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**Policy Advisory Committee  
MINUTES  
Friday, June 13, 2025  
10:00 AM**

The meeting was held at FCOG Sequoia Conference Room.

Paul Armendariz, City of Clovis  
Ben Gallegos, City of Firebaugh  
Nicholas Mascia, City of Fresno  
Virginia Penaloza, City of Huron  
John Jansons, City of Kerman  
Alexander Henderson, City of Kingsburg  
Cristian Gonzalez, City of Mendota  
Dario Dominguez, City of Orange Cove  
Nicole Zieba, City of Reedley  
Elizabeth Cabrera, City of San Joaquin  
Jerome Keene, City of Selma  
Christopher Xiong, Caltrans District 6  
Robert Phipps, FCOG  
Moses Stites, FCRTA

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Mr. Jansons (Kerman), Chair. With 11 members present, there was a quorum to conduct business.

**JOINT Transportation Technical/Policy Advisory Committee**

**A. Caltrans Report (Caltrans) [INFORMATION]**

Christopher Xion reported on the following:

- Final OWP is expected by June 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Safe Streets and Roads for all applications June 26, 2025.
- FTA announced an opportunity to apply for \$1.1 Billion for FY 25 funds for 5339 C program and \$398 M for 5339 D Program.

**I. TRANSPORTATION CONSENT ITEMS**

- A. Executive Minutes of May 9, 2025 [APPROVE]**
- B. City of San Joaquin FY 2024-25 Transportation Development Act Claim (Les Beshears) [ACTION]**
- C. Federal Transit Administration FY 2025 Apportionments (Matthew Shimizu) [INFORMATION]**
- D. Measure C Citizen Oversight Committee Appointment (Jake Martinez) [ACTION]**
- E. City of Coalinga FY 2024-25 Transportation Development Act Claim (Les Beshears) [ACTION]**
- F. Reappointments to the FCOG Social Services Transportation Advisory Committee (SSTAC) (Harold Sobrado) [ACTION]**
- G. FY 2025-26 Clovis Consolidated Transportation Service Agency (CTSA) Operations Planning and Budget (OPB) (Bethany Berube) [ACTION]**
- H. FY 2025-2026 Fresno Area Express and Fresno County Rural Transit Agency Urban and Rural Consolidated Transportation Service Agency Operations Planning and Budget (Janelle Del Campo) [ACTION]**

- I. **2025-26 Overall Work Program Amendment No. 1 (Les Beshears) [ACTION]**
- J. **Obligational Authority Quarterly Report (Blake Rincon) [INFORMATION]**
- K. **Fresno-Clovis Metropolitan Area Short-Range Transit Plan Fiscal Year 2026-2030 Resolution 2025-27 (Jeff Long) [ACTION]**
- L. **Fresno County Rural Transit (FCRTA) Agency Short-Range Transit Plans (S RTP) (Janelle Del Campo) [ACTION]**
- M. **FCRTA Fiscal Year 2025-26 Draft Budget (Janelle Del Campo) [INFORMATION]**
- N. **Sustainable Community Strategies Public Education (Brenda Thomas) [INFORMATION]**

- Mr. Jansons called for any items wishing to be pulled by members or by the public.
- After an opportunity for public comment, Ms. Cabrera (San Joaquin) motioned, and Mr. Keene (Selma) seconded to approve the consent agenda items A-N as presented.

**All in Favor, no opposed.**

**Motion passed.**

## **II. TRANSPORTATION ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **A. FY2025-26 Fresno COG Unmet Transit Needs (UTN) Assessment Approval (Harold Sobrado) [ACTION]**

**Summary:** On Friday, April 9, the draft FY2025-26 Fresno COG (FCOG) Unmet Transit Needs (UTN) Report was released for public review and comment on the Fresno COG website and is available on the following web page:

<https://www.fresnocog.org/unmet-transit-needs-assessment/>

During a public hearing for the FY2025-26 FCOG Unmet Transit Needs process on Thurs., May 29 at the Fresno COG Policy Board meeting, the Board received no comments.

Public outreach is an essential part of the Unmet Transit Needs process. This year, public outreach consisted of six in-person public meetings: four in the urban area, two in rural areas (Fowler and Kerman), and one virtual event. One of the meetings held within the City of Fresno took place on a Saturday to provide more options for transit riders to participate.

