NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Advisory Planning Commission of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency will conduct its regular meeting at 9:30 a.m. on October 13, 2004, at the North Tahoe Conference Center, 8318 North Lake Blvd., Kings Beach, CA. The agenda for the meeting is attached hereto and made a part of this notice.

October 4, 2004

John Singlaub
Executive Director
All items on this agenda are action items unless otherwise noted.

AGENDA

I. CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

III. PUBLIC INTEREST COMMENTS (No Action)

Any member of the public wishing to address the Advisory Planning Commission on any agenda item not listed as a Public Hearing or a Planning Matter item, or on any other issue, may do so at this time. However, public comment on Public Hearing and Planning Matter items will be taken at the time those agenda items are heard.

NOTE: THE ADVISORY PLANNING COMMISSION IS PROHIBITED BY LAW FROM TAKING IMMEDIATE ACTION ON, OR DISCUSSING ISSUES RAISED BY THE PUBLIC THAT ARE NOT LISTED ON THIS AGENDA.

IV. DISPOSITION OF MINUTES

V. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Amendment of the Regional Plan of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, by Adoption of the 2004 Lake Tahoe Basin Regional Transportation Plan and Amendment of the Regional Plan for the Lake Tahoe Basin, Goals and Policies, Chapter Three, Transportation

VI. PLANNING MATTERS

A. Extension of Public Hearing on Public Comments for Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Lake Tahoe Shorezone Ordinance Amendments

VII. REPORTS

A. Executive Director

B. Legal Counsel

C. APC Members

VIII. ADJOURNMENT
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Called to order at 9:30 am

Members Present: Ms. Baldrica, Mr. Cole, Mr. Combs, Mr. Harris, Ms. Kemper Ms. Krause, Mr. Lohman, Mr. Marchio, Mr. McIntyre, Ms. Bovat (for Ms. Moss), Mr. Oden, Mr. Poppoff, Mr. Porta, Mr. Riley, Ms. Schmidt, Mr. Tolhurst

Members Absent: Mr. Jepsen, Mr. Plemel

II. PUBLIC INTEREST COMMENTS

None

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Public Hearing Item V. A. was continued.
Item V. B. Page 3 should read “September” instead of August.
Moved: Ms. Krause Moved to Approve the Agenda with Changes
Motion Carried Unanimously

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Singlaub pointed out a typo on Page 2 that should read Transportation Plan 2004-2007 instead of 0004-2007.
Moved: Ms. Baldrica Moved to Approve the Minutes as amended
Motion Carried Unanimously

V. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Amendment of the Boundary Line Between PAS 001B, Tahoe City Industrial and PAS 002, Fairway Tract - Continued

B. Public Hearing on Public Comments for Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Lake Tahoe Shorezone Ordinance Amendments

Coleen Shade presented this No Action Item. There will be workshops with the Partnership and GB members and will be held on September 15 at the North
Public Comment:

Sara Tone, Resource Specialist of Incline Village General Improvement District and Executive Director of Nevada/Tahoe Water Supplier Association is concerned that the Shorezone EIS does not focus on protecting their customers’ drinking water quality.

Dan St. John, Assistant General Manager, IVGID said their biggest concern with the document is a very important player has been forgotten in this whole business and that is the Regulatory Agencies from CA/NV and Bureau of Health Protection Services.

Andrea Sieffert, Bureau of Health Protective Services wanted to make sure that the agency was aware that water systems on the Nevada side have certain regulations imposed to meet the criteria to avoid filtration. We want to make sure the proper mitigation can be taken so they can retain their filtration exemption.

No Action Item

C. Amendment of the Regional Plan of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, by Adoption of the 2004 Lake Tahoe Basin Regional Transportation Plan and Amendment of the Regional Plan for the Lake Tahoe Basin, Goals and Policies, Chapter Three, Transportation

Carl Hasty presented an overview of the RTP update and the nature of the revision to it based on comments from the first draft.

Member Concerns was that there was not enough time to review the second draft of this document.

Nick Haven, Acting Division Chief presented the revised plan.

Public Comment:

Mike Dikun, Airport/Public Transit Manager said that there hasn’t been a sufficient amount of time for this document to be reviewed by the public. The City Council feels very strongly that TRPA should delay adopting the RTP, pending the development of language pertaining to the Lake Tahoe Airport that will be acceptable to the City. The second RTP draft and the process by which it’s been developed are unacceptable. The BlueGo Board requests that failures in the process be corrected and not repeated. Specifically, the management company that operates the public transit system on the South Shore would like to see a final revised document that addresses specific transit and transportation related issues as identified, specifically the potential link between commercial air service to Lake Tahoe providing that link into the public transit system that
operates on the South Shore.

John Paul Harries, League to Save Lake Tahoe wants to request a continuation on adopting this, as we haven’t had the opportunity to read this draft. We read the first draft and there were substantial changes being proposed and this one has substantial changes. We would all like a little more opportunity to examine this document more thoroughly.

APC Members were concerned with the fact that the document contains a major policy change on the airport as part of the transportation plan. They want a full document with response to comments for review of the APC and Governing Board before going forward.

Mr. Cole moved to deny the recommendation of approval to the Governing Board as currently written and that this be continued to a subsequent meeting for review of revisions.
Vote: Denied unanimously
Yes Vote: Ms. Kemper, Mr. Lohman

VI. REPORTS

A. Executive Directors Report

Mr. Singlaub updated the committee on the following:

1) Governing Board approved the South Y Plan Area Statement
2) Lakeside Trail Phase 4-Commons Beach at Tahoe City was approved
3) Pathway 2007 – we will be coming to you next month with a discussion on the regulatory framework that we are proposing to bring through APC.
4) Pathway 2007 packet launch is provided to the APC
5) Status of Vacation Rentals – please encourage completion as we would like to get these signed this month
6) Presentation by students of the University of Santa Barbara regarding a feasibility study on the railroad from Truckee to Tahoe City on Friday, Sept. 17th from 9-11 a.m. at TRPA offices and everyone is welcome to attend

B. Legal Committee Report

Mr. Kahn updated the committee on two issues:

1) Committee for the Reasonable Regulation of Lake Tahoe have filed their complaint for the third time and TRPA will be moving to dismiss this complaint for a third time
2) TRPA has filed a lawsuit against Bluth regarding the Logan Shoals Marina

C. APC Members

Mr. Poppoff would like to have documents like the RTP, if they are part of the APC packets, further in advance than they currently are
Ms. Kemper will not be at the October APC meeting and Doug Smith will be setting in for her.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Lohman adjourned the meeting at 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

Judy Nikkel
Clerk to the Board

The above meeting was taped in its entirety. Anyone wishing to listen to the tapes of the above mentioned meeting may call for an appointment at (775) 588-4547. In addition, written documents submitted at the meeting are available for review at the TRPA Office, 128 Market Street, Stateline, Nevada.
MEMORANDUM

October 6, 2004

To: Advisory Planning Commission

From: TRPA Staff

Subject: Amendment of the Regional Plan of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, by Adoption of the 2004 Lake Tahoe Basin Regional Transportation Plan and Amendment of the Regional Plan for the Lake Tahoe Basin, Goals and Policies, Chapter Three, Transportation

Proposed Action: Staff recommends that the Advisory Planning Commission conduct a public hearing as noticed and, based on its outcome, recommend approval of the proposed amendments to the transportation plan element of the Regional Plan and Chapter III – Transportation Element of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) Goals and Policies.

Description and Discussion: A revised draft of the 2004 Lake Tahoe Basin Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) has been developed by TRPA / Tahoe Metropolitan Planning Organization (TMPO) transportation planning staff. The plan is proposed for adoption by both the TRPA and the TMPO. The action taken by the TMPO will approve the document as the official Federal Transportation Plan / Regional Transportation Plan (FTP/RTP), meeting the state and federal planning requirements. Under federal regulation, the Regional Transportation Plan must be updated every three years.

The adoption by TRPA of the 2004 RTP and accompanying ordinances amends the regional plan to reflect the updated Transportation Plan element as required by Article V of the Compact, and amends Chapter III – Transportation Element of the TRPA Goals and Policies. The TRPA adopted its current Regional Transportation Plan – Air Quality Plan (RTP-AQP) in 1992, and the TMPO adopted the FTP/RTP in 2000. The 2004 RTP update is a document that meets the requirements of the TRPA and TMPO. The TRPA and TMPO will both take action on the adoption of the plan, and in doing so will create a unified transportation plan for the Lake Tahoe Region.

