

JOINT
TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
AGENDA

Date: Friday, September 12, 2008
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Place: COG Sequoia Conference Room
2035 Tulare St., Suite 201, Fresno, CA

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Accommodations

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

Item	Description	Enclosure	Action*
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I. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

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

II. CONSENT ITEMS

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

A. Joint TTC/PAC Executive Minutes of August 15, 2008	Yes	Approve
B. FY 2007-08 Fourth Quarter Progress Report [BESHEARS]	Yes	Accept
C. Transportation Development Act (TDA) Trust FY 2007-08 Declaration of Surplus [BESHEARS]	Yes	Approve
D. 2008-09 Transportation Funding Claims [BESHEARS]	Yes	Approve
1. FY 2008-09 City of Kerman, Resolution 2008-40		
2. FY 2008-09 City of Orange Cove, Resolution 2008-41		
3. FY 2008-09 City of Sanger, Resolution 2008-42		
E. Land Buffer Task Force Update [SOBRADO]	No	Information
F. Farmland Conservation Model Program Update [SOBRADO]	No	Information
G. Environmental Justice Update [SOBRADO]	No	Information
H. Monthly Legislative Update [DANSBY]	Yes	Information
I. West Area Transportation Planning Study Update [TWEBSTER]	No	Information
J. Request for Proposal – Valley-wide Air Quality Planning and Coordination [DAWSON]	No	Information
K. Appointment of COG member to the Fresno County Interagency Council for Children and Families [BOREN]	No	Appointment

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

L. Regional Clearinghouse [SOBRADO]		Yes	Information
	Project	Applicant	
1.	Waste Water Treatment Plant	City of San Joaquin	
2.	Head Start Program –Training and Technical Assistance Supplemental Funding	Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission	

III. ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Measure "C" Extension Update [BOREN]	No	Info/Discussion
1. Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee (RTMF) Update		
2. Development of Strategic Implementation Plan		
B. High Speed Rail Update [THOMPSON]	Yes	Info/Discussion
C. Blueprint Related Sole Source Contract [STECK]	No	Approve
D. 2009 Washington D.C. "One Voice" Call for Projects [STECK]	Yes	Info/Discussion
E. Valley COG's Fall Policy Conference [DANSBY]	Yes	Info/Discussion
F. Senate Bill 375 Update [DANSBY]	Yes	Support
G. Request for Letter of Support for Joint-Use Regional Transportation Center and Resolution of Support for SR 180 East, Resolution 2008-43 [DANSBY]	Yes	Approve
H. Airport Land Use Commission Memorandum of Understanding [TWEBSTER]	Yes	Approve
I. Status Report on Sacramento Lobbying Activities—Steve Samuelian, California Consulting LLC [DANSBY/SAMUELIAN]	Yes	Info/Discussion
J. San Joaquin Valley COG's Valleywide Coordinator Contract [BOREN]	Yes	Approve
K. Caltrans Monthly Report [CALTRANS]	No	Info/Discussion
L. Abandoned Vehicle Abatement [THOMPSON]		
1. FY 2007-08 Fourth Quarter Summary Report	Yes	Accept
2. Adjustment to Hourly Rate for the City of Fresno	Yes	Approve

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

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

PG&E Presentation: PG&E Gas & Electrical Service Engineering and Construction Process and Lunch for TTC/PAC members following meeting.

*Items listed as information still leave the option for guidance/direction actions by the Committee.

**All enclosures are available on our website at www.fresnocoq.org – Committees and Agendas

**JOINT
TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
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ANNOTATED AGENDA**

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A. Joint TTC/PAC Executive Minutes of August 15, 2008

B. FY 2007-08 Fourth Quarter Progress Report [BESHEARS]

Summary: Included in your agenda packet is a summary of work performed and monies expended by work element for the FY 2007-08 Fourth Quarter.

Action: Staff recommends acceptance of the Fourth Quarter Progress Report.

