



## San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agencies' Directors' Committee

**Meeting Agenda**  
**Thursday, May 7, 2020**  
**Time: 10:00 a.m.**

**THIS IS A PHONE ZOOM CONFERENCE MEETING**

Meeting ID: 883 1766 4998

Password: 332576

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88317664998?pwd=SHNxUEl3LzludEhEWG9LQ1FIWGHaUT09>

Phone only: (669) 900 9128

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Enclosure

1. April 2, 2020 Directors' Meeting P. Taylor

### DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

2. MPO Activity During Coronavirus P. Taylor

3. RTP/Sustainable Communities Strategies/Air Quality  
*Update and Discussion* R. Niblock

4. California Transportation Funding P. Taylor

#### ***Program and Project Funding Updates:***

- ***Trade Corridor Enhancement Program (SICOG & MCAG)***
- ***Solutions for Congested Corridors Program (Fresno COG)***
- ***State Transportation Improvement Program***
- ***ATP Cycle 5 Call-for-Projects (due June 15)***

Madera County  
Transportation  
Commission  
Patricia Taylor - Chair

Kings County  
Association of  
Governments  
Terri King - Vice Chair

Tulare County  
Association of  
Governments  
Ted Smalley

Kern  
Council of  
Governments  
Ahron Hakimi

(559) 266-6222  
(559) 314-6015 (Fax)



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Stanislaus  
Council of  
Governments  
Rosa Park

Merced County  
Association of  
Governments  
Stacie Guzman

San Joaquin  
Council of  
Governments  
Andrew Chesley

Fresno  
Council of  
Governments  
Tony Boren

2001 Howard Rd, Suite 201  
Madera, CA 93637



- |   |                        |                                     |
|---|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 5. SJV REAP Committee for Housing<br><b>Receive Update</b>            | R. Phipps<br>M. Sigala |                                     |
| 6. FY 2020-21 Valleywide OWP<br><b>Discuss and Consider Approving</b> | M. Sigala              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. I-5 Freight ZERO Pilot Study<br><b>Receive Update</b>              | A. Hakimi              |                                     |

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

*The following items are for informational purposes and require no action or vote. Written summaries of Informational Items are included in the agenda packet.*

- |   |                         |
|---|-------------------------|
| 8. Caltrans Directors' Report                         | S. Ehlert/D. McElhinney |
| 9. California High Speed Rail                         | D. Gomez                |
| 10. San Joaquin JPA for Passenger Rail                | D. Leavitt              |
| 11. Valley GO (MioCar) and Valley Flex (Vamos & VoGo) | M. Sigala               |
| 12. California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley | F. Cardoza              |

**OTHER ITEMS**

13. Director Items
14. Public Presentations for Items Not on Agenda.  
*This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons wishing to address the Committee on items within its jurisdiction but NOT on this agenda. Unscheduled comments may be limited to three minutes. The public may comment on listed agenda items as they are considered.*

**ADJOURN MEETING**

***Directors Only Closed Session if Necessary***

**Next Directors' Meeting: Thursday, June 4, 2020**

**Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Accommodations** The meeting room and restrooms are ADA accessible. Representatives or individuals with disabilities should contact the SJV Regional Planning Agencies at (559) 266-6222, at least three days in advance, to request auxiliary aids and/or translation services necessary to participate in the meeting.



# ITEM 1

## Meeting Minutes Thursday, April 2, 2020 Time: 10:00 a.m.

Meeting Location:  
CONFERENCE CALL MEETING

Directors	MPOs
Patricia Taylor	Madera County Transportation Commission
Terri King	Kings County Association of Governments
Rosa Park	Stanislaus Council of Governments
Tony Boren	Fresno Council of Governments
Stacie Guzman	Merced County Association of Governments
Ted Smalley	Tulare County Association of Governments
Ahron Hakimi	Kern Council of Governments
Andrew Chesley	San Joaquin Council of Governments

*Please see Appendix A for a list of other attendees*

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

#### 1. March 5, 2020 Directors' Meeting

P. Taylor

There was a motion to approve the March 5, 2020 Directors' Committee Minutes.

First Motion: Terri King  
Second Motion: Andrew Chesley  
Motion Carried

Madera County  
Transportation  
Commission  
Patricia Taylor - Chair

Kings County  
Association of  
Governments  
Terri King - Vice Chair

Tulare County  
Association of  
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Fresno  
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2001 Howard Rd, Suite 201  
Madera, CA 93637



## DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

### 2. MPO Activity During Coronavirus

P. Taylor

Chair Taylor led a discussion about coronavirus measures and activities among MPOs. Madera CTC reported implementing telecommuting policies, and postponed their March and April board meetings. TCAG reported telecommuting and a very light staff schedule in the office. MCAG reported telecommuting and a few transit staff in the office, committee meetings by Zoom. StanCOG reports their office is closed and everyone is telecommuting. Their March board meeting was postponed and other committee meetings are being held via Go To Meetings. SJ COG reported postponing one board meeting and the next meeting via zoom, other advisory committee meetings postponed until May. KCAG reported part-time in office staffing and part-time telecommuting, board meeting via tele-conference. Kern COG is holding board meetings by tele-conference. Caltrans D6 reported almost 100 percent telecommuting among staff. Caltrans D10 reported that a majority of their staff are telecommuting. FHWA reported that they don't have Zoom capabilities, and that there may be some CARES Act funding available to MPOs through the FTA.