Adoption of a single plan requires that the 2004 plan meet TRPA, state and federal transportation planning requirements. The TRPA plan, for example, must demonstrate attainment and maintenance of TRPA’s environmental thresholds carrying capacities (“thresholds”). In addition to air quality thresholds indirectly related to transportation, there are two threshold indicators directly related to transportation, which include the reduction of region-wide vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and the reduction of traffic volumes on US Highway 50.

The federal air quality conformity determination on the existing FTP / RTP has expired. The TMPO plan must be adopted and a new air quality conformity determination must
be approved by the Federal Highway Administration before any additional projects can proceed to their next phase of development. Both TRPA and TMPO are being asked to approve the plan, but at a minimum the TMPO plan must be updated and adopted to address the air quality conformity lapse issue.

The comment period closed on September 28, 2004. A list of comments will be provided at the APC meeting for review. Following up on the comments received, TRPA staff met individually with those providing comment to address their specific concerns. A copy of the final document with comments incorporated will be distributed.

Environmental Documentation: Staff has completed the Initial Environmental Checklist for the initial determination of environmental impact for the proposed amendments. Based on the checklist, staff recommends a finding of no significant effect (FONSE) on the environment for the proposed amendments. Staff has filed for a Mitigated Negative Declaration with the counties in California to meet CEQA requirements.

Findings: Prior to amending the Regional Plan, TRPA must make the following Findings.

Chapter 6 Findings

2. Finding: The project (amendments) will not cause the environmental thresholds to be exceeded.

Rationale: The amendments will not cause the environmental thresholds to be exceeded. The 2004 Regional Transportation Plan was developed to support and maintain the applicable TRPA thresholds.

Finding: Wherever federal, state, and local air and water quality standards applicable to the Region, whichever are stricter, must be attained and maintained pursuant to Article V(d) of the Compact, the project meets or exceeds such standards.

Rationale: Any project that may come forth from this plan will be required to meet air and water quality standards as set forth in the TRPA Compact.

4. Finding: The Regional Plan, as amended, achieves and maintains the thresholds.

Rationale: See findings 1 and 2 above.

5. Finding: The Regional Plan and all of its elements, as implemented through the Code, Rules and other TRPA plans and programs, as amended, achieves and maintains the thresholds.

Rationale: See findings 1 and 2 above.

If you have any questions regarding this item, please feel free to contact Nick Haven at (775) 588 – 4547, extension 256.
CHAPTER III
TRANSPORTATION ELEMENT

A. INTRODUCTION
The Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) is an Element of the Regional Transportation Plan - Air Quality Plan which focuses on transportation improvements needed to meet transportation related goals for the Tahoe Region. The Tahoe Regional Planning Compact says that the goal of transportation planning shall be to reduce dependency on the automobile, and to give preference to providing increases in capacity on the Region's transportation system through public transportation projects and programs. The Compact also requires a transportation plan for the Region which provides for the integrated development of a regional system of transportation. This system is to include parkways, highways, public transportation facilities, bicycle facilities, and appurtenant terminals and facilities for the movement of people and goods within the Region.

The RTP addresses the requirements of the Compact. The RTP also addresses the need to provide an integrated transportation system for the Region which will meet the basic transportation needs of residents and visitors by providing adequate local circulation and access to goods and services.

Congestion within the Region interferes with the ability to provide adequate circulation and access to basic goods and services. During periods of peak traffic demand, congestion on the Region's highway system creates lengthy delays and affects the accessibility of health care and emergency facilities, and other basic services for residents and visitors to the Region.

Volume II of The Regional Transportation Plan - Air Quality Plan discusses standards and the status of compliance with these standards. Level of service (LOS) standards are contained in the Transportation Element of the Regional Plan for the Lake Tahoe Basin. Goals and Policies (TRPA, 1986, as amended). The Goals and Policies establishes level of service criteria for various types of highways and an operational level of service for signalized intersections.

LOS criteria established by the Regional Plan Goals and Policies are not being met at some locations along U.S. 50, including the intersections at Park Avenue, Pioneer Trail, Ski Run Boulevard, and Tahoe Keys Boulevard. Although LOS criteria were not established for unsignalized intersections, the unsignalized intersections at California 28 and Grove Street and Jack Pine operate at a poor level of service during weekends and holiday periods.

Reduction in vehicle miles of travel (VMT) is a requirement of the threshold management standards for subregional visibility and nitrate deposition. These management standards require a ten percent reduction in VMT from the 1981 base year. Vehicle miles of travel in the Tahoe Region, from 1981 to 1987, increased by 10.0 percent.
The Regional Transportation Plan contains the following elements:

- Lake Tahoe Basin Transportation Overview
- Lake Tahoe Basin Transportation Planning Framework
- Lake Tahoe Basin Transportation System
- Goals, Policies and Objectives
  - Control Program - Action Element - Action Plan
- Financial Element
- Air Quality Conformity Determination

The Goals, Policies and Objectives state the ends toward which efforts are to be directed, provide policy guidance for courses of action, and identify objectives which can be obtained or measured. Section 3 - The Control Program - Action Element Plan and Appendix A – Project List of the RTP identifies programs and capital improvements containing short- and long-term control strategies and projects needed to implement the goals, policies and objectives of the RTP.

B. GOALS, POLICIES AND OBJECTIVES

The formulation of regional transportation goals and policies is a fundamental step in the transportation planning process. The goals and policies reflect the consideration of environmental, social, and economic factors in making transportation related decisions.

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION GOALS

1. It is the goal of the Regional Transportation Plan to fulfill the requirements of the Tahoe Regional Planning Compact.

2. It is the goal of the Regional Transportation Plan to attain and maintain the Environmental Threshold Carrying Capacities and federal, state, and local transportation standards.

3. It is the goal of the Regional Transportation Plan to establish a safe, efficient, and integrated transportation system which reduces reliance on the private automobile, provides for alternative modes of transportation, and serves the basic transportation needs of the citizens of the Tahoe Region, supports the economic base of the Region in the movement of goods and people, and minimizes adverse impacts on man and the environment.

4. The organizational structures and process relevant to transportation and transit operations and governance shall be designed to facilitate the implementation of the regional transportation plan and the goals of the compact. It is the goal of the Regional Transportation Plan to provide for the reactivation of the Tahoe Transportation District to enable the TTD to fulfill its role as defined by the Tahoe Regional Planning Compact.
5. It is the goal of the Regional Transportation Plan to research potential funding sources as referenced in the RTP Financial Element—AQP Capital Improvement Program and as referenced in the Lake Tahoe Transportation Summit Final Report, dated June 20, 1991.

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION POLICIES AND OBJECTIVES

1. Participate in state and local transportation planning efforts to ensure coordination and consistency in the transportation system.

   A. TRPA shall work with appropriate public entities and private interest groups in the Region to ensure coordination and consistency in transportation planning efforts within multijurisdictional transportation corridors.

   B. TRPA shall work with federal, state and local agencies to develop a rail system which will provide access from northern California and Nevada population centers.

   C. TRPA shall participate in the Community Plan process to provide consistency between Community Plans and the RTP.

   D. TRPA supports the establishment of Transportation Management Associations (TMAs) in the Tahoe Region.

   D. TRPA will work with organizations that facilitate public-private transportation partnerships and coordination for the benefit of improved transportation in the Lake Tahoe Region.

2. Plan for and promote land use changes and development patterns which will encourage the use of alternative transportation modes and minimize impacts on the existing transportation system.

   A. Community Plans shall promote land use development patterns and designs which will increase the ability to use public transportation, waterborne, bicycle and pedestrian facilities.

   B. Community Plans shall promote the development of neighborhood commercial areas which will reduce travel distances.

   C. Development patterns shall provide for the in-fill of existing areas, making use of existing transportation facilities and promoting the use of alternative transportation modes.

   D. New, expanded or revised developments and land uses shall fully mitigate their regional and cumulative traffic impacts.

   E. Parking for residential usage shall meet TRPA standards and shall be provided on-site.
F. Parking for non-residential uses shall be the minimum/maximum required to meet the demand for parking generated by the use, except as may be offset by reducing parking demand through parking management and trip reduction programs.

G. Driveways shall be designed and sited to minimize impacts on public transportation, adjacent roadways and intersections, bicycle and pedestrian facilities.

H. Public land management agencies shall develop transit services that manage access.

3. Actively pursue programs that promote the use of mass transit as an alternative to the automobile.

A. Expansion of transit services shall be provided to residential areas of the Region with the system being appropriate for the area to be served, and shall be consistent with the Action element of the TRPA Regional Transportation Plan.

B. Public or private transit services shall be given preference in mitigating traffic and transportation related impacts due to new, expanded or revised development or land use activities.

C. Transit facilities shall be provided which encourage the use of public transit services, with new or revised developments incorporating transit facilities into their designs or plans.

