



# Kings Beach State Recreation Area



August 2016



## Planning for the Future is Underway!

California State Parks and the California Tahoe Conservancy are collaborating to plan for the future of the Kings Beach State Recreation Area (SRA). They are preparing a General Plan (GP) revision and proposing to rebuild the existing pier. The GP revision will define the long-term purpose and vision for Kings Beach SRA also outline broad goals and guidelines for its use, facility development, and operation. As a blueprint for the park, it will guide future specific project proposals and other initiatives that implement the revised GP.

A joint Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be prepared in tandem with the planning document to evaluate, and recommend measures to minimize the environmental effects of the revised GP and pier project.

## What is a General Plan?

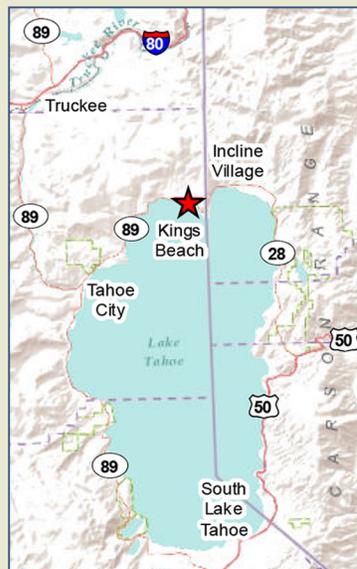
A General Plan (GP) is State Parks' primary management document for a park unit. It provides programmatic, long-term direction through a framework of broad goals and guidelines for natural and cultural resource stewardship, recreation use and management, interpretation, public safety, and other program areas. In the case of Kings Beach SRA, the GP will also include a conceptual site design plan that will illustrate future changes to the design and layout of the SRA to achieve its purpose and vision.

*California State Parks' mission is to provide for the health, inspiration and education of the people of California by helping to preserve the state's extraordinary biological diversity, protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources, and creating opportunities for high-quality outdoor recreation.*

*The mission of the California Tahoe Conservancy is to lead California's efforts to restore and enhance the extraordinary natural and recreational resources of the Lake Tahoe Basin.*

## Where is Kings Beach SRA?

The Kings Beach SRA is located along the north shore of Lake Tahoe within the community of Kings Beach, between Deer Street and Coon Street. The GP boundary encompasses 13.91 acres and over 1,000 feet of the Lake Tahoe shoreline.



# History of Kings Beach SRA

**1974** – State Parks acquired 6.8 acres of park and beach lands; day to day management was turned over to the North Tahoe Public Utility District.

**1977** – Area designated as Kings Beach SRA.

**1980** – Kings Beach SRA General Development Plan for the original 6.8 acres was approved.

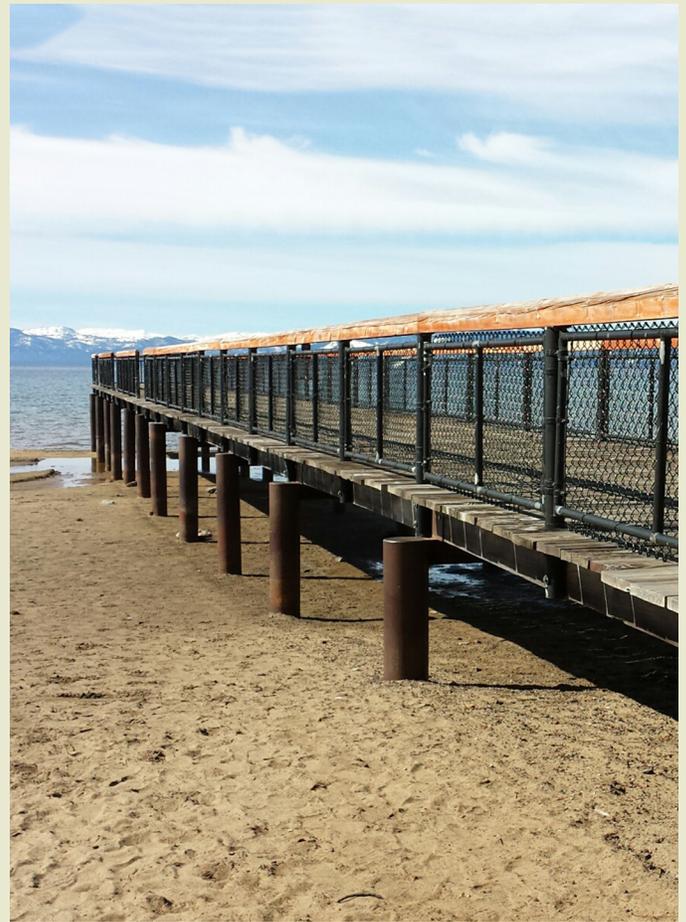
**1990s** – The Conservancy acquired dilapidated private properties that were later redeveloped into the existing plaza area and drainage features.

**2012** – The California Department of Boating and Waterways became a division of State Parks. The adjacent boat ramp and parking began being operated as part of Kings Beach SRA.

