JOINT MEETING
TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ANNOTATED AGENDA

Date: **Friday, November 4, 2005**
Time: **10:00 a.m.**
Place: **COG Conference Room, 6th Floor, Suite 600**

I. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons wishing to address the TTC or PAC on items within its jurisdiction but not on this agenda. **Note: Prior to action by the TTC/PAC on any item on this agenda, the public may comment on that item. Unscheduled comments may be limited to 3 minutes.**

II. CONSENT ITEMS

All items on the consent agenda are considered to be routine and non-controversial by COG staff and will be approved by one motion if no member of the Committee 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 Committee concerning the item before action is taken.

A. TTC Executive Minutes of October 5, 2005
B. PAC Executive Minutes of October 21, 2005

C. Adjustment to Freeway Service Patrol Morning Schedule

Summary: The Freeway Service Patrol (FSP), currently in its thirteenth year of operation, is a public/private partnership program among Caltrans, the California Highway Patrol (CHP), the Fresno COG, and a local towing company. The State provides 80% of the program cost, with local funds comprising the remaining 20%. The FSP provides free assistance to morning and evening peak-hour commuters along high volume freeway segments within the Fresno Metropolitan Area. Where conditions permit, FSP tow truck operators provide a gallon of gasoline or diesel fuel, change a flat tire, provide a "jump" start, temporarily tape cooling system hoses and refill radiators, and similar quick fixes. If the disabled vehicle cannot be repaired within 10 minutes, it is towed to a CHP-identified drop location. By rapidly removing minor vehicle incidents from the freeway, the FSP is able to reduce congestion, secondary accidents, and vehicle emissions.

The Fresno COG has entered into a three-year contract with Curtis Towing to provide towing service for Fresno's FSP beginning July 1, 2005. Section VII-1.1.B of the contract states at any time during the contract's term, COG reserves the right to adjust beat specifications to better accommodate demand for the FSP service and that such adjustment shall take place through 30-day written communication only. The contract states the typical daily operation schedule is from 0630 to 0830 hours and from 1530 to 1800 hours, for a total of four and one-half (4 ½) hours per day per tow truck (beat).

The FSP partners recommend the morning schedule be adjusted to start one-half hour later at 0700 and end one-half hour later at 0900. No change is proposed to the afternoon schedule. The purpose of this recommended adjustment is to better target FSP service to peak traffic volumes, thereby achieving more fully the program objectives and improving the program's overall benefit/cost ratio.

This recommendation is based both on observation of freeway traffic volumes over time by CHP, Caltrans and Curtis Towing and on surveys conducted by Caltrans. For example, on northbound SR41 at Shields Avenue, traffic volumes, measured over a three-day period, averaged 1,885 between 0630 and 0700 and 2,419 between 0830 and 0900, an increase of 534 vehicles. Southbound, the increase was 209 vehicles. [THOMPSON]

Action: Approve staff recommendation to adjust the morning hours of FSP service from 0630/0830 to 0700/0900.

D. FFY 2005-06 Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Elderly and Disabled Transit Program Awards

Summary: On September 29, 2005, the California Transportation Commission (CTC) held a public hearing in Monterey, California to discuss program policy for the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Elderly and Disabled Transit Program (Title 49 U.S.C Section 5310). The Commission also adopted the Program of Projects for FFY 2005-06. Fresno County agencies and organizations were awarded a total of $969,000 in funding. The Fresno County Employment Opportunity Commission (EOC) received eight grants of $60,000 for a total of $480,000. Fresno Area Express (FAX) also received eight grants of $56,000 each for a total of $448,000 and WestCare, a 501(c) non-profit social services agency was awarded $41,000. [SOBRADO]

Action: Information item. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the committee.

