

Mammoth Lakes Planning and Economic Development Commission Agenda Action Sheet

Title: Old Mammoth Rd Transit Presentation

PEDC Meeting Date: 7/14/2021

Prepared by: Haislip Hayes, PE, Public Works Director
Amy Callanan, PE, Associate Engineer

Recommended Motion: None

Summary: The Town and Eastern Sierra Transit (ESTA) have been working together for many years to provide free public transit service along Old Mammoth Rd and to the Old Mammoth neighborhood. Several changes are currently being proposed as a direct result of current development projects, including the Town's Community Recreation Center and Snowcreek Phase 7 ("The Lodges"). The Old Mammoth Rd area is currently served by the Red Line / Trolley and the Purple Line (winter), with service ending at Club Drive at the Snowcreek Athletic Club. At this existing turnaround location, drivers idle the buses to make up their "headway" (spacing or timing between buses) and take breaks before turning around resuming the routes. Following completion of the CRC, the routes are proposed to be altered slightly to allow idling for headway and driver breaks to occur at the CRC instead. Also, stopover of ESTA's regional buses would also be moved from the current Vons parking lot location to the CRC.

The existing turnaround at Club Dr will be removed in conjunction with the construction of Snowcreek 7. A new turnaround location must be identified in order to maintain transit service to the Old Mammoth neighborhood beyond Minaret Rd (where it would otherwise make a loop via Minaret and Chateau then back onto Old Mammoth). One option, staff is considering is a new turnaround location at the corner of Woodmen St and Old Mammoth Rd. The new turnaround is proposed to function as an extension of the Red Line/Trolley, allowing historical stops at Aspen Village/Waterford, Tamarack, and Woodmen to be reinstated. The Woodmen St turnaround is proposed to function as a brief bus stop only, and will not accommodate idling of buses to accommodate headway and driver breaks, which will instead take place at the CRC. The Woodmen stop could accommodate the following improvements and amenities:

- Asphalt-paved turnaround, including widening of Woodmen St at the bus stop to improve intersection safety and sight distance and to accommodate regular flow of traffic
- a small transit shelter (to match the shelter on Hillside Dr next to the Westin)
- a bike rack
- an ADA-accessible pedestrian ramp (additional pedestrian facilities along Old Mammoth Rd may be considered as part of a future project)
- bear-proof trash and recycling cans (these are regularly maintained by Town staff)
- 2 parking spaces (intended to accommodate pick-ups/drop-offs)
- boulders and landscape screening to mitigate noise and headlights

Additional details, including a brief history of Old Mammoth transit, a review of Town transit goals, along with a summary of the public outreach process and comments received thus far, will be provided as a part of the presentation.