169 Highway 50 Edgewood Village, Bldg. D Post Office Box 7139 Stateline, Nevada 8 9 4 4 9

775.588.1728 **ph** 775.588.1941 **fx**



October 14, 2014

Mr. David Landry Senior Planner Tahoe Regional Planning Agency PO Box 5310 Stateline, NV 89449 dlandry@trpa.org

Re: HEAVENLY MOUNTAIN RESORT EPIC DISCOVERY PROJECT AND DRAFT EIR/EIS/EIS COMMENTS

Dear Mr. Landry:

TahoeChamber supports Heavenly Mountain Resort's proposed Epic Discovery project. We believe the proposed project aligns succinctly with our guiding document, Tahoe Future: A South Shore Community Vision 2020. Epic Discovery will enhance quality of life, sustainability efforts and infrastructure improvements all while contributing to the economic vitality of the South Shore.

The proposed project will improve the quality of life for residents in our community by adding more year-round employment opportunities for our outdoor recreation workforce. Additionally, it will increase the accessibility to our scenic and recreational opportunities for residents and visitors alike. Improving access to outdoor recreation is essential to improving the overall visitor and resident experience and furthers the goals of the TRPA's Regional Plan Update and the recently-adopted local area plans.

We believe the environmental education program proposed as part of the Epic Discovery project is a positive step in improving the sustainability dialogue on the South Shore. Our recreation economy is directly affected by our effort towards improving environmental sustainability. Heavenly is commended for incorporating environmental sustainability measures into the project.

TahoeChamber supports efforts to attract capital investment to the Basin. In this regard, we particularly support the development of the Forest Flyer alpine coaster and the mountain bike park as these would add diversity to our recreation offerings. Both activities are consistent with the 2011 Forest Service Summer Uses legislation and the management direction for Heavenly.

Please submit this letter to all three lead agencies reviewing the project. We appreciate the opportunity to share our input on this vital project.

Sincerely,

Tamara Hollingsworth Chair of the Board

Jason Drew

Jason Drew Chair, Government Affairs Committee