

**KERN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND  
CONGESTION MANAGEMENT AGENCY TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**KERN COG CONFERENCE ROOM  
1401 19TH STREET, THIRD FLOOR  
BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA**

**WEDNESDAY  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2009  
10:00 A.M.**

Chairperson Garrett called the meeting to order at approximately 10 a.m. A “sign-in” sheet was provided.

**I. ROLL CALL**

<b>Members Present:</b>	Dennis Speer	Ridgecrest
	Joe West	CTSA / NOR
	Pat Ebel	Kern County
	Bob Wren	Wasco
	Michael James	Shafter
	Ed Galero	Delano
	Bob Wilburn	Maricopa / McFarland
	Teresa Statler	Taft
	Carol McDonald	Caltrans, District 6
	Greg Garrett	Tehachapi
	Steve Woods	GET
	Brad Underwood	Bakersfield
<b>Staff:</b>	Joe Stramaglia	Kern COG
	Greg Palomo	Kern COG
	Marilyn Beardslee	Kern COG
	Raquel Pacheco	Kern COG
	Robert Ball	Kern COG
	Bob Snoddy	Kern COG
<b>Others:</b>	Paul Pineda	Caltrans, Bakersfield
	Karen Kirk	AECOM
	Bill Black	AECOM
	Jeremy Bowman	Helt Engineering
	Craig Jones	Taft
	Jay Saberon	Bakersfield
	Marcia Smith	Tehachapi
	Chris Kirk	Tehachapi

**II. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons to address the Committee on any matter not on this agenda but under the jurisdiction of the Committee. Committee members may respond briefly to statements made or questions posed. They may ask a question for clarification; make a referral to staff for information or request staff to report to the Committee at a later meeting. **SPEAKERS ARE LIMITED TO TWO MINUTES. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD PRIOR TO MAKING A PRESENTATION.**

**III. APPROVAL OF DISCUSSION SUMMARY:** Meeting of September 2, 2009. There was a motion by Ms. Ebel to recommend approval of the discussion summary. Mr. West seconded the motion.

**IV. FY 2009/10 TDA PUBLIC TRANSIT CLAIMS – COUNTY OF KERN (Palomo)**

Mr. Palomo discussed TDA Public Transit Claim for FY 2009/10 for the County of Kern in the amount of \$5,581,627. Kern Council of Governments' staff (Kern COG) has reviewed the claim and requested the Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TTAC) recommend approval to the Transportation Planning Policy Committee (TPPC). Mr. Wilburn made a motion to recommend approval of the 2009/10 TDA Public Transit Claim to the TPPC. Ms. Ebel seconded the motion.

**V. CONGESTION MITIGATION / AIR QUALITY (CMAQ) PROGRAM – DRAFT FUNDING TARGETS (Pacheco)**

Ms. Pacheco stated that Kern COG staff has developed funding targets to implement the Congestion Mitigation / Air Quality (CMAQ) Call for Projects. On September 17, 2009, the TPPC gave approval of the timeline to proceed with a CMAQ Call for Projects. She explained that part of the development of the 2011 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) is the project list review. While there are projects in FY 2010/11, Kern COG staff recommends moving forward with programming additional projects for federal FY 2010/11 and the introduction of federal FY 2011/12. The planning funding level is \$8.3 million. Ms. Pacheco stated that Table 1 in the staff report reflects proposed category percentages for this Call for Projects cycle. Adjustments can be made, by Board action, should actual projects submittals not conform to these target values. The percentages are provided as a point of beginning for purposes of discussion and final action. She said that Kern COG staff recommends that the TTAC consider the proposal presented in Table 1 based on recent experience of the 2005/06 CMAQ Call for Projects cycle.

Ms. Ebel asked if these were the same funding targets as the last cycle and Ms. Pacheco stated that the funding targets are from funding cycle 2005/06. Staff has already programmed projects for 2009/10 and 2010/11. Ms. Pacheco stated that they usually program three years but this time they would complete the 2010/11 year and one year of funding for FY 2011/12. The action requested is that the TTAC recommend approval of the CMAQ Funding Targets to the TPPC. There was a motion by Ms. Ebel to recommend approval. Ms. Statler seconded the motion.

**VI. REGIONAL SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM (Pacheco)**

Ms. Pacheco stated that Kern COG staff has developed fair share estimates to implement the Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) Call for Projects. On September 17, 2009, the TPPC gave approval of the timeline to proceed with a RSTP call for projects. While there are projects in FY 2010/11, Kern COG staff recommends moving forward with programming additional projects for federal FY 2010/11 and the introduction of federal FY 2011/12. The planning funding level is \$11.6 million. She explained that Table 1 in the staff report reflects the proposed fair share programming by agency for this Call for Projects cycle. Kern COG staff's recommendation is to approve the funding estimate as shown in Table 1. Ms. Pacheco added that that the Table listed population information from January 2009.

