

Fresno COG Policy Board

Date: Thursday, April 30, 2020
Time: 5:30 PM
Place: COG Ash Conference Room
2035 Tulare St., Suite 201, Fresno, CA

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.

OUT OF AN ABUNDANCE OF CAUTION REGARDING THE COVID-19 VIRUS THE SCHEDULED APRIL 30, 2020, SCHEDULED FRESNO COG POLICY BOARD MEETING AT 5:30 P.M. WILL BE HELD VIA TELECONFERENCE. CALL-IN INFORMATION:

TELECONFERENCE PHONE NUMBER: (888) 398-2342

PARTICIPANT CODE: 740166

AGENDA AND ANNOTATED AGENDA IN PDF FORMATING FOR PRINTING

Exhibits:

Agenda Annotated Agenda

Fresno County Rural Transit Agency Meeting Package - Meeting will follow Policy Board Meeting

Exhibits:

FCRTA Packet

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

I. TRANSPORTATION CONSENT ITEMS

About 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 Policy 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 Policy Board concerning the item before action is taken.

A. Executive Minutes of February 27, 2020 [APPROVE]

Exhibits:

February Minutes

B. **Second Quarterly Work Element and Financial Report (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]**

Exhibits:

Second Quarterly Report

C. **City of Fowler Transportation Development Act Claim (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]**

Exhibits:

Fowler TDA Claim Resolution 2020-09

Approve Resolution 2020-09 adopting the City of Fowler's 2019-20 Transportation Development Act claims for \$596,876.

D. **City of Huron Transportation Development Act Claim (Les Beshears) [APPROVE]**

Exhibits:

Huron TDA Claim Resolution 2020-10

Approve Resolution 2020-10, adopting the City of Huron's 2019-20 Transportation Development Act claims totaling \$345,483.

E. **Modeling On-Call Contract (Kristine Cai) [APPROVE]**

Summary: Fresno COG's Activity-Based Model (ABM) was completed in 2018. After a year of testing and debugging, the ABM has been applied in COG's planning activities since 2019. RSG, a nationally reputable modeling firm, built the ABM for Fresno COG.

With the approaching 2022 RTP/SCS, further assistance is needed from RSG for tasks such as SCS scenario modeling, EJ performance indicator modeling and other maintenance and troubleshooting issues. Since Fresno COG modeling staff is still learning the ABM's nuances, RSG is the best firm to provide technical assistance to COG through an on-call contract.

Action: Staff and TTC/PAC recommend that the Policy Board approve the on-call contract with RSG, and authorize the Executive Director to enter into contract with RSG for an amount not to exceed \$14,000.

F. **Fiscal Year 2019 Transit Productivity Evaluation Report (Jeff Long) [ACCEPT]**

Exhibits:

Productivity Evaluation

Transportation planning agencies annually conduct a productivity evaluation to assess and recommend potential productivity improvements for transit operators that receive State Transportation Development Act funds. California's Public Utilities Code 99244 requires that "Each transportation planning agency shall annually identify, analyze, and recommend potential productivity improvements which could lower the operational costs of transit operators who operate at least 50 percent of their vehicle service miles within the area under its jurisdiction." If the responsible entity determines that the operator has not made a reasonable effort to implement the recommended improvements, then local transportation funds allocated to that operator cannot exceed the appropriation from the prior year.

The FY 2019 Productivity Evaluation assesses the following transit agencies:

1. Fresno Area Express and Handy Ride
2. Clovis Stageline and Roundup
3. Fresno County Rural Transit Agency
4. Consolidated Transportation Services Agencies for the Metropolitan and Rural Areas.

The Social Service Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) reviewed and received the FY 2019 Transit Productivity Report on January 22, 2020.

Action: Staff, the SSTAC, TTC and PAC recommend the Policy Board accept the Fiscal Year 2019 Transit Productivity Evaluation Report.

G. Circuit Planner and Engineer - Update on Current Tasks (Braden Duran) [INFORMATION]

Summary: This is an update on those tasks underway through Fresno COG's Circuit Planner and Engineer Program, which provides technical assistance to the small cities in Fresno County. Such assistance may include, but is not limited to: planning studies, delivering projects, grant applications, environmental documents, engineering services, etc.

