

EXECUTIVE MINUTES

TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Date: Friday, January 14, 2011
Time: 8:30 a.m.

POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Date: Friday, January 14, 2011
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 Club
Noe Martinez, City of Reedley
John Mulligan, City of Sanger
Krystal Chojnacki, City of Mendota
Jeffrey D. Webster, Fresno County Rural Transit Agency
Chip Ashley, Sierra Club
Gary Joseph, Fresno County EOC

David Weisser, City of Fowler
Renee Mathis, City of Clovis
Dwight Kroll, City of Clovis
Dennis Manning, FARRC
Bernard Jimenez, Fresno County
Mike Prandini, Building Industry Association
Debbie Hunsaker, Fresno Chamber
Janet Dailey, Fresno County

Others Attending:

Rob Wagant, Fresno County EOC
Walt Plachta, BSK
Gerald Forde, City of Huron
Mary Gonzales, City of Fresno
Tony Boren, Fresno COG
Barbara Steck, Fresno COG
Melissa Garza, Fresno COG
Clark Thompson, Fresno COG

Mike Bitner, Fresno COG
Kathy Chung, Fresno COG
Kristine Cai, Fresno COG
Kai Han, Fresno COG
Brenda Veenendaal, Fresno COG
Jeff Long, Fresno COG/FAX
Tom Webster, Fresno COG

The meeting was called to order by Scott Mozier, City of Fresno, 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 8:30 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 November 5, 2010
- B. FY 2010-11 Transportation Funding Claims – [FAWCETT]
- C. FY 2010-11 First Quarter Progress Report [BESHEARS]
- D. Call for Projects – Bicycle Transportation Account 2011-12 Applications [GARZA]
- E. Call for Projects: Community Based Transportation Planning [GARZA]
- F. CTC Annual Report to the Legislature [GARZA]
- G. FTA Section 5310 for Federal Fiscal Year 2010 and 2011 funds

[SOBRADO]

- H. San Joaquin Valley Railroad Study [THOMPSON]
- I. EPA Proposal to Disapprove PM2.5 Plan [DAWSON]
- J. Transportation Technical Committee Member List Update [BOREN]

For a complete summary of these items, please see the January 14, 2011 Annotated Agenda.

A motion was made by Renee Mathis (Clovis) and seconded by Bernard Jimenez (County) to approve the Consent Items as presented. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

II. TRANSPORTATION ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. High-Speed Rail Resolution 2011-01 [BOREN]

Tony Boren (Fresno COG) presented this item. As has been reported previously, the Federal Railroad Administration has recently allocated \$4.3 billion in funding for development and construction of high speed rail facilities in the central San Joaquin Valley. Funding requirements state that construction of the first segment must be completed by the fall of 2017. Mr. Boren referred to the Fresno COG Policy Board resolution (included in the meeting package) that encourages the California High Speed Rail Authority to give a strong commitment to hiring local Fresno County businesses to complete the planning, environmental, design, engineering and construction work that will be required to complete the first segment of the high speed rail line. Justification for this request includes the following:

- Fresno County's unemployment rate as of September 2010 was at 15.2%;
- Fresno County boasts a strong, able, dedicated and talented workforce;
- It is estimated that 135,000 full time workers will be required to complete construction of the high speed rail line in the central San Joaquin Valley;
- Fresno County residents have consistently voiced strong support for high speed rail

Following a brief discussion, a motion was made by Bernard Jimenez (County) and seconded by Jeffrey Webster (FCRTA) to recommend that the Policy Board approve Resolution 2011-01 encouraging the California High Speed Rail Authority to give a strong commitment to hiring local Fresno County businesses to complete the planning, environmental, design, engineering and construction work that will be required to complete the first segment of the high speed rail line. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

