

**Transportation Technical Committee
MINUTES
Friday, February 9, 2018
8:30 AM**

Members Present

Renee Mathis, City of Clovis
Cristian Gonzalez, City of Mendota
Jennifer Clark, City of Fresno
Mohammad Alimi, Fresno County
David Padilla, Caltrans
Moses Stites, Fresno County Rural Transit Agency
Nicholas Paladino, Fresno Cycling Club
Mike Prandini, Building Industry Association
Ryan Burnett, City of Clovis
Mohammad Khorsand, Fresno County
Scott Mozier, City of Fresno
Jim Schaad, City of Fresno
John Robertson, City of Reedley
John Mulligan, City of Sanger
Manuel Lopez, City of Fowler
Tony Boren, Fresno COG

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Mr. Chapa (Sanger), Vice Chair.
With ten members present, there was a quorum to conduct business.

I. TRANSPORTATION CONSENT ITEMS

- A. Executive Minutes of January 12, 2018 [APPROVE]
- B. Second Quarterly Work Element and Financial Report (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]
- C. City of Fresno Fiscal Year 2017-18 Transportation Development Act Claim Resolution 2018-05 (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]
- D. Annual Transit Productivity Evaluation Report (Jeff Long) [ACCEPT]
- E. Appointments to the Fresno COG Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) (Jeff Long) [APPROVE]
- F. Regional Transportation Plan Draft Action Element (Jennifer Soliz) [APPROVE]
- G. Fiscal Year 2018-19 Preliminary Estimates (Les Beshears) [INFORMATION]
- H. Initiation of Annual Unmet Needs Process (Jeff Long) [INFORMATION]
- I. 2018 Statewide Local Streets and Roads Needs Assessment Survey (Jennifer Soliz) [INFORMATION]
- J. Fresno COG Fiscal Year 2016-17 Audits (Les Beshears) [INFORMATION]
- K. Measure C Citizen Oversight Committee Available Positions (Brenda Veenendaal) [INFORMATION]

After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Khorsand (Fresno County) motioned and Mr. Mozier (Fresno City) seconded to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion passed.

II. TRANSPORTATION ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Fiscal Year 2018-19 Draft Overall Work Program 45 Day Review (Tony Boren) [APPROVE]

Mr. Boren (FCOG) reported on the highlights of the fiscal year (FY) 2018-19 Overall Work Program (OWP). The FY 2018-19 budget is \$19 million, which is a 15 percent decrease from last year. Upcoming projects and planning: \$160,000 for Sustainable Planning Grant program, funded by Senate Bill 1 (SB 1); \$150,000 for the Blackstone and Shaw study; \$30,000 for the State Route Mountain View interchange; \$300,000 for Reverse Triangle planning project; \$334,000 for Pavement Management System, funded by SB1; \$164,000 long-range sustainable community public transportation plan;

\$62,000 for High Speed Rail planning; \$136,000 for Airport Land Use plan and; \$873,000 for Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS). Upcoming programs: \$5.86 million to implement the Fresno State Transportation Institute and FCRTA electric buses; \$750,000 for the Senior Taxi Scrip program; \$100,000 for the circuit planner/engineer and; \$150,000 for Freeway Service Patrol. Staffing: There are no new staff positions; however, there are two vacant positions that Fresno COG is looking to fill. Six percent has been set aside for salary increases and 3 percent for benefit increases. Facilities: Fresno COG is on the second year of a ten-year lease.

After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Stites (FCRTA) motioned and Mr. Prandini (BIA) seconded to authorize Fresno COG staff to release the Draft Fresno Council of Governments fiscal year 2018-19 Overall Work Program and budget for a 45-day review and comment period. The motion passed.

B. Regional Sustainable Infrastructure Planning Grant Guidelines and Application Packet (Jennifer Soliz) [APPROVE]

Ms. Soliz (FCOG) reported that the Regional Sustainable Infrastructure Planning Grant Program (SIPGP) is one of the three Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) implementation programs that the Fresno COG Policy Board directs during the 2014 RTP/SCS adoption process. In October 2017, the Board approved formula funds from Caltrans' Senate Bill 1 (SB 1) planning grant program for the regional SIPGP.

SB 1 grant funding is intended to support and implement local and regional multimodal transportation and land-use planning that furthers the region's RTP/SCS, contributes to the state's greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction targets and other state goals, addresses the disadvantaged communities' needs and also assists in the guidelines' overarching objectives. Regional guidelines were developed based on statewide guidelines and input from the sub-committee. The SIPGP sub-committee met several times since September 2017 to develop guidelines and the application packet for the first cycle. Once the Board approves the guidelines and application packet, the call for projects will be initiated. Simultaneously, Fresno COG will also solicit applications for the anticipated fiscal year (FY) 2018-19 Cycle 2 round of funding. Cycle 2 projects will not be contractually obligated until Fresno COG's FY 2018-19 Overall Work Program is approved.