### 3. RTP/Sustainable Communities Strategies/Air Quality *Update and Discussion*

R. Niblock

Ryan Niblock reported SAFE Rule Part II has been released and will take effect in 60 days (early June).

Jennifer Gress, California Air Resources Board provided an update on SAFE Rule Part II. EMFAC staff is looking at adjustment factors related to setting new GHG emission standards. CARB is working with various partners on a path forward. CARB will decide shortly on the need to update the adjustment factors if needed. Madera CTC asked about the status of their 2018 SCS. Jennifer commented that additional information may be needed from Madera. Andy Chesley commented that there is a desire to finalize the 2018 SCSs across the Valley. Jennifer commented that CARB is looking forward to the third round of SCSs. She noted they are working on each valley MPO 2018 SCS. SJ COG, CARB still needs additional info. StanCOG, CARB still needs additional info. Fresno COG is approved. Kern COG, anticipated to be approved. KCAG, delayed by the COVID crisis related to staff telecommuting issues. TCAG, draft report is complete and under review. MCAG, CARB is awaiting a submittal from MCAG. Madera CTC, initial submittal has been received and additional info is pending. Andy Chesley requested that the process of approval by CARB be evaluated to run more efficiently next time. Andy suggested a standard template for information gathering across MPOs by CARB. Ryan Niblock was volunteered to work with Valley MPOs on suggestions back to CARB.

### 4. California Transportation Funding

P. Taylor

#### *Program and Project Funding Updates:*

- ***Trade Corridor Enhancement Program (SJCOG & MCAG)***

Kern COG reported a submittal pending for State Route 46. City of Tracy will submit for International Parkway. Stockton Diamond Grade Separation Project will submit. Tulare and Madera may submit for SR 99. Letters of Support from the Directors and Policy Council were requested.

- ***Solutions for Congested Corridors Program (Fresno COG)***

Andy reported there might be a Valleylink submittal. A funding workshop for April 8 was noted.

- ***State Transportation Improvement Program***

Gus Khouri noted that with gas consumption down, this will impact next year's STIP.

**5. Ecosystem of Shared Mobility Services in the SJV Project Update**

***Update on Valley Flex (Vamos and VOGO in the north Valley)***

Caroline Rodier, UC Davis ITS, provided a brief overview of Valley Flex. She described the Maas system platform for Vamos, which provides routing and real-time information to transit users via an app. The platform is “open” and includes all transit providers in the San Joaquin and Stanislaus Counties. VOGO (volunteering ride sharing) is being integrated with Vamos. Caroline presented a scenario for expanding Vamos through eight counties. One time cost would \$42,000. The monthly maintenance cost would be about \$1k per month per county. VOGO is in Riverbank, Manteca and Lathrop. This is a partnership with MOVE Stanislaus. Caroline reviewed user data information.

**6. Valley Voice Sacramento**

M. Sigala/G. Khouri

***Follow Up Discussion of March 11, 2020 Trip***

Gus Kouri noted that the legislature was adjourned on March 16 and may not be back until June due to the coronavirus. The only items to be addressed in June are related to the coronavirus, emergency budgeting, fire suppression and homelessness, per Gus. There are three CTC vacancies right now. CTC commission meeting in May will reassess the timelines for application submittals for TCEP and SCS. In terms of the March 11 visit, Gus thanked everyone for their input and assistance. Gus reviewed some of the meetings that occurred. Chair Taylor noted some redundancy in speaker comments. Stacie Guzman noted the trip was well planned and executed. Discussion ensued about the ability of the delegation to stay on topic. The reception the night before was noted as something to do again.

**7. SJV REAP Committee for Housing**

M. Sigala/R. Phipps

***Receive Update***

Michael Sigala reported the initial application has been submitted. HCD is asking for more intensive valleywide activities. A second application for \$6M is pending and will include valleywide activities. A RFQ is contemplated for housing activities for the next two to three years. The RFQ will lead to individual bids as the work requirements are needed. Robert Phipps noted that HCD will process the initial application, \$4.7M. The second application will be \$5M to \$6M.

**8. FY 2020-21 Valleywide OWP**

M. Sigala

***Discuss***

Michael Sigala briefly reviewed the process and topics for the FY 2020-21 Valleywide OWP. He will be following up with staff and bring back a final draft version to the May Directors’ meeting.

