

Fresno COG Policy Board

Date: Thursday, September 24, 2020
Time: 5:30 PM
Place: COG Ash 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.

**OUT OF AN ABUNDANCE OF CAUTION REGARDING THE COVID-19 VIRUS THE SEPTEMBER 24, 2020,
FRESNO COG POLICY BOARD MEETING AT 5:30 P.M. WILL BE HELD VIA ZOOM.**

JOINING THE MEETING:

[HTTPS://ZOOM.US/J/95775016217?PWD=DEVYRGDEQWZLUHO4DTIXQUPIZFPTDZ09](https://zoom.us/j/95775016217?pwd=DEVYRGDEQWZLUHO4DTIXQUPIZFPTDZ09)
MEETING ID: 957 7501 6217
PASSCODE: 930287

**IF YOU WISH TO ADDRESS POLICY BOARD DURING THE PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION OF THE AGENDA,
CLICK ON THE ICON LABELED “PARTICIPANTS” AT THE BOTTOM CENTER OF YOUR PC OR MAC SCREEN.
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**IF JOINING BY PHONE USE *6 TO UNMUTE AND MUTE YOURSELF. WHEN JOINING THE MEETING ALL PARTICIPANTS ARE AUTOMATICALLY MUTED. DO NOT USE THE MUTE FUNCTION ON YOUR LAN LINE PHONE OR CELL PHONE.

THOSE ADDRESSING POLICY BOARD MUST STATE THEIR FIRST AND LAST NAME AND AGENCY FOR THE RECORD.

TO FACILITATE ELECTRONIC ACCESS, NO PERSON SHALL SPEAK UNTIL RECOGNIZED BY THE CHAIR.

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

I. TRANSPORTATION CONSENT ITEMS

About Consent Items:

All items on the consent agenda are considered to be routine and non-controversial by COG staff and will be approved by one motion if no member of the Policy Board or public wishes to comment or ask questions. If comment or discussion is desired by anyone, the item will be removed from the consent agenda and will be considered in the listed sequence with an opportunity for any member of the public to address the Policy Board concerning the item before action is taken.

A. Executive Minutes of July 30, 2020 [APPROVE]

Exhibits:

July Minutes

B. Fourth Quarter Financial and Work Element Report (Les Beshears)

Exhibits:

Fourth Quarter Report

C. City of Kerman Transportation Development Act Claim (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]

Exhibits:

TDA Claim Resolution 2020-29

Approve Resolution 2020-29 adopting the City of Sanger's 2020-21 Transportation Development Act claims totaling \$1,421,668.

D. City of Sanger Transportation Development Act Claim (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]

Exhibits:

TDA Claim Resolution 2020-31

Approve Resolution 2020-31 adopting the City of Kerman's 2020-21 Transportation Development Act claims totaling \$814,731.

E. City of Orange Cove Transportation Development Act Claim (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]

Exhibits:

TDA Claim Resolution 2020-32

Approve Resolution 2020-32 adopting the City of Orange Cove's 2020-21 Transportation Development Act claims totaling \$531,787.

F. City of Mendota Transportation Development Act Claim (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]

Exhibits:

TDA Claim Resolution 2020-33

Approve Resolution 2020-33 adopting the City of Mendota's 2020-21 Transportation Development Act claims totaling \$513,058.

G. Ecointeractive Contract Adjustment (Suzanne Martinez) [APPROVE]

Summary: Fresno COG leases EcoInteractive's web-based software FresnoTrak to manage millions of dollars of federal aid construction projects in Fresno County. FresnoTrak provides online interactive coordination between member agency project sponsors and Fresno COG staff to ensure federal requirements are met.

Staff renegotiated a more beneficial contract term than was presented originally in June 2020. The new contract term allows for a cost-savings of at least \$48,000 over a three-year term.

Action: Staff and TTC/PAC recommend the Policy Board authorize the executive director to revise the renewed Ecointeractive contract for an amount not to exceed \$190,060 for a three-year term starting July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2023.

