Fresno COG Policy Board
Thursday, November 15, 2018
5:30 PM

Members Attending:
Mayor Bob Whalen, City of Clovis
Councilmember Ron Lander, City of Coalinga
Mayor Felipe Perez, City of Firebaugh
Mayor David Cardenas, City of Fowler
Councilmember Steve Brandau, City of Fresno
Mayor Rey Leon, City of Huron
Mayor Rhonda Armstrong, City of Kerman
Mayor Michelle Roman, City of Kingsburg
Councilmember Robert Silva, City of Mendota
Councilmember Robert Beck, City of Reedley
Mayor Pro Tem Amarpreet Dhaliwal, City of San Joaquin
Mayor Frank Gonzalez, City of Sanger
Mayor Pro Tem Scott Robertson, City of Selma
Supervisor Sal Quintero, County of Fresno

Gail Miller, Caltrans
Kyle Roberson, Legal Counsel
Tony Boren, Executive Director

Absent:
Mayor Victor Lopez, City of Orange Cove
Mayor Alma Beltran, City of Parlier

The meeting was called to order at 5:28 p.m. by Mayor Pro Tem Dhaliwal (San Joaquin), Chair.

Fresno County Rural Transit Agency Meeting Package – Meeting will follow Policy Board Meeting

Quorum: At the start of the meeting, there were 12 members representing 44.44% of the population. There was a quorum to conduct business. (Clovis, Coalinga, Firebaugh, Fowler, Huron, Kerman, Kingsburg, Reedley, San Joaquin, Sanger, Selma, Fresno County).

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

I. TRANSPORTATION CONSENT ITEMS

A. Executive Minutes of October 25, 2018 [APPROVE]
B. 2019 Annual Fresno COG Meeting Calendar [APPROVE]
C. First Quarterly Report (Les Beshears) [INFORMATION]
D. City of Clovis Transportation Development Act Claim (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]
E. Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission Urban CTSA Transportation Development Act Claim (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]
F. Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission Rural CTSA Transportation Development Act Claim (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]
G. Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Program Round 4 - Call for Technical Assistance (Trai Her-Cole) [INFORMATION]
H. Opportunity Zone Proposed Guidance (Trai Her-Cole) [INFORMATION]

After an opportunity for public comment, Mayor Pro Tem Yep (Kerman) motioned and Councilmember Beck (Reedley) seconded to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion passed.
Quorum:  City of Fresno entered. There were 13 members representing 96.31% of the population. There was a quorum to conduct business.

II. TRANSPORTATION ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. ValleyRides Website Upgrade (Donna Blocker) [APPROVE]

Ms. Blocker (FCOG) reported that Fresno COG’s rideshare program staff released an RFP August 28, 2018, for a Valleyrides website redesign and rideshare/ridematch development services. The Valleyrides website will serve as a one-stop commuter resource, including carpool and vanpool ridematching, information on Measure C carpool and vanpool incentive programs, Senior Scrip Program, trip planning, transit resources, Amtrak and YARTS connectivity and available bike mapping. Though Fresno COG hosts a website with much of this information, the database that conducts ridematching has become antiquated and dysfunctional.

Fresno COG received proposals from two Rideshare/Web consultant firms. After interviewing both firms, staff chose to award Ride Amigos with the website contract. Ride Amigos also developed websites for several other COGs and transportation authorities, such as San Luis Obispo, San Joaquin, Santa Barbara and Napa Valley.

The Initial cost of the Ride Amigos redevelopment is $34,985 with an annual licensing and support cost of $27,985.

After an opportunity for public comment, Mayor Cardenas (Fowler) motioned and Mayor Perez (Firebaugh) seconded to authorize the executive director to enter into a contract with Ride Amigos for the Valleyrides website redesign and database maintenance. The motion passed.

B. Pavement and Bridge (PM2), System Performance/Freight/CMAQ (PM3) Performance Targets (Lang Yu/Braden Duran) [APPROVE]

Mr. Yu and Mr. Duran (FCOG) presented a PowerPoint presentation. The Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) and the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act) requires Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) to set targets for a series of transportation performance measures. Last year, safety targets (PM1) were established and approved, which were then included in the 2018 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). Targets for pavement and bridge performance measures (PM2), and system performance/freight/CMAQ performance measures (PM3) are due to Caltrans by November 16, 2018. The specific performance measures for PM 2 & PM 3 are listed as follows:

Pavement and Bridge (PM2) performance measures:
- Percentage of interstate pavements in good condition
- Percentage of interstate pavements in poor condition
- Percentage of non-interstate NHS pavements in good condition
- Percentage of non-interstate NHS pavements in poor condition
- Percentage of NHS bridges in good condition
- Percentage of NHS bridges in poor condition

