

KERN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
REGIONAL PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
TRANSPORTATION MODELING COMMITTEE

KERN COG CONFERENCE ROOM  
1401 19TH STREET, THIRD FLOOR  
BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA

WEDNESDAY  
January 5, 2022  
1:30 P.M.

Chairman Staples called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.

**I. ROLL CALL:**

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Suzanne Forrest	Shafter
	Mark Staples	Taft
	Lorena Mendibles	Caltrans
	Keri Cobb	Wasco
	Ricardo Perez	GET
	Eric Dhanens	Community Member
	Asha Chandy	Community Member
	Derek Abbot	Community Member

KERN COG STAFF:	Becky Napier	Linda Urata
	Rochelle Invina	Rob Ball
	Ben Raymond	

OTHERS:	Troy Hightower	TDH Associates
	Susanna Kormendi	Bakersfield
	Scott Lau	Caltrans
	Lupita Mendoza	Caltrans
	Emma De La Rosa	Leadership Council
	Alexa Kolosky	Kern County Public Works
	Ryan Starbuck	City of Bakersfield

- 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 meeting. **SPEAKERS ARE LIMITED TO TWO MINUTES. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD PRIOR TO MAKING A PRESENTATION.**

None.

**III. APPROVAL OF DISCUSSION SUMMARIES**

Committee Member Forrest made a motion to approve the discussion summary of October 6, 2021, seconded by Committee Member Dhanens with all in favor.

**IV. REGIONAL HOUSING NEEDS ALLOCATION (RHNA) DEVELOPMENT UPDATE**  
(Invina)

**Comment:** The 6<sup>th</sup> Cycle Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) Plan is scheduled to be completed in July 2022. The public comment period for the Draft RHNA Methodology began November 8, 2021, and ended December 9, 2021, with a Public Hearing held during the November 18 Kern COG Board Meeting. There were no comments received during the

Public Hearing. The draft RHNA Methodology was submitted to the California Department of Housing and Community Development for review.

Emma De La Rosa from the Leadership Council for Justice and Accountability thanked staff for providing a survey in Spanish.

**Action:** This was an information item.

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

Mr. Ball stated that the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) is required to be updated every 4-years and contains a long range 24-year transportation expenditure portfolio fulfilling numerous policies and regulations including but not limited to public involvement, social equity, air quality conformity, congestion management, and Senate Bill (SB) 375 per capita greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction targets. This item is a regular update provided to the RPAC. Mr. Ball stated that supplemental information was added after the posting of the agenda specifically a memorandum issued by ARB on December 24, 2021, highlighting remaining actions for Kern COG to submit as part of the Kern COG Technical Methodology update Version 3 by the end of January 2022.

Mr. Ball answered questions from Chairman Staples, Committee Member Mendibles and Committee Member Abbott.

Troy Hightower of TDH Associates asked the following questions:

1. What is the % reduction of the current model?

Mr. Ball's response: The 2018 RTP showed a 12.7% reduction by 2035 and the new target is 15% reduction. We are using the same model with updated information and are seeing the same results. This is a pre-COVID model from January 2020.

2. What strategies are helping the most?

Mr. Ball's response: Telecommuting mostly, infill development hasn't been as good as we hoped because of the slow progress on the High-Speed Rail.

3. So, it sounds like there is a 3% gap between the modeling results and the target that will need to be made up with off-model adjustments and CARB is asking for more information on the off-model adjustments you are proposing which is concerning to me.

Mr. Ball's response: Trinity Consultants (the Air Quality Consultant) developed a spreadsheet tool that can help us answer CARB's questions. Also, ITS is showing good results by making traffic signals more efficient in keeping the traffic flowing rather than a stop and go traffic situation.

4. Will you have the January response to CARB available for the February RPAC?

Mr. Ball's response: Yes, it will be provided as an information item.

**Action:** This was an information item.

**VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None.

**VII. MEMBER ITEMS**

Committee Member Perez stated that GET is going into the second phase of the “Build Better Transit Study” and he will send Ms. Napier a link to a survey that can be sent out to the RPAC members.

Committee Member Forrest stated that she is retiring in about a year and that Shafter is currently advertising for a Senior Planner to replace her. Please contact Shafter if you are interested.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:08 p.m. The next scheduled meeting of the RPAC is February 1, 2022.