

Project Abstract

Proposed Funding Source:	Fresno Workforce Investment Brd.	Funding Source: Workforce Investment Act Funds												
Applicant Organization:	Central California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce													
Partner Organizations: Association	The San Joaquin Valley Black Chamber of Commerce; The Building Industry of Fresno/Madera Counties; Building and Construction Trades Council of Fresno, Madera, Kings & Tulare Counties; Central Labor Council of Fresno, Madera, Tulare, & Kings County AFL-CIO.													
Project Summary as of July 14, 2008: Within the scope of this proposed project, the Central California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce will request \$375,000 from the Fresno County Workforce Investment Board to reach out to union and non-union employers in the building and construction trades by training and equipping 75 eligible, low-income, unemployed or underemployed adults in entry-level, building and construction skills over a fifteen-month period. The overall intent of this collaboration is to increase the number of qualified candidates that enter union and non-union jobs or apprenticeships who are ready and prepared to work in construction as defined by the building and construction trades that include: Aluminum and Brick Workers; Carpenters, Electricians; Glassworkers; Machinists; Metalworkers; Plumbers; and General Laborers. The initial geographic focus of this proposed project is to serve eligible adult residents of Fresno County. In designing the training course, eligible project participants will be referred by the Fresno County Workforce Investment Board's network of existing service providers. A screening of the prospective participants will then occur. The screening will be conducted by the Central California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and its partner organizations to assure that prospective participants meet minimum qualifications: (1) be at least 18 years; (2) possess a High School diploma or GED; (3) possess a valid California Drivers License; (4) be in good physical condition (<i>capable of lifting at least 35 pounds of weight</i>); (5) be able to pass and maintain a drug screen test; (6) ability to maintain the training schedule; and (7) ability to pass a skills aptitude test appropriate to the building and construction trades. The program would be considered a pilot project and women would be encouraged to fill approximately 30 percent of the training positions. Through the screening process, referred individuals are only considered potential participants and have not been formally enrolled into the training program. Prospective participants may self-select themselves for withdrawal from the training at any time or may be screened out for not meeting the requirements of the training program. The Central California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and its partner organizations conducting the screening will have the final decision in determining a person's referral to orientation. Orientation will provide prospective training participants with a thorough overview of the training program components and what is expected of the program participants. At the orientation, prospective training participants will be asked if they need any supportive service to help an individual successfully attend or complete the training. Supportive service resources shall originate from the referring service provider or the Fresno County Workforce Investment Board. Through the orientation process, referred individuals are only considered potential participants and have not been formally enrolled into the training program. The focus of this 16-week (512 hour) training program will be to introduce participants to and establish a familiarity and understanding of the California Department of Industrial Relations, Division of Apprenticeship Standards' Minimum Industry Training Criteria to facilitate an individual's entry into an apprenticeship or other extensive training programs within the building and construction trades. Core components of this training will be: Workplace Safety (including, but not limited to at least 30 hours of OSHA Training, First Aid and CPR Training), Proper Use of Power Tools, Workplace Mathematics and its Application in the Building and Construction Trades, Workplace Ethics and Standard Job Expectations, Workplace English Literacy and Building and Construction Trade Terms. In addition, 380 hours of specific Minimum Industry Training Criteria training will be provided in the following trades: <table style="width: 100%; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%;"><u>Air Conditioning & Refrigeration</u></td> <td style="width: 33%;"><u>Carpentry</u></td> <td style="width: 33%;"><u>Cement Mason/Plastering</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>Construction Craft Laborer</u></td> <td><u>Drywall</u></td> <td><u>Electrical</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>Glazer</u></td> <td><u>Ironworker</u></td> <td><u>Pipe Trade Industry, Sprinkler Fitter</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>Plumbing</u></td> <td><u>Roofers/Waterproofers</u></td> <td><u>Sheet Metal & All Bldg Trades</u></td> </tr> </table>			<u>Air Conditioning & Refrigeration</u>	<u>Carpentry</u>	<u>Cement Mason/Plastering</u>	<u>Construction Craft Laborer</u>	<u>Drywall</u>	<u>Electrical</u>	<u>Glazer</u>	<u>Ironworker</u>	<u>Pipe Trade Industry, Sprinkler Fitter</u>	<u>Plumbing</u>	<u>Roofers/Waterproofers</u>	<u>Sheet Metal & All Bldg Trades</u>
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Leroy H. Brown 313-8815

Budget Detail as of July 14, 2008:

The total budget requested for the Central California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce's 15-month Building and Construction Trade Prep Program is **\$375,000**. A detailed budget breakdown of proposed costs is based on the Budget Categories itemized in the Standard Form (SF) 424 format is included below:

Budget Cost Categories and Justification	WIA Cost
Personnel	
Salaries:	\$0
Fringe Benefits:	\$0
Travel:	
<u>In-State – In-County Travel</u> – Mileage of Vehicles for In-County Travel for Orientation, Screenings and Project Meetings @ 0.50 per mile x 700 miles per month x 15 months (Gas, Oil Change, Vehicle Maintenance) - \$5,250	\$5,250
Supplies (Program Supplies and Disposable Office Supplies):	
<u>Program Supplies</u> – Laboratory/Workshop Replacement Supplies () @ \$1,200.00 per month x 12 months of lab use (\$14,400); Student Classroom Education Supplies (Pens, pencils, calculators, etc. @ \$100.00 per student participant @ \$100 x 90 enrolled participants (\$9,000); Classroom Books/Manuals @ \$150.00 per student participant @ \$150.00 x 90 = (\$13,500).	
<u>Supportive Service Participant Supplies</u> – (Bus Passes/Tokens, Gas, DMV Clearance, etc. \$10,000)	
<u>Office Supplies:</u> Pens, pencils, paper, ink cartridges, computer supplies, film, batteries, small desk machines, etc. @ \$300 per month x 15 months x 1 year (\$4,500). Photocopying project educational materials – \$5,000.	\$56,400
Contractual:	
<u>Teaching Contract with Training Facility</u> Provision of Workshop and class teacher @ \$40.00 per hour x 512 total hours per class x 3 classes (\$61,440); Provision of Workshop and class assistant @ \$20.00 per hour x 512 total hours per class x 3 classes (\$30,720); Fully equipped classroom and workshop rental for 15 months @ 2,000 sq ft x \$2.00 per sq. ft. x 12 months of actual operation (\$48,000) Subtotal \$140,160.	
Project Coordinator (\$45,000)	
Project Evaluator (\$36,000)	
Project Assistants (2 positions @ \$20,000 each) (\$40,000)	\$261,160
Other	
Liability Insurance 15 month Umbrella Policy (\$15,000)	
Union Cards for Initial Entry into Apprenticeship Program (\$150.00 per card x 90 student participants @ \$150.00 x 90 = (\$13,500).	\$28,500
Administrative Overhead (Calculated at 8 percent of \$375,000)	\$30,000
Total Workforce Assistance Requested	\$381,310

\$6,310 over with this budget

Need to add Red Cross in to conduct First Aid training

Leroy H. Brown
2667 S. Lee
Fresno, 93706
H- 445-1658
C- 313-8815

Objective: To secure a challenging position in a progressive organization offering the opportunity to fully utilize my proven expertise and people-oriented skills where I can develop an effective program that will contribute to increase community participation and organizational gain.

Skills: A result-oriented self-starter with highly developed administrative, problem-solving and decision making skills including diverse staff recruitment, personnel policies and procedures, site coordination, performance appraisal, operations maintenance, effective written and verbal communications skills.

Experience: Consultant

Kernel Palm Shopping Center Fresno, CA 7/99-2/00
Special assistant to project development, assist the community with jobs as the project develop, attend meeting with E.D.D, F.C. E.O.C, West Fresno Economic Development Board, to place people that live in the community with future employment during and when shopping center given an okay to open by the center of Fresno.

CSR/Job Coach

Fresno Leadership Foundation Fresno, CA 1/99-5/99
Provide case management, supportive services, job coaching, mentoring, and job retention services, work one-on-one with client to motivate personal and career growth.

