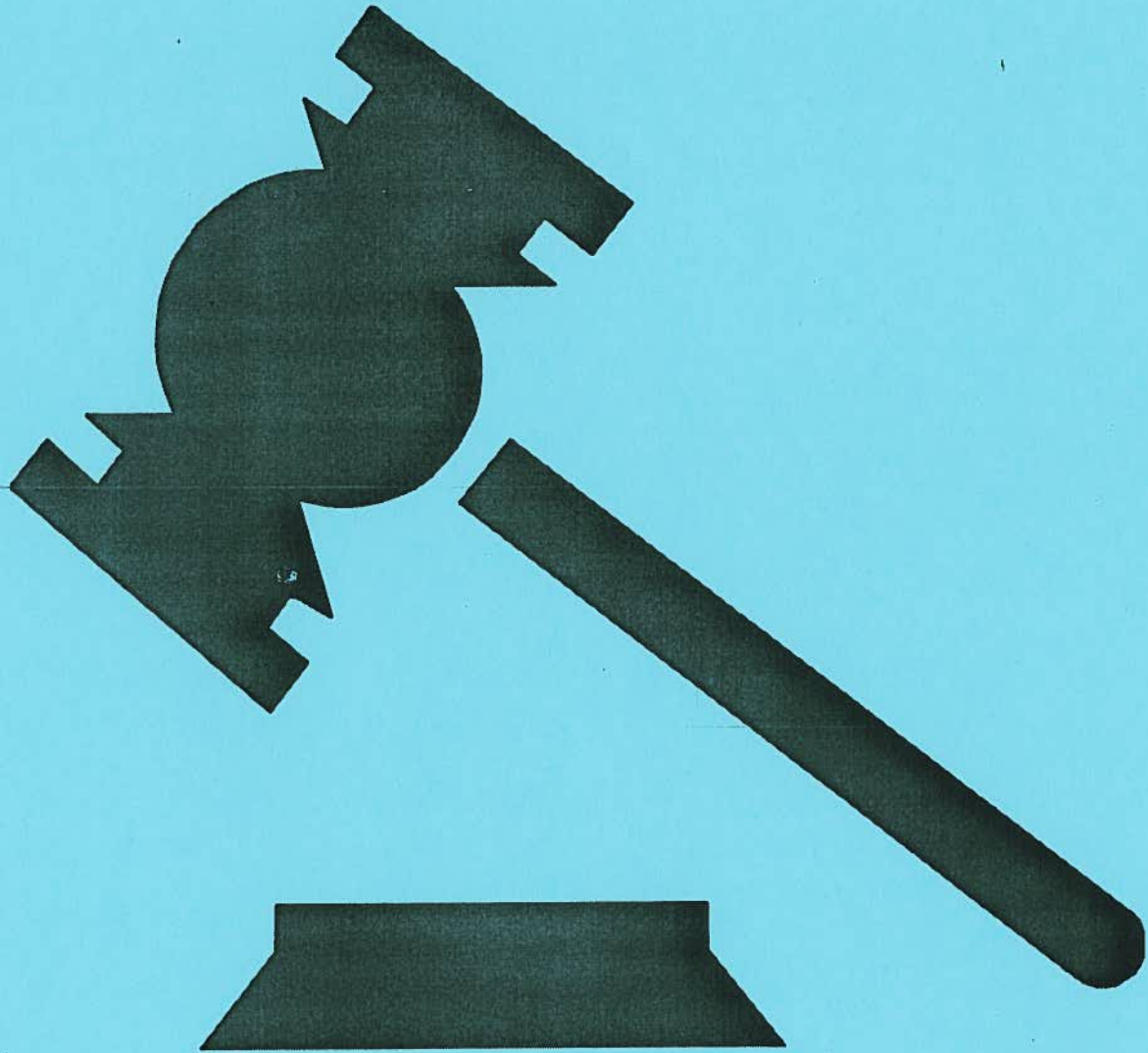




***ADMINISTRATIVE
CONSENT ITEMS
AGENDA ITEMS VI. A.-F.***

the 1990s, the number of people in the world who are under 15 years of age has increased by 1.5 billion (United Nations 1999). The number of people aged 15 years and over has increased by 1.2 billion.

There is a growing awareness of the need to address the needs of young people in the 21st century. The United Nations (1999) has identified the need to ensure that all young people have access to education, health care, and employment opportunities. The World Bank (1999) has identified the need to ensure that all young people have access to education, health care, and employment opportunities. The World Bank (1999) has identified the need to ensure that all young people have access to education, health care, and employment opportunities.

The World Bank (1999) has identified the need to ensure that all young people have access to education, health care, and employment opportunities. The World Bank (1999) has identified the need to ensure that all young people have access to education, health care, and employment opportunities. The World Bank (1999) has identified the need to ensure that all young people have access to education, health care, and employment opportunities.

The World Bank (1999) has identified the need to ensure that all young people have access to education, health care, and employment opportunities. The World Bank (1999) has identified the need to ensure that all young people have access to education, health care, and employment opportunities. The World Bank (1999) has identified the need to ensure that all young people have access to education, health care, and employment opportunities.

The World Bank (1999) has identified the need to ensure that all young people have access to education, health care, and employment opportunities. The World Bank (1999) has identified the need to ensure that all young people have access to education, health care, and employment opportunities. The World Bank (1999) has identified the need to ensure that all young people have access to education, health care, and employment opportunities.

The World Bank (1999) has identified the need to ensure that all young people have access to education, health care, and employment opportunities. The World Bank (1999) has identified the need to ensure that all young people have access to education, health care, and employment opportunities. The World Bank (1999) has identified the need to ensure that all young people have access to education, health care, and employment opportunities.

The World Bank (1999) has identified the need to ensure that all young people have access to education, health care, and employment opportunities. The World Bank (1999) has identified the need to ensure that all young people have access to education, health care, and employment opportunities. The World Bank (1999) has identified the need to ensure that all young people have access to education, health care, and employment opportunities.



2035 Tulare Street, Suite 201
Fresno, California 93721

Telephone: (559) 233-4148 • Fax: (559) 233-9645
Website Address: www.fresnocog.org

EXECUTIVE MINUTES

COUNCIL OF FRESNO COUNTY GOVERNMENTS

Date: Thursday, September 24, 2009
Time: 5:30 p.m.
Place: COG Sequoia Conference Room
2035 Tulare St., Suite 201, Fresno, CA

Members Present: Mayor Trinidad M. Rodriguez, City of Kerman, Chair
Mayor Dennis Lujan, City of Selma, Vice Chair
Mayor Harry Armstrong, City of Clovis
Mayor Ron Lander, City of Coalinga
Mayor Pro Tem Javier Marquez, City of Firebaugh
Councilmember Rico Aguayo, City of Fowler
Mayor Ashley Swarengin, City of Fresno
Mayor Bruce Blayney, City of Kingsburg
Mayor Robert Silva, City of Mendota
Mayor Victor Lopez, City of Orange Cove
Mayor Armando Lopez, City of Parlier
Mayor Mary Fast, City of Reedley
Mayor Amarpreet Dhaliwal, City of San Joaquin
Mayor José R. Villarreal, City of Sanger
Supervisor Susan Anderson, County of Fresno

James Perrault, Caltrans
Janelle Kelley, Legal Counsel
Tony Boren, Executive Director

QUORUM: At the start of the meeting there were 14 members present representing 96.44% of the population and there was a quorum. (Clovis, Coalinga, Firebaugh, Fowler, Fresno, Kerman, Kingsburg, Mendota, Orange Cove, Parlier, San Joaquin, Sanger, Selma and Fresno County)

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Trinidad Rodriguez, Chair, at 5:33 p.m. Supervisor Anderson (County) was in attendance for the appointments to the Measure "C" Citizen Oversight Committee.

Mayor's City Selection Committee

Approval of June 25, 2009, Minutes

A motion was made by Mayor Lujan (Selma) and seconded by Mayor Lopez (Orange Cove) to approve the minutes of June 25, 2009. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

Appointments:

- ✓ Brenda Lauchner (COG) explained the process for appointments to the Measure "C" Citizen Oversight Committee – Seven 2-year terms expired 6/30/09 and members need to be appointed for new 4-year terms. In addition, one 4-year term needs to be filled with a replacement member. A revised selection matrix of applicants, listed by required category, was distributed to the Board along with an explanation of what positions must be filled.

Appointments are as follows:

Eight new members were selected to fill positions on the Measure C Citizen Oversight Committee:

Those filling new 4-year terms:

Shawn David Carlson, Public-at-large member
Tony Canales, Public-at-large member

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

Michael Sigala, Public-at-large member
Mary Savala, Representing the League of Women Voters
John Clements, Representing the Public School District – Transportation
Thomas Lang, Representing Aquarius Aquarium
Vang Mouanoutoua, Representing Lao Evangelical Church of Fresno

Completing a vacant 4-year term to expire June 30, 2011:

Toni Pacini, Public-at-large member

Continuing members whose terms expire June 30, 2011:

Kuldip Kaleka, Public-at-large member
Dr. Harold Price, Public-at-large member
Ray C Knight, Representing Firebaugh Downtown Revitalization
Marc Johnson, Representing Sanger Chamber of Commerce
Nicolas Paladino, Representing the Fresno Cycling Club

The nominations were confirmed by consensus.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

The COG Policy Board meeting will begin upon conclusion of Fresno County's Mayor City Selection Committee

I. PRESENTATIONS

A. Public Presentations

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

Dennis Manning – FARRC – HSR Mr. Manning voiced his concerns regarding rail consolidation.

QUORUM: 6 PM – Mayor Fast, Reedley arrived making a quorum of 15 members present representing 99.17% of the population.

B. Fresno International Airport Update – Russ Widmar, Director of Aviation, City of Fresno
Mr. Widmar thanked the Policy Board for their support and gave a brief update.

C. Health Care for Underserved Women - Sheriff Margaret Mims, Sharon Johnson - Susan G. Komen and Anamaria Madrigal - National Latino Business Women's Association and Debbie Garrett-California Health Collaborative gave a brief update on Breast Cancer Awareness Month and asked Board members to contact them if they would like someone to come to their respective Council meetings to help raise awareness. Information was distributed to the Board.

D. In Pursuit of Educational Excellence for Underserved Children – Javier Guzman
Mr. Guzman and members of his staff gave a brief presentation on education. Mr. Guzman asked for support from the Board in development of a resolution to form a Commission of community members/stakeholder on how best to approach problem. Mr. Lujan suggested that Mr. Guzman be diligent in meeting with the Educational field rather than the COG Board.

E. Recognition of 30th Anniversary of The Fresno County Rural Transit Agency
Mr. Boren recognized Jeffrey Webster, General Manager on the 30th anniversary of the existence of the Fresno County Rural Transit Agency.

Chairman Rodriguez introduced Assemblymember Ma, who was in the audience. Ms. Ma was in Fresno County touring the area.

Fresno COG Sitting As the Transportation Policy Committee

REQUEST TO ADD TWO URGENCY ITEMS TO THE AGENDA

- 1) Requires Determination that the item is urgent, time sensitive and cannot be dealt with at a later meeting.
(2/3 vote – item came to attention after posting of agenda and within 72 hours of meeting)

Motion was made by Mayor Armstrong (Clovis) and seconded by Mayor Fast (Reedley) making the determination that the item is urgent and cannot be dealt with at a later meeting. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

- 2) Requires a 2/3 vote to add the item to the agenda for action.

Motion was made by Mayor Armstrong (Clovis) and seconded by Mayor Lopez (Parlier) to add the items to the agenda for action. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

ITEM 1

VI. F. Request for Letter of Support – Water Issues [BOREN]

Handout

Approve

ITEM 2

IX. CLOSED SESSION

Conference with Labor Negotiator (Government Code Section 54957.6): conference regarding unrepresented COG staff employee, Planner III; COG Executive Director, Tony Boren to act as Labor Negotiator on behalf of Fresno COG Board.

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.

- | | |
|--|-------------|
| A. 2009-10 Transportation Funding Claims – Resolutions 2009-30-Fowler, 2009-31-Huron, 2009-32-Kerman, 2009-33-Kingsburg, 2009-34-Mendota, 2009-35-Orange Cove, 2009-36-Parlier, 2009-37-Reedley, 2009-38-San Joaquin, 2009-39-Selma [BESHEARS] | Approve |
| B. Redetermination of Conformity for the 2009 FTIP Amendment #3 and 2007 RTP Amendment #2 Resolution 2009-28 [DAWSON] | Approve |
| C. Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310 Grading Results [SOBRADO] | Accept |
| D. Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5316/5317 Call for Projects [SOBRADO] | Information |

For a summary of these items, please see the September 24, 2009 Annotated Agenda.

A motion was made by Mayor Armstrong (Clovis) and seconded by Mayor Lopez (Parlier) to approve the Transportation Consent Items as submitted. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

III. TRANSPORTATION ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. ARRA Implementation and Redistribution Policies [DEVERE-OKI]

Renée DeVere-Okie (COG) reported that on August 12, 2009 Caltrans issued final guidance on how the state will insure that 100% of the available California ARRA funds will be obligated by March 2, 2010. The guidelines set up several different milestones which allow the state time to both process paperwork and redistribute available funds within the state. The state has identified when draft and final Requests for Authorization (RFA) must be submitted to Caltrans Local Assistance and when we as the MPO must submit an obligation plan to Caltrans demonstrating our regions ability to meet these deadlines.

Ms. DeVere-Okie stressed that it is important to note that the milestones on the attached enclosure highlight deadlines that Fresno must meet in order to insure that we: 1.) Spend all of our available ARRA funds, 2.) Position ourselves to receive any available ARRA redistribution, and 3.) Do not lose funds designated to our region. It is for these three reasons staff is proposing the following policy recommendation.

Proposed Fresno COG ARRA Redistribution Policy:

By October 15, 2009, any project that has not been certified and can meet the December 1, 2009 Caltrans deadline for a Draft RFA submittal, must submit their 1511 Certification request to Fresno COG staff. The 1511 certification states to COG, Caltrans, and FHWA that the agency intends to deliver this project in the time allotted by law.

On October 15, 2009 the City Manager/CAO for each agency, with ARRA money left to obligate, must submit for each individual remaining project a statement of intention to finish that project along with a detailed outline of the projects milestones up to the December 1, 2009 RFA deadline.

Project sponsors who cannot meet the Caltrans deadline, or cannot provide COG staff with adequate documentation of being able to meet the Caltrans deadline; will have their ARRA funds placed back into the regional pot in order to allow Fresno COG staff to redistribute the funds to other projects within Fresno County that can meet the deadlines.

For an agency to receive additional ARRA funds during the Fresno COG internal redistribution of ARRA funds, this agency must:

1. Have already obligated all of their available ARRA funds
2. Have an eligible project/listing in the current FTIP
3. Provide COG staff with documentation that the project can meet Caltrans deadlines
4. Staff will prioritize projects based on available funds and timing for obligating funds.

A motion was made by Mayor Armstrong (Clovis) and seconded by Mayor Lopez (Orange Cove) to adopt the proposed ARRA Redistribution Policy as presented to the SAFETEA-LU/MAP 21 Subcommittee. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

B. Regional Transportation Plan

1. Public Outreach Plan [LAUCHNER]

Brenda Lauchner (COG) reported that in accordance with Federal guidance emphasized during Fresno COG's latest Federal Certification Review, the RTP Planning Process must foster involvement through a proactive public participation process with the all interested parties. We must also seek participation and consultation during the RTP development process with a number of private sector representatives and public agencies.

Ms. Lauchner stated that as Fresno COG undertakes the update of the 2011 RTP, a major goal of the public involvement effort is to reach out to nontraditional as well as traditional audiences to include them in the transportation planning process. This program will help ensure that environmental justice issues are addressed and that interested members of the public have ample opportunity to understand and provide meaningful input while the RTP is in its early stages and throughout the planning process.

A copy of the RTP Draft Public Outreach Plan was included in the package for review and comment at any time during the RTP Outreach process. Staff will review key elements of the plan and budget with the Board members.

This was an information item and required no further action by the Policy Board.

2. Notice of Preparation – 2011 RTP EIR [THOMPSON]

Clark Thompson (COG) reported on this item. A Notice of Preparation of a Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) for the Proposed 2011 Revision of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) has been issued. A copy of the document was included in the meeting package. Fresno COG is requesting input regarding the scope and content of the environmental information to be included and evaluated in the SEIR. Any response to this Notice of Preparation you or your agency may wish to provide is requested at the earliest possible date, but not later than 30 days after receipt of this notice.

Fresno COG understands that 2011 RTP improvement projects have changed or the timing of those projects has changed since certification of the previous RTP EIR in May 2007. As a result of these changes, rather than prepare a complete new EIR, Fresno COG desires to use the previous EIR and update/change sections to address RTP project changes, as well as greenhouse gas/global warming (Climate Change) issues.

This was an information item and required no further action by the Policy Board.

3. RTP Project Nominations [THOMPSON]

Mr. Thompson briefed the Policy Board on the request to issue a "call for project nominations" for the 2011 Regional Transportation Plan. Member agencies will have until November 19, 2009 to submit their project nominations. Project nominations will be submitted under two categories: non-exempt projects and exempt projects. Non-exempt projects are capacity increasing projects. As such, they must be included in the COG Transportation Model and subjected to a conformity analysis. Exempt projects are typically safety and maintenance projects and are not subject to a conformity analysis. Both non-exempt and exempt projects are subject to evaluation under the Congestion Management Process and both are also subject to financial constraint, in that project funds must be reasonably available within the time period of the RTP.

