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POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGENDA

Date: Friday, May 15, 2009
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Place: COG Sequoia Conference Room
2035 Tulare St., Suite 201, Fresno, CA

Hardcopies of Website Enclosures will be made available to Committee Members at the meeting.

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*
I.	PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons wishing to address the PAC on items within its jurisdiction but not on this agenda. Note: Prior to action by the 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.	PAC Executive Minutes of April 17, 2009	Yes	Approve
B.	Reaffirm Fresno COG's Support for Designating State Route 99 as an Interstate [BOREN]	Yes	Approve
C.	Transportation Funding Claim, FY 2009-10 City of Fresno, RESOLUTION 2009-11 [BESHEARS]	Yes	Approve
D.	Transportation Development Act (TDA) Final Estimates, RESOLUTION 2009-13 [BESHEARS]	Yes	Approve
E.	Fresno/Madera Urban Route 99 Corridor System Management Plan (CSMP), RESOLUTION 2009-12 [BOREN]	Yes/ Website	Approve
F.	Transit Planning Documents:		
1.	Short Range Transit Plan for the Fresno Urban Area – 2010-14 [LONG]	Website	45-Day Review
2.	Clovis Consolidated Transportation Services Agency (CTSA) FY 2009-10 Operations Program & Budget [HALTERMAN—CITY OF CLOVIS]	Website	45-Day Review
3.	Short Range Transit Plan for the Rural Fresno County Area – 2010-14 [J.Webster]	Website	45-Day Review
4.	FCRTA Item: FY2009-10 Fresno County Rural Transit Agency Budget [J.WEBSTER]	Website	45-Day Review
5.	Urban & Rural Consolidated Transportation Services Agency (CTSA) Operations Program & Budget, FY 2009-10 [JOSEPH – FRESNO EOC]	Website	45-Day Review
G.	Farmland Conservation Model Program Update [SOBRADO]	No	Information
H.	On-Call Modeling Assistance Contract Extension [BITNER]	No	Approve
I.	Transportation Development Act (TDA) - Decreased Revision of 2008/09 Estimates [BESHEARS]	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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|---|---------|-------------|
| J. Adoption of Annual Availability Advisory Percentages for Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Participation, Resolution 2009-09, Public Hearing: 5-21-09 [BESHEARS] | Yes | Approve |
| K. One Voice 2009 Summary of February Washington DC trip and Recommendations for 2010 and March Sacramento Visit [STECK] | Website | Information |
| L. Monthly Legislative Update [BOREN] | Yes | Information |
| M. Status Report on Sacramento Lobbying Activities—Steve Samuelian, California Consulting LLC [BOREN] | Yes | Information |

III. ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

- | | | |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|
| A. First 5 Fresno County Regarding Proposition 1D [BOREN] | Yes | Info/Discussion |
| B. FY 2009-10 Final Overall Work Program (OWP) and Budget, RESOLUTION 2009-05 [BOREN] | Yes/
Website | Approve |
| C. Adoption of the Fresno COG Environmental Justice (EJ) Plan, RESOLUTION 2009-10 [SOBRADO] | Yes/
Website | Approve |
| D. Blueprint Update – DRAFT Blueprint Progress Report [STECK] | Yes/
Website | 45-Day Review |
| E. Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Goods Movement Planning [THOMPSON] | Yes | Approve |
| F. Abandoned Vehicle Abatement – FY 2008-09 Second Quarter Summary Report [THOMPSON] | Yes | Accept |
| G. 2011 Regional Transportation Plan [THOMPSON] | Yes | Info/Discussion |
| H. American Recovery and Reinvestment Act [DEVERE-OKI] | Yes | Info/Discussion |
| I. SB 375 Discussion [BOREN] | Yes | Info/Discussion |
| J. Status Report: State Section 190 Grade Separation Program and Federal Section 130 Crossing Improvement Program [BOREN] | Yes | Info/Discussion |
| K. 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**

**POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ANNOTATED AGENDA**

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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. PAC Executive Minutes of April 17, 2009

B. Reaffirm Fresno COG's Support for Designating State Route 99 as an Interstate [BOREN]

Summary: As you are aware, over the last several years, the San Joaquin Valley COGs and Caltrans have been working with Congressmen Nunes and Costa to pursue interstate designation for State Route 99. Due to the fact that several COGs in the Valley are still undecided about pursuing the interstate designation, Caltrans has hired a consulting firm (Remi Inc.) to conduct an economic analysis to determine if there are financial benefits that would accrue to a community should Interstate status be obtained. In addition, Caltrans has developed a set of Interstate designation criteria (attached) that identify the performance metrics that would be utilized by FHWA and Caltrans should State Route 99 be converted to an Interstate. Also attached is a county by county breakdown of the cost estimates.

Historically, Fresno COG has been at the forefront in the San Joaquin Valley in terms of advocating and supporting the concept of converting State Route 99 into an interstate facility. This position is consistent with the San Joaquin Valley Partnership's long held support for conversion as well. In order to adequately ascertain where each of the COGs are at this point in time, and hopefully move forward to some form of closure on the subject, the San Joaquin Valley COG Directors are requesting that each COG Policy Board take an action reaffirming their support or non-support for the concept.

Action: Staff and TTC recommend that the COG Policy Board reaffirm their support for converting State Route 99 into an Interstate.

C. Transportation Funding Claim, FY 2008-09 City of Fresno, RESOLUTION 2009-11 [BESHEARS]

Summary: Included in your packet is the 2008-09 Transportation Development Act (TDA) Claim for the City of Fresno. The amounts claimed for Local Transportation Funds (LTF) and State Transit Assistance (STA) funds are:

Jurisdiction:	LTF Fund:	STA Fund:	Total Funds:
City of Fresno	\$20,061,905	\$1,255,031	\$21,316,913

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

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

Action: Staff and TTC recommend approval of the funding claim by adopting Resolution 2009-11.

D. Transportation Development Act (TDA) Final Estimates, RESOLUTION 2009-13 [BESHEARS]

Summary: Preliminary estimates for the 2009-10 Local Transportation fund were released in February based on the January 2008 population numbers. The State Department of Finance has released the January 2009 population numbers and the Final estimate is now provided using those numbers. As noted previously, there are no State Transit Assistance estimates for 2009-10.

Action: Staff recommends adopting the final Local Transportation fund estimate by approving Resolution 2009-13.

E. Fresno/Madera Urban Route 99 Corridor System Management Plan (CSMP), RESOLUTION 2009-12 [BOREN]

Summary: Caltrans has recently completed the Fresno/Madera Urban Route 99 Corridor System Management Plan (CSMP). All comments that have been received from local transportation partners and internally from Caltrans staff have been incorporated into the final document. The document is available on the Fresno COG website at: <http://www.fresnocog.org/document.php?pid=361>.

The CSMP is a California Transportation Commission requirement for the use of Prop 1B funds. Three Route 99 Prop 1B projects are included in this CSMP: North Fresno 6-Lane; Island Park 6-Lane, and Reconstruction of the Avenue 12 Interchange. Caltrans staff will be present to address any questions related to the CSMP.

Action: Staff and TTC recommend approval of the Fresno/Madera CSMP by adopting Resolution 2009-12.

F. Transit Planning Documents:

1. Short Range Transit Plan for the Fresno Urban Area 2010-14 [LONG]

Summary: The Short-Range Transit Plan for the Fresno-Clovis Urbanized Area (SRTP) is the annual update to the operating plan and capital programs for Fresno Area Express (FAX) and Clovis Transit. The purpose of this Plan is to promote a comprehensive, coordinated and continuous planning process for transit service in the Fresno-Clovis Metropolitan Area (FCMA). This Plan represents a short-range evaluation of transit needs and proposes specific recommendations for implementing the long-range objectives of Fresno County's Regional Transportation Plan. The Plan will guide the provision of transit services in the FCMA over the next five years. The Draft Short-Range Transit Plan must undergo a 45-day review process before the plan can be adopted by the Council of Fresno County Governments COG Policy Board. Upon completion of the 45 day review period, COG staff will prepare a final draft of the Plan. The Plan is scheduled for adoption by the COG Board on June 25, 2009. The Social Service Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) began their review of the document on April 28, 2009. The draft Short-Range Transit Plan for the Fresno-Clovis Urbanized Area (SRTP) is available on the Fresno COG website at: <http://www.fresnocog.org/document.php?pid=361>.

