



County of Placer  
**North Tahoe Regional Advisory Council**  
**Olympic Valley Municipal Advisory Council**  
175 Fulweiler Avenue • Auburn, CA 95603 • (530) 889-4010  
County Contact • Bridget Powers • (530) 889-4010

\*\*\*\*\*SPECIAL JOINT NTRAC / OVMAC MEETING\*\*\*\*\*

**SPECIAL JOINT MEETING AGENDA**

6:00 PM, Thursday, February 15, 2024

Palisades Tahoe, Base Camp Conference Room  
1750 Village East Road, Olympic Valley, CA. 96146

Online via Zoom (link below) **Webinar ID: 926 2515 1661**

This is an in-person meeting for the MAC members and county staff, and the public is also welcome to participate in person.

Options for the public to participate virtually will also be offered as follows:

Members of the public may observe and participate in this meeting by accessing the following web link:

<https://placer-ca-gov.zoom.us/j/92625151661>

Members of the public may access meeting audio by calling 1-888-788-0099 US Toll Free or 877-853-5247 US Toll Free **Webinar ID: 926-2515-1661**

**1. Call to Order**

**2. MAC Member Introductions and Roll Call**

**3. Designate a Chair for Special Meeting**

**4. Approval of February 15, 2024 Special Joint Meeting Agenda**

**5. Approval of February 9, 2023 Special Joint Meeting Minutes**

**6. Public Comment:** (15 minutes – if additional time needed, comments to be heard at end of meeting)

This is the time for members of the public to address the MAC on any matter NOT listed on the agenda including upcoming community events or announcements. Please note that the MAC is not permitted to take any action on items addressed during public comment. Comments will be limited to three minutes, at the discretion of the Chair. If comments cannot be heard within the 3-minute time limit, the Chair may move the remainder of Public Comment to the end of the meeting.

**7. Reports:**

**A. Community Reports**

- i. Placer County Sheriff's Office

The RAC is composed of appointed community members whose purpose is to advise the Board of Supervisors about activities and problems of the area represented. Residents are encouraged to attend and talk about issues important to them. More info at [www.placer.ca.gov/bos/macs](http://www.placer.ca.gov/bos/macs). Placer County is committed to ensuring that persons with disabilities are provided the resources to participate fully in public meeting. If you require disability-related modifications or accommodations, including auxiliary aid or services, to attend or participate in this meeting, please contact the Board of Supervisor's Office.





- ii. CalFire
- iii. North Tahoe Fire Protection District
- iv. North Tahoe Public Utility District
- v. Tahoe City Public Utility District
- vi. Tahoe Regional Planning Agency
- vii. North Tahoe Community Alliance
- viii. Tahoe City Downtown Association
- ix. North Tahoe Business Association
- x. Olympic Valley Fire Department
- xi. Olympic Valley Public Service District

**B. NTRAC Member Reports**

**C. OVMAC Member Reports**

**D. County Supervisor Report**

**8. Action Item(s): None**

**9. Information Item(s):**

**A. Sierra Nevada Olympic Winter (SNOW) Sports Museum and Community Cultural Center Final Environmental Impact Report (PLN16-00349)**

The proposed Sierra Nevada Olympic Winter (SNOW) Sports Museum and Community Cultural Center project would include construction of a new, two-story, approximately 20,000 square foot museum and community cultural center building celebrating the 1960 Winter Olympics and history of winter sports in the Sierra Nevada and provide space for community activities. The project site consists of approximately one acre (with a disturbance area of 0.68-acre) of the 26.8-acre Olympic Valley Park site, 101 Olympic Valley Road, southwest of the intersection of Olympic Valley Road and State Route 89.

**Presented By: Patrick Dobbs, Senior Planner, Placer County Planning Services**

**B. Correspondence**

- 1. Correspondence received for the NTRAC and OVMAC pertaining to the SNOW Museum from February 9, 2023 through February 7, 2024.

**Adjournment**



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County Contact: Sophie Fox (530) 889-4010

\*\*\*\*\*SPECIAL JOINT NTRAC/OVMAC MEETING\*\*\*\*\*

**SPECIAL JOINT MEETING MINUTES - Draft**

**6:00 PM, Thursday, February 9, 2023**

**North Tahoe Event Center - 8318 N Lake Blvd, Kings Beach, CA 96143**

**Online via Zoom (link below) | Webinar ID: 963 7091 8772**

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 PM.