E. The Dirty Dozen: Twelve Procedural Errors That Can Result in the Loss of Federal Transportation funds

Summary: Procedural errors by local agencies can result in project delay, and even loss of federal funds. Caltrans Division of Local Assistance assembled a list of twelve areas with the most common problems they have encountered on federal-aid projects. The areas identified include: Authorizations, Environmental, Consultant Selection, Right-of-Way, Construction Award, Non-Competitive Bidding, Disadvantaged Business Enterprises, Americans with Disabilities Act, Federal Highway Administration, Construction Oversight, Materials, and Maintenance. Please see the enclosure for a detailed overview of the types of errors associated with each of these identified areas.

Additional information is available at www.dot.ca.gov/hq/LocalPrograms/lam/lapm.htm .[DEVERE]

Action: Information item. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Committee.

F. San Joaquin Valley Regional Blueprint Update

Summary: The eight Valley COGs, along with the Great Valley Center, have successfully submitted a joint application to Caltrans to initiate a Blueprint process for our region. All of the COGs have passed resolutions to collaborate on this landmark process. The program will provide funding for the preparation of a Regional Blueprint and provides an exceptional opportunity to develop a vision for the future, one that will include growth principles and scenario planning tools for both the local and regional levels. While the Blueprint is intended to help California's regions plan for future growth and quality of life through the integration of transportation, housing, land use, economic development and environmental protection, it is not meant to supersede local jurisdictions' land use authority. Local agencies would determine how their jurisdiction would accommodate the regional vision. The total budget to cover the endeavor

is $10 million for the two year period. The Air District recently passed a resolution committing $500,000 towards the first year of the project. [STECK]

Action: Information item. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the committee.

G. Monthly Legislative Update

Summary: An enclosed summary of current state and federal legislative activity is in your agenda packet for committee review and information. The attached summary reflects legislation that is currently active and detailing various aspects of transportation.

Please contact staff person, Renee DeVere, if you have any questions regarding the listed bills or if you require a more in-depth analysis of any particular bill. [DEVERE]

Action: Information item. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the committee.

III. ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. "One Voice" – Approval of Project List

Summary: The "One Voice" selection Committee met on October 26th to review the thirteen projects that had been submitted for consideration. Fourteen people representing our member agencies and community organizations heard presentations from the project proponents and scored the projects according to the criteria provided. The top five projects for Tier 1 are:

1. Hwy 180 East and West Improvements (Segments A, B & E)
2. Golden State Corridor Economic Development Infrastructure
3. Friant Corridor Road Widening
4. Highway 269 Bridge Project
5. Westside Vocational Center

A listing of the thirteen projects submitted as well as the project scores and scoring form are enclosed for your information. Once we receive COG Policy Board approval we will forward the project list to our Washington D.C. lobbyist to begin arranging appointments. Projects that did not make the top five may be included on the Tier 2 list which will be included in the binders we present to our representatives in D.C. [STECK]

Action: Approve "One Voice" selection committee recommendation to accept the top five projects as the Tier 1 priority projects to be promoted during the 2006 "One Voice" trip in February.

B. Memorandum of Understanding Between the Workforce Investment Board and COG re: Board Meeting Room Furniture

Summary: Since COG is moving to the space previously occupied by the Workforce Investment Board who moved to Manchester Center, they agreed to leave the Boardroom furniture, at 2035 Tulare Street, Suite 201 in exchange for COG to provide boardroom access to the Workforce Board for their Board of Directors meetings. A draft Memorandum of Understanding has been included in the Agenda packet. The final version of the MOU will be available for the COG Board approval on October 27th and will explain the details of the resource sharing agreement and itemize the furniture and equipment that is being shared. [GOODWIN]

Action: Staff recommends approval of a Memorandum of Understanding between Fresno County Workforce Investment Board and the Council of Fresno County Governments.

C. Federal Fiscal Year 2005-2006 Obligation Plan

Summary: At the May 26, 2005 California Transportation Commission (CTC) meeting the Department of Transportation requested an allocation of $996,572,000 for fiscal year (FY) 2005-06 for local assistance projects. The CTC allocated $498,286,000 of the request and would consider allocating the remaining funds in the future when delivery warrants it. The CTC expressed concerns over the local agencies' timely use of the CTC allocation. Metropolitan Planning Agencies (MPO), Regional Transportation Planning Agencies, and Local Agencies were encouraged to deliver the Federal FY 2005-06 projects as early as possible to take advantage of available funding for transportation purposes.

