



## MEMORANDUM

Date: October 21, 2014

To: El Dorado County Board of Supervisors

From: Vicki Sanders, EDC Parks Manager and Lauren Thomaselli, City of South Lake Tahoe Recreation Manager

RE: South Lake Tahoe Parks, Trails and Recreation Draft Master Plan ~ summary of comments and recommended edits.

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In Spring 2013 City and County leaders agreed to jointly produce and fund the first ever comprehensive Parks, Trails and Recreation Master Plan for the East Slope of El Dorado County in South Lake Tahoe. The plan is currently in the final phase of the four phase process and focused on collecting final comments and recommended edits. The ultimate goal is to produce a well thought out plan reflective of the needs and priorities of the community as identified through an extensive community outreach process. What follows is a summary of comments collected during the public comment period ending on October 10, 2014. Project Core Team members reviewed comments and produced a list of recommended edits to the project consultants to include in the final document. The edits are provided in summary for ease of reference.

On August 29, 2014 the public draft plan was released on both the City of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County websites along with a four question survey. Comments were collected on line as well as at a public open house held at the South Lake Tahoe Recreation Complex on September 25, 2014. An extensive advertising campaign was launched by the City of South Lake Tahoe Public Information office including all major media outlets, TV and Radio interviews inviting public participation. A total of 366 people responded to the online survey and public open house survey. Two members of the public submitted lengthy email replies and two agencies submitted letters with specific comments including TRPA and CTC. Tahoe Chamber Executive Director Betty Gorman also submitted a letter in support of the plan including a few minor revision recommendations.

### **Survey Responses: (top 3 responses)**

Question #1 The Parks, Trails, and Recreation Master Plan identifies priority projects to be initiated or completed in the next 5 years if funding is available. Of these projects, which 3 are the most important to you?

1. Bijou Bike Park 46.7%
2. Trail Development 37.5%
3. Sawmill Bike Path Extension 27.1%

Question #2 Are there any other projects that should be added to the 5-year list?

1. 18 Requested indoor tennis courts/public tennis courts/access to tennis courts
2. 14 Requested bike trail improvements/additions/access/improved signage.
3. 13 Requested skate park improvements/expansions/maintenance

Question #3 Which of the following priority tasks for operations and management are most important to you?

- |                                                                  |       |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| 1. Improved trail maintenance                                    | 57.1% |
| 2. Consolidated information about recreation                     | 43.5% |
| 3. Increased parks and recreation staffing for improved services | 36%   |

Question #4 Do you have any other comments about the master plan?

1. 15 Expressions of support for the plan
2. 15 Requested increase in multi-use trails
3. 8 Expressions of support for building the bike park.

As with many findings and recommendations identified in the master plan the survey results remain consistent with previous findings. With the exception of a desire for tennis courts there were no new comments that resulted in additional edits to the plan from the survey results.

The five letters received by members of the public and agency leaders from TRPA, CTC and Tahoe Chamber did result in specific edits related to semantics, inclusive verbiage, and basic corrections summarized as follows:

Acknowledgements –

- Revised EDC Board of Supervisor members and Parks and Recreation Commissioners to reflect current seats.

Chapter 2 – Existing Recreation System –

- inclusion of South Tahoe Bikeway,
- references to TTD and TMPO/TRPA as planning and funding agencies
- Correction on property ownership of a specific parcel that was acquired by CTC in 2012.

Chapter 3 – Community Priorities and Needs –

- Inclusion of language referencing access improvements at recreation sites to focus on improving pedestrian, transit and bicycle access to sites rather than focusing only on providing additional parking adjacent to the site.
- Several requests for sources to be cited. Especially on page 38 & 39 in reference to Tahoe Tourism statistics.

Chapter 4 – Vision For the Future –

- Edit Vision statement to include “We envision...diverse year round recreation opportunities desirable today and by future residents and visitors...”
- Edit Planning Priorities – to include “neighboring communities including Douglas County to coordinate recreation information.”

Chapter 5 – Recommendations –

- Partner with TRPA and other agencies to support the TMPO efforts to provide transit that includes space for sporting equipment and recreation gear.
- Seek consistency with TRPA Regional Plan, City and TVAP/Core area plans and the Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan documents.

- Remove verbiage regarding Quimby requirements.
- Add winter recreation trails and snow parks to trail access recommendation
- More emphasis on winter recreation. Specifically, there are only 2 designated snow parks areas that are not accessible via public transit further impeding access while other trailheads are closed in winter.
- More emphasis on the Lake Tahoe Water Trail. Add: work with other agencies to identify opportunities to provide access to the water trail.
- Remove reference to Highland Woods as that is a CTC owned property.
- Change verbiage regarding maintenance of retention basins to include recognizing grant funded obligations for maintenance.
- CTC corrections to 56 acre concept plan references to maintenance yard relocation/retention.
- CTC request to use an improved concept drawing (request to provide)
- Add prioritizing El Dorado to Ski Run Blvd Bike Path Project in Ch. 5 and Quick Wins. (CTC funded City design and environmental analysis in process).

Detailed edits and comments are available upon request. The Project Core Team consisting of Supervisor Santiago, Council members Cole and Swanson, City Manager Nancy Kerry, Recreation Manager, Lauren Thomaselli and Parks Manager Vicki Sanders represent the team of county and city leaders who met, discussed, and critiqued every phase of the project including the final edits contained herein.

It should be noted that a Master Plan Advisory Committee consisting of public, private, and nonprofit recreation providers performed a critical role in guiding this process with a diverse perspective. We wish to thank them for their valuable contribution to this effort.

Concluding comments from the Project Core Team reflect excitement for the future of recreation. With City and County leaders continued support through funding and collaboration to move toward implementation quality of life for residents and visitors will thrive for many years to come.