



## Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 1, 2020

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Meeting Location:

ZOOM CONFERENCE CALL MEETING

| Directors          | MPOs                                     |
|--------------------|--|
| Terri King (chair) | Kings County Association of Governments  |
| Ahron Hakimi       | Kern Council of Governments              |
| Patricia Taylor    | Madera County Transportation Commission  |
| Rosa Park          | Stanislaus Council of Governments        |
| Tony Boren         | Fresno Council of Governments            |
| Stacie Guzman      | Merced County Association of Governments |
| Ted Smalley        | Tulare County Association of Governments |
| Andrew Chesley     | San Joaquin Council of Governments       |

*Please see Appendix A for a list of other attendees*

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

#### 1. September 3, 2020 Directors' Meeting

T. King

There was a motion to approve the September 3, 2020 Directors' Committee Minutes.

First Motion: Stacie Guzman  
Second Motion: Ahron Hakimi  
 Motion Carried

Kings County  
 Association of  
 Governments  
 Terri King - Chair

Kern  
 Council of  
 Governments  
 Ahron Hakimi - Vice Chair

Tulare County  
 Association of  
 Governments  
 Ted Smalley

Madera County  
 Transportation  
 Commission  
 Patricia Taylor

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<http://sjvcogs.org>



Stanislaus  
 Council of  
 Governments  
 Rosa Park

Merced County  
 Association of  
 Governments  
 Stacie Guzman

San Joaquin  
 Council of  
 Governments  
 Andrew Chesley

Fresno  
 Council of  
 Governments  
 Tony Boren

2001 Howard Rd, Suite 201  
 Madera, CA 93637



## DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

### 2. MPO Activity During Coronavirus

T. King

Madam Chair Terri King guided discussions about coronavirus measures and activities among MPOs. Staff at KCAG are continuing to limit staff at the office until further guidance is provided. Stacie Guzman with MCAG reported that they are only allowing 4 of the 25 employees on site in their downtown office. Stacie noted that the office construction project has been completed and they are now open to the public.

### 3. RTP/Sustainable Communities Strategies/Air Quality

R. Niblock

Ryan Niblock gave an update to the 2018 RTP/SCS review and approvals and noted that executive reviews for SJ COG, StanCOG and TCAG are complete and CARB is arranging meetings to discuss the findings and recommendations. Reviews for Merced and Madera are ongoing. Ryan has had some discussions with CARB staff regarding the executive order released by Governor Newsom on how this will impact GHG targets and how VMT and GHG will work together. Andy Chesley and Rosa Park voiced their concerns on how long it is taking CARB to approve the 2018 SCS's. Ryan seems to suggest that this may be the last meeting for approval. Stacie Guzman applauded Ryan for his help navigating them through the process. Patricia Taylor noted that Madera submitted for final review and are waiting for comments from CARB. Andy Chesley briefly summarized discussion of SB 375 at the CalCOG meeting. Andy suggested crafting a set of principles around how to approach revisiting SB 375.

### 4. CTP, ITSP, EO N-19-19, Electric Vehicle Executive Order

S. Guzman

Madam Chair Terri King reported there have been various workshops and meetings regarding the California Transportation Plan. Andy Chesley reported that he is waiting for comments from staff to come in and they should be all be in by the end of this week. There are concerns with the CTP achievements and goals and how that negatively positions the Central Valley. Andy sent out a revised letter regarding EO N-19-19 and there were no other comments at this time. There was some discussion about the new executive order and how it may be challenging for this to move forward. Ahron Hakimi and Tony Born had some comments on how the new executive order affects the petroleum industry and the ag industry. Ryan noted that there is currently no plan to replace the gas tax with a different funding source because of this order, further discussion ensued. There was no additional update on the ITSP and the EO N-19-19.

### 5. California Transportation Funding

T. King

#### ***Program and Project Funding Updates:***

- ***Trade Corridor Enhancement Program (SJCOG & MCAG)***  
Andy Chesley reported recommendations are expected by the end of November and a decision by the commission in December.
- ***Solutions for Congested Corridors Program (Fresno COG)***  
There was no update provided at this time
- ***State Transportation Improvement Program***  
There was no update provided at this time

**6. I-5 Freight ZERO Pilot Study**

T. King

Miguel Jaller, Associate Professor at UC Davis, gave a power point presentation on the I-5 Freight Zero Emissions Route Operations (ZERO) Pilot Study. Miguel highlighted changes in freight patterns, assessing technologies for implementation, small scale implementation and the next steps. There were some comments on the locations of the rest stops. Ahron Hakimi noted of a joint meeting between CTC and ARB next month and suggested giving this presentation as an update of the program at the meeting. There was a consensus among the group to provide a shorter presentation at the meeting.

**7. Valley Voice DC 2020**

M. Sigala

Michael Sigala shared the meeting summary of the Valley Voice DC 2020 trip from Simon and Company to the group via ZOOM, however everyone should have received a copy. Michael asked for comments on how often they should meet, should thank you letter be sent from the Policy Council and if there were any suggestions for improvement. Stacie Guzman shared her experience of the meeting and felt overall the meetings went better than expected. The group seems to agree that the meetings were a success.

**8. Traffic and Other Impact Fees from New Construction of Local Schools**

A. Hakimi

Ahron Hakimi reported that he talked to a couple of legislators and there was no aspiration at the moment to move forward with this. There was a request to remove item this from future agendas.

**9. SJV REAP Committee for Housing**

R. Phipps

Robert Phipps reported that HCD has not released funds as of yet and they have not provided any updates as to when they will attempt to do so. Robert noted that will be reporting requirements associated with this program. Fresno COG will be in charge of producing those reports. Michael Sigala suggested putting together a guidance document on eligible uses of the funds and examples of different ways to distribute funds. Michael Sigala will write up draft guidance sheet and send to the group for review, further discussion ensued.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

**10. Caltrans Directors' Report**

D. Gomez/D. Agar

Dennis Agar, Interim District 10 Director, acknowledged Tulare and Stockton Counties for the receiving the BUILD grant awards. Dennis reported the Diamond interchange will be completed soon. Caltrans is currently reporting about 60 active COVID cases. The valley is still dealing with the ongoing homelessness issue, and it's been difficult with the new guidelines of addressing the homelessness encampments. There are efforts across the state to combat the excessive amounts of litter. There are continuing discussions with SB 743 VMT and how it would impact SR 99. Dennis asked the group if they would consider doing a summit on SR 99 corridor and what projects are being impacted by SB 743. Caltrans is working on two different corridor plans.

Michael Navarro, District 6, reiterated that District 10 and 6 is working on a corridor plan and suggested doing a summit as well. Andy Chesley had a comment about the SR 99 summit and had some concerns about the existing business plan throughout the SR 99. Dennis Agar noted that they are aware of the business plan and are working to utilize the existing document.

**11. California High Speed Rail**

G. Fernandez

There was no update provided at this time

**12. San Joaquin JPA for Passenger Rail**

D. Leavitt

Rene Gutierrez