TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Date: Friday, March 15, 2013
Time: 8:30 AM
Place: COG Sequoia Conference Room
2035 Tulare St., Suite 201, Fresno, CA

Members Present:
Ken Hamm, City of Fresno
Nicholas Don Paladino, Fresno Cycling
Elizabeth Jonasson, CCA
Mike Prandini, BIA
Noe Martinez, City of Reedley
John Mulligan, City of Sanger
Mohammad Khorsand, Fresno County
Jeffrey Webster, FCRTA

Gary Joseph, Fresno EOC
Darrell Unruh, Fresno
Jack Castro, City of Huron
Matt Zulim, Fresno CHP
Scott Mozier, City of Fresno
John Robertson, Fresno County

Others Attending:
Heather Dumois, ALAC
Veronica Garibay, CRLA
Michelle Garcia
John Downs, FAX/Fresno COG
Tony Boren, Fresno COG
Barbara Steck, Fresno COG
Les Beshears, Fresno COG
Lauren Dawson, Fresno COG

Melissa Garza, Fresno COG
Lindsey Monge, Fresno COG
Brenda Veenendaal, Fresno COG
Kristine Cai, Fresno COG
Peggy Arnest, Fresno COG
Kathy Chung, Fresno COG
Kai Han, Fresno COG
Seth Scott, Fresno COG

TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

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

The meeting was called to order by Ken Hamm, City of Fresno, Chair. Everyone introduced themselves.

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 February 8, 2013 [APPROVE]
B. FY 2012-13 Transportation Development Act (TDA) [Fawcett] [INFO/ACTION]
C. Rail Committee [Thompson] [APPROVE]
D. Measure C Implementation Plan Update [Beshears] [ACCEPT] [PLAN IS AVAILABLE ON WEBSITE UNDER MEASURE C]
E. Conformity Analysis for the 2008 Ozone Standard-Public Review Period: April 5, 2013 to May 9, 2013 [Dawson] [INFORMATION]
F. Prop 84 / Blueprint Monthly Update [Terry] [INFORMATION]
G. Greenprint Update [Thompson] [INFORMATION]
H. High Speed Rail Update [Thompson] [INFORMATION]
I. Report on Federal Certification Review Process [Boren/Steck] [Boren] [INFORMATION]
J. Monthly Grant/Call for Project Reminders [Steck]
K. Approve FCRTA’s Procurement of Six (6) Previously Funded Job Access / Reverse Commute (JARC) and New Freedom Vehicles, Resolution 2013-03 [Webster] [APPROVE].

For a complete summary, see the March 15, 2013 Annotated Agenda.

A motion was made by Mohammad Khorsand (County) and seconded by Jeffrey Webster (FCRTA) to approve the Transportation Consent Items as presented. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

II. TRANSPORTATION ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Submittal and Letter of Support for a Caltrans Partnership Planning Grant Application for the SR 198 Corridor Preservation and Improvement Strategic Plan [Garza] [APPROVE] [HANDOUT]

Melissa Garza (Fresno COG) reported that Caltrans provides transportation planning grants for various types of planning efforts whose final products are intended to promote a balanced, comprehensive multi-modal transportation system and should lead to the adoption, initiation, and programming of transportation improvements. The Partnership Planning Grant is one of the planning grants available as a competitive grant program that funds transportation planning studies of multi-regional and statewide significance in partnership with Caltrans.

The Kings County Association of Governments (KCAG) has partnered with the Fresno Council of Governments, the Tulare County Association of Governments, and public and private stakeholders with an interest in SR 198 to consider and determine the needs of the corridor. SR 198 suffers from being chronically excluded or not considered for potential improvement opportunities due to outdated performance data and the lack of strategic planning for the corridor. While Caltrans has completed a Corridor Systems Management Plan (CSMP) and the eight San Joaquin Valley Metropolitan Planning Organizations have completed the San Joaquin Valley Goods Movement Plan (SJVMP), the recently
implemented federal transportation legislation, Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21), places renewed emphasis on the National Highway System Performance, freight corridors and freight corridor planning and improvement.

This partnership project will establish up to date transportation data for the corridor through the Fresno, Kings, and Tulare counties as well as performance measure criteria by which to evaluate future projects on the corridor and apply the measures to candidate projects to provide operational and safety improvements to the western portion of the corridor. The CSMP, the SJVMP, and MAP-21 all indicate that the next step for SR 198 is the development of a comprehensive plan for the performance of the corridor as an economic development and freight corridor resulting in a sustainable transportation system, which includes mobility, access, and safety while preserving the agricultural production of the adjacent properties.

