



# TRUCKEE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

## 2026 VOTER GUIDE



**TRUCKEE™**  
Chamber of Commerce

# **2026 Truckee Election Voter Guide**

**This guide includes information on local contested elections in the Truckee region. You will find responses from candidates for the Tahoe Forest Hospital District, Tahoe Truckee Unified School District, Truckee-Donner Rec and Park District, Truckee Fire Protection District, Truckee Donner Public Utility District, and the Sierra College Board of Trustees**

**This information is being provided to members of the Truckee Chamber of Commerce to use in preparation for casting their votes in this year's election on Tuesday, November 3, 2026.**

**The Chamber of Commerce encourages its members to be informed and to research candidates and ask questions before voting.**

**Candidate forums sponsored by the Truckee Chamber, as well as CATT PAC, the Tahoe Sierra Board of Realtors, Tahoe Truckee Media, Moonshine Ink, and the Sierra Sun, will take place on Tuesday, October 6 and Thursday, October 8 starting at 5:00 p.m. at Truckee Town Hall.**



# Important Election Dates

The state and county official Voter Information Guide will be mailed out on **October 5**.

On **October 5** your ballot will be mailed to you.

The state deadline to register for this election is **October 19**. However, between **October 19 and election day (November 3)**, the Conditional Voter Registration process opens!

**October 24** is when 11 day voter centers will open

**October 31** is when 4 day voter centers will open

**NOVEMBER 3 ELECTION DAY!**



# Voting Locations

Once you receive your ballot in the mail, you can mail it, drop it at a ballot box, or bring it in person to one of the voting centers. If you lose your ballot or don't receive it, you are able to get a new ballot at one of the in person voting locations.

**All polling places (including drop boxes) close at 8:00 p.m. on Election Night, Tuesday, November 3, 2026.**

## Where to Vote in person if you live in Nevada County

### **Truckee Tahoe Airport Community Room**

10356 Truckee Airport Road, Truckee  
Open October 24 - November 3, 2026  
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. before Election Day,  
November 3, 2026  
7:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. on Election Day

### **Tahoe Truckee Unified School District Board Room**

11603 Donner Pass Road, Truckee, CA 96161  
Open October 31 - November 3, 2026  
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. before Election Day,  
November 3, 2026  
7:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. on Election Day

## Where to drop your ballot if you live in Nevada County

October 6 - November 3, 2026

### **Truckee Library**

Outside  
10031 Levon Avenue, Truckee, CA 96161  
24 Hours

### **Truckee Town Hall**

Outside  
10183 Truckee Airport Road, Truckee, CA  
96161  
24 Hours

### **Truckee Tahoe Airport**

Outside  
10356 Truckee Airport Road, Truckee, CA  
96161  
24 Hours



# Voting Locations

## Where to Vote in person if you live in Placer County

### **Fairway Community Center**

330 Fairway Drive, Tahoe City, 96145

Open October 24 - November 3, 2026

8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. before Election Day,  
November 3, 2026

7:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. on Election Day

## Where to drop your ballot if you live in Placer County

### **Kings Beach Library**

301 Secline St, Kings Beach, CA 96143

24 Hours

### **Olympic Valley Public Service District**

305 Olympic Vly Rd, Olympic Valley, CA 96146

24 Hours

### **Tahoe Old Fire House**

300 N. Lake Blvd, Tahoe City, CA 96145

24 Hours

### **Truckee Tahoe Airport**

10356 Truckee Airport Rd, Truckee, CA 96161

24 Hours



# **Tahoe Forest Hospital District**

**Vote for Three**

## Dale Chamblin



**What do you see as the most significant challenge facing Tahoe Forest Hospital District over the next four years, and what would you prioritize as a Board member?**

Our current board is already addressing our greatest challenge ...improving access while continuing to provide the highest level of quality healthcare. As three new major facilities under construction are completed finding high quality medical professionals to staff those facilities requires our continued attention. We must also recognize the value of urgent care as a cost effective alternative to emergency care, and continue to build this service option, while keeping the public informed about the benefits. Given the complexity of healthcare service, we must also bolster efforts to make patient navigation more user friendly.

**Community input gathered through the True North 2030 planning process identified access, navigation, and affordability as ongoing challenges. What actions should the District prioritize to make healthcare more accessible and affordable for local residents?**

Effective 1/1/26 Medi-Cal made major changes with more to come in 2027 and 2028, driven by federal funding reductions, new work requirements, and

shifting state budget policies. Many enrollees could face benefit reductions, stricter eligibility rules, or total loss of coverage over the next few years. In recognition of this predicament at the start of this fiscal year we provided an increased budget adjustment to our normal allowance for financial assistance to help those in need, however this will require constant follow-up and monitoring.

**Recruiting and retaining healthcare professionals is particularly challenging in a high-cost mountain community. What role should the Board play in strengthening Tahoe Forest's workforce and addressing barriers such as housing and cost of living?**

In 2020 we became a founding member of the TTWHA, the Truckee Tahoe Workforce Housing Agency, aligning with agencies that share this common problem. The agency has achieved notable milestones as California's first Joint Powers Agency, though it continues to operate amid an intense regional deficit. The agency provides rental support, home purchase assistance and general local housing education.

**What does strong governance and accountability look like for a publicly governed healthcare district, and how would you ensure the community has a meaningful voice in major decisions?**

During the last year the hospital board strongly supported an effort to contact a minimum of 5,000 local residents through the True North program to carefully listen to the concerns for improved healthcare access and affordability. When done correctly the board becomes the advocate for the community concerns, and it ensures that adjustments are made to strategic goals to address those concerns. The "True North" program should not be a "One and Done", but the board should ensure that those lines of communication are open to the community.



# Meg Rab



**What do you see as the most significant challenge facing Tahoe Forest Hospital District over the next four years, and what would you prioritize as a Board member?**

I believe the greatest challenge facing Tahoe Forest Hospital District is ensuring our community continues to have access to high-quality, affordable healthcare as the region grows and the healthcare landscape becomes increasingly complex. Rising costs, workforce shortages, governmental policy changes, and growing demand for services will require thoughtful

planning and disciplined decision-making. As a Board member, my top three priorities will be: 1) build trust through stronger communication and greater transparency; 2) champion the employees who are the heart of the organization; 3) ensure decisions are made with our community’s best interests in mind.

**Community input gathered through the True North 2030 planning process identified access, navigation, and affordability as ongoing challenges. What actions should the District prioritize to make healthcare more accessible and affordable for local residents?**

As True North demonstrated, healthcare access and affordability are among the most important challenges facing our community. The District should continue expanding access to primary and specialty care where community need is greatest, while making it easier for patients to understand where to go, how to get an appointment, and what their care will cost. The District must also look for opportunities to use technology, partnerships, and innovative care models that expand access while reducing costs. It is important, however, that these solutions are designed to ensure the District remains financially strong for the long term.

