TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Date: Friday, September 11, 2015  
Time: 8:30 AM  
Place: COG Sequoia Conference Room  
2035 Tulare St., Suite 201, Fresno, CA

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TTC Agenda and Annotated Agenda in pdf format - ALL EXHIBITS ARE AVAILABLE ON WEBSITE

TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

The Transportation Technical Committee will consider all items on the agenda. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 8:30 am.

I. TRANSPORTATION CONSENT ITEMS

   About Consent Items:

   All items on the consent agenda are considered to be routine and non-controversial by COG staff and will be approved by one motion if no member of the Committee or public wishes to comment or ask questions. If comment or discussion is desired by anyone, the item will be removed from the consent agenda and will be considered in the listed sequence with an opportunity for any member of the public to address the Committee concerning the item before action is taken.

   A. Executive Minutes of July 17, 2015 [APPROVE]

   Exhibits: ITEM I A

   B. FY 2015-16 Transportation Funding Claims [Fawcett] [APPROVE]

   Exhibits: ITEM I B Fowler  ITEM I B Kerman  ITEM I B Mendota  ITEM I B Parlier  ITEM I B San Joaquin  ITEM I B Sanger  ITEM I B Selma

   Summary: Approve FY 2015/16 Transportation Development Act Claims. The amounts claimed for
Local Transportation Funds (LTF) and State Transit Assistance (STA) funds are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resolution #</th>
<th>Member Agency</th>
<th>Amt LTF</th>
<th>Amt STA</th>
<th>Grand Total Payable to Claimant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015-33</td>
<td>City of Kerman</td>
<td>$469,865</td>
<td>$71,776</td>
<td>$541,641</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-34</td>
<td>City of Parlier</td>
<td>$495,335</td>
<td>$75,692</td>
<td>$571,027</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-35</td>
<td>City of San Joaquin</td>
<td>$132,861</td>
<td>$20,263</td>
<td>$153,124</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-36</td>
<td>City of Sanger</td>
<td>$824,411</td>
<td>$126,002</td>
<td>$950,413</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-37</td>
<td>City of Mendota</td>
<td>$367,997</td>
<td>$56,216</td>
<td>$424,213</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-38</td>
<td>City of Selma</td>
<td>$784,961</td>
<td>$119,904</td>
<td>$904,865</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-39</td>
<td>City of Fowler</td>
<td>$195,405</td>
<td>$29,871</td>
<td>$225,276</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Action:** Staff requests TTC/PAC to recommend approval by individual resolution of the TDA Claims FY 2015/16 of the above listed member agencies.

C. **FY 2014/15 Local Transportation Fund (LTF) Surplus [Fawcett] [INFORMATION]**

**Summary:** In 2014/15 the Local Transportation Fund (LTF) accumulated a $3.6 million surplus. Normally the Policy Board would authorize staff to distribute this to member agencies in September; however, the last quarter of State Transit Assistance (STA) has been delayed so the LTF surplus cannot be formalized until the remaining transit claims are paid. The methodology used by the State Controller’s Office to calculate STA apparently has been challenged and the last quarter will not be released until this is resolved; however, the resolution is expected soon. Rather than wait to put the surplus on the October agenda, staff will notify member agencies and provide the final surplus schedule as soon as State Controller's Office resolves the issue, hopefully in time for the Policy Board to authorize at the September meeting.

**Action:** Information. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Committee.

D. **Transportation Development Act Triennial Audit Consultant [Fawcett] [INFORMATION]**

The Fresno Council of Governments (Fresno COG) is soliciting proposals from qualified consultants to perform Triennial Performance Audits for Fresno COG and the four Transit Operators in Fresno County that receive Transportation Development Act funding. This request covers a total of five audits and will cover the years 2013, 2014, and 2015. More information can be found on our website: RFP for Fresno COG's and the four Fresno County Region Transit Operators

**Action:** Informational item. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Committee.

E. **2016 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Update [Garza] [INFORMATION]**

**Summary:** The State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) is a biennial five-year plan adopted by the California Transportation Commission (CTC) for future allocations of certain state transportation funds for state highway improvements, intercity rail, and regional highway and transit improvements. Each new STIP adds two new years to prior programming commitments. The 2014 STIP was adopted in March 2014, and the 2016 STIP must be adopted by April 1, 2016.

The State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) guidelines describe the policy, standards, criteria and procedures for the development, adoption and management of the STIP. They are developed in cooperation with Caltrans, regional transportation planning agencies, county transportation commissions and local agencies in accordance with Government Code 14530.1. The CTC adopted the 2016 STIP Guidelines on August 27, 2015 after conducting three public workshops.
The STIP Fund Estimate for the STIP is developed by Caltrans and must be adopted by August 15 of each odd numbered year by the CTC pursuant to Section 14525. The estimate incorporates the 2015-16 Budget Act and other 2015 legislation enacted prior to the Fund Estimate adoption. Programming in the 2016 STIP must be constrained by fiscal year.

