

**Policy Advisory Committee
MINUTES
Friday, October 13, 2017
10:00 AM**

Members Present

Luke Serpa, City of Clovis
Ben Gallegos, City of Firebaugh
Wilma Quan-Schechter, City of Fresno
James Doughty II, City of Huron
John Kunkel, City of Kerman
Alexander Henderson, City of Kingsburg
Vince DiMaggio, City of Mendota
Nicole Zieba, City of Reedley
Elizabeth Nunez, City of San Joaquin
David Elias, City of Selma
Mohammad Khorsand, County of Fresno
David Padilla, Caltrans
Tony Boren, Fresno COG

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m. by Mr. Henderson (Kingsburg), Chair.

JOINT Transportation Technical/Policy Advisory Committee

A. PRESENTATIONS

1. Caltrans Report (CALTRANS) [INFORMATION]

Mr. Padilla (Caltrans) reported.

- High Speed Rail: Clinton Avenue remains closed and the target for opening is at the end of the month.
- The Auberry Road roundabout in Prather is almost complete. Finishing touches to the landscaping are under way.
- The State Route 180 Kings Canyon Expressway Segment 3 groundbreaking took place yesterday morning.

I. TRANSPORTATION CONSENT ITEMS

- A. Executive Minutes of September 8, 2017 [APPROVE]
- B. City of Coalinga Fiscal Year 2016-17 Transportation Development Act Claim (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]
- C. City of Coalinga Fiscal Year 2017-18 Transportation Development Act Claim (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]
- D. City of Orange Cove FY 2017-18 Transportation Development Act Claim (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]
- E. Fiscal Year 2017-18 New Contracts and Contract Amendments
 - 1. State Route 99 Mountain View/Mendocino Interchange Study (Jennifer Soliz) [APPROVE]
 - 2. Contract with Sebastian Inc. to Upgrade Audio Equipment (Trai Her-Cole) [APPROVE]
 - 3. Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy Program Environmental Impact Report Contract Amendment (Meg Prince) [APPROVE]
 - 4. Fresno COG Activity-Based Model Contract Amendment (Kristine Cai) [APPROVE]
- F. 2017 Fresno Council of Governments Transportation Planning Certification Review Final Report (Trai Her-Cole) [ACCEPT]
- G. Quarterly Funding Workshop (Trai Her-Cole) [INFORMATION]
- H. Regional Transportation Plan Draft Action Element (Jennifer Soliz) [INFORMATION]
- I. RTP Financial Element - Project Scenarios/Revenue Projections Update (Suzanne Martinez) [INFORMATION]

After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Elias (Selma) motioned and Mr. Serpa (Clovis) seconded to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion passed.

II. TRANSPORTATION ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Request by the City of Fresno, Fresno City College and State Center Community College District to Allocate \$4.5 million in Measure C New Technology Program Funding to Technical and Academic Satellite Campus in West Fresno (Tony Boren) [DIRECTION]**

Item II-A was pulled at the City of Fresno's request.

- B. Golden State Boulevard Project/Mark Thomas Contract Amendment (Peggy Arnest) [APPROVE]**

Item II-B was pulled by staff.

Item II-D heard before Item II-C.

- D. Senate Bill 1 Planning Grant - Fresno COG Project Proposal for the Formula Grant for FY2017-18 (Kristine Cai/Jennifer Soliz) [APPROVE]**

Ms. Soliz (FCOG) reported that Senate Bill 1 (SB 1) allocates \$25 million annually in planning grants to encourage local and regional multimodal transportation and land-use planning that advances Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) goals, reduces greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and furthers other state goals. Of the \$25 million, \$12.5 million is set aside for a statewide competitive program, while the other \$12.5 million is administered by the Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) on formula basis. Fresno COG will be receiving \$407,484 annually for this formula-based planning grant.

Fresno COG is planning to submit two programs/projects for the FY 2017-18.

The first is the Sustainable Infrastructure Planning Grant Program for \$160,278, which will fund planning projects that help implement the SCS and address disadvantaged communities' needs. The program is competitive, and staff is working with a subcommittee to develop detailed guidelines, which will be presented to the TTC/PAC and the Policy Board for approval before a call for projects is issued in January 2018.

Ms. Cai (FCOG) reported that the second proposed project is a regional Pavement Management System (PMS) for the eight jurisdictions that don't already have it.

