

ANNOTATED AGENDA

TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Date: Friday, May 13, 2011
Time: 8:30 a.m.

POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Date: Friday, May 13, 2011
Time: 10:00 a.m.

Place:

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

Video Conferencing Available – please contact Kai Han at 559-233-4148 Ext. 206

Dial in number for teleconferencing:

Toll Free Number: 877-455-8688

Participant Code: 278933

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Accommodations

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

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 April 8, 2011

B. Transportation Development Act (TDA) Final Estimates [FAWCETT]

Summary: Final estimates of the 2011/2012 Local Transportation Funding (LTF) are based on the January 2011 population provided by the State Department of Finance (DOF). The Fresno County Auditor Controller estimate of \$25,000,000 was based on the January 2010 population numbers. The Final Estimate of the State Transit Assistance (STA) is \$5,709,701, based on the preliminary estimates released in January, also updated to reflect the recently released January 2011 population.

The STA apportionment is currently in the Governor's proposed budget, however due to past history of STA funding levels being reduced or eliminated during the budget process, we will calculate the initial claims without the STA estimate. Then if STA survives the budget battles, we will notify the board and make adjustments to the claims to reflect the final apportionment.

Action: Staff recommends adopting the final Local Transportation Fund, and State Transit Assistance final estimates by approving Resolutions 2011-13 and 2011-14.

C. FY 2010-11 Third Quarter Progress Report [BESHEARS]

Summary: Included in your agenda packet is the FY 2010-11 Third Quarter Progress Report which is a summary of funds expended and work completed in each work element during the second quarter, FY 2010-11.

Action: Staff recommends acceptance of the FY 2010-11 Third Quarter Progress Report as presented.

D. Golden State Corridor: Amended Cooperative Agreement-Resolution 2011-11; Contract Amendment [DAWSON]

Summary: The Golden State Corridor: Economic Development Infrastructure Improvements-Planning, Engineering, and Environmental Study has been included as a Rural Tier 1 Regional Transportation Program since the Measure C Extension Expenditure Plan was originally drafted in 2006. The project consists of various corridor improvements intended to improve both transportation within the corridor and enhance the economic viability of the region.

1. Adoption of Resolution 2011-11 which approves the Cooperative Agreement Amendment with Fresno County Transportation Authority (FCTA) and reflects the programming change made in the recently approved 2010 Measure "C" Extension Expenditure Plan update, which moved \$64,750 from 2015/16 to 2010/11.

2. Approval of contract amendment, not to exceed \$64,750, with Quad Knopf for additional work to extend limits of the project, which reflect the original Expenditure Plan's project limits from American Ave. to the Tulare County line.

A staff report, Resolution 2011-11, and the revised scope are included in the packet.

Action:

Action #1: Staff recommends approval of Amendment #1 to the FCTA Cooperative Agreement for the Golden State Corridor Project by adoption of Resolution 2011-11.

Action #2: Staff recommends authorize Executive Director to amend contract with Quad Knopf for additional work to extend limits of the project (which reflect the original Expenditure Plan's project limits) from American Ave. to the Tulare County line, not to exceed \$64,750.

E. Fresno County Rural Transit Agency (FCRTA) Public Transportation, Modernization, Improvement, and Service Enhancement (PTMISEA) Applications FCRTA Resolution 2011-02 [WEBSTER]

Summary: The Fresno Council of Governments allocates Public Transportation, Modernization, Improvement, and Service Enhancement funds to eligible Transit Operators per PUC 8879.55(a)(2) and 8879.55(a)(3). The FCRTA is applying for eight (8) annual grants from Fiscal Year 2009-10 through 2016-17 totaling \$7,673,529 for rolling stock replacement vehicles in accordance with the Rural Short Range Plan and Measure C Expenditure Plan. The amounts are consistent within the Fresno COG's adopted Allocations. Staff will review the Applications for approval a recommendation prior to Policy Board action. FCRTA has previously applied for a portion of their ten (10) year estimated allocations. [BESHEARS]

Action: Staff recommends authorization of the FCRTA applications for Rolling Stock Replacement Vehicles for \$7,673,529 by approving FCRTA Resolution 2011-02.

F. Approve FCRTA's Application to the Governor's Office of Homeland Security, State Office for Domestic Preparedness - Fiscal Year 2009-10 and 2010-11 Proposition 1B California Transit Security Grant Program for California Transit Assistance Funds, Resolution 2011-03 [WEBSTER]

Summary: FCRTA Staff has prepared Applications for the afore referenced funding program. The 2009-10 amount is \$169,843 and the 2010-11 amount is \$173,699. The funds will be used for a two (2) phase procurement of a proven ITS compatible system that will permit electronic documentation by our drivers performance of required Daily Vehicle Inspections as monitored by the California Highway Patrol Motor Carrier Specialist in the course of our operations. The system is currently being installed on Clovis Transit vehicles.

The Application process requires Board authorization and the designation of the General Manager to be the signatory to subsequent contracting documents. Resolution 2011-03 has been prepared for that expressed purpose.

Action: The General Manager recommends concurrences with the submittal of the Grant Application's "Investment Justification" for ITS Electronic Documentation and Monitoring of FCRTA's fleet vehicles, consistent with our adopted Plans, Programs and Budgets, by adopting Resolution 2011-03.

G. Transit Planning Documents

1. Urban & Rural Consolidated Transportation Services Agency (CTSA) Operations Program & Budget, FY 2011-12 [JOSEPH — FRESNO EOC]

Summary: The Consolidated Transportation Service Agency's (CTSA) Operations Program and Budget, FY 2011-12 for the Fresno Urban and Rural CTSA is available on the Fresno COG website at: <http://fresnocog.org/committeedetails.php?cid=3>. The document is designed to provide an overview of how and in what manner the Consolidated Transportation Service Agencies will be providing service over the next fiscal year. The Social Service Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) began their review of the document on April 26, 2011.

Action: Staff recommends concurrence with the initiation of the 45-day review by the SSTAC for adoption on June 30, 2011 by the COG Policy Board.

