Council of Fresno County Governments
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ANNOTATED AGENDA

COUNCIL OF FRESNO COUNTY GOVERNMENTS POLICY BOARD
Date: Thursday, September 30, 2010
Time: 5:30 p.m.
Place: COG Sequoia Conference Room
2035 Tulare St., Suite 201, Fresno, CA

NOTICE:
COUNCIL OF FRESNO COUNTY GOVERNMENTS POLICY BOARD MEETING WILL BEGIN IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE FRESNO COUNTY RURAL TRANSIT AGENCY MEETING

Fresno COG Sitting As the Transportation Policy Committee

I. 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. FY 2010-11 Transportation Funding Claims – [FAWCETT]

Summary: FY 2010/11 Transportation Development Act Claims. The amounts claimed for Local Transportation Funds (LTF) funds are:

Jurisdiction:	LTF Fund:	STA Fund:	Grand Total:
City of Kingsburg	$ 287,877	$ 59,032	$ 346,909
City of Sanger	$ 642,218	$ 131,693	$ 773,911
City of Huron	$ 202,245	$ 41,474	$ 243,719
City of Parlier	$ 341,779	$ 70,085	$ 411,864
City of Selma	$ 586,440	$ 120,255	$ 706,695
City of Mendota	$ 249,390	$ 51,140	$ 300,530

Staff has reviewed the claims and finds the amounts consistent with apportionments previously approved by the Board. Additional claims were received after the TTC/PAC meeting. In the interest of timely processing of these claims, these claims have been added to the Policy Board package for approval.

Action: Staff recommends approval of the funding claim by adopting Resolutions 2010-26, 2010-27, 2010-28, 2010-31, 2010-32 and 2010-33.

B. 2009/2010 CTAF Apportionments – Fresno COG Resolution 2010-30 [BESHEARS]

Summary: The Department of Homeland Security is accepting applications for the 2009/10 apportionments of $821,939. Resolution 2010-30 authorizes local transit operators to apply for these funds.

Action: TTC, PAC and Staff recommend approval of Fresno COG Resolution 2010-30 authorizing local transit operators to apply for CTAF funds.

C. FY 2009-10 4th Quarter Progress Report – [BESHEARS]

Summary: Included in the agenda packet is the FY 2009-10 4th Quarter Progress Report which is a summary of funds expended and work completed in each work element during the fourth quarter, FY 2009-10.

Action: TTC, PAC and Staff recommend acceptance of the fourth quarter progress report as presented.

D. Annual Transportation Development Act (TDA) Allocations [FAWCETT]

Summary: The Transportation Development Act Trust received Local Transportation Fund (LTF) sales tax deposits of $24,759,253 during FY 2009/10 which was down $3,240,747 from the original estimate of $28,000,000. This resulted in a write down of a significant amount of Streets and Roads Claims as Transit budgets have priority and must be funded first. On a positive note, the California Transit Association won their lawsuit against the state and we were notified that we would be receiving $5,920,063 in State Transit Assistance in June which will be distributed as part of the FY 2010/11 Claims.

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

E. Call for Projects FTA Sections 5316 Jobs Access Reverse Commute Program, Small Urban Areas and Section 5317 New Freedom Grant Programs for FY 2009 and 2010 [SOBRADO]

Summary: The Fresno COG is pleased to announce the following calls for projects for the following Federal Transit Administration (FTA) grant programs for fiscal years 2009 and 2010. Completed applications are due back to Fresno COG no later than **Friday, January 14, 2011 at 5:00 PM PST**.

Section 5316 – Job Access and Reverse Commute Program
The JARC program provides funding to support projects designed to transport welfare recipients and eligible low-income individuals to and from employment activities and employment activities, particularly to suburban and rural job locations.

Section 5317 – New Freedom Program
The New Freedom program provides funding to assist transit operators and public agencies provide "new" transportation services for individuals with disabilities above and beyond the minimum currently required by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101, et seq.).

Apportionments available are as follows:

	Section 5316 JARC Grant Program	**Section 5317 New Freedom Grant Program**
FY 2009	$ 643,057	$ 79,720
FY 2010	$ 614,838	$223,322
Total	$1,257,895	$303,042

Fact sheets are contained in the agenda packet. Please contact Todd Sobrado at Fresno COG with questions or to request additional information.

