

***TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL
COMMITTEE/
POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
CONSENT ITEM II. A-B.***



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TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE Executive Minutes

Date: Wednesday, July 9, 2008
Time: 8:30 a.m.
Place: COG Sequoia Conference Room
2035 Tulare St., Suite 201, Fresno, CA

Members Attending:

Scott Mozier, City of Fresno, Chair
Bruce Webber, City of Reedley, Vice
Chair
Renee Mathis, City of Clovis
Nicholas Don Paladino, Fresno Cycling
Club
Gary Joseph, Fresno County Economic
Opportunities Commission

Stan Nakagawa, Fresno County
Sherri Ehlert, Caltrans
Bret Giannetta, Building Industry
Association
Bernard Jimenez, Fresno County
Darrell Unruh, City of Fresno
Steve Curti, Caltrans

Others Attending:

Don Hubbard, PB Americas
Dennis Manning, Fresno Area Residents
for Rail Consolidation
Tony Boren, Fresno COG
Barbara Steck, Fresno COG
Mike Bitner, Fresno COG
Les Beshears, Fresno COG
Clark Thompson, Fresno COG
Todd Sobrado, Fresno COG
Renee DeVere, Fresno COG
John Downs, FAX/COG

Jeff Long, FAX/COG
Jennifer Dansby, Fresno COG
Marla Day, Fresno COG
Stephanie Maxwell, Fresno COG
Kathy Chung, Fresno COG
Tom Webster, Fresno COG
Kristine Cai, Fresno COG
Brenda Lauchner, Fresno COG
Laural Fawcett, Fresno COG
Melissa Garza, Fresno COG

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Scott Mozier, City of Fresno.

I. PRESENTATIONS

A. Public Presentations

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

There were no public presentations.

II. CONSENT ITEMS

All items on the consent agenda are considered to be routine and non-controversial by COG staff and may 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.

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

- | | |
|--|-------------|
| A. Executive Minutes of June 4, 2008 | Approve |
| B. Transportation Funding Claims | Approve |
| 1. FY 2008-09 City of Fowler, Resolution 2008-27 | |
| 2. FY 2008-09 City of Huron, Resolution 2008-28 | |
| 3. FY 2008-09 City of Mendota, Resolution 2008-29 | |
| 4. FY 2008-09 City of Parlier, Resolution 2008-30 | |
| 5. FY 2008-09 City of San Joaquin, Resolution 2008-31 | |
| 6. FY 2008-09 City of Selma, Resolution 2008-32 | |
| 7. FY 2008-09 City of Kingsburg, Resolution 2008-33 | |
| C. FY 2008-09 COG Measure "C" Claim, Resolution 2008-34 | Approve |
| D. Administrative Amendment No. 12 and No. 14 to the 2007 Federal Transportation Improvement Program | Information |
| E. Monthly Legislative Update | Information |
| F. California Consensus Principles on Federal Transportation Authorization | Approve |
| G. San Joaquin Valley Blueprint – Monthly Update | Information |

For a complete summary of these items please see the July 9, 2008 Annotated Agenda.

Staff asked that item B-2 be pulled for further discussion.

A motion was made by Bruce Webber (Reedley) and seconded by Stan Nakagawa (County of Fresno) to approve the Consent Items as presented with the exception of item B-2. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

Item B-2 FY 2008-09 City of Huron, Resolution 2008-28 – Les Beshears (COG) called attention to the funding claims for the City of Coalinga and the City of Firebaugh that were received after the agenda was published. The figures for Coalinga were \$908,654 and Firebaugh is \$306,594. A copy of the claims was distributed at the meeting. These claims were recommended to be added to the Transportation Funding Claims.

A motion was made by Scott Mozier (City of Fresno) and seconded by Bruce Webber (Reedley) to approve the addition of the City of Coalinga and City of Firebaugh Transportation Funding Claims. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

III. ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee Program

Tony Boren, Executive Director reported on this item. Measure "C" (Fresno County's ½ cent sales tax for transportation purposes) was reauthorized by the voters of Fresno County in November 2006. One of the requirements of the new Measure "C" program is that a Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee Program (RTMF) be developed and approved by Fresno COG and the Fresno County Transportation Authority (FCTA) in coordination with all local jurisdictions. The RTMF is required to be enacted by all cities in the County and by Fresno County no later than January 1, 2009. Fees will be collected by each local jurisdiction and transmitted to the Authority. "If any city or Fresno County should choose to not implement the RTMF program, then that Agency shall forfeit annually from the Local Transportation Program Street Maintenance Allocation an amount equal to the amount of RTMF that would have otherwise have been paid for development projects within that jurisdiction during the year".

PB Americas Inc. is the consulting firm that was selected to conduct the RTMF Study. Over the last nine months they have been working with a Regional Steering Committee consisting of Planning Directors, Public Works Directors, City Managers, industry stakeholders and interested community members in an effort to develop a RTMF Program which has "consensus support" prior to it being taken through the COG and FCTA processes and formal adoption by our member agencies.

The Draft Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee Final Report was included as an enclosure in the packet. Don Hubbard from PB Americas was in attendance to give a presentation on the report and discussed the three RTMF options that are up for discussion.

The Draft RTMF program is being presented during the month of July to the TTC, PAC, Citizens Oversight Committee and Policy Board, as well as the Fresno County Transportation Authority, as an information/discussion item with formal adoption of a preferred option by the COG Committees in August 2008 and by the FCTA in September 2008.

TTC discussion on the various options ended with a recommendation that the consultant develop a "phased-in" alternative for Option One similar to what was done with Option 2.

This was an information item and required no further action by the Committee.

B. Fresno County Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan, Project Management Plan, Resolution 2008-35

Todd Sobrado (COG) reported that on January 24, 2008, the Fresno COG Policy Board approved the Fresno County Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan. A coordinated plan is required under the SAFETEA-LU (Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient, Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users) passed in August of 2005. A second component of SAFETEA-LU is a Project Management Plan that describes the administration process Fresno COG will adhere to as the designated recipient for Fresno County's Federal Transit Administration funds.

