



## MAMMOTH LAKES RECREATION

### Mammoth Lakes Recreation Board Agenda

Tuesday, September 24, 2024, 5:00 p.m.

437 Old Mammoth Road, Suite Z, Mammoth Lakes

Members of the Board

President Craig Albright, Treasurer Heather Schaubmayer, Secretary Tamara Bankson,  
Board Member Sarah Rea, Board Member Danielle Torrance, Board Member Eric Wasserman

NOTE: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Town of Mammoth Lakes at (760) 965-3600. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the Town to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. (28 CFR 13.102-35.104 ADA Title II)

NOTE: Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection in the Town Offices located at 437 Old Mammoth Road, Suite 230 during normal business hours. Such documents are also available on the Town of Mammoth Lakes website at [www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov](http://www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov) subject to staff's ability to post the documents before the meeting.

You may attend this meeting in person, or watch it live through the online eSCRIBE system here: <https://pub-townofmammothlakes.escribemeetings.com>, on the local government cable channel 18, or by utilizing the Zoom link below.

#### ZOOM INFORMATION

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Please click this URL to join. <https://monocounty.zoom.us/j/95249139779>

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US: +1 669 900 6833 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 646 876 9923 or +1 301 715 8592 - **Callers: To Raise your hand Press \*9, to Unmute/Mute Press \*6**

Webinar ID: 952 4913 9779 International numbers available:

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1. **CALL TO ORDER**  
Board Member Tamara Bankson will be participating remotely from the following location:  
1722 Tierra Libertia, Escondido, CA 92026.
2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**  
Public comments may be submitted before or during the meeting via email to the Town's Assistant Clerk, Angela Plaisted at [clerk@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov](mailto:clerk@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov), or they may be made in person in Suite Z or by "Raising" your hand if logged into the meeting via Zoom. All comments will be limited by the Chair to a speaking time of five minutes.
3. **CONSENT AGENDA**
  - 3.1 **Approve the minutes of the May 14, 2024 Regular Board Meeting**
  - 3.2 **Approve updated Mammoth Lakes Recreation Position Descriptions: Executive Director, Program Administrator**
4. **REPORTS**
  - 4.1 **Update on the Dave and Roma McCoy Arts and Cultural Center and Edison Theater Construction (Town Manager)**
  - 4.2 **Office of Outdoor Recreation Department Update (Trails Program Manager)**
  - 4.3 **Financial Report – Fiscal Year End June 30, 2024**
  - 4.4 **Program Director Update**
5. **POLICY MATTERS**
  - 5.1 **Review and consider approval of Fiscal Year 2024/25 Budget**
  - 5.2 **Yosemite National Park Visitor Access Management Draft Plan and Environmental Assessment Public Comment**
  - 5.3 **Review and consider approval of employment agreement with Kim Anaclerio, Executive Director**
6. **BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**
7. **REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**
8. **CLOSED SESSION**
  - 8.1 **Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957, the Board will consider the evaluation of the performance of a public employee: Program Director**
9. **ADJOURNMENT**  
The Board will adjourn to the next regular meeting scheduled to be held on November 12, 2024.



## MAMMOTH LAKES RECREATION

### Mammoth Lakes Recreation Board

### Minutes of Regular Meeting

May 14, 2024, 5:00 p.m.

437 Old Mammoth Road, Suite Z, Mammoth Lakes

Members Present: President Craig Albright, Treasurer Heather Schaubmayer, Secretary Tamara Bankson, Board Member Sarah Rea, Board Member Danielle Torrance

Members Absent: Board Member Eric Wasserman

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#### 1. **CALL TO ORDER**

President Craig Albright called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. in the Council Chamber, 437 Old Mammoth Road, Mammoth Lakes.

#### 2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Town of Mammoth Lakes (TOML) Parks and Recreation Director Stu Brown provided an update on Community Recreation Center (CRC) visitation, the hockey and curling leagues and clinics, the California Curling Championship, and summer programming and memberships. Mr. Brown announced that the RecZone at the CRC would open Saturday, as would the Mammoth Creek Park Playground. He also provided an update on upcoming interior construction at the facility.

There was discussion between Mr. Brown, TOML Town Manager Rob Patterson, and members of the Board.

### 3. **PUBLIC HEARING**

#### 3.1 **The public hearing provides the public opportunity to comment on the proposed use of Measure U funds for Fiscal Year 2024/25 allocations of \$1,519,500 for annual expenses and capital projects.**

President Craig Albright opened the public hearing at 5:14 p.m.