**2. MAC Member Introductions and Roll Call**

Olympic Valley MAC

MEMBERS PRESENT: A. Lange, Stepner, Bazjanac, Colhoun, Bossung, and Adriani

MEMBERS ABSENT: S. Lange

A quorum was established after the meeting started.

North Tahoe RAC

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chillemi, McFadden, Herrick, Hanson, Steakley, Hill, Fulda, and Roeder

MEMBERS ABSENT: Lutkemueller

A quorum was established.

STAFF PRESENT: Gustafson, Fox, and Friedman

There were approximately 150 people in the audience and 182 people on Zoom at the start of the meeting which included County staff and presenters

**3. Designate a Chair for Special Meeting**

Stepner was designated as Chair for tonight's meeting

**4. Approval of the February 9, 2023 Special Joint NTRAC/OVMAC Agenda**

**5. Approval of the November 15, 2021 Special Joint NTRAC/OVMAC Meeting Minutes**

**Motion for NTRAC to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2023 and November 21, 2021 meetings as presented. CHILLEMI/STEAKLEY/UNANIMOUS**

Because there was not a quorum of OVMAC at this time, these items were tabled.

**6. Reports:**

**A. Supervisor Report**

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Supervisor Gustafson reported Mark Watts, a transportation consultant, has been selected as the District 5 representative on the Placer County Planning Commission, from a field of 10 applicants.

### **B. Community Reports**

Mike Geary from the Olympic Valley Public Service District updated the group on the fuels management program. The Wildfire Prevention Plan has been updated and is being sent to various agencies for approval. The funding for the environmental review on the east end of the Valley and Alpine Meadows has been raised.

Geary announced the upcoming retirement of Olympic Valley Fire Department Alan Reilly.

The Olympic Valley Groundwater Management Plan has been approved.

### **7. Public Comment**

Billy Johnson presented a petition asking for more community involvement in the decision about a Kings Beach town center property.

Jim Gardner asked that Code Compliance address parking enforcement in the winter, noting snow makes for narrower lanes and cars parked illegally impact the streets. He also sent a letter about the Kings Beach town center project.

Angela Milash, Kathy Astromoph, Chris Bennett, David Waal, and Louie Fielding each voiced concern about the Homewood proposal.

Ann Nichols said Palisades Tahoe sold 19,000 lift tickets on the 28<sup>th</sup>. The only ones who do not understand are Placer County, TRPA, and the other agencies. More is not a solution. Big business and local agencies should build workforce housing.

Doug Flaherty feels an updated EIR, and EIS should be done to consider substantial and cumulative changes regarding the proposed updates to the Tahoe Basin Area Plan.

### **8. Action Item(s): None**

### **9. Information Items**

Supervisor Gustafson asked how many in the room were angry about traffic and everyone raised their hands. Tonight's meeting is to inform the public on what has been done over the past 40+ years to mitigate traffic issues. Gustafson said the local population has shrunk by 28% since the 2000 census, but there are more second homeowners and visitors. The populations in drive up areas has increased; Reno by 42% and Sacramento by 31%. Truckee has grown significantly and traffic patterns have shifted as a result. Tahoe City was

the center of traffic congestion years ago, but now traffic is coming from Truckee. Gustafson said patterns can change rather quickly, but transit systems are not as nimble.

Gustafson noted the formation of the regional Resort Triangle Transportation Plan. As a result of a Region/Urban Design Assistance Team (R/UDAT) study 30 years ago, the Truckee North Tahoe Transportation Management Association (TNT TMA) was formed.

Steve Teshara, the founding Board Chair of TNT TMA, provided more history on the traffic issues in the area and various strategies studied and implemented to address them. Over the years and still today, TNT TMA has lobbied for federal and state funding to address transit. Teshara invited everyone to be a part of the solution. Working together, this region can be a loud voice. Be part of TNT TMA, come to those and other meetings, and be informed.

Gustafson noted the 2% Transient Occupancy Tax specific to the east side of the County. It was instituted in 1994/95 and renewed by voters last year. Those funds are under local control and are allocated for TART service, sidewalks, TART Connect, and trails. The recently formed TBID is another source of locally-controlled dollars allocated to transportation. The Board of Supervisors has also approved an investment policy for the east side.

Tonight's meeting is to understand the efforts currently underway and planned for the future and to hear suggestions from the public and NTRAC and OVMAC members.