New with the 2011 RTP is that project nominations must be submitted by electronic application form, currently under development. The application will include information such as total project cost, year open to traffic, project location and limits, and other information consistent with the requirements of FresnoTrak (our new project monitoring software), the Congestion Management Process, and the RTP prioritization process.

A motion was made by Supervisor Anderson (Fresno County) and seconded by Mayor Silva (Mendota) for the Policy Board to issue a "call for project nominations" for the 2011 Regional Transportation Plan. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

C. Blueprint Update [STECK]

1. SJV Blueprint Memorandum of Understanding with Valley COGs for 4th Year

Barbara Steck (COG) reported that Fresno COG has assumed the lead agency role from Merced COG on all Valleywide Blueprint activities. In order to formalize this relationship, it is necessary to modify the MOU that we have been operating under, identifying Fresno COG as lead agency. The revised MOU also includes an updated work plan. These documents were included in the agenda packet.

A motion was made by Mayor Dhaliwal (San Joaquin) and seconded by Mayor Lander (Coalinga) to authorize the Executive Director to enter into the revised Valleywide Blueprint MOU with the eight Valley COGs. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

2. SJV Contract with the Regents of the University of California / UC Merced and the Great Valley Center

Ms. Steck went on to report that one of the tasks included in the Valley COGs' fourth year SJV Blueprint's grant application to Caltrans was continuing work with the Great Valley Center on the Valleywide Blueprint Website and orchestrating an additional Valleywide Executive Forum for elected officials. Because of the transfer of lead agency mentioned above, we will need to enter into a new contract with the Regents of the University of California / UC Merced and the Great Valley Center. The Great Valley Center has been involved with the SJV Blueprint since its inception and has done an excellent job on the website at www.valleyblueprint.org as well as orchestrating large Valleywide events for us. Their proposal is included in your agenda packet. The budget for both tasks is \$50,000 which is consistent with past costs on these line items.

A motion was made by Councilmember Aguayo (Fowler) and seconded by Mayor Silva (Parlier) that the COG Policy Board authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract for \$50,000 (on behalf of the eight Valley COGs) with the Regents of the University of California and their affiliates: The Great Valley Center and UC Merced for the purpose of Blueprint related education and outreach. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

3. SJV Blueprint Awards Program – Announcing 2009 Award Recipients

Ms. Steck announced the recipients for the SJV Blueprint Awards Program. The purpose of the San Joaquin Valley Regional Blueprint Awards Program is to encourage quality in planning and development and to increase the public's awareness of the SJV Blueprint planning process by recognizing outstanding achievements and practices. This year's awards program is intended to be the first of an annual event that will recognize and celebrate plans, policies, programs and projects that reflect the Blueprint Principles. A call for nominations was distributed throughout the Valley in July. The award judges met in early September to review the nominations and determine this year's recipients. The list of award recipients is included in your agenda package. The awards will be presented at the Fall Policy Conference Awards Luncheon on October 2nd at the Holiday Inn downtown Fresno.

This was an information item and required no further action by the Policy Board.

D. Measure "C" Update

1. Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee (RTMF) Joint Powers Agency Agreement [BOREN/BESHEARS]

Tony Boren, Executive Director, reminded the Board that the first meeting of the Fresno Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee Joint Powers Agency will be held immediately following the COG Board meeting. The JPA Board will adopt bylaws, elect a chairman and vice chairman, appoint counsel and officers, discuss the administrative cost structure, and convene a public hearing on the Nexus Study scheduled for adoption by Resolution October 29, 2009. There is a 60 day waiting period before the fee goes into effect on January 1, 2010.

This was an information item and required no further action by the Policy Board.

E. 2009 Call for Projects – Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds [DAWSON/DEVERE-OKI]

Ms. DeVere-Okie reported on this item. On August 24th, the SAFETEA-LU/ MAP 21 Programming Subcommittee met to discuss policies and issues related to the programming of advanced funding for the next Federal Transportation Funding Act- MAP 21. The 2011 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) will program funding from 2010/11 through 2013/14; the FTIP will contain four years of funding from the next Federal Transportation Funding Act- MAP 21.

To insure that no funds are lost to the region Fresno COG must develop a full program of projects for 2010/11 and additional "easy to deliver" projects in the later years of the FTIP that can be advanced in order to meet funding obligation requirements. As part of identifying these "easy to deliver" projects, staff recommended that the current "lifeline" concept be continued, as established in Call #1. The "lifeline" concept allows 60% of RSTP funds and 30% of CMAQ funds to be set aside for use by member agencies for projects of their choosing, as long as the planned projects qualify for the identified funding source and relate to priorities set by the Policy Board.

The SAFETEA-LU Programming Subcommittee reached consensus on the following:

- Program two years worth of funding (Second Call for Projects) from the next Federal Transportation Funding Act, acknowledging that it is possible that currently available fund sources within SAFETEA-LU may not be a part of the next Act.
- For RSTP, the Subcommittee agreed to have combination "lifeline" and "regional bid" Call for Projects. Approximately \$19,100,600 of the apportionments for FFY 2011/12 and 2012/13 will be available. Over the length of the next Federal Transportation Funding Act the split between "lifeline" and "regional bid" funds will remain at a 60/40 split (6 years). The split for this call (2 years) will be \$7,982,400 "lifeline" and \$11,118,200 "regional bid".
- For CMAQ, the Subcommittee agreed to have combination "lifeline" and "regional bid" Call for Projects. Approximately \$23,060,800 of the apportionments for FFY 2011/12 and 2012/13 will be available. Over the length of the next Federal Transportation Funding Act, the split between "lifeline" and

"regional bid" funds will remain at a 30/70 split (6 years). The split for this call (2 years) will be \$9,636,000 "lifeline" and \$13,424,800 "regional bid".

- Within the CMAQ "regional bid" pot, \$13,424,800, \$4,612,200 or 20% of the available pot will be solely dedicated to projects meeting a minimum cost effectiveness (\$30 per pound) threshold per adopted Fresno COG policy. Over the life of next Act (6 years) a minimum of 20% of available funding must be applied to projects meeting this minimum cost effectiveness threshold.

The SAFETEA-LU/ MAP 21 Programming Subcommittee recommended retaining the long standing scoring committee representation for both CMAQ and RSTP (see enclosure). At the TTC meeting Fresno Area Express (FAX) expressed interest in having a "Transit" representative added to the scoring committee for 2009 and this recommendation was then passed on to the PAC. At the PAC, it was then recommended that this representative come from City of Clovis staff and that this individual have an understanding/capability to score of both transit and other RSTP eligible projects (non transit). The current representation of the committee is jurisdictional with one representative from the urban area (rotating between Fresno and Clovis), one from the eastside cities, one from the Westside cities, one from Caltrans staff, one from Fresno COG staff, and one from the County of Fresno. With this requested change in composition for the 2009 call, there will be two representatives from the urban area (both Fresno and Clovis with Clovis representing transit), one from the eastside cities, one from the Westside cities, one from Caltrans staff, one from Fresno COG staff, and one from the County of Fresno.

A motion was made by Mayor Lopez (Orange Cove) and seconded by Mayor Fast (Reedley) to recommend that the Policy Board issue a formal "Call for Projects" per the SAFETEA-LU/MAP 21 Subcommittee recommendations. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

F. High Speed Rail Update – Formation of Fresno COG High Speed Rail Task Force [THOMPSON]

Clark Thompson (COG) updated the Board on this item. With the passage of Proposition 1A in November 2008, Californians approved \$9 billion for a high-speed train system that will provide a fast, safe, reliable and environmentally friendly transportation alternative. In addition, the State anticipates receiving a share of funding from the \$8 billion of rail stimulus available nationwide, from annual \$1 billion federal appropriations over the next five years, and from an estimated \$50 billion from MAP-21, the next federal Surface Transportation Act. To date, the California High-Speed Rail Authority has completed "Program-Level" environmental studies to determine preferred route and station general locations.

The Authority is now engaged in ongoing outreach with local governments and transportation planning agencies to integrate/coordinate the statewide high-speed train with local and regional transportation systems, land use planning and economic development efforts. Underway and expected to be completed in early 2012 are "Project-Specific" environmental studies that will be used to determine where tracks will be laid, how they will be configured, and where support facilities are needed. Construction will begin shortly thereafter, with testing of prototype trainsets expected to begin in 2015. The Authority's current phasing plan envisions a "high-speed" test section between Merced and Bakersfield. The San Francisco to Los Angeles/Anaheim backbone of the statewide system will commence operation in the 2018 – 2020 timeframe.

Fresno COG's 2009-10 Overall Work Program has set aside \$100,000 for conducting High Speed Rail planning activities and, last June, the Policy Board approved an initial expenditure of \$10,000 to retain a consultant to analyze heavy maintenance station location criteria established by the Authority, identify sites within Fresno County that satisfy those criteria, and related issues. As Fresno COG is the state designated Regional Transportation Agency for Fresno County and the logical public entity to head the High Speed Rail process, staff is now recommending formation of an inclusive High-Speed Rail Task Force, comprised of elected and appointed officials and others within Fresno County, that will focus on the high-speed train issues of importance to our County. In addition to the heavy maintenance station, these issues include alignment and station location issues, among others. Recommended composition of the Task Force includes representatives from Fresno, the County, the cities of Fowler/Selma/Kingsburg, other interested cities, Chamber of Commerce, Economic Development Corporation, Workforce Investment Board, and interested individuals. Mr. Thompson stressed that Fresno COG is seeking suggestions for additional participation. Upon approval of the formation of the Task Force by the Fresno COG Board, staff will issue the Request for Proposals for consultant services.

Supervisor Anderson (County) asked that Fresno COG work with the High Speed Train Strategy/Steering Committee developed by the County. It was suggested that the Task Force function as a sub committee for technical advice under the County Strategy/Steering Committee.

Jerry Duncan (private citizen) voiced his support of High Speed Rail and community effort for the heavy maintenance facility.

Mayor Swearengin stressed that competition for the maintenance facility is about money, location and workforce.

A motion was made by Supervisor Anderson (County) and seconded by Mayor Swearengin (Fresno) to recommend approval of the formation of the High-Speed Rail Task Force as a subcommittee under the Fresno County High Speed Train Strategy/Steering Committee. Staff also seeks suggestions for additional participation on the Task Force.

G. Caltrans Monthly Report [CALTRANS]

James Perrault (Caltrans) provided an update on Caltrans activities. Several member agencies received funding for Safe Routes to Schools.

Fog Warning Project -- south end of County. Ready to roll. Four new color changeable message signs are up.

Tony Boren mentioned that the TTC/PAC meetings are scheduled on the second Friday of the month and that this has made it difficult for Caltrans because of furlough days. Mr. Perrault will contact Mr. Boren to discuss.

This was an information item and required no further action by the Policy Board.

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

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

A motion was made by Mayor Lujan (Selma) and seconded by Mayor Fast (Reedley) to 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 Committee or public wishes to comment or ask questions. If comment or discussion is desired by anyone, the item will be removed from the consent agenda and will be considered in the listed sequence with an opportunity for any member of the public to address the Committee concerning the item before action is taken.

- | | |
|---|-------------|
| A. Executive Minutes of July 30, 2009 | Approve |
| B. Airport Land Use Commission – Memorandum of Understanding Extension [TWEBSTER] | Approve |
| C. 2009/10 Overall Work Program Amendment #2 [BESHEARS] | Approve |
| D. Proclamation Recognizing “Fresno Celebrates Mexico” of 2009 through 2010 – the Consulate of Mexico [BOREN] | Approve |
| E. Farmland Conservation Model Program Update [SOBRADO] | Information |
| F. Monthly Legislative Update [FAWCETT] | Information |
| G. SB 716, SB 375 and Proposition 84 Update [FAWCETT] | Information |
| H. California Transportation Commission Appointment [BOREN] | Information |
| I. Regional Clearinghouse [SOBRADO] | Information |

	Project	Applicant
1.	RHS 514 Loan – Off Site Farm Labor Housing	Corporation for Better Housing –
2.	One Time Program Improvement 2009 Head Start-Preschool and Early Head Start	Fresno County EOC

For a summary of these items, please see the September 24, 2009 Annotated Agenda.

A motion was made by Mayor Silva (Mendota) and seconded by Supervisor Anderson (County) to approve the Administrative Consent Items as submitted. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Strategy Research Institute, Inc. (Dr. Gary Manross) Contract Renewal [BOREN]

Mr. Boren reported that Strategy Research Institute (SRI) provides a variety of services to Fresno COG, all of which are detailed in a memo included as an attachment within your Board packet. In general, over the past year SRI Inc. has been participating in a number of significant projects that COG is involved with, these include: Consensus building efforts related to the Measure "C" RTMF, Consensus building as it relates to the Transit Consolidation effort identified in Measure "C", relationship building between Native American tribes and Fresno COG as required by environmental justice regulations, consensus building efforts related to adoption of the Farmland Model Conservation Program, and providing a human resource function for Fresno COG as it relates to developing evaluation criteria for personnel evaluation. Staff is also working with SRI on identifying ways that SRI can provide assistance in the areas of public affairs and public relations, as well as enhancing our lobbying efforts at both the state and federal levels. One additional benefit that goes with the COG monthly retainer fee of \$6,000 a month is that it allows the COG or member agencies to contract for additional SRI's services at a discounted price.

At their June 2009 meeting, the Policy Advisory Committee voted their support (10 yes/1 abstention) for extending California Consulting Inc.'s contract based on the terms identified. At the June COG Policy Board meeting, the item was tabled at the request of Mayor Swearengen. The request was based on a desire by the City of Fresno to see a more detailed Scope of Work for SRI's services, and a set of work product deliverables.

After working with Fresno COG and City of Fresno staff to refine SRI's Work Plan, at the July 2009 Policy Board meeting, the Policy Board took an action to extend SRI Inc.'s contract for two months in order to allow SRI staff to develop a more comprehensive approach to the issue of "Transit Consolidation" focusing specifically on the "deliverables" that would come out of the Transit Consolidation process and developing a timeline for delivery of those work products. Over the last two months SRI's staff has been working with COG staff, the City of Fresno's Transit Planning Manager, the City of Fresno's Transportation Director and the City of Fresno's Assistant City Manager in an effort to develop a Transit Consolidation Study Process (attached) that would meet the City of Fresno's request. Specific emphasis has been placed on developing a Gantt Flow Chart (Appendix A) that addresses both the deliverables and an approximate timeline for completing the Transit Consolidation Process.

Mayor Swearengen (Fresno) stated that she felt the updated outline was very good. It shows a lot of work to be performed. Mayor Armstrong (Clovis) asked about the number of staff that SRI employs to accomplish all these tasks. Mayor Armstrong voiced his concerns about Fresno County Transportation Authority (FCTA) work. Mr. Boren assured him that SRI will not be taking over any of FCTA work. Mayor Armstrong suggested that Mr. Manross make reports on progress.

After discussion a motion was made by Mayor Lujan (Selma) and seconded by Mayor Lopez (Parlier) to extend Strategy Research Institute Inc.'s contract for the period October 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010 in the amount of \$54,000. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

B. Response to Inquiry to Add Non-Voting Member to COG Policy Board [SOBRADO]

Les Beshears (COG) reported on this item. On July 30, 2009 at the Fresno COG July Policy Board meeting, Fresno County Supervisor Henry Perea inquired as to what would be involved in opening up an ex-officio seat on the Fresno COG Policy Board for a representative of the Table Mountain Rancheria Tribe of Fresno County.

This matter was previously discussed at length at the Fresno COG Policy Board meeting on July 18, 2002 when the Policy Board adopted a MOU between the COG and Big Sandy Rancheria to establish and maintain government to government relationships.

On March 25, 2002, Wilbur Beecher, Tribal Chairman of the Big Sandy Rancheria sent a letter to Fresno COG to request consultation and coordination. Included in this letter was a request for Policy Board membership. During the April TTC/PAC meeting cycle, the issue was discussed and recommendation was made to forward the matter to the Fresno County Board of Supervisors since the lands making up the Big Sandy Rancheria is within the jurisdiction of Fresno County.

The Fresno County Board of Supervisors heard this item at their June 18, 2002 meeting. They encouraged Fresno COG to consult with the tribe on COG's transportation plans and programs and also recommended the Tribe send a representative to participate in COG's Transportation Technical Committee if the Policy Board membership was not approved. The Board referred the request for Policy Board membership back to COG with no recommendation as they felt the COG itself was the appropriate arena for this request.

An opinion from county counsel stated in the absence of special legislation a tribe may not join COG's JPA in the same capacity as existing members, however, the Board could extend a non voting, non dues paying "Cooperating Membership". The Board and the tribe could also enter into a MOU similar to the agreement that allows Caltrans to sit on the Transportation Policy committee without voting status at the Policy level.

As the issue came back through the TTC/PAC a consensus developed that any consideration extended to Big Sandy Rancheria should be extended to the other two tribes, Table Mountain Rancheria, and the Cold Springs Rancheria. Upon hearing the recommendation, the Policy Board passed a motion to invite the three tribes to join the TTC. A letter from the Policy Board to this effect was sent. The PAC further recommended to deny Policy Board membership request at that time, direct staff to explore either a cooperative membership or a membership on the Transportation Policy committee. The motion included a single membership to represent the approximately 300 combined resident tribal population, with the tribes selecting their representative from among themselves and revisit the issue request for Board affiliation at a future date. However Big Sandy Tribal Chairman Wilbur Beecher expressed opposition to the recommendation, mentioning that each tribe had different needs and a collective vote was not acceptable to the Big Sandy Rancheria to participate in the COG at any level.

After lengthy discussion at the Policy Board a motion was made to deny membership at the Board level, offer participation at the Transportation Technical Committee level (TTC), and revisit the request for Policy Board membership in one year. The motion failed with only eight yes votes.

