



**Transportation Technical Committee
Executive Minutes**

Friday, November 4, 2016
8:30 AM
COG Sequoia Conference Room
2035 Tulare St., Suite 201, Fresno, CA

Members Present

- David Padilla, Caltrans
- Rene Mathis, City of Clovis
- Jennifer Clark, City of Fresno
- Scott Mozier, City of Fresno
- Cristian Gonzalez, City of Mendota
- John Mulligan, City Of Sanger
- Joey Daggett, City of Selma
- Gary Horn, City of Orange Cove
- Moses Stites, FCRTA
- Mohammad Alimi, Fresno County
- Mohammad Khorsand, Fresno County
- Steven Son, Fresno County
- Nicolas Don Paladino, Fresno Cycling
- Rob Wyatt, Fresno EOC
- Stephanie Frederick, League of Women Voters

Tony Boren, FCOG

Meeting called to order at 8:36am by Mr. Gonzalez (Mendota), Chair.

Called to order at 8:32am.

I. TRANSPORTATION CONSENT ITEMS

- A. Executive Minutes September 9, 2016 [APPROVE]
- B. FY 16-17 Quarterly Report (Les Beshears) [ACCEPT]
- C. Annual Meeting Calendar for 2017 (Tony Boren) [APPROVE]
- D. Transportation Development Act Claim - City of Clovis (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]
- E. Active Transportation Program Cycle 3 Update (Chelsea Gonzales) [INFORMATION]
- F. Prop 84 Update (Brenda Veenendaal) [INFORMATION]
- G. Critical Urban Freight Corridors and Critical Rural Freight Corridors (Brenda Veenendaal) [INFORMATION]
- H. Circuit Planning and Engineering Update (Brenda Veenendaal) [INFORMATION]
- I. Greenprint Update (Trai Her-Cole) [INFORMATION/DISCUSSION]
- J. Transformative Climate Communities (Brenda Veenendaal) [INFORMATION]
- K. Cycletracks (Peggy Arnest) [INFORMATION/DISCUSSION]
- L. 2017 One Voice Advocacy Trip to Washington D.C. (Brenda Veenendaal) [INFORMATION]
- M. 2017 Active Transportation Program Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (Chelsea Gonzales) [INFORMATION]

After and expressed opportunity for public comment, a motion was made by Ms. Clark, seconded by Mr. Stites to approve the consent calendar as presented. A vote was called for, motion passed.

II. TRANSPORTATION ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. 2018 Regional Transportation Plan Update

1. Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Targets and State and Regional Activities (Kristine Cai) [INFORMATION]

Ms. Cai reported that California is on track to meet or exceed the current target of reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to 1990 levels by 2020, as established in the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB 32). Governor Brown's executive order B-30-15 established mid and long-term GHG reduction goals for the State of California, i.e. to reduce GHG to 40% below 1990 levels by 2030, and to 80% below 1990 levels by 2050. All state agencies with jurisdiction over GHG were directed to implement GHG reduction measures to achieve the 2030 and 2050 goals. In September 2016, Senate Bill 32 (SB 32) was signed into law by the Governor, which codifies the 2030 GHG reduction target of 40% below 1990 levels by 2030.

Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) reduction through integrated land use and transportation planning is part of the overall GHG reduction formula, which is implemented through SB 375. The 18 Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) in the State such as Fresno COG are the regional implementation agencies for the SB 375. ARB sets GHG reduction targets for each MPO every 8 years, and the MPOs will demonstrate whether the regional targets can be achieved through the Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) in the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), which is updated every 4 years. Currently, ARB is working with the MPOs to update the GHG reduction targets with the goal of adopting the new targets in the fall of 2017. With the governor's more aggressive GHG reduction goals, and the passing of SB32, it is expected that the new GHG reduction targets for each region will be strengthened.

Due to the adoption schedule of the new GHG targets by ARB, Fresno COG will be working on the development of 2018 RTP/SCS without a target until late 2017. Staff will continue to monitor the GHG target update process and will keep the committees abreast of the progress on the new targets.

Mr. Paladino commented that the RTP process should not move forward without having tentative targets identified. Ms. Cai clarified that staff is working closely with ARB to evaluate potential scenarios which include research into the market penetration for the emerging shared mobility and the impact it may have on travel demand.

Mr. Stites asked what kind of reporting requirements will be required for transit agencies. Ms. Cai responded that the performance process measure used by FHWA has not been included in RTP traffic study process yet; however, ARB has requested staff evaluate different funding scenarios such as an increased in gas tax. It has not been determined if the VMT User Fee program will be feasible. The State's pilot program is still underway.

Mr. Khorsand asked if land use plans will be taken in consideration in the modeling formula and what happens if the targets set by ARB are unachievable.

Ms. Cai responded that since many of the member agencies have recently adopted new general plans, the RTP will build upon these which does not provide a lot of room to push for more

aggressive measures which could conflict with the adopted plans. For this round of target setting, the Valley COG's are all assertively requesting target recommendations that have modeling evidence to support it. Staff will continue to engage all the agencies for any additional changes since the 2014 RTP.

The committee discussed SB743 and the impacts to CEQA; the legislation will have significant impact on the modeling study done by local governments, there will be a 2 year grace period and it will discourage greenfield development. Staff has provided comments regarding the threshold and methodology and will be closely following the progress.

