

Fresno Council of Governments

FY 2023/2024 Unmet Transit Needs Assessment



Fresno Council
of Governments

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 12, 2023

TO: Fresno COG Transportation Technical Committee (TTC), Policy Advisory Committee (PAC), and the General Public.

FROM: Tony Boren, Executive Director

SUBJECT: FY2023-2024 UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS ASSESSMENT

RECOMMENDATION

On May 2, 2023, as part of the Unmet Transit Needs (UTN) Assessment process, the Social Services Transit Advisory Committee (SSTAC) made the finding that there are twenty-two unmet transit needs, none of them being reasonable to meet within the County of Fresno.

The TTC/PAC is being asked to approve the UTN and make a finding that there are twenty-two unmet transit needs, none of them being reasonable to meet within the County of Fresno.

BACKGROUND

The Fresno Council of Governments, in its role as the Regional Transportation Planning Agency, administers claims for the Transportation Development Act (TDA). At the beginning of each fiscal year, the Fresno COG must determine the amount of TDA funds available from the TDA Local Transportation Fund (LTF) for allocation to local agencies within Fresno County. Allocations are made in four categories: bicycle and pedestrian facilities, social service transportation, regional transportation planning, and public transportation. In certain cases, funding from the public transportation category can be applied to local streets and roads in individual jurisdictions if a finding has been made that there are no unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet within the jurisdiction; however, public transit must be given priority. As a result, prior to allocating LTF funds for any use other than public transit in the public transportation category, the Fresno COG must identify any unmet public transit needs that may exist in Fresno County that are reasonable to meet.

The Unmet Transit Needs Assessment process is conducted to identify any unmet transit needs and make any related findings.

DISCUSSION

On April 27, 2023, the Fresno Council of Governments (Fresno COG), as the Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA) for Fresno County held a legally noticed Public Hearing. The purpose of the hearing was to receive public testimony to determine if public transportation needs within Fresno County will be reasonably met in Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-2024 (July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024), prior to approving LTF claims for local streets and roads. The time and place of the Public Hearing was legally noticed as follows:

Date: April 27, 2023
Time: 5:30 p.m.
Place: Fresno Council of Governments, Sequoia Room

2035 Tulare St., Suite 201
Fresno, California 93721-2004

Two comments were received during the Public Hearing for the FY2023-2024 Unmet Transit Needs Assessment on Thursday, April 27, 2023, at 5:30 PM, at the Fresno COG Policy Board meeting.

The first person who spoke was Janeece McClaren who spoke about her experiences as both a Handy Ride and FAX user. She primarily spoke about three different issues. First, as someone who uses a cane, it is challenging to wait at bus stops that don't have benches. Second, the bus stops along BRT, Route 1 are far apart compared to other routes, as a result, it is sometimes difficult to travel to and from stops along BRT, Route 1. Her third comment was about how staffing shortages at Handy Ride were leading to service delays for Handy Ride users. These comments, operator response, and determinations can be found as items 108, 109, and 110, in Figure 1, 'Matrix of Public Comments Received, Operator Responses, and Determinations'.

The second person to speak was Bonnie Sabrina Dunne-Nasr. In her comments at the Public Hearing, Ms. Nasr restated the concerns she first brought up at the Unmet Needs in-person public meeting she attended that was held on Saturday, February 25, 2023, at the offices of Fresno COG. The comments received from Ms. Nasr, the operator response, and determination are items 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, and 101, in Figure 1, 'Matrix of Public Comments Received, Operator Responses, and Determinations.'

Transportation Development Act – Local Transportation Funds

Transportation Development Act (TDA) - Local Transportation Funds are derived from the state sales tax. One-quarter of a cent of the state sales tax is allocated to the Local Transportation Fund and may be used for transportation projects. In FY 2023-2024, the estimated Local Transportation Fund amount for Fresno County is \$57 million, of which \$131,846 is programmed for administration and audits. The remaining \$56,868,154 is programmed by formula for bicycle and pedestrian facilities, social service transportation planning, regional transportation planning, and public transportation and streets and roads. Table 1 identifies the amount of projected funding by category that each local agency will receive in FY 2023-2024.

Of the Local Transportation Funds available for public transportation and streets and roads, priority must first be given to public transportation. The net difference may then be available for street and road projects.

**Table 1
Available TDA - Local Transportation Funds
For Projects by Local Agencies FY 2023-2024**

Agency	Bicycle & Pedestrian Facilities	Social Service Transportation	Regional Transportation Planning	Public Transportation	Total
Clovis	123,665	318,127	194,231	6,280,134	6,971,316
Coalinga	17,277		27,136	877,386	923,952
Firebaugh	8,439		13,254	428,561	451,307
Fowler	6,962		10,935	353,554	372,319
Fresno City	543,660		853,884	27,608,926	29,074,256
Huron	6,170		9,691	313,334	329,964
Kerman	16,639		26,134	844,986	889,883
Kingsburg	12,506		19,642	635,098	668,805
Mendota	12,440		19,539	631,746	665,276
Orange Cove	9,497		14,916	482,290	507,888
Parlier	14,497		22,769	736,208	775,281
Reedley	24,982		39,237	1,268,672	1,336,006
Sanger	26,304		41,314	1,335,808	1,406,705
San Joaquin	3,639		5,715	184,801	194,609
Selma	24,552		38,515	1,245,312	1,311,406
Fresno County	160,074		251,416	8,129,109	8,560,557
FCRTA		793,100			793,100
FAX		1,635,573			1,635,573
Total	1,011,273	2,786,540	1,588,328	51,355,924	56,868,154

Pursuant to Section 99401.5 of the California Public Utilities Code (PUC), Fresno COG, as the Regional Transportation Planning Agency, must make one of the following findings after holding a Public Hearing:

1. There are no unmet transit needs,
2. There are no unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet, or
3. There are unmet needs, including needs that are reasonable to meet.

DEFINITION OF "UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS," AND "NEEDS THAT ARE REASONABLE TO MEET"

Section 99401.5(c) of the California Public Utilities Code specifies, "The transportation planning agency shall determine its definitions of the terms 'unmet transit needs' and 'reasonable to meet' for the purposes of this section which shall be documented by resolution or within the minutes of the agency."

The Council of Fresno County Governments (COFCG) defined these terms by Resolution 1990-15, adopted on June 28, 1990, as follows:

A. Unmet Transit Needs

"Those public transportation or specialized transportation services that are identified in the Regional Transportation Plan and/or documented through COFCG's Annual Unmet Transit Needs Public Hearing Process that have not been implemented or funded."

B. Reasonable to Meet

"Those public transportation services identified in the Regional Transportation Plan, or proposed amendment thereto, which meet the following criteria:

- (1) Services which, if implemented or funded, would not cause the responsible operator or service claimant to exceed its appropriations limitation as set forth by Proposition 4 (Gann Limit)
- (2) Services which, if implemented or funded, would not cause the responsible operator to incur expenditures in excess of the maximum amount of:
 - (a) Local Transportation Funds and State Transit Assistance Funds which may be available for such operator to claim;
 - (b) Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA) funds or other support for public transportation services which are committed by Federal and/or State agencies by formula or tentative approval of specific grant requests; and
 - (c) Farebox and local funding in compliance with PUC Section 99268 et.seq.

The fact that an identified need cannot fully be met based on available resources shall not be the sole reason for finding a transit need is not reasonable to meet.

- (3) Services which, if implemented or funded, would result in the responsible operator or service claimant meeting the farebox recovery and local support requirements as set forth by PUC Section 99268 et. seq. Evaluation of existing operators shall be based on records provided to Council of Fresno County Governments by operators pursuant to the Transit Productivity Evaluation Process (PUC Section 99244)

Evaluation of proposed new service shall be based upon a feasibility analysis, which includes, but is not limited to:

- (a) Forecast of anticipated ridership if service is provided;
- (b) Estimate of capital and operating costs for the provision of such services;
- (c) Estimate of fares and local support in relation to estimated operating costs for providing such services; and
- (d) An estimated fare, which the Council of Fresno County Governments Board would determine to be sufficient to meet farebox recovery requirements but would not be so high it would pose a financial burden on transit dependent patrons.”

Note: Fresno Council of Governments (Fresno COG) was called Council of Fresno County Governments (COFCG) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) was called the Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA) at the time Resolution 1990-15 was adopted.

SOCIAL SERVICES TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COUNCIL (SSTAC)

The Fresno COG Policy Board established its Social Service Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) on May 26, 1988, to aid in its review of transit issues with an emphasis on the annual identification of transit needs within Fresno County. These needs include the needs of transit-dependent and transit disadvantaged persons, including the elderly, disabled, and persons of limited means. Fresno COG's establishment of this Advisory Council is consistent with State Law (SB 498, Chapter 673, 1987), which mandates both the purpose and minimum membership of this body. A list of SSTAC members is included with this report (Exhibit A).

The purpose of the SSTAC is to:

- (1) Annually participate in identification of transit needs (Unmet Transit Needs Public Hearing Process)
- (2) Review and recommend appropriate action by the Fresno COG for a jurisdiction which finds by resolution, that:
 - (a) There are no unmet transit needs;
 - (b) There are no unmet transit needs, which are reasonable to meet; or
 - (c) There are unmet transit needs, which are reasonable to meet.
- (3) Advise Fresno COG on any other major transit issues, including the coordination and consolidation of specialized transportation services.

FY 2023-2024 SSTAC UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS PROCESS

The SSTAC has developed an annual process for soliciting unmet transit need comments from the public. The timeline for the public notification process is contained within Exhibit B while the actual flyers themselves in English and Spanish are found as Exhibits B-1 and B-2, respectively.

Flyers along with comment forms in both English and Spanish were sent to 337 agencies and individuals interested in providing feedback on their public transportation needs within Fresno County. A discussion and summary of those who were sent the flyers is included in Exhibit B-3.

The electronic copy of the flyer and comment form was sent to 2,130 people that receive the electronic newsletter, 'Coming Up at Fresno COG'. Respondents were requested to include the following information to assist staff in an initial evaluation of unmet transit needs:

- Where new service is needed, and where the potential trips would start and end;
- When, and how often trips would need to be scheduled; and
- A description of the individuals needing the service, including age group, financial constraints, and whether they have disabilities requiring special services.

Members of the community and stakeholders were also able to submit public comments and their transit needs electronically and through US Mail. An email address was set up at comments@fresnocog.org to receive comments electronically, and the mailing address was posted as follows:

Brenda Veenendahl
Fresno Council of Governments
2035 Tulare Street, Ste. 201
Fresno, CA 93721

Public outreach of the current cycle of the UTN process consisted of eight events; including six scheduled in-person meetings, and two 'virtual' meetings. Of the six in-person events, three were held in urban areas and three were held in rural cities. Additionally, of the two 'virtual' events, one was broadcast on Facebook and the other, on YouTube.

For the urban component of the UTN process, two in-person events were held in the City of Fresno while one in-person public meeting was held in the City of Clovis. For the meetings in the City of Fresno, the event locales were all public spaces, with one meeting taking place on a Saturday morning for those unable to attend during the week. This meeting was held at 9:00 AM PST, on a Saturday morning in the Sequoia Room at the offices of Fresno COG.

The fourth urban public outreach meeting took place in the City of Clovis, specifically at the Clovis Public Library near old-town Clovis. The City of Clovis public library has been the preferred location for the public meeting in Clovis for the past several years. These events were heavily marketed through Fresno COG, FCRTA, and FAX marketing channels.

This year, as in previous years, outreach in rural Fresno County took place in three cities, specifically in Sanger, Mendota, and Huron.

Over the years, Fresno COG has invested heavily in developing relationships with community stakeholders. One way that this has been implemented through the Unmet Needs Process is by maintaining an open door to opportunities to talk about the Unmet Transit Needs process. Requests for additional meetings were not received this year.

In addition to in-person public meetings, public outreach activities for the FY2023-2024 Unmet Transit Needs Assessment consisted of:

- ZOOM Meetings
- A Facebook Event (live)
- A YouTube Event (also live)
- An online survey
- A toll-free phone number
- A dedicated email address

ZOOM Meetings

Two ZOOM meetings were held on two separate days. The first was held on Thursday, February 26, 2023, and broadcast on Facebook, while the second virtual meeting as held on Wednesday, February 22, 2023. The second meeting, like the first was also a ZOOM meeting. However, it was broadcast on YouTube. All meetings were well publicized in advance of the events through the UTN Mailing lists. Specific details of each in-pers ZOOM meeting are provided below.

Online Survey

Because of the limitations associated with COVID-19 restrictions, staff created a survey in both English and Spanish that was marketed and circulated on Facebook.

The purpose of the online survey was to solicit specific perceived unmet transit needs within Fresno County. While conventional paper-based surveys were made available, most of the respondents provided their information through a survey created through PublicInput.com, a public outreach platform for Government agencies and consultants. The details of the survey are provided below.

In addition to managing the online survey for the UTN, the PublicInput.com platform was used to manage an 800-number, an sms (text) number, received comments from FCOG social media cannels, and a dedicated email inbox. Stakeholders and prospective respondents could call or text (855) 925-2801, 24 hours a day, or send an email to comments@fresnocog.org to submit their comments for the Unmet Transit Needs process. Comments and feedback received through these channels were received by the publicinput.com platform.

The UTN cycle for FY2021-2022 was the first year to run an online survey as was done so in response to the suspension of in-person meetings because of COVID. Because of the overwhelming number of responses, the decision was made to make the online survey an essential component of public outreach for all future cycles of the UTN Assessment.

Public Outreach Event Details

The minimum requirements to satisfy the public outreach requirements for the Unmet Transit Needs process is a public hearing that is publicly noticed thirty days prior to the hearing. The public hearing scheduled for Thursday, April 27, 2023, at the Fresno COG Policy Board meeting satisfies this requirement.

In FY2023-2024, public outreach for the Unmet Transit Needs Assessment consisted of six in-person meetings, three virtual meetings, an online survey, a mail-in comment card, and a public hearing. The Fresno COG Unmet Transit Needs Assessment public outreach process exceeded legal requirements. Details of the FY2023-2024 Fresno COG Unmet Transit Needs Assessment are as follows:

In-Person Public Outreach Meeting Number 1 – Tuesday, February 14, 2023, in the City of Mendota

The first in-person public meeting took place within rural Fresno County, on Tuesday, February 14, 2023, at 5:30 PM PST, in the City of Mendota, in Council Chambers before a scheduled City Council meeting, at:

Mendota City Hall, Council Chambers
643 Quince Street,
Mendota, CA 93650

The people present at this meeting included:

Todd Sobrado, Fresno COG and FAX
Mayor Victor Martinez, Mayor, City of Mendota
Mayor Pro Tempore Libertad “Liberty” Lopez

As with all in-person public events, this event was heavily marketed through all Fresno COG marketing channels, including its newsletter, and social media profiles. It was also advertised at City Hall in Mendota a few weeks leading up to the meeting.

The meeting preceded a regularly scheduled City Council meeting. As a result, there were many people, or members of the public present. However, none of them were there for the Unmet Transit Needs public meeting.

Since the Unmet Transit Needs immediately preceded a city council meeting, staff was able to speak with select elected officials, in this case, Mayor Victor Martinez, and Mayor Pro Tempore Libertad “Liberty” Lopez.

With Mayor Lopez, staff discussed the Unmet Transit Needs Assessment, specifically the role that it played in the Local Transportation Fund (LTF) process. With Mayor Pro Tempore Lopez, staff discussed social services transportation available within the community of Mendota, specifically whether social service transportation privileges also applied to those with mental health-related disabilities. The answer was that they do. In closing, staff put Mayor Pro Tempore Lopez in touch with Thomas Dulin, Public Transportation Director for Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission (FEOC), the contractor providing urban and rural social services on behalf of the CTSA.

In-Person Public Outreach Meeting Number 2 – Wednesday, February 15, 2023, in the City of Fresno

The second in-person public meeting took place within metropolitan Fresno County, on Wednesday,

February 15, 2023, at 5:30 PM PST in the City of Fresno at:

Pinedale Community Center
7170 N. San Pablo Ave.
Fresno, CA 93650

The people present at this meeting were:

Todd Sobrado, Fresno COG and FAX
Amy Hance, Clovis Transit
Moses Stites, FCRTA
Janelle Del Campo, FCRTA
Carolina Ilic, FAX
Juan Mosqueda Rosales, FAX Intern

Like all in-person public events, this event was heavily marketed through all Fresno COG marketing channels, including its newsletter, and social media profiles as well as the FAX newsletter and social media channels. Despite these measures, no transit riders or stakeholders attended this meeting.

Virtual Public Outreach Meeting Number 1, – Thursday, February 16, 2023, at 10:00 AM online through ZOOM, broadcast on Facebook

As with our other events, virtual events were heavily marketed through all Fresno COG marketing channels, including FAX and Clovis Transit, participating transit agencies in the Unmet Transit Needs assessment. The first virtual event took place on ZOOM and broadcast over Facebook. Our technology does not allow for a virtual event to be broadcast simultaneously over Facebook and YouTube.

This virtual event was moderated by Todd Sobrado, with representatives from several transit agencies, including:

Amy Hance, Clovis Transit
Carolina Ilic, FAX
Moses Stites, FCRTA
Janelle Del Campo, FCRTA
Thomas Dulin, FEOC

Fresno COG staff also present and assisting in the “background”, included:

Robert Phipps, FCOG
Brenda Veenendahl, FCOG
Denise Flores, FCOG, Translator

Staff did not receive any questions, or feedback from participants. Since the event was being recorded for placement on the FCOG Facebook page, the agencies took this opportunity to discuss the latest relevant events and projects taking place within their respective agencies. The virtual event was about 45 minutes in length.

In-Person Public Outreach Meeting Number 3 – Thursday, February 16, 2023, at 5:30 PM, in the City of Clovis

The third in-person public outreach meeting within metropolitan Fresno County, took place on Thursday, February 16, 2023, at 5:30 PM in the City of Clovis, at:

Clovis Senior Center
850 4th Street
Clovis, CA 93612

Several transit agency representatives were present, including:

Todd Sobrado, FCOG and FAX
Amy Hance, Clovis Transit
Carolina Ilic, FAX
Jeff Long, FAX
Moses Stites, FCRTA
Janelle Del Campo, FCRTA

There were no members of the public or transit riders that showed up to this meeting.

Virtual Public Outreach Meeting Number 2 – Wednesday, February 22, 2023, at 5:30 PM on ZOOM, broadcast on YouTube

As with our other events, virtual events were heavily marketed through all Fresno COG marketing channels, including those of other agencies, such as FAX and Clovis Transit. Whereas the first virtual event was broadcast on Facebook, the second virtual event was broadcast on YouTube. Additionally, whereas the first virtual event took place in the morning, the second virtual event took place in the evening, at 5:30 PM.

This virtual event was also moderated by Todd Sobrado, with representatives from several transit agencies, including:

Amy Hance, Clovis Transit
Gregory Barfield, FAX
Joe Vargas, FAX
Carolina Ilic, FAX
Jeff Long, FAX
Moses Stites, FCRTA
Janelle Del Campo, FCRTA
Thomas Dulin, FEOC

Fresno COG staff were also present and assisting in the “background”, include:

Robert Phipps, FCOG
Brenda Veenendahl, FCOG
Denise Flores, FCOG, Translator

Staff did not receive any questions, or feedback from participants. Since the event was being record for placement on the FCOG YouTube page, the agencies took this opportunity to discuss the latest relevant events and projects taking place within their respective agencies. The virtual event was about 30 minutes in length.

No public comments or feedback was received.

In-Person Public Outreach Meeting Number 4 – Saturday, February 25, 2023 at 9:00 AM, in the City of Fresno

The fourth in-person public outreach meeting within metropolitan Fresno County, took place on Saturday, February 25, 2023, at 9:00 AM in the city of Fresno, at:

Fresno Council of Governments, Sequoia Room
2035 Tulare Street, Ste. 201
Fresno, CA 93721

This public meeting was initially scheduled for 12:00 PM, the same day. However, the time was changed to accommodate the schedule of a transit agency representative, that wanted to attend.

Several agencies were represented at this public outreach meeting, including:

Todd Sobrado, FCOG and FAX
Amy Hance, Clovis Transit
Carolina Ilic, FAX
Moses Stites, FCRTA
Thomas Dulin, FEOC

Two members of the public attended, including:

Bonnie Sabrina Dunn Nasr, FAX/Handy Ride user
MacKay, Clovis Community College employee

The following is a summary of comments/suggestions made by Miss Dunn, included:

- Improve coordination of public communications between agencies, departments, locations, and employees, especially for public outreach events (FAX, Handy Ride, MTC, Clovis Transit, Round Up, etc.).
- Make public communications easier to understand, placing all the basic, relevant information in one place.
- Include dates, locations, addresses on flyers. Place flyers on buses and Handy Ride vehicles much earlier.
- Design outreach materials to include those who don't use electronic media.
- Mail postcards of public outreach events to Handy Ride riders.
- Need better integration between Handy Ride and Round Up; eliminate need for transfers at drop off zones.

- Handy Ride should be more customer-service oriented and provide more flexibility and passenger's schedules. 90-minute windows for pickups and drop-offs mean the passengers work around HR'S schedule.
- Handy Ride communication between dispatch and transit riders is difficult, confusing and impersonal.
- Handy Ride comes from a position of 'no', as in they can't do a pick-up or drop-off.

The comments received at this public outreach event have been added to the UTN Public Comments list. FAX staff have reviewed the comments received at this meeting, and after thoughtful consideration, have determined that while improvements can be made, none of the comments received constitute unmet transit needs. Since the February 25, 2023, meeting, various FAX, FCRTA, Clovis Transit, and FAX Handy Ride staff members have met with Ms. Dunn, including a meeting at Handy Ride, to help address her concerns. In addition, FCOG staff will make changes to the UTN outreach process based upon feedback.

In-Person Public Outreach Meeting Number 5 – Tuesday, February 28, 2022 at 5:30 PM, in the City of Huron

The fifth in-person public meeting took place in rural Fresno County, on Tuesday, February 28, 2022, at 5:30 PM PST in the incorporated community of Huron, specifically at:

Public Safety Building, Sky Room
17051 12th Street
Huron, CA 93234

Transit agencies representatives attending this event included:

Todd Sobrado, Fresno COG and FAX
Thomas Dulin, FEOC
Veronica Magallenes, California State Council of Developmental Disabilities (CSDD)

Ms. Magallenes attended the Unmet Transit Needs public hearing on behalf of her employer, the California State Council on Development Disabilities, where she is employed as a Community Program II Specialist.

Ms. Magallenes spoke of the transportation and transit challenges her clients in several Central San Joaquin Valley Counties, including Fresno County, regularly experienced. Thomas Dulin, transit director at FEOC, thoroughly explained social services transportation to help her better navigate the many agencies her clients interact with in other counties.

In the second, and final part of our conversation with Ms. Magallenes, we talked about transportation funding, as it pertained to the Unmet Transit Needs process. Specifically, we talked about the different types of comments received and the role of the UTN process in transportation process. Overall, the meeting resulting in information to help improve the lives of her clients.

There were no unmet transit needs pertaining to Fresno County in this conversation, or meeting.

In-Person Public Outreach Meeting Number 6 – Wednesday, March 1, 2023 at 5:30 PM in the City of Sanger

The sixth and final in-person public meeting took place in rural Fresno County, on Wednesday, March 1, 2023, at 5:30 PM PST, at:

City Council Chambers
1700 7th Street
Sanger, CA 93657

Transit agencies representatives included:

Todd Sobrado, FCOG and FAX
Moses Stites, FCRTA
Thomas Dulin, FEOC
David Brletic, City of Sanger
Joaquin Zamora, City of Sanger

Mr. Brletic is the Interim Planning Director for the City of Sanger while Mr. Zamora is a recreational supervisor, also for the City of Sanger. While staff did not receive any transit needs or feedback, a great deal of time was spent discussing the LTF program, the transportation funding process, and recent and upcoming transportation projects in and around the City of Sanger.

Public Hearing, Thursday, April 27, 2023 at 5:30 PM, at:

The final component of the FY2022-23 Public Outreach process was a formal public hearing that took place as part of the Fresno COG Policy Board meeting.

Two comments were received during the Public Hearing for the FY2023-2024 Unmet Transit Needs Assessment on Thursday, April 27, 2023, at 5:30 PM, at the Fresno COG Policy Board meeting.

The first person who spoke was Jameece McClaren who spoke about her experiences as both a Handy Ride and FAX user. She primarily spoke about three different issues. First, as someone who uses a cane, it is challenging to wait at bus stops that don't have benches. Second, the bus stops along BRT, Route 1 are far apart compared to other routes, as a result, it is sometimes difficult to travel to and from stops along BRT, Route 1. Her third comment was about how staffing shortages at Handy Ride were leading to service delays for Handy Ride users. These comments, operator response, and determinations can be found as items 108, 109, and 110, in Table 1, 'Matrix of Public Comments Received, Operator Responses, and Determinations'.

The second person to speak was Bonnie Sabrina Dunne-Nasr. In her comments at the Public Hearing, Ms. Nasr restated the concerns she first brought up at the Unmet Needs in-person public meeting she attended that was held on Saturday, February 25, 2023, at the offices of Fresno COG. The comments received from Ms. Nasr, the operator response, and determination are items 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, and 101, in Table 1, 'Matrix of Public Comments Received, Operator Responses, and Determinations.'

COMMENTS AND FEEDBACK RECEIVED FOR THE FY 2023-2024 UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS PROCESS

Table 1 includes the public comments received via the online survey at www.publicinput.com/unmettransitneeds/. As of this writing, no additional comments were received by mail, or electronically. The Public Hearing took place on Thursday, April 27, 2023. A summary of the comments received at the Public Hearing is contained on the previous page. Additionally, the comments, operator responses and determinations are included in Table 1, below

Figure 1 includes the public comments received, the operator response, whether the comment is an unmet need, and whether it is reasonable to meet. In the Unmet Need column, “N/A” signifies “Not Applicable.” In the Reasonable to Meet column, “N/A” signifies either “Not Applicable” in cases where sufficient information or analysis is not yet available to make a determination.

To date, 110 comments have been received. Of the comments received, 22 items were found to be unmet needs, and none of them were found to be reasonable to meet. Those items meeting the definition of an unmet need are items 1 through 22 in figure 1, below. Items 23 through 110 do not meet the definition of an unmet need.

