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Fresno, California 93721

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COUNCIL OF FRESNO COUNTY GOVERNMENTS AGENDA

Date: Thursday, February 22, 2007
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Place: Council of Fresno County Governments
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, (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
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Fresno COG Sitting As the Transportation Policy Committee

I. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

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

II. TRANSPORTATION 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 Board 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 Board concerning the item before action is taken.

A. 2006-07 Transportation Funding Claim – City of Fresno, Resolution 2007-03	Yes	Approve
B. Tranny Awards – Call for Nominations	Yes	Information
C. Initiation of 2007 Unmet Transit Needs Process	Yes	Information
D. 511 Feasibility Assessment	Yes	Information
E. California High Speed Rail Update	No	Information
F. 2007 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Status Report	No	Information
G. Preliminary Transportation Development Act Fund Estimates	Yes	Approve

III. TRANSPORTATION ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. PUBLIC HEARING: Formal Amendment #5 to the 2007 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP), Resolution 2007-04	Yes	Approve
B. Foothill Highway/Freeway, Resolution 2007-05	Yes	Refer to members/ with recommendation to approve
C. Measure "C" Update	Yes	Info/Discussion
D. Report of January California Transportation Commission Actions	Yes	Info/Discussion
E. Caltrans Monthly Report	No	Info/Discussion

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

Fresno COG Sitting As the Council of Fresno County Governments

IV. REAFFIRM ALL ACTIONS TAKEN WHILE SITTING AS THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE	No	Reaffirm
V. ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT ITEMS Approve Calendar 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 Board 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 Board concerning the item before action is taken. A. Executive Minutes of January 25, 2007 B. Monthly Legislative Update	Yes Yes	Approve Information
VI. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS A. PUBLIC HEARING: Approval of Methodology for the Regional Housing Needs Allocation Plan, Resolution 2007-07 B. Status Report on Sacramento Lobbying Activities—Steve Samuelian, California Consulting, Inc. C. Draft 2007-08 Overall Work Program and Budget D. San Joaquin Valley Blueprint Update E. 2007 Washington D.C. "One Voice" F. 2007 Sacramento "One Voice" Update G. AB 27 -- The San Joaquin Valley Partnership (Parra) H. COG Board Appointment to the San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council	Yes No Yes Yes Yes No No	Approve Info/Discussion Concur With 45-day Review Approve Info/Discussion Approve Info/Discussion Appointment
VII. OTHER BUSINESS A. Items from Staff B. Items from Members		

*Items listed as Information still leave the option for guidance/direction actions by the Board.



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COUNCIL OF FRESNO COUNTY GOVERNMENTS ANNOTATED AGENDA

Date: Thursday, February 22, 2007

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Council of Fresno County Governments
2035 Tulare St., Suite 201, Fresno, CA

Fresno COG Sitting As the Transportation Policy Committee

I. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

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II. TRANSPORTATION CONSENT ITEMS

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A. 2006-07 Transportation Funding Claim – City of Fresno, Resolution 2007-03

Summary: The City of Fresno has submitted their 2006/07 Transportation Development Act Claim. The amounts claimed for Local Transportation Funds (LTF) and State Transit Assistance (STA) funds are:

Jurisdiction:	LTF Fund:	STA Fund:	Total Funds:
City of Fresno	18,625,214	5,059,682	23,684,896

Staff has reviewed the claim and find the amounts consistent with apportionments previously approved by the Board. [BESHEARS]

Action: Staff, TTC and PAC recommend approval of the funding claim by adopting Resolution 2007-03.

B. Tranny Awards – Call for Nominations

Summary: The California Transportation Foundation (CTF) is accepting nominations for their 18th Annual Tranny Awards. To nominate a Person, Project, or Program for the award, nominators are to complete the three page form included in this packet or they can submit a nomination online at: <http://www.transportationfoundation.org/documents/TrannyAwardsNomination2007.pdf>. Additional information can be found at: <http://www.transportationfoundation.org/TRANNYAwards2007.html>. Nominations are due March 1, 2007 and can be emailed to swest@westdirections.com or physically mailed to:

California Transportation Foundation
581 La Sierra Drive
Sacramento, CA 95864 [SOBRADO]

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

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

C. Initiation of 2007 Unmet Transit Needs Process

Summary: The Fresno COG Policy Board must determine that public transportation needs within Fresno County will be reasonably met in Fiscal Year 2006-07 prior to approving claims of Local Transportation Funds for streets and roads. The COG's Social Service Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) is responsible for evaluating unmet transit needs. Each year the SSTAC begins the process of soliciting comments from the public by sending letters to over 450 agencies and individuals interested in providing feedback on their public transportation needs within Fresno County. The request for comments letters, English and Spanish, is included in your agenda packet.

