

**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
April 30, 2025
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 February 5, 2025.

IV. REGIONAL GROWTH ALLOCATION (Raymond)

Comment: Draft distribution of the Kern Regional Growth Forecast at the transportation analysis zone (TAZ) level.

Action: Information.

V. 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.

Action: Information.

VI. COMMUNITY AT LARGE VOTING MEMBERS (Napier)

Comment: Staff recruited for three (3) Community at Large Voting Members for the Regional Planning Advisory Committee (RPAC).

Action: Information/Committee Direction.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

VIII. MEMBER ITEMS

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 4, 2025.

KERN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
REGIONAL PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TRANSPORTATION MODELING COMMITTEE

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

WEDNESDAY
February 5, 2025
1:30 P.M.

Chairman Staples called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

I. ROLL CALL:

RPAC MEMBERS PRESENT:	Mark Staples	Taft
	Steve Esselman	Shafter
	Christine Chavez	Delano
	Keri Cobb	Wasco
	Brianna DeLeon	McFarland
	David Deels	Caltrans
KERN COG STAFF:	Becky Napier	Karl Davisson
	Rob Ball	Rochelle Invina-Jayasiri
OTHERS:	Andrea Nason	Caltrans

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 November 6, 2024

Committee Member Esselman made a motion to approve the minutes of November 6, 2024; seconded by Committee Member Cobb, unanimously approved by voice vote.

IV. HOUSING ELEMENT PROGRESS REPORT UPDATE (Davisson)

Comment: Karl Davisson presented the status of the California Department of Housing and Community Development approval of local jurisdiction Housing Elements.

Action: Information.

V. GENERALIZED LAND USE LAYER – LAND USE MODEL (Davisson)

Comment: Karl Davisson discussed development of the generalized land use map layer to update land use model assumptions in preparation of developing the 2026 RTP/SCS.

Action: Information.

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

Comment: Ben Raymond provided an update on public outreach events that have taken place to support the development of the 2026 RTP and communications with the Air Resource Board.

Action: Information.

VII. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Comment: The Regional Planning Advisory Committee needs to select a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman. Committee Member Chavez made motion to nominate Mark Staples for Chairman, seconded by Committee Member Esselman, motion carried. Committee Member Staples made a motion to nominate Steve Esselman for Vice-Chairman, seconded by Committee Member Cobb, motion carried.

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

IX. MEMBER ITEMS

Chairman Staples stated that he is on the APA Central Section Board and they recently had a mini-retreat to discuss activities for 2025. He state that they will be conduction education sessions that will be free to participants.

Chairman Staples also discussed the newly formed West Kern Economic Alliance that includes entities on the valley floor and west side. He said the Alliance is a networking group that will be conducting meetings in other locations.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m. The next scheduled meeting of the RPAC is March 5, 2025.



IV. RPAC

April 30, 2025

TO: Regional Planning Advisory Committee

FROM: AHRON HAKIMI,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

By: Ben Raymond, Regional Planner

SUBJECT: Regional Planning Advisory Committee Agenda Item IV.
REGIONAL GROWTH ALLOCATION

DESCRIPTION:

Revised draft distribution of the Kern Regional Growth Forecast at the transportation analysis zone (TAZ) level.

DISCUSSION:

Background

Growth Forecast – Kern COG adopted the 2024-2050 regional growth forecast at its April 18th Board meeting in 2024. The Regional Growth Forecast is available at: <https://www.kerncoq.org/estimates-and-projections/>. The growth forecast is a long-range projection for countywide total population. The population total is used to develop housing, employment, school enrollment, and income forecasts. The forecast will serve as the growth assumption for the 2026 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS). The RPAC and Transportation Modeling Committee (TMC) are charged with overseeing changes to the growth forecast allocations at RSA subregion level and the transportation analysis zone (TAZ) level. The regional growth forecast included preliminary summaries for 13 RSA subregions. Kern COG utilizes a growth allocation model (Uplan) to distribute each subregions growth to the TAZ level.

