

**Fresno COG Policy Board
MINUTES
Thursday, June 27, 2019
5:30 PM**

Members Attending:

Mayor Drew Bessinger, City of Clovis
Mayor Ron Lander, City of Coalinga
Mayor Marcia Sablan, City of Firebaugh
Mayor David Cardenas, City of Fowler
Mayor Rey Leon, City of Huron
Mayor Pro Tem Gary Yep, City of Kerman
Mayor Michelle Roman, City of Kingsburg
Mayor Robert Silva, City of Mendota
Mayor Victor Lopez, City of Orange Cove
Mayor Pro Tem Trinidad Pimentel, City of Parlier
Councilmember Robert Beck, City of Reedley
Mayor Julia Hernandez, City of San Joaquin
Mayor Frank Gonzalez, City of Sanger
Mayor Scott Robertson, City of Selma
Supervisor Sal Quintero, County of Fresno

Gail Miller, Caltrans
Kyle Roberson, Legal Counsel
Tony Boren, Executive Director

Absent:

Mayor Lee Brand, City of Fresno

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m. by Mayor Cardenas (Fowler), Chair.

Fresno County Rural Transit Agency Meeting Package - Meeting will follow Policy Board Meeting

Quorum: At the start of the meeting, there were 14 members representing 45.75% of the population. There was a quorum to conduct business. (Clovis, Coalinga, Firebaugh, Fowler, Fresno City, Huron, Kerman, Kingsburg, Mendota, Orange Cove, Reedley, San Joaquin, Sanger, Selma).

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

I. TRANSPORTATION CONSENT ITEMS

- A. Executive Minutes of May 30, 2019 [APPROVE]
- B. Fresno County Rural Transit Agency Transportation Development Act Claims (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]
- C. Surplus Property (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]
- D. Fresno County Rural Transit Agency 2019-20 Annual Budget (Moses Stites) [APPROVE]
- E. Appointments to the Fresno COG Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) (Todd Sobrado) [APPROVE]
- F. Fresno COG Activity-Based Model (ABM) On-call Contract (Kristine Cai) [APPROVE]
- G. Triennial Performance Audit (Jennifer Soliz) [ACCEPT]
- H. Fiscal Year 2019-20 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality and Surface Transportation Block Grant Program Programming Sub-Committee Kick-Off Meeting (Jennifer Soliz) [INFORMATION]
- I. Notice of Funding Availability - California Emergency Solutions and Housing Program (Trai Her-Cole) [INFORMATION]

- J. Call for Applications - Natural and Working Land Planning Grant, Agricultural Land Mitigation Program (Trai Her-Cole) [INFORMATION]
- K. Call for Applications - Agriculture and Food Research Initiative - Sustainable Agricultural Systems (Trai Her-Cole) [INFORMATION]
- L. Call for Letters of Interest - Groundwork USA (Trai Her-Cole) [INFORMATION]
- M. Fresno-Clovis Metropolitan Area Short-Range Transit Plan Fiscal Year 2020-2024 Resolution 2019-17 (Jeff Long) [APPROVE]
- N. Short Range Transit Plan for the Rural Fresno County Area 2020-2024 (Moses Stites) [APPROVE]
- O. Clovis Consolidated Transportation Services Agency (CTSA) Operations Program & Budget, Fiscal Year 2019-20 (Amy Hance) [APPROVE]

After an opportunity for public comment, Mayor Pro Tem Yep (Kerman) motioned and Mayor Robertson (Selma) seconded to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion passed.

II. TRANSPORTATION ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Assembly Bill 617 Community Air Protection Program Update (Braden Duran) [INFORMATION]

Mr. Duran (FCOG) reported that In November 2018, the Policy Board was briefed on the AB 617 process that has been taking place in the south Fresno region with a focus on reducing harmful air pollution. AB 617 is “community focused” in that the program will heavily rely on community-specific monitoring to create a community-level action framework for air protection. The California Air Resources Board (CARB), air pollution control districts, and local communities are the main parties implementing AB 617. Fresno COG staff has been participating and observing through the steering committee as a government agency representative.

