

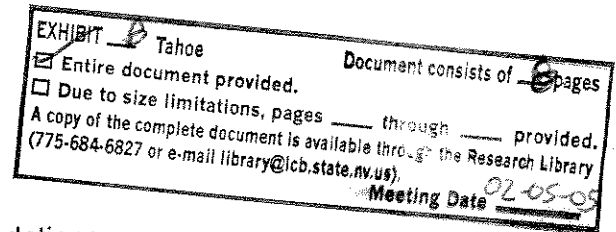
## TAHOE REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY

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January 25, 2005

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Assemblyman Lynn C. Hettrick, Chairman  
Legislative Committee for the Review and Oversight  
of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency  
Nevada Legislative Building  
401 S. Carson Street  
Carson City, NV 89701



RE: TRPA Progress Report on Committee Recommendations

Dear Chairman Hettrick and Committee Members:

This letter is in response to your request for a progress report on the following performance objectives established for the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency by the Committee during the 2003-2004 Legislative Interim:

### **Performance Objective A:**

Necessary coordination of the Fuels Management Action Plan for the Lake Tahoe Basin; completion of those portions of the Lake Tahoe Basin Fire Plan for which TRPA is responsible and has control; and demonstration of reasonable efforts to enter into necessary fire agreements with local fire districts in Nevada such as a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Tahoe Douglas Fire Protection District similar to the current MOU signed with the North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District.

**Current Status:** All of the Tahoe Basin Fire Protection Districts (FPD) has completed fire risk assessments that comply with the Healthy Forest Restoration Act and National Fire Plan. TRPA, through Bureau of Reclamation grant funding, helped to fund these efforts and TRPA staff participated in all of the community meetings and offered technical assistance through a technical advisory group. The FPD Fire Plans include a list of prioritized projects and cost estimates.

TRPA staff is leading an effort to compile all the FPD Fire Plans into a Tahoe Basin Fire Plan. Work on the plan has been underway since August 2004 and will continue through September 2005. The effort includes strong participation from the Tahoe Basin Fire Safe Council, The Nevada Fire Safe Council, The Regional Fire Chiefs, and the USFS as well as coordination with other agencies and stakeholders. The Basin Plan will include:

- Drafting Desired Condition statements for the areas to be treated
- Identification of regulatory barriers and issues
- GIS Compilation and Clearinghouse Services
- 10-year Finance Plan
- Biomass utilization
- Small diameter timber utilization
- Public outreach and education

A memorandum of understanding for tree removal permits has been implemented between TRPA and the North Lake Tahoe FPD. TRPA staff has also been working on an MOU with Tahoe/Douglas FPD to allow them to do tree removal permits. This MOU is not yet complete, but using the NLTFPD as a model, TRPA staff anticipates having this MOU completed and signed on or before this year's field season.

**Performance Objective B:**

Letter from the TRPA Executive Director to the TRPA Governing Board recommending that the four principles of public safety identified in John Singlaub's memo to the Board on February 17, 2004, be incorporated into the Pathway 2007 Regional Plan.

**Current Status:** The Executive Director presented his February 17, 2004 memo to the Governing Board at their March 2004 meeting and recommended that the Board incorporate the four identified public safety principles into the Pathway 2007 Regional Plan Update, which the Board approved.

**Performance Objective C:**

Adoption of a rule or policy by TRPA to address the issue of ex-parte' communication (as described on pages 14 and 15 of the 2004 Strategica Report titled: *Independent Program/Operational Review of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency*), including some form of disciplinary result if the rule or policy is violated.

**Current Status:** The issue of ex-parte' communication is currently scheduled in the Agency's Work Program to be presented to the Governing Board for action at their April 2005 meeting.

**Performance Objective D:**

Involvement of local government and private sector representatives (who are partners in implementing the EIP) as active and collaborative participants in the Pathway 2007 Regional Plan.

**Current Status:** TRPA, with its Pathway 2007 Partners (USFS, NDEP, and Lahontan) has developed an elaborate public participation process for the Regional Plan and Threshold Update. For FY 04-05, the Pathway Agencies will spend approximately \$850,000 on the collaborative process and public outreach.

Attachment A to this progress report illustrates the Pathway collaborative organizational structure of the participants. All but the planning work groups are now active. The Technical Working Groups consist of approximately 150 government, academic, and private experts divided into 12 working groups. They are currently working on the Threshold/Desired Conditions Update Report, which will be the document that the Forum will review to make recommendations for appropriate changes to the environmental benchmarks for the Lake Tahoe Region.

