Safe Routes to Schools Subcommittee Thursday, June 27, 2024 4:00 PM

COG Sequoia Conference Room 2035 Tulare St., Suite 201, Fresno, CA

THE SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS SUBCOMMITTEE WILL TAKE PLACE IN PERSON AT THE FRESNO COG SEQUOIA CONFERENCE ROOM

CONFERENCE CALL-IN INFO: TOLL FREE NUMBER: 888-398-2342 PARTICIPANT CODE: 71979635

THE CONFERENCE LINE IS TO BE USED FOR LISTENING PURPOSES ONLY.

NO COMMENTS WILL BE TAKEN VIA TELEPHONE.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO MUTE YOUR CALL.

THOSE ADDRESSING THE COMMITTEE IN-PERSON MUST STATE THEIR FIRST AND LAST NAME AND ANY AFFILLIATED AGENCY FOR THE RECORD.

PLEASE TURN ON MICROPHONE BEFORE SPEAKING

1.Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Ashbeck at 4:05 pm.

Attendance: Mayor Lynn Ashbeck (Clovis)

Mayor James Horn (Coalinga) Mayor Rey Leon (Huron)

Mayor Brandon Pursell (Kingsburg) Mayor Scott Robertson (Selma)

Staff: Paul Herman (FCOG)

Robert Phipps (FCOG)
Jennifer Rodriguez (FCOG)
Denise Flores (FCOG)

Absent: None

2.SRTS Outreach Update

Summary: This portion of the meeting is reserved for the SRTS Subcommittee members to provide any updates on outreach with school districts.

Action: Discussion.

- Mayor Ashbeck recapped from the last meeting in April.
- Paul Herman asked if any members reached out to the school district in their communities.
- Mayor Ashbeck spoke with Michele Copher at Fresno County Superintendent of Schools.
- Mayor Pursell spoke with school officials, cost issues for schools to participate were a concern.
- Mayor Leon stated that thoughts and concerns from parents should be received.

3. Regional Transportation Plan Project Criteria

Exhibits:

SRTS Draft Workplan

Summary: During the previous SRTS Subcommittee meeting on April 25, 2023, the subcommittee discussed its goals and workplan for Safe Routes to Schools. A draft Safe Routes to Schools Workplan was developed and is attached. As a follow up to the discussion, Fresno COG staff will present its proposed revisions to the Regional Transportation Plan project scoring criteria.

Action: Staff recommend the SRTS Subcommittee approve the proposed workplan.

• A flyer will be made to school officials/community to explain the specifics of the proposed plan and what is required of them.

4.Safe Streets and Roads for All Grant Application

Summary: When the SRTS Subcommittee last convened in April, the committee discussed interest in robust outreach to school districts and their communities and the goal of developing a robust, tiered list of SRTS projects. Utilizing the input, Fresno COG will be applying for a FY 24 Safe Streets and Roads for All grant to develop a Fresno County Regional Safety Action Plan. Fresno COG staff will provide a presentation on the proposed grant project and discuss feedback with the committee regarding the application and engagement with the member agencies.

Action: Information/Discussion.

- August 29, 2024, is the grant deadline for SRTS Safety Action Plan.
- Outreach to get input from schools/communities.
- Letters of support from mayors and school districts to help support the grants.
- A sample letter will be sent to mayors to provide to school districts.

5. Existing Measure C Active Transportation Funding

Summary: The current Measure C Expenditure Plan allocated 34.6% (\$593.6 million) of the funds for the local transportation program, which can be used to maintain and improve local streets and roads, including sidewalks. Approximately 4% (\$68 million) is allocated specifically for pedestrian/trails and bicycle facilities. For reference, an active transportation project (crosswalk improvement or sidewalk and pathway) can range from \$200,000 to over \$1 million depending on the distances, existing infrastructure, and proposed site improvements.

The 2022 Measure C Renewal Expenditure Plan proposed allocating \$75.5 million (1.22%) of funding for safe bikes and pedestrians specifically. Additionally, the renewal expenditure plan also included \$1.209 billion (17.64%) for local control funding, which could also be used to repair sidewalks and to supplement active transportation projects (bike and pedestrian).

Staff would like to reserve time for the committee to discuss additional goals for SRTS funding.

Action: Informational/Discussion.

• Some money is available through jurisdictions.

6. Public Presentations

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

- Gloria Mendez (Mothers Helping Mothers):
 - o need to look at comments submitted by coalition.
 - o The committee should talk to the school board members.
 - A survey for students should be done.
 - o Include the community to do outreach.

7.Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 5:13 pm.
- SRTS meets again in September.

Outcome:

- Task Mayors to talk to schools.
- Create a FAC sheet of what is trying to be accomplished to send to mayors/school districts. Should be clear on funding or cost sharing and explain what projects should look like.
- Mayor Ashbeck would like funds to be additional and not have to choose from ATP.
- Need letters of support from all mayors to help apply for the grant.