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COUNCIL OF FRESNO COUNTY GOVERNMENTS AGENDA

Date: Thursday, June 26, 2008
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Place: COG Sequoia Conference Room
2035 Tulare St., Suite 201, Fresno, CA

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Accommodations

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

Item	Description	Enclosure	Action
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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 Board on items within its jurisdiction but not on this agenda. **Note: Prior to action by the Board on any item on this agenda, the public may comment on that item. Unscheduled comments may be limited to 3 minutes.**

B. Presentation – Carmine Ladarola with INVENERGY – Hybrid Power Plant on the Westside of Fresno County

II. TRANSPORTATION ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

A. Transit Planning Documents

- | | | |
|---|-----|---------|
| 1. PUBLIC HEARING: Urban & Rural Consolidated Transportation Services Agency (CTSA) Operations Program & Budget, FY 2008-09, Resolution 2008-18 | Yes | Approve |
| 2. PUBLIC HEARING: Clovis Consolidated Transportation Services Agency (CTSA) FY 2008-09 Operations Program & Budget, Resolution 2008-19 | Yes | Approve |

B. PUBLIC HEARING: Unmet Transit Needs, Staff Report & Recommendations, Resolution 2008-23

	Yes	Approve
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C. PUBLIC HEARING: Adoption of Annual Availability Advisory Percentages for Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Participation, Resolution 2008-17

	Yes	Approve
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D. PUBLIC HEARING: Draft FY 2009 Federal Transportation Improvement Program, Regional Transportation Program Amendment, Conformity Analysis and Interim TIP Resolution 2008-26

	Yes	Info/Discussion
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OTHER TRANSPORTATION ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

- | | | |
|---|-----|-------------|
| E. AB 2522 (Arambula): Request for Support | Yes | Info/Action |
| F. Senate Bill 1507 (Oropeza): Highway Construction Near Schools - Request for Opposition | Yes | Info/Action |

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

G. Greenhouse Gas Policies, Resolution 2008-08	Yes	Approve
H. Request from Firebaugh for Measure "C" Funding – 1987-2007 Program	No	Approve
I. Assembly Bill 3034 – Safe, Reliable High-Speed Passenger Train Bond Act for the 21 st Century	Yes	Support
J. West Area Transportation Planning Study	No	Info/Discussion
K. Caltrans Monthly Report	No	Info/Discussion

III. 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 Committee or public wishes to comment or ask questions. If comment or discussion is desired by anyone, the item will be removed from the consent agenda and will be considered in the listed sequence with an opportunity for any member of the public to address the Committee concerning the item before action is taken.

A. Transportation Funding Claims		
1. Fresno County Rural Transit Agency, FY 2008-09, Resolution 2008-20	Yes	Approve
2. Fresno County Rural Transit Agency and the Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission as the Rural CTSA, FY 2008-09, Resolution 2008-21	Yes	Approve
3. Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission as the Urban CTSA, FY 2008-09, Resolution 2008-22	Yes	Approve
B. Appointments to the COG Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC)	Yes	Approve
C. Fresno County Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan -- Project Management Plan	Yes	Concur w/45-day Review
D. San Joaquin Valley Blueprint – Monthly Update	No	Information
E. Adoption of the FY 2008-09 Measure "C" Rail Consolidation Sub Program Claim Authorizing \$250,000 for a Joint High-Speed Rail Study, Resolution 2008-25	Yes	Approve

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 May 29, 2008	Yes	Approve
B. FY 2007-08 Third Quarter Progress Report	Yes	Accept
C. On-Call Modeling Assistance Contract Extension	No	Approve
D. Model Farmland Conservation Program Update	No	Information
E. Land Buffer Task Force Update	No	Information
F. Monthly Legislative Update	Yes	Information
G. Letter of Support for Amendments to Assembly Bill 1129 (Arambula)	Yes	Information
H. May Revisions to Governor's 2008-09 State Budget	Yes	Information
I. Air District Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)	Yes	Information
J. Regional Clearinghouse	Yes	Information

	Project	Applicant
1.	USDA Rural Development – Rural Business Enterprise Grant	Lao American Foundation
2.	Federal Aviation Administration Airport Improvement Program	City of Fresno – Airports
3.	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development – Section 202 Supportive Housing Capital Advance Grant Program	Southern California Presbyterian Homes

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. FY 2007-08 Overall Work Program Budget Amendment #3	No	Approve
B. FY 2008-09 Overall Work Program Budget Amendment #1	No	Approve

- | | | |
|--|---------|-------------|
| C. Fresno COG Policy Board Consideration of Utilizing Strategy Research Institute, Inc. (Dr. Gary Manross) for FY 2008-09 Work Activities. | Yes | Info/Action |
| D. Status Report on Sacramento Lobbying Activities—Steve Samuelian, California Consulting LLC | Handout | Information |
| E. Discussion of Possible Change in Starting Times for COG Policy Board | No | Info/Action |
| F. Consideration of Increase in COG Policy Board Members Attendance Stipend | No | Approve |
| G. Consideration of Allowing Del Rey Community Services District to sit on the COG Policy Board as a Non-Voting Member | No | Info/Action |

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

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

Fresno COG Sitting As the Abandoned Vehicle Abatement Authority

- | | | |
|---|-----|--------|
| VIII. ABANDONED VEHICLE ABATEMENT--FY 2007-08 THIRD QUARTER REPORT STATUS REPORT | Yes | Accept |
|---|-----|--------|

Fresno COG Sitting As the Council of Fresno County Governments

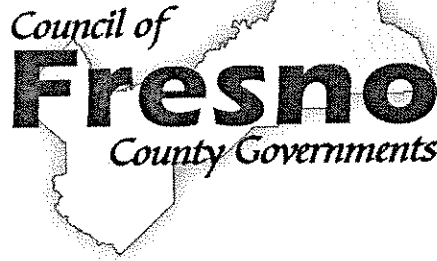
IX. CLOSED SESSION

Conference with Labor Negotiator (Government Code Section 54957.6): conference regarding unrepresented COG staff employees; COG Executive Director, Tony Boren to act as Labor Negotiator on behalf of COG Policy Board.