Circuit Planning & Engineering

- Reedley Manning/Buttonwillow Master Plan Assistance – Rincon and VSCE met with the City of Reedley staff to develop the site plan for the project. Staff discussed City needs and opportunities with the project site, including incorporating the Reedley Trail through the project site, which supports Blueprint principals to improve active transportation. VSCE has prepared a draft site plan for the project site and with Rincon are developing draft concepts for discussion with City staff.
- Consultants are reaching out to additional cities on potential projects previously identified.

Circuit Planning

- Kingsburg – Collins & Schoettler made a presentation to City Council on the Alley Design Guidelines
- Coalinga – Rincon completed the request for proposals for Coalinga Trails CEQA/NEPA analysis and the City will be releasing the RFP in April.
- Sanger zoning review – Collins & Schoettler have completed Sanger's zoning review and are completing the draft report.

Circuit Engineering

Conducting the active transportation counts listed below have been put on hold during the COVID-19 pandemic. The cities have requested this as the traffic counts will not reflect normal conditions during this time.

- Fowler – VSCE is developing a plan for conducting Active Transportation Program (bike/ped) counts
- Mendota - VSCE is developing a plan for conducting Active Transportation Program (bike/ped) counts
- Firebaugh – VSCE continues to coordinate with staff on potential projects.

Action: Information. The Policy Board may provide additional direction at its discretion.

H. California Air Resources Board Approval of AB617 South Central Fresno Community Emissions Reduction Plan (Braden Duran) [INFORMATION]

Summary: The California Air Resources Board has approved the South Central Fresno Community Emissions Reduction Program (CERP) under Assembly Bill 617. AB 617-selected communities are heavily impacted by air pollution. AB 617 requires community-driven action to identify, monitor and reduce air pollutants of specific concern to each location.

The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SJVAPCD) convened a community steering committee comprising residents, local businesses, air district representatives, and other stakeholders to develop specific emission-reduction strategies. The Fresno steering committee met regularly between December 2018 and January 2020 to craft the programs that focus on reducing exposure to fine particulate matter, toxic air contaminants, and smog-forming chemicals.

Reduction strategies for South Fresno target emissions from a variety of sources including:

- Passenger cars
- Residential energy use
- Urban sources

- Heavy-duty trucks
- Industrial and agricultural sources including pesticides
- Oil and gas operations
- Fugitive dust

Successfully deploying many of the strategies will require focused coordination among multiple public agencies. Those include CARB, the SJVAPCD and other state and local agencies. The CARB Board committed to a follow-up meeting in Fresno later this year to review recommended actions and additional elements as communities move into the implementation phase.

To address the requirements of AB 617 (C. Garcia, 2017), CARB developed the Office of Community Air Protection (OCAP). Its role is to coordinate the overall process and to provide input, training and the equipment to monitor and report on air pollutants.

All approved documents related to South Central Fresno can be found at this link:
<http://community.valleyair.org/selected-communities/south-central-fresno/>

Fresno COG staff participated in the steering committee process and will continue to update this Committee as needed.

Action: Information. The Board may provide further direction at its discretion.

I. **Regional Transportation Plan Committee Applications and Community Outreach Mini Grant Application (Brenda Veenendaal) [INFORMATION]**

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The following Regional Transportation Plan-related applications were recently released and are posted to fresnocog.org.

1. **RTP Roundtable Participant Application (Brenda Veenendaal) [INFORMATION]**

Summary: The RTP Roundtable will support Fresno COG staff, the COG's standing committees and Policy Board as the 2022 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) are developed. Roundtable members will provide expertise and generate consensus on RTP issues, acting in an advisory capacity to the Fresno COG Policy Board.

The RTP Roundtable application is available on fresnocog.org under "Get Involved."

Action: Information. The Board may provide additional direction at its discretion.

2. **Environmental Justice Subcommittee Participant Application (Brenda Veenendaal) [INFORMATION]**

Summary: The Environmental Justice (EJ) Subcommittee serves Fresno COG's Transportation Technical Committee (TTC) by assisting staff in setting thresholds for environmental justice populations for the RTP's Environmental Justice Report. The EJ Subcommittee will appoint one member to sit on the RTP Roundtable during the RTP update.