Placement Specialist/Job Corp. Representative

Nero Job Corps Supportive Service Inc. Oakland, CA 1997-1998
Provide placement services and counseling to students terminated from Job Corps. Establishes and maintains files, contact listings of potential employers, schools training programs and various service agencies. Arrange interviews with potential employers. Maintain constant contact with assigned caseload during placement service cycle. Deliver readjustment checks to assigned students. Locate AWOL students.

Area Supervisor I

Fresno County E.O.C Fresno, CA 1997-1997
Assist in recruitment and supervision of 10 group leader for Summer Youth Program. Provide supervision, counseling and job placement of 187 participants. Analysis of personnel data for placements, coordinate workflow and interview schedules. Provide weekly status reports, time sheets and referral, analysis personnel data for program placements, and order supplies and equipment, extensive telephone contact with employers.

Sales Representative

Prepaid Legal Service Inc. & Subsidiaries Fresno, CA 1996-1997
Independently organize, plan, and implement networking services to communicate and promote generation of service concepts to Northern and Southern California, concentrating on chain accounts to increase revenue, review, record and file service documents.

Self-Employed

General Construction Operations manager California 3/94-4-96
Construction analysis, site management and operations supervision of multi-family dwellings. Vendor and client recruitment, provide project management service including supervision contracted crews and equipment for completion.

Accountant Executive

Fresno Private Industry Council Fresno, CA 6/92-3/94
Responsible for recruiting, interviewing, hiring, writing and evaluation job performance of participant. Maintain current labor market information, substantiate recorded placements, and attend appropriate meetings, seminars and interface with personnel from other departments. Record narrative of all action or conversation with each participant. Liaison between administration and participants.

Employment Account Executive

SER, Jobs For Progress Inc. Fresno, CA 2/91-6/92
Assist in the administration of all participants and personnel functions. Responsible for recruiting, interviewing, hiring, writing and evaluating status and job performance of participants. Maintain current labor market information. Interface with personnel from other departments and handle employer/employee discrepancies.

Construction Placement Specialist

Fresno County E.O.C. Fresno, CA 6/88-2/91
Organization of orientation programs for incoming participants. Process all correspondence with potential employers and individual applicants. Coordination of payroll processing with accounting department. Maintain current labor market information. Administer benefit and performance evaluations. Liaison between participant and employers.

Recruiter

Mine of the Community Conference Fresno, CA 10/83-6/87
Responsible for recruiting, counseling, placement of minorities and females into building and trades apprenticeship programs. Provide counseling and arrange interview with prospective employers.

Recruiter

Valley Area Construction Opportunity Program Fresno, CA 10/70-9/82
Responsible for recruiting, counseling, placement of minorities and females into building trades. Work closely with unions (JATC) and contractors. Work closely with California Industrial Divisions of Apprenticeship Program, Federal Bureau of Apprenticeship Program, and State of California Division of Apprenticeship Standards.

Excellent References Available Upon Request

July 14, 2008

John Hernandez, Executive Director
Central California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
2331 Fresno Street
Fresno, California 93721

Re: Letter of Support and Commitment for the Hispanic
Chamber of Commerce's Building and Construction Trade Prep Program

Dear John:

Thank you for taking the time to let me know about the Central California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce's plans to develop and carry out a program to train entry-level workers for admission into apprenticeship training program(s) in various building and construction trades. As a representative of a regional union, I can attest to the need for workers that possess basic and entry level skills in the trades that involve Aluminum and Brick Workers; Carpenters, Electricians; Glassworkers; Machinists; Metalworkers; Plumbers; and General Laborers workers in welding skills here in the Fresno area and throughout California's San Joaquin Valley.

I believe that this letter from our organization can accomplish three distinct outcomes.

First, from an employer's perspective, we know that employers look for workers who can get the job done and meet the bottom line. Based on our understanding of the industry, it is critical for apprentices of our program to possess a clear understanding of the Division of Apprenticeship Standards' Minimum Industry Training Criteria and have a willingness to work. Therefore, as one employer in the industry of workers in the building and construction trades, I can assure you that we need the type of preparatory training your program will offer.

Secondly, as your training program begins, we will also help coordinate and facilitate participation of other employers in the industry, referring potential trainees, introducing training participants to a variety of careers within the building and construction trades.

Thirdly, as a result, after taking a look at the training curriculum you propose for the project, we believe that, if this project is approved, we have the potential to advance or promote the graduates of the project to prospective employers that would have immediate openings for positions that start at \$--.--per hour and continue on up to \$--.-- with experience. Should you have any questions about our support for this application, please don't hesitate to contact me at (559) aaa-aaaa.

Sincerely,



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:
July 25, 2008

Contact: Chanel Ruiz-Mendez
The Rios Company
(559) 352-6782
Samuel Norman
The Rios Company
(559) 485-1320

Youth Project Challenges their Peers to Voice their Vote!

The Rios Company, in conjunction with the Fresno County Election Department, aims to encourage participation in the electoral process through a grassroots *Voter Education and Outreach Project* targeting African-American and Hispanic populations. Today, the group officially kicked-off the campaign, joined by several youth, their organization leaders and project sponsors.

This effort will focus on the underserved areas of Pinedale, Southwest and Southeast Fresno with a primary emphasis on youth ages 17 to 24, for the upcoming November 2008 elections.

Nationwide, approximately 65 million eligible voters are not registered to vote. This includes 30% of eligible African-Americans and 40% of eligible Hispanic voters. When broken down into age categories, 50% of eligible voters between the ages of 18-24 are not registered to vote. In Fresno County, out of the 44,137 registered voters in the 18-24 age group, only 13,834 voted in the June election.

“The Election Department has a duty to reach out to those communities that have been historically underrepresented in the electoral process,” said Victor E. Salazar, County Clerk/Registrar of Voters. “The target areas of this project do just that.”

-more-

Youth Voter Education 2-2-2

A key component of the project is a peer-to-peer model, utilizing youth groups representing the interest and issues relevant to the young voter. This effort will be implemented by existing youth organizations from the target communities with project management by The Rios Company. The kNOw, representing Southwest Fresno and the Boys & Girls Club Pinedale Unit will serve as the core team driving the effort, with participation from Fresno Barrios Unidos and Californians for Justice, representing Southeast Fresno.

The groups will be provided training in the proper voter education and engagement techniques, as well as, supported in their planned community activities to mobilize their peers. These activities will include voter registration drives, online Blogging and hosting/organizing youth forums to discuss the importance of civic engagement and how their vote impacts their circumstances. Incentives will be provided to the groups to encourage their commitment to the project.

“Beyond teaching the youth about civic engagement, we hope to encourage team building, develop leadership skills and enhance experiential learning through this project,” said Samuel A. Norman, The Rios Company.

The Voter Education and Outreach Project will also enlist the support of community entities and stakeholders to increase the visibility of the campaign. These linkages will include schools, community-based and faith-based organizations, community leaders, policy makers and civic organizations, to name a few.

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) has pledged the first contribution to the core youth groups in the project to help defray any costs. Additional sponsors are being sought to help provide support to other youth groups that wish to participate in the effort.

For more information on upcoming events or how to become a sponsor, contact The Rios Company at (559) 485-1320.

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Wanted: Younger voters

This election has many issues that young adults are passionate about.

07/14/08 18:54:08

Try this one on your teenager: What does "democracy" mean?

Chances are, you'll get a blank stare.

Though there is a distinctly young rumble to the election this year, those in charge of voting fear there's a big gap between the passion and the polls. For decades, young adults have voted at much lower numbers than their older counterparts.

Fresno County wants to change that in time for the November presidential election. There are a lot of issues that embolden young people to speak up -- war, economy, environment, energy and education -- and now is a perfect time to engage young adults in the voting process. The excitement is there; the momentum is documented.

According to MTV, tabulations from the Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement, young voters turned out in record numbers in more than 20 states. In practically every state holding a primary or caucus on Super Tuesday, youth turnout increased astronomically, doubling, tripling and even quadrupling the turnout in the 2000 and 2004 electoral seasons.

Still, there were low points in those statistics, particularly for minority young adults. To fire up that election enthusiasm long enough to last through November, young voters must understand what it means to have an election and how voting works.

Fresno County elections officials are determined to reach out to underrepresented populations and interest them into the civic process. Because of our diverse demographics, we can be a laboratory for young minority voter recruitment.

We like this idea, and hope it catches fire.