Unmet needs are identified with a ‘Y’ in the fifth column, titled “Unmet Need? (Yes, No, N/A)”. Comments received in previous cycles of the Unmet Transit Needs Assessment are identified with a “Y” in the seventh, and last column, titled “Previously Recorded Comment (Yes, No).”

All transit agencies, specifically Clovis Transit, FAX, FCRTA, and FEOC received at least one comment meeting the definition of an unmet need. FCOG also received a comment. Some comments were assigned to more than one transit agency.

The number of comments each transit agency, FCOG, and combination of transit agencies received are as follows:

Jurisdiction	Item Number in the Matrix in Table 1
Clovis	1 - 1
FAX	6 – 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8
FCRTA	6 – 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20
FAX and FCRTA	2 – 13, 15
FAX and Clovis	4 – 9, 10, 11, 12
FEOC	1 - 21
FCOG	1 - 22

The comments received, transit agency responses, and determination are in Figure 1, below.

Note: Public Comments shown below are included verbatim as.

Figure 1

Matrix of Public Comments Received, Operator Responses, and Determination

Item No.	Jurisdiction	Public Comment	Transit Agency Response	Unmet Needs (Yes, No, N/A)	Reasonable to Meet (Yes, No, N/A)	Previously Recorded Comment (Yes, No)
1	Clovis Transit	North Eastern Clovis (Shepherd Ave/clovis Ave) and Harlan Ranch. I am going to Armstrong / Shepherd / Dewolf. / I am coming from Palm and Herndon. / I need transportation Monday through Friday. / My comments apply to Clovis Transit.	Clovis Route 50 provides 30 minute service to Clovis and Alluvial. Shepherd/DeWolf/Harlan Ranch area currently has no direct transit service but is currently being evaluated for microtransit bus service in the future. FAX provides service along Herndon from the El Paseo Shopping Cneter to Willow Avenue.	Yes	No	No
2	FAX	Comments: Any location west of Cornelia avenue out to Biola ave needs services. We would like to see services run from the south end (180 to the north end (Herndon). / We need transportation for students attending our middle schools and high schools. We also need parents from low income areas to be able to travel to and from their student's school sites. / I am speaking in reference to everything in Central Unified,	FAX currently operates 4 routes west of Highway 99 (12, 35, 39, and 45). Route 45 services Central High East Campus and in August 2023 will be extended to serve Glacier Point Middle School and Justin Garza High School. The development west of Highway 99 is dispersed and mostly low-density, thus resulting in limited efficiency for creating the density needed to provide effective fixed route transit. However, in an effort to provide public transit to all public high schools in the City of Fresno, FAX will extend Route 45 to the new Justin Garza High School on Ashlan this August. In addition, as described above, FAX has applied for federal grant funds for a three-year Microtransit Pilot Program in the West Area. The awards should be announced soon.	Yes	No	Yes

Item No.	Jurisdiction	Public Comment	Transit Agency Response	Unmet Needs (Yes, No, N/A)	Reasonable to Meet (Yes, No, N/A)	Previously Recorded Comment (Yes, No)
		west of the 99. / I would need service weekdays. / My comments apply to FAX.				
3	FAX	Grantland Ave & Bullard Ave area, Island Water park area. There is a lot of new development in this area. / I need to go to schools south of Shaw Ave. / I am coming from schools south of Shaw Ave. / I need buses on both weekdays and weekends.	The development west of Highway 99 is dispersed and mostly low-density, thus resulting in limited efficiency for creating the density needed to provide effective fixed route transit. FAX will continue to monitor the development in this area and will evaluate service options as needed.	Yes	No	Yes
4	FAX and FCRTA	Handy ride doesn't go to Easton cherry ave & Lincoln where I live. / I need to go to Herndon and Valentine, and Downtown Fresno. / I am coming from Downtown Fresno, court house park. / I needs service weekdays and weekends.	Easton is outside the City of Fresno limit and the City of Fresno Sphere of Influence. FAX does not have plans to operate transit service in this area as FAX provides service only within the Fresno Clovis Metropolitan Area. FCRTA has the Coalinga Inter-City transit service that goes by Easton with an AM inbound to Fresno and a PM outbound Monday through Saturday.	Yes	No	No
5	FAX	I believe east Sunnyside (to the Kings Canyon/Fowler Ave area) is still not on the bus route. / I need service to "Trek Fresno Sunnyside Bicycles shop and	Currently the FAX system does not provide service to within 1/2 mile of the destination. While there is a planned future extension of FAX Route 1 as part of the City of Fresno's Southeast Development Area (SEDA) planning process, this is not scheduled in the next 5 years.	Yes	No	No

Item No.	Jurisdiction	Public Comment	Transit Agency Response	Unmet Needs (Yes, No, N/A)	Reasonable to Meet (Yes, No, N/A)	Previously Recorded Comment (Yes, No)
		GB3" / I am coming from Wishon and McKinley / I need service weekdays.				
6	FAX	SM: The last bus leaving FYI at 8:42pm weekdays and 6:43pm, on weekends is not sufficient. There are several flights arriving after these hours.	FAX is seeking grant funding to increase frequencies on Route 39 to 15 minutes from 6 am to 6 pm to better serve Fresno Yosemite International Airport. Late night service on more FAX routes has been identified in the Fresno-Clovis Metropolitan Area Short Range Transit Plan (SRTP). Currently there is no additional funding to expand late night service to more of the routes.	Yes	No	No
7	FAX	SM: The Q buses run pretty late, but the others, they do not. They stop running around 8:30ish, 9:00 pm (forget about weekends) not to get too political what Mayor Ashly but the bus system back, but then again, the city employees are not required to catch the buses, so no big deal, right?	Late night service on more FAX routes has been identified in the Fresno-Clovis Metropolitan Area Short Range Transit Plan (SRTP). Currently there is no additional funding to expand late night service to more of the routes.	Yes	No	No
8	FAX	SM: On weekends and Holidays when people are traveling, the city buses from the AmTrak station, or the one I would to on Ventura Street, stop running before the last train arrives (8:12 pm).	Late night service on more FAX routes has been identified in the Fresno-Clovis Metropolitan Area Short Range Transit Plan (SRTP). Currently there is no additional funding to expand late night service to more routes.	Yes	No	No

Item No.	Jurisdiction	Public Comment	Transit Agency Response	Unmet Needs (Yes, No, N/A)	Reasonable to Meet (Yes, No, N/A)	Previously Recorded Comment (Yes, No)
9	FAX and Clovis	i am going to Fresno and Fulton. / I am coming from Clovis and Shepherd. / I need transit service on weekdays. / Comments: There are entire neighborhoods that jave zero public transit. If you aren't going to build bus lines at least build bike lanes. My neighborhood pays a ton in taxes and gets close to nothing.	The closest bus stop to Clovis/Shepherd is 30 minute service on Route 10 at Peach/Nees, then transfer to FAX at Shaw/Cedar. Additional transfers are available on FAX routes to reach downtown Fresno. The northeast area of Clovis is currently being evaluated for microtransit service in the future.	Yes	No	Yes
10	FAX and Clovis Transit	My comment is about increasing the frequency of transit and covering the Northern part of town is very necessary. More comments, including locations and destinations: Shepherd and Clovis avenue area covering a lot of new residential projects, Lennar Heritage Grove, Windsor Heritage Grove, and Lennar at Arboralla. Connecting those areas to the Herndon/Clovis avenue retails,	The closest bus stop to Clovis/Shepherd is 30 minute service on Route 10 at Peach/Nees. The northeast area of Clovis is currently being evaluated for microtransit service in the future. FAX has implemented 45 minute service along Herndon, Route 3, from the El Paseo Shopping Center to Willow Avenue, up to Clovis Community College along Willow, with various transfer opportunities to Clovis Route 10. Route 3 service frequencies will be improved to 30 minutes in August 2023.	Yes	No	No

Item No.	Jurisdiction	Public Comment	Transit Agency Response	Unmet Needs (Yes, No, N/A)	Reasonable to Meet (Yes, No, N/A)	Previously Recorded Comment (Yes, No)
		Clovis Old town, Riverpark shopping areas on the west, and Harlan Ranch to the east would attract a lot of riders. A good connection/transfer facilities between FAX and Clovis Transit would be efficient and reliable. / I am going to Clovis and Herndon Avenues / I am coming from Clovis and Shephard Avenues. / I need service both weekdays and weekends.				
11	FAX and Clovis Transit	North Fresno/Clovis to Tower and Downtown. / I go to Fowler and Herndon, Sierra Vista and Shaw, Broadway and Inyo, and Olive and Palm. / I am coming from Friant and Fort Washington / both Northwest Fresno to North Clovis and Old Town Clovis. / I need service both weekdays and weekends.	There is currently no public transit servicing the Friant and Fort Washington area. All other destinations are serviced by either FAX or Clovis Transit.	Yes	No	No

Item No.	Jurisdiction	Public Comment	Transit Agency Response	Unmet Needs (Yes, No, N/A)	Reasonable to Meet (Yes, No, N/A)	Previously Recorded Comment (Yes, No)
12	FAX and Clovis Transit	<p>Clovis to Tower and Downtown, more bike accessibility. We need buses to be more frequent and also run later at night. As a local autistic artist, there are a lot of events like arthrop in Tower and Downtown I'd love to go. However I often opt out unless a friend offers me a ride. I don't feel safe going to Downtown or Tower, knowing there won't be a bus ride available to go home much later. / I am going to Tower District or Downtown, somewhere on Van Ness as it's one of the more popular streets for arthrop. / I am coming from Ashlan and Fowler. Bike lane heading towards Clovis on Ashlan is very scary because the cars are going so fast. I'm a beginning cyclist. / I need service weekdays and weekends. / Additional comments: Clovis Stageline needs</p>	<p>Ashlan Avenue has bike lanes in both directions between Fowler and Clovis Ave. Passengers can bike to Clovis and Ashlan and take Route 45 WB to multiple routes to transfer to the Tower District and or Downtown Fresno. Instructions on how to use the bike racks are located on the FAX website at https://www.fresno.gov/transportation/fax/bus-riding-basics/</p> <p>Another option would be to take Clovis Route 50 from Fowler and Ashlan to Ashlan and Clovis and transfer to Route 45.</p> <p>Late night service on more FAX routes has been identified in the Fresno-Clovis Metropolitan Area Short Range Transit Plan (SRTP). Currently there is no additional funding to expand late night service to more of the routes.</p>	Yes	No	No

Item No.	Jurisdiction	Public Comment	Transit Agency Response	Unmet Needs (Yes, No, N/A)	Reasonable to Meet (Yes, No, N/A)	Previously Recorded Comment (Yes, No)
		<p>more efficient bus routes. It takes too long to get from point A to point B, like the Clovis library. What could just be a straight route from Sunnyside takes forever to get there. Update standards to show disability challenges. I'm a self-diagnosed Autistic Latina who doesn't have the documentation to show my disability. I can't get access to free bus rides based on the current prerequisites (notes from doctor, etc). Autism assessments for adults are costly prohibitive and inaccessible, as it's hard to find local professionals with unbiased insights on how autism is represented in the LGBT+ community, people of color, and women. Also, a video on how to load/unload a bike onto the FAX and Clovis Stageline would be helpful. I've never tried</p>				

Item No.	Jurisdiction	Public Comment	Transit Agency Response	Unmet Needs (Yes, No, N/A)	Reasonable to Meet (Yes, No, N/A)	Previously Recorded Comment (Yes, No)
		<p>multi-modal transportation personally, but I've seen bus drivers get frustrated at cyclists for having trouble loading and unloading their bikes. There needs to be a tutorial or guide for cyclists who are using the FAX and Clovis Stageline services for the first time. This would certainly put people like me at ease, knowing what's expected from the cyclist riding for the first time.</p>				
13	FAX and FCRTA	<p>It was to be cancelled under the yes on c measure. Good thing we beat it down ; The jungle near Selma and la chancla near Sanger ; There needs to be more routes out in rural areas. One bed trip to and from fresno is not enough. There should be bus connections going from small communities to other small communities. There should also</p>	<p>FCRTA offers fixed route inter-city service providing connections to the 13 rural incorporated cities and Fresno. FCRTA also offers demand response intra-city service for transit service within each rural city and the rural transit service for lifelife service for individuals living in the unincorporated communities. FCRTA deployed a demonstration microtransit project in Biola and if this service is successful, FCRTA will expand this microtransit project into other rural communities in Fresno County. FCRTA is a rural transit operator and does not offer trips as frequently as an urban operator due to low density, low ridership and high costs. FCRTA does not offer night service due to low ridership and high costs to operate. In Fresno, the Route 1 Bus</p>	Yes	No	No

Item No.	Jurisdiction	Public Comment	Transit Agency Response	Unmet Needs (Yes, No, N/A)	Reasonable to Meet (Yes, No, N/A)	Previously Recorded Comment (Yes, No)
		<p>be buses from Fresno to rural areas to provide jobs for people in packing houses etc. not just to fresno. / My destination is La colonia.</p> <p>Mendocino and cypress. Wanna go to Huron to go visit friends. / Everyday and there should be night buses to job locations that have different shifts / "I think the old way of conducting business needs a change in rural areas. Including putting better bus stops with lightening and protection from the elements</p> <p>You also need to stop those stops where the buses stop in the middle of street impending traffic. Like on black stone and kings canyon. Other cities have them off the streets why can't fresno do the same? You need mores buses serving the students on cedar as there are at least four plus</p>	<p>Rapid Transit system includes bus bulbouts to help the buses run more efficiently. This was intentionally designed in this manner to reduce travel times for transit passengers. Route 38 on Cedar Avenue operates at 15 minute frequencies, one of the higher-frequency routes in the FAX system.</p>			

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		schools plus the university on that route "				
14	FCRTA	i would like to be able to park and take public transpo from the end of Sample Rd (where it meets 168) into Fresno State	Auberry Transit provides service on a demand response basis with service into the FCMA on Tuesdays. There is currently not a daily route to Fresno State due to ridership, costs, and jurisdiction.	Yes	No	No
15	FAX and FCRTA	<p>Comment: Places far from the urban sprawl / I am going to Phillips and Clovis. I don't have a car. / I am going to Fowler and Kings Canyon. / I need service all week. My comments pertain to FAX and FCRTA. //</p> <p>Comment: Lugares alejados de la Mancha urbana / Mi destino es Phillips y Clovis. No tengo auto. / Vengo desde fowler y kings canyon. / Necesito servicio toda la semana. / Los agencias de transito en que estoy hablando son Fresno County Rural Transit Agency (FCRTA) y Fresno Area Express (FAX)</p>	FCRTA offers fixed route inter-city service providing connections to the 13 rural incorporated cities to Fresno. FCRTA also offers demand response intra-city service for transit service within each rural city and the rural transit service for lifelife service for individuals living in the unincorporated communities. FAX provides BRT service on Route 1 at Clovis and Kings Canyon. Future service to Fowler and Kings Canyon is planned as part of the BRT extension to the Southeast Development Area (SEDA).	Yes	No	No

Item No.	Jurisdiction	Public Comment	Transit Agency Response	Unmet Needs (Yes, No, N/A)	Reasonable to Meet (Yes, No, N/A)	Previously Recorded Comment (Yes, No)
16	FCRTA	Comment: Social services Bldg in Clovis. / Coming from 46970 Dunlap Road # 24. / I need service everyday.	FCRTA currently offers the rural transit service for this address for lifeline services, the rural transit is not a daily service due to costs and ridership. FAX offers service and transfers at Courthouse Park.	Yes	No	Yes
17	FCRTA	Sanger. Clovis. / Just being able to access areas. / I am coming from Downtown. / I need service every day. / Additional comments: Im a cyclist. Yet sometimes y destinations are a bit farther than than i can pedal.	Sanger is service by the Orange Cove inter-city fixed route service providing service two times, 5 days per week to the Fresno area and a connection can be made to go to Clovis. Orange Cove transit does not currently operate on the weekends due to ridership and costs. Bike racks are provided on buses as well.	Yes	No	Yes
18	FCRTA	Comment: From the mountains in eastern Fresno County to Reedley, Sanger, Fresno, Clovis. Not sure if there is service already. / I am going to 801 R Street Suite 101. / I am coming from 46970 Dunlap Road # 24. / I need service both weekdays and weekends.	Eastern Fresno County is serviced by the Auberry transit and Rural Transit service. The Auberry transit is a demand response service with trips to the FCMA on Tuesdays. The Rural Transit provides lifeline trips to individuals living in the unincorporated areas in Fresno County. The services are offered weekdays but not on weekends due to low ridership and costs.	Yes	No	No
19	FCRTA	Comments: Rural towns to Fresno City more directly than through so many stops. / I am going to Mendota downtown, Firebaugh downtown, Huron. / I am coming from	Mendota and Firebaugh is serviced by the Mendota intra-city, Firebaugh intra-city, Firebaugh-Mendota Transit and Westside inter-city fixed route service. FCRTA currently offers the Westside transit with connections to Fresno, this is not a direct bus from Mendota to Fresno due to low ridership and costs. The services are offered weekdays due to low	Yes	No	Yes

Item No.	Jurisdiction	Public Comment	Transit Agency Response	Unmet Needs (Yes, No, N/A)	Reasonable to Meet (Yes, No, N/A)	Previously Recorded Comment (Yes, No)
		Fresno High. / I need transportation both weekdays and weekends. / My comments apply to FCRTA.	ridership and costs. There is no express service offered because it would require FCRTA to eliminate other stops as FCRTA serves all communities.			
20	FCRTA	SM: Need from Riverdale to Hanford.	Riverdale is currently serviced by the Coalinga inter-city bus service or the Rural Transit service for lifeline services. FCRTA onlys provide transit service within Fresno County, KART is the transit operator in Hanford.	Yes	No	No
21	FEOC	Comments: Parlier - I used to go to physical therapy but Uber/Lyft drivers don't want to go that far. I live in Sanger and wait times can be long. / I am going to Zediker and Mann. / I am coming from Bethel and Jensen / I need service weekdays. / Go Go Grandparent uses Uber/Lyft and the wait times can be long if you live outside of Fresno. Being elderly and disabled long wait times are difficult and often debilitating.	Fresno EOC Transit partners with Fresno Council of Governments provides a Senior Scrip program for residents of Fresno County that are 70 years and older. Information on Senior Scrip is available at https://www.fresnocog.org/measure-c-senior-scrip/ or you may call 559-233-4148.	Yes	No	No
22	FCOG	→ Expanding and Institutionalizing Microtransit Programs for Rural and Isolated Communities:	In December 2022, the FCOG released an RFP to explore micro-transit options, not only in the urban area, but in the rural, isolated communities of Fresno County. A consultant was selected in March	Yes	No	No

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		<p>◆ Fresno County Rural Transportation Agency (FCRTA) has put forth community-driven rideshare programs to address the specific transportation needs of the region's rural and isolated communities. There are few smaller cities and communities, like Cantua Creek, that already have an electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure, and FCRTA is working diligently to ensure a reliable grid for all-electric fleets. We urge FCOG to fund innovative, resilient, and sustainable projects, like those created by FCRTA, to continue to adequately address rural transportation infrastructure issues</p>	<p>2023. The study will explore the feasibility of micro-transit as a solution to meet transportation needs that cannot be satisfied by existing transit services. If micro-transit is financially feasible and implemented in Fresno County, it can fill the gap that fixed-route transit cannot, providing additional transit options in isolated areas of rural Fresno County to residents who lack transportation for jobs, school, medical services, and other daily activities. Better Transit access in the City of Fresno, west of Highway 99.</p>			

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23	All	Fresno to Clovis / I am going to Shaw and Clovis / I am coming from Ashland and West Avenues. / I need service weekdays / My feedback applies to all transit agencies. / Please help people to have access to public transportation	This service is provided by FAX. Take Route 22 on West Avenue, north to Shaw Ave. Transfer to Route 9 on Shaw and disembark at Clovis. Service provided weekdays from approximately 6am to 7pm.	No	N/A	No
24	Clovis Transit	I travel to and from work, and occasionally to the store. My trips originate at Armstrong and Gettysburg. I never need service. My comments apply to Clovis Transit	No Unmet Needs Comment	N/A	N/A	No
25	Clovis Transit	My comment is to extend Clovis Stageline on the weekends, including operating on Sundays. / I am coming and going to 6790 W. Gibson, in Clovis, Ca. / My comments apply to service on Saturday and Sunday. / My comments apply to Clovis Transit.	Service days and hours are currently under evaluation and may be extended in the future. The stated address is not located in Clovis. Not enough information provided.	N/A	N/A	Yes

Item No.	Jurisdiction	Public Comment	Transit Agency Response	Unmet Needs (Yes, No, N/A)	Reasonable to Meet (Yes, No, N/A)	Previously Recorded Comment (Yes, No)
26	Clovis Transit and FCRTA	The outer rural areas in Clovis Ca along with Coalinga as being in Fresno County. There is not enough public transportation options and at the blue collar work schedules. The bus does not operate early enough and the populous needs to be able to acquire adequate transportation to have sustainable employment/schooling. Temperance and beyond in Clovis due to a lot of new housing developments which inhabit many minorities with children and are single vehicle owners within these new housing developments which are already a financial stretch as these homes are on the upper end for pricing.	The northeast portion of Clovis is served by Route 10 which has 30 minute service to a stop at Temperance and Alluvial.	No	N/A	No
27	Clovis Transit	SM: Transportation is needed out to 168 and Academy are for seniors.	Academy and Fwy 168 is outside the City of Clovis' border and sphere of influence.	No	N/A	No
28	COG	SM: I think we need some kind of shuttle bus from	Interregional transit service is provided by Amtrak and FlixBus.	No	N/A	No

Item No.	Jurisdiction	Public Comment	Transit Agency Response	Unmet Needs (Yes, No, N/A)	Reasonable to Meet (Yes, No, N/A)	Previously Recorded Comment (Yes, No)
		the Fresno area to SFO or LAX.				
29	FAX	Agree with below comments. Clovis to Tower. North Clovis to Old Town Clovis. Fresno to H-41 Parking Areas.	Insufficient information provided.	No	N/A	No
30	FAX	Chuckansi park express to ball games from the North end / I am often going to Chukchansi Park / Additional comments: Change too a regional system which seamlessly goes between cities such as Clovis, Sanger, Selma, Reedly, etc.	FAX Route 1 (BRT) operates from north Fresno (Woodward Park Station) to downtown Fresno (Van Ness Station) It is approximately 1/4 mile from the station to Chukchansi Park. Service runs until 11:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday. FAX and Clovis Transit coordinate on transit services in the Fresno Clovis Metropolitan Area, and Fresno County Rural Transit Agency provides service from the rural areas into Fresno. connecting with FAX services at Courthouse Park.	No	N/A	Yes
31	FAX	I'd like to see something like a free trolley service on weekends through Tower, Downtown, Riverpark, Old Town Clovis and any other entertainment areas to help reduce DUI's. / I need to go to Olive and Wishon, Shaw and Palm, and Blackstone and Nees. / I am	The City of Fresno's General Services Division will begin operating a free trolley this year that will serve the Downtown Brewery District, the Cultural Arts District, Tower District, Fresno City College, Fresno State, and Campus Pointe. This service will operate from approximately 2:30 pm to 12:30 am Thursday through Saturday. In addition, FAX operates service to all of these locations, except Old Town Clovis, 7 days a week for a \$1.00 fare.	No	N/A	No

Item No.	Jurisdiction	Public Comment	Transit Agency Response	Unmet Needs (Yes, No, N/A)	Reasonable to Meet (Yes, No, N/A)	Previously Recorded Comment (Yes, No)
		coming from Weldon and Maroa. / I need the bus mainly on weekends / Additional comments: Need better service in Fresno for Seniors/Disabled too				
32	FAX	Actually don't know where it currently goes: airport? Tower District? Saroya theatre/downtown ? / I am going to the Airport, Olive and Van Ness, and Saroyan . / I am coming from Wishon and Escalon/ I need bus service both on weekdays and weekends / Additional comments: Add in downtown Clovis to my destinations	From Wishon and Escalon, it is less than 1/2 mile to a Route 26 bus stop at SW Palm - Escalon. Route 26 provides service to Downtown Fresno and the airport. A transfer at Olive Ave will take you to the Tower District and Van Ness and Olive. Route 9 provides service into Clovis, with future extensions planned to Old Town Clovis.	No	N/A	No

Item No.	Jurisdiction	Public Comment	Transit Agency Response	Unmet Needs (Yes, No, N/A)	Reasonable to Meet (Yes, No, N/A)	Previously Recorded Comment (Yes, No)
33	FAX	City of Fresno FAX Bus Rapid Transit along E & W Shaw Ave. / I need to go to Herndon and Valentine, and Downtown Fresno. / I am coming from Herndon and Valentine. / I need bus service both weekdays and weekends.	Herndon Ave is served by Route 3 every 45 minutes. Beginning in August 2023, that will improve to every 30 minutes. From Route 3, a transfer at Blackstone to Route 1 will connect you with downtown Fresno. This service operates 7 days a week. Route 9 on Shaw Ave is one of FAX"s 15 minute corridors. Route 9 operates every 15 minutes from approximately 6am to 6pm Monday through Friday. Bus stop improvements are underway along Route 9.	No	N/A	No
34	FAX and FCRTA	Reedley, Orange Cove, Huron, Coalinga, Firebaugh -- anything in the rural areas. / I need the bus to go to work, and to go to community events for work. / I am coming from Ashlan and West. / I need service every day. / Additional comments: We need either a Tap Card system, or to be able to buy fares on-line and just use a phone to log in. I've done that in Seattle and Denver, and it's wonderful to not have to worry about cash! **Inappropriate parts of this	FAX provides service from Ashlan and West to Courthouse Park via Route 22. At Courthouse Park, passengers can transfer to FCRTA routes to access the rural communiites. FCRTA provides intra-city demand response service in all 13 rural cities and fixed route serivce connecting the rural cities to the City of Fresno. FAX is in the progress of developing specifications and finding funding for a Mobile Fare Payment System and Trip Plannnig App.	No	N/A	No

Item No.	Jurisdiction	Public Comment	Transit Agency Response	Unmet Needs (Yes, No, N/A)	Reasonable to Meet (Yes, No, N/A)	Previously Recorded Comment (Yes, No)
		comment have been deleted.**				
35	FAX	Comment: Please update Fresno-Clovis Bikeway Map from 2018 to present. I use my bike to access FAX	Thank you for this comment. FAX has referred this comment to the City of Fresno Public Works Department. The referenced map is produced by the Fresno Council of Governments. They are currently working to update and publish an updated map.	No	N/A	No
36	FAX	Comment: "Buses can't handle enough bikes"	FAX buses can hold 3 bikes per bus.	No	N/A	No