In February of 2015 the Board of Equalization voted to lower the statewide price based excise tax by six cents from 18 cents to 12 cents per gallon, representing a 30 percent decrease. This change directly impacts transportation in that revenues collected from fuel taxes are a primary source of funding for the STIP. Fresno COG relies on this fund source to fund projects such as the segments of the SR 180 East Expansion project and the upcoming Veterans Blvd project in conjunction with other available federal funds. Based on the adopted STIP Fund Estimate, the statewide capacity for the 2016 STIP identifies net new capacity only in the last two years added to the STIP, 2019-20 and 2020-21, with decreases in capacity in earlier years. There are only about $46 million of statewide new capacity and regional targets are proposed at zero. By comparison, in 2014, the STIP included $1.2 billion in new funding capacity statewide over the five year fund estimate period. The impact of this reduction in funding is that, pending any new information from the legislative special session, there will be little to no STIP funds to program new projects in the next five years.

Furthermore, because the 2016 STIP is over-programmed in the early years, STIP projects will need to be reprogrammed into later years. Some of this over-programming will likely be resolved through the schedule updates which occur each STIP cycle. However, some projects currently programmed in the STIP may need to be delayed (reprogrammed into a later year). For the 2016 STIP, the CTC expects to give first priority to the reprogramming of projects from the 2014 STIP, as amended. Projects programmed in 2015-16, including projects from prior years that have allocation extensions, may be reprogrammed to a later fiscal year if they are on the list of delivered projects or if they have been granted, prior to August 27, 2015, an extension of the allocation period that expires after the adoption of the 2016 STIP. The following schedule lists the major upcoming milestones for the development of the STIP:

- Caltrans identifies State highway needs: Sept. 15, 2015
- Caltrans submits draft ITIP: Oct.15, 2015
- CTC ITIP hearing, South: Nov. 4, 2015
- Regions submit RTIPs: Dec.15, 2015
- Caltrans submits final ITIP: Dec. 15, 2015
- CTC STIP hearing, North: Jan. 21, 2016
- CTC STIP hearing, South: Jan. 26, 2016
- CTC publishes staff recommendations: Feb.19, 2016
- CTC adopts 2016 STIP: March 16-17, 2016


**Action:** Information. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Committee.

**F. Financial Management Information System (FMIS) (project funding authorization tool) [Garza]**

**Summary:** The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has been working on upgrading its Financial Management Information System (FMIS) for a while to comply with certain MAP-21 requirements. The roll out of FMIS upgrade has been postponed several times at the requests of state DOTs, including Caltrans, to allow the state DOTs more time to get their systems ready to work with the upgraded FMIS. To minimize the impact on the states’ ability to authorize federal funded projects, the FMIS roll out has been postponed to near the end of this federal fiscal year.

The time has finally come for that roll out to take place. On September 26, 2015, FMIS will shut down. This takes place a day after the deadline for all states to obligate their federal funding for federal fiscal year 2014/2015. The new FMIS is scheduled to come back on October 26, 2015.

Here are major impacts this month-long FIMS shut down will have:

- E76 approvals – No E76 approval will take place during this period. Project programmed or expected to be delivered in FY 14/15 should have been processed before the shut down date.
G. **CMAQ/RSTP Call for Projects [Chargin] [INFORMATION]**

**Summary:** The 2015 CMAQ and RSTP Call for Projects process is now underway. The U.S. Congress is responsible for adopting a federal surface transportation act — Congress’ authorization to spend tax dollars on highways, streets, roads, transit and other transportation related projects. The current Act, pursuant to Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21), continues the authorization of the Surface Transportation Program (STP) and the Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ). MAP-21 gives the states’ Department of Transportation the flexibility to administer these funds, and in California, Caltrans assigns a significant portion of these two programs to regional planning agencies, such as Fresno COG, to be used at their own discretion, subject to federal regulations. Fresno COG further develops and administers its own funding criteria using STP and CMAQ funds in effort to address some of the Fresno County region transportation needs in accordance with the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP).

The programming working group comprised of city and county planning, public works and engineering staff will begin meeting with COG staff in September to discuss possible updates and/or changes to the call for projects procedures and criteria. The call is scheduled to be officially initiated in November. The total amount available for the 2015 Call for Projects is $48,780,196 ($22,401,946 - RSTP/$26,378,250 CMAQ). The funds are split into two Federal Fiscal Years (FFY), 18/19 and 19/20.

If you have any questions regarding the CMAQ Call for Projects please contact Lauren Dawson at 559-233-4148 ext. 217 or ldawson@fresnocog.org. For questions on the RSTP Call for Projects please contact Lindsey Chargin at 559-233-4148 ext. 205 or lindseyc@fresnocog.org.

