

Policy Advisory Committee  
MINUTES  
Friday, February 10, 2023  
10:00 AM

Meeting held via Zoom.

Ryan Burnett, City of Clovis  
Ben Gallegos, City of Firebaugh  
Dario Dominguez, City of Fowler  
Greg Barfield, City of Fresno  
Matthew Flood, City of San Joaquin  
John Mulligan, City of Sanger  
Mohammad Alimi, Fresno County  
David Padilla, Caltrans District 6  
Tony Boren, FCOG  
Moses Stites, FCRTA

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m. by Mr. Barfield (Fresno), Chair. With 7 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:

- Clean California: call for projects with workshops to come after. The Deadline is April.
- Join Caltrans for clean California March 17<sup>th</sup>. Looking for communities to sign up and make the pledge.

**I. TRANSPORTATION CONSENT ITEMS**

- A. Executive Minutes of January 13, 2023 [APPROVE]**
- B. City of Fresno Fiscal Year 2022-23 TDA Claim (Les Beshears) [ACTION]**
- C. Fiscal Year 2022 Transit Productivity Evaluation (Jeff Long) [ACTION]**
- D. Fiscal Year 2023-24 Local Transportation Fund (LTF) Preliminary Estimates (Les Beshears) [INFORMATION]**
- E. Fiscal Year 2023-24 State Transit Assistance (STA) Final Estimates (Les Beshears) [INFORMATION]**
- F. Fiscal Year 2023-24 State OF Good Repair (SGR) Final Estimates (Les Beshears) [INFORMATION]**
- G. Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Unmet Transit Needs Assessment Update (Harold Sobrado) [INFORMATION]**
- H. Chairperson appointment to the Social Services Transportation Advisory Committee (Todd Sobrado) [ACTION]**

- Mr. Barfield called for any items wishing to be pulled by members or the public.
- After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Aimi (Fresno County) motioned, and Mr. Gallegos (Firebaugh) 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 Program Recommendations (Simran Jhutti) [ACTION]**

**Summary:** Active Transportation Program (ATP) funds are separated into three main components: the statewide competitive program, the small urban- and rural-area competitive program (managed by the state), and the large, urbanized area competitive program [managed by metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs)] – also known as the Regional Competitive ATP. The program encourages active transportation modes, such as biking and walking. Large MPOs such as Fresno COG have the option of developing their own policies, procedures and project selection criteria that differ from those the California Transportation Commission (CTC) adopted, provided the CTC approves them. The Fresno COG Policy Board approved the regional ATP guidelines on May 26, 2022.

The state initiated its sixth-cycle ATP call for projects from March 16 through June 15, 2022. The Fresno region submitted 18 applications with a total project cost of \$43.92 million. All applications were also eligible for the regional program. Agencies were encouraged to apply to the state competitive program but had the option to submit applications to the region. Staff received two applications not submitted to the statewide program and two applications that were submitted to the statewide program. Supplemental applications were due to Fresno COG on Nov. 18, 2022. The supplemental application allows agencies to phase or segment a project for regional ATP consideration.

One Fresno County project totaling \$2.98 million was awarded through the statewide competitive program. This project was no longer considered for the regional program.

ATP cycle 6 will cover four years of funding – FY 2023-24 through FY 2026-27. Fresno COG’s share provides \$18.6 million. At least 25 percent of program funds must benefit projects in disadvantaged communities.

The regional program received 17 applications with a total project cost of \$37.5 million. The regional scoring committee convened on Jan. 11 to consider and score the applications. The scoring committee comprised representatives from the City of Clovis, Fresno County, eastside cities, westside cities, Caltrans, Fresno COG, a bicycling advocacy organization and a non-government organization.

The ATP cycle 6 recommended program of projects is attached and can also be found on Fresno COG’s ATP website: [Active Transportation Program \(ATP\) - Fresno Council of Governments \(fresnocog.org\)](https://www.fresnocog.org/active-transportation-program-atp).

Please note that the programming years can vary based on funding capacity for each year.

Please see below the projects recommended for funding. A comprehensive list has been attached.

Agency	Project Title	Total 100 pts	Amount Requested	Leveraged Amount	Total Project Cost	Available Funding \$18,600,000 Balance
Fresno	Downtown Neighborhood Safe Schools Crossing	84	\$1,636,000.00	-	\$1,636,000.00	\$16,964,000.00
Fresno County	Calwa Sidewalk Project	83.17	\$2,697,000.00	\$732,000.00	\$3,429,000.00	\$14,267,000.00
Fresno County	Tranquility Sidewalk Project	83	\$458,000.00	\$4,150,000.00	\$4,608,000.00	\$13,809,000.00
Parlier	Limitless Lane Network	81.71	\$3,500,000.00	-	\$3,000,000.00	\$10,809,000.00

Parlier	Schools Corridor Active Transportation Improvements Project	81	\$3,500,000.00	-	\$3,000,000.00	\$7,809,000.00
Coalinga	Perimeter Trail Interconnect Pacific South and Gregory North	80.4	\$1,774,080.00	\$241,920.00	\$2,016,000.00	\$6,034,920.00
Fowler	Freemont Elementary/Marshall Elementary/ Fowler High Safe Routes to School	77.7	\$600,000.00	-	\$600,000.00	\$5,434,920.00
Selma	Branch Canal Parway Project	75.6	\$3,098,200.00	\$401,800.00	\$3,500,000.00	\$2,336,720.00
Fresno County	Herndon-Barstow Elementary High Intensity Activated Crosswalk	74.2	\$603,000.00	\$198,000.00	\$801,000.00	\$1,733,720.00
Huron	Citywide Sidewalk Improvements	71.17	\$1,741,000.00	-	\$1,741,000.00	(\$7,280.00)

To summarize the proposed recommendations:

- The jurisdictions submitted 17 applications with a total project cost of \$37.5 million.
- The scoring committee recommended that \$18.6 million in ATP funds be programmed for nine projects and one partially funded project.
- All of the recommended projects are located within and directly benefit disadvantaged communities, well exceeding the 25 percent minimum.