Program Director Kim Anaclerio and TOML Town Manager Rob Patterson outlined the information in the staff report.

TOML Parks and Recreation Director Stu Brown provided additional information about the transit piece of the budget.

Mammoth Lakes Foundation Executive Director Betsy Truax provided an update about the construction process and funding for the Mammoth Arts and Cultural Center (MACC).

President Albright closed the public hearing at 5:41 p.m.

There was discussion between Ms. Anaclerio, Ms. Truax, TOML staff, and members of the Board.

Moved by Treasurer Heather Schaubmayer  
Seconded by Secretary Tamara Bankson

Approve Measure U Funds for Fiscal Year 2024-25 allocations of \$1,519,500 for annual expenses and capital projects.

For (5): President Craig Albright, Treasurer Heather Schaubmayer, Secretary Tamara Bankson, Board Member Sarah Rea, and Board Member Danielle Torrance

Absent (1): Board Member Eric Wasserman

Carried (5 to 0)

### 4. **POLICY MATTERS**

#### 4.1 **Fiscal Year 2024/25 allocations of \$1,425,994 in Measure R Funds for annual expenses and capital projects.**

Program Director Kim Anaclerio and TOML Town Manager Rob Patterson outlined the information in the staff report.

Board Member Sarah Rea left the meeting at 5:55 p.m.

There was discussion between Ms. Anaclerio, Mr. Patterson, and members of the Board.

Moved by Secretary Tamara Bankson  
Seconded by Treasurer Heather Schaubmayer

Approve Measure R Fiscal Year 2024-25 budget as presented.

For (4): President Craig Albright, Treasurer Heather Schaubmayer, Secretary Tamara Bankson, and Board Member Danielle Torrance

Absent (2): Board Member Sarah Rea, and Board Member Eric Wasserman

Carried (4 to 0)

#### **4.2 Re-appoint Board Members with expired terms or elect new officers.**

Program Director Kim Anaclerio outlined the information in the staff report.

Board Member Sarah Rea returned to the meeting at 6:11 p.m.

There was discussion between Ms. Anaclerio and members of the Board.

Moved by Board Member Danielle Torrance  
Seconded by Treasurer Heather Schaubmayer

Reappoint Craig Albright as President and Tamara Bankson as Secretary of the Mammoth Lakes Recreation Board.

For (5): President Craig Albright, Treasurer Heather Schaubmayer, Secretary Tamara Bankson, Board Member Sarah Rea, and Board Member Danielle Torrance

Absent (1): Board Member Eric Wasserman

Carried (5 to 0)

#### **5. CONSENT AGENDA**

Moved by Secretary Tamara Bankson  
Seconded by Board Member Danielle Torrance

Approve the Consent Agenda.

For (5): President Craig Albright, Treasurer Heather Schaubmayer, Secretary Tamara Bankson, Board Member Sarah Rea, and Board Member Danielle Torrance

Absent (1): Board Member Eric Wasserman

Carried (5 to 0)

### **5.1 Approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 12, 2024**

## **6. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

Secretary Tamara Bankson said that she was enjoying snow melt and that she got to see the Aurora Borealis.

Treasurer Heather Schaubmayer said that the memorial for her father-in-law was beautiful and had a large turnout and said that she was thankful for all the support from the community. Ms. Schaubmayer said that there was a lot of construction taking place in Town and that it was exciting to see long-term projections come to fruition.

Board Member Danielle Torrance reported that she had attended her son's college graduation in Oklahoma. Ms. Torrance said that she had hiked between Paradise and Swall Meadows recently and was able to find the historic wagon wheel ruts and recommended that hike.

Board Member Sarah Rea reported that she had attended the Meet a Truck event last week with her son and said that she was excited about the playground opening.

President Craig Albright reported that they were finishing up the winter season on the Mountain and had received a lot of grief about closing on Memorial Weekend to get capital projects done over the summer. President Albright spoke about upcoming activities on the Mountain.

There was discussion among members of the Board.

## **7. REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no future agenda items requested.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:18 p.m.

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Angela Plaisted, Assistant Clerk



Subject: Approve updated Mammoth Lakes Recreation Position Descriptions: Executive Director, Program Administrator

Meeting Date: September 24, 2024

Written by: Kim Anaclerio, Program Director

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**BACKGROUND:**

In September 2020, Mammoth Lakes Recreation (MLR) separated from their Executive Director and underwent a staffing reorganization. The decision was made to leave the Executive Director (ED) position vacant. The only other MLR staff position filled was that of Program Administrator (PA).