The EJ Subcommittee application is available on fresnocog.org under "Get Involved."

Action: Information. The Board may provide further direction at its discretion.

J. **New Deadlines for Open Grant Applications (Trai Her-Cole) [INFORMATION]**

Summary: Considering the challenges that all agencies are facing due to COVID-19, several open requests for proposals, notices of funding opportunities, and technical assistance program application deadlines have been extended. Please see below for program details. If you have any questions or anticipate submitting an application and need technical assistance, contact Trai Her-Cole at traih@fresnocog.org or at 233-4154.

- California Climate Change Investments (CCI) Technical Assistance (TA) Program Evaluation RFP has been extended to 5 p.m. Monday, April 13.
- California Climate Change Investments Technical Assistance (CCI TA) Partners Advancing Climate Equity (PACE) Pilot Program RFP has been extended to 5 p.m. Wednesday, April 22.
- SGC's Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program (SALC) provides two types of grants: **Planning grants** for developing policies and economic development strategies to protect agricultural land, **and Land Acquisition Grants for either conservation easements or fee acquisitions** which permanently protect lands that are at risk of conversion to development. Pre-proposals, or concept proposals, for acquisition projects are due by Thursday, April 30, 2020. Organizations interested in applying for planning grants are encouraged to submit pre-proposals as well. Complete applications for both acquisition and planning grants are due Friday, Aug. 28, 2020.
- The SGC Tribal Government Challenge Planning Grant Program provides funding for California tribes to conduct planning to identify solutions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve clean energy access, and advance climate adaptation and resiliency on tribal lands and in tribal communities. The deadline to submit a proposal is Friday, May 22, 2020.
- California Climate Change Investments' (CCI) Clean Mobility Options Voucher Pilot Program application window is being postponed. **An exact timeframe for when applications will be accepted will be announced.** Please remember that the program administrator team is available to provide comprehensive, free technical assistance to help connect partners and develop your project and application.
- FTA's Accelerating Innovative Mobility (AIM) initiative will establish a national network of transit agencies that will test and share project results and use FTA's technical assistance centers to promote promising innovations. The Notice of Funding Opportunity deadline is now May 18.
- FTA's Helping Obtain Prosperity for Everyone Program (HOPE) supports projects that will improve transit services or facilities in areas of persistent poverty through planning, engineering, and/or project technical or financing plans. The FY 2020 Notice of Funding Opportunity will now close June 3.
- FTA's Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities Program makes federal resources available to replace, rehabilitate and purchase buses and related equipment, and to construct bus-related facilities, including technological changes or innovations to modify low or no emission vehicles or facilities. A sub-program, the Low- or No-Emission Vehicle Program, provides competitive grants for bus and bus facility projects that support low and zero-emission vehicles. The deadline for the Bus and Bus Facilities Program Notice of Funding Opportunity is now April 29.

Action: Information. The Board may provide additional direction at its discretion.

K. **Fresno COG Electric Vehicle Readiness Plan Project Update (Trai Her-Cole) [INFORMATION]**

Summary: Fresno COG was awarded a Caltrans Planning Grant for an electric vehicle readiness plan to support electric vehicle implementation within Fresno County. Using stakeholder engagement and data-driven analysis of electric vehicle forecasting as the foundation, the plan will include information about permitting, funding, and potential siting locations. The project update below provides a status of the project tasks to date.

The consultant has identified existing conditions impacting the EV market and EV charging, including uptake levels and key influencing factors. This will serve as the baseline data to develop a customized EV forecast specific to Fresno COG through 2030, and will account for a number of factors, including return-on-investment and model availability. Analysis continues for prioritizing sites using an optimization framework that considers density, vulnerability, equity, stakeholder input, and other factors. The consultant team has analyzed electrification on transit fleets, including an initial outlook at the current and planned electrification needs for FCRTA, FAX and Clovis Transit. The analysis will consider transit fleet needs to convert bus fleets to 100 percent electric under multiple scenarios, including

maximum demand and cost implications of conversion.

