

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
March 6, 2019
10:00 A.M.

Chairman Schlosser called the meeting to order at approximately 10:02 a.m. A “sign-in” sheet was provided.

I. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jay Schlosser	Tehachapi
Stuart Patteson	City of Bakersfield
Lorena Mendibles	Caltrans
Joe West	NOR/CTSA
Wayne Clausen	City of Shafter
Bard Lower	City of Ridgecrest
Steve Barnes	GET
Bob Neath	County of Kern
Mario Gonzales	City of McFarland
Craig Platt	City of California City
Jeremy Bowman	City of Wasco
Christine Viterelli	City of Arvin
Ed Galero	City of Delano

STAFF:

Ahron Hakimi	Kern COG
Rob Ball	Kern COG
Peter Smith	Kern COG
Robert Snoddy	Kern COG
Veronica Mcculloch	Kern COG
Rochelle Invina	Kern COG
Joe Stramaglia	Kern COG
Raquel Pacheco	Kern COG
Linda Urata	Kern COG

OTHER:

Don Marsh	City of Tehachapi
Lupita Mendoza	Caltrans
Viviana Zamora	City of Delano
Yolanda Alcantar	County of Kern

- 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 date.

SPEAKERS ARE LIMITED TO TWO MINUTES. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD PRIOR TO MAKING A PRESENTATION There were no Public Comments.

- III. APPROVAL OF DISCUSSION SUMMARY:** Meeting of February 6, 2019. Mr. Platt made a motion to approve the discussion summary. Mr. Bowman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

IV. PROJECT ACCOUNTABILITY STAFF REPORT (Pacheco)

Ms. Pacheco addressed the committee with the following statement:

Good morning Mr. Chairman and Members of the committee. Seventy-two percent of project funding has not been submitted for funding authorization. It is again important to discuss the upcoming federal rescission. Last month Kern COG staff reported that recent

conference calls with state and federal staff, agencies have been asked to spend down all available balances to avoid rescission that could affect project delivery in the coming year. The upcoming rescission will be calculated based on all unauthorized CMAQ and RSTP at the end of September 2019. Caltrans has set up a working group to discuss strategies to address the rescission. The latest effort requested regional agencies to check their apportionment balances against expected obligations for fiscal year 18-19. Any unused balances could be offered as a loan to another regional agency that has projects ready to be delivered. This loan would lower the apportionment amount subject to rescission at the end of September and when restored would offer the opportunity to program more projects in future years. I will continue discussion of this matter as part of TAC item VI. CMAQ. As part of this staff report, Kern COG staff is requesting potential topics for the next Caltrans Local assistance Workshop. A previous suggestion was the new Invoice Form Training, so please email me any suggestions.

This item is for information only.

“Chairman Schlosser requested that each City comment on the status of their projects and the time frame for delivery.”

The Chairman asked if there were any suggestions for upcoming Caltrans training. Committee Member Viterelli stated that she thought it would be very helpful to do a procurement workshop to go over the updates for the Local Assistance Guidebook.

V. FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (FTIP) AMENDMENT – TIMELINE (Pacheco)

Ms. Pacheco addressed the committee with the following statement:

The pending amendment includes revisions to Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Program and the Non-motorized Program. The Non-motorized Program includes active transportation projects approved at the January 30, California Transportation Commission meeting as well as revisions to any existing active transportation project. The amendment documentation will be mailed to the TAC and a review period begins March 8.

This item is for information only.

The Chairman asked if this item was predicated on the item further down where we allocate the remaining ATP money to Bakersfield? Ms. Pacheco stated “No, for the Bakersfield project, the CTC still hasn’t approved that as an approved project, so once that the CTC acts on that I will bring another amendment in the future to introduce that project. This is only for the statewide project list that got approved in January”.

VI. CONGESTION MITIGATION AND AIR QUALITY (CMAQ) PROGRAM - DRAFT TIMELINE AND FUNDING TARGETS (Pacheco)

Ms. Pacheco addressed the committee with the following statement:

Kern COG staff developed draft timeline and funding targets to facilitate funding new Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality projects. After approval by the Transportation Planning Policy Committee on March 21, the draft timeline will be used for the upcoming CMAQ call for project. To continue the conversation started during a previous TAC item today, Kern COG staff is seeking direction from the TAC on the following:

- Does Kern COG start the process to loan apportionments to other regions to avoid a CMAQ rescission?
- Does Kern COG seek to get apportionment restored in a future fiscal year like fiscal year 19-20 or 20-21?
- Do Kern COG agencies expect to be ready to deliver new projects as early as April 2020, as part of this CMAQ call for project cycle and then additionally how much is there to loan? Currently there is a \$9 million estimated balance from fiscal year 16-17, 17-18 and 18-19.

So after receiving direction from the TAC on loaning apportionment, the action requested is that the Transportation Technical Advisory Committee recommend approval of the CMAQ Timeline and Funding Targets to the Transportation Planning Policy Committee.

The Chairman recapped by saying that we have CMAQ funding back to 16-17 in the amount of \$9 million dollars that the feds will take if we don't do something. The choices are:

- Loan that money to another agency with the expectation that we might get a return from it at some later date;
- Try to accelerate \$9 million worth of projects between now and April 2020; or
- Let the feds have the money.

