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EXECUTIVE MINUTES

TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Date: Friday, January 15, 2010
Time: 8:30 a.m.

POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Date: Friday, January 15, 2010
Time: 10:00 a.m.

Place:

COG Sequoia Conference Room
2035 Tulare St., Suite 201, Fresno, CA

Transportation Technical Committee Members Attending:

Nicholas Don Paladino, Fresno Cycling Club
Bruce Webber, City of Reedley
Jeffrey D. Webster, Fresno County Rural Transit Agency
Dennis Manning, FARRC
Bernard Jimenez, Fresno County

Gary Joseph, Fresno County Economic Opportunities Corp.
Janet Dailey, Fresno County
Scott Mozier, City of Fresno
Renee Mathis, City of Clovis

Others Attending:

Ryan Burnett, City of Clovis
JP Sweeney, CTDC
Arthur Servin, CTDC
Will Washburn, Provost & Pritchard
Gary Manross, SRI
Gus Banda, KCAPTA
Jeff Long, Fresno COG/FAX
Tony Boren, Fresno COG

Barbara Steck, Fresno COG
Les Beshears, Fresno COG
Kristine Cai, Fresno COG
Kathy Chung, Fresno COG
Tom Webster, Fresno COG
Clark Thompson, Fresno COG
Todd Sobrado, Fresno COG
Brenda Lauchner, Fresno COG

Transportation Technical Committee

The Transportation Technical Committee (TTC) will consider Items I – IV prior to the Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) Meeting. This portion of the meeting is scheduled to begin at **8:30 a.m.**

The meeting was called to order by Scott Mozier, Chair.

I. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

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

There were no public presentations.

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. TTC/PAC Executive Minutes of November 6, 2009 | Approve |
| B. 2009-10 Transportation Funding Claims – | Acceptance |
| 1. City of Clovis – Resolution 2010-01 | |
| C. Blueprint Update | Information |
| D. Measure C Oversight Committee Request for Representative | Information |
| E. Caltrans 2010/2011 Transportation Planning Grant Call for Projects | Information |
| F. FY 2008-09 Annual Listing of Projects | Information |

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

For a summary of these items please see January 15, 2010 Annotated Agenda.

A motion was made by Jeff Webster (FCRTA) and seconded by Nick Paladino (FCC) to approve the Consent Items as presented. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

III. TRANSPORTATION ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Council of Fresno County Governments 2010 RTIP Submittal – Resolution 2010-02

Les Beshears (COG) informed the Committee that there was no funding in the 2010 STIP for new projects, and the California Transportation Commission (CTC) has requested that Regions delay 30% of the projects programmed with Flexible Funds from 2009-10 through 2012-13 to 2013-14 and 2014-15. Fortunately, staff was able to deliver our STIP programmed SR 180 Clovis to Temperance project with Federal ARRA Stimulus funding and local Measure "C" funding. This frees up \$29.6 million in funding that was originally programmed in 2012-13. The currently adopted Measure "C" Short Range Plan programs that funding on the SR 180, 41, 168 Braided Ramp. In compliance with the CTC request to delay projects, our 2010 RTIP submittal will request that the \$29.6 million be programmed to the Braided Ramp project in 2013-14. This request is consistent with discussions with Caltrans and the Valley MPO Directors who are proposing a joint RTIP proposal to the CTC in order to leverage the San Joaquin Valley's voice in Sacramento. Our request to program the project in 2013-14 enables the Valley MPOs to demonstrate the region is complying with the CTC request to delay 30% of the programmed projects.

A motion was made by Jeff Webster (FCRTA) and seconded by Nick Paladino (FCC) to recommend approval of submittal by adopting Resolution 2010-02. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

B. Measure "C" Update: RTMF Implementation

Les Beshears (COG) informed the Committee that in the month of December staff worked on implementing the RTMF Fee that was adopted on October 29th. Staff also met with the City of Fresno, Clovis, and Fresno County and had numerous discussions with their Public Works people. Staff also had Training sessions and discussions with their Planning groups. A RTMF Implementation Training session was held for the smaller cities. RTMF forms were ordered and were distributed to the City of Fresno and Clovis, and the rural cities. There are 2 forms. One form is an information form that is basically for your protection and to keep in your records. The developer needs to sign this form as early in the process as possible so that they will be well informed of the fee that they will need to pay. The second form is a payment voucher. The developer will fill out one form for each unit that has a structural building permit.