The county is getting help in devising its strategy from The Rios Company, a public relations firm with a track record of working well on community issues. They have devised a promising course of action -- enlist leadership help from about 40 bright young people working in groups that already exist: the Pinedale Boys and Girls Club, The kNOw, Barrios Unidos and Californians for Justice.

The groups have been asked to accomplish three tasks: organize and host an event promoting voting and registration, create a blog and conduct a registration drive.

The groups are already meeting to work on slogans, test the message, define the campaign image, and learning, themselves, about the intricacies of the voting process.

One of the events that is already working is getting young people to volunteer as poll workers, so the elections department has set aside 30 jobs to make sure the groups get this experience. Poll workers are paid \$150 day and that's a ticket to observe the voting process up close. The groups also are touring the elections department and even developing a video toolkit, so other areas can mobilize their young people.

This can be the year that young people rocked the vote. They have much to offer the civic discussion because the war, the economy, the environment and education have a huge impact on their lives.

We encourage all Valley cities to conduct methodical, frequent, strategic outreach events to persuade young voters to take their rightful places in our democracy. Times are tough. We need their energy and insights.

Central California Development Council

4747 N. First Street, Suite 140
Fresno, CA 93726

July 10, 2008

Ms. Cynthia Matson, Chair
Measure C Citizens Oversight Committee
ATTN: Marla Day
2220 Tulare Street, Suite 411
Fresno, CA 93721

Dear Ms. Matson:

The Central California Development Council is a nonprofit organization that advocates the interests of commercial and industrial builders in the Fresno County region. We are writing to comment on the Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee (RTMF) that is proposed for your committee's consideration and recommendation at your meeting on July 10, 2008.

We have received and reviewed the report in support of a proposed RTMF prepared on behalf of the Fresno County Transportation Authority by PB Americas, Inc. We have a number of concerns about certain technical principles that were applied by the consultant which impacts the ability of the proposed fee to comply with the principles of the California Mitigation Fee Act. We will address those legal and issues more formally in correspondence to the Transportation Authority and the Council of Fresno County Governments as part of their consideration of any proposed adoption.

However, we feel that there is a significant issue about this fee that falls squarely within the type of citizen oversight that your committee is establish to provide and report to the public. Specifically, we are concerned about the proposed tripling/quadrupling of the originally proposed RTMF fee. What is also troubling is that it appears this increase is being proposed to paper over some substantial errors in cost estimates that were originally submitted to the Fresno County voters. Unfortunately, the recommendations you are considering seeks to address this substantial failure by having a single funding sector, the development community, fill in the funding gaps that resulted from the cost estimation errors of the various government agencies.

As you know, the original Measure C program proposed \$504M of regional transportation projects. The sales tax revenues were to be supplemented with \$400M of our region's state and federal highway transportation funds, and \$102M of developer impact funds. Together, these funds were to fund approximately \$1 billion of Urban and Rural Tier 1 projects.

Unfortunately, the RTMF options proposed for your consideration will nearly triple and possibly more than quadruple the developer impact fee fundings that the original Measure C program envisioned. Rather than seeking \$102M of developer impact fee fundings, the least burdensome proposal seeks to raise \$264 million, and the most burdensome proposal recommends \$447 million.

You might think this proposed increase is because the Project Development Team (PDT) decided to seek funding from developer impact fees for projects well beyond those that were originally envisioned by the Measure C program. Indeed, during several months and many consultant hours and expenses, this was the intended effort that was underway. Thankfully, however, at the end of the process the PDT included a primary recommendation that limited the projects to be funded to those included in the Urban and Rural Tier 1 project list.

Measure C Citizens Oversight Committee
Re: RTMF Fee
July 10, 2008
Page 2

The primary reason for the proposed substantial increase in developer fee fundings is instead the numerous and significant errors made in the original cost estimates that went into the Measure C program when it was submitted to the voters! This circumstance is detailed in the PB Americas, Inc. study at pages 33 and 34.

For example, 35% of this cost estimate error is the cost of a single project, namely the proposal to extend SR 180 to I5. That project has gone from an original 2006 estimate of approximately \$40M, to a current 2008 estimate of \$212M, a \$172M and 430% increase.

It is true that a portion of these increases are the result of extraordinary price increases in the construction industry. The report provided by PB Americas, Inc. details the substantial construction cost increase in recent years. Our community is well acquainted with this circumstance, as it hits our project cost and profits directly. However, the PB Americas Inc report notes that this circumstance is not the sole, nor even primary basis for this substantial cost increase in the Measure C Regional Projects and the RTMF proposal¹.

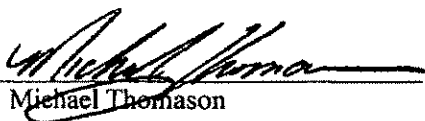
It is unfair and inappropriate to substantially increase the impact fees that Measure C proposes to impose on new development projects. This is particularly unfair because the purpose of these fundings are to address cost estimation errors of government entities, not the development community. Obviously, these substantial increases come at a time when no part of the development sector can afford these impacts.

Finally, there is an implementation issue that deserves consideration which the report you were provided does not fully address. Specifically, it is unclear whether the per square foot charges included in this report for retail users is intended to be a flat fee for all types of retail uses, or whether a specific trip generating profile for each specific retail user will need to be evaluated. We recommend, for convenience of administration across all jurisdictions, that a single per square foot rate be established. While the report's cost estimates are consistent with our recommendation, the information we have received from the staff indicates that this issue has not yet been actually decided or even fully discussed.

We believe this matter merits substantial public input and consideration. We thank your Committee for its efforts in this regard.

Sincerely,

Central California Development Council

By: 
Michael Thomason

¹ The PB Americas, Inc. report also somewhat misleadingly suggests on page 37 that the Measure C program cost estimates did not originally include any allowance for inflationary costs and that a higher RTMF is therefore justified. However, the Measure C program included an explicit inflation adjustment factor which inflated projects costs 5% per annum each year through 2017. So, the \$1 billion project cost fundings and \$102M of RTMF funds originally planned for the Measure C Tier 1 Projects were in fact already intended to be "inflation adjusted" number.

HIGH SPEED RAIL UPDATE
JULY 31, 2008

Conference Call held today with HSR Board Members, Executive Director, Legislators, Legislative Staff and a few invited lobbyists. Call was hosted by AB 3034 Author Assemblywoman Cathleen Galgiani (D-Merced). Steve Samuelian participated in the call on behalf of Fresno COG, et. al. Highlights of the call:

- The current bill needs more support especially from Republican Senators.
- Sens. Denham, Margett, Runner, Wyland, and Maldonado especially.
- Galgiani has accepted some Amendments from Sen. Ashburn, and others.
- Senate President Pro-Tem will determine when a vote will take place.
- Vote must take place before Aug. 11.
- All amendments for the bill must be submitted by Monday.
- HSR Bond can still make the ballot but much needs to be accomplished in the next several days.
- Sen. Yee made amendments to the bill. Those amendments may be altered. Discussions are taking place now between Galgiani and Sen. President Pro-Tem's Office to possibly assist S.D. area.
- Partnership delegation of Peter Weber, Katie Stevens, and Andy Chesley are going to Sac. Monday to lobby on HSR issue and have meetings with Galgiani and Villines staff.
- Cal. Consulting is making regular (previously scheduled) trip to Sac. on Monday and has meetings with Members and/or staff of Villines, Cogdill, Florez, Arambula, CTC, Galgiani, Lowenthal, and Govs. Office Curt Augustine. List of several COG issues to discuss. COG members are invited to attend Monday Aug. 4.

