

**Council of Fresno County Governments  
First Quarter Progress Report for FY 2009-2010  
Ending September 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 Interagency Consultation Group.

[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.
- 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.
- Fresno COG led the San Joaquin Valley effort in successfully applying for and receiving \$2.5 million dollars for valley wide model improvements for SB 375 implementation. [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.

[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. Modeling analysis has been conducted to assess the demands of the West Area. This includes both segment analysis as well as intersection level modeling. Stakeholder meetings are currently underway. [TWEBSTER]
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- Golden State Corridor: Economic Development Infrastructure Improvements Engineering and Planning Study. Project Development Team met to review Draft RFP. Revisions to RFP were transmitted to PDT for review and comment. [DAWSON]

## **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:

| <b>Land Use Category</b>                                  | <b>Fee</b> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b><i>Residential Developments (\$/dwelling unit)</i></b> |            |
| Single-Family Dwelling (market rate)                      | \$1,727    |
| Single-Family Dwelling (affordable)                       | \$863      |
| Multi-Family Dwelling (market rate)                       | \$1,212    |
| Multi-Family Dwelling (affordable)                        | \$606      |
|                                                           |            |
| <b><i>Non-Residential Developments (\$/sq. ft.)</i></b>   |            |
| 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.

The first meeting of the Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee Agency was held on September 24, 2009. The agenda included:

- a. Adoption of by-laws
- b. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman
- c. Appointment of Legal Counsel
- d. Appointment of Executive Director and Secretary
- e. Appointment of Treasurer and Controller
- f. Indemnity Agreement with Fresno County Transportation Authority
- g. Discussion of Administrative Costs
- h. Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee Nexus Study
- i. Introduction of RTMF Fee Schedule with intent to adopt on October 29, 2009.

[BOREN]

#### **WE 116 – National Park Transit Study**

**Objective:** The National Park Transit Study is a market assessment and feasibility study is to assess the viability of providing public transportation service between the city of Fresno and Yosemite, Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks.

**Accomplishments:** Staff met with representatives of the National Parks Conservation Association as well as representatives from the National Parks Service to discuss the purpose and nature of the study and to identify potential stakeholders. A draft Request for Proposals has been prepared and circulated among a diverse group of stakeholders. [DOWNS]

#### **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.
- *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 25, 2009.
- *Passenger Survey:* Staff has initiated a FAX passenger satisfaction survey being conducted through a contract with AIS Market Research. The survey report is being compiled.
- *Automatic Passenger Counters (APC):* Staff prepared and released an RFP for Automatic Passenger Counters to retrofit the entire FAX fleet. The APC project will be funded with Federal ARRA funds.
- *Regional Transit Trip Planning Program:* Staff prepared and released an RFP for Regional Transit Trip Planning Program. The program will be funded using JARC funds. Automated trip planning is currently available via Google Transit for FAX, but in a much less robust format.

[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.
- Completed the programming process for COG-administered portion of the Section 5316 (JARC) grant program and am currently awaiting approval from County Counsel to release contracts to grantees for signature..
- Issued a call for projects for the FY2010 COG administered portion of the Section 5316 (JARC) grant program.
- Collected quarterly reports from previous Section 5316 (JARC) grantees to comply with administrative requirements.

[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.
- Completed the programming process for COG administered portion of the Section 5317 (New Freedom) grant program and am currently awaiting approval from County counsel to release contracts to grantees.
- Issued a call for projects for the FY2010 COG administered portion of the Section 5317 (New Freedom) grant program.
- Collected quarterly reports from previous section 5317 (New Freedom) grantees to comply with administrative requirements.

[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:***

- The Fresno City Council passed a resolution declaring a Locally Preferred Alternative for Fresno's first BRT corridor.
- Staff and the PTIS consulting team prepared a FTA Very Small Starts Grant application and requested entry into project development.
- Staff and the PTIS consulting team continue to work to coordinate 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 presented to the TAC during the first quarter of FY09-10 along with the transit market analysis.
- A telephone survey of Fresno County residents was conducted to assess opinions about transportation issues related to the PTIS.

