

**Transportation Technical Committee
MINUTES
Friday, January 11, 2019
8:30AM**

Members Present

John Robertson, City of Reedley
Mohammad Alimi, Fresno County
Joey Daggett, City of Selma
Cristian Gonzalez, City of Mendota
Moses Stites, Fresno County Rural Transit Agency
Nick Paladino, Fresno Cycling Club
Mike Prandini, Building Industry Association
Mohammad Khorsand, Fresno County
Ryan Burnett, City of Clovis
Jim Schaad, Fresno Area Express
Jill Gromney, City of Fresno
Sophia Pagoulatos, City of Fresno
Michael Osborn, City of Mendota
David Padilla, Caltrans

The meeting was called to order at 8:33 a.m. by Mr. Robertson (Reedley), Chair.

I. TRANSPORTATION CONSENT ITEMS

- A. Executive Minutes of November 2, 2018 [APPROVE]
- B. Fresno Area Express Transportation Development Act Claim (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]
- C. Fiscal Year 2018-19 Overall Work Program Amendment No. 3 (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]
- D. 2020 Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee (RTMF) Nexus Update Kick-off Meeting (Les Beshears) [INFORMATION]
- E. Final Senate Bill 35 Streamlined Ministerial Approval Process Guidelines (Meg Prince) [INFORMATION]
- F. Federal Railroad Administration Fiscal Year 2019 Federal-State Partnership for State of Good Repair Notice of Funding Opportunity (Meg Prince) [INFORMATION]
- G. Affordable Housing Sustainable Communities (AHSC) Technical Assistance Memorandum of Understanding (Meg Prince) [APPROVE]
- H. Fresno County Political District Maps (Trai Her-Cole) [INFORMATION]
- I. 2019 Environmental Justice Small Grant Solicitation (Trai Her-Cole) [INFORMATION]
- J. Fiscal Year 2019 Brownfields Multipurpose, Assessment, and Cleanup Grant Request for Proposals (Trai Her-Cole) [INFORMATION]
- K. Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Network Plan (Trai Her-Cole) [INFORMATION]
- L. HUD Fiscal Year 2018 and 2019 Community Compass Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Program NOFA (Trai Her-Cole) [INFORMATION]
- M. Triennial Performance Audit Consultant Selection (Jennifer Soliz) [APPROVE]

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

II. TRANSPORTATION ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Fresno COG Tribal Consultation Plan (Trai Her-Cole) [APPROVE]

Ms. Her-Cole (FCOG) reported that Executive Order 13175, Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments (November 6, 2000), requires regular and meaning coordination with federally recognized tribes. Title 23 CFR part 450 requires MPO to consult, as appropriate, with state and local agencies responsible for land use management, natural resources, environmental protection, conservation, and historic preservation. Furthermore, FTA, FHWA and Caltrans have all recommended that Fresno COG developed a Tribal Consultation Plan. The attached Tribal Consultation Plan outlines the minimum protocol for conducting government-to-government consultation regarding

planning and programming activities with tribes, identifies strategies for outreach and specific documents that require tribal coordination.

The three federally recognized tribes in Fresno County are Big Sandy Rancheria of California, Cold Springs Rancheria of Mono Indians of California, and Table Mountain Rancheria of California. Although consultation is not mandated for non-federally recognized tribes, this does not preclude Fresno COG from consulting with local, non-federally recognized tribes when plans or activities might impact cultural values or the community.

In preparation of this document, FCOG staff reached out to all three tribes and met with two (Table Mountain and Big Sandy) to discuss infrastructure and priority safety needs, pipeline projects, collaboration and partnerships for funding requests. Fresno COG staff strives to continue to conduct extensive outreach to the tribes, provide an update and maintain an active positive line of communication. The strategies outlined in the consultation plan are further implemented through Fresno COG's Public Participation Plan for engaging disadvantaged communities and Title VI Limited English Proficiency Plan. The plan will be included as an appendix to the FCOG Overall Work Program (OWP). Outreach and engagement will be documented and updated annually as part OWP under Work Element 313 and each year thereafter.

After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Daggett (Selma) motioned and Mr. Stites (FCRTA) seconded to approve the Fresno COG Tribal Consultation Plan to the Policy Board. The motion passed

B. Fresno County Regional Transportation Network Vulnerability Assessment Consultant Selection (Meg Prince) [APPROVE]

Ms. Prince (FCOG) reported that Fresno COG was awarded a 2018-19 Caltrans Adaptation Planning Grant to develop a Fresno County Regional Transportation Network Vulnerability Assessment (TNVA). The TNVA will identify areas of the multimodal transportation network that are vulnerable to potential impacts of climate change and recommend resiliency strategies for future capital projects, general plans, policies, and other efforts.

Fresno COG released an RFP on September 17, 2018 for consultant services and received three proposals. A consultant selection committee comprising representatives from the City of Fresno, Fresno County Department of Public Health, City of Reedley, Fresno County Rural Transit Agency, and California Rural Legal Assistance interviewed the two top scoring consultants on November 5, 2018 and unanimously chose WSP Inc. as the preferred consultant. WSP is a leader in adapting transportation systems to climate change at the national, state, and regional level.

