



CITIZEN OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Measure C Citizen Oversight Committee Meeting

Action Summary

Date: Thursday, April 3, 2025

Time: 4:00 PM

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

Members Present:

Louis Herrera, Public-at-Large
David Martin, Public-at-Large
Donna Silva, Public-at-Large

Gail Miller, WTS
Shannon Avilla, First Steps Recovery

Members Absent:

Ali Nekumanesh, Public-at-Large
Luisa Medina, League of Women Voters
Roshanda Cureton, Edison Tiger Basketball
Samuel Molina, Academy of Financial Education

Lindsey Hopson, Public-at-Large

Others Attending:

Denise DiBenedetto, FCTA
Stephanie Maxwell, Fresno COG
Terry Ogle, FCTA

Brenda Thompson, Fresno COG
Jake Martinez, Fresno COG

Shannon Avilla called the meeting to order at 5:07.

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.

None

II. Minutes for March 6, 2025 Measure C Citizen Oversight Committee Meeting

Action: Review and comment, comment with edits, the March 6, 2025 Measure C Citizen Oversight Committee minutes.

III. Measure C Renewal Process

Summary: In January, Fresno COG's Policy Board approved four contracts totaling nearly \$1.75 million for the 2026 Measure C expenditure plan development and renewal effort, including \$199,629 for a steering committee facilitator. This contract, along with the overall program manager's contract, was awarded to DKS, with a variety of subconsultants in various supporting roles.

On Feb. 5, Fresno COG and Fresno County Transportation Authority (FCTA) staff held its kick-off meeting with facilitator and program manager Kendall Flint to review expectations and approaches to forming the renewal committee and how it will operate. To date, Fresno COG has received more than a dozen "expression of interest" forms from different stakeholders and stakeholder groups to serve on the committee.

While no selections have been made, the applications cover a wide range of interest groups, including the Fresno Cycling Club, the Sequoia Safety Council, Tree Fresno, the Central Valley Community Foundation, Center for Community Voices at Fresno State, Tranquility Resource Conservation District, Central Labor Council and several others.

Kendall Flint is a transportation sales tax measure veteran who has produced or helped produce six prior expenditure plans, from as nearby as Madera County in 2024 to Placer County in the north, along with measures in Merced and Stanislaus counties also in the San Joaquin Valley.

Ms. Flint has already begun connecting with a wide variety of stakeholder groups throughout the region to supplement Fresno COG's solicitation for committee members and will continue to conduct research and interviews throughout February and into March, with a goal of the first renewal committee meeting occurring in March or April.

The process will work toward early consensus on those issues that are considered non-controversial for the overall regional good. Reports from the committee's progress will follow Fresno COG's regular agenda process, coming through the TTC/PAC and Board on a monthly or semi-monthly basis.

Action: This is an information item.

IV. Measure C Extension Local Agency Audit Action Plan - Terry Ogle, FCTA Executive Director

Summary: In a review of the completed and submitted audit of finances final reports required in the 2006 Measure C Extension Expenditure Plan, several cities have outstanding audit reports dating back three fiscal years. We understand there may be extenuating circumstances why these audits are not completed, however it is imperative that these audits get completed and finalized.

FCTA has begun an effort to develop a new expenditure plan to present to the voters in November 2026. It is vital we, as well as our local partners, demonstrate accountability and transparency we assured the voters in 2006. In today's political environment, it is increasingly necessary that we hold ourselves to the highest level of transparency and accountability when managing the revenues approved by the voters.

On March 6, 2025, FCTA sent correspondence to the local agencies with outstanding audit reports dating back three fiscal years and requested an up-to-date status and an estimated schedule for the completion of their 2022 and 2023 fiscal year audits. When a claimant is determined to have an outstanding audit or an exception, the FCTA needs to have procedures in place to withhold future allocations of funds to the claimant until these outstanding audits are deemed to be resolved.

Action: Develop and recommend procedures and an action plan to ensure audit compliance for local agencies with outstanding multiple fiscal year audits. This action plan should identify financial performance and compliance measures consistent with the Measure C Local Transportation Program, audit constraints and requirements, and provide consequences for a late or outstanding fiscal year audit.

V. FY23/24 Measure C Local Transportation Pass-through programs and projects Expenditure Reports - Denise DiBenedetto

Summary: 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 fiscal year 2023-24:

- City of Mendota
- City of Orange Cove

The City of Orange Cove is the only agency that has not submitted their expenditure reports for FY23/24. Action is being considered by FCTA staff.

Action: Review and provide comment.

VI. Measure C Extension Local Agency Audits - Denise DiBenedetto

Summary: 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 has recently completed the audit of finances and submitted the final report for fiscal years ending June 30, 2022¹ and June 30, 2023¹, for the agencies listed below:

- FY23 City of Firebaugh
- FY23 City of Fowler

- FY24 City of Clovis
- FY24 Clovis Transit
- FY24 Fresno Council of Governments

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. FY24 Audits are trickling in as well.

Remaining FY22

- City of Huron
- City of Orange Cove
- City of Parlier
- City of San Joaquin
- City of Sanger

Remaining FY23

- City of Coalinga
- City of Fresno
- City of Huron
- City of Orange Cove
- City of Parlier
- City of San Joaquin
- City of Sanger

FCTA Audits of local agencies are dependent on agency audits.

Action: Review and provide comment.

VII. Items from Staff [Jake Martinez]

A. Upcoming 2025 COC meeting dates – please reserve these dates from 5-7:00 pm

- May 1
- June 5
- July 3
- August 7
- September 4
- October 2

- November 6
- December 4

B. Items for the next agenda

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

April

- Fresno COG Transportation Technical Committee – Friday, April 11, at 8:30 AM in-person at Fresno Council of Governments Sequoia Conference Room
- Fresno COG Policy Advisory Committee – Friday, April 11 at 10:00 AM in-person at Fresno Council of Governments Sequoia Conference Room
- Fresno COG Policy Board – Thursday, April 24 at 5:30 PM in-person at Fresno Council of Governments Sequoia Conference Room
- Fresno County Transportation Authority Board Meeting – Wednesday, April 16, at 9:00 am in-person at the Fresno Council of Governments Sequoia Conference Room

May

- Fresno COG Transportation Technical Committee – Friday, May 9, at 8:30 AM in-person at Fresno Council of Governments Sequoia Conference Room
- Fresno COG Policy Advisory Committee – Friday, May 9 at 10:00 AM in-person at Fresno Council of Governments Sequoia Conference Room
- Fresno COG Policy Board – Thursday, May 29 at 5:30 PM in-person at Fresno Council of Governments Sequoia Conference Room

Adjourned

Meeting was adjourned at 6:27