

Fresno COG

January 2011 Report

California Consulting, LLC

- **SJV Regional Policy Council Sacramento Trip:** This year California Consulting, LLC is once again responsible for organizing the San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council (all 8 Valley COG's) trip to Sacramento. California Consulting will organize this trip, schedule the meetings, and serve as the lobbying firm for the trip. We organized the very first SJV Regional Policy Council lobbying trip to Sacramento several years ago and are prepared to assist with this effort once again. The trip will take place on Feb. 1-3 with Feb. 1 serving as a travel day. We are planning meetings with several key policymakers and state agencies among others.
- **Swearing In Ceremonies:** On January 6 and 7, 2011 California Consulting, LLC organized a valley delegation of approximately 40 local elected officials and leaders that attended the swearing in ceremonies of the State Legislature in Sacramento. We congratulated newly elected State Legislators and others and organized several events throughout the two days including a private two hour long meeting for our clients with State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson and a private breakfast with Senator Michael Rubio and Assemblyman Henry T. Perea. We also attended a special reception with Assembly Republican Leader Connie Conway and congratulated her on her selection as the Republican Leader of the Assembly.
- **Meetings in Sacramento:** Steve has continued weekly meetings in Sacramento regarding transportation issues that impact Fresno COG. Most recently Steve met with CTC Staff member Andre Boutros as well as with Cal-TRANS interim Chief Deputy Director Malcolm Dougherty regarding CMIA funding, the highway 99 bond issue and other transportation related items including the impact of the Governor's budget proposal on transportation funding.
- **Enterprise Zone:** The Governor has proposed in his budget to eliminate enterprise zones. As we did last year California Consulting will assume the role as the lead lobbying firm in the State defending the preservation of Enterprise Zone funding. We intend (as we did last year) to organize a letter writing campaign from cities, resolutions from city councils, testify at Committee hearing and play a vocal and

active role in defending the Enterprise Zone program. Steve continues to serve on the Enterprise Zone “working group” headed by and organized by the Assembly Jobs, the Economy, and Economic Development Committee. The working group is a statewide group of E.Z. stakeholders including proponents and opponents that meets regularly to discuss reaching consensus on E.Z. legislation and E.Z. related issues in the Legislature.

- **RDA’s:** The Governor has proposed in his budget to eliminate RDA’s. California Consulting intends to meet with the State RDA group and coordinate our efforts to assist them in their lobbying efforts to oppose the Governor’s proposal.
- **CTC Commissioner Assemi:** California Consulting will be having their regular monthly meeting with CTC Commissioner Darius Assemi to discuss transportation needs and funding priorities for the Valley.
- **Fresno COG “One Voice”:** We have worked with Fresno COG staff to confirm the dates for the “One Voice” annual Sacramento trip. We are also beginning to develop a list of key issues to advocate for and against on this trip. As is customary we ask that each of the 15 cities and the County send at least one person to participate in this important lobbying endeavor.