

KERN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING POLICY COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting for October 19, 2023

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

THURSDAY  
October 19, 2023  
6:30 P.M.

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

**I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE:**

**II. ROLL CALL:**

**Members Present:** Arias, Ayon, Couch, Crump, Flores, Krier, Creighton, Reyna, P. Smith, Vasquez, Murillo  
**Congestion Management Agency Ex-Officio Members:** Parra, Warney, Navarro, Helton

**Members Absent:** Blades, Prout

**Others:** Justine Kokx, Rick Franz, Kathleen Hoffmann, Marlo Carlos, Maggie Ritter

**Staff:** Hakimi, Napier Pacheco, Enriquez, Snoddy, Banuelos, Ball, Invina-Jayasiri, Davisson, Valle, Hall

- III. 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.**

Acting Chairman Couch asked if there were any comments, there were none.

- 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 – August 17, 2023**

**B. RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**C. TRIENNIAL PERFORMANCE AUDIT FOR FY 2018-2020 (Enriquez)**

**Action:**

1. Receive and file the TDA triennial performance audit;
2. Direct staff to address the recommendations; and
3. Direct staff to assist member agencies in their efforts to implement recommendations for their respective agencies.

ROLL CALL VOTE.

**D. FY 2022-23 TDA STREETS & ROADS CLAIM – CITY OF DELANO (Banuelos)**

**Action:** Adopt Resolution No. 23-22 TDA Streets & Roads claim for FY 2022-23 for City of Delano for \$620,346. ROLL CALL VOTE.

**E. FY 2023-24 FTA SECTION 5310 PROGRAM OF PROJECTS. (Enriquez)**

**Action:** Recommend that the fifteen (15) FTA Section 5310 projects are consistent with the Regional Transportation Plan and the Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan and authorize the Chair and Executive Director to sign the Regional Transportation Planning Agency Certification. ROLL CALL VOTE.

**F. FUND TRANSFER AGREEMENT – AGREEMENT NO. PPM24-6087(078) (Pacheco)**

**Action:** Approve Fund Transfer Agreement No. PPM24-6087(078) and authorize Chair to sign Agreement and Resolution No 23-23. ROLL CALL VOTE.

**G. FIRST LOOK: LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN PROJECT LISTING (Ball)**

**Action:** Provide comments on the Draft 2026 Capital Improvement Program to Kern COG by October 20, 2023. ROLL CALL VOTE.

**H. PROJECT DELIVERY LETTERS – ATP, CMAQ, RSTP (Pacheco)**

**Action:** Recommend that the letter be signed by the City Manager or Department Head. ROLL CALL VOTE.

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

**Action:** Information.

**J. 2023-24 KERN REGIONAL ESTIMATED ZERO EMISSION TRANSIT CAPITAL PROGRAM (ZETCP) \$5,057,036 (Snoddy)**

**Action:** Information.

**K. 2024 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (Pacheco)**

**Action:** Information.

**L. CONGESTION MITIGATION AND AIR QUALITY (CMAQ) PROGRAM – SUMMARY OF COMMENTS AND RESPONSES (Pacheco)**

**Action:** Information.

**M. MOBILITY INNOVATIONS AND INCENTIVES PROGRAM – STATUS REPORT (Enriquez)**

**Action:** Information.

**N. UPDATE: SB 375 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS REDUCTION FROM PASSENGER VEHICLES AND ADOPTION TIMELINE FOR THE 2026 RTP (Ball)**

**Action:** Information.

**O. PROJECT ACCOUNTABILITY TEAM REPORT (Pacheco)**

**Action:** Information.

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

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

**V. UNMET NEEDS PUBLIC HEARING (Enriquez)**

**Comment:** Kern Council of Governments (Kern COG) annually holds a public hearing to identify any unmet transit needs and those that are reasonable to meet, and this is the last of 10 public hearings held this year throughout the County. The Social Services Transportation Advisory Committee has reviewed input from the prior meetings.

