



EASTERN SIERRA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (ESCOG)

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, April 19, 2018

8:30 a.m.

Bishop City Council Chambers

301 West Line Street

Bishop, California

Board Members

Mono County Supervisor
Stacy Corless

Mono County Supervisor
Bob Gardner

Town of Mammoth Lakes Councilmember
Shields Richardson

Town of Mammoth Lakes Councilmember
John Wentworth – Chair

Inyo County Supervisor
Jeff Griffiths – Vice Chair

Inyo County Supervisor
Matt Kingsley

City of Bishop Councilmember
Jim Ellis

City of Bishop Councilmember
Karen Schwartz

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

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 760-965-3603. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City of Bishop or Town of Mammoth Lakes to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. (See 42 USCS 12132, 28CFR 35.130)

NOTE: Comments for all agenda items are limited to a speaking time of three minutes.

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Roll Call**
- 4. Public Comment** – Notice to the Public: This time is set aside to receive public comment on matters not calendared on the agenda. When recognized by the Chair, please state your name and address for the record and please limit your comments to three minutes. Under California law the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments Board is

prohibited from generally discussing or taking action on items not included in the agenda; however, the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments Board may briefly respond to comments or questions from members of the public. Therefore, the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments Board will listen to all public comment but will not generally discuss the matter or take action on it.

5. Recreation

- a. Inyo National Forest Update (pending availability of Forest Service Representative)
- b. Update regarding Eastern Sierra Recreation Partnership
- c. Update regarding Eastern Sierra Recreation Coordinator

6. Reliable Regional Air Service

- a. Discussion regarding Opportunities for Reliable Regional Air Service
- b. Discuss the Role of the Mono Inyo Airport Working Group (MIAWG)

7. Update regarding California Federal Opportunity Zones. Consider authorizing ESCOG or requesting that each agency take action supporting the expansion of Opportunity Zones.

- a. “A new national community investment program that connects private capital with low-income communities across America”
 - i. <https://eig.org/opportunityzones>

8. Discussion regarding Climate Change

- a. CA Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program
 - i. <http://resilientca.org>

9. ESCOG Organizational Items

- a. Approve the minutes of February 14, 2018
- b. Board and Council Reports
- c. Discuss upcoming Sierra Nevada Conservancy visit in June
- d. Update on member agencies’ support for Prop 68. Consider ESCOG support for Prop. 68.

10. Committee Updates

- ESCOG Joint Powers Authority (JPA) Ad Hoc Committee (Gardner, Griffiths, Schwartz, Wentworth,)
- Inyo Mono Broadband Consortium (IMBC) Advisory Council

11. Call for Agenda Items for Next Meeting

12. Adjournment

The ESCOG will adjourn to a regular meeting to be held on Friday, June 15, 2018 at 8:30 a.m. in the Mammoth Lakes Town Council Chamber.



United States Department of Agriculture

**U.S. Forest Service
Pacific Southwest Region
Inyo National Forest
351 Pacu Lane, Suite 200
Bishop, CA 93514
www.fs.usda.gov/inyo**



Agenda Item # 5a
News Release

For Immediate Release
April 10, 2018
Media Contact: Deb Schweizer
760-873-2427
debraaschweizer@fs.fed.us
www.facebook.com/inyonf
Twitter: @inyoinfo

Inyo National Forest Welcomes New Forest Supervisor

The Inyo National Forest welcomes Tammy Randall-Parker as the Forest Supervisor, who will start in her new position on April 30. Randall-Parker has 27 years of experience with the U.S. Forest Service. Most recently, she has served as the Ouray District Ranger with the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests in Colorado.

Tammy has served the Forest Service in a variety of leadership positions as a District Ranger, Acting Forest Supervisor on the Prescott National Forest, and Acting Deputy Director for Renewable Resources in Denver. Tammy has also served on the Rocky Mountain Type 1 Incident Management Team for six years and is currently the Liaison Officer.

