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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF TUOLUMNE

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TUOLUMNE COUNTY SUPERIOR CT

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### Memo

TO: Judge William Polley  
Superior Court

FROM: Edna M. Bowcutt *EB*  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

DATE: October 29, 1997

SUBJECT: Response to FY 1996-97 Grand Jury Report

Attached is the responses to the Grand Jury Report that the Board of Supervisors adopted  
October 28, 1997.

## **RESPONSE TO THE FY 1996-97 GRAND JURY REPORT**

### **Building Department (Page 8)**

#### **Recommendation**

The head of the Building Department should actively seek ways to improve employee recognition and morale.

#### **Response**

The County agrees with this recommendation. Building Department staff are encouraged and aided in obtaining higher qualifications and certifications. As with other County departments, staff is asked to do more work with less resources.

### **County Emergency Preparedness (Page 10)**

#### **Recommendation**

The county needs a large mobile generator to maintain an Office of Emergency Services site in case of disaster or power outage.

#### **Response**

The County agrees with this recommendation..

#### **Recommendation**

To maintain an update current list of names and phone numbers of personnel takes consistent effort of all participants in the aforementioned area plans.

#### **Response**

The County Office of Emergency Services currently has and maintains various resource lists. These resource lists are updated on an annual basis.

### **District Attorney (Page 12)**

#### **Recommendation**

The Grand Jury recognizes that the District Attorney's office contributes towards setting the right tone in its vigilant prosecution rates and effective child support revenue recovery. Recommend that the office replace staff as needed to continue their successful work.

### Response

The Criminal Division has very little turnover; however, the Family Support Division and Victim Witness Assistance Unit area currently in the process of hiring two employees each. Recruitment and the application process are slow and the pool of qualified candidates is very small in this county, particularly for the Victim Witness Advocate position. Further, the pay is very low for the Family Support Officer and Victim Witness Advocate positions, both of which require skills and temperament that are specific to the position.

### Tuolumne County Financial Services (Page 14)

#### Recommendation

While revenues coming into the County are generally decreasing, due in part to lessened support from Federal and State grant funds, the demands for services for County residents are increasing county "belt-tightening" measures have been effective, but the public's demand for increased support from the County is fast approaching a point where new revenues must be found or some services must be curtailed. Future Grand Juries should closely monitor any increases in revenues that have occurred due to tax or fee increases to assure that the increased financial burden is being fairly distributed. Equally, they should monitor any County services or programs that have had to be cut back due to falling revenues or demands for increased services in order to determine the basic needs of County residents are being provided in an adequate manner.

#### Response

Concur.

### Human Services - Adult Welfare (Page 15)

#### Recommendation

The Grand Jury recommends a sample distribution of In-Home Supportive Services handbook, perhaps through the Senior Citizens Center, local churches and hospitals/social services.

#### Response

The Tuolumne County Adult Services Unit is pleased that the Grand Jury identified the In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Handbook as a valuable resource. In the past brochures on Adult Protective Services, IHSS, Public Guardian and MediCal were distributed at the Health Fair, Senior Expo, Senior Center and Adult Day Health Care. In accordance with the Grand Jury's recommendation brochures will be distributed to Interfaith, Senior Center, Hospitals, ATCCA, Area Agency on Aging, and other social services agencies.

**Animal Control (Page 17)**

**Recommendation**

Due to the sensitivity and emotional nature of dealing with the animal owners, the Animal Control Department may wish to consider taping all phone conversations to the department.

**Response**

The County is exploring the feasibility of having phone conversations taped.

**Human Services - Child Welfare (Page 19)**

**Recommendation**

We request a wage survey to compare Child Protective Service workers with other departments with the same or similar educational and experience requirements. Objective being a wage to attract social workers who hold a master's degree.

**Response**

Preliminary salary surveys are in the process of being completed to determine whether a pay adjustment needs to be considered. The surveys will be shared with county personnel and the County Administrative Office to determine the appropriate recommendation to be made to the Board of Supervisors.

**Planning Department (Page 22)**

**Recommendation**

The Planning Department head should actively seek suggestions from the building and development community on ways the county might become more "user friendly". Methods should be developed to streamline the process burden and make it less cumbersome. This is something that both the Planning Department head and building/development community should work on together. The "noncooperative" attitude perception could be overcome if the Planning Department strove to develop/maintain a "let's see how this can be done" attitude as opposed to the perceived "this can't be done" attitude.