**OPEN PUBLIC HEARING      HEAR COMMENTS      CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING**

**Action:** Committee Member Reyna made a motion to make a finding that there are no unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet in Kern County and authorize the Chair to sign Resolution No. 23-21, seconded by Committee Member Crump. Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

**VI. FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (FTIP) AMENDMENT – DRAFT AMENDMENT NO. 9 (Pacheco)**

**Comment:** Amendment No. 9 includes changes to the Non-Motorized Program. The amendment was circulated to the Transportation Technical Advisory Committee via email October 6, 2023.

**OPEN PUBLIC HEARING      HEAR COMMENTS      CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING**

**Action:** Open the public hearing, take public comment, and close the public hearing.

**VII. BOARD MEMBERS’S MEETING REPORTS: (None)**

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

**Michael Navarro from District 6 provided the following report:**

**Updates:**

- **Clean CA Update:**
  - **Cycle 2 for CCLGP**
    - \$100m
    - D6 received 29 applications (2<sup>nd</sup> most in the State only to D7)
    - Congratulations to Maricopa – awarded \$2.1m – 42 awarded and 230 applications statewide
  - **RAISE FY 2023 – Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity**
    - Recently Caltrans put out its call for Letters of Support and Partnerships; NOFO Expected this Fall
    - Last cycle most that could be awarded to any one state was \$345m.
    - All request are due via Smartsheet by 10/31; for any questions please feel to reach out to Michael or our Investment Planner, Braden
      - NOFO Expected this Fall
- **Sustainable Transportation Planning Grants FY 23/24**
  - Although we just announced the FY 23/24 grant awards we are already getting ready for the FY 24/25 call for grant applications.
    - Most successful year – KCOG, Shafter awarded for FY 23/24
  - The FY 24/25 Grant Application Guide and Call for applications was released on 10/5
  - A total of \$53.4m in grant funding available this cycle

- Of that \$32m will be available for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Cycle of Climate Adaptation Planning Grants.
- On October 26<sup>th</sup>, D6 in partnership with D9 will be holding a hybrid grant workshop from 1:30pm to 3:00pm at our District Office.

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

Project currently in construction: Lowering Lanes 3 and 4 in the SB direction at White Lane and Panama lane in progress; rehab of the NB #2 lane in progress between SR 223 to SR 119.

Expected completion date early December 2023

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

Project located at the intersection of SR 204 (Union Ave) and 8<sup>th</sup> Street.

Final activation occurred on June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023. Project was accepted in September 28, 2023. Looking at one at 10<sup>th</sup> Street

Victor Aldama, Project Manager (559) 383-5051

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**06-1A470 – Santa Fe Roundabout:**

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

In PS&E phase. RTL targeted for 6/15/24. Anticipated to begin construction in spring of 2025.

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**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.

The contractor and Caltrans worked together to develop a final punch list which included structures, district, and electrical items. The State also worked with DWR to add to the punch list items that are required to be completed per DWR permit. Several items on the punch list have been completed and continue to be worked on.

Scheduled completion – December 2023

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**06-0X380 – Maricopa Highway CAPM**

This project will rehabilitate approximately 9 miles of pavement from SR 33 to Capello Street. The project achieved RTL and will be getting construction allocation at the October 2023 CTC meeting. The project is expecting to advertise in Winter 2023/2024.

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**06-0X760 – Taft Left Turn Channelization**

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

Construction is progressing. The project is 85% complete. Pending is electrical work and change order work at the corner of SR 119 and Kern Street in Taft. [Electrical work and change order work will be completed November.](#)

Scheduled completion – November 2023

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**06-0V610 – Pumpkin Center 3R Rehab**

On SR 119 near Pumpkin Center from Ashe Road to SR 119/SR 99.  
The project will restore the pavement to a state of good repair and extend the remaining service life of the pavement by an additional period of 20 years.

The project is currently in PS&E and ROW phase. ROW Cert is 4/1/2024 and RTL is 4/12/2024.