2. FCRTA Item: FY2011-12 Fresno County Rural Transit Agency Budget [WEBSTER]

Summary: The draft FY 2011-12 FCRTA Budget for the coming fiscal year will be available on the Fresno COG website at: <http://fresnocog.org/committeedetails.php?cid=3> prior to the meeting. Included within the document is a Memorandum highlighting the Budget's contents. The Social Service Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) began their review of the document on April 26, 2011.

Action: The FCRTA General Manager recommends concurrence with the initiation of the 45 day review by the SSTAC for adoption on June 30, 2011 by the COG Policy Board.

Clovis Consolidated Transportation Services Agency (CTSA) FY 2011-12 Operations Program & Budget [HALTERMAN — CITY OF CLOVIS]

Summary: The Clovis Consolidated Transportation Service Agency's (CTSA) Operations Program and Budget FY 2011-12 for the Clovis Urban Area is designed to provide an overview of how and in what manner the Clovis Consolidated Transportation Service Agency will provide service over the next fiscal year. The Social Service Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) began their review of the document on April 26, 2011. Clovis Consolidated Transportation Service Agency's (CTSA) Operations Program and Budget FY 2011-12 for the Clovis Urban Area document is available on the Fresno COG website at: <http://fresnocog.org/committeedetails.php?cid=3>

Action: Staff recommends concurrence with the initiation of the 45-day review by the SSTAC for adoption on June 30, 2011 by the COG Policy Board.

3. Short Range Transit Plan for the Fresno Urban Area 2012-16 [LONG]

The Short-Range Transit Plan (SRTP) for the Fresno-Clovis Urbanized Area is the annual update to the operating plan and capital programs for Fresno Area Express FAX and Clovis Transit. The purpose of this Plan is to promote a comprehensive, coordinated and continuous planning process for transit service in the Fresno-Clovis Metropolitan Area (FCMA). This Plan represents a short-range evaluation of transit needs and proposes specific recommendations for implementing the long-range objectives of Fresno County's Regional Transportation Plan. The Plan will guide the provision of transit services in the FCMA over the next five years. The Draft Short-Range Transit Plan must undergo a 45 day review process before the plan can be adopted by the Fresno Council of Governments COG Policy Board. Upon completion of the 45 day review period, COG staff will prepare a final draft of the Plan. The Plan is scheduled for adoption by the COG Board on June 30, 2011. The Social Service Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) began their review of the document on April 26, 2011.

The SRTP is available on the Fresno COG website at: <http://fresnocog.org/committeedetails.php?cid=3>.

Action: Staff recommends concurrence with the initiation of the 45-day review by the SSTAC for adoption on June 30, 2011 by the COG Policy Board.

4. Short Range Transit Plan for the Rural Fresno County Area — 2012-16 [WEBSTER]

Summary: The Short Range Transit Plan for the Rural Fresno County Area, 2012-16 addresses public transportation for the cities of Coalinga, Firebaugh, Fowler, Huron, Kerman, Kingsburg, Mendota, Orange Cove, Parlier, Reedley, Sanger, San Joaquin, Selma and the County of Fresno. The Plan provides a five-year, action-oriented program designed to implement the Public Transportation Element of the Regional Transportation Plan. The Plan will also provide a basis for local governments to demonstrate that public transportation needs within their jurisdiction have been, and may continue to be, reasonably met. The Social Service Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) began their review of the document on April 26, 2011. A copy of the draft Short Range Transit Plan for the Rural Fresno County Area, 2012-16 will be available on the Fresno COG website at: <http://fresnocog.org/committeedetails.php?cid=3> prior to the meeting.

Action: The FCRTA General Manager recommends concurrence with the initiation of the 45-day review for adoption on June 30, 2011 by the COG Policy Board.

H. Obligational Authority [BESHEARS/GARZA]

Summary: On April 4, 2011 Fresno COG submitted the 2010/11 Obligation Plan to Caltrans Local Assistance. This plan documents Fresno COG's estimated schedule for project and fund delivery for federal fiscal year (FFY) 2010/11 (October 1, 2010 through September 30, 2011). The overall total Obligational Authority (OA) for CMAQ and RSTP in FFY 10/11 would have been \$20,540,248; however, last year's OA was under delivered by \$276,480, and that amount was added to this year's OA, leaving **\$20,816,729** as the projected FFY 2010/11 Obligational Authority Target.

As of January 31, 2011, our region has only delivered \$483,477 or 2.3% of the OA Target. Our region needs to deliver the remaining \$20,333,251 of the OA to comply with the "Use It or Lose It" provisions of AB 1012 enacted in October 1999. The obligation plan submitted by the local agencies outlines the delivery of \$13,402,180 in combined CMAQ and RSTP. If there are any projects that can be advanced through the use of EPSP, please take advantage of the EPSP process to ensure that the OA target is met. If the entire amount of OA is not delivered, an additional \$7,414,549 of OA will be added to next year's target and this would mean that we are falling behind on project delivery. If we continue to under deliver, we increase the odds of losing

future apportionments under the provisions of AB 1012, we either “Use It or Lose It”. The goal is to, at a minimum; meet the projected OA amount of \$20,816,726 or in a best case scenario, over deliver to capture any available funds during the statewide open obligation period.

Due to financial constraint requirements of the FTIP, it is imperative that projects programmed with FY 10/11 get obligated within the programmed year to avoid reprogramming of those funds. If funds need to be reprogrammed and financial capacity is not available, it is possible that projects can become substantially delayed if moved to the outer years of the FTIP.

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

I. Grant Writing Workshop [MONGE]

Summary: Fresno COG is hosting a two-day grant writing workshop on June 27-28, 2011. The workshop will be presented by Grant Writing USA and is open to grant seekers across all disciplines. Tuition is \$425 and includes a course workbook and accompanying resource CD. Participants will learn how to find grants and write winning grant proposals. More information and online registration is available at <http://grantstraining.com/fresno>. If you have any questions please contact Lindsey Monge at 559-233-4148 ext. 205 or by email at lmonge@fresnocog.org.