**Response**

The last sentence in the Mission Statement of the Tuolumne County Planning Department states, *"Our mission is to provide service of the highest quality at all times, to assist land owners in achieving their goals and desires for their property and to protect the County's cultural assets*

*and environment for the enjoyment of current and future residents.*" Implementation of this multi component mission occasionally has dichotomous effects when a land owner's desires for his property conflict with those of his neighbors'; consequently, it is the role of the Planning Department to balance the wishes and concerns of all parties within the framework of the land development policies and programs established by the Board of Supervisors. This equalizing effort was recognized at a recent hearing before the Board of Supervisors, when an opponent to a development proposal commented that the Planning Staff always seems to be walking a tightrope in trying to balance the divergent views in the County on growth and development and that while the Staff is usually very good at its balancing act, the Staff fell off the tightrope when it supported that particular development project. On that development proposal and many others, the Planning Department has been criticized by property owners opposed to various development proposals for overemphasizing one component of the Mission Statement by being too "developer friendly". On the other side of the issue, the applicants for development projects occasionally direct their displeasure with public opposition to their project to the Planning Department, especially when the Department has proposed conditions or changes to the project to address concerns expressed by opponents.

Recognizing the need to balance the land use goals and desires of a community with those of an individual property owner, the Planning Department has and continues to initiate changes to the County's Ordinance Code, other development regulations and departmental procedures to streamline the development process while providing for the protection of the environment and the identity of a community. Since 1993, these streamlining measures include:

- Revising the County's mobilehome park construction standards to correspond with those of the State.
- Modifying the zoning ordinance to extend the time frame for activating a permit from one (1) year to three (3) years.
- Establishing a mechanism in the zoning ordinance for refunding of fees when an application is withdrawn.
- Creating a Site Review Permit as a streamlined alternative to the Site Development Permit for development projects that are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).
- Amending the zoning ordinance to eliminate the requirement for a Conditional Use Permit for a residence in the commercial and industrial zoning districts or for a second residence/granny flat that is 800 square feet or less in the residential zones.
- Revising the zoning ordinance to eliminate the requirement for a Conditional Use Permit for a garage or carport to be located within building setbacks in the higher elevations to promote parking of vehicles off roads and facilitate plowing of snow.

- Recognizing the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection's authority over timber harvesting and eliminating the requirement for a Conditional Use Permit from the County for such activity.
- Establishing standards for large family day care homes for up to 12 children and eliminating the requirement for a Conditional Use Permit for such facilities.
- Modifying the zoning ordinance to provide for structures in easements that are related to the purpose of the easement and do not obstruct the use for which the easement was created.
- Adding a provision to the zoning ordinance for administrative adjustments of zoning district boundaries in conjunction with lot line adjustments thereby substantially reducing the requirement for a zone change application.
- Expanding the Development Agreement policies to provide for flexibility in all of the County's land use regulations instead of just the zoning ordinance.
- Authorizing the Planning Department to implement changes to the State law concerning alcoholic beverage licenses thereby eliminating the requirement for a hearing before the Board of Supervisors.
- Revising the application fee waiver program to provide for discounts and "blanket waivers" for certain land uses thereby eliminating the requirement for individual consideration by the Board of Supervisors.
- Modifying the County Ordinance Code to streamline and clarify procedures for land use entitlements which require review by the Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC).
- Revising the criteria for Design Review Permits including exempting certain improvements from requiring a permit.
- Designating through the 1996 General Plan, additional acreage for commercial and industrial development to increase the inventory of land available for economic development.
- Initiating rezoning of parcels designated by the 1996 General Plan as commercial and industrial for consistency with the General Plan.
- Creating through the 1996 General Plan, new land use designations of Business Park and Mixed Use to provide for flexibility in developing property.

- Creating a new Special Commercial land use designation in the 1996 General Plan and corresponding zoning to facilitate commercial development to serve the tourist industry and provide services for local residents in areas where public water and/or sewer do not exist.
- Drafting an Economic Development Element for inclusion in the 1996 General Plan which provides policies and programs which advocate further permit streamlining and incentives for business development.

To further improve their procedures, the Planning Department participated in the Permit Streamlining Work Group of the County's Program for Employee Participation (PEP). That Group solicited comments from members of the development community to ascertain problems with current procedures and formulate solutions to those problems. The Planning Department has implemented the suggestions within its jurisdiction contained in that Work Group's report submitted in May, 1996.

