

California Tahoe Conservancy
Agenda Item 10
June 20, 2012

HOMEWOOD WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, PHASE 1A

Summary: Staff recommends authorization to grant up to \$200,000 to the County of Placer for construction of the Homewood Water Quality Improvement Project, Phase 1A.

Location: The Homewood Subdivision on the west shore of Lake Tahoe, approximately five miles south of Tahoe City. The project area is generally bounded by Furka Pass Road to the north, Fern Street to the south, Sacramento Avenue to the west, and Lake Tahoe to the east (Attachment 1).

Fiscal Summary: Proposition 50 and 84 funds, up to \$200,000.

Recommended Action: Adopt Resolution 12-06-04 (Attachment 2).

Background

In April, 2005, the California Tahoe Conservancy (Conservancy) awarded Placer County (County) a \$580,000 planning grant for initial planning of the Homewood Erosion Control Project, Project #725 of the Environmental Improvement Program (EIP). The County used this funding to complete an existing conditions analysis of the entire project area and to examine alternatives for improvements in Phases 1 and 1A. The County applied the Conservancy's Preferred Design Approach to plan erosion control facilities to achieve the greatest benefit to water quality.

The U.S. Forest Service, Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit has granted several awards for the erosion control project through the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act (SNPLMA). A total of \$1,890,000 in SNPLMA funds has been awarded for planning and to complete final design and permitting of Phases 1 and 1A, as well as to fund construction of Phase 1. The County is now requesting a \$200,000 site improvement grant from the Conservancy to construct Phase 1A (Project).

Engineered designs and environmental review have been completed, and all necessary permits have been secured. Acquisitions and easements are not needed. Given the small size of the Project, construction will be completed in conjunction with Phase 1 during the summer of 2012. Cost savings will be achieved by combining the bid process and construction activities of Phases 1 and 1A.

Historically, staff has brought Soil Erosion Control Program grant awards to the Conservancy's Board of Directors (Board) on a yearly basis. In July 2008, the Board authorized the release of the Soil Erosion Control Grants Program Announcement and Guidelines for funding grants for the 2008-2009 round of grants. The Announcement and Guidelines requested applications from local jurisdictions for the highest priority erosion control projects listed in the EIP. The Homewood Project is considered a high priority because it treats numerous sources of pollutants, including fine sediment particles that are efficiently transported to Lake Tahoe. Unpaved roads and a lack of functional water quality treatment infrastructure in the Project exacerbate erosion, and the close proximity of Lake Tahoe (Lake) results in very efficient transport of pollutants to the Lake. These factors combine to make the Project a top priority for water quality improvements required by the Lake Tahoe Total Maximum Daily Load.

Project Description

The Project is located at the base of a steep mountainside that is highly prone to erosion. Before development of the neighborhood, runoff from the mountainside flowed through a Stream Environment Zone before discharging into the Lake. The natural drainage patterns were compromised when the subdivision was created and streets were constructed. As a result, untreated stormwater flows directly into the Lake at several locations.

The project design improves water quality by installing and improving water treatment infrastructure, paving unpaved roads, and regrading and repaving streets to more effectively convey stormwater to treatment facilities. These improvements will reduce the volume of stormwater and quantity of fine sediment particles and nutrients reaching the Lake. Attachment 3 shows the proposed improvements.

Project Schedule

<u>Task</u>	<u>Completion Date</u>
Advertise for bids	May 2012
Bid Opening	June 29, 2012
Award Contract	July 2012
Project Construction	October 2012
Begin Post Construction Monitoring	October 2012
End Post Construction Monitoring	October 2014

Project Budget

The Conservancy has State Treasurer's Office approval to spend available Proposition 50 and 84 funding on new Water Quality/Stormwater grants to local jurisdictions. If approved, the Conservancy will fund this project from available Proposition 50 and 84 sources.

The budget for the Conservancy grant is as follows:

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Administration	\$ 8,500
Construction	181,500
Monitoring	<u>10,000</u>
TOTAL:	\$200,000

Project Implementation

If the Board authorizes funding for the Project, the standard agreements entered into by the Conservancy and the individual grantees will govern the project implementation. As in recent agreements, the new site improvement grant will provide for an advance of up to 90% for administration and construction.

The project budget and schedule are preliminary and subject to change. However, such changes will not exceed the total amount awarded in the grant. Any remaining funds for site improvement projects will be used, if necessary, to extend improvements to adjoining areas.

Project Evaluation

Staff recommends the award of site improvement funds for construction of the Project and post construction monitoring. The Project is consistent with the Conservancy's Erosion Control Program Guidelines and followed the Preferred Design Approach during planning. Further, modeling completed as part of the Placer County Stormwater Total Maximum Daily Load Strategy has shown that the Homewood Subdivision is one of the greatest contributors of fine sediment particles to the Lake in all of Placer County. Unpaved roads in close proximity to the shores of the Lake are one of the primary sources of pollutants.

