



FRESNO COUNTY RURAL TRANSIT AGENCY

2100 Tulare Street, Suite 619 Fresno, CA 93721

Phone: 559 - 233 - 6789 Fax: 559 - 233 - 9645

Webpage: www.ruraltransit.org Email: jwebster@ruraltransit.org

FRESNO COUNTY RURAL TRANSIT AGENCY AGENDA

Date: Thursday, July 19, 2007
Time: Following the 7:00pm Council of Fresno County Governments Meeting
Place: COFCG/FCRTA Offices
Sequoia Conference Room
2035 Tulare Street, Suite 201, Fresno, CA 93721

(Corner of Tulare and Van Ness Ave. – above "Club One"
Park in Underground Garage – Entrance off Tulare & Van Ness Ave.
Exit Elevator on Tulare St., Turn Left, Enter Lobby Door,
Up Elevator to Second Floor, Left to Sequoia Conference Room)

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Accommodations

The Fresno COG / FCRTA offices and restrooms are ADA accessible. Individuals with disabilities may call Fresno COG, (559-233-4148) FCRTA (559-233-6789) 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.

ROLL CALL

- I. Public Presentations – This portion of the meeting was reserved for persons wishing to address the FCRTA Board on items within its jurisdiction but not on the Agenda.

NOTE: The public may also comment on any Agenda item, as they are presented, prior to action by the FCRTA Board.

ACTION ITEMS

- II. Approve Executive Minutes of June 28, 2007 (Attachment)
- III. Public Hearing: FCRTA's 2006-07 Federal Transit Administration Section 5311 Capital Assistance Grant
- IV. Award Procurement of Four (4) Buses for Mendota Prison Employee Transit Service, Resolution 2007-09 (Attachment)
- V. FCRTA's Transit Services in Support of the Fresno County Heat Emergency Contingency Plan. (Attachment)
- VI. Acceptance of FCRTA's Triennial Performance Audit (buff section of report included in the COG Board package)

REVIEW AND COMMENT ITEMS

- VII. None

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- VIII. None



FRESNO COUNTY RURAL TRANSIT AGENCY

2100 Tulare Street, Suite 619 Fresno, CA 93721

Phone: 559 - 233 - 6789 Fax: 559 - 233 - 9645

Webpage: www.ruraltransit.org Email: jwebster@ruraltransit.org

FRESNO COUNTY RURAL TRANSIT AGENCY

EXECUTIVE MINUTES

Date: Thursday, June 28, 2007
Time: Following the 7:00pm Council of Fresno County Governments Meeting
Place: Sequoia Conference Room
2035 Tulare Street, Suite 201, Fresno, CA 93721

Members Present: Mayor Trinidad Rodriguez, City of Kerman, Chairman
Mayor Pro Tem Dennis Lujan, City of Selma, Vice Chairman
Mayor Trish Hill, City of Coalinga
Mayor Craig Knight, City of Firebaugh
Councilmember Rico Aguayo, City of Fowler
Mayor Leland Bergstrom, City of Kingsburg
Mayor Robert Silva, City of Mendota
Mayor Victor Lopez, City of Orange Cove
Councilmember Raul Villanueva, City of Parlier
Councilmember Scott Brockett, City of Reedley
Mayor Amarpreet Dhaliwal, City of San Joaquin
Mayor Mike Montelongo, City of Sanger
Supervisor Bob Waterston, County of Fresno

Jeffrey D. Webster, General Manager
Kevin Briggs, Legal Counsel
Dottie Wright, COG

ROLL CALL

There were eighteen (18) votes from thirteen (13) members present; representing a quorum and business was in order.

- I. **Public Presentations – This portion of the meeting was reserved for persons wishing to address the FCRTA Board on items within its jurisdiction but not on the Agenda.**

There were no public presentations.

ACTION ITEMS

- II. **Approve Executive Minutes of May 31, 2007**

Following an expressed opportunity for public comment, a motion was made by Councilmember Aguayo (Fowler) and seconded by Mayor Lopez (Orange Cove) to approve the May 31, 2007 minutes as written. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

III. Adoption of Short Range Transit Plan for the Rural Fresno County Area, 2007-2012 (Orange Cover – provided in last month's Fresno COG Package), Resolution 2007-02

The Short Range Transit Plan for the Rural Fresno County Area, 2007-2012 was included in last month's COG Agenda Packet. 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 document has been out for an extended 45 day review period. A public hearing was held on the document at the previously held COG Board meeting and was approved by the COG Policy Board. After an expressed opportunity for public comment, a motion was made by Mayor Lopez (Orange Cove) and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Lujan (Selma) to approve the document by adoption of Resolution 2007-02. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

IV. Adoption of Revised Draft 2007-08 FCRTA Budget, Resolution 2007-03 (Gold Cover – provided in last month's FCRTA Meeting Package)

Attention was called to the draft final Budget that was included in last month's agenda package. The numbers in the Draft Budget were 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.

The document has been out for an extended 45 day review. After an expressed opportunity for public comment, a motion was made by Mayor Dhaliwal (San Joaquin) and seconded by Councilmember Aguayo (Fowler) to approve the 2007-08 Fresno County Rural Transit Agency Operation Budget of \$5,740,907 and Capital Budget of \$6,190,653 by adoption of Resolution 2007-03. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

V. Adoption of FCRTA's 2007-08 Transportation Development Act Funding Claim, Resolution 2007-04

The Fresno County Rural Transit Agency (FCRTA) claim has been reviewed by COG staff, was 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.

The Claim was considered at the previously held COG Board meeting and was approved by the COG Board. After an expressed opportunity for public comment, a motion was made by Mayor Montelongo (Sanger) and seconded by Mayor Lopez (Orange Cove) to approve FCRTA's Transportation Funding Claim by adoption of Resolution 2007-04. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

VI. Adoption of Urban and Rural Consolidated Transportation Services Agency (CTSA) Operations Program and Budget for 2007-08 (Yellow Cover – provided in last month's Fresno COG Package), Resolution 2007-05)

Included in last month's COG Board 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 document has been out for 45 day review and a public hearing was held on the document at the COG Board meeting previously held and was approved by the COG Policy Board. After an expressed opportunity for public comment, a motion was made by Councilmember Aguayo (Fowler) and seconded by Councilmember Brockett (Reedley) to approve the rural portion of the document by adoption of Resolution 2007-05. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

VII. Adoption of FCRTA's and the Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission, as the Rural CTSA's Transportation Development Act Funding Claim, Resolution 2007-06

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 COG staff and found to be consistent with the COG's Overall Work Program and Budget and in accordance with claiming instructions as required by State law.

The Claim was considered at the previously held COG Board meeting and was approved by the COG Board. After an expressed opportunity for public comment, a motion was made by Mayor Lopez (Orange Cove) and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Lujan (Selma) to approve the Transportation Funding Claim by adoption of Resolution 2007-06. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

VIII. Adoption of 2007-08 Federal Transit Administration Section 5311 Grant Application Application, Resolution 2007-07

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

The 2007-08 FCRTA Budget 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).

After an expressed opportunity for public comment, a motion was made by Mayor Lopez (Orange Cove) and seconded by Mayor Hill (Coalinga) to approve the Application by adopting Resolution 2007-07. A vote was called for and the motion passed.

IX. Adoption of Continuation Agreement Between the FCRTA and Fresno COG for Administrative and Fiscal Services, Resolution 2007-08 (Attachment)

A recent audit by the State Department of Transportation recommended 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.

The Agreement was approved during the previously held COG Board meeting. After an expressed opportunity for public comment, a motion was made by Councilmember Villanueva (Parlier) and seconded by Mayor Dhaliwal (San Joaquin) to approve the Agreement for Administrative and Fiscal Services Between The Fresno County Rural Transit Agency and the Council of Fresno County Governments by adoption of Resolution 2007-08. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

X. FCRTA's Transit Services in Support of the Fresno County Heat Emergency Contingency Plan)

Attention was called to a June 19, 2007 memorandum regarding the Fresno County Heat Emergency Contingency Plan. In cooperation with the Fresno County Office of Emergency Services, FCRTA is cooperating with the Fresno County Office of Emergency Services to support their efforts to transport rural residents to "designated" Cooling Centers in a number of the rural incorporated cities. In order to pay for the service, FCRTA is applying for a PG&E Grant to offset possible fares for individuals who may need transit service "to" and "from" the designated Cooling Centers. The result could be free fares to those individuals.

The application was prepared and submitted and approval is still pending by PG&E. This was presented as an informational item.

REVIEW AND COMMENT ITEMS

XI. Status Report on Procurement of Four (4) Buses for Mendota Prison Employee Transit, Resolution 2007-09

Attention was called to a June 28, 2007 memorandum regarding the procurement of four (4) wheelchair accessible, thirty-five (35) passenger buses powered by compressed natural gas and pumps, so that we could provide employee transit service to the new Mendota prison.

