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EXECUTIVE MINUTES

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.

Place:

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

Members Attending:

Scott Mozier, City of Fresno
Nicholas Don Paladino, Fresno Cycling
Chip Ashley, Sierra Club, Tehipite
Gary Joseph, Fresno County EOC
Noe Martinez, City of Reedley
Jeffrey Webster, Fresno County Rural Transit Agency

Dennis Manning, CFLC
Bernard Jimenez, Fresno County
Renee Mathis, City of Clovis
Janet Dailey, Fresno County
Will Washburn, BIA
Darrell Unruh, City of Fresno

Others Attending:

Lydia Zabrycki, Quad Knopf
Michael Knopf, Quad Knopf
Mary Gonzalez, City of Fresno
Walt Plachta, BSK Associates
Tony Boren, Fresno COG
Lindsey Monge, Fresno COG
Laural Fawcett, Fresno COG
Kathy Chung, Fresno COG
Todd Sobrado, Fresno COG

Lauren Dawson, Fresno COG
Clark Thompson, Fresno COG
Jeff Long, Fresno COG/FAX
John Downs, Fresno COG/FAX
Les Beshears, Fresno COG
Mike Bitner, Fresno COG
Kai Han, Fresno COG
Kristine Cai, Fresno COG
Marla Day, Fresno COG

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

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 | Approve |
| B. FY 2010-11 Transportation Funding Claims – [FAWCETT] | Info/Approve |
| C. Triennial Performance Audit [BESHEARS] | Accept |
| D. FFY Call for Projects: Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)
Cycle 4 [GARZA] | Information |
| E. Unmet Needs Quarterly Report [LONG] | Information |
| F. New Madera Amtrak Station Grand Opening [THOMPSON] | Information |
| G. Blueprint Update [STECK] | Information |
| H. Fresno COG 2011 One Voice Update [STECK] | Information |
| I. Caltrans Report [CALTRANS] | Information |

For a summary of these items, please see the October 8, 2010 Annotated Agenda.

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

Item B. Transportation Funding Claims was pulled by COG staff to notify the Committee that three claims were received after the meeting package was mailed. These three claims were handed out at the meeting. Staff recommended approval of the three claims by approving Resolutions 2010-34, 35 and 36. A motion was made by Jeffrey Webster (FCRTA) and seconded by Nicholas Paladino (Fresno Cycling) to recommend approval of Resolutions, 2010-34, 2010-35 and 2010-36. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Jeffrey Webster (FCRTA) and seconded by Renee Mathis (Clovis) to approve the remainder of the Transportation Consent Items as presented. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

II. TRANSPORTATION ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. SB 375 Update [BOREN/CAI]

Kristine Cai (Fresno COG) reported that 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. A copy of a Draft letter from the SJV Regional Policy Council to the Governor regarding the need for an elected official on the Air Resources Board was handed out at the meeting

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.

There was a brief discussion and explanation of the differences between SB 375 and AB 32.

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

III. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Items from Staff

Tony Boren announced that the Senate has confirmed Darius Assemi on the California Transportation Commission.

B. Items from Members

There were no 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.**

There were no public presentations.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Tony Boren, Executive Director

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 –Jim Daisa, Kimley-Horn and John Downs, Fresno Area Express

John Downs, Fresno Area Express reported that 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 available on the website at <http://fresnocog.org/committeedetails.php?cid=2>. The draft policy recommendations for discussion appear at the end of the presentation.

This was an information/discussion item and required no further action by 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

Mr. Knopf reported that 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. Mr. Knopf pointed out that the update provides a status report on the work already accomplished and future plans for the Corridor. A copy of the presentation is available on our website at <http://fresnocog.org/committeedetails.php?cid=2>.

