

**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
NOVEMBER 4, 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

Members Present:	Dennis Speer	Ridgecrest
	Craig Jones	Taft
	Bob Wren	Wasco
	Mike Bevins	California City
	Ed Galero	Delano
	Greg Garrett	Tehachapi
	Randy Treece	Caltrans, District 6
	Scott Hurlbert	Shafter
	Pat Ebel	Kern County
	Bob Wilburn	Maricopa / McFarland
	Alan Christensen	Arvin
	Brad Underwood	Bakersfield
Staff:	Joe Stramaglia	Kern COG
	Bob Snoddy	Kern COG
	Marilyn Beardslee	Kern COG
	Raquel Pacheco	Kern COG
	Robert Ball	Kern COG
	Peter Smith	Kern COG
Others:	Jose Perez	Moore & Associates
	Clay Lomax	Caltrans
	Bill Black	AECOM
	Dave Dmohowski	PPG, LLC
	Pedro Ramirez	Caltrans, District 6

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 30, 2009. There was a motion by Ms. Ebel to recommend approval of the discussion summary. Mr. Wren seconded the motion.

IV. FY 2009/10 STREETS AND ROADS CLAIMS – COUNTY OF KERN AND THE CITY OF WASCO (Snoddy)

Mr. Snoddy stated that according to California Public Utilities Code Section 99400 et seq., and Kern Council of Governments (Kern COG) TDA rules and regulations, eligible organizations may submit a claim for the purpose of supporting streets and roads systems. The County of Kern has submitted a claim for FY 2009/10 in the amount of \$1,591,206 and the City of Wasco has submitted a claim for FY 2009/10 in the amount of \$1,017,967.

Mr. Underwood asked what the County and City of Wasco were going to use the funds for. Mr. Snoddy said the funds would go towards Streets and Roads maintenance. Mr. Underwood wanted to know if there were any funds available that the City of Bakersfield could apply for. Mr. Snoddy stated that the Streets and Roads projects have not been submitted. Chairperson clarified that the projects have already been submitted and the County and Wasco are asking for reimbursement and Mr. Snoddy agreed. Mr. Underwood stated the City of Bakersfield would like information about available funds and Mr. Snoddy said he would research this info and get back to him.

The action requested is for the Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TTAC) to review the claims and recommend approval to the Transportation Planning Policy Committee (TPPC). Mr. Underwood made a motion to recommend approval of the 2009/10 TDA Streets and Roads Claims to the TPPC. Ms. Ebel seconded the motion.

V. FY 2009/10 PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION MODERNIZATION, IMPROVEMENT AND SERVICE ENHANCEMENT ACCOUNT (Snoddy)

Mr. Snoddy stated that pursuant to Section 8879.55 of the Government Code, Kern COG shall determine and advise all prospective claimants of the amounts of all area apportionments from the Public Transportation Modernization, Improvement and Service Account (PTMISEA) up appropriation of the Legislature. He explained the attached schedule with the TTAC in detail that provided the amounts available from the 2009/10 FY appropriation in the Budget Act of 2009. Mr. Snoddy said that the applications are due as soon as possible according to the staff at the PTMISEA headquarters so they can be obligated by the June 30, 2010 deadline. A second distribution of funds from last year have been awarded and apportioned to each of the eligible agencies. Mr. Snoddy indicated that the PTMISEA fund should be allocated in the next fiscal year. He added that if the cities run out of projects to spend the money on then the money will be returned to the pot and reapportioned for future projects. There was further discussion among the TTAC and Mr. Snoddy answered each question in detail. This item was for information and discussion only and no action was taken.

VI. FY 2009/10 TRANSIT SYSTEM SAFETY, SECURITY & DISASTER RESPONSE ACCOUNT (Snoddy)

Mr. Snoddy stated that pursuant to Section 8879.58(a) (2) and 8879.58(a) (3) of the California Government Code, Kern COG shall determine and advise all prospective claimants of the amounts of all area apportionments from the Transit System Safety, Security & Disaster Response Account (TSS&DRA) upon appropriation of the Legislature. Attached to the staff report was the 2009/10 Estimated and Apportionment Factors schedule. This item was for information and discussion and no action was taken.