[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.
- Planning a series of workshops with staff from the City of Fresno, Fresno Area Express (FAX) and Clovis transit to educate decision-makers and elected officials about transit-oriented development.

[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:***

- No Work Element tasks were scheduled or performed during the First Quarter.

[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.
- Participated in a meeting of the San Joaquin Valley Rail Committee on August 16, 2009 at California State University, Stanislaus. Key agenda items included presentations on long distance train connections and the Kern Short Haul Freight Rail Study. Other reports were made on route performance, Amtrak California train and thruway bus operations, and state/federal budgets and legislation.
- 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 August 6, 2009. Agenda items included various status reports (Highway Design Manual Revision, NEVs, AB 1581 Recommendations, Bikes on Roadways Training, AB 1358 and DD-64 R1 Implementation, a new Statewide Bicycle Committee, Strategic Highway Safety Plan, California Vehicle Code 21202 opinion, California MUTCD Revision, etc.) and discussions on Colored pavement Experimentation..

[THOMPSON]

## **WE 152 – High Speed Rail Planning**

**Objective:** To assist the California High-Speed Rail Authority, in conjunction with Fresno COG member agencies and interested citizens and organizations, with the development of the project level environmental document for the high-speed train system, and to identify and evaluate all other issues associated with high-speed trains in Fresno County in order to maximize its benefits.

### **Accomplishments:**

- Presented to the COG Committees and Policy Board during the September 2009 cycle of meetings information and options regarding the formation of a Fresno COG High Speed Train Task Force to assist with high speed rail issues in Fresno County, particularly the potential location of a high-speed train heavy maintenance station in Fresno County. The Policy Board approved the formation of the Task Force as a subcommittee under the Fresno County Steering Committee.

- Scheduled and/or participated in meetings of the Fresno to Bakersfield Technical Assessment Group on July 1, 2009, the Fresno County High Speed Rail/Rail Consolidation Technical Assessment Group on July 7, 2009, and the Downtown Fresno High Speed Train Technical Assessment Group on August 12, 2009. Each of these meetings dealt with the California High Speed Train project and presented and discussed alternative alignments and station locations within the San Joaquin Valley.
- Attended a meeting of the High Speed Rail Authority on September 3, 2009, at which the State's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) application was discussed. The Authority recommended the staff recommendation at a subsequent meeting of the Authority on September 23, 2009 and this recommendation was approved by the Governor on October 2, 2009.

[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:***

- 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, public outreach, and RTP candidate projects.
- Developed the Regional Transportation Plan Public Outreach Plan.
- Presented items related to the RTP to the Fresno COG Committees and Policy Board at the July and September, 2009 cycle of meetings. At the July cycle, the Board approved the Environmental Impact Report Consultant Contract for the 2011 RTP. At the September cycle, information was presented on the Public Outreach plan, the Notice of Preparation of the 2011 RTP EIR, and Board approval of the Call-for-Projects for RTP Project Nominations.
- 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:**

- Defined and adopted CMP land use strategies
- Adopted CMP strategy implementation process
- Developed SOV alternative strategy analysis methodology
- Analyzed 2007 RTP projects using the SOV alternative strategy analysis methodology
- Documented the CMP process in the Fresno County Congestion Management Report
- Circulated the CMP report among the CMP Steering Committee members for comments
- Circulated the CMP report among the Interagency Consultation Group for comments

[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 Interagency Consultation Group to address pertinent transportation, modeling, air quality, and conformity analysis issues.
- Assisted and drafted project level (hot-spot) transportation conformity determinations for transportation agencies.
- 2009 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Application Packet approved for release by Fresno COG Policy Board . .
- 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 (SJVUAPCD) 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.

