

# ATTACHMENT 1

## Lake Tahoe Basin Projects for Potential Economic Stimulus Funds

### Summary

The California Tahoe Conservancy (Conservancy) and 19 partners have identified more than 160 potential stimulus projects on the California side of the Lake Tahoe Basin (Basin) that would create jobs, promote equity, and help rebuild the economy in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, and implement the Basin's Environmental Improvement Program (EIP). The projects are shovel-ready (i.e., would begin implementation within three years) and total \$611 million across seven categories. This attachment summarizes the opportunities and benefits for each category.

### Project Categories

#### 1. Wildfire Protection, Forest Health, and Climate Resilience: \$209 million

- **Outcomes:** These projects advance Governor Newsom's priorities and the State's Strategic Fire Plan, Forest Carbon Plan, and Water Resilience Portfolio by protecting communities from wildfire, restoring forest ecosystems, and building resilience to climate change. Approximately 60 percent of the benefits accrue to disadvantaged communities (DACs) in the Basin.
- **Jobs Created:** Forestry and fire crews, timber contractors, Washoe Tribal members, environmental scientists, utility workers, and construction crews.
- Sub-categories include:
  - **Fuel Reduction and Forest Landscape Restoration: \$68 million**
    - Treat the remainder of the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI), reduce fuels near powerlines, and restore 60,000 acres through the Lake Tahoe West landscape-scale project.
  - **Upgrade Firefighting Infrastructure and Fire Stations: \$141 million**
    - Build fire hydrants, upgrade and harden water systems, and build two new CAL FIRE stations.

#### 2. Sustainable Recreation and Equitable Access: \$35 million

- **Outcomes:** These projects better accommodate the Basin's 24 million annual visitors by improving facilities and providing equitable access to Lake Tahoe's shoreline, trails, beaches, and open space; and advance the goals of the EIP's Sustainable Recreation Working Group and Proposition 68. Approximately 40 percent of benefits accrue to DACs.
- **Jobs Created:** Seasonal rangers, trail and maintenance crews, engineers, State Parks staff.
- Sub-categories include:

- **Enhance Recreation Access and Facilities: \$21 million**
  - Improve Americans with Disabilities Act accessibility, lake access, and trails at the most popular recreation sites including multiple famous State Parks and along the SR 89 corridor.
- **Expand Non-Motorized Trail Network: \$14 million**
  - Improve connectivity between recreation destinations by building bike and pedestrian trails, and promote physical and mental health through active recreation.

### **3. Watersheds and Biodiversity: \$10 million**

- **Outcomes:** These projects restore rivers, meadows, and wetlands to provide essential habitat for 84 percent of the Basin’s wildlife and achieve Water Resilience Portfolio objectives for water supply diversification; restore natural filtration and thus reduce harmful sediment concentrations that diminish the Lake’s clarity; and simultaneously provide open space and recreation opportunities. Approximately 50 percent of benefits accrue to DACs.
- **Jobs Created:** Seasonal restoration crews, environmental scientists and planners, and engineers.

### **4. Water Quality and Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS): \$69 million**

- **Outcomes:** These projects protect lake clarity, build resilience to extreme storms and flooding, and control AIS; implement the Basin’s AIS Action Agenda through the AIS Coordinating Committee; and advance Lake Tahoe Total Maximum Daily Load requirements. Approximately 50 percent of benefits accrue to DACs.
- **Jobs Created:** Construction crews, engineers, maintenance crews, seasonal boat inspection and eradication crews, environmental scientists, academics.
- Sub-categories include:
  - **Road and Storm Water Upgrades: \$20 million**
    - Upgrade storm water and road infrastructure to address climate change impacts like extreme storms, flooding, and heat-driven pavement degradation.
  - **Prevent and Control AIS: \$8 million**
    - Inspect private boats and respond to AIS outbreaks to protect water supply, native fish and plant and amphibian biodiversity, and the tourism economy.
  - **Sewer and Water System Efficiency Upgrades: \$29 million**
    - Prepare municipal water systems to provide safe and reliable drinking water even during prolonged droughts and extreme flooding.
  - **Research and Modeling: \$12 million**
    - Understand climate change impacts on lake clarity, aquatic and terrestrial wildlife, and Lake and upland ecosystems.

## 5. Sustainable Communities and Affordable Housing: \$100 million

- **Outcomes:** These projects revitalize urban centers by addressing the region's need for over 7,000 units of affordable and workforce housing, per Executive Order N-06-19; and by expanding and improving non-motorized transportation networks and public transit consistent with the region's Sustainable Community Strategy. Approximately 75 percent of these projects are located in a DAC.
- **Jobs Created:** Small businesses, transit operations, construction, hospitality, and planners.
- Sub-categories include:
  - **Tahoe Livable Communities Program: \$30 million**
    - Acquire and demolish aging developments on sensitive lands, then restore those lands and transfer development rights to urban centers to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and support affordable housing and infill.
  - **Mixed-Use Redevelopment in Urban Centers: \$70 million**
    - Reduce congestion, improve walkability, and build 109 affordable housing units in the City of South Lake Tahoe's visitor district; support mixed-use and affordable housing in Kings Beach; encourage transit and non-motorized transportation with mobility hubs.

## 6. State Land Management: \$12 million

- **Outcomes:** These projects reduce wildfire risk, restore degraded areas, educate the public through land stewards, resolve encroachments, and modernize recreation facilities on the Conservancy's 4,700 parcels, Van Sickle Bi-State Park, the Upper Truckee Marsh, Tahoe Pines, north and south shore beaches, Eagle Rock, and Dollar Creek Property, among others. Funding also restores staffing at State Parks. Approximately 30 percent of benefits accrue to DACs.
- **Jobs Created:** Seasonal forestry and restoration crews, park rangers, and planners.

## 7. Transportation: \$162 million

- **Outcomes:** These projects serve the 10 million vehicles per year that use Tahoe's roads. Consistent with the Bi-State Consultation on Transportation's 10-Year Action Plan, the projects reduce congestion, provide and enhance bicycle and pedestrian mobility, expand transit options, improve safety, and protect water quality. Approximately 75 percent of benefits accrue to DACs.
- **Jobs Created:** Construction crews, engineers, trail maintenance crews, transit operators.
- Sub-categories include
  - **Community Revitalization Projects: \$105 million**
    - Redesign roadways, build bicycle and pedestrian trails, create complete streets, and improve connectivity to recreation sites in Tahoe City and the City of South Lake Tahoe.

- **Expand Transit Operations: \$37 million**
  - Provide 30-minute transit service on north and south shores.
- **Transportation Efficiency Improvements: \$20 million**
  - Reduce congestion, improve air quality, and encourage non-motorized transit options through regional parking management programs, real-time travel applications, more and better signage, and recreation corridor improvements.