



CITIZEN OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Measure C Citizen Oversight Committee Meeting Executive Minutes

Date: Thursday, May 14, 2020

Time: 4:00 PM

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

Members Present:

Lee Delap, Public-at-Large
Sal Petrucelli, Public-at-Large
Bill Jordan, League of Women Voters
Jennifer Hartwig, Fresno County Farm Bureau
Kevin Hamilton, Central California Asthma Collaborative

Jim Hunter, Public-at-Large
Robert Allen, Selma District Chamber of Commerce
Ronald Dressler, Public-at-Large
Gail Miller-new member, Public-At-Large

Absent:

LeAnn Nowlin, Public-at-Large
Destiny Rodriguez, Public-at-Large

Others Attending:

Denise DiBenedetto, Fresno County Transportation Authority
Brenda Veenendaal, Fresno COG
Stephanie Maxwell, Fresno COG
Peggy Arnest, Fresno COG
Mike Leonardo, Fresno County Transportation Authority

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic this meeting was held by teleconference.

Lee Delap called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

I. 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.

II. Minutes of February 13, 2020 Meeting of the Measure C Citizen Oversight Committee

A motion was made by Bob Allen and seconded by Bill Jordan to approve the February 13, 2020 Measure C Citizen Oversight Committee minutes. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

III. FY2020/21 Measure C Extension Budget Update (Denise DiBenedetto)

Denise DiBenedetto reported on this item. The Fresno County Transportation Authority was in the process of preparing the proposed FY20/21 Measure C Extension Budget when the agenda was originally published. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic's significant negative impact on economic activity and the difficulties it had presented to the FCTA's financial advisors, the final proposed budget was not yet available. By the time of the meeting all three proposed FY20/21 Measure C Budgets were made available to the Committee along with a revised summary.

Ms. DiBenedetto explained to the committee that while the Original Measure C did not fall under the purview of the COC the proposed FY20/21 Measure C Original Budget was provided as a courtesy for reference to those services that are funded by both the Original and Extension Measures.

Ms. DiBenedetto presented the proposed FY20/21 Measure C Extension Budget. This proposed budget has a total estimated tax revenue of \$72,711,059 along with interest income in the amount of \$3,800,000 for total estimated budget of \$76,511,059. The revenue estimate reflects a conservative -.860% growth rate. The full summary and budget can be found on the COG website under Agendas.

Ms. DiBenedetto presented the proposed FY20/21 Measure C Extension Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee (RTMF) Budget. The full summary and budget can be found on the COG website under Agendas.

Kevin Hamilton initiated a discussion about the RTMF loan payback and the possibility of full repayment by the end of the Extension Measure and what happens if it isn't. Ms. DiBenedetto responded that it will not be paid back by the end of the Extension Measure. Due to the complexity of this program it will be best to have Financial Director Les Beshears answer this question at the next meeting.

Jennifer Hartwig asked when the RTMF Loan was initiated. Ms. DiBenedetto responded that it was initiated in 2010.

Lee Delap asked if there was an opportunity to use the original measure to help pay it back? Ms. DiBenedetto would rather Les Beshears answer that question at our next meeting.

This was an information Item.

IV. Measure C New Technology Reserve Fund, 2020-2021 Application Process (Brenda Veenendaal)

Peggy Arnest reported on this item. Fresno COG was seeking proposals from eligible public agencies for advanced transit and transportation projects that had the potential for broad benefits to Fresno County residents and assist the region in meeting its air quality goals. Fresno COG and the Fresno County Transportation Authority (FCTA) were proposing to fund projects of regional significance in the areas of research, development, demonstration, and deployment that will advance public transit and transportation. This third cycle of the Measure "C" New Technology Reserve Program will make approximately \$5.4 million available for eligible new technology projects/programs. The 2020 application was attached to this item and it is also available on the Fresno COG website.

