

Agenda

County of Inyo Board of Supervisors

Board of Supervisors Room
County Administrative Center
224 North Edwards
Independence, California

All members of the public are encouraged to participate in the discussion of any items on the Agenda. Anyone wishing to speak, please obtain a card from the Board Clerk and indicate each item you would like to discuss. Return the completed card to the Board Clerk before the Board considers the item (s) upon which you wish to speak. You will be allowed to speak about each item before the Board takes action on it.

Any member of the public may also make comments during the scheduled "Public Comment" period on this agenda concerning any subject related to the Board of Supervisors or County Government. No card needs to be submitted in order to speak during the "Public Comment" period.

Public Notices: (1) In Compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting please contact the Clerk of the Board at (760) 878-0373. (28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title II). Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the County to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. Should you because of a disability require appropriate alternative formatting of this agenda, please notify the Clerk of the Board 72 hours prior to the meeting to enable the County to make the agenda available in a reasonable alternative format. (Government Code Section 54954.2). (2) If a writing, that is a public record relating to an agenda item for an open session of a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors, is distributed less than 72 hours prior to the meeting, the writing shall be available for public inspection at the Office of the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, 224 N. Edwards, Independence, California and is available per Government Code § 54957.5(b)(1).

Note: Historically the Board does break for lunch, the timing of a lunch break is made at the discretion of the Chairperson and at the Board's convenience.

August 25, 2015

9:30 a.m. 1. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

CLOSED SESSION

2. **CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR [Pursuant to Government Code §54957.6]** - Instructions to Negotiators re: wages, salaries and benefits - Employee Organization: Inyo County Peace Officers Association (ICPPOA) – Negotiators - County Administrative Officer, Kevin Carunchio, Assistant County Administrator, Rick Benson, Deputy Personnel Director, Sue Dishion, and Information Services Director, Brandon Shults.
3. **CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR [Pursuant to Government Code §54957.6]** - Instructions to Negotiators re: wages, salaries and benefits - Employee Organization: ICEA - Negotiators - County Administrative Officer, Kevin Carunchio, Assistant County Administrator, Rick Benson, Deputy Personnel Director, Sue Dishion, and Information Services Director, Brandon Shults.
4. **CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR [Pursuant to Government Code §54957.6]** - Instructions to Negotiators re: wages, salaries and benefits - Employee Organization: Law Enforcement Administrators' Association (LEAA) - Negotiators: - County Administrative Officer, Kevin Carunchio, Assistant County Administrator, Rick Benson, Deputy Personnel Director, Sue Dishion, and Information Services Director, Brandon Shults.
5. **CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR [Pursuant to Government Code §54957.6]** - Instructions to Negotiators re: wages, salaries and benefits - Employee Organization: Deputy Sheriff's Association (DSA) - Negotiators: County Administrative Officer, Kevin Carunchio, Assistant County Administrator Rick Benson, Deputy Personnel Director, Sue Dishion, and Information Services Director, Brandon Shults.

OPEN SESSION

10:00 a.m. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

6. **REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION AS REQUIRED BY LAW.**
7. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
8. **INTRODUCTION** – Annette Colón, HHS Specialist in the Health and Human Services Department, will be introduced to the Board

CONSENT AGENDA (Approval recommended by the County Administrator)

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

10. ***Recycling and Integrated Waste Management*** – Request A) award the bid for Chemical Toilets at the manned Recycling and Waste Management facilities to Bishop Waste; and B) approve the Contract between the County of Inyo and Bishop Waste Disposal for chemical toilet services at the Big Pine Transfer Station and the Bishop-Sunland, Independence and Lone Pine landfills, for the period of September 1, 2015 through June 20, 2018, in an amount not to exceed \$10,310.35, contingent upon the Board's adoption of future Budgets; and authorize the Chairperson to sign contingent upon the appropriate signatures being obtained.
11. ***Advertising County Resources*** – Request Board approve the final payments for the 2014-15 Community Project Sponsorship Grants as follows: A) \$3,750 to the Death Valley Chamber of Commerce for website upgrades, and \$3,500 for producing and printing the 2015 Death Valley Visitor's Guide; B) \$3,000 to the Bishop Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitor's Bureau for the 2015 FAM tours; and C) \$2,500 to the friends of the Inyo for the 2015 Owens Lake Bird Festival.

DEPARTMENTAL (To be considered at the Board's convenience)

12. ***WATER DEPARTMENT*** –Request authorization to submit a grant application seeking up to \$500,000 in funds under the State of California, Natural Resources Agency, River Parkways Grant (RP) funded under the River Parkways Act of 2004 for the development of an Owens River Water Trail in the Line Pine area.
13. ***PLANNING*** – Request Board review correspondence from the California Energy Commission and the California Public Utilities Commission regarding the Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative 2.0.
14. ***PLANNING*** – Request Board receive an update on the Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Corridor Plan/Specific Plan, and direct staff to proceed with preparing a Request for Proposals for the Specific Plan and associated environmental review.
15. ***CLERK OF THE BOARD*** – Request approval of the minutes of the Board of Supervisors Meetings as follows: A) the Regular Meeting of August 11, 2015; and B) the Special Meeting of August 17, 2015.
16. ***HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES*** – Request Board A) conduct a workshop regarding the re-vamping of child and family Wraparound services into a broader service model called Family Intensive Response and Strengthening Team (FIRST), using multiple Health and Human Services funding sources; and B) provide direction to staff.

TIMED ITEMS (Items will not be considered before scheduled time)

CORRESPONDENCE – ACTION (To be considered at the Board's convenience)

COMMENT (Portion of the Agenda when the Board takes comment from the public and County staff)

17. ***COUNTY DEPARTMENT REPORTS*** (Reports limited to two minutes)
18. ***PUBLIC COMMENT***

BOARD MEMBERS AND STAFF REPORTS

CORRESPONDENCE - INFORMATIONAL

19. ***SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT*** – The Annual Sheriff's Special Appropriation Report.



AGENDA REQUEST FORM
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF INYO

For Clerk's Use Only:
AGENDA NUMBER
 10

- Consent
 Departmental
 Correspondence Action
 Public Hearing
 Scheduled Time for
 Closed Session
 Informational

FROM: Recycling and Waste Management

FOR THE BOARD MEETING OF: August 25, 2015

SUBJECT: Chemical Toilet Rental and Service Contract with Bishop Waste Disposal

DEPARTMENTAL RECOMMENDATION: Request that your Board 1) award the bid for Chemical Toilets at the manned Recycling and Waste Management facilities to Bishop Waste Disposal. 2) approve the contract between the County of Inyo and Bishop Waste Disposal for chemical toilet services at the Big Pine Transfer Station, and the Bishop-Sunland, Independence, and Lone Pine landfills in an amount not to exceed \$10,310.35 for the period of September 1, 2015 through June 30, 2018, and 3) authorize the Chairperson to sign the contract contingent upon obtaining appropriate signatures.

SUMMARY DISCUSSION: Recycling and Waste Management (RWM) utilizes chemical toilets at the Big Pine Transfer Station, Independence, and Lone Pine landfills for on-site personnel. The service will be provided once per week at all locations. RWM requested bid proposals from chemical toilet service providers, with Bishop Waste Disposal submitting the lowest bid to provide and service the chemical toilets. This bid for services has decreased from the 2012 to 2015 contract of \$11,127.24.

The services contract is scheduled for a term starting September 1, 2015 and ending June 20, 2018. If the options to extend are exercised through your Boards adoption of future RWM budgets then the contract amount for fiscal years 2016/2017 and 2017/2018 will be adjusted by not more than 3%, up or down, from the previous year based upon the Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, California, Consumer Price Index, as determined by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

RWM solicited bids for an annual cost for this service; Bishop Waste Disposal submitted the low bid of \$3,335.76 annually. Preferred Septic & Disposal submitted a bid for \$3,900.00 annually to perform the same services.

ALTERNATIVES: This agreement provides toilet accommodations primarily for RWM site personnel and to the public on occasion. Site attendants would have to leave the sites without this service; operations require personnel to remain on site during operating hours.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT: County Counsel, and Auditor/Controller

FINANCING: These services are budgeted in the Solid Waste Budget 045700, Object Code 5265, Professional Services.

APPROVALS	
COUNTY COUNSEL: 	AGREEMENTS, CONTRACTS AND ORDINANCES AND CLOSED SESSION AND RELATED ITEMS (Must be reviewed and approved by county counsel prior to submission to the board clerk.) Approved: <u>Yes</u> Date <u>8/17/15</u>
AUDITOR/CONTROLLER: 	ACCOUNTING/FINANCE AND RELATED ITEMS (Must be reviewed and approved by the auditor-controller prior to submission to the board clerk.) Approved: <u>yes</u> Date <u>8/17/2015</u>
PERSONNEL DIRECTOR:	PERSONNEL AND RELATED ITEMS (Must be reviewed and approved by the director of personnel services prior to submission to the board clerk.) Approved: _____ Date _____

DEPARTMENT HEAD SIGNATURE:  Date: 8/19/15
 (Not to be signed until all approvals are received)
 Arf chemical toilets bid award.doc

ATTACHMENT A

AGREEMENT BETWEEN COUNTY OF INYO
MADERA DISPOSAL DBA BISHOP WASTE

AND _____
CHEMICAL TOILET SERVICE

FOR THE PROVISION OF _____ SERVICES

TERM:
SEPT 1, 2015 JUNE 30, 2018
FROM: _____ TO: _____

SCOPE OF WORK:

Supply and Service of three (3) Chemical Toilets to be located at the Big Pine Transfer Station, and Independence and Lone Pine Landfills.

The service will be provided no less frequently than once per week for each toilet at each location.

The chemical toilets can be a standard unit with the following additions:

Handwashing basin with a minimum of a 10 gallon holding tank for water

- Soap dispenser
- Paper towel dispenser
- Small waste basket

Three (3) chemical toilets with additions, serviced 1 time per week.

NOTE: Drain and refill each unit with a minimum of ten (10) gallons of fresh water and one (1) ounce of bleach during each service.

In the event Contractor knows or reasonably believes that the refuse includes materials which are hazardous wastes or toxic materials in such amounts as may be transported or disposed of only pursuant to lawfully issued permits and/or licenses. Contractor shall promptly notify the Administrator of Recycling Waste Management for Inyo County and shall not transport such materials.

Pursuant to Section 2021.1(a) of the Diesel Particulate Matter Regulations, your company must be in compliance with all applicable air pollution control laws.

ATTACHMENT B

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN COUNTY OF INYO
MADERA DISPOSAL DBA BISHOP WASTE**

AND _____
CHEMICAL TOILET SERVICE

FOR THE PROVISION OF _____ SERVICES

TERM:
SEPT 1, 2015 JUNE 30, 2018
FROM: _____ **TO:** _____

SCHEDULE OF FEES:

County will pay contractor \$3335.76 annual for all the work in Attachment A, to be invoiced monthly.