With PMS	Without PMS
Clovis	Coalinga
County	Fowler
Fresno	Firebaugh
Kerman	Huron
Parlier	Kingsburg
Reedley	Mendota
Sanger	Orange Cove
Selma	San Joaquin

Pavement management is the process of planning roadway network maintenance and repair to optimize pavement conditions over time. The regional PMS provides pavement condition assessment by roadway functional class, cost estimates by different maintenance treatments, and calculation of Pavement Condition Index (PCI). It also analyzes multiple budget scenarios for street network maintenance, which can include projected PCI achievable under existing and future funding levels.

Establishing the regional PMS through StreetSaver -- a pavement management system developed and maintained by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) in the Bay Area -- will cost around \$300,000, which includes the license fee for the first year. Each agency is expected to pay the \$1,500 license fee annually after that. The PMS will need to be updated every three years and the fees for the update are estimated to be around \$200,000.

Mr. DiMaggio (Mendota) asked what is done with the \$200,000 over the three years. Is it split among the agencies?

Ms. Cai responded that it is roughly a total of \$30,000 for each agency for three years. Mr. DiMaggio expressed concern about what would happen after the first year. The City of Mendota will benefit from this, but he would like to see a plan in place between Fresno COG and the member agencies that are benefiting, as to what will be expected after the first year. Ms. Zieba (Reedley) stated that she can support this item if two things are done: One would be a credit or reimbursement to those member agencies that have spent their own dollars on a PMS. Second would be to sign a Memorandum of Understanding that would require the member agencies to keep up the program.

There was further discussion of where this funding is coming from and why it needs to be programmed so quickly. Members expressed opposition to supporting the PMS program because there are a lot of unanswered questions about what will happen when it needs to be updated in three years. If member agencies are not putting forth the effort to conduct a PCI, why propose doing it for them?

Mr. Boren stated that there is not a consensus to the regional PMS and suggested tabling the item. Ms. Cai requested the Committee approve the \$160,278 for the Sustainable Infrastructure Planning Grant program. Ms. Zieba motioned to change staff recommendation, tabling the \$300,000 for the regional PMS and approving \$160,278 for the Sustainable Infrastructure Planning Grant program.

After an opportunity for public comment, Ms. Zieba (Reedley) motioned and Mr. DiMaggio (Mendota) seconded to approve to include \$160,278 for the Sustainable Infrastructure Planning Grant program in the SB1 formula planning grant for FY 2017-18. The motion passed.

C. Fiscal Year 2017-18 Overall Work Program Amendment No. 1 (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]

Mr. Beshears reported:

Work Element 110 – At the request of Kingsburg and Tulare County, Caltrans has agreed to perform a planning study to explore a new interchange on State Route 99 at Mendocino/ Mountain View. Fresno COG has been asked to partner on this \$90,000 study, with each participant contributing \$30,000.

Work Element 111 – In the process of developing the activity-based model, staff needs to acquire origins and destination data that will be supplied by RSG for \$25,000.

~~Work Element 117 – In consultation with the participating member agencies during the biannual update to the Measure C Regional Transportation Program, the scope of the Golden State project increased \$5.5 million, including a \$428,864 increase in the design contract with Mark Thomas. Item pulled from the agenda.~~

Work Element 140 – Staff proposes putting \$160,278 into a Sustainable Infrastructure Planning Grant Program. The program will be funded with \$141,894 from Senate Bill 1 and with \$18,384 in local match.

~~Work Element 141 – Staff proposes programming \$300,000 to perform a pavement management system analysis funded with \$265,590 from Senate Bill 1 and with \$34,410 in local match. Item tabled by the Committee.~~

Work Element 170 – In response to various letters from advocacy groups involved in our Regional Transportation Program (RTP) update, county counsel has recommended increasing the contract with Best, Best & Krieger, LLC, which subcontracts through VPRA to provide advice pertaining to the RTP Environmental Impact Report. Staff proposes increasing the budget for Best, Best & Krieger, LLC by \$25,000.

Work Element 310 – Pursuant to a grant by the Strategic Growth Council, San Joaquin COG has allocated \$4,750 to Fresno COG to participate in the Affordable Housing Sustainable Communities Technical Assistance program.

Work Element 910 – Sebastian Corporation has proposed a \$27,722 upgrade to the audio equipment in the Sequoia conference room, which includes replacing speakers, microphones and cabling to eliminate the audible distortion. The revised cabling arrangement will cross over the walkway at one point with a covered ramp to eliminate the multiple carpet covered wires that must be navigated.

