



May 18, 2018

To: Interagency Consultation Partners and Public  
From: Raquel Pacheco, Regional Planner  
Subject: **Availability of Draft 2019 FTIP, Draft 2018 RTP/SCS, Corresponding Draft 2017 Conformity Analysis, and the Draft Program Environmental Impact Report for Interagency Consultation and Public Review**

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Kern COG is proposing a Draft 2019 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (2019 FTIP), Draft 2018 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (2018 RTP/SCS), corresponding Draft Conformity Analysis, and Draft Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR). Associated documentation is attached as indicated below.

- The 2019 FTIP is a listing of capital improvement and operational expenditures utilizing federal and state monies for transportation projects in Kern County during the next four years. Please follow this link here: <http://www.kerncog.org/category/docs/ftip/>
- The 2018 RTP/SCS is a long-term coordinated transportation/land use strategy to meet Kern County's transportation needs out to the year 2042. Please follow this link here: <http://www.kerncog.org/category/docs/rtp/>
- The EIR document provides an analysis of potential environmental impacts related to the implementation of the 2018 RTP/SCS as required by the California Environmental Quality Act. Please follow this link here: <http://www.kerncog.org/category/docs/rtp/>
- The Conformity Analysis contains the documentation to support a finding that the 2019 FTIP and 2018 RTP/SCS meet the air quality conformity requirements for ozone and particulate matter Please follow this link: <http://www.kerncog.org/conformity/>
- Public Involvement: Attachment 1 includes the Draft Public Notice and Adoption Resolution.

The public review and comment period is open for 55 days for the Draft 2019 FTIP, Draft 2018 RTP/SCS, and corresponding Draft Conformity Analysis commencing on May 18, 2018 and ending on July 12, 2018. The public review and comment period is open for 45 days for the Draft Program Environmental Impact Report commencing on May 25, 2018 and ending on July 12, 2018. Public hearings will be held at 6:00 P.M. June 6, 2018, 6:00 P.M. June 19, and 6:30 P.M.

June 21, 2018 as indicated in the attached Public Notice; comments are due by 5:00 P.M. July 12, 2018. These documents can also be viewed at the Kern COG offices at 1401 19<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 300, Bakersfield, CA 93301.

Kern Council of Governments Board of Directors will consider adoption of the Draft 2019 FTIP, Draft 2018 RTP/SCS, and corresponding Draft Conformity Analysis at 6:30 P.M. August 16, 2018. The meeting will be at Kern Council of Governments' offices, 1401 19th Street, Suite 300, Bakersfield, CA 93301.

In conclusion, the Draft 2019 FTIP, Draft 2018 RTP/SCS, and corresponding Draft Conformity Analysis meet all applicable transportation planning requirements per 23 CFR Part 450, 40 CFR Part 93, and conforms to the applicable SIPs. The 2018 RTP/SCS is compliant with the requirements of Senate Bill 375.

If you have questions or would like to submit comments, please contact:

Becky Napier, 661/635-2910 or [bnapier@kerncog.org](mailto:bnapier@kerncog.org), for the 2018 RTP/SCS and EIR;

Rob Ball, 661/635-2902 or [rball@kerncog.org](mailto:rball@kerncog.org), for the Conformity Analysis;

Raquel Pacheco, 661/635-2907 or [rpacheco@kerncog.org](mailto:rpacheco@kerncog.org), for the 2019 FTIP

**ATTACHMENT 1**

**Draft Public Hearing Notice and Draft Resolution**

## **NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON THE**

### **DRAFT 2018 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN/SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES STRATEGY DRAFT 2019 FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AND CORRESPONDING DRAFT AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY ANALYSIS AND NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT SCH#:2017041081**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Kern Council of Governments (Kern COG) will hold a public hearing on June 21, 2018, Kern Council of Governments, Board Room, 1401 19<sup>th</sup> Street, Bakersfield, CA 93301, regarding the Draft 2018 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)/Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS), the Draft 2019 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) and the Draft Corresponding Air Quality Conformity Analysis, and the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) SCH#:2017041081. The purpose of the hearing will be to receive public comments regarding the above documents:

- The RTP/SCS is Kern County's major policy document representing the region's vision for its transportation system;
- The EIR assesses the environmental impacts of implementing the RTP/SCS;
- The FTIP is a listing of capital improvement and operational expenditures using federal and state monies for transportation projects in Kern County during the next four years;
- The Air Quality Conformity Analysis contains the documentation to support a finding that the 2019 FTIP and 2018 RTP/SCS meets the air quality conformity requirements for ozone and particulate matter.

Individuals with disabilities may call Kern Council of Governments at 661/635-2910 (within three-working-days advance notice) to request auxiliary aids necessary to participate in the public hearing. Translation services are available (with three-working-days advance notice) to participants speaking any language, by available professional translation services.

Additional public hearings will be held as follows:

6:00 p.m. June 6, 2018  
Ridgecrest City Hall  
City Council Chambers  
100 W California Avenue  
Ridgecrest, CA 93555

6:00 p.m. June 19, 2018  
Arvin City Hall  
City Council Chambers  
200 Campus Drive  
Arvin, CA 93203

A concurrent 55-day public review and comment period commenced on May 18, 2018 and concludes July 12, 2018, for the Draft 2018 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy, Draft 2019 Federal Transportation Improvement Program and corresponding Draft Air Quality Conformity Analysis. The Draft Environmental Impact Report (Program EIR) will be released for a 45-day review and comment period commencing on May 25 and concluding July 12, 2018. The draft documents are available for review at the Kern COG offices, located at 1401 19th Street, Third Floor, Bakersfield, California, and on its website at [www.kerncog.org](http://www.kerncog.org).

