

**FRESNO COG POLICY BOARD**

**Minutes**

Thursday, May 25, 2017

5:30 PM

**Members Attending:**

Councilmember Lynne Ashbeck, City of Clovis  
Mayor Nathan Vosburg, City of Coalinga  
Mayor Pro Tem Felipe Perez, City of Firebaugh  
Mayor David Cardenas, City of Fowler  
Mayor Lee Brand, City of Fresno  
Mayor Rey León, City of Huron  
Mayor Rhonda Armstrong, City of Kerman  
Mayor Michelle Roman, City of Kingsburg  
Councilmember Robert Silva, City of Mendota  
Mayor Victor Lopez, City of Orange Cove  
Councilmember Trinidad Pimentel, City of Parlier  
Mayor Anita Betancourt, City of Reedley  
Mayor Frank Gonzalez, City of Sanger  
Mayor Michael Derr, City of Selma

Gail Miller, Caltrans  
Arthur Wille, Legal Counsel  
Tony Boren, Executive Director

**Absent:**

Mayor Pro Tem Amarpreet Dhaliwal, City of San Joaquin  
Supervisor Sal Quintero, County of Fresno

Quorum: At the start of the meeting, there were 14 members representing 81.85% of the population, there was a quorum to conduct business. (Clovis, Coalinga, Firebaugh, Fowler, Fresno City, Huron, Kerman, Kingsburg, Mendota, Orange Cove, Parlier, Reedley, Sanger, Selma).

Meeting was called to order at 5:36PM by Mayor Cardenas, Vice Chair.

**Staff has postponed the Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS) presentation by Dick Whittington to next month**

**Fresno County Rural Transit Agency Meeting will follow the Policy Board Meeting**

**FRESNO COG SITTING AS THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE**

**I. TRANSPORTATION CONSENT ITEMS**

- A. Executive Minutes of April 27, 2017 [APPROVE]
- B. Third Quarterly Work Element and Financial Report (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]
- C. Transportation Development Act Claims for the County of Fresno (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]

- D. Transportation Development Act 2017/18 Final Apportionment (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]
- E. State Transit Assistance Apportionment 2017/18 (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]
- F. Approval of the 2017 Federal Transit Administration Section 5310 Program of Projects (Peggy Arnest) [APPROVE]
- G. Active Transportation Program Update (Peggy Arnest) [INFORMATION]
- H. Fresno/Madera Origin-Destination Study and Fiscal Analysis Project Update (Tony Boren) [INFORMATION]
- I. National Environmental Policy Act Assignment Program (Trai Her-Cole) [INFORMATION]
- J. Circuit Planning and Engineering Update (Tony Boren) [INFORMATION]

After an expressed opportunity for public comment, a motion was made by Mayor Lopez (Orange Cove), seconded by Mayor Derr (Selma) to approve the consent agenda as presented. A vote was called and the motion passed. Member Betancourt abstains.

## II. TRANSPORTATION ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

### A. Blackstone Corridor Transportation & Housing Study Final Report (Kristine Cai) [APPROVE]

Ms. Cai reported that at the request of City of Fresno, Fresno COG provided \$150,000 to conduct the Blackstone Corridor Transportation & Housing study. The study area included Van Ness/Maroa Avenues to Harvard Avenue to Clark Avenue to Home Avenue (please see the attached map). The purpose of the study was to identify tools and opportunities for this area to be transformed from an auto-oriented corridor into a safe, accessible, multi-modal and mixed used environment that enhance the neighborhood quality and contribute to a vibrant community. The study also looked at opportunities for transit supportive infill development, improved connectivity to Blackstone Avenue and catalytic sites for revitalization in the study area.

The study report is a visioning document that can provide guidance for private development and public infrastructure investment in the area. The study identified emerging opportunities in the corridors and recommended 4 incremental development strategies for the study area:

1. Leverage catalytic sites identified by the study
2. Focus on public realm improvement
3. Promote land assembly for infill development
4. Achieve full potential of corridor

Ms. Hakimipour, Consultant, Urban Diversity Design presented the Blackstone Corridor Transportation & Housing Study Final Report.