H. Addition of Youth Position to Environmental Justice Subcommittee (Trai Her-Cole) [APPROVE]

Exhibits:

EJ Sub-committee Application

Summary: The Environmental Justice Subcommittee supports Fresno COG's Transportation Technical Committee (TTC). This subcommittee assists Fresno COG staff in setting thresholds for environmental justice populations for the Environmental Justice Report within each Regional Transportation Plan.

The subcommittee includes 11 positions to provide a full, diverse and equitable representation of the region's environmental justice populations.

The current positions include:

- Local agency-urban
- East side local agency-rural
- West side local agency-rural
- Fresno County
- A representative from each of the four major minority populations in Fresno County:
 - Hispanic
 - African American
 - Asian
 - American Indian
- Low income
- Senior (65 or older)
- Persons with disabilities

At the June Policy Board meeting, the Board requested a position representing the youth community be added to the EJ Subcommittee. The application to the subcommittee is attached, and any participants wishing to apply may submit an application by October 9 to traih@fresnocog.org.

Action: Staff and the TTC/PAC recommend the Policy Board add one seat to the EJ Subcommittee representing the youth community.

I. Circuit Planner and Engineer Update (Meg Prince) [INFORMATION]

Summary: This is an update on tasks underway through Fresno COG's Circuit Planner and Engineer Program, which provides technical assistance to the small cities in Fresno County. Such assistance may include, but is not limited to: planning studies, delivering projects, grant applications, environmental documents, engineering services, etc.

Zoning Evaluation Tool and Model Zoning Ordinance

Several jurisdictions requested updates to their zoning code to comply with recent State laws and numerous new State zoning requirements in the last few years. Cities may have also adopted a new General Plan or amendments that create inconsistencies with their zoning ordinance, or their codes are just out of date, not user friendly, or are not accomplishing city goals.

Rincon Consultants, the Circuit Planner, developed an online tool that allows cities to assess their zoning ordinance and provide a list of sections that need to be updated. The tool is being further refined but is available as of September 9, 2020, at the link below. The circuit planner is available for any questions or comments about the tool or zoning ordinances.

ZONING EVALUATION TOOL: <https://forms.gle/MAJzyneqAxxSvS5LA>

Rincon and Collins & Schoettler are also developing model zoning code sections for cities to update their zoning codes based on evaluation results. These two tools are to work together to first identify needed areas for update, and then provide templates for updating those sections that can be customized to fit the individual cities.

Please contact Meg Prince at mprince@fresnocog.org for any project assistance needs or questions about the program.

Action: Information. The Policy Board may provide additional direction at its discretion.

J. **Regional Transportation Safety Improvement Plan (Trai Her-Cole/Santosh Bhattarai)**
[INFORMATION]

Summary: Fresno COG initially designated funding in WE 148 from FY 19/20 SB 1 formula planning grant funds to conduct a transit on-board survey. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, transit ridership significantly decreased and would be too low for a statistically valid on-board survey. Therefore, the project advisory committee recommended terminating the project.

Following Caltrans' direction, Fresno COG is reallocating the remaining funds from the transit on-board survey to develop a Regional Transportation Safety Improvement Plan. To address safety issues and reduce collisions, injuries and fatalities, the four "Es" of safety countermeasures are used: engineering, education, enforcement and emergency response. Through discussions with Fresno COG's member agencies and other partners, it's clear there is concern over regional traffic safety and a need for a more detailed analysis of incident causes and locations. During the 2018 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) development, traffic safety was a large concern for Fresno County residents. Fresno COG's Safety Target Subcommittee meets a few times each year to discuss regional traffic safety and sets federal safety performance targets. The safety plan will assist in reducing fatalities and serious injuries, as well as achieving a safer transportation system for all motorized and non-motorized users in Fresno County. The safety plan will also support California's Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP), and in meeting the Strategic Highway Safety Plan's (SHSP) vision and goals.

