



2035 Tulare Street, Suite 201
Fresno, California 93721

Telephone: (559) 233-4148 • Fax: (559) 233-9645
Website Address: www.fresnocog.org

TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE AGENDA

Date: Wednesday, January 10, 2007
Time: 8:30 a.m.
Place: COG Sequoia Conference Room
2035 Tulare St., Suite 201, Fresno, CA

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Accommodations

The Fresno COG offices and restrooms are ADA accessible. Representatives or individuals with disabilities should contact Fresno COG at (559) 233-4148, at least 3 days in advance, to request auxiliary aids and/or translation services necessary to participate in the public meeting / public hearing. If Fresno COG is unable to accommodate an auxiliary aid or translation request for a public hearing, after receiving proper notice, the hearing will be continued on a specified date when accommodations are available.

Item	Description	Enclosure	Action*
I.	PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons wishing to address the TTC on items within its jurisdiction but not on this agenda. Note: Prior to action by the TTC on any item on this agenda, the public may comment on that item. Unscheduled comments may be limited to 3 minutes.		
II.	CONSENT ITEMS All items on the consent agenda are considered to be routine and non-controversial by COG staff and will be approved by one motion if no member of the Committee or public wishes to comment or ask questions. If comment or discussion is desired by anyone, the item will be removed from the consent agenda and will be considered in the listed sequence with an opportunity for any member of the public to address the Committee concerning the item before action is taken.		
	A. Joint TTC/PAC Executive Minutes of December 8, 2006	Yes	Approve
	B. Adoption of Population Projections for Fresno County	Yes	Approve
	C. Administrative Amendment No. 4 to the 2007 Federal Transportation Improvement Program	No	Information
	D. Consultant Selection for EIR for Regional Transportation Plan	No	Approve
	E. Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicles	No	Information
	F. 2006 Annual Listing of Projects	Yes	Information
	G. FCRTA Status Report on Biola Transit's Demonstration Program	Yes	Information
	H. FCRTA Status Report on Juvenile Justice Campus Transit Program	Yes	Information
	I. FCRTA Public Hearing on 2006-07 CMAQ Capital Grant Program	Yes	Information
III.	ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS		
	A. Partnership Seed Grants – Update	Yes	Info/Discussion
	B. San Joaquin Valley Blueprint Update	Yes	Info/Discussion
	C. 2007 Washington D.C. "One Voice"	Yes	Info/Discussion
	D. Measure "C" Update	Handout	Info/Discussion
	E. Caltrans Monthly Report	No	Info/Discussion
	F. Paperless Agendas	Yes	Info/Discussion
IV.	OTHER BUSINESS		
	A. Items from Staff		
	B. Items from Members		

*Items listed as information still leave the option for guidance/direction actions by the Committee.

Member Agencies: The cities of Clovis, Coalinga, Firebaugh, Fowler, Fresno, Huron, Kerman, Kingsburg, Mendota, Orange Cove, Parlier, Reedley, San Joaquin, Sanger, Selma & Fresno County



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TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ANNOTATED AGENDA

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I. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons wishing to address the TTC on items within its jurisdiction but not on this agenda. **Note:** Prior to action by the TTC on any item on this agenda, the public may comment on that item. **Unscheduled comments may be limited to 3 minutes.**

II. CONSENT ITEMS

All items on the consent agenda are considered to be routine and non-controversial by COG staff and will be approved by one motion if no member of the Committee or public wishes to comment or ask questions. If comment or discussion is desired by anyone, the item will be removed from the consent agenda and will be considered in the listed sequence with an opportunity for any member of the public to address the Committee concerning the item before action is taken.

A. Joint TTC/PAC Executive Minutes of December 8, 2006

Action: Approve the Executive Minutes of December 8, 2006.

B. Adoption of Population Projections for Fresno County

Summary: On December 14, 2006 the Fresno COG Model Steering Committee adopted population projections for Fresno County based on the Central California Futures Institute (CCFI) forecasts for Fresno County and projections made by Fresno COG staff.

Conformity regulations require the traffic model to be validated within 10 years of the current year and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) strongly recommends that our planning assumptions be reviewed and documented every 5 years.

Because of the FHWA requirement we must officially adopt our population projections prior to our being able to do an air quality conformity finding on the 2007 Regional Transportation Plan.

In 2000 we hired Dr. Joseph Penbera, economist/demographer with the Central California Futures Institute (CCFI) at Fresno State University to develop population projections for Fresno County to the year 2025. These projections were subsequently adopted by the Model Steering Committee and the COG Policy Board.

COG staff has reviewed the CCFI projections and concluded that they are still valid and should be used for our 2030 population projections.

At the same time we also asked our modeling consultant, Dowling Associates, to review the CCFI projections and provide us with their opinion. Dowling Associates also independently recommended continued use of the CCFI projections. (see included memo from Mike Aronson, Dowling Associates).

