

Charter: Recreation Board Objective

Prepared by/project manager: Shavati Karki-Pearl (transferred from E. Seward in Sept. 2024)
Project Sponsor: Trisha Tillotson, Community Development Agency Director

1. BACKGROUND AND PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

Nevada County recognizes the connection between the health of people and ecosystems, tourism, outdoor recreation, and community resilience. The **Recreation Workgroup** leads countywide planning and implementation efforts for the 2024 Board Recreation Board Objective:

To promote sustainable recreation in partnership with community providers and other jurisdictions to enhance recreational access, support public health and safety, realize economic opportunities, and preserve natural resource assets.

2. PROJECT SCOPE:

The Recreation Workgroup will further six initiatives, outlined below. The Project Manager will develop a workplan delineating timeline and responsibilities for tasks related to each initiative.

1. Finalize, adopt, and implement Nevada County Recreation and Resiliency Master Plan.

- A. Develop implementation timeline for shovel-ready and priority projects.
- B. Coordinate with stakeholders and convene partners to advance suite of priority projects.
- C. Actively solicit grants and secure funding to support implementation.

Note: Initiatives that follow align with Master Plan recommendations and this initiative

2. Coordinate and implement strategies to promote health and safety at river crossings, lakes, trailheads, and other high-use or high-risk areas.

- A. Manage grant and funding programs including the Outdoor Visitor Safety Fund; support opportunities for securing leveraged or match funding to enhance projects.
- B. Facilitate Convene, Champion & Catalyze (“CCC”) and South Yuba River Public Safety Cohort (“Cohort”) collaboratives; coordinate public safety and responsible recreation campaigns and solutions. **A separate Charter has been developed for the Cohort.**
- C. Lead Donner Summit visitor management coordination with USFS, Placer County and community-based organizations; advance visitor center and recreation projects.
- D. Promote sustainable outdoor recreation within tourism marketing plans, in coordination with the Economic Development Office, that ensures stewardship of natural resources.

3. Collaborate with other organizations and jurisdictions to leverage resources and optimize efforts to drive outcomes of enhanced recreation access, health and safety, economic development, and resource conservation.

- A. Integrate and support destination stewardship and sustainable tourism practices.
- B. Prioritize and seek funding for shovel-ready projects identified within the Master Plan.
- C. Help connect and establish Recreation & Resiliency Hub Network in Nevada County.
- D. Reduce barriers to participation for at-risk youth and disadvantaged communities.
- E. Manage distribution of recreation mitigation funds.
- F. Support County Counsel with Truckee and Yuba River designations as navigable waters.

4. Build capacity and provide administrative support for Western County organized recreation by working with partner districts to make them viable and sustainable.

- A. Advance administrative work plan and convene quarterly district meetings.

- B. Develop one central Recreation Resource Hub to increase public awareness and connections to resources and programs with recreation partners and the County Library.
- C. Assist with Prop 68 funding, capital project and maintenance investment opportunities, and gap loan requests, as needed.

5. Develop and secure funding and strengthen case of support and advocacy to sustain recreation.

- A. Establish and track metrics, and report on progress.
- B. Access and apply various metrics and tools to evaluate value of Outdoor Recreation economic impacts in Nevada County, contingent upon available funding and resources
- C. Support growth of Transient Occupancy Tax revenue.
- D. Cultivate and solicit multi-benefit grant and funding opportunities focused on climate, resilience, transportation, economic development, and resource conservation.

6. Staff and manage collaborative effort to promote coordination and achieve desired outcomes.

- A. Manage implementation of Recreation and Resiliency Master Plan.
- B. Facilitate Nevada County Recreation Coalition, quarterly meetings and communications.
- C. Continue the Recreation and Resiliency Internship program.
- D. Coordinate and leverage experience and capacity of existing and future collaboratives.
- E. Support nexus with Climate Resilience and Economic Development Objectives.

