

July 2008 Fresno COG Board Report**FROM CALIFORNIA CONSULTING, LLC**

- **High Speed Rail:** We worked this month with Assemblywoman Cathleen Galgiani (D-Merced) on her AB 3034 to promote the High Speed Rail issue. See attached information. We are gathering support Valley-wide, if you have not sent in a letter of support from your City please do so. We are also lobbying Members of the Legislature and their Staff for support of this important bill.
- **Grade Separation:** We are continuing to work with CTC on the Grade Sep. grant money that will be available. See March memo and update.
- **Drought Issue:** We have been in communication with the Governor's office and Valley legislators on this drought issue. See attached the transcript from the Conference Call on the Drought convened by the Governor's Office and the News Release regarding the Emergency Declaration.
- **San Joaquin Valley Partnership:** AB 2342 (D-Parra) passed the Senate Business and Professions Committee this month. Partnership leader Peter Weber was present in Sacramento to testify in support of the bill. Next stop is the Senate Appropriations Committee. If you have not sent a letter of support, please do so. We have been and continue to working closely with Assemblywoman Parra on this bill including on the day of passage earlier this month. Assemblywoman Parra deserves credit for her outstanding work on this issue.
- **State and Local Partnership:** We have been working with the Transportation Committee Consultants and Governor's Office on this issue throughout the month. See attached Memo update.
- **SB 974 Port Container Fees:** this is the port container fee bill, which Fresno COG deemed their #1 issue during the March, 2008 "One Voice" visit. We continue to work diligently on this issue and communicated this month with the Governor's Office and Senator Lowenthal's Office regarding this issue. We are also working with the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley Air Quality Working Group and the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District to in order to present a united "Valley position." Several meetings, conference calls, as well as phone and e-mail communication continues on a regular basis with our Office, Working Group Chairman Weber and Air District Director Sadredin on this issue. Most recently, we have been in regular communication with the Governor's Deputy Legislative Secretary for Transportation Curt Augustine on this issue. Update to be provided.
- **SB 1507:** At the request of Fresno COG staff we alerted the Valley state legislative delegation to the Regional Policy Council's opposition to SB 1507

(Oropeza). We have been working with the Valley delegation to strongly relay the RPC's opposition and concerns that Fresno COG has about the bill as well. A list of projects that would be negatively impacted in Fresno County has been provided by Fresno COG. Senator Cogdill in the Senate and Assemblyman Villines in the Assembly both are opposing this bill and have exhibited fantastic principled leadership opposing SB 1507.

- **AB 2522:** We have been in close communication with both Assemblyman Arambula's Office and Senator Florez's Office regarding AB 2522. We have also communicated with Fresno COG our findings and the results of our discussions with Capitol staff. Clearly this is a bill that will have a major impact on the Valley. Both Mr. Arambula and Mr. Florez should be recognized for their leadership on the air quality issue.
- **Prop. 84:** Many of you have expressed interest in the Prop. 84 parks money. We have worked on this issue very aggressively since the bond was passed. See attached the latest update. Assemblyman Arambula and his Office have done an excellent job on this issue.
- Steve has continued his personal communication with Legislators and Staff from the Valley state legislative offices both in the District and Capitol Offices.
- Steve has also kept in regular communication both with the Governor's Fresno office staff and the Governor's Sacramento staff.
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Assembly Member **CATHLEEN GALGIANI**

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Reichel Everhart, (916) 319-2017;
Robin Adam, (209) 658-2600

High Speed Rail One Step Closer to Reality *Galgiani's AB 3034 Heads to the Senate*

(Sacramento, CA) – Assemblymember Cathleen Galgiani (D-Livingston) last week was able to successfully pilot the *Safe, Reliable High-Speed Passenger Train Bond Act for the 21st Century* legislation out of the Assembly on a vote of 63-0.

Assembly Bill 3034 will update and improve the High-Speed Train Bond Act that will be considered by voters statewide this November. The bill, sponsored by the California High Speed Rail Authority, was developed in response to modifications suggested in the 2008-09 Proposed Governor's Budget released in January.

"AB 3034 establishes additional fiscal controls on the expenditure of state bond funds to ensure that they are directed to construction activities in the most cost-effective and efficient way" stated Galgiani, "in addition, it also allows the Altamont corridor to compete for bond and other available funding".

The Authority staff has recommended the Pacheco Pass route as the preferred alternative route for the Central Valley to the Bay Area segment. However, AB 3034 allows for complementary high-speed train improvements to the existing Altamont corridor. Additionally, the route includes a station in the City of Merced and proposes a maintenance facility at Castle Air Force Base in Atwater."

The Honorable Judge Quentin Kopp, long-time legislator and proponent of High-Speed Rail, was among the many that came and testified in the Assembly Transportation Committee about the significance of providing California with a viable interregional public transportation system. "The bi-partisan and unanimous support for these new taxpayer safeguards gives California's proposed high-speed rail system a new burst of momentum", stated Judge Kopp, "No better legacy exists for our Legislature and the Governor than leaving current and future generations with a 220 mph train system, reducing carbon emissions, meeting mandated air-quality goals and creating over a half-million new jobs, all without taxpayer-funded operating subsidies."

"This will be the largest transportation project California has seen since the Transcontinental Railroad was built 140 years ago. If we don't build a high-speed rail train, we will have to add 3,000 miles of highway and five airport runways in the state. Additionally, construction of a high-speed rail will stimulate the economy as it translates to 300,000 job years in the construction industry" stated Galgiani.

Electrically propelled, high speed trains use less energy than cars and airplanes. High speed trains would dramatically reduce the carbon dioxide emissions that cause global warming and will also reduce California's dependence on foreign oil. Additionally, with bullet trains operating at speeds up to 220 mph, the express travel time from downtown San Francisco to Los Angeles is just under 2 ½ hours.

ASSEMBLY BILL 3034**High Speed Train Bond Act****Authors: Assemblymembers Galgiani and Ma****(Principal coauthor: Assemblymember Davis)****(Coauthors: Assemblymembers Aghazarian, Karnette and Solorio)****(Coauthors: Senators Alquist, Steinberg and Torlakson)****BACKGROUND**

SB 1856 (Costa, 2002) and subsequent legislation provided for submission of the Safe, Reliable, High-Speed Passenger Train Bond Act for the 21st Century to state voters for approval at the November 4, 2008 general election. Approval of the bond act is intended to provide state funding to initiate the construction of the 800 mile statewide intercity high-speed passenger train system. The new high-speed train network will serve the major population centers in the state and link regional and local transit systems to form an integrated transportation network throughout California.

The bond act will provide for the issuance of \$9.95 billion of general obligation bonds, \$9 billion of which will be made available in conjunction with federal and private funds for the planning and construction of a high-speed train system consistent with the adopted business plan of the High-Speed Rail Authority, and \$950 million of which will be available for capital projects on other passenger rail lines to provide connectivity to the high-speed train system and for capacity enhancements and safety improvements to those lines.

