

KERN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING POLICY COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting for February

KERN COG CONFERENCE ROOM  
1401 19<sup>TH</sup> STREET, THIRD FLOOR  
BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA

THURSDAY  
February 20, 2020  
6:30 P.M.

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

**I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**II. ROLL CALL:**

**Members Present:** Crump, P. Smith, B. Smith, Krier, Mower, Alvarado, Garcia, Vallejo

**Congestion Management Agency Ex-Officio Members:** Kiernan, Gordon, Parra

**Members Absent:** Cantu, Lessenevitch, Couch, Scrivner, Gurrola

**Others:** John Spaulding, John Pallares, Karen King, Dennis Fox, Mariana Sobolenski,

**Staff:** Ahron Hakimi, Rob Ball, Becky Napier, Veronica McCulloch, Bob Snoddy, Rochelle Invina, Raquel Pacheco, Linda Urata, Fasika Montalvo, Ben Raymond

**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 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.

**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 – February 20, 2020**

B. **Response to Public Comments**

C. **FEBRUARY TDA PUBLIC TRANSIT AND STREETS AND ROADS CLAIMS FOR TEHACHAPI TOTALING \$548,138 (Snoddy)**

D. **TRANSPORTATION DEVELOPMENT ACT ARTICLE 3 OUTSTANDING PROJECT REPORT 2020**

E. **UPDATE: SB 375 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION REDUCTION FROM PASSENGER VEHICLES AND ADOPTION TIMELINE FOR THE 2022 RTP**

F. **FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2019 FTA SECTION 5311 PROGRAM OF PROJECTS \$1,581,646**

- G. FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (FTIP) - AMENDMENT PROCEDURE UPDATE
- H. PROJECT DELIVERY LETTERS – ATP, CMAQ, RSTP
- I. PROJECT ACCOUNTABILITY TEAM REPORT
- J. CONGESTION MITIGATION AIR QUALITY (CMAQ) – FINAL PROGRAM OF PROJECTS
- K. CONGESTION MITIGATION AIR QUALITY (CMAQ) – CONTINGENCY PROJECT POLICY AND PROJECT LIST
- L. REGIONAL SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM (RSTP) – FINAL PROGRAM OF PROJECTS
- M. KERN ADVANCED TRANSPORTATION TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM - STATUS REPORT
- O. LOCAL ROAD SAFETY PLAN (LRSP) GRANTS
- P. BIENNIAL LOCAL STREETS AND ROADS SURVEY – FEBRUARY 2020
- Q. 2022 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN - CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT UPDATE

\*\*\* END CONSENT CALENDAR - ROLL CALL VOTE \*\*

MOTION BY DIRECTOR SCRIVNER TO APPROVE AND SECONDED BY DIRECTOR P. SMITH.  
MOTION CARRIED WITH A ROLL CALL VOTE.

**V. PUBLIC WORKSHOP/PUBLIC COMMENT – 2020-2050 GROWTH FORECAST DRAFT REPORT**

Mr. Raymond addressed the committee with a report with the following information:

**The Regional Growth Forecast Defined** - The Kern COG regional growth forecast is a long-range projection for countywide total population. The population total is used to develop housing, employment, school enrollment, and income forecasts. The forecast is used for local transportation and air quality planning as well as by the member agencies for a variety of long-range planning activities. This forecast revision will serve as the growth assumption for the 2022 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy. The forecast is used as a control target by the modeling committee and RPAC for distribution of socio-economic data throughout the county sub areas. The forecast is based on Census Data and California Department of Finance (DOF) estimates for the base year. If the growth forecast is more than 1.5% outside of DOF projections, Kern COG will need to provide a detailed explanation why the forecasts differs and work with DOF to agree on the forecast methodology.

**Review Requirements** – The Kern COG Policy and Procedure Manual states:

“Socio-Economic Forecast Data – Countywide forecasts for households, employment and other socio-economic data shall be updated not less than 3 years from the time of the Socio-economic forecast. A minimum of three years between Countywide forecast revisions is needed to allow responsible state and federal agencies time to complete their review of large environmental documents without major changes to transportation circulation modeling results...”

The Kern COG adopted Public Policy and Procedure manual requires an advertised notice of public meetings/workshops regarding the regional growth forecast and 30-day public comment period. Additional, extensive opportunities for public comment on the forecast will be provided as part of the 2022 Regional Transportation Plan adoption.