The plan will include a spatial analysis of road traffic accidents by incident type for the Fresno County region, as well as provide a multi-modal safety report (motor vehicle, bike and pedestrian). It will include a comprehensive analysis of historical collision data in Fresno County, and identify trends, location characteristics, and contributing factors in each of the SHSP's challenge areas. The plan will identify countermeasures for urban and rural areas by mode and develop implementation strategies for the countermeasures. This process will include a robust public outreach component to engage disadvantaged and hard to reach communities to collect input on safety concerns and recommendations for potential improvement and develop a Traffic Safety Education Program.

This project will be divided into two phases for a total of \$210,000. Under WE 148, \$174,959 will fund phase one. WE 140 is a new work element and would fund phase two with \$35,041 from the 2020/21 SB1 Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Program.


Action: Information. The Policy Board may provide additional direction at its discretion.

II. **TRANSPORTATION ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

A. **Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy**

1. **RTP Community Survey Report (Brenda Veenendaal) [INFORMATION]**

Exhibits:

 RTP Survey Report

Summary: In May, Fresno COG hired Rea (Ray) & Parker Research to conduct an opinion survey of Fresno County's residents. Participants were to be reflective of Fresno County's demographics, including Spanish speaking and rural representatives.

Rea & Parker Research was tasked with ranking 10 defined community values and nine transportation funding priorities from the sample population. Along with these value and funding priority questions, the survey included population demographics and trip/travel characteristics.

Rea & Parker conducted a telephone survey, receiving 650 responses to the survey. The telephone survey was supplemented by 300 respondents to an online survey that, when added to the telephone sample, improved the overall survey margin of error to +/- 3.2 percent at a 95 percent confidence level.

The survey report summarizing the final results is attached for review. The consultants will provide a brief presentation during the Board meeting.

Action: Information. The Policy Board may provide additional direction at its discretion.

2. **2022 RTP Project Scoring Criteria (Suzanne Martinez) [APPROVE]**

Exhibits:

 RTP Scoring Criteria

Summary: The RTP Programming Technical Working Group has developed draft project scoring criteria for the 2022 RTP. The attached document represents the result of three meetings, where participants reviewed the guidelines from the 2018 plan and updated them for this round. Substantive changes were made, including criteria adjustments, points awarded per question, how criteria apply to the various project modes, and general verbiage updates throughout.

One significant change from the last plan's criteria is how submitted projects will be categorized. In the previous plan, each project belonged to only one of five modes (bike & pedestrian, capacity increasing, maintenance, operations, or transit), and each project was evaluated strictly by the criteria applicable to the chosen mode. This round, the working group allowed for multi-modal projects to be evaluated by all applicable criteria, which provides for more flexibility in how projects are scored and funded.

COG staff is grateful to those who participated in the working group for their focused and detailed engagement in this highly technical process.

Staff presented the the draft scoring criteria to the RTP Roundtable at its August 26, 2020 meeting, and the RTP Roundtable voted to recommend approving the draft scoring criteria.

Action: Staff and the TTC/PAC recommend that the Policy Board approve the draft 2022 RTP Project Scoring Criteria.

3. **Legal Services for the 2022 RTP/SCS, Program Environmental Impact Report, and Regional Housing Needs Allocation Plan (Meg Prince) [APPROVE]**

Summary: Fresno COG released a request for proposals on August 10 for legal assistance with three planning efforts over the next two years – the 2022 RTP/SCS, the Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) for the RTP/SCS, and the 6th Cycle Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) Plan.

In the last RTP cycle, the attorney that was on the PEIR contract provided legal counsel for the RTP/SCS as well. Fresno COG staff believed it was beneficial to have an experienced attorney available to help with questions regarding procedures, review documents and public notices, and to help respond to comment letters.

The 2022 RTP/SCS cycle is occurring in tandem with the state-mandated 6th Cycle Regional Housing Needs Allocation Plan (or "RHNA"), the process through which new housing units that our region must zone accordingly are distributed among local governments. Fresno COG staff believes it would be beneficial to have legal counsel for this effort as well.