Action: Staff and TTC recommend concurrence with the initiation of the 45-day review by the SSTAC for adoption on June 25, 2009 by the COG Policy Board.

2. Clovis Consolidated Transportation Services Agency (CTSA) FY 2009-10 Operations Program & Budget [HALTERMAN – CITY OF CLOVIS]

Summary: The Clovis Consolidated Transportation Service Agency's (CTSA) Operations Program and Budget FY 2009-10 for the Clovis Urban Area is designed to provide an overview of how and in what manner the Clovis Consolidated Transportation Service Agency will provide service over the next fiscal year. The Social Service Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) began their review of the document on April 28, 2009. Clovis Consolidated Transportation Service Agency's (CTSA) Operations Program and Budget FY 2009-10 for the Clovis Urban Area document is available on the Fresno COG website at: <http://www.fresnocog.org/document.php?pid=361>.

Action: Staff and TTC recommend concurrence with the initiation of the 45 day review by the SSTAC for adoption on June 25, 2009 by the COG Policy Board.

3. Short Range Transit Plan for the Rural Fresno County Area – 2010-14 [J.WEBSTER]

Summary: The Short Range Transit Plan for the Rural Fresno County Area, 2009-14 addresses public transportation for the cities of Coalinga, Firebaugh, Fowler, Huron, Kerman, Kingsburg, Mendota, Orange Cove, Parlier, Reedley, Sanger, San Joaquin, Selma and the County of Fresno. The Plan provides a five-year, action-oriented program designed to implement the Public Transportation Element of the Regional Transportation Plan. The Plan will also provide a basis for local governments to demonstrate that public transportation needs within their jurisdiction have been, and may continue to be, reasonably met. The Social Service Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) began their review of the document on April 28, 2009. A copy of the draft Short Range Transit Plan for the Rural Fresno County Area, 2009-14 is available on the Fresno COG website at: <http://www.fresnocog.org/document.php?pid=361>.

Action: The FCRTA General Manager recommends concurrence with the initiation of the 45-day review for adoption on June 25, 2009 by the COG Policy Board.

4. FCRTA Item: FY2009-10 Fresno County Rural Transit Agency Budget [J.WEBSTER]

Summary: The draft FY 2009-10 FCRTA Budget for the coming fiscal year is available on the Fresno COG website at: <http://www.fresnocog.org/document.php?pid=361>. Included within the document is a Memorandum highlighting the Budget's contents. The Social Service Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) began their review of the document on April 28, 2009.

Action: The FCRTA General Manager recommends concurrence with the initiation of the 45 day review by the SSTAC for adoption on June 25, 2009 by the COG Policy Board.

5. Urban & Rural Consolidated Transportation Services Agency (CTSA) Operations Program & Budget, FY 2009-10 [JOSEPH – FRESNO EOC]

Summary: The Consolidated Transportation Service Agency's (CTSA) Operations Program and Budget, FY 2009-10 for the Fresno Urban and Rural CTSA is available on the Fresno COG website at: <http://www.fresnocog.org/document.php?pid=361>. The document is designed to provide an overview of how and in what manner the Consolidated Transportation Service Agencies will be providing service over the next fiscal year. The Social Service Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) began their review of the document on April 28, 2009.

Action: Staff and TTC recommend concurrence with the initiation of the 45-day review by the SSTAC for adoption on June 25, 2009 by the COG Policy Board.

