

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

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3, 2026 AT 1:30 P.M.

PRIMARY MEETING LOCATION:

Kern Council of Governments, Board Room
1401 19th Street, Suite 300
Bakersfield, CA 93301

TELECONFERENCE INFORMATION: [RPAC Meeting](#)

[|Meeting-Join | Microsoft Teams](#)

Meeting ID: 250 376 826 931 98

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SECONDARY MEETING LOCATIONS (for Teleconference):

Arvin City Hall

200 Campus Drive, Arvin, CA 93203

Shafter City Hall

336 Pacific Avenue, Shafter, CA 93265

California City City Hall

21000 Hacienda Blvd., California City, CA 93505

Offices at:

1234 O Street, Fresno, CA 93721

1352 W. Olive Avenue, Fresno, CA 93728

901 East Main Street, Visalia, CA 93292

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 May 6, 2026. ROLL CALL VOTE.

IV. UPDATE: SB 375 AND ADOPTION TIMELINE FOR THE 2026 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN AND SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES STRATEGY (Raymond)

Comment: An update on the activity related to Senate Bill (SB) 375 and the adoption timeline for the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and the Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS). The public engagement process is complete and the Draft 2026 RTP/SCS is available for public review from May 8 to July 2, 2026 at: <https://www.kerncoq.org/2026-rtp/>.

Action: Information.

V. FINAL DRAFT - KERN AREA REGIONAL GOODS MOVEMENT (KARGO) COMMUNITY PROTECTION/PROSPERITY STUDY (Davisson)

Comment: Kern Council of Governments has completed the KARGO Community Prosperity/Protection Study, a countywide assessment of goods movement needs, climate vulnerability, economic opportunities, and recommended transportation investments worth \$3.15 billion in current dollars. The final draft study report is available online at <https://www.kerncoq.org/kargo/>.

Action: 1. Recommend that the TPPC receive and file the Final KARGO Community Prosperity/Protection Study; 2. Recommend that the TPPC adopt a resolution requesting member agencies integrate study recommendations into their General Plan Circulation Elements. ROLL CALL VOTE.

VI. PUBLIC REVIEW FOR: DRAFT 2026 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN; DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT; DRAFT 2027 FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM; AND CORRESPONDING DRAFT AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY ANALYSIS (Pacheco)

Comment: The public review period for the 2026 Regional Transportation Plan; Environmental Impact Report; 2027 Federal Transportation Improvement Program; and corresponding Air Quality Conformity Analysis ends at 5 PM July 2, 2026. All draft documents are available at www.kerncoq.org.

Action: Information.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Legislative Update: SB 1169, SB 2002, SB 2296, SB 1116, SB 1117.

VIII. MEMBER ITEMS

IX. ADJOURNMENT - The next meeting will be held on July 1, 2026 (may be dark).

KERN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
REGIONAL PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TRANSPORTATION MODELING COMMITTEE
MINUTES FOR MAY 6, 2026

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

WEDNESDAY
May 6, 2026
1:30 P.M.

Acting Chairman Ricardo Perez called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.

I. ROLL CALL:

RPAC MEMBERS PRESENT:	Roque Nino	Bakersfield
	Jose Lara	Delano
	Brianahi DeLeon	McFarland
	Keri Cobb	Wasco
	Ricardo Perez	GET
	Andrea Nason	Caltrans
KERN COG STAFF:	Ben Raymond	Karl Davisson
	Rob Ball	Rochelle Invina-Jayasiri
	Jay Schlosser	Raquel Pacheco

OTHERS:

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.**

There were no comments.

III. APPROVAL OF DISCUSSION SUMMARIES

- Meeting of April 1, 2026

There were no comments or questions. Committee Member J. Lara made a motion to approve the minutes of April; seconded by Committee Member K. Cobb, unanimously approved by voice vote.

