

KERN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING POLICY COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting for May 19, 2022

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

THURSDAY
May 19, 2022
6:30 P.M.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Smith at 6:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

I. ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Couch, Blades, Crump, Tafoya, Krier, Lessenevitch, Prout, Reyna, Scrivner, B. Smith, P. Smith, Trujillo

Congestion Management Agency Ex-Officio Members: Flores, Navarro, Helton, Parra

Members Absent: Vasquez

Others: Kersey, Kirchner Flores, Alcalá, Williams

Staff: Hakimi, Napier, Snoddy, Ball, VanWyk, Pacheco, Stramaglia, Banuelos, Montalvo, Invina, Urata

- II. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons to address the Council on any matter not on this agenda but under the jurisdiction of the Council. Council 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 Council at a later meeting. **SPEAKERS ARE LIMITED TO TWO MINUTES. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD PRIOR TO MAKING A PRESENTATION.**

Chairman Smith asked if there were any comments, there were none.

III. SPECIAL ACTION ITEM: ASSEMBLY BILL 361 AUTHORIZING TELECONFERENCING UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS (Napier)

Comment: On September 16, 2021, Governor Gavin Newsom signed into law Assembly Bill (AB) 361 which authorizes a local agency to use teleconferencing without complying with the teleconferencing requirements imposed by the Ralph M. Brown Act when a legislative body holds a meeting during a declared state of emergency or when state or local health officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing.

Action: Approve and Adopt Resolution No. 22-22 entitled: A RESOLUTION OF KERN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS AUTHORIZING REMOTE TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS OF THE KERN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND ALL OF ITS COMMITTEES FOR THE PERIOD MAY 19, 2022 TO JUNE 18, 2022, PURSUANT TO THE RALPH M. BROWN ACT and authorize the Chairman to sign the resolution. (ROLL CALL VOTE).

COMMITTEE MEMBER REYNA MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE AND ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 22-22, SECONDED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER CRUMP, MOTION CARRIED WITH THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE.:

AYE: Couch, Helton, Blades, Crump, Tafoya, Flores, Krier, Parra, Prout, Reyna, Scrivner, B. Smith, P. Smith

NOES: Lessenevitch

ABSENT: Trujillo, Vasquez

PRESENTATIONS:

- **Robert Williams of Golden Empire Transit District (GET) introduced an innovative paratransit service change beginning July 1, 2022.**

- **Bryan Godbe, Godbe Research presented the findings of the 2022 Community Survey**

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 Council 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 Council concerning the item before action is taken. **ROLL CALL VOTE.**

A. Approval of Minutes – April 21, 2022

B. RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

D. FY 2021-22 TDA STREETS AND ROADS CLAIM – CITY OF TEHACHAPI (Banuelos)

Action: Adopt Resolution No. 22-21 TDA Streets and Roads claim for FY 2021-22 for City of Tehachapi for \$502,539. ROLL CALL VOTE

E. UPDATE ON DRAFT RHNA PLAN (Invina-Jayasiri)

F. CYCLE 6 ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM – STATEWIDE CALL FOR PROJECTS (Snoddy)

G. INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS (ITS) KERN UPDATE – MONITORING PROGRAM (Pacheco)

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

COMMITTEE MEMBER KRIER MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS A THROUGH G, SECOND BY COMMITTEE MEMBER LESSENEVITCH, MOTION CARRIED WITH A UNANIMOUS ROLL CALL VOTE.

**V. PUBLIC REVIEW:
DRAFT 2022 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN; DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT;
DRAFT FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM; AND CORRESPONDING DRAFT
AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY ANALYSIS**

The public review period of Kern Council of Government’s long- and near-term federal transportation documents is currently underway. All documents are available on the Kern COG website; comments are due June 16th. A public hearing was conducted on Tuesday May 17th at the Shafter City Council meeting and tonight will be the second public hearing. Please note that Jessica Kirchner Flores from Impact Sciences is attending virtually tonight and is available for questions on the environmental impact report.

Action: Open the public hearing, take public comment, and close the public hearing. There were no comments.

VI. 2021 FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM – DRAFT AMENDMENT NO. 12

Amendment No. 12 includes revisions to the Transit Program. The public review period ends May 20th. The Kern COG Executive Director will consider approval of the amendment on May 23rd. State and federal approval is required.