The draft Fresno County Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan Project Management Plan was distributed to the Fresno COG Transportation Technical Committee, the Policy Advisory Committee, and the Fresno COG Policy Board in the June 2008 meeting cycle. Fresno COG has not received any comments on the plan.

A motion was made by Gary Joseph (FCEOC) and seconded by Bernard Jimenez (Fresno County) to recommend the approval of the Fresno County Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan by adoption of Resolution 2008-35. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

C. FY 2009 Interim Federal Transportation Improvement Program, Regional Transportation Program Amendment, Resolution 2008-26

Renee DeVere-Okie (COG) reported on this item. Fresno is adopting the 2009 Interim Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) and Administrative Modification #1 to the 2007 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). The 2009 Interim FTIP must be adopted and submitted to Caltrans by August 1, 2008 to be included in the overall state programming document. A 30 day public comment period was conducted, ending July 3, 2008, and a public hearing was held on June 26, 2008. Information related to comments received can be found in the Response to Comments section in the final document.

Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Administrative Modification #1: 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 FTIP Reference Table (Exhibit 5-5), unconstrained project lists, and adds additional information regarding Bus Rapid Transit (BRT). A copy of the amendment was included in the package.

2009 Interim 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. Fresno COG is adopting an Interim FTIP because Ozone and PM-10 emission budgets for the San Joaquin Valley have not been approved by EPA. Without approved budgets, the Valley COGs cannot adopt a conformity analysis and can only proceed with programming exempt projects and preliminary engineering/ environmental phases of non-exempt projects. The Interim FTIP proposed for adoption contains only the transportation projects that may proceed without a new conformity analysis.

A final draft of the Interim FTIP was distributed at the meeting, and staff is still working with the federal highways and Caltrans to make the needed adjustments to get the Interim FTIP approved.

The 2009 Interim FTIP is available on the Fresno COG website (www.fresnocog.org); hard copies are also available upon request.

A motion was made by Bruce Webber (Reedley) and seconded by Renee Mathis (Clovis) to recommend the approval of Resolution 2008-26 adopting the 2009 Interim Federal Transportation Improvement Program and Administrative Modification #1 to the Regional Transportation Plan. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

D. Model Farmland Conservation Program Update

Todd Sorado (COG) gave an update on this item. On June 9, 2008, the Farmland Conservation Model Program Advisory Committee recommended approval of the Fresno Strategic Farmland map. The map identifies the location of the land within Fresno County that is most likely to remain economically viable for high-value commercial agriculture in the long-term, given its inherent characteristics and surrounding conditions. It is land that should receive the highest priority for conservation, and the lowest priority for non-farm development, as part of a broad strategy to sustain Fresno County agriculture. The Fresno Strategic Farmland map is intended to be a guide to land use planning and decision making and not the equivalent of a land use map with binding legal consequences.

The updated map was included in the agenda packet.

This was an information item and required no further action by the Committee.

E. Federal Transit Administration Section 5310 Grading Process

Todd Sobrado (COG) reported on this item. On June 4, 2008, Fresno COG received five applications for 2008 Federal Transit Administration Section 5310 grant program. The five organizations submitting applications include: (Mr. Sobrado advised the committee that an application was not received from FCRTA).

- Fresno Area Express (FAX)
- Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission (FCEOC)
- United Cerebral Palsy of Central California
- Westcare California
- Central California Nikkei Foundation DBA Vintage Gardens

Fresno COG and FAX staff reviewed the applications and provided suggestions to applicants on ways to increase their scores. A grading committee made up of volunteers from the Fresno COG SSTAC (Social Services Transportation Advisory Council) convened to grade grant applications on July 8, 2008. Grading results were distributed as a hand-out.

This was an information item and required no further action by the Committee.

F. Public Transportation and Infrastructure Study (PTIS) Phase II Contract Award

John Downs (COG/FAX) reported on this item. In 2006, Fresno County Voters approved a Measure "C" half-cent sales tax for transportation. Measure "C" included a projected \$5 million reserve for the completion of the PTIS and the formation of a regional transit agency. The PTIS will evaluate mobility needs and opportunities, and identify strategies for public transit and transit supportive infrastructure development that will result in wider acceptance and use of non-automobile transportation modes such as public transit, bicycle and pedestrian travel.

In addition to the development of viable alternative public transportation options for Fresno County, this study seeks to develop ridership projections and cost estimates for various growth and development scenarios that will be used to establish a long-range plan leading to optimum connectivity within the region.

Phase I of the PTIS evaluated existing and planned land uses, mapped residential and employment densities, and identified primary travel corridors for communities outside of the Fresno/Clovis Metropolitan Area (FCMA). Phase I also reviewed existing land use policies and developed a set of transit supportive recommendations. Phase I reports are available on the Fresno COG website at www.fresnocog.org.

On April 7, 2008, a Request for Proposals for Phase II of the PTIS was released. On May 15, 2008, proposals were received from ARUP (\$2,692,441), Wilbur Smith Associates (\$2,280,000), Kimley-Horn and Associates Inc. (\$2,599,481), and Fehr & Peers Transportation Consultants (\$2,400,831). A proposal selection committee comprised of Fresno COG staff, Caltrans Staff, Fresno County Staff, City of Fresno Staff, City of Clovis Staff, Fresno State University Staff and public members was established to evaluate the proposals and recommend a preferred consulting team.

After the initial proposal review was completed, the Committee decided not to advance ARUB to the interview phase; however the remaining teams were invited to make a formal presentation. Although the final decision was not unanimous, Kimley-Horn and Associates was favored with a majority vote.

A motion was made by Nicholas Paladino (FCC) and seconded by Scott Mozier (City of Fresno) to recommend the COG Policy Board authorize the Executive Director to negotiate a scope of services and enter into a contract with Kimley-Horn and Associates to conduct Phase II of the PTIS. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

G. Fresno Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Master Plan

John Downs (FAX) reported on this item. Under the terms of an agreement between the City of Fresno, the Medical Advocates for Healthy Air (MAHA) and Fancher Creek Properties, LLC (Fancher Creek) the City agreed to prepare, and Fancher Creek agreed to fund a "Master Transit Plan" for the Fresno metropolitan area. As part of the final agreement, the COG was asked to manage the contract which was executed with Kimley-Horn Associates on December 13, 2006.

