

Fresno COG Policy Board

Date: Thursday, June 25, 2020
Time: 5:30 PM
Place: COG Ash Conference Room
2035 Tulare St., Suite 201, Fresno, CA

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Accommodations

The Fresno COG offices and restrooms are ADA accessible. Representatives or individuals with disabilities should contact Fresno COG at (559) 233-4148, at least 3 days in advance, to request auxiliary aids and/or translation services necessary to participate in the public meeting / public hearing. If Fresno COG is unable to accommodate an auxiliary aid or translation request for a public hearing, after receiving proper notice, the hearing will be continued on a specified date when accommodations are available.

OUT OF AN ABUNDANCE OF CAUTION REGARDING THE COVID-19 VIRUS THE JUNE 25, 2020, FRESNO COG POLICY BOARD MEETING AT 5:30 P.M. WILL BE HELD VIA ZOOM.

JOINING THE MEETING:

[HTTPS://ZOOM.US/J/99324700233?PWD=TGHTXFIQ3ZIUMNRN0PUA3FOBTNYDZ09](https://zoom.us/j/99324700233?pwd=TGHTXFIQ3ZIUMNRN0PUA3FOBTNYDZ09)

MEETING ID: 993 2470 0233

PASSWORD: 886827

IF YOU WISH TO ADDRESS POLICY BOARD DURING THE PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION OF THE AGENDA, CLICK ON THE ICON LABELED "PARTICIPANTS" AT THE BOTTOM CENTER OF YOUR PC OR MAC SCREEN. AT THE BOTTOM OF THE WINDOW ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE SCREEN, CLICK THE ICON LABELED "RAISEHAND". YOUR DIGITAL HAND WILL NOW BE RAISED.

JOIN BY PHONE

(669) 900-6833 US

MEETING ID: 993 2470 0233

PASSWORD: 886827

WHEN ON THE PHONE, IF YOU WISH TO ADDRESS POLICY BOARD DURING THE PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION OF THE AGENDA, PRESS *9 TO "RAISEHAND" AND WE WILL SELECT YOU FROM THE MEETING CUE. USE *6 TO UNMUTE YOURSELF BEFORE SPEAKING.

THOSE ADDRESSING POLICY BOARD MUST STATE THEIR FIRST AND LAST NAME AND AGENCY FOR THE RECORD.

TO FACILITATE ELECTRONIC ACCESS, NO PERSON SHALL SPEAK UNTIL RECOGNIZED BY THE CHAIR.

AGENDA AND ANNOTATED AGENDA IN PDF FORMATING FOR PRINTING

Exhibits:

Agenda Annotated Agenda

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

Exhibits:

FCRTA Packet

I. **Sitting as the Fresno County Mayors City Selection Committee (Excludes County of Fresno)**

1. **Call Meeting to Order and Roll Call**

Exhibits:

Agenda

2. **Approval of the May 28, 2020, Minutes**

Exhibits:

May 28, 2020 Minutes

3. **LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION (LAFCo)**

Appoint one (1) Primary Member to the Local Agency Formation Commission, term effective immediately, replacing Ron Lander, whose term will expire May 3, 2021.

4. **PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS**

This portion of the meeting is reserved for a person desiring to address the City Selection Committee on any matter the committee has jurisdiction over which is not on this agenda.

5. **ADJOURNMENT**

Fresno COG Sitting as the Fresno Council of Governments Policy Board

II. **TRANSPORTATION CONSENT ITEMS**

About Consent Items:

All items on the consent agenda are considered to be routine and non-controversial by COG staff and will be approved by one motion if no member of the Policy Board or public wishes to comment or ask questions. If comment or discussion is desired by anyone, the item will be removed from the consent agenda and will be considered in the listed sequence with an opportunity for any member of the public to address the Policy Board concerning the item before action is taken.

A. **Executive Minutes of May 28, 2020 [APPROVE]**

Exhibits:

May Minutes

B. **Third Quarterly Work Element and Financial Report (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]**

Exhibits:

Third Quarter Report

_____ - _____

C. **2020-21 Final Local Transportation Fund Estimates (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]**

Exhibits:

Final Apportionment Resolution 2020-13

Summary: The County Auditor-Controller initially estimated the 2020-21 Local Transportation Fund (LTF) apportionment at \$39,607,568. This number has been circulated among transit operators and member agencies since January to assist in preparing budget and claims. However, this number is pre-COVID-19. The Fresno County Transportation Authority's financial advisor Doug Montague has advised FCTA that sales tax collections could be reduced by 8.6 percent. Applied to the LTF estimate could result in an estimated apportionment of \$37,536,240. The Department of Finance projects tax receipts may be impacted lower by 27.5 percent. In such a climate, it is hard to predict what receipts will be. Staff recommends adopting the original number, considering it has been available for four months, and budgets and claims have already been prepared on that basis. However, this number will likely be revised downward significantly when the depth and breadth of the COVID-19 reduction in tax revenues become clearer. **Please use caution when preparing internal budgets.**

Action: Adopt Resolution 2020-13 approving the 2020-21 LTF apportionment at \$39,607,568.

