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## Transportation Technical Committee

### Executive Minutes

**Date: Friday, June 8, 2012**

**Time: 8:30 AM**

**Place: COG Sequoia Conference Room**

#### Members Attending:

Noe Martinez, Reedley, Chair  
 Mike Prandini, BIA  
 John Downs, FAX/COG  
 Ken Hamm, City of Fresno  
 Chip Ashley, Sierra Club  
 Dennis Manning, FARRC  
 Nicholas Don Paladino, Fresno Cycling Club  
 Renee Mathis, City of Clovis  
 Gary Joseph, FCEOC  
 David Weisser, City of Fowler

John Mulligan, City of Sanger  
 Jeffrey D. Webster, Fresno County Rural Transit Agency  
 Janet Dailey, Fresno COG  
 Brad Simpson, CHP/Fresno  
 Will Washburn, Provost & Pritchard, City of Mendota  
 Debbie Hunsaker, Alert-o-lite, by phone  
 Scott Mozier, City of Fresno

#### Others Attending:

Rob Weyant, FCEOC  
 Mohammad Khorsand, Fresno County  
 William Ridder, SJ COG  
 Jeffrey Webster, FCRTA  
 Moses Stites, FCRTA  
 Tony Boren, Fresno COG  
 Barbara Steck, Fresno COG

Melissa Garza, Fresno COG  
 Brenda Veenendaal, Fresno COG  
 Peggy Arnest, Fresno COG  
 Kristine Cai, Fresno COG  
 Kai Han, Fresno COG  
 Marla Day, Fresno COG

The meeting was called to order by Noe Martinez, Reedley, Chair.

## I. 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 Committee 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 Committee concerning the item before action is taken.

- A. PAC Executive Minutes of May 11, 2012 [APPROVE]
- B. FY 2011/12 Transportation Development Act (TDA) Claims – [Fawcett] [INFO/ACTION]
- C. FY 2012-13 Transportation Development Act (TDA) [Fawcett][APPROVE]
- D. Fresno COG FY 2011-12 Monthly (April) Progress Report [Beshears] [ACCEPT]

- E. Transit Planning Documents [Long] [APPROVE] - PUBLIC HEARING JUNE 28, 2012
- F. Unmet Transit Needs Staff Report and Recommendations, Resolution 2012-17 [Long] [APPROVE] - PUBLIC HEARING JUNE 28, 2012
- G. Adoption of Annual Availability Advisory Percentages for Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Participation – Resolution 2012-16 [Beshears] [APPROVE] - PUBLIC HEARING JUNE 28, 2012
- H. Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Update [Steck] [APPROVE]
- I. 2013 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) and Corresponding Conformity Analysis Public Review Period – May 31, 2012 [Monge] [APPROVE] - PUBLIC HEARING JUNE 28, 2012 [Monge] [INFORMATION]
- J. FY 2011/2012 Update on Obligational Authority Delivery Plans [Garza] [INFORMATION]
- K. Greenprint Update [Thompson] [INFORMATION]
- L. Final Project Selection for 2011 Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (CMAQ) Program [Dawson] [INFORMATION]
- M. Prop. 84 / Blueprint Update [Terry] [INFORMATION]
- N. San Joaquin Valley Interregional Goods Movement Study Update [Terry] [INFORMATION]
- O. SB 375 / Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) Monthly Update [Cai] [INFORMATION]
- P. Grant Writing Workshop [Monge] [INFORMATION]
- Q. Grant/Call for Project Reminders [INFORMATION]
- R. Fresno County Rural Transit Agency Items [Webster] [APPROVE]
  1. FY2012-13 Fresno County Rural Transit Agency Budget Resolution – 2012-02 [Webster]
  2. FY 2012-13 Federal Transit Administration Section 5311 Grant Application, FCRTA Resolution 2012-06 [Webster]
  3. FY 2012-13 Measure "C" Claim, FCRTA Resolution 2012-07 [Webster]

