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Fresno, California 93721

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POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGENDA

Date: Friday, June 15, 2007
Time: 10:00 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 PAC on items within its jurisdiction but not on this agenda. Note: Prior to action by the PAC 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.	Executive Minutes of May 18, 2007	Yes	Approve
B.	Transit Planning Documents		
1.	Urban & Rural Consolidated Transportation Services Agency (CTSA) Operations Program & Budget, 2007-08, FCRTA Resolution 2007-05, COG Resolution 2007-18, PUBLIC HEARING: 6-28-07	Yes	Approve
2.	Clovis Consolidated Transportation Services Agency (CTSA) 2007-08 Operations Program & Budget, Resolution 2007-19, PUBLIC HEARING: 6-28-07	Yes	Approve
3.	Short Range Transit Plan for the Fresno Urban Area 2007-12, Resolution 2007-20, PUBLIC HEARING: 6-28-07	Yes	Approve
4.	Short Range Transit Plan for the Rural Fresno County Area 2007-12, FCRTA Resolution 2007-02, COG Resolution 2007-21, PUBLIC HEARING: 6-28-07	Yes	Approve
C.	Transportation Funding Claims		
1.	Fresno County Rural Transit Agency, 2006-07, FCRTA Res. 2007-04, COG Resolution 2007-22	Yes	Approve
2.	Fresno County Rural Transit Agency and the Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission as the Rural CTSA, 2006-07, FCRTA Resolution 2007-06, COG Resolution 2007-23	Yes	Approve
3.	Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission as the Urban CTSA, 2006-07, COG Resolution 2007-24	Yes	Approve

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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| D. FCRTA Items | | |
| 1. 2007-08 Fresno County Rural Transit Agency Budget, FCRTA Resolution 2007-03 | Yes | Approve |
| 2. 2007-08 Federal Transit Administration Section 5311 Grant Application, FCRTA Resolution 2007-07 | Yes | Approve |
| 3. Termination of Transit Demonstration Services: Biola Transit and Juvenile Justice Campus Transit on June 30, 2007 | Yes | Information |
| E. FCRTA/COG Administrative Agreement, FCRTA Resolution 2007-08, COG Resolution 2007-26 | Yes | Approve |
| F. Contract Extensions | No | Approve |
| G. Monthly Legislative Update | Yes | Information |
| H. Presentation at COG Policy Board meeting on June 28, 2007 by Dr. Ed Moreno regarding "Emerging Infectious Diseases" | No | Information |
| I. 2006-07 Third Quarter Progress Report | Yes | Accept |
| J. Obligation Authority Delivery | Yes | Information |
| K. Letter of Support for Application to High Speed Rail Authority Board by Supervisor Bob Waterston | Yes | Approve |
| L. Land Buffer Task Force Communities Survey | No | Information |
| M. Regional Clearinghouse | Yes | Information |

	Project	Applicant
1.	Administration of Families and Children / DHHS: Head Start – Preschool and Early Head Start 2007 Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA)	Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission

III. ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

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|---|-----|---------------------------|
| A. Unmet Transit Needs, Staff Report & Recommendations Resolution 2007-25, PUBLIC HEARING: 6-28-07 | Yes | Approve |
| B. Measure "C" Update | | |
| 1. Staff Update | No | Info/Discussion |
| 2. 2007-2027 Measure C Expenditure Implementation Plan Part 1 - Local Agency Pass-Through Fund Handbook | Yes | Concur with 45-day Review |
| C. 2007-08 Overall Work Program Amendment #1 | No | Approve |
| D. Professional Services Contracts | | |
| 1. Strategy Research Institute | No | Approve |
| 2. VRPA Technologies | No | Approve |
| E. Caltrans Monthly Report | No | Info/Discussion |
| F. Request by City of Reedley for Support from COG for Elevated Water Storage Tower Project | Yes | Info/Action |
| G. Legislative Positions | Yes | Info/Action |
| H. Blueprint Update | No | Info/Discussion |
| I. Regional Housing Needs Allocation Plan | No | Info/Discussion |

