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TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE AGENDA

Date: Wednesday, November 5, 2008
Time: 8:30 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 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.**

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. Executive Minutes of October 8, 2008	Yes	Approve
B. Farmland Conservation Model Program Update [SOBRADO]	No	Information
C. Bicycle Transportation Account – Call for Projects [THOMPSON]	No	Information
D. California Complete Streets Act of 2008 – Assembly Bill 1358 (Leno) [THOMPSON]	No	Information
E. December Public Hearing Notification: Formal Amendment #3 to the 2009 Interim Federal Transportation Improvement Program, Formal Amendment #2 to the 2007 Regional Transportation Plan and Associated Conformity Determination [DAWSON, DEVERE-OKI]	No	Information
F. Monthly Legislative Update [DANSBY]	Yes	Information

III. ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Fresno Madera Freeway Deficiency Study Presentation – Fehr & Peers [BITNER]	Yes	Accept
B. Fiscal Year 2006 Federal Transit Administration Section 5316 (Jobs Access Reverse Commute, JARC) and 5317 (New Freedom) Grant Program Update [SOBRADO]	No	Approve
C. Measure "C" Extension Update [BOREN]		
1. RTMF Ordinance	No	Info/Discussion
2. Regional Transportation Program	No	Info/Discussion

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

D. 2009 Washington D.C. "One Voice" Update [STECK]	Yes	Info/Discussion
E. Blueprint Update [STECK]	Yes	Info/Discussion
F. Caltrans Monthly Report [CALTRANS]	No	Info/Discussion

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

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

***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**

**TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
ANNOTATED AGENDA**

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A. Executive Minutes of October 8, 2008

B. Farmland Conservation Model Program Update [SOBRADO]

Summary: On October 14, 2008, the Farmland Conservation Model Program Advisory Committee met at Fresno City Hall for two and a half hours to review the latest iteration of the Farmland Conservation Model Program 'toolkit' and provide feedback. The meeting was very well attended with 27 participants providing feedback to staff. The feedback provided was substantial, so much so that the Farmland Conservation Model Program Advisory Committee is reconvening again November 20, 2008 at Fresno COG to review the latest additions to the Farmland Conservation Model Program 'toolkit'.

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

C. Bicycle Transportation Account – Call for Projects [THOMPSON]

Summary: Caltrans has issued a call for projects for the fiscal year 2009/10 Bicycle Transportation Account (BTA) program. Applications are due December 1, 2008 (postmarks are sufficient) to the District 6 Office of Local Assistance. Questions regarding the BTA program

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

should be addressed to Tom Glaski at (559) 445-5834 or Jim Perrault at (559) 445-5417, both with the District 6 Office of Local Assistance.

Caltrans anticipates an appropriation of \$7.2 million for the 2009/10 cycle for projects that improve safety and convenience for bicycle commuters. Cities and counties are eligible to apply. The application form is available on the Division of Local Assistance website at: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/LocalPrograms/bta/btawebPage.htm>.

To be eligible for BTA funds, local agencies must prepare and adopt a Bicycle Transportation Plan that complies with Streets and Highways Code, Section 891.2, Items A through K. The plan must be reviewed and approved by the Fresno COG. The Bicycle Transportation Plan must have been adopted between January 1, 2004 and December 31, 2008. Projects not identified in the local agency's Bicycle Transportation Plan will not be eligible for BTA funds.

The maximum amount an applicant may receive is \$1,800,000, or 25 percent of the total amount. BTA funds pay a maximum of 90 percent of the total cost of an eligible project. Local agencies must provide a minimum of 10 percent of the total project cost from sources other than the BTA.

Incidentally, for the fiscal year 2008/9 BTA program, \$220,150.00 was approved for a City of Fresno project. Total project cost is \$255,150.00, which includes a \$35,000.00 local match contribution. The project is the design and construction of a Class II bikeway on Cedar Avenue from Floradora Avenue to Los Altos Avenue.

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

D. California Complete Streets Act of 2008 – Assembly Bill 1358 (Leno) [THOMPSON]

Summary: Assembly Bill 1358, the California Complete Streets Act of 2008, was signed into law by the Governor on September 30, 2008. The California Complete Streets Act of 2008 is a response to the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB32), which set targets for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in California in order to slow the onset of human-induced climate change.

The State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission has determined that transportation represents 41 percent of total greenhouse gas emissions in California. Furthermore, according to the United States Department of Transportation's 2001 National Household Travel Survey, 41 percent of trips in urban areas nationwide are two miles or less in length, and 66 percent of urban trips that are one mile or less are made by automobile. Shifting the transportation mode share from single passenger cars to public transit, bicycling and walking must be a significant part of short- and long-term planning goals if the state is to achieve the reduction in the number of vehicle miles traveled and in greenhouse gas emissions required by current law. In addition, walking and bicycling provide the additional benefits of improving public health and reducing treatment costs for conditions associated with reduced physical activity. Finally, the California Blueprint for Bicycling and Walking sets the goal of a 50 percent increase in bicycling and walking trips in California by 2010, and states that to achieve this goal, bicycling and walking must be considered in land use and community planning, and in all phases of transportation planning and project design.

This bill would require, commencing January 1, 2011, that any substantive revision of the circulation element of a city or county general plan shall cause the circulation element to be modified to plan for a balanced, multimodal transportation network. This transportation network must accommodate the needs of all users of streets, roads, and highways in a manner that is suitable to the rural, suburban, or urban context of the general plan. All users is defined to include motorists, pedestrians, bicyclists, children, persons with disabilities, seniors, movers of commercial goods, and users of public transportation. This bill would also require the Governor's Office of Planning and Research, commencing January 1, 2009, to prepare or amend circulation element guidelines to provide for a balanced, multimodal transportation network and in doing so

to consider how appropriate accommodation of all users varies depending on the transportation and land use context.