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

F. San Joaquin Valley 511 Oversight Committee and http://www.511sjv.org Update [SOBRADO]

Summary: On August 5, 2010, San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agencies Directors signed a memorandum of understanding creating the San Joaquin Valley 511 (SJV511) Oversight Committee. The SJV 511 Oversight Committee, designated with providing guidance pertaining to the traveler information system or 511 system and pursuing funding opportunities for expansion consists of appointed representatives from Fresno COG, Kings County Association of Governments, Madera County Transportation Commission, Merced County Association of Governments, Stanislaus Council of Governments, and Tulare County Association of Governments. Non-voting signers to the SJV 511 MOU

includes Caltrans District 6, the City of Fresno, Kern Council of Governments, and the San Joaquin Council of Governments.

Fresno COG and the seven other Valley MPOs signed an MOU with the Sacramento Council of Governments (SACOG) to provide wireless access to 511 information for the San Joaquin Valley through the SACOG 511. As of this writing, SACOG is still working with a few wireless providers such as AT&T to switch service on in the San Joaquin Valley. Fresno COG will assist SACOG in working with remaining wireless providers in completing the switch process for 511 access to the SACOG system within the San Joaquin Valley.

Almost two years ago, Caltrans District 6 identified funding to help build a 511 system for the San Joaquin Valley. Initially, starting with close to $1,000,000, the amount available for the San Joaquin Valley decreased to a little over $300,000. Using these funds, Caltrans District 6 with the help of a consultant built out a 511 website that provides traveler information for the San Joaquin Valley. Completed in the middle of July, www.511sjv.org provides users with basic traveler information for the San Joaquin Valley. Participating agencies have received training in the use of the system and will be meeting in the very near future to develop a strategy to update the site with content. The City of Fresno is providing hosting on servers purchased with funds provided by Caltrans District 6 through June 30, 2013.

Please contact Todd Sobrado at 559.233.4148 with questions or to request more information.

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

G. FY 2009 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) Amendment Update [GARZA]

Summary: **Administrative Modification #22**: A minor modification to one project included a phase change to existing funding within the same year. Caltrans approved the amendment on March 29, 2010.

Formal Amendment #23: Caltrans projects were amended to include modifications to the SHOPP's back up list and the Highway Maintenance Program back up list. Project changes were over the 25% change threshold which required a formal amendment. Caltrans approved the amendment on June 3, 2010 and FHWA approval was received on June 25, 2010.

Administrative Modification #24: Minor modifications were made to projects, lump sums, and the back up list that included adding projects using bid savings from ARRA, advancing projects, and transferring cost savings from one project to another. The amendment was approved by Caltrans on May 26, 2010.

Administrative Modification #25: Minor modifications were made to projects, lump sums, and the back up list that included adding projects using bid savings from ARRA, advancing projects, and updating the Highway Bridge Program's back up list. The amendment was approved by Caltrans on June 10, 2010.

Administrative Modification #26: Minor modifications were made to project descriptions that did not affect the limits or environmental document, post programming adjustments, and changes to the back up list. The amendment was approved by Caltrans on August 4, 2010.

Formal Amendment #27: This amendment includes many new transit projects utilizing the 2008/2009 apportionments. The amendment also includes a change to the Highway Bridge Program back up list due to the advancement of projects. The Executive Director approved the amendment on behalf of the Board on August 18, 2010. Caltrans approved this amendment on September 1, 2010 and FHWA approved it on September 3, 2010.

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

H. Airport Land Use Commission Update – Draft Fresno County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan for Fresno-Yosemite International Airport - 45 day review [FAWCETT]

Summary: Public review and comment of the draft Fresno County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (CLUP) for Fresno Yosemite International (FYI) Airport continues until September 17. So far feedback as

of August 31, 2010 includes a response upon review with no comments from Erin M. Hanlon, Regulatory Project Manager, Regulatory Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District, in which the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. In addition, Roman Benitez, Sr. Community Planner & Liaison Officer, Public Works Department, NAS Lemoore reviewed the document and is planning to utilize it as a model for a similar land use compatibility report to be developed by NAS Lemoore.