Fresno COG, FCRTA and AECOM continue to hold stakeholder engagement meetings as identified in the Public Outreach Plan. This effort provides opportunities for stakeholders to voice concerns, contribute to baseline understanding, and leverage partnerships. To date, a series of focus groups and one-on-one meetings have been held with SJVAPCD, auto industry providers and retailers, school districts and higher education institutions, several community-based organizations and vanpool providers. Below are preliminary findings from the stakeholder engagement to date.

- Many stakeholders represent disadvantaged communities, and their direct and immediate priorities are not necessarily electrification of necessary services; therefore the co-benefits of meeting targets have to be communicated effectively
- Stakeholders often find support for obtaining an electric vehicle or a charger, but not for maintenance or long-term costs that they may incur
- Most stakeholders are not tracking metrics, existing infrastructure use or planned infrastructure
- Renting can be a barrier to installing a home charger, a common prerequisite for buying a PEV in the absence of public charging options
- Determining effective siting criteria will rely on considering the barriers for disadvantaged communities
- Advance planning for PEV charging infrastructure is critical as many of the available funding opportunities are granted on a first-come/first-served basis

A complete summary memo of the stakeholder engagement findings and an existing conditions report will be available in the upcoming agendas. Contact Trai Her-Cole at traih@fresnocog.org for more information.

Action: Information only. The Board may provide additional direction at its discretion.

II. TRANSPORTATION ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. 2020 Unmet Transit Needs: Public Hearing Announcement (Todd Sobrado) [INFORMATION]

Summary: The 2020 Unmet Transit Needs Assessment public hearing will be held on April 30, 2020, at the regularly scheduled Fresno COG Policy Board meeting. The hearing is being held for staff and the transit agencies to address any public comments received prior to the Fresno COG Policy Board taking action on the report in June.

Action: Open the public hearing, receive comments, and close the public hearing. The Board may provide additional direction at its discretion.

B. 2021 Regional Active Transportation Program (ATP) Cycle 5 Guidelines, Resolution 2020-11 (Jennifer Soliz) [APPROVE]

Exhibits:

Resolution 2020-11
FINAL_DRAFT_FCOG_2021_Regional_ATP_Guidelines_(Tracked_Changes_Shown)
Regional_ATP_Guidelines_DRAFT_(Tracked_Changes_Accepted Fund Estimates MAG Members

Summary: The State established the Active Transportation Program (ATP) in September 2013. ATP funding is distributed as follows:

- Fifty percent to the State for a statewide competitive program (“Statewide Competitive ATP”);
- Ten percent to the small urban and rural area competitive program, managed by the State; and
- Forty percent to the large urbanized area competitive program, with funding distributed by population and managed by the Metropolitan Planning Organization (“Regional ATP”).

Fresno COG is responsible for developing guidelines for the regional ATP and for recommending projects to the California Transportation Commission. The Regional ATP Guidelines substantially follow those of the CTC but include some differences based on the region’s priorities. Fresno COG developed the guidelines in consultation with Fresno COG’s ATP Multidisciplinary Advisory Group (MAG), which

includes representatives from Caltrans, other government agencies, and active transportation stakeholder organizations with expertise in public health and pedestrian and bicycle issues, including Safe Routes to School programs. The California Transportation Commission (CTC) is scheduled to approve the guidelines at its May meeting.

The California Transportation Commission (CTC) adopted final 2021 ATP Guidelines on March 25, 2020. There were changes at the statewide level from Cycle 4 to Cycle 5, including new and revised language in categories such as project/program amendments (scope changes), performance metrics, scoring criteria and timely use of funds. Considerable program changes include:

- Updated Disadvantaged Communities criteria to include a Healthy Places Index
- An updated project size threshold for small and medium infrastructure/non-infrastructure projects
- Eligible projects – quick-build project pilot program

The MAG agreed that the regional guidelines and criteria should match the adopted statewide guidelines as closely as possible. Only a few minor differences remain between the statewide guidelines and Fresno COG's regional guidelines. As in previous cycles, the MAG agreed to continue with no minimum funding award and to encourage funding awards of \$2 million or less per project. Fresno COG will hold a separate call for projects for the Regional ATP and have a regional scoring committee. Applicants may apply for either the State ATP program or Regional ATP program, or both. Fresno COG encourages all ATP projects to be submitted to the State ATP competitive program, although it is not required. Projects not selected for programming in the statewide competition must be considered in the regional competition.