**9. Annual Policy Conference**

P. Taylor

Chair Taylor noted the conference was postponed to May 19-21, 2021. Rosa Park noted a conflicting CTC meeting for the 2020 date. Chair Taylor will look into this for the 2021 conference.

**10. I-5 Self-Driving Truck Study**

A. Hakimi

***Receive Update***

Ahron Hakimi noted that the researcher from UC Davis ITS is starting to work on the study. A short discussion of PL funds for the project ensued.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

**11. Caltrans Directors’ Report**

S. Ehlert/D. McElhinney

Michael Navarro (D 6) noted project delivery is still happening. Caltrans is evaluating the possibility of shutting down projects due to the coronavirus.

**12. California High Speed Rail**

D. Gomez

No update was provided

**13. San Joaquin JPA for Passenger Rail**

D. Leavitt

Dan Leavitt noted that San Joaquins and Ace train ridership is down 85 and 92 percent respectfully. Dan noted that reduced train services is being implemented. Train service is an essential service. May 29, 2020 is the next SJPA Board meeting. This will be a phone conference meeting. The environmental report is out for review for the Stockton extension project.

**14. California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley**

F. Cardoza

The March 20<sup>th</sup> Board meeting was cancelled. The next meeting will occur in June. Ted Smalley noted his term is expired and wanted to know if other Directors can be appointed.

**OTHER ITEMS**

**15. Director Items**

Andy Chesley noted the need to move swiftly on RTP and TIP amendments in advance of a lockdown. Andy noted a meeting with the big four, BART ridership is down 92 percent. He also noted that under pandemic circumstances, density and heavy transit use, will impact the RTP processes.

Ted Smalley noted that TCAG is trying to bond at this moment and it is challenging.

**16. Public Presentations for Items not on Agenda**

None

**Meeting Adjourned at Approximately 12:00 P.M.**

**Appendix A – Additional Meeting Participants**

<b>In Attendance:</b>	
<b>Individual(s)</b>	<b>Organization(s)</b>
Ben Kimball	Tulare County Association of Governments
Michael Sigala	Valleywide Coordinator, Sigala Inc
Ryan Niblock	San Joaquin Council of Governments
Michael Navarro	Caltrans Planning D6
Dan Leavitt	San Joaquin JPA
Michael Navarro	Caltrans D6
Matt Fell	Merced County Association of Governments
Sandy Ebersole	Madera County Transportation Commission
Caroline Rodier	UC Davis
Dylan Stone	Madera County Transportation Commission
Scott Carson	Federal Highway Administration
Jeff Findley	Madera County Transportation Commission
Tom Dumas	Caltrans D10
Bill Higgins	California Council of Governments
Robert Phipps	Fresno Council of Governments
Jennifer Gress	California Air Resources Board
Gus Khouri	Khouri Consulting
Miguel Lopez	California Partnership for the SJV
Elisabeth Hahn	Stanislaus Council of Governments



San Joaquin Valley

# REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCIES

ITEM 6

## Overall Work Program Fiscal Year 2020-21



Kern Council  
of Governments



Kings County Association of Governments



StanCOG  
Stanislaus Council of Governments



MADERA CTC  
Madera County Transportation Commission

**MCAG**  
MERCED COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS



Tulare County Association of Governments



Fresno Council  
of Governments

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCIES POLICY COUNCIL

MEMBERS AND STAFF, JUNE 2020

**Fresno Council of Governments (Fresno COG)**

Mayor Amarpreet Dhaliwal, City of San Joaquin

Mayor Pro-Tem Gary Yep, City of Kerman

[Alternate:]

**STAFF: Tony Boren, Executive Director – Fresno COG**

**Kern Council of Governments (Kern COG)**

Supervisor Zack Scrivner, Kern County

Councilmember Bob Smith, City of Bakersfield

[Alternate: Councilmember Cathy Prout, City of Shafter]

**STAFF: Ahron Hakimi, Executive Director – Kern COG**

**Kings County Association of Governments (KCAG)**

Supervisor Doug Verboon, Kings County

Councilmember Martin Devine, City of Hanford

[Alternate: Supervisor Joe Neves, Kings County]

**STAFF: Terri King, Executive Director – KCAG**

**Madera County Transportation Commission (MCTC)**

Supervisor Robert Poythress, County of Madera – **VICE CHAIR**

Supervisor Brett Frazier, County of Madera

[Alternate: Mayor Andrew Medellin, City of Madera]

**STAFF: Patricia Taylor, Executive Director – MCTC**



**Merced County Association of Governments (MCAG)**

Supervisor Daron McDaniel, County of Merced

Mayor Mike Villalta, City of Los Banos

[Alternate: Mayor Mike Murphy, City of Merced]

**STAFF: Stacie Guzman, Executive Director – MCAG**

**San Joaquin Council of Governments (SJ COG)**

Supervisor Chuck Winn, County of San Joaquin – **CHAIR**

Vice-Mayor Dan Wright, City of Stockton

[Alternate: Councilmember Gary Singh, City of Manteca]

