

REQUIRED FINDINGS / RATIONALE

TRPA Code of Ordinances Section 3.3—Determination of Need to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement

Finding: TRPA finds the proposed Code amendments will not have a significant effect on the environment.

Rationale: An Initial Environmental Checklist (IEC) was prepared to evaluate the effects of the proposed amendments to the Code of Ordinances (see Attachment C). The IEC found that the proposed Code amendments would not have a significant effect on the environment. The IEC was prepared to evaluate the potential environmental impact of the proposed amendments to specific sections of the Code related to mixed-use zoning, workforce housing, alternative power sources, electric vehicle capabilities, and outdoor lighting standards within the following chapters of the TRPA Code of Ordinance:

- Chapter 2: General Provisions
- Chapter 13: Area Plans
- Chapters 21 and 22: Land Uses
- Chapters 30,34, 36, 37, and 39: Site Development
- Chapter 90: Definitions

The proposed amendments are consistent with and will implement the aforementioned chapters of the TRPA Code of Ordinance and the Regional Plan. The amendments are not anticipated to result in significant environmental effects. As demonstrated in the accompanying IEC finding of no significant effect, amendments to these chapters will not result in a significant impact on the environment or cause the environmental threshold carrying capacities to be exceeded.

TRPA Code of Ordinances Section 4.4—Threshold-Related Findings

1. Finding: The amendments to the Code of Ordinances are consistent with and will not adversely affect implementation of the Regional Plan, including all applicable Goals and Policies, plan area statements and maps, the Code, and other TRPA plans and programs;

Rationale: The proposed code amendments will not have significant environmental impacts and will improve TRPA's ability to implement the TRPA Code of Ordinance chapters listed above in Section 3.3. The amendments will also implement key goals, policies and actions of the Regional Plan including:

- The Regional Plan Housing Element

- Goal 1 of the Transportation Element which seeks to protect and enhance the environment by promoting energy conservation and reducing greenhouse gas emissions including through support for mixed-use and transit-oriented development.
- The Sustainability Action Plan goals and policies including establishing efficient lighting standards (4-10), standards for renewable energy (4-13), supporting EV charging networks (4-18), and addressing event impacts (4-32).

The Code amendments are consistent with and advance the Regional Plan policies and goals and all implementing elements of the Regional Plan.

2. Finding: The proposed amendments will not cause the environmental threshold carrying capacities to be exceeded; and

Rationale: The proposed amendments are consistent with the threshold attainment strategies in the Regional Plan. As demonstrated in the IEC finding of no significant effect, these amendments will not cause the environmental threshold carrying capacities to be exceeded.

3. Finding: Wherever federal, state, or local air and water quality standards apply for the region, the strictest standards shall be attained, maintained, or exceeded pursuant to Article V(d) of the Tahoe Regional Planning Compact.

Rationale: The proposed amendments would not exceed any state, federal, or local standards. The amendments are intended to lessen emissions by allowing appropriate solar power systems and electric vehicle charging facilities, by requiring strategies to reduce emissions from temporary events, and by facilitating mixed-use development that minimizes reliance on personal automobiles. The amendments will not result in negative environmental impacts and will result in cumulative environmental benefits.

TRPA Code of Ordinances Section 4.6—findings Necessary to Amend or Adopt TRPA Ordinances, Rules, or Other TRPA Plans and Programs.

Finding: The Regional Plan and all of its elements, as implemented through the Code, Rules, and other TRPA plans and programs, as amended, achieves and maintains thresholds.

Rationale: As discussed in Sections 4.4 above, the Regional Plan and all of its elements, as amended, achieves and maintains thresholds. The proposed amendments will support and improve implementation of the TRPA Code of Ordinances chapters listed in Section 3.3 and the relevant Regional Plan goals and policies listed in Section 4.4. Future redevelopment projects would be subject to project-level environmental review and permitting at which time the proposals would be required to demonstrate compliance with all federal, state, and TRPA regulations. Therefore, implementation of the proposed amendment would result in achievement and maintenance of the thresholds.