

**Transportation Technical Committee
Minutes
Friday, October 13, 2017
8:30 AM**

Members Present

Renee Mathis, City of Clovis
John Robertson, City of Reedley
Jim Schaad, City of Fresno
Mohammad Khorsand, Fresno County
Dale Siemer, Fresno County
Mike Prandini, Building Industry Association
Nicholas Paladino, Fresno Cycling Club
Mary Savala, League of Women Voters
Moses Stites, Fresno County Rural Transit Agency
Christian Gonzalez, City of Mendota
Andrew Benelli, City of Fresno
Joey Daggett (Gateway Engineering), City of Selma
John Mulligan, City of Sanger
Tony Boren, Fresno COG

The meeting was called to order at 8:32 a.m. by Ms. Mathis (Clovis), Chair.

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]
 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]

Item I-E-3 pulled for discussion by Mr. Khorsand (Fresno County).

After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Khorsand (Fresno County) motioned and Mr. Paladino (Fresno Cycling Club) seconded to approve the balance of the consent agenda as presented. The motion passed.

E. Fiscal Year 2017-18 New Contracts and Contract Amendments

- 3. Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy Program Environmental Impact Report Contract Amendment (Meg Prince) [APPROVE]**

Mr. Khorsand (Fresno County) asked for clarification on item I-E-3, considering it looks the same as item II-C. Does Fresno COG have an existing contract with Best, Best & Krieger, LLC. and is the request to increase the amount? Mr. Beshears (FCOG) responded that Best, Best & Krieger, LLC. is the subcontractor through VPRA to provide legal advice pertaining to the Regional Transportation Plan Environmental Impact Report.

After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Khorsand (Fresno County) motioned and Mr. Dagget (Selma) seconded to approve contract amendment with VRPA Technologies Inc. to increase the contract amount by \$25,000 for potential legal services. 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.

C. Fiscal Year 2017-18 Overall Work Program Amendment #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.

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 VRPA 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 currently be navigated.

Mr. Dagget (Selma) asked if programming under Work Element 141 for pavement management system was to buy the software. Ms. Cai (FCOG) responded that it is to purchase software and contracting a consultant to assess pavement conditions. Mr. Dagget asked if Selma was included. Selma owns the software, but would be interested in the field assessment. Ms. Mathis (Clovis) asked how long is the contract for the consultant to complete assessments. Ms. Cai responded that the \$300,000 is to set up the system and the first round of assessment, the Pavement Condition Index (PCI) calculation and the first year of license fee. After that the cities would be expected to pay the annual license fee of \$1,500. Maintenance would be required ever three years, the cost of which is not included in the \$300,000. That expense is estimated at \$200,000 per city every three years for maintenance.

After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Stites (FCRTA) motioned and Mr. Prandini (BIA) seconded to authorize fiscal year 2017-18 Overall Work Program and Budget Amendment No. 1 for \$572,750. The motion passed.

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 options 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. A regional PMS would provide pavement condition assessment by roadway functional class, cost estimates by different maintenance treatments and a 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.

Ms. Mathis (Clovis) commented that the City of Clovis supports a regional PMS. Mr. Paladino (Fresno Cycling Club) asked for clarification if the PMS software and the consultant assessment would apply only to the eight jurisdictions listed in the staff report. Mr. Boren (FCOG) responded that due to the City of Selma's situation there is an issue to be resolved. Ms. Cai responded that the City of Selma's request to be included in the field assessment could be accommodated, in this round, because it is expected to have \$20,000 in additional funds. Mr. Khorsand (Fresno County) suggested that all the member agencies should be covered in the update, not just the smaller cities. Ms. Cai responded that if Fresno COG is going to provide funding to all the member agencies there would not be enough money in the SB1 planning grant. Another funding source would need to be used. Mr. Khorsand stated that the funding should be applicable to all member agencies. It is not fair for the jurisdictions that have spent their own general fund money to do a PMS while it is being provided to the other jurisdictions that

have chosen not to have a PMS. Mr. Mulligan (Sanger) stated that the City of Sanger does currently have a PMS, but would be interested in reassessing the data.

Mr. Khorsand asked if the \$160,278 will be used to implement the SCS, what planning projects would be addressed and who made up the subcommittee that will develop the guidelines? Ms. Soliz responded that the subcommittee was open to all member agencies, community-based organizations and nonprofits. The projects are still undecided. Eligible projects are determined by the statewide competitive guidelines and will be narrowed down based on regional needs. A draft OWP amendment needs to be submitted to Caltrans by October 20. Ms. Cai responded that this money will fulfill the obligation directed by the Policy Board during the 2014 RTP adoption process.

Ms. Mathis asked considering the issues raised by Selma and Sanger, how would the committee like to move forward? There are timing issues with the SB1 money and Fresno COG will need to program the funding. If the committee chooses to consider something different than staff's recommendation, the timing would need to be considered. Mr. Boren stated that this will be the first cycle and Caltrans has requested that Fresno COG get the money programmed in this fiscal year. In the next fiscal year there will be additional funds available. The next cycle may be the opportunity for the member agencies that have a PMS to get funding for assessment or reassessment.

After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Khorsand (Fresno County) motioned and Mr. Siemer (Fresno County) seconded to approve \$160,278 for the Sustainable Infrastructure Planning Grant program and \$300,000 for the regional Pavement Management System in the SB1 formula planning grant for FY 2017-18. 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.

Mr. Prandini (BIA) asked how is the data is being collected. Mr. Han responded that the navigation data provider has probes that collect and send data.

After opportunity for public comment, Mr. Stites (FCRTA) 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, Mr. Robertson (Reedley) motioned and Mr. Paladino (Fresno Cycling Club) seconded to approve the 2017 ATP Augmentation MPO component-recommended projects based on the Cycle 3 contingency list. 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 received two additional comment letters in September from several community groups raising issues and concerns regarding environmental justice (EJ), 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. The Leadership Counsel 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.

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.

This item is informational only; no further action 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.

After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Khorsand (Fresno County) motioned and Ms. Savala (League of Women Voters) 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 the online, interactive survey that will be available in English and Spanish. This outreach cycle will run from October 7 through November 9, 2017.

Ms. Savala (League of Women Voters) asked how long the presentation is. Ms. Cai (FCOG) responded that she did a presentation to Fresno State Sustainability Club. The presentation was about 30 minutes and the students had a lot of questions that took up another 30 minutes. The total time at Fresno State was one hour.

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

III. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Items from Staff

- Mr. Boren 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.

B. Items from Members

- Ms. Clark (Fresno City) reported that the opening of Fulton Street is October 21, from 2:00-11:00 p.m. The official ribbon cutting is scheduled for 3:00 p.m.

IV. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

A. Public Presentations

There were no public presentations

Adjourned at 9:48 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tony Boren". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tony Boren

Public

Amy Hance, City of Clovis

Tony Molina, Fresno County Bicycle Coalition

Mariah Thompson, CRLA

Michael Osborn, P&P/City of Mendota

Denise DiBenedetto, FCTA

Staff

Robert Phipps

Les Beshears

Kristine Cai

Kai Han

Trai Her-Cole

Meg Prince

Jennifer Soliz

Jeaneen Cervantes

Jeff Long