PURPOSE OF BILL

Assembly Bill 3034 revises and updates provisions of the existing High-Speed Train Bond Act enacted in the 2002 legislation, and establishes additional fiscal controls on the expenditure of state bond funds to ensure that they are directed to construction

AB 3034 was developed in consultation with Governor Schwarzenegger's office. Specifically, AB 3034 does the following:

- States the Legislature's intent that construction of the high-speed train (HST) system be consistent with the High Speed

Rail Authority's more recent November 2005 certified environmental impact report rather than the Authority's June 2000 Final Business Plan.

- Ensures that the \$9 billion in bond proceeds are available and are to be used for expenditure for planning and eligible capital costs on the system's entire 800 mile route. Also extends this system wide availability to federal and other revenues, consistent with federal and other fund source conditions.
- Makes the Altamont rail corridor connecting the Central Valley to the East Bay eligible for the state high-speed train bond money and federal and other revenues made available to the Authority.
- Prohibits a high-speed train station between Gilroy and Merced.
- Places a limit on the use of bond funds for preconstruction activities in order to maximize the amount of funds available for HST system construction, by limiting to 10% or less the amount that can be used for environmental studies, planning and
- Requires that in selecting each specific segment for construction and prior to awarding a construction contract, the Authority must have a detailed funding plan identifying the full cost of constructing the segment and the sources of all revenues

AB 3034 FACT SHEET

Office of Assemblymember Cathleen Galgiani - Contact: Victoria Grajek or Allie Fidler 916/319-2017
Office of Assemblymember Fiona Ma - Contact: Bill Barnes 916/319-2012

needed to complete the segment's construction.

- Provides also that in selecting each segment for construction, the Authority must a) give priority to those segments requiring the smallest amount of bond funds as a percentage of the total construction cost, b) consider the utility of that segment for other passenger rail services, and c) ensure that any other passenger services provided on that segment will not result in operating or maintenance costs to the Authority.
- Ensures that complementary rail capital improvements funded from the \$950 million in bond funds allocated to intercity, commuter and urban rail systems shall provide *direct* connectivity and benefits to the HST system and its facilities or be part of the construction of the system.
- Requires that net operating revenues, above and beyond operating, maintenance financial obligations and construction completion costs of the HST system, must be deposited in the state's General Fund.
- Revises and updates findings of the Legislature to reference the need for high-speed trains to accommodate California's economic and population growth, and offset increasing traffic congestion, air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions and loss of prime land. Also references the low cost of the train system as compared to highway and air travel alternatives and states the need to quickly construct the train in a manner that maximizes benefits consistent with available revenues.

- Takes effect immediately to make the changes operative in time for the November 4, 2008 vote on the bond act.
- Makes conforming and related technical and recasts some existing wording for clarification.

SUPPORT

- California High-Speed Rail Authority, Sponsor
- Association for California High Speed Trains
- California State Association of Counties
- Consulting Engineers and Land Surveyors of California (CELSOC)
- Orange County Transportation Authority
- Silicon Valley Leadership Group
- Consulting Engineers and Land Surveyors of California
- Rail Passenger Association of California (RailPAC)
- San Francisco International Airport
- Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority
- Board of Supervisors, Sacramento
- Don Knabe, Board of Supervisors, County of Los Angeles, Chairman Pro Tem
- San Diego Association of Governments
- Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority
- City of Sacramento
- San Mateo County Economic Development Association (SAMCEDA)
- Merced County Supervisor, John Pedrozo

STATUS

- Assembly Transportation Committee, 10-0
- Assembly Appropriations Committee, 12-0

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Date: Tue, 3 Jun 2008 16:12:08 -0700 (PDT)**From:** "steve samuelian" <ca-consulting@sbcglobal.net>**Subject:** AB3034

Attached please find a press release and fact sheet for Assembly Bill 3034 regarding the High Speed Rail. The bill is authored by our great Valley Assemblywoman Cathleen Galgiani (D-Merced). Support letters for the bill can be sent to Assemblywoman Galgiani. If you are able to send a support letter please send our office a copy. Thank You

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Attachments

Files:

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|  AB3034_Galgiani_06.03.08.doc (231k) [Preview] |
|  AB3034_Galgiani_Fact_Sheet_06.03.08.doc (27k) [Preview] |

<http://us.f813.mail.yahoo.com/ym/ShowLetter?box=BIG%20LIST%20E%2dMAILS&Ms...> 6/18/2008

WHEREAS the crop losses will cause increased food prices, which will negatively impact families and economies throughout California and beyond our borders; and

WHEREAS the lack of water deliveries has forced local communities to draw water from their emergency water reserves, putting communities at risk of further catastrophe if emergency reserves are depleted or cut off; and

WHEREAS the circumstances of the severe drought conditions, by reason of their magnitude, are beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment and facilities of any single county, city and county, or city and require the combined forces of a mutual aid region or regions to combat; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of section 8558(b) of the California Government Code, I find that conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property exist within the counties of Sacramento, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced, Madera, Fresno, Kings, Tulare and Kern, caused by the current and continuing severe drought conditions.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, Governor of the State of California, in accordance with the authority vested in me by the California Constitution and the California Emergency Services Act, and in particular, section 8625 of the California Government Code, **HEREBY PROCLAIM A STATE OF EMERGENCY** to exist within the counties of Sacramento, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced, Madera, Fresno, Kings, Tulare and Kern.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that all agencies of the state government utilize and employ state personnel, equipment and facilities for the performance of any and all activities consistent with the direction of my Office of Emergency Services (OES) and the State Emergency Plan, and that OES provide local government assistance under the authority of the California Disaster Assistance Act, and that the emergency exemptions in sections 21080(b)(3) and 21172 of the Public Resources Code shall apply to all activities and projects ordered and directed under this proclamation, to the fullest extent allowed by law.

I FURTHER DIRECT THAT:

1. OES shall provide assistance under the authority of the California Disaster Assistance Act, by assisting public water agencies with drilling of groundwater wells or the improvement of existing wells and water delivery systems for human consumption, sanitation, and emergency protective measures, such as fire fighting.
2. The Department of Water Resources (DWR) shall transfer groundwater of appropriate quality through the use of the California Aqueduct to benefit farmers in the San Joaquin Valley .
3. DWR and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) shall expedite the processing of water transfer requests.
4. DWR, in cooperation with USBR, shall make operational changes to State Water Project facilities, including the San Luis Reservoir and Southern California reservoirs, that will permit additional water deliveries to the San Joaquin Valley .
5. DWR shall prepare and file necessary water right urgency change petitions to facilitate surface water transfers and the use of joint point of diversion by the SWP and Central Valley Project.
6. SWRCB shall expedite the processing and consideration of water rights urgency change petitions filed by DWR and other water agencies to facilitate water transfers to the San Joaquin Valley .