In addition to the request for written comments, SSTAC will be holding three information-gathering meetings during the month of February as follows:

Tuesday, February 20, 2007 – 1:30 p.m.

Westside of Fresno County
City of Firebaugh, Community Center,
1655 13th St., Firebaugh, CA

Wednesday, February 21, 2007 – 2:30 p.m.

Eastside of Fresno County
City of Fowler, City Hall, Council Chambers
128 S. Fifth St., Fowler, CA

Thursday, February 22, 2007 – 1:00 PM

Fresno-Clovis Metropolitan Area
City of Clovis
The Clovis Senior Center
850 Fourth St., Clovis, CA
[DOWNS]

Action: This is an information/discussion item. Direction may be given at the discretion of the Board.

D. 511 Feasibility Assessment

Summary: The San Joaquin Valley is the last region west of Texas (*see enclosure*) to not have a Traveler Information (511) System in place or in the planning stages. The Sacramento Council of Governments (SACOG) has invited the Eight Valley COGs to join their existing system enabling commuters and Central Valley residents to realize the benefits of a 511 system. The Fresno COG is currently examining the feasibility of joining the SACOG 511 System.

Last spring, the Sacramento Council of Governments (SACOG) invited the eight valley COGs to join their existing 511 system. A 511 or traveler information system consolidates all traveler related information within a given region into one three digit number that works nationwide. This information includes road conditions, weather, traffic, and public transit. This way, commuters and the public will have just one number to know for all transportation related information in Fresno County.

The Fresno COG is looking into the feasibility of SACOG's offer to join their system and is working to get the eight other COGs on board. Not only would the residents of Fresno County and the San Joaquin Valley benefit from having such a system in place but the image that commuters have traveling through the Valley would also benefit. Most of the residents of Southern California, Northern California, and the rest of the Country are familiar with 511 and use it regularly, especially

in Southern and Northern California. Having this valuable service in place for these commuters would not only enhance their travels through our community, it would also demonstrate that the San Joaquin is technologically up to date with our neighbors and the rest of the Country.

By participating in SACOG'S Traveler Information System, the eight San Joaquin Valley COGs are able to participate in a 511 system at a much lower cost than if we were to build our own. SACOG spent \$100,000 to build their system and are in the process of adding new capabilities. The Eight Valley COGs could expect to pay something similar to build our own system. However, SACOG has offered to include us in their traveler information system for the cost of setting up the telecommunications providers to forward calls from the San Joaquin Valley to the SACOG Traveler Information System. This cost is a fraction of what it would cost to build out our own 511 system. The Eight Valley COGs would also be responsible for their pro-rata share of the recurring operating costs. Operating costs consists of telephone service charges for calls into the SACOG 511 system only.

Most of the Traveler Information Systems across the United States are deployed State-wide or by State Departments of Transportation. California is one of the only states where deployment is regional. There are several funding models in use across the Country. Some funding sources recommended by the California Statewide 511 Deployment Coordinator are the Callbox Program and Congesting, Mitigation, Air Quality (CMAQ) funds. The Callbox Program assesses a \$1 fee to motor vehicle registrations within a given jurisdiction, in this case, Fresno County.

The 511 Deployment Coalition, a nationwide coalition of traveler information systems operators reports that 511 systems have some of the highest customer satisfaction ratings of all government services. For the Eight Valley COGs, this is just one more reason to consider SACOG's offer to join their traveler information system.

Action: Information/discussion Item. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Board.