The statewide competitive call for projects is now open, and applications will be due to Caltrans on June 15, 2020. Once CTC approves the Regional ATP Guidelines (May 15-16, 2020), the regional call for projects will open, with applications due August 14, 2020.

The MAG and staff recommend several changes that have been identified in the guidelines, shown in red. These changes are consistent with the statewide guidelines. Regional ATP documents are all included for review and approval and will be posted to fresnocog.org. Enclosures for this item include:

- Resolution 2020-11
- Final Draft Regional ATP Guidelines (tracked changes shown)
- Final Draft Regional ATP Guidelines (tracked changes accepted)
- Fund estimate
- Multi-disciplinary Advisory Group List

The electronic ATP Cycle 5 applications and other guidance documents can be found at: <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/local-assistance/fed-and-state-programs/active-transportation-program/cycle5>. Please contact Jennifer Soliz via email at JSoliz@fresnocog.org or via phone at 559-233-4148 ext. 223 with any questions.

Action: Staff, the MAG and TTC/PAC recommend the Policy Board approve Resolution 2020-11 adopting the Fresno COG Regional Competitive Active Transportation Program Guidelines and accept the Multidisciplinary Advisory Group list.

C. **Fresno County Transportation Network Vulnerability Assessment Final Report (Kristine Cai)**
[ACCEPT]

Summary: Fresno COG received grant funding from Caltrans under the Senate Bill (SB) 1 Adaptation Planning Grants Program to conduct a Transportation Network Vulnerability Assessment (TNVA) for Fresno County. The TNVA aimed to assist Fresno COG and its member agencies in understanding and adapting to the potential impacts of climate change on the region's transportation infrastructure. The study's major work products included a public outreach plan and synopsis, a vulnerability assessment report, and an adaptation strategies report.

The TNVA found that much of the Fresno region's transportation system and its users are likely to be affected by changing climate conditions. Primary climate-related hazards affecting transportation include: flooding, wildfire, extreme temperatures, and precipitation-induced landslides.

One of the analysis' major components was a risk indicator scoring process that combined relevant data on climate hazards and assets into vulnerability scores representing the relative risks facing

different assets. This systemwide process helps identify the most vulnerable assets, which should be assessed at the project level.

The TNVA also identified potential adaptation strategies that can be implemented around the county to prepare for climate change impacts. The resulting list of strategies is intended to act as a menu of various response options, which Fresno COG and its stakeholders can pull from as needed. There are a wide range of responses to consider, including changes to planning, policy, design, operations, and maintenance.

This information can inform the next Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS) update and also help local jurisdictions meet the SB 379 requirements, which mandate that all cities and counties address climate adaptation and resiliency strategies in the next revision of their general plans' safety elements.

The draft final report is available at: https://www.fresnocog.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/FCOG-DRAFT-Final-Report_200331_wAppendices.pdf.

Action: Staff and TTC/PAC recommend that the Policy Board accept the Fresno County Transportation Network Vulnerability Assessment Final Report.

D. **Regional Transportation Plan Public Opinion Survey Consultant Selection (Brenda Veenendaal)**
[APPROVE]

Summary: Fresno Council of Governments (Fresno COG) released a request for proposals (RFP) on February 1, 2020, seeking a qualified consultant with substantial experience in designing and conducting opinion surveys whose participants are reflective of the county's demographics, including the non-English speaking populations. The consultant will be responsible for ranking the Fresno County community's defined values and transportation funding priorities, with a budget not to exceed \$50,000.

Staff received four proposals from the following firms:

- Rea & Parker Research
- Nichols Research
- Probolsky Research
- Think Now

A scoring committee comprising Fresno COG staff members reviewed and scored the applications, holding phone interviews with each consultant on Thursday, March 5, 2020. The scoring committee recommends Rea and Parker Research for contract award based on the following:

Rea & Parker Research

- Impressive experience in Urban Planning and Public Policy
- Twice as many surveys proposed in two formats, online and telephone
- English, Spanish and Hmong language surveys to mirror Fresno County's population
- Very thorough and detailed approach
- Previous clients included a vast list of municipalities and local governments
- Proposal totaled \$49,850- just under budget

Action: Staff, TTC and PAC recommend that the Fresno COG Policy Board approve Rea & Parker consulting firm completion of the Fresno COG Regional Transportation Plan Public Opinion Survey, and the authorization of Fresno COG's Executive Director to enter into a contract for an amount not to exceed \$50,000.