MEG  
RAB

TAHOE FOREST HOSPITAL BOARD

MegForTahoeForest.com

Paid for by Meg Rab for Tahoe Forest Hospital District Board 2026

Born & Raised in Truckee

20+ Years Working with Tahoe Forest Hospital

Local Business Owner

Community Leader

# Meg Rab

**Recruiting and retaining healthcare professionals is particularly challenging in a high-cost mountain community. What role should the Board play in strengthening Tahoe Forest's workforce and addressing barriers such as housing and cost of living?**

Tahoe Forest's employees are its greatest asset, and attracting and retaining exceptional people is essential to providing exceptional care. The Board's role is to ensure workforce needs are a central part of the District's long-term strategy and support leadership in addressing the challenges of living and working in our region. Continuing to build community partnerships and explore innovative approaches to local housing will be crucial. Additionally, providing competitive compensation and benefits, offering professional growth opportunities, and fostering a workplace where employees feel heard and valued will build a strong workforce and strengthen retention.

**What does strong governance and accountability look like for a publicly governed healthcare district, and how would you ensure the community has a meaningful voice in major decisions?**

Strong governance means making thoughtful, well-informed decisions, maintaining clear accountability, and ensuring the community understands how and why those decisions are made. For a publicly governed healthcare district, transparency is especially important, as the organization ultimately belongs to the community it serves. I would advocate for clear, accessible communication about the District's priorities, challenges, and major decisions, along with meaningful opportunities for public input. Community engagement requires more than simply distributing a questionnaire. Done well, it builds trust by ensuring the Board hears and considers diverse community perspectives before making major decisions.



## Michael McGarry



**What do you see as the most significant challenge facing Tahoe Forest Hospital District over the next four years, and what would you prioritize as a Board member?**

Our greatest challenge will be building on the positive changes of the past several years while navigating rising costs, reimbursement pressures and changes that may leave more community members uninsured or underinsured. Access to care cannot be limited to those fortunate enough to afford it. I would prioritize continued improvements in access and affordability while strengthening the District's financial sustainability. That means improving operational efficiency, thoughtfully using technology, and ensuring our investments deliver measurable community benefit. I would also strengthen governance so we have the experience, continuity and community perspective needed to navigate an increasingly complex healthcare environment.

**Community input gathered through the True North 2030 planning process identified access, navigation, and affordability as ongoing challenges. What actions should the District prioritize to make healthcare more accessible and affordable for local residents?**

In our mountain community, access means providing the right care, at the right cost, as close to home as possible. We must reduce waits for primary care by expanding options throughout our region through local clinics, mobile care and telemedicine. We also need to address affordability. Residents should not have to leave our community to find affordable labs, imaging or other routine services. Finally, we can make healthcare easier to navigate through better digital tools, financial assistance and clearer guidance to the most appropriate site of care. Access and affordability must improve together.

**Recruiting and retaining healthcare professionals is particularly challenging in a high-cost mountain community. What role should the Board play in strengthening Tahoe Forest's workforce and addressing barriers such as housing and cost of living?**

Recruiting great healthcare professionals in a high-cost mountain community requires more than competitive compensation. We must make Tahoe Forest an extraordinary place to work, where employees can lead change, grow professionally and find meaning in serving their community. We should invest in partnerships that address barriers we cannot solve alone. Our participation in the Truckee Tahoe Workforce Housing Agency and TART Connect demonstrate how public agencies can combine resources and develop creative solutions. As a Board member, I will continue building partnerships with local agencies while supporting a workplace where talented people want to build their careers.



# Michael McGarry

**What does strong governance and accountability look like for a publicly governed healthcare district, and how would you ensure the community has a meaningful voice in major decisions?**

Strong governance begins with transparency, trust, clear communication and an educated Board that understands a rapidly changing healthcare environment. It also requires listening. Our 5,000 Voices initiative was not a one-time exercise; it established an expectation that community input continually shapes our priorities. I support expanding that commitment by bringing community experts onto Board committees, adding expertise in areas such as finance, and healthcare strategy while creating another avenue for public participation. The community should have clear visibility into our finances, strategic priorities, growth plans and challenges, while we rigorously protect confidential patient, employee and competitively sensitive information.



Johanna Koch  
No response

Mary Brown  
No response



**Tahoe Truckee  
Unified School  
District - Trustee  
Area One**

**Vote for One**

## Craig Shaffer



**What do you see as the most significant challenge facing TTUSD over the next four years, and what would you prioritize as a Board member?**

The significant challenges facing TTUSD center on growth, educator retention, and student safety (athletics). With more affordable housing planned in Truckee, I will prioritize proactive planning to prepare for growing enrollment by investing in great educators, classroom resources, and infrastructure. Regarding athletics, student safety must drive every decision. I will fiercely advocate to keep our athletics in the NIAA, protecting students from dangerous winter travel and the potential loss of programs like soccer and tennis. I will explore every option and resource and pursue stronger action as needed. Our students deserve every avenue exhausted to protect their safety and opportunities.

**Recruiting and retaining teachers and staff in a high-cost region continues to be a challenge. What strategies should TTUSD pursue to build and retain a strong workforce?**

To recruit and retain top educators in our high-cost region, TTUSD must actively partner with local agencies to expand workforce housing

opportunities. I will advocate for district employee specific housing solutions, including higher qualification income limits, longer lease terms, and priority placement for TTUSD staff.

Beyond housing, we must pursue community partnerships to reduce everyday living costs for educators. Expanding localized staff discounts and perks, similar to Northstar's program, for district employees at recreation centers, fitness facilities, childcare providers, etc. will make living and working in our district far more sustainable.

**Not every student will follow the same path after graduation. How should TTUSD expand career technical education, work-based learning, internships, entrepreneurship, dual enrollment, and other pathways that prepare students for both college and careers?**

Every student deserves a roadmap to success. To expand non-college pathways, partnerships with local businesses and organizations are essential.

I will prioritize:

- For-Credit Vocation Internships: Partnering with local contractors, professionals, and businesses to create hands-on, for-credit internships where experts mentor the next generation.
- Community Learning Hubs: Collaborating with local spaces, such as Truckee Roundhouse, allowing students to learn trades and hopefully teach classes for course credit.
- Workforce Incentives: Encouraging local employers to offer higher starting wages to high school graduates, reinforcing the value of completing their diploma.



# Craig Shaffer

**What role should local employers and community partners play in TTUSD, and where do you see opportunities for stronger partnerships that benefit students while helping address the region's future workforce needs?**

Local partners play a central role in shaping our educational ecosystem. Building strong partnerships is key to unlocking opportunities for our students while simultaneously strengthening our economy.