The PA worked with the Board through the reorganization, structure and new direction of MLR. In October 2020, a hybrid position, Program Director, was created to combine the duties of both the PA and ED. This position has been in place since, and filled in its entirety, by current staff, Kim Anaclerio.

Over the last four years MLR has been successful in community engagement, programmatic benefits and become financially stable. Staff believes it is time the two positions be separated, and once again stand alone. By approving the two unique positions, the possibility for MLR to increase staff capacity is left open.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff is recommending the Board approve and accept the presented position descriptions for that of Executive Director and Program Administrator.





*Mammoth Lakes Recreation (MLR) is a 501 (c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to enhancing arts, culture, recreation and mobility in the Eastern Sierra.*

**POSITION:** Executive Director

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**POSITION SUMMARY:**

The Executive Director carries out essential duties of the organization. The position plans, prioritizes and implements administrative, programmatic and funding elements for Mammoth Lakes Recreation. This entails working with the organization's funding partners and grant recipients, program partners, local not-for-profit organizations and working closely with Town of Mammoth Lakes staff. This is a full-time, year-round, salaried position.

**ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Oversee day-to-day operations of the organization, including donor management, budgeting, and database management.
- Provide leadership and advocacy for recreation programs, new product development and experience enhancement in the Eastern Sierra.
- Oversee organizational communications, including website, social media, digital, email and print advertising.
- Manage the distribution of information on recreation opportunities to the community and stakeholders.
- Identify business development opportunities to provide financial support through private, corporate and philanthropic channels.
- Engage in grassroots outreach and advocacy in support of sustainable recreation.
- Work with the Board of Directors (BOD) to establish annual goals and objectives and implement those goals and objectives.
- Participate in strategic planning to set overall vision and annual program/project goals for the organization.
- Provide staff update at each regularly scheduled BOD meeting.
- Manage budget, contributions, sponsorships, contracts, grants, in-kind donations.
- Implements creative strategies to increase participation and expand public awareness of the MLR work and program value.
- Represent MLR at appropriate public functions and ensure strong communication with community partners.

**DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS**

- A minimum of 5 years of progressively responsible experience in management, administration and leadership in the recreation, hospitality or philanthropic industries.
- Education equivalent to a Bachelor's degree with major course work in sports, recreation, resort management, public administration, non-profit management or related fields is desirable.

**ABILITIES**

- Proven leadership skills, working with Boards, governmental entities and agencies in a non-profit environment.
- Demonstrable fundraising skills.
- High level organizational development, interpersonal, marketing, communication, administration, planning and management skills.
- Affinity for working with residents, guests, individuals, clubs, foundations and governmental groups.
- Successful financial tracking, accounting, reporting, budgeting and analysis abilities.
- Public meeting organization, facilitation and agenda management capabilities.

**WORKING HOURS**

- Exempt position. Work schedules will be determined by work requirements and the MLR Board.

**SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITY**

- Will have supervisory responsibility over employees, service providers, contractors, and volunteers.

**COMPENSATION:**

- Salary range: \$80,000 - \$130,000 - commensurate with experience
- PTO and Sick Leave as stated in current MLR Employee Handbook
- Employee healthcare insurance stipend
- Participation in employee 401k program



*Mammoth Lakes Recreation (MLR) is a 501 (c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to creating the best alpine recreation community in the country.*

**POSITION:** Program Administrator

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**POSITION SUMMARY:**

The Program Administrator plans, prioritizes and implements programmatic elements for Mammoth Lakes Recreation. This entails working with the organization's funding partners and grant recipients, as well as program partners and other local not-for-profit organizations. The Program Administrator also works closely with Town of Mammoth Lakes staff.

**ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Manage the day-to-day programmatic responsibilities of the organization, including TOML Measure R & U allocations, Mammoth Lakes Trail System, education and outreach, Tangle Free Waters, Adopt A Trail and Clean Up Efforts.
- Assist with day-to-day operations of the organization, including donor management, budgeting, and database management.
- Manage organizational communications, including website, social media, digital, email and print advertising.
- Work with Mammoth Lakes Trail System and other funding partners to coordinate project management
- Assist with grassroots outreach and advocacy in support of sustainable recreation.
- Responsible for volunteer outreach, engagement and management.

**DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Solid knowledge of Mammoth Lakes and the Eastern Sierra, including geography and landscape, history, local government, and community
- A Bachelor's degree, or experience in one of the following: recreation administration, communications, environmental studies, or related field preferred
- Outstanding organizational skills and attention to detail
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills
- Ability to work independently in dynamic environment, managing multiple projects concurrently
- Previous experience in the outdoor recreation or forestry fields helpful, but not required.

**COMPENSATION:**

- Pay range: \$18.00 to \$28.00 per hour - commensurate with experience
- Employee healthcare insurance stipend



**MLR Year End Financial Statement FY23-24  
as of 6/30/24**

**INCOME**

**Pass Through** FY23-24

Sustainable Recreation	
Mammoth Lakes Trail System (MLTS)	\$ 2,000.00
Adopt A Trail - MLTS	\$ 33,800.00
Adopt A Trail - MoCo	\$ 9,600.00
Tangle Free Waters	\$ 7,800.00
Dispersed Camping	\$ 15,600.00
Sierra Trash Eliminators	\$ -
Winter Recreation	\$ -
Capital Projects	
LA Kings Ice at Mammoth lakes	\$ 75,000.00
Community Building	
Crowley Lake Trail Run	\$ 2,300.00
Education & Outreach	\$ 4,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 150,100.00</b>

**MLR**

Program Administration	\$ 9,800.00
Fundraising Income	\$ 9,200.00
Merchandise Income	\$ 1,000.00
Miscellaneous Income	\$ 200.00
Fundraising Events	
Winter Speaker Series	\$ 100.00
Arts on the 4th Festival	\$ 27,500.00
TOML Services Agreement	\$ 100,500.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 148,300.00</b>

**TOTAL INCOME \$ 298,400.00**

**EXPENSES**

**Pass Through**

Donations	\$ 77,000.00
Contract Labor	\$ 300.00
Facility Maintenance	\$ 10,800.00
Materials/Supplies	\$ 10,900.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 99,000.00</b>

**MLR**

Business Expenses	\$ 300.00
Contract Services	\$ 20,500.00
Office	\$ 9,100.00
Insurance	\$ 3,000.00
Payroll	\$ 111,600.00
Fundraising Expenses	\$ 5,100.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 149,600.00</b>

**TOTAL EXPENSES \$ 248,600.00**



Mammoth Lakes Recreation  
FY24-25 Proposed Budget

**INCOME**

**Pass Through** FY24-25

Sustainable Recreation	
Mammoth Lakes Trail System (MLTS)	\$ 1,500.00
Adopt A Trail - MLTS	\$ 22,500.00
Adopt A Trail - MoCo	\$ 7,500.00
Tangle Free Waters	\$ 5,250.00
Dispersed Camping	\$ 15,500.00
Sierra Trash Eliminators	\$ -
Winter Recreation	\$ -
Capital Projects	
LA Kings Ice at Mammoth lakes	\$ 75,000.00
Community Building	
Education & Outreach	\$ 2,000.00
Total	<b>\$ 129,250.00</b>

**MLR**

Progam Administration	\$ 5,400.00
Fundrasing Income	\$ 2,000.00
Merchandise Income	\$ 2,400.00
Miscellaneous Income	\$ 200.00
Fundraising Events	
Arts on the 4th Festival	\$ 30,000.00
TOML Services Agreement	\$ 104,500.00
Total	<b>\$ 144,500.00</b>

**TOTAL INCOME \$ 273,750.00**

**EXPENSES**

**Pass Through**

Donations	\$ 75,000.00
Contract Labor	\$ 12,000.00
Facility Maintenance	\$ 15,000.00
Equipment	\$ 40,000.00
Materials/Supplies	\$ 2,000.00
Total	<b>\$ 144,000.00</b>

**MLR**

Business Expenses	\$ 1,500.00
Contract Services	\$ 25,000.00
Office	\$ 10,000.00
Insurance	\$ 3,000.00
Payroll	\$ 111,000.00
Fundraising Expenses	\$ 6,000.00
Contingency	\$ 16,000.00
Total	<b>\$ 172,500.00</b>

**TOTAL EXPENSES \$ 316,500.00**

**NET INCOME - MLR \$ (28,000.00)**

# MAMMOTH LAKES RECREATION STAFF REPORT

Title: Yosemite National Park Visitor Access Management Draft Plan and Environmental Assessment Public Comment.