I FURTHER DIRECT that as soon as hereafter possible, this proclamation be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State and that widespread publicity and notice be given of this proclamation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 12th day of June, 2008.

SCHWARZENEGGER

ARNOLD

Governor of California

ATTEST:

DEBRA BOWEN

Secretary of State

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Date: Tue, 17 Jun 2008 14:46:35 -0700 (PDT)
From: "steve samuelian" <ca-consulting@sbcglobal.net>
Subject: AB 2342 - Partnership for San Joaquin Valley

Fresno COG has named AB 2342 as a key bill for this legislative session and asked our Office to advocate strongly for its passage. Along those lines, we have worked closely with the author Assemblywoman Nicole Parra. AB 2342 is the bill to make permanent the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley. Ms. Parra has done incredible work moving this bill forward. As you know, the Partnership has accomplished a great deal and is vital to the continued success of our Valley at the local, regional, state, and even federal levels.

Yesterday, Ms. Parra's Office informed us that AB 2342 passed the Senate Business and Professions Committee and will now head to Senate Appropriations Committee. Valley community leader and Partnership leader Peter Weber testified at the hearing in support of the bill. Thank You Pete for your leadership.

If you have not already sent a letter of support for AB 2342 please consider doing so. Letters can be sent to Ms. Parra at the State Capitol, Sacramento, CA: 95814. Thank You. Working together this fantastic bill can become law.

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Date: Mon, 9 Jun 2008 10:12:11 -0700 (PDT)**From:** "steve samuelian" <ca-consulting@sbcglobal.net>**Subject:** State and Local Partnership Update

Many of you know (and I have sent updates on this issue in the past) that the Legislature was unable to reach agreement last year on distribution of the State and Local Partnership monies from the Transportation Bond Prop. 1B. These monies are particularly important to valley counties, especially Fresno County which has Measure C. The two competing school of thoughts last year in the Legislature posed an Assembly Bill AB 1351 that sought to limit what could be counted as a match to only locally voter approved sales taxes dedicated to transportation needs vs. A Senate Bill SB 748 which sought to broaden the definition of local match to include all voter approved taxes, and fees, bridge tolls, uniform developer fees, etc. After not reaching agreement both the Assembly and Senate leadership put this issue on hold last year.

Our office has continued to track this issue and the latest update as of late last week is as follows:

SENATE: THE SENATE NOW WANTS TO ADDRESS THE STATE AND LOCAL PARTNERSHIP ISSUE THROUGH A TRAILER BILL AND TIE IT TO THE APPROPRIATION OF THE MONEY. All Prop. 1B money still needs to be appropriated by the Legislature. Just because the voters approved it, all monies must be appropriated by the Legislature before they can be spent. In the Senate's version there would be TWO pots of money. The main pot of money would specify that the eligible local match would be limited to local sales tax \$. The second smaller pot would be for any voter-approved fund.

ASSEMBLY: The Assembly wants to handle this issue in a policy bill and not go through the budget process. The Assembly's goal is remains to limit the local eligible match to local sales tax money only.

There is also a growing debate in the Legislature between whether or not this money should be distributed on a formula basis or on a grant based allocation basis.

Our office will continue to be very involved in this important issue and will continually send updates.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

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YAHOO! MAIL
Classic

Date: Thu, 19 Jun 2008 15:00:04 -0700 (PDT)
From: "steve samuelian" <ca-consulting@sbcglobal.net>
Subject: Fwd: Prop. 84 Park Bond Money

AB 31 continues to be major bill dealing with distribution and setting the guidelines of the Prop. 84 Parks money. At the request of our clients including cities and Fresno COG, our Office has monitored this bill and held regular meetings with Parks and Rec. staff in Sacramento regarding this issue since the passage of Prop. 84. Assemblyman Arambula has done an excellent job of advocating for rural areas to be eligible for the Prop. 84 Parks and Rec. monies. As of our meetings this week, AB 31 remains in the Rules Committee but the Author's Office has indicated a desire to move the bill forward. The language below is favorable towards the Valley and Mr. Arambula has indicated he is supportive of the bill as long as the language remains in the bill. We will continue to monitor AB 31 and work with Mr. Arambula and the entire Valley State Legislative Delegation on this issue. The pertinent language from AB 31 is below.

Here is the language from the bill:

(b) "Critically underserved community" means a community that meets either of the following:

(1) Has less than three acres of usable parkland per 1,000 residents.

(2) Is a disadvantaged community, as defined by subdivision

(g) of Section 75005, and can demonstrate to the department that the community has

insufficient or no park and recreation facilities.

YAHOO! MAIL
Classic**Date:** Thu, 12 Jun 2008 16:34:34 -0700 (PDT)**From:** "steve samuelian" <ca-consulting@sbcglobal.net>**Subject:** State of Emergency - Water**From:** Governor's Press Office**Sent:** Thursday, June 12, 2008 2:14 PM**Subject:** Gov. Schwarzenegger Proclaims State of Emergency for Central Valley Region
and Takes Action to Address Urgent Water Needs

GAAS:331:08

For Immediate Release:

Contact: Aaron McLear

Thursday, June 12, 2008

Lisa Page

916-445-4571

Gov. Schwarzenegger Proclaims State of Emergency for Central Valley Region and Takes Action to Address Urgent Water Needs

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger today proclaimed a state of emergency in the following nine Central Valley counties due to severe water shortages: Sacramento, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced, Madera, Fresno, Kings, Tulare and Kern. When the Governor issued his Executive Order last week declaring a statewide drought, he directed his state agencies and departments to take immediate action to address the serious drought conditions and water delivery reductions that exist in California, and today's announcement builds on those actions.

"Just last week, I said we would announce regional emergencies wherever the state's drought situation warrants them, and in the Central Valley, an emergency proclamation is necessary to protect our economy and way of life," Governor Schwarzenegger said. "Central Valley agriculture is a \$20 billion a year industry. If we don't get them water immediately the results will be devastating. Food prices, which are already stretching many family budgets, will continue to

climb and workers will lose their jobs—everyone's livelihood will be impacted in some way."

The Governor's emergency proclamation today is based in part on an assessment of the full impact that additional, unexpected cuts recently made by federal water officials to San Joaquin Valley farmers have had in the middle of the growing season. As a result, the Governor's proclamation directs the Department of Water Resources to work with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation to deliver more water now through the State Water Project when it's needed most. It also orders his Department of Water Resources to transfer groundwater through the California Aqueduct to benefit farmers in the affected counties and the State Water Resources Control Board to review water transfers as quickly as possible.

"We would not be talking about any of this if over the last 40 years California had invested in our water infrastructure. Today we are taking aggressive action to address an immediate crisis, but a comprehensive solution is the only answer to addressing our drought situation in the long term," Governor Schwarzenegger said.