**STAFF: Andy Chesley, Executive Director – SJ COG**

**Stanislaus Council of Governments (StanCOG)**

Supervisor Vito Chiesa, County of Stanislaus

Councilmember Bill Zoslocki, City of Modesto

[Alternate – Councilmember Jenny Kenoyer, City of Modesto]

**STAFF: Rosa Park, Executive Director – StanCOG**

**Tulare County Association of Governments (TCAG)**

Mayor Rudy Mendoza, City of Woodlake

Supervisor Kuyler Crocker, County of Tulare

[Alternate – Councilmember Linda Launer, City of Dinuba]

**STAFF: Ted Smalley, Executive Director – TCAG**

**San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District, Samir Sheikh, Executive Director**

## INTRODUCTION

The San Joaquin Valley (SJV) covers over 27,000 square miles and encompasses the eight-county region of Kern, Kings, Tulare, Fresno, Madera, Merced, Stanislaus and San Joaquin counties. Since 1992, the San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agencies (Valley RPAs) have coordinated planning activities where interregional issues are involved, including air quality conformity, goods movement, funding for regional transportation projects, legislative advocacy, and Sustainable Communities Strategies.

Planning efforts of Valleywide importance are conducted among the eight RPAs through the San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agencies' Directors' Committee (Directors' Committee) and the San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agencies Policy Council (Regional Policy Council), a governing board including elected officials from each Valley RPA and the Executive Director of the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District.

The FY 2020-2021 Valleywide Overall Work Program is a summary document and details major coordinated activities that all eight regional planning agencies are actively engaged in. The Valleywide OWP does not replace the need or requirements of each RPA to conduct their own OWP, rather it is a planning and budgeting tool for shared Valleywide activities.

*{Note – the terms Regional Planning Agency (RPA), Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA), Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), and Council of Governments (COG) are used interchangeably in this document.}*

## CURRENT VALLEYWIDE MAJOR ACTIVITIES

### 1. MAJOR HIGHWAYS AND INTERSTATES

***Objective: To develop and foster regional coordination and prioritization for SR 99, I-5, and other regionally significant corridor improvements.***

Lead: Kern COG and MCAG

The Valley RPAs work in close consultation with Caltrans, and other stakeholders, to prioritize funding for SR 99, and other major highways and interstates. The 99 Business Plan helped the Valley achieve dedicated funding for SR 99 through Proposition 1B, the only transportation earmark in the bond placed before the voters. Caltrans Districts 6 and 10 have completed the necessary Corridor System Management Plans required by the State, updated the 99 Business Plan and Master Plan, and worked with the Valley RPAs on project selection and funding alternatives. The Directors, working in close

consultation with Caltrans District 6 and 10 staff, routinely meet and discuss Proposition 1B bond savings, SB1, BUILD, INFRA, and other funding strategies and opportunities to enhance and improve SR 99, I-5, and other critical corridors.

**Activities for FY 2020-2021:**

- Advocate to complete the system for SR 99, to a least six lanes of travel throughout the SJV.
- Prioritize significant regional projects in accordance with criteria developed by the Directors' Committee for coordinated, and consensus driven, advocacy for funding.
- Lead discussions with the Regional Policy Council, and others, about the importance of SB1 funding for all major Valley projects.
- Seek federal and state funding for major highway and interstate projects and coordinate pre-construction activities, when feasible, to ensure project readiness. The Trade Corridor Enhancement Program, and Solutions for Congested Corridors Program, are major SB1 funding sources to be targeted.
- Work in close consultation with Caltrans Districts 6 & 10 to identify the most congested highway segments for eligibility for Trade Corridor Enhancement Program, and Solutions for Congested Corridors Program (SB 1) funding. Continue to refine and prioritize regionally significant projects through a methodical mutually agreed upon evaluation process.
- Explore SHOPP funding for auxiliary lane, and other concepts, as projects are eligible. Develop a Master Strategy for the SHOPP. Kern COG to coordinate with Caltrans D6, and MCAG to coordinate with D10 on opportunities for additional programming.

**2. JOINT FUNDING STRATEGIES – STIP, IIP AND OTHER FUNDING**

***Objective: To develop and foster greater coordination across various funding programs to enhance and increase transportation funding to the Valley.***

Lead: TCAG and San Joaquin COG

The State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) is a multi-year capital improvement program to assist the State and local entities to plan and implement transportation improvements, and to utilize resources in a cost-effective manner. STIP funded improvements include state highways, local roads, public transit, intercity rail, pedestrian and bicycle facilities, grade separations, intermodal facilities, etc. Interregional Improvement Program (IIP) funds are programmed by Caltrans on a statewide priority basis, for use primarily on the State highway system (outside urbanized areas) and projects that generate economic development.

In 2015, the Valley RPAs formed the “Valley Swap Meet” working group, to reach consensus on a coordinated Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP).