Additionally, Fresno COG is seeking representatives interested in participating in a Vulnerability Assessment Working Group to assist in producing the assessment. Please contact Meg Prince, Associate Regional Planner, at mprince@fresnocog.org or (559) 233-4148 x203 for more information.

Mr. Khorsand (Fresno County) recommendation that the Scope only be open to public agencies. Ms. Prince said she would confirm with Caltrans to amend the Scope.

After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Khorsand (Fresno City) motioned and Mr. Prandini (BIA) seconded to approve WSP Inc. as the consultant for the Fresno County Regional Transportation Network Vulnerability Assessment, and authorize Fresno COG's Executive Director to enter into a contract with WSP for an amount not to exceed \$215,471.99. The motion passed.

C. Freeway Service Patrol Contract Approval (Robert Phipps) [APPROVE]

Mr. Phipps (FCOG) reported that Fresno COG's most recent Freeway Service Patrol (FSP) contractor abruptly resigned in October 2018, sparking the need to re-advertise an FSP request for proposals (RFP).

Fresno COG issued a request for proposals (RFP) for Freeway Service Patrol towing service on November 8, 2018, for the 40-month period beginning March 4, 2019, and ending June 30, 2022. It was mailed to 60 towing companies on the California Highway Patrol Fresno County Tow Rotation List and posted on the Fresno COG website.

The previous contract covered a five-year period. This contract will provide FSP service for the remaining months in the previous contract. One slight change introduces a requirement for GPS tracking of the FSP fleet. Other aspects of the program remain unchanged. There will still be four beats along each of the major freeways in the City of Fresno: SR 41, 99, 168 and 180, running Monday through Friday (excluding holidays) that will provide service during peak traffic congestion, from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m., and from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

The following companies submitted a proposal by the November 8, 2018 deadline:

- Reyna Towing
- All Knight Towing

The FSP partners' selection committee (Fresno COG, Caltrans District 6, and the California Highway Patrol, plus a member from the private sector) interviewed both companies on Thursday, December 13, 2018, and recommended Reyna Towing based on enthusiasm, company strength and experience, and provision for all-new trucks. The contract shall not exceed \$1,534,560 for the 40y-month period.

After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Stites (FCRTA) motioned and Mr. Prandini (BIA) seconded to approve recommending that the Policy Board authorize the executive director to sign a contract with Reyna Towing for an amount not to exceed \$1,534,560 for the period March 4, 2019, through June 30, 2022. The motion passed.

D. 2019 Safety Performance Targets (Lang Yu) [APPROVE]

Mr. Yu (FCOG) reported that the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) and the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act) require metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) to set targets for a series of transportation-related performance measures. Last year, the 2018 safety targets (PM1) were established and approved, which were included in the 2018 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). Since it is an annual target, Fresno COG's 2019 safety performance targets need to be set by February 2019 for the following five performance measures:

- Number of fatalities
- Rate of fatalities per 100 million vehicle miles traveled (VMT)
- Number of serious injuries
- Rate of serious injuries per 100 million VMT
- Number of non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries

Fresno COG organized a safety target subcommittee to discuss the target options and recommendations. City of Fresno, City of Clovis, County of Fresno and Caltrans attended the committee meeting. Three options were discussed including using the state's target, evidence-based targets and maintain 2017 level. Upon analysis of recent trends, the committee recommended supporting the statewide targets for 2018 for all five safety performance measures. The statewide target is an aspirational goal consistent with the California Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP), aiming for a 3 percent annual reduction for fatalities and 1.5 percent annual reduction for serious injuries. Staff will make a short presentation to demonstrate the recent trends and target options.

After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Khorsand (Fresno County) motioned and Mr. Gonzalez (Mendota) seconded to approve recommending that the Policy Board support the statewide targets for all five safety performance measures for 2019. The motion passed.

E. Measure C Transit-Oriented Development Program Cycle VII Call for Projects (Kristine Cai) [INFORMATION]

Ms. Cai (FCOG) reported that Measure C's Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Program was established to boost transit ridership and encourage transit-supportive land use, such as higher-density development and mixed uses. TOD program projects serve as models that reduce vehicle trips, improve air quality and provide access to physical activity opportunities through integrated land use and transportation.

The TOD program is estimated to receive \$16.9 million over its 20-year lifespan, with approximately \$850,000 accrued annually. More than \$7 million has been granted to projects for the last six funding cycles since 2012. In 2017, both the Fresno COG Policy Board and the Fresno County Transportation Authority Board approved the revised TOD program guidelines that allow the jurisdictions from the entire county to compete for the funding. Language addressing project delivery was added in 2018. The revised TOD Program policies and guidelines are attached for your reference and can be found on Fresno COG's website at <https://www.fresnocog.org/measure-c-transit-oriented-development>

The TOD program Cycle VII call for projects opens on January 11, 2019, and applications are due on February 28, 2019. There is approximately \$2 million available for Cycle VII. Attached is the application package.