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

J. Call for Cycle 3 Federal Safe Routes to Schools Projects [THOMPSON]

Summary: A call has been issued for Cycle 3 Federal Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Projects, with an application submittal deadline of July 15, 2011. The SRTS program is a reimbursement funding program that improves safety for children in grades K-8 who walk or bicycle to school. It funds capital, or infrastructure projects that fall under the broad categories of pedestrian facilities, traffic calming measures, installation of traffic control devices, and construction of bicycle facilities. Up to 10% of the construction cost can fund an education/encouragement/enforcement element in an infrastructure project. The program can also fund stand alone non-infrastructure projects such as conducting SRTS workshops, walkability audits, conducting student assemblies for pedestrian and bicycle safety, and other projects that increase the numbers of children walking and bicycling to school.

For this call, an estimated \$42 million in federal funds is available. Caltrans Districts are apportioned funds based upon student enrollment. District review committees will score and rate applications. Caltrans Headquarters will validate District selections and compile a statewide list of selected projects for Director approval. Any local or regional agency is eligible to apply for SRTS funds, as are federally-recognized Native American Tribes in which schools on tribal lands are benefited. There is no local match required and \$1 million is the maximum amount that can be requested for an infrastructure project. Additional information is available at: www.dot.ca.gov/hq/LocalPrograms/saferoutes/saferoutes.htm.

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

K. Urban Greening Grant Program [Thompson]

Summary: The Urban Greening for Sustainable Communities Grant Program provides funds to preserve, enhance, increase or establish community green areas such as urban forests, open spaces, wetlands and community spaces (e.g. community gardens). The goal is for these greening projects to incrementally create more viable and sustainable communities throughout the State. Round two (three rounds total) provides up to \$20 million for urban greening project grants and up to \$5 million, or 25 percent of the total, for urban greening planning grants. There are no match requirements.

Concept Proposals for urban greening project grants are due to the Strategic Growth Council by June 17, 2011. A Concept Proposal Form is reviewed to assess eligibility and readiness of the proposal and whether the applicant will be invited to submit a full application.

Urban greening planning grants will assist entities in developing a master urban greening plan that will ultimately result in the creation of healthy communities. An Urban Greening Plan must serve as the master document guiding and coordinating greening projects in the applicant's jurisdiction. For both project and planning grants, project locations must meet a threshold of approximately 10 dwelling units per acre. Applicants need to demonstrate that their project is located in or adjacent to an area with existing or planned-for density of at least 3,500 dwelling units within an area equivalent to 500 acres. Planning grant applications must be submitted to the California Natural Resources Agency by July 1, 2011.

Information on the Urban Greening Grant Program is available on the Strategic Growth Council website at: http://sgc.ca.gov/urban_greening_grants.html. Enclosed is a Solicitation Announcement and listing of Frequently Asked Questions. Please direct questions to Fresno COG staffperson Clark Thompson.

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

L. Videoconferencing Update [BITNER/HAN]

Summary: 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, in addition several Fresno County member agencies also installed video conferencing end points. (Fowler, Kerman, Mendota, Orange Cove, Parlier, San Joaquin and Selma). The project also included installation of a central hub at Fresno COG.

The current project is funded through an agreement with the Kings County Area Public Transit Agency (CalVans). This agreement provides CalVans with access to the videoconferencing equipment owned by Fresno COG. In exchange for this access CalVans is funding a significant upgrade to the Fresno COG video equipment.

The upgrades will increase the capacity of our system and greatly simplify the use and scheduling of the videoconferencing equipment. Videoconferences will be able to be scheduled through Microsoft Outlook and have the ability to automatically connect based on the information in the Outlook Calendar.

Fresno COG staff is currently working with the videoconferencing contractor to install the new equipment and learn to use it effectively. The end result will be a higher capacity system with much improved and streamlined usability.

COG staff anticipates having the upgraded system completely implemented by the end of June.

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

M. FY 2011 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) Amendment Update [GARZA]

Summary: **Formal Adoption of the 2011 FTIP:** The update to the 2011 FTIP included changes to project descriptions, open to traffic dates, grouped projects, funding and phase changes. An update to the RTP and a corresponding conformity analysis was required. The final document was adopted by the Fresno COG policy board on July 29, 2011 and received Caltrans approval on November 12, 2010 and FHWA approval on December 14, 2010.

Formal Amendment No. 1 (Type 3): Included cost project changes greater than 25% of the total project cost, new projects, deleted projects, phase and scope changes technical corrections, and updates to the grouped project listing. It also included updates to the SHOPP, HBR, and Section 130 back up lists per Caltrans. FTIP amendment No. 1 was consistent with the 2011 RTP and changes did not interfere with air quality conformity. The 14-day public review period was completed on February 22, 2011 with no comments received. The Fresno COG policy board approved the amendment on February 24, 2011, Caltrans on March 1, 2011 and FHWA on March 9, 2011.

Administrative Amendment No. 2: Included minor changes related to project costs, phases, programming, technical corrections and updates to the grouped project listing. The Executive Director of the Fresno COG approved this amendment, as authorized by the Policy Board, on March 9, 2011. Caltrans approval was received on March 11, 2011. Administrative Modifications are not subject to Federal approval. Caltrans has the delegation to approve Administrative Amendments on behalf of FHWA.

Formal Amendment No. 3 (Type 5): Formal Amendment No. 3 to the 2011 FTIP included significant cost, schedule, and scope changes, as well as the addition and deletion of programmed projects. This amendment also required an amendment to the 2011 RTP and a new corresponding conformity analysis. The 30-day public review period was completed on April 11, 2011. One formal written comment from the City of Fresno was received in regards to programming TCSP funds on the Veterans Blvd project. A public hearing was held at the Fresno COG office on March 24, 2011; no comments were received. The Fresno COG Policy Board approved the amendment on April 28, 2011 via Resolution 2011-02. Caltrans approval is pending and is expected by May 26, 2011. It will also require FHWA approval and it is expected by June 23, 2011.

