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ANNOTATED AGENDA

TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Date: Friday, October 8, 2010
Time: 9:00 a.m.

POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Date: Friday, October 8, 2010
Time: 10:00 a.m.

NOTE TIME
CHANGE

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

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Accommodations

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

Item	Description	Enclosure	Action*
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Transportation Technical Committee

The Transportation Technical Committee (TTC) will consider Items I – IV prior to the Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) Meeting. This portion of the meeting is scheduled to begin at 9:00 a.m.

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. TTC/PAC Executive Minutes of September 10, 2010

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

Summary: At the time of mailing of this meeting package, there were no transportation funding claims submitted.

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

C. Triennial Performance Audit [BESHEARS]

Summary: Pacific Mutual Consultants has completed Triennial Performance audits on the Council of Fresno County Governments and the four Transit Operators in Fresno County per Section 99246 of the PUC. A CD with all the reports is included in the meeting package. Hard copies of the reports are available upon request.

Council of Fresno County Governments – The performance audit found the agency conducts its management of the TDA program in a competent, professional manner while operating in a complex intergovernmental environment, has satisfactorily complied with all state legislative mandates for Regional Transportation Planning Agencies, and increased its visibility with the community, stakeholders and partner agencies through its efforts with the One Voice advocacy program and the passage of the "Measure C" extension.

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

Of the three prior performance audit recommendations, Fresno COG has partially implemented one recommendation, and fully implemented two recommendations:

1. Standard assurances are now part of the newly developed 2010/11 TDA Claim Form, and will be fully implemented in the TDA Claims process from now on.
2. The list of funding sources is regularly updated in the Overall Work Program and provided to Board members at regularly scheduled meetings for formal review and adoption via resolution.
3. The Policies and Procedures Manual is in place and is regularly updated as changes occur.

PMC noted the major staff changes that occurred during this audit period, which were highlighted by the following: Fresno COG's longtime Executive Director retired in 2008 and was replaced by the Deputy Director. One of the senior planners was promoted into the Deputy Director position. The other senior planner was placed into a newly created Principal Planner position, whose role is to supervise staff and oversee human resource matters. The organizational structure of the agency became more horizontal, reflecting more of a performance- and merit-based model. The administration worked with a consultant to develop performance metrics. The merit-based structure allows greater latitude for career growth and goal setting. This new approach also allows employees to be more productive and cross-train in other practice areas.

Other major occurrences that PMC included in their report:

- **Measure C Reauthorization-** extending the 20-year one-half cent sales tax and including a \$1.7 billion expenditure plan, including implementation of the Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee (RTMF) program.
- **Development of the Public Transportation Infrastructure Study (PTIS).**
- **Preparation and adoption of the 2007 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)**, which is currently undergoing an update for 2011 to include a Climate Change Element, and the public outreach strategy including implementation of community outreach grants of \$2,500 each to community-based organizations throughout the county.
- **Public Participation Plan (PPP)** implemented in November 2007, modified in December 2008, providing direction for public participation activities.

Performance Audit Recommendations

1. Ensure annual fiscal audits are submitted on time.
2. Have transit claimants substantiate annual budget increases in excess of 15 percent on their TDA claim.
3. Further define staff roles and responsibilities for developing an in-house "TDA claims team".

Fresno Area Express – The audit found that FAX has complied with all TDA compliance requirements with the exception of the submittal of the State Controller Report beyond the compliance date, and partial compliance with the Annual Fiscal and Compliance Audit for FYs 2008 and 2009, and for an unsubstantiated budget increase for FY 2008. Although it was noted that staff turnover and budgetary constraints were the cause of the unmet deadlines, PMC recommends the City's accrual data reporting methods be changed to meet the deadline, and gives four recommendations:

1. Report Paratransit contract employees in the State Controller Report.
2. Perform "final" review of State Controller's Report for consistency with the Transit Productivity Evaluation Report.
3. Record accidents in the statistical summary report based on the metric utilized in the Short-Range Transit Plan (S RTP).
4. Consider enhanced marketing channels that directly reach out to FAX passengers.

