

**KERN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
MEETING OF REGIONAL PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TRANSPORTATION MODELING COMMITTEE**

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

**WEDNESDAY
January 31, 2024
1:30 P.M.**

Dial +1 (312) 878-3080
Access Code: 586-617-702

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/586617702>

I. ROLL CALL:

- 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.**

Disabled individuals who need special assistance to attend or participate in a meeting of the Regional Planning Advisory Committee may request assistance at 1401 19th Street, Suite 300; Bakersfield CA 93301 or by calling (661) 635-2910. Every effort will be made to reasonably accommodate individuals with disabilities by making meeting material available in alternative formats. Requests for assistance should be made at least three (3) working days in advance whenever possible.

III. APPROVAL OF DISCUSSION SUMMARY

- A. Meeting of October 4, 2023.

IV. HOUSING ELEMENT PROGRESS REPORT UPDATE (Davisson)

Comment: Adopted Housing Elements (HE) for the jurisdictions with land use authority in the Kern region were due to be submitted to the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) on December 31st, 2023. As of January 16, 2024, no jurisdiction in the Kern region has yet received an "in compliance" letter from HCD.

Action: Information. Local jurisdictions work with HCD to get letters of compliance by December 31, 2024.

V. GENERAL PLAN LAND USE AND CIRCULATION REQUEST (Davisson)

Comment: In support of development of the Regional Transportation Plan and regional growth forecast, Kern COG staff requests digital copies of each jurisdiction's general plan land use circulation element maps.

Action: Information. Submit digital copies of local general plan, specific plan, and circulation element map files to Karl Davisson (661)635-2919 kdavisson@kerncog.org by April 3rd, 2024.

VI. 2024-2050 GROWTH FORECAST – TIMELINE (Davisson)

Comment: The Kern COG 2024-2050 Growth Forecast for the 2026 Regional Transportation Plan.

Action: Information.

VII. REGIONAL EARLY ACTION PLANNING PROGRAM (REAP) UPDATE (Napier)

Comment: In August 2019, the Governor signed the \$1.7 billion housing "trailer bill" as part of the 2019 - 2020 budget. **The Local Government Planning Support Grants Program (AB 101)** was established for the purpose of providing regions and jurisdictions with one--time funding, including grants for planning activities to enable jurisdictions to meet the sixth cycle of the regional housing need assessment, and to spur affordable housing production.

Action: Information. Discuss and provide direction to staff.

VIII. UPDATE: SB 375 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION REDUCTION FROM PASSENGER VEHICLES AND ADOPTION TIMELINE FOR THE 2026 RTP (Raymond)

Comment: 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 standing item is regularly reviewed by the Regional Planning Advisory Committee.

Action: Information.

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- KARGO C-CAMS – Award going to board in February 2024
- Regional Awards – March 7, 2024
- Housing Unit Survey - Davisson
- Monthly Community Bike Rides/Mock city outreach (attached)

X. MEMBER ITEMS

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The next scheduled meeting will be March 6, 2024.

KERN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
REGIONAL PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TRANSPORTATION MODELING COMMITTEE

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

WEDNESDAY
October 4, 2023
130 P.M.

Chairman Staples called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

I. ROLL CALL:

RPAC MEMBERS PRESENT:	Mark Staples	Taft
	Christine Chaves	Delano
	Brianna DeLeon	McFarland
	Steve Esselman	Shafter
	Keri Cobb	Wasco
	Chris Soriano	Arvin
	Lorena Mendibles	Caltrans
	Eric Dhanens	Community Member
KERN COG STAFF:	Becky Napier	Karl Davisson
	Rob Ball	
OTHERS:	Paul Saldania	McFarland

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

- RPAC Meeting of May 31, 2023

Committee Member Esselman made a motion to approve the minutes of May 31, 2023; seconded by Committee Member Cobb, unanimously approved by voice vote.

IV. REGIONAL EARLY ACTION PLANNING GRANT PROGRAM (REAP) FUNDING (Napier)

Comment: Kern Council of Governments (COG) will soon be receiving an additional allocation of Regional Early Action Planning (REAP). The amount to be allocated at this time to Kern COG is \$924,200.

Action: Request the Kern COG Board approve the sub-allocation of \$924,200 in REAP funding as depicted in Exhibit B.