Beginning with the first Strategic Growth Plan in 2006, the Governor called for a comprehensive plan to address California's urgent water needs. The Governor renewed that call in his 2008-09 budget by proposing an \$11.9 billion water bond for water management investments that will address population growth, climate change, water supply reliability and environmental needs. Specifically, the bond includes:

- Water Storage: \$3.5 billion dedicated to the development of additional storage.
- Delta Sustainability: \$2.4 billion to help implement a sustainable resource management plan for the Delta.
- Water Resources Stewardship: \$1.1 billion to implement river restoration projects.
- Water Conservation: \$3.1 billion to increase water use efficiency.

- Water Quality Improvement: \$1.1 billion for efforts to reduce the contamination of groundwater.
- Other Critical Water Projects: \$700 million for water recycling, hillside restoration for areas devastated by fire and removal of fish barriers on key rivers and streams.

The Governor is committed to gaining consensus on a bipartisan legislative solution for California's future.

- In February, Governor Schwarzenegger sent a letter to Senators Perata, Steinberg, and Machado clarifying the administrative actions under consideration as part of a comprehensive solution in the Delta.
- Also in February, the Governor hosted a meeting with Senator Feinstein, legislative leaders and key stakeholders to discuss rebuilding California's water infrastructure.
- In December 2007, the Governor applauded the work of the Delta Vision Blue Ribbon Task Force and committed to continuing to work with legislative leaders on a comprehensive water solution.
- In September 2007, the Governor introduced a comprehensive water infrastructure proposal during the legislative special session, building off of the plan he introduced in January 2007 as part of the 2007-08 budget.
- In July 2007, the Governor directed DWR to take immediate action to improve conditions in the Delta, to help restore its natural habitat and protect the Delta smelt and other species.

The full text of the Governor's proclamation is below:

**A PROCLAMATION
OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS on June 4, 2008, I issued an Executive Order proclaiming a statewide drought; and

WHEREAS in my June 4 Executive Order, I called on all Californians to conserve water, and I directed state agencies and departments to take immediate action to address the serious drought conditions and water delivery reductions that exist in California ; and

WHEREAS in issuing my June 4 Executive Order, I said that I would proclaim a state of emergency in any county where emergency conditions exist due to the drought, in an effort to protect the people and property of California, including the businesses, workers and communities that depend on water deliveries for their livelihood and survival; and

WHEREAS since issuing my June 4 Executive Order, I have determined that emergency conditions exist in Central Valley counties caused by the continuing drought conditions in California and the reductions in water deliveries; and

WHEREAS statewide rainfall has been below normal in 2007 and 2008, with many Southern California communities receiving only 20 percent of normal rainfall in 2007, and Northern California this year experiencing the driest spring on record with most communities receiving less than 20 percent of normal rainfall from March through May; and

WHEREAS California is experiencing critically dry water conditions in the Sacramento and San Joaquin River basins and the statewide runoff forecast for 2008 is estimated to be 41 percent below average; and

WHEREAS water storage in many of the reservoirs serving the Central Valley are far below normal including San Luis reservoir which is at 53 percent

of capacity, Lake Shasta at 61 percent of capacity and Lake Oroville at just 50 percent of capacity; and

WHEREAS diversions from the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta for the State Water Project (SWP) and federal Central Valley Project (CVP) are being greatly restricted due to various factors including federal court actions to protect fish species, resulting in estimated SWP deliveries of only 35 percent, and CVP deliveries of only 40 percent, of local agencies' requested amounts for 2008; and

WHEREAS the United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) recently announced an unexpected reduction in its water supply allocations to Central Valley Project (CVP) contractors within the San Luis Delta Mendota Water Agency Service Area from 45 percent to 40 percent; and

WHEREAS this unanticipated reduction will result in crop loss, increased unemployment and other direct and indirect economic impacts to Central Valley counties; and

WHEREAS water rationing has been ordered by the City of Long Beach, the City of Roseville, and the East Bay Municipal Utility District, which serves 1.3 million people in Alameda and Contra Costa counties; and

WHEREAS on June 10, 2008, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, which supplies water for 26 cities and water agencies serving 18 million people in six southern California counties, declared a water supply alert in an effort to sustain their water reserves; and

WHEREAS some communities are also restricting new residential and commercial development because of unreliable or uncertain water supplies, and this is causing harm to the economy; and

WHEREAS dry conditions have created a situation of extreme fire danger in California, and these conditions resulted in devastating fires last year, with wildfires causing millions of dollars in damages; and

WHEREAS San Joaquin Valley agriculture constitutes a \$20 billion industry, and serves as an essential part of California's economy; and

WHEREAS the lack of water will cause devastating harm to the communities that rely on this important industry, as growers lack sufficient water to finish the growing season, are forced to abandon planted crops, and are forced to dismiss workers; and

WHEREAS the lack of water is causing agricultural workers in the Central Valley to lose their jobs, resulting in a loss of livelihood, an inability to provide for their families, and increased negative social and economic impacts on the communities that depend on them; and

WHEREAS San Joaquin Valley agricultural production and processing industries account for almost 40 percent of regional employment, and every dollar produced on the farm generates more than three dollars in the local and regional economies, and the loss of these dollars is devastating communities; and

WHEREAS almost 20 percent of San Joaquin Valley residents already live in poverty, and it consistently ranks as the top region in the nation in foreclosures; and

WHEREAS as workers lose their jobs because of the lack of water, they often move their families away from the communities, resulting in further harm to local economies, lower enrollments in local schools and reduced funding for schools; and

WHEREAS the city of Fresno received only 54 percent of normal rainfall in 2007 and 76 percent of normal in 2008, and had its fourth driest spring on record; and

WHEREAS on June 11, 2008, the Fresno County Board of Supervisors passed a resolution declaring a local state of emergency due to the severe drought conditions, stating among other things that the lack of water has resulted in water rationing by Fresno County water districts; that these reductions are causing abandonment of current planted seasonal crops and permanent crops; that the cumulative crop reductions will result in job losses in Fresno County communities; that the loss of revenue has negatively impacted Fresno County businesses and Fresno County government tax revenue; and that there will be a substantial negative economic impact to the community; and

WHEREAS the Fresno County Board of Supervisors also requested that I declare a state of emergency due to the drought conditions; and

WHEREAS the Central Valley cities of Bakersfield, Modesto, Stockton, and Sacramento experienced their driest spring on record in 2008, and additional Central Valley counties are experiencing similar emergency conditions caused by drought and lack of water deliveries; and

WHEREAS to date, almost \$65 million in losses have been reported by 19 counties due to reduced rangeland grasses that are used to graze livestock, and those reductions have been caused by drought; and

WHEREAS statewide and local conditions collectively have led to the rationing of water by affected water districts to their member farmers and these further reductions are resulting in abandonment of current planted seasonal crops and permanent crops; and