ANNUAL SERVICE TOTAL FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015/2016: \$3335.76

The term of the contract will be for a period of three fiscal years. Beginning with the 2016/2017 fiscal year, and each year thereafter, the contract amount will be adjusted utilizing the Southern California CPI; however, such increases shall not exceed 3% in any fiscal year.



AGENDA REQUEST FORM
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF INYO

For Clerk's Use Only:
AGENDA NUMBER

11

- Consent Departmental Correspondence Action Public Hearing
 Scheduled Time for Closed Session Informational

FROM: Jon Klusmire, Museum Services Administrator

FOR THE BOARD MEETING OF: August 25, 2015

SUBJECT: Final County of Inyo Community Project Sponsorship Grant Presentations and Payments to the Death Valley Chamber of Commerce for successfully completing two 2014-15 CPSP projects; the Bishop Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Bureau, for successfully completing one 2014-15 CPSP project; and Friends of the Inyo for successfully completing one 2014-15 CPSP project.

DEPARTMENTAL RECOMMENDATION: Request your Board approve final payments of \$3,750 to the Death Valley Chamber of Commerce for website upgrades and \$3,500 for producing and printing the 2015 Death Valley Visitor's Guide; \$3,000 to the Bishop Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitor's Bureau for 2015 FAM tours; and \$2,500 to Friends of the Inyo for the 2015 Owens Lake Bird Festival. All four are 2014-15 Community Project Sponsorship Grant projects funded from the 2014-2015 Advertising County Resources budget, 011400.

SUMMARY DISCUSSION: The Death Valley Chamber of Commerce was awarded a FY 2014-15 County of Inyo Community Project Sponsorship Grant in the amount of \$7,500 in November 2014 for upgrading the Chamber website. The upgrade included adding three new translation options for the site: Greek, Italian and Tagalog (Philippines). This means the website is now translated into 13 languages, reflecting the wide variety of international visitors to Death Valley National Park and the towns surrounding it. The translations have helped the Chamber provide travel itineraries and related tourist information to non-English speaking travelers and visitors. The upgrade also included installing more robust security measures and adding new security features, which the Chamber reports are working well. The Chamber website's tracking feature showed increasing numbers of web visits from potential visitors from across the world. The time spent on the site is twice the average for similar sites. After contracts were finalized, half the grant funds (\$3,750) were disbursed to the Death Valley Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber has provided staff with sufficient documentation of acceptable expenses for reimbursement for a final payment of \$3,750. The organizers also provided evidence that Inyo County was prominently mentioned as a sponsor of the event in ads and other promotional material.

The Death Valley Chamber of Commerce was awarded a FY 2014-15 County of Inyo Community Project Sponsorship Grant in the amount of \$7,000 in November 2014 for producing and printing the 2015 Death Valley Visitor's Guide. The completed 2015 Guide is based on the theme, "rails, trails and Western tales." It includes a variety of stories about the history of the region and current attractions. The full press run of 30,000 copies (an increase over last year) has been distributed in the region. Copies were also available at the Inyo County exhibit at CAL-EXPO. Once again, requests for the magazine outstrip the number published, but visitors are also able to download the publication from the Chamber website throughout the year. After contracts were finalized, half the grant funds (\$3,500) were disbursed to the Death Valley Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber has provided staff with sufficient documentation of acceptable expenses for reimbursement for a final payment totaling \$3,500. The organizers also provided evidence that Inyo County was prominently mentioned as a sponsor of the event in ads and other promotional material.

The Bishop Chamber of Commerce was awarded a FY 2014-15 County of Inyo Community Project Sponsorship Grant in the amount of \$6,000 in November 2014 to provide Familiarization (FAM) Tours for frontline employees from hospitality and tourist-related businesses. Two tours were included. One went to South Inyo County and visited attractions from Independence to Lone Pine. The other tour included some Bishop attractions, the Bishop Creek Drainage and Round Valley. Those on the tour got first-hand knowledge of local attractions so they could knowledgeably answer questions about "what to do" outside of Bishop. After contracts were finalized, half the grant funds (\$3,000) were disbursed to the Chamber. The Chamber has provided staff with sufficient documentation of acceptable expenses for reimbursement for the remaining \$3,000 in grant funding. The Chamber also provided ample evidence that Inyo County was prominently mentioned as a sponsor of the event.

The Friends of the Inyo was awarded a FY 2014-15 County of Inyo Community Project Sponsorship Grant in the amount of \$5,000 in November 2014 to host the 2015 Owens Lake Bird Festival. This inaugural event attracted 130 participants

from eight states and throughout California for a day and half of "avian exploration" around Owens Lake. Tours of the lake's birding location were held in the morning and afternoon. Presentations in Lone Pine were offered by local birders, biologists from the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power and Audubon California. Presentations and programs in local schools were also part of the festival. "By all accounts, the Festival was great success," the organizer said. After contracts were finalized, half the grant funds (\$2,500) were disbursed to the Friends. The Friends have provided staff with sufficient documentation of acceptable expenses for reimbursement for the remaining \$2,500 in grant funding. The Friends also provided ample evidence that Inyo County was prominently mentioned as a sponsor of the event.

ALTERNATIVES: The Board could deny the requests.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT: County Counsel, County Administrator's Office, Auditor/Controller.

FINANCING: The Community Project Sponsorship Program is part of the Advertising County Resources budget and is financed from the General Fund. Funds for these grants have been budgeted in FY 2014-15 Advertising County Resources Budget (011400), Professional Services (5265).

<u>APPROVALS</u>	
COUNTY COUNSEL: <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">N/A</div>	AGREEMENTS, CONTRACTS AND ORDINANCES AND CLOSED SESSION AND RELATED ITEMS <i>(Must be reviewed and approved by county counsel prior to submission to the board clerk.)</i> <div style="text-align: right;">Approved: _____ Date _____</div>
AUDITOR/CONTROLLER:	ACCOUNTING/FINANCE AND RELATED ITEMS <i>(Must be reviewed and approved by the auditor-controller prior to submission to the board clerk.)</i> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <div style="text-align: right;">Approved: <u>eyes</u> Date <u>8/10/2015</u></div>
PERSONNEL DIRECTOR: <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">N/A</div>	PERSONNEL AND RELATED ITEMS <i>(Must be reviewed and approved by the director of personnel services prior to submission to the board clerk.)</i> <div style="text-align: right;">Approved: _____ Date _____</div>

DEPARTMENT HEAD SIGNATURE:  Date: 8/14/15
 (Not to be signed until all approvals are received)
 (The Original plus 20 copies of this document are required)

Supervisors Report

Web Upgrades

The 2015 Web Upgrade project features translations of the website and the online Visitor Guide into three additional languages; Greek, Italian, and Tagalog. The choice of foreign language options was determined by monitoring spikes in the number of visitor contacts and information requests coming in from the Philippines, Greece, and Italy.

Existing security measures have been further upgraded, tightened, and reinforced this year. Vigilant programs actively monitor and scan for vulnerabilities on a heightened basis around the clock to identify and isolate potential threats immediately. This has enabled us to detect any "hitchhiker" code intrusion long before it has a chance to embed itself. Consequentially, the webmaster is confident that malicious code hijack attempts have become avertable. Since incorporating this proactive rather than reactive software, we are pleased to report that there have been no breaches, hacks, or malicious "phisher" attacks to date. Sequential coding errors have become nonexistent. Paging disruptions and boot lag issues involving server delay have been eradicated. Load time has been reduced by half resulting in improved page display and transitions. All of these safeguards that we have added to our site will enhance browser experience.

Analytic reports gathered in 2015 confirm that the Chamber website continues to experience a very high rate of multiple page views per visit and that the amount of time spent by browsers is nearly twice the average. Member businesses report increasing levels of European contact through the web listings, especially from the Netherlands and China. Targeted visitor information is easily accessible with member profiles that include direct click-through links to destination websites and additional site information.

The Death Valley Chamber of Commerce website provides an indispensable platform for worldwide distribution of Inyo County promotional material and tourist information. Visitor comments express satisfaction with the flexibility of the site as it affords potential guests the opportunity to discover a variety of activities, attractions, destinations, and services all in one web location while building customized itineraries. A majority of visitors express appreciation of the encompassing feature articles in the online Visitor Guide as well as the stunning nature of our accompanying photo subjects.

It is our intent to maintain this clearinghouse of visitor information in order to showcase the many enigmatic treasures of Death Valley and surrounding gateway communities. The Chamber sincerely appreciates the support of the Board of Supervisors and the assistance of Jon Klusmire, Laura Piper, and the CPS Program toward this end.

Supervisors Report

Visitor Guide

The 2015 "cover girl" is the elegant Furnace Creek Inn, recognized by many as the heart of Death Valley. Certainly, the "Jewel of the Desert" is one of the most iconic symbols of the ingenuity and persistence that defined the early days of Death Valley. With a working theme of "rails, trails, and western tales", other attractions and destinations represented in this year's Death Valley Visitor Guide include an array of local repeat advertisers throughout Inyo County as well as committed business supporters in Ridgecrest, Beatty, Kern River Valley, Mammoth Lakes, and Pahrump, NV.

The inclusion of the town of Baker and a highlight piece on the "World's Largest Thermometer" proves that the consistent quality of this promotional piece continues to attract interest. Inviting new advertiser participation from businesses in surrounding Death Valley gateway communities and beyond, Publisher David Orozco and his team at Golden Gate Media continue to insert additional pages of text and photographic content as advertisers have slowly and steadily increased over the six year span of this project.

The visual impact of this magazine, based in large part on the glossy photographic format used to emphasize the natural beauty on display throughout Southern Inyo County as well as within the boundaries of Death Valley National Park, is not to be underestimated. The abiding partnership between the National Park and its neighboring gateway communities as evidenced by increased visitor numbers and overall positive guest response to this professionally produced collateral promotion piece is still strong.

The number of people requesting copies of the Guide mailed from the Chamber office, obtaining a copy at county and state fairs, a tourism convention or trade show or from participating regional businesses increases each year. This high quality magazine has far surpassed conservative projections of staff. The annual published run of more than 30,000 copies is now fully distributed into broad circulation in less than thirty days. Encouragingly, strong public demand still exceeds our ability to supply. As well, the promising trend of potential visitors in escalating number who now download digital copies of the Death Valley Visitor Guide from the Chamber's website makes it possible to predict that we will continue to realize substantial annual reductions in postage costs.

The Death Valley Chamber is sincerely grateful for the opportunity afforded to us by the CPS program grants. Without financial support from the CPSP, our continuing visitor outreach efforts would be severely limited, if not impossible. We thank each of the Supervisors for your dedicated and ongoing support of this vital community funding.