IV. ELECTION OF CHAIR & VICE CHAIR

No Election

V. 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.



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**POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ANNOTATED AGENDA**

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I. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons wishing to address the PAC on items within its jurisdiction but not on this agenda. **Note: Prior to action by the PAC 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. Executive Minutes of May 18, 2007

B. Transit Planning Documents

- 1. Urban & Rural Consolidated Transportation Services Agency (CTSA) Operations Program & Budget, 2007-08, FCRTA Resolution 2007-05, COG Resolution 2007-18, PUBLIC HEARING: 6-28-07**

Summary: Included in last month's agenda packet was the Consolidated Transportation Service Agency's (CTSA) Operations Program and Budget, 2007-08 for the Fresno Urban and Rural CTSA. The document is designed to provide an overview of how and in what manner the Consolidated Transportation Service Agencies will be providing service over the next fiscal year. The Social Service Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) reviewed the document on May 8th. [JOSEPH]

Action: Staff, SSTAC, and TTC recommend approval of the document by adoption of FCRTA Resolution 2007-05 and COG Resolution 2007-18.

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

2. Clovis Consolidated Transportation Services Agency (CTSA) 2007-08 Operations Program & Budget, Resolution 2007-19, PUBLIC HEARING: 6-28-07

Summary: Included in last month's agenda packet was the Clovis Consolidated Transportation Service Agency's (CTSA) Operations Program and Budget, 2007-08 for the Clovis Urban Area. The document is designed to provide an overview of how and in what manner the Clovis Consolidated Transportation Service Agency will provide service over the next fiscal year. The Social Service Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) reviewed the document on May 8th. [HALTERMAN]

Action: Staff, SSTAC and TTC recommend approval of the document by adoption of Resolution 2007-19.

3. Short Range Transit Plan for the Fresno Urban Area 2007-12, Resolution 2007-20, PUBLIC HEARING: 6-28-07

Summary: The Short-Range Transit Plan for the Fresno-Clovis Urbanized Area (SRTP) is the annual update to the operating plan and capital programs for Fresno Area Express (FAX) and Clovis Transit. The purpose of this Plan is to promote a comprehensive, coordinated and continuous planning process for transit service in the Fresno-Clovis Metropolitan Area (FCMA). This Plan represents a short-range evaluation of transit needs and proposes specific recommendations for implementing the long-range objectives of Fresno County's Regional Transportation Plan. The Plan will guide the provision of transit services in the FCMA over the next five years (2007-2012).

The Draft SRTP 45 day review process was initiated on May 9, 2007 by the TTC and ratified by the Governing Board on May 31, 2007. The Document was included last month and there are only changes to two pages which are included in your agenda packet as replacement pages 69 (editorial changes) and 88 (Clovis Transit Roundup productivity trends). [LONG]

Action: Staff and TTC recommend approval of the 2007-12 SRTP by adoption of Resolution 2007-20.

4. Short Range Transit Plan for the Rural Fresno County Area 2007-12, FCRTA Resolution 2007-02 and COG Resolution 2007-21, PUBLIC HEARING: 6-28-07

Summary: Included in last month's agenda packet was a copy of the draft Short Range Transit Plan for the Rural Fresno County Area, 2007-12. The document addresses public transportation for the cities of Coalinga, Firebaugh, Fowler, Huron, Kerman, Kingsburg, Mendota, Orange Cove, Parlier, Reedley, Sanger, San Joaquin, Selma and the County of Fresno. The Plan provides a five-year, action-oriented program designed to implement the Public Transportation Element of the Regional Transportation Plan. The Plan will also provide a basis for local governments to demonstrate that public transportation needs within their jurisdiction have been, and may continue to be, reasonably met. The Social Service Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) reviewed the document on May 8th [WEBSTER]

Action: The General Manager, SSTAC, and TTC recommend approval of the document by adoption of FCRTA Resolution 2007-02 and COG Resolution 2007-21.

