

***TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL
COMMITTEE***

***ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS
AGENDA ITEM III. A.***



January 26, 2009

Mr. Tony Boren
Executive Director
Fresno County Coalition of Governments
2035 Tulare Street, Suite 201
Fresno, CA 93721

Dear Mr. Boren:

I would like to apply for a seat on the COG Transportation Technical Committee to represent the railroad component of the various transportation modes. As the Vice President of the non-profit Fresno Residents for Rail Consolidation organization (FARRC) that has been deeply involved with rail issues for the past 8 years we have gained considerable knowledge of rail and other transportation issues. FARRC has had a representative on the San Joaquin Valley Rail Committee for several years so that our rail interests go beyond just the rail consolidation effort.

Also the rail consolidation effort in turn has led to FARRC's being closely in touch with the California High Speed Rail Authority and associated issues which could have enormous impacts on the nature of transportation of all modes here in Fresno and surrounding area.

Now retired, I have a transportation background as a Caltrans engineer and planner. If you have any further need of information please advise.

Sincerely,

Dennis Manning
FARRC - VP
1162 N. Chapel Hill Ave.
Clovis, CA 93611
559 323-1614
john.manning4@comcast.net

cc: Tom Bailey

RECEIVED

JAN 27 2009

BY: _____
FRESNO COG

***TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL
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AGENDA ITEM III. B.***

Section 5316 Jobs Access Reverse Commute JARC FACT SHEET

PROGRAM PURPOSE:

The JARC program provides funding to support projects designed to transport welfare recipients and eligible low-income individuals to and from employment activities and employment related activities, particularly to suburban and rural job locations.

FTA FUNDING

JARC program funding is available for the following amounts for the fiscal years:

FY 2007	\$505,727
FY 2008	\$547,871
FY 2009	\$235,639

COORDINATED PLANNING

All projects selected for funding must be derived from a coordinated public transit-human services transportation plan as required by federal guidance. Grant applications must include a Coordinated Plan Certification.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- Private non-profit organizations.
- State or local governmental authority.
- Operators of public transportation services, including private operators of public transportation services.
- Tribal Governments.

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

Expenses that support development and maintenance of transportation services include: Capital; Planning; Operating and Mobility Management.

LOCAL MATCHING REQUIREMENTS

Federal share of eligible capital and planning costs may not exceed 80% of the net cost Activity.

The Federal share of the eligible operating costs may not exceed 50% of the net operating costs of the activity.

PROJECT SELECTION PROCESS

Fresno COG will conduct its own regional competitive selection process for small-urban New Freedom grant applications. A final list of selected projects will be published and submitted to the FTA for funding.

PLANNING REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible for funding, New Freedom projects in urbanized areas must be included in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan prepared and approved by the metropolitan planning organization (MPO), the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) approved jointly by the MPO and the Governor, and the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) developed by a State and jointly approved by FTA and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). Projects outside urbanized areas must be included in, or be consistent with the Statewide Long-Range Transportation Plan, as developed by the State, and must be included in the STIP.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please contact Todd Sobrado at Fresno COG for more information.

Section 5317 New Freedom Program FACT SHEET

PROGRAM PURPOSE:

The New Freedom program provides funding to assist transit operators and public agencies provide "new" transportation services for individuals with disabilities above and beyond the minimum currently required by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101, et seq.).

FTA FUNDING

New Freedom program funding is available for the following amounts for the fiscal years:

FY 2007	\$182,740
FY 2008	\$197,405
FY 2009	\$84,904

COORDINATED PLANNING

All projects selected for funding must be derived from a coordinated public transit-human services transportation plan as required by federal guidance. Grant applications must include a Coordinated Plan Certification.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- Private non-profit organizations.
- State or local governmental authority.
- Operators of public transportation services, including private operators of public transportation services.
- Tribal Governments.

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

Expenses that support development and maintenance of transportation services include: Capital; Planning; Operating and Mobility Management.

LOCAL MATCHING REQUIREMENTS

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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AGENDA ITEM III. C.***



SIMON AND COMPANY

INCORPORATED

Intergovernmental Relations and Federal Affairs

1660 L Street, NW • Suite 501 • Washington, D.C. 20036

(202) 659-2229 • Fax (202) 659-5234 • e-mail: len.simon@simoncompany.com

Fresno COG "One Voice" Meetings

Agenda Overview

DRAFT January 23, 2009

• *invited* • *confirmed*

Saturday, February 7, 2009

Group traveling on flight with us should be at airport by 5:30 am.