Uplan Growth Model (land use model) – The Uplan model allocates growth based on latest land use and planning assumptions. This tool allows Kern COG to develop and present the public with scenarios as required for the development of Kern COG's SCS. Many input layers are used to represent latest planning assumptions in the land use model. Some of the key input layers are: the general plan layer (generalized land use layer), existing urban mask, and growth attractors (infrastructure, tentative tracts, etc.). Kern COG's latest land use model documentation is available under the "Additional Documents" section at: <https://www.kerncoq.org/model-documentation/>

Growth Allocation

Kern COG has generated a draft distribution of the Kern Regional Growth Forecast at the transportation analysis zone level and presented the data at the April 2nd, 2025, RPAC meeting. Member agencies were asked to provide feedback and comments by April 16th. Kern County, the City of Bakersfield, and the City of Shafter provided initial comments. Based on initial comments and review, reductions to employment allocation were made in: Greater Arvin, Greater Cal City/Rosamond, Greater Cal City/Rosamond, Greater McFarland, to align with Kern COG Regional Growth Forecast. Greater Frazier Park and Greater Shafter were adjusted to increase employment growth to account for projects currently being developed and planned development. Additionally, reductions to household allocations were made in: Greater Arvin and Greater Taft. Greater Shafter was adjusted to increase household growth. Within the Metro Bakersfield Subregion corrections were made to the underlying combined land use map to account for the latest general plan amendments and zone changes. The RSA Subregion Summary Table is attached. Kern COG has prepared a revised Draft TAZ Growth Distribution, available for review at: <https://www.kerncog.org/maps/>. The Draft TAZ allocation represents a base for developing scenarios for the 2026 RTP.

Comments will be used in following timeline for the 2026 RTP/SCS development:

May-July 2025 – Scenario development for the 2026 RTP/SCS

August-Sept 2025 – Public workshops for the scenarios

November 2025 – 2026 RTP/SCS for internal review/begin preparing the Draft RTP/SCS/PEIR

March 2026 – DRAFT RTP/SCS/PEIR 55-day Public Review and Comment

June 2026 – Adopt RTP/SCS, EIR and associated documents

ACTION: Receive comments to prepare base assumptions. Information.

Attachment A provides a summary of the distribution by RSA subregion.

Attachment B is a map of the RSA Subregions.