D. **2020-21 Final State Transit Assistance Estimates (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]**

Exhibits:

Final Apportionment Resolution 2020-14

Summary: The State Controller's Office has estimated the 2020-21 State Transit Assistance (STA) apportionment at \$9,856,944. This is reduced \$1,793,426 (15 percent) from last year, and reflects the SB 878 methodology requiring the State Controller's Office to distribute STA. A spreadsheet distributing the funding to member agencies is provided for budgeting purposes. This number will likely be revised downward significantly when the depth and breadth of the COVID-19 reduction in tax revenues becomes clearer.

Action: Adopt Resolution 2020-14 approving the 2020-21 STA apportionment at \$9,856,944.

E. **2020-21 Final State of Good Repair Estimates (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]**

Exhibits:

Final Apportionment Resolution 2020-15

Summary: The State Controller's Office has estimated the 2020-21 State of Good Repair (SGR) apportionment at \$1,576,906. This is reduced \$46,141 (3 percent) from last year, and reflects the SB 878 methodology requiring the State Controller's Office to distribute STA. A spreadsheet distributing the funding to transit operators is provided for budgeting purposes. This number will likely be revised downward significantly when the depth and breadth of the COVID-19 reduction in tax revenues becomes clearer.

Action: Adopt Resolution 2020-15 approving the 2020-21 State of Good Repair apportionment at \$1,576,906.

F. **City of Parlier Transportation Development Act Claim (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]**

Exhibits:

TDA Claim Resolution 2020-23

Approve Resolution 2020-23 Adopting the 2020-21 Transportation Development Act Claims for the City of Parlier in the amount of \$889,772.

G. **Appointments to the Fresno COG Social Service Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) (Todd Sobrado) [APPROVE]**

Exhibits:

SSTAC Membership List

Summary: Fresno COG's Policy Board formed the Social Services Transportation Advisory Committee

(SSTAC) in May 1988 to: respond to State legislation and to coordinate social service transportation, assist the Board in identifying transit needs throughout Fresno County, review and recommend action for Fresno COG to address at its unmet transit needs hearing, and advise Fresno COG on any other transit issues. The Board appoints SSTAC members for three-year terms.

New member appointments to the Council are:

Matthew Gilliam,
Chenier Derrick,

Existing member reappointments to the Council are:

Vidal Medina,
Monty Cox,
Amy Hance,
Yonas Paulos,

Article III, Section 99238 of the Transportation Development Act requires a minimum number of SSTAC members in specific categories. There is no maximum number of members specified in the TDA, and in the interest of diversity, staff is seeking additional nominations. Specifically, staff is seeking members who represent minority groups, social service providers for seniors and potential transit users. A complete list of SSTAC members is included in the agenda package.

Action: Staff and the TTC/PAC recommend the Policy Board approve reappointing four existing members and appointing two new members to SSTAC.

H. **Clovis Consolidated Transportation Services Agency (CTSA) Operations Program & Budget, Fiscal Year 2020-21 (Amy Hance) [APPROVE]**

Exhibits:

Res 2020-21 CTSA OPB Clovis FY20-21 FY2020-21 Clovis OPB

Summary: The Clovis Consolidated Transportation Service Agency's (CTSA) Operations Program and Budget (OPB) FY 2020-21 for the Clovis Urban Area is available at fresnocog.org. It provides an overview of how and in what manner the Clovis Consolidated Transportation Services Agency will provide service over the next fiscal year. The OPB 45-day review process began on May 12, 2020, and was approved by the Social Services Transportation Advisory Committee (SSTAC) on May 19, 2020

Action: Staff, SSTAC and TTC/PAC recommend that the Fresno COG Board adopt Resolution 2020-21, approving the Clovis CTSA Operations Program and Budget.

I. **Fresno County Rural Transit Agency Transportation Development Act Claim (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]**

Exhibits:

TDA Claim Resolution 2020-16

Approve Resolution 2020-16 adopting the 2020-21 Transportation Development Act Claims for the Fresno County Rural Transit Agency in the amount of \$8,405,091.

