

**Policy Advisory Committee  
MINUTES  
Friday, January 13, 2023  
10:00 AM**

Meeting held via Zoom.

John Holt, City of Clovis  
Ben Gallegos, City of Firebaugh  
Wilma Tucker, City of Fowler  
Greg Barfield, City of Fresno  
John Jansons, City of Kerman  
Alexander Henderson, City of Kingsburg  
Elizabeth Nunez, City of San Joaquin  
Nicole Zieba, City of Reedley  
Sonia Hall, City of Parlier  
Bernard Jimenez, Fresno County  
David Padilla, Caltrans District 6  
Moses Stites, FCRTA

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m. by Mr. Barfield (Fresno), Chair. With 8 members present, there was a quorum to conduct business.

**JOINT Transportation Technical/Policy Advisory Committee**

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

David Padilla reported the following:

- There will be a workshop on Tuesday, January 31, 2023 from 1:30-3:00pm at the District Office in person.

**I. TRANSPORTATION CONSENT ITEMS**

- A. Executive Minutes of November 4, 2022 [APPROVE]**
- B. Transportation Development Act (TDA) Claims (Les Beshears) [ACTION]- None**
- C. Measure C TOD Program 11th Funding Cycle Call for Projects (Kristine Cai) (Information)**
- D. Fresno County Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Plan Contract Approval (Jeff Long) [ACTION]**
- E. Obligational Authority and Project Delivery Update (Robert Phipps) [INFORMATION]**
- F. 2023-24 Draft Overall Work Program (Robert Phipps) [INFORMATION]**
- G. Amendment No. 7 to Cooperative Project Agreement for Golden State Corridor Economic Development Infrastructure Improvements (Pankaj Joshi) [ACTION]**

- Mr. Barfield called for any items wishing to be pulled by members or the public.
- After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Holt (Clovis) motioned, and Ms. Zieba (Reedley) seconded to approve the consent agenda as presented.

**All in Favor, no opposed.  
Motion passed.**

**II. TRANSPORTATION ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**A. 2023 Regional Active Transportation Plan Update (Simran Jhutti) [ACTION]**

**Summary:** Fresno COG's Regional Active Transportation Plan update occurs every five years, in line with California Transportation Commission recommendations. In September 2022, staff released a request for proposals to update the Regional Active Transportation Plan (ATP). Built upon the past planning efforts, including the 2018 Regional ATP and the 2022 RTP/SCS, the 2023 ATP update aims to equip Fresno COG's member agencies with the tools to compete for all funding sources that support Active Transportation programs and projects. The participating agencies for this update are: Firebaugh, Fowler, Huron, Mendota, Orange Cove, Coalinga, Kerman, Kingsburg, Parlier, Sanger, San Joaquin, and the County of Fresno. The rest of the member jurisdictions will develop their own ATPs, which will be included in the appendix of the Regional ATP. The budget for the project is \$359,544.

Fresno COG received three proposals. A scoring committee -- comprising one representative each from the County of Fresno and Fresno COG, two representatives from eastside cities, two representatives from westside cities, and a member of the public -- convened on Nov. 16, 2022 to interview the consultants. The scoring committee unanimously recommended Fehr & Peers for the update.

- The Fehr & Peers team developed Fresno COG's 2018 Regional ATP and has extensive experience preparing ATPs in other regions in the State. The team proposed extensive community outreach events, demonstrating strength in community engagement strategies and familiarity with unincorporated disadvantaged communities.

For any questions regarding the Regional Active Transportation Plan, please reach out to staff lead Simran Jhutti at [jhutti@fresnocog.org](mailto:jhutti@fresnocog.org).

**Action:** Staff requests that TTC/PAC recommend the Policy Board authorize the executive director to enter into a contract with Fehr & Peers for the Regional ATP update for an amount not to exceed \$359,533.87.

- Simran Jhutti (FCOG) gave an update on the 2023 Regional Active Transportation Plan.
- Ms. Zieba (Reedley) asked what will be done different to help with public outreach.
- Mr. Janson (Kerman) suggested pop up booths at community events.
- After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Gallegos (Firebaugh) motioned and Mr. Gonzalez (Mendota) seconded to approve as presented.

**All in favor, no opposed.**

**Motion passed.**

**B. Fresno COG Activity Based Model Update (Kristine Cai) [ACTION]**

**Summary:** Federal transportation conformity regulations require that the travel forecast model used in conformity analyses cannot have a base year that is more than a decade old. Fresno COG's activity-based model (ABM) was validated to a base year of 2014, which means it will no longer be valid for conformity after 2024.