IV. UPDATE: SB 375 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION REDUCTION FROM PASSENGER VEHICLES AND ADOPTION TIMELINE FOR THE 2026 RTP

Mr. Raymond provided an update on the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) development and coordination with CARB on review of Kern's technical methodology for meeting SB 375 targets. The public engagement process for the RTP is complete and the draft documents are scheduled for public review from May 8 to July 2, 2026 and will be available online at: <https://www.kerncog.org/2026-rtp/>.

There were no comments or questions. This item is for information only.

V. TIMELINE FOR: DRAFT 2026 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN; DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT; DRAFT 2027 FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION

IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM; AND CORRESPONDING DRAFT AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY ANALYSIS (Pacheco/Ball/Raymond)

The 2027 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) is a near-term list of transportation projects, while the 2026 Regional Transportation Plan is a long-term blueprint for transportation projects. The Air Quality Conformity Analysis demonstrates that both the near- and long-term lists will not delay the region's efforts to improve the air. The Draft 2026 Regional Transportation Plan will be released May 8th. The Draft Environmental Impact Report will be released May 18th. The Draft 2027 FTIP and corresponding Air Quality Conformity Analysis will be released June 1st. Comments for all documents are due July 2nd. The tentative schedule in the staff report will be used to move these documents through the review process with final approval by federal agencies in December 2026.

This item is for information only.

VI. PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT KERN AREA REGIONAL GOODS MOVEMENT OPERATIONS (KARGO) COMMUNITY PROTECTION/PROSPERITY STUDY

Mr. Davisson discussed the Draft KARGO study report and mentioned comments are due by end of today, May 6th. All public input and technical materials will be incorporated into the draft final study report. At the June TTAC meeting, that committee will be asked to recommend the draft final study report for receive and file by the Kern COG board. On June 18th, the board is expected to adopt A resolution encouraging member agencies to consider including these projects in their general plan circulation elements supporting AB98 and SB415 requirements identifying truck routes by 2028.

This item is information only.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Mr. Davisson shared details about a new Senate Bill 1169 and update for SB2296.
- B. Mr. Raymond also invited members to the Kern Transportation Foundation Conference on May 13 at the Career & Technical Education Center
- C. Mr. Raymond shared the flier for the California Air Resources Board One-Stop Truck Event on May 15, 2026 at 5101 California Ave, Bakersfield
- D. Mr. Raymond announced May is Bike Month and shared CommuteKERN's promotion

VIII. MEMBER ITEMS

None.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:53 p.m. The next scheduled meeting of the RPAC is June 3, 2026.



IV RPAC

June 3, 2026

TO: Regional Planning Advisory Committee
FROM: JAY SCHLOSSER,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
By: Rob Ball, Deputy Director/Planning Director
Ben Raymond, Regional Planner

SUBJECT: Regional Planning Advisory Committee Agenda Item: IV.

UPDATE: SB 375 AND ADOPTION TIMELINE FOR THE 2026 REGIONAL
TRANSPORTATION PLAN AND SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES STRATEGY

DESCRIPTION:

An update on the activity related to Senate Bill (SB) 375 and the adoption timeline for the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and the Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS). The public engagement process is complete and the Draft 2026 RTP/SCS is available for public review from May 8 to July 2, 2026 at: <https://www.kerncog.org/2026-rtp/>.

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.

June 2026 – Continuing presentations on Draft 2026 RTP/SCS in Arvin/Lamont, Bakersfield, Mojave, and Tehachapi; presentation also at the Kern County Board Supervisors Meeting and at the Kern COG Board Meeting.

May 2026 – Provided presentations on Draft 2026 RTP/SCS in Arvin, California City, Delano, Maricopa, McFarland, Ridgecrest, Rosamond, Shafter, Taft, and at the GET Board Meeting.

May 6, 2026 – Received email from CARB accepting Kern Technical Methodology.

April 7th, 14th & 15th, 2026 – Coordination calls with California Air Resource Board staff (CARB) to further discuss the Technical Methodology submitted by Kern COG in February.

