

**Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable
Communities Strategy Roundtable**

Date: Wednesday, July 22, 2020

Time: 2:00 PM

**Place: COG Ash Conference Room
2035 Tulare St., Suite 201, Fresno, CA**

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Accommodations

The Fresno COG offices and restrooms are ADA accessible. Representatives or individuals with disabilities should contact Fresno COG at (559) 233-4148, at least 3 days in advance, to request auxiliary aids and/or translation services necessary to participate in the public meeting / public hearing. If Fresno COG is unable to accommodate an auxiliary aid or translation request for a public hearing, after receiving proper notice, the hearing will be continued on a specified date when accommodations are available.

**OUT OF AN ABUNDANCE OF CAUTION REGARDING THE COVID-19 VIRUS THE JULY 22, 2020, RTP
ROUNDTABLE MEETING AT 2:00 A.M. WILL BE HELD VIA ZOOM.**

JOIN ZOOM MEETING:

[HTTPS://ZOOM.US/J/92040919735?PWD=VGXIRG5QWJDZSITRTM1HCUFAQ2RTDZ09](https://zoom.us/j/92040919735?pwd=VGXIRG5QWJDZSITRTM1HCUFAQ2RTDZ09)

MEETING ID: 920 4091 9735

PASSWORD: 117540

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**THOSE ADDRESSING THE ROUNDTABLE MUST STATE THEIR FIRST AND LAST NAME AND AGENCY FOR
THE RECORD.**

TO FACILITATE ELECTRONIC ACCESS, NO PERSON SHALL SPEAK UNTIL RECOGNIZED BY THE CHAIR.

[RTP/SCS Roundtable Meeting Agenda and Annotated Agenda in PDF](#)

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS (Rob Terry)

A. ROLL CALL (Jeaneen Cervantes)

II. **NEW INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- A. **RTP/SCS Roundtable Meeting Minutes of June 24, 2020 (Jeaneen Cervantes) [APPROVE]**
- B. **RTP Roundtable Code of Conduct (Rob Terry) [APPROVE]**
- C. **Fresno Futures (Seth Scott) [APPROVE]**
- D. **Project Evaluation Criteria Technical Working Group (Suzanne Martinez) [INFORMATION]**

III. **OTHER ITEMS**

- A. **Items from Staff**
- B. **Items from Members**

IV. **PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS**

This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons wishing to address the Roundtable on items within its jurisdiction but not on this agenda.

Note: Prior to action by the Roundtable on any item on this agenda, the public may comment on that item. Unscheduled comments may be limited to 3 minutes.

Upcoming meeting dates:

August 26, 2020 from 2-4 p.m.

September 23, 2020 from 2-4 p.m.

October 28, 2020 from 2-4 p.m.

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RTP/SCS Roundtable Meeting Agenda and Annotated Agenda in PDF

Exhibits:

 [Agenda](#)  [Annotated Agenda](#)


I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS (Rob Terry)

A. ROLL CALL (Jeaneen Cervantes)

II. NEW INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. RTP/SCS Roundtable Meeting Minutes of June 24, 2020 (Jeaneen Cervantes) [APPROVE]

Exhibits:

 Meeting Summary

B. RTP Roundtable Code of Conduct (Rob Terry) [APPROVE]

Exhibits:

 Roundtable Code of Conduct

Summary: The Code of Conduct for the Roundtable as attached will be presented and discussed.

Action: It is requested that the Roundtable approve the RTP Roundtable Code of Conduct.

C. Fresno Futures (Seth Scott) [APPROVE]

Exhibits:

 Fresno Futures Approval Slides

Summary: As discussed last month, Fresno COG is adopting a new planning approach to scenario development and analysis -- namely, the incorporation of Futures, which are sets of assumptions about future conditions. This practice mirrors similar practices recently adopted by such planning agencies as Caltrans, MTC, and others. These futures would allow for a more robust analysis of land use and transportation strategies by including a stress test of the resilience of said strategies.