E. **Fresno COG Public Participation Plan Draft Update Status (Brenda Veenendaal)** **[INFORMATION]**

Summary: Fresno COG, released the draft 2020 Public Participation Plan (PPP) for its 45-day public review and comment period on March 3, 2020 and closed it on April 17, 2020. No comments were received. On May 26, 2020, the Policy Board will conduct a public hearing on the PPP during its normal monthly meeting at 5:30 PM. Public comments are welcomed at the public hearing or may be submitted in writing for Policy Board consideration via mail or email to the following COG staff member:

Brenda Veenendaal

Fresno COG Administrative Services Manager
2035 Tulare Street, Suite 201
Fresno, CA 93721
brendav@fresnocog.org

The meeting will be held via video/teleconference. For information on how to access the meeting and to view the agenda, please visit <https://agendas.fresnocog.org/> or contact COG staff at 559-233-4148.

The meeting will be accessible to the disabled. Individuals with disabilities may call Fresno COG (with three working days' advance notice) to request auxiliary aids necessary to participate in the public hearing. Translation services are available (with three-day advanced notice) to participants speaking any language.

The PPP is intended to give the Policy Board and staff guidance in providing for public involvement and interagency consultation early and often during the regional planning process. It contains policies, guidelines, processes and procedures to which Fresno COG commits while seeking and fostering open public involvement during the decision-making process regarding all matters within its jurisdiction. The PPP also identifies opportunities to be involved in the metropolitan transportation planning process.

After addressing all submitted comments, the Policy Board will consider adopting the 2020 Public Participation Plan, by resolution, on June 25, 2020, at its regularly scheduled meeting. All documents are available for review or download at www.fresnocog.org, or in hard copy at Fresno COG's offices. Contact Brenda Veenendaal with any questions by email or calling 559-233-4148 ext. 219.

Action: Information. The Board may provide additional direction at its discretion.

F. **Senate Bill 743 Implementation Update (Kristine Cai) [INFORMATION]**

Summary: Senate Bill 743 (SB 743), passed in 2013, was incorporated in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines in December 2018, and will take effect on July 1, 2020. It requires Level of Service (LOS) be replaced with Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) as the metric for transportation impact analyses in the CEQA process. SB 743 is going to result in profound changes to how local land use development projects and transportation capacity projects are approved. It will serve the State's overall climate change goals by encouraging infill development and discouraging greenfield development; supporting green projects, such as transit and active transportation projects and; minimizing capacity-increasing projects.

Fresno COG has been working with the local governments and a consultant team to develop regional guidance and recommendations for SB 743 implementation. The local process has resulted in a 13 percent reduction threshold recommendation based on the new greenhouse gas reduction targets set by the California Air Resources Board for the Fresno region. This compares to the State Office of Planning and Research's (OPR) statewide 15 percent reduction target.

Fresno COG's process has resulted in criteria to help local jurisdictions screen out projects that have less-than-significant VMT impacts. Fresno COG has also distributed draft VMT maps for each jurisdiction, which is one of the screening criteria. Fresno COG staff and the consultant team are working on developing an online VMT calculation tool for projects, and a list of mitigation measures that will work for the region.

Based on the work so far, the SB 743 process will have more impacts on projects in the fringe areas than the urban core, and it will add more of a cost/burden to small cities for growth than to the metropolitan areas. It is consistent with the State's goal of reducing travel-related GHG by concentrating growth in the urban areas, where travel is relatively shorter, than small communities where people tend to travel longer distances.

As part of the CEQA process, project sponsors will need to mitigate the impact to a less-than-significant level to avoid an Environmental Impact Report (EIR). If the impact can't be mitigated, a Statement of Overriding Considerations can be provided through an EIR process, which may be riskier.

There hasn't been any clear guidance from the State on how mitigation measures can be quantified. OPR seems to think on-site mitigation on a project-by-project basis is less effective than coordinated regional efforts, such as a regional mitigation bank or exchange, which is brand new in the VMT arena.