The sub-committee comprised members from our local agencies, Caltrans, community-based organizations and non-profit organizations. Staff thanked all stakeholders for their participation, feedback and collaboration in developing this regional program.

After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Mozier (Fresno City) motioned and Mr. Gonzalez (Mendota) seconded to approve the SIPGP guidelines and application packet.

C. Surface Transportation Block Grant Regional Bid Recommendations (Jennifer Soliz) [APPROVE]

Ms. Soliz (FCOG) reported that on September 28, 2017 the Fresno COG Policy Board issued a formal call for projects for the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG) regional bid and lifeline process. The available funding for this round is \$11,496,344.

Staff received 44 applications requesting more than \$51 million in funding. On January 9, 2018 the STBG scoring committee convened, reviewed the applications and made its recommendations. The recommendations, lifeline and funding amounts per agency and per urban and rural splits were provided.

After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Stites (FCRTA) motioned and Mr. Khorsand (Fresno County) seconded to approve of the scoring committee's recommendations for the 2017-18 RSTP call for projects. Approved projects will be programmed for funding in the 2019 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP). Member Zieba (Reedley) opposed. The motion passed.

D. Fresno County Regional Active Transportation Plan Negative Declaration Adoption (Peggy Arnest) [APPROVE]

Ms. Arnest (FCOG) reported that Fresno COG developed a Regional Active Transportation Plan (R-ATP) to provide a comprehensive document outlining the future of walking and bicycling in Fresno County. The R-ATP was developed in coordination with Fresno COG's member agencies, the general public and stakeholder groups such as local bicycling groups, walking advocates, educational institutions and disadvantaged communities.

The R-ATP is intended to help Fresno COG's member agencies better compete for funding sources that support ATPs and to satisfy California Transportation Commission (CTC) requirements. The cities of Clovis, Fresno, Selma and Coalinga have recently prepared or will soon complete their own ATPs; conclusions from those plans are incorporated into this R-ATP. Fresno COG's 12 other member agencies can rely on the R-ATP to satisfy CTC requirements.

One of the project's main goals is to create a network of safe and attractive trails, sidewalks and bikeways that connect Fresno County residents to key destinations -- especially local schools, parks and transit. The networks include shared-use paths, bike lanes and routes, sidewalks and crosswalk improvements. Other goals are to create a network of regional bikeways that allow bicyclists to safely ride between cities and other regional destinations, and to increase regional walking and bicycling trips by creating user-friendly facilities. Details of each jurisdiction's networks are presented in R-ATP Chapters 6 to 17. The networks were developed with the following primary considerations:

- Connectivity to key destinations, especially schools, parks and transit
- Collision history
- Previous plans
- Connections to adjacent jurisdictions' networks
- Public comment

Obtaining resident input was an important part of R-ATP development. The public helped identify recommended improvements to bicycling and walking facilities as well as project priorities. Participation was solicited through:

- Interactive workshops held in early June in each city early in the planning process with city staff, local schools, local interest groups and the public;
- An online, crowdsourced, interactive map, with both English and Spanish captions;
- Outreach via email and local community groups;
- Including the R-ATP in workshops held across the county to receive input on the development of a new Fresno COG Regional Transportation Plan (RTP);
- A Fresno COG-hosted website to communicate the project schedule, share project documents and provide general information about the plan process; and
- Workshops arranged by each city in early August to obtain public input on recommended networks.

Because the complete R-ATP is so large, this link is provided for access to the document:

<https://www.fresnocog.org/project/active-transportation/>.

The first five chapters contain:

1. Introduction
2. Relationship to other plans and policies
3. Existing conditions
4. Planned networks and program
5. Implementation

Chapters 6–17 are devoted to each jurisdiction's status and future plans. Chapter 18 includes content from cities with current ATPs. The Appendix contains:

1. Plan conformance with the CTC's ATP guidelines
2. Public participation
3. Relationship to state and federal plans and policies
4. Project priorities and cost estimates
5. Funding sources
6. Jurisdictional resolutions adopting the plan*

* Jurisdiction resolutions are one of the ATP components the CTC requires. Fresno COG staff will follow up with city and county staff on this matter.