C. Transportation Funding Claims

1. Fresno County Rural Transit Agency, 2007-08, FCRTA Resolution 2007-04, COG Resolution 2007-22

Summary: The Fresno County Rural Transit Agency (FCRTA) claim has been reviewed by staff, is consistent with the proposed budget, and is recommended for approval. The claim totals \$4,488,316 to support FCRTA's Operation Budget of \$5,740,907 and Capital Budget of \$6,190,653. [BESHEARS]

Action: Staff and TTC recommend approval of the Transportation Funding Claim by adoption of FCRTA Resolution 2007-04 and COG Resolution 2007-22.

2. Fresno County Rural Transit Agency and the Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission as the Rural CTSA, 2007-08, FCRTA Resolution 2007-06, COG Resolution 2007-23

Summary: The Fresno County Rural Transit Agency (FCRTA) and the Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission 2007-08 Rural CTSA Transportation Development Act Claim of \$478,457 has been reviewed by staff and found to be consistent with the Overall Work Program and Budget and in accordance with claiming instructions as required by State law. [BESHEARS]

Action: Staff and TTC recommend approval of the Transportation Funding Claim by adoption of FCRTA Resolution 2007-06 and COG Resolution 2007-23.

3. Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission as the Urban CTSA, 2007-08, COG Resolution 2007-24

Summary: The Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission 2007-08 Urban CTSA Transportation Development Act Claim of \$1,197,978 has been reviewed by staff and found to be consistent with the Overall Work Program and Budget and in accordance with claiming instructions as required by state law. [BESHEARS]

Action: Staff and TTC recommend approval of the Transportation Funding Claim by adoption of COG Resolution 2007-24.

D. FCRTA Items

1. 2007-08 Fresno County Rural Transit Agency Budget, FCRTA Resolution 2007-03

Summary: Provided in last month's agenda package was a copy of the Draft 2007-08 Budget. The numbers in the Draft Budget are subject to refinement following: service contract negotiations, an opportunity for public presentations to each FCRTA member agency; and a public presentation before the Board of Directors. [WEBSTER]

Action: The FCRTA General Manager, SSTAC, and TTC recommend approval of the 2007-08 Fresno County Rural Transit Agency Budget by adoption of FCRTA Resolution 2007-03.

2. 2007-08 Federal Transit Administration Section 5311 Grant Application, FCRTA Resolution 2007-07

Summary: Staff is preparing the 2007-08 Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5311 Capital and Operating Assistance Grant Application for submittal to COG and Caltrans.

Our 2007-08 FCRTA Budget is scheduled for adoption on June 28, 2007. It expressly reflects the Fresno County Regional Apportionment (\$960,046) and Carryover (\$157,134) of FTA Section 5311 funds to be \$1,117,180. Also, FCRTA's Congestion Mitigation / Air Quality (CMAQ) Grant under the same program for \$133,300. These amounts were formally reflected

in the Fresno COG's adopted (May 31, 2007) 2007 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP). [WEBSTER]

Action: The General Manager and TTC recommend approval of the Application by adopting Resolution 2007-07.

3. Termination of Transit Demonstration Services: Biola Transit and Juvenile Justice Campus Transit on June 30, 2007 [WEBSTER]

Summary: Included in the package is a Memorandum dated May 31, 2007, which summarizes the circumstances. [WEBSTER]

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

E. FCRTA/COG Administrative Agreement, FCRTA Resolution 2007-08, COG Resolution 2007-26

Summary: A recent audit by the State Department of Transportation recommends that The Fresno County Rural Transit Agency and the Council of Fresno County Governments update their agreement for administrative services. The current arrangement was last updated in 1984. The relationship subsequent to that agreement has worked well however there have been changes in the process that need to be formalized. The enclosed agreement details the current arrangement and will satisfy the State Department of Transportation's finding. [BESHEARS]

Action: Staff and TTC recommend approval of the Agreement for Administrative and Fiscal Services Between The Fresno County Rural Transit Agency) and the Council of Fresno County Governments by adoption of FCRTA Resolution 2007-08 and COG Resolution 2007-26.

F. Contract Extensions

Summary: The following contracts, adopted previously by the Board, expire on June 30, 2007. These projects are programmed to be carried forward in the 2007/08 Overall Budget. This is an administrative recommendation. There are no scope or funding changes associated with this action.