D. Transit service shall be expanded to cities, towns, and recreational areas outside of the Tahoe Region, and be coordinated with other transportation modes.

E. Bus lanes with preferential signal controls should be implemented along U.S. 50, California 89 and California/Nevada 28.

F. Alternative transit modes including fixed guideway systems should be implemented.

G. Multi-modal transfer facilities shall be located in activity centers in both the North and South Shore areas.

H. Transit shelters shall be provided at major transit stops.

I. Transit services shall be provided to connect the North and South Shore areas of the Tahoe Region.

J. Transit services shall be provided to beaches, campgrounds and other summer-time recreational areas.

K. Transit excursion services should be provided in the Region.
4. Develop and encourage the use of pedestrian and bicycle facilities as a safe and viable alternative to automobile use.

A. There shall be a high priority on constructing pedestrian and bicycle facilities in urbanized areas of the Region and where reductions in congestion will result.

B. Pedestrian and bicycle facilities shall be constructed, or upgraded, and maintained along major travel routes.

C. Where it is not feasible to construct or maintain Class I bicycle paths along the Region's major travel routes, Class II bicycle lanes should be provided on roadway shoulders.

D. Bicycle racks or storage facilities shall be provided at non-residential developments, transit stops, and on transit vehicles.

E. Bicycle and pedestrian linkages shall be provided between residential and non-residential areas.

F. Bicycle and pedestrian facilities in urbanized areas and along transportation routes used for commuting should be maintained to allow year-around use of the facilities.

G. The unconstructed Route 50 right-of-way remains an integral component of the overall transportation system in the South Shore by providing commuting and recreational bicycle options which will maximize the function of the highway network.

H. The RTP shall contain bicycle and pedestrian policies for the development of any new bicycle/pedestrian facilities in the Lake Tahoe Region.

5. Implement transportation demand management (TDM) measures to reduce the number of vehicle trips on the Region's highways.

A. Transit fare reductions, including free fares, should be used to encourage transit use.

B. Employers shall implement vehicle trip reduction programs, including carpool and vanpool matching programs, employee shuttles, flexible work hours, and transit use incentives.

C. Public and private employers shall develop parking management programs including preferential parking and reduced parking rates for carpools and vanpools, parking charges for employee parking and paid patron parking.

D. Condominiums, timeshares, hotels and motels shall participate in public transit and private shuttle programs, and provide transit
information and incentives to their guests and residents.

E. Commercial interests providing gaming, recreational activities, or excursion services shall provide or participate in joint shuttle services or provide transit use incentives to their guests or patrons.

F. Park-and-Ride facilities shall be provided by local jurisdictions to encourage ridesharing. §

G. Automobile rentals should be discouraged within the Tahoe Region, and alternative fuel vehicle technology should be used if feasible. Air quality and traffic mitigation fees shall be assessed on vehicles rented or returned in the Region. §

H. Ski areas and other recreational activity areas shall control the rate of departure of patrons from parking areas to minimize the impact on congested transportation facilities. §

6. Transportation System Management (TSM) measures shall be used to improve the efficiency of the existing transportation system.

A. High occupancy and reversible vehicle lanes should be considered in high traffic demand areas, provided existing roadway capacities can be maintained.

B. Traffic conflicts should be reduced by limiting or controlling access to major regional travel routes and major local roadways.

C. Intersection improvements required to upgrade existing levels of service including lane restriping, turn lanes, channelization and traffic signals should be implemented when warranted.

D. Roadway designs shall accommodate bicycle lanes and transit stops and reduce conflicts between vehicles and bicycle and pedestrians.

E. New On street parking shall be prohibited along major regional travel routes and existing parking should be discouraged along major regional travel routes and local roads.

F. View turn-outs should be provided along scenic highways.

G. Left-turn lanes and right-turn lanes shall be provided to reduce turning conflicts along major travel routes.

H. Utilization of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) technology
shall be implemented consistent with the Tahoe Metropolitan Planning Organization (TMPO) Tahoe Basin ITS Strategic Plan.

7. Limit improvements to the regional highway system to those necessary to meet the Goals and Policies of the Regional Plan.

   A. The construction of roadways to freeway design standards is inappropriate in the Tahoe Region. However, grade separations may be appropriate at locations where traffic volumes exceed the capability of intersection improvements and local trip reduction measures to meet LOS criteria.

   B. Highway design criteria shall be developed for the Tahoe Region which minimizes the environmental impact of highway projects while providing for the needs of the traveling public.

   C. Construction of a freeway facility on the unconstructed Route 50 right-of-way is not required to maintain an acceptable level of service on the South Shore's highway system.

   D. New roadways or projects which expand the capacity of existing roadways shall be consistent with traffic and circulation elements of TRPA adopted redevelopment plans or community plans.

   E. Local roadways connecting residential areas, and connecting residential areas with non-residential areas, may be constructed provided these roadways are designed to improve local circulation and will not induce through traffic.

   F. Roadway projects designed to correct hazardous roadway conditions shall be encouraged provided these projects are limited to needed safety improvements.

   G. Level of service (LOS) criteria for the Region’s highway system and signalized intersections during peak periods shall be:
      - Level of service "C" on rural recreational/scenic roads.
      - Level of service "D" on rural developed area roads.
      - Level of service "D" on urban developed area roads.
      - Level of service "D" for signalized intersections.
      - Level of service "E" may be acceptable during peak periods in urban areas, not to exceed four hours per day.

8. Encourage air service as a viable alternative for travel to the Tahoe Region, provided all impacts can be mitigated.

   A. The location of aviation facilities within the Tahoe Region shall be limited to existing facilities.

   B. Expansion of aviation facilities shall be limited to service levels identified in a TRPA approved Airport Master Plan.
C. Public and private mass transportation systems shall be given preference in serving air service passengers.

D. Adverse impacts to the Region’s transportation system resulting from air service expansion at the Lake Tahoe Airport which increases the demand for ground access to airport facilities shall be mitigated to less than significant levels.

D. Multi-modal transit links are to be provided to the Lake Tahoe Basin from primary commercial air services in Reno and Sacramento;

E. All operations for the Lake Tahoe Airport are subject to the terms of the Lake Tahoe Airport Settlement Agreement/Master Plan.

F. Modifications to the Airport Master Plan shall be predicated on a comprehensive feasibility study of commercial air service that includes but is not limited to, transferring existing General Fund contributions to the Airport to transit operations; consider reducing the length of the runway; and restoring the section of the Truckee River disturbed by placement of that runway; and provide for only General Aviation operations; or closing the airport, restoring the meadow and using the coverage credits to pay for grants or other related closing costs.

9. Encourage waterborne transportation systems as an alternative to automobile travel within the Region.

A. Waterborne point-to-point services are encouraged.

B. Waterborne excursion services are encouraged.

C. Waterborne services shall coordinate with, and provide access to, other public and private transportation systems.

10. Improve the mobility of the elderly, handicapped and other transit dependent groups.

A. Provide specialized public transportation services with subsidized fare programs for transit, taxi, demand responsive, and accessible van services.

B. Ensure access to the public transportation system by providing and maintaining sidewalks with curb cuts and ramps.

C. Provide and maintain accessible transit stops and shelters with
ramps and paved areas.

D. Provide and maintain accessible transportation vehicles with adequate lifts and ramps and wheelchair tiedowns.

11. Postal Carrier service shall be provided Region wide, with the U.S. Postal Service Tahoe Regional Master Plan identifying priority areas and a timeframe for implementation. The following Regional Goals establish the objectives of the U.S. Postal Service, and the TRPA concerning mail service.

A. The U.S. Postal Service shall provide mail service for areas not currently served in the Tahoe Region that encourages residents to drive fewer miles for the service. U.S. Postal Service facilities and operations shall maximize reductions in vehicle miles traveled by postal customers to the extent practicable.

B. In fulfillment of its national environmental values, the U.S. Postal Service will develop future facilities and implement future operations in ways that meet its desire to protect and preserve the environment.

C. Locating new or expanded U.S. Postal Service facilities near population and commercial concentrations is a priority for both the U.S. Postal Service and the TRPA.

D. Many existing U.S. Postal Service facilities require replacement and/or renovation to meet minimum health, safety, operational, environmental, and business requirements. Many elements of the Tahoe Regional Master Plan, such as new services, cannot be realized without improvements in facilities.

E. U.S. Postal Service facilities and operations that can meet multiple goals require a partnership between the USPS, TRPA, local and regional agencies, and individual and community groups. These groups should work in partnership to conduct collaborative planning, to identify the appropriate organization to undertake the leadership role on specific issues, and to facilitate project approval.