B. Fresno COG 2011 One Voice Projects/Issues List [GARZA]

Melissa Garza (Fresno COG) reported that staff has been working with the project selection committee in preparation for Fresno COG's ninth "One Voice" advocacy effort in Washington D.C. (February 26th – March 3rd, 2011). The committee met to review and score the 8 projects that were submitted for consideration. A list of the projects, and project scores, is included in your agenda package. The committee met a second time to review the scores and develop a recommended list of projects to forward to the COG Policy Board for approval. The selection committee is recommending that all eight projects be include as the "Regional Priority Projects" for the 2011 One Voice list, with that caveat that the two top scoring projects be recognized as "number one" (socio-economic and transportation). Those projects are:

- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| 1. Never Give Up Gang Prevention Initiative | (#1 Socio-economic Issue) |
| 2. Golden State Corridor | (#1 Transportation Issue) |
| 3. State Route 180 East | |
| 4. Veterans Blvd. | |
| 5. Regional Data Center | |
| 6. Manning Avenue Bridge | |
| 7. Fresno High Speed Rail Station | |
| 8. Academy Avenue | |

The committee also discussed regional policy issues that might be considered for inclusion in our "One Voice" materials. A list of these issues, along with brief abstracts, is included in your package. In addition, we will be developing a strategy to make requests for the reauthorization of the federal transportation bill, which is being considered by the Congress and the Administration. An update on these activities will be provided at the Policy Board meeting. A list of One Voice participants and a draft agenda for the trip were also included.

A motion was made by Bernard Jimenez (County) and seconded by John Mulligan (Sanger) to recommend consideration and approval of the "One Voice" selection committee's list of regional priority projects and the list of regional policy issues. A vote was called for and the motion passed with a no vote from Chip Ashley (Sierra Club).

C. FY 2009-2010 Annual Listing of Projects [GARZA]

Ms. Garza went on to report that Federal law requires Fresno COG to publish for public review an annual listing of projects for which federal funds have been obligated in the preceding year, as a record of project delivery and a progress report for public information and disclosure.

This report indicates that approximately \$67.1 million in federal funds were obligated for transportation projects in the region between October 1, 2009 and September 30, 2010. \$18.9 million of Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funds were obligated for transit projects and \$2.7 million was transferred from FHWA to FTA for transit projects.

The federal funds obligated for transportation projects were distributed amongst ARRA, CMAQ, DEMO, HBRR, HSIP, Local Rail, RIP, RSTP, SHOPP, SRTS, and STP projects. Approximately \$3.6 million of the obligated Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) funds were for bicycle/pedestrian facilities; 20 projects had bicycle/pedestrian components.

The listing is available for public viewing at www.fresnocog.org under RTP/FTIP: Annual Obligation Listings and was enclosed in the meeting package. Noe Martinez (Reedley) asked if there was a list of unobligated projects. Ms. Garza responded that she will provide that information to anyone that would like to receive it.

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

D. Blueprint Update [STECK]

Barbara Steck (Fresno CO) reported that Fresno COG is currently in the process of reviewing the documents that comprise the San Joaquin Valley Blueprint Roadmap (the implementation materials for the Valleywide Blueprint that was endorsed by Fresno COG and adopted by the Regional Policy Council in April 2009). The implementation deliverables include: 1) The Blueprint Planning Process Summary Report; 2) The SJV Blueprint Implementation Strategy; and 3) a web based Planners Toolkit. The schedule for reviewing and editing the Blueprint Roadmap is rather compact and will include input from the Blueprint project managers and COG directors from the eight Valley MPOs, the Valley Planners working group, interested community organizations and stakeholder groups and ultimately the Regional Policy Council, which will take action on the package at its March 25, 2011 meeting. The Blueprint Roadmap will provide local agencies with tools to assist them integrate the Blueprint smart growth principles into their general planning processes.