- 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..
  - Membership and active participation in the San Joaquin Valley Clean Cities Coalition.
  - Completed the September 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:***

- Worked with member agencies and COG staff to complete the 2009-2010 Local Agency Reporting Forms
  - Revised the Application Form reflecting 8 available positions on the committee (due to resignation and term expiration) and posted it to Fresno COG’s website.
  - Ran newspaper advertisements designed by JSA for Fresno County Transportation Authority regarding the vacant positions and emailed out notifications to over 2,000 people—three separate times.
  - Gathered applications for the committee and organized the applicant information into a matrix for Policy Board nominations.
  - All eight COC positions were filled at the September Mayors Select Board Meeting
- [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.
- 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.
- 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:

- Developed outreach materials used for community events, presentations, email blasts, graphics, web posts and ad and mailings. Ran a complete outreach programs via all of the above listed media.
- Obtained an impressive list of partners for the Carpool Program and began working to leverage funds for year end prizes.
- Hosted booths for the Measure C Programs at three Fresno Grizzlies Games, passing out information and collateral materials promoting the programs with an emphasis on the Carpool Programs.
- Held three monthly drawings and awarded the winners \$1,000 each.
- 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.

[LAUCHNER/MARTINEZ]

## **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 July 7, 2009. Meeting purpose was to continue to identify, discuss, and evaluate alternative alignments and to begin the discussion regarding project implementation.

[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.
- All vendors continue to accept the Vendor Reimbursement Agreement and have begun to reimburse Measure C for all scrip sold (minus a 5% administration fee). COG Staff will begin invoicing vendors on a quarterly basis.
- COG staff receives and evaluates all applications for Taxi Scrip Program and Proxy Designation Forms.
- 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.
- Maintained partnerships 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.
- Continue to work with marketing agency to develop outreach material used for media, community events, presentations, and mailings.

[MARTINEZ]

## **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.
- Began renewal process for those applicants that have reached their one-year anniversary in the Farmworker Vanpool Program.
- Maintain 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.

- Continuous research and development to improve and enhance Farmworker vanpool program.
- Continue to work with marketing agency to develop outreach material used for community events, presentations, and mailings.

[MARTINEZ]

## **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 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 Modification #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 FHWA on July 7, 2009.
- Administrative Modification #10 was approved by Caltrans on June 19, 2009.
- Formal Amendment #11 was approved by FHWA on August 26, 2009.
- Administrative Modification #12 was approved by Caltrans on July 20, 2009.
- Formal Amend #13 was approved by FTA on August 27, 2009.
- Administrative Modification #14 was approved by Caltrans on August 5, 2009.
- Administrative Modification #15 was approved by Caltrans on September 16, 2009.
- COG staff continues intergovernmental coordination and public notification for all formal amendments to the FTIP. COG staff also continues to conduct administrative modifications 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.
- Initiated development of FresnoTrack for use in project tracking and enhancing visualization of the FTIP.

[BOREN/DEVERE-OK1]

## 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 is working with Kern COG, the lead agency on a grant to enhance outreach to Tribal governments throughout the Valley.
- Continue process of member agency outreach to provide update on the SJV Regional Blueprint Planning Process and determine how MPOs 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.
- Continue Valleywide management of eight Valley COGs on for SJV Blueprint.
- Staff continues involvement/collaboration on Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) projects of local, valley-wide, and State interest.
- 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.
- Continue One Voice Advocacy on four fronts: Fresno COG D.C. and Sacramento trips; Valley Voice D.C. and Sacramento trips.