Proposals were due on August 31, and Fresno COG received one proposal from Best Best & Krieger (BB&K). A consultant selection committee comprised of representatives from the County, Fresno, Reedley, Mendota, FCRTA, and the RTP Roundtable reviewed the proposal and all concurred that BB&K is well qualified for the scope of legal counsel. A few of the selection committee members have had personal experience working with BB&K, which was all positive. Additionally, BB&K provided legal counsel for development of the 2018 RTP/SCS and corresponding Program EIR and were very knowledgeable and responsive.

The contract amount is not to exceed \$75,000 and is expected to kick off in October.

Action: Staff and TTC/PAC recommend that the Policy Board authorize the executive director to enter into a contract with Best Best & Krieger to provide legal counsel for the 2022 RTP/SCS, program EIR, and 6th Cycle RHNA Plan in an amount not to exceed \$75,000.

4. **2020 Transportation Needs Survey Outreach (Brenda Veenendaal) [INFORMATION]**

Summary: Fresno COG's 2020 Transportation Needs Survey is providing an opportunity for Fresno County's residents to submit transportation project needs/suggestions via an online portal. Those projects could, in turn, become part of the next Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) currently undergoing an update.

The survey launched on September 9th and will close October 15. It is most easily accessed through Fresno COG's RTP website www.planfresno.com

Outreach is being conducted in English, Spanish and Punjabi, with translation and interpretation services provided our RTP mini-grant groups. All of the transportation suggestions received will be translated (where needed) and relayed to local agencies for review and consideration. The effort will conclude prior to the RTP call for projects release on November 1, 2020.

Fresno COG and its mini-grant organizations will advertise the through various means. Invitations and requests for project suggestions have been posted to websites, emailed to Fresno COG's enews database and shared through social media posts and advertising. Some virtual meetings are being scheduled, and phone banking will be used as a replacement for in-person workshops and door-to-door canvassing through the mini-grant agencies.

The online survey asks that participants drop a marker on a map of Fresno County to show where their suggested project is or would be located. Then participants are asked to describe the transportation need/suggestion, attach a photo of the area if available, and answer relevant demographic questions.

Fresno COG is asking for additional outreach opportunities through committees, member agency and community partners. We are looking for opportunities to either obtain a contact list or have emails and social posts forwarded and shared. We also welcome opportunities to speak at established community or community meetings.

All inquiries or outreach referrals should be communicated to Brenda Veenendaal at brendav@fresnocog.org. Staff will provide a brief presentation on the survey and planned outreach.

Action: Information. The Policy Board may provide additional direction at its discretion.

B. **Delegated Authority Authorization for Upcoming Formal Federal Transportation Improvement Plan/Regional Transportation Plan (FTIP/RTP) Amendment and Corresponding Conformity Analysis (Suzanne Martinez / Braden Duran) [APPROVE]**

Exhibits:

FTIP Amend #12/RTP Amend #3 Final Draft Fresno COG 2020 Conformity

Summary: Fresno COG is proposing a draft 2019 Federal Transportation Improvement Program Amendment No. 12, a draft 2018 Regional Transportation Plan Amendment No. 3, and the draft Corresponding Conformity Analysis.

While developing this amendment, Fresno COG staff and its air quality consultant worked to solve conformity analysis issues that arose from the SAFE Vehicle Rule adjustment factors. Staff ultimately achieved a passing result, but after a considerable delay, which put Fresno COG behind schedule with the other SJV MPOs, which are also processing type 5 amendments.

Consequently, staff is requesting that the Board grant delegated authority that authorizes the Executive Director to approve the upcoming formal Type 5 FTIP/RTP amendment and its corresponding air quality conformity analysis. Staff has already released the amendment for a 30-day public review period earlier this month (September 3, 2020 through October 2, 2020), with a public hearing held on Wednesday, September 16. The draft package is attached to the agenda. Once all public comments are sufficiently addressed, this action would give the executive director the authority to approve the documents and submit to Caltrans/FHWA directly for state/federal approval.

Delegated authority would accelerate the approval time by about a month, considering staff would not be delayed until October's regularly scheduled COG Policy Board Meeting. This would help keep the original schedule on track with the other SJV MPOs and speed up state/federal approval. It would also alleviate any further delays for projects awaiting amendment approval to proceed.