Mr. Derr (Selma) asked how the railroad crossing is being dealt with. Ms. Hakimipour (Consultant) responded that the railroad separates the campus and Blackstone. There are plans to add aesthetics to the underpass such as shading, improved sidewalks and improved lighting. Mayor Whalen (Clovis) asked to what level Fresno City College (FCC) is participating and if Ratcliff stadium be used for recreation purposes. Mayor Brand (Fresno City) responded that the City of Fresno is working with FCC. With FCC bond money there are a lot of planned projects. Councilmember Silva (Mendota) commented that the current image of Blackstone is blighted. Mayor Lopez (Orange Cove) and Mayor Leon (Huron) stated their support of the City of Fresno and the study for Blackstone.

After an expressed opportunity for public comment, a motion was made by Mayor Brand (Fresno City), seconded by Mayor Lopez (Orange Cove) to approve the Blackstone Corridor Transportation & Housing Study final report. A vote was called for and the motion passed.

## **B. Freeway Service Patrol Contract Approval (Suzanne Martinez) [APPROVE]**

Ms. Martinez (FCOG) reported that the Freeway Service Patrol (FSP) has been in continuous operation on segments of the metropolitan area freeway system since September 1993, nearly 24 years. The purpose of the FSP is to promote smooth traffic flow during peak commute periods by providing for the rapid removal of disabled vehicles and vehicles involved in minor accidents. The current three-year towing contract ends on June 30, 2017. A Request for Proposal (RFP) for towing service for the next five-year period beginning July 1, 2017 and ending June 30, 2022 was issued on March 24, 2017. It was mailed to all 59 towing companies on the California Highway Patrol Fresno County Tow Rotation List and posted on the Fresno COG website.

One significant change was made for this next contract period. The contract will now be for a five-year period instead of a three-year period. This change was made for efficiency reasons on the part of the Towing Service Provider and Fresno COG Staff. The change was also made in order to better align with the contract terms of FSP Programs throughout the State and in hopes of saving money on the hourly rate, given that the Towing Service Provider would be able to extend any vehicle leases for a five-year term instead of a three-year term. Other aspects of the program remain unchanged. There will still be four beats running Monday through Friday (excluding holidays) that will provide service in the morning from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., and in the afternoon from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Only one proposal was received in response to the RFP. Historically, through all the contracting cycles of the FSP very few towing companies have submitted proposals in response to the RFPs issued. This may be because very few tow companies can meet the strict requirements of the program. In particular, these requirements include the financial resources to purchase and equip the necessary trucks and the hiring and retention of drivers who can pass background checks and meet other qualifications.

The proposal received was from Fresno Budget Towing Inc., the current FSP towing provider. The proposal amount is \$84.00/hour for 5,000 hours of service per year (5 hours/day/beat x 4 beats x 250 days/year = 5,000 hours/year). The proposal amount of \$84.00/hour is consistent with the current contract's hourly rate.

The selection committee, comprised of a representative of each of the FSP Partners, the California Highway Patrol, Caltrans and the Fresno COG, conferred on May 2, 2017, to review the proposal. The selection committee unanimously recommends that Fresno Budget Towing Inc. continue to provide FSP towing service for the next five-year period. This recommendation is based on several factors:

- Fresno Budget Towing has provided consistent excellent service during the nearly six years they have been the FSP towing provider. There have been no penalties assessed against them and survey responses are highly complementary of the service provided and the drivers who provide the service.
- They are financially strong, purchasing five new trucks for the service including the required back-up truck. Five of the trucks (including the back-up) will have a crew cab, thereby enabling the truck to more easily accommodate several passengers in the event the passenger vehicle must be towed to the CHP-approved drop location. One of the five trucks will be a 4x4 which will provide for additional capability.
- They have a team of experienced drivers that has been with the program and will continue with the program.
- The proposal amount is consistent with current hourly rate, which is beneficial in that the rate will be locked in for the next 5 years.

Mayor Whalen (Clovis) asked what territory the contracted plan will cover and if the City of Clovis is covered under this contract. Ms. Martinez (FCOG) responded that the contract is within the City of Fresno city limits, along State Route 41, 99, 180 and 168. The City of Clovis is not under the contracted plan, but if a call for service is received within Clovis city limits, they will respond.

