

Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy Roundtable
MEETING SUMMARY
Wednesday, February 24, 2021
1:00 PM

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS (Rob Terry)

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Terry, Chair at 1:00 p.m.

A. ROLL CALL (Jeaneen Cervantes)

David Merchen, City of Clovis
Dan Zach, City of Fresno
Rob Terry, City of Reedley
Mohammad Khorsand, County of Fresno
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
Sarg Green, Water Agency
David Brletic, City of Sanger
George Cummings, Education
Cristian Gonzales, City of Mendota
Gail Miller, Public at Large
John Jansons, City of Kerman
Kevin Hamilton, Measure C Citizens Oversight Committee

21 members present. Simple majority is 11

II. NEW INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. RTP/SCS Roundtable Meeting Minutes of January 27, 2021 [APPROVE]

After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Petrucelli (Public at Large) motioned and Ms. Ilic (Public Transportation Urban) seconded to approve the minutes with corrections. 13 yes votes, no noes. The motion passed.

B. SCS Performance Indicators for Public Input (Seth Scott) [APPROVE]

Mr. Scott (FCOG) reported that the performance indicators are the metrics used to determine if a scenario is achieving desired goals, and they are the main tools by which scenarios can be compared with one another. The indicators chosen from the long list of possible metrics are critical to tell a clear and comprehensive story of which scenarios have the most desirable outcomes for the Fresno County region.

Staff has created a short list of indicators that are either critically descriptive of a scenario's design (e.g., housing type mix) or that are specifically enumerated in legislation (e.g., GHG emissions, per SB 375). These indicators will be included for analysis within the SCS. On top of that, staff (with help from the SCS subcommittee) has compiled a longer list of elective indicators that could be included in scenario analysis. The EJ Subcommittee subsequently met and recommended additional equity indicators to be added to the list. The revised list of proposed indicators is attached. Staff plans to present this list to the public in an outreach effort in the Spring, asking survey participants to weigh in on the indicators that best represent their values and concerns for the future. Staff will return with the

results of this outreach in April, and ask the Roundtable to recommend which performance indicators from the list should be included in scenario analysis within the SCS.

Change wording from Developing Communities to Developing Areas.

After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Khorsand (Fresno County) motioned and Mr. VonBerg (Broad Based Business) seconded to approve the attached list of performance indicators for public input. 20 yes votes. Motion passed.

C. Revenue Projections (Suzanne Martinez) [APPROVE]

Ms. Martinez (FCOG) reported that as required by federal transportation law (23CFR450.322), the RTP shall be financially constrained. To meet this requirement, the RTP compares revenue projections for its 25-year planning horizon against all projects submitted during the RTP call-for-projects to ensure that the adopted program of projects will not exceed reasonably foreseeable future revenues. The revenue assumptions include revenue estimates for specific governmental funding programs, local contributions, and tax initiatives.

The attached draft revenue projection lists all reasonably available funding sources, the base year annual funding estimate, the source of the base year estimate, the inflated annual funding estimate in 2026, and the RTP lifetime cumulative estimate based on estimated 2026 dollars. 2026 is used as a starting point for the revenue projections because the first four years of the RTP's planning horizon will be accounted for in the 2023 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP).

Fresno COG relied on the following assumptions to develop revenue and cost projections:

- The RTP's estimated revenues assume an inflation rate of two percent and are reported in expenditure year dollars.
- Local Transportation Fund revenues are assumed to be constant throughout the RTP's life
- The Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG) and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Program, will continue or be replaced by similar programs throughout the RTP's life.
- Federal and State Transit funds are assumed to remain at their present levels throughout the plan's life.
- Projected state and federal highway revenues reflect the average amounts programmed in the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and are consistent with the CTC-adopted, five-year STIP fund estimate.
- Measure C, Fresno County's local ½-cent sales tax for transportation improvements, will be renewed and/or augmented before it expires in 2027. Voters have extended the measure once already, in 2006.
- The 2026 annual estimates reflect a 3-year deficit in revenues due to COVID-19 based on the Fresno County 2019-2050 Growth Projections, and a U-shaped COVID19 recovery that assumes economic recovery to 2019 levels by 2022.

After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Khorsand (Fresno County) motioned and Mr. Petrucelli (Public at Large) seconded to approve the attached revenue projections for the 2022 RTP/SCS. 17 yes votes. Motion passed.

D. Update on Sixth Cycle Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) Plan Development (Meg Prince) [INFORMATION]

Ms. Prince (FCOG) reported that Fresno COG is currently developing its 6th Cycle Regional Housing Need Allocation (RHNA) Plan. RHNA is a state-mandated process to identify the number of housing units that each local government must accommodate in the Housing Element of its General Plan (Government Code §65584).

As part of the RHNA process, the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) allocates shares of statewide housing need, by income category, to councils of governments (COGs), and advises COGs in the preparation of the RHNA plan. Fresno COG, as the council of government for the Fresno County region, is then required to develop a methodology to distribute the housing need to jurisdictions within the region and prepare a regional housing needs allocation plan that determines housing allocations specific to jurisdictions and furthers the objectives of Government Code §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 strengthened the coordination between housing and transportation planning and amended the RHNA schedule and methodology to align with the development RTP/SCS. The development of Fresno COG's 2022 RTP/SCS will happen in tandem with the 6th Cycle RHNA Plan.

Staff provided a brief presentation on the RHNA process, timeline, and early estimate of our draft RHNA determination from HCD. Updates on the process and documents available for review will be posted to Fresno COG's RHNA web page: <https://www.fresnocog.org/project/fresno-county-regional-housing-needs-allocation-plan/>.

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

E. SCS Scenario Concept/Indicator Public Outreach Plan (Brenda Veenendaal) [INFORMATION]

Ms. Veenendaal (FCOG) reported that the RTP Roundtable, Fresno COG's Transportation Technical and Policy Advisory Committees have submitted five Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) scenario concepts for consideration by the Fresno COG Board at their February 25th meeting. These draft concepts are built around SCS strategies that were previously approved, where each concept is defined by the degree 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 these five scenario concepts to the public and garner input on them through an online, interactive survey. Included in this outreach is the prioritization of indicators that will be used to assess the performance of each SCS scenario. Staff is developing the details and timeline for this outreach effort, which is scheduled to kick-off on March 26th and run through April 25th of this year. Staff plans to report back to the Roundtable on April 28th with the outreach results, and will be asking for a recommendation on the top three scenarios to be included in the SCS analysis.

Fresno COG staff presented the draft SCS scenario concept/Indicator ranking outreach plan.

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 2:19p.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'Connell, Central Valley Partnership
Jill Gormley, City of Fresno
Karla Martinez, Leadership Counsel
Denis DiBenedetto, FCTA
Diana Sedigh-Darbandi, FCTA
Georgeina Vivian, VRPA
Joe Vargas, FAX
Matthew Gillian, Inspiration Transportation
Michael Corder, SJV Air Pollution Control District

Mike Sanchez, City of Fresno
Claudia Cazares, City of Clovis
Shelby Stamps
Allison Giffin, Placeworks

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