In addition to the activities above, public outreach included flyers sent to the UTN mailing list, an online survey, and social media posts. The survey ran for most of February and all of March and was how most comments were received. This year, 32 comments were received, with three determined to be unmet transit needs but none of which were found to be reasonable to meet.

The comments received, transit agency response, and the determination of unmet transit needs are included in the final FY2025-26 FCOG Unmet Transit Needs Report located at the URL listed above.

**Action:** Staff and SSTAC request the TTC/PAC recommend that the Policy Board adopt Resolution 2025-22, approving Fresno COG's FY 2025-2026 Unmet Needs Assessment Report, and to find that there are three unmet needs, none of which are "reasonable to meet."

- Harold Sobrado (FCOG) reported on the UTN assessment.
- After an opportunity for public comment, Ms. Zieba (Reedley) motioned, and Mr. Gonzalez (Mendota) seconded to approve the motion as presented.

**All in Favor, no opposed.**

**Motion passed.**

### **B. Fresno County Climate Resiliency Final Plan (Matthew Shimizu) [ACTION]**

**Background:** The Fresno County Climate Resiliency Plan (FCCRP) is a subsequent plan to the Fresno County Transportation Network Vulnerability Assessment (TNVA) completed in 2020. The TNVA reviewed historical weather-related risks, e.g., wildfires, extreme heat, flooding, landslides, etc., and projected future climate changes. The data on climate and transportation assets was combined to create scores that represent the relative risks facing different assets. The scoring system prioritized the most vulnerable and critical assets. The FCCRP was built off this previous study by identifying specific improvements on the region's transportation system to address climate risks identified in the 2020 TNVA.

Summary: In August 2023, Fresno COG was awarded a Caltrans FY 2023–24 Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant to develop the Fresno County Climate Resiliency Plan (FCCRP). Building on the Phase I Fresno County Transportation Network Vulnerability Assessment, also funded by Caltrans, the FCCRP continued efforts to address the impacts of climate change on the region’s transportation infrastructure.

The FCCRP identified locations within Fresno County’s transportation system that are vulnerable to climate hazards (extreme heat, flooding, wildfires, and landslides) and developed a prioritized list of transportation improvement projects designed to reduce risks and enhance resilience to extreme climate events over the next 50 years. It also prioritized the identified improvements and conducted detailed climate risk assessments for the five most vulnerable locations.

Using a combination of technical analysis and direct input from Fresno County communities, Fresno COG assembled a list of candidate projects through the FCCRP. These projects will inform the 2026 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS). It plays a vital role in guiding investment priorities and enhancing the long-term resilience of Fresno County’s transportation network and its users. The FCCRP now serves as a foundational resource for local jurisdictions to advance conceptual planning and begin integrating climate adaptation strategies into the broader regional transportation planning process.

**Action:** Staff requests that TTC/PAC recommend the Policy Board approve Resolution 2025-29, adopting the Fresno County Climate Resiliency Final Plan.

- Matthew Shimizu (FCOG) reported on the Climate resiliency Plan.
- Consultants Maggie Messerschmidt and Karen Barns with ARUP presented PowerPoint.
- After an opportunity for public comment, Ms. Cabrera (San Joaquin) motioned, and Ms. Penaloza (Huron) seconded to approve the motion as presented.

**All in Favor, no opposed.**

**Motion passed.**

**C. San Joaquin Valley VisionEval Model for Advancing Scenario Planning - (Shichen Fan) [ACTION]**

**Summary:** This is the first of two final projects funded through residual carryover from the Valleywide Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) Program, and will develop a Valleywide VisionEval model platform for the eight San Joaquin Valley metropolitan planning organizations for land-use scenario planning.

VisionEval is an advanced, open-source platform designed to support long-range transportation and land-use planning. The Oregon DOT initiated the VisionEval model to conduct long-range strategic planning, and is now operated by an FHWA pooled fund with state DOTs and MPOs across the country. The model enables planning agencies to rapidly assess a wide range of policy alternatives and better understand the implications of their policy options. This approach quantitatively supports a more creative and robust policy discussion at the outset of the planning process.