After an expressed opportunity for public comment, a motion was made by Councilmember Silva (Mendota), seconded by Mayor Brand (Fresno City) to authorize the Fresno COG Executive Director to enter into a

contractual agreement with Fresno Budget Towing Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$420,000.00/year for five years beginning July 1, 2017 and ending June 30, 2022. A vote was called for and the motion passed.

**C. Circuit Planner Contract Amendment FY 2016-17 and Contract Renewal FY 2017-18 (Tony Boren)  
[APPROVE]**

Mr. Boren (FCOG) reported that Fresno COG has a contract with Fehr and Peers to develop a Regional Active Transportation Plan (ATP), which will include individual ATPs for several member agencies who currently don't have a plan. However, the quality of the individual plans will depend on the level of effort participating members contribute to the process. VRPA Technologies Inc. is currently under contract as Circuit Planner to specifically help member agencies in situations such as this. Fresno COG requested VRPA to provide additional support under the Circuit Planner contract to supplement the Regional ATP for an amount not to exceed \$20,603. This will ensure that each jurisdiction has an ATP that is compliant with the 2017 California Transportation Commission ATP Guidelines in order to be eligible for future funding. The amount is within the existing budget and requires no additional appropriation.

Additionally, in June staff was planning to extend the Circuit Planner contract into fiscal year 2017-18 at the budgeted amount of \$50,000 and recommends we do this now to facilitate the process.

After an expressed opportunity for public comment, a motion was made by Mayor Roman (Kingsburg), seconded by Mayor Lopez (Orange Cove) to authorize the Executive Director to amend the contract with VRPA to increase the contract \$70,603 and extend the term to June 30, 2018. A vote was called for and the motion passed.

**D. Regional Transportation Plan Update (Kristine Cai)**

**1. Senate Bill 375 Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Target Recommendation (Kristine Cai) [APPROVE]**

Ms. Cai (FCOG) reported that Senate Bill 375 (SB 375) requires that greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction targets be updated every eight years for the 18 Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) in the State. The California Air Resources Board (ARB) adopted the first set of MPO targets in 2010. They are set for each region at a percent per capita reduction of passenger vehicle GHG emissions from 2005 level. The eight MPOs in the San Joaquin Valley were given the targets of 5% reduction for 2020, and 10% reduction for 2035 in 2010 (they are now in the process of updating the targets).

SB 375 is focused on GHG reduction from passenger vehicles through integrated transportation and land use planning. MPOs are tasked with the implementation of SB375 through the development of a Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) in the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). An SCS is a forecast land use development pattern combined with transportation strategies, which if implemented, will meet or exceed the GHG reduction targets set by the ARB.

Due to declining transportation revenues and increased vehicle efficiencies which reduce the cost of driving and increases the overall vehicle miles driven (VMT), MPOs are having challenges achieving the existing targets. However, in order to meet the State's aggressive GHG reduction goals in SB 32 under the Governor's Executive Order B-30-15, the ARB is looking for more enhanced targets from each region. MPOs across the State sent consistent messages that the State needs to explore more tools such as pricing and other revenue strategies to achieve the state's goal.

Based on the scenario modeling that has been conducted, Fresno COG is proposing to aim for 6% per capita reduction for 2020 and 13% reduction by 2035 for the 2017 target update. Both the 2020 and 2035 target scenarios are largely based on the 2014 SCS with enhanced alternative transportation investment strategies. The land use strategies include compact development and mixed uses, infill development, growth concentration along the high capacity transit corridors, etc. Transportation

strategies in the target scenarios include more enhanced investment in transit, bike/ped. projects, carpool/vanpool programs and other alternative transportation strategies such as EV charging stations. These proposed targets are ambitious to the Fresno Region, but can be achieved with the implementation of the latest general plans from the cities/county, and more aggressive investment in vanpool/carpool, active transportation, electric vehicle (EV) programs and other alternative transportation strategies. The latest growth forecast is applied in the target scenarios, and the Model Improvement Plan (MIP) 2 model and EMFAC2014 are used in the quantification of the GHG reduction.