Item No.	Jurisdiction	Public Comment	Transit Agency Response	Unmet Needs (Yes, No, N/A)	Reasonable to Meet (Yes, No, N/A)	Previously Recorded Comment (Yes, No)
37	FAX	<p>There are lots of new housing developments in West Fresno. It is JUST outside of the boundary of the HandyRide bus. I stopped taking it for this reason. The taxi is more expensive, but it is the only way I can travel there. / I am going to Dakota and Hayes, and the Polk area . / I need service weekdays and weekends. / Additional comments: Please expand your service area for Fresno/Clovis. I have children in new developments in both cities. They are too far out for your service areas and it is limiting.</p>	<p>The FAX Handy Ride service area exceeds the federally mandated requirement in many areas of Fresno. In August 2023, with the implementation of expanded service on Routes 34 and 45, the Handy Ride service area boundary will expand. The expansion should include the Dakota and Hayes area. FAX and Clovis Transit have a cooperative agreement for the transfer of passengers from the Handy Ride system to Clovis Round-Up.</p>	No	N/A	No
38	FAX	<p>Comments: I think we should totally revamp the way we do transportation in this area. From the vehicles to the drivers, the expense is outrageous. I have yet to see more than 4 people on a FAX ever. I regularly see FAX with zero riders</p>	<p>Thank you for this comment. While this is not an Unmet Transit Needs comment, FAX is exploring a pilot project for microtransit.</p>	No	N/A	No

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		and up to four buses at the same intersection. I am sure there is a more fiscally responsible way to spend tax payer dollars and meet the needs of the people that depend on public transportation more effectively.				
39	FAX	Straight Down McKinley more specifically chestnut leading to airport. Bus 1 that goes all the way down to GB3 on Kingscanyon and Fowler. A bud that can pick you up on Clovis and kings canyon that can go all the way down to Sierra Vista mall and back. / I am going to King and Chestnut. / I need bus service EVERY SINGLE DAY! / Additional comments: Fix the damn ticket machines on BRT SYSTEM. Why install them if they are never working!	FAX has evaluated service along McKinley to the Fresno Yosemite International Airport. The infrastructure on the south side of McKinley is insufficient to allow for the placement of safe and accessible bus stops. Service to the airport is available on Route 39 (Clinton). FAX is repairing its Ticket Vending Machines.	No	N/A	No

Item No.	Jurisdiction	Public Comment	Transit Agency Response	Unmet Needs (Yes, No, N/A)	Reasonable to Meet (Yes, No, N/A)	Previously Recorded Comment (Yes, No)
40	FAX	Kaiser medical offices in Clovis. / I am going to Herndon and Fowler. / I am coming from First and Why does fax stop running at 7 or 8 at night? Why are weekend buses so slow? Why are Clovis and Fresno separate systems? In the Bay Area you have Santa Clara county transit, Alameda county transit, etc. shields or first and clinton. / I need service on weekdays. / Additional comments:	Kaiser Medical at Fowler and Herndon is serviced by Clovis Transit Route 50. FAX provides connections to Route 50 from Routes 9, 28 and 45. FAX service operates from approximately 5:30am to 10:00pm Monday through Friday with late night service to midnight on select routes. FAX and Clovis Transit provide service in the Fresno Clovis Metropolitan Area.	No	N/A	No
41	FAX	I'd like to make it easier to get to Clovis. / I need to go Downtown on Tulare. / I need more weekend service. / Additional comments: Would like service later at night, too!	FAX provides three routes into the City of Clovis: Route 3 along Herndon Avenue; Route 9 along Shaw Avenue; and Route 45 along Ashlan and Shields. These three routes are accessible from Downtown Fresno by using Routes 1, 32, 34, and 38 and transferring. FAX routes operate until approximately 10 p.m., with select routes operating until midnight.	No	N/A	Yes

Item No.	Jurisdiction	Public Comment	Transit Agency Response	Unmet Needs (Yes, No, N/A)	Reasonable to Meet (Yes, No, N/A)	Previously Recorded Comment (Yes, No)
42	FAX	Clovis area. I live near Blackstone and Nees and I have no car . I walk everywhere. I am 71 years old. / I am going to Clovis Ave and Herndon. / I need service weekdays and weekends. / Additional comments: Is Handyrise available to people over the age of 70?	<p>From Blackstone and Nees, passengers can take Routes 1 or 38, transfer at Herndon to Route 3 (Eastbound). At Willow and Nees, transfer to Clovis Route 10.</p> <p>Handy Ride is available to persons who, because of their disability, are unable to use the fixed-route system. In addition, the Fresno Council of Governments provides a Senior Scrip program for residents of Fresno County that are 70 years and older. Information on Senior Scrip is available at https://www.fresnocog.org/measure-c-senior-scrip/ or you may call 559-233-4148.</p>	No	N/A	No
43	FAX	Amtrak station hours need to be extended weekends and holidays. You know, the times that people actually travel. Need public transportation to access public transportation. ; Amtrak/Greyhound station extend hours on weekends and holidays which are also travel times. / Additional comments: It's hard for me to see app on phone. Where can I get a color coded map	<p>Amtrak schedules are independent of the local transit operators in Fresno. Contact Amtrak at https://amtraksanjoaquins.com/contact/</p> <p>Public transit to the Amtrak Station is available on FAX for a majority of the scheduled trains, both northbound and southbound. A color-coded map and time tables are available on the FAX web site at https://www.fresno.gov/transportation/fax/routes/.</p>	No	N/A	No

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		and large print time tables?				
44	FAX	<p>PLEASE PLEASE add more FAX bus stops along Willow north of Nees Ave. Currently, there's only three stops at Behymer/Willow, Behymer/Chestnut, and International e/o Chestnut. Would like to see new bus stop on Behymer midway between Chestnut and Willow, Willow/Shepherd. Also, if the bus on this route can run on a 20 minute frequency, instead of the current 45-minute. There's been a lot of issues with the bus running on time on this route. Thank you! / I am coming from</p>	<p>Route 3 is the newest route in the FAX system. At the current time, the infrastructure along Willow Avenue lacks sidewalks for safe path of travel. There is a road widening project along Behymer, just west of Willow, that when completed will allow FAX to establish a new stop at Willow and Behymer. Station spacing on Route 3 is every 1/2 mile. FAX will begin running buses on Route 3 every 30 minutes in August 2023.</p>	No	N/A	Yes

Item No.	Jurisdiction	Public Comment	Transit Agency Response	Unmet Needs (Yes, No, N/A)	Reasonable to Meet (Yes, No, N/A)	Previously Recorded Comment (Yes, No)
		Behymer and Winery.				
45	FAX	<p>I am going to "I go to Tower district, places on Shaw, grocery store, office supply, hardware, etc.</p> <p>And while I have transportation it shouldn't be so darn hard to get to any of these locations, but coming from the west of 99 area you're always looking at at least a half hour to get anywhere due to trains and lack of infrastructure to get over the overpasses in and out of our community.</p> <p>And the roads are in terrible condition and have been not just since the rain that's just added to it." / I am coming from McKinley, West of 99.</p>	<p>McKinley Ave, west of 99 is serviced by Route 35, which is interlined with Route 12, providing service to Shaw Ave. At Shaw Avenue, transfer to Route 9, which services the Shaw Ave corridor at 15 minute frequency. Service west of 99 will improve as the densities needed to support public transit are achieved.</p> <p>Travel time should improve in the future as additional grade separations are built as part of the High Speed Rail project and Veterans Avenue is completed.</p>	No	N/A	No
46	Clovis Transit	SM: One thing I would like to see is the ability of FAX to take people to churches in Clovis being that Clovis	Clovis Roundup provides service 7 days a week including Sunday service to any address within the City limits.	No	N/A	No

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		Roundup does not have a Sunday Schedule.				
47	FAX	SM: Please send me instructions on what to do when I need to ride the FAX bus. 4145 E. Olive Avenue, Fresno, CA 93702	While this is not an Unmet Needs comment, information on riding the bus is available on the FAX web site here: https://www.fresno.gov/transportation/fax/bus-riding-basics/ . In addition, FAX has sent the commenter a Schedule Guide.	N/A	N/A	No
48	FAX	SM: Need more places to buy tickets	Tickets and passes are available at the Manchester Transit Center Office as well as all 52 Ticket Vending Machines (TVM) along Route 1. Tickets can also be purchased at pass outlets throughout the city. FAX is working on identifying funding to implement a mobile ticketing fare app.	No	N/A	No
49	FAX	SM: I live too far to walk to the bus stop. I am 78 and wondering if there are available rides that come to my home. I live in European Grove and don't have a car.	Insufficient information to identify the public transit need. Fresno Council of Governments provides a Senior Scrip program for residents of Fresno County that are 70 years and older. Information on Senior Scrip is available at https://www.fresnocog.org/measure-c-senior-scrip/ or you may call 559-233-4148.	No	N/A	No

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50	FAX	SM: Why can seniors that are not Medi-Cal, or any other program, but have always paid their taxes or other fees, but are unable to drive, but cannot get transportation to doctor appointments	FAX offers a discounted fare of \$0.50 for persons 65 years of age and older. In addition, Fresno Council of Governments provides a Senior Scrip program for residents of Fresno County that are 70 years and older. Information on Senior Scrip is available at https://www.fresnocog.org/measure-c-senior-scrip/ or you may call 559-233-4148.	No	N/A	No
51	FAX	SM: Line # 41 is lousy, regularly bad, on Kings Canyon street wait for you on one occasion 1.05 mts. It's real and I didn't move because I was afraid it would pass me, meanwhile I endured the air, the cold, and the desire to pee, because of the same cold... This transport is a real nightmare. And so it happens frequently.	Not an Unmet Needs comment. This is an operational concern and will be forwarded to the appropriate transit operator.	N/A	N/A	No
52	FAX	SM: All bus drivers need to at least once use or train in a wheelchair so they can understand the difficulties of using power chairs. I would be willing to teach drivers how.	Not an Unmet Needs comment. FAX already trains bus drivers using a manual wheelchair and a motorized scooter, but not a powered wheelchair. FAX will pass this on to its training team	N/A	N/A	No

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53	FAX	SM: We need covered shelters around Glen Agnes Senior Living.	Not an Unmet Needs comment. This is an operational concern and will be forwarded to the appropriate transit operator.	N/A	N/A	No
54	FAX	SM: I would venture to say, the airport, Greyhound, AmTrak, and other hubs could use more services.	Not an Unmet Needs comment.	No	N/A	Yes
55	FAX	SM: The bus stops that are off the sidewalks into the street, very stupid project, stops the traffic every time.	Not an Unmet Needs comment.	No	N/A	No
56	FAX	SM: Bus Service for people who work at Amazon!!	FAX will be implementing service to the North Pointe Business Park in August 2023. This will be provided by extending Route 34, operating at 15-minute frequency from approximately 6am to 6pm Monday through Friday.	No	N/A	Yes
57	FAX	SM: My daughter's bus stop was closed with no warning. Also, a bus stop near Bullard and Willow going north to CCC would be helpful.	Passengers can take Clovis Route 10 at Barstow and Willow and transfer to Route 3 at Herndon and Willow to Clovis Community College.	No	N/A	No
58	FAX	SM: Bring back the free fares, 65+.	Not an Unmet Needs comment. FAX has recently lowered fares. Fares for seniors 65 and older are now 50 cents.	No	N/A	No

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59	FAX	SM: Major overhaul for the FAX bus and surrounding areas. Bus transportation is seriously needed and perhaps a total rezoning and rerouting for the whole FAX bus system is now needed. Elderly and handicap for all individuals should be mandatory priority since it's a civil right matter that is not offered to the needy.	FAX is implementing its Strategic Services Evaluation, which was adopted in 2018. The Evaluation analyzed service options and recommended improvements as funding became available. FAX works with the City of Fresno Planning Department to plan for service in areas of the City with planned growth. As required, FAX offers paratransit service within a 3/4 mile boundary of existing fixed route transit service.	No	N/A	No
60	FAX	SM: Later hours on Shaw and Blackstone, specifically the River Park area, and near the Fairgrounds.	Shaw and Blackstone, as well as the Fresno Fairgrounds are serviced by Route 1. Route 1 operates until midnight Monday through Saturday.	No	N/A	No
61	FAX	SM: I have filled out many surveys and they have not solved anything. Everything remains the same. They only waste one's time.	Not an Unmet Needs comment.	No	N/A	No

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62	FAX and Clovis Transit	Areas near or in Clovis / I am going to Tower, downtown, north fresno in my zipcode, 93702. / I am coming from Cedar & olive. / I need service all days including holidays. / All comments: Please make it clear where temporary stops are, too often there's not even a sign with an arrow near the original stop to point people to the temp stop. There's often little signage to indicate temporary stops too.	Cedar and Olive is serviced by Route 38, with 15 minute frequency Monday through Friday from approximately 6am to 6pm. Transfers are available at Shaw Ave to Route 9 EB and to Clovis Route 10, both servicing destinations in Clovis. Route 38 continues North to River Park Shopping Center with connections to Routes 1, 26, 32,34, and 58.	No	N/A	No
63	FAX and Clovis Transit	I would appreciate transit for tricycles to trailheads of Clovis Towne, Drycreek and Enterprise trailheads. / I am going to "3rd and Pollasky-Clovis, CA Woodward Park-Fresno, CA, Bicycle Trailhead on Shepherd-Fresno and Clovis, CA, and Riverpark-Fresno,CA. / I am coming from Bullard and	Currently the bike rack supplier for transit vehicles does not offer a 3 wheel bike option. Due to regulations regarding the the need to keep aisles clear and free from obstructions, bicycles are not permitted in the vehicles.	No	N/A	No

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		Figarden in Fresno/ I need service weekdays and weekends. / Additional comments: I ride a three wheeled cycle and would love transit with that capability. I DO appreciate the bicycle racks!				
64	Clovis Transit	Herndon and Willow, the Clovis roundup bus does not run on Sundays so people can not get down there; Willow their is no bus that runs all the way down willow. / I am going to Willow and Holland. / I am coming from Herndon and Willow. / I need service weekdays and weekends. / Additional comments: Driver's should be a lot less rude to the riders and more mindfully of how they are handling the buses.	Passengers can take Clovis Route 10 from Herndon and Willow to Willow and Gettysburg. Holland is less than 1/4 mile from Gettysburg.	No	N/A	Yes

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65	FAX and Clovis Transit	Need. more bus stops in Clovis area with MORE FREQUENT and direct service to downtown Fresno and county courthouse--very important for carrying out jury service. / I am going to 650 W Shaw Ave, Fresno, CA 93704; I don't drive, so I need to go to grocery store in Fig Garden, doctor at 275 Herndon, friends in Tower District---traveling from Old Town Clovis. It's not just route availability, it's the FREQUENCY of the bus lines that's critical.; Santa Fe Depot, Amtrak. / I am coming from Bullard and Minnewawa, Clovis / I need service weekdays and weekends. / Additional comments: I hope that the next time Measure C is discussed, that county and city officials listen to us, take sustainability seriously, and	Bullard/Minnewawa is served by Clovis Transit Route 10 with multiple stops on Bullard and Villa. Route 10 meets with FAX at Cedar/Shaw for trips to 650 W. Shaw, Fresno. Route 10 meets with Clovis Transit Route 50 for service to 275 Herndon. FAX provides service to the areas in Fresno.	No	N/A	No

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		<p>allot plenty of budget to public transportation. There are far too many private cars using too much of the public roads. I don't drive, don't own a car, and never will. I support public transportation and have lived in cities with excellent systems. We can and must do it here, too.</p>				
66	FAX and Clovis Transit	<p>Various Grief Support Groups held in the evening in the city of Fresno. Hinds Hospice Center for Grief and Healing, St. Agnes Hospital, The Compassionate Friends of Central Valley (group held at Murphy Bank conference room)</p>	<p>Insufficient information on origin information.</p>	No	N/A	No
67	FAX and Clovis Transit	<p>[SPANISH] Downtown Fresno, noroeste Fresno y old town Clovis. [ENGLISH] Downtown Fresno, northwest Fresno and old town Clovis.</p>	<p>Insufficient destination and origin information.</p>	No	N/A	Yes

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68	FAX and Clovis Transit	SM: Need better public transit from Clovis and other outlying towns to Downtown Fresno when people get called for jury duty.	FAX and Clovis Transit have three routes that cross over city boundaries, including Routes 3, 9, and 45. Passengers in Clovis can take those routes into Fresno and transfer to multiple routes, including Route 1, that serve the Courthouse at Courthouse Park.	No	N/A	Yes
69	FAX and FCRTA	Airport, bus stations, train station / I am going to Shaw and Fruit. / I need service early mornings, late evenings, and weekends. / Additional comments: Robust, regular service needed from all parts of Fresno County to the airport, train station, bus stations	FCRTA currently offers inter-city fixed route services connecting the rural cities to the FCMA and Amtrak/Greyhound station during weekdays and Coalinga inter-city operates on Saturdays. FCRTA currently does not offer service during late evening and weekends due to low ridership and costs. FAX currently offers bus service to the Fresno Airport, AmTrak, and Greyhound. Greyhound bus is located right next to the AmTrak station in downtown Fresno and is serviced by Route 22. Additionally, AmTrak is a short walk from Courthouse Park, that is serviced by seven different FAX routes.	No	No	Yes
70	FCRTA	Comment: We have it but I feel it's limited time wise in Huron Ca. / I am going to 559 Valley Street. / I am coming from Huron. / I need service weekdays	FCRTA currently offers the following service in Huron on weekdays; Huron intra-city service, Huron to Coalinga Service and the Coalinga inter-city service which stops in Huron and connects to the FCMA.	No	N/A	No

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71	FCRTA	<p>Comment: Rural communities need better transit access. / I need to go everywhere because I don't own a car./ I am coming from everywhere because I don't own a car. / I need service weekdays and weekends /</p> <p>Additional comment: We need planning and infrastructure that prioritizes pedestrians, bicycles, and public transit. We need to make it easy and safe to not drive. Three-fourths of all car trips are ten miles or less. Bike share and e-bikes need to be part of regional public transit like the Bluebikes system for the municipalities around Boston. We need road diets, speed bumps, and a network of Slow Streets. We need bicycle parking (bike racks and bike lockers) anywhere there is a parking lot. Public transit,</p>	Insufficient destination and origin information.	No	N/A	No

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		walking, and bicycle riding are the most equitable and efficient modes of transportation. To reduce car traffic congestion, we need to prioritize and adequately fund public transit, bicycling, and pedestrian infrastructure.				
72	FAX	SM: It would be nice if FAX had buses that goes to all these places too. Visalia does not have a bus that comes to Fresno through and it is like \$10 each way.	Visalia Transit operates into downtown Fresno. FAX operates within the Fresno Clovis Metropolitan Area (FCMA). Visalia is outside of the FCMA.	No	N/A	No
73	ALL	SM: There should be small and more frequent trucks, and restrict access to people in an inconvenient state (drug addicts, alcoholics, and people with urine and excrement. A transport, faster, clean and	Not an Unmet Needs comment.	No	N/A	No

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		efficient. (translated)				
74	FAX and FCRTA	SM: Wish I could get faster to where I'm going I understand that the driver has to take his time off But it's delay for when we go to work Or on a date You need to leave 2 hours before home for transshipment and arrive at the destination And 2 hours back I appreciate it but it's unheard of I rather not use it Hopefully they can change the strategy and serve more to the community Thank you	Insufficient destination and origin information.	N/A	N/A	No
75	FCRTA	Selma, CA to Fresno and Clovis , Hanford and Visalia / I am going to Highland and Mitchell. / I am coming from Floral and Highland. / I need service on weekdays and weekends. / Need more services in	Selma is serviced by the Selma intra-city demand response Monday - Saturday and Southeast inter-city fixed route service providing trips into Fresno Monday-Friday. FCRTA provides public transit routes within Fresno County. Hanford is serviced by KART and Visalia is serviced by the V-Line.	No	N/A	Yes

Item No.	Jurisdiction	Public Comment	Transit Agency Response	Unmet Needs (Yes, No, N/A)	Reasonable to Meet (Yes, No, N/A)	Previously Recorded Comment (Yes, No)
		the small rural communities.				
76	FCRTA	[SPANISH]Hurón , Cantua creek y ranchos alejados de la civilizacion. [ENGLISH] Huron, Cantua creek and ranches far from civilization	Huron is serviced by Huron intra-city service, Huron to Coalinga service, Coalinga inter-city, and Cantua Creek is serviced by San Joaquin Transit and Rural Transit service.	No	N/A	Yes
77	FCRTA	Comment: Huron, California. / I am going to several destinations, including: Various Locations. Coalinga, Avenal, Lemoore, Hanford, Fresno, (Nearest Dialysis Centers), (Nearest Cancer Center Treatment Facilities), Valley Children's Hospital, Amtrak. / I am coming from Huron is a small place. A central location for pick up. Perhaps a variety of places, John Palacios Center, Huron Middle	Huron is serviced by the Huron intra-city service, Coalinga inter-city and Huron inter-city fixed route service.Huron inter-city service provides service to West Hills College. Coalinga inter-city stops at the West American Bank in Huron and provides trips into Fresno. FCRTA provides general public transportation within rural Fresno County, A connecting trip can be made from the Coalinga inter-city bus to a FAX for colleges located in Fresno. Avenal, Lemoore and Hanford are in Kings County, FCRTA only provides service in Fresno County.	No	N/A	Yes

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		<p>School, Huron Elementary School, City Center, Keenan Center, Saint Francis Cabrini Catholic Church. These are some suggestions. / I need service</p> <p>Huron is a small place. A central location for pick up. Perhaps a variety of places, John Palacios Center, Huron Middle School, Huron Elementary School, City Center, Keenan Center, Saint Francis Cabrini Catholic Church. These are some suggestions. / I have additional comments, specifically: Yes, I forgot to mention service to Community Colleges, such as West Hills College Coalinga and Lemoore, Fresno City College, Reedley College, and Fresno State.</p>				

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78	FCRTA	<p>Comment: A set schedule of routes for the residents of Huron and moving away from the requirement of making reservations for rides.; A set schedule of routes for Huron residents and moving away from making reservation. / I am traveling to the schools. / I need service weekdays. / I would also like clarification regarding minors on the Bus.</p>	<p>Huron is serviced by the Huron intra-city service, Coalinga inter-city and Huron inter-city fixed route service.Huron inter-city service provides service to West Hills College. FCRTA does not provide school bus transportation but Huron residents can call and reserve a ride on the Huron intra-city service for curb to curb service near the school. Children under the age of 12 must be accompanied by an adult. FCRTA does not provide transit services to schools due to CHP regulations.</p>	No	N/A	Yes
79	FCRTA	<p>[SPANISH] Areas apartadas de las ciudades ya sean grandes o pequenas, tales como Cantua Creek, El Porvenir o lugares apartados cerca de las colinas del valle; Cantua Creek, Tranquility, El Porvenir y ranchos alrededor del Valle. [ENGLISH] Areas away from cities, large or small, such as Cantua Creek, El Porvenir or remote places near the foothills</p>	<p>Cantua Creek, Tranquility, and El Porvenir is serviced by the San Joaquin Transit and Rural Transit Service. FCRTA recently completed a microtransit study and deployed a demonstration microtransit project in Biola, if this demo project is successful FCRTA plans to expand the program into other rural areas in Fresno County.</p>	No	N/A	No

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		<p>of the valley; Cantua Creek, Tranquility, El Porvenir and ranches around the Valley. / I live in West Fresno. / I am from Cline St & Clyde Fannon. / I need a ride daily. / My comments apply to FCRTA. / Additional comments:</p> <p>[SPANISH] Todas las areas rurales carecen de buena infraestructura de caminos y carreteras pero mas los Hwys situados en comunidades pequenas que estan bajo o a cargo de Caltrans podrian referir estos comentarios directamente a ellos.</p> <p>[ENGLISH] All rural areas lack good infrastructure of roads and highways but more Hwys located in small communities that are under or in charge of Caltrans could refer these comments directly to them</p>				

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80	FCRTA	Comments and locations: Tranquility, Mendota, And Firebaugh; Buses that can run to the West Hills College Firebaugh Center. / P and O street. / I need service Monday through Thursday. / My comment applies to FCRTA.	Tranquility is serviced by the San Joaquin transit and rural transit. Mendota and Firebaugh are serviced by the Westside Transit route, Mendota intra-city and Firebaugh intra-city service. FCRTA deployed a demonstration transit service to the West Hills Firebaugh campus in 2018 and ridership was very low and the route did not meet the farebox requirement so the route was terminated.	No	N/A	Yes
81	FCRTA	SM: I was wondering if there are any plans to connect Northeast Fresno to China Peak Ski Resort?	No, due to origin and destination location, ridership, costs and inclement weather.	No	N/A	No
82	FCRTA	SM: Bus service to Friant, California.	The Rural Transit service provides transportation to seniors and disabled for lifeline services in the Friant area and other unincorporated communities in Fresno County.	No	N/A	Yes
83	FCRTA	SM: You gotta connect rural areas like Sanger, Parlier, Reedley... connected with city bus programs!!!	The Orange Cove inter-city service is a fixed route service with stops in Orange Cove, Sanger, Parlier, Reedley and Fresno. Sanger-Reedley Express and Kingsburg-Reedley College route are fixed route services connecting rural areas like Sanger, Parlier and Reedley. FCRTA currently offers monthly bus passes for fixed route services.	No	N/A	Yes
84	FCOG	Comments: I use Measure C electronic script for my transportation needs. I love it. / I usually market. / Barstow and Willow. / Both	Not an Unmet Needs comment.	N/A	N/A	No

Item No.	Jurisdiction	Public Comment	Transit Agency Response	Unmet Needs (Yes, No, N/A)	Reasonable to Meet (Yes, No, N/A)	Previously Recorded Comment (Yes, No)
		weekdays and weekends.				
85	FCOG	We need designated vanpool / carpool parking along the freeways in the Fresno city limits	Not an Unmet Needs comment.	N/A	N/A	No
86	FCRTA	[SPANISH] Ir para san José ca como acer. [ENGLISH] go to san jose ca like acer / I am going to Fresno. / I am coming from Huron. / I need service on Mondays.	Huron to Fresno is serviced by the Coalinga inter-city fixed route service and provides service Monday through Saturday.	No	N/A	No
87	FAX, FCRTA	I notice that HWY 99, 41, 180, and even 168 on occasion have become increasingly congested over the last 10 years. Work from home has pared the increase in the last two years, but as many people are forced back to an office, the congestion curve seems to be on the rise again. Has a study been conducted to determine if a light rail project could benefit the	Not an Unmet Needs comment. FCRTA is currently working on a Transit Feasibility Study to analyze SR99 from Kingsburg to downtown Fresno.	N/A	N/A	No