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Date: Thu, 12 Jun 2008 09:56:27 -0700 (PDT)
From: "steve samuelian" <ca-consulting@sbcglobal.net>
Subject: Drought Stakeholder Briefing Call

Please see attached a transcript of a recent conference call the Governor's Office held regarding the drought situation. I thought this might be of interest to you. Please let me know if you have any questions.
Thanks,
Steve

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Attachments

Files:

 Drought_Briefing_Call_06.04.08.doc (40k) [Preview]

<http://us.f813.mail.yahoo.com/ym/ShowLetter?box=BIG%20LIST%20E%2dMAILS&Ms...> 6/18/2008

Stakeholder Briefing Call- Statewide Drought

Subject: EO Drought
Date: Wednesday, June 04, 2008
Time: 3:30 PM

Opening Remarks: Bismarck Obando - Director of External Affairs, Office of the Governor

Thank you for joining us on the call this afternoon. We thought it was important take some time brief stakeholders on today's announcement. As you know the Governor proclaimed a state wide drought and issued an executive order today and it takes immediate action to address the dire situation in which California communities are being forced to mandate conservation or ration water. On the call we have officials from the Department of Water Resources to brief you on the finer points of the executive order and what it means to your jurisdictions. With us today we have Sue Sims, Chief Deputy Director of Water Resources, Rick Soren, Chief of Water Efficiency and Transfers, and Jeanine Jones, Interstate Resources Coordinator, to answer some of the questions you might have today.

Overview: Sue Sims- Chief Deputy Director, Department of Water Resources

As you know we have just wrapped up the driest spring that Northern California has experienced. We have drought conditions that we need to respond to. Last year was the driest record for a number of communities in Southern California. This year we low snow pack, dry spring, low run off and restrictions from pumping the delta for the state water project and the central valley project. We can't control Mother Nature so we have to act now and prepare for the possibility that next year could be dry. We need to think of ways to reduce our water use, converse, avoid the kind of drought that other places have experienced. Today with his order the Governor put in motion steps to help facilitate water transfers to shortage areas, look into the possibility of seeing federal funding for drought affected farmers, improve coordination between agencies and most importantly to remind Californians to converse water.

Overview: Rick Soren- Chief of Water Efficiency and Transfers, Department of Water Resources

I will just add a couple of points on water agencies in California. They are very familiar with water conservation and among the leaders conservation. In most cases, we know what to do and we just need help doing it. The Department of Water Resources was in the process of advertising the availability of 35 million dollars in water conservation grants this spring. We will do everything we can to expedite the availability of those funds so agencies can have the funds they need to implement additional conservation programs.

Water transfers are another important tool that water managers in California can use. This year with dry conditions the department has worked with agencies that will be transferring about a quarter of a million acre feet across the delta and we are putting plans in motion to prepare for next year and to establish a dry year program to provide even more assistance to agencies next year with water transfers if it turns out next year is another dry year and water is needed.

Q & A Session

Q: Mary Jane Foley- MJS Consulting

Jeanie Jones- I am curious about the 35 million for water conservation, is that over and above Prop. 84? Is it in Prop. 84? Where is it coming from and how do people apply for it? Did all the 100 million that was designated in Prop. 84 go for Imperial count for lining the canals or water reclamations?

I think on the last call that Lester did say that some money was released for storm water and flood control but that was about it. That is not really relevant to conservation or reclamation. Will the Governor do anything to help with encouraging that water desalination projects to get support from the state agencies?

A: Rick Soren- Chief of Water Efficiency and Transfers

That 35 million is the remaining funding from Prop. 50. We do have a draft proposal solicitation package that is posted on the department's website. The draft calls for us to make decisions by December and we are looking how to do a better and faster job to get money out the door. The Prop. 84 money we have yet to have authorization to expend in the form of grants. I don't think we can answer that question at this time but I would be surprised if all that money was just going for one project.

A: Jeanine Jones: Interstate Resources Coordinator

At this point, the legislature has not appropriated the funds through the budget process so we do not have yet.

I think there are some long term strategies. But today's announcements were aimed towards the short term things we may not already be doing and those focus on basic conservation and some water transfers. The big picture - water recycling and desal - those are still on the front burning with looking towards longer strategies. I don't know if those are impacted today.

Q: Mike Antonovich- County of Los Angeles

What is the Governor going to do to expedite the amount of water we are having? Los Angeles County after the earthquake, there were special legislation which waved many of the environmental rules and regulations which had full support because of the need to get the freeway rebuilt in half the time.

Water is a problem. We should be geared towards results and not a process that bogs us down where we continue to have a problem which is the amount of water this state needs to sustain its economy.

So they are looking at the Governor issuing some executive order to move this process along?

A: Jeanine Jones: Interstate Resources Coordinator

Today's announcement was the first of two steps with the second part being emergency declarations which is further to what you are talking about, which would be much more mandatory approach and could help the effect of streamlining processes. Today is just really the predecessor for that or perhaps helps shape how that would be done; this was the help alert people to the problem to see if we can take steps of conservation.

Water transfers- I mean there are farmers that need water now and there may be local agencies that can tap into local water in a couple months. Those flexibility issues are what the Governor asked us to look into to do first while we look into those long term needs. DWR, in the next couple of days/weeks/months, will be talking to local agencies to see what steps and tools you need now so that we make sure you have the water for your customers, businesses and farmers.

Those would be triggered by an emergency situation; that's on the table if and when we need that. He showed willingness to look into that issue by issue, region by region basis. Nothing in terms of waiving permitting and environmental requirements was triggered today but that is not to say it couldn't and wouldn't further into this drought.

Q: Don Kendall- Calleguas MWD

Are you saying that the Governor is going to be looking and operating a water purchasing program somewhere to the drought water bank prior to 2009?

A: Rick Soren- Chief of Water Efficiency and Transfers

This year we helped facilitate about a quarter of a million acre feet worth of transfer across the delta that will be put into use this summer. As we move toward next year, we want to make sure we are ready early to help any agencies that need to get water transfers so we will be gearing up and making the resources of the department available to facilitate those transfers on an as needed basis next year. That could mean a drought water bank like in the past although we found that there is a much higher level of sophistication among water agencies now.

Q: Fred Adjarian- City of Tustin Water Services Division

With regards to establishing a dry year water program in 2009 and in addition to the water bank, can you elaborate on what some of the other thoughts/concepts of what you are thinking about or is it too early?

A: Rick Soren- Chief of Water Efficiency and Transfers

It's pretty early to get into details for a 2009 program. Over the course of the spring, summer, fall, we will be talking with folks in the water/environmental community to see what is needed in assistance next year. If it turns out that a water purchase program is something that would be helpful, I'm sure we'd be willing to looking into that program. If more information or facilitation of water transfers is needed between willing sellers and willing buyers is necessary, then that is the route we will go. It will be determined by what the folks out there need.