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COG staff has utilized the CCFI projections to project population growth to the year 2030. The recommendation and projections were reviewed and approved by the Model Steering Committee. [BITNER]

Action: Staff recommends approval of the population projections.

C. Administrative Amendment No. 4 to the 2007 Federal Transportation Improvement Program

Summary: Administrative Amendment No. 4: This amendment was approved on December 7, 2006 by the Executive Director of the Council of Fresno County Governments as authorized by the Policy Board. Modifications to the 2007 Federal Transportation Improvement Program are as follows:

Change to the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program:

The school bus projects for Central Unified School District, Clovis Unified School District, Fresno Unified School District, Kings Canyon Unified School District, and Southwest Transportation, were adjusted to reflect a change in funding source. The purchase of these school buses will be a lease to purchase and/or purchase. In order for Caltrans local assistance to be able to issue a funding authorization, it was necessary to adjust the funding source to reflect advanced construction. This change does not impact financial constraint. [DEVERE]

Action: Information/discussion item. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Committee.

D. Consultant Selection for EIR for Regional Transportation Plan

Summary: Fresno COG is currently updating our Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). The RTP represents the long range planning vision for Fresno County's regional transportation system through the year 2030. The plan identifies projects and needs for our streets and highways system, as well as urban and rural public transportation, rail, aviation, pedestrian, and bicycle facilities.

A new programmatic Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the RTP is necessary to evaluate potentially significant environmental effects of the plan. On December 17, 2006, Fresno COG issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a maximum of \$35,000 to prepare an Environmental Impact Report for the RTP in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The term of the contract will be for six months, beginning January 25, 2007 extending through June 30, 2007.

In response to the RFP, Fresno COG received one proposal from VRPA Technologies for \$35,000. VRPA Technologies recently completed the EIR documents for the Measure C process. Fresno COG staff has reviewed the proposal and feels that it meets the needs discussed in the Request for Proposals. [PAUKOVITS]

Action: Staff recommends approval of the consultant selection and direction to enter into a contract with VRPA Technologies.

E. Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicles

Summary: On November 30, 2006, the San Joaquin Valley Clean Cities Coalition held a stakeholders meeting to provide information and have discussions regarding the potential for Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicles. Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicles (PHEVs) use the same

technology as the popular hybrids on the road today, but have larger batteries that can be recharged by plugging the vehicle into a standard outlet.

PHEVs are outfitted with batteries sufficient to power the vehicle from 20 to 60 miles on battery charge alone. It has been estimated that half the cars on the country's roads are driven less than 25 miles a day; a plug-in hybrid with a 25-mile range battery could eliminate gasoline use in the commutes of millions of Americans.

PHEV technology can also be combined with existing fuel technology to increase fuel efficiency even further. A motorist could average 100 miles per gallon, and businesses could achieve considerable savings on fuel costs. Plug-in hybrids will generally recharge at night using excess power from plants that cannot shut down completely. Over 40% of the generating capacity in the country sits idle or operates at a reduced load overnight - that means millions of plug-ins could be charged every night without the need to build additional electric generation capacity.

Many agencies and organizations are showing an increased interest in this technology. The Plug-in Partners National Campaign (www.pluginpartners.org) is an initiative to demonstrate a market for PHEVs and is supported by a number of government and private agencies. The California Air Resources Board (CARB) will be issuing a call for projects in January 2007 that could include up to \$5 million in funding for plug-in hybrid projects in California. Please contact Fresno COG staff if you would like additional information. [PAUKOVITS]

Action: Information/discussion item. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Committee.

F. 2006 Annual Listing of Projects

Summary: Federal law requires Fresno COG to publish for public review an annual listing of projects for which federal funds have been obligated in the preceding year, as a record of project delivery and a progress report for public information and disclosure.

The enclosed report is divided into the funding types administered by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). This report indicates that approximately \$32.1 million in federal funds were obligated for transportation project in the region between October 1, 2005 and September 30, 2006.

The obligated federal funding consisted of approximately \$1.67 million of Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) funds for bicycle/pedestrian facilities; 18 projects had bicycle/pedestrian components. \$11.6 million of Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funds were obligated for transit projects and \$4.05 million was transferred from FHWA to FTA for transit projects. The listing is available for public viewing at www.fresnocog.org under FTIP. [DEVERE]

Action: Information/discussion item. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Committee.

G. Fresno County Rural Transit Agency Status Report on Biola Transit's Demonstration Program

Summary: Attached is a December 29, 2006 FCRTA Memorandum regarding the status of the Biola Transit Demonstration Program. [WEBSTER]

Action: Information/discussion item. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Committee.