Ms. Ebel stated that the County is getting \$1.4 million for FY 2010/11, which is lower than the \$2.85 million programmed for 2011/12. She wanted to know if there was any other money available from prior authorizations. Ms. Pacheco stated FY 2010/11 only shows a total of \$3.8 million because there already are projects for the year in the FTIP. Ms. Ebel asked for Ms. Pacheco to discuss the programmed amounts for the County after the meeting. The action requested is that the TTAC recommend approval of the RSTP Fund Estimate to the TPPC. There was a motion by Ms. Ebel to recommend approval. Mr. Wilburn seconded the motion.

**VII. LOCAL PROJECT COMMENTARY (RSTP, CMAQ, TE, Transit) (Pacheco)**

Ms. Pacheco stated that this item was the routine report on the monthly project status meeting held to discuss project implementation issues and to develop solutions. Meeting

highlights for September 15th include: 1) Attendees provided American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) project status reports. An update since the writing of the staff report was that all but two projects have received federal authorization to proceed with construction, which totals \$16 million. The last two projects might have been approved but Kern COG staff has not received notification. 2) The Kern COG Board approved Amendment No. 8 to the 2009 FTIP September 17th. The expected federal approval is November 2009. The Amendment includes the FY 2009/10 stimulus projects program. 3) A reminder that the deadline to submit FY 2009/10 stimulus projects (RSTP and TE) construction request for authorizations to Caltrans is December 1, 2009. 4) As of the writing of this staff report, the score card now reflects, 74% of funding had been approved for FY 2008/09. 1% is still awaiting final approval and the remaining 25% is for one transit project that was not submitted for approval.

Chairperson Garrett inquired about the transit project that was awaiting approval. Ms. Pacheco stated that the project was for an Arvin Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) bus for \$125,000. Rural agency projects are submitted through Section 5311 Program of Projects and a CMAQ transfer into the program. The structure of the stimulus program took precedence over the processing of the 5311 Program of Projects, which delayed the project from getting approved. Kern COG staff thinks the project will still get approved through the cycle but have not received notification. Ms. Pacheco noted that the Tehachapi RSTP Curry Street project was approved after the writing of the staff report. This item is for information only.

**VIII. STATE HIGHWAY OPERATION AND PROTECTION PROGRAM (SHOPP) – TTAC REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (Pacheco)**

Ms. Pacheco stated that this item is the response to member agency request for more detail on SR 178 guardrail project. Kern COG and Caltrans entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on August 19, 2004 to program State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP) projects as lump sums in the FTIP. She explained that the MOU specifies that Caltrans will provide a quarterly status report which provides a status update on individual projects. Ms. Pacheco said that at the September 2, 2009 meeting, Ms. Ebel from the County of Kern requested additional information for the SR 178 guardrail project. Project details include the following: 1) The project consists of 13 locations on Route 178, near Bakersfield between the mouth of Kern Canyon and Lake Isabella; 2) The work description is to install metal beam guardrails; 3) The Project Initiation Document (PID) cost was \$65,000; 4) The preliminary engineering was \$246,000; 5) The construction estimate is \$669,000; 6) There was cost savings due to market shift; 7) There was cost savings due to less road widening than expected; and 8) The construction project was advertised September 21, 2009.

Ms. Ebel asked for a copy of the plans for the SR 178 guardrail project. Ms. Pacheco stated that she would contact the project manager and make the arrangements. This item was for information only.

**IX. 2010 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (Stramaglia)**

Mr. Stramaglia stated that the 2010 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) is slowly progressing. Kern COG staff held a workshop on September 15th where a basic overview of the RTIP was discussed. The staff report he discussed is a re-spreading exercise and the challenge is to prioritize projects that have not been established for construction or voted by the Californian Transportation Commission (CTC). As part of the staff report, he provided the TTAC with a follow-up list of projects presented at the September 15th meeting. Mr. Stramaglia stated that projects highlighted on this list are the ones that Kern COG staff will expect to move into the 2010 RTIP. He discussed the list in detail with the TTAC. He will be working on the information for the next workshop, which will be held on October 20 at 1:30 p.m. in the Kern COG board room. He encouraged all TTAC members to attend or send an agency alternate. Mr. Stramaglia announced that Kern COG staff would be attending the next CTC meeting on October 14 and 15 where the Commission is expected to provide a final adoption of

the fund estimate as well as the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) guidelines. They will present the results at the next workshop and discuss the approach Kern COG staff will be taking to present a recommendation for November. He said they would be looking for final approval of the RTIP recommendation in January 2010. The CTC is focusing on the fact that they are not able to determine ahead of time how much of the programming will be delayed statewide. Mr. Stramaglia stated that Kern COG staff may propose which projects to delay specifically by year or present the priority projects to the CTC and let them decide. Kern COG staff will review project status and develop options for the October 20 workshop presentation and the November TTAC and Board meetings. He recommended that TTAC members review the Draft STIP guidelines to assist with the approach in the decision-making process. Mr. Stramaglia requested that agencies with projects on the list that will go forward in the 2010 RTIP need to provide a cost estimate update.