Meeting Date: September 24, 2024

Prepared by: Rob Patterson, Town Manager  
Lawson Reif, Outdoor Recreation Manager

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## **RECOMMENDATION:**

Request for Mammoth Lakes Recreation Board to provide direction on staff proposed comments related to the Visitor Access Management Plan Draft and authorize staff to provide a letter of public comment by the September 30, 2024, deadline.

## **BACKGROUND:**

Yosemite National Park has been working on plans to address impacts on the natural environment from visitation. The purpose of the visitor access management plan is to reduce overcrowding and traffic congestion, expand tools to better pace vehicle volume into the park, and provide equitable visitor access to inspirational experiences while ensuring operational sustainability and protection of Yosemite National Park's exemplary natural and cultural resources.

The visitor access management plan is needed to provide park managers with a comprehensive and long-term approach to manage day use visitor access to the park in a way that protects natural and cultural resources, maintains positive visitor experiences, promotes visitor and staff safety, and supports the ability of park staff to maintain facilities and perform daily operations. The plan is needed to allow park managers to maintain desired conditions throughout the park, including the 94% of the park area that is managed as wilderness, and manage day use visitation temporally and spatially.

This process has engaged the public and interested parties in a transparent civic and stakeholder engagement process to discuss issues and opportunities, and specific strategies and ideas. The park is also applying lessons learned during the reservation systems from 2020-2022, while considering a range of strategies to address crowding and congestion and improve the visitor experience and resource conditions within the park.

The planning team reviewed comments received during the civic engagement period (December 2022 to February 2023) to develop preliminary ideas to address key issues and opportunities. The planning team reviewed comments from the second round of public engagement (July 2023 to September 2023) to develop the preliminary management scenarios under review. The full plan document can be found using the following link: [Draft Plan and Environmental Assessment](#)

## **ANALYSIS:**

Staff has provided a brief synopsis of the alternatives proposed by the National Park Service (NPS) along with staff observations on each alternative.

### **Alternative A: No Action, Continue Current Management**

Alternative A represents no change to management practices that existed prior to the pilot reservation systems used in the summer 2020-2022 and 2024. The National Park Service (NPS) would close areas of the park when visitor demand for parking lots exceeds supply. Staff observations of this alternative:

- Maintains pre-COVID access to Yosemite National Park.
- Allows for the greatest amount of visitor flexibility.
- Still allows for park officials to temporarily close or limit access to certain areas of the park based on congestion or visitor use.
- Overall, park congestion is not addressed in this alternative.
- Visitors *could* experience long delays at entrance gates.

### **Alternative B: Parkwide Reservations: Peak Hours, Daily**

Under alternative B, visitors would need one parkwide reservation to enter all areas of Yosemite National Park at any time during peak hours. This reservation would be valid for a three-day period, allowing visitors to enter and leave the park at any time within their three-day reservation window. Staff observations of this alternative:

- Eliminates the ability for many to be spontaneous when it comes to enjoying or experiencing their public lands.
- Favors people with access to reliable internet.
- Favors people who are able to be at a computer or phone at the appropriate time to claim these popular reservations.
- Creates unintended consequences with ancillary program areas such as Wilderness. Many people will book wilderness permits and use them only to access the park, and not the wilderness as intended.
- Addresses congestion and visitor experience by limiting the number of people into the entirety of the park.
- Allows for freedom of movement throughout the park over a 3 day span.
- This is the park preferred option.
- Does not address negative effects on nearby communities or public lands and many people illegally camp in these areas so they can get up early and access the Park before 5 a.m.
- Too much of a one size fits all approach that does not address varying levels of visitation in different areas of the park. IE, all park areas are being treated like they face the overcrowding we are seeing in the Valley.

### **Alternative C: Parkwide Reservations: Timed Entry**

Under alternative C, one parkwide timed-entry reservation would be required to enter all areas of Yosemite National Park. Timed-entry reservations would be valid for one day, with visitors required to arrive at Yosemite National Park during their designated window of time. Staff observations of this alternative:

- Compared to Alternative B, further restricts park access and ability to be spontaneous by limiting reservation to 1 day.
- Traffic, accidents, or other events outside the visitor's control can occur and result in a visitor missing their *designated window of time*, thus being denied access to the park even if they possess a reservation.
- Favors people with access to reliable internet.
- Favors people who are able to be at a computer or phone at the appropriate time to claim these popular reservations.
- Creates unintended consequences with ancillary program areas such as Wilderness. Many people will book wilderness permits and use them only to access the park, and not the wilderness as intended.
- Addresses congestion and visitor experience by limiting the number of people into the entirety of the park.
- Does not address negative effects on nearby communities or public lands and many people illegally camp in these areas so they can get up early and access the Park before 5 a.m.
- Too much of a one size fits all approach that does not address varying levels of visitation in different areas of the park. IE, all park areas are being treated like they face the overcrowding we are seeing in the Valley.