BEFORE THE
COUNCIL OF FRESNO COUNTY GOVERNMENTS
RESOLUTION NO. 2008-38

In the Matter of:)
)
SUPPORT FOR CHILDCARE)
CENTERS IMPACTED BY STATE)
BUDGET DELAY)
_____)

**RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT
FOR A SOLUTION TO THE
STATE BUDGET DELAY
AND ITS IMPACT ON STATE
SUBSIDIZED CHILDCARE
CENTERS IN FRESNO COUNTY**

WHEREAS, the Council of Fresno County Governments (Fresno COG) is the state designated Regional Transportation Planning Agency and the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Fresno County region. Fresno COG, along with the city and county governments within the region, is a consensus builder developing programs and solutions to a variety of issues impacting Fresno County residents, and;

WHEREAS, in Fresno County, the availability of adequate childcare services contributes significantly towards the strength and wellbeing of the local economy, particularly the agricultural industry. Childcare centers are the cornerstone of the agriculture industry in Fresno County by providing childcare to children of farm workers so that they may stay gainfully employed and help support the reported \$5 billion agricultural production industry in Fresno County. Moreover, the availability and dependability of this labor force during peak harvest demands is critical to the financial viability and prosperity of those who reside in this region. In addition, the recent drought and water shortage has negatively impacted many communities that survive on a single base economy, the agricultural industry. To further exacerbate the problem, the delay in signing the state budget could have dire consequences on the fragile economy of the Fresno County region and;

WHEREAS, if a budget is not enacted in the very near future, then the state subsidized childcare centers in Fresno County will not be able to afford to keep their doors open without timely state reimbursement for services rendered. This will negatively impact those entities that provide childcare services and those families that depend on these critical services to continue working and supporting the local agricultural economy, and;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Fresno COG supports finding both short-term and long-term solutions to the negative impact a budget delay has on state assisted childcare facilities and the children and families they serve. Fresno COG supports a short-term solution whereby state subsidized childcare providers can apply for one time loans and grants with the First Five Fresno County and/or the First Five California commissions to continue operations until the state budget is passed. Fresno COG also supports working with state lawmakers and the appropriate state agencies to develop a long-term solution in the event that a state budget is past due in future fiscal years and critical services such as childcare become at risk. and:

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION was passed and adopted by the Council of Fresno County Governments this 31st day of July, 2008.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

ATTEST:

Signed: Trinidad M. Rodriguez, Chairman

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a resolution of the Council of Fresno County Governments duly adopted at a regular meeting thereof held on the 31st day of July, 2008.

Signed: _____
Tony Boren, Executive Director

DRAFT

July 31, 2008

Re: Proposed Fresno County Energy Center

To Whom It May Concern:

The Council of Fresno County Governments (Fresno COG) supports in concept the Hybrid Energy project presented by Invenergy at last month's Fresno COG Policy Board meeting. Currently, the proposed location of the project is north of the City of Firebaugh.

Invenergy is proposing to build a combined cycle 550 MW natural gas fired electrical generating facility. This facility will be used in conjunction with a concentrated solar thermal project which, depending upon the amount of land and water available will produce about 250 MW of power. Additionally, in subsequent bids to PG&E, it is proposed that a natural gas "Peaker" power facility be constructed at the site. The total amount of energy capacity at the site at complete build out, and as presently envisioned, is estimated to be at least 1000 MW.

As proposed, the total value of the energy center would be about \$800 million. The taxes generated have not been calculated, but would be in excess of \$1.5 million/year. A minimum of 30 jobs would be created, with average salaries of approximately \$80,000 per year.

On behalf of the Council of Fresno County Governments, we support the concept of Invenergy to develop their project in Fresno County in the vicinity of the City of Firebaugh. We understand that Invenergy will need to go through the proper permitting and environmental processes required of any development project.

Sincerely,

Trinidad M. Rodriguez, Policy Board Chairman
Mayor, City of Kerman

AT&T Yahoo! Mail - carrol.ca-consult@sbcglobal.net

Page 1 of 1



Print - Close Window

Date: Wed, 16 Jul 2008 15:50:43 -0700 (PDT)
From: "steve samuelian" <ca-consulting@sbcglobal.net>
Subject: COPS/Juvenile Justice Grant Program Funding

As Many of you know, our office has been tracking the COPS/Juvenile Justice Grant Program funding and working closely with the San Joaquin Valley state legislative delegation on this issue since the LAO originally proposed eliminating it several months ago.

The Budget Conference Committee recently concluded their work and programmed \$200 million total (\$100 million each) for the programs.

The Governor had requested \$107 million each for 08-09 for a total of \$214.2 million.

Last year (07-08) the funding level was \$119 million each or \$238 million.

So last year was \$238 million, the Governor asked for \$214.2 million this year and the Budget Conference Committee set the funding at \$200 million for this year.

Big 5 are meeting this week and negotiations continue. The Big 5 will be the final decision makers on what level of funding is set for the COPS/Juvenile Justice Grants program.

The San Joaquin Valley legislative delegation has demonstrated outstanding leadership on this issue and deserves credit for helping push to preserve funding of this important program.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Steve Samuelian
Manager
California Consulting, LLC
Central Valley Office
1530 E. Shaw Avenue, Suite 114
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Date: Wed, 30 Jul 2008 16:43:27 -0700 (PDT)
From: "steve samuelian" <ca-consulting@sbcglobal.net>
Subject: Healthcare Meetings in Sacramento
To: "Carrol Terrazas" <carrol.ca-consult@sbcglobal.net>

California Consulting, LLC was asked to organize a trip to Sacramento to discuss healthcare issues and lobby against the proposed cut in medi-cal rate reimbursements. On Tuesday July 29, 2008 we scheduled meetings and accompanied a delegation of local leaders including elected and appointed officials from the following communities:

Sierra-Kings Hospital
City of Reedley
City of Sanger
City of Selma
City of Orange Cove
City of Parlier
City of Kingsburg
Kings Canyon Unified School District

The group met with Assemblyman Alan Nakanishi, Vice-Chair of the Assembly Health Committee; the Governor's Deputy Cabinet Secretary for Healthcare; as well as Senior staff members from the Offices of California Assembly Speaker Karen Bass (L.A.), Senator Dean Florez (Shafter), Assemblyman Juan Arambula (Fresno), Assemblywoman Nicole Parra (Hanford), and Assemblywoman Cathleen Galgiani (Merced). The delegation also met with two Deputy Directors from the Department of Health Care Services from the Governor's Administration.

The message of the group was to preserve the medi-cal reimbursement rates. If the rates are cut it would have a devastating impact on valley hospitals, rural health providers, cities and citizens.

A 10% rate cut was proposed in the state budget. The Budget Conference Committee lowered that figure to 5% (still a harmful number).

Follow up meetings and conference calls are planned to continue to make our voices heard in Sacramento.

The delegation was led by Reedley Mayor Pro-Tem Steve Rapada and the City of Reedley worked closely with California Consulting, LLC to organize the visit. The City of Reedley deserves gratitude for stepping up and tackling this important issue that impacts the entire San Joaquin Valley.

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Date: Tue, 1 Jul 2008 15:20:22 -0700 (PDT)
From: "steve samuelian" <ca-consulting@sbcglobal.net>
Subject: Local Government Bills During 2008

Attached is the list of key bills that were heard in the Senate Local Government Committee this year. This summary includes a brief description of the bill, and the current status. This update was provided to our Office by the Senate Local Government Committee. Hope you find it helpful.

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Attachments

Files: **Local_Government_Bills_During_2008.doc** (60k)

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Senate Committee on Local Government
Senator Gloria Negrete McLeod, Chair
State Capitol, Sacramento, California 95814
www.sen.ca.gov/locgov

July 1, 2008

TO: People Interested in Local Government, Public Finance, and Land Use

FROM: Senator Gloria Negrete McLeod

SUBJECT: Local Government Bills During 2008

Now that the Legislature's policy committees have finished their work reviewing bills, I want you to know about some of the more interesting bills affecting public finance, land use, and local governance that came to the Committee this year. The urgency bills take effect when they were chaptered; regular bills will take effect on January 1, 2009.

To check a bill's current status, please use the Legislature's public website: www.leginfo.ca.gov

LOCAL FINANCE & INFRASTRUCTURE

SB 360 (Negrete McLeod) requires county auditors to calculate and pay redevelopment agencies' mandatory property tax increment pass-throughs. Status: Assembly Appropriations Committee.

SB 1293 (Negrete McLeod) imposes additional transparency and accountability requirements on public agencies that provide conduit financing. Status: Assembly Appropriations Committee.

SCA 12 (Torlakson) adds stormwater fees to Proposition 218's voter approval exemption for sewer, water, and garbage property-related fees. Status: Senate Floor.

AB 697 (Hancock) prohibits cities and counties from making specified agreements that divert other communities' Bradley-Burns sales tax revenues. Status: Senate Floor.

