

**Policy Advisory Committee**

**Minutes**

Friday, April 14, 2017  
10:00 AM

Members Present

Luke Serpa, City of Clovis  
Ben Gallegos, City of Firebaugh  
Jeannie Davis, City of Fowler  
James Doughty II, City of Huron  
Alexander Henderson, City of Kingsburg  
Ron Manfredi, City of Parlier  
David Elias, City of Selma

The meeting was called to order at 10:05am by Mr. Henderson (Kingsburg), Chair.

**JOINT Transportation Technical Committee/Policy Advisory Committee**

**1. Caltrans Report [CALTRANS]**

Mr. Padilla (Caltrans) reported on the Clinton Avenue overpass, scheduled to be closed until December. He stated that State Route 99 will be closed from 11pm-5am. Mr. Elias (Selma) requested maintenance improvements on State Route 99 at Second Avenue.

Mr. Henderson (Kingsburg) stated that staff is requesting to pull item I-J for discussion.

**I. TRANSPORTATION CONSENT ITEMS**

- A. Executive Minutes of March 17, 2017 [APPROVE]
- B. Transportation Development Act Claims for the City of Fresno (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]
- C. FY 2016-2017 Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Program DRAFT Guidelines (Meg Prince) [INFORMATION]
- D. Release of Freeway Service Patrol (FSP) Request for Proposal (RFP) (Jennifer Soliz) [INFORMATION]
- E. Federal Transportation Improvement Program Amendments (Jennifer Soliz) [INFORMATION]
- F. Just Transit Grant Funding Awarded to 3 Fresno County Projects (Peggy Arnest) [INFORMATION]
- G. Obligational Authority (Jennifer Soliz) [INFORMATION/DIRECTION]
- H. Proposition 84 Greenprint (Trai Her-Cole/Meg Prince) [INFORMATION]
- I. Unmet Transit Need Update (Moses Stites) [INFORMATION]

After an expressed opportunity for public comment, a motion was made by Mr. Elias (Selma), seconded by Mr. Serpa (Clovis) to approve the consent agenda as presented. A vote was called for and the motion passed.

J. Transportation Funding Update (Tony Boren) [INFORMATION]

Mr. Boren (FCOG) reported that the Governor announced that a Transportation Funding Package has been agreed upon. The package combines the Governor's proposal of \$4.2 billion over the next 10 years and the Senate's proposal of \$6.4 billion over the next 10 years, meeting in the middle to provide \$5.2 billion a year; \$52.4 billion over ten years. A handout was provided outlining the Transportation Funding and Reform Package. Mr. Boren reported on the highlights of the package and amounts that would be allocated to cities if this legislation was approved.

Mr. Manfredi (Parlier) asked what portion of the gas tax will go to cities. Mr. Boren (FCOG) responded that cities will continue to get Highway User Tax, Road Maintenance/Rehabilitation funding and a percentage of the State loan repayment.

This item is informational only, no further action was required.

## II. TRANSPORTATION ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

### A. Regional Transportation Plan Update

**1. 2018 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy Growth Forecast (Seth Scott) [APPROVE]**

Mr. Scott (FCOG) reported that Applied Development Economics (ADE), through a contract with Fresno COG, has developed a set of detailed demographic forecasts for the agencies within Fresno County which extend out to 2050. The demographic forecasts were presented to the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Roundtable on February 22, 2017. These forecasts will be used to inform the planning assumptions used in the RTP Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS), and it is staff's hope that they will also be useful in the planning efforts of COG's member agencies. Throughout the development process ADE has worked closely with COG's member agencies for input and feedback. Fresno COG staff is confident that the final product is accurate in regards to both economic trends and local knowledge. Fresno COG 2050 Growth Forecast presentation prepared by ADE was presented to the committee.

After an expressed opportunity for public comment, a motion was made by Mr. Manfredi (Parlier), seconded by Mr. Elias (Selma) to approve ADE's demographic forecast for use in the 2018 RTP/SCS. A vote was called for and the motion passed.

