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Fresno, California 93721

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COUNCIL OF FRESNO COUNTY GOVERNMENTS AGENDA

Date: Thursday, November 20, 2008
Time: 5:30 p.m.
Place: COG Sequoia Conference Room
2035 Tulare St., Suite 201, Fresno, CA

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Accommodations

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

Item	Description	Enclosure	Action*
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Fresno COG Sitting As the Transportation Policy Committee

I. PRESENTATIONS

A. Public Presentations

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

II. TRANSPORTATION CONSENT ITEMS

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

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|--|----|-------------|
| A. Bicycle Transportation Account – Call for Projects [THOMPSON] | No | Information |
| B. California Complete Streets Act of 2008 – Assembly Bill 1358 (Leno) [THOMPSON] | No | Information |
| C. 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 |

III. TRANSPORTATION ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

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|---|----|---------|
| A. Fiscal Year 2006 Federal Transit Administration Section 5316 (Jobs Access Reverse Commute, JARC) and 5317 (New Freedom) Grant Program Update [SOBRADO] | No | 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

B. Request by City of Sanger for COG Policy Board Support for Using Prop 1B-State and Local Partnership Funds for SR 180 East – Temperance to Academy – Resolution 2008-47 [BOREN]	Yes	Info/Action
C. Measure "C" Carpool Program – Change in Implementation Strategy [LAUCHNER, GARZA]	No	Info/Discussion
D. Measure "C" Extension Update [BOREN]		
1. RTMF Ordinance	No	Info/Discussion
2. Regional Transportation Program	No	Info/Discussion
E. Blueprint Update [STECK]	Yes	Info/Discussion
F. Caltrans Monthly Report [CALTRANS]	No	Info/Discussion

Fresno COG Sitting As the Council of Fresno County Governments Policy Board

IV. REAFFIRM ALL ACTIONS TAKEN WHILE SITTING AS THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE

V. ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT ITEMS

Approve Calendar Items

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

A. Executive Minutes of October 30, 2008	Yes	Approve
B. Farmland Conservation Model Program Update [SOBRADO]	No	Information
C. Monthly Legislative Update [DANSBY]	Yes	Information
D. Regional Clearinghouse [SOBRADO]	Yes	Information

	Project	Applicant
1.	Head Start Program – Preschool and Early Head Start 2009 Refunding Application	Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Status Report on Sacramento Lobbying Activities— Steve Samuelian, California Consulting LLC [SAMUELIAN]	Handout	Information
B. Fresno COG's 2009 Legislative Platform [DANSBY]	Yes	Info/Discussion
C. FY 2008-09 Overall Work Program Amendment #3 [BESHEARS]	Yes	Approve
D. 2009 Washington D.C. "One Voice" Update [STECK]	Yes	Approve
E. Request by Board of Supervisors for a Joint Meeting with Policy Board	Yes	Info/Action

VII. 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



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COUNCIL OF FRESNO COUNTY GOVERNMENTS ANNOTATED AGENDA

Date: Thursday, November 20, 2008
Time: 5:30 p.m.
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Fresno COG Sitting As the Transportation Policy Committee

I. PRESENTATIONS

A. Public Presentations

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II. TRANSPORTATION CONSENT ITEMS

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A. 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 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

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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 Policy Board.

B. 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 Policy Board.

C. 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 propose 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 analysis.

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 5:30 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-Oki or Lauren Dawson at 559-233-4148.

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

III. TRANSPORTATION ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. 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, TTC and PAC recommend 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.

B. Request by City of Sanger for COG Policy Board Support for Using Prop 1B-State and Local Partnership Funds for SR 180 East – Temperance to Academy - Resolution 2008-47 [BOREN]

Summary: City of Sanger Mayor Mike Montelongo has requested that the Fresno COG Policy Board take a formal action to support using future Proposition 1B –State-Local Partnership Program funding, estimated at \$23.5 mil.(distributed over 5 years), to construct State Route 180 E (Temperance to Academy). State of California Proposition 1B Draft Guidelines for the program state these funds will be administered by the Fresno County Transportation Authority (FCTA), therefore final authority on how the funds are utilized rests with the Fresno County Transportation Authority Policy Board. However, given Fresno COG's role as the Regional Transportation Planning Agency for Fresno County, Policy Board input into how those funds should be spent is certainly warranted, and welcomed by the FCTA.

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

C. Measure "C" Carpool Program – Change in Implementation Strategy [LAUCHNER, GARZA]

Summary: Current Carpool Incentive Program:

The Measure C Carpool Program is scheduled to start December 1, 2008. According to the original Measure C "Other Program Funding Implementation Plan" (approved February 28, 2008), the Carpool Program is designed to grant individuals who start a new carpool with at least one other person or add a new member to an existing carpool two (2) days per week for 8 consecutive weeks, a \$50 reward card. Due to the allocated Measure C dollars for Carpool Incentives, this program would award the first 2,000 people to complete the 8 week-consecutive carpool program with a \$50.00 incentive. This incentive is per person and available once a year. Individuals need to complete an online application and fill out weekly log sheets. Any break in carpool weeks would force individuals to re-start the program.

Problem:

While attempting to implement the program it was discovered that reward cards would be costly, (a \$4.00-\$8.00 fee each for service charges), not secure and untrackable. The alternative option was to provide individuals with cashier checks to be able to track and make cancellations if needed. Though this option is secure, it will cost \$6.00 per check for the banks to process the cashier checks, totaling \$12,000.00 in additional fees for 2,000 \$50 checks.

Another option was to print checks directly from COG. This option would allow checks to be traced and the costs would be minimal in comparison to the other two options. However, staff struggles with the fact that only 2,000 Fresno County residents would be allowed to participate in the program, reaping the benefits of Measure C. If the program is launched as scheduled on December 1st, few participants would be eligible for 8-consecutive weeks with work and school holidays until mid-January. There is a risk that they might not continue carpooling.

