

**Council of Fresno County Governments
Third Quarter Progress Report for FY 2009-2010
Ending March 31, 2010**

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.
- Implementation of FresnoTrak programming software provided by EcoInteractive used to integrate all components of programming such as Modeling, RTP, and FTIP. Local agencies now access their project information online and verify programming details on FresnoTrak.

[GARZA/MONGE/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.
- 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.
- Issued and RFP for valley model improvements to meet the requirements of SB375. Model improvements will be funded with the \$2.5 million grant from the Strategic Growth Council.
- Held the Kick-off meeting of the valley Model improvement Plan scoping team.[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.
 - Facilitated Triennial Highway Performance Monitoring System (HPMS) traffic counts.
- [BITNER]

WE 113 – Regional Transportation Planning Studies

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

Accomplishments:

Fehr and Peers have conducted a preliminary traffic analysis of the Study Area including traffic counts, several traffic demand model runs, and baseline reviews. Several staff-level meetings with the consultant, the County of Fresno, the City of Fresno and Fresno COG have taken place to identify critical direction for the study. A full committee meeting, which will involve a broad list of stakeholders is scheduled for early January 2009. The consultant conducted a preliminary traffic analysis of the Study Area, which included 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.

Fehr and Peers has also conducted a series of stakeholder interviews. The report on the interviews, a contract deliverable is currently due and is anticipated in the month of February 2010.

Preliminary recommendations based on financial constraints and roadway demands are also underway, and a draft report is expected in May of 2010. [TWEBSTER]

Golden State Corridor: Economic Development Infrastructure Improvements: Planning, Engineering, and Environmental Study

Accomplishments:

The Cooperative Project Agreement and associated Resolution No. 2009-42 with Fresno County Transportation Authority was written, and subsequently adopted by Fresno COG and FCTA.

The Golden State Corridor Interview Panel met on 2/1/2010 and interviewed five consultant teams and selected the Quad Knopf team to execute the contract work.

The Fresno COG Policy Board approved entering into a contract with Quad Knopf on February 25, 2010.

The contract was written and negotiated and signed 3/1/2010.

Fresno COG facilitated two newspaper articles (Kingsburg Recorder and The Selma Enterprise) on the Golden State Corridor Project.

The kick-off meeting with the consulting team was held 3/10/2010. [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:

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

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

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:

- An RFP was released on October 20, and on November 24, eight proposals were received. The proposals were scored and four of the proposals were selected for formal presentations scheduled to take place in January 2010.
- The COG Policy Board awarded the contract to Fehr & Peers Transportation Consultants, and the contract was executed on March 19. The first meeting of the Study Advisory Committee will be May 4, 2010.

[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 this quarter includes testing and fine-tuning regional farebox reporting.
- *National Transit Database Report:* National Transit Data Base (NTDB) annual operating statistics for FY2008-09 have been 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. The new fareboxes have been installed on FAX Route 9 (Shaw Ave.) to facilitate acceptance testing. Staff anticipates the project to be completed by July 2010.
- *Social Service Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC):* The SSTAC is in the process of compiling information for the annual Unmet Needs process. SSTAC has held 3 information gathering meetings in various parts of the County to solicit feedback on transit needs.
- *Passenger Survey:* Staff has initiated a FAX passenger satisfaction survey has been conducted through a contract with AIS Market Research.

- *Automatic Passenger Counters (APC):* Staff prepared and released an RFP for Automatic Passenger Counters to retrofit the entire FAX fleet. Two vendors were selected to participate in a demonstration project. FAX is currently evaluating the APC equipment and will be moving towards the second phase of the project in the next quarter. 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 procurement process has been completed, and FAX has negotiated a contract with Ontira Communications. 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.
- *Fresno County Regional Transit Consolidation Plan:* Staff prepared a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a Fresno County Regional Transit Consolidation Plan, and released the RFP on December 16, 2009. Proposals are due on January 29, 2010.

[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 Grant Program and had the contract reviewed by County Counsel. Currently awaiting final review and approval by Fresno COG staff.
- 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.
- Conducted an extensive review of the Fresno COG Standard Agreement and made several updates to the contract.

[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.

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- 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 had contracts reviewed by County Counsel. I am currently awaiting final review and approval by Fresno COG staff.
- 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.
- Conducted an extensive review of the Fresno COG Standard Agreement and made several updates to the Contract.

