

**JOINT MEETING
TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
AGENDA**

Please Note this is
a Joint Meeting of
the TTC and PAC

Date: Friday, January 16, 2009
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. PRESENTATIONS

A. Public Presentations

This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons wishing to address the TTC/PAC on items within its jurisdiction but not on this agenda. **Note: Prior to action by the TTC/PAC 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 December 12, 2008	Yes	Approve
B. Contract Amendment – PB Americas [BESHEARS]	No	Approve
C. FY 2007-08 First Quarter Progress Report [BESHEARS]	Yes	Accept
D. Environmental Justice Plan – Release for 45-day Review [SOBRADO]	Yes	Initiate
E. Farmland Conservation Model Program – Release for 45-day Review [SOBRADO]	Handout	Initiate
F. Adopt 2009 Formal Amendment #3 to the 2009 Interim Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP), Formal Amendment #2 To the 2007 RTP and Associated Conformity Analysis – Resolution 2009-01, [DEVERE-OKI/DAWSON]	Yes	Approve
G. Delivery of Projects in FY 2007/2008 and Projected Delivery in FY 2008/2009 [DEVERE-OKI]	Yes	Information
H. FY 2007-08 Annual Listing of Projects [DEVERE-OKI]	Yes	Information
I. 2009 Washington D.C. "One Voice" Update [STECK]	Yes	Information
J. Measure 'C' Citizen Oversight Committee Vacancy – [LAUCHNER]	Yes	Information
K. Sacramento "Valley Voice" Trip [DANSBY]	Yes	Information

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

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|---|-----|-------------|
| L. Policy Board Ad Hoc Sacramento "One Voice" Subcommittee Meeting [DANSBY] | Yes | Information |
| M. Call for Projects – Caltrans FY 2009-10 Transportation Planning Grants [DANSBY] | Yes | Information |
| N. Fresno County Board of Supervisors / Fresno COG Policy Board Joint Meeting, 1/29/2009, 4:00 p.m. [BOREN] | No | Information |
| O. Status Report on Sacramento Lobbying Activities—Steve Samuelian, California Consulting LLC [BOREN] | Yes | Information |
| P. Monthly Legislative Update [DANSBY] | No | Information |
| Q. Regional Clearinghouse [SOBRADO] | Yes | Information |

	Project	Applicant
1.	Fresno Area Hispanic Foundation – Building Renovation and Upgrade	Fresno Area Hispanic Foundation

III. ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

- | | | |
|---|---------|-----------------|
| A. Draft 2009 Fresno COG Legislative Platform [DANSBY] | Yes | Approve |
| B. Sacramento "One Voice" Trip – Advocacy Issues [DANSBY] | Handout | Approve |
| C. Measure "C" Carpool Incentive Program Update [LAUCHNER, GARZA] | No | Accept |
| D. Measure "C" Regional "Short Term" Program Project Delivery Schedule PUBLIC HEARING 1/29/2009 [BOREN/BESHEARS/VIVIAN] | Handout | Approve |
| E. Blueprint Update [STECK] | Yes | Info/Discussion |
| F. Federal Economic Stimulus Package [DEVERE-OKI] | Handout | Info/Discussion |
| G. Abandoned Vehicle Abatement—FY 2008-09 First Quarter Summary Report [Thompson] | Yes | Accept |
| H. Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners, Riparian-Wildlife Corridor Report (Continued from October 8, 2008) [THOMPSON] | Yes | Accept |
| I. Caltrans Monthly Report [CALTRANS] | No | Info/Discussion |

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

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

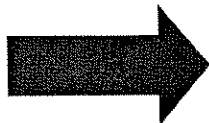
*Items listed as information still leave the option for guidance/direction actions by the Committee.

