

MEMORANDUM

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS County of Placer

TO: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

DATE: October 19, 2010

FROM: KEN GREHM / WILL GARNER 

SUBJECT: PUBLIC HEARING FOR SERVICE REDUCTION TO TRUCKEE

ACTION REQUESTED / RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that your Board open a Public Hearing to take input on proposed service reductions for Tahoe Area Regional Transit.

BACKGROUND / SUMMARY

Placer County has an agreement with the Town of Truckee (Town) to receive funding contributions from the Town for Tahoe Area Regional Transit (TART) service to Truckee. TART provides hourly service on Highway 89 between Tahoe City, Squaw Valley and Truckee year-round. TART also provides service on Highway 267 during the winter between Crystal Bay, Northstar and Truckee. The agreement between the County and the Town for TART service identifies that the Town pays less than their calculated share of the costs. This has been acceptable because the Town has worked over the years to increase their contribution to the highest level possible within their transit funding resources including operating service to Sugar Bowl, in Placer County. Because of the importance of the TART routes to Truckee, the County has made all efforts to keep the services funded and operating.

Due to the downturn in the sales tax based Local Transportation Fund (LTF) in the past three years, Town staff has informed Placer County that they will be able to contribute \$68,000, which is \$24,000 less than budgeted this fiscal year. Since the County also has had a downturn in LTF, there is no ability for the County to backfill the reduction in funding from the Town. In order to reduce TART operating expenses by \$23,000 in service to the Town, DPW staff is recommending reducing the number of TART bus trips to the Town of Truckee in the mid to late morning hours. The goal of eliminating these trips is to reduce operating hours in a period where shift hours can be reduced by not needing to fill in for a lunch period, which will also be a time when a peak travel hour is not impacted.

On the Highway 89 route, this would be an elimination of the 9:30 A.M. and 10:30 A.M. departures. The portion of the route between Squaw Valley and Tahoe City would remain intact. On Highway 267, the 10:00 A.M. and 11:00 A.M. departures from the town would be eliminated, with the portion of the route between Northstar and Kings Beach/Crystal Bay would remain intact. Exhibit A shows the schedule for both of these, indicating the portion of these schedules that would be eliminated.

These service reductions to the Town of Truckee would reduce 7% of revenue vehicle service hours on the two impacted routes, which serves 2% of the ridership based on ridership from 2009/2010. Fare revenue would be reduced by \$4,000. The service reductions are proposed to begin on December 1 for the Highway 89 route and for the beginning of the winter service for Highway 267, which is December 11, 2010. DPW staff is working with the Town of Truckee to hold a Public Hearing at the Town Council for the same purpose. Exhibit B shows a summary of the impacts of the proposed service reductions.

ENVIRONMENTAL

The project is statutorily exempt from CEQA pursuant to section 21080(b)(10), as it is an action related to passenger service.

FISCAL IMPACT

The proposed reduction in service would reduce net expenses by approximately \$27,000, which will offset the \$23,000 reduction in funding from the Town of Truckee, and the \$4,000 reduction in fare revenue. The total cost of the Highway 89 and Highway 267 routes are \$942,000, which are funded by a variety of partners as shown on Exhibit C.

Attachments: Exhibit A – 2 pages
Exhibits B/C

EXHIBIT A
Page 2 of 2

Hwy 267 Truckee to Crystal Bay Route – Winter Only
Showing Proposed Service Reductions – December 2010