The steering committee voted to expand the community boundaries, area monitored, and committee membership from 30 members to 44 members. A new map of the community boundary has been provided. Included in this enlargement are the Southwest Fresno community, the Industrial Triangle area, as well as a larger percentage of Calwa and Malaga. Approximately \$80 million is available for monitoring and reduction strategies/programs.

A subcommittee will specifically detail which pollutants will be addressed, locate the areas of greatest concern and provide recommendations on how to best use the monitoring equipment and funding. This program is specifically aimed at reducing emissions that otherwise get overlooked or that the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District is not monitoring. The subcommittee is also considering how to better use Air District programs to help achieve community reductions.

While the South Fresno community program is scheduled to be completed by the end of October, the committee has now started to work on the first draft of the Community Emissions Reductions Plan (CERP).

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

Quorum: Firebaugh entered. There were 15 members present representing 46.55% of the population.

B. Fresno County Regional Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Network Plan Consultant Selection (Trai Her-Cole) [APPROVE]

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

Fresno COG released a request for proposals for consultant services and received six proposals. A selection committee interviewed the top three scoring firms (Center for Sustainable Energy, AECOM, and Wildan) and selected Center for Sustainable Energy (CSE).

On March 28, 2019, Fresno COG's Board authorized the executive director to enter into a contract with CSE; however, CSE has since withdrawn the proposal. Therefore, the scoring committee has recommended awarding the

contract services to the AECOM. AECOM has developed several similar plans to assist in the evaluation of smart infrastructure solutions for local jurisdictions in California, Illinois, and Ohio.

Mayor Robertson (Selma) asked why the previous consultant did not work out. Ms. Her-Cole responded that an agreement on contract terms could not be reached and turnover with personnel.

After an opportunity for public comment, Mayor Leon (Huron) motioned and Mayor Silva (Mendota) seconded to authorize the executive director to enter into a contract, not to exceed \$152,892, with ACEOM for consulting services for the Fresno County Regional Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Network Plan.

C. Regional Sustainable Infrastructure Planning Grant Program Cycle 3 Guidelines and Application Packet and Call for Projects Initiation (Jennifer Soliz) [APPROVE]

Ms. Soliz (FCOG) reported that The Regional Sustainable Infrastructure Planning Grant Program (SIPGP) encourages local and regional multimodal transportation and land-use planning projects that further the region's Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy, contribute to the state's greenhouse gas reduction targets and addresses the needs of disadvantaged communities.

SIPGP Cycle 3 will distribute \$147,048 to eligible projects through a regional competitive program for fiscal year 2019-20. Regional guidelines, scoring criteria and the application packet were developed through a working group that included representatives from local agencies, Caltrans, and non-profit organizations. Upon Board approval, staff will initiate a call-for-projects and project applications will be due August 1, 2019, as outlined in the attached program guidelines.

Initially rolled out as an annual program, staff is recommending SIPGP move to a biennial basis, which would provide an increase in available funds per cycle. This would also allow for more projects to be funded and/or a larger-scoped project to be awarded and more efficient program management.

After an opportunity for public comment, Mayor Bessinger (Clovis) motioned and Mayor Robertson (Selma) seconded to approve the SIPGP guidelines and application packet, initiate the call for projects, and shift SIPGP to a biennial program.

D. Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) (Les Beshears) [PUBLIC HEARING]

Mr. Beshears (FCOG) reported that a public notice was placed in the Fresno Bee on May 18, 2019, regarding a public hearing and inviting interested parties to submit comments regarding Fresno Council of Governments' Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) program on June 27, 2019. Any comments received will be included in the record during the public hearing.

Fresno Council of Governments, in accordance with 49 CFR Part 26, adopts a triennial Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goal for awarded contracts funded with federal or state grants. On June 28, 2018, in a public hearing, Fresno COG's Policy Board adopted Resolution 2018-13, approving a three-year goal of 16 percent for 2018-19 through 2020-21. The goal applies to a variety of technical transportation and air quality-related studies funded by Federal Highways Administration and Federal Transit Administration programs itemized in Fresno COG's Overall Work Program and budget. Also included are some Federal Transit Administration 5310 grants passed on to Fresno Area Express for transit infrastructure.

