

**PRE-BOARD ONE VOICE PRESENTATION  
FRESNO COG BOARD, ONE VOICE DELEGATES AND SPONSORS  
6:00 P.M.**

**COUNCIL OF FRESNO COUNTY GOVERNMENTS  
AGENDA**

**Date:** Thursday, March 27, 2008  
**Time:** 7:00 p.m.  
**Place:** Council of Fresno County Governments  
2035 Tulare St., Suite 201, Fresno, CA

**Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Accommodations**

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

| Item | Description | Enclosure | Action |
|------|-------------|-----------|--------|
|------|-------------|-----------|--------|

Fresno COG Sitting As the Transportation Policy Committee

**I. PRESENTATIONS**

**A. Public Presentations**

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

**B. Recognition of 2008 "One Voice" sponsors**

**C. Staff Recognition – 20 Years of Service – Mary Lopez, Administrative Assistant**

**D. 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Recognition of the Creation of the Consolidated Transportation Service Agencies in Fresno County by Fresno COG**

**II. TRANSPORTATION CONSENT ITEMS**

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

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |    |             |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|-------------|
| A. Call for Projects Information – High Risk Rural Roads & Regional Surface Transportation Program ( RSTP), Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality Program (CMAQ) and Proposition 1B: Traffic Light Synchronization Signal Program | No | Information |
| B. San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District Indirect Source Rule Upheld                                                                                                                                      | No | Information |

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

## C. Greenhouse Gas Plan Update

Yes Info/Action

**III. TRANSPORTATION ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- |                                                                                            |     |                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----------------|
| A. National Surface Transportation Policy & Revenue Study Commission Report                | Yes | Info/Discussion |
| B. Proposition 1B – Traffic Light Synchronization Grant Application for the City of Fresno | Yes | Approve         |
| C. Measure C Regional Transportation Sub Committee Update                                  | No  | Info/Discussion |
| D. Caltrans Monthly Report                                                                 | No  | Info/Discussion |

Fresno COG Sitting As the Council of Fresno County Governments

**IV. REAFFIRM ALL ACTIONS TAKEN WHILE SITTING AS THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE****V. ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT ITEMS**

Approve Calendar Items

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

- |                                                                                                                              |     |                 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----------------|
| A. Executive Minutes of February 28, 2008                                                                                    | Yes | Approve         |
| B. Land Buffer Task Force Update                                                                                             | No  | Information     |
| C. FY 2008 Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Grant Programs--<br>Call for Projects-- FTA Sections 5310, 5311, 5316 & 5317 | Yes | Info/Discussion |
| D. Monthly Legislative Update                                                                                                | Yes | Information     |
| E. FY 2007-08 Second Quarter Progress Report                                                                                 | Yes | Accept          |
| F. Support for UC Merced Medical School                                                                                      | Yes | Approve         |
| G. Regional Clearinghouse                                                                                                    | Yes | Information     |

|    | PROJECT                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | APPLICANT                |
|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. | FRESNO YOSEMITE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (FAT) REHABILITATE TAXIWAY B6-2/3 (CONST); REHABILITATE TAXIWAY B (DESIGN); REHABILITATE TAXIWAY C (DESIGN); REHABILITATE COMMERCIAL AVIATION APRON AC/PCC (DESIGN); INSTALL ENHANCED TAXIWAY CENTER MARKINGS | CITY OF FRESNO, AIRPORTS |

**VI. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- |                                                                                                  |         |                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|-----------------|
| A. Farmland Conservation Model Program Update                                                    | No      | Info/Discussion |
| B. Statewide and San Joaquin Valley 511 Project Update                                           | Yes     | Info/Discussion |
| C. Local Preference Policy                                                                       | No      | Info/Discussion |
| D. 2008 San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council's "Valley Voices" Advocacy Effort             | Handout | Info/Discussion |
| E. 2008 Sacramento "One Voice" Update                                                            | Handout | Info/Discussion |
| F. San Joaquin Valley Blueprint – Monthly Update                                                 | Yes     | Info/Discussion |
| G. Status Report on Sacramento Lobbying Activities – Steve Samuelian, California Consulting, LLC | No      | Info/Discussion |
| H. Contract Increase for VRPA Technologies                                                       | No      | Approve         |