- San Joaquin Valley Blueprint – VPRA Technologies
- Modeling Support – Planning Resources
- Transit Master Plan – Kimley Horn

Action: Authorize staff to carry over contracts per the adopted 2007/08 Overall Work Program and Budget.

G. Monthly Legislative Update

Summary: A summary of current state and federal legislative activity is in your agenda packet for committee review and information.

Please contact staff person Renée 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 item. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Committee.

H. Presentation at COG Policy Board meeting on June 28, 2007 by Dr. Ed Moreno regarding "Emerging Infectious Diseases"

Summary: Dr. Ed Moreno will make a presentation before the Policy Board at their June 28, 2007 meeting regarding "Emerging Infectious Diseases". [GOODWIN]

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

I. 2006-07 Third Quarter Progress Report

Summary: Included in your agenda packet, is the third quarter progress report which is a listing of funds expended and work completed by work element during the third quarter of 2006-07. [BESHEARS]

Action: Staff and TTC recommend acceptance of the FY 2006-07 Third Quarter Progress Report.

J. Obligational Authority Delivery

Summary: On a quarterly basis Caltrans provides the MPOs with the latest information on overall project delivery on a county by county basis. This allows for a comparison of delivery between counties and an overview of statewide delivery. **The enclosed report released on May 18th however only reflects delivery as of April 30th. It is a "snapshot" of how we were doing relative to other regions at that point in time.** As of April 30, 2007 local agencies have used approximately \$190 million of the projected \$752 million Obligation Authority (OA) available in the current federal fiscal year (FFY).

New this year, projects need to be submitted to the Districts by July 2nd to assure obligation by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) by the end of the current FFY.

Application to the Fresno Region:

As of April 30, 2007 the Fresno region had a balance of \$8,576,291 of OA not yet "encumbered" according to Caltrans' Local Assistance Delivery Table (see enclosure). The projected target on this table is \$11,344,880 meaning the Fresno region has delivered 24.4% of available funds. The Obligation Plan for Fresno submitted to Caltrans in April demonstrates the Fresno region will be delivering above and beyond this projected target as obligational authority differs significantly from apportionment balances (real life funds) which are used in day to day programming activities.

The State of California, as of April 30th, has only delivered 25% of available statewide obligational authority. Caltrans is requesting that Fresno COG advance ready-to-deliver projects; specifically, the \$6.6 million of programmed school bus projects in Fresno. Caltrans has identified these particular projects because of the ease of converting advanced construction dollars to readily available funds. Based on current Caltrans policy, the advancement of these projects would put Fresno COG at a disadvantage next year as projected *base delivery* would be reduced. Fresno COG has recommended that Caltrans review this policy. If it is determined that Fresno COG can advance these projects and not impact Fresno COG's 2008 projected *base delivery*, Fresno COG would be willing to consider advancing the funds for the school bus procurement projects.

An extended explanation of obligational authority and the school bus issue can be found in the enclosed memorandum. [DEVERE/BESHEARS]

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

K. Letter of Support for Application to High Speed Rail Authority Board by Supervisor Bob Waterston

Summary: On May 22, 2007, the Fresno County Board of Supervisors approved a resolution in support of California High-Speed Rail (enclosed). As part of the discussion, it was noted that Supervisor Waterston had submitted an application to the California High-Speed Rail Authority for membership on its board. The Board requested that the County also solicit COG support for Supervisor Waterston's application. [GORMAN]

Action: Approve letter of support for Supervisor Waterston's application to be signed by COG Board Chairman.

L. Land Buffer Task Force Communities Survey

Summary: In the Spring of 2006, the Fresno County Board of Supervisors asked Fresno COG staff to convene a task force of stakeholders to examine the feasibility of implementing land buffers between growing communities within Fresno County. Land buffers were proposed as a tool to assist rapidly growing communities preserve their own unique cultural and historical identities.

In an effort to gauge interest in land buffers by communities in Fresno County, the Land Buffer Task Force will be sending out a survey to be completed by city managers. This survey will be used in part to determine first and foremost, if there is a need for land buffers, how land buffers might be applied between communities, and so forth. The information provided by city managers will in turn be used to determine the course of action to be taken by the Land Buffer Task Force. Each city's cooperation with the upcoming Land Buffer Task Force survey is greatly appreciated.