Committee Member Chavez made a motion to recommend the Kern COG Board approve the sub-allocation of \$924,200 in REAP funding as depicted in Exhibit B; seconded by Committee Member Esselman, approved by a unanimous roll call vote.

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

Comment: 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.

Action: Information.

VI. 2024-2050 REGIONAL GROWTH FORECAST TIMELINE (Davisson)

Comment: Timeline for development of the Kern Regional Growth Forecast for 2024-2050.

Action: Information.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

VIII. MEMBER ITEMS

None

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m. The next scheduled meeting of the RPAC is November 1, 2023.



IV. RPAC

January 31, 2023

TO: Regional Planning Advisory Committee

FROM: Ahron Hakimi, Executive Director
By: Karl Davisson, Regional Planner

SUBJECT: REGIONAL PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEM: IV.
Housing Element Progress Report Update

DESCRIPTION:

Adopted Housing Elements (HE) for the jurisdictions with land use authority in the Kern region were due to be submitted to the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) on December 31st, 2023. As of January 16, 2024, no jurisdiction in the Kern region has yet received an “in compliance” letter from HCD.

DISCUSSION:

Housing Element 6th Cycle

The 6th cycle Planning Cycle for the Kern Region began on December 31st, 2023, and runs through December 31st, 2031. As stated above, by operation of law the Housing Element updates are due to Housing and Community Development (HCD) within 18 months of the RTP adoption, that date being December 31st, 2023. The attached table provides a status of the submissions of Housing Elements in Kern.

Per HCD, draft housing elements should have been submitted 90 days prior to the December 31st deadline.

Information on Housing Elements can be found here: <https://www.hcd.ca.gov/planning-and-community-development/housing-elements>

Kern 6th Cycle Housing Element Status Table:

Jurisdiction	Status Housing Element 6th Cycle*
Arvin	Initial Draft
Bakersfield	Initial Draft
California City	No submittal
Delano	No submittal
Maricopa	No submittal

McFarland	Initial Draft
Ridgecrest	Initial Draft
Shafter	Subsequent Draft
Taft	No submittal
Tehachapi	Initial Draft
Wasco	Initial Draft
Kern County	Initial Draft

*Derived from the HCD Dashboard as of: 1/16/2024

Changes to HCDs Role and Posture

The changes in law and procedure from the previous cycles are dramatic. In writing, HCD has taken the position that:

1. Locally Adopted Housing Elements submitted to HCD are treated as drafts and as such may require revisions.
2. That jurisdictions cannot “self-certify”, and Housing Elements are only in compliance as of the date an “in compliance” letter is issued by HCD to a given jurisdiction.
3. HCD is authorized to review any action or failure to act by a local government that it determines is inconsistent with an adopted housing element or housing element law

Recent litigation has favored HCD in these positions. See attached March 16, 2023, letter from HCD.

Consequences for Late Housing Elements

The consequences for failure to have an “in compliance” Housing Element are potentially serious. A jurisdictions General Plan can be determined to be inadequate for being out of compliance. A jurisdiction can have its permitting authority restricted by a court for being out of compliance.

Being “out of compliance” precludes access and eligibility to various state grant programs that can be used to help implement Kern COG’s 2022 Sustainable Communities Strategy, including:

- Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Program
- Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)
- Caltrans Sustainable Communities Grant Program
- Infill Infrastructure Grant Program
- Local Housing Trust Fund Program
- Permanent Local Housing Allocation Program

Additionally, if a Housing Element is submitted late jurisdictions must complete any required rezoning within one year of the original due date. Meaning December 31st, 2024. Jurisdictions still out of compliance at this point may begin to suffer consequences.

