



# CITIZEN OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

## Measure C Citizen Oversight Committee Meeting

### Executive Minutes

**Date: Thursday, February 8, 2018**

**Time: 5:00 PM**

**Place: COG Ash Conference Room  
2035 Tulare St., Suite 201, Fresno, CA**

### **Members Present:**

Lee Delap, Unincorporated Rural County East of 99, District 5  
Sal Petrucelli, FCMA District 2  
Bill Jordan, League of Women Voters  
Bob Allen, Selma District Chamber of Commerce  
Kevin Hamilton, Central California Asthma Collaborative  
Mike Schwan, Central CA Builders Exchange  
Destiny Rodriguez, Public at Large – Via Phone In  
LeAnn Nowlin, Public at Large – Via Phone In

### **Absent:**

Antonio Gastelum, American Labor Alliance  
Joe Denham, Greater Fresno Area Chamber of Commerce  
Sam Molina, FCMA District 1

### **Others Attending:**

Denise DiBenedetto, Fresno County Transportation Authority  
Brenda Veenendaal, Fresno COG  
Stephanie Maxwell, Fresno COG  
Les Beshears, Fresno COG  
Moses Stites, FCRTA  
Janelle Del Compo, FCRTA  
Mary Allen, Public

**Lee Delap called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.**

### **I. Presentations - About Presentations:**

This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons wishing to address the Committee on items within its jurisdiction but not on this agenda.

None

### **II. Minutes of December 14, 2018 Meeting of the Measure C Citizen Oversight Committee**

A motion was made by Bob Allen and seconded by Bill Jordan to approve the December 14, 2019 Oversight Committee minutes. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

### **III. Fresno County Rural Transit Agency's Measure C New Technology Project**

Moses Stites, General Manager of the Fresno County Rural Transit Agency thanked the committee for the invitation to come and give an update on FCRTA's New Technology Measure C funded project. FCRTA, in partnership with CalStart, was granted \$2,538,291 in Measure C New Technology Funding to purchase & operate two 35-foot low-floor electric transit buses and two new Solar Tree DCFC charging stations. Buses will run on four new express routes connecting rural communities with rail & transportation hubs the Fresno-Clovis Metropolitan Area (FCMA). Mr. Stites provided a "Build Your Dream" E6 four-door sedan for the committee to view. FCRTA hopes to provide these types of vehicles for expanded service to the rural portions of Fresno County.

This was an information item.

### **IV. Measure C Ag Worker Outreach Proposals**

Donna Blocker and Esperanza Velasco reported on this item. The Fresno Council of Governments (Fresno COG) had released a Request for Proposals (RFP) seeking assistance from community-based organizations, etc., to implement diverse and extensive grassroots outreach to people throughout the Valley who may qualify for subsidies in the Measure C AgWorker Vanpool (AVP) program. The program's expected overall outcome goal is to double the current participation and ridership in the Measure C Ag-Worker Vanpool Program.

Approximately 0.6% of Measure C funding was provided to fund the Agricultural Worker Vanpool Program (formerly known as the Farmworker Vanpool Program) offering vouchers to help farm laborers pay for their transportation to various job sites when they ride in an approved Ag Worker Vanpool. Funds were available on a first-come first-serve basis until the program funds are exhausted. All groups interested in participating in the Ag Worker Vanpool Program are required to use an authorized vanpool provider or form an employer-sponsored vanpool. Owner-Operator vanpools are not eligible to receive these vouchers.

Measure "C" funds can subsidize Ag worker Vanpool programs that originate within Fresno County. These funds are designed to spark the development of new vanpools, offer financial support and assistance to existing vanpools, and increase vanpool ridership. Eligible subsidies for Ag worker Vanpools include capital and operational expenses. A weekly lease subsidy pays \$30 for each day of operation (not to exceed \$150 in one week) for up to one year. This subsidy may be renewed on an annual basis.

The RFP was issued January 12, 2018. All proposals had to be received by noon on Monday, February 5, 2018.

Donna Blocker distributed a Measure C Ag worker Outreach flyer to the committee.

Esperanza Velasco gave a presentation on the Measure C Ag Worker Outreach Proposals.

Bob Allen asked how many vans they had. Ms. Velasco said that they had about 50 vans participating in the program currently. The goal of this outreach effort is to double the participation numbers.

This was an information item.

### **V. Measure C Regional Program Project Update for Fiscal Year 2017-2018 (Les Beshears)**

Les Beshears, Fresno COG's Finance Director, presented the following item regarding the Measure C Regional Program involving the urban and rural lists of approved programs. The attached information was presented and approved by the Fresno COG Policy Board and the Fresno County Transportation Authority Board.