We also wish to thank Jon Klusmire, Laura Piper, and the CPSP Committee for their patience, guidance, and support of non-profit projects of merit throughout Inyo County.

A VISITOR'S GUIDE TO
DEATH VALLEY
2015 EDITION



Death Valley
Chamber of Commerce



The Other Side of California
DEATH VALLEY AND THE EASTERN SIERRA



BISHOP AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & VISITORS BUREAU

August 4, 2015

Dear Mr. Klusmire and Inyo County Supervisors:

Please find enclosed final CPSP funding request package the Inyo County "Fam" Tours project.

This package contains completed reimbursement request form, copies of all related invoices and written summary report for the project. By all accounts, the "fam" tours were quite successful and beneficial.

As we previously discussed, we sincerely appreciate your willingness to grant our extension on completion of the project. Finding transportation proved to be much more difficult than we ever imagined. Things worked out beautifully in the end and we were pleased with the service eventually provided by Eastern Sierra Shuttle Service.

If you should require further information, please feel free to contact me. Thank you in advance for your assistance with processing our reimbursement requests at your earliest convenience.

As always, thank you for your continued support of the Bishop Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Bureau.

Sincerely,

Tawni Thomson
Executive Director
Bishop Area Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau

VOICE 760-873-8405 FAX 760-873-6999



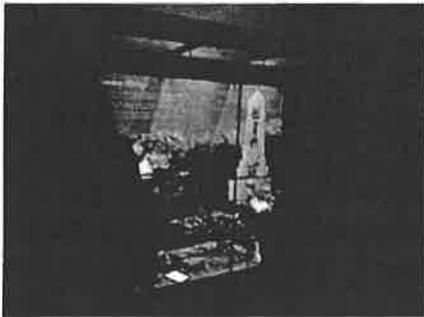
WWW.BISHOPVISITOR.COM

Inyo County Community Project Sponsorship Program Inyo County "Fam" Tours for Frontline Hospitality Providers

The Bishop Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Bureau organized two familiarization or "fam" tours for frontline hospitality workers. The purpose of the project was to create more knowledgeable and enthusiastic hosts to assist visitors to our region. By all accounts, the project was a tremendous success!



The first tour included visits to Eastern California Museum, Lone Pine Film History Museum, Whitney Portal, Manzanar National Historic Site and Mount Whitney Fish Hatchery. The second outing included Owens Valley Radio Observatory, Keough's Hot Springs, Laws Railroad Museum, Paiute-Shoshone Cultural Center, Cardinal Village and Round Valley.



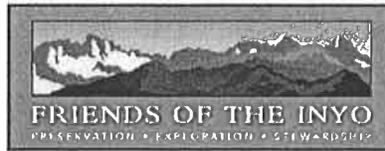
At each location, participants were treated to in-depth guided tours to learn about each unique venue. Transportation was provided via bus by Eastern Sierra Shuttle Service and tour guide Joe Pollini narrated the trip so the attendees also learned about area geology, history, flora and fauna. BACCVB staff led discussions with the group related to best customer service practices and everyone shared strategies to better engage our visitors.

Each tour had eighteen participants representing hotel and restaurant front desk associates and BACCVB hosts. We have received very positive feedback from the attendees as well as the management at all sites that were visited. Copies of participant evaluation forms are included with this report.

Each tour participant was provided with a binder entitled "Inyo County Sightseeing & Recreation Info for Guests." The binder is filled with maps, brochures and detailed materials to be used as reference for hotel employees when working with guests to help them enjoy their Eastern Sierra experience. We know that this will lead to longer stays and more frequent returns.



BACCVB is grateful for Inyo County CPSP support for this very important project. We are certain that the training given to the frontline customer service representatives will produce positive results for many years.



Owens Lake Bird Festival 2015

Report to Inyo County Community Program Sponsorship

Friends of the Inyo is honored to present the following report to Inyo County for your Community Project Sponsorship of the Owens Lake Bird Festival. We are extremely grateful for your support and pleased with the success of the festival in its first year.

With the support of Inyo County, the Metabolic Studio and others, Friends of the Inyo hosted the Owens Lake Bird Festival on April 24th and 25th, 2015 in Lone Pine, CA. In its first year, the festival welcomed 130 participants for a day and a half of avian exploration around Owens Lake and Lone Pine. The festival kicked off on Friday evening with an opening reception at the Lone Pine Film History Museum featuring the film *The Legacy of Owens Lake*. The following day, the group gathered for breakfast at Statham Hall catered by The Grill, then headed into the field for morning tours in search of shorebirds at Owens Lake and migratory songbirds in areas beyond the lake. Tour topics ranged from avian photography and bird identification to the macro invertebrate food web and birding for families with options for participants of all levels and abilities.

Following the morning tours, participants returned to Statham Hall for lunch and a series of talks by Owens Lake experts. Mike Prather spoke about the Magic and Wonder of Owens Lake. Andrea Jones of Audubon California gave a talk about the Owens Lake's designation as an Important Bird Area. Los Angeles Department of Water & Power's Jeff Nordin and Debbie House discussed the Owens Lake Master Project, and Dr. David Herbst gave a presentation about the aquatic food web at Owens Lake. A final presentation by James Wilson was a heartfelt dedication of the annual festival to Tom and Jo Heindel, retired teachers who've been instrumental in building a community for birding and conservation in the Owens Valley.

Following lunch, participants headed back into the field for a second round of tours before reconvening at the Interagency Visitor Center for a closing reception. In addition to celebrating the birds of Owens Lake and Lone Pine, the closing reception highlighted the photography of Robin Black whose exhibition *A Second Chance – The Owens Lake Project* was displayed in conjunction with the festival. The closing reception was a first for the Interagency Visitor Center, which promises to be an exceptional space for future celebrations.

In total, 130 participants from eight states and throughout California attended the inaugural Owens Lake Bird Festival. Most participants, approximately 63%, came from beyond Inyo County, bringing new visitors to Lone Pine and the Lower Owens Valley. Most stayed one or two nights in hotels in Lone Pine and took advantage of local restaurants for meals not provided as part of the festival, which brought some economic benefit to the community. At the same time, the festival helped visitors explore the area in a new way and connected many visitors with the local community, which in turn shared the story of the community with a broader audience. By all accounts, the festival was a great success. Friends of the Inyo collected

evaluations from both participants and trip leaders to assess their experience and gather recommendations for future events. The evaluations are overwhelmingly positive with recommendations for continuing and expanding the Owens Lake Bird Festival in future years.

In conjunction with the Owens Lake Bird Festival, Friends of the Inyo worked closely with the Eastern Sierra Interpretive Association and Eastern Sierra Audubon to host a series of programs in the Lo-Inyo School during the week of April 20th. Students in the upper grades participated in an assembly about birds and Owens Lake. Younger students were treated to birding in the classroom programs that focused on bird identification with some time in the field. All students learned about the Important Bird Area at Owens Lake and how they actively enjoy special outdoor areas and birds in Inyo County.

To create a successful Owens Lake Bird Festival, Friends of the Inyo relied on the support of many partners and collaborators, further enhancing the festival's ability to build a sense of community and connections between organizations. We are grateful to both Inyo County and the Metabolic Studio for sponsoring the event. We are also grateful for the support we received from other sponsors including: the Eastern Sierra Interpretive Association, Audubon California, Eastern Sierra Audubon, the Frontier Motel, Inyo National Forest and the Interagency Visitor Center, the Lone Pine Film History Museum, Barefoot Wines, and the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP). We are especially proud to have forged a new partnership with LADWP that showcased positive opportunities to explore and enjoy Owens Lake while emphasizing the benefit of habitat responsive design on the lake. We are also proud to have been awarded a Mindful Birding Award for incorporating ethical birding guidelines as part of the Owens Lake Bird Festival.

Following a successful first year, Friends of the Inyo plans to host the second annual Owens Lake Bird Festival in April 2016. We will begin planning efforts this coming July and expect to expand the event to be held over two days with a broader range of tours. These changes are based on the recommendations of participants and leaders and should help increase the number of attendees in the coming year. To meet these goals, we plan to improve our advertising with outreach in new markets throughout the country. This year, bird enthusiasts attended from as far away as New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Florida. We hope that with more advertising in broader markets and a comprehensive weekend festival we can continue to introduce new audiences to the magic of the Lower Owens Valley and the significant habitats of Owens Lake.

Friends of the Inyo thanks Inyo County for your support of the first annual Owens Lake Bird Festival. Your contribution enhanced our marketing and outreach efforts, which enabled the festival to sell out in its first year and inspire new visitors to the Lower Owens Valley to fall in love with this place. At the same time, it helped us develop new partnerships and strengthen connections within the community, which can be leveraged for future festivals and other events throughout Inyo County.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**WINGS OF CHANGE
FRIENDS OF THE INYO TO CELEBRATE FIRST-EVER OWENS LAKE BIRD FESTIVAL
APRIL 24 AND 25, 2015**

Contact:

Laura Beardsley, Executive Director, 760-873-6500, laura@friendsoftheinyo.org

Lone Pine, CA - Each year in spring and fall Owens Lake, at the terminus of the Owens River near Lone Pine, CA, supports hundreds of thousands of shorebirds during their annual migrations between continents. Dried by drastic diversions to bring water to the people of Los Angeles, today dust mitigation and restoration efforts have returned water, creating habitat and attracting birds to the lake once again. Designated as an Important Bird Area by the National Audubon Society in 2001, it is the largest and richest wildlife area in Inyo County.

This April, Friends of the Inyo invites all birders and lovers of wildlife to celebrate the spring migration during the Owens Lake Bird Festival, April 24th and 25th. In its first year, the Owens Lake Bird Festival promises to honor this extraordinary place and the huge migrating flocks of birds that depend on it for rest and nourishment. It will also celebrate the communities of the Southern Owens Valley and their ties, through the watershed, to Los Angeles.

The festival begins Friday evening with a reception at the Lone Pine Film History Museum featuring the Audubon-California's short film *The Legacy of Owens Lake*. On Saturday, expert guides will lead morning and afternoon field trips to Owens Lake with explorations for beginners through experts in bird identification, avian photography, a tour of the invertebrate food web, discussions of the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power Master Project (dust control and wildlife), and the wonders of migration. Lunch will include several short talks about the lake including 'Owens Lake Master Project' by Jeff Nordin of LADWP, 'Audubon's Important Bird Areas' by Andrea Jones of Audubon-California, 'Why is that Lake Red?' by Dave Herbst, PhD of the Sierra Nevada Aquatic Research Laboratory, and 'The Magic and Wonder of Owens Lake' by influential friend of the lake, Michael Prather. The festival will close with a reception at the Interagency Visitor Center featuring the photography exhibit "The Owens Lake Project" by Robin Black.

"This will be a brand new bird festival in a spectacular, world-class location," promises organizer and speaker Michael Prather. "Birds from as far away as South America will be coming through to see us."

