

Policy Advisory Committee  
MINUTES  
Friday, June 9, 2023  
10:00 AM

Meeting was held at FCOG Sequoia Conference Room.

John Holt, City of Clovis  
Soo Hoo Park, City of Fowler  
Greg Barfield, City of Fresno  
Ben Gallegos, City of Firebaugh  
Alexander Henderson, City of Kingsburg  
Cristian Gonzalez, City of Mendota  
Sonia Hall, City of Parlier  
John Jansons, City of Kerman  
Nicole Zieba, City of Reedley  
Fernando Santillan, City of Selma  
David Padilla, Caltrans District 6  
Tony Boren, FCOG  
Moses Stites, FCRTA

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

**JOINT Transportation Technical/Policy Advisory Committee**

**A. Officer Elections**

Chair – Greg Barfield (Fresno City)  
Vice Chair – Wilma Tucker (Fowler)

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

David Padilla reported the following:

- Planning grant applications available.
- Clean California received 29 applications.

**I. TRANSPORTATION CONSENT ITEMS**

**A. Executive Minutes of May 12, 2023 [APPROVE]**

**B. Transportation Development Act (TDA) Claims (Les Beshears)**

1. Fresno County Rural Transit Agency (FCRTA) TDA Claim (Les Beshears) [ACTION]
2. City of Reedley TDA Claim (Les Beshears) [ACTION]
3. City of Kingsburg TDA Claim (Les Beshears) [ACTION]
4. City of Coalinga TDA Claim (Les Beshears) [ACTION]

**C. Fresno County Airport Land Use Commission Compatibility Plan Amendment No. 2 (Brenda Thomas) [INFORMATION]**

**D. Fresno-Clovis Metropolitan Area Short-Range Transit Plan 2024-2028, Resolution 2023-14 (Jeff Long) [ACTION]**

**E. Reappointments to SSTAC Membership (Harold Sobrado) [ACTION]**

**F. Clovis Consolidated Transportation Services Agencies (CTSA) Operations, Program, and Budget (OPB), FY 2023-2024 (Harold Sobrado) [ACTION]**

**G. FAX and FCRTA Urban and Rural Consolidated Transportation Services Agency (CTSA) Operations, Program, and Budget (OPB) (Janelle Del Campo) [ACTION]**

**H. Fresno County Rural Transit (FCRTA) Agency Short-Range Transit Plans (SRTP) (Janelle Del Campo) [ACTION]**

**I. FY 2023-2024 Unmet Transit Needs Assessment Findings Report (Harold Sobrado) [ACTION]**

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

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

## II. TRANSPORTATION ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

### A. 2023-24 Carbon Reduction Program (CRP)/Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) Improvement Program/Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program Guidelines, Application Packet and Call-for-Projects Initiation (Robert Phipps) [ACTION]

**Summary:** The Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Improvement, and Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) programs -- as well as the new Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) -- are each authorized in the Federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). These programs serve as the cornerstones for Federal transportation funds distributed to our region.

Fresno COG, in its role as a metropolitan planning organization (MPO), is responsible for programming future federal transportation revenues for the Fresno region in the Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP). CRP, CMAQ and STBG funds are reimbursable federal-aid funds, subject to the requirements of Title 23, United States Code.

Program guidelines describe the policies, standards, criteria, and procedures for developing, managing, and adopting Fresno COG's CRP, CMAQ and STBG programs. The 2023/2024 CMAQ and STBG programs will cover four years of programming, 2024/25 through 2027/28. All three funds are now distributed through a competitive, regional bid program based on scoring criteria and evaluated by a scoring committee. Together, the three programs are expected to distribute over \$59.3 million during this two-year cycle.

The Fresno COG Programming Subcommittee met three times in May to update and finalize guidelines, application packets, and scoring criteria for the upcoming 2023-24 CRP, CMAQ and STBG calls-for-projects. New guidelines for CRP and updates for CMAQ/STBG include funding distribution policies, changes to the scoring system, language regarding programming construction funds, changes to address project contingencies and minor changes to the applications. The programming subcommittee approved the guidelines and scoring criteria for each program.

The CRP, CMAQ and STBG program guidelines and application packets can be found on Fresno COG's website. Upon Board approval of the application packets, the call-for-projects will be initiated.

**Action:** Staff and the programming subcommittee request the TTC/PAC recommend the Board approve the CRP/CMAQ/STBG guidelines and application packets and initiate the call-for-projects.

- Mr. Phipps (FCOG) provided a summary of the CRP/CMAQ/STBG guidelines and application packets.
- After an opportunity for public comment, Ms. Zieba (Selma) motioned, and Mr. Santillan (Selma) seconded to approve the action as presented.