**2. 2018 Sustainable Communities Strategy Draft Performance Indicators (Kai Han) [INFORMATION]**

Mr. Han (FCOG) reported that on March 22, a presentation was given to the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Roundtable Committee to review the 38 performance indicators utilized in the 2014 RTP and Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS). The focus was on the top 10 performance indicators, which were:

- Greenhouse gas reduction
- Criteria pollutants emissions
- Transit-oriented development
- Residential density
- Housing mix
- Compact development
- Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)
- Active transportation and transit travel
- Land consumption
- Important farmland

The indicators will be calculated to measure the key performances of each RTP planning scenario. To strengthen the performance measures for this new round of RTP/SCS, Fresno COG staff proposed to replace two previous performance indicators (compact development and land consumption) with two new indicators:

- Health indicator, in the form of premature deaths prevented
- Environmental Justice (EJ) indicator, which will be decided by the EJ Subcommittee

The committee could not reach a conclusion during the ensuing discussion regarding dropping the land consumption indicator and deciding which EJ indicator is most representative. The item will be taken back to the next RTP Roundtable for further discussion.

This item is informational only, no further action was required.

**3. 2018 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) Environmental Impact Report (EIR) Notice of Preparation and Scoping Meeting (Meg Prince) [INFORMATION]**

Ms. Prince (FCOG) reported that Fresno COG issued a Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) for the 2018 RTP/SCS on March 31, 2017. The NOP informs reviewers of the lead agency's intent to prepare an EIR with a 30-day public comment period. A scoping meeting will be held on **April 26, 2017** at the Fresno COG's offices. The scoping meeting will provide a brief overview of the EIR process, the project and scope of the EIR, and an opportunity to obtain input from agencies and/or the public on the scope of the EIR. The NOP is available for download on Fresno COG's RTP webpage: <http://www.fresnocog.org/rtp>.

This item is informational only, no further action was required.

**4. Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Financial Element - 1st Technical Work Group Meeting (Jennifer Soliz) [INFORMATION]**

Ms. Soliz (FCOG) reported that the financial element is a fundamental component of the RTP. It is the guiding principal on how funds will be invested. It identifies current and anticipated revenue sources and financing techniques available for the regions, planned transportation investments, ongoing operations and maintenance. This element addresses federal, state, regional and local revenues expected by the region over the next 25 years with currently

available revenue sources. The first meeting of the RTP Financial Element Technical Group for the review of the 2018 RTP Project Evaluation Criteria was held April 6, 2017. Topics of discussion included an overview of the RTP Financial Element, a review of the previous project evaluation criteria, and a draft of the Financial Element timeline.

Great feedback was received from the group on the following:

- Addressing equity and coalition
- Target regional and federal goals
- Including a broader selection for the definition of an activities center
- Add the language “project serves as a transportation disadvantage population” to all evaluation criteria including bicycle and pedestrians, streets and roads and transit projects.

Next steps include approval of evaluation criteria, funding forecasts, developing funding scenarios and the call for projects. The next meeting will be held May 3, 2017.

This item is informational only, no further action was required.

**5. 2018 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Policy Element Outline (Jennifer Soliz/Meg Prince) [INFORMATION/DIRECTION]**

Ms. Prince (FCOG) presented that the Policy Element seeks to identify the transportation goals, objectives, and policies that meet the transportation needs of our region. Goals, objectives, and policies are established to direct the courses of action that will provide efficient, integrated multimodal transportation systems to serve the mobility needs of people, including accessible pedestrian and bicycle facilities, as well as freight. Foster all of the policies economic prosperity and development, and minimizing mobile sources of air pollution. The 2018 RTP reflects transportation planning for Fresno County through the year 2042.

The 2014 RTP Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) was used as a starting point to evaluate which policy elements need to be updated, added or removed. Fresno COG continues to collect input to update the draft policy element that should be adopted in June or July 2017.

This item is informational only, no further action was required.

**6. 2018 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) Community Workshop (Seth Scott) [INFORMATION]**

Mr. Scott (FCOG) reported that Fresno COG staff will host a community workshop on April 25, 2017 at Hoover High School in Central Fresno regarding the 2018 RTP/SCS development. The purpose of the workshop is to educate the public on the RTP/SCS planning update, and to obtain feedback on the Draft SCS Scenario concepts.

The workshop was publicized via a partnership with KSEE/KGPE Television using the following techniques:

- Commercial Campaign on KSEE TV 24 (NBC) & KGPE 47 (CBS) reaching residents of Fresno County – 251 commercials with 290,000 adults reached.
- News stories covering important workshop related topics

- Central Valley Today- 2 4-5 minute interviews
- Web banners on Digital Mirror
- Targeted web ads and web video - 150,000 impressions delivered over the course of the campaign
- 2 Days of takeover of the entire Central Valley Today homepage. Then a "pencil pushdown" ad positions
- Video pre-roll in rotation before the video displays on their website
- 15 and 30 second commercials
- Social media Facebook updates on KSEE and KGPE pages.