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

E. Proposition 84 Grants Update [TWEBSTER]

Tom Webster (Fresno COG) reported that on December 03, 2010, the Strategic Growth Council (SGC) approved a \$1,000,000 grant award for the San Joaquin Valley MPOs to continue the implementation of the San Joaquin Valley Blueprint and to assist in meeting the requirements of SB375. The amount requested for the grant was \$2.5 million. The work program will

encompass three major planning efforts: 1) Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) development; 2) General Plan integration and update planning; and 3) a San Joaquin Valley Regional Greenprint. With minor exceptions, the work will focus primarily on the San Joaquin Valley cities with a population less than 50,000. It will also include the 8 counties.

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

F. Video Conferencing Update [TWEBSTER]

Mr. Webster also presented this item. Fresno COG is the lead agency in the ongoing San Joaquin Valley Videoconferencing Infrastructure Project. The projects main goals are to reduce the cost of conducting business by reducing the need to travel to meetings, and to improve air quality by reducing the number of vehicle miles traveled (VMT) to attend face-to-face meetings.

Phase I of the project connected seven of the eight SJV MPOs through the purchase and installation of audio-video endpoints at each of the seven participating MPOs, and the additional installation of a central connection hub located at Fresno COG. This phase was very successful and has yielded a 100% return on investment (ROI), and a reduction of approximately 100,000 VMT in the first year of operation.

Phase II of the project aimed to connect the cities and counties around the Valley to the platform, beginning with the Fresno area. This phase arrived on the heels of a significant recession and budget crisis that impacted local agencies ability to participate in the project. Many of the agencies that were committed to the project were forced postponed their purchases and while a handful of participants did move forward with the purchase and installation of VTC endpoints. However, the core infrastructure upgrades and work needed to make the tie-in operational stagnated in 2010.

Mr. Webster reported that work on the project has resumed and Fresno COG staff is working on the final in-house steps needed to complete the tie-in and finalize phase II. One of the project partners, CalVans, is in the process of purchasing endpoints as part of this phase and has available funding to complete the infrastructure upgrade needed to see the project through successfully for all participants.

A motion was made by John Mulligan (Sanger) and seconded by Gary Joseph (EOC) to recommend that the Policy Board authorize Fresno COG Executive Director to enter into the MOU with CalVans for Videoconference usage, and to contract with Sebastian Inc. for \$300,000 for equipment and labor, subject to reimbursement from CalVans. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

G. Name Change/Logo/Website Update [VEENENDAAL]

Brenda Veenendaal (Fresno COG) gave a brief update. The Fresno COG Policy Board approved an agency name change during their July 2010 Board Meeting, from Council of Fresno County Governments to Fresno Council of Governments. Fresno COG's JPA was then amended with the new name in order to make the change official.

Over the years staff has become aware of difficulties our current name presents in establishing us as a separate, regional agency due to the word "county" in our name, and because of the county outline shape in our logo. We are difficult to find in the phone book or other listings because we are formally listed under C for Council instead of the name our colleagues have informally adopted for us-Fresno COG.

The name change allows us to be consistent with the moniker of the majority of other RTPAs/MPOs throughout the state (i.e. San Diego (SANDAG), Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), Sacramento (SACOG) etc.)

The timing for a name and logo change was ideal due to the following factors:

- Our website is being redeveloped and the company we are hired for the project, (Jeffrey Scott Agency) agreed to redesign our logo as a part of the website development contract—therefore eliminating the cost to have it done separately.
- Many of our staff have new titles and need new business cards, so there will be no additional cost for changing the appearance of the cards when printing.
- We are very low on agency stationery and envelopes—again, there will be no additional cost for changing the appearance of the cards when printing.

Ms. Veenendaal gave the Committee a preview of the new Fresno COG logo and business cards incorporating the logo, a list of our member agencies and the Fresno COG mission statement. New signage will go up around the Fresno COG offices during the month of January and the COG website, nearing completion, will be up and running by February 1, 2011.

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

III. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Items from Staff

B. Items from Members

Mike Prandini (BIA) asked Mr. Boren to give a brief update on Farmland Conservation and asked to be included in the email group for any future meetings.

Dennis Manning (FARRC) asked for an update on the Public Transportation Infrastructure Study. He asked if there is a final draft available. Staff will ask Mr. Downs to contact Mr. Manning.

Renee Mathis (Clovis) asked Ms. Steck to give a brief update on her trip to Boston for the Living Cities Boot Camp. The training was in regard to the recent grant received for Sustainable Communities. The fourteen large cities in the Valley are working with the California Partnership staff towards a regional approach to sustainability.

Scott Mozier reported that the City of Fresno Trails Master Plan has been completed. Clovis, Fresno County and Reedley also reported that they are updating their plans.

There was a brief discussion regarding the Proposed State Budget.

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. Caltrans Report [CALTRANS]

Paul Marquez (Caltrans) handed out a project status list and gave a short update.

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

2. California Forward – Kristine Walter and Jeff Hensley

Ms. Walter and Mr. Hensley presented a short video and handed out information regarding their program. Anyone interested in more information should contact CA Forward. This presentation will also be made at the Policy Board.

3. Air District Report- Tom Jordan, Senior Policy Advisor SJVAPCD

Tom Jordan, San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District, was not able to attend the meeting. He will be asked to report at the February meeting.

Policy Advisory Committee

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

Members Present:

David Elias, City of Fowler
Robert Woolley, City of Clovis
Bruce Rudd, City of Fresno
Gerald Forde, City of Huron
Don Pauley, City of Kingsburg
Ron Manfredi, City of Kerman
Krystal Chojnacki, City of Mendota

Alan Bengyel, City of Orange Cove
Lou Martinez, City of Parlier
Rocky Rogers, City of Reedley
Brian Haddix, City of Sanger
D. B Heusser, City of Selma
Lynn Gorman, Fresno County

Others Attending:

Walt Plachta, BSK
Lydia Zabrycki, Quad Knopf
Tony Boren, Fresno COG
Barbara Steck, Fresno COG
Melissa Garza, Fresno COG
Clark Thompson, Fresno COG
Mike Bitner, Fresno COG

Kathy Chung, Fresno COG
Kristine Cai, Fresno COG
Kai Han, Fresno COG
Brenda Veenendaal, Fresno COG
Jeff Long, Fresno COG/FAX
Tom Webster, Fresno COG

The meeting was called to order by David Elias, Fowler, Chair.

VI. 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.

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- F. CTC Annual Report to the Legislature [GARZA]
- G. FTA Section 5310 for Federal Fiscal Year 2010 and 2011 funds [SOBRADO]
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- I. EPA Proposal to Disapprove PM2.5 Plan [DAWSON]
- J. Transportation Technical Committee Member List Update [BOREN]

For a complete summary of these items, please see the January 14, 2011 Annotated Agenda.

Don Pauley (Kingsburg) asked to pull Item I for further discussion.

I. EPA Proposal to Disapprove PM2.5 Plan [DAWSON]

Mike Bitner (Fresno COG) reported that on November 8, 2010, EPA's Regional Administrator signed a proposed rule, and issued a press release, to approve in part and disapprove in part the San Joaquin Valley 2008 PM2.5 Plan. The parts of the plan (prepared by the San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District and the California Air Resources Board) that they propose to approve, strengthen the PM2.5 State Implementation Plan (SIP). The portions of the plan EPA proposes to disapprove do not meet the requirements of the Clean Air Act and EPA regulations. EPA is taking public comments until January 31, 2011.

A fact sheet explaining this action was included in the packet. EPA, ARB and the San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District are confident that the inadequacies will be satisfactorily addressed when the Air District completes the April 2011 PM2.5 SIP Mid-Course review.

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

Following the explanation, a motion was made by D. B Heusser (Selma) and seconded by Ron Manfredi (Kerman) to approve the Transportation Consent Items as written. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

VII. TRANSPORTATION ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. High-Speed Rail Resolution 2011-01 [BOREN]

Mr. Boren updated the Committee on this item. As has been reported previously, the Federal Railroad Administration has recently allocated \$4.3 billion in funding for development and construction of high speed rail facilities in the central San Joaquin Valley. Funding requirements state that construction of the first segment must be completed by the fall of 2017. Included in the package was a Fresno COG Policy Board resolution that encourages the California High Speed Rail Authority to give a strong commitment to hiring local Fresno County businesses to complete the planning, environmental, design, engineering and construction work that will be required to complete the first segment of the high speed rail line. Justification for this request includes the following:

- Fresno County's unemployment rate as of September 2010 was at 15.2%;
- Fresno County boasts a strong, able, dedicated and talented workforce;
- It is estimated that 135,000 full time workers will be required to complete construction of the high speed rail line in the central San Joaquin Valley;
- Fresno County residents have consistently voiced strong support for high speed rail

Mr. Manfredi asked what plans were being made to educate the small communities. Mr. Boren mentioned that a meeting is planned for January 21st at 1:30 at Fresno COG to meet with the Educational Community to discuss. Staff will forward the invitation to the Policy Board.

Following a brief discussion, a motion was made by Rocky Rogers (Reedley) and seconded by Ron Manfredi (Kerman) recommending the Policy Board approve Resolution 2011-01 encouraging the California High Speed Rail Authority to give a strong commitment to hiring

local Fresno County businesses to complete the planning, environmental, design, engineering and construction work that will be required to complete the first segment of the high speed rail line. A vote was called for and the motion carried with a no vote from the City of Kingsburg.

B. Fresno COG 2011 One Voice Projects/Issues List [GARZA]

Melissa Garza (Fresno COG) reported that Staff has been working with the project selection committee in preparation for Fresno COG's ninth "One Voice" advocacy effort in Washington D.C. (February 26th – March 3rd, 2011). The committee met to review and score the 8 projects that were submitted for consideration. A list of the projects, and project scores, was included in the package. The committee met a second time to review the scores and develop a recommended list of projects to forward to the COG Policy Board for approval. The selection committee is recommending that all eight projects be included as the "Regional Priority Projects" for the 2011 One Voice list, with that caveat that the two top scoring projects be recognized as "number one" (socio-economic and transportation). Those projects are:

1. Never Give Up Gang Prevention Initiative (#1 Socio-economic Issue)
2. Golden State Corridor (#1 Transportation Issue)
3. State Route 180 East
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5. Regional Data Center
6. Manning Avenue Bridge
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The committee also discussed regional policy issues that might be considered for inclusion in the "One Voice" materials. A list of these issues, along with brief abstracts, was included. In addition, Staff will be developing a strategy to make requests for the reauthorization of the federal transportation bill, which is being considered by the Congress and the Administration. An update on these activities will be provided at the Policy Board meeting. A list of One Voice participants and a draft agenda for the trip were also included in the package.

A motion was made by Ron Manfredi (Kerman) and seconded by Gerald Forde (Huron) to recommend consideration and approval of the "One Voice" selection committee's list of Regional Priority Projects and the list of Regional Policy Issues. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

C. FY 2009-2010 Annual Listing of Projects [GARZA]

Ms. Garza presented this item. Federal law requires Fresno COG to publish for public review an annual listing of projects for which federal funds have been obligated in the preceding year, as a record of project delivery and a progress report for public information and disclosure.

The report indicated that approximately \$67.1 million in federal funds were obligated for transportation projects in the region between October 1, 2009 and September 30, 2010. \$18.9 million of Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funds were obligated for transit projects and \$2.7 million was transferred from FHWA to FTA for transit projects.

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D. Blueprint Update [STECK]

Barbara Steck (Fresno COG) reported that Fresno COG is currently in the process of reviewing the documents that comprise the San Joaquin Valley Blueprint Roadmap (the implementation materials for the Valleywide Blueprint that was endorsed by Fresno COG and adopted by the Regional Policy Council in April 2009). The implementation deliverables include: 1) The Blueprint Planning Process Summary Report; 2) The SJV Blueprint Implementation Strategy; and 3) a web based Planners Toolkit. The schedule for reviewing and editing the Blueprint Roadmap is rather compact and will include input from the Blueprint project managers and COG directors from the eight Valley MPOs, the Valley Planners working group, interested community organizations and stakeholder groups and ultimately the Regional Policy Council, which will take action on the package at its March 25, 2011 meeting. The Blueprint Roadmap will provide local agencies with tools to assist them integrate the Blueprint smart growth principles into their general planning processes.

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E. Proposition 84 Grants Update [TWEBSTER]

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F. Video Conferencing Update [TWEBSTER]

Mr. Webster went on to report that Fresno COG is the lead agency in the ongoing San Joaquin Valley Videoconferencing Infrastructure Project. The projects main goals are to reduce the cost of conducting business by reducing the need to travel to meetings, and to improve air quality by reducing the number of vehicle miles traveled (VMT) to attend face-to-face meetings.

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Mr. Webster reported that work on the project has resumed and Fresno COG staff is working on the final in-house steps needed to complete the tie-in and finalize phase II. One of the project partners, CalVans, is in the process of purchasing endpoints as part of this phase and has available funding to complete the infrastructure upgrade needed to see the project through successfully for all participants.

A motion was made by Gerald Forde (Huron) and seconded by Don Pauley (Kingsburg) to recommend that the Policy Board authorize Fresno COG Executive Director to enter into the

Memorandum of Understanding with CalVans for Videoconference usage, and to contract with Sebastian Inc. for \$320,000 for equipment and labor, subject to \$300,000 reimbursement from CalVans. Fresno COG has budgeted \$20,000. (This correction to the total was made at PAC). A vote was called for and the motion carried.

G. Name Change/Logo/Website Update [VEENENDAAL]

Brenda Veenendaal (Fresno COG) reported that the Fresno COG Policy Board approved an agency name change during their July 2010 Board Meeting, from Council of Fresno County Governments to Fresno Council of Governments. Fresno COG's JPA was then amended with the new name in order to make the change official.

Over the years staff has become aware of difficulties our current name presents in establishing us as a separate, regional agency due to the word "county" in our name, and because of the county outline shape in our logo. We are difficult to find in the phone book or other listings because we are formally listed under C for Council instead of the name our colleagues have informally adopted for us-Fresno COG.

The name change allows us to be consistent with the moniker of the majority of other RTPAs/MPOs throughout the state (i.e. San Diego (SANDAG), Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), Sacramento (SACOG) etc.)

The timing for a name and logo change was ideal due to the following factors:

- Our website is being redeveloped and the company we are hired for the project, (Jeffrey Scott Agency) agreed to redesign our logo as a part of the website development contract—therefore eliminating the cost to have it done separately.
- Many of our staff have new titles and need new business cards, so there will be no additional cost for changing the appearance of the cards when printing.
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Ms. Veenendaal gave the Committee a preview of the new Fresno COG logo and business cards incorporating the logo, a list of our member agencies and the Fresno COG mission statement. New signage will go up around the Fresno COG offices during the month of January and the COG website, nearing completion, will be up and running by February 1, 2011.

