

Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy Roundtable

Wednesday, June 30, 2021

1:00 PM

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS (Rob Terry)

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Terry, Chair at 1:05 p.m.

A. ROLL CALL (Jeaneen Cervantes)

Ryan Burnette, City of Clovis
Sophia Pagoulatos, City of Fresno
John Jansons, City of Kerman
Jennifer Lekumberry, City of Mendota
Rob Terry, City of Reedley
David Brletic, City of Sanger
Mohammad Khorsand, County of Fresno
Kevin Wing, San Joaquin Valley Air District
George Uc, LAFCo
David Padilla, Caltrans
Carolina Ilic, Public Transportation Urban
Moses Stites, Public Transportation Rural
Nick Paladino, Active Transportation
Eric VonBerg, Broad Based Business
Mike Prandini, Building Industry Association
George Cummings, Education
Adam Livingston, Environment
Matthew Gillian, Environmental Justice
Joseph Oldham, New Technology
Keith Berghold, Public Health Advocate
Sarge Green, Water Agency

21 members present. Simple majority is 12.

II. NEW INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. RTP/SCS Roundtable Meeting Minutes of May 26, 2021 [APPROVE]

Correction to minutes, “meeting called to order by Gail Miller not Rob Terry”.

After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Khorsand (Fresno County) motioned, and Mr. Stites (FCRTA) seconded to approve the minutes with the correction. 18 yes votes, no noes. The motion passed.

B. Equity Indicator (Trai Her-Cole) [ACCEPT}

Ms. Her-Cole (FCOG) reported that at the May RTP Roundtable meeting, Staff presented an initial recommendation by the EJ subcommittee for the equity indicator for SCS scenario development. The initial EJ subcommittee recommendation was the “Equitable Housing Mix”. The recommendation was tabled to allow further discussions with the EJ subcommittee and address technical modeling issues related the Equitable Housing Mix indicator. Subsequently, Staff met with the EJ Subcommittee and presented potential methodologies for calculating housing mix, the assumptions, and challenges with each methodology.

The subcommittee expressed the importance of addressing housing issues and FCOG staff is committed to including the modeling results of the regional housing mix and concentration of EJ households in the full RTP equity analysis. However, for the purposes of selecting an equity indicator to help compare the performance of RTP Scenarios, the EJ Subcommittee has recommend Accessibility to Destinations within EJ vs non-EJ areas for auto and transit as the EJ indicator.

Federal guidance requires the EJ Analysis consider minority and low-income populations. The EJ subcommittee had recommended the low-income threshold be set at 150% of the federal poverty level, and this recommendation has not changed.

After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Khorsand (Fresno County) motioned, and Mr. Bergthold (Public Health) seconded to accept Accessibility to Destinations as the EJ indicator for SCS scenario development and set the low-income threshold at 150% of the federal poverty rate. 18 yes votes, no noes. The motion passed.

C. Draft Action Element Outline [APPROVE] (Jennifer Soliz/Meg Prince)

Ms. Soliz (FCOG) reported that the Draft Action Element Outline was developed to support the vision, overarching goals, and supporting policies of the approved Draft Policy Element Outline. The Draft Action Element Outline has been consolidated and updated to align with the Policy Element. The Action Element and Policy Element will be a combined chapter in the Draft RTP/SCS to provide a more cohesive document and will also be consistent with the Financial Element to identify investment strategies, alternatives, and project priorities.

The Draft Action Element Outline was presented to the RTP Roundtable in May and circulated for comments. Comments were due on June 18, 2021, and we received feedback including two formal comment letters. Letters were provided as an attachment. The comments were reviewed and taken into consideration for inclusion in the Draft Action Element Outline. Attached is the final Draft Action Element Outline with tracked changes to easily identify the updates.

Staff is requesting approval for the actions in the Draft Action Element Outline to be included in the Draft RTP/SCS, which will be circulated for public review and comment in the spring of 2022.

After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Prandini (BIA) motioned, and Mr. Stites (FCRTA) seconded to approve the Draft Action Element Outline. 19 yes votes, no noes. The motion passed.

D. Sixth Cycle RHNA Plan Update (Meg Prince) [INFORMATION]

Ms. Prince (FCOG) provided a brief update on the status of the Sixth Cycle Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) Plan development.

Updates on the process and documents available for review will be posted to Fresno COG's RHNA web page: <https://www.fresnocog.org/project/fresno-county-regional-housing-needs-allocation-plan/>.

This item was information only. No further direction was provided.

II. OTHER ITEMS

A. Items from Staff

There were no items from staff.

B. Items from Members

There were no items from members.

III. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

There were no public presentations

The meeting was adjourned at 2:03 p.m.

Members of the Public:

Rosemarie Amaral, FCDPH

Annalisa Perea

Anthony Molina, Fresno Cycling Club

CalFresh Healthy Living Fresno

Crystal Vasquez

Greg Barfield, City of Fresno

Joe Vargas, FAX

Jill Gormley, City of Fresno
Karla Martinez, Leadership Counsel
Diana Sedigh-Darbandi, FCTA
Mariana Alvarenga, Leadership Counsel
Michael Flores

FCOG Staff:

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