March 23, 2026 – Kern COG staff had a coordination call with California Air Resource Board staff (CARB) to discuss the Technical Methodology submitted by Kern COG in February. Very limited clarifications were addressed and coordinated

February 27, 2026 – Submitted the 2026 Kern SCS Technical Methodology Version 2 to the California Air Resources Board (ARB).

December 10, 2025 – Received revised modeling protocol from the California Air Resources Board (ARB) to account for impact of the revocation of the ARB waiver for setting more stringent emissions than the rest of the nation.

November 13, 2025 – Concluded the 4-year outreach process engaging over 10,000 participants on the 2026 RTP SCS via statically valid phone/text surveys, fairs/festivals, workshops and more.

October 10 – November 13, 2025 – Completed 7 stakeholder outreach events on the RTP SCS engaging 300 participants. The effort garnered input from 7 stakeholder groups in the communities of Bakersfield, Taft, Delano, Ridgecrest, Arvin, Rosedale, and Wasco. The stakeholder groups included Bike Bakersfield, Taft Chamber of Commerce, Center for Race Poverty and the Environment, AkaMya Indian Culture Group, FARO Church/Arvin HS Students, Riverlakes Farmers Market, and Wasco Youth Police Activities League.

September 17-28, 2025 – Received input from over 1000 people at the Kern County Fair booth on the development pattern scenarios for the 2026 RTP.

August 6, 2025 – Kern Regional Transportation Modeling Committee met to review Kern Travel Model validation and documentation for the 2026 RTP/SCS. Information is posted on Kern COG website under RPAC agendas.

May 21st – June 4th, 2025 – Kern COG hosted four hybrid (in-person/online) community workshops and three online workshops collecting input on the KARGO Community Prosperity/Protection Study and Freight related projects for the RTP/SCS. Workshops were held in Arvin, California City, Keene, and Shafter.

May 13, 2025 – CARB formally adopted their determination that Kern COG's 2022 RTP/SCS, when implemented, would achieve the SB 375 Target Reductions by 2035. In June 2023, Kern COG received an email from CARB to notify that the 2022 SCS was "officially approved."

April 23, 2025 – SB 375 Target Setting Update – Kern COG staff is participating in a workshop hosted by 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 for the Kern Area Regional Goods-movement Operations (KARGO) Study, which will feed into the 2026 RTP and include additional outreach events to collect input on the study and development of the 2026 RTP. 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, surveys 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 update 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 - At the quarterly SJV Inter-Agency Consultation meeting, ARB staff announced that the SCSs for Kern, Stanislaus, and Tulare COGs have been approved 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.

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 Kern COG TPPC staff report and transmittal letter to ARB with a request for the Kern COG Chair to sign. Approved by the Board on May 18, 2023, the letter documents technical changes that do not affect the adopted RTP/SCS text or conclusions and includes updates from the November 2022 SCS technical data submittal per ARB guidelines.

May 1, 2023 – Kern COG circulated the draft Public Involvement Procedure for a 45-day public review ending June 15. The Executive Director and other San Joaquin Valley COG directors also met with ARB’s SJV representative, where staff indicated Kern was close to an acceptance finding for its 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 it be approved by the Kern COG Board and have Kern COG’s chair’s signature.

April 17, 2023 – Kern COG web conferenced with ARB staff for the 14th time in 3 years to discuss the 2022 SCS technical methodology. ARB is required to provide their findings and recommendations 2 months after the submitted package from Nov. 29, 2022, 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
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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.

