

Beyond glossy pictures and glittering generalities, you will soon hear about TRPA's claimed glories. Yet TRPA's staff and member agencies continue to abdicate key environmental responsibilities. Encouraging overdevelopment, road narrowing, unrealistic monorails, microplastic pollution and a bloated staff of over 80 people earning above \$100,000 are sad realities.

Here is one more instance of abdication.

Widespread and uncontained human trash attracts bears and other wildlife into urban areas while polluting the Lake; it also leads to high death rates as wildlife attempt to cross busy highways and ingest food-laden plastic.

For almost 10 years, TRPA has hidden behind the excuses of local control, which has not worked, enforcement, which is up to the individual jurisdictions (not TRPA) to perform, and cost, without considering the cost of dead wildlife, deteriorating water quality, and wasting law enforcement resources. If humans are the most intelligent species, the excuse that bears and other wildlife have accessed allegedly secure trash containers disproves human ingenuity.

Yosemite, Mammoth Lakes, Boulder and Durango, Colorado and Cranbrook, British Columbia have widely implemented wildlife-proof trash containers. Why not similarly-situated Lake Tahoe?

TRPA needs to pass an ordinance requiring universal wildlife-proof trash containment throughout the Basin. No more stalling, no more abba dabba. The ordinance allows each jurisdiction to modify existing trash-hauling contracts. If TRPA continues to ignore sound environmental stewardship, Nevada's Legislature should materially withhold funding.