G. Farmland Conservation Model Program Update [SOBRADO]

Summary: On January 16, 2009, Fresno COG released the draft Farmland Conservation Model Program for Fresno County for 45-day public review and comment. Shortly thereafter, a request was made to extend the public comment period through May 5, 2009 when a hearing was scheduled by the Fresno County Board of Supervisors to receive testimony from the public and vote to endorse the Farmland Conservation Model Program. Recently, it has come to the attention of Fresno COG that several influential stakeholders within the agricultural community are having differences of opinion regarding the Farmland Conservation Model Program. Fresno COG has scheduled a meeting with these key stakeholders to solicit their feedback and hear their suggestions for improving the program. In light of this meeting, Fresno COG has requested a postponement by the Fresno County Board of Supervisors Farmland Conservation Model Program hearing scheduled for May 5, 2009. The Fresno County Board of Supervisor's has agreed with the position of the Fresno COG and has postponed this hearing pending further discussions with stakeholders. Fresno COG will keep committees apprised of any new developments regarding the Farmland Conservation Model Program. Please contact Todd Sobrado at (559) 233-4148 with additional questions or to request more information.

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

H. On-Call Modeling Assistance Contract Extension [BITNER]

Summary: The On-Call Modeling Services contract provides COG staff with needed assistance in creating specialized script files, trouble shooting modeling problems and providing specialized training in dealing with the latest air quality regulations. The contract provides the following benefits:

- Assists COG staff with development of new and refined script when needed especially for air quality and conformity purposes.

- Research and develop new scripts and processes that will help staff use the model more effectively
- Troubleshoots major and minor problems.
- Assists in the professional development of the COG modeling and demographic staff.
- Assures that staff is aware of the latest land use techniques and data.
- Keeps staff informed on the latest modeling techniques and software.

Dowling Associates has developed the Fresno COG model and is currently completing our land use update and revalidating the model. Because of Dowling's experience with our model and our experience with their technical staff we recommend the extension of the On-Call Modeling services contract.

Action: Staff and TTC recommend approval of the contract extension and authorization for the Executive Director to contract with Dowling Associates for on-call modeling assistance in the amount not to exceed \$10,000 per year.

I. Transportation Development Act (TDA) – Decreased Revision of 2008/09 Estimates. [BESHEARS]

Summary: In March the State Controller's Office again revised the 2008/09 State Transit Assistance (STA) estimates, decreasing the estimates by another \$2,167,599 to \$2,165,529. The original estimate of \$10,206,977, which established the initial TDA Claims, was cut to \$4,333,128 in the Governor's Budget, and that estimate is now being cut in half. Furthermore, there is no STA included in the 2009/10 budget, nor is there expected to be any for the next seven years. It also appears that Local Transportation Fund (LTF) deposits are coming in significantly lower than the original estimate and could result in a deficit of \$3.5 to \$4 million. Therefore, it is highly questionable if Article 8 claims for Streets and Roads will be fully funded as per state statute. Transit Budgets must be made whole first. The City of Fresno, however, representing 52% of the reduction, does not claim any Article 8, so their reductions will come directly out of FAX's budget.

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

J. Adoption of Annual Availability Advisory Percentages for Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Participation, RESOLUTION 2009-09, PUBLIC HEARING: 5-21-09 [BESHEARS]

Summary: A Caltrans Availability and Disparity Study revealed statistically significant under-utilization in four of six groups presumed to be disadvantaged as defined in 49, CFR Part 26. As a result the Federal Highways Administration (FHWA) has approved the California State Department of Transportation 2009 Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program requiring implementation of new race conscious measures. Local agencies must adopt the California Department of Transportation Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program Implementation Agreement and set race conscious goals for the presumed four underutilized groups, African American, Asian Pacific American, Native American, and Women. Two other groups, Hispanic Males or Subcontinent Asian Males shall be reported and counted toward the Race Neutral portion of the local agencies overall Anticipated Annual DBE Percentage Level.