Opportunities for collaboration include:

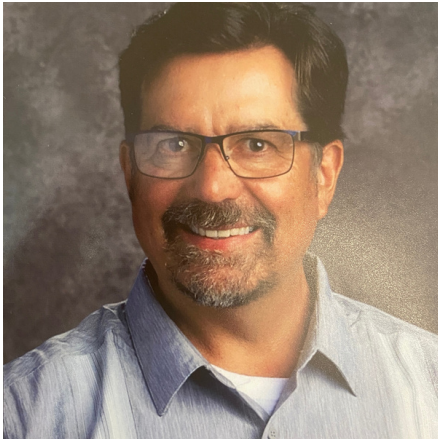
**Creating Career Pipelines:** Partnering with local businesses and professionals to mentor students and offer career preparation before and after college, creating a local workforce stream.

**Mutual Community Growth:** Engaging local resources to give students real-world insights into regional industries, ensuring they gain relevant, modern skills.

**Sustaining Our Local Economy:** Connecting classroom learning directly to local business needs so our young talent can build long-term careers in our community.



## Pat Mooney



**What do you see as the most significant challenge facing TTUSD over the next four years, and what would you prioritize as a Board member?**

The most significant challenge facing TTUSD is recruiting and retaining highly qualified staff in our high-cost mountain region. As a 33-year classroom teacher at Truckee High—with experience as an athletic director, coach, and administrator—I understand that our workforce is the foundation of student success. My priority is to champion competitive compensation and housing solutions to ensure we attract and keep the best talent. Simultaneously, I will continue to expand our robust Career Technical Education pathways, ensuring all students graduate with the practical skills, confidence, and real-world experience needed to thrive in our local economy and beyond.

**Recruiting and retaining teachers and staff in a high-cost region continues to be a challenge. What strategies should TTUSD pursue to build and retain a strong workforce?**

TTUSD must prioritize competitive compensation that reflects our local cost of living, ensuring we remain an employer of choice. Crucially, we need to pursue creative housing solutions, such as

public-private partnerships or teacher workforce housing, such as the Alder Creek affordable housing project, to make living here sustainable for educators. Additionally, I support a holistic approach investing in professional development, mentorship, and a supportive administrative culture that values teacher voices. By prioritizing both the financial and professional well-being of our staff, we foster a stable, experienced team dedicated to our students' long-term success.

**Not every student will follow the same path after graduation. How should TTUSD expand career technical education, work-based learning, internships, entrepreneurship, dual enrollment, and other pathways that prepare students for both college and careers?**

Our current CTE programs, like Culinary Arts, Gone Boarding, Welding, Engineering/Biomedical, and Sports Medicine are thriving successes that provide invaluable hands-on training. I want to build on that momentum by introducing new pathways which students have indicated interest like Aviation, Construction, and Graphic Design to meet modern workforce needs. We should build on successful initiatives like the FuturePreneurs Pitch Camp and by deepening partnerships with local leaders like the Truckee Chamber of Commerce and Sierra Business Council. By embedding entrepreneurship and real-world internships into our curriculum, we ensure every student graduates with the practical skills and confidence to thrive.



# Pat Mooney

**What role should local employers and community partners play in TTUSD, and where do you see opportunities for stronger partnerships that benefit students while helping address the region's future workforce needs?**

Education shouldn't stop at the classroom door. Local employers aren't just potential donors; they are essential partners in our students' growth. I envision businesses acting as co-educators, offering mentorships, internships, and advisory input to help us refine our CTE pathways. By aligning our curriculum with the skills our local economy actually needs, we bridge the gap between "school" and "career." Let's create a collaborative ecosystem where community partners provide real-world context, helping our students graduate not just with a transcript, but with the confidence and practical skills to succeed locally.



# **Truckee-Donner Recreation and Park District**

**Vote for Three**

# Amanda Conk



**What do you see as the most significant challenge facing the Truckee-Donner Recreation and Park District over the next four years, and what would you prioritize as a Board member?**

The most significant challenge facing TDRPD is funding. They need funding for three main avenues:

1. Repair and maintain existing facilities and parks.
2. Pay living wages in order to keep quality staff.
3. Support the community in their pursuit of new park projects.

**The District just went through a Comprehensive Master Planning process to guide facilities, programs, staffing, finances, and partnerships for the next 10–15 years. What do you believe are the top priorities reflected in that plan?**

To improve what they have and to increase financial resources.

**Affordability and accessibility are important considerations for recreation, childcare, camps, and youth programming. How should the District ensure its programs remain accessible while maintaining long-term financial sustainability?**

This is question that TDRPD cannot answer on its own. Affordability is a regional issue that involves everyone. TDRPD completes financial modeling for every program it offers and that needs to continue. Property tax dollars should support infrastructure but user fees need to support programming, including childcare.

**Recreation is an important part of Truckee's quality of life and its appeal as a place to live, work, and visit. How should the District collaborate with other agencies, nonprofits, and businesses to maximize community benefit while avoiding duplication of services?**

Great question! I am a firm supporter of doing what you do well. TDRPD does parks, public spaces, aquatics, childcare and recreation level sports. They should maintain that track, accepting support and partnerships when it comes around and folding some offerings if that need is already being met in the community.



# Daniel “Danny” Peltz



**What do you see as the most significant challenge facing the Truckee-Donner Recreation and Park District over the next four years, and what would you prioritize as a Board member?**

TDRPD's mission of "Inspiring creative, active lives for a healthy mountain community" is very broad. In reading through the Comprehensive Master Plan, there is a large appetite for investment in both existing and new offerings. With so many competing priorities, and a healthy yet limited budget, making good investment decisions will be critical. My priority will be in digitizing where efficiencies can be made, prudent fiscal management and providing clear direction when decisions are needed.

**The District just went through a Comprehensive Master Planning process to guide facilities, programs, staffing, finances, and partnerships for the next 10–15 years. What do you believe are the top priorities reflected in that plan?**

TDRPD has a wide range of offerings that currently serve the community. Improving what

we have and ensuring the facilities and programs offered meet the current needs of the community, seem like basic table stakes. In addition, being able to expand the indoor offerings seems extremely important in a community with so many months of snow.

**Affordability and accessibility are important considerations for recreation, childcare, camps, and youth programming. How should the District ensure its programs remain accessible while maintaining long-term financial sustainability?**

The youth are our future and we owe it to them to deliver affordable and enriching programming. As a board member, I plan on reviewing the usage and budget data to ensure dollars are being put to the right programs and that we are delivering them as efficiently as possible.

**Recreation is an important part of Truckee's quality of life and its appeal as a place to live, work, and visit. How should the District collaborate with other agencies, nonprofits, and businesses to maximize community benefit while avoiding duplication of services?**

TDRPD threads through many of the agencies in town and from what I already understand, does a very good job of working with the various groups and agencies in the area. As a board member, I will encourage maintaining and growing existing relationships and seeking out new ones while inspecting to ensure we aren't duplicating efforts.



