

8

ACTION PLAN



Role of the County of Nevada

Nevada County General Plan (1995)

This Master Plan presents a comprehensive approach to recreation and a broad spectrum of projects. Historically, the County of Nevada has not managed parklands or run recreational programs as noted in the 1995 General Plan. However, since the General Plan is a long-term policy guide for the physical, economic, and environmental future of Nevada County and provides a basis to guide future land use decisions, the County of Nevada may consider incorporating aspects of this Plan in future amendments as appropriate.

Parks and recreation districts typically operate as a stand-alone entity and lead projects and operations related to parks, trails, open space, and organized recreation. In Truckee, a special district operates autonomously from the Town and in western Nevada County, multiple, smaller special districts operate independently. In some instances, a parks and recreation department may be within a city or county public works or planning department, or may be a stand-alone department. The County of Nevada serves as a convener, collaborating and taking an active role in leading community stakeholders to advance recreation projects.

Moving forward, the County of Nevada's role will be to advance the Master Plan vision and road map by working with land managers, volunteers, residents, and users to enhance recreation access, improve health



Bridgeport covered bridge

and safety, preserve natural resources, and support economic growth. This may require increased capacity, support for on-the-ground nongovernmental organizations, and assistance with securing funds for projects. Given that western Nevada County recreation and park districts have limited capacity, the County of Nevada may consider providing resources for grant services, administrative tasks, and potential management of significant, high impact projects where staff could support planning, design and construction, as available.

In addition, the County of Nevada may consider increasing its role in organized recreation by supporting the development of the One Centralized Hub focus area, including exploration of a joint governance structure with western Nevada County recreation and park districts where each district maintains independent decision-making by local boards yet benefit from shared resources and efficiencies.

The right combination of funding, financing and organizational structure is needed to achieve recreation and resiliency goals. Figure 32 illustrates how multiple funding

sources are often needed to develop and operate fiscally sustainable projects or programs that lead to a variety of benefits.

While this Master Plan paints the overall vision of what is possible, it is the County of Nevada's leadership that can ultimately drive progress. This Master Plan includes focus areas and associated projects that will require the County of Nevada to further clarify and invest in its role in supporting recreation which may include increasing capacity, collaborating with public, private and non-profit entities, identifying funding mechanisms and potentially partnering on funding opportunities. Parameters are outlined for how the County may define its role, in alignment with the specific categories and jurisdictions of the recreation system as it has been defined:

- Local, community and regional parks, facilities & programs;
- Access to open space, lakes, & rivers; and
- Trails.

This collaborative effort would also capture significant co-benefits that extend beyond recreation and improve the overall quality of life for residents from economic development and job creation to increased community health, safety, environmental sustainability, and resiliency.

Figure 30: Different Combinations of Funding and Organizational Structures

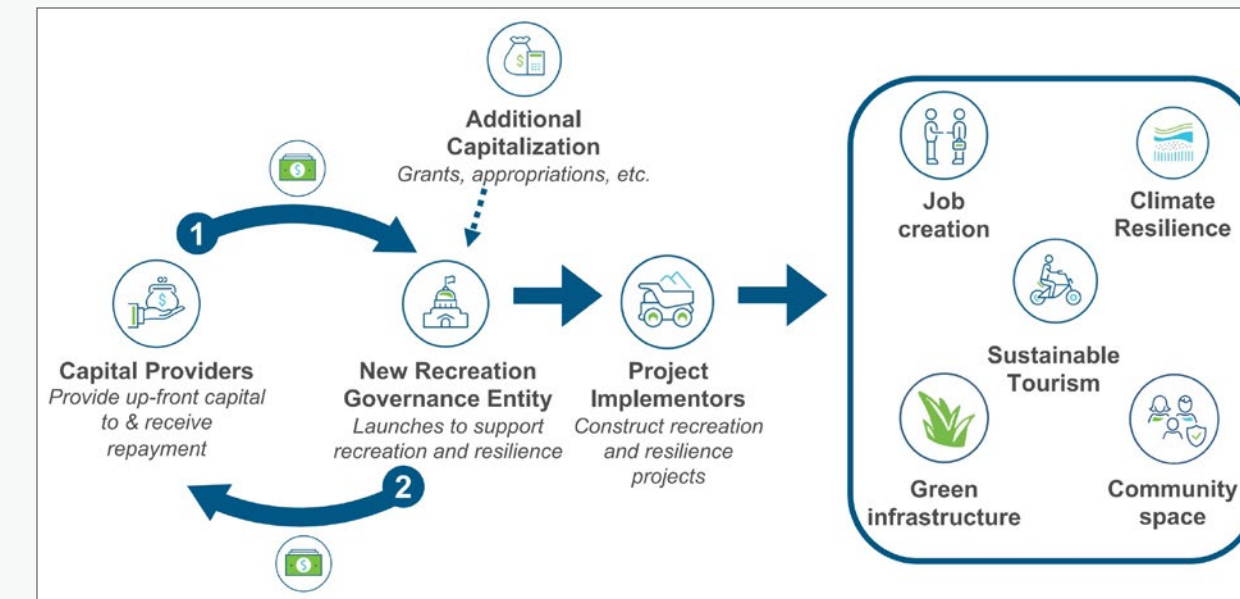


Diagram by Quantified Ventures

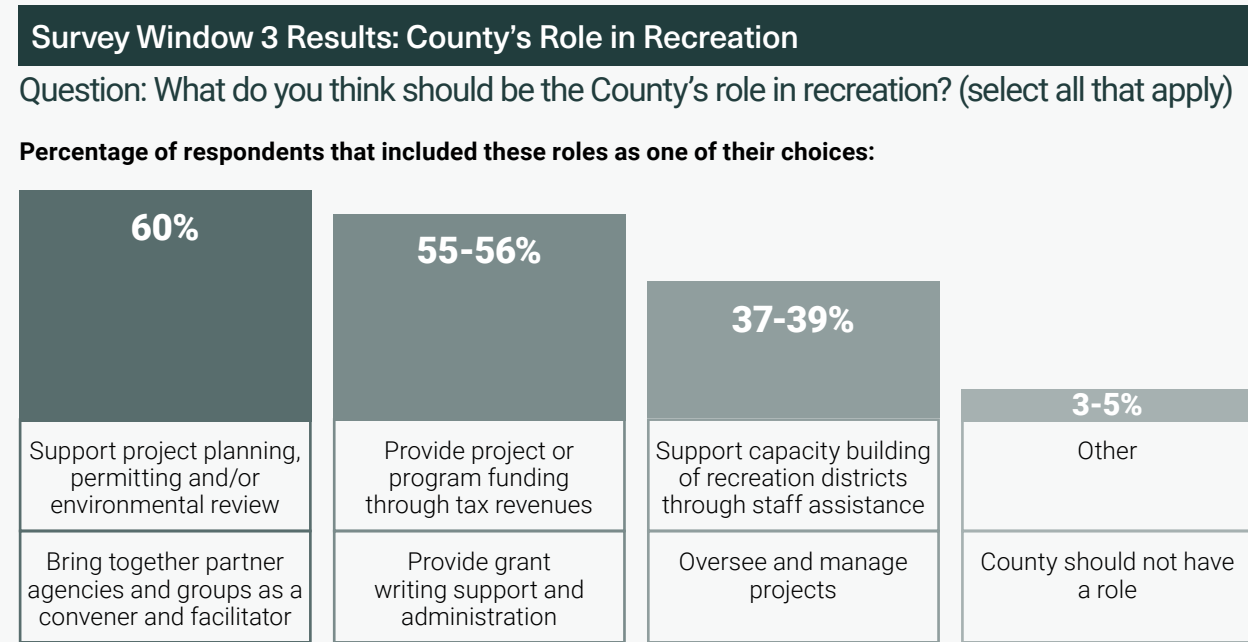
Priorities & Project Matrix Summary

The Master Plan presents a cohesive and comprehensive approach for recreation in Nevada County supported by eight focus areas and associated projects. A review of these focus areas will reveal the broad cross-section of recreation partners required to implement the Plan including local parks and public lands managers, community health and safety professionals, non-profits, and agency and community partners at the local, regional, state and federal level.

In some circumstances, there is also a specific role for the private sector to support this Plan as a founder or operator. The spectrum of industries that benefit from or connect to recreation is vast including, but not limited to, agriculture, forestry, fishing, hunting, utilities, construction, manufacturing, retail, arts, entertainment, accommodation and food services, and more.