C. Transportation Development Act (TDA) Trust FY 2007-08 Declaration of Surplus [BESHEARS]

Summary: The Transportation Development Act Trust received Local Transportation Fund (LTF) sales tax deposits of \$30,415,225 and has a surplus balance of \$1,010,474. The State Transit Assistance fund is expected to receive \$4,443,645. However, the State Controller advises that payment of the 3rd and 4th Qtr apportionment is contingent on adoption of the state budget. When the state budget is adopted and the STA payment is made, Staff recommends the LTF Surplus to be distributed to members per contingency projects listed on the 2007/08 TDA Claims. However if the STA somehow becomes a casualty of the state budget, the recommendation would be to use the LTF

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

Surplus to partially offset the reduction to transit budgets as Transit has priority under state regulations.

Action: Staff recommends approval of the distribution of the 2007/08 Transportation Development Act Trust Surplus per the 2007/08 Adopted TDA Claims contingent of payment of 3rd and 4th Qtr State Transit Assistance.

D. 2008-09 Transportation Funding Claims [BESHEARS]

1. FY 2008-09 City of Kerman, Resolution 2008-40
2. FY 2008-09 City of Orange Cove, Resolution 2008-41
3. FY 2008-09 City of Sanger, Resolution 2008-42

Summary: 2008/09 Transportation Development Act Claims. The amounts claimed for Local Transportation Funds (LTF) and State Transit Assistance (STA) funds are:

Jurisdiction:	LTF Fund:	STA Fund:	Total Funds:
City of Kerman	\$489,693	\$134,966	\$624,659
City of Orange Cove	380,154	104,786	484,940
City of Sanger	884,372	243,579	1,127,951

Staff has reviewed the claims and finds the amounts consistent with apportionments previously approved by the Board.

Action: Staff recommends approval of the funding claims by adopting Resolutions 2008-40, 2008-41 and 2008-42.

E. Land Buffer Task Force Update [SOBRADO]

Summary: The Land Buffer Task met on September 5, 2008 to continue the discussion on buffers with the idea of getting more specific about their purposes and uses between communities. The previous meeting held on July 25, 2008 provided a great deal of information that needs to be condensed in order to provide some recommendations on next steps to the Board.

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

F. Farmland Conservation Model Program Update [SOBRADO]

Summary: The Farmland Conservation Model Program Advisory Committee met on September 5, 2008 to discuss how cities can grow in an orderly manner while conserving farmland. The information gathered in this discussion will be used in the final report and 'tool-kit' currently in development. The 'tool-kit' will include best practices, policies and methodologies that are specifically tailored to conserving farmland in Fresno County and the San Joaquin Valley. The development Farmland Conservation Model Program is expected to be completed in December of 2008.

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

G. Environmental Justice Update [SOBRADO]

Summary: The Fresno County Environmental Justice Task Force is being reconvened on Wednesday, September 17, 2008 from 1:30 to 3:00 to review changes suggested at the meeting on July 16, 2008. The Task Force is working diligently to complete the Fresno County Environmental Justice Plan to submit it for your review and adoption.

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

H. Monthly Legislative Update [DANSBY]

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

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

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

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

I. West Area Transportation Planning Study Update [TWEBSTER]

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

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

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

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

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

Fresno COG put out an RFP soliciting bids from qualified consultants to conduct the West Area Study. The bid process closed Thursday, August 27 at 5:00pm and COG received 5 qualified bids. The bids will be reviewed by a selection committee comprised of members from the COG, the County and the City of Fresno and interviews will be held the third week in September. The contract is to be executed on November 1, 2008, following Board approval, and shall be completed within one calendar year.

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

J. Request for Proposal – Valley-wide Air Quality Planning and Coordination [DAWSON]

Summary: The eight San Joaquin Valley Councils of Governments are requesting bid proposals from qualified consultants to provide continuing technical air quality planning and modeling services to facilitate consistency, compliance, and coordination in Valley-wide regional air quality planning. Fresno COG has been tasked with drafting the RFP and coordinating the contract. The Request for Proposals (RFP) for Valley-wide Air Quality Planning and Coordination Services was released to potential bidders on August 28, 2008. The position will be funded at a not to exceed budget of \$125,000 per year. The contract will carry an additional \$25,000 per year contingency amount for additional tasks that might come up. The contract amount is prorated among the eight Valley COG based on population split. Proposals are due by Thursday, September 18, 2008.