**2014** – Operation and maintenance of Kings Beach SRA was returned to State Parks. State Parks and the Conservancy entered into an agreement allowing State Parks to manage the Conservancy’s plaza area as part of the SRA.

## Boat Ramp Options

The boat ramp at the end of Coon Street is one of three public boat launches on the north shore. The next closest boat ramp is located approximately 1.25 miles to the west at the end of National Avenue. During periods of low water levels, the boat ramp is not useable. The last time the boat ramp was open was in 2012, and since 2008 the ramp has been closed for 75 percent of the boating seasons. When the boat ramp is useable, the 22 trailer parking spaces are typically filled during summer weekends. Trailers previously parked along State Route (SR) 28, but much of the roadside parking along SR 28 has been eliminated since the boat ramp was last open. The three alternatives under consideration include options to retain and extend the motorized boat ramp, convert the boat ramp to a non-motorized launch facility, and remove the boat ramp.



## The Pier Rebuild Project

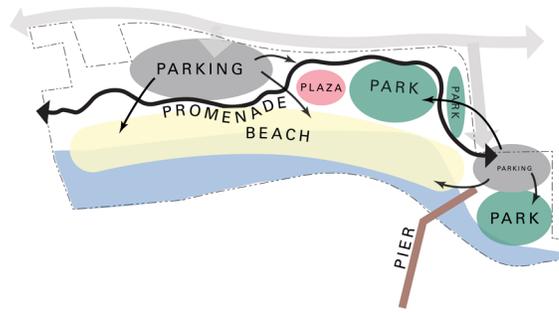
The pier at Kings Beach SRA is a public facility that serves as a recreation amenity for beach users and as an access point to Kings Beach SRA for boaters from elsewhere around Lake Tahoe. The current pier was in place in 1974 when State Parks acquired the property and has had minor repairs and modifications since that time. The pier provides boat access to Kings Beach SRA only when the lake’s surface elevation is above 6,227 feet. At lake levels of 6,223 feet and lower, the pier is completely out of the water. A rebuild or relocation of the pier to provide access to deeper water is being considered.

Three alternative locations are under consideration: one on the east side of the SRA, adjacent to the existing boat ramp; one centrally located in the same alignment as the existing pier; and one on the west side of the SRA, near the North Tahoe Event Center. All three pier alternatives would extend the pier length to a navigational target of 6,217 feet, and would include floating and fixed pier sections.

# Your Input on the Alternatives

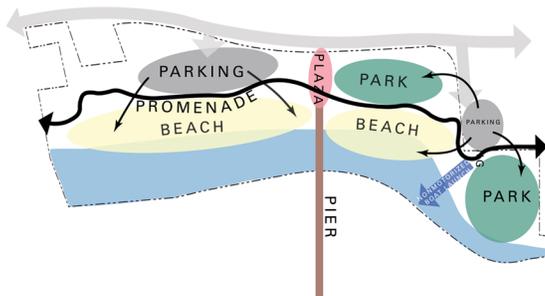
State Parks and the Conservancy are seeking your thoughts on the three GP alternatives. A public workshop to receive input on the alternatives is being held on September 1, 2016 at the North Tahoe Event Center at 8318 North Lake Boulevard in Kings Beach, from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. Materials will be available in English and Spanish. At the workshop, you will have the opportunity to review and comment on the three action alternatives being considered.

The Latino Leadership Committee will also be hosting a public meeting to discuss the project on Wednesday, September 7, 2016 at the Community House in Kings Beach, beginning at 5:30 p.m. Representatives from California State Parks and the California Tahoe Conservancy will be in attendance.



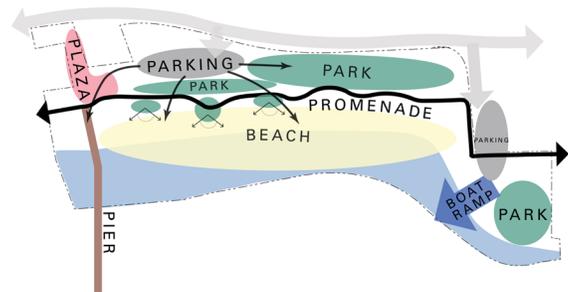
The **Eastern Pier Alternative** minimizes conflicts between different activities by aligning the promenade along SR 28 around picnic areas and creating a single boat access location. This alternative would:

- Maximize beach and swim areas by locating pier at the edge of the park
- Separate through bicycle traffic from beach use by providing a promenade closer to the road
- Provide a large central playground, event space, and lawn with easy beach access
- Remove the motorized boat ramp
- Increase the number of parking spaces and focus more parking on the eastern side of the park



The **Central Pier Alternative** emphasizes the central location of the pier and includes an entry plaza that connects the pier and beach to downtown Kings Beach. This alternative would:

- Focus visitor uses near the central pier and the eastern side of the park
- Provide an entry plaza that invites pedestrians to move between the beach, pier, and downtown
- Create a promenade near the edge of the beach that follows existing pathways
- Reconfigure the boat ramp to provide only non-motorized boat access
- Increase the number of parking spaces available in the park