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

F. Senate Bill 743 Local Assistance Program (Kristine Cai) [INFORMATION]

Ms. Cai (FCOG) reported that Senate Bill 743 (SB 743) requires that level of service (LOS) be replaced under existing California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) law with a metric that can promote greenhouse gas emission reduction, help develop a multi-modal transportation system and a rich variety of land use development. The Governor's Office of Planning & Research (OPR) has recommended vehicle miles traveled (VMT) to measure the transportation impacts under CEQA. The CEQA guideline updates have been published and are going through the rule-making process. SB 743 is expected to take effect on July 1, 2020. The switch from LOS to VMT will have profound impacts on how local

governments and other public agencies approve land use and transportation projects. To better assist local governments in Fresno County with the SB 743 implementation, Fresno COG has developed a SB 743 Local Assistance Program intended to ease the transition to the VMT metric. Fresno COG will host an SB 743 workshop on January 8, 2019, to address the guidelines and the implementation process. Several speakers who have been extensively involved in the process will share their perspectives and experiences. Afterward, Fresno COG will assess member agency needs. Fresno COG has reserved SB 1 formula planning funding to potentially develop a set of regional guidelines for SB 743 implementation should the member agencies request it. The regional guidelines will be customizable and adaptable by cities of different sizes. Fresno COG's modeling staff will be able to provide assistance for VMT calculation when the cities/County decide on the metric and thresholds for their jurisdictions. The SB 743 workshop will be held on January 8, 2019, 1:00 p.m., Fresno COG Sequoia Room, 2035 Tulare Street, Suite 201, Fresno, CA.

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

G. Obligational Authority and Project Delivery Update (Jennifer Soliz) [INFORMATION]

Ms. Soliz (FCOG) reported that each federal fiscal year the Fresno region must meet obligation authority (OA) delivery targets for federal transportation funding programs and comply with "use it or Lose it" provisions of AB 1012. Under these provisions, the region is required to obligate Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) and Surface Transportation Block Grant funding (STBG) within three years of receiving apportionments.

At the end of FY 2018, the Fresno region delivered \$19,991,164 or 97 percent of its authorized allocation. Since -- unlike previous years -- the region did not exceed its delivery target, it was unable to take advantage of additional August redistribution funding. The balance of \$613,054 will be added to the 2018/19 OA target. As of October 31, 2018, \$1,795,581 of CMAQ and STBG was deobligated, which increased the region's 2018/19 OA target balance to \$25,222,557.

In preparing for the 2018/19 OA delivery plan that is due to Caltrans on April 1st, COG staff met with all of the member agencies in October to discuss project status. The region is on track to hit its OA target for FFY 2018/19; however, we have approximately \$10 million of projects at risk due to various delivery issues such as right-of-way acquisition, utility relocations and environmental issues. Approximately \$7 million in projects can potentially be expedited and delivered early to help offset the at-risk projects. COG staff will continue working with each member agency to ensure that projects planned for obligation in 2018/19 are obligated on time.

Fresno COG asked that member agencies notify staff on any changes to programmed projects that could possibly impact the region's project delivery plan. If you have any questions regarding the federal fiscal year deadlines or process of obligating project funds, please contact Jennifer Soliz at 559-233-4148 ext. 223 or jsoliz@fresnocog.org.

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

III. OTHER ITEMS

A. Items from Staff

- Ms. Prince (FCOG) reported that staff mentioned two opportunities for technical assistance for agencies that did not submit their 2017 Annual Progress Reports. The first is two CivicSpark Fellows that have been awarded to the region, working under Paul McDougal from the Department of Housing and Community Development. The second upcoming opportunity is part of the Senate Bill 2 Planning Grants. A percentage of the funds have been set aside for technical assistance to help with annual progress reports and housing element compliance to ensure that every jurisdiction is eligible for the SB 2 Planning Grants this summer.
- Ms. Her-Cole (FCOG) reported that since the publication of the January agenda, several notices funding opportunities were released. An handout of all the new NOFO are available. Please let us know if you have any interest in pursuing these resources. We would be glad to review your grant application, provide technical support where needed or help to seek the support of your Congressional delegation. Please contract Trai Her-Cole with any questions at 559-233-4154 or traih@fresnocog.org
- Mr. Duran (FCOG) reported that the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District Presentation will be giving a presentation at the Joint TTC/PAC meeting at 10:00 a.m.

B. Items from Members

There were no items from members

VI. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

A. Public Presentations

There were no public presentations.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:39 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Tony Boren

Public

Gregory Barfiled, City of Fresno
Hector Guerra, VRPA
Shawn Jenkins, West Care
Sonia De La Rosa, Fresno County
Renee Mathis, City of Clovis
Heidi Crabtree, City of Clovis
Jamie Holt, SJV Air Pollution Control District

Staff

Robert Phipps
Kristine Cai
Meg Prince
Jennifer Soliz
Trai Her-Cole
Donna Blocker
Esperanza Velazco
Lang Yu
Braden Duran
Moses Stites
Janelle Del Campo
Todd Sobrado
Jeaneen Cervantes