Item No.	Jurisdiction	Public Comment	Transit Agency Response	Unmet Needs (Yes, No, N/A)	Reasonable to Meet (Yes, No, N/A)	Previously Recorded Comment (Yes, No)
		<p>greater Fresno area to relieve congestion? Professional business sprawl away from downtown definitely hurts the viability of a project like this, but the area will keep growing and hopefully business density continues to grow downtown. The benefits likely wouldn't be realized for many years, but planning ahead could save headaches 20 years from now.</p>				
88	FCRTA	<p>My comment pertains to Kingsburg, and surrounding local communities. My comment is to request that someone look at commuter options for people who live/work in Fresno but live/work in a Hwy 99 corridor city.</p>	<p>FCRTA was awarded grant funding for a transit feasibility study focused in the area along the SR99 along Kingsburg, Selma, Fowler and Fresno to analyze the feasibility of transit such as BRT or monorail. The study will start in Spring 2023 and will be completed by April 2025. FCRTA is currently working on a Transit Feasibility Study to analyze SR99 from Kingsburg to downtown Fresno.</p>	No	N/A	No

Item No.	Jurisdiction	Public Comment	Transit Agency Response	Unmet Needs (Yes, No, N/A)	Reasonable to Meet (Yes, No, N/A)	Previously Recorded Comment (Yes, No)
89	Transit agencies	SM: People with disabilities who have gr and have not been approved for SSI but have disability gr should not be discriminated against by not being able to get a free bus pass when the. I don't think it's fair that a person who has a disability but keeps getting rejected for SSI should be discriminated against And asked to pay when they have less money than a person with the SSI and with the person with SSI rides free with the disability gr I only get \$160 a month and \$64 of that goes to rent so I am not homeless but having that little bit of money makes it hard to pay for the bus. Please, someone help end this discrimination.	Not an Unmet Needs comment. FCRTA offers free rides to seniors, disabled and veterans on the intra-city services without requiring an approval process.	N/A	N/A	No
90	Transit agencies	SM: There needs to be transportation everywhere. They need it all the way down Willow. They need it down	Insufficient destination and origin information.	No	N/A	No

Item No.	Jurisdiction	Public Comment	Transit Agency Response	Unmet Needs (Yes, No, N/A)	Reasonable to Meet (Yes, No, N/A)	Previously Recorded Comment (Yes, No)
		Herndon, Shaw, and other places. They need transportation from Squaw Valley to Fresno if someone needs to get to college, work, or elsewhere.				
91	FAX	hospital fresno clinics	FAX provides service to all major hospitals, many urgent care centers, and clinics.	N/A	N/A	No
92	All transit Agencies	Shopping, Dr. apts. - R Street in Fresno. Sierra Vista mall. Dunlap Road and Orchard Drive, Miramonte, CA - Both	Insufficient destination and origin information.	N/A	N/A	No
93	FAX, Covis Transit	Clovis to local hospitals and clinics. Clovis has a dense area of high need that often is overlooked at the county level. It has the opportunity to be addressed and serve as a model for others. Additionally, connecting to grocery stores. Clovis to downtown would also be great. - Herndon/Fowler to Clovis, Kaiser clinic but also to Kaiser Hospital by River Park. - Everywhere, no	FAX recently added service along Herndon Avenue, which provides service to many hospitals and medical offices, including Kaiser Hospital, which is also served by Route 32. FAX continually strives to add more shelters, benches, and trash cans to its bus stops. Clovis Transit's current route 10 and 50 both provide services to hospitals, medical office buildings, and grocer stores. A route redesign project is underway and service to convenient transfer points are prioritized.	No	No	No

Item No.	Jurisdiction	Public Comment	Transit Agency Response	Unmet Needs (Yes, No, N/A)	Reasonable to Meet (Yes, No, N/A)	Previously Recorded Comment (Yes, No)
		<p>car. - Consider making public transportation accessible, safe, and pleasant to use. Shade structures should be prioritized! Trash cans. Seating. Location of stop should be well lit and safe! Partner with police department to assure safety. Train drivers to be respectful and kind.-pay them well.</p>				
94	FAX, Clovis Transit	<p>Improve coordination of public communications between agencies, departments, locations, and employees, especially for public outreach events (FAX, Handy Ride, MTC, Clovis Transit, Round-Up, etc.).</p>	<p>FAX recently added service along Herndon Avenue, which provides service to many hospitals and medical offices, including Kaiser Hospital, which is also served by Route 32. FAX continually strives to add more shelters, benches, and trash cans to its bus stops. Clovis Transit's current route 10 and 50 both provide services to hospitals, medical office buildings, and grocer stores. A route redesign project is underway and service to convenient transfer points are prioritized.</p>	No	No	No
95	All transit Agencies	<p>Make public communications easier to understand, placing all the basic, relevant information in one place.</p>	<p>While this is not an Unmet Transit Need, this comment is noted and the transit operators will continue to work toward this goal.</p>	No	No	No

Item No.	Jurisdiction	Public Comment	Transit Agency Response	Unmet Needs (Yes, No, N/A)	Reasonable to Meet (Yes, No, N/A)	Previously Recorded Comment (Yes, No)
96	All transit Agencies	Include dates, locations, addresses on flyers. Place flyers on buses and Handy Ride vehicles much earlier.	While this is not an Unmet Transit Need, this comment is noted and the transit operators will continue to work toward this goal.	No	No	No
97	All transit Agencies	Design outreach materials to include those who don't use electronic media.	While this is not an Unmet Transit Need, this comment is noted and the transit operators will continue to work toward this goal.	No	No	No
98	All transit Agencies	Mail postcards of public outreach events to Handy Ride riders.	This is not an Unmet Transit Need.	No	No	No
99	FAX, Clovis Transit	Need better integration between Handy Ride and Round Up; eliminate need for transfers at drop off zones.	While this is not an Unmet Transit Need, this comment is noted .	No	No	No
100	FAX	Handy Ride should be more customer-service oriented and provide more flexibility around passenger's schedules. 90-minute windows for pick-ups and drop-offs mean that the passengers work around HR's schedule.	While this is not an Unmet Transit Need, FAX will continue to work toward Handy Ride scheduling improvements.	No	No	No
101	FAX	Handy Ride communication between dispatch and transit riders is difficult, confusing, and impersonal.	While this is not an Unmet Transit Need, FAX will continue to work toward Handy Ride improvements.	No	No	No

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102	FAX	Handy Ride comes from a position of 'no', as in they can't do a pick-up, or drop-off.	While this is not an Unmet Transit Need, FAX will continue to work toward Handy Ride improvements.	No	No	No
103	FAX	FAX and Inspiration Transportation along with Leadership Counsel put forth a community driven Clean Mobility Options (CMO) planning grant to address transportation needs for the area, and we look forward to seeing the implementation of the CMO transportation option. However, transportation needs continue to go unmet. We urge funding to go towards an on-demand microtransit program to meet the needs of an area that has limited bus options, active transportation infrastructure, and is isolated from many amenities including doctors offices, grocery stores, and parks.	<p>In July 2022, Fresno Area Express contracted with their CTSA Social Services provider, Fresno County EOC Transit Services, to implement a demonstration shuttle bus service connecting 3 Palms Mobile Home Park, West Park, and the Veterans Home to various services in the City of Fresno. The demonstration project was funded through social service transportation funding provided by the State of California. This service operates Monday through Saturday. Schedule and destinations are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mondays: Food Maxx and Courthouse Park (CHP) (8:00am, 12:00pm and 4:00pm) • Tuesdays: Vallarta and Walmart (8:23am, 2:23pm) • Wednesdays: Manchester Transit Center (MTC) & Fashion Fair (9:23am, 3:23pm) • Thursdays: El Paseo Shopping Center (11:23pm) • Fridays: Food Maxx and Courthouse Park (8:00am, 12:00pm, and 4:00pm) • Saturdays: Vallarta and Walmart (9:23am) <p>At these locations, passengers can connect to the FAX fixed-route system and access most parts of Fresno. Ridership in the first eight</p>	No	N/A	Yes

Item No.	Jurisdiction	Public Comment	Transit Agency Response	Unmet Needs (Yes, No, N/A)	Reasonable to Meet (Yes, No, N/A)	Previously Recorded Comment (Yes, No)
			<p>months of the service at 3 Palms Mobile Home Park was extremely low, with an average of two passengers per trip per month. Based on low ridership, this service is unsustainable as currently structured.</p> <p>In July 2022, FAX partnered with a microtransit provider to apply for grant funds from the FCOG Measure C New Technology grant program to implement a microtransit demonstration project in the 3 Palms Mobile Home Park area. The application did not receive a grant award. In November 2022, FAX again partnered with a microtransit provider, this time to apply for federal grant funds to implement a 3-year microtransit demonstration project in a 10-square-mile service area west of State Route 99, including the 3 Palms Mobile Home Park. The analysis completed as part of the Clean Mobility Options (CMO) project was used as the basis of both grant applications. FAX is still waiting to hear the status of the federal grant application. If awarded, this would be the City of Fresno’s first microtransit pilot project with a nationally recognized microtransit provider, resulting in a test case for the demand, use, and financial sustainability of microtransit not only in this area but also in other potential areas in the City of Fresno.</p>			

Item No.	Jurisdiction	Public Comment	Transit Agency Response	Unmet Needs (Yes, No, N/A)	Reasonable to Meet (Yes, No, N/A)	Previously Recorded Comment (Yes, No)
104	FAX	<p>◆ Extending the Bus Rapid Transit along California Avenue into West Fresno. In the short-term, Route #28 needs to pass by with more frequency along California Ave.</p>	<p>FAX acknowledges the need for better transit access west of State Route 99 as an Unmet Transit Need, however this is not reasonable to meet because development west of State Route 99 is dispersed and mostly low-density, thus resulting in limited efficiency for fixed route transit.</p> <p>In West Fresno FAX has increased frequency on Route 38 this past year that intersects California Avenue. BRT expansion on California is suggested in the Southwest Fresno Specific Plan. Frequency on Route 28 is currently at 20 minutes which and will be looked at for a future frequency increase when the remaining system moves to 30-minute frequencies in the Fall of 2023 to mirror most routes except Route 58 which is at 60 minutes paid for by Valley Children’s Hospital.</p> <p>For greater access to transit in the City of Fresno West of Highway 99, FAX will extend Route 45 to the new Justin Garza High School on Ashlan this August moving to 30-minute frequency for the current 45 minutes.</p> <p>In addition, as described above, FAX has applied for federal grant funds for a three-year Microtransit Pilot Program in the West Area. The awards should be announced soon.</p>	No	No	Yes

Item No.	Jurisdiction	Public Comment	Transit Agency Response	Unmet Needs (Yes, No, N/A)	Reasonable to Meet (Yes, No, N/A)	Previously Recorded Comment (Yes, No)
105	FAX	<p>◆ Reliable and efficient transit stops/access on Route #35 towards Addams Elementary. Currently, the bus passes by every 30 to 40 minutes making it difficult for children and parents to get to school on time.</p>	<p>To the extent that your comment argues that Route 35 did not historically operate on time, FCOG agrees that this had the potential to result in an unmet transit need. However, FAX’s expenditures and other efforts to improve the on-time efficiency of Route 35 mean that this need is no longer unimplemented and unfunded, therefore no longer unmet. According to FAX, Route 35 operates at 30-minute frequencies and was recently interlined with Route 12 to improve on-time performance for the area. FAX will continue to evaluate the performance of this route and make adjustments as resources allow. In addition, as described above, FAX applied for federal grant funds for a three-year Microtransit Pilot Program in the West Area. If awarded, transportation to the Jane Addams Elementary School and surrounding neighborhood would be included as part of the project area and could provide alternative means for a more reliable and flexible service for students and parents.</p>	No	No	Yes

Item No.	Jurisdiction	Public Comment	Transit Agency Response	Unmet Needs (Yes, No, N/A)	Reasonable to Meet (Yes, No, N/A)	Previously Recorded Comment (Yes, No)
106	FCOG	<p>Infrastructure Projects → Repave East Central Avenue between Cherry Avenue and Chestnut Avenue → Protected bike lanes and complete sidewalks along Cedar Avenue from Jensen Avenue near Calwa Elementary towards Tulare Avenue at Roosevelt High. → Complete sidewalks and bike lanes leading to Addams Elementary. This includes sidewalks along Marks Avenue from Olive to Clinton Avenues, especially on the east side of Marks. → Complete streets project on East Central Avenue between Cherry Avenue and Chestnut Avenue so they are safer for pedestrians and bicycle riders.</p> <p>→ Protected bike lanes or separated trails on rural corridors for safe travel for cyclists,</p>	<p>As you correctly point out in your current letter, this and the eleven other transportation needs are infrastructure projects that do not qualify as “public transportation or specialized transportation services,” per resolution 90-15. They can only be undertaken by the local governments having jurisdiction to perform those public infrastructure improvements. These projects have been noted and forwarded to the appropriate agencies.</p>	No	N/A	Yes

Item No.	Jurisdiction	Public Comment	Transit Agency Response	Unmet Needs (Yes, No, N/A)	Reasonable to Meet (Yes, No, N/A)	Previously Recorded Comment (Yes, No)
		<p>specifically in Lanare, Three Rocks, Cantua Creek, Tombstone Territory, and Riverdale.</p> <p>→ The intersection of North Avenue and Elm Avenue needs completed sidewalks on all four corners to connect all directions of travel for pedestrians and bicyclists, including southbound Elm Avenue where the sidewalks abruptly end.</p> <p>→ Leveling and paving Britten Avenue along Cherry Avenue.</p> <p>→ Safe routes to school leading from the Cantua Creek and El Porvenir communities to Cantua Creek Elementary, especially Santa Clara Avenue and Clarkson Avenue. Adding sidewalks will ensure mobility and the safety of children and residents.</p> <p>→ Complete streets project in Lanare to address the deteriorating</p>				

Item No.	Jurisdiction	Public Comment	Transit Agency Response	Unmet Needs (Yes, No, N/A)	Reasonable to Meet (Yes, No, N/A)	Previously Recorded Comment (Yes, No)
		<p>streets on South Chateau Fresno, South Garfield, South Grantland, and Mt Whitney Avenue.</p> <p>→ Complete streets project in Cantua Creek on Domengine, Latta, Hidalgo, Terrado, Chappo, and Santa Clara Avenue and El Progreso, Hidalgo, and Juarez Avenue in El Porvenir.</p> <p>→ Complete streets project in Tombstone Territory on South Greenwood, South Cottle, South Tinoco, and South Fairbanks Avenue.</p>				
107	City of Fresno, County of Fresno	<p>→ Prioritization of Active Transportation Projects in DUCs/DACs</p> <p>◆ Ensure that sidewalks, bike lanes, curb, and gutter projects are funded in areas that do not have the existing pedestrian infrastructure. In addition, FCOG should work in conjunction with Fresno County to ensure that communities who</p>	<p>As you correctly point out in your current letter, this and the eleven other transportation needs are infrastructure projects that do not qualify as “public transportation or specialized transportation services,” per resolution 90-15. They can only be undertaken by the local governments having jurisdiction to perform those public infrastructure improvements. These projects have been noted and forwarded to the appropriate agencies.</p> <p>On a related note, the most recent round of the Caltrans Active Transportation Program (ATP) funded the Calwa and Tranquility Sidewalk Projects, and the</p>	No	N/A	Yes

Item No.	Jurisdiction	Public Comment	Transit Agency Response	Unmet Needs (Yes, No, N/A)	Reasonable to Meet (Yes, No, N/A)	Previously Recorded Comment (Yes, No)
		reported flooding are prioritized.	<p>Herndon/Barstow Intersection Crosswalk Project. The Cantua Creek/El Porvenir project was not funded. Efforts are continuously being made on behalf of FCOG to fund viable projects as proposed and evaluated by the ATP Committee, which is comprised of a diverse representation of local communities.</p> <p>We encourage Leadership Counsel to work with the respective agencies that oversee these jurisdictions of the comments received, including Fresno County, the City of Fresno, school districts, and special districts. Additionally, there are funding opportunities through the Active Transportation Plan and other sources that Leadership Counsel can apply for with the communities it works with to address these non-transit projects.</p>			
108	FAX	For passengers with physical limitations, all stops need benches and shelters.	Amenities at stops are dictated by ridership. FAX Facility Standards identifies the number of passenger boardings to warrant benches and/or shelters. In addition, not all stops have the spacing required to place benches and/or shelters and still maintaining accessibility.	No	N/A	
109	FAX	Station spacing on Route 1 is too far apart. Difficult to walk to stations	Route 1 is the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) route. It is designed for stations farther apart to reduce overall travel time. The public outreach for the BRT identified this as a concern, but the feedback supported to station spacing in favor of the faster travel times.	No	N/A	
110	FAX	Handy Ride 3-4 hours late on pick-ups. Riders	While this is not an Unmet Transit Need, FAX will continue to work toward Handy Ride improvements.	No	N/A	

Item No.	Jurisdiction	Public Comment	Transit Agency Response	Unmet Needs (Yes, No, N/A)	Reasonable to Meet (Yes, No, N/A)	Previously Recorded Comment (Yes, No)
		having to stay on-board for over 2 hours.				

DISCUSSION FROM SSTAC RELATING TO THE COMMENTS RECEIVED FOR THE FY 2023-2024 UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Figure 1 is the list of comments received during the FY2023-2024 Unmet Transit Needs Assessment. Also included with each public comment is a comment number, the relevant jurisdiction(s), the operator response, whether the comment is an unmet need, whether the need is reasonable to meet, and whether the comment has been recorded in a previous UTN cycle. The definition of unmet needs and reasonable to meet are contained in Fresno COG Resolution 90-15 on pages 5 and 6 above.

Section 99401.5(c) of the California Public Utilities Codes specifies, “The transportation planning agency shall determine its definitions of the terms ‘unmet transit needs’ and ‘reasonable to meet’ for the purposes of this section which shall be documented by resolution or within the minutes of the agency.” The Fresno COG Policy Board does this with Resolution 90-15.

A brief summary of the Unmet Transit Needs Assessment presentation at SSTAC, comments, questions, and feedback, and subsequent voting by committee members is provided below. A summary will be included in presentations to TTC/PAC and Policy Boards as well.

INSTRUCTIONS AND NEXT STEPS FOR TTC/PAC PERTAINING TO THE FY 2023-2024 UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS ASSESSMENT

The publicly noticed hearing to receive comments regarding potential unmet transit needs in Fresno County was held Thursday, April 27, 2023, starting at 5:30 p.m. at the Fresno COG Policy Board meeting. The hearing was held in the Sequoia Room at the office of Fresno COG, located at 2035 Tulare, Ste. 201, Fresno, CA 93721. The comments received have been added to Figure 1, Matrix of Public Comments Received, Operator Responses, and Determinations.

At its May 2, 2023, meeting, SSTAC, using Fresno COG Resolution 90-15 was asked to make a recommendation regarding whether any of the public comments in Figure 1 constitute:

- An Unmet Transit Need;
- An Unmet Transit Need that is reasonable to meet; or
- An Unmet Transit Need that is unreasonable to meet.

More specifically, the SSTAC was asked to make a finding that there are 22 unmet needs, none of which are reasonable to meet within the County of Fresno.

Todd Sobrado presented the UTN Assessment to SSTAC, addressing the public outreach process that consisted of six in-person public meetings, two virtual meetings, a public hearing, a public survey and extensive social media outreach, committee members were given the opportunity to ask questions or provide comments about the process and the Assessment itself. The Committee was then asked to make a motion to approve the draft Unmet Transit Needs Assessment for FY 2023-24, forwarding it to the Fresno COG Technical Transportation Committee / Policy Advisory Committee (TTC/PAC). The motion was made by Yonas Paulos and seconded by Moses Stites.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION PLAN SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS BY JURISDICTION

A. Overview

The Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) for public transportation services contains a Fresno-Clovis Metropolitan Area (FCMA) component, a Fresno County rural component, and a social service transportation component.

The Metropolitan Area component is implemented through the "Short Range Transit Plan" (SRTP) for the FCMA. The 2022-2026 FCMA SRTP was adopted by the Fresno COG Policy Board on June 24, 2021. It will provide a detailed service plan for implementation over five years. The Rural Area component is implemented through the Rural SRTP for the Fresno County Rural Area, which provides a detailed service plan for the implementation of rural transit services over the same five-year period. Short Range Transit Plans are updated every other year and reviewed within the same timeframe as the Unmet Transit Needs.

In addition to these Short-Range Transit Plans, the Fresno COG annually adopts an Operations Program and Budget for the coordination and consolidation of transportation for specialized social service programs within Fresno County. The 2023-2024 Operations Program and Budget for the City of Clovis and the Urban and Rural Consolidated Transportation Services Agency (CTSA) are expected to be adopted on June 29, 2023.

B. Fresno-Clovis Metropolitan Area (FCMA)

The Regional Transportation Plan calls for fixed-route service within the Metropolitan Area to be provided by FAX, with financial participation from the City of Clovis and Fresno County for service to non-Fresno City residents within FAX's service area. Demand responsive Handy Ride service is provided through FAX under contract with National Express Transit (NEXT). The Short-Range Transit Plan (SRTP) for the FCMA sets forth the specific service implementation plan for the five-year fiscal period from 2022-2026 and was adopted on June 24, 2021. It is this SRTP that implements the near-term service goals and objectives of the Regional Transportation Plan.

The Regional Transportation Plan and the FCMA Short Range Transit Plan also continue to emphasize specialized service for disabled and elderly residents, who are unable to utilize the fixed-route buses.

Service will be funded with \$38.4 million in State Transportation Development Act - Local Transportation Funds. FAX is also anticipating \$14.6 million in Measure C funds and \$20.4 million funded by the Federal Transit Administration, including funds for maintenance of FAX vehicles. The remaining funds are derived from farebox revenues and special services provided under contracts with outside agencies such as the City of Clovis and Valley Children's Hospital. Although the City of Fresno does not propose to expend any of its Local Transportation Funds on streets and roads in FY 2023-2024, a "transit needs finding" is necessary to be consistent with SB-498. SB-498 states the lack of available resources shall *not* be the sole reason for finding a transit need is *not* reasonable to meet.

The City of Clovis operates two types of public transit services. Clovis Stageline provides public fixed-route service within the City Limits. Clovis Round-Up operates specialized demand-

responsive service for the disabled residents. The City of Clovis has designated Round-up services as the Consolidated Transportation Services Agency (CTSA) for the Clovis Transit Service Area. The estimated cost for the operation of Clovis Transit in FY 2022-2023 is \$4,000,000. Although the City of Clovis does not propose to expend any Local Transportation Funds on streets and roads in FY 2022-2023, a “transit needs finding” is necessary to be consistent with SB-498. SB-498 states the lack of available resources shall *not* be the sole reason for finding a transit need is *not* reasonable to meet.

C. Rural Areas

The Regional Transportation Plan calls for service to rural portions of Fresno County, including intra-city service in and around thirteen rural incorporated cities, two dozen unincorporated communities, and inter-city service linking those cities to the Fresno Clovis Metropolitan Area on the following corridors:

- (1) Firebaugh - Mendota - San Joaquin - Kerman Corridor to Fresno
- (2) Kingsburg - Selma - Fowler Corridor to Fresno
- (3) Orange Cove - Reedley - Parlier - Sanger Corridor to Fresno
- (4) Coalinga - Huron – Five Star - Five Points - Lanare - Riverdale - Caruthers - Raisin City - Easton Corridor to the Fresno

During the latter part of FY 1978-1979 and the beginning of FY 1979-1980, in cooperation with rural incorporated cities in Fresno County, Fresno COG prepared and adopted specific short-range transit development programs to define the implementation of rural public transportation service in conformance with the Regional Transportation Plan. In September 1979, Fresno County Rural Transit Agency (FCRTA) was formed and assigned responsibility for implementing the service requirements of the Regional Transportation Plan as set forth by the Transit Development Programs. Services set forth by the Regional Transportation Plan and the Transit Development Programs were fully implemented by mid-February 1980.

A comprehensive Short-Range Transit Plan (Rural SRTP) for the Rural Fresno County Area, which updated the individual Transit Development Programs, was first adopted on November 17, 1983. The five-year Rural SRTP is updated biennially. The latest update of the "Short-Range Transit Plan for the Rural Fresno County Area 2022-2026" and was adopted on June 24, 2021. The estimated cost for the operation of the FCRTA in FY 2022-2023 is \$8,945,243. The Services will be funded with \$3,365,396 of State Transportation Development Act - (TDA) Local Transportation Funds (LTF). The FCRTA will utilize \$1,249,447 from its Measure – C funds to support the operations. An additional \$2,298,896 will be funded by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) 5311. Farebox receipts are projected to be \$1,430,751 and Interest is estimated at \$123,700.

D. Social Service Transportation

The updated Social Service Transportation Action Plan and Inventory were adopted on January 29, 1998, and co-designated the City of Fresno and the Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission (FEOC) as the Fresno Urban Consolidated Transportation Service Agency (CTSA). The Action Plan further designates the City of Clovis, as the Clovis CTSA, and the Fresno County Rural Transit Agency (FCRTA) and the FEOC as the Fresno Rural Area CTSA.

In FY 2020-2021, FCRTA, FAX, and Fresno COG sought sole designation of the Fresno Urban and Rural CTSA. With sole designation of both CTSA's, both FAX and FCRTA can be more inclusive of additional social services transportation services providers through an RFP process. Additionally, sole designation allows FAX and FCRTA direct oversight of the Fresno Urban and Rural CTSA's. Under this new-sole designation status, FEOC continues to be a significant participant in both the Urban and Rural CTSA's.

Since FY 1982-1983, Fresno COG has set aside each year five percent (5%) of Local Transportation Funds (Table 1) for social service transportation. An Operations Program and Budget (OPB) have been prepared for the Fresno Urban CTSA, Clovis CTSA, and the Fresno Rural CTSA. The FY 2023-2024 OPB's are scheduled for adoption on June 29, 2023, which documents commitments for matching funds from participating social service agencies and defines the types of coordinated/consolidated services to be provided so funds may be released.

