

TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Executive Minutes

September 9, 2016

Members Present

Mike Prandini, BIA
Michael Navarro, Caltrans
Renee Mathis, City of Clovis
Art Pensen, EOC
Moses Stites, FCRTA
Andrew Benelli, City of Fresno
Jennifer Clark, City of Fresno
Cristian Gonzalez, City of Mendota
John Mulligan, City of Sanger
David Wiesser, City of Fowler
Joey Dagget, City of Selma
Mohammad Alimi, Fresno County
Mohammad Khorsand, Fresno County
Steven Son, Fresno County
Nicolas Don Paladino, Fresno Cycling
Stephanie Frederick, League of Women Voters

Rob Terry, FCOG

I. TRANSPORTATION CONSENT ITEMS

- A. ExecutiveMinutesofJune10,2016[APPROVE]
- B. Fourth Quarter Progress Report: April - June 2016 (Les Beshears) [ACCEPT]
- C. TransportationDevelopmentActClaims(LesBeshears)[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]

Mr. Khorsand (Fresno County) requested to pull Item F. YARTS Update for discussion.

Following an expressed opportunity for public comment, a motion was made by Mr. Stites (FCRTA) and seconded by Mr. Paladino (Cycling) to recommend approval of the balance of the Transportation Consent Items as presented. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

Mr. Khorsand (Fresno County) asked if other agencies are experiencing the same budget issues related to YARTS.

Ms. Arnest (FCOG) reported that this program was funded by CMAQ, the application for additional funding was not awarded. Staff has adjusted the program to stretch out the current funding and continue some service.

Motion to approve Consent Item F was made by Mr. Stites (FCRTA), seconded by Mr. Khorsand (Fresno County). A vote was called for and the motion passed.

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 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.

Mr. Paladino (Cycling) asked if the document being approved is the interim FTIP or the full FTIP.

Ms. Gonzales (FCOG) responded that although both documents were noticed, the outstanding EPA action has been resolved and FCOG was able to move forward with a full FTIP.

Following an expressed opportunity for public comment, a motion was made by Mr. Paladino (Cycling) and seconded by Mr. Stites (FCRTA) 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 Ms. Clark (Fresno City), seconded by Mr. Prandini (BIA) 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.

There was discussion regarding how the analysis and of these recommendations are discretionary and if the recommended projects would be included in the Active Transportation Plan. Ms. Cai (FCOG) clarified that the result of the Transportation Needs Assessment Study is informational, and any action taken by the member jurisdictions is discretionary. The recommendations provided information that could be included in the ATP application. The top 5 projects also included preliminary cost estimates and detailed project information. The analysis looked at the County's current bike plan, and identified projects that would build upon the RTP/SCS projects which also provide a regional benefit.

There was further discussion regarding match requirements for projects. Ms. Gonzales (FCOG) clarified that while an 11.47% match is technically required for ATP projects to meet federal funding requirements, this can be satisfied by utilizing toll credits totaling 11.47% of the total project cost, which allows you to have the project 100% funded with ATP funds. Furthermore, while the Statewide and Regional ATP guidelines do not require local match funding, up to an additional 5 points are awarded for projects that identify a funding match (excluding toll credits). She also reminded all agencies that the current ATP scoring criteria lends itself to fund projects that show the community need and public participation more so than those with local match funding, as the local match category only encompasses 5 points out of the total 100 points.

Mr. Khorsand complimented the staff for providing a detailed study. He emphasized that the study was to identify regional gaps and member agencies are not obligated to pursue the identified projects.

Mr. Paladino (Cycling) asked if and how the recommendations will be incorporated into the 2018 Regional Transportation Plan. Ms. Kai (FCOG) commented that the projects have been presented to the Cites and is at the discretion of each member agency to move forward with them or not.

Mr. Son (Fresno County) expressed concern that the suggested list of projects is an indirect mandate for the projects to be funded.

