

**Council of Fresno County Governments
Second Quarter Progress Report for FY 2010-11
Ending December 31, 2010**

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

WE 110 - Regional Streets and Highways

Objective: To maintain a continuing, cooperative, and coordinated regional streets and highways planning process that is responsive to local needs as well as state and federal requirements.

Accomplishments:

- Continued participation in the Statewide California Federal Programming Group (CFPG) established to provide a linkage between State, Federal, and Regional Transportation Planning Agencies involved in transportation programming activities.
- Involvement with related subcommittees of the CFPG group evaluating and making recommendations on policy and procedure updates related to programming.
- Continued use of the *California Transportation Improvement Program System* (CTIPS) and involvement in program updates.
- Continued participation in the San Joaquin Valley Interagency Consultation Group.
- Continued support and developmental improvements to FresnoTrak, the programming software provided by EcoInteractive used to integrate all components of programming such as Modeling, RTP, and FTIP. Local agencies now access their project information online and verify programming details on FresnoTrak.

[GARZA/MONGE]

WE 111 - Regional Transportation Modeling

Objective: To maintain a continuing, cooperative, and coordinated regional transportation modeling process that is responsive to local needs as well as state and federal requirements.

Accomplishments:

- Provided various model data to consultants, member agencies, and Caltrans.
- Continued participation in the Caltrans led Statewide Modeling/Information Sharing Group. Helped coordinate the San Joaquin Valley Regional Transportation Planning Agencies (RTPAs) Modeling/Air Quality Coordinating Committee. This committee was established to provide interagency transportation conformity consultation. The meetings are attended by representatives of the eight Valley RTPAs; the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA); Caltrans; the California Air Resources Board (CARB), the San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District (SJVUAPCD); and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).
- COG staff is chair of the San Joaquin Valley TP+/Cube Model Users Group.
- Kept the road network database up-to-date. The database is used for modeling and other reporting purposes.
- Completed the land use update for traffic model to year 2003 conditions by updating land use information utilizing 2000 Census data and local data. Reviewed final land use and validated network. The Model Steering Committee adopted the validated 2003 base year model.
- The COG Board adopted the new validated model and land use.
- COG Modeling staff participates in the Regional Targets Advisory Committee developing green house gas targets and modeling requirements for the San Joaquin Valley.

- Submitted Green House Gas targets to the Air Resources Board for SB 375.
- Fresno COG led the San Joaquin Valley effort in successfully applying for and receiving \$2.5 million dollars for valley wide model improvements for SB 375 implementation.
- Upgraded traffic modeling software to Voyager in order to utilize advanced modeling techniques available in the Voyager software.

[BITNER/HAN]

WE 112 - Regional Traffic Monitoring

Objective: To maintain the Fresno Regional Traffic Monitoring Program as a source of current traffic information for use by member agencies and the public, and as a validation tool for the Countywide Traffic Model.

Accomplishments:

- Coordinated the *Traffic Counts Program* and provided technical assistance to member agencies.
- Provided traffic counts in response to public requests.
- Facilitated Triennial Highway Performance Monitoring System (HPMS) traffic counts.
- Acquired recent (2009-2010) traffic counts from various agencies to support the model validation as part of the San Joaquin Valley Model Improvements project.

[HAN]

WE 113 – Regional Transportation Planning Studies

Objective: The Regional Transportation Planning Studies work element is intended to provide resources to conduct focused transportation studies for the Fresno County region.

Accomplishments:

Fehr and Peers have completed the Study. Presentations of the Final Report were given to the Board of Supervisors, Fresno City Council, and the Fresno COG Policy Board. [TWEBSTER]

WE 115 – Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee Plan

Objective: As of January 1, 2010, Resolution 2009-01 gives the RTMF joint powers agency (FCRTMFA) the authority to collect the fee. The RTMF JPA and the Transportation Authority entered into an indemnity agreement, whereas the Transportation Authority (FCTA) assumes liability for FCRTMFA's actions in collecting the fee.

Accomplishments:

During the 1st Quarter of 2010, the following activities continue;

- Staff analyzes eligibility forms on behalf of local jurisdictions.
- Staff assists the public in interpretation and application of the fee.
- Staff collects and processes fees in accordance with the Mitigation Fee Act, on behalf of local jurisdictions.
- Staff tracked the eligibility and fee collection process using a database developed by staff specifically for RTMF activities.
- Staff administers the RTMF Appeals Process that was implemented the second quarter of FY2010-11.
- Prepare reporting provided to committees involved or having an interest in the RTMF. Such agencies include the Measure C Citizen's Oversight Committee. [SOBRADO/FAWCETT/BOREN]

WE 116 – National Park Transit Study

Objective: The National Park Transit Study is a market assessment and feasibility study is to asses the viability of providing public transportation service between the city of Fresno and Yosemite, Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks.

Accomplishments:

- An RFP was released on October 20, and on November 24, eight proposals were received. The proposals were scored and four of the proposals were selected for formal presentations scheduled to take place in January 2010.
- The COG Policy Board awarded the contract to Fehr & Peers Transportation Consultants, and the contract was executed on March 19. The first meeting of the Study Advisory Committee will be May 4, 2010.
- Five Service Advisory Committee meetings have taken place and stakeholder interviews have been undertaken to determine the level of interest in service to National Parks. Stakeholders include officers of the National Parks Service, representatives from local colleges, the Fresno Yosemite International Airport, Fresno Convention and Visitors Agency, as well as other Fresno and Madera County officials.
- Interviews were conducted among Fresno, Madera and Oakhurst key stakeholder. Additional interviews were also conducted with representatives of the National Parks Service (NPS).
- COG staff met with NPS representatives and others regional planning groups to discuss various planning activities currently underway at or around Yosemite National Park.
- A survey of Fresno State University students was conducted to determine the level of interest in transit service from Fresno to the national parks.

Technical memorandums on service options and service evaluation criteria have been delivered, and a draft final report has been submitted for review by the TAC in its January 2011 meeting. [DOWNS]

WE 117 -Golden State Corridor Study

GOLDEN STATE CORRIDOR: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS: PLANNING, ENGINEERING, AND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDY

Objective:

The Council of Fresno County Governments (Fresno COG) in conjunction with the County of Fresno, and the cities of Selma, Fowler and Kingsburg are conducting a Golden State Corridor: Economic Development Infrastructure Improvements: Planning, Engineering, and Environmental Study.

There are three parts to this study:

- 1) Developing the planning design guideline specifications for the entire Corridor,
- 2) Preparing the preliminary engineering design plans, and
- 3) Preparation of environmental documents sufficient to meet the requirements of the National Environmental Quality Act (NEPA) and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The goal is to revitalize the Corridor, enhance economic development, and improve Corridor safety for both commercial purposes as well as local drivers.

Funding for the Golden State Corridor Improvements has been made available in the Measure “C” Sales Tax Extension, passed by the voters of Fresno County in 2006. Originally, for this phase, \$515,000 was allocated. The second allocation was in the 2013/14 time frame at \$5,970,000, and the third allocation occurs in the years 2015/16 at \$37,343,000. Due to Measure “C” sales tax estimates falling below 29.3% from ballot measure

projections, the November 18, 2010 Policy Board approved reprogramming the Golden State project as follows: \$24,156,000 in 2018/19; \$14,375,000 in 2019/20 and \$2,858,000 in 2020/21.

Accomplishments:

- The internal draft of the Planning Design Guidelines is under review for consistency with the 2003 Visioning document.
- Deliverable: topographic map was delivered to COG 10/1/2010. This is a major portion of the budget (@40%) and will allow completion of the environmental and design phases.
- The Recycled Water Feasibility Study (2003) prepared by SKF was reviewed. A memo is in the draft stage regarding the potential and alternative scenarios for using recycled water. The alternatives study is anticipated to be completed January 2011.
- Traffic study assumptions were drafted and reviewed. Traffic counts on all impacted intersections are being performed.
- Possible grant opportunities are being developed.
- Fresno COG reviewed the existing traffic counts and assumptions prior to final traffic projections. Schematic work began on possible roundabout designs at key intersections.
- A phone conference was held with the SJVUAPCD on coordination of District Rule 9510-Indirect Source Review-fees with the Corridor as a Sub-Regional Facility with some potential relief from the standard fee structure. An approach might be to handle the entire 14 mile corridor as one project for ISR purposes, and then add each sub sequential development as a phase/portion of the total project.
- Presentation was given to the city of Selma's City Council on October 4, 2011.
- Kingsburg staff requested investigation into the status of the Monterey Bridge removal in Fresno as a potential loss of connectivity to the Golden State Corridor. Status and history were researched, and Fresno City staff reports were reviewed. A meeting was held with the County of Fresno on 10/4/2010. Due to the rapidly accelerating deterioration of the structure, low usage (when it was open to traffic) and the huge expense to rebuild, the bridge is scheduled for demo.
- A presentation was provided and updates given to the TTC/PAC and COG Policy Board in October 2010. The project received many positive comments.
- The "One Voice" application was revised; the project was presented to the selection committee on December 1, 2010 and was recommended as the #1 priority transportation project for Fresno County.
- A presentation and update was provided for the Measure "C" Citizen's Oversight Committee on October 14, 2010.
- Bike path alignments were focused on, and meetings with the three cities coordinated the approach. Issues involve the non-workability of allowing the paths in the UPRR right of way, and small clearances on the developed portions of the roadways.
- Roundabout preliminary intersection design plan exhibits were prepared and discussed with the three cities.
- Due to minor change in the project scope, \$90,000 was reserved in the Rural Measure "C" Program. Funds are only advanced from the next phase of the project and do not impact any other project or funding.

