

KERN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING POLICY COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting for July 20, 2017

KERN COG CONFERENCE ROOM
BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA

July 20, 2017
6:30 P.M.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Cheryl Wegman at approximately 6:30 p.m. .

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

II. ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Pascual, Wood, Gurrola, Mower, Prout, Krier, Wegman, P. Smith

Members Absent: Mock, Cantu, B. Smith, Couch, Scrivner

Alternates: Gonzales, Ramirez

Others: 5

Staff: Hakimi, Jones, Ball, Phipps, Snoddy, Pacheco, Stramaglia, Campbell, Urata, Montalvo, Napier, Vyn Wyk

III. 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.**

Kevin Barnes, the Solid Waste Director for the City of Bakersfield expressed his appreciation and support for the Agenda Item supporting the call-box funding be diverted to litter control.

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 – June 15, 2017
- B. Response to Public Comments (None)
- C. Bakersfield, California City and Taft TDA Public Transit and Streets and Roads Claims Totaling \$2,329,891 (Snoddy)
- D. Technical Assistance Memorandum of Agreement (Phipps)
- E. Kern Alternative Fuel Technology Vehicle Initiative – Status Report (Urata)
- F. San Joaquin Valley Alternative Transportation Study (Campbell)
- G. Kern COG's Updated Federal Transit Administration Title VI. Policy (Snoddy)
- H. SR 46 Widening Segment 4A (Stramaglia)
- I. 2018 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) (Stramaglia)
- J. Kern COG Progress Report for Projects for Regional Significance (Stramaglia)
- K. Update on Target Setting for SB 375 Greenhouse Gas Emission Reductions from Passenger Vehicles (Ball)

Director Gurrola requested that Item IV-K be removed from the consent calendar for discussion.

*** END CONSENT CALENDAR***

MOTION BY DIRECTOR SMITH to approve with Item IV-K removed, second by Director Prout, TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR, Motion carried with a roll call vote.

IV K. Update on Target Setting for SB 375 Greenhouse Gas Emission Reductions from Passenger Vehicles (Ball)

Director Gurrola requested Mr. Ball to present the staff report. Mr. Ball stated that the item was a request for authorization for the Chair to sign a comment letter on the SB 375 Target setting for greenhouse gases. Mr. Ball explained that they are also encouraging stakeholders to provide comment letters to the Air Resources Board as well. The item has been reviewed by the Regional Planning Advisory Committee and their comments have been incorporated in the draft letter.

Director Gurrola stated the City of Arvin is embracing a more environmentally friendly transit oriented development. He explained at the last Council meeting they approved a Resolution of support of the Paris Climate Agreement which also supports reduction of Greenhouse emissions. They believe that the much ambitious 15% reduction is something that would be beneficial to the City of Arvin.

He expressed his opposition to the current letter and will be sending a letter to the Air Resources Board, advocating for a more ambitious target at 15%.

Motion by Director Prout to approve, second by Director Smith.

Motion carried with a roll call vote, with Director Gurrola voting nay.

V. PUBLIC HEARING – UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS IN KERN COUNTY (Snoddy)

California Public Utilities Code Section 99401.5 requires that Kern Council of Governments (Kern COG) annually identify any unmet transit needs and those that are reasonable to meet. Kern COG will conduct a public hearing on July 20, 2017, prior to making a final determination.

Chair Wegman opened the Public Hearing, there were no comments made, Chair Wegman closed the Public Hearing

Motion by Director Smith, second by Director Wood to find that there are no unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet in Kern County and authorize the Chair to sign Resolution No. 17-35. Motion carried with ROLL CALL VOTE

VI. BOARD MEMBER'S MEETING REPORTS: (None)

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

Mr. Ramirez reported on six projects: the Cherry Avenue truck climbing lanes near Taft, it is currently under construction. Shafter/Wasco ADA ramps on SR 43 has started construction and will continue through August. ADA compliance upgrades on SR 99 at Kern Avenue, the pedestrian overcrossing, that is currently in project initiation document stage, The Delano roundabout construction began on July 17th, it at 155 Browning road intersection, it will be closed for 45 working days. The project will be completed by the end of November 2017. The Famosa bridge replacement project is in construction. The Kern County seismic restoration at SR 99/Airport Drive is currently in construction. There is a pavement rehabilitation on SR 99 near Bakersfield north of Herring road to Pacheco Road. The project will be advertised July 31, 2017. SR 46 from Lost Hills Road to I5, the project was voted on at the CTC meeting in June and is scheduled for advertisement in early August. They will finalize their Active Transportation towards an Active California, The State Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. This is the first that has been done in California. Mr. Ramirez stated that is now available to view on the internet.

VIII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Hakimi thanked everyone that was involved in securing \$26,000,000 for SR 46. Chairman Wegman, Supervisor Perez, Supervisor Couch, Melissa Poole from the Wonderful Company, Dean Florez and Mr. Thomas, Rudy Salas and Joe Stramaglia and Rob Ball. Mr. Hakimi stated that COG staff, CTC staff and Caltrans staff, all contributed to securing the funds from other projects throughout the State to finish an important corridor in Kern County. They recognized the importance of this project for the whole State. Mr. Hakimi emphasized this project is a good example of the importance of having a project that is ready to go to construction. Chair Wegman thanked Mr. Hakimi for his dedicated work to make it work.

Senate Bill 1 Update - In your folders is a summary of the SB1 transportation funding to be made available to your cities and the county over the next 10 years. The funds are generated through pay back of past loans made to the state general fund from a state highway account, a new 12 cent per gallon gas tax, and a \$100 average DMV fee increase depending on the value of the car. The gas tax will be phased in at 4 cents per gallon every 3 months beginning this November. The Kern Region is anticipated to receive over \$400 Million in the next 10 years primarily for road maintenance and transit. The summary page includes a breakout by local jurisdiction. To be eligible for the new local funding, jurisdictions are required to submit a list of road improvements to the state and report annually on the condition of their roads and project delivered. Once a jurisdiction's roads are at a pavement condition index of 80 out of 100, the funds may be used for other transportation priorities. We estimate on average, the funding is only about 40% of what is needed to catch up on the road maintenance backlog in the next 10 years depending on the condition of roads in each jurisdiction.

Caltrans just announced that the cities of Arvin, Delano, Wasco, and transit operators Golden Empire Transit District and Kern Transit were awarded Low Carbon Transit Operations Program for FY 2016-17. Two particular projects address the increase of public transit service to low-income communities: Arvin will use \$9,811 to provide residents 4-10 free transit days to encourage new riders in the community. Kern Transit is adding \$62,150 of operations funding to provide service to the residents of Boron that allows a connection to a food distribution program site. Congratulations to all of these operators.

Reminder that there is an active CMAQ and RSTP Call for Projects. Information is available on the Kern COG website. Applications require local agency resolution and are due August 31st.

IX. 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.

X. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business the meeting adjourned at approximately 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ahron Hakimi, Executive Director

ATTEST:

Cheryl Wegman, Chair

DATE: _____