Chairperson Garrett asked if the state was going to run out of money because of the delayed projects. Mr. Garrett expressed concern about financial commitments made to design a project and have the construction be delayed. Mr. Stramaglia stated that voters passed Proposition 1B and the Commission used it to program 2008 STIP. This added \$36 million in new programming into the RTIP but since then they have not sold enough bonds to deliver the entire book of projects throughout the state. As a result, the state has to prioritize their commitments which are regulated by the State Controller's Office. He explained that Kern COG should make a good faith effort to communicate actual details of project status for pre-construction activity. Caltrans will continue to sell bonds to fulfill voted construction projects and before adding new Prop 1B commitments. He encouraged agencies to communicate to Kern COG staff that they their projects are ready to go.

Ms. Ebel asked if Mr. Steve Milton is going to give Kern COG the updated cost. Mr. Stramaglia answered that he believed so and that he would confirm that. This item was for information only.

**X. 2011 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN – DRAFT PROJECTS OF REGIONAL SIGNIFICANCE (Stramaglia)**

Mr. Stramaglia stated that the 2011 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) update has been initiated. The Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for projects of regional significance is an integral element of this update. Last month Kern COG staff provided the board with an overview of the financial element for the list of projects of regional significance. Kern COG completed two amendments to the RTP and has recently circulated this same information for comments on the project list. Kern COG staff will make follow-up telephone calls to agencies to solicit comments before the deadline. This item will be forwarded to the Board at the October 15 meeting for review and comment. Mr. Stramaglia stated that by November they would have the updated version of the RTP update. Kern COG staff will only list financially constrained projects. He requested the TTAC review the information that was sent under separate cover and be prepared to provide comments.

Ms. Ebel made note from the list that the Challenger Drive Extension and the West Ridgecrest Boulevard were both going to be started in 2010. Mr. Stramaglia stated that none of the projects have been changed due to the RTIP process because the RTIP process just started. Kern COG staff will need to adjust start years once the Commission adopts the STIP next May 2010. The state budget was delayed by several months which impacted both the RTIP and FTIP time schedules. Kern COG staff will make a recommendation for adjustments either during the public review period or in a future amendment to the RTP.

Ms. Ebel inquired about the Seventh Standard Road grade-separation project and noticed that it was not listed in the 2031 to 2035 range and curious about the verbiage. Mr. Stramaglia suggested that they discuss it further after the meeting. This item is for information only.

**XI. TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS – REVENUE ESTIMATES (Stramaglia)**

Mr. Stramaglia stated that Kern COG staff will introduce new transportation enhancement projects into the FTIP and will try to introduce them into the State TIP. New projects were not selected earlier because of hesitation with an uncertain federal transportation bill. Kern COG staff is seeking to new projects for FY 2011/12 and 2012/13 as explained in the staff report. Staff will be following up with Call for Projects documentation. Agencies were provided target values that have been in the STIP for several years and confirmed by CTC staff. Outer years are proposed targets based on the state's new fund estimate and are subject to change. This item was for information only.

**XII. KERN REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION MODELING SUBCOMMITTEE – MEETING NOTES (Flickinger)**

Mr. Ball stated that this item is an ongoing update of a subcommittee of the TTAC set up by a MOU between the Cities, the County, and Caltrans to oversee critical input into some of the transportation modeling decisions. He provided the TTAC with the meeting notes from the August 26, 2009 meeting. There was a recommendation at the meeting regarding the next item, Draft Regional Growth Forecast Report, for the TTAC to recommend adoption by the TPPC. Mr. Ball encouraged the TTAC to support the Kern Regional Transportation Modeling Subcommittee with participation, which meets every other month. This item is for information only.

**XIII. DRAFT REGIONAL GROWTH FORECAST REPORT – RESPONSE TO COMMENTS (Ball)**

Mr. Ball presented the TTAC with a regional growth forecast report. An earlier draft of the report was presented to the TTAC at the September 2 meeting. The regional growth forecast update process is a part of Kern COG's expanded public participation policy. The policy governs how Kern COG adopts the regional growth forecast. Kern COG conducted a 30-day public review that was advertised and included a public workshop. He included a response to comments as part of the staff report. Mr. Ball gave a PowerPoint presentation to the TTAC regarding the regional growth forecast recommended by the Kern Regional Transportation Modeling subcommittee. Mr. Ball stated that the subcommittee requested that the TTAC add the assumptions that were in the 2005 forecast into this report because they felt they were still valid.