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



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**JOINT MEETING
TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ANNOTATED AGENDA**

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A. Joint TTC/PAC Executive Minutes of December 12, 2008

B. Contract Amendment – PB Americas [BESHEARS]

Summary: Pursuant to our contract with PB Americas, we recently completed a Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee Study and are in the process of having the fee schedule ordinances adopted by participating agencies. Once that mechanism is in place and the fee begins collection, the Transportation Authority will assume administration of the program. To maintain continuity, the Transportation Authority will use PB Americas to develop an administrative program to insure all record keeping, revenue utilization, and legal requirements are met. PB Americas has submitted a cost estimate of \$65,452 for this service and the Authority has requested we amend our contract to include this scope of work. The Transportation Authority will reimburse 100% of the cost for this additional scope.

Action: Authorize staff to increase PB Americas contract \$65,452 to develop an administrative program for the Transportation Authority.

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

C. FY 2007-08 First Quarter Progress Report [BESHEARS]

Summary: Included in your agenda packet is the FY 2008-09 First Quarter Progress Report, which is a listing of staff time expended and funds expended by work element for the First Quarter 2008-09.

Action: Staff recommends acceptance of the report as presented.

D. Environmental Justice Plan – Release for 45-day Review [SOBRADO]

Summary: In the wake of federal guidelines for environmental justice based on Title VI of the Civil Rights act, growing attention has been placed on the need to incorporate environmental justice principles into the processes and products of transportation planning. Fresno COG, the Metropolitan Planning Organization for Fresno County, examines the process of transportation planning within the context of environmental justice principles.

In completing the Fresno County Environmental Justice Plan, the Fresno COG Environmental Justice Task Force was convened to complete four key steps:

- Identify and map locations of low-income and minority populations.
- Review existing COG processes for identifying needs of environmental justice populations.
- Document and evaluate the agency's public involvement process.
- Quantitatively assess benefits and burdens of transportation plans with respect to target populations.

Under the direction of the Fresno COG Environmental Justice Task Force, the Fresno County Environmental Justice Plan examined the Fresno COG transportation planning process in the context of environmental justice principles.

A Spanish language translation of the draft Fresno COG Environmental Justice Plan is available upon request. Questions and comments can be directed to Todd Sobrado at the Fresno COG at todds@fresnocog.org.

Action: Staff recommends initiation of the required 45-day public review for the Fresno County Environmental Justice Plan.

E. Farmland Conservation Model Program – Release for 45-day Review [SOBRADO]

Summary: In March 2007, the San Joaquin Valley Partnership awarded Fresno COG with \$200,000 to develop a Farmland Conservation Model Program for Fresno County that could subsequently be expanded to the rest of the San Joaquin Valley. Contracting with the American Farmland Trust, a recognized expert on issues pertaining agricultural conservation, Fresno COG worked for the past eighteen months with two committees comprised of key agricultural and community stakeholders to:

- Identify and map characteristics that make farm and ranch lands strategic resources for agriculture.
- Document and analyze current trends affecting agricultural lands, as well as public policies, market forces and other factors that contribute to them.
- Select a coordinated set of policies and techniques that will effectively conserve the most strategic farmland for agricultural use while accommodating urban growth.

Fresno COG and the American Farmland Trust, under the direction of the Farmland Conservation Model Program Steering Committee and with extensive input from the Farmland Conservation Model Program Advisory Committee, recently completed the Farmland Conservation Model Program Report for Fresno County and would like to release the report for the 45 day public comment period.

Questions and comments can be directed to Todd Sobrado at the Fresno COG at todds@fresnocog.org.

Action: Staff recommends initiation of the 45-day public review and comment period for the Farmland Conservation Model Program for Fresno County.

F. Adopt 2009 Formal Amendment #3 to the 2009 Interim Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP), Formal Amendment #2 to the 2007 RTP and Associated Conformity Analysis – Resolution 2009-01, [DEVERE-OKI/DAWSON]

Summary: Fresno COG is currently amending the 2009 Interim Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP), 2007 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), and updating the associated Conformity

Analysis. A public hearing on these documents was held on December 18th following a 30 day public review and comment period. Final versions of all documents are available on our website at www.fresnocog.org.

Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Amendment: 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 financial projections and the financially constrained and unconstrained project lists.

2009 Interim Federal Transportation Improvement Program (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. Amendment #3 provides for the modification and addition of projects into the FTIP. The RW and CON phases of regionally significant projects that were not originally included in the Interim FTIP are included as part of this amendment.

Conformity Analysis: An air quality conformity analysis is required in nonattainment areas to ensure that transportation plans and programs are (1) consistent with the state and local air quality plans, and (2) do not interfere with the timely implementation of transportation control measures. The Draft Conformity Analysis for the Interim 2009 FTIP Amendment #3 and 2007 RTP Amendment #2 demonstrates that all of our adopted transportation plans and programs are in conformance with the rules for the applicable air quality standards.

Action: Staff recommends the approval of FTIP Amendment #3, RTP Amendment #2 and Conformity Analysis by the adoption of Resolution No. 2009-01.

G. Delivery of Projects in FY 2007/2008 and Projected Delivery in FY 2008/2009 [DEVERE-OKI]

Summary: Two types of federal transportation funding programs are available to Fresno COG's local agencies to spend on transportation projects. These are Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) dollars and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality dollars (CMAQ). In federal fiscal year (FFY) 2007/2008 the Fresno county region had an obligational authority target of \$12,380,978 in combined RSTP and CMAQ. This amount was a minimum delivery target calculated and set by the State. The Fresno County region was able to deliver \$14,818,828 worth of projects in 2007/2008. The region delivered 119.7% of the apportionment target, or \$2,437,850 in additional projects for the eighth highest delivery rate in the State. This additional funding came from two different sources, federal redistribution and the Fresno County region's future FFY 2008/09 apportionment target. We were very successful this year in that we were able to capture \$550,861 in federal redistribution. This is money that was not utilized by other areas in the Country and has no repayment requirement; it is essentially bonus money to our region. The remaining \$1,866,989 will be subtracted from our FFY 2008/09 apportionment target, representing roughly the same amount subtracted in FFY 2007/08.

Timely delivery of transportation projects benefits our region when dealing with the constraints of Assembly Bill 1012 (AB 1012) where apportionments not spent within three years of their issuance are lost to the region. As can be seen in the enclosure in the package titled Apportionment Status Report, at the beginning of each FFY, each region is provided with their project delivery target and the dollar amount that the region must spend to prevent losing dollars to AB 1012. Fresno COG's current CMAQ unobligated balance is \$9,443,439 which is less than one year's apportionment. Therefore, Fresno is not at risk of losing any CMAQ funds to AB 1012. The current RSTP unobligated balance for the region is \$14,720,577 of which \$4,657,227 is subject to AB 1012 if not utilized by the close of the FFY. To insure that our region does not lose any funds to AB 1012, staff will be developing the 2008/09 Obligation Plan to demonstrate the region's anticipated delivery of projects through the rest of the FFY.

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

H. FY 2007-08 Annual Listing of Projects [DEVERE-OKI]

Summary: Federal law requires Fresno COG to publish for public review an annual listing of projects for which federal funds have been obligated in the preceding year, as a record of project delivery and a progress report for public information and disclosure.

The report, available on our website, is divided into the funding types administered by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). This report indicates that approximately \$33.0 million in federal funds were obligated for transportation projects in the region between October 1, 2007 and September 30, 2008.

Approximately \$2.4 million or 7.2% of the federal funds obligated went to 15 bicycle/pedestrian related projects, \$14.9 million of Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funds were obligated for transit projects, and \$4.9 million was transferred from FHWA to FTA for transit projects. The listing is available for public viewing at www.fresnocog.org under FTIP.

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

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

Summary Updated information for the Washington DC "One Voice" is included in your packet. A delegation of 43 participants, including 14 elected officials, will be traveling back east this year. We will be leaving Fresno on Saturday, February 7th and returning on Thursday, February 12th. Delegates should attend one of the two orientation meetings that will be held at Fresno COG on January 28th (9:00-11:00 AM) and February 2nd (3:30 – 5:00 PM). Contact Marla Day at mday@fresnocog.org to RSVP.

