

**Fresno COG Policy Board
Notice and Agenda for Special Meeting [Gov. Code § 54956]
Issued by Mayor Cardenas, FCOG Board Chair**

Date: Wednesday, December 11, 2019

Time: 9:00 AM

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

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Accommodations

The Fresno COG offices and restrooms are ADA accessible. Representatives or individuals with disabilities should contact Fresno COG at (559) 233-4148, at least 3 days in advance, to request auxiliary aids and/or translation services necessary to participate in the public meeting / public hearing. If Fresno COG is unable to accommodate an auxiliary aid or translation request for a public hearing, after receiving proper notice, the hearing will be continued on a specified date when accommodations are available.

AB23 REQUIREMENT: IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BROWN ACT AND AB23 THE STIPEND AMOUNT PAID TO MEMBERS FOR ATTENDING THIS MEETING OF THE FRESNO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS POLICY BOARD IS \$100

AGENDA AND ANNOTATED AGENDA IN PDF FORMATING FOR PRINTING

Exhibits:

Agenda Annotated Agenda

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

Exhibits:

FCRTA Packet

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

I. TRANSPORTATION ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. **Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) Submittal Resolution 2019-34 (Jennifer Soliz) [APPROVE]**

Exhibits:

Resolution 2019-34 RTIP Programming

Summary: The California Transportation Commission (CTC) adopts a new State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) every two years. The STIP is a five-year capital improvement program of transportation projects on and off the state highway system, funded with revenues from the State Highway Account and other funding sources. As part of the STIP development process, each region is required to produce a Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP), which comprises regional priorities for 75 percent of the funding in the STIP. Concurrent with the RTIP development at the regional level, Caltrans is required to produce the Interregional Transportation Improvement Program (ITIP) for the remaining 25 percent of STIP funding. The ITIP comprises interregional priorities set by Caltrans in collaboration with the regions. Caltrans merges the regions' RTIPs and Caltrans' ITIP into the statewide document, the STIP, and submits it to the CTC for approval.

The 2020 STIP fund estimate provided limited new capacity in FY 2023-24 and FY 2024-25. Overall STIP capacity is significantly lower than initially envisioned under the new funding that SB 1 provides.

The Fresno region has \$36.9 million in unprogrammed balances, while its target through FY 2024-25 is \$12.4 million.

Fresno COG's RTIP is dedicated to the region's priorities as listed in the Measure C Expenditure Plan approved by voters in 2006. The Fresno region has a longstanding policy of leveraging state and federal funding on major transportation improvements by partnering those resources with Measure C sales tax funding. The 2020 RTIP submittal programs \$49.2 million in STIP county shares, bringing the Fresno region's total to \$75.4 million. The STIP priorities for our region were presented to the Fresno COG Policy Board at its September 26, 2020 meeting.

Staff's intent for the 2020 RTIP will be to continue delivering the South Fresno Interchange Project, while carrying over the other projects previously programmed. RTIP project funding is detailed on the attached programming document. Project details are as follows:

State Route (SR) 180 W – Freeway landscaping: This landscaping project is required mitigation for the SR 180 freeway extension west of SR 99 that was constructed by the original (1986-2006) Measure C program. The project has been carried over due to a lack of STIP funding. As a result of the delay, project costs have increased \$400,000 to \$6.29 million. With this cost increase in mind, \$400,000 in additional STIP funds are requested in FY 2020-21, bringing the total committed STIP funds on the project to \$5.74 million.

SR 41 Excelsior Expressway: This project widens 24 lane miles of SR 41 between Elkhorn Avenue and the Kings County Line, completing the improvement begun under the original measure. The primary funding comes from Caltrans' ITIP with a small component of the project being funded by Regional Improvement Program (RTIP) funding. The ITIP will program construction with future ITIP funds. Total project costs have increased \$16.4 million to \$78.9 million. Additional RTIP funds of \$5.75 million are requested bringing the total Fresno County shares on the project to \$7,750,000.