See Chapter 7 for a description of focus areas and associated projects

Figure 31: Survey 3 | County's Role in Recreation



River Ambassador program funded through the Outdoor Visitor Safety Fund



Project Prioritization Considerations

Over 100 projects, enhancements, and programs (Project Matrix) emerged through Plan development and were organized into eight focus areas, as guided by community and stakeholder input. General criteria was discussed for prioritizing funding and implementation of the Project Matrix.

It is also important to acknowledge that the Project Matrix is a living document, with opportunities and conditions that may arise which alter or influence priorities over the next 10 to 15 years. Figure 34 provides considerations that could be factored into future decision making or resource allocations.



Truckee River

Figure 32: Factors to Consider for Decision Making or Project Evaluation

Considerations Moving Forward	
Impact on Community Need	Project or program provides the greatest impact to address community needs and preferences. The project receives community and stakeholder support and addresses needs associated with growth.
Funding	The project or program has a funding source or a funding source can be identified to support development and ongoing maintenance. Multi-faceted or "stacked capital" structures from public and private sources are considered.
Multi-User Benefits	This project fills a gap in the current system by aligning investments so that projects can benefit multiple user groups.
Feasibility and Minimal Operational Burden	The project or program has moderate to low impact on maintenance and operational expenses.
Health, Safety, and Accessibility	The project is needed to improve baseline safety elements, can potentially contribute to the health of users and/or ensures equitable accessibility to all.
Facility Lifespan/ Health and Safety	The project will improve existing facilities that have reached end-of-life usability.
Alignment with Existing Planning Efforts	The project aligns with Nevada County or local jurisdictional planning efforts and is consistent with current or planned zoning, density and land use parameters.
Return on Investment	The project or program offers an acceptable rate of return on investment, denotes a positive economic impact, and or maximizes public resources.
Community Co-Benefits	The project has a positive impact on the environment and overall community resilience and provides multiple benefits for parks, recreation and other community priorities.



Focus Area: Community & Regional Park System

Potential Funding Strategies:

- **User Fees** – Establish a fee schedule for rentals and estimated use projections to determine potential income
- **County Mitigation Fees** - Analyze County of Nevada’s existing development fee schedule to determine if there is sufficient rationale for adjusting a portion of mitigation fees to leverage park facility development. This can include:
 - **Quimby Mitigation Fees** – Fees paid by residential developers based on total number of new units built can be dedicated to park land that takes the form of in-lieu land-based donation
 - **AB 1600** - Fees imposed on new development projects to finance the acquisition, construction, and improvement of public facilities
- **Grants and Funding Requests** - Solicit project support from State grants including Land & Water Conservation Fund and CA Dept. of Recreation and

Park programs, private donors, service clubs & businesses, and non-profit, sports or corporate foundations

- **Bonds, Special Assessments, or Debt Financing** - Explore community interest and feasibility of funding mechanisms that require voter approval

Next Steps:

The County of Nevada, lead agencies and stakeholders should evaluate the feasibility of each potential site in terms of funding required, access, and need and then prioritize the order for potential development. Special Districts can then forecast the potential amount of AB 1600 and Quimby fees based on projected development over the next 10 years. This revenue supplemented with a user fee schedule for rentable facilities would establish potential revenue opportunities for planning purposes. In addition, explore whether Oak Tree meets Disadvantaged Community criteria.

Customary Operational Best Practices:

Regional parks generally do not have a revenue source to pay for park maintenance unless there is a developed public space with the capacity to charge rental fees. Examples of rental facilities include fields, pavilions, picnic areas, and community rooms. Rental revenues help partially offset maintenance or operational expenses. However, ongoing maintenance or capital projects require additional funding sources to ensure that operating budgets are not impacted. Facility rentals help partially offset park maintenance costs but ongoing maintenance will require an additional funding source.

Table 11: Project Recommendations for the Community & Regional Park System Focus Area

Community & Regional Park System - Project Recommendations			
Time Frame	Project Name	Lead Agency	Estimated Total Cost
Short term (1 yr)	Truckee-Donner RPD: signage enhancements	Truckee-Donner Recreation and Park District	\$100k - \$250k
Short term (1 yr)	Western Gateway RPD: hire on-site park host	Western Gateway Recreation and Park District	\$40k + ongoing
Mid term (2-5 yrs)	Truckee-Donner RPD: determine site location and construct pickleball courts	Truckee-Donner Recreation and Park District	\$1M - \$1.25M
Mid term (2-5 yrs)	Bear River RPD: investigate opportunities for partnerships for low-cost gym space (underutilized warehouse space)	Bear River Recreation and Park District	\$15k - \$50k
Mid term (2-5 yrs)	Western Gateway RPD: develop deferred maintenance/capital improvement plan	Western Gateway Recreation and Park District	\$50k
Mid term (2-5 yrs)	Western Gateway RPD: pedestrian and bike path circuit throughout the park	Western Gateway Recreation and Park District	\$50k - \$250k
Mid term (2-5 yrs)	Bear River RPD: add restroom adjacent to playing fields at Magnolia Sports Complex	Bear River Recreation and Park District	\$50k - \$75k
Long term (>5 yrs)	Oak Tree PRD: Community Park maintenance and site improvements	Oak Tree Park and Recreation District	\$1M - \$3M
Long term (>5 yrs)	Western Gateway RPD: New RV park (with business plan) and improved ballfields	Western Gateway Recreation and Park District	\$1M - \$2M + ongoing
Long term (>5 yrs)	Bear River RPD: additional park space	Bear River Recreation and Park District	\$2M - \$5M
Long term (>5 yrs)	Truckee-Donner RPD: Rocker Memorial Skatepark expansion	Truckee-Donner Recreation and Park District	\$500k - \$750k
Long term (>5 yrs)	Truckee-Donner RPD: playground access in unincorporated Nevada County	Truckee-Donner Recreation and Park District	\$200k - \$500k

Active Partners

- County of Nevada
- County of Placer
- Municipal Advisory Councils
- Nevada Irrigation District
- School Districts
- Recreation & Park Districts
- Lake Wildwood
- Lake of the Pines
- Town of Truckee
- Visit Truckee-Tahoe
- Tahoe Donner Association
- Donner Summit Association
- Truckee Pickleball Club

Strategies by Focus Area



Focus Area: Recreation Outposts

Potential Funding Strategies:

- **In-kind Support** - Secure donated facility space, with volunteers to serve as docents
- **Joint Funding** - Collaborating entities each contribute to funding for projects or positions, as established through joint council or partnership agreements
- **County of Nevada General Fund** - Dedicate annual allocation for recreation ambassadors
- **Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT)** - Increase rate and allocate percentage to projects
- **Tourism Business Improvement District (TBID)** - Evaluate benefits of formation, working with tourism/economic development partners

Next Steps:

Lead agencies should engage with active partners to determine best sites and operating protocols for a concierge program. Investment in the Go Nevada County tourism platform by the County of Nevada should consider packaging recreation experiences with local businesses. Analysis of an increase to the TOT rate should evaluate economic activity or outcomes.

Customary Operational Best Practices:

A central location for recreation access information and educational materials will capture economies of scale by coordinating with the County of Nevada, local and federal agencies, non-profit and chamber partners to establish a gateway for recreation experiences. Establishing an outpost will also improve the user experience, enhance safety, foster stewardship, and promote economic development opportunities. Public agencies and cooperating organizations partner to share costs and resources, with staff or volunteers hosted by non-governmental entities.

Strategies by Focus Area

Table 12: Project Recommendations for the Recreation Outposts Focus Area

Recreation Outposts - Project Recommendations			
Time Frame	Project Name	Lead Agency	Estimated Total Cost
Short term (1 yr)	Western Nevada County: continue and expand Recreation Ambassador Program	County of Nevada with non-profit partners	\$50k - 100k + ongoing
Mid term (2-5 yrs)	Station 82 parking and signage improvements	Nevada County Consolidated Fire Dist.	\$80k - \$100k
Mid term (2-5 years)	Rood Center recreation improvements and wayfinding	County of Nevada	\$100k - \$400k
Long term (>5 yrs)	Western Nevada County recreation outpost planning and development	County of Nevada	\$500k - \$2M + ongoing
Long term (>5 yrs)	Pleasant Valley Road recreation outpost planning and development	County of Nevada	\$500k - \$2M
Long term (>5 yrs)	Combie Road / Greater Higgins recreation outpost planning and development	County of Nevada	\$500k - \$2M

Active Partners

- County of Nevada
- Nevada County Consolidated Fire District
- Municipal Advisory Councils
- Bureau of Land Management
- USFS
- California State Parks
- Chambers of Commerce
- City of Nevada City
- City of Grass Valley
- Lake Wildwood
- Visit Truckee-Tahoe
- Sierra Gold Parks Foundation
- Bear Yuba Land Trust
- South Yuba River Citizens League
- Bicyclists of Nevada County

