



**Policy Advisory Committee
MINUTES
Friday, June 12, 2026
10:00 AM**

The meeting was held at FCOG Sequoia Conference Room.

Andrew Haussler, City of Clovis
Ben Gallegos, City of Firebaugh
Michael Reid, City of Fowler
Nicolas Mascia, City of Fresno
Virginia Penaloza, City of Huron
John Jansons, City of Kerman
Alexander Henderson, City of Kingsburg
Nicole Zieba, City of Reedley
Elizabeth Cabrera, City of San Joaquin
Jason Rogers, City of Selma
Jason Adair, Caltrans District 6
Robert Phipps, FCOG

Members Absent: City of Coalinga, City of Mendota, City of Orange Cove, City of Parlier, City of Sanger, County of Fresno

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chair John Jansons (City of Kerman). With ten members present, a quorum was established to conduct business.

JOINT Transportation Technical/Policy Advisory Committee

I. OFFICER ELECTIONS

Action: ELECT THE FOLLOWING FOR THE 2026-2027 TERM:

1. CHAIR

Ms. Zieba nominated John Jansons (City of Kerman) for Chair.

2. VICE CHAIR

Ms. Zieba (City of Reedley) nominated Elizabeth Cabrera (City of San Joaquin) for Vice Chair.

Action: Nominations were approved by unanimous vote. There were no opposing votes.

Motion carried.

II. TRANSPORTATION CONSENT ITEMS

A. Executive Minutes of May 8, 2026 [APPROVE]

B. Reappointments to SSTAC Membership (Harold Sobrado) [ACTION]

C. Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Clovis Transit CTSA OPB (Bethany Berube) [ACTION]

D. Fiscal Year 2026-27 Fresno Area Express (Urban) and Fresno County Rural Transit Agency (Rural) CTSA OPB (Janelle Del Campo) [ACTION]

- E. **Airport Land Use Commission Membership (Brenda Thomas) [INFORMATION]**
- F. **2026 Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) Performance Indicators (Santosh Bhattarai) [INFORMATION]**
- G. **State and Federal Grant Announcements/Activities (Erin Haagenson) [INFORMATION]**
- H. **July 2026 Policy Board Meeting Date (Robert Phipps) [ACTION]**
- I. **SB 743 Implementation On-Call Contract with LSA (Santosh Bhattarai) [ACTION]**

Ms. Zieba (City of Reedley) requested Item E- Airport Land Use Commission Membership to be removed from the consent agenda

Mr. Haussler (City of Clovis) motioned, and Mr. Mascia (City of Fresno) seconded the motion to approve Consent Items A-D and F-I, excluding Item E.

**All in favor, none opposed.
Motion carried.**

Item E – Airport Land Use Commission Membership [INFORMATION]

Rachel Hellett (Fresno COG) reported that two Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC) city representative positions are vacant and will be filled by the Fresno COG Policy Board on June 25, 2026. She noted that state law requires at least one city representative to represent a jurisdiction adjacent to a public-use airport.

Ms. Zieba (City of Reedley) expressed support for appointing a representative with aviation expertise and stated that the City of Reedley intends to nominate Sean Batista for the vacant position.

III. TRANSPORTATION ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Fresno-Clovis Metropolitan Area Managed Lanes Study - Final Report and Presentation (Pankaj Joshi) [ACTION]

Summary: Managed lanes provide a strategy for managing congestion, reducing vehicle miles traveled (VMT), and improving safety on urban freeway networks. These lanes are widely used throughout California. “Managed lanes” is an umbrella term for freeway lanes that address congestion by controlling the traffic movement on the highway. These lanes may operate as express lanes, high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes, high-occupancy toll (HOT) lanes, or bus-only lanes or truck-only lanes. Managed lanes may be useful, and are sometimes the only option that meets Federal air quality standards for expanding road capacity in non-attainment areas like Fresno. In March 2025, Kimley-Horn was selected to conduct a study evaluating managed lanes as a potential solution to reduce congestion on highways within the Fresno-Clovis Metropolitan Area (FCMA). The consultant team reviewed existing conditions and planned improvements, developed goals and objectives, evaluated managed lanes strategies, prepared an implementation plan, conducted public outreach, and developed a final report. The final report is attached to this agenda item, and the consultant team will present the study findings.

Action: Staff requests that the TTC/PAC recommend the Policy Board accept the final report for the Fresno-Clovis Metropolitan Area Managed Lanes Study as the project deliverable.

Pankaj Joshi (FCOG) presented the Final Report for the Fresno-Clovis Metropolitan Area Managed Lanes Study. Chadi Chazbek (Kimley-Horn) presented the study findings and recommendations.