The VisionEval model will enable the eight SJV COGs to efficiently evaluate alternative transportation policies, climate impacts, and infrastructure investments by simulating travel behavior, emissions, and land use scenarios. The model would benefit regional and local planning agencies by allowing them to: (1) analyze the regional Impact of transportation supply and local land use policies on greenhouse gas emissions (2) assess the impacts of land use designation or housing element changes under uncertainty (3) test transportation and land use strategy combinations to support planning goal setting. Its flexible framework can coordinate with the various travel demand and land use models the SJV COGs are already using and complement ongoing valleywide planning initiatives.

RSG has been working with VisionEval framework’s design, development and application, and has extensive experience contracting with MPOs, state DOTs and FHWA Pooled Funds for VisionEval’s model development and enhancements. RSG has worked with Fresno COG, as well as other valley agencies to develop activity-based models, and to conduct the Central California Travel Survey for the eight-county San Joaquin Valley.

Staff recommends awarding the contract as a sole source to RSG, given the firm’s expertise with the model and its knowledge of transportation pattern in the San Joaquin Valley and due to the short timeline for deliverables remaining under the State’s REAP program. This model development is expected to be completed in six months. Attached is the scope of work.

**Action:** Staff requests that the TTC/PAC recommend the Policy Board authorize the executive director to enter a sole source contract with RSG for the San Joaquin Valleywide VisionEval model development for an amount not to exceed \$500,010.

- Shichen Fan (FCOG) reported on the item.
- After an opportunity for public comment, Ms. Cabrera (San Joaquin) motioned, and Mr. Gallegos (Firebaugh) seconded to approve the motion as presented.

**All in Favor, no opposed.**

**Motion passed.**

**D. 2026 Measure C Renewal Update (Robert Phipps) [INFORMATION]**

**Summary:** Staff and DKS consultant Kendall Flint will provide an update of the 2026 Measure C renewal process and outreach summary during the meeting.

**Action:** Information

- Robert Phipps (FCOG) gave an update along with Kendall Flint.

**Information item. No action needed.**

**III. ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT ITEMS**

**A. Contracts/Extensions (Fresno COG Staff) [ACTION]**

1. Circuit Planner and Engineer Program Contract Renewal (Blake Rincon) [ACTION]
2. Senate Bill (SB) 743 Regional Guidelines Update (Amendment #1) (Santosh Bhattarai) [ACTION]
3. TradePort California Site Feasibility Study Contract Extension with Mark Thomas (Simran Jhutti) [ACTION]
4. Fresno COG ABM On-Call Contract with RSG (Santosh Bhattarai) [ACTION]
5. Contract with GHD for On-Call Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee Services (Les Beshears) [ACTION]
6. Technical Support for the 2026 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy Contract Extension (Paul Herman) [ACTION]
7. Southwest Strategies Contract Renewal for Measure C Program Marketing/Advertising (Jake Martinez) [ACTION]
8. Golden State Boulevard Contract Extension with Mark Thomas (Pankaj Joshi) [ACTION]

- Mr. Jansons called for any items wishing to be pulled by members or by the public.
- Ms. Zieba (Reedley) pulled item #2 for clarification.
- After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Henderson (Kingsburg) motioned, and Mr. Jansons (Kerman) seconded to approve the consent agenda items 1-8 excluding item 2.
- Ms. Zieba (Reedley) motioned, and Ms. Cabrera (San Joaquin) seconded to approve item #2.

**All in Favor, no opposed.**

**Motion passed.**

**IV. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- NONE

**V. OTHER ITEMS**

**A. Items from Staff**

- Robert Phipps (FCOG) reminded the committee that there will be Officer Elections next month.

**B. Items from Members**

- None.

**VI. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS**

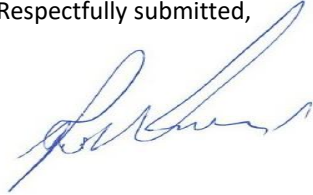
**A. Public Presentations**

- None.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:47 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Robert Phipps', is written over a faint, illegible background.

Robert Phipps, Executive Director

Public:

Kendall Flint

Terry Ogle

Staff:

Denise Flores, Robert Phipps, Paul Herman, Moses Stites, Blake Rincon, Brenda Thomas, Matthew Shimizu, Janelle Del Campo, Shichen Fan, Les Beshears, Todd Sobrado, Simran Jhutti, Rachel Hellett, Santosh Bhattarai, Pankaj Joshi.