[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 presentations and materials for Fresno COG staff as requested for Blueprint, several Measure C programs, and the Regional Policy Council's Fall Policy Conference.
- Recruited and organized 17 sponsors for the Fall Policy Conference.
- Implemented a new outreach/media plan for the Measure C Carpool Program. Developed and approved many new materials for outreach distribution. Continued updating and augmenting the Valleyrides.com website.
- Continuously updated Fresno COG's website with a variety of information, meeting packets and calendar entries.
- Developed a Public Outreach Plan for the Regional Transportation Plan Update. Began researching new layout and theme ideas for the RTP Update just underway.
- Started a new email publication called This Week..at Fresno COG. The email goes out each Tuesday and highlights Fresno COG activities, plans, projects, RFPs, etc. with links to the Fresno COG website. Developed and continuously updated the emails lists used for circulation.
- 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.
- Maintain a Fresno COG Facebook page
- 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.
- Continued to provide ongoing support and maintenance of the COGView website.
- Made some changes to the committee functionality on the website in order to allow it to be used for other COG-related committees that are not TTC/PAC or the Policy Board.
- Working to update the COG02 project in order to incorporate it into the San Joaquin Valley Traveler Information (511) system that is finally becoming a reality.

[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.
- Continued to participate in the ongoing Environmental Justice project focusing on Indian tribes in the San Joaquin Valley managed out of the Kern County Council of Governments.

[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:***

- Currently has over 1,400 registered users in the *Carpool/Vanpool Online Matchlist* program at [www.Valleyrides.com](http://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. Staff continually works with the developer to update and improve the information available.
- Worked with marketing agency to incorporate [www.Valleyrides.com](http://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.
- Filled requests for transit referrals and information; park and ride lot information; vanpool subsidies and referrals; transportation guides; bikeway maps; and additional bikeway information.
- Worked with GIS staff to begin redesign of all bikeway maps, and received updated bikeway information.
- Prepared and maintained program records, invoices, budget and Quarterly Report.
- Attended Fresno COG Committee meetings as appropriate.

[LAUCHNER]

**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), and other on-going programs such as the Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA) appeals process, the Targeted Nonsheltered Outdoor Location Program and the New Construction Program.
- 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 9<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> 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. Trips are in the planning process for 2010.

### ***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 three 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.
- Communicated Policy Council’s adoption of the Preferred Blueprint Scenario and Smart Growth Principles
- Completed the many sub-tasks associated with these accomplishments which have been included in former year’s quarterly reports.

**The following is an overview of Blueprint activities during the first quarter of FY 2009-10:**

- Continue Valleywide management of SJV Blueprint planning process
- Continued ongoing monthly meetings and conference calls with project managers from all SJV MPOs
- Held one quarterly conference call with Blueprint Coordinating Committee (includes state agencies)
- Continued to sponsor Valleywide Planners Work Group to convene planners from throughout the Valley
- Consulted with MCAG regarding transferring fiscal oversight of Blueprint from MCAG to Fresno COG
- Developed a SJV Blueprint Awards program to recognize plans, programs and projects that reflect the Blueprint Principles.
- Made several presentations to community groups on Blueprint progress including Valley Futures Forum, California Planning Roundtable; Fresno Board of Supervisors, Deputy Secretary of HUD (on his visit to Fresno), Fresno Chamber of Commerce Political Academy, CAL APA State Conference (modeling session);
- Continued work with Valley COGs and UC Davis to coordinate Valleywide modeling efforts.
- Worked with Local Government Commission to develop Community Image Survey for small communities.
- Participated in conference calls on Prop 84 funding and SB 375 requisites
- Participated in RTAC target criteria meetings
- Prepared RFP
- Coordinated with Model Farmland Conservation project to integrate with Blueprint planning.

[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 Conversation 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:** While the Draft Farmland Conservation Model Program Report for Fresno County was released for public review on January 16, 2009, the public comment period was prolonged indefinitely in order to engage in discussions with stakeholders. Key stakeholders within the agricultural community in Fresno County expressed their dissatisfaction with the recommendations outlined in the draft report. A couple of meetings were held with groups representing the agricultural community and the decision was made to utilize the services of Dr. Gary Manross, a consultant to Fresno COG. Dr. Manross has been meeting with key stakeholders individually in to find a point of agreement between stakeholders. The information gathered in this process will in part serve as the basis for the recommendations outlined in the final Farmland Conservation Model Program for Fresno County to be released in the near future  
[SOBRADO]