The Committee discussed the item and clarified that acceptance of the report does not obligate the agency to move forward with implementation.

Mr. Mascia (City of Fresno) motioned, and Ms. Zieba (City of Reedley) seconded the motion.

All in favor, none opposed.

Motion carried.

B. Consultant Selection Recommendation for the Fresno COG TSMO and ITS Architecture Update (Shichen Fan) [ACTION]

Summary: Fresno COG released a request for proposals (RFP) in March for consultant services to prepare a Transportation Systems Management and Operations (TSMO) Plan supported by updated Regional Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Architecture.

The project will update the County's existing 2015 ITS Strategic Deployment Plan and Regional ITS Architecture to reflect current technologies, operational practices, and regional transportation planning priorities. The updated plan will support regional coordination, emergency response, congestion management, and integration with regional transportation planning and programming efforts. It will also help ensure continued compliance with federal ITS architecture requirements under 23 CFR 940 necessary for Federally funded ITS projects.

Three consultant teams submitted proposals. A selection committee comprising representatives from regional partner agencies reviewed and evaluated the proposals based on criteria identified in the RFP. Following the proposal review, the selection committee conducted consultant interviews with the two highest-ranked firms.

Based on the proposal evaluations, interview discussions, project understanding, technical qualifications, and overall project approach, the committee recommends Kimley-Horn as the preferred consultant.

Action: Staff requests that the TTC/PAC recommend the Policy Board authorize the executive director to enter into a contract with Kimley-Horn for the Fresno COG TSMO and ITS Architecture Update Project for an amount not to exceed \$484,452.96.

Shichen Fan (FCOG) presented the consultant selection recommendation for the Fresno COG TSMO and ITS Architecture Update Project. Following review of three proposals and interviews, the selection committee recommended Kimley-Horn as the preferred consultant. Staff requested authorization to execute a contract not to exceed \$484,452.96.

Ms. Cabrera (City of San Joaquin) motioned, and Mr. Gallegos (City of Firebaugh) seconded the motion.

All in favor, none opposed.

Motion carried.

C. Public Review Schedules for Draft 2026 RTP/SCS, EIR, and 2027 FTIP (Simran Jhutti Sangha) [Information]

Summary: Fresno COG staff has been developing the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS), environmental impact report (EIR), Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) and the corresponding Air Quality Conformity Analysis since last year.

Each document helps promote a continuous, comprehensive, and cooperative transportation planning process that enables rapid and efficient project development to maintain California's commitment to public health and environmental quality, as well as a planning process that considers all stakeholders' views. The outline below includes the upcoming public review periods.

Fresno COG is Federally mandated to prepare the RTP and State-mandated to prepare for the SCS. The RTP is a long-range transportation plan that is based on the unique needs and characteristics of the Fresno region, helps shape the region's economy, environment and social future, and communicates the regional transportation vision to the State and Federal governments. The SCS outlines the plan for reducing per capita greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by integrating the transportation network and related strategies with an overall land use pattern that accounts for projected growth, housing needs, changing demographics, and forecasted transportation needs among all modes of travel. Under the Sustainable Communities Act, the California Air Resources Board (ARB) sets regional targets for GHG emissions reductions from passenger vehicle use.

Draft 2026 RTP/SCS

- **Public review & comment period: 55 days**
- **Start date: June 23, 2026**
- **End date: August 17, 2026**

The EIR is a required environmental review document for the RTP/SCS. The EIR will inform residents of the Fresno region and decision makers on the impacts from implementing the 2026 RTP/SCS. As a program level EIR, the EIR looks at the potential environmental impacts of the plan as a whole and requires that individual projects comply with CEQA and/or NEPA as applicable. Overall, the EIR will enable funding eligibility, regulatory compliance, and streamline future projects, while also maintaining public transparency for the proposed transportation and housing policies.

Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the 2026 RTP/SCS

- **Public review & comment period: 45 days**
- **Start date: July 2, 2026**
- **End date: August 17, 2026**

The Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP): Fresno COG is Federally mandated to prepare and maintain this four-year program of projects, which includes a listing of all transportation-related projects requiring Federal funding or other approval by Federal transportation agencies. The FTIP also lists non-Federal, regionally significant projects for information and air quality modeling purposes. Projects included in the FTIP are consistent with Fresno COG's Regional Transportation Plan and are part of the area's overall strategy for providing mobility, congestion relief, and reduced transportation-related air pollution to help attain Federal air quality standards for the region. The corresponding Air Quality Conformity Analysis demonstrates through computer modeling that these projects will help improve air quality for specified pollutants or at least, not worsen air quality in the region.