### **Alternative D: Yosemite Valley Access Reservations: Timed Entry**

Under alternative D, a timed-entry reservation would be required for day users to enter Yosemite Valley in a private vehicle. Those with a Yosemite Valley access reservation would be able to access all areas of the park, including Yosemite Valley, for one day. Those without a Yosemite Valley access reservation would be able to access all areas of the park outside of Yosemite Valley in a personal vehicle but would not be able to enter Yosemite Valley with their personal vehicle during the reservation period. Access to Yosemite Valley would be open to these visitors after all reservation windows have closed. Staff observations of this alternative:

- Addresses issues related to access, congestion, and visitor experience in the area of the park that receives, by far, the most visitation.
- Takes an incremental approach to first address the untenable visitor demand in the area getting hit the hardest, the Valley, rather than a one-size-fits-all approach for the entirety of the park.



- Could regulation of the valley have unintended consequences and create congestion and lines in other areas of the park where this did not exist prior?
- Will allow for Valley wilderness permits to be reserved simply to access the Valley.
- Allows for spontaneity in the majority of the park, while allowing these visitors to access the Valley before 5 a.m. or after 6 p.m.
- Will result in a larger infrastructure burden on the NPS to build the structures needed to regulate Valley traffic in this manner.

In all of the management plans provided, local transportation through the park will be maintained (with an approved zip code shown on a valid CA driver license) and removal or changes to that policy are not being considered.

### **Proposed Comments**

Yosemite National Park is a treasured amenity for our local tourism-based economy. Not unlike challenges we see in the Town of Mammoth Lakes, we must take steps to preserve the natural resources, through mitigating efforts, while still providing public access to public lands. This balance is crucial for our success.

These overcrowding issues are not unique to Yosemite and throughout the National Park System, many solutions have been employed to address these concerns. Yosemite National Park is unique in the fact it provides transit through the Sierra Nevada mountain range that is critical to local access. It also contains high density, end point destinations that are not a part of this transit and can be more tightly managed. This need for management within specific elements of the park while providing appropriate public access, most closely aligns with alternative D.

Staff believe the following comments reflect concerns about alternative B and C and support for alternative D.

### **Public Access**

Highly impacted areas of the park do require some form of mitigation. However, visitor disbursement, into areas less congested and still providing the Yosemite experience, is critical. Many of our visitors and locals prefer the experience of back country excursions and choose to recreate in the Tuolumne Meadows area where many hiking trails exist. Access to these sections of the park should be maintained to provide access to locals for a quick day trip as well as exposure for visitors who were unable to gain access to the highly impacted areas. Providing limited access or shuttle requirements into the more impacted areas like the valley, could be achieved as they are end point destinations and not a part of the required transit route across the mountains. Many examples of this shuttle only access exist throughout the National Park system.

### **Wildlife Hazards**

One of the unintended consequences of the restricted access during peak times is the increased vehicle traffic into the park before 5:00 am. The NPS reported this activity has increased 10-fold during the pilot period. The study does address the concerns about

vehicle collisions with wildlife within the park. However, the same impacts can occur within Mono County as this increased traffic on our roadways has a negative impact on nocturnal animals like deer and bear. The potential for these collisions increases greatly as more vehicles are on the road during peak movement times, posing significant risk to wildlife.

### **Public Safety**

Similar to the concerns on vehicle and wildlife collisions, increased vehicle traffic during early morning hours poses increased risk to public safety. Hwy 120 West, accessing Yosemite National Park is a steep road with many hazards often difficult for some to navigate. There is a high degree of consequence for even small mistakes made by unfamiliar or inattentive drivers. In addition, emergency services for Mono County are at a significantly reduced capacity during these early morning hours. Since access through the park must be maintained, closing access before 5:00 am is not an option. However, removal of the entrance restrictions will reduce travel prior to 5:00 am.

There are also enhancements that should be considered regardless of the alternative management plan that is selected.

### **Increased use of Technology**

Streamlined Access - The process by which vehicles are checked into the park has not evolved with technology. The longest wait line notification for Tioga entrance is 90 minutes and vehicles often wait that long to access the park. There are still a large number of vehicles with internal combustion engines which remain idling in this line. Using technology to provide access to those vehicles with a pass could eliminate these long wait times and environmental impacts.