J. **Fresno County Rural Transit Agency 2020-21 Annual Budget (Moses Stites) [APPROVE]**

Exhibits:

FCRTA Resolution 2020-06

Summary: Fresno County Rural Transit Agency's budget has been prepared to reflect Fresno COG's Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and the Short-Range Transit Plan (SRTP) for the rural Fresno County area 2020-2024.

The document recommends programmed capital improvements and continuing existing intra-city and fixed route services. This year's budget has been developed to include continued review, comment and action during its 45-day review period that will culminate on June 25, 2020, with the scheduled FCRTA Board meeting, following a public hearing. The dollar amounts in the budget are subject to refinement

following service contract negotiations, an opportunity for public presentations and a public presentation before the Board of Directors. The budget, which may require periodic amendments during the fiscal year, is available at fresnocog.org and www.ruraltransit.org.

Action: Staff and TTC/PAC recommend the Policy Board approve Resolution No. 2020-06, adopting the fiscal year 2020-21 Fresno County Rural Transit Agency budget.

III. TRANSPORTATION ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy

1. 2022 RTP/SCS Kick-off and Update (Kristine Cai) [INFORMATION]

Summary: Fresno COG is officially launching the 2022 RTP/SCS development process in June. The first RTP Roundtable meeting will be held at 2 p.m. on June 24. The RTP/SCS is updated every four years. The long-range plan provides policy guidance for transportation investment in the Fresno region for the next 20 years. An approved plan ensures transportation funding continues flowing into our region.

The 2022 RTP/SCS will have many challenges that include, but are not limited to: revenue shortfalls due to COVID 19, incorporating SB 743, new GHG reduction targets, transportation conformity under new SAFE vehicle rule, housing and employment forecast, public outreach, etc. The sixth cycle Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) will be developed in conjunction with the RTP/SCS.

It is critical that Fresno COG have strong and robust engagement from local governments, the general public and other stakeholders so that the process can be inclusive, and the policies and strategies developed in the RTP/SCS are representative of the region's values and vision.

There are 39 seats on the RTP Roundtable, including one for each member agency. Staff is requesting that each member agency inform Fresno COG of its representative on the Roundtable. The application package is available for applicants from non-member agencies: <https://www.fresnocog.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/2022-RTP-Roundtable-application-for-appointment.pdf>.

COG staff will provide monthly updates to the TTC/PAC and the Policy Board regarding the 2022 RTP/SCS progress.

Action: Information only. The Policy Board may provide additional direction at its discretion.

2. Fresno COG's Draft 2020 Public Participation Plan Adoption (Brenda Veenendaal) [APPROVE]

Summary: In accordance with public participation plan requirements, Fresno Council of Governments released its draft 2020 Public Participation Plan (PPP) for a 45-day public review and comment period from March 3, 2020, through April 17, 2020. The Policy Board also held a public hearing during its regular May 2020 meeting.

Fresno COG publicized public review and comment and the public hearing as follows:

- Fresno Bee public notices published on April 22, 2020, and March 3, 2020
- Vida En El Valle public notices published on April 29, 2020, and March 11, 2020
- "Coming Up At Fresno COG" e-newsletter articles requesting feedback, providing links to the PPP documents and notification of the public comment period and public hearing were sent out on February 6, March 9, April 16, and May 11 to more than 3,000 subscribers. The average open rate on the e-newsletters is 22 percent.
- The draft document and all public notices were published at fresnocog.org on March 3, 2020, and remain on the Get Involved webpage today
- Notice of the 45-day review period and public hearings was published on TTC, PAC and Policy Board agendas during the months of March, April and May 2020.

The PPP is a plan intended to give Fresno COG's Policy Board and staff guidance in providing for public involvement and interagency consultation early and often during the regional planning process. It contains policies, guidelines, processes and procedures Fresno COG commits to implementing while seeking and fostering open public involvement during the decision-making process, regarding all matters within discretion. The PPP also identifies opportunities to be involved in the metropolitan transportation planning process.

All documents are available for review or download at www.fresnocog.org or in hard copy at Fresno COG's offices.

- [Fresno COG's Draft 2020 Public Participation Plan](#)
- [Appendix A: Fresno COG's RTP Public Outreach Strategy and SCS Public Participation Plan](#)
- [Appendix B: Fresno COG's Tribal Consultation Plan](#)

No comments were received regarding the plan.

Action: Staff and TTC/PAC recommend the Policy Board adopt Fresno COG's 2020 Public Participation Plan.

3. **Environmental Justice Subcommittee-Fresno County Position (Trai Her-Cole) [APPROVE]**

Summary: The Environmental Justice Subcommittee supports Fresno COG's Transportation Technical Committee (TTC). This subcommittee meets to assist Fresno COG staff in setting thresholds for environmental justice populations for the Environmental Justice Report within each Regional Transportation Plan.