For a complete summary of these items, please see the June 8, 2012 Annotated Agenda. Items F, L, H and K were pulled for discussion. A motion was made by Ken Hamm (Fresno) and seconded by Nick Paladino (Fresno Cycling) to approve the remainder of the Transportation Consent Items as presented. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

**Item F. Unmet Transit Needs Staff Report and Recommendations, Resolution 2012-17 [Long] [APPROVE] - PUBLIC HEARING JUNE 28, 2012.** Chip Ashley (Sierra Club) asked about benches as bus stop at Belmont and First St. John Downs (FAX) stated that he would check with staff about funding for the benches. A motion was made by Mike Prandini (BIA) and seconded by Gary Joseph (FCEOC) to approve this item. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

#### **Item H. Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Update**

Dennis Manning (FARRC) asked for clarification regarding the membership for this Task Force. Barbara Steck (Fresno COG) explained that requests will be sent out asking for interested parties to respond. Following a short discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Paladino and seconded by John Mulligan (Sanger) to approve this item. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

#### **Item K. Greenprint Update**

Mr. Prandini asked about the survey to be conducted. Ms. Steck explained that the survey will be available on the website. To be released in June. Mr. Prandini expressed his concerns. Ms. Steck will have Mr. Thompson contact Mr. Prandini to answer his questions.

#### **Item L. Final Project Selection for 2011 Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (CMAQ) Program**

Lauren Dawson (Fresno COG) pulled this item for clarification. A revised list of projects was handed out at the meeting.

## II. TRANSPORTATION ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

### A. **Measure C Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Program - First Funding Cycle Project Selection [Cai] [APPROVE]**

Kristine Cai (Fresno COG) reported that last month, Fresno COG received 2 applications for the Measure C TOD program's first cycle funding. The application for the Impact Fee Forgiveness for Downtown Fresno Housing program was approved by the Policy Board for a total of \$700,000 last month.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> application, also from City of Fresno, is Fulton Mall Reconstruction Engineering and Environmental Document, requested for \$2 million in total. The break-down of the funding is as follows:

- \$1.6 million for the design and preparation of complete street improvement plans and specifications. This is the preferred alternative described in the draft Fulton Mall specific plan.
- \$300,000 for preparation of conceptual /schematic drawings associated with the mall restoration alternative, along with a construction cost estimate for the mall restoration alternative.
- \$100,000 for legal costs related to the City's Fulton Corridor Specific Plan EIR and Caltrans-led NEPA review.

The TOD Scoring Committee voted (6 against 5) against funding the application, citing concerns that the project is premature given the fact that the City Council has not voted on the option whether to open the Fulton Mall to traffic.

The Measure C Citizen Oversight Committee weighed in, and found the application to be an eligible project according to the Measure C TOD Program Policies and Guidelines. The Committee recommended granting \$100,000 to the City of Fresno to pay for the environmental documentation outlined in the application. The remaining \$1.9 million requested should be granted to the City of Fresno upon acceptance and approval of the City's \$20 million TIGER grant funds.

Mr. Prandini commented that he felt that the application was premature but agreed with the Measure C Citizen Oversight Committee regarding granting the \$100,000 for the environmental study. Scott Mozier (Fresno) explained that the city council had not yet voted on this and went on to explain the reasons for submitting this application at this time.

Mr. Manning expressed his concerns for the project. He felt that this was a road project and not TOD.

Following the discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Hamm and seconded by Mr. Paladino to concur with the Measure C Oversight Committee on the funding application for the Fulton Mall Reconstruction Engineering and Environmental Document. A vote was called for and the motion carried with one "no" vote by Mr. Ashley.

### B. **Exchange of Regional Surface Transportation Funds (RSTP) and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Funds (CMAQ) Unobligated Prior Year Apportionment Balances with San Joaquin COG [Garza] [APPROVE]**

Melissa Garza (Fresno COG) reported that the Fresno Council of Governments currently has CMAQ and RSTP apportionment balances from projects that were not delivered in previous years. To avoid the risk of exposing those balances to a possible federal rescission, Fresno COG proposes to exchange the funds with another regional agency, the San Joaquin Council of Governments. As it currently stands, San

Joaquin COG does not have remaining current or prior year apportionments to deliver their projects, therefore they are requesting that FCOG exchange \$1 million in CMAQ and \$1.6 million in RSTP "prior" year apportionments with them so they can deliver their projects in FFY 11/12, with the agreement that FCOG will receive repayment from San Joaquin COG in "new" apportionment in FFY 12/13.