Bruce Webber (Reedley) raised the question about issues on low income housing. Mr. Webber explained that there is a pass for low income housing that allows them to request relief from certain conditions. It is Mr. Webber's understanding, in talking with the city attorney and the planning department, that they have no right to deny the request.

Tony Boren, Executive Director, explained that issues will have to be worked out and ultimately the Board would have to make that final decision.

This was an information item only and required no further action by the Committee.

C. Rail Update

Clark Thompson (COG) reported that the High-Speed Rail Authority had scheduled a Public Information Meeting regarding the Fresno to Bakersfield segment of the High-Speed Train Project. The meeting, to be conducted as an Open House will be held Tuesday, **January 19, 2010 in the Tower Theater Lobby** located at 815 East Olive Avenue in Fresno. The Authority developed alternative alignments and station locations that enable electrified trains to operate at 220 mph through Fresno, and to serve a Downtown Fresno Station.

All of the alternatives would enter Fresno from the south alongside the BNSF alignment, then turn to parallel the Union Pacific Railroad (freight rail line closest to State Route 99) from Jensen Avenue to the San Joaquin River. All the alternative alignments and stations are elevated 60 feet above the ground. The Authority is seeking input on which alternative alignment(s) are preferred and ideas and comments on features such as location of the Downtown Fresno Passenger Station. Authority staff and consultants will be hand to answer any questions about the project.

On January 15, 2010, Fresno County's Expression of Interest for the High-Speed Train Heavy Maintenance Facility was submitted to the High-Speed Rail Authority. Fresno's Expression of Interest, referred to as "Fresno Works," identifies a site area encompassing nearly 700 acres adjacent to the BNSF alignment. This larger site area gives the Authority maximum flexibility as to how it may wish to develop the roughly 150 acre HMF. "Fresno Works" is a coalition of City, County, Council of Governments, labor, business, education, economic development, etc. working together to bring forward a technically responsive and compelling expression of interest to secure the HMF for Fresno.

Tony Boren, Executive Director, explained to the Committee the Expression of Interest. Mr. Boren also explained that there is \$140 million in dedicated funding that can be redirected within Measure C in either the new Technology funds or the Rail Consolidation funds. At this point in time we have a commitment to initiate an amendment for \$25 million of the potential \$140 million. This is contingent upon Fresno County's facility being selected as a sight. Also, before staff can begin the amendment staff will need to know the details of what the \$25 million will be used for.

This was an information item only and required no further action by the Committee.

D. Grant Opportunity – Catalyst Projects for California Sustainable Strategies Pilot Program

Barbara Steck (COG) reported on this item. California Department of Housing and Community Development announced the release of an RFP for an innovative new Program: the Catalyst Projects for California Sustainable Strategies Pilot Program (Program). Approximately 6 development projects will be selected as Catalyst Projects in communities throughout California to incentivize sustainable communities and test innovative strategies designed to increase housing supply and affordability; improve jobs and housing relationships; stimulate job creation and retention; enhance transportation modal choices that reflect community values, preserve open space and agricultural resources; promote public health; eliminate toxic threats; address blighted properties; reduce green house gas emissions and increase energy conservation and independence.

The Program reflects a coordinated effort by multiple state agencies to support local innovation, develop projects that integrate environmental, economic and housing goals and test strategies for broad implementation throughout the California. The Program also engages our regional partners and support efforts to implement Regional Blueprints and address the goals of SB 375.

Any California city, county or city and county are eligible to apply. Completed RFPs are due February 11, 2009. For a copy of the Request for Proposals and further information go to <http://www.hcd.ca.gov/hpd/cpcsspp.html>

Barbara Steck (COG) wanted to call attention to committee about this opportunity. Ms. Steck received a call from Cathy Cresswell with the State Housing and Community Development about the valley receiving this program. The application was included in your packet. Ms. Cresswell is the contact person for this program.

