



# **NEVADA LEGISLATURE**

## **LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE FOR THE REVIEW AND OVERSIGHT OF THE TAHOE REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY AND MARLETTE LAKE WATER SYSTEM**

*(Nevada Revised Statutes [NRS] [218E.555](#))*

### **SUMMARY MINUTES** **January 21, 2020**

The second meeting of the Legislative Committee for the Review and Oversight of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency and the Marlette Lake Water System for the 2019–2020 Interim was held on Tuesday, January 21, 2020, at 1 p.m. in the Boardroom, Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, 128 Market Street, Stateline, Nevada.

The agenda, minutes, meeting materials, and audio or video recording of the meeting are available on the Committee's [meeting page](#). The audio or video recording may also be found at <https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Granicus/>. Copies of the audio or video record can be obtained through the Publications Office of the Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB) ([publications@lcb.state.nv.us](mailto:publications@lcb.state.nv.us) or 775/684-6835).

### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT IN STATELINE:**

Senator Julia Ratti, Chair  
Assemblywoman Sarah Peters, Vice Chair  
Senator Ben Kieckhefer  
Senator David R. Parks  
Assemblywoman Sandra Jauregui  
Assemblyman Al Kramer

### **LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL BUREAU STAFF PRESENT:**

Alysa M. Keller, Principal Policy Analyst, Research Division  
Eileen O'Grady, Chief Deputy Legislative Counsel, Legal Division  
Nick Steinheimer, Deputy Legislative Counsel, Legal Division  
Lisa Gardner, Research Policy Assistant, Research Division  
Ryan Dombrowski, Technical Communications Systems Specialist II, Broadcast and Production Services  
Brian Van Geel, Technical Communications Systems Specialist II, Broadcast and Production Services  
John Gould, Officer, Legislative Police, Administrative Division

*Items taken out of sequence during the meeting have been placed in agenda order.*

## **AGENDA ITEM I—CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Ratti called the meeting to order.

## **AGENDA ITEM II—PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chair Ratti called for public comment; however, no testimony was presented.

## **AGENDA ITEM III—APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 19, 2019**

**MOTION:** Vice Chair Peters moved to approve the minutes of the meeting held on November 19, 2019. The motion was seconded by Assemblywoman Jauregui and passed unanimously.

Chair Ratti deferred to Assemblyman Kramer to take the lead with Agenda Items IV through VIII.

## **AGENDA ITEM IV—UPDATE ON THE LAKE TAHOE BI-STATE CONSULTATION ON TRANSPORTATION**

Bradley Crowell, Director, State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR), provided an overview of the history, purpose, progress, and goals of the Bi-State Consultation on Transportation (Bi-State Working Group) ([Agenda Item IV-1](#)). He said current priorities include identifying transit options and transit funding and incorporating goals from both Nevada and California to address climate change with greenhouse gas reductions. Mr. Crowell referenced the *Bi-State Consultation on Transportation Summary Report* (2018) ([Agenda Item IV-2](#)) and [Senate Joint Resolution 7](#) (2019).

Wade Crowfoot, Secretary, California Natural Resources Agency, discussed the shared commitment of the two states to protect the natural resources at Lake Tahoe and emphasized the importance of expanding transportation choices as a means of reducing congestion and pollution in the region. He explained the Bi-State Working Group is looking at new ideas to secure federal funding for service and infrastructure needs, noting transit improvements will increase public safety; protect the environment; and enhance the business climate, visitor experience, and quality of life of residents. Mr. Crowfoot pointed out the high volume of visitors to the region and stressed the need for safe access to popular destinations along State Route 89. He conveyed his intent to collaboratively hone in on specific transportation improvements over the next few years.

There was discussion concerning:

- Impacts of traffic congestion on the local experience and opportunities to innovate with transit;
- A potential, future recommendation for a bill draft request relating to innovative solutions to transportation challenges in the Lake Tahoe Basin;
- The opportunity for the legislatures in both Nevada and California to align on solutions and long-term funding;

- Climate change—prioritizing projects, addressing issues through the Bi-State Working Group and the Tahoe Science Advisory Council, and supporting community resilience; and
- California’s efforts to reduce commuting from outside the Lake Tahoe Basin by creating affordable workforce housing on its parcels within the Basin.

## **AGENDA ITEM V—UPDATE ON THE LAKE TAHOE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN AND TAHOE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

Joanne S. Marchetta, Executive Director, Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA), and Nick Haven, Long Range Planning and Transportation Division Manager, TRPA, provided an overview of Tahoe’s transportation governance structure and the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) ([Agenda Item V-1](#)).

Ms. Marchetta discussed:

- The roles of the TRPA and the Tahoe Transportation District (TTD), including the TRPA’s federal designation as the Tahoe Metropolitan Planning Organization;
- Increased traffic congestion related to population growth in northern California and northern Nevada;
- Directives, plans, and goals with the RTP; and
- Efforts to drill down on “non-auto” modes of transportation, with a focus on transit, in the upcoming RTP update.

Mr. Haven provided an update on the planning vision in the RTP with transit, trails, technology, and communities. He noted the TRPA is in the public outreach phase with the RTP update, which is anticipated to be adopted in September 2020. Mr. Haven indicated the agency may have a proposal for the Committee’s consideration after the update is finalized.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- Fiscal considerations with offering free-fare transit in the south shore;
- Existing free-fare transit and increased ridership in the north shore;
- The roles of the TRPA with the planning process and the TTD with project implementation; and
- The TRPA’s *Public Participation Plan* ([Agenda Item V-2](#)).