SOUTHBOUND											
Truckee Depot**	7:00 AM	8:00 AM	9:00 AM	10:00 AM	11:00 AM	12:00 PM	1:00 PM	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	4:00 PM	5:00 PM
Best Western	7:04 AM	8:04 AM	9:04 AM	10:04 AM	11:04 AM	12:04 PM	1:04 PM	2:04 PM	3:04 PM	4:04 PM	5:04 PM
Hampton Inn	7:07 AM	8:07 AM	9:07 AM	10:07 AM	11:07 AM	12:07 PM	1:07 PM	2:07 PM	3:07 PM	4:07 PM	5:07 PM
Truckee Airport	7:09 AM	8:09 AM	9:09 AM	10:09 AM	11:09 AM	12:09 PM	1:09 PM	2:09 PM	3:09 PM	4:09 PM	5:09 PM
Northstar Village	7:21 AM	8:21 AM	9:21 AM	10:21 AM	11:21 AM	12:21 PM	1:21 PM	2:21 PM	3:21 PM	4:21 PM	5:21 PM
Sawmill Heights	7:27 AM	8:27 AM	9:27 AM	10:27 AM	11:27 AM	12:27 PM	1:27 PM	2:27 PM	3:27 PM	4:27 PM	5:27 PM
Stewart Way/Hwy 267	7:35 AM	8:35 AM	9:35 AM	10:35 AM	11:35 AM	12:35 PM	1:35 PM	2:35 PM	3:35 PM	4:35 PM	5:35 PM
Secline St-Kings Beach	7:43 AM	8:43 AM	9:43 AM	10:43 AM	11:43 AM	12:43 PM	1:43 PM	2:43 PM	3:43 PM	4:43 PM	5:43 PM
Coon St-Kings Beach	7:46 AM	8:46 AM	9:46 AM	10:46 AM	11:46 AM	12:46 PM	1:46 PM	2:46 PM	3:46 PM	4:46 PM	5:46 PM
Crystal Bay Club*	7:50 AM	8:50 AM	9:50 AM	10:50 AM	11:50 AM	12:50 PM	1:50 PM	2:50 PM	3:50 PM	4:50 PM	5:50 PM
NORTHBOUND											
Stateline Rd (Crystal Bay)*	7:00 AM	8:00 AM	9:00 AM	10:00 AM	11:00 AM	12:00 PM	1:00 PM	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	4:00 PM	5:00 PM
Coon St-Kings Beach	7:03 AM	8:03 AM	9:03 AM	10:03 AM	11:03 AM	12:03 PM	1:03 PM	2:03 PM	3:03 PM	4:03 PM	5:03 PM
Secline St-Kings Beach	7:07 AM	8:07 AM	9:07 AM	10:07 AM	11:07 AM	12:07 PM	1:07 PM	2:07 PM	3:07 PM	4:07 PM	5:07 PM
Stewart Way/Hwy 267	7:12 AM	8:12 AM	9:12 AM	10:12 AM	11:12 AM	12:12 PM	1:12 PM	2:12 PM	3:12 PM	4:12 PM	5:12 PM
Sawmill Heights	7:19 AM	8:19 AM	9:19 AM	10:19 AM	11:19 AM	12:19 PM	1:19 PM	2:19 PM	3:19 PM	4:19 PM	5:19 PM
Northstar Village	7:25 AM	8:25 AM	9:25 AM	10:25 AM	11:25 AM	12:25 PM	1:25 PM	2:25 PM	3:25 PM	4:25 PM	5:25 PM
Truckee Airport	7:41 AM	8:41 AM	9:41 AM	10:41 AM	11:41 AM	12:41 PM	1:41 PM	2:41 PM	3:41 PM	4:41 PM	5:41 PM
Hampton Inn	7:43 AM	8:43 AM	9:43 AM	10:43 AM	11:43 AM	12:43 PM	1:43 PM	2:43 PM	3:43 PM	4:43 PM	5:43 PM
Best Western	7:46 AM	8:46 AM	9:46 AM	10:46 AM	11:46 AM	12:46 PM	1:46 PM	2:46 PM	3:46 PM	4:46 PM	5:46 PM
Truckee Depot**	7:50 AM	8:50 AM	9:50 AM	10:50 AM	11:50 AM	12:50 PM	1:50 PM	2:50 PM	3:50 PM	4:50 PM	5:50 PM

* TART Mainline connection

** Hwy 89 and 267 buses connect at Truckee Depot, where they also connect to Truckee Transit and Amtrak.

EXHIBIT B

**Summary of Impacts to TART Highway 89 & Highway 267 Routes
From Proposed December 2010 Service Cuts**

	Annual Ridership	Ridership Impacted	Percent Ridership Impacted	Fare Revenue Impact	Annual Service Hours	Service Hours Impacted	Percent Hours Impacted
Hwy 89	83,323	2,403	3%	\$ 3,003	8,008	546	7%
Hwy 267	35,614	779	2%	\$ 982	2,486	169.5	7%
TOTAL	118,937	3,182	2%	\$ 3,985	10,494	716	7%

EXHIBIT C

Funding For TART Highway 89 and Highway 267 Routes

Between Lake Tahoe and Truckee

FY 2010/2011

	Hwy 89 Route	Hwy 267 Route	Total
Placer County LTF Funds	\$ 275,700	\$ 59,100	\$334,800
Town of Truckee	\$ 44,000	\$ 24,000	\$ 68,000
North Lake Tahoe Resort Assn - TOT Funds	\$ 150,000	\$ 80,000	\$230,000
Federal Transit Administration 5311 Funds	\$ 130,000		\$130,000
Ski Resorts	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 50,000
Fares	\$ 90,000	\$ 39,400	\$129,400
TOTAL Funding	\$ 714,700	\$ 227,500	\$942,200
Total Cost	\$ 729,500	\$ 235,500	\$965,000
Shortfall	\$ (14,800)	\$ (8,000)	\$ (22,800)