Strategies by Focus Area



Focus Area: Towns to Towns Trail System

Potential Funding Strategies:

- **Grants** - Submit relevant projects to the following programs:
 - » AB2766 Funds through Northern Sierra Air Quality Management District
 - » Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) Vibrant Recreation & Tourism or Forest & Watershed Health programs
 - » CA Department of Recreation & Parks Habitat Conservation Fund
 - » USDA Rural Development Funding for Gateway Communities for projects that benefit rural areas outside of urban core
 - » Recreational Trails Program for all access trails available through the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle program
 - » Active Transportation Program grant funding - funds for projects that encourage increased use of active modes of transportation such as hiking, walking or biking.
- **Funding Requests** - Solicit project support from private donors, service clubs & businesses, and non-profit or corporate foundations

- **State/Federal Policies and Legislation** - Submit earmark and programmatic requests annually; track the following:
 - » Bipartisan Infrastructure Law - The USFS Legacy Roads and Trails program will make investments that improve water quality, roads, trails, bridges and fish habitat on national forests nationwide
 - » The EXPLORE Act, if passed, could potentially support regional trail projects
 - » The CA Joint Strategy for Sustainable Outdoor Recreation and Wildfire Resilience Plan includes policy direction that could increase funding in the future.

Next Steps:

A countywide trails working group should be convened (by the County of Nevada or non-profit partner) and include all lead agencies for project implementation: identifying and prioritizing existing trail expansions, coordinated funding and resource participation (e.g. volunteers, expertise). This focus area has a strong nexus to Sustainable Recreation & Communications and should incorporate relevant projects like signage and wayfinding standards.

Customary Operational Best Practices:

Multi-modal trails enhance connectivity for residents and visitors alike. The county has an existing system of paved and natural surface trails that can be leveraged for expansion. Funding and planning for a multi-use trail system can be modeled after the Connected Communities project led by Sierra Buttes Trails Stewardship. The Connected Communities project has a 20-year master plan to connect 15 rural towns across three counties. The trails cross land owned by many parties including private individuals, US Forest Service, special districts and tribes. The project has been supported by the Sierra Nevada Conservancy and private donors. The biggest challenge for the project is funding necessary CEQA and NEPA work prior to securing funding and beginning work.

Strategies by Focus Area

Table 13: Project Recommendations for the Towns to Towns Trail System Focus Area

Towns to Towns Trail System - Project Recommendations			
Time Frame	Project Name	Lead Agency	Estimated Total Cost
Mid term (2-5 years)	Combie Road / Magnolia Trails shared-use paths	County of Nevada	\$1.5M + ongoing
Mid term (2-5 years)	Interagency trailhead needs and maintenance partnership study (to include surface/signage upkeep, waste and service needs)	County of Nevada	\$100k - \$150k
Mid term (2-5 years)	TNF trail strategy	USFS and Truckee Trails Foundation	\$100k - \$150k
Long term (>5 yrs)	Pines to Mines Trail	USFS, Bear Yuba Land Trust, and Truckee Trails Foundation	\$1.5M - \$2.5M + ongoing
Long term (>5 yrs)	Grass Valley: Wolf Creek Trail	City of Grass Valley	\$22M
Long term (>5 yrs)	Truckee Legacy Trail phase 4 (project underway)	Town of Truckee	\$3M - \$4M + ongoing
Long term (>5 yrs)	Truckee Legacy Trail phase 5	Town of Truckee	\$2M - \$3M + ongoing
Long term (>5 yrs)	Trail connection between Soda Springs and Serene Lakes neighborhoods	County of Nevada and County of Placer	\$1.5M - \$3M + ongoing
Long term (>5 yrs)	Lake Wildwood to Western Gateway Regional Park/Penn Valley	County of Nevada	\$2.5M - \$3.5M + ongoing

Strategies by Focus Area

Table 13: Project Recommendations for the Towns to Towns Trail System Focus Area (continued)

Towns to Towns Trail System - Project Recommendations			
Time Frame	Project Name	Lead Agency	Estimated Total Cost
Long term (>5 yrs)	Trail connection between Nevada City to Rough & Ready	City of Grass Valley	\$6.5M - \$8M + ongoing
Long term (>5 yrs)	Trail connection between Rough & Ready to Penn Valley	City of Grass Valley	\$6M - \$7.5M + ongoing
Long term (>5 yrs)	Towns to Towns Trails feasibility study for trail easements	Bear Yuba Land Trust and Truckee Trails Foundation	\$200K - \$350K
Long term (>5 yrs)	South Yuba River: campground connector trail	BLM	\$250k - \$500k
Long term (>5 yrs)	Montezuma Ridge / Governor's Hill Trail	Bear Yuba Land Trust	\$25k - \$50k
Long term (>5 yrs)	South Yuba Trail extension	USFS and County of Nevada	\$250k - \$500k
Long term (>5 yrs)	Sugarloaf Trail to Pioneer Trail	Bear Yuba Land Trust	\$25k - \$50k
Long term (>5 yrs)	Tahoe Donner Trails Master Plan planned loop trails	Tahoe Donner Association	\$2M - \$3M
Long term (>5 yrs)	Alta Sierra trail connections	County of Nevada	\$500k - \$2M

Strategies by Focus Area

Table 13: Project Recommendations for the Towns to Towns Trail System Focus Area (continued)

Towns to Towns Trail System - Project Recommendations			
Time Frame	Project Name	Lead Agency	Estimated Total Cost
Long term (>5 yrs)	Trail connection between Grass Valley to Alta Sierra	County of Nevada	\$1M - \$2M + ongoing
Long term (>5 yrs)	Trail connection between Alta Sierra to Lake of the Pines	County of Nevada	\$3.5M - \$4.5M + ongoing
Long term (>5 yrs)	Trail connection between Lake of the Pines to North Auburn	County of Nevada and County of Placer	\$1.5M - \$2.5M + ongoing
Long term (>5 yrs)	Colfax Highway commuter trail	County of Nevada	\$4M - \$8M + ongoing

Active Partners

- County of Nevada
- County of Placer
- USFS
- Bureau of Land Management
- Caltrans
- Truckee-Donner Recreation & Park District
- Western Gateway Recreation & Park District
- Bear River Recreation & Park District
- City of Nevada City
- City of Grass Valley
- Truckee Dirt Union
- Donner Summit Association
- Truckee Donner Land Trust
- Lake Wildwood
- Lake of the Pines
- Gold Country Trails Council
- Truckee Trails Foundation
- Bear Yuba Land Trust
- Wolf Creek Community Alliance
- Bicyclists of Nevada County
- Nevada County Woods Riders

Strategies by Focus Area



Focus Area: Recreation & Resiliency Hub Network

Potential Funding Strategies:

- **Grants** - Submit relevant projects to the following programs:
 - » **Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) program** – FEMA funding that provides for capability and capacity building including project scoping for resilience hubs
 - » **CA Strategic Growth Council** – Community Resilience Center program supports the planning and construction of neighborhood-serving community resilience centers that build community preparedness and can protect people from extreme heat and other climate driven weather
 - » **CA Department of Food & Agriculture Fairground and Community Resilience Centers Program** – two separate programs that provide funding for resiliency projects at the neighborhood level or improvements to existing fairgrounds to provide safe shelter,

kitchen and sanitation facilities to aid in evacuation and emergency response

- » **PG&E Resilience Hub Grant** – Provides funding to help communities build a network of local resilience hubs. These projects can provide a physical space or set of resources that support community resilience—such as access to power, shelter, and information—to climate-driven extreme weather events, including wildfires, as well as future Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) events. Once developed, the hubs can also be accessed year-round to build and sustain community adaptive capacity in a trusted location

Next Steps:

The County of Nevada, CAL FIRE and municipal partners should conduct a building inventory, identify which community centers or buildings are best positioned to serve as resilience hubs, define needs, and identify enhancements required to fill multiple defined needs.

Customary Operational Best Practices:

Recreation and resiliency hubs are multi-use public buildings that during day-to-day operations provide community services and, during emergencies, can provide safe access to essential services. As a result of the increased need for resiliency hubs, public funding has become available to ensure access to vital health and social resources during emergency events. These resilience hubs ideally include cooling and heating equipment for relief from extreme heat or cold, emergency backup power, cold storage for food, cooking facilities, high speed broadband and are resistant to seismic, floods, wildfire or other natural hazards.

