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FRESNO COUNTY SB 375 TASK FORCE MEETING NOTES

Date: Thursday, January 13, 2010
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Place: COG Sequoia Conference Room
2035 Tulare St., Suite 201, Fresno, CA

ATTENDANCE:

Mohammad Khorsand, Fresno County
Stacie Dabbs, OCED Fresno State
Greg Martin City of Selma
Luis Patlan, City of Kerman
Lou Martinez, City of Parlier
Keith Berghold, City of Fresno
Scott Tyler, City of Fresno
Terry Schmal, City of Kingsburg
Dwight Kroll, City of Clovis
Renee Mathis, City of Clovis
Ryan Burnett, City of Clovis
David Fey, City of Clovis
John Wright, Planner
Gerrald Forde, City of Huron
Richard Lee, Fehr & Peers
Sean Brewer, City of Coalinga
John Downs, FAX/COG

Roy Ramirez Jr., Fresno County
Tom Jordon, San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution
Control District.
Dan Barber, San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution
Control District.
Franklin Spees, City of Fresno
David Brletic, City of Reedley
Bill Robinson, SOI Development Association
Barbara Steck, Fresno COG
Mike Bitner, Fresno COG
Kathy Chung, Fresno COG
Kristine Cai, Fresno COG
Lindsey Monge, Fresno COG
Stephanie Maxwell, Fresno COG
Melissa Garza, Fresno COG
Tom Webster, Fresno COG

The meeting was called to order by Luis Patlan (Kerman)

I. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

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

There were no public presentations.

II. ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Approval of Minutes

David Fey (Clovis) felt that the information on the minutes for December 9, 2009 should have been more complete and informative for public record. Mr. Fey asked for the minutes to be revised.

A motion was made by David Fey (Clovis) and Seconded by Mohammad Khorsand (Fresno County) to revise the minutes for the December 9, 2009 meeting for more information on Item C Accounting for the Economic Downturn in the Target-Setting Process and to be brought back to the February meeting. A vote was called for and the motion carried.

Member Agencies: The cities of Clovis, Coalinga, Firebaugh, Fowler, Fresno, Huron, Kerman, Kingsburg, Mendota, Orange Cove, Parlier, Reedley, San Joaquin, Sanger, Selma & Fresno County

B. 4D Process Presentation

Richard Lee gave a PowerPoint presentation on the 4D Process. This PowerPoint presentation is posted on the website @ www.fresnocog.org.

A question was raised about the need to reduce TAZ in the metro areas and when the mapping will be available. Kristine Cai (Fresno COG) explained that after the Target-Setting Process and with the help of Prop 84 funds the staff will look into reducing the TAZ size not only in the metropolitan areas but also in the Rural areas as well.

C. Land Use Scenarios for Target-Setting Process

Kathy Chung (Fresno COG) reviewed the handout on the three scenarios: Baseline, Alternative 1 and Alternative 2. The Baseline contains data that was used for the 2007 RTP and the ARB designated this as the one we should use for the baseline scenario. Alternative 1 represents what is currently in our model and based on general plan designations. Alternative 2 was developed since our last meeting. COG staff met with the city planning staffs of Clovis and Fresno who provided information for increased densities, infill and mixed use development that was used to create Alternative 2.

John Wright asked if there are other cities planning a general plan adoption or update between now and 2014 and can we estimate their potential. Kathy Chung (Fresno COG) said that most of the reduction can be achieved in the metropolitan area. Kristine Cai (Fresno COG) said that we have already included the increased densities for five of the smaller cities due to recent general plan changes. Kathy Chung said she would contact the smaller cities and invite them to submit plans for other increased densities and mixed uses they feel are achievable.

Keith Bergthold (Fresno) commented on the need to ensure that all the cities are aware that they need to contribute and if an area does not accommodate development it will go elsewhere. Keith further stated this would be an education process for LAFCo. Dave Fey (Clovis) said Fresno County is unique because of its MOU with the cities concerning annexation and land use actions, and HCD has been surprised to learn we had such an MOU. Dave expressed his concern that this uniqueness may restrict our ability to be responsive to comments by the ARB.

D. Preliminary Scenario Modeling Results

Kristine Cai (Fresno COG) stated that so far efforts had been focused on the land use in the scenarios. Transportation projects will be incorporated into the scenarios in the next meeting. Ms. Cai said that she would be looking for TSM/TDM projects from jurisdictions that have regional impacts. She would follow up by sending an e-mail to the Committee after the meeting to request projects for the scenarios.

Kristine Cai also gave a PowerPoint presentation on the preliminary scenario modeling results. Ms. Cai stated that ARB is still working on developing a post-processor to reflect the vehicle technology and low carbon density fuel requirement in their air quality model EMFAC. So the numbers presented today reflect GHG effects from land use scenarios only, and without any adjustment of the above mentioned two requirements. Three scenarios were modeled and presented: baseline scenario which is the adopted 2007 RTP, Alternative Land Use scenario 1, which is conservative and reflects the planning activities that have taken place since 2007 RTP, and Alternative Land Use scenario 2, which is more ambitious and incorporates higher density, more mixed uses and lots of corridor and activity center planning. Ms. Cai presented preliminary numbers for baseline and alternative 2, and stated that it is encouraging to see that the alt. 2 showed a reduction in per capita greenhouse reduction compared to base year 2005. Staff will be working diligently next month, and hopefully present the results for the 3 scenarios at the next meeting.

A question was raised that if there was a way to graphically represent the land use in the runs in 2020 and 2035 to be able to show the development in 2020 and 2035.

It was requested that staff make scenario comparison maps for the rest of the County, preferably zooming in to a scale that difference in a small city could also be readable.

Tom Jordan from the San Joaquin Valley Air District suggested that since the EMFAC model is still being modified, VMT should be a good indicator for greenhouse gas emission for the scenarios.

E. Other

A. Items from Members

Greg Martin (Selma) made a comment that GHG reduction is only one indicator of smart growth development. There are other co-benefits in what we are trying to do here: such as conservation of environmental land, agricultural land protection, water etc.

B. Items from Staff

Kristine Cai (COG) informed the members to be ready to vote at the next meeting on February 10, 2010. The proposed deadline to submit the regional target is March 1st but staff still needs to bring the recommended target to the board process.

Mike Bitner expressed gratitude to everyone that worked hard on this process.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristine Cai, Planner III

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