The next scheduled meeting of the ALUC to discuss this item will be Monday, October 4, 2010, at which time the Fresno County Airport Land Use Commission will formally adopt a resolution to finalize the 2010 Fresno County CLUP for FYI Airport. This draft document can be viewed in its entirety on the Fresno COG website: http://www.fresnocog.org/document.php?pid=353. for additional information please contact Laural Fawcett, 559-233-4148 Ext. 223, lfawcett@fresnocog.org.

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

I. High-Speed Rail Update [THOMPSON]

1. Key Findings from Recent Research on High-Speed Rail in California

Summary: A statewide telephone survey of Californians to assess their attitudes toward the state's high-speed rail project has recently been completed (May 2010). Key findings of the survey include the following:

- **A majority of Californians support the project**. More than three-quarters of those polled (76%) said they would like to see the train built. This number includes more than one-third (34%) who would like to see it move forward "as quickly as possible," and an additional 42% who said they would like to see the train built despite some concerns over cost and timing. Fewer than one voter in five (13%) indicated opposition to the project.
- **Voters believe that the project will have a wide range of benefits for California**. More than three-quarters of those polled rated either "extremely important" or "very important" the project's benefits for jobs, state revenues, traffic and air pollution.
- **A clear majority of frequent intrastate travelers indicate they would like to use the train once it is built**. When informed that a single person's high-speed rail trip between San Francisco and Los Angeles would cost less than an airplane ticket and much less that the cost of driving – and would be more environmentally friendly – more than seven out of ten said they would prefer to take the high-speed rail line.
- **Voters do not see current uncertainties as a reason to delay the project**. Nearly twice as many voters indicate that the benefits of the train make it worth moving forward with the investment now, as opposed to delaying based on uncertainties about cost, ridership, or environmental impacts.
- **As voters get additional information, their support for the project tends to increase**. Over the course of the survey, respondents were provided with detailed information about the project, including its benefits. After this information, overall support for the project increased, including an increase in the percentage of those polled who would like the project to move forward "as quickly as possible," from 35% to 45%.

Taken together, the survey results show that despite some concerns about its cost and timing, most voters support building the high-speed rail project. Voters value the project's benefits for job creation, air quality, and providing a cheaper and more convenient way to travel the state, and believe the project is worth continued investment.

Action: Information item. Direction may be provided at the direction of the Policy Board.

2. Letter Supporting Early Construction of the Fresno to Bakersfield Segment of the High-Speed Train System

Summary: The most recent meeting of the California High-Speed Rail Authority on September 2, 2010 included an agenda item on the Fresno to Bakersfield Supplemental Alternatives Analysis Report. The enclosed letter from the Fresno COG was submitted, along with letters from the Kern Council of Governments, the Tulare Association of Governments, and others in support of the earliest possible construction of the Fresno to Bakersfield segment of the high-speed rail corridor through the San Joaquin Valley. The letter states that the Fresno to Bakersfield segment is not as complex or costly to construct

and, with 98 miles of new high-speed, grade-separated double track, is the only segment in which the proposed high-speed train can be tested at its design capacity. The letter further states that, while it is recognized that high-speed rail will be developed in stages, early development of the Fresno to Bakersfield heart of the statewide system represents a commitment to the entire system and is, therefore, important to all Californians.

Action: Information item. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Policy Board.

J. Measure C Update

1. Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee Administrative Report [FAWCETT/SOBRADO]

Summary: This Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee (RTMF) update covers the time period from January 19 to July 8, 2010. During this time period there were 228 permits subject to the RTMF, resulting in the collection of **$**282,099.68. There were also 281 Subdivision Map Act vested permits on which no RTMF fees were collected. Of these, 83% were issued prior to January 1, 2010 and per the RTMF statutes are exempt from the RTMF.

Of the 228 permits on which the RTMF was collected, 216 were single family residential homes, one was a multi family use, and 11 were various non-residential uses. In summary, 82% of the single family home permit activity occurred in the Fresno-Clovis Metropolitan Area; with 97 permits pulled in Fresno, and 80 permits pulled in Clovis.