Strategies by Focus Area

Table 14: Project Recommendations for the Recreation & Resiliency Hub Network Focus Area

Recreation & Resiliency Hub Network - Project Recommendations			
Time Frame	Project Name	Lead Agency	Estimated Total Cost
Mid term (2-5 yrs)	Recreation and resiliency investment fund feasibility study for Nevada County and the Tahoe National Forest	County of Nevada	\$100k - \$200k
Mid term (2-5 yrs)	Recreation and resiliency hub network evaluation	County of Nevada, Cities, Town and CAL FIRE	\$250k - \$1M
Mid term (2-5 yrs)	Recreation and resiliency library hubs	Nevada County Libraries	\$30k - \$60k + ongoing
Mid term (2-5 yrs)	Connect and coordinate shared resources and efficiencies between San Juan Ridge Family Resource Center and Oak Tree Community Park	County of Nevada	\$15k + ongoing
Mid term (2-5 yrs)	Town of Washington fire station and community center design	Washington Fire/Water District	\$100k
Long term (>5 yrs)	Nevada County Airport resiliency and multi-modal hub planning and design	County of Nevada	\$350k - \$500k
Long term (>5 yrs)	Station 81 building and site improvements (Cascade Shores)	Nevada County Consolidated Fire Dist.	\$300k - \$500k
Long term (>5 yrs)	Station 82 building and site improvements	Nevada County Consolidated Fire Dist.	\$80k - \$300k
Long term (>5 yrs)	New Truckee library facility	Town of Truckee	\$25M - \$30M
Long term (>5 yrs)	Parkland wildland fire suppression	County of Nevada, Cities, Town and RPDs	\$250k - \$3M

Active Partners

- County of Nevada
- Fire Safe Council of Nevada County
- Town of Truckee
- San Juan Ridge Family Resource Center
- Sierra Harvest
- Nevada County Office of Emergency Services
- Nevada County Transportation Commission
- City of Grass Valley
- Master Gardeners
- Nevada Irrigation District
- USFS
- City of Nevada City
- Pacific Gas & Electric
- Nevada County Consolidated Fire District
- CAL FIRE
- Truckee-Donner Recreation & Park District
- Tahoe Donner Association
- The Food Bank of Nevada County
- School Districts
- Oak Tree Park & Recreation District
- Visit Truckee-Tahoe
- Interfaith Food Ministry
- Bear Yuba Land Trust
- Gold Country Senior Services

Strategies by Focus Area



Focus Area: River Access Management

Potential Funding Strategies:

• **Grants - Submit relevant projects to the following programs:**

- » Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) Vibrant Recreation & Tourism or Forest & Watershed Health programs
- » CA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife Boating Access
- » CA Department of Recreation & Parks Habitat Conservation Fund
- » CA State Parks Division of Boating & Waterways
- » CA Wildlife Conservation Board Public Access Fund
- » USDA Rural Development Funding for Gateway Communities
- » Recreational Trails Program for all access trails available through the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle program

- **Funding Requests** - Solicit project support from private donors, service clubs & businesses, and non-profit or corporate foundations

- **State/Federal Policies and Legislation** - Submit earmark and programmatic requests annually; track the following:

- » Bipartisan Infrastructure Law - The USFS Legacy Roads and Trails
- » The EXPLORE Act

Next Steps:

South Yuba River: Leverage existing work by the SYRPS Cohort and river ambassadors to prioritize areas for investment and action and consider any new partnerships for inclusion. Update the Comprehensive Management Plan with a focus on addressing cooperative solutions.

Truckee River: Construct two new bridges with river access enhancements. Investigate long term strategies for parking and public access to the river.

Bear River: Work with NID and Placer County to identify appropriate locations for river access facilities.

Customary Operational Best Practices:

Managing rivers that, by their nature, cross through multiple jurisdictions, requires regional collaboration for the greatest impact and funding opportunities. The Interagency Visitor Use Management Council has developed a toolkit for the proactive and adaptive process of visitor use management (VUM). From that work, the National Park Service created a collaborative planning framework that prioritizes short-term implementation to address hotspots, immediate problems, and cooperative solutions while still covering VUM goals and broad strategies. As a collaborative group, the SYRPS Cohort is well organized to advance this work and have driven effective solutions to difficult challenges related to increased recreation.

Strategies by Focus Area

Table 15: Project Recommendations for the River Access Management Focus Area

River Access Management - Project Recommendations			
Time Frame	Project Name	Lead Agency	Estimated Total Cost
Short term (1 yr)	South Yuba River: continuation of South Yuba River Public Safety Cohort	County of Nevada	\$5k - \$10k + ongoing
Short term (1 yr)	South Yuba River: continue and expand River Ambassador program	SYRCL	\$15k - \$20k + ongoing
Short term (1 yr)	South Yuba River: provide permanent Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) signage	County of Nevada	\$20k - \$50k
Short term (1 yr)	South Yuba River: Bridgeport Crossing parking barriers and enforcement	CA State Parks	\$10k
Short term (1 yr)	South Yuba River and Truckee River: Nevada County Sheriff's Office, Search and Rescue (SAR) Mountain Rescue Team Certification	Nevada County SAR	\$15k - \$20k
Mid term (2-5 yrs)	South Yuba River: update coordinated adaptive visitor use management strategies (CA State Parks, BLM, and USFS)	County of Nevada	\$100k - \$200k + ongoing
Mid term (2-5 yrs)	South Yuba River: Bridgeport - barn interpretation center	CA State Parks	\$50k - \$100k
Mid term (2-5 yrs)	South Yuba River: concessionaire	CA State Parks	\$50k - \$75k + ongoing
Mid term (2-5 yrs)	South Yuba River: Indian Springs Campground upgrades	USFS	\$500k - \$1.5M
Mid term (2-5 yrs)	Donner Lake West End beach parking expansion/resurfacing	Truckee-Donner Recreation & Park District	\$75k - \$100k

Strategies by Focus Area

Table 15: Project Recommendations for the River Access Management Focus Area (continued)

River Access Management - Project Recommendations			
Time Frame	Project Name	Lead Agency	Estimated Total Cost
Mid term (2-5 yrs)	Bear River: Dog Bar Bridge improvement with bike/ped lane	County of Nevada	\$2M
Mid term (2-5 yrs)	Bear River: trailhead, parking and signage at Dog Bar Bridge	County of Nevada, Nevada Irrigation District	\$500k - \$2M + ongoing
Mid term (2-5 yrs)	All Rivers: maintain and expand emergency call box network	County of Nevada	\$30k + ongoing
Long term (>5 yrs)	South Yuba River: Highway 49 access improvements	CA State Parks	\$250k - \$750k + ongoing
Long term (>5 yrs)	South Yuba River: Purdon Crossing bridge and road improvements	County of Nevada	\$10M - \$15M
Long term (>5 yrs)	South Yuba River: Purdon Crossing parking, restroom, and waste abatement	CA State Parks	\$250k - \$1M + ongoing
Long term (>5 yrs)	South Yuba River: Edwards Crossing bridge and road improvements	County of Nevada	\$7M - \$10M
Long term (>5 yrs)	South Yuba River: Edwards Crossing parking, trail, and waste abatement improvements	CA State Parks and BLM	\$500k - \$750k + ongoing
Long term (>5 yrs)	South Yuba River: evaluate joint governance/operations framework	County of Nevada	\$100k - \$200k + ongoing
Long term (>5 yrs)	South Yuba River: improve parking and restrooms at Langs Crossing/South Yuba River	USFS	\$150k - \$250k

Strategies by Focus Area

Table 15: Project Recommendations for the River Access Management Focus Area (continued)

River Access Management - Project Recommendations			
Time Frame	Project Name	Lead Agency	Estimated Total Cost
Long term (>5 yrs)	Truckee River: Hirschdale Bridge improvement	County of Nevada	\$1M - \$2M
Long term (>5 yrs)	Truckee River: Hirschdale signage improvements	County of Nevada	\$250k - \$1M + ongoing
Long term (>5 yrs)	Truckee River: Planning and design for long term river access improvements near Hirschdale	County of Nevada	\$250k - \$1M
Long term (>5 yrs)	Truckee River: Upgrade amenities at high-user river access points and Boca, Prosser and Stampede reservoirs	USFS	\$2M - \$5M

Active Partners

- County of Nevada
- County of Placer
- Nevada Irrigation District
- Nevada County Office of Emergency Services
- USFS
- Bureau of Land Management
- Caltrans
- CAL FIRE
- California State Parks
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Truckee-Donner Recreation and Park District
- Truckee Donner Public Utility District
- Town of Truckee
- Bear Yuba Land Trust
- Tahoe Pyramid Trail
- Truckee Trails Foundation
- Tahoe Donner Association
- Sierra Gold Parks Foundation
- South Yuba River Public Safety Cohort
- South Yuba River Citizens League
- Convene, Champion, & Catalyze
- Truckee Dirt Union
- Hirschdale Stakeholder Group
- Trout Unlimited