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**\*\*\*\*\*SR 184 Projects\*\*\*\*\***

**06-0V280 – SR 184/Sunset Roundabout**

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

Roundabout open to traffic, punch list and electrical work remaining.

Expected completion in December 2023 (SW quadrant RW issue needs to be resolved).

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**06-0R190 – Arvin SR 223/SR 184 Roundabout**

Construction started, 95% complete: Roundabout open to traffic. Remaining work is punch list work and electrical work

Expected completion is November 15, 2023.

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**06-0U430 – Morning Drive 3R Rehab**

This project proposes to rehabilitate and bring to current standards the existing roadway on State Route (SR) 184, in Kern County, between 0.1 mile north of Edison Highway Postmile (PM) 8.5 and 0.1 mile north of Chase Avenue PM 11.6.

Project advertised May 15, bid opens on 8/10/23. Construction start expected in January 2024. Bids came in over Engineer's Estimate; will need supplemental funds

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**06-0U290 – Weedpatch Highway 3R Rehab**

This project proposes to rehabilitate and bring to current standards the existing roadway on State Route (SR) 184, in Kern County, between Dunsmere Street and Breckenridge Road – postmile (PM) 0.8 to 8.6. The roadway will be rehabilitated and Complete Streets elements, including (ADA) compliant sidewalks and curb ramps, bus stops, and continuous bike lanes in both directions will be incorporated within the project limits. Drainage improvements, traffic signal system upgrades, and median worm curbs are proposed to be included in this project.

The project is currently in the PSE and ROW phase. Target to Cert R/W is 9/2/2024. Expected RTL is 11/1/2024

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**Clean CA State Beautification Update**

**06-1E670 - City of Arvin - Improvement of 223 Roadway Median & Pedestrian Safety Measures**

**Status:** This project RTL'd on 10/20/22 and was awarded on 2/1/23. The project is currently in construction. Working on combining Groundbreaking w/ tree planting event once irrigation resolved. Waiting on estimate from contractor for new work.

**Schedule:**

RTL	Award	Contract Approval	CCA
10/20/22 (A)	2/1/23 (A)	4/4/23 (A)	12/30/25 (T)

**06-1E700 - Garces Circle & SR 204 Undercrossing Improvements**

**Status:** This project RTL'd on 5/31/2023

Advertise expected summer 2023

**Schedule:**

RTL	Award	Contract Approval	CCA
5/31/23 (A)	11/15/23 (T)	11/15/23 (T)	6/30/25 (T)

**06-1E770 - City of Bakersfield – SR 204 Enhancement**

**Status:** This project proposes to implement a road diet along SR 204 in Bakersfield, from Brundage Lane to California Ave in the northbound direction and from Brundage Lane to 4<sup>th</sup> Street in the southbound direction. The road diet will consist of reducing the facility from 3 lanes to 2 lanes, Class II bike lanes, and restricted street parking. There will be additional enhancements up along SR 204 to M street, that include TMS loops, shoulder paving, and lane striping. The team plans to circulate the plans for the focused group for constructability review in early February and achieve M377 by 4/14/23, with RTL achieved on 6/23/23.

**\*Bids rejected. Came in over budget and will readvertise.**

**Schedule:**

M377	RTL	Award	Contract Approval	CCA
3/15/23 (A)	6/23/23 (A)	11/15/23 (T)	1/2/24 (T)	6/30/25 (T)

**Kirsten Helton from District 9 provided the following report:**

**Section 1. Current/Upcoming Project Status and Information**

1. Projects of Public Importance in/near Construction:

- SR 58 TCL CTC voted to combine Keene Rehab and TCL Location 2. Both will move forward, combined into PS&E and R/W. Vote for construction planned 12/25 with construction to begin in 2026.
- Freeman 3 CAPM – Construction has been completed on SR 14 north of Red Rock Canyon State Park from 1.1 miles north of Red Rock Canyon Road to 3.5 miles south of the Freeman Gulch bridge.
- HWY 58 SRRA Sewage System repair - Pumps were delivered at the distributor's facility about four weeks ago. Contractor submitted a detailed estimate on 9/25. They are requesting 8 additional workdays and an additional \$118,000 to complete the project.  
  
