

Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy Roundtable
MEETING SUMMARY
Wednesday, January 27, 2020
1:00 PM

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS (Kristine Cai)

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Terry, Chair at 1:02 p.m.

A. ROLL CALL (Jeaneen Cervantes)

David Merchen, City of Clovis
Mike Sanchez, City of Fresno
Paul Sereno, City of Huron
Rob Terry, City of Reedley
Mohammad Khorsand, County of Fresno
Christopher Nicholas, Caltrans
Carolina Ilic, Public Transportation Urban
Moses Stites, Fresno County Rural Transit
Tina Sumner, Active Transportation
Eric VonBerg, Broad-Based Business
Mike Prandini, Building Industry Association
Adam Livingston, Environmental
Kevin Wing, San Joaquin Valley Air District
Jim Hunter, Public at Large
Sal Petrucelli, Public at Large
Leslie Martinez, Environmental Justice
Sargeant Green, Water Agency

17 members present. Simple majority is 9.

II. NEW INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. RTP/SCS Roundtable Meeting Minutes of November 18, 2020 [APPROVE]

After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Khorsand (Fresno County) motioned and Mr. Petrucelli (Public at Large) seconded to approve the minutes with corrections. 10 yes votes, no noes. The motion passed.

B. Draft Policy Element Outline (Meg Prince) [APPROVE]

Ms. Prince (FCOG) reported that the Policy Element is a required component of the RTP. It serves as a foundation for short and long-term regional planning and identifies areas of regional consensus.

Fresno COG convened a Policy Element Subcommittee, which included approximately 20 representatives from local governments, transit agencies, public health, community-based organizations, active transportation, the building industry, Measure C, and the RTP Roundtable. The Policy Element Subcommittee met three times in November and December to assist with the development of the Draft Policy Element Outline.

The Draft Policy Element Outline has been consolidated and updated based on the Policy Element in the 2018 RTP/SCS, and is included as an attachment to this agenda item. Staff is requesting approval for the vision, overarching goals, and supporting policies in the Draft Policy Element Outline to be included in the draft RTP/SCS, which will be circulated for public review and comment in the spring of 2022.

After an opportunity for public comment, Ms. Martinez (LCJA) motioned and Mr. Vonburg (Broad Based Business) seconded to approve the Draft Policy Element Outline. 17 yes votes, no noes. Motion passed.

Members joined: Gail Miller, Public at Large, David Brletic, City of Sanger, Michael Osborne, City of Mendota.
20 members present. Simple majority is 11.

C. Consultant Selection for the 2022 RTP/SCS Environmental Impact Report (Meg Prince) [APPROVE]

Ms. Prince (FCOG) reported that Fresno COG released a request for proposals on November 30, 2020 for qualified consultants to prepare the Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) for the 2022 RTP/SCS. Proposals were due on December 9, 2020, and Fresno COG received two proposals.

A consultant selection committee comprised of representatives from the County, Clovis, Reedley, Coalinga, the RTP Roundtable, and Fresno COG reviewed the proposal and selected VRPA Technologies as the preferred consultant. The contract amount is not to exceed \$173,491.42 and is expected to kick off in March with the Policy Board's approval on February 25.

After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Prandini (BIA) motioned and Mr. Khorsand (Fresno County) seconded to approve the selection of VRPA Technologies to develop the 2022 RTP/SCS Environmental Impact Report for an amount not to exceed \$173,491.42. Member VonBerg abstained. 18 yes votes, no noes. Motion passed.

D. SCS Scenario Concepts (Seth Scott) [APPROVE]

Mr. Scott (FCOG) reported that the scenario development is at the core of the SCS, which requires MPOs to test implementation of various strategies in order to meet GHG reduction goals and maximize co-benefits for sustainability in the region. As such, the scenarios that are selected for inclusion and analysis within the SCS form the backbone of the plan's demonstration of how GHG reduction targets are met.

In the context of the SCS, a scenario is a snapshot in time that represents a future result of certain land-use and transportation strategies. Different strategies, as well as different priorities among strategies, will result in diverging visions of the future; and the purpose of the SCS is to choose the preferred scenario that 1) demonstrates the region's ability to meet GHG reduction targets, and 2) represents a sustainable vision of the Fresno County region that is both ambitious and achievable.

The SCS Technical Subcommittee has developed several scenario concepts for the Roundtable's consideration. These draft concepts are built around the SCS strategies that were previously discussed, where each concept is defined by the amount of prioritization given to each of the 20 SCS strategies relative to each other.