H. Fresno County Rural Transit Agency Status Report on Juvenile Justice Campus Transit Program

Summary: Attached is an information package that was shared with the staff of the Juvenile Justice Campus on December 14, 2006. It depicts the actual ridership to and from the facility as programmed. Data is summarized monthly and is shown daily from August 2, 2006 through December 9, 2006. The data indicates that most complete a round trip, but others only need one-way rides to or from the facility. Actual usage has proven to be very limited. Campus staff are working on an "information package" to go out to family members of their clients. FCRTA staff provided 500 color copies of our flyer for inclusion. FCRTA staff intends to survey visitors on-site in January to determine if they are aware of the service in an effort to attract additional ridership. [WEBSTER]

Action: Information/discussion item. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Committee.

I. Fresno County Rural Transit Agency Public Hearing: FY 2006-07 Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) Capital Grant Program.

Summary: Attached is a Public Hearing Notice. Despite multiple previous public notices and hearings regarding this project as part of the FTIP, Caltrans has requested that the FCRTA Board of Directors also hold a Public Hearing on the matter on January 25, 2007. [WEBSTER]

Action: Information/discussion item - Conduct the Public Hearing as noticed. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Committee.

III. ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. San Joaquin Valley Partnership Seed Grant Opportunities

Summary: The Business, Transportation and Housing Agency on behalf of the San Joaquin Valley Partnership is seeking Concept Proposals for Partnership Seed Grants. A total of \$2.5 mil. in seed grant funding has been made available in the State's FY 2006-07 budget. Seed Grants are intended to jump start major initiatives, as set forth in the *Partnership Strategic Action Proposal* that will result in significant immediate impact or will lay a solid foundation for long-term priority strategies and investments. Applicants are encouraged to be innovative both in their approaches and in their arrangements among and between participants (individuals and organizations) included in the proposals. All concept proposals must be consistent with the outcomes articulated in the *Partnership Strategic Action Proposal*.

To date Fresno COG has been informed that the following Seed Grant Concept Proposals are under consideration for submittal:

<u>Concept Proposal Description</u>	<u>Applicant</u>
Metro-Rural Loop Feasibility Study	City of Fresno
Farmland Conservation Model Program	County of Fresno/Clovis /Fresno COG
Tolling and Congestion Pricing	Valleywide COG Directors
Matching Funds for San Joaquin Valley Blueprint	Valleywide COG Directors

Included in the package is the Concept Proposal Application for the Seed Grants. The deadline for submittal of the Concept Proposals is **January 16, 2007, 5:00 p.m.** [BOREN]

Action: Information/discussion item. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Committee.

B. San Joaquin Valley Blueprint Update

Summary: COG staff and Blueprint outreach consultants have concluded several months of community outreach in an effort to learn what values the general public considers important regarding future growth. We will conduct a community workshop on Thursday, January 11th from 4:30 – 8:00 PM at the U.C. Center across from Fashion Fair, where we will engage the audience in an exercise aimed at prioritizing the community's values. These values will be translated into the goals, objectives and measurable outcomes that the Blueprint planning process will address as we move forward. We want to have a large and diverse group in attendance at the workshop and are engaged in extensive media outreach to accomplish that goal. A flyer for the Community Workshop is included in your package. [STECK]

Action: Information/discussion item. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Committee.

C. 2007 Washington D.C. "One Voice"

Summary: Eighteen infrastructure projects were submitted for consideration for the 2007 Washington D.C. "One Voice" trip. The selection committee reviewed the submittals and recommended that nine projects be included on the list of regional priorities (list enclosed in package). The projects total \$15,980,000 in funding requests. Three of the projects are not asking for dollar amounts per se but rather policy decisions. The list represents high scoring projects and/or ones that qualify for different appropriations bills and accounts.

At the December Policy Board meeting, the County of Fresno and the BIA made a presentation asking that the Veterans Boulevard project be included on the regional priority list. After much discussion about adding projects to the list, the Board took a "compromise" position to create a "Tier 2" list for the three additional projects (Veteran's Blvd., and the Parlier and Kerman economic development projects). "Tier 2" projects will be included in the materials that we distribute (similar to local specific projects), but will not have formal presentations as we do with the priority projects. [STECK]

Action: Information/discussion item. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Committee.

D. Measure "C" Update

Summary: Fresno COG staff will provide a verbal update and a hand-out on administrative responsibilities that will be required of Fresno COG as a result of the reauthorization of Measure "C" this past November. Issues to be discussed include formation of the Citizens Oversight Committee, tentative timelines associated with development of the initial Expenditure Plan, and formation of the numerous *"Implementation Guideline Committees"* that are required for the majority of the Measure "C" Program components. [GOODWIN/BOREN]

Action: Information/discussion item. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Committee.

E. Caltrans Monthly Report

Summary: Caltrans staff will provide an update on Caltrans activities. [CALTRANS]

Action: Information/discussion item. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Committee.

F. Paperless Agendas

Summary: Staff will provide an update on the website and paperless agendas. [SOBRADO]

Action: Information/discussion item. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Committee.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Items from Staff

B. Items from Members

*Items listed as information still leave the option for guidance/direction actions by the Committee.