Mr. Boren (FCOG) stated that the ARB will always reach for higher reductions. The region is able to meet its targets, because the City of Fresno and the City of Clovis, the two largest member agencies, have adopted sustainable general plans. Mayor Whalen (Clovis) asked if there are penalties for not reaching our proposed targets. Mayor Whalen also stated that GHG comes from either stable or transient sources and asked if there is consideration for sources not within our control. Can we point to the stable sources as evidence that we are doing what is within our control. Ms. Cai (FCOG) responded that we do not have any influence or impact on “through trips”, trips going through our region but not stopping within the region. The State allows us to discount these trips and they are not counted in our numbers. With regard to funding, Ms. Cai responded that current legislation requires that if the SCS does not meet target then we would have to go into an Alternative Planning Strategy (APS) which is a fiscally non constraint scenario that is idealistic. Legislation is trying to incorporate the SCS into funding.

After an expressed opportunity for public comment, a motion was made by Mayor Whalen (Clovis), seconded by Mayor Leon (Huron) to approve 6% per capita GHG reduction for 2020 and 13% for 2035 as the targets for the Fresno region. A vote was called for and the motion passed.

## **2. Feedback from the 2018 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy Community Workshop (Kristine Cai/Brenda Veenendaal) [INFORMATION/DISCUSSION]**

Ms. Cai (FCOG) reported that on April 25, 2017, Fresno COG hosted a community workshop at Hoover High School to promote the 2018 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)/Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) and garner public input on the SCS scenario development process. Staff will present the public's response to the four draft scenario concepts, as well as their expressed priorities and values. It is staff's hope that this information will help the RTP Roundtable in their selection of the four scenarios that will officially be analyzed as part of the RTP/SCS in May.

Furthermore, a subcommittee of RTP Roundtable members has been formed to modify the existing scenarios and propose new scenarios for the Roundtable's consideration in May. Ultimately, it is staff's recommendation that four scenarios be selected by the Roundtable at that meeting for inclusion in the SCS.

Ms. Veenendaal reported that Fresno COG and the mini grant recipients will be hosting 15 workshops in the month of June throughout the County. The purpose of this round of workshops is to collect feedback from residents on what projects they would like to see in their communities and facilitate what projects each jurisdiction decides to submit to the RTP Roundtable.

Fresno COG hopes that City and County staff can attend the workshops for their communities and work with residents to discuss the projects and address some of the questions. The format staff is envisioning for these workshops is as follows:

- City or County staff provides a brief presentation on their General Plan's vision for their community and their Circulation Element.
- Fresno COG staff will bring maps of the city's proposed projects from the 2014 RTP for the residents to look at and provide feedback on.

- Fresno COG is currently developing an online survey using MetroQuest that has a mapping tool for residents to add and comment on projects they would like to see.

Fresno COG staff will compile the feedback collected during these workshops and provide it to each jurisdiction for their consideration.

Mr. Boren (FCOG) stated that Fresno COG was invited to an event in Sacramento where our mini grant outreach approach was highlighted as a best practice.

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

#### **E. Measure C Transit Oriented Development Program Update (Kristine Cai) [INFORMATION]**

Ms. Cai (FCOG) reported that the TOD Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) has started the process of reviewing and updating the TOD program guidelines. As directed by Fresno COG Policy Board and the Fresno County Transportation Authority Board to open up the (Measure C Transit Oriented Infrastructure for In-Fill Development (TOD)) program to the entire region. Two meetings have been held in March and April. The TAC has moved to define the membership of the committee as follows:

- Fresno COG
- Fresno County Transportation Authority
- Fresno Area Express
- Fresno County Rural Transit Agency
- Clovis Transit
- City of Fresno
- City of Clovis
- Eastside Cities
- Westside Cities
- County of Fresno
- 3 public members (representing development communities, environment/health, and other sectors)

The TAC membership has been filled except one public member from "other sectors".