F. To maximize benefit from available financial resources, new facilities and operations shall be prioritized in large measure based on their contribution to overall Master Plan goals.

G. U.S. Postal Service facilities and operations that implement TRPA RTP/AQP control strategies (including carrier service) shall receive credit for impact fees equal to the financial contribution. Future consideration may be given to provision of alternative fuel fleet vehicles.

H. The U.S. Postal Service and TRPA will diligently pursue Master Plan implementation within the constrains of future available resources.\(^{\text{§}}\)

12. Increase the use of alternative fuel vehicles within the Lake Tahoe Basin.

\[^{\text{§}}\text{Amended 12/22/00}\]
A. Future public transit vehicles purchased for operations in the Lake Tahoe Basin shall be alternative fuel powered.

B. When considering new or replacement vehicles for public and private fleets alternative fuel vehicles should be purchased.

C. TRPA shall phase in alternative fuel vehicle requirements for public and private fleet purchases above 15 vehicles in size.

13. The Regional Transportation Plan shall include an Action Plan and Project List containing transportation capital improvement projects, plans and programs needed to achieve transportation goals, carry out transportation policies, and implement transportation objectives.

C. CONTROL PROGRAM - ACTION ELEMENT

The Regional Transportation Plan Control Program—Action Element contains transportation capital improvement projects, plans and programs needed to achieve transportation goals, carry out transportation policies, and implement transportation objectives.

The Control Program—Action Element contains the following sections:

- Mass Transportation
- Transportation Demand Management (TDM)
- Transportation System Management (TSM)
- Bikeways/Pedestrian Facilities
- Aviation and Waterborne Services
- Streets and Highways
- Social Services Transportation

Mass Transportation

The expansion of existing transit services and the implementation of new mass transportation systems should result in significant reductions in vehicle miles of travel (VMT) and also reduce congestion on the highway system. Mass transportation improvements should also provide better access to basic goods and services for the Region's residents and visitors. By increasing transit use and reducing vehicle trip demand, fewer VMTs would be generated, although person trips should continue to increase as a result of continued population growth within and around the Region. More frequent service on existing routes and extension of services to new areas should also improve the existing highway systems level of service (LOS) by reducing vehicle demand on the system.
Existing transit services should be expanded through the extension of services to new areas and by increasing service frequency on major travel corridors. Along with service expansions, transit facilities and incentives which will encourage increased ridership levels are also recommended.

The Tahoe Transportation District (TTD) is given the authority by the Compact to own and operate a public transportation system to the exclusion of all other publicly operated transportation systems in the Region. The TTD is encouraged to seek funding which will allow it to become an active provider of transportation services in the Tahoe Region.

**Short-Term Transit Improvements – South Shore**

The City of South Lake Tahoe, El Dorado County and Douglas County should provide transit service to residential neighborhoods which currently are not served by public transit. These services may be provided with either fixed route transit, feeder services to fixed route transit, demand responsive transportation, or a combination of these transportation services.

The provision of public transportation services should be coordinated to reduce costs of service and avoid duplication of services. Transit services operated by the City of South Lake Tahoe, El Dorado County, and Douglas County should be designed to provide for coordination of services. The operators of public transit services are urged to enter into agreements to either combine services or to ensure the coordination of these services.

The City of South Lake Tahoe shall develop a multi-modal transportation center as part of the redevelopment project underway in the Stateline area. This transportation center shall be located on U.S. 50. This center should be highly visible and offer convenient access to existing and future transportation systems. The center should also contain a transportation information center and a visitor information center.

Transit service should continue to be offered 24 hours per day in the South Shore. Transit headways should not exceed 10 minutes along U.S. 50 in the visitor core from the Bijou area through the Stateline area to Kahle Drive, between the hour of 11:00 am and 1:00 am. Headways should not exceed 20 minutes between the hours of 7:00 am and 11:00 am. Headways in the visitor core area, between the hours of 1:00 am and 7:00 am, should not exceed 60 minutes.

Visitor shuttles should be used to provide transit service in the visitor core area. The shuttle vehicles should be designed to attract visitor use, with a vintage trolley design recommended. Free transit fares should be implemented for service in the core area if feasible.

Along the remaining portions of U.S. 50, headways should not exceed 15 minutes between the hours of 7:00 am and 6:00 pm, 30 minutes between 6:00 pm and midnight, and 60 minutes between midnight and 7:00 am. Headways for fixed route transit service in the remainder of the South Shore should not exceed 60 minutes. Transit headway improvements should be phased in over a five-year period along with the requisite acquisition of capital equipment.

Demand responsive services or other methods of providing public transportation service...
should be operated by the counties or the City which will provide a basic level of service to residents in lower density residential areas.

The City of South Lake Tahoe should provide transit service to the airport to offset the impacts of commercial air service expansion. Transit service should be scheduled to meet incoming flights and to arrive early enough to accommodate passengers on departing flights. The City is encouraged to enter into agreements with the gaming industry, hotels and motels, and time-share and condominium developments to provide the necessary level of transit services.

Public transportation services should be provided to serve recreational areas on the South Shore. Transit service to the beaches and campgrounds, scenic areas such as Emerald Bay, and trail heads should be implemented during the summer season between Memorial Day and Labor Day. These services should be implemented by the City of South Lake Tahoe, El Dorado County, Douglas County, the U.S. Forest Service, the California Department of Parks and Recreation, and the Nevada Division of State Parks. Gaming interests should coordinate their shuttle services to the campgrounds with these services. A single service operating between the campgrounds and the South Stateline area is encouraged.

Transit shelters should be located at major transit stops along the U.S. 50 corridor and at transfer points between system routes. Major transfer facilities with upgraded shelters should be provided at the base of Kingsbury Grade near U.S. 50 and at the South Tahoe Wye. Upgraded shelters should be provided at Ski Run Boulevard and at Al Tahoe Boulevard. Transit stops should be sited at locations selected by the transit operator and should be located to facilitate access to the transit system.

Short-Term Transit Improvements – North Shore

Placer County and Washoe County should provide transit service to residential neighborhoods currently not served by public transit. These services may be fixed route transit, feeder services to fixed routes, demand responsive transportation, or a combination of transportation services.

The provision of public transportation services should be coordinated to reduce costs of service and avoid duplication of services. Transportation services operated by general improvement districts (GIDs) or other special purpose districts should be closely coordinated with service provided by Placer County and Washoe County. The operators of public transit services are urged to enter into agreements to combine services and to ensure the coordination of services.

Placer County and Washoe County should provide transportation centers within Tahoe City, Kings Beach, the North Stateline area, and Incline Village. These transportation centers should be highly visible and offer convenient access to existing and future transportation systems. The centers should also contain transportation and visitor information centers.

Transit service should be offered for a period of at least 18 hours per day on the North Shore. Transit service headways should not exceed 30 minutes along California/Nevada 28, between the hours of 6:00 am and 6:00 pm, and not exceed 60 minute headways during the remainder of the service day. Within the Tahoe City urban area, between the hours of 10:00 am and 6:00 pm, headways should not exceed 15 minutes. This level of
transit service can be achieved by using a combination of fixed route transit service and local shuttle services.

Demand responsive services or other methods of providing public transportation service should be operated by the Counties which will provide a basic level of service to residents in lower-density residential areas.

Public transportation services should also be provided to serve recreational areas on the North Shore. Transit service to beaches and campgrounds, scenic areas, and trail heads should be provided during the summer season between Memorial Day and Labor Day. These services should be implemented by Placer and Washoe Counties, the U.S. Forest Service, the California Department of Parks and Recreation, the Nevada Division of State Parks, and general improvement districts or other entities operating recreational facilities.
Commercial, residential and recreational developments adjacent to California 89, California 267, and Nevada 431 should also provide transportation services. Developments in Squaw Valley, including the Resort at Squaw Creek and Squaw Valley Ski Corporation, and Northstar should offer transit services for their guests and employees. If constructed, the Galena resort on Nevada 431 should also provide transportation services to the Region. These services should be coordinated with the public transportation services offered by Placer, Nevada and Washoe Counties.

Transit shelters should be located at major transit stops along California 89 and California/Nevada 28, and at transfer points between routes. Major transfer facilities with upgraded shelters should be provided at the intersection of California 28 and 89 and at the intersection of California 28 and 267. Transit stops should be sited by the transit operator and should be located to facilitate ease of access to the transit system.

Contributing to the success of any public transit system is system reliability. At this time, the TART system does not have adequate maintenance facilities needed to assure this reliability. The County of Placer needs to seek funding and construct a new maintenance facility to be located in the TART service area.