AB 811 (Levine) authorizes contractual assessment financing for energy efficiency and renewable energy improvements on real property. Status: Governor's Desk.

AB 938 (Calderon) creates new procedures for local officials to charge regulatory and user fees to pay for stormwater and urban runoff programs. Status: Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 1170 (Krekorian) imposes deadlines on deciding state mandate test claims and completing audits of state mandate reimbursement claims. Status: Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 1709 (Hancock) authorizes Mello-Roos Act financing for energy efficiency and renewable energy improvements on any real property. Status: Senate Floor.

AB 1836 (Feuer) eliminates 2/3-voter approval to set up Infrastructure Financing Districts (IFDs) and issue IFD bonds for public transit facilities. Status: Died in the Senate Local Government Committee.

AB 2367 (Leno) allows San Francisco officials to use an Infrastructure Financing District (IFD) to redevelop their Port properties, with 20% of the property tax increment revenues set-aside for waterfront restoration projects. Status: Senate Appropriations Committee.

LOCAL POWERS & GOVERNANCE

SB 76 (Flores) requires school district officials to receive the same ethics training as other local government officials. Status: Assembly Appropriations Committee.

SB 1103 (Cedillo) requires local officials to report their economic development subsidies. Status: Assembly Floor.

SB 1191 (Alquist) allows Community Services Districts (CSDs) to provide broadband facilities and services until private companies are ready, willing, and able. Status: Governor's Desk.

SB 1061, SB 1062, and SB 1063 (Senate Local Government Committee) are the annual Validating Acts. Status: SB 1061 was signed as Chapter 10 (urgency); SB 1062 is on the Assembly Floor's Inactive File; SB 1063 was signed as Chapter 6. All Statutes of 2008.

SB 1124 (Senate Local Government Committee) is the annual Local Government Omnibus Act, making 15 relatively minor and noncontroversial changes to the state laws affecting local agencies' powers and duties. Status: Assembly Appropriations Committee.

SB 1458 (Senate Local Government Committee) rewrites the County Service Area Law. Status: Governor's Desk.

SB 1732 (Romero) clarifies the Brown Act's prohibition on serial meetings and prohibits local agencies from discriminating when providing writings to their legislative bodies. Status: Governor's Desk.

AB 642 (Wolk) allows all cities to use the design-build contracting method, and allows all cities, counties, and special districts to use design-build contracting for 20 wastewater, solid waste, and water recycling projects. Status: Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 1634 (Levine) requires the owners of unspayed and unneutered dogs and cats to pay graduated civil penalties if local animal control agencies get complaints. Status: Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 2510 (La Malfa) allows smaller special districts to use less formal financial reports instead of annual audits. Status: Senate Floor.

LAND USE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

SB 732 (Steinberg) allocates money from Proposition 84, including loans for revising local general plans and improving regional planning. Status: Assembly Floor Inactive File.

SB 821 (Kuehl) requires the California Research Bureau to report on the implementation of the state law that requires cities and counties to impose conditions for water availability on larger subdivisions. Status: Assembly Appropriations Committee.

SB 1118 (Negrete McLeod) restores the requirement that every county with a public use airport must have an Airport Land Use Commission, with exceptions. Status: Assembly Appropriations Committee.

SB 1185 (Lowenthal) extends the life of existing tentative subdivision maps by one year and allows local officials to extend tentative maps by an additional year. Status: Assembly Appropriations Committee.

SB 1237 (Cox) extends the life of existing tentative subdivision maps by one year, allows local officials to extend tentative maps by an additional year, and makes other Map Act adjustments. Status: Assembly Appropriations Committee.

* **SB 1500 (Kehoe)** prohibits county supervisors from approving proposed development in a State Responsibility Area if state officials determine that local structural fire protection services are not available. Status: Assembly Appropriations Committee.

AB 1221 (Ma) expands the definition of a transit village planning district from ¼ mile to ½ mile around a transit facility, and requires an Infrastructure Financing District (IFD) that finances public transit facilities in a transit village to set-aside 20% of the property tax increment revenues for affordable housing. Status: Senate Floor.

AB 2447 (Jones) prohibits county supervisors from approving proposed subdivisions in fire-prone areas unless they meet fire safety requirements. Status: Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 2921 (Laird) amends the procedures for rescinding Williamson Act contracts and dealing with material breaches of Williamson Act contracts. Status: Senate Appropriations Committee.

REDEVELOPMENT

SB 360 (Negrete McLeod) requires county auditors to calculate and pay redevelopment agencies' mandatory property tax increment pass-throughs. Status: Assembly Appropriations Committee.

SB 1689 (Lowenthal) requires redevelopment agencies to respond to audits of their affordable housing programs and allows the State Controller to review the quality of redevelopment audits. Status: Assembly Appropriations Committee.

AB 887 (De La Torre) requires redevelopment officials to give more information to property owners who are subject to condemnation and to pay higher benefits when using eminent domain to condemn small businesses. Status: Senate Floor.

LAFCOs & BOUNDARY CHANGES

SB 301 (Romero) extends the deadlines for city incorporations and annexations to receive extra Vehicle License Fee revenues. Status: Assembly Floor.

AB 1263 (Caballero) clarifies the statutory requirements for LAFCOs' fees and charges and for annexing unincorporated islands. Status: Governor's Desk.

* **AB 1998 (Silva)** makes contributions and spending on LAFCO proposals subject to the Political Reform Act's reporting and enforcement requirements. Status: Senate Floor.

AB 2484 (Caballero) spells out how LAFCOs act on special districts' requests to use their latent powers and to divest themselves of powers. Status: Governor's Desk.

AB 3047 (Assembly Local Government Committee) makes nine changes to the state laws affecting LAFCOs. Status: Governor's Desk.

* This bill did not come to the Senate Local Government Committee.

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The best way to get copies of these bills, their analyses, histories, voting records, and any veto messages is from the California Legislature's official website: www.leginfo.ca.gov

More information about the Committee's work is available at www.sen.ca.gov/locgov

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Date: Thu, 26 Jun 2008 16:54:41 -0700 (PDT)
From: "steve samuelian" <ca-consulting@sbcglobal.net>
Subject: AB 2188

AB 2188 by Fresno Assemblyman Juan Arambula is a bill to support the CDBG program that has been so successful over the years. I encourage you to send letters of support to Mr. Arambula.

Please send our office a copy of your letter for our records. Let me know if you have any questions. The bill just recently passed Committee earlier this week and is moving along in the legislative process.

Steve

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AB 2188 CDBG SMALL COMMUNITIES

ASSEMBLY MEMBER JUAN ARAMBULA

Summary

AB 2188 eliminates the January 1, 2009, sunset date on the Department of Housing and Community Development's (HCD) authority to set flexible funding caps for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) awards to smaller communities.

Background

The CDBG program was established by the United States Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 and is administered on the federal level by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Although larger cities, like Los Angeles, are directly funded by HUD, HCD administers the program for smaller cities and counties under state law originally enacted in 1983.

State law imposed caps on the amount of CDBG allocations and limited the set-aside percentage for small cities and counties. These restrictions were established in 1988 and went unchanged until 2005.

The Department sponsored legislation, AB 1461 (Salinas, Chapter 197, Statutes of 2005), to improve the administration of the CDBG program by suspending these statutory caps until January 1, 2009.

The limitations imposed prior to the enactment of AB 1461 were too low for many legitimate and necessary projects. In addition, these caps did not reflect the increased costs of labor and materials, further hampering the effectiveness the program.

Under the AB 1461 framework, HCD has been able to establish grant caps and set asides in the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA). This flexibility has allowed HCD to set caps, in consultation with stakeholders, to make the best use of these valuable federal funds.

For the general allocation, seven out of the twenty-three awards were higher than pre-AB 1461 caps; for general planning and technical assistance, ten out of thirty-one awards were

higher; and for economic development planning and technical assistance awards, seventeen out of thirty-five were higher. Using the limits set in the NOFA, the Department allocated funds more effectively.

HCD has completed a report on the implementation of AB 1461 and found that this flexibility "has enhanced the program's ability to facilitate projects in rural communities that often find it difficult to find other sources of funding."