**Action:** Information. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Committee.

H. **2015 FTIP Amendment No. 8, 2014 RTP Amendment 1, Corresponding Conformity [Chargin] [INFORMATION]**

**Exhibits:**  
ITEM I H 1  ITEM I H 2

**Summary:** The Fresno Council of Governments is proposing a Draft 2015 Federal Transportation Improvement Program Amendment No. 8 (2015 FTIP Amendment No. 8) and 2014 Regional Transportation Plan Amendment No. 1 (2014 RTP Amendment No. 1), and Draft 2015 Conformity Analysis for the 2008 Ozone and 2012 PM2.5 Standards for the 2014 RTP/2015 FTIP. See the enclosed memo and draft resolution for details. Referenced documents are available on the Fresno COG website at www.fresnocog.org.

The public review and comment period is open for 30 days commencing on August 18, 2015 and ending on September 18, 2015; comments are due by 4:30 p.m. on September 18, 2015. A public hearing was held to receive public comment, on Tuesday, September 1, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. in Fresno COG’s Sequoia conference room at 2035 Tulare Street Suite 201 Fresno, CA 93721. No comments were received. Adoption of the 2015 FTIP Amendment No. 8, 2014 RTP Amendment No. 1, and 2015 Conformity Analysis addressing the 2008 Ozone and 2012 PM2.5 Standards is scheduled for the October 22, 2015 Fresno COG Policy Board meeting.

The Draft 2015 FTIP Amendment No. 8, 2014 RTP Amendment No. 1, and 2015 Conformity Analysis addressing the 2008 Ozone and 2012 PM2.5 Standards meet all applicable transportation planning requirements per 23 CFR Part 450, 40 CFR Part 93, and conform to the applicable SIPs. If you have
any questions or would like to submit comments, please contact: Mike Bitner at 559-233-4148 ext. 216 or mbitner@fresnocog.org.

**Action**: Information. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Committee.

I. **Celebrating National Drive Electric Week [Dawson] [INFORMATION]**

**Exhibits**: Come join folks who can answer all your questions about electric vehicles and electric vehicle charging stations at the National Drive Electric Week at Fashion Fair Mall, Saturday, September 12, 2015 from 10 am to 3 pm. For full information please see the enclosure in your meeting package. Fresno COG provides these reports in support of the Governor’s Executive Order B-16-2012 laying the foundation for 1.5 million zero-emission vehicles on California’s roadways by 2025 and by 2015 that all major cities in California will have adequate infrastructure and be “zero-emission vehicle” ready, and that by 2020 be able to support 1 million zero-emission vehicles state-wide.

**Action**: Information. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Committee.

J. **Fresno/Madera Origin-Destination Study [Terry] [INFORMATION]**

**Summary**: Following official approval from Caltrans, traffic counts at strategic locations along both the SR-99 and Highway 41 corridors were taken the last week of July. The counts and associated data will now be formatted, analyzed and validated. Survey materials also associated with origin-destination study tasks are being finalized, and will be distributed shortly. Survey activities are scheduled to commence in November. Completion of all project tasks is anticipated for February 2016. All tasks associated with the project remain on schedule and within approved budgets.

For any questions regarding upcoming activities associated with this project, please contact Rob Terry at (559) 233-4148 Ext. 222 or via email at rterry@fresnocog.org.

**Action**: Information item. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Committee.

K. **I-5/SR-99 Goods Movement Study [Terry] [INFORMATION]**

**Summary**: Utilizing funding provided by Caltrans through the Public Engagement and Emerging Priorities Branch of the Office of Sustainable Community Planning, Fresno COG, on behalf of the eight San Joaquin Valley MPOs, recently completed the consultant selection process to further goods movement improvement and planning efforts, specific to the I-5 and SR 99 corridors of the Valley. The overall project objectives for the study include: 1) conducting a comprehensive identification and analysis of strategies to improve the efficiency of goods movement along the I-5 corridor through the Valley; 2) conducting in-depth analysis of all safety, environmental, and road maintenance cost effects of each identified strategy; 3) engaging diverse public and private stakeholders in the planning process; 4) analyzing the impacts on SR 99 and other major regionally significant corridors; 5) analyzing financial feasibility of the proposed strategies; 6) coordinating with other related planning efforts; 7) prioritizing strategies and future research needs; and, 8) identifying next steps, funding sources and developing recommendations for implementing the strategies such as a pilot project.

Following Fresno COG Board approval to enter into a contract with the preferred consultant (Cambridge Systematics) in July 2015, and consequent contract signing, the project manager (Michael Sigala) and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), comprised of representatives from all eight of the MPOs in the Valley, Caltrans Districts 6 & 10, as well as Caltrans Headquarters, began preparing for project kick-off activities. The first official meeting of the TAC is scheduled to take place on September 17, 2015 from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. at the Fresno COG offices. It is anticipated that all contract work will be completed in February 2017.

