

March 24, 2020

Mr. Paul Nielsen Special Projects Manager Tahoe Regional Planning Agency PO Box 5310 Stateline, NV 89448 pnielsen@trpa.org

**Re: Support for the Tahoe South Events Center** 

Dear Mr. Nielsen:

The Lake Tahoe Chamber of Commerce (Tahoe Chamber) has been a steadfast supporter of the proposed Tahoe South Events Center since the project application was first submitted in November of 2017.

We have reviewed the TRPA staff report dated March 18, 2020 and understand the additional mitigation, monitoring and adaptive management conditions incorporated into the detailed Environmental Assessment prepared for the project.

Here are just five of the most important reasons why Tahoe Chamber remains a steadfast supporter of the Events Center:

The project will serve as a timely catalyst for introducing free transit to the South Shore market.

It will mark a pivotal milestone as the South Shore continues its transition from an economy traditionally dominated by gaming to one based on entertainment and outdoor recreation.

The facility will create new opportunities for off-peak season employment and new year-round employment, particularly for the most vulnerable seasonal members of our current workforce.

It will allow the South Shore to host larger conventions and conferences during the off season, boosting our off-season economy. Note that most convention and conference groups travel by transportation other than individual vehicles.

The Events Center will serve as the larger venue many local organizations need to expand their vital fundraising capabilities.

Construction and operations of the Tahoe South Events Center will help stimulate the South Shore's economic and employment recovery as we work forward from existing circumstances.



We urge members of the TRPA Governing Board to approve the Agency staff recommendation and to take the actions required, based on the staff summary and the evidence in the record:

- 1) A motion to approve the required findings as contained in Attachment A of the staff report, including a finding of no significant effect; and
- 2) A motion to approve the proposed project subject to the draft permit (Attachment B of the staff report).

Thank you for this opportunity to support the Tahoe South Events Center as the Governing Board considers final approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Lyndsay Bryant, Board Chair

Bob Anderson, Chair-Elect

On behalf of the Tahoe Chamber Board of Directors