TRPA Progress Report on Committee Recommendations

The Forum Group, which is the group that makes policy recommendations to the Pathway agencies, has been formed and has had two meetings. Consistent with Objective #4, the 43-member group selected by the Pathway Executives has broad representation including local government and private interests. See Attachment B to this progress report for the categories and selected members.

The planning groups will be formed in the fall as the plan development phase starts. It is our expectation that these groups will have a broad representation.

**Performance Objective E:**

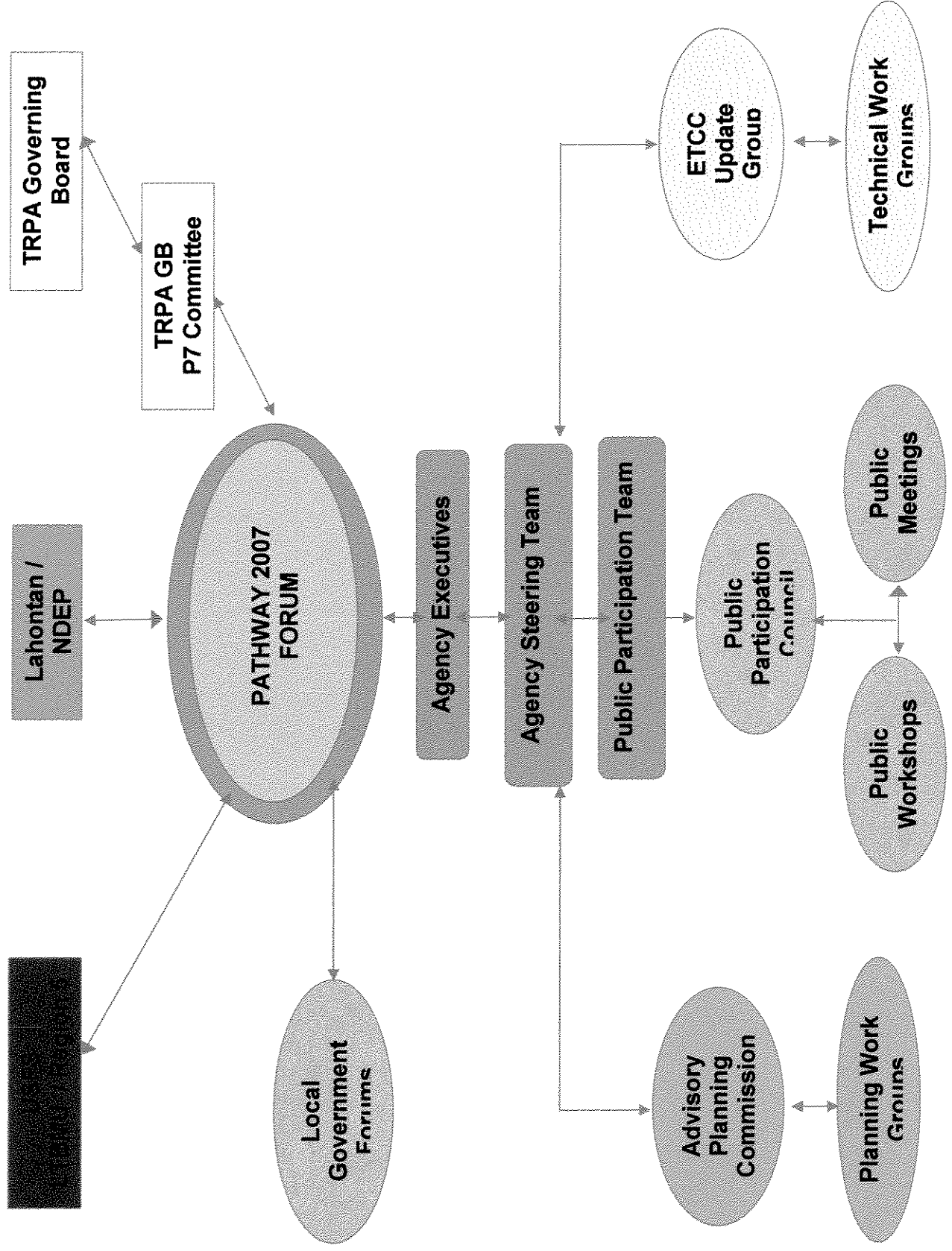
Establishment of certain qualifications for the Regional Transit Staff position requested by TRPA in its special budget requests.