Although some parts of the scope of services are still being completed, the Bus Rapid Transit Master Plan has been completed. The Plan identifies key corridors within the Fresno/Clovis Urbanized Area that demonstrate strong potential for development as BRT corridors. The best candidate corridors are identified as Ventura/Kings Canyon from Fowler to Downtown Fresno, and Blackstone Boulevard from Downtown Fresno to Manchester Center. The plan developed ridership and cost projections as well as outlining the steps necessary to pursue Federal Transit Administration New Starts funding.

The full document was included in the agenda packet and is available on the COG website at [\[www.fresnocog.org\]](http://www.fresnocog.org)

A motion was made by Darrell Unruh (Fresno City) and seconded by Bruce Webber (Reedley) to recommend the COG Policy Board accept the Bus Rapid Transit Master Plan. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

H. Measure "C" Programs Starting July 1st: Commuter Vanpool, Farmworker Vanpool, and Senior Taxi Scrip

Melissa Garza (COG) reported that as of July 1st Measure "C" will be awarding over \$900,000 in Measure "C" subsidies and cost reimbursements to newly forming and existing vanpools originating in Fresno County. Over \$900,000 additional Measure "C" funds are available to Fresno County residents who are 70 years of age or older for taxi rides under the Measure "C" Taxi Scrip Program.

Fresno County residents who are interested in the Measure "C" Commuter or Farmworker Vanpool Programs may apply for Measure "C" subsidies that will assist in offsetting initial and continuous operating costs. Approximately \$300,000 in commuter vanpool subsidies and \$620,000 in Farmworker vanpool subsidies are available between July 1, 2008 and June 30, 2009, on a first-come first-serve basis until the program funds are exhausted. The program is designed to get commuters to their destinations safely, improve air quality, and provide a cost-effective alternative to the single occupant vehicle. It is also designed to spark the development of new vanpools and offer financial assistance to existing vanpools to ensure that they stay on the road. Eligible subsidies and reimbursements can cover: Monthly Lease Subsidies, Start-up Costs, Driver Replacement Costs, Emergency Ride Home Program, Driver Incentives, Parking Permits and monthly vouchers issued by an eligible operator.

The Taxi Scrip Program for seniors age 70 or older began July 1st and focuses on providing alternative, reliable and affordable transportation to Fresno County seniors. Seniors will receive a 75% discount on taxi fares by purchasing taxi scrip. That is, they may purchase up to \$100 in taxi scrip for \$25 each calendar month. There are 5 taxi companies who are currently enrolled in the program. Seniors must fill out an application and provide proof that they are 70 years of age or older and are Fresno County Residents.

Ms. Garza commented on how well the Measure "C" Farmworker vanpool and Taxi Scrip Programs have been doing. The response from both programs was more than staff expected.

This was an information item and required no further action by the Committee.

I. Project Level Air Quality Conformity Determinations Procedures Update

Renee DeVere-Oki (COG) reported on this item. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has sent out notification of a change in procedures with specific focus on review time, documentation, and public involvement. Local agencies should note that review time will increase; FHWA will need a minimum of 30 days to make an air quality conformity determination upon submittal of information. This timeframe should be factored into the schedule for any project assigned to the Department of Transportation (Caltrans) under SAFETEA-LU Section 6005, that is, projects with Environmental Assessments, plus any Categorical Exclusions not assigned under Section 6004. More detailed information on Section 6004 and 6005 project types and associated documentation/ review procedures is available in the May 27, 2008 letter from Caltrans in the agenda packet.

This was an information item and required no further action by the Committee.

J. Fresno COG One Voice Advocacy Trips in 2009

Jennifer Dansby (COG) reported on this item. Staff is in the initial stages of planning the Fresno COG "One Voice" advocacy trips to Sacramento and Washington D.C. in 2009. The dates for the trips are as follows:

- 1. Washington D.C.: Saturday, February 7th through Thursday, February 12th.**
- 2. Sacramento: Monday, March 9th and Tuesday, March 10th.**

Please save the dates if you are interested in attending one or both these worthwhile trips.

Both of the above lobbying efforts will provide Fresno COG and our community stakeholders the opportunity to meet with key decision-makers at both the state and federal level to shepherd much needed projects through the legislative process. Staff provided the TTC with a verbal update on the progress of the trip planning efforts.

This was an information item and required no further action by the Committee.

K. San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council's "Valley Voices" Advocacy Trips in 2009

Jennifer Dansby (COG) reported on this item. The San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council is in the initial stages of planning advocacy trips to Sacramento in mid-January and to Washington D.C. in late-February of 2009.

Tentative travel dates are as follows and will be confirmed at the next Regional Policy Council meeting in August:

- 1. Sacramento: Tuesday, January 20th and Wednesday, January 21st.**
- 2. Washington D.C.: Wednesday, February 25th and Thursday, February 26th with travel days on the 24th and 27th.**

The Regional Policy Council is a 16-member council consisting of elected officials representing the eight Regional Transportation Planning Agencies/Councils of Governments in the San Joaquin Valley, and along with the Valley COG Directors, are planning their second trip to Sacramento to advocate for legislative issues of importance to the San Joaquin Valley. The legislative issues chosen will be based on the Regional Policy Council's Legislative Platform to be updated in the fall. Last year's chosen issues included advocating for Proposition 1B bond monies and for port container fees collected at the California ports to benefit the Valley and advocating for protection of Proposition 42 transportation funds from being diverted to the general fund and used for other purposes.

In an effort to build upon the Sacramento advocacy effort, the Regional Policy Council is planning on traveling to Washington D.C. to lobby for federal funding from the new federal transportation authorization act to support goods movement projects in the Valley. The current federal transportation authorization act, also known as the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act – A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), will expire after September 30, 2009.