If recommended for approval today, staff will bring the director-approved formal Type 5 amendment to the TTC, PAC, and Board as an informational item in October 2020.

Action: Staff, TTC and PAC recommend the Policy Board grant delegated authority authorizing the executive director to approve the upcoming formal Type 5 FTIP/RTP amendment and corresponding conformity analysis that was released for public comment on September 3, 2020.

C. Measure C New Technology Funding Recommendations (Peggy Arnest) [APPROVE]

Summary: Fresno COG released the Measure C 2020 application for New Technology funding on April 10, 2020. Staff received four applications requesting approximately \$8.2 million against an available \$5.38 million. On August 21, the scoring committee met to interview the applicants and discuss the applications. The following is a list of the applications and the funding recommendations:

Agency	Project Description	New Tech Request	New Tech Funding Recommendation
City of Fresno - Public Works	Adaptive signal control technology, transit signal priority & emergency vehicle preemption installed in downtown Fresno	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000
City of Fresno - Public Works	Install 14 contactless pedestrian signal devices at various intersections	\$500,000	\$0
FCRTA	Purchase four electric buses & 50 UV sterilization lights to disinfect FCRTA's entire fleet	\$1,083,048	\$1,083,048
City of Fresno - Airport	Parking assist technology , pay-on-foot kiosks, electric vehicle charging stations, and solar power generation for the new parking structure at Fresno Air Terminal	\$4,100,000	\$1,762,000
	TOTAL	\$8,183,048	\$5,345,048
	New Tech Funding Available (2020)		\$5,380,000
	New Tech Funding to roll over to next cycle in 2022		\$34,952

For more information and links to the applications, please click [HERE](#)

The scoring committee included:


Position	2020 Member Name

City of Fresno	Jill Gormley
City of Clovis	Shelby Elia
East-side City	Rob Terry
West-side City	John Jansons
County of Fresno	Gloria Hensley
Business	Sheila Hakimipour
Education	Jesus Larralde Muro
Transit	Todd Sobrado
FCTA	Diana Sedigh-Darbandi
Measure COC	Gail Miller
Public	Joseph Oldham
Public	Matthew Gillian

Action: Staff and TTC/PAC request that the Policy Board approve the New Technology scoring committee recommendations for funding and forward to the Fresno County Transportation Authority to enter into contracts with the applicants in the amounts recommended.

D. Blackstone/Shaw Study Final Report (Peggy Arnest) [ACCEPT]

Exhibits:

 Study Report

Summary: The Blackstone/Shaw Activity Center (BSAC) Project was funded by federal planning dollars and was requested by the City of Fresno to identify and assess transportation improvements in service of mixed-use development in the project area as envisioned in the City of Fresno's General Plan.

To complement the envisioned land use changes and built environment, the Blackstone/Shaw Activity Center Project identified and analyzed transportation projects that would:

- Increase access and safety along the corridor for all travel modes and users, including the elderly, disabled, low-income, students and youth;
- Address deficiencies in the existing street design that are incompatible with the planned land uses outlined in the General Plan and impact business opportunities and performance in the project area;

It also recommended projects that would:

- Improve multi-modal access and safety for pedestrians and bicyclists as well as transit riders;
- Enhance potential sidewalk and streetscape to support pedestrian comfort, access to transit, and access to businesses and services.

In addition, the project evaluated 11 intersections in the vicinity and assessed the following

transportation improvements:

- New traffic signals at the following intersections:
 - Blackstone Avenue & the Yosemite Falls driveway
 - Blackstone Avenue & Santa Ana Avenue
 - Shaw Avenue & Effie Street – This intersection was not recommended by Caltrans because the traffic study showed possible queueing backing up on the SR 41 mainline during peak hour traffic
- Pedestrian half-signal at Shaw Avenue & Glenn Avenue
- Converting the outside motor vehicle lanes on Blackstone Avenue in each direction to business access and transit (BAT) lanes
- Leading pedestrian intervals for signalized intersections of Blackstone Avenue between San Jose Avenue and Santa Ana Avenue

The BSAC project provided the City of Fresno with several sidewalk widening alternatives, each with various funding scenarios. Also included are alternatives for providing a separated bikeway along Blackstone with several specific suggestions on how these bikeways could be constructed in conjunction with the BRT stations.