[DAWSON]

WE 120 - Regional Public Transportation Planning - Urban

Objective: To carry on the continuing urban area public transportation planning process to satisfy the requirements of the Federal Transit Administration under TEA-21 (1997), the Alquist-Ingalls Act (AB-402, 1977) and AB-120 (Statutes of 1979); the Social Service Improvement Act (SB-826, 1988); the Federal Clean Air Act Amendments; The 1988 California Clean Air Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-336).

Accomplishments:

- *Demand-Responsive Service Evaluation:* Staff continues to monitor the system for productivity, cost effectiveness, and compliance with ADA regulations.
- *Management Information Systems:* Staff continues to develop and maintain various MIS programs and services. Major work this quarter includes testing and fine-tuning regional farebox reporting, regional trip planning software implementation, and Automatic Passenger Counting system.
- *National Transit Database Report:* National Transit Data Base (NTDB) annual operating statistics for FY2010-11 are being compiled for the report to the Federal Transit Administration. NTDB data collection is an ongoing process.
- *Coordinate with Air District:* Staff reviews Air District's plans and rule making and attends workshops on topics related to transit planning. Staff also works closely in developing funding request strategies from the SJVUAPCD for related TCM's such as alternative fuels funding and transit pass subsidy funding.
- *Review Development Proposals:* Staff continues to work closely with the development community in order to promote pedestrian and transit-friendly development through review and comment on development proposals.
- *Community Outreach and Public information:* FAX information continues to be maintained on the World Wide Web at <http://www.fresno.gov/index.html>. Staff continues to work with major employers to promote public transit, and to find creative ways to increase transit's market share. Staff has participated in several community outreach activities with various local agencies.
- *Service Coordination:* The Clovis/FAX Metro pass continues to be a success, and FAX continues to include transit service schedules and information for Clovis Stageline in the FAX Schedule Guide. Beginning January 10, FAX will only sell Metro passes, FAX will no longer offer the monthly convenience pass.
- *Regional Farebox:* This project continues to experience significant problems, and FAX had issued a cure letter putting Fare Logistics on notice, and subsequently has issued a notice of default.
- *Social Service Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC):* The SSTAC is in the process of compiling information for the annual Transit Productivity Report.
- *Automatic Passenger Counters (APC):* Staff prepared and released an RFP for Automatic Passenger Counters to retrofit the entire FAX fleet. Two vendors were selected to participate in a demonstration project. The demonstration part of the process has been completed. Two bids were received, but the City's purchasing department declared both bids non-responsive. FAX is preparing to rebid the project pending approval by the Fresno City Council.
- *Regional Transit Trip Planning Program:* Staff prepared and released an RFP for Regional Transit Trip Planning Program. The procurement process has been completed, and FAX has negotiated a contract with Ontira Communications. The program will be funded using JARC funds. Automated trip planning is currently available via Google Transit for FAX, but in a much less robust format.
- *Fresno County Regional Transit Consolidation Plan:* A technical steering committee comprised of the three transit operators and the consultants has been established, and the consultants are currently evaluating the transit operators business operations as well as considering operating models from other agencies for possible application to Fresno County.

[DOWNS]

WE 121 – Public Transit -Human Services Transportation (JARC)

Objective: The Human Services Transportation Coordination work element's aim is to improve transportation services for persons with disabilities, older adults, and individuals with lower incomes by ensuring that public and non-profit agencies coordinate transportation resources provided through multiple federal programs including the Formula Program for Elderly Persons and Persons with Disabilities; the Job Access and Reverse Commute Program and the NEW FREedom Program.

On August 10, 2005, President Bush signed the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act – A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). This new legislation included human services transportation coordination provisions which aim to improve transportation services for persons with disabilities, older adults, and individuals with lower incomes by ensuring that communities coordinate transportation resources provided through multiple federal programs. Coordination will enhance transportation access, minimize duplication of services, and facilitate the most appropriate cost-effective transportation

The human services transportation coordination provisions include the following activities:

- Requires the establishment of a locally developed, Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan for all FTA human service transportation programs: Section 5310 Elderly individuals and individuals with disabilities program, Section 5316 Jobs Access and Reverse Commute Program and Section 5317 New Freedom Program. This plan has been completed and accepted by the Fresno COG Policy Board.

Accomplishments:

- Issued a call for projects for the FTA Section 5316, JARC Large Urban grant program. This program is administered by Fresno COG.
- Completed the programming process for COG administered portion of the Section 5316 Grant Program
- Prepared contracts for grants awarded in the previous grant cycle that have since been approved by Counsel. Contracts have been sent to grant applicants for their review and approval.
- Worked with prospective applicants to prepare for future FTA Section 5316 JARC Call for projects.
- Collected quarterly reports from previous Section 5316 (JARC) grantees to comply with administrative requirements.
- Conducted an extensive review of the Fresno COG Standard Agreement and made several updates to the contract.

[SOBRADO]

WE 122 – Public Transit – Human Services Transportation (New Freedom)

Objective: The New Freedom program goals are to provide new public transportation services to overcome existing barriers facing Americans with disabilities seeking integration into the workforce and full participation into society while expanding the transportation mobility options available to persons with disabilities beyond requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101, et seq.).

On August 10, 2005, President Bush signed the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act – A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). This new legislation included human services transportation coordination provisions which aim to improve transportation services for persons with disabilities, older adults, and individuals with lower incomes by ensuring that communities coordinate transportation resources provided through multiple federal programs. Coordination will enhance transportation access, minimize duplication of services, and facilitate the most appropriate cost-effective transportation

The human services transportation coordination provisions include the following activities:

- Requires the establishment of a locally developed, Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan for all FTA human service transportation programs: Section 5310 Elderly individuals and individuals with disabilities program, Section 5316 Jobs Access and Reverse Commute Program and Section 5317 New Freedom Program. This plan has been completed and accepted by the Fresno COG Policy Board.

Accomplishments:

- Issued a call for projects for the FY 2009, 2010 FTA Section 5317, New Freedom, Large Urban grant program. This program is administered by Fresno COG.
- Completed the programming process for COG administered portion of the Section 5317 (New Freedom) grant program.
- Prepared contracts for grants awarded in the previous grant cycle that have since been approved by Counsel. Contracts have been sent to grant applicants for their review and approval.
- Worked with prospective applicants prepare for future FTA Section 5317 New Freedom call for projects.
- Collected quarterly reports from previous Section 5317 (New Freedom) grantees to comply with administrative requirements.
- Conducted an extensive review of the Fresno COG Standard Agreement and made several updates to the Contract.

[SOBRADO]

WE 123 – Public Transportation Infrastructure Study (PTIS)

Objective: The purpose of this work element is to identify and evaluate viable alternative mass transportation options for Fresno County, and develop ridership and cost projections for various scenarios to establish a long-range plan leading to optimum connectivity within the region.

Accomplishments:

- Summary of travel markets, transit needs, and planned public transportation improvements;
- Summary maps and brief description of transit friendly employment centers, market conditions, and characterization of transit corridors;
- Transit technology and service alternatives feasibility assessment;
- Menu of service and technology options for transportation systems management (TSM) scenario;
- Baseline GIS mapping of Fresno County (includes layers reflecting Blueprint scenarios where available);
- Evaluation of current vacant land capacity based on existing zoning;
- Summary of current conditions and future trends analysis;
- Countywide opinion survey;
- Alternative land use and travel modeling has been completed; and
- FTA has included a \$38.5 million grant for Fresno's BRT project in the President's 2011 budget.

The PTIS website, www.fasttrackfresno county.com, is being maintained, and all of the study documents, including newsletters are available can be viewed there.

During the 2nd quarter major work included modeling alternative land use and transportation scenarios and developing performance criteria for alternative scenarios. The modeling scenarios have been completed and performance measures for the different alternatives have been collected. PTIS draft recommendations have been developed and presented to elected officials in October. The PTIS final report is being prepared.

[DOWNS]

WE 130 - Regional Public Transportation Planning - Rural

Objective: To carry on the continuing rural public transportation planning process to satisfy the requirements of the Alquist-Ingalls Act (AB-402, 1977); the Social Service Improvement Act (AB-120, 1979); the Mello Act (SB-157, 1985); the Specialized Transportation Services Act (SB-826, 1988) the Federal Clean Air Act

Amendments (1990); the 1988 California Clean Air Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-336).

