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ANNOTATED AGENDA

TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Date: Friday, March 12, 2010
Time: 8:30 a.m.

POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Date: Friday, March 12, 2010
Time: 10:00 a.m.

Place:

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

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Accommodations

The Fresno COG offices and restrooms are ADA accessible. Representatives or individuals with disabilities should contact Fresno COG at (559) 233-4148, at least 3 days in advance, to request auxiliary aids and/or translation services necessary to participate in the public meeting / public hearing. If Fresno COG is unable to accommodate an auxiliary aid or translation request for a public hearing, after receiving proper notice, the hearing will be continued on a specified date when accommodations are available.

Transportation Technical Committee

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

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.**

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 February 12, 2010

B. 2009-10 Transportation Funding Claims – [FAWCETT]

Summary: 2009/10 Transportation Development Act Claims. The amounts claimed for Local Transportation Funds (LTF) funds are:

Jurisdiction:	LTF Fund:
City of Coalinga	\$ 574,723
County of Fresno	\$4,996,337
City of Fresno	\$14,660,134 (Handout at meeting)

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

Action: Staff recommends approval of the funding claims by adopting Resolutions 2010-05, 2010-6 and 2010-7.

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

C. FY 2009-10 Second Quarter Progress Report [BESHEARS]

Summary: Included in your agenda packet is the FY 2009-10 2nd Quarter Progress Report which is a summary of funds expended and work completed in each work element during the second quarter, FY 2009-10.

Action: Staff recommends acceptance of the second quarter progress report as presented.

D. Grading Results for 2010 COG Administered FTA Sections 5316 (JARC) and 5317 (New Freedom) Grant Programs [SOBRADO]

Summary: On February 16, 2010, members of the Social Services Transport Advisory Committee (SSTAC) JARC / New Freedom grading committee met to review grading results for the grant applications received for the 2010 COG-Administered Section 5316 (JARC) and 5317 (New Freedom) grant program issued in November 2009. The funding available to applicants is as follows:

MONIES AVAILABLE FOR 2010 COG JARC / NF GRANT PROGRAM

	Section 5316 JARC Grant Program	Section 5317 New Freedom Grant Program
FY 2008	\$405,941	\$96,975
FY 2009	\$643,057	\$227,545
Total	\$1,048,998	\$324,520

In response to the call-for-projects, Fresno COG received grant applications for five projects, all from Fresno Area Express (FAX). A brief description of the project along with the amount requested is listed below:

AMOUNT REQUESTED FOR JARC

Description	Federal	Local	Total
Bike Racks	\$105,600	\$26,400	\$132,000
Transportation Needs Research Project	\$200,000	\$50,000	\$250,000
Total	\$305,600	\$76,400	\$382,000

AMOUNT REQUESTED FOR NEW FREEDOM

Description	Federal	Local	Total
Bus Stop Numbering in Braille	\$68,000	\$17,000	\$85,000
Bus Stop Concrete Improvements	\$120,000	\$30,000	\$150,000
Trip Efficiency Program	\$16,800	\$4,200	\$21,000
Total	\$204,800	\$51,200	\$256,000

Since the amount of funding available exceeds the amount of money requested, all grant applications are slated to receive the monies requested. The grading results are as follows by grant program:

FTA Section 5316 JARC Grading Results

	Agency	Project	Avg. Score
1.	FAX	Transportation Needs Research Project	94
2.	FAX	Bike Racks	76

FTA Section 5317 New Freedom Grading Results

	Agency	Project	Avg. Score
1.	FAX	Bus Stop Concrete Improvements	97
2.	FAX	Trip Efficiency Program	94
3.	FAX	Bus Stop Efficiency Improvements	80

After the projects are funded, there is \$743,398 carried forward to future call-for-projects for the COG-administered FTA Section 5316 JARC Program and \$119,720 to be carried forward for the COG-administered FTA Section 5317 New Freedom grant program.

Additional questions or comments can be addressed to Todd Sobrado at (559) 233-4148 Extension 207.

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

E. CA Interregional Blueprint/CA Transportation Plan - Workshops [STECK]

Summary: The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) invites your input on the new **California Interregional Blueprint**. The **California Interregional Blueprint** will be the foundation of the next California Transportation Plan and will be responsive to SB 375 and AB 32 goals. Caltrans will host six workshops throughout the state. A flyer is enclosed in your agenda package.

The workshops feature informational presentations, large group discussions, and electronic polling. The Fresno workshop is scheduled for Monday March 22nd from 1:00 – 4:00 PM in the City of Fresno Council Chambers.

Action: This is an information item. Direction may be given at the discretion of the Committee.

F. Blueprint Update [STECK]

Summary: As you know, Fresno COG is the lead agency for the implementation of the Valley Blueprint. The primary focus of the Blueprint activities at this time is the preparation of the Blueprint Roadmap, which has recently been awarded to the consulting firm of Mintier Harnish. Staff will provide updates as products are delivered. An update on all 4th year Blueprint tasks is enclosed for your information.

Action: This is an information item. Direction may be given at the discretion of the Committee.

III. TRANSPORTATION ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Valley Model Improvement Contract [CAI]

Summary: The contract award for development of short and long term model improvement plan for San Joaquin Valley MPO traffic models to meet the requirements of SB 375 is included for your consideration.