"Tammy brings a wealth of collaborative and team building skills to the position, along with her passion for people, which will enable her to take advantage of the many opportunities and needs of the Inyo National Forest and the surrounding communities," said Randy Moore, Regional Forester of the Pacific Southwest Region.

Tammy has facilitated collaborative approaches to forest, recreation, and range management. She has been the lead for the Uncompahgre Plateau Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Project since 2009. She has brought together many agencies, stakeholders, environmental groups, and academia to advance efforts in forest restoration. She has been instrumental with the Public Lands Partnership fostering collaboration in the management of campgrounds, motorized recreation, public access, and wildlife habitat.

"I am honored to be selected for the position of Forest Supervisor on the Inyo National Forest," said Randall-Parker. "I am excited about the future. I have heard wonderful things about the work we do on the Inyo, the people that work on the forest, and the passionate and involved communities we serve."

Tammy and her husband Aaron are looking forward to their new adventure and frequenting the ski slopes at Mammoth. Grown children Owen and Megan will visit frequently as they are avid climbers.

"The most important part of the work we do is creating good working relationships to steward the land and with the communities we serve", said Randall-Parker. My priority will be to enable our workforce to do their jobs well, take care of this beautiful forest, and deliver extraordinary service to the public."

Tammy attended Northern Arizona University and has a BS in Wildlife Management, Biology.

###

EIG Urges California To Re-Evaluate its Recommendations for Opportunity Zones Designations

BACK TO ALL NEWS

3 9 2018

Washington D.C. – Today, the Economic Innovation Group (EIG) released a [letter](#) urging California to reconsider its preliminary recommendations for census tracts to be designated as Opportunity Zones. [Opportunity Zones](#) are a new national community investment incentive established by a bipartisan provision of the *Tax Cuts and Jobs Act* to connect low-income communities with long-term private investment.

California's initial recommendations include a number of tracts that would undermine both the state's commitment and Congress' intent to use the incentive to help disadvantaged communities. According to the letter, "these anomalies point to a larger question of whether California has designed its selection process to address the steep geographic divides that loom over the state's economy."

Congress empowered governors to designate Opportunity Zones in their states from 25 percent of their Low Income Community census tracts. Designations, once made, will remain in effect for 10 years.

"Designation could have transformative benefits for California communities that have largely missed out on the gains of the national economic recovery," said EIG co-founders Steve Glickman and John Lettieri in the letter. "The most successful zones will exhibit the right balance of community need and investment potential."

EIG urges Governor Jerry Brown to request a 30-day extension on the March 21, 2018 deadline from the U.S. Department of the Treasury. EIG recommends the application of a real-world lens to put tract-level data into context before submitting final nominations to the U.S. Department of the Treasury. The nominations are [open for public input](#) through March 15.

To view the full letter, click [here](#).

SIGN UP TO RECEIVE THE LATEST UPDATES FROM EIG

Email address

SIGN UP



March 9, 2018

Governor Edmund G. Brown
c/o State Capitol, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Brown:

The Opportunity Zones initiative, recently established by Congress in the *Tax Cuts and Jobs Act* and based on the bipartisan *Investing in Opportunity Act*, is an innovative new community development policy intended to provide significant incentives for equity capital investments in low-income neighborhoods across the country. Congress empowered governors to nominate Opportunity Zones in their states by using up to 25 percent of their Low Income Community census tracts. Designation could have transformative benefits for California communities that have largely missed out on the gains of the national economic recovery.

California undoubtedly has a challenging task at hand, with responsibility for nominating up to 879 census tracts for Opportunity Zone designation during a short timeframe of 90-120 days from the law's date of enactment. We commend you for sharing the state's preliminary census tract recommendations for public comment. Such transparency is critical for securing public support for the state's designations and for leveraging local knowledge of communities and markets. We hope that other states and territories will also subject their recommendations to public evaluation before final determinations are made.