The cost estimate was sent to John Fox on 9/26. Project will resume after additional funding is approved.
- Tehachapi Maintenance Station Construction - Structure work started on the crew building. EST. Completion Date: 11/19/2024
- Mojave Bypass Paving Operation – On the eastbound lanes of State Route 58 from just west of Exit 165 to just east of Exit 172, construction completed as of 9/29/2023.

- Kern Digouts/Slab Replacements - Locations 1 NB to Mojave and 3 EB into Boron. Digouts, slabs, and permanent striping, except the Boron off-ramp have been completed. Boron Ave. off-ramp received temporary striping due to paint truck mechanical failure. Currently project is on hold until October 9th for subcontractor scheduling. Crews will resume with performing digouts and replacing slabs in the pavement Monday through Friday from 7:00 am to 5:00 pm. One lane will remain open in each direction and drivers may experience short delays. Est. completion date is 11/06/2023.

**Section 2: Additional Information:**

a. Clean California:

- The City of Ridgecrest received a Clean California Grant for the Inyo/Kern Transfer Hub Xeriscaping Project in the amount of \$187,000.
- Rosamond Interchange Xeriscape - Aside from minor adjustments to align the final finishing look on all locations. They still must remove the temporary high-visibility fence, remove trash piles on site, and install a yellow diamond 48" by 48" traffic lights ahead sign (state property that was broken by subcontractors on 8/25/2023). The Estimated completion date is 11/02/2023.

b. Funding/Grant Opportunities and Deadlines:

- District 6 & 9 Sustainable Communities Grant Workshop – District 6 & 9 will be partnering to present a workshop to help Local Agencies to learn more about the California Department of Transportation's (CALTRANS) Sustainable Communities Transportation Planning Grant, as well as the available funding. We will review the Grant Application Guide, go over tips on applying, and provide information on District resources. The workshop will take place in-person on Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023 from 1:30 to 3:00 PM at 1352 W. Olive Ave. in Fresno. There will also be a Webex option. <https://cadot.webex.com/cadot/j.php?MTID=m161ba5d993c954385caeeef8e0f704560>

c. General Road Information:

- **Ridgecrest Sewer Replacement** – On State Route 178 E between Gemstone Street and French Avenue, crews continue to replace a sewer line Monday through Friday from 7:00 am to 4:00 pm. Drivers could experience brief delays due to intermittent and turn lane closures.
- **Systemic Pedestrian Safety Improvements** – On State Route 202 between Woodford-Tehachapi Road and Tucker Road in the city of Tehachapi, crews are replacing pedestrian crossings, markings, and signs overnight Monday through Thursday from 8:00 pm to 6:00 am.

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

1. Report on Valley Voice Meeting in Washington DC – September 10-14
2. Report on October 18 & 19 CTC Meeting in Madera
  - a. \$91 million allocation to construct dedicated truck climbing lanes on eastbound SR 58 through Tehachapi
3. Announcement of KARGO C-CAMS \$2,655,900 Grant – Goods Movement Climate Adaptation Study
4. Meetings:
  - a. SR 99 and SR 58 missing connectors
  - b. SR 204 and Union Avenue
  - c. 7<sup>th</sup> Standard/SR 43
  - d. SR 33 Safety Improvements
  - e. SR 46 Monthly Status Meeting – will be completed in Lost Hills in the next month
  - f. Truck Climbing Lanes on SR 58

g. SR 119 Stakeholder meetings

**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.

Ms. Parra gave an update on the hydrogen bus fire at GET. The NTSB is involved, they will be coming back in two weeks to disassemble the bus. The process will take approximately a year. The fueling station shut down as it should have.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT-** The meeting was adjourned 7:14 p.m. The next scheduled meeting will be held November 16, 2023.

Respectfully Submitted

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Ahron Hakimi, Executive Director

ATTEST:

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Bob Smith, Chairman

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