Attention was called to a fact sheet on the "San Joaquin Valley National Agricultural Goods Movement & Trade Corridor Program", which is proposed to be the main focus of the lobbying effort in Washington D.C. The Regional Policy Council will seek to establish the program as part of the new federal transportation authorization act so rather than looking for an earmark for a single project, the request will be for a dedicated funding program within the legislation for Valley goods movement projects of national significance. The four main project components would be: SR 99, Trade Corridors, Grade Separations, and Rail. The projects included in the proposed program would be based on the San Joaquin Valley Goods Movement Action Plan, approved by our Policy Board in October 2007.

At this time, the eight-Valley COG's are being asked to approve the concept of a "San Joaquin Valley National Agricultural Goods Movement & Trade Corridor Program" as part of the new federal transportation authorization act so that we can move forward with planning for the Washington D.C. trip.

Staff will keep our committees informed on the progress of the Regional Policy Council's Valley Voices lobbying trips to Sacramento and Washington D.C. over the coming months.

A motion was made by Bruce Webber (Reedley) and seconded by Bernard Jimenez (Fresno County) to recommend the Policy Board approve the concept of a "San Joaquin Valley National Agricultural Goods Movement & Trade Corridor Program" as part of the new federal transportation authorization act. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

L. California Statewide Local Needs Assessment Project

Renee DeVere-Okie (COG) reported on this item. Local streets and roads comprise 83% of the State's publicly maintained miles in California. Despite this, only 10% of the recent \$20 billion transportation bond measure (Prop. 1B) went to cities and counties. Part of the challenge of obtaining funding is communicating need. To assist cities and counties in communicating their needs, a statewide needs assessment study is being conducted and sponsored by: California State Association of Counties (CSAC), League of California Cities (LOCC), California Regional Transportation Planning Agencies (RTPA), and other partners. Please visit www.saveCaliforniastreet.org and provide your local information to Nichols Consulting to ensure that your agency's needs are communicated. It is essential that all data be provided to Nichols Consulting no later than July 18th, 2008. Enclosed in the packet was a list of cities in Fresno County that still need to submit information and a fact sheet on the study. For additional information please contact Margot Yapp of Nichols Consulting (510) 215-3620.

Mr. Boren (COG) explained that the purpose of the survey and information serves as the foundation for the legislature to identify a local funding program. It recognizes the different coalitions that are involved and how the local areas have significant needs.

This was an information item and required no further action by the Committee.

M. AB 32 – The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006—Climate Change Draft Scoping Plan

Tony Boren, Executive Director reported that the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB 32) requires the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to prepare a Scoping Plan to achieve reductions in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in California to 1990 levels by 2020. The "Draft" Scoping Plan, developed by CARB with input from the Climate Action Team, proposes a comprehensive set of actions designed to reduce overall carbon emissions in California, improve our environment, reduce our dependence on oil, diversify our energy sources, save energy, and enhance public health while creating new jobs and enhancing the growth in California's economy. CARB will be taking public comments on the document for the next several months with a "Final" Scoping Plan scheduled for release in early October 2008, followed by a final adoption tentatively scheduled for November 2008.

Included in the package was the Executive Summary of the Draft Scoping Plan with the complete report available on the CARB website at:
<http://arb.ca.gov/cc/scopingplan/document/draftscopingplan.htm>.

Key elements of CARB's preliminary recommendation for reducing California's greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by 2020 include:

- Expansion and strengthening of existing energy efficiency programs and building and appliance standards;
- Expansion of the Renewables Portfolio Standard to 33%;
- Development of a California cap-and-trade program that links with other Western Climate Initiatives;
- Implementation of existing State laws and policies, including California's clean car standards, goods movement measures, and the Low Carbon Fuel Standard;
- Targeted fees to fund the State's long-term commitment to AB 32.

The complete list of recommended measures is shown in Table 2 of the report.

This was an information item and required no further action by the Committee.

N. Caltrans Monthly Report

Steve Curti reported on Caltrans activities as follows:

The Highway Safety Improvement Program that came from the SAFETEA-LU funding package is a program that looks at safety projects on the City and County local level and has awarded 6 projects to the Fresno Metropolitan area totaling \$2.5 million. The 6 projects are:

- A left lane turn pocket at Clovis and Villa in Clovis
- Upgrade the traffic signal with a protected left turn at Clovis and Santa Ana in Clovis
- A left turn pocket at Belmont and Maple in Fresno
- Southbound and northbound on and off ramp with traffic signals at Olive and Hwy. 99 in Fresno
- Upgrading the traffic signals at Hughes and Webber in Fresno
- Upgrading the traffic signals at Dakota and First streets in Fresno

The Fancher Creek project received a \$20 million grant to go towards the parking structure for Fancher Creek apartment complex that starts construction soon. A reminder about the Safe Routes School to School applications; the deadline is July 11th, 2008.

This was an information item and required no further action by the Committee.

OTHER BUSINESS

A. Items from Staff

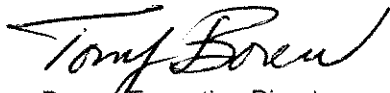
1. Tony Boren, Executive Director called attention to the passing of Bill Little, City Manager of Orange Cove. Mr. Little was in a car accident on his way home from a Council meeting. Mr. Boren also mentioned that there was a nice article in the newspaper about Mr. Little.
2. There will be an August meeting – TTC & PAC will meet jointly on August 15th, 2008 and the Board will meet on August 28th, 2008

B. Items from Members

There were no items from Members.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Tony Boren, Executive Director
Council of Fresno County Governments

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POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Executive Minutes

Date: Friday, July 18, 2008
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Place: COG Sequoia Conference Room
2035 Tulare St., Suite 201, Fresno, CA

Members Attending:

Rocky Rogers, City of Reedley
Luis Patlan, City of Kerman
Lynn Gorman, Fresno County
Alan Bengyel, City of Huron
Don Pauley, City of Kingsburg
Dan Spears, City of Sanger
Kathy Millison, City of Clovis

Sharrie Ehlert, Caltrans
Bruce Rudd, City of Fresno
Roseanne Galvan, City of Selma
Gabriel Gonzalez, City of Mendota
David Weisser, City of Fowler
Lou Martinez, City of Parlier
Cruz Ramos, City of San Joaquin

Others Attending:

Don Hubbard, PB Americas
Sandra Dumlao, County of Fresno
Dr. Gary Manross, Strategy Research
Institute
Tony Boren, Fresno COG
Jeff Webster, Fresno County Rural Transit
Les Beshears, Fresno COG
Jennifer Dansby, Fresno COG
Tom Webster, Fresno COG
Stephanie Maxwell, Fresno COG

Kristine Cai, Fresno COG
Todd Sobrado, Fresno COG
John Downs, COG/FAX
Jeff Long, COG/FAX
Marla Day, Fresno COG
Kathy Chung, Fresno COG
Renee DeVere-Oki, Fresno COG
Melissa Garza, Fresno COG
Clark Thompson, Fresno COG

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman, Rocky Rogers (Reedley).