Flight

American Airlines

Saturday, February 7, 2009

Depart Fresno - #540 7:00 am

Arrive Dallas 12:10 pm

Depart Dallas - #1296 1:25 pm

Arrive Washington 5:10 pm

Transportation has been arranged to pick up our group from the airport and transport to the hotel.
(SuperShuttle Transportation Systems)

Hotel

Hilton Garden Inn

815 14th Street NW

Washington DC 20005

Phone: 202-783-7800

Fax: 202-783-7801

Dinner on your own

Sunday, February 8th

Free time for sightseeing

5:00 PM **Staff Briefing and Snack,** Cleveland Room in the Hilton Garden

Dinner on your own

Monday, February 9th

Cannon House Office Building Room 121

- 8:30am **Meet at the Hilton Garden for Travel to Cannon Building**
- 9:30am **“One Voice” Funding and Policy Priorities**
Jaclyn Schneider, Legislative Director to Representative **Jim Costa**
Jason Lumia, Legislative Director to Rep. **Dennis Cardoza**
Lacey Kiriakou, Legislative Assistant for Rep. **George Radanovich**
Damon Nelson, Legislative Director for Rep. **Devin Nunes**
- 11:00am **Break**
- 11:30am **New Opportunities Panel: The Economic Stimulus Program**
Cheryl Parker Rose, Intergovernmental Relations Director to the Speaker.
Kate Hallahan, Clerk, House Appropriations Committee on Transportation- HUD
Ron Thaniel, Assistant Executive Director, U.S. Conference of Mayors
White House National Economic Council or Office of Urban Policy.
- 12:30pm **Lunch: *Rayburn or Longworth Cafeterias***
- 1:30pm **New Opportunities Panel: Surface Transportation Reauthorization**
Amy Scarton, Counsel, House Transportation & Infrastructure/Highways & Transit
Kathy Dedrick, Senior Policy Director for Transportation ,
Senate Environment and Public Works Committee
Arthur Guzzetti, Vice President-Policy for American Public Transit Association
- 2:30pm **Break**
- 3:00pm **New Opportunities Panel: COPS and Byrne Program Resources**
Cory Ray, Public Liaison Specialist External Affairs Division COPS Office
Jeff Spalding, Counsel for Senate Judiciary Committee’s Terrorism, Technology
and Homeland Security Sub-committee
Representative of the Justice Department Byrne Program
- 4:00pm *Adjourn*
- 6:00pm *Group or Individual Dinners*

Tuesday, February 10th

- 9:30am **Meeting with Senator Boxer and Staff , Hart 112**
Senator Barbara Boxer
Laura Schiller, Chief of Staff to Barbara Boxer
Bridget Petruczok, Legislative Assistant – Transportation
Ashley Harvard, Staff Assistant for in charge of Water Resources
Danielle Leone, Legislative Aide – transportation
- 10:30am *Return to Cannon House Office Building Room 121*
- 11:00am **Perspectives 2009: Rep. Jim Costa**
- 11:30am **New Opportunities Panel: Climate Change and Energy Independence**
Gerard Waldon, Staff Director and Chief Counsel
House Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming.
Bettina Poirier, Staff Director and Chief Counsel
Senate Environment and Public Works Committee
White House Staffer for climate change and energy issues
- 12:30pm **Lunch: Rayburn or Longworth Cafeterias**
- 1:30pm **California Leadership Focus** (to appear throughout the agenda)
Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the House, 8th District
George Miller, Chairman Education & Labor Committee, 7th District
Henry Waxman, Chairman of Energy and Commerce Committee, 30th District
Ellen Tauscher, Chairman of Strategic Forces Subcommittee, 10th District
Loretta Sanchez, Chairwoman Intelligence, Information Sharing and Terrorism
Risk Assessment Subcommittee, 36th District
Zoe Lofgren, Chairman of the Elections and Immigration, Citizenship, Refugees,
Boarder Security, and International Law Subcommittees, 16th District
- 2:00pm **New Opportunities Panel: Housing and Community Development**
Gail Laster, Professional Staff Member, House Financial Services Committee
Frank Vaccarello, HUD Office of Intergovernmental Relations,
Cardell Cooper, Executive Director, National Community Development
Association.
- 3:00pm **Governor Schwarzenegger's Office**
Linda Ulrich, Chief of Staff to Governor Schwarzenegger, (202) 624-5270
Dave Lucas, Housing/Stimulus
Eric Swelund, Transportation/ Infrastructure, Environment
Karen Quarles, Immigration, Crime, Homeland Security
- 3:20pm **Capitol Hill Tour**
Congressman Radanovich's office has arranged a Capitol tour for those interested.
- 3:30 *Adjourn*
- 6:30pm **Reception in Honor of Fresno COG Delegation and Staff – Hilton Garden**
- 7:30pm *Group or Individual Dinners*