In February 2019, Fresno COG hosted two workshop events where stakeholders from a variety of organizations were invited to form focus groups and discuss three proposed concepts for Fresno Futures: Extreme Climate, High-Tech Innovation, and Regulatory Challenges. From these focus groups, COG staff was able to gather a wealth of information on each Future, specifically the impacts each Future was likely to have as well as potential strategies that may be employed to address or mitigate these impacts.

In addition to these three extreme examples, COG staff would also like to develop a Base Future, which will be consistent with the results of the regional demographic forecast which is currently being developed. This Base Future will form the basis for the preferred scenario, when chosen.

With the approval of this body, COG staff would like to move forward with the further development and analysis of these Futures within the framework of scenario planning and the SCS.

Action: Staff recommends that the Roundtable approve the four Futures as presented: Base Future, Extreme Climate, High-Tech Innovation, and Regulatory Challenges for inclusion in the 2022 RTP/SCS scenario development and analysis process, with the understanding that the Base Future will provide the framework assumptions within which the preferred scenario will be chosen.

D. Project Evaluation Criteria Technical Working Group (Suzanne Martinez) [INFORMATION]

Summary: Fresno COG has scheduled a series of Programming Technical Working Group meetings for the review of the RTP Project Evaluation Criteria. The first meeting will take place **Tuesday, July 21, 2020, 1:30 p.m.** via ZOOM. Subsequent meetings have also been scheduled for Thursday, July 30th and Tuesday, August 11th. Staff will give a brief update on the dialogue from this first meeting and the planned content for the two subsequent meetings.

Action: Information only. Direction could be provided at the discretion of the Roundtable.

III. OTHER ITEMS

A. Items from Staff

B. Items from Members

IV. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

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Upcoming meeting dates:

August 26, 2020 from 2-4 p.m.

September 23, 2020 from 2-4 p.m.

October 28, 2020 from 2-4 p.m.

Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy Roundtable
MEETING SUMMARY
Wednesday, June 24, 2020
2:00 PM

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS (Kristine Cai)

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Cai (FCOG) at 2:03 p.m.

A. ROLL CALL (Jeaneen Cervantes)

David Merchen, City of Clovis
Sean Brewer, City of Coalinga
Sophia Pagoulatos, City of Fresno
John Jansons, City of Kerman
Michael Osborn, City of Mendota
Rob Terry, City of Reedley
Derek Sylvester, City of Sanger
Joey Daggett, City of Selma
Mohammad Khorsand, County of Fresno
Crystal Yunker, San Joaquin Valley Air District
George Uc, LAFCo
Jamaica Gentry, Caltrans
Carolina Ilic, Public Transportation Urban
Moses Stites, Public Transportation Rural
Tina Sumner, Active Transportation
Michael Duarte, Affordable Housing
Eric VonBerg, Broad-Based Business
Mike Prandini, Building Development
George Cummings, Education
Adam Livingston, Environmental
Joseph Oldham, New Technology
Keith Berthold, Public Health Advocate
Sargeant Green, Water Agency
Gail Miller, Public at Large
Jim Hunter, Public at Large
Sal Petrucelli, Public at Large

II. NEW INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Selection of Chair and Vice Chair (Kristine Cai)

Chair:

Mr. Khorsand (Fresno County) nominated Rob Terry, City of Reedley, for Chair. There were no other nominations.

After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Khorsand (Fresno County) motioned and Mr. Stites (FCRTA) seconded to appoint Mr. Rob Terry as Chair of the RTP/SCS Roundtable. The motion passed unanimously.

Vice Chair:

Jim Hunter (Public at Large) nominated Gail Mille, Public at Large, for Vice Chair. There were no other nominations.

After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Hunter (Public at Large) motioned and Mr. Stites (FCRTA) seconded to appoint Ms. Gail Miller as Vice Chair of the RTP/SCS Roundtable. The motion passed, 22 yes votes and 2 non-voters.

B. 2022 RTP/SCS Schedule and Milestones (Kristine Cai) (Information)

Ms. Kai (FCOG) provided a brief summary of the 2022 RTP/SCS development schedule and the milestones of the process.

