

US 50/SOUTH SHORE COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION PROJECT

Over the past few decades, there have been multiple planning efforts to relocate U.S. Highway 50 from its current location through the tourist/casino corridor at the California/Nevada state line. In 2009, the Tahoe Transportation District (TTD) assumed the lead agency role for this effort along with an effort to revitalize the surrounding community area consistent with the new Regional Plan, the Local Area Plans, and Regional Transportation Plan. The current proposed alternative for the US 50/South Shore Community Revitalization Project (Project), often referred to as the Loop Road Project, would relocate U.S. Highway 50 to the south from its current location near the California/Nevada state line.

The proposed realignment of U.S. Highway 50 will impact Van Sickle Bi-State Park (Park) and numerous parcels and water quality improvements owned by the City of South Lake Tahoe (City). Many of the City parcels were purchased using California Tahoe Conservancy (Conservancy) acquisition grants. In addition, Conservancy-funded site improvement grants provided a substantial amount of funding for the water quality improvements constructed for the City's Rocky Point Erosion Control Project. Conservancy staff is researching the grant-funded acquisitions and improvements to provide guidance to the City and TTD on grant requirements. This information should assist TTD in understanding any criteria that must be met as the Project proceeds through design and eventually implementation. For example, the 1987 Budget Act and grant agreement requires that certain Conservancy funded projects must provide a sediment reduction efficiency of at least 6.4 pounds per site improvement dollar spent by the State and the project must be maintained for 20 years.

Conservancy staff has been coordinating with the Nevada Division of State Parks staff on potential impacts and improvements to the Park. TTD staff has been responsive to our suggestions and concerns, and have agreed to several major improvements at the Park entrance.

TTD released the Project's environmental document for public comment on April 24, 2017, and comments are due by July 7, 2017. TTD representatives will present an overview of the Project to the Conservancy Board.

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