



**Policy Advisory Committee
MINUTES
Friday, March 13, 2026
10:00 AM**

The meeting was held at FCOG Sequoia Conference Room.

Andrew Haussler, City of Clovis
Ben Gallegos, City of Firebaugh
Scott Mozier, City of Fresno
Virginia Penaloza, City of Huron
John Janson, City of Kerman
Alexander Henderson, Kingsburg
Cristian Gonzalez, City of Mendota
Nicole Zieba, City of Reedley
Nathan Olson, City of Sanger
Eddy Otanez Maria, City of San Joaquin
Jason Rogers, City of Selma
Paul Nerland, Fresno County
Braden Duran, Caltrans District 6
Robert Phipps, FCOG

The meeting was called to order at 10:17 a.m. by Mr. Janson (Kerman) Chair. With twelve members present, there was a quorum to conduct business.

Presiding Officer Change: Chair Janson (Kerman) left the meeting at 11:00 a.m. Ms. Zieba (Reedley) assumed the duties of Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

JOINT Transportation Technical/Policy Advisory Committee

A. Caltrans Report (Caltrans) [INFORMATION]

Braden Duran (Caltrans) provided the Caltrans report. Due to recording issues, the presentation was not captured in the meeting recording.

I. TRANSPORTATION CONSENT ITEMS

A. Executive Minutes of February 13, 2026 [APPROVE]

B. Fiscal Year 2025-26 City of Selma Transportation Development Act Claim (Les Beshears) [ACTION]

C. Fiscal Year 2025-26 City of San Joaquin Transportation Development Act Claim (Les Beshears) [ACTION]

D. 2025-26 Overall Work Program Amendment No. 5 (Les Beshears) [ACTION]

E. New Member Appointment to Fresno COG's Social Services Transportation Advisory Committee (SSTAC) (Sobrado) [ACTION]

F. Fiscal Year 2025 Transit Productivity Evaluation (Jeff Long) [ACTION]

Mr. Henderson (Kingsburg) motioned and Mr. Nerland (Fresno County) seconded.

All in Favor, none opposed.

Motion carried

II. TRANSPORTATION ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Fresno County Mobility Hub Feasibility Study (Simran Jhutti) [ACTION]

Summary: The Fresno County Mobility Hub Feasibility Study focused on exploring mobility hubs and identifying key opportunities for and challenges to develop and operate them. The study produced the concepts for the four selected focus sites: Clovis, Fresno, Parlier, and San Joaquin. This process demonstrated that each of the four sites has a credible path to enabling better mobility by: 1) supporting new or modified transportation options, and 2) linking together two or more modes of transportation, both for expanding local and regional travel choices and providing people with better access to nearby destinations.

The study included a robust public outreach campaign, with an emphasis on underserved communities within Fresno County. Despite the challenges for implementation, mobility hubs offer great potential to improve transportation options in Fresno County. Fresno COG, Clovis Transit, FAX, and FCRTA firmly support continuing to explore the four feasibility study sites and envisioning a larger network of hubs throughout the County. Mobility hubs in Fresno County check the box on one of the most important feasibility factors: having strong regional partners. In this case, key partners are transit agencies that are committed to making ongoing service improvements and seeking ways to make multimodal trips more accessible. The final draft can be accessed here: [Fresno County Mobility Hub Feasibility Study](#).

Action: Staff requests TTC/PAC recommend the Policy Board accept the Fresno County Mobility Hub Feasibility Study.

Simran Jhutti (FCOG) presented the Fresno County Mobility Hub Feasibility Study, which looked at locations for mobility hubs to improve transit connections.

Committee members asked about operations and maintenance funding. Staff clarified that enhanced features are not guaranteed and would require external funding or partnerships.

Mr. Mozier (City of Fresno) made a motion and Ms. Zieba (Reedley) seconded.

All in Favor, none opposed.

Motion carried.

B. Fresno COG 2026 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy Preferred Scenario Selection (Paul Herman/Santosh Bhattarai) [ACTION]

Summary: Fresno COG has developed five transportation and land use scenarios for the 2026 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS). After receiving more than 2,800 transportation project requests from member agencies through the quadrennial call-for-projects, Fresno COG developed land use and transportation files unique to the five scenarios.

Each scenario was modeled and computed for 2035, consistent with California Air Resource Board (CARB) guidelines. Fresno COG worked with the SCS Subcommittee to finalize the twelve performance indicators (land use and transportation measures). Staff has presented the scenarios' modeling results, along with the performance indicators, to the SCS Subcommittee and they have approved staff's recommendation of Scenario C to move forward in the SCS process.