RSG, the consultant team that developed the ABM, has been providing technical support to Fresno COG's modeling team during the 2022 RTP/SCS development process and has been working with Fresno COG staff on improving the SB 743 VMT analysis tools. The firm is familiar with the model's structure, and is well aware of the improvements needed in various planning activities in the last few years. Due to the atypical travel patterns during the pandemic years, COG staff is proposing a small validation to the year of 2019 given that some groundwork for 2019 socio-economic input was already completed in 2020 when SB 743 guidelines were being developed. Fresno COG staff will work on developing background input for the model with guidance from RSG, and the RSG team will focus its efforts on model enhancement, calibration and validation.

Attached please find the proposed scope of work for the COG ABM 2019 base-year update. Staff recommends that the contract is sole-sourced to RSG given the firm's knowledge about the model and the small scale of the update efforts.

**Action:** Staff requests that TTC/PAC recommend the Policy Board authorize the executive director enter into a contract with RSG for an amount not to exceed \$111,257 for the ABM 2019 base-year update.

- Kristine Cai (FCOG) informed the committee that the current model will not be valid for conformity after 2024.
- After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Jimenez (Fresno County) motioned and Mr. Holt (Clovis) seconded to approve action as presented.

**All in favor, no opposed.**

**Motion passed.**

**C. Measure C Expenditure Plan Amendment No. 7: Rescind Amendment No. 1, Restore \$24.5 Million to Grade Separation Program (Tony Boren) [ACTION]**

- Mr. Boren (FCOG) requested to pull this item and bring back at a later date.

**All in favor, no opposed.**

**Motion passed.**

**D. 2023 Safety Performance Targets – PM1 (Santosh Bhattarai) [ACTION]**

**Summary:** The Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) and the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act) require metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) to set annual targets for five safety performance measures.

- Number of fatalities
- Rate of fatalities per 100 million vehicle miles traveled (VMT)
- Number of serious injuries
- Rate of serious injuries per 100 million VMT
- Number of non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries

Caltrans, in coordination with the Office of Traffic Safety (OTS), sets the statewide safety targets for these five safety measures every year, known as Safety Performance Management Targets (SPMTs). MPOs can either choose to support the statewide target or set a separate regional target. In the previous target-setting iterations, Fresno COG set its own targets for 2018 while simply supporting the statewide targets for 2019 through 2022. This year also, Caltrans set the statewide safety targets using a trend-based approach that extrapolates the existing changes in fatalities and serious injuries in the future. Based on this methodology, 0.3% and 2.3% are the annual reduction targets in the number of fatalities and serious injuries, respectively. Similarly, the annual reduction targets for rate of fatalities and serious injuries are 1.7% and 2.3%, respectively. The white paper for Caltrans' PM1 2023 Safety Performance Management Target-Setting is attached.

Each year, Fresno COG analyzes the historical crash datasets for Fresno County region and proposes different target-setting options to discuss with the safety committee. The safety committee comprises technical staff and safety planners from multiple jurisdictions in Fresno County. The committee convened on Dec. 21, 2022 to discuss the appropriate methodology/option, and there was consensus for supporting the statewide targets this year as well.

**Action:** Staff requests that the TTC/PAC recommend the Policy Board approve to support the statewide targets for all five safety performance measures for 2023.

- Santosh Bhattarai (FCOG) gave a presentation for annual targets for 5 safety performance measures.
- After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Barfield (Fresno City) motioned and Mr. Henderson (Kingsburg) seconded to approve the action as presented.

**All in favor, no opposed.**

**Motion passed.**

### III. ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT ITEMS

- A. **H.R. 3339-National Infrastructure Bank Support Resolution, 2023-02 (Robert Phipps) [ACTION]**
- B. **2023 Fresno COG Legislative Platform (Robert Phipps) [ACTION]**

- Mr. Barfield called for any items wishing to be pulled by members or the public.
- After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Jimenez (Fresno County) motioned, and Mr. Gonzalez (Mendota) seconded to approve the consent agenda as presented.

**All in Favor, no opposed.**

**Motion passed.**

### IV. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. **Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) 2.0 Application and Support Resolution 2023-01 (Robert Phipps) [ACTION]**

**Summary:** Under a Dec. 31, 2022 deadline, Fresno COG submitted an abridged version of its formal application for Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) 2.0 funding to State agencies Housing and Community Development (HCD), Air Resources Board (ARB), the Office of Planning and Research (OPR) and the Strategic Growth Council (SGC). The application delineates Fresno COG's proposed methodology and scoring criteria for project applications. It also requires a support resolution from the governing agency, which is presented for approval.