3. WORKGROUP MEMBERS – ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES:

Team Member Name	Department	Roles/Responsibility
Shavati Karki-Pearl (SKP)	CDA	<i>Project Manager</i>
Taylor Wolfe (TW)	PIO	<i>Communications Representative</i>
Vera De Ferrari (VDF)	CDA – Admin	<i>Budget/Fiscal Analyst, communications</i>
Trisha Tillotson (TT)	CDA	<i>Executive Leadership Team, advisor</i>
Brian Foss (BF)	CDA	<i>Planning Director, advisor</i>
Kimberly Parker (KP)	CDA	<i>Econ Development, Go Nevada County</i>
Mandy Stewart (MS)	BOS	<i>Advocacy Support; Climate lead</i>
Recreation Coordinator	CDA	<i>Administrative and project support</i>

Board Champions: South Yuba River Public Safety Cohort: Supervisors Sue Hoek and Heidi Hall; CCC: Chair Hardy Bullock. Nevada County Recreation Cohort: Supervisor Sue Hoek and Heidi Hall.

The RRMP Ad Hoc will dissolve following meeting on 8/14 @ 10:30am – 11:30am when project recommendations for FY24-25 are presented. Note: Any action needed on dissolution of Ad Hoc?

Recommend new Recreation Ad Hoc in 2025 to prioritize projects and recommend funding using TOT Funds

4. HIGH LEVEL REQUIREMENTS:

The Workgroup will coordinate closely with existing work groups addressing similar issues.

Major Stakeholders:

- Key Community Partners include but are not limited to:
 - Public lands owners and managers (partial list): California State Parks, CA Department of Fish & Wildlife, Army Corps of Engineers, US Forest Service – Tahoe National Forest, Bureau of

Land Management, Nevada Irrigation District, Pacific Gas and Electric, Bear Yuba Land Trust, Truckee Donner Land Trust, and others

- [South Yuba River Public Safety Cohort and CCC](#) member organizations
- [Local governments, nonprofit organizations, and user groups](#) (*partial list*): Town of Truckee, Visit Truckee Tahoe, Truckee Watershed Council, Sierra Business Council / Sierra Consortium; Placer County, City of Nevada City, City of Grass Valley, Donners Summit Association, trail organizations, recreation providers
- [Park Districts](#): Bear River, Oak Tree, Western Gateway, Truckee Donner
- [Regional working groups](#): Tahoe-Truckee Sustainable Recreation & Tourism, Donner Lake Interagency Partnership for Stewardship (DIPS)

Meetings and Method of Operation:

- 1) [Recreation Workgroup Meetings](#): Staff meet monthly to coordinate progress on initiatives. An ad hoc will meet, as needed, to coordinate the Communications Plan.
 - a. *Second Monday at 1:00 pm; as needed Communications Ad-Hocs*
Note: Erika has cancelled future invites. Shavati has worked with Trisha, Erika, Kimberly one on one in 2024. Consider different day than Monday in 2025
- 2) [Recreation Coalition Meetings](#): Staff will convene quarterly recreation coalition meetings, coordinate stakeholder engagement, facilitate meetings, record and disseminate notes, track agreements and assignments. Quarterly email newsletters will be sent to members.
 - a. Quarterly meeting on the second Thursdays 3 pm to 4:30 pm
 - b. *Dates TBD in March, June, September, December 2025*
- 3) [Western Nevada County Recreation & Park District Meetings](#): Staff will convene and support quarterly meetings and provide administrative support, connect to resources, and help build capacity and operations.
 - a. *Meetings will take place on Recreation Coalition dates with periodic check-ins*
 - b. *Note: Shavati to schedule meet and greet with Board Members; suggest that Shavati attend their Board meetings to kick off 2025*
- 4) [South Yuba River Public Safety Cohort \(“Cohort”\)](#): Staff will convene and support monthly meetings with the multi-agency working group of federal, state, and community stakeholders to coordinate public safety and law enforcement in the South Yuba River corridor; Staff will develop a separate 2024 Charter with BOS Champions.
 - a. *Second Tuesday at 1:30-3pm from February to November*
 - b. *Charter Draft Completed*
 - c. *Shavati to assumed facilitation role in September*
- 5) [Convene, Champion, and Catalyze \(“CCC”\) – Leadership Forum for Sustainability](#): Staff will support BOS Champion and coordinate monthly meetings with east County leaders.
 - a. [Note](#): This meeting is facilitated by BOS-CEO team; Shavati to attend

High Level Risks and Assumptions:

Ongoing, sustainable funding for maintaining existing or future programming may become a challenge in the future as program activities have mostly been supported by ARPA funds.