After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Khorsand (Fresno County) motioned and Ms. Nunez (San Joaquin) seconded to authorize fiscal year 2017-18 Overall Work Program and Budget Amendment No. 1 for \$272,750. The motion passed.

E. Congestion Management Process (CMP) Update Final Report (Kai Han) [APPROVE]

Mr. Han (FCOG) reported that in response to Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) comments, Fresno COG started its Congestion Management Process (CMP) update in 2015. Working with the CMP steering committee -- comprising representatives from member agencies, transit agencies, Caltrans, FHWA and stakeholders -- COG staff updated the CMP network, developed new travel-time-based performance measures and the Single Occupancy Vehicle (SOV) project analysis methodology. An online congestion monitoring dashboard was also developed as part of the update to analyze both historical and real-time traffic conditions. FHWA plans to showcase the online dashboard in its national newsletter. The attached final draft CMP report includes a detailed description of these new enhancements, which have all been reviewed and approved by the CMP steering committee. A live demonstration of the online tool was demonstrated.

After opportunity for public comment, Mr. Serpa (Clovis) motioned and Mr. Khorsand (Fresno County) seconded to approve of the final Congestion Management Process report. The motion passed.

F. 2017 Fresno COG Active Transportation Program Augmentation – Metropolitan Planning Organization Component Funding Recommendations (Jennifer Soliz) [APPROVE]

Ms. Soliz (FCOG) reported that Senate Bill 99 (Chapter 359, Statutes of 2013) and Assembly Bill 101 (Chapter 354, Statutes of 2013) consolidated multiple state and federal funding streams to create the Active Transportation Program (ATP), which encourages active modes, such as biking and walking.

ATP funds are separated into three main components: the statewide competitive program (managed by the state), the small urban and rural area competitive program (also managed by the state) and the large urbanized area competitive program (managed by metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) - also known as the Regional Competitive ATP. Eligible entities, such as Fresno COG's member agencies, can apply for projects through both the statewide and regional competitive solicitations. Under the 2017 ATP program (cycle 3), funding was available for fiscal years 2019-20 and 2020-21. Senate Bill (SB) 1 provides an additional \$2.09 million to the MPO component for fiscal years 2017-18 and 2018-19. Funding from the 2017 ATP Augmentation is only available to:

- Projects programmed in the adopted 2017 ATP that can be delivered earlier than currently programmed, or
- Projects that were not selected in the 2017 ATP, based on the MPO's 2017 ATP contingency list.

Agencies applying for augmentation funds for the Statewide Component were required to submit their projects to the California Transportation Commission by August 1, 2017 and to the MPO for the MPO component by October 2, 2017. Below are the proposed SB 1 Augmentation MPO component funding recommendations. Upon Board adoption, they will be submitted to the CTC for final adoption at its December 2017 meeting.

Agency	Project Title	ATP Funding	Comments
Coalinga	Coalinga SRTS Sidewalk Gap Closure & Ped Improvements	\$1,109,000	Fund larger scoped project and advance project delivery from 19/20 and 20/21 to 17/18 and 18/19.
Sanger	Sanger Active Transportation Access	\$849,000	Fund larger scoped project and advance project delivery from 19/20 and 20/21 to 17/18 and 18/19.
Fresno PARCS	Fresno Pedestrian and Bike Safety Education Program	\$250,000	Advance project delivery from 19/20 to 18/19.
Mendota	Mendota Junior High SRTS	\$158,000	New project recommended for funding in 19/20.
Fowler	Golden State Blvd Bike/Ped Trail from Adams to Clayton	\$242,000	New project recommended for funding in 19/20 and 20/21.
Fresno County-1	Biola Community Sidewalk	\$243,000	New project recommended for partial funding for PS&E phase in 20/21.
Total ATP Funding		\$2,851,000	

After opportunity for public comment, Ms. Quan-Schechter (Fresno City) motioned and Mr. Serpa (Clovis) seconded to approve the 2017 ATP Augmentation MPO component-recommended projects based on the Cycle 3 contingency list. Member DiMaggio voted no. The motion passed.