The minutes from the COG Policy Board meeting where this issue was discussed on July 18, 2002 as well as the legal opinion regarding tribal membership on the Policy Board are included in this packet.

Staff is willing to meet and confer with the Tribal nations to foster government to government relations. The offer for Tribal participation at the TTC remains open, however, at this point, none of the Tribes have taken up the offer. The board membership issue has not been discussed with the Tribes recently. Board comment and direction is invited.

After the report, it was decided that no action will be taken at this time.

C. 2010 "One Voice" Call for Projects [STECK]

Barbara Steck (COG) informed the Board that it is again time to begin the process of planning for Fresno COG's annual "One Voice" trip back to Washington DC where we will present a list of priorities for our region. Our trips over the past seven years have been quite fruitful as noted in the Fresno COG "One Voice" 2009 Summary and 2010 Recommendations on our website at www.fresnocog.org.

The 2010 "One Voice" trip will take place February 6-11, 2010. In preparation, we have been in communication with our D.C. lobbyist, Simon & Company, to discuss their recommendations. As noted in their memo dated April 9, 2009:

As with past years, the joint congressional briefing worked well and as you will recall, the congressional staff were thoroughly engaged in the discussion of projects, which continued among them subsequent to the "One Voice" visit. However, with two out of the four "One Voice" House

~~members not accepting earmark requests, it is important they we continue to balance our time with them to include important policy issues as well as earmark requests.~~

As suggested, we need to solicit information on policy issues that our member agencies and community partners may be concerned with so that we can raise those issues with our Washington delegation and their staff. The timeline for the 2010 project selection process is as follows:

- Kick-off Meeting – Wednesday, September 9, 2009 @ 3:00 PM at COG
- Mail/Email Call for Projects – Monday, September 21, 2009
- Deadline for project submittal – Friday, October 9, 2009
- Project Selection Committee Meeting – Wednesday, October 21, 2009
- COG Policy Board Approval of Project List – Thursday, November 19, 2009

This was an information item and required no further action by the Policy Board.

D. San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agencies Fall Policy Conference – October 1 and 2 [STECK]

Ms. Steck briefly updated the Board on the upcoming Conference. The San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agencies' Policy Council was established in 2006. The Council is comprised of two elected officials (and one alternate) appointed from each of the regional planning agency's policy boards. The Council meets at least twice each year to provide guidance on common interregional policy issues. The Policy Council also represents the San Joaquin Valley at public forums, including before the California Transportation Commission, the Governor and his/her administration, and before State and Federal legislative bodies that require a common voice. The Policy Council also provides direction and guidance to the Regional Planning Agencies Executive Directors Committee.

Three years ago, the Policy Council initiated an annual Fall Policy Conference, which allows the eight Regional Planning Agencies in the Valley to convene with other agencies and stakeholders to discuss issues that affect the entire region. While the primary focus is on transportation planning, the Council recognizes that other regional issues must be considered as well. The ultimate goal is to implement policies that will result in an improved quality of life for all who live here. The agenda for this year's program is available on the COG website at www.fresnocog.org.

This was an information item and required no further action by the Policy Board.

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

Steve Samuelian of California Consulting Inc provided a verbal report to the Policy Board on his consulting activities for the COG during the month. A report was handed out.

Mr. Samuelian asked that a letter of congratulations be sent to Darius Assemi on his appointment to the California Transportation Commission.

Tony Boren referred to handout on SB406. This is a funding mechanism proposed by adding \$1 or \$2 to vehicle registration. After discussion, a motion was made by Mayor Lujan to oppose the bill. A vote was called for and the motion failed. A second motion was made by Mayor Lujan (Selma) and seconded by Supervisor Anderson (County) to take no position. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

F. Request for Letter of Support – Water Issues – [BOREN/PEREA]

Urgency Status: Just notified of water meeting to be held in Washington, DC next week

Issue: Approve letter to Secretary of the Interior Salazar and Secretary of Commerce Locke calling for a state-federal partnership to address the crisis in the Delta.

A motion was made by Mayor Lopez (Parlier) and seconded by Mayor Lander (Coalinga) to approve Letter of Support. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

Fresno COG Sitting As the Abandoned Vehicle Abatement Authority

VII. ABANDONED VEHICLE ABATEMENT

A. Abandoned Vehicle Abatement FY 2008-09 Third Quarter Summary Report [THOMPSON]

Clark Thompson reported on this item. 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 third quarter of FY 2008-09, a total of \$164,733.72 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 \$163,818.84 conducting AVA activities and the Fresno COG claimed \$2,375.00 for program administration (total expenses = \$166,193.84). Expenses exceeded revenue during the quarter by \$1,460.12, thereby reducing the program's accumulated surplus. A total of 865 vehicles were abated this quarter, compared to 1,171 vehicles abated during the same quarter of the previous fiscal year. This decrease is mostly attributable to fewer abatements during the quarter by the City of Fresno and, to a lesser extent, the County of Fresno.

A motion was made by Supervisor Anderson (County) and seconded by Councilmember Aguayo (Fowler) to recommend acceptance of the Abandoned Vehicle Abatement FY 2008-09 Third Quarter Summary Report as presented. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

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

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Items from Staff

None

B. Items from Members

Mayor Silva (Mendota) was nominated for Elected Official of the Year.

October 1 – Kerman Open House

IX. CLOSED SESSION

Conference with Labor Negotiator (Government Code Section 54957.6): conference regarding unrepresented COG staff employee, Planner III; COG Executive Director, Tony Boren to act as Labor Negotiator on behalf of Fresno COG Board.

X. REOPEN SESSION

There were no reportable actions taken in closed session.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Tony Boren, Executive Director

\md

***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**

Attachment A
Observers and Non-Members
COG Board Meeting
September 24, 2009

Debbie Garrett, California Health Collaborative
Sharon Johnson, Susan G. Komen
Tom Lang, Aquarius Aquarium Institute
Walter [unreadable]
Toni Pacini
Vong Mouanoutoua
John D. Clements
Shawn Carlson
Lea Kovacsiss, Supervisor Perea's office
Henry Perea, Board of Supervisors
Javier Guzman, CUC
Barbara Goodwin, public
Ed Goodwin, public
Jerry Duncan, public
Jeff Roberts, Granville Homes
Jeffrey Webster, Fresno County Rural Transit Agency
Russ Widmar, Fresno Yosemite International Airport
Sheriff Margaret Mims, Fresno County
Michele Segou, CUC
Don Hubbard, Parsons Brinckerhoff
Anamaria Madrigal, National Latina Business Women Association
Bruce Rudd, City of Fresno
Lynn Gorman, Fresno County
Steve Samuelian, California Consulting
Barbara Steck, Fresno COG
Brenda Lauchner, Fresno COG
Les Beshears, Fresno COG
Renée DeVere-Oki, Fresno COG
Todd Sobrado, Fresno COG
Clark Thompson, Fresno COG
Tom Webster, Fresno COG
Stephanie Maxwell, Fresno COG
Marla Day, Fresno COG

Council of Fresno County Governments
Fourth Quarter Progress Report for FY 2008-09
Ending June 30, 2009

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

WE 110 - Regional Streets and Highways

Objective: To maintain a continuing, cooperative, and coordinated regional streets and highways planning process that is responsive to local needs as well as state and federal requirements.

Accomplishments:

- Continued participation in the Statewide California Federal Programming Group (CFPG) established to provide a linkage between State, Federal, and Regional Transportation Planning Agencies involved in transportation programming activities.
- Involvement with related subcommittees of the CFPG group evaluating and making recommendations on policy and procedure updates related to programming.
- Continued use of the *California Transportation Improvement Program System* (CTIPS) and involvement in program updates.
- Continued participation in the San Joaquin Valley COG Directors Association Model Coordinating Committee (MCC) and Programming Coordination Group (PCG) which has now been combined into one interagency coordinated call.

[DEVERE-OKI]

WE 111 - Regional Transportation Modeling

Objective: To maintain a continuing, cooperative, and coordinated regional transportation modeling process that is responsive to local needs as well as state and federal requirements.

Accomplishments:

- Provided various model data to consultants, member agencies, and Caltrans.
- Continued participation in the Caltrans led Statewide Modeling/Information Sharing Group. Helped coordinate the San Joaquin Valley Regional Transportation Planning Agencies (RTPAs) Modeling/Air Quality Coordinating Committee. This committee was established to provide interagency transportation conformity consultation. The meetings are attended by representatives of the eight Valley RTPAs; the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA); Caltrans; the California Air Resources Board (CARB), the San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District (SJVUAPCD); and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).
- COG staff is chair of the San Joaquin Valley TP+/Cube Model Users Group.
- Kept the road network database up-to-date. The database is used for modeling and other reporting purposes.
- Continuing the land use update for traffic model to year 2003 conditions by updating land use information utilizing 2000 Census data and local data. Reviewed final land use and validated network. The Model Steering Committee adopted the validated 2003 base year model.
- The COG Board adopted the new validated model and land use.
- The Freeway Deficiency Study was completed.
- Continued participation in the San Joaquin River Crossing study.

- COG Modeling staff participates in the Regional Targets Advisory Committee developing green house gas targets and modeling requirements for the San Joaquin Valley.

[BITNER]

WE 112 - Regional Traffic Monitoring

Objective: To maintain the Fresno Regional Traffic Monitoring Program as a source of current traffic information for use by member agencies and the public, and as a validation tool for the Countywide Traffic Model.

Accomplishments:

- Coordinated the *Traffic Counts Program* and provided technical assistance to member agencies.
- Provided traffic counts in response to public requests.
- Prepared Annual Highway Performance Monitoring System update.

[BITNER]

WE 113 – Regional Transportation Planning Studies

Objective: The Regional Transportation Planning Studies work element is intended to provide resources to conduct focused transportation studies for the Fresno County region.

Accomplishments:

- Fehr and Peers have conducted a preliminary traffic analysis of the Study Area including traffic counts, several traffic demand model runs, and baseline reviews. Several staff-level meetings with the consultant, the County of Fresno, the City of Fresno and Fresno COG have taken place to identify critical direction for the study. A full committee meeting, which will involve a broad list of stakeholders is scheduled for early January 2009.
- Drafted RFP for the Golden State Corridor: Economic Development Infrastructure Improvements Engineering and Planning Study. Transmitted draft RFP for Project Development Team Review and scheduled meeting to finalize RFP. [DAWSON]

[TWEBSTER]

WE 114 – Fresno-Madera County Freeway Interchange Deficiency Study

Objective: Through a Caltrans Partnership Planning Grant, the Council of Fresno County Governments and the Madera County Transportation Commission are joining the cities of Fresno, Clovis, Madera, Selma, Kingsburg, Chowchilla and the counties of Fresno and Madera in an assessment of the current freeway systems and interchanges within Fresno and Madera counties. The purpose of the Fresno-Madera County Freeway Interchange Deficiency Study is to determine, based on projected population growth and build out of existing general plans, if a regional transportation impact fee will be required from future development in Fresno County in order to keep the metropolitan transportation system functioning properly.

Accomplishments:

- Released the Request for Proposal for the Freeway Deficiency Study Phase II.
- Interviewed consultants for the Phase II deficiency study. Fehr and Peers was selected for the study.
- Initial kick off meeting was held and consultant team is progressing in development of the deficiency study traffic model and delivering a fee study technical document.
- Additional traffic counts were taken to aid in validation of freeway ramps.

- Reviewed initial deficiency study findings.
- Consultant is finalizing final project costs.
- Project has been completed

[BITNER]

WE 115 – Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee Plan

Objective: The primary objective of this project is to develop a Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee Program.

Accomplishments: On October 9, 2008 the Council of Fresno County Governments and the Fresno County Transportation Authority adopted a Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee Program based on the following fee levels:

Land Use Category	Fee
<i>Residential Developments (\$/dwelling unit)</i>	
Single-Family Dwelling (market rate)	\$1,727
Single-Family Dwelling (affordable)	\$863
Multi-Family Dwelling (market rate)	\$1,212
Multi-Family Dwelling (affordable)	\$606
<i>Non-Residential Developments (\$/sq. ft.)</i>	
Education	Exempt
Government	Exempt
Commercial/Retail	\$1.96
Commercial/Office/Service	\$1.23
Light Industrial	\$0.49
Heavy Industrial	\$0.10
Other Non-Residential	\$0.42

As part of the fee adoption process, both Policy Boards agreed to a “phase-in” program whereby the fees collected in the 2009 would be 30% less than the identified fee, in 2010 the fees collected would be 15% less than the identified fee, and in 2011 the fee collected would be 100% of the identified fee.

At this point in the process, Fresno COG and FCTA staff will work with our member agencies to help them adopt and enact the Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee program.

[BOREN]

WE 120 - Regional Public Transportation Planning - Urban

Objective: To carry on the continuing urban area public transportation planning process to satisfy the requirements of the Federal Transit Administration under TEA-21 (1997), the Alquist-Ingalls Act (AB-402, 1977) and AB-120 (Statutes of 1979); the Social Service Improvement Act (SB-826, 1988); the Federal Clean Air Act Amendments; the 1988 California Clean Air Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-336).

Accomplishments:

- **Demand-Responsive Service Evaluation:** Staff continues to monitor the system for productivity, cost effectiveness, and compliance with ADA regulations.

- **Management Information Systems:** Staff continues to develop and maintain various MIS programs and services. Major work included generating ridership numbers for NTDB, and preparing the NTDB sample selection for FY09-10.
- **National Transit Database Report:** National Transit Data Base (NTDB) annual operating statistics for FY2008-09 are being compiled for the report to the Federal Transit Administration. NTDB data collection is an ongoing process.
- **Coordinate with Air District:** Staff reviews Air District's plans and rule making and attends workshops on topics related to transit planning. Staff also works closely in developing funding request strategies from the SJVUAPCD for related TCM's such as alternative fuels funding and transit pass subsidy funding.
- **Review Development Proposals:** Staff continues to work closely with the development community in order to promote pedestrian and transit-friendly development through review and comment on development proposals.
- **Community Outreach and Public information:** FAX information continues to be maintained on the World Wide Web at <http://www.fresno.gov/index.html>. Staff continues to work with major employers to promote public transit, and to find creative ways to increase transit's market share. Staff has participated in several community outreach activities with various local agencies.
- **Service Coordination:** The Clovis/FAX Metro pass continues to be a success, and FAX continues to include transit service schedules and information for Clovis Stageline in the FAX Schedule Guide.
- **Bus Rapid Transit Master Transit Plan:** The next steps in the Plan implementation are being pursued with the PTIS.
- **Regional Farebox:** The contract has been approved for Fare Logistics, and will now be funded with ARRA funds. Staff anticipates the project to be completed by March 2010.
- **Social Service Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC):** The SSTAC completed the Annual Unmet Transit Needs process, and its recommendation that there are no unmet transit needs in Fresno County was approved by the COG Policy Board after a public hearing on June 26, 2008.
- **Passenger Survey:** Staff has initiated a FAX passenger satisfaction survey being conducted through a contract with AIS Market Research. The survey will be completed during the first quarter of FY09-10.

[DOWNS]

WE 121 – Public Transit -Human Services Transportation (JARC)

Objective: The Human Services Transportation Coordination work element's aim is to improve transportation services for persons with disabilities, older adults, and individuals with lower incomes by ensuring that public and non-profit agencies coordinate transportation resources provided through multiple federal programs including the Formula Program for Elderly Persons and Persons with Disabilities; the Job Access and Reverse Commute Program and the New Freedom Program.

On August 10, 2005, President Bush signed the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act – A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). This new legislation included human services transportation coordination provisions which aim to improve transportation services for persons with disabilities, older adults, and individuals with lower incomes by ensuring that communities coordinate transportation resources provided through multiple federal programs. Coordination will enhance transportation access, minimize duplication of services, and facilitate the most appropriate cost-effective transportation

The human services transportation coordination provisions include the following activities:

- Requires the establishment of a locally developed, Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan for all FTA human service transportation programs: Section 5310 Elderly individuals and individuals with disabilities program, Section 5316 Jobs Access and Reverse Commute Program and Section 5317 New Freedom Program.

- Requires the plan to be developed by a process that includes representatives of public, private and nonprofit transportation and human services providers and participation by the public.

Accomplishments:

- Issued a call for projects for the FTA Section 5316, JARC Large Urban grant program. This program is administered by Fresno COG.
- Issued a call for projects for the FTA Section 5316, JARC, rural and small urban component. This program is administered by Caltrans.
- Received five grant applications for the COG administered component of the Federal Transit Administration Section 5316 JARC grant program.. We also convened the SSTAC grading committee to review and score the grant applications. All submitted grant applications were awarded funding.
- Started the process of programming the grants awarded for Section 5316 JARC grant program .

[SOBRADO]

WE 122 – Public Transit – Human Services Transportation (New Freedom)

Objective: The Human Services Transportation Coordination work element's aim is to improve transportation services for persons with disabilities, older adults, and individuals with lower incomes by ensuring that public and non-profit agencies coordinate transportation resources provided through multiple federal programs including the Formula Program for Elderly Persons and Persons with Disabilities; the Job Access and Reverse Commute Program and the New Freedom Program.

On August 10, 2005, President Bush signed the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act – A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). This new legislation included human services transportation coordination provisions which aim to improve transportation services for persons with disabilities, older adults, and individuals with lower incomes by ensuring that communities coordinate transportation resources provided through multiple federal programs. Coordination will enhance transportation access, minimize duplication of services, and facilitate the most appropriate cost-effective transportation

The human services transportation coordination provisions include the following activities:

- Requires the establishment of a locally developed, Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan for all FTA human service transportation programs: Section 5310 Elderly individuals and individuals with disabilities program, Section 5316 Jobs Access and Reverse Commute Program and Section 5317 New Freedom Program.
- Requires the plan to be developed by a process that includes representatives of public, private and nonprofit transportation and human services providers and participation by the public.