I. PRESENTATIONS

This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons wishing to address the PAC on items within its jurisdiction but not on this agenda.

There were no public presentations.

II. CONSENT ITEMS

All items on the consent agenda are considered to be routine and non-controversial by COG staff and may 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. Executive Minutes of June 13, 2008
- B. Transportation Funding Claims
 - 1. FY 2008-09 City of Fowler, Resolution 2008-27
 - 2. FY 2008-09 City of Huron, Resolution 2008-28
 - 3. FY 2008-09 City of Mendota, Resolution 2008-29
 - 4. FY 2008-09 City of Parlier, Resolution 2008-30
 - 5. FY 2008-09 City of San Joaquin, Resolution 2008-31
 - 6. FY 2008-09 City of Selma, Resolution 2008-32

Approve
Approve

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

- 7. FY 2008-09 City of Kingsburg, Resolution 2008-33
- 8. FY 2008-09 City of Coalinga, Resolution 2008-36
- 9. FY 2008-09 City of Firebaugh, Resolution 2008-37
- C. FY 2008-09 COG Measure "C" Claim, Resolution 2008-34 Approve
- D. Federal Transit Administration Section 5310 Grading Process Approve
- E. Administrative Amendments No. 12 and No. 14 to the 2007 Federal Transportation Improvement Program Information
- F. Monthly Legislative Update Information
- G. California Consensus Principles on Federal Transportation Authorization Approve
- H. San Joaquin Valley Blueprint – Monthly Update Information
- I. Status Report on Sacramento Lobbying Activities—Steve Samuelian, California Consulting LLC at Board on 7-31-08 Information
- J. PB Americas Inc. Contract Extension Approve
- K. Project Level Air Quality Conformity Determinations Procedures Update Info/Discussion
- L. California Statewide Local Needs Assessment Project Info/Discussion
- M. FY 2008-09 Overall Work Program, Amendment #2 Approve
- N. Regional Clearinghouse Information

	Project	Applicant
1.	Head Start Program – One Time Training and Technical Assistance Funding	Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission

For a complete summary of these items please see the July 18, 2008 Annotated Agenda.

Staff requested that Agenda Items G. and K. be pulled for further discussion.

A motion was made by Alan Bengyel (Huron) and seconded by Don Pauley (Kingsburg) to approve the Consent Item with the exception of G. and K. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

Item G. - California Consensus Principles on Federal Transportation Authorization. Kathy Millison (Clovis) questioned if the 4th principle (Enhance mobility through congestion relief within and between metropolitan areas), considered the City of Clovis as a metropolitan area. Mr. Boren said that there will be a follow up on the question.

A motion was made by Lynn Gorman (County of Fresno) and seconded by Kathy Millison (Clovis) to move forward and approve item G. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

Item K. - Project Level Air Quality Conformity Determination Procedures Update. Lynn Gorman (County of Fresno) was not clear on what is changing for the County in terms of projects. Renee DeVere-Oki (COG) explained that there is an extra 30 days in terms of receiving approval on the PM 2.5 hot spot analysis on specific key projects that are going through the NEPA process.

A motion was made by Don Pauley (Kingsburg) and seconded by Gabriel Gonzalez (Mendota) to approve the consent items. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

III. ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee Program

Tony Boren, Executive Director reported on this item. Measure "C" (Fresno County's ½ cent sales tax for transportation purposes) was reauthorized by the voters of Fresno County in November 2006. One of the requirements of the new Measure "C" program is that a Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee Program (RTMF) be developed and approved by Fresno COG and the Fresno County Transportation Authority (FCTA) in coordination with all local jurisdictions. The RTMF is required to be enacted by all cities in the County and by the County of Fresno no later than January 1, 2009.

Fees will be collected by each local jurisdiction and transmitted to the FCTA.

"If any city or Fresno County should choose to not implement the RTMF program, then that Agency shall forfeit annually from the Local Transportation Program Street Maintenance Allocation an amount equal to the amount of RTMF that would have otherwise have been paid for development projects within that jurisdiction during the year".

PB Americas Inc. was the consulting firm that was selected to conduct the RTMF Study. Over the last nine months they have been working with a Regional Steering Committee consisting of Planning Directors, Public Works Directors, City Managers, industry stakeholders and interested community members in an effort to develop an RTMF Program which has "consensus support" prior to it being taken through the COG and FCTA processes and formal adoption by our member agencies.

The Draft Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee Final Report was included as an enclosure in the packet. Don Hubbard from PB Americas was in attendance to give a presentation on the report and discussed the three RTMF options.

TTC discussion on the various options ended with a recommendation that the consultant develop a "phased-in" alternative for Option One similar to what was done with Option 2.

The Draft RTMF program is presented during the month of July to the TTC, PAC, Citizens Oversight Committee and Policy Board, as well as the Fresno County Transportation Authority, as an information/discussion item with formal adoption of a preferred option by the COG Committees in August 2008 and by the FCTA in September 2008.

Meeting Results to Date: The TTC discussion on the various options ended with a recommendation that the consultant develop a "phased-in" alternative for Option One (\$447 mil.) similar to what was done with Option 2 (\$278.mil.) The Measure "C" Citizens Oversight Committee voted 6-2 in support of Option One. At the July 16th meeting, the Fresno County Transportation Authority Policy Board took an action requesting that the consultant develop a new alternative that is based on the \$102 million that was identified in the Measure "C" Expenditure Plan. At the July meeting, the PAC recommended that Option 3 (\$278 mil. phased-in option) be given additional detail quantifying the three phases.

