

**AGENDA
KERN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
BOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 2026
6:30 P.M.**

PRIMARY MEETING LOCATION

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

**SECONDARY MEETING LOCATION
TELECONFERENCING AVAILABLE**

**Ridgecrest City Hall
Conference Room B
100 W. California Avenue
Ridgecrest, CA 93555**

Please join meetings from your computer, tablet, or smartphone.

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DISCLAIMER: This agenda includes the proposed actions and activities, with respect to each agenda item, as of the date of posting. As such, it does not preclude the Committee from taking other actions on items on the agenda which are different or in addition to those recommended.

I. ROLL CALL:

Congestion Management Agency Ex-Officio Members:

- II. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons to address the Council on any matter not on this agenda but under the jurisdiction of the Council. Council members may respond briefly to statements made or questions posed. They may ask a question for clarification; make a referral to staff for factual information or request staff to report back to the Council at a later meeting. **SPEAKERS ARE LIMITED TO TWO MINUTES. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD PRIOR TO MAKING A PRESENTATION.**

Disabled individuals who need special assistance to attend or participate in a meeting of the Kern Council of Governments may request assistance at 1401 19th Street Suite 300: Bakersfield CA 93301 or by calling (661) 635-2900. Every effort will be made to reasonably accommodate individuals with disabilities by making meeting materials available in alternative formats. Requests for assistance should be made at least three (3) working days in advance whenever possible.

- III. CONSENT AGENDA/OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:** All items on the consent agenda are considered to be routine and non-controversial by Kern COG staff and will be approved by one motion if no member of the Council or public wishes to comment or ask questions. If comment or discussion is desired by anyone, the item will be removed from the consent agenda and will be

considered in the listed sequence with an opportunity for any member of the public to address the Council concerning the item before action is taken. ROLL CALL VOTE.

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: June 18, 2026. ROLL CALL VOTE.

B. CONCURRENCE IN ACTIONS OF TPPC

C. LOCAL CLEARINGHOUSE:

The State Clearinghouse (SCH) notifies state and local elected officials and agencies and the public of the grant applications through the Submissions page of the Office of Planning and Research Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs website email and via email notifications to registered users of the website. This notification process allows elected officials and agencies and the public the opportunity to review applications and the option to comment or collaborate on a particular application. Since the SCH does not receive a complete copy of the federal assistance full proposal or budget, any person wishing to review a proposal further must contact the applicant directly for more information. Kern COG takes no position on any of the projects presented but provides the information for public consideration only.

1. **Applicant:** Housing Authority of Kern
 Address: 601 24th Street
 Bakersfield, CA 93301-4150
 Contact: Stephen Pelz
 Telephone: (661) 631-8500
 Email: spelz@kernha.org

Federal Agency: Department of Housing and Urban Development

Funding Opportunity Number: FR-6901-N-25A

Title: Continuum of Care Builds (CoC Builds)

Description: Washington and Potomac Apartments, a multifamily affordable housing development serving disabled homeless veterans, other disabled homeless, extremely-low and very-low income individuals and households.

Federal Funds: \$12,000,000.00

State Funds: \$0.00

Applicant: \$0.00

Other: \$0.00

Program Income: \$0.00

Total Funds: \$12,000,000.00

2. **Applicant:** UNITED WAY OF CENTRAL EASTERN CALIFORNIA INC
 Address: 4101 Easton Drive
 Bakersfield, CA 93309-1021
 Contact: Eric Arias
 Telephone: (661) 885-5730
 Email: eric.a@uwcec.org

Federal Agency: Office of Elementary and Secondary Education

Assistance Listing Number: 84.215

Funding Opportunity Number: ED-GRANT-26-054

Title: Promise Neighborhoods-84.215N

Description: West Kern Consortium for Promise Neighborhoods

Federal Funds: \$ 26,834,983.00
State Funds: \$ 12,142,505.00
Applicant: \$ 1,350,000.00
Other: \$0.00
Program Income: \$0.00
Total Funds: \$ 40,327,488.00