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

M. Regional Clearinghouse

	Project	Applicant
1.	Administration of Families and Children / DHHS: Head Start – Preschool and Early Head Start 2007 Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA)	Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission

Summary: Your agenda package includes this month's Clearinghouse Calendar containing "Project Notification and Review Reports" for one grant proposal.

Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission is applying for an Administration of Families and Children and Families / DHHS Grant for Head Start – Preschool and Early Head Start 2007 Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) in the amount of \$420,447 (Federal), and \$105,112 in matching applicant funds for a total of \$525,559. [SOBRADO]

Action: Per Board procedure, unless an item is pulled from the Consent Calendar, tacit authorization is given for staff to forward any comment(s) received, or any Committee/Board comment(s) generated as a result of this informational item, to the appropriate agency. It is understood that if in the event this item should be pulled from the consent calendar, discussion and comment by the Committee members and the public will be taken.

III. ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Unmet Transit Needs, Staff Report & Recommendations, Resolution 2007-25, PUBLIC HEARING: 6-28-07

Summary: The Fresno COG Policy Board must determine that public transportation needs within Fresno County will be reasonably met in Fiscal Year 2007-08 prior to approving claims of Local Transportation Funds for streets and roads. The Fresno 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 nearly 500 letters to agencies and individuals interested in providing feedback on their public transportation needs within Fresno County. The request for comments letters were prepared in English and Spanish, and were mailed in February 2007. In addition to the request for written comments, SSTAC held three information-gathering meetings in February 2007.

The first meeting was held in the City of Firebaugh at the Firebaugh Community Center on February 20, 2007. The only persons in attendance were members of SSTAC, and no comments were received.

The second meeting was held in City of Fowler at the Fowler City Council Chambers on February 21, 2007. There were seven individuals in attendance including SSTAC members. The only comment received came from Ms. Sandie Monis, Fowler Senior Citizen Coordinator, who expressed a need for an additional vehicle to service the City of Fowler. Ms. Monis explained that the Fowler transit lacked sufficient capacity to provide needed service to many Fowler residents. FCRTA staff indicated that the funding provided through Measure C will allow Fowler Transit to add an additional vehicle and driver during FY2007-2008.

The third meeting was held in City of Clovis at the Clovis Senior Center February 22, 2007. The only persons in attendance were members of SSTAC. No comments were received during the meeting.

In addition to the comment received at the information gathering meetings, SSTAC received two written comments. The first written comment came from Fresno City Council Member Brian Calhoun. In his email Council Member Calhoun requested transit service to be added to Northwest Fresno to facilitate travel from that area to Bullard High School. He specifically identified service on West Bullard Avenue to as far west as Polk. Council Member Calhoun also identified the needs of low-income and disabled residents in the areas around Herndon Avenue and Weber Avenue, and Herndon Avenue and Spruce Avenue.

The second letter came from the Traffic Operations Lieutenant at Fresno State University (FSU). The letter asks for increased hours of service on weekdays and weekends, and for discounted monthly passes for FSU students. The letter also asked for expanded service in the northeast and northwest sections of Fresno, as well as better transit service to FSU from outlying communities. In addition, the letter requests a reroute of FAX Route 9 (Shaw Avenue) wrap around the campus, campus circulator routes, and support for an on-campus transit center.

At their April 17, 2007, meeting, and following a careful review of all of the Unmet Transit Needs comments received, SSTAC found that there were no unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet in Fresno County. [DOWNS]

Action: Staff, SSTAC and TTC recommend approval of Resolution 2007-25 making the finding that there are no unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet in Fresno County.

B. Measure “C” Update

1. Staff Update

Summary: Staff will provide an update on Measure “C” progress at the Committee meetings this month. [GOODWIN/BOREN]

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

2. 2007-2027 Measure C Expenditure Implementation Plan Part 1 – Local Agency Pass-Through Fund Handbook

Summary: The Draft Local Agency Handbook for Measure C is included in your agenda packet. A meeting of local officials is scheduled prior to the PAC meeting to finalize the few remaining issues in the handbook.