Formal Amendment No. 4 (Type 3): Included cost project changes greater than 25% of the total project cost, new projects, deleted projects, phase and scope changes technical corrections, and updates to the grouped project listing including the HSIP and Section 130 back up list. FTIP amendment No. 4 is consistent with the 2011 RTP and changes do not interfere with air quality conformity. The 14-day public review period was completed on April 25, 2011. No comments were received. The Executive Director of the Fresno COG approved this amendment, as authorized by the Policy Board, on April 28, 2011. Caltrans approval was received on May 3, 2011 and is pending FHWA approval (expected by May 31, 2011)

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

II. TRANSPORTATION ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. FY 2011-12 Final Overall Work Program and Budget – Resolution 2011-03 [BOREN]

Summary: The draft FY 2011-12 Overall Work Program (OWP) was released for review and comment in February 2011 for its required 45 day review and comment period. Comments have been received and addressed by COG staff and all revisions that have occurred since the release of the draft document have been highlighted in the accompanying OWP memo to the COG Policy Board (enclosure). This year, in an effort to facilitate a clearer understanding of our budget process, we have also developed a Financial Summary (enclosure) which is intended to serve as a companion piece to the Overall Work Program. Ideally these two documents working in tandem will provide additional transparency to the nuances of Fresno COG's OWP and budgeting process.

The FY 2011/12 Overall Work Program totaling \$16,200,255 reflects a decrease of 6% (\$950,202) from the approved FY 2010-11 budget. The decrease was due to federal revenues being decreased \$211,506 to reflect completion of the FTA 5307 funded *Very Fast Starts* rapid transit project and a lower draw on FHWA PL reserves. State revenues increased 8% largely due to a Prop 84 state planning grant for sustainable communities, which offsets lower funding activity in Blueprint planning. Local revenues decreased 18% (\$1,140,072) largely due to completion of the Measure "C" funded Public Transportation Infrastructure Study.

This year, in an effort to inform and educate the Policy Board in greater detail, in addition to the newly developed Financial Summary, COG staff will also be giving a detailed presentation on the FY 2011-12 OWP at the TTC/PAC and the Policy meetings. The complete FY 2011-12 OWP is available on our website at www.fresnocog.org and on the CD included in the meeting package. Hard copies are available on request.

Action: Staff recommends approval of the FY 2011-12 Overall Work Program by adopting Resolution 2011-03

B. FY 2010-11 Overall Work Program Amendment No. 4 [BESHEARS]

Summary: **WE 214 - Measure “C” ADA/Seniors** - The Taxi Scrip program is gaining in popularity and expanding. The program provided \$172,000 in scrip to Seniors in 2009/10 and appears to be heading to \$280,000 in 2010/11, however due to an oversight in the budget process, only \$84,000 was appropriated. This amendment is a technical correction to increase the budget appropriation \$196,000. There is adequate apportionment available to accomplish this.

WE 820 Valley RTPA Coordination – The Air District has provided \$79,700 in funding for a valley wide license for transportation modeling software including Cube Base, Cube Voyager, Cube Cluster, and Cube Land. As the recipient for this grant, we will draw down the funds and pay the vendor, however all eight counties will have access to the software. The license of the software is for one year therefore in order to renew in future years, the cost will be pro rated between the valley MPO's. Our pro rata share at that time will be around \$19,000.

Action: Staff recommends authorizing OWP Amendment #4 increasing the budget \$275,700 to \$17,230,157.

C. Rail Update [THOMPSON/BOREN]

Summary: Staff will present a verbal update.

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

III. OTHER BUSINESS

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

IV. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

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

JOINT Transportation Technical Committee / Policy Advisory Committee

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

V. PRESENTATIONS

1. Caltrans Report [CALTRANS]

Summary: Caltrans staff will present an update. A copy of the May report is included in the meeting package.

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

2. Public Transportation Infrastructure Study (PTIS) final for approval, Kimley Horn presentation [DOWNS]

Summary: The PTIS final report and associated recommendations have been reviewed by the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and stakeholder agencies. The report and associated recommendations and materials have been amended based on comments received during the review and is available for view on the Fresno COG website.

A summary of the Study findings and recommendations is included in your meeting package and a brief presentation will be provided at the meeting.

Action: Staff recommends acceptance of the PTIS final report and associated recommendations.

Policy Advisory Committee

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

VI. TRANSPORTATION CONSENT ITEMS

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Action: Staff recommends adopting the final Local Transportation Fund and State Transit Assistance final estimates by approving Resolutions 2011-13 and 2011-14.

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Action: Staff recommends authorization of the FCRTA applications for Rolling Stock Replacement Vehicles for \$7,673,529 by approving FCRTA Resolution 2011-02.

F. Approve FCRTA's Application to the Governor's Office of Homeland Security, State Office for Domestic Preparedness - Fiscal Year 2009-10 and 2010-11 Proposition 1B California Transit Security Grant Program for California Transit Assistance Funds, Resolution 2011-03 [WEBSTER]

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Action: Staff recommends concurrence with the initiation of the 45-day review by the SSTAC for adoption on June 30, 2011 by the COG Policy Board.

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Action: The FCRTA General Manager recommends concurrence with the initiation of the 45 day review by the SSTAC for adoption on June 30, 2011 by the COG Policy Board.

Clovis Consolidated Transportation Services Agency (CTSA) FY 2011-12 Operations Program & Budget [HALTERMAN — CITY OF CLOVIS]

Summary: The Clovis Consolidated Transportation Service Agency's (CTSA) Operations Program and Budget FY 2011-12 for the Clovis Urban Area is designed to provide an overview of how and in what manner the Clovis Consolidated Transportation Service Agency will provide service over the next fiscal year. The Social Service Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) began their review of the document on April 26, 2011. Clovis Consolidated Transportation Service Agency's (CTSA) Operations Program and Budget FY 2011-12 for the Clovis Urban Area document is available on the Fresno COG website at: <http://fresnocog.org/committeedetails.php?cid=3>

Action: Staff recommends concurrence with the initiation of the 45-day review by the SSTAC for adoption on June 30, 2011 by the COG Policy Board.

