

Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy Roundtable
MEETING SUMMARY
Wednesday, July 22, 2020
2:00 PM

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS (Kristine Cai)

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Terry, Chair at 2:05 p.m.

A. ROLL CALL (Jeaneen Cervantes)

David Merchen, City of Clovis
Dan Zach, City of Fresno
John Jansons, City of Kerman
Michael Osborn, City of Mendota
Rob Terry, City of Reedley
Mohammad Khorsand, County of Fresno
Crystal Yunker, San Joaquin Valley Air District
George Uc, LAFCo
Jamaica Gentry, Caltrans
Carolina Ilic, Public Transportation Urban
Tina Sumner, Active Transportation
Eric VonBerg, Broad-Based Business
George Cummings, Education
Adam Livingston, Environmental
Joseph Oldham, New Technology
Keith Berthold, Public Health Advocate
Gail Miller, Public at Large
Jim Hunter, Public at Large
Sal Petrucelli, Public at Large
Matt Ventura, PG&E
Kevin Hamilton, Measure C Citizen Oversight Committee

II. NEW INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. RTP/SCS Roundtable Meeting Minutes of June 24, 2020 (Jeaneen Cervantes) [APPROVE]

Changes noted by Chair Terry and Mr. Paladino. Corrections will be made.

After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Livingston (Environmental) motioned and Ms. Sumner (Active Transportation) seconded to approve the minutes with corrections. The motion passed, 18 yes votes and 4 non-voters.

B. RTP Roundtable Code of Conduct (Rob Terry) [APPROVE]

Mr. Terry (Reedley) reported that the purpose of the Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS) Roundtable Committee is to support staff and COG standing committees in developing the RTP/SCS plan. The Code of Conduct will serve as ground rules for how the Roundtable will conduct business in an effort to ensure respectful, organized and inclusive discussion and to facilitate respectful and collaborative dialogue.

After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Bergthold (Public Health) motioned and Mr. Petrucelli (Public-at-Large) seconded to approve the RTP Roundtable Code of Conduct. The motion passed, unanimously.

C. Fresno Futures (Seth Scott) [APPROVE]

Mr. Scott (FCOG) reported that Fresno COG is adopting a new planning approach to scenario development and analysis -- namely, the incorporation of Futures, which are sets of assumptions about future conditions. This practice mirrors similar practices recently adopted by such planning agencies as Caltrans, MTC, and others. These futures would allow for a more robust analysis of land use and transportation strategies by including a stress test of the resilience of said strategies.

In February 2019, Fresno COG hosted two workshop events where stakeholders from a variety of organizations were invited to form focus groups and discuss three proposed concepts for Fresno Futures: Extreme Climate, High-Tech Innovation, and Regulatory Challenges. From these focus groups, COG staff was able to gather a wealth of information on each Future, specifically the impacts each Future was likely to have as well as potential strategies that may be employed to address or mitigate these impacts.

In addition to these three extreme examples, COG staff would also develop a Base Future, which will be consistent with the results of the regional demographic forecast which is currently being developed. This Base Future will form the basis for the preferred scenario, when chosen.

With the approval of this body, COG staff would like to move forward with the further development and analysis of these Futures within the framework of scenario planning and the SCS. Workshops were done before COVID. Staff is open to discussion from the Roundtable.

The Roundtable discussed including effects of COVID into consideration in the development of the Futures. Staff was looking for approval of these Futures. The Chair clarified that there is still room for minor changes and adjustments to the Futures, but these Futures would be used as a basis.

It was asked what the performance indicators will be. Staff responded that these would be developed after the Futures are approved. It was asked if other regions use these benchmarks. Staff responded that Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) is a reference that Fresno COG used to create these Futures. It was asked how the Futures will address needs in disadvantaged communities. Staff responded that this will be included in the final development of the Futures and discussions when forming the strategies and scenarios.

There was discussion about modifying what is being approved. Can one of the Futures be excluded or taken out? Can each Future be voted on individually or are they to be voted on as a whole? The Chair clarified that there was a current motion to approve the Futures as presented. If the motion failed the floor would be open for a new motion. It was clarified that the motion maker would like to approve the Futures as a whole, as presented.

After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Oldham (New Technology) motioned and Mr. Petrucelli (Public-at-Large) seconded to approve the four Futures as presented: Base Future, Extreme Climate, High-Tech Innovation, and Regulatory Challenges for inclusion in the 2022 RTP/SCS scenario development and analysis process, with the understanding that the Base Future will provide the framework assumptions within which the preferred scenario will be chosen. 16 yes votes. 5 noes. Adam Livingston, Dan Zach, Carolina Ilic, Mohammad Khorsand & Keith Bergthold, voting not. Motion passed.

D. Project Evaluation Criteria Technical Working Group (Suzanne Martinez) [INFORMATION]

Ms. Martinez (FCOG) reported that Fresno COG has scheduled a series of Programming Technical Working Group meetings for the review of the RTP Project Evaluation Criteria. The first meeting will take place Tuesday, July 21, 2020, 1:30 p.m. via ZOOM. Subsequent meetings have been scheduled for Thursday, July 30th and Tuesday, August 11th. Staff will give a brief update on the dialogue from this first meeting and the planned content for the two subsequent meetings.

This item was informational only; no further action was required

III. OTHER ITEMS

There were no other items.

IV. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

There were no public presentations.

Upcoming meeting dates:

August 26, 2020 from 2-4 p.m.

September 23, 2020 from 2-4 p.m.

October 28, 2020 from 2-4 p.m.

The Meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Members of the Public:

Matt Gillian, Inspiration Transportation

Nick Paladino, Fresno Cycling Club

Anthony Molina

Denise DiBenedetto, FCTA

Brian Spaunhurst, County of Fresno

Sophia Pagoulatos, City of Fresno

Renee Mathis, City of Clovis

Greg Barfield, Fresno Area Express

Jill Gromny, City of Fresno

Joe Vargas, Fresno Area Express

Paul Sereno

Roger Brown, Public

Ryan Burnette, City of Clovis

Sean Smith

Kevin Banisler

FCOG Staff:

Tony Boren

Kristine Cai

Robert Phipps

Jeaneen Cervantes

Kai Han

Trai Her-Cole

Braden Duran

Suzanne Martinez

Brenda Veenendaal

Meg Prince

Seth Scott

Peggy Arnest

Santosh Bahattarai

Jeff Long