Action: Open the public hearing, take public comment, and close the public hearing. There were no comments.

VII. BOARD MEMBER'S MEETING REPORT: (None)

VIII. CALTRANS REPORT: (Report on Projects in Progress)

Michael Navarro from District 6 gave the following updates:

Updates:

- **May is Bike Month**
- **NOFO Reconnecting Communities – US DOT**
 - **NOFO expected this summer**
 - **\$1B over 5 years**
 - **Approximately \$50m/year for Planning Grants**
 - **Approximately \$150m/year for Capital Improvements**
 - **\$5m min award**

06-48466 – Bakersfield Freeway Connector (BFC): Route 58/99 Modify Interchange

The bridge widening of WB 58 over the SR99 is completed. The new Loop Connector from WB 58 to SB 99 and the tunnel are now open. New Traffic Pattern is active, and detour has been removed. Progress is also being made on pavement work along SB 99, including the SB Ming Ave offramps.

The project is approximately 85% complete by the most recent payment estimate. Contract Scheduled expected Completion Date: Winter 2022.

06-0Q280 SR 99 Rehab: Palm Ave OC to Beardsley Canal Bridge

Scheduled for this month: (May 2022)

Work Mainline:

- Complete HMA and CRCP within Stage 3 Phase 2 (middle lane): paving complete; curing PCC
- Remaining work: complete final stripe; complete traffic loops and punchlist work
- SR 178 / Buck Owens Blvd : complete barrier at loop ramp; stamped concrete and sidewalk, complete final striping and punchlist items.
- Project Completion is anticipated for June 2022

Project- 06-0Q9204 Old US 99 to White Lane SR 99 rehabilitation project

Summary is listed below

- Contractor started construction in Mid-November.
- Continue with Eucalyptus tree removal
- Stage 4 activities between Panama Lane to White Lane
 - Work includes lowering of freeway inside lanes
- Stage 2
- NB Off ramp/on Ramp at SR223 is closed; expected to reopen later this month.

Expected completion date Spring 2023

06-0S510 SR 223/Derby Signal Project – safety project at the east end of town (Arvin)

Project is 100% complete (CCA on May 4, 2022)

06-0V280 - SR 184/Sunset Roundabout

This project is at the intersection of SR 184 and Sunset near Weedpatch.

Contract Approved. Some utility relocation in progress before construction can commence.

Expected construction start is August 2022.

06-0R190 Arvin SR 223/SR 184 Roundabout

The contract is approved. Construction began May 1st.

06-0W990 – Union Ave High Intensity Activated Crosswalk:

Project located at the intersection of SR 204 (Union Ave) and 8th Street and will install HAWK.

Project achieved RTL on December 20, 2021.

Bids were opened on April 19; Project was awarded to Griffith Company on 5/9/2022.

06-1A470 – Santa Fe Roundabout:

Project located In Shafter at Santa Fe Way/Los Angeles Avenue intersection.

In PA&ED phase. DED circulated to the public on April 29, 2022. Anticipated to begin construction in spring of 2025.

06-44255 SR 46 Conventional/Expressway Segment 4B:

Convert 2-lane conventional highway to 4 lane facility. In and near Lost Hills, from 0.2 miles west of the California Aqueduct Bridge to 1.4 miles east of Lost Hills Road.

Recipient of the 2018 BUILD Grant \$17.5 M.

Replacement girder to replace failed girder is scheduled to fabricate/cure and then ship to job late next month. Will be shipped in three pieces and then will need to be spliced and post-tensioned in field. The girders are precast in 70 foot sections, shipped to jobsite, then spliced at jobsite to make a single 210' girder. Anticipate bridge work restarting in August.

Caltrans and Granite have agreed on a work-around plan to enable roadwork to resume to completion. Contractor scheduling subs and looking to remobilize and resume roadwork in 2 to 3 weeks.

06-0x380 – SR 166 Maricopa Highway CAPM

This project will rehabilitate approximately 9 miles of pavement from SR 33 to Capello Street. Draft Env Document and Draft Project Report is currently be prepared for circulation. Expecting to advertise summer of 2023. Crosswalk will be added at SR 33 and enhanced at Kern Street.

