

**Policy Advisory Committee
MINUTES
Friday, March 8, 2019
10:00 AM**

Members Present

Renee Mathis, City of Clovis
Ben Gallegos, City of Firebaugh
Jeannie Davis, City of Fowler
Jim Schaad, City of Fresno
Richard Warne, City of Huron
John Kunkel, City of Kerman
Cristian Gonzalez, City of Mendota
Nicole Zieba, City of Reedley
Tim Chapa, City of Sanger
Teresa Gallavan, City of Selma
Michael Navarro, Caltrans
Tony Boren, Fresno COG

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Mr. Chapa (Sanger), Chair. With ten members present, there was a quorum to conduct business.

I. TRANSPORTATION CONSENT ITEMS

- A. Executive Minutes of February 8, 2019 [APPROVE]
- B. Contract Extension for YARTS (Peggy Arnest) [APPROVE]
- C. Notice of Funding Opportunity - USDA Community Connect Grant (Brenda Veenendaal) [INFORMATION]
- D. Notice of Funding Opportunity - Social Impact Partnership Demonstration Projects (Brenda Veenendaal) [INFORMATION]
- E. Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Program (Brenda Veenendaal) [INFORMATION]
- F. Funding Opportunity Announcement - Bay-Delta Restoration Program: CALFED Water Use Efficiency Grants (Brenda Veenendaal) [INFORMATION]

After an opportunity for public comment, Ms. Mathis (Clovis) motioned and Ms. Gallavan (Selma) seconded to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion passed.

II. TRANSPORTATION ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. DRAFT 2019 FTIP Amendment No. 3, 2018 RTP Amendment No. 1, and 2015 Ozone Conformity Analysis (Braden Duran/Suzanne Martinez) [APPROVE]**

Mr. Duran reported that Fresno COG is proposing a draft 2019 Federal Transportation Improvement Program Amendment No. 3 (2019 FTIP Amendment No. 3) a draft 2018 Regional Transportation Plan Amendment No. 1 (2018 RTP Amendment No. 1), and a draft 2015 Ozone Conformity Analysis. Memo and draft resolution were provided. Referenced documents are available on Fresno COG's website at fresnocog.org.

A 30-day public review and comment period began January 14 and ended on February 13, 2019. Comments were due by 4:30 p.m. Fresno COG staff held a public hearing at 5 p.m. Tuesday, January 29, 2019, and received no comments. The 2019 FTIP Amendment No. 3, 2018 RTP Amendment No. 1, and 2015 Ozone Conformity Analysis are scheduled for adoption at the March 28, 2019, Fresno COG Policy Board meeting.

The draft 2019 FTIP Amendment No. 3, 2018 RTP Amendment No. 1, and 2015 Ozone Conformity Analysis meet all applicable transportation planning requirements per 23 CFR Part 450, 40 CFR Part 93, and conform to the applicable SIPs. Please contact Suzanne Martinez at 559-233-4148 x240 or smartinez@fresnocog.org with any questions.

After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Kunkel (Kerman) motioned and Ms. Gallavan (Selma) seconded to recommend the Policy Board adopt the 2019 FTIP Amendment No. 3, 2018 RTP Amendment No. 1, and 2015 Ozone Conformity Analysis via Resolution No. 2019-03.

B. Fresno County Regional Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Network Plan Consultant Selection (Kristine Cai) [APPROVE]

Ms. Cai reported that that Fresno COG received a 2018-19 Caltrans Sustainable Communities Planning Grant to develop the Fresno County Regional Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Network Plan (EVCI Plan). The EVCI Plan will identify network gaps and funding, as well as prioritize potential sites for deploying future infrastructure investment.

Fresno COG released an RFP for consultant services on November 28, 2018, and received six proposals. A consultant selection committee comprising representatives from the cities of Clovis and Reedley, County of Fresno, Fresno County Rural Transit Agency, and Fresno Equal Opportunities Commission, interviewed the top three scoring consultants on February 20, 2019. The committee unanimously chose Center for Sustainable Energy (CSE) as the preferred consultant. CSE's experience includes developing several similar plans for California municipalities, including the SJV Air District. In addition, CSE administers the California Air Resources Board's and California Energy Commission's clean air rebate and incentive programs.