However, many of California's preliminary census tract recommendations are deeply concerning because they would undermine the state's ability – and Congressional intent – to use the incentive to help truly disadvantaged communities. We strongly urge you to reconsider the methodology utilized by California's Department of Finance and ensure that a thoughtful real-world lens is used to put tract-level data into context before submitting final nominations to the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

The criteria described by the Department of Finance's request for public comment reflect good intentions: a focus on poverty, an emphasis on business opportunity and job creation, and a preference for geographic diversity. However, this process seemed to rely almost exclusively on data analytics without taking any sort of contextual, qualitative information into account. Data alone provides an incomplete, and occasionally misleading, evaluation of realities on the ground. In California's case, this could lead to the establishment of zones in communities that don't truly need the help.

California's data-only approach fell short in several particularly egregious places. For example, three of the state's recommended tracts – 5130 in Santa Clara County (covering Stanford University's campus in Palo Alto), 28.01 in San Diego County (covering San Diego State University's campus in College Heights), and 4237 in Berkeley, Alameda County – all have high poverty rates thanks to large student populations but are nevertheless parts of communities that clearly do not align with Congressional intent for Opportunity Zones. Similarly, San Francisco County's tract 178.01 (in the South of Market Area) combines a high poverty rate with some of the highest incomes in the state thanks to a recent influx of wealthy residents and business owners. Meanwhile, a recommended tract in Westwood (7011) is nearly entirely comprised of a Veteran's Administration medical campus and thus may contain no real opportunity for private investment in the first place. Such local contextual information is essential to take into account.



These anomalies point to a larger question of whether California has designed its selection process to address the steep geographic divides that loom over the state's economy. Investors need no incentive to fund companies, commercial developments, or housing projects in privileged parts of California. Indeed, the state should carefully consider whether *any* census tracts in areas like downtown San Francisco and the Bay Area's tech corridors should be designated as Opportunity Zones when the Central Valley or Inland Empire have so much more need. If deployed wisely, Opportunity Zones could help the state grapple with inequality between its booming metropolitan hubs and much of the rest of the state while also encouraging the spread of growth and opportunity to communities *within* its major metropolitan areas where poverty remains intractable.

In light of these concerns, we respectfully urge you to direct your Department of Finance to replace the currently proposed census tract designations for public comment with a new list of tracts guided by a more holistic evaluation strategy that ensures a qualitative assessment is overlaid with the existing quantitative approach.

To allow adequate time for a new review and public comment, the state should request a 30-day extension of the March 21, 2018, deadline from the U.S. Department of the Treasury. This extra effort is particularly critical because, once zone designations are made, they last for ten years and cannot be altered.

The most successful zones will exhibit the right balance of community need and investment potential. We recommend that California take the following criteria into account in selecting a revised set of census tract designations:

1. The potential to advance social and economic inclusion;
2. The potential for an area to diversify its industrial base by cultivating new businesses and industries that promote durable community prosperity; and
3. The economic trajectory of a tract's broader community and region.

For example, our own analysis of Census Bureau data identifies 339 California zip codes in which the number of business establishments declined from 2011 to 2015, the latest year for which data is available. Prioritizing tracts in these zip codes, three-quarters of which are either "at risk" or "distressed" on our Distressed Communities Index, would be a good start.

California's designations will have a lasting impact on its communities and the success of this incentive in the state. Thank you for your consideration. We stand ready to assist you in making California's Opportunity Zones a national model for success.