**Activities for FY 2020-21:**

- Collaborate on 2020 STIP policy development and preparation of the RTIPs. This includes the goal of coordinating RIP/IIP priorities and developing consistent RTIP submittals which showcase valleywide priorities and transportation themes to the California Transportation Commission.
- Continue partnership efforts (through the Valley “Swap Meet”) to exchange information on federal funding programs such as the Regional Surface Transportation Program and the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program so no funds lapse in the Valley.
- Continue communication on emerging policy and process changes to the state Active Transportation Program.
- Brief directors on any key developments and issues related to various funding programs throughout the year including the Congested Corridor Program, Local Partnership Program, other SB 1 funding, BUILD, INFRA, etc.
- Monitor and report on any developments that impact the Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) process.
- Participate and provide input to the Interregional Transportation Strategic Plan (ITSP) to ensure appropriate state highways are included in the system.

**3. SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY INTERREGIONAL GOODS MOVEMENT**

***Objective: To prioritize, coordinate and implement goods movement planning and capital projects to improve the Valley’s economic competitiveness.***

Lead: Fresno COG, TCAG and Kern COG

The San Joaquin Valley (SJV) has always been California’s geographic and agricultural production center generating more than \$35 billion every year in nuts, lettuce, tomatoes, wine, and other grains and agricultural products. It also plays a major role in the national and international distribution of processed foods and energy products, and has a burgeoning logistics and distribution industry. The region has relatively inexpensive land and low cost labor, good access to the national rail and interstate highway networks, connections to major deep-water ports in Oakland, Los Angeles, and Long Beach, and proximity to major consumer markets in Southern California and the San Francisco Bay Area.

Recognizing the importance of goods movement to the region, the eight San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agencies and Caltrans commissioned the San Joaquin Valley Interregional Goods Movement Plan completed in 2013. In FY 2014-15, the Valley RPAs were awarded two additional goods movement

related planning grants from Caltrans to continue to identify strategies and recommendations for improving freight movement in the Valley, the San Joaquin Valley I-5/SR 99 Goods Movement Corridor Plan and the San Joaquin Valley Goods Movement Sustainable Implementation Plan. Both studies were completed in 2017. In 2019, funding was identified for the I-5 Freight ZERO Pilot Study to ascertain the feasibility of utilizing cargo depots and driverless autonomous electric trucks on Interstate 5. Goods movement continues to be a priority for transportation related investments in the region.

#### **Activities for FY 2020-21:**

- Continue to coordinate project prioritization for INFRA, BUILD, SB1 and other goods movement federal and state funding.
- Continue to participate in the California Freight Advisory Committee. Policy Council Member Mayor Amarpreet Dhaliwal, City of San Joaquin, is the current representative from the Valley.
- Participate and provide input to California’s Freight Mobility Plan.
- Continue to work with regional partners conducting logistics, economic development and other analysis related to goods movement.
- Advocate and support efforts to maintain short line rail corridors, inland ports and last-mile connectivity facilities.
- Continue to explore alternative fuels and technology strategies for meeting the California’s Sustainable Freight mandates.
- Develop a strategy for “telling the story” of the importance of goods movements and related transportation investments in the Valley. Implement a Valleywide goods movement task force if necessary.

#### **4. AIR QUALITY TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AND COORDINATION**

***Objective: To continue successful coordination of Valleywide air quality planning minimizing potential impacts to project delivery.***

Lead: San Joaquin COG and StanCOG

Transportation conformity is required by the federal Clean Air Act and ensures that federal funding is given to transportation activities that are consistent with air quality goals. The Clean Air Act strengthened conformity requirements for transportation projects, necessitating a more enhanced level of technical analysis of plans, programs, and projects than in the past. Conformity determinations must be conducted at least every four years, or as amendments are made to plans or projects. The federal transportation conformity rule requires interagency consultation on issues that would affect the conformity analysis, such as the underlying assumptions and methodologies used to prepare the

analysis. Consultation is generally conducted through the San Joaquin Valley Interagency Coordinating Committee (IAC). The IAC has been established to provide a coordinated approach to Valley air quality, conformity and transportation modeling issues. Each of the eight Valley Regional Transportation Planning Agencies (RTPAs) and the Air Pollution Control District are represented. In addition, the Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration, the Environmental Protection Agency, the California Air Resources Board and Caltrans have members on the committee.

Coordination among the Valley RPAs, the Air District and other air quality and transportation agencies is proving to be a very effective process. The Valley RPA Directors have budgeted to continue joint funding for a valleywide Air Quality Coordinator, responsible to the Directors, to ensure that air quality conformity and related modeling within the Valley is accomplished on a consistent and timely basis.

#### **Activities for FY 2020-21:**

- Monitor state and federal guidance related to air quality transportation planning requirements.
- Conduct conformity determinations to ensure that the Regional Transportation Plan, Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP), and subsequent amendments conform to the State Implementation Plans (SIPs), as required by federal laws and regulations.
- Submit future-year travel forecasts to the SJVAPCD and the California Air Resources Board as requested.
- Continue to utilize the Interagency Coordinating Committee (IAC) for routine communication and coordination.
- Coordinate with California Air Resources Board staff related to future SCS review template.