TTC agreed to initiate the 45-day review at their June 6, 2007 meeting subject to any further comments and revisions at the June 15th meeting and subject to PAC's approval and concurrence with the document and the 45-day review process.

Action: Staff and TTC recommend concurrence with the 45-day review process.

C. 2007-08 Overall Work Program Amendment #1

Summary: 2007/08 OWP Amendment #1 increases the budget \$610,760, of which \$553,410 is federal grant money and \$57,350 is local matching funds.

Work Element 115 Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee – The recently enacted Measure “C” Extension requires the Council of Governments to develop a Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee (RTMF) that shall apply to Regional Transportation Program, Tier 1 and Tier 2 and other such regional projects as may be identified in the RTMF study. The RTMF shall be enacted by all cities in Fresno County and the County Board of Supervisors no later than January 1, 2009, so work must begin on this project as soon as possible to allow time for agency review and adoption. It is expected to cost \$500,000 to hire a consultant to develop the fee of which \$442,650 will be FHWA Planning funds and \$57,350 local transportation planning funds.

Work Element 961 Non Point Source Water Quality Management – Last year we had an EPA grant passing through funding to the Farm Bureau to do a Water Quality study that was scheduled for completion prior to June. The Farm Bureau has requested that we carry over \$110,760 to complete this project. There is no cost to Fresno COG for this project. [BESHEARS]

Action: Adopt 2007/08 OWP Amendment #1, increasing the budget \$610,760.

D. Professional Services Contracts

1. Strategy Research Institute

Summary: Included in our 2007-08 budget (Work Element 310, Intergovernmental Coordination) were funds, if still deemed necessary, to extend the contract for Strategy Research Institute for the purpose of continued coordination with stakeholders as we develop the 2007-2027 Measure C Expenditure Implementation Plan. We are still in the process of developing the implementation plan, and staff recommends we extend our contract with Strategy Research Institute for this purpose. Staff is, however, negotiating the price of the extension – a report on the negotiations will be brought forward at the PAC meeting.

Action: Staff recommends authorizing the Executive Director to extend the contract for Strategy Research Institute an additional 3 months, with an option to automatically extend an additional 3 months, based on the negotiated price. Policy Board action would be needed to extend this contract beyond a 6 month period.

2. VRPA Technologies

Summary: With successful passage of the Measure C extension this past November, the next step in implementing the extension has been development of an Implementation Plan providing for each funding category and subcategory a clarification and higher level of detail for the voter-approved Measure C Plan. This Implementation Plan will identify individual projects, establish project schedules and further define funding program requirements for eligibility. Fresno COG is the agency responsible for drafting this Implementation Plan with assistance from Fresno County Transportation Authority (FCTA). Work on the plan has begun. The Implementation Plan will be written through a committee process coordinated by Fresno COG. Separate committees have been formed for each funding category. Committee membership is made up from member agency staff, interested community stakeholders and volunteers from the original Measure C Steering Committee. Staff support to each committee will be needed throughout the process.

The Extension is a much more complex program than the current Measure, containing many funding categories with differing requirements for project eligibility. It became apparent during the early stages of Implementation Plan discussions that additional guidance for both FCTA staff in administering the new Measure and member agencies participating in Measure C Extension programs is needed to ensure the tax is used in the manner envisioned by the Steering Committee and approved by the voters.

These activities were begun in the 2006-07 fiscal year, under an agreement reached with the FCTA and the Fresno COG, to fund these planning activities until fiscal year end, and at such time as new Measure C planning funds would be available to the Fresno COG. To aid in these tasks an FCTA contract was authorized with VRPA Technologies (VRPA).