The exchange of prior year apportionments is favorable to both agencies and to the State for several reasons:

1. It prevents FCOG's apportionment balances from being subjected to a federal rescission.
2. It will provide additional apportionments for FCOG as programming capacity in FFY 12/13 to deliver more projects.
3. It will allow San Joaquin COG to make use of the funds this current FFY and deliver projects that benefit the San Joaquin Valley region.
4. It allows the State to obligate more federal-funded projects, which may allow it to use federal funding that is unused by other states at the end of the FFY, also referred to as "August Redistribution".

While FCOG plans to deliver all of its programmed projects every year, delivery issues do arise in the normal course of a project which causes a delay in a phase or the entire project. Also, bid savings from delivered projects results in surplus which cannot be predicted or estimated but still needs to be captured. If apportionments are not delivered in any given federal fiscal year, regional agencies may exchange federal apportionments through a memorandum of understanding which will preserve the agency's funding. Upon execution of the agreement, the State allows the borrowing regional agency access to the lender's apportionment to obligate funds for projects. The apportionment is later returned to the lender based on the terms that are identified in the MOU.

Ms. Garza explained the exchange of federal funding between Regional Transportation Planning Agencies is a relatively standard practice throughout the state and is generally accomplished through the use of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the participating regional agencies, however, this will be the first time the Fresno COG Policy Board has been presented with this type of funding strategy. From a staff perspective, the benefits of the exchange to Fresno COG are fiscally tangible, while the risks are relatively minimal; therefore, staff recommends the Policy Board approve the exchange of \$1.6 million in RSTP and \$1 million in CMAQ "prior" year apportionments with the San Joaquin COG; with the agreement that FCOG will receive repayment from San Joaquin COG in "new" CMAQ/RSTP apportionment in FFY 12/13.

Following a brief discussion, a motion was made by Scott Mozier (Fresno) and seconded by Renee Mathis (Clovis) to recommend the Policy Board approve the exchange of \$1.6 million in RSTP and \$1 million in CMAQ "prior" year apportionments with the San Joaquin COG; with the agreement that FCOG will receive repayment from San Joaquin COG in "new" CMAQ/RSTP apportionment in FFY 12/13. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

### **C. High Speed Rail Update [Boren] [INFORMATION]**

Tony Boren, Executive Director gave a brief verbal update at the meeting. There was a brief discussion regarding the timing of voting in Sacramento.

This was an information item and required no further action by the Committee.

### III. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Mr. Boren opened the floor for nominations for Chair for FY 2012-13. Jeffrey Webster (FCRTA) nominated Ken Hamm (Fresno) as Chair. The motion was seconded by Mr. Manning. There were no other nominations for Chair. A vote was called for and passed unanimously.

Nominations were opened for Vice-Chair. Mr. Webster nominated Renee Mathis (Clovis). The nomination was seconded by Mr. Hamm. There were no other nominations for Vice-Chair. A vote was called for and passed unanimously.

### IV. OTHER BUSINESS

#### A. Items from Staff

None.

#### B. Items from Members

None.

### VII. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons wishing to address the PAC on items within its jurisdiction but not on this agenda. **Note: Prior to action by the PAC on any item on this agenda, the public may comment on that item. Unscheduled comments may be limited to 3 minutes.**

There were no public presentations.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 am.

Respectfully submitted,



Tony Boren, Executive Director

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### PRESENTATIONS

#### 1. Caltrans Report [CALTRANS] AT 10 AM PRIOR TO PAC MEETING

Paul Marquez, Caltrans gave a brief update highlighting the braided ramp project as well as other projects. A copy of the Quarterly Report was included in the meeting package.

This was an information item and required no further action by the Committees.