## **WE 412 – Mid Valley Multi-Modal Partnership**

**Objective:** A regional collaboration of the 4 counties of Fresno, Madera, Tulare and Kings (FMTK) and their 30 incorporated cities, in Mid-San Joaquin Valley, is emerging and coming together with the goal of evaluating and assessing the feasibility of a bold concept for a high-capacity, mass transit-based, multi-modal corridor system. This system is proposed as part of the Regional Blueprint process to efficiently link these cities and counties together into an effective regional metropolitan area that will balance the economy, the environment and equity for the 7.7 million residents projected to live and work in the 4 county region in the next 100 years. This project will deliver a study extending previous work on the four-county Metro Rural Loop multi-modal system to work with all jurisdictions to define specific regional land use policies, recommendations for jurisdictional General Plan updates and zoning district designations, and proposed inter-jurisdictional cooperation policies and protocols that are required to protect and preserve potential four-county (Fresno, Madera, Tulare and Kings) inter-connecting multi-modal corridors and rights-of-ways.

**Accomplishments:** The Council of Fresno County Governments, the City of Fresno and the County of Fresno, have drafted a modest scope change to the Phase II FMTK, Multi-Modal System Partnership Grant from Caltrans. The changes are a result of the direct outcomes of the Phase I study itself as well as ongoing public outreach efforts. While in its core function to evaluate interregional corridors it remains unchanged, further development of supportive data and strategies are required.

There will be no change to the grant award amount and all work will still be accomplished within the give grant award budget. [TWEBSTER]

## **VALLEYWIDE COORDINATED ACTIVITIES**

### **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.

- Participate 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.
- Work with VLAC to develop the 2010 Valley Legislative Platform.
- Work with VLAC to organize the advocacy trips to Sacramento in January and Washington D.C. 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.
- Work to develop a unified position and outreach related to the reauthorization of SAFETEA-LU.
- Developing 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.
- Continue to participate in meetings for the Caltrans SR 99 Business Plan Advisory Committee. 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.
- Continue to coordinate 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.
- 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 and the air quality working group to help implement the Partnership's established goals. The Valley COGs have recently taken on the leadership of the transportation working group for the Partnership.
- Fresno COG, along with staff from the other seven Regional Planning Agencies and Caltrans, continue to collaborate on the 99 Business Plan
- Continue activities, meetings and conference calls related to 4<sup>th</sup> year Blueprint tasks.
- The March draft of the 2009 Fresno COG Legislative Platform submitted for approval is currently being revised to reflect current legislation activities affecting member agencies, and will be resubmitted for final approval.

[STECK/BOREN/ 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
- Amendment #2 adopted September 24, 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 First Quarter, Staff processed claim reimbursement for provided transit service.
- Staff responded to Caltrans on pending Grant requests.
- During the First Quarter staff began closing out the 2008-09 Fiscal Year books for auditing purposes.
- Staff also performed a variety of administrative functions concerning: general administration; accounting; risk management; procurement; and statistical analysis.
- The General Manager began analysis for the Transit Operators Report and Annual Productivity Evaluation Report. The results will be review during the Second Quarter.
- Beginning July 6<sup>th</sup>, Staff implemented a three month Demonstration Program for Juvenile Justice Campus Transit., to provide service from Downtown Fresno to the relocated Juvenile Court facilities off Highway 99 at American Avenue.
- Staff began preparations for the Coalinga Transit Express service to medical appointments in the Fresno-Clovis Metropolitan Area on Tuesdays, beginning during the Second Quarter (October 6<sup>th</sup>). [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 Third Quarter Summary Report to the Fresno COG Policy Advisory Committee and Policy Board at the May cycle of meetings.
- [THOMPSON]