Consistency with the Conservancy's Enabling Legislation

The recommended site improvement grant is consistent with the Conservancy's enabling legislation. Specifically, Government Code sections 66905.2 and 66907.7 authorize the Conservancy to award grants to local public agencies for purposes consistent with its mission, which include construction of water quality improvement projects and soil erosion control projects.

Compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

Placer County, acting as the lead agency, prepared an Initial Study (IS) and a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for this Project to comply with CEQA. Placer County's Board of Supervisors adopted the MND on March 2, 2012, and a Notice of Determination (NOD) was filed on March 6, 2012 with the State Clearinghouse (SCH# 2012012038).

A copy of the IS and MND have been provided to the Board on CD (Attachment 4) and are available for public review at the Conservancy Office, 1061 Third Street, South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150.

Staff has reviewed the IS and MND, and believes the analyses of the proposed improvements in the document are adequate. Staff has determined that the Project, as proposed, would not cause a significant effect on the environment. Since completion of the MND there is no new information, substantial changes to the proposed Project, or changes to the project implementation that would involve any new significant effects not analyzed in the MND. As a result, no new mitigation measures are necessary to find that the Project, as mitigated, would have no significant environmental impacts.

Staff recommends the Board review the MND and make the findings as set forth in the attached resolution. If the Board adopts the MND and authorizes the Project, staff will file an NOD with the State Clearinghouse pursuant to CEQA Guidelines (Cal. Code Regs., Title 14, § 15000 et seq.), Section 15096. Attachment 5 contains the Conservancy's proposed NOD.

List of Attachments:

Attachment 1 – Project Location Map

Attachment 2 – Resolution 12-06-04

Attachment 3 – Proposed Improvements

Attachment 4 – Placer County Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration
(on attached CD)

Attachment 5 – Notice of Determination

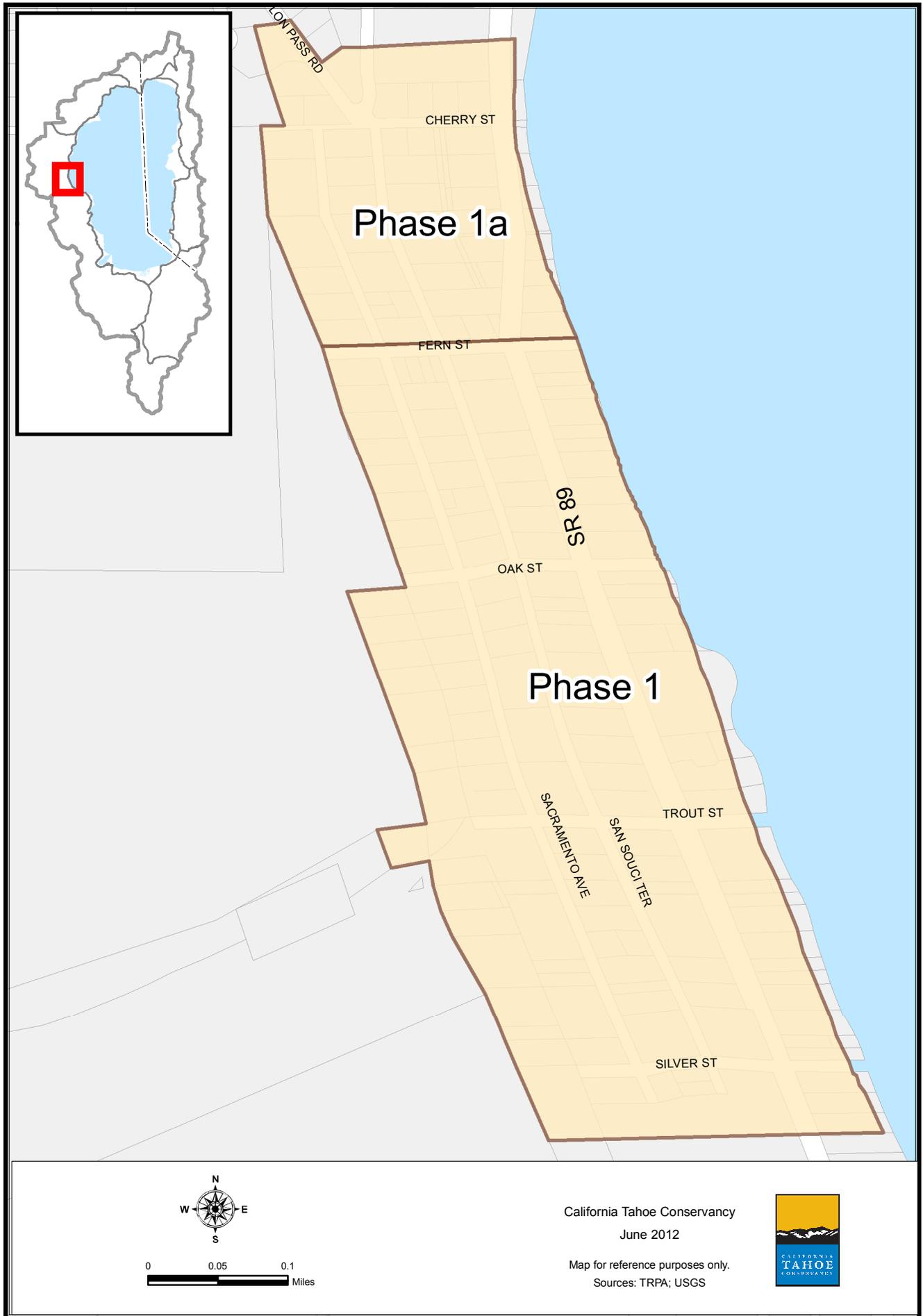
Conservancy Staff Contact:

Scott K. Cecchi

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scecchi@tahoe.ca.gov

ATTACHMENT 1
Homewood Water Quality Improvement Project



California Tahoe Conservancy
June 2012

Map for reference purposes only.
Sources: TRPA; USGS



ATTACHMENT 2

California Tahoe Conservancy
Resolution
12-06-04
Adopted: June 20, 2012

HOMEWOOD WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PHASE 1A

Staff recommends that the California Tahoe Conservancy make the following finding based on the accompanying staff report pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21000 et seq.:

“The California Tahoe Conservancy has considered the environmental impacts of the Homewood Water Quality Improvement Project Phase 1A as described in Placer County’s Initial Study / Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) certified by Placer County on March 2, 2012. The Conservancy has reviewed the IS/MND and related documents and finds that the improvements proposed have been adequately analyzed in the IS/MND. The Conservancy finds that no substantial changes are proposed in the project, and no substantial changes have occurred with respect to the circumstances under which the project is undertaken that would involve any new significant environmental effects or significantly increase the severity of any previously identified impacts. The Conservancy hereby directs staff to file a Notice of Determination with the State Clearinghouse for this project.”

Staff further recommends that the Conservancy adopt the following resolution pursuant to Government Code sections 66905.2 and 66907.7:

"The California Tahoe Conservancy hereby authorizes the award of a site improvement grant, up to \$200,000, to Placer County for the purposes of constructing Phase 1A of the Homewood Water Quality Improvement Project. Further, the Conservancy authorizes staff to enter into a grant agreement, and to take all other necessary steps, in substantial conformity with the purposes of the project and the terms and provisions discussed in the accompanying staff report and exhibits, to achieve the objectives of this grant."

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the resolution duly and regularly adopted by the California Tahoe Conservancy at a meeting thereof held on the 20th day of June 2012.

In WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 20th day of June 2012.

Patrick Wright
Executive Director

ATTACHMENT 4

HOMEWOOD WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PHASE 1A

Placer County Initial Study and
Mitigated Negative Declaration

On attached CD

ATTACHMENT 5

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

TO: Office of Planning and Research
1400 10th Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: California Tahoe Conservancy
1061 Third Street
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

Subject:

Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with sections 21108 and 21152 of the Public Resources Code.

Project Title:

Grant \$200,000 to Placer County for the purpose of constructing Phase 1A of the Homewood Water Quality Improvement Project.

State Clearinghouse Number:

2012012038

Contact Person:

Scott K. Cecchi

Telephone Number:

(530) 543-6015

Project Location:

The Homewood Subdivision, located on the west shore of Lake Tahoe, approximately five miles south of Tahoe City. The project area is generally bounded by Furka Pass Road to the north, Fern Street to the south, Sacramento Avenue to the west, and Lake Tahoe to the east.

Project Description:

Phase 1A of the Homewood Water Quality Improvement Project involves the granting of site improvement funds for the installation and improvement of water treatment infrastructure, paving unpaved roads, and regrading and repaving streets to more effectively convey stormwater to treatment facilities.

This is to advise that the California Tahoe Conservancy, acting as a responsible agency, has approved the above-described project on June 20, 2012 and has made the following determinations regarding the above-described project:

1. The project will not have a significant effect on the environment.
 2. A Mitigated Negative Declaration for the project was prepared and approved by Placer County on March 2, 2012, and a Notice of Determination was filed on March 6, 2012. The Notice of Determination, Mitigated Negative Declaration, and record of project approval may be examined at the Placer County Department of Public Works, 7717 North Lake Boulevard, Kings Beach, CA 96143.
 3. Mitigation measures were made a condition of the approval of the project by Placer County and the California Tahoe Conservancy.
 4. The Conservancy finds that no substantial changes are proposed in the project, and no substantial changes have occurred with respect to the circumstances under which the project is taken that would affect any potentially significant environmental effects. Furthermore, there are no changes regarding the project that would require new or different mitigation measures.
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Fish and Game Fees: A California Department of Fish and Game Environmental Filing Fee was paid for this project. A copy of the receipt will be filed with this notice.

Date Received for Filing:

Patrick Wright
Executive Director