



CITIZEN OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Measure C Citizen Oversight Committee Meeting Action Summary

Date: Thursday, November 14, 2024

Time: 4:00 PM

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

Members Present:

Donna Silva, Public-at-Large

David Martin, Public-at-Large

Lindsey Hopson, Public-at-Large

Gail Miller, WTS

Roshanda Cureton, Edison Tiger Basketball

Luisa Medina, League of Women Voters

Shannon Avilla, First Steps Recovery

Members Absent:

Ali Nekumanesh, Public-at-Large

Louis Herrera, Public-at-Large

Samuel Molina, Academy of Financial Education

Others Attending:

Denise DiBenedetto, FCTA

Stephanie Maxwell, Fresno COG

Brenda Thompson, Fresno COG

Jake Martinez, Fresno COG

Shannon Avilla called the meeting to order at 4:02.

I. Presentations

About Presentations:

This portion of the meeting was reserved for persons wishing to address the Committee on items within its jurisdiction but not on this agenda.

II. Measure C Renewal Process

During its first 20 years, Measure C delivered over \$1 billion in improvements to state highways, county roads and city streets. Due to the success of the original measure, 78% of voters approved extending Measure C for an additional 20 years, from 2007-2027. The extension expenditure plan expanded Measure C's role to fund six programs for many different transportation improvements and programs with revenues of \$1.4 billion.

As the extension measure comes to an end, a second renewal effort has begun. Fresno COG's Executive Director, Robert Phipps, will provide a renewal process update to the committee, outlined in the agenda attachment.

Robert Phipps gave an update on this item.

This was an information item.

III. **Action Summary for June 13, 2024 Measure C Citizen Oversight Committee Meeting**

A motion was made by Luisa Medena and seconded by Donna Silva to approve the June 13, 2024 Measure C Citizen Oversight Committee Action Summary with edits. A vote was called for and the motion carried with the edit of Luisa Medena marked as present at the meeting.

IV. **2026 RTP SCS Committee Representatives [Jake Martinez]**

Jake Martinez reported on this item. Fresno Council of Governments had stated the 2026 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS). A Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) were essentially long-term planning tools that help guide how a region would be developed in the transportation network in a way that benefits both people and the environment. The Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) was a roadmap for a region's transportation future, covering the next 20 to 30 years. It looks at things like highways, public transit, bike lanes, and pedestrian paths. The goal was to plan how these different transportation systems will grow to meet the needs of a growing population. It also considers how to keep traffic moving, reduce congestion, and make travel safer. The Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) was a component of the RTP that focuses specifically on sustainability. It looks at how land use, housing, and transportation choices can work together to reduce environmental impacts—like cutting down on greenhouse gas emissions from cars. The SCS encourages development patterns that make it easier for people to live close to where they work, shop, or go to school, so they don't have to drive as much. This part of the plan aims to create walkable, bike-friendly, and transit-accessible communities, which helps reduce pollution and create healthier, more sustainable communities. Together, the RTP/SCS provided a vision and practical steps for a region to grow in a way that balances economic, social, and environmental goals. They're often required by state or federal laws, and they involve public input to reflect community priorities.

Now, Fresno Council of Governments asked that the Measure C Citizens Oversight Committee serve as a representative on the SCS subcommittee to represent the interests of the urban, sub-urban, and rural parts of the region.

Meetings are scheduled to begin mid-November and introduce the scenarios and its concept in December. The subcommittee will meet biweekly (or as needed) in 2025 to finalize the preferred scenario by Summer of 2025. Any information related to 2026 RTP/SCS or previous RTP/SCS can be found at planfresno.com. Santosh Bhattari, Principal Planner, was present to answer questions about the 2026 RTP Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) process.

A motion was made by Luisa Medina and seconded by David Martin to approve the selection of Shannon Avila as the primary representative and Donna Silva as the secondary representative to serve as the Measure C Citizens Oversight Committee representatives on the 2026 RTP SCS Committee. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

V. Fiscal Year 2022-23 Measure C Extension Expenditure Report-Sanger (Denise DiBenedetto)

Denise DiBenedetto reported on this item. Local Transportation Pass-Through Projects and Programs and Short-Term Regional Transportation Program Annual Reporting Requirements and Submittals for Measure C Extension Fiscal Year (FY) 2022-23 Funds

Pursuant to the adopted Fresno County Transportation Authority procedures for administration of Measure C Extension Funds for Local Transportation Pass-Through Projects and Programs, and Short-Term Regional Transportation Program projects, local agencies are required to submit their Measure C Extension Expenditure Report(s) for the FY 2022-23:

- City of Sanger

While the agency above did not meet the Measure C Extension Reporting Deadline Requirement for FY 22-23 they were given an extension due to staffing turnover and hiring of a new City Manager. The report will be audited for accuracy and compliance by Price Paige & Company.

This was an information item.