Fresno COG staff will promote the workshop via the following techniques:

- Requested all new mini grant recipients begin outreach campaigns directing residents to the workshop and online participation portal.
- Advertised the workshop with email campaigns, community calendars, news releases, flyers, website postings, Facebook postings, a Facebook event invite, and posting on the Nextdoor Neighborhood application.

Fresno COG staff asked that member agencies promote the workshop to their community members, encouraging them to participate in person or online.

Mr. Henderson (Kingsburg) asked that COG staff provide advertisement to member agencies to share on their websites.

This item is informational only, no further action was required.

#### **B. Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan Update - Consultant Selection (Trai Her-Cole) [APPROVE]**

Ms. Her-Cole (FCOG) reported that the Fresno Council of Governments released a request for proposals, seeking an airport consulting firm to update the Fresno County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (ALUCP) for the Fresno County Airport Land Use Commission. Three firms submitted proposals by the February 28, 2017 deadline:

- Mead & Hunt
- Ricondo & Associates
- Coffman Associates

The ALUCP Update Scoring Committee, comprised of Commission members, urban and rural area airport managers and representatives, and Fresno COG staff, interviewed all three firms on Thursday, March 23, 2017. Although all three firms were clearly competent and experienced, the scoring committee unanimously recommended that the ALUCP Update be awarded to Coffman Associates. This recommendation is based upon Coffman's verbal and visual presentations, impressive public outreach experience and proposed development strategy, previous client recommendations and schedule of deliverables.

Following full approval of the award a contract will be executed. The approved timeline indicates that the contract should be signed and executed by May 1, 2017, then forwarded to Caltrans for contract award and full execution by June 15, 2017.

After an expressed opportunity for public comment, a motion was made by Mr. Elias (Selma), seconded by Ms. Davis (Fowler) to approve the scoring committee's recommendation of Coffman Associates as the consultant for the ALUCP Update and authorize Fresno COG's Executive Director to enter into a contract with Coffman Associates in the amount not to exceed \$300,000. A vote was called for and the motion passed.

**C. Environmental Justice Subcommittee Applicant Approval (Peggy Arnest) [APPROVE]**

Ms. Arnest (FCOG) reported that the Environmental Justice (EJ) Subcommittee and its 10 positions were approved by the Policy Board February 25, 2016. This committee will serve as a subcommittee of Fresno COG's Transportation Technical Committee (TTC) and will meet when Fresno COG staff, the TTC, the Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) or the Fresno COG Policy Board request recommendations on items involving EJ populations. They will also meet to assist Fresno COG staff in setting thresholds for EJ Populations for the EJ Report within each Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). The subcommittee members would report all advisory actions to the TTC through an EJ Representative. The TTC's recommendations would be referred to the PAC and Fresno COG Policy Board as needed.

The subcommittee will have 10 positions to provide full, diverse and equitable representation from designed EJ populations:

- Local agency urban
- East side local agency rural
- West side local agency rural
- 3 Minority representatives for the following nationalities with the highest population in Fresno County:
  - Hispanic
  - African American
  - Hmong
- 2 Low Income
- Senior (65 or older)
- Persons with disabilities

FCOG has received 4 applications from the following individuals:

Name	Agency	Representing	Email
Amanda Monaco	Leadership Counsel	Minority or Low-Income	<a href="mailto:amonaco@leadershipcounsel.org">amonaco@leadershipcounsel.org</a>
Mariah Thompson	California Rural Legal Assistance	Minority or Low-Income	<a href="mailto:mthompson@crla.org">mthompson@crla.org</a>
Jennifer Lekumberry	City of Mendota	West-side City	<a href="mailto:jennifer@cityofmendota.com">jennifer@cityofmendota.com</a>
LeRoy Candler	Public	African American or Senior	<a href="mailto:papacandler@yahoo.com">papacandler@yahoo.com</a>

After an expressed opportunity for public comment, a motion was made by Mr. Elias (Selma), seconded by Mr. Serpa (Clovis) to approve the applicants listed and allow FCOG to provide tentative appointments to the Subcommittee if they are deemed eligible, with the understanding that final confirmation must be approved by the TTC. A vote was called for and the motion passed.