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

K. Appointment of COG member to the Fresno County Interagency Council for Children and Families [BOREN]

Summary: Chairman Perea (Fresno County) has requested an agenda item. Per the bylaws of the Fresno County Interagency Council for Children and Families, COG has a seat on the council to which it appoints a representative. The previous COG representative was also appointed as the rural representative to the Executive Committee of the Interagency Council. Currently, the rural representative position is not filled, and Interagency Executive Committee has expressed an interest in filling this position.

Action: Discuss appointment of COG member to the Fresno County Interagency Council for Children and Families.

L. Regional Clearinghouse [SOBRADO]

	Project	Applicant
1.	Head Start Program –Training and Technical Assistance Supplemental Funding	Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission
2.	Waste Water Treatment Plant	City of San Joaquin

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

1. The City of San Joaquin has requested \$2,100,000 (Federal EDA Grant), \$2,000,000 (Federal USDA Rural Utility Services Grant) and \$1,100,000 (State of California Small Communities Wastewater Grant) for a total of \$5,200,000 in funding for upgrade and expansion of its Waste Water Treatment Plant.

2. The Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission has requested \$3,457 (Federal) and \$864 (Non-Federal) for a total of \$4,321 in funding for Head Start Program –Training and Technical Assistance Supplemental Funding.

Action: Per Board procedure, unless an item is pulled from the Consent Calendar, tacit authorization is given for staff to forward any comments received, or any Committee/Board comments generated as a result of this informational item, to the appropriate agency. It is understood that if in the event this item should be pulled from the consent calendar, discussion and comment by the Committee members and the public will be taken.

III. ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Measure "C" Extension Update [BOREN]

1. Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee (RTMF) Update [BOREN]

Summary: Following two months of informational presentations by PB Americas Inc. to COG Committees and the Policy Board, the Fresno County Transportation Authority Board, the Fresno County Board of Supervisors and several cities (Reedley, Clovis) that had requested presentations, at its August 28, 2008 meeting the Fresno COG Policy Board voted unanimously to approve Option 2 as identified in the Fresno Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee Final Report prepared by PB Americas, Inc.

Option 2 is anticipated to raise \$283 million dollars in RTMF revenues over its life and will provide funding for projects identified in Tier 1 of the Measure "C" Expenditure Plan and select projects from the Freeway Interchange Deficiency Study. The mitigation fees collected would be as follows:

Land Use Category	Option 2
Residential Developments (\$/dwelling unit)	
Single Family Dwelling (market rate)	\$1,727
Single Family Dwelling (affordable)	\$863
Multi-family Dwelling (market-rate)	\$1,212
Multi-family Dwelling (affordable)	\$606

Non-residential Developments (\$/sq. ft.)	Option 2
Education	Exempt
Government	Exempt
Commercial/Retail	\$1.96
Commercial/Office/Service	\$1.23
Light Industrial	\$0.49
Heavy Industrial	\$0.10
Other Non-Residential	\$0.42

At its September 10, 2008 meeting, the Fresno County Transportation Authority Policy Board will vote to approve one of the five options identified in the Mitigation Fee Study. Following the selection of the preferred option, Fresno COG and FCTA staff will be setting up hearings with each of our member agencies, where they will have the option of enacting the RTMF via a local ordinance within their individual jurisdictions.