Accomplishments:

- The staff of the Fresno County Rural Transit Agency (FCRTA) and the Rural Consolidated Transportation Service Agency (CTSA) prepared and completed their respective sections of the *2009-10 Transit Productivity Evaluation Report*. The Fresno COG's Social Service Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) is scheduled to review the draft report in the first month of the Third Quarter, on January 16, 2011. [JWEBSTER]

WE 150 - Other Modes - Aviation & Rail

Objective: To maintain a continuing, coordinated planning process in the aviation, non-motorized and rail modes.

Accomplishments/Aviation:

- Monitored aviation issues and legislation important to Fresno County.
- Comprehensive review and update of aviation section of 2011 Regional Transportation Plan, in conjunction with operators of public use airports in Fresno County.

Accomplishments/Rail:

- Monitored rail issues and legislation important to Fresno County.
- Monitored activities of the California High-Speed Rail Authority and other activities related to high-speed rail in California.
- Participated in a meeting of the San Joaquin Valley Rail Committee on November 4, 2010 in Madera. Usual reports were made on Amtrak California safety/security/train operations, passenger services, marketing, route performance, Amtrak California train and thruway bus operations, capital projects delivery, and state/federal budgets, legislation, and other updates. Prior to the meeting was a special Madera Amtrak train station grand opening celebration.
- Presented updates on Amtrak and other rail items to the COG Committees and Policy Board during the October cycle of meetings. Items included positive information on Amtrak San Joaquin's ridership and revenue figures, upcoming Caltrans Division of Rail planning activities including development of a new State Rail Plan, and the Madera Amtrak train station grand opening celebration.
- Coordinated with consultants (Railroad Industries, Inc. located in Reno, Nevada) preparing the San Joaquin Valley Railroad Study and reviewed Administrative Draft of the Study. This Study will be presented to the COG Committees and Policy Board during the February 2011 cycle of meetings.

[THOMPSON]

WE 151 – Bicycle and Pedestrian

Objective: To maintain a continuing, coordinated planning process in the bicycle and pedestrian transportation modes.

Accomplishments:

- Monitored bikeway issues and legislation important to Fresno County.
- Staff sits as a voting member representing the San Joaquin Valley on Caltrans Bicycle Advisory Committee (CBAC). The purpose of the CBAC is to advise Caltrans on technical issues related to bikeways planning and implementation. Attended the CBAC meeting in Sacramento on October 7 and participated via teleconference in meeting of the CBAC on December 2, 2010. Ongoing agenda items included various

status reports (Highway Design Manual Revision, Interchange/Intersection Guidelines, AB 1581 Implementation, Bikes on Roadways Training, AB 1358 (Complete Streets Act) and DD-64 R1 Implementation, Bicyclist Representation on CTCDC, a new Statewide Bicycling Task Force, Strategic Highway Safety Plan, California Vehicle Code 21202 opinion, Bridge Rail, etc.) and new business items including a request for recommendation to approve buffered bike lane experiment in Long Beach, share the road sign proposal, new SHSP CA 13 actions, and filling the Bicycle Facilities Coordinator position.

- Ongoing participation in the development of a Fresno County Regional Bicycle Master Plan.
- Reviewed City of Reedley Bicycle Transportation Plan and prepared letter certifying that the Plan complies with all the elements of Section 891.2 of the Streets and Highways Code and is consistent with the Fresno COG's most recent Regional Transportation Plan adopted on July 29, 2010.

[THOMPSON]

WE 152 – High Speed Rail Planning

Objective: To assist the California High-Speed Rail Authority, in conjunction with Fresno COG member agencies and interested citizens and organizations, with the development of the project level environmental document for the high-speed train system, and to identify and evaluate all other issues associated with high-speed trains in Fresno County in order to maximize its benefits.

Accomplishments:

- Ongoing activities related to the Heavy Maintenance Facility. These activities included participation in meetings of the “Fresno Works” Steering Committee, discussions with community members concerning high-speed rail issues, and other activities. The Steering Committee and Land Use Task Force continue to meet regularly to discuss next steps and resolve issues related to the heavy maintenance facility.
- Staff attended the California High-Speed Rail Authority meeting on __ to testify in support for a proposal that the first section of California’s High Speed Rail tracks be built in through Fresno County
- Continue to monitor activities and decisions of the California High-Speed Rail Authority for their relationship to high-speed rail in Fresno.
- Participated in a meeting of the Fresno Works Committee on October 15 focused on issues related to the high-speed train heavy maintenance facility.
- Recent developments regarding high-speed rail, including the heavy maintenance facility were presented and discussed with COG Committees and Policy Board during the November cycle of meetings.

[THOMPSON]

WE 153 – Airport Land Use Commission

Objective: To ensure the orderly development of lands in the vicinity of public use airports within Fresno County and ensure consistency of land use development with the various Airport Land Use plans within Fresno County.

Accomplishments:

- Conducted one regular and three special Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC) meetings to determine consistency with the Fresno County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan.
- Continued to maintain a GIS map base to facilitate ongoing and future presentations to the Commission.
- Followed established procedures and reviewed current, best-practices from other ALUCs in order to establish more meaningful and functional process for the COG.
- Currently in the process of creating a Fresno County ALUC website.
- A Compatibility Land Use (CLUP) update for FYI was approved by Fresno County ALUC Resolution 2010-01, after completion of the 45 day public and inter-agency review. The last Fresno Yosemite Airport

(FYI) CLUP update was in 1990, and coincides with current update underway of the FYI Master Plan Update.

- No further update.

[TWEBSTER/FAWCETT]

WE 170 - Regional Transportation Plan

Objective: To develop and publish, on a four-year basis, the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) for Fresno County which addresses at a minimum a twenty year planning horizon. The plan shall include both long-range and short-range strategies and actions for implementing an integrated intermodal transportation system. The plan will address the federally required Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) planning factors. The final rule for SAFETEA-LU implementation was released in February 2007 with an effective date of March 16, 2007.

Accomplishments:

- The Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) and 2011 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) were presented to COG committees and Policy Board during July cycle of meetings. The Policy Board certified the SEIR and adopted the 2011 RTP on July 29, 2010. Consequently, there were no additional accomplishments this quarter.

[THOMPSON]

WE 172 - Congestion Management Process

Objective: The Final Rule for the Federal Management and Monitoring Systems (Title 23 Code of Federal Regulations Chapter I, Subchapter F, Part 500) defines an effective CMP as a systematic process for managing congestion that provides information on transportation system performance and on alternative strategies for alleviating congestion and enhancing the mobility of persons and goods to levels that meet State and local needs. The objective of this element is to respond to federal congestion management planning requirements. The Fresno County CMP addresses congestion-related issues in Fresno region in a systematic and regional approach. As an integral part of Fresno COG's planning process, the Fresno County CMP is incorporated in the RTP and TIP process.

Accomplishments:

- Continued to work with member agencies to update count locations on the Regionally Significant System under the Traffic Monitoring Program
- Continued to implement CMP strategies identified in the CMP report
- Continued to assess the effectiveness of the CMP strategies

[CAI]

WE 180 - Air Quality Transportation Planning

Objective: The Air Quality Transportation Planning Work Element provides for the development and maintenance of a coordinated transportation and air quality planning process. The federal and California Clean Air Acts require that transportation plans, programs and projects be consistent with, or conform to, state air quality implementation plans, and establishes the criteria and procedures for determining whether or not they conform. In order to be in compliance with federal and state regulations, transportation activities can not produce new air quality violations, worsen existing violations, or delay timely attainment of the national ambient air quality standards. With the State of California taking the national and international lead on the

reduction of greenhouse gas emissions which contribute to climate change, new tasks are being required of transportation planning agencies. New Work Elements WE #413 *Fresno County SB 375/SCS Implementation*, WE813 *San Joaquin Valley Model Improvements for SB 375*, and WE# 814 *Valleywide Sustainable Communities Grant Activities* have been added to address greenhouse gas/climate change requirements.

Accomplishments:

- On-going coordination with local, State, and federal agencies regarding air quality and transportation issues.
- Monitored State and federal guidance related to air quality transportation planning requirements.
- Continued participation in the Statewide Transportation Conformity Working Group including meetings and transmitting updates from the working group.
- Continued participation with the other seven Valley Regional Planning Agencies (RPA) in the San Joaquin Valley Interagency Consultation Group to address pertinent transportation, modeling, air quality, and conformity analysis issues. (Last meeting was 12/9/2010)
- Assisted and drafted project level (hot-spot) transportation conformity determinations for transportation agencies.
- Assisted member agencies with CMAQ information to process their funding applications.
- Participated in conference calls with staff from ARB, EPA, FHWA, Caltrans and various members of the other San Joaquin Valley RPAs.
- Attended San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SJVUAPCD) Board meetings and workshops related to transportation.
- Presented air quality updates to the Fresno COG Transportation Policy Committee, the Transportation Technical Committee and the Policy Advisory Committee.
- Membership and active participation in the San Joaquin Valley Clean Cities Coalition.
- Facilitated SJVUAPCD Presentations/Updates for COG Committee meetings.
- Presented “Transportation Conformity in the San Joaquin Valley” to local Caltrans Project Managers group on 11/16/2010.
- Created and updated the Fresno COG Policy and Procedure Manual sections: Transportation Conformity , CMAQ Process and Annual Report, Project-level Conformity or “Hot-Spot” analyses/assessments, and Conformity SIP,
- Reviewed and updated staff on the new guidance for “Quantitative Analyses for PM 2.5 hot-spot assessments.
- Provided update to the COG Policy Board on EPA’s partial disapproval of the 2008 PM2.5 SIP and possible remediation and consequences.