To date we have not received permission to declare the selected vendor. We feel that the matter may be resolved very soon. With Caltrans approval, an award may be approved towards the execution of a purchase order. The General Manager is hopeful that this may occur at the July 19, 2007 Meeting.

The FCRTA General Manager will request concurrence with the current process towards the awarding of a purchase order, to procure four (4) wheelchair accessible, thirty-five (35) passenger buses powered by compressed natural gas, by adopting Resolution 2007-09 at the July 19, 2007 Board Meeting.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

XII. Termination of Transit Demonstration Services: Biola Transit and Juvenile Justice Campus Transit on June 30, 2007

Attention was called to a Memorandum dated May 31, 2007, which summarizes the circumstances regarding the termination of the transit demonstration services in Biola and the Juvenile Justice Campus effective June 30, 2007. Since minimum required ridership did not materialize, it was determined to terminate both of these transit services.

This was an information item and required no further action from the Board.

XIII. Transit Needs Survey to Determine if the Southeast Transit's Ridership Would Increase if We Exchanged the Use of FCRTA's 22 Passenger Cut-Away Van with a 40' Fresno Area Express Bus

Mayor Leland Bergstrom, City of Kingsburg has requested consideration for replacing FCRTA's twenty-two (22) passenger modified van, with a City of Fresno, Fresno Area Express Bus. He feels that the utilization of such a larger capacity vehicle would improve connectivity to the other FAX routes within the Fresno-Clovis Metropolitan Area. This would appear to be a service enhancement, for funding augmentation and could be funded by Measure C. Staff has programmed Measure C funding in the 2007-08 Budget to conduct a professional telephone survey to determine interest and support. The data, and alternative service costs utilizing a FAX bus, will be evaluated for appropriate consideration by the Board of Directors when it becomes available.

This was an information item and required no further action from the Board.

XIV. Transit Needs Survey of the South Sierra Communities of Squaw Valley, Dunlap, Miramonte, and Pinehurst in Summer of 2007 (Oral)

In the Spring of 2007, FCRTA received a phone call from a local resident requesting inter-community service once a week from Squaw Valley Library parking lot to three (3) hospitals and shopping in the Fresno-Clovis Metropolitan Area. They felt that residents of Squaw Valley, Dunlap, Miramonte, and Pinehurst would be willing to drive to a central location in sufficient number to support the service on a regular basis. Fresno County Board of Supervisor Chairman Bob Waterston was also contacted to support the request. He and his staff felt that such a request should be formally studied to determine actual interest.

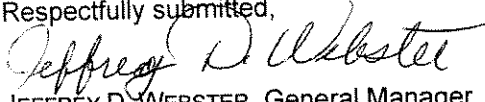
FCRTA staff feels that the basis for such a request should be properly evaluated before a specific Demonstration Program is recommended. Staff is prepared to circulate a bilingual survey to each resident with a postal address in the four (4) unincorporated communities in the South Sierra Area. A series of questions would be asked to determine local interest and support for a local and/or inter-community transit services. The returned survey would be evaluated for analysis and consideration. A resultant determination and recommendation would be publicly reviewed before FCRTA Board action. Appropriate out-reach coordination efforts would be extended to community residents to ensure their support, and regular usage, during a three (3) month trial period. An evaluation would take place to adjust the service as necessary to ensure a successful continuation through the fiscal year, or termination, if minimum ridership expectation does not materialize.

This was an information item and required no further action from the Board.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey D. Webster". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jeffrey" being more prominent.

JEFFREY D. WEBSTER, General Manager
Fresno County Rural Transit Agency

JDW/dw



FRESNO COUNTY RURAL TRANSIT AGENCY

2100 Tulare Street, Suite 619 Fresno, CA 93721

Phone: 559 - 233 - 6789 Fax: 559 - 233 - 9645

Webpage: www.ruraltransit.org Email: jwebster@ruraltransit.org

June 28, 2007

MEMORANDUM

TO: FCRTA Board of Directors;
COFCG / FCRTA Policy Advisory Committee;
COFCG Transportation Technical Committee; and
The General Public.

FROM:  Jeffrey D. Webster, General Manager

SUBJECT: Award Procurement of Four (4) Buses for Mendota Prison Employee Transit Service

ACTION SUMMARY

A couple of years ago, the Fresno COG approved a Congestion Mitigation / Air Quality (CMAQ) Allocation towards the purchase of four (4) wheelchair accessible, thirty-five (35) passenger Buses powered by Compressed Natural Gas and pumps, so that we could provide employee transit service to the new Mendota Prison.

We submitted the "Program of Projects" with last year's Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP), which was approved by the California Transportation Commission (CTC). The transfer of funds from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to Caltrans took place. Local Assistance in Sacramento, set the funds aside for our Grant. Our Grant was submitted and approved. Usually we would begin a local procurement process, that would take three (3) to four (4) months to award a contract. However, six (6) weeks ago we learned that the John Deer Corporation had decided to discontinue manufacturing their CNG engine after September 2007, because they are unable to meet the "latest" 2010 air quality requirements. After September, the only other available CNG engine is made by the Cummins Corporation. We have had experience with both engines (7-Cummins and 3-John Deer). We have found the John Deer engine to be far superior in every respect to that of Cummins engine. As such, we sought permission from Caltrans Headquarters to officially tag on to a procurement in process by the Eastern Sierra Transit Authority (Inyo-Mono Counties located in Bishop, California). We were expressly named as an agency that was interested in purchasing vehicles consistent with the stipulated specifications and options. The Bid Package was widely distributed this last month. Proposals were due, Friday, June 15, 2007 at 2:00pm. Two (2) bids were received. The staff of the Eastern Sierra Transit Authority and I have evaluated the proposals, for Caltrans sign-off, by June 25, 2007. To date we have not received permission to declare the selected vendor. We feel that the matter may be resolved very soon. With Caltrans approval, an award may be approved by our respective governing Boards towards the execution of a purchase order. I am hopeful that this may occur at our July 19, 2007 Meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

The General Manager recommends concurrence with the current process towards the awarding of a purchase order, to procure four (4) wheelchair accessible, thirty-five (35) passenger Buses powered by Compressed Natural Gas, by adopting Resolution 2007-09 (Attachment) at our July 19, 2007 Meeting.

RESOLUTION 2007-09

In the Matter of)
Federal Transit Administration's) RESOLUTION TO PURCHASE
Congestion Mitigation / Air Quality) FOUR, THIRTY-FIVE PASSENGER
Grant Contract Procurement Award) EXPANSION VEHICLES

WHEREAS, the Fresno County Rural Transit Agency (FCRTA) has an executed agreement from the Federal Transportation Administration (FTA) through the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) to purchase four (4) thirty-five passenger, compressed natural gas powered, and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessible buses for use in transportation employees "to" and "from" the new Mendota Prison; and

WHEREAS, the FCRTA has participated in a detailed "Request for Proposals" (RFP) package with the Eastern Sierra Transit Authority in accordance with Local, State, and Federal requirements and regulations pertaining to this funding program, and executed Contract; and

WHEREAS, the "Request for Proposal" package was publically noticed in newspapers of general circulation and was mailed to known vehicle manufactures of such equipment in a diligent effort to seek competitive responsive proposals; and

WHEREAS, Bids were accepted until 2:00pm on June 15, 2007; and
WHEREAS, staff has analyzed the two (2) submitted proposals and has
found one (1) to be in compliance with stipulated requirements, and
regulation pursuant to the "Request for Proposal" package and
Contractual requirements; and

WHEREAS, one (1) responsible competitive, and responsive bid was received from _____; and

WHEREAS, the _____ has submitted a binding proposal to deliver, within the specified time period, four (4) _____ in accordance with stipulated specifications and purchase order for a total purchase price of \$_____, including applicable sales taxes, less possible stipulated penalty fee assessments for unwarranted delivery delays.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the FCRTA Board of Director, following an expressed opportunity for additional public comment, does hereby accept the submitted proposal from _____ for the agreed purchase price.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the FCRTA Board of Directors does hereby direct its General Manager to execute binding agreements, subject to the Caltrans Pre- and Post Audit Review of the transaction in accordance with Contract Stipulations and Agreements.

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION was passed and adopted by the Fresno County Rural Transit Agency this 19th day of July 2007.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Signed: _____
Trinidad Rodriguez, Chairman

ATTEST:

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a resolution of the Fresno County Rural Transit Agency duly adopted at a regular meeting thereof held on the 19th day of July, 2007.

Signed: _____
Jeffrey D. Webster, General Manager



FRESNO COUNTY RURAL TRANSIT AGENCY
2100 Tulare Street, Suite 619 Fresno, CA 93721
Phone: 559 - 233 - 6789 Fax: 559 - 233 - 9645
Webpage: www.ruraltransit.org Email: jwebster@ruraltransit.org

June 19, 2007

MEMORANDUM

TO: FCRTA Board of Directors;
COFCG / FCRTA Policy Advisory Committee;
COFCG Transportation Technical Committee; and
The General Public.

