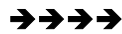


**COUNCIL OF FRESNO COUNTY GOVERNMENTS
ANNOTATED AGENDA**

Date: Thursday, October 27, 2005

Time: 7:00 p.m.



Place: **NOTE CHANGED LOCATION**

Workforce Investment Board

New COG Office (beginning December 2005)

2035 Tulare Street, Suite 203, Sequoia Room

Fresno, CA

COFCG Sitting As the Transportation Policy Committee _____

I. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

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

II. 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. Transportation Funding Claim – City of Clovis, 2005-06, Resolution 2005-47

Summary: The City of Clovis has submitted its 2005-06 Transportation Development Act Claim. The amounts claimed for Local Transportation Funds (LTF) and State Transit Assistance (STA) funds are:

Jurisdiction:	LTF Fund:	STA Fund:	Total Funds:
City of Clovis	\$2,792,783	\$230,878	\$3,023,661

Staff has reviewed the claim and finds the amounts consistent with apportionments previously approved by the Board. [BESHEARS]

Action: Staff, TTC and PAC recommend approval of the funding claim by adopting Resolution 2005-47.

B. Administrative Amendment No. 14 to the 2004-05 through 2009-10 Federal Transportation Improvement Program

Summary: Administrative amendment No. 14: This amendment was approved on September 8, 2005 by the Executive Director of the Council of Fresno County Governments as authorized by the Policy Board. This amendment consisted of modifications to the Regional Surface Transportation Program by the City of Clovis. The City of Clovis modified the description of their Peach Avenue Couplet project to read: Construction of center travel lanes of the couplet to connect the

connect the alignments of Peach Avenue south of Herndon Avenue. [DEVERE]

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

C. Caltrans Planning Grant Applications – Support Letters

Summary: The County of Fresno, in partnership with the City of Fresno, is submitting a Community-Based Transportation Planning Grant Application to the California Department of Transportation for a ***Southeast Fresno/Malaga Industrial Area Circulation Study***.

The City of Kingsburg has also submitted a grant application – ***Draper/Marion Corridor Traffic Calming and Pedestrian Design: Preserving and Enhancing a Vital Town Center in Kingsburg***.

Because the application deadline was October 14, 2005, we have already sent the letters of support. [STECK]

Action: Concur with sending letters of support for these grant applications from the Council of Fresno County Governments.

D. Corridor of Opportunity: Highway 99 as a Catalyst for Economic and Community Progress – Great Valley Center, Hwy. 99 Task Force

Summary: The enclosed report discusses how Highway 99 can be used by as a catalyst by local communities for economic development and related benefits. [Goodwin]

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

E. Rail Committee Update

Summary: The COG Rail Committee met on September 30, 2005, and received information and/or discussed the following items:

- A dedication ceremony was conducted on October 14, 2005 for the Weldon Avenue Undercrossing project. This project provides for a completely safe crossing of the Burlington Northern Santa Fe railroad tracks at Fresno City College.
- Bob Bloomer continues to pursue the operation of a “dinner train” in Fresno County. He hopes to make a positive announcement in the near future.
- While the Amtrak station has still not relocated to the restored Santa Fe Depot, progress has been made regarding the lease agreement between the City of Fresno and Amtrak. Also, the California Transportation Commission has approved \$625,000 for an expanded parking lot in conjunction with the Amtrak station.
- Amtrak’s San Joaquin Route continues to experience positive year-over-year ridership and financial results.
- The Figarden Siding Track project is on hold for the foreseeable future. Caltrans Division of Rail advises there will be a community workshop, with railroad participation, to explain and discuss the project at some future time but that BNSF personnel are currently focused on repairing facilities and restoring service in the Gulf State Region impacted by the hurricanes.

- The City of Kingsburg has acquired title to its historic train station and intends to restore it for potential use as a museum and multimodal transportation center. There is community interest in reestablishing passenger rail service to Kingsburg, and this interest may be communicated to the San Joaquin Valley Rail Committee, an advisory committee to Caltrans on rail passenger service in the San Joaquin Valley, which next meets in Hanford on November 10, 2005.
- The COG Rail Committee reviewed the responses provided to official COG comments on the Draft Program EIR/EIS for the statewide high-speed rail system. The California High-Speed Rail Authority anticipates certification/record of decision of the environmental document at its meeting in Sacramento on November 2, 2005. Bruce Rudd with the City of Fresno indicated he would recommend the City propose a multi-modal station in downtown Fresno along the Union Pacific corridor as a candidate project under the Measure C Extension Expenditure Plan Regional Category.