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

E. December Public Hearing Notification: Formal Amendment #3 to the 2009 Interim Federal Transportation Improvement Program, Formal Amendment #2 to the 2007 Regional Transportation Plan and Associated Conformity Determination [DAWSON, DEVERE-OKI]

Summary: At the January 29, 2009 Policy Board meeting Fresno COG staff will be proposing that the Board adopt Formal Amendment #3 to the 2009 Interim Federal Transportation Improvement Program, Formal Amendment #2 to the 2007 Regional Transportation Plan, and the associated conformity determination.

The public review and comment period for the above amendments will commence on November 19, 2008 and close on December 18, 2008 at 5:30 p.m.; written comments are welcome. The public may also provide input at the public hearing scheduled for December 18, 2008 at 5:00 p.m. in the Fresno COG office. All documentation associated with these amendments will be available for viewing on the Fresno COG website at www.fresnocog.org beginning November 19, 2008.

For more information regarding the amendment process or the scheduled public hearing, please contact Renee DeVere-Okie or Lauren Dawson at 559-233-4148.

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

F. Monthly Legislative Update [DANSBY]

Summary: A report is included in your agenda package that includes the status of bills at the end of this 2008 legislative session that are relevant to the Fresno 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.

III. ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Fresno Madera Freeway Deficiency Study Presentation – Fehr & Peers [BITNER]

Summary: Richard Lee and Charlie Alexander of Fehr & Peers will present the results of the recent Fresno-Madera Metropolitan Freeway/Interchange Deficiency Study Phase II. The presentation will be broadcast live over the internet to the Fresno COG Offices.

The purpose of the study was to analyze and evaluate anticipated development activity in the metropolitan area and its effects on the performance of the interchanges of the planned freeway system. Deficiencies were identified and necessary improvements recommended. These recommendations will be used for future planning exercises in the metropolitan area, and incorporated into the Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee.

Action: Staff recommends acceptance of the Freeway Deficiency Study findings.

B. Fiscal Year 2006 Federal Transit Administration Section 5316 (Jobs Access Reverse Commute, JARC) and 5317 (New Freedom) Grant Program Update [SOBRADO]

Summary: On April 24, 2008, the Fresno COG Policy Board approved the following projects for the Fiscal Year 2006 Federal Transit Administration Section 5316 (Jobs Access Reverse Commute, JARC) and 5317 (New Freedom) grant program.

Section 5316 (JARC)

Fresno Area Express - Trip Planning Software
Capital Project - \$439,768

Section 5317 (New Freedom)

Fresno Area Express (FAX) - Travel Training
Operating Project - \$20,000

Section 5317 (New Freedom)

Fresno County Rural Transit Agency - Purchase (4) accessible vans
Capital Project - \$144,804

The above mentioned programs have been programmed into the Federal Transit Administration TEAM WEB online project management system. The next step is to execute contracts with each agency for the projects so they can begin the procurement process.

Action: Staff recommends authorization for Fresno COG to enter into contracts with FAX and FCRTA for the 2006 Federal Transit Administration Section 5316 and 5317 New Freedom grants.

C. Measure "C" Extension Update [BOREN]

1. RTMF Ordinance
2. Regional Transportation Program

Summary: Staff will give a verbal update of the status of these two Measure "C" programs.

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

D. 2009 Washington D.C. "One Voice" Update [STECK]

Summary: We are continuing the project selection process in preparation for Fresno COG's "One Voice" trip to Washington D.C. (February 7-12, 2009). The project selection committee met to review and score the 11 projects that were submitted for consideration. A list of the project scores is included in your agenda package. The committee will meet a second time (via conference call on October 30th) to review the scores and develop a recommended list of regional priorities to forward to the COG Policy Board for approval. Our consultant in Washington has recommended that we limit our requests for earmarks to four projects. In the past we have tried to select projects according to the appropriations bills and limit the dollar amount requested. Two of the projects submitted this year do not ask for earmarks and will, therefore, be considered for a separate list as policy priorities. The committee's recommendations will be distributed at the November 5th TTC meeting.

In addition, we will be developing a strategy to make requests for the reauthorization of the federal transportation bill, due to take place in 2009. The committee is meeting on November

13th to discuss which projects to recommend for consideration in that category. We will present an update at the Policy Advisory Committee.

Action: Staff recommends approval of the "One Voice" selection committee's list of regional priority projects.

E. Blueprint Update [STECK]

Summary: The eight county San Joaquin Valley Blueprint planning process is currently developing Valleywide alternative scenarios to review as we move towards identifying a Valley Vision for growth to the year 2050. This process is similar to that which we recently completed at the county level. Each of the eight Valley COGs has now weighed in on their perspective for future growth, which in turn has been used in developing a more regional Valley view. From this effort, three Valleywide alternative growth scenarios will be introduced for feedback in mid-November. The Great Valley Center (GVC) is coordinating the media outreach for these activities and is maintaining a website at www.valleyblueprint.org. The website will include an interactive component once the Valleywide scenarios are made available. In addition, GVC is organizing a **Valleywide Blueprint Summit, which will be held in Fresno on Monday, January 26th**. Please mark your calendars as it will provide local agencies and community members a chance to comment on the Valleywide scenarios.

We are also in the midst of preparing a Fresno County Blueprint Progress Report (through Phase III). This report includes the updated information on Fresno's preferred concept, which the COG Policy Board endorsed growth principles for in May of this year (Memo included in you packet). The Blueprint is a work in progress and this report provides details on that progress for the county level effort. The Blueprint Summit on January 26, 2009 will mark substantive movement toward the Valley Vision.

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

F. 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.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Items from Staff

B. Items from Members

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