3. Short Range Transit Plan for the Fresno Urban Area 2012-16 [LONG]

The Short-Range Transit Plan (SRTP) for the Fresno-Clovis Urbanized Area is the annual update to the operating plan and capital programs for Fresno Area Express FAX and Clovis Transit. The purpose of this Plan is to promote a comprehensive, coordinated and continuous planning process for transit service in the Fresno-Clovis Metropolitan Area (FCMA). This Plan represents a short-range evaluation of transit needs and proposes specific recommendations for implementing the long-range objectives of Fresno County's Regional Transportation Plan. The Plan will guide the provision of transit services in the FCMA over the next five years. The Draft Short-Range Transit Plan must undergo a 45 day review process before the plan can be adopted by the Fresno Council of Governments COG Policy Board. Upon completion of the 45 day review period, COG staff will prepare a final draft of the Plan. The Plan is scheduled for adoption by the COG Board on June 30, 2011. The Social Service Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) began their review of the document on April 26, 2011.

The SRTP is available on the Fresno COG website at: <http://fresnocog.org/committeedetails.php?cid=3>.

Action: Staff recommends concurrence with the initiation of the 45-day review by the SSTAC for adoption on June 30, 2011 by the COG Policy Board.

4. Short Range Transit Plan for the Rural Fresno County Area — 2012-16 [WEBSTER]

Summary: The Short Range Transit Plan for the Rural Fresno County Area, 2012-16 addresses public transportation for the cities of Coalinga, Firebaugh, Fowler, Huron, Kerman, Kingsburg, Mendota, Orange Cove, Parlier, Reedley, Sanger, San Joaquin, Selma and the County of Fresno. The Plan provides a five-year, action-oriented program designed to implement the Public Transportation Element of the Regional Transportation Plan. The Plan will also provide a basis for local governments to demonstrate that public transportation needs within their jurisdiction have been, and may continue to be, reasonably met. The Social Service Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) began their review of the document on April 26, 2011. A copy of the draft Short Range Transit Plan for the Rural Fresno County Area, 2012-16 will be available on the Fresno COG website at: <http://fresnocog.org/committeedetails.php?cid=3> prior to the meeting.

Action: The FCRTA General Manager recommends concurrence with the initiation of the 45-day review for adoption on June 30, 2011 by the COG Policy Board.

H. Obligational Authority [BESHEARS/GARZA]

Summary: On April 4, 2011 Fresno COG submitted the 2010/11 Obligation Plan to Caltrans Local Assistance. This plan documents Fresno COG's estimated schedule for project and fund delivery for federal fiscal year (FFY) 2010/11 (October 1, 2010 through September 30, 2011). The overall total Obligational Authority (OA) for CMAQ and RSTP in FFY 10/11 would have been \$20,540,248; however, last year's OA was under delivered by \$276,480, and that amount was added to this years OA, leaving **\$20,816,729** as the projected FFY 2010/11 Obligational Authority Target.

As of January 31, 2011, our region has only delivered \$483,477 or 2.3% of the OA Target. Our region needs to deliver the remaining \$20,333,251 of the OA to comply with the "Use It or Lose It" provisions of AB 1012 enacted in October 1999. The obligation plan submitted by the local agencies outlines the delivery of \$13,402,180 in combined CMAQ and RSTP. If there are any projects that can be advanced through the use of EPSP, please take advantage of the EPSP process to ensure that the OA target is met. If the entire amount of OA is not delivered, an additional \$7,414,549 of OA will be added to next year's target and this would mean that we are falling behind on project delivery. If we continue to under deliver, we increase the odds of loosing

future apportionments under the provisions of AB 1012, we either “Use It or Lose It”. The goal is to, at a minimum; meet the projected OA amount of \$20,816,726 or in a best case scenario, over deliver to capture any available funds during the statewide open obligation period.

Due to financial constraint requirements of the FTIP, it is imperative that projects programmed with FY 10/11 get obligated within the programmed year to avoid reprogramming of those funds. If funds need to be reprogrammed and financial capacity is not available, it is possible that projects can become substantially delayed if moved to the outer years of the FTIP.

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

I. Grant Writing Workshop [MONGE]

Summary: Fresno COG is hosting a two-day grant writing workshop on June 27-28, 2011. The workshop will be presented by Grant Writing USA and is open to grant seekers across all disciplines. Tuition is \$425 and includes a course workbook and accompanying resource CD. Participants will learn how to find grants and write winning grant proposals. More information and online registration is available at <http://grantstraining.com/fresno>. If you have any questions please contact Lindsey Monge at 559-233-4148 ext. 205 or by email at lmonge@fresnocog.org.

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

J. Call for Cycle 3 Federal Safe Routes to Schools Projects [THOMPSON]

Summary: A call has been issued for Cycle 3 Federal Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Projects, with an application submittal deadline of July 15, 2011. The SRTS program is a reimbursement funding program that improves safety for children in grades K-8 who walk or bicycle to school. It funds capital, or infrastructure projects that fall under the broad categories of pedestrian facilities, traffic calming measures, installation of traffic control devices, and construction of bicycle facilities. Up to 10% of the construction cost can fund an education/encouragement/enforcement element in an infrastructure project. The program can also fund stand alone non-infrastructure projects such as conducting SRTS workshops, walkability audits, conducting student assemblies for pedestrian and bicycle safety, and other projects that increase the numbers of children walking and bicycling to school.

For this call, an estimated \$42 million in federal funds is available. Caltrans Districts are apportioned funds based upon student enrollment. District review committees will score and rate applications. Caltrans Headquarters will validate District selections and compile a statewide list of selected projects for Director approval. Any local or regional agency is eligible to apply for SRTS funds, as are federally-recognized Native American Tribes in which schools on tribal lands are benefited. There is no local match required and \$1 million is the maximum amount that can be requested for an infrastructure project. Additional information is available at:

www.dot.ca.gov/hq/LocalPrograms/saferoutes/saferoutes.htm.