VI. FY20/21, FY21/22, and FY22/23 Audit Report of Local Agencies Receiving Pass-Through Measure C Extension Program Revenue (Denise DiBenedetto)

Denise DiBenedetto reported on this item. Price Paige & Company Certified Public Accountants was retained by the Authority to perform the audit of finances on all local agencies receiving Measure C Extension revenue as required in the 2006 Measure C Extension Expenditure Plan. The firm had recently completed the audit of finances and submitted the final report for fiscal years ending June 30, June 30, 2021¹, June 30, 2022¹, and June 30, 2023¹ for the agencies listed below:

FY/21: City of Huron

FY/22: City of Coalinga, City of Firebaugh, City of Fresno, Fresno FAX, Fresno Airports, City of Kingsburg, City of Selma

FY/23: City of Clovis, Clovis Transit, Fresno Airports, City of Mendota, City of Reedley, Fresno COG, FCRTA, Fresno County, City of Kingsburg

In summary the firm stated that overall, local agencies continue to adhere to the record keeping and reporting requirements, as well as proper expenditure of Measure C funds in accordance with provisions of the Measure C Transportation Sales Tax Extension. The remaining agencies in process of their audits will be presented to the Committee at a future meeting.

¹FCTA Audits of local agencies are dependent on agency audits.

This was an information item.

VII. FY20/21 and FY21/22 Fresno County Transportation Authority Combined Annual Audit (Denise DiBenedetto)

Denise DiBenedetto reported on this item. The Authority has retained Brown Armstrong Accountancy Corporation to perform FY 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 audit of finances. They had recently completed their analysis and submitted the final report, which was included in the agenda package.

In planning and performing the audit of the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, the Special Purpose Trust Fund of Fresno County Transportation Authority as of the years ended June 30, 2021 and 2022, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States, considered the Authority's system of internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of auditing the Authority's financial statements.

The attached report provided an analysis and summary of the audit findings.

This was an information item.

VIII. Measure C COC Local Agency Budget Form review for FY24-25 (Jake Martinez)

Jake Martinez reported on this item. Each fiscal year the Citizen Oversight Committee (COC) asks all local agencies receiving Measure C Local Transportation Pass-Through Funds to complete a reporting of how they expect to spend the current year's Measure C Local Program allocations. The request went out to local agencies via a form that staff updates and emails out each year. To date, the following required Local Agency Budget Forms were completed and returned for COC review by local agencies:

- City of Clovis
- City of Coalinga
- City of Fowler
- City of Kingsburg
- City of Reedley
- City of Sanger
- Clovis Transit
- Fresno County Rural Transit Agency (FCRTA)

A motion was made by Donna Silva and seconded by David Martin to approve the cities of Clovis, Coalinga, Fowler, Kingsburg, Reedley, Sanger Clovis and FCRTA. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

IX. 2023 - 2024 Annual Report to the Public

Jake Martinez reported on this item. The Measure C Citizen Oversight Committee reviewed the 2023-2024 Annual Report for the Measure C Expenditure Plan. This was worked on by the subcommittee members consisting of Shannon Avilla, Louis Herrera, and David Martin. Staff from both Fresno Council of Governments and Fresno County Transportation Authority (FCTA) cannot influence this report. Staff remains unbiased and provided only technical information from direction of the subcommittee.

This was an information item.

X. Items from Staff [Jake Martinez]

A. Upcoming 2024 COC meeting dates – please reserve these dates from 4-6:00 pm

December 12

B. Upcoming 2025 COC meeting dates – please reserve these dates from 4-6:00 pm

January 9

February 13

March 13

April 10

May 8

June 12

July 10

August 14

September 11

October 9

November 13

December 11

C. Items for the next agenda

D. Upcoming Meetings/Events of other related Boards/Committees

December

Fresno County Transportation Authority Board – Wednesday, December 11, 2024, at 9:00 am in-person at Fresno Council of Governments Sequoia Conference Room

Fresno COG Transportation Technical Committee – Friday, December 13, 2024 at 8:30 AM in-person at Fresno Council of Governments Sequoia Conference Room

Fresno COG Policy Advisory Committee – Friday, December 13, 2024 at 10:00 AM in-person at Fresno Council of Governments Sequoia Conference Room

Fresno COG Policy Board – Thursday, December 19, 2024 at 5:30 PM in-person at Fresno Council of Governments Sequoia Conference Room

January

Fresno COG Transportation Technical Committee – Friday, January 10, at 8:30 AM in-person at Fresno Council of Governments Sequoia Conference Room

Fresno COG Policy Advisory Committee – Friday, January 10, 2024 at 10:00 AM in-person at Fresno Council of Governments Sequoia Conference Room

Fresno COG Policy Board – Thursday, January 30, 2024 at 5:30 PM in-person at Fresno Council of Governments Sequoia Conference Room

Adjourned

Meeting was adjourned at 5:47