Performance Management (PM3) performance measures:
- Percent of reliable person-miles traveled on the interstate
- Percent of reliable person-miles traveled on the non-interstate NHS
- Truck travel time reliability index
- Total emissions reductions by applicable pollutants under the CMAQ program

Fresno COG will have the option of either supporting the State of California’s overall targets or setting its own regional targets for one or more performance measures. Performance targets are required to be documented in the Regional Transportation Plan and the Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) when they are updated to demonstrate that MPOs are taking efforts to achieve the targets. Should an MPO miss a target, there is no penalty imposed on the region. The State DOT must obligate and set aside National Highway Performance Program (NHPP) funds for eligible projects on the National Highway System (NHS) if it does not meet the targets (except CMAQ).
Upon analysis of existing conditions and considering the statewide target, staff recommends supporting the statewide targets for both PM2 and PM3.

After an opportunity for public comment, Mayor Pro Tem Yep (Kerman) motioned and Mayor Leon (Huron) seconded to support the statewide two-year and four-year targets for pavement and bridge (PM2) and system performance/freight/CMAQ (PM3). The motion passed.

C. Assembly Bill 617 Community Air Protection Program Initial Update (Braden Duran) [INFORMATION]

Mr. Duran (FCOG) reported that Governor Brown signed AB 617 into law in July 2017 with a focus on reducing harmful air pollution in California’s most impacted disadvantaged communities. The program is “community focused” in that the program will heavily rely on community-specific monitoring to create a community-level action framework for air protection. The California Air Resources Board (ARB), air pollution control districts, and local communities are the main parties implementing AB 617.

As part of the air protection program, ten communities were selected statewide this year for initial action. In the San Joaquin Valley, Shafter and South Central Fresno (please refer to the attached maps for South Central Fresno) were chosen due to their disadvantaged status and the severity of air pollution. The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution District is responsible for developing a community emissions reduction plan in consultation with ARB, community residents, affected sources, and local governments. The plan may include strategies that target stationary/mobile sources, and also those that address transportation/land use issues. The timeframe for developing the plan is within one year of selecting priority communities, which is fall 2019. A steering committee is being formed to direct and create reduction plans for the South Central Fresno community in the Fresno region, with the initial community meeting being held this week. Fresno COG will monitor the process for South Central Fresno and the implications it has for transportation and land-use planning in the region, and will update the committee as necessary.

This item was informational only; no further action was required.

D. Caltrans Report (CALTRANS) [INFORMATION]

Mr. Navarro (Caltrans) reported:

• State Route (SR) 99 realignment to accommodate High Speed Rail between Clinton, Ashlan Avenue and Golden State ramps are now all open. The full width of the SR99 is at its complete alignment and fully functional, all lanes open. The remaining work is a retaining wall in the Caltrans right-of-way and the HSR right-of-way, final pavement of surface streets, striping and signage. Construction work is scheduled to be complete by the end of January 2019.

• Kings Canyon Expressway SR 180 Segment 3; structure work is progressing at four locations, China Slew, Kings River, Cameron Slew and Bird Slew. Grating work is continuing west of the Kings River. The project is on schedule. SR 180 concrete pavement is scheduled December. Three traffic shifts are anticipated in mid-October and possible closure of Oliver and Rio Vista until late December.

• San Joaquin River Bridge seismic retrofit. Carbon fiber strips of barrier rail, bike and guard railing are complete. Remaining work includes repaving the bridge approaches, installing joint seals, erosion control, irrigation, one-way traffic control utilizing the traffic signal system. The contractor remains on schedule. Work is anticipated to be complete by the end of this year.

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

Mayor Cardenas (Fowler) asked what is being built on Adams Avenue and SR99 as you travel south. Mr. Navarro will follow up with Mayor Cardenas.

III. ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT ITEMS

There were no administrative consent items
IV. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION/DICUSSION ITEMS

A. Fresno COG Policy Board Appointments to Fresno State Transportation Institute (Tony Boren) [ACTION]
Mr. Boren (FCOG) reported that the Measure C allocated $3 million to Fresno State to form the Transportation Institute. The Transportation Institute Board held its first meeting on October 31, 2018. The Transportation Institute Board would like to have representation from the rural communities. They asked that the Fresno COG Policy Board appoint an east side and west side representative. The appointment is for a two year term with the Transportation Institute Board meeting two-three times a year.