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

K. Urban Greening Grant Program [Thompson]

Summary: The Urban Greening for Sustainable Communities Grant Program provides funds to preserve, enhance, increase or establish community green areas such as urban forests, open spaces, wetlands and community spaces (e.g. community gardens). The goal is for these greening projects to incrementally create more viable and sustainable communities throughout the State. Round two (three rounds total) provides up to \$20 million for urban greening project grants and up to \$5 million, or 25 percent of the total, for urban greening planning grants. There are no match requirements.

Concept Proposals for urban greening project grants are due to the Strategic Growth Council by June 17, 2011. A Concept Proposal Form is reviewed to assess eligibility and readiness of the proposal and whether the applicant will be invited to submit a full application.

Urban greening planning grants will assist entities in developing a master urban greening plan that will ultimately result in the creation of healthy communities. An Urban Greening Plan must serve as the master document guiding and coordinating greening projects in the applicant's jurisdiction. For both project and planning grants, project locations must meet a threshold of approximately 10 dwelling units per acre. Applicants need to demonstrate that their project is located in or adjacent to an area with existing or planned-for density of at least 3,500 dwelling units within an area equivalent to 500 acres. Planning grant applications must be submitted to the California Natural Resources Agency by July 1, 2011.

Information on the Urban Greening Grant Program is available on the Strategic Growth Council website at: http://sgc.ca.gov/urban_greening_grants.html. Enclosed is a Solicitation Announcement and listing of Frequently Asked Questions. Please direct questions to Fresno COG staffperson Clark Thompson.

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

L. Videoconferencing Update [BITNER/HAN]

Summary: 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, in addition several Fresno County member agencies also installed video conferencing end points. (Fowler, Kerman, Mendota, Orange Cove, Parlier, San Joaquin and Selma). The project also included installation of a central hub at Fresno COG.

The current project is funded through an agreement with the Kings County Area Public Transit Agency (CalVans). This agreement provides CalVans with access to the videoconferencing equipment owned by Fresno COG. In exchange for this access CalVans is funding a significant upgrade to the Fresno COG video equipment.

The upgrades will increase the capacity of our system and greatly simplify the use and scheduling of the videoconferencing equipment. Videoconferences will be able to be scheduled through Microsoft Outlook and have the ability to automatically connect based on the information in the Outlook Calendar.

Fresno COG staff is currently working with the videoconferencing contractor to install the new equipment and learn to use it effectively. The end result will be a higher capacity system with much improved and streamlined usability.

COG staff anticipates having the upgraded system completely implemented by the end of June.

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

M. FY 2011 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) Amendment Update [GARZA]

Summary: **Formal Adoption of the 2011 FTIP:** The update to the 2011 FTIP included changes to project descriptions, open to traffic dates, grouped projects, funding and phase changes. An update to the RTP and a corresponding conformity analysis was required. The final document was adopted by the Fresno COG policy board on July 29, 2011 and received Caltrans approval on November 12, 2010 and FHWA approval on December 14, 2010.

Formal Amendment No. 1 (Type 3): Included cost project changes greater than 25% of the total project cost, new projects, deleted projects, phase and scope changes technical corrections, and updates to the grouped project listing. It also included updates to the SHOPP, HBR, and Section 130 back up lists per Caltrans. FTIP amendment No. 1 was consistent with the 2011 RTP and changes did not interfere with air quality conformity. The 14-day public review period was completed on February 22, 2011 with no comments received. The Fresno COG policy board approved the amendment on February 24, 2011, Caltrans on March 1, 2011 and FHWA on March 9, 2011.

Administrative Amendment No. 2: Included minor changes related to project costs, phases, programming, technical corrections and updates to the grouped project listing. The Executive Director of the Fresno COG approved this amendment, as authorized by the Policy Board, on March 9, 2011. Caltrans approval was received on March 11, 2011. Administrative Modifications are not subject to Federal approval. Caltrans has the delegation to approve Administrative Amendments on behalf of FHWA.

Formal Amendment No. 3 (Type 5): Formal Amendment No. 3 to the 2011 FTIP included significant cost, schedule, and scope changes, as well as the addition and deletion of programmed projects. This amendment also required an amendment to the 2011 RTP and a new corresponding conformity analysis. The 30-day public review period was completed on April 11, 2011. One formal written comment from the City of Fresno was received in regards to programming TCSP funds on the Veterans Blvd project. A public hearing was held at the Fresno COG office on March 24, 2011; no comments were received. The Fresno COG Policy Board approved the amendment on April 28, 2011 via Resolution 2011-02. Caltrans approval is pending and is expected by May 26, 2011. It will also require FHWA approval and it is expected by June 23, 2011.

Formal Amendment No. 4 (Type 3): Included cost project changes greater than 25% of the total project cost, new projects, deleted projects, phase and scope changes technical corrections, and updates to the grouped project listing including the HSIP and Section 130 back up list. FTIP amendment No. 4 is consistent with the 2011 RTP and changes do not interfere with air quality conformity. The 14-day public review period was completed on April 25, 2011. No comments were received. The Executive Director of the Fresno COG approved this amendment, as authorized by the Policy Board, on April 28, 2011. Caltrans approval was received on May 3, 2011 and is pending FHWA approval (expected by May 31, 2011)

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

VII. TRANSPORTATION ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

B. FY 2011-12 Final Overall Work Program and Budget – Resolution 2011-03 [BOREN]

Summary: The draft FY 2011-12 Overall Work Program (OWP) was released for review and comment in February 2011 for its required 45 day review and comment period. Comments have been received and addressed by COG staff and all revisions that have occurred since the release of the draft document have been highlighted in the accompanying OWP memo to the COG Policy Board (enclosure). This year, in an effort to facilitate a clearer understanding of our budget process, we have also developed a Financial Summary (enclosure) which is intended to serve as a companion piece to the Overall Work Program. Ideally these two documents working in tandem will provide additional transparency to the nuances of Fresno COG's OWP and budgeting process.

