last month's TRPA Governing Board meeting and other related activities.

The meeting of the TRPA Governing Board on July 23, 2014 was largely dominated by a discussion of the proposed Placer County Tahoe Basin Community Plan and associated area plans. TRPA used the Notice of Preparation for an Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement to solicit input on the scope and content of the proposed EIR/EIS. The fact that Placer County is using nomenclature that is different from that used in other local government area plans has caused some confusion and a misunderstanding, in some cases, of the County's intent which is to have its plans (with certain exceptions) comply with both the updated Regional Plan and the General Plan requirement under California law. The most contentious issue revolved around the inclusion of the Tahoe City Golf Course in the Town Center Visioning Area. It was clarified during the meeting that the County is not proposing to change the use of the golf course. County representatives clarified on the record that the reason for including it within the Town Center was to make the coverage associated with the course transferable to other areas within the boundaries of the Town Center. Placer is also proposing a commodity conversion not contemplated in the Regional Plan Update – the conversion of Commercial Floor Area (CFA) to Tourist Accommodation Units (TAUs). If approved, this would necessitate a Regional Plan amendment.

The only public hearing item on the July 23rd agenda dealt with proposed amendments to Chapter 50 of the Code of Ordinances updating the Residential Allocation Program. The Advisory Planning Commission presented its recommendations to the Governing Board which consisted, in part, of a simplification of the Performance Review System which is used to determine the annual distribution of residential allocations to the local jurisdictions within the Basin. The four measurements that are currently used (Permit monitoring and compliance, EIP Implementation, BMP Retrofit Implementation, and Transit Level of Service) would be consolidated into two measurements – permit monitoring

and Compliance and TMDL implementation. This recommendation is consistent with the recommendations of an earlier stakeholder's group and was unanimously approved by the Governing Board.

Earlier today (on August 19th) I attended the 18th Lake Tahoe Summit at Valhalla hosted this year by Senator Dianne Feinstein. On the dais, among others, were Senator Reid, Senator Heller, Congressman Amodei and Governor Sandoval. All pledged their continued commitment to the preservation and enhancement of Lake Tahoe through partnerships with the private sector and other agency stakeholders and noted the challenges posed by the continuing drought, the persistent threat of wildfire and invasive species. California Governor Jerry Brown delivered the keynote address using his successful effort to develop bipartisan support for a \$7.5 billion water bill in California as an example of the importance of working across party lines to accomplish things of value.

On my agenda for the next two weeks is the 3rd (and hopefully final) meeting of the BMP Workgroup which I co-chair with Clem Shute from California, the August Governing Board meeting and a meeting of the Regional Plan Implementation Committee (RPIC) which will meet to consider the draft Tahoe Valley Area Plan and the associated MOU and a proposal to modify the disbursement of commodities to accelerate stream environment zone restoration.

Shelly