Timeline:

| <u>ACTIVITY</u> | <u>DATE</u> |
|---|---------------------------|
| Request for Proposals Released | April 10, 2020 |
| Last day to submit requests for clarification | June 4, 2020 |
| NEW: Deadline for Electronic Proposal Submittal for agencies wishing to partner with Fresno COG | June 18, 2020 |
| Deadline for Proposal Submittal | July 22, 2020 |
| Scoring (Tentative) | July 27 - August 14, 2020 |
| Potential Interview Date (Tentative) | August 17 - 28, 2020 |
| Policy Board Approval (Tentative) | September 24, 2020 |
| FCTA Board Approval (Tentative) | October 28, 2020 |
| Notice to Proceed - Subject to Contract Signing (Tentative) | January 2021 |

In February 2016, the Policy Board approved a formal process to solicit and accept members to sit on a Multidisciplinary Advisory Group (MAG). The MAG reviewed, evaluated and scored the New Tech applications and recommend projects for funding. Nominees were needed from the following categories: City of Fresno, City of Clovis, east side city, west side city, County of Fresno, Measure C Citizens Oversight Committee, FCTA, transit, business, education and two public seats. The MAG application was formally released late this spring and was due June 19th.

Peggy Arnest asked the committee to elect someone from the COC to sit on the MAG.

Jim Hunter expressed his interest in sitting on the committee. Jennifer Hartwig had a question about the necessity to have experience with new technologies and transit.

Gail Miller shared her background related to New Technology and expressed her interest in filling the position.

For more information regarding the Measure C New Technology program please visit <http://www.fresnocog.org/measure-c-new-technology-reserve-fund> and/or contact Peggy Arnest at parnest@fresnocog.org.

Jim Hunter deferred to Gail Miller for the nomination.

A motion was made by Jennifer Hartwig and seconded by Bob Allen to nominate Gail Miller to sit on the Measure C New Technology Reserve Program Multidisciplinary Advisory Group. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

V. Fresno COG RTP Roundtable Application to Represent the Oversight Committee (Brenda Veenendaal)

RTP Roundtable Application

Brenda Veenendaal reported on this item. Fresno COG actively recruited community, agency and business representatives to sit on the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Roundtable, the committee had provided expertise and generated consensus on RTP development issues such as policies and goals, project scoring and selection, public outreach and greenhouse gas scenario building and final recommendation. The RTP Roundtable will begin meeting monthly on June 24th at 2:00 pm. It will meet on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 2 pm thereafter, for about a year. This advisory committee had 39 positions available for a variety of representative groups, with one position open to a representative member of the Measure C Citizen Oversight Committee. An RTP Roundtable application was attached for committee review.

The Fresno Council of Governments' (COG) 2022 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) comprehensively assessed all forms of transportation available in Fresno County as well as travel and goods movement needs through 2045, provided a programming mechanism for funding projects over the next 25 years. Those projects also feed into the Measure C Extension Expenditure Plan, a half-cent sales tax measure whose extension will go before the voters in 2022. The RTP also contains a Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) as required by California's Senate Bill 375. The SCS is an integrated land-use and transportation plan for meeting the California Air Resources Board's (CARB) greenhouse gas emission reduction targets.

Kevin Hamilton expressed his interest in sitting on the RTP Roundtable and spoke to his qualifications.

Bill Jordan asked if the meetings are open to the public. Brenda Veenendaal said that it was.

Kevin Hamilton asked if Bill Jordan was open to sitting as his alternate. Bill Jordan agreed to sit as an alternate for the time being. The committee agreed with the appointment.

A motion was made by Bill Jordan and seconded by Sal Petrucelli to nominated Kevin Hamilton to sit on the 2022 Regional Transportation Plan Roundtable. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

For more information on the Regional Transportation Plan, visit this link:<https://www.fresnocog.org/project/regional-transportation-plan-rtp/>

VI. Status Reports - Requested by COC Members (Mike Leonardo)

Fresno County Transportation Authority's Executive Director Mike Leonardo provided a status report to the Oversight Committee on the following topics:

1. Measure C Extension Expenditure Plan Renewal

Mike Leonardo updated the committee regarding the Measure C renewal effort. The FCTA Board agreed to target the renewal in 2022. Staff looked at the previous effort and other counties' processes and decided to form two committees. An Executive committee and a working group.