[DAWSON]

TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

WE 210 – Measure C Reauthorization

Objective: To provide the organizational structure and staffing for development of an Expenditure Plan that will guide the utilization of a proposed ½ cent sales tax measure that is tentatively scheduled for the November 2006 ballot. The Reauthorization process is being guided by a Regional Steering Committee consisting of elected officials, interested regional stakeholders and the general public. Staffing is provided by COG.

Accomplishments:

- Staff continued implementing the Measure C Carpool, Commuter Vanpool, Farmworker Vanpool and Taxi Scrip Programs.

- Designated staff worked to administer the Measure C Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee Program during the quarter.
[VEENENDAAL/BOREN]

WE 211 – Measure C Citizen Oversight Committee

Objective: To inform the public and to ensure that the Measure C funding program revenues and expenditures are spent as promised to the public in the 2006 Measure C Extension Expenditure Plan.

Accomplishments:

- The Citizen Oversight Committee met during the quarter, on October 14th and December 9th, 2010.
- Fresno COG staff coordinated the meeting, agenda and handouts needed by the committee.
- Staff worked with member agencies to help them accurately complete the updated Citizen Oversight Committee's Local Agency Reporting Forms as they are required to report on how they plan to spend fiscal year's 2010-2011 Measure C Local Agency Pass Through Funding. Staff also completed reporting forms for the Measure C Carpool, Vanpool and Taxi Scrip Programs the Fresno COG staff oversees.

[VEENENDAAL]

WE 212 – Measure C Carpool/Vanpool Program

Objective: To expend Measure C Carpool/Vanpool Program funds to encourage an increase in carpooling and commuter vanpooling in Fresno County.

Accomplishments Commuter Vanpool Program: COG staff continues to:

- Improve, evaluate, and monitor tracking and reporting procedures
- Develop and release notifications of funds available via website, email, news articles, participate in community events, and other means available to all Fresno County residents including the Tribal membership and employees.
- Update all related information and forms online.
- Receive and evaluate all applications for the commuter vanpool program. Monitor all subsidies and reimbursements for renewals at the vanpool's 12 month anniversary. Receive and process all renewal applications. Mailed award letters to new and existing vanpool drivers.
- Create new partnerships with vanpool providers and with public and private organizations to increase vanpool and carpool awareness and participation.
- Provide customer service through phone calls, assisting walk-in traffic and arranging onsite visits with public and private organizations.
- Receive and process monthly vanpool invoices and mail out subsidies, reimbursements and award letters.
- Perform research and development to improve and enhance Commuter Vanpool Program.

Accomplishments Carpool Subsidy Program: COG staff continues to:

- Develop outreach materials used for community events, presentations, email blasts, graphics, web posts and ad and mailings.
- Give presentations at various businesses and organizations about the Carpool Program. .
- Oversee the distribution of monthly awards to carpool winners. Three monthly drawings were held where three winners were awarded \$1,000 each.
- Maintain the Valleyrides.com website that includes the Measure C commuting programs, and Tulare County commuter information (due to a funding and partnership with TCAG staff). The website includes Carpool Program functionality and information. Staff updated and added content to many of the Measure C Carpool sections.

- Researched and gathered a list of various businesses in Fresno County that potentially have over 100 employees. Initiated a grassroots campaign that includes contact with at least 15 employers per week from the list in order to provide them information about the carpool program and offer guidance on how to promote carpooling and ridesharing within their organizations.

[VEENENDAAL/MARTINEZ]

WE 214 – Measure C ADA/Seniors/Paratransit Taxi Scrip

Objective: To implement the Measure C Taxi Scrip Program for enhanced taxicab transportation services for persons 70 years of age and older living in the Fresno County (service area) region.

Accomplishments: Staff continues to:

- Improve and update tracking, reporting and information in database for taxi scrip program.
- Develop and release program notifications such as funds available, forms, bilingual educational literature, question and answers via website, email, news articles, community events and other means available to all Fresno County residents including the Tribal membership and employees.
- Update all related information, forms and applications online as well as ensures that all distribution centers have complete and updated resources.
- Visit all distribution centers no less than once a month to ensure proper sales reporting, documentation, and provide training sessions on a needs basis.
- Process vendor reimbursements to Measure C for all scrip sold (minus a 5% administration fee) on a quarterly basis.
- Receive and evaluate all applications for Taxi Scrip Program and Proxy Designation Forms.
- Provide customer service through phone calls, assisting walk-in traffic and arranging onsite visits with public and private organizations.
- Receive and process invoices, subsidies, reimbursements and sales.
- Maintain and accurate list of taxi cab companies that accept taxi scrip.
- Review biweekly taxi vendor logs and submitted taxi scrip for accuracy and reimbursement.
- Maintain partnerships with various local vendors, private and public organizations to act as currency distributors and as educators to increase taxi scrip program awareness and participation.
- Perform research and development to improve and enhance the Taxi Scrip Program.
- Work with marketing agency to develop outreach material used for media, community events, presentations, and mailings.

[VEENENDAAL/MARTINEZ]

WE 215 – Measure C Farmworker Vanpool Programs

Objective: To implement the Measure C Farmworker Vanpool Program, encouraging an increase in farmworker vanpooling participation in Fresno County.

Accomplishments: Staff continues to:

- Improve, evaluate, and monitor tracking and reporting procedures.
- Maintain the accessibility of bilingual notifications of funds available via website, email, public service announcements, news articles. Participate in community events, and other means available to all Fresno County residents including the Tribal membership and employees.
- COG staff continuously updates all related information and applications online and works closely with vanpool provider to educate Farmworkers on informational program items.
- COG staff receives and evaluates all individual applications for the Farmworker vanpool program.

- Continue to implement the renewal process for those applicants that have reached their one-year anniversary in the Farmworker Vanpool Program.
- Maintain partnerships with vanpool providers and with public and private organizations to increase Farmworker vanpool awareness and participation.
- Provide customer service through phone calls, assisting walk-in traffic and arranging onsite visits with public and private organizations.
- Receive and process monthly vanpool invoices and mail out subsidies and reimbursement.
- Continuous research and development to improve and enhance Farmworker vanpool program.
- Continue to work with marketing agency to develop outreach material used for community events, presentations, and mailings.

[VEENENDAAL/MARTINEZ]

WE 220 – Transportation Program Development

Objective: To identify transportation improvements proposed for implementation within a short-range period of compliance with federal and state requirements.

Accomplishments:

- Continued participation in the Statewide California Federal Programming Group (CFPG) established to provide a linkage between State, Federal, and Regional Transportation Planning Agencies involved in transportation programming activities.
- Involvement with related subcommittees of the CFPG group evaluating and making recommendations on policy and procedure updates related to programming.
- Continued use of the *California Transportation Improvement Program System* (CTIPS) and involvement in program updates.
- Continued participation in the San Joaquin Valley Interagency Consultation Group.
- COG staff continues to work with its member agencies in an effort to develop/maintain a financially constrained transportation improvement program.
- COG staff continues to attend California Transportation Commission meeting and Statewide RTPA meetings to monitor, regional, state and Federal transportation issues and policies.
- Correspondence with Agency staff and Caltrans regarding preparation and delivery of the Obligation Plan for 2009/10.
- Collaboration with Agency staff, Caltrans, FHWA, and FTA for proposed changes to the 2011 FTIP and RTP that was approved by Federal Highways on December 14, 2010.
- COG staff continues intergovernmental coordination and public notification for all formal amendments to the FTIP. COG staff also continues to conduct administrative modifications to the FTIP as needed.
 - Administrative Modification #28: This was the last amendment to the 2009 FTIP. Minor modifications were made to the project phase of a CMAQ project as a technical correction. The amendment was approved by Caltrans on December, 3 2010.
- Continued involvement, participation and monitoring of monthly California Transportation Commission meetings, Regional Transportation Planning Agency meetings, and Self-Help County Coalition meetings.
- Continual development and improvements to FresnoTrak for use in project tracking and enhancing visualization of the FTIP.
- Completed and published the 2009/2010 Annual Listing of Obligated Projects based on Federal guidelines and requirements.

[GARZA/MONGE]

SERVICES AND GENERAL COORDINATION ACTIVITIES

WE 310 - Intergovernmental Coordination

Objectives: 1) To promote coordination, cooperation and communication on administrative and planning matters among local agencies, the COG, federal and state agencies. To enable various agencies, including Native Americans, to participate in and review the regional planning process; 2) To provide the public with information on activities, meetings, planning documents and reports, and to seek advice from the public on COG's planning activities; and 3) To provide local agencies and the public the opportunity to review and comment upon federal grant proposals through the Local Clearinghouse Process; and 4) To provide local agencies with information on federal and state legislation, regulations, guidelines, and policies that effect the Fresno COG and our member agencies.