5. COMMUNICATIONS PLAN:

The Recreation content strategy is developed annually and updated as needed by the Recreation Workgroup, stakeholders, and Nevada County Public Information Office (PIO).

[2024 Outreach, Campaigns, News and Events:](#)

- a. March: last survey and engagement for Recreation & Resiliency Master Plan
- b. May: Proclamation for National Bike Month, Board presentation and adoption of Recreation & Resiliency Master Plan, Rec Zone @ Health & Safety Carnival; South Yuba River Media Event

- c. June: Celebration of Trails Month with Board Proclamation; June Board Meeting in Truckee
- d. June – September: Summer Peak Season Coordinated Safety Messaging (Cohort)
- e. September: Annual River Cleanup with Board Proclamation, National Public Lands Day Proclamation
Complete
- f. October: Heart of Gold Gravel Race & Festival
Note: Shavati attended HOG meetings in August and support October event; Erika to facilitated these meetings
- g. November – March: Winter Peak Season Coordinated Messaging (CCC)
- h. Throughout: Outdoor Visitor Safety Fund and grant projects underway or completed

6. SUMMARY BUDGET (FY24-25, FY25-26 PENDING):

The Recreation Budget is approximately \$400-430K in ongoing costs, including staffing, overhead, basic services, and supplies. Project-specific costs approved and carrying over from current budget allocations include Donner Summit Visitor Center (\$500,000), Recreation Mitigation Funds and the ARPA-funded Yuba River access management, communications, Cohort coordination, and emergency response programs (\$113,840). The Outdoor Visitor Safety Fund grants (\$844,050) will be completed by the end of 2025. In 2024 we received a new grant from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (\$106,037) for improving access to Truckee River, to be completed by October 31, 2026. Near-term projects of the Recreation & Resiliency Master Plan were supported by \$200,000 in ARPA funds which have been obligated by December 2024, and all projects will be completed by December 31, 2026.

Staff recommends that the Transient Occupancy Tax revenue and/or additional General Funds support implementation of the Recreation & Resiliency Master Plan to help sustain the Recreation Objective, and projects outlined therein.

\$125K was approved for FY24-25 budget; \$\$ for FY25-26 pending based on Board review of Priority Projects

Charter Budget Recreation FY 23-24					
		Costs			
Initiative/Project	Board Priority Assignments (GF/TOT)	Other Funded Costs	Unfunded Costs	Total Cost	Revenue Note
Recreation Operations	\$0	\$430,000		\$430,000	Ongoing operating costs/budget
Recreation & Resiliency Master Plan project implementation based on Board Direction	\$125,000	\$200,000	See Unfunded Priority Projects Document	\$325,000	\$200,000 (ARPA- all encumbered as of 12/31/2024)
Projects in Progress		\$1,457,890		\$1,457,890	\$500,000 Donner Summit (GF)
Total	\$125,000	\$2,072,890		\$2,197,890	

Approved by (Project Sponsor): _____ Date: _____

Approved by CFO: _____ Date: _____

Approved by CEO: _____ Date: _____

APPENDIX A: RECREATION RESOURCE LINKS

NevadaCountyCA.gov/Recreation *Overview of CDA Recreation, programs, and resources*

GoNevadaCounty.com *Official tourism site; recreation blog posts, travel tips*

GoNevadaCounty.com/TravelAlerts *Travel news and public safety updates every Monday*

[Nevada County Trail Finder](#) *Mapping tool of countywide public trails*

Recreation & Resiliency Master Plan *Provides vision, projects, and funding recs, in progress*

- [StoryMap](#) *Public project overview with goals, maps and surveys*

o To avoid Firewall: [Recreation and Resiliency in Nevada County \(arcgis.com\)](https://arcgis.com)