Fresno Council
of Governments

2035 Tulare Street, Suite 201
Fresno, CA 93721
(559) 233-4148
fresnocog.org

Fresno COG
One Voice

"One Voice" unites Fresno County communities and regional interests in a voluntary and collaborative effort to seek federal and state funds annually for projects of regional significance. All projects chosen shall contribute to an improved quality of life throughout the Fresno County region.

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Fruits of "One Voice"

Total to Date: $16,151,000

Fiscal Year 2010 Omnibus Appropriations Bill included the following "One Voice" project:

$800,000 for State Route 180

Fiscal Year 2009 Omnibus Appropriations Bill included the following "One Voice" projects:

$1,330,000 for State Route 180 East
$570,000 for Veterans Boulevard
$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

One Voice History

In 2003, the Fresno Council of Governments (Fresno COG) decided to undertake a "One Voice" effort seeking federal and/or state funding for projects of broad community-wide benefit within Fresno County. The goal was to assemble a public-private delegation, select prioritized projects, and then visit our Congressional and federal departmental representatives in Washington, D. C. to pursue funding and grant opportunities. The Fresno COG proposed this as an annual effort and has made a similar effort at the State level in Sacramento.

The message we heard during each of our visits to Washington, D.C. was that we were welcomed and encouraged to return and to continue communications, building upon the broad-based coalition we were assembling. The "One Voice" approach is positively recognized and viewed as a means of assisting our federal representatives identify, prioritize and shepherd much needed projects through the federal budget process. No accomplishments in connection with "One Voice" activities would be possible without the outstanding leadership of the Fresno COG congressional delegation.

Although the "One Voice" effort does not represent the sole advocacy for the Fresno region (Fresno County, individual cities and other public authorities pursue important objectives in Washington as well), it does provide an opportunity to give special focus to a core group of projects around which the broadest group within the county can unite.