## **AGENDA ITEM VI—OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES, PROGRAMS, AND PRIORITIES OF THE TAHOE TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT**

Carl Hasty, District Manager, TTD, provided the Committee with a comprehensive overview of the District ([Agenda Item VI](#)). He shared background information on the TTD and commented on: (1) transportation challenges in the Lake Tahoe Basin; (2) the TTD’s projects, services, partnerships, transit vision, and budgetary needs; (3) opportunities to underground utilities along the State Route 28 corridor; and (4) proposed Trans-Sierra connections to the Lake Tahoe Basin.

Mr. Hasty stated the TTD Board will consider proposed long-term funding solutions for transit brought forward by Derek W. Morse, P.E., Principal, Morse Associates Consulting, LLC, representing ONE TAHOE, at its January 31, 2020, special meeting; the District may have a proposal for the Committee subsequent to that meeting.

There was discussion concerning:

- The approval of, and conditional permitting for, the US 50/South Shore Community Revitalization Project;
- The capacity of the TTD to focus on transit while implementing a broad range of other transportation projects;
- The TTD's role with providing planning input with various projects;
- The need for sustainable revenue for transit; and
- Consideration of rural communities with regional tax initiatives.

## **AGENDA ITEM VII—OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES, PROGRAMS, AND PRIORITIES OF LAKE TAHOE TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATIONS**

Steve Teshara, CEO/South Lake Tahoe Chamber of Commerce, and Chair, South Shore Transportation Management Association (SSTMA), explained the TMAs serve as intermediaries between agencies, the business community, and the broader community to support the planning process and the implementation of transportation projects in the Lake Tahoe Basin. He discussed the history, role, and activities of the SSTMA and the expanding scope and composition of its board of directors. Mr. Teshara submitted an informational handout regarding the SSTMA ([Agenda Item VII A](#)).

Jaime Wright, Executive Director, Truckee North Tahoe Transportation Management Association (TNT/TMA), gave an overview of the TNT/TMA and discussed transportation challenges related to multijurisdictional boundaries in the Resort Triangle ([Agenda Item VII B](#)). She noted revenue streams supporting its free-fare program include allocations from the transient occupancy tax (TOT) in Placer County. Ms. Wright also commented on the marketing activities of the TNT/TMA to promote transit and the public-private partnership involved with the North Lake Tahoe Express.

There was discussion concerning:

- The TNT/TMA's collaboration with transportation planning agencies; and
- Differences between TOT collected in the north and south shores and the need for transit funding to support sustainable operations and capital needs in the south shore.

## **AGENDA ITEM VIII—UPDATE ON THE ONE TAHOE TRANSPORTATION FUNDING INITIATIVE**

Derek W. Morse, previously identified, provided an overview of the ONE TAHOE transportation funding initiative ([Agenda Item VIII](#)). He discussed transportation challenges, potential solutions, and the role of ONE TAHOE to identify funding mechanisms to fill the transportation funding shortfall in the Lake Tahoe Basin. Mr. Morse explained the process

of gathering and screening ideas and discussed the preliminary recommendation for the TTD to focus on transportation user fees rather than taxes.

Mr. Morse drilled down on a proposal to utilize: (1) zoned transportation user fees levied on households and businesses in the Lake Tahoe Basin; and (2) cordon pricing (entry fees) imposed upon visitors—on a per vehicle basis—as they pass through main entry points to the Lake Tahoe Basin. Mr. Morse explained that enabling legislation from both Nevada and California would be required before revenue could be collected.

There was discussion concerning:

- The difference between cordon pricing and tolls;
- Governance considerations with the transportation user fee proposal; and
- The possible need for short-term funding from both California and Nevada while a long-term solution is in process.

## **AGENDA ITEM IX—PUBLIC COMMENT**

Steve Teshara, previously identified, expressed his appreciation for Committee members and staff.

Chair Ratti announced the next Committee meeting will be held on March 12, 2020, in a location to be determined in the Lake Tahoe Basin. She noted Senator Kieckhefer will take the lead with that meeting, which will focus on economic development and redevelopment activities in the Lake Tahoe Basin.

## **AGENDA ITEM IX—ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 4:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Lisa Gardner

Research Policy Assistant

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Alysa M. Keller

Principal Policy Analyst

APPROVED BY:

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Senator Julia Ratti, Chair

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## MEETING MATERIALS

AGENDA ITEM	PRESENTER/ENTITY	DESCRIPTION
<a href="#">Agenda Item IV-1</a>	Bradley Crowell, Director, State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR)	Presentation
<a href="#">Agenda Item IV-2</a>	Bradley Crowell, Director, DCNR	Summary Report
<a href="#">Agenda Item V-1</a>	Joanne S. Marchetta, Executive Director, Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA)	Presentation
<a href="#">Agenda Item V-2</a>	Julie W. Regan Chief, External Affairs/Deputy Director, TRPA	<i>Public Participation Plan</i>
<a href="#">Agenda Item VI</a>	Carl Hasty, District Manager, Tahoe Transportation District	Presentation
<a href="#">Agenda Item VII A</a>	Steve Teshara, CEO/South Lake Tahoe Chamber of Commerce, and Chair, South Shore Transportation Management Association	Informational Handout
<a href="#">Agenda Item VII B</a>	Jaime Wright, Executive Director, Truckee North Tahoe Transportation Management Association	Presentation
<a href="#">Agenda Item VIII</a>	Derek W. Morse, P.E., Principal, Morse Associates Consulting, LLC	Presentation

The Summary Minutes are supplied as an informational service. All meeting materials are on file in the Research Library of the Legislative Counsel Bureau, Carson City, Nevada. For copies, contact the Library at (775) 684-6827 or <https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Division/Research/Library/About/Contact/feedbackmail.cfm>.