FROM:  Jeffrey D. Webster, General Manager

SUBJECT: FCRTA's Transit Services in Support of the Fresno County Heat Emergency Contingency Plan

ACTION SUMMARY

Last Saturday, June 16, 2007, the Fresno Bee ran a front page article "Fresno Co, learned from '06 heat wave" (Attached). The media has been highlighting local Fresno, Clovis, and Fresno County efforts to address this year's predicted hot weather, which adversely affects many of us.

On Monday, June 18, 2007, I was contacted by Mr. Wayne Fox, Assistant Emergency Services Coordinator for the Fresno County Office of Emergency Services, regarding our support of their efforts to get rural County residents to "designated" Cooling Centers in a number of our rural incorporated Cities. He referenced the attached copy of the County's Plan for our awareness. It states that when the temperature is predicted to be 110 degrees or higher, their Plan is activated. I stated that we would be willing to cooperate to ensure that last year's tragic deaths (34 in Central San Joaquin Valley, 140 Statewide) that were attributed to a 12-day heat wave, would *not* be repeated this Summer. He asked if we would be interested in applying for a PG&E Grant to offset possible fares for individuals who may need transit service "to" and "from" the designated Cooling Centers. The result could be free fares to those individuals. I agreed to submit such an Application.

Later that day, I received a phone call from Ms. Rohini Gupta, of PG&E. She questions our abilities to provide transit services to designated Cooling Centers. I explained our Joint Powers Agency (JPA) arrangement and our existing services. She was impressed, and asked me to submit an email Application on-line to document our abilities. I did so. Later she asked me to submit my best guess as to what we may need to be reimbursed under a mutually satisfactory agreement. I submitted a response.

We are waiting for a response, which should be available by the time of our Board Meeting on June 28, 2007.

RECOMMENDATION

The General Manager recommends that we take appropriate steps to cooperated with the intent of Fresno County Heat Emergency Contingency Plan.

Fresno Co. learned from '06 heat wave

City, county emergency plans cover readiness, action phases.

By Barbara Anderson
The Fresno Bee

Dorothy Davies walked every day. And last July 26 was no exception. She walked three times to a nearby store and back -- in blistering heat that peaked at 112 degrees.

Early the next morning, Davies, 72, was found dead in her Fresno home. She was among 34 central San Joaquin Valley residents and 140 statewide

whose deaths were attributed to a 12-day heat wave. Those deaths have prompted emergency and health officials to create a more aggressive plan for responding to killer heat waves that climatologists fear are becoming more common. Fresno County finalized the heat-emergency plan Friday.

The goal, community leaders say, is to build on lessons learned from the deaths of people who perished in the heat -- particularly the elderly who either were too frail or poor to run their air conditioners or, like Davies, didn't recognize how overheated they were becoming.

"My mother thought she could leap tall buildings in a single bound," said Davies' daughter, Ann Shi-

ON THE WEB

Visit fresnobee.com/multimedia to hear people talk about how they beat the heat.

never, 49, of Fresno. "And she was in perfect health," Davies had ignored her children's admonitions to stay out of the heat. She didn't realize it could kill her, Shihawer said.

Before the heat wave ended July 23, bodies were stacked on top of each other in the Fresno County morgue. Of the 34 people who died of heat or heat-related causes, 24 were in Fresno County, according to

See HEAT, back page

PAGE A18

THE FRESNO BEE • BACK PAGE • SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 2007

FRESNOBEE.COM

Heat: 34 deaths last year left a mark on the Valley

Continued from Page A1

the state. Five people died in Merced County, four in Modoc County and one in Kings County.

"You can't go through what we went through last year without coming out stronger and wiser," Fresno Mayor Alan Autry said.

Staff from the Fresno County Office of Emergency Services gathered last month with city and county officials, church leaders, workers from nonprofit social services agencies and utility company representatives to craft a heat plan.

Until now, authorities had no written directions to guide them during a heat wave, said Rainer Streib, the city of Fresno's emergency services coordinator.

"It's not something we're adding any more," Streib said. The county is basing its heat-response plan on a "Contingency Plan for Excessive Heat Emergencies" developed this year by the Governor's Office of Emergency Services.

Both the state and county plans include a "readiness" phase that focuses on public education about heat dangers and an "action" phase that outlines measures to take once a heat wave begins.

One lesson learned last summer: Cities and counties waited too long to warn the public about the heat -- and many people ignored the message once it got out.

"Either we didn't do well last year or people just didn't pay attention because we're all used to living in a hot area," said Ken Austin, emergency services coordinator for Fresno County.

This year, an awareness campaign about heat dangers and tips on how people can stay cool already is in gear.

Interviews with the county's health officer about heat dangers and recognizing heat illnesses have been taped and should air starting next week on "Comcast Local Edition," a five-minute program on cable Channel 14, a Health Department spokeswoman said. Radio public service announcements with tips on staying cool are being developed, along with a news release sent to 75 print, radio and television organizations.

And churches are being enlisted to help check on vulnerable seniors and the disabled when temperatures climb, Austin said.

Public officials will be able to gauge the heat danger more precisely this summer. The National Weather Service office in Hanford will issue "excessive heat warnings" and "excessive heat watches" in addition to "heat advisories."

The weather service decided to issue such warnings after recognizing confusion existed with communicating the level of the heat last summer.

The warnings are used throughout the country to advise the public of extreme heat conditions.

Heat advisories are issued up to 36 hours in advance when a forecast calls for a heat index of at least 110 for at least two hours in the day, or at least 80 at night.

The new "excessive heat warning" will be issued when those conditions exist and last for at least two consecutive days.

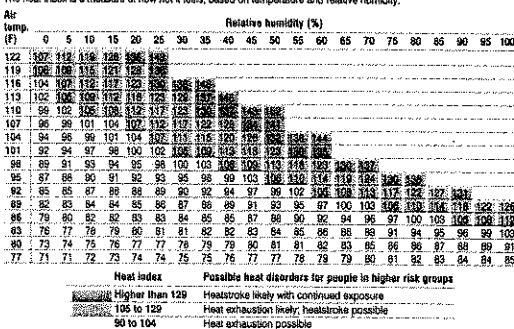
An "excessive heat watch" will be issued up to 48 hours in advance of the possibility of excessively hot conditions that match those of an excessive heat warning.

The heat index is a factor used to determine how hot it feels based on temperature and relative humidity. A heat index that remains elevated for a couple of days results in more deaths, health officials say.

Last summer's heat wave was so deadly because of its duration. For five straight days in July, Fresno recorded a heat index of 110 or higher. Hanford

San Joaquin Valley heat index

The heat index is a measure of how hot it feels, based on temperature and relative humidity.



Extreme heat

The body normally cools itself by sweating. When heat and humidity are high, sweat will not evaporate as efficiently and the body may be unable to cool down.

Heat exhaustion

The body is dehydrated, resulting in an imbalance of electrolytes.



Symptoms: Headache, nausea, dizziness, cool and clammy skin, pale face, cramps, weakness, profuse perspiration.



First aid: Move to a cooler spot, drink water with a small amount of salt added (one teaspoon per quart).

Without intervention: Can lead to collapse and heatstroke.

Source: California Office of Emergency Services

Heatstroke

Perspiration cannot occur, and the body overheats.



Symptoms: Headache, nausea, face flushed, hot and dry skin, no perspiration, body temperature over 101 degrees, rapid pulse.



First aid: Cool person immediately, move to shade or indoors, wrap in a cool, wet sheet, get medical assistance.

Without intervention: Can lead to confusion, coma and death.

Source: California Office of Emergency Services

ern Climate Research Center in Reno, Nev.

"The kind of event we saw last July will kind of be a once-a-year kind of thing by the late 21st century," he said.

Heat advisories and warnings from the weather service are critical for alerting the public to heat risks. Fresno County will rely on them this summer to trigger the action part of the county's plan.

A heat warning will start the wheels in motion for opening cooling centers and providing transportation to them for people who cannot get there on their own. Air systems for checking on the vulnerable elderly and disabled will be activated.

More than a dozen air-conditioned community centers were opened last summer in Fresno County for heat relief. The city of Fresno also sent air-conditioned buses into rural communities where no public centers were available.

At the end of the heat wave, the city reported that 1,891 people used cooling centers, 288 people used the cool transit buses and 120 people took free taxi rides to cooling centers.

Mayor Autry said the city can react even faster to a heat wave today, with workers from parks and recreation, the public works department and police officers working together to get cooling centers opened and staffed.

"The rapid response teams for getting our most vulnerable to cooling facilities are all in place," he said.

Fresno County Coroner David Hadden said his office also learned from last year. Two pathologists will be working this

summer to complete autopsies, he said. One pathologist was on vacation and out of the county in July, causing a backup of bodies in the morgue.

Arrangements have been made for refrigerated trailers should the morgue become overloaded with bodies, Hadden said.