Opportunities for comments by the development community as well as the general public have been afforded for all of the actions listed above to streamline the permitting process or eliminate the requirement for certain permits at meetings of the Board of Supervisors Planning Committee, Planning Commissions and Board of Supervisors. In all cases, draft ordinances were sent to interested individuals, agencies and organizations, such as the local land surveyors association, to provide the greatest opportunity for input by those most affected. In response to this public review process, many changes were made to draft ordinances and regulations to further meet the needs of the development community as expressed by its members.

The Board of Supervisors Planning Committee meets on a regular basis during which comments from the public are always accepted. This provides an excellent forum for ideas to be expressed from the development community as well as the general public for changes to the County's development policies and programs. In 1994, the Committee devoted an entire meeting to accepting comments on that very issue. Many of the changes to the County's zoning regulations for streamlining the development process listed above, were initiated from the public input provided at that meeting.

Currently, the Planning Department is the agency responsible for administering the implementation of the 1996 General Plan. Implementation of that plan includes comprehensive updates of the County's land development ordinances, resolutions and programs. As such, the opportunity for suggestions by the development community on improving the County's various entitlement processes has never been greater. As in the past, the Planning Department will continue to circulate drafts of all proposed changes to development regulations to anyone who requests such drafts and comments will be accepted by the Department during initial consultation and throughout the review process which includes meetings of the County's planning advisory committees, the Board's Planning Committee, four Planning Commissions and finally the Board of Supervisors.

## Recommendation

Department heads need to insure, that in their absence, work will continue in an uninterrupted manner. Responsibility should be delegated to qualified staff, and they should have the authority to act.

## Response

In calendar year 1996, the Planning Department processed 284 land development applications, reviewed 608 Building Permits, Septic Permits, Well Permits and Demolition Permits, spent 2000 hours responding to questions at the public information counter, responded to 81 complaints concerning potential zoning violations, administered the County's Surface Mining and Reclamation Act compliance program, prepared the final draft of the General Plan Update and drafted its associated Environmental Impact Report and provided staff support to four (4) planning commissions, the Historic Preservation Review Commission, the Local Agency Formation Commission, four (4) design review committees and the Board of Supervisors Planning Committee and Hardwood Committee. In 1997, the Department continues to manage this high volume workload with a shift from General Plan preparation to General Plan implementation and the additional responsibility of providing staff support to the Board of Supervisors Golden Pond Committee.

The Planning Director's time is devoted to general administration, supervising staff and providing support to the Board of Supervisors, Tuolumne County and Jamestown Area Planning Commissions and the Board of Supervisors Planning Committee, Hardwood Committee and Golden Pond Committee. The Director also drafts many of the General Plan implementation documents. As such, her time does not allow for reviewing every aspect of the processing of almost 300 land development applications submitted each year. That responsibility has been delegated to the six professional planners currently on staff who have been trained and empowered to coordinate all aspects of the processing of those applications. From the moment the application is assigned, the project planner has the responsibility to guide its processing through the preparation of the final environmental evaluation documents, conditions and staff reports. Unless specifically requested by a project planner or *by the applicant*, the Planning Director does **not** involve herself with the processing of a project until the final documents are submitted for her review. In her absence, review of final documents as well as general administrative duties are handled by the Supervising Planner.

In 1994, the Board of Supervisors eliminated the Assistant Planning Director position as a cost saving measure. Later that year, the Supervising Planner position was created to provide an opportunity for Senior Planners to gain management experience and provide a position responsible for the Planning Director's duties in her absence. The Supervising Planner is rotational on a six month basis. As such, when the Planning Director will be gone for more than a day or two, she distributes a notice providing the dates she will be away and identifying which Senior Planner is currently serving as the Supervising Planner to the Board of Supervisors,



County Administrator, County Counsel and the heads of other departments so that there will not be an interruption in the work flow in her absence. The Supervising Planner has full authority to make decisions in the Planning Director's absence and all those who have served in that position since its creation in 1994 have been commended by members of the Board of Supervisors, Planning Commissioners and department heads on their abilities and effectiveness in handling the administration of the Planning Department.