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

J. Measure 'C' Citizen Oversight Committee Vacancy [LAUCHNER]

Summary: Mr. Jose Villareal resigned from his position on the Measure C Citizen Oversight Committee to accept a position on the Sanger City Council and subsequently the Fresno COG Policy Board. The vacancy must be filled within 90 days of his resignation by a member who resides in Fresno County Supervisory District 4 in an incorporated city outside the Fresno-Clovis Metropolitan Area.

The purpose of the Citizen Oversight Committee is to inform the public and to ensure that the Measure C funding program revenues and expenditures are spent as promised to the public. There are 13 members of the Citizen Oversight Committee that must meet certain eligibility and residency criteria as noted on the application form in 'Appendix G – Citizen Oversight Committee' included in your meeting packet. Appendix G also states the Committee's duties and responsibilities.

Applicants will need to submit a completed Citizen Oversight Committee application to Fresno COG staff by February 17, 2009. The Fresno County Mayors' Select Committee and the Chair of the Fresno County Board of Supervisors will be appointing the new member at the Fresno COG Policy Board meeting on February 26, 2009.

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

K. Sacramento "Valley Voice" Trip [DANSBY]

Summary: At their December 5th meeting, the San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council approved a list of legislative issues to advocate for in Sacramento on their "Valley Voice" trip scheduled for January 28th and 29th. The list is included in your agenda packet.

The Policy Council, along with the eight Valley COGs, will also be traveling to Washington D.C. in early February to advocate for goods movement program funding as part of the next Federal Surface Transportation Authorization Bill due in September of this year. This effort would include the following:

1. A request to support the Creation of a National Goods Movement Program.
2. Support the State of California Federal Transportation Authorization Principles.
3. Within the context of a national program request as a Valley funding for SR 99 projects identified in the Caltrans SR 99 Business Plan and other high priority projects identified in the San Joaquin Valley Goods Movement Action Plan.
4. The request would include demonstration of the financial need for the region.

Staff will provide an update in February on both the state and federal trips. Please contact staff person, Jennifer Dansby, if you have any questions.

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

L. Policy Board Ad Hoc Sacramento "One Voice" Subcommittee Meeting [DANSBY]

Summary: The Policy Board's subcommittee for the Sacramento "One Voice" advocacy effort is scheduled to meet at 9 a.m. on January 16th in the Sequoia Conference Room, prior to the joint TTC/PAC meeting. The goal of the meeting is to discuss and finalize a list of legislative issues that

will then be recommended to the Policy Board in January for inclusion in the "One Voice" advocacy program. An agenda is included in your packet.

Please contact staff person, Jennifer Dansby, if you have any questions.

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

M. Call for Projects – Caltrans FY 2009-10 Transportation Planning Grants [DANSBY]

Summary: Enclosed you will find information on applying for FY 2009-10 Caltrans Transportation Planning Grants. Funds are available from the following grant programs and may be used for a wide range of transportation planning projects:

1. Environmental Justice: Context-Sensitive Planning (\$3 million available)
2. Community-Based Transportation Planning (\$3 million available)
3. Partnership Planning (\$1 million available)
4. Transit Planning
 - a. Statewide Transit Planning Studies (\$1.4 million available)
 - b. Transit Technical Planning Assistance (\$700,000 available)
 - c. Transit Professional Development (\$150,000 available)

Application deadline is April 1, 2009.

The full grant application package can be found on the Caltrans website at <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/tpp/grants.html> or by contacting Suzanne De Foor at (916) 653-8697 or email her at Suzanne_De_Foor@dot.ca.gov.