Based on correspondence and testimony presented at the various meetings that the Building Industry Association (residential/commercial/industrial) supports the \$102 mil. alternative. PB Americas Inc. will modify the presentation to reflect the two new alternatives and provide additional detail to Option 3 as requested.

At the request of the cities of Clovis and Reedley, and the County of Fresno, PB Americas Inc. will make a Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee presentation to their respective Councils and Boards in late July and early August, 2008.

This was an information item and required no further action by the Committee.

B. Fresno County Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan, Project Management Plan, Resolution 2008-35

Todd Sobrado (COG) reported on this item. On January 24, 2008, the Fresno COG Policy Board approved the Fresno County Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan. A coordinated plan is required under the SAFETEA-LU (Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient, Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users) passed in August of 2005. A second component of SAFETEA-LU is a Project Management Plan that describes the administration process Fresno COG will adhere to as the designated recipient for Fresno County's Federal Transit Administration funds.

The draft Fresno County Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan Project Management Plan was distributed to the Fresno COG Transportation Technical Committee, the Policy Advisory Committee, and the Fresno COG Policy Board in the June 2008 meeting cycle. Fresno COG has not received any comments on the plan.

A motion was made by Alan Bengyel (Huron) and seconded by Gabriel Gonzalez to recommend the approval of the Fresno County Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan by adoption of Resolution 2008-35. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

C. FY 2009 Interim Federal Transportation Improvement Program, Regional Transportation Program Modification, Resolution 2008-26

Renee DeVere-Oki (COG) reported that Fresno is adopting the 2009 Interim Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP). The 2009 Interim FTIP must be adopted and submitted to Caltrans by August 1, 2008 to be included in the overall state programming document. A 30 day public comment period was conducted, ending July 3, 2008, and a public hearing was held on June 26, 2008. Information related to comments received can be found in the Response to Comments section in the final document.

2009 Interim 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. Fresno COG is adopting an Interim FTIP because Ozone and PM-10 emission budgets for the San Joaquin Valley have not been approved by EPA. Without approved budgets, the Valley COGs cannot adopt a conformity analysis and can only proceed with programming exempt projects and preliminary engineering/ environmental phases of non-exempt projects. The Interim FTIP proposed for adoption contains only the transportation projects that may proceed without a new conformity analysis.

The 2009 Interim FTIP is 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.

The Regional Transportation Plan must be updated in conjunction with the FTIP to reflect changes in programming and text. As determined by staff, the included modifications are minor in nature and can be updated via an Administrative Modification.

Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Administrative Modification #1: 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 modification clarifies the FTIP Reference Table (Exhibit 5-5), unconstrained project lists, and adds additional information regarding Bus Rapid Transit (BRT). A copy of the amendment was included in the package.

A motion was made by Lynn Gorman (County of Fresno) and seconded by Alan Bengyel (Huron) to recommend approval of Resolution 2008-26 adopting the 2009 Interim Federal Transportation Improvement Program. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

Administrative Modification #1 to the Regional Transportation Plan is an information/discussion item only.

D. Model Farmland Conservation Program Update

Todd Sobrado (COG) reported that on June 9, 2008, the Farmland Conservation Model Program Advisory Committee adopted the Fresno Strategic Farmland map. The map identifies the location of the land within Fresno County that is most likely to remain economically viable for high-value commercial agriculture in the long-term, given its inherent characteristics and surrounding conditions. It is land that should receive the highest priority for conservation, and the lowest priority for non-farm development, as part of a broad strategy to sustain Fresno County agriculture.

The Fresno Strategic Farmland map is intended to be a guide to land use planning and decision making and not the equivalent of a land use map with binding legal consequences.

The updated map was included in the agenda packet.

Questions and comments came up in the July meeting cycle TTC and PAC meetings. Comments include:

Q: The activities of the Model Farmland Conservation Program are similar to those taking place by other committees such as the Blueprint, how are the activities from the Model Farmland Conservation Program different from those activities?

A: Much of the agricultural information being used by other projects such as the Blueprint and the Metro Rural Loop is coming from the activities of the Model Farmland Conservation Program.

Q: Is the Model Farmland Conservation Program doing anything to coordinate any of the conversations that have started taking place pertaining to Farmland Conservation?

A: The Model Farmland Conservation Program Steering Committee recently became aware of the conversations and plans that have recently emerged. The Steering Committee will look into the efforts of the Fresno Historical Society and the Fresno County Farm Bureau to see what is taking place. The Steering Committee will also start paying more attention to farmland conservation activities currently being undertaken by other organizations within Fresno County.

Comment: The activities of the Model Farmland Conservation Program should be more open to the public participation process than they currently are.

This was an information item and required no further action by the Committee.

E. Public Transportation and Infrastructure Study (PTIS) Phase II Contract Award

John Downs (COG/FAX) reported on this item. In 2006, Fresno County Voters approved a Measure "C" half-cent sales tax for transportation. Measure "C" included a projected \$5 million reserve for the completion of the PTIS and the formation of a regional transit agency.

The PTIS will evaluate mobility needs and opportunities, and identify strategies for public transit and transit supportive infrastructure development that will result in wider acceptance and use of non-automobile transportation modes such as public transit, bicycle and pedestrian travel.

In addition to the development of viable alternative public transportation options for Fresno County, this study seeks to develop ridership projections and cost estimates for various growth and development scenarios that will be used to establish a long-range plan leading to optimum connectivity within the region.

Phase I of the PTIS evaluated existing and planned land uses, mapped residential and employment densities, and identified primary travel corridors for communities outside of the Fresno/Clovis Metropolitan Area (FCMA). Phase I also reviewed existing land use policies and developed a set of transit supportive recommendations. Phase I reports are available on the Fresno COG website at www.fresnocog.org.

On April 7, 2008, a Request for Proposals for Phase II of the PTIS was released. On May 15, 2008, proposals were received from ARUP (\$2,692,441), Wilbur Smith Associates (\$2,280,000), Kimley-Horn and Associates Inc. (\$2,599,481), and Fehr & Peers Transportation Consultants (\$2,400,831). A proposal selection committee comprised of Fresno COG staff, Caltrans Staff, Fresno County Staff, City of Fresno Staff, City of Clovis Staff, Fresno State University Staff and public members was established to evaluate the proposals and recommend a preferred consulting team.