Wednesday, February 11th

- 10:00 AM **Perspectives 2009: Representative Devin Nunes**
- 10:30am *Transfer to Senate 331 Hart Office Building*
- 11:00am **Meeting with Senator Diane Feinstein and Staff**
Review of “One Voice” Funding and Policy Priorities
Hart Senate Office Building Room 331
Senator Dianne Feinstein
Ryan Hunt, Legislative Assistant on Appropriations
Matthew Nelson, Legislative Assistant on Transportation
Chris Thompson, Chief of Staff
- Transfer to Either White House, Hilton Garden or Cannon 121
- 12:00pm **White House Briefing with Intergovernmental Relations Office**
Hilton Garden & Inn Conference Room
Cecilia Muñoz, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs for President Obama
- 2:00pm **New Opportunities Panel: Immigration Policy**
Administration Staff member from Homeland Security
Blake Chisam, Counsel for Immigration, Citizenship, Refugees, Border Security,
and International Law Subcommittee
Janice Kaguyutan, Chief Counsel, Immigration, Border Security and Refugees
- 3:00pm **Perspectives 2009: Representative Dennis Cardoza**
- 3:30pm **Perspectives 2009: Representative George Radanovich**
- 4:00 pm *Adjourn*
- 6:00pm **Closing Dinner - Hilton Garden**

Thursday, February 12, 2009

Shuttle will pick up group to go to airport at 4:35 – 4:50 am.

Thursday, February 12, 2009

Depart Washington - #1271 7:05 am

Arrive Dallas 9:40 am

Depart Dallas #1885 11:05 am

Arrive Fresno 12:40 pm

Transportation has been arranged to pick up our group from the hotel at 5 am and transport to the airport. (SuperShuttle Transportation Systems)

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Forum narrowly backs limits on Valley sprawl

Nearly 600 attend Blueprint Project summit in Fresno.

Monday, Jan. 26, 2009

By Russell Clemings / The Fresno Bee

A public forum Monday narrowly endorsed tight limits on future urban sprawl in the San Joaquin Valley, setting the stage for a debate that culminates this spring with votes by government officials throughout the region.

Fifty-three percent of the nearly 600 people attending the San Joaquin Valley Blueprint Project's public summit at the downtown Fresno Convention Center said they preferred a plan that would put 31 people, or 10 homes, on an average acre of new development, compared with 13 people, or about four homes, under present trends.

The recommendation now goes to a panel consisting of elected officials from each of the eight Valley counties. Its fate there is uncertain. Many of those officials have already said they back a third option for 18 people, or about six homes, per acre.

"I'm worried that we'll come up with a great plan and then people will come out of the woodwork and start taking potshots at it," said Ed Thompson, California director for the American Farmland Trust, who spoke shortly before the vote.

The 2-year-old state-funded Blueprint program is billed as an effort to sketch a broad vision of the Valley at midcentury. Its major goals are to preserve farms and wildlife by reducing sprawl, and to cut air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions by reducing the number of miles driven by the region's residents.

When completed, the Blueprint will not be binding on the region's cities and counties. But state transportation and affordable housing funds could be tied to how well a local agency follows the plan. The significance of that wasn't lost on Madera County Supervisor Frank Bigelow, who also spoke.

"Cities will have less control, counties will have less control, special districts will have less control" over the way they build, Bigelow said.

Moreover, the group attending the summit was largely white, about half older than 50 and skewed toward planners and other government officials, Bigelow noted, questioning whether those present represented a true cross-section of the increasingly Hispanic Valley.

Mike McCoy, co-director of the Information Center for the Environment at the University of California at Davis and a leader of the computer work that went into the future growth scenarios, cautioned against placing too much emphasis on the average housing densities in each version. Small towns will likely have lower housing densities than the average. Part of cities like Fresno may be much higher than average.

