



Meeting Minutes
Thursday, April 7, 2016
Time: 10:00 a.m.

ITEM 1

Meeting Location:
Stanislaus Council of Governments
1111 "I" Street, Suite 308
Modesto CA, 95354

Directors Present	MPO
Andrew Chesley	San Joaquin Council of Governments
Ted Smalley	Tulare County Association of Governments
Tony Boren	Fresno Council of Governments
Ahron Hakimi (phone)	Kern Council of Governments
Patricia Taylor	Madera County Transportation Commission
Terri King	Kings County Association of Governments
Matt Fell for Marjie Kirn	Merced County Association of Governments
Rosa Park	Stanislaus Council of Governments

Please see Appendix A for a list of other attendees

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. February 4, 2016 Directors' Meeting

A. Chesley

There was a motion to approve the February 4, 2016 Directors' Committee Minutes.

First Motion: Ted Smalley
Second Motion: Tony Boren
No Nays
Motion Carried

San Joaquin
Council of
Governments
Andrew Chesley - Chair

Tulare County
Association of
Governments
Ted Smalley - Vice Chair

Fresno
Council of
Governments
Tony Boren

Kern
Council of
Governments
Ahron Hakimi

(209) 235-0600
(209) 235-0438 (Fax)



<http://sjvcogs.org>



Kings County
Association of
Governments
Terri King

Madera County
Transportation
Commission
Patricia Taylor

Merced County
Association of
Governments
Marjie Kirn

Stanislaus
Council of
Governments
Rosa Park

555 East Weber Ave.
Stockton, CA, 95202



DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

2. High Speed Rail Draft 2016 Business Plan

Discuss Impact of New Business Plan on the Northern Region of the SJV

Mr. Andrew Chesley, Chair, noted important topics the San Joaquin Valley has over the 2016 High Speed Rail Draft Business Plan. Mr. Chesley identified several matters in the plan concerning the absence of communication to MPO's, and interconnectedness issues emphasizing the connection to Merced, commuter express service, and the Capital Corridor; further discussion proceeded.

Mrs. Elisabeth Johnanson, staff member of the High Speed Rail Authority, spoke and summarized the 2016 High Speed Rail Draft Business Plan. Mrs. Johnson introduced three objectives with the business plan regarding accessing revenue service sooner, making strategic investments, and completing all environmental analysis by 2017. Mrs. Johnson noted reduction cost of \$2 billion and discussion followed pertaining to routes, connectivity, and miscommunication. Mr. Andrew Chesley passed out a draft letter to the High Speed Rail Authority addressing concerns in terms to the draft business plan.

There was a motion to have Andrew Chesley sign a letter on behalf of the eight agencies, and to call a special meeting of the Regional Policy Council to take up this issue and potentially act on a similar letter.

First Motion: Ted Smalley
Second Motion: Rosa Park
No Nays
Motion Carried

3. FAST Act

a. Presentation by Janice Williams, FHWA California Director of Finance

Mrs. Janice Williams, FHWA, presented a power point in regards to the (FAST) Act which provides five years of funding certainly for infrastructure planning and investment. Janice Williams highlighted the various apportioned programs and discussed changes to the NHPP, STP, TAP, CMAQ, and HSIP programs. The presentation displayed new programs and funding available to Freight, Federal Lands and Tribal, Research, Development, Technology, Education, Planning, Performance and Project Delivery. Mr. Andrew Chesley commented as to a timeframe of a new guidance on planning, further discussion ensued.

b. Discuss FASTLANE Freight Funding Proposals from the SJV

Mr. Andrew Chesley reported on the various projects in the valley and each MPO described their individual proposals. Mr. Chesley noted a shared interest from most of the counties of projects involving SR-99. Mr. Ted Smalley shared and discussed a letter sent from the United States Congress, concerning the FAST Act in which it calls out specific components and projects involving SR-99 widening in the San Joaquin Valley.

There was a motion in support of drafting a letter in the interest of Valley Wide Projects encompassing all SR-99 projects for FAST Act funding.

