

**Transportation Technical Committee
MINUTES
Friday, February 10, 2023
8:30 AM**

Meeting held via Zoom.

Daniel Galvez, City of Kingsburg
Marilu Morales, City of Reedley
Mohammad Alimi, County of Fresno
Mohammad Khorsand, County of Fresno
Moses Stites, Fresno County Rural Transit Agency
Nick Paladino, Fresno Cycling Club
Tina Sumner, Fresno Cycling Club
Debbie Hunsaker, Alert-O-Lite
Ryan Burnett, City of Clovis
Cristian Gonzalez, City of Mendota
John Mulligan, City of Sanger
Soo Ho Park, City of Selma
Tony Boren, Fresno Council of Governments
Christopher Xiong - Caltrans D6

The meeting was called to order at 8:31 a.m. by Mr. Stites (FCRTA), Chair.

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. Stites called for any items wishing to be pulled by members or the public.
- After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Khorsand (Fresno County) motioned, and Ms. Hunsaker (Alert-O-Lite) 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-fresno-council-of-governments).

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.
- Karla Martinez – Leadership Counsel, expressed concerns from the community of Cantua Creek with regards to accessible sidewalks. The sidewalk project would benefit the community and the schools. Ask that the scoring process and screening process be publicly accessible so that communities understand how projects are scored.
- After an opportunity for public comment, Ms. Sumner (Active Transportation) motioned and Mr. Khorsand (County of Fresno) 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, Ms. Clark (City of Fresno) motioned and Mr. Dulin (Fresno EOC) seconded to approve action as presented.

All in favor, no opposed.

Motion passed.

III. OTHER ITEMS

A. Items from Staff

- None.

B. Items from Members

- None.

IV. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

A. Public Presentations

- None.

V. ADJOURNMENT

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Tony Boren

Public:

Hector Luna
Augustine Ramirez
Jennifer Clark
Joe Vargas
Karla Martinez
Amy Hance

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, Harold Sobrado.