Accomplishments:

- Issued a call for projects for the FY 2008, 2009 FTA Section 5317, New Freedom, Large Urban grant program. This program is administered by Fresno COG.
- Issued a call for projects for the FY 2009 FTA Section 5317, New Freedom, rural and small urban component. This program is administered by Caltrans.
- Received four grant applications for the COG administered component of the Federal Transit Administration Section 5317 New Freedom grant program. We also convened the SSTAC grading committee to review and score the grant applications. All submitted grant applications were awarded funding.
- Started the process of programming the grants awarded for the Section 5317 New Freedom grant program.

[SOBRADO]

WE 123 – Public Transportation Infrastructure Study (PTIS)

Objective: The purpose of this work element is to identify and evaluate viable alternative mass transportation options for Fresno County, and develop ridership and cost projections for various scenarios to establish a long-range plan leading to optimum connectivity within the region.

Accomplishments:

- Multiple public scoping meetings introducing various BRT option for the Ventura/Kings Canyon corridor and the Blackstone corridor were conducted.
- The PTIS consulting team prepared a Project Initiation document for an FTA Very Small Starts Grant. Staff and the consulting team continue to work towards the development of a Locally Preferred Option leading to entry into Project Development with the FTA approval.
- A market analysis evaluating long-range employment profile and origin-destination linkages for all of Fresno County was completed.
- Staff and the PTIS consulting team held coordinating meetings with the City of Fresno's Activity Center consultants and staff to integrate findings from both planning efforts.
- A current conditions and trends analysis was prepared by the consulting team, and will be presented to the TAC during the first quarter of FY09-10 along with the market analysis.
- A low level system evaluation of the FAX, FCRTA services was prepared.

[DOWNS]

WE 124 – Transit Professional Development

Objective:

The purpose of this Professional Development project is to provide a training and capacity building program for staff planners, decision makers and the development industry of the Central San Joaquin Valley.

Accomplishments:

- Working with Caltrans, FAX, and the City of Fresno to get the program up and running. One meeting has been held thus far.

[SOBRADO]

WE 130 - Regional Public Transportation Planning - Rural

Objective: To carry on the continuing rural public transportation planning process to satisfy the requirements of the Alquist-Ingalls Act (AB-402, 1977); the Social Service Improvement Act (AB-120, 1979); the Mello Act (SB-157, 1985); the Specialized Transportation Services Act (SB-826, 1988) the Federal Clean Air Act Amendments (1990); the 1988 California Clean Air Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-336).

Accomplishments:

- The staff of the Fresno County Rural Transit Agency and the Rural Consolidated Transportation Service Agency prepared and completed their updates to the Consolidated Transportation Service Agency's Operations Program and Budget for the 2009-10 Fiscal Year. The document was circulated for forty-five days for public comment before adoption on June 25, 2009.
- The Fresno COG's Social Service Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) completed its annual "Unmet Transit Needs" outreach process during the Fourth Quarter. The Council reviewed the staff's analysis during the Fourth Quarter before reaching a finding recommendation that transit needs will be reasonably

met for the coming fiscal year. The Fresno COG Board adopted the finding following a legally noticed Public Hearing on June 26, 2009.

[WEBSTER]

WE 150 - Other Modes - Aviation & Rail

Objective: To maintain a continuing, coordinated planning process in the aviation, non-motorized and rail modes.

Accomplishments/Aviation:

- Monitored aviation issues and legislation important to Fresno County.

Accomplishments/Rail:

- Monitored rail issues and legislation important to Fresno County.
- Monitored activities of the California High-Speed Rail Authority and other activities related to high-speed rail in California.
- Presented to the COG Committees and Policy Board during the June 2009 cycle of meetings information and strategies regarding the potential location of a high-speed train heavy maintenance station in Fresno County. Recommendations were approved by the Policy Board.
- Participated in a meeting of the San Joaquin Valley Rail Committee on April 30, 2009 in Martinez. Key agenda items included presentation on the deployment by the BNSF of its ATMS and presentation and discussion of Division of Rail capital projects and potential federal stimulus (ARRA) grants. Other reports were made on route performance, Amtrak California train and thruway bus operations, and state/federal budgets and legislation.
- Scheduled and conducted a meeting of the Fresno COG Rail Committee on April 10, 2009. Major agenda items included San Joaquin Valley Railroad Abandonments and Implications for Fresno County and for Future Passenger Rail and Short-Haul Freight Rail in the San Joaquin Valley and the Joint High-Speed Rail / Rail Consolidation Study and Related Items.
- Continued efforts with Fresno Area Residents for Rail Consolidation (FARRC) and other interested citizens and organizations regarding the potential rail consolidation project in Fresno and other projects.

[THOMPSON]

WE 151 - Bicycle and Pedestrian

Objective: To maintain a continuing, coordinated planning process in the bicycle and pedestrian transportation modes.

Accomplishments:

- Monitored bikeway issues and legislation important to Fresno County.
- Staff sits as a voting member representing the San Joaquin Valley on Caltrans Bicycle Advisory Committee (CBAC). The purpose of the CBAC is to advise Caltrans on technical issues related to bikeways planning and implementation. Participated via teleconference in meetings of the CBAC on April 2 and June 4, 2009. Agenda items at the first meeting included various status reports (Highway Design Manual Revision, NEVs, AB 1581 Recommendations, Bikes on Roadways Training, DD-64 R! Implementation, etc.) and discussions on Bicycles on Amtrak and Pavement Safety Edge. Agenda items at the second meeting included most of the same status reports and also a discussion of Bridge Rail Height.
- Extensive outreach to member agencies regarding bikeway planning and mapping. Information received converted to GIS format. Completion of mapping expected in first quarter of F.Y. 2009-10.
- Coordinated with County Planner Shay Dewey on the County's update of its Bicycle Transportation Plan.

[THOMPSON]

WE 153 – Airport Land Use Commission

Objective: To ensure the orderly development of lands in the vicinity of public use airports within Fresno County and ensure consistency of land use development with the various Airport Land Use plans within Fresno County.

Accomplishments:

- Conducted two Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC) reviews and held the first ALUC meeting to determine consistency with the Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan.
- Created a GIS map base to facilitate ongoing and future presentations to the Commission.
- Began establishing procedures and reviewed current, best-practices from other ALUCs in order to establish more meaningful and functional process for the COG.

[TWEBSTER]

WE 170 - Regional Transportation Plan

Objective: To develop and publish, on a four-year basis, the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) for Fresno County which addresses at a minimum a twenty year planning horizon. The plan shall include both long-range and short-range strategies and actions for implementing an integrated intermodal transportation system. The plan will address the federally required Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) planning factors. The final rule for SAFETEA-LU implementation was released in February 2007 with an effective date of March 16, 2007.

Accomplishments:

- Commenced holding weekly meetings of appropriate COG staff to discuss issues related to 2011 Regional Transportation Plan. Initial discussions have focused on environmental requirements of the new Plan.
- Developed the Regional Transportation Plan Public Outreach Plan.
- Worked with local agency representatives to ensure accurate information continues to be included in RTP updates.
- Processed Administrative Modification #1 to the RTP on August 14, 2008.
- Formal Amendment #2 was made available for 30 day public review and comment November 19-December 18.

[THOMPSON]

WE 172 - Congestion Management Process

Objective: To respond to federal congestion management planning requirements, and have a Congestion Management Process (CMP) in place by the end of November 2009. The Fresno County CMP will address congestion-related issues in Fresno region in a systematic and regional approach. As an integral part of Fresno COG's planning process, the Fresno County CMP will be incorporated in the RTP and TIP process.

Accomplishments:

- Collected 2006/2007 traffic counts and performed LOS analysis on the location with existing counts
- Performed LOS analysis on 2030 network
- Adopted Congestion Management Objectives
- Developed & adopted CMP alternative strategies (except land use strategies)
- Conducted preliminary analysis on capacity increasing projects

- Reviewed potential CMP land use strategies
[CAI]

WE 180 - Air Quality Transportation Planning

Objective: The Air Quality Transportation Planning Work Element provides for the development and maintenance of a coordinated transportation and air quality planning process. The federal and California Clean Air Acts require that transportation plans, programs and projects be consistent with, or conform to, state air quality implementation plans, and establishes the criteria and procedures for determining whether or not they conform. In order to be in compliance with federal and state regulations, transportation activities can not produce new air quality violations, worsen existing violations, or delay timely attainment of the national ambient air quality standards. With the State of California taking the national and international lead on the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions which contribute to climate change, new tasks are being required of transportation planning agencies.

Accomplishments:

- On-going coordination with local, State, and federal agencies regarding air quality and transportation issues.
- Monitored State and federal guidance related to air quality transportation planning requirements.
- Continued participation in the Statewide Transportation Conformity Working Group including meetings and transmitting updates from the working group.
- Continued participation with the other seven Valley Regional Planning Agencies (RPA) in the San Joaquin Valley Model Coordinating Committee (MCC) and the Programming Coordination Group (PCG) to address pertinent transportation, modeling, air quality, and conformity analysis issues. On May 28, 2009 the structure and name of this committee was changed to incorporate quarterly workshops and more hands-on participation. The committee is now called the Interagency Consultation Group.
- Assisted and drafted project level (hot-spot) transportation conformity determinations for transportation agencies.
- Provided Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) assistance for transportation agencies.
- Participated in conference calls with staff from ARB, EPA, FHWA, Caltrans and various members of the other San Joaquin Valley RPAs.
- Attended San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SVUAPCD) Board meetings and workshops related to transportation.
- Presented air quality updates to the Fresno COG Transportation Policy Committee, the Transportation Technical Committee and the Policy Advisory Committee.
- Attended community meetings and tracked the development of Air Quality Elements in General Plans requirements.
- Began draft and attended planning meetings for the upcoming 2011 RTP greenhouse gas/climate change element.
- Tracked and attended meetings/webcasts and legislative developments related to Climate Change initiatives (AB 32 and SB 375), attended and reviewed Regional Target Advisory Committee (RTAC) work products..
- Prepared comment letters regarding implementation of Climate Change legislation, one letter requesting a meeting with Speaker Pro tem Steinberg and local agencies regarding the costs of implementation.
- Membership and active participation in the San Joaquin Valley Clean Cities Coalition.
- Submitted comment letter to SVUAPCD regarding Rule 9410- Employer-based Trip Reduction.
- Revised air quality elements for the FAX Short Range Transportation Plan update.
- Completed the June 2009 Redetermination of Conformity.

[Dawson]

TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

WE 210 – Measure C Reauthorization

Objective: To provide the organizational structure and staffing for development of an Expenditure Plan that will guide the utilization of a proposed ½ cent sales tax measure that is tentatively scheduled for the November 2006 ballot. The Reauthorization process is being guided by a Regional Steering Committee consisting of elected officials, interested regional stakeholders and the general public. Staffing is provided by COG.

Accomplishments:

- COG staff continues to work with PB Americas Inc. in developing a Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee program which is a requirement of Measure “C”. Staff anticipates a COG Policy Board decision on the RTMF in August 2008. Measure “C” requires that all COG member agencies adopt the RTMF by January 1, 2009 or risk losing a percentage of their Street Maintenance pass-through funding.
- Staff began development of the Measure C Carpool Program and sought approval of the Program Concept from the TTC, PAC and Policy Boards
- COG Board approved establishment of January 1, 2010 as the revised enactment date for member agencies implementing the Measure “C” Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee Program.
- Finalized Joint Powers Agency Agreement

[BOREN]

WE 211 – Measure C Citizen Oversight Committee

Objective: To inform the public and to ensure that the Measure C funding program revenues and expenditures are spent as promised to the public in the 2006 Measure C Extension Expenditure Plan.

Accomplishments:

- A meeting of the Citizen Oversight Committee was held June 11, 2009.
- One vacant position on the committee was advertised in the Fresno Bee, and notices were posted to the Fresno COG website and emailed out to Fresno COG’s email databanks. The position was filled, but the nominee resigned before attending his first meeting due to work conflicts that require him to be out of town.
- Prepared and began sending out the 2009-2010 Local Agency Reporting Forms
- Prepared a new Application Form reflecting 9 available positions on the committee (due to resignation and term expiration). Approved newspaper advertisements designed by JSA for Fresno County Transportation Authority regarding the positions.

[LAUCHNER]

WE 212 – Measure C Carpool/Vanpool Program

Objective: To expend Measure C Carpool/Vanpool Program funds to encourage an increase in carpooling, commuter vanpooling and farmworker vanpooling in Fresno County.

Accomplishments Commuter Vanpool Program: COG staff continues to:

- Improve, evaluate, and monitor tracking and reporting procedures
- Develop and release notifications of funds available via website, email, public service announcements, news articles, participate in community events, radio and television interviews, and other means available to all Fresno County residents including the Tribal membership and employees.

- Work with marketing agency to develop outreach material used for community events, presentations, and mailings.
- COG staff continuously updates all related information and forms online.
- COG staff receives and evaluates all applications for the commuter vanpool program. Monitor all subsidies and reimbursements for renewals at the vanpool's 12 month anniversary. Receive and process all renewal applications. Mailed award letters to new and existing vanpool drivers.
- Create new partnerships with vanpool providers and with public and private organizations to increase vanpool and carpool awareness and participation. Provided one-on-one visits with employers and employees and distributed informational material.
- Completed a redesign of the Valleyrides.com website to include the Measure C commuting programs, and Tulare County commuter information (due to a funding and partnership with TCAG staff). The new website includes Measure C Vanpool functionality and information.
- Provide customer service through phone calls, assisting walk-in traffic and arranging onsite visits with public and private organizations.
- Receive and process monthly vanpool invoices and mail out subsidies, reimbursements and award letters.
- Continuous research and development to improve and enhance Commuter Vanpool Program.

Accomplishments Carpool Subsidy Program: COG staff continues to:

- Worked with JSA (marketing agency) to develop outreach material used for community events, presentations, partner recruitment and mailings. Developed and began implementing a media plan for outreach to the community.
- Mailed and emailed partnership information to businesses in the Fresno County region.
- Completed a redesign of the Valleyrides.com website to include the Measure C commuting programs, and Tulare County commuter information (due to a funding and partnership with TCAG staff). The new website includes Carpool Program functionality and information.
- Develop notifications of funds available via valleyrides website, email, public service announcements, news articles, participate in community events, and other means available to all Fresno County residents including the Tribal membership and employees (still in process).

[GARZA/LAUCHNER]

WE 213 – Measure C Rail Consolidation

Objective: To implement the Measure C Rail Consolidation Subprogram. This will increase safety, reduce traffic congestion by moving the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) Railroad tracks adjacent to the Union Pacific (UP) Railroad tracks through Fresno, provide for new under- or over-passes that separate vehicular and rail traffic, and fund efforts to secure an additional \$600 to \$900 million of needed funding from state, federal, or other agencies to fully fund rail consolidation.

Accomplishments:

- Participated in a meeting of the Technical Assessment Group for the Rail Realignment/High-Speed Train Study on April 28, 2009. Meeting purpose was to continue to identify, discuss, and evaluate alternative alignments.
- Finalized in April 2009 the Cooperative Agreements between the Authority and the Fresno COG for the Joint High-Speed Rail / Rail Consolidation Study.
- Participated in two meetings with railroad representatives to discuss railroad participation, positions, and concerns regarding the Rail Realignment/High-Speed Train Study. The first meeting was held with the Union Pacific on June 25, 2009 in Roseville and the second meeting was held with the BNSF on June 29, 2009 in San Bernardino.

[THOMPSON]

WE 214 – Measure C ADA/Seniors/Paratransit Taxi Scrip

Objective: To implement the Measure C Taxi Scrip Program for enhanced taxicab transportation services for persons 70 years of age and older living in the Fresno County (service area) region.

Accomplishments: Staff continues to:

- Improve and update tracking, reporting and information in database for taxi scrip program.
- Continuous development and release of program notifications such as funds available, forms, bilingual educational literature, question and answers via website, email, public service announcements, television interviews, videos for Road Shows, group presentations, news articles, community events and other means available to all Fresno County residents including the Tribal membership and employees.
- COG staff continuously updates all related information, forms and applications online as well as ensures that all distribution centers have complete and updated resources.
- Visit all distribution centers no less than once a month to ensure proper sales reporting, documentation, and provide training sessions on a needs basis.
- A vendor reimbursement agreement was drafted to provide all vendors/distributors with a sales percentage reimbursement for administrative costs incurred. All vendors agreed with terms and conditions of the agreement and will now begin to reimburse Measure C for all scrip sold (minus a 5% administration fee).
- COG staff receives and evaluates all applications for Taxi Scrip Program and Proxy Designation Forms.
- Mailed letters and 2009-2010 User ID cards to all users in the database.
- Continue to provide customer service through phone calls, assisting walk-in traffic and arranging onsite visits with public and private organizations.
- COG staff receives and processes invoices, subsidies, reimbursements and sales.
- Continue to review biweekly taxi vendor logs and submitted taxi scrip for accuracy and reimbursement.
- Created partnership with various local vendors, private and public organizations to act as currency distributors and as educators to increase taxi scrip program awareness and participation.
- Continuous research and development to improve and enhance the Taxi Scrip Program.
- Work with marketing agency to develop outreach material used for media, community events, presentations, and mailings.

[GARZA]

WE 215 – Measure C Farmworker Vanpool Programs

Objective: To implement the Measure C Farmworker Vanpool Program, encouraging an increase in farmworker vanpooling participation in Fresno County.

