

POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Executive Minutes

September 9, 2016

Members Present

John Holt, City of Clovis
David Elias, City of Fowler
Bruce Rudd, City of Fresno
John Kunkel, City of Kerman
Alexander Henderson, City of Kingsburg
Vince DiMaggio, City of Mendota
Samuel Escobar, Orange Cove
Nicole Zieba, City of Reedley
Elizabeth Nunez, City of San Joaquin
Roseann Galvan, City of Selma
Bernard Jimenez, Fresno County

Michael Navarro Caltrans
Rob Terry, Fresno COG

10:16am Meeting called to order.

Joint Transportation Technical Committee / Policy Advisory Committee

PRESENTATIONS

A. Caltrans Update (Caltrans)

Mr. Navarro reported that the 2017-2018 Active Transportation Planning Grants \$19 million available statewide. Last year, the Fresno region obtained almost \$11million in grants. Applications are due November 4th by 5 p.m.

B. Update on Litter Control on Fresno County Highways (Lauren Dawson) [Information]

Ms. Dawson and Mr. Liu (Caltrans) provided a report on the efforts to address litter control along the highways. The committee discussed volunteer programs and potential waivers of encroachment permits to allow access for clean- up days, Caltrans also discussed the option of a maintenance agreement with member agencies. Mr. Rudd (Fresno) commented that the Measure C does not include maintenance dollars for new freeway miles added, which is an inherent flaw of the measure. Mr. Liu (Caltrans) stated that the state is moving towards more hardscape and less trees due to cost and maintenance.

Mr. Rousseau (Fresno County) offered to add additional offenders to the cleanup programs. The discussion continued about litter control and enforcement programs for litter.

Policy Advisory Committee

I. TRANSPORTATION CONSENT ITEMS

- A. Executive Minutes of June 10, 2016 [APPROVE]
- B. Fourth Quarter Progress Report: April - June 2016 (Les Beshears) [ACCEPT]
- C. Transportation Development Act Claims (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]

- Approve Resolution 2016-29 Adopting the 2016/17 Transportation Development Act Claims for the

- City of Firebaugh in the amount of \$321,339.
 - Approve Resolution 2016-30 Adopting the 2016/17 Transportation Development Act Claims for the City of Kerman in the amount of \$567,217.
 - Approve Resolution 2016-31 Adopting the 2016/17 Transportation Development Act Claims for the City of Parlier in the amount of \$607,415.
 - Approve Resolution 2016-32 Adopting the 2016/17 Transportation Development Act Claims for the City of Reedley in the amount of \$1,025,792.
 - Approve Resolution 2016-33 Adopting the 2016/17 Transportation Development Act Claims for the City of Sanger in the amount of \$1,026,103.
- D. 2016/17 Overall Work Plan Amendment #2 (Les Beshears) [AUTHORIZE/APPROVE]
- E. NRG Make Ready-Stubs (Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure) Program (Lauren Dawson) [INFORMATION]
- F. YARTS Update (Peggy Arnest) [INFORMATION]
- G. Free Fleet Analysis Available (Lauren Dawson) [INFORMATION]
- H. San Joaquin Valley Clean Transportation Summit (Lauren Dawson) [INFORMATION]
- I. Class IV Separated Bikeways Feasibility Study (Clark Thompson) [INFORMATION]
- J. Proposition 84 Update (Rob Terry) [INFORMATION/DISCUSSION]
- K. Circuit Planner and Circuit Engineer Report (Rob Terry) [INFORMATION]
- L. Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Grant (Rob Terry) [INFORMATION]
- M. Active Transportation Program Cycle 3 Update (Chelsea Gonzales) [INFORMATION]
- N. Update on FCRTA Electric Vehicle (EV) Solar Charging Units (Moses Stites) [INFORMATION]

Following an expressed opportunity for public comment, a motion was made by Mr. Elias (Fowler) and seconded by Ms. Zieba (Reedley) to recommend approval of the Transportation Consent Items as presented. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

II. TRANSPORTATION ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Final Draft 2017 Federal Transportation Improvement Program and Corresponding Conformity Analysis [Gonzales/Martinez/Dawson] [APPROVE]

Ms. Gonzales (FCOG) reported that Fresno COG is federally mandated to prepare and maintain the Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP). This four-year program of projects includes a listing of all transportation-related projects requiring federal funding or other approval by the federal transportation agencies. The FTIP also lists non-federal, regionally significant projects for information and air quality modeling purposes.