Sincerely,

Steve Glickman
Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer
Economic Innovation Group

John Lettieri
Co-Founder and President
Economic Innovation Group

CC: Michael Cohen, Director, California Department of Finance
Keely Bosler, Cabinet Secretary
Nicholas Maduros, Director, California Department of Tax and Fee Administration



EASTERN SIERRA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (ESCOG)

RESCHEDULED REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

**Wednesday, February 14, 2018
Mammoth Lakes Council Chamber –9:00 a.m.
437 Old Mammoth Road, Suite Z
Mammoth Lakes, CA**

Board Members

- | | |
|---|---|
| Mono County Supervisor
Stacy Corless | Inyo County Supervisor
Jeff Griffiths – Vice Chair |
| Mono County Supervisor
Bob Gardner | Inyo County Supervisor
Matt Kingsley |
| Town of Mammoth Lakes Councilmember
Shields Richardson | City of Bishop Councilmember
Jim Ellis |
| Town of Mammoth Lakes Councilmember
John Wentworth – Chair | City of Bishop Councilmember
Karen Schwartz |

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NOTE: Comments for all agenda items are limited to a speaking time of three minutes.

1. Call to Order

Mayor Wentworth called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Wentworth led the pledge of allegiance.

3. Roll Call

The Eastern Sierra Council of Governments Board was present in its entirety.

- 4. Public Comment – Notice to the Public:** This time is set aside to receive public comment on matters not calendared on the agenda. When recognized by the Chair, please state your name and address for the record and please limit your comments to three minutes. Under California law the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments Board is prohibited from generally discussing or taking action on items not included in the agenda; however, the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments Board may briefly respond to comments or questions from members of the public. Therefore, the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments Board will listen to all public comment but will not generally discuss the matter or take action on it.

SPEAKING FROM THE FLOOR: Stephen Kalish commented that he was disappointed that ESCOG records are out of date because the minutes from several previous meetings are not available for public review or approval by the ESCOG.

5. Correspondence

Email from John Wentworth and press release with introductory information for Alterra Mountain Company.

SPEAKING FROM THE FLOOR: Mark Brownlie, MMSA, introduced himself and spoke about the Alterra Mountain Company.

- 6. Update and review of recent actions taken related to Mammoth Yosemite and Bishop Airports, recent Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) staff visit, and next steps regarding ESCOG's work related to supporting Reliable Regional Air Service.**

Grady Dutton, Town of Mammoth Lakes Public Works Director, reported that a statement of intent was approved by the Inyo County Board of Supervisors on January 16, 2018 the Mammoth Lakes Town Council on January 17, 2018. He discussed the January 24-25, 2018 FAA visit the Eastern Sierra. He suggested sending a thank you letter.

Kevin Carunchio, Inyo County Chief Administrative Officer, provided a status report regarding Bishop Airport.

The ESCOG discussed sending a thank you letter and suggested it should be signed by the two airport sponsors, and placing that item appropriately on each agencies' individual agendas. The ESCOG requested that agency staffs draft a letter for signature by the two agencies.

There was additional discussion amongst the ESCOG members regarding next steps related to the Bishop Airport and reliable regional air service.

- 7. Appoint City of Bishop member to Mono Inyo Airport Working Group Ad Hoc Committee**

Supervisor Ellis volunteered to represent Bishop on the Mono Inyo Airport Working Group Ad Hoc Committee.

ACTION: It was moved by Supervisor Griffiths, seconded by Supervisor Corless, and carried by an 8-0 roll call vote to appoint Supervisor Jim Ellis to the Mono Inyo Airport Working Group Ad Hoc Committee.

8. Request Agency Endorsement for Prop 68: California Clean Water and Safe Parks Act (Wentworth)

Mayor Wentworth introduced the item and said it will be on the statewide ballot in June. He requested that the ESCOG members to take this to their individual boards to write and send endorsement letters. Supervisor Corless said that yesterday Mono County voted to endorse the proposition and Supervisor Griffiths said that Inyo County has discussed it but has not taken action yet.

9. Discuss Potential for the ESCOG to Pursue JPA Authority (Gardner)

Supervisor Gardner introduced the item and said that the FAA had suggested that setting up a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) for the regional airports might be a good way for the agencies to manage them. He requested that ESCOG explore the current authority of the ESCOG. He requested support from the ESCOG to move in this direction and pick up the pace with the JPA subcommittee.

There was discussion amongst the ESCOG. The ESCOG supported investigating the option of an airport JPA.