**Short-Term Transit Improvements – Regional**

Ski areas should continue to provide ski shuttles. The coordination of ski shuttle services and public transit services is encouraged to allow the use of common stops and shelters. Ski shuttle fares should be nominal or free.

Public or private interests offering summer recreational activities or events, such as river rafting, on-Lake excursion services, or public special events and programs, should provide transit or shuttle services for their patrons, or incentives to use available public transit services.

During the summer months, between Memorial Day and Labor Day, public transit service should be provided connecting transit services on the North Shore and the South Shore. The service should connect at Meeks Bay and include stops at scenic attractions, campgrounds, beaches and recreational facilities along the route. Service should be provided between the hours of 7:00 am and 7:00 pm.

Headways should not exceed 60 minutes. If rider demand warrants, service hours to campgrounds along the route should be extended. Service along this route should be provided jointly by El Dorado County and Placer County. Connecting service should be coordinated with the beach and campground services offered on the South Shore. The City of South Lake Tahoe, the U.S. Forest Service, and the California Department of Parks and Recreation should also participate in providing this service. Transit services should also be provided between the North and South Shore areas of the Region and to recreational areas along Nevada 28 and U.S. 50.

Summer excursion bus service should be offered to provide a means of around-the-Lake travel by public transit. This service should be operated between Memorial Day and Labor Day, twelve hours per day. The service should operate hourly between the hours of 7:00 am and 7:00 pm. Passengers would be provided a narrative history about Lake
Tahoe and its points of interest. Passengers would be able to get off the bus at various locations to participate in a variety of activities, and reboard a later bus to complete their trip.

Connecting transportation services between the North Shore of the Tahoe Region and population centers and transportation terminals in Reno and AMTRAK service in Truckee should be provided by Placer County and Washoe County. Nevada County should also participate in providing service to Truckee. Service should be offered between the hours of 6:00 am and 10:00 pm. Headways should not exceed 60 minutes. Vehicles should be up-to-date and maintained to ensure reliability.

Transportation services should also be implemented connecting out-of-area residential areas to the Region. Services should be provided to Carson City, Minden and Gardnerville. At a minimum, these services should operate between the hours of 6:00 am and 8:00 pm, with four trips per day. The park and ride lot located near the intersection of U.S. 50 and U.S. 395 in Carson City should be upgraded to include lighting and a paved parking area. This service could be provided by public agencies in partnership with private interests. TRPA recommends forming a public-private partnership involving the gaming industry, Douglas County and Carson City to provide service.

Long-Term Transit Improvements

Several priority mass transit improvements within the Tahoe Region and on transportation routes leading to the Region require significant lead time to fully develop and implement. These time constraints require these improvements to be identified as long-term transit projects, but does not alter the need for or the priority of these improvements. It simply places these improvements in a realistic timeframe.

Reflecting the high priority given to these mass transportation improvements, TRPA recommends that needed feasibility and planning studies, and preliminary design work be completed as soon as possible. Where right-of-way or access controls are needed to protect the integrity of these improvements, action to acquire or preserve and protect existing right-of-way should be taken as soon as fiscally possible by the appropriate agencies.

Long-term mass transportation improvements include the following:

1. Fixed guideway systems along the U.S. 50 Corridor, as follows:
   A. People mover system from the South Stateline core area to the Regan Beach area with a possible extension to the South Wye.
      The proposed people mover system would serve the area of highest visitor travel demand. The system would utilize twenty passenger automated vehicles in an exclusive right-of-way which are capable of 1 minute, or less, headways during peak periods.
   B. Light rail transportation from east of Kingsbury Grade, through the South Stateline core area, to the South Lake Tahoe Airport.
Light rail transportation services should be provided if it is found to be fiscally and operationally feasible to implement. The service should be provided in place of the people mover system if it is found to be more cost-effective.

2. Aerial tramways connecting population and recreational centers in both the South and North Shore areas of the Region, as follows:
   
   A. Tramway from the South Stateline multi-modal transportation center to the Heavenly Valley ski area.
   
   B. Tramway from the Tahoe City vicinity to Alpine Meadows through the Ward Creek drainage area.

3. Development of improved integrity rail services utilizing the U.S. 50 corridor and the Interstate 80 corridor, with direct connections to the Tahoe Region via California Route 89 or California Route 267, and with access to recreational areas adjacent to these routes.

**Transportation Demand Management**

As noted in Volume II, Introduction and Problem Assessment, several highway segments and intersections on the Region's highway system do not meet the level of service criteria contained in the Regional Plan Goals and Policies. Also, traffic on U.S. 50 has not been reduced consistent with the carbon monoxide threshold management standard. In order to meet TRPA goals and standards for traffic, strategies have to be implemented which will reduce congestion and improve LOS.

These strategies can either increase the capacity of the highway system, reduce the level of demand placed on the system, or spread the period of peak demand.

Increasing the capacity of the Region's transportation system can be accomplished by adding facilities to the system and by reducing demand placed upon the system. Reducing the number of vehicle trips through transportation demand management (TDM) strategies can be an effective way of accommodating anticipated population growth without a concurrent increase in vehicle trips. Transportation demand management strategies include incentives and disincentives to driving alone, and also provide alternatives to driving.

Transportation demand management strategies include the following:

1. Employer-Based Trip Reduction Programs
2. Parking Management
3. Shuttle Programs
4. Transit Incentives
5. Ride-Sharing Facilities
6. Vehicle Rental Programs
7. Postal Delivery System Improvements
Employer-Based Trip Reduction Programs

TRPA shall propose for adoption ordinances requiring employers and commercial or retail developments to implement trip reduction programs. Employer-based trip reduction is a program of measures designed to reduce the number of vehicles travelling to and from employment sites. Reducing the number of commuter and other work-related travel in single occupant automobiles can reduce congestion.

Employer-based trip reduction programs should achieve an average employee vehicle ridership of 1.5 employees per vehicle. This average vehicle ridership may be achieved through car-pooling, vanpooling, employee shuttles, public transit programs, or promoting non-vehicular transportation. Commercial and retail employers are urged to form or join Transportation Management Associations (TMA) to help develop and implement trip reduction plans and programs.

Trip reduction plans should include the following:

A. An evaluation of current average vehicle ridership as determined by an employee survey of at least three months in duration.

B. Designation of an employee transportation manager and coordinator.

C. A description of incentives, services and marketing programs to be offered to employees.

D. Budgets for the employer’s trip reduction program.

E. A statement of average weekly staff hours devoted to the trip reduction program.

F. A statement of commitment to plan implementation.

G. Public transit information relative to the work site.

H. Geographic and demographic data pertinent to site-specific trip reduction planning.

I. An evaluation of the incentives, services, and marketing programs in the trip reduction plan from previous years.

Employer-based trip reduction plans should include on-site carpool matching services and public transit pass subsidies. The trip reduction plan should also address employee parking pricing and supply limits, travel allowances or subsidies for ridesharing, guaranteed ride home program, vanpool or shuttle program, flexible work hours and on-site services such as showers, bicycle lockers, food services, automatic teller machines, child care center, and the use of fleet vehicles by groups of employees.

Trip reduction plans should be appropriate for the size of the employer or development. Large employers (50 or more employees) and developments with 50 or more employees on site should comply with all of the measures required by the adopted ordinance.
Smaller employers or developments may be given more flexibility in developing plans and programs for meeting the required 1.5 employees per vehicle average.

Parking Management

Person trips are generated by land uses and activities, such as residential dwellings, hotels, employment centers and recreational facilities. Ample, free parking tends to encourage making these trips in private vehicles, generating excess vehicle trips. Parking is also expensive to construct, and uses large amounts of land, creating land coverage.

To reduce reliance on the private automobile and to increase average vehicle occupancy rates in the Region, TRPA shall propose for adoption a parking management ordinance. Local jurisdictions may adopt parking management ordinances which shall be at least as restrictive as the TRPA ordinance.

The parking management ordinance should set the minimum and maximum number of parking spaces required for employees and patrons of commercial and retail uses. The number of required parking spaces shall be sufficient to meet the minimum needs of the use in order to reduce the amount of off-site or otherwise illegal parking. The minimum number of parking spaces to be provided for employees may be reduced through the implementation of employer-based trip reduction programs. The maximum number of parking spaces for patrons may be reduced with the implementation of private shuttle systems or public transportation system subsidies in an amount sufficient to offset the trips generated by the required parking. Before reductions in the number of required parking spaces can be approved, the applicant must prepare a parking management plan.

The parking management plan should include the following information:

A. The number of on-site parking spaces required by the use or activity.

B. The number and type of parking spaces to be provided on-site such as: employee parking, transient parking for on-site uses, parking for high occupancy vehicles, parking for compact cars and handicapped parking.