A public survey released on Feb. 17 collecting community comments and feedback on the five scenarios. Staff presented modeling results and performance indicators at public workshops in Reedley on Feb. 19, and in Kerman on Feb. 24, to receive community input. A presentation to the RTP Roundtable served as the third public meeting and virtual meeting to receive public comments. The selected SCS scenario will then be modeled for the environmental impact report and RTP/SCS horizon year 2049.

Action: Staff and the SCS Subcommittee request the TTC/PAC recommend Scenario C to the Fresno COG Policy Board as the preferred scenario for the 2026 RTP/SCS.

Paul Herman and Santosh Bhattarai (FCOG) presented a review of the performance of RTP/SCS scenarios based on VMT, GHG reduction, compact development, investment in disadvantaged communities, and protection of environmental resources. Scenario C performed best overall, with the lowest VMT per capita and highest GHG reduction.

Committee members noted that Scenario B focuses on road maintenance, while Scenario C balances transit, environmental preservation, and land use. All scenarios meet GHG targets, but Scenario C performs best overall and supports future state funding.

Mr. Gonzalez (Mendota) motioned and Mr. Otanez Maria (San Joaquin) seconded.

Vote: 8 voted YES at 73.92%, 3 voted NO at 19.67%.

Absent: Coalinga, Fowler, Kerman, Orange Cove, Parlier

Motion passed with 8 Members at 73.92%

C. Fiscal Year 2025-26 Obligation Plan for Project Delivery (Blake Rincon) [INFORMATION]

Summary: On March 4, Fresno COG staff submitted its FY 2025/26 obligation plan to Caltrans' Office of Project Management Oversight Division of Local Assistance. This plan documents Fresno COG's estimated project delivery for the remainder of FY 2025/26. The obligation authority (OA) target for 2025/26 is \$39,649,024 (attached to this agenda item).

As of Jan. 31, \$1.37 million or 10.1%, of the federal Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Program and Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funding has been obligated, leaving the region with an OA balance of nearly \$12.2 million. Based on projects programmed in FFY 25/26 of the 2025 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP), Fresno COG's projected OA delivery is \$35.0 million, excluding projects that may be expedited to obligate this Federal fiscal year. The obligation plan outlines approximately \$4.7 million in additional, combined CMAQ, Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) and STBG requests.

The Federal fiscal year ends Sept. 30; however, as of March 15, Federal funds may become available to the rest of the state on a first-come, first-served basis if OA commitments are below 35 percent. It is the State's goal to exceed the OA target and, in August, receive additional federal funds redistributed from other states to projects pending authorization. Fresno COG encourages all agencies to continue submitting their requests for authorization as soon as possible to ensure they are queued up for the funds that will become available. If projects do not receive authorization approval after August, they will be delayed until October, the beginning of the next federal fiscal year. An obligation authority delivery timeline can be provided to any local jurisdiction upon request.

Please keep Fresno COG staff updated on any changes that could impact the region's project delivery plan. Contact Blake Rincon at 559-233-4148 ext. 203 with any questions regarding fiscal year deadlines or the process of obligating project funds.

Action: Information. The Committee may provide additional direction at its discretion.

Blake Rincon (FCOG) provided an informational update on Fresno COG's FY 2025-26 plan, current obligations, and the need for timely project authorization to meet federal funding targets.

This item was informational. No action was required.

III. ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT ITEMS

A. TradePort California Site Feasibility Study Contract Extension (Simran Jhutti) [ACTION]

B. Measure C New Technology Contract Extension (Simran Jhutti) [ACTION]

Mr. Haussler (Clovis) motioned, and Mr. Nerland (Fresno County) seconded.

All in Favor, none opposed.

Motion carried.

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

None.

V. OTHER ITEMS

A. Items from Staff

Robert Phipps (FCOG) informed the committee that Fresno COG staff will recommend to the COG Policy Board that Fresno COG withdraw from the CalVANS Joint Powers Authority (JPA) due to the organization potentially facing insolvency within 60–90 days.

B. Items from Members

Cristian Gonzales (Mendota) invited members to attend a Westside Fresno County Economic Development meeting on April 17 regarding economic development and job impacts related to solar projects.

Nathan Olson (Sanger) invited members to attend the annual Sanger Car Show the following day in downtown Sanger.

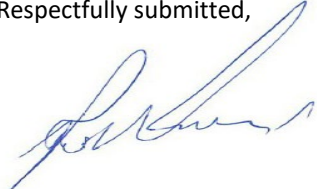
VI. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

None.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Robert Phipps', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Robert Phipps, Executive Director

Public:

Staff:

Mykia Byrd, Robert Phipps, Paul Herman, Simran Jhutti, Santosh Bhattarai, Matthew Shimizu, Blake Rincon.