Staff mailed a notice to our entire consulting database advising them of the new requirements and requesting updates to their DBE status. The result of their response has been tabulated and our database now has 284 companies, of which one is African American, four are Asian Pacific American, one is Native American, thirteen are women, seven are Hispanic Male, two are Subcontinent Asian Male and one is Other, reflecting a 10.2% over all Anticipated Advisory DBE Participation Level, of which race conscious groups total 6.7% and race neutral groups total 3.5%.

A public notice was posted in the Fresno Bee announcing this public hearing identifying \$663,600 in contracting opportunities programmed in the 2009/10 Overall Work Program. During the 2008/09 fiscal year we did 15 procurements totaling \$3,777,623. DBE participation was \$602,732 or 16% exceeding our Adopted AADPL of 13%.

Action: Approve Resolution 2009-09 adopting the California Department of Transportation Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program Implementation Agreement for Local Agencies and setting our 2009-10 overall Annual Anticipated DBE Participation Level at 10.2%, of which race conscious methods apply to 6.7% and race neutral methods apply to 3.5%.

K. One Voice 2009 Summary of February Washington DC trip and Recommendations for 2010 and March Sacramento Visit [STECK]

Summary: The 2009 Federal One Voice Summary Report and recommendations for the 2010 Federal One Voice Procedures is available on our website at <http://www.fresnocog.org/document.php?pid=361>. The Summary also includes the 2009 Sacramento One Voice trip.

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

L. Monthly Legislative Update [BOREN]

Summary: A report is included in your agenda package that includes current bills in the 2009 legislative session that are relevant to the COG.

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

Also included, is contact information for all of the federal and state legislative representatives and their staff who represent the eight counties within the San Joaquin Valley. 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. Status Report on Sacramento Lobbying Activities – Steve Samuelian, California Consulting, LLC [BOREN]

Summary: Steve Samuelian of California Consulting Inc will provide a written and verbal report to the Policy Board this month on his consulting activities for the COG during the month of May.

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

III. ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. First 5 Fresno County Regarding Proposition 1D [BOREN]

Summary: Staff received a letter from Cruz Ramos, City Manager of the City of San Joaquin, requesting that Proposition 1D be placed on the agenda for discussion and that a representative from First 5 Fresno County be available to attend the meeting to share the facts of the Proposition that will be on the upcoming May 19th special election ballot. Kendra Rogers, Deputy Director, First 5 Fresno County, will attend the PAC meeting. Included in your agenda packet is the letter from Ms. Ramos as well as an official title and summary of Proposition 1D from the Secretary of State's website.

Proposition 1D proposes to amend a 1998 measure, Prop. 10, to allow the state to tap funds from a 50-cents-per-pack tobacco tax that now goes to First Five for preschool, family and health programs aimed at children up to age 5. The measure would use some of that money to offset existing general fund costs for state health and human services programs for children up to age 5. Also, it imposes new restrictions on the state commission's use of tobacco tax revenue; for example, it deletes the 6 percent allocation for media communications.

Specifically, it redirects \$340 million of the First Five Commission's unspent reserves to general-fund programs for children in the 2009-10 fiscal year. Also, it would redirect \$268 million in Prop 10 funds (\$54 million from the state commission, \$214 million from local commissions) through FY 2013-14. During these five years, the redirected funds would be subject to appropriation by the Legislature.

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

B. FY 2009-10 Final Overall Work Program (OWP) and Budget, RESOLUTION 2009-05 [BOREN]

Summary: The final 2009-10 Overall Work Program (OWP) and Budget is available on the homepage of the Fresno COG website under "Announcements". A summary memorandum is included in the Agenda Packet. The document has been in 45-day review and is scheduled for adoption on May 21, 2009. [BOREN]

Action: Staff and TTC recommend adoption of the final 2009-10 Overall Work Program (OWP) and Budget by adoption of Resolution 2009-05.

C. Adoption of the Fresno COG Environmental Justice (EJ) Plan, RESOLUTION 2009-10 [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 sought to adhere to these guidelines with the draft Fresno COG Environmental Justice Plan, released for 45-day public review on January 16, 2009.