First Motion: Ted Smalley
Second Motion: Tony Boren
No Nays
Motion Carried

4. STIP Funding

T. Smalley

Discuss Impact of Reduced Funding for SJV Projects and Identify

Next Steps for taking Action as a Region

Mr. Ted Smalley, Vice Chair, introduced a letter for discussion intended for the State Governor and state officials which stemmed from a \$750 million budget cutback to the STIP. Mr. Smalley recommended for the Regional Policy Council to sign the letter and to review the table inserted in the letter that underlines valley projects that will be stopped in the middle of design because of the cutback. Mr. Smalley also requested the Partnership to write a similar letter voicing their concern with the budget cuts. Mr. Smalley requested a special meeting of the Policy Council for next week to discuss both the STIP issue and the high speed rail item. There was concurrence among the Directors to hold a special meeting.

5. Repurposing of Federal Earmarks

M. Garza

Discuss Programming of Funds from Previous Remaining Earmarks

Melissa Garza, Fresno COG, reported to the repurposing of the earmarks and noted that FHWA did release guidance, also stating old earmarks can be repurposed. Mrs. Garza advised that earmarks that are considered to be repurposed have to be within a 50-mile radius from the original earmark. Mrs. Garza provided a list of the 2016 Earmark Repurposing Workgroup, and passed out an agenda draft. Comments were made and discussions ensued.

6. RTP/Sustainable Communities Strategies/Air Quality

Staff

Update and Discussion

Ryan Niblock, San Joaquin COG, provided a handout of a new updated air quality planning schedule and reported changes to the lockdown as the revised schedule has the end of the lockdown for San Joaquin in mid September but all other MPO's remain the same. In addition, all off cycle amendments must be approved before the effective date of the PM2.5 Plan in July 2016. In reference to SB 375 target setting, ARB encourages submitting a target recommendation by the end of April, although May would still be acceptable. Further comments and discussion continued. As noted both of these changes will likely require modifications in the planning schedule.

7. Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Program

M. Lin

Update and Discussion of Round Two Submittals and Technical Assistance

Melody Lin, San Joaquin COG, gave an update of the round two submittals, there were 22 projects submitted all totaling \$190 million. Mrs. Lin noted a change to the transit oriented development definition, making most if not all of the projects ineligible for funding. In regards to technical assistance, Mrs. Lin reported all applicant's who missed funding the first time have applied again. Additionally, Mrs. Lin passed out a capacity building workshops flyer to gear up for next years funding cycle.

8. San Joaquin Valley Overall Work Program Fiscal Year 2016-2017

M. Sigala

a. Draft and Consider Approving Draft OWP

Mr. Michael Sigala, Valley Wide Coordinator, plans to bring the OWP back for final draft approval in May. Mr. Sigala noted a number of items in consideration of the budget, the included items are Valley Voice estimated at \$25k, and Annual Fall Policy Conference Consultant estimated at \$30k a year. There were a few financial concerns from the MPO's in relation to conference coordinator, further discussion ensued.

b. Discuss and Consider Approving Valleywide Coordinator 2016-2017 Contract

Mr. Sigala requested a contract extension, as detailed in a April 1 letter to the Directors, which includes an additional \$5k funding for upkeep of the SJVCOG website.

First Motion: Andrew Chesley
Second Motion: Tony Boren
No Nays
Motion Carried

9. Valley Legislative Affairs Committee

R. Phipps

Mr. Robert Phipps, Kern COG, discussed the Valley Legislative Affairs Committee's trip to Sacramento, and applauded the positive outcomes in terms of the policy goals presented and keeping the issues on the forefront. Mr. Phipps informed the directors that thank you letters have went out to every party met at the event. Mr. Phipps also noted that he emailed everyone the most recent update of the legislative watch and encourages all to review. Discussion ensued over the planning for the D.C. trip in the fall. Directors commented that their elected officials benefit from the visit.