Fresno COG is required to update the FTIP every 2 years. The most recent update was the 2015 FTIP, which was adopted by the Fresno COG Policy Board on June 26, 2014. As such, Fresno COG is due to update the FTIP again this year and is proposing approval of the Final Draft 2017 FTIP and the corresponding Final Draft Conformity Analysis.

Fresno COG held a 30-day public review and comment period for the Draft 2017 FTIP commencing on Friday, July 29, 2016 and concluding on Monday, August 29, 2016; comments were due by 5:00 p.m. on August 29, 2016. A public hearing was also held to receive comments on the Draft 2017 FTIP documents on Wednesday, August 10, 2016 at 5:30 PM at the Fresno COG office. Verbal comments received at the public hearing and other comments received during the 30-day public review period are summarized and responded to in Appendix J (Formal Comments and Responses) of the Final Draft 2017 FTIP. Any changes made to the Draft 2017 FTIP based on comments received are noted within the responses to such comments. Proposed adoption of the Final Draft 2017 FTIP and corresponding Final Draft Conformity Analysis is scheduled for the September 29, 2016 Fresno COG Policy Board meeting instead of September

22nd, as was originally indicated in the annotated agenda.

Ms. Dawson (FCOG) provided background information and the requirements for conformity. There were no comments received on the Draft Conformity Analysis.

Following an expressed opportunity for public comment, a motion was made by Mr. Jimenez (Fresno County) and seconded by Mr. Galvan (Selma) to recommend approval of the Final Draft 2017 Federal Transportation Improvement Program and the corresponding Final Draft Conformity Analysis via Resolution No. 2016-23. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

B. Fresno/Madera Origin-Destination Study Phase II Consultant Selection (Rob Terry) [AWARD/APPROVE]

Mr. Terry (FCOG) reported that Phase I of the study evaluated the traffic movement along the corridor. The second phase will analyze the fiscal impacts of these trips. On July 1, 2016, an RFP for Part Two activities was released, with three responses being submitted (Applied Development Economics, Cambridge Systematics, and Tischler Bise). The scoring committee - which included representatives from the Cities of Fresno and Madera, the Counties of Fresno and Madera, and both Fresno COG and Madera CTC - recommended the consulting firm of Applied Development Economics be awarded the contract, not to exceed the amount of \$107,550, as indicated in their proposal.

Following an expressed opportunity for public comment, a motion was made by Mr. Rudd (Fresno City) and seconded by Mr. Elias (Fowler) recommending the Fresno COG Policy Board award the Fresno/Madera Highway 41 and State Route 99 Origin-Destination Study Part Two contract to Applied Development Economics, not to exceed the amount of \$107,550, as indicated in the consultant's proposal and attachments. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

C. Transportation Needs Assessment Study (Kristine Cai) [ACCEPT/APPROVE]

Ms. Cai (FCOG) reported that In May 2014, the Fresno COG Policy Board directed Fresno COG staff to develop three Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) implementation programs in response to a request submitted by a coalition of community groups during the 2014 RTP/SCS development process. The Transportation Needs Assessment study was one of the 3 SCS implementation programs. A Needs Assessment Committee was formed in November 2014, which consisted of elected officials, staff members from the local governments, stakeholders, interested public members as well as representatives from the Coalition (community groups).

After months of discussion, the Committee defined the scope for the Needs Assessment study:

- 1) Develop databases for existing and future bike and pedestrian facilities in the region;
- 2) Contract with Fresno State students to build an inventory of existing bike lanes and sidewalks
- 3) Provide mapping with health data and bike, pedestrian and transit facilities in combination with disadvantaged communities defined by the study
- 4) Contract with a consulting firm to conduct:
 - a regional gap analysis for bike and trail facilities
 - a transportation connectivity/accessibility analysis for 10 major regional and sub-regional facilities that provide basic services for the residents in the Fresno Region

Fehr & Peers was hired to conduct the analysis specified in Task 4 of the scope. The Regional Gap analysis was focused on the inter-city/community connectivity of the bike/trail facilities. Sidewalks were not included in the analysis because they are deemed local. Demand scores for such facilities were developed based on factors such as population/employment density, proximity to schools, transit stop, land use mixes, etc. The missing connections were then identified and projects were then prioritized based on the demand scores, proximity to Needs Assessment hot-spots and schools, disadvantaged community status. etc. A list of gap projects was recommended with different levels of priority. Cost estimates were also provided for some recommended gap projects.