The FY 2011/12 Overall Work Program totaling \$16,200,255 reflects a decrease of 6% (\$950,202) from the approved FY 2010-11 budget. The decrease was due to federal revenues being decreased \$211,506 to reflect completion of the FTA 5307 funded *Very Fast Starts* rapid transit project and a lower draw on FHWA PL reserves. State revenues increased 8% largely due to a Prop 84 state planning grant for sustainable communities, which offsets lower funding activity in Blueprint planning. Local revenues decreased 18% (\$1,140,072) largely due to completion of the Measure "C" funded Public Transportation Infrastructure Study.

This year, in an effort to inform and educate the Policy Board in greater detail, in addition to the newly developed Financial Summary, COG staff will also be giving a detailed presentation on the FY 2011-12 OWP at the TTC/PAC and the Policy meetings. The complete FY 2011-12 OWP is available on our website at www.fresnocog.org and on the CD included in the meeting package. A hard copy will be provided to each city.

Action: Staff recommends approval of the FY 2011-12 Overall Work Program by adopting Resolution 2011-03

B. FY 2010-11 Overall Work Program Amendment No. 4 [BESHEARS]

Summary: **WE 214 - Measure “C” ADA/Seniors** - The Taxi Scrip program is gaining in popularity and expanding. The program provided \$172,000 in scrip to Seniors in 2009/10 and appears to be heading to \$280,000 in 2010/11, however due to an oversight in the budget process, only \$84,000 was appropriated. This amendment is a technical correction to increase the budget appropriation \$196,000. There is adequate apportionment available to accomplish this.

WE 820 Valley RTPA Coordination – The Air District has provided \$79,700 in funding for a valley wide license for transportation modeling software including Cube Base, Cube Voyager, Cube Cluster, and Cube Land. As the recipient for this grant, we will draw down the funds and pay the vendor, however all eight counties will have access to the software. The license of the software is for one year therefore in order to renew in future years, the cost will be pro rated between the valley MPO's. Our pro rata share at that time will be around \$19,000.

Action: Staff recommends authorizing OWP Amendment #4 increasing the budget \$275,700 to \$17,230,157.

C. Rail Update [THOMPSON/BOREN]

Summary: Staff will present a verbal update.

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

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. On-Call Modeling Assistance Contract Extension [BITNER]

Summary: The On-Call Modeling Services contract provides Fresno COG staff with needed assistance in creating specialized script files, trouble shooting modeling problems and providing specialized training in dealing with the latest modeling and air quality regulations. The contract provides the following benefits:

- Assists COG staff with development of new and refined script when needed especially for air quality and conformity purposes.
- Research and develop new scripts and processes that will help staff use the model more effectively
- Troubleshoots major and minor problems.
- Assists in the professional development of the COG modeling and demographic staff.
- Assures that staff is aware of the latest land use techniques and data.
- Keeps staff informed on the latest modeling techniques and software.

Dowling Associates developed the Fresno COG model and has assisted us with many modeling issues. Because of Dowling's experience with our model and our experience with their technical staff we recommend the extension of the On-Call Modeling services contract.

Action: Staff recommends approval of the contract extension and authorization for the Executive Director to contract with Dowling Associates for on-call modeling assistance in the amount not to exceed \$10,000 per year.

B. Monthly Legislative Update [GARZA]

Summary: The enclosed report includes current bills in the 2011 legislative session that are relevant to the COG.

- o To locate current and past year **state bill information** go to the Official California Legislative Information webpage at: <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/>
- o To locate current and past year **federal bill information** go to THOMAS, The Library of Congress's bill information website (in the spirit of Thomas Jefferson) at: <http://thomas.loc.gov/>

Please contact staff person, Melissa Garza, if you have any questions.

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

C. California Consulting LLC Report [BOREN]

Summary: Steve Samuelian, California Consulting, LLC will provide a verbal report at the Policy Board. A written report that was distributed to the Policy Board in April is included in the meeting package.

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

D. Regional Clearinghouse [SOBRADO]

Project	Applicant
1. U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development – Section 202 Supportive Housing Capital Advance Grant Program	Southern California Presbyterian Homes

Summary: Your agenda package includes this month's Clearinghouse Calendar containing "Project Notification and Review Reports" for grant proposal.

1. Southern California Presbyterian Homes is applying for a U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development Section 202 Supportive Housing Capital Advance Program Grant. The programs benefit the citizens of the City of Clovis, Fresno County, and the State of California. The funding consists of \$9,537,212 in federal funds, \$25,000 in applicant funds, and \$1,050,000 in local funds for a total of \$10,612,212.

Action: Per Board procedure, unless an item is pulled from the Consent Calendar, tacit authorization is given for staff to forward any comment(s) received, or any Committee/Board comment(s) generated as a result of this informational item, to the appropriate agency. It is understood that if in the event this item should be pulled from the consent calendar, discussion and comment by the Committee members and the public will be taken.

IX. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Award of Contract for Valley-Wide Modeling Software Corporate License [BITNER]

Summary: The eight San Joaquin Valley MPOs have been coordinating transportation modeling activities for more than 20 years and all have standardized on Citilabs transportation modeling software known as Cube and Cube Voyager.

Currently each San Joaquin Valley MPO purchases their modeling software individually with the total cost of the Citilabs software installed Valley wide approximately \$175,000 with an annual maintenance fee of \$26,000.

The current software license limits the software to running on one computer at a time and does not allow concurrent instances of the Cube/Voyager software to exist. In addition, in order to take full advantage of the Valley Wide Model Improvement Project, currently underway additional modeling software is needed (Cube Cluster and Cube Land).

Fresno COG, representing the San Joaquin Valley MPO's has negotiated an agreement with the Citilabs Corporation to purchase a valley-wide corporate license for the required modeling software including Cube Base, Cube Voyager and adding Cube Cluster and Cube Land.

The selection of these products will allow each of the eight San Joaquin Valley MPOs to take equal advantage of the model update work being performed under the ongoing San Joaquin Valley Model improvement Project. In addition, the Valley wide corporate license will greatly enhance the San Joaquin Valley MPOs ability to better forecast future year greenhouse gas emissions and meet their obligations for conformity and the requirements of AB 32 and SB 375.