**Current Status:** Our budget request to the State of Nevada for the Regional Transit staff position was not included in the Governor's budget submittal to the Legislature. TRPA will be evaluating other potential funding sources to fill this need outside of state appropriations for this coming biennium.

We appreciate the Committee's interest in our Agency and look forward to working with you and the Committee members in the coming year. We will continue to keep you apprised of our progress in meeting these performance objectives. Please feel free to contact me if you should have any questions or desire any further information relative to our progress on these objectives.

Sincerely,

John Singlaub  
Executive Director



### PATHWAY 2007 Forum Members

**Local Interests -** *Defined as those interest groups / constituencies located fully or partially within the Lake Tahoe Basin*

1. Transportation / Transit - **Jennifer Merchant**
2. Realty Interests - **Sharon Kerrigan**
  - Primary Residence Owners - **Elise Fett**
  - Seasonal/second homeowners - **Karen Reid**
  - Tenants/those who rent and live full-time in Tahoe - To be determined
3. Labor - **Michael Berg**
4. Community Business (e.g., service providers, professional businesses, local retail) - **Steve Teshara**
5. Tourism Business (e.g., gaming, recreation providers/ski industry, lodging) - **Mike Bradford**
6. Community Sustainability (e.g., community planning and development / quality of life issues) - **Nancy Marzocco**
7. Environmental / Conservation <sup>1</sup> - **Rochelle Nason**
8. Washoe Tribe - **Brian Wallace**
9. Education K-12 - **Margaret Rebane**
10. Education Post-12 - **Paul Stangl**
11. Non-Governmental Social Services (e.g., food banks, shelters, housing advocates) – **Robert Patrick Hefferman**
12. Community Recreationalists (e.g., sports leagues, organized teams) - **Jerome Evans**
13. Motorized Recreation (those who recreate on land and water/motorized) - **Carol Chaplin**
14. Non-Motorized Recreation (those who recreate on land and water/non-motorized) - **David Hamilton**

#### ***North Tahoe Basin - Specific Interests***

1. California Public Utility Districts - **Steven Rogers**
2. Nevada General Improvement Districts - **Bill Horn**
3. At-Large Seat 2 - **Bruce McNulty, Mike Hawkins**

#### ***South Tahoe Basin - Specific Interests***

1. California Public Utility Districts - **Dennis Cocking**
2. Nevada General Improvement Districts - **Glen Smith**
3. At-Large Seat <sup>2</sup> - **Steven D. Leman, Joan Walthall**

#### ***Nevada Specific Local Interests***

1. Washoe County - **Adrian Freund**
2. Douglas County - **John McCall**
3. State Agency Representative (non-regulatory agencies) - **Kay Scherer**

#### ***California Specific Local Interests***

1. Placer County - **John Marin**
2. El Dorado County - **Bill Hetlund**
3. City of South Lake Tahoe - **David Jinkens**
4. State Agency Representative (non-regulatory agencies) - **Dennis Machida**

**Regional Interests -** *Defined as those interest groups/constituencies primarily located within the broader Nevada/California region and not specifically in the Lake Tahoe Basin.*

1. Community Business (e.g., service providers, local retail, etc) - **Carl Ribaud**
2. Environmental / Conservation <sup>1</sup> - **Laurel Ames**
3. Community Sustainability (e.g., community planning and development/ quality of life issues) - **Robert Garcia**
4. Non-Governmental Social Services (e.g., food banks, shelters, housing advocates) – **Anne Cory**
5. Transportation / Transit - **Gordon Shaw**
6. Recreationalists (land and water) - **Barbara Perlman-Whyman**
7. At-Large Seat <sup>2</sup> - **Dave Childs**

**National Interests -** *Defined as those interest groups with national constituencies beyond the Lake Tahoe Basin, Nevada, and California*

1. Recreation Providers - **Blaise Carrig**
2. Environmental / Conservation <sup>1</sup> - **Michael Donahoe**
3. Non-Motorized Recreationalists (land and water) - **Gail Ferrel**
4. Motorized Recreation - To be determined

#### **43 Forum Members**

#### Notes:

<sup>1</sup>Environmental / Conservation interests may include one or more of the following subcategories:

- Environmental ("Green") Businesses
- Environmental Policy Interests
- Environmental Technical / Resource Survey Interests
- Conservation Districts

<sup>2</sup>At-Large interests are defined as individuals with no other constituency and/or intended affiliation. The goal of At-Large members is to ensure that the perspective of the general public is also part of Forum discussions.