

BEFORE THE
FRESNO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
RESOLUTION NO. 2024-13

IN THE MATTER OF:

RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE

**FRESNO COUNTY REGIONAL ACTIVE
TRANSPORTATION PLAN**

NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE FRESNO
COUNTY REGIONAL ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION
PLAN

WHEREAS, the Fresno Council of Governments (COG) has prepared a comprehensive County-wide Active Transportation Plan that outlines the future of walking and bicycling in Fresno County; and

WHEREAS, Fresno COG is the lead agency for the purposes of environmental review of the Project under the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA"), pursuant to Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq., and the State "Guidelines for Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act"; and

WHEREAS, Fresno COG caused to be prepared an Initial Study in April 2024, for the adoption of the Regional Active Transportation Plan (Project) to evaluate potentially significant environmental impacts and on the basis of that study it was determined that no significant environmental impacts would result from this Project; and

WHEREAS, on the basis of the Initial Study, a Negative Declaration has been prepared, circulated, and made available for public comment pursuant to CEQA; and

WHEREAS, Fresno COG submitted the Initial Study / Negative Declaration (IS/ND) to the State Clearinghouse and distributed it to those agencies which have jurisdiction by law with respect to the Project; posted the Notice of Intent to Adopt a Negative Declaration concerning the Project with the Fresno County Clerk and published such Notice in the *Fresno Bee* on April 11, 2024; and mailed the Notice of Intent to Adopt / Notice of Availability of a Negative Declaration to other interested parties; and

WHEREAS, the draft IS / ND with appendices and supporting information sources were duly noticed for public review and comment from April 11, 2024 to May 13, 2024, as provided by law; and

WHEREAS, a hearing concerning Fresno COG's intent to adopt a Final IS / ND was duly noticed and held on May 10 and again on May 30, at which time any interested parties were afforded an opportunity to be heard in addition to the public review and comment period referenced above as part of the Environmental Record.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fresno Council of Governments Policy Board finds, determines, and resolves as follows:

1. The Policy Board adopts the foregoing recitals as true and correct.
2. That Policy Board finds that the IS / ND for the project are adequate and have been completed in compliance with CEQA and CEQA guidelines.
3. The Policy Board finds that it has independently reviewed and considered the Environmental Record, including the Initial Study and proposed Negative Declaration, as a final Negative Declaration, prior to adopting the final Negative Declaration.
4. On the basis of the Environmental Record as the whole record before the Board, including the Initial Study and any comments received, the Board finds, in its independent judgement and analysis, that there is no substantial evidence the Project will have a significant effect on the environment.
5. The Board approves and adopts the findings set forth herein, and the Negative Declaration, based on the Environmental Record.
6. The Policy Board authorized Fresno COG staff to cause a Notice of Determination concerning the adoption of the Negative Declaration for the Project to be filed in the office of the Fresno County Clerk and with the Office of Planning and Research in accordance with CEQA and State CEQA guidelines.

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION was passed and adopted by the Fresno Council of Governments this 30th day of May, 2024.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

ATTEST:

Signed: _____
Alma Beltran, Chair

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a resolution of the Fresno Council of Governments duly adopted at a regular meeting dated above.

Signed: Robert Phipps, Interim Executive Director