Friends of the Inyo is honored to be working with several supporters and partners to host the Owens Lake Bird Festival including The Metabolic Studio, Inyo County,

Audubon- California, the Eastern Sierra Interpretive Association, Eastern Sierra Audubon, and Los Angeles Department of Water and Power among others.

“Hosting the Owens Lake Bird Festival is a natural extension of our work to inspire people to care for and preserve the outstanding beauty, recreation opportunities, and natural resources of the Eastern Sierra’s public lands,” says Friends of the Inyo’s Executive Director Laura Beardsley. “We’re excited to kick off what we hope will become an annual festival.”

EVENT DETAILS:

Friday, April 24 through Saturday, April 25, 2015

Tickets – \$35; Students – \$20; Children under 12 – free with an adult
Registration includes evening receptions, a continental breakfast, lunch with inspiring speakers, and in-depth tours with expert guides.

For more information or to register, visit
www.friendsoftheinyo.org/foiD7/owenslakefestival or call (760) 873-6500.

#

Founded in 1986, Friends of the Inyo is a Bishop, CA-based non profit organization that works to care for and protect public lands in the Eastern Sierra while inspiring others to do the same. Friends of the Inyo connects thousands of people to their public lands each year through hikes, tours, volunteer opportunities, habitat restoration, trail maintenance, civic engagement, and educational programs.
www.friendsoftheinyo.org.



Owens Lake

★ ★ ★

BIRD FESTIVAL

A Celebration of Shorebirds Migrating Between Hemispheres

LONE PINE, CA

April 24 & 25, 2015

Join us for a day of birding and discovery
at Owens Lake Important Bird Area.

Tours, Speakers, Inspiration

**Tickets: \$35; \$20 for students;
Children under 12 – free with an adult**

Registration includes evening receptions, continental
breakfast, lunch with inspiring speakers, and in-depth
morning and afternoon tours with expert guides.

Details and registration at friendsoftheinyo.org/foID7/owenslakefestival
For more information call 760-873-6500 or email owenslakefestival@friendsoftheinyo.org



METABOLIC STUDIO



*"...Large flocks of shorebirds in flight over the water in the distance, wheeling about show en masse,
now silvery now dark, against the gray-blue of the water.*

There must literally be thousands of birds within sight of this spot..."

Joseph Grinnell, Sept. 24, 1917



AGENDA REQUEST FORM
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF INYO

For Clerk's Use Only:
AGENDA NUMBER

12

- Consent Departmental Correspondence Action Public Hearing
 Scheduled Time for Closed Session Informational

FROM: Water Department

FOR THE BOARD MEETING OF: August 25, 2015

SUBJECT: California Natural Resources Agency, River Parkways Grant Grant Application

DEPARTMENTAL RECOMMENDATION:

Request Board Authorize the Water Department to submit a grant application seeking up to \$500,000 in funds under the State of California, Natural Resources Agency, River Parkways Grant (RP), funded under the River Parkways Act of 2004.

SUMMARY DISCUSSION:

The Water Department is working with Inyo County residents to fund the development of a Owens River Water Trail (ORWT) in the Lone Pine area between Lone Pine Narrow Gauge Road and Highway 136. A River Parkways (RP) grant from The California Natural Resources Agency would be used for this purpose. The ORWT would provide recreational opportunities for canoeing, kayaking, paddle boarding, and will offer improved fishing access.

The grant, of up to \$500,000, would pay for construction and improvements needed to open up a 6.3 mile section of the Lower Owens River east of Lone Pine to create a water trail for various types of paddlecraft. The ORWT will provide essential infrastructure, such as parking and low-impact access from the floodplain to the river's edge. The RP grant would fund a number of improvements including: mechanical river preparation to clear water obstructions, interpretive signage and route markers, construction of two gravel parking areas and associated river paths, and water entry and exit points. Twenty-five percent of the funding can be used for planning, design, and CEQA.

As well as offering new recreational opportunities, the ORWT should help improve aquatic habitat. By opening up the channel and allowing seasonal flushing flows better access to clean the river, the fishery should be improved. In this reach of the river the seasonal habitat flows that are meant to clean the river are attenuated upstream in the Islands area, so that a 200 cfs flow released from the Lower Owens River Intake 43 miles upstream might result in an 80 cfs flow in this area. This diminished flow, combined with tule and cattail blockages, which function as sediment traps, prevent the flushing flows from effectively moving out bottom sediments and cleaning the river. The organic sediments when stirred by flows larger than the flushing flows increase biological oxygen demand and lower dissolved oxygen and as a result cause fish stress or death. With an open channel, the muck and sediments that build up on the river bottom would be more effectively stripped off. Once the channel is opened it is expected that fishery conditions will improve in the long term; however, it is possible that even with careful mechanical channel clearing some fish mortality will result during the construction of the ORWT.

The ORWT project will also provide more open water habitat, which is valued by waterfowl, and will provide better access to water for fishermen.

The County would be responsible for operating and maintaining the ORWT based on the terms of a 20-year maintenance agreement with LADWP. Operations and Maintenance tasks associated with project would include maintaining the surface of two ½ acre graveled parking areas at three year intervals; grounds maintenance at the parking areas, foot paths and river launches twice yearly. Also anticipated is regular trash pickup from barrels in the two parking areas weekly between May through September, and monthly between October and April. Grading and repair of the natural surface road leading to the river off highway 136 would be planned at three year intervals. Minor grading and repair of the natural surface road, east of the river, between Highway 136 and Lone Pine Narrow Gauge would be planned at five year intervals.

The above activities, conducted by County staff, will require an estimated annual operations and maintenance budget allocation of \$5,048 in the first year of operation. This allocation takes into consideration the schedule of activities and

that in some years will require more effort and outlay than other years. Estimated yearly allocations for these service are: maintaining gravel parking areas, \$522; grounds maintenance, \$612; trash pickup, \$1,491; grading and repair of the road leading to highway 136, \$791. Minor grading and repair of the road east of the river, \$1,583. The attached budget includes an inflation adjusted annual allocation for year 1 through year 20, with 10% administrative overhead. The level of effort necessary for maintaining the open channel is unknown, but operating an excavator and waste haul truck would cost approximately \$1,456 per day and may entail a few weeks of such work every few years.

The majority of the ORWT budget will be used to clear 0.78 miles of river that is completely blocked by tules. The channel in these areas will be cleared to a depth of 6 feet; deep enough to inhibit emerging tules from reaching the water's surface. Once the occluded areas are cleared, the unimpeded river will more effectively scour sediment and undermine the root system of tules and limit their encroachment.

Once the river is initially cleared, any tules that do emerge or encroach on the waterway will be controlled both passively and actively. Passive tule control requires ongoing recreational use of the ORWT. It is unknown whether use of the ORWT will be sufficient to maintain an open channel.

After the river blockages are removed, tules along 1.75 miles of narrow channel will need to be hand cleared to widen the channel, which in place will be 2-3 feet wide. The methods and procedures for this work are well established, and have been practiced in the Lower Owens River. In 2013, under permit from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the LADWP, volunteers opened up 1.30 miles of river in seven work days. Based on this experience, it can be expected that hundreds of yards of encroaching tules can be cleared by five people in one day.

There is community interest in forming a stewardship group to clean and maintain the river. The Eastern Sierra Interpretive Association, Lone Pine Paiute Shoshone Tribe, Owens Valley Committee, and the Sierra Nevada Conservancy have all shown interest in helping establish and support a river stewardship group. As well, organized recreation groups in southern California have offered to come up and volunteer to maintain the river. The County has a list of 129 individuals and more than a dozen groups in the Owens Valley and in Southern California who have offered to help support the river project. LA River Expeditions and Friends of the Los Angeles River have pledged to help generate support in southern California for using and maintaining an Owens River water trail. River stewardship is popular with funders, and it would be expected that this attractive project would attract private, public and corporate sponsors.

ALTERNATIVES:

Not approve the grant application.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

FINANCING:

If the State of California Natural Resources Agency, River Parkways Grant is approved, the County would serve as fiscal agent for the project. The grant is structured on a reimbursement basis with 10% of the reimbursable funds withheld until the project is complete, and all grant obligations are satisfied. The County will be required to finance the grant on a reimbursable basis. A yearly allocation of \$4,998 will need to be reserved for the project for the first year of operation. This allocation will increase yearly to track inflation. The attached budget includes an inflation adjusted annual allocation for year 1 through year 20, with 10% administrative overhead. By accepting River Parkways funds, up to \$500,000 the County accepts responsibility for maintaining the project for a minimum of 20 years. If mechanical cleaning of the channel is required, the cost for labor and equipment necessary to do this type of work is approximately \$1,456 per day (based on 2015 LADWP rates).

APPROVALS	
<p>COUNTY COUNSEL:</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">N/A</p>	<p>AGREEMENTS, CONTRACTS AND ORDINANCES AND CLOSED SESSION AND RELATED ITEMS <i>(Must be reviewed and approved by county counsel prior to submission to the board clerk.)</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Approved: _____ Date _____</p>

AUDITOR/CONTROLLER: N/A	ACCOUNTING/FINANCE AND RELATED ITEMS (Must be reviewed and approved by the auditor-controller prior to submission to the board clerk.) Approved: _____ Date _____
PERSONNEL DIRECTOR: N/A	PERSONNEL AND RELATED ITEMS (Must be reviewed and approved by the director of personnel services prior to submission to the board clerk.) Approved: _____ Date _____

DEPARTMENT HEAD SIGNATURE:

(Not to be signed until all approvals are received)
(The Original plus 20 copies of this document are required)



Date: 8/19/15

Owens River Water Trail, Operations and Maintenance Budget

Task	Labor type	Hourly Labor Rate	Hours	Equipment Type	Hourly Equipment Rate	Hours	Task Cost	Annual Allocation (amortized)	Occurance Interval	Description
Parking Maint Hwy 136 road Entrance	Operator	\$ 58.91	16	Grader	\$ 40.00	16	\$ 1,583	\$ 522	3 years	Maintain parking area surface every three years
	Operator	\$ 58.91	16	Grader	\$ 40.00	16	\$ 1,583	\$ 791	2 years	Maintain road surface every two years
Mowing	Specialist 3	\$ 38.22	8	Parks Maintenance	\$ -	0	\$ 306	\$ 612	Twice Yearly	Weed whacking adjacent to parking area, path to river, and river entry twice yearly
Road Maintenance	Operator	\$ 58.91	80	Grader	\$ 40.00	80	\$ 7,913	\$ 1,583	5 years	Grade eastside road at five year intervals
Trash barrel pickup	Specialist 3	\$ 38.22	1.5	Parks Maintenance	\$ -	0	\$ 57	\$ 1,491	26 times annually	Empty two trash barrels in two parking area, on average every two weeks
							\$ 11,441	\$ 4,998		