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

2. Development of Strategic Implementation Plan [BOREN]

Summary: Following FCTA Policy Board action on the preferred RTMF Option at its September 10, 2008 meeting, Fresno COG will be convening a meeting of the Measure "C" Regional Program Steering Committee. The purpose of the meeting will be two-fold. The first purpose will be to solicit Steering Committee input on the draft *Reimbursement Policies* developed by the Fresno County Transportation Authority, and the second will be to continue discussions on the Project Delivery Schedule for projects identified in the Expenditure Plan. The following provides a summary of the issues and challenges that are inherent in developing the project delivery schedule for the regional program:

- The Ballot Measure anticipated \$504 million in new Sales tax, \$400 million on STIP funding, & approximately \$102 million in mitigation fees = \$1 billion dollars in revenues to fund Urban and Rural Tier 1 project lists.
- The anticipated cost of the Urban and Rural Tier I list at the time was a little over \$1 billion.
- Current estimates reveal a 2% increase in the amount of Sales Tax anticipated, STIP estimates are down 21% & total uninflated project costs for the program are now anticipated to be around \$1.2 billion .
- Applying a 3% inflation rate to the Tier I base year cost results in \$1.7 billion in project costs, equating to a \$500 plus million deficit.
- Having three different major funding sources complicates the process, as the mix of funding is subject to project eligibility, fund availability, & the implementation schedule of each project.
- The implementation schedule of each project is guided by an evolving priority list, and the mix and availability of funding creates a circular reference in which there is no correct answer, merely endless possibilities.
- The FCTA directed staff to develop a financially constrained list of projects prior to any discussion on bonding.

The 20-year Measure can be broken into 3 periods consisting of two 7-year periods, and one 6-year period:

1. The 1st 7-year period uses mainly Measure funding and known STIP commitments. The projects scheduled during this period have a strong assurance of being completed.
2. The 2nd 7-year period uses Measure, STIP, and accumulated RTMF funding. Projects scheduled in this period have a reasonably strong chance of being constructed during the remaining years left on the Measure, however the scheduling may be subject to adjustment in future plan updates.
3. The projects in the final 6-year period are the highest risk level as funding levels & inflation is difficult to predict.

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

B. High Speed Rail Update [THOMPSON]

Summary: Assembly Bill 3034 has been approved by the legislature and signed into law by the Governor. It replaces Proposition 1, the original Safe, Reliable High-Speed Passenger Train Bond Act that was developed in 2002 and originally scheduled to appear on the November 2004 ballot, with Proposition 1A on the November 4, 2008 ballot. Proposition 1A reflects activities and project design changes that occurred during the past six years and will, it is hoped by proponents of the high-speed train, increase the statewide appeal of the bond act. Proposition 1A will appear first on the ballot.

The proposed high-speed train system will consist of electric trains capable of sustained maximum operating speeds of at least 200 miles per hour. An express trip between Los Angeles Union Station and San Francisco will take 2 hours and 40 minutes. Operating headways will be five minutes or less. There will be no more than 24 stations. Alignments will follow existing transportation or utility corridors to the extent feasible and financially viable. Stations will be located in areas with good access to local mass transit or other modes of transportation. The system will be planned and constructed in a manner that minimizes urban sprawl and impacts on the natural environment.

The precise language that will appear on the ballot label for Proposition 1A is as follows:

SAFE, RELIABLE HIGH-SPEED PASSENGER TRAIN BOND ACT.

To provide Californians a safe, convenient, affordable, and reliable alternative to driving and high gas prices; to provide good-paying jobs and improve California's economy while reducing air pollution, global warming greenhouse gases, and our dependence on foreign oil, shall \$9.95 billion in bonds be issued to establish a clean, efficient high-speed train service linking Southern California, the Sacramento/San Joaquin Valley, and the San Francisco Bay Area, with at least 90 percent of bond funds spent for specific projects, with federal and private matching funds required, and all bond funds subject to independent audits?