A motion was made by Darrell Unruh (Fresno) and seconded by Mohammad Khorsand (County) to recommend authorization of the submittal of the application for a Partnership Planning Grant for the development of the SR 198 Corridor Preservation and Improvement Strategic Plan and also recommends approval of the Fresno COG Executive Director to be authorized to enter into a contract with the State Department of Transportation for the Partnership Planning Grant for the SR 198 Corridor Preservation and Improvement Strategic Plan on behalf of Fresno COG. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

**Item B 2 was moved before Item B 1.**

**B. Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Monthly Update [Steck][APPROVE/INFORMATION]**

Staff continues to work on the Regional Transportation Plan scheduled for adoption by the Fresno COG Policy Board before the end of 2013. This month we have two items for your review. In addition, a PPT presentation on the overall planning process and timeline is available on the COG website at: [http://www.fresnocog.org/sites/default/files/publications/RTP/RTP-COG_B...]{http://www.fresnocog.org/sites/default/files/publications/RTP/RTP-COG_B...}

**2. RTP Outreach [Veenendaal] [INFORMATION] (Moved)**

Brenda Veenendaal (Fresno COG) showed an outreach video that is available in English, Spanish and Hmong. She said that COG has released outreach materials including a fact sheet, a frequently asked questions list, key messages our committees and Board can use when speaking out about the RTP and SCS. All are available on the COG website. Ms. Veenendaal also presented a tentative schedule of seven workshops to be held in April to be hosted by the mini-grant recipients. Jeff Webster noted that one of the workshops said to take place on March 18 should be corrected to April 18. Mohammed Khorsand commented that the outreach effort has been good.

This was an information item and required no further action by the Committee.

**1. Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) scenarios [Cai] [APPROVE]**

Kristine Cai (Fresno COG) presented this item explaining that after months of diligent committee work and public outreach, Fresno COG staff developed 3 land use scenarios and 4 transportation funding
options to be considered as the SCS scenarios. An SCS scenario will be composed of both land use and transportation components. Ms. Cai gave a short power point presentation explaining the three scenarios to be considered. Ms. Cai described the differences between the scenarios including statistics, development locations and densities. (For a complete summary of the scenarios, please see the March 15, 2013 Annotated Agenda.)

Lindsey Monge (Fresno COG) described the original four funding options and explained how they have been reduced to two project lists. The remaining two project lists differ by five projects, so the project list including the five projects will be used.

Nick Paladino (Fresno Cycling) asked how many projects did not make the list. Ms. Monge responded about fifty boundary expansion projects. Elizabeth Jonasson (CCA) asked if all the active transportation projects made the lists and Ms. Monge responded yes.

Ms. Jonasson presented some of her concerns from her list of possible improvements. Ms. Jonasson believes that in the Complete Communities scenario, all the small cities and communities should maintain their same share of growth as the Blueprint Vision scenario, and that growth from the small cities and communities should not be allocated to Fresno and Clovis. Only foothill and ranchettes should be reallocated to the Fresno and Clovis. Ms. Jonasson stated that the small cities need to do more and we need to change the Blueprint Vision scenario. Mr. Khorsand (County) explained that higher densities in small cities are not there. Ms. Jonasson raised the question as to whether the scenarios could be amended. Mike Prandini (BIA) stated that the Blueprint is the Blueprint and we should not alter it, and start all over. Mr. Paladino (Fresno Cycling) stated that as he recalled there had already been a previous agreement that the Blueprint Vision scenario would include recent and projected general plan updates and that is why we see higher densities in Fresno and Clovis. Jeff Webster (FCRTA) reminded everyone that we can fine tune this in four year when we update the RTP/SCS.

Veronica Garibay, CRLA, (Public) asked if there could be additional public input. Ms. Cai said that we would seek public input in April and that the matter will be brought back to the committees in May for selection of the preferred SCS scenario.

Following the discussion, a motion was made by Mike Prandini (BIA) and seconded by Mohammad Khorsand (County) to recommend approval of the three land use scenarios and one project list as the SCS scenario. A vote was called for and the motion carried with one no vote from Ms. Jonasson.

C. Measure C Litter Program Update [Boren] [INFORMATION]

Mr. Boren gave a brief update on the developments regarding this program.

This was an information item and required no further action by the Committee.

III. OTHER BUSINESS
A. **Items from Staff**

None.

B. **Items from Members**

Mike Prandini (BIA) asked if there was a way to ensure the voting on the Scenarios would not be tilted toward those in attendance (special interest groups). Ms. Cai explained that the voting participants will be identified in staff presentation. Ms. Veenendaal said that the mini-grants went to groups not normally reached.

IV. **PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS**

This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons wishing to address the TTC on items within its jurisdiction but not on this agenda.

No presentations.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Boren, Executive Director

**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] AT 10 AM PRIOR TO PAC MEETING**

Michael Navarro, Caltrans, gave a brief update on current Caltrans projects including the realignment of State Route 99.

This was an information item and required no further action by the Committee.

2. **Presentation - SR-41 Southbound Sound Wall (Huntington Park Village) - Ranee Johnson**

Ms. Johnson gave a brief presentation referring to the proposal that was included in the meeting package. The group is looking for possible funding sources for this program. This will also be presented...
at the Fresno COG Policy Board meeting on March 28th. Mr. Rudd (Fresno) briefly commented regarding mitigation during the time that highways are constructed. Mr. Romero, Caltrans also responded. There was a discussion regarding possible Measure C funds and other funding. Mr. Rudd mentioned that the City of Fresno has received lots of complaints about noise level in other areas as well. Mr. Pauley noted that Fresno COG has no Measure C funding available for retrofit soundwalls.

A motion was made by Bruce Rudd (Fresno) and seconded by Rob Woolley (Clovis) that the issue be sent to the Policy Board and Measure C Oversight Committee for further discussion and that the City of Fresno evaluate how to address. Also asked Caltrans to look at noise level in several areas and verify if the modeling was correct and that the City of Fresno have discussions with Caltrans. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

Bruce Rudd asked if a Regional Soundwalls study could be included in the 2013-14 Overall Work Plan. A motion was made to that effect. A vote was called for and the motion carried.