Below is the schedule for adopting the cycle 6 program of projects:

- Fresno COG Policy Board adopts recommendations: February 2023
- Deadline to submit the draft program of projects to CTC staff: February 21, 2023
- Deadline to submit the final program of projects to CTC staff: April 21, 2023
- CTC adopts MPO programs of projects: June 2023 meeting
- Fresno COG 2023 FTIP amendment to incorporate the approved Cycle 6 ATP projects: Fall 2023

**Action:** Staff and the ATP scoring committee request that TTC/PAC recommend the Policy Board approve the cycle 6 Regional Competitive Active Transportation Program of Projects by adopting Resolution 2023-04.

- Simran Jhutti (FCOG) gave an update on the 2023 Regional Active Transportation Program Recommendations.
- After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Alimi (Fresno County) motioned and Mr. Flood (San Joaquin) seconded to approve as presented.

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

**B. 2023-24 Draft Overall Work Program and Budget (Robert Phipps) [ACTION]**

**Summary:** The fiscal year (FY) 2023-24 Overall Work Program (OWP), totaling \$53.2 million is submitted for TTC/PAC, Board and public review. The proposed budget increased \$5.9 million from last year. Operational revenues remain intact, reserves are adequate, and the agency continues to operate within the bounds of prudent management.

The largest part of the increase is attributed to \$13.6 million in anticipated funding from the Regional Early Action Plan (REAP 2.0) funds provided by the California Department of Housing and Community Development, California Air Resources Board, Governor’s Office of Planning and Research and the Strategic Growth Council. This increase was partially offset by decreases in a variety of multi-year “one-time” project funds that are spent and not reflected in subsequent years’ budgets. Generally, operating expenses are not affected this way.

Federal revenues decreased 14 percent (\$1.6 million). Included in this are decreases in multiple one-time projects where significant work occurred during the current budget year, such as the Inland Port Study and Regional Valleywide Travel Survey.

State revenues increased 63 percent, (\$10.9 million) primarily due to the REAP 2.0 grant.

Local revenues decreased 26 percent (\$3.4 million), resulting from elimination of in-kind revenues associated with the TradePort California and drawdowns from Measure C New Tech grants to Fresno State Institute and Fresno County Rural Transit Agency (FCRTA).

There are no new Fresno COG planning positions included in this year’s proposed budget however, a number of positions turned over last year, reflecting younger employees at lower salary and benefit rates. Contingencies are carried for merit-based salary increases as well as for anticipated health insurance increases. The overall proposed budget for salaries decreased by less than a percent and benefits by 1 percent.

The overall consulting budget is \$22.7 million, which increased \$7.1 million. New consulting projects are discussed in detail under work elements in the executive summary(attached).

**Action:** Staff requests that the TTC/PAC recommend the Policy Board release the Draft 2023-24 Overall Work Program and budget for public review and comment.

- Robert Phipps (FCOG) gave an update on the current OWP draft.
- After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Gallegos (Firebaugh) motioned and Mr. Alimi (Fresno County) seconded to approve action as presented.

**All in favor, no opposed.**

**Motion passed.**

**III. ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT ITEMS**

**A. Transportation Development Act Compliance Audits 2022 (Les Beshears) [ACTION]**

**B. Measure C Compliance Audits 2022 (Les Beshears) [ACTION]**

**C. Regional Clearinghouse Calendar (Robert Phipps) [INFORMATION]**

**D. Federal Transportation Grant Opportunities (Robert Phipps) [INFORMATION]**

- Mr. Barfield called for any items wishing to be pulled by members or the public.
- After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Flood (San Joaquin) motioned, and Mr. Mulligan (Sanger) seconded to approve the consent agenda as presented.

**All in Favor, no opposed.**

**Motion passed.**

#### IV. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

- None.

#### V. OTHER ITEMS

##### A. Items from Staff

- Robert Phipps (FCOG) reminded the committee that beginning March all committee meetings will all be in person. No hybrid options.

##### B. Items from Members

- Matthew Flood (San Joaquin) announced the new Council Chambers groundbreaking ceremony at 3:00pm in Mendota.

#### VI. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

##### A. Public Presentations

- None.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:18 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Tony Boren

##### Public:

Karla Martinez  
Amy Hance  
Thomas Dulin  
Shonna Halterman

##### Staff:

Brenda Veenendaal, Denise Flores, Kai Han, Kristine Cai, Pankaj Joshi, Robert Phipps, Shichen Fan, Janelle Del Campo, Simran Jhutti, Santosh Bhattarai, Harold Sobrado, Jeff Long.