Kern COG Assistance

Kern COG has wide variety Housing Element related resources available for member agency including:

The Kern COG RHNA website at- <https://www.kerncog.org/regional-housing-needs/>

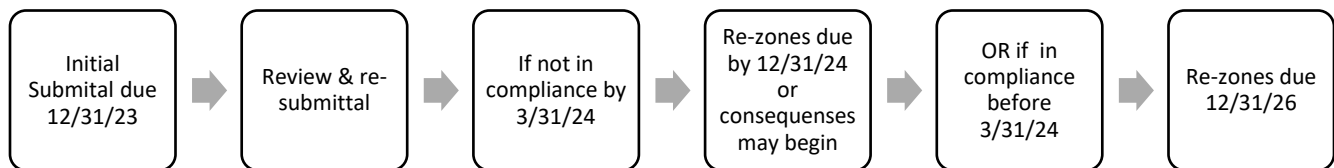
The Kern COG RHNA website includes the Kern COG Regional Housing Needs Online Mapping Tool – Staff and Rincon Consultants developed and are maintaining a publicly viewable online mapping

application, which allows users to view the proposed RHNA unit allocations for each jurisdiction and to explore specific parcels to evaluate the potential number of units a parcel could support.

Additionally, via the San Joaquin Valley Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) Program a Housing Need Water Supply Study was commissioned to evaluate the adequacy of water supply identified in water management plans to accommodate projected RHNA growth and as its relationship with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). Notably this study found that, based on the findings in its groundwater sustainability plans at of the time of study's publication, Kern County was determined to be the area of greatest concern for water supply availability. That study is available on the Kern COG website at https://www.kerncog.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/SJV_REAP_Water_Supply_2024011.pdf

Kern COG also has several Local Technical Assistance Grants available to assist with member jurisdictions Housing Element efforts.

Kern COG staff are available to assist member agencies. Please contact Karl Davisson by email at kdavisson@kerncog.org or phone (661) 635-2919



ACTION: Information. Local jurisdictions work with HCD to get letters of compliance by December 31, 2024.

**DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
DIVISION OF HOUSING POLICY DEVELOPMENT**

2020 W. El Camino Avenue, Suite 500
Sacramento, CA 95833
(916) 263-2911 / FAX (916) 263-7453
www.hcd.ca.gov

**MEMORANDUM**

DATE: March 16, 2023

TO: Planning Directors and Interested Parties

FROM: Megan Kirkeby, Deputy Director
Division of Housing Policy Development

SUBJECT: Summary and Clarification of Requirements for Housing Element Compliance

HCD is committed to diligently reviewing all 539 local jurisdictions' housing elements for substantial compliance with State Housing Element Law. To comply with State Housing Element Law and avoid the consequences of noncompliance, a local jurisdiction must, among other things:

1. Submit a draft housing element to HCD at least 90 days before adoption¹ and receive findings from HCD determining whether the draft element is substantially compliant,² and consider HCD's findings before adopting the draft element.³

In other words, where a jurisdiction submits an "adopted" housing element before submitting an initial draft or before considering HCD's findings on an initial draft, HCD will consider the "adopted" to be an initial draft for purposes of both HCD's review and the jurisdiction's statutory compliance.

2. If HCD finds the draft element is not substantially compliant, revise the draft to address any findings by HCD⁴ or adopt without changes and include written findings explaining why the jurisdiction believes that the draft substantially complies.⁵ Promptly following adoption, submit the adopted housing element to HCD⁶ and receive findings on the adopted element from HCD.⁷

¹ Gov. Code, § 65585, subd. (b)(1)

² Gov. Code, § 65585, subds. (b)(3), (d)

³ Gov. Code, § 65585, subd. (e)

⁴ Gov. Code, § 65585, subd. (f)(1)

⁵ Gov. Code, § 65585, subd. (f)(2)

⁶ Gov. Code, § 65585, subd. (g)

⁷ Gov. Code, § 65585, subd. (h)

In other words, a jurisdiction does not have the authority to determine that its adopted element is in substantial compliance but may provide reasoning why HCD should make a finding of substantial compliance.

In addition, a jurisdiction is “in compliance” as of the date of HCD’s letter finding the adopted element in substantial compliance. Any other letters are not a finding of substantial compliance.

HCD recommends that a jurisdiction adopt only after receiving a letter from HCD finding the draft meets statutory requirements.

For more detailed information about this process, please visit HCD’s [Housing Elements webpage](#) and [Housing Elements Building Blocks](#).



V.
RPAC

January 31, 2023

TO: Regional Planning Advisory Committee

FROM: Ahron Hakimi, Executive Director
By: Karl Davisson, Regional Planner

SUBJECT: REGIONAL PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEM: V.
GENERAL PLAN LANDUSE and CIRCULATION REQUEST

DESCRIPTION:

In support of development of the Regional Transportation Plan and regional growth forecast, Kern COG staff requests digital copies of each jurisdiction's general plan land use and circulation element maps.