**VII. ELECTION OF CHAIR & VICE CHAIR****VIII. OTHER BUSINESS**

- A. Items from Staff  
B. Items from Members

Fresno COG Sitting As the Abandoned Vehicle Abatement Authority

- IX. ABANDONED VEHICLE ABATEMENT – FY 2006-07 SECOND QUARTER STATUS REPORT AND ADJUSTMENTS TO CITY OF SANGER HOURLY RATE AND STANDARD HOURLY RATE** Yes Approve

**X. CLOSED SESSION**

- A. Government Code Section 54957 Public Employment – Title: Executive Director

**XI. OPEN SESSION**

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

\*\*All enclosures are available on our website at [www.fresnocog.org](http://www.fresnocog.org) – Committees and Agendas





2035 Tulare Street, Suite 201  
Fresno, California 93721

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

**PRE-BOARD ONE VOICE PRESENTATION  
FRESNO COG BOARD, ONE VOICE DELEGATES AND SPONSORS  
6:00 P.M.**

**COUNCIL OF FRESNO COUNTY GOVERNMENTS  
ANNOTATED AGENDA**

**Date:** Thursday, March 27, 2008  
**Time:** 7:00 p.m.  
**Place:** Council of Fresno County Governments  
2035 Tulare St., Suite 201, Fresno, CA

Fresno COG Sitting As the Transportation Policy Committee

**I. PRESENTATIONS**

**A. Public Presentations**

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

**B. Recognition of 2008 "One Voice" sponsors**

**C. Staff Recognition – 20 Years of Service – Mary Lopez, Administrative Assistant**

**D. 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Recognition of the Creation of the Consolidated Transportation Service Agencies in Fresno County by the Fresno COG.**

**Summary:** Twenty-five (25) years ago, the Fresno COG designated three (3) entities to implement their adopted Assembly Bill 120 (1979) Social Service Transportation Improvement Act Action Plan. Three (3) Consolidated Transportation Service Agencies (CTSA) were designated: The Fresno Urban Area was co-designated to be the City of Fresno and the Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission (FCEOC), The Clovis Urban Area was designated to be the City of Clovis; and the Rural Area was co-designated to be the Fresno County Rural Transit Agency and FCEOC. The co-designated agencies have done an exemplary job in realizing the original objectives of the legislation.

A similar initiative was envisioned nation-wide by the SAFETEA-LU program that mandated the development and adoption of Human Service Transportation Coordination Plans. The Fresno COG recently adopted such a document in January of this year. One of just a half dozen that have been completed so far for each of the fifty-eight (58) counties in the State of California.  
[JWEBSTER]

**Action:** Staff recommends the COG Policy Board recognize the CTSA and their respective staffs for the excellent work done these last twenty-five (25) years for and in behalf of those that they have, and will continue to service in meeting the social service transit service needs of clients of over two dozen social service agencies and programs in Fresno County.

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

## II. TRANSPORTATION CONSENT ITEMS

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

### A. Call for Projects Information – High Risk Rural Roads & Regional Surface Transportation Program ( RSTP), Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality Program (CMAQ) and Proposition 1B: Traffic Light Synchronization Signal Program

#### High Risk Rural Roads (HR3):

Caltrans has issued a Call for Projects for the 2nd cycle of the High Risk Rural Road (HR3) Program. The statewide funding available for HR3 is approximately \$18 million. Eligibility for this program is limited to three functional road classifications. Any roadway functionally classified as a rural major collector, a rural minor collector, or a rural local road is eligible to compete for HR3 Program funds. To search and verify the functional classification of a roadway in your community visit: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/tsip/hpms/page1.php>. Program applications, FAQ's, and additional program information is available at: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/LocalPrograms/HR3/>. Projects must be submitted to Caltrans by Friday, April 18, 2008. A postmark of April 18, 2008 is acceptable. Any questions regarding the program can be directed to Jim Perrault of Caltrans District 6 Local Assistance at (559) 445-5417 or Noel Bucu at (559) 445-5833.

#### Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) and Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP):

Fresno COG has issued a Call for Projects for the CMAQ and RSTP programs. Applications and additional information are available at [www.fresnocog.org](http://www.fresnocog.org) under the FTIP/RTP section. Applications must be submitted to the Fresno COG office by 5:00 p.m. on March 28<sup>th</sup>.

#### Proposition 1B: Traffic Light Synchronization Signal Program:

The Highway Safety, Traffic Reduction, Air Quality, and Port Security Bond Act of 2006, approved by the voters as Proposition 1B on November 7, 2006, included a \$250 million program to fund traffic light synchronization projects and other technology-based improvements to improve safety, operations and the effective capacity of local streets and roads. This Traffic Light Synchronization Program (TLSP) is funded from funds deposited in the Highway Safety, Rehabilitation, and Preservation Account. The funds are available, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to the Department of Transportation (Department), as allocated by the California Transportation Commission (Commission). SB 88 specified various administrative and reporting requirements for all Proposition 1B programs, and it directed that \$150 million from the TLSP be allocated to the City of Los Angeles for upgrading and installing traffic signal synchronization within its jurisdiction. The remaining \$100 million is available on a statewide competitive basis. Applications must be submitted to Caltrans headquarters by March 28<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. For more information please visit <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/traffops/sysmgtp/TLSP/> or contact David Van Dyken at (916) 654-4823 [david\\_van\\_dyken@dot.ca.gov](mailto:david_van_dyken@dot.ca.gov) if you have any questions. [DEVERE]

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

### B. San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District Indirect Source Rule Upheld

**Summary:** The Air District has committed to reduce emissions from indirect sources, which are land uses that attract or generate motor vehicle trips. The Indirect Source Review (ISR) rule provides a methodology for assessing and mitigating those emissions, as well as fees that would be placed on new development.

The ISR rule became effective on March 1, 2006, but the rule's legal status was challenged by the building industry and several other groups. On February 21, 2007, a California Superior Court judge upheld the measure and ruled in favor of the Air District. The decision noted that "the court

finds there is a rational basis for the district's fees...In an attempt to attain federal standards for particulate matter and ozone, the district has determined through extensive analysis that new developments will cause increased emissions from corresponding greater vehicle traffic."

The ISR rule applies to new developments, as well as transportation projects that generate construction exhaust emissions exceeding two tons of nitrogen oxides or two tons of particulate emissions. However, any transportation projects that are being completed under Rule 8061 (Paved and Unpaved Roads) and projects that are Transportation Control Measures (TCMs) are exempt from this rule. Developers have options for offsetting pollution through a variety of mitigation measures (e.g., sidewalks) and are assessed fees for any emissions that exceed thresholds established by the Air District.

Fresno COG staff and Sierra Nevada Air (consultants to the San Joaquin Valley planning agencies) continue to work with the Air District to determine how transportation projects will be affected by the ISR rule. [PAUKOVITS]

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

### C. Greenhouse Gas Plan Update

**Summary:** Last month, TTC and PAC recommended approval of Resolution 2008-08, which identified greenhouse gas policies for Fresno COG. On February 27, 2008, the day prior to the Policy Board meeting, staff received comments (included in your package) on the policies from the Attorney General's Office. Due to the nature of the comments, adoption of the policies has been delayed to get additional feedback from the committees. The Attorney General also provided a letter indicating that their office will be holding a series of workshops throughout the state from March through May to address issues related to climate change. [PAUKOVITS]

**Action:** Information/action item. TTC and PAC recommend delaying adoption of Resolution 2008-08 and the greenhouse gas policies until after the Attorney General's workshops. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Board.

## III. TRANSPORTATION ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

### A. National Surface Transportation Policy & Revenue Study Commission Report

**Summary:** On August 10, 2005, President Bush signed the *Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users* (SAFETEA-LU), providing \$286.4 billion in guaranteed funding for federal surface transportation programs over five years through FY 2009.

Under SAFETEA-LU, Congress created The National Surface Transportation Policy and Revenue Study Commission in 2005 to study the current condition and future needs of the national surface transportation system and also, the short and long-term alternatives to replace or supplement the fuel tax as the principal revenue source to support the Highway Trust Fund over the next 30 years.

