

**2017 Annual Fresno COG One Voice trip to Washington, DC
Call for Regional Priorities**

Deadline for submittal – Thursday, February 2, 2017

Submit to: Melissa Garza, mgarza@fresnocog.org

Sponsorship information: Brenda Veenendaal, brendav@fresnocog.org

What regional issues are you facing in your community or organization that you would like discussed at the federal level? Do you have a hot priority that impacts the region and you want local elected officials, business leaders, and stakeholders to discuss? If so, then on behalf of the One Voice steering committee, Fresno COG staff is issuing a call for regional priorities for the 2017 One Voice advocacy trip. Please be advised that Fresno COG is a transportation planning agency and is looking for regional priorities and projects; however, the committee will continue to review all other regional priorities as has been done in previous cycles- even if they are not transportation focused. Please submit any proposed regional priorities that you may have in the form of a short 1 to 1 ½ page white paper that will help educate federal elected officials, administration staff, and other decision makers. A template has been provided as an attachment. All proposed recommendations must be submitted by **Thursday, February 2, 2017 COB.**

If you plan to resubmit the same priority for consideration that was submitted last year, please make sure that you provide an updated version for review and consideration. We encourage new regional priorities as well. The Steering Committee will then review and select the priorities and recommend a regional priority list to the Policy Board for adoption at their March board meeting.

Attached is last year's 2016 One Voice Priority Summary List for your reference only. **Again, a revised white paper must be submitted for reconsideration of any previously approved priority(ies).** Furthermore, if your agency is submitting more than one regional priority for consideration, please identify which is the number one priority followed with the 2nd, 3rd and so forth.

ALL NEW and EXISTING REGIONAL PRIORITY REQUESTS/UPDATES SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO FRESNO COG USING THE ATTACHED TEMPLATE. The template also includes an example for your reference. Please let us know if you need last year's word document for any particular regional priority and we will gladly forward separately.

About One Voice:

The Annual Fresno COG One Voice trip to Washington D.C. for elected officials, business leaders and staff is scheduled for **April 29-May 4, 2017**. This trip provides an opportunity for a delegation of local public and private representatives to expand upon the relationships with Congressional representatives and key top federal staff members, while advocating for legislative relief and funding for priorities and projects of regional significance. Delegates focus their efforts on bringing prosperity to Fresno County, and seeking potential short-term and long-term relief on matters that improve the Fresno County region such as improving transportation mobility, economic development, water, education and public safety and many more.

About our Sponsors:

Fresno COG would like to request your financial support for the 2016 One Voice advocacy effort. Sponsorship information is available by contacting Brenda Veenendaal at brendav@fresnocog.org. The One Voice sponsorship information is posted on the Fresno COG

website for your reference. We cannot thank our Fresno COG Member Agencies and 2016 One Voice Sponsors enough for their support and generosity. Their financial and in-kind support and contributions continue to make our advocacy trips a reality and success. Our 2016 One Voice Sponsors were:

White Level Sponsor:

- Granville Homes, Inc

Red Level Sponsor:

- Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission
- Hospital Council of Northern & Central California
- Precision Civil Engineering, Inc.
- Community Medical Centers
- Townsend

Additional Sponsor:

- VRPA Technologies