

California Tahoe Conservancy
Agenda Item 6
April 16, 2024

2024-2029 STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

Summary:

The California Tahoe Conservancy (Conservancy) continues to develop its 2024-2029 Strategic Plan (Plan). At the March 2023 and June 2023 Conservancy Board meetings, staff presented updates that included process considerations, plan components, and approaches to Board, staff, and external engagement. The Conservancy established two staff working groups to provide input on strategic plan development and hired a consultant, Crowe LLP (Crowe), to lead the Board engagement and develop Plan content. Crowe is also supporting the Conservancy in staff and external engagement.

At the September 2023 Board meeting, Crowe led Board members, staff, partners, and the public in a strategic planning workshop to solicit feedback on key policy drivers, Conservancy roles, guiding principles, and Plan focus areas. After the workshop, Crowe and the Conservancy Strategic Plan Project Manager continued to develop the Plan with input from Conservancy staff, the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California (Washoe Tribe), and Lake Tahoe Basin (Basin) partners.

At the December 2023 Board meeting, Crowe presented a draft Plan outline, including guiding principles, drivers, focus areas, goals, and example strategies to the Board. Board members provided feedback on the outline content, timeline for Plan development, and opportunities for engagement with Board members, partners, and the public.

Concurrent with the Plan update, the Conservancy has been working with a community engagement contractor, the Equity and Wellness Institute (EqWI), as part of its effort to engage and understand the priorities of Basin communities. In January, the Conservancy hosted meetings in both English and Spanish to share the findings of community-based participatory research conducted by the Washoe Tribe and four regional partners who have been collaborating with EqWI. These report-outs provided insights and recommendations on how the Conservancy can better engage with the communities it serves. During these meetings the Conservancy also provided updates on the Plan development and heard feedback from the participants. Crowe has incorporated the recommendations, insights, and feedback in the Plan development.

In January and February Crowe worked with Conservancy staff to create a full set of strategies for the Plan. Crowe and Conservancy senior managers and executives met with Conservancy staff, Basin partners, the Washoe Tribe, California Natural Resources Agency deputy secretaries, and Board members to solicit feedback on these strategies, as part of the Plan outline.

Over the past three months, Crowe and Conservancy staff developed additional text for the Plan, incorporating the feedback and recommendations into a draft Plan that was shared with Board members for review in early April.

At this meeting, Crowe will provide an overview of the draft plan, report on the meetings conducted with Board members, share feedback received, and outline next steps in the plan development process. After the presentation, staff and Crowe will facilitate a discussion with the Board to ask questions, make suggestions, and solicit feedback on the draft plan.

Following this Board meeting, Crowe will incorporate any additional feedback received into the draft Plan document. Staff will release the full draft Plan to the public for review and comment at the end of April. The Conservancy, with support from Crowe, will conduct additional public engagement in May. Staff will present a final Plan at the June 2024 Board meeting for adoption.

Attachments

Attachment 1 – Draft 2024-2029 Strategic Plan

Conservancy Staff Contact

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