The project also included an opinion of probable costs, a funding matrix and an estimate of right of way necessary to complete projects that will help the City with future grant applications.

Attached is the Final Summary Report for the BSAC project.

Action: Staff and TTC/PAC request that the Policy Board accept the Blackstone/Shaw Activity Center Project final summary report.

E. **Fresno COG Sixth Cycle Regional Housing Needs Allocation Plan: Consultant Selection and Update (Meg Prince) [APPROVE]**

Summary:

BACKGROUND

Fresno COG is required to develop a methodology and allocation plan to distribute housing needs determined by the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to jurisdictions within the region (Government Code Section 65584). Each local jurisdiction must then update the Housing Element of its General Plan in accordance with the community's housing needs.

Senate Bill 375 (Chapter 728, Statutes of 2008) strengthened coordination between housing and transportation planning, and amended the RHNA schedule and methodology to align with Regional Transportation Plans and Sustainable Communities Strategies (RTP/SCS). Fresno COG's 2022 RTP/SCS development will happen in tandem with the sixth cycle RHNA process.

The next RHNA Plan for Fresno County is due to the State in August 2022. Historically, Fresno COG has prepared the RHNA plan in-house via coordination with its member jurisdictions and HCD. For the sixth cycle RHNA plan update, however, Fresno COG is seeking a qualified consultant to complete the project, because new State requirements have made the RHNA plan development more complex, and new funding is available for RHNA development from HCD through the Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) grants program.

CONSULTANT SELECTION

Fresno COG released a request for proposals in June for the RHNA process and received two proposals. A consultant selection committee comprising representatives from the County, Clovis, Fresno, Kerman, Reedley, and Fresno COG conducted consultant interviews on August 21.

The consultant selection committee unanimously chose PlaceWorks as the preferred consultant to assist with the sixth cycle RHNA process. PlaceWorks is a leader in housing planning in California, has experience developing RHNA plans, and has a strong track record of building consensus among agencies and stakeholders.

PlaceWorks' original bid was for \$186,400; however, Fresno COG requested that PlaceWorks add an optional \$12,118 task if any appeals are filed regarding a local jurisdiction's allocation. If no appeals are filed, the funds will not be spent. The cost estimate including the optional task is \$199,748.

RHNA SUBCOMMITTEE

Staff will convene a RHNA subcommittee comprising local government representatives and key stakeholders to advise Fresno COG in developing an allocation methodology. It's anticipated that the RHNA subcommittee will meet seven times, with the first meeting in October 2020. Fresno COG will reach out to potential subcommittee members once the contract with PlaceWorks is executed and will keep the website up to date with relevant information for those interested in the process.

Action: Staff and TTC/PAC recommend the Policy Board authorize the executive director to enter into an agreement with PlaceWorks to produce the sixth cycle RHNA Plan for an amount not to exceed \$199,748.

F. **Caltrans Report (Caltrans) [INFORMATION]**

III. **ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT ITEMS**

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A. **Golden State Corridor Contract Extension (Peggy Arnest) [APPROVE]**

Summary: In January 2016, Fresno COG's Policy Board authorized the executive director to enter into a contract with Mark Thomas Engineering for the Golden State Corridor Economic Development & Infrastructure Improvements Project. The project's design engineering portion is expected to be completed by the end of 2020. Bidding assistance and construction support tasks are also Mark Thomas's responsibilities and will continue into the 2021-22 budget year. There are no additional costs associated with this contract extension.

Action: Staff and TTC/PAC request that the Policy Board authorize the Executive Director to extend the Mark Thomas contract for the Golden State Corridor Economic Development & Infrastructure Improvements Project through fiscal year 2021-22.