Realtime Monitoring – A system of real-time active monitoring of parking lots and trail access could serve to inform the rangers of visitation impacts before they reach critical mass. They could also serve to direct visitors to less crowded areas of the park, therefore achieving the disbursement desired. Effort in this space is a more costly but refined approach rather than complete restriction.

### **CONCLUSION:**

Staff is preparing a set of draft comments based on statements provided above. This comment letter is due by September 30, 2024. The intent of this presentation is to provide the Mammoth Lakes Recreation Board an opportunity to review these comments and make recommended adjustments prior to the final document. In general, the goal should be not to accomplish what is easiest or familiar, rather to provide the highest level of experience, equity, and access while protecting Yosemite's abundant natural and cultural resources.



## Purpose and Need for the Plan and Environmental Assessment

The purpose of the visitor access management plan is to reduce overcrowding and traffic congestion, expand tools to better pace vehicle volume into the park, and provide equitable visitor access to inspirational experiences while ensuring operational sustainability and protection of Yosemite National Park's exemplary natural and cultural resources.

The plan is needed to address a wide range of issues associated with persistently high visitation, including the following:

- crowding and congestion that detracts from equitable access and meaningful, enjoyable visitor experiences at parking lots, park entrances, and key destinations
- heavy strain on the park's services and facilities and staff's ability to access facilities and perform daily operations
- impacts of visitor use on natural and cultural resources
- visitor and staff safety concerns along roadways due to traffic congestion and heavy use of roadways by pedestrians

The plan and environmental assessment analyzes three action alternatives that would proactively manage visitor access to help meet long-term management goals. The analysis describes the current and expected future condition of affected resources and experiences. See chapter 3 for more details.

## We Want to Hear from You!

We've received thousands of letters from people all over the world who deeply care about Yosemite and are invested in this process. Working toward a long-term solution is a park priority, and your ideas helped shape the range of alternatives in the draft Visitor Access Management Plan / Environmental Assessment that is now available for public review.

Every idea and comment we receive in this review of the plan and environmental assessment will be read and considered. To be most helpful, your comments should address at least one of the following:

1. the purpose and need for action;
2. the environmental issues/impact topics analyzed;
3. your opinions on the alternatives, including mitigation measures that could reduce potentially harmful effects; and
4. the information used to describe the affected environment and environmental consequences.

From August 16 to September 30, 2024, you are invited to participate in the third and final comment period of this planning process. Please provide comments on the draft plan at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/yosemitevisitoraccess>, or scan the QR code with a smartphone.



## Yosemite National Park Needs YOUR Input!

The National Park Service (NPS) has developed a draft visitor access management plan and environmental assessment. This plan strives to provide equitable visitor access to inspirational experiences, ensure operational sustainability, and protect Yosemite National Park's exemplary natural and cultural resources. We value your perspective on how we can ensure quality visitor experiences in a way that preserves the natural, cultural, wilderness, and recreational resources of the park long term.



# Summary of Alternatives Included in the Draft Plan / Environmental Assessment

## ALTERNATIVE A: No Action, Continue Current Management

Visitors would access the park on a first-come, first-served basis 24 hours per day, primarily using private vehicles. The National Park Service would close areas of the park when visitor demand for parking lots exceeds supply and use traffic diversions or “shunting” as needed, a reactive practice of redirecting traffic from an area of the park when it is filled beyond capacity. Visitors would likely still experience long delays at entrance stations and heavy congestion in the park. This alternative does not meet the purpose and need for this plan nor does it meet the mission of Yosemite National Park.

## ALTERNATIVE B PARKWIDE RESERVATIONS: Peak Hours, Daily NPS Preferred Alternative

- Updated zoning and desired conditions
- Indicators, thresholds, and visitor capacity
- Responsive management based on seasonality, time of day, inventory, and distribution
- Visitor exemptions, bicycle use, and non-vehicular access
- Clear visitor communications and technology improvements
- Entrance station improvements at Arch Rock, Hetch Hetchy, and Big Oak Flat

### Common to All Action Alternatives

## ALTERNATIVE C PARKWIDE RESERVATIONS: Timed Entry

Visitors would need one parkwide reservation to enter all areas of Yosemite National Park during peak hours (between 5:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.). This reservation would be valid for a three-day period. This alternative would allow for holistic access to the park, granting visitors flexibility to come and go at any time within the three-day window and to move freely in the park to enjoy spontaneous exploration of Yosemite National Park’s resources and recreational opportunities.