To demonstrate that the Local Agencies are prepared to utilize the entire FY 2005-06 allocation, Caltrans is requesting that all MPOs submit a project delivery plan listing projects and federal funds to be obligated by quarter for FY 2005-06. Because the Obligational Authorization (OA) amount is not yet available from the Federal Highway Administration we will be using the current Federal Transportation Improvement Program/State Transportation Improvement Program level as the target delivery for 2005-06 when preparing the delivery plan. When Obligational Authoritization is released from FHWA, the delivery plan will be updated to reflect all necessary changes.

This preliminary obligation plan was developed to meet CTC requirements and reserve Obligational Authorization as it becomes available. Agency project delivery will not be restricted by the schedule as we can expedite projects that are programmed in the current year when they are ready to deliver.

COG staff will be meeting with local agency programming staff when Obligational Authorization is released to update the 2005-06 Obligation Plan and re-constrain the FTIP. [DEVERE]

Action: Information/ discussion item. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Committee.

D. Measure "C" Reauthorization

Summary: COG staff will provide a verbal update on Measure "C" Steering Committee activities. [BOREN]

Action: Information/discussion item. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Committee.

E. Measure "C" Relationship to Future State Transportation Improvement Program Funding

Summary: During discussions of Measure "C" the question of how future State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) funding will be handled became a topic. The discussion, raised by the Valley Taxpayers' Association and also by the City of Fresno, centers around the potential commitment of future STIP funding to the Measure C program, and how the funds might be "split" between the urban and rural needs. As the Regional Transportation Planning Agency for Fresno County, the Fresno COG is the agency which determines and requests its "county minimum" share of the STIP. The enabling legislation for Measure "C" also requires the Fresno COG to identify all state and federal funding which might be available to help deliver the Measure "C" program. This item should be discussed as we move ahead with developing the Measure "C" Expenditure Plan targeted for a November 2006 ballot consideration. [GOODWIN]

Action: Information/discussion item. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Committee.

F. State Lobbyist Status Report

Summary: At the October 27th meeting the Fresno COG Policy Board directed staff to invite two lobbying firms back for a second full interview before the Policy Board. COG staff will request and schedule additional presentations by California Consulting and Smith, Watts & Company. Although this is an informational item for TTC and PAC, it will be scheduled as an action item for the Policy Board. [GOODWIN]

Action: Information/discussion item. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Committee.

G. Creation of 180 East Committee

Summary: At the October 27th Fresno COG Policy Board meeting the members expressed a desire to form a committee or team to pursue the immediate delivery of 180 East (Clovis to Temperance). Staff anticipates Board members will select a Policy Board level team to concentrate on this effort, with support from COG staff and appropriate member agency staff as well. [GOODWIN]

Action: Information/discussion item. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Committee. This item will be an action item at the November 17th Policy Board meeting.

H. Caltrans Monthly Report

1. Report on Caltrans Collection of Impact Fees
2. GoCalifornia – The Transportation Mobility Initiative Regional Workshop

Summary: Caltrans staff will provide an update on Caltrans activities, provide a report on Caltrans collection of impact fees and a presentation on GoCalifornia. [CALTRANS]

Action: Information/discussion item. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Committee.

I. Westside Land Retirement – A Report from Federal Representatives

Summary: During the "One Voice" discussion at the Policy Board meeting the Mayor of Mendota (Joseph Riofrio) expressed his concern of our need to ask the federal government for the aid required to address the impacts of land retirement and what should be implemented to mitigate the land retirement effects. Other Board members also expressed their concern over the land retirement. Staff will invite our federal representatives to provide a report to the Policy Board at their November 17th meeting. [GOODWIN]

Action: Information/discussion item. Direction may be provided at the discretion of the Committee.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Items from Staff
B. Items from Members

Items listed as information still leave the option for guidance/direction actions by the Committee.