- X. OPEN SESSION -- DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH UNREPRESENTED COG STAFF EMPLOYEES**

*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 – Committees and Agendas



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COUNCIL OF FRESNO COUNTY GOVERNMENTS ANNOTATED AGENDA

Date: Thursday, June 26, 2008
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Place: COG Sequoia Conference Room
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 Board on items within its jurisdiction but not on this agenda. **Note: Prior to action by the Board on any item on this agenda, the public may comment on that item. Unscheduled comments may be limited to 3 minutes.**

B. Presentation -- Carmine Ladarola with INVENERGY – Hybrid Power Plant on the Westside of Fresno County

II. TRANSPORTATION ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

A. Transit Planning Documents

1. PUBLIC HEARING: Urban & Rural Consolidated Transportation Services Agency (CTSA) Operations Program & Budget, FY 2008-09, Resolution 2008-18

Summary: Included in last month's agenda packet was the Consolidated Transportation Service Agency's (CTSA) Operations Program and Budget, FY 2008-09 for the Fresno Urban and Rural CTSA. The document is designed to provide an overview of how and in what manner the Consolidated Transportation Service Agencies will be providing service over the next fiscal year. The Social Service Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) reviewed the document on May 20th and recommended approval. [JOSEPH]

Action: Staff, SSTAC, TTC and PAC recommend approval of the document by adoption of Resolution 2008-18.

2. PUBLIC HEARING: Clovis Consolidated Transportation Services Agency (CTSA) FY 2008-09 Operations Program & Budget, Resolution 2008-19

Summary: Included in last month's agenda packet was the Clovis Consolidated Transportation Service Agency's (CTSA) Operations Program and Budget, FY 2008-09 for the Clovis Urban Area. The document is designed to provide an overview of how and in what manner the Clovis Consolidated Transportation Service Agency will provide service over the next fiscal year. The Social Service Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) reviewed the document on May 20th and recommended approval. [HALTERMAN]

Action: Staff, SSTAC, TTC and PAC recommend approval of the document by adoption of Resolution 2008-19.

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

B. PUBLIC HEARING: Unmet Transit Needs, Staff Report & Recommendations, Resolution 2008-23

Summary: The COG Policy Board must determine that public transportation needs within Fresno County will be reasonably met in Fiscal Year 2008-09 prior to approving claims of Local Transportation Funds for streets and roads. The COG's Social Service Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) is responsible for evaluating unmet transit needs. Each year, the SSTAC begins the process of soliciting comments from the public by sending over 400 letters to agencies and individuals interested in providing feedback on their public transportation needs within Fresno County. The request for comments letters were prepared in English and Spanish, and were mailed in February 2008. In addition to the request for written comments, SSTAC held three information-gathering meetings in February 2008.

The first meeting was held in the City of Mendota at the City Hall Council Chambers on February 12, 2008. The location was selected to facilitate comments from the residents of Western Fresno county including: Coalinga, Firebaugh, Huron, Kerman, Mendota, San Joaquin, and the surrounding unincorporated communities. The meeting was held at 6:00 p.m. during the regularly scheduled City Council meeting and had approximately fifteen (15) people in attendance. There were no comments received at this time.

The second meeting was held in the City of Selma at the Selma Senior Center on February 20, 2008. The meeting location was set to facilitate comments from the residents of Eastern Fresno county including: Fowler, Kingsburg, Orange Cove, Parlier, Reedley, Sanger, Selma, and the surrounding unincorporated communities. The meeting was held at 2:30 p.m.

There were six individuals in attendance including SSTAC members. The only comments received came from Mr. Cheng Thao of the Empowerment Institute, who expressed a need for translation services countywide. Mr. Thao explained that the Southeast Asian community was disconnected from public transit because of a lack of communication. SSTAC did not find this to be an unmet need; however, Bill Hyatt, Central Valley Regional Center, Jeff Webster, FCRTA General Manager, and Mr. Thao will continue a dialogue to address the language concerns.

The third meeting was held in City of Fresno at the Manchester Center Office of Caltrans on February 21, 2008. The meeting location was selected to facilitate comments from the residents of the Fresno-Clovis Metropolitan Area (FCMA) and surrounding unincorporated communities. The meeting was held at 6:30 p.m. The only comments received came from Ms. Bertha Hansen, a transit advocate, who expressed a need for express bus service from northeast Fresno to Downtown.

In addition to the comments received at the information gathering meetings, SSTAC received one written comment. The written comment came from Mr. David Moll, Assistant Vice President of Risk Management and Sustainability for California State University, Fresno (CSUF). The letter listed six areas where CSUF asked for service changes or enhancements which included the following:

1. Increase the hours of transit operation during the weekdays for faculty, staff, students and visitors using FAX or Clovis Transit in their commutes to the campus;
2. Increase the hours of transit operation on weekends for faculty, staff students and visitors to the University;
3. Address the east-west route deficiencies of the FAX system, adding routes to serve primarily the areas west of campus;
4. Continue to expand transit service in the northeast and northwest sections of the city;
5. Provide better transit service to Fresno State from outlying communities;
6. Implement an on-campus transit center;

At its March 18, 2008 meeting, after reviewing written comments and the information collected during the public meetings, SSTAC agreed that based on public comments received up to this point, there were no unmet needs brought forth that were reasonable to meet.