The triennial DBE goal considers the availability of certified DBEs in Fresno COG's market area. It also considers a disparity study conducted by the state Department of Transportation which determined three groups exhibited disparity indices substantially below parity and are presumed to be disadvantaged; Black-American, Hispanic-American and Native American. Two additional groups displayed disparity indices below parity but did not reach the threshold considered substantial: White Woman-Owned Business and Subcontinent Asian-American.

Proposals will be solicited from qualified consultants at various times during 2018-19 through 2020-21 fiscal years. Any firm with technical qualifications to perform these studies may apply to be added to Fresno COG's request for proposal (RFP) listing. Firms qualifying as a DBE must provide a certification in compliance with 49 CFR Part 26,

issued by the State of California, Department of Transportation, the National Economic Development Administration, the City of Fresno, the County of Fresno or some other certifying governmental agency.

Fresno COG staff mailed a notice to its entire consulting database requesting updates to DBE status and NACIS classification. Consequently, the database now has 29 companies, of which: four are African-American owned, seven are Asian Pacific-American, two Native American, 19 woman-owned, 10 Hispanic male, two Subcontinent Asian Male and one classified as "other," resulting in a ratio of 15.52 percent DBEs to non-DBEs. This finding suggests the 16 percent adopted DBE participation level is a valid reflection of DBEs willing and able to do business in our market area. No adjustment to the proposed goal is recommended at this time.

The 2019-20 Overall Work Program and budget identifies \$2,412,711 in contracting opportunities that will be subject to procurement during the 2019-20 fiscal year.

During the 2018-19 fiscal year, Fresno COG entered into 11 consultant contracts totaling \$1,654,040. Overall DBE participation was \$351,406 or 21 percent.

Public hearing was opened for public comment. There were no public comments. The public hearing was closed.

E. Fiscal Year 2019-20 Unmet Transit Needs Assessment Findings Report (Todd Sobrado) [APPROVE]

Mr. Sobrado (FCOG) reported that Under California's Transportation Development Act, Fresno COG's Policy Board must determine that public transportation needs within Fresno County will be reasonably met in fiscal year 2019-20 prior to approving Local Transportation Fund claims for streets and roads. The Fresno COG Social Service Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) is responsible for evaluating unmet transit needs.

Each year the SSTAC begins soliciting comments by sending letters to agencies and individuals, holding formal and informal, information-gathering meetings. Letters were sent in English and Spanish and the meeting schedule was publicized in e-newsletters, printed public notices in local publications and social media.

After a thorough review of all comments and issues, the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) found there to be no unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet in Fresno County.

After an opportunity for public comment, Councilmember Beck (Reedley) motioned and Mayor Leon (Huron) seconded to approve Resolution 2019-14, and find that there are no unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet in Fresno County.

F. Caltrans Report (Caltrans) [INFORMATION]

Ms. Miller (Caltrans) reported:

- State Route (SR) 99 realignment to accommodate High Speed Rail – The project is near full completion. Landscaping will continue until March 2020.
- Kings Canyon Expressway SR 180 Segment 3; structure work is nearing completion at four locations, China Slew, Kings River, Cameron Slew and Bird Slew. Remaining work is limited to the bridge barriers. Grating has not yet resumed on the main line, the contractor is working to reconfigure equipment to do the work. Oliver Avenue is reopened. Rio Vista was closed to through traffic. A detour is in place and is working well. Nesting, migrant birds were discovered, but work continues and birds are being biologically monitored.
- Caltrans is working with the City of Fresno and the County of Madera on the relinquishment of the bridge. Work began this month and should be completed by the end of June.
- Interstate 5 – Pavement preservation from Tuolumne Avenue crossing to north of the State Route 33 and Interstate 5 separation. All paving work is expected to be completed this month. Guard rail drainage and concrete slab replacement work to be performed in July. Completion is anticipated for the end of August 2019.
- State Route 269 Bridge – Work is progressing is constructing the embankment and the bridges. Paving will begin over part of the SR 269 main line over the following month. The project is on schedule. The project is anticipated to be open to traffic on November 11, 2019. Project completion is expected mid-December 2019.
- Shaver to Huntington – Asphalt overlay on 168. Work has resumed after being in winter suspension. Working on draining improvement. Anticipated completion is summer 2019.