In January, the Commission submitted a report to Congress with their study findings titled ***Transportation for Tomorrow: Report of the National Surface Transportation Policy & Revenue Study Commission***. The report is expected to provide information that would be useful as Congress considers the reauthorization of SAFETEA-LU in 2009.

Included in the agenda packet are the following items pertaining to the report:

1. The Executive Summary of the ***Transportation for Tomorrow: Report of the National Surface Transportation Policy & Revenue Study Commission***.

2. A PowerPoint presentation from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) summarizing the Report. Steve Heminger, Executive Director of MTC, was one of the 12-members on the Commission.

The PowerPoint presentation noted above contains the names of the twelve members of the Commission as well as the twelve major recommendations from their report.

For more information on the Commission's activities or to download the full text of the report please go to the following website: <http://www.transportationfortomorrow.org/>. [DANSBY]

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

## **B. Proposition 1B – Traffic Light Synchronization Grant Application for the City of Fresno**

**Summary:** The Highway Safety, Traffic Reduction, Air Quality, and Port Security Bond Act of 2006, approved by the voters as Proposition 1B on November 7, 2006, included a \$250 million program to fund traffic light synchronization projects and other technology-based improvements to improve safety, operations and the effective capacity of local streets and roads.

The City of Fresno is asking for a total of approximately \$13,500,000 from this program and would provide matching funds of \$1,350,000.

The City of Fresno with support from the Fresno COG is applying for Proposition 1B funds for the following projects:

- Traffic light synchronization along Clovis Avenue, from Dakota Avenue to Jensen Avenue - \$4,000,000.
- Traffic light synchronization along Shaw Avenue, from Fresno Street to SR 168 - \$3,000,000.
- Traffic synchronization along Jensen Avenue, from Clovis Avenue to Elm Avenue - \$4,000,000.
- Safety equipment such as weather stations, CMS signs and other items that will be used to decrease the number of fog-related incidents along SR 99 through the City of Fresno - \$2,500,000.

At the TTC meeting, COG staff made a recommendation to the TTC that the Fresno COG Policy Board provide a Letter of Support for the grant application, which was supported unanimously. [SOBRADO]

**Action:** Staff, TTC and PAC recommend the Policy Board approve a letter of support for the City of Fresno's Proposition 1B-Traffic Light Synchronization Grant Application.

## **C. Measure C Regional Transportation Sub Committee Update**

**Summary:** Staff will provide an update on this process to the Committee. [BOREN]

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

## **D. Caltrans Monthly Report**

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

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

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

**V. ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT ITEMS**

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

**A. Executive Minutes of February 28, 2008**

**B. Land Buffer Task Force Update**

**Summary:** The Land Buffer Task Force is being reconvened on Tuesday, March 26, 2008 in the Sequoia Room at the Fresno COG Offices from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. In early February, Fresno COG staff sent out a brief questionnaire to city managers and clerks of Fresno County cities in order to identify the best way for the Fresno County Board of Supervisors to facilitate discussion about the use of land buffers as community separators. City clerks were asked to forward a link to the online survey to elected officials. The Land Buffer Task Force will be asked to review the survey responses provided to date and provide guidance to Fresno COG staff on a recommended course of action for the Fresno County Board of Supervisors. [SOBRADO]

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

**C. FY 2008 Federal Transit Administration (FTA) grant program -- Call for Projects-FTA Sections 5310, 5311(f), 5316 & 5317**

**Summary:** The Fresno COG is pleased to announce the following call for projects for the following Federal Transit Administration (FTA) grant programs for federal fiscal year 2008. These programs provide the funding for the implementation of the Fresno County Social Services Public Transit Plan recently adopted by the Fresno COG Policy Board. Fresno COG is administering the urban component of the programs whereas Caltrans will provide program administration for the rural programs.

Fresno COG Staff attended a Caltrans workshop on Friday March 7, 2008 in Oakland California on the design and implementation of a program to administer the urban component; and will report the findings at our PAC and Policy Board meetings.