E. California High Speed Rail Update

Summary: The development of a high-speed train system in California is clearly at a crossroads. The Governor's preliminary fiscal year 2007-08 budget includes only about \$1.2 million for the High-Speed Rail Authority Board and its staff. The Authority was anticipating \$103 million. Of this amount, \$40 million is needed to start buying rights-of-way, which gets harder and more expensive each passing year, and \$63 million for planning and engineering. Also, the Governor reportedly wants the Legislature to delay indefinitely the \$9.95 billion rail bond scheduled for the November 2008 ballot. The rail bond has already been delayed twice, from 2004 to 2006 and from 2006 to 2008.

Though its future activities are in doubt, the Authority continues to conduct business. It has either entered into agreements or will be entering into agreements with firms for preliminary design and project-specific environmental reports for different segments of the system. In earlier action, the Authority selected Parsons Brinckerhoff to oversee the design and construction of the high-speed train system. As program manager, PB will assist in adopting a contracting strategy for the construction and ultimate operation of the high-speed train service and help facilitate overall agreements between the lead agencies and the state and federal regulatory and resource agencies. Of course, PB and the other firms will not be able to proceed with their activities unless the \$103 million, or a substantial portion thereof, is included in next year's budget. [THOMPSON]

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

F. 2007 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Status Report

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.

The schedule and approach for the RTP approval has been modified over the past few weeks and will be discussed at a Valley Transportation Planning Agency Executive Director's Committee meeting on February 2, 2007. The draft RTP, Environmental Impact Report (EIR), and Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) will be released for public review in early March 2007. It is anticipated that the public hearings will be held in April, followed by Policy Board adoption in May 2007.

Initially, it was expected that the Regional Transportation Plan will include information and be approved as compliant with the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). SAFETEA-LU is the federal legislation that provides guidance and funding for transportation improvements. The California Division of the Federal Highway Administration has recently indicated that their approval of the RTP will not include SAFETEA-LU compliance, but will allow projects in the RTP and FTIP to proceed. However, an approval of the RTP that does not include SAFETEA-LU compliance will lead to restrictions on adding or modifying projects after July 1, 2007. Staff will continue to provide updates in the coming months as more information becomes available. [PAUKOVITS]

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

G. Preliminary Transportation Development Act Fund Estimates

Summary: Staff is seeking the County Auditor's projected annual estimates in order to prepare preliminary estimates of the Local Transportation Fund and Measure C for our member agencies, for their budgeting purposes. The State Controller has released their estimate. The tables are included in your agenda packet. [BESHEARS]

Action: Staff, TTC and PAC recommend approval of the preliminary apportionment tables for use in budget development.

III. TRANSPORTATION ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. PUBLIC HEARING: Formal Amendment #5 to the 2007 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP), Resolution 2007-04

Summary: This amendment is a request by Caltrans, the City of Fresno, and Fresno COG to modify the 2007 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP), the region's capital improvement program. The amendment incorporates changes to the State Highway Operations and Protection Program (SHOPP), 5310 (transit) Program, Transportation Enhancement Program (TE), and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program (CMAQ). Program changes include:

1.) SHOPP Program:

- Caltrans Project FRE071007: This modification adds funds into the Lump-sum SHOPP-Roadway Preservation Category and advances a pavement preservation project from Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 08/09 to 06/07.
- Caltrans Project FRE071010: This modification adds funds into the Lump-sum SHOPP-Collision Reduction Category for Panoche Creek Bridge, a new FFY 06/07 project.

2.) 5310 Program (transit):

- Addition of Caltrans awarded 5310 projects into FFY 07/08. Fresno County Economics Opportunities Commission and WestCare California Projects FRE071601-071610 were selected funding recipients. Funds will be toward vehicle purchases.

3.) CMAQ Program:

- City of Kingsburg project FRE070115: Technical correction to the placement of local funds in the State's database.
- Fresno Area Express project FRE070122: Technical correction to insert local funds in the State's database.

4.) TE Program:

- City of Fresno project FRE041810: Addition of Preliminary Engineering funds into FFY 06/07. These funds were allocated by the California Transportation Commission in a prior year.

The following projects have all been advanced using Fresno COG's Expedite Project Selection Procedures (EPSP). These projects are included for information purposes in Amendment 5.

- City of Fresno TE project FRE041814: Construction was advanced on their McKenzie Trail project.
- City of Fresno TE project FRE041810: Construction was advanced on their Santa Fe Depot project.
- City of Clovis CMAQ project FRE020106: Construction was advanced on their traffic signal synchronization.

