



Meeting Minutes
Thursday, October 6, 2016
Time: 10:00 a.m.

ITEM 1

Meeting Location:
 Kern Council of Governments
 1401 19th Street, Suite 300
 Bakersfield, CA 93301

Directors	MPOs
Andrew Chesley	San Joaquin Council of Governments
Ted Smalley	Tulare County Association of Governments
Tony Boren	Fresno Council of Governments
Ahron Hakimi	Kern Council of Governments
Terri King	Kings County Association of Governments
Marjie Kirn	Merced County Association of Governments
Rosa Park	Stanislaus Council of Governments
Patricia Taylor	Madera County Transportation Commission

Please see Appendix A for a list of other attendees

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. September 1, 2016 Directors' Meeting

T. Smalley

There was a motion to approve the September 1, 2016 Directors Committee Minutes.

First Motion: Mr. Ahron Hakimi
 Second Motion: Mrs. Terri King
 No Nays
 Motion Carried

Tulare County
 Association of
 Governments
 Ted Smalley- Chair

Merced County
 Association of
 Governments
 Marjie Kirn - Vice Chair

Fresno
 Council of
 Governments
 Tony Boren

Kern
 Council of
 Governments
 Ahron Hakimi

(559) 623-0450
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Kings County
 Association of
 Governments
 Terri King

Madera County
 Transportation
 Commission
 Patricia Taylor

San Joaquin
 Council of
 Governments
 Andrew Chesley

Stanislaus
 Council of
 Governments
 Rosa Park

210 N. Church St. Suite B.
 Visalia, CA 93291

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DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

2. RTP/Sustainable Communities Strategies/Air Quality

R. Niblock

Update and Discussion

a. 2018 RTP Horizon Year Recommendation: 2042

A 6-year air quality planning schedule along with a write-up was developed and shared with the Air District and EPA. The schedule was well received by both agencies, with the caveat that many of the deadlines will move. Based on the schedule that was developed and circulated, it is clear that the Valley faces a large risk in the timing of potential future lockdowns. The required use of EMFAC2017, new budgets for the 2021 Ozone Plan (2015 standard), and new budgets for the 2021 PM2.5 Plan (serious plan for 2012 standard) each represent a high risk for a conformity failure, all with timing that could overlap with the 2022 RTP adoption schedule.

As noted last month, if a Valley MPO cannot demonstrate conformity for the 2022 RTP, they may continue delivering projects programmed during a 12-month conformity grace period, assuming the 2018 RTP includes a horizon year of at least 2042. This means that for a year, the MPO would be able to continue to deliver all projects (exempt & nonexempt) in its FTIP, without restrictions. If the conformity problem is not resolved within 12 months, then all eight MPOs would enter a conformity lapse. However, if the 2018 RTP does not include a horizon year of at least 2042, MPOs would not get a grace period, and would instantly have a conformity lapse. Non-exempt projects would not be able to start new phases.

Staff recommends that a horizon year of 2042 for the 2018 RTP best manages the risks involved.

b. 2018 RTP Draft Planning Schedule

A draft planning schedule specific to the 2018 RTP was circulated to Valley staff. At this point, everyone is on schedule, and the critical details to highlight include:

- Working on our RFPs for our EIR, with the hope of having our consultants selected early 2017
- Off-cycle amendment for the 2017 Ozone Plan

Mr. Ryan Niblock and Ms. Alexandra Marcucci will prepare a summary of all dates, timelines, and plans for Valley staff.

c. SB 375

Mr. Ryan Niblock and a subset of Valley modelers had a second “modeling call” with ARB to discuss Valley progress with VMIP2. Valley staff is still in the process of testing and refining VMIP2, and most of the Valley is within a few weeks of having validated models. The expectation is that in October we should each have a functioning model, capable of serving our target setting purposes in advance of our established “end of calendar year” date for target setting submissions. A third follow-up call with ARB will be held in late October.

Beyond that, there were some technical questions related to Auto Ops Cost methodology. It was relayed that the entire Valley is using the methodology established by SANDAG, which is now in common use by most MPOs in the state. This subject is also being addressed by the stress test group, which will be monitored in the following week.

As far as target setting is concerned, Mr. Ryan Niblock and Ms. Alexandra Marcucci are working on the Valleywide report components for the group, including Econ Recovery memo, Auto Ops memo, a memo outlining VMIP2 (and how it improves on VMIP1), and a memo outlining EMFAC 2014 (and how it creates different results from EMFAC 2011). ARB has also circulated a “Potential State-Level Strategies to Advance Sustainable, Equitable Communities and Reduce VMT” document to all MPO staff that reads as a recipe for target setting success.