The San Joaquin Valley Corporate license will result in a significant cost savings and improved flexibility. If each Valley MPO were to purchase the same software individually it would cost approximately \$1.3 million with an annual maintenance fee of \$200,000.

The actual cost of the San Joaquin Valley corporate license after crediting the 8 MPOs for their existing installed software is \$46,625. (The actual cost is \$220,000 less credit for the existing installed software of \$173,375 = \$46,625)

In addition the San Joaquin Valley MPOs currently pay an annual maintenance fee totaling \$26,000 valley-wide. The new maintenance fee will be \$33,000 a year which includes adding two additional programs.

The San Joaquin Valley Executive Directors have approved the purchase of the corporate license. The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District is funding the proposed Corporate License upgrade and the first year's annual maintenance fee.

Action: COG staff recommends approval the contract with Citilabs for the San Joaquin Valley Corporate License and authorizing the Executive Director to contract with Citilabs Corporation in the amount not to exceed \$229,700.

B. San Joaquin Valley Regional Blueprint - Contract Amendment with Mintier Harnish to Expand the Scope of Work on the Deliverables Including the Planners Web-Based Toolkit [STECK]

Summary: Fresno COG is the lead agency for the SJV Regional Blueprint program and in that role administers any contracts associated with the project. The consulting firm of Mintier Harnish was hired by the Valley MPO Directors in February 2010 to complete the documents associated with the Valleywide Blueprint that was adopted in April 2009. The deliverables included:

- SJV Blueprint Planning Process Summary Report (September 2010)
- Draft SJV Blueprint Guidance Framework (Implementation Strategy) February 15, 2011 (Including an Institutional Arrangements whitepaper requested by the Regional Policy Council)
- SJV Blueprint – Planners Toolkit (web based) – beta version is available at <http://toolkitvalleyblueprintorg.alias.strangeocode.com/>

In essence, this consultant has completed the deliverables in the original scope of work, except for the final edited version of the "Guidance Framework" and the web-based planners toolkit. The project was delayed for an additional 3 months at the behest of the local agency planners participating in the Valley Blueprint Planners Work Group. These delays have cost Mintier Harnish in both scheduling timelines and unanticipated rewrites. I believe that an equitable approach would be to amend the Mintier Harnish contract in order to reimburse them for the additional work associated with the project delays (including the web based toolkit) through June 30, 2011. This

would ensure a smooth transition of the website to Merced County Association of Governments (who will be hosting it) and to whomever we determine should administer the toolkit site in the upcoming year. It would also accommodate the final revisions that need to be incorporated from the review period.

Action: Staff and the Valley MPO directors recommend approval of a contract amendment with Mintier Harnish to modify the scope of work on the web-based planners' toolkit, not to exceed \$20,714. This amendment will be covered by SJV Blueprint 3rd year grant funds.

C. Farmland Conservation Study – Authorization to Sign Contract with Strategy Research Institute to Conduct Polling Research (BOREN]

Summary: In 2007, Fresno COG was awarded a San Joaquin Valley Partnership grant in the amount of \$200,000 to develop a Farmland Conservation Model Program. The purpose of the program was to identify strategies to preserve farmland in the San Joaquin Valley by carefully balancing urban development and agricultural areas in the region. The American Farmland Trust was hired as a consultant for the project and conducted the study under the guidance of a Fresno COG Steering Committee consisting of agricultural stakeholders, community leaders and various member agency staff.

The Farmland Conservation Model Program was completed in December 2008 and made a series of recommendations to help preserve agricultural land in Fresno County. During the review and comment period for the document it became clear that the strategies proposed in the Model Program did not have strong consensus support from the community. Therefore at this point in the process, at the request of the Steering Committee, Strategy Research Institute (Dr. Gary Manross) was brought into the process to meet with a number of prominent agricultural stakeholders in an effort to determine what were the barriers (from their perspective) to developing a comprehensive approach to preserving farmland in Fresno County. Upon completion of the interviews, it became clear that public opinion on the issue of farmland preservation from the agricultural community was very diverse, and the best approach to truly gauge whether there was public support for farmland preservation from throughout the community was to conduct a public opinion survey to gauge public sentiment on the topic.

With this direction in mind, COG staff budgeted \$25,000 in this year's OWP and Budget to conduct the polling. Dr. Manross has recently completed development of the survey instrument and it has been reviewed and approved by members of the Steering Committee for release in the field. Fresno COG policy requires that all contracts above \$10,000 must be approved by the Policy Board.

Action: Authorize Fresno COG Executive Director to enter into a contract with Strategy Research Institute to conduct public opinion research related to development of the Farmland Model Conservation Program in an amount not to exceed \$25,000.

D. Strategy Research Institute – Contract Renewal [BOREN]

Summary: Strategy Research Institute Inc. (Dr. Gary Manross) has been serving as consultant to Fresno COG in his current capacity since July 2008. Over the course of the last year, SRI Inc. has played a key facilitation role in bringing two major regional projects, the Regional Transit Consolidation Study and the Farmland Conservation Model Program study forward to a point where a determination can be made on whether there is interest in moving forward with the next steps in the process. In addition, SRI Inc. is also providing direct services to our member agencies at reduced rates as a result of their on-going contract with Fresno COG.

Recently, at the request of the Fresno Works Committee, which is overseeing high speed rail matters in Fresno County, SRI Inc. met with California High Speed Rail Authority staff to determine if there might be a role for SRI Inc. to play in resolving some of the contentious issues that have been raised by the agricultural community. This role is a logical fit for Dr. Manross given his consensus building experiences with Measure C and his recent outreach to the agricultural community as part of the Farmland Conservation Model Program.

SRI Inc.'s current contract with Fresno COG is a \$6,000 a month retainer which totals \$72,000 annually.

Action: This is an action item. Direction to be provided by the Policy Advisory Committee and the Policy Board.

E. 2010 U.S. Census [CHUNG]

Summary: Staff will report on the results of the 2010 U.S. Census and recent American Community Surveys for Fresno County and its jurisdictions.

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

X. OTHER BUSINESS

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

XI. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

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

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

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