



August 29, 2011

To: Joint Infrastructure/Transportation Committee

From: Ron Treabess, Director of Community Partnerships and Planning

Re: Status Reports: Presentations of On-Going Infrastructure Projects by Project Lead Agencies/Organizations

Background

The appropriate representatives of the various agencies and organizations that have received TOT funding for projects approved by the NLTRA Board and Placer County Board of Supervisors will be present to update the Committee and possibly other Board members on the status of their projects. Some of the projects may have a relationship to other on-going projects and/or a need for future infrastructure TOT funding.

The Projects

To familiarize the Committee and the Board with the projects, staff has provided the following project descriptions from the Integrated Work Plan.

A-13. Northstar/Martis Community Multi-Purpose Trail

Lead Agency: Northstar Community Services District

Project Status: The Northstar Community Services District has initiated the project for planning and construction of this roughly seven mile paved recreation trail running from the Northstar border near Highway 267, through the Northstar community up to the Basin rim at Four Corners. While this is a necessary trail for visitor recreation and circulation within Northstar, it will also provide a potential link in the Tahoe Vista-Northstar Bike Trail connecting Lake Tahoe with the Martis Valley and Truckee. The total project cost for all planning, environmental, permitting, and construction is expected to be approximately \$12 million. The lead agency for this project is the Northstar Community Services District. The NLTRA has committed \$1,000,000 in TOT funds to conduct planning and environmental work in advance of detailed project design. The first phase was the preparation of an economic feasibility analysis and community survey. This has been completed. NCS D has now moved forward with work necessary for the environmental documentation of this project. This work is expected to be completed during 2011. Future requests for funding are anticipated starting in 2012.

NLTRA funds committed to date: \$1,000,000

Funds expended to date: \$500,000

Town of Truckee Trail System

Lead Agency: Town of Truckee Department of Public Works

While not funded by Placer County through the NLTRA, the Town of Truckee Trail System is an integral part of the Resort Triangle trail network and is a necessary component in our region's complete trail system.

A-14. Squaw Valley-Truckee Bike Trail/Truckee River Corridor Access Plan

Lead Agency: Placer County Planning Department

Project Status: Preliminary Planning phase. Several years ago, the Planning Department initiated an ambitious task of coordinating planning efforts for recreational access and environmental protection along the Truckee River Corridor to the Placer/Nevada County border. The Plan is to restore and enhance the ecological, water quality, recreation and non-motorized transportation values for the benefit visitors and residents. This effort and associated environmental analysis had to be suspended until additional funding could be obtained to complete the planning project. This preliminary planning phase is the necessary first step toward development of the bike trail linking the Lake to Squaw Valley trail with the Truckee trail segments continuing on to Martis Valley and Northstar. The benefits that the trail will provide are measured in terms of reducing auto use as well as providing a recreational amenity to visitors and residents. Extension of this trail for the 8 miles between Squaw Valley and the Nevada County line is very important toward the attainment of the Resort Triangle Class I trail system. The NLTRA has provided Placer County an infrastructure grant to complete the corridor plan which will allow the more specific bike trail planning to occur.

NLTRA funds committed to date: \$265,000

Funds expended to date: \$0

A-7. Squaw Valley Olympic Ski Museum

Lead Agency: Squaw Valley Olympic Museum Committee/NLTRA

Project Status: This project is to combine the existing Western Ski Museum, now located at Boreal, with a new world class Olympic Ski Museum to commemorate and preserve the heritage of the 1960 Olympic Winter Games. The new facility will be located in Squaw Valley. As this project progresses, the NLTRA is partnering in the planning funding. The Olympic Museum Committee is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit corporation with the assistance of an initial \$12,000 TOT grant. The Committee was then granted \$200,000, which was approved by the Board of Supervisors, to complete the feasibility study and business plan. Consultants have been retained to define the museum space and functions, select a site, and develop a capital campaign. The Committee, County, and the community are working through alternative site locations, hoping to make an acceptable selection during 2011. NLTRA is anticipating taking a larger role in the process. Additional TOT funding requests of \$648,000 can be anticipated as the project progresses.