The specific FTA grant programs are as follows:

**Section 5310 – Elderly and Disabled Specialized Transit Program – Estimated funding is \$12.1 million**

- Website for additional information: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/MassTrans/5310.html>
- Toll free assistance line: 1-888-472-6816
- Application due to Fresno COG by June 2, 2008
- Application due to Caltrans on or before August 29, 2008

**Section 5311(f) – Non-Urbanized Area Intercity Bus Program – Estimated funding is \$2.9 million**

- Website for additional information: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/MassTrans/5311.html>
- Application due to Caltrans on or before August 29, 2008

**Section 5316 – Job Access and Reverse Commute Program**

- Estimated funding for small-urbanized projects is \$5.6 million

- Estimated funding for rural projects is \$2.7 million
- Website for additional information: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/MassTrans/5316.html>
- Application due to Fresno COG by June 2, 2008
- Application due to Caltrans on or before August 29, 2008

**Section 5317 – New Freedom Program**

- Estimated funding for small-urbanized projects is \$3.2 million
- Estimated funding for rural projects is \$1.3 million
- Website for additional information: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/MassTrans/5317.html>
- Application due to Fresno COG by June 2, 2008
- Applications due to Caltrans on or before August 29, 2008

Fact sheets are contained in the agenda packet. Please contact Todd Sobrado at Fresno COG with questions or to request additional information. [SOBRADO]

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

**D. Monthly Legislative Update**

**Summary:** A report is included in your agenda package that includes current bills in the 2008 legislative session that are relevant to Fresno COG.

- To locate current and past year **state bill information** go to the Official California Legislative Information webpage at: <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/>
- To locate current and past year **federal bill information** go to THOMAS, The Library of Congress's bill information website (in the spirit of Thomas Jefferson) at: <http://thomas.loc.gov/>

Of particular note is Senate Bill X3 5. This is a budget trailer bill proposing to delay monthly payments from the Highway Users Tax Account (gasoline excise tax revenues) to cities and counties for local streets and roads maintenance. The payments would be postponed for the months of March through July of 2008, with full payment for all deferred amounts made with the regular September payment. This one-time deferral would allow approximately \$500 million in General Fund resources to go toward meeting the state's immediate cash flow needs. The bill includes language that specifies that the \$950 million in Proposition 1B funds made available to cities and counties in the 2007-08 State budget may be borrowed for local cash flow purposes during the term of the deferral. Of the \$950 million in Proposition 1B funds available FY 2007-08, Fresno County is slated to receive approximately \$12.2 million and Fresno County cities to receive a combined total of approximately \$14.5 million. The bill states that it "addresses the fiscal emergency declared by the Governor by a proclamation issued on January 10, 2008, pursuant to the California Constitution". SB X3 5 is currently being considered in the Senate and the bill text is included in the agenda packet for your review.

Please contact staff person, Jennifer Dansby, if you have any questions regarding the listed bills in your agenda packet or if you require a more in-depth analysis of any particular bill. [DANSBY]

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

**E. FY 2007-08 Second Quarter Progress Report**

**Summary:** Included in your agenda packet is the FY 2007-08 Second Quarter Progress Report which shows funds expended and work performed in each work element during the second quarter. [BESHEARS]

**Action:** Staff, TTC and PAC recommend acceptance of the FY2007-08 Second Quarter Progress Report as presented.

#### F. Support for UC Merced Medical School

**Summary:** At their February Policy Board meeting, Councilmember Rico Aguayo requested that staff return this month with a request for the Board to support the establishment of a UC Merced School of Medicine. If the Board decides to take a position of support, then staff will draft a letter to the University of California's Board of Regents, the Governing Board of the UC school system, encouraging the members to approve the continued planning of a medical school at UC Merced.

In May, the Board of Regents will be deciding if the school is a good idea and if they will move forward with the planning of the project.

Included in your agenda packet is the following background information:

1. Editorials from the Fresno Bee and the Modesto Bee.
2. List of project supporters.
3. Executive Summary of the *Program Proposal and Business Plan to establish a UC Merced School of Medicine*. [DANSBY]

**Action:** Staff and PAC recommend sending a letter of support for the development of a School of Medicine at UC Merced.