Purpose

Small communities have greatly benefited from the CDBG program. Extending the flexibility in this program will continue the state's commitment to strengthening rural economies throughout California.

CDBG funds are used for job creation; housing rehabilitation and assistance; public works infrastructure; day care centers; domestic violence shelters; food banks; community centers; medical and dental facilities; and fire stations. Allowing HCD to adjust grant amounts also increases small cities' and counties' ability to leverage project funding from other sources.

CDBG awards need to reflect the financial realities of rural communities to ensure that the most important projects are not left on the shelf simply to satisfy decades old rigid funding caps.

The flexibility established by AB 1461 has proven to be a successful adjustment to the state's CDBG program. Rather than let the program revert, it makes sense to continue this flexibility.

Supporters

Department of Housing and Community Development (sponsor)
American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME)

Opposition

None on file

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Date: Wed, 16 Jul 2008 15:50:43 -0700 (PDT)
From: "steve samuelian" <ca-consult@sbcglobal.net>
Subject: COPS/Juvenile Justice Grant Program Funding

As Many of you know, our office has been tracking the COPS/Juvenile Justice Grant Program funding and working closely with the San Joaquin Valley state legislative delegation on this issue since the LAO originally proposed eliminating it several months ago.

The Budget Conference Committee recently concluded their work and programmed \$200 million total (\$100 million each) for the programs.

The Governor had requested \$157 million each for 00-09 for a total of \$214.2 million.

Last year (07-08) the funding level was \$119 million each or \$238 million.

So last year was \$238 million, the Governor asked for \$214.2 million this year and the Budget Conference Committee set the funding at \$200 million for this year.

Big G are meeting this week and negotiations continue. The Big G will be the final decision makers on what level of funding is set for the COPS/Juvenile Justice Grants program.

The San Joaquin Valley legislative delegation has demonstrated outstanding leadership on this issue and deserves credit for helping push to preserve funding of this important program.

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Date: Thu, 24 Jul 2008 15:14:30 -0700 (PDT)
From: "steve samuelian" <ca-consulting@sbcglobal.net>
Subject: Child Care in the Rural Communities

Today, the Fresno COG along with California Consulting, LLC hosted a conference call designed to discuss several issues related to child care funding and the budget impasse. The call brought together local elected officials from the San Joaquin Valley with State Legislative representatives.

Fresno COG Chairman and Kerman Mayor Trinidad Rodriguez moderated the conference call and lead an informative dialogue and discussion regarding child care in the rural areas of the San Joaquin Valley.

Special guests on the call included representatives of the Governor, Senator Jeff Denham, Senator Dean Florez, and Assembly Republican Leader Mike Villines.

Mayor Rodriguez (Kerman), Mayor Victor Lopez (Orange Cove), Mayor Robert Silva (Mendota), Mayor Pro-Tem Lujan (Selma), Mayor Dhaliwal (San Joaquin), Mayor Armando Lopez (Parlier), Mayor Montelongo (Sanger), Mayor Dominguez (Huron), Councilman Aguayo (Fowler) and several other local officials participated in the call. The importance of local child care centers and the key role they play in their communities was emphasized.

After much productive discussion it was agreed that a plan would be developed to assist the child care centers during times when the budget is delayed.

As well, meetings will take place locally with the local First 5 group and in Sacramento with the State First 5 organization.

Our office wishes to thank and express our gratitude to the valley state legislative delegation for their assistance with this important issue.

As well as state officials there was a strong presence of local leaders that participated on the call including the following key individuals we wish to acknowledge and thank:

Jim Drinkhouse, City Manager, City of Sanger
Gabriel Gonzalez, City Manager, City of Mendota
Cruz Ramos, City Manager, City of San Joaquin
Brandi Orth, County of Fresno
Javier Guzman (who helped organize the agenda for the call)
Representatives of First 5
Representatives of the I-5 Social Services Corp.

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Date: Fri, 18 Jul 2008 17:07:03 -0700 (PDT)
From: "steve samuelian" <ca-consulting@sbcglobal.net>
Subject: AB 2494 (Caballero)

As you know from our previous reports we have been tracking AB 2494 by Assemblywoman Anna Caballero and working with her staff and Committee staff.

As a reminder, AB 2494, creates the Housing-Related Parks Program to provide grants to parks-poor cities and counties for the creation or rehabilitation of parks when they approve affordable housing. The bill provides the implementing language for the \$200 million Housing-Urban-Rural-and-Suburban Parks Account created when the voters approved Prop. 13 in November, 2006.

The grant would not be a competitive process and communities that approved low, very low, and extremely low income housing would be offered parks money based on housing permits issued. The communities would have to demonstrate a deficiency in park space as determined by the State Department of Parks and Recreation.

The bill rewards parks deficient communities that are stepping up and providing affordable housing for California.

The bill recently passed the Senate Transportation and Housing Committee and the Senate Natural Resources Committee. The current debate centers around which state agency should administer the program, HCD or Parks and Rec. among other issues. Another key issue is the definition of "critically underserved" as it relates to parks needy communities.

The next hearing is on Aug. 4 in Senate Appropriations.

You can send support letters to Senate Appropriations Committee Chair Tom Torlakson c/o the State Capitol. Please send our office courtesy copies of your letters.

You may contact our office to obtain sample letters of support.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Thank You.

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Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2008 16:42:36 -0700 (PDT)
From: "steve samuelian" <ca-consulting@sbcglobal.net>
Subject: FYI - Water Reform info. attached

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Attachments

Files:

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GOVERNOR AND SEN. FEINSTEIN PROPOSE A COMPROMISE PLAN TO PROVIDE CALIFORNIA SAFE, RELIABLE, CLEAN WATER TOGETHER WITH THE LEGISLATURE, BIPARTISAN BOND PLAN AIMED FOR THE BALLOT

"I know that legislative leaders share my goal of comprehensive water reform, but time is running out. The longer we wait, the worse our situation becomes." Governor Schwarzenegger, Statement On Department of Water Resources' Final Snow Survey of 2008.

5/1/08

Today, Governor Schwarzenegger and Senator Dianne Feinstein proposed a compromise plan to the Legislature to update California's water system by increasing storage, improving conveyance, protecting the Delta's ecosystem, and promoting greater water conservation. California's growing population, drought, federal court restrictions on water operations, and global warming all present critical challenges to our water infrastructure, environment and economy. While there is little disagreement that California needs a comprehensive water plan, there has yet to be a consensus on exactly how to achieve it. This bipartisan, \$9.3 billion bond proposal is offered as a compromise that puts California on a path to restore water ecosystems, provide new water storage, and boost conservation efforts that can ensure clean, reliable water supplies for California. The need for a comprehensive water plan is immediate and the time to act is now.

California Is Facing Historic Water Challenges. California's population – 38 million residents and growing – depends upon water infrastructure originally built for 16 million. The state's water resources are facing environmental change, the driest spring on record, and court-ordered restrictions reducing supplies from the state's two largest water systems by 20-30 percent.

- Our state's hydrology is changing, fueled by global warming. California depends on water from its Sierra snowpack and from the Colorado River, both of which are experiencing record-low levels. California must take action – or face a continued and worsening water crisis.
 - The Sierra snowpack has become dangerously unreliable. Between April 1 and May 1 2008, the snowpack dropped 30 percent – to 67 percent of normal levels.
 - The Colorado River Basin is in drought.
 - Fanned by the dry conditions, the state's wildfire season is becoming year-round. More than 680,000 acres have already burned this year – that's more than ten times as many acres as this date last year.
- This year's drought has already significantly damaged California's economy. Agricultural crops are being plowed under, housing and business projects are stalled, and regional water authorities are instituting mandatory water rationing due to a lack of a reliable water supply.
 - Thousands of jobs are lost to California's water shortage. Construction projects have been put on hold because a water supply cannot be guaranteed.
 - Our fisheries also face the crisis. In two of the past three years, California's once-thriving Pacific salmon fisheries have been simply shut down. Delta fish are at just a fraction of their former levels.

Governor Schwarzenegger And Senator Feinstein Have Put Together A Plan That Includes Elements From All Stakeholders And Is A Compromise That Will Work For California. For two years leaders have worked toward upgrading California's water system, but have been unable to agree on the details of a way forward. This plan considers all the concerns and recommendations of California's water stakeholders, including those of the Delta Vision Blue Ribbon Task Force.