After the initial proposal review was completed, the Committee decided not to advance ARUB to the interview phase; however the remaining teams were invited to make formal presentations on June 9, 2008. Although the final decision was not unanimous, Kimley-Horn and Associates was favored with a majority vote.

A motion was made by Bruce Rudd (City of Fresno) and seconded by Lynn Gorman (County of Fresno) to recommend the COG Policy Board authorize the Executive Director to negotiate a scope of services and enter into a contract with Kimley-Horn and Associates to conduct Phase II of the PTIS. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

F. Fresno Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Master Plan

John Downs (COG/FAX) reported on this item. Under the terms of an agreement between the City of Fresno, the Medical Advocates for Healthy Air (MAHA) and Fancher Creek Properties, LLC (Fancher Creek), the City agreed to prepare, and Fancher Creek agreed to fund a "Master Transit Plan" for the Fresno metropolitan area. As part of the final agreement, the COG was asked to manage the contract which was executed with Kimley-Horn Associates on December 13, 2006.

Although some parts of the scope of services are still being completed, the Bus Rapid Transit Master Plan has been completed. The Plan identifies key corridors within the Fresno/Clovis Urbanized Area that demonstrate strong potential for development as BRT corridors. The best candidate corridors are identified as Ventura/Kings Canyon from Fowler to Downtown Fresno, and Blackstone Avenue from Downtown Fresno to Manchester Center. The plan developed ridership and cost projections as well as outlining the steps necessary to pursue Federal Transit Administration New Starts funding.

The full document was included in the agenda packet and is available on the COG website at www.fresnocog.org on the home page.

A motion was made by Kathy Millison (Clovis) and seconded by Alan Bengyel (Huron) to recommend the COG Policy Board accept the Bus Rapid Transit Master Plan. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

G. Measure "C" Programs Starting July 1st: Commuter Vanpool, Farmworker Vanpool, and Senior Taxi Scrip

Melissa Garza (COG) reported on this item. Fresno COG, as of July 1st Measure "C" will be awarding over \$900,000 in Measure "C" subsidies and cost reimbursements to newly forming and existing vanpools originating in Fresno County. Over \$900,000 additional Measure "C" funds are available to Fresno County residents who are 70 years of age or older for taxi rides under the Measure "C" Taxi Scrip Program.

Fresno County residents who are interested in the Measure "C" Commuter or Farmworker Vanpool Programs may apply for Measure "C" subsidies that will assist in offsetting initial and continuous operating costs. Approximately \$300,000 in commuter vanpool subsidies and \$620,000 in Farmworker vanpool subsidies are available between July 1, 2008 and June 30, 2009, on a first-come first-serve basis until the program funds are exhausted. The program is designed to get commuters to their destinations safely, improve air quality, and provide a cost-effective alternative to the single occupant vehicle. It is also designed to spark the development of new vanpools and offer financial assistance to existing vanpools to ensure that they stay on the road. Eligible subsidies and reimbursements can cover: Monthly Lease Subsidies, Start-up Costs, Driver Replacement Costs, Emergency Ride Home Program, Driver Incentives, Parking Permits and monthly vouchers issued by an eligible operator.

The Taxi Scrip Program for Seniors age 70 or older began July 1st and focuses on providing alternative, reliable and affordable transportation to Fresno County seniors. Seniors will receive a 75% discount on taxi fares by purchasing taxi scrip. That is, they may purchase up to \$100 in taxi scrip for \$25 each calendar month. There are 5 taxi companies who are currently enrolled in the program. Seniors must fill out an application and provide proof that they are 70 years of age or older and are Fresno County Residents.

Ms. Garza remarked as to how well the Measure "C" Farmworker Vanpool and Taxi Scrip Programs have been doing. The response from both programs was more than staff expected.

This was an information item and required no further action by the Committee.

H. Fresno COG One Voice Advocacy Trips in 2009

Jennifer Dansby (COG) reported that staff is in the initial stages of planning the Fresno COG "One Voice" advocacy trips to Sacramento and Washington D.C. in 2009. The dates for the trips are as follows:

- 1. Washington D.C.: Saturday, February 7th through Thursday, February 12th.**
- 2. Sacramento: Monday, March 9th and Tuesday, March 10th.**

Members were encouraged to save the dates if interested in attending one or both these worthwhile trips.

Both of the above lobbying efforts provided Fresno COG and our community stakeholders the opportunity to meet with key decision-makers at both the state and federal level to shepherd much needed projects through the legislative process. Staff provided a verbal update on the progress of the trip planning efforts.

This was an information item and required no further action by the Committee.

I. San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council's "Valley Voice" Advocacy Trips in 2009

Jennifer Dansby (COG) reported on this item. The San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council is in the initial stages of planning advocacy trips to Sacramento in mid-January and to Washington D.C. in late-February of 2009.

Tentative travel dates are as follows and will be confirmed at the next Regional Policy Council meeting in August:

- 1. Sacramento: Wednesday, January 28th and Thursday, January 29th.**
- 2. Washington D.C.: Wednesday, February 25th and Thursday, February 26th with travel days on the 24th and 27th.**

The Regional Policy Council is a 16-member council consisting of elected officials representing the eight Regional Transportation Planning Agencies/Councils of Governments in the San Joaquin Valley, and along with the Valley COG Directors, are planning their second trip to Sacramento to advocate for legislative issues of importance to the San Joaquin Valley. The legislative issues chosen will be based on the Regional Policy Council's Legislative Platform to be updated in the fall. Last year's chosen issues included advocating for Proposition 1B bond monies and for port container fees collected at the California ports to benefit the Valley and advocating for protection of Proposition 42 transportation funds from being diverted to the general fund and used for other purposes.

In an effort to build upon the Sacramento advocacy effort, the Regional Policy Council is planning on traveling to Washington D.C. to lobby for federal funding from the new federal transportation authorization act to support goods movement projects in the Valley. The current federal transportation authorization act, also known as the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act – A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), will expire after September 30, 2009.