Chairperson Garrett inquired about the public comments wondering if they were done in real time or did Kern COG receive written comments. Mr. Ball said they received verbal responses in real time at the workshop. The action is for the TTAC to recommend approval of the draft findings by the TPPC and authorize the chair to sign a resolution re-adopting the 2005 regional growth forecast Alternative 1b for 3 to 5 more years when the 2010 Census is available. There was a motion by Ms. Ebel to recommend approval to the TPPC. Ms. Statler seconded the motion.

**XIV. DRAFT CONGESTION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (CMP) UPDATE (Ball)**

Mr. Ball stated that this item was related to the 2011 RTP. The Congestion Management Program (CMP) is a section within the RTP and he gave a PowerPoint presentation to the TTAC regarding this item. This item will be coming back to the TTAC at the November meeting to make a recommendation for approval to the board. The approval would be subject to final adoption of the RTP in June or July 2010.

Ms. Ebel asked if the draft CMP has been presented to the traffic modeling subcommittee. Mr. Ball said that it has not yet but it would be presented to them at the next meeting in October. Ms. Ebel asked if the modeling committee would be able make comments within the 30-day timeframe before the item is presented to the TTAC and the

board. Mr. Ball stated the modeling committee will meet one week before the next TTAC meeting to review and make comments. Mr. Ball will have the notes from the meeting available for the TTAC to review at the November meeting. This item is for information only.

**XV. DRAFT REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN (RTP) TRANSPORTATION PLANNING POLICIES (Beardslee)**

Ms. Beardslee stated that Kern COG is currently updating the RTP, which is a required element of the Policy Element. Kern COG staff has reviewed the Policy Element and has provided the TTAC with the revised policies for review and comment over the next 30 days. She explained that some of the policies revised are editorial changes and some of the policies are being dropped because 1) they have been completed or 2) they have been incorporated into another policy. Part of the document is an update to show how the policies related to the Kern Regional Blueprint principles that have been incorporated. Ms. Beardslee stated that the performance monitoring section of the chapter has also been updated with new information and expansion of the discussion. Kern COG staff would like the TTAC to review the preliminary draft and respond with any comments, questions, revisions, or additions that they might have prior to the November TTAC meeting.

Mr. James asked to whom does the TTAC direct its comments and Ms. Beardslee stated that they can be given to her. This item was for information only.

**XVI. TRANSPORTATION DEVELOPMENT ACT ARTICLE 3 PROGRAM OF PROJECTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2009/10 (Smith)**

Mr. Smith stated that the Kern COG, acting in the capacity as the state-designated Regional Transportation Planning Authority (RTPA), administers funding for the Transportation Development Act (TDA) Article 3 Program which provides funding for bicycle and pedestrian facilities. There was a Call for Projects in May 2009 with a submittal deadline of July 15. Kern COG staff received 19 project proposals from nine jurisdictions. The staff report included a suggested Program of Projects for FY 2009/10.

Mr. Bowman stated that Mr. Wilburn from the City of Maricopa and McFarland wanted to express his thanks for continuing this item and having the chance to discuss it with Kern COG staff. Mr. Smith asked if the discussion between Kern COG staff and Mr. Wilburn was satisfactory and Mr. Bowman answered yes. Mr. Smith added that there is a numeric ranking criterion that is used and they tried to include as many projects as they could. There was \$1 million allocated and \$3 million in project proposals.

Chairperson Garrett asked if all the funding was being used and Mr. Smith answered yes. Mr. Smith added that they programmed allocation for several years into the future.

Ms. Ebel inquired about the projects that did not use its funds within the three years and how they decided to re-allocated the funds. Mr. Smith stated that part of the funding pool for FY 2009/10 included a de-obligations of refunds. Kern COG staff is still in the negotiating process with several jurisdictions to get projects going that are behind. They anticipate some refunds that will be allocated into the 2010/11 pool. Kern COG staff requests that the TTAC recommend approval of the FY 2009/10 Transportation Development Act Article 3 Program of Projects to the TPPC. There was a motion by Ms. Ebel to recommend approval. Mr. Woods seconded the motion.

**XVII. MEMBER ITEMS:**

The next Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TTAC) meeting will convene on Wednesday, November 4, 2009 at 10 a.m. in the Kern COG Board Room.

**XVIII. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 11:30 a.m.