The Connectivity and Accessibility analysis was conducted for 10 hot-spots that were identified by the Needs Assessment Committee as regional/sub-regional facilities that provide basic services to the residents. They include Fashion Fair Mall, Fresno City College, the Superior Court, Coalinga Regional Medical Center, Sanger Walmart, etc. The Connectivity and Accessibility analysis was based on user needs, and was focused on the access to such facilities in the disadvantaged communities. The analysis covers all modes, including bike, pedestrian, transit and auto. Recommendations for improvements were made for each of the 10 hot-spots. The recommendation from this analysis presents opportunities for more detailed system improvement as funding becomes available. However, the scope of this analysis did not include a review of full system benefits, costs, and impacts of implementation.

The committee discussed ongoing maintenance of existing infrastructure and the feasibility of adding new sections to the system. Mr. Choa (Ferh and Peers) commented that maintenance for the existing facilities was included in the project cost estimates in the study. However the study did not evaluate the feasibility and cost of operations. The study looks at SR 180 and included connections from Mendota to Firebaugh and from Kerman to Biola, but only evaluated limited safety aspects.

All shape files and data used for the analysis are available by request and will be housed by the FCOG.

Following an expressed opportunity for public comment, a motion was made by Mr. Elais (Fowler) and seconded by Mr. Escobar (Orange Cove) to accept the Transportation Needs Assessment report. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

D. Regional Transportation Plan Roundtable Approval of Positions and Appointment of Representatives (Brenda Veenendaal) [APPROVE]

Ms. Veenendaal (FCOG) reported that as Fresno COG embarks upon the 2018 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Update, it is once again time to form the 2018 RTP Roundtable. The purpose of the RTP Roundtable is to support the Fresno COG staff and COG standing committees in their development and preparation of the 2018 RTP and Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS). It is vital to the success of the process that the RTP Roundtable helps to generate consensus about the plan that is based upon the input of an informed and active local constituency. While the RTP Roundtable will provide comments and input on issues related to development of the 2018 RTP/SCS, the final decisions on the RTP will be the responsibility of the Fresno Council of Governments' Policy Board.

COG staff released an application for appointment to the RTP Roundtable on August 12, 2016. Applications were due to staff by September 1, 2016. At that time there were 36 positions on the Roundtable to be filled – 16 seats that allow for one staff person from each member agency; 17 seats open to a variety of agencies and interest groups and 3 “at large” seats. The positions were approved during the 2014 RTP process, and updated prior to releasing the 2018 Roundtable application. They were recently updated as follows:

- Public Transportation was split into two positions, one for urban and one for rural representation
- Bicycle/Pedestrian position is now Active Transportation
- Environmental Justice Community position was shortened to Environmental Justice (EJ)
- Valley Blueprint Planners was updated to require representation from the Valley Planners Network

Subsequent to the release of the draft membership list, Fresno COG staff recognized that three additional positions should be added to the RTP Roundtable for the following representation:

- Education
- Water (Agency)
- Measure C Citizen Oversight Committee

Staff is seeking approval to the following:

- Approval of 3 new positions: Education, Water (Agency), Measure C Citizen Oversight Committee
- Accepting staff recommendation for appointment of David Fey as the Chair of the RTP Roundtable
- Appointing Amanda Manaco to temporarily fill the EJ position

The TTC has recommended to approve the 3 new agencies and appoint Amanda Monaco as the temporary EJ representative. However, TTC chose to leave the chairmanship to the PAC for determination.

Ms. Zieba (Reedley) asked that staff clarify that the water position is for an agency and not a non-profit or advocacy group.

There was discussion as to why the PAC should determine chairman of the roundtable instead of allowing the Roundtable to choose. Ms. Zieba (Reedley) supported the appointment of David Fey as the Chair of the Roundtable, stating that the process can become very political and easy sidetracked if the appropriate person isn't in place to move the process along.

Mr. Jimenez (Fresno County) recommended Eric Osterling from the Kings River Conservation District to the position.

Following an expressed opportunity for public comment, a motion was made by Ms. Zieba (Reedley) and seconded by Mr. Escobar (Orange Cove) to approve the recommended three additional Roundtable positions, Mr. David Fey as the Chair of the 2018 RTP Roundtable, the recommended Roundtable position appointment and the added water position be designated for a water agency. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

E. Measure "C" New Technology Multidisciplinary Advisory Group Funding Recommendations (Peggy Arnest)[APPROVE]

Ms. Arnest (FCOG) reported that the Measure "C" New Tech Steering Committee met for the first time in January of 2015 to begin discussion of this new Measure C Program. From this first committee meeting, a subcommittee was formed that met approximately ten times over the course of a year to developed program goals, program scope, criteria for solicitation, timeline for the distribution of funds, and the project selection process.