This was an information item only and required no further action by the Committee.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Items from Staff

Barbara Steck (COG) distributed an invitation from Caltrans to workshops around the state and the one in Fresno is March 22nd. These workshops will address the California Transportation Plan and the Integrated State Plan and the California Interregional Blueprint.

If you are interested in the Blueprint process and the California Transportation Plan you should plan to attend the workshop on March 22nd.

Tony Boren, Executive Director, commented on the handout from Gary Manross (SRI) that gives an update on the status of the Farmland Conservation Program.

B. Items from Members

Bruce Webber (Reedley) informed the Committee that there is a new Caltrans Requirement that will be due June 1st it is called Exhibit 9C out of the LAPM manual. This addresses the annual certification on ADA and has specific requirement in it including agencies having to adopt a DBE grievance policy and procedure, an ADA complaint policy and procedure and also to develop a self evaluation and transition plan. This all has to be in place and certified by June 1st of this year.

This was Bruce Webber's last day as City Engineer and at the TTC. A new City Engineer will start on Monday and will be the new representative of TTC. Mr. Webber expressed that it has been a pleasure working with the committee for 7 years.

a. Enclosure from Dennis Manning re: letter of support PRT project in Winona, MN

Dennis Manning informed the Committee of a request for a letter of support from Fresno COG. Winona is moving forward with a Personal Rapid Transportation systems test facility and is applying for a grant. The PRT and the Minnesota Department of Transportation would begin working together and both agreed that the PRT system needs a place to be tested. Mr. Manning was contacted by the people of Winona and informed that they would like to get letters of support from cities around the state so that they can attach it to a federal grant to strengthen the application. Mr. Manning would like a draft letter of support submitted to the PAC asking for approval.

There was a consensus by the Committee to have the letter of support proceed forward to the PAC.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Barbara Steck for'.

Tony Boren, Executive Director

JOINT Transportation Technical Committee / Policy Advisory Committee

The TTC and the PAC met as a joint Committee to consider scheduled public presentations brought before the Committees. This portion of the meeting began at 10:00 a.m.

V. PRESENTATIONS

A. Central Valley Flood Management Planning Program - Veronica Rodriguez, California Department of Water Resources

Veronica Rodriguez was not present for the presentation at the meeting.

B. ADA Issues and Senate Bill 1608 – Rebecca Hellwig, Lars Andersen & Associates, Inc.

Rebecca Hellwig gave a PowerPoint presentation on the ADA issues and Senate Bill 1608. Ms. Hellwig explained that the SB 1608 came into effect about a year ago and how Bill would have some repercussions for some cities.

C. Air District Update: Employer-based Trip Reduction Rule 9410 – Jessi Fierro, Senior Air Quality Specialist, Planning-San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District

Jessi Fierro reviewed a handout that she distributed on the Trip Reduction Rule 9410. This rule was adopted in December. Ms. Fierro explained how Rule 9410 will affect cities, counties and local governments. The District is a resource to help employers comply with this rule.

D. Caltrans Monthly Report

There was no report from Caltrans.

POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

10:15 AM

Policy Advisory Committee Members Attending:

Rocky Rogers, City of Reedley (Chair)
Lynn Gorman, Fresno County
Gabriel Gonzalez, City of Mendota
John Holt, City of Clovis
Alan Bengyel, City of Orange Cove
David Weisser, City of Fowler
Bruce Rudd, City of Fresno
Lynn Gorman, County of Fresno
Jose Ramirez, City of Firebaugh

Kathy Millison, City of Clovis
D-B Heusser, City of Selma
Ron Manfredi, City of Kerman - VC
Dan Spears, City of Sanger
Gerald Forde, City of Huron
Cruz Ramos, City of San Joaquin
Don Pauley, City of Kingsburg
Lou Martinez, City of Parlier

Others Attending:

Jessi Fierro, Valley Air District
Gus Banda, KCAPTA
Jeff Long, Fresno COG/FAX
Jeffrey Webster, FCRTA
Tony Boren, Fresno COG
Barbara Steck, Fresno COG
Les Beshears, Fresno COG
Kathy Chung, Fresno COG

Stephanie Maxwell, Fresno COG
Laural Fawcett, Fresno COG
Tom Webster, Fresno COG
Lauren Dawson, Fresno COG
Clark Thompson, Fresno COG
Todd Sobrado, Fresno COG
Brenda Lauchner, Fresno COG

Policy Advisory Committee

The Policy Advisory Committee will consider all Transportation and Administrative Items on the Agenda.

VI. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

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

There were no public presentations.

VII. 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.

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| A. TTC/PAC Executive Minutes of November 6, 2009 | Approve |
| B. 2009-10 Transportation Funding Claims – [BESHEARS] | Acceptance |
| 1. City of Clovis – Resolution 2010-01 | |
| C. Blueprint Update [STECK] | Information |
| D. Measure C Oversight Committee Request for Representative [LAUCHNER] | Information/
Guidance |
| E. Caltrans 2010/2011 Transportation Planning Grant Call for Projects [SOBRADO] | Information |
| F. FY 2008-09 Annual Listing of Projects [MONGE] | Information |

For a summary of these items please see January 15, 2010 Annotated Agenda.

Request for Urgency Item: requires 2/3 majority vote declaring urgency and 2/3 vote to add the item to the agenda.

A request was made to add the Enclosure from Dennis Manning re: letter of support for PRT project in Winona, MN as an urgency item to add to the agenda as Item VIII E. A motion was made by Don Pauley

(Kingsburg) and seconded by D-B Heusser (Selma) to declare this item as urgency. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Don Pauley (Kingsburg) and seconded by Alan Bengyel (Orange Cove) to approve the Consent Items as presented. Ron Manfredi (Kerman) commented on Item D asking staff to send him information on qualifications for the Measure C Oversight Committee representative. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

VIII. TRANSPORTATION ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Council of Fresno County Governments 2010 RTIP Submittal – Resolution 2010-02

Les Beshears (COG) informed the committee that there was no funding in the 2010 STIP for new projects, and the California Transportation Commission (CTC) has requested that Regions delay 30% of the projects programmed with Flexible Funds from 2009-10 through 2012-13 to 2013-14 and 2014-15. Fortunately, staff was able to deliver our STIP programmed SR 180 Clovis to Temperance project with Federal ARRA Stimulus funding and local Measure "C" funding. This frees up \$29.6 million in funding that was originally programmed in 2012-13. The currently adopted Measure "C" Short Range Plan programs that funding on the SR 180, 41, 168 Braided Ramp. In compliance with the CTC request to delay projects, our 2010 RTIP submittal will request that the \$29.6 million be programmed to the Braided Ramp project in 2013-14. This request is consistent with discussions with Caltrans and the Valley MPO Directors who are proposing a joint RTIP proposal to the CTC in order to leverage the San Joaquin Valley's Voice in Sacramento. Our request to program the project in 2013-14 enables the Valley MPOs to demonstrate the region is complying with the CTC request to delay 30% of the programmed projects.

A motion was made by Kathy Millison (Clovis) and seconded by Dan Spears (Sanger) to recommend approval of submittal by adopting Resolution 2010-02. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

B. Measure "C" Update: RTMF Implementation

Les Beshears (COG) informed the committee that in the month of December staff worked on implementing the RTMF Fee that was adopted on October 29th. Staff also met with the City of Fresno, Clovis, and Fresno County and had numerous discussions with their Public Works people. Staff also had Training sessions and discussions with their Planning groups. An RTMF Implementation Training session was held for the smaller cities. RTMF forms were ordered and were distributed to the City of Fresno, County, Clovis and the rural cities. There are 2 forms. One form is an information form that is basically for your protection and to keep in your records. The developer needs to sign this form as early in the process as possible so that they will be well informed of the fee that they will need to pay. The second form is a payment voucher. The developer will fill out one form for each unit that has a structural building permit.