3. Valley Legislative Affairs Committee

B. Kimball

a. Discuss Valley Voice D.C Follow Up

Mr. Andrew Chesley discussed recommendations from the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC) Program staff, which were very positive from a Valley perspective. Mr. Michael Sigala gave a reminder that the technical assistance team from the Valley with the Strategic Growth Council will be having a workshop on October 18th to continue discussing the program and to plan for next years round.

Mr. Ben Kimball discussed the survey results from Valley Voice D.C, which were positive overall, and highlighted suggested recommendations for improvements.

b. Revisit SR 99 as an Interstate Concept

Mr. Ted Smalley proposed developing an “information sheet” on benefits and other items, such as environmental exemptions. Further discussion regarding SR 99 as an interstate ensued and Caltrans was asked to provide all of the past information on this topic for further discussion at the next Directors’ meeting.

c. Valley Voice Sacramento 2017

Mr. Ben Kimball recommended beginning the planning efforts and penciling down topics to pursue for upcoming Valley Voice Sacramento in March. A few suggested topics include FAST Act Funding, CEQA, and support for federal air quality.

4. MPO Coordination and Planning Area Reform

T. Smalley

Discuss and Approve an Appropriate Population Threshold for San Joaquin Valley MPOs

MCAG is working on developing a comment letter to respond to requests for additional comments regarding the population threshold. Challenges related to a percentage basis population threshold were discussed.

5. UC Davis Rural Transit Alternatives Study

T. Boren

Discuss Local In-Kind Staffing Match Contribution

Mr. Tony Boren proposed an equal split on local in-kind staffing match contributions moving forward. Further discussion on concerns and how to approach changes after an agreement was already made when applying for the grant ensued. It was decided, that moving forward, MPOs would be more careful about the inkind contributions and look to apportion them equally versus by population.

- 6. California Transportation Funding**
Update and Discussion
Deferred to Directors Only Session.

T. Smalley

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- 7. Caltrans Directors' Report**

S. Ehlert/D. Agar

Ms. Sharri Ehlert reported that the Waiver of Sovereign Immunity is set to expire December 2016. Ms. Marjie Kirn noted that this is a critical issue and should be a Valley Voice or statewide legislative issue.

Mr. Ken Baxter announced that an interim guidance document is available to view on the website.

- 8. San Joaquin JPA for Passenger Rail**

D. Leavitt

No update was reported.

- 9. CA High Speed Rail Authority**

D. Gomez

Mr. Michael Sigala reported that there are continuing efforts to coordinate a date for a tour.

- 10. Goods Movement Planning**

M. Sigala

A stakeholder meeting was held at Fresno COG on October 4. Both studies are moving forward on time.

- 11. Rural Transit Alternatives Study/UC Davis**

M. Sigala

There is a TAC meeting scheduled for next week. Focus groups will be held in Fresno, Modesto, and Bakersfield in November.

- 12. Proposition 84/Blueprint/Greenprint**

R. Terry

An Advisory Committee Meeting was held on September 29th. Presentations were made on the greenprint demonstration projects. The project concludes on March 31st.

- 13. California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley**

J. Chilingirian

No update was reported

- 14. Regional Energy Planning**

M. Sigala

90% of funds for the project have been spent. Currently discussing spending options for remaining funds.

OTHER ITEMS

- 15. Director Items**

There were no director items.

- 16. Public Presentations for Items not on Agenda**

There were no public presentations.

Meeting Adjourned at Approximately 11:13 A.M

Next Directors' Meeting: Thursday, November 10, 2016 in Madera

Appendix A – Additional Meeting Attendees

In Attendance:	
Individual(s)	Organization(s)
Robert Phipps	Kern Council of Governments
Ryan Niblock	San Joaquin Council of Governments
Ben Kimball	Tulare County Association of Governments
Becky Napier	Kern Council of Governments
Michael Sigala	Valleywide Coordinator, Sigala Inc
Stacie Dabbs (ph)	Merced County Association of Governments
Sharri Ehlert (ph)	Caltrans D6
Ken Baxter (ph)	CalTrans D10
Gail Miller (ph)	Caltrans D6
Alexandra Marcucci (ph)	Sierra Research
Rob Terry (ph)	Fresno Council of Governments
Roberto Brady (ph)	Tulare County Association of Governments
Clark Thompson (ph)	Fresno Council of Governments