#### G. Regional Clearinghouse

| Project                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Applicant                |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Fresno Yosemite International Airport (FAT) Rehabilitate Taxiway B6-2/3 (Const); Rehabilitate Taxiway B (Design); Rehabilitate Taxiway C (Design); Rehabilitate Commercial Aviation Apron AC/PCC (Design); Install enhanced Taxiway Center Markings | City of Fresno, Airports |

**Summary:** Your agenda package includes this month's Clearinghouse Calendar containing a "Project Notification and Review Report" for a pending grant proposal.

City of Fresno, Airports, is applying for a Federal Aviation Administration, Airport Improvement Program (AIP) grant for the Fresno Yosemite International Airport (FYI) which are allocated for Taxiway construction and rehabilitation. The grant is in the amount of \$6,562,980 (Federal), and \$345,420 in applicant funds for a total of \$6,908,400. [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.

### VI. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

#### A. Farmland Conservation Model Program Update

**Summary:** On Thursday, February 28, 2008, Fresno COG and the American Farmland Trust hosted two public outreach meetings directed at elected officials and employees of the

incorporated cities in Fresno County. The purpose of these meetings was to solicit feedback on the maps and the work completed thus far as part of the Model Farmland Conservation Program. Comments and suggestions will be incorporated into the work completed to date.

Turnout at the meetings scheduled for February 28, 2008 was much lower than expected giving staff the opportunity to engage in one-to-one discussion with decision-makers. Fresno COG staff was very happy with the quality of feedback provided by participating municipal staff. As a result, the decision was made to meet individually with the leadership of participating municipal agencies to solicit feedback about how the Farmland Conservation Model Program will affect their communities. These meetings are in the process of being booked at the time of this writing. Meetings are scheduled to take place in the latter part of March 2008.

The Farmland Conservation Model Program Advisory Committee met on March 10, 2008 at the Fresno COG offices to review progress. The Steering Committee continues to meet to oversee development of the program. Currently, American Farmland Trust staff is developing a 'toolkit' which includes best practices currently in use throughout the United States and the world that are applicable for agricultural conservation in Fresno County. Development of the Farmland Conservation Model Program is still on track for completion in August of 2008. [SOBRADO]

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

## **B. Statewide and San Joaquin Valley 511 Project Update**

**Summary:** The Fresno COG, in cooperation with Caltrans District 6, sponsored and hosted the California 511 Conference #7 at Caltrans Manchester Center on March 3 and 4, 2008. The agenda for the conference is included in your agenda packet. Attended by 50 traveler information system or 511 professionals from throughout California and the United States, the group met for one and a half days to share information on the latest developments and implementation of Traveler information systems statewide.

Highlights from the conference include:

- Discussion on how the 511 systems in the Bay Area and San Diego emerged and performed as key disseminators of information during the Mace Bridge collapse in the Bay Area last year and the San Diego wildfires in October of 2007.
- Update and lessons learned on the one year anniversary of the public release of the San Diego 511 system.
- Announcement of awarding of the contract to build out the 511 system for Los Angeles, Ventura, San Bernardino, Riverside and Orange Counties.
- Recent findings from a study performed by the California Center for Intelligent Transportation at UC Berkeley on the optimal placement of roadway sensors for traffic monitoring,
- And much more.

A great deal of advice was also given by participants on how to plan for and implement a 511 or Traveler information system. This information will be very helpful if and when the San Joaquin Valley decides to enhance its own planned but basic system.

Fresno COG staff also recently received an update from the Sacramento Council of Governments (SACOG) regarding the status of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the 'Baseline 511'. The MOU has been approved by the SACOG Policy Board. Participating San Joaquin Valley COGs can expect to receive a copy of the MOU to take before their boards for approval shortly. [SOBRADO]

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

**C. Local Preference Policy**

**Summary:** At the request of the COG Policy Board, Fresno COG is currently researching local procurement preference policies. Such a policy, where legally applicable, would grant some degree of preferential consideration to local firms and consultants when contracting for their services. [WEBSTER]

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

**D. 2008 San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council's "Valley Voices" Advocacy Effort**

**Summary:** In January, the Policy Board accepted The Legislative Platform of the San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agencies, which outlines the common issues amongst the Valley COG's for State and Federal legislative advocacy.