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

N. Fresno County Board of Supervisors / Fresno COG Policy Board Meeting, 1/29/2009, 4:00 p.m. [BOREN]

Summary: At the request of the Fresno County Board of Supervisors, a joint meeting of the Board of Supervisors and the Fresno COG Policy Board will be held on **Thursday January 29, 2009 at 4 PM in the Fresno COG Sequoia Room**. Topics for discussion identified by the Board include discussion of the budgetary challenges currently faced by city and county governments, the need to enhance city/county cooperation and collaboration in addressing additional service demands posed by population growth, as well as issues associated with tax-sharing MOUs and Sphere of Influence boundary adjustments. The regularly scheduled 5:30 P.M. meeting of Fresno COG Policy Board will be held immediately following the conclusion of the joint meeting.

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

O. Status Report on Sacramento Lobbying Activities—Samuelian, California Consulting LLC [BOREN]

Summary: California Consulting Inc.'s Lobbying Activities Report for January 2009 is included as an enclosure in the agenda packet.

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

P. Monthly Legislative Update [DANSBY]

Summary: As the new legislative session has just begun, staff expects many new bills to be introduced in January and February that are relevant to COG activities. Staff will provide a report in February to include newly introduced bills in the 2009 legislative session.

--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.

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

Q. Regional Clearinghouse [SOBRADO]

	Project	Applicant
1.	Fresno Area Hispanic Foundation – Building Renovation and Upgrade	Fresno Area Hispanic Foundation

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

1. Fresno Area Hispanic Foundation – Building Renovation and Upgrade

Building Renovation and Upgrade -\$1,429,750(Federal) – \$2,600,000 (Applicant) for a total of \$4,029,750

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.

III. ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Draft 2009 Fresno COG Legislative Platform [DANSBY]

Summary: Based on feedback received during the November PAC and Policy Board meetings, staff is returning this month with a *Draft 2009 Fresno COG Legislative Platform* for your consideration. The document is included in your agenda packet.

Action: Staff recommends approval of the *2009 Fresno COG Draft Legislative Platform*.

B. Sacramento "One Voice" Trip – Advocacy Issues [DANSBY]

Summary: The 5th annual Sacramento "One Voice" advocacy trip is scheduled for March 9th and 10th. Staff and our lobbyist, Steve Samuelian, have begun preparations for the trip. Please contact Jennifer Dansby at (559) 233-4148 or jenniferd@fresnocog.org if you are interested in participating in the trip.

The Policy Board's Ad Hoc Sacramento "One Voice" Subcommittee will be meeting prior to the TTC/PAC meeting at 9 a.m. in the Sequoia conference room. The primary goal of the meeting will be to develop a list of legislative and policy issues to recommend to the PAC and Policy Board for inclusion in the "One Voice" advocacy program. The committee's list of recommended advocacy issues will be provided as a handout at the joint TTC/PAC meeting.

Action: Staff recommends approval of the list of Sacramento "One Voice" Advocacy Issues.

C. Measure "C" Carpool Subsidy Program Update [LAUCHNER, GARZA]

Summary: In November 2008, Fresno COG staff developed and introduced an innovative Measure "C" Carpool Subsidy Program to the TTC and PAC designed to replace the original \$50 gift card per person award. This newly proposed Measure C Carpool Subsidy Program offers an opportunity to all Fresno County residents who carpool at least twice a week and submit a Commute Log to be chosen to receive a \$1000 monthly commuting subsidy, and be eligible to receive yearly Grand Prizes. This strong effort to encourage Fresno County residents to carpool would begin July 1, 2009 and run through June 30, 2010.

A PowerPoint presentation has been prepared for the TTC and PAC members that will explain the proposed program with the following details:

- The rules and guidelines of the program
- Partnerships
- Subsidy Award Details
- Grand Prize Information
- Program Security and Monitoring Measures
- Outreach Plan
- Benefits
- Budget

Action: Staff recommends acceptance of the Measure C Carpool Subsidy Program.

