Fresno Council of Governments

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 7, 2019

TO: Kristine Cai, Fresno COG Deputy Director

FROM: Tony Petros, Principal

SUBJECT: Fresno Council of Governments (COG) Senate Bill (SB) 743 Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: October 28, 2019, 2:00pm
Meeting Location: Web meeting

1. **Introductions.** Tony Petros started the Technical Committee (TC) meeting by providing a brief description of the items in the meeting agenda. The participants listed below attended the meeting.

Representative	Affiliation
Kristine Cai	Fresno COG
Santosh Bhattarai	Fresno COG
Seth Scott	Fresno COG
Meg Prince	Fresno COG
Sarah Allinder	City of Fowler
David Brletic	City of Sanger
Jill Gormley	City of Fresno
Carolina Ilic	City of Fresno, Fresno Area Express (FAX)
Talia	City of Fresno
Sophia Pagoulatos	City of Fresno
Ellen Moore	City of Reedley
Rob Terry	City of Reedley
Michael Navarro	California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)
David Padilla	Caltrans
Michael Prandini	Building Industry Association (BIA) of Fresno/Madera Counties
Michael Osborn	City of Mendota
Tony Petros	LSA
Ambarish Mukherjee	LSA
Ravi Palakurthy	LSA

2. **Opening Remarks:** Kristine Cai updated the member jurisdictions about the progress of the project. She briefly described about the Fresno COG Activity Based Model (ABM), its inputs and recent update to the model base year with inclusion of the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system. It was decided that the COG will send the updated model with the BRT system for further refinement of the VMT analysis.

City of Clovis
City of Coalinga
City of Firebaugh
City of Fowler
City of Fresno
City of Huron
City of Kerman
City of Kingsburg
City of Mendota
City of Orange Cove
City of Parlier
City of Reedley
City of San Joaquin
City of Sanger
City of Selma
County of Fresno

3. **VMT per Population for the Fresno COG Region:** Ambarish Mukherjee introduced the docket for the day's meeting.

   Tony Petros provided a brief summary of SB743.

   He provided a brief description of the draft VMT per capita map for the entire Fresno COG. He described the areas with low, medium and high VMT per capita compared to the entire COG region. The low VMT per capita areas have a potential opportunity to be exempt from further analysis in case these jurisdictions decide to consider the entire COG area as the region.

4. **VMT per Population for the 16 member jurisdictions and discuss definition of region:** Tony Petros and Ambarish Mukherjee briefly described the results of the draft VMT per capita maps for the individual jurisdictions. Ambarish Mukherjee explained the VMT comparison table summarizing the average VMT per capita numbers for each jurisdiction. They elaborated citing examples, how approximately nine out of the sixteen member jurisdictions are projected to have lesser VMT per capita compared to the COG region. Tony Petros further explained how each of these jurisdictions may decide to adopt COG as the region which may help them exempt additional areas within the jurisdiction from VMT assessment. It was decided that additional VMT per capita maps will be presented at the next meeting for each individual jurisdiction using COG as the region. These maps will provide a comparative analysis of each jurisdiction's VMT profile using the COG as the region versus the respective jurisdiction as the region.

   Ambarish Mukherjee and Santosh Bhattarai briefly described how further refinement is required for the calculation of VMT of the jurisdictions at the edges of the County. The effect of external trips within the model and its validation in comparison with the statewide travel demand model was discussed. It was decided that LSA and COG will look into the matter for further refinement and analyzing the effects of external trips.

Questions:

- Mendota: Why does VMT per capita differs on either side of the Highway (SR-33)?

5. **VMT per Employee for the Fresno COG Region**: Tony Petros and Ambarish Mukherjee briefly described the VMT per employee map for the entire Fresno COG region. They provided a brief description with regards to low, medium and high VMT per employee areas throughout the COG region. One issue that was discussed was regarding low VMT profiles in rural Fresno County and the possible justification of those results.

   A brief discussion was conducted regarding providing VMT profile by three separate employment categories (office, retail, and others). It was decided that this issue will be explored and findings presented at the next TC meeting.

6. **VMT per Employee for Industrial and Distribution Facilities**: Some TC members requested information regarding how VMT per employee will be calculated for industrial and distribution facilities. There was also a question regarding how the analysis will account for heavy duty truck related VMT trips. It was decided that further discussion regarding this issue will be conducted at the next TC meeting.

7. **Next Steps/Schedule Review.** The next technical meeting is scheduled on November20, 2019. Additionally, onwards LSA will have a weekly review meeting with the Cog to update about the project progress.

ACTION ITEMS

Fresno COG:

- Send LSA the updated model with the BRT system.

LSA:

- Update the VMT per capita maps after refining the model with help from Fresno COG.
- Provide another set of VMT per capita maps for each jurisdiction using the COG as the region.
- Conduct weekly review meeting with Fresno COG staff to discuss about progress, schedules and deliverables.

8. **Adjourn**