Also in January, staff informed our committees that the San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council, made up of two elected officials from each of the eight Valley counties and the Directors from the each of the eight Valley Regional Transportation Planning Agencies, would be going to Sacramento on Wednesday, March 12<sup>th</sup> to meet with our State legislative representatives, the Governor's office, the California Transportation Commission, and key staff from State agencies.

The purpose of the trip was to introduce the Regional Policy Council as a unified political body representing the Valley and to highlight key issues from the Valley Legislative Platform for State legislative advocacy. This delegation called themselves Valley Voices during the trip to distinguish themselves from other similar advocacy efforts.

A complete packet of information about the trip will be provided to the Policy Board at their meeting.

If you would like more information about the 2008 Regional Policy Council's Valley Voices advocacy effort please contact Jennifer Dansby by phone: (559) 233-4148 or email: [jenniferd@fresnocog.org](mailto:jenniferd@fresnocog.org). [DANSBY]

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

**E. 2008 Sacramento "One Voice" Update**

**Summary:** Staff has been providing monthly updates on Fresno COG's "One Voice" advocacy effort in Sacramento that took place on Monday, March 10<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>.

A complete packet of information about the trip will be provided to the Policy Board at their meeting.

If you would like more information about the 2008 Sacramento "One Voice" effort please contact Jennifer Dansby by phone: (559) 233-4148 or email: [jenniferd@fresnocog.org](mailto:jenniferd@fresnocog.org).

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

**F. San Joaquin Valley Blueprint – Monthly Update**

*The San Joaquin Valley Blueprint is an eight county regional planning process that will provide a vision for sustainable growth in the Valley to the year 2050. The Blueprint will provide local agencies with tools to implement this vision in a manner intended to enhance the quality of life for all residents.*

**Summary:** We are now in the midst of Phase III of the Blueprint planning process where we are refining and testing the five alternative growth scenarios (included in your packet) in order to understand their impacts on land consumption, traffic congestion and air quality. These preliminary scenarios were developed by the Blueprint technical committee and are being edited by the Blueprint Roundtable. We hope to take this information to the public for their feedback in April. As part of that effort, we will again be scheduling presentations at all city council meetings in conjunction with community workshops, and at the Board of Supervisors and LAFCo. As we move forward in our analysis of options, we need an involved citizenry and electorate. We are on an extremely tight schedule during this phase as we coordinate our outreach activities with the other seven COGs in the Valley to move local preferences on to UC Davis so that they can be considered in the Valleywide regional analysis. We will need the help of all of our member agencies and community partners to make this a truly successful endeavor. We have hired Jeffrey Scott Advertising to assist us with the marketing efforts over the next several months.

Please join us at the monthly Blueprint Roundtable meetings on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday from 9:30 – 11:30 AM in the Sequoia Conference Room at COG. Our website [www.fresnocog.org](http://www.fresnocog.org) has information on all aspects of the Blueprint. Or contact Barbara Steck at 559-233-4148 or by email at [bjsteck@fresnocog.org](mailto:bjsteck@fresnocog.org). [STECK]

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

**G. Status Report on Sacramento Lobbying Activities—Steve Samuelian, California Consulting LLC**

**Summary:** California Consulting staff will provide an update on Sacramento Lobbying Activities. [SAMUELIAN]

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

**H. Contract Increase for VRPA Technologies**

**Summary:** On June 30 2007 we entered into a \$75,000 contract with VRPA to provide Measure “C” planning support and guidance during the development of implementation strategies for Measure “C”. The contract runs through June 30, 2008. VRPA was selected because they have been intricately involved in the Measure planning process from the beginning. VRPA also completed the environmental impact report for our Regional Transportation Plan and was instrumental in developing and maintaining the criteria by which projects are cleared and prioritized for inclusion in the document.