Clovis Transit – The audit found that Clovis Transit had met all TDA compliance requirements and was in partial compliance with regard to the timely submittals of the State Controller Operator Report as well as the Annual Fiscal and Compliance Audit during FYs 2008 and 2009. The following five recommendations were given:

1. Report administrative support employees in the State Controller Report
2. Consolidate the reporting of operations data with year-to-date totals.
3. Begin formal tracking of on-time performance for Stageline fixed route service.
4. Continue addressing the trend of increased no-shows on Round Up.
5. Ensure State Controller Reports and Fiscal Audits are submitted on time.

Fresno County Rural Transit Agency – The audit found that FCRTA has complied with all TDA compliance requirements, and was in partial compliance with regard to the submittal of the State Controller Operator Report during FY 2008 and the Annual Fiscal and Compliance Audit. The FY 2009 Fiscal Audit was submitted beyond the compliance date. Three recommendations were given:

1. Consider using an advertising co-op for placement of telephone book listings.
2. Format driver daily log to enable the recording of actual time of pickup and drop off.
3. Ensure Annual Fiscal Audits and State Controller Reports are submitted on time.

Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission – The audit found the FCEOC has complied with all applicable TDA compliance requirements and gives four recommendations:

1. Coordinate with other public transit and social service agencies in funding and offering consolidated travel training and ambassador services.
2. Work with FAX and Clovis Transit to determine the cost effectiveness of coordinating a countywide ADA-certification process.
3. Continue to implement automatic vehicle locator (AVL) and video technology when financially feasible.
4. Investigate the potential to translate CTSA knowledge expertise into additional training opportunities.

Action: Staff recommends acceptance of the Triennial Performance audits provided by Pacific Mutual Consultants.

D. FFY Call for Projects: Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) Cycle 4 [GARZA]

Summary: On September 3, 2010, Caltrans Division of Local Assistance issued a call for projects for Cycle 4 of the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP). This Cycle 4 HSIP call is for the 10/11 FFY with a local agency funding apportionment estimated to be nearly \$50M. Applications are due to the District Local Assistance Engineer's offices by Thursday, December 9th, 2010.

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

E. Unmet Needs Quarterly Report [LONG]

Summary: Annually, The COG's Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) evaluates unmet transit needs in Fresno County. This process is required by the California Public Utilities. COG, as the Regional Transportation Planning Agency must determine there are no unmet public transportation needs in Fresno County, which can be reasonably met before it may approve Local Transportation Fund claims for streets and roads. At the June 2010 Board meeting, staff was directed to provide periodic updates of unmet needs.

At this time, no additional unmet needs have been brought forward to the SSTAC.

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

F. New Madera Amtrak Station Grand Opening [THOMPSON]

Summary: A Grand Opening Ceremony for the new Madera Amtrak Station is scheduled in conjunction with the San Joaquin Valley Rail Committee's quarterly meeting on Thursday, November 4, 2010, beginning at 1:45 p.m. The relocated Amtrak Station is a very important transportation project to

Madera. For additional information, including meeting information, an agenda, and map, contact Lee Goldenberg with Caltrans' Rail Division at (916) 654-9777 or lee.goldenberg@dot.ca.gov or COG staff person Clark Thompson.

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

G. Blueprint Update [STECK]

Summary: The Blueprint Roadmap consultant team will be presenting an update on their progress at the Fall Policy Conference in Modesto on October 6-7. Blueprint Awards will also be presented at the conference luncheon on October 7th. The Blueprint Roadmap, which will include a summary report on the Valleywide Blueprint Planning Process, the Blueprint Implementation Strategy and a web based Toolkit, will be completed by January, 2011. More Valley Blueprint information is available on line at www.valleyblueprint.org

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

H. Fresno COG 2011 One Voice Update [STECK]

Summary: We are in 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. The 2011 One Voice trip will take place February 26 - March 3, 2011. 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.

