



CHAPTER 6

Public Services Element

The Public Services Element is a supplement to the Public Service Element of the TRPA Goals and Policies Plan (Ch. 32, Basic Services) and the Public Services and Utilities Element of the El Dorado County General Plan. It contains an inventory of the existing public services within the Plan Area. It also establishes policies addressing public services and identifies anticipated public service improvements within the Area Plan.

A. EXISTING PUBLIC SERVICE FACILITIES

As the primary commercial and light industrial area in the El Dorado County portion of the Tahoe Basin, Meyers contains the offices, facilities and maintenance yards of local and sub-regional public service providers. It includes the Meyers post office, state and local government services as well as regulated utilities. The plan envisions Meyers to continue to be the primary location for public services in El Dorado County. Public service improvements do not require an allocation of Commercial Floor Area, but they must be consistent with a set of TRPA findings located in Code Subsection 50.8.1. The following inventory identifies public service providers presently located in the Area Plan. See Figure 6-1 for the location of most of these facilities.

U.S. Postal Service. The Postal Service operates the Meyers Post Office located at 1285 Apache Avenue at US 50 in the Meyers Community Center District. It contains a full service counter, general delivery service and approximately 800 individual post boxes.

California Highway Patrol (CHP). The CHP's Area Office is located at 2063 Hopi Avenue at US 50 near the agricultural inspection station in the Meyers Community Center District. The facility houses approximately twenty-five officers and staff. It is responsible for patrols in the southern end of the Tahoe Basin from Tahoma to the South Lake Tahoe City limits and from Twin Bridges on US 50 to the Amador-Alpine County line on California State Route 88, including Alpine County and portions of the Kirkwood Ski Resort. Patrols also include SR 89 over Monitor Pass to Mono County and Highway 4 from its junction at SR 89 to Amador County. The CHP is responsible for all traffic related incidents and assists the El Dorado County Sheriff's Department when necessary. The facility, which is owned by the State of California, has been in operation since June 2005.

California Department of Transportation. The Caltrans Meyers Maintenance Station is located along SR 89 near the Cornelian Drive intersection (2243 Cornelian Drive) in the Meyers Industrial District. The station is approximately ten acres in size and contains vehicle storage, maintenance and repair garages, and dormitory and cafeteria facilities for winter snow removal crews. It provides road maintenance and construction, snow removal and communications services to

nearby areas within and outside the basin, particularly along US 50 between Twin Bridges and Stateline, NV.

California Department of Food and Agriculture, Division of Pest Exclusion. The Department of Food and Agriculture maintains the Meyers Inspection Station along US 50 near the center of the Plan Area. The inspection station's role is to prevent unwanted agricultural pests, hosts or other organisms from entering the state.

California Conservation Corps (CCC). The CCC is located in a new facility at 1949 Apache Avenue, next to the Tahoe Paradise Golf Course in the Meyers Community Center District. The site is used as a residential dormitory for up to 84 corps members and is currently expanding the facility to include a new kitchen and administrative wing with offices, computer lab, classrooms, and a conference room. The Corps' mission is to develop California's youth between the ages of 18 and 25 and enhance the state's natural resources and emergency response services. It engages in erosion control and forestry projects on a year round basis.

Lake Valley Fire Protection District. The district maintains the Lake Valley fire station and training center (Station 7) on a one and one-half acre site located at 2211 Keetak Street in the Meyers Industrial District. The site houses a three bay fire station, living quarters, modular classrooms, a practice burn tower and district administrative headquarters.

El Dorado County Community Development Agency, Transportation Division (ED CDA-TD). El Dorado County's road maintenance and snow removal facility is located on a two-acre site at 1121 Shakori Drive in the Meyers Industrial District. The facility also houses vehicle storage and repair and construction material storage.

El Dorado County Animal Services. El Dorado County's animal control facility and shelter is located at 1120 Shakori Street in the Meyers Industrial District. The facility provides animal control, pet adoption and shelter services.

El Dorado County Search and Rescue – Lake Tahoe Unit. El Dorado County Search and Rescue-Lake Tahoe Unit is located at 1834 Santa Fe Road in the Meyers Community Center District. The all-volunteer organization provides search and rescue missions in South Lake Tahoe and the surrounding wilderness area. Sworn Sheriff's deputies lead 30 to 40 member teams on approximately 50 missions annually.

South Tahoe Public Utility District (STPUD). STPUD's main treated effluent export transmission pipeline serving the south shore runs along US 50 and SR 89 through the Plan Area. STPUD provides water and sewer service to developed uses throughout the Plan Area. In 1989, STPUD purchased the Tahoe Paradise Water Company including two parcels of land and two older buildings at 1834 Santa Fe Street in the Meyers Community Center District. One parcel contains two existing structures - one of which is leased to El Dorado County Search and Rescue – Lake Tahoe Unit, while the second serves as additional District office and meeting space. The second parcel is vacant.

AT&T Inc. AT&T operates the Meyers Central Office, an unmanned switching station at 3107 US 50, near the intersection of US 50 and Apache Avenue in the Meyers Community Center District.