## **5. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES STRATEGIES / REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANS**

***Objective: To develop and coordinate SB 375 compliant Sustainable Communities Strategies for the Valley***

Lead: Fresno COG and San Joaquin COG

California's Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection Act of 2008 (SB 375) requires each MPO to develop a Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) as part of their Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). A SCS outlines the plan for reducing per capita greenhouse gas emissions by integrating transportation and land use elements.

Under the Sustainable Communities Act, the California Air Resources Board (ARB) sets regional targets for GHG emissions reductions from passenger vehicle use. New targets will be applied to the 2022 RTP/SCS for the Valley MPOs. The Valley Regional Planning Agencies will be working independently, and

collectively, to meet these targets and have invested considerable resources towards technical staff, modeling, and scenario development.

In addition, the Valley's Regional Planning Agencies will continue to work with ARB to interpret the new protocols for the updated SCS review guidelines.

**Activities for FY 2020-21:**

- Continue to work with ARB staff on the 2018 RTP/SCS reviews.
- Assist ARB, and other state entities, with fulfilling SB 150 requirements on SB 375 progress reporting, and other guidance or policy documents as needed.
- Continue to implement transportation and land use strategies developed in the 2018 RTP/SCS.
- Start the 2022 RTP/SCS development process.
- Incorporate SB 743 requirements into the RTP/SCS.

**6. RELATIONSHIP DEVELOPMENT WITH EXTERNAL AGENICES AND ENTITIES**

***Objective: To develop and foster greater communication and coordination within Valley Regional Planning Agencies and with other related agencies and stakeholders.***

Lead: TCAG and StanCOG

To maintain ongoing communication and cooperation with other external agencies, the Valley RPAs have included a relationship development component to foster routine "two way" communication with our related state and federal transportation agencies.

Federal entities include the Department of Transportation (DOT), Federal Transit Administration (FTA), the Federal Rail Administration (FRA), the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). State entities include the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA), California Transportation Commission (CTC), Caltrans Districts 6 and 10, Caltrans Headquarters, California Association of Council of Governments (CalCOG), California Self Help Counties Coalition, Strategic Growth Council (SGC), High Speed Rail Authority, and the California Air Resources Board (ARB). Regional entities include the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District, the San Joaquin Valley JPA for Passenger Rail, Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), Sacramento Council of Governments (SACOG), and the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG). Other stakeholders include the California Trucking Association, agricultural associations, the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley, colleges and universities, environmental groups, and the public.

**Activities for FY 2020-2021:**

- Directors to coordinate and attend one-third of CTC meetings, and meet throughout the year with our CTC Commissioner representative.
- Directors to meet with at least two CTC Board Members they don't currently know.
- Directors to meet annually with CalSTA Director.
- CTC staff to be invited to Directors' Committee meeting once a year.
- RPA staff to be encouraged to take more leadership positions on Valleywide matters.
- Valley Directors to develop and maintain relationships with the Caltrans Director and Deputy for Planning.
- All Valley Directors should attend and speak at each CalCOG meeting.
- Valley Directors' Committee meetings should be moved, periodically, to a time of the month where Valley Directors can review and discuss the CalCOG meetings, to develop timely joint strategies on issues.
- Request MTC or SCAG staff come to a Valley Directors' Committee meeting.
- Valley Directors to meet annually with management of ARB, ARB Board members, and attend the joint CTC/ARB Board Meetings.
- Additional, and targeted outreach, shall be made to the Strategic Growth Council, SJV Air Pollution Control District, High Speed Rail, and the "Big Four" metropolitan planning organizations.

## **7. VALLEY VOICE ADVOCACY AND POLICY DEVELOPMENT**

***Objective: To engage in a unified process that allows the eight county region to discuss and comment on legislative affairs, and build consensus on issues of Valleywide importance.***

Lead: Valleywide Coordinator, Fresno COG

The Valleywide Coordinator, working in close consultation with the Directors and MPO staff, will develop policy positions for pending legislation, and track other legislation and regulatory matters. When legislative positions appear to have a consensus within the Valley, the Regional Policy Council will be encouraged to make a unified statement to inform the state and federal governments of the importance to the Valley. Working in close consultation with the Directors and government affairs personnel, the Coordinator will plan and coordinate the annual Valley Voice advocacy visits to Sacramento and Washington D.C.

### **Activities for FY 2020-21:**



- Plan and execute “Valley Voice” Washington D.C. visit for September 2020 (note: this activity may be conducted virtually this year due to the COVID 19 pandemic).
- Interview, and meet with, government affairs consultants, CalCOG, legislators, and others, to identify any measures to improve upon our Valley Voice visits.
- Track legislation, communication with legislative offices, letter campaigns and other activities to develop a unified, Valleywide position.
- Develop the Valleywide Legislative Platform (state and federal).
- Facilitate discussions around controversial topics such as water and high speed rail among Regional Policy Council members.
- Plan “Valley Voice” Sacramento visit for early 2021.