In general, collection and administration of the fee has gone relatively smoothly. We believe in large part this is because a RTMF informational summary form is provided to building permit applicants at the cities and county planning departments to help answer questions in advance of the applicant arriving at COG to pay the fee.

For More Information Please Contact:

Todd Sobrado, Associate Regional Planner
todds@fresnocog.org
233-4148 Ext 207

Laural Fawcett, Assistant Regional Planner
lfawcett@fresnocog.org
233-4148 Ext 223

Action: Information item. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Policy Board.

II. TRANSPORTATION ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Measure C Amendment # 1- PUBLIC HEARING [VEENENDAAL]

Summary: Amendment #1 to the Fresno County Measure C Expenditure Plan transfers $25 million from the 2006 Measure C Expenditure Plan's Alternative Transportation Program to a newly created Measure C High-Speed Rail Facilities Program. These funds would be used to provide capital for a variety of uses associated with development of the High-Speed Rail Heavy Maintenance Facility.

The Measure C amendment process is a two step process that requires public noticing and formal public hearings on the Plan Amendment by both the Fresno COG and the Fresno County Transportation Authority. Measure C Amendment #1 was released for 45-day review and comment on July 9, 2010. Since that date the following steps have been taken to notify the public regarding the amendment and to solicit their input:

- Public notice was published in the Fresno Bee
- Emails were repeatedly sent to Fresno COG's contacts
- The Amendment was posted to Fresno COG's and the Fresno County Transportation Authority's websites
- The Amendment was presented to the Measure C Oversight Committee and the Fresno Works Committee, receiving support from each group

- A public meeting was held September 16, 2010 at Hoover High School in Fresno from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. The meeting was noticed via newspaper ads in urban and rural papers, e-blasts, Facebook, website postings and press releases, and media coverage.

All public comments received to date were presented to the Board at or prior to this public hearing. Should the Fresno COG Policy Board approve Measure C Amendment #1, the Amendment will then be forwarded to the Fresno County Transportation Authority Board for approval at their upcoming meeting Wednesday, October 20, 2010.

Action: The Measure C Citizen Oversight Committee and Fresno COG staff recommend approval of Amendment #1 to the Measure "C" Short Term Regional Transportation program.

B. Amendment #1 to FY 2010-11 Overall Work Program, Work Element 150 [THOMPSON]

Summary: The County of Fresno has submitted a letter (enclosed in the meeting package) requesting Fresno COG funding of a study of 26 miles of San Joaquin Valley Railroad corridor from the Tulare County line to Fresno within Fresno County. The information developed from this study will complement similar information being developed for the San Joaquin Valley Railroad corridor in Tulare County. The information developed will help Fresno County understand the usefulness, and therefore importance, of the corridor and may inform potential future policy decisions regarding the corridor, not only in Fresno County but in all counties in which the San Joaquin Valley Railroad operates. Specific study tasks include the following:

- Physical inspection of the rail line to determine condition, value and problem areas.
- Interviews of the eight existing customers to verify traffic amount, what service is needed, and estimate projected traffic.
- Determine Net Liquidation Value (NLV) of the line as well as an annual maintenance budget for operations of the line based on existing condition.
- Develop an operating plan for the corridor and determine the economic feasibility for the operations.
- Develop all findings into an illustrated comprehensive report including all research, interview and inspection results, valuations and economics, analysis, recommendations and next steps.
- Develop the formal report into presentations to be given to the TTC/PAC and Board.

Amendment #1 provides the funding for the study. It increases the budget in the FY 2010-11 Overall Work Program, Work Element 150, by $30,000. Of this amount, $26,559.00 are federal FHWA PL funds and $3,441.00 are local match funds.

Staff further recommends the retention of Railroad Industries Incorporated (Reno, Nevada) to perform the study. They are currently performing a similar study for the portion of the San Joaquin Valley Railroad corridor in Tulare County so they bring an immediate familiarity with the issues facing the corridor. Also, they would be able to begin the study immediately, such that the study results and recommendations can be presented to COG Committees and Policy Board during the month of October, an extremely important consideration given the need to move quickly on a potential regional response to the impending abandonment of the corridor in Tulare County and its potential abandonment in Fresno County and elsewhere.