The Chairman went on to say that in his opinion the most desirable would be to try to figure out how to spend it all between now and April 2020, but that's a lofty goal unless you guys have a CMAQ eligible project ready for delivery. Ms. Pacheco stated that there are project lists for 19-20 and 20-21 that are programmed. Committee Member Bowman asked why the \$9 million hadn't been spent. Ms. Pacheco responded that every year Kern COG receives an apportionment, but every year you have to have an accompanying obligational authority. The accompanying obligational authority is always less than the apportionment. So every year right off the bat we're going to have an unused balance. Then on top of that we have projects that fail, so they give back the money that keeps adding to the balance. We have project savings, projects get closed out and the balance goes back to the pot. Every year the obligation authority we have been encouraging agencies to advance projects and we get what's called August redistribution that allows us to take from that unused balance and use that and spend it down, but it's not fast enough. We are allowed to keep that money for three years, so that why it's from 16-17, 17-18 and 18-19. We haven't lost any funding in the past, but due to this federal rescission, they are going to be looking at our balances at the end of the year and they will take the money that's left behind. We're not sure how much they are going to be taking because it's a percentage of Kern COG to the rest of the state. So whatever we are as a percentage to the rest of the state that is what percentage they will take next year.

After discussion the TAC directed Kern COG staff to start the process for a possible loan agreement with another region.

Committee Member Lower made the motion to recommend approval of the CMAQ Timeline and Funding Targets to the Transportation Planning Policy Committee; seconded by Committee Member Patteson with unanimous approval.

VII. REGIONAL SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM (RSTP) – DRAFT TIMELINE AND FUND ESTIMATE (Pacheco)

Ms. Pacheco addressed the committee with the following statement:

Kern COG staff developed a draft timeline and fund estimate to facilitate programming new Regional Surface Transportation Program projects. After approval by the Transportation Planning Policy Committee on March 21st, the draft timeline will be used for the upcoming RSTP call for projects cycle.

The action requested is that the Transportation Technical Advisory Committee recommend approval of the RSTP Timeline and Fund Estimate to the Transportation Planning Policy Committee.

Committee Member Patteson made the motion to recommend approval of the RSTP Timeline and Fund Estimate to the Transportation Planning Policy Committee; seconded by Galero with unanimous approval.

VIII. COMMITTEE BY-LAWS (Smith)

Mr. Smith stated that Committee Members requested that the TAC By-Laws be changed to allow remote attendance and voting. Kern COG Counsel reviewed the By-Laws and staff is recommending that the Transportation Technical Advisory Committee recommend approval to the Transportation Planning Policy Committee.

Committee Member Viterelli made a motion to recommend approval of the By-Laws amendment to the Transportation Planning Policy Committee; seconded by Committee Member Lower with unanimous approval.

IX. KERN ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATON BLUEPRINT (Urata)

Ms. Urata informed the Committee that The California Energy Commission's Alternative and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle Technology Program (ARFVTP) awarded \$200,000 of Phase I grant funding to Kern Council of Governments in partnership with the Center for Sustainable Energy (CSE) to develop a Kern Electric Vehicle Charging Station (EVCS) Blueprint. The purpose of the Kern EVCS Blueprint is to accelerate the deployment of zero emission transportation to help reach Kern COG 2018 Regional Transportation Plan air quality goals.

The Kern EVCS Blueprint and outreach toolkit will be completed by June 30, 2019. Nine Phase I grants were awarded statewide. All blueprints completed by the deadline will be allowed to compete for and receive future funding under Phase II for implementation of the completed blueprint.

Kern COG staff will present a draft version of the Kern EVCS Blueprint during the regularly scheduled TTAC meeting on April 3, 2019.

This item was for information only.

X. 2020 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (Stramaglia)

Mr. Stramaglia advised that the California Transportation Commission (CTC) has initiated the 2020 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (2020 RTIP) process to develop a statewide 2020 State Transportation Improvement Program (2020 STIP) for regional projects. Each regional submittal to the CTC is considered an RTIP. Once approved collectively statewide by the CTC, the RTIP's become the 2020 STIP.

This item is for information only.

XI. KCOG REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM POLICY UPDATE (Stramaglia)

Mr. Stramaglia advised that the final draft of the KCOG Project Delivery Policies & Procedures Update – Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) Chapters 1, 2 and 3 was made available for final review during the month of February 2019. Kern COG staff is now requesting that the Transportation Technical Advisory Committee recommend approval of the final policy update. Final comments were requested from the Technical Advisory Committee during the month of February and as of the date of this writing, no comments have been received. The enclosed final document is the same as the recently circulated draft.

Committee Member Lower made a motion to recommend that the Transportation Planning Policy Committee approve the policy update; seconded by Committee Member Platt with unanimous approval.

XII. FY 2018-19 KERN REGIONAL LOW CARBON TRANSIT OPERATIONS PROGRAM (LCTOP) CALL FOR PROJECTS FOR \$1,778,384 (Snoddy)

Mr. Snoddy stated that Kern COG staff received an apportionment scheduled issued by the State Controller Office (SCO) that estimates funding amounts for the Kern Region for

the Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP). Caltrans will administer the LCTOP funding program in two accounts: 99313 (Kern COG Regional) and 99314 (Agency only) similar to the Proposition 1B program. The hard deadline to receive LCTOP allocation requests from member agencies and a Kern COG Board adopted a program of projects is **March 8, 2019**.

Committee Member Bowman made a motion to recommend the Transportation Planning Policy Committee adopt the LCTOP FY 2018-19 Program of Projects by resolution; seconded by Committee Member Platt with unanimous approval.

XIII. MEMBER ITEMS

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:16. The next scheduled meeting will be April 3, 2019.