- City of Firebaugh new ADA curb ramps and sidewalks. CTC should have awarded funds for construction.
- City of Kingsburg SR99 rehabilitation - SR 99 to the 201 separation. CTC should have awarded funds for construction.

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

III. ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT ITEMS

- A. Consultant Contract Renewals/Extensions (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]
 - 1. Sigala Inc. Contract Renewal (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]
 - 2. WSP On-Call Contract Renewal (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]
 - 3. Echointeractive Contract (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]
 - 4. NEC Contract Extension (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]
- B. Monthly Legislative Report (Trai Her-Cole) [INFORMATION]

After an opportunity for public comment, Mayor Lopez (Orange Cove) motioned and Mayor Leon (Huron) seconded to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion passed.

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. 2019-20 Overall Work Program Amendment No. 1 (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]

Mr. Beshears (FCOG) reported:

Work Element 124 – Business Commute Maximization - This Federal Transit Administration (FTA) 5304-funded project was in the 2018-19 Overall Work Program (OWP) and scheduled for completion by June 30, 2019. The University of Denver and Fresno State have requested a time extension to provide the final report to Caltrans. As a condition of approving the extension, Caltrans requires the project to be carried over into the 2019-20 OWP, funding the associated activities through October 31, 2019, to develop the final report. This amendment programs \$1,000 in local funds provided by the universities to cover the cost of the close-out work.

Work Element 160 – Better Blackstone Challenge - Fresno COG was awarded \$481,559 in grant funding to develop the Better Blackstone Challenge. Fresno Metro Ministries will provide \$62,391 in matching funds.

After an opportunity for public comment, Mayor Pro Tem Yep (Kerman) motioned and Councilmember Beck (Reedley) seconded to adopt 2019-20 Overall Work Program amendment No. 1, increasing the budget \$544,950.

B. Appointment to San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority (Tony Boren) [APPOINT]

Mr. Boren (FCOG) reported that the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority has a vacancy due to Michael Derr, City of Selma, leaving service. The Policy Board needs to appoint one alternate member to the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority. Supervisor Quintero currently serves as the primary member.

Mayor Leon (Huron) volunteered to be the alternate member. Mayor Pro Tem Yep (Kerman) nominated Mayor Leon (Huron) as alternate member for the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority.

Mayor Pro Tem Pimentel (Parlier) made a motion, seconded by Mayor Lopez (Orange Cove) to appoint Mayor Rey Leon (Kerman) as alternate member for the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority. . The motion passed.

C. Upcoming Joint Fresno Council of Governments / Fresno County Transportation Authority Board Meeting to Discuss Potential Early Reauthorization of Measure C (Tony Boren) [INFORMATION / DISCUSSION]

Mr. Boren (FCOG) reported that Fresno COG and the Fresno County Transportation Authority (FCTA) should seek early reauthorization of Measure C. The current measure does not expire until 2027. There are a number of reasons the Fresno COG will present to the Policy Board in September. The main forethought is the earlier we can deliver transportation projects, this can be streamlined by being able to identify a funding source. Initially there was a plan to have a joint meeting with Fresno COG Policy Board and FCTA Board, but it has now been decided that this item

will be presented for approval to each board separately, to the FCTA Board in August and Fresno COG Policy Board in September.

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

V. OTHER ITEMS

A. Items from Staff

- Kyle Roberson, County Counsel, introduced Bryan Rome who will be the new County Counsel for Fresno COG and FCRTA. Full transition will take place in August.

B. Items from Members

There were no items from members.

VI. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

A. Public Presentations –

There were no public presentations

Meeting adjourned to FCRTA meeting at

Respectfully submitted,



Tony Boren

Public

Amy Hance, City of Clovis
Bethany Berube, City of Clovis
Monte Cox, Fresno EOC

Staff:

Kristine Cai
Les Beshears
Robert Phipps
Braden Duran
Jennifer Soliz
Trai Her-Cole
Jeff Long
Todd Sobrado
Brenda Veenendaal
Moses Stites
Janelle Del Campo
Jeaneen Cervantes