**Action**: Information item. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Committee.

L. **Cap and Trade [Terry] [INFORMATION]**

**Summary**: ARB is currently working on Updated Funding Guidelines for Administering Agencies for all
programs funded by the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (funded by Cap and Trade Auction Proceeds). Draft guidelines have been available for review since mid-June, and are anticipated to be adopted by ARB at their September Board meeting. Fresno COG has attended the various workshops hosted by ARB, and provided feedback associated with the guidelines, strongly encouraging (1) greater transparency requirements in the scoring processes, (2) improved equity and competitiveness for rural agencies, and (3) improved inclusion of regional SCSs. Details on the Updated Funding Guidelines can be found at: [http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/capandtrade/auctionproceeds/fundingguidelines.htm](http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/capandtrade/auctionproceeds/fundingguidelines.htm).

In addition to updated guidelines, ARB has also been working on the Second Investment Plan (Fiscal Years 2016-17 through 2018-19) for Cap and Trade auction proceeds (as part of the overall California Climate Investments). Throughout July and August – in conjunction with Funding Guideline Workshops – the ARB presented information on the Draft Investment Plan, and accepted public comment. A revised draft of the plan is anticipated in late Fall 2015, with submission of the Final Draft to the Legislature anticipated for January 2016.

Below are details on each of the Transportation and Sustainable Communities Funding programs associated with California Climate Investments:

- **Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC) Program**: This program is administered by the Strategic Growth Council (SGC), and implemented by both the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) and Natural Resources Agency’s, with a fiscal year 2014/15 funding allocation of $130 million. The program aims to fund land-use, housing, transportation, and land preservation projects to support infill and compact development that reduce GHG emissions, while significantly benefiting disadvantaged communities and providing affordable housing. Program activities are intended to yield in projects that include transit-oriented development, intermodal affordable housing, transit capital projects, active transportation and complete streets.

  At their regular meeting on June 30, 2015, the SGC formally approved the 28 projects recommended by staff, totaling $121,955,460. Among these was one project in the City of Fresno (Hotel Fresno), which was awarded $4,800,000.

  The SGC is currently working on updated guidelines for the next round of funding, which is anticipated to have an allocation of $400 million in fiscal year 2015/16. According to SGC staff, updated guidelines are anticipated to be released in late September 2015. Additional information on the program can be found at: [http://sgc.ca.gov/s_ahscprogram.php](http://sgc.ca.gov/s_ahscprogram.php).

- **Sustainable Agricultural Land Conservation (SALC) Program**: This program is administered by the California Department of Conservation, as directed by the SGC, with a funding allocation of $1 million (as part of the $130 million allocated to the SGC as part of the AHSC Program). Activities associated with this program include the formulation/placement of Sustainable Agricultural Land Strategy Plans.

  At their regular meeting on June 30, 2015, the SGC formally approved the 5 projects recommended by staff, totaling $492,495. No projects from the San Joaquin Valley were included in these approvals.

  The SGC is currently working on updated guidelines for the next round of funding (as part of the allocation of $400 million in fiscal year 2015/16). Updated guidelines are anticipated to be released in late 2015/early 2016. Additional information on the program can be found at: [http://sgc.ca.gov/s_salcprogram.php](http://sgc.ca.gov/s_salcprogram.php).

- **High Speed Rail Program**: This program is administered by the High Speed Rail Authority, with a funding allocation of $250 million. Activities within the program consist of the planning, design, and right-of-way acquisition, and construction of the initial operating segment. Appropriations for the fiscal year 2015/16 are $500 million for HSR.

  The Authority currently has a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) out for the building of the Phase Four of High-Speed Rail in the Central Valley, which can be found at: [http://www.hsr.ca.gov/Programs/Construction/design_build_construction_contracts.html](http://www.hsr.ca.gov/Programs/Construction/design_build_construction_contracts.html). The homepage for the HSR is: [http://hsr.ca.gov/](http://hsr.ca.gov/).

- **Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP)**: This program is administered by the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA), with a funding allocation of $25 million. Activities within
this program consist of capital improvements and operational investments that will modernize California’s transit systems and intercity, commuter, and urban rail systems to reduce GHG emissions, expand and improve rail service and increase ridership, integrate the rail service of the state’s various rail operations, including integration with the high-speed rail system, and improve safety.

On June 30, 2015, CalSTA announced the awardees for the program, totaling $718,000,021 in funding for 14 projects. One of the awards was in the San Joaquin Valley (San Joaquin RTD).

Appropriations for fiscal year 2015/16 are $265 million. Additional information on the program can be found at: [http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/MassTrans/tircp.html](http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/MassTrans/tircp.html).