The subcommittee was initially created with 10 positions to provide a full, diverse and equitable representation of the region's environmental justice populations.

The current positions include:

1. Local agency-urban
2. East side local agency-rural
3. West side local agency-rural
4. A representative from each of the four major minority populations in Fresno County:
 - Hispanic
 - African American
 - Asian
 - American Indian
5. Low Income
6. Senior (65 or older)
7. Persons with disabilities

The subcommittee has not included a position for the County of Fresno. Staff is proposing to add an additional seat for a representative to be designated by the County of Fresno.

Fresno COG is also seeking recommendations for an east side city and west side city representative. Member jurisdiction staff interested in participating should contact Trai Her-Cole at traih@fresnocog.org.

Action: Staff and TTC/PAC recommend the Policy Board add one seat to the EJ Subcommittee representing the County of Fresno.

B. **Measure C Transit Oriented Infill Development (TOD) Program Eight Cycle Funding Recommendation (Kristine Cai/Trai Her Cole) [APPROVE]**

Summary: Measure C's Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) program was designed to boost transit ridership and encourage transit-supportive land uses, such as high-density residential and mixed-use development. The program is estimated to generate \$850,000 annually. The eighth cycle has

\$1,015,750 available with rollovers from the previous years. The funding level is forecast to be lower for the next cycle due to the impact from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The TOD program provides funding for capital projects and planning programs, as well as incentives for TOD-compatible housing projects. To ensure that quality projects are funded, the TOD guidelines require that projects receive an average of 70 points or more. Different density levels have been established for both urban and rural projects to ensure fair opportunities for all communities.

The cities of Fresno, Clovis, Reedley and Selma submitted applications in the eighth cycle. The scoring committee recommends three projects for funding:

1. City of Fresno: Merced Street Reconnection Project

Fresno requested \$1.6 million over four years to re-establish Merced street between H Street and Congo Alley, and extend Broadway northerly to intersect with Merced Street. Approximately \$495,000 was recommended for the eighth cycle. Due to revenue uncertainties over the next couple of years, the rest of the project's funding will be considered in the upcoming 2021 cycle.

2. City of Clovis: Peach Avenue Bus Stop

Clovis staff requested \$200,000 to construct a bus stop at Peach Avenue, adjacent to the Fresno County Department of Social Services building. Full funding was recommended for this project.

3. City of Reedley: Mixed-use Student and Workforce Housing Project

Reedley officials requested \$300,000 to offset development impact fees for the Reedley Student and Workforce Housing project. Full funding was recommended for this project.

Action: Staff, the TOD scoring committee and TTC/PAC request that the Policy Board approve funding for cities of Fresno, Clovis and Reedley.

C. **2019-20 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Program Regional Bid Project Recommendations (Braden Duran) [APPROVE]**

Exhibits: Funding Recommendations 2019-20 CMAQ Regional Bid Results by Agency. 2019-20 Total CMAQ Program Funding 2019-20 CMAQ Soft Targets Results 2019-20 CMAQ and STBG Program Results

Summary: On September 28, 2019, the Fresno COG Policy Board Issued a formal call-for-projects for the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) regional bid program. The available funding for this round was \$20,416,768. Staff received 51 applications, representing more than \$47 million in funding. The CMAQ scoring committee convened virtually over a video conferencing platform on May 6 and 7, 2020 to score projects and deliberate on the recommended funding of projects. The scoring committee comprised the following representatives: Clovis representing the Fresno-Clovis metro area, Fresno County, east side cities, west side cities, Caltrans, Fresno COG, FCRTA (representing transit) and the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District.

The attachments in the meeting packets are as follows:

- Scoring committee project recommendations (which includes the contingency list)
- CMAQ regional bid agency results
- CMAQ soft-target results
- Total CMAQ funding results for this cycle, including Lifeline
- Total CMAQ and STBG funding results for this cycle, including Lifeline

The CMAQ scoring committee is recommending the following projects, in ranked order:

Applicant	Project Title (* = Cost-Effective Project)	CMAQ Funds Requested	Recommended Funding
-----------	--	----------------------------	------------------------