Since 1983, the Fresno and Urban CTSA's consisted of the Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission (FEOC), the Fresno County Rural Transit Agency (FCRTA), and the City of Fresno. In FY2020-2021, FCRTA and FAX recommended that each agency be solely designated without FEOC for each of their respective CTSA's. Fresno COG approved self-designation for the Fresno Urban and Rural CTSA's on November 19, 2020.

Analysis of Proposed Public Transportation Services and Recommended Findings for -Local Agencies FY 2022-2023

A. City of Clovis

The City of Clovis contributes funds to the operation of three (3) transit services within its jurisdiction. First, it operates the Clovis CTSA Round-up service on a demand-responsive basis to its elderly and disabled social service clients. Second, it operates Clovis Stageline to serve general public patrons with four (4) coordinated fixed-routes; and third, it provides funding to Fresno Area Express (FAX), which operates fixed-route service on Route 9 into Clovis.

Inter-city service to Fresno is available on Clovis CTSA's Round-up and Fresno Area Express / Handy Ride.

Recommendation:

It is recommended the Fresno COG Policy Board find that there are two unmet transit both of them shared with the City of Fresno that are reasonable to meet, and that public transportation needs within the City of Clovis will be reasonably met. It is recommended that the Fresno COG Policy Board find that public transportation needs within the City of Clovis will be reasonably met. Service requirements contained within the Regional Transportation Plan will be satisfied.

B. City of Coalinga

The City of Coalinga, under an inter-agency agreement with the FCRTA, provides intra-city and inter-city service using vehicles owned by the FCRTA. All FCRTA vehicles are lift-equipped for elderly and disabled accessibility.

The Coalinga Transit intra-city demand responsive service operates with one (1) vehicle during an approximate eight (8) hour service period Monday through Friday.

Coalinga Transit also provides inter-city fixed-route service, with route deviation to pick-up disabled passengers, between Coalinga and Fresno. The vehicle provides one (1) round trip through Pleasant Valley Prison, Huron, Five Points, Lanare, Riverdale, Caruthers, Raisin City, and Easton, during an approximate nine and $\frac{3}{4}$ (9.75) hour period, Monday through Saturday.

Recommendation:

It is recommended the Fresno COG Policy Board find that public transportation needs within the City of Coalinga, Sphere of Influence, and surrounding Area will be reasonably met. Service requirements contained in the Regional Transportation Plan will be satisfied.

C. City of Firebaugh

The City of Firebaugh, under an inter-agency services agreement with the FCRTA, provides demand-responsive service within Firebaugh's Sphere of Influence, and the surrounding area is available by an FCRTA's lift-equipped vehicle, Monday through Friday for approximately nine and $\frac{3}{4}$ (9.75) hours per day. A second vehicle is available for inter-city trips between Firebaugh and Mendota during an approximate nine (9) hour period, Monday through Friday.

The FCRTA also contracts to operate Westside Transit as a multiple round trip general public commuter service, during an eight and a half (8-1/2) hour period, Monday through Friday, using a lift-equipped vehicle, which may deviate from its route to pick-up disabled passengers. The service is provided on a scheduled fixed-route to serve patrons "between" Firebaugh, Mendota, San Joaquin and surrounding communities, Kerman, and "to" and "from" Fresno.

Recommendation:

It is recommended the Fresno COG Policy Board find that public transportation needs within the City of Firebaugh, its Sphere of Influence, and surrounding area will be reasonably met. Service requirements contained in the Regional Transportation Plan will be satisfied.

D. City of Fowler

The City of Fowler, under an inter-agency services agreement with the FCRTA, provides transportation services within its Sphere of Influence and surrounding area. A lift- equipped FCRTA vehicle is in the service of the community approximately eight (8) hours per day, Monday through Friday.

The FCRTA also contracts to operate Southeast Transit as a multiple round trip general public commuter service, for approximately eight and a half (8-1/2) hour period, Monday through Friday, using a lift-equipped vehicle, which may deviate from its route to pick-up disabled passengers. The service is provided on a scheduled fixed-route to serve patrons "between" Kingsburg, Selma, and Fowler and "to" and "from" Fresno.

Recommendation:

It is recommended the Fresno COG Policy Board find that public transportation needs within the City of Fowler, its Sphere of Influence, and the surrounding area will be reasonably met. Service requirements contained in the Regional Transportation Plan will be satisfied.

E. City of Fresno

Fresno Area Express (FAX) provides fixed-route service seven (7) days-a-week throughout the Fresno-Clovis Metropolitan Area. The City of Clovis and Fresno County financially participate for service to non-Fresno City residents within FAX's service area. FAX contracts with National Express Transit (NEXT) for weekday and weekend demand-responsive service on Handy Ride. This paratransit service is oriented toward those who are unable to use the fixed-route service.

Recommendation:

It is recommended the Fresno COG Policy Board find that there are four unmet transit, two of them shared with the City of Clovis that are reasonable to meet, and that public transportation needs within the City of Fresno will be reasonably met. Service requirements contained within the Regional Transportation Plan will be satisfied.

F. City of Huron

The City of Huron, under an inter-agency services agreement with the FCRTA, provides general public transportation service within the Sphere of Influence, and surrounding area utilizing two (2) FCRTA wheelchair accessible modified vehicles. This service was reduced to one (1) vehicles temporarily as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The intra-city services are available during an approximate eight (8) hour period, Monday through Friday.

The City of Huron continues to provide funding for an inter-city "life-line" service to Coalinga. Three (3) round trips are provided during an eight (8) hour period, Monday through Friday.

Coalinga Transit also provides inter-city fixed-route service, with route deviation to pick-up disabled passengers, between Coalinga and Fresno. The vehicle provides one (1) round trip through Pleasant Valley Prison, Huron, Five Points, Lanare, Riverdale, Caruthers, Raisin City, and Easton, during an approximate nine and $\frac{3}{4}$ (9.75) hour period, Monday through Saturday.

Recommendation:

It is recommended the Fresno COG Policy Board find that public transportation needs within the City of Huron, its Sphere of Influence, and the surrounding area will be reasonably met. Service requirements contained in the Regional Transportation Plan will be satisfied.

G. City of Kerman

The City of Kerman, under an inter-agency services agreement with the FCRTA, provides demand-responsive public transportation service with an FCRTA vehicle within its Sphere of Influence and surrounding area using a lift-equipped FCRTA vehicle, for approximately eight (8) hours a day, Monday through Friday.

The FCRTA also contracts to operate Westside Transit as a multiple round trip general public

commuter service, for approximately eight and a half (8-1/2) hour period, Monday through Friday, using lift-equipped vehicles, which may deviate from its route to pick-up disabled passengers. The service is provided on a scheduled fixed route to serve patrons "between" Firebaugh, Mendota, San Joaquin and surrounding unincorporated communities, and Kerman and "to" and "from" Fresno.

Recommendation:

It is recommended the Fresno COG Policy Board find that public transportation needs within the City of Kerman, its Sphere of Influence, and the surrounding area will be reasonably met. Service requirements contained in the Regional Transportation Plan will be satisfied.

H. City of Kingsburg

Two (2) FCRTA wheelchair lift-equipped vehicles are available for providing public transportation services to Kingsburg Area residents. These transit services are provided to the City of Kingsburg under an inter-agency services agreement with FCRTA. Service within the Sphere of Influence, and the surrounding area, are available on a demand- responsive basis during an approximately eight (8) hour service period, Monday through Friday, and approximately eight (8) hours on Saturday utilizing just one (1) vehicle.

The FCRTA also contracts to operate Southeast Transit as a multiple round trip general public commuter service, during an approximately eight and a half (8-1/2) hour period, Monday through Friday, using a lift-equipped vehicle, which may deviate from its route to pick-up disabled passengers. The service is provided on a scheduled fixed-route to serve patrons "between" Kingsburg, Selma, and Fowler and "to" and "from" Fresno.

An additional vehicle was added in 2016 to provide service to the Kingsburg-Reedley College fixed-route service operating from 7:00am-4:35pm Monday through Friday to serve patrons between Kingsburg, Selma, Fowler, Parlier and Reedley. Due to Reedley College not having students on campus due to the COVID-19 pandemic, FCRTA ceased operating this route in the Spring of 2020 until Reedley College resumes a normal class schedule.

Recommendation:

It is recommended the Fresno COG Policy Board find that public transportation needs within the City of Kingsburg, its Sphere of Influence, and the surrounding area will be reasonably met. Service requirements contained in the Regional Transportation Plan will be satisfied.

I. City of Mendota

The City of Mendota, under an inter-agency agreement with the FCRTA, provides demand-responsive service within its Sphere of Influence and the surrounding area using a FCRTA lift-equipped vehicle. This service is provided Monday through Friday for approximately eight (8) hours per day.

Firebaugh Transit has a second vehicle, which is available for inter-city trips between Firebaugh and Mendota during an approximate nine (9) hour period, Monday through Friday.

The FCRTA also contracts to operate Westside Transit as a multiple round trip general public commuter service, during an approximately eight and a half (8-1/2) hour period, Monday through

Friday using a lift-equipped vehicle, which may deviate from its route to pick-up disabled passengers. The service is provided on a scheduled fixed-route to serve patrons "between" Firebaugh, Mendota, San Joaquin and surrounding unincorporated communities, and Kerman and "to" and "from" Fresno.

Recommendation:

It is recommended the Fresno COG Policy Board find that public transportation needs within the City of Mendota, its Sphere of Influence, and the surrounding area will be reasonably met. Service requirements contained in the Regional Transportation Plan will be satisfied.

J. City of Orange Cove

The City of Orange Cove, under an inter-agency services agreement with the FCRTA, provides transportation services within its Sphere of Influence and the surrounding area using an FCRTA lift-equipped vehicle. Orange Cove Transit operates on a demand responsive basis area for approximately nine (9) hours per day, Monday through Friday.

Orange Cove Transit also provides a lift-equipped vehicle for inter-city fixed-route service. The service is provided on a scheduled fixed-route to serve patrons "between" Orange Cove, Reedley, Parlier, Sanger, and "to" and "from" Fresno. Multiple round trips are available each service day. The inter-city service is provided, during an approximately ten (10) hour period, Monday through Friday.

Recommendation:

It is recommended the Fresno COG Policy Board find that public transportation needs within the City of Orange Cove, its Sphere of Influence, and the surrounding area will be reasonably met. Service requirements contained in the Regional Transportation Plan will be satisfied.

K. City of Parlier

The City of Parlier, under an inter-agency services agreement with the FCRTA, currently operates a lift-equipped demand responsive service within its Sphere of Influence, and surrounding area using a wheelchair lift-equipped FCRTA vehicle. Service is currently provided, during an approximate eight (8) hour period, Monday through Friday.

The FCRTA also contracts to operate Orange Cove Transit as a multiple round trip general public commuter service, during an approximately ten (10) hour period, Monday through Friday, using a lift-equipped vehicle, which may deviate from its route to pick-up disabled passengers. The service is provided on a scheduled fixed-route to serve patrons "between" Orange Cove, Reedley, Parlier, and Sanger and "to" and "from" Fresno.

Recommendation:

It is recommended the Fresno COG Policy Board find that public transportation needs within the City of Parlier, its Sphere of Influence, and the surrounding area will be reasonably met. Service requirements contained in the Regional Transportation Plan will be satisfied.

L. City of Reedley

The City of Reedley, through an inter-agency services agreement with the FCRTA, provides demand-responsive public transportation within its Sphere of Influence and the surrounding area, using four (4) vehicles on an eight (8) hour staggered basis during an approximate eight (8) hour service period, Monday through Friday, and one (1) vehicle on Saturdays during an approximate eight (8) hour period.

The FCRTA also contracts to operate Orange Cove Transit as a multiple round trip general public commuter service, during an approximately ten (10) hour period, Monday through Friday using a lift-equipped vehicle, which may deviate from its route to pick-up disabled passengers. The service is provided on a scheduled fixed-route to serve patrons "between" Orange Cove, Reedley, Parlier, and Sanger and "to" and "from" Fresno.

Recommendation:

It is recommended the Fresno COG Policy Board find that public transportation needs within the City of Reedley, its Sphere of Influence, and the surrounding area will be reasonably met. Service requirements contained in the Regional Transportation Plan will be satisfied.

M. City of Sanger

To provide public transportation service within the Sanger Sphere of Influence and the surrounding area, the FCRTA, under an inter-agency services agreement, with the City of Sanger operates two (2) wheelchair accessible FCRTA vehicles that offer service in Sanger. The vehicles provide staggered service during an approximate eight (8) hour period and, one (1) vehicle provides service during an eleven and a half (11.5) hour period, Monday through Friday, and one (1) vehicle during an eight (8) hour period on Saturday.

FCRTA also contracts to operate Orange Cove Transit as a multiple round trip general public commuter service, during an approximate ten (10) hour period, Monday through Friday, using a lift-equipped bus, which may deviate from its route to pick-up disabled passengers. The service is provided on a scheduled fixed-route to serve patrons "between" Orange Cove, Reedley, Parlier, and Sanger and "to" and "from" Fresno.

An additional vehicle began providing service between Sanger and Reedley College in September of 2014 to support a new training program to address a critical concern by manufacturers in Sanger who have been unsuccessful at finding skilled workers to employ and residents in Sanger who are underemployed or unemployed. One (1) vehicle provides route service during an eight (8) hour period, Monday through Friday. Due to Reedley College canceling in-person classes as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Sanger Express route ceased service, but will continue operations once in-person classes resume.

Recommendation:

It is recommended the Fresno COG Policy Board find that public transportation needs within the City of Sanger, its Sphere of Influence, and the surrounding area will be reasonably met. Service requirements contained in the Regional Transportation Plan will be satisfied.

N. City of San Joaquin

The City of San Joaquin, under an inter-agency agreement with the FCRTA, provides for demand-responsive Intra-City service within their Sphere of Influence and surrounding area. Inter-community service is also provided between the unincorporated communities of Cantua Creek, El Porvenir, Halfway, Three Rocks, and Tranquility. Inter-City service to Kerman is also available. As a result of low ridership and the COVID-19 pandemic this service transitioned to a demand response rural transit operation in June 2020, Monday through Friday using FCRTA lift equipped vans.

The FCRTA contracts to operate Westside Transit as a multiple round trip general public commuter service, during an approximate eight and a half (8-1/2) hour period, Monday through Friday, using a lift-equipped vehicle, which may deviate from its route to pick-up disabled passengers. The service is provided on a scheduled fixed-route to serve patrons "between" Firebaugh, Mendota, San Joaquin and surrounding unincorporated communities, and Kerman and "to" and "from" Fresno.

Recommendation:

It is recommended the Fresno COG Policy Board find that public transportation needs within the City of San Joaquin, its Sphere of Influence, and the surrounding area with its identified unincorporated communities will be reasonably met. Service requirements contained in the Regional Transportation Plan will be satisfied.

O. City of Selma

The City of Selma, under an inter-agency agreement with the FCRTA, provides for demand-responsive and fixed-route Intra-City service within their Sphere of Influence and the surrounding area.

This service utilizes four (4) FCRTA wheelchair accessible vehicles. It operates four (4) vehicles on a demand-responsive basis for eight (8) hours each on a staggered basis, and one (1) for four (4) hours for lunchtime driver relief, Monday through Friday, during an approximate eight (8) hours service day. Saturday demand-responsive services are provided with a single (1) vehicle during an approximate eight (8) hour service period.

The FCRTA also contracts to operate Southeast Transit as a multiple round trip general public commuter service, during an approximate eight and a half (8-1/2) hour period, Monday through Friday using a lift-equipped vehicle, which may deviate from its route to pick-up disabled passengers. The service is provided on a scheduled fixed-route to serve patrons "between" Kingsburg, Selma, and Fowler and "to" and "from" the Fresno-Clovis Metropolitan Area (FCMA).

Recommendation:

It is recommended the Fresno COG Policy Board find that public transportation needs within the City of Selma, its Sphere of Influence, and the surrounding Area will be reasonably met. Service requirements contained in the Regional Transportation Plan will be satisfied.

P. Fresno County

Fresno County financially participates through the Fresno County Rural Transit Agency for provision of service to unincorporated area residents within the Spheres of Influence and the

surrounding areas of the thirteen (13) rural cities and two dozen unincorporated communities situated on established fixed routes.

Fresno County also provides the funding for six (6) other unincorporated area transit services.

Auberry Transit is provided through an inter-agency service agreement with FCRTA. The service area includes the communities of Alder Springs, Auberry, New Auberry, the Big Sandy Indian Rancheria, Burrough Valley, Cold Springs Indian Rancheria, Jose Basin, Marshall Station, Meadow Lakes, Mile High, Prather, Sycamore, and Tollhouse. A lift- equipped vehicle provides approximately seven (7) hours of service per day, Monday through Friday. A second Auberry Transit vehicle is to provide “lifeline” inter-city service from the foothill communities and through Friant and the Table Mountain Indian Rancheria to the Fresno-Clovis Metropolitan Area, one (1) day a week during an eight (8) hour service period.

Del Rey Transit operates as a general public demand-responsive service. The FCRTA continues to fund the service four (4) hours per service day and Fresno County TDA monies fund the remaining four (4) hours. The service is under contract for driver services through the FCRTA and continues to be available during an approximate eight (8) hour period Monday through Friday. The operation will continue to maintain priority service to seniors attending the mid-day Hot Meal Nutrition Program. The service transports passengers within the community on a shared ride basis; arranges passenger grouping for trips to Sanger; and transfers passengers in Sanger to access Orange Cove Transit for service to Fresno, Parlier, Reedley, and Orange Cove. As of April 1, 2019 the, service was modified to 7 hours per weekday and 5 hours on Saturday on a 3-month demonstration period to accommodate requests for Saturday service from Del Rey residents.

Dinuba Connection is in its tenth (10th) year of service. In cooperation with the FCRTA, the City of Dinuba (in Tulare County) provides an inter-County service, referred to as the Dinuba Connection, between Dinuba and Reedley (in Fresno County). It allows Dinuba residents to travel from their City and its Vocational Training Center to the Adventist Medical Center (for on-the-job training) and to attend Reedley College. Eastern Fresno County residents travel to regional retail and entertainment centers in Dinuba. The service has proven to be very successful. The operations encourage transfers between Reedley Transit’s Intra-City services and Orange Cove Transit’s Inter-City services, to facilitate connectivity between Orange Cove, Reedley, Parlier, Sanger, and Fresno. Both entities will continue to utilize a portion of their locally approved half-cent sales tax (Measure R in Tulare County and Measure C in Fresno County) to continue to split the costs of this transit expansion program.

Laton Transit continues to be provided by the FCRTA through an ongoing inter-agency services agreement with Kings Area Rural Transit (KART). Round trip, inter-community service between the unincorporated Community of Laton and the City of Hanford, in Kings County, is available Monday through Friday. An existing inter-County service by KART from Hanford through Laton and then Selma (Kaiser Clinic) and Hospitals in Fresno and the Central Valley Children’s Hospital in Madera County is provided Monday through Friday.

Rural Transit between remote areas of Fresno County has been mentioned in the Regional Transportation Plan and Rural Short Range Transit Plan (SRTP) for many years. The Measure-C Expenditure Plan referenced the concept for funding and implementation. Service beyond the current transit service areas associated with incorporated cities has been difficult to justify. Four (4) vehicles were purchased to facilitate the operation of three (3) in regular services, Monday through Friday, with the fourth (4th) reserved as a back-up vehicle. The adopted Rural SRTP

reflects the demand-responsive operation to be available on a twenty-four (24) hour prior reservation basis. Transfers to existing operations have eliminated service duplications.

FCRTA deployed the Rural Transit Expansion in October 2022 with a Microtransit Pilot Project in the unincorporated community of Biola. This service is a demand response 24-hour advance reservation service providing transportation from the community of Biola to the Fresno Clovis Metropolitan areas. This service is operated with one (1) electric sedan vehicles.

Recommendation:

It is recommended the Fresno COG Policy Board find that public transportation needs within the unincorporated portions of the County of Fresno will be reasonably met. Service requirements contained in the Regional Transportation Plan will be satisfied.

Additional Information

It should be noted additional transit needs are being met through three (3) other programs, which have been implemented with Measure – C funds. The Fresno COG administers the programs:

- Carpooling - A subsidized carpooling program is available for individuals willing to share rides with others. A computerized program may assist individuals in making successful contacts to form successful arrangements to share rides conveniently.
- Commuter Vanpooling – A subsidized vanpooling program is available for a group of individuals who may have common interests in commuting for employment or schooling at City Colleges and Universities. Several commercial entities have complete programs to provide vans ranging from seven (7) to fifteen (15) passenger capacities. A lead and back-up driver volunteer to make arrangements to transport the group as needed. The vehicle, fuel, maintenance, and insurance are covered. Participants share in a portion of the costs. Several hundred vehicles are currently in operation, and more are being formed on a regular basis.
- Farm Labor Vanpooling – A subsidized farm labor vanpooling program facilitates group transportation to field and packing facilities. The program is flexible to meet the seasonal needs of the workers, originating in Fresno County. Fifteen (15) passenger vans accommodate seven (7) to fifteen (15) individuals. A lead and back-up driver volunteer to make arrangements to transport the group as needed. The vehicle, fuel, maintenance, and insurance are covered. Participants share in a portion of the costs. Several hundred vehicles are currently in operation, and more are being formed on a regular basis.

The re-authorization for Measure C was taken before voters on November x, 2022, and defeated. As a result, the future of the programs funded by Measure C, and the initiative itself, are unknown at the time of this writing.

Individuals and groups desiring to know more about these programs should call 559-441-RIDE (7433) or contact www.valleyrides.com for more information.

Appendix A - Demographic Information

Transit Dependent Groups

Per the Transportation Development Act, Unmet Transit Needs findings must include an annual assessment of the size and location of identifiable groups likely to be transit-dependent, including but not limited to, the elderly, the disabled, including individuals eligible for paratransit and other special transportation services pursuant to Section 12143 of Title 42 of the United States Code, and persons of limited means, including, but not limited to, recipients under the CalWORKs program.

For the purposes of this document:

- The elderly is considered to be individuals age 65 years old and older.
- The term "disability" refers to persons who because, of physical or mental impairment, are unable to drive automobiles or use public transit, which is not specifically tailored to meet their needs.
- Persons of limited means are considered as having incomes below the poverty threshold as defined by the federal government.

Demographic Data - Charts and Highlights

The determination of the size and location of identifiable groups likely to be “transit-dependent” is based on the American Community Survey, 2020 Census, and other pertinent data. The demographic data relevant to determining unmet transit needs in Fresno County is presented in the form of tables and maps.

The American Community Survey (ACS) replaced the decennial census long form in 2010. The ACS now collects detailed questions about socioeconomic and housing characteristics on an annual basis. The function of the decennial census will be to provide counts of people for the purpose of congressional apportionment and legislative redistricting. The primary purpose of the ACS is to measure the changing social and economic characteristics of the U.S. population. The use of the ACS data will provide “snapshots” of our region’s socioeconomic characteristics. The decision to select one-year, three-year, or five-year ACS “snapshots” is dependent on whether the intent is to reflect the most current data (e.g., one-year ACS) or a statistically more accurate “snapshot” (e.g., lower margin of error) over a larger period of time.

In this section, Table 2 presents an overview of the population in Fresno County. Figure 2 illustrates graphically how the population is dispersed throughout the incorporated and unincorporated areas in Fresno County.

Figure 2
Fresno County Population Density

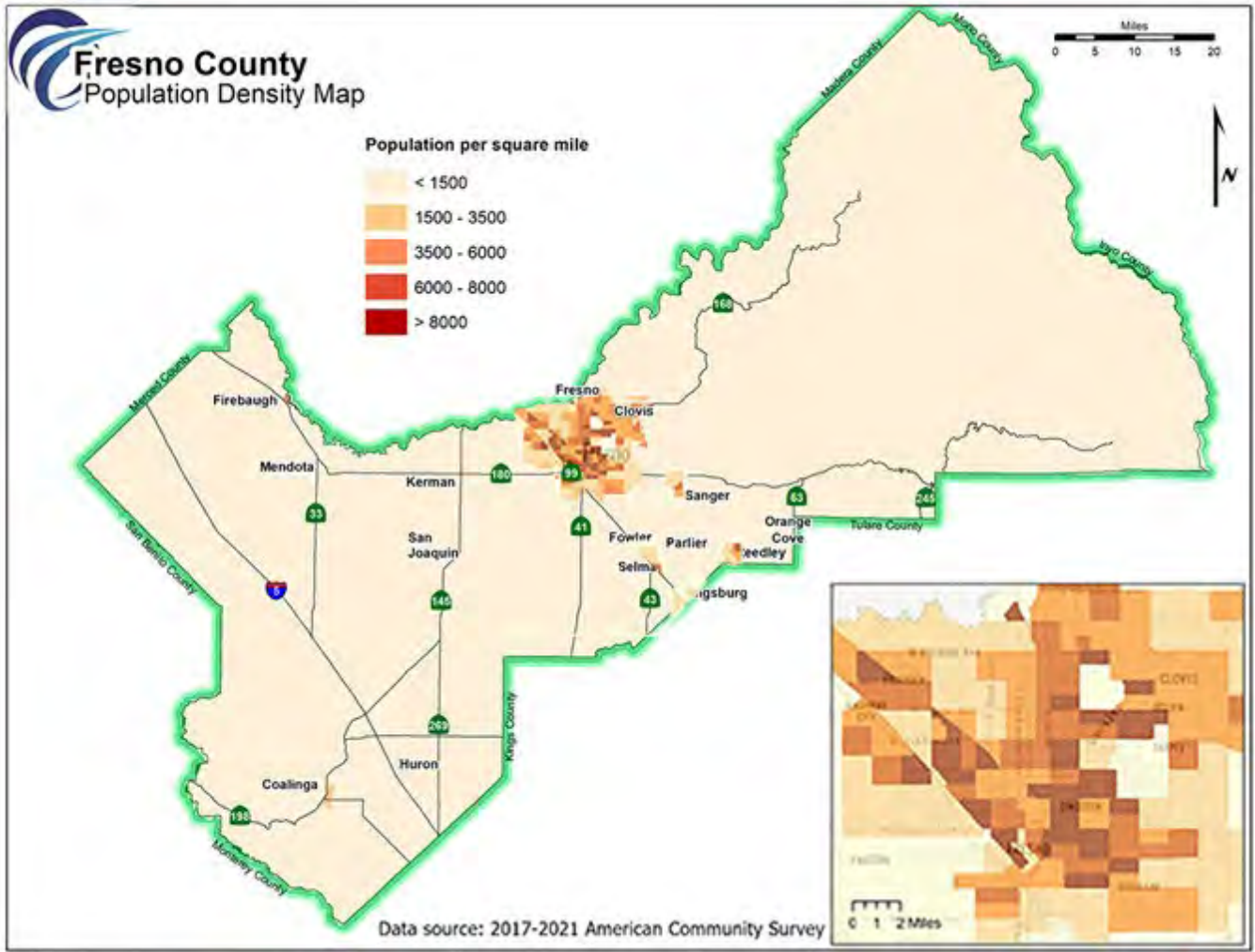


Table 2 shows the 2022, 1-year population estimate. The most rapid population increase between 2010 and 2022 occurred in the City of Clovis, with growth of over 29.31%, followed closely by Coalinga with growth of 29.31%. Other Fresno County cities with large increases were Fowler (24.99%), Kerman (22.85%), and Mendota (12.95%). The population for Fresno County increased 8.69% between 2020 and 2022.