"Tell the public not to worry, we will be there to handle the situation," Hadden said.

County social workers also are better prepared this year, identifying seniors who should be checked quickly before extreme temperatures create an emergency.

"We did learn a lot of lessons from last year," said Steve Sanchez, head of adult services for Fresno County. "We needed to react faster to it."

Sanchez said county workers called or visited 12,000 low-income frail elderly and disabled last summer. But the heat wave was in full blast and it took four days to reach everyone.

Luckily, Sanchez said, none of the elderly or disabled was in distress.

"We didn't find anyone who didn't know what to do in the heat," he said.

A state analysis of last summer's heat and heat-related deaths found more than 80% of the victims statewide were older than 50. More than half lived alone.

The body's cooling system works less effectively in older people. Many of the elderly also have chronic health conditions, such as heart or lung disease, and become easily weakened in the heat.

But before temperatures spike this summer, the county will be reminding people about heat illnesses and how to avoid becoming ill, as well as encouraging people to check on family members, friends and neighbors to make sure they are staying cool.

Sanchez said the county is in the process of printing fliers with tips for seniors on how they can stay cool this summer.

A second flier will be mailed in the hottest months reminding the seniors there are air-conditioned places they can go to and to call the county if they need assistance, he said.

Gordon Donoho, one of the senior directors at the Fresno faith-based organization One by One Leadership, is enlisting churches to contact the elderly and disabled during a heat wave.

"We should take care of those we know may be a candidate for a heatstroke or some kind of vulnerability," he said.

Frugality or poverty kept many of those who died in the heat wave from turning on their air conditioners.

Jeff Smith, a spokesman for Pacific Gas & Electric Co., said concern about electric bills should not keep any one from using air conditioning.

The company inserts information in customers' bills about energy assistance programs, he said. One program offers a 20% discount to low-income families and another provides short-term, month-to-month help, he said.

But despite the best efforts to encourage people to use air conditioning, some will choose to sweat in the heat.

Mary Turk chose not to run her air conditioner, even as the mercury climbed above 110 degrees.

Sheriff's deputies found the reclusive 75-year-old woman inside her mobile home south of Fresno on July 24 -- the second 113-degree day in Fresno -- after a neighbor became concerned when she saw no lights on inside Turk's home.

Sheriff's deputies, the mobile home manager, said Turk used an ice chest to keep foods cool instead of running a refrigerator. But she had enough money to live

Preparations for this summer

Fresno County Office of Emergency Services: Coordination. The office is responsible for the newly developed heat-emergency plan.

County public information officer: Public education. A heat-awareness campaign will be launched by May 1 of every year.

Fresno County Department of Community Health: Public education and monitoring. Officials will be available for interviews on television and radio. Data will be collected on heat-related deaths and illnesses.

Fresno County Adult Protective Services: Public education. Fliers about heat dangers will be mailed to vulnerable seniors and the disabled.

Fresno County General Services and city of Fresno: Cooling centers. Staff will identify places for people to go and cool off, and organize transportation to them.

Sheriff's Department: Security. Deputies will keep an eye on cooling centers.

One by One Leadership: Public involvement. The faith-based group is enlisting churches to check on the elderly and disabled on extremely hot days.

National Weather Service: Notification. New heat warnings for the central San Joaquin Valley will give emergency and health authorities more timely warning of heat waves.

For help with electric bills

Several local agencies will help low-income families with utility bills.

For more information about the Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission's programs, call (559) 263-1135.

The Salvation Army administers Pacific Gas & Electric Co.'s Relief for Energy Assistance through the Community Help program. To learn more, call (559) 223-3057.

For more information about other PG&E assistance, call (800) 743-5000.

For information about Southern California Edison assistance programs, call (800) 855-4555.

Helpful Web sites

Governor's Office of Emergency Services: www.oes.ca.gov
Fresno County Department of Community Health: www.fresnohumanaservices.org/communityhealth

"It was an unfortunate thing he said."

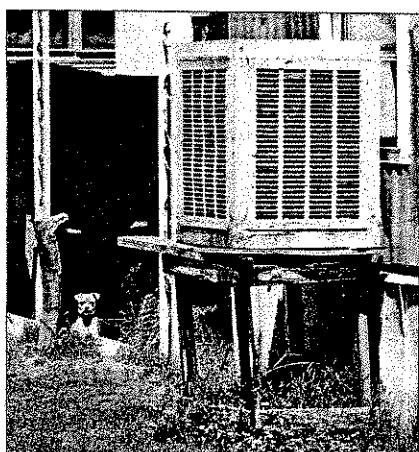
That's where family members, friends and neighbors need to step in, said Dr. Edwin Moreno, health officer for Fresno County. They need to check to make sure air conditioning being used by an elderly relative or neighbor, he said.

Lulu Baty, 81, who lives in a mobile home adjacent to Turk's was the one who called for her for her neighbor.

Turk rarely came outside as seldom spoke to anyone in the park. She had no friends or relatives who visited.

Said Baty: "Bless her heart she was alone."

The reporter can be reached at banderson@fresnobee.com



A dog sits near an aging swamp cooler at the Shady Lakes mobile home park south of Fresno on Wednesday, near a mobile home where Mary Turk died during an extreme heat wave last summer. Turk was one of 34 people who died of heat or heat-related causes in the Valley last year. This year, city and county officials, church and social service workers and utility company representatives joined to craft a more aggressive plan to respond to killer heat waves. PHOTOS BY CRAIG KOSLOFF FOR THE FRESNO BEE

Jeff Webster

From: Fox, Wayne [wafox@co.fresno.ca.us]
Sent: Monday, June 18, 2007 1:09 PM
To: Jeff Webster
Cc: r1gm@pge.com
Subject: FW: Heat Plan Transportation
Attachments: Fresno County Heat Plan.doc; Attachment A NWS.doc; Attachment A Index.doc

Hi Jeff,

Enclosed is the county Heat Contingency Plan with the attached Heat Index. In the event of an emergency could OES give out your 800 number as a transportation resource for people to call to get a ride to a cooling center? What would that cost be? During an actual emergency OES would contact your agency to determine what services were available to meet the need.

I have also contacted Rohini Gupta with PG&E. PG&E might be able to offer a grant for transportation expenses during a heat emergency. I have asked Rohini to contact you to discuss whether or not PG&E and the Rural Transit Authority could work out the details of such a grant.

Thank you for your help. Wayne

<<Fresno County Heat Plan.doc>> <<Attachment A NWS.doc>> <<Attachment A Index.doc>>

Wayne Fox
Assistant Emergency Services Coordinator
Fresno County Office of Emergency Services
(559) 445-3391

6/20/2007

County of Fresno

Heat Emergency Contingency Plan

This plan describes county operations during heat related emergencies and provides guidance for County departments and personnel. It recognizes the need to communicate and coordinate with local agencies, mobilize and initiate actions in advance of local requests, and supports local actions according to the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) and the National Incident Management System (NIMS).

Plan Goal

To reduce the incidence of morbidity and mortality associated with local extreme heat events.

Heat Plan Activation

Fresno County begins to experience hot weather in May or June of each year and this heat continues throughout the summer months. To ensure the safety of vulnerable segments of the population this plan provides a two phase approach to mitigate and reduce the effects of heat that exceed what is considered normal for the geographic locale.

Phase I - Seasonal Readiness

In anticipation of typical summer weather in the County where temperatures of 10 degrees above normal are not uncommon, Phase I will be activated on May 1 of each year. During this phase, a heat awareness campaign will be initiated utilizing County agencies, local government and local media resources to distribute printed and spoken reminders about the heat and how to mitigate its effects. Preparations will also be made to activate Phase II of the plan. In an average temperature year Phase II of the heat plan may never be activated. That does not mean the heat is not dangerous or that precautions should not be taken.

Phase II - Heat Emergency

This is an operational area response to a heat emergency. The County Health Officer may determine that a Heat Emergency exists based on the threat to public health and safety. This may include:

- National Weather Services issues an Excessive Heat Advisory or Warning.
- Heat related illnesses and deaths are above the average.
- Abnormal amounts of heat related deaths occur in local animal populations.
- Successive days when the daytime temperature exceeds normal ranges and night time temperatures do not drop low enough to allow for 3-4 hours of cooling (Temperatures dropping below 80 degrees).
- The California Independent System Operator (CALISO) issues a Stage 3 Electrical Emergency.
- High heat is accompanied by electrical blackouts or rotating power outages.
- Two or more jurisdictions within the County "declare" heat emergencies.

- The state “declares” a heat emergency.

Activation

Phases of this Heat Emergency Plan will be activated in coordination with local jurisdictions and the State Office of Emergency Services using the following guidelines to determine the most appropriate level(s) of response:

Phase I - Seasonal Readiness

Hot weather pre-season activities will begin on May 1st prior to the start of the summer season. The Seasonal Readiness Phase starts with the Community Health Department organizing other County Departments, cities and community organizations in preparation for the upcoming season.