Inflation schedule (3%/annually)

Year	Annual Allocation	Admin (10%)
1	\$ 4,998	\$ 5,048
2	\$ 5,148	\$ 5,200
3	\$ 5,303	\$ 5,356
4	\$ 5,462	\$ 5,516
5	\$ 5,626	\$ 5,682
6	\$ 5,794	\$ 5,852
7	\$ 5,968	\$ 6,028
8	\$ 6,147	\$ 6,209
9	\$ 6,332	\$ 6,395
10	\$ 6,521	\$ 6,587
11	\$ 6,717	\$ 6,784
12	\$ 6,919	\$ 6,988
13	\$ 7,126	\$ 7,197
14	\$ 7,340	\$ 7,413
15	\$ 7,560	\$ 7,636
16	\$ 7,787	\$ 7,865
17	\$ 8,021	\$ 8,101
18	\$ 8,261	\$ 8,344
19	\$ 8,509	\$ 8,594
20	\$ 8,764	\$ 8,852

Mechanical channel clearing

	Labor (hourly)	Equipment (hourly)	
Haul Truck	\$ 37.65	\$ 25.92	
Excavator	\$ 46.50	\$ 71.96	
Per day	<u>\$ 673.20</u>	<u>\$ 783.04</u>	Task cost per day: \$1,456.24

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE
COUNTY OF INYO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, AUTHORIZING INYO
COUNTY TO ACT AS GRANTEE FOR RIVER PARKWAYS ACT OF 2004
IMPLEMENTATION FUNDING FOR GRANT FUNDS FROM THE STATE OF
CALIFORNIA, CALIFORNIA RIVER PARKWAYS GRANT PROGRAM AND
AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF THE INYO COUNTY OF INYO
WATER DEPARTMENT TO ACT AS PROJECT DIRECTOR**

WHEREAS, the Legislature and Governor of the State of California have provided funds for the program shown above;
and

WHEREAS, the California National Resources Agency has been delegated the responsibility for the administration of this
grant program, establishing necessary procedures; and

WHEREAS, said procedures established by the California National Resources Agency require a resolution certifying the
approval of application(s) by the Applicants governing board before submission of said application(s) to the State; and

WHEREAS, the Applicant, if selected, will enter into an agreement with the State of California to carry out the project

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE INYO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS HEREBY:

1. Approves the filing of an application for the Owens River Water Trail
2. Certifies that Applicant understands the assurances and certification in the application; and,
3. Certifies that Applicant or title holder will have sufficient funds to operate and maintain the project(s) consistent with
the land tenure requirements; or will secure the resources to do so; and,
4. Certifies that it will comply with all provisions of Section 1771.5 of the California Labor Code; and,
5. If applicable, certifies that the project will comply with any laws and regulations including, but not limited to, the
California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), legal requirements for building codes, health and safety codes, disabled
access laws, and, that prior to commencement of construction, all applicable permits will have been obtained; and,
6. Certifies that applicant will work towards the State Planning Priorities intended to promote equity, strengthen the
economy, protect the environment, and promote public health and safety as included in Government Code Section
65041.1, and
7. Appoints Robert Harrington, Director of the Inyo County Water Department or his designee, as agent to conduct all
negotiations, execute and submit all documents including, but not limited to applications, agreements, payment
requests and so on, which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned project(s).

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, this XX day of XXXX, 2015,
by the following roll call vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

Matt Kingsley, Chairperson
Inyo County Board of Supervisors

Attest: KEVIN D. CARUNCHIO
Clerk of the Board

By: _____
Patricia Gunsolley, Assistant



AGENDA REQUEST FORM
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF INYO

For Clerk's Use Only:
AGENDA NUMBER

13

- Consent Departmental Correspondence Action Public Hearing
 Scheduled Time for Closed Session Informational

FROM: Inyo County Planning Department

FOR THE BOARD MEETING OF: August 25, 2015

SUBJECT: Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative 2.0

DEPARTMENTAL RECOMMENDATION: Review correspondence from the California Energy Commission and the California Public Utilities Commission regarding the Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative 2.0

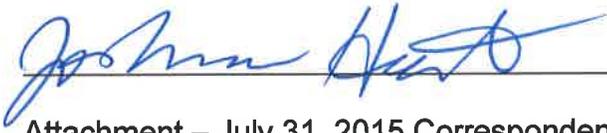
SUMMARY DISCUSSION: Attached is a joint letter from California Energy Commission (CEC) Chair Weisenmiller and California Public Utilities (CPUC) President Picker to California Independent System Operator (CalISO) President and CEO Berberich noting the establishment the Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative (RETI) 2.0. According to CEC staff, this new planning effort is intended to help achieve the State's current climate and policy goals, a variety of legislative proposals, and the Governor's recent Executive Order, B-30-15, which calls for a 40 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions below 1990 levels by 2030. One element to achieve these goals will be producing 50 percent of the State's electricity from renewable resources, which in turn will require new investments in transmission.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT: Numerous potentially affected agencies and stakeholders, such as the CEC, CPUC, CalISO, Bureau of Land Management, Department of Defense, National Park Service, other counties, and other interested individuals and organizations.

FINANCING: General funds are utilized to monitor State planning efforts.

APPROVALS	
COUNTY COUNSEL:	AGREEMENTS, CONTRACTS AND ORDINANCES AND CLOSED SESSION AND RELATED ITEMS <i>(Must be reviewed and approved by county counsel prior to submission to the board clerk.)</i>
AUDITOR/CONTROLLER:	ACCOUNTING/FINANCE AND RELATED ITEMS <i>(Must be reviewed and approved by the auditor-controller prior to submission to the board clerk.)</i>
PERSONNEL DIRECTOR:	PERSONNEL AND RELATED ITEMS <i>(Must be reviewed and approved by the director of personnel services prior to submission to the board clerk.)</i>

DEPARTMENT HEAD SIGNATURE:
(Not to be signed until all approvals are received)

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John M. Hart", is written over a horizontal line.

Date: 8/17/15

Attachment – July 31, 2015 Correspondence from CEC and CPUC to CallSO

**California Energy Commission**

1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, California 95814
Main website: www.energy.ca.gov

**California Public Utilities Commission**

505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, California 94102
Main website: www.cpuc.ca.gov

July 31, 2015

Stephen Berberich
President and Chief Executive Officer
California Independent System Operator
P.O. Box 639014
Folsom, California 95763-9014

Dear Steve:

The Governor's Executive Order B-30-15 commits California to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030 and a variety of legislative proposals (particularly SB 350 and SB 32) to ratify this commitment into law. It is time for the CEC, CPUC and CAISO to launch a new transmission planning initiative.

Our two agencies will establish a Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative (RETI) 2.0 initiative to establish the relative potential associated with various renewable locations in California, and we request that the CAISO participate in this new process to help map out the associated transmission infrastructure. Given the implications of both 111(d) and PacifiCorp's interest in joining the CAISO, this effort will need to consider regional renewable opportunities as well.

Since the goal for California is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030, an important pillar of that goal is to produce 50% of our electricity from renewable power generation.

We have a proven model to ensure climate goals from clean electricity and renewable power are met. For example, California saw record numbers of renewable projects permitted during the period from 2009 to 2013. Many of those permitted projects are now in full operation, and there are over 11,000 MW of renewable projects in the pipeline that have received their environmental permits allowing construction. California now has over 21,000 megawatts (MW) of renewable capacity installed within its borders, but also relies on renewable power from outside of our state.

This project was successful because it was supported by a proactive transmission planning effort going back to 2008, becoming the Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative and the California Transmission Planning Group (CTPG). Through these stakeholder efforts, the best concentrations of the renewable resources were identified. Using the science-driven findings and the broad consensus that resulted, the CAISO identified the new transmission lines that were needed to interconnect the high quality renewable projects with the load basins.

One example of successful policy planning and stakeholder involvement is the Sunrise Powerlink. Within one year of initial energization, the line was fully utilized by new wind, solar, and geothermal projects from the east. The Sunrise Powerlink allows for over 1,300 MW of renewable energy from the Imperial Valley to be delivered to the San Diego load center. The Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project is another example. Initially designed to deliver one of the best wind resources in California to customer demand in the LA metropolitan region, it also helps to deliver power from new solar projects when the wind isn't blowing. The Tehachapi Renewable Transmission

Stephen Berberich
California Independent System Operator
July 31, 2015
Page 2 of 2

Project will allow 4,500 MW of wind and solar generation to be delivered to the Los Angeles area. By diversifying the resources California depends on, the existing and new transmission system is becoming more efficient.

Many of the transmission lines identified to get California to 33 percent renewable have long interconnection queues and are likely to have a lengthy permitting process, but once constructed they will be fully utilized. If California plans to deliver on its promise to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the electricity sector, and also support cleaner buildings and transportation, we must begin to map our plans. Careful consideration must be paid to existing transmission capacity that may be freed up as older, less efficient conventional power plants decommission, and allow for additional low-carbon options to take their place. However, new transmission is inevitable to meet the needs of an increasingly carbon-free California economy, and it must be methodically thought through with stakeholders in the most transparent and prudent manner.

We envision this process beginning over the next year so that the CEC and CPUC will send policy recommendations for the 2030 renewable portfolios in fall of 2016.

We invite participation by regional stakeholders, but will obviously respect the authority of the regulators throughout the west. EPA's pending regulations (111(d)) will encourage greater communication across the west. This presents many opportunities to take advantage of resource diversity as well as regional balancing of electricity. For example, through the Energy Imbalance Market, the CAISO has been able to sell cheap, low-carbon, excess power to other states in the west, which has resulted in lower greenhouse gas emissions for those states and reduced the need to curtail the resource in our state.

For many states in the west (due to when the sun sets), their electricity consumption typically peaks two hours earlier than California does, through a regional market that can be taken advantage of and California can deliver clean solar power that is in excess to them. There are similar advantages in the western wind industry. Much of the Midwest and Great Plains wind resources tend to have the highest production during the 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm PST range, which is when load is greatest for California. California could take advantage of the low-cost, renewable energy with a more interconnected regional market in the West.

While this project will be challenging, it is also a great opportunity for the western United States to set an example for the rest of the United States and even the world (Europe especially) to show that regional integration can actually lead to lower priced electricity and great reductions in greenhouse gas reductions.

We look forward to working together to develop the portfolios needed for the CAISO's transmission plan, and to ensure the greenhouse gas reduction goals identified by our Governor are met.