VII. TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT ACTIVITIES PROGRAM CALL FOR PROJECTS (Smith)

Mr. Smith stated that Kern COG is issuing a Call for Projects for the Transportation Enhancement Activities (TEA) Program. Kern COG staff has been informed that there is \$1,681,000 available during FY 2011/12 and \$1,879,000 available for FY 2012/13. The Call for Projects submittal deadline is Wednesday, December 16 at 4 p.m. at the Kern COG office. He asked the TTAC to serve on a review-nominating committee to review projects. Volunteers that agreed to serve are: Ms. Ebel, Mr. Jones, Mr. Wren, Mr. Underwood, Mr. Woods, Mr. Christensen, Mr. Garrett, and Mr. Hulbert. The sub-committee agreed to meet on Wednesday, January 6, 2010 after the TTAC meeting from 1 to 2:30 p.m. This item was for information and discussion no action was taken.

VIII. STATE ROUTE 223 TRANSPORTATION CONCEPT REPORT (Smith)

Mr. Ramirez of Caltrans, District 6 gave a presentation regarding the draft State Route 223 Transportation Concept Report through the year 2030. Mr. Treece added that the draft TCR is still in the review and comment period. The comments are due on Thursday, November 19, 2009. There was further discussion among the TTAC and Mr. Ramirez answered each question in detail.

IX. 2011 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN – PROJECTS OF REGIONAL SIGNIFICANCE (Stramaglia)

Mr. Stramaglia stated that this item is being brought forward to allow the TTAC to review elements of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). Kern COG staff is preparing a document that will be available for public review early next year. After consultation with agency staff, KCOG staff updated Tables 4.1 and 4.2 that were attached to the staff report. In anticipation of the next RTP, a general overview is provided for projects of regional significance for the 2011 RTP updates. He explained that this draft capital improvement program is subject to revisions prior to the final preparation. Kern COG wants to move forward with the analysis, which was provided in the staff report. Mr. Stramaglia asked the TTAC for a recommendation to the TPPC to approve the Draft RTP Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Tables 4.1 and 4.2 for projects of regional significance. The action was amended for the TTAC to recommend that the TPPC approval of the Draft RTP CIP Tables 4.1 and 4.2 for projects of regional significance. Ms. Ebel made a motion to recommend approval to the TPPC. Mr. Bevins seconded the motion.

X. 2010 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (Stramaglia)

Mr. Stramaglia stated that the 2010 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) cycle has been initiated and the 2010 RTIP is due to the California Transportation Commission (CTC) by February 12, 2010. He explained that the CTC has initiated the 2010 Regional/State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) cycle and adopted the Guidelines and Fund Estimates at the October 14-15, 2009 Commission meeting. Mr. Stramaglia stated that there will be a programming delay exercise for the 2010 RTP and they are not being asked to consider new projects. In October, Kern COG staff shared a list of projects that would be considered for inclusion into the 2010 RTIP. This is month they will begin the preparation for prioritizing projects that potentially will be delayed. He said that regions are being asked to prioritize the projects. CTC staff stated that regions are competing for about 40% funding capacity against currently programmed projects in the 2010/11, 2011/12, and 2013/14 programming years. Mr. Stramaglia said that about 60% of the current programming in the STIP will be delayed. It is important for agencies to finalize the process on what projects are ready to go. He stated that if the TTAC would like to discuss further they could meet on December 2 in the Kern COG Board room from 1:30 to 3 p.m. to discuss further options with project status. This item was for information and discussion and no action was taken.

Ms. Ebel stated that she would like Hwy 119 to be funded but she agreed with Option A that Challenger Drive and West Ridgecrest Boulevard should go first because they are ready to go. She wanted to know if the County could request \$2.5 million of the \$50 million going towards the Westside Parkway since this project only needs \$47.5 million. They would apply the \$2.5 million towards the \$3 million Cherry Avenue project since it is ready for PE. Mr. Stramaglia said that the CTC needed consistency with project programming and will not look at the project any other way. Mr. Stramaglia explained that Kern COG's entitlement to programming had to be at a project level only; cash management would fall on the shoulders of CTC staff. He stated that they could discuss this area of concern further at the December 2nd workshop. There was further discussion and Mr. Stramaglia answered each question in detail. This item was for information and discussion and no action was taken.

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

Ms. Pacheco discussed the routine report on the monthly project status meeting held to discuss project implementation issues and to develop solutions. Highlights for October 20th meeting were 1) All fiscal year 2008/09 projects received authorization to proceed with construction. \$17 million (federal) has been approved; 2) The deadline to submit fiscal year 2009/10 ARRA (Regional Surface Transportation Program and Transportation Enhancement) construction request for authorizations to Caltrans is December 1, 2009. The Obligation Plan as submitted to Caltrans, that was due November 1, was provided to each TTAC member and 3) Kern COG staff wanted to remind the TTAC that the Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Program and Regional Surface Transportation Program call for projects is in progress and applications are due December 15 by 4:00 pm. This item is for information and discussion and no action was taken.