Readiness preparations include:

- Creating educational materials about how to mitigate the effects of heat.
- Identifying and targeting vulnerable populations such as the elderly and special needs populations with educational materials.
- Identifying media and public resources to distribute the information.
- Initiating a heat related public awareness campaign.
- Identifying and preparing potential cooling centers for operation.
- Identifying transportation resources to get citizens to cooling centers.
- Coordinating community resources within the Operational Area for the heat related response.
- Requesting that local agencies who serve vulnerable populations contact their clients to ensure their safety and to provide them with heat related information.
- Encouraging the public to check on persons that might be affected by the heat.
- Initiating the collection of data on heat related deaths and illnesses by the Community Health Department Epidemiologist.

Phase I - Risk Communications

Internal Communications

The Department of Community Health’s Administrative Communication Unit (ACU) will distribute heat preparedness reminders and warnings to appropriate county departments. Weekly updates will be sent out by email to keep staff updated on the preparations.

External Communications

The Department of Community Health’s Administrative Communication Unit (ACU) in coordination with the County’s Public Information Officer will distribute heat related educational materials through local media resources, local community organizations and at local events. Organizations with vulnerable clients will be asked to distribute the educational material through their regular distribution system such as the mail, email, and by fliers handed out at public events.

Phase II - Heat Emergency

This phase is implemented when the County Health Officer determines that a heat emergency exists. Initiation of this phase may include any of the following responses:

- Opening of cooling centers (Listed in attachment "B").
- PIO/ACU releases heat response information to mass media, local organizations and community groups.
- Providing transportation resources for people unable to reach cooling centers.
- Coordinate local heat related resources, donations and volunteers.
- Monitoring the health of vulnerable populations by County agencies and community groups
- Monitoring medical reports of heat related illnesses and deaths.
- Providing information to the public regarding available utility bill assistance resources.

Phase II - Risk Communications

Internal Communications

This may include:

- Notifying county departments regarding the Heat Emergency.
- Providing general information to county staff regarding measures to reduce the effects of heat.
- Activating the County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and/or a Departmental Emergency Operations Center (DOC).

External Communications

This may include:

- Notifying local jurisdictions regarding the Heat Emergency.
- Facilitating communications between the State and local jurisdictions within the Operational Area.
- Providing guidelines to local jurisdictions for establishing and operating cooling centers.
- Conducting conference calls among key agencies and potentially affected communities

National Weather Service Heat Index Program Alert

One of the factors used to determine if a Heat Emergency exists are the heat related forecasts from the National Weather Service in Hanford. The National Weather Service issues four types of heat related messages. These messages are based on four factors-temperatures, humidity, amount of cloudiness and the expected duration of these conditions. The combination of these factors will trigger one of the heat-related messages. These heat related messages are:

Comment [wf1]:

Excessive Heat Watch-Issued 36-48 hrs in advance of an event. Issued to give advance notice of the possibility of excessively hot conditions. Criteria match those of an Excessive Heat Warning.

Heat Advisory-Issued 0-36 hours in advance of an event. When the following is expected across a significant portion of the affected Zone:

Heat Index $\geq$ 110 degrees or greater for at least 2 hours **OR** Heat Index $\geq$ 80 degrees all night.

Excessive Heat Warning- Issued 0-36 hours in advance of an event. When the following is expected across a significant portion of the affected zone for at least 2 consecutive days:

Heat Index $\geq$ 110 degrees or greater for at least 2 hours **AND** Heat Index $\geq$ 80 degrees all night.

The average high and low temperatures for Fresno County in July is 98.6 degrees and 65.1 degrees. Temperatures that are 10 degrees above normal are considered excessive temperatures (*CDC Extreme Heat, A Prevention Guide to Promote Your Personal Health and Safety*). Based on data from the National Weather Service and the average temperatures for this area, a daytime Heat Index temperature of 110 degrees or above during the day and a night time Heat Index temperature of 80 degrees or above for two consecutive days is considered above normal and will trigger an Excessive Heat Warning. A copy of the updated National Weather Service Heat Watch, Advisory and Warning criteria and the San Joaquin Valley Heat Index is included as Attachment "A".

The County Health Officer will consider announcing a Heat Emergency when the National Weather Service issues a Heat Warning. The Heat Emergency will trigger activation of Phase II of the County Heat Plan. The services and activities provided as part of this activation will continue for 48 hrs after the expiration of the excessive Heat Warning.

Post Event Evaluation

The Department of Community Health will collect statistics of heat related deaths and illnesses. They will also collect data Cooling Center populations, distribution of educational materials, contacts with vulnerable persons, effectiveness of internal and external communications and County activation of the Plan. This information will be used to create a post event report.

Since more than one Heat Emergency may occur during a given summer, an evaluation shall be performed after each event so that improvements to the plan can be made as soon as feasible. A final evaluation of Phase I and Phase II responses will be completed at the end of the season. The evaluation will be used to improve the plan for the following year.

Heat Emergency Tasks and Responsibilities

Health Officer

1. Determine if a local Heat Emergency exists and implement the Heat Emergency Contingency Plan as necessary.
2. Approve media releases to the public.

Public Information Officer/ Administrative Communication Unit

1. By May 1 of each year, initiate an awareness campaign for the public, alerting them of the potential dangers of the upcoming summer heat season and the actions they should take to prepare for it. The awareness campaign should be coordinated with the awareness campaigns of local jurisdictions throughout the County. The educational materials are to be bi-lingual so that they reach out to both English and non-English speaking members of the community.
2. Upon the determination that a Heat Emergency exists, provide press releases giving the public guidance about how to deal with the heat wave emergency. These press releases will be coordinated with similar press releases with other jurisdictions and emphasize outreach to non-English speaking persons within the community. The press release should emphasize the following:
 - What portion of the population is the most at risk?
 - Indicate how to recognize heat related illnesses
 - Provide information on how to mitigate the effects of heat.
 - Communicate the importance of getting at least 2-4 hours of cooling per day.
 - Identify where cooling centers are located.
 - Emphasize the need to look out for family members and neighbors.
 - Identify where to call for more information.

Department of Community Health

1. Increase surveillance efforts pertaining to heat-related deaths, injuries and illnesses in cooperation with Corner's Office and area Hospitals.
2. Develop a heat related warning and response update for local physicians and medical professionals.
3. Advise area hospitals of the Heat Emergency and urge them to consider the extreme weather conditions when treating and releasing their patients.
4. ACU in coordination with the Department of Community will provide assistance to the PIO in the development of press releases as they relate to health.
5. Collect data and statistics about the citizen response to warnings and heat awareness information and viability of the Heat Plan
6. Prepare post event evaluation.

7. Set up and operate phone bank with heat related emergency information if needed.

Employment and Temporary Assistance

1. Post and distribute excessive heat warnings and guidance materials at all E&TA offices and affiliated locations.
2. Utilize available staff to assist with communication and welfare checks for at risk populations including the elderly, disabled and home bound individuals through home visits and phone calls.
3. Maintain a list of potential cooling centers and staff to operate them.
4. Distribute excessive heat related information to clients by mail or during home visits.
5. Open and operate cooling centers.

General Services

1. Coordinate transportation to cooling centers if it is determined necessary.
2. Provide cooling center locations if required.
3. Provide logistical support to cooling centers.

Sheriffs Department

1. Maintain security at cooling centers.

County Office of Emergency Services

1. Coordinate state and local emergency resources.
2. Request emergency assistance from State REOC if necessary.
3. Coordinate communications from the Operational Area to the state.
4. Activate the EOC if necessary.
5. Collect information from cities and other jurisdictions regarding their actions during the emergency. Ensure that the state, other jurisdictions and County departments are aware of those actions.

Attachment "A"
National Weather Service local Heat Criteria and Heat Index



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service
900 Foggy Bottom Road
Hanford, CA 93230-5236

June 15, 2007

...Changes To Heat Related Hazard Products For The San Joaquin Valley, CA...

As of June 15, 2007, the National Weather Service Forecast Office in Hanford, CA, which serves the San Joaquin Valley, has changed its thresholds for issuing a Heat Advisory, Excessive Heat Watch, and Excessive Heat Warning.

The new criteria for the valley and foothills will be:

Excessive Heat Watch (Issued 36-48 hours in advance of an event.)	Issued to give advance notice of the possibility of excessively hot conditions. Criteria match those of an Excessive Heat Warning.
Heat Advisory (Issued 0-36 hrs in advance of an event)	When the following is expected across a significant portion of the affected Zone: Heat Index $\geq 110^{\circ}\text{F}$ or greater for at least 2 hours; OR , Heat Index $\geq 80^{\circ}\text{F}$ all night
Excessive Heat Warning (Issued 0-36 hrs in advance of an event)	When the following is expected across a significant portion of the affected Zone for at least 2 consecutive days: Heat Index $\geq 110^{\circ}\text{F}$ or greater for at least 2 hours; AND , Heat Index $\geq 80^{\circ}\text{F}$ all night

All three products (heat advisory, excessive heat watch/warning) will be issued using the **Non-Precipitation Weather Message**, under the following headers:

FOS/WMO Header: WWUS73 KHNX

AWIPS Header: SFONPWHNX

Please be aware of these new thresholds, and inform others in your field that may be interested. A heat index chart is attached for your reference.

