

Measure C Extension - Citizen Oversight Committee Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2020-2021

Purpose and Composition

Measure C Expenditure Plan allocates the proceeds from the half-cent sales tax, approved by Fresno County voters, to a range of transportation programs. The Measure is in its second twenty-year cycle of transportation development for Fresno County. This second cycle is known as the “*Measure C Extension*”. Fresno County residents can be assured that approved Measure C funds continue to support the hard work of constructing and maintaining the highways, streets and roads of Fresno County and its 15 incorporated cities. In addition to these street and highway projects, Measure C provides funding for the county and the cities to address local and regional public transportation needs through other specified programs.

To ensure public transparency, Measure C mandates a committee of thirteen Fresno County residents annually evaluate actual and planned expenditures of the agencies that receive Measure C funding. This Citizen Oversight Committee represents our county population as follows:

- One member from each of the five supervisorial districts
- One member from the Fresno-Clovis metropolitan area
- Seven members who represent community organizations

The Fresno Council of Governments (Fresno COG) appoints committee members to four-year terms. No one member may serve more than eight years. Staggered terms ensure experience and knowledge continuity among the committee members.

The Measure C Citizen Oversight Committee (COC) meets the second Thursday of the month from 5:00-7:00 pm at the Fresno COG office complex. Meeting dates, agendas, and minutes may be found at <http://agendas.fresnocog.org/agenda/search/0/2>

FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 Performance

The COC met six times during fiscal year July 1, 2020 thru June 30, 2021 to carry out the following; accept, review, evaluate, recommend, receive and monitor the following Measure C plans and expenditures:

- Measure C Extension's operating budget for 2020-2021
- Measure C Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee budget for 2020-2021
- Actual expenditures made by agencies receiving Measure C Extension funds
- Projects proposed by the agencies receiving Measure C Extension Funds, (review for fiscal compliance).
- Informational updates
- Investment of Measure C Extension funds
- Action on unanticipated items in which voters have a vested interest

MEASURE C ORIGINAL OPERATING BUDGET 2020-2021

The proposed 2020-2021 Original Measure C budget had no estimated sales tax revenue during the fiscal year due to the Original Measure's expiration in 2007. However, it was estimated to gain \$1,000,000.00 in interest revenue which will be used to fund the remaining Measure C Urban and Rural Regional projects. This reserve accumulated over 20 years of the Original Measure C to fund a transition to the Extension Measure or shall be used to finance FCTA close-out costs should a subsequent Extension Measure not be accepted by the voters.

Use of these funds to cover the administrative costs of ongoing Measure C projects is consistent with the intended purpose of these accumulated funds.

MEASURE C EXTENSION OPERATING BUDGET 2020-2021

The California Department of Finance annually estimates the anticipated proceeds of the Measure C Extension sales tax. Together with investment interest, the estimated proceeds define the Measure C Extension fiscal year operating budget. The Department of Finance estimated total proceeds at \$72,711,059.00 for fiscal 2020-2021. An added interest amount of \$3,800,000.00 resulted in a total estimated operating budget of \$76,511,059.00. This revenue estimate reflects a conservative 2.5% increase from 2018-2019 actual revenues to date. The COC received the 2020-2021 operating budget information in July 2020.

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION MITIGATION FEE OPERATING BUDGET 2020-2021

The Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee (RTMF) is part of the Measure C Extension Expenditure Plan. It requires that new development pay its fair share for road improvements. Mitigation fee amounts are based on traffic impacts of these new developments. The COC received the 2020-2021 RTMF budget information in July 2020.

The proposed RTMF operating budget for 2020-2021 was estimated at \$10,779,647 and includes the following sources:

● Uncommitted RTMF Fund Balance	\$ 3,769,647.00
● Estimated RTMF Fee Revenue	\$ 4,400,000.00
● Estimated RTMF Interest Revenue	\$ 57,000.00
● Measure C - RTMF Loan Program	<u>\$ 2,952,800.00</u>
Total	\$ 10,779,647.00

These funds are available, to pay costs as they come due for ongoing contracts.

Measure C Extension Environmental Enhancement Program-School Bus Replacement Subprogram round 6A

It was reported to the Committee on May 28, 2020 Measure C SBRP had available funding in the amount of \$4,826,851.62. The balance is large enough to fund another round of School Bus replacements. The round 6A list provided included 16 Buses for a total Measure C not-to-exceed commitment of \$3,020,354.13, leaving a balance of \$1,806,497.49.

Additional funding left will be brought to the Board for approval to purchase more buses under Round 6B in October period.

FCTA BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE REPORTS FOR FISCAL 2020-2021

Budget recommendations and expenditure reports from all cities within the county and associated agencies were reviewed and accepted by the Measure C COC.

MEASURE C NEW TECHNOLOGY RESERVE GRANT PROGRAM – FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 GRANT APPLICATIONS

Fresno COG receives the Measure C applications annually for new technology funding initiatives. The grant scoring committee, Multidisciplinary Advisory Group (MAG), meet to interview the applicants and discuss the applications. The committee recommends funding of projects to Fresno COG. The committee recommends funding of projects to Fresno COG. A member of the Measure C committee was elected to sit on the MAG.

The COC received status reports from the following grant program participants:

- Fresno County Rural Transit Agency

- Fresno State Transportation Institute
- Sustainable Aviation Project.

TRANSIT ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT SUB-PROGRAM CYCLE VI FUNDING

The Measure C TOD Sub-Program was created to help facilitate land use changes to accommodate high-density, compact housing units and mixed-use developments that increase the demand for transit services. This sub-program receives 1.75% of Measure C's revenue per year over the life of the Measure C Extension. TOD funding is approved by the Fresno County Transportation Authority Board. More information can be found at <https://www.fresnocog.org/measure-c-transit-oriented-development>.

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING (RTP)

Measure C COC representative has been elected to sit on the Fresno COG's RTP roundtable projects feed into the Measure C Expenditure Plan. The committee this year was kept updated by regular reports as to the outcomes of the RTP meetings.

MEASURE C FINANCE & AUDITS

The FCTA retained the accounting firm Dedekian, George, Small and Markarian to perform audits for the fiscal year. The COC Was kept informed by Denise DiBenedetto Fresno County Transportation Authority of the results of the audits many questions were asked and answered, as reported the firm found no material weakness concerning internal control over financial reporting and no instances of non-compliance of laws, regulations, contracts, or grant agreements.

STRATEGIC FORESIGHT BY FRESNO COUNTY

Visionary Fresno County voters supported a funding source devoted to transportation systems improvements. As a result of their foresight, our county's transportation infrastructure is being addressed, supporting our economic well-being. Fresno County's transportation system keeps us competitive in today's marketplace. What this means is that by having a Measure C gives Fresno County additional revenue to put with large deferral and state projects as they come about thus ensuring the County has the ability to participate in many projects that we may not have had an opportunity to be involved in or scaled back because there was not enough revenue to move them forward to completion.

The Measure C Citizen Oversight Committee is made up of Fresno County citizen volunteers. Our members continue to strongly support the Measure C Extension Plan's guiding principle: "*Promises Made, Promises Kept*". The COC is dedicated to serving the residents of Fresno County by ensuring transparency of all Measure C activities. We welcome constructive comments, feedback and questions. Please join us as we move forward to a safer more efficient transportation future.

People interested in being part of the Measure C Extension's Citizen Oversight Committee should contact Fresno Council of Governments at:

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