Sincerely,



Robert B. Weisenmiller
Chair
California Energy Commission



Michael Picker
President
California Public Utilities Commission

cc: Rob Oglesby, Executive Director, California Energy Commission
Tim Sullivan, Executive Director, California Public Utilities Commission
Karen Edson, California Independent System Operator



AGENDA REQUEST FORM
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF INYO

For Clerk's Use Only:
AGENDA NUMBER

14

- Consent Departmental Correspondence Action Public Hearing
 Scheduled Time for Closed Session Informational

FROM: Inyo County Planning Department

FOR THE BOARD MEETING OF: August 25, 2015

SUBJECT: Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Request for Proposals

RECOMMENDATION: Request the Board of Supervisors receive an update on the Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Corridor Plan/Specific Plan, and direct staff to proceed with preparing a Request for Proposals for the Specific Plan and associated environmental review.

SUMMARY DISCUSSION: On April 24, 2015, Inyo County was awarded a Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant from the California Department of Transportation in the amount of \$275,440 for the preparation of a corridor plan for the North Sierra Highway located in Bishop. At the July 14th, Board of Supervisors meeting, Inyo County Planning Staff presented a proposal to augment the Corridor Plan to develop a comprehensive specific plan for North Sierra Highway, and complete the associated Environmental Impact Report (EIR) needed to adopt the Plan. The Planning Department described the conceptual scope of the proposed specific plan and the anticipated benefits to the County, including: Providing a long-term vision and infrastructure program for lands within the County's jurisdiction adjacent to Highway 395, analysis of short- and long-term market trends to identify a land use mix compatible with existing and planned land uses in the area, and programmatic environmental review for the County's zoning and General Plan that might be proposed by the specific plan, as well as for potential future projects within the planning area.

During the July 14th Board meeting, the Planning Department also described conceptual funding for the specific plan and environmental review, which would be paid for primarily by Inyo County, in partnership with the City of Bishop, the Bishop Paiute Tribe, the Tri-County Fairgrounds, and other stakeholders. Since the July 14th meeting, the Planning Department has been discussing the specific plan concept with the Department of Water and Power, the Bishop Paiute Tribe, the Tri-County Fair, and other stakeholders with interest in the Corridor to assist in this endeavor. The Planning Department presented the specific plan concept to the Bishop City Council on July 28th, and received their favorable input to proceed with the specific plan. It is anticipated that the Council will consider proceeding with the Specific Plan concept at its August 24 meeting. The Planning Department has met with the Bishop Paiute Tribal Administrator and Community Development Director, who have expressed interest in participating in the specific plan. Planning staff hopes to present the proposal to the Tribal Council for consideration in September. Tribal staff indicated that there might not be sufficient benefits achieved for the Tribe during the environmental review process, and therefore may not provide funding support of the project. Planning staff has also received favorable input from the Tri-County Fairgrounds, and hopes to present the concept to the Fairground Board for approval this month. Planning staff is conducting outreach to other stakeholders, and will continue to identify additional sources of funding for the Specific Plan and EIR; however based on the limited participation of the Tribe, and uncertainty from other stakeholders at this time, the overall costs of the specific plan and EIR may be ultimately be higher for the County and the City of Bishop.

Staff is requesting your Board direct the Planning Department to proceed with drafting a Request for Proposals (RFP) for preparation of the specific plan and associated EIR. Staff would then return to the Board and the Bishop City Council once responses to the RFP have been received.

ALTERNATIVES: The Board could direct staff to prepare an RFP for the scope of work required for preparing the Corridor Plan only – this is not recommended to due to the opportunity to augment existing grant funding to achieve a comprehensive plan for North Sierra Highway. The Board could also direct staff to prepare an RFP for the

preparation of the specific plan only, and defer the EIR until after completion of the specific plan – this is not recommended due to the efficiencies that would be gained in utilizing the data collection phase of the specific plan to inform the EIR. The Board could also direct staff to return with additional information after further conversations with other stakeholders.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT: Inyo County Public Works, the City of Bishop, Inyo Local Transportation Commission (LTC), Caltrans, the City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, the Bishop Paiute Tribe, the Eastern Sierra Community Services District, the Tri-County Fair, Mule Days, Eastern Sierra Transit Authority, the Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District, and others.

FINANCING: Work on the North Sierra Highway Sustainable Transportation Corridor Plan will be funded through the Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant, once the Conditions of Grant Acceptance have been met and the final grant contract executed. The LTC is providing funding for the grant match, and the County and the City are providing staff time for the grant match. If the Specific Plan path is selected, staff anticipates that the County would incur between approximately \$15,000 and \$20,000 in additional costs per year for the first three years of the project, and then between approximately \$115,000 and \$140,000 for the final two years combined; depending on the responses to the RFP, the ultimate decision of other stakeholders, and other factors, ultimate costs to the County could vary. Additional funding sources could also be procured in the future to minimize costs, including potentially recouping costs through development fees.

<u>APPROVALS</u>	
COUNTY COUNSEL:	AGREEMENTS, CONTRACTS AND ORDINANCES AND CLOSED SESSION AND RELATED ITEMS <i>(Must be reviewed and approved by county counsel prior to submission to the board clerk.)</i>
AUDITOR/CONTROLLER:	ACCOUNTING/FINANCE AND RELATED ITEMS <i>(Must be reviewed and approved by the auditor-controller prior to submission to the board clerk.)</i>
PERSONNEL DIRECTOR:	PERSONNEL AND RELATED ITEMS <i>(Must be reviewed and approved by the director of personnel services prior to submission to the board clerk.)</i>

DEPARTMENT HEAD SIGNATURE:
 (Not to be signed until all approvals are received)



Date: 8/19/15

Attachments:

- 1) Estimated Resources Needed for Specific Plan
- 2) Proposal to Augment the North Sierra Highway Sustainable Corridor Plan Caltrans Grant

Estimated Resources Needed for Specific Plan*

North Sierra Highway Corridor Plan

July 14, 2015

<u>Corridor Plan (Tasks and Resources Provided by Grant)</u>	<u>Specific Plan (Additional Resources Needed)</u>	
<i>Year 1 - Project Initiation/Develop Plan Concept</i>	County	\$15,000
<i>\$85,000 (Caltrans Funding)</i>	City	\$5,000
	Tribe	\$5,000
	Other	\$5,000
	Subtotal	\$30,000
Subtotal with Specific Plan – \$115,000		
<i>Year 2 – Draft Corridor Plan/Prelim Specific Plan</i>	County	\$15,000
<i>\$110,000 (Caltrans Funding)</i>	City	\$5,000
	Tribe	\$5,000
	Other	\$5,000
	Subtotal	\$30,000
Subtotal with Specific Plan – \$140,000		
<i>Year 3 – Final Corridor Plan/Draft Specific Plan</i>	County	\$15,000
<i>\$90,000 (Caltrans Funding)</i>	City	\$5,000
	Tribe	\$5,000
	Other	\$5,000
	Subtotal	\$30,000
Subtotal with Specific Plan – \$120,000		
<i>Year 4 – Draft EIR</i>	County	\$75,000
	City	\$25,000
	Tribe	\$25,000
	Other	\$25,000
	Subtotal	\$150,000
<i>Year 5 – Final EIR/Specific Plan</i>	County	\$40,000
	City	\$10,000
	Tribe	\$10,000
	Other	\$10,000
	Subtotal	\$70,000
Total – \$595,000	County	\$160,000
<i>Caltrans Funding Total - \$285,000</i>	City	\$50,000
	Tribe	\$50,000
	Other	\$50,000
	Total	\$310,000

*All figures are estimates and approximations

Proposal to Augment the North Sierra Highway Sustainable Corridor Plan Caltrans Grant

The following is a potential conceptual scope proposal for discussion purposes to augment the North Sierra Highway Sustainable Corridor Plan being programmed by a grant from Caltrans from the 2015-16 Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant program. The proposal would expand the Plan concept to a Specific Plan pursuant to Government Code Section 65450 and include preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Plan to facilitate implementation of a grand strategy for the Corridor. Additional funding will be sought from interested parties to leverage the grant funds being provided by Caltrans to develop a holistic planning approach to the Corridor and provide CEQA clearance to better implement the Corridor Plan. Potential modifications to the grant proposal scope of work are identified herein in track changes to illustrate how the scope of work could be augmented while maintaining the discrete tasks necessary for the grant.

Phase I – Preliminary Specific/Corridor Plan

The project will consist of two phases: (1) Specific/Corridor Plan and (2) Environmental Review. The first phase will include completion of the Corridor Plan pursuant to the Caltrans grant and development of a Preliminary Specific Plan. The second phase will include preparation/processing of the EIR and potentially any other necessary related environmental clearance (e.g., NEPA, Tribal, etc.), and development of the final Specific Plan.

1. Project Initiation

The purpose of this task is to procure a consultant with expertise in corridor planning, Specific Plans, and environmental review and kickoff the project.

Task 1.1 Procure Consultants

The County will procure a consultant to prepare the Plan/environmental documents and undertake related technical studies. An RFP will be developed and issued per standard City/County requirements, and a consultant will be selected to complete the scope of work.

Task 1.2 Kickoff Meeting

The County and City will conduct a kick-off meeting with Caltrans staff to discuss grant procedures and project expectations including invoicing, quarterly reporting, and all other relevant project information. If possible, the consultant will be included.

- **Responsible Party: Inyo County/City of Bishop and consultant**

Attachment 2

Conceptual Scope to Augment North Sierra Highway Corridor Plan
Prepared by Inyo County
For Discussion Purposes Only
June 25, 2015

Task	Deliverable
1.1	RFP, Draft Contract/Staff Report, Final Contract
1.2	Meeting materials, summary

2. Plan Concept

The purpose of this task is to explore concepts for the project to begin developing the Plan.

Task 2.1 Stakeholder Interviews

The County and the City will work with the consultant and Partners to identify key stakeholders for interviews. Talking points will be developed to solicit opinions about the Corridor, identify existing data and data needs, and begin visioning.

Task 2.2 Preliminary Research

The consultant will research the various available reports and identify important data needs to begin developing field observations. The results will be summarized a report that will be shared with the County, City, and Partners in draft form for input prior to finalizing. Discrete sections will be provided for the Corridor Plan and other Specific Plan topics.

Task 2.3 Opportunities/Constraints Memorandum

The consultant will prepare an opportunities and constraints memorandum based on the preliminary research and stakeholder interviews. The memo will be shared with the County, City, and Partners in draft form for input prior to finalizing. Discrete sections will be provided for the Corridor Plan and other Specific Plan topics.

Task 2.4 Plan Concept Memorandum

Based on the previous tasks, the consultant will develop various plan concepts and alternatives to begin soliciting input regarding various approaches to scope, design, financing, and implementation. The memo will be shared with the County, City, and Partners in draft form for input prior to finalizing. Discrete sections will be provided for the Corridor Plan and other Specific Plan topics.

Task 2.5 Charrette

Based on the previous tasks, the County, City, Partners, and the consultant will develop a Charrette to be conducted with interested stakeholders the explore visions for the Plan and move forward with Plan development. The consultant will summarize the results of the Charrette in a report.