Fresno COG has prepared a Program Initial Study/Negative Declaration, in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The R-ATP contains various programs, policies and recommendations that pertain to bicycle and pedestrian facilities in Fresno County. Projects are identified at a conceptual level for the Fresno County R-APT. Specific

development is not being proposed under the regional plan and adopting the CEQA document would not authorize any development.

After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Paladino (Fresno Cycling Club) motioned and Mr. Burnett (Clovis) seconded to adopt the Negative Declaration for the Fresno County Regional Active Transportation Plan through Resolution 2018-03. The motion passed.

E. Fresno County Regional Active Transportation Plan Approval (Peggy Arnest) [APPROVE]

Ms. Arnest (FCOG) reported that a description of the Fresno County Regional Active Transportation Plan (ATP) activities was included in the summary in the previous item. The Regional ATP includes all the elements the California Transportation Commission requires for ATPs, as well as a separate chapter for the County and each of the 11 cities involved. Both the draft plan and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) document were released for a 39-day comment period.

After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Paladino (Fresno Cycling Club) motioned and Mr. Robertson (Reedley) seconded to approve Resolution 2018-04, adopting the Fresno County Regional Active Transportation Plan. The motion passed.

F. Regional Transportation Plan Update (Kristine Cai)

1. Environmental Justice Analysis (Trai Her-Cole) [INFORMATION]

Ms. Her-Cole (FCOG) reported that the Environmental Justice (EJ) Analysis for the 2018 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) is intended to measure both the benefits and burdens associated with the transportation investments in the 2018 RTP, and to ensure that the EJ communities living within Fresno County share equitably in the benefits of the Plan's investments without bearing a disproportionate share of the burdens.

EJ addresses equal and fair access to a healthy environment, with the goal of protecting minority and low-income communities from disproportionate negative environmental impacts. The analysis helps policymakers, local jurisdictions and the public understand the equity-related implications of implementing the RTP in the region, especially in the disadvantaged communities.

The draft EJ Analysis was provided for the Committee's review and consideration. Comments should be sent to Trai Her-Cole by February 7. The final draft will be published with draft RTP and draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

Comment letters received from the CRLA and Leadership Council on the Draft EJ Analysis was provided, as well as staff's response to the letters.

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

2. Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Targets Update (Kristine Cai) [INFORMATION]

Ms. Cai (FCOG) reported that Senate Bill 375 (SB 375) requires that the California Air Resources Board (CARB) update greenhouse gas emission reduction targets for the 18 regions every eight years. CARB established the first targets in 2010 and must update them by 2018. In 2010, the eight San Joaquin Valley Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) received reduction targets of 5 percent for 2020 and 10 percent for 2035. Due to various reasons, the CARB Board was not able to establish new targets in 2017. CARB will be hosting workshops statewide in January and February 2018 to solicit public input on the new, proposed frameworks and targets. The CARB Board is expected to approve final targets in March or April 2018.

Due to the timing of the new targets and the progress of the 2018 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS) in the Valley, CARB acknowledges that the new targets won't be applied to the 2018 RTP/SCS. CARB staff has proposed 6 percent reduction for 2020 and 13 percent reduction for 2035 for the

Fresno region. The targets of 5 percent in 2020 and 10 percent in 2035 will be measured against the 2018 RTP/SCS. Fresno COG's 2018 RTP/SCS is expected to achieve the 5 and 10 percent targets.

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

III. OTHER ITEMS

A. Items from Staff

- Mr. Boren (FCOG) reported that the current Vice Chair, David Weisser is no longer with the City of Fowler. An item will be put on next month's agenda to select a new Vice Chair.
- Mr. Boren (FCOG) reported the latest on the repeal of Senate Bill 1. The polls show 47 percent to repeal and 48 percent to not repeal.
- Ms. Cai (FCOG) reported that the Measure C Transit Oriented Development applications are due at the end of February. Fresno COG is looking for a volunteer representing the east side cities to sit on the scoring committee.

B. Items from Members

- Mr. Schaad (Fresno City) reported that the City of Fresno, Fresno Area Express is getting ready to launch Bus Rapid Transit on February 18, 2018.
- Ms. Mathis (Clovis) reported that Ryan Burnett has filled her previous position and will be attending committee and sub-committee meetings at Fresno COG.

IV. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

A. Public Presentations

There were no public presentations.

Meeting adjourned at 9:16 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Tony Boren

Public

Mariah Thompson, CRLA
Monte Cox, Fresno EOC
Jeff Roberts, Granville Homes

Staff

Robert Phipps
Brenda Veenendaal
Kristine Cai
Jennifer Soliz
Trai Her
Peggy Arnest
Stephanie Maxwell
Jeff Long
Janelle Del Campo