



BOARD ACTIONS

February 2009

Council of Fresno County Governments

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OUR MISSION

A Region of Diverse Partners Building a Progressive Future as One Voice

At their monthly meeting on Thursday, February 26, 2009, the Policy Board of the Council of Fresno County Governments (Fresno COG) took action or was briefed on the following items.* Formal minutes of this meeting will be included in the next meeting package.

Fresno COG, sitting as the Transportation Policy Committee

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Fresno COG Policy Board, sitting as the Measure "C" Fresno County Mayor' Selection Committee approved appointment of Howard L. Valk, President of Affordable Construction, Inc. to complete 4-year term on the Citizen Oversight Committee, vacated by Jose Villarreal, which will expire June 30, 2011.

The Fresno COG Policy Board recognized seven former Board members for their hard work and dedication. Those receiving plaques of appreciation were: Supervisor Henry Perea, County of Fresno; Councilmember Leland Bergstrom, City of Kingsburg; Councilmember Ray Soleno, City of Reedley; Patricia Hill, City of Coalinga; Craig Knight, City of Firebaugh; Alan Autry, City of Fresno and Councilmember Michael Montelongo, City of Sanger.

Mario Santoyo, Assistant General Manager, Friant Water Authority briefed the Fresno COG Policy Board on the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement and other related water issues. Mr. Santoyo drew attention to the growing concern of water shortage in the San Joaquin Valley. For more information on this issue contact Mr. Santoyo by email at msantoyo@friantwater.org.

TRANSPORTATION ITEMS

California Transit Assistance Fund (CTAF) – Resolution 2009-02

Fresno COG Policy Board approved Resolution 2009-02 authorizing \$819,958 from the California Transit Assistance Fund for Transit System Safety, Security and Disaster response to Transit Operators per PUC 8879.55(a)(2). The applications were submitted by Clovis Transit, Fresno County Rural Transit Agency and Fresno Area Express.

Public Transportation Modernization, Improvement and Services Enhancement Account (PTMISEA) Project Award – Resolution 2009-03

Fresno COG Policy Board approved Resolution 2009-03 authorizing \$962,733 in PTMISEA funding for Fresno County Rural Transit Agency Rolling Stock Replacement Cut-Away Vans.

Social Services Advisory Council (SSTAC) Member Appointments

Fresno COG Policy Board approved four new members to the SSTAC. Those members are: Nikki Vartikian, Administrator for the Central California Nikkei Foundation; Dottie Wright, Representative of the General Public; Margo Lerwill, County of Fresno, Department of Public Works; and Dr. Connie Che-Moua, Empowerment Institute.

Initiation of 2009 Unmet Transit Needs Process

Fresno COG Policy Board was notified that the 2009 Unmet Transit Needs Process has begun. Information gathering meetings were held on February 17th in Huron, February 24th in Parlier and February 26 in Clovis. For more information on this process contact staff member, Jeff Long.

Call for Projects – Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5316 and 5317 Funds for FY 2007, 2008 and 2009

Fresno COG Policy Board was notified of the Call for Projects for FTA grant programs. For more information on this item contact staff member, Todd Sobrado.

Blueprint Update

Fresno COG Policy Board was notified that the 4th year planning grant for Fiscal Year 2008-09 of \$1,350,000 was awarded to the SJV COGs by the Department of Transportation. Fresno COG will take on the leadership role for the 8 Valley COGs during the 4th year implementation phase. For more information on the Blueprint please see our website at www.fresnocog.org or contact Deputy Director, Barbara Steck.

Federal Economic Stimulus Package

Fresno COG Policy Board was given an overview of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and how it will affect Fresno County. For more information on this item contact staff member Renee DeVere-Okie.

Fresno COG, sitting as the Council of Fresno County Governments

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

FY2009-10 Draft Overall Work Program and Budget

Fresno COG Policy Board was provided the draft OWP for 2009-10. Distribution of the document begins the review and comment period with adoption expected in May. The draft document is available on our website at www.fresnocog.org.

Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners, Riparian-Wildlife Corridor Report

Fresno COG Policy Board accepted the report compiled by the Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners. The report has relevance for the Fresno County's Blueprint Planning Program and identifies Measure C Extension Tier 1 projects as well as High-Speed Rail projects. For more information or copies of this report contact staff member Clark Thompson.

Sacramento "One Voice" Trip – Advocacy Issues

Fresno COG Policy Board approved the Regional Advocacy List of Projects for 2009 – the Issues are: Water: Surface Water Storage; Federal Economic Stimulus Package; California State Budget Issues and Air Quality Issues. The Regional Initiatives approved were: San Joaquin Valley Blueprint Planning Process and Council of Fresno County Governments' 2009 Legislative Platform. The delegates will be making the trip to Sacramento on March 9-10. For more information on "One Voice" please contact staff member Jennifer Dansby.

Resolution to Support Interagency Agreements for Childcare Centers Impacted by State Budget Delays, Resolution 2009-06.

Fresno COG Policy Board approved Resolution 2009-06 in support of interagency agreements for childcare centers.

2009 Washington DC One Voice Trip

Delegates traveled to Washington DC, February 7-12, 2009 to meet with legislators. Folders including all information that was distributed to officials in Washington were given to the Fresno COG Policy Board members. Fresno COG has been notified that two projects from our 2008 "One Voice" advocacy effort have been included in HR 1105 Omnibus Appropriations Act for 2009 – State Route 180 East for \$1,330,000 submitted by Rep. Costa and Radanovich and Veterans Blvd. for \$570,000 submitted by Rep. Radanovich. For more information on the Washington "One Voice" Advocacy please contact Deputy Director Barbara Steck.

Fresno COG Policy Board members were notified that there will be a Public Hearing: Public Listening Session: Council of Fresno County Governments Federal Certification Review on Wednesday March 25, 2009 from 5:30 – 7:30 pm at the Fresno COG offices. This hearing will be conducted by Federal Highways Administration and Federal Transit Administration. For more information on this hearing please see Announcements Page of our website.

Meeting Dates:

Transportation Technical Committee – Wednesday, March 4, 2009 – 8:30 am

Sacramento One Voice Pre-trip meeting – Thursday, March 5 – 1 pm

High Speed Rail – Rail Consolidation – Thursday, March 12 - 10 am

Policy Advisory Committee – Friday, March 13, 2009 – 10 am

Association for the Beautification of Highway 99 – Friday, March 13, 2009 – 2 pm

SSTAC – Tuesday, March 17 – 1:30 pm

Washington DC One Voice Debriefing Meeting – Wednesday, March 18 at 3:30 pm

Public Hearing: Public Listening Session: Fresno COG Federal Certification Review – Wednesday, March 25 – 5:30 – 7:30 pm

Policy Board – Thursday, March 26, 2009 – 5:30 pm

*Complete Agenda, Annotated Agenda and meeting package is available on our website under Committees & Agendas and also by clicking on the event on the website Calendar.

**Please see the Fresno COG website Calendar for upcoming meetings for various Committees and Sub Committees.

Fresno COG Board Members

CLOVIS – Mayor Bob Whalen

COALINGA – Mayor Ron Lander

FIREBAUGH – Mayor Marcia Sablan

FOWLER – Councilmember Rico Aguayo

FRESNO CITY – Mayor Ashley Swearengin

HURON – Mayor Ramon Dominguez

KERMAN - Mayor Trinidad M. Rodriguez, Chair

KINGSBURG – Mayor Bruce Blayney

MENDOTA – Mayor Robert Silva

ORANGE COVE – Mayor Victor Lopez

PARLIER – Mayor Armando Lopez

REEDLEY – Mayor Mary Fast

SAN JOAQUIN – Mayor Amarpreet Dhaliwal

SANGER – Mayor Jose Villarreal

SELMA – Mayor Dennis Lujan, Vice Chair

FRESNO COUNTY – Supervisor Susan Anderson