We are currently in the process of developing a Strategic Plan for the billion dollar Regional Highway projects which must dovetail with the development of the Regional Transportation Mitigation fee. The process has been complicated by the dynamics of financing the project list. VRPA will need an additional \$22,500 to continue through June 30, 2008. The contract cost increase will be paid from our budget contingency for Measure planning funds. [BESHEARS]

**Action:** Staff and PAC recommend that the Board authorize a \$22,500 increase in VRPA's contract for Measure "C" planning support and guidance, to be funded from the budget contingency for Measure planning funds.

**VII. ELECTION OF CHAIR & VICE CHAIR**

**VIII. OTHER BUSINESS**

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

Fresno COG Sitting As the Abandoned Vehicle Abatement Authority - [COG Agenda](#) - [Agenda](#)

**IX. ABANDONED VEHICLE ABATEMENT – FY 2006-07 SECOND QUARTER STATUS REPORT AND ADJUSTMENTS TO CITY OF SANGER HOURLY RATE AND STANDARD HOURLY RATE**

**Summary:** As stated in the 2003 Fresno County Abandoned Vehicle Abatement Service Authority Plan, the Fresno COG, as administrator of the AVA Program, shall submit a quarterly status report to the Fresno County Abandoned Vehicle Abatement Service Authority. The Service Authority has directed the quarterly status report first be presented to the Policy Advisory Committee for review and recommendation. Status reports are submitted quarterly to ensure proper distribution of funding to the member agencies. This status report contains the following information:

- The gross amount of money received by the Authority from the Abandoned Vehicle Trust Fund during the quarter.
- An itemized statement of the Abandoned Vehicle Trust Fund monies expended by the Authority during the quarter.
- An accounting of money expended for major purchases, if any.
- An accounting of unexpended revenues from the Abandoned Vehicle Trust Fund.
- An accounting of the total number of vehicles and parts thereof abated by the Authority during the quarter.

The enclosures for this item indicate the level of activity and distribution of funding to member agencies. For the second quarter of FY 2007-08, a total of \$183,751.77 in current AVA revenues was available for distribution to member agencies and to the Fresno COG for program administration. During the quarter, member agencies expended \$118,562.38 conducting AVA activities and the Fresno COG claimed \$2,375.00 for program administration. A total of 783 vehicles were abated this quarter, compared to 939 vehicles abated during the same quarter of the previous fiscal year, a substantial decrease in vehicle abatements. This decrease was largely due to the City of Fresno focusing inspectors on other priorities during the quarter and is expected to return to the more typical pattern of year over year growth in vehicle abatements

The City of Sanger has submitted the enclosed letter dated March 4, 2008 requesting an increase in its hourly rate to \$68.00 and has submitted additional information in support of the requested increase. Sanger has nearly doubled the pay of Code Enforcement Officers since July 2006 and cost recovery calculations for the AVA program include an hourly vehicle rate fee and an administrative fee which are not captured by either the current or proposed (see following paragraph) standard hourly rate. Therefore, Staff and PAC recommend approval of Sanger's request.

Staff and PAC are also recommending an increase from \$47.00 to \$62.00 in the current standard hourly rate for all participants. The \$47.00 amount has been in effect since program inception and is the same as the Special Inspection Rate included originally in the 1997 Uniform Building Code and subsequently incorporated into the 2001 California Building Code. Staff has been advised that the 2007 update of the Uniform Building Code, now called the International Building Code, no longer includes the Fee Tables from the earlier codes. The \$62.00 recommendation is instead based on the increase in the Consumer Price Index since 1997. [THOMPSON]

**Action:** Staff and PAC recommend acceptance of the Abandoned Vehicle Abatement FY 2007-08 Second Quarter Summary Report. Staff further recommends approval of the City of Sanger's request to increase its hourly rate to \$68.00 and the staff request to increase the standard hourly rate to \$62.00.

**X. CLOSED SESSION**

- A. Government Code Section 54957 Public Employment – Title: Executive Director

**XI. OPEN SESSION**

- A. Discussion & Approval of Amendment to Executive Director Employment Contract

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

\*\*All enclosures are available on our website at [www.fresnocog.org](http://www.fresnocog.org) – Committees and Agendas