Huron	Lassen Avenue Pedestrian Hybrid Beacons	\$416,994	\$416,994
Fresno	Blackstone Smart Mobility Project	\$1,792,800	\$1,792,800
FAX	Southwest Fresno Route 29	\$2,833,846	\$2,833,846
Fresno Unified	Purchase 5 CNG School Buses (Funded 3)*	\$973,224	\$583,935
Clovis	Shepherd Avenue Signal Interconnect	\$1,258,011	\$1,258,011
Clovis Unified	Purchase 4 CNG School Buses (Funded 2)*	\$769,199	\$384,600
Fresno County	Lincoln Ave Shoulder Improvements*	\$2,478,840	\$2,478,840
San Joaquin	Sutter Ave Paving Improvements*	\$637,453	\$637,453
Sanger	Fowler Switch Canal Trail and Bethel & Church Ave Bike Route Improvements	\$615,000	\$615,000
Clovis	DeWolf and Owens Mountain Roundabout	\$900,350	\$900,350
Southwest Trans	Purchase 6 CNG School Buses (Funded 2)*	\$1,354,508	\$451,503
Firebaugh	Alley Improvements*	\$463,162	\$463,162
Kingsburg	12th Avenue Sidewalks	\$77,020	\$77,020
Coalinga	Coalinga Multi-Use Trail Phase 3	\$1,147,526	\$1,147,526
Reedley	Reedley Paving Project 2019*	\$706,912	\$706,912
Coalinga	Coalinga Alley Paving Phase 2 (Segments 38-44)*	\$681,628	\$681,628
Firebaugh	J Street / 10th Street Improvements*	\$483,921	\$483,921
Selma	McCall and Dinuba Traffic Signal	\$838,114	\$838,114
Fresno	ITS Friant Road Adaptive Traffic Signal Synchronization Project	\$1,983,000	\$1,983,000
Fowler	7th Street and Merced Street Right Turn Pocket	\$132,795	\$132,795
Kingsburg	18th Avenue Sidewalks	\$139,876	\$139,876
Huron	Huron Alley Paving 2019*	\$532,702	\$532,702
Orange Cove	Orange Cove Alley Paving 2019*	\$418,476	\$418,476
Mendota	Alley Paving Project*	\$1,183,432	\$458,304

Action: Staff, the CMAQ scoring committee and TTC/PAC recommend the Policy Board approve the project recommendations for the 2019-20 CMAQ regional bid program.

D. **Fresno-Madera State Route 41 and Avenue 9 Sustainable Corridors Study Consultant Selection (Braden Duran) [APPROVE]**

Exhibits:

Scope of Work

Summary: Fresno COG, in partnership with Madera County Transportation Commission, is conducting a study to determine the future transportation needs of the SR 41 corridor in the City of Fresno and the southern segment of SR 41 in Madera County. In addition, the study will analyze the future transportation needs of the Avenue 9 corridor in Madera County between SR 41 and SR 99.

The study will identify existing and future issues along the two corridors related to safety, mobility, congestion, etc., and recommend sustainable improvements that will address the transportation needs of the residents in both counties through multi-modal approaches. Issues to be addressed include: mobility, access, safety, and connectivity for all modes of travel including automobiles, transit, walking, and bicycling. Ultimately, transportation projects the study identifies could potentially serve as candidate projects in both counties' transportation sales tax measure expenditure plans, as well as Fresno COG's and Madera CTC's 2022 Regional Transportation Plan(s). The scope of work is attached.

Fresno COG released a request for proposals on April 20, 2020 for consultant services and received five proposals. A consultant selection committee comprising representatives from Fresno COG, Madera CTC, City of Fresno, and Caltrans interviewed their top three consultants and unanimously chose IBI Group (along with sub-consultants RSG and BluePoint Planning). The IBI Group team will bring combined expertise in performance-based sustainable corridor planning, transportation and civil engineering, traffic modeling, public outreach, and economic development.

Action: Staff and TTC/PAC recommend the Policy Board authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract with IBI Group for an amount not to exceed \$399,747.

E. **Highway Infrastructure Program (HIP) Funding Allocation Recommendation (Suzanne Martinez) [APPROVE]**

Exhibits:

Funding Recommendations

Summary: In June 2018, Fresno COG received its first apportionment of \$2,438,180 in Highway Infrastructure Program (HIP) funds. (HIP funding Fact Sheet attached for reference). In October 2018, Fresno COG's Policy Board approved allocations to projects on the contingency list from the 2017/18 Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program call-for-projects. The original list of projects is attached. In summary, the 2018 HIP funding was allocated to eight additional projects, seven of which were awarded funding for their preliminary engineering (PE) phases only.

In 2019 and 2020, Fresno COG received additional apportionments of HIP funds totaling \$4,432,559. To assure delivery of the projects that received HIP funding in the first round, staff recommends the additional HIP funding be allocated to five of the seven projects that previously received PE-only HIP funds. The two remaining projects were recently awarded Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funding in the 2019/2020 STBG call-for-projects and do not require additional funds. Funding the five remaining projects amounts to \$4,032,395, leaving \$400,164 available for additional award. For the remaining balance, staff recommends allocation to the first project on the 2019/2020 STBG contingency list. That project is the City of Clovis' Fowler Ave Rehabilitation Project. A spreadsheet is included with this agenda item detailing how staff proposes to allocate the additional HIP funding.