This item was informational only; no further action was required

C. Introduction to Futures Planning Concepts (Seth Scott) (Information)

Mr. Scott (FCOG) reported that a challenge inherent in long-range planning is uncertainty about the future. To combat this uncertainty, planning agencies are establishing a trend of developing diverging assumptions of future conditions against which to test the resilience of their strategies. Notable examples include the California Transportation Plan 2050 (Caltrans) and Plan Bay Area 2050 (MTC).

Fresno COG has adapted to this practice and will include futures analysis in its 2022 SCS. Each scenario's strategies will be tested against several Futures: one base Future as well as 2-3 others. Thus, each scenario will be reported and evaluated based on its performance along each Future, providing a sort of "stress test" for the strategies identified in that scenario.

Mr. Scott's presentation introduced the concept of Futures and how they would operate within the framework of the development and testing of the SCS scenarios. Next month, staff will propose specific Futures for consideration and approval.

This item was informational only; no further action was required

D. RTP Public Outreach Strategies (Brenda Veenendaal) (Information)

Ms. Veenendaal (FCOG) reported that Fresno COG executes an approved public participation plan for each RTP update cycle. The 2020 Fresno COG Public Participation Plan was released for public review in early March of this year and was scheduled for adoption on June 25, 2020 by the Fresno COG Policy Board. The Public Participation Plan (PPP) includes a summary of the RTP Public Outreach and interagency coordination and consultation requirements as well as a public outreach strategy focused solely on engaging the public in RTP planning and development.

The final draft documents are available for review at this link.

In light of the COVID 19 pandemic, Fresno COG staff also developed additional robust, virtual public outreach strategies over the last few months, that include a dedicated RTP Update website, social media communications, videos, e-newsletters, online town halls and virtual workshops, dedicated email alerts and interactive surveys. Staff provided a presentation to the RTP Roundtable membership on Fresno COG's RTP public outreach plans and strategies during the meeting.

This item was informational only; no further action was required

E. New Challenges for the 2022 RTP/SCS (Kristine Cai) (Information)

Ms. Kai (FCOG) reported that the 2022 RTP/SCS will be facing many new challenges due to the new rules and legislations taking effect and the impacts from COVID 19. These new challenges include revenue shortfall, uncertainty in the job recovery, incorporation of SB 743, public outreach under COVID 19, higher GHG reduction target, transportation conformity with SAFE vehicle rule, potentially higher RHNA numbers, etc.

This item was informational only; no further action was required

III. OTHER ITEMS

A. Items from Staff

- Ms. Martinez (FCOG) reported that the project evaluation focus group will be reconvening, beginning the first couple weeks of July. The public is welcome to participate.
- Ms. Cai (FCOG) provided her email in the chat of the Zoom for those who are not already included in the current distribution list.

B. Items from Members

- Mr. VonBerg (Broad Based Business) asked what the schedule is for the EIR-RFP. Ms. Prince responded that the RFP will be released in October 2020.
- Mr. Bergthold (Public Health Advocate) asked about Roundtable protocol. Ms. Cai responded that the Chair and Staff will come back to the Roundtable with protocol.

IV. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

There were no public presentations.

Upcoming meeting dates:

July 22, 2020 from 2-4 p.m.

August 26, 2020 from 2-4 p.m.

September 23, 2020 from 2-4 p.m.

October 28, 2020 from 2-4 p.m.

The Meeting was adjourned at 3:42 p.m.

Members of the Public:

Matt Gillian

Nick Palidino

Anthony Molina

Denise DiBenedetto

B. Jimenez

City of Clovis Staff

David Padilla

Claudia Cazaraz

Laura Gromis

Mohammad Alimi

Tania Santiago-Greathouse

FCOG Staff:

Tony Boren

Kristine Cai

Robert Phipps

Jeaneen Cervantes

Kai Han

Trai Her-Cole

Braden Duran

Suzanne Martinez

Brenda Veenendaal

Meg Prince

Seth Scott

Santosh Bahattarai

Jeff Long

Todd Sobrado

Fresno COG RTP/SCS Roundtable

Group Code of Conduct

- The purpose of the Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS) Roundtable Committee is to support staff and COG standing committees in developing the RTP/SCS plan.
- All Roundtable meetings are open to the public, with broad engagement not only encouraged, but celebrated and accommodated through the use of available technologies, methods and manners, in accordance with Fresno COG's RTP Public Outreach Strategy.
- The Roundtable is comprised of both voting and non-voting participants, organized as such:
 - 39 Voting positions, comprised of 16 representatives from each of Fresno COG's member agencies (the fifteen incorporated cities and the County of Fresno), plus 20 positions for other public agencies and stakeholder groups, and three positions for those who represent the public at-large. Voting is completed by simple majority, comprised of only those in attendance; and
 - Proxy voting, with prior authorization from COG staff and the Roundtable Chair could be permitted, prior to any meeting; and
 - Non-voting participants are always welcome to attend Roundtable meetings and participate in discussions.
- Roundtable Meetings will be noticed and conducted in accordance with the Brown Act, with related votes and discussions generally following Roberts Rules of Order in an effort to ensure respectful, organized and inclusive discussion.
- To facilitate respectful and collaborative dialogue, these basic rules of conduct will apply:
 - Strive to attend all meetings
 - Arrive on time, and plan to stay for the entire meeting
 - Be prepared to engage by reading agendas, supporting documentation or handouts prior to the meeting
 - Help staff be prepared to address questions or clarifications by providing them with such items in the days before each meeting
 - Avoid side conversations during the meeting
 - Be open, transparent and honest with any conflicts of interest
 - Participate fully in each meeting by:
 - Listening to others with respect and an open mind
 - Responding with viewpoints and thoughts in a respectful manner
 - Being concise and avoiding lengthy soliloquies
 - Respecting the process needed to ensure meetings are organized, clear and inclusive (i.e., point of order, etc.)
 - Understand the needs and desires of the entire group you are representing, irrespective of personal interests or affiliations