Stephanie Holloway reiterated the demand is changing. The County's mission is for the area to be less vehicle dependent and there are many agencies investing in that mission. Improving mobility can mean shifting from bigger roads to reducing the load. Holloway showed a map of the mobility and infrastructure projects planned or underway from the Resort Triangle Transportation Plan.

Holloway noted the survey that can be completed tonight. Results will be discussed later in the meeting and posted on the County District 5 and TNT TMA websites. Also, there are cards available for the public to submit comments and questions for tonight.

#### **A. Regional Peak Winter Traffic Management**

**Placer Public Works, California Highway Patrol, and Resorts Partners will provide an overview of peak winter traffic congestion preparation and operations.**

- Operational partnership**
- Traffic management planning, tools, and current practices**
- Communication and readiness of high visitation**
- Long term transportation solutions -Resort Triangle Transportation Plan implementation**

Ken Grehm from Placer County Department of Public Works discussed traffic management planning. In addition to the public trying to get around, emergency vehicles need to get through. The strategies being considered include effective communication in real time before people get on the road.

Grehm noted problems during peak traffic times, which start earlier in the morning and go later in the day than previously, and people parking in neighborhoods after the lots are full. In response, there are three-lanes at times on Olympic Valley Road, the CHP and Palisades Tahoe employees are helping with traffic control, signage has been added, and Park & Ride lots have been established in Truckee with shuttles going to Palisades Tahoe and Northstar.

Longer-term solutions include consideration of priority bus lanes on SR 89 and SR 267 and additional parking management.

Council members asked for more detail on how bottlenecks and stand-still traffic are being addressed. A question was asked about a bus-on-shoulder lane. Gustafson explained it did not meet Caltrans standards. There was a brief discussion about how the Mousehole limits options. When that and the roundabouts in Truckee get clogged, I80 is impacted.

The limitations on TART fixed-route service because of the lack of qualified drivers was discussed. There are 30 full-time, full pay and benefited driver positions and only 13 or 14 are filled. TART Connect is contracted to a third-party operator who uses vans. Those drivers do not need a Class A license. That said, until Caltrans helps with the bus-on-shoulder issue, the buses are also stuck in traffic. Grehm said Caltrans is back at the table and he is "optimistic."

Calhoun said the Park & Ride seems to work for Northstar, but not for Palisades Tahoe. He suggested some more convenient parking areas. Calhoun asked about reconsidering a monorail down SR 89. He feels that is a dangerous road, noting annual fatalities. Spending money on a bus lane is not solving the larger problem. The thinking needs to be more creative.

Comments were made about capacity, saying behaviors need to change and the influx of people needs to be checked. Adriani said having more apres-ski activities does not really help because at the end of the day, people just want to take off their boots. She also asked that porta-potties be considered for those stopped in traffic.

Stepner noted other ski towns are dealing with similar problems. He gave statistics on how many cars can be on the road between the Mousehole and Palisades Tahoe. Based on that, it would be easy to tell when the parking lot will be full. He asked that no winter parking in the neighborhoods between November and May be enforced for visitors the

same way is it for residents. Stepner asked Palisades to again put monitors at the intersections so people coming from the neighborhoods can turn left. Lastly, he asked why CHP is not turning cars around at the fire station.

Dee Byrne, President, and COO of Palisades Tahoe, acknowledged this is an on-going issue. In response to some of the comments, she said changeable message signs are being used in Truckee at Deerfield Drive. The CHP helps with traffic in Truckee as well. There are not enough employees to monitor traffic, so Palisades is contracting with a third party, but not all those contractors have been reliable. The CHP enforces traffic on Olympic Valley Road. That said, the one thing they cannot do is change behavior.

The item was open to public comment. Gustafson read questions submitted from the comment cards. In response to questions about the CHP, Lt. Erik Egibe said their priority is to protect life and property. Emergency vehicles need to be able to get through. The goal of keeping traffic moving has led to partnering with the Town of Truckee and Caltrans for more active traffic management particularly on I80 and SR 89.

Regarding questions about turning traffic around at the Olympic Valley Fire Station instead of further down the Valley, Egibe said that created more of a bottleneck on SR 89 because every conversation with a driver takes 20-30 seconds.

In response to questions about a reservation system, Amy Ohran, Vice-President, and General Manager at Northstar, explained product strategy. While more passes are being sold, the trends are positive with peak days being down 6% and mid-week visitation up 54%. Parking and arrival strategies are considered every year.