G. Regional Transportation Plan Progress

1. Comment Letters from Stakeholder Groups (Kristine Cai/Robert Phipps) [INFORMATION]

Ms. Cai (FCOG) reported that Fresno COG has received two comment letters in September from several community groups raising issues and concerns regarding environmental justice, affordable housing, public participation, etc. Fresno COG met with Leadership Council, California Rural Legal Assistance and Community Equity Coalition partners and agreed to include some language in the Policy Element from the existing laws and regulations and to include two additional indicators in the EJ analysis. A question is being included in the October outreach survey regarding impacts from the SCS scenarios. The Leadership Council has agreed to do research in the existing Title IV and EJ regulations on language about historical discriminatory practices. Fresno COG's responses to each letter are being reviewed by legal counsel and when complete they will be circulated to the RTP Roundtable, TTC and PAC.

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

2. Draft Policy Element: Updated Text Regarding Protected Populations (Meg Prince) [APPROVE]

Ms. Prince (FCOG) reported the RTP Roundtable, TTC, PAC and Policy Board have each approved the 2018 RTP's Draft Policy Element in August and September. Since then, two community-based organizations have submitted comment letters requesting that the Element be updated to identify the specific groups of people that are protected by federal and state statutes.

Based on this request, staff has updated Goal B and Objective B.1 under Section 6.3.1 General Transportation Goals. The updated text is in bold as follows:

B. Goal: Improved mobility and accessibility for all, including the protected populations in accordance with federal and state statutes.

Title VI of the federal Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, and national origin in programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance.

California Government Code §11135 prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, ethnic group identification, age, mental disability, physical disability, medical condition, genetic information, marital status, or sexual orientation by any agency that is funded directly by the state or receives any financial assistance from the state.

B.1 Objective: To incorporate principles for environmental justice into transportation planning and implementation decisions.

Presidential Executive Order 12898 - Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations - focuses federal attention on the environmental and human health effects of federal actions on minority and low-income populations with the goal of achieving environmental protection for all communities.

Staff is requesting approval from the TTC and PAC to update the text under Goal B as shown above.

Mr. Khorsand (Fresno County) stated that it was discussed at the RTP Roundtable meeting that the letters allege that Fresno COG's policy have been or are discriminatory and that the letters' tone is unpleasant.

After an opportunity for public comment, Ms. Zieba (Reedley) motioned and Ms. Nunez (San Joaquin) seconded to approve the updated Draft Policy Element. The motion passed.

3. Sustainable Communities Strategy Fall 2017 Outreach Schedule (Brenda Veenendaal) [INFORMATION]

Ms. Veenendaal (FCOG) reported that Fresno COG is preparing to release the four Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) scenarios in October 2017 for public review and selection of a preferred SCS scenario. Each scenario includes a regional transportation project list that mirrors its priorities.

Fresno COG staff has developed an outreach strategy that includes scenario presentations and an opportunity for all participants to select a scenario preference. The effort launched on October 7 at two events where Fresno COG hosted informational booths. Fresno COG staff and mini-grant recipients have 16 events and 12 presentations scheduled through October 29.

Staff is looking for additional rural events, opportunities for full presentations and better means to advertise our online, interactive survey that will be available in English and Spanish. This outreach cycle will run from October 7 through November 9, 2017.

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

III. ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT ITEMS

There are no Administrative Consent Items

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Senate Bill 1 Update (Tony Boren) [INFORMATION]

Mr. Boren (FCOG) reported that Senate Bill 1 (SB1) passed and will take effect November 1. We will all pay \$0.12 more at the pump. Beginning the first of the year, vehicle registration will be a transportation improvement fee which will range from \$25-\$150 depending on the value of your vehicle. SB1 will raise \$5.2 billion a year in perpetuity. There is a movement to repeal the SB1.

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

V. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Items from Staff

- Mr. Boren reported that groundbreaking for the last segment of State Route 180 east. This project was promised to the voters is the original measure in 1986. Once this project is complete, the corridor will have been completed from Kerman to Centerville.

B. Items from Members

- Ms. Zieba (Reedley) reported that she was invited to have lunch with the CEO of Southern California Gas. An interesting part of the conversation was the concerns about electrification and the push to use gas CNG and LNG.

VI. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

A. Public Presentations

There were no public presentations

Adjourned at 11:04 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Tony Boren

Public

Eric Payne, SCCC Trustee

Miguel Arias, SCCC Trustee

Angela Islas, Central California Asthma Collaborative

Staff

Robert Phipps, Les Beshears, Kristine Cai, Kai Han, Trai Her-Cole, Meg Prince, Jennifer Soliz, Jeanee Cervantes