In a discussion at the TTC, there were questions regarding the comments and responses and it was suggested that an additional paragraph referencing the report and the responses be included in the Resolution. This additional information is now included in the resolution. [LONG]

Action: Staff, SSTAC, TTC and PAC recommend approval of Resolution 2008-23 as amended by the TTC, making the finding that there are no unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet in Fresno County.

C. PUBLIC HEARING: Adoption of Annual Availability Advisory Percentages for Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Participation, Resolution 2008-17

Summary: Fresno COG has completed the annual update to our DBE bidders list. Everyone on the list was contacted and requested to update vendor information that we are required to compile per 49 CFR Part 26. The results were compiled in the database. We presently have 263 vendors in our program of which 35 claim DBE status. This equates to a 13% "Annual Anticipated DBE Participation Level" (AADPL).

A public notice was published in the Fresno Bee noticing this public hearing identifying the AADPL, and \$3,325,000 in state and federal contracting opportunities programmed in the 2008/09 Overall Work Program and Budget.

During the 2007/08 fiscal year we did six procurements totaling \$922,917. DBE participation was \$97,361 or 11% which is slightly under the adopted AADPL of 13%, however in previous years we have consistently exceeded the goal. [BESHEARS]

Action: Staff and PAC recommend that the COG Board adopt Resolution 2008-17 setting our 2008/09 voluntary Annual Anticipated DBE Participation Level at 13%, to be obtained by Race Neutral Methods.

D. PUBLIC HEARING: Draft 2009 Federal Transportation Improvement Program, Regional Transportation Program Amendment, Conformity Analysis, and Interim Transportation Improvement Program, Resolution 2008-26

Summary: Fresno COG is currently updating our Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP), 2007 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), Conformity Analysis, and Interim TIP. The 2009 FTIP must be adopted and submitted to Caltrans by August 1, 2008 to be included in the overall state programming document. A public hearing on these documents will be held at the Board Meeting on June 26, 2008. Written and verbal comments will be accepted through that time. Policy Board adoption is expected to occur in July or August 2008.

Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Amendment: The 2007 RTP represents the long range planning vision for Fresno County's regional transportation system through the year 2030. The RTP is a long-term strategy to meet Fresno County's transportation needs out to the year 2030. The amendment clarifies the financial projections, financially constrained and unconstrained project lists, and adds additional information regarding Bus Rapid Transit (BRT). A copy of the amendment is included in your package.

2009 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP): The FTIP is the incremental implementation of the long-range Regional Transportation Plan and includes programming for fiscal years 2008/09 through 2011/12.

Conformity Analysis: An air quality conformity analysis is required in nonattainment areas to ensure that transportation plans and programs are (1) consistent with the state and local air quality plans, and (2) do not interfere with the timely implementation of transportation control measures. The Draft Conformity Analysis for the 2009 FTIP and RTP Amendment demonstrates that all of our adopted transportation plans and programs are in conformance with the rules for the applicable air quality standards.

Interim TIP: The Interim FTIP has been prepared concurrently with the FTIP and contains only the transportation projects that may proceed if the conformity analysis cannot be adopted.

Included in your package is a list of capacity-increasing projects that will not be able to proceed if the Interim TIP must be adopted.

Copies of the 2009 FTIP, Conformity Analysis, and Interim TIP are available on the Fresno COG website (www.fresnocog.org); hard copies are also available upon request. Please contact staff if you have any questions or comments. [PAUKOVITS/DEVERE-OKI]

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

OTHER TRANSPORTATION ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

E. AB 2522 (Arambula): Request for Support

Summary: At the Fresno COG Committee and Policy Board meetings in April, staff presented a request from the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley's Air Quality Work Group and Assemblyman Juan Arambula for letters of support for the passage of AB 2522. If passed, AB 2522 would give the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District the authority to increase the surcharge on vehicle licensing fees from the current limit of \$6 to up to \$30 annually, per motor vehicle. The funds generated will be used for incentive-based air quality improvement programs to bring the San Joaquin Valley into compliance with State and Federal air quality standards by the earliest practicable date.

An analysis of the bill conducted by the Assembly is included in your agenda packet as well as the current bill language.

In April, the Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) raised concerns regarding the accountability of the Air District in how they spent their existing funds; PAC members were reluctant to support the bill without better accountability. The Board expressed some of the same concerns and voted to table the item, thus taking no position at that time on the passage of AB 2522.

Members of the Fresno COG Policy Board have requested that this item be revisited in June. Fresno COG staff will provide an update on the status of the bill, as well as attempt to address any concerns from the Committees. At the PAC meeting Sarah Reyes, Chief of Staff for Assemblyman Arambula, and Tom Jordan from the Air District, discussed the bill and answered committee member questions. After some discussion, the PAC voted to recommend that the Policy Board send a letter of support to Assemblyman Arambula for the passage of AB 2522. COG staff has requested that there be representation by Arambula's office and the Air District at the Policy Board meeting. [DANSBY/PAUKOVITS]

Action: PAC recommends the Policy Board send a letter of support to Assemblyman Arambula for the passage of AB 2522.

F. Senate Bill 1507 (Oropeza): Highway Construction Near Schools - Request for Opposition

Summary: At their May meeting, the San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council, the 16-member Council made up of elected officials representing the eight Central Valley COG's, voted to oppose the passage of Senate Bill 1507 (Oropeza of Long Beach).

SB 1507, if passed, would do the following:

1. Prohibits the California Transportation Commission from authorizing the construction or expansion of an above-ground state highway within ¼ mile of a school boundary (private schools, public schools, preschools through universities), unless the project is authorized on or before September 1, 2009.
2. Prohibits a transportation planning agency from including the construction or expansion of a state highway in a regional transportation improvement program.
3. Exempts from these requirements the following projects:
 - A. Operational improvements that do not expand the design capacity of a state highway which improve the flow of traffic or reduce congestion at specific locations.
 - B. Safety improvements which reduce the severity of collisions on existing highways.