06-0X760 – Taft Left Turn Channelization

Install left-turn channelization on SR-119 at the Kern Street/Airport Road

Project achieved RTL on April 15, 2022. Construction anticipated to start in Fall 2022.

Kirsten Helton from District 9 provided the following report:

1. Thank you to Kern COG for supporting our application for the SR 58 Truck Climbing Lane MPDG Rural Funding application for Location 2. It will be submitted Friday.
2. The FM Gulch Safety Project will open for public review early next week – look for a Caltrans announcement and request for comments. The passing lane option is close to Robbers Roost.

Major Features:

1. **Major Component:** Widen shoulders
2. **Other Components:** replace failing or old culverts, reestablish drainage ditches, upgrade the bridge rails on the Freeman Gulch Bridge, widen the median to 4.66 feet, stripe for median barrier (no passing), and installation of ground-in rumble strip/stripe.
3. **Possible Project add-ons:** Will be determined through public outreach. Some potential additions include a northbound and southbound passing lane (between PM 54. and 55.8) and the modification of the SR 14 and SR 178 west intersection.
3. This week the Tehachapi City Council voted to authorize acceptance of grant funds of over \$2 million from the Caltrans Clean California program for a new one-acre park facility on Valley Boulevard. The City of Tehachapi proposed a new park on a vacant piece of land owned by the city located on Valley Blvd.
4. Thank you for letting D09 participate in the Tehachapi Bike Rodeo last Saturday.
5. The Bike Month Scavify Scavenger Hunt is online through May, D09 appreciates Kern County letting us partner in this activity. A [link](#) to the app is posted every two days in the District's social media and as of this morning, 99 participants were registered for the Inyo/Mono version of the app.

Kern Project Updates

Rosamond-Mojave Rehabilitation Project – On State Route 14 between the towns of Rosamond and Mojave, crews are continuing to work toward a full reopening of the highway. Over the next few weeks:

- Both northbound lanes will remain open.
- The inside southbound lane will remain closed and portioned off by K-rail.
- All ramps through the project area are open, including the northbound ramps for Dawn Road.

Caltrans and the contractor are reviewing the project to confirm that all completed work is up to state standards and specifications prior to a full reopening. The speed limit remains 55 miles per hour through the construction zone.

State Route 178 Utility Work – On State Route 178, utility crews will be drilling and plowing on the side of the highway Monday through Friday from 6:00 am to 6:00 pm at two locations:

- Between Easy Street and the end of the Canebrake Creek Bridge.
- Between the junction of State Route 14 and Airport Road in Inyokern

Drivers may experience delays of up to 20 minutes.

Projects on the state highway system with minimal or no delays:

Eastern Kern County

- **Keene Road Crack Seal Operation** – On State Route 58 between Keene Road and the junction with State Route 202 in Tehachapi, there will be a crack seal operation on the eastbound lanes Wednesday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.
- **Ridgecrest Pavement Repair** – On State Route 178 between Ridgecrest Boulevard and South Gateway Boulevard, crews will be repairing pavement on the westbound lanes Monday through Friday from 7:00 am to 6:00 pm.

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

1. Report on May 18 & 19, 2022 CTC meeting in Fresno
 - a. The CTC met on Wednesday and discussed legislative activity including the upcoming Governor's statewide budget. In a draft letter, the CTC requested several programs be augmented at a higher level. CTC budget recommendations include \$1.5 Billion for Active Transportation.
2. Attended the CTC Central Valley Reception May 18 in Fresno (Lee Ann Eager, Chair)
3. Next CTC Meeting – June 29 & 30, 2022
4. Adoption of the 2022 ATP Cycle 6 – call for projects – applications due to the state by June 15, 2022
5. Meetings:
 - a. SR 99 and SR 58 missing connectors
 - b. SR 204 and Union Avenue
 - c. 7th Standard/SR 43
 - d. SR 33 Safety Improvements
 - e. SR 46 Monthly Status Meeting
 - f. Truck Climbing Lanes on SR 58

- X. 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.

None.

- XI. ADJOURNMENT- NEXT MEETING** – The meeting was adjourned at 7:26 p.m. The next scheduled meeting will be held June 16, 2022.

Respectfully Submitted

Ahron Hakimi, Executive Director

ATTEST:

Bob Smith, Chairman

DATE: _____