C. The number, location and type of any parking spaces to be provided off site and the method of transporting persons between the off-site facility and the on-site use.

D. Alternative modes of transportation such as public transit, carpools, vanpools and shuttles available and to be provided.

E. Location of all vehicular and pedestrian entrances and exits. The parking management ordinance shall include requirements for paid parking in parking lots and parking structures open to the public. Proceeds from these parking fees could be used to subsidize the employer-based trip reduction programs required above and patron shuttle systems.
The parking management ordinance shall encourage the consolidation of off-street public parking within commercial areas, and limit any on-street parking use. Shuttle systems should be implemented to serve public parking areas that are located outside of activity areas. Community plans will address public parking programs for their areas.

Parking for residential uses should conform to local ordinances, but shall provide a minimum of two spaces per residential unit. These spaces shall be provided on-site. A residential unit with a garage shall count only one space in the garage toward meeting this requirement.

**Shuttle Programs**

Shuttle services for guests and patrons of hotels, motels, time-shares, and condominiums are encouraged as a means of increasing the average vehicle occupancy rates for visitors to the Region. Provision of these services will reduce the need to drive private vehicles. Commercial interests providing gaming and other recreational or excursion activities should also provide shuttle services to their patrons. Patrons and guests should also be provided with information on public and private transportation services which are offered in the Region.

Shuttle services should be coordinated where possible, with agreements between operators being entered into to reduce duplication. Transportation Management Associations on both the North and South Shore areas of Lake Tahoe should provide this coordination.

**Transit Incentives**

Transit incentives should be provided by commercial interests and by those entities which provide or manage recreational activities. Reduced or free transit fares for patrons, guests, and other visitors to the Region will encourage use of available public transit systems and reduce the need for providing additional parking. Transit incentives should be part of the employer-based trip reduction programs, and are required to allow a reduction in the amount of parking spaces required for commercial and recreational needs.

Fare-free transit should be provided for transit services within the Region, except for services connecting the North and South Shore areas, transit services connecting the Region with areas outside of the Region, and other specialized transit services offered to the public, such as around the Lake services.

Until subsidies required to implement fare-free transit service can be obtained, fare-free transit should be offered on peak season weekends and holidays. Operating subsidies for these services could be provided by special assessment districts.

Improved access to transit provides an incentive to use transit. Transit stops with benches and shelters should be provided at stops where there are high concentrations of visitor lodging and recreational activities. Transit information should be readily available at these locations.
**Ride-Sharing Facilities**

To encourage ride-sharing, TRPA urges the construction of ride-sharing facilities in fringe areas of the Region and at locations along highways leading into the Region. Ridesharing facilities should also be provided by employers as part of the employer-based trip reduction programs.

The States of California and Nevada should construct additional park-and-ride facilities along highways leading into the Region. These facilities should offer paved parking, lighting, and shelters for persons waiting for public transit. The counties in the Region should participate in the construction of these facilities, as appropriate. Improved park-and-ride facilities should be located on U.S. 50 at the base of Spooner Summit and in the Meyers area. Facilities should also be located on California 89 and 267 in Truckee.

Ride-sharing facilities at the work place should provide preferential parking for carpools and vanpools, loading areas, information centers, and facilities as identified in the employer-based trip reduction program discussed above.

**Vehicle Rentals**

The rental of vehicles in the Tahoe Region should be discouraged as an incentive to utilize mass transportation facilities. Vehicles either rented or returned in the Tahoe Region shall be assessed an air quality and traffic mitigation fee. Proceeds from the fees should be applied to the operating costs of public transportation. Alternative technology for powering vehicles is encouraged.

**Home Mail Delivery**

TRPA has approved the U.S. Postal Service Tahoe Regional Master Plan for the provision of postal service in the Region. Home mail delivery has been found an effective means for reducing regional VMT and DVTE, and should be expanded. The U.S. Postal Service and TRPA shall implement the action elements contained in the Tahoe Regional Master Plan within the constraints of future available financial resources.\(^5\)

**Transportation System Management**

Transportation system management (TSM) measures are capital and operational improvements to existing highway facilities which can enhance the ability of these facilities to accommodate higher traffic demands, decrease congestion and improve system level of service. Included among these TSM measures are intersection improvements, access controls and turn lanes, vehicle turn-outs, passing lanes, high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes, on-street parking controls, and roadway designs which accommodate non-vehicular traffic.

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\(^5\) Amended 12/22/00
Intersection Improvements

In developed areas, the level of service of the highway system is usually determined by intersection level of service. Frequently the level of service at intersections can be improved through revised lane configurations, new left- or right-turn lanes, improved signal timing, or traffic control devices. Intersection improvements have been identified for several intersections within the Region which currently do not meet the level of service criteria identified in the Regional Plan Goals and Policies. On the South Shore improvements include, but are not limited to, the following intersections:

A. U.S. 50
   1. South Lake Tahoe Wye
   2. Tahoe Keys Boulevard
   3. Ski Run Boulevard
   4. Nevada 207 (Kingsbury Grade)

On the North Shore, the following intersections also need improvements:

A. California 89
   1. California 28 (Wye)
   2. Granlibakken Road

B. California 28
   1. Grove Street
   2. California 267 (Brockway Summit)

Additional intersections in the Region may be identified in the future which will require capital or operational improvements. Intersection signalization improvements are not specifically identified, but may be proposed by the entity with jurisdiction. Signals should be installed at intersections only as warrants are clearly met.

Access Controls and Turn Lanes

Poorly managed, direct access to major highways can have a serious effect on the capacity, quality of traffic flow and safety of the roadway. As business and commercial interests develop adjacent to a highway, requests for direct access increase. As the number of access points increases, conflicting turning movements and delays caused by vehicles turning from the highway to adjacent land uses cause traffic to slow, degrading the level of service of the facility. To preserve or improve upon existing levels of service, either additional traffic capacity has to be provided through the construction of additional lanes, or conflicting movements and slowed traffic have to be reduced.

Access controls which limit the impact of direct access points on the highway by reducing the number of access points will improve level of service. These controls can include a number of strategies, including limiting the number of new access points, identifying alternative access points, redesigning access points to reduce their impacts, and controlling or limiting turning movements.
TRPA has completed an Access Control Plan for U.S. 50, and will prepare plans for California 89, and California/Nevada 28. These access plans will evaluate a number of criteria, including traffic, environmental impacts, and institutional issues.

Left- and right-turn lanes should be considered for reducing turning conflicts. As part of the development of access controls, TRPA will evaluate the need for and potential locations of additional or extended continuous left-turn lanes or additional right-turn lanes.

The continuous left-turn lane in Incline Village should be extended (east and west) along Nevada 28 to its intersections with Lake Shore Drive.

Vehicle Turnouts
Traffic flow on the Region's highways is often impeded by slow moving traffic. On scenic roadways in the Region, visitor and recreational traffic tends to move more slowly than other traffic in order to view the frequent scenic vistas around Lake Tahoe. However, few opportunities are afforded these travellers to pull off the roadway.

Scenic turnouts at strategic locations should be provided to move slow moving vehicles out of the traffic stream. Scenic turnouts should be provided along California 89 on the West Shore and California/Nevada 28 on the North Shore. Locations of scenic turnouts should be situated to provide convenient access and not impede traffic flow. Existing turnouts should be modified to improve ease of access.

Passing Lanes
Passing lanes afford an opportunity to reduce congestion at selected locations on the highway system without increasing the overall capacity of the facility. Passing lanes allow traffic capable of moving faster on hilly sections to overtake slower moving traffic allowing an increase in average vehicle travel speed on the highway, resulting in an improvement in LOS.

Extension of the existing passing lanes on U.S. 50 westbound at Echo Summit should be considered. A study of the extent and feasibility should be completed before the project is proposed for funding. A passing lane should also be constructed on westbound California 28 at Dollar Hill, and on northbound California 267 over Brockway Summit.

High Occupancy Vehicle Lanes
High occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes are frequently used to expand the capacity of the existing roadway by constructing an additional lane or designating an existing lane for high occupancy vehicles only. HOV lanes can be reversible lanes which change direction of travel to coincide with peak period directional traffic flow. Experience in other areas has shown that designating exiting lanes as HOV lanes can be counter-productive because the capacity of the roadways reduced significantly for non-high occupancy vehicles. Construction of new lanes, restriping existing pavement, or utilizing center lanes as reversible HOV lanes tend to be the more successful strategies.
TRPA recommends that a detailed design study be completed for California 89 from Tahoe City to the Alpine Meadows Road intersection which considers the inclusion of an exclusive transit lane. This center lane could be reversible to provide higher capacity during peak traffic demand periods. TRPA also recommends that California 89 be restriped for three lanes from its intersection with Squaw Valley Road to Truckee.