Initially, Caltrans had proposed combining this project with two State Highway Operation and Protection Plan (SHOPP) roundabouts scheduled for construction in FY 2022-23. but the delay in ITIP funds prevents that from occurring. The SHOPP projects will proceed as scheduled and the expressway widening from four to six lanes will be constructed as a stand-alone project.

Veterans Boulevard: STIP funds for Veterans Boulevard are programmed for construction in FY 2019-20 however, the City of Fresno has broken the project into five phases for better delivery. Phase 3 is construction of the actual interchange that includes \$14.6 million in STIP funds in FY 2020-21. This phase is being delayed due to construction sequencing of the various phases. As a result, Fresno will request an extension to FY 2020-21. Total project cost is estimated at \$139.8 million. No additional STIP funds are requested.

South Fresno Interchange: Approximately \$3 million in 2018 STIP funds were programmed to environmentally clear three obsolete "half" interchanges along State Route 99. These interchanges are: North/Cedar, Central/Chestnut, and American Avenue. This project has been obligated and environmental work may be complete as early as FY 2020-21.

The City of Fresno and Caltrans have requested that Fresno COG defer the Central/Chestnut interchange to a future date and proceed with North/Cedar and American Avenue interchanges as one project. The Measure C Expenditure Plan will reserve funding to begin design and right-of-way acquisition in FY 2020-21 using Measure C funding. STIP funds will be used on construction, which is planned in FY 2023-24. The total project cost is expected to be \$148.5 million. Fresno COG is requesting \$42.3 million in additional STIP county shares.

Planning, Programming, & Monitoring (PPM): Fresno COG is requesting an additional \$399,000 per year for the final two years (2023-24/24-25) in the STIP, for a total of \$798,000. This is below the 5 percent PPM limitation the CTC allows. Over the five year STIP period, \$1.99 million is programmed for administering the federal aid and STIP process.

Action: Staff and TTC/PAC recommend the Policy Board adopt Resolution 2019-34 to submit Fresno COG's 2020 RTIP to the California Transportation Commission.

II. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Cyber Security Contract with AMS.net (Robert Phipps) [APPROVE]

Summary: In response to the Fresno COG server breach in September 2019, Fresno COG staff have been working closely with the City of Fresno cyber security team to identify the best strategies/practices to secure Fresno COG's IT system moving forward. While financial, modeling and GIS files were largely unaffected by the data breach, it nevertheless resulted in a catastrophic loss of data to the agency. A multitude of plans, reports, studies, memos, correspondence, and particularly public outreach-related files, were encrypted in the attack beyond staff's ability to retrieve it.

Under our existing system, the City of Fresno supplies the fiber optic cable infrastructure and service for Fresno COG's primary internet connection. Because of the network's continued vulnerability, the City has disconnected Fresno COG and will not reconnect the office until considerably more stringent, multi-level security measures are firmly in place. With this in mind, and at the request of City of Fresno IT officials, Fresno COG met with AMS.net, a cyber-security and technology solution specialty firm. The intent is to establish a multi-layered program that will include at least two firewalls, an industry-leading enterprise network security system and anti-virus/malware software program from Cisco, as well as new servers and potentially other hardware and software purchases.

The installation process is expected to be similar to that of a completely new IT system, complete with subscriptions to cloud-based Office 365 for staff. The total cost of the turn-key operation is \$124,042.

Due to ongoing security concerns and the critical need to secure the IT system as soon as possible, both staff and the Policy Advisory Committee request that the Board waive its standard policy for soliciting proposals and issue a finding that it is in Fresno COG's best interest to approve a sole source contract with AMS.net.

Action: Staff and the PAC recommend the Board approve a sole-source contract with AMS.net for an amount not to exceed \$124,042 and authorize the executive director to sign.

III. OTHER ITEMS

A. Items from Staff

B. Items from Members

IV. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

A. Public Presentations

This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons wishing to address the Policy Board on items within its jurisdiction but not on this agenda. **Note: Prior to action by the Policy Board on any item on this agenda, the public may comment on that item. Unscheduled comments may be limited to 3 minutes.**