Action: TTC, PAC and Staff recommend approval of FY 2010-11 OWP Amendment #1 increasing the budget in Work Element 150 by $30,000.00 for the San Joaquin Valley Railroad Study. Staff further recommends the retention of Railroad Industries Incorporated to conduct the Study.

C. Blueprint Update

1. Blueprint Related Funding - Prop. 84 – Resolution 2010-29 [TWEBSTER]

Summary: The Council of Fresno County Governments on behalf of eight San Joaquin Valley Metropolitan Planning Organizations (SJV-MPOs) and the San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council submitted a grant application to the Strategic Growth Council for $2,500,000 of Proposition 84 funds to support the ongoing, unfunded portion of the SJV Regional Blueprint, the development of Sustainable

Community Strategy (SCS) and the implementation of SB 375. The focus of this work will bring resources directly to the smaller cities and communities throughout the SJV.

As with the model improvement program application, and as the lead applicant for this effort, the Council of Fresno County Governments Policy Board must pass a resolution in accordance with the requirements of the Proposition 84 Planning Grant Program.

Action: TTC, PAC and Staff recommend approval of Resolution 2010-29.

2. Valleywide Blueprint Contract Extension with Great Valley Center [STECK]

Summary: Since the Valley MPOs first initiated the Blueprint program, we have worked in one capacity or another with the Great Valley Center. This past year Fresno COG (as the lead agency on the Blueprint) has managed the contract with GVC for facilitating the Blueprint Executive Forum and for updating and hosting the Valleywide Blueprint website at www.valleyblueprint.org. The Valley Regional Planning Agencies Directors recently approved extending that contract for an additional 6 months, specifically for hosting and building a Toolkit component for the website. The cost of these tasks is estimated to be $17,897. The money to fund the extension is available from the reserves in the Blueprint's 4th year grant.

Action: TTC, PAC and Staff recommend approval of the contract extension, on behalf of the Valley MPOs, to continue work with the Great Valley Center on developing the Valley Blueprint website. The funding for this extension is not to exceed $18,000.

3. San Joaquin Valley Blueprint Awards [STECK]

Summary: The purpose of the San Joaquin Valley Blueprint Awards Program is to encourage quality in planning and development and to increase the public's awareness of the SJV Blueprint by recognizing outstanding achievements and practices in the built environment. This awards program is intended to recognize and celebrate projects that reflect the Blueprint Smart Growth Principles. In doing so, we hope to provide visual examples of attractive, functional and environmentally friendly projects that could have relevance throughout the Valley.

This year, we have also created the Darrel Hildebrand Leadership Award. This award is in memory of the former Blueprint project manager from Kern COG who was thoroughly engaged in the planning process. The fruits of his labor are still with us today as we move the Blueprint from the planning to the implementation phase. Darrel will be remembered for his attention to detail and his insistence that it was the planning principles that are the centerpiece of the SJV Blueprint Planning Process.

The awards judges met and made their selections on September 8th and recipients were announced on September 13th (an announcement is included in your package). Awards will be presented by the Regional Policy Council at the Fall Policy Conference luncheon on October 7, 2010 in Modesto.

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

D. SB 83 (Hancock) Update [GARZA]

Summary: Senate Bill 83 authored by Senator Loni Hancock (D-Oakland) was signed into law by Governor Schwarzenegger in October of 2009. It allows countywide transportation planning agencies to place a measure before county voters to authorize a vehicle registration fee (up to $10). The bill authorizes a countywide transportation planning agency, by a majority vote of the agency's board, to impose an annual fee of up to $10 on motor vehicles registered within the county for transportation related programs and projects. The bill requires majority voter approval of the measure. The bill also requires that the department, if requested, collect the additional fee and distribute the net revenues to the agency, after deduction of specified costs, and limits the agency's administrative costs to not more than 5% of the distributed fees. The bill requires that the fees collected be used only to pay for programs and projects bearing a relationship or benefit to the owners of motor vehicles paying the fee and are consistent with a regional transportation plan, and requires the agency's board to make a specified finding

of fact in that regard. The bill requires the governing board of the countywide transportation planning agency to adopt a specified expenditure plan on how proposed projects will specifically benefit the local voters who will pay the additional fee. The expenditure plan should include, but is not limited to such programs that improve air quality, ease traffic congestion in their area, intelligent transportation strategies' such as coordinating signal lights, monitoring real-time traffic conditions in order to make rapid traffic light adjustments, and providing drivers with the latest traffic information on freeway message signs. Other options for use of the funds include, but are not limited to construction and operation of HOV and HOT lanes, construction and operation of Bus Rapid Transit systems, bicycle and pedestrian projects, local streets & road rehabilitation projects, storm water runoff projects, and highway improvements such as auxiliary lanes & interchange improvements. Any fees approved by voters must be used exclusively in that county.