Preliminary Timeline 2026 RTP/SCS

- ~~June 2023 – Update Public Involvement Procedure~~
- ~~July 2023 – Stakeholder roundtable process to vet outreach and performance measures~~
- ~~April 2024 – Regional Growth Forecast Update~~
- ~~June 11, 2024, Bakersfield Downtown Transit Ctr. – LRT Plan Update walk-up event~~
- ~~July-August 2024 KARGO Study RTP/SCS Freight Outreach Events~~
- ~~April 2025 – Annual Statistically Valid Community Phone Surveys~~
- ~~May 2025 – KARGO Study RTP/SCS Freight Outreach Events~~
- ~~August 6, 2025 – Transportation Modeling Committee Special Meeting~~
- ~~August 23-24, 2025 – 2026 RTP/SCS Outreach at Tehachapi Mountain Festival~~
- ~~August 29, 2025 – Mini-Grants Applications Due~~
- ~~September 17-28, 2025 – 2026 RTP/SCS Outreach at Kern County Fair~~
- ~~September each year – Technical Assistance Requests to Kern COG Due~~
- ~~October 18, 2025 – 2026 RTP/SCS Outreach at Oildorado Days in Taft~~
- ~~Fall 2025 – Mini-Grant Stakeholder Hosted RTP/SCS Workshops (see attached flyer)~~
- ~~Fall 2023 to Fall 2025 – Fairs/Festivals/Farmer’s Market Outreach~~
- ~~Spring 2023 to Spring 2026 – RTP/SCS Public Outreach Process~~
- ~~Spring 2023 to Spring 2026 – Annual Statistically Valid Community Phone Surveys~~
- May 8 to July 2, 2026 – 55-day public review process for RTP/SCS, congestion management plan, environmental document, air quality conformity, federal transportation improvement program. Documents will be available at <https://www.kerncog.org/2026-rtp/> Kern COG will be presenting on the Draft 2026 RTP/SCS at local city council meetings and at the Kern County Supervisors meeting, see attached flyer.
- August 20, 2026 – Kern COG Board scheduled to adopt the 2026 RTP/SCS and associated documents

ACTION: Information.

Attachment: 2026 RTP/SCS Presentation Schedule Flyer



**Kern Council
of Governments**

Join us and share your input!

The Draft 2026 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS) public comment period begins May 8, 2026. Kern COG staff will be presenting information about the RTP/SCS at local city council meetings and the Kern County Board of Supervisors meeting, with public hearings scheduled in Tehachapi and Bakersfield.

DATE	LOCATION
May 12 @ 5:00PM	California City Council Meeting
May 12 @ 6:00PM	Maricopa City Council Meeting
May 13 @ 6:00PM	McFarland City Council Meeting
May 18 @ 5:00PM	Delano City Council Meeting
May 19 @ 6:00PM	Shafter City Council Meeting
May 19 @ 6:00PM	Taft City Council Meeting
May 19 @ 6:00PM	Wasco City Council Meeting
May 20 @ 6:00PM	Ridgecrest City Council Meeting
May 26 @ 6:00PM	Arvin City Council Meeting
June 1 @ 6:00PM	*Tehachapi City Council Meeting
June 16 @ 2:00PM	Kern County Board of Supervisors Meeting
June 18 @ 6:30PM	*Kern COG Transportation Planning Policy Committee Meeting
June 24 @ 3:30PM	Bakersfield City Council Meeting

**Public Hearing*

Important dates:

- May 8 55-day public review period begins for Draft 2026 RTP/SCS
- May 18 45-day public review period begins for Draft 2026 RTP/SCS Environmental Impact Report
- June 1 30-day public review period begins for Draft 2027 Federal Transportation Improvement Program & Draft Air Quality Conformity Analysis
- July 2 **Public review period ends for all documents**



Visit our website or scan the QR code for more details:
kerncog.org/2026-rtp/



V
RPAC

June 3, 2026

TO: Regional Planning Advisory Committee (RPAC)

FROM: Jay Schlosser, Executive Director

By: Karl Davisson, Regional Planner

SUBJECT: Regional Planning Advisory Committee Agenda Item: V.

FINAL DRAFT - KERN AREA REGIONAL GOODS MOVEMENT (KARGO)
COMMUNITY PROTECTION/PROSPERITY STUDY

DESCRIPTION:

Kern Council of Governments has completed the KARGO Community Prosperity/Protection Study, a countywide assessment of goods movement needs, climate vulnerability, economic opportunities, and recommended transportation investments worth \$3.15 billion in current dollars. The final draft study report is available online at <https://www.kerncog.org/kargo/>.