B. **Regional Clearinghouse (Jennifer Soliz) [APPROVE]**

Exhibits:

Regional Clearinghouse

Summary: The Clearinghouse Calendar contains "project notification and review reports" for grant proposals.

	Project	Applicant
1.	Emergency Solution Grant Administration; Emergency Solutions Grant	Fresno County

Action: Forward any comment(s) received or any Committee/Board comment(s) generated as a result

of this informational item to the appropriate agency.

C. **Valleywide Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) revised Master Agreement with the California Department of Housing and Community Development (Robert Phipps) [INFORMATION]**

Summary: In June 2020, Fresno COG's Board accepted a request to act as the fiscal agent for the San Joaquin Valley Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) Committee, and adopted Resolution 2020-24 authorizing the executive director to enter into agreements with California's Housing and Community Development (HCD) Department for REAP funds. Through the REAP program, the eight Valley COGs are expected to receive approximately \$18.5 million in housing planning assistance, which Fresno COG will administer.

Fresno COG staff filed its first application for \$4.5 million in February 2020; however, in May, HCD invited the SJV COGs to submit a second application. Between the two applications, HCD proposed to place approximately \$10.2 million under one master agreement, whose funds would be provided in advance rather than on a typical reimbursement basis.

Staff submitted the second application in early June and has received and returned the master agreement, whose funds are intended to be incorporated into Fresno COG's 2020-21 Overall Work Program Amendment No. 1, also in this agenda.

Of the first \$10.2 million in funding, \$6 million is expressly set aside for tasks, activities and products with a Valleywide scope and impact, such as housing and land inventories, identifying common obstacles to housing construction and a composite of best practices to encourage housing development. Most of the other \$4.2 million will be distributed on a pro-rata basis to the seven other Valley COGs, which are expected to pass their share of the funding to their member jurisdictions, either directly or indirectly.

Staff is developing a set of guidelines for the regional share of REAP funding that will encourage local jurisdictions to apply to Fresno COG for planning projects they would like to see funded. Each local jurisdiction is likewise eligible for a pro-rata share of Local Early Action Planning (LEAP) funds through the state. Both LEAP and REAP funds may be used in conjunction on the same project. Eligible projects include, but are not limited to infrastructure plans, updating housing elements, general plans and/or zoning codes.

Action: Information only. The Policy Board may provide additional direction at its discretion.

IV. **ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

A. **2020-21 Overall Work Program Amendment No. 1 (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]**

Summary: Fresno Council of Governments' 2020-21 Overall Work Program (OWP) Amendment No. 1 increases the budget \$5,769,772 to \$27,507,551. It includes new revenues from the San Joaquin Valley Working Group Regional Early Action Plan (REAP) funding and adjusts carry-over projects from the 2019-20 fiscal year that are programmed in the 2020-21 budget so the project work element (WE) matches the residual contract and programmed grant funding per the requirements of grant funding agencies.

Specific changes, classified by work element, include:

Work Elements 140 and 148 Regional Safety Program – This \$210,000 project is funded from 2019-20 and 2020-21 State Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation (RMRA) grants. The project is programmed in two phases to satisfy procedural guidelines per Caltrans. WE 148 will program \$174,959 for Phase I, and WE 140 will program \$35,041 for Phase II. WE 148 was initially reserved for a transit on-board survey, which was canceled when transit ridership imploded during the lockdown. This amendment increases WE 148 \$45,769 and WE 140 \$35,041.

Work Element 142 – FCRTA Operational Plan - \$40,095 remains in the Walker Inc. contract for this 2018-19 RMRA grant. This amendment increases WE 142 \$25,095.

Work Element 143 – Industrial Triangle Study - \$88,409 remains in the GHD contract for this State Planning grant (SPR). This amendment decreases WE 143 \$30,347.

Work Element 144 – Electric Vehicle Infrastructure - \$36,630 remains in the AECOM contract for this 2018-19 RMRA grant. This amendment decreases WE 144 \$38,370.