VRPA is a local transportation planning consulting firm with extensive experience performing transportation and environmental studies throughout California. VRPA has also had a longtime association with both Fresno COG and FCTA. More importantly, over the past 2 years VRPA has been heavily involved in Steering Committee efforts to create the Measure C Extension Expenditure Plan, which formed the basis for the successful Measure C Extension ballot measure. VRPA also wrote the EIR for the Extension. This involvement with preliminary Expenditure Plan work has resulted in their detailed understanding of the intentions of the Steering Committee that created the initial Expenditure Plan. Providing staff support to the committees defining the details of the Strategic Implementation Plan, and compiling the committee discussions into a Procedures/Guidelines handbook, would simply be an extension of their efforts of the last 2 years. Their understanding of the history of the successful Measure puts them in a position to be able to provide the staff support and compile a relevant handbook at a much lower cost, with far less FCTA or COG staff orientation and oversight, than someone new to the process.

As this fiscal year ends, there is a need for this ongoing planning work to now transition to the Fresno COG. Fresno COG's normal process is to issue Requests for Proposals for this type of work, but we are jointly far enough along in the planning process that to do so at this point would be seriously disruptive to the process and potentially delay the timely distribution of funds. Therefore, staff is recommending the transition with a sole source contract (using local dollars) in order to continue the work already underway with VRPA Technologies, and deliver a timely Implementation Plan.

Fresno COG staff requested a scope of work and price from VRPA Technologies to accomplish two primary goals: 1) Complete an Implementation Plan, and 2) assist Fresno COG with appropriate research, advice and participation during development of the Measure C required Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee Program. The actual Mitigation Fee Program will be put out to bid for a consulting firm—VRPA will not compete for this work.

The cost to Fresno COG for these activities are not to exceed \$75,131, to be paid from Measure C planning funds.

Action: Staff recommends that the Board approve a contract not to exceed \$75,131 between the Fresno COG and VRPA Technologies for the purposes outlined above.

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. Request by City of Reedley for Support from COG for Elevated Water Storage Tower Project

Summary: The City of Reedley has requested that the Council of Fresno County Governments Policy Board provide a Letter of Support for Reedley's Elevated Water Storage Towers project. The purpose of the project is to provide a consistent, safe, reliable and protected domestic water supply storage system for the City of Reedley. The project is to be funded through both Revenue Bonds and by an Economic Development Administration Grant. The Letter of Support would be part of the EDA Grant Application and would demonstrate the region's support of Reedley's attempts to improve their domestic water supply. Included in your agenda packet is a detailed staff report from Reedley's Public Works Department on the project. [BOREN]

Action: Information/Action item. Staff and TTC recommend providing the letter of support.

G. Legislative Positions

Summary: In an effort to be responsive to pending legislation Fresno COG will be actively reviewing and making recommendations on priority legislation to the PAC and Policy Board. As pieces of legislation are brought to our attention by action request or by research, staff will make available the necessary background information to allow for formal position recommendation by both the PAC and Policy Board.

Currently staff is in the process of analyzing the following bills to determine the benefits and impacts these pieces of legislation will have on Fresno COG and its member agencies:

Galgiani- AB 633 Grade separation projects.
Lowenthal- SB 286 Transportation bonds: implementation.
Ducheny- SB 303 Local government: land use planning
Steinberg-SB 375 Transportation planning: travel demand models: preferred growth scenarios: environmental review.

Enclosed in your package is general background information on these bills. Staff will also provide an update regarding the Proposition 1B air quality mitigation funds. A verbal update will be made at the PAC meeting. [DEVERE]

Action: Staff recommends PAC determine the extent of support on the aforementioned pieces of legislation after committee discussion.

H. Blueprint Update

Summary: The Blueprint Roundtable, Planners' Workshop and COG staff are working together to identify the goals, objectives, policies and measurable outcomes that reflect the values and vision expressed by the public during Phase I of our outreach activities. Modeling staff is working to develop focused subject alternatives to begin the urban/rural form discussion. We will be back to you with proposals on both of these activities as we refine our products. [STECK]

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

I. Regional Housing Needs Allocation Plan

Summary: In order to provide our member agencies adequate time to review the Revised Draft Fresno County 2007 Regional Housing Needs Allocation Plan, the Local Revision Period has been extended to 5:00 p.m., Friday, June 22, 2007. Staff has consulted with the State Department of Housing and Community Development and they concur with the extension.

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

IV. ELECTION OF CHAIR & VICE CHAIR

V. 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.**