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

Policy Advisory Committee

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

Policy Advisory Committee

Members attending:

Don Pauley, City of Kingsburg, Vice Chair
Rocky Rogers, City of Reedley
Cruz Ramos, City of San Joaquin
Krystal Chojnacki, City of Mendota
Alan Bengyel, City of Orange Cove

Lou Martinez, City of Parlier
Robert Woolley, City of Clovis
Lynn Gorman, Fresno County
Ralph Kachadourian, City of Sanger
Ron Manfredi, City of Kerman

Others Attending:

Lydia Zabrycki, Quad Knopf
Michael Knopf, Quad Knopf
Mary Gonzalez, City of Fresno
Walt Plachta, BSK Associates
Darrell Unruh, City of Fresno
Georgiana Vivian, VRPA Technologies
Mary Savala, League of Women Voters
Amber Adams, Quad Knopf
Randy Nelson, Fresno Housing Alliance
Tony Boren, Fresno COG
Lindsey Monge, Fresno COG
Laural Fawcett, Fresno COG

Kathy Chung, Fresno COG
Todd Sobrado, Fresno COG
Lauren Dawson, Fresno COG
Clark Thompson, Fresno COG
Jeff Long, Fresno COG/FAX
John Downs, Fresno COG/FAX
Les Beshears, Fresno COG
Mike Bitner, Fresno COG
Kai Han, Fresno COG
Kristine Cai, Fresno COG
Marla Day, Fresno COG

The meeting was called to order by Don Pauley, City of Kingsburg, Vice Chair. Mr. Pauley welcomed Krystal Chojnacki, City of Mendota and Robert Woolley, City of Clovis.

VI. TRANSPORTATION CONSENT ITEMS

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A motion was made by Ron Manfredi (Kerman) and seconded by Alan Bengyel (Orange Cove) to approve the Transportation Consent Items as presented. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

VII. TRANSPORTATION ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. SB 375 Update [BOREN/CAI]

Kristine Cai reported that 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. A copy of a Draft letter from the SJV Regional Policy Council to the Governor regarding the need for an elected official on the Air Resources Board was handed out at the meeting.

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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.

There was a brief discussion regarding the bill and attainment difficulties.

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

VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT ITEMS

All items on the consent agenda are considered to be routine and non-controversial by COG staff and will be approved by one motion if no member of the Committee or public wishes to comment or ask questions. If comment or discussion is desired by anyone, the item will be removed from the consent agenda and will be considered in the listed sequence with an opportunity for any member of the public to address the Committee concerning the item before action is taken.

A. Monthly Legislative Update [GARZA]	Information
B. California Consulting LLC Report [BOREN/SAMUELIAN]	Information
C. SJV Regional Policy Council Update from Policy Conference [STECK]	Information
D. Contract for Valley Model Update [BITNER]	Information
E. Gang Prevention Subcommittee Appointment [BOREN]	Information
F. AB1234 Training in November [STECK/BOREN]	Information

For a complete summary of these items, please see the October 8, 2010 Annotated Agenda.

A motion was made by Rocky Rogers (Reedley) and seconded by Alan Bengyel (Orange Cove) to accept the Administrative Consent Items as presented. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

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)

Tony Boren briefly commented on this item. The California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley is in the fourth year of its Strategic Action Plan 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.

The Committee voiced their concerns regarding actions of a new Governor regarding the Partnership and suggested that, if possible, action should be postponed. The item will be presented to the Policy Board for direction.

B. 2011 Legislative Platform [GARZA]

Laural Fawcett (Fresno COG) reported on this item. Ms. Fawcett explained that 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 2011 Legislative Platform was 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.

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

X. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Items from Staff

Tony Boren announced that the Senate has confirmed Darius Assemi on the California Transportation Commission.

B. Items from Members

Ralph Kachadourian announced that a new city manager was appointed in Sanger. Brian Haddix was sworn in at midnight on October 7th. Mr. Kachadourian also announced that John White, Public Works Director announced his retirement.

Rocky Rogers announced a meeting to discuss Highway 99 and Golden State on October 25th.

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.**

There were no public presentations.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Tony Boren, Executive Director