The working group would put together the transportation needs and funding sources as well as funding shortfalls.

Executive committee would be the decision-making body. Focused on various modes of transportation and overarching look at the whole draft measure. Explained the process for approval and placing on the ballot.

COVID 19 hit but continued working to develop the committees, though response was low due to the pandemic. Therefore, the measure is at a standstill with committee formation until later in June.

Proposals were released for a facilitator and pollster. Mr. Leonardo explained the work involved with both in developing the Measure. Three responses received for polling and one was selected, and staff was still in discussions regarding a facilitator contract. Still targeting 2022 for renewal but it is contingent on what the economy looks like as we approach the summer of 2022.

No question from the committee.

2. High-Speed Rail Heavy Maintenance Facility Selection

High-speed rail heavy maintenance facility update:

Mike Leonardo explained that the facility selection had been in process for 10 years. Much work has been done countywide to position Fresno County as the location for that facility.

Heavy maintenance Facility doesn't need to be as large or provide as many jobs as originally anticipated. Work at this type of facility wouldn't be needed for 5-10 years after trains begin running on the line. So, it is believed that the best path forward is to build an operations control center, maintenance away facilities, training center and light maintenance facilities are needed however. This would all provide a wide variety of jobs. Focus has shifted to bring all four of these facilities and jobs to Fresno County. It is looking promising that it will happen but nothing has been confirmed.

Mike spoke to the progress on high speed rail through the Valley. As far as the \$25 million approved to use for high-speed rail heavy maintenance that is still in place and no one is taking any actions to change that at this time. \$500,00 of the \$25 million was approved to be used for land options to secure Fresno's

Bill Jordan asked a question regarding Merced's interest in having the facilities placed within their county.

Mr. Leonardo said that they met with Dan Lovit that the site that they want to use in Merced was not big enough and have other needs for that area and was not particularly enamored with the Merced site. This was an information item.

VII. Items from Staff

A. Upcoming 2020 COC meeting dates - please reserve these dates from 5:00-7:00 pm:

- June 11
- July 9
- August 13
- September 10
- October 8
- November 12
- December 10

B. Items for the next agenda

- Denise DiBenedetto did not put the FCTA audits on this agenda so will have the audits for next meeting
- Resolution of allocation
- RTMF loan payback discussion
- TOD scoring will be in June so it could be agendized there after
- Jennifer Hartwig — August committee updates New Tech MAG and RTP Roundtable
- Lee Delap — update on pilot program freeway trash pick-up. Litter abatement status
- Selection of Chair and Co-chair for the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year
- Selection of the COC members for the annual report
- Kevin Hamilton — asked if we will be meeting in June. Staff agreed to assess the urgency of the items and decide later. However, the next meeting will likely be in July or August

C. Upcoming Meetings of other related Boards/Committee

- Fresno COG Transportation Technical Committee Meeting - May 8, June 11, July 9, 2020, at 8:30 am
- Fresno COG Policy Advisory Committee Meeting - May 8, June 11, July 9, 2020, at 10:00 am
- Fresno COG Policy Board meeting - May 28, June 25, July 30, 2020 at 5:30 pm

VIII. Items from Members

Bill Jordan thanked everyone that was on the team of preparing the Measure C report that was sent out in the Fresno Bee. Mr. Jordan said that it was an extremely impressive presentation.

Bob Allen suggested putting on the next agenda to send a thank you note by consensus on behalf of the COC to everyone that participated in putting the report together. The committee agreed.

Bill Jordan said that at some time we will need information from Fresno State public transportation program or from other ways due to the corona vires and how it will affect public transportation long term.

A motion was made by Bill Jordan and seconded by Sal Petrucelli to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 pm. A vote was called for and the motion carried.