Q: Al Montana- Norcal Water

I just wanted to emphasize the need to get the standards relaxed in the San Joaquin so they can move water around to the crops that are devastated today in the water situation. I know in 92 we relaxed them. I know the governor's announcement infers that two days in a life of a crop is huge so I hope we are moving with light speed to get those programs in place so that water can move through the canal. Over the weekend is critical so I hope that it's happening. One day is a huge amount of time if your crops are wilting. I was wondering if we had a time table? Is there anything that came out of

that announcement? People are deciding on what crops and they are huge to the economy of California. 98% of tomatoes come from California and so every day is critical.

A: Jeanine Jones: Interstate Resources Coordinator

Lester Snow had a meeting with his intention to set things in motion so that we hit the ground running in this time critical issue. So I will pass that along. I don't know enough to share with what that is right now.

Q: Dan Jacobson- Environment CA

When we have this problem with energy, what we often want to do is make sure we are not only solving the immediate day-to-day problem but also put up efficiency and conservation measures that will last 10-15 years. There is a lot of money being put into that. Is the conservation and efficiency we're looking into is it going to be stuff we are going to be able to continue to do? When the blackouts came in 2001, the efficiency programs we put in then are still helping us tremendously. Is that what we're looking to do here help in the short and long term?

A: Rick Soren-

Our intention is to put into place things that are long lasting. There are actions that agencies can take action now such as alternative watering schedules and things that are most appreciate for things such as a drought. Earlier this year the Governor charged agencies with an aggressive plan that called for the reduction of 20% of capitol use by 2020. We are looking into the kinds of things that will be effective for a long time- network of automotive weather stations that help farmers and managers to irrigate efficiently. The CA energy commission is looking into new standards for irrigation devises and irrigation controls and we have a new law in CA that will increase the efficiency of toilets by 2015. We are looking into both long and short term measures that are needed in this time.

Q: Larry Collins- UCFFA

Every time there is a drought, the fish are the first to loose and the fishermen quickly follow them as do the farmers as there is not enough water. I understand about the day or two making a difference. CA Commercial Salmon fleet is not fishing at all this year in over 100 years so the delta is already in critical situation and there is nothing that makes it worse than a drought.

The dry year purchasing program- is that going to include water for minimum flows for the salmon? During your emergency water transfers, are you going to have people on top of transferring so that it does the least amount of damage in the life cycle of the salmon?

A: Rick Soren- Chief of Water Efficiency and Transfers

I mentioned the quarter of a million acre feet that will be transferred this year and a substantial portion of that is for the environmental water; water that is used for environmental purposes. Obviously, the dept. takes very seriously the responsibility to the environment. We need to make sure water users are helped as much as possible. We need to make sure we are sustaining our environment. Dry years are tough on everybody and we recognize our importance to meet their needs.

Q: Laura Harnish - EDF

With respect to the Governor's proposal to storage, (3.5 for storage) how does this executive order addresses that storage?

Rick- transfers- How does that help with the additional water demands for users?

A: Jeanine Jones: Interstate Resources Coordinator

The executive order does not address that but the Governor certainly talked today about having a much bigger problem we need to address and both the funding in the budget and from his comprehensive plan package that he and other organizations have discussed, we should move forward. We need to get a comprehensive package together- he is committed to working with legislature and other stakeholders and tries to move forward to get a package to voters.

A: Rick Soren- Chief of Water Efficiency and Transfers

2/3s of the quarter of a million is for agriculture and urban users and about 1/3 is for environmental water account.

Q: Ed Waldheim- CA Of-Road Vehicle Association (CA City)

What are you going to send out to local communities as far as education and help? Are we going to get something to mail to local municipalities with ideas and things they can do to help them along?

A: Jeanine Jones: Interstate Resources Coordinator

We are working with the association of California water agencies; they have a suite of materials including English and Spanish print ads, utility bill inserts and radio ads. Some water agencies have their own water materials; these will be available to all water agencies that want them. In addition to that, we are going to be out there with AQUA, meeting with communication directors and finding out what they have/need. We want to make sure that we can provide the most basic education materials that some of the smaller size agencies don't need to make their own material if these are already available.

We have some regional press briefings we are planning to do and with local media to supplement water agencies. The first step is the ad campaign of AQUA and the water awareness campaign has already developed and we are in the process of distributing that to any and all agencies.

If they're not on our website now, they should be on within the next couple of hours so it is an entire suite. If there are variations of those, we can get those as well.

A: Rick Soren- Chief of Water Efficiency and Transfers

Those are materials to help local agencies with their outreach efforts to communicate with their customers. One other resource we have available on our website is an uploaded version of the updated Urban Drought guidebook, which we developed early to help agencies cope with droughts. We have a 2008 edition; it goes through a step by step process to help local agencies and local

governments to prepare/cope with drought and the struggle associated with cash flow and that sort of thing from reduced water sales. It's a very useful resource for helping agencies cope with the myriad challenges that they face during conditions like this.

Would it help you if my county declared an emergency because my county has been asking that? Would it assist you if counties issued some form of emergency declaration?

Q: Jerry Prieto- Fresno County Ag Commission

I just want to reinforce what Al was saying we have our Westside growers who are in a really critical situation who are looking at not having enough water to support the current crops planted so they are in a situation to decide what crops they are going to plow under and are faced with the situation of not completing their crop plan for this current calendar year. Fresno County produces almost all the lettuce available in the nation and right now they don't anticipate planting any fall lettuce if the water situation doesn't change. There will be no fall cantaloupe crop either. They are talking about plowing under cotton crop as well in order to keep their almonds and grape vines alive.

The executive order mentions trying to do some water changes to alleviate that problem in the San Joaquin Valley. I was curious to what you have plan in short term to help these growers and the cities because most of these cities rely on agriculture to supply them their jobs.

A: Jeanine Jones: Interstate Resources Coordinator

Again I think most of this was kicked in motion with this meeting this morning. One of the issues we are looking at is flexibility between the state and the local water systems to moving water where it is needed right now to adjusting the traditional way to deliver water to some other communities. We are trying to figure that out and how we can do that so that farmers are not faced with which crop to plant and to adjust some of the delivery schedules for some of the urban areas that have greater flexibility to get water.

We would be happy to get something out on that; the detail is just not something I have right now but I know those conversations are going on. I appreciate the timing being pointed out. The next step would be to getting back to you.

I don't know if that directly addresses this issue of flexibility; I think we have the tools to do that now. There may be other reasons that may trigger that but I think we have the authority and willingness to go ahead and do our part of that- rearranging of when water gets sent to various places based on critical needs and certainly agricultural impacts.

Q: Marvin Meyers- San Luis Water District

We just had a growers meeting this morning and we have requested some economic data of what would happened if we would not receive any more assistance in water supply and that will be forthcoming to assist DWR and retaining economic impact from the west side to the state in loss revenue. Growers are trying to decide what crops to abandon in order to keep their trees alive.

