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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Open House For Next Phase of Greenway Bike Trail

South Lake Tahoe, Calif. The California Tahoe Conservancy (Conservancy) and the Lake Tahoe Community College (LTCC) will host a public open house on Thursday, December 10, 5 - 8 pm in the LTCC Board Room at One College Drive in South Lake Tahoe. City of South Lake Tahoe (City) staff will also be available. The Open House will offer the public an opportunity to see information and provide input about the next phase of the South Lake Tahoe Greenway Shared Use Trail (Greenway). Construction of the first phase, Phase 1a, of the Greenway occurred this year between Herbert Avenue and Glenwood Way. The Conservancy was recently awarded an Active Transportation Program grant which secured the final funds needed to move the next phases, Phase 1b & 2, into final design and construction. The next phases will connect the trail across Bijou Meadow to Bijou Park and the College, and extend south across Trout Creek to Sierra Boulevard.

"We are excited to be moving this project forward and improving bicycle and pedestrian connections in South Lake Tahoe," said Sue Rae Irelan, Conservancy Greenway project manager. "These connections will make walking or biking to the schools and parks around Al Tahoe Boulevard safe, fast, and fun."

In preparation for accepting grant funding, the Conservancy, along with project partners LTCC and the City of South Lake Tahoe, are considering a design modification across Trout Creek and along Barbara Avenue to improve trail connections and reduce environmental impacts. Also, to improve land management and facilitate project delivery, land exchanges in the area between the City, Conservancy, and LTCC could occur.

Staff from the Conservancy, LTCC, and the City will be available to discuss these ideas throughout the evening. There will not be a formal presentation, so members of the public are encouraged to drop by anytime.

Inquiries regarding this Open House or the Greenway should be directed to Sue Rae Irelan via email at <u>SueRae.Irelan@tahoe.ca.gov</u> or by phone at (530) 525-9137.

The entire Greenway project is a 3.86 mile trail linking Sierra Tract to Van Sickle Bi-State Park. It was approved by the Conservancy Board, TRPA and partner agencies in September, 2011. The Conservancy expects to implement the project in phases as funding becomes available.

Established in 1984, the mission of the Tahoe Conservancy is to lead California's efforts to restore and enhance the extraordinary natural and recreational resources of the Lake Tahoe Basin. For more information, visit <u>http://tahoe.ca.gov</u>.