For questions regarding individual projects in this amendment please contact Renee DeVere.
[DEVERE]

Action: Staff, TTC and PAC recommend approval of Formal Amendment No. 5 to the 2007 Federal Transportation Improvement Program by the adoption of Resolution No. 2007-04.

B. Foothill Highway/Freeway/Alternative Modes, Resolution 2007-05

Summary: Elected officials from Fresno and Madera County, as well as Clovis, and staff from the City of Fresno, Fresno and Madera COGs as well as other city and county planning agency staff, recently met to talk about issues of commonality between Fresno and Madera County. The meeting was part of the Blueprint coordinating activities, and the idea of further collaborating across County lines was well received. In fact they desire to meet regularly and include other counties as well. One part of the discussion turned to the eventual need to at least discuss and study the need for a north-south corridor on the more eastern side of our Valley by 2050 as part of the Blueprint evaluation. They asked that this topic be raised at each of the COGs, so that a request to Caltrans could be made to resume an evaluation of that corridor. Included in your package is a draft resolution that could be referred to each COG member agency for consideration of the issue. The resolution requests only that member agencies support the "study concept", not the construction of SR 65 per se. The projected population of the Valley by 2050 (almost 8 million) is a pressing consideration for this evaluation and the information it may provide to our Blueprint and General Plan processes.
[GOODWIN]

Action: Staff and TTC recommend the Committee consider approving Resolution 2007-05 and referring it out to our members for their action. A more detailed staff report (between the COGs and Caltrans) should be made available prior to the Resolution being sent to members for consideration.

C. Measure "C" Update

Summary: Fresno COG has initiated meetings with member agency staff and Authority staff to identify specific needs, resources and work required to develop the implementation plan for the voter-approved Measure C Expenditure Plan. As we progress in our work we will provide status reports to all committees. Our mutual goals are to move quickly to develop the implementation plan, but some elements will necessarily take longer than others. In order to develop the Strategic Implementation Plan, staff will be forming a number of Implementing Subcommittees that will be staffed primarily by COG and its member agencies with former Measure C Steering Committee members invited to participate on the subcommittees of their choosing. Enclosed is a Measure C

Implementation Subcommittee sign-up sheet which identifies the various subcommittees to be formed.

Also included in your agenda packet is the exit poll presentation and accompanying maps that were presented to former members of the Measure C Steering Committee on February 2.

Also included in your packet is the application form for the Citizen Oversight Committee, which must be formed within 6 months of the passage of Measure C. It is anticipated that the selection of the 13 member committee will occur on April 26, 2007. Notices regarding the availability of the application form are being sent out and formally published in newspapers countywide. [GOODWIN]

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

D. Report of January California Transportation Commission Actions

Summary: The California Transportation Commission was scheduled to take up many bond topics at its Jan 31/Feb 1 meeting including: Corridor Mobility Improvement Account, the State Route 99 Bond, and the Traffic Congestion Relief Program. Deputy Director Tony Boren attended the meetings and will provide a verbal update of pertinent issues. [BOREN]

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

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 Board.

Fresno COG Sitting As the Council of Fresno County Governments

IV. REAFFIRM ALL ACTIONS TAKEN WHILE SITTING AS THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE

V. ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT ITEMS

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A. Executive Minutes of January 25, 2007

B. Monthly Legislative Update

Summary: An enclosed summary of current state and federal legislative activity is in your agenda packet for committee review and information. The attached summary reflects legislation that is currently active and detailing various aspects of transportation.

Please contact staff person, Renee DeVere, if you have any questions regarding the listed bills or if you require a more in-depth analysis of any particular bill. [DEVERE]

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

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. PUBLIC HEARING: Approval of Methodology for the Regional Housing Needs Allocation Plan, Resolution 2007-07

Summary: The Fresno COG has begun the process of preparing the next edition of the Fresno County Regional Housing Need Allocation (RHNA) Plan. The overarching purposes of the Plan, along with similar plans developed for other regions of the state, are to address the statewide concern for "decent housing and a suitable living environment for every California family," and to reflect the shared responsibility among local governments for accommodating the housing needs of all economic levels.