Accomplishments:

- Continued to provide staff support to the Association for the Beautification of State Route 99. Organized bimonthly meetings for the Association, assisted with correspondence, conducted research, and prepared staff reports.
- Continued efforts towards implementing the *2000 Highway 99 Beautification Plan* by recommending the adoption of a draft Highway Beautification Overlay Zoning District by the Cities of Kingsburg, Selma, Fowler, Fresno, and Fresno County. Provided guidance and support to Fresno County planning staff as the Overlay made its way through the adoption process.
- Continued monitoring other SR 99 beautification efforts such as the Great Valley Center's Highway 99 Project and Caltrans' *Highway 99 Plan*.
- Provided ongoing support to member agencies of the Abandoned Vehicle Abatement Service Authority in the establishment of this new program in Fresno County. Issues discussed over the course of the quarter include election of Chair and Vice-Chair of the Authority and a determination of time standards and personnel costs for use in calculating program costs.
- Staff continues to outreach to the Native American Tribal governments, both federally and non-federally recognized, in Fresno County to solicit their input and to seek their participation in COG activities. Staff continues to provide all of the tribes with ongoing meeting notifications and any other pertinent information that may be of interest to the tribes. Fresno COG is working with Kern COG, the lead agency on a grant to enhance outreach to Tribal governments throughout the Valley.
- Continue monthly distribution of state Clearinghouse items to member agencies for review and comment.
- Continue process of member agency outreach to provide update on the SJV Regional Blueprint Planning Process and determine how MPOs can assist with implementation.
- Continued outreach with staff and administrators of member agencies to gather input for the Blueprint.
- Provide ongoing updates to member agencies on progress with Blueprint activities.
- Continue Valleywide management of eight Valley COGs on for SJV Blueprint.
- Staff continues involvement/collaboration on Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) projects of local, valley-wide, and State interest. Executive Director and Deputy Director have been holding meetings with member agency Board and PAC members to provide information and solicit input.
- Continue staff participation in monthly meetings with the Fresno Chamber of Commerce's Government Affairs Council where legislation and local, state and federal policies are discussed that affect the Fresno region.
- Fresno COG staff devotes significant time to on-going legislative activities including, but not limited to, monthly reports detailing pending state and federal legislation in current sessions, bill analysis, regular correspondence to state and federal representatives communicating positions on bills of interest by our Policy Board, and the development of an annual Fresno COG Legislative Platform.

[ALL PLANNING STAFF]

WE 311 - Public Information and Participation

Objective: To provide the public with information on activities, meetings, planning documents and reports, and to seek advice from the public on COG's planning activities. This work element is intended to highlight the COG's desire to encourage more public participation in the transportation planning process, consistent with TEA 21 requirements. This will include public involvement in the development stages of plans and programs as well as throughout the adoption process. COG's Public Involvement Procedures will be consulted and followed during each phase of plan or program development.

It is Fresno COG's desire that the citizens of Fresno County and its cities assist in delineating values, goals, and objectives of transportation-related services and planning documents. Further, it is Fresno COG's intent that those same citizens, charged with the responsibility of providing feedback on a continuous basis, will participate in the selection of transportation facilities and programs for planning and programming under Fresno COG's authority. Finally, it is the goal of Fresno COG to adequately provide information to and solicit input from historically underserved community of Fresno County (i.e. elderly, minority groups, youth, disabled and lower income people).

Accomplishments:

- Prepared agenda packages, reports, and notices for COG's three monthly public meetings.
- Filled requests for information about Fresno COG and/or their member agencies and updated various listings.
- Continuously updated Fresno COG's website with a variety of information, meeting packets and calendar entries.
- Sent out weekly email alerts called "This Week...at Fresno COG." The email went out each Tuesday and highlighted Fresno COG activities, plans, projects, RFPs, etc. with links to the Fresno COG website. Developed and continuously updated the emails lists used for circulation.
- Continued working with Fresno County Transportation Authority Staff and consultants on public outreach for Measure C projects and programs.
- Maintained the Fresno COG Facebook page
- Facilitated a request to our member agencies for Resolutions of Support for the placement of a Heavy Maintenance Facility in Fresno County.
- Worked with member agency staff to have their city councils approve an amendment to Fresno COG's Joint Powers Agreement allowing us to change our name to Fresno Council of Governments and to participate in the new CalVans agency. Attended several local agency Board meetings to present the request.
- Worked to develop a new Fresno COG logo and to develop the new Fresno COG website.
- Worked to design new business cards and stationery for each Fresno COG staff member and to design new signage for the office that incorporates Fresno COG's new logo. [VEENENDAAL]

WE 312 - COGView Internet Home Page

Objective: To create a source that provides easy access to government and other information for Fresno County residents, member agencies, and perspective business interests using the latest technology of the World Wide Web. Additional objectives include enhancing potential economic development and increasing public knowledge and involvement of COG activities as well as reduce costs.

Accomplishments:

- The Fresno COG website maintains minutes and agendas for the Fresno COG Technical Advisory Committee, the Policy Advisory Committee and Policy Board. Committee members have the choice of continuing to receive agenda by mail or they can sign up to receive links to the agendas online by email.
- Air quality, transportation modeling data and other information is updated regularly on the website.

- Updated and added reports and publications put out by the Fresno COG.
- Calendar, Announcement and Meeting sections are continuously updated and kept current on the Fresno COG website. Meeting agenda/handout links are included on the online calendar.
- Continued to provide ongoing support and maintenance of the COGView website.
- Continued to oversee the development of a new Fresno COG website to ensure that deliverables were going to be met within their prescribed time frame.

[VEENENDAAL/SOBRADO]

WE 313 – Environmental Justice Activities

Objectives: Devise ways to ensure that Fresno County’s disadvantaged and minority populations are being included in the transportation process. The COG’s Environmental Justice Task Force, whose members include representatives from community based organizations that represent low-income, minority, elderly, disabled, Native American, and farmworker communities as well as representatives from local government agencies, Caltrans, and FHWA, met on a monthly basis from March of 2004 through spring of 2005.

In response to Federal and State emphasis on Title VI and Environmental Justice an effort has been added to this work element that will involve establishing an Environmental Justice Task Force to develop a process with which to assess and ensure compliance of Fresno COG’s transportation planning efforts with environmental justice requirements and Title VI. The Task Force will play a key role in evaluating COG’s current Environmental Justice and Public Participation efforts and provide guidance on how to achieve the desired results. The Task Force will also help define the target population within Fresno County, identify the needs of the target population and develop appropriate performance measures for gauging the regional benefit and burdens of transportation system investments on the target population.

An Environmental Justice Report will be prepared, which will include the Environmental Justice Task Force efforts and recommendations, as well as the analysis used to evaluate the Regional Transportation Plan to ensure that the programs, policies, and activities outlined in the plan serve all segments of the region without generating disproportionately high adverse impacts upon target populations.

Caltrans has developed an Environmental Justice Desk Guide that will serve as a resource for COG staff to better understand Environmental Justice issues and provide guidelines for the implementation of Environmental Justice in the planning process. Fresno COG staff has reviewed the Caltrans Desk Guide and plans to use the recommendations provided by incorporating them, as applicable, in our Environmental Justice efforts.

The Environmental Justice Task Force has reviewed the Fresno County Environmental Justice and has provided valuable guidance to strengthen key points made in the Plan. Fresno COG staff has also had the Fresno County Environmental Justice Plan translated into Spanish for Spanish-speaking stakeholders. A draft copy of the Fresno County Environmental Justice Plan has been completed and will be release for 45-day review and comment during the January/February 2009 Fresno COG public meetings cycle.

Accomplishments:

- Outreached and networked to Indian tribes from Fresno County in order to facilitate dialog to better incorporate them into the transportation process.
- Continued to participate in the ongoing Environmental Justice project focusing on Indian tribes in the San Joaquin Valley managed out of the Kern County Council of Governments.
- Continue working on developing relationship with local tribes to include them in the transportation planning process.
- Develop relationships with stakeholders and agencies that address the needs of disadvantaged populations in Fresno County in order to better incorporate them into the transportation planning process. [SOBRADO]

WE 320 - Technical Assistance to Members

Objective: To provide member governments with specialized technical assistance services. It is intended that the major beneficiaries of this service be the smaller cities with limited technical staff resources.

Accomplishments:

- *Rural Communities Collaborative of Fresno County (RCCFC):* Served on RCCFC Steering and General Committees. The RCCFC is a volunteer organization geared toward helping rural communities to become self-sufficient through increased social and economic development. The Collaborative acts as a catalyst in identifying available federal, state, and local resources available to serve local community needs and provides access to and dissemination of those resources. Fresno COG staff also continues to participate in I-5 Business Development Committee activities, which focus on identifying economic development opportunities on the westside of Fresno County.
- *I-5 Business Development Corridor:* COG staff continues to participate in this work activity which focuses attention on planning, growth and economic issues facing the communities in western Fresno County.
- Currently assisting rural communities with establishing videoconferencing platforms in order to help cut the cost, time and air quality detriment associated with frequent travel to required meeting.
- COG staff is providing additional support to help fund the project through various competitive as well as available, government formula grants.