The bill defines a countywide transportation planning agency as: "(e) For purposes of this section, "countywide transportation planning agency" means the congestion management agency created pursuant to Chapter 2.6 (commencing with Section 65088) or the agency designated pursuant to Section 66531 to submit the county transportation plan."

Action: Informational item. Direction may be provided at the direction of the Policy Board.

E. SB 375 Update [CAI]

Summary: In May 2010, Fresno COG submitted suggested greenhouse reduction targets for the Fresno County region to the California Air Resources Board (CARB). Through an intensive regional consensus-building process, the Fresno County SB375 Task Force developed ambitious and achievable targets for the Fresno County region: 6% per capita greenhouse gas emission reduction for 2020, and 4% of reduction for 2035. The recommended targets were approved by the TTC, PAC and the Policy Board.

In early August, the CARB released staff recommendation for each of the 18 MPOs in the State. The proposed targets for the MPOs in the San Joaquin Valley are 5% reduction for 2020 and 10% of reduction for 2035.

Fresno COG held an SB 375 special meeting to discuss the proposed targets with the stakeholders in the region. The general feedback is that while 5% of reduction is doable for 2020, it will take the Fresno region much longer than 2035 to achieve the 10% reduction. Constraints to achieving 10% reduction in 2035 include family-dominant demographic characteristics, existing automobile-oriented infrastructure layout, housing market (cheaper single family homes than quality high-density housing), etc.

In the CARB staff report, it was proposed that the 5% and 10% reductions are set as placeholders for the San Joaquin Valley MPOs. In 2012, the eight Valley MPOs are expected to submit recommendations for provisional targets, and the targets will be finalized in 2014.

The Directors of the 8 Valley MPOs are in the process of negotiating with the CARB about the proposed targets. The CARB is required to release final targets by September 30, 2010.

Due to the intervention of the Attorney General's office in the 2011 RTP adoption process, the Fresno COG Policy Board has agreed to a 2014 Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS)/RTP, a year ahead of schedule. The 2012 provisional targets will be used in developing the first SCS in the Fresno region.

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

F. Fresno COG 2011 One Voice – Call for Projects [STECK]

Summary: It is again time to begin the process of planning for our annual One Voice trip back to Washington DC where we will present a list of priorities for the region. Our trips over the past several years have been quite fruitful as noted in the Fresno COG website www.fresnocog.org under the "One Voice" tab.

The 2011 One Voice trip will take place February 26 - March 3, 2011. In preparation, we have been in communication with our D.C. lobbyist, Simon & Company, to discuss their recommendations. As noted in their memo dated May 5, 2010:

> *Thank you again for the opportunity to work with the 2010 Fresno COG One Voice delegation. I feel compelled to invoke Dickens by saying "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times". In other words, I thought our run-up to the "One Voice" from the fall planning period right up until the days before was the best of the efforts we've undertaken over the years, while the cancellation because of Washington's record-breaking week long snow emergency made it the worst, because it really was a great agenda!*

We will continue to solicit information on policy issues that our member agencies and community partners may be concerned with so that we can raise those issues with our Washington delegation and their staff. The timeline for the 2011 project selection process is as follows:

- Kick-off Meeting – Wednesday, September 8, 2010 @ 3:00 PM at COG
- Mail/Email Call for Projects – Wednesday, September 15, 2010
- Meeting with legislative staff – Wednesday, November 17, 2010 @ 3:00 PM
- Deadline for project submittal – Friday, November 19, 2010 2 5:00 PM
- Project Selection Committee Meeting – Wednesday, December 1, 2010 @ 1:30 PM
- Policy Issues Meeting – Wednesday, December 8, 2010 @ 3:00 PM
- COG Policy Board Approval of Project List – Thursday, January 27, 2011

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

G. Caltrans Report [CALTRANS]

Summary: Caltrans staff will update the Policy Board on current projects. A list of current projects is also included in the meeting package.