- C. High-occupancy vehicle lanes.
- D. Highway segments in tunnels.
- E. Construction or expansion of state highway facilities that are determined to have a positive air quality impact.

Arguments in Support

According to the author's office, a recent study of Los Angeles area freeways measured diesel particulate levels up to 25 times greater near freeways than those levels elsewhere. Much of the pollution from freeways is associated with acute health effects, exacerbating asthma and negatively impacting the ability of children to learn. The author states that the purpose of this bill is to ensure that highway investment decisions will not further degrade the quality of air within the vicinity of a school site.

Arguments in Opposition

The SJV Regional Policy Council is highly concerned that this bill will have a devastating impact on the Valley's transportation network, with literally dozens of projects affected with combined totals in the billions of dollars. In addition to the SJV Regional Policy Council, the California Association of COG's is in opposition of this bill and will be advocating the Valley's position of opposition at the state level this month as the bill moves through the Assembly.

The Department of Finance is also opposed to this bill because it could have a significantly negative impact on the state's economy by restricting the movement of traffic in most urban areas. Caltrans reports that while the author's office has indicated that recent studies in the Los Angeles area have found air pollution from diesel particulate matter to be much greater in the vicinity of freeways, it is not clear that the intended benefit of reducing pollution would be achieved since greater congestion and more fuel consumption could result.

Fresno COG Analysis

Staff analyzed the projects programmed in our Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and found that 16 highway projects costing approximately \$520 million would have to be removed from the RTP if SB 1507 passes. A list of the projects and a corresponding map are included in your agenda packet.

This item was on the TTC and PAC agendas as information only. Staff pulled it from the consent calendar at the PAC meeting for further discussion to include staff's analysis of the highway projects that would be impacted by this bill. It was an informational item so no action was taken at that time. However, as there is a growing momentum in the transportation arena to oppose this bill, staff is now recommending that the Policy Board send a letter to the author opposing the passage of SB 1507 in concurrence with the SJV Regional Policy Council. [DANSBY]

Action: Staff recommends the Policy Board concur with the SJV Regional Policy Council and send a letter to the author opposing the passage of SB 1507.

G. Greenhouse Gas Policies, Resolution 2008-08

Summary: Through discussions with the Attorney General's Office, Fresno COG has agreed to adopt policies that will address greenhouse gas emissions in the region. Earlier this year, Fresno COG staff presented the TTC, PAC, and Policy Board with a proposed resolution and policies. Due to comments received from the Attorney General's Office late in the process, the adoption of Resolution 2008-08 was delayed. Staff and consultants also attended a series of climate change workshops held in April 2008 in order to gather additional information on the subject. The proposed policies have been revised to address comments received; additional details will be provided by staff.

TTC suggested a language change to the Land Use section of the policies. This change would accept the Attorney General's comment that the Blueprint should encourage General Plan, Community Plan and Specific Plan updates to include Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Plans. [PAUKOVITS]

Action: Staff, TTC and PAC recommend approval of Resolution 2008-08, as amended by the TTC.

H. Request from Firebaugh for Measure "C" Funding – 1987-2007 Program

Summary: In September 2006 the Fresno COG Policy Board entered into an agreement with the Fresno County Transportation Authority to encumber \$26,123,000 in Federal Demonstration funds on SR 180 West Phase II from Brawley to Hughes/West. As part of that agreement the Authority agreed to provide up to \$21 million in funding from the pre-existing Measure "C" program to construct a future segment of State Route 180 West that would provide direct connectivity to Interstate 5. The specific alignment for this project is being developed by Caltrans through a Route Adoption study which is currently underway. The remaining funding was identified to be used to fund transportation improvements in the communities of Mendota and Firebaugh. Specifically, \$2 million in funding was identified for Firebaugh Improvements to SR 33. The scope of work for the SR 33 improvements include lighting, landscaping, irrigation signage and sidewalks. The remaining \$15.5 million is to be used on constructing the State Route 180 connection to I-5. The overall funding strategy and the projects have been agreed to in concept by the State Route 180 subcommittee as well as TTC, PAC and the Policy Board.

The projects have been amended into the 1987-2007 Measure "C" Expenditure Plan that was recently adopted by the Board and the Authority. Firebaugh is now requesting the Policy Board to authorize them to enter into a cooperative agreement with the Transportation Authority to implement their project. [BOREN]

Action: Staff, TTC and PAC recommend authorization for Firebaugh to enter into a cooperative agreement with the Transportation Authority for up to \$2 million for improvements to SR 33.

I. Assembly Bill 3034 – Safe, Reliable High-Speed Passenger Train Bond Act for the 21st Century

Summary: Assembly Bill 3034 (Galgiani, MA), developed in cooperation with the Administration, revises provisions in the existing Bond Act to be submitted to state voters on November 4, 2008. These revisions are necessary because the original 2002 bond provisions are in some cases outdated or obsolete. In summary, the Bond Act will provide for the issuance of \$9.95 billion of G.O. 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 (HST) system, and \$950 million of which will be available for capital projects on other passenger rail lines to provide connectivity to the HST system and for capacity enhancements and safety improvements to those lines. More specifically, this Bill will make the following changes:

- Eliminates the priority construction of the initial segment from San Francisco to Los Angeles-Anaheim. Instead, provides that the \$9 billion in bond proceeds can be used for planning and eligible capital costs on the system's entire 800 mile HST route.
- Provides for Altamont rail corridor eligibility for bond funds.
- Prohibits a high-speed train station between Gilroy and Merced.
- Limits to 10% or less the amount of bond funds that can be used for preconstruction activities (environmental studies, planning and preliminary engineering activities). Also, bond proceeds shall not be used for more than one-half of the total cost of construction of track and station costs of each segment of the HST system.
- Requires that, in selecting each specific segment for construction and prior to awarding a construction contract, the High-Speed Rail Authority shall have a detailed funding plan for that segment that identifies the full cost of constructing the segment and the sources of all revenues needed to complete construction of the segment.
- Provides also that in selecting each segment for construction, the Authority must: (1) give priority to those segments requiring the smallest amount of bond funds as a percentage of the total construction cost (2) consider the utility of that segment for other passenger rail services and (3) 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 and financing 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.