- **Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP):** This program is administered through the Department of Transportation (Caltrans), with a funding allocation of $25 million. Activities within this program are designed to provide operating and capital assistance for transit agencies to reduce GHG emissions and improve mobility, with a priority on serving disadvantaged communities. Approved projects in LCTOP will support new or expanded bus or rail services, expand intermodal transit facilities, and may include equipment acquisition, fueling, maintenance and other costs to operate those services or facilities, with each project reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

On June 30, 2015, the State Controller’s Office released information on the approved amounts of funds. Among the 95 eligible projects detailed are three within Fresno County (FAX/City of Fresno, $249,311; City of Clovis, $36,902; and FCRTA, $69,760).

Appropriations for fiscal year 2015/16 are $100 million with review and approval of eligible projects expected by March 1, 2016. Caltrans, in coordination with ARB and SCO, is in the process of updating Guidelines to address timelines for continuous appropriation and to clarify a few administrative items. Public workshops were held in August. A NEW WORKSHOP WILL BE ADDED FOR THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY TO BE HELD TOWARD THE END OF SEPTEMBER (more information TBA).

Additional information on the program can be found at: [http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/MassTrans/lctop.html](http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/MassTrans/lctop.html).

- **Air Quality Improvement Program (AQIP) and Low Carbon Transportation Program:** This program is administered by the California Air Resources Board (ARB), with a funding allocation of $230 million. Within this program, Cap and Trade auction proceeds provide an additional funding source for ARB’s advanced technology, clean transportation incentive programs, thus expanding the types of projects ARB has funded through the Air Quality Improvement Program (AQIP). Activities within the program include zero and near-zero emission passenger vehicle rebates, heavy duty hybrid/ZEV trucks and buses, freight demonstration projects, and pilot programs (car sharing, financing, etc.) in disadvantaged communities.

Appropriations for fiscal year 2015/16 are $350 million. Additional details for the various program activities can be found at: [http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/aqip/aqip.htm](http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/aqip/aqip.htm).

**Action:** Information item. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Committee.

M. **Prop 84/Greenprint Update [Terry] [INFORMATION]**

**Summary:**

(Prop 84 Round 2) Following is a brief report on the status of Round 2 activities:

(Task 1) Greenprint: The next meeting of the Greenprint Advisory Committee is scheduled for Thursday, September 10 at 1:00 p.m. in the Fresno COG Ash Conference Room. The Advisory Committee is the larger committee comprised, among others, of representatives from each of the Valley COGs. The Management Committee is the smaller committee formed to assist the project manager and consultant team with issues that require more immediate discussion and direction. It is scheduled to meet the morning of the 10th at 10:00 a.m. Both committees are beginning to shift their attention to the pilot projects component of the project. There will be discussion of the preliminary Request for Proposals being prepared by Mintier Harnish for the pilot projects. Given the importance of the pilot projects to the overall Greenprint project, the project manager intends to have a fuller discussion with the COG Directors at their October meeting, including recommendations from the Advisory Committee.
The Management Committee held a conference call on Monday, August 31 to discuss issues concerning the Expert Panels, particularly with regard to the extent to which Round 1 is perceived to have been a success. These Expert Panels are also an important part of this phase of the Greenprint project and considerable time has been spent identifying the experts and securing their participation. The project manager will present information on the status of the Expert Panels to date and possible suggestions for them moving forward, if the TTC/PAC wishes.

For any questions regarding the Greenprint, please contact Clark Thompson at (559) 233-4148 Ext. 203 or via email at clarkt@fresnocog.org.

(Task 2) Model Land-Use Revalidation activities (Model Improvement Program Phase 2) have been ongoing since January 2014. Fehr and Peers, as the selected consultant, is conducting activities associated with the project, including data collection and processing, refinement of model input data; and model estimation, calibration, validation, evaluation and associated training activities. In addition, the consultant is overseeing all project management and information sharing details.

For any questions regarding Model Land-Use Revalidation efforts, please contact Mike Bitner at (559) 233-4148 Ext. 216 or via email at mbitner@fresnocog.org.

(Task 3) Due to the completion of several anticipated Round 2 activities within Round 1, Department of Conservation (DOC) representatives approved the re-allocation of line item funds to increase the amount of funding for both Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) printing/duplication for outreach and public involvement, as well as the amount available to assist with Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) coordination. A total of $55,000 for RHNA coordination and $88,674 for SCS printing/duplication reflect the new line items. These amounts are to be allocated to each COG based upon population percentages (utilizing the Planning Center data), similar to other valley activities in the recent past. With 24% of the Valley’s overall population, Fresno COG’s proportion of these funds is $20,841.54 for SCS activities, and $13,200 for RHNA activities.