As implemented previously, staff will attempt to limit the number of projects with programmed HIP funding to make it easier to track obligation and expending deadlines. The RSTP/STBG regional bid funding discharged from any project and programmed with HIP would then be allocated to the projects on the proposed HIP funding list.

If approved, staff will program these project changes in the next appropriate 2019 FTIP amendment.

Action: Staff and the TTC/PAC recommend the Policy Board approve allocating 2019 and 2020 HIP funding to 2017/2018 RSTP/STBG regional bid projects as presented.

F. **Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Unmet Transit Needs Assessment Findings Report (Todd Sobrado)**
[APPROVE]

Exhibits:

Res 2020-19 UTN Assessment FY2020-21 UTN Assessment FINAL

Summary: 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 2020-21 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 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 sent in February 2020.

In addition to the request for written comments, SSTAC held six formal meetings split evenly, with four in the Fresno-Clovis metropolitan area and two in rural communities (Kerman and Fowler). To facilitate participation in the rural meetings, FCRTA provided transportation to and from the meetings scheduled for the west side and east side of Fresno County.

The unmet transit needs meeting schedule was publicized in Fresno COG's e-newsletter; via public notices in the Fresno Bee and Vida En La Valle newspapers; and posted on Fresno COG's social media channels. The meetings were also publicized in the Fresno Area Express' e-newsletter, reaching more than 300 subscribers.

Attendance ranged from zero to around 20 people.

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 at its meeting on May 19, 2020.

Action: Staff, SSTAC and TTC/PAC recommend that Fresno COG's Board approve Resolution 2020-19, and find that there are no unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet in Fresno County.

G. **Circuit Planner and Engineer – End of FY 2019-20 Update on Tasks and Discussion (Braden Duran/Meg Prince)** **[INFORMATION/DISCUSSION]**

Exhibits:

Model Zoning Ordinance

Summary: Fresno COG's Circuit Planner and Engineer Program is wrapping up its contract with Rincon Consultants, Inc. and subconsultants. Fresno COG staff, management, and Rincon's project manager met in May to discuss the FY 2020-21 contract's goals and priorities. One proposal centered on designing a template for a model zoning ordinance that all jurisdictions could use because many of the member agencies have outdated zoning ordinances. Attached with this item is a copy of the draft model zoning ordinance Rincon developed.

Additionally, below is the update on tasks underway that will roll-over into the new contract:

Circuit Planning & Engineering

- Reedley Manning/Buttonwillow Master Plan Assistance – VSCE will provide updated drafts based on City and Rincon's comments.

Circuit Planning

- Selma Downtown Multi-Use Overlay Zone – Rincon has confirmed the zone boundary with the City. The next step is to provide an outline/summary, including the Overlay Zone's purpose and goals, to present to the Planning Commission and/or City Council for their input before June 30, 2020. Based on that input, the project would move forward in the next FY contract.

Circuit Engineering

Conducting active transportation counts have been put on hold during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Fresno COG and Rincon staff are available to answer any questions there might be about the model zoning ordinance proposal and/or the current tasks underway.

Action: Information. The Policy Board may provide additional direction at its discretion.

H. **Caltrans Report (Caltrans) [INFORMATION]**

IV. **ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT ITEMS**

About Consent Items:

All items on the consent agenda are considered to be routine and non-controversial by COG staff and will be approved by one motion if no member of the Policy Board or public wishes to comment or ask questions. If comment or discussion is desired by anyone, the item will be removed from the consent agenda and will be considered in the listed sequence with an opportunity for any member of the public to address the Policy Board concerning the item before action is taken.

A. **CONTRACTS**

1. **WSP On-Call Contract for Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee Services (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]**

Summary: WSP, (formerly Parsons Brinkerhoff) provided the initial expertise to develop the Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee (RTMF) program that Fresno COG administers pursuant to the Fresno County Regional Mitigation Fee Agency on behalf of the Fresno County Transportation Authority. WSP recently completed the required five-year update to the program that was adopted by the two policy boards in December 2019. Included in the 2020-21 budget is \$50,000 for WSP to provide on-call services should staff require technical advice arising from complex developments.

Action: Authorize the Executive Director to enter into an agreement for \$50,000 for RTMF on-call service.