D. Measure "C" Regional "Short Term" Program Project Delivery Schedule and Implementation Handbook PUBLIC HEARING 1/29/2009 [BOREN/BESHEARS]

Summary: At the December 12, 2008 TTC/PAC meeting the draft Measure "C" Regional "Short Term" Program Project Delivery Schedule and Implementation Handbook were released for a 45 day review and comment period. When the COG Policy Board meets on January 29, 2009 the review and comment period will have run its course and the Policy Board will be asked to adopt the Short Term Project Delivery Schedule and Handbook. In order to facilitate this process and ensure the timely expenditure of these funds, it is necessary to request TTC/PAC approval on the above referenced documents prior to completion of the 45 day review and comment period which will occur on February 25, 2009. In the event that significant comments are received after the TTC/PAC approval (16th) and before the 25th, COG staff will request a postponement at the Policy Board adoption and bring it back to the TTC/PAC in February.

As has been discussed previously, implementation of the Measure "C" Expenditure Plan approved by Fresno County voters in 2006 is being accomplished through the adoption of a series of "Implementation Handbooks" which detail the implementation requirements for each of the five components of Measure "C". In 2007, the COG Policy Board and the Fresno County Transportation Policy Board approved two previous Measure "C" Implementation Handbooks that dealt with public transit, local programs and alternative transportation programs. Since that time, staff and consultants have been working with the Measure "C" Regional Transportation Subcommittee to develop implementation details related to the Regional Transportation Program, utilizing a Short-Term (1st seven years), Mid-Term (2nd seven years) and Long-Term (final six years) approach.

Approval of the Short-Term Regional Transportation Program allows the local Tier 1 urban and rural street and highway projects listed in the Short-Term Regional Transportation Program to move forward without waiting for development and approval of the Mid- and Long-Term Regional Transportation Programs. The Short-Term period uses mainly Measure "C" funding and known STIP commitments. The projects scheduled during this period have a strong assurance of being completed.

The Mid-Term and Long-Term programs will primarily focus on the three large regional projects (Veterans Blvd., 168/180/41 Braided Ramps and SR 180 E projects beyond Academy Ave.) that remain to be completed. Due to the size and complexities of these large projects, this planning process will continue over the upcoming months, with an eventual adoption of these programs to occur once regional consensus has been developed on a delivery schedule for these projects.

The Regional Transportation Program is a very complex funding program that identifies how the Tier 1 regional urban and rural street and highway improvement projects listed in the Extension Expenditure Plan will be programmed over the 20-year life of the Measure. As a result, development of the program has required staff and the subcommittee to consider the availability and timing of funds in addition to Measure "C". Other funding sources include funds generated through the Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee (RTMF), a portion (75%) of State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) funds, and other local funding.

In addition to the Mid-Term and Long-Term Programs, the only remaining subprogram to be fully developed as a part of this process is the School Bus Replacement Subprogram. Implementation details regarding these programs will be developed over the next few months. Once these programs are in final form, they will be combined with Programs in each of the two previously approved Handbooks (2007 and 2008), as well as the Short-Term Regional Transportation Program Handbook, to form the 2009 Measure "C" Extension Implementation Plan.

The Regional Transportation Subcommittee met on November 26 to review Tables 12 and 13 and recommended that the Draft Handbook and the schedules move forward for 45-day review and approval by the Fresno COG Board and Fresno County Transportation Authority (FCTA). The Subcommittee further recommended that the Mendocino Avenue widening project between Manning Avenue and the Industrial Park in Parlier referenced in the approved 2006 Measure "C" Extension Expenditure Plan be changed to Academy Avenue. This change was necessitated by cost overruns on the Mendocino Avenue project related to the required purchase of a gas station and the related environmental cleanup.

Action: Staff Recommends the TTC and PAC approve the Measure "C" Short-Term Regional Program Project Delivery Schedule and Implementation handbook.