## **8. VALLEYWIDE MODEL IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

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

Lead: Fresno COG

Fresno COG was the lead agency for the San Joaquin Valley Model Improvement Plan, which updated all eight San Joaquin Valley transportation demand models. These improvements were required to respond to the requirements Assembly Bill 32, the Global Solutions Warming Act of 2006, and Senate Bill 375, which requires the development of a Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) in Regional Transportation Plans (RTP).

Traffic model runs are made as necessary to support transportation planning, conformity analysis and greenhouse gas emissions analysis. The COG staff also runs the latest EMFAC emissions model for air quality in support of transportation conformity. This activity supports both highway planning activities and the air quality conformity process. Some MPO staff used the Envision Tomorrow visioning tool to help test various land use scenarios for SB 375 target setting and Sustainable Communities Strategies.

A related action includes the coordination of valleywide modeling analysis, and participation in the San Joaquin Valley model users group. These activities are critically important to an understanding of the role of the transportation sector in resolving serious air quality problems in the San Joaquin Valley Air Basin.

### **Activities for FY 2020-21:**

- Continue long-term model improvements.

- Participate in the testing of EMFAC adjustment factors and monitor other EMFAC update activities.
- Continue to research off-model GHG reduction quantification methodology for strategies that can't be modeled by traffic models.
- Continue development and improvement of advanced four step models, four base models or activity based models in select counties.
- Improve coordination and participation of the Valley model users group.
- Coordinate with SJV Goods Movement planning efforts to develop a framework for a regional freight movement modeling tool.
- Provide VMT analysis assistance for SB 743 implementation.

## 9. OTHER VALLEYWIDE ACTIVITIES

- **Ecosystems of Shared Mobility Services in the San Joaquin Valley** was funded by ARB in 2017 and was implemented starting in 2018. The \$2.25M grant is for technology improvements, and BEV car sharing in rural areas of four Valley counties. This grant activity is a continuation of the SCS Implementation Alternatives for Meeting Transit Needs in the Rural San Joaquin Valley, a Caltrans planning grant administered by MCAG, and conducted by the UC Davis Institute for Transportation Studies. The current project is segmented into Valley Go in the south valley counties of Tulare and Kern for the MIOCAR car sharing program, strategically located at affordable housing communities. Valley Flex and VOGO in the north valley counties of Stanislaus and San Joaquin is implementing technology enhancements (software application) for coordinated interregional transit, as well as coordinated volunteer driver services.
- **Affordable Housing Planning Funds.** The Governors' budget proposal for FY 2019-20 included housing planning funds to the Valley MPOs through the Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) grant program. The Valley MPOs have organized and coordinated activities for this program starting in January 2020. A 24-member working group has been formed and an initial application for \$4.7 million has been submitted to the State of California. Considerable and additional work efforts utilizing this new funding source will commence in earnest in fiscal year 2020-21 thru December 2023, or later. Work efforts will include planning activities in support of the upcoming sixth cycle of the regional housing needs allocation (RHNA) and Housing Element processes, valleywide housing analysis and planning activities, and funding suballocations to local jurisdictions.
- **San Joaquin Valley Policy Conference.** The valleywide conference is held in the spring, at a different location each year, and is coordinated by the host agency. The 2020 conference was to be held in May 2020 at Bass Lake in Madera County. Due to the ongoing coronavirus

pandemic, it was postponed until May 2021. The 2021 conference will be hosted by the Madera County Transportation Commission. The conference is planned by the Valleywide Coordinator, and event coordinator subconsultant, who will work with the host agency for conference implementation. The California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley is also a contributor to the conference planning and manages the Blueprint Awards.

<b>Past Conferences</b>	Modesto (StanCOG), Fall 2010
	Bass Lake (MCTC), Fall 2011
	Lemoore (KCAG), Fall 2012
	Stockton (SJ COG), Fall 2013
	Visalia (TCAG), Fall 2014
	Tenaya (MCAG), Fall 2015
	Fresno (Fresno COG), Spring 2017
	Modesto (StanCOG), Spring 2018
	Lemoore (KCAG), Spring 2019
	Bass Lake (MCTC, Spring 2021)
<b>Future Conferences</b>	San Joaquin COG, 2022
	TCAG, 2023
	MCAG, 2024
	Fresno COG, 2025
	StanCOG, 2026
	KCAG - 2027
	Kern COG –may be available to host at some time.

