



# PRESS RELEASE

**March 31, 2016  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Board of Directors Hear Additional Public Comment on the Possibility of a Proposal for a Public-Private Partnership for the North Tahoe Event Center**

(Kings Beach, CA) At their March 8, 2016 meeting the North Tahoe Public Utility District Board of Directors heard additional comments and questions from the public on the idea of a proposal from Laulima Development LLC regarding the North Tahoe Event Center.

The Board notified the public that they anticipate a proposal from Laulima Development sometime later this month and the item will be placed on the April 12, 2016 Board of Directors meeting for discussion. (At a March 25, 2016 Special Board Meeting, the Board of Directors voted that a Request for Proposals (RFP) be discussed on April 12, 2016.)

Questions and comments asked during this meeting will be available as part of the March 8, 2016 Board of Directors minutes on the District's website once they have been adopted at the April Board meeting. A copy of the questions and District answers also follow this press release.

- Heard the annual audit report from Ron Ley, CPA of Damore, Hamric and Schneider. The Directors reviewed the report and asked questions of Mr. Ley. The audit report is available at [www.ntpud.org](http://www.ntpud.org) by clicking on Documents and then Financial Information.
- Adopted budget parameters for the fiscal year 2016-2017 budget. These key budget parameters provide certain assumptions as a foundation for developing the budget. These assumptions guide staff in determining levels of service that will be provided to the community and how those services will be funded. These assumptions cover budget items such as property tax revenue, new connections, CFD 94-1 collections, TVRA boat ramp operations and revenue, utilities, cost of labor and a host of other items such as these. The full list of parameters adopted by the Board is available in the March 2016 Board packet on the District website.
- Voted to assign Lane Lewis to the Recreation Committee to replace Tim Ferrell due to conflicts with meetings. Director Phil Thompson will serve as an alternate if Director Lewis is unable to attend.
- Authorized budget adjustments related to the Board action taken in December to strategically re-allocate costs and provide financial stability to the Recreation and Parks Department for the remainder of the 2015-2016 budget. These budget adjustments will also provide direction to staff when developing the 2016-2017 budget. Direction was also given to solicit proposals for a needs assessment for recreation to provide data for master planning and strategic solutions for recreation funding.

The next regular meeting of the NTPUD Board of Directors will be held on Tuesday, April 12, 2016 beginning at 2:00 pm at the North Tahoe Event Center in Kings Beach. NTPUD board meetings are open to the public and all are invited to attend.

Information on NTPUD board meetings, including agendas and packets, may be obtained on the District's website. Residents are strongly encouraged to sign up on the District's email list to receive agendas, press releases and other information from the District at [www.ntpud.org](http://www.ntpud.org). The sign up link is available on the home page. For drought updates and water conservation information, see [www.ntpud.org/conservation](http://www.ntpud.org/conservation).

The North Tahoe Public Utility District provides sewer and water service to the residents of Kings Beach, Tahoe Vista, Carnelian Bay, Cedar Flat and Agate Bay. The North Tahoe Regional Park, Tahoe Vista Recreation Area and Boat Launch and North Tahoe Event Center are owned and operated by the District and provide recreation opportunities to residents and visitors.

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Approved By: Duane Whitelaw, General Manager, March 30, 2016

Questions received during the March 8, 2016 Board of Directors meeting regarding the proposed public-private partnership.

- What is the definition of affordable?

This is a term that is going to be difficult to quantify as it is different from person to person. While some people say the Event Center's current price structure is affordable, others tell us very clearly that it's not. The Event Center has lost business because people said it wasn't affordable.

Community input on this ranges from "free" being the only affordable rate to 50% off the highest non-resident wedding/party rate. The answer lies with the type of group.

- Has Lualaba approached Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) and the California Tahoe Conservancy (CTC) with plans? If so, what are their positions on this proposal?

The District is only concerned with plans for the North Tahoe Event Center. Because we have not yet received a proposal, we are uncertain if they have submitted anything to TRPA or CTC.

- What is the size of the building?

The building is approximately 16,000 sq ft with 10,000 sq ft of actual meeting space.

- Why doesn't the District take ideas from the public and do what we can as an agency?

The District has taken many ideas from the public over the years. At this point there is no additional funding available for marketing positions and infrastructure upgrades. Without new dollars, the NTPUD unfortunately faces the continued decline in service levels.

- Can plans of the building be provided to a structural engineer who could create pro bono plans for building improvements?

As-built plans are available by filling out a public information request. The District only has plans for the building in paper form so these electronic plans would be in PDF, not CAD. Any plans drawn up should be completed to bring the building to current code and TRPA rules as would be expected of any construction permit. Any estimates must show labor costs at prevailing wage per government code.