NLTRA funds committed to date: \$212,000

Funds expended to date: \$212,000

A-15. Homewood Class 1 Bicycle Trail

Lead Agency: Tahoe City PUD

Project Status: With advocacy support from the NLTRA, TCPUD is working with California Tahoe Conservancy, TRPA, and Caltrans to request that this section of Class I trail be incorporated into the planning and construction of a Caltrans highway/water quality improvement project on Highway 89 in Homewood. Caltrans has reviewed this request and has made some adjustments to their project to accommodate the trail, but recommends that the TCPUD do the design, any additional environment analysis if necessary, and construction of the trail. NLTRA funding will be required to assist with this environmental work, design and construction. NLTRA and CTC have partnered to provide the initial \$330,000 necessary to complete the environmental work. Additional funding will be requested as Caltrans moves ahead with the project.

NLTRA funds committed to date: \$309,500

Funds expended to date: \$165,000

A-11. Lakeside Multi-purpose Trail

Lead Agency: Tahoe City Public Utility District

Project Status: With the completion of project phase 4 in 2007, this lakefront trail is now open from the Truckee River Outlet, across the dam, through the Commons Beach ending at Grove Street. The planning for phases 5, 6, and 7, along the commercial lake frontage east of Commons Beach, continues. According to current schedules, the entire project, with the exception of the Tahoe Marina Lodge, is scheduled for completion in 2012. The NLTRA remains a major funding partner for this project and has recently approved an additional \$1,000,000 toward the completion of this project.

NLTRA funds committed to date: \$1,384,663

Funds expended to date: \$309,160

Bike Trail Informational/Wayfinding Map Signage

Lead Agency: Tahoe City Public Utility District

Project Status: A need for visitor orientation to the existing Class 1 trail system continues to become more apparent as overall use increases. The TCPUD has proposed 24 Wayfinding informational map signs to be strategically located along the District's 19 miles of multi-purpose trails. While adding to the overall consistent theme of the North Lake Tahoe Wayfinding Signage Program, this signage will provide accurate trail mapping including a "you are here" feature. Additionally, the signs will identify the location of public services such as restrooms, transit stops, recreation areas, and business districts, as well as defining trail etiquette for those using the trails. A TOT grant has been approved to assist with the design, production, construction, and installation. The project is scheduled to be completed during 2010-2011.

NLTRA funds committed to date: \$29,260

Funds expended to date: \$ 0

A-19. Tahoe City Visitor Center/Fire Station Site/West Commons Beach

Lead Agency: TCPUD, Placer County, Community Plan Team

Project Status: The vision and potential location for this project remain at the "very preliminary discussion" stage. The need is to relocate the existing visitor information center to a more visible, larger facility, which would better serve visitor and community needs for information and interpretive education. A potential site, at the time the existing fire station is relocated away from the Commons, is the current site which will need to be redeveloped and restored to be an integral part of the existing Commons beach and plazas. One alternative for this site may be as a location to include a multi-agency North Lake Tahoe Visitor Center, Lake Tahoe interpretation/performance theater, and other visitor serving enhancements. The time to study the various opportunities is now as the fire station function will cease within two years. Infrastructure funds are anticipated to be \$150,000 during 2011-12 to complete this community planning process.

NLTRA funding committed to date: \$45,000

Funds expended to date: \$ -0-

A-25. TART Bus Shelters Upgrades

Lead Agency: TART, DPW

Project Status: Many of the DPW/TART bus shelters are in need of refurbishment or replacement. This project will be spread over several years. DPW/TART will continue seeking additional funding sources to supplement the TOT funds. An initial request for \$153,000 of matching TOT has been granted to DPW/TART for construction of the first 5 shelters. Addition funding will be requested as this TART bus shelter improvement program moves forward

NLTRA funds committed to date: \$153,000

Funds expended to date: \$153,000

A-23. Tahoe City Transit Center

Lead Agency: Placer County Dept. of Public Works

Project Status: The Placer County Board of Supervisors approved the EIR/EIS for this project and authorized the project design. Construction began during 2010, with completion planned for 2011-2012. In addition to the 6 bus transit center, the project will provide 130 parking spaces. The NLTRA previously approved \$150,000 to assist with project planning and design. An additional funding request of \$500,000 was approved in fall, 2008. A demonstration wayfinding signage project is a part of the transit center development, which has been funded as part of the Transit Center Wayfinding Signage Project (A-24).