DISCUSSION:

The objective of this project has been to assess the climate change vulnerabilities throughout transportation corridors in Kern County, including the Tehachapi Pass and Tejon Pass corridors and their resiliency connectors, and to leverage and advance critical projects that implement adaptive climate mitigation measures that reduce impacts on local and disadvantaged communities while maximizing co-benefits countywide.

The study evaluates countywide freight demand, climate vulnerabilities, high-risk corridors, and priority transportation improvements to support safety, resiliency, and economic development. The study developed concepts for 12 different tranches of projects that are referred to as “phases” or “corridors” throughout the county worth more than \$3.15 Billion in current dollars.

Key Findings:

Climate vulnerability findings indicate that over 50% of transportation assets are exposed to heat, wildfire, flooding, or landslide risks. High-risk corridors include I-5 through the Grapevine, SR-99, SR-155, SR-178, SR-58, and transportation assets near Tehachapi Pass.

Freight analysis shows strong economic dependence, with inland port scenarios creating up to 48,454 jobs and generating \$16B in annual output.

Priority Project Portfolio and Cost Summary:

The Study identifies 12 major corridor/phase programs totaling \$3.15B in current dollars and \$4.64B in escalated 2035 dollars.

PHASE No.	PROJECT PHASE DESCRIPTION	PROJECT COST	ESCALATED COST (2035)
1	Arvin/Maricopa/Taft Greenpass Network	\$608,400,000	\$902,050,000
2	SR 58 Tehachapi Grade Improvements	\$661,150,000	\$978,500,000
3	Delano/McFarland and Greenpass Network	\$171,770,000	\$254,730,000
4	I-5 Grapevine Improvements	\$176,950,000	\$261,600,000
5	Lamont/SE Bakersfield Greenpass Network	\$280,000,000	\$414,050,000
6	US 395 Goods Movement/Safety Improvements	\$168,200,000	\$249,200,000
7	NW Bakersfield Greenpass Network	\$415,800,000	\$585,500,000
8	Rosamond Greenpass Network	\$128,350,000	\$190,400,000
9	SR 33/7th Standard Rd Safety Improvements	\$382,650,000	\$565,450,000
10	SR 58/Stockdale Hwy Connection to I-5 Safety Corridor Improvements	\$51,450,000	\$76,200,000
11	Wasco AV/HSR Frontage Rd	\$53,400,000	\$79,100,000
12	California City Blvd Extension to EAFB North Gate Safety Corridor	\$55,750,000	\$82,500,000
GRAND TOTAL =		\$3,153,870,000	\$4,639,280,000
* Assumes escalation of 4% per year. No Adjustments in escalation for time between design and construction were made.			

The study recommends member jurisdictions incorporate the study and project corridors into their General Plan Circulation Elements in alignment with AB 98 and SB 415 requirements to include heavy-duty truck routes in their General Plan Circulation Elements.

The study included two rounds of extensive public engagement, totaling 13 public workshops held at multiple locations across Kern County between 2024 and 2026, with no fewer than 92 participants. Kern COG also issued an open invitation to meet individually with member agencies, resulting in separate meetings with staff from Shafter, McFarland, Bakersfield, and Kern County.

The draft study was released for public review on April 1, 2026, with comments accepted through May 6. A public workshop on the draft was also held on May 6. The final Study will be incorporated into and strengthen future Regional Transportation Plans.

ACTION:

1. Recommend that the TPPC receive and file the Final KARGO Community Prosperity/Protection Study; 2. Recommend that the TPPC adopt a resolution requesting member agencies integrate study recommendations into their General Plan Circulation Elements. ROLL CALL VOTE.

Attachments: Response to comments.

Kern COG KARGO Study - Agency Comments

City of Taft

1. They would like us to add some passing lane projects on 119. Please insert these projects in the Final KARGO Study as part of the Arvin Greenpass project. They have corresponding projects in the RTP unconstrained table 5.2 but the prices are for full widenings. Please prepare a quick cost estimate for these two passing lane projects and include in the final KARGO study. The projects will remain in the unconstrained portion of the RTP.
Phase 1.6 and 1.7 now includes passing lanes, shown in map (Chapter 5) and exhibits and cost estimates (Appendix).