Strategies by Focus Area



Focus Area: Destination Donner Summit

Potential Funding Strategies:

- **Grants** - Submit relevant projects to the following programs:
 - » Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) Vibrant Recreation & Tourism or Forest & Watershed Health programs
 - » CA Department of Recreation & Parks Habitat Conservation Fund
 - » USDA Rural Development Funding for Gateway Communities for projects that benefit rural areas outside of urban core
 - » Recreational Trails Program
 - » Wildlife Conservation Board Public Access Fund
- **State/Federal Policies and Legislation** Submit earmark and programmatic requests annually; track the following:
 - » **Bipartisan Infrastructure Law** - The USFS Legacy Roads and Trails program will make investments that improve water quality, roads,

- trails, bridges and fish habitat on national forests nationwide
 - » The EXPLORE Act could potentially support regional trail projects, if passed
 - » The CA Joint Strategy for Sustainable Outdoor Recreation and Wildfire Resiliency Plan includes policy direction that could increase funding in the future

Next Steps:

Prioritize projects in collaboration with lead agencies and identify how to value stack funding for each amenity or project cited. Partner with NID to support a planning grant for headwaters resiliency as part of the Cosumnes, American, Bear, Yuba Integrated Regional Water Management update that also layers in visitor-serving amenities that support economic development.

Customary Operational Best Practices:

Multi-jurisdictional outdoor recreation areas provide unique opportunities to benefit from collaborative partnerships, collective funding and public-private partnerships to advance programs, projects, equitable access and environmental protection. Natural resources play a key role in potential economic development. Economic viability necessitates a concerted and ongoing promotional campaign that uses gateway-style signage, wayfinding, and special events to draw people with diverse interests to the area. Investment in visitor-serving facilities can help the area transition from a seasonal to a year-round destination. Connecting open spaces and integrating unique settings and isolated habitats can support and broaden recreational experiences.

Strategies by Focus Area

Table 16: Project Recommendations for the Destination Donner Summit Focus Area

Destination Donner Summit - Project Recommendations			
Time Frame	Project Name	Lead Agency	Estimated Total Cost
Mid term (2-5 yrs)	Lamson-Cashion Donner Summit hub trailhead	USFS	\$1M - \$2M
Mid term (2-5 yrs)	Castle Peak trailhead and parking improvements	USFS and SYRCL	\$1M - \$2M
Mid term (2-5 yrs)	Sugar Bowl Road, village trailhead	Sugar Bowl	\$500k - \$1M
Mid term (2-5 yrs)	Long Lake trailhead and restroom and Palisades Creek Trail	USFS	\$1M - \$2M
Mid term (2-5 yrs)	Donner Summit Visitor Center feasibility, design, and construction	Donner Summit Association, USFS, SYRCL	\$2M - \$5M
Mid term (2-5 yrs)	Van Norden meadow restoration and road improvements	USFS and SYRCL	\$1M - \$1.5M
Mid term (2-5 yrs)	Operations and Maintenance Agreement for public use facilities shared by multiple jurisdictions	County of Nevada, County of Placer	\$10k - \$30k
Long term (>5 yrs)	Van Norden trailhead, boardwalks, and restroom	USFS and SYRCL	\$650k - \$1.3M

Active Partners

- County of Placer
- County of Nevada
- USFS
- Bureau of Land Management
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Truckee-Donner Recreation & Park District
- Town of Truckee
- Truckee Donner Public Utility District
- Wildlife Conservation Board
- Visit Truckee-Tahoe
- Washoe Tribe
- South Yuba River Citizens League
- Donner Summit Association
- Truckee Donner Land Trust
- Truckee Trails Foundation
- Convene, Champion, & Catalyze
- Tahoe Donner Association
- Soda Springs/Auburn Ski Club
- Woodward Boreal
- Soda Springs Resort (Powder Corp)
- Trout Unlimited

Strategies by Focus Area



Focus Area: Sustainable Recreation & Communications

Potential Funding Strategies:

- **Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT)** - Dedicate County of Nevada TOT funds for ongoing coordination, messaging and one-time projects
- **Grants and Funding Requests** - Solicit project support from State grants including CNRA Outdoors for All, SNC Vibrant Recreation & Tourism, private donors, service clubs & businesses, and non-profit, sports or corporate foundations
 - CA Department of Natural Resources will be rolling out the Outdoors for All program designed to support programs to connect people who lack access to the outdoors
- **Sign Sponsorship** - Develop policy and fee structure for business, donors, and nonprofits to fund signs, maps and digital assets in exchange for brand recognition and naming rights

- **In-Kind Support** - Include donations of materials and services (e.g., design, planning, production, digital media) as eligible for naming rights and sponsorship benefits within policy (*see sign sponsorship*)

Next Steps:

Work with private sector and tourism-based industries (e.g., destination marketing organizations, Visit Truckee-Tahoe, chambers of commerce, lodging, restaurants, and guides) to support and reinforce messaging. Evaluate current recreation messaging and, as needed, refine communications to provide consistent messaging and information, working with law enforcement, fire agencies, and community-based organizations. As a multi-jurisdictional project, develop and implement an overall wayfinding signage program that strengthens the overall brand of Nevada County and its partners and promotes sustainable recreation.

Customary Operational Best Practices:

A coordinated outreach, communication, and signage strategy for messaging, wayfinding, and recreation promotion is often handled by a land manager, jurisdiction or a local community benefit organization with the goal being universal, branded, and consistent signage. Coordinating messaging across jurisdictions, such as the signage program developed by Mammoth Lakes, can reinforce sustainable recreation while also enhancing the overall experience. Consideration must be given to digital applications, translation, accessibility, on-going maintenance, and sign replacement. Where recreation in eastern Nevada County connects with Placer County, developing unified and consistent messaging across county boundaries is important.

Strategies by Focus Area

Table 17: Project Recommendations for the Sustainable Recreation & Communications Focus Area

Sustainable Recreation & Communication Signage Plan - Project Recommendations			
Time Frame	Project Name	Lead Agency	Estimated Total Cost
Short term (1 yr)	Continued coordination by multi-jurisdiction workgroups such as eastern Nevada County sustainability leaders (Convene, Champion, & Catalyze) and South Yuba River Public Safety Cohort	Visit Truckee-Tahoe and County of Nevada	\$5k - \$10k + ongoing
Short term (1 yr)	Responsible recreation messaging	Visit Truckee-Tahoe and County of Nevada	\$50k - \$100k + ongoing
Short term (1 yr)	Tahoe-Truckee trail etiquette campaign	Town of Truckee	\$15k - \$20k + ongoing
Mid term (2-5 yrs)	Prepare a uniform signage program for Nevada County recreational trails and river access (directional, informational, interpretive, educational, etc.)	County of Nevada	\$500k - \$1.5M
Long term (>5 yrs)	Implement uniform signage program for Nevada County recreational trails and river access (directional, informational, interpretive, educational, etc.)	Varies	Varies
Long term (>5 yrs)	Wildflower Ridge Preserve	Bear Yuba Land Trust	\$2.5M

Active Partners

- County of Nevada
- County of Placer
- USFS
- Bureau of Land Management
- California State Parks
- Truckee-Donner Recreation & Park District
- City of Nevada City
- City of Grass Valley
- Town of Truckee
- Truckee Destination Stewardship Plan Advisory Council
- Donner Summit Association
- Tahoe Donner Association
- Visit Truckee-Tahoe
- Convene, Champion, & Catalyze
- Bear Yuba Land Trust
- Truckee Trails Foundation
- Gold Country Trails Council
- Bicyclists of Nevada County
- Nevada County Woods Riders
- Truckee Donner Land Trust
- South Yuba River Public Safety Cohort
- South Yuba River Citizens League
- Truckee Dirt Union

Strategies by Focus Area



Focus Area: One Centralized Hub for Recreation Resources & Programming

Potential Funding Strategies:

- **County of Nevada General Fund** - Dedicate annual allocation for recreation
- **In-Kind and Funding Requests** - Solicit support from community foundation, private donors, service clubs, businesses and non-profits
- **Taxes or Special Assessments** - Explore community interest and feasibility of funding mechanisms that require voter approval:
 - » **Sales tax** - typically requires 2/3 vote
 - » **Parcel tax** - typically requires 2/3 vote
- **CA Jobs First Grants** – Explore eligibility of supporting workforce development linked to living wage jobs, climate neutrality and tradeable sector economic benefit

Next Steps:

Create operating budget, identify strategic partnerships and personnel, technology and equipment required for the one-stop shop and establish location. In the case of the one-stop-shop concept, first steps will be to outline the scope of work required, identify any excess capacity at county and city staff levels to contribute to the program and then determine the additional staff requirements and other administrative costs needed.