E. Blueprint Update [STECK]

Summary: There are two Blueprint items of interest this month: The Valleywide Blueprint Summit will be held in Fresno at the New Exhibit hall on January 26th from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. You can register on line at www.valleyblueprint.org. The website also includes detailed information on the Valleywide Blueprint scenarios that will be discussed at the Summit.

In addition, the DRAFT **Blueprint Progress Report**, which summarizes Blueprint activities that have taken place to date here in Fresno County, will be distributed this month. The document will remain in draft form until there is consensus on a Valleywide Blueprint vision.

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

F. Federal Economic Stimulus Package [DEVERE-OKI]

The Federal Government is currently developing legislation to create a broad national economic recovery package that will generate jobs and get our economy moving forward again. A subset of this package is aimed at funding "shovel ready" transportation infrastructure projects. COG staff has been actively participating in dialogue at both a state and national level, tracking policy recommendations and evaluating the needs of our region.

Staff will provide a verbal update of ongoing activities at the meeting.

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

G. Abandoned Vehicle Abatement—FY 2008-09 First Quarter Status Report [THOMPSON]

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 enclosure for this item indicates the level of activity and distribution of funding to the member agencies. For the first quarter of FY 2008-09, a total of \$190,966.30 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 \$178,028.56 conducting AVA activities and the Fresno COG claimed \$2,375.00 for program administration. Revenues exceeded expenses during the quarter by \$10,562.74, thereby contributing to the program's accumulated surplus. A total of 1,067 vehicles were abated this quarter, compared to 1,332 vehicles abated during the same quarter of the previous fiscal year. This decrease is largely attributable to a substantial decline in the number of vehicle abatements by the City of Fresno during the quarter.

Action: Staff recommends acceptance of the Abandoned Vehicle Abatement FY 2008-09 First Quarter Summary Report as presented.

H. Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners, Riparian-Wildlife Corridor Report (Continued from October 8, 2008) [THOMPSON]

Summary: In February of last year, the Fresno COG entered into an agreement with the Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners to examine in depth several riparian-wildlife corridors and provide recommendations for a conservation strategy for these corridors. The corridors selected for detailed study include the Kings River Riparian Corridor, the Arroyo Pasajero Riparian Corridor Complex (including Los Gatos, Warthan, Jacalitos and Zapato Chino creeks), and the Fresno Slough Riparian Corridor. These are the corridors with the highest potential for habitat/wildlife conservation and conjunctive use opportunities.

The Riparian-Wildlife Corridor Report includes written documentation, maps, and tables. It accomplishes the following tasks:

- Provides scientifically-based information on the above-noted riparian rivers and streams.
- Identifies site selection criteria and potential sites that may, if necessary, mitigate impacts to these riparian-wildlife corridors caused by transportation and development projects. These projects include Measure C Extension Tier 1 projects, the potential high speed rail project, and other potential projects.
- Identifies multi-purpose opportunities for these corridors such as groundwater banking, flood protection, private landowner participation, recreation, and new business opportunities.
- Identifies and leverages additional federal, state, and private funding opportunities for conservation bank creation.
- Facilitates, streamlines, or avoids federal or state regulatory concerns by being proactive and not reactive.

The Report identifies regionally significant riparian areas. The coarse-grain level of analysis suggests that some Tier 1 projects may have an impact on these riparian habitats. However, it is the project-level environmental review that will identify specific impacts to riparian habitats, if any, and determine appropriate mitigation measures.

The Report has relevance for Fresno County's Blueprint Planning Program. For example, the Open Space Goal under the Environmental Resource Management Element of the Blueprint states: "Promote the preservation or creation of open space connectivity for habitat and wildlife, as well as recreational users of the region." Information in this Report will help implement this goal and related objectives.

This item was presented to the TTC at its October 8, 2008 meeting but was continued for 60 days in order to more clearly identify the Measure C Extension Tier 1 projects and the High-Speed Rail project in the report text and maps. These clarifications have been made to the report.

Action: Staff recommends acceptance of the Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners, Riparian-Wildlife Corridor Report.

I. 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

***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**