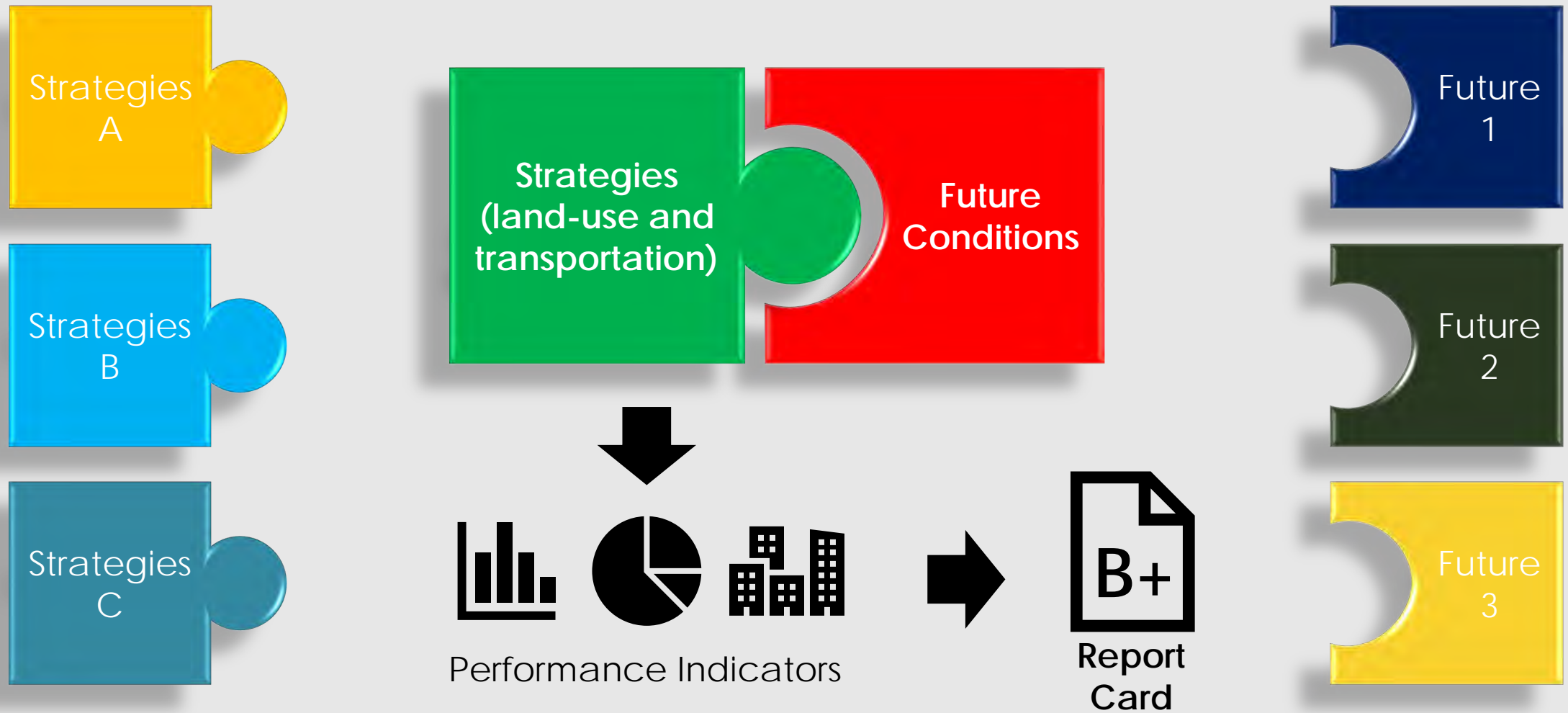


FRESNO FUTURES

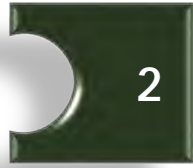
Part 2

Fresno COG 2022 RTP/SCS

How Scenarios are Built

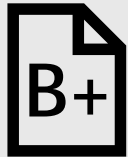
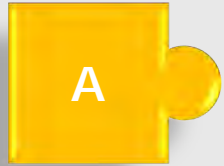


----- Futures -----



----- Strategies -----

Scenario A



Scenario A₁

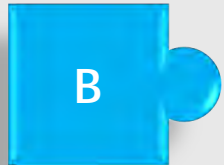


Scenario A₂

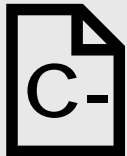


Scenario A₃

Scenario B



Scenario B₁



Scenario B₂



Scenario B₃

Scenario C



Scenario C₁



Scenario C₂



Scenario C₃

Assessing
Scenario
Performance

The **best**
strategies are
those that show
resiliency across
multiple possible
futures.



Fresno Futures Focus Group

Fresno COG hosted a Fresno Futures workshop where stakeholders split into focus groups to discuss three proposed futures.

Each focus group brainstormed potential impacts of each Future, as well as possible strategies to mitigate those impacts.



Proposed Futures

Following are three Futures proposed by COG and developed by the stakeholders at the workshop.



Health Impacts: less active transportation, more air-quality-related conditions, more years of life lost



Energy Impacts: more strain on power grid, higher energy costs



Natural Resources: depressed growth in agriculture sector, possible flooding



Demographics: depressed population and employment growth



Transportation Impacts: more road maintenance required (pavement melting, etc.)



Economic Impacts: increased insurance rates, higher housing cost burden

Future 1: Extreme Climate

Defining Characteristics:

- Extreme heat
- Drought
- Bad air quality



Health Impacts:
possible innovation in
health sector means
people live longer



Energy Impacts: more
telecommuting means
higher peak-low
energy usage



Natural Resources:
higher demand for
water and other
resources



Demographics:
possible displacement
outside the County,
higher median age



**Transportation
Impacts:** advent of
automated vehicles
leading to more SOV,
more EV, possible
decrease in
congestion



Economic Impacts:
possible decline in
low-wage jobs, more
office jobs, more
telecommuting

Future 2: High-Tech Innovation

Defining Characteristics:

- More automation in transportation
- Economic prosperity, especially in the information sector



Health Impacts: possible mode shift away from SOV may lead to more active transportation



Energy Impacts: increased costs, possibly more solar energy as farmland is repurposed



Natural Resources: water shortages due to heavy regulation, depressed growth in agriculture



Demographics: increased housing cost, larger share of group quarters population, less overall growth