Fresno COG staff is planning an outreach effort that will present up to five scenario concepts to the public and garnering their input on them. The scenario concepts submitted by the SCS technical subcommittee represent a starting point for discussion about what these scenarios may look like. Staff plans to report back to the Roundtable in April or May with the results, at which time staff will be asking for 3 scenarios to be included in the SCS for analysis.

After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Stites (FCRTA) motioned and Mr. Khorsand (Fresno County) seconded to select up to 5 scenario concepts (to be considered by TTC, PAC and the Policy Board) for presentation to the public for input. A roll call vote was taken, 20 yes votes. Motion passed unanimously.

E. Telecommute Survey Results (Trai Her-Cole) [INFORMATION]

Ms. Her-Cole (FCOG) reported that in November 2020, Fresno COG released a telecommute survey for both employees and employers to assess the rate of telecommuting in Fresno County as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The results gathered will help provide some basis for the vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and greenhouse gases (GHG) reduction quantification of a telecommute strategy, which will be applied in Fresno COG's 2022 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS). Increased telecommuting may lead to reduced VMT and GHG emissions, relieve congestion, and help the region meet air quality goals.

There were 597 employee responses and 47 employer responses. Staff provided a brief presentation of the survey results. This item was information only, no further direction was provided.

F. Action Element (Jennifer Soliz) [INFORMATION]

Ms. Soliz (FCOG) reported that California Government Code Section 65080 requires each RTP to include an action element that describes the programs and actions necessary to implement the RTP and assigns implementation responsibilities. It will consist of short and long-term activities that address regional transportation issues and needs and will address all transportation modes. The action element will also consider congestion management activities within the region.

The action element is critical to providing clear direction about the roles and responsibilities of the MPO and other agencies to follow through on the RTP's policies and projects. The action element will be developed to support the approved policies and strategies developed through the policy element subcommittee. The action element will also be consistent with the financial element to identify investment strategies, alternatives and project priorities.

It is anticipated that the draft action element outline will be out for review and comment prior to the RTP roundtable approval in May 2021.

This item was information only, no further direction was provided.

G. RTP Project Submittal (Suzanne Martinez) [INFORMATION]

Ms. Martinez (FCOG) reported that Fresno COG initiated the 2022 RTP Call for projects on November 2, 2020, and all projects were due by December 16, 2020. Staff performed a preliminary analysis of the projects received. Below is a breakdown of that analysis:

	Total Dollars		Number of Projects	
Project Type	Dollar Amount	Percentage	Number	Percentage
Bike/Ped	\$616,804,000	6.8%	459 (+226)	18.12% (+8.98%)
S&R Capacity Increasing	\$2,228,967,000	14.58%	357	14.13%
S&R Operations & Maintenance	\$3,066,233,000	31.70%	1568	61.97%
Transit	\$3,036,287,000	33.37%	143	5.66%
TOTAL	\$8,948,291,000	100%	2527	100%

As previously reported, the 2022 RTP Call-for-Projects allowed for the ability to choose multiple modes for a single project in order to allow flexibility in how projects are scored and funded. As such, in the analysis above, the number in parenthesis within the Bike and Ped mode depicts the number of projects from other modes that also include a Bike and Ped component.

The next steps include mapping the 2022 RTP projects received and ranking the projects with the Project Evaluation Criteria established in the fall of 2020.

This item was information only, no further direction was provided.

III. OTHER ITEMS

A. Items from Staff

There were no items from staff.

B. Items from Members

There were no items from members.

IV. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

There were no public presentations.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:11p.m.

Members of the Public:

Nick Paladino, Fresno Cycling Club
Anthony Molina, Fresno Cycling Club
Mariah Thompson, CRLA
Shelby MacNab, City of Fresno
Daniel O'Connel, Central Valley Partnership
Jill Gormley, City of Fresno
Karla Martinez, Leadership Counsel
Michael Banelos
Sean Smith, City of Clovis
Grecia Elenes, Leadership Counsel

FCOG Staff:

Tony Boren
Kristine Cai
Robert Phipps
Jeaneen Cervantes
Kai Han
Trai Her-Cole
Jennifer Soliz
Braden Duran
Suzanne Martinez
Brenda Veenendaal
Meg Prince
Seth Scott
Peggy Arnest
Santosh Bhattarai
Jeff Long