All Round 2 activities must be completed by 9/30/16, in accordance with the 3-year DOC grant period. For any questions regarding SCS Implementation activities, please contact Rob Terry at (559) 233-4148 Ext. 222 or via email at rterry@fresnocog.org.

Action: Information item. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Committee.

N. Circuit Engineer Request for Proposals [Arnest] [INFORMATION]

Summary: Fresno COG is pleased to announce the following Request for Proposals (RFP) for a Circuit Engineer.

Fresno Council of Governments (Fresno COG) is soliciting proposals for an engineering consultant to serve as a Circuit Engineer. This engineer will act as a liaison between Fresno COG and the 13 small cities (those with populations less than 50,000) within Fresno County to assist with coordinating engineering activities associated with transportation project development, Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS), and the Blueprint integration between local agencies and Fresno COG. This position is not meant to supplant contract engineers and/or planners that local agencies are currently working with but rather complement those local arrangements.


The deadline for all RFP questions is Thursday, September 10, 2015.

Proposals are due to Fresno COG by Thursday, September 24, 2015 at 12:00 PM PST

Please contact Melissa Garza at Fresno COG (233-4148 x210) mgarza@fresnocog.org to request additional information.

Action: Information. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Committee.

O. Update on “Keep California Moving – Fix the Roads” Roundtable [Boren] [INFORMATION]

Summary: Assembly Speaker Toni G. Atkins, Assemblymember Jimmy Gomez, Assemblymember Henry T. Perea, California State Transportation Agency Secretary Brian P. Kelly and a coalition of local
government officials, business leaders and transportation advocates (including Stanislaus County Supervisor Vito Chiesa, Merced County Supervisor Hub Walsh, Fresno County Supervisor Henry Perea, and Darius Assemi of Granville Homes and Creating Prosperity Group) held a press conference at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, August 28th to discuss California's transportation infrastructure needs and to inform the special legislative session to address California's deteriorating transportation network. To date there have not been any legislative solutions passed.

They emphasized the reasons why new infrastructure funding is vital to keep California moving. The participants referenced California’s multiple transportation problems such as:

- California has the second-highest share of roads in “poor condition” in the nation. More than half of our state roads need rehabilitation or pavement maintenance.
- Our state has six of the 10 cities with the worst road conditions in the nation.
- Nearly 1/3 of our bridges and overpasses show signs of deterioration, or do not meet design standards.
- Nearly 70% of California’s urban roads and highways are congested.

In the afternoon, a “Keep California Moving – Fix the Roads” Roundtable convened at 1:00 p.m. This was the 3rd roundtable hosted throughout California, with one previously held in the Bay Area and another in the Los Angeles area. The roundtable agenda consisted of a state overview presentation by Caltrans Director Malcolm Dougherty followed by two panel presentations relating to Regional/Local Infrastructure needs and Business/Labor perspectives.

The program was recorded and available at the Keep California Moving - Fix The Roads website: [http://asmcd.org/fixtheroads](http://asmcd.org/fixtheroads). Participation in these events was organized by the Speaker’s office and was by invitation only.

**Action:** Information. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Committee.

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P. **Monthly Grant/Call for Projects/Request for Proposals [Chargin] [INFORMATION]**

**Exhibits:**

**Summary:** See attached memo. For the latest information on grants, Fresno COG member agencies and partnering agencies can register for EfficientGov’s GrantFinder database service. Fresno COG has subscribed to this service and is offering free membership to local agencies and partnering agencies. If you or someone from your agency is interested in signing up for this service, or if you have any questions, please contact Lindsey Chargin at 559-233-4148 ext. 205 or lindseyc@fresnocog.org.

EfficientGov offers grantwriting assistance and provides real-time, comprehensive, grant information for all federal, state, foundation and corporate grants that are available to municipalities, counties and non-profit agencies. The database is updated daily with new grants as well as important updates to existing grants within the database. Additionally, the service provides for unlimited access to EfficientGov news, articles and the GrantIntel newsletter, which focuses specifically on grant funding.

If your agency has already subscribed, but a tutorial on how to search for grants is needed, EfficientGov offers a free monthly demo for all of its users. You can sign up for the next available tutorial here: [http://efficientgov.com/refresh](http://efficientgov.com/refresh).