The Cities of Fresno and Clovis both have a population of more than 100,000 people. Pursuant to Senate Bill 716 (enacted 2009), cities with a population of 100,000 or more within a county that has a population of 500,000 or more will be required to expend 100% of the Local Transportation Funds (LTF) apportionment for public transit purposes. The Cities of Fresno and Clovis have already been complying with this requirement.

Population forecasts suggest that none of the other incorporated cities in Fresno County will exceed 100,000 in the next 20 years and therefore, will be exempt from the provisions of Senate Bill 716. The California Department of Finance annual city and county population estimates will be used to identify when the population threshold has been met. SB 716 represents a fundamental change in the way public transit will be financed in the future.

Table 2
Total Population Percent Change, Year 2022

Jurisdiction	Population			% Change
	2010	2020	2022 Jan	2010 - 2022
City of Clovis	95,631	120,124	123,665	29.31%
City of Coalinga	13,380	17,590	17,277	29.13%
City of Firebaugh	7,549	8,096	8,439	11.79%
City of Fowler	5,570	6,700	6,962	24.99%
City of Fresno	494,665	542,107	543,660	9.90%
City of Huron	6,754	6,206	6,170	-8.65%
City of Kerman	13,544	16,016	16,639	22.85%
City of Kingsburg	11,382	12,380	12,506	9.88%
City of Mendota	11,014	12,595	12,440	12.95%
City of Orange Cove	9,078	9,649	9,497	4.62%
City of Parlier	14,494	14,576	14,497	0.02%
City of Reedley	24,194	25,227	24,982	3.26%
City of San Joaquin	4,001	3,701	3,639	-9.05%
City of Sanger	24,270	26,617	26,304	8.38%
City of Selma	23,219	24,674	24,522	5.61%
Balance of Fresno County	171,705	162,396	160,074	-6.77%
Total	930,450	1,008,654	1,011,273	8.69%

Data Source: United States Census Bureau, Decennial Census(2020, 2010); State of California, Department of Finance, E-1(2022)

Table 3 presents the 2017-2021 American Community Survey (ACS 5-year) data on population by age and income characteristics. This data is important to this analysis because studies have shown that age and income have a high correlation with automobile usage and transit dependency. Persons aged 65 and over are separated as a subset of the total population figures. In some jurisdictions, these individuals become eligible for transit services solely based on their age. In others, they qualify for reduced fares because of their age. In either case, they are recognized as a select group of people who may have special transportation needs met through public transportation.

Poverty statistics in ACS products adhere to the standards specified by the Office of Management and Budget in Statistical Policy Directive 14. The Census Bureau uses a set of dollar value thresholds that vary by family size and composition to determine who is in poverty. Further, poverty thresholds for people living alone or with nonrelatives (unrelated individuals) vary by age (under 65 years or 65 years and older). The poverty thresholds for two-person families also vary by the age of the householder. If a family's total income is less than the dollar value of the appropriate threshold, then that family and every individual in

it are in poverty. Similarly, if an unrelated individual's total income is less than the appropriate threshold, then that individual is in poverty.

Table 3
Age and Income, Year 2017-2021

Jurisdiction	Population for whom poverty status is determined	Persons age 65 years+		Persons in poverty		Persons age 65 years+ & in poverty	
		Population	Percent	Population	Percent	Population	Percent
City of Clovis	117,318	15,296	13.0%	9,558	8.1%	876	0.7%
City of Coalinga	13,569	1,538	11.3%	2,245	16.5%	129	1.0%
City of Firebaugh	8,040	886	11.0%	2,632	32.7%	258	3.2%
City of Fowler	6,628	899	13.6%	1,351	20.4%	119	1.8%
City of Fresno	529,319	60,682	11.5%	121,232	22.9%	9,306	1.8%
City of Huron	6,277	326	5.2%	2,532	40.3%	96	1.5%
City of Kerman	15,370	1,264	8.2%	2,495	16.2%	262	1.7%
City of Kingsburg	12,332	1,720	13.9%	1,040	8.4%	208	1.7%
City of Mendota	12,458	757	6.1%	4,666	37.5%	219	1.8%
City of Orange Cove	9,680	567	5.9%	4,716	48.7%	248	2.6%
City of Parlier	14,658	1,136	7.8%	4,423	30.2%	424	2.9%
City of Reedley	24,690	2,232	9.0%	4,542	18.4%	249	1.0%
City of San Joaquin	3,743	154	4.1%	1,311	35.0%	11	0.3%
City of Sanger	26,343	2,716	10.3%	4,581	17.4%	429	1.6%
City of Selma	24,317	2,564	10.5%	5,702	23.4%	552	2.3%
Balance of Fresno County	160,381	26,584	16.6%	25,767	16.1%	3,068	1.9%
Total	985,123	119,321	12.1%	198,793	20.2%	16,454	1.7%

Data Source: United States Census Bureau, 2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, S1701

Table 4 provides data on individuals with disabilities by gender and age. This information is from the 2017-2021 ACS data and includes non-institutionalized persons aged five and older who have a "disability." Individuals were asked if they, or others in the household, had a health condition that has lasted for six or more months, making it difficult to go outside of the home alone. Persons that have such difficulty because of a health condition are said to have a mobility limitation. Increased public transportation would be an asset to those who have mobility limitations.

Table 4
Disability Status by Age by Sex, Year 2017-2021

Age	Male		Female		Total	
	Persons with a disability	Percent with a disability	Persons with a disability	Percent with a disability	Persons with a disability	Percent with a disability
Under 5 years	424	1.1%	160	0.4%	584	0.8%
5 to 17 years	7,164	6.6%	4,973	4.8%	12,137	5.8%
18 to 64 years	32,999	11.3%	34,814	11.9%	67,813	11.6%
65 years and over	21,918	40.5%	27,248	41.8%	49,166	41.2%
Total	62,505	12.7%	67,195	13.5%	129,700	13.1%

Data Source: United States Census Bureau, 2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, B18101

Table 4 shows that 62,505 males, or 12.7% of the male population within Fresno County meet the definition of a person having a disability. In contrast, 67,195 females, or 13.5% of the female population within Fresno County meet this definition.

Table 5
Employment Status by Disability Status, 2021

Disability Status	Civilian noninstitutionalized population 18 to 64 years					
	In the labor force				Not in labor force	
	Employed		Unemployed			
	Population	Percent	Population	Percent	Population	Percent
With a disability	23,834	35.1%	4,204	6.2%	39,775	58.7%
No disability	369,606	71.3%	33,212	6.4%	115,289	22.3%
Total	393,440	67.1%	37,416	6.4%	155,064	26.5%

Data Source: United States Census Bureau, 2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, C18120

Table 5 expands on the number of individuals in Fresno County age 18, and over by their disability and employment status. Looking at the Civilian noninstitutionalized population between the ages of 18 and 64, which numbers 585,920, the data shows that there are 393,440 persons, or 67.1% of which, that are employed. Of this number, 23,834 or 35.1% have a disability, whereas 369,606, or 71.3% of those employed do not have a disability.

Of the Civilian noninstitutionalized population between the age of 18 and 64 within the labor force, 37,416, or 6.4% are unemployed. Of this number, 4,204, or 6.2% are disabled, whereas 33,212, or 6.4% are able-bodied.

Of the Civilian noninstitutionalized population between the age of 18 and 64 within the labor force, 155,064, or 26.5% are not in the labor force. Of this number, 39,775, or 58.7% are disabled, and 115,289, or 22.3% are able bodied.

Fresno COG's definition of transit-dependent focuses on individuals who, by virtue of their age, income, or disability, are not adequately served by the automobile. Information from the last available version of a summary from Caltrans entitled "Travel and Related Factors in California" was used as a foundation for identifying the incidence of individuals that are transportation dependent.

Table 6 below shows the Population of driving Age in Fresno County for 2021 as 748,482 persons. Driving age is defined as people between '16-18', and '18+'.

Table 6
Population of Driving Age in Fresno County, Year 2021

Age	Population	Percent
0-15	254,668	25.4%
16-18	31,643	3.2%
18+	716,839	71.5%
Total	1,003,150	100.0%

Data Source: United States Census Bureau, 2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, DP05

Between 2018 and 2021, the number of valid driver licenses in Fresno County increased from 596,540 in 2018 to 619,182 in 2021. Between 2019 and 2020, the number of driver’s licenses outstanding dropped to 600,899, a reduction of 4,728 driver licenses outstanding, from the previous year.

Table 7
Percent of Licensed Drivers of Driving Age, Population

	2018	2019	2020	2021
Valid driver licenses	596,540	605,627	600,899	619,182
Percent of licensed drivers of driving-age population	82.0%	82.6%	81.3%	82.7%

Data Source: United States Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, California Department of Motor Vehicles, Driver Licenses Outstanding by County

Table 8 below shows the number of vehicles and licensed drivers per household. It shows that there are 336,509 total housing units, 314,421 occupied housing units and 598,212 household vehicles available. The numbers show an average household size is 3.14 individuals with 1.90 average vehicles available per household and 1.97 average drivers per household.

Table 8
Occupied Household / Vehicles in Fresno County, Year 2017-2021

Label	Estimates
Total housing units	336,509
Occupied housing units	314,421
Average household size	3.14
Household Vehicles available *	598,212
Average vehicles available per household	1.90
Average drivers per household	1.97

Data Source: United States Census Bureau, 2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, B25044 California Department of Motor Vehicles, Driver Licenses Outstanding by County

* ACS doesn't have vehicles statistics. This value is estimated with assumption that vehicles available for households in ACS with "5 or more vehicles available" is 5.

Appendix B – Unmet Transit Needs Assessment Process

For the FY 2023-24 meeting cycle, public outreach took place virtually and face-to-face. Specifically, there were six in-person public events, and two virtual public events, one broadcast on Facebook and the other, broadcast on YouTube. The six in-person public events were split evenly between urban and rural locations, within Fresno County, excluding the Public Hearing. Rural Fresno County in-person public meeting locations include Mendota, Huron, and Sanger. Urban Fresno County in-person public meeting locations include two sites in the City of Fresno, and one in the City of Clovis.

Tasks carried forward from the FY 2023-24 UTN cycle include the online survey and virtual meetings. Tasks carried forward from previous entirely in-person unmet transit needs assessments are the in-person meetings, four in the Fresno Clovis metropolitan area and two in unincorporated cities in Fresno County, on an alternating basis.

The public outreach process for the FY 2023-24 Unmet Transit Needs Assessment was run through publicinput.com, a community engagement platform to manage the public outreach process for State and local governments. The platform was used to run the public survey at the heart of the public outreach process for the UTN. It was also integrated with FCOG social media accounts to track comments received through FCOG social media channels.

The Survey

As with the previous cycle, the survey was designed to collect transit-related information from transit riders and stakeholders that pertain to the Unmet Transit Needs assessment. The survey was released on February 2, 2023, and closed March 24, 2023. Thirty-three participants left 87 responses and 47 comments, many of which could be consolidated as they were submitted by the same participant. When reviewed by participating transit agencies, only 12 of these comments provided any information that could be used within the UTN. The results of the remaining surveys were not included since they did not contain any informational value.

While screenshots of the surveys are shown below, the survey questions are as follow:

Question #1 – Do you use public transportation or social services transportation?

- Yes
- No

Question #2. – Are there any Fresno County locations/destinations you would like to access by transit or social service transportation that are currently not being served?

- Yes
- No

If yes, please list locations/destinations.

Question #3. – If you answered “yes” to question #2, please answer the questions below.

- a. What is your zip code?
- b. Where are you going (what is your destination address or nearest cross street)?
- c. Where are you coming from (what is your originating address, nearest cross streets)?

- d. What days do you need service? (For example, weekdays, weekends, or both)
- e. Which transit system does your feedback refer to?
 - Fresno Area Express
 - Handy Ride, City of Fresno’s paratransit service
 - Clovis Stageline
 - Clovis Round-Up, City of Clovis’ paratransit service
 - Fresno County Rural Transit Agency (FCRTA)
 - A social service agency provider

Question #4. – Do you have any additional comments or feedback?

In-Person Public Meetings

Six in-person public meetings were held within Fresno County: two in the City of Fresno, one in the City of Clovis, and three in smaller cities in Fresno County, specifically Mendota, Huron, and Sanger. One of the two events within the City of Fresno, took place on a Saturday morning, at 9:00 AM to accommodate people whose schedule would not allow them to attend any of the other in-person public events.

Virtual Events

Two virtual events took place. The first was on Thursday, February 16, 2023, at 10:00 AM, and the second on Wednesday, February 22, 2023, at 5:30 PM. The first virtual event was broadcast on Facebook, while the second was broadcast on YouTube.

Comment Cards

Comment cards were made available in English and Spanish, distributed to the Unmet Transit Needs mailing list, and available online for download.

Public Hearing

The Public Hearing for the FY 2023–2024 Unmet Transit Needs Assessment is scheduled to take place before the April Fresno COG Policy Board meeting on Thursday, April 27, 2023, at 5:30 PM. The hearing will be taking place at the offices of Fresno COG, located at:

2035 E. Tulare Ave, Ste. 201,
Fresno, CA 93721

Exhibit A

**Social Services Transportation Advisory Council
Membership List
Updated March 2023**

Potential Transit User 60 Years of Age or Older (minimum of 1)			
Appointment	Resident of/Geographic Representation	Term Expires	Ethnic Background

Representatives of the Local Social Service Providers for Seniors (minimum of 2)			
Appointment	Resident of/Geographic Representation	Term Expires	Ethnic Background

Potential Transit User Who Is Disabled (minimum of 1)			
Appointment	Resident of/Geographic Representation	Term Expires	Ethnic Background
Sarin Wakimian	Fresno/Fresno County	6-2023	Caucasian

Representative of the Local Social Service Provider for Disabled (minimum of 2)			
Appointment	Resident of/Geographic Representation	Term Expires	Ethnic Background
Vidal Medina, RICV	Fresno/Fresno County	5-2022	Hispanic
Chenier Derrick	Fresno/Fresno County	6/2022	African American

Representative of a Local Social Service Provider for Persons of Limited Means (minimum of 1)			
Appointment	Resident of/Geographic Representation	Term Expires	Ethnic Background
Hector Medina, Fresno County	Fresno/Fresno County	6-2023	Hispanic

Representatives from the Local Consolidated Transportation Service Agency (minimum of 2)			
Appointment	Resident of/Geographic Representation	Term Expires	Ethnic Background
Amy Hance, Clovis Transit	Clovis/Fresno County	6-2022	Caucasian
Thomas Dulin, FEOC/CTSA	Fresno/Fresno County	6-2023	Caucasian
Moses Stites, FCRTA	Fresno/Fresno County	2-2023	Hispanic
Darlene Christiansen, FAX	Fresno/Fresno County	6-2023	Asian American

Representatives of General Public, who use Public Transit			
Appointment	Resident of/Geographic Representation	Term Expires	Ethnic Background
Yonas Paulos	Fresno/Fresno County	6-2022	Caucasian
Matthew Gilliam	Fresno/Fresno County	10-2023	African American

Exhibit A-1

List of Acronyms

Acronym	Agency Name
ACS	American Community Survey
ADA	American Disabilities Act
CCNF	Central California Nikkei Foundation
COFCG	Council of Fresno County Governments (old name of Fresno COG)
COG	Council of Governments
CTSA	Consolidated Transportation Service Agency
DMV	Department of Motor Vehicles
FAX	Fresno Area Express
FCHSS	Fresno County Health and Social Services
FCMA	Fresno County Metropolitan Area
FCRTA	Fresno County Rural Transit Agency
FEOC	Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission
FTA	Federal Transit Administration
KART	Kings Area Rural Transit
LTF	Local Transportation Fund
OPB	Operations Program and Budget
PUC	Public Utilities Commission
RTP	Regional Transportation Plan
RTPA	Regional Transportation Planning Agency
SB	Senate Bill
SRTP	Short Range Transit Plan
SSTAC	Social Services Transit Advisory Committee
TDA	Transit Development Act
UMTA	Urban Mass Transit Agency
UTN	Unmet Transit Needs
VCH	Valley Children's Hospital

Exhibit B

2023-24 Unmet Transit Needs Process Outreach Schedule – Fresno COG

Item	Date	Cost	Reach
FresnoCOG.org webpages: Public Transit Planning, Get Involved and calendar listings	2/2/2023	\$0	467 unique pageviews-UTN pages 64 pageviews- Get Involved
sConstant Contact Emails			
CC Email send #1	2/8/2023	\$0	5651 sends, 1240 opens, 92 clicks
CC Email resend	2/10/2023	\$0	3200 sends, 316 opens, 9 clicks
CC updated email send #1	3/1/2023	\$0	2131 sends, 479 opens, 22 clicks
CC updated email resend	3/1/2023	\$0	1095 sends, 99 opens, 7 clicks
Fresno COG’s Coming Up at Fresno COG	3/14/23	\$0	3,870 sends, 861 opens, 12 UTN clicks
Fresno Area Express (FAX) Email Newsletter			
What’s New at FAX Newsletter – January, 2023	1/26/2023	\$0	321 sends, physically distributed to 160 FAX employees and 195 bus drivers. A PDF copy is also available for download on the Fresno.gov website.
What’s New at FAX Newsletter – February, 2023.	3/01/2023	\$0	321 sends, physically distributed to 160 FAX employees and 200 bus drivers. A PDF copy is also available for download on the Fresno.gov website.
Social Media Posts – Fresno Council of Governments			
Social FB Post #1 Also shared on 10 community group accounts: Kingsburg Reedley Selma Fowler Dinuba and Parlier news and events, Kerman, We Are Reedley, Lowell Neighborhood Association, We R Coalinga!, Huron Citizens, Up In Sanger, The Citizens of Coalinga, Friends of Fowler, Mendota Buy It \$, Mendota, Firebaugh and Kerman Sales	2/9/2023	\$0	22 comments, 13 shares
Social FB Post #2	2/14/2023	\$0	64 comments, 20 shares
Social FB post #3 – In-person events, Pinedale, Clovis and virtual meetings	2/15/2023	\$0	106 impressions 92 reach 18 engagements 5 comments
Twitter #1	2/9/23	\$0	59 impressions, 4 engagements
Twitter #2	2/15/23	\$0	101 impressions, 2 engagements
FB live recording	2/16/2023	\$0	3 comments
YouTube live recording	2/22/23	\$0	7 views

Social #2 Post - Spanish	3/2/23		29 comments, 6 shares
Social Media Ads/Boosts			
NextDoor Ad	2/14 – 3/8/2023	\$310	5,336 impressions 4,517 reach 16 clicks
LinkedIn Ad	2/14 – 2/28/2023	\$287.53	12,082 impressions 84 website clicks \$3.42 cost per click
Facebook/Insta Ad 1	2/9 - 2/22/2023	\$1000	21,712 Reach 1,141 link clicks 1,819 post engagements 71,482 Impressions .88 cost per link click
Facebook/Insta Ad 2	2/14- 28/2023	\$1000	14,747 reach 285 link clicks 917 post engagements 31,019 impressions 43 messaging conversations \$23.46 cost per messaging conversation
Facebook/Insta Ad Spanish language exclusive social post Boosted- Spanish interests, all areas of Fresno County.	3/2/23 – 3/14/23	\$999.88	30,992 reach 279 link clicks 645 post engagements 57,215 impressions 22 messaging conversations 16 post comments \$45.45 cost per messaging conversation
Social Media Posts – Fresno Area Express			
Facebook social media post advertising the UTN process	2/24/2023	\$0	433 views, 3 likes, and 3 comments
Instagram social media post advertising the UTN process.	2/24/2023	\$0	275 views, 24 likes, 2 likes, and 4 saves
Twitter social media post advertising the UTN process	2/24/2023	\$0	1,403 views, 5 likes, and 4 shares
Other			
Hard copy flyers mailed to database	2/2/23	\$TBD	345 2-sided bilingual color copies, envelopes
Meeting agendas (publicly published): SSTAC TTC PAC Policy Board	1/17/23 2/10/23 2/10/23 2/23/23		
Public Hearing Notices	3/26/23	\$1,005.28	English/Spanish, Fresno Bee, Sunday edition
PublicInput.com surveys		\$0	766 views

			143 participants 390 Responses 285 comments 30 Subscribers
Totals	1/17 – 3/24/23	\$4,602.69	

Exhibit B-1

Unmet Transit Needs Request Flyer in English



Do you or someone you know have a public transit need that is not being met and is reasonable to meet?

The Fresno Council of Government's (FCOG)

Social Services Transportation Advisory Council would like to hear from you!

If you would like to provide comments on public transit needs in Fresno County, join us at one of several meetings, complete a survey, leave a voicemail message, email or send a comment card.

Give us your feedback in one of several ways:

Complete the online survey – [English Link](#)

Using the QR code to the right, access the survey using your smart phone.



Attend one of nine public events:

Nine public events: six in-person, two virtual, and a public hearing will allow the public to speak directly with transit providers and staff. These events will be held as follows:

In-Person and Virtual Public Meetings

Mendota
Tuesday, Feb. 14—5:30 pm

Fresno, Pinedale
Wednesday, Feb. 15-5:30 pm

Virtual Event #1—ZOOM
Thursday, Feb. 16—10:00 am

Clovis
Thursday, Feb. 16—5:30 pm

Virtual Event #2—ZOOM
Wednesday, Feb. 22—5:30 pm

Downtown Fresno
Saturday, Feb 25—9:00 am

Huron
Tuesday, Feb. 28—5:30 pm

Sanger
Wednesday, Mar. 1—5:30 pm

Public Hearing
Thursday, Apr 27—5:30 pm

Via email:

In English at: <https://publicinput.com/utn2023>

Leave a voicemail message:

Call (855) 925-2801, enter project code: 8288

To learn more about the FY2023 Unmet Transit Needs process, including meeting details, [click here](#) or scan the QR code:



Exhibit B-2

Unmet Transit Needs Flyer and Comments Form in Spanish



¿Usted o alguien que conoce tiene una necesidad de transporte público que no está siendo satisfecha y es razonable cumplir?

¡El Consejo Consultivo de Transporte de Servicios Sociales del Consejo de Gobiernos de Fresno (FCOG) desea escucharle a usted!

Si desea proporcionar comentarios sobre las necesidades de transporte público en el condado de Fresno, únase a nosotros en una de varias reuniones, complete una encuesta, deje un mensaje de correo de voz, envíe un correo electrónico o envíe una tarjeta de comentarios.

Danos tu opinión de varias formas:

Encuesta de Necesidades de Tránsito No Cumplidas del Condado de Fresno – Enlace Español

Usando el código QR a la derecha, acceda a la encuesta usando su teléfono inteligente.



Asista a uno de los nueve eventos públicos:

Nueve eventos públicos: seis en persona, dos virtuales y una audiencia pública permitirán al público hablar directamente con los proveedores y el personal de tránsito. Estos eventos se realizarán de la siguiente manera:

Reuniones públicas en persona y virtuales

<i>Mendota</i> Martes, 14 de feb.—5:30 pm	<i>Fresno, Pinedale</i> Jueves, 15 de feb.—5:30 pm	<i>Evento Virtual #1—ZOOM</i> Miércoles, 16 de feb.—10:00 am
<i>Clovis</i> Miércoles, 16 de feb.—5:30 pm	<i>Evento Virtual #2—ZOOM</i> Martes, 22 de feb.—5:30 pm	<i>Downtown Fresno</i> Sábado, 25 de feb.—9:00 am
<i>Huron</i> Miércoles, 28 de feb.—5:30pm	<i>Sanger</i> Martes, 1 de mar.—5:30pm	<i>Audiencia Pública</i> Miércoles, 27 de abr.—5:30 pm

Vía correo electrónico:

En Español en: <https://publicinput.com/spanishutn2023>

Deje un mensaje de correo de voz:

Llame al (855) 925-2801, ingrese el código del proyecto: 8288

Para obtener más información sobre el proceso de necesidades de tránsito insatisfechas del año fiscal 2023, incluidos los detalles de las reuniones, haga clic aquí o escanee el código QR:



Exhibit B-3

Unmet Transit Needs Survey in English

The Fresno County Unmet Transit Needs Survey

Fresno Council of Governments | FAX FRESNO AREA EXPRESS

Spanish | Powered by Google Translate

Bienvenido **Enviar ideas** Acerca de ti ¡Gracias!

1. ¿Utiliza transporte público o transporte de servicios sociales?

Sí	53%
No	47%

Cerrado a respuestas | 137 respuestas

2. ¿Hay lugares/destinos del condado de Fresno a los que le gustaría acceder por transporte público o servicio social que actualmente no están siendo atendidos?

Sí	60%
No	40%

Cerrado a respuestas | 124 respuestas

Unmet Transit Needs Survey - 2023

publicinput.com/utn2023

Fresno COG > Unmet Transit Needs Survey - 2023

Todd Sobrado

If yes, please list locations/destinations

Closed for Comments

North Fresno/Clovis to Tower and Downtown.
Northwest Fresno to North Clovis and Old Town Clovis.
2 months ago Reply

Hurón, Cantua creek y ranchos alejados de la civilizacion
2 months ago Reply

I'd like to see something like a free trolley service on weekends through Tower, Downtown, Riverpark, Old Town Clovis and any other entertainment areas to help reduce DUI's.
2 months ago Reply


Shepherd and Clovis avenue area covering a lot of new residential projects, Lennar Heritage Grove, Windsor Heritage Grove, and Lennar at Arboralla. Connecting those areas to the Herndon/Clovis avenue retails, Clovis Old town, Riverpark shopping areas on the west, and Harlan Ranch... See More
2 months ago Reply

Show all comments

3. If you answered 'yes' to question #2, please answer the questions below.

a. What is your zip code?
This question is closed to responses.

b. Where are you going (what is your destination address or nearest cross streets)?



