

KERN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING POLICY COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting of April 20, 2017

KERN COG CONFERENCE ROOM
BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA

APRIL 20, 2017
6:30 P.M.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Cheryl Wegman at approximately 6:35 p.m. .

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

II. ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Gurrola, B. Smith, Wood, Pascual, Mower, Prout, Krier, Wegman, Couch, Scrivner, Parra, Kiernan

Members Absent: Mock, Cantu, P. Smith, Miller

Alternates: McFarland, Padilla

Others: 10

Staff: Hakimi, Collins, Ball, Snoddy, Palomo, Urata, Heimer, Banuelos, Flickinger and VanWyk

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 factual information or request staff to report back to the Committee at a later meeting. **SPEAKERS ARE LIMITED TO TWO MINUTES, WITH THE AUTHORITY OF THE CHAIR TO EXTEND THE TIME LIMIT AS DEEMED APPROPRIATE FOR CONDUCTING THE MEETING. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD PRIOR TO MAKING A PRESENTATION.**

Mr. Dennis Fox spoke about funding for roads, there is a Federal Program regarding trees that suffered from the drought, they can be cut up and part of the timber can go to roads. The other one is a state program tomorrow at the Marriott, Senator Beal will be speaking on SB 1.

Mr. Sal Moretti with the City of Bakersfield talked regarding the Great American Cleanup this Saturday. He also thanked Kern COG for the funding for litter pickup. Kern COG funds go to the City of Bakersfield and they pay the Homeless Center for the ramp cleanup crew which does 600 bags a month and over 120 ramps a month. If there are any additional funds, there are new ramps and higher minimum wage that we'd love to be able to support with those funds.

Ms. Dixie Waters with the Sheriff's Department will be out Saturday as well with the Caltrans crew. She then gave the stats on the contract. We are in our 4th quarter, since July of 2016 we've had over 106 job sites that covered 216 miles of Kern County roads. 5,000 man hours have been put in over that time which includes the deputies that go out. We've targeted Bakersfield, Delano, McFarland and Shafter over the last couple of months. Also wanted to thank you for honoring us at the Awards banquet.

Director Hakimi said that Director Prout last month asked that we have more information on what the funds are being used for with respect to the debris removal. We have created a spot on our website and are tracking both the City of Bakersfield and the County of Kern's contracts. You will see monthly updates there in terms of numbers and locations.

Mr. Zack Crum of Stallion Springs said that he runs a community group called Stallion Springs Guided Hiking, is a volunteer for Tejon Ranch and is also about to be a graduate of CSUB with a focus on Public Policy and Land Management. If you need any help with policy papers, he's coming up on his Master's Program.

IV. **CONSENT AGENDA/OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:** All items on the consent agenda are considered to be routine and non-controversial by Kern COG staff and will be approved by one motion if no member of the Committee or public wishes to comment or ask questions. If comment or discussion is desired by anyone, the item will be removed from the consent agenda and will be considered in the listed sequence with an opportunity for any member of the public to address the Committee concerning the item before action is taken. **ROLL CALL VOTE.**

- A. Approval of Minutes – March 16, 2017
- B. Response to Public Comments (None)
- C. Draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Kern COG and Golden Empire Transit District
- D. Draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Kern COG and the City of Delano
- E. Delano, Golden Empire Transit District (GET) and Tehachapi TDA Public Transit and Streets and Roads Claims Totaling \$21,206,565
- F. Amended Kern Region FY 2016-17 Low Carbon Transit Operators Program (LCTOP) Program of Projects the Reapportionment of \$17,663
- G. Program Supplement Regional Traffic Count Program
- H. 2018 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP)
- I. Target Setting for SB 375 Greenhouse Gas Emission Reductions from Passenger Vehicles
- J. Community Based Outreach Mini-Grant Program
- K. WE 603.3 Advanced Transportation Management
- L. Contract Extension – 2012 Kern On-Call Transportation Model Support
- M. Authorization to Extend Contract – 2014 Transportation Model Update
- N. Progress Report for Projects of Regional Significance April 2017 Edition
- O. Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) – Draft Timeline and Fund Estimate
- P. Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMASQ) Program – Draft Timeline and Funding Targets
- Q. ARB Climate Scoping Plan – Comments Due on Environmental Document by April 10, 2017

***** END CONSENT CALENDAR*****

Ms. Patricia Leal with the Leadership Council for Justice and Accountability asked that Item I. be pulled.

MOTION BY DIRECTOR WOOD, second by Director Gurrola, TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR, Motion carried with a roll call vote.

- I. Target Setting for SB 375 Greenhouse Gas Emission Reductions from Passenger Vehicles

Mr. Ball stated that this item is being brought back to you, it was originally presented back in January. The numbers that are being proposed as target to the Air Resources Board (ARB) are unchanged to what was then presented. We are now being asked to provide a number in time for ARB's consideration. This number is at the low end of the range at 9% per capita CO2 reduction by 2020, 13% per capita CO2 reduction by 2035. He said he would be happy to go into how they came up with those numbers. This item is an action item requesting that we go with those numbers as presented in Table 1. The most recent Regional Planning Advisory Committee (RPAC) meeting recommended approval of these numbers.