Action: Information item. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Policy Board.

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

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

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT ITEMS

All items on the consent agenda are considered to be routine and non-controversial by COG staff and will be approved by one motion if no member of the Policy Board 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 Policy Board concerning the item before action is taken.

A. August 26, 2010 Policy Board Development Workshop Executive Minutes

B. Change to Fresno COG Employee Healthcare Plan [BOREN]

Summary: Consistent with Policy Board direction to look at health insurance cost containment strategies for the agency, after consulting with legal counsel, the Fresno COG Executive Director is making an administrative recommendation relative to the provision of some aspects of our health insurance coverage. Specifically, the recommendation is that Fresno COG no longer continue to provide health insurance coverage to employee spouses or dependent children who have health insurance coverage provided through their own employer. This issue was discussed as part of the Executive Director's FY 2010/11 contract discussion with the Policy Board, with direction given that an action item be placed on the September 2010 agenda for Policy Board action.

Section 4011 of the Fresno COG Employee Manual, currently states that ***"Fresno COG shall provide a health insurance plan for each regular full-time employee and their family".*** The suggested revision replaces the word "family" and replaces it with eligible dependents. It then goes on and further defines who is an eligible dependent. The revised Sec 4011 would read as follows:

"The Fresno COG shall provide a health insurance plan for each regular full time employee and eligible dependents. An eligible dependent is defined as any of the following: Dependent children under the age of 26 years of age, who are not married, and who do not have health insurance funded in whole or in part by his/her own employer; and spouses who are not provided with or given the option of, health insurance funded in whole or in part by his/her own employer."

Please note that the age limit for dependent children has been raised to 26 years old to reflect the recently enacted federal health care legislation. Factoring in this year's 12 percent cost increase for health insurance, it is estimated that by implementing this revision, COG will save approximately $72,888.00 annually in health insurance costs.

Action: PAC and Staff recommend that the Policy Board amend Section 4011 of the Fresno COG Employee Manual as identified above, thereby effectively replacing the word *"family*" and replacing it with "*eligible dependents"* as defined above.

C. Monthly Legislative Update [GARZA]

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, Melissa Garza, if you have any questions.

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

D. San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council Report [STECK]

Summary: Last month we noted that we would have ongoing reports on the SJV Regional Policy Council quarterly meetings on our agenda. At that time, it was suggested that the agenda be provided in advance of the meetings. The next Regional Policy Council meeting will take place on October 7th at the annual Fall Policy Conference in Modesto (event flyer enclosed in your package). The agenda for the meeting is not yet complete but will be distributed at a later date. We do, however, encourage you to attend the Conference. More information on the conference is available on our website at www.fresnocog.org

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

E. Strategy Research Institute Update [MANROSS]

Summary: Gary Manross will provide a written report to the Policy Board this month on his consulting activities for the COG during the month.

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

F. Regional Clearinghouse [SOBRADO]

	Project	Applicant
1.	American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Early Head Start Expansion Refunding Application	Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission
2.	RHS 514 Loan	Corporation for Better Living
3.	USDA Rural Development, Wastewater Program	City of Orange Cove

4.	USDA Rural Development, Drinking Water Program	City of Orange Cove
5	USDA-RD-HCFP-HPG-2010: Housing Preservation Grants	Self-Help Enterprises

Summary: Your agenda package includes this month's Clearinghouse Calendar containing "Project Notification and Review Reports" for grant proposal.

1.The Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission has requested $2,307,900 (Federal) and $576,975 (Local) for a total of $2,884,875 in funding for Early Head Start Expansion.

2. The Corporation for Better Housing Rural Housing Services, USDA, RHS 514 Loan – Reedley Family Development, Reedley, CA:$3,000,000 – Federal, $115,991 – Applicant, $1,750,000 – State, $12,139,358 (equity) Local - $640,000(AHP) Program income for a total of $17,645,349

3. The City of Orange Cove, USDA Rural Development Grant for Wastewater Program Pre-Application, Orange Cove, CA: $3,915,750 – Federal, $1,305,250 – Applicant for a total of $5,221,000.