There are 22,000 acres in the San Luis district and for the next 90 days only have .5 acre feet to irrigate and it is impossible to try and stretch that.

One of the solutions would be pumping into the Delta Mondota canal or the San Luis canal with well water and that was done in 92 and the Jones' track failure. I hope that would be an immediate assistance in bringing new water into the project to allow growers/districts to supplement small water allocation.

A: Jeanine Jones: Interstate Resources Coordinator
Thank you. That's certainly one of things we're looking at.

Q: Jim Metropulus- Sierra Club
If the Governor declares a drought, are there areas within the water code of the statute this and that happens?

A: Jeanine Jones: Interstate Resources Coordinator
No.

Closing Remarks: Sue Sims- Chief Deputy Director of Water Resource
I think that the level of participation indicates how important this is and we appreciate both your participation today and comments to be forthcoming and your cooperation to come.

Closing Remarks: Bismarck Obando - Director of External Affairs, Office of the Governor
Thank you everyone for joining us today. If you have any follow up questions or didn't have an opportunity to ask a question, please call us at the office of external affairs at 916.324.7745 and we'd be happy to redirect the question to DWR. Thank you once again. Stay tuned for more information from us.



CALIFORNIA FARM BUREAU FEDERATION

CDFA Announces New Strategy to Eradicate Destructive LBAM

By: Christine Souza

Issued on June 25, 2008 by the California Farm Bureau Federation

In an effort to eliminate the light brown apple moth (LBAM), the California Department of Food and Agriculture announced last week a new development in its strategy to combat the pest, which, if left unchecked, could adversely impact more than 2,000 plants including native tree species, horticultural crops and food crops.

"Since we discovered the light brown apple moth in California in early 2007, we have invested in the development of alternatives that would improve our eradication efforts. That work is bearing fruit earlier than expected," said CDFA Secretary A.G. Kawamura. "We are fast-tracking an approach known as the Sterile Insect Technique (SIT), in which large quantities of sterilized, infertile insects are released so that the wild population cannot reproduce."

U.S. Department of Agriculture researchers recently informed CDFA that sufficient numbers and generations of lab-raised LBAM have completed the rearing process, opening the door for a new sterile release program as an eradication tool. As a result, CDFA anticipates it will move up a delivery date for sterile moths to two years, a time line that would enable the state to utilize the SIT program on the Central Coast, where the USDA confirmed an infestation of LBAM in 2007. Scientists had expected to need five to seven years to adapt SIT to the moth, but their work has progressed much more rapidly than expected. Last Thursday, government officials announced that it could begin limited releases of the sterile moths in 2009, with a full-scale program up and running in 2011.

The California Farm Bureau Federation, a member of the Invasive Pest Coalition, an organization comprised of a broad range of organizations committed to preventing the introduction of invasive pests into California, is hopeful that this strategy will yield positive results.

"While this is a shift in strategy, especially for the urban areas, it holds great promise to continue us on the path of LBAM eradication," said Cynthia Cory, CFBF director of environmental affairs. "Using proven ground-based pest prevention treatments in combination with sterile moths will enable us to combat this threat to our state."

SIT has been successful for more than 30 years in California and around the globe against a variety of insects including the Mexican fruit fly, pink bollworm moth and, most notably, the Mediterranean fruit fly, Kawamura added.

During a conference call held last Thursday regarding CDFA's changes to control and eradicate LBAM, CDFA Director of Plant Health and Pest Prevention Services John Connell emphasized that other treatments will continue as part of the agency's eradication tools.

"One of the points I'd like to emphasize here is this does not mean an abandonment of aerial treatment of pheromones," Connell said. "In those areas that are inaccessible by ground approaches and where we don't have SIT available, such as some of the high mountain tops and ridge tops in the infested zones, would be areas considered for aerial treatment by pheromones until other eradication tools are available."

Eradication of LBAM will also require an integrated systems approach using multiple tools including applications of pheromone for mating disruption, use of insecticide treatments, male moth attractant treatment technology and implementation of biological control and releases of sterile insects.

Since it was first discovered in the San Francisco Bay Area in March 2007, the LBAM has posed an increasing threat to California-grown crops. Just two years earlier, a USDA pest survey found no LBAM in the state. No signs of LBAM have been found over the last 10 years as a result of the pest surveys conducted in 21 other states.

Based on agricultural losses due to LBAM experienced in New Zealand, USDA Animal Plant Health Inspection Service stated that California could experience \$685 million to \$2.7 billion in annual crop losses if LBAM were to thrive and flourish. The current infestation has caused Canada and Mexico to enact restrictions on crops and plants grown in the 11

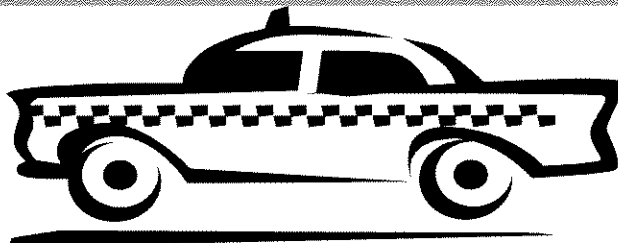
California counties infected with LBAM; however, Cory said the countries have indicated that they are on board with the new strategy for eradicating the pest.

Other members of the Invasive Pest Coalition include Agricultural Council of California, California Association of Winegrape Growers, California Avocado Commission, California Certified Organic Farmers, California Citrus Mutual, California Citrus Research Board, California Dried Plum Board, California Grape & Tree Fruit League, California Pear Advisory Board, California Strawberry Commission, California Table Grape Commission, California Tree Fruit Agreement, Western Pistachio Association, Western Growers and Wine Institute.

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Programa de Vales de Taxi Para Personas Ancianas Ahorre 75% en Cada Viaje de Taxi

Empezando 1o de julio 2008



¿Qué es el Programa de Vales de Taxi Para Ancianos?

Es un programa fundado por la Medida C que provee transportación alternativa, confiable, y bajo en costo a los residentes del Condado de Fresno que tienen 70 años o más. Personas elegibles recibirán un descuento de 75% hacia las tarifas de taxi solamente comprando un librete de vales. Fresno COG reserva el derecho de limitar la venta de vales dependiendo en disponibilidad.

¿Cómo Funciona el Programa?

Participantes simplemente obtienen y llenan una solicitud de elegibilidad. Ya que sea aprobada, podrá comprar un librete de \$20 vales (cupones) por solamente \$5.00 en localidades selectas solamente. **¡Esto es un gran descuento de 75%!** Solamente se podrá comprar (5) libretes de vales para servicio de taxi por mes. Los vales se podrán usar como dinero en efectivo para pagar la tarifa de taxi solamente y podrán ser usados a cualquier hora, 24 horas al día los 7 días de la semana como sea necesario.

¿Cuales Son Las Reglas?