Following an expressed opportunity for public comment, a motion was made by Mr. Khorsand (Fresno County) and seconded by Ms. Mathis (Clovis) 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 draft membership list being presented, Fresno COG staff recognized that three additional positions should be added to the RTP Roundtable for the following:

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

Staff is seeking approval to:

- 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

There was discussion regarding the necessity for an interim appointment of a representative for the EJ Taskforce, Ms. Kai (FCOG) stated that staff has met with the Leadership Council and they have expressed concern and are insistent that a member of the EJ taskforce be appointed to the roundtable.

Mr. Prandini (BIA) motioned to approve staff's recommendation. Seconded by Jennifer Clark (Fresno City).

Mr. Khorsand (Fresno County) commented that LAFCO is not a member agency and the Policy Board recommended a member agency be the chair of the roundtable and recommend that TTC leave the chairmanship to the PAC for decision.

Motion makers were agreeable to the amendment.

Following an expressed opportunity for public comment the amended motion made by Mr. Prandini (BIA), seconded by Ms. Clark (Fresno City) to approve the 3 new agencies and appoint Amanda Monaco as the temporary EJ representative. 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 develop 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.

There was discussion regarding the end results of the funded projects. Ms. Arnest (FCOG) commented that the Aviation Project is a demonstration project to test the feasibility of advance electrified aviation technology. The project will deploy the first electronic aircraft, provide the commercial flight training service, and develop of network of airport to support electronic aviation services. This project was a joint effort between Reedley, Mendota, and Reedley College.

Fresno State Transportation Institute Project will develop efficient advance transit systems, education, technical service, outreach and research. Dr. Tawfik (Fresno State) provided additional information regarding the project. The Institute will include education via graduate course, scholarships; research projects where students would help local entities pursue research projects, and pursuit of grants. Dr. Tawfik also responded that the funding for \$3M will fund the project for 5 years, and other grant funding has aslo been secured.

Mr. Stites (FCRTA) commented that the committee had a similar discussion, reviewed their budget, and recommend that the foundation contribute more match funding towards the project. The committee recommends funding only 3million; Fresno State has secured additional 50k through private donations.

Ms. Fredericks (League) commented in support of the recommendations.

There was a brief discussion regarding the City of Fresno's proposal, \$330K was granted out of the \$8.9M requested. The Committee decided to ward funding for the specific technology upgrade component of the project.

Following an expressed opportunity for public comment a motion was made by Mr. Alimi (Fresno County), seconded by Mr. Weisser (Fowler) 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 HighSpeedRail HeavyMaintenance 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. Beshears clarified that the \$600K will come out rail consolidation fund and not the \$25M that was set aside, previously Fresno would hold the options and the options will be assignable.

Mr. Rudd added that the HSR has already purchased property around this location. If Fresno is not selected, then the \$600k would be lost.

There was further discussion about prior agreement to purchase land.

Mr. Son (Fresno County) spoke in support as this investment has a regional benefit.

Following an expressed opportunity for public comment the amended motion made by Mr. Son (Fresno County), seconded by Ms. Clark (Fresno City) to recommend that the Policy Board approve the Measure "C" Amendment #3

Resolution 2016-34. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

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

Mr. Terry notified the TTC 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.

III. OTHER BUSINESS

- A. Items from Staff - none
- B. Items from Members – none

IV. 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.

Mr. Molina (BPAC) announced that the Bike Coalition will host a mayoral forum on October 5th focusing on active transportation issues. Flyers were distributed.

Mr. Beshears announced that the CTC has advised that there may be a little more funding in the STIP than anticipated and are looking for shovel ready projects. Staff will be working with Caltrans to move forward the 180 project.

Meeting Adjourn at 10:08am.

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.

PRESENTATIONS

A. Caltrans Update (Caltrans)

Mr. Navarro reported that the FY 2017-2018 Active Transportation Planning Grant Program Call for Projects is underway. Approximately \$19 M available statewide. Last year, the Fresno region obtained almost \$11M in grants. Applications are due November 4th by 5pm.

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.

Respectfully submitted,



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
Timothy Ray, CHP
Joseph Oldham, CALSTART
Tony Molina, BPAC
Jean Rousseau, Fresno County
Aly Tawfik, Fresno State