In total, cost estimates for the Measure C Regional Transportation Program increased \$1.6 million from the prior plan. Revenues increased \$4.5 million, reducing the total overall deficit in the 20-year plan to \$267.7 million.

The urban program has estimated revenues of \$730.2 million and projected expenses of \$763.7 million, for a net deficit of \$33.5 million. Net project costs decreased \$5.4 million.

Approximately \$4.1 million in increased funding was provided for three projects in fiscal year (FY) 2017-18: Willow – Shepherd to Copper; Herndon – Temperance to DeWolf and; Shaw – DeWolf to McCall. Staff anticipates the Willow project will be the initial candidate for the new Senate Bill 1 (SB1) Local Partnership Program. In addition, a \$2 million contingency has been restored to the State Route (SR) 41, SR 180 and SR 168 braided ramps projects until the final cost is available. The SR 180 West Landscaping project, scheduled in FY 2021-22, increased \$923,000.

Veterans Boulevard had anticipated to increase \$6.9 million from the previous plan. The project was expected to be ready to list in FY 2018-19. The urban plan provided two options for delivering Veterans Boulevard. The City of Fresno had applied for a \$44.5 million federal Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) grant. If the INFRA grant application is successful, the City intends to start construction in FY 2018-19, as required by the INFRA grant; however, if the grant is not successful, Measure C's Expenditure Plan provides an alternative to deliver the project in FY 2019-20 using State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), Measure C and Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee (RTMF) funds. Delivering Veterans Boulevard in FY 2019-20 includes a tentative plan for the City to borrow \$13.4 million of its Measure C local allocation.

SR 99 – North to Cedar is anticipated to cost \$86 million, including 15 percent for environmental and design cost. About \$3 million in STIP APDE funding is programmed in FY 2018-19 to start the environmental process. Caltrans anticipates environmental work will be complete by October 1, 2021. Another \$43.4 million is programmed to start design and right-of-way in FY 2021-22. Finally, \$50.7 million for construction is scheduled in FY 2023-24.

The rural program has \$491.5 million in estimated revenues and \$725.7 million in planned expenses for a net deficit of \$234.2 million. Net project costs have increased \$6.98 million.

Following requests from local jurisdictions and the County, Mark Thomas Engineering has updated its 30 percent design specifications for Golden State Avenue and revised various scopes. The revised specifications call for enhanced pavement requirements per geotechnical testing; a realignment for Stroud, including a traffic signal and rail road requirements; moving a traffic signal from DeWolf to McCall; replacing a deteriorated bridge and culvert on the Fowler Switch Canal; various lighting and; extending the project limits from Lincoln Avenue back to American Avenue. The scope changes add \$5.5 million to the project, which is on schedule to begin construction in FY 2018-19. The plan carries 10 percent for construction engineering and a 20 percent

The next major project for the rural plan is SR 99 American Avenue interchange, one of five half-interchanges that allow traffic to get on the freeway going one direction and off from the other direction. The others are located at North, Cedar, Central and Chestnut. Together, they provide complete access to a growing industrial area and the proposed High Speed Rail Heavy Maintenance facility. Because Caltrans no longer uses the half-interchange structure, the network of access points will have to be adjusted, reducing the number to three complete interchanges. For this reason, economies of scale will be realized by environmentally clearing all three interchanges at the same time.

Approximately \$350,000 is programmed in FY 2017-18 for a Project Study Report (PSR) for American Avenue, which due to the proximity to North/Cedar will likely include an analysis of the entire SR 99 corridor between the two interchanges and \$3.3 million in FY 2018-19 for environmental work. This coincides with the \$3 million APDE funding programmed for North/Cedar. Once environmental work is complete, Caltrans will better determine how construction should be phased; however, the plan joins the schedule for American with North\Cedar, programming \$7.2 million in design and right-of-way for American in FY 2021-22 and \$49.3 million in FY 2023-24 for construction. These estimates are based on very preliminary numbers that were devised in 2004 for the ballot. Actual costs will be better known once the PSR is complete.

Les Beshears gave an update on the Measure C Regional Program Projects for FY 2017-18.

## **VI. Items from Staff**

### **A. 2018 COC tentative meeting dates:**

- March 8
- April 12
- May 10
- June 7
- July 12
- August 9
- September 13
- October 11
- November 8
- December 13

### **B. Items for next agenda – discussion**

Next meeting will be April 12, 2018.  
New Technology Projects will be put on the next agenda.

### **C. Upcoming Meetings of other related Boards/Committee**

- Transportation Technical Committee - 8:30 am and Policy Advisory Committee - 10:00 am on February 9, 2018
- Fresno COG Policy Board Meeting - Thursday, February 22, 2018 at 5:30 pm at Fresno COG
- Fresno County Transportation Authority Board Meeting –

## **VII. Items from Members**

None