Specific provisions of the bond act are as follows:

- Retains the San Francisco to Los Angeles segment as the first priority for bond revenue but adds Anaheim to that segment. However, it does allow bond revenue to be spent on other segments (including Merced to Stockton to Oakland and San Francisco via the Altamont Corridor) as long as that will not delay construction of the main line.
- Prohibits construction of a station between Gilroy and Merced, a point of concern among environmentalists.
- Places limits on spending, including the amount spent on environmental studies, planning, and preliminary engineering (not more than 10% of bond revenue) and administration (not more than 2.5%).
- Limits use of bond revenues to not more than 50% of the total cost of construction of each corridor or usable segment thereof. The Authority shall give priority in selecting corridors for construction to those corridors that are expected to require the least amount of bond funds as a percentage of total cost of construction, among other considerations (i.e. projected ridership and revenue, etc.).
- Requires the Authority to approve and submit to the Director of Finance, a peer review committee, and transportation and fiscal committees in both houses of the legislature a detailed funding plan, prior to the appropriation of bond revenues for construction of a particular corridor or usable segment thereof. The funding plan shall include the estimated full cost of constructing the corridor, the sources of all funds, the anticipated time of receipt of those funds, the projected ridership and operating revenue, all known or foreseeable risks associated with the construction and operation of high-speed passenger train service along the corridor, and the process and actions the Authority will undertake to manage those risks.
- Creates an independent peer review group, a committee of experts to review planning, engineering, financing and other plans prepared by the Authority. The peer review group will issue an analysis of appropriateness and accuracy of the Authority's assumptions and an analysis of the viability of the Authority's funding plan for each corridor.

- Requires the Authority to revise its business plan by September 1, 2008 and submit the revised plan to the legislature. The business plan will provide a forecast of the anticipated ridership, operating costs and capital costs for the system; an estimate and description of the total anticipated federal, state, local, and other funds the authority intends to access to fund the construction and operation of the system; the proposed chronology for the construction of the eligible corridors of the system; a discussion of all reasonably foreseeable risks the project may encounter (i.e. finances, ridership, construction, equipment, technology, etc.); and, the authority's strategies to manage those risks.

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

C. Blueprint Related Sole Source Contract [STECK]

Summary: During Phase III of the Blueprint outreach presentations to all of our member agencies, we realized that there is a serious concern with increasing densities to accommodate future population growth. While the majority of our cities are open to moving in this direction, we believe that we still have more work to do to promote the principles of "smart growth". The Local Government Commission (LGC) has an impressive track record in this arena. They have worked with several local cities and community organizations to help them address community design issues. We have been in contact with LGC staff because of their expertise in creating community image surveys. We hope to enter into a contractual relationship with them in order to assist our member agencies adapt the Blueprint principles into their local planning processes.

The Local Government Commission will work with the COG to develop a Community Image Survey (CIS) focused on housing and compact development. The CIS will include 40 to 60 images of different housing types at different densities. The CIS is an excellent educational tool that helps residents understand that the design of residential projects is a more significant factor than density. The CIS will be developed in such a way that it can be used in workshops using "clickers" to allow participants to rate each image. In order to insure that the images are appropriate to the town or city where it is being administered, LGC will prepare two versions of the CIS. One version will be appropriate for large and medium sized cities in the region; a second version will focus on small towns of under 15,000 people. The LGC will be responsible for meeting with an advisory committee (to be assembled and invited by the COG) to get input on the following:

- Types of housing to include
- Identify good and bad examples of higher density housing to photograph
- Assemble any photos that may already have been taken
- Take photographs in the San Joaquin Valley and other regions as needed to assemble a good collection of good and bad examples of higher density housing
- Assemble two versions of the draft CIS with 40 to 60 images each
- Administer both versions of draft CIS to Advisory Committee to get feedback
- Revise CIS based on feedback
- Work out logistics for administering CIS using clicker technology to record responses
- Train COG staff (and others if desired) in administering CIS

Staff believes that the Local Government Commission is the authority in developing Community Image Surveys and that it has extensive experience working with Valley communities to implement smart growth principles. We are confident that they can complete the tasks required within the COG's sole source contract requisites (\$10,000 or less).

Action: Staff recommends that the COG Policy Board authorize the Executive Director to negotiate a sole source contract with the Local Government Commission to develop a Community Image Survey to assist member agencies with implementing the smart growth principles of the Blueprint Planning Process.