At its recent meeting on May 23, 2008, the Regional Policy Council acted to support adoption of A.B. 3034. [THOMPSON/DANSBY]

Action: Staff, TTC and PAC recommend support for adoption of Assembly Bill 3034.

J. West Area Transportation Planning Study

Summary: Work Element 113 of the 2008-2009 OWP has budgeted \$100,000 to conduct a West Area Transportation Planning Study. This study would identify and evaluate required roadway and intersection improvements ranging from current needs through year 2030.

The proposed area of study would extend from the Herndon Avenue/State Route 99 Interchange on the north, to State Route 180 on the south; and from Grantland Avenue on the west to State Route 99 on the east.

The scope of work for this study contains three key elements:

1. Calibrate and Update Travel Demand Forecasts
2. Evaluate Current and Proposed Facilities; Determine the Need
3. Prioritize Improvement Program and Make Recommendations

The tasks within these elements will include among other things a review of current City and County planned circulation elements and forecasted improvements, as well as verify consistencies between COG travel demand model and 2025 General Plan land uses. The recommendations for the priority improvements made to the West Area roads and traffic signal network will include both short term (3-5 years) and medium term (5-10 years). [TWEBSTER]

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

K. 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.

III. TRANSPORTATION CONSENT ITEMS

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A. Transportation Funding Claims

1. Fresno County Rural Transit Agency, FY 2008-09, Resolution 2008-20

Summary: The Fresno County Rural Transit Agency (FCRTA) claim has been reviewed by staff, is consistent with the proposed budget, and is recommended for approval. The claim totals \$5,791,807 to support FCRTA's Operation Budget of \$5,137,015 and Capital Budget of \$10,506,842. [BESHEARS]

Action: Staff, TTC and PAC recommend approval of the Transportation Funding Claim by adoption of Resolution 2008-20.

2. Fresno County Rural Transit Agency and the Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission, acting as the Rural CTSA, FY 2008-09, Resolution 2008-21

Summary: The Fresno County Rural Transit Agency and the Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission (acting as the Rural CTSA) Transportation Development Act Claim of \$664,167 has been reviewed by staff and found to be consistent with the Overall Work Program and Budget and in accordance with claiming instructions as required by State law. [BESHEARS]

Action: Staff, TTC and PAC recommend approval of the Transportation Funding Claim by adoption of Resolution 2008-21.

3. Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission acting as the Urban CTSA, FY 2008-09, COG Resolution 2008-22

Summary: The Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission (acting as the Urban CTSA) Transportation Development Act Claim of \$1,999,801 has been reviewed by staff and found to be consistent with the Overall Work Program and Budget and in accordance with claiming instructions as required by State law. [BESHEARS]

Action: Staff, TTC and PAC recommend approval of the Transportation Funding Claim by adoption of COG Resolution 2008-22.

B. Appointments to the COG Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC)

Summary: The SSTAC was formed in May 1988 by the Council of Fresno County Governments' (COG) Policy Board to: respond to State legislation and to coordinate social service transportation; assist the COG Board in identifying transit needs throughout Fresno County; review and recommend action for the COG to address at its unmet transit needs hearing; and advise the COG on any other major transit issues. The COG Board appoints SSTAC members for a term of three years.

Ten SSTAC members whose terms expired in June 2007 have agreed to accept re-appointments to the Council. They are: Mr. Bill Hyatt, Central Valley Regional Center (CVRC); Ms. Shonna Halterman, Clovis Transit; Mr. Gary Joseph, Fresno County Economic Opportunity Commission (FCEOC); Mr. Jeffrey Webster, Fresno County Rural Transit Agency (FCRTA); and Ms. Judith Nishi, Fresno Area Express (FAX).

Article III, Section 99238 of The Transportation Development Act requires a minimum number of SSTAC members in specific categories. We currently have one open position in the category of Representative of the Local Social Service Provider for the Disabled. There is no maximum number of members specified in the TDA and in the interest of diversity, staff is seeking additional nominations. Specifically, staff is seeking members who represent minority groups and potential transit users. A complete list of SSTAC members is included in your agenda package. [LONG]

Action: Staff, SSTAC, TTC and PAC recommend approval of the reappointment of five existing members to SSTAC.

C. Fresno County Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan Project Management Plan

Summary: On January 24, 2008, the Fresno COG Policy Board approved the Fresno County Coordinated Human Services Plan. A coordinated plan is required under the SAFETEA-LU (Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient, Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users) passed by Congress in August of 2005. A second requirement under SAFETEA-LU calls for the creation of a Project Management Plan to accompany the Coordinated Plan. A project management plan describes the administration process that Fresno COG will adhere to as the Designated

Recipient for Fresno County for Federal Transit Administration (FTA) grant monies under the following programs:

- Elderly and Persons with Disabilities Transportation - (Section 5310)
- Rural Public Transportation - (Section 5311)
- Job Access and Reverse commute (JARC) - (Section 5316)
- New Freedom - (Section 5317)

A copy of the Draft Program Management Plan is included in the package.

Questions or comments can be directed to Todd Sobrado at the Fresno COG at todds@fresnocog.org. [SOBRADO]

Action: Staff, TTC and PAC recommend concurrence with the initiation of the required 45-day public review for the Fresno County Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan -- Project Management Plan.