USDA Forest Service Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit (LTBMU). The LTBMU operates the existing Meyers Work Center located at 3030 US 50 in the Meyers Community Center District. It provides several services and facilities to the LTBMU throughout the Region. It contains three offices, dormitory space to house temporary or detail staff, a fleet garage and laboratory, and a fire station for the Tallac Hand Crew. The Tallac Hand Crew provides land management agencies with wildland fire suppression and fuel management resources. In the summer, as many as 130 to 150

staff members are based out of the Meyers Work Center. The LTBMU also operates a fire station (formerly the LVFD station) next to the new LVFD fire station on Keetak Street in the Meyers Industrial District.

The LTBMU also operates the Meyers Inter-Agency Visitors Center, located at 3180 US 50 near Navahoe Drive in the Meyers Community Center District. The facility is operated under a partnership agreement with the Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority and the CTC. The center is generally seasonally staffed by the Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority and provides visitor information services as well as picnic areas.

Southwest Gas. Natural gas service is provided in the Plan Area by Southwest Gas.

Liberty Utilities. Electrical service is provided by Liberty Utilities (formerly Liberty Energy and Sierra Pacific Power Company). In 1986 and 1987, overhead electrical lines located along US 50 through portions of the Plan Area were converted to underground facilities. Telephone and cable television lines which were on overhead poles were also converted to underground service at the same time. Existing overhead utility lines run along US 50 west of the SR 89 intersection and along Keetak Street near the Industrial Tract.

Internet Service Providers. Charter Communications offers cable television, voice and internet services in the Plan Area. AT&T U-verse offers voice and internet services in the Plan Area. A fiber optic cable, owned and operated by AT&T, is located within the US 50 right of way. The fiber technology can carry more bandwidth than traditional copper cable, presenting an opportunity for future improvements to communication and data sharing in the Meyers Area Plan.

B. PUBLIC SERVICES GOALS & POLICIES

PUBLIC SERVICES VISION

Meyers will continue to serve as a hub for public services and utilities that support the local and regional community.

Goals and Policies:

1. Goal: Public service and utility projects will be consistent with the Meyers Design Standards and Guidelines.
Policy 1.1: Public services and utility projects shall be designed consistent with the Meyers Community Design Map and Meyers Design Standards and Guidelines.
Policy 1.2: Coordinate with the California Department of Transportation to consolidate highway directional signs within the Plan Area wherever feasible.
Policy 1.3: Coordinate with Liberty Utilities and other utility providers with overhead lines visible from designated scenic highway corridors to convert the lines to underground facilities within the Plan Area.
2. Goal: Provide communications and information infrastructure utilizing the best available technology.
Policy 2.1: Promote readily accessible distributed broadband internet service throughout the developed portions of the Plan Area.
3. Goal: Relocate the agricultural inspection station to a location outside the Plan Area.

Policy 3.1: Coordinate with the Department of Food and Agriculture to relocate the existing inspection station outside of the Meyers Area Plan boundary.

Policy 3.2: Coordinate with the Department of Food and Agriculture to implement aesthetic improvements consistent with the Meyers Design Standards and Guidelines at the existing inspection station until the station is relocated.

4. Goal: Maintain a building or site for a Meyers Town Hall for town meetings and other community functions.

Policy 4.1: Coordinate with the CCC to provide shared public meeting space at its existing Apache Avenue site.

5. Goal: Establish a preschool/day care facility in or adjacent to the Area Plan in a location which is safe and would not conflict with residential uses.
6. Goal: Encourage new and relocated public service corporation yards and storage facilities to locate in the Meyers Industrial District.

C. PUBLIC SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS

The following public service improvements are necessary to implement the Area Plan goals and policies and to maintain or improve service capacities. Public service improvements related to transportation, environmental improvement, and recreation are also addressed in Meyers Area Plan Chapters 3, 4, and 5, respectively. See Figure 6-1.

1. California Department of Food and Agriculture, Division of Pest Exclusion. The Department of Food and Agriculture has no immediate plans to change the existing Meyers Inspection Station. Its long range objectives include the possibility of relocating the inspection station to a point further west past the intersection of US 50 and SR 89.
2. California Department of Transportation. Caltrans constructed water quality improvements along US 50 between Johnson Pass Road (Meyers Grade) to Incline Road, a portion of which is located within the Plan Area, in 2014. The project collects and treats stormwater runoff as part of the Lake Tahoe Environmental Improvement Program (EIP). Class II bike lanes were also constructed between North Upper Truckee Road and Pioneer Trail and the Class I bike trail south of Santa Fe Road was restored.
3. El Dorado County Community Development Services, Department of Transportation (ED CDS-DOT). The SR 89 Class I Bike Trail is planned between Portal Road and the US 50/SR 89 intersection, which would connect to the Pat Lowe Memorial Bike Trail. ED CDS-DOT has performed an operational study and the intersection at Apache Avenue and US 50 was signalized for pedestrians. ED CDS-DOT also recently completed a Road Safety Audit in coordination with Caltrans and the Federal Highway Administration, which evaluated traffic flow and circulation, safety components and operations from North Upper Truckee Rd. to Pioneer Trail.
4. Replace Existing Overhead Underground Utility Lines. Liberty Utilities and other utility providers using overhead facilities which are located along US 50 (a state and regional designated scenic highway corridor) are requested to convert those systems to underground facilities within the Plan Area. Statewide undergrounding conversion funds are available to make the conversion.

FIGURE 6-1: PUBLIC SERVICE AND UTILITIES MAP