D. 2009 Washington D.C. "One Voice" Call for Projects [STECK]

Summary: It is again time to begin the process of planning for our annual "One Voice" trip back to Washington DC where we will present a list of priorities for our region. Our trips over the past six

years have been quite fruitful as noted in the Fresno COG "One Voice" 2008 Summary and 2009 Recommendations on our website at www.fresnocog.org

The 2009 "One Voice" trip will take place February 7-12, 2009. In preparation, we have been in communication with our D.C. lobbyist, Simon & Company, to discuss their recommendations for project selection criteria. As noted in their memo under **Project Selection**:

"As you know, the appropriations process continues to be controversial following a ban on earmarks in Fiscal Year 2007 and repeated attempts to pass a one-year moratorium on earmarks in appropriations bills. There has been significant discussion in Congress of delaying the Fiscal Year 2009 appropriations process until a new president has been elected, which will certainly have a tremendous impact on earmarks. You are also very familiar with the policy adopted by Congressman Devin Nunes and the number and size of earmarks are becoming increasingly unpopular."

With these factors in mind, we would urge you once again to carefully choose projects that are regional in scope, but remain within the \$2 – 3 million request range. We would also urge you to consider only four appropriations projects for the 2009 program, with a special emphasis on the reauthorization of SAFETEA-LU, which is discussed further below for your review."

In addition, we need to solicit information on policy issues and regulatory reform that our member agencies and community partners may be concerned with so that we can raise those issues with our Washington delegation and their staff. The timeline for the 2009 project selection process is as follows:

- Kick-off Meeting – Thursday, September 11, 2008 @ 1:30 PM at COG
- Mail/Email Call for Projects – Monday, September 22, 2008
- Deadline for project submittal – Friday, October 10, 2008
- Project Selection Committee Meeting – Wednesday, October 22, 2008
- COG Policy Board Approval of Project List – Thursday, November 20, 2008

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

E. Valley COG's Fall Policy Conference [DANSBY]

Summary: It's time again for the annual Valley COG's Fall Policy Conference. This year's conference is titled, "One Voice, One Future" and is scheduled for the following:

What: Valley COG's Fall Policy Conference

When: October 2 from 7 a.m. – 6:30 p.m. and October 3 from 8 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Where: Visalia Convention Center

Why: This is a valuable opportunity for policy-makers and decision-makers throughout the Valley to meet and discuss critical issues. Congressman Devin Nunes and Tulare County Supervisor Connie Conway will speak at the conference.

Featuring presentations on key topics facing the San Joaquin Valley:

- The future of transportation funding
- Goods movement and rail
- Success stories in project partnering
- Next steps for the Blueprint
- Federal transportation legislation reauthorization

Registration, online payment and updates on the Schedule of Events can be found at tularecog.org or use the enclosed form and fax to Tulare County Association of Governments (TCAG). Please contact Elizabeth Wright or Jason Waters (559-733-6653) at TCAG if you have any further questions regarding the conference.

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

F. Senate Bill 375 Update [Dansby]

Summary: Staff will provide a verbal report on the status of SB 375 (Steinberg) and its overall implications to Fresno COG and our member agencies. Staff will also provide reasoning to support the recommendation that the Policy Board consider amending their original position of "oppose" to SB 375 to a position of "support", which is consistent with the California Association of COGs, the California Association of Counties, the League of Cities, the California Building Industry, the California LAFCO Commissions, a variety of environmental and private industry groups, and others.

SB 375 proposes to link regional planning for housing and transportation with California's new greenhouse gas reduction goal (AB 32) enacted in 2006. The goal is to reduce greenhouse emissions to the 1990 level by 2050. This will require a 30% cut from projected emissions. SB 375 intends to help California reach this goal by requiring smart-growth planning in Regional Transportation Plans, aligning transportation and housing planning, and creating incentives for the implementation of smart-growth strategies that will reduce vehicle miles traveled by cars and light trucks, which are considered a significant contributor of greenhouse gas emissions. A summary of the bill is enclosed as well as the full text.