Housing Element law requires quantification of each jurisdiction's share of the region's existing and projected housing need, by income level. This is otherwise referred to as the regional housing need allocation, or RHNA, for each jurisdiction. Each jurisdiction's RHNA establishes the minimum housing development capacity to be provided for in its housing element. The allocation of the regional housing need, by income category, to individual cities and counties within a region is typically determined by the region's COG. The RHNA Plan is scheduled to be adopted by June 30, 2007 and encompasses the 7½ year planning period from January 2006 through June, 2013. The 5-year housing element planning period extends from July 2008 through June 2013.

RHNA statutes require there be a 60-day public comment period of the methodology to be used in the development of the RHNA Plan and that the methodology be adopted at a noticed public hearing. The review and comment period was initiated by the Policy Advisory Committee on December 8, 2006.

Staff is recommending that the same methodology successfully used in the 2001 RHNA Plan and earlier RHNA Plans be used in the 2007 RHNA Plan. The methodology is acceptable to HCD, is relatively straightforward to understand and implement, and reflects a city-centered and balanced development pattern. In addition, the methodology allows for the ability to make manual adjustments to each jurisdiction's allocation of the regional housing construction need. Recent changes to statute require that local jurisdictions be surveyed to gather information regarding local government infrastructure, housing market, and other local conditions that could influence the distribution of the regional housing need. Information from the survey will be particularly helpful during negotiations, if necessary, regarding potential manual adjustments.

Housing market areas are used throughout the Plan in the gathering, analysis, and presentation of data. For this reason, the boundaries of the market areas are drawn along census tract boundaries. Market areas should not divide developed areas and should define subregions in which there is an interaction between employment opportunities and housing opportunities. Staff believes that the same five market areas used in the 2001 RHNA Plan remain valid and recommends their use in the 2007 RHNA Plan. These market areas reflect the generally longer commuting trips that have evolved over time and/or economic relationships among cities that have formed, particularly regarding the Five-Cities Economic Development Authority (Parlier, Selma, Fowler, Sanger and Reedley).

A team of local planning and housing experts, brought together to assist staff with this project, concurred with staff recommendation to utilize the same methodology and the same market areas.
[THOMPSON]

Action: Staff and PAC recommend approval of the methodology for the Regional Housing Needs Allocation Plan by adopting Resolution No. 2007-07.

B. Status Report on Sacramento Lobbying Activities—Steve Samuelian, California Consulting, Inc.

Summary: California Consulting staff will provide an update to the Policy Board. [Samuelian]

Action: Information item. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Board.

C. Draft 2007-08 Overall Work Program and Budget

Summary: A summary memo and the draft 2007-08 Overall Work Program (OWP) is included in your agenda packet. Staff will provide a presentation on the document. Distribution of this draft OWP begins the review and comment period with adoption expected in May. The Intermodal Planning Group, the federal and state agency review committee, is scheduled to meet on March 21, 2007 from 9:30 to 12 Noon to review the OWP. [BOREN]

Action: Staff, TTC and PAC recommend concurrence with the initiation of the 45-day review process.

D. 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. A list of those values is included in your packet as well as a summary of the workshop outcomes. While those attending the January 11th community workshop prioritized the values, those priorities cannot be generalized to the county at large. For this reason our Blueprint process will be addressing all of the values identified as we move forward. These values will be translated into a vision statement with related goals, objectives and measurable outcomes. As we noted from the start, we will request Policy Board approval for each of the three major phases of the project.

The Blueprint Roundtable also recommended approval of the "status quo" growth scenario modeled by COG staff. The "status quo" scenario (enclosed) depicts a generalized picture of what growth will look like in the year 2050 if we continue today's development patterns. [STECK]

Action: Staff, the Blueprint Roundtable, TTC and PAC recommend approval to move forward with the values that have been identified through community outreach process and the "status quo" growth scenario modeled by COG staff.

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

Summary: Fresno COG's 2007 "One Voice" delegation will be in Washington D.C. February 10th – 15th. Our group will include 35 members who will be lobbying for nine regional priority projects. Sponsors have donated \$16,250 this year, which will go a long way toward covering our expenses for "One Voice". We will provide a report on the trip at the Policy Advisory Committee meeting. [STECK]

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

F. 2007 Sacramento "One Voice" Update

Summary: COG is in the process of planning the Sacramento "One Voice" trip this quarter. We will be in Sacramento March 12-14 to promote projects of regional importance. Individuals interested in participating in this trip must RSVP to staff member Renee DeVere by March 2nd. Please see enclosures for more details.