10. UC Davis ITS – Rural Transit Needs Caltrans Planning Grant

C. Rodier

Mrs. Caroline Rodier, UC Davis, discussed a SCS implementation project they have in partnership with the eight MPO's in the San Joaquin Valley. The project is funded by Caltrans Planning Grant of \$500k, \$100k in-kind matching grants from the COG's and two-year timeframe. The goals of the project are to develop new technology driven mobility services, and achieve Green House Gas and BMT targets. The main focus is shared access services (Uber/Lift/Zip Car, and some ridesharing). Mrs. Rodier reviewed the different phases of the project and noted Autumn Bernstein would be evaluating the projects' efforts.

11. Beacon Program – Institute for Local Government

J. Lave Johnston

Mrs. Julia Lave Johnston, ILG, spoke briefly about the Institute for Local Government concentrations and collaborations within the San Joaquin Valley. Mrs. Karalee Browne, ILG member discussed the framework surrounding the Beacon Program with reference to helping cities reduce energy, implementing climate action plan, and to better sustainability measures. Mrs. Browne noted only three member agencies in the San Joaquin Valley are currently participating out of 81 total and asked for everyone's support in the program.

12. Administrative

M. Sigala

Review Draft Marketing Materials for Directors' Committee/Valleywide Planning Efforts

Mr. Michael Sigala reviewed the SJVCOG website as it is up and going and discussed marketing materials in terms of business cards.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

13. Caltrans Directors' Report

S. Ehlert / D. Agar

Caltrans Staff handed out a flyer pertaining to the California Bike and Ped Plan announcing regional forums to be held across the state.

14. San Joaquin JPA for Passenger Rail

D. Leavitt

Mr. Dan Leavitt gave an update to passenger rail upon the first daily round trip rail between San Joaquin Valley to Oakland and is expected to be operating the first week of June. The next board meeting will be on held May 27, in Merced.

15. Proposition 84/Blueprint/Greenprint

R. Terry

Mr. Rob Terry covered Task 1 and 3 that the Strategic Growth Council approved the request to extend the time end date to April 1, 2017, which allows for some enhancements to the greenprint program and opens up time to utilize some of the remaining funds. Mr. Clark Thomson added there will be additional funds available for the demonstration projects.

16. California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley

J. Chilingarian

There are three flyers attached to the agenda for upcoming events.

17. Regional Energy Planning

M. Sigala

No update was reported

OTHER ITEMS

18. Directors Items

Tony Boren reported issues with the programing with CMAQ projects and discussions preceded. Terry King informed the directors of \$2 million of unused PL Funds available for a Valleywide project and it is a possibility it may be on the agenda next month. Andrew Chesley gave an update to the Northern Region meetings where discussion of the High Speed Rail Business Plan transpired and found support from SACOG regarding the high speed rail business plan.

19. Public Presentations for Items Not on Agenda

There were no public presentations

Meeting Adjourned at Approximately 1:15 P.M.

Next Directors' Meeting: Thursday, May 5, 2016 in Fresno

Appendix A – Meeting Attendees:

In Attendance:	
Individual(s)	Organization(s)
Ken Baxter	Caltrans D10
Robert Phipps (phone)	Kern Council of Governments
Ryan Niblock	SJCOG
Gail Miller	Caltrans D6
Ben Kimball	Tulare Council of Governments
Michael Sigala	San Joaquin Valley Coordinator
Dan Leavitt	SJIPA
Rob Terry (phone)	Fresno COG
Cecilia Crenshaw	FHWA
Janice Williams	FHWA
David R.	SJCOG
Anthony Zepeda	SACOG
Caroline Rodier	UC Davis
Melody Lin	SJCOG
Karalee Browne	ILG
Julia Lave Johnston	ILG
Stacie Dabbs	MCAG
Kim Anderson	SJCOG
Jeanette Fabela	StanCOG
Isael Ojeda	StanCOG
Darren Rose	HSR
Elizabeth Johnson	HSR
Claudia Cazares (phone)	Granville Homes
Melissa Garza (phone)	Fresno COG
Scott Carson (phone)	FHWA