If anyone would like further information on any of these items, please contact COG staff person Clark Thompson. [THOMPSON]

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

III. TRANSPORTATION ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. PUBLIC HEARING: Adoption of Formal Amendment #15 to the 2004-05 through 2009-10 Federal Transportation Improvement Program, Amendment #15, Resolution 2005-44

Summary: This amendment is a request by Caltrans and the Council of Fresno County Governments to modify the State Transportation Improvement Program-Regional Choice Program. This amendment provides for the addition of six new projects to the Federal Transportation Improvement Program and allows for the modification of three existing projects:

1. SEQUOIA EXPRESSWAY (SR 180E) - Academy to Trimmer Spring Road. Project FRE041317. This project is the construction of a 2-Lane Expressway on Existing Alignment (4-Lane ROW).
2. SEQUOIA EXPRESSWAY (SR 180E) - Trimmer Spring Road to Frankwood. Project FRE041318. This project is the construction of a 2-Lane Expressway from an Existing Alignment (4-Lane ROW)
3. SR 180W – Brawley to Hughes/West. Project FRE041109. This project is an unconstructed to 4-Lane Freeway on 8-Lane ROW. This includes auxiliary lanes at 99/180 Interchange.
4. SR 180E - Chestnut Ave. to Clovis Ave. Project FRE041106. This is a relinquishment project.
5. SR 180E - Route 168 to Clovis Ave. Project FRE041105. This is a highway planting project.
6. SR 180W - Teilman OC to the G Street UC and on RT 99 from 0.2 kilometers north of El Dorado St to the Nielsen Ave UC. Project FRE041107. This is a highway planting project.
7. COFCG. Project FRE041101. This project provides County-Wide STIP project planning, programming and monitoring for each year of the 2004 STIP period.
8. KINGS CANYON EXPRESSWAY (SR 180E) - Temperance to Academy. Project FRE041104. This project is the construction of a 4-Lane Expressway on Existing Alignment.

9. SEQUOIA FREEWAY (SR 180E) - Clovis to Temperance. Project FRE041108. This project is the construction of a 6-lane freeway from Clovis to Fowler and the construction of a 4-lane freeway from Fowler to Temperance Ave. [DEVERE]

Action: Staff, TTC and PAC recommend the approval of Formal Amendment No. 15 to the 2004-05 through 2009-10 Federal Transportation Improvement Program by the adoption of Resolution No. 2005-44.

B. PUBLIC HEARING: Adoption of the 2005 October Air Quality Conformity Determination covering Fresno County's Amended 2004 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and the 2004-05 through 2009-10 Federal Transportation Improvement Program, including Amendments #1 through #15, Resolution 2005-45

Summary: Fresno COG has made a positive air quality conformity finding for the Amended 2004 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and the 2004-05 through 2009-10 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP), including Amendments #1 through #15.

An Air Quality Conformity Determination is required in non-attainment areas to ensure that transportation plans and programs are consistent with the state and local air quality plans and do not interfere with the timely implementation of transportation control measures. This Air Quality Conformity Determination demonstrates that all of our adopted transportation plans and programs contained in the 2004 RTP and the 2004-05 through 2009-10 FTIP, as amended, are in conformance with the rules for the applicable air quality standards and conforms to provisions of the State Implementation Plans for the San Joaquin Valley. [BITNER/PAUKOVITS]

Action: Staff, TTC and PAC recommend adoption of the Conformity Finding by approval of Resolution 2005-45.

C. SAFETEA-LU Apportionment – Revised Fund Estimates

Summary: Caltrans/FHWA has provided revised SAFETEA-LU Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) and Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) estimates for 2005/06 and 2006/07. In addition, the 2003/04, and 2004/05 apportionments are now known. By incorporating these numbers and increasing 2007/08 and 2008/09 by 2% per previous Caltrans/FHWA methodology, the revised estimate indicates that RSTP funding under SAFETEA-LU will be 8% higher than previously estimated and CMAQ will be 10% higher. The revised estimates add \$10,549,000 to our Cycle II Regional Bid call for projects which will occur next spring. Total RSTP for Cycle II is expected to be \$16,429,000. Total CMAQ for Cycle II is expected to be \$28,524,000. The Cycle II projects will be incorporated into the 2006 FTIP.