For additional information on these changes to the services of the National Weather Service Forecast Office in Hanford, please contact one of the following individuals:

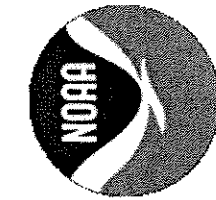
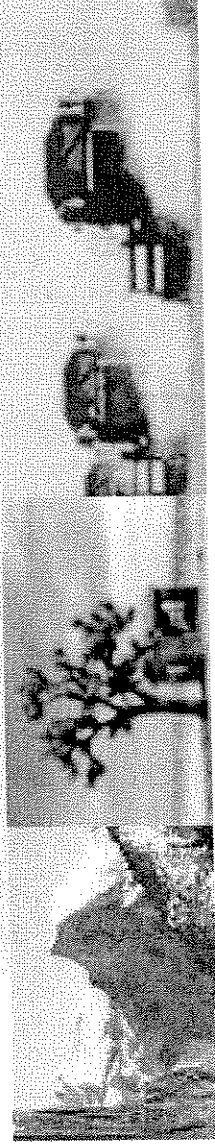
Steve Mendenhall, Meteorologist-In-Charge, (559)584-0583, ext 222

James Brotherton, Warning Coordination Meteorologist, (559)584-0583, ext 223

NWS San Joaquin Valley

Heat Index

(apparent temperature)



Temperature (F)	Relative Humidity (%)																
	0	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60	65	70	75	80
122	107	112	119	126	135	143											
119	106	109	115	121	128	136											
116	104	107	112	117	123	130	138	146									
113	102	105	109	112	116	123	129	137	145								
110	99	102	105	108	112	117	123	130	137	143	152						
107	96	99	101	104	107	112	117	122	128	134	141						
104	94	96	99	101	104	107	111	115	120	126	132	138	144				
101	92	94	97	98	100	102	105	109	113	118	123	130	135				
98	89	91	93	94	95	98	100	103	106	109	113	118	123	130	137		
95	87	88	90	91	92	93	95	98	99	103	106	110	114	119	124	130	136
92	85	85	87	88	88	89	90	92	94	97	99	102	105	108	113	117	122
89	82	83	84	84	85	86	87	88	89	91	93	95	97	100	103	106	110
86	79	80	82	82	83	83	84	85	85	87	88	90	92	94	96	97	100
83	76	77	78	79	80	81	81	82	82	83	84	85	86	88	89	91	94
80	73	74	75	76	77	77	78	79	79	80	81	81	82	83	85	86	87
77	71	71	72	73	74	74	75	75	76	77	77	78	79	79	80	81	82

Heat Index/Heat Disorders: possible heat disorders for people in higher risk groups

HEAT INDEX 90 to 104, sunstroke, heat cramps, and heat exhaustion possible
 HEAT INDEX 105 to 129, sunstroke, heat cramps, and heat exhaustion likely; heat stroke possible
 HEAT INDEX > 129, heat stroke or sunstroke likely with continued exposure
 Important: Since HI values were devised for shady, light wind conditions, exposure to full sunshine can increase HI values by up to 15°F. Also, strong winds, particularly with very hot, dry air, can be extremely hazardous.

Appendix B
2007 Cooling Center Locations

Normal Summer Heat Conditions

Cities within Fresno County may open cooling centers during normal summer heat conditions. Contact the city information line or City Manager's Office for a listing of cooling centers that may be available.

Extreme Heat Conditions

During extreme heat conditions, the County of Fresno will be requesting all cities to open cooling centers. Additionally, the hours may be extended at some County facilities such as Libraries or District Community Centers.

A list of available cooling centers will be available at City and County websites.

PID Name	Senior Center	Address	City	County	Zipcode	Telephone	Days	Hours	Disability Access	Parking Type	Fee	Phone	Comments
1 Chowchilla Senior Center	Senior Center	820 Robertson Boulevard	Chowchilla	Madera	93610	559-685-4781	M, T, W, TH, F	8:30 am - 4:00 pm	Yes	Chowchilla Area Transit		\$1.00 559-685-8655	For weekends - Call Police Department at 559-665-8600
2 Clovis Senior Center	Senior Center	850 4th Street	Clovis	Fresno	93612	559 324-2754	M, T, W, TH, F	9:30 am - 5:00 pm	Yes	Clovis Roundup Transit		\$0.75 559-297-2482	Available 24 hours if needed.
3 Del Rey Senior Center	Senior Center	10649 E. Morro	Del Rey	Fresno	93616	559-688-2700	M, T, W, TH, F	8:00 am - 3:00 pm	Yes	Call		559-888-2700	Available 24 hours if needed.
4 Firebaugh Fire Department		1575 11th Street	Firebaugh	Fresno	93622	559-659-2061	M, T, W, TH, F	8:30 am - 4:30 pm	Yes	Firebaugh Fire Department, Local transportation	No Fee for Fuel, at risk, and elderly	559-659-3051, 559-238-8788, 1-800-325-7433	Available 24 hours if needed.
5 Firebaugh Senior Center	Senior Center	1601 Thomas Conboy Avenue	Firebaugh	Fresno	93622	559-659-3536	M, T, W, TH, F	8:30 am - 4:30 pm	Yes	Firebaugh Fire Department, Local transportation		559-659-3051, 559-238-8788, 1-800-325-7433	Available 24 hours if needed.
6 Edwin Blayney Senior Center	Senior Center	108 N. 3rd Street	Fowler	Fresno	93625	559-834-5486	M, T, W, TH, F	8:30 am - 4:30 pm	Yes	Fowler Police Officers	No fee	559-834-3254	Available 24 hours if needed.
7 Highway Community Center	Senior Center	5140 State Street	Fresno City	Fresno	93722	559-276-0683	M, T, W, TH, F	9:00 am - 1:00 pm	Yes				Mail - 8:00 a.m. to 6:00pm on Weekdays.. Open until 6:00 pm on weekends.
9 Manchester Senior Center	Senior Center	1801 E. Shields Avenue	Fresno City	Fresno	93726	559-248-5786	M, T, W, TH, F	8:00 am - 4:30 pm	Yes			\$0.25 1-800-325-7433	Available 24 hours if needed.
13 Huron Senior Center	Senior Center	15100 W. Kerney Plaza	Kerman	Fresno	93630	559-846-8643	M, T, W, TH, F	8:30 am - 4:30 pm	Yes	Huron Transit Kerman Dial-A-Ride		\$0.50 846-7814	Available 24 hours if needed.
15 Kerman Senior Center	Senior Center	720 S. 8th Street	Kerman	Fresno	93630	559-846-8643			Yes	Kerman Dial-A-Ride			
16 Kingsburg District Hospital		1200 Smith Street	Kingsburg	Fresno	93631				Yes				
17 Park Kingsburg		333 Kern Street	Kingsburg	Fresno	93631	559-897-3013	M, T, W, TH, F	8:00 am - 3:00 pm	Yes				
18 Roosevelt Elementary	Senior Center	1450 Ellis	Kingsburg	Fresno	93631	559-897-3013	M, T, W, TH, F	8:00 am - 3:00 pm	Yes				
19 Senior Center		238 S. D Street	Madera	Madera	93644	559-673-4293	M, T, W, TH, F	8:00 am - 2:00 pm	Yes				Will extend hours to 6:00 p.m. when needed.
20 Frank A. Bergen Center			Madera	Madera	93644		TH, F	9:00 am - 7:00 pm	Yes				
21 Madera Fairgrounds		703 E. Sherwood Way	Madera	Madera	93644	559-675-2095	M, T, W, TH, F	8:00 am - 8:00 pm	Yes				
22 Pan-American Senior Center	Senior Center	37330 Berkshire Drive	Madera	Madera	93644	559-645-4884	M, T, W, TH, F	9:00 am - 1:00 pm	Yes				
23 Ranchos/Hills Senior Center	Senior Center	48111 Childer Lane	Oakhurst	Madera	93644	559-683-3811	M, T, W, TH, F	9:00 am - 3:00 pm	Yes				Available 24 hours if needed.
24 Oakhurst Senior Center	Senior Center	1705 N. Anchor Avenue	Orange Cove	Fresno	93644	559-626-4492	M, T, W, TH, F	8:00 am - 5:00 pm	Yes	Dial-A-Ride		\$0.35 559-637-4202	Assisted living complex, open to seniors during times of rolling blackouts or if you need a cool place to go during the day.
25 Economic Development Training Center		1155 E. Springfield Avenue	Reedley	Fresno	93654	559-639-9228			Yes				
27 Sierra View Homes			Reedley	Fresno	93654	559-639-9228			Yes				
28 Senior Center	Senior Center	2301 Selma Street	Selma	Fresno	93662	559-691-2239			Yes				Seniors - Emergency Task Force (891-2237) to check on at-risk people during an extended blackout.
30 Selma Art Center		1043 Rose Street	Selma	Fresno	93662	559-681-2237			Yes				Seniors - Emergency Task Force (891-2237) to check on at-risk people during an extended blackout.
31 City Hall		1710 Tucker Street	Selma	Fresno	93662				Yes	Unknown			Seniors - Emergency Task Force (891-2237) to check on at-risk people during an extended blackout.
32 Sierra Oaks Senior Center	Senior Center	33276 N. Lodge Road	Tollhouse	Fresno	93687	559-655-3360	M, T, W, TH, F	8:00 am - 3:00 pm	Yes				Call during other hours to see if center is open.
33H Bethel Community Center		948 Bethel St.	Sanger	Fresno	93657	559-875-8521	As Necessary	As Necessary	Yes	Cooling Center Shuttle		559-875-8521	For more information: call City of Sanger Fire Department 559-875-8521