COUNCIL OF FRESNO COUNTY GOVERNMENTS  
SCHEDULE OF FUNDS ALLOCATED & EXPENDED  
For the Quarter Ended September 30, 2009

|     | 2009/10 OWP Allocated Funds: | Percent | Budget     | Year to   | Local     | FHWA    | FTA MPO | FTA       | Partner  | Cal       | FTA    | PPM01      | FSP       |
|-----|------------------------------|---------|------------|-----------|-----------|---------|---------|-----------|----------|-----------|--------|------------|-----------|
|     |                              |         | Authorized | Date      | Resources | PL      | 5303    | 5316/5317 | Planning | Blueprint | 5307   | 6086 (028) | 6086 (23) |
|     |                              |         |            | Expense   |           |         |         |           |          |           |        | 6086 (027) | 6086 (26) |
| 110 | Regional Streets & Roads     | 13%     | 225,100    | 29,230    | 3,353     | 25,877  |         |           |          |           |        |            |           |
| 111 | Regional Transp. Modeling    | 12%     | 420,988    | 49,298    | 5,654     | 43,644  |         |           |          |           |        |            |           |
| 112 | Regional Traffic Monitoring  | 32%     | 258,230    | 81,824    | 26,668    | 55,156  |         |           |          |           |        |            |           |
| 113 | Reg. Transp. Studies         | 18%     | 100,000    | 17,721    | 2,033     | 15,698  |         |           |          |           |        |            |           |
| 114 | Traffic Deficiencies         | 0%      | 0          | 0         | 0         |         |         |           |          |           |        |            |           |
| 115 | Reg. Transp. Mitigation Fee  | 17%     | 60,000     | 10,355    | 1,188     | 9,167   |         |           |          |           |        |            |           |
| 120 | Public Trans. - Urban        | 14%     | 553,570    | 76,020    | 2,504     |         | 12,379  |           |          |           | 61,137 |            |           |
| 121 | JAARC                        | 1%      | 1,739,005  | 8,902     | 1,021     |         | 7,881   |           |          |           |        |            |           |
| 122 | New Freedom                  | 0%      | 629,853    | 0         | 0         |         |         |           |          |           |        |            |           |
| 123 | PTIS                         | 0%      | 2,767,376  | 0         | 0         |         |         |           |          |           |        |            |           |
| 124 | Transit Prof. Deve.          | 0%      | 56,500     | 0         | 0         |         |         |           |          |           |        |            |           |
| 130 | Public Trans. - Rural        | 13%     | 28,500     | 3,750     | 430       |         | 3,320   |           |          |           |        |            |           |
| 150 | Other Modal Elements         | 15%     | 52,500     | 7,882     | 7,882     |         |         |           |          |           |        |            |           |
| 151 | Bicycle & Pedestrian         | 14%     | 27,600     | 3,864     | 3,864     |         |         |           |          |           |        |            |           |
| 152 | High Speed Rail Planning     | 8%      | 115,400    | 8,861     | 8,861     |         |         |           |          |           |        |            |           |
| 153 | Airport Land Use             | 63%     | 31,600     | 19,940    |           |         |         |           |          |           |        |            |           |
| 170 | Regional Transp. Plan        | 19%     | 295,700    | 57,449    | 7,122     | 42,795  | 7,532   |           |          |           |        |            |           |
| 172 | Congestion Management Plan   | 65%     | 21,500     | 13,902    | 1,594     | 10,121  | 2,187   |           |          |           |        |            |           |
| 180 | Air Quality                  | 17%     | 249,100    | 41,515    | 4,946     | 26,526  | 10,043  |           |          |           |        |            |           |
| 210 | Measure "C"                  | 10%     | 220,200    | 21,200    | 21,200    |         |         |           |          |           |        |            |           |
| 211 | Measure "C" Oversight Comm.  | 15%     | 10,600     | 1,573     | 1,573     |         |         |           |          |           |        |            |           |
| 212 | Measure "C" Car/Van Pool     | 19%     | 391,940    | 76,266    | 76,266    |         |         |           |          |           |        |            |           |
