

**KERN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND
CONGESTION MANAGEMENT AGENCY TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

DISCUSSION SUMMARY FOR OCTOBER 4, 2023

KERN COG BOARD ROOM/GO TO MEETING
1401 19th Street, Suite 300
BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA

Wednesday
October 4, 2023
10:02 A.M.

SECONDARY MEETING LOCATIONS
(Teleconference):

- City of California City – City Hall 21000 Hacienda Blvd California City, CA 93505
- City of Taft – City Hall 209 E. Kern Street Taft, CA 93268

Chairman Schlosser called the meeting to order at approximately 10:02 a.m. A roll call was conducted by Ms. Invina-Jayasiri for attendance.

I. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Christine Viterelli	City of Arvin
Luis Topete	City of Bakersfield
Anu Doravari	City of California City
Ed Galero	City of Delano
Paul Saldana	City of McFarland
Yolanda Alcantar	County of Kern
Travis Reed	City of Ridgecrest
Alex Gonzalez	City of Shafter
Craig Jones	City of Taft
Jay Schlosser	City of Tehachapi
Kameron Arnold	City of Wasco
Steve Barnes	GET
Lorena Mendibles	Caltrans

OTHER:

Gregg Strakaluse	City of Bakersfield
Joe Barragan	City of California City
Ricardo Perez	GET
John Pinckney	Inyo County
Justine Kokx	Inyo County
Andrea Nason	Caltrans
Braden Duran	Caltrans
Rick Franz	Caltrans

STAFF:

Ahron Hakimi	Rob Ball
Bob Snoddy	Rochelle Invina-Jayasiri
Raquel Pacheco	Irene Enriquez
Becky Napier	Victoria Romero Valdivia
Angie Banuelos	Cesar Valle
Ed Flickinger	

- 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 factual information or request staff to report back 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.**

No public comments.

III. **APPROVAL OF DISCUSSION SUMMARY:** Minutes from meeting of October 4, 2023

There were no comments or questions from the committee members. Mr. Barnes made a motion to approve the discussion summary; Ms. Alcantar seconded the motion. Ms. Invina-Jayasiri performed a roll call vote, and the motion was carried unanimously.

IV. **FY 2022-23 TDA STREETS & ROADS CLAIM – CITY OF DELANO**

Ms. Banuelos reported that KCOG staff received the City of Delano's fiscal year 2022-2023 streets and roads claim of \$620,346. This claim was evaluated in accordance with the following criteria: 1) Conformance with the Regional Transportation Plan; 2) Participation in the California Driver Pull Notice Program; 3) Adherence to the applicable farebox return ratio; and 4) Compliance with PUC Section 99314.6 Operations qualifying Criteria.

Staff asked for the committee to review the claim and recommend approval to the Transportation Planning Policy Committee. Mr. Saldana made a motion to approve action; Mr. Galero seconded the motion. Ms. Invina-Jayasiri performed a roll call vote, and the motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. Reed arrived during this discussion.

V. **TRANSPORTATION DEVELOPMENT ACT AUDIT COMPLIANCE BY MEMBER AGENCIES**

Ms. Napier reported that KCOG recently had a Triennial Performance Audit (Audit) prepared as the Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA), and the twelve transit operators to which it allocated TDA funding for the three-year period ending June 30, 2021. Moore and Associates was selected to complete the Audit. It was found that several operators within KCOG's jurisdiction were delinquent in their TDA fiscal audits or submitted the audits late. The audits that are complete are CTSA/NOR, Tehachapi, Ridgecrest, California City, and Delano. Arvin and Kern County's were also received. Audits that are in progress are Bakersfield and Wasco, which should be completed by the end of October. Maricopa and Taft need to send their information, as Brown Armstrong is still working on their audits for previous years. Brown Armstrong is in contact with the City of McFarland and work is in progress on FY 2018 and 2019. These are expected to be caught up this year.

Mr. Reed asked for clarification whether the consequence of not receiving funding is only applicable to the agencies that are non-compliant with completing their audits on time, which was confirmed by Ms. Napier. Mr. Saldana, Mr. Arnold, Mr. Gonzalez, Mr. Topete, and Mr. Reed asked about the status of their audits and what is needed to have them completed.

Ms. Napier ends with the consequences that come with not having TDA audits completed through 2021-22.

This item is for information only.