Byrne said Palisades has considered paid parking, reservations, incentives to carpooling, but Olympic Valley serves many interests and there is a post office, commercial tenants, and visitors coming for reasons other than to ski. The challenge is providing access for all demographics. Byrne and Ohran both said strategies about capacity and parking management are discussed annually.

There were questions about how Placer County is addressing infrastructure improvements. Gustafson reiterated this issue has been considered for over 40 years. During that time, millions of dollars have been spent on trails, TART, TART Connect, road improvements, pedestrian safety, and traffic mitigation measures in both Tahoe City and Kings Beach. Over the years a gondola from Tahoe City and a monorail have also been discussed.

Holloway reviewed some of the survey questions and comments, including long-term plans that consider growth in the area, impacts of the new roundabouts, paid parking, and efforts to secure state and federal funds. The regional public and private makeup of the TNT TMA Board was described and again people were invited to attend their public meetings.

Ohran and Byrne described the efforts through social media, changeable message signs, apps, and real-time information to notify people coming east or west on I80 about traffic and parking conditions. Palisades uses geo-fencing on their app to give different messages at different points of travel. Radio, including KTKE, is also used since cell service can be spotty.

There were questions about rail transportation. Gustafson said the Placer County Transportation Planning Agency (PCTPA) is working on a study to add passenger rail on existing lines. However, Union Pacific is reluctant to do that since it could replace more lucrative freight transit. Gustafson has reached out to federal legislators to help address that option.

In response to questions about emergency evacuations, Gustafson explained Calfire and the Sheriff's Department oversee evacuations. She suggested that be a topic for a separate meeting.

The One Tahoe Study considered paid entry into the Basin. Gustafson said neither the governors of Nevada nor California agreed with the idea. Their concerns had to do with equity and access. But they need to understand that people are coming; the idea is to limit vehicular traffic and get people out of their cars.

#### **B. Special Event Planning – 2023 Men's World Cup**

**Palisades Tahoe staff will provide a presentation of the upcoming Men's World Cup events February 25-26 and planned Parking/Transportation Services/Traffic Management operations.**

Mike Martin presented the Traffic Management Plan that will be in place for World Cup, including communications, traffic management, and incentives for employees, racers, and staff to use Park & Ride shuttles, carpool, and public transit. The Mountaineer micro-transit service will have expanded hours. Special activities, concerts, and food and beverage specials will be offered to slow egress from the Valley.

Public comment was opened. Several of those commenting had submitted questions on cards that were read previously. There were general comments thanking people for attending, describing how traffic has impacted their lives, and urging the County and Resorts to consider strategies beyond signage. There were comments about instituting capacity limitations.

A question was asked about other parking areas in the Valley. Martin described the locations being considered. There are environmental issues with parking in lot across from the fire house, but it can be used for snow storage.

Andrew Hayes said Short-term rentals have increased and the resorts are not being held accountable. A bar can lose its license if their patrons cannot be controlled. There need

to be acceptable measures and financial penalties. An assessment on parking needs to be used to address solutions.

Katy Hover-Smoot said the community wants local teachers and bus drivers, but the County makes the community unfunctional. Signage is not a solution. The County is not equipped to deal with current growth and is contributing to the problem. There have been 18 parked-out days already.

Tom Mooers from Sierra Watch spoke to traffic issues and problems running an errand or getting emergency vehicles through. More than impactful, traffic can be deadly. He believes a collaborative plan can be developed to help the region. Tahoe deserves no less.

Adam Wilson from North Tahoe Community Alliance appreciates the information tonight, noting a lot of agencies are collaborating. There are many opportunities to be part of construction conversations.

Sara Lowis said the elephant in the room is capacity, including ticket sales.

JD Hoss from KTKE said SR 89 is deadly. That must change. He thanked the community for allowing KTKE to be its voice. He described some of the strategies Truckee is using to reduce traffic and improve pedestrian safety.

Jeff ..... would like to see cell tower serviced improved in Olympic Valley. The city of Bolinas instituted a moratorium because they could not handle more traffic.

Paul Miller is confused about statements about removing parking but adding people. Homewood says it is closing because larger resorts are shutting them down. Issues are pushed around and not solving anything.

Alisa Morganti suggested Palisades provide buses between Tahoe City and Truckee serving Palisades and Alpine ski teams. She asked about a local sticker to those who have a house and a job so those people and they can get to work when traffic is restricted to others. Morganti suggested a 9am to 1pm pass so people are leaving the Resorts at different times.