In completing the Fresno COG EJ Plan, the 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 EJ Task Force, the Fresno COG Environmental Justice Plan examined the Fresno COG transportation planning process in the context of environmental justice principles.

The draft EJ Plan was previously distributed to Fresno COG Committees in January 2009 agenda packets. A Spanish language translation of the Fresno COG Environmental Justice Plan was also made available. Both versions of the document are available on the homepage of the Fresno COG website under "Announcements". Comments received during the public comment period have been incorporated into the document. Please contact Todd Sobrado at todds@fresnocog.org or (559) 233-4148 with questions or to request more information.

Action: Staff and TTC recommend adoption of the Fresno COG Environmental Justice Plan, by adoption of Resolution 2009-10.

D. Blueprint Update – DRAFT Blueprint Progress Report [STECK]

Summary: On April 1, 2009 the San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council (two elected officials from each of the eight Valley counties) reviewed the Valley COGs' collaborative work on the Blueprint and took the following actions:

- Adopted a list of *Smart Growth Principles* to be used as the basis of Blueprint planning in the San Joaquin Valley.
- Adopted Scenario B+ as the *Preferred Blueprint Growth Scenario for the San Joaquin Valley* to the year 2050. This preferred scenario will serve as guidance for the Valley's local jurisdictions with land use authority as they update their general plans.

Essentially, Scenario B+ includes the county level preferred scenarios submitted by each of the Valley COGs. We have revised Fresno County's DRAFT Blueprint Progress Report to reflect the latest information and are releasing the document for 45 day review. After the review period, we will return in June for Fresno COG's acceptance of this report. The document will serve as guidance for future Blueprint efforts. While the Blueprint is a voluntary process, the anticipated positive outcomes of smart growth make a compelling case for action. Both the Progress Report and a summary brochure are included in your package.

Action: Staff and TTC recommend initiation of the 45-day review.

E. Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Goods Movement Planning [THOMPSON]

Summary: The Tulare County Association of Governments (TCAG) has initiated a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) among TCAG, the Fresno COG, and the Kern Council of Governments (Kern COG). The purpose of the MOU is to more closely link the three counties with regard to goods movement planning.

The recent, ongoing proposed rail abandonment in the southeast portion of Tulare County may be a harbinger for similar short-line rail abandonments in Fresno and Kern counties. Greater cooperation among the counties may help to prevent these abandonments and lead to reduced congestion on local roads and highways, improvement of road and highway safety, improvement of air quality, and the provision of economic benefits. Under the proposed MOU, the three agencies would do the following:

- Agree to advocate and support planning studies and development of intermodal corridors common to and between the regions.
- Agree to work with Caltrans District 6 to develop and fund projects on the identified corridors.
- Agree to meet and confer upon request of any party to the MOU or Caltrans to discuss corridor studies, plans, or projects.

The Fresno COG Rail Committee discussed the rail abandonment issue in Tulare County and its implications for Fresno County at its recent meeting on April 10. Several representatives from Tulare County were in attendance, including two members of the Tulare County Board of Supervisors and, a city council member each from Exeter and Lindsay, and the President/CEO of the Tulare County Economic Development Corporation. The consensus of the Committee was to support the efforts of Tulare County to preserve the short-line railroad.

Action: Approve the MOU among Fresno COG, TCAG, and Kern COG.

F. Abandoned Vehicle Abatement – FY 2008-09 Second Quarter Summary 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 second quarter of FY 2008-09, a total of \$183,542.00 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 \$159,374.35 conducting AVA activities and the Fresno COG claimed \$2,375.00 for program administration. Revenues exceeded expenses during the quarter by \$21,792.65, thereby contributing to the program's accumulated surplus. A total of 933 vehicles were abated this quarter, compared to 783 vehicles abated during the same quarter of the previous fiscal year. This increase is mostly attributable to increased activity by the City of Fresno and the County of Fresno during the quarter.