VI. **PROPOSED MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL PAVEMENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

Mr. Flickinger shared that there were some jurisdictions that were unable to respond to the survey due to the lack of resources that their agencies possessed. To avoid this from happening in the future, there is a suggestion of implementing Pavement Management System (PMS). This system could help maintain proper road conditions and stretch limited road maintenance funds. Many jurisdictions already use the PMS system, Streetsaver. Another survey conducted for the need of a PMS which showed eight of twelve local jurisdictions expressed initial interest in a regional PMS program, but all jurisdictions still have the option to participate. There were three attachments provided in the staff report: Local Jurisdiction interview summaries, a draft MOU, and a draft RFP. Member agencies were given two options from which they may choose which would be the best strategy to fund the PMS.

Mr. Schlosser inquired about the amount of RSTP funds they may be receiving, which was \$12.2 million every two years. Mr. Ball also chimed in with reassuring the Chairman that there are ways that the funding will not be affected by the purchase of this program. Some member agencies preferred that the PMS would be able to analyze data and requested that Kern COG would have more options for them by the next meeting. Agencies were able to voice whether they would be interested in utilizing their RSTP funds to fund PMS.

Kern COG staff asked each interested jurisdiction to provide feedback to staff on the attachments provided and if they would consider participating by October 17, 2023.

Ms. Doravari and Mr. Barragan arrived during this item.

VII. SUSTAINABLE 2026 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN - CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM UPDATE

Mr. Ball stated that we are in the beginning stages of creating the Capital Improvement Program of the Regional Transportation Plan. This is a long-range plan of projects which may be eligible to be funded by the federal and state government. Mr. Ball urges that member agencies look at the attachment provided in the staff report, specifically in tables 5.1 and 5.2. Mr. Reed inquired if Bike Routes under the AHSC grant should be listed as well if they are not urgent. Mr. Ball confirmed by stating that all projects, no matter how critical or non-critical, should be listed under this CIP list. This would be a great form to show the government the efforts being made to improve our communities.

Mr. Ball asked the TTAC committee to provide staff with comments or adjustments on the Draft 2026 Capital Improvement Plan project listing – Tables 5.1 and 5.2, and Kern County Subarea Summary by October 17, 2023.

Mr. Perez arrived during this discussion.

VIII. FY 2023-24 KERN REGION ESTIMATED TRANSIT AND INTERCITY RAIL CAPITAL PROGRAM (TIRCP) CALL FOR PROJECTS \$46,453,489

Mr. Snoddy announced that the final guidelines for the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP). The guidelines describing the projects eligibility for the TIRCP are available at CALTRANS SB 125 pages 8,9, and 10. There will be a call for projects for the November TTAC meeting and then these projects will be adopted for submission to CALSTA for the November TTPC meeting. There should be a focus on the estimated budget provided as a goal to help decide on what projects to provide. Member agencies must have internal discussions about the four-year project funding.

This item is for information only. However, Mr. Snoddy asked member agencies to identify two years TIRCP projects and two more years for ZETCP this way there are four-year program of projects adopted by the November TTPC meeting with the estimated money.

IX. FY 2023-24 KERN REGION ESTIMATED ZERO EMISSION TRANSIT CAPITAL PROGRAM (ZETCP) \$5,057,036

Mr. Snoddy informed the committee that the ZETCP focuses on infrastructure plan that has to do with EV's or Hydrogen and the vehicle purchases. There is already a Kern County alternative Transportation Plan that Kern COG funded in 2020. It included a capital plan and a narration to help meet the qualifications of this program. This plan is found on Kern COG's website. Each member agency will decide on one project that qualifies for the ZETCP that will be recommended and supported by Kern COG on the CALSTA allocation package.

This item was for information only.

X. MOBILITY INNOVATIONS AND INCENTIVES PROGRAM - STATUS REPORT

Ms. Enriquez informed the committee of Linda Urata's retirement. She provided an update of where Ms. Urata left off in each work element. During October 10th – November 12th, the Spectrum Digital will run an online campaign to promote the EV Charging Station Blueprint, on October 14th "The Best Drive Ever" will be held at the Bakersfield Auto Mall, and the Safe Routes for Cyclists in Kern Disadvantaged Communities monthly bike rides and stakeholder meetings will be taking place as well. Ms. Enriquez ended her presentation with informing the committee that she will be taking care of the work elements Ms. Urata oversaw.