East side city Mayor Gonzalez (Sanger) volunteered to sit on the Transportation Institute Board. Councilmember Beck (Reedley) nominated Mayor Gonzalez (Sanger).

Councilmember Beck (Reedley) motioned and Mayor Cardenas (Fowler) seconded to appoint Mayor Gonzalez (Sanger) to the Transportation Institute Board as the east side city representative. The motion passed.

Mayor Pro Tem Dhaliwal (San Joaquin) nominated Mayor Perez (Firebaugh).

Mayor Pro Tem Dhaliwal (San Joaquin) motioned and Councilmember Landers (Coalinga) seconded to appoint Mayor Perez (Firebaugh) to the Transportation Institute Board as the west side city representative. The motion passed.

B. Legislative Report (Trai Her-Cole/Meg Prince) [INFORMATION]
Ms. Her-Cole and Ms. Prince (FCOG) reported that Gov. Jerry Brown signed a series of bills during the last month of the 2018 California legislative session that will impact member agencies and Fresno COG programs related to housing elements, the Regional Housing Needs Allocation Plan, transit funds and electric vehicle charging infrastructure. Staff will provide a brief overview of the implications for the bills listed below.

- AB 686: Housing Discrimination: Further Fair Housing (Santiago)
- AB 1771: Planning and Zoning: Regional Housing Needs Assessment (Bloom)
- SB 828: Land use: Housing Element (Wiener)
- AB 2162: Planning and Zoning: Supportive Housing (Chiu)
- AB 1804 California Environmental Quality Act: exemption: residential or mixed-use housing projects (Berman)
- SB 1000: Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure (Lara)
- SB 1119: Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (Beale)

This item was informational only; no further action was required.

C. Freeway Service Patrol Update (Robert Phipps) [INFORMATION]
Mr. Phipps (FCOG) reported that the Freeway Service Patrol (FSP) operator Patrick Bartlett, owner of Budget Towing in Fresno, has abruptly resigned his company's contract with Fresno COG to run four "beats" along state routes 41, 99, 168 and 180 during peak hours. The service is intended to quickly move stranded motorists off of freeways and allow traffic to resume normal flows.

The action follows a negative evaluation recommending termination that Budget Towing received from the California Highway Patrol, which is charged with enforcing FSP contracts by the State of California, including provisions that dictate operating hours; equipment and uniform requirements; and staffing, among other issues.

Budget Towing was in the second year of a five-year contract. Fresno COG's standard FSP contract provides for penalties in the event of non-performance, which will be assessed against any of the operator's outstanding and final invoices.

Under the circumstances, CHP officials have acknowledged the necessity for service interruptions potentially totaling several months while Fresno COG circulates an RFP to secure a new operator. CHP will still be able to access towing services from multiple operators in Fresno; however, wait times may be substantially affected.

This item was informational only; no further action was required.
Quorum: City of Mendota entered. There were 14 members representing 97.50% of the population. There was a quorum to conduct business.

V. OTHER ITEMS

A. Items from Staff
- Ms. Blocker (FCOG) addressed Mayor Cardenas previous question. Ride Amigos is based out of Santa Monica, CA.
- Ms. Blocker (FCOG) reported that GoGo Grandparent pilot program launched on November 1st.
- Mr. Boren (FCOG) reported that there will be no December meeting.

B. Items from Members
- Mayor Whalen (Clovis) thanked the City of Huron for the invite to the SR 269 Bridge groundbreaking. Mayor Whalen requested to receive regular updates on the progress of the project.
- Mayor Whalen (Clovis) invited the Board to the City of Clovis open house for businesses in downtown Clovis on Pollasky Avenue, open until 8:00 p.m.
- Councilmember Silva (Mendota) reported that he just returned from Sacramento, he attended the CARB meeting. They discussed raising the prices on fuel by $1.08. This rise would impact the valley, region and the entire state. There was over one hundred people present to testify and testimony will continue tomorrow.
- Mayor Leon (Huron) stated he is excited about the upcoming One Voice trip and having the Cross Valley Rail as a priority.
- Mayor Pro Tem Dhaliwal (San Joaquin) congratulated those who won elections in their cities.

VI. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

A. Public Presentations
There were no public presentations

Councilmember Beck (Reedley) motioned and Mayor Pro Tem Robertson (Selma) seconded to adjourn to Fresno County Rural Agency at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Boren

Public
No public present

Staff
Les Beshears
Robert Phipps
Kristine Cai
Brenda Veenendaal
Meg Prince
Trai Her-Cole
Donna Blocker
Esperanza Velazco
Lang Yu
Braden Duran
Moses Stites
Janelle Del Campo
Jeaneen Cervantes