Lynn Gorman (Fresno County) commented on a discussion she heard about whether the payment point is permit or occupancy. Mr. Beshears replied that it is set up to collect at the time the permit is issued but they can collect their fees at any time.

This was an information item only and required no further action by the Committee.

C. Rail Update

Clark Thompson (COG) reported that the High-Speed Rail Authority had scheduled a Public Information Meeting regarding the Fresno to Bakersfield segment of the High-Speed Train Project. The meeting, to be conducted as an Open House, and will be held Tuesday, **January 19, 2010 in the Tower Theater Lobby** located at 815 East Olive Avenue in Fresno. The Authority developed alternative alignments and station locations that enable electrified trains to operate at 220 mph through Fresno, and to serve a Downtown Fresno Station. All of the alternatives would enter Fresno from the south alongside the BNSF alignment, then turn to parallel the Union Pacific

Railroad (freight rail line closest to State Route 99) from Jensen Avenue to the San Joaquin River. All the alternative alignments and stations are elevated 60 feet above the ground.

The Authority is seeking input on which alternative alignment(s) are preferred and ideas and comments on features such as location of the Downtown Fresno Passenger Station. Authority staff and consultants will be hand to answer any questions about the project.

On January 15, 2010, Fresno County's Expression of Interest for the High-Speed Train Heavy Maintenance Facility was submitted to the High-Speed Rail Authority. Fresno's Expression of Interest, referred to as "Fresno Works," identifies a site area encompassing nearly 700 acres adjacent to the BNSF alignment. This larger site area gives the Authority maximum flexibility as to how it may wish to develop the roughly 150 acre HMF. "Fresno Works" is a coalition of City, County, Council of Governments, labor, business, education, economic development, etc. working together to bring forward a technically responsive and compelling expression of interest to secure the HMF for Fresno.

Clark Thompson (COG) explained that this meeting is an open house format so there will not be any prepared presentations. The Authority representatives and consultants will be present to answer any questions. Mr. Thompson recommended to the Committee anyone interested and that may have questions on the High-Speed Train Heavy Maintenance Facility should attend this meeting.

This was an information item only and required no further action by the Committee.

D. Grant Opportunity –Catalyst Projects for California Sustainable Strategies Pilot Program

Barbara Steck (COG) reported on this item. California Department of Housing and Community Development announced the release of an RFP for an innovative new Program: the Catalyst Projects for California Sustainable Strategies Pilot Program (Program). Approximately 6 development projects will be selected as Catalyst Projects in communities throughout California to incentivize sustainable communities and test innovative strategies designed to increase housing supply and affordability; improve jobs and housing relationships; stimulate job creation and retention; enhance transportation modal choices that reflect community values, preserve open space and agricultural resources; promote public health; eliminate toxic threats; address blighted properties; reduce green house gas emissions and increase energy conservation and independence.

The Program reflects a coordinated effort by multiple state agencies to support local innovation, develop projects that integrate environmental, economic and housing goals and test strategies for broad implementation throughout the California. The Program will also engage our regional partners and support efforts to implement Regional Blueprints and address the goals of SB 375.

Any California city, county or city and county are eligible to apply. Completed RFPs are due February 11, 2009. For a copy of the Request for Proposals and further information go to <http://www.hcd.ca.gov/hpd/cpcsspp.html>

Barbara Steck (COG) wanted to call attention to committee about this opportunity. Ms. Steck received a call from Cathy Cresswell with the State Housing and Community Development about the valley receiving this program. The application was included in your packet. Ms. Cresswell is the contact person for this program.

This was an information item only and required no further action by the Committee.

E. Enclosure from Dennis Manning re: letter of support PRT project in Winona, MN

Dennis Manning informed the committee of a request from Rochester Minnesota for a letter of support from Fresno COG. They are moving forward with a Personal Rapid Transportation systems test facility and are applying for a grant. The PRT and the Minnesota Department of Transportation would begin working together and both agreed that the PRT system needs a place

to be tested. Mr. Manning was contacted by the people of Winona and informed that they would like to get letters of support from cities around the state so that they can attach them to a federal grant to strengthen the application.