This item was for information only.

XI. 2024 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Ms. Pacheco reported Kern COG staff is circulating the Draft 2024 RTIP Capital Improvement Program in Attachment F of the staff report. There have not been any changes since the Administrative Draft presented at the August 23rd and September 13th workshops. In November, staff will be requesting a recommendation for approval.

This item is for information only.

XII. FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (FTIP) AMENDMENT – TIMELINE

Ms. Pacheco provided information on the upcoming amendment to the 2023 FTIP which will include revisions to the Non-motorized Program. The amendment documentation will be emailed to the TTAC when the public review period begins October 6th.

This item was for information only.

XIII. CONGESTION MITIGATION AND AIR QUALITY (CMAQ) PROGRAM – SUMMARY OF COMMENTS AND RESPONSES

Ms. Pacheco informed the committee Kern COG and TTAC comments were circulated to respective applicants. A summary of comments and responses was prepared, posted to the Kern COG website, and a meeting invitation was sent to the TTAC and CMAQ applicants via email October 4, 2023. Applicant responses will be discussed at the TTAC peer review workshop on October 11th at 10:00 AM. If you are a CMAQ applicant and cannot attend the workshop, please make sure to invite a representative that can answer project questions.

Two attachments were provided as part of the staff report. 1. A letter was received from the City of Bakersfield to address revisions to the resolution template narrative. 2. A Draft CMAQ Obligation Report for the last four cycles. At the discretion of the TTAC Chairman, we can either have a discussion now regarding these two attachments or save the discussion for the workshop.

This item is for information only. Discussion of the attachments will occur during the October 11th workshop.

XIV. PROJECT DELIVERY LETTERS – ATP, CMAQ, RSTP

Ms. Pacheco stated per the Kern COG Project Delivery Policies and Procedures, projects in the current fiscal year need to be submitted for funding authorization by January 31st. If agencies plan to submit projects for funding authorization beyond January 31st, lead agencies are asked to submit a letter with a revised submittal schedule. Kern COG staff is requesting that the TTAC consider a change to the protocol for the project delivery letter. Option 1: require that the project delivery letter be signed by the City Manager or Public Works Director. Option 2: do nothing.

The action requested is that the Transportation Technical Advisory Committee recommend that the Transportation Planning Policy Committee require the Project Delivery letter be signed by the City Manager or Public Works Director.

Motion was revised to “require the Project Delivery letter be signed by the City Manager or Department Head. Motion by Mr. Saldana and seconded by Ms. Viterelli. Ms. Invina-Jayasiri performed a roll call vote, and the motion was carried unanimously.

XV. PROJECT ACCOUNTABILITY TEAM REPORT

Ms. Pacheco provided the project accountability team report highlights which include: The August Caltrans Local Assistance Delivery report showed 157.6% delivery for CMAQ and RSTP in the Kern region. Since then, Delano received approval for their RSTP project bringing the Kern region to 161.1%.

This item was for information only.

XVI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Ms. Invina-Jayasiri discussed the 2024 EV Charging Station Blueprint Update and online survey (flyer)
- b. Ms. Invina-Jayasiri discussed the upcoming community rides for the ATP – Safe Routes for Cyclists in 13 Kern County Disadvantaged Communities – October Community Rides (flyer)
- c. Mr. Ball discussed KARGO C-CAMS - Kern COG received a Sustainable Communities Climate-Change Adaptation Grant from Caltrans for \$3M for a county-wide goods movement study titled the Kern Area Regional Goods-movement Operations (KARGO) Climate-Change Adaptation Mitigation Study (C-CAMS). It’s the largest in the state under this program and will start with a Request for Proposals (RFP) process this Fall. Please let staff know of any local qualified consultants that can provide “30% conceptual design” for goods movement climate adaption/resiliency projects that may be interested in submitting a proposal.

XVII. MEMBER ITEMS

- Ms. Mendibles announced that Caltrans has a call for projects since there are similar grants that have been awarded. There will be an email sent out about a partner workshop with Caltrans Districts 9 and 6 in Fresno.
- Mr. Saldana announced that he will be asking the City Council of McFarland for the removal of an ordinance that has been in place since 1972 which makes it illegal to ride a bike in the City of McFarland without a license.

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT – Meeting adjourned at 11:27 A.M. The next meeting will be held on November 1, 2023.