# Katie Hawkins



**What do you see as the most significant challenge facing the Truckee-Donner Recreation and Park District over the next four years, and what would you prioritize as a Board member?**

Addressing deferred maintenance across the facilities is a critical challenge and a top priority of my campaign. I plan to work closely with District staff, regional partner agencies, and community members to ensure we allocate resources where they are most needed and serve the community. As a board, our responsibility will be to support leadership in serving the Truckee residents while actively pursuing state, federal, and private funding opportunities. I firmly believe we can address our deferred maintenance backlog, while serving our growing community to ensure that the spaces that are managed by the District are safe and welcoming.

**The District just went through a Comprehensive Master Planning process to guide facilities, programs, staffing, finances, and partnerships for the next 10–15 years. What do you believe are the top priorities reflected in that plan?**

In the comprehensive Master Plan, I see the top priorities as: 1) Operational and Financial Sustainability, 2) Facility Preservation & Deferred Maintenance, 3) Partnerships and Resource Sharing, and 4) Program Diversity and Inclusion.

These goals are scalable and achievable, but we must remain fiscally responsible while balancing District investments across the region. In doing so, we will build trusted partnerships, strengthen our relationships with residents, and ensure effective cross-jurisdiction collaboration between government agencies, the private sector, and key decision-makers.

**Affordability and accessibility are important considerations for recreation, childcare, camps, and youth programming. How should the District ensure its programs remain accessible while maintaining long-term financial sustainability?**

The District offers unmatched public value through dedicated community facilities and specialized programming. Investments in local childcare, outdoor recreation, and enrichment directly improve resident health, drive job creation, and help retain working families and workforce in Truckee. As a vital engine for rural stability, the District provides multi benefit offerings aligned with state and federal funding initiatives designed to invest in economic development in the Sierra Nevada. My vision would be to explore these funding opportunities and strengthen partnerships to highlight the outsized impact the District plays in our community beyond connecting residents to just our facilities.



# Katie Hawkins

**Recreation is an important part of Truckee's quality of life and its appeal as a place to live, work, and visit. How should the District collaborate with other agencies, nonprofits, and businesses to maximize community benefit while avoiding duplication of services?**

Truckee's various government partners and agencies each maintain their own strategic goals and work plans. Given the District's ambitious Master Plan, a cross-community asset analysis would identify critical operational efficiencies and shared resource opportunities. Residents and visitors alike simply see public amenities—trails, sports fields, river access, and public piers—rather than jurisdictional lines, aligning agency operations is a logical step for the District. Cross-agency integration is a significant undertaking, but collaboration and partnership remain the cornerstone of success for rural communities in the Sierra Nevada.



# Siobhan Smart



**What do you see as the most significant challenge facing the Truckee-Donner Recreation and Park District over the next four years, and what would you prioritize as a Board member?**

The greatest challenge is balancing what our community needs today with what the District can responsibly sustain tomorrow. My priority is to listen, learn and act on what makes sense. The Rec & Park District's 2025 community survey results prioritized maintaining the facilities and programs we already have, strengthening our financial position and making thoughtful decisions about future investments. Good stewardship means meeting today's needs while preserving financial flexibility for those who come after us. The decisions we make today should give the future community of Truckee choices, not obligations.

**The District just went through a Comprehensive Master Planning process to guide facilities, programs, staffing, finances, and partnerships for the next 10–15 years. What do you believe are the top priorities reflected in that plan?**

Prioritizing financial health while improving our existing facilities comes first, followed by

strengthening programs through partnerships where demand exceeds capacity. Every decision today should consider the costs and obligations for tomorrow. The Master Plan gives us great opportunities for the future; however, we don't have to do everything at once. It should be used as a roadmap, not a mandate

**Affordability and accessibility are important considerations for recreation, childcare, camps, and youth programming. How should the District ensure its programs remain accessible while maintaining long-term financial sustainability?**

Affordability in Truckee is hard. The people who live and work here should be able to participate in the programs our community provides. We can't be afraid of some fiscal discipline. That means living within our budget without passing costs on to the community we serve. Partnerships can help stretch our dollars, protect programs and keep fees reasonable. Tradition has its place but, "we've always done it this way" isn't a sustainable financial plan.

**Recreation is an important part of Truckee's quality of life and its appeal as a place to live, work, and visit. How should the District collaborate with other agencies, nonprofits, and businesses to maximize community benefit while avoiding duplication of services?**

Truckee is too small and too expensive for organizations to operate in silos. The Airport District demonstrates what interagency cooperation can accomplish through its ongoing commitments to wildfire mitigation and the Truckee Library. Now, imagine if we brought that same cooperation to bolster our kids' programs and seniors' activities. Our special districts all serve the same community. It's time we remember we are on the same team.



**Debbie Collette**  
**No Response**

**Eric Wicks**  
**No Response**



# **Truckee Donner Public Utility District**

**Vote for Two**

## Chris Hawkins



**What do you see as the most significant challenge facing TDPUD over the next four years, and what would you prioritize as a Board member?**

Power in the west is threatened by development of highly-demanding, highly-profitable facilities, resulting in a significant impact to affordability. Ensuring that power purchase agreements through TDPUD's power provider, UAMPS, maintain strength and volume in the partnership will assist to maintain stable rates to the end user. Water in the west is severely threatened, however TDPUDs sources do not undergo the same impact that other agencies have during periods of drought. Long term monitoring of the water table elevation, and responsible maintenance and capital improvements on the operating systems is critical to ensure reliability for generations to come.

**Local businesses consistently identify rising operating costs as a challenge. How should TDPUD balance investments in infrastructure, reliability, and sustainability with maintaining affordable and predictable utility rates for residents and businesses?**

Businesses and residents alike are impacted by increasing utility costs. Affordability can only be maintained through strength and volume in the power purchase agreements, described above,

and by balancing capital improvement projects over time as necessary to ensure long term operational reliability, while maintaining consistent operating costs. Thoughtful prioritization of these, and recognizing alternative funding resources for public infrastructure, is critical to reduce the financial impact on customers.

**Wildfire mitigation and electric-system reliability are major areas of investment for TDPUD. What additional steps, if any, should the District take to reduce wildfire risk and improve reliability?**

Vegetation management efforts throughout the town are strongly under way through multiple resources. These cross jurisdiction partnerships are needed to minimize the impact of overgrowth over high fire-risk infrastructure, and controlling the growth while maintaining natural vegetation density. The TDPUD can support these efforts through utilizing the improved technologies in power system monitoring to recognize irregularities in the distribution systems, understand the resulting impact of events, and have established response plans to address these events in a safe and effective manner, while maintaining reliability to the user.

**TDPUD is responsible for managing critical local water and energy resources. How should the District balance reliability, environmental stewardship, emerging technologies, and the community's long-term water and energy needs?**

Affordability, reliability and sustainability are fundamental priorities for the services provided by the TDPUD to the community. Emerging technologies are rapidly developing, but many are currently in their beta trial. Allowing larger utility providers to implement these technologies, leading vendors to make necessary product improvements, and validation of the use of these technologies in the field is necessary for small scale utility providers to implement resources, without causing a financial impact to the end user through experimentation.