Work Element 146 – Better Blackstone Design Challenge - \$70,128 remains in the Fresno Ministries contract for this 2018-19 RMRA grant. This amendment decreases WE 146 \$4,872.

Work Element 147 – Fresno County Trail Master Plan - \$85,123 remains in the Toole Inc. 2018-19 RMRA grant. This amendment increases WE 147 \$10,123.

Work Element 149 – Transportation Impact Analysis - \$81,732 remains in the LSA contract for this 2019-20 RMRA grant. This amendment increases WE 149 \$51,732.

Work Element 160 – Better Blackstone Phase II - \$437,383 remains in the Fresno Ministries contract for this FTA 5304 grant. This amendment increases WE 160 \$216,901.

Work Element 162 – Sustainable Communities Grant – There is \$71,732 budgeted for the 2020-21 Sustainable Communities program. Funding was transferred to WE 140 to perfect funding for the Regional Safety Program. No project selection process has occurred yet. Staff will keep the Board apprised on the status. This amendment decreases WE 162 \$20,361.

Work Element 420 – The State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) is providing \$10,218,831 for the San Joaquin Valley Working Group to develop Regional Early Action Plans in anticipation of the sixth cycle Regional Housing Needs Assessment program, increasing the work element \$5,468,971.

Action: Staff, TTC and PAC recommend the Policy Board adopt the 2020-21 Overall Work Program Amendment No. 1, increasing the budget \$5,769,772 to \$27,507,551.

B. Valleywide Regional Early Action Plan (REAP) Coordinator Contract (Robert Phipps) [APPROVE]

Summary: The San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agencies Executive Directors Committee (COG Directors) is responsible for all Valleywide Regional Early Action Plan (REAP) administrative work. Collectively, the eight Valley COGs are eligible to receive approximately \$18.5 million through California's REAP program for local jurisdiction housing planning assistance.

Of that \$18.5 million, HCD has designated \$6 million for tasks, activities and deliverables that are Valleywide in scope, as opposed to any specific region or county. Some of those activities and deliverables will include a Valleywide inventory of housing stock, available land, and obstacles endemic to housing production; a zoning code template; a catalog of best practices for housing planning, and; other deliverables.

The COG Directors, or their designee, reviews and recommends contracts, funding arrangements and other administrative matters relevant to the SJV REAP program. The California Housing and Community Development Department (HCD) required the SJV COGs and their elected REAP Committee to appoint a "fiscal agent" for the REAP funding, which Fresno COG accepted. Fresno COG is responsible for administering revenues and entering into contracts on the REAP Committee's behalf.

In March 2020, HCD invited Fresno COG to apply for approximately \$5.5 million in REAP funds, representing the balance of funds available for Valleywide deliverables. Subsequently, on May 11, 2020, Fresno COG released a request for proposals (RFP) for a program manager to oversee an anticipated network of consultants who will be responsible for producing all Valleywide tasks, activities and deliverables.

In response to the RFP, Fresno COG received four proposals:

- Michael Baker International:
- Regional Government Services (RGS):
- Precision Civil Engineering
- Sigala Inc:

Over a two-day period, June 24-25 2020, a scoring committee comprising one staff member from each of the eight SJV COGs reviewed, interviewed and scored the proposals. The results of that process are identified in the table below, which provides a summary by average score and total project budget.

<u>Firm</u>	<u>Average Score</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
Michael Baker, Intl.	72.35	\$330,022.70
Precision Engineering	71	\$450,000
Sigala, Inc.	91.8	\$314,200
Regional Government Services (RGS)	77.06	\$509,854

The COG Directors' scoring committee and the Valleywide REAP Committee recommends that Sigala Inc. be awarded the contract for Housing Program Manager.

Action: Staff and PAC recommend the Policy Board authorize the executive director enter into a contract with Sigala, Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$314,200.

V. **OTHER ITEMS**

A. **Items from Staff**

B. **Items from Members**

VI. **PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS**

A. **Public 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. **Note: Prior to action by the Committee on any item on this agenda, the public may comment on that item. Unscheduled comments may be limited to three minutes.**