## ALTERNATIVE D YOSEMITE VALLEY ACCESS RESERVATIONS: Timed Entry

Visitors would need one parkwide timed-entry reservation to enter all areas of Yosemite National Park during peak hours (between 5:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.). Timed-entry reservations would be valid for one day, with visitors required to arrive at Yosemite National Park during their designated window of time. This alternative would allow for holistic access to all of Yosemite National Park’s resources and recreational opportunities during the day of the reservation.

Visitors would need one timed-entry reservation to enter Yosemite Valley during peak hours (between 5:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.). Timed-entry reservations would be valid for one day. Those with a reservation would be able to access all areas of the park, including Yosemite Valley. Those without a reservation would be able to access all areas of the park outside of Yosemite Valley and would not have access to Yosemite Valley services. Roadway changes would be required, and three reservation checkpoint booths would be installed to support this alternative. This alternative would offer a way for some visitors to enjoy Yosemite Valley with reduced congestion, resource impacts, and crowding.



## **Mammoth Lakes Recreation Agenda Action Sheet**

**Title:** Review and consider approval of employment agreement with Kim Anaclerio, Executive Director

**Meeting Date:** 09/24/2024

**Prepared by:** Craig Albright, Board President

**Recommended Motion:** Approve Employment Agreement with Kim Anaclerio for the position of Executive Director effective July 1, 2024

**Summary:**

Kim Anaclerio started with Mammoth Lakes Recreation in January 2019. Kim has led the organization as the only employee since September 2020 through an intensive time of reorganization and restructuring. The proposed employment agreement will need to be discussed, and if approved the appointment will be effective July 1, 2024. A copy of the proposed employment agreement is attached.



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## Terms of Employment

### September 2024

Dear Ms. Anaclerio,

Per the MLR Board direction on September 24, 2024, this letter sets forth the basic terms and conditions of your employment with Mammoth Lakes Recreation (hereinafter referred to as the "Company"). Please review the terms set forth in this letter carefully, and do not hesitate to make inquiries where necessary. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. By signing the letter, you are agreeing to the following terms:

1. Your term of employment will be July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2026.
2. You will be paid an annual base salary of \$TBD, payable on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> of each month, which covers all hours worked. Your salary will be reviewed annually, however the Company reserves the right to change your compensation on reasonable notice.
3. The Company shall provide the Employee with a monthly reimbursement of \$1,000 to cover medical, dental, vision, and hospitalization insurance for Employee, Spouse and dependent.
4. The 401k account will be set up and the Employee will be eligible for the Employer match after the first six months of employment. Company will match Employee contributions in a simple 401K up to 6 percent (6%) of the Employee's annual salary per year.
5. Employee will be provided paid vacation days, sick days, and holidays as outlined in the current Employee Handbook.
6. Employee will be paid a \$75 monthly stipend for remote office and related expenses incurred.
7. Your job title will be Executive Director, and your duties will be those outlined in the current position description. You may be assigned other duties as needed and your duties may also change on reasonable notice, based on the needs of the Company and your skills, as determined by the Company.
8. By initialing this item, you agree to read and review the Company's employee handbook, which sets forth your employee benefits and Company policies and procedures. However, the Company reserves the right to change these policies and procedures.

**Initial:** \_\_\_\_\_



**MAMMOTH LAKES  
RECREATION**

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9. YOUR EMPLOYMENT WITH THE COMPANY IS AT-WILL. IN OTHER WORDS, EITHER YOU OR THE COMPANY CAN TERMINATE YOUR EMPLOYMENT AT ANY TIME FOR ANY REASON, WITH OR WITHOUT CAUSE AND WITH OR WITHOUT NOTICE.

10. This agreement represents the entire agreement between you and the Company. This agreement supersedes any prior arrangement, representations, or promises of any kind, whether oral, written, express, or implied between you and the Company. This agreement constitutes the full agreement between you and the Company and cannot be changed unless in writing by the Board President.

11. If you agree with the above outline, please sign below.

To confirm your agreement with and acceptance of these terms, please sign one copy of this letter and return it to Board President.

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Craig Albright, Mammoth Lakes Recreation  
Board President

Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tamara Bankson, Mammoth Lakes Recreation  
Board Secretary

Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kimberly Anaclerio

Date \_\_\_\_\_