Bruce Rudd asked if the Department of Transportation of Minnesota adopted a formal program in which they have allocated dollars for testing. Mr. Manning said not at this stage yet.

Mr. Manning suggested a meeting be set up between the head of Department of Transportation of Minnesota and Bruce Rudd to get more clarification on what the level of support is on this matter.

Kathy Millison (Clovis) also asked for more clarification on what the level of support is throughout the region in Minnesota, particularly at the state and highway transportation committee level. This needs to be well coordinated.

A motion was made by Kathy Millison (Clovis) and second by Lynn Gorman (Fresno County) to recommend that the Letter of Support to move forward to the COG Policy Board for authorization. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

IX. 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.

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|--|-------------|
| A. 2009/10 Overall Work Program Amendment #4 [BESHEARS] | Authorize |
| B. Fresno COG 2009-10 1st Quarter Progress Report [BESHEARS] | Authorize |
| C. Regional Transportation Plan – Mini Grant Update [THOMPSON/LAUCHNER] | Information |
| D. Proposition 84 Update [TWEBSTER] | Information |
| E. San Joaquin Valley 511 Update [SOBRADO] | Information |
| F. Video Conferencing Update [TWEBSTER] | Information |
| G. Monthly Legislative Update: 2009 Legislative Activity Summary [FAWCETT] | Information |
| Attachment 1 – 2009 Legislative Report | |
| Attachment 2 – Local Government Omnibus Act | |
| Attachment 3 – CALCOG 2010 Priority Actions | |
| H. Monthly Report – California Consulting LLC [BOREN] | Information |
| I. Monthly Report – Strategy Research Institute [BOREN] | Information |

For a full summary of these items please see the January 15, 2010 Annotated Agenda.

Rocky Rogers of Reedley pulled item I for further discussion.

A motion was made by D-B Heusser (Selma) and seconded by Don Pauley (Kingsburg) to approve the Consent Items as presented with the exception of Item I. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

X. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Fresno COG's Draft 2010 Legislative Platform Review

Laural Fawcett (COG) reported that the 2009 Legislative Platform has been updated as a first draft of the Fresno COG's 2010 Legislative Platform. The final platform will be on the February agenda for approval.

Ms. Fawcett explained a table on the Advocacy issues from last year and compared it with what the priorities are for Valley Voice efforts in Sacramento. Last year the Number 1 issue was Surface Water Storage. AB 49 will be a bill of interest and will be a priority for the 2010 Platform. Numbers 2, 3, and 4 issues were the Federal Economic Stimulus Package, the State budget issues and the Air Quality issues.

This was an information item. The Fresno COG's 2010 Legislative Platform will be brought back to Committees for approval in February.

B. Fresno COG's 2010 Sacramento One Voice Update

Laural Fawcett (COG) reported that the 2010 Sacramento One Voice trip dates of March 9th and 10th, were confirmed. The Draft 2010 Regional Advocacy Issues were included in the meeting package.

This was an information item. The Fresno COG's 2010 Regional Advocacy Issues list will be brought back to the Committee for approval in February.

C. 2010 "Valley Voice" Schedules – Sacramento and Washington, D.C.

Laural Fawcett (COG) reported on this item. The San Joaquin Valley Legislative Affairs Committee (VLAC) confirmed its 2010 "Valley Voice" Sacramento Trip dates: Wednesday and Thursday, February 3-4, 2010. Fresno County representatives include: San Joaquin Mayor Dhaliwal, Supervisor Judy Case and Fresno COG Director Tony Boren.

The dates for the Washington D.C. trip were still under discussion and were addressed by Candice Steelman, VLAC Chair, at the San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agencies Directors' Meeting that was held on Friday January 8, 2010. Advocacy Issues that had been discussed at the State and Federal meetings were enclosed for review. Please contact staff person, Laural Fawcett, if you have any questions.

This was an information item only and required no further action by the Committee.