**Committee Oversight** – The Kern COG Transportation Modeling sub-committee and the Regional Planning Advisory Committee (RPAC) will provide oversight during the growth forecast update. The committees currently meet together and are also responsible for sub-area distribution of the growth forecast following the adoption. The regional growth forecast will be presented to the Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TTAC) concurrently, and then to the Transportation Planning Policy Committee/Kern COG Board for final adoption.

**Draft Regional Growth Forecast Report** – The Draft Report is available for public review on Kern COG's website: <https://www.kerncog.org/estimates-and-projections/>. The primary forecasts of the regional growth forecast are for the number of households, population, housing units, and employment. The report also provides forecast data demographic characteristics including: age distribution, housing units by type, average household size, household income, race and ethnicity.

The draft report shows Kern's total population reaching 1 million by 2028 and by 2050 the population is expected to reach 1.2 million. The number of households are expected to increase to just over 362,000 by 2050 from 270,000 in 2019. Total employment is forecasted to grow from 338,000 in 2019 to 402,000 in 2050.

Today is the public workshop, the public review period began on February 7<sup>th</sup> and will be closing on March 9<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Raymond then announced Mr. Mark Sneipp, our economist used to develop our Regional Growth Forecast who provided background and how we are moving forward with the regional growth forecast.

Compared to the previous 2015 Regional Growth Forecast, the new forecast is more conservative. Population growth is muted, principally due to more realistic projections of in-migration. Less employment, due to lower population and the onset of more automation in the workplace with a reduced number of households due largely to lower4 projections of new housing. Mr. Schneipp asked for questions. The Chairman asked what the key factors would be that caused the drastic change and he stated population growth is slower, (fertility rates have changed).

This was an information item only.

**VI. BOARD MEMBER'S MEETING REPORT: (None)**

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

Ms. Laura Gordon from District 6 addressed the committee with the following information:

Route 46 Conventional Highway Segment 4A: Widen SR 46 from a 2-lane to a 4-lane conventional highway between Lost Hills Rd and 1-5. Funding: RIP, Demo.

Current Activities: NB On and off ramp construction Drainage System, Roadway Excavation

Lane Closure: Ker-5 may be closed for Ker-5-Bridge Construction

Aloma Street is closed - south side only. 55 hour closure end of February Kern 5 NB Off Ramp Project Completion June 30, 2020.

SR 99 Rehab: Pavement rehabilitation on SR 99 in Kern County from 0.3 mile south of Palm Ave QC to Beardsley Canal Bridge and on Route 178 at Route 99/178 Separation. Funding: SHOPP, SB1

Open Olive Drive On-Ramp in mid-March.

Belle Terrace Overcrossing: Construct Auxiliary Lane and Replace Belle Terrace Bridge on SR 99. Completing 1/51/21 53% of time, 63% of work completed.

Stockdale/Enos Roundabout: Construct Roundabout at SR 43 and Stockdale Highway. Completion 4/30/20.

Gap Closure Rehab: Roadway Rehabilitation (3R). In Bakersfield from Route 58/99 Separation to Cottonwood Road. Funding: SB-1. In Construction. Manager, (559) 243-3518.  
Current Clsoures WB Cotton Wood on-ramp and Union Ave Off Ramp - April est opening Completion estimated December 2020.

SR 178: Construct rock blanket at gore areas and maintenance vehicle pullouts

SR 178: Hit a sewer line at Union off ramp WB 178 – meeting with city on repairs. Closed until late Tuesday. Schedule repair during low flow w/bypass lien. City of Bakersfield will be on site to monitor repair flagger station and ensure public safety of public during this repair.

Cottonwood East Rehab: Pavement rehabilitation (2R) on S 58 in Bakersfield from the Cottonwood Road undercrossing to just east of the SR 58/184 separation.

This project is in the final stage - doing some grinding, and coming up with a plan for mitigation at the pump plant. Substantially complete.

Bakersfield Freeway Connector - 58/99

August 21

Kern River Bridge - Liquidated Damages, Time 138% | Project 96%. Estimated Completion Mid March

Mainline - July of 22

Thank You to the board for the 2.8M for the Shafter and Arvin roundabouts. Your continued partnership is appreciated and a model for the future.