| 213 | Measure "C" Highspeed Rail   | 60%     | 250,000    | 148,954   | 148,954   |         |         |           |          |           |        |            |           |
| 214 | Measure "C" ADA/Seniors      | 20%     | 195,100    | 39,635    | 39,635    |         |         |           |          |           |        |            |           |
| 215 | Measure "C" Farm Van Pool    | 9%      | 117,200    | 10,652    | 10,652    |         |         |           |          |           |        |            |           |
| 220 | Transportation Prog. Dev.    | 33%     | 199,500    | 65,212    | 28,658    |         |         |           |          |           |        |            |           |
| 310 | Intergov. Coordination       | 16%     | 154,300    | 25,256    | 6,595     | 14,024  | 4,637   |           |          |           |        |            |           |
| 311 | Public Info. and Partic.     | 12%     | 119,800    | 14,865    | 1,705     | 10,370  | 2,790   |           |          |           |        |            |           |
| 312 | COG View Internet            | 11%     | 17,300     | 1,963     | 384       | 0       | 1,579   |           |          |           |        |            |           |
| 313 | Environmental Justice        | 13%     | 43,700     | 5,631     | 646       | 2,492   | 2,493   |           |          |           |        |            |           |
| 320 | Technical Assist. Members    | 12%     | 38,700     | 4,487     | 4,487     |         |         |           |          |           |        |            |           |
| 330 | Outside Technical Serv.      | 8%      | 38,800     | 3,071     | 3,071     |         |         |           |          |           |        |            |           |
| 340 | Rideshare Program            | 1%      | 16,750     | 250       | 250       |         |         |           |          |           |        |            |           |
| 350 | Regional Data Center         | 36%     | 101,400    | 36,795    | 4,220     | 20,656  | 11,879  |           |          |           |        |            |           |
| 360 | One Voice Advocacy           | 7%      | 175,900    | 13,171    | 13,171    |         |         |           |          |           |        |            |           |
| 410 | California Blue Print        | 3%      | 2,500,000  | 76,399    | 3,932     |         |         |           |          |           |        |            |           |
| 411 | Farmland Trust               | 17%     | 6,600      | 1,134     | 1,134     |         |         |           |          | 49,467    |        | 22,940     |           |
| 412 | Metro Rural Loop             | 0%      | 345,000    | 0         | 0         |         |         |           |          |           |        |            |           |
| 810 | Valley Air Quality Coord.    | 0%      | 0          | 0         | 0         |         | 0       |           |          |           |        |            |           |
| 812 | Valley Express Transit       | 0%      | 0          | 0         | 0         |         |         |           |          |           |        |            |           |
| 820 | Valley RTPA Coordination     | 21%     | 191,500    | 40,285    | 40,285    |         |         |           |          |           |        |            |           |
| 910 | COFOG Admin.                 | 23%     | 164,356    | 38,582    | 38,582    |         |         |           |          |           |        |            |           |
| 911 | OWP & Budget                 | 3%      | 40,000     | 1,031     | 118       | 0       | 913     |           |          |           |        |            |           |
| 912 | Transportation Funds Adm.    | 17%     | 135,000    | 23,128    | 23,128    |         |         |           |          |           |        |            |           |
| 920 | FCRTA Admin.                 | 25%     | 289,300    | 72,064    | 72,064    |         |         |           |          |           |        |            |           |
| 930 | Trans. Auth. Admin.          | 38%     | 2,600      | 976       | 976       |         |         |           |          |           |        |            |           |
| 940 | Freeway Service Patrol       | 25%     | 302,600    | 76,133    | 15,707    |         |         |           |          |           |        |            | 60,426    |
| 950 | Abandon Vehicle Abatement    | 35%     | 12,900     | 4,533     | 4,533     |         |         |           |          |           |        |            |           |
|     | Total Allocated Funds        | 9%      | 13,713,568 | 1,233,759 | 660,046   | 300,110 | 67,633  | 0         | 0        | 49,467    | 61,137 | 34,940     | 60,426    |