D. San Joaquin Valley Blueprint – Monthly Update

Summary: At its May 29, 2008 meeting, the COG Policy Board endorsed the preferred Blueprint concept for Fresno and authorized staff to forward the elements of that concept on to UC Davis for inclusion in the Valleywide Blueprint analysis. We will be back in the fall with the Valleywide growth scenarios for your review.[STECK]

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

E. Adoption of the FY 2008-09 Measure "C" Rail Consolidation Sub Program Claim Authorizing \$250,000 for a Joint High-Speed Rail Study, Resolution 2008-25

Summary: In April, the Board authorized \$250,000 for a joint high speed rail study in conjunction with the High Speed Rail Authority. The Rail Authority will provide \$500,000 for this \$750,000 study. Our funding for this study comes from the Measure "C" Rail Consolidation Sub program. A resolution adopting the Claim is an administrative requirement, however, 2008/09 Measure "C" claim forms were not available when the Board authorized the project, therefore, this item is brought back as an administrative item.

Action: Staff recommends approval of the 2008/09 Measure "C" Rail Consolidation Sub Program Claim Authorizing \$250,000 for a Joint High-Speed Rail Study by adoption of Resolution 2008-25.

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 May 29, 2008

B. FY 2007-08 Third Quarter Progress Report

Summary: Included in your agenda packet is the FY 2007-08 Third Quarter Progress Report which is a summary of funds expended and work completed in each work element during the third quarter, FY 2007-08. [BESHEARS]

Action: Staff, TTC and PAC recommend acceptance of the third quarter progress report as presented.

C. On-Call Modeling Assistance Contract Extension

Summary: The On-Call Modeling Services contract provides COG staff with needed assistance in creating specialized script files, trouble shooting modeling problems and providing specialized training in dealing with the latest air quality regulations. The contract provides the following benefits:

- Assists COG staff with development of new and refined script when needed especially for air quality and conformity purposes.
- Research and develop new scripts and processes that will help staff use the model more effectively.
- Troubleshoots major and minor problems.
- Assists in the professional development of the COG modeling and demographic staff.
- Assures that staff is aware of the latest land use techniques and data.
- Keeps staff informed on the latest modeling techniques and software.

Dowling Associates has developed the Fresno COG model and was extremely helpful during the recent Blueprint modeling activity. Because of Dowling's experience with our model and our experience with their technical staff we recommend the extension of the On-Call Modeling services contract. [BITNER]

Action: Staff, TTC and PAC recommend approval of the contract extension and authorization for the Executive Director to contract with Dowling Associates for on-call modeling assistance in the amount not to exceed \$10,000 per year.

D. Model Farmland Conservation Program Update

Summary: Development of the Model Farmland Conservation Program is continuing. The Model Farmland Conservation Program met on Monday, June 9, 2008 from 9:00 to 12:00 and was well attended. The purpose of the meeting was to finalize the mapping exercise that has been underway to continue discussion on the elements to be incorporated into the Model Farmland Conservation Program 'toolkit' that is currently in development. Participants were broken into four small groups to further analyze key issues pertaining to the program and to provide recommendations on how to address them. The key challenges discussed in the breakout groups were:

1. Direct growth away from the most strategic farmland/balance city growth and farmland preservation
2. Increase efficiency of development (consume less land per new resident)
3. Limit additional ranchette development
4. Finance long-term conservation easements and agreements

Very good information was provided to include in the final program. The Farmland Conservation Model Program Advisory Committee will convene again at the end of July. [SOBRADO]

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

E. Land Buffer Task Force Update

Summary: The Land Buffer Task Force meeting was held in the afternoon of Monday, June 9, 2008, following the Model Farmland Conservation Program Advisory Committee meeting. A small number of people participated in both meetings.

The purpose of the Land Buffer Task Force meeting is to discuss key items that will serve as the basis of for the recommendations that are to come from the group. Like the Farmland Conservation Model Program Advisory Committee meeting, participants were divided into four breakout groups and were tasked with providing recommendations on key challenges including:

1. What purpose should buffers serve and what uses are desirable in the buffers?
2. How wide should buffers be and what uses are desirable in the buffers?
3. How should buffers be established and how long should they last?

4. How long should the buffers last and, if they are to be modified or terminated, how should this be done?

This information will be incorporated into a white paper that is in development outlining key issues and recommendations pertaining to land buffers.

It was also suggested during the Land Buffer Task Force meeting that land buffers and farmland conservation are two different, albeit related matters and should be kept separate. As a result, Farmland Conservation Model Program Advisory Committee and Land Buffer Task Force meetings will be kept separate.

The Land Buffer Task Force meeting will meet again on the same day as Farmland Conservation Model Program Advisory Committee meeting slated for the end of July. [SOBRADO]

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

F. 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 the 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/>

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 only. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Board.

G. Letter of Support for Amendments to Assembly Bill 1129 (Arambula)

Summary: The enclosed letter has been submitted in support of proposed amendments to AB 1129. There was not an opportunity to first present these proposed amendments to the Fresno COG Policy Board because a hearing on the bill has been set for June 17th in the Senate Transportation and Housing Committee. Les Spahnn with the office of Assemblymember Juan Arambula has requested letters of support from all members of the San Joaquin Valley Housing Trust be submitted to Senator Alan Lowenthal, Chairman of the Senate Transportation and Housing Committee, and other members of the Committee by June 10th.