Map of Growth Allocation TAZ Data available at: <https://www.kerncog.org/maps/>

Attachment A - RSA Subregion Summary Tables

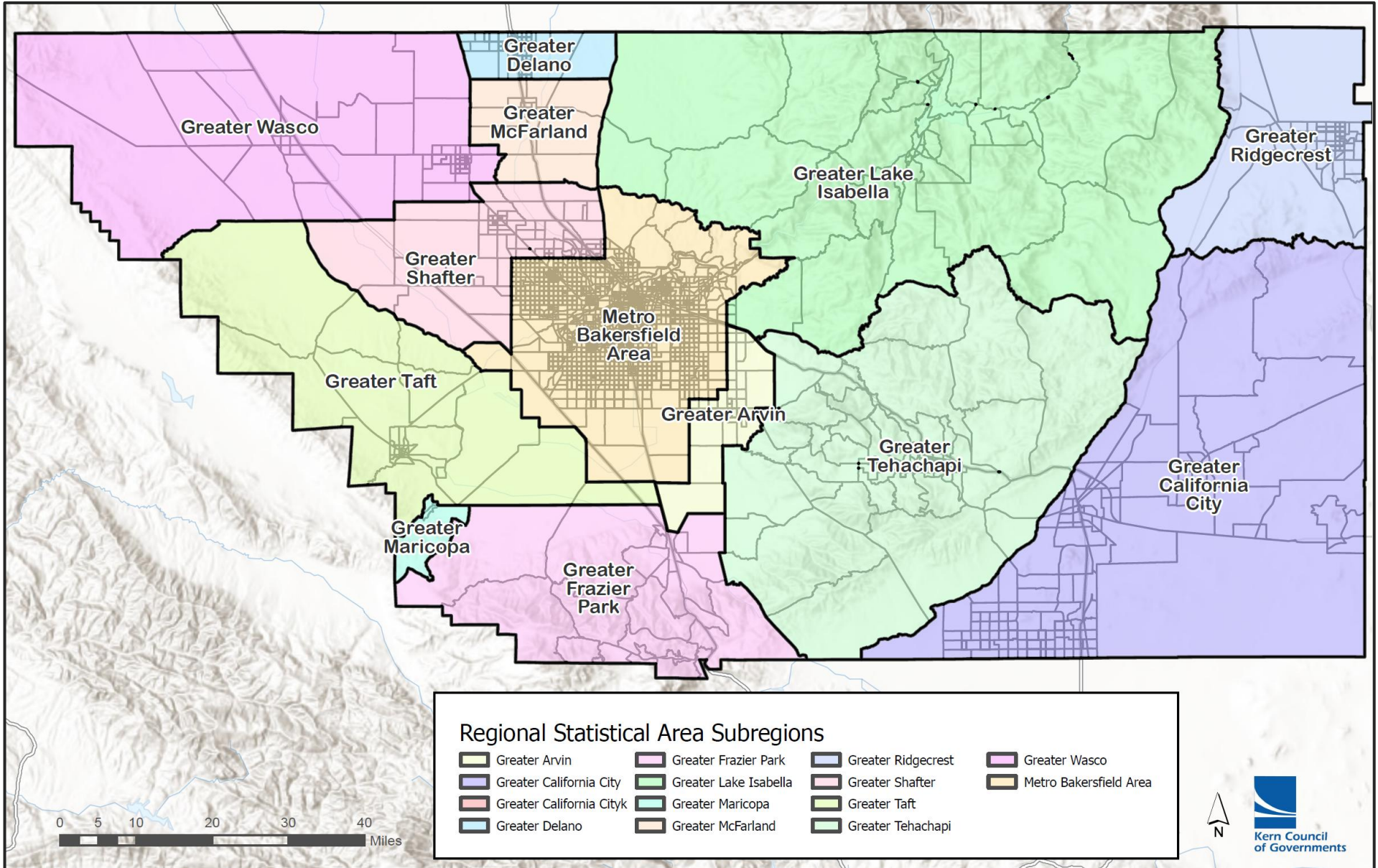
EMPLOYMENT GROWTH 2024-2035 By RSA Subregion	2022RTP	2026RTP Draft Allocation 4/21/25
	Employment Growth (2020-2035)	Employment Growth (2024-2035)
Greater Arvin	290	370
Greater Cal City/Rosamond	2,123	2,823
Greater Delano	783	860
Greater Frazier Park	4,210	4,800
Greater Lake Isabella	159	126
Greater Maricopa	-	-
Greater McFarland	442	991
Greater Ridgecrest	1,054	1,184
Greater Shafter	5,656	6,214
Greater Taft	945	704
Greater Tehachapi	1,719	937
Greater Wasco	1,130	654
Metro Bakersfield	16,769	19,337
TOTAL	35,280	39,000

2022RTP	2026RTP Draft Allocation 4/21/25
Annualized	Annualized
19	34
142	257
52	78
281	436
11	11
-	-
29	90
70	108
377	565
63	64
115	85
75	59
1,118	1,758
2,352	3,545

HOUSEHOLD GROWTH 2024-2035 By RSA Subregion	2022RTP	2026RTP Draft Allocation 4/21/25
	Household Growth (2020-2035)	Household Growth (2024-2035)
Greater Arvin	208	443
Greater Cal City/Rosamond	2,629	917
Greater Delano	379	1,230
Greater Frazier Park	4,729	5,700
Greater Lake Isabella	231	201
Greater Maricopa	6	1
Greater McFarland	269	797
Greater Ridgecrest	481	710
Greater Shafter	2,521	2,894
Greater Taft	412	386
Greater Tehachapi	1,214	1,376
Greater Wasco	1,278	1,125
Metro Bakersfield	23,233	21,620
TOTAL	37,590	37,400

2022RTP	2026RTP Draft Allocation 4/21/25
Annualized	Annualized
14	40
239	83
34	112
430	518
21	18
1	0
24	72
44	65
229	263
37	35
110	125
116	102
2,112	1,965
3,412	3,400

ATTACHMENT B
REGIONAL STATISTICAL AREA (RSA) SUBREGIONS





V.
RPAC

April 30, 2025

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: V.
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.

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.

April 23, 2025 – SB 375 Target Setting Update – Kern COG staff is participating in a workshop hosted by California Air Resources Board (ARB) for Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) to discuss SB 375 Target Updates and other SB 375 program-related items.