3. **Applicant:** City of California City Police Department
 Address: 21130 Hacienda Blvd.
 California City, CA 93505-2206
 Contact: Shannon Hayes
 Telephone: (760) 373-8606
 Email: shayes@californiacitypd.org

Federal Agency: Community Oriented Policing Services
Assistance Listing Number: 16.068
Funding Opportunity Number: O-COPS-2026-172611
Title: FY26 COPS Hiring Program
Description: California City Police Department Community Policing and Public Safety Expansion Project

Federal Funds: \$125,000.00
State Funds: \$0.00
Applicant: \$79,859.00
Other: \$0.00
Program Income: \$0.00
Total Funds: \$204,859.00

4. **Applicant:** CSUB Auxiliary for Sponsored Programs Administration
 Address: 9001 Stockdale Hwy.
 Bakersfield, CA 93311-1022
 Contact: Jeremy Woods
 Telephone: (661) 654-3961
 Email: jwoods7@csub.edu

Federal Agency: Department of Commerce (EDA)
Assistance Listing Number: 11.307
Funding Opportunity Number: PWEAA2023
Title: AI Upskill Accelerator Pilot Program Addendum
Description: Aerospace Valley AI Upskill Accelerator

Federal Funds: \$1,597,008.00
State Funds: \$0.00
Applicant: \$1,176,600.00
Other: \$0.00
Program Income: \$0.00
Total Funds: \$2,773,608.00

5. **Applicant:** Clinica Sierra Vista
 Address: 9525 Camino Media
 Bakersfield, CA 93311-1314
 Contact: Aidee Cardenas
 Telephone: (661) 635-3050 ext 2211
 Email: aidee.cardenas@clincasierravista.org

Federal Agency: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
Assistance Listing Number: 93.940
Funding Opportunity Number: TI-26-019
Title: Preventing Drug Overdoses: Community Prevention and Response
Description: Clinica Sierra Vista: Kern County Overdose Education and Response Initiative

Federal Funds: \$850,000.00
State Funds: \$0.00
Applicant: \$0.00
Local: \$0.00
Other: \$0.00
Program Income: \$0.00
Total Funds: \$850,000.00

6. **Applicant:** LOST HILLS UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
 Address: 20951 Pavilion Way
 Lost Hills, CA 93249-0158
 Contact: Leticia Limon
 Telephone: (661) 797-3025 ext 126
 Email: lelimon@losthills.k12.ca.us

Federal Agency: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
Assistance Listing Number: 95.532
Funding Opportunity Number: SM-26-005
Title: Project AWARE (Advancing Wellness and Resiliency in Education)
Description: West Kern Consortium for Project AWARE

Federal Funds: \$1,500,000.00
State Funds: \$363,704.00
Applicant: \$0.00
Local: \$0.00
Other: \$0.00
Program Income: \$0.00
Total Funds: \$1,863,704.00

7. **Applicant:** KERN TULARE WATER DISTRICT
 Address: 5060 California Avenue, Suite 1020
 Bakersfield, CA 93309-0728
 Contact: Skye B. Grass
 Telephone: (661) 327-3132
 Email: skye@kern-tulare.com

Federal Agency: Bureau of Reclamation
Assistance Listing Number: 15.514
Funding Opportunity Number: R26AS00016
Title: WaterSMART Drought Response Program
Description: Guzman Reservoir Seepage Reduction and Storage Resiliency Project

Federal Funds: \$1,500,000.00
State Funds: \$0.00
Applicant: \$1,861,000.00
Local: \$0.00

Other: \$0.00
Program Income: \$0.00
Total Funds: \$3,361,000.00

8. **Applicant:** Casa Esperanza Transitional Home for Women
 Address: PO Box 13104
 Bakersfield, CA 93389
 Contact: Diane Contreras
 Telephone: (661) 742-1137
 Email: dcontreras@esperanzabakersfield.org

Federal Agency: Department of Housing and Urban Development
Assistance Listing Number: 14.267
Funding Opportunity Number: CPD-2600-DC-0025
Title: Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Competition
Description: Journeys of Hope - HUD

Federal Funds: \$ No Information Provided.
State Funds: \$ No Information Provided.
Applicant: \$ No Information Provided.
Local: \$ No Information Provided.
Other: \$ No Information Provided.
Program Income: \$ No Information Provided.
Total Funds: \$ No Information Provided.