Fresno COG's recommendation will be advisory. The cities and the County will need to make their own judgements on what will work best based on individual growth policies and other considerations, such as economic development. Local government staff is strongly encouraged to stay involved with Fresno COG in the process.

Action: Information. The Policy Board may provide additional direction at its discretion.

G. **Release of Measure C New Technology Reserve Program 2020 Grant Application (Peggy Arnest)**
[INFORMATION]

Exhibits:

New Tech Application

Summary: Fresno COG is seeking proposals from eligible public agencies for advanced transit and transportation projects that have the potential for broad benefits to Fresno County residents, and will assist the region in meeting its air quality goals. Fresno COG and the Fresno County Transportation Authority (FCTA) are proposing to fund projects of regional significance in research, development, demonstration, and deployment that will advance public transit and transportation. This third cycle of the Measure “C” New Technology Reserve Program will make approximately **\$5.4 million** available for eligible new technology projects/programs. The 2020 application is attached to this item.

Timeline:

ACTIVITY	DATE
Request for Proposals released	April 10, 2020
Last day to submit requests for clarification	June 4, 2020
Deadline for electronic proposal submittal for agencies	
requesting to partner with Fresno COG	June 18, 2020
Deadline for proposal submittal	July 22, 2020
Scoring (Tentative)	July 27 - August 14, 2020
Potential interview date (tentative)	August 17 - 28, 2020
Policy Board approval (tentative)	September 24, 2020
FCTA Board approval (tentative)	October 28, 2020
Notice to proceed - subject to contract signing (tentative)	January 2021

In February 2016, the Policy Board approved a formal process to solicit and accept members to sit on a Multidisciplinary Advisory Group (MAG). The MAG will review, evaluate and score the New Tech applications and recommend projects for funding. Nominees are needed from the following: City of Fresno, City of Clovis, east side city, west side city, County of Fresno, Measure C Citizens Oversight Committee, FCTA, transit, business, education and two public seats. The MAG application will be released in the early summer. For more information regarding the Measure C New Technology program please visit <http://www.fresnocog.org/measure-c-new-technology-reserve-fund> and/or contact Peggy Arnest at parnest@fresnocog.org.

Action: Information only. The Policy Board may provide additional direction at its discretion.

H. **Caltrans Report (Caltrans) [INFORMATION]**

III. **ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT ITEMS**

About Consent Items:

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A. **Monthly Legislative Report (Trai Her-Cole) [INFORMATION]**

Exhibits:

- 1-5_Federal_Updates 6-7_Federal_Response,_Appropriations_and_Stimulus_Acts
8_S_3548_Coronavirus_Aid,_Relief,_and_Economic_Security_Act_(CARES)
9-12_Resources_for_Agencies

Attached are the most recent legislative reports and resource materials related to COVID 19.

1. HR 6074 Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Summary
2. H.R. 6201 Families First Coronavirus Response Act Summary 7. H.R. 6201 Families First Coronavirus Response Act Summary
3. S. 3548 Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) Summary
4. Federal Aid COVID RESOURCES TOOLKIT 3.30.20
5. Administering FEMA Covid 19 Funds Tracking and Reimbursement Presentation
6. Administering FEMA Covid 19 Funds Tracking and Reimbursement Summary

To locate current and past-year state bill information, go to the Official California Legislative Information webpage at leginfo.ca.gov/

To locate current and past-year federal bill information go to THOMAS, the Library of Congress's bill information website at <http://thomas.loc.gov/>

Action: Information. The Board may provide additional direction at its discretion.

IV. **ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

A. **2020 Valley Voice Sacramento (Robert Phipps/Kristine Cai) [INFORMATION]**

Summary: Fresno COG staff will provide a verbal summary of the San Joaquin Valley COG's 2020 Valley Voice trip to Sacramento.

Action: Information only. The Board may provide additional direction at its discretion.

V. **ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR**

Current:

Mayor David Cardenas (Fowler) Interim Chair

Mayor Robert Silva (Mendota) Interim Vice Chair

Action: Nominate Chair and Vice-Chair, term May 2020 - April 2021.

VI. **OTHER ITEMS**

A. **Items from Staff**

B. **Items from Members**

VII. **PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS**

A. **Public Presentations**

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