April 17, 2025 – Kern COG Annual Statistically Valid Community Survey was conducted in January. Survey results have been compiled and presented to the Kern COG board at the April Board Meeting. Results of the Annual Community Survey are available on Kern COG's website.

September 18th – 29th, 2024 – Kern COG collected input for 2026 RTP/SCS and collected input on transportation issues in the community at the Kern COG booth during the Kern County Fair.

July 24th – August 2nd, 2024 – Kern COG hosted four community workshops collecting input on the KARGO Community Prosperity/Protection Study and Freight related projects for the RTP/SCS. Workshops were held in Greater Arvin area (at the Tejon Indian Tribe Community Center), Delano, Rosamond, and Tehachapi.

June 28, 2024 – Kern COG submitted to the ARB the Kern COG 2026 SCS Technical Methodology and responses to their draft comments on the 2022 SCS. ARB staff responded that their final comments on the 2022 SCS are moving up their management reviews. As of July 22, the final comments have yet to be provided.

May 20, 2024 – Kern COG hosted an outreach roundtable as part of the Kern Area Regional Goods-movement Operations (KARGO) Study. The latest KARGO Study will feed into the 2026 RTP and host series of outreach events to collect input of the study in coordination with the 2026 RTP development. At the roundtable meeting attendees from community based organizations, and local/state agencies provided feedback on the outreach plan.

May 3, 2024 – Golden Empire Transit (GET) hosted a workshop on the Metro Bakersfield Moves – Long-Range Transit Plan (LRTP). The LRTP is a key input in the development of the 2026 RTP. During the outreach process for the LRTP, survey collected public input for both the LRTP and the RTP.

April 18, 2024 – The Kern COG Board adopted the 2024-2050 Regional Growth Forecast. The Regional Growth Forecast establishes population forecasts for the horizon of the 2026 RTP.

February 20, 2024 – ARB provided another email re-confirming that they officially accept Kern COG's 2022 SCS, and provided a draft of 11 recommendations for the 2026 SCS. No estimate on when their final acceptance letter will be submitted.

January 9, 2024 and November 2, 2023 – 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.

February 17, March 29, April 7, April 14, 2023 – Kern COG web conferenced with ARB to further refine SCS modeling methodology and in February provided draft comments on the 2022 SCS.

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
- ~~October 17, 2023~~ — Comment Due on Early Draft 2026 Capital Improvement Program
- ~~April 2024~~ — Regional Growth Forecast Update
- ~~June 11, 2024, Friday, 7-10am~~ — ~~Bakersfield Downtown Transit Ctr.~~ — Long-Range Transit Plan Update walk-up event
- ~~June 11, 2024, Friday, 2-5pm~~ — ~~Bakersfield SW Transit Ctr. at Valley Plaza~~ — Long-Range Transit Plan walk-up event
- ~~July-August 2024~~ — ~~KARGO Community Prosperity/Protection Study RTP/SCS Freight Outreach Events~~
- April 2025 - Annual Statistically Valid Community Phone Surveys
- April 2025 – Transportation Modeling Committee Special Meeting
- Spring 2023 to Spring 2026 – RTP/SCS Public Outreach Process
- Spring 2023 to Spring 2026 – Annual Statistically Valid Community Phone Surveys
- September each year – Technical Assistance Requests to Kern COG Due
- 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.



VI. RPAC

April 30, 2025

TO: Regional Planning Advisory Committee

FROM: Ahron Hakimi,
Executive Director

By: Becky Napier
Deputy Director - Administration

SUBJECT: REGIONAL PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEM: VI.
COMMUNITY AT LARGE VOTING MEMBERS

DESCRIPTION:

Staff recruited for three (3) Community at Large Voting Members for the Regional Planning Advisory Committee (RPAC).

DISCUSSION:

The RPAC By-Laws allow for three Community at Large Voting Members. Staff advertised in the Bakersfield Californian and put the advertisement and the application on the Kern COG website. The advertisement and application were posted on the Kern COG website on February 3, 2025. A Display Advertisement was placed in the Bakersfield Californian on February 5, 2025. The application deadline was Thursday, March 6, 2025.

Staff received zero applications and zero inquiries about the openings. The last time any of the current Community at Large Members attended an RPAC meeting was on October 4, 2023.

Staff is requesting that members of the RPAC discuss this issue and give direction.

ACTION

Information/Committee Direction.