4. The City of Orange Cove, USDA Rural Development Grant for Drinking Water Program Pre-Application, Orange Cove, CA: $4,765,500 – Federal, $1,588,500 – Applicant for a total of $6,354,000.

5. Self-Help Enterprises, USDA-RD-HCFP-HPG-2010: Housing Preservation Grant. $110,000 – Federal, $250,000 – State for a total of $360,000.

Action: Per Board procedure, unless an item is pulled from the Consent Calendar, tacit authorization is given for staff to forward any comment(s) received, or any Committee/Board comment(s) generated as a result of this informational item, to the appropriate agency. It is understood that if in the event this item should be pulled from the consent calendar, discussion and comment by the Committee members and the public will be taken.

V. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley – Partnership Board Member Nomination [BOREN]

Summary: The California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley (Partnership) is a public-private initiative created by Governor Schwarzenegger in 2005, and most recently renewed in 2010, to focus on improving the San Joaquin Valley region's economic vitality and quality of life. The Partnership does this by addressing ten initiatives through the collaboration of state and local leaders and regional experts from the eight county region. Its six work groups (land use, agriculture and housing; transportation; economic development; water quality; energy; air quality) have made measurable progress in meeting the goals enumerated in its *Strategic Action Plan*.

The Board composition includes eight local elected officials, designated to each represent one county in the San Joaquin Valley. The Fresno COG has been asked to recommend to the Partnership Executive Committee three nominees for Board membership to fill the seat that has been held by Mayor Ashley Swearengin. Preferably these individuals would share the aspirations of the Partnership. We have also been asked to submit the nominations in rank order with contact information for our first choice.

Action: Recommend that the Policy Board make three nominations in rank order for consideration to fill Mayor Ashley Swearengin's seat.

B. Follow Up from Board Development Workshop [BOREN]

Summary: In August, the Policy Board held a Board Development Workshop in lieu of its regularly scheduled meeting. Members of the Policy Advisory Committee were invited as well. The workshop provided an opportunity for Board Members to discuss several issues ranging from the Joint Powers Agreement to the Legislative Platform. The discussion helped to clarify the Board's position on several issues.

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

C. California Consulting LLC Report [SAMUELIAN]

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.

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

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Items from Staff

1. Letter to California State Legislature regarding State Budget and Economic Development [BOREN]

B. Items from Members

VII. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

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

Fresno COG Sitting As the Abandoned Vehicle Abatement Authority

VIII. ABANDONED VEHICLE ABATEMENT

A. Abandoned Vehicle Abatement FY 2009-10 Third Quarter Summary Status Report [THOMPSON]

Summary: Status reports are typically submitted quarterly to ensure proper distribution of funding to the member agencies. This status report contains the following information:

- The gross amount of money received by the Authority from the Abandoned Vehicle Trust Fund during the quarter.
- An itemized statement of the Abandoned Vehicle Trust Fund monies expended by the Authority during the quarter.
- An accounting of money expended for major purchases, if any.
- An accounting of unexpended revenues from the Abandoned Vehicle Trust Fund.
- An accounting of the total number of vehicles and parts thereof abated by the Authority during the quarter.

The enclosure for this item indicates the level of activity and distribution of funding to the member agencies. During the quarter, member agencies expended $151,796.90 conducting AVA activities and Fresno COG claimed $9,000.00 for program administration (for the full fiscal year). Revenues for the entire fiscal year were $702,477.45 while expenses for the first three quarters of the fiscal year were $548,710.23. While expenses exceeded revenues by $153,767.22, once fourth quarter expenses are calculated, it can be expected that revenues and expenses for the full fiscal year will be comparable. A total of 843 vehicles were abated this quarter, compared to 865 vehicles abated during the same quarter of the previous fiscal year, an insignificant reduction of just 2.5%.

Action: PAC and Staff recommend acceptance of the Abandoned Vehicle Abatement FY 2009-10 Third Quarter Summary Status Report as presented.

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

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

ADJOURN TO REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION MITIGATION FEE AGENCY MEETING – ALL BOARD MEMBERS