In October 2009 the San Joaquin Valley MPOs were awarded \$2.5 million from Proposition 84 funds by the Strategic Growth Council. These funds were awarded for San Joaquin Valley model development and data gathering to meet the requirements of SB 375.

Allocation of the money from the Strategic Growth Council is still several months away. In an effort to get a “jump start” on the model improvements the valley MPOs have issued an RFP for a preliminary contract to develop a detailed short range and long range model improvement plan.

The short range plan will include a detailed scope of work for improvements that will be focused on fulfilling the AB 32 and SB 375 requirements for the first cycle of the San Joaquin Valley Regional Transportation Plans to be completed in 2014/15. In addition the contract provides for development of a preliminary long range model improvement plan that will outline goals beyond 2012 such as: organizational structure, ongoing maintenance capacity, ultimate requirements for SB 375 and other local requirements.

Fresno COG is the lead MPO for this project. A Request for Proposal was issued for this project and six proposals were received. On March 3rd the review committee made up of modeling staff

from each San Joaquin Valley MPO and a Valley COG Director met and selected the consultant team of Fehr & Peers for the project.

Funding for this contract comes from Valley Blueprint funds identified for “model improvements.”

Action: Staff recommends authorizing the Executive Director to enter into a contract, not to exceed \$150,000 with Fehr & Peers for development of the Short and Long Term model improvement plans.

B. Rail Update [THOMPSON]

Summary: Staff will provide a verbal update of developments regarding various high-speed rail matters since your last committee meeting.

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

C. Fresno County Regional Transit Consolidation Plan Contract [Downs]

Summary: On December 16, 2009, Fresno COG released an RFP for a Fresno County Regional Transit Consolidation Plan. As a result of the RFP proposals were received from Nelson/Nygaard and the Transit Resource Center. Both firms participated in a formal presentation process on February 17, 2010. The proposal selection committee included Jeffrey Webster, FCRTA General Manager; Shonna Halterman, General Services Manager for the City of Clovis; and Kenneth Hamm, Director of the Department of Transportation/FAX, City of Fresno. Dr. Gary Manross participated in the interview process as a non-voting member.

The selection committee, by a unanimous vote, is recommending Nelson/Nygaard to prepare the plan. The Nelson/Nygaard team has extensive experience with similar projects including having prepared the 2007 Regional Public Transportation Agency Formation Study for the Fresno COG. This is a Measure C funded project with a \$100,000 budget. The Nelson/Nygaard proposal was for \$99,186.

Action: Staff recommends the Fresno COG Policy Board authorize the Executive Director to negotiate a scope of services and enter into a contract with Nelson/Nygaard to prepare the Fresno County Regional Transit Consolidation Plan.

D. Public Transportation Infrastructure Study Update [Downs]

Summary: During the February TTC meeting, staff was asked to provide an update on Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) planning activities.

FAX has received comments on the very small starts (VSS) grant project initiation package that was submitted to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). Among the comments received; FTA thought too many stations were proposed which would lead to increased capital costs as well as increased travel time. In addition, FTA had concerns about the fleet proposed to operate the system.

An amended initiation package was prepared which increased the average station stop spacing from 0.37 of a mile to 0.64 of a mile. Staff also clarified the concerns about the proposed fleet which would be part of FAX's existing fleet but branded with a unique paint scheme or full bus wrap. Staff is currently conducting more extensive public outreach regarding the station spacing in order to determine the community preference for station locations. This will be critical, as FAX does not propose to operate a local service along with the BRT service because of the cost. This has the potential to increase the walking distance for many passengers.

A Downtown Fresno streetcar feasibility study was included as a task in the PTIS, and is not to exceed \$250,000. The streetcar task will be initiated in March starting with stakeholder interviews on March 2, and a streetcar open house on March 4.

The PTIS consultant team continues to refine the land use scenarios based on the public workshop conducted during January. Those scenarios will be reviewed by the PTIS TAC before they are included in the various modeling tasks.

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Action: This is an information item. Direction may be given at the discretion of the Committee.

IV. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR

V. OTHER BUSINESS

- A. Items from Staff
- B. Items from Members

JOINT Transportation Technical Committee / Policy Advisory Committee

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

VI. PRESENTATIONS

- A. NAS Lemoore's Economic Impact Assessment – Captain James Knapp**
- B. Caltrans Monthly Report**

Policy Advisory Committee

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

VII. 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.**

VIII. TRANSPORTATION CONSENT ITEMS

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X. ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT ITEMS

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A. Monthly Legislative Update [FAWCETT]

Summary: The enclosed report includes current bills in the 2010 legislative session that are relevant to the COG.

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

Please contact staff person, Laural Fawcett, if you have any questions.

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

B. Monthly Report – California Consulting LLC [BOREN]

Summary: Steve Samuelian of California Consulting Inc. will provide a verbal report to the Policy Board this month on his consulting activities for the COG during the month. The report that was distributed at last month's Policy Board meeting is included in the meeting package.

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

C. Monthly Report – Strategy Research Institute [BOREN]

Summary: Gary Manross, SRI, will provide a written report this month on his consulting activities for the COG.

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

XI. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Fresno COG's 2010 Sacramento One Voice Trip Report [FAWCETT]

Summary: Staff will report on activities from the March 9-10 trip.

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

XII. OTHER BUSINESS

- A. Items from Staff
- B. Items from Members

***Items listed as information still leave the option for guidance/direction actions by the Committee.**

****All enclosures are available on our website at www.fresnocog.org – Committees and Agendas**