Mr. Padilla stated that interim guidelines were released in September and the traffic study guidelines are in the works which should be completed in Spring 2017.

This was an informational item. No action was required.

B. Fresno County Sustainable Communities Public Transit Plan (Kristine Cai) [INFORMATION]

Ms. Cai reported that Fresno COG was awarded \$327,561 in 2016 by Caltrans for the Fresno County Sustainable Communities Public Transit Plan/Regional Long Range Transit Plan with the local match from Fresno COG and the Fresno County Rural Transit Agency (FCRTA), a total of \$370,000 is available for the project. The formulation of the Regional Long Range Transit Plan will be based on the latest regional growth forecast, the updated local general plans and specific plans, the adopted RTP/SCS, and the existing efforts and plans of the major transit operators in the Fresno region.

The scope for this project will include extensive community outreach survey and public workshops covering the entire region, transit scenario modeling and performance evaluation, bicycle and pedestrian strategy integration, identification of potential transit improvement and expansion and cost estimation.

The end product of this project is a Regional Long Range Transit Plan that can provide consistent strategic guidance for the public transportation investment in the Fresno region. The Regional Long Range Transit Plan can then be implemented by the major transit operators in the region with support from the funding agencies, local/state/federal governments, and residents and communities that will benefit from the investment.

The Regional Long Range Transit Plan project is expected to be launched in November, and is estimated to take 2 years to complete. Participation from local governments, transit operators, Caltrans, stakeholders and the general public is strongly encouraged and inputs from the agencies and the public will be sought throughout the process. A consultant team will be hired to conduct the study. The final plan will be presented to the governing bodies of Fresno Area Express (FAX), FCRTA and Clovis Stageline Transit for their individual acceptance/endorsement of the plan.

Mr. Boren stated that Regional Long Range Transit Plan is essentially an update to the PTIS which has become outdated. This project will also evaluate the market viability of achieving higher density, while balancing the goals of GHG and continuing to provide efficient goods movement through the region.

This was an informational item. No action was required.

C. Measure "C" Regional Transportation Program Update (Les Beshears) [INFORMATION/DISCUSSION]

Mr. Beshears reported that in the Spring of 2016, Fresno COG and the Fresno County Transportation Authority (FCTA) adopted an update to the Measure “C” Expenditure Plan “Regional Program” that programmed construction of the final segment of State Route 180 East (Trimmer Springs Rd. to Frankwood Ave.) in FY 2016/17, construction of the SR 269 Bridge in FY 2017/18 and the Golden State Corridor project in FY 2018/19.

At this time, COG staff pointed out potential problems with the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) component of the SR 180 East project. The issue was the California Transportation Commission (CTC) had just notified project sponsors the STIP was running a deficit of approximately \$750 million and there was no guarantee the scheduled \$35 million in STIP funds programmed for SR 180 East would be available. It was also highlighted by Fresno COG staff that if the \$35 million in STIP funding was not available, there was no way to deliver all three projects on the adopted schedule with only local funds. With this in mind, the Fresno COG Board reconfirmed that the SR 180 East project was the highest priority project for our region with the understanding the COG Board may have to revisit the priority between the SR 269 bridge project and the Golden State Boulevard project at some point in the future.

In September, the CTC announced that approximately \$70 million in savings had been identified in the STIP Allocation Plan and they were looking for deliverable projects that were fully designed, ROW certified and ready for construction. Fresno COG/Caltrans District 6 staff believed that the SR 180 East project met all of these criteria and was a perfect candidate for the newly available STIP funds and therefore requested that the project be considered for use of those funds. CTC staff concurred with Fresno COG/Caltrans District 6 staff, Caltrans is now aggressively processing the paper work so they can bid this project in December of 2016.

With this STIP award, the funding crisis impacting the SR 269 bridge project and the Golden State Boulevard project has been resolved and there will be no need for the Fresno COG Policy Board to revisit the priority between those two projects.

Mr. Mozier asked when the next opportunity for a Measure C regional plan update would be.

Mr. Beshears responded that the Measure calls for an update every 3 years but an interim update can be done if there are significant changes.

The committee discussed potential action from the legislators to resolve the long term STIP funding issue. Mr. Boren commented that the Beal-Frazier bill was introduced to the house committee but has not had any further movement.

III. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Items from Staff – Reminder that there is no meeting in December.

B. Items from Members

Ms. Mathis announced that the City of Clovis has adopted the ATP plan and will be available on website.

Mr. Son reported that company has approached the City and County to install cell tower in public right of way, since they fall under the CPUC and telecommunications laws, local agencies are unable to restrict the installation of these towers. Fresno County is working on emergency ordinance to address the issue. Mr. Mozier stated that the Fresno City Council is addressing the issue as well and directed legal counsel to review the matter. Mr. Khorsand encouraged all member agencies to collectively work together to find a solution that would be applicable countywide.

IV. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS – None

Joint Transportation Technical Committee / Policy Advisory Committee

A. PRESENTATION

1. Caltrans Report (CALTRANS)

Respectfully submitted,

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

Tony Boren, Executive Director

Staff

Brenda Veenendaal
Chelsea Gonzales
Kristine Cai
Les Beshears
Trai Her-Cole
Kai Han
Peggy Arenest

Members of the Public

Rim Ray, CH
Michael Osborn, P&P