As stated above, the Planning Department provides staff support to many planning related groups, more than any other County in California. While the Planning Director works with all the groups at different times, she only regularly supports the Tuolumne County and Jamestown Area Planning Commissions, Board of Supervisors and the Supervisors' Planning, Hardwood and Golden Pond Committees. It is a Senior Planner who provides regular staff support to the design review committees, a Senior Planner who assists the Columbia Area Planning Commission, a Senior Planner who guides the Southern Tuolumne County Planning Commission, a Senior Planner who supports the Historic Preservation Review Commission and a Senior Planner who aides the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO). These planners are all qualified and experienced in training new members of these groups, responding to questions concerning local and State regulations, guiding their respective groups in drafting community plans, General Plan elements, design guides, other land use regulations and letters on various issues. In their roles of support staff to these groups, these planners are responsible for being able to respond to any issue that might be raised during a public hearing and to deal with the unexpected. The members of these groups consistently commend their support staff, the Senior Planners, for their expertise, knowledge, professionalism and friendliness.

In all the work they do, the Planning Department's professional planners have been trained and cross trained to handle all aspects of permit processing, staff the County's planning groups, give presentations to local organizations on various land use topics, respond to questions at the public information counter and make decisions regarding a myriad of issues. The planners have been given full authority to make these decisions on their own and the autonomy to work with very limited supervision.

While the planners have full authority in processing land development applications, the developer may not always agree with the planner on certain aspects of that process. As such, occasionally a developer will ask to meet with the Director to discuss the processing of his project. In her absence, the developer has the option to meet with the Supervising Planner who has full autonomy to act in the Director's stead. However, developers usually prefer to wait for the Director to return which can cause a slight delay in processing the project, such as a week or two if the Director is on vacation. Since the processing time for a project that is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) is typically a minimum of three months, this self imposed delay on the part of the developer is not significant in terms of the overall processing time.

## Recommendation

Recognizing that, at times, the Planning Department may find itself short staffed or under a cascade of work, which may slow the process down, it is recommended that the Planning Department establish additional fees, which will be earmarked for the express purpose of hiring additional qualified temporary personnel or paying overtime to present personnel during times of staff shortages or work overload.

## Response

In 1990, the Board of Supervisors adopted a policy to attempt to recover 100% of the cost of processing land development applications. At that time, the County Administration Office formulated the procedures to be used in establishing the fees for various County services, including development entitlements. The fees collected by the Planning Department were established by the Board of Supervisors based upon those procedures which include an annual adjustment corresponding to the consumer price index. These fees have been modified during the ensuing years by the Board of Supervisors which has the sole authority to establish fees and the basis for those fees in accordance with State laws. Pursuant to such laws, the County could not collect a fee that exceeds 100% of the cost to provide the service for which the fee is collected; as such, the County could not increase fees above 100% of the County's cost or establish a new fee for the purpose of hiring temporary personnel or paying for overtime.

At this time, the Board of Supervisors Planning Committee is reviewing the Planning Department's fee schedule in comparison to those of other counties in response to concerns that the fees currently being collected are too high. Based upon the findings of their review, the Planning Committee may soon be recommending changes to the fees collected for entitlements under the Planning Department's jurisdiction.

As part of the fee study commissioned by the Planning Committee, the Planning Department found that some counties, such as Mendocino and Glenn, provided "expediting fees" so that developers had the option to pay additional fees to speed up the application review process, such as to fund special Planning Commission meetings. Many of the counties also collected a deposit towards the full cost to the County of processing the application. If the deposit amount is exceeded by the cost, processing of the application ceases until additional funds are paid. In these cases, the payment of fees can have a significant effect on the time frame for processing the application.

However, permit streamlining does not have to be related to the payment of fees to the County. The greatest amount of time in processing a land development application under the Planning Department's jurisdiction is devoted to environmental review, both to prepare the studies required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and to fulfill the public review time periods mandated by CEQA. While neither the County nor the developers have control over the latter, developers have always had and continue to have the option to hire a qualified professional to

prepare the environmental documents and submit them to the County in conjunction with their application. The County still has the responsibility to review the documents to determine their adequacy; however, reviewing rather than preparing environmental documents could substantially lessen the County staff's time in processing the application. As such, this is an option that the developer can already use to streamline the permitting process.

### **Probation Department (Page 24)**

#### **Recommendation**

We recommend that the Probation Department make every effort to comply with the State mandate to provide counseling for convicted sex offenders.