Ryan Wexler said the County should require the resorts to build onsite employee housing. He hopes Item C will be rescheduled.

Ann Nichols said the ski areas have created a monster that they have no idea how to solve.

Shawna Mayo noted comments on how many years this issue has been discussed and all that has happened is roundabouts. Employees do not want to come to work early and stay late. Sugar Bowl limits ticket sales.

**C. Kings Beach Western Approach**

**Placer County staff will present an update on the Kings Beach Western Approach project. The project will convert the intersection at SR 267/SR 28 to a roundabout to provide a continuous Complete Street corridor from downtown Kings Beach to the west side of the community. Included in the project will also be pedestrian and bicycle mobility and safety improvements and aesthetic enhancements at this central gateway to North Lake Tahoe.**

This item was tabled.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

- Homewood proposal
- Emergency Evacuation with Calfire and PCSO
- Broadband cell service
- Palisades Village development

**10. Adjournment at 9:34 PM**

Respectfully submitted,  
Judy Friedman  
Recording Secretary

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A DRAFT EIR FOR PUBLIC REVIEW**

Placer County has released a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the project listed below:

**PROPOSED PROJECT:** SNOW Sports Museum and Community Cultural Center (PLN16-00349)  
State Clearinghouse No. 2022030511

**PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT PERIOD:** July 10, 2023, to August 23, 2023

**PROJECT LOCATION:** 101 Olympic Valley Road, southwest of the intersection of Olympic Valley Road and River Road/State Route (SR) 89 in the Olympic Valley area, Placer County.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The proposed project would include construction of a museum and cultural center celebrating the 1960 Winter Olympics and history of winter sports in the Sierra Nevada. The two-story building would consist of up to 20,000 square feet (sf) with a maximum height of 30 feet, as well as outdoor gathering spaces and amenities. The building would include, but not be limited to, the following components: museum of Olympic and Sierra Nevada ski history, cultural community center, event space, visitor center, cafe', and museum shop.

**SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS:** The initial study checklist identified potentially significant impacts with respect to Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Geology and Soils, Hydrology and Water Quality, and Tribal Cultural Resources. Implementation of Mitigation Measures reduced those to less than significant with no need for further analysis. The Draft EIR identified potentially significant project impacts with respect to Aesthetics, Air Quality/GHG/Energy, Noise, Transportation, and Wildfire. All potentially significant adverse impacts would be mitigable to less-than-significant levels.

**PUBLIC MEETING:** A public meeting will be held on August 10, 2023, to receive comments on the Draft EIR. Public comment will be offered in-person and virtually:

- ▲ In-Person: Placer County Planning Commission, North Tahoe Event Center – Timberline Room, 8318 N. Lake Boulevard, Kings Beach, California.
- ▲ Virtually via Zoom meeting webinar, <https://placer-ca-gov.zoom.us/j/93805991797> , or by calling 877-853-5247 or 888-788-0099. Webinar ID #938 0599 1797. Use 'raise hand' function to comment.

The Placer County Planning Commission meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m.; however, the proposed project is not time certain. Please refer to the meeting agendas at the following link up to 1 week prior to the meetings for updated information: <https://www.placer.ca.gov/AgendaCenter/Planning-Commission-53>

**WHERE DRAFT EIR MAY BE REVIEWED:** The Draft EIR is available for review during normal business hours at the Tahoe City Public Library (740 N. Lake Blvd., Tahoe City), The Truckee Public Library (10031 Levon Avenue Truckee) the Placer County Community Development Resource Agency offices in Auburn (3091 County Center Drive, Auburn) and Tahoe (775 N. Lake Boulevard, Tahoe City), and the County Clerk's Office (2954 Richardson Drive, Auburn). The Draft EIR is also available online at: <https://www.placer.ca.gov/7884/SNOW-Sports-Museum-and-Community-Cultura>

**SEND COMMENTS TO:** Placer County Community Development Resource Agency, Environmental Coordination Services, 3091 County Center Drive, Suite 190, Auburn, CA 95603; or fax (530)745-3080; or email [cdraecs@placer.ca.gov](mailto:cdraecs@placer.ca.gov) no later than 5:00 p.m. on August 23, 2023.

For more information on the project, please contact the project planner, Patrick Dobbs at (530) 745-3060.