SPEAKING FROM THE FLOOR: Sharon Clark, Mammoth Lakes resident, said that the Mammoth Airport has failed so many times and reliable service is currently in Reno or Los Angeles. She spoke about the natural amenities in the Eastern Sierra, but said that people are not able get here by plane. She supports the JPA because we need real reliable regional air service.

10. Update and Discussion Regarding Eastern Sierra Recreation Partnership (Wentworth)

- a. Inyo National Forest: Management Plan - Update
- b. Eastern Sierra Recreation Coordinator (Mammoth Lakes + Mono County)

Mayor Wentworth provided an update on this item. He said that Mammoth Lakes and Mono County have been working with the United States Forest Service (USFS) to put together agreements that would allow the local and federal agencies to work together more effectively.

Supervisors Corless and Gardner said they are excited about this opportunity and new direction. They said that their Board would need to discuss funding for next budget cycle.

11. Identify ESCOG Priorities for 2018

The ESCOG identified the following seven priorities for 2018:

- 1. Sustainable recreation
- 2. Reliable regional air service

3. Broadband/Tech
4. Solid waste
5. Regional look at affordable housing
6. Cannabis (primarily Mammoth Lakes and Mono County)
7. Economic development

12. Committee Updates

- ESCOG Joint Powers Authority (JPA) Ad Hoc Committee (Gardner, Griffiths, Schwartz, Wentworth,)
- Mono Inyo Airport Working Group (MIAWG) Ad Hoc Committee (Gardner, Griffiths, Wentworth)
- Inyo Mono Broadband Consortium (IMBC) Advisory Council

Supervisor Griffiths reported on attending a conference in Sacramento on behalf of the IMBC. He said that Mono County is almost built out in regards to middle mile and last mile projects for broadband access, but Inyo County is not. He spoke about other technology opportunities related to Digital 395.

13. Board and Council Reports

Supervisor Griffiths reported that Inyo County has completed its work regarding cannabis regulations and is currently developing permit process, then will start taking applications. He said that the Sierra Nevada Conservancy regional meeting will be held in Bishop in June.

Councilmember Richardson reported that the Town is still working on its cannabis regulations and tax measure. He said that the Town has entered into escrow to purchase the Shady Rest Parcel, which is zoned for affordable housing.

Supervisor Ellis said he is looking forward to serving on the ESCOG.

Supervisor Gardner said Mono County is also working on its cannabis regulations and tax measure. They expect to have their regulations completed in early April. They have been working on decreasing the areas where people can smoke tobacco. He said that Mono County is discussing housing solution opportunities.

Councilmember Schwartz said the City of Bishop and Rural Fire Protection District have hired a new fire chief who will start in June. She said that a study about mixed-use housing in Bishop was recently completed and she will report on it after their presentation. She recently attended a presentation regarding a CalTrans grant for the North Sierra Highway. She said that the City of Bishop has changed its parking standards on Main Street.

Supervisor Corless said that Mono County established priorities and she summarized those for the ESCOG. She congratulated Matt Kingsley on his appointment as Second Vice Chair appointment to Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC).

Mayor Wentworth reported on attending the outdoor retailer show in Colorado and said there is a large public lands component to the event this year. He said that the TBID in Mammoth Lakes is up for renewal this year. The Town will begin its budget process soon. He said that there might be changes at Mammoth Lakes Housing due to the Executive Director and a Board member announcing that they are both running for office.

14. Call for Agenda Items for Next Meeting

The ESCOG requested the following items for its next meeting agenda:

- Coordinate for Sierra Nevada Conservancy visit in June.
- IMBC update.
- Staff update on the Airport Certification Manual (ACM) and other airport items.
- JPA update if available.

15. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:56 a.m.