Attention was called to a fact sheet on the “San Joaquin Valley National Agricultural Goods Movement & Trade Corridor Program”, which is proposed to be the main focus of the lobbying effort in Washington D.C. The Regional Policy Council will seek to establish the program as part of the new federal transportation authorization act so rather than looking for an earmark for a single project, the request will be for a dedicated funding program within the legislation for Valley goods movement projects of national significance. The four main project components would be: SR 99, Trade Corridors, Grade Separations, and Rail. The projects included in the proposed program would be based on the San Joaquin Valley Goods Movement Action Plan, approved by our Policy Board in October 2007.

At this time, the eight-Valley COG's are asked to approve the concept of a “San Joaquin Valley National Agricultural Goods Movement & Trade Corridor Program” as part of the new federal transportation authorization act so that we can move forward with planning for the Washington D.C. trip.

Staff will keep the committees informed on the progress of the Regional Policy Council's Valley Voices lobbying trips to Sacramento and Washington D.C. over the coming months.

A motion was made by Gabriel Gonzalez (Mendota) and seconded by Don Pauley (Kingsburg) to recommend that the Policy Board approve the concept of a “San Joaquin Valley National Agricultural Goods Movement & Trade Corridor Program” as part of the new federal transportation authorization act. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

J. AB 32 – The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006—Climate Change Draft Scoping Plan

Tony Boren, Executive Director reported on this item. The Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB 32) requires the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to prepare a Scoping Plan to achieve reductions in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in California to 1990 levels by 2020. The “Draft” Scoping Plan, developed by CARB with input from the Climate Action Team, proposes a comprehensive set of actions designed to reduce overall carbon emissions in California, improve our environment, reduce our dependence on oil, diversify our energy sources, save energy, and enhance public health while creating new jobs and enhancing the growth in California's economy. CARB will be taking public comments on the document for the next several months with a “Final” Scoping Plan scheduled for release in early October 2008, followed by a final adoption tentatively scheduled for November 2008.

Included in the package was the Executive Summary of the Draft Scoping Plan with the complete report available on the CARB website at:
<http://arb.ca.gov/cc/scopingplan/document/draftscopingplan.htm>.

Key elements of CARB's preliminary recommendation for reducing California's greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by 2020 include:

- Expansion and strengthening of existing energy efficiency programs and building and appliance standards;
- Expansion of the Renewables Portfolio Standard to 33%;
- Development of a California cap-and-trade program that links with other Western Climate Initiatives;
- Implementation of existing State laws and policies, including California's clean car standards, goods movement measures, and the Low Carbon Fuel Standard;
- Targeted fees to fund the State's long-term commitment to AB 32.

The complete list of recommended measures is shown in Table 2 of the report.

This was an information item and required no further action by the Committee.

K. California Consulting Inc. Contract Renewal – State Lobbyist

Tony Boren, Executive Director reported on this item. California Consulting Inc. (Steve Samuelian) Fresno COG's State Lobbyist operates on a year to year contract and the contract was up for renewal beginning July 1, 2008. The current contract is for \$2,500 per month. In addition, Fresno COG has agreed to reimburse California Consulting Inc. \$150 per quarter for the cost of filing the Report of Lobbyist Employer paperwork. Fresno COG also reimburses California Consulting for pre-approved and itemized expenses and travel costs not to exceed \$1,200 per year,

This item was heard at the June PAC meeting and was tabled in order to give Mr. Samuelian the opportunity to speak with COG staff and identify the justification for his original contract request which was an increase of \$700 (28%) to the existing contract. Discussions with Mr. Samuelian resulted in him agreeing to accept whatever salary adjustment the COG Executive Director, PAC and Policy Board thought was fair and equitable.

Discussion at the July 18th PAC meeting focused on what was a fair and equitable salary adjustment for California Consulting LLC. during these difficult budgetary times. Fresno COG Executive Director, Tony Boren recommended a Cost-of-Living adjustment of 3.5% consistent with other COG employees for FY 2008-09. After extended discussions which centered on the extremely tight budgets that all cities and the County are facing this year, including some that are asking for employee give-backs (Clovis) and others who are providing no cost-of-living adjustments

A motion was made by Gabriel Gonzalez (Mendota) and seconded by Kathy Millison (Clovis) to recommend that no salary adjustment be given to California Consulting LLC. for FY 2008-09 but that the current contract be renewed at the same cost. A vote was called for and the motion passed unanimously.

L. Caltrans Monthly Report

Sherri Ehler provided an update on Caltrans activities.

- On the Prop. 1B Highway Railroad Crossing Safety Program the project nominations are out and the list of projects includes Fresno County. This project is a proposal to separate at Mountain View and the Union Pacific Railroad. The public hearing is scheduled for July California Transportation Commission meeting; with an expected adoption by August.
- On the Hwy.180 East project, Clovis to Temperance, all the earthwork is complete and starting to look like a freeway. It is about 25% done and completion expected by October by 2009.
- Hwy. 180 West is nearly complete and should be open to traffic by September.

This was an information item and required no further action by the Committee.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Items from Staff

1. Tony Boren, Executive Director and Barbara Steck, Deputy Director will be having lunch with all of the Cities Mayors and City Managers to go over COG's upcoming activities.
2. There will be an August meeting – TTC & PAC will meet jointly on August 15th, 2008 and the Board will meet on August 28th, 2008

B. Items from Members

Bruce Rudd (City of Fresno) called attention to a letter that was received from Sheriff Mims in closing down the Satellite Program Facility and as a result the decision was to cancel the contract with Caltrans for the City of Fresno's Inmate Program.

Don Pauley (Kingsburg) announced that the City of Reedley is sponsoring a trip to Sacramento on July 29th at 6:30 am. regarding the Rural Hospitals and the cuts that will be taking place.

VI. PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION REGARDING RULE16

PG&E is rescheduled for September 19, 2008 PAC meeting.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tony Boren", written over a horizontal line.

Tony Boren, Executive Director
Council of Fresno County Governments

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