Also enclosed is a single page fact sheet on the amended version of the bill, but in summary there are three issues the amendments address, each of which would allow smaller, rural county housing trusts to better compete for state housing trust grants:

- For newly established small county trusts only, lowering the minimum Prop. 13C Housing Trust Fund Grant to \$500,000 from \$1,000,000, thereby making it easier for new, small county trusts to match.
- For newly established small county trusts only, allowing trust applicants to submit documentation that matching dollars have been "pledged" (but not necessarily put on deposit) when submitting a grant application.
- Changing the definition of small county from 425,000 to 700,000, according to the most recent Department of Finance population estimates. [THOMPSON/DANSBY]

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

H. May Revisions to Governor's 2008-09 State Budget

Summary: On May 14th, the Governor presented to the legislature his "May Revisions" to his proposed 2008-09 state budget. Since his first proposal on January 10th the budget shortfall has increased by \$6 billion to a total of \$17.2 billion due to lower state revenues than expected. All of the major proposals by the Governor made in January to balance the budget are still being proposed with the exception of suspending Proposition 98 (education resources), the early release of prisoners and closing of state parks. Included in your agenda packet are the following information items on the May Budget Revise:

1. Assembly Budget Committee highlights of proposed May Revision to include transportation.
2. Transportation section from the Governor's Budget May Revision.

As part of the May Revise the Governor is proposing structural reforms to the state budget including the following:

1. Modernizing the state lottery and raising cash upfront from securitizing future lottery revenues to be estimated at \$5 billion cash in each of the next three fiscal years. The \$5 billion that would be generated in this budget year will go towards meeting the current budget shortfall.
2. Establishing the Revenue Stabilization Fund – or rainy day fund, by using the money raised by securitizing future lottery revenues and modernizing the lottery to create a rainy day fund to be used in years when the economy is slow so as to avoid program cuts.
3. If the voters do not approve the Governor's budget reforms above as part of a constitutional amendment on the November ballot, then the Governor is proposing a 1% sales tax increase for up to three years to raise revenues by alternative means.

Budget Resources

A copy of the Governor's proposed and revised budget can be found online at www.ebudget.ca.gov.

The Governor's revised budget remarks and summaries of the proposed budget reforms can be found on his Web site at <http://gov.ca.gov/may-revise/>

Next Step

The deadline for the Governor to sign next year's budget is June 30th. However, as often happens, the budget is not in place until after the fiscal year begins on July 1st. In the meantime, the Legislative Analyst Office and the legislative budget subcommittees will review the May revisions in the coming weeks. If the Legislature doesn't support the Governor's budget then they will work to find new solutions to balance the budget which could include cuts in state programs, tax increases, transferring or borrowing local government revenue, or other solutions.

Staff will continue to keep our Committees informed regarding the FY 2008-09 budget process.
[DANSBY]

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

I. Air District Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

Summary: In 1992, the eight San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agencies (RPAs) entered into agreements with one another, as well as with the Air District, to ensure a coordinated regional approach to transportation and air quality planning efforts. In 2006, the agreement among the planning agencies was updated, and the San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council was formed to represent the Valley RPAs at public forums. The Policy Council is comprised of elected officials from each of the eight Valley counties.

The MOU between the eight Valley RPAs and the Air District has also been updated to reflect the continuing cooperation of all agencies. The MOU does not provide for any significant changes from the current policies, but does reinforce existing work efforts. The Regional Policy Council approved the MOU on May 23, 2008. Upon approval by the Air District Board, the MOU will be signed by a representative from each of the RPAs. [PAUKOVITS]

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

J. Regional Clearinghouse

	Project	Applicant
1.	USDA Rural Development – Rural Business Enterprise Grant	Lao American Foundation
2.	Federal Aviation Administration Airport Improvement Program	City of Fresno – Airports
3.	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development – Section 202 Supportive Housing Capital Advance Grant Program	Southern California Presbyterian Homes

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

1. **Lao American Foundation** is applying for a Fiscal Year 2008 United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development Grant for training education in small farm business to Lao farmers in Fresno County. This grant will benefit the citizens of the communities of Selma, Sanger, Easton, Biola, Parlier and the County of Fresno. Funding Amounts are: \$26,200 Federal for a total of \$26,200.

2. **City of Fresno - Airports** is applying for a Federal Aviation Administration Airport Improvement Program grant to rehabilitate Taxiway B6-2/3 (Const); rehabilitate service road (Const Ph. 2); perimeter access control (Const Ph. 2); install enhanced taxiway centerline markings. The grant will benefit the citizens of the Fresno, Kings, Madera, Tulare, Merced, and Mariposa Counties. The funding consists of \$3,505,583 in federal funds and \$184,504 in applicant funds for a total of \$3,690,087.

3. **Southern California Presbyterian Homes** is applying for a U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development Section 202 Supportive Housing Capital Advance Program Grant. The programs benefit the citizens of the City of Clovis, Fresno County, and the State of California. The funding consists of \$8,728,954 in federal funds, \$25,000 in applicant funds, and \$1,000,000 in local funds for a total of \$9,753,954. [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. FY 2007-08 Overall Work Program Budget Amendment #3

Summary: FY 2007/08 OWP Amendment #3 increases the budget \$152,654. There are two components of the increase.

\$7,000 is programmed to recognize personnel changes created by the recent retirement of the Executive Director and subsequent staff realignment.

The remaining \$145,654 is to create Work Element 212 - Measure "C" Carpool/Vanpool. This work element programs \$15,000 for the newly hired Planner I who will be administering this program and for associated office renovations and fixtures required to accommodate the position. Also programmed is \$120,000 for the City of Fresno's existing Vanpool program as stipulated in the adopted Measure "C" Extension 2007 Local Agency Other Revenue Program Funding Handbook. A \$10,000 contingency is included in the program estimate. [BESHEARS]

Action: Staff and PAC recommend approval of FY 2007/08 OWP Amendment #3 increasing the budget \$152,654.