At the kick-off meeting on September 8th, participants suggested that we delay the project selection schedule until we know the outcome of the mid term elections. The revised timeline for the 2011 project selection process is as follows:

- Kick-off Meeting – Wednesday, September 8, 2010 @ 3:00 PM at COG
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- Meeting with legislative staff – Wednesday, November 17, 2010 @ 3:00 PM
- Deadline for project submittal – Friday, November 19, 2010 @ 5:00 PM
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- Policy Issues Meeting – Wednesday, December 8, 2010 @ 3:00 PM
- COG Policy Board Approval of Project List – Thursday, January 27, 2011

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

I. Caltrans Report [CALTRANS]

Summary: Due to State furloughs, a representative from Caltrans will not be attending the meeting; however, a written report will be distributed at the meeting.

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

II. TRANSPORTATION ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. SB 375 Update [BOREN/CAI]

Summary: On September 23, 2010, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) voted to uphold the CARB staff recommendation of greenhouse gas emission reduction targets for the San Joaquin Valley MPOs, which is placeholder of 5% reduction for 2020 and 10% reduction for 2035. The placeholder targets will be revisited in 2012, and finalized in 2014.

Despite the unified voice expressed by the 8 Valley MPOs through the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (the Air District) that the recommended 5% & 10% reduction is too ambitious and unachievable for the Valley, the CARB Board ignored the fact that the Valley is

drastically different from the other 4 big urban regions of the State (the Bay Area, the San Diego region, the Southern California region, and the Sacramento region), and moved to approve the CARB staff-recommended placeholder targets, which were intended for the Valley to be consistent with the 4 big regions. The Air District proposed 2% reduction for 2020 and 5% reduction for 2035 for the Valley.

SB 375 legislation does not carry any penalty if a region does not meet the targets through its Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS). A non-constrained Alternative Planning Strategy (APS) could be developed, which would have no actual implementation meaning, although development projects could still benefit from the CEQA benefits if the project meets the criteria defined in the Legislation. Besides the CEQA benefits, it is still unknown what the potential incentives and disincentives are for a region to meet the targets through an SCS or an APS.

According to the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD), the agency responsible for the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) process, even if a region has to demonstrate its compliance with SB 375 through an APS, the region's RHNA still has to be consistent with its SCS.

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

III. OTHER BUSINESS

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

IV. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

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

JOINT Transportation Technical Committee / Policy Advisory Committee

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

V. PRESENTATIONS

1. PTIS Update – Kimley Horn - ½ hour presentation

Summary: The Public Transportation Infrastructure Study (PTIS), contracted to Kimley-Horn and Associates through the Fresno Council of Governments, is nearing its completion at the end of the second year of study. Funded under Measure “C”, the purpose of the study is to identify transportation and land use options to create a sustainable transportation future by the year 2035. The study included analysis of Bus Rapid Transit on Blackstone and Ventura/Kings Canyon, with a Very Small Starts application submitted to the FTA in September to fund the project. Another study component is a feasibility study for a downtown streetcar, with a preferred alignment and economic impacts analysis, which is nearing completion. The study also looked at the feasibility of Personal Rapid Transit (PRT) in a test case application for the CSU Fresno campus.

This PTIS study update includes presentation of three transportation and land use scenarios and the resulting mode shift to transit, walking and bicycling from the Fresno COG transportation model. The resulting reductions in VMT are being used to set greenhouse gas reduction goals under SB375. A set of draft policy recommendations will be presented to elected officials for discussion prior to inclusion in the final plan recommendations. The policy recommendations would need to be adopted and integrated into other planning and policy documents in order to reach the trip reduction goals established in the scenarios.