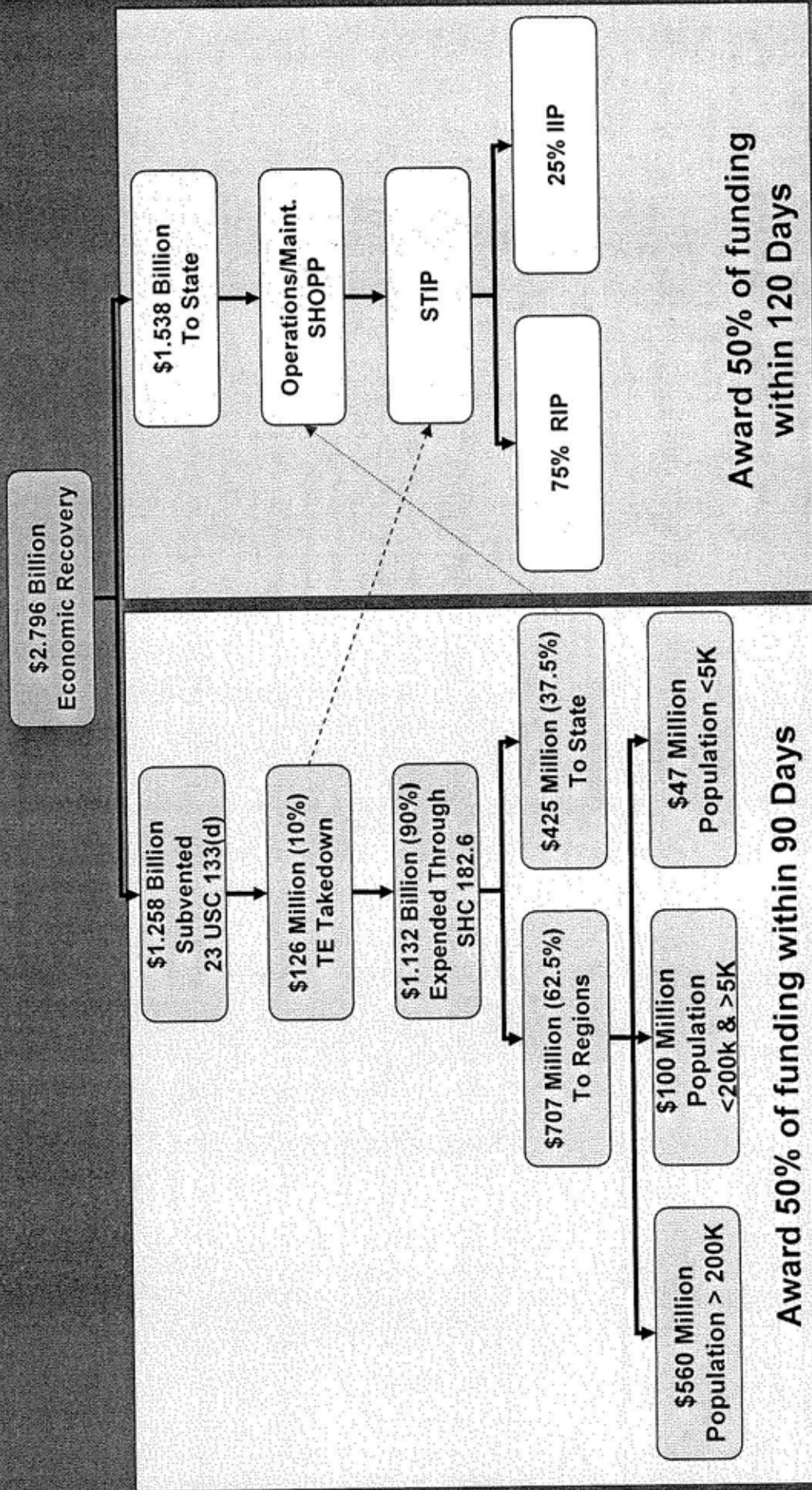
Similarly, Keith Bergthold, Fresno's interim planning director, advocated looking at the scenarios in a broad rather than specific way. He described the Blueprint as "the first step of many steps" needed to define the Valley's future. But he said it is an important one.

"This is the beginning of a conversation we need to have," he said.

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HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS BILL CALIFORNIA DISTRIBUTION



Remaining Funds Must Be Awarded No Later Than August 1, 2010

HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS BILL FLOW OF FUNDING