On 204, we currently do not have any projects scheduled, however, Caltrans would be interested in a minor project for bike lanes, or perhaps a co-op. Ms Gordon said Caltrans would like to partner with the City to work with the locals on outreach - particularly in regards to the parking. Ms. Gordon said Caltrans would like the city to take the lead. Mr Hakimi stated he would like to setup a meeting with the city of Bakersfield and Caltrans, mainly to improve Union Avenue. The Chairman stated the fatalities and injuries are way up in this area, so whatever can be done to make it safer, let's do it.

The Draft 2020 SHOPP is out for comments and due in May. In an effort to be better partners and work collaboratively, Michael Navarro will be setting up meetings with the MPO's in March to go over the 2021 SHOPP plan.

Future landscape is planned for 99 Panama to Bearsley Canal (roughly) to start after the completion of the 99 projects.

We are almost done with the Settlement Agreement and Corrective Action Plan for the City of Arvin. Out for minor edits and remains a top priority for Local Assistance.

Director Vallejo asked for Ms. Gordon to confirm if there 155 and Lexington is signalized or roundabout.

The Chair (B. Smith) would like Ms. Gordon to work with Mr. Hakimi on setting up a meeting due to the increase of pedestrian and cyclist vs. motorist fatalities along Union Avenue 204.

Ms. Parra asked that GET be included in the Union 204 meeting. Mr. Hakimi stated a presentation he saw says there is an issue of impaired cyclists and pedestrians with a lack of statistics. He asked if that could be looked into as well.

Can cities request their own parking? This was a question for Ms. Gordon. She was going to attempt to find out.

Mr. Pallares asked on an update regarding the left-protected turn in Wasco on Hwy. 46 and Griffith. There's also a request for a stoplight on Poplar and 46. Could a temporary stop be issued at Ave. J and Poso (just east of 43). Ms. Gordon put that on her action list.

24<sup>th</sup> Street and Rosedale Hwy. (starting at Mohawk going East to the Oak interchange) with no direction or striping for the cyclists or motorists to go.

There was no report from District 9 this month, Mr. Green was not present.

### **VIII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: (Report on Projects and Programs in Progress)**

January 29 & 30 – CTC Meeting Report – Highlights: new director named Mitch Weiss. Mr. Paul Van Konynenburg, his term expired on 2/1/20 and he was not re-elected to the CTC, Mr. Hakimi has written a letter of support urging the CTC to re-elect, Mr. Konynenburg has been active in San Joaquin and south-central Valley issues in the past and visited Kern COG.

February 6 – STIP South Hearing Report – staff member Mr. Stramaglia attended regarding the restoring of funds to 99 and 46. Thanks for your help.

March 25 & 26 - California Transportation Commission Meeting in Santa Barbara

Allocation for Bike Path to Buena Vista & Bike Sharing for Bakersfield, staff will attend

On Wednesday, February 19, 2020, Bob Snoddy and Angie Banuelos traveled to California City to provide a TDA Public Transit and Streets and Roads workshop. California City currently has limited staff, and Kern COG decided it would be beneficial to spend time with California City staff in order to ensure California City is successful in bringing the TDA account current. Bob and Angie are grateful to the staff, the City Manager and Public Works Director for the time attending the workshop. If any other small cities need assistance with TDA claims, please let us know.

At the February 2020 board meeting, the GET Board approved the purchase of multiple alternatively fueled buses:

22 Renewable Compressed Natural Gas buses to replace old buses within the fleet;

5 Renewable Compressed Natural Gas buses to increase service to the new RYDE Micro-transit service; and

5 Hydrogen Fuel-cell electric buses for the fixed-route service.

These purchases demonstrate GET's commitment to low and zero-emission technology.

GET is partnering with Phoenix Motorcars to submit a proposal for funding to the U.S. Department of Energy Advanced Vehicle Technologies Research funding Opportunity. The concept proposal will be submitted by February 21 and includes paratransit shuttles and fast chargers with battery storage and solar generation. Congratulations GET!!!!

Kern Transit is also testing low and no emission vehicle technology within its service. Kern Transit received a free electric bus to provide service to riders on the eastern side of the county. Kern Transit staff has rotated the bus on numerous routes to introduce electric bus technology and amenities to its riders.

### **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- NEXT MEETING** – The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m. The next scheduled meeting will be held February 20, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ahron Hakimi, Executive Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bob Smith, Chairman

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_