This was an information 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]
 - Attachment 1 – 2009-2010 Legislative Report
 - Attachment 2 – 2010-2011 Monthly Legislative Report
 - Attachment 3 – Proposed Local Government Omnibus Act of 2011
- B. Strategy Research Institute Report [BOREN/MANROSS]
- C. California Consulting LLC Report [BOREN]
- D. Regional Policy Council Update [STECK]

For a complete summary of these items, please see the January 14, 2011 Annotated Agenda. A motion was made by Rocky Rogers (Reedley) and seconded by Don Pauley (Kingsburg) to approve the Administrative Consent Items as presented. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

IX. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. CA Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley – Work Group Reorganization [STECK]

Ms. Steck reported that some time back, the Partnership reassigned management of its Transportation Work Group from the Great Valley Center to the Valley MPOs. Since that time, the Valley MPO Directors suggested that the Land Use, Housing and Agriculture (LUHA) Work Group might also be better suited for Valley COG leadership since many of the work products are Blueprint related. The Partnership's Executive Committee concurred with this assessment; hence, the Valley MPOs (Regional Planning Agencies) – working through the Regional Policy Council – have now assumed responsibility for both the Transportation and LUHA working groups. The timing is right for this kind of reorganization as the Partnership is in the midst of reporting 5th year progress on its Strategic Action Plan and the MPOs will need to participate in this activity.

In December the Valley MPOs proposed further restructuring at the Work Group level. Because the transportation planning agencies are well aware of the need to integrate land use and transportation planning, we suggested combining the work of the Transportation and LUHA work groups into a combined Sustainable Communities Planning Work Group. While the Partnership is hoping for more stakeholder involvement in the process, that should not be a problem as the MPOs already work under extensive requisites for public participation in all the work we do.

The Partnership's work groups are usually "convened" by its board members and "managed" by a staff person. Ted Smalley (Tulare CAG executive director) as the Valley MPOs new representative to the Partnership Board will co-convene the task force with Barry Hibbard (convener of former LUHA work group). Barbara Steck will serve as the staff "manager" for this effort as part of Fresno COG's SJV Blueprint coordination activities.

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

B. California Partnership Funding Request FY 2010-11 – Overall Work Program Amendment No. 3 [BOREN]

(This item was tabled at the October Board meeting and is returned for further discussion)

Tony Boren, Executive Director presented 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 (23.64%, Fresno COG percentage of the eight county San Joaquin Valley population) 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 FY 2010/11 OWP adopted by the Policy Board in May 2010. In addition, federal funding is not allowed to be used for this these types of activities, so the \$33,500 would have to be paid by the COG member agencies' dues. Included is a chart that identifies each member agencies' current member dues and what the increase would be if the Policy Board votes to support the Partnership request.

The City of Coalinga has notified COG staff in writing that they cannot support the Partnership request due to funding constraints.

In September, the Policy Advisory Committee voiced their concerns regarding actions of a new Governor regarding the Partnership and suggested that, if possible, action should be postponed. Additional PAC comments focused on the fiscal challenges that cities and the County are facing, and funding the Partnership would be an additional cost. The item was then presented to the Policy Board in October for direction. The Board moved to postpone action on the item until after the November 2010 elections.

The cities of Kingsburg, Selma, Kerman and the County of Fresno voiced their concerns regarding additional dues at a time when the cities' are struggling with budget constraints and stated that their cities could not support additional membership dues at this time. Members would like to review the entire membership dues budget and review the current consultant/lobbyist contracts.

Bruce Rudd (Fresno) felt that the work of the Partnership is beneficial.

After discussion, a motion was made by Bruce Rudd (Fresno) and seconded by Lou Martinez (Parlier) to instruct COG staff to bill each city for their portion of the \$33,500 based on population and that each city make the determination if they would like to contribute or not. The funding that is collected will then be forwarded to the Partnership. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

X. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Items from Staff

January 27, 2011 Policy Board Special Meetings Flyer – Mr. Boren mentioned that there will be seven new Policy Board members beginning this month and briefly discussed the meetings that are going to be held prior to the January 27th Policy Board meeting.

B. Items from Members

None

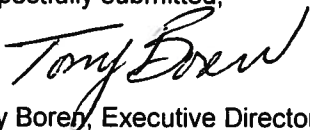
XI. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

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.**

None

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Tony Boren, Executive Director

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***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**