Born from the State's 2021 budget process (AB 140), REAP 2.0 provides \$600 million statewide and up to \$13.6 million to the Fresno region to accelerate progress toward State housing goals and climate commitments through a strengthened partnership among the State, its regions, and local entities.

REAP 2.0 expands on REAP 1.0 from 2019 by integrating housing and climate goals, and allowing for broader infrastructure investments that support infill development to improve housing supply, choice, and affordability. Funded by \$500 million of Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds of 2021 (SLFRF) and \$100 million from the State General Fund, REAP 2.0 intends to make funding available for "transformative" planning and implementation activities that meet housing goals and reduce per capita vehicle miles traveled.

Fresno COG's proposed methodology hews closely to State guidelines that require projects to demonstrate "significant beneficial impact" and meet the definition of a transformative planning and implementation activity through specific, measurable metrics. "Significant beneficial impacts" are defined as "substantial changes in land use patterns and travel behaviors" and may be measured by several means, including: rates of change (e.g., percent increase over a baseline); magnitude of impact relative to variables or targets; proportion of need achieved and/or; impact relative to past trends, policies, and practices.

Fresno COG previously submitted an initial application for 5 percent of the total regional allotment for public outreach, program management and administration purposes but has not yet received any funding, despite having returned a master fund transfer agreement.

Funds from the initial application were intended to be used for developing the formal, "final" application, including a robust public outreach process. Nevertheless, Fresno COG staff developed a rudimentary public outreach campaign comprising two meetings of RTP Roundtable members as a stakeholder group, along with another four public workshops on the program and methodology, all conducted via Zoom. In addition, staff conducted an online survey through publicinput.com to solicit input on the proposed methodology and scoring criteria.

Approximately 98 stakeholders and residents attended the combined six workshops and submitted 75 comments/votes in total. The online survey has elicited another five to 10 comments to date. Broadly, those comments support the proposed methodology attached to this staff report.

While the final application was originally supposed to include specific proposed uses and projects, given slow processing time, HCD requested that metropolitan planning organizations provide at least a methodology framework by the Dec. 31

deadline. From there, the application would be an iterative process that will eventually detail the proposed projects, once State partners approve an MPOs proposed methodology and scoring criteria.

In addition, HCD extended the deadline for MPOs to provide a support resolution for the Dec. 31 application.

**Action:** Staff requests that the TTC/PAC recommend the Policy Board approve Resolution 2023-01, supporting Fresno COG's REAP 2.0 application to HCD and other State partners.

- Mr. Phipps (FCOG) gave an overview of the REAP 2.0 application and support resolution.
- After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Gonzalez (Mendota) motioned, and Mr. Barfield (Fresno City) seconded to approve the action as presented.

**All in Favor, no opposed.**

**Motion passed.**

**B. County of Fresno Probation Department Presentation (Robert Phipps) [INFORMATION]**

**Summary:** County of Fresno Chief Probation Officer Kirk Haynes will offer a short presentation regarding the Probation Department's new Mobile Services Unit to assist cities outside of the metro Fresno area. Probation Mobile Services will focus on unhoused clients who are on Probation supervision as well as crime victims who are seeking assistance with navigating the local criminal justice system.

**Action:** Information. The Committee may provide additional direction at its discretion.

- Kirk Haynes gave a brief presentation of the Probation Department's new Mobile Services.
- This item is for informational purposes; no action is needed.

**V. OTHER ITEMS**

**A. Items from Staff**

- None

**B. Items from Members**

- None.

**VI. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS**

**A. Public Presentations**

- Peter Halajian, a representative for Assemblyman Davon Mathis office, introduced himself and stated that they now represent the cities of Reedley and Kingsburg and plan to attend future meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:52 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Tony Boren

Public:

Salvador Espino, County Administrative Office

Peter Halajian

Kirk Haynes

Pedro Ramirez

Jeff Long  
Chief John Golden  
Thomas Dulin  
Yussel Zalapa  
Matthew Woodward

Staff:

Brenda Veenendaal, Denise Flores, Kai Han, Kristine Cai, Pankaj Joshi, Robert Phipps, Shichen Fan, Les Beshears, Janelle Del Campo, Simran Jhutti, Santosh Bhattarai, Pankaj Joshi,