Draft 2027 FTIP and Draft Conformity Analysis

- **Public review & comment period: 30 days**
- **Start date: July 17, 2026**
- **End date: August 17, 2026**

Simran Jhutti Sangha (FCOG) provided an update on the public review schedules for the Draft 2026 RTP/SCS, EIR, and 2027 FTIP. The Draft RTP/SCS will be released June 23, the EIR on July 2, and the FTIP on July 17. All public comment periods will close August 17.

Action: This item is for information only.

D. FY 2026-2027 Fresno COG Unmet Transit Needs Assessment Approval (Harold Sobrado) [ACTION]

Summary: On Wed., May 25, 2026, the draft FY2026-27 Fresno COG 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/>

To date, 73 comments have been received, 12 of which are unmet transit needs, 49 that do not meet the definition of an unmet transit need, and 12 comments that are not applicable to the program. Of the 12 comments received meeting the definition of an unmet transit need, none of them are determined to be 'reasonable to meet.'

The public hearing for the FY 2026-27 FCOG unmet transit needs process was held Tues., June 2, in-person and online, at Fresno COG's offices.

Staff convened a special meeting of the Social Services Transportation Advisory Committee (SSTAC) two days later to approve the final report.

The comments received, transit agency response, and the determination of unmet transit needs are included in the final FY 2026-27 FCOG Unmet Transit Needs Report included with this agenda or at the URL listed after the first paragraph above.

Action: Staff and SSTAC requests that TTC and PAC recommend the Fresno COG Policy Board adopt Resolution 2026-21, approving Fresno COG's FY 2026-2027 Unmet Transit Needs Assessment Report, and to find that there are 12 unmet transit needs, none of which are "reasonable to meet."

Harold Sobrado (Fresno COG) presented the FY 2026-27 Unmet Transit Needs Assessment. Staff received 73 public comments, with 12 identified as unmet transit needs; none were determined reasonable to meet.

Robert Phipps (FCOG) provided additional context regarding the annual unmet transit needs process required under the Transportation Development Act (TDA) for the allocation of transit funds.

Mr. Haussler (City of Clovis) motioned, and Mr. Reid (City of Fowler) seconded the motion.

All in favor, none opposed.

Motion carried.

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT ITEMS

- A. Circuit Planner and Engineer Program Contract Renewal (Blake Rincon) [ACTION]**
- B. Regional Pavement Management System – On-Call Contract with NCE (Pankaj Joshi) [ACTION]**
- C. Golden State Boulevard Cooperative Agreement and Engineering Contract (Pankaj Joshi) [ACTION]**
- D. Activity-Based Modeling (ABM) On-Call Contract with RSG (Santosh Bhattarai) [ACTION]**
- E. Replica Subscription Contract Extension (Santosh Bhattarai) [ACTION]**
- F. Fresno County Extreme Heat Analysis and Shade Adaptation Plan Contract Extension with Dudek (Matthew Shimizu) [ACTION]**
- G. Contract with GHD for On-Call Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee Services (Les Beshears) [ACTION]**
- H. 2026 RTP/SCS On-Call Support Contract Extension with LSA (Paul Herman) [ACTION]**
- I. Fiscal Year 2026/27 Outreach and Promotions Contract with Bodewell (Jake Martinez) [ACTION]**
- J. 2026 RTP/SCS EIR Contract Extension with LSA (Paul Herman) [ACTION]**
- K. 2026 RTP/SCS Legal Services Contract Extension with Best, Best & Krieger (Paul Herman) [ACTION]**

Ms. Cabrera (City of San Joaquin) motioned, and Mr. Rogers (City of Selma) seconded the motion.

All in favor, none opposed.

Motion carried.

V. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

None.

VI. OTHER ITEMS

A. Items from Staff

Robert Phipps thanked the City of Fresno and Mr. Mascia (City of Fresno) for assisting with parking validation arrangements for the meeting. Staff reported no issues and reminded attendees of the current parking validation process.

B. Items from Members

Caltrans Report: Jason Adair (Caltrans), filling in for Braden Duran, reported that he had no updates to provide. He congratulated Fresno COG staff on their work preparing the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP).

Chair Jansons (City of Kerman) expressed appreciation to Fresno COG staff, specifically Mykia Byrd, for communicating the parking changes and providing the parking instructions and validation code.

VII. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

None.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 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: None.

Staff:

Robert Phipps, Paul Herman, Les Beshears, Simran Sangha, Harold Sobrado, Rachel Hellett, Shichen Fan, Pankaj Joshi, and Mykia Byrd.