Fresno COG is seeking representatives for a working group to assist with the plan development. Please contact Trai Her-Cole, Associate Regional Planner, at traih@fresnocog.org or (559) 233-4148 x205 for more information.

After an opportunity for public comment, Ms. Zieba (Reedley) motioned and Mr. Gallegos (Firebaugh) seconded to recommend the Policy Board authorize the Executive Director to sign a contract, not to exceed \$149,944 with Center for Sustainable Energy as the consultant for the Fresno County Regional Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Network Plan.

C. Update 2019 Unmet Needs Process (Todd Sobrado) [INFORMATION]

Mr. Sobrado reported that Fresno COG's Policy Board must determine that public transportation needs within Fresno County will be reasonably met in fiscal year 2018-19 prior to approving claims of Local Transportation Funds for streets and roads. This is accomplished with the annual Unmet Needs process.

Fresno COG's Social Service Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) is responsible for evaluating unmet transit needs. Staff is completing the public outreach component of the process.

Each year the SSTAC begins soliciting public comment by sending approximately 400 letters to agencies and individuals interested in providing feedback on their public transportation needs within Fresno County. The request for comments letters in English and Spanish were mailed out in early February.

In addition to the request for written comments, SSTAC is holding eight information-gathering meetings: four in rural communities and four in urban communities. Flyers in English and Spanish were provided.

Once comments and feedback have been received, Fresno COG will prepare an unmet needs report for the SSTAC's consideration. Once the public comment period for the 2019 Unmet Needs Report for Fresno County has closed, it will be submitted to the Committee for final review and approval.

This item was informational only; no further action was required.

D. High-Speed Rail Discussion (Tony Boren) [INFORMATION]

Mr. Boren reported that Governor Gavin Newsom's recent announcements in his State-of-the-State address about high-speed rail (HSR) and its financial future raised several questions for the Fresno County region. Mr. Boren reported on implications and potential strategies going forward. Mr. Boren read from a letter from the CEO of California HSR Authority to the Director of the Federal Railroad Administration. We need to stress to the Authority there is \$27 million in HSR funding in the Veterans Boulevard project, the top regional project. We want to ensure the funding to complete the project stays in place and with a number of projects happening in Fresno, we need to stress to the Authority that we can't have partially completed projects.

This item was informational only; no further action was required.

E. Regional Housing Discussion (Tony Boren) [INFORMATION]

Mr. Boren reported that in both his State-of-the-State address and in a new Legislative Analyst's Office report, Governor Gavin Newsom has laid out his plans for changing state oversight over local housing decisions.

According to the report "What Can Be Done to Improve Local Planning for Housing?" Governor Newsom proposes "(1) establishing new short-term housing goals for local communities and providing funding to help them plan to meet these goals, (2) offering additional funding to communities that make progress toward meeting the short-term goals, (3) revamping the state's existing process for establishing long-term housing goals for communities, and (4) linking receipt of funds for local streets and roads to communities' progress toward meeting long-term housing goals."

In short, housing is poised to be the next regional frontier. Staff will discuss how the process might work and what it may look like in the near future.

This item was informational only; no further action was required.

III. ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT ITEMS

About Consent Items - All items on the consent agenda are considered to be routine and non-controversial by COG

- A. Regional Clearinghouse (Jennifer Soliz) [APPROVE]
- B. Monthly Legislative Report (Brenda Veenendaal) [INFORMATION]

After an opportunity for public comment, Ms. Mathis (Clovis) motioned and Mr. Warne (Huron) seconded to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion passed.

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION/DICUSSION ITEMS

There were no Administrative Action/Discussion items.

V. OTHER ITEMS

A. Items from Staff

There were no items from staff.

B. Items from Members

There were no items from members.

VI. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

A. Public Presentations –

There were no public presentations

The meeting was adjourned at 10:56 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

Wendy Hastings, Center for Climate Protection
Felipe Perez, Biola CSD

Staff

Kristine Cai
Braden Duran
Suzanne Martinez
Peggy Arnest
Moses Stites
Janelle Del Campo
Todd Sobrado
Brenda Veenendaal
Jeaneen Cervantes