City of Shafter

1. Table 2-1 (pg. 21)
 - a. It looks like some projects are listed twice. (ex 7th Standard Road/I-5 Airport Dr., Sante Fe Way, Burbank-Rosedale Hwy).
Projects are listed twice due to different types of improvement. Table revisions made to combined projects with same name.
 - b. Please verify they are not the same projects and adjust descriptions as needed.
Projects are listed twice due to different types of improvement. Table revisions made to combined projects with same name.
 - c. Sante Fe Way is spelled wrong should be Santa Fe Way
Text revision.
 - d. Shafter is spelled wrong on Number 55 (Shaffter)
Text revision.
2. Table 2-2 (pg 23)
 - a. Check Spelling of Santa Fe way
Text revision.
3. Table 2-4 (pg 27)
 - a. Why is 7th Standard on this again, does it fall in the eastern Kern Region?
Projects are listed twice due to different types of improvement. Table revisions made to combined projects with same name.
4. Pg 55 needs to be rotated in the pdf
Format revision.

5. Table 4-1

- a. Why is Merced Ave expressway on the NW Bakersfield Green pass Network

Merced Ave is a safety rehab along Merced Ave. Phase 13.7 is a bridge that will allow Merced Ave to connect to Cherry Ave as part of the NW Bakersfield network. Both are in the same area of Bakersfield.

- b. Why is Lerdo Hwy on the ST 33/7th Standard Rd corridor

Lerdo Hwy is included in the 7th Std Rd because it is part of the proposed resiliency route connecting 33 to Cherry Ave, via Lerdo to Rowlee and/or Main Drain Rd to 7th Std.

Caltrans District 6

Questions via General Comments on page 3

1. On page 20 (Figure 2-1) What criteria were used for determining the feasibility of potential inland port site locations?
Potential inland port locations were provided based on Kern COG's stakeholder engagement process, which included feedback from key industry representatives and local developers.
2. On page 23 (Table 2-2) What funding opportunities will be projected in funding the ongoing maintenance of proposed future truck routes?
Funding opportunities are detailed in Phase II KARGO Study and include strategies such as economic improvement districts, developer mitigation, etc.
3. On page 47 (Truck Parking Analysis) Does the study report show any locations for future truck parking locations? Expanding and enhancing truck parking facilities is a very important freight issue in California.
Specific locations for truck parking were not identified as part of this Study, only the need or demand was analyzed.
4. Page 52/53 (Community Context) The blue font is bold on page 52 but not bold on page 53.
Formatting revision.
5. Please note that Work Element (WE) 605.2 Kern Area Regional Goods-movement Operation (KARGO) Climate-Change Adaptation Mitigation Study (C-CAMS)
Added reference to OWP after the cover page.

Caltrans District 9

1. Table 2-4: Searles- not Seales
Text revision
2. Page 36: None of the D09 culverts are listed
Culverts are listed in the Appendix.
3. Page 39: SR 58 mudslides not accounted for

Mudslide risk (especially SR 58) is addressed in the report through text, visuals, and cost acknowledgment so it holds up during adoption.

4. Page 47: Great visualization

No changes requested.

5. Page 83: Why is the ranking different from the total score -- i.e. the highest score would have the highest rank? The SR 14/Purdy Rd interchange project is missing from Table 4-1.

The lower scores indicate a higher need or priority.

SR 14/Purdy Road received higher scores, indicating a lower need or priority, therefore grouped in future projects category.

6. Page 85: Why no scores? (Phase 6.2 US 365/China Lk Bl Interchange)

Project was included upon robust community engagement, and was identified by stakeholders after the project prioritization was conducted.

7. Page 106: My question once again - Once the trucks get to Tehachapi Willow Springs road, there is still a two lane highway between SR 58 and the north end of Rosamond Green- Pass Network. Why is the upgrade of Tehachapi Willow Springs to four lanes not included in this project?

