


Public Comment #30
BDS Revd 6/23/25
25-1084



AGENDA ITEM # 25-1084

From Juli Johnston <JJohnsto@placer.ca.gov>
Date Fri 6/20/2025 4:56 PM
To BOS-Clerk of the Board <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

 1 attachment (215 KB)
FedEx Scan 2025-03-03_16-08-55.pdf;

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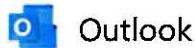
To whom it may concern.

Juli M. Johnston

Film Program Liaison
Film Placer Tahoe - Film Office
Economic Development
145 Fulweiler Avenue
Auburn, CA 95603
Filmoffice@placer.ca.gov
(530) 889-4091 | (530) 889-4095 fax
(877) 288-3456 toll-free | www.filmplacertahoe.com



public comment #30
BOS Rcvd 6/23/25
25-1084



RE: AGENDA ITEM #25-1084

From Stan Bautista <aapexlocations@gmail.com>
Date Fri 6/20/2025 10:11 PM
To BOS-Clerk of the Board <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

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To whom it may concern,

My name is Stan Bautista. I'm a location manager for film, TV, and other visual arts projects and a Capital Film Arts Alliance Board member. I'm writing to address the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors' proposal to shutter the county's film office.

As a location manager, I work very closely with film offices during the scouting, permitting and on-location phases of film production. Locations communicate with film commissioners more than any other department in our industry, including producers. So please allow me to share my observations about working with counties that don't have a film office.

First and foremost, projects will still try to film in your county but without permits or oversight. Professional companies shy away from what are seen as Wild West locations, without the support systems they desire. A company like Wonder Partners, who paid \$5,000 to rent 12 hours in an empty area of the Marshall Family Medical building, would not have filmed in El Dorado County had it not been for the film office.

In the absence of oversight, county services will have to be utilized in a different way, with other departments introduced to the process where they hadn't been before. Instead of supporting lawful, permitted productions, LEO will be called to situations that may now be unlawful. With the courts left to decide the outcome. Not to mention the safety issues that arise without oversight or suggested best practices.

The financial impact lessens as well, without a county advocate promoting local lodging, catering, and other supporting vendors. Film commissioners work hard to keep that revenue in the county. Lodging, food & incidentals make up a significant percentage of production costs. And the close proximity of those goods & services to filming locations is important.

What I mention above is in regard to average locales that are unspectacular in one form or another. The stakes are higher with a county like El Dorado. Your county includes the Sierra foothills & mountains, rivers, historic towns, ski resorts, wine country, the Rubicon Trail, almost a third of the largest alpine lake in all of North America, and more. As the steward of these highly desired locations that showcase the beauty of El Dorado County, I implore you to not withhold their safe and lawful availability.

My greatest fear is that The Board is sacrificing a vital component of local government for a challenge not of that department's making. With negative results for not only the citizens of the county, but for filmmakers everywhere who want to share the splendor of El Dorado County with their audiences.

And I couldn't close without mentioning what a force Kathleen Dodge is in our industry or the Film Mixer she leads. A loss of either, let alone both, would be devastating for our region. I do hope there's a way to keep film and commercial projects alive in El Dorado County.

Please feel free to get back if there's any assistance I may provide during your decision-making process.
And thank you for your consideration of my concerns regarding this challenge.

Stan Bautista
aapexlocations@gmail.com
(530) 318-2533

public comment #30
BOS rec'd 6/23/25
25-1084



Item 30 BOS 06/24/25 #25-1084 El Dorado Tahoe Film

From Roberta K. Long <rjklong@comcast.net>

Date Sat 6/21/2025 3:35 PM

To BOS-Clerk of the Board <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

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To: El Dorado County Board of Supervisors

I am writing in support of the El Dorado Tahoe Film.

Under the professional leadership of the executive director for the past 30 years, the County's film office has brought increasing revenue into the county far beyond the expense allocated.

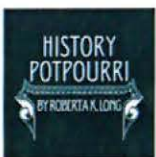
Attracting film producers, whether for movies or other media, sports events, documentaries, or commercials, is a challenge. It requires someone who is familiar with the film industry, who understands their needs, and can respond at a moment's notice on any day at any time in any season. It also calls for knowledge of all that El Dorado County has to offer as location sites, services, lodging and special requests.