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

G. 2011 Regional Transportation Plan [THOMPSON]

Summary: The Fresno COG has begun the process to update the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), beginning with the development of a draft timeline (enclosed), the assignment of staff responsibilities, and the commencement of weekly staff meetings to coordinate activities. The development and adoption of the Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) and associated Conformity Analysis will proceed concurrently with the RTP in order to insure consistency. The eight San Joaquin Valley Metropolitan Planning Organizations will all be subject to the same adoption schedule during this update cycle. That schedule calls for adoption of these documents in July 2010, with federal approval anticipated in November 2010. (Note: The date on these documents will nevertheless be 2011 in accordance with Caltrans practice titling documents the year following FHWA approval, and will henceforth be referenced accordingly.)

A new addition to the 2011 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) is the Congestion Management Plan (CMP), currently under development and expected to be completed by December of this year. The CMP is a systematic and regionally accepted approach to manage congestion. It provides up-to-date information on the transportation system and assesses alternative strategies to maximize the efficiency of the existing and planned transportation facilities. A CMP is now required by FHWA in order to receive RTP approval and to receive federal funds for regionally significant roads.

Another new addition to the 2011 RTP will be the inclusion of a Climate Change Element. This Element will affirm Fresno COG's support of efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by addressing the commitments contained in Resolution No. 2008-08, adopted by the COG Board on June 26, 2008. Strategies to reduce emissions will be explored as this Element is developed.

While the 2011 RTP will include a Climate Change Element, as noted above, it will not address requirements of SB 375, specifically the inclusion of a Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS). The purpose of the SCS is to demonstrate how the State's different regions, including the Fresno County region, will meet the greenhouse gas emissions targets to be established by the California Air Resources Board. An SCS cannot be developed until the targets have first been established for a region, and that will not occur until September 30, 2010. Fresno COG will fully comply with SB 375 in the first RTP that follows the establishment of the final "regional targets."

A Steering Committee will be established to assist staff with the development of the 2011 RTP. Please contact COG staff person Clark Thompson if you are interested in serving on the Steering Committee.

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

H. American Recovery and Reinvestment Act [DEVERE-OKE]

Summary: Fresno COG is currently in the process of programming American Recovery and Reinvestment Transportation (ARRA) funds made available to the Fresno County Region and certifying ARRA projects that are ready to move forward. Staff will provide a verbal update of ongoing ARRA activities and information.

Status of Amendments:

Amendment #4: Addition of ARRA Revenue- Approved by FHWA on March 17, 2009

Amendment #5: Addition of ARRA Transit Projects- Approved by FTA on April 10, 2009

Administrative Modification #6: Addition of ARRA funds into currently programmed projects. Amendment approved by Caltrans on March 25, 2009.

Amendment #7: Addition of ARRA Locally Selected Projects and SR 180- Approved by Fresno COG on April 3, 2009.

Administrative Modification #8: Addition of ARRA funds into a currently programmed SHOPP project. Amendment approved by Caltrans on April 24, 2009.

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

I. SB 375 Discussion [BOREN]

Summary: At last month's Policy Board meeting, Mayor Harry Armstrong of Clovis requested that we place an item on our next agenda to discuss the lack of funding that is being provided to cities and counties for implementation of SB 375. Mayor Armstrong made it clear that the discussion not be centered on "opposition" to SB 375 per se, but rather on the 'unfunded mandate' nature of the legislation and the financial hardships that it will impose on agencies who have implementation responsibilities. Background information on SB 375 is included in your agenda materials.

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

J. Status Report: State Section 190 Grade Separation Program and Federal Section 130 Crossing Improvement Program [BOREN]

Summary: A status report presentation has been requested on the State Section 190 Grade Separation Program and Federal Section 130 Crossing Improvement Program. Background materials on the two programs are provided as attachments. Caltrans staff will be present to provide information and answer any questions.

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

K. Caltrans Monthly Report [CALTRANS]

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

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

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**