Since the Board last took a position on this bill in the summer of 2007, many amendments and compromises have been negotiated with Senator Steinberg for the positive, which has gained the support of most of the organizations that were originally opposed. There are some remaining amendments desired and clean-up language for SB 375 will likely be sought by Senator Steinberg in a bill next session. Staff will summarize these remaining issues at the meeting.

SB 375 has passed the Senate and Assembly and is enrolled to the Governor. There have been no indications from the Governor as to whether he intends to pass the bill or not but sponsors expect him to sign it once the state passes a budget.

Action: Staff recommends the Policy Board amend their original position of "oppose" to SB 375 and send a letter to the Governor conveying a "support" position.

G. Request for Letter of Support for Joint-Use Regional Transportation Center and Resolution of Support for SR 180 East, Resolution 2008-43 [DANSBY]

Summary: The Policy Board, at their August 28th meeting, heard a request from the City of Reedley for a letter of support to include language in the budget trailer bill currently being considered in the state legislature for Proposition 1B's State and Local Partnership Program (SLPP). The budget trailer bill will outline program criteria and funding allocations for the SLPP program that under Proposition 1B, intends to reward self-help counties by allocating \$1 billion in grants to match local funds (local sales tax, property or parcel tax, bridge tolls, voter-approved transportation sales tax measures, and uniform developer fees) for a variety of types of capital transportation improvements typically funded in local voter-approved expenditure plans. Enclosed is a summary sheet on the SLPP program, the program guidelines, and the funding allocations being considered in the budget trailer bill.

Under the program guidelines, the City of Reedley and Kings Canyon Unified School District's Joint-Use Regional Transportation Center project will be ineligible to compete for SLPP funding because the project is not in our Regional Transportation Plan nor identified in our Measure C Expenditure Plan for funding so would use other sources of funding for the required match. Enclosed is a summary of the project.

The Policy Board voted to support sending a letter requesting that language be added to the trailer bill to allow the project to be eligible for funding. Their support was with the understanding that the SR 180 East highway extension project is the top priority for the SLPP program and that if there are additional program dollars available above and beyond those needed for SR 180 East, then other projects, such as the Joint-Use Regional Transportation Center, will be considered for funding. The required local match for the SR 180 East project has been identified in the Measure C program. Although 12 of our cities voted to support sending the letter, the City of Fresno abstained and the City of Huron and the County representatives were not present, there was not a quorum, so the vote failed to pass. Because a majority of our cities were in favor of sending the letter, we are bringing this request to our committees for consideration in September. The draft letter is enclosed for your review.

Due to concern by some Board members that this project may supplant the SR 180 East extension project for SLPP funding, staff recommends that our Board consider approving the enclosed resolution stating that the SR 180 East highway extension project is the priority project for SLPP funding but if there are additional monies available above and beyond what is necessary to complete SR 180 East, then other projects will be considered.

Action: Staff seeks direction from the TTC/PAC on sending a letter of support for language to be included in the budget trailer bill for the Proposition 1B's State and Local Partnership Program. In addition, staff recommends approval of Resolution 2008-43.

H. Airport Land Use Commission Memorandum of Understanding [TWEBSTER]

Summary: On March 25, 2008 the Fresno County Board of Supervisors unanimously endorsed a request that Fresno COG accept administrative and staffing responsibilities for the Fresno County Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC). The ALUC is a statutorily defined body that advises the cities and the County on compatible land uses in the vicinity of the nine public airports in Fresno County.

At the present time, three Councils of Governments in California, the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments, the Sacramento Area Council of Governments and the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments, administer Airport Land Use Commission functions. In addition, there are two counties within the state (San Diego and Kern) that address airport land use issues through administrative bodies other than the County land use agency. COG staff is currently in discussions with the above listed COGs to identify the funding sources that each of them use to staff their respective ALUCs.