#### **Response**

It is believed by those in the field that the most successful form of counseling for sex offenders involved in incestuous situations is group counseling. There is currently no group counseling available in Tuolumne County due to a lack of enough participants to form a group. Tuolumne County Mental Health Services has offered to provide such a service when there are sufficient numbers to warrant the formation of a group. There is, and has been, individual counseling available through Tuolumne County Mental Health Services and through private clinicians which is utilized by the Probation Department to assure compliance with the mandates of the law.

#### **Recommendation**

We feel that there is likely enough need within the Department to have the support of a qualified professional therapist. The person in the therapist's position can well facilitate situations and conditions that arise in the course of decisions made on a daily basis by the probation officers. There are continuing problems reported in last year's Grand Jury report that are still apparent which relate to the services provided by juvenile offenders: 1) at the present time, caseload has increased from 50 to 60; 2) the foster homes available have decreased sharply; 3) repeat juvenile offenders are placed in juvenile facilities out of county anywhere from Fresno to Lassen County; 4) staff from probation and public defender's offices have less of a chance at face-to-face interaction with juvenile offenders.

The juvenile section of the Probation office does have an officer whose main function is to direct work release programs and coordinate with school staff and offender's family members. The staffing for juveniles appears to be adequate for present caseload, and officers enthusiastic in their approach to monitoring the youthful offenders. The department feels this program has been very successful in reaching its goals towards a positive future for their clientele.

We share a serious problem in common with other foothill communities in our inability and unwillingness to retain existing juvenile programs in county. Grants have been approved by the

State Board of Corrections for alternatives to incarceration, although voters have turned down funds for new jail facilities. We need to take advantage of what is available by hiring a grant administrator for this purpose, and put them to the best use.

### Response

The Probation Department continues to address the concerns about services provides for juvenile offenders. The increase in the juvenile caseload will be addressed by the addition of new staff who are currently undergoing the State mandated training prior to assuming the duties of a Probation Officer. Once these individuals are on board, there will be case reassignments and the workload will be redistributed. The lack of local foster homes is a chronic problem. In conjunction with the Department of Human Services and Tuolumne County Mental Health Services, the Probation Department is currently undertaking recruitment and training of new foster parents. An individual has been hired, with State grant monies, whose responsibility it will be to recruit foster homes. Personnel from Child Welfare Services, Probation and Mental Health are involved in the training process. There has also been approval for an increased rate for Specialized Foster Homes who will handle young people with more severe problems who would otherwise be placed outside the County. Tuolumne County has also become one of the few rural counties to compete for and receive a Systems of Care grant. Mental Health has been the lead agency. This is a group of professionals from Child Welfare Services, Probation, Mental Health and Special Education who collaborate on cases and offer integrated services to at risk youth and their families. The Probation Department has received two clinical case managers. These individuals are employees of Mental Health who are housed at the Probation Department and work closely with Probation Officers to provide individual and family counseling for specified clients. This intensive response at the local level should help to reduce the number of minors placed outside the County. The Juvenile Detention Facility options are being explored. There may be grant monies available for construction of either a local or regional facility. There may also be future ballot measures which address the issue of juvenile detention. One of the objectives of the Probation Department this coming year is to develop a plan regarding the needs of Tuolumne County for a Juvenile Detention facility. The Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors takes a strong exception to the Grand Jury classification of the County being unwilling to retain juvenile programs in the county. Of the 1200 juveniles a year that Probation deals with, only 10-15 at any time are in treatment/incarceration outside the county. As many placements that can be made within the county are made within the county. If there is any unwillingness, it is on the part of individuals who do not want juveniles in their group homes.

### Office of the Public Defender (Page 26)

#### Recommendation

To better serve the public utilizing their services, additional funding is needed for computer software and related items to enable the office to make more efficient use of research time.

## Response

The County is examining the feasibility of automated research tools.

## Public Works (Page 28)

### Recommendation

The Grand Jury recommends that the Public Works Department put in place a method or procedure that the builder/developer community may avail themselves of to resolve regulatory or mitigation conflicts or disputes with that department. One method available is a state-appointed arbitrator or mediator. He or she could be requested by the Public Works Department or builder/developer to arbitrate/mediate regulatory/mitigation conflicts or disputes. Another option would be a "Board of Appeals" made up of Tuolumne County representatives and builder/developer representatives. This "Board of Appeals" would necessarily need to have power to act in a binding manner. (A "Board of Appeals" already exists in the Building Department -- however, structures for Public Works Department would necessarily be different.) No matter what procedures or methods are put into place by the Public Works Department, it is imperative that the potential for personality conflict and/or political influence be minimized.