The increased estimates also provide additional programming capacity for Financial Constraint in 2005/06, which may be used to facilitate advancing some of the \$20,624,000 in Lifeline and Cycle I projects already programmed in 2007/08. (These had been forced out of the Triennial Element when last year's Financial Constraint was calculated.) Before making that determination, however, we must evaluate the results of last year's Obligation Plan to see how many of the 'expedited' projects were successfully advanced. If we determine that any of the projects scheduled for obligation *didn't* advance, they will require programming in this year's Financial Constraint calculation. We are waiting for Caltrans to provide the results of last year's Obligation Plan before we start that process. It is anticipated that the process will be similar to last year when we convened the Project Delivery Committee to establish guidance, met individually with project sponsors to determine viable project implementation schedules and adopted a major

FTIP amendment to revise our programming document, all leading up to the implementation of the Obligation Plan. [BESHEARS]

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

D. Preliminary 2006 State Transportation Improvement Program Fund Estimate

Summary: The enclosed tables contain the preliminary 2006 Fund Estimates for Tiers 1(B) and 2(A) that were presented to the California Transportation Commission (CTC) on September 29, 2005. These estimates are based on programming through June 30, 2005, and are subject to change from Commission actions and recommendations that take place at the September meeting. Staff will report on CTC actions. [BOREN]

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

E. Measure "C" Reauthorization Update

Summary: Included in your package is a series of tables that represent a consensus model developed over the Measure "C" 1½ day workshop held on September 23rd and 24th.

Significant progress has been made, although we are certainly not yet done.

The Table 1 and 2 consensus model will be the basis for a follow-up poll (20 and 30 year), and is supported by the accompanying Table 3 local allocation spreadsheet and the Table 4 Pedestrian Trails Bike Lanes Spreadsheet. Table 5 is the Category explanations.

At this stage of consensus we felt obligated to not only show where the broad categories of agreement on a spending model appear to be (and how the Measure C Committee got there), at least for follow-up polling, we also needed to identify remaining issues so that all have time to prepare for the next stage of discussion. An example of a remaining issue is the formula by which the local transportation funds will be distributed. While the prior formula for 75% population/25% street mileage may be adequate for the bulk of the distribution, it doesn't necessarily equate to the pedestrian/trail and bike lane expenditures that moved into that category. Another issue is the definition of Advanced Technologies - we've already heard from a stakeholder that this needs further clarification as there are differing viewpoints about what this category contains. Specific ADA requirements will still need to be addressed as well as pedestrian safety. Also the issue of a dedicated amount to pothole repair and street maintenance was raised but not settled. There is also specific bike lane language that will need to be included in the expenditure categories. These issues should need to be essentially resolved prior to the actual follow-up poll so that we are asking the right questions and the poll findings will be definitive.

At the October 14th meeting we discussed these items and it was agreed subcommittees would be formed to deal with the remaining issues. Projects still need to be arrayed against the expenditure categories and that will now be initiated at the October 24 meeting in Parlier. We will also soon be discussing the Citizens Oversight Committee.

So, as everyone is talking with their constituents we wanted everyone to have as many of the discussion pieces that we could foresee at this point. We may not have them all, but we tried to identify the obvious ones based on experience and conversations at the workshop. Some of these issues are briefly identified in the explanation of the categories, along with those identified above.

Please let us know if you have any questions. Staff, Dr. Manross and others are available to present at constituent meetings if desired. A more complete verbal report on the October 14th meeting will be made. [GOODWIN/BOREN]

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

F. Caltrans Monthly Report

Summary: Caltrans staff will provide an update on Caltrans activities and will be making presentations on the following projects:

- 1. Presentation—Route 99 Corridor Enhancement Master Plan, Resolution 2005-46**
- 2. Technical Analysis for High Occupancy Vehicle Lanes on State Highways in the San Joaquin Valley [CALTRANS]**

Action: TTC and PAC recommend acceptance of the Route 99 Corridor Enhancement Master Plan by passing Resolution 2005-46.

COFCG Sitting As the Council of Fresno County Governments

IV. REAFFIRM ALL ACTIONS TAKEN WHILE SITTING AS THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE

V. 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 Board 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 Board concerning the item before action is taken.

A. Executive Minutes of September 29, 2005

B. Monthly Legislative Update

Summary: An enclosed summary of current state and federal legislative activity is in your agenda packet for committee review and information. The attached summary reflects legislation that is currently active and detailing various aspects of transportation.

Please contact staff person, Renee DeVere, if you have any questions regarding the listed bills or if you require a more in-depth analysis of any particular bill. [DEVERE]

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

C. Regional Clearinghouse

- | Project | Applicant |
|--|-------------------|
| 1. Head Start-Preschool and Early Head Start
2006 Refunding Application | Fresno County EOC |

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

Fresno County Economic Opportunity Commission is applying for Head Start-Preschool and early Head Start 2006 Refunding in the amount of \$28,568,130 (Federal) and \$7,142,033 in matching funds for a grant total in the amount of \$35,710,163. [SABRADO]

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.