- The plan is a fiscal compromise. At \$9.3 billion, the plan is \$2.6 less than the Governor's January proposal.

- It is imperative that a water infrastructure plan be placed on the November ballot. The Governor and Senator Feinstein, in cooperation with the Legislature, aim to put this issue to voters this year.

The Right Way Toward A Reliable Water Future For California Includes More Storage, Improved Conveyance, Better Ecosystem Protection, And Increased Conservation. The plan the Governor and Senator Feinstein have proposed includes all of those essential elements.

- Increased Storage will make our water supply more reliable year-to-year. More groundwater and surface storage will allow California to capture excess water in wet years to use in dry years.
- California was unable to capture much of the stormwater from the 2006 floods, and let it simply wash out to the ocean. Had we captured just a portion of those millions of acre-feet of water, we would be able to draw upon that supply to help ease today's drought.
- Improved Water Conveyance Will Reduce Water Shortages. By investing in conveyance projects that improve water management and regional interconnectivity, this plan will help water districts work together to prevent shortages to California's communities and take pressure off of the Delta.
- A Restored Delta Ecosystem Will Allow California To Take Control Of Its Own Water Systems. The federal court restrictions on Delta pumping are hurting California in this dry year. A restored ecosystem will see those restrictions lifted, providing California a cleaner and more reliable water supply.
- Conservation Is A Must In California. Any water plan must include a strong focus on conservation because even increased groundwater and surface storage and conveyance will not supply enough water to keep pace with the growth in our state's population. This plan includes funding to encourage conservation and provide tools to use water more efficiently.

Safe, Clean, Reliable Drinking Water Supply Act of 2008: A Breakdown

\$2,000,000,000	Water Supply Reliability
	For regional water supply and conservation projects that implement an integrated regional water management plan and to support regional and interregional connectivity and water management.
\$1,900,000,000	Delta Sustainability
	For projects that support delta sustainability options – levees, water quality, infrastructure and to protect and enhance the sustainability of the Delta ecosystem.
\$3,000,000,000	Statewide Water System Operational Improvement
	For water storage projects to improve state water system operations and provide net improvement in ecosystem and water quality conditions.
\$1,335,000,000	Conservation And Watershed Protection
	For ecosystem and watershed protections and restoration, invasive species removal, watershed restoration in fire damages areas, and for fish passage improvement and dam removal.
\$800,000,000	Groundwater Protection And Water Quality
	For groundwater protection, small community wastewater treatment, stormwater management and water quality, and coastal water quality.
\$250,000,000	Water Recycling



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Date: Mon, 7 Jul 2008 16:33:33 -0700 (PDT)
From: "steve samuelian" <ca-consulting@sbcglobal.net>
Subject: City of Fresno and Prop. 42

The City of Fresno Public Works Department has provided our office the following break down of Prop. 42 and how it would impact the City. I am sure many other cities are similarly situated. Steve
Prop 42 services for Public Works:

- Approximately 22 lane miles of asphalt concrete overlays
- two-thirds of our neighborhood street slurry sealing
- 88% of our Citywide striping maintenance (lane line and crosswalk painting)
- 100% of our Citywide bridge maintenance and repair funds

Coupled with the Public Works Department general fund budget being cut 20% and the downturn in revenues from gas tax and Measure C, a suspension of TCRP Prop 42 without some type of financing bridge would decimate the maintenance operation and severely cut services in street maintenance. From a mid- to long-term perspective, it would even be more costly to the City due to a simple overlay turning into a need for reconstructing a totally failed street due to lack of maintenance. The cost of reconstruction is approximately 8-10 times that of a routine overlay.

Please feel free to contact me at (559) 621-8811 with any questions. Thanks

Scott L. Mozier, P.E., T.E.
City Engineer / Assistant Director
City of Fresno, Public Works Department
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Date: Wed, 9 Jul 2008 16:01:53 -0700 (PDT)
From: "steve samuelian" <ca-consulting@sbcglobal.net>
Subject: Prop. 42 attachment - FYI

Dear Valley State Legislative Delegation:

The 8 Valley COG's have sent a letter opposing any effort (see attached) to suspend Prop. 42 funds. The letter is signed by Regional Policy Council Chairman Supervisor Michael Rubio. We will be communicating this message to the Governor and his Senior Staff as well as to the legislative leadership of both Houses (Big 4).

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Steve Samuelian
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<http://us.f813.mail.yahoo.com/ym/ShowLetter?box=BIG%20LIST%20E%2dMAILS&Ms...> 7/14/2008

San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council

c/o Tulare County Associated Governments 5961 S. Mooney Blvd, Visalia, CA 93277 (559) 733-6291

July 8, 2008

Chair
Michael J. Rubio
Supervisor, Kern County

Vice Chair
Edward J. Chavez
Mayor, City of Stockton

Regional At
Fresno County
Governments

Kern County
Governments

Kings County
Association of
Governments

Kadera County
Transportation
Association

Madera County
Association of
Governments

San Joaquin
Council of
Governments

Stanislaus Council
Of Governments

Tulare County
Association of
Governments

The Hon. Don Perata
Senate President pro Tempore
Capitol Building # 205
Sacramento, CA 95814

Senator Perata:

On behalf of the San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council, I am registering my deepest concerns and strongest opposition to recent proposals in the Senate and Assembly that call for borrowing against Proposition 42 transportation funds to help balance the state's deficit.

As a transportation advocate, you are well aware of how damaging constant start-and-stop funding can be to major infrastructure project timelines. Should the Legislature once again decide to lean on Proposition 42 to bolster the state's general fund, dozens of projects in the San Joaquin Valley that have waited decades to see construction or advancement will once again be delayed. With San Joaquin Valley infrastructure increasingly carrying the burden of goods movement for the entire state, and in fact the western United States, our region can ill afford to again postpone needed transportation projects.

Voters have also made transportation a priority with 77 percent approving Proposition 1A in 2006, which reduced the options for diverting Proposition 42 funds. The message behind both Proposition 42 and Proposition 1A was clear: California's infrastructure can no longer wait to be improved.

While I realize that the state's looming deficit presents the Legislature with a host of challenges, I implore you to consider that transportation has paid its fair share of the state's budget problems in the past and that new solutions must be brought to the table. Proposition 42 must stand as a testament to this state's commitment to a strong economy.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Michael J. Rubio, Supervisor
County of Kern
Chair, San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council

CC: Hon. Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger
Hon. Assembly Speaker Karen Bass, 47th District
Hon. Sen. Michael Machado, 5th District
Hon. Sen. Jeff Denham, 12th District
Hon. Sen. Dave Cogdill, 14th District
Hon. Sen. Dean Florez, 16th District
Hon. Sen. Roy Ashburn, 18th District
Hon. Assemblymember Mike Villines, 29th

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Hon. Assemblyman Greg Aghazarian, 26th District
Hon. Assemblyman Juan Arambula, 31st District
Hon. Assemblyman Tom Berryhill, 25th District
Hon. Assemblywoman Jean Fuller, 32nd District
Hon. Assemblywoman Cathleen Galgiani, 17th District
Hon. Assemblyman Guy Houston, 15th District
Hon. Assemblyman Bill Maze, 34th District
Hon. Assemblyman Alan Nakanishi, 10th District
Hon. Assemblywoman Nicole Parra, 30th District

AT&T Yahoo! Mail - carrol.ca-consult@sbcglobal.net

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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.

Steve Samuelian
Manager
California Consulting, LLC
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Fresno, CA. 93710
phone 559-244-0801
fax 559-244-0804

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520 Capitol Mall
Suite 700
Sacramento, CA 95814

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FAX

Agency: COG

To: Marla Day
Jennifer Dansby

FAX: 233-9645

Phone:

From: Steve Samuelian

Date: 7/30/08

Re: July Board Report

Pages (incl. cover sheet): 26

- ☐ URGENT
- ☐ For Review
- ☐ Please Comment
- ☐ Please Reply
- ☐ Please Recycle

Comments:

July 29, 2008 report re: Sacramento trip concerning Medi-Cal cuts – will try to get written report to you & will give verbal report at your meeting tomorrow.

