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November 13, 2017

Mariah Thompson

California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc. 3747 E. Shields Ave. Fresno CA, 93726

Re: Your Letter Dated October 31, 2017 regarding RTP Roundtable Preferred Scenario Selection for 2018 RTP

Ms. Thompson,

Thank you for your October 31, 2017 comment letter addressing the RTP Roundtable preferred scenario selection for the 2018 RTP/SCS.

When designing the October outreach activities, Fresno COG staff clearly indicated to the stakeholder groups and the committees that our outreach would go beyond the Roundtable and TTC/PAC meeting dates so that the Policy Board, the ultimate decision makers, will receive as much input as possible from the public. Our last outreach event was on November 8<sup>th</sup> and the Policy Board will be asked to select a preferred scenario on November 16<sup>th</sup> based on all the public input received and the recommendations from the Roundtable and the TTC/PAC.

By design, the bulk of our SCS Scenario outreach was completed prior to the RTP Roundtable's October 25<sup>th</sup> meeting and the TTC/PAC's November 3<sup>rd</sup> meetings. The agenda of the Roundtable's October 25th meeting noted that all responses received prior to the October Roundtable meeting would be tallied and reported for a recommendation of a preferred scenario, which was done. Staff believes that the public input results collected before these committee meetings were sufficient to provide representative samples of the public's scenario preferences. The scenario selection from the Roundtable and the TTC/PAC all serve as recommendations to the Policy Board.

As indicated in your letter and shown in our outreach summary report, out of approximately 1,300 people Fresno COG reached out to during the Fall SCS Scenario Outreach, the majority of them were members of environmental justice communities. Their feedback was considered by the Roundtable on October 25<sup>th</sup> and the TTC/PAC on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Roundtable and the TTC/PAC received a full report on the outreach

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City of Coalinga

City of Firebaugh

City of Fowler

City of Fresno

City of Huron

City of Kerman

City of Kingsburg

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City of Reedley

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City of Sanger

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activities and the committee members had meaningful discussion about their preferences. There were several factors that the Committees took into consideration when making the scenario selection. Such factors included feasibility of the scenarios, public input, future greenhouse gas emission reduction targets, etc. At the Roundtable and TTC/PAC meetings there were some members expressing support for the scenario that received the most public support. Although the majority of the Roundtable and TTC/PAC recommend Scenario D, the votes were not unanimous and a breakdown of the votes will be presented to the Policy Board. On November 16<sup>th</sup>, all of the public outreach results tallied through November 8th will be presented to the Policy Board in addition to the Roundtable and TTC/PAC's recommendations. The public input will be one of the factors that the Policy Board takes into consideration when they make a scenario selection decision.

In summary, environmental justice communities have been meaningfully included throughout Fresno COG's 2018 RTP/SCS process. Public input was considered during the Roundtable and TTC/PAC scenario deliberation process and will be considered by the Policy Board in the selection of the 2018 RTP/SCS's preferred scenario.

We thank you for your involvement in the 2018 RTP/SCS development process, and appreciate your efforts to engage the community residents in the process. Please feel free to contact me or my staff Kristine Cai at 559-233-4148 should you have any further questions or comments regarding the 2018 RTP/SCS.

Sincerely,

Tony Boren,

**Executive Director**