DISCUSSION:

Consistent with the adopted Kern COG Policy & Procedures Manual Ch. 5, VIII, Regional Transportation Modeling section and the Regional Travel Modeling MOUs of 2004, general plan land use capacity data or "Build-out capacity" is used to distribute the forecasted County population, housing, and employment totals, and is revised in regular consultation with local planning departments. Up to date land use maps are used to more accurately reflect future growth in the regional land use model, Kern COG creates a generalized land use map based upon the various general and specific plans of each of the jurisdictions with land use authority in the Kern region.

Updated land use and circulation maps are needed from each jurisdiction based on approved plans in January 2024. Kern COG will be asking all incorporated cities and the County of Kern for their January 2024 general plan land use maps. This data will then be combined into a seamless dataset for use with Kern COG's land use and transportation modeling program.

ACTION:

Information. Submit digital copies of local general plan, specific plan, and circulation element map files to Karl Davisson (661)635-2919 kdavisson@kerncog.org by April 3rd, 2024.



VI. RPAC

January 31, 2024

TO: Regional Planning Advisory Committee

FROM: Ahron Hakimi,
Executive Director

By: Karl Davisson, Regional Planner

SUBJECT: REGIONAL PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEM: VI.
2024-2050 GROWTH FORECAST – TIMELINE

DESCRIPTION:

The Kern COG 2024-2050 Growth Forecast for the 2026 Regional Transportation Plan.

DISCUSSION:

Updates

The working/embargoed draft forecast/methodology report will be complete and ready for review with staff of member agencies; the consultant team is completing the draft forecast model which Kern COG staff will review and present to the RPAC on March 6, 2024.

Background

The Regional Growth Forecast Defined - The Kern COG regional growth forecast is a long-range projection for the 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 be used in the development of the 2026 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 derived from 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 forecast differs and work with DOF to agree on the forecast methodology.

Review Requirements – The Kern COG Policy 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 recently adopted Public Involvement Procedures and Policies manual requires a 30-day public comment period. Additionally, extensive opportunities for public comment on the forecast will be provided as part of the 2026 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 share a consolidated meeting 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.

Revised Growth Forecast Timeline – The following schedule is anticipated for forecast adoption:

- February 2024 (1/31/24) – Status update
- March 6th, 2024 - 30-day public comment period notification (flyers/draft report to be available at www.kerncog.org)
- March 6th, 2024 – Draft Report to RPAC & TTAC
- March 21st, 2024 - Public Workshop on Growth Forecast -? RPAC?
- April 2024 - Kern COG Board reviews draft forecast for information and comments
- April 3rd, 2024 - RPAC and TTAC review report and public comments received and make recommendation to Kern COG board.
- April 5th, 2024 - Close of 30-day public review period
- April 18th, 2024 - Kern COG Board considers adoption of the regional growth forecast.

ACTION: Information.



VII. RPAC

January 31, 2024

TO: Regional Planning Advisory Committee

FROM: AHRON HAKIMI, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

By: Becky Napier, Deputy Director - Administration

SUBJECT: REGIONAL PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEM: VII.
REGIONAL EARLY ACTION PLANNING PROGRAM (REAP) UPDATE

DESCRIPTION:

In August 2019, the Governor signed the \$1.7 billion housing "trailer bill" as part of the 2019 - 2020 budget. **The Local Government Planning Support Grants Program (AB 101)** was established for the purpose of providing regions and jurisdictions with one-time funding, including grants for planning activities to enable jurisdictions to meet the sixth cycle of the regional housing need assessment, and to spur affordable housing production.

DISCUSSION:

Kern Council of Governments (COG) is part of the eight county San Joaquin Valley (SJV) Multiagency Working Group (Working Group) with Fresno COG designated as the Fiscal Agent for the Working Group. Kern COG received from the Fiscal Agent two allocations of funds totalling \$1,576,329 was approved for allocation to the member agencies for development of Housing Elements. As the RPAC will recall the RPAC recommended both allocation formulas to the Kern COG Board for adoption.

Attached for RPAC information is a spreadsheet that represents the allocation of the funds by member agency and the funds remaining.