[BITNER]

WE 330 – Outside Technical Assistance

Objective: To provide traffic modeling information to outside agencies on a cost reimbursement basis. Also, to provide program support functions for microcomputer applications (accounting, utility billing, etc.) to interested parties on a cost reimbursement basis.

Accomplishments:

- Conducted modeling to support several traffic impact studies for local consultants.

[BITNER]

WE 340 – Traffic Demand Management Program

Objective: Transportation Demand Management (TDM) includes a wide variety of transportation control measures having a goal of reducing overall motor vehicle usage. In prior years, the predominate effort of this activity has been promotion of ridesharing. Declining state and federal revenue to support this effort in recent years has resulted in a less ambitious Program beginning in 1996/97. Much of the work accomplished for Transportation Demand Management is discussed in the reporting for WE 212 and WE 215.

Accomplishments:

- Currently have over 1,400 registered users in the *Carpool/Vanpool Online Matchlist* program at www.Valleyrides.com. Maintained this current and active database of commuters, referring callers to the online system or inputting information for clients.
- Staff continually works with the Valleyrides.com website developer to update and improve the information available online. Also maintain the Measure C Carpool program through the Valleyrides.com website.

- Worked with other agencies, employers and vanpool agencies to facilitate matches and refer clients. These agencies include: CSU Fresno, South Valley Rideshare, San Joaquin Commute Connection, Fresno Area Express, Tulare Council of Governments, KART, VPSI and Enterprise Rideshare.
 - Filled requests for transit referrals and information; park and ride lot information; vanpool subsidies and referrals; carpool incentives; transportation guides; bikeway maps; and additional bikeway information.
 - Prepared and maintained program records, invoices, budget and Quarterly Report.
 - Attended Fresno COG Committee meetings as appropriate.
 - Attended meetings of the committee working to form a new vanpool agency called CalVans. Fresno COG will be signing a Joint Powers Agreement to participate in CalVans on behalf of the Fresno County region.
- [MARTINEZ/VEENENDAAL]

WE 350 - Fresno Regional Data Center

Objectives: To perform the duties as an Affiliate State Census Data Center and provide assistance to member agencies and the general public in obtaining, analyzing and utilizing census and other demographic data in support of the area-wide planning process. Also to provide continuing support to the internal data needs for traffic simulation modeling requirements including the updating and development of alternative socio-economic scenarios and providing data support for COG prepared reports and plans.

Accomplishments:

- Assisted individuals from governmental agencies, businesses, and the public in their information needs.
- Monitored and prepared Census 2010, American Community Survey 2005-2009, State of California Department of Finance, State of California Employment Development Department and other data to member agencies and the public.
- Developed socio-economic data for alternative land use scenarios for consultants' traffic impact studies and special studies.
- Provided demographic information for COG-prepared documents and presentations including the data needs of the SB 375 target-setting process.
- Monitored the release of 2010 census boundaries and prepared for the 2010 Census Traffic Analysis Zone (TAZ) delineation process.
- Worked on preparation of data book for use by member agency staff and the public.
- Worked on preparation of information for the COG website
- Prepared Affiliate State Census Data Center activity report as required, and State of California Department of Finance population surveys.

[CHUNG]

WE 360 – One Voice Advocacy

Objective: “One Voice” unites Fresno County communities and regional interests in a voluntary and collaborative effort to seek federal and state funds and support annually for projects and legislative priorities of regional significance. All projects and legislative priorities chosen shall contribute to an improved quality of life throughout the Fresno County region.

At the Valleywide level, the eight San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agencies have united through the San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council to build consensus on projects and legislative priorities in order to advocate at the state and federal level through their own lobbying effort, termed “Valley Voice”. This effort takes the Valley MPO’s and their respective elected officials to Sacramento and Washington D.C. on an annual basis beginning in 2008. More details are highlighted in WE 820.

The “One Voice” and “Valley Voice” efforts heighten Fresno COG and the Valley’s visibility and solidify relationships with both elected and staff representatives in Washington D.C. as well as in Sacramento.

One Voice and Valley Voice Accomplishments:

- Seven Washington DC “One Voice” visits; mailed projects for the 8th year due to Feb. 2010 blizzard.
- Five Sacramento “One Voice” visits
- Three Sacramento “Valley Voice” trips
- Two Washington DC “Valley Voice” trips.
- During 1st Quarter 2010-11, planning was initiated for 9th “One Voice” trip to Washington DC. Since then, priority projects were submitted, reviewed and selected. A recommendation to approve the project list will be submitted to the Policy Board in January. A draft list of the regional issues was completed and the final list will be approved in January. Other planning initiatives such as logistical details are also continuing.
- Coordinating joint planning efforts with the Valley Legislative Affairs group for the “Valley Voice” Sacramento trip.
- Developed legislative materials for the meeting packets.

[STECK/BOREN/GARZA]

REGIONAL COORDINATION OF TRANSPORTATION, LAND USE AND HOUSING

WE 410 – San Joaquin Valley Regional Blueprint Planning Process

Objective: The San Joaquin Valley Regional Blueprint Planning Process is a multi-year planning effort envisioned to support long range regional planning through comprehensive development of regional consensus. The goal of the San Joaquin Valley Blueprint Planning Process is to develop a preferred future growth vision for the region through the use of scenario planning.

Accomplishments:

During the first four years, Fresno COG worked with the other 7 SJV MPOs to coordinate our county efforts into a Valleywide Vision. We have conducted the community outreach and modeling activities that have allowed us to:

- Solicit input on community values.
- Define a Vision Statement for Fresno County.
- Develop Goals, Objectives and Measurable Outcomes that are consistent with the Values and Vision.
- Developed four “what if” growth scenarios to compare to the status quo.
- Select a “preferred growth concept” to submit to the Valleywide modeling effort.
- Developed four Valleywide scenarios with assistance from all Valley MPOs and UC Davis.
- Made recommendation to SJV Regional Policy Council on a preferred growth scenario.
- Communicated Policy Council’s adoption of the Preferred Blueprint Scenario and Smart Growth Principles
- Completed the many sub-tasks associated with these accomplishments which have been included in former year’s quarterly reports.

The following is an overview of Blueprint activities during the first two quarters of FY 2010-11:

- Continue Valleywide management of SJV Blueprint planning process
- Continued ongoing monthly meetings and conference calls with project managers from all SJV MPOs
- Held two quarterly conference call with Blueprint Coordinating Committee (includes state agencies)
- Continued to sponsor Valleywide Planners Work Group to convene planners from throughout the Valley three times per year
- Worked with MCAG to fully transfer fiscal oversight of Blueprint from MCAG to Fresno COG

- Held second annual SJV Blueprint Awards program to recognize projects that reflect the Blueprint Principles. Added a Darrel Hildebrand Blueprint Leadership Award category to the program.
- Participated in conference calls and meetings on Prop 84 funding and SB 375 requisites
- Participated in RTAC greenhouse gas target setting criteria meetings
- Managed consultant contract to complete Blueprint Roadmap which will lead to Valleywide Blueprint implementation
- Coordinated working group to develop a scope of work for a “Greenprint” component of the SJV Blueprint.
- Managed the consultant in preparing a summary report of the first three years of San Joaquin Valley Blueprint planning and develop a toolkit that will assist local planners integrate Blueprint planning into their local general plans. The first major deliverable was the summary report, which will also include a transitional “next steps” piece. The final product which will include the summary document, an implementation strategy and a web based planners toolkit, is scheduled to for the Policy Council in March 2011.
- Several studies are underway or forthcoming. A consultant has completed a report on the financial-institutional barriers to higher density development and to recommend strategies to overcome these barriers.
- In addition, an RFP is expected to be released in 2010-11 to study the two additional aspects of higher density development. The first part will examine the cost/benefit to the public of sprawl vs. more compact (higher density) development. As part of the deliverables for the first part, the consultant will develop a tool that local planners can use to assess the cost of different types of developments. The second part of the study will examine the marketability of different types of development. The outcome should help inform the development community about what is marketable in the current climate of higher density development planning.

[STECK/TWEBSTER]

WE 411 – Farmland Conservation Model Program

Objective: Develop a plan, strategy, and program to conserve prime agricultural lands in the Central Valley. The Program will build upon initial activities to identify farmlands of strategic importance, and to develop a program to protect farmlands that is consistent with long term planning goals that maintain agriculture as a key economic and cultural force in the region. The program is first intended for the benefit of Fresno County and subsequently, the other counties making up the San Joaquin Valley.

Farmland Conservation Model Program Steering Committee members first met in June of 2007. Comprised of key stakeholders in Fresno County, steering committee members include Fresno County, the City of Fresno, the City of Clovis, the Fresno County Farm Bureau, and others. The purpose of the Farmland Conservation Model Program Steering Committee is to oversee the daily activities for implementing the Farmland Conservation Model Program. Also involved in the development of the plan is an advisory board comprised of stakeholders from governmental, the agricultural industry, the environmental and development community, amongst others that are involved in agriculture matters on regular basis that advised the Steering Committee on issues of importance to agriculture in Fresno County.

