

2035 Tulare St., Ste. 201 tel 559-233-4148 Fresno, California 93721 fax 559-233-9645 www.fresnocog.org

SOCIAL SERVICES TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COUNCIL Executive Minutes

Date: February 18, 2025

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Place: COG Conference Room, Second Floor

2035 Tulare Street, Suite 201

Fresno, CA 93721

Members Present

Yonas Paulos, Veterans Advocate Katherine Martindale, DSS
Bethany Berube, Clovis Transit Darlene Christensen, FAX Via-Phone in

Matthew Gilliam, Fresno CO.

Chenier Derrick, Fresno Co. Via-Phone in

Others Attending

Todd Sobrado, FAX/COG

Janelle Del Campo, FCRTA

Brenda Thomas, FCOG

Nick Chin, Clovis Transit

David Huff, Caltrans

Jeff Long, FAX/COG

Drew Wilson, Fax

Paul Herman, FCOG

Amy Hance called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

I. Public Presentations

This portion of the meeting was reserved for persons wishing to address the SSTAC on the items within its jurisdiction but not on this agenda. Note: Prior to action by SSTAC on any item on this agenda, the public may comment on that item

None

II. Executive Minutes from the January 21, 2025 Meeting

A motion was made by Katherine Martindale and seconded by Yonas Paulos to approve the January 21, 2025, minutes. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

III. FY2025 Fresno COG Unmet Transit Needs Assessment Public Outreach

Tod Sobrado reported on this item. At the beginning of each fiscal year, the Fresno COG determined the fundings available from the Transportation Development Act (TDA) Local Transportation Fund (LTF) for allocation to local agencies within Fresno County.

Allocations were made into four categories: bicycle and pedestrian facilities, social service transportation, regional transportation planning, and public transportation. In certain cases, funding from the public transportation category can be applied to local streets and roads in individual jurisdictions if a finding had been made that there are no unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet within the jurisdiction; however, public transit must be given priority.

As a result, prior to allocating LTF funds for any use other than public transit, Fresno COG must identify any unmet public transit needs that may exist in Fresno County that were reasonable to meet. The Unmet Transit Needs Assessment process was conducted annually to identify any unmet transit needs and issue any related findings.

Unmet Transit Needs Public Outreach

Public outreach was an essential component of the annual Unmet Transit Needs Assessment process. This year, the public outreach component consists of an online survey, six in-person events, one virtual event, and a public hearing. Additionally, comments were received by email, phone and text. Details are below:

Unmet Transit Needs Survey

An online survey for transit riders was available online through April 4, at:

https://www.publicinput.com/utn2025

It contains a widget enabling non-English speaking transit riders to submit their comments in their primary language.

In-Person and Virtual Public Outreach

For those transit riders that wanted to provide their feedback directly Fresno COG and transit agency staff, in-person and virtual outreach were taking place from Tues., Feb 20 through Thurs., March 6. Non-English-speakers and individuals with disabilities or their representatives should contact Fresno COG at (559) 233-4148, at least three days in advance to request auxiliary aids and/or translation services necessary to participate in the public meeting.

The dates, times, and locations of each public outreach meeting are as follows:

Meeting No. 1: Rural Westside Fresno County

5:30 p.m. Thurs., Feb. 20 Granada Commons Apartments 14570 West California Ave., Kerman, CA 93630

Meeting No. 2: City of Fresno, No. 1

5:30 p.m. Mon., Feb. 24 Pinedale Community Center Computer Lab 7170 N. San Pablo Ave., Pinedale, CA 93650

Meeting No. 3: City of Fresno, No. 2

5:30 p.m. Tues., Feb. 25 Mosqueda Comm. Center Conf. Rm. No. 1 4670 E. Butler Ave., Fresno CA 93702

Meeting No. 4 – City of Clovis, No. 1

5:30 p.m. Wed., Feb. 26 Clovis Transit Center 785 3rd St., Clovis, CA 93612

Meeting No. 5: City of Fresno, No. 3

11 a.m. Sat., March 1 Maxie L. Parks Comm. Center 1802 Cesar Chavez Blvd, Fresno, CA 93706

Meeting No. 6: Virtual Meeting, No. 1

11 a.m. Tues., March 4
Register in advance for this meeting:
https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/rbtr71o7SDGRH1i69ZyTew
After registering, participants will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Meeting No. 7: Rural Eastside Fresno County

5:30 p.m. Thurs., March 6 Fowler Magnolia Apartments 325 E. Vine St., Fowler, CA 93625

Other Ways to Participate

Transit riders can also submit their comments via voicemail, in English or Spanish, via email or text.

To email staff, use utn2025@publicinput.com.

To leave a voicemail message, call (855) 925-2801, and enter project code when prompted 11041.

Participants can also submit comments in English via text to: Utn25 to 73224, and in Spanish to Utn25s to 73224.

Public outreach for the FY 2025 Unmet Transit Needs Assessment process concludes with the public hearing scheduled for 5:30 p.m. Thurs., April 24 at the Fresno COG Policy Board meeting:

Fresno Council of Governments 2035 Tulare Street Suite 201, Sequoia Room Fresno, CA 93721

Marketing activities for the FY 2025-26 Unmet Transit Needs Assessment included flyers to the FAX unmet transit needs mailing list, articles published in the Fresno COG newsletter, flyers and postcards distributed to Fresno County Department of Social Services offices and social media posts through the Fresno COG social media channel. A community outreach hub is also available at https://publicinput.com/unmet.transit.needs

Previous UTN Final Reports:

<u>2024 – 2025 UTN Report – approved June 27, 2024</u>

<u>2023 – 2024 UTN Report – approved June 29, 2023Information. The Committee may provide additional directions at its discretion.</u>

This was an information item.

IV. Measure C Progress Update

This was a standing item on the SSTAC agenda with FCOG staff that provided the Committee with an update on developments pertaining to Measure C.

VI. Other Member Items

Yonas Paulo gave an update on the events for veterans.

Metting was adjourned at 1:57

Respectfully submitted,

Todd Sobrado \sm