

TAHOE REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY

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NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Jeff Cowen, Community Liaison, (775) 589-5278

For Release Immediately

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FIRE DISTRICTS AND TRPA TO LAUNCH PRE-APPROVAL PROCESS FOR LAKE TAHOE CONSTRUCTION PERMITS APRIL 14, 2008

Lake Tahoe, Stateline, NV – Building on its efforts to assist implementation of defensible space at Lake Tahoe, the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency on April 14 will begin requiring fire protection pre-approval of construction projects on private property before a construction permit application can be submitted. By providing initial review of new construction, remodel, and addition projects across the Tahoe Basin, local fire agencies can help property owners protect their property from wildfire and speed efforts to create defensible space.

“This initial step in the permit process is crucial to get everyone working toward rapid implementation of defensible space,” said TRPA Executive Director John Singlaub. “We’ve heard from the fire districts that they prefer to review plans up front so that wildfire safety is integrated with every project and we are helping facilitate that.”

In addition to construction projects, applications for scenic assessments will also require fire agency signoff before TRPA can begin review. Scenic assessments are surveys of existing conditions along Lake Tahoe’s shoreline. Maps of all fire jurisdiction boundaries are available at TRPA offices and on the agency’s website www.trpa.org.

Activities requiring TRPA review are listed in [Chapter 4 of the TRPA Code of Ordinances](#). Most local building departments have agreements with TRPA to review applications on the agency’s behalf and these applications will also be subject to fire agency pre-approval.

2-2-2 Fire Pre-Approval

Permit applications requiring fire agency pre-approval include:

- All Single and Multi-Family Residential Additions/Modifications and New Construction.
- All Commercial Additions/Modifications and New Construction.
- Qualified Exempt activities that involve construction.
- Baseline Scenic Assessments.
- Public Service projects involving construction.

- Recreation projects involving construction.

Property owners with questions about how to submit plans through the pre-approval process can contact the appropriate fire protection agency.

City of South Lake Tahoe Fire Department	(530) 542-6160	www.slafd.org
Lake Valley Fire Protection District	(530) 577-3737	www.lvfpd.org
Meeks Bay Fire Protection District	(530) 525-7548 ext.15	www.meeksbayfire.com
North Tahoe Fire Protection District	(530) 546-2212	www.ntfire.net
North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District	(775) 831-0351, ext 0	www.nltfpd.net
Tahoe-Douglas Fire Protection District	(775) 588-3591 ext. 227	www.tahoefire.com

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 Jeff Cowen, Community Liaison, at (775) 589-5278 or send an email to jcowen@trpa.org.

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