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

### B. REAP 2.0 Application Process Update (Robert Phipps) [INFORMATION]

**Summary:** Fresno COG has released a request for proposals for consultant assistance in designing the REAP 2.0 program/project application and advertising the program to housing stakeholders. The intent is to provide \$13 million within the region for "transformational" housing infrastructure that helps meet the program's three pillars of success: accelerating infill housing development, reducing vehicle miles traveled and affirmatively furthering fair housing.

Fresno COG received the 5 percent advance requested through the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) for assistance in designing the REAP 2.0 program locally. Of the \$600,000 requested in the initial

application, \$100,000 will be used for the consultant contract. Staff will reserve the remaining \$500,000 for administrative and program management expenses over the next three years, as well as for any contract contingencies.

REAP 2.0 seeks to accelerate progress towards state housing goals and climate commitments through a strengthened partnership among the state, its regions, and local entities. The broad intent is to accelerate infill increase housing supply at all affordability levels and help with implementing adopted regional and local plans to achieve these goals. The program was established as part of the 2021 California Comeback Plan under AB 140 and builds on the success of REAP 2019, but expands the program focus by integrating housing and climate goals, and allowing for broader planning and implementation investments, including infrastructure investments that support infill development that improves housing supply, choice, and affordability.

HCD, the Governor's Office of Planning and Research, the California Air Resources Board and the Strategic Growth Council all jointly administer REAP 2.0, with HCD serving as the lead agency. Fresno COG has submitted a "final" application that details its proposed methodology and scoring criteria, which is attached. The consultant scope of work will include developing a project application based on the methodology and scoring rubric proposed in the application. The final application has yet to be approved; however, Fresno COG has responded to two sets of minor comments received.

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

- Robert Phipps (FCOG) gave an update on the REAP 2.0 application process.
- This item is informational only. No action is needed.

**C. Measure C Renewal Post Election Survey Results (Tony Boren) [INFORMATION]**

**Summary:** Included as an attachment is the Measure C renewal post-election survey presentation that was given by Dr. Richard Bernard with the polling firm FM3. Dr. Bernard used this material in his presentation to the Fresno County Transportation Authority last month. A link to a Zoom recording of that presentation can be found here at Measure C Post Election Survey.

Although Dr. Bernard will not be giving his presentation to TTC/PAC, he will be presenting this information to the Fresno COG Policy Board at its June 29 meeting.

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

- Tony Boren (FCOG) gave an update on the Measure C post-election survey results. This item is informational only. No action is needed.

### III. ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT ITEMS

**A. Contracts/Extensions (Fresno COG Staff)**

1. Fresno COG Website and Agenda Builder Reconstruction (Brenda Thomas) [ACTION]
2. Renew PublicInput.com Service Agreement (Brenda Thomas) [ACTION]
3. Regional Early Action Planning (REAP 1) Program: Local Grant Awards -- Agreement Extensions (Robert Phipps) [ACTION]
4. Golden State Boulevard Project Contract Extension (Pankaj Joshi) [ACTION]
5. Measure C Rideshare and Senior Programs Outreach Contract Extension (Jake Martinez) [ACTION]
6. Regional Transportation Planning Agencies Valleywide Coordinator (Robert Phipps) [ACTION]
7. San Joaquin Valley Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) Technical Assistance Contracts (Robert Phipps) [ACTION]
8. Multi-jurisdictional Housing Element Contract Extension (Kristine Cai) [ACTION]
9. Contract Extension for the Regional Vehicle Miles Traveled Mitigation Program Study (Kristine Cai) [ACTION]
10. Financial and Compliance Audits Contract – FY 2022-23 through 2026-27 (Les Beshears) [ACTION]
11. Contract Extension for On-Call Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee Services (Les Beshears) [ACTION]
12. Circuit Planner and Engineer Program Contract Renewal (Simran Jhutti) [ACTION]

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

**Summary:** This month's Regional Clearinghouse Calendar contains "project notification and review reports" for grant proposals. The Regional Clearinghouse is a process of informing local agencies of federal grant requests, providing an opportunity to comment, and potentially avoid duplication of effort.

Clearinghouse items are brought before the Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) and, if appropriate, the Transportation Technical Committee (TTC) for review and comment. Any resulting TTC/PAC comments, and any comments received from

other agencies as a result of the Clearinghouse notification process, are noted on a monthly report brought forward to the Fresno COG Policy Board.