Issues:

- All funds must be spent by June 30, 2024 (products and reports are due to HCD beginning in August 2024).
- There are several cities that have not availed themselves of the funds, how should this be addressed? Cities have had multiple reminders.
- If funds are not spent by the deadline, it is required that the member agencies return unspent funds to Kern COG. Kern COG must then reimburse the funds to the Fiscal Agent, Fresno COG. (The funds will be returned to the state).

ACTION: Information. Discuss and provide direction to staff.

Attachment: REAP Funding Spreadsheet.

KERN COG REAP SUBALLOCATION

1/19/2024

City	Initial Allocation	Concept Letter Rec'd	Date Allocated	Amount	Amount Spent	Remainder	Second Allocation	Concept Letter Rec'd	Invoice Received	Date Allocated	Amount Spent	Total Remaining
Arvin	16,608.86	2/3/2022	2/17/2022	\$ 16,609	1,035.00	\$ 15,574	\$ 73,165.83	10/24/2023				\$ 88,739.69
Bakersfield	291,475.81	1/12/2022	1/20/2022	\$ 291,476	-	\$ 291,476	\$ 73,165.83	1/9/2024	1/9/2024			\$ 364,641.64
California City	11,233.33	10/3/2022					\$ 73,165.83					\$ 84,399.16
Delano	40,392.07	5/16/23					\$ 73,165.83					\$ 113,557.90
Maricopa	10,000.00	5/22/23	7/7/2023	\$ 10,000		.	\$ 73,165.83	10/24/2023	12/4/2023			\$ 83,165.83
McFarland	11,414.56	10/26/2021	12/2/2021	\$ 11,415		\$ 11,415	\$ 73,165.83					\$ 84,580.39
Ridgecrest	22,250.99	11/18/22	2/2/2023	\$ 22,251	55,385.00	\$ (33,134)	\$ 73,165.83	12/14/2023				\$ 40,031.82
Shafter *	15,641.29	9/10/2021	9/27/2021	\$ 15,641	15,641.00	\$ -	\$ 73,165.83	12/14/2023	12/20/2023			\$ 73,166.12
Taft	10,000.00	9/13/2021	10/8/2021	\$ 10,000	10,000.00	\$ -	\$ 73,165.83	12/5/2023	1/16/2024			\$ 73,165.83
Tehachapi	10,235.81	7/13/2021	8/13/2021	\$ 10,236	10,010.07	\$ 226	\$ 73,165.83	11/1/2023	11/28/2023			\$ 73,391.57
Wasco	20,935.19	10/21/2021	11/5/2021	\$ 20,935	20,935.00	\$ -	\$ 73,165.83	12/4/2023	1/11/2023			\$ 73,166.02
Kern County	238,151.17	06/14/23	6/22/2023	\$ 238,151	6,943.05	\$ 231,208	\$ 73,165.83	10/24/2023	1/9/2024			\$ 304,373.95
Total	698,339.08			\$ 646,714	119,949.12		\$ 877,989.96					\$ 1,456,379.92

Payment in process



VIII. RPAC

January 31, 2024

TO: Regional Planning Advisory Committee

FROM: AHRON HAKIMI,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

By: Rob Ball, Deputy Director/Planning Director
Ben Raymond, Regional Planner

SUBJECT: REGIONAL PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEM: VIII.
UPDATE: SB 375 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION REDUCTION FROM
PASSENGER VEHICLES AND ADOPTION TIMELINE FOR THE 2026 RTP

DESCRIPTION:

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 standing item is regularly reviewed by the Regional Planning Advisory Committee.

DISCUSSION:

This discussion provides an update on the activity related to the RTP and the SB 375 Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS). The report is updated regularly with the most recent developments listed first.

January 9, 2024 and November 2, 2023 – California Air Resources Board (ARB) provided an email updates on the status of Kern COG's promised 2022 RTP/SCS acceptance letter. A key upper management review person is not available this month pushing the issuance of the final letter into 2024, 7-months after ARB indicated acceptance of Kern COG's SCS in their June 13th email.