The TAC discussed several potential approaches to update the program, and decided to move forward with the two viable options:

1. Remove the "project location" requirement in the existing guidelines, which designated three locations inside the City of Fresno as the only qualified locations for the TOD funding, and make minor revisions to the existing scoring criteria.
2. Create an urban/rural split and develop two sets of scoring criteria for the urban and rural programs. The project location requirement will be removed from both programs.

Since there was no representation from the small cities at the April meeting, the TAC decided not to take action on which option to move forward until input is received from them at the next meeting, scheduled for May 31, 2017, at 2:00 p.m.

Mayor Cardenas (Fowler) asked if the smaller cities are invited to this meeting by staff. Ms. Cai (FCOG) responded that there are two representatives, one from the eastside, David Elias, City of Selma and one from the west side, John Kunkle, City of Kerman.

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

## **F. Caltrans Update (CALTRANS) [INFORMATION]**

Ms. Miller (Caltrans) reported on the State Route 99 realignment, Clinton Avenue was closed on April 6<sup>th</sup>. The overcrossing super structure demolition was completed successfully in the 18 hour window provided by Union Pacific Railroad. The Clinton Avenue overcrossing columns are being formed. The contractor will begin forming the abutment footing and subsequent abutment structures. PG&E is continuing work on the underground electrical flooring operations and electrical relocations. PG&E work at Clinton Avenue was completed. PG&E work at Ashlan and Dakota continues and remains critical to the project schedule. The Clinton Avenue detours are all in place and revised signage has been put in place to encourage motorists to utilize the undercrossing tunnel detour that provides an east to west alternative route. The contractor is on 6 day work week to maintain the project schedule. Coordination between Caltrans, City of Fresno, business owners and residents continues, to work through specific issues and concerns that arise during the closure.

The Auberry road roundabout on State Route 168, work has begun. They are working on drainage, concrete, roadway and electrical activity.

The seismic retrofit for the San Joaquin River bridge and San Joaquin River overflow. The bird and bat exclusion netting installation has been completed. The barrier removal work has started. The water level is preventing work in the channel.

The Kings Canyon Expressway segment 3 on State Route 180 was awarded on April 4<sup>th</sup>. The earliest construction is anticipated to start in mid-June. This is a 2-2 ½ year project. There is a delay due to nesting season construction will begin in September.

The California Aqueduct bridge deck replacement on State Route 198 in the City of Huron. The bridge deck is being reconstructed one half at a time. Stage 1 constructed a new deck on the eastbound lane. Stage 2 includes the westbound deck that was poured on May 10<sup>th</sup>. Contractor will move forward with remaining roadwork once the concrete has come to strength.

State Route 41 southbound auxiliary lanes, from M Street to Tulare overcrossing, this is to provide auxiliary lanes by restriping and utilizing the median. A sound wall will be included. The project is expected to be in construction by the end of the year.

Mayor Leon (Huron) asked about the State Route 269 bridge with regard to the Army Corp of Engineers (ACOE). Mr. Boren (FCOG) responded that during the One Voice trip the delegation met with the ACOE with Caltrans project management staff on the phone. It was a positive meeting. The ACOE was open to what Caltrans had to say and they would do some research. There is a three to four month window for any issues the ACOE may have to get resolved before it affects the delivery of the project. Mayor Whalen (Clovis) suggested that follow up meetings take place to keep up the momentum of the project.

## **FRESNO COG SITTING AS THE FRESNO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS POLICY BOARD**

### **REAFFIRM ALL ACTIONS TAKEN WHILE SITTING AS THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE**

After an expressed opportunity for public comment, a motion was made by Mayor Lopez (Orange Cove), seconded by Mayor Leon (Huron) to reaffirm all actions taken while sitting at the Transportation Policy committee. A vote was called for, and the motion passed.

## **III. ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT ITEMS**

- A. Regional Clearinghouse (Peggy Arnest) [APPROVE]
- B. University of Colorado Denver Contract Indemnity (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]
- C. Resolution in Support of 2017 "One Voice" Sustainable Aviation Project (Tony Boren) [APPROVE]

D. Monthly Legislative Update (Trai Her-Cole) [INFORMATION]

After an expressed opportunity for public comment, a motion was made by Councilmember Silva (Mendota), seconded by Mayor Lopez (Orange Cove) to approve the consent agenda as presented. A vote was called and the motion passed.