**Action:** Information. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Committee.

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II. **TRANSPORTATION ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS**

A. **Measure “C” Amendment #3 - Allocate an Amount Not to Exceed $750,000 from the Measure ‘C” High Speed Rail Program to Open Real Estate Escrows with Security Deposit on Land that has been Identified as Suitable for the Future California High Speed Rail Heavy Maintenance Facility [PUBLIC HEARING - September 24, 2015] [Boren] [DIRECTION BY POLICY BOARD]**

**Exhibits:**

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9 of 13
Summary: Included as an attachment in your agenda materials is a letter received from the “Fresno Works” High Speed Rail Committee requesting an amendment to our existing Measure “C” Expenditure Plan. Amendment #3 would make available (if needed) an amount not to exceed $750,000 to reimburse a local developer (Tim Jones) who is willing to use his “own funding” to open real estate escrows with security deposits on the land that has been identified as the most suitable in Fresno County for the location of the future High Speed Rail Heavy Maintenance Facility (HMF). The funding would come from the $25 million previously set aside by Measure “C” Amendment # 1. Approved by the Policy Board in 2010, Amendment #1 established a new Measure “C” High Speed Rail Facilities Program. Funding available from this program is to be used to provide capital for a variety of uses associated with development of the High Speed Rail Heavy Maintenance Facility. Conditions in Amendment #1 state that funding can only be accessed “after” the California High Speed Rail Authority awards Fresno the HMF site. Amendment #3 would make $750,000 available for use “before” the California High Speed Rail Authority select the HMF site.

The land acquisition process would work as follows: The developer will work at “his cost”, making offers to willing sellers to purchase the subject parcels by opening escrows with security deposits to ultimately buy the parcels. The initial term of the escrows will be one year. At the end of the initial term of the escrow, if the developer has been unable to package the HMF parcels, the developer may choose to close the escrow accounts and withdraw his security deposits. In the event a decision is made to extend the escrow beyond the initial year, a forfeiture of the initial security deposits occurs, and new escrows would have to be established to continue to hold the properties. It is the “extension of the escrows” where the developer would be getting reimbursed for his initial security deposits. There are three potential scenarios:

Scenario #1-Fresno is awarded the facility.

The $750,000 is not in play. The developer will negotiate an agreement with the California High Speed Rail Authority to acquire the parcels and pass title.

Scenario #2-Fresno is not awarded the facility.

The $750,000 is not in play. The escrows will be structured to allow the escrow to be closed and the security deposit money withdrawn. The developer will close out the escrows and withdraw the security deposits at his cost.

Scenario #3-No decision is made by the CHSRA on the HMF site during the initial one year term of the escrows.

A decision would have to be made by the COG and FCTA Boards to extend the escrows beyond the initial one year term, the developer would then be reimbursed for his initial security deposits, not to exceed $750,000.

The Measure “C” Oversight Committee will discuss Amendment #3 at their meeting on September 10, 2015, and a public meeting is being held on September 16th at Fresno COG at 5:30 pm to give members of the public an opportunity to comment on the proposed amendment. Staff will provide the feedback from those meetings. A Public Hearing will be held on Thursday, September 24, 2015 during the Fresno COG Policy Board meeting.

Action: Direction to be provided at the discretion of the Fresno COG Policy Board

B. Establish Project Development Team for Cycletracks Feasibility Study [Thompson] [DIRECTION]

Exhibits: ITEM II B

Summary: Work Element 110, Regional Streets and Highways Planning, of the Fresno COG 2015/16 Overall Work Program (OWP), includes a task to “Conduct Cycle Tracks Feasibility Study in the metropolitan area.” One hundred thousand dollars ($100,000) is available for this study, the impetus for which, and its subsequent inclusion in the OWP, came from Bruce Rudd, Fresno City Manager, by letter dated November 20, 2014 (enclosed).

Assembly Bill 1193, amending the Streets and Highways Code relating to bikeways, was approved by Governor Brown on September 20, 2014. While bikeways for decades have been grouped into three
categories of facilities, this bill established a fourth category, or Class IV Bikeways, also referred to as
Cycle Tracks or Protected Bike Lanes or Separated Bike Lanes. Basically, these are bike lanes that
provide a right-of-way designated exclusively for bicycle travel within a roadway protected from traffic
with some kind of vertical barrier, not just paint. Many potential cyclists may avoid on-street cycling if no
physical separation from vehicular traffic is provided. Because Cycle Tracks may increase the number
of bicycling trips, they can help reduce traffic congestion and meet local and state greenhouse gas
emissions reductions goals, and improve health and quality of life by helping more people be active.

An initial step in the development of this study is to determine the composition of and nomination of
individuals to serve on the Project Development Team that will assist with the study, initially with regard
to the development of a Request for Proposals. Given the complexity and expected interest in this
study, staff recommends representation from the cities of Fresno and Clovis and the County of Fresno
(from both Public Works and Planning Departments), Caltrans, Fresno Cycling Club, Fresno’s
Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee, and the Building Industry Association. Your Committee may
wish to propose additional organizations/individuals. For information/questions regarding the Cycle
Tracks Feasibility Study, contact Fresno COG staff member Clark Thompson at clarkt@fresnocog.org or
(559) 233-4148 x203.

Action: Information/discussion item. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Committee.