State Statute, Public Utilities Code 21670 requires the ALUC be made up of seven commissioners consisting of two city representatives, appointed by a city selection committee; two County representatives, appointed by the Board of Supervisors; two aviation experts, appointed by a selection committee comprised of the managers of the public use airports; and one representative of the general public appointed by the other six members of the Commission. Current membership would not change with approval of the recommended action. The formal transfer of administrative responsibilities for the ALUC from Fresno County to the COG would be accomplished by the creation and execution of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) detailing the responsibilities and obligations of each party. The MOU would be brought back through the COG Policy Board prior to enactment.

COG and County staff as well as COG and County Council have drafted and reviewed the MOU transferring the responsibilities from the County of Fresno to the Council of Fresno County Governments.

Action: Staff, recommends the approval of the MOU transferring administrative/staffing responsibilities for the Airport Land Use Commission from the County of Fresno to Fresno COG, with PL funds to be used, and that there be a review after a 12-month trial period.

I. Status Report on Sacramento Lobbying Activities—Steve Samuelian, California Consulting LLC [DANSBY/SAMUELIAN]

Summary: Steve Samuelian from California Consulting will provide a legislative update to the TTC/PAC and Policy Board. Enclosed is the report from the consultant summarizing their activities for the past month and provided to the Policy Board at their August meeting.

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

J. San Joaquin Valley COG's Valleywide Coordinator Contract [BOREN]

Summary: There is strong consensus among the eight San Joaquin Valley Councils of Governments that there is a need to hire a consultant to help coordinate and facilitate the ever growing work activities of the COGs as it relates to "Valleywide" activities. These activities include: coordination of

the Valley Regional Policy Council, coordination with the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley, Federal Transportation Act Reauthorization, State Route 99 coordination, San Joaquin Valley Blueprint implementation, high speed rail issues, etc. With these needs in mind, there has been a consensus decision among the eight SJV COGs to hire Barbara Goodwin to fill this role. Fresno COG has been tasked with drafting a contract (included in your packet) to carry out the Scope of Services identified by the COGs. The position would be funded at a not to exceed \$50,000 annually. Fresno COGs' pro-rata share of the contract will be \$11,768.

Action: Authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract with Barbara Goodwin on behalf of the San Joaquin Valley COGs to serve as the San Joaquin COG's Valleywide Coordinator.

K. Caltrans Monthly Report [CALTRANS]

Summary: Caltrans staff will provide an update on Caltrans activities.

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

L. Abandoned Vehicle Abatement [THOMPSON]

1. FY 2007-08 Fourth Quarter Summary Report

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

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

The enclosures for this item indicate the level of activity and distribution of funding to the member agencies. For the fourth quarter of FY 2007-08, a total of \$176,157.92 in current AVA revenues was received and available for distribution to member agencies and to the Fresno COG for program administration. During the quarter, member agencies expended \$178,712.53 conducting AVA activities and the Fresno COG claimed \$2,375.00 for program administration. Because expenses exceeded revenues during the quarter, the program's accumulated surplus was reduced. A total of 1,156 vehicles were abated this quarter, compared to 1,264 vehicles abated during the same quarter of the previous fiscal year.

Action: Staff recommends acceptance of the Abandoned Vehicle Abatement FY 2007-08 Fourth Quarter Summary Report as presented.

2. Adjustment to Hourly Rate for the City of Fresno

Summary: The City of Fresno has submitted the enclosed letter dated August 21, 2008, requesting an increase in its hourly rate from \$85.00 to \$100.00 and has submitted additional information in support of the requested increase. The City's increase is based on the annual revision to its Master Fee Schedule, effective July 1, 2008, which increased the hourly inspection rate for a Public Nuisance enforcement action from \$85.00 to \$100.00. The increase was needed to cover the costs of the investigation and enforcement of Public Nuisance violations, per the Fresno City Municipal Code, including abandoned and/or illegally stored inoperable vehicles.

Action: Staff recommends approval the City of Fresno's request.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Items from Staff

B. Items from Members

PG&E Presentation: PG&E Gas & Electrical Service Engineering and Construction Process and Lunch for TTC/PAC members following meeting.

*Items listed as information still leave the option for guidance/direction actions by the Committee.

**All enclosures are available on our website at www.fresnocog.org – Committees and Agendas