2. **LSA Contract Extension (Kristine Cai) [APPROVE]**

Summary: Fresno COG has retained LSA to develop regional guidelines for SB 743 implementation. The deliverables include development of base vehicle miles traveled (VMT) for all the jurisdictions, VMT recommendation thresholds for land development projects and land use/transportation plans, VMT screening maps, a VMT calculation tool and VMT mitigation measures, etc. The project started in July 2019 and is estimated to be concluded in fall 2020.

Action: Staff and TTC/PAC request that the Policy Board approve the extension of its contract with LSA into FY 2020/21 at no extra cost.

3. **Circuit Planner and Engineer Program Contract Renewal / Extension (Meg Prince / Braden Duran) [APPROVE]**

Summary: Since 2019, Rincon Consultants Inc., along with their subconsultants Collins & Schoettler and VSCE, have served as Fresno COG's circuit planner and engineer. The circuit planner and engineer team provides planning and project delivery assistance to the smaller cities and the County, and works to complete smaller transportation-related projects that support the Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS).

Circuit Planner and Engineer tasks have included feasibility studies, technical reports, intersection operations analyses, and active transportation and Safe Routes to Schools plans and studies. The circuit planner also provides grant-writing assistance for plans and projects that further RTP/SCS goals.

Staff recommends extending the contract with Rincon Consultants Inc. and rolling over the remaining budget from the 2019/20 program cycle, which is approximately \$15,000, into the 2020/21 program cycle. Additionally, staff is requesting authorization to amend the circuit planner and engineer contract to add \$100,000, as is typically granted each fiscal year. This recommendation is included in the adopted 2020/21 budget.

During the 2019/20 program cycle, the circuit planner and engineer teams received numerous project submittals from the small cities. Rincon Consultants Inc. plan to continue coordinating with member agencies to work down the list of these projects, as well as add new projects. Additionally, Rincon Consultants Inc. plans to continue its work with a countywide model zoning ordinance update, including assisting cities with implementation.

To submit a new project for consideration, or for more information, contact Meg Prince at mprince@fresnocog.org or 559-233-4148 Ext. 203.

Action: Staff and TTC/PAC recommend the Policy Board approve contract extensions with Rincon Consultants Inc. to carry over the remaining budget of approximately \$15,000 and amend the contract to add an additional \$100,000.

4. **Walker Consultants Contract Extension (Jennifer Soliz) [APPROVE]**

Summary: In February 2019, Fresno COG's Policy Board authorized a contract with Walker Consultants to develop operational plans for FCRTA, as awarded through Cycle 2 of the Sustainable Infrastructure Planning Grant Program. The project is proceeding as planned and will continue into the 2020-21 budget year with no additional cost associated with this extension.

Action: Staff and TTC/PAC recommend the Board authorize the Executive Director to extend Walker Consultants' contract for FCRTA's operational plans through fiscal year 2020-21.

5. **2019 FTA Section 5310, Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program Contracts (Peggy Arnest) [APPROVE]**

Summary: On July 25, 2019, the Fresno COG Policy Board approved the 2019 FTA Section 5310, Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program of Projects. FTA recently approved the combined grant application. The projects include:

Agency	Purpose	Award Recommendation
Fresno Area Express	Purchasing paratransit cutaways and related equipment	\$257,030
Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission	Purchase of 20 passenger Class C buses w/ ADA equipment	\$257,030
United Cerebral Palsy	Purchase of 20 passenger Class C buses and related equipment	\$257,030

WestCare	Purchase of van + minor equipment	\$57,419
Total Grant		\$828,509

Action: Staff and TTC/PAC recommend the Policy Board authorize the executive director to enter into contracts with the approved agencies for the awarded amounts.

6. **Ecointeractive Contract (Suzanne Martinez) [APPROVE]**

Summary: Fresno COG leases FresnoTrak web-based software from Ecointeractive to manage millions of dollars of federal aid construction projects in Fresno County. FresnoTrak provides for online interactive coordination between member agency project sponsors and Fresno COG staff to ensure federal requirements are met.

Action: Staff and TTC/PAC recommend that the Policy Board authorize the executive director to renew the Ecointeractive contract for an amount not to exceed \$79,500 for 2020-2021.

7. **Regional Transportation Planning Agencies Valleywide Coordinator (Robert Phipps) [APPROVE]**

Summary: Sigala, Inc. of Clovis has provided administrative support and coordination services to the San Joaquin Valley Regional Transportation Planning Agencies for the last 10 years. The duties include organizing and producing the agendas and minutes for the Valley COG Directors group and San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council, assisting with special projects and initiative, organizing the SJV Policy Conference, planning Valley Voice trips to Washington and Sacramento, and other duties as required.