During this process, FCOG staff in conjunction with the subcommittee developed a grant application for the New Technology Program which was then presented to the entire Steering Committee for review, revision and recommendation. The final draft of this grant application and scoring criteria was approved by the Policy Board in December 2015 and the FCTA Board in March 2016. The COG Policy Board also gave direction to staff to develop a Multidisciplinary Advisory Group (MAG) to include 12 positions whose purpose was to review, evaluate, and recommending applications for funding.

FCOG received six New Technology Funding applications asking for a total of \$19,334,581 with \$10,000,000 in funding available. On July 21st, 2016 the MAG met to interview the applicants and discuss their grant applications. The reviewing committee was reminded that they could award the entire \$10million, a portion of it, or none of it.

The Measure C Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve the MAG funding recommendations.

Mr. DiMaggio (Mendota) spoke in support of the aviation project.

Ms. Frederick (League) spoke in support of the MAG's recommendation.

Following an expressed opportunity for public comment, a motion was made by Mr. Escobar (Orange Cove), seconded by Mr. Henderson (Kingsburg) to approve the New Technology MAG's recommendation for funding. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

F. Request by City of Fresno to Amend Measure "C" Amendment #1 to Allocate \$600,000 to fund Two-Year Purchase Option Contracts on Approximately 190 Acres of the Proposed California High Speed Rail Heavy Maintenance Facility (HMF) site. (Les Beshears) [INFORMATION/ACTION]

Mr. Beshears (FCOG) presented the proposed amendment requested by the City of Fresno. This Measure "C" Amendment request hereafter known as Amendment #3 will technically be an amendment to Measure "C" Amendment #1 which originally set aside the \$25 million for the High Speed Rail Heavy Maintenance Facility. The need for an amendment to Amendment #1 is because Amendment #1 states specifically that no Measure "C" funding can be expended "prior" to Fresno County being awarded the HSR Heavy Maintenance Facility. That being the case, in order for Fresno to access those funds "before" the CHSRA makes its decision on the Heavy Maintenance Facility, a new amendment is required.

Mr. Rudd presented additional information regarding the amendment. The City of Fresno, EDC and County have been in discussion about the possibility of purchasing options for the property to ensure the land is shoveled ready. The Measure C Oversight Committee unanimously supported the requested amendment.

Mr. Jimenez (Fresno County) spoke in support of the amendment request.

There was continued discussion regarding the regional benefit of the HMF designation, and timeline for the authority to make the selection.

Mr. Holt (Clovis) stated that the City of Clovis will be abstaining from the vote as they have not had a chance to discuss it with their city council.

Following an expressed opportunity for public comment a motion was made by Ms. Zieba (Reedley), seconded by Mr. Escobar (Orange Cove) to recommend that the Policy Board approve the Measure "C" Amendment #3 Resolution 2016-34. A vote was called for and the motion carried with City of Clovis abstaining.

III. ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT ITEMS

A. Regional Clearinghouse (Peggy Arnest) [APPROVE]

B. Legislative Update (Brenda Veenendaal) [INFORMATION]

Following an expressed opportunity for public comment, a motion was made by Mr. Elias (Fowler) and seconded by Ms. Henderson (Kingsburg) to recommend approval of the Administrative Consent Items as presented. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Frazier-Beall Transportation Funding Package (Rob Terry) [INFORMATION/DISCUSSION]

Mr. Terry notified the PAC members of the proposed funding package; detailed numbers for each agency were provided in the packet. This item was informational and required no further action.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Items from Staff

Mr. Beshears announced that the CTC has advised that there is a little more funding in the STIP than anticipated and is looking for shovel-ready projects. Staff will be working with Caltrans to move forward the SR180 project.

B. Items from Members

None

VI. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Ms. Frederick announced that the Bike Coalition will host a mayoral forum on October 5th focusing on active transportation issues. Flyers were distributed.

Meeting Adjourn at 11:48.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tony Boren". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned to the right of the typed name.

Tony Boren, Executive Director

Staff

Brenda Veenendaal
Chelsea Gonzales
Kai Han
Kristine Cai
Lauren Dawson
Les Beshears
Peggy Arnest
Rob Terry
Suzanne Martinez
Trai Her-Cole

Members of the Public

Fred Choa, Fehr & Peers
Jean Rousseau, Fresno County
Britany Watson, Senator Vidak
Leann Gouveia, BOE
Aly Tawfik, Fresno State