[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:

- Summary of travel markets, transit needs, and planned public transportation improvements;
- Summary maps and brief description of transit friendly employment centers, market conditions, and characterization of transit corridors;
- Transit technology and service alternatives feasibility assessment;
- Menu of service and technology options for transportation systems management (TSM) scenario;
- Baseline GIS mapping of Fresno County (includes layers reflecting Blueprint scenarios where available);
- Evaluation of current vacant land capacity based on existing zoning;
- Summary of current conditions and future trends analysis; and
- Countywide opinion survey.

The PTIS website has been developed and launched, and all of the study documents, including newsletters are available at www.fasttrackfresnocounty.com. In January a series of public workshops were conducted to gauge the community's interest in different land use and transit treatments. Also, stakeholder interviews for the Streetcar Study were conducted as well as a public open house regarding the Streetcar Study. Several more public activities are scheduled for April. [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. Several staff meetings have 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.
- The first workshop was held in January 2010 and was very well attended. The feedback received was positive with interest in the subsequent workshops scheduled for the fourth quarter of this year.
- Planning for the second workshop is in progress with the City of Fresno taking the lead on this project. Speakers have been finalized and preparation continues.

[SOBRADO]

WE 130 - Regional Public Transportation Planning - Rural

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

Accomplishments:

- The staff of the Fresno County Rural Transit Agency and the Rural Consolidated Transportation Service Agency prepared and completed their respective sections of the *2008-09 Transit Productivity Evaluation Report*. The Fresno COG's Social Service Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) reviewed and approved recommendations for the report on January 19, 2010. The Fresno COG Board accepted the report at their January 28th Meeting following an expressed opportunity for public comment.
- During the Third Quarter, staff completed the 2010 draft of the Regional Transportation Plan's section on Rural Transit. The overall RTP will begin the forty-five day review process in the Fourth Quarter during May 2010..
- The Fresno COG's SSTAC began conducting its annual "Unmet Transit Needs" outreach process during the Third Quarter. Mass mailings were sent to nearly 500 interested individuals and parties of record. Three community outreach meetings were conducted on February 17th in Kerman for the West County, February 18th in Orange Cove for the East County, and on February 24th in Fresno for the Fresno-Clovis Metropolitan Area (FCMA). [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.
- Comprehensive review and update of aviation section of 2011 Regional Transportation Plan, in conjunction with operators of public use airports in 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 February 11, 2010 at Castle Conference Center in Atwater, Stanislaus. Key agenda items included presentations on San Joaquin Corridor station projects and the San Joaquin Corridor environmental study. Other reports were made on Amtrak California safety/security/train operations, passenger services, marketing, route performance, Amtrak California train and thruway bus operations, capital projects delivery, and state/federal budgets, legislation, and other updates.
- Continued efforts with interested citizens regarding the potential rail consolidation/rail realignment project in Fresno and other projects.
- A meeting of the Fresno COG Rail Committee in conjunction with the Technical Working Group for the Fresno Freight Rail Realignment Study was conducted on February 19, 2010. In addition to a presentation and discussion of the Fresno Freight Rail Realignment Study, additional agenda items included reports and discussion of Fresno County's Expression of Interest for the High-Speed Train Heavy Maintenance Facility, funding awarded to California under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009, the status of the Fresno Area Residents for Rail Consolidation (FARRC) organization (which has now disbanded), and issues related to the San Joaquin Railroad abandonments in Tulare County.
- Comprehensive review and update of rail section of 2011 Regional Transportation Plan, in conjunction with the Fresno COG Rail Committee at its February 19, 2010 meeting.
- Presented comprehensive rail updates to the COG Committees and Policy Board during the January and March cycle of meetings.

[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 February 4, 2010. Agenda items included various status reports (Highway Design Manual Revision, Interchange/Intersection Guidelines, AB 1581 Implementation, Bikes on Roadways Training, AB 1358 and DD-64 R1 Implementation, Bicyclist Representation on CTCDC, a new Statewide Bicycle Committee, Strategic Highway Safety Plan, California Vehicle Code 21202 opinion, Bridge Rail, etc.) and discussions on Caltrans District 5 Bike Box Proposal, Bicycle/Automobile Parking Asset Management System, and Operating Motorcycles/Bicycles on Roads with Delineated Traffic Lanes.
 - Comprehensive review and update of non-motorized section of 2011 Regional Transportation Plan, in conjunction with Bikeways/Trails Working Group.
 - Conducted meeting of Bikeways/Trails Working Group on February 10, 2010. In addition to discussion and update of non-motorized goals and policies for the 2011 Regional Transportation Plan, agenda items included Complete Streets policy considerations, Fresno County's update of its Bicycle Transportation Plan, and updates of Fresno's Bicycle Transportation Plan and Clovis' Bicycle Transportation Master Plan.
- [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:

- The major effort during this quarter continued to be the development of an Expression of Interest for the location of the high-speed train heavy maintenance facility in Fresno County. This effort earlier included the development of a Request for Proposals for consultants to assist Fresno County with the development of the Expression of Interest, the review of proposals received in response to the RFP, the development of a contract between the consultant and the Fresno COG and the managing of the consultant contract. There were numerous meetings during this quarter with the Fresno County Heavy Maintenance Facility Steering Committee and a Fresno COG Land Use Task Force, formed to address land use technical issues related to the Fresno County proposal. Fresno County's Expression of Interest was submitted by the January 15, 2010 deadline. The Steering Committee and Land Use Task Force continue to meet regularly to discuss next steps and resolve issues related to the heavy maintenance facility.
- Continue to monitor activities and decisions of the California High-Speed Rail Authority for their relationship to high-speed rail in Fresno.

[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.
- Currently working with FYI (Fresno Yosemite International) on Master Plan Update and update to Airport Land Use Policy Plan (ALUPP).
- Currently in the process of creating a Fresno County ALUC website.
- FYI is currently updating their Master Plan and has made a presentation to the ALUC Commission. Issues concerning the noise contours with specific regards to the Strikefighter were brought up at the meeting. FYI staff is following up and will present their findings at the June, 2010 Regular Commission meeting.

[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 and resolve issues related to 2011 Regional Transportation Plan.
- Presented items related to the RTP to the Fresno COG Committees and Policy Board at the January and February, 2010 cycle of meetings. At the January cycle, staff described specific public outreach activities related to the four mini-grants awarded. At the February cycle, additional information was presented on the mini-grant demonstration program and outreach to focus groups.
- Participated in Green Footprint Mini-Grant Workshop at CART in Clovis, Belmont Merchants Association Mini-Grant Workshop at Leavenworth Elementary School in Fresno, and El Concilio de Fresno Mini-Grant Workshop in Kerman.
- Met with representatives of Cold Springs Rancheria on February 24, 2010 and Table Mountain Rancheria on March 3, 2010 to discuss issues of importance to Native Americans and to secure their involvement in the update to the 2011 Regional Transportation Plan.
- Revisions to text and graphics of 2011 Regional Transportation Plan.
- Ongoing coordination of 2011 Regional Transportation Plan with 2011 Federal Transportation Improvement Program, 2011 Subsequent EIR, and Conformity Analysis.
- Worked with local agency representatives and interested private citizens to ensure accurate information continues to be included in RTP updates.

[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:

- SOV analysis methodology that was developed during the CMP process was applied in the 2011 RTP
- Capacity increasing projects that failed to meet the CMP SOV test were screened out of 2011 RTP [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. The semi-quarterly meeting was held on 3/24/2010.
- 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. Fresno COG staff attended the 2011 RTP/Conformity Workshop held in Stockton on 2/2/2010.
- Assisted and drafted project level (hot-spot) transportation conformity determinations for transportation agencies.
- Assisted member agencies with CMAQ information to process their funding applications.
- CMAQ Annual Report was prepared and submitted to Caltrans.
- 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.
- Finalized RTP updates and attended planning meetings for the upcoming 2011 RTP.
- Membership and active participation in the San Joaquin Valley Clean Cities Coalition. The first quarter workshop was held on 2/17/2010 focusing on alternative fuels.
- Updates to Timely Implementation Documentation (TID) Tables for 2011 RTP Conformity Analysis.
- Updates to Reasonably Available Control Measure (RACM) Tables for 2011 RTP Conformity Analysis.
- Wrote Climate Change Element Chapter for the 2011 RTP.