**On-Street Parking Controls**

On-street parking can significantly reduce the through capacity of a roadway, degrading its level of service. Vehicles attempting to park or exit a parking space interfere with through traffic and slow traffic speeds. Parking movements can also increase the incidence of accidents. On-street parking should be discouraged along the major highways in the Region.

On-street parking should not be allowed along U.S. 50 in the South Shore. On-street parking on California 28 in Tahoe City should be converted to parallel parking as soon as possible and be phased out to attain and maintain level-of-service standards. Removal of existing on-street parking should be coordinated with the provision of off-street parking. Off-street parking should be provided with joint access and served with connecting roads.

On-street parking should be prohibited during peak traffic demand periods on California/Nevada 28, California 89, California 267, Nevada 431, and Nevada 207. On-street parking should be limited on major local roadways, including Pioneer Trail, Al Tahoe Boulevard, Tahoe Keys Boulevard, and Ski Run Boulevard between U.S. 50 and Needle Peak Road.

**Roadway Designs for Non-vehicular Traffic**

While bicycle and pedestrian facilities do exist adjacent to highways in some areas of the Region, they do not exist in all areas. These facilities are not maintained during the winter months and, as a result, are not generally available for use. Although highways are generally not designed to accommodate pedestrian or bicycle traffic, they are frequently used by both. In areas where pedestrian or bicycle facilities are provided, bicyclists are frequently found to be using the roadway rather than the bicycle facilities. The use of the highway system by pedestrians and bicyclists creates traffic conflicts, reduces traffic speeds and creates hazardous conditions. To reduce traffic conflicts, roadways should be designed with adequate shoulder widths to allow bicyclists and pedestrians to remain out of the traffic stream.

Bicycle travel can be enhanced by improved maintenance and upgrading existing roads that are used regularly by bicyclists, regardless of whether or not bikeways are designated. The width and quality of the surface of the right-hand portion of the roadway should be improved and maintained in a condition suitable for bicycle riding. In constructing new roads, adequate width should be provided to permit shared use by motorists and bicyclists. When resurfacing roadways, shoulders should also be surfaced, as well as traffic lanes. Paved roadway widths should be wide enough that when striping a roadway edge, sufficient room outside the stripe can be provided for bicyclists.

TRPA will conduct an inventory of existing roadway shoulders, and will recommend...
areas where improvements to widen existing shoulders should be undertaken.

**Regional Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities**

Regional pedestrian and bicycle systems should be completed to provide safe and viable alternatives to automobile use. Pedestrian access to various activities can reduce the number of vehicles using the highway system by encouraging walking rather than driving a vehicle. Pedestrian access to public transportation is an important factor in increasing ridership on these systems.

Bicycle travel is an important component of the Regional transportation system, particularly during the spring, summer and fall seasons. Both recreational and commuter bicycle facilities should be provided.

**Pedestrian Facilities**

Regional pedestrian facilities should be constructed to provide for walking trips from residential areas and visitor accommodations to schools, commercial areas, employment centers and recreational areas. Pedestrian facilities should also be completed to provide connections between residential neighborhoods. All pedestrian facilities shall be fully accessible.

Within commercial areas, pedestrian facilities should allow and encourage short distance trips to be made by walking. Where feasible, pedestrian facilities should be upgraded to provide a pedestrian oriented environment. During the winter months, pedestrian facilities should be kept clear of snow and ice. Snow and ice control, and removal, through the use of heated pavement is encouraged.

Priority regional pedestrian project areas include the following:

A. California 28 – Tahoe City urbanized area.

B. South Shore redevelopment area.

C. U.S. 50 – Kingsbury Grade to Kahle Drive.

D. California 28 – Kings Beach and Tahoe Vista areas.

E. U.S. 50 – Ski Run Boulevard to Al Tahoe Boulevard.

F. South Stateline loop roads.

G. Kingsbury Grade from U.S. 50 to lower Kingsbury commercial area.

H. South Tahoe Wye commercial area.
I. Incline Village commercial and recreational areas.


K. North Stateline area.

Upon completion of the loop roads in the South Stateline area, U.S. 50 should be narrowed to three lanes to provide for improved pedestrian circulation and access to the activities in this area. Narrowing of the highway would be consistent with the recommendations of the South Stateline Redevelopment Plan.

Pedestrian crossings in the South and North Stateline areas should be provided to create a more pedestrian-oriented environment. Grade separated crossings of U.S. 50 and California/Nevada 28 should be considered for construction in these areas. Pedestrian malls and transit malls are also encouraged for consideration in the South and North Stateline areas.

**Bicycle Facilities**

Regional bicycle facilities experience heavy recreational use during the spring, summer, and fall seasons. Additional bicycle facilities are needed to complete and connect the existing Regional bicycle system segments. Improvements to bicycle routes to ensure the safety of bicyclists should also be undertaken. Grates and other roadway drainage facilities should be constructed or replaced to avoid trapping bicycle tires or otherwise creating unnecessary impediments to bicycle use. Secure bicycle parking or storage facilities need to be provided at businesses, recreational areas, and employment centers.

All classes of bicycle facilities are encouraged for construction in the Region. Class I, II, and III bicycle facilities should be considered for all areas, with a review of the expected type of bicycle use helping to determine the most appropriate class of bicycle facility.

Bicycle routes are classified as follows:

- **Class I** - Bicycle path on separate right-of-way designated for exclusive use of bicycles.
- **Class II** - Bicycle lane on restricted right-of-way on roadways for exclusive or semi-exclusive use by bicyclists, separated from traffic by shoulder striping.
- **Class III** - Bicycle route on shared right-of-way designated by signs or pavement markings.

In developed areas, the use of parallel facilities is often considered as the best way to reduce bicycle and vehicle conflicts. However, it has been found that the use of parallel facilities for bike routes has not always been successful. Bicyclists want to use the most direct route and tend to continue to use the main and most direct roadways. It is generally better to maximize the safety of the routes that are most likely to be used by bicyclists rather than trying to change bicyclists’ habits. Providing Class II bicycle facilities on major roadways with appropriate lane striping and warning signs is recommended.
feasible. Highways should be designed and constructed to provide adequate space on roadway shoulders for commuting bicyclists.

Recreational routes can make successful use of both separate and parallel routes. Gaps in the existing Class I routes should be closed and the system should be extended around the Lake. Class I and Class II bicycle facilities are encouraged to provide access to recreational areas and facilities.

The following regional bicycle facilities should be constructed:

Class I
- U.S. 50, Ski Run Boulevard to Park Avenue
- U.S. 50, Meyers
- Elk Point Road to Kingsbury Grade bike trail
- U.S. 50, Fremont to Harrison
- Fanny Bridge to Tahoe State Recreation Area
- Incline Village to Sand Harbor
- California 89, Emerald Bay to Baldwin Beach
- California 89, Meeks Bay Bike Trail
- North Tahoe Regional Park to Dollar Hill
- California 89, Meeks Bay to Emerald Bay
- U.S. 50, Arapaho Drive
- Unconstructed Route 50 right-of-way, Meyers to Stateline

Class II
- Pioneer Trail, El Dorado County line to existing bike lane
- Nevada 28, Incline Village between East Lake Shore Drive and West Lake Shore Drive
- California/Nevada 28, Dollar Hill to Incline Village Lakeview Avenue, Bellevue to Harrison
- North Upper Truckee River Road, U.S. 50 (Meyers) to Mt. Rainier Drive
- D Street, U.S. 50 to Lake Tahoe Boulevard
- U.S. 50, Elks Point Road to Nevada 28
- Nevada 28, U.S. 50 to Sand Harbor
- Country Club Drive, Lake Shore Drive to Driver Way
- Northwood Boulevard, Village Boulevard east to Nevada 28
- Incline Way, Country Club Drive to Southwood Boulevard
- Mount Rose Highway, Nevada 28 to Campbell Road
- Campbell Road, Mount Rose Highway to Village Boulevard
- Ski Way, Country Club Drive to Fairview Boulevard

Class III bicycle routes are encouraged where Class I bicycle paths or Class II bicycle lanes are not feasible. Bicycle routes should be implemented in local areas to provide designated routes connecting local land uses or activities. These routes would not normally be considered as segments of the regional bicycle system except where no feasible alternative exists to bypass an area with unique impediments to constructing bicycle paths or lanes.
Aviation and Waterborne Services

Air travel and waterborne transportation provide two different opportunities for reducing dependency on the automobile for travel in the Region. Air travel provides an alternative means for access to the Tahoe Region, and waterborne services provide alternative means for travelling within the Region.