C. Needs Assessment Consultant Selection [Cai] [APPROVE]

Summary: The Needs Assessment program is one of the three SCS implementation programs
approved by the Policy Board in May 2014. $100,000 was budgeted to conduct a county-wide
transportation needs assessment as directed by the Board. A Needs Assessment Steering Committee
was formed to provide guidance for the development of the program. The Steering Committee identified
the scope of work for the Needs Assessment program, which will be carried out separately by COG
staff, the Fresno State Community and Regional Planning Center and a team of consultants. Fresno
COG staff will be working on collecting bike/pedestrian plans from the cities and the County, and will be
responsible for various mappings identified in the scope; two Fresno State students have been hired to
conduct sidewalk inventories; and consulting service is being sought to identify regional gap projects for
bike/trail facilities and conduct a connectivity and accessibility analysis for the 10 regional/sub-regional
facilities identified by the Steering Committee that provide basic service to the residents.

An RFP for consultant service was issued in July for the amount of $100,000. Three proposals were
received. A Scoring Committee was formed that consists of a representative from each of the following
entities: Fresno COG, County of Fresno, City of Fresno, City of Clovis, East-side cities, West-side cities
and the general public. The Scoring Committee reviewed the proposals and will conduct interviews for
the three consultant teams on September 4th.

As the interviews will be conducted after this staff report is being written, staff will provide a verbal
report at the TTC/PAC meeting on the Scoring Committee’s recommendation of the consultant team for
the Needs Assessment study.

Action: Staff recommends approval of the consultant team recommended by the Scoring Committee
for the Needs Assessment study, and authorization for the Executive Director to enter into contract with
the selected consultant team for the amount specified in the proposal.

D. Circuit Planner Planning Consultant Selection [Terry] [APPROVE]

Exhibits:

Summary: Fresno COG has requested proposals for a planning consultant to serve as a Circuit
Planner, continuing the services offered through Fresno COG over the past few years. As previously
conducted, the selected firm/individual will act as a liaison between Fresno COG and the 13 smaller
cities (those with populations less than 50,000) within Fresno County to (1) assist with integrating
Sustainable Communities Strategies and the Blueprint Smart Growth Principles into local planning
processes, and (2) assist with coordinating transportation planning and project development between
local agencies and Fresno COG, in collaboration with the Fresno COG Circuit Engineer (consultant yet
to be determined) and local agency staff. This position is not meant to supplant contract planners that
local agencies are currently working with but rather complement those local planning arrangements.
An RFP for consultant services was released on July 7, 2015, with proposals due on August 7, 2015. The contract period is anticipated to run through December 31, 2016. Due to the receipt of a singular proposal (VRPA Technologies), interviews were deemed unnecessary. Review of the proposal indicated that the project scope was clearly understood; and that the firm’s previous experience with transportation planning, engineering, and local agency assistance, made for an excellent fit for the position.

**Action:** Staff recommends the TTC/PAC recommend approval to the Fresno COG Policy Board to authorize the Executive Director to negotiate a scope of services and to enter into a contract with VRPA, not to exceed $49,999.98, as indicated in the consultant’s proposal, to serve as Fresno COG’s Circuit Planner.

E. **Ag Ad-Hoc Committee Update [Terry] [INFORMATION]**

**Exhibits:**

**Summary:** On July 22, 2015, the Committee took formal action on seven individual items, containing a recommended policy, implementation activities, and additional general recommendations to direct COG assistance efforts and future activities. To ensure that the activities of the Committee are clearly articulated, a whitepaper (attached) has been prepared which frames the creation, purpose, and activities of the Committee. It is anticipated that staff will deliver a full presentation to the TTC and PAC, including a request for action/recommendation regarding consideration of preservation ratios and/or activities from the PAC (as indicated in the whitepaper), at the November 2015 meeting. Leading up to this meeting, staff requests that you review the whitepaper, and continually work with staff as the presentation containing the identification of potential preservation ratios and activities is prepared.

**Action:** Information/discussion item. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Committee.

III. **OTHER BUSINESS**

A. **Items from Staff**

B. **Items from Members**

IV. **PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS**

A. **Public Presentations**

This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons wishing to address the Committee on items within its jurisdiction but not on this agenda. **Note:** Prior to action by the Committee on any item on this agenda, the public may comment on that item. Unscheduled comments may be limited to 3 minutes.

**PRESENTATIONS**

**JOINT Transportation Technical Committee / Policy Advisory Committee**

The TTC and the PAC will meet as a joint Committee to consider scheduled public presentations brought before the Committees. This portion of the meeting is scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m.

1. **Caltrans Report [CALTRANS]**

**Exhibits:**
**Summary:** Caltrans staff will provide an update at the meeting. A copy of the Caltrans Quarterly Report is included as an exhibit to this item.

**Action:** This is an information item. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Committee.