In partnership with Fregonese and Associates in Portland, Oregon, land use densities and residential/employment mix alternatives were developed for three potential high capacity transit corridors:

1. Blackstone Avenue from downtown Fresno to the River Park Transit Center
2. Ventura/Kings Canyon from downtown Fresno to the edge of development (Clovis Avenue)
3. Shaw Avenue from Highway 99 to CSU Fresno, then north on Highway 168 to a high density employment destination planned for north Clovis.

The theoretical densities in the corridors were modeled at three incremental levels to predict the changes in travel behavior and mode choice resulting from the high number of residents and employment centers in close walking or transit distance proximities of each other. Transportation modeling for the project was performed by Dowling and Associates in Oakland, California, using the Fresno COG 2035 Travel Demand Model. Based on the model results of trips by mode for the three scenarios, recommendations are made for transit investments and service frequencies with associated costs. Air quality improvements for the three scenarios are modeled by the Fresno COG in-house modeling staff and will be taken to the COG air quality committee tasked with meeting greenhouse gas emission reductions under SB375.

	Build Scenario	Constrained TOD	Full Build Out TOD
% of new population growth moved to BRT Corridors	38%	42%	52%
Density in 1.5 mile BRT corridors and downtown	9.2 du/ac	12.32 du/ac	14.85 du/ac
Transit Mode Share	1.7%	2.3%	2.5%
Bike/Walk Mode Share	8.7%	9.7%	8.7%
Daily Trips on 3 BRT Corridors	31,452	49,635	57,825
GHG Reductions*	0%	6%	8%

*Preliminary Findings

Fresno County currently does not meet air quality standards, including ozone and particulates. As a result, the County must satisfy Federal requirements calling for consideration of transportation control measures to reduce emissions and demonstrate conformity with the State Implementation Plan for Air Quality. It follows that whatever transportation projects are considered and ultimately implemented must not deteriorate the existing air quality and must support efforts to bring the County into air quality attainment.

Given that auto and truck travel account for about one-third of greenhouse gas emissions, the County must consider implementing more-efficient, high-capacity modes of transportation that provide attractive options to the auto. Such transportation modes must provide suitable alternative travel options to parts of the population who have limited mobility, with a focus on higher density and mixed use corridors where large numbers of households and businesses can be well served by transit investments. Currently the majority of Fresno's transit riders use the system out of necessity, rather than choice. To maximize transit ridership and reduce congestion in the future, it will be important to continue to serve and attract ridership among households that need transit, as well as those that might choose to take transit though they can afford to drive.

Finally, a list of policy recommendations is put forth by the consulting team for implementation by the City of Fresno and Fresno County in order to realize the future scenarios as described and modeled. Phase II of the PTIS Study began in December of 2009, with final deliverables on the project due by the end of May, 2011. The study background and update will be presented in a PowerPoint show. A copy of the presentation is attached for your review. The draft policy recommendations for discussion appear at the end of the presentation.

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

2. Progress Report-Golden State Corridor: Economic Development and Infrastructure Improvements: Planning, Engineering, and Environmental Study –Michael Knopf, PLS, PE, President of Quad Knopf

Summary: Six months ago the COG Board approved entering into a contract with Quad Knopf consultants to begin work on the Golden State Corridor Project through the cities of Fowler, Selma and Kingsburg. This 13.5 mile long corridor improvement study is much more than a simple pavement rehabilitation project. It also includes economic development, design guidelines, investigation of the use of reclaimed wastewater for irrigation, and environmental analyses. This update will provide a status report on the work already accomplished and future plans for the Corridor.

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

Policy Advisory Committee

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

VI. TRANSPORTATION CONSENT ITEMS

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VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT ITEMS

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A. 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 Committee.

B. California Consulting LLC Report [BOREN/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 Committee.

C. SJV Regional Policy Council Report – Update from Policy Conference [STECK]

Summary: In an effort to keep you informed on the SJV Regional Policy Council quarterly meetings, we are including this item on the agenda. The next Regional Policy Council meeting will take place on October 7th at the annual Fall Policy Conference in Modesto. The agenda for the meeting is enclosed in the package. Staff will provide a verbal report if there is a request to do so.