As to the feeling or fear within the builder/developer community that complaints result in reprisals and/or being "held to a higher standard", it is incumbent upon the County Administrator, as manager of county department heads, to insure that all departments act in the best interest of Tuolumne County, conduct themselves in a manner that reflects well on Tuolumne County and is consistent with the position of trust that Tuolumne County has placed in them. Thus, the County Administrator should actively seek comments from the various users of county services, soliciting input concerning county policies, procedures, and employees -- including department heads. There should be the ability to make these views and opinions known to the County Administrator -- either anonymously or with the assurance that the identity of the parties involved will remain confidential so there is no risk of reprisal. A well-thought-out survey on such departments could go a long way towards public relations, identifying problems and perhaps making our departments more "service oriented".

## Response

There is currently an appeal process in place that allows developers to appeal decisions of departments to the Board of Supervisors. The Public Works Department does, however, work with developers regarding their projects to resolve disputes to minimize appeals that would ultimately go to the Board of Supervisors.

The Development Departments are currently working toward a new appeals process for developers who disagree with the conditions placed on their projects. One concept that has been proposed is an Appeals Officer who would rule on conditions which are disputed. Any change to the current appeals process would require approval by the Board of Supervisors.

If a developer has concerns with unfair treatment from Public Works staff, the Public Works Director has always made himself available to discuss their concerns and make changes when justified. He has reviewed the Grand Jury Report with his staff and has reinforced the importance of treating the public with respect, equality and in a professional manner.

The report also indicates the Grand Jury reviewed many Public Works files and interviewed department employees. When the Grand Jury met with the Public Works Director on June 10, 1997, he suggested that they may want to look at specific project files to review the conditions that they have recommended and that which is required by County Ordinances. Their response was that they had spent weeks reviewing files and they did not have time to review additional files since their report was due within a couple of weeks. When the Public Works Director asked them which files they had reviewed, their response was the Planning Department's project files.

After Public Works staff review of the Grand Jury Report, a number of department employees involved in the development review section informed the Director that they had not been contacted by the Grand Jury thereby raising question as to the extent which department employees were given opportunity to provide input.

The County provides all employees with training sessions on various subjects and any complaints received by the County Administrator are investigated and answered. Much is done to make all departments "service oriented".

### Airports (Page 36)

#### Recommendation

The County must strive to maintain the airports as first rate facilities.

#### Response

As always, this is the goal of the Airports Department, County Administration and the Board of Supervisors.

#### Recommendation

Noise problems must be addressed and mitigated as far as possible with air easements and noise impact zones. Present noise impact zones need to be expanded.

### Response

The California Department of Transportation has provided the Airports Department with a grant to update the Tuolumne County Airport Land Use Policy Plan. The existing Plan contains policies related to air easements and noise impact zones. The ALUC, with the Plan update now 2 months underway, has gone on record as wanting to examine the existing zones and consider reductions as well as expansions of noise impact zones. A public review of the draft Plan update is anticipated to be published early in 1998. State law requires the County's General Plan and implementing ordinance to be consistent with the ALUC Plan.

### Recommendation

Installation of signage from the Columbia Airport transient parking apron, to and along the Dondero Trail.

### Response

Signage directing visitors to and from Columbia State Park and Columbia Airport, via the Dondero Trail, have been ordered.

### Recommendation

Transient aircraft parking tie-down fees could be increased, rounded off to the nearest dollar, and installation in the transient aircraft parking apron of "lock boxes" for receipt of parking fees.

### Response

Fees for both airports are determined in compliance with the County of Tuolumne's Ordinance Code (increased annually by the previous year's CPI). Currently, transient aircraft parking tie-down fees (i.e., overnight parking fees) are rounded to the nearest dollar, in order to avoid problems of needing coinage to make a payment. In addition, the County has an agreement with Bald Eagle Aviation, in which Bald Eagle makes change for payment of County transient parking fees, if requested by the transient pilot. Also, Bald Eagle allows pilots to put County transient parking fees on VISA cards, together with payment for fuel, and then places cash, for the pilot, in the County's fee envelope, and then within the County's lock box in the terminal lobby.

A lock box has been previously installed at Pine Mountain Lake Airport. The Airports Department will pursue 2 additional boxes for Columbia Airport.