Public comments are welcomed at the public hearing on June 21, 2018, to be held at Kern Council of Governments, Board Room, 1401 19<sup>th</sup> Street, Bakersfield, CA, or may be submitted in writing no later than 5:00 p.m. July 12, 2018.

After reviewing all comments, the documents will be considered for adoption by Resolution by the Kern Council of Governments at its regularly scheduled meeting to be held on August 16, 2018, commencing at 6:30 p.m. The documents will then be submitted to state and federal agencies for approval.

Contact Person: Mr. Ahron Hakimi, Executive Director  
Kern Council of Governments  
1401 19th Street, Third Floor  
Bakersfield, California 93301  
Phone: 661/635-2900  
E-mail: [ahakimi@kerncog.org](mailto:ahakimi@kerncog.org)

BEFORE THE KERN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF KERN

RESOLUTION NO. 18-XX

In the Matter of:

2019 Federal Transportation Improvement Program, 2018 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy, and Corresponding Conformity Analysis

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WHEREAS, the Kern Council of Governments (Kern COG) is a Regional Transportation Planning Agency and a Metropolitan Planning Organization, pursuant to State and Federal designation; and

WHEREAS, federal planning regulations require Metropolitan Planning Organizations to prepare and adopt a long range Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) for their region; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill (SB) 375 (Steinberg, 2008) requires that Metropolitan Planning Organizations prepare a Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) as part of the 2018 RTP that demonstrates how the region will reduce the greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) from automobiles and light trucks to achieve, if there is a feasible way to do so, the applicable greenhouse gas emission reduction targets approved by the California Air Resources Board (ARB), and

WHEREAS, pursuant to SB 375, the applicable ARB per capita GHG emission reduction targets for the San Joaquin Valley region are 5% below 2005 per capita emissions levels by 2020 and 10% below 2005 per capita emissions levels by 2035; and

WHEREAS, the state law requires that the 2018 RTP/SCS land-use development pattern is consistent with the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA); and

WHEREAS, the 2018 RTP/SCS has been prepared in accordance with state guidelines adopted by the California Transportation Commission and;

WHEREAS, a 2018 RTP/SCS has been prepared in full compliance with federal guidance; and

WHEREAS, federal planning regulations require that Metropolitan Planning Organizations prepare and adopt a short range Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) for their region; and

WHEREAS, projects submitted in the 2019 FTIP must be financially constrained and the financial plan affirms that funding is available; and

WHEREAS, the 2019 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (2019 FTIP) has been prepared to comply with Federal and State requirements for local projects and through a cooperative process between the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), the State Department of Transportation (Caltrans), principal elected officials of general purpose local governments and their staffs, and public owner operators of mass transportation services acting through Kern COG forum and general public involvement; and

WHEREAS, the 2019 FTIP program listing is consistent with: 1) the 2018 RTP/SCS; 2) the 2018 State Transportation Improvement Program; and 3) the Corresponding Conformity Analysis; and

WHEREAS, the 2019 FTIP contains the MPO's certification of the transportation planning process assuring that all federal requirements have been fulfilled; and

WHEREAS, the 2019 FTIP meet all applicable transportation planning requirements per 23 CFR Part 450; and

WHEREAS, Kern COG has established performance targets that address the performance standards per 23 CFR Part 490 , 49 United States Code (U.S.C.) 5326(c), and 49 U.S.C. 5329(d) to use in tracking progress toward attainment of critical outcomes for the region of the MPO; and

WHEREAS, Kern COG has integrated into its metropolitan transportation planning process, directly or by reference, the goals, objectives, performance measures, and targets described in other State transportation plans and transportation processes, as well as any plans developed under 49 U.S.C. Chapter 53 by providers of public transportation, required as part of a performance-based program; and

WHEREAS, the MPO must demonstrate conformity per 40 CFR Part 93 for the 2018 RTP/SCS and 2019 FTIP; and

WHEREAS, the 2018 RTP/SCS and 2019 FTIP includes a new Conformity Analysis; and

WHEREAS, the 2018 RTP/SCS and 2019 FTIP conform to the applicable SIPs; and

WHEREAS, the 2018 RTP/SCS and 2019 FTIP do not interfere with the timely implementation of the Transportation Control Measures; and

WHEREAS, the documents have been widely circulated and reviewed by Kern COG's advisory committees representing the technical and management staffs of the member agencies; representatives of other governmental agencies, including State and Federal; representatives of special interest groups; representatives of the private business sector; and residents of Kern County consistent with public participation process adopted by Kern COG; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was conducted on June 21, 2018 to hear and consider comments on the 2018 RTP/SCS and 2019 FTIP, and corresponding Conformity Analysis;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Kern COG adopts the 2018 RTP/SCS and 2019 FTIP, and corresponding Conformity Analysis.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Kern COG finds that the 2018 RTP/SCS and 2019 FTIP are in conformity with the requirements of the Federal Clean Air Act Amendments and applicable State Implementation Plans for air quality.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Kern COG also finds that the 2018 RTP/SCS meets the SB 375 GHG reduction targets of 5% below 2005 per capita emissions levels by 2020 and 10% below 2005 per capita emissions levels by 2035.

AUTHORIZED AND SIGNED THIS 16<sup>th</sup> DAY OF AUGUST 2018.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

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Cheryl Wegman, Chairman  
Kern Council of Governments

ATTEST:

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a resolution of the Kern Council of Governments duly adopted at a regular meeting thereof held on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of August 2018.

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Ahron Hakimi, Executive Director  
Kern Council of Governments

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Date

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2019 FTIP/2018 RTP/Conformity Analysis  
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