9. **Applicant:** VINELAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT
 Address: 14713 Weedpatch Hwy
 Bakersfield, CA 93307-9653
 Contact: Anthony Beckman
 Telephone: (661) 845-3713
 Email: anbeckman@vinelandsd.org

Federal Agency: Community Oriented Policing Services
Assistance Listing Number: 16.071
Funding Opportunity Number: O-COPS-2026-172540
Title: FY26 COPS School Violence Prevention Program
Description: Vineland SD School Safety Project

Federal Funds: \$500,000.00
State Funds: \$0.00
Applicant: \$167,000.00
Local: \$0.00
Other: \$0.00
Program Income: \$0.00
Total Funds: \$667,000.00

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

- IV. **CONGESTION MANAGEMENT AGENCY: (None)**
- V. **KERN MOTORIST AID AUTHORITY: (None)**
- VI. **MEETING REPORTS: (None)**

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

A. Timeline

VIII. MEMBER STATEMENTS: On their own initiative, Council members may make a brief announcement or brief report on their own activities. In addition, Council members may ask a question of staff or the public for clarification on any matter, provide a reference to staff or other resources for factual information, or request staff to report back to the Council at a later meeting concerning any matter. Furthermore, the Council, or any member thereof, may take action to direct staff to place a matter of business on a future agenda.

IX. CLOSED SESSION:

A. Employment (Government Code § 54957): Regional Planner

B. Public Employee Performance Evaluation (Government Code § 54957): Executive Director

X. ADJOURNMENT: NEXT MEETING – The next scheduled meeting will be September 17, 2026.

KERN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Minutes of the Meeting of June 18, 2026

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

THURSDAY
JUNE 18, 2026
6:30 P.M.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Smith at 7:33 p.m.

I. ROLL CALL:

Members Present: B. Smith, P. Smith, C. Parlier, D. Couch, M. Hawkins, C. Prout, S. Gorman, B. Osorio, G. Reyna

Congestion Management Agency Ex-Officio Members: M. Warney, C. Parra, A. Williams, P. Vallejo

Members Absent: O. Calderon, C. Morse, S. Ayon, D. Noerr, P. Espinoza

Others: Braden Duran (D9), Ben Downard (D6), Jessica Kirchner, Gordon Danke, Lynette Guzman, Christine Viterelli

Staff: R. Invina-Jayasiri, C. Valle, R. Ball, B. Raymond, R. Pacheco, I. Enriquez, S. Brar, K. Rivera (KC Counsel), J. Schlosser, S. Sanchez (online), M. Heimer, K. Davisson, M. Saberon Ybarra, F. Montalvo (online), A. Banuelos (online)

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None.

- III. CONSENT AGENDA/OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:** All items on the consent agenda are considered to be routine and non-controversial by Kern COG staff and will be approved by one motion if no member of the Council or public wishes to comment or ask questions. If comment or discussion is desired by anyone, the item will be removed from the consent agenda and will be considered in the listed sequence with an opportunity for any member of the public to address the Council concerning the item before action is taken. **ROLL CALL VOTE.**

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: May 21, 2026. ROLL CALL VOTE.

B. CONCURRENCE IN ACTIONS OF TPPC

C. LOCAL CLEARINGHOUSE:

The State Clearinghouse (SCH) notifies state and local elected officials and agencies and the public of the grant applications through the Submissions page of the Office of Planning and Research Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs website email and via email notifications to registered users of the website. This notification process allows elected officials and agencies and the public the opportunity to review applications and the option to comment or collaborate on a particular application. Since the SCH does not receive a

complete copy of the federal assistance full proposal or budget, any person wishing to review a proposal further must contact the applicant directly for more information. Kern COG takes no position on any of the projects presented but provides the information for public consideration only.