Ms. Leal asked if he can go into detail on how he got these numbers. She said it's very unclear even though she has been at the RPAC meetings. When you say ambitious targets what are you really comparing it to? In 2014 you did this modeling, but as we move forward, based on what are you getting these numbers? As we move forward to propose preliminary targets we're also hoping to work together to put in aggressive targets to allow us to work together to reduce these vehicle miles traveled to ensure that we continue to apply for grants, strategize and one way that you're doing it is having the mini-grants events, but she would like more depth on how you're getting these numbers and measuring them.

Mr. Ball said that the model that we use allows us to forecast what the future emissions would be for greenhouse gas and we come up with a per capita number based on the assumptions in the modeling we use. He said he would be happy to go over these assumptions further with you.

Ms. Leal said she would like to request a social equity roundtable as we move forward with the RTP/SCS where we can further discuss this so that we can be sure that whatever numbers are being proposed are aggressive enough to ensure that our communities continue to grow.

Mr. Ball said that we would be happy to coordinate with you on the roundtable that has already been established which he believes you are a member of he would be happy to coordinate with you and invite you to that meeting.

Director Gurrola stated that coming from a community that is low income that would benefit from a lot of the grants that CARB provides and is based on the assumptions and targets made through SB 325 and the 2018 RTP/SCS he would urge that we do all that we can to work with these environmental justice groups and also have as aggressive targets as possible. We are all in the same region and breathing the same air and we need to do the best we can to advocate for and set the policy to help reduce the emissions and do all that we can to draw down as much Federal and State dollars as we can to improve our communities. Looking forward to doing that.

Director Krier said this may not be politically correct but some of this environmental justice stuff going around he believes that some are going overboard on it. If they're so concerned about the environment and climate lead by example, ride a bicycle, work close and not commute, we all do what we need to do. We may be the only ones left in California as everybody's leaving California right now. Let's be prudent and objective with what we have to work with. A lot of what they're trying to impose on us is impossible. Impossible to achieve, so let's go ahead and use common sense on some the demands put upon us.

MOTION BY DIRECTOR COUCH, second by Director Prout, TO RECOMMEND TO THE CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD (CARB) THE PRELIMINARY TARGETS FOR KERN IN TABLE 1 AND INSTRUCT STAFF TO CONTINUE REFINEMENT OF THE MODELING FOR SB 375 TARGETS AND DEMONSTRATION. Motion carried with a voice vote.

V. BOARD MEMBERS MEETING REPORTS (None)

VI. CALTRANS' REPORT: (Report on Projects in Progress)

Mr. Padilla reported on six projects: The Bakersfield bridge preventative maintenance on SR 204 between SR 99 and 178. Construction is 95% done and completion expected in May of this year. The Cherry Avenue truck climbing lanes to widen shoulders at SR 119 from Elk Hills Road to Tupman Road, construction is 95%, still waiting for approval to complete work on the south side. Permit approved but waiting for resolution on some issues with the Department of Fish and Wildlife. The Shafter/Wasco ADA ramp project to construct ADA curb ramps on SR 43. Construction has started and is expected to continue through August of this year. The Kern Avenue pedestrian overcrossing ADA compliant upgrades on SR 99 at Kern Avenue, construction is 40% complete, removal of the existing overcrossing has started but is waiting for final approval from the railroad to complete the demolition of the existing pedestrian overcrossing. The Delano roundabout at SR 155 and Browning Road the project was awarded and the contractor has a 90 day delay start wanting to wait until school is done for the summer before they start work. Utilities are out doing their work in the meantime. The Feroso SR 46/99 bridge replacement project, the bid opening occurred on April 13 and Caltrans is working on awarding the project, construction is scheduled to start in July.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Hakimi stated that the big news is that Senate Bill 1 passed through the legislature two weeks ago tonight. It will increase gas and diesel taxes and a variety of other fees. All the cities in Kern and the County will begin seeing that money come in later this year. It goes into effect in November.

California Transportation Commission will be meeting in San Diego May 17th. He will be attending as well as members from the City of Bakersfield and possibly the County of Kern. One of the items that they will be considering is possible additional funding to finish SR 46 widening near Lost Hills. The project is still owed about \$22 million. We will do our best to try to get that money.

For all the cities and the County RSTP and CMAQ Call for Projects Applications will go out next week.

There is a High Speed Rail Jobs and Contracting Forum tomorrow at the Marriott downtown. Senator Beal will be in town. Kern COG will have staff there as well as the County of Kern and the City of Bakersfield and he is scheduled to speak about 2 pm if you are interested.

VIII. MEMBER STATEMENTS: On their own initiative, Council members may make a brief announcement or a brief report on their own activities. In addition, Council members may ask a question of staff or the public for clarification on any matter, provide a reference to staff or other resources for factual information, or request staff to report back to the Council at a later meeting concerning any matter. Furthermore, the Council, or any member thereof, may take action to direct staff to place a matter of business on a future agenda.

IX. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business the meeting adjourned at approximately 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ahron Hakimi, Executive Director

ATTEST:

Cheryl Wegman, Chair

DATE: _____