Accomplishments:

- Improve, evaluate, and monitor tracking and reporting procedures.
- Develop and release bilingual notifications of funds available via website, email, public service announcements, videos for Roadshows, news articles, participate in community events, and other means available to all Fresno County residents including the Tribal membership and employees.
- COG staff continuously updates all related information and applications online and works closely with vanpool provider to educate Farmworkers on informational program items.
- COG staff receives and evaluates all individual applications for the Farmworker vanpool program.
- Created new partnerships with vanpool providers and with public and private organizations to increase Farmworker vanpool awareness and participation.
- Provide customer service through phone calls, assisting walk-in traffic and arranging onsite visits with public and private organizations.
- Receive and process monthly vanpool invoices and mail out subsidies and reimbursement.

- Mailed informational items to farm labor contractors to insert in weekly pay checks. Continuous research and development to improve and enhance Farmworker vanpool program.
- Work with marketing agency to develop outreach material used for community events, presentations, and mailings.

{GARZA}

WE-220 – Transportation Program Development

Objective: To identify transportation improvements proposed for implementation within a short-range period of compliance with federal and state requirements.

Accomplishments:

- Continued participation in the Statewide California Federal Programming Group (CFPG) established to provide a linkage between State, Federal, and Regional Transportation Planning Agencies involved in transportation programming activities.
- Involvement with related subcommittees of the CFPG group evaluating and making recommendations on policy and procedure updates related to programming.
- Continued use of the *California Transportation Improvement Program System* (CTIPS) and involvement in program updates.
- Continued participation in the San Joaquin Valley COG Directors Association Model Coordinating Committee (MCC) and Programming Coordination Group (PCG) now call this Interagency Consultation Group.
- COG staff continues to work with its member agencies in an effort to develop/maintain a financially constrained transportation improvement program.
- COG staff continues to attend California Transportation Commission meeting and Statewide RTPA meetings to monitor, regional, state and Federal transportation issues.
- Correspondence with Agency staff and Caltrans regarding preparation and delivery of the Obligation Plan for 2008/09.
- Development and posting of the Annual listing of projects for projects delivered in FFY 2007/08.
- The 2009 FTIP was adopted by the COG Policy Board July 31, 2008 and submitted to Caltrans and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) for approval. Federal approval was received on November 17, 2008.
- Formal Amendment #3 was approved by FHWA on February 29, 2009.
- Formal Amendment #4 was approved by FHWA on March 17, 2009.
- Formal Amendment #5 was available for public review between 3/9-3/23/09 and approved by Fresno COG on 3/24/09.
- Administrative Amendment #6 was approved by Caltrans on March 25, 2009.
- Formal Amendment #7 was approved by FHWA on April 30, 2009.
- Administrative Modification #8 was approved by Caltrans on April 24, 2009.
- Formal Amendment #9 was approved by Caltrans on June 17, 2009.
- Administrative Modification #10 was approved by Caltrans on June 19, 2009.
- Formal Amendment #11 was released for public review between June 29-July 13, 2009.
- COG staff continues intergovernmental coordination and public notification for all formal amendments to the FTIP. COG staff also continues to conduct administrative amendments to the FTIP as needed.
- Continued involvement, participation and monitoring of monthly California Transportation Commission meetings, Regional Transportation Planning Agency meetings, and Self-Help County Coalition meetings.
- Coordination with FHWA, FTA, Caltrans and local agencies on the implementation of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

[BOREN/DEVERE-OKI]

SERVICES AND GENERAL COORDINATION ACTIVITIES

WE 310 - Intergovernmental Coordination

Objectives: 1) To promote coordination, cooperation and communication on administrative and planning matters among local agencies, the COG, federal and state agencies. To enable various agencies, including Native Americans, to participate in and review the regional planning process; 2) To provide the public with information on activities, meetings, planning documents and reports, and to seek advice from the public on COG's planning activities; and 3) To provide local agencies and the public the opportunity to review and comment upon federal grant proposals through the Local Clearinghouse Process; and 4) To provide local agencies with information on federal and state legislation, regulations, guidelines, and policies that effect the Fresno COG and our member agencies.

Accomplishments:

- Continued to provide staff support to the Association for the Beautification of State Route 99. Organized bimonthly meetings for the Association, assisted with correspondence, conducted research, and prepared staff reports.
- Continued efforts towards implementing the *2000 Highway 99 Beautification Plan* by recommending the adoption of a draft Highway Beautification Overlay Zoning District by the Cities of Kingsburg, Selma, Fowler, Fresno, and Fresno County. Provided guidance and support to Fresno County planning staff as the Overlay made its way through the adoption process.
- Continued monitoring other SR 99 beautification efforts such as the Great Valley Center's Highway 99 Project and Caltrans' *Highway 99 Plan*.
- Provided ongoing support to member agencies of the Abandoned Vehicle Abatement Service Authority in the establishment of this new program in Fresno County. Issues discussed over the course of the quarter include election of Chair and Vice-Chair of the Authority and a determination of time standards and personnel costs for use in calculating program costs.
- Staff continues to outreach to the Native American Tribal governments, both federally and non-federally recognized, in Fresno County to solicit their input and to seek their participation in COG activities. Staff continues to provide all of the tribes with ongoing meeting notifications and any other pertinent information that may be of interest to the tribes. Fresno COG will be working with Kern COG who will be the lead agency on a grant to enhance outreach to Tribal governments.
- Continue process of member agency outreach to provide update on the SJV Regional Blueprint Planning Process and determine how COG can assist with implementation.
- Continued outreach with staff and administrators of member agencies to gather input for the Blueprint.
- Provide ongoing updates to member agencies on progress with Blueprint activities.
- Assumed Valleywide coordination role on work with eight Valley COGs on for SJV Blueprint.
- Staff continues involvement/collaboration on Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) projects of local, valley-wide, and State interest.
- Staff participates in monthly meetings with the Fresno County Rural Collaborative Committee headed by the Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission that offers capacity enhancing opportunities for rural areas.
- Executive Director and Deputy Director have been holding meetings with member agency Board and PAC members to provide information and solicit input.
- Staff participates in monthly meetings with the Fresno Chamber of Commerce's Government Affairs Council where legislation and local, state and federal policies are discussed that affect the Fresno region.
- Fresno COG staff devotes significant time to on-going legislative activities including, but not limited to, monthly reports detailing pending state and federal legislation in current sessions, bill analysis, regular correspondence to state and federal representatives communicating positions on bills of interest by our

Policy Board, and the development of an annual Fresno COG Legislative Platform.

- In March, staff submitted a Draft 2009 Fresno COG Legislative Platform for Policy Board approval.
- The 5th annual Sacramento One Voice took place in March.

[BOREN/STECK/DANSBY/FAWCETT]

WE 311 - Public Information and Participation

Objective: To provide the public with information on activities, meetings, planning documents and reports, and to seek advice from the public on COG's planning activities. This work element is intended to highlight the COG's desire to encourage more public participation in the transportation planning process, consistent with TEA 21 requirements. This will include public involvement in the development stages of plans and programs as well as throughout the adoption process. COG's Public Involvement Procedures will be consulted and followed during each phase of plan or program development.

It is Fresno COG's desire that the citizens of Fresno County and its cities assist in delineating values, goals, and objectives of transportation-related services and planning documents. Further, it is Fresno COG's intent that those same citizens, charged with the responsibility of providing feedback on a continuous basis, will participate in the selection of transportation facilities and programs for planning and programming under Fresno COG's authority. Finally, it is the goal of Fresno COG to adequately provide information to and solicit input from historically underserved community of Fresno County (i.e. elderly, minority groups, youth, disabled and lower income people).

Accomplishments:

- Prepared agenda packages, reports, and notices for COG's three monthly public meetings.
- Filled requests for information about Fresno COG and/or their member agencies and updated various listings.
- Designed and printed outreach materials for Fresno COG staff as requested for Blueprint, several Measure C programs and Outlook Newsletter.
- Developed a new outreach plan for the Measure C Carpool Program. Developed and approved many new materials for outreach distribution and began implementing a media plan for the program. Completed redesign of the Valleyrides.com website.
- Continued updating Fresno COG's website with a variety of graphics, and material and calendar entries.
- Developed a Public Outreach Plan for the Regional Transportation Plan Update. Continue to fine tune the plan, a research outreach strategies.
- Facilitated one meeting of the Public Information Officers Peer Group.
- Continued working with Fresno County Transportation Authority Staff and consultants on public outreach for Measure C projects and programs.
- Attended meetings, reviewed materials and helped promote Public Transportation Infrastructure Study Public Outreach.
- Developed a Fresno COG Facebook page and monitor it daily.

[LAUCHNER]

WE 312 - COGView Internet Home Page

Objective: To create a source that provides easy access to government and other information for Fresno County residents, member agencies, and perspective business interests using the latest technology of the World Wide Web. Additional objectives include enhancing potential economic development and increasing public knowledge and involvement of COG activities as well as reduce costs.

Accomplishments:

- The Fresno COG website maintains minutes and agendas for the Fresno COG Technical Advisory Committee, the Policy Advisory Committee and Policy Board. Committee members have the choice of continuing to receive agenda by mail or they can sign up to receive links to the agendas online by email.
- Air quality, transportation modeling data and other information is updated regularly on the website.
- Updated and added reports and publications put out by the Fresno COG.
- Calendar, Announcement and Meeting sections are continuously updated and kept current on the Fresno COG website. Meeting agenda/handout links are included on the online calendar.
- Provided support and ongoing maintenance of the COGView website.
- Continued to provide ongoing support and maintenance of the COGView website.

[LAUCHNER/SOBRADO]

WE 313 – Environmental Justice Activities

Objectives: Devise ways to ensure that Fresno County's disadvantaged and minority populations are being included in the transportation process. The COG's Environmental Justice Task Force, whose members include representatives from community based organizations that represent low-income, minority, elderly, disabled, Native American, and farmworker communities as well as representatives from local government agencies, Caltrans, and FHWA, met on a monthly basis from March of 2004 through spring of 2005.

In response to Federal and State emphasis on Title VI and Environmental Justice an effort has been added to this work element that will involve establishing an Environmental Justice Task Force to develop a process with which to assess and ensure compliance of Fresno COG's transportation planning efforts with environmental justice requirements and Title VI. The Task Force will play a key role in evaluating COG's current Environmental Justice and Public Participation efforts and provide guidance on how to achieve the desired results. The Task Force will also help define the target population within Fresno County, identify the needs of the target population and develop appropriate performance measures for gauging the regional benefit and burdens of transportation system investments on the target population.

An Environmental Justice Report will be prepared, which will include the Environmental Justice Task Force efforts and recommendations, as well as the analysis used to evaluate the Regional Transportation Plan to ensure that the programs, policies, and activities outlined in the plan serve all segments of the region without generating disproportionately high adverse impacts upon target populations.

Caltrans has developed an Environmental Justice Desk Guide that will serve as a resource for COG staff to better understand Environmental Justice issues and provide guidelines for the implementation of Environmental Justice in the planning process. Fresno COG staff has reviewed the Caltrans Desk Guide and plans to use the recommendations provided by incorporating them, as applicable, in our Environmental Justice efforts.

The Environmental Justice Task Force has reviewed the Fresno County Environmental Justice and has provided valuable guidance to strengthen key points made in the Plan. Fresno COG staff has also had the Fresno County Environmental Justice Plan translated into Spanish for Spanish-speaking stakeholders. A draft copy of the Fresno County Environmental Justice Plan has been completed and will be release for 45-day review and comment during the January/February 2009 Fresno COG public meetings cycle.

Accomplishments:

- Participated in three all-day meetings with Indian tribes from throughout the San Joaquin Valley as part of the Indian Tribal mapping exercise being run out of Kern COG.
- Outreached and networked to Indian tribes from Fresno County in order to facilitate dialog to better incorporate them into the transportation process.

[SOBRADO]

WE 320 - Technical Assistance to Members

Objective: To provide member governments with specialized technical assistance services. It is intended that the major beneficiaries of this service be the smaller cities with limited technical staff resources.

Accomplishments:

- *Rural Communities Collaborative of Fresno County (RCCFC):* Served on RCCFC Steering and General Committees. The RCCFC is a volunteer organization geared toward helping rural communities to become self-sufficient through increased social and economic development. The Collaborative acts as a catalyst in identifying available federal, state, and local resources available to serve local community needs and provides access to and dissemination of those resources. Fresno COG staff also continues to participate in I-5 Business Development Committee activities, which focus on identifying economic development opportunities on the westside of Fresno County.
- *I-5 Business Development Corridor:* COG staff continues to participate in this work activity which focuses attention on planning, growth and economic issues facing the communities in western Fresno County.
- Currently assisting rural communities with establishing videoconferencing platforms in order to help cut the cost, time and air quality detriment associated with frequent travel to required meeting.
- COG staff is providing additional support to help fund the project through various competitive as well as available, government formula grants.

[BOREN]

WE 330 – Outside Technical Assistance

Objective: To provide traffic modeling information to outside agencies on a cost reimbursement basis. Also, to provide program support functions for microcomputer applications (accounting, utility billing, etc.) to interested parties on a cost reimbursement basis.

Accomplishments:

- Conducted modeling to support several traffic impact studies for local consultants.

[BITNER]

WE 340 – Traffic Demand Management Program

Objective: Transportation Demand Management (TDM) includes a wide variety of transportation control measures having a goal of reducing overall motor vehicle usage. In prior years, the predominate effort of this activity has been promotion of ridesharing. Declining state and federal revenue to support this effort in recent years has resulted in a less ambitious Program beginning in 1996/97.

Accomplishments:**Ridematching:**

- Currently has over 1,400 registered users in the *Carpool/Vanpool Online Matchlist* program at www.Valleyrides.com. Maintained this current and active database of commuters, referring callers to the online system or inputting information for clients.
- Website has been redesigned to incorporate all Measure C programs and to improve user functionality.
- Worked with marketing agency to incorporate www.Valleyrides.com on Measure C outreach material used for community event participation, presentations, and mailings available to all Fresno County residents including the Tribal membership and employees.
- Worked with other TDM agencies, employers and vanpool agencies to facilitate matches and refer clients. These agencies include: CSU Fresno, South Valley Rideshare, San Joaquin Commute Connection, Fresno Area Express, Tulare Council of Governments, KART, VPSI and Enterprise Rideshare.

Information Services:

- Filled requests for transit referrals and information; park and ride lot information; vanpool subsidies and referrals; transportation guides; bikeway maps; and additional bikeway information.
- Updated the Valleyrides.com website with current information.
- Mailed out copies of the Fresno Clovis Bikeways Map and the city of Kingsburg Bikeway Map as requested.

Administration:

- Prepared and maintained program records, invoices, budget and Quarterly Report.
- Attended Fresno COG Committee meetings as appropriate.

[GARZA]

WE 350 - Fresno Regional Data Center

Objectives: To perform the duties as an Affiliate State Census Data Center and provide assistance to member agencies and the general public in obtaining, analyzing and utilizing census and other demographic data in support of the area-wide planning process. Also to provide continuing support to the internal data needs for traffic simulation modeling requirements including the updating and development of alternative socio-economic scenarios and providing data support for COG prepared reports and plans.

Accomplishments:

- Assisted 50 individuals from governmental agencies, businesses, and the public in their information needs.
- Monitored, prepared and distributed Census 2000, State of California Department of Finance and other data to member agencies and the public.
- Developed socio-economic data for alternative land use scenarios for consultants' traffic impact studies and special studies.
- Provided demographic information for COG-prepared documents and presentations.
- Responded to U.S. Census Bureau inquiries on member agencies' submittals for the 2010 U.S. Census Participant Statistical Areas Program (PSAP).
- Worked on update of socio-economic model data for transportation model.
- Worked on preparation of data book for use by member agency staff and the public.
- Worked on calculation of transit population for use in determining Transportation Development Act funding shares.
- Prepared Affiliate State Census Data Center activity report as required, and State of California Department of Finance population surveys.

[CHUNG]

WE 360 – One Voice Advocacy

Objective: ‘One Voice’ unites Fresno County communities and regional interests in a voluntary and collaborative effort to seek federal and state funds and support annually for projects and legislative priorities of regional significance. All projects and legislative priorities chosen shall contribute to an improved quality of life throughout the Fresno County region.

One Voice Accomplishments:

- Fresno COG Policy Board identified list of projects and priority issues for advocacy in Washington D.C. through annual One Voice trip.
- Staff and DC Consultant successfully led a delegation of forty-five elected representatives and community stakeholders to Washington D.C. February 8-12 for the One Voice trip.
- Staff and consultant successfully led a delegation of thirty-eight elected representatives and community stakeholders to Sacramento on March 9th to 10th for the One Voice trip.

Also, at the Valleywide level, the eight San Joaquin Valley Regional Transportation Planning Agencies have united through the San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council to build consensus on projects and legislative priorities in order to advocate at the state and federal level through their own lobbying effort, termed “Valley Voice”. This effort takes the Valley COG’s and their respective elected officials to Sacramento and Washington D.C. on an annual basis beginning in 2008. More details are highlighted in WE 820.

The “One Voice” and “Valley Voice” efforts heighten the COGs’ visibility and solidify relationships with both elected and staff representatives in Washington D.C. as well as in Sacramento.

One Voice and Valley Voice Accomplishments:

- Seven Washington DC “One Voice” visits
- Five Sacramento “One Voice” visits
- Two Sacramento “Valley Voice” trips
- One Washington DC “Valley Voice” trips.