Solution:

COG staff, FCTA staff, and FCTA's contracted outreach agency, JSA, discussed a complete revision of the program. JSA would assist the Measure C agencies to create a Countywide Carpool Incentive Program that would be available to an unlimited number of Fresno County residents to register and be eligible to win prizes by participating in a 6-month or annual carpool program. Participants would sign up for the incentive online by completing and submitting weekly carpool logs. Their names would be entered into an opportunity drawing each week they carpooled and completed a log online.

The implementing agencies would seek to develop public/private partnerships with appropriate agencies such as the Air District, hybrid car makers, travel agencies, etc. to provide a GRAND PRIZE which could include a hybrid car. Other additional prizes could include a scooter, travel opportunities, bicycles, carwash passes, Measure C tee-shirts, etc. Every prize would be related to the promotion of clean air, carpooling, and/or reducing emissions. The program would launch in mid-January 2009, in conjunction with another major clean air promotion scheduled for that time period.

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

D. 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 Policy Board.

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 this event 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 will provide 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 Policy Board.

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 Policy Board.

Fresno COG Sitting As the Council of Governments Policy Board

IV. REAFFIRM ALL ACTIONS TAKEN WHILE SITTING AS THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE

V. ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT ITEMS

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

A. Executive Minutes of October 30, 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'. The toolkit and final report is expected to be completed at the end of December with release for 45-day review to take place in January of 2009.

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

C. 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 Policy Board.

D. Regional Clearinghouse [SOBRADO]

	Project	Applicant
1.	Head Start Program – Preschool and Early Head Start 2009 Refunding Application	Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission

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

1. Fresno County EOC Head Start and Early Head Start 2009 Refunding Application

Head Start Preschool - \$26,707,463 (Federal) – (1) Basic Head Start-Preschool PA 4122 (\$26,497,569) (2) Head Start Training & Technical Assistance PA 4120 (\$209,894)

Early Head Start - \$2,001,441 (Federal) (1) Basic Early Head Start PA 4125 (\$1,952,625) (2) Early Head Start Training & Technical Assistance PA 1126 (\$48,816)

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

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

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

Summary: Steve Samuelian from California Consulting will provide a verbal report to the Policy Board describing his work activities for the month of October.

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

B. Fresno COG's 2009 Legislative Platform [DANSBY]

Summary: In January 2008, the Board approved our first Fresno COG Legislative Platform that includes the advocacy priorities of the Fresno COG in state and federal legislative matters. The Legislative Platform represents a unified voice when communicating legislative priorities to our state and federal lawmakers as well as to relevant state and federal agencies. It also provides guidance to the Fresno COG staff and our lobbying partners when advocating on behalf of the Policy Board.

It is now time to update the Legislative Platform so that it reflects the most current priorities for advocacy in the upcoming 2009 state and federal legislative sessions. Included in your agenda packet is the 2008 Fresno COG Legislative Platform for your review. You will notice that there are a number of updates necessary to make this document current.

To generate discussion and feedback for the 2009 Fresno COG Legislative Platform, staff will provide a PowerPoint presentation at the PAC and Board meetings. Staff would like to finalize the document for the Policy Board's approval in December or January.

It is staff's intention that a short-list of top regional priorities will be extracted from the Final Legislative Platform for "One Voice" advocacy in Sacramento in 2009.

Action: Staff seeks input from PAC and the Policy Board on drafting a 2009 Fresno COG Legislative Platform.

C. FY 2008-09 Overall Work Program Amendment #3 [BESHEARS]

Summary:

Work Element 170 Regional Transportation Plan / Work Element 172 Congestion Management Plan
This year FHWA is including a review of our Congestion Management Plan as part of our annual certification requirements. We are transferring \$5,000 in FHWA PL funding and match from WE 170 to WE 172 to be used in updating the Congestion Management Plan. This is a transfer and there is no cost increase to the budget.

Work Element 313 Environmental Justice

The Valley Transportation Planning Agency directors submitted a joint application to develop a Tribal Environmental Justice Transportation Report. This project is carried in the Kern Council of Governments budget. The grant amount is \$250,000 with the \$27,000 match provided by the eight valley COG's. Fresno COG's share of the match, to be funded with local funds, is \$6,100.

Action: PAC recommends authorization of Overall Work Program (OWP) Amendment #3, increasing the budget \$6,100 with local funds.

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

Summary: Staff has been working with the project selection committee in preparation for Fresno COG's "One Voice" trip to Washington D.C. (February 7-12, 2009). The committee met to review and score the 11 projects that were submitted for consideration. Lists of the projects and project scores are included in your agenda package. The committee met 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. That list is also included in your package. COG's 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 also met to discuss policy issues that might be considered for inclusion in our "One Voice" materials. The draft list will be presented at the PAC for comment. 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 met at 9:30 AM on November 13th to discuss which projects to recommend for consideration in that category. An update will be provided at the Policy Board meeting.

Action: Staff, TTC and PAC recommend approval of the "One Voice" selection committee's list of regional priority projects with the acknowledgement that SR 180 is the #1 priority.

E. Request by Board of Supervisors for a Joint Meeting with Policy Board

Summary: The County of Fresno has invited the COG Policy Board to a joint workshop with the Board of Supervisors to discuss the Challenge of Funding of Local Government Services. The workshop is scheduled for Thursday, January 29th at 3:00 pm prior to the Fresno COG Policy Board meeting that evening at 5:30 pm. A copy of the letter from Supervisor Perea is included in the meeting package.

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

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Items from Staff

B. Items from Members

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

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