Air service provides access to the Region from international, national, and regional or nearby origins. Travelling by air allows travellers to come to the Region without their vehicles. This provides an opportunity to encourage these travellers to limit their use of automobiles while in the Region by ensuring that alternative and convenient transportation services are available.

Waterborne services provide an opportunity to travel to scenic attractions within the Region using alternative means of transportation. These services, when coupled with mass transportation or shuttle systems for ground access to waterborne services, can significantly reduce dependency on the automobile.

Aviation Services

Air travel is a viable alternative for travel to the Region and should be allowed to expand provided any adverse impacts can be mitigated to less than significant levels. Expansion of air service levels shall be consistent with the TRPA approved Airport Master Plan.

Parking at the airport should be limited to the existing parking area, and no expansion in parking should be allowed. Highway access to the airport should be designed to meet anticipated increases in air travel service levels. However, the Lake Tahoe Airport should encourage public and private transportation modes for ground access to the airport. There should be limited availability of rental vehicles at the airport.

Location of additional airport facilities shall be limited to existing sites.

Waterborne Services

Waterborne transportation services are encouraged to expand, provided any negative impacts can be mitigated. Private waterborne service operators are encouraged to provide waterborne services as an alternative for commuting from areas around the Lake to other areas, particularly from the North Shore to the South Shore. Waterborne transportation services linking Tahoe City to South Lake Tahoe, Kings Beach, and Incline Village/Crystal Bay are encouraged.

Waterborne excursion services are also encouraged to expand and provide alternative transportation access to scenic areas and recreational activities. Public participation in the provision of waterborne services should be limited to public ground transportation and planning for shore-side facilities needed for docking, ticketing, parking, and ground transfers. Community Plans with lakeside activity areas should provide for waterborne transportation services and shore-side facilities, and for pedestrian and public transportation access.
Streets and Highways

The Tahoe Regional Planning Compact calls for a reduction of dependency on the automobile in serving the transportation needs of the Region. The Compact also states that where increases in capacity are required, TRPA shall give preference to providing such capacity through public transportation and public programs and projects related to transportation.

The Compact also calls for a transportation plan for the integrated development of a regional system of transportation, including but not limited to parkways and highways. The Compact says that the transportation plan shall give consideration to the completion of the South Stateline Loop Road system.

The importance of limiting automobile use in the Region is understood and priority is given to implementing public transportation services. However, it should be recognized that the private automobile is and, in the near future, will continue to be the primary mode of transportation. Streets and highways shall be maintained and should be improved to meet growing demands. Additional roadways may be needed to allow the expansion of transit services.

The following street and highway projects are recommended in the Tahoe Region:

**South Shore**
- Completion of the Loop Road system in the South Stateline area consistent with the South Tahoe Redevelopment Plan.
- Montreal Road extension from the South Loop Road to Needle Peak Road and Pioneer Trail.
- An improved connection between Kingsbury Grade and the South Loop Road.
- Completion of Pioneer Trail upgrading project to include shoulders, turn lanes, and horizontal and vertical curve improvements, from U.S. 50 (Meyers) to Needle Peak.

**North Shore**
- California 28 improvements through Tahoe City from the intersection of California 28 and 89 (Tahoe City Wye) to the State Recreation Area.
- Realignment of California 89 westward to the vicinity of the Caltrans maintenance yard on the Truckee River. The new road alignment would cross the 64-acre tract to rejoin California 89 north of Granlibakken Road.
- Completion of circulation improvements (including a possible loop road system) in the North Stateline area.

Local streets are important on a regional scale because they can reduce demand on regional serving highways. Circulation improvements may also be required to serve local traffic needs. Local streets which will provide connections between residential areas and adjacent residential areas, schools, and commercial areas are encouraged, provided these local streets do not encourage through traffic. Additional local streets may be identified in community plans. These facilities may be included in the Regional Transportation Plan, provided it can be demonstrated that they are needed to improve
local circulation and will reduce traffic demand on the regional highway network.

Service roads connecting businesses and parking lots in commercial areas should be provided wherever possible. Service roads can preserve the capacity of the Region's highways in commercial areas by reducing the number of turning and parking conflicts, and by providing access for commercial service vehicles. Service roads in the Tahoe City shall be considered in order to preserve the capacity of California 28 through the commercial area.

Where alternative access exists, commercial deliveries should be prohibited from any portion of the travel lanes and turn lanes on U.S. 50, California 89, and California/Nevada 28. Service roads should be designed to accommodate commercial vehicles, but should also be designed to discourage through traffic seeking to bypass commercial area traffic.

In April, 1990, TRPA amended the Regional Transportation Plan to recommend to the State of California: 1) rescission of the freeway designation of the unconstructed Route 50 right-of-way from Meyers to Stateline, 2) retention of the portion of the right-of-way between Meyers and Al Tahoe Boulevard for mass transit facilities, pedestrian and bicycle trails, and other conveyances not involving the use of automobiles, 3) retention of the portion from Al Tahoe Boulevard to Needle Peak Road as a future transportation corridor.

In regard to the unconstructed Route 50 right-of-way, TRPA recommends the following actions:

1. Rescission of the freeway adoption of Route 50.
2. Programming right-of-way for the Montreal Road extension and a Class I bicycle facility.
3. Constructing the Montreal Road extension as a local arterial on the portion of the rescinded freeway alignment from Stateline to Needle Peak Road.
4. Retaining that portion of the unconstructed Route 50 right-of-way from Needle Peak Road to Al Tahoe Boulevard for future use as a transportation corridor, including the possible construction of a local arterial.
5. Constructing a Class I bicycle facility from Meyers to Needle Peak in the rescinded freeway alignment.

Only that portion of the unconstructed Route 50 right-of-way sufficient to accommodate these proposed transportation uses should be retained. Excess right-of-way should be disposed of.

**Social Services Transportation**

Transportation services for the elderly, handicapped, and persons of limited means residing in the Tahoe Region are provided by several private and public social services agencies. These services are widely used and appear to be meeting the demand placed on them. Transit
service is available in much of the Region, but not in all areas. Demand-responsive and subsidized taxi service programs are also available.

The opportunity for coordination of existing social service transportation programs is limited. Although some coordination of services does exist, the needs of individual social services agencies’ clients tend to be specialized which often makes coordination of transportation services impractical. Several agencies do subsidize their clients’ use of available public transportation.

Public-private partnerships should be provided which will optimize the provision of transportation services to the elderly, handicapped, and others with specialized transportation needs.

On the South Shore, the City of South Lake Tahoe, El Dorado County, and Douglas County should develop agreements to provide services for persons requiring specialized transportation services, and allowing these services to cross City and County boundaries and the state line. Although the majority of transit dependent persons in the South Shore area reside within the City of South Lake Tahoe, El Dorado County provides for the transportation needs of these people through the El Dorado County Department of Senior and Family Services.

On the North Shore, Placer County and Washoe County should develop agreements to participate in the funding and provision of social services transportation across the state line. Placer County should also develop a similar agreement with Nevada County to provide specialized transportation services to Truckee.

The Tahoe Transportation District (TTD) is the designated Consolidated Transportation Services Agency (CTSA) for the Tahoe Region. However, the TTD has never provided transportation services and has not been active since 1989. A single specialized transportation services provider should be established for the South Shore by agreement between the City of South Lake Tahoe, El Dorado and Douglas Counties. This service provider should be designated as the CTSA.

A similar agreement between Placer, Nevada, and Washoe Counties should also be entered into. Placer County should be designated as the North Shore CTSA.

Specialized transportation services should continue to be provided to the elderly and handicapped transit dependent residents of the Region. Accessible public transit vehicles should be provided on all routes and feeder routes. Accessible demand responsive services should be provided to those who cannot access or do not have fixed-route public transportation services. All public transportation facilities, including pedestrian facilities, transit vehicles, shelters and stops, transfer stations, and multi-modal transportation centers shall be fully accessible to the handicapped.
MEMORANDUM

October 5, 2004

To: TRPA Advisory Planning Commission

From: TRPA Staff

Subject: Extension of Public Hearing on Public Comments for Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Lake Tahoe Shorezone Ordinance Amendments

Proposed Action: No action is required for this item. At the September Governing Board meeting, a decision was made to extend the comment period until October 28, 2004, thus providing the public with an additional 30 days to comment on the Lake Tahoe Shorezone Ordinance Amendments DEIS and with two additional opportunities (October APC and GB meetings) for public hearings.

If there are any questions regarding this agenda item, please contact Coleen Shade at 775/588-4547 or email at coleens@trpa.org.