NLTRA funds committed to date: \$500,000 Funds expended to date: \$64,350

A-24. Tahoe City Transit Center Wayfinding Signage

Lead Agency: Placer County DPW

Project Status: This proposed Community Wayfinding Signage Demonstration Project will consist of 5 various signs at the Transit Center. The signs will demonstrate the standards set forth in the Draft North Lake Tahoe Wayfinding Signage Standards. The project will be a subset of the larger Tahoe City Transit Center project. This signage project will be completed in FY-2011-12.

NLTRA funds committed to date: \$68,000 Funds expended to date: \$11,000

A-31. State Highway 89 Realignment and Improvements (Tahoe City)

Lead Agency: Tahoe Transportation District

Project Status: The planning process for this project began with a study of the future of Fanny Bridge. That study concluded that there was an approximate ten year remaining life span for the current Fanny Bridge and that the bridge would have to be replaced (or traffic over the bridge significantly reduced). This conclusion gave additional impetus to the need to study alternatives to Highway 89 linking Tahoe City and the West Shore. The NLTRA, Truckee-North Tahoe TMA, and other local stakeholders participated in a public process to help develop a range of project alternatives. TRPA had been the lead agency coordinating development of a formal environment review of project alternatives. This lead has been redirected to the Tahoe Transportation District to move ahead with the project development in partnership with Placer County DPW. TTD is pursuing federal funding opportunities, as well as other opportunities, to proceed.

The NLTRA anticipates the need for a very active role in support of advancing this project as a major component of reducing chronic peak season traffic congestion between Tahoe City and the West Shore and within Tahoe City itself.

NLTRA anticipated funding: Possibly

A-12. Dollar Hill/Tahoe Vista Class 1 Bicycle Trail (North Tahoe Multi-purpose)

Lead Agency: Placer County Department of Public Works

Project Status: Completion of the planning, environmental review and construction of this project is back on track after being stalled due to concerns over potential impacts to wildlife species (primarily birds) having habitat in areas along the proposed trail route in the "back country" from Dollar Hill to the Regional Park in Tahoe Vista. The California Tahoe Conservancy has been the primary project funding agency. The Placer County DPW has become the lead agency for

planning, preparation of the environmental document, and project development. DPW is now looking at doing this project in a series of stages, with the first being from Dollar Hill through Carnelian Bay. A request for \$200,000 was approved in the spring, 2009, to keep the project on track while the CTC state funding was frozen. An additional \$1,000,000 TOT request is anticipated

NLTRA funds committed to date: \$200,000

Funds expended to date: \$ 0

A-10. Kings Beach Commercial Core Improvement Project

Lead Agency: Placer County Department of Public Works

Project Status: The construction of a pedestrian friendly commercial core area has been a priority of the NLTRA from its inception, as recommended in adopted *Kings Beach Community Plan*, the 1995 *Tourism Development Master Plan*, and the 2004 *North Lake Tahoe Tourism and Community Investment Master Plan*. The Kings Beach project has proceeded with protracted deliberation over many years due to various complexities. The EIR/EIS (environmental report) for this project was released for public review and comment in Fall of 2007 with additional work and analysis prepared in response to that review during 2008 and 2009. As a result of that effort, the project has been approved by the Board of Supervisors and the TRPA Governing Board. Concurrently, Placer County DPW and the Placer County Redevelopment Agency have been assembling a funding package to support project construction. This has been a complex project, designed to address a number of environmental, transportation and community design issues, including water quality improvements, highway design, sidewalks, streetscape and lighting, landscaping, and appropriate parking improvements.