August 10, 2023 - ARB staff announced at the quarterly San Joaquin Valley Inter-Agency Consultation meeting that Kern, Stanislaus, and Tulare COGs have received their approval and will receive official documentation in September. Fresno and San Joaquin COGs have completed their reviews and are in the process of making some required board actions before they can receive their official approval. Kings, Madera, and Merced are still under review by ARB staff.

July 26, 2023 – 2026 RTP/SCS Roundtable Meeting was held for environmental, equity, business & industry groups on the public outreach process at Kern COG and included 14 representatives

from the Delores Huerta Foundation, Central California Asthma Collaborative, Sierra Club, Home Builders Association, Golden Empire Transit, Caltrans, County Public Works, and staff from the cities of McFarland, Taft, and Wasco.

July 13, 2023 - ARB staff emailed Kern COG and the California, the final acceptance letter is still working its way through upper management reviews and may not be issued till September due to staffing and vacation issues.

June 15, 2023 – Kern COG Board approved the 2023 Public Involvement Procedures document after a 45-day public review. The document is online at <https://www.kerncog.org/policies/> .

June 13, 2023 – ARB staff emailed Kern COG and the California Transportation Commission that “the SCS is officially approved.” However, the final acceptance letter is still working its way through upper management reviews and will take several weeks before it is issued.

May 19, 2023 – ARB staff acknowledged receipt of the requested transmittal letter signed by the Kern COG Chair, and associated TPPC staff report. ARB staff indicated they would provide a status update by May 31, and try to meet Kern COG’s request for an expedited review by June 8, but that they could not commit to any date earlier than June 27.

May 5, 2023 - Kern COG submitted a draft of a Kern COG TPPC staff report and transmittal letter to ARB with a request for the Kern COG Chair to sign. The item was approved by the Board on May 18, 2023, and signed by the Chair. The letter documents technical changes that do not affect the adopted RTP/SCS text or conclusions. The document contains updates from the November 2022 SCS technical data submittal to ARB consistent with ARB guidelines.

May 1, 2023 – Kern COG circulated the draft Public Involvement Procedure for 45-day public review period to be concluded on June 15. In addition, the Kern COG Executive Director and other COG directors from the San Joaquin Valley met with the SJV representative on the California Air Resources Board. At that meeting ARB staff indicated that Kern was close to receiving the acceptance finding for their SCS.

April 26, 2023 – Kern COG submitted to ARB a cover letter and revised technical methodology data submittal with all the requested updates since the November data submittal. ARB requested that the Kern COG’s chair’s signature be approved by the Kern COG Board,

April 17, 2023 – Kern COG web conferenced with ARB staff for the 14th time in 3 years to discuss the 2022 SCS technical methodology. One final methodology issue remains out of 27 identified in CARB’s January 20th memorandum. Additional adjustments were made to the elasticity used to adjust the hybrid NCST tool method used by Fresno COG. Documentation of the adjustment was submitted to ARB on April 18, 2023. ARB is required to provide their findings and recommendations 2 months after the submitted package from Nov. 29, 2023, is found complete.

March 29, April 7, April 14, 2023 – Kern COG web conferenced with ARB to further refine SCS modeling methodology.

February 17, 2023 – Kern COG submitted responses to the ARB January 20, 2023 questions.

January 20, 2023 – ARB responded to Kern COGs SCS technical methodology submittal from November 29, 2022 with questions. A meeting was held on January 24, 2023, to clarify questions.

December 16, 2022 – The 2022 RTP/Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) short range transportation program air quality conformity was federally approved.

November 29, 2022 – Kern COG submitted the technical methodology data package to the ARB.

July 21, 2022 - the Kern COG Board adopted the 2022 RTP/SCS and associated documents. The documents are available on the Kern COG website at <https://www.kerncog.org/category/docs/rtp/>.

Table 1 – 2018 & 2022 SB 375 Targets for the Kern Region

Per Capita GHG Reduction Target/	2020	2035
2022 RTP/SCS demonstration (July 21, 2022) w/ required off-model adjustments (2020 is pre-COVID)	-10.9%	-15.1%
2018 RTP/SCS demonstration (August 15, 2018)	-12.5%	-12.7%
Targets for 2022 RTP/SCS (set March 22, 2018, by ARB, effective October 1, 2018)	- 9%	-15%

March 22, 2018 - ARB adopted new SB375 Targets for the third cycle RTP/SCS to be effective October 1, 2018. Next ARB target setting will be during the 2022-2026 window.

