

PUBLIC COMMENT – RONDA TYCER, PhD

Item II

TRPA’s audited financial statements show **total annual expenditures** (often the closest proxy for an executed “total budget”) for several recent years.

1968	102 feet	
2015	73’	\$16.6 million
2016	69’	\$12.2 million
2017	60’	\$13.7 million
2018	70’	\$15.9 million
2019	63	\$17.0 million
2020	72	\$18.4 million
2021	61	\$19.4 million
2022	72	\$21.0 million
2023	68	\$19.4 million
2024	62	\$23.4 million
2025		\$28.4 million

This suggests that while the budget has increased 41% in the past 10 years, Lake Tahoe clarity has deteriorated by 15%.

What we think the Oversight Committee and the public would like to know are answers to some of these questions:

What changes did TRPA make in the Lake Tahoe Basin since 2015?

If the primary factors are:

Particles such as silt and clay

Tiny phytoplankton or algae

What TRPA policies directly or indirectly decrease these particles and algae?

How does allowing increased tourist cars in the basin help decrease these particles?

How does allowing increased density in buildings around the lake help decrease these particles?

How does allowing increased numbers of smaller residences such as ADUs to be built on any parcel around the lake decrease these particles?

What changes did TRPA make in the past year in the Basin?

How will these changes decrease particles and algae?

How might the Oversight Committee help TRPA to accomplish its original purpose to increase lake clarity?

What can the Oversight Committee do to help TRPA balance development and conservation?