Based on the current estimated schedule, it is anticipated that the final design of the approved preferred alternative and final project will be completed during 2011. Construction is to begin in late 2011 or early 2012, with a completion date in the fall of 2014. The NLTRA's role is to continue working with Placer County, TRPA, Caltrans, the NTBA Main Street Design Committee, and the community at large to ensure timely development and completion of the project.

To date, the NLTRA has allocated \$4,250,000 in support of project development. This project remains a very high priority for the community and the NLTRA.

NLTRA funds committed to date: \$4,250,000

Funds expended to date: \$2,280,560

A-16. Tahoe Vista Recreation Area Access and Bike Trail

Lead Agency: North Tahoe Public Utility District

Project Status: The Tahoe Vista Recreation Area is a comprehensive recreational development area located within the North Tahoe Public Utility District (NTPUD). It consists of 800 feet of lakeshore frontage and 6.3 acres of property near the intersection of State Route 28 and National Avenue. When complete, the 2-phase project will include lake access recreation, boat launching, picnicking, parking, pedestrian circulation, bike trail, restrooms, transportation shelters, storm water treatment, and other amenities. The NTPUD initiated Phase I of the project in 2004 with lakeside improvements on 2.7 acres of the total property. This phase was completed in 2007. To complete Phase I, the NLTRA and Placer County provided \$500,000 of Infrastructure funds which helped leverage the major share of the funding from the California Tahoe Conservancy and Department of Boating and Waterways.

Phase II will involve final planning and construction of recreational amenities and support facilities primarily on the 3.6 non-lakeside acres necessary to insure completion of the Tahoe Vista Recreation Area. The facilities planned for the already purchased land include vehicle and boat trailer parking, bike trail, bus stops and shelters, site preparation for concession/warming structure, and restrooms. The total project was permitted with the condition that parking would be constructed on this parcel to support the parking needs of the park and the boat launch facility completed as part of Phase I. The remainder of the necessary funding has been committed by the Department of Boating and Waterways and the California Tahoe Conservancy, as well as from the North Tahoe Public Utility District. Completion of the project is scheduled for 2011.

NLTRA funds committed to date: \$500,000 Funds expended to date: \$ 0

A-28. North Tahoe Regional Park Playground Renovation

Lead Agency: North Tahoe PUD

Project Status: The construction of this project will provide a safe, state of the art children's play area which will further enhance the visitor attraction to this well-known regional park facility.

NLTRA funds committed to date: \$44,000 Funds expended to date: \$-0-

A-1. Regional Wayfinding Signage

Lead Agency: NLTRA/Others to be determined

Project Status: After many months of delay as staff worked out the method of progressing toward completion of the Wayfinding Signage Manual, the project is back on track through the sub-consultant's and Placer County's efforts which will allow development of the missing permitting section. Placer County Planning Department has guided us to make an Environmental Questionnaire submittal with the ultimate goal of establishing a mutually acceptable Zoning Text Amendment for the Placer County Sign Ordinance. This would allow for the existence of Wayfinding Signs by recognizing them as a signage category for North Lake Tahoe. Staff is anticipating some additional funding to be required and has requested \$20,000 (\$9000 for consultant support and \$11,000 for county fees) in order to complete the manual, including the Placer County EQ submittal fee, necessary for project wrap-up. After completion, staff will then move ahead with design and placement specific demonstration signage on the ground.

NLTRA funds committed to date: \$183,255 Funds expended to date: \$179,165

North Lake Tahoe Welcome Center at Reno-Tahoe Airport

Lead Agency: NLTRA

Project Status: Staff, under Board direction, is working with the Reno Tahoe Intl. Airport and the TMA to develop a highly visible North Lake Tahoe Welcoming Center and NLTE ticket counter in the airport baggage claim area. We are anticipating an initial opening about September 1st, with full operation being in place for the start of the winter travel season.

NLTRA funds committee to date: \$40,000 Funds expended to date: \$-0-

The Request

This is an update on the progress of on-going projects. There is no action being requested from the Committee or Board at this time.