

EXAMPLES OF FRESNO COG'S INTENTIONS TO EXPLORE ALTERNATIVE PROGRAMS AND POLICIES

In 2014 RTP, Chapter 7: Financing Mobility...

Section 7.7 – Sustainable Planning and Infrastructure Program

During the 2014 RTP planning process, interested members of the community discussed the need for a Sustainable Planning and Infrastructure Program to further complement the goals of the RTP/SCS. The purpose of such a program would be to support and enhance the implementation of the SCS across Fresno County. The implementation of such a program would be of great value for the Fresno County region; however, in order to undergo such a process to create a new regional program, extensive coordination between stakeholders, local member agencies, project sponsors and the COG Policy Board is needed to allow for a transparent and equitable approach. In addition, a funding structure is needed to implement this type of program, and Fresno COG staff as well as members from interested community based organizations, are exploring possible funding streams. Fresno COG is committed to continuing to work with member agencies and other stakeholders to develop and implement a new funding program in the near future.

In 2014-14 Overall Work Program – Work Element 313 Environmental Justice

Task 313.10 Conduct needs assessment in disadvantaged communities (\$50,000 consultant budget)

In 2014 RTP- PEIR, Table 1-1 - Summary of Impacts...

3.3.3 Other Changes in the Existing Environment

As part of the RTP and SCS formulation process; and at the request of a collection of community based organizations, following the selection of the preferred scenario, the Fresno COG Policy Board directed the Fresno COG Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) (which is comprised of the city managers and county administrator) to form a sub-committee to analyze, discuss and provide recommendation on agricultural mitigation measures for inclusion into the transportation planning process at Fresno COG.

Working collaboratively with the community-based organizations, interested stakeholders and professional staff, this committee is currently on-going, and discussing the formulation of policy and program language to:

- Develop a methodology to help implementing agencies quantify the conversion of prime farmland, unique farmland, farmland of statewide importance, and farmland of local importance associated with their proposed projects.
- Develop a methodology for implementing agencies to consider preservation ratios to minimize loss of prime, unique, and statewide importance farmland; and coordinate efforts to provide a mechanism for preservation activities.