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Press Release

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Fresno COG's 42-member One Voice Delegation Heads to D.C. for region's projects

The Seventh Annual Fresno COG One Voice endeavor provides an opportunity for the delegation of 42 public and private representatives to expand upon the relationships with Congressional representatives and federal staff members established during the previous efforts. The delegation will request funding and/or legislative support from federal representatives for projects chosen for their regional significance, their ability to bring prosperity to Fresno County, and their potential contribution to improved air quality and transportation mobility.

The delegation leaves for Washington D.C. on Saturday, February 7, 2009 at 7:00 a.m. from the Fresno Airport on American Airlines. They will return on Thursday, February 12th at 12:40 p.m. A delegation and project listing is attached and available on the Fresno COG website at www.fresnocog.org under the One Voice icon. During their 5-day visit to Washington D.C. the delegation is scheduled to meet with Assemblymen Costa, Radanovich, Nunes and Cardoza who represent the Fresno County region; Senators Boxer and Feinstein and representatives from Governor Schwarzenegger's office. They have also scheduled several appointments with Chairpersons and staff from a variety of Committees and Federal Agencies to discuss Fresno County projects.

This year the delegation has a list of 10 Recommended Regional Projects they are carrying to D.C. that include funding for State Route 180, Never Give Up—Fresno County Gang Prevention Initiative, Golden State Corridor Economic Development Infrastructure and others (see list below). They are also prepared to discuss Federal Transportation Authorization for 2009 additional Regional Issues and some Local Projects. (See project lists at www.fresnocog.org)

Summaries of meetings, schedules, materials and photos will be available to the press daily via email. For interviews with delegates or Fresno COG staff, please contact Brenda Lauchner, Fresno COG PIO at the numbers listed above.

Earlier "One Voice" delegations have been successful in bringing over \$13 million in project funding back to Fresno County. The fruits of "One Voice" to date include the following:

The 2009 Appropriations Bill included the following "One Voice" Project:

\$300,000 for Fresno County Gang Prevention Program

The Fiscal Year 2008 Omnibus Appropriations Bill included the following "One Voice" project:

\$1,636,000 for Friant Road Widening, Copper to Millerton

In 2007 a Continuing Resolution was passed that nationally eliminated all projects proposed for the Appropriations Bill. This action included the following four "One Voice" projects that were pending and are subsequently not included in the Fruits of "One Voice" total to date:

\$500,000 for State Route 180 Improvements

\$250,000 for the construction of a vocational training facility in Mendota

\$1,000,000 for Friant Road Widening

\$200,000 for the West Side Vocational Training Center in Fresno County

The 2006 Transportation, Treasury and Housing and Urban Development Appropriations bill included:

\$900,000 for State Route 180 East Improvements

Three additional "One Voice" projects were contained in the 2005 Federal Transportation Reauthorization Bill (SAFETEA-LU):

\$1,200,000 for Friant Road Widening

\$7,600,000 for Freeway 180 Improvements

\$240,000 for Willow and Herndon Traffic Flow Improvements

Four "One Voice" projects were included in the 2005 omnibus appropriation:

\$250,000 for the Non-Point Source Water Quality Management Program to Fresno COG to contract with the Fresno County Farm Bureau.

\$500,000 for the Friant Corridor Improvements Project to the County of Fresno.

\$200,000 for the Regional Jobs Initiative to CSUF

\$400,000 to the Workforce Investment Board

\$225,000 for the Rural Vocational Training Centers Project to the County of Fresno

The following companies have generously supported the 2009 “One Voice” effort:

BLUE LEVEL SPONSOR

GRANVILLE HOMES, INC. \$3,000 AND TRAVEL BAGS

WHITE LEVEL

QUAD KNOPF \$2,500 SPONSORSHIP
AND MAP DESIGN/PRINT

CITY OF REEDLEY \$2,000

KLEINFELDER \$2,000

RED LEVEL SPONSORS

VRPA TECHNOLOGIES, INC. \$1,000

HATCH MOTT MACDONALD \$1,000

STRATEGY RESEARCH INSTITUTE \$1,000

KIMLEY-HORN AND ASSOCIATES, INC. \$1,000

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS

OMNI-MEANS \$500

DEDEKIAN, GEORGE, SMALL & MARKARIAN
ACCOUNTANCY CORPORATION \$250

TOTAL \$14,250

2009 “ONE VOICE” TRIP PARTICIPANTS

1. **Susan Anderson**, Fresno County Board of Supervisors, Supervisor, District 2
2. **Judy Case**, Fresno County Board of Supervisors; Supervisor, District 4
3. **Margaret Mims**, Sheriff, County of Fresno
4. **Bob Whalen**, Mayor, City of Clovis
5. **Ashley Swarengin**, Mayor, City of Fresno
6. **Cynthia Sterling**, Council President, City of Fresno
7. **Rico Aguayo**, Councilmember, City of Fowler
8. **Ramon Dominguez**, Mayor, City of Huron, I-5 Business Development
9. **David Karstetter**, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Kingsburg
10. **John C. Flores**, Councilmember, City of Mendota
11. **Glenda Hill**, Councilmember, City of Orange Cove
12. **Mary Fast**, Mayor, City of Reedley
13. **Steve Rapada**, Councilmember, City of Reedley
14. **Jose R. Villarreal**, Mayor, City of Sanger
15. **Michael Derr**, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Selma
16. **Darius Assemi**, Granville Homes
17. **Jeffrey T. Roberts**, Representing the Building Industry Association
18. **Lydia Zabrycki**, Director of Business Partnering, Quad Knopf
19. **Jason Paul**, Environmental Group Manager, Kleinfelder
20. **Dr. G. Gary Manross, Ph.D.** Chairman/CEO, Strategy Research Institute
21. **Debbie Hunsaker**, Chair, Greater Fresno Area Chamber of Commerce

22. **Frank Franco**, Board of Directors, Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District; Director, Fresno County EOC
23. **Kendall Groom**, Board of Directors, Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District
24. **Tony Boren**, Executive Director, Council of Fresno County Governments
25. **Steve Geil**, President/CEO, Economic Development Corporation Serving Fresno County
26. **Preston Prince**, Executive Director, Housing Authorities
27. **Kirk Hunter**, CEO, Southwest Transportation
28. **Kathy Millison**, City Manager, City of Clovis
29. **Jose Antonio Ramirez**, Fresno COG Policy Advisory Committee Chair, City Manager, City of Firebaugh
30. **Rocky Rogers**, City Manager, City of Reedley
31. **Russell C. Widmar**, City of Fresno, Fresno Yosemite International Airport, Director of Aviation
32. **John Mulligan**, Deputy Public Works Director, City of Sanger
33. **Paul Thorn**, Vice President of Business and Finance, Economic Development Corporation Serving Fresno County
34. **Gary Giannetta**, Giannetta Engineering
35. **Raymond Manzanedo**, Manager, Signmax
36. **Barbara Goodwin**, Consultant
37. **Tal Eslick**, Field Director, Congressman Nunes' office
38. **Darren Rose**, District Director, Congressman Radanovich's office
39. **Julianne Tuggle**, Assistant to Susan Anderson, County of Fresno
40. **Barbara Steck**, Deputy Director, Council of Fresno County Governments
41. **Brenda Lauchner**, Planner, Council of Fresno County Governments
42. **Marla Day**, Executive Assistant, Council of Fresno County Governments

Fresno COG "One Voice" ~ 2009 Recommended Regional Projects

Project/Bill/Account	Project Description	Project Location	Congressional District	Total Request	Requesting Agency
State Route 180 - Temperance to Academy Ave. <i>THUD (STP)</i> #1 Priority	Completion of construction of the segment of SR 180 from Temperance to Academy	Southeast Fresno County	21	\$3M	Fresno COG
Never Give Up - Fresno County Gang Prevention Initiative Justice: Commerce, Justice, Science	Institute first step of countywide Gang Prevention Initiative	Countywide	18, 19, 20, 21	\$3M	County of Fresno
Golden State Corridor Economic Development Infrastructure <i>THUD (TCSP)</i>	Roadway rehabilitation, improvements and enhancements to facilitate economic development.	Golden State Boulevard through Kingsburg, Selma, Fowler, and portions of Fresno Co.	20, 21	\$3M	Fresno COG
Veterans Boulevard <i>THUD (STP)</i>	Diagonal connection between Herndon Ave. and Grantland in NW Fresno	NW area of City of Fresno	19	\$3M	City of Fresno
Recycled Water Master Plan System – Phase C <i>Interior (EPA-STAG)</i>	Complete build-out of main water transmission lines. Developed in 5 phases – Total Cost - \$35	City of Clovis	21	\$1.5M	City of Clovis

	million				
Regional Data Interoperability Project	Provide true interoperability between regional law enforcement, ambulance and fire by adding data compilation	Fresno County	18, 20, 21	\$3.5M	Fresno County
Manning Avenue Bridge Rehabilitation and Reconstruction. <i>THUD (TCSP)</i>	Manning Avenue Bridge Rehabilitation and Reconstruction.	Manning Avenue entrance to Reedley over the Kings River	21	\$500,000	City of Reedley
Highway 269 Bridge Project <i>THUD (STP)</i>	Build a 500 foot bridge across the Arroyo Pasajero Creek	Near the City of Huron	20	\$1.5M	Fresno COG
Project/Legislative Vehicle	Project Summary		Project Location/ Area Affected		Requesting Agency
Fresno Yosemite International Airport <i>DHS (Authorization)</i>	Establish FYI as an international Port of Entry (POE) with the US Dept. of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection Agency (CBP)		Fresno Yosemite International Airport		City of Fresno
Air Quality Enterprise/ Empowerment Zone Designation <i>Federal Tax Legislation (Authorization)</i>	Establishment of new designation		San Joaquin Valley		County of Fresno