- Debe ser residente del Condado de Fresno.
- Debe tener 70 años de edad o más (se requiere comprobante de elegibilidad por ejemplo licencia de conducir del departamento de vehículos de California, Identificación del DMV o tarjeta de Seguro Medicare.
- Debe primero completar el formulario de elegibilidad antes de comprar vales de taxi por primera vez. Puede recoger el formulario y comprar vales de taxi en varias localidades de servicio aprobadas en Fresno y Clovis (vea la lista abajo de localidades aprobadas). Si desea, Fresno COG puede mandarle el formulario y venderle los vales de taxi por correo solamente. El formulario también está disponible por Internet en www.fresnocog.org.

¿Cómo Puedo Conseguir Más Información?

Para mas detalles, visite www.fresnocog.org o favor de llamar a nuestra oficina durante las horas normales de oficina.

¿Donde Puedo Aplicar y Comprar Vales de Taxi?

FRESNO

Fresno Area Express (FAX)
3590 North Blackstone

Fresno Area Express (FAX)
2016 Tulare Street

Senior Citizen's Village
1917 South Chestnut Ave.

CLOVIS

Clovis City Hall
1033 Fifth Street

Clovis Senior Center
2150 Minnewawa Ave

**Fresno COG solamente aceptara ordenes y aplicaciones por correo.*



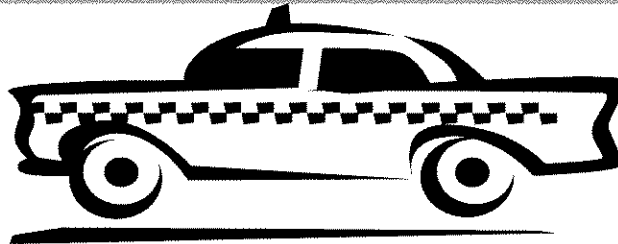
Persona de Contacto: Melissa Garza
Teléfono: 559-233-4148 Fax: 559-233-9645
E-mail: mgarza@fresnocog.org



Senior Taxi Scrip Program

Save 75% on Taxi Rides

Starting July 1, 2008



What Is The Senior Taxi Scrip Program?

It is a Measure C funded program that provides alternative, reliable and affordable transportation to Fresno County residents who are 70 years of age and older. Eligible seniors receive a 75% discount on taxi fares by purchasing taxi scrip. *Fresno COG reserves the right to limit scrip sales based on availability.*

How Does It Work:

Participants simply obtain and submit an eligibility application. Once approved, participants can purchase a \$20 value booklet of taxi scrip (like coupons) from select locations for only \$5. **This is a 75% discount!** Up to (5) booklets of taxi scrip can be purchased each calendar month. Scrip can then be used like cash to pay for taxi cab fares only. Taxi Scrip can be used at any time, 24 hours a day, and 7 days a week when needed.

What Are The Rules?

- You must be a resident of Fresno County.
- You must be at least 70 years old (proof of eligibility is required by providing a copy of a California driver's license, California DMV issued Identification Card or Medicare Card.
- You must first complete and submit an eligibility application before purchasing taxi scrip for the first time. You can pick up an application and purchase Taxi Scrip at several approved Fresno and Clovis Taxi Scrip Distribution Service Centers (listed below). Fresno COG will send the application and fill taxi scrip orders via US mail only if requested. Applications are also available online at www.fresnocog.org.

How Can I Get More Information?

For full program details, please visit us on the web at www.fresnocog.org or call our office during normal business hours.

Where Can I Apply & Purchase Taxi Scrip?

FRESNO

Fresno Area Express (FAX)
3590 North Blackstone

Fresno Area Express (FAX)
2016 Tulare Street

Senior Citizen's Village
1917 South Chestnut Ave.

CLOVIS

Clovis City Hall
1033 Fifth Street

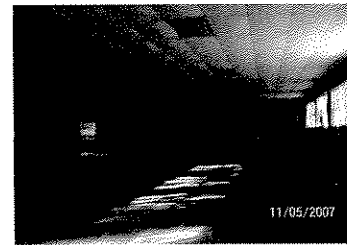
Clovis Senior Center
2150 Minnewawa Ave

**Fresno COG will only accept mail orders and applications.*

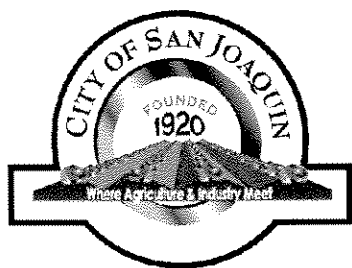


Contact Person: Melissa Garza
Phone: 559-233-4148 Fax: 559-233-9645
E-mail: mgarza@fresnocog.org





Let's Celebrate the Grand Opening



SAN JOAQUIN VFW HALL

22001 West Manning Avenue, San Joaquin

****Refreshments**

&

Hors D'oeuvres

Wednesday, July 2, 2008

Agenda

3:00 - 3:30 pm

Welcome & Introductions

3:30 - 6:00 pm

Open Session

RSVP - dianabrooks@cityofsanjoaquin.com, 559.693.4311 x 16, or Fax 559.693.2193



City of San Joaquin ** 21900 W Colorado Ave ** PO Box 758 San Joaquin CA 93660 ** 559.693.4311 ** 559.693.2193 Fax**
dianabrooks@cityofsanjoaquin.com

Judge Quentin L. Kopp, Chairman
Fran Florez*, Vice-Chair
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Curt Pringle
Lynn Schenk
T.J. (Tom) Stapleton
Tom Umberg
*past chair



ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER
GOVERNOR



CALIFORNIA HIGH-SPEED RAIL AUTHORITY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Date: May 30, 2008

Contact: Kris Deutschman
916-444-8801

CALIFORNIA STATE ASSEMBLY APPROVES CALIFORNIA HIGH-SPEED RAIL LEGISLATION

Sacramento -- The California State Assembly last night approved AB 3034 (Gagliani/Ma) by a vote of 60-3. The legislation improves existing California High Speed Train Bond Act by strengthening provisions for financial controls, environmental findings and construction implementation.

The technical amendments in AB 3034 clarify construction and financing requirements for the \$9.95 billion dollar bond measure, which will be on the November 2008 statewide ballot. The bill also prioritizes construction segments based on financial readiness and ability to leverage local, federal, and private funds.

Prior to passage on the Assembly floor, two Assembly committees, Assembly Transportation and Assembly Appropriations approved the measure without any negative votes.

Judge Quentin Kopp, Chairman of the California High-Speed Authority commented, "The strong vote on the Assembly floor reflects increasing vitality and enthusiasm for high-speed rail in California. Despite past vicissitudes, the Assembly's overwhelming vote demonstrates California's purposeful progress in providing 200 mile per hour train service from southern California through the Central Valley to the Bay Area and Sacramento.

AB 3034 will now move to the California State Senate for approval.

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