- Wrote Pricing Policy content for 2011 RTP
 - Wrote the PM10 Policy for the 2011 RTP/Conformity document.
 - Wrote the CMAQ Cost effectiveness policy for the 2011 FTIP.
 - Facilitated SJVUAPCD Presentations/Updates for COG Committee meetings. Air District staff provided an update on the recently adopted Employer-based Trip Reduction Rule on 3/15/2010.
- [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:

- Held two meetings of the Citizen Oversight Committee, one in January and one in March [LAUCHNER]

WE 212 – Measure C Carpool/Vanpool Program

Objective: To expend Measure C Carpool/Vanpool Program funds to encourage an increase in carpooling and commuter 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.
- Maintained an impressive list of partners for the Carpool Program and continued to work to leverage funds for year end prizes.
- Gave presentations at various businesses and organizations about the Carpool Program. .
- Held three monthly drawings and awarded the winners \$1,000 each.
- Maintained the Valleyrides.com website that includes the Measure C commuting programs, and Tulare County commuter information (due to a funding and partnership with TCAG staff). The 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 or realigning either the BNSF tracks or the UP tracks or both to an alignment west of the Fresno Metropolitan Area, provide for new under- or over-passes that separate vehicular and rail traffic, and fund efforts to secure an additional \$800 or more of needed funding from state, federal, or other agencies to fully fund rail consolidation/rail realignment.

Accomplishments:

Conducted a meeting of the Technical Assessment Group for the Fresno Freight Rail Realignment/Study on February 19, 2010. Meeting purpose was to receive a detailed presentation on the Final Draft of the Study, discuss the Study findings and their implications, and recommend acceptance of the Study by the Fresno COG Policy Board. The Study will be presented to the COG Committees and Policy Board during the month of May.

[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, 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.
 - Vendors reimburse Measure C for all scrip sold (minus a 5% administration fee) 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.
 - Maintain 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.
- [LAUCHNER/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, 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.
 - Continue to implement the 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.
- [LAUCHNER/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 2009/10.
 - Development and posting of the Annual listing of projects for projects delivered in FFY 2008/09.
 - Development of the 2011 FTIP to be adopted by the COG Policy Board July 31, 2010 and submitted to Caltrans and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) for approval. Federal approval expected in November 2010.
 - Administrative Amendment #16 was approved by Caltrans on November 3, 2010.
 - Administrative Amendment #17 was approved by Caltrans on November 20, 2010.
 - Formal Amendment #18 was available for public review on December 15, 2009 concluding on December 28, 2009. It was approved by Caltrans on January 6, 2010 and by FHWA on January 19, 2010.
 - Administrative Modification #19 was approved by Caltrans on December 29, 2010.
 - Formal Amendment #20 was available for public review on February 11, 2010 concluding on February 24, 2010. It was approved by Caltrans on March 25, 2010. Expecting FHWA approval in April.
 - Formal Amendment #21 programmed the potential STIMULUS II Jobs for Mainstreet Act revenues to the FTIP. It was submitted as a split amendment to #21. It was submitted to Caltrans on March 16th and will be withdrawn in April after the approval of Amendment #20..
 - Administrative Amendment #22 was submitted to Caltrans on March 17, 2010 and approved by Caltrans on March 29, 2010.
 - 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 potential Stimulus II package, Jobs for Mainstreet Act which included a programming revenues and projects. The revenues were later determined to be "unavailable" and Amendment #21 was withdrawn on 4/21/10.
 - Implemented FresnoTrak for use in project tracking and enhancing visualization of the FTIP.
- [GARZA/MONGE]

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 monthly distribution of state Clearinghouse items to member agencies for review and comment.
- 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.
- Continue staff participation 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.

[BOREN/STECK/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 Washington D. C. One Voice, Blueprint, several Measure C programs, and the Regional Transportation Plan.
-
- Implemented a new outreach/media plan for the Measure C Carpool Program.
- Continuously updated Fresno COG's website with a variety of information, meeting packets and calendar entries.
- Implemented the Public Outreach Plan for the Regional Transportation Plan Update, including email and website updates, meeting presentations, and selecting recipients for the Community Mini-Grant Program.. Signed agreements with the grant recipients, and worked with their representatives to assist them in implementing their outreach programs.
- Sent out weekly email alerts called This Week...at Fresno COG. The email went 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.
- 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.
- Continued to provide ongoing support to Fresno COG staff for Internet-related activities.

- Prepared a Request for Proposal for a new, second generation COGView website. The RFP has been completed and is awaiting final review by Fresno COG staff before being released to the public.
[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.
- Met with representatives from Big Springs Rancheria and Table Mountain to discuss the Regional Transportation Plan in addition to improving the channels of communication between the Tribes, Fresno COG, and Fresno County.

[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.