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

D. Contract for Valley Model Update [BITNER]

Summary: Contract for award of short and long term model improvements for each of the 8 San Joaquin Valley MPO traffic models.

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

In anticipation of receiving the Proposition 84 money a contract was awarded, in March 2010, for the development of a detailed scope of work for the valley model improvements. The scope of work has been completed and the Proposition 84 money is now available.

Fresno COG is the lead MPO for the model improvement contract. In early September an RFP was released for the Valley model improvements. Interviews and consultant selection are scheduled for October 14th.

Because it is critical to complete the valley model improvements by February 2012, in order to be ready for our next RTP, we will be asking the COG Policy Board to approve the contract on October 28th.

Funding for the project is entirely from Proposition 84 funds. These funds were awarded for San Joaquin Valley model development and data gathering to meet the requirements of SB 375.

Action: Informational. Staff will be recommending award of the contract to the successful proposer at the October 28th Policy Board Meeting.

E. Gang Prevention Subcommittee Appointment [BOREN]

Summary: Fresno County Interagency Council for Children and Families has approved the development of a subcommittee to serve as the Steering Committee for the County's gang prevention initiative. The primary responsibility will be to oversee implementation of the five-year strategic plan adopted by the Board of Supervisors on August 10, 2010. Additionally the Steering Committee will serve as a venue to develop more coordinated gang prevention, intervention, and suppression services throughout Fresno County.

During the strategic planning process criteria for Steering Committee membership and the different types of agencies as being necessary and important to serve as members of the Steering Committee were identified. Invitations to the recommended members and member agencies were sent out in late September. Council of Fresno County Governments is being asked to identify a representative for the category Mayor's Offices. Up to two can be identified, and the following criteria should be taken into consideration:

- Able to attend 6 two-hour meetings per year
- Willing to play an active role to oversee implementation of 5-year strategic plan
- If an alternate or designee is identified, should be senior management position or equivalent

Please note Maggie Navarro, Community Coordinator, Fresno Mayor's Gang Prevention Initiative was nominated and accepted a seat as one representative of a Mayor's Office.

Action: Information only. COG Board will be asked to appoint a representative.

F. AB1234 Training in November [STECK/BOREN]

Summary: Hilda Montoy has agreed to conduct training for COG Board members that still need AB 1234 Ethics certification. The training is scheduled on November 18th at 3:30 pm at Fresno COG prior to the 5:30 pm Board meeting. Please contact Marla Day at 233-4148 Ext. 212 or by email at mday@fresnocog.org to register for the training.

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

IX. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley - Funding Request [BOREN] *(This item was tabled at the September PAC meeting and is returned for further discussion)*

Summary: The California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley is in the fourth year of its Strategic Action Plan (see item "A" above) with still much work to be accomplished. While the Governor extended his Executive Order on the Partnership indefinitely, state funding is not assured. Last year, the Partnership approached the Valley MPOs to assist with the \$142,000 shortfall in funding by contributing a pro rata share based on population. The Fresno COG did respond by contributing \$33,500 out of last year's budget. The Partnership is requesting a similar amount this year.

If the Policy Board votes to provide funding to the Partnership, an Overall Work Program (OWP) budget amendment will be required, as no funding for this purpose was identified in the FY2010/11 OWP adopted by the Policy Board in May 2010.

Action: Direction is to be provided at the discretion of the Committee.

B. 2011 Legislative Platform [GARZA]

Summary: The legislative platform, which is a document that provides support and guidance for positions on specific advocacy issues, has been updated. The first draft of Fresno COG's 2010 Legislative Platform will be distributed at PAC for review and comment. Staff and legislative consultant Steve Samuelian will be preparing a final draft of the platform which is scheduled for approval in November.

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

X. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Items from Staff

B. Items from Members

XI. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

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

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

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