Customary Operational Best Practices:

Economies of scale can be gained by combining recreation planning and programming efforts across jurisdictions in western Nevada County. Ideally, one centralized hub would be supported and shared by the County of Nevada and all three recreation & park districts to reduce administrative overhead costs and improve the overall organized recreation experience. The user base would increase by leveraging one platform for information sharing, registrations and volunteer recruitment, thus increasing efficiencies and potential revenues. Recreation programming and support staff are generally not eligible for grant funding. Funding customarily comes from a combination of taxes, assessments, and program fees.

Strategies by Focus Area

Table 18: Project Recommendations for the One Centralized Hub for Recreation & Resource Programming Focus Area

One Centralized Hub for Recreation Resource & Programming - Project Recommendations			
Time Frame	Project Name	Lead Agency	Estimated Total Cost
Short term (1 yr)	Shared professional park staff	Western Nevada County RPDs	\$60k - \$80k + ongoing
Short term (1 yr)	Volunteer recruitment & training	County of Nevada, RPDs	\$5k - \$10k + ongoing
Short term (1 yr)	Recreation fair	County of Nevada and Recreation Coalition members	\$5k - \$10k + ongoing
Mid tern (2-5 yrs)	One-stop shop programming platform	County of Nevada	\$10k - \$30k + ongoing
Long term (>5 yrs)	Evaluate recreation assessments funding feasibility	County of Nevada	\$25k - \$70k
Long term (>5 yrs)	Evaluate forming a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) with existing park and recreation districts and local service providers (cities)	County of Nevada	\$25k - \$70k
Long term (>5 yrs)	Feasibility evaluation of joint recreation center and fieldhouse (shared facility for western Nevada County)	Joint Nevada City, Grass Valley, County of Nevada	\$50k - \$100k

Active Partners

- County of Nevada
- Municipal Advisory Councils
- Nevada County Recreation Coalition
- Libraries
- School Districts
- Bear River Recreation & Park District
- Oak Tree Park & Recreation District
- Western Gateway Recreation & Park District
- City of Grass Valley
- City of Nevada City
- Recreation organizations and nonprofits

Potential Funding Mechanisms

The comprehensive nature of this Plan requires a holistic consideration of potential funding mechanisms. Given the broad scope of the eight focus areas, implementation will depend upon prioritization of project development with each requiring, at a minimum, discrete start-up and operational budgets, proformas and establishment of partner commitments. Recreation projects require extensive funding to finance planning, entitlements, land acquisition, environmental studies, construction, implementation and long-term maintenance. It is imperative that these goals align with the criteria outlined in funding opportunities. Increasingly, this criteria includes projects that advance equity, sustainability, high quality job creation, low-carbon approaches and the ability to leverage public, private and philanthropic funds. With respect to state and federal funding, most grant opportunities will not fully fund any specific project. It is typical for jurisdictions and organizations to stack funding opportunities in order to complete and maintain a single project. The following key considerations should be addressed for each project:

- **Multiple sources of capital:** The possibility of multi-faceted or stacking capital sources to ensure project viability. This may include federal, state, local and private sources in addition to generated operating income and in-kind support.
- **Collaboration:** Many projects described in the eight focus areas are outside the sole jurisdiction of the County of Nevada and will require collaboration and potentially operating agreements with land-owners and public agencies.
- **Sustainable funding:** Start-up costs and initial investments will be the natural first focus to initiate a project, however most projects will need maintenance budgets to ensure long-term viability.
- **Staff capacity:** For projects that fall within the County of Nevada’s jurisdiction, consideration must be given to how the project or program fits with existing staff capacity and/or if the project is an operational fit. Legal authority to pursue, accept, and spend types of funding or financing should also be considered.
- **Identification of co-benefits:** Increasingly, government and private foundation funding opportunities are tied to metrics designed to enhance certain co-benefits such as climate change adaptation, access to recreation for all, job creation, and wildfire resilience. This Plan identifies multiple co-benefits that can be cited in grant applications for such funding.



► Nevada County Library blanket giveaway during winter storm 2023.
Image Credit: Aubree Burkholder, Nevada City Library

This section identifies potential funding mechanisms for future project development and operations. The challenge for the County of Nevada will be to leverage existing or available funding while navigating the need and desire of the community for new and innovative methods for financing planned improvements, facilities, programming and operational needs. These potential sources represent a “point in time” and should be refreshed periodically to respond to new opportunities, changing regulatory requirements, partnerships and land use scenarios that will impact funding sources over time.

The following matrices identify potential funding sources that can be accessed to implement aspects of the Master Plan. Each category of funding has different timelines, criteria and requirements as well as pros and cons relative to a specific project. Depending on the area of focus, multiple funding sources will be required, as well as the all important “local match” component. Local matching funds are a critical required element for many state and federal grants. Local match funds can often be a mix of cash and in-kind support and strengthen the funding request. The most important takeaway is for the County of Nevada, lead agencies, and active partners to be creative in their approach to funding in terms of leverage, land use, shared-use opportunities and community readiness for initiatives that may benefit from mechanisms that require voter approval.

Federal Funding Opportunities

Federal funding sources in the form of grants require a high level of monitoring, reporting and accountability which requires dedicated staff. Federal grants typically focus on sensitive populations and require grantees to show how projects will positively impact specific groups. It is common for federal funding to require match funding, and typically have eligible projects with co-benefits (e.g., living wage jobs, housing infrastructure, disaster recovery).

While funding for recreation is limited, projects that present co-benefits such as significant job creation or environmental sustainability and intersect with US Forest Service land are increasingly competitive. Federal funds can be used to build support infrastructure that will benefit a recreation project (such as roads, transit access or broadband) or for disaster recovery such as a FEMA grant to rebuild or repair a damaged community asset.

Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration

- **Funding Available:** Varies - Regional Trails Program (RTP)
- **Criteria:** Always requires a match
- **Eligible Projects:** Unknown
- **Comments:** Unknown

Department of Social Services: Social Recreation Grants

- **Funding Available:** Varies
- **Criteria:** Unknown
- **Eligible Projects:** Programming
- **Comments:** Physically and mentally disabled citizens, programming/ interventions/therapy

Economic Development Administration (EDA) / Public Works

- **Funding Available:** Varies – \$200k - \$5M
- **Criteria:** Infrastructure only with required cash match; must create long-term, living wage jobs
- **Eligible Projects:** Community Centers
- **Comments:** Grant awards skew towards low-income and disaster-impacted communities

Potential Funding Mechanisms

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Funds

- **Funding Available:** Depends on damage assessment
- **Criteria:** Always require a match
- **Eligible Projects:** Must have community benefit and have been severely damaged by a storm or natural disaster that is included in a Presidential Disaster Declaration; This could include piers at Donner Lake, Independence Trail, etc. Note that replacement requires an upgrade to withstand future disasters
- **Comments:** Used to replace damaged infrastructure such as piers destroyed in storms, waterways, building damage and fire recovery; Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC), Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, and Post-Fire grants can be used for fire risk mitigation

HUD / Community Development Block Grants

- **Funding Available:** Varies
- **Criteria:** Typically used for housing but parks and trails are allowed infrastructure
- **Eligible Projects:** Community Centers
- **Comments:** Administered through CA HUD

Inflation Reduction Act Funding

- **Funding Available:** Unknown
- **Criteria:** Unknown
- **Eligible Projects:** Unknown
- **Comments:** Unknown

Land and Water Conservation Fund

- **Funding Available:** \$900M per year in US
- **Criteria:** Grant requires a one-to-one cash match and must be targeted to disadvantaged communities that lack access to close-by outdoor recreation
- **Eligible Projects:** Land acquisition and/or development of public parks and other outdoor recreation spaces
- **Comments:** Likely on a 2-year funding cycle

National Highway Traffic Safety & US Department of Transportation

- **Funding Available:** Unknown
- **Criteria:** Funds bike lanes, safe walking paths and mobility
- **Eligible Projects:** Trails, bike paths, low carbon alternatives
- **Comments:** Often overlooked for local trail development, current criteria includes a multi-modal transport requirement to reduce vehicle miles traveled