June 13, 2017 - ARB released proposed targets that were 2 percentage points higher than what Kern COG recommended for 2035. The related ARB documents are available online at <https://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/sb375/sb375.htm>. Kern COG's April target recommendation letter is located on page B-143 of the ARB staff report at https://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/sb375/appendix_b_mpo_scenario_and_data_submittals.pdf. Kern COG and the 8 San Joaquin Valley COG's prepared individual letters and a joint comment letter. The letters document methodological changes that make it difficult to compare the 2014 RTP results with the latest modeling refinements.

Preliminary Timeline 2026 RTP/SCS

- ~~• June 2023 – Update Public Involvement Procedure~~
- ~~• July 2023 – Stakeholder roundtable process to vet outreach and performance measures~~
- Spring 2023 to Spring 2026 – Annual Statistically Valid Community Phone Surveys
- Spring 2023 to Spring 2026 – RTP/SCS Public Outreach Process
- February 2024 – Regional Growth Forecast Update
- September each year – Technical Assistance Requests to Kern COG Due
- October 17, 2023 – Comment Due on Early Draft 2026 Capital Improvement Program
- Spring 2024 – Adopt Regional Growth Forecast Update
- Fall 2023 to Fall 2025 – Fairs/Festivals/Farmer's Market Outreach
- Fall 2024 to Fall 2025 – Mini-Grant Stakeholder Hosted Workshops
- Summer 2026 Adopt RTP/SCS, EIR and associated documents.

ACTION: Information.

2024 MONTHLY COMMUNITY RIDES

***JOIN US FROM 5:30PM-6:30PM FOR A FAMILY-FRIENDLY, ALL-AGES CRUISE THROUGH YOUR COMMUNITY**

Kern River Valley - Old Isabella Coffee - 1st Saturday
Lost Hills - Lost Hills Community Center - 1st Monday
Arvin - Las Palmas Park - 1st Tuesday
Lamont - Lamont Library - 2nd Saturday
Delano - Delano Library - 2nd Monday
Buttonwillow Library - 2nd Tuesday
McFarland - McFarland Library - 3rd Saturday
Rathbun - Rathbun Library - 3rd Monday
Taft - Taft Library - 3rd Tuesday
Shafter - Tony's Pizza - Last Monday
California City - Balsitis Park - Last Wednesday
Maricopa - City Park - Last Saturday
Wasco - Barker Park - Last Tuesday



Bike maintenance clinics, Mock City bike safety training and Stakeholder meetings to be announced

This program is a collaboration of Bike Bakersfield, California Walks, the Kern County Library, Snider's Cyclery, Finish Line Bikes and Kern Council of Governments. This program was funded by an Active Transportation Program Grant through the California Transportation Commission and Caltrans Active Transportation Planning Grant Program.

Scan QR Code for more info

***SCHEDULE TO CHANGE ACCORDINGLY**





Kern Council
of Governments



*Exciting safe street course
for kids of all ages!*

**Safe Routes for Cyclists in
Kern County's Communities**



**Join us on the Biking
Adventure February 16th!**

**Boys & Girls Clubs of Kern
County - Lamont Club**

bikebakersfield.org/safe-routes/

This program is a collaboration of Bike Bakersfield, California Walks, the Kern County Library, Snider's Cyclery, Finish Line Bikes, and the Kern Council of Governments. This program is funded by an Active Transportation Program Grant through the California Transportation Commission.

SMART CYCLING 101 CLASS



Gain valuable knowledge both on and off the bike while enhancing your riding skills.



Date: 2/24/2024 - 2/25/2024
Location: 515 18th St, Bakersfield, CA

10AM - 3PM: In-Class (Saturday)

We will be offering beginner, intermediate and advanced courses of the Smart Cycling curriculum. Smart Cycling manuals will be provided.

10AM - 2PM: Outdoors (Sunday)

Please bring a functional multi-speed bicycle and a helmet. This class is for individuals 18 and older. Prior knowledge of bicycling is recommended.

Both days will need to be completed with a passing test score for certificate.

Register online at tony@bikebakersfield.org

Brought to you by
Bike Bakersfield, Kern Active Transportation Alliance and
The League Of American Cyclists