COG Policy Board action would be to authorize staff to forward any comments received or any Board comments to the State Clearinghouse and other appropriate agencies. The applicants have been notified of this meeting. While participation by the agency is optional, they have been personally requested to attend the Policy Board meeting in case there should be any questions. It should be noted that if in the event any of these items should be pulled from the consent calendar, that discussion and comment by the Committee/Board members and the public will be taken. Project notification and review reports describing these projects are attached.

<b>PROJECT NOTIFICATION AND REVIEW REPORT</b>	
Regional Clearinghouse Number:	RCH # 283-06-2023
Project Title:	Community Development Block Grant
Applicant Agency:	County of Fresno
Contact Person:	Jennifer Kirkpatrick
Address:	2220 Tulare Street 6th Floor Fresno, CA 93721
Phone:	559-600-4292
Federal Catalog#:	14.218
Status:	New
Area of Impact:	Unincorporated Portion of Fresno County and Participating Cities: Fowler, Kerman, Kingsburg, Mendota, Reedley, Sanger and Selma.
Federal Funding Agency:	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Federal Funds</b>	<b>Program Income</b>	<b>Total Funds</b>
County of Fresno	\$3,104,456	\$250,000	\$3,354,456

<b>PROJECT NOTIFICATION AND REVIEW REPORT</b>	
Regional Clearinghouse Number:	RCH #284-06-2023
Project Title:	HOME Investment Partnerships Program
Applicant Agency:	County of Fresno
Contact Person:	Jennifer Kirkpatrick

Address:	2220 Tulare Street 6 <sup>th</sup> Floor Fresno, CA 93721
Phone:	559-600-4292
Federal Catalog#:	14.239
Status:	New
Area of Impact:	Unincorporated portion of Fresno County and participating Cities of Fowler, Kerman, Kingsburg, Mendota, Reedley, Sanger and Selma
Federal Funding Agency:	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Developments

Applicant	Federal Funds	Program Income	Total Funds
County of Fresno	\$1,426,657	\$500,000	\$1,926,657

PROJECT NOTIFICATION AND REVIEW REPORT	
Regional Clearinghouse Number:	RCH #285-06-2023
Project Title:	Emergency Solutions Grant
Applicant Agency:	County of Fresno
Contact Person:	Laura Moreno
Address:	205 W. Pontiac Way Clovis, CA 93612
Phone:	559-600-2335
Federal Catalog#:	14.231
Status:	New
Area of Impact:	Fresno County and all incorporated cities within Fresno County. Clovis, Coalinga Firebaugh, Fowler, Fresno, Huron, Kerman, Kingsburg, Mendota, Orange Cove, Parlier, Reedley, Sanger San Joaquin and Selma
Federal Funding Agency:	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Applicant	Federal Funds	Program Income	Total Funds
County of Fresno	\$3,104,456	\$250,000	\$3,354,456

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

**C. Safe Street and Roads for All Grant Program (Robert Phipps) [INFORMATION]**

**Summary:** The U.S. Department of Transportation has issued a notice of funding opportunity (NOFO) for the fiscal year 2023 Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Grant Program, which supports planning, infrastructure, behavioral, and operational efforts to prevent death and serious injury on roads and streets involving roadway users.

Approximately \$1.17 billion in total program funding is available for planning/demonstration grants and implementation grants, each of which requires a 20 percent nonfederal cost share requirement. The deadline to apply is 5 p.m. EDT, July 10.

DOT encourages applicants to coordinate with state agencies, as appropriate, and for MPOs, transit agencies, and multijurisdictional groups of entities with regional scope to support local government applications. Please note that implementation grant applicants must have ownership or be responsible for maintenance over a roadway network, be responsible for roadway safety, or have an agreement with the entity having ownership or responsible for maintenance of the roadway. DOT will accept one application per applicant for either the planning and demonstration grant or implementation grant.

For more information and the NOFO, go to <https://www.transportation.gov/grants/ss4a/fy23-nofo>.

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

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

**All in Favor, no opposed.**

**Motion passed.**

**IV. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- None.

**V. OTHER ITEMS**

**A. Items from Staff**

- Tony Boren (FCOG) informed the Board members that due to the flood; the Sequoia Room will be getting new carpet.
- Moses Stites (FCRTA) announced the Ribbon cutting in Biola on June 16, 2023, at 10:00am.

**B. Items from Members**

- None.

**VI. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS**

**A. Public Presentations**

- None.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:34 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tony Boren". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tony Boren

Public:

Amy Hance

Eric VonBerg

Staff:

Stephanie Maxwell, Kristine Cai, Kai Han; Janelle Del Campo, Simran Jhutti, Juan Ramirez, Christina White, Les Beshears, Todd Sobrado.