

Measure C Citizens Oversight Committee
Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2013-2014
(draft 1a)

MEETING FREQUENCY

The Measure C Extension Citizen Oversight Committee (COC) met on an “as needed” basis during the period of July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014. This need resulted in 6 meetings again this fiscal year. Meetings were held late afternoon-early evening. They took place in conference rooms of the Fresno Council of Governments (Fresno COG). Dates of the meetings can be viewed on Fresno COG’s web site, www.fresnocog.org. Citizens (who the committee represents), guests and interested individuals are invited to attend the Committee meetings. *done*

The Fresno COG staff continues to serve as a COC resource for review of planned expenditures for fiscal year (FY) 2013-2014 (July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014) and actual expenditure reports for FY 2012-2013 (July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2013). Staff also provided supporting information and continued reports related to transportation planning, funding and implementation of Measure C programs and projects. *done*

FINANCES & AUDITS

COC received Annual Expenditure Reports for FY 2012-2013 from all 15 Fresno County cities, the County of Fresno, Fresno COG, and transit funds. The 58 Expenditure Reports total \$31,836,579 in expenditures of the Measure C Extension “pass through” funding, or the funding that is passed through monthly to the eligible agencies for specific transportation purposes. This includes expenditures from the Regional Public Transit Program, the Local Transportation Program, the Regional Transportation Program and the Administrative/Planning Program. The total “pass through” revenue held in reserve for all of these agencies as of June 30, 2013 was \$33,239,607. *done*

In addition, all 18 local agencies filed Local Agency Reports of planned expenditures totaling \$29,362,620.62 for FY 2013-2014. The 18 reports were reviewed and sixteen of the reports were approved. The reports improved generally, some agencies filed late or incomplete reports which were returned for correction as needed. One city did not respond to the correction request. The remaining report contained numerous items; all of the items were approved with one exception. *done*

The Fiscal Year 2011 - 2012 Measure C Extension Local Agency Audit Reports were not reviewed by the COC. Final audit reports were not received by the COC during the Fiscal Year reporting period. The COC will continue to review audit reports when presented and as required in the 2006 Measure C Extension Expenditure Plan. We anticipate FY 2011-2012 audits will be reviewed during the 2014-2015 FY after all final accounting and reporting is completed and analyzed. *done*

The 2011-2012 FY Fresno County Transportation Authority Audit Report was also not received during the Fiscal Year. Measure C Extension Local Agencies are audited annually. The requirement is new auditing firms are selected every three years for FCTA audits and every five

years for Local Agency and Fresno Air Terminal audits. Audit firm selection process serves as an additional check and balance for the program. *done*

BUDGET

The Measure C Extension Operating Budget for Fiscal 2014-2015 was presented to the COC in the June 2014 meeting. The estimate received from Department of Finance regarding projection of revenue indicates anticipated increases of revenue exceeding 6%. This estimate will help bring the Measure C funding closer to pre-recession levels and exceeds the 4% estimate level from 2013-2014. Total estimated tax revenue projected is \$66,841,854. *Done*

SPECIAL TOPICS

Requested Program Review

The COC requested several briefings from programs to allow for a better understanding as to the purpose, intent and implementation serving the cities and County. These programs were Car Pool Incentive, Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee, and the Fresno County Rural Transit Agency. Representatives for the programs came before the COC and made presentations and answered questions regarding their specific program and expertise. This educational process has allowed COC members to become better informed and increasingly astute in the subject area. *done*

Request to Amend Programs

The COC was asked to consider amending programs that would have impacted Rail Consolidation and New Technology. The request was to eliminate these categories and convert the funding that has accumulated to street maintenance. Lengthy discussions followed with balance reviews for street maintenance, and discussion of the value to existing New Technology and Rail Consolidation elements within Measure C. The point was made that it is too early in the Measure's cycle to eliminate a category or categories; especially when the intent of the extension Measure expressed to the public was to include these elements. After much discussion and assessment, the result was that the COC determined it was best to remain with the Measure's original intent at this time. *done*

Request to alter Millerton Road from Tier I to Tier II

The COC Committee Chair requested a briefing on this item, which was to widen Millerton Road, currently listed as a Tier II project and elevate it to Tier I status. It was noted that Tier II projects are not prioritized and this elevation also impacted other projects. This item did not move forward and was tabled until further notice. *done*

Fresno County Transportation Institute

The COC was made aware of a concept put forth by the Lyles College of Engineering at California State University, Fresno. The concept would allow the Fresno County Transportation Institute to utilize New Technology funds to help finance their organization and perform research, education and outreach. The concept was brief and in outline form, not fully developed at this time. The COC expressed interest with some caveats such as education and outreach. *Done*

Clarification Regarding the Use of Measure C Trail Funding

The COC received proposed expenditure requests for Measure C Trail funds. The proposals illustrated a need for additional clarity regarding expenditures for Trail requests. Initially the measure utilized the Caltrans design manual as a guide. The scope of those guidelines was insufficient to address all elements of the Trail requests before the COC. After discussion the COC directed the Chair to issue a letter on the subject. The letter resulted in a legal opinion being written clarifying the issue. *done*

COC implemented a system that captures ideas and thoughts for Measure C future needs. This system allows concept recall at a future date, and a logging system was created to record the files. *done*

MEMBERSHIP

COC membership is based on dedicated volunteers serving the citizens of Fresno County. They believe strongly in the motto of “Promises Made, Promises Kept” and use it as a primary guiding principle. COC members welcome comments and questions from interested parties and the public. Desired communications to the Committee may be addressed and forwarded through Fresno COG offices. *done*