The **Western Pier Alternative** spreads visitor use throughout the entire park by locating amenities in areas that receive less use. This alternative would:

- Create a more active area near the North Tahoe Event Center with a new pier and plaza
- Create a park like experience along a promenade at the edge of the beach
- Maximize beach and swim areas by locating the pier and boat ramp at the edges of the park
- Maintain motorized boat access and extend the boat ramp into deeper water
- Reduce the number of parking spaces available in the park

# Ways to Get Involved

There are several easy ways for you to participate:

**Get on the mailing list:** Throughout the planning and environmental review process, we will email updates and newsletters. If you did not receive this newsletter by email, please email a note to [plan.general@parks.ca.gov](mailto:plan.general@parks.ca.gov) and ask to be added to the mailing list.

**Visit our website:** Information about the planning process is available online at: [www.parks.ca.gov/PlanKBSRA](http://www.parks.ca.gov/PlanKBSRA). More detailed interactive maps of the alternatives are also available online. These present another opportunity to provide input on the alternatives by September 12, 2016.

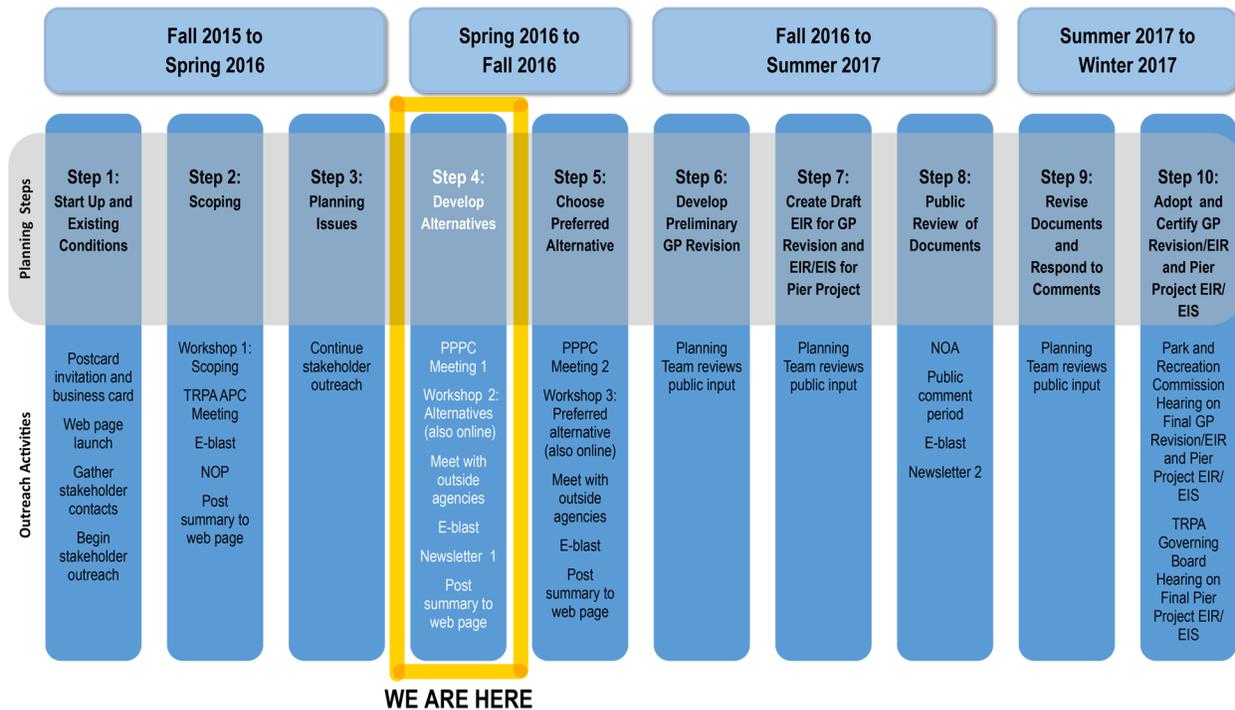
**Attend the public workshops:** The purpose of the upcoming workshop is to seek input on three action alternatives under consideration and the visitor uses and facilities that could be included in the park.

Thursday, September 1, 2016  
6:00 to 8:30 p.m.  
North Tahoe Event Center  
8318 North Lake Boulevard  
Kings Beach, CA 96143

The workshop will be an open house with information stations. A brief introductory presentation will commence at 6:15 p.m. Your comments, suggestions, and additional ideas related to features of the alternatives will help the planning team craft the preferred alternative, which will be presented at a third public workshop this fall.

Our schedule shows approximate dates of future input opportunities.

## Project Timeline



# Kings Beach State Recreation Area

**For More Information Contact:**  
Kings Beach SRA General Plan/  
Kings Beach Pier Rebuild  
c/o Marilyn Linkem, California State Parks  
PO Box 266  
Tahoma, CA 96142  
Or call 530.525.9523