## Christa Finn



**What do you see as the most significant challenge facing TDPUD over the next four years, and what would you prioritize as a Board member?**

Affordability has become a big challenge this year. It joins expanding our renewable portfolio and increasing the safety and reliability of our systems in a three way tie. Climate change is a driver of all three of these challenges. I will continue to prioritize projects and policies that reduce greenhouse gas emissions while making our systems safer and more reliable. For example, solar power is the least expensive resource on the market. Combining a local generation project with battery backup will make our system more affordable, more reliable, and less susceptible to disruptions that are out of our control.

**Local businesses consistently identify rising operating costs as a challenge. How should TDPUD balance investments in infrastructure, reliability, and sustainability with maintaining affordable and predictable utility rates for residents and businesses?**

The PUD is also a local business that struggles with operating costs. We will continue to stack efficiencies, such as aligning our projects with the Town's to defray the costs of digging, paving, etc. We will continue to develop tools like the Power

Cost Adjustment which allows us to credit our customers bills if the actual cost of the power we purchase is less than our budgeted costs. It also works in reverse, so when markets go nuts, like they did in the winter of 2022, we can recoup those costs over time, without creating a significant burden on ratepayers.

**Wildfire mitigation and electric-system reliability are major areas of investment for TDPUD. What additional steps, if any, should the District take to reduce wildfire risk and improve reliability?**

I am proud of what we are accomplishing at the PUD. Currently, we have a 3 pronged approach: Prevention, Detection and Protection. Prevention includes vegetation management and system hardening efforts like switching to metal poles and covered wires. Detection involves tech like Gridware which allows us to monitor our lines for outages, and Cloudfire, which helps us model weather conditions and fire behavior to pinpoint where we can most effectively deploy Gridware and hardening projects. Finally, Protection involves things like Public Safety Shutoffs and communications during active fire events. We are a statewide model for our Wildfire Mitigation Plan.

**TDPUD is responsible for managing critical local water and energy resources. How should the District balance reliability, environmental stewardship, emerging technologies, and the community's long-term water and energy needs?**

Is this a question of balance? Reliability, environmental stewardship and emerging tech are ALL vital to serving our community's long term water and energy needs. Having a reliable system protects our environment and being good stewards of the environment makes our system more safe, reliable and affordable. Deploying technology to help monitor our resources is essential. These are not contradictory goals, but complementary. I took "emerging technologies" to mean things like Gridware and Cloudfine, or smart meters that help us track energy and water use. If it was code for "data center", then I am just a hard no.

## Tony Laliotis



**What do you see as the most significant challenge facing TDPUD over the next four years, and what would you prioritize as a Board member?**

The most significant challenge facing TDPUD is balancing rates with needed investments in infrastructure, wildfire mitigation and unfunded state and federal mandates. Over the last ten years in California, the basic cost of construction has outpaced basic inflation by over 3% annually. This has put a strain on keeping rates affordable while investing in critical infrastructure. For the next four years, I will continue to prioritize projects and programs that bring the most value to our customers and the environment. We must pursue grants for these projects, to help keep rates competitive and as affordable as possible for our community.

**Local businesses consistently identify rising operating costs as a challenge. How should TDPUD balance investments in infrastructure, reliability, and sustainability with maintaining affordable and predictable utility rates for residents and businesses?**

We must prioritize costs and infrastructure projects that bring the most value to our customers and protect the environment. We must prioritize electric system hardening projects that increase reliability and decrease the risk of wildfire. We must continue investment in technology and equipment

to better predict wildfire risk, provide early warning and locations of system faults, and during months of high wildfire risk, provide immediate de-energization of circuits that have detected faults. For the water system we must prioritize projects that reduce our water loss and provide rebates and services to help our customers reduce their water use and costs.

**Wildfire mitigation and electric-system reliability are major areas of investment for TDPUD. What additional steps, if any, should the District take to reduce wildfire risk and improve reliability?**

We must continue and expand our investments in system hardening, system monitoring technology, system control and protection technology, and vegetation management. I see additional opportunities to partner with our local agencies in wildfire mitigation projects that can have a direct impact on our infrastructure and reliability. We must also improve and expand our emergency coordination and communication protocols to reduce system outages and durations and keep our customers better informed when outages do occur and about related emergencies in our community and surrounding areas.

**TDPUD is responsible for managing critical local water and energy resources. How should the District balance reliability, environmental stewardship, emerging technologies, and the community's long-term water and energy needs?**

Those match the basic strategic goals that we have currently adopted. The challenge is successfully executing these while maintaining competitive and affordable rates. Within each of these goals lie priorities that I have already provided answers to. As it relates to long-term water and energy needs, we must continue investment in affordable clean energy and look closely at providing local generation, such as community solar and battery storage. For water, California has mandated we need to use less every year. Infrastructure investment to reduce water loss, and customer programs/rebates to assist them in using less, will be our priorities.

# **Truckee Fire Protection District**

**Vote for Three**

## Joey McThorn



**What do you see as the most significant challenge facing the Truckee Fire Protection District over the next four years, and how would you address it?**

There are several, Staffing, under funding with Martis camp, measure T renewal. The most significant is staffing. The fire standard is 3 persons on an Engine and a Truck. Our neighboring agencies typically have 3 on apparatus and the majority of fire agencies have 3-4 persons per apparatus. It is unsafe to have levels of staffing this low for our community and our Firefighters. It makes it nearly impossible to facilitate a rescue on a structure fire. Reworking measure T can help this issue. And maintain a minimum daily staffing level of at least 11.

**Wildfire prevention has become an increasingly important part of the District's work. How should the District prioritize Measure T funding among defensible space, forest and fuels management, community grants, education, and other wildfire-prevention efforts?**

Measure T is already doing what it is supposed to do. It is working to clear the forrest to prevent fires and healthy growth. We need to continue in this pathway and re allocate some funds for staffing and appraise apparatus to respond. Fires are always going to happen and we need the prevention and staffing to fight the fires. We should always be looking at federal, state and local grants and funding to support our cause. Public education is a must. With our community being many part timers and short term rentals spreading the message is critical. Ads, signs and social media.

**As Truckee grows and new development is proposed, how should the District balance development needs with wildfire risk, evacuation capacity, emergency access, and the cost of providing fire and emergency services?**

In my 35 years of experience we have utilized the large developers for securing the safety needs that go with new development. Such as purchasing apparatus, building escape/ evacuation routes and fire stations. This is nothing new and most large developers can easily absorb the cost. For example in my prior Fire department we had large developers build a new fire station and purchase several new apparatus. This should be a negotiation as to not push away developers but a way to work together that suits our community.



# Joey McThorn

Truckee Fire estimates that it is currently underfunded by approximately \$4 million annually for services provided to portions of Martis Valley and is suing Placer County over the allocation of property tax revenue. Because property tax allocations are a limited pool, a successful reallocation could reduce revenues to other local agencies, including schools, healthcare, sanitation, and other special districts. As a Truckee Fire Board member, what solution would you advocate for, and should resolving the District's funding shortfall come at the expense of other local public agencies?