D. Washington D.C. One Voice Update

Barbara Steck (COG) reported on this item. Updated Regional project and issues information for the Washington DC "One Voice" trip was included in the packet. A delegation of 31 participants, including 7 elected officials, will be traveling back east this year. Delegates will be leaving Fresno on Saturday, February 6th and returning on Thursday, February 11th. Delegates should attend the orientation meeting that will be held at Fresno COG on January 27th (3:00 – 5:00 PM). Contact Marla Day at mday@fresnocog.org to RSVP. Ms. Steck commented on the projects and issues for this year.

This was an information item only and required no further action by the Committee.

E. Request to Review/Comment on Joint Powers Agreement – CalVANS, A Public Transit Agency

Brenda Lauchner (COG) reported on this item. Kings County APTA (KCAPTA) provides between 300 - 350 vanpools to those traveling a seven-county project area, including Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Monterey, Tulare, and Ventura Counties. For future stability and to provide representation of all participants, KCAPTA is recommending that the present vanpool operation be transitioned to a new joint powers agency called CalVANS with representation from Councils of Governments (COGs) served by the program. Since COGs represent both counties and cities, it is suggested that a COG representative serve as a member of the new joint powers agency. Any member agency may withdraw its membership from the agency by written notice 180 days before actual withdrawal.

The current vanpool program does not require outside funding for its operation; and it is not anticipated that any member agency would be obligated to provide funding to the new agency. This would not prevent any COG or agency, however, from providing support if it so chooses (i.e., the flexibility of a transportation commission, county, city, or transit operator to expend LTF for vanpool

operating and capital improvements for agricultural worker transportation to and from work is greatly enhanced under SB716).

Ron Hughes, Executive Director of KCAPTA submitted, for review, a draft Joint Powers Agreement to establish the CalVANS agency. Mr. Hughes will make a presentation to the Committee regarding the proposal.

Ms. Lauchner reported that Fresno COG's legal counsel is reviewing the JPA. Mr. Boren asked what concerns legal counsel has with the JPA. Several items were mentioned including the authority that the Fresno COG has regarding this JPA. There were concerns that this JPA would compete for funding. Mr. Webster (FCRTA) briefly commented on the purpose of the JPA. There were more questions regarding the Joint Powers Agreement and the Committee asked that Mr. Hughes address those questions before moving forward on this item.

The Committee decided to table this item until legal counsel has reviewed and commented and the questions regarding funding have been addressed.

F. Abandoned Vehicle Abatement [THOMPSON]

Clark Thompson (COG) reported on this item. At its meeting on November 19, 2009, the COG Policy Board approved a policy for use of AVA funds for vehicle purchase or lease. That policy states that local agencies may use AVA revenues for vehicle purchase or lease to the extent the vehicle is utilized for AVA activities and to the extent the agency has current revenues and unexpended revenues allocated. Furthermore, the local agency must receive prior authorization from the Fresno County AVA Service Authority if the amount of the purchase or lease exceeds \$2,500.00 and must provide a written statement to the Service Authority indicating the extent to which the vehicle will be utilized for AVA activities.

The County of Fresno is requesting funding to purchase two vehicles at a cost of \$29,000 each for use in the County's AVA program, operated through the Sheriff's Office. Currently there are two Community Service Officers assigned to the County's AVA program. They are currently using high-mileage vehicles beyond their useful life. The new vehicles will be used exclusively for the AVA program and allow the CSOs to better service the unincorporated community through the AVA program. Mr. Manfredi asked how other cities can access this program.

A motion was made by Cruz Ramos (San Joaquin) and seconded by Ron Manfredi (Kerman) to recommend approval of the County's funding request to the extent Fresno County has current revenues and unexpended revenues allocated. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

XI. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Items from Staff

Item IX. I – Monthly Report – Strategy Research Institute

Dr. Manross, SRI was present and gave the Committee a brief update on the status of the Farmland Conservation interviews and other work he is doing for Fresno COG. A report was distributed to the Committee.

There was a brief discussion about the length of presentations that have been coming before the Committees with direction that they should be limited in scope and length.

B. Items from Members

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,


Tony Boren, Executive Director