

**SOCIAL SERVICES TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COUNCIL
Executive Minutes**

Date: November 14, 2023
Time: 1:30 p.m.
Place: COG Conference Room, Second Floor
2035 Tulare Street, Suite 201
Fresno, CA 93721

Members Present – Via Zoom:

Yonas Paulos, Veterans Advocate	Matthew Gillian, Fresno County - Via Phone-In
Moses Stites, FCRTA	Chenier Derrick, Fresno County – Via Phone-In
Amy Hance, Clovis Transit	
Tomas Dulin, Fresno County	
Darleen Christensen, City of Fresno – Via Phone-In	

Others Attending – Via Zoom:

Stephanie Maxwell, FCOG	Sandy Cetti, FAX
Todd Sobrado, FAX/COG	Joe Hinojosa, City of Fresno
Brenda Veenendaal, FCOG	Stacy Francis, CVRC
Katherine Martindale, DSS	Carolina Ilic, FAX
Kris Brey, FAX	

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

Amy Hance called the meeting to order at 1:37 p.m.

I. Public Presentations

This portion of the meeting was reserved for persons wishing to address the SSTAC on the items within its jurisdiction but not on this agenda. Note: Prior to action by SSTAC on any item on this agenda, the public may comment on that item

None

II. Minutes from the September 19, 2023 Meeting

A motion was made by Yonas Paulos and seconded by Thomas Dulin to approve the September 19, 2023 minutes. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

III. **Fresno County Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan (Jeff Long)[ACTION]**

Consistent with federal legislative guidance, Fresno COG staff had completed the development of the Fresno County Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan.

The Fresno County Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan identifies resources currently in use for public transit, surveys needed and expectation of users, and identifies strategies to close gaps in perceived service levels. It was used in part to prioritize projects eligible for federal funding using money set aside to close the gaps in public transit service levels. The Fresno County Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan was developed in close cooperation with public transit and human services providers and other stakeholders.

[Click here to view the FCOG Coordinated Plan - Final](#)

Any questions or comments, please contact Jeff Long at jeff.long@fresno.gov or at 559 621-1436.

A motion was made by Yonas Paulo and seconded by Thomas Dulin to approve the Fresno County Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

IV. **Public Right-of-Way Guidelines (PROWAG) (Joe Hinojosa) [DISCUSSION]**

The City of Fresno's ADA Coordinator, Joe Hinojosa shared information about Public Right-of-Way Accessibility Guidelines (PROWAG). The U.S. Access Board had published new guidelines under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Architectural Barriers Act (ABA) that address access to sidewalks and streets, crosswalks, curb ramps, pedestrian signals, on-street parking, and other components of public right-of-way. These guidelines also reviewed shared-use paths, which were designed primarily for use by bicyclists and pedestrians for transportation and recreation purposes.

[Click here to view the PROWAG Presentation](#)

This was an informational item.

V. Current Fresno Council of Governments (FCOG) Outreach Activities (Brenda Thomas) [DISCUSSION]

Brenda Thomas reported on this item. These were the public outreach activities currently underway at FCOG:

Fresno COG's Climate Pollution Reduction Grants

Fresno COG received a \$1 million planning grant from the EPA's Climate Protection Reduction Grants (CPRG) program to conduct a comprehensive climate action planning process and prepared a Regional Climate Action Plan for the Fresno County region. The Regional Climate Action Plan covered the 15 incorporated cities in Fresno County and the unincorporated Fresno County areas. The Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP) was the first component of the Regional Climate Action Plan which included a greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory, identification and quantification of priority GHG emissions reduction measures, a benefit analysis for low-income and disadvantaged communities, and identification of implementation authorities. Outreach to stakeholders and the general public, especially the low-income and disadvantaged communities, was also a required component of the PCAP.

From mid-November through December Fresno COG scheduled a Zoom and In-person public meetings to discuss the PCAP process and community priorities for reducing greenhouse gas emissions throughout the region. Online and hard copy surveys and educational material were available. If you would like to set up a meeting between public members and Fresno COG, or invite us out to an existing event, please contact Brenda Thomas at bthomas@fresnocog.org or 559-233-4148 ext. 219. MUCH more about COG's public outreach plans were available here.

For more information about the PCAP visit <https://publicinput.com/fresnopcap>.

REAP 2.0 Application Process

We encouraged the Committee to join their REAP 2.0 Scoring Committee! The REAP 2.0 Scoring Committee was responsible for reviewing project applications seeking \$13 million in grant funding Fresno COG received from the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD). Scoring committee members had the opportunity to review some of the region's most exciting and transformative projects.

To ensure a transparent, inclusive, and equitable selection process, Fresno COG aims to have a scoring committee that included affordable housing stakeholders, representatives of local CBOs and individuals representing organizations that are REAP 2.0 eligible applicants.*

REAP 2.0 Scoring Committee Roles & Responsibilities:

1. Have a working knowledge of the HCD REAP 2.0 program objectives and strict criteria
2. Review each application and assign scores using Fresno COG's HCD-approved scoring rubric currently found in Fresno COG's [REAP 2.0 Scoring Methodology](#)
3. (They are doing this preliminarily on their own and then as a group as they are meeting to discuss applications. So, a responsibility would be to attend the scoring committee meeting, then put this together with their fellow committee members.) Draft a recommended project list with funding prioritizations.
4. Submit draft recommended funding project list to Fresno COG Sub Committees and Policy Board for consideration

If you are interested in serving on REAP 2.0 Scoring Committee, **please complete the interest form [linked here](#) before December 15, 2023.**

For more information about Fresno COG's REAP 2.0 program, please [click here](#).

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out.

This was an informational item.

VI. **Other Member Items**

Yonas Paulo informed the committee that things are working out for the homeless.

Amy Hance informed the committee that there was a ribbon cutting on November 17, 2023 at 10:00 am for the Clovis Senior Center.

Carolina Illic informed the committee that FAX implemented three routes to 30 minutes.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:32

Respectfully submitted,
Todd Sobrado
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