[BITNER]

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 have over 1,400 registered users in the *Carpool/Vanpool Online Matchlist* program at www.Valleyrides.com. Maintained this current and active database of commuters, referring callers to the online system or inputting information for clients.
- Website has been redesigned to incorporate all Measure C programs and to improve user functionality. Staff continually works with the developer to update and improve the information available.
- Worked with marketing agency to incorporate www.Valleyrides.com on Measure C outreach material used for community event participation, presentations, and mailings available to all Fresno County residents including the Tribal membership and employees.

- Worked with other 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 including the Regional Transportation Report, One Voice activities, and the data needs of the SB 375 target-setting process.
- Worked on the 2010 U.S. Census Participant Statistical Areas Program (PSAP) verification process and responded to inquiries about the on-going Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA) appeals process.
- Worked on preparation of data book for use by member agency staff and the public.
- 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 and prepared all materials for distribution.
- Staff and DC Consultant were forced to cancel the eight annual One Voice trip to Washington D.C. in February 2010 because of blizzard conditions on the eastern seaboard.
- Staff and consultant successfully led a delegation of thirty elected representatives and community stakeholders to Sacramento in March 2010 for the annual 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
- Six Sacramento “One Voice” visits
- Three Sacramento “Valley Voice” trips
- One Washington DC “Valley Voice” trips.

[STECK/BOREN/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 four 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 three quarters 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 and meetings on Prop 84 funding and SB 375 requisites
- Participated in RTAC target criteria meetings
- Prepared and circulated RFP for SJV Blueprint Roadmap implementation plan and toolkit
- Hired Consultant to complete Blueprint Roadmap which will lead to Blueprint implementation
- Coordinated with Model Farmland Conservation project to integrate with Blueprint planning.
- Continue to coordinate Valleywide Blueprint Process.

Manage the consultant in preparing a summary report of the first three years of San Joaquin Valley Blueprint planning and develop a toolkit that will assist local planners integrate Blueprint planning into their local general plans. The first major deliverable was the summary report, which will also include a transitional “next steps” piece. The final product, the toolkit, is due October 2010.

Several studies are underway or forthcoming. A consultant has been hired to report on the financial-institutional barriers to higher density development and to recommend strategies to overcome these barriers. In addition, an RFP is expected to be released in mid 2010 to study the two additional aspects of higher density development. The first part will examine the cost/benefit to the public of sprawl vs. more compact (higher density) development. As part of the deliverables for the first part, the consultant will develop a tool that local planners can use to assess the cost of different types of developments. The second part of the study will examine the marketability of different types of development. The outcome should help inform the development community about what is marketable in the current climate of higher density development planning.

[STECK/TWEBSTER]

WE 411 – Farmland Conservation Model Program

Objective: 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

As of the end of the Second Quarter, Dr. Gary Manross has met with close to thirty leading agricultural stakeholders. There are many more that he has to talk with and it is unknown at the current time when this process will be completed by. The slowdown of the economy has reprioritized the urgency of completing the Farmland Conservation Model Program. Since growth has abated considerably in the past couple of years, there is not the urgency to release a program. The focus for the project has since shifted to making sure that a Farmland Conservation Model Program can be developed that will work.

[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. New scope is expected May 2010 for submission to Caltrans.

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 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 4th year Blueprint tasks.
- Developed RFP to solicit proposals for Valleywide Coordinator to manage Valleywide initiatives
[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
- Amendment # 3 adopted November 19, 2009
- Development of the FY 2010/11 Overall Work Program began in January 2010.

[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 Third Quarter, Staff processed claim reimbursement for provided transit service.

- Staff continued to respond to Caltrans staff on pending Grant requests.
- During the Third Quarter staff worked closely with the Auditor and Caltrans in an attempt to resolve reimbursement of the 2008-90 FTA Section 5311 Operating Assistance Grant in order to finalize the Audit for 2008-09 Fiscal Year. Staff continues to meet with the Independent auditors regarding during the Fourth Quarter to finalize the 2008-09 Audit for Board acceptance and filing with State and Federal Agencies.
- Staff also performed a variety of administrative functions concerning: general administration; accounting; risk management; procurement; and statistical analysis. [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.
- Made a presentation on the Abandoned Vehicle Abatement Program to representatives of the recently established Orange Cove Police Department.
- Presented to the Fresno COG Policy Advisory Committee and Policy Board during the February cycle of meetings a request by the Fresno County Sheriff's Department to purchase two vehicles pursuant to the Vehicle Purchase/Lease Policy adopted by the Policy Board at its meeting on November 19, 2009. [THOMPSON]