- **San Joaquin JPA for Passenger Rail.** The work efforts for passenger rail are strongly supported by the Valley RPAs who support funding applications, policy, organizational development, and other activities of the SJ JPA, and ACE Rail.
- **Regional Policy Council Meetings and Directors’ Committee Meetings.** The Valleywide Coordinator shall continue to schedule, develop agenda packets, conduct valleywide outreach, and perform web site maintenance for [www.sjvcogs.org](http://www.sjvcogs.org). In FY 2017-18, an Executive Committee and Water Policy Committee were created for the Regional Policy Council. The Regional Policy Council usually meets twice a year in person and holds two to three phone conference meetings in preparation for Valley Voice visits. The Chair of the Regional Policy Council is elected for a one year term in the first meeting of the fiscal year (usually in December or January).

**Directors' Chair**

**Rotation Schedule**

Kings County Association of Governments, 2020-21

Kern Council of Government, 2021-22

San Joaquin Council of Governments, 2022-23

Tulare County Association of Governments, 2023-24

Fresno Council of Governments, 2024-25

Merced County Association of Governments, 2025-26

Stanislaus Council of Governments, 2026-27

Madera County Transportation Commission, 2027-28

## FISCAL YEAR 2020-21 BUDGET

The budget for the Valleywide activities, identified in the OWP, is detailed below. Budget amounts by MPO represent the total direct cost for this activity by MPO. Budget amounts by activity are apportioned by population share for all items, except for Valley Voice advocacy visits, which are apportioned equally.

SJ COG is the fiscal agent for Air Quality Planning.

Fresno COG is the fiscal agent for Valley Voice, and the Valleywide Coordinator contract.

Fresno COG is also the fiscal agent for the San Joaquin Valley Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) program, an eight-county program for housing planning activities (page 11). In fiscal year 2020-21, \$4.7 million from the initial application to the state, and \$5.5 million from a subsequent application are expected. A 24-member working group established by California statute, the San Joaquin Valley Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) Committee, has budgetary authority over REAP funding.

Valleywide Activities			Air Quality Planning <sup>(2)</sup>	Valley Voice <sup>(3)</sup>	Valleywide Coordinator <sup>(4)</sup>	Total FY 2020-21
MPO Share By Population <sup>(1)</sup>						
Fresno	1,032,227	23.5%	\$46,997	\$3,125	\$31,723	\$81,846
Kern	927,251	21.1%	\$42,218	\$3,125	\$28,497	\$73,840
Kings	156,444	3.6%	\$7,123	\$3,125	\$4,808	\$15,056
Madera	160,089	3.6%	\$7,289	\$3,125	\$4,920	\$15,334
Merced	287,420	6.5%	\$13,086	\$3,125	\$8,833	\$25,044
San Joaquin	782,545	17.8%	\$35,629	\$3,125	\$24,050	\$62,804
Stanislaus	562,303	12.8%	\$25,602	\$3,125	\$17,281	\$46,008
Tulare	484,423	11.0%	\$22,056	\$3,125	\$14,888	\$40,068
<b>Total FY 2020-21</b>	<b>4,392,702</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$200,000</b>	<b>\$25,000</b>	<b>\$135,000</b>	<b>\$360,000</b>

(1) CA DOF, January 1, 2020 estimates

(2) SJ COG Staff (\$50,000) and Trinity Consultants (\$150,000).

(3) No PL Funds, cost for Valley Voice is apportioned equally (not by population). Amount may be lower if travel restrictions are in place due to the coronavirus.

(4) Sigala Inc, includes subcontract for administering the Annual Policy Conference.

## INFORMATIONAL ITEMS – May 7, 2020



### **8. Caltrans Directors' Report**

**S.Ehlert/D. McElhinney**

Sharri Ehlert (District 6 Director) and Dan McElhinney (District 10 Director), or their representatives, may be in attendance to provide an update, and answer any questions.

### **9. California High Speed Rail**

**D. Gomez**

Diana Gomez, Central Valley Regional Director, or her representative may be in attendance to provide an update, and answer any questions.

### **10. San Joaquin JPA for Passenger Rail**

**D. Leavitt**

Dan Leavitt, Manager of Regional Initiatives, or his representative may be in attendance to provide an update, and answer any questions.

### **11. Valley Go (MioCar) and Valley Flex (Vamos & VoGo)**

**M. Sigala**

- MioCar service has been suspended due to the coronavirus.
- CalVans will no longer be participating in the program as of March 31, 2020.
- A new non-profit entity has been set up to assume the vehicles and operations once the suspension is lifted.
- Project partners are working closely with ARB and the SJVAPCD on this transition.
- Additional input about the future of MioCar is needed from Valley MPOs.
- Vamos and VoGo operations have also be curtailed due to the coronavirus.
- "Extension Gap Funding" in the amount of approximately \$900,000 from ARB is pending and will be available for the 2020-21 FY.
- \$20M in Clean Mobility Options Vouchers are available for expansion of shared mobility services. The team is currently assessing options for expanding MioCar services area(s).

### **12. California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley**

**F. Cardoza**

Frida Cardoza, Community and Regional Planning Center Coordinator, may be in attendance to provide an update and answer any questions.