RESOLUTION NO. 18-14

**A RESOLUTION OF TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MAMMOTH LAKES,
STATE OF CALIFORNIA, SUPPORTING THE CALIFORNIA DROUGHT, WATER,
PARKS, CLIMATE, COASTAL PROTECTION, AND OUTDOOR ACCESS FOR ALL
ACT OF 2018**

WHEREAS, the Legislature adopted and governor signed SB 5, a \$4 billion General Obligation Bond to be placed on the June 2018 ballot entitled the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018; and

WHEREAS, SB 5 represents the first legislatively authorized debt instrument for parks, resources and environmental improvements since 2002; and

WHEREAS, investments in California's urban, suburban and rural park and resources-related landscapes promote the notion of community and provide health, environmental and aesthetic benefits; and

WHEREAS, California Outdoor economy is a \$92 billion economic driver, partly responsible for the continued health and growth of many of California's local economies; and

WHEREAS, SB 5 contains \$215 million in per capita funding to assist all of California's communities in underwriting priority park-related improvements; and

WHEREAS, an additional \$40 million shall be available in block grant awards for communities that self-tax for park related improvements; and

WHEREAS, SB 5 invests no less than \$1 billion in California's most economically challenged communities, eradicating blight and promoting greater access to the outdoors and health-related pursuits; and

WHEREAS, SB 5 expends \$200 million on California's State Park system, addressing a greater than \$1 billion backlog in deferred maintenance which will translate into greater tourism and visitorship opportunities in adjacent communities; and

WHEREAS, SB 5 invests \$30 million in trail network improvements promoting non-motorized recreational and commuter opportunities throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, SB 5 recognizing the importance of California's rural spaces and invests \$25 million through a competitive grant program to prop-up and enhance rural park infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, SB 5 expends hundreds of millions of dollars on other important investments in resource-related infrastructure including California's rivers, coast, and other waterways, the state's mountainous settings such as the Sierra and wildlife and fish-dependent habitats; and

WHEREAS, SB 5 invests heavily in combatting global warming through investments in urban greening projects, promoting healthy forests and carbon farming applications; and

WHEREAS, SB 5 underwrites investments in improving local water systems, promoting access to safe drinking water in some of California's most economically challenged communities; and

WHEREAS, SB 5 commits to a robust investment in groundwater improvements and sustainability to diversify water sources and recharge groundwater tables; and

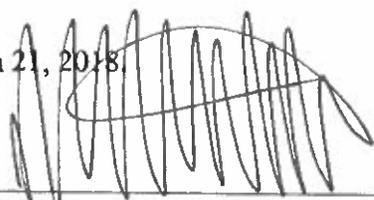
WHEREAS, SB 5 underwrites improvements in the state flood management systems, armoring against calamities that beset the state including Oroville and elsewhere; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council previously voted to support endorsement of SB 5 on November 15, 2017.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Mammoth Lakes hereby supports Proposition 68, The California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018.

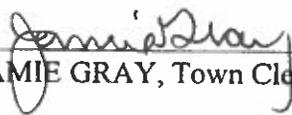
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Town of Mammoth Lake supports and can be listed as a member of the Californians for Clean Water and Safe Park coalition.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED on March 21, 2018.



JOHN WENTWORTH, Mayor

ATTEST:



JAMIE GRAY, Town Clerk

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF MONO)
TOWN OF MAMMOTH LAKES) ss.

I, JAMIE GRAY, Town Clerk of the Town of Mammoth Lakes, DO HEREBY CERTIFY under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of Resolution No. 18-14 adopted by the Town Council of the Town of Mammoth Lakes, California, at a meeting thereof held on the 21st day of March, 2018, by the following vote:

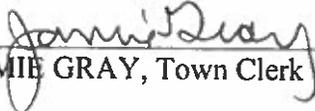
AYES: Councilmembers Fernie, Sauser, Mayor Pro Tem Hoff, and Mayor Wentworth

NOES: None

ABSENT: Councilmember Richardson

ABSTAIN: None

DISQUALIFICATION: None



JAMIE GRAY, Town Clerk