Unmet Transit Needs Survey - 2023

publicinput.com/utn2023

Fresno COG > Unmet Transit Needs Survey - 2023

Todd Sobrado

b. Where are you going (what is your destination address or nearest cross streets)?

Closed for Comments

Tower District
2 months ago Reply

I usually market
2 months ago Reply

Fresno City College, good shepherd Lutheran church, holy trinity Armenian apostolic church
2 months ago Reply

Tower District or Downtown, somewhere on Van Ness as it's one of the more popular streets for arthop.
2 months ago Reply

Show all comments

c. Where are you coming from (what is your originating address nearest cross streets)?

Closed for Comments


Everywhere, I don't own a car.
2 months ago Reply

Varios no tengo auto
one month ago Reply

Fowler y kings canyon y mas no tengo auto
one month ago Reply

Wishon/McKinley
one month ago Reply

Show all comments



Unmet Transit Needs Survey - 2023

publicinput.com/utn2023

Fresno COG > Unmet Transit Needs Survey - 2023

Show all comments

d. What days do you need service? (For example, weekdays, weekends, or both)

Closed for Comments

weekdays
2 months ago Reply

Both
2 months ago Reply

weekdays
2 months ago Reply

Both
27 days ago Reply

Show all comments

e. Which transit system does your feedback refer to?

Fresno Area Express (FAX)	64%	Fresno County Rural Transit Agency (FCRTA)	34%
Clovis Stageline	22%	Handy Ride, City of Fresno's paratransit service	17%
Clovis Round-Up, City of Clovis' paratransit service	9%	A social service agency provider	7%

Closed to responses | 58 Responses

4. Do you have any other comments or feedback?

Unmet Transit Needs Survey - 2023

publicinput.com/utn2023

Fresno COG > Unmet Transit Needs Survey - 2023

Clovis Stageline	22%	Handy Ride, City of Fresno's paratransit service	17%
Clovis Round-Up, City of Clovis' paratransit service	9%	A social service agency provider	7%

Closed to responses | 58 Responses

4. Do you have any other comments or feedback?

Closed for Comments

Need better service in Fresno for Seniors/Disabled too
2 months ago [Reply](#)

Driver's should be a lot less rude to the riders and more mindfully of how they are handling the busses
2 months ago [Reply](#)

There are entire neighborhoods that jave zero public transit. If you aren't going to build bus lines at least build bike lanes. My neighborhood pays a ton in taxes and gets close to nothing.
2 months ago [Reply](#)

Robust, regular service needed from all parts of Fresno County to the airport, train station, bus stations
2 months ago [Reply](#)

[Show all comments](#)

[Continue](#)

Share this [f](#) [t](#) [in](#) [m](#)

Powered by **Publicinput**, the community engagement platform for government.

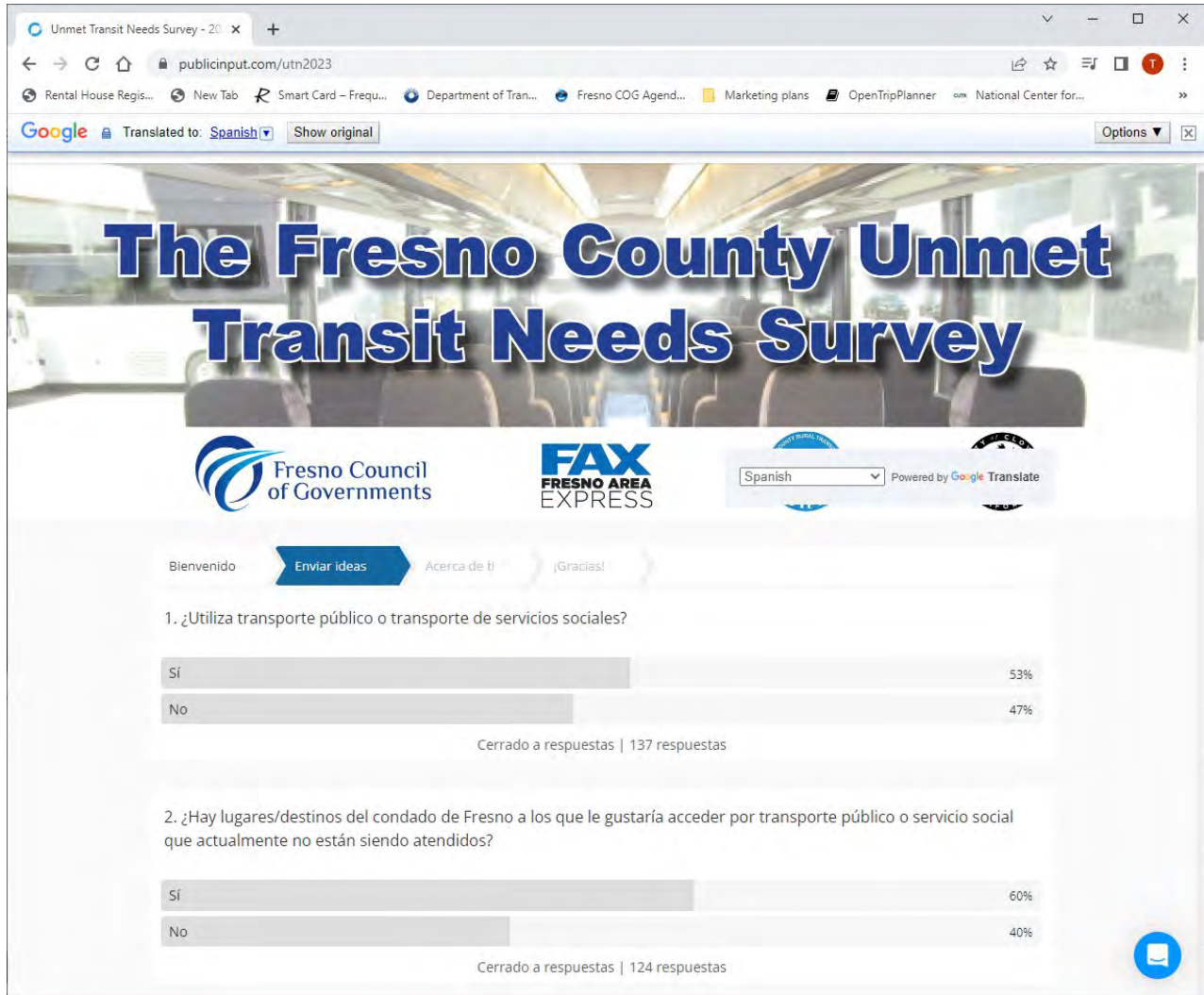
[Privacy Policy](#) | [Protected by reCAPTCHA](#) - [Privacy & Terms](#) | [Admin Access](#) | [Help Center](#)

Exhibit B-4

Unmet Transit Needs Survey in Other Languages

For the online survey, translations were offered in a large number of languages through integration with Google Translate. Survey respondents would select their language of choice through a drop down menu at the very top of the browser screen. Once selected, the web page would load in the language selected.

A screenshot of the first page of the UTN Survey in Spanish is shown below.



Since Spanish is the second most popular language in Fresno County behind English, staff took printed copies of the survey in Spanish to meetings just in case Spanish-language stakeholders wanted to participate in the UTN.

A screenshot of the printed survey in Spanish is provided below.

Encuesta de necesidades de tránsito insatisfechas - 2023

¡Bienvenidos!

Los comentarios y opiniones del público son una parte fundamental del proceso de la UTN. En asociación con los proveedores de tránsito locales, el COG de Fresno está recopilando comentarios públicos sobre las necesidades de tránsito insatisfechas del condado de Fresno. Todos los comentarios deben presentarse antes del 24 de marzo de 2023 a las 5:00 p. m. y se considerarán parte de la evaluación de la UTN de 2023.

La evaluación de la UTN se lleva a cabo cada año para identificar las necesidades de tránsito insatisfechas que son "razonables de satisfacer" y que aún no se están satisfaciendo a través de los servicios de transporte público existentes con los fondos disponibles.

Ayúdenos completando la encuesta en la siguiente pantalla para identificar las necesidades de tránsito insatisfechas en el condado de Fresno.

1. ¿Utiliza transporte público o transporte de servicios sociales?

- Sí
- No

2. ¿Hay lugares/destinos del condado de Fresno a los que le gustaría acceder por transporte público o servicio social que actualmente no están siendo atendidos?

- Sí
- No

En caso afirmativo, enumere ubicaciones/destinos

3. Si respondió afirmativamente a la pregunta n.º 2, responda las siguientes preguntas.

a. ¿Cuál es su código postal?

b. ¿Adónde va (cuál es su dirección de destino o el cruce de calles más cercano)?

c. ¿De dónde viene (cuál es su dirección de origen en las calles transversales más cercanas)?

d. ¿Qué días necesita el servicio? (Por ejemplo, días de semana, fines de semana o ambos)

e. ¿A qué sistema de tránsito se refieren sus comentarios?

- Área de Fresno Express (FAX)
- Handy Ride, el servicio de paratransito de la ciudad de Fresno
- Escenario de Clovis
- Clovis Round-Up, servicio de paratransito de la ciudad de Clovis
- Agencia de Tránsito Rural del Condado de Fresno (FCRTA)
- Proveedor de una agencia de servicios sociales

4. ¿Tiene algún otro comentario o retroalimentación?

Si desea que nos comuniquemos con usted, incluya su nombre e información de contacto. Si no desea que nos comuniquemos con usted no ingrese sus datos y haga clic en continuar.

Nombre de pila

Apellido

Correo electrónico

Teléfono

DIRECCIÓN

Gracias por tomarse el tiempo para compartir sus ideas con nosotros.

Si desea enviar por correo electrónico al personal comentarios adicionales relacionados con necesidades insatisfechas, envíenos un correo electrónico a una de las siguientes direcciones:

Para comentarios en inglés: utn2023@PublicInput.com (<mailto:utn2023@PublicInput.com>)

Para comentarios en español: spanishutn2023@PublicInput.com (<mailto:spanishutn2023@PublicInput.com>)

También puede dejar un mensaje de voz para el personal con sus comentarios sobre las necesidades de tránsito insatisfechas. Simplemente llame al 855-925-2801, ingrese el código de proyecto 8288 cuando se le solicite, luego hable para dejar un mensaje de voz.

Si tiene alguna pregunta sobre el proceso y desea hablar directamente con los representantes de las agencias de tránsito, únase a nosotros en uno de los eventos virtuales planificados que se enumeran [en este enlace](https://www.fresnocog.org/unmet-transit-needs-assessment/) (<https://www.fresnocog.org/unmet-transit-needs-assessment/>) o envíe un correo electrónico a Harold Sobrado a Harold.sobrado@fresno.gov (<mailto:Harold.sobrado@fresno.gov>).

Nombre

Correo electrónico

DIRECCIÓN

Exhibit B-5

Unmet Transit Needs Assessment PowerPoint Presentation

A PowerPoint presentation summarizing the Unmet Transit Needs process was prepared as a hand-out and for virtual meetings to explain the UTN process to stakeholders. A presentation was prepared in both English and Spanish. The English-language presentation is included below.



What is the purpose of the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC)?

The purpose of SSTAC is to receive public comment regarding transit service needs for the transit-dependent in Fresno County.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

1. Complete an online survey in English or Spanish:
English – www.publicinput.com/utn2023
Spanish – www.publicinput.com/spanishutn2023
2. Attend a public outreach meeting and/or public hearing and speak with transit agency representatives. See www.fresnocog.org/unmet-transit-needs-assessment/ for dates and times.
3. Send an email in English or Spanish:
English: utn@publicinput.com
Spanish: spanishutn@publicinput.com
4. Call and leave a voicemail of your comments at (855) 925-2802
5. To receive more information about available transit and the Unmet Transit Needs process, visit us on the web at this link:
<https://www.fresnocog.org/project/public-transit-planning/>

QUESTIONS?

THANK YOU!

For additional information, please contact:

Todd Sobrado

Harold.Sobrado@fresno.gov

559-621-1532

Exhibit B-6

Unmet Transit Needs Assessment Mailing List Summary, FY 2023-2024

Fresno COG maintains a list of stakeholders interested in the Unmet Transit Needs process. These stakeholders include private citizens, local tribal governments, government agencies, non-profit organizations, and elected officials.

Notification of the Unmet Transit Needs process is made via US mail in mid-to-late January and consists of the flyers in exhibits B1 and B2 above. Prior to sending the flyers, FRESNO COG staff and members of SSTAC review the list with names, agencies, and contact information, edited, added, and deleted from the list, keeping the list current.

Every other year, Fresno COG staff will contact the names and agencies on this list to keep the list fresh. In the interest of space and protecting the privacy of the individuals involved in the Unmet Transit Needs process, the mailing list is not included here.

The full Unmet Transit Needs mailing list for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 is available upon request via email to Harold.sobrado@fresno.gov or by phone to (559) 621-1532.

In the current cycle of the Unmet Transit Needs process, there were 338 names, tribes, organizations, and agencies on the list that received notification. The smallest groups were local tribal governments with all six tribes receiving notification, followed by private citizens. This latter group numbered less than ten.

The remaining stakeholders consisted of elected officials, non-profit organizations, and government agencies. Some of the elected officials on this list include:

- The six members of the Fresno County Board of Supervisors
- The mayors of the sixteen incorporated cities in Fresno County
- Council members of each of the sixteen incorporated cities in Fresno County
- The US Senator and Federal and State House and Senate Representatives

The non-profit organizations on the list includes social service providers, and legal advocates, including:

- National Action Network
- Central California Legal Services, Inc.
- Clinica Sierra Vista
- California Rural Legal Assistance

There are many government agencies represented on the list. Some of the agencies on the list include:

- Fresno County Department of Social Services
- California, Department of Transportation (Caltrans)
- Many departments within Fresno County, The City of Fresno, and other cities within Fresno County.

Exhibit C

Public Outreach Meeting Attendance Lists, In-Person and Virtual

UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS IN-PERSON MEETING #1 – RURAL FRESNO COUNTY, CITY OF MENDOTA MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2023, 5:30 PM Mendota City Hall, Council Chambers 643 Quince Street, Mendota, CA 93640		
NAME	ADDRESS OR AGENCY	PHONE
Todd Sobrado	Fresno COG and FAX	(559) 621-1532
Libertad Lopez	City of Mendota	
Victor Martinez	FCRTA	

UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS IN-PERSON MEETING #2 – CITY OF FRESNO, PINEDALE TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2023, 5:30 PM Pinedale Community Center 7170 N. San Pablo Ave., Fresno CA 93650		
NAME	ADDRESS OR AGENCY	PHONE
Todd Sobrado	FCOG and FAX	(559) 621-1532
Moses Stites	FCRTA	(559) 273-7021
Carolina Ilic	FAX	
Juan Mosqueda	FAX (Intern)	
Amy Hance	City of Clovis	
Janelle Del Campo	FCRTA	

UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS VIRTUAL MEETING #1 - ZOOM THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2023, 10:00 – 11:00 AM VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM for broadcast on Facebook		
NAME	ADDRESS OR AGENCY	PHONE
Todd Sobrado	Fresno COG and FAX	(559) 621-1532
Amy Hance	Clovis Transit	
Carolina Ilic	FAX	
Jeff Long	Fresno COG and FAX	
Moses Stites	FCRTA	(559) 273-7021
Janelle Del Campo	FCRTA	
Thomas Dulin	FEOC	
Robert Phipps	Fresno COG	
Brenda Veenendahl	Fresno COG	
Ofelia Abundez	Fresno COG	

UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS IN-PERSON MEETING #3 – CITY OF CLOVIS WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2023, 5:30 PM Clovis Senior Center 850 4 th Street, Clovis, CA 93612		
NAME	ADDRESS OR AGENCY	PHONE
Todd Sobrado	Fresno COG and FAX	(559) 621-1532
Amy Hance	Clovis Transit	
Bethany Berube	Clovis Transit	
Moses Stites	FCRTA	(559) 273-7021
Janelle Del Campo	FCRTA	
Carolina Ilic	FAX	

Jeff Long	FAX	
Thomas Dulin		

UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS VIRTUAL MEETING #2 - ZOOM THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2023, 5:30 PM VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM, broadcast via YouTube		
NAME	ADDRESS OR AGENCY	PHONE
Todd Sobrado	Fresno COG and FAX	(559) 621-1532
Amy Hance	Clovis Transit	
Carolina Ilic	FAX	
Jeff Long	FAX	
Moses stites	FCRTA	(559) 273-7021
Janelle Del Campo	FCRTA	
Thomas Dulin	FEOC	
Joe Vargas	FAX	
Greg Barfield	FAX	
Brenda Veenendahl	Fresno COG	

UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS IN-PERSON MEETING #4 – CITY OF FRESNO, DOWNTOWN Saturday, February 25, 2023, 9:00 AM 2035 Tulare Street, Ste. 200, Fresno, CA 93721		
NAME	ADDRESS OR AGENCY	PHONE
Todd Sobrado	Fresno COG and FAX	(559) 621-1532
Moses Stites	FCRTA	
Amy Hance	Clovis Transit	
Carolina Ilic	FAX	
Thomas Dulin	FEOC	
Bonnie Sabrina Dunne Nasr	Private Citizen	(559) 207-9165
MacKay Duran	Private Citizen	

UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS IN-PERSON MEETING #5 – RURAL FRESNO COUNTY, CITY OF HURON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2023, 5:30 PM Public Safety Building, Sky Room 17051 12TH Street, Huron, CA 93234		
NAME	ADDRESS OR AGENCY	PHONE
Todd Sobrado	Fresno COG and FAX	(559) 621-1532
Thomas Dulin	FEOC	
Veronica Magallanes	State Council of Development Disabilities	

UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS IN-PERSON MEETING # – 6 RURAL FRESNO COUNTY, CITY OF SANGER WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1, 2023, 5:30 PM City Hall 1700 7TH Street, Sanger, CA 93657		
NAME	ADDRESS OR AGENCY	PHONE
Todd Sobrado	Fresno COG and FAX	(559) 621-1532
Moses Stites	FCRTA	(559) 273-7021
Thomas Dulin	FEOC	
David Brletic	City of Sanger	
Joaquin Zamora	City of Sanger	

Exhibit D-1

Public Noticing of the FY 2023-2024 Unmet Transit Needs Assessment Public Hearing Fresno Bee in English and Receipt

3/15/23, 4:29 PM

Adportal Self Service Advertising Confirmation

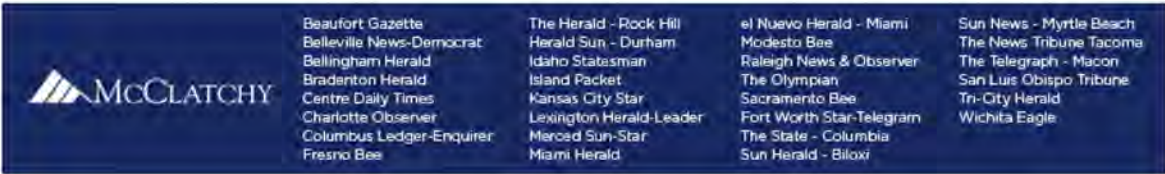
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Your legal has been submitted for publication. Below is a confirmation of your legal placement. You will also receive an email confirmation.

<p style="text-align: center;">ORDER DETAILS</p> <p>Order Number: IPL0114540</p> <p>Order Status: Submitted</p> <p>Classification: Legals & Public Notices</p> <p>Package: FRS - Legal Ads</p> <p>Final Cost: 485.58</p> <p>Payment Type: Visa</p> <p>User ID: IPL0020228</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PREVIEW FOR AD NUMBER IPL01145400</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">PUBLIC NOTICE</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">PUBLIC NOTICE</p> <p>The Fresno Council of Governments (COG) will hold a public hearing for the annual Unmet Transit Needs Process beginning at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 27, 2023, at the Fresno Council of Governments, Sequoia room, 2035 Tulare St., Suite 201 Fresno, California.</p> <p>The Fresno COG Policy Board will take comments at the Unmet Transit Needs public hearing on public transportation needs within the Fresno County region that are reasonable to meet during the 2023-24 fiscal year. In addition to this public hearing, COG conducted outreach meetings throughout the County. Transit agencies involved in this process include Fresno Area Express, Fresno County Rural Transit Agency, Clovis Transit, and the Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission. For Additional information, please visit www.fresnocog.org or contact Todd Sobrado, Fresno Area Express at (559) 621-1532.</p> <p>Individuals with disability may call Fresno COG (with 3-working-day advance notice) to request auxiliary aids necessary to participate in the public hearing. Translation services are available (with 3-working-day advance notice) to participants speaking any language with available translation services.</p> <p>/s/ TONY BOREN, Executive Director Fresno Council of Governments W00000000 Publication Dates</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">ACCOUNT INFORMATION</p> <p>FRESNO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS IP 2035 TULARE ST, STE 201 FRESNO, CA 93721-2004 559-233-4148 noemail@mclatchy.com FRESNO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><< Click here to print a printer friendly version >></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">PAYMENT DETAILS</p> <p>Visa*****0685 05/2026</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">TRANSACTION REPORT</p> <p>Date March 15, 2023 7:28:49 PM EDT</p> <p>Amount: 485.58</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">SCHEDULE FOR AD NUMBER IPL01145400</p> <p>March 26, 2023 The Fresno Bee</p>	

<https://placelegal.mclatchy.com/legals/fresno/home/confirmation.html?id=107748&returnto=>

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Account #	Order Number	Identification	Order PO	Amount	Cols	Depth
20875	397442	Print Legal Ad-IPL01145400 - IPL0114540		\$485.58	2	26 L

Attention: Mrs. Brenda Veenendaal
 FRESNO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
 2035 TULARE ST, STE 201

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

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/s/ TONY BOREN, Executive Director Fresno Council of Governments
 IPL0114540
 Mar 26 2023

**COUNTY OF DALLAS
 STATE OF TEXAS**

The undersigned states:

McClatchy Newspapers in and on all dates herein stated was a corporation, and the owner and publisher of The Fresno Bee.

The Fresno Bee is a daily newspaper of general circulation now published, and on all the dates herein stated was published in the City of Fresno, County of Fresno, and has been adjudged a newspaper of general circulation by the Superior Court of the County of Fresno, State of California, under the date of November 28, 1994, Action No. 520058-9.

The undersigned is and on all dates herein mentioned was a citizen of the United States, over the age of twenty-one years, and is the principal clerk of the printer and publisher of said newspaper; and that the notice, a copy of which is hereto annexed, marked Exhibit A, hereby made a part hereof, was published in The Fresno Bee in each issue thereof (in type not smaller than nonpareil), on the following dates.

1 insertion(s) published on:
 03/26/23

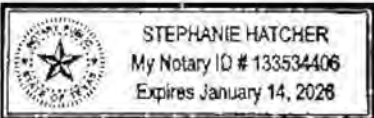
Isabel Capps

I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated: 04/17/2023

Stephanie Hatcher

Notary Public in and for the state of Texas, residing in Dallas County



Extra charge for lost or duplicate affidavits.
 Legal document please do not destroy!

Exhibit D-2

Public Noticing of the FY 2022-2023 Unmet Transit Needs Assessment Public Hearing Fresno Bee in Spanish and Receipt

3/15/23, 4:38 PM

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Order Number: IPL0114542 Order Status: Submitted Classification: Legals & Public Notices Package: FRS - Legal Ads Final Cost: 519.70 Payment Type: Visa User ID: IPL0020228	PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICIA PUBLICA El Consejo de Gobiernos de Fresno llevará a cabo una audiencia pública para el Proceso Anual de Necesidades de Tránsito No Cumplidas que comenzará a las 5:30 p.m. el Jueves, 27 de abril del 2023 en el Salón Sequoia room del Consejo de Gobiernos de Fresno, 2035 Tulare St., Suite 201 Fresno, California. La Junta de Políticas de Fresno COG tomará comentarios en esta audiencia pública en la región del Condado de Fresno que sean razonables para cumplir durante el año fiscal 2023-24. Además de esta audiencia pública, Fresno COG a llevado a cabo reuniones de alcance en todo el condado. Las agencias de tránsito involucradas en este proceso incluyen Fresno Area Express, la Agencia de Tránsito Rural de Fresno, Tránsito de Clovis, y la Comisión de Oportunidades Económicas de Fresno. Para obtener información adicional, visite www.fresnocog.org o comuníquese con Todd Sobrado, Fresno Area Express al número (559) 621-1532. Las personas con discapacidades pueden llamar a Fresno COG (con un preaviso de 3 días laborables) para solicitar las ayudas auxiliares necesarias para participar en la audiencia pública. Los servicios de traducción están disponibles (con un preaviso de 3 días laborables) a los participantes que hablan cualquier idioma con los servicios de traducción profesional y disponible. /s/ TONY BOREN, Director Ejecutivo Consejo de Gobiernos de Fresno W00000000 Publication Dates
ACCOUNT INFORMATION FRESNO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS IP 2035 TULARE ST, STE 201 FRESNO, CA 93721-2004 559-233-4148 noemail@mcclatchy.com FRESNO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS	<< Click here to print a printer friendly version >>
PAYMENT DETAILS Visa*****0685 05/2026	
TRANSACTION REPORT Date March 15, 2023 7:33:22 PM EDT Amount: 519.70	
SCHEDULE FOR AD NUMBER IPL01145420 March 26, 2023 The Fresno Bee	

<https://placelegal.mcclatchy.com/legals/fresno/home/confirmation.html?id=107751&returnto=>

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20875	397443	Print Legal Ad-IPL01145420 - IPL0114542		\$519.70	2	28 L

Attention: Mrs. Brenda Veenendaal
 FRESNO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
 2035 TULARE ST, STE 201

 PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICIA PUBLICA

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/s/ TONY BOREN, Director Ejecutivo Consejo de Gobiernos de Fresno
 IPL0114542
 Mar 26 2023

**COUNTY OF DALLAS
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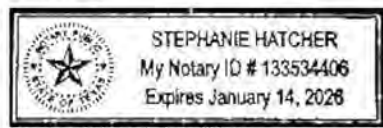
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I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated: 04/17/2023

Stephanie Hatcher

Notary Public in and for the state of Texas, residing in Dallas County



Extra charge for lost or duplicate affidavits.
 Legal document please do not destroy!