It should not come at a cost to other local public agencies. Unfortunately I do not have all the legal facts to provide a good answer at this time. I would need to get facts on the lawsuits current cost, odds of losing and what it truly looks like if won at the cost to other local agencies. I'm not for taking from other local public agencies.



## Laura Brown



**What do you see as the most significant challenge facing the Truckee Fire Protection District over the next four years, and how would you address it?**

I believe the most significant challenges over the next four years will be resolving the Placer County tax allocation lawsuit, securing plans & funding for a new fire station, and strengthening relationships with our labor partners. We would need to review and support a fiscally responsible plan to fund and build a new fire station that meets Truckee and Truckee Fire's employees' future needs. I would prioritize open, respectful communication with our labor Union and work collaboratively to build trust, accountability, and a strong working relationship.

**Wildfire prevention has become an increasingly important part of the District's work. How should the District prioritize Measure T funding among defensible space, forest and fuels management, community grants, education, and other wildfire-prevention efforts?**

Measure T funding should prioritize projects that provide the greatest measurable reduction in wildfire risk. We currently have a CWPP (Community Wildfire Protection Plan) in place that outlines local priorities for wildfire risk mitigation. I have the upmost confidence in the complete staff that manages Measure T. There is an Oversight Committee that ensures the funds are spent according to guidelines. Measure T will be sunset in approx. 3 1/2 years and as a Board member we must focus and prioritize a renewal initiative for a future local ballot for voter reassessment.

**As Truckee grows and new development is proposed, how should the District balance development needs with wildfire risk, evacuation capacity, emergency access, and the cost of providing fire and emergency services?**

The goal is simple, responsible growth without compromising public safety. Truckee's growth should strengthen our community, not put it at greater risk. New development must be carefully evaluated for wildfire risk, evacuation capacity, emergency access, and the ability of our First Responders to respond effectively. We must ensure new development pays its fair share of the additional services and infrastructure it requires, so existing residents aren't carrying the burden. The Fire District and local leaders should work together early in the planning process. We can welcome thoughtful growth while protecting the safety, character, and resilience of our Truckee community.



# Laura Brown

Truckee Fire estimates that it is currently underfunded by approximately \$4 million annually for services provided to portions of Martis Valley and is suing Placer County over the allocation of property tax revenue. Because property tax allocations are a limited pool, a successful reallocation could reduce revenues to other local agencies, including schools, healthcare, sanitation, and other special districts. As a Truckee Fire Board member, what solution would you advocate for, and should resolving the District's funding shortfall come at the expense of other local public agencies?

I believe this settlement should be guided by fairness, fiscal responsibility, and what is legitimately owed to our local fire district. Better communication between the agencies could have prevented this situation from becoming a lawsuit. While retroactive funding may not be recoverable, we should establish a fair path forward. Our emergency services benefit these communities, and local taxpayers should not unfairly bear those costs. I believe there are sufficient resources to reach an equitable solution without negatively impacting other agencies. As a Board member, I would support collaboration, transparency, and a fair outcome for all involved.



## Mike Witherspoon



**What do you see as the most significant challenge facing the Truckee Fire Protection District over the next four years, and how would you address it?**

The most significant challenge is reducing our growing wildfire risk while preserving the people, equipment, and facilities needed for excellent emergency response. I would make prevention as important as response by expanding forest-fuels reduction, biomass utilization, and coordination with neighboring agencies. At the same time, I would focus on recruiting and retaining strong personnel and maintaining essential equipment and facilities. Every major capital investment should face rigorous, public review, include practical alternatives, and fit sustainable revenues—so new commitments do not weaken reserves or service levels. Truckee deserves proactive fire protection backed by transparent governance and disciplined budgeting.

**Wildfire prevention has become an increasingly important part of the District's work. How should the District prioritize Measure T funding among defensible space, forest and fuels management, community grants, education, and other wildfire-prevention efforts?**

The Wildfire Prevention team at Truckee Fire has effectively prioritized Measure T funds, reducing risk to property and landscapes across the District. I would build on that success by continuing to allocate funds according to risk and measurable results. Priorities should include defensible-space assistance, fuels reduction, and biomass utilization where practical—especially projects that improve evacuation safety and protect critical infrastructure. Community grants should turn neighborhood initiative into completed projects, while education should reach residents who need assistance. The District should report selection criteria, geographic distribution, costs, and outcomes so taxpayers can see what each dollar accomplishes.

**As Truckee grows and new development is proposed, how should the District balance development needs with wildfire risk, evacuation capacity, emergency access, and the cost of providing fire and emergency services?**

Growth should never shift wildfire risk or the cost of new service onto existing residents. Truckee Fire should be involved at the earliest planning stage, and every project should demonstrate adequate evacuation capacity, dependable emergency access, sufficient water supply, defensible space, and ignition-resistant construction. Where development increases demand, developers should fund their fair share of the additional personnel, equipment, facilities, and infrastructure required. I support growth when the safety plan is credible, emergency access is workable, and long-term service costs are sustainably funded. If those standards cannot be met, the project should be redesigned, reduced, or not approved.



# Mike Witherspoon

**Truckee Fire estimates that it is currently underfunded by approximately \$4 million annually for services provided to portions of Martis Valley and is suing Placer County over the allocation of property tax revenue. Because property tax allocations are a limited pool, a successful reallocation could reduce revenues to other local agencies, including schools, healthcare, sanitation, and other special districts. As a Truckee Fire Board member, what solution would you advocate for, and should resolving the District's funding shortfall come at the expense of other local public agencies?**

Truckee Fire should not indefinitely subsidize service in Martis Valley, but correcting the imbalance should not destabilize schools, healthcare, sanitation, or neighboring districts. I would protect the District's legal position while pressing Placer County and all affected agencies to negotiate a regional solution. Options should include county participation, revised service arrangements, phased implementation, and an orderly revenue reallocation that protects essential services. Litigation should be leverage, not the destination; taxpayers need emergency services, not prolonged legal conflict. The goal is fair, durable funding for services Truckee Fire provides—not shifting the shortfall to other public agencies.



# Nathan Preston Golden



**What do you see as the most significant challenge facing the Truckee Fire Protection District over the next four years, and how would you address it?**

The most significant challenge is ensuring the District has the staffing, training, equipment, and funding needed to keep pace with our growing community. I would address this by taking an independent, data-driven look at staffing needs, firefighter retention, training, equipment, and long-term financial sustainability. The Board should set clear priorities, hold leadership accountable for measurable results, and ensure taxpayer resources are directed where they have the greatest impact on public safety. Most importantly, I would listen to our firefighters, understand their operational needs, and work collaboratively to build a stronger, more prepared Fire District.