Rosamond Green-pass Network is intended to provide a secondary route crossing the railroad/highway within Rosamond to maintain connection to Edwards Air Force Base. Truck demand analysis was not conducted along Tehachapi Willow Springs road.



VI RPAC

June 3, 2026

TO: Regional Planning Advisory Committee

FROM: Jay Schlosser, Executive Director

By: Rob Ball, Deputy Director / Planning Director
Ben Raymond, Regional Planner
Ceasar Valle, Regional Planner
Raquel Pacheco, Regional Planner
Rochelle Invina-Jayasiri, Regional Planner
Vincent Liu, Regional Planner

SUBJECT: Regional Planning Advisory Committee Agenda Item: VI.

PUBLIC REVIEW FOR:
DRAFT 2026 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN; DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL
IMPACT REPORT; DRAFT 2027 FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT
PROGRAM; AND CORRESPONDING DRAFT AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY
ANALYSIS

DESCRIPTION:

The public review period for the 2026 Regional Transportation Plan; Environmental Impact Report; 2027 Federal Transportation Improvement Program; and corresponding Air Quality Conformity Analysis ends at 5 PM July 2, 2026. All draft documents are available at www.kerncog.org.

DISCUSSION:

Pursuant to Senate Bill 375, Kern COG is required to conduct at least two public hearings on the 2026 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) that contains the Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS). If feasible the public hearings are to be conducted in different parts of the region to maximize the opportunity for participation by members of the public. The first of two public hearings scheduled within the Kern region was held at the City of Tehachapi Council meeting, 220 West C Street, Tehachapi, CA 93561 at 6 PM on June 1, 2026. The second public hearing will be held at Kern Council of Governments, 1401 19th Street, 3rd Floor, Bakersfield, CA 93301 at 6:30 P.M. on June 18, 2026.

The Draft 2026 RTP is a long-term blueprint for transportation projects. The Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the RTP contains a summary of alternatives considered. The Draft 2027 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) is a near-term list of transportation projects. The Draft Air Quality Conformity Analysis demonstrates that both the near- and long-term project lists will not delay the region’s efforts to improve the air. A 55-day public review period is being held for the RTP/SCS. A 45-day public review period is being held for the EIR. A 30-day public review period is being held for the FTIP and corresponding Air Quality Conformity Analysis documents. A summary of public comments received will be incorporated into the final documentation as appropriate. Final consideration of all documents is scheduled for August 20, 2026, during the Kern COG Board meeting.

Timeline for Review of all documents

Date	Event
May 6, 2026	Timeline presented to Transportation Technical Advisory Committee/Regional Planning Advisory Committee
May 8, 2026	55-day public review period begins for Draft 2026 Regional Transportation Plan
May 18, 2026	45-day public review period begins for Draft Environmental Impact Report
May 21, 2026	Timeline presented to Transportation Planning Policy Committee
June 1, 2026	30-day public review period begins for Draft 2027 Federal Transportation Improvement Program and Draft Air Quality Conformity Analysis
June 1, 2026	Public hearing at City of Tehachapi Council Meeting
June 3, 2026	Public review draft documents presented to Transportation Technical Advisory Committee/ Regional Planning Advisory Committee
June 18, 2026	Public review draft documents presented to Transportation Planning Policy Committee (public hearing)
July 2, 2026	Public review period ends for all documents
August 5, 2026	Present to Transportation Technical Advisory Committee and/or Regional Planning Advisory Committee to recommend approval
August 20, 2026	Present to Transportation Planning Policy Committee for adoption
August 27, 2026	Send final documents with response to comments to state and federal agencies for approval
December 2026	Anticipated federal approval of Conformity, the near-term and long-term documents

The noted schedule is a work in progress and subject to change. The San Joaquin Valley planning agencies must work cooperatively through this process, and ongoing discussions with state and federal agencies may alter this timeline.

All documents are available at www.kerncog.org.

ACTION: Information.