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Memorandum of Understanding Between the Workforce Investment Board and COG re: Board Meeting Room Furniture

Summary: Since COG is moving to the space previously occupied by the Workforce Investment Board who moved to Manchester Center, they agreed to leave the Boardroom furniture, at 2035 Tulare Street, Suite 201 in exchange for COG to provide boardroom access to the Workforce Board for their Board of Directors meetings. A draft Memorandum of Understanding has been included in the Agenda packet. The final version of the MOU will be available for the COG Board approval on October 27th and will explain the details of the resource sharing agreement and itemize the furniture and equipment that is being shared. [GOODWIN]

Action: Staff and PAC recommend approval of a Memorandum of Understanding between Fresno County Workforce Investment Board and the Council of Fresno County Governments.

B. State Lobbyist Selection

Summary: At last month's Board meeting, five consulting firms were interviewed in response to the RFP for a State Lobbyist to represent Fresno COG. (Responses from two of the firms are included with this agenda.) After discussion, a motion was made to recommend hiring Smith, Watts & Co. The motion failed for lack of a majority of members (9) and population requirement (40%). A substitute motion was then made to recommend approval of California Consulting. The 12 cities voting yes for California Consulting represented 33.83% of the population present, and the two cities voting no represented 12.3% of the population. Although this was a majority of cities (9) it did not meet the population requirement (40%) and the motion failed. A motion was then made to table the item until October. We have placed the item on the agenda again this month in the event that the Board would like to take further action. [GOODWIN]

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

C. Resolution Expressing Concern for the San Joaquin River Flow and Release Issues, Resolution 2005-48

Summary: Mayor Victor Lopez (Orange Cove) has requested that the COG Policy Board consider passing a resolution expressing concern on San Joaquin River flow and release issues raised by a recent US District Court ruling and requesting the Governor's assistance in helping

protect the San Joaquin Valley's economic well being. The proposed resolution is enclosed for your review and recommendation. [LOPEZ]

Action: PAC recommends approval of Resolution 2005-48.

D. "One Voice" Call for Projects

Summary: The deadline to respond to the "One Voice" call for projects was Friday, October 21st. The task force is scheduled to meet on October 26th (after this agenda is mailed) in order to review the submittals. Our intention is to finalize the selection of priority projects for the 2006 "One Voice" visit during the month of November in order to proceed with planning the details for the February trip. We will provide an update at the Board meeting. [STECK]

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

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

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

COFCG Sitting As the Abandoned Vehicle Abatement Authority

VIII. ABANDONED VEHICLE ABATEMENT PROGRAM

Summary: Part of the calculation in determining personnel costs under the Fresno County Abandoned Vehicle Abatement (AVA) Program is the use of standard hourly measures. During the first year of program operation, these standard hourly measures were 1.5 hours for each voluntary abatement and 3.0 hours for each towed abatement. These standard hourly measures were initially determined based on the experience of neighboring Kings County, which has had an AVA Program for many years, and were subsequently adopted by the Fresno County AVA Service Authority Board. Fresno County's AVA Working Group met in August and agreed the standard hourly measures were too low for Fresno County based upon our experience during the first year of program operation. The Working Group recommends increasing the standard hourly measures to 2.0 hours for each voluntary abatement and 4.0 hours for each towed abatement. The Service Authority receives adequate funds to accommodate the increased personnel costs resulting from these changes.

Another component in calculating personnel costs is the hourly rate used by each jurisdiction. Most jurisdictions in Fresno County utilize the Uniform Building Code Special Inspection Rate currently in effect, which is \$47.00 per hour at this time. However, jurisdictions may use a higher hourly rate if it is preapproved by the Service Authority Board and justified based on actual costs determined pursuant to a comprehensive examination of the costs associated with implementing the AVA Program within that jurisdiction. The County of Fresno has requested an hourly rate of \$67.14 and has submitted justification based on its current Master Fee Schedule.

Enclosed is summary information for Fresno County's AVA Program for the 2004-05 fiscal year. Vehicle Code Section 9250.7(c) requires each service authority to annually prepare and submit a report to the State Controller's Office that contains this information. The report indicates that last year 3,137 abandoned vehicles were abated in Fresno County. [THOMPSON]

Action: Staff and PAC recommend approval of the standard hourly measures of 2.0 hours for voluntary abatements and 4.0 hours for towed abatements and an hourly rate of \$67.14 for the County of Fresno.

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