**Wildfire prevention has become an increasingly important part of the District's work. How should the District prioritize Measure T funding among defensible space, forest and fuels management, community grants, education, and other wildfire-prevention efforts?**

Measure T funding should be prioritized based on measurable risk reduction. I would focus first on projects that directly reduce wildfire risk and improve community safety, including defensible space and forest and fuels management. I would also support community grants and education where they produce meaningful results. The District should establish clear priorities, measure outcomes, and regularly report to the community on how funds are being used. Prevention is essential, but funding should be directed toward the strategies that provide the greatest reduction in risk.

**As Truckee grows and new development is proposed, how should the District balance development needs with wildfire risk, evacuation capacity, emergency access, and the cost of providing fire and emergency services?**

Growth should not outpace our ability to protect the community. New development should be evaluated based on wildfire risk, evacuation capacity, emergency access, and the long-term cost of providing fire and emergency services. Developers should contribute appropriately to the infrastructure and resources their projects require. I would support responsible growth that meets strong safety standards while ensuring existing residents are not left carrying disproportionate costs. Public safety should be a requirement of development, not an afterthought.



# Nathan Preston Golden

Truckee Fire estimates that it is currently underfunded by approximately \$4 million annually for services provided to portions of Martis Valley and is suing Placer County over the allocation of property tax revenue. Because property tax allocations are a limited pool, a successful reallocation could reduce revenues to other local agencies, including schools, healthcare, sanitation, and other special districts. As a Truckee Fire Board member, what solution would you advocate for, and should resolving the District's funding shortfall come at the expense of other local public agencies?

I firmly oppose suing Placer County. Dragging schools, healthcare, and special districts into a zero-sum legal battle risks defunding essential services our community relies on; weakening one to strengthen another degrades overall community resilience. Truckee Fire's \$4 million Martis Valley shortfall is a real structural issue, but costly litigation is the wrong approach—we need collaborative leadership.

Instead of wasting taxpayer dollars in court, I advocate negotiating directly with Placer County for a fair revenue-sharing agreement funded through county general funds and local TOT generated in Martis Valley. We can secure reliable funding for firefighters without stripping a single dollar from local schools or healthcare.



## Roger Rintala



**What do you see as the most significant challenge facing the Truckee Fire Protection District over the next four years, and how would you address it?**

We must support our firefighters as we embrace the growth and evolution of our community while maintaining financial discipline. We operate at capacity and need more beds to increase staff. A new station with capabilities for basic and specialized operations will be a large capital project, alongside a long-sought training facility to serve our district and regional partners—I'd like to set this project on a path to realization. Our support for firefighters also means strengthening our internal processes and communication with our still-new union, a relationship that brings its own rules, structure, and capabilities to the team.

**Wildfire prevention has become an increasingly important part of the District's work. How should the District prioritize Measure T funding among defensible space, forest and fuels management, community grants, education, and other wildfire-prevention efforts?**

Measure T-funded programs have been very successful over the first several years with strong community engagement. Our team has done excellent work planning and executing both large-area forestry projects, often paired with matching grants, and individual property owner-driven projects on private land. This mix addresses the community wildfire prevention priorities voters committed to fund with Measure T in 2021. I'd like our new board to review this mix and invest for effectiveness, as we would with any other investment. If changes are warranted, we should implement them well ahead of our return to community voters for renewal.

**As Truckee grows and new development is proposed, how should the District balance development needs with wildfire risk, evacuation capacity, emergency access, and the cost of providing fire and emergency services?**

This is a shared responsibility. Our residents, businesses, and visitors deserve development that is safe and backed by essential services that are available and practical. Towns and counties should receive guidance from TFPD and other public safety agencies. The District should support future developments with high-quality impact and service-level assessments, going beyond code compliance reviews. Early input on risk, capacity, and access is essential, and development fees should cover the capability increases developments require. The board should work to deliver high-quality service to the community and ensure District budgets are protected from unfunded changes in scope.



# Roger Rintala

Truckee Fire estimates that it is currently underfunded by approximately \$4 million annually for services provided to portions of Martis Valley and is suing Placer County over the allocation of property tax revenue. Because property tax allocations are a limited pool, a successful reallocation could reduce revenues to other local agencies, including schools, healthcare, sanitation, and other special districts. As a Truckee Fire Board member, what solution would you advocate for, and should resolving the District's funding shortfall come at the expense of other local public agencies?

It isn't right that part of the district contributes a lower share of taxes to the operating budget when those taxes are already paid by property owners. TFPD should stay engaged with Placer County to pursue this missing funding. It's also important to engage other districts relying on similar allocations and TFPD services to understand potential impacts. As a community member with limited public information, I don't yet know whether local tax funds are provided to other agencies above their prescribed allocations. If elected, I will evaluate in detail with information from outreach, historical review and discovery before advocating for a specific resolution.



# **Sierra College Board of Trustees - Trustee Area 2**

**Vote for One**

# Judy Gilmore



**What do you see as the most significant challenge facing Sierra College over the next four years, and what would you prioritize as a Trustee?**

Recently, I had the pleasure of meeting with Sierra College Superintendent/President Willy Duncan. Our broad discussion provided enormous insight into both the current state of the college and its future.

It is clear that Sierra College's chief challenge over the next four years is managing rapid enrollment growth and technological disruptions, like AI, while state funding remains volatile.

As Trustee, I will focus on three key priorities to address this:

\*Workforce Alignment: Ensuring our modern Applied Technology Center directly feeds local industries with technically literate, career-ready graduates.

\*Fiscal Stewardship: Using my paralegal training and court system experience to provide rigorous oversight on budgets, policies, and major capital projects.

\*Student Equity: Expanding support services and dual-enrollment programs to eliminate barriers.

**The Truckee- Tahoe Campus serves a relatively small share of Sierra College's overall enrollment. What opportunities do you see to strengthen the campus and expand its value to students and the greater Truckee-Tahoe community?**

In my recent meeting with Superintendent/President Willy Duncan, we discussed the strategic importance of our satellite locations, reinforcing that every corner of our district matters. While the Tahoe-Truckee campus represents a smaller share of enrollment, its success should be measured by community impact, not just headcount. To expand its value, I see three critical opportunities:

## A PROVEN LOCAL BUSINESS OWNER & LEADER FOR SIERRA COLLEGE TRUSTEE

- ✓ 48-Year Truckee Business Owner & Multi-Decade Community Member
- ✓ Fiscal & Policy Stewardship: Paralegal background
- ✓ Dedicated to connecting workforce training with regional industries
- ✓ Strong Roots. Proven Leadership.

**BUILDING A STRONGER COMMUNITY FOR THE NEXT GENERATION.**

**JUDY GILMORE**  
**FOR SIERRA COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Paid for by Candidate



# Judy Gilmore

- **Tailored Workforce Development:** Expanding critical programs like Emergency Medical Services (EMT) and environmental sciences to directly support local fire districts and regional industries.
- **K-12 Dual-Enrollment:** Deepening partnerships with local high schools so mountain students can earn college credits close to home, bypassing transportation barriers.
- **Community Hubs:** Offering short-term professional development and AI literacy courses tailored for local small businesses.