El Dorado Tahoe Film has earned increased recognition statewide and internationally, as well as many honors in the past. It is now in a position to take advantage of opportunities that are online now.

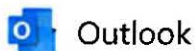
It is in the best interests of El Dorado County to sustain this important asset to a healthy economy.

Roberta Long

Roberta Long, MPA
Author/Writer/Photographer
rjklong@comcast.net
530-305-0720



<https://history-potpourri.com>



Public comment #30
BOS Rcvd 6/23/25
25-1084

RE: AGENDA ITEM # 25-1084

From Laurie Pederson <lauriep@capitalfilmarts.org>

Date Mon 6/23/2025 2:07 PM

To BOS-Clerk of the Board <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

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To whom it may concern, and it concerns MANY...

Filmmakers of all levels are deeply disappointed in the decision to close the film services office and force-retire Kathleen Dodge, a 32-year employee who built your film office from the ground up. No one knows what she knows about making a movie in your county, and she would be hard to replace.

The El Dorado/Lake Tahoe region offers some of the most sought after, unique and beautiful film locations in the state, and that office is very lucky to have this dedicated film commissioner and champion of the region in Ms. Kathleen Dodge. As a representative of the film community and the Capital Film Arts Alliance, we treasure her services, her knowledge and experience in a wide range of everything from low budget indies to multi-million dollar blockbusters!

Who's going to answer the phone to best promote your region after June 30th? How will aspiring filmmakers in your region be supported? What are you thinking?

Tsk. tsk. tsk.

Laurie Pederson / CFAA

lauriep@capitalfilmarts.org

916-600-6477

<http://www.capitalfilmarts.org>



Greetings Supervisor, Chief Administrative Officer, and Clerk of the Board,

Subject: Public Comment on Tourism and Film Commission Funding – Board of Supervisors Meeting 3/4/2025

This letter is submitted for public comment during the Open Forum for items not included on the agenda for the 3/4/2025 Board of Supervisors meeting.

The Placer Tahoe Film Office is writing to express our disappointment in hearing of the reduction in funding for El Dorado County's tourism and the Film Commission, which was approved by the Board as a directive to staff during the Board's February 11, 2025, meeting in discussions for Fiscal Year 2025/26 budget.

Placer and El Dorado counties share a vibrant tourism ecosystem with visitors exploring our foothills and wineries, as well as the majestic Lake Tahoe region. We understand that tourism is a highly competitive industry as visitors have many options in California. A visitor lost is hard to get back once they've adapted to their new favorite destination.

Additionally, film productions play a significant role in our regional tourism strategy as it helps when prospective visitors see our film locations on the big screen or on TV commercials. The El Dorado Film Commission recently reported that they have a 2000% return on investment (ROI) in a Sac Town Movie Buffs interview. In Placer County alone, our film office contributes an estimated \$5.5 million annually in economic impacts.

Film Offices in Sacramento, Placer and El Dorado counties have a strong collaborating relationship, and collectively have positioned our tri-county region as a premier filming destination – informally known as "Hollywood North." All three film offices have seen an increase in momentum as film productions have come to really value the collaboration between our film offices. This relationship is a direct outcome of our Film Commission leadership and their commitment to strengthening this teamwork through consistent communication and sharing location needs and venues.

While budget constraints may cause tough decisions, we hope to encourage a long-term perspective on tourism and film industry investments. These sectors generate substantial revenue through visitor spending, transient occupancy tax (TOT), and job creation in hospitality and production support industries. Film exposure further amplifies tourism by showcasing our region on a national and global scale.

We respectfully ask that El Dorado County carefully evaluate the broader economic implications of this decision, possibly exploring alternative solutions to these proposed funding reductions.

Hopefully, you can find a way to continue funding tourism and film at least at the current level, while continuing to experience the ROI that comes from this investment. Please be assured that our Tourism and Film teams are available to discuss this matter further at your convenience. We can be reached at gstearns@placer.ca.gov and filmoffice@placer.ca.gov

Sincerely,



Gloria Stearns
Economic Development Director
Placer County



Juli Johnston
Film Liaison
Placer County