**IV. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**A. Fiscal Year 2017-18 Overall Work Program and Budget-Resolution 2017-02 (Tony Boren) [APPROVE]**

Mr. Boren (FCOG) reported that the Fiscal Year (FY) 2017-18 Overall Work Program (OWP) draft was submitted in February, a memo was provided and was reported in detail at the February meeting. The final proposed budget increased \$4,500 from the draft submitted in February to correct an error on the Advertising & Legal Notice budget in the Indirect Overhead category.

Councilmember Silva (Mendota) asked if it is anticipated that there would be any problem with Federal funding not coming in. Mr. Boren (FCOG) responded that last year the 5-year Surface Transportation Act passed which provides the bulk of the transportation funds.

After an expressed opportunity for public comment, a motion was made by Mayor Brand (Fresno City), seconded by Mayor Lopez (Orange Cove) to approve Resolution 2017-02 approving the FY 2017-18 Overall Work Program and Budget. A vote was called for and the motion passed.

**B. Resolution 2017-21 in Support of City of Fresno Water Supply Requirement Under Temperance Flat Project (Tony Boren) [APPROVE]**

Mr. Boren (FCOG) deferred to the City of Fresno to speak to the resolution. Mr. Esqueda (Fresno City) reported that the City of Fresno coordinated with Mario Santoyo of the San Joaquin Valley Water Infrastructure Authority (SJWVIA) to define what success would look like for the City of Fresno if the Temperance Flat water project moved forward. The Fresno City Council adopted a resolution outlining that success would be a Class 1 contract that is a 120,000 acre-feet, Class 2 contract that is 30,000 acre-feet and with a dedicated storage in the reservoir. The City of Fresno is asking for the Fresno COG Policy Board support of the City of Fresno's proposal for an increase in central valley project water supply contract amounts within the Friant division. Mayor Lopez (Orange Cove) stated that the City of Orange Cove gets 100% of their water through central valley project. Orange Cove's economy is agricultural and water is crucial to the economy. Mayor Lopez asked that the member agencies support of the proposed resolution. Mayor Brand (Fresno City) stated that the City of Fresno being a member of the SJWVIA Joint Powers Authority holds a lot of clout, as Mayor he will continue to lobby for the water interest of the entire valley.

After an expressed opportunity for public comment, a motion was made by Mayor Brand (Fresno City), seconded by Mayor Lopez (Orange Cove) to approve Resolution 2017-21 in support of the City of Fresno Water Supply Requirement Under Temperance Flat Project. A vote was called for and the motion passed.

**C. San Joaquin Valley Water Authority - Orange Cove Dues (Les Beshears) [INFORMATION/DISCUSSION]**

Mr. Beshears (FCOG) reported that in 2015 five counties (Merced, Madera, Fresno, Kings and Tulare) in the Central Valley formed the San Joaquin Water Infrastructure Authority (SJWVIA) Joint Powers Authority (JPA) to address critical Valley Water Issues. Along with board representation from County Boards of Supervisors and Irrigation Districts, the JPA designated a board position for an East Side and West Side city-at-large. The JPA Board also approved a \$50,000 per designated agency dues structure to pay for the administrative cost of the SJWVIA JPA. The Fresno Council of Governments nominated, and the JPA accepted, Mayor Victor Lopez from the City of Orange Cove as the East Side city representative, however, the City of Orange Cove could not pay the \$50,000 dues. The Fresno COG nominated the City of Clovis as an alternate, but there is no



dues requirement for the alternate. Mayor Lopez requested Fresno COG act as a forum to request that the cities and Fresno County assist the City of Orange Cove in paying the dues. The item was discussed at the December 17, 2015 Fresno COG Policy Board meeting and a consensus obtained to divide the \$50,000 up by county population and have Board members take the item to their individual Councils or Board to see if they were interested in providing a pro rata share of that cost. It was emphasized that this was not a Fresno COG jurisdictional item. At the January 28, 2016 Fresno COG Policy Board meeting general consensus appeared to be all the agencies would participate. During the discussion Mayor Swearingen, City of Fresno, indicated it would be a one-time contribution and if any additional levy occurred it would go back to the Cities and County and not Fresno COG.