Attachment 2

Conceptual Scope to Augment North Sierra Highway Corridor Plan
Prepared by Inyo County
For Discussion Purposes Only
June 25, 2015

- **Responsible Party: Inyo County/City of Bishop and consultant; Partners**

Task	Deliverable
2.1	<i>Stakeholder List, Talking Points, Summary Report</i>
2.2	<i>Research Report</i>
2.3	<i>Opportunities and Constraints Memorandum</i>
2.4	<i>Plan Concept Memorandum</i>
2.5	<i>Meeting Materials, Summary Report</i>

3. Preliminary Draft Plan

The purpose of this task is to develop the Draft Preliminary Plan and undertake public review.

Task 3.1 **Administrative Preliminary Draft Plan**

The consultant will develop an Administrative Preliminary Draft Plan for review by the County, City, and Partner staff. It is anticipated that brief planning-level technical studies may be necessary for engineering, transportation/transit, cultural resources, infrastructure, land use, economics, and other issues identified previously, which will also be provided at this stage. The Plan will include a discrete proposal implementation and/or alternatives, as well as financing and implementation methods (including potentially phasing). Discrete sections will be provided for the Corridor Plan and other Specific Plan topics.

Task 3.2 **Preliminary Draft Plan**

The consultant will develop the public-review Preliminary Draft Plan for review by the County, City, and Partners, incorporating input on the Administrative Draft Plan and related technical studies.

Task 3.3 **Public Meeting**

A public meeting will be conducted by the City, County, and Partners with the consultant's assistance to solicit input regarding the Preliminary Draft Plan.

Task 3.4 **Boards/Commissions**

The City, County, and Partners with the assistance of the consultant will share the Preliminary Draft Plan and the results of the public meeting with their respective boards and commissions to solicit input. It is anticipated that agenda reports will be developed for the City Planning Commission and Council, County Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors, and a limited

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Conceptual Scope to Augment North Sierra Highway Corridor Plan
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number of the Partners' boards and commissions. The consultant will prepare a report summarizing the input.

- **Responsible Party: Inyo County/City of Bishop and consultant; Partners**

Task	Deliverable
3.1	First Administrative Draft Plan, Technical Studies
3.2	Draft Plan, Updated Technical Studies
3.3	Meeting Materials, Summary Report
3.4	Staff Reports, Summary Report

4. Final Corridor Plan and Final Preliminary Specific Plan

The purpose of this task is to develop the Final Corridor Plan and Preliminary Final Specific Plan.

Task 4.1 Administrative Draft Final Plan

The consultant will develop an Administrative Draft Final Corridor Plan and Preliminary Draft Final Specific Plan for review by the County, City, and Partner staff.

Task 4.2 Public Draft Final Plan

The consultant will develop the public-review Draft Final Corridor Plan and Preliminary Draft Final Specific Plan for review by the County, City, and Partners, incorporating input on the Administrative Draft Preliminary Final Plan

Task 4.3 Public Meeting

A public meeting will be conducted by the City, County, and Partners with the consultant's assistance to solicit input regarding the Draft Final Plans.

Task 4.4 Boards/Commissions

The City, County, and Partners with the assistance of the consultant will share the Draft Final Plans and the results of the public meeting with their respective boards and commissions to solicit input. It is anticipated that agenda reports will be developed for the City Planning Commission and Council, County Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors, and a limited number of the Partners' boards and commissions. The consultant will prepare a report summarizing the input.

Task 4.5 Final Plan

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Conceptual Scope to Augment North Sierra Highway Corridor Plan
Prepared by Inyo County
For Discussion Purposes Only
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The purpose of this task is to finalize the Corridor Plan so that it is ready for implementation and prepare a Draft Specific Plan for environmental review.

- **Responsible Party: Inyo County/City of Bishop and consultant; Partners**

Task	Deliverable
4.1	<i>Administrative Final Plans</i>
4.2	<i>Public Draft Final Plans</i>
4.3	<i>Public Meeting</i>
4.4	<i>Boards/Commissions</i>
4.5	<i>Final <u>Corridor Plan and Draft Specific Plan</u></i>

5. Staff Meetings, Invoicing, Reporting

The purpose of this task is to coordinate project implementation

Task 5.1 Meetings

Monthly project team meetings with consultants to ensure good communication on upcoming tasks and to make sure the project remains on time and within budget will be coordinated. Caltrans staff will be invited to the project team meetings.

Task 5.2 Invoicing/Reporting

Invoicing and reporting will be provided per Caltrans' requirements.

- **Responsible Party: Inyo County/City of Bishop and consultant; Partners**

Task	Deliverable
5.1	<i>Meeting Summaries</i>
5.2	<i>Invoices, Required Reports</i>

Phase II – Environmental Review

The second phase will include preparation/processing of a Program EIR and potentially any other necessary environmental documents (e.g., NEPA, Tribal, etc.), and development of the final Specific Plan. The following scope is specific to CEQA review, but could be modified to

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Conceptual Scope to Augment North Sierra Highway Corridor Plan
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include NEPA review, either as a joint CEQA/NEPA document or stand-alone documents, or other environmental review.

1. Notice of Preparation

The purpose of this task is to develop the Notice of Preparation and undertake public review.

Task 1.1 Administrative Notice of Preparation/Initial Study

The consultant will develop an Administrative Notice of Preparation/Initial Study (NOP/IS) for review by the County, City, and Partner staff. The NOP/IS will focus the EIR onto the relevant topics.

Task 1.2 Notice of Preparation/Initial Study

The consultant will develop the public-review NOP/IS for review by the County, City, and Partners, incorporating input from the administrative draft. A screen check document will be provided to the County and City prior to publication.

Task 1.3 Scoping Meeting

A scoping meeting will be conducted by the City, County, and Partners with the consultant's assistance to solicit input regarding the NOP/IS.

• Responsible Party: Inyo County/City of Bishop and consultant; Partners

Task	Deliverable
<i>1.1</i>	<i>Administrative Draft NOP/IS</i>
<i>1.2</i>	<i>Pre-press Screen and Public Review NOP/IS</i>
<i>1.3</i>	<i>Meeting Materials, Summary Report</i>

2. Draft EIR

The purpose of this task is to develop the Draft EIR and undertake public review.

Task 2.1 Administrative Draft EIR

The consultant will develop an Administrative Draft EIR for review by the County, City, and Partner staff. The Draft EIR will address issues raised in the NOP/IS, as well as relevant input from the NOP/IS process. Additional technical studies may be needed to address any issues not covered during Phase 1.

Task 2.2 Draft EIR

Attachment 2

Conceptual Scope to Augment North Sierra Highway Corridor Plan
Prepared by Inyo County
For Discussion Purposes Only
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The consultant will develop the public-review Draft EIR for review by the County, City, and Partners, incorporating input from the administrative draft. A screen check document will be provided to the County and City prior to publication.

Task 2.3 Public Meeting

A public meeting will be conducted by the City, County, and Partners with the consultant’s assistance to solicit input regarding the Draft EIR.

- **Responsible Party: Inyo County/City of Bishop and consultant; Partners**

<u>Task</u>	<u>Deliverable</u>
<u>2.1</u>	<u>Administrative Draft EIR and Technical Studies</u>
<u>2.2</u>	<u>Pre-press Screen and Public Review Draft EIR</u>
<u>2.3</u>	<u>Meeting Materials, Summary Report</u>

2. Final EIR

The purpose of this task is to develop the Final EIR, undertake decision-making, and publish the final Specific Plan.

Task 3.1 Administrative Responses to Comments

The consultant will develop Administrative Responses to Comments received on the Draft EIR for review by the County, City, and Partner staff.

Task 3.2 Administrative Final EIR

The consultant will develop an Administrative Final EIR for review by the County, City, and Partner staff. The Final EIR will incorporate Responses to Comments and any necessary modifications to the Draft EIR.

Task 3.2 Final EIR and Draft Final Plan

The consultant will develop the public-review Final EIR and Draft Final for review by the County, City, and Partners, incorporating input from the administrative draft Responses to Comments. A screen check document will be provided to the County and City prior to publication.

Task 3.3 Final Deliberations

Attachment 2

Conceptual Scope to Augment North Sierra Highway Corridor Plan

Prepared by Inyo County

For Discussion Purposes Only

June 25, 2015

The City, County, and Partners with the assistance of the consultant will process the Final EIR (and related necessary documents) and draft Final Specific Plan with their respective boards and commissions. It is anticipated that agenda reports will be developed for the City Planning Commission and Council, County Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors, and a limited number of the Partners' boards and commissions.

Task 3.4 Final Specific Plan

The consultant will provide an administrative Final Specific Plan for review by the County, City, and Partner staff. The consultant will provide a pre-publication screen final for review by the County and City prior to publication.

- **Responsible Party: Inyo County/City of Bishop and consultant; Partners**

<u>Task</u>	<u>Deliverable</u>
<u>3.1</u>	<u>Administrative Responses to Comments</u>
<u>3.2</u>	<u>Administrative Final EIR and Final Plan</u>
<u>3.3</u>	<u>Staff Reports</u>
<u>3.4</u>	<u>Final Specific Plan</u>



AGENDA REQUEST FORM
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF INYO

For Clerk's Use Only:
AGENDA NUMBER
 15

- Consent
 Departmental
 Correspondence Action
 Public Hearing
 Scheduled Time for
 Closed Session
 Informational

FROM: CLERK OF THE BOARD
By: Patricia Gunsolley, Assistant Clerk of the Board

FOR THE BOARD MEETING OF: August 25, 2015

SUBJECT: Approval of Minutes

DEPARTMENTAL RECOMMENDATION: - Request approval of the minutes of the Board of Supervisors Meeting as follows: A) Regular Meeting of August 11, 2015; and B) Special Meeting of August 17, 2015.

SUMMARY DISCUSSION: - The Board is required to keep minutes of its proceedings. Once the Board has approved the minutes as requested, the minutes will be made available to the public via the County's web page at www.inyocounty.us.

ALTERNATIVES: - Staff awaits your Board's changes and/or corrections.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT: - n/a

FINANCING: n/a

APPROVALS

BUDGET OFFICER:	BUDGET AMENDMENTS <i>(Must be reviewed and approved by Budget Officer prior to being approved by others, as needed, and submission to the Assistant Clerk of the Board.)</i>
COUNTY COUNSEL:	AGREEMENTS, CONTRACTS AND ORDINANCES AND CLOSED SESSION AND RELATED ITEMS <i>(Must be reviewed and approved by county counsel prior to submission to the Assistant Clerk of the Board.)</i> Approved: _____ Date _____
AUDITOR/CONTROLLER:	ACCOUNTING/FINANCE AND RELATED ITEMS <i>(Must be reviewed and approved by the auditor-controller prior to submission to the Assistant Clerk of the Board.)</i> Approved: _____ Date _____
PERSONNEL DIRECTOR:	PERSONNEL AND RELATED ITEMS <i>(Must be reviewed and approved by the director of personnel services prior to submission to the Assistant Clerk of the Board.)</i> Approved: _____ Date _____

DEPARTMENT HEAD SIGNATURE:

(Not to be signed until all approvals are received)
 (The Original plus 20 copies of this document are required)

Date: _____



AGENDA REQUEST FORM
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF INYO

For Clerk's Use Only:
AGENDA NUMBER
16

- Consent Hearing
 Scheduled Time for _____
 Departmental
 Correspondence Action
 Closed Session
 Public
 Informational

FROM: HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

FOR THE BOARD MEETING OF: August 25, 2015

SUBJECT: Re-Defining Wraparound Services

DEPARTMENTAL RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend Board conduct a workshop and provide direction to staff regarding the re-vamping of child and family Wraparound services into a broader service model called Family Intensive Response and Strengthening Team (FIRST), using multiple Health and Human Services funding sources.

