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**Fresno COG Policy Board
MINUTES
Thursday, June 25, 2026
5:30 PM**

The meeting was held in the Fresno COG Sequoia Room.

Members Attending:

Mayor Vong Mouanoutoua, City of Clovis
Mayor Juan Mejia, City of Fowler
Mayor Jerry Dyer, City of Fresno
Mayor Maria Pacheco, City of Kerman
Mayor Pro-Tem Brandon Pursell, City of Kingsburg
Mayor Victor Martinez, City of Mendota
Mayor Pro-Tem Gilbert Garcia, City of Orange Cove
Mayor Alma Beltran, City of Parlier
Mayor Matthew Tuttle, City of Reedley
Mayor Frank Gonzalez, City of Sanger
Mayor Adam Cornejo, City of San Joaquin
Mayor Scott Robertson, City of Selma
Supervisor Garry Bredefeld, County of Fresno
Philip Vallejo, Caltrans
Robert Phipps, Executive Director
Doug Sloan, Legal Counsel

Absent:

Mayor Nathan Vosburg, City of Coalinga
Mayor Freddy Valdez, City of Firebaugh
Mayor Rey Leon, City of Huron

Quorum: At the start of the meeting, twelve voting members were present, representing 96.79% of the population. A quorum was established to conduct business. Present cities/agencies included Clovis, Fowler, Fresno, Kerman, Kingsburg, Mendota, Orange Cove, Parlier, Reedley, Sanger, San Joaquin, Selma, and the County of Fresno. Absent: Coalinga, Firebaugh, and Huron.

The meeting was called to order at 5:50 p.m. by Chair Mayor Martinez (Mendota).

Attendance Changes During the Meeting:

Mayor Frank Gonzalez (Sanger) left the meeting at 6:48 p.m.

I. TRANSPORTATION CONSENT ITEMS

- A. Executive Minutes of May 28, 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 Haagenon) [INFORMATION]**
- H. **July 2026 Policy Board Meeting Date (Robert Phipps) [ACTION]**
- I. **SB 743 Implementation On-Call Contract with LSA (Santosh Bhattarai) [ACTION]**

At the request of Robert Phipps (FCOG), Item B was removed from the consent calendar and tabled until the next meeting to allow additional time to verify the certification and consider additional appointments.

Mayor Beltran (Parlier) moved, and Mayor Pro-Tem Garcia (Orange Cove) seconded the motion to approve the remaining Transportation Consent Items A and C-I, and table Item B until the next meeting.

All in favor, none opposed.

Motion carried.

Absent: Coalinga, Firebaugh, Huron

II. 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 and 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.

Board members discussed the study's findings, future implementation considerations, funding, and potential traffic impacts.

Mayor Dyer (Fresno) moved, and Mayor Beltran (Parlier) seconded the motion.

All in favor, none opposed.

Motion carried.

Absent: Coalinga, Firebaugh, Huron

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 and 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 a recommendation selecting Kimley-Horn to update the Fresno COG TSMO Plan and Regional ITS Architecture. The update will replace the 2015 ITS Plan and support regional coordination, congestion management, emergency response, and future ITS projects. Staff confirmed funding is provided through SB 1 planning formula funds, not Measure C.

Mayor Robertson (Selma) moved, and Mayor Dyer (Fresno) seconded the motion.

All in favor, none opposed.

Motion carried.

Absent: Coalinga, Firebaugh, Huron

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.

Simran Jhutti Sangha (FCOG) provided an update on the Draft 2026 RTP/SCS and 2027 FTIP public review periods. The Draft RTP/SCS EIR public comment period will run from July 2 through August 17, 2026, and the FTIP comment period will run from July 17 through August 17, 2026.

No action was taken.

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, SSTAC and TTC /PAC recommend the Fresno COG Policy Board adopt Resolution 2026-21, approving Fresno COG's FY 2025-2026 Unmet Transit Needs Assessment Report, and to find that there are 12 unmet transit needs, none of which are "reasonable to meet."

Harold Sobrado (FCOG) presented the results of the annual Unmet Transit Needs process, which included seventy-three public comments.

Mayor Dyer (Fresno) moved, and Mayor Garcia (Orange Cove) seconded the motion.

All in favor, none opposed.

Motion carried.

Absent: Coalinga, Firebaugh, Huron

E. CALTRANS REPORT [INFORMATION]

Phillip Vallejo (Caltrans) provided updates on statewide grant awards and current transportation projects, including SR 180 repairs, Clean California improvements, Coalinga Pavement Rehabilitation, Dickinson Roundabout, Excelsior 41 expansion, and Shaver Lake Viaduct improvements.

No action was taken.

III. 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]**

Mayor Mouanoutoua (Clovis) asked questions regarding contract extensions. Robert Phipps (Fresno COG) clarified that RTP/SCS-related extensions were time extensions only and would not result in additional costs.

Mayor Tuttle (Reedley) moved, and Mayor Cornejo (San Joaquin) seconded the motion to approve Administrative Consent Items A–K.

All in favor, none opposed.

Motion carried.

Absent: Coalinga, Firebaugh, Huron

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION ITEMS - None

V. OTHER ITEMS

A. Items from Staff

Robert Phipps (Fresno COG) thanked the City of Fresno for providing parking codes for Board and committee members and acknowledged there were some issues with parking kiosks during the meeting. He noted staff would address any parking citation concerns and work to resolve any issues. Mayor Dyer also provided comments regarding the parking matter.

B. Items from Members

Board members acknowledged the City of Fresno's Independence Day beautification efforts and shared community event information. The Board recognized Les Beshears for 40 years of dedicated service to Fresno COG.

VI. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS - None

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert Phipps, Executive Director

Staff:

Robert Phipps, Paul Herman, Les Beshears, Brenda Thomas, Simran Jhutti Sangha, Harold Sobrado, Santosh Bhattarai, Erin Haagenson, Pankaj Joshi, Shichen Fan, Blake Rincon, Jake Martinez, Matthew Shimizu, Mykia Byrd