B. FY 2008-09 Overall Work Program Budget Amendment #1

Summary: FY 2008/09 OWP Amendment #1 increases the budget \$2,008,261. This amendment recognizes revenue for three Measure "C" mandated programs that we have agreed to implement and includes the balance of revenues accumulated but unspent in 2007/08 plus the anticipated apportionments for 2008/09. Due to the newness of these programs staff recommends setting aside a marketing portion of each of these programs to be used for developing consumer awareness.

Work Element 212 - Measure "C" Ride Share

This program increased \$428,254 to \$523,254. Staffing is \$51,250, marketing \$16,830, and program implementation is \$455,174 which will include carpool and van pool programs as set forth in the adopted Measure "C" Extension 2007 Local Agency Other Revenue Program Funding Handbook.

Work Element 214 - Measure "C" ADA/Seniors

This \$911,099 program includes \$52,250 for staff, \$22,900 for marketing, and \$835,949 for program implementation as set forth in the adopted Measure "C" Extension 2007 Local Agency Other Revenue Program Funding Handbook.

Work Element 215 - Measure "C" Farm Worker Vanpool

This \$668,908 program includes \$52,250 for staff, \$16,830 for marketing, and \$599,828 for program implementation as set forth in the adopted Measure "C" Extension 2007 Local Agency Other Revenue Program Funding Handbook. [BESHEARS]

Action: Staff and PAC recommend approval of FY 2008/09 OWP Amendment #1 increasing the budget \$2,008,261 to implement Measure "C" related programs.

C. Fresno COG Policy Board Consideration of Utilizing Strategy Research Institute, Inc. (Dr. Gary Manross) for FY 2008-09 Work Activities

Summary: At the request of Policy Board member Henry Perea, through the Executive Director, Strategy Research Institute Inc. (SRI- Dr. Gary Manross) was invited to submit a Scope of Work (enclosure) detailing consulting services his firm would be able to provide the COG in FY 2008-09. SRI was instrumental in helping Fresno COG find "regional consensus" among the various stakeholders involved in the reauthorization of Measure "C" in 2006, ultimately resulting in 78% approval at the polls.

Dr. Manross was present at the Policy Advisory Committee meeting and gave a brief presentation on his proposed scope of work. The PAC discussion centered on identifying specific products and tasks that SRI Inc. could perform for the COG. The City of Fresno (Bruce Rudd) and County of Fresno (Lynn Gorman) voiced their position that given the current "consensus" challenges that we are encountering in development of our Measure "C" mandated Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee Program and subsequent Regional Program Delivery schedule there appears to be a role for Dr. Manross's consensus building talents. PAC directed the Executive Director to meet with Ms. Gorman and Mr. Rudd prior to the Policy Board meeting and develop a more refined scope of work for SRI Inc. [BOREN]

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

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

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

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

E. Discussion of Possible Change in Starting Times for COG Policy Board

Summary: At the May 29th 2008 Policy Board meeting, some members of the Policy Board expressed interest in changing the COG Board meeting time from 7:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Historically, due to the fact that many of our Board members have day jobs it has been difficult to get a quorum that early, however, tentative support for the concept was expressed by a number of the Policy Board members at the May 29, 2008 meeting. [BOREN]

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

F. Consideration of Increase in COG Policy Board Members Attendance Stipend

Summary: An administrative review of our historical records show that it has been twenty years since the Policy Board Attendance Stipend has been reviewed and updated. Given that gas prices are now approaching \$5.00 per gallon, COG staff believes it would be prudent to revisit this issue. As an example, the City of Coalinga Mayor is required to drive nearly 150 miles to and from the COG meeting. In addition, due to the variety and complexity of the issues on our agendas, the length of time of our Policy Board meetings has far exceeded those in the 1980s when the stipend policy was first developed. [BOREN]

Action: The COG Executive Director recommends an increase in the Policy Board Attendance Stipend from \$50 to \$100.

G. Consideration of Allowing the Del Rey Community Services District to Sit on the Fresno COG Policy Board as a Non-Voting Member

Summary: At the request of Policy Board member Dennis Lujan, through the Executive Director, the Del Rey Community Services District has requested that the COG Policy Board consider allowing them to sit on the Policy Board as a non-voting member.

By way of history, in 2002, at the request of the Big Sandy Rancheria, the COG Policy Board gave consideration to allowing the Tribe to sit on the Policy Board, after lengthy discussions the Tribe eventually withdrew their request.

In the interest of fairness and giving equal opportunity to all Community Services Districts and unincorporated communities, COG staff contacted Local Agency Formation Commission staff and learned there are twenty-four Community Services Districts in Fresno County. [Boren]

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

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

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

Fresno COG Sitting As the Abandoned Vehicle Abatement Authority

VIII. Abandoned Vehicle Abatement--FY 2007-08 Third Quarter Report Status Report

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 the member agencies. For the third quarter of FY 2007-08, a total of \$165,556.14 in current AVA revenues was received and available for distribution to member agencies and to the Fresno COG for program administration. During the quarter, member agencies expended \$191,308.10 conducting AVA activities and the Fresno COG claimed \$2,375.00 for program administration. Because expenses exceeded revenues during the quarter, the program's accumulated surplus was reduced. A total of 1,171 vehicles were abated this quarter, compared to 1,091 vehicles abated during the same quarter of the previous fiscal year, a substantial increase in vehicle abatements. [THOMPSON/STECK]

Action: Staff and PAC recommend acceptance of the third quarter status report as presented.

Fresno COG Sitting As the Council of Fresno County Governments

IX. CLOSED SESSION

Conference with Labor Negotiator (Government Code Section 54957.6): conference regarding unrepresented COG staff employees; COG Executive Director, Tony Boren to act as Labor Negotiator on behalf of COG Policy Board.

X. OPEN SESSION -- DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH UNREPRESENTED COG STAFF EMPLOYEES

*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 – Committees and Agendas