

Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy Roundtable
MEETING SUMMARY
Wednesday, March 24, 2021
1:00 PM

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS (Rob Terry)

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Terry, Chair at 1:01 p.m.

A. ROLL CALL (Jeaneen Cervantes)

David Merchen, City of Clovis
Mike Sanchez, City of Fresno
Paul Sereno, City of Huron
Rob Terry, City of Reedley
Jennifer Lekumberry, City of Mendota
Fernando Santillan, City of Selma
Mohammad Khorsand, County of Fresno
Carolina Ilic, Public Transportation Urban
Moses Stites, Fresno County Rural Transit
Tina Sumner, Active Transportation
Mike Prandini, Building Industry Association
Adam Livingston, Environmental
George Uc, LAFCo
Kevin Wing, San Joaquin Valley Air District
Jim Hunter, Public at Large
Sal Petrucelli, Public at Large
Leslie Martinez, Environmental Justice
Sarg Green, Water Agency
David Brletic, City of Sanger

19 members present. Simple majority is 11.

II. NEW INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. RTP/SCS Roundtable Meeting Minutes of February 24, 2021 [APPROVE]

After an opportunity for public comment, Ms. Sumner (Cycling Club) motioned and Mr. Petrucelli (Public at Large) seconded to approve the minutes with corrections. 13 yes votes, no noes. The motion passed.

Entered: John Jansons (Kerman) and Sean Brewer (Coalinga). 21 members present, simple majority 12.

B. Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) Scenario Concept/Indicator Public Outreach (Brenda Veenendaal) [INFORMATION]

Ms. Veenendaal (FCOG) reported that as reported to the Roundtable last month, Fresno COG staff was planning an outreach effort to present the Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) scenario concepts and list of indicators to the public from March 26 through April 25, 2021, gathering input through an online, interactive survey in English and Spanish and Hmong (to some degree.) This effort is very similar to the successful RTP Transportation Needs Survey outreach that Fresno COG undertook last fall.

To facilitate the survey development, Fresno COG has worked with JSA marketing to create a series of very short, animated videos to incorporate within the survey. The scenario concepts have to be simplified to a degree to make them relatable to the public, but still presented accurately. Staff used graphics to depict all five concepts before asking participants about their impression of each one. In addition, the public is asked to prioritize groups of indicators that will be used to assess the performance of each SCS scenario, and then which of the indicators within each group are most important to them.

The surveys will be publicized using the following strategies: Videos, E-newsletters via Constant Contact, Hard-copy flyers with QR codes, Email share requests, Public Zoom meetings, Website posts with videos on planfresno.com and fresnocog.org, Organic and boosted posts on Fresno COG's social media channels and presentations to community groups and organizations.

The outreach results will first be reported to the RTP Roundtable on April 28, then to the TTC/PAC on May 14 and the Fresno COG Policy Board on May 27. When the results are reported, staff will also be asking for a recommendation on the top three scenarios to go forward for SCS modeling and a trimmed-down list of indicators to assess scenario performance. Staff Provided a walk-through of the online survey during the Roundtable meeting.

This item was information only, no further direction was provided.

C. Environmental Impact Report (EIR) Notice for Preparation (Meg Prince) [INFORMATION]

Ms. Prince (FCOG) reported that on April 1, Fresno COG will issue a Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the Program Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the 2022 RTP/SCS. The NOP informs reviewers of the lead agency's intent to prepare an EIR with a 30-day public comment period. A scoping meeting will be held on April 21, 2021 beginning at 10:00 AM via Zoom video conference. The scoping meeting will provide a brief overview of the EIR process, the project and scope of the EIR, and an opportunity to obtain input from agencies and/or the public on the scope of the EIR. Additional information, including the link to the scoping meeting webinar, will be provided with the notice when it is sent out and posted to Fresno COG's website.

Below is the anticipated timeline for major milestones of the EIR development.

Milestone	Date
Notice of Preparation Comment Period	April 1-30, 2021
NOP Scoping Meeting	April 21, 2021
Draft EIR Released	March 2022
Final EIR Certified	June 2022

The NOP is be available for download on Fresno COG's RTP website: planfresno.com.

This item was information only, no further direction was provided.

D. 2022 RTP Project Web Map (Seth Scott) [INFORMATION]

Mr. Scott (FCOG) reported that Fresno COG staff has developed a web map where users can view the locations, descriptions, and other details of the projects submitted for analysis in the 2022 RTP. Projects can be filtered and viewed by mode, and individual projects can be selected to view details such as project limits/description, estimated cost, open to traffic date, etc. Staff provided a brief demonstration of this map, as well as instructions on how to access it.

This item was information only, no further direction was provided.

III. OTHER ITEMS

A. Items from Staff

There were no items from staff.

B. Items from Members

There were no items from members.

IV. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

There were no public presentations.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:41 p.m.

Members of the Public:

Nick Paladino, Fresno Cycling Club
Anthony Molina, Fresno Cycling Club
Shelby MacNab, City of Fresno
Jill Gormley, City of Fresno
Karla Martinez, Leadership Counsel
Diana Sedigh-Darbandi, FCTA
Joe Vargas, FAX
Matthew Gillian, Inspiration Transportation
Claudia Cazares, City of Clovis
Isaac Moreno, City of Selma
Joey Daggett, City of Selma
Myra Banuelos, Commute with Expertise
Sean Smith, City of Clovis

FCOG Staff:

Tony Boren
Kristine Cai
Robert Phipps
Jeaneen Cervantes
Kai Han
Trai Her-Cole
Braden Duran
Brenda Veenendaal
Meg Prince
Seth Scott
Peggy Arnest
Santosh Bhattarai
Jeff Long
Todd Sobrado