Exhibit E-1

Letter from Leadership Counsel



March 24th, 2023
Attn: Todd Sobrado
Fresno COG
2035 Tulare Street, Ste. 201
Fresno, CA 93721

Submitted via Email

RE: Fresno County Unmet Transit Needs Assessment 2023

To the Fresno Council of Governments (COG):

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments for the 2023 Unmet Transit Needs Assessment (UTN). We work alongside community leaders throughout the San Joaquin Valley on various issues including essential transportation services and equitable investments in transportation. In Fresno County, we work alongside communities in Southwest Fresno, South Central Fresno, Southeast Fresno, and Jane Addams in Fresno City as well as the unincorporated communities of Calwa, Tombstone Territory, Lanare, Cantua Creek, and El Porvenir.

Pursuant to California Public Utilities Code Section 99401.5, Fresno COG has the discretion to define both “unmet needs” and “reasonable to meet.” However, Fresno COG has not updated its definitions since June 28, 1990 - more than 30 years ago. First, we strongly urge that Fresno COG revisit and update these definitions to be more reflective of the resources available to transportation agencies in 2023 and to be responsive to community needs. These definitions should be developed with significant public input and robust community engagement, to ensure that the definitions will facilitate - and not hamper - the implementation of transportation policies and programs that respond to community needs.

The Transportation Development Act in Article 3 Section 99238.5 of the California Public Utilities Code requires that the transportation planning agency “solicit the input of transit dependent and transit disadvantaged persons”. Cal. Pub. Util. Code § 99238.5. Thus, clearly identifying the needs of the elderly, disabled, and residents of limited means for the UTN Assessments is mandated by law and must be complied with. Furthermore, as Article 8 Section 99401.5 of the California Public Utilities Code states “the fact that an identified transit need cannot be fully met based on available resources shall not be the sole reason for finding that a transit need is not reasonable to meet.” Hence, the projects listed below should not be classified unreasonable to meet merely due to lack of resources.

Pursuant to Public Utilities Code Section 99401.5 (e), “If the transportation planning agency adopts a finding that there are unmet transit needs, including needs that are reasonable to meet,



then the unmet transit needs shall be funded before any allocation is made for streets and roads within the jurisdiction.”¹ However, should there be funding available after all reasonable unmet transit needs are addressed, there are many pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure needs that also need to be met across Fresno County. Fresno COG mentions on its website, TDA Local Transportation Fund allocations “...are made in four categories: Bicycle and pedestrian facilities, social services transportation, regional transportation planning, and public transportation.”² As a result, we have also included a list of bicycle and pedestrian facilities needs that have been identified by community leaders across Fresno County. Once funds have been allocated on unmet transportation needs, we recommend prioritizing these bicycle and pedestrian facilities for funding allocations.

The UTN Assessment is a key opportunity to help communities close the gap towards access and inequities in the County of Fresno. Many residents lack access to a vehicle which makes public transportation their only source of moving throughout the county. Since transportation policies have a long history of discrimination and segregation, we must actively work to undo the harm embedded in the current structure. Achieving a just and equitable transit system cannot be done without direct and meaningful partnerships with community leaders driving the solutions for their communities.

As such, we have provided the following project list resulting from discussions with community leaders throughout the county for the 2023 Unmet Transportation Needs to improve their communities and quality of life:

➔ **Expanding and Institutionalizing Microtransit Programs for Rural and Isolated Communities:**

- ◆ Fresno County Rural Transportation Agency (FCRTA) has put forth community-driven rideshare programs to address the specific transportation needs of the region's rural and isolated communities. There are few smaller cities and communities, like Cantua Creek, that already have an electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure, and FCRTA is working diligently to ensure a reliable grid for all-electric fleets. We urge FCOG to fund innovative, resilient, and sustainable projects, like those created by FCRTA, to continue to adequately address rural transportation infrastructure issues

This need was deemed reasonable to meet in 2021 and we are highlighting it once more to ensure next steps, funding, and community outreach is being conducted in a timely manner. This continues to be an unmet need as of now.

¹ https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?sectionNum=99401.5&lawCode=PLC

² <https://www.fresnocog.org/unmet-transit-needs-assessment/>



- ◆ FAX and Inspiration Transportation along with Leadership Counsel put forth a community driven Clean Mobility Options (CMO) planning grant to address transportation needs for the area, and we look forward to seeing the implementation of the CMO transportation option. However, transportation needs continue to go unmet. We urge funding to go towards an on-demand microtransit program to meet the needs of an area that has limited bus options, active transportation infrastructure, and is isolated from many amenities including doctors offices, grocery stores, and parks.

Given the investments that have already been made through the planning grant, the great demand from the community, and the available resources, we believe that this is “reasonable to meet” and should be prioritized by Fresno COG for funding. We look forward to continuing to work with FAX and Inspiration Transportation to see an on-demand microtransit program come into fruition.

→ **Better Transit Access In the City of Fresno West of Highway 99:**

- ◆ Extending the Bus Rapid Transit along California Avenue into West Fresno. In the short-term, Route #28 needs to pass by with more frequency along California Ave.

When we suggested this as an unmet transit need during the 2021 process, Fresno COG responded that this was “not reasonable to meet.” due to the fact that “existing and projected ridership do not justify the cost.” In their justification, Fresno COG cited a 2008 study of potential BRT routes that did not include California Avenue as a proposed location. This is an insufficient explanation to label this unmet transit need as “not reasonable to meet.” First, the BRT study did not include California Avenue, so there is no actual estimation of what projected ridership would be with a BRT route. Fresno Area Express (FAX) has seen a 13% increase in ridership on its FAX Q line, or the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)- Route 1, for the first half of fiscal 2020 over the same time frame in 2019.³ Additionally, relying on a 2008 study also does not take into account the population and development growth in the past 15 years, nor what growth is projected through the Southwest Fresno Specific Plan. Finally, Article 8 Section 99401.5 of the California Public Utilities Code states “the fact that an identified transit need cannot be fully met based on available resources shall not be the sole reason for finding that a transit need is not reasonable to meet.” Because Fresno COG provided no reason besides a lack of available resources, this is not a legitimate reason that this is “not reasonable to meet.”

³ <https://thebusinessjournal.com/fresno-bus-rapid-transit-ridership-on-the-rise/>



- ◆ Reliable and efficient transit stops/access on Route #35 towards Addams Elementary. Currently, the bus passes by every 30 to 40 minutes making it difficult for children and parents to get to school on time.

When we suggested this as an unmet transit need during the 2021 process, Fresno COG responded that this was “not reasonable to meet.” due to the fact that “existing and projected ridership do not justify the cost.” The reasoning for this was “increasing service from 30 Minutes to 15 minutes would require the purchase of six new electric buses at a cost of \$1.3” As stated in Article 8 Section 99401.5 of the California Public Utilities Code states “the fact that an identified transit need cannot be fully met based on available resources shall not be the sole reason for finding that a transit need is not reasonable to meet.” Because Fresno COG provided no reason besides a lack of available resources, this is not a legitimate reason that this is “not reasonable to meet.” Therefore, we recommend the appropriate transportation agency implement an alternative transit option that will meet this need. FCOG, FAX and the Addams community should work together to identify a transportation solution that works for that community. We do not have to rely on traditional solutions of transit to work for everyone and recommend conducting a study with community based solutions to find the best solution.

Furthermore, the following are projects that can be funded using Local Transportation Fund (LTF dollars) that are also unmet transportation needs. As written on the Fresno COG website, “Fresno COG undertakes comprehensive regional planning with a transportation emphasis, provides citizens an opportunity to be involved in the planning process and supplies technical service to its members.” Fresno COG should forward these projects to the respective agencies responsible for implementing these projects, flag them as a community priority and work with those agencies to ensure that these projects are funded.

- Repave East Central Avenue between Cherry Avenue and Chestnut Avenue
- Protected bike lanes and complete sidewalks along Cedar Avenue from Jensen Avenue near Calwa Elementary towards Tulare Avenue at Roosevelt High.
- Complete sidewalks and bike lanes leading to Addams Elementary. This includes sidewalks along Marks Avenue from Olive to Clinton Avenues, especially on the east side of Marks.
- Complete streets project on East Central Avenue between Cherry Avenue and Chestnut Avenue so they are safer for pedestrians and bicycle riders.



- Protected bike lanes or separated trails on rural corridors for safe travel for cyclists, specifically in Lanare, Three Rocks, Cantua Creek, Tombstone Territory, and Riverdale.
- The intersection of North Avenue and Elm Avenue needs completed sidewalks on all four corners to connect all directions of travel for pedestrians and bicyclists, including southbound Elm Avenue where the sidewalks abruptly end.
- Leveling and paving Britten Avenue along Cherry Avenue.
- Safe routes to school leading from the Cantua Creek and El Porvenir communities to Cantua Creek Elementary, especially Santa Clara Avenue and Clarkson Avenue. Adding sidewalks will ensure mobility and the safety of children and residents.
- Complete streets project in Lanare to address the deteriorating streets on South Chateau Fresno, South Garfield, South Grantland, and Mt Whitney Avenue.
- Complete streets project in Cantua Creek on Domengine, Latta, Hidalgo, Terrado, Chappo, and Santa Clara Avenue and El Progreso, Hidalgo, and Juarez Avenue in El Porvenir.
- Complete streets project in Tombstone Territory on South Greenwood, South Cottle, South Tinoco, and South Fairbanks Avenue.
- **Prioritization of Active Transportation Projects in DUCs/DACs**
 - ◆ Ensure that sidewalks, bike lanes, curb, and gutter projects are funded in areas that do not have the existing pedestrian infrastructure. In addition, FCOG should work in conjunction with Fresno County to ensure that communities who reported flooding are prioritized.

Conclusion:

Thank you for your consideration of our comments. We look forward to working together for a transportation future that benefits all communities in Fresno County. If any questions arise, do not hesitate to contact me at kmartinez@leadershipcounsel.org.

Sincerely,

Karla Martinez

Policy Advocate

Exhibit E-2

Fresno COG Response to Leadership Counsel Letter



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May 11, 2023

Karla Martinez, Policy Advocate
Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability
2210 San Joaquin Street
Fresno, CA 93721

Sent via U.S. Mail and Email to kmartinez@leadershipcounsel.org

Dear Ms. Martinez,

Thank you for your letter dated March 24, 2023, in which you engage the Fresno Council of Governments ("FCOG") in discussions relating to the 2023 Unmet Transit Needs ("UTN") assessment process. We have reviewed your letter along with our partners at the Fresno County Rural Transit Agency ("FCRTA"), Fresno Area Express ("FAX"), and Clovis Transit. Through this letter, FCOG staff responds to the comments in your letter.

Community Engagement Efforts

As a threshold matter, you are correct that section 99238.5 of the Public Utilities Code ("PUC") requires the FCOG to "solicit the input of transit dependent and transit disadvantaged persons." The UTN requirement calls for a single public hearing to satisfy the public input process. FCOG regularly exceeds the minimum requirements by a large margin. In the current cycle of the UTN assessment, eight public meetings were held between February 14 and March 4, 2023. Three in-person public meetings were in rural communities, while three were in urban communities, all within Fresno County. Two virtual public meetings also took place, with one broadcast on the FCOG Facebook page, and the other on the FCOG YouTube channel. All outreach materials are prepared in English and Spanish, with meetings attended by bilingual staff to communicate with Spanish-speaking attendees. Additionally, the flyer contains contact information to request special accommodations.

City of Clovis

City of Coalinga

City of Firebaugh

City of Fowler

City of Fresno

City of Huron

City of Kerman

City of Kingsburg

City of Mendota

City of Orange Cove

City of Parlier

City of Reedley

City of San Joaquin

City of Sanger

City of Selma

County of Fresno

The three in-person public meetings in rural Fresno County were held in Mendota, Huron, and Sanger, while one of the three in-person public meetings within the urban area was held in Clovis. The remaining two in-person public meetings in urban Fresno County were in the City of Fresno, specifically Pinedale and downtown Fresno. Five of the six in-person public meetings were held in 'disadvantaged' communities within Fresno County.

Public meetings are just one way that FCOG collects comments and feedback. As a result of the shutdown in 2020 from COVID and its ongoing effects, FCOG set up an online survey to collect comments, feedback, and needs from the public. First available in both English and Spanish, the online survey is now available in many languages and has quickly become a preferred way for transit riders and stakeholders to communicate transit needs.

In the current cycle of the UTN, FCOG is also collecting public feedback via email and a 1-(800) line. People can call in or send an email to a pre-designated phone number and email address to provide their comments.

Just as important as receiving comments and feedback about transit needs, is increasing awareness of the UTN process. The UTN outreach process starts with a letter and flyer sent to the UTN mailing list maintained by FCOG. This list contains over 320 interested stakeholders and agencies advising them of the current year's outreach schedule and process. They are encouraged to share this information with staff and additional stakeholders to further increase awareness and generate interest in the UTN.

Notification of the UTN process was also made through the FCOG's "Coming Up at Fresno COG" and FAX's "What's New At FAX" newsletters. The FCOG newsletter was sent to 3,870 email addresses, while FAX's email distribution list includes 320 addresses. FAX's newsletter is also available publicly on the Fresno.gov website.

In addition to email newsletters, social media was heavily utilized to increase awareness of the UTN process. At least one social media post was made through the social media channels of each FCOG, the City of Clovis, and FAX.

FCOG uses publicinput.com, a community engagement platform for Government that consolidates the entire public outreach process into a single channel. The use of the platform has significantly increased public feedback and input for the UTN process.

In addition to comments and feedback about transit needs, FCOG and partners occasionally receive suggestions for how to improve the public outreach process. Three years ago, it was suggested to hold an in-person public meeting on a Saturday to provide people who wanted to participate in the UTN on a weekend the opportunity to do so. The following year, this recommendation was implemented, and now continues to be incorporated into the outreach process.

In the current cycle, FCOG and partners have received excellent feedback from participants for how to be more inclusive of additional populations within Fresno County, specifically, the elderly. As a result, we will be incorporating some of these suggestions into the UTN process starting next year.

Legal Standard

As you know, the FCOG, as the transportation planning agency for the County of Fresno, annually conducts the UTN assessment process under section 99401.5 of the PUC. Through this process, the FCOG identifies "unmet transit needs" that are "reasonable to meet," per FCOG Resolution No. 90-15, which although adopted over thirty years ago remains a valid and effective protocol to facilitate the implementation of transportation policies and programs that respond to all community transit needs.

On pages 2, 3, and 4 of your letter, you identified four specific transit projects, which you assert meet the definitions in FCOG Resolution No. 90-15 and section 99401.5, subdivision (c) of the PUC as unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet. Those four transit projects are presented under the following headings:

- Expanding and Institutionalizing Microtransit Programs for Rural and Isolated Communities
- Better Transit Access in the City of Fresno West of Highway 99

In this letter, FCOG staff and FCOG's transportation partners provide responses to your proposed four transit projects listed in your letter and make the determination whether they qualify as unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet.

We do not, however, respond to the twelve "non-transit" projects listed on pages 4 and 5 of your letter. These non-transit projects are neither within the scope of the UTN Assessment process, nor are they within the scope of FCOG's authority as the transportation planning agency. It will be up to individual governments to determine which projects will be implemented. The twelve "non-transit" projects are listed below.

1. What Are Unmet Transit Needs?

To determine whether the four transit projects identified in your letter qualify as unmet transit needs, FCOG staff relies on the definition from Resolution No. 90-15, which defines "unmet transit needs" as follows:

"Those public transportation or specialized transportation services that are identified in the Regional Transportation Plan and/or documented through the [FCOG]'s annual unmet transit needs public hearing process that have not been implemented or funded."

This is a broad definition which is inclusive of all public transportation and specialized transportation services identified in the Regional Transportation Plan.

2. When Are Unmet Transit Needs Reasonable to Meet?

The FCOG is required by section 99401.5 of the PUC to determine whether an unmet transit need is reasonable to meet. Pursuant to the authorization under section 99401.5, subdivision (c), FCOG has provided a definition for "reasonable to meet" in Resolution No. 90-15.

The definition in Resolution No. 90-15 provides that FCOG staff, on consultation with FCOG's transit partners, conduct a feasibility analysis, which can include the following non-exhaustive determinations: These assessments are an essential feature of the transit operators ongoing review of all existing service routes and proposed additions to service in relation to existing limited budget resources to provide the highest and best levels of service to as many transit dependent passengers within Fresno County and disadvantaged communities as possible.

- (a) Forecast of anticipated ridership if service is provided.
- (b) Estimate of capital and operating costs for the provision of such services.
- (c) Estimate of fares and local support in relation to estimates operating costs for providing such services.
- (d) An estimated fare which the [FCOG] Board would determine to be sufficient to meet farebox recovery requirements but would not be so high that it would provide a financial burden on transit patrons.

Moreover, FCOG must determine whether the proposed service complies with numerous legal requirements. Among those legal requirements expressly listed in Resolution No. 90-15, FCOG must also consider whether a proposed service "would result in the responsible operator or service claimant meeting the farebox recovery and local support requirements as set forth by PUC section 99268 *et seq.*" State law requires that urban operators must recover one-fifth of their operating revenues from fares and rural operators must recover one-tenth. (PUC, § 99268.2.) Failure of our transportation partners to maintain the requisite levels of farebox recovery could also result in their forfeiture of significant state subsidies.

PUC section 99401.5, subd. (c), provides "the fact that an identified transit need cannot be fully met based on available resources shall not be the sole reason for finding that a transit need is not reasonable to meet." However, to suggest as you did in your letter that financial criteria should not be a part of the determination whether an unmet transit need is reasonable to meet is a significant oversimplification. The key phrase is, "shall not be the sole reason". FCOG does not make unmet needs finding based solely on available resources, but rather on an analysis of total existing needs, total requested additional needs, and total budget resources available to maximize resources to the betterment of safe and efficient operations for the greatest need.

Analysis of Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability Comments

1. "Expanding and Institutionalizing Microtransit Programs for Rural and Isolated Communities"

a. Rural Transportation Projects

You state:

"Fresno County Rural Transportation Agency (FCRTA) has put forth community-driven rideshare programs to address the specific transportation needs of the region's rural and isolated communities. There are few smaller cities and communities, like Cantua Creek, that already have an electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure, and FCRTA is working diligently to ensure a reliable grid for all-electric fleets. We urge FCOG to fund innovative, resilient, and sustainable projects, like those created by FCRTA, to continue to adequately address rural transportation infrastructure issues."

Initially, it must be stated that your request is vague, and does not call for a specific project or projects, but evidently a category of projects. FCOG agrees that, to the extent your comment calls on FCOG to fund research into the feasibility and implementation of "innovative, resilient, and sustainable" projects in the rural area of Fresno County, that was at one time an unmet transit need that was reasonable to meet. However, given FCOG's recent work to explore and implement microtransit programs County-wide, as discussed below, the need is no longer unimplemented or unfunded, and therefore no longer unmet.

In December 2022, the FCOG released an RFP to explore microtransit options, not only in the urban area, but in the rural, isolated communities of Fresno County. A consultant was selected in March 2023. The study will explore the feasibility of microtransit as a solution to meet transportation needs that cannot be satisfied by existing transit services. If microtransit is financially feasible and implemented in Fresno County, it can fill the gap that fixed-route transit cannot, providing additional transit options in isolated areas of rural Fresno County to residents who lack transportation for jobs, school, medical services, and other daily activities. Better Transit Access in the City of Fresno West of Highway 99.

b. CMO Microtransit

Your letter also states:

"FAX and Inspiration Transportation along with Leadership Counsel put forth a community driven Clean Mobility Options (CMO) planning grant to address transportation needs for the area, and we look forward to seeing the implementation of the CMO transportation option. However, transportation needs continue to go

unmet. We urge funding to go towards an on-demand microtransit program to meet the needs of an area that has limited bus options, active transportation infrastructure, and is isolated from many amenities including doctors' offices, grocery stores, and parks."

Initially, it must be stated that your request is vague, and does not call for a specific project or projects, but evidently a category of projects. FCOG agrees that, to the extent your comment calls on FAX to fund research into the feasibility of microtransit projects, that was an unmet transit need that was reasonable to meet. However, given FAX's recent work to explore and implement microtransit programs, as discussed below, the need is no longer unimplemented or unfunded, and therefore no longer unmet.

In July 2022, FAX contracted with their Consolidated Transportation Services Agency social services provider, Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission Transit Services, to implement a demonstration shuttle bus service connecting 3 Palms Mobile Home Park, West Park, and the Veterans Home to various services in the City of Fresno. The demonstration project was funded through social service transportation funding provided by the State of California. This service operates Monday through Saturday. Schedule and destinations are as follows:

- Mondays: Food Maxx and Courthouse Park (CHP) (8:00am, 12:00pm and 4:00pm)
- Tuesdays: Vallarta and Walmart (8:23am, 2:23pm)
- Wednesdays: Manchester Transit Center (MTC) & Fashion Fair (9:23am, 3:23pm)
- Thursdays: El Paseo Shopping Center (11:23pm)
- Fridays: Food Maxx and Courthouse Park (8:00am, 12:00pm, and 4:00pm)
- Saturdays: Vallarta and Walmart (9:23am)

At these locations, passengers can connect to the FAX fixed-route system and access most parts of Fresno. Ridership in the first eight months of the service at 3 Palms Mobile Home Park was extremely low, with an average of two passengers per trip per month. Based on low ridership, this service is unsustainable as currently structured.

In July 2022, FAX partnered with a microtransit provider to apply for grant funds from the FCOG Measure C New Technology grant program to implement a microtransit demonstration project in the 3 Palms Mobile Home Park area. The application did not receive a grant award. In November 2022, FAX again partnered with a microtransit provider, this time to apply for federal grant funds to implement a 3-year microtransit demonstration project in a 10-square-mile service area west of State Route 99, including the 3 Palms Mobile Home Park. The analysis completed as part of the Clean Mobility Options (CMO) project was used as the basis of both grant applications. FAX is still waiting to hear the status of the federal grant application. If awarded, this would be the City of Fresno's first microtransit pilot project with a nationally recognized microtransit provider, resulting in a test case for the demand, use, and financial sustainability of microtransit not only in this area but also in other potential areas in the City of Fresno.

2. "Better Transit Access in the City of Fresno West of Highway 99"

a. Route 28 Extension and Stop Frequency

Your letter urges the FCOG to consider:

“Extending the Bus Rapid Transit along California Avenue into West Fresno. In the short-term, Route #28 needs to pass by with more frequency along California Ave.”

FCOG, in consultation with FAX, has determined that the extension of bus rapid transit along California Avenue in West Fresno, while it may be an unmet need, is not one that is reasonable to meet. FAX acknowledges the need for better transit access west of State Route 99 as an unmet transit need, however this is not reasonable to meet because development west of State Route 99 is dispersed and mostly low-density, thus resulting in limited efficiency for fixed route transit.

The reasons for this conclusion remain the same as those provided in our response to your 2021 letter.

However, this past year in West Fresno, FAX has increased frequency on that portion of Route 38 that intersects California Avenue. BRT expansion on California is suggested in the Southwest Fresno Specific Plan. Frequency on Route 28 is currently at 20 minutes which and will be looked at for a future frequency increase when the remaining system moves to 30-minute frequencies in the Fall of 2023 to mirror most routes except Route 58 which is at 60 minutes paid for by Valley Children’s Hospital.

For greater access to transit in the City of Fresno, west of Highway 99, FAX will extend Route 45 to the new Justin Garza High School on Ashlan this August moving to 30-minute frequency for the current 45 minutes.

In addition, as described above, FAX has applied for federal grant funds for a three-year Microtransit Pilot Program in the West Area. The awards should be announced soon.

b. Route 35 On-Time Operation

Your letter also urges FCOG to consider:

“Reliable and efficient transit stops/access on Route #35 towards Addams Elementary. Currently, the bus passes by every 30 to 40 minutes making it difficult for children and parents to get to school on time.”

To the extent that your comment argues that Route 35 did not historically operate on time, FCOG agrees that this had the potential to result in an unmet transit need. However, FAX’s expenditures and other efforts to improve the on-time efficiency of Route 35 mean that this need is no longer unimplemented and unfunded, therefore no longer unmet.

According to FAX, Route 35 operates at 30-minute frequencies and was recently interlined with Route 12 to improve on-time performance for the area. FAX will continue to evaluate the performance of this route and make adjustments as resources allow. In addition, as described above, FAX applied for federal grant funds for a three-year Microtransit Pilot Program in the West Area. If awarded, transportation to the Jane Addams Elementary School and surrounding neighborhood would be included as part of the project area and could provide alternative means for a more reliable and flexible service for students and parents.

3. Non-Transit Projects

On pages 4 and 5 of your letter, you identify twelve infrastructure-related projects as unmet transit needs. These include, on page 5, the following identified need under the heading "Prioritization of Active Transportation Projects in DUCs/DACs":

"Ensure that sidewalks, bike lanes, curb, and gutter projects are funded in areas that do not have the existing pedestrian infrastructure. In addition, FCOG should work in conjunction with Fresno County to ensure that communities who reported flooding in the SB 244 analysis are prioritized."

This and the eleven other transportation needs are infrastructure projects do not qualify as "public transportation or specialized transportation services," per resolution 90-15. They can only be undertaken by the local governments having jurisdiction to perform those public infrastructure improvements. These projects have been noted and forwarded to the appropriate agencies.

On a related note, the most recent round of the Caltrans Active Transportation Program (ATP) funded the Calwa and Tranquility Sidewalk Projects, and the Herndon/Barstow Intersection Crosswalk Project. The Cantua Creek/El Porvenir project was not funded. Efforts are continuously being made on behalf of FCOG to fund viable projects as proposed and evaluated by the ATP Committee, which is comprised of a diverse representation of local communities.

We encourage Leadership Counsel to work with the respective agencies that oversee these jurisdictions of the comments received, including Fresno County, the City of Fresno, school districts, and special districts. Additionally, there are funding opportunities through the Active Transportation Plan, and other sources that Leadership Counsel can apply for with the communities it works with to address these non-transit projects.

FCOG staff again thanks you for your participation in the Unmet Transit Needs process.

Harold Sobrado

Harold Todd Sobrado, Associate Planner
Fresno Council of Governments