USDA / Rural Development

- **Funding Available:** Varies – \$200k - \$5M
- **Criteria:** USDA programs include grants and loans that can support technical assistance, infrastructure, business development and conservation or easement projects
- **Eligible Projects:** Community facilities, multi-use trails, public restrooms, and rural broadband in anchor institutions
- **Comments:** Funds can be used for feasibility studies, economic impact analysis to support a project funding application

U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities: Innovative Finance for National Forests (IFNF) grant program

- **Funding Available:** Unknown
- **Criteria:** Project must be on National Forest land for this conservation finance program
- **Eligible Projects:** Carbon benefits from reforestation, stream and wetland restoration, forest resilience bonds, innovative finance models that leverage public and private capital other than US Forest Service appropriations
- **Comments:** IFNF is co-managed by the USFS and the US Endowment for Forestry and Communities; Applications are accepted through a competitive Request for Proposal process on a rolling basis

Potential Funding Mechanisms

State of California Opportunities

Following COVID-19, the State of California's grant opportunities tend to be designed to build prosperous and liveable communities that honor strong cultural elements and diversity and break barriers for disinvested communities by providing equitable and inclusive access to jobs, facilities and education. In addition, most state funding opportunities focus on natural resource protection, land acquisition, climate resilience and projects that advance the State's net zero carbon goals. For the County of Nevada to best position itself for recreation grant opportunities, it may be best to list the recreational opportunity as a co-benefit to climate mitigation or adaptation (e.g., shaded fuel breaks that are open to the public as multi-use trails) and prove that the recreational amenity will ensure equitable access for all. It is common for state funding to be used to serve sensitive populations, and may require applicants to show proof of disadvantaged communities through State tools (e.g., CalEnviroScreen, California Dream Index). These tools often show rural regions as more advantaged, and therefore rural regions may be less competitive. It is often helpful to include the lower income census tracts and job creation to access these funds.

EDD/Alliance For Workforce Development

- **Funding Available:** Unknown
- **Criteria:** Must create jobs
- **Eligible Projects:** Unknown
- **Comments:** Difficult to compete with highly disadvantaged communities, however CERF program may be an opportunity as program emerges for regional recreation projects

CAL FIRE

- **Criteria:** Must increase wildfire resilience, recreation as a by-product
- **Eligible Projects:** Land acquisition, less rec-based, more risk reduction buffers (aka shaded fuel breaks), creating networks of trails for fire mitigation & public use
- **Comments:** Unknown

Caltrans

- **Funding Available:** Unknown
- **Criteria:** Unknown
- **Eligible Projects:** Unknown
- **Comments:** Funding for multi-modal transportation such as bike paths and trails

California Department of Fish & Wildlife: Boating Access

- **Funding Available:** Unknown
- **Criteria:** Facilities that create or add to public access for recreational boating and improvement to waterways that increase access to recreational boating opportunities
- **Eligible Projects:** New docks or piers, maintenance and operations, auxiliary structures that ensure safe access
- **Comments:** Projects may restrict types of boat motors, speed limits or hours of use

California Department of Parks & Recreation: Art in Parks Fund

- **Funding Available:** \$8M over 3 grant cycles; min. \$15k, max. \$250k
- **Criteria:** Art projects must offer perspective on California's past and present and help promote community connections; applicants must be a 501(c)3, CA Native American Tribe, Native 7871 organization, land trust, or local government agency
- **Eligible Projects:** Performances, events, art installations that bring art and nature together in public parks; funds available for planning, development and implementation
- **Comments:** Two distinct funds available; Arts in State Parks and the Local Parks Grant Program

Potential Funding Mechanisms

California Department of Parks & Recreation: Habitat Conservation Fund

- **Funding Available:** \$2 million per year
- **Criteria:** Applicants must be cities, counties, or jurisdictions for projects that protect various plant and animal species or acquire wildlife corridors
- **Eligible Projects:** Nature interpretation programs to bring urban residents into park and wildlife areas in seven habitat categories including: Deer/Mountain Lion, protected species, wetlands, trout streams, riparian areas, trails, wildlife activities
- **Comments:** Requires dollar for dollar cash match

California Department of Parks & Recreation: Rural Recreation & Tourism

- **Funding Available:** Unknown
- **Criteria:** Rural cities, counties, or jurisdictions can apply to create new recreation opportunities to support health-related and economic goals
- **Eligible Projects:** Acquisition of land to create outdoor recreation infrastructure that will advance local goals and attract visitors; accessible trails and bikeways, sports complexes, visitor centers, amphitheaters, campgrounds, aquatic centers
- **Comments:** Funded through the 2018 Prop 68 bond

California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA): Rec Trails and Greenways Program

- **Funding Available:** \$35M
- **Criteria:** Unknown
- **Eligible Projects:** Natural surface trails
- **Comments:** Has not been funded by equity lens, more for maximizing use for trails, and creating new access opportunities on properties; current grant is closed, however new opportunities emerge on a rolling basis

California State Parks Commission

- **Funding Available:** Unknown
- **Criteria:** Unknown
- **Eligible Projects:** Unknown
- **Comments:** Funding for Trails specifically in state parks

California Transportation Commission: Active Transportation Program Grants

- **Funding Available:** Unknown
- **Criteria:** Funds projects that encourage increased use of active modes of transportation, increase safety and mobility of non-motorized users, contribute to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, enhance public health and benefit disadvantaged communities
- **Eligible Projects:** Multi-modal trails that serve hikers, bikers, safe routes to schools and other non-motorized transportation
- **Comments:** Funds originate from the state's Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation account and have been oversubscribed since inception in 2017

California State Parks Division of Boating & Waterways

- **Funding Available:** Unknown
- **Criteria:** Unknown
- **Eligible Projects:** Unknown
- **Comments:** Administers several grant and loan programs designed to improve and safeguard the boating experience for all users; funds provided through these programs enhance recreational boating infrastructure and safety

Potential Funding Mechanisms

Healthy Watershed Program (CNRA)

- **Funding Available:** Unknown
- **Criteria:** Applicant must be a public agency, nonprofit organization, public utility (including water and irrigation districts), federally recognized Native American tribe or non-federally recognized California Native American tribe
- **Eligible Projects:** Implementation projects resulting in measurable increases in stream flow from January through June or some period within that seasonal window, projects focused on a watershed or regional approach, projects in critical watersheds for salmonids
- **Comments:** Funding originates from Prop 68, which may have been expended

Parks California: Route to Parks Grant

- **Funding Available:** Unknown
- **Criteria:** Unknown
- **Eligible Projects:** Transportation to a CA state park (bike trails, walking path, etc.)
- **Comments:** Reach Disadvantaged Communities and foster collaboration with State Parks

Parks California: Resources Legacy Fund

- **Funding Available:** Unknown
- **Criteria:** Unknown
- **Eligible Projects:** Unknown
- **Comments:** Money for arts in parks - half to state, half to local governments

Prop 64 Public Health & Safety (Cannabis Grant)

- **Funding Available:** \$150 million; may apply for a maximum of \$3 million for 5 years; can apply every 5 years after
- **Criteria:** Activities and strategies must fall within four Project Purpose Areas: 1) Youth Development/Youth Prevention and Intervention; 2) Public Health; 3) Public Safety; and 4) Environmental Impacts
- **Eligible Projects:** Local governments that do not ban both indoor or outdoor commercial cannabis cultivation; projects must address local impacts due to the legalization of cannabis in California
- **Comments:** Does not require match or leveraged funds; applicants encouraged to identify experienced grant development partners; the cost of specialized Prop 64 evaluations can be covered by grant funds

Prop 68 Funding

- **Funding Available:** Unknown
- **Criteria:** Unknown
- **Eligible Projects:** Unknown
- **Comments:** \$4 billion in general obligation bonds for state and local parks, environmental protection and water restoration projects; per capita allocation and competitive bid process

Sierra Nevada Conservancy: Vibrant Recreation & Tourism, Forest & Watershed Health programs

- **Funding Available:** Unknown
- **Criteria:** Projects must enhance and develop sustainable recreation opportunities and increase access to public lands in CA's Sierra-Cascade region; projects must meet CEQA and NEPA requirements
- **Eligible Projects:** Feasibility studies for on-the-ground recreation projects, trail building and maintenance, accessible access points, site improvements that minimize impacts to natural resources
- **Comments:** Funded through CA budget appropriations directed towards nature-based solutions; grants are contingent on funding availability

Potential Funding Mechanisms

Strategic Growth Council

- **Funding Available:** Unknown
- **Criteria:** Focuses on underserved communities
- **Eligible Projects:** Unknown
- **Comments:** Underserved community requirement

Wildlife Conservation Board

- **Funding Available:** Unknown
- **Criteria:** Projects must protect or enhance biodiversity, promote climate change resiliency, support the state's Wildlife Action Plan, conserve working landscapes and enhance public access
- **Eligible Projects:** Land acquisition for nature-based recreation such as bird-watching, fishing, hunting and hiking
- **Comments:** Program is dedicated to the Cascade and High Sierra region; a pre-application is required

Local Government Opportunities

Local funding as a bond measure or special tax needs voter approval. It is important to do extensive community engagement to inform how the voters want to see the funds used, effectively share the findings of community feedback, and how the feedback will inform the use of funds. This process will be more successful in jurisdictions with a healthy track record of special taxes and public reporting of expenditures. Adopting a Master Plan informed by the public may increase the odds for the funding source to be renewed by voters prior to its expiration.