Mr. Henderson (Kingsburg) stated that staff is requesting to pull item III B, C and D for discussion.

### **III. ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT ITEMS**

#### **A. Monthly Legislative Update (Trai Her-Cole) [INFORMATION]**

After an expressed opportunity for public comment, a motion was made by Mr. Elias (Selma) seconded by Mr. Serpa (Clovis) to approve the balance of the consent items. A vote was called for and the motion passed.

Pulled for discussion:

#### **B. Conflict of Interest Code Amendment for Fresno COG Resolution 2017-06 (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]**

#### **C. Conflict of Interest Code Amendment for Fresno County Rural Transportation Agency (FCRTA) Resolution 2017-07 (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]**

#### **D. Conflict of Interest Code Amendment for Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee (RTMF) Resolution 2017-01 (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]**

Mr. Beshears (FCOG) presented items III B, C and D as one.

Mr. Beshears (FCOG) reported that Board members are required by the Political Reform Act to file annual Form 700 Conflict of Interest filings with the Fair Political Practices Commission. Fresno COG's existing Joint Powers Agreement provides no formal process for appointing alternates, so seating alternates has always been informal. However, the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) recommends that anyone who takes part in the Board's deliberative process should have a Form 700 filing on record. County Counsel has prepared an amendment to our Conflict of Interest Code which will, among other things, add board alternates as a designated filing position. Rather than request every elected Councilmember and Supervisor in Fresno County, who are all potential alternates, file a Form 700, staff recommends each Mayor or Supervisor actively sitting on the Fresno COG, Fresno County Rural Transportation Agency and Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee Boards designate an alternate that will sit in their place should they not be able to attend a meeting. If something extraordinary occurs where neither the active Board member nor Alternate can attend, staff will advise the member who does attend that they should consider filing a Form 700 in case the FPPC happens to monitor our process.

Mr. Henderson stated that items III B, C and D will be approved under one motion.

Mr. Elias (Fowler) asked for clarification of how an alternate is designated, asking if it is done by Mayor appointment or Council approved? Mr. Beshears (FCOG) responded that the alternate does have to be an elected official. Mr. Beshears will consult with County Counsel for a definitive answer on how an alternate is appointed.

After an expressed opportunity for public comment, a motion was made by Mr. Elias (Selma) seconded by Mr. Manfredi (Parlier) to adopt FCOG Resolution 2017-06, FCRTA Resolution 2017-07

and RTMF Resolution 2017-01 amending the Fresno Council of Governments Conflict of Interest Code. A vote was called for and the motion passed.

#### **IV. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

There were no Administrative Action/Discussion items.

#### **V. OTHER BUSINESS**

##### **A. Items from Staff**

- Peggy Arnest (FCOG) reported on the Innovative Mobility Service Demonstrations with Zero-Emission Vehicles Grant Program from the California Air Resources Board with a deadline of May 22, 2017.
- Peggy Arnest (FCOG) reported on the Car Sharing and Mobility Options Pilot Project for Fiscal Year 2016-17 from the California Energy Commission with a deadline of June 30, 2017. This grant is only available to select Counties; Fresno County is one of the Counties.
- Mr. Boren (FCOG) reported that by the next PAC meeting FCOG will have completed their Washington, DC One Voice trip. Funding will be requested for Veterans Blvd., State Route 269 Bridge and Sustainable Aviation projects. Mr. Boren also stated that at the next FCOG Policy Board meeting the City Selection Committee will vote on the LAFCo seat and the Westside seat for the Fresno County Transportation Authority.

Mr. Serpa (Clovis) asked about the electric airplane proposal and its partnership with a company that no longer exists. Mr. Boren (FCOG) stated that is correct, but Joseph Oldham with CALSTART is working with the new company principals who support the project and are committed to it.

##### **B. Items from Members**

There were no items from Members.

#### **VI. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS**

There were no public presentations.

Adjourned at 10:55am.

Respectfully submitted,



Tony Boren



Public

Doug Svensson, Applied Development Economics (via phone)

Staff

Donna Blocker

Kai Han

Seth Scott

Les Beshears

Peggy Arnest

Trai Her-Cole

Jeanee Cervantes

Jennifer Soliz

Meg Prince