At the April 27, 2017, Fresno COG Policy Board meeting during a presentation by SJVWIA Executive Director Mario Santoyo on the dealings of the Authority, Mayor Victor Lopez requested Fresno COG Executive Director Tony Boren send correspondence to the member agencies requesting they help the City of Orange Cove defray the current year \$50,000 dues assessment. Chairman Dhaliwal emphasized this was not a Fresno COG jurisdictional issue and the Councils and Board of the respective member agencies would make the decision. Executive Director Mario Santoyo indicated he would meet with Mayor Lopez to compile a letter to be sent out to the agencies explaining the need for the request. Fresno COG staff updated the population spreadsheet, pro rating the \$50,000, then sent it out to member agencies on Mayor Lopez's behalf to facilitate the discussion.

Mayor Cardenas (Fowler) stated that this item was a continuation from last month's Fresno COG Policy Board meeting. The City of Fowler has placed this item on their Council agenda. This request is to be taken back to each of the member agencies Council for approval. Mayor Lopez (Orange Cove) expressed appreciation and thanked members for contributions.

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

#### **D. Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System Presentation (Dick Whittington) [INFORMATION]**

This item has been postponed to the June 29, 2017 Fresno COG Policy Board meeting.

### **V. OTHER BUSINESS**

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

- Mr. Boren (FCOG) stated that Fresno COG staff and delegates were in Washington, D.C. for the 2017 One Voice trip. It was a positive trip. The primary project focus was Veterans Blvd, State Route (SR) 269 Bridge and the Sustainable Aviation Project.

Mr. Roberts (Granville) complimented Fresno COG staff on a well-organized trip. Having a shorter list of projects kept things focused. Councilmember Silva (Mendota) asked if the Sustainable Aviation Project would receive funding. Mr. Boren (FCOG) responded that there is a lot of interest in project and that we are optimistic. Joseph Oldham is a good spokesperson for this project. Mayor Leon (Huron) stated that those in the meeting regarding SR 296 bridge were taken back to learn that in 1994 when the bridge washed out on Interstate 5 the seven individuals from Huron who lost their lives only took that route because SR 269 was closed. They were interested to use this information as a case study. Mayor Whalen (Clovis) stated that it was helpful that not all of the requests were for funding. It was well received that some of the requests were for administrative relief. Mayor Whalen stated that the cities invest a lot of money by sending officials on the One Voice trip and suggested that the Policy Board receive written updates, if not monthly, but quarterly to show progress of the efforts of the trip.

## B. Items from Members

- Mayor Betancourt (Reedley) reported that Reedley Airport held their annual Fly In event. Joseph Oldham gave the presentation at the event. Pilots gave free rides to the children. Being from a rural community, this may be the only opportunity for the children of the community to fly and it may inspire them to become pilots in the future. The Sustainable Aviation Project will afford them the opportunity to do so.
- Councilmember Pimentel (Parlier) stated that this was his first time participating in the Fresno COG Policy Board meeting. He expressed his appreciation to staff and to the members. It is a good know that the member agencies are working together for the better of our communities.

## VI. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

### A. Public Presentations

There were no public presentations.

A motion was made by Mayor Leon (Huron) to adjourn, seconded by Mayor Brand (Fresno City). Motion passed.

Adjourn to Fresno County Rural Transportation Agency Board at 7:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Tony Boren, Executive Director

### Public

Jim Anderson, Malaga C.W.D  
Charles Garabedian Jr., Malaga C.W.D  
Sheila Hakimipour, Urban Diversity Design  
Jeff Roberts, Granville Homes  
Tommy Esqueda, City of Fresno  
Mario Santoyo, San Joaquin Water Infrastructure Authority

### FCOG Staff

Kristine Cai  
Lang Yu  
Brenda Veenendaal  
Les Beshears  
Trai Her-Cole  
Suzanne Martinez  
Moses Stites, FCRTA  
Donna Blocker  
Jeaneen Cervantes