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NEWS RELEASE

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For Release Immediately

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TRPA TO CLOSE NORTH SHORE OFFICE, ISSUE WORK FURLOUGHS, IN LIGHT OF BUDGET CONSTRAINTS

Lake Tahoe, Stateline, NV – The Tahoe Regional Planning Agency will close its North Shore office, issue mandatory unpaid work furlough days and potentially trim its staff in the early part of 2009 to help close a budget deficit in the current fiscal year.

The office at 3080 North Lake Blvd. in Tahoe City will close January 15. The closure is indefinite until budget conditions improve.

Additionally, the Agency will close and employees will be required to take the day off without pay on February 13, March 20, April 10, May 8, June 12.

TRPA has offered staff members voluntary separation and sabbatical packages to reduce personnel costs and avoid layoffs. The layoffs may, however, be necessary if participation in the voluntary program is insufficient to balance the current-year budget.

“Because of declining revenue and worsening economic conditions, we have no choice but to streamline operations,” said Dennis Oliver, TRPA spokesman. “Our hope is that we will be able to weather these challenging times with minimal effect on customer service and our core mission of protecting Lake Tahoe.”

Other cost-cutting measures already taken by the Agency include salary freezes, a hiring freeze, operational cuts, and a freeze on training and travel.

The Tahoe Regional Planning Agency cooperatively leads the effort to preserve, restore, and enhance the unique natural and human environment of the Lake Tahoe Region now and in the future. For additional information, call Dennis Oliver at 775-589-5235, or email doliver@trpa.org.

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