**Our region has workforce needs and emerging career opportunities in healthcare, public safety, skilled trades, forestry and natural-resource management, technology, hospitality, and other sectors. How should Sierra College determine which programs, credentials, and training opportunities to offer or expand locally?**

As a 48 - year Truckee business owner in the contracting trades, an employer, and a mother who raised six children here, this issue is exactly why I am running for Trustee. I see the overwhelming demand for skilled careers every day, yet we face a critical gap in local training. We live in an incredible region, and our children often want to build their lives here. Let's not squander that potential.

To solve this, Sierra College must align its programs directly with our local business community. As I discussed with President Duncan, I have contacts and ideas to make that possible.

We must use localized data to identify shortages in critical sectors like healthcare, trades, and forestry.

We must establish active employer advisory boards so local businesses can directly shape the curriculum. We need to implement flexible, short-term credentialing. By treating local employers as key partners, Sierra College will act as a true economic engine, preparing our workforce and building a sustainable future for Truckee-Tahoe.

**How should Sierra College work with TTUSD, local employers, public agencies, and community organizations to create stronger pathways from high school to higher education, career training, and employment in the region?**

Building bridges between TTUSD, employers, and public agencies is the core of my platform. As an almost five-decade community member, business owner, and mother, I possess the deep local connections needed to forge these pathways. We must start early by expanding dual-enrollment at both local high schools, enabling a seamless transition to Sierra College.

From there, I will leverage my network of local contacts to establish direct pipelines into public agencies and private sector careers. Together, we will turn education into immediate local employment and keep our next generation thriving right here in our community.



# Laura Abbey Brown



**What do you see as the most significant challenge facing Sierra College over the next four years, and what would you prioritize as a Trustee?**

A significant challenge for Sierra College will be ensuring its offerings continue to evolve as the workforce changes. While AI is reshaping certain job sectors, it also creates opportunities for Sierra College to expand and promote programs in local high-demand fields such as public safety, healthcare, energy efficiency, and the skilled trades. As a Trustee, I would prioritize strengthening these programs and partnerships with TTUSD, local businesses, and agencies to help create clear educational pathways to employment. These efforts can help prepare students for in-demand careers while also increasing enrollment and engagement at our local campus.

**The Truckee- Tahoe Campus serves a relatively small share of Sierra College's overall enrollment. What opportunities do you see to strengthen the campus and expand its value to students and the greater Truckee-Tahoe community?**

An opportunity to increase Sierra College's enrollment is to explore affordable student housing,

with the potential to use those units and facilities during the summer for conferences, camps, and other programs for year-round use.

I also see opportunities to work more collaboratively with area businesses and agencies to address continuing education needs and workforce gaps. The campus also has facilities that could be used more broadly for community meetings and events. Bringing more people to campus would strengthen its connection to the community and expose more residents to its Community Education courses and academic offerings.

**Our region has workforce needs and emerging career opportunities in healthcare, public safety, skilled trades, forestry and natural-resource management, technology, hospitality, and other sectors. How should Sierra College determine which programs, credentials, and training opportunities to offer or expand locally?**

I believe Sierra College should work with local industries and business associations to identify where community needs, momentum, and opportunities to grow programming align. For example, partnering with local fire agencies on defensible space, fuel management, and wildfire mitigation training and education, using available campus acreage for hands-on education.

Sierra College could also strengthen partnerships with key employers, such as ski resorts and hotels, to expand training in EMT certification, hospitality, and electrical and mechanical systems. By partnering with employers to help shape training programs and drive participation, local employers can help create stronger educational pathways to employment.



# Laura Abbey Brown

**How should Sierra College work with TTUSD, local employers, public agencies, and community organizations to create stronger pathways from high school to higher education, career training, and employment in the region?**

Strengthen the alignment between TTUSD and Sierra College's Career Technical Education programs. Students could begin a CTE pathway in Public Safety, Engineering, or Business at the high school and continue with advanced courses at Sierra College.

Sierra College could connect with programs like Tech Teens that expose students to tech jobs in our region and introduce them to courses that deepen their skills and interests.

Collaborate to better educate students and families about earning high school and college credit concurrently and the option to attend Sierra College and then transfer, both of which can provide significant financial savings



# Measure P

## Truckee Chamber Position: Support

The Truckee Chamber of Commerce formally supports Measure P. Before adopting its position, the Chamber followed its advocacy policy and surveyed its membership. At least 20% of Chamber members were required to participate, and at least 70% of respondents had to vote in the same direction for the Chamber to take a position.

The survey met the participation requirement, with the following results:

Support: 84.1%

Oppose: 6.3%

Neutral: 7.1%

Abstain: 2.4%

Based on these results, the Chamber adopted a formal position supporting the renewal of Measure P.

The Chamber's position reflects its view that strong local schools contribute to workforce recruitment and retention, support working families and help maintain Truckee as a place to live, work and operate a business.





## Vote YES on P to protect quality education in Tahoe Truckee schools by renewing expiring local school funding.

Since 1989, our community has supported local school parcel tax funding, that represents over 6% of the school district budget, and is now set to expire.

### Measure P is not a new tax. Voting YES on P renews expiring school funding, last approved by local voters as Measure AA in 2018, to continue:



Supporting programs in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), including honors and advanced placement courses



Maintaining career training programs for in-demand fields like health sciences and skilled trades



Attracting and retaining highly qualified teachers while maintaining manageable class sizes



Supporting programs in music, art, and physical education for a well-rounded education

Without Measure P, over \$5,000,000 will need to be cut, forcing teacher layoffs, academic program reductions, and increased class sizes.

### Measure P also continues strict fiscal accountability, oversight, and transparency protections, including:

- All money raised would stay local and could not be taken by the county, state, or federal governments
- An independent oversight committee, annual audits, and public spending disclosure would continue to ensure funds are spent as promised
- All funds go straight to teaching and classroom instruction, and no funds can be used for administrator salaries
- Homeowners age 65 and older would continue to be eligible for an exemption and do not need to reapply



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**TahoeTruckeeSchools.com**

# The Truckee Chamber of Commerce

Photo by Scott Thompson



## Advocate for Business



## Bolster Economic Prosperity



## Cultivate Community Connection

## We Are the Voice of Business

The Truckee Chamber of Commerce provides a host of benefits and programs designed to assist and promote members. It's the hub of the business community, keeping members informed, educated, and connected. Businesses that join are supporting a vital organization and professional staff that is actively involved in the community, who work on behalf of our members to enhance and improve the community and business climate.

- We are the go-to source for data and information and advocate for our members' needs
- We work to ensure a strong, vibrant economy by cultivating and promoting healthy business and workforce growth.
- We continuously engage, connect, and promote the Truckee community to both residents & visitors

## Contact



530-587-8808



info@truckee.com



10065 Donner Pass Road, Truckee, CA 96161