At their May 2020 meeting, the Valley COG Directors voted to support a request to extend Sigala, Inc.'s contract through 2021 at a rate of \$135,000 plus expenses. This is the same rate as 2020. While Fresno COG administers the contract, the cost is split on a pro-rata basis with each of the other seven Valley COGs.

Action: Staff, SJV COG Directors and TTC/PAC request the Policy Board that Sigala, Inc.'s contract be extended through June 30, 2021, at a rate not to exceed \$135,000 plus supported expenses.

B. **Regional Clearinghouse (Jennifer Soliz) [APPROVE]**

Exhibits:

Regional Clearinghouse

Summary: The Clearinghouse Calendar contains "Project Notification and Review Reports" for grant proposals.

	Project	Applicant
1.	Tranquility School Internet extension to Community for student learning	Fresno County
2.	San Joaquin School Internet extension to Community for student learning	Fresno County

3.	Cantua Creek and Three Rocks – School extension to Community for student learning	Fresno County
----	---	---------------

Action: Forward any comment(s) received or any Committee/Board comment(s) generated as a result of this informational item to the appropriate agency.

C. **Monthly Legislative Report - INVEST in America Act (Trai Her-Cole) [INFORMATION]**

Exhibits:

2020 INVEST in America Bill Summary

Summary: The House Transportation and Infrastructure (T&I) Committee released *the INVEST in America Act*. This measure is the proposed successor to the *Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act of 2015*. FAST Act authorization (P.L. 114-94) expires on September 30, 2020.

The House reauthorization proposal provides \$494 billion for the national surface transportation system over five years. This includes \$319 billion for federal-aid highways, \$105 billion for transit, and \$60 billion for rail. It also provides \$4.6 billion for highway safety and \$5.3 billion for motor carrier safety. The Highway Trust Fund (HTF) would be authorized to provide \$411 billion over five years for highway, transit, safety, and research programs. This represents an overall increase of 46 percent above current investment levels.

The Committee highlighted the following objectives:

- Tackling the massive backlog of roads, bridges, and transit systems in need of repair and replacement;
- Building resilient infrastructure that will withstand the impacts of climate change and extreme weather;
- Designing streets that are safer for all road users, including pedestrians and cyclists;
- Putting the U.S. on a path toward zero emissions from the transportation sector by prioritizing carbon pollution reduction, investing in public transit and the national rail network, building out fueling infrastructure for low- and zero-emission vehicles, and deploying technology and innovative materials;
- Sharply increasing funding for public transit options in urban, suburban and rural areas in order to integrate technology and increase routes and reliability with tools such as bus-only lanes and priority signaling;
- Making transformational investments in Amtrak to create a robust, reliable rail system and to address long-neglected maintenance needs in the Northeast Corridor and throughout the country, while also enhancing rail worker and passenger safety and helping communities address grade crossing issues; and
- Improving access to Federal funding to help communities around the country undertake transformative projects that are smarter, safer, and made to last.

For more information, see the [Bill Text](#), [Bill Summary](#), [Section-by-Section Summary](#), or [Fact Sheet](#) provided by the House T&I Committee. Key provisions are included in the attached memo for reference.

Action: Information. The Board may provide additional direction at its discretion.

V. **ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

A. **San Joaquin Valley Multi-Agency Working Group Regional Early Action Planning Grants Program (Robert Phipps) [APPROVE]**

Exhibits:

REAP Grant Program Resolution 2020-24

Summary: The San Joaquin Valley Multi-Agency Working Group for Regional Early Action Planning

(REAP) designated Fresno COG as its Valleywide fiscal agent for the state-sponsored grant program.

REAP funds are intended as an incentive for local jurisdictions and regions to undertake the early planning work necessary to prepare for the sixth cycle Regional Housing Needs Assessment, which is expected to yield anywhere from one-and-a-half to three times the number of housing units required by the State for permitting as in previous cycles.

Under the fiscal agent designation, Fresno COG staff submitted a REAP application for \$4,743,830, representing the first 25 percent of available funds Valleywide. The California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) approved that application in May but requires grantees to adopt a resolution authorizing an official to sign agreements. The grant is included in the adopted 2020-21 Overall Work Program and budget.

Action: Staff and the PAC recommend the Board adopt Resolution 2020-24 authorizing Fresno COG's executive director to sign the agreement with the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to receive funding and administer the San Joaquin Valley Regional Early Action Planning program.

VI. OTHER ITEMS

A. Items from Staff

B. Items from Members

VII. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

A. Public Presentations

This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons wishing to address the Policy Board on items within its jurisdiction but not on this agenda. **Note: Prior to action by the Policy Board on any item on this agenda, the public may comment on that item. Unscheduled comments may be limited to three minutes.**