1. **Applicant:** City of Delano
 Address: 1015 11th Avenue
 Delano, CA 93215-2262
 Contact: Brandon Rodriguez
 Telephone: (661) 720-2219
 Email: brodriguez@cityofdelano.org

Federal Agency: U.S. Department of Transportation
Funding Opportunity Number: DOT-SS4A-FY26-01
Title: USDOT FY26 Safe Streets And Roads For All Project
Description: Delano Comprehensive Safety Action Plan

Federal Funds: \$280,000.00
State Funds: \$0.00
Applicant: \$70,000
Other: \$0.00
Program Income: \$0.00
Total Funds: \$350,000.00

2. **Applicant:** CSUB Auxiliary for Sponsored Programs Administration
 Address: 9001 Stockdale Hwy.
 Bakersfield, CA 93311-1022
 Contact: Daphne Evans
 Telephone: (661) 654-2253
 Email: devans6@csub.edu

Federal Agency: Office of Elementary and Secondary Education
Assistance Listing Number: 84.423
Funding Opportunity Number: DOL-OESE-33914
Title: Supporting Effective Educator Development 84.423A
Description: ELEVATE-AI: Enhancing Leadership, Evaluation, Vision, and Training for AI

Federal Funds: \$1,207,912.00
State Funds: \$0.00
Applicant: \$419,291.00
Other: \$0.00
Program Income: \$0.00
Total Funds: \$1,627,203.00

3. **Applicant:** CSUB Auxiliary for Sponsored Programs Administration
 Address: 9001 Stockdale Hwy.
 Bakersfield, CA 93311-1022
 Contact: Daphne Evans
 Telephone: (661) 654-2253
 Email: devans6@csub.edu

Federal Agency: Office of Elementary and Secondary Education
Assistance Listing Number: 84.141

Funding Opportunity Number: DOL-OESE-34092
Title: High School Equivalency Program 81.141A
Description: CSU Bakersfield HEP Program 2026-31

Federal Funds: \$2,748,831.00
State Funds: \$0.00
Applicant: \$0.00
Other: \$0.00
Program Income: \$0.00
Total Funds: \$2,748,831.00

4. **Applicant:** CSUB Auxiliary for Sponsored Programs Administration
 Address: 9001 Stockdale Hwy.
 Bakersfield, CA 93311-1022
 Contact: Daphne Evans
 Telephone: (661) 654-2253
 Email: devans6@csub.edu

Federal Agency: Office of Elementary and Secondary Education
Assistance Listing Number: 84.149
Funding Opportunity Number: DOL-OESE-34111
Title: College Assistance Migrant Program 84.149A
Description: CSU Bakersfield CAMP Program 2026-31

Federal Funds: \$2,749,099.00
State Funds: \$0.00
Applicant: \$0.00
Other: \$0.00
Program Income: \$0.00
Total Funds: \$2,749,099.00

5. **Applicant:** Kern Council of Governments
 Address: 1401 19th Street
 Bakersfield, CA 93301-4400
 Contact: Irene Enriquez
 Telephone: (661) 635-2918
 Email: ienriquez@kerncog.org

Federal Agency: DOT – Federal Railroad Administration
Assistance Listing Number: 20.327
Funding Opportunity Number: FR-RCE-26-001
Title: FY 25-26 Railroad Crossing Elimination Grant Program
Description: Cherry Avenue, Kratzmeyer Road, and Renfro Road Grade Separations Project

Federal Funds: \$135,816,000.00
State Funds: \$0.00
Applicant: \$0.00
Local: \$26,154,000.00
Other: \$7,800,000.00
Program Income: \$0.00
Total Funds: \$169,770,000.00

6. **Applicant:** Semitropic Elementary School District

Address: 25300 Highway 46
Wasco, CA 93280-9540
Contact: Wendy Castenada-Leal
Telephone: (661) 758-6412
Email: wcastanedaleal@semitropicschool.org

Federal Agency: Office of Elementary and Secondary Education
Assistance Listing Number: 84.215
Funding Opportunity Number: DOL-OESE-33831
Title: Innovative Approaches to Literacy 84.215G
Description: Kern Rural Reading Partnership

Federal Funds: \$3,054,098.00
State Funds: \$6,282,090.00
Applicant: \$0.00
Local: \$0.00
Other: \$0.00
Program Income: \$0.00
Total Funds: \$9,336,188.00