High Speed Rail – will present verbal report at meeting.

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

- **SB 974 Port Container Fee Bill:** Amendments have been submitted to Governor's Office and Author's office. This remains a top priority and the #1 issue our Office is working on for COG. We have contacted valley legislators multiple times, Governor's Office, etc. Meetings are scheduled for next week to discuss in Sacramento. See attached report. We are working closely with Senator Florez and Assemblymember Arambula's Offices on this issue. Detailed verbal report will be given.
- **Prop. 42:** We have worked with the Valley State legislative delegation to oppose any and all efforts to suspend Prop. 42 funding and Prop. 1A local government funding. Letters, e-mails, phone calls, and meetings have taken place regarding this issue conducted and organized by our office. We have aggressively alerted the Governor's Office and the Legislative Leadership of the Fresno COG position on this issue. See attached reports. We are continuing our efforts on this key issue. Steve has meetings next week in Sac. with key legislators and staff to discuss this issue. Senator Florez, Assemblymember Arambula and others have been very helpful on this issue.
- **San Joaquin Valley Partnership Bill AB 2342:** The California Partnership bill continues to progress through the legislative process. The bill is currently in the Senate Committee on Appropriations. If this important bill gets through the Committee, it will go to the full Senate for a vote, back to the Assembly for concurrence and to the Governor's desk for signature. Assemblymember Parra is hard at work with the Senate Committee to ensure the bill progresses amidst this difficult budget year.
- **Child Care Conference Call with Valley Legislators and Governor's Office:** sent See attached report. COG Chair follow up letters. The Governor's Office, Senator Denham, Assemblymember Villines, and Senator Florez's Offices all participated in the conference call.
- **Medi-Cal Rate Reimbursement Issue:** July 29 Sacramento trip regarding medical reimbursement cuts. See attached report. Successful trip with delegation of 12 people from Valley. Met with several key state officials.
- **AB 2494 Parks and Housing Bill:** see attached report.
- **Drought/Water Issue:** Senator Cogdill, Assemblymember Villines Assemblymember Arambula, and others deserve high praise for their leadership on the water issue. Verbal report will be given.

- **COPS/Juvenile Justice Grants Program:** See Memo.
- **High Speed Rail Update:** Steve participated in an invitation only important conference call hosted by AB 3034 Author Assemblywoman Cathleen Galgiani today. See memo update. Assemblymember Galgiani has done a fantastic job as a leader on the High Speed Rail issue.
- **AB 31 Regarding Prop. 84 money:** See attached report about bill progressing through the Legislature.
- **Senate Local Government Committee Report:** Attached is a report of all bills impacting local government.

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Date: Fri, 25 Jul 2008 15:40:42 -0700 (PDT)
From: "steve samuelian" <ca-consulting@sbcglobal.net>
Subject: Fwd: RE: SB 974 Container Fees

Dear Valley State Legislative Delegation,

For several months our office, along with several Valley leaders have been working to develop proposed amendments to SB 974 (Lowenthal). Attached are the proposed amendments for SB 974.

Currently, the bill does not have any benefit or provision for benefit for the San Joaquin Valley (the nation's worst air area). Therefore, Fresno COG and many Valley organizations and leaders oppose the bill as currently drafted.

However, the attached proposed amendments have the support of the Fresno COG, as well as several key Valley organizations, cities, and leaders.

We are asking that your Member send a letter to Senator Lowenthal and request that he amend his bill

to include these amendments. We are also asking that you send a copy of your letter to the Governor.

At the request of the Governor's Office we have submitted these proposed amendments to the Governor's staff.

Thank you for your continued hard work and dedication to the San Joaquin Valley!

Let me know if you have any questions.

Steve

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Date: Wed, 2 Jul 2008 14:12:13 -0700 (PDT)
From: "steve samuelian" <ca-consulting@sbcglobal.net>
Subject: Fwd: Prop 42 Letter from Valley COG Directors

Note: forwarded message attached.

Steve Samuelian
Manager
California Consulting, LLC
Central Valley Office
1530 E. Shaw Avenue, Suite 114
Fresno, CA. 93710
phone 559-244-0801
fax 559-244-0804
Sacramento Office
Wells Fargo Center
400 Capitol Mall, Suite 1850
Sacramento, CA 95814
ca-consulting@sbcglobal.net

Forwarded Message

Subject: Prop 42 Letter from Valley COG Directors
Date: Wed, 2 Jul 2008 13:56:18 -0700
From: "Jennifer Dansby" <jenniferd@fresnocog.org>
To: ca-consulting@sbcglobal.net, "Katie Stevens" <kstevens@csufresno.edu>

HTML Attachment

Katie and Steve,
Attached is the letter from the Valley COG Directors Association (will be signed today and sent) regarding Prop 42 in the budget. It is general but effective. The Regional Policy Council does not meet until August so we won't have one from them until then.

Hope this helps.

Jennifer Dansby ☺

Planner III

Council of Fresno County Governments

2035 Tulare Street, Suite 201

Fresno, California 93721

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San Joaquin Valley Transportation Planning Agencies Directors' Association

5961 S. Mooney Blvd, Visalia, CA 93277 (559) 733-6291

July 1, 2008

The Hon. Don Perata
Senate President pro Tempore
Capitol Building # 205
Sacramento, CA 95814

Senator Perata:

On behalf of the San Joaquin Valley Regional Transportation Planning Agencies, I would like to express my deepest concerns and strongest opposition to recent proposals in the Senate and Assembly that call for borrowing against Proposition 42 transportation funds to help balance the state's deficit.

As a transportation advocate yourself, you are well aware of how damaging constant start-and-stop funding can be to major infrastructure project timelines. Should the Legislature once again decide to lean on Proposition 42 to bolster the state's general fund, dozens of projects in the San Joaquin Valley that have waited decades to see construction or advancement will once again be delayed. With San Joaquin Valley infrastructure increasingly carrying the burden of goods movement for the entire state, and in fact the western United States, our region can ill afford to again postpone needed transportation projects.

Voters also made transportation a priority with 77 percent approving Proposition 1A in 2006, which reduced the options for diverting Proposition 42 funds. The message behind both Proposition 42 and Proposition 1A was clear: California's infrastructure can no longer wait to be improved.

While I realize that the state's looming deficit presents the Legislature with a host of challenges, I implore you to consider that transportation has paid its fair share of the state's budget problems in the past and that new solutions must be brought to the table. Proposition 42 must stand as a testament to this state's commitment to a strong economy.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Ted Smalley, Executive Director
Tulare County Associated Governments
Chair, San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agencies

CC: Hon. Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger
Hon. Assembly Speaker Karen Bass, 47th District
Hon. Sen. Dave Cogdill, 14th District
Hon. Assemblymember Mike Villines

Hon. Assemblyman Greg Aghazarian, 26th District
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Hon. Assemblyman Bill Maze, 34th District
Hon. Assemblyman Alan Nakanishi, 10th District
Hon. Assemblywoman Nicole Parra, 30th District
Hon. Assemblyman Michael Villines, 29th District



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Date: Fri, 18 Jul 2008 09:28:08 -0700 (PDT)
From: "steve samuelian" <ca-consulting@sbcglobal.net>
Subject: AB 31 - Prop. 84 Parks Money

Our office has worked worked with the California Department of Parks and Recreation and several legislative offices on AB 31.

Assemblyman Arambula has been a leader on this issue and is supportive of this bill as currently written. We have worked with his office for well over a year on this legislation.

The bill would allocate \$400 million of the Prop. 84 funds through a competitive grant process. The money would be given to communities that are "parks needy."

The grants would be used to fund acquisition and development of parks, facilities, and recreational areas in areas that are underserved. The bill defines underserved as those areas with less than three acres of usable parkland per 1,000 residents and/or can demonstrate insufficient or lack of park and recreation facilities.

The bill also emphasizes the need for joint partnerships between two or more applicants.

The bill is in the Senate and needs your support. Please contact your Senator and/or the Governor's Office (assuming it passes, it will need his signature) and encourage support for AB 31.

Assuming AB 31 passes and is signed by the Governor, the State Parks and Rec. department will then (estimates are 6-8 months) incorporate the guidelines into a call for projects and cities will be able to compete for the dollars through a competitive grant application process.