Included in the packet is the Proposed 2007 Fresno COG Sacramento "One Voice" Regional Projects list. This list was developed in part by staff, California Consulting, and the Sacramento "One Voice" Ad Hoc subcommittee. Topics and priority ranking were determined based off of timing, current availability of funding, and opportunity for support.

Identified on this list is Senate Bill (SB) 59-Reliable Water Supply Bond Act of 2008 (Cogdill). In summary: Under existing law, various bond acts have been approved by the voters to provide funds for water projects, facilities, and programs. This bill would enact the Reliable Water Supply Bond Act of 2008 which, if approved by the voters, would authorize, for purposes of financing a water supply program, the issuance, pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law, of bonds in the amount of \$3,950,000,000. The bill would require the Secretary of State to submit the bond act to the voters at the November 4, 2008, statewide general election. For complete text please see <http://www.sen.ca.gov/>. [DEVERE]

Action: Staff and PAC recommend: 1.) Support Assembly Bill 59. 2.) Approve the 2007 Fresno COG Sacramento "One Voice" Regional Projects list.

G. AB 27 -- The San Joaquin Valley Partnership (Parra)

Summary: Existing law authorizes two or more public agencies, including any federal department, state or local agency, to enter into an agreement for the purpose of exercising any power common to the contracting parties for specified purposes, including, acquiring or constructing specified public facilities and improvements.

This bill would, from January 1, 2009, to January 1, 2020, create the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley, composed of the heads of specified state agencies and departments, local government members and private sector members, subject to specified criteria, to coordinate and improve existing local, state, and federal efforts for the valley to increase the living standards and the overall economic performance of the valley.

The bill would also require the partnership to request that the 8 economic development coordinators of the Counties of Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, and Tulare serve as an advisory committee to the partnership and make a specified report to the partnership and the Legislature by no later than June 1, 2009, and annually thereafter. The bill would also require the partnership to meet at least quarterly and to facilitate and coordinate the implementation of a strategic action plan developed by the partnership, and report annually on its activities and proposals to the Governor and the Legislature. The bill would require the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency to create a Web page accessible on the Internet for the partnership, as specified.

History and Overview:

The latest version of Assembly Bill (AB) 27 is dated December 4, 2006. AB 27 originated out of AB 31 from the 2006 session. The extension of the bill was a result of discussion between Parra's staff and the Governor. The Governor agreed to extend the bill by two years and staff anticipates formalization of the bill to be a two year process. Development of AB 27 is ongoing and Parra staff has meetings planned and scheduled with the San Joaquin Valley Partnership and the Valley COGs in the coming months. Within AB 27 text there are many blanks; Parra staff will be using these blanks as the points of discussion and negotiation over the next two years. Specifics to be addressed are the composition of the Partnership and the appointment process. The overall purpose of the bill is to keep the San Joaquin Valley Partnership going. This would be accomplished by getting the Partnership into statute and allowing for the provision of future budget appropriations. The Partnership is viewed as a model that works, and AB27 is an effort to insure that it continues. [DEVERE]

Action: Information/discussion item at this time. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Board.

H. COG Board Appointment to the San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council

Summary: As a result of legislation that was introduced last year, the Memorandum of Understanding between the eight Valley COGs was revisited and modified. The purpose was to establish a Policy Council of elected officials and to develop a process and framework for establishing formal San Joaquin Valley positions on issues where valleywide consensus exists. The MOU was approved by the COG Board on September 28, 2006 and the following appointments were made to the Policy Council: Mayor Riofrio (Mendota); Supervisor Case (Fresno County) and Rico Aguayo (Councilmember from Fowler) as an alternate. Even though Mayor Riofrio is still an elected official, he has declined to serve and so a new representative needs to be appointed. [GOODWIN]

Action: Staff and PAC requests the Board to make a new appointment to the Regional Policy Council.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

- A. Items from Staff
- B. Items from Members

*Items listed as Information still leave the option for guidance/direction actions by the Board.