Jeff Webster

From: Gupta, Rohini [R1Gm@pge.com]
Sent: Monday, June 18, 2007 2:13 PM
To: Jeff Webster
Cc: wafox@co.fresno.ca.us; Cory Scholtes
Subject: Fresno Cooling Centers
Importance: High
Attachments: Invitation to Participate - Cooling Center - RTA- Fresno.doc; Cooling Center Application RTA-Fresno.doc; coolingcenterswebxls - RTA.xls

Jeff,

I was great to talk to you and I am excited to be working with Rural Transit Agency to help provide free transportation for people going to cooling centers. We believe that transportation play an important role in making cooling centers successful. Attached is a Cooling Center invitation and application. I have tweaked the application to better fit profile of a Transit Agency applicant. Please call me if you have any questions. I am providing a list of Cooling Centers that I have been get to get with the help of Cory at the FMAAA.

We would need a list of centers (that are designated at cooling centers) where RTA would be providing shuttle services. If we cannot obtain whole list now, that is fine. We can work to have the list after the summer (this list is mainly for CPUC reporting purposes).

<<Invitation to Participate - Cooling Center - RTA- Fresno.doc>> <<Cooling Center Application RTA-Fresno.doc>> <<coolingcenterswebxls - RTA.xls>>

Thank you,

Rohini Gupta
Pacific Gas & Electric
Customer Energy Efficiency
123 Mission, San Francisco 94105
Phone: 415-973-2970
Cell: 412-818-0385
Fax: 415-973-6419

6/20/2007



**Pacific Gas and
Electric Company®**

June 18, 2007

Jeff Webster
Rural Transit Agency
Fresno County

Re: Cooling Center Application and Contract

Dear Jeff:

In response to the heat-related events of 2006, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) is supporting local governments and organizations such as yours, to raise awareness of heat safety and arrange for shelter on the extremely hot days through the offering of *Cooling Centers*.

What is a Cooling Center?

A Cooling Center is a facility that has been designated a place for people to go to cool off. Places like community centers, fairgrounds and senior centers are typically designated as cooling centers on extremely hot days¹.

The *Cooling Center program* is a PG&E sponsored pilot program aimed at supporting public facilities, such as yours, to serve as designated relief venues for people on extremely hot days. PG&E will be supporting local governments in the Central Valley to equip local agencies and participating facilities with:

- educational and communication tools like radio, brochures and bill inserts
- web-based and telephone communication channels to distribute information about cooling centers
- supplemental financial support up to a capped amount for:
 - **transportation for customers going to and from the cooling center (e.g. subsidized taxis, shuttle service, Dial-a-Ride)**
 - refreshments for customers (non-alcoholic, non-caffeine beverages only)

Your county has been identified as a high priority area for low income, senior and disabled citizens in the event of extreme heat. Given this, PG&E would like to invite your organization to work with PG&E to further serve the Cooling Center efforts in your community.

For your convenience, we've attached an application to participate in the PG&E Cooling Centers program and a list of the criteria. Upon approval of your application, you will be contacted to discuss the next steps as well as materials to help get your Cooling Center started.

PROGRAM CRITERIA

¹ These cooling centers are different from cooling stations. Cooling stations are exempt from rotating outages and limited to temperature sensitive customers. Cooling centers are not exempt from rotating outages but will receive financial support from PG&E for water and transportation.

Below is a list of program facility requirements for participation in the PG&E *Cooling Centers* program. These requirements were developed to maximize benefits for members of your community:

- Free entrance for all citizens, free of discrimination
- Provide a safe and comfortable atmosphere and seating areas
- Be accessible via public transportation or shuttle service
- Provide complimentary water to those citizens in the Cooling Center
- Communicate through Cooling Center automated phone line and PG&E or county Web site:
 - An address, phone number and operating hours must be available
 - Disability access is required to be listed
- Display PG&E Cooling Center sticker in visible location
- Distribute PG&E brochures covering other services targeting a similar population (e.g. CARE, FERA and energy efficiency)
- Have customer satisfaction surveys available onsite (provided by PG&E)
- Provide a sign-in sheet for those who visit the Cooling Center
- Work with PG&E to develop trigger criteria to open Cooling Centers

Please fax your application to (415) 973-6419 (Attn: Rohini Gupta) or email to r1gm@pge.com.

At PG&E, we understand that the service you provide sensitive populations in the community is invaluable, not only by providing shelter for those in need should an extreme heat event occur, but also in raising safety awareness in your community. That is why we feel it is necessary to help advertise and financially support cooling centers in your area. If you have any questions, please contact me at (415) 973-2970 or email us at r1gm@pge.com.

Sincerely,

Rohini Gupta
Project Manager
Cooling Centers Program

Enc: Cooling Center Application

Jeff Webster

From: Jeff Webster
Sent: Tuesday, June 19, 2007 2:36 PM
To: 'Gupta, Rohini'
Cc: 'Wayne Fox'
Subject: RE: Transit Services to Fresno County Cooling Centers
Attachments: Cooling Center Application RTA- Fresno.doc

6/19/07

Dear Rohini:

Attached is a copy of our completed application.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey D. Webster
General Manager
Fresno County Rural Transit Agency
2035 Tulare Street, Suite 201
Fresno, CA 93721
559-233-6789 (voice)
559-233-9645 (fax)
jwebster_ruraltransit@fresnocog.org (email)
ruraltransit.org (website)

From: Gupta, Rohini [<mailto:R1Gm@pge.com>]
Sent: Monday, June 18, 2007 2:13 PM
To: Jeff Webster
Cc: wafox@co.fresno.ca.us; Cory Scholtes
Subject: Fresno Cooling Centers
Importance: High

Jeff,

I was great to talk to you and I am excited to be working with Rural Transit Agency to help provide free transportation for people going to cooling centers. We believe that transportation play an important role in making cooling centers successful. Attached is a Cooling Center invitation and application. I have tweaked the application to better fit profile of a Transit Agency applicant. Please call me if you have any questions. I am providing a list of Cooling Centers that I have been get to get with the help of Cory at the FMAAA.

We would need a list of centers (that are designated at cooling centers) where RTA would be providing shuttle services. If we cannot obtain whole list now, that is fine. We can work to have the list after the summer (this list is mainly for CPUC reporting purposes).

<<Invitation to Participate - Cooling Center - RTA- Fresno.doc>> <<Cooling Center Application RTA- Fresno.doc>> <<coolingcenterswebxls - RTA.xls>>

Thank you,

6/20/2007

Rohini Gupta
Pacific Gas & Electric
Customer Energy Efficiency
123 Mission, San Francisco 94105
Phone: 415-973-2970
Cell: 412-818-0385
Fax: 415-973-6419



**Pacific Gas and
Electric Company®**

**Cooling Centers
Local Government Application Form**

Thank you for your interest in working with PG&E's Cooling Center program. To get things started we would like you to fill out this application form for us. This application has been created to better understand what your cooling center efforts will be during an extreme heat event and for PG&E to evaluate whether we can provide you with financial and marketing support. Please sign and return via fax to 1-415-973-6419 or email your applications to r1gm@pge.com:

Thank you and we look forward to working with you.

SECTION I.

Date June 19, 2007

Name of Organization: Fresno County Rural Transit Agency

Street Address: 2035 Tulare Street, Suite 201 ; Fresno, CA 93721

Shipping Address (if different from mailing address): Same

General Phone (559) 233-6789 **Fax** (559) 233-9645

Organization Director: Jeffrey D. Webster, General Manager **Email Address:**
jwebster_ruraltransit@fresnocog.org
(note "underscore" between jwebster and ruraltransit)

Cooling Center Project/Program Manager: Local contacts

Phone Number _____ **Email Address** _____

SECTION II.