Transportation Impacts: potential diversion of transportation leading to a smaller constrained project list

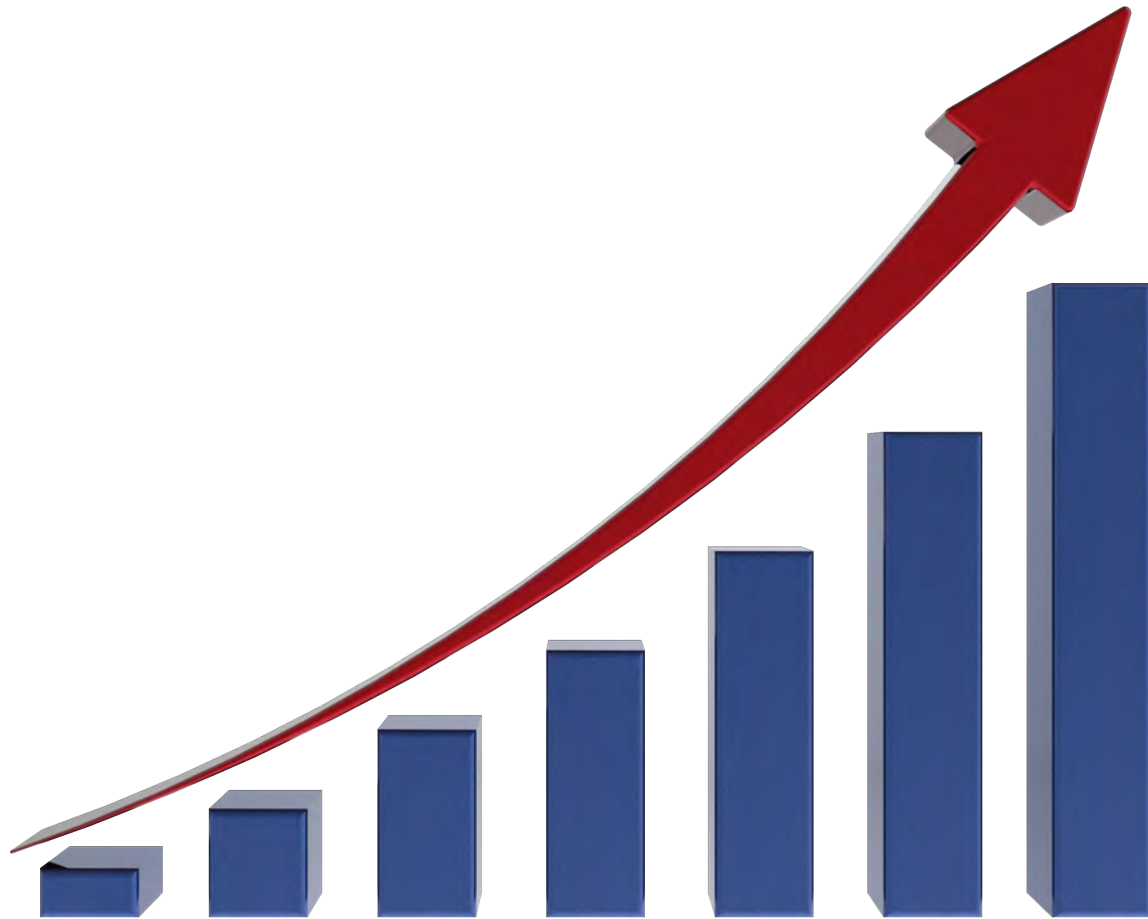


Economic Impacts: stagnation (especially in rural communities), decreased tax base, job loss

Future 3: Regulatory Challenges

Defining Characteristics:

- Water shortages from SGMA
- Increased transportation regulations from SAFE rule, SB 743, etc.
- State and Federal funding diverted from transportation



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Additional Base Future

Defining Characteristics:

- Consistent with updated demographic forecast
- Represents the most accurate and reasonable projection for future conditions in Fresno County
- Will form the basis for preferred scenario and RHNA analysis



Questions?

Seth Scott

Fresno COG

sscott@fresnocog.org

559.724.9213