

**Measure C Extension - Citizen Oversight Committee
Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2021-2022**

Purpose and Composition

Measure C Expenditure Plan allocates the proceeds from the half-cent sales tax, approved by Fresno County voters, to a range of transportation programs. The Measure is in its second twenty-year cycle of transportation development for Fresno County. This second cycle is known as the “*Measure C Extension*”. Fresno County residents can be assured that approved Measure C funds continue to support the hard work of constructing and maintaining the highways, streets and roads of Fresno County and its 15 incorporated cities. In addition to these street and highway projects, Measure C provides funding for the county and the cities to address local and regional public transportation needs through other specified programs.

To ensure public transparency, Measure C mandates a committee of thirteen Fresno County residents annually evaluate actual and planned expenditures of the agencies that receive Measure C funding. This Citizen Oversight Committee represents our county population as follows:

- One member from each of the five supervisorial districts
- One member from the Fresno-Clovis metropolitan area
- Seven members who represent community organizations.

The Fresno Council of Governments (Fresno COG) appoints committee members to four-year terms. No one member may serve more than eight years. Staggered terms ensure experience and knowledge continuity among the committee members.

The Measure C Citizen Oversight Committee (COC) meets the second Thursday of the month from 4:00-6:00 pm at the Fresno COG office complex. Meeting dates, agendas, and minutes may be found at <http://agendas.fresnocog.org/agenda/search/0/2>

FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022 Performance

The COC met six times during fiscal year July 1, 2021, thru June 30, 2022 to carry out the following; accept, review, evaluate, recommend, receive and monitor the following Measure C plans and expenditures:

- Measure C Extension's operating budget for 2021-2022
- Measure C Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee budget for 2021-2022
- Actual expenditures made by agencies receiving Measure C Extension funds.
- Projects proposed by the agencies receiving Measure C Extension Funds, (review for fiscal compliance).
- Informational updates
- Investment of Measure C Extension funds
- Action on unanticipated items in which voters have a vested interest.

MEASURE C ORIGINAL OPERATING BUDGET 2021-2022

The proposed 2021-2022 Original Measure C budget had no estimated sales tax revenue during the fiscal year due to the Original Measure's expiration in 2007. However, it was estimated to gain \$600,000.00 in interest revenue which will be used to fund the remaining Measure C Urban and Rural Regional projects. This reserve accumulated over 20 years of the Original Measure C to fund a transition to the Extension Measure or shall be used to finance FCTA close-out costs should a subsequent Extension Measure not be accepted by the voters.

Use of these funds to cover the administrative costs of ongoing Measure C projects is consistent with the intended purpose of these accumulated funds.

MEASURE C EXTENSION OPERATING BUDGET 2021-2022

The California Department of Finance annually estimates the anticipated proceeds of the Measure C Extension sales tax. Together with investment interest, the estimated proceeds define the Measure C Extension fiscal year operating budget. The Department of Finance estimated total proceeds at **\$88,252,699.00** ~~76,511,059.00~~ for fiscal 2021-2022. An added interest amount of **\$2,500,000.00** ~~14,200,000.00~~ resulted in a total estimated operating budget of \$90,752,699.00. This revenue estimate reflects a moderately conservative 2.0% increase from 2020-2021 actual revenues to date. The COC received the 2021-2022 operating budget information in **July 2021**.

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION MITIGATION FEE OPERATING BUDGET 2021-2022

The Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee (RTMF) is part of the Measure C Extension Expenditure Plan. It requires that new development pay its fair share for road improvements. Mitigation fee amounts are based on traffic impacts of these new developments. The COC received the 2021-2022 RTMF budget information in July 2021.

The proposed RTMF operating budget for 2021-2022 was estimated at \$24,859,485.00 and includes the following sources:

- Uncommitted RTMF Fund Balance \$ 3,215,485.00
- Estimated RTMF Fee Revenue \$ 4,800,000.00
- Estimated RTMF Interest Revenue \$ 38,400.00
- Measure C - RTMF Loan Program \$ 16,805,605.00
- Total \$ 24,859,485.00

These funds are available to pay costs as they come due for ongoing contracts.

FCTA BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE REPORTS FOR FISCAL 2021-2022

Budget recommendations and expenditure reports from all cities within the county and associated agencies were reviewed and accepted by the Measure C COC.

MEASURE C NEW TECHNOLOGY RESERVE GRANT PROGRAM – FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022 GRANT APPLICATIONS

Fresno COG receives Measure C applications annually for new technology funding initiatives. The grant scoring committee, Multidisciplinary Advisory Group (MAG), meets to interview the applicants and discuss the applications. The committee recommends funding of projects to Fresno COG. The committee recommends funding of projects to Fresno COG. A member of the Measure C committee was elected to sit on the MAG.

The COC received status reports from the following grant program participants:

- Fresno County Rural Transit Agency
- Fresno State Transportation Institute
- Sustainable Aviation Project.

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING (RTP)

Measure C COC representative has been elected to sit on the Fresno COG's RTP roundtable projects feed into the Measure C Expenditure Plan. The committee this year was kept updated by regular reports as to the outcomes of the RTP meetings.

MEASURE C FINANCE & AUDITS

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The FCTA retained the accounting firm Price Paige & Company to perform audits for the fiscal year. The COC was continuously updated by Denise DiBenedetto (Fresno County Transportation Authority) regarding the pending results of the audits. The Measure C Citizen Oversight Committee found no material weakness concerning internal control over financial reporting and no instances of non-compliance of laws, regulations, contracts, or grant agreements.

STRATEGIC FORESIGHT BY FRESNO COUNTY

Visionary Fresno County voters supported a funding source devoted to transportation system improvements. As a result of their foresight, our county's transportation infrastructure is continuously being addressed, supporting our economic well-being while sustaining future needs. Fresno County's transportation system keeps us competitive in today's marketplace. Allowing Measure C to continue gives Fresno County additional revenue with large deferral capability for state projects as they arise. Ensuring the County can participate in many projects that we otherwise may not have had an opportunity to be involved in or at a reduced capacity because there was not enough revenue to move forward.

Two noteworthy examples of using Measure C to leverage state and federal funds were the SR 269 Bridge and SR41 Excelsior Highway. Without Measure C Funds, neither of these projects would have successfully captured the state funding required to construct these projects. SR 269 addresses under serviced Huron area's while SR41 Excelsior provides for safety on a highly traveled and potentially dangerous portion of highway connecting Fresno County to Lemoore military base and the coast.

The Measure C Citizen Oversight Committee is made up of Fresno County citizen volunteers. Our members continue to strongly support the Measure C Extension Plan's guiding principle: "*Promises Made, Promises Kept*". The COC is dedicated to serving the residents of Fresno County by ensuring transparency of all Measure C activities. We welcome constructive comments, feedback and questions. Please join us as we move forward to a safer, more efficient transportation future.

People interested in being part of the Measure C Extension's Citizen Oversight Committee should contact Fresno Council of Governments at:

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