Criteria and Operating Requirements

These relationships are intended to serve PG&E's most vulnerable customers in the event of a heat storm. Your cooling centers must be operating in the follow counties to receive financial support from PG&E:

Tier 1

- **Fresno**, Contra Costa, Stanislaus, San Joaquin, Kern, Merced, Madera, Butte, Yolo, Tehama, Solano, Sacramento, Shasta, Placer, Sutter

The following are minimum criteria for participating local governments:

- Free entrance for all customers
- No discrimination among attendees
- Be accessible via **public transportation or shuttle service**
- Provide a safe and comfortable atmosphere and seating areas
- Provide complimentary water to cooling center customers
- Communicate through Cooling Center automated phone line and PG&E or county website
- An address, phone number and operating hours must be available
- Disability access is required to be listed
- Distribute brochures describing other PG&E services like CARE, FERA and energy efficiency
- Have PG&E customer satisfaction surveys available onsite
- Provide a sign-in sheet for cooling center attendees
- Work with PG&E to develop trigger criteria to open cooling centers
- End of summer report on cooling center activity:
 - Number of cooling center days
 - Number of cooling centers opened
 - Triggers that opened centers
 - Hours opened
 - Number of centers with disability access
 - Number of attendees at cooling centers
 - Program expenses

SECTION III.

For all sections: If you would prefer to attach a separate document that addresses the following questions, feel free to do so. You may use the California Cooling Center template if desired.

Cooling Center Transportation Plan

Please provide a brief description on your plans to provide transportation for customers going to and from cooling centers on extreme heat days.

We are a Joint Powers Agency (JPA) legally established under the Secretary of the State of California. We are composed of the Cities of: Coalinga; Firebaugh; Fowler; Huron; Kerman; Kingsburg; Mendota; Orange Cove; Parlier; Reedley; Sanger; San Joaquin; Selma; and the County of Fresno. As a rural general public transit operator we are interested in providing transit services to local residents needing to be transported to a "designated" cooling center when local temperatures exceed 110 degrees. We have wheelchair accessible, demand responsive / dial-a-ride transit services in: Auberry; Coalinga; Del Rey; Firebaugh; Fowler; Huron; Kerman; Kingsburg; Mendota; Orange Cove; Parlier; Reedley; Sanger, San Joaquin; and Selma. We generally provide such services from 7:00am to 5:30pm Monday through Friday. Kingsburg, Reedley, Sanger, and Selma provide Saturday service from 8am to 12Noon and from 1pm to 5pm. (Please Note: Our vehicles are alternatively fueled, if an electrical "blackout" were to occur, we would not be able to refuel our vehicles or communicate with them.)

(Optional) Cooling Center History

Please provide a brief description on what you have done previously in response to unusually hot weather.

No involvement to date.

Cooling Center Locations

*****Attached in separate Excel file. Please feel free to include additional centers.***

Yes, and we note that many rural incorporated Cities that we currently serve in Fresno County are enumerated.

Trigger Event

PG&E will need to be aware of what criteria will be used to determine a cooling center day in the various geographies to keep track of cooling center operations and release radio messages most appropriately in the service area. Please provide a description of what your temperature trigger will be to establish cooling centers and inform customers about them. (ex. above 95°F, alert from National Weather Service, order from Dept of Public Health, etc)

We would be responsive to the Fresno County Heat Contingency Plan as administered by Mr. Wayne Fox. We would active the special service during the time period when the local temperature is over 110 degrees.

SECTION IV.

PG&E will provide funding up to a capped amount for transportation and refreshments. Please refer to the table for restrictions on funding.

Transportation to and from cooling center locations	Including the following: • Bus rides, Dial-a-Ride, taxi services, vehicle rentals, and fuel costs to provide transportation for low-income customers • Transportation vehicles equipped for Paratransit services highly encouraged
---	---

Transportation

PG&E believes transportation is an integral factor to a successful cooling center program and encourages local governments to provide transportation options for our vulnerable customers. Please provide a description of what transportation options customers have to reach the cooling centers. If you plan to provide transportation directly or indirectly (ex. subsidized taxis or a shuttle service) please provide a description on this as well. If you have not considered transportation as part of your plan, PG&E highly encourages planning for customers transportation needs.

Individuals would call our local transit phone numbers (Coalinga: 935-1511; Firebaugh, Fowler, Huron, Mendota, Orange Cove, Parlier, San Joaquin: 1-800-325-7433; Kerman: 846-7914; Kingsburg: 897-4311; Reedley: 637-4202; Sanger: 224-9459; Selma: 891-2221) and tell us where they are and we would arrange for a local pick-up to transport them to the "designated" Cooling Center in their Community. *If we were operating beyond regular service hours, we would **not** be transporting passenger to other locations for other purposes.* We assume that when the temperature drops below a certain range, the Cooling Center would closed and the people would be returned directly to their homes. Any other arrangements are simply beyond our control and responsibility.

Also, we recognize that certain portions of our County (and our transit service area) receive their utilities by PG&E, while other areas are address by Southern California Gas.

Thank You.

Respectfully Submitted By:
Jeffrey D. Webster
General Manager
Fresno County Rural Transit Agency

Jeff Webster

From: Gupta, Rohini [R1Gm@pge.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 19, 2007 2:40 PM
To: Jeff Webster
Cc: wafox@co.fresno.ca.us; Fontes, Linda C
Subject: RE: Transit Services to Fresno County Cooling Centers

Jeff,

I have received the application. I will review it and get back to you within the next two days.

Thank you,
Rohini Gupta
Pacific Gas & Electric
Customer Energy Efficiency
123 Mission, San Francisco 94105
Phone: 415-973-2970
Cell: 412-818-0385
Fax: 415-973-6419

From: Jeff Webster [mailto:JeffW@fresnocog.org]
Sent: Tuesday, June 19, 2007 2:36 PM
To: Gupta, Rohini
Cc: Wayne Fox
Subject: RE: Transit Services to Fresno County Cooling Centers

6/19/07

Dear Rohini:

Attached is a copy of our completed application.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey D. Webster
General Manager
Fresno County Rural Transit Agency
2035 Tulare Street, Suite 201
Fresno, CA 93721
559-233-6789 (voice)
559-233-9645 (fax)
jwebster_ruraltransit@fresnocog.org (email)
ruraltransit.org (website)

From: Gupta, Rohini [mailto:R1Gm@pge.com]
Sent: Monday, June 18, 2007 2:13 PM
To: Jeff Webster

6/19/2007

Jeff Webster

From: Jeff Webster
Sent: Tuesday, June 19, 2007 5:36 PM
To: 'Gupta, Rohini'
Cc: 'Wayne Fox'
Subject: RE: Transit Services to Fresno County Cooling Centers

6/19/07

Dear Rohini:

I really have no idea...but here goes:

I suppose that when the weather is predicted to be over 110 degrees, the Cooling Centers would be activated that day so people could be expected to arrive before it reached the maximum temperature. (If 109 degrees were predicted nothing would happen, but late in the day when Coalinga spikes at 5:30pm to 110 degrees that you would expect someone to spring into service, until it drops to 109 degrees twenty (20) minutes later, and everything could then be shut down.

If passenger were needing to ride within our regular service hours, and you wanted them to ride "free" to the "designated" Cooling Center, the regular fares are: General Public are \$.75 per one-way trip; Elderly (60+), disabled, and children with an adult are \$.50 per one-way trip. Fourteen (14) sites, fifty (50) passengers each, one hundred (100) one-way trips so somewhere between \$75 to \$50 per day per site, times fourteen (14) sites would be \$1,050 to \$700 per hot day.

If the service were to be beyond our regular service hours, our hourly service rate is \$62.12, but under these circumstances we would just want to recover fuel and employee overtime costs, so I think we could do that at \$35.00 per hour, plus the equivalent farebox receipts for actual passengers transported (minimum \$7.50 per hour). So if we figured two (2) hours beyond our usual quitting time for the temperature to drop below 110 degrees, the cost could be \$42.50 per hour times two (2) hours equals \$85.00 per site times fourteen (14) sites equals \$1,190 per hot day.

If we experienced twenty (20) weekdays days over 110 degrees the cost could approach \$23,800 plus \$21,000 to \$14,000 for fares during regular service hours. So maybe in the total cost range could be between of \$44,800 to \$37,800. But, we would be tracking everything to be billing you just the actual costs, for the actual days, and hours of service.

If weekend service were needed, that could be a real problem, driver and dispatcher availability, minimum hours, etc. and that could get real expensive fast.

And remember, if there is a electrical "blackout" everything may truly stop.

I hope this helps.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey D. Webster
General Manager
Fresno County Rural Transit Agency
2035 Tulare Street, Suite 201
Fresno, CA 93721
559-233-6789 (voice)
559-233-9645 (fax)
jwebster_ruraltransit@fresnocog.org (email)
ruraltransit.org (website)

6/20/2007