AB 1600 Fees

- **Funding Available:** Unknown
- **Criteria:** Unknown
- **Eligible Projects:** Unknown
- **Comments:** Development Impact Mitigation fees are based on General Plan standard for acres per population

AB 2766 Fees

- **Funding Available:** Unknown
- **Criteria:** Can fund projects that prove reduction of VMTs, e.g. trails, bicycle facilities, digital delivery of information
- **Eligible Projects:** Unknown
- **Comments:** Funds through Northern Sierra Air Quality Management District

Bond Measure / Limited Obligation

- **Funding Available:** Unknown
- **Criteria:** Unknown
- **Eligible Projects:** Unknown
- **Comments:** A District can conduct an election to generate funding from a special assessment; A special assessment is an additional tax on a piece of property to finance projects, improvements or programming; In California, a two-thirds majority of the vote is required for passage of the measure; Eligible entities that can issue a bond include school districts, county government, municipal government, special districts, and cities

CA Infrastructure Bank

- **Funding Available:** Unknown
- **Criteria:** Unknown
- **Eligible Projects:** Unknown
- **Comments:** The CA Infrastructure Development Bank low interest loans for building infrastructure can be deployed for fully entitled projects

Potential Funding Mechanisms

Certificates of Participation / General Obligation Bond

- **Funding Available:** Unknown
- **Criteria:** Unknown
- **Eligible Projects:** Unknown
- **Comments:** Funding mechanism where bonds are sold through a broker on the open market and the debt is serviced for 10-30 years; Need an S&P rating to indicate entities risk profile based on the ability to pay it back; Eligible entities that can issue a bond include school districts, county government, municipal government, special districts, and cities

Climate Resilience Financing Districts

- **Funding Available:** Unknown
- **Criteria:** Unknown
- **Eligible Projects:** Unknown
- **Comments:** Permits jurisdictions and JPAs to establish climate resilience districts which are able to raise revenue through tax increment financing, voter approved supplemental property taxes, property benefit assessments or fees

Sales Tax

- **Funding Available:** The rate of the tax must be in multiples of 0.125 percent, and the combined rate of all transaction and use taxes in a city cannot exceed 2 percent
- **Criteria:** Unknown
- **Eligible Projects:** Revenues can be used for any purpose, including operations and maintenance; if capital is needed for park acquisition or improvements, the revenue stream can be used to secure bonds
- **Comments:** A two-thirds vote of the city council or board of supervisors is required to put a transaction and use tax on the ballot; if it is for park purposes, it is considered a special tax, which must be approved by two-thirds of the voters

Land Share

- **Funding Available:** Unknown
- **Criteria:** Unknown
- **Eligible Projects:** Unknown
- **Comments:** An important tool for jurisdictions to develop recreation facilities on under utilized land (i.e. Truckee Regional Park exists on a combination of the recreation district, PUD, Airport and Sanitation district lands)

Parcel Tax

- **Funding Available:** Unknown
- **Criteria:** Need polling
- **Eligible Projects:** Unknown
- **Comments:** Must be voter-approved, typically at 66%; if a project is tied to a school district, the passing rate is 55%; typically only 4 years, but can be written for longer; TDRPD has a legacy parcel tax of \$8 per parcel to help pay for the pool

Property Taxes

- **Funding Available:** Unknown
- **Criteria:** Unknown
- **Eligible Projects:** Unknown
- **Comments:** When a District is created (formed) they go through the LAFCO process; At that time, they negotiate a percentage share of the property tax which is collected from parcels in their boundaries; If no property tax was allocated to a District during the formation process (as is the case with Western Gateway Recreation and Park District) they may petition LAFCO at any time to try and get a share of the property taxes in their boundaries

Potential Funding Mechanisms

Transient Occupancy Tax

- **Funding Available:** Unknown
- **Criteria:** Tax collected on short-term rentals at hotels, motels, airbnb, and similar accommodations
- **Eligible Projects:** Unknown
- **Comments:** County of Nevada general funds

User Fees & Events

- **Funding Available:** Unknown
- **Criteria:** Unknown
- **Eligible Projects:** Unknown
- **Comments:** Districts may charge fees for use of facilities and programs and activities; These fees are generally based on the cost of providing these facilities and programs and include maintenance, operations and staffing which includes administration fees; Districts may create special events to generate funding; Typically, the funds generated are designated towards the building or operations of a facility or to provide programming or scholarships versus day to day operations

Quimby Mitigation Fees

- **Funding Available:** 5 acres of land per 1,000 population based on total units built
- **Criteria:** Unknown
- **Eligible Projects:** Unknown
- **Comments:** The Quimby Act authorizes jurisdictions to require residential subdivisions to dedicate park land OR pay in-lieu fees; fees are paid for by residential developers based on the total number of new units built



San Juan Ridge Family Resource Center

Private Sector Opportunities

Private sector opportunities include a mix of philanthropic and private investment mechanisms. Philanthropy from local residents tends to be a more prominent funding source when the community has been heavily involved in the planning process and has extensive buy-in. Localized philanthropy is an important tool to help meet funding gaps on proposed projects and indicates to founders that the community is committed. Accessing philanthropic donations from larger entities typically requires the project to be aligned with an organization's mission. Communities with higher levels of social capital (i.e. connections to decision-makers and high-powered organizations) may be better equipped to leverage philanthropic dollars. Commercial lending and private investment may be appropriate in certain projects where risk can be mitigated, and the project is anticipated to generate revenues.

Potential Funding Mechanisms

Community Foundations

- **Funding Available:** Varies – <\$10,000
- **Criteria:** Program/facility must be mission aligned
- **Eligible Projects:** Unknown
- **Comments:** Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation and Community Foundation of Nevada County

Environmental Impact Bonds

- **Funding Available:** Varies
- **Criteria:** Established prior to issuance to be clear and specific, including financial parameters, project objectives, measurement and reporting, and other factors
- **Eligible Projects:** Unknown
- **Comments:** An Environmental Impact Bond (EIB) is an innovative financial approach to funding environmental or sustainability projects; EIBs are structured to align financial returns with measurable environmental outcomes - investors purchase bonds to provide upfront capital, typically enjoying higher returns if a project is successful at meeting its predefined environmental outcomes and have some downside risk exposure as well if projects fall short of their goals; Both public and private organizations have issued successful EIBs

In-Kind Support & Local Service Clubs

- **Funding Available:** Value of service
- **Criteria:** Unknown
- **Eligible Projects:** Unknown
- **Comments:** A lead agency may solicit businesses, non-profits, or local service clubs in their community for in-kind services or donations to help with facility development; They provide the labor and materials can be provided at no cost in exchange for recognition on signage at the facility; This method is useful for capital projects to offset design services, landscaping, grading and excavation, project management

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation - Watershed Resiliency Program

- **Funding Available:** Varies
- **Criteria:** Projects must be designed to protect and conserve fish, wildlife, plants and habitats
- **Eligible Projects:** Conservation projects that increase headwaters resiliency, improve forest health promote recovery and or resiliency from wildfire and benefit fish and wildlife
- **Comments:** Funding is cyclical depending on donor directives

Recreation or Sports Associations & Corporate Giving Programs

- **Funding Available:** Varies - typically via grant application as part of capital campaign or as one-off opportunity based on criteria
- **Criteria:** Must be consistent with the purpose of association or mission of organization
- **Eligible Projects:** Parks infrastructure – pickleball courts, skateparks, etc.
- **Comments:** NRPA, US Tennis Association, MLB-MLBPA Youth Development Foundation, US Soccer Foundation, REI, Clif Bar Foundation, the North Face ,etc.

The Nature Conservancy

- **Funding Available:** Varies
- **Criteria:** Environmental protection, primarily for rivers and waterways
- **Eligible Projects:** Generally conservation and watershed protection projects
- **Comments:** Funding is cyclical depending on donor directives



**Recreation &
Resiliency
Master Plan**