7. **Applicant:** Kern County Superintendent of Schools
Address: 1300 17th Street
Bakersfield, CA 93301-4504
Contact: Robin Woodward
Telephone: (661) 636-4687
Email: rowoodward@kern.org

Federal Agency: Office of Elementary and Secondary Education
Assistance Listing Number: 84.374
Funding Opportunity Number: DOL-OESE-33844
Title: Teacher and School Leader Incentive Grants (formerly the Teacher Initiative Fund)
Description: California Rural Talent Systems Initiative

Federal Funds: \$6,368,018.85
State Funds: \$176,610.44
Applicant: \$2,458,170.56
Local: \$0.00
Other: \$549,228.43
Program Income: \$0.00
Total Funds: \$9,552,028.28

D. FINAL SALARY SCHEDULE IN KERN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027 FINANCIAL PLAN

Action: Receive and File.

E. MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN KERN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS, ACTING AS THE KERN MOTORIST AID AUTHORITY, AND THE CITY OF BAKERSFIELD FOR SAFTY- RELATED HAZARD AND OBSTRUCTION REMOVAL ON STATE HIGHWAYS

Action: Approve the Memorandum of Agreement between Kern Council of Governments, acting as Kern Motorist Aid Authority, and the City of Bakersfield; and authorize Chair to sign the Agreement. ROLL CALL VOTE

F. MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN KERN COUNCIL OF

GOVERNMENTS, ACTING AS THE KERN MOTORIST AID AUTHORITY, AND THE COUNTY OF KERN FOR SAFTY- RELATED HAZARD AND OBSTRUCTION REMOVAL ON STATE HIGHWAYS

Action: Approve the Memorandum of Agreement between Kern Council of Governments, acting as Kern Motorist Aid Authority, and the County of Kern; and authorize Chair to sign the Agreement. ROLL CALL VOTE

G. ACCESS FOR ALL PROGRAM: LOCAL ACCESS FUND ADMINISTRATOR

Action: Authorize Chair to sign Resolution No. 26-22. ROLL CALL VOTE.

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

NO PUBLIC COMMENTS WERE MADE NOR WAS THERE A MEMBER WISHING TO PULL ANY ITEM OFF OF CONSENT. MOTION BY DIRECTOR P. Smith TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS A THROUGH G, SECOND BY DIRECTOR M. Hawkins, MOTION CARRIED WITH A UNANIMOUS ROLL CALL VOTE.

IV. CONGESTION MANAGEMENT AGENCY: (None)

V. KERN MOTORIST AID AUTHORITY: (None)

VI. MEETING REPORTS: (None)

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Deputy Director R. Ball made the following comments on behalf of Executive Director J. Schlosser:

- Timeline
- Completed 11 Council/Board Visits to introduce RTP/EIR/SCS/FTIP/Conformity adoption. 2 Additional expected in June
- July 16 Board Meeting is DARK. August 20 Board Meeting is ACTIVE.
- Board Folder Items

VIII. MEMBER STATEMENTS: None.

IX. CLOSED SESSION: None.

X. ADJOURNMENT: Seeing no other comments, the meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m. – July will be dark. **NEXT MEETING – AUGUST 20, 2026.**

Respectfully submitted,

ATTEST:

Jay Schlosser, Executive Director

Bob Smith, Chairman

DATE: 08/20/2026

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Timeline

*Better Planning.
Better Transportation*

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The 2026 KERN COG TIMELINE is a list of actions and events that may appear on future agendas or are of general interest to Board Member

SEPTEMBER

- **Adoption** - Draft Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)/Environmental Document/Air Quality Conformity/Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP)
- San Joaquin Valley Voice Annual Trip, Washington D.C., September 13-17, 2026
- Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (AMPO) Conference, Sacramento, CA, September 15- 17, 2026
- Kern County Fair, Bakersfield, CA, September 23 – October 4, 2026

OCTOBER

- CommuteKERN Rideshare Week, October 5-9, 2026
- California Transportation Commission Meeting at Hanford, CA, October 15-16, 2026

DECEMBER

- California Transportation Commission Meeting at the Inland Empire, December 3-4, 2026