CAO RECOMMENDATION:

SUMMARY DISCUSSION:

The former fiscal trends using the single source of foster care funds for wraparound did not support the previous model of Wraparound services. An updated view of local client trends, upcoming changes in State placement options, and a review of funding options provides new information to support a re-designed service model.

ALTERNATIVES:

Board could choose not to conduct this workshop.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

Probation, Juvenile Court, California Department of Social Services, First 5 Commission

FINANCING:

There is no funding involved in this workshop.

APPROVALS

COUNTY COUNSEL:	AGREEMENTS, CONTRACTS AND ORDINANCES AND CLOSED SESSION AND RELATED ITEMS <i>(Must be reviewed and approved by County Counsel prior to submission to the Board Clerk.)</i> Approved: _____ Date: _____
AUDITOR/CONTROLLER:	ACCOUNTING/FINANCE AND RELATED ITEMS <i>(Must be reviewed and approved by the Auditor/Controller prior to submission to the Board Clerk.)</i> Approved: _____ Date: _____
PERSONNEL DIRECTOR:	PERSONNEL AND RELATED ITEMS <i>(Must be reviewed and approved by the Director of Personnel Services prior to submission to the Board Clerk.)</i> Approved: _____ Date: _____
BUDGET OFFICER:	BUDGET AND RELATED ITEMS <i>(Must be reviewed and approved by the Budget Officer prior to submission to the Board Clerk.)</i> Approved: _____ Date: _____

DEPARTMENT HEAD SIGNATURE:

(Not to be signed until all approvals are received)

Jean Turner

Date: *8-12-15*

Re-Visiting Child and Family Wraparound Services

August 25, 2015

Purpose of the workshop: Update the Board on the discussions that have occurred in the last year within HHS to find new ways to re-build our Wraparound services, and why.

- 1) In the context of statewide changes on the horizon regarding out-of-home placement options for children and youth in the Child Welfare and Juvenile Probation systems, seek innovative opportunities to take additional steps to move our local placement systems into a stage of readiness for those upcoming changes, thereby reducing the sudden impact of reduced placement options available around the State.
- 2) Continue to recommend best practices for Inyo's children and families, based on latest research and national evidence-based interventions.
- 3) Increase the numbers of service portals and types of entrance criteria (linked to specific revenue streams) for families to be eligible for intensive services.
- 4) Braid funds, as allowable, to offer more robust family services at earlier points in lives of children before they need out-of-home placement, and secure Board approval for moving forward.

What is Wraparound?

Outcomes: Are Wraparound Services More Effective than Out-of-Home Placement in Group Homes?

Lessons Learned and New Trends

Possible Considerations for Moving Forward and Request for Board Direction

1. Re-name Wraparound as the Families Intensive Response and Strengthening Team (FIRST) with braided funding streams.
2. Keep Wraparound principles as the core that defines the service model and keep the State-approved use of foster care funds. This would sustain the strengths of Wraparound: use of foster care funds for up-front services for Juvenile Probation and Child Welfare children who may be on a path to out-of-home care, and puts Inyo in a better state of readiness as the State reduces group home options.
3. Bill Mental Health Medi-Cal when client meets eligibility criteria and when Medi-Cal authorized services are provided by a Medi-Cal authorized employee. This would allow children and youth with identified emotional/mental disorders and their families to be served, and would augment funding.
4. Add funding from Substance Use Disorders (SUD) budget to bring addictions expertise into the service model. This would allow children and youth presenting with serious behavioral problems *not otherwise eligible* for Child Welfare, Juvenile Probation, or Mental Health, but linked to either their own SUD issue or that of their parent(s), to receive services.
5. To address more recent trends, add First 5 funding for staff to serve children from birth to age 5 and their parents who become identified as needing intensive services to keep a young child safe from abuse.
6. With the augmented funding, add the essential Supervisor position back into the model, along with one additional Social Worker III/IV to address the projected increased caseload and service intensity required to be effective.

Questions and Answers; Board Direction to Staff

What is Wraparound?

Developed in the 1980s as an alternative to placing children and youth in costly out-of-home placements away from their parents, siblings, relatives, neighborhoods and schools, Wraparound is a nationally-recognized best practice model of intervention with families at risk of child abuse/neglect or juvenile delinquency. A growing body of research has been addressing the ineffectiveness of those traditional placement systems across the U.S. and the high correlation between children exiting the foster care system who go on to become incarcerated as adults. California counties began implementing Wraparound in the 1990's. Inyo's Wraparound Plan, developed jointly by HHS-Juvenile Probation-Juvenile Court, was approved by the State and implemented in 2010-2011.

Wraparound services differ from the usual public services -- in which pre-designed menus of "one size fits all" services -- are offered to families. Alternately, Wraparound is intended to offer "whatever it takes" to keep families together by organizing around family members' own perceptions of needs and goals, finding the strengths within each family, teaching families safe and more effective ways to address conflict, ensuring safety for family members, and reducing/eliminating juvenile delinquency. In short, it is an intensive, individualized family care management process for children/youth with serious or complex needs.

The ten (10) guiding principles used across the United States include:

- 1. Family voice and choice.** Family and youth/child perspectives are intentionally elicited and prioritized during all phases of the wraparound process. Planning is grounded in family members' perspectives, and the team strives to provide options and choices such that the plan reflects family values and preferences.
- 2. Team based.** The wraparound team consists of individuals agreed upon by the family and committed to them through informal, formal, and community support and service relationships.
- 3. Natural supports.** The team actively seeks out and encourages the full participation of team members drawn from family members' networks of interpersonal and community relationships. The wraparound plan reflects activities and interventions that draw on sources of natural support.
- 4. Collaboration.** Team members work cooperatively and share responsibility for developing, implementing, monitoring, and evaluating a single wraparound plan. The plan reflects a blending of team members' perspectives, mandates, and resources. The plan guides and coordinates each team member's work towards meeting the team's goals.
- 5. Community-based.** The wraparound team implements service and support strategies that take place in the most inclusive, most responsive, most accessible, and least restrictive settings possible; and that safely promote child and family integration into home and community life.
- 6. Culturally competent.** The wraparound process demonstrates respect for and builds on the values, preferences, beliefs, culture, and identity of the child/youth and family, and their community.
- 7. Individualized.** To achieve the goals laid out in the wraparound plan, the team develops and implements a customized set of strategies, supports, and services.
- 8. Strengths based.** The wraparound process and the wraparound plan identify, build on, and enhance the capabilities, knowledge, skills, and assets of the child and family, their community, and other team members.
- 9. Persistence.** Despite challenges, the team persists in working toward the goals included in the wraparound plan until the team reaches agreement that a formal wraparound process is no longer required.
- 10. Outcome based.** The team ties the goals and strategies of the wraparound plan to observable or measurable indicators of success, monitors progress in terms of these indicators, and revises the plan accordingly.

Inyo County Wraparound – Lessons Learned – New Trends

1. **Strengths and challenges associated with use of State Foster Care funds:**

Strengths: (a) California’s willingness to allow foster care funds to be used for “front-end” wraparound services comes with a cost-neutrality requirement. That means that the cost of the Wraparound services for a specific child cannot exceed what the cost of the group home placement for that same child would have been. This is consistent with most budget requirements and has been a good cost-containment measure.

Challenges- Two significant limitations of the use of the foster care revenues were (a) that a child had to be found by the Juvenile Court to be eligible for a group home level placement (out of the area) to be eligible for Wraparound services, AND (b) the child’s birth family had to be at a certain income level that qualified them for state-only foster care funds; no federal foster care funds could be used. Those requirements have meant that many children in need of these services have not been able to meet the “entrance criteria” for the services as funded. Subsequent use of Mental Health funds came with similar limitations on which children could meet the required Mental Health “entrance criteria.”
2. Inyo’s numbers of children identified as eligible for group home placements and/or eligible for state-only foster care funds decreased significantly over a 12-month period, and cost-neutrality could not be maintained for this revenue stream with that expenditure trend. That led to staff reductions in Wraparound in spring 2014.
3. Inyo’s need for intensive services has grown more around younger children and those children generally are not appropriate for group home placement (one of the requirements for Wraparound foster care funds). See “Trends and Changes in Child Abuse Cases in Inyo County.”
4. Discussions with the First 5 Commission about the growing need with infant and pre-school aged children resulted in a vote of support in the spring of 2015 to join in the front-end intensive services for these young children and families, including the direction of some First 5 funding towards these services.
5. In an on-going recognition of the thread of addiction issues in many families, the Department has been able to re-organize slightly to shift some funding in the Substance Use Disorders budget to assist in the provision of addiction-informed interventions.
6. These highly specialized services require just the right employee fit particularly around the high degree of staff persistence and creative thinking required.
7. The emotional content and the intensity of services necessitate technically skilled, emotionally-strong clinical supervision (in addition to administrative supervision) for the Wraparound staff by a supervisor who is readily available to staff, and who can participate, as needed, as a “facilitator” of family meetings. Supervision skill sets must include:
 - a. Knowing what good Wraparound practice is - knowing not only what must be done, but also how to do this within the 10 Principles, and ensuring fidelity to the model
 - b. Ability to communicate what good Wraparound practice is – clear, transparent communication that not only defines what needs to happen and how, but why as well as ability to identify phases or steps of the engagement and intervention process
 - c. Ability to help staff adapt their educational and core training to help best fit the individual family’s needs, and finding creative interventions.
 - d. Ability to lead professionals from diverse cultures and varying skill levels
 - e. Strong ability to manage conflict creatively and navigate difficult family conversations
 - f. Strong ability to coach, correct, and develop staff while still facilitating good outcomes for the families
 - g. Oriented to “systems-thinking” with the families, the organization, and the service-delivery models
 - h. Alliance-builder
 - i. Strong ability to develop innovative and creative strategies with a bureaucratic context
 - j. Ability to remain nimble and model that for staff
 - k. Ability to be constantly available to staff and to facilitate family meetings on short notice