XII. DRAFT REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN (RTP) TRANSPORTATION PLANNING POLICIES (Beardslee)

Ms. Beardslee stated that Chapter 2 of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), is the Goals and Policies Element. At the October TTAC meeting, staff provided TTAC members with the proposed 2011 RTP Policy Element. She received a letter from the City of Shafter that she discussed with the Committee, which included the following points. The goals and policies remain essentially unchanged from 2007. Kern COG staff has added a matrix to the section that compares existing goals with nine broadly-worded Blueprint principles adopted by the Kern COG board in November 2008. The matrix demonstrates that existing RTP goals are consistent with the adopted Blueprint Principles. The 2011 RTP update brings the discussion of performance measures into the Goals section of the RTP for the first time. While these performance measures have been included in the RTP since 2000, they were discussed in the Environmental Justice section. Ms. Beardslee indicated that state and federal guidance requires inclusion of the performance measures in the RTP. When the performance measures analysis is complete, it will be provided to the TTAC and Kern COG Board, as well as the general public, for consideration and comment. Although not in effect until after the adoption of the 2011 RTP, SB375 requires the use of the Blueprint in the development of the Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS). In October 2008, the Kern COG Board established the Kern Climate Change Task Force to develop a work plan that was proactive in the development of the SCS; hence the effort to include SB 375 requirements in this RTP update. The Blueprint is voluntary and member agencies are not required to adopt the Blueprint Principles; however, many of the member agencies are considering incorporation of the Blueprint Principles into their general plan updates. The SCS must be based on the latest planning assumptions from local General Plans. Kern COG staff met with local agencies to get their latest general planning assumptions on which to base the RTP modeling activities. This discussion is moot, however, until SB375 takes effect in October 2010, which is after the adoption of RTP. Kern COG staff will be providing written comments to the City of Shafter. The recommended action is that the TPPC approve the preliminary 2011 Regional Transportation Plan Policy Element subject to final adoption of the 2011 RTP in June 2010. Mr. Underwood made a motion to recommend approval to the TPPC. Mr. Bevins seconded the motion.

XIII. CONGESTION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (CMP) UPDATE (Ball)

Mr. Ball said this is another item that takes a look at the Congestion Mitigation Plan (CMP) that is being put together in segments and the public review process will take place in April 2010. Last month he presented a PowerPoint presentation to the TTAC and there was a request by one of the members to present the CMP to the Kern Regional Transportation Modeling Committee (KRTMC). Mr. Ball recently incorporated a supplemental version of the staff report as part of handouts that includes the input from the KRTMC. The CMP has been a part of the RTP since 1990 and was adopted in 1991. The process was made voluntary in the mid 1990s and was not used very much until the 2005 adoption of the federal transportation reauthorization. Mr. Ball discussed the

changes of the CMP in detail with the TTAC on page 2 of his handout. There was a discussion among the TTAC and Mr. Ball answered each question in detail. The action requested was for the TTAC to recommend that the Kern COG Board approve the Congestion Management Plan subject to the final adoption of the 2011 RTP in June 2010.

After a review of the Response to Comments and considerable discussion, the TTAC recommended the item back to the Kern Regional Transportation Modeling Committee for development of a methodology to answer the comment from the Kern Home Builders Association, and to bring the item back to the TTAC in January.

XIV. FUNDING FOR REGIONAL TRAFFIC COUNT PROGRAM (Ball, Flickinger)

Mr. Ball stated that in 2004 the City of Bakersfield, County of Kern, Caltrans District 6, and Kern COG signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that created a Regional Traffic Count Program for locally maintained roads. The MOU recommends the program be funded in the FTIP on an on-going basis. Kern COG staff would like the TTAC to recommend that the TPPC approve \$79,677 per year off-the-top RSTP funding for a second 5-year period to fund the Regional Traffic Count Program. Ms. Ebel made a motion to recommend approval to the TPPC. Mr. Bevins seconded the motion.

XV. MEMBER ITEMS

The next Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TTAC) meeting will convene on Wednesday, January 6, 2010 at 10 a.m. in the Kern COG Board Room.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 12:00 p.m.