The deliverables for the Farmland Conservation Model Program include:

- Devise an approach to identifying “strategic” farmland
- Public Input
- Document factors affecting the conversion of farmlands
- Create a toolbox for decision makers to implement farmland conservation in Fresno County
- Provide a series of recommendations based upon the finding of this process
- Prepare a final report.

Accomplishments: While the Draft Farmland Conservation Model Program Report for Fresno County was released for public review on January 16, 2009, the public comment period was prolonged indefinitely in order to engage in discussions with stakeholders. Key stakeholders within the agricultural community in Fresno County expressed their dissatisfaction with the recommendations outlined in the draft report. A couple of meetings were held with groups representing the agricultural community and the decision was made to utilize the services of Dr. Gary Manross, a consultant to Fresno COG. Dr. Manross has been meeting with key stakeholders individually in to find a point of agreement between stakeholders. The information gathered in this process will in part serve as the basis for the recommendations outlined in the final Farmland Conservation Model Program for Fresno County to be released in the near future

Dr. Manross has completed the interview process with leading agricultural stakeholders. Many agricultural stakeholders were interviewed, some of them more than once. Out of the interview process, a model for Farmland Conservation emerged that seems viable to pursue. The next phase of the process consists of defining and confirming the model with agricultural stakeholders. Dr. Manross is currently in the process of preparing a position paper based upon his extensive discussions with agricultural stakeholders about farmland conservation in Fresno County. It is expected that his position paper will be made available to Fresno COG staff to review and comment in the near future.

[SOBRADO]

WE 412 – Mid Valley Multi-Modal Partnership

Objective: A re-scope has been submitted to Caltrans for this project. The key idea is provide for a balanced long-term land use plan that will respect and support the integrity of the Highway 99 as a mainline artery in the Central Valley. The planning process will include detailed analysis of the effects of trends on congestion in the Highway 99 corridor as well as options for reducing future congestion by shifting the focus of new development away from the Westside, promoting alternative modes of travel and mixed use development, and providing incentives for infill and redevelopment.

Caltrans' planning objectives will be integrated into the General Plan Update, with additional analysis of how regional transportation service objectives can best be met while also attaining City goals for economic development, fiscal balance, housing affordability, sustainability and healthy communities.

Accomplishments: The Council of Fresno County Governments, the City of Fresno and the County of Fresno, have drafted a modest scope change to the Phase II FMTK, Multi-Modal System Partnership Grant from Caltrans. The changes are a result of the direct outcomes of the Phase I study itself as well as ongoing public outreach efforts. While in its core function to evaluate interregional corridors it remains unchanged, further development of supportive data and strategies are required. COG staff to meet with Caltrans in October to discuss the direction and future of this study.

There will be no change to the grant award amount and all work will still be accomplished within the given grant award budget. [TWEBSTER]

WE 413 – Fresno County SB 375 Implementation

Objective: To comply with Senate Bill 375 requirement of reducing greenhouse emission for cars and light trucks through integrated land use and transportation planning. The landmark legislation tries to align land use, transportation, housing and greenhouse gas emission reduction through MPOs' Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) process. The 18 MPOs in the State are required to develop a Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) in their RTP to demonstrate the region's ability to the greenhouse gas emission targets established by the Air Resources Board (ARB). If SCS fails to meet the targets, then an Alternative Planning Strategy (APS) shall be

developed to show the region's strategies to meet the targets. The Statute specified that MPOs can recommend targets for their region for the ARB to consider, and the ARB was required to release the final targets for the MPOs by September 2010.

Accomplishments:

- Continued to participate in the state-wide SB 375 Planning Working Group committee meetings
- Actively involved in the discussion of valley-wide target vs. single county target among Valley MPOs
- Modeled and estimated greenhouse gas emission reduction for the Aggressive TOD and Constrained TOD scenarios from the PTIS study
- Started searching for sketch planning software for Sustainable Community Strategy development
- Model improvement efforts have been launched
[CAI]

WE 415 - Valley I Places

Objective:

This project will develop an I-PLACE3S land use application that represents the current conditions for the 8 Metropolitan Planning Organizations in the Central Valley, consisting on the counties of San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced, Madera, Fresno, Tulare, Kings, and Kern.

Accomplishments:

- Successfully completed contract negotiations with EcoInteractive and U.C. Davis for the I-Places contract
- Project should start in the first quarter of 2011
[BITNER]

VALLEYWIDE COORDINATED ACTIVITIES

811 San Joaquin Valley Goods Movement

Objective

To develop a San Joaquin Valley Interregional Goods Movement Plan, including developing decision- making procedures to prioritize projects, and identify institutional arrangements and funding to implement the Plan.

Accomplishments:

- Continued participation in subregional goods movement task force (central and north valley), rail shippers and other staff coordination of systems performance and studies.
- Pre planning activities have been conducted for the eight county San Joaquin Valley Interregional Goods Movement Plan. This Caltrans Planning Grant activity will continue to assess and prioritize goods movement systems, and identify institutional funding arrangements.
- Staff from all eight SJV Regional Transportation Planning Agencies and Caltrans Districts 6 and 10 have been engaged in the pre-planning activities including development of an Request for Proposal for a consultant(s) to conduct the Plan, and coordination with valleywide transportation modeling efforts.

- Overall Work Program and budget amendments have been conducted at the RTPA level to provide the local match to the Plan. [MSIGALA]

WE 813 - San Joaquin Valley Model Improvements for SB 375

Objective: To develop and manage a short range and long range San Joaquin Valley model improvement plan that will improve each San Joaquin Valley MPO travel model's sensitivity to smart growth strategies in response to the requirements of SB 375.

Accomplishments:

- Fresno COG staff is the lead for the Valley wide Model Improvements Plan.
- Successfully worked with the other seven MPOs in the San Joaquin Valley securing \$2.5 million of Proposition 84 funding for valley-wide model improvements, which are necessary in order to measure the greenhouse gas reduction benefits resulting from sustainable land use and transportation planning under SB 375.
- Awarded contract to develop scope of work for short term and long term modeling improvements for the San Joaquin Valley.
- Held a kick-off meeting for the valley scoping project.
- Valley wide scoping plan successfully completed
- Issued an RFP for \$2.5 million dollars for the valley MPO model improvements to meet the requirements of SB 375.
- Awarded contract to Fehr & Peers for \$2.5 million for model improvements to the San Joaquin Valley MPO traffic models in order to meet the requirements of SB375. Work to be completed by the end of February 2012.

[BITNER]

WE 820 – Valley Coordination Activities

Objective: To promote coordination, cooperation and communication among the eight San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agencies, including the Council of Fresno County Governments (Fresno COG), and other federal, state, and local governments, related to various regional planning processes.

Accomplishments:

- Hired consultant to coordinate the San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council and Executive Directors' Committee meetings, including tracking of minutes and other relevant records.
- Participate on the Valley Legislative Affairs Committee (VLAC), consisting of legislative staff from each of the eight Valley RTPAs. Meetings are held on a monthly basis or more often as needed, to discuss legislative issues of importance to the Valley and to build consensus on legislation and policy objectives at the state and federal level.
- Work to develop a unified position and outreach related to the reauthorization of SAFETEA-LU.
- Continue to work with Caltrans and other RPAs on issues related to plans, projects, and other needs associated with SR 99.

- Continue to participate in meetings for the Caltrans SR 99 Business Plan Advisory Committee. The committee includes Caltrans employees and staff from the eight Valley MPO's working together to update the 2005 Caltrans SR 99 Business Plan.
- Develop joint positions and participate in meetings related to High Speed Rail and Intercity Rail.
- Coordinate efforts related to the implementation of a 511 information system in the San Joaquin Valley.
- Continue to coordinate development of a videoconference system to reduce trips and vehicle miles traveled related to valley-wide meetings.
- Continue to investigate alternative methods of coordination of valley-wide activities.
- Coordination of Valleywide efforts related to SJV Regional Blueprint (WE 410)
- Coordination and consultation on efforts to address goods movement plans and projects.
- Participates in regular monthly and quarterly meetings with the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley and the Federal Interagency Task Force including the Partnership's legislative staffer meeting and the air quality working group to help implement the Partnership's established goals. The Valley COGs recently proposed the integration of the two work groups under their purview (Transportation and LUHA) into a combined "Sustainable Communities Planning Work Group".
- Fresno COG, along with staff from the other seven Regional Planning Agencies and Caltrans, continue to collaborate on the 99 Business Plan
- Continue project management for consultant contract for SJV Blueprint Roadmap.

[ALL PLANNING STAFF]

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES

WE 910 – COG Administration

Objective: To effectively administer the planning program and fiscal operations of the COG.

Accomplishments:

- Staff monitored funding levels, expenses and budgets. Policy Board adoption of the FY 2009/10 Overall Work Program occurred in May, 2009.
- Supervised planning staff activities and progress on work assignments.
- Coordinated preparation of agendas, related materials and committee schedules.
- Conducted ongoing management team meetings to coordinate staff assignments and outcomes.
- Conducted staff evaluations as needed.