[DANSBY/FAWCETT]

REGIONAL COORDINATION OF TRANSPORTATION, LAND USE AND HOUSING

WE 410 – San Joaquin Valley Regional Blueprint Planning Process

Objective: The San Joaquin Valley Regional Blueprint Planning Process is a multi-year planning effort envisioned to support long range regional planning through comprehensive development of regional consensus. The goal of the San Joaquin Valley Blueprint Planning Process is to develop a preferred future growth vision for the region through the use of scenario planning.

Accomplishments:

During the first two years, Fresno COG worked with the other 7 SJV COGs to coordinate our county efforts into a Valleywide Vision. We have conducted the community outreach and modeling activities that have allowed us to:

- Solicit input on community values.
- Define a Vision Statement for Fresno County.

- Develop Goals, Objectives and Measurable Outcomes that are consistent with the Values and Vision.
- Developed four “what if” growth scenarios to compare to the status quo.
- Select a “preferred growth concept” to submit to the Valleywide modeling effort.
- Developed four Valleywide scenarios with assistance from all Valley COGs and UC Davis.
- Made recommendation to SJV Regional Policy Council on a preferred growth scenario.
- There were many sub-tasks associated with these accomplishments which have been included in former year’s quarterly reports.

The following represent the tasks completed for the first quarter of the 2008-09 FY

- Made several presentations to community groups on Blueprint progress.
- Worked with Valley COGs and UC Davis to coordinate Valleywide modeling efforts.
- Worked with Local Government Commission to develop strategy to address density issues with local land use agencies.
- Worked with CA Partnership for SJV on LUHA and Transportation working group tasks.
- Coordinates with local water agencies in an effort to garner data for Blueprint modeling efforts.
- Coordinated with Model Farmland Conservation project to integrate with Blueprint planning.

The second quarter of FY 2008-09 built upon the work from the first quarter

- Prepared and submitted grant proposal for fourth year funding to Caltrans.
- Continued work with the Valley COGs in identifying alternative regional scenarios.
- Completed DRAFT Fresno County Blueprint Progress Report to summarize first three years of the project.
- Forwarded three Valleywide growth scenarios to the Blueprint Regional Advisory Committee (BRAC) for their recommendation.
- Reported BRAC’s recommendation to Fresno Blueprint Roundtable and Fresno COG Policy Board.
- Worked with Valley COGs and Great Valley Center to plan Valleywide Blueprint Summit where the scenarios would be presented to stakeholders and the general public for their recommendation.
- Work with Local Government Commission to prepare “Community Housing Survey” for January Summit
- Continued working with Valleywide local agency planners group.

The third quarter saw the culmination of three years work:

- Held the Valleywide Blueprint Summit on Jan. 26, 2009.
- Received notification of 4th year Blueprint funding.
- Prepared recommendation to SJV Regional Policy Council on preferred growth scenario for Valley
- Began work on 4th year Blueprint tasks:
 1. Valleywide Blueprint Final Report.
 2. Toolkit for Implementation.
 3. Translate Valley Blueprint principles into local implementation strategies and develop local government commitment.
 4. Convene meetings with local officials to discuss funding challenges of local government (and related “fiscalization of land use”).
 5. Address new greenhouse gas directives (SB 375) Develop adequate modeling tools for compliance with SB 375.
 6. Address the increasing of residential densities
 - a. Determine the impact of various development densities on the fiscal health of cities and counties in the San Joaquin Valley
 - b. Determine the market demand for higher density residential housing projects
 7. Greenprint - incorporate Farmland Conservation Model Program mapping, that includes improved information on water resources into the Blueprint for each of the Valley Counties.
 8. Work with Central California EDCs and Partnership for SJV to address jobs/housing issue.

9. Continue Blueprint's Valleywide presence by maintaining partnership with Great Valley Center for website oversight and production of one Valleywide Blueprint event .
10. Continue Using Adopted Methods to Measure the Effectiveness of the Regional Blueprint Plan.
11. Continue Extensive Public Outreach Efforts.

During the 4th Quarter, the Regional Policy Council (2 elected officials from each of the 8 Valley COGs) met 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.
- Fresno COG working with Merced CAG to transfer the responsibilities for Valley fiscal management of Blueprint grants.
- Valley project managers and COG Directors continue to conduct meetings and conference calls related to the Valley Blueprint and to make progress on 4th year tasks.

[STECK]

WE 411 – Farmland Conservation Model Program

Objective: Develop a plan, strategy, and program to conserve prime agricultural lands in the Central Valley. The Program will build upon initial activities to identify farmlands of strategic importance, and to develop a program to protect farmlands that is consistent with long term planning goals that maintain agriculture as a key economic and cultural force in the region. The program is first intended for the benefit of Fresno County and subsequently, the other counties making up the San Joaquin Valley.

Farmland Conservation Model Program Steering Committee members first met in June of 2007. Comprised of key stakeholders in Fresno County, steering committee members include Fresno County, the City of Fresno, the City of Clovis, the Fresno County Farm Bureau, and others. The purpose of the Farmland Conservation Model Program Steering Committee is to oversee the daily activities for implementing the Farmland Conservation Model Program. Also involved in the development of the plan is an advisory board comprised of stakeholders from governmental, the agricultural industry, the environmental and development community, amongst others that are involved in agriculture matters on regular basis that advised the Steering Committee on issues of importance to agriculture in Fresno County.

The deliverables for the Farmland Conservation Model Program include:

- Devise an approach to identifying "strategic" farmland
- Public Input
- Document factors affecting the conversion of farmlands
- Create a toolbox for decision makers to implement farmland conservation in Fresno County
- Provide a series of recommendations based upon the finding of this process
- Prepare a final report.

Accomplishments:

- Presented the Farmland Conservation Model Program at several city council meetings to mayors and the public to increase awareness and solicit feedback. Cities presented to include Sanger, Selma, Kingsburg, Parlier, Reedley, and others.
- Met with and coordinated meetings with agricultural stakeholders to refine the Farmland Conservation Model Program to a form that is amicable to stakeholders.

[SOBRADO]

VALLEYWIDE COORDINATED ACTIVITIES

WE 810 - Valley Air Quality Coordination

Objective: To ensure a coordinated and comprehensive approach to transportation and air quality planning among the eight San Joaquin Valley transportation planning agencies and the San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District. The goal is to attain and subsequently maintain federal and state air quality standards. With the State of California taking the national and international lead on the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions which contribute to climate change, new tasks are being required of transportation planning agencies.

Accomplishments:

- Continued contract administration for the Valley-wide Air Quality Planning and Coordination consultant. Managed the efforts of the air quality consultant (including strategy, review of materials, processed invoices) on behalf of the eight Valley RPAs.
- On-going coordination with local, State, and federal agencies regarding air quality and transportation issues.
- Monitored State and federal guidance related to air quality transportation planning requirements.
- Presented air quality updates to the San Joaquin Valley RPA Directors Committee and the San Joaquin Valley RPAs Policy Council.
- Continued participation in the Statewide Air Quality Conformity Working Group including meetings and updates from the working group.
- Coordinate efforts with the San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District (SJVUAPCD) to ensure a comprehensive and cooperative approach to air quality transportation planning.
- Participate with the other Valley RPAs in the San Joaquin Valley Model Coordinating Committee to address pertinent transportation modeling, air quality modeling and transportation conformity analysis issues.
- Continued coordination among Valley transit agencies.
- Tracked and attended meetings/webcasts and legislative developments related to Climate Change initiatives (AB 32 and SB 375).
- Completed the updated 2009 MOU Between and Among the SJVUAPCD and the eight Valley RPAs.

[DAWSON]

WE 812 – San Joaquin Valley Express Transit Study

Objective: The San Joaquin Valley, the southern watershed of California's Great Central Valley, is a large, diverse, and complex area that contains millions of acres of the world's most fertile farmland, a wealth of natural resources, and large urban environments. Recognizing the substantial growth the area is currently experiencing, the Merced County Association of Governments (MCAG) with support from the other seven San Joaquin Valley COGs/ Metropolitan Planning Organizations (Fresno, Kern Kings Madera, San Joaquin, Stanislaus and Tulare) seeks to address the current and future need for coordinated bus services throughout the region.

Accomplishments:

- Staff provided industry data for reports, participated in conference call meetings, and the COG hosted two meetings in Fresno. Staff reviewed and provided comments on all reports and recommendations.
- The San Joaquin Valley Express Transit Study Travel Demand Analysis Report was circulated through the COG committees in December 2008, and is available on the COG website.

- The Study recommendations were circulated through the COG committees in February. The final report is expected in June 2009.

[DOWNS]

WE 820 – Valley Coordination Activities

Objective: To promote coordination, cooperation and communication among the eight San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agencies, including the Council of Fresno County Governments (Fresno COG), and other federal, state, and local governments, related to various regional planning processes.

Accomplishments:

- Coordinate the San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council and Executive Directors' Committee meetings, including tracking of minutes and other relevant records.
- A staff member is Chairperson on the Valley Legislative Affairs Committee (VLAC), consisting of legislative staff from each of the eight Valley RTPAs. Meetings are held on a monthly basis or more often as needed, to discuss legislative issues of importance to the Valley and to build consensus on legislation and policy objectives at the state and federal level. The staff person is responsible for writing agendas and minutes for the meetings as well as providing monthly reports to the Valley COG Directors and quarterly reports to the Regional Policy Council on the VLAC activities. VLAC makes recommendations to these committees for positions on bills and policies that affect the Valley agencies and the Chairperson follows-up with correspondence communicating these adopted positions.
- The VLAC developed the 2009 Valley Legislative Platform in December/January.
- The VLAC organized the advocacy trips to Sacramento in January, 2009 and Washington D.C. in February, 2009. These advocacy trips are termed Valley Voice. The Valley Voice delegation includes members from the SJV Regional Policy Council and the Valley COGs. The goal of the trips are to adopt a set of regional projects & legislative priorities and advocate these priorities to our Valley State and Federal lawmakers.

The Regional Policy Council focused on the following issues during the Sacramento trip in January:

1. Senate Bill SB 375 Implementation
2. Transportation-Related Budget Issues
3. Support for San Joaquin Valley Goods Movement Program
4. Support Regional Partners' Initiatives

The Regional Policy Council focused on the following projects during the Washington D.C. trip in February:

1. Support for a National Goods Movement Program
 2. Support for Short-Haul Rail in the Valley
 3. Air Quality Issues
 4. Support for the California adopted consensus principles for the next Federal Transportation Authorization Act
- Work to develop a unified position and outreach related to the reauthorization of SAFETEA-LU.
 - Develop a valley-wide chapter for the Regional Transportation Plans.
 - Continue to work with Caltrans and other RPAs on issues related to plans, projects, and other needs associated with SR 99.
 - Staff continues to participate in meetings for the Caltrans SR 99 Business Plan Advisory Committee. A meeting took place in August. The committee includes Caltrans employees and staff from the eight Valley COG's working together to update the 2005 Caltrans SR 99 Business Plan.
 - Develop joint positions and participate in meetings related to High Speed Rail and Intercity Rail.
 - Coordinate efforts related to the implementation of a 511 information system in the San Joaquin Valley.
 - Pursue development of a videoconference system to reduce trips and vehicle miles traveled related to valley-wide meetings.

- Continue to investigate alternative methods of coordination of valley-wide activities.
 - Coordination of Valleywide efforts related to SJV Regional Blueprint (WE 410)
 - Coordination and consultation on efforts to address goods movement plans and projects.
 - Staff participates in regular monthly and quarterly meetings with the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley and the Federal Interagency Task Force including the Partnership's legislative staffer meeting, the transportation working group and the air quality working group to help implement the Partnership's established goals.
 - Fresno COG, along with staff from the other seven Regional Transportation Planning Agencies and Caltrans, have been working on updating the original SR 99 Business Plan Dated 2005. The new Business Plan will be finalized in spring of 2009 to include an updated list of Valley projects on this important north/south trade corridor, a financial plan on how best to make these projects a reality, and highlights the successes since the original Business Plan. The Business Plan also includes discussion about the economic impacts of designating SR 99 as an Interstate. Meetings take place on a monthly basis.
 - Updated SR 99 Business Plan was presented to all COGs in June.
 - Continue activities, meetings and conference calls related to 4th year Blueprint tasks.
- [STECK/BOREN/DANSBY/FAWCETT]

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES

WE 910 – COG Administration

Objective: To effectively administer the planning program and fiscal operations of the COG.

Accomplishments:

- Staff monitored funding levels, expenses and budgets. Policy Board adoption of the FY 2009/10 Overall Work Program occurred in May, 2009.
- Supervised planning staff activities and progress on work assignments.
- Coordinated preparation of agendas, related materials and committee schedules.
- Conducted ongoing management team meetings to coordinate staff assignments and outcomes.
- Conducted staff evaluations as needed.

[BESHEARS/BOREN]

WE 911 – Overall Work Program and Budget Development

Objective: To develop an Overall Work Program (OWP) and Budget consistent with federal and state funding priorities and local agency needs.

Accomplishments:

- Development of the FY 2008/09 Overall Work Program began in January 2008.
- FY 2008/09 Overall Work Program adopted May 2008.
- Amendment #1 adopted June 2008.
- Amendment #2 adopted October 2008
- Amendment #3 adopted November 2008
- Amendment #4 adopted March 2009.
- Development of FY 2009/10 Overall Work Program began in January 2009.
- FY 2009/10 Overall Work Program adopted May 2009.
- Amendment #1 adopted June 25, 2009

[BESHEARS/BOREN]

WE 912 - Local Transportation Funds Administration

Objective: To administer the Local Transportation Fund (LTF) and State Transit Assistance (STA) Fund in accordance with the California Transportation Development Act.

Accomplishments:

- Staff recorded sales tax deposits from the State Board of Equalization and STA allocations from the State Controllers Office. Member Agency Claims were processed. Allocation Instructions were prepared and sent to the Auditor Controllers Office. Changes in state regulations were monitored through the TDA Ad Hoc Committee chaired by the Division of Mass Transportation.

[BESHEARS]

WE 920 – Fresno County Rural Transit Agency Administration

Objective: To provide under contract, administrative and fiscal management services for the Fresno County Rural Transit Agency (FCRTA).

Accomplishments:

- During the Fourth Quarter, Staff processed claim reimbursement for provided transit service.
- Staff continued to respond to Caltrans on pending Grant requests.
- Staff also performed a variety of administrative functions concerning: general administration; accounting; risk management; procurement; and statistical analysis.
- The General Manager completed the preparation of several progress reports to State and Federal Agencies in conjunction with existing Grants and related programs..
- Staff completed and submitted its American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Grant Application during the Fourth Quarter.
- Staff completed the preparation, review and adoption of the Budget for 2009-10, with numerous supportive documents by the Board of Directors on June 25, 2009.

[WEBSTER]

WE 930 – Fresno County Transportation Authority Administration

Objective: To provide personnel support services to the Fresno County Transportation Authority.

Accomplishments:

- Staff provided payroll and benefit administration for the Fresno County Transportation Authority.

[BESHEARS]

WE 940 - Freeway Service Patrol

Objective: To continue the Freeway Service Patrol, in coordination with Caltrans and the California Highway Patrol, in an effort to remove minor incidents rapidly, thereby reducing congestion, secondary accidents and vehicle emissions.

Accomplishments:

- Administered the FSP tow contracts. This primarily included reviewing and paying invoices for towing services and radio use, both on a monthly basis, and paying for radio repairs and miscellaneous supplies (i.e. brochures) on an as-needed basis.
- Ongoing coordination and communication with the Freeway Service Patrol Statewide Oversight Committee and with Caltrans Traffic Operations, including annual program benefit/cost evaluations.

[THOMPSON]

WE 950 – Abandoned Vehicle Abatement Program

Objective: To administer the activities and duties of the Fresno County Abandoned Vehicle Abatement (AVA) Service Authority.

Accomplishments:

- Ongoing communication with AVA Service Authority members, particularly regarding eligible expenses for reimbursement and reporting requirements.
- Calculated payment amounts to eligible local jurisdictions for AVA expenses.
- Provided FY 2008-09 Second Quarter Summary Report to the Fresno COG Policy Advisory Committee and Policy Board at the May cycle of meetings.
- Conducted a meeting of the AVA Working Group on May 21, 2009. The meeting purpose was to share local agency AVA experiences with one another, identify and correct errors in quarterly reporting forms, and all other issues of concern.

[THOMPSON]



**STRATEGY
RESEARCH
INSTITUTE**

G. Gary Manross, Ph.D.
Chairman/CEO

G. Gary Manross, Ph.D.
Political Communications
& Media Effects

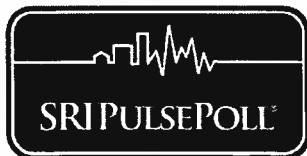
Richard R. Miller, Jr., Ph.D.
Urban & Regional Planning

Michael D. Cozzens, Ph.D.
Communication Research &
Organizational Communications

Debra L. Schultz, Ph.D.
Speech Communications
& Persuasion

Mary Ann Williams, M.A.
Sociology
Senior Research Associate

Creators of the...



WWW.SRI-CONSULTING.ORG

Northern California Southern California
925 ♦ 372-3788 714 ♦ 447-4884

Toll Free
800 ♦ 224-7608

Corporate FAX 714 ♦ 447-4537

P.O. Box 6548 Fullerton, CA 92834

MEMORANDUM

To: Tony Boren
Executive Director

Date: October 21, 2009

Subject: **Status report for October 2009**

The intent of the present document is to provide you with a Status Report regarding SRI's activities, to date, during the month of October 2009. I'm providing this report mid-month, so that you will be able to include it with your mailing to Board members for their October 2009 monthly meeting.

Farmland Conservation:

We've completed more than a dozen interviews, to date, regarding **Farmland Conservation**; each of the interviewees have referred us to several additional individuals. We will continue the interviewing process until one of two things occur: (i) we've interviewed everyone who has been referred to us, or (ii) nothing new is being learned from the interviews...which is to say, the facts, concerns, and/or recommendations that come out of these interviews are too repetitive (nothing new is being learned).

Here's who we've interviewed, to date:

- **Chris Valdez**, California Grape Tree Fruit League
- **Sayre Miller**, prominent farmer in Clovis
- **Ed Thompson**, California Director & Senior Associate, American Farmland Trust
- **Ryan Jacobson**, Executive Director, Fresno Farm Bureau
- **Pat Ricchiuti**, PR Farms
- **Ken Newby**, retired from Deloitte & Touche, member of the Fresno Business Council
- **Shawn Stevenson**, Harlan Ranch
- **John Wright**, former Planning Director for Clovis and currently active in a variety of community projects
- **Paul Betencourt**, Farmer
- **Deb Nankiviell**, Fresno Business Council
- **Lynn Gorman**, AICP. Deputy Director of Planning. Fresno County Department of Public Works and Planning
- **Mike Prandini** (and **Jeff Roberts**), BIA
- **Greg Kirkpatrick**, author of Landscape for Choice

An Institute for CONSENSUS BUILDING

We have firm or tentative appointments set with the following individuals:

- **Holly King**, Great Valley Center
- **Carol Hafner**, Fresno County Agriculture Commissioner
- **Nat Dibuduo**, Allied Grape Growers
- County Supervisor **Phil Larson**
- County Supervisor **Henry R. Perea**

Others to whom we have been referred:

- Three remaining County Supervisors (Supervisor Susan **Anderson**, Chair of the Board of Supervisors; Supervisor **Judy Case**; Supervisor **Debbie Poochigian**.)
- **Manuel Cunha**, Nisei Farm League
- **Larry Fortune**, Fortune Associates
- **Riley Walter**, Esq., Attorney connected to the Ag Industry
- **Russell Efird**
- **Dan Errotabere**
- **Keith Bergthold**
- **Jeff Harris**, formerly BIA Ex. Director, now Wilson Homes
- **Alfreda Sebasto**, formerly Chief of Staff or Jim Costa
- **Mary Savala**, League of Women Voters
- **A.J. Yates**, Farmer near Kerman
- **Jerry Prieto**, Chaired Landscape for Choice
- **Don Pauley**, City Manager, Kingsburg
- **Lee Ayers**, involved with Fisheries industry
- **Gary Robinson**, former head of Kings County Farm Bureau
- **Blake Carlson**, Kingsburg
- **Alan Kasparian**, Grape Grower in West Fresno, Director for AFT
- Assembly Member **Juan Arambula**
- **Trinidad Rodriguez**, Chairman of the Policy Board, Fresno COG
- **Dennis Prosperi**, Madera County
- **Coke Hallowell**, involved in the Ag Industry (husband owns Chevy dealership)
- **Dave Koehler**, San Joaquin Packway Trust

Given the fact that people feel strong about the issues inherent to Farmland Conversation, and given that the proverbial wheels nearly came off the wagon only a couple of months ago, it's clear that this process will go a long way toward **Building CONSENSUS** among stakeholders, many with competing agendas. The process we are following has been proven to be extremely effective. Given the feedback I've received, to date, I'm confident the present exercise will be no exception.

Transit Consolidation in Fresno County:

As you know, we've completed a comprehensive **Work Plan** for *Transit Consolidation in Fresno County*; thus, as stated in the Work Plan, the next step is to form the **Exploratory Committee**; then, set the first meeting of that Committee.

This Committee will be comprised of ~~(and limited to)~~ PROFESSIONALS in public transportation; the reason for this is that we need to work through the technical issues inherent to transit consolidation BEFORE moving the process forward. Toward that end, you will think through who should be invited to participate in that committee; this will include, but not necessarily limited to, the Directors of Transportation (or other select individuals) representing the City of Fresno, the City of Clovis, Fresno County Rural Transit Authority, one or more of the Cities in the rural areas of Fresno County, and Southwest Transportation. I will prepare the first draft of an e-mail to be sent to these individuals; you will edit the invitation as you see fit and send it out from your office as Executive Director of Fresno COG.

Beyond that, John Downs is in the process of preparing an RFP (*Request for Proposals*) for the express purpose of retaining the professional services of consulting firm that specialized in such matters.

My role will be to FACILITATE the meetings of the **Exploratory Committee**; and, all subsequent Committees (e.g., the **Formation Committee**, when it is created) as the process unfolds...much like we did for the Measure C Steering Committee. While the Exploratory Committee will focus on technical issues inherent to transit consolidation, the Formation Committee will FOCUS ON building consensus among stakeholders, including the numerous political elements inherent to transit consolidation in Fresno County.

Performance-based Salary Structure for Fresno COG:

Now that SRI's contract is in place for the remainder of the year, I've instructed Mary Ann Williams to move forward with this project post-haste. As you know, she is an expert in HR.

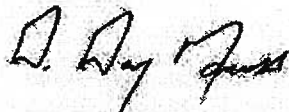
Mary Ann has secured certain documentation from Les that she needs in order to begin moving forward with this project. I will bring Mary Ann with me on the next trip to Fresno to meet with Barbara Steck, and perhaps Les and yourself.

California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley:

You and I will plan to meet with Mike Dozier, Executive Director of the Partnership, regarding how they can take advantage of the resources available through SRI. I will be giving you specific dates for my next trip to Fresno, so that you can arrange this meeting with Mr. Dozier.

Of course, there are other projects in the Work Plan we prepared; however, the above projects are those that are on the front burner at the moment. If you have any questions and/or comments you would like to share, please know that I'm telephone close and I monitor my e-mails quite closely.

Respectfully submitted,



800.224.7608 corporate headquarters
909.239.8757 cell



Bill# Author	Topic	2YR/Dead Desk	1st Fiscal Policy	1st Floor	2nd Desk	2nd Policy	2nd Fiscal	2nd Floor	Conf./Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered	Page #
AB 153 Ma	High-Speed Rail Authority.					2nd Policy							
AB 266 Carter	Transportation needs assessment.					2nd Policy							
AB 304 Price	Child Care and Development Services Act: alternative payment programs.					2 Year							
AB 315 De Leon	Child care and development services: alternative payment programs.					2nd Policy							
AB 596 Evans	Community planning grants.					2 Year							
AB 726 Nielsen	Transportation capital improvement projects.					2nd Policy							

<u>AB 733</u> Galgiani	High-Speed Rail Authority.	Vetoed [REDACTED]	
<u>AB 932</u> Torlakson	Child care and development services: facilities.	2 Year [REDACTED]	
<u>AB 1135</u> Skinner	Vehicles: registration renewal.	2 Year [REDACTED]	
<u>AB 1195</u> Brownley	Child care and development programs: advisory committee.	2 Year [REDACTED]	
<u>AB 1375</u> Galgiani	High-speed rail.	2 Year [REDACTED]	
<u>ACA 9</u> Huffman	Local government bonds: special taxes: voter approval.	1st Floor [REDACTED]	
<u>ACA 15</u> Arambula	Local government transportation projects: special taxes: voter approval.	1st Floor [REDACTED]	
<u>SB 12</u> Simittian	Resources: Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Council.	Conference [REDACTED]	
<u>SB 165</u> Lowenthal	Vehicles: parking violation.	2nd Policy [REDACTED]	

<u>SB 205</u> Hancock	Traffic congestion: motor vehicle registration fees.	2nd Fiscal	
<u>SB 295</u> Dutton	California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006.	2 Year	
<u>SB 406</u> DeSaulnier	Land use: environmental quality.	Vetoed	
<u>SB 409</u> Ducheny	Department of Railroads.	1st Floor	
<u>SB 425</u> Simitian	Personal and corporate income taxes: deductions: parking: credits: ridesharing expenses.	1st Fiscal	
<u>SB 455</u> Lowenthal	High-speed rail.	2nd Floor	
<u>SB 560</u> Ashburn	Regional transportation plans: sustainable communities strategy.	2 Year	
<u>SB 575</u> Steinberg	Local planning: housing element.	Chaptered	
<u>SB 632</u>	Ports: congestion relief: air	2nd Floor	

Lowenthal pollution mitigation.

SB 716 Local transportation funds.

Chaptered

SCA 2 Revised biennial session.

1st Policy

SCA 3 Transportation Investment Fund.

1st Policy

Total Position Forms: 27



**Legislation Summary
Final 10/2009**

Bill # Author	Topic - Summary	Status/Hearing	Fresno COG Position	Other Position
<u>AB 153</u> Ma	High-Speed Rail Authority. Existing law creates the High-Speed Rail Authority with specified powers and duties relating to the development and implementation of an intercity high-speed rail system. Existing law authorizes the authority to prepare a plan for the construction and operation of that system and to enter into contracts, acquire rights-of-way through purchase or eminent domain, and take other actions, subject to specified contingencies. Under existing law, a public entity may not commence an eminent domain proceeding until its governing body has adopted a resolution of necessity that meets certain requirements. Existing law generally prohibits a state agency from employing legal counsel other than the Attorney General unless there is a specific statute authorizing that employment. This bill would eliminate those contingencies to the exercise of the authority's authority and would specify that the authority constitutes a "governing body" for the purpose of adopting a resolution of necessity. The bill would authorize the authority to employ its own legal staff or contract with other state agencies for legal services, or both. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.	07/02/2009-In committee: Set, first hearing. Hearing canceled at the request of author.		

<u>AB 266</u> Carter	Transportation needs assessment. Existing law creates the California Transportation Commission, with various duties and responsibilities relative to the programming and allocation of funds for transportation capital projects. Existing law requires the commission to submit, by December 15 of each year, an annual report to the Legislature summarizing the commission's prior-year decisions in allocating transportation capital funds and identifying timely and relevant transportation issues facing the state. This bill would require the commission, on an every-5-year basis, to develop an assessment of the unfunded costs of programmed state projects and federally earmarked projects in the state, as well as an assessment of available funding for transportation purposes and unmet transportation needs on a statewide basis. The bill would require the Department of Transportation to assist in conducting the assessment. The bill would require the commission to submit the first assessment report to the Legislature by March 1, 2011.	06/11/2009-Referred to Com. on RLS.		
<u>AB 304</u> Price	Child Care and Development Services Act: alternative payment programs. The Child Care and Development Services Act, administered by the State Department of Education, provides that children up to 13 years of age are eligible, with certain requirements, for child care and development services. The act requires the department to contract with local contracting agencies to provide for alternative payment programs , and authorizes alternative payments to be made for services provided in licensed centers and family day care homes for care provided in the child's home, and for other types of care that conform to applicable law. The act prohibits payments made by alternative payment programs from	06/02/2009-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. on 05/28/2009)		

	exceeding the applicable market rate ceiling, but allows alternative payment programs to expend more than the standard reimbursement rate for a particular child, provided that the aggregate payments for services purchased by the agency during the contract year do not exceed the assigned reimbursable amount as established by the contract for the year. This bill would delete that authority to expend more than the standard reimbursement rate for a particular child. The bill, in addition, would require an alternative payment program to establish a program of electronic banking for payments made to licensed and license-exempt family day care homes, and to implement that program no later than one year after the bill takes effect.			
AB 315 De Leon	Child care and development services: alternative payment programs. The Child Care and Development Services Act, administered by the State Department of Education, requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to administer child care and development programs that offer a full range of services for eligible children from infancy to 13 years of age. The act authorizes funds appropriated for purposes of the act to be used for alternative payment programs to allow for maximum parental choice. This bill would require the department to consider developing guidelines for alternative payment programs on specified matters, including timeliness of payment to child care providers.	06/18/2009-Referred to Com. on RLS.		
AB 596 Evans	Community planning grants. Existing law establishes the Strategic Growth Council that is required to take actions with regard to coordinating programs of member state agencies to improve air and water quality, improve natural resource protection, increase the availability of affordable	06/02/2009-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. on 05/28/2009)		

	housing, improve transportation, meet the goals of the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, encourage sustainable land use planning, and revitalize urban and community centers in a sustainable manner. This bill would establish the Community Planning Grant and Loan Fund and would authorize the council to expend the revenues in the fund, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to carry out the Community Planning Grant and Loan Program which this bill would establish. The bill would require the council to expend these funds to provide competitive grants and loans to support community planning by providing grants and loans for projects to improve sustainability and livability of California's communities by reducing communities' contributions to global warming. This bill contains other related provisions.		
AB 726 Nielsen	Transportation capital improvement projects. Existing law generally provides for allocation of transportation capital improvement funds pursuant to the State Transportation Improvement Program process. Existing law provides for 75% of funds available for transportation capital improvement projects to be made available for regional projects, and 25% for interregional projects. Existing law describes the types of projects that may be funded with the regional share of funds, and includes local road projects as a category of eligible projects. This bill would state that local road rehabilitation projects are eligible for these funds.	06/16/2009-In committee: Set, first hearing. Hearing canceled at the request of author.	
AB 733 Galgiani	High-Speed Rail Authority. Existing law creates the High-Speed Rail Authority with specified powers and duties relating to the development and implementation of an intercity high-speed rail system. Existing law, pursuant to the Safe, Reliable High-Speed Passenger Train Bond Act for the 21st	10/11/2009-Vetoed by the Governor	

	Century, authorizes \$9.95 billion in general obligation bonds for high-speed rail development and other related purposes. This bill would authorize the authority to consider, to the extent permitted by federal and state law, the creation of jobs in California when awarding major contracts or purchasing high-speed trains, as specified.			
AB 932 Torlakson	Child care and development services: facilities. Existing law establishes the Child Care Facilities Revolving Fund in the State Treasury to provide funding for the renovation, repair, improvement, or purchase of child care facilities for lease to school districts and contracting agencies that provide child care and development services pursuant to the Child Care and Development Services Act. This bill would instead specify that the fund be used to make loans to eligible borrowers for the purchase, development, construction, expansion, renovation, repair, or improvement of licensed child care. The bill would authorize the Superintendent of Public Instruction to transfer federal funds appropriated for child care facilities into the fund. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.	06/02/2009-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. on 05/28/2009)		
AB 1135 Skinner	Vehicles: registration renewal. Existing law requires an owner of a vehicle to submit an application for renewal of a vehicle registration to the Department of Motor Vehicles no later than midnight of the expiration date. This bill would require the owner of a vehicle, upon application for renewal of a vehicle registration, to report the current odometer reading of the vehicle. The bill would require that information, except for the name and address of the vehicle owner and the vehicle license plate number , to be public information. The bill would also require the department	06/02/2009-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. on 05/28/2009)		

	to group the information into census blocks, create a database that can compile census block data and sort it by block group, census tract, and city and county, and post the data on the department's Internet Web site.		
<u>AB 1195</u> Brownley	Child care and development programs: advisory committee. The Child Care and Development Services Act, administered by the State Department of Education, requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to administer child care and development programs, which offer a full range of services for children from infancy to 13 years of age who are eligible for child care and developmental services. Existing law requires the Governor to appoint an advisory committee to assist the State Department of Education in developing a state plan for child development programs pursuant to that act. This bill would require the advisory committee to assist the department in the development of a plan to implement any new federal grant funds made available after March 1, 2009, for child care and development programs and early childhood education.	06/02/2009-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 05/14/2009)	
<u>AB 1375</u> Galgiani	High-speed rail. Existing law, the California High-Speed Train Act, creates the High-Speed Rail Authority to develop and implement a high-speed train system in the state, with specified powers and duties. Existing law, pursuant to the Safe, Reliable High-Speed Passenger Train Bond Act for the 21st Century, approved by the voters as Proposition 1A at the November 4, 2008, general election, provides for the issuance of \$9.95 billion in general obligation bonds for high-speed rail and related purposes. This bill would revise and recast these provisions by repealing and reenacting the California High-Speed Train Act. The bill would continue the High-Speed Rail Authority in	06/02/2009-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. on 04/28/2009)	

		existence to make policy decisions relative to implementation of high-speed rail consistent with Proposition 1A. The bill would create the Department of High-Speed Trains within the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, which would implement those policies. The bill would transfer certain of the existing powers and responsibilities of the authority to the department, and would specify additional powers and duties of the authority and department relative to implementation of the high-speed rail project, including the annual submission of a 6-year high-speed train capital improvement program and progress report to the Legislature. The director of the department would be appointed by the authority, who would serve at the pleasure of the authority, and the Governor would be authorized to appoint up to 10 executive employees of the department who would be exempt from civil service and serve at the pleasure of the director. The bill would provide for acquisition and disposition by the department of rights-of-way for the high-speed rail project. The bill would enact other related provisions.		
ACA 9 Huffman	Local government bonds: special taxes: voter approval. The California Constitution prohibits the ad valorem tax rate on real property from exceeding 1% of the full cash value of the property, subject to certain exceptions. This measure would create an additional exception to the 1% limit for a rate imposed by a city, county, city and county, or special district to service bonded indebtedness, incurred to fund specified public improvements, facilities or buildings, and housing, and related costs, that is approved by 55% of the voters of the city, county, city and county, or special district, as applicable. This additional exception would apply only if	08/31/2009-From committee: Be adopted. (Ayes 12. Noes 5.) (August 27). Read second time. To third reading.		

	the proposition approved by the voters results in bonded indebtedness that includes specified accountability requirements. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.		
<u>ACA 15</u> Arambula	Local government transportation projects: special taxes: voter approval. The California Constitution conditions the imposition of a special tax by a city, county, or special district upon the approval of 2/3 of the voters of the city, county, or special district voting on that tax, except that certain school entities may levy an ad valorem property tax for specified purposes with the approval of 55% of the voters within the jurisdiction of these entities. This measure would alternatively condition the imposition, extension, or increase of a special tax by a local government for the purpose of providing funding for local transportation projects upon the approval of 55% of its voters voting on the proposition. The measure would also make conforming and technical, nonsubstantive changes.	06/01/2009-To inactive file on motion of Assembly Member Arambula.	
<u>SB 12</u> Simitan	Resources: Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Council. Existing law generally provides that the state, or a county, city, district, or other political subdivision, or any public officer or body acting in its official capacity on behalf of any of those entities, may not be required to pay any fee for the performance of an official service. Existing law exempts from this provision any fee or charge for official services required pursuant to specified provisions of law relating to water use or water quality. This bill would expand the exemption to other provisions relating to water use, including provisions that require the payment of fees to the State Water Resources Control Board (board) for official services relating to statements of water diversion and use. This bill contains	09/09/2009-From Conference Committee: Be adopted. (Ayes 8. Senators Steinberg, Pavley, Padilla, and Florez, Assembly Members Bass, Huffman, Caballero, and Solorio. Noes. 0. Page 2351.) 10/14/09 68 SEN CONFERENCE REPORTS AT THE DESK	

	other related provisions and other existing laws.		
<u>SB 165</u> Lowenthal	Vehicles: parking violation. Existing law makes it a violation for a person to park or leave standing a vehicle in a stall or space designated for disabled persons and disabled veterans unless the vehicle displays a special identification license plate or a distinguishing placard. This bill would establish a schedule of penalties, which are collected as civil penalties, for the violation of the above provision.	06/29/2009-Set, first hearing. Hearing canceled at the request of author.	
<u>SB 205</u> Hancock	Traffic congestion: motor vehicle registration fees. Existing law provides for the imposition by certain districts and local agencies of fees on the registration of motor vehicles in certain areas of the state that are in addition to the basic vehicle registration fee collected by the Department of Motor Vehicles for specific limited purposes. The bill would authorize a countywide transportation planning agency, by a majority vote of the agency's board, to impose an annual fee of up to \$10 on motor vehicles registered within the county for programs and projects for certain purposes. The bill would require voter approval of the measure. The bill would require the department, if requested, to collect the additional fee and distribute the net revenues to the agency, after deduction of specified costs, and would limit the agency's administrative costs to not more than 5% of the distributed fees. The bill would require that the fees collected may only be used to pay for programs and projects bearing a relationship or benefit to the owners of motor vehicles paying the fee and are consistent with a regional transportation plan, and would require the agency's board to make a specified finding of fact in that regard. The bill would require the governing board of the countywide transportation planning agency to adopt a specified expenditure plan.	08/27/2009-Set, second hearing. Held in committee and under submission.	

<u>SB 295</u> Dutton	California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006. The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 requires the State Air Resources Board to adopt regulations to require the reporting and verification of emissions of greenhouse gases and to monitor and enforce compliance with the reporting and verification program, and requires the state board to adopt a statewide greenhouse gas emissions limit equivalent to the statewide greenhouse gas emissions level in 1990 to be achieved by 2020. The act requires the state board to prepare and approve a scoping plan for achieving the maximum technologically feasible and cost-effective reductions in greenhouse gas emissions. The state board is required to evaluate the total potential costs and total potential economic and noneconomic benefits of the plan. The state board is required by January 1, 2011, to adopt greenhouse gas emissions limits and emission reduction measures by regulation to achieve the prescribed emission reductions. This bill would require the state board to complete a study to reevaluate the evaluation of costs discussed above, and provide this study to the Legislature by October 1, 2009. The state board would be required to report to the Legislature by November 1, 2009, on whether the revised analysis has led, or will lead, to any changes to the scoping plan, and whether any changes should be made to the act's timelines. The bill would require the Legislative Analyst to review the state board's implementation of these requirements, as provided. This bill contains other related provisions.	06/08/2009-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(8). (Last location was E.Q. on 5/1/2009)	
<u>SB 406</u> DeSaulnier	Land use: environmental quality. The Planning and Zoning Law establishes the Planning Advisory and Assistance Council in the Office of Planning and Research, and prescribes the membership and	10/11/2009-Vetoed by the Governor 10/14/09 59 SEN	Watch

GOVERNOR'S VETOES	duties of the council. This bill would change the designated membership, as specified, of the Planning Advisory and Assistance Council and would require that the council work with the Strategic Growth Council, regional agencies, and cities and counties to facilitate the implementation of regional blueprint plans. The bill would also require the council to develop and propose recommendations to specified state agencies to facilitate coordination between regional blueprint plans, state growth and infrastructure funding plans, and programs that facilitate the implementation of regional blueprint plans. The bill would further require the council to report to the Legislature on regional performance measures, as specified, and on the manner in which state agencies are implementing the 5-year infrastructure plan. The bill would require the council to begin to perform the above functions and duties when sufficient funding, as determined by the council, exists from the revenue transmitted to it by metropolitan planning organizations, councils of governments, or county transportation commissions and subregional councils of governments jointly preparing subregional sustainable communities strategies. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.
SB 409 Ducheny	Department of Railroads. Existing law creates the Department of Transportation in the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, with various powers and duties relative to the intercity rail passenger program, among other transportation programs. Existing law creates the High-Speed Rail Authority, with various powers and duties relative to development and implementation of a high-speed passenger train system. Existing law creates the Public Utilities Commission, with various powers and duties
	09/01/2009-Read second time. To third reading. 10/14/09 93 SEN SENATE BILLS-THIRD READING FILE

	relative to railroads, among other responsibilities. This bill would create the Department of Railroads in the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, and create the positions of director and deputy director within the department, to be appointed by the Governor, as specified. The director would be subject to Senate confirmation. The bill would transfer to the department responsibility for various state railroad programs currently administered by the above-referenced agencies. The bill would specify new duties of the department relative to an analysis of the state's freight rail transportation system. The bill would provide that the department shall be the only state agency eligible to apply for and receive grant and loan funds from the federal government for intercity rail, high-speed rail, or freight rail purposes. The bill would require the Secretary of Business, Transportation and Housing to convene a joint task force cochaired by the Director of Transportation, the Director of Railroads, and a representative of the Public Utilities Commission for the purpose of resolving issues relative to overlapping jurisdiction of the agencies. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.		
SB 425 Simitian	Personal and corporate income taxes: deductions: parking: credits: ridesharing expenses. The Personal Income Tax Law and the Corporation Tax Law allow various deductions in computing the income that is subject to the taxes imposed by those laws. Existing law allows an employer to deduct its expenses in carrying out a parking subsidy and a parking cash-out program, as defined, for employees. This bill would disallow a deduction for expenses of specified employers for parking subsidies unless all employees provided with a parking subsidy are offered a parking cash-out	08/27/2009--Held in committee and under submission.	

<u>SB 455</u> Lowenthal	program in accordance with a specified statute. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws. High-speed rail. Existing law creates the High-Speed Rail Authority with specified powers and duties relative to development and implementation of a high-speed train system. The authority is composed of 9 members, including 5 members appointed by the Governor. This bill would provide that the members of the authority appointed by the Governor are subject to appointment with the advice and consent of the Senate. The bill would require the members of the authority, at a scheduled board meeting, to cause to be prepared an overall project schedule with project delivery milestones on a quarterly basis, and to approve a quarterly contract status report, beginning at the first board meeting after March 1, 2010. The bill would also require the members of the authority to approve all contract amendments at a scheduled board meeting. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.	07/24/2009-Placed on inactive file on request of Assembly Member Torrico.
<u>SB 560</u> Ashburn	Regional transportation plans: sustainable communities strategy. Existing law requires certain transportation planning activities by designated regional transportation planning agencies, including development of a regional transportation plan. Certain of these agencies are designated under federal law as metropolitan planning organizations. Existing law requires metropolitan planning organizations to adopt a sustainable communities strategy as part of their regional transportation plan, which is to be designed to achieve certain targets established by the State Air Resources Board for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from automobiles and light trucks in the region. Existing	06/08/2009-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(8). (Last location was PRINT on 2/27/2009)

	law generally requires transportation planning and programming activities by the metropolitan planning organization to be consistent with the sustainable communities strategy, with certain exceptions. Existing law, to the extent the sustainable communities strategy is unable to achieve the greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets, requires the affected metropolitan planning organizations to prepare an alternative planning strategy showing how the targets may be achieved through alternative development patterns, infrastructure, or additional transportation measures or policies. This bill would provide that greenhouse gas emission credits for counties and cities that site and permit commercial wind, solar, and biomass projects may be used as credit in the formulation of the sustainable communities strategy or an alternative planning strategy. The bill would also provide that transportation trips outside of federal lands that are directly related to activities of a federal or state military installation shall not be included in the emissions inventory otherwise required to be considered to achieve any reductions in greenhouse gas emissions. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.			
SB 575 Steinberg	Local planning: housing element. Existing law requires certain transportation planning activities by designated regional transportation planning agencies, including development of a regional transportation plan. Certain of these agencies are designated under federal law as metropolitan planning organizations. Existing law requires metropolitan planning organizations to adopt a sustainable communities strategy, subject to specified requirements, as part of a regional transportation plan, which is to be designed to achieve certain targets established by the	10/11/2009-Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter Number 354, Statutes of 2009	Watch	

	State Air Resources Board for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from automobiles and light trucks in the region. Existing law, to the extent the sustainable communities strategy is unable to achieve the greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets, requires the affected metropolitan planning organization to prepare an alternative planning strategy showing how the targets may be achieved through alternative development patterns, infrastructure, or additional transportation measures or policies. Existing law requires the metropolitan planning organization to conduct at least 2 informational meetings in each county within the region for members of the board of supervisors and city councils on the sustainable communities strategy and alternative planning strategy, if any. Existing law provides that the purpose of the meetings is to present a draft of the sustainable communities strategy to the members of the board of supervisors and the city council members in that county and to solicit and consider their input and recommendations. This bill would instead provide that the purpose of the meeting or meetings is to discuss the sustainable communities strategy and alternative planning strategy, if any, including the key land use and planning assumptions, with the members of the board of supervisors and the city council members in that county and to solicit and consider their input and recommendations. The bill would require the Tahoe Metropolitan Planning Organization to use the Regional Plan for the Lake Tahoe Region as its sustainable communities strategy, if specified requirements are met. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.		
<u>SB 632</u>	Ports: congestion relief: air pollution mitigation.	07/13/2009-Placed on inactive	

Lowenthal	Existing law regulates the operation of ports and harbors. This bill would require the Ports of Long Beach, Los Angeles, and Oakland, beginning January 1, 2010, to assess their infrastructure and air quality improvement needs, including, but not limited to, projects that improve the efficiency of the movement of cargo, reduce congestion impacts associated with the movement of cargo, and reduce pollution associated with the movement of that cargo. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.	file on request of Assembly Member Torrico.		
<u>SB 716</u> Wolk	Local transportation funds. Existing law requires that 1/4% of the local sales and use tax be transferred to the local transportation fund of the county for allocation, as directed by the transportation planning agency, to various transportation purposes. Existing law specifies the allowable uses for local transportation funds, and generally requires these funds to be used for transit purposes in urban counties, while in counties with a population under 500,000 as of the 1970 census and certain other counties, these funds may also be used for local streets and roads, if the transportation planning agency finds that there are no unmet transit needs or no unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet, and for other specified purposes. This bill, for counties that had a population of less than 500,000 as of the 1970 decennial census, but that have a population of 500,000 or more as of the 2000 decennial census or at a subsequent census, would require the local transportation funds apportioned to the urbanized areas of those counties to generally be allocated for public transit purposes and not for street and road purposes, except that cities in those counties with a population of 100,000 or fewer would be exempt from this requirement. Local transportation funds	10/11/2009-Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter Number 609, Statutes of 2009	Neutral	

	apportioned to the nonurbanized areas in those counties would remain available for allocation to street and road purposes and for other specified purposes. The bill would delay, until July 1, 2014, the application of these new provisions in counties where they apply. The bill would exempt Ventura County from these provisions and instead authorize the Ventura County Transportation Commission to submit, by December 31, 2011, a report to the Legislature analyzing options for organizing public mass transportation services in the county and for expenditure of revenues in the local transportation fund, along with a recommended legislative proposal. If a legislative proposal is not enacted by the end of the 2011-12 Regular Session of the Legislature, local transportation funds in Ventura County would be available solely for transit purposes beginning July 1, 2014. The bill, in counties and areas of counties where local transportation funds may be allocated to local streets and roads, would also authorize allocation of those funds for specified farmworker vanpool purposes upon a finding by the transportation planning agency that there are no unmet transit needs or no unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet and after all of the capital and operating funds necessary to meet unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet are allocated. The bill would make other related changes. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.			
SCA 2 Wyland	Revised biennial session. The California Constitution requires the Legislature to convene in regular biennial session at noon on the first Monday in December of each even-numbered year to consider legislation and the Budget Bill. This measure would require the Legislature to convene in regular biennial session, but would require, commencing on	05/12/2009-From committee with author's amendments. Read second time. Amended. Re-referred to Com. on RLS.		

	December 6, 2010, that the sessions held in odd-numbered years be budget sessions, and sessions held in even-numbered years be general sessions. The measure would require the Legislature in the budget session to adopt Budget Bills for each of the 2 subsequent fiscal years. The measure would require the Legislature, during a budget session, to meet only to conduct oversight and review of the revenues and expenditures of the state and to consider Budget Bills, budget implementation bills, as defined, and related revenue bills, except the Legislature could consider urgency statutes. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.		
SCA 3 Wyland	Transportation Investment Fund. Article XIX B of the California Constitution requires, commencing with the 2003-04 fiscal year, that sales taxes on motor vehicle fuel that are deposited into the General Fund be transferred to the Transportation Investment Fund (TIF) for allocation to various transportation purposes. Article XIX B authorizes this transfer to be suspended in whole or in part for a fiscal year during a fiscal emergency pursuant to a proclamation by the Governor and the enactment of a statute by a 2/3 vote in each house of the Legislature, subject to various restrictions. This measure would delete the provisions authorizing the transfer of revenues to the TIF to be suspended during a fiscal emergency. The measure would also prohibit a loan of TIF revenues under any circumstances, and would prohibit any statute that would reduce the extent to which these tax revenues are deposited into the General Fund for transfer to the TIF for transportation purposes.	04/23/2009-Set, first hearing. Hearing canceled at the request of author.	
Total Position Forms: 27			

MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 29, 2009
TO: Policy Advisory Committee
COG Policy Board
FROM: Todd Sobrado, Planner
SUBJECT: Regional Clearinghouse Consent Calendar

RECOMMENDATION: 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 any item should be pulled from the consent calendar, discussion and comment by the Committee members and the public will be taken.

DISCUSSION: The Regional Clearinghouse is a process of informing local agencies of federal grant requests, providing an opportunity to comment, and potentially avoid duplication of effort. Clearinghouse items are brought before the Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) and, if appropriate, the Transportation Technical Committee (TTC) for review and comment. Any resulting TTC/PAC comments, and any comments received from other agencies as a result of the Clearinghouse notification process, are noted on a monthly report brought forward to the Fresno COG Policy Board.

COG Policy Board action would be to authorize staff to forward any comments received or any Board comments to the State Clearinghouse and other appropriate agencies. The applicants have been notified of this meeting. While participation by the agency is optional, they have been personally requested to attend the Policy Board meeting in case there should be any questions. It should be noted that if in the event any of these items should be pulled from the consent calendar, that discussion and comment by the Committee/Board members and the public will be taken. *Project Notification and Review Reports* describing these projects are attached.

FUNDING: Proposed funding levels are as shown below:

Applicant	Federal Funds	Other/ Applicant Funds	Total Funds
Southern California Presbyterian Homes - US Dept of Housing 2009 Section 202 Supportive Housing for the Elderly Grant	\$10,695,924	\$425,000	\$11,120,924
City of Fresno - US Department of Commerce: Economic Development Administration, Public Works and Economic Development Program	\$2,400,000	\$2,950,000	\$5,350,000

PROJECT NOTIFICATION AND REVIEW REPORT

Regional Clearinghouse Number: *RCH # 05-2009-159*
Project Title: *U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development –
Supportive Housing for the Elderly Grant*
Applicant Agency: *Southern California Presbyterian Homes*
Contact Person: *Jacqueline A. Seegobin*
Address: *516 Burchett Street, Glendale, CA 91203*
Phone: *818-247-0420*
Federal Catalog #: *14-157*
Status: *New*
Area of Impact: *City of Fresno, Fresno County, State of California*
Federal Funding Agency: *U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development*

FUNDING:

~~\$10,695,924~~ Federal

\$25,000 Applicant

\$0 State

\$400,000 Local

Other

\$11,120,924 TOTAL

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development – Supportive Housing for the Elderly Grant

PROJECT NOTIFICATION AND REVIEW REPORT

Regional Clearinghouse Number: *RCH # 05-2009-160*
Project Title: *Economic Development Administration, Public Works and
Economic Development Program*
Applicant Agency: *City of Fresno*
Contact Person: *Amy Chubb*
Address: *2344 Tulare Street, Ste 200, Fresno, CA 93721*
Phone: *559-621-7600*
Federal Catalog #: *11-300*
Status: *New*
Area of Impact: *City of Fresno, Fresno County, State of California*
Federal Funding Agency: *U.S. Department of Commerce*

FUNDING:

\$2,400,000 Federal
\$300,000 Applicant
\$850,000 State
Local
\$1,800,000 Other
\$5,350,000 TOTAL

**U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration – Public Works and
Economic Development Program**