[BESHEARS/BOREN]

WE 911 – Overall Work Program and Budget Development

Objective: To develop an Overall Work Program (OWP) and Budget consistent with federal and state funding priorities and local agency needs.

Accomplishments:

- FY 2009/10 Overall Work Program adopted May 2009.
- Amendment #1 adopted June 25, 2009
- Amendment #2 adopted September 24, 2009
- Amendment # 3 adopted November 19, 2009
- Development of the FY 2010/11 Overall Work Program began in January 2010.
- Amendment # 4 adopted January 28, 2010
- Amendment # 5 adopted May 27, 2010

- Amendment #6 adopted June 24, 2010
 - FY 2010/11 Overall Work Program adopted May 27, 2010
 - Amendment # 1 adopted September 30, 2010
 - Amendment # 2 adopted November 18, 2010
 - Development of the FY 2011/12 Overall Work Program began in December 2010.
- [BESHEARS/BOREN]

WE 912 - Local Transportation Funds Administration

Objective: To administer the Local Transportation Fund (LTF) and State Transit Assistance (STA) Fund in accordance with the California Transportation Development Act.

Accomplishments:

- Staff recorded sales tax deposits from the State Board of Equalization and STA allocations from the State Controllers Office.
- Member Agency Claims were processed.
- Allocation Instructions were prepared and sent to the Auditor Controllers Office.
- Changes in state regulations were monitored through the TDA Ad Hoc Committee chaired by the Division of Mass Transportation.

[FAWCETT/BESHEARS]

WE 920 – Fresno County Rural Transit Agency Administration

Objective: To provide under contract, administrative and fiscal management services for the Fresno County Rural Transit Agency (FCRTA).

Accomplishments:

- During the First Quarter, Staff processed claim reimbursement for provided transit service.
- Staff continued to respond to Caltrans staff on pending Grant requests.
- During the Second Quarter, staff completed the closing out the 2009-2010 Fiscal Year books for auditing purposes. Independent Auditors performed their review of the financial records during the Second Quarter. The draft Audit Report will be available in the first month of the Third Quarter, The document will be processed through the advisory and policy committees for the Board of Director review and acceptance following an expressed opportunity for public comment.
- Staff also performed a variety of administrative functions concerning: general administration; accounting; risk management; procurement; and statistical analysis.
- The General Manager and accounting staff completed their analysis for the timely submittal of the State Controller's Transit Operators Report. Staff also completed the FCRTA section of the Annual Productivity Evaluation Report., for review by the Social Service Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) and the technical and policy committees prior to Policy Board acceptance following an expressed opportunity for public comment. The results will be reviewed during the Third Quarter [JWEBSTER]

WE 930 – Fresno County Transportation Authority Administration

Objective: To provide personnel support services to the Fresno County Transportation Authority.

Accomplishments:

- Staff provided payroll and benefit administration for the Fresno County Transportation Authority.
- [BESHEARS]

WE 940 - Freeway Service Patrol

Objective: To continue the Freeway Service Patrol, in coordination with Caltrans and the California Highway Patrol, in an effort to remove minor incidents rapidly, thereby reducing congestion, secondary accidents and vehicle emissions.

Accomplishments:

- Administered the FSP tow contracts. This primarily included reviewing and paying invoices for towing services and radio use, both on a monthly basis, and paying for radio repairs and miscellaneous supplies (i.e. brochures) on an as-needed basis.
- Ongoing coordination and communication with the Freeway Service Patrol Statewide Oversight Committee and with Caltrans Traffic Operations, including annual program benefit/cost evaluations.
- Attended and participated in Annual Statewide Motorist Aid Committee meeting in Monterey, California on October 18th and 19th. Agenda items included tracking systems for FSP, emerging technologies for FSP, and FSP tow procurement processes, including protests. Presented overview and update information on Fresno's FSP program

[THOMPSON]

WE 950 – Abandoned Vehicle Abatement Program

Objective: To administer the activities and duties of the Fresno County Abandoned Vehicle Abatement (AVA) Service Authority.

Accomplishments:

- Ongoing communication with AVA Service Authority members, particularly regarding eligible expenses for reimbursement and reporting requirements.
- Calculated payment amounts to eligible local jurisdictions for AVA expenses.
- Presented AVA FY 2009-10 Fourth Quarter Summary Status Report and FY 2009-10 Annual Report (required by State Controller's Office) to Policy Advisory Committee and Policy Board during the November cycle of meetings.
- Conducted a meeting of the AVA Working Group (those who actually implement the AVA program at the local level) on December 15. Agenda items focused on a review of the previous fiscal year's level of activity and reporting and funding issues.

[THOMPSON]

COUNCIL OF FRESNO COUNTY GOVERNMENTS
SCHEDULE OF FUNDS ALLOCATED & EXPENDED
2nd Quarter - through December 31, 2010

2010/11 OWP Allocated Funds:	Percent	Budget Authorized	Year to		Local Resources	FHWA PL	FTA MPO 5303	FTA 5316/5317	Partner Planning Blueprint	Cal	FTA 5307	PPM01 6086 (028) 6086 (027)	FSP 6086 (29)
			Date Expense	Expense									
110 Regional Streets & Roads	46%	267,343	122,025		13,996	106,029							
111 Regional Transp. Modeling	31%	455,469	143,315		16,437	126,878							
112 Regional Traffic Monitoring	28%	260,914	73,830		8,468	65,362							
113 Reg. Transp. Studies	15%	25,000	3,690		423	3,267							
115 Reg. Transp. Mitigation Fee	60%	51,138	30,759		30,759								
116 National Park Studies	61%	50,000	30,724		3,524		27,200						
117 Golden State Corridor	22%	546,968	119,724		119,724								
120 Public Trans. - Urban	23%	645,131	145,369		25,647	13,361	20,129				86,032		
121 JARAC	4%	1,859,353	81,323		15,264		10,389						
122 New Freedom	1%	674,863	7,943		1,162		6,456	325					
123 PTIS	16%	2,434,980	379,908		358,949						20,959		
130 Public Trans. - Rural	26%	28,585	7,500		860		6,640						
150 Other Modal Elements	35%	46,775	16,434		16,434								
151 Bicycle & Pedestrian	35%	31,285	10,817		10,817								
152 High Speed Rail Planning	36%	49,890	18,067		2,072	6,833	9,162						
153 Airport Land Use	77%	35,720	27,680		3,175		24,505						
154 SJV Railroad Corridor	46%	30,000	13,859		1,590	12,269							
170 Regional Transp. Plan	34%	191,139	64,270		24,317	29,184	10,769						
172 Congestion Management Plan	39%	13,140	5,138		589	4,549							
180 Air Quality	42%	307,102	130,057		14,918	115,139							
210 Measure "C"	30%	295,447	88,129		88,129								
211 Measure "C" Oversight Comm.	42%	11,608	4,845		4,845								
212 Measure "C" Car/Van Pool	13%	398,853	52,309		52,309								
213 Measure "C" Highspeed Rail	0%	0	0		0								
214 Measure "C" ADA/Seniors	82%	203,221	167,493		167,493								
215 Measure "C" Farm Van Pool	34%	123,815	42,539		42,539								
220 Transportation Prog. Dev.	28%	290,744	81,561		0						81,561		
310 Intergov. Coordination	24%	160,168	38,939		5,251	25,829	7,859						
311 Public Info. and Partic.	34%	125,355	42,098		4,829	37,269							
312 COG View Internet	9%	48,479	4,423		4,423								
313 Environmental Justice	43%	53,285	22,689		8,315	14,374							
320 Technical Assist. Members	38%	47,356	17,897		17,897								
330 Outside Technical Serv.	28%	35,218	9,759		9,759								
340 Rideshare Program	3%	16,750	500		500								
350 Regional Data Center	58%	97,516	56,988		6,537	50,451							
360 One Voice Advocacy	19%	182,986	34,495		34,495								
410 California Blue Print	24%	1,838,248	432,801		61,846								
411 Farmland Trust	6%	31,924	1,896		1,896						346,240		24,715
412 Metro Rural Loop	0%	345,000	0		0								
413 SB 375 Implementation	49%	37,503	18,291			16,193							
415 SJV Iplaces Pilot Program	0%	350,000	0		2,098								
811 SJV Valley Goods	0%	635,000											
813 Strategic Growth Modeling	0%	2,514,188	12,140		1,561	10,579							
820 Valley RIPA Coordination	26%	140,280	37,048		25,835	11,213							
910 COFG Admin.	39%	158,416	61,654		61,654								
911 OWP & Budget	27%	43,902	11,806		1,354	1,642	8,810						
912 Transportation Funds Adm.	46%	148,001	68,404		68,404								
920 PCRTA Admin.	45%	287,637	129,377		129,377								
930 Trans. Auth. Admin.	66%	2,600	1,721		1,721								
940 Freeway Service Patrol	34%	302,600	101,878		18,399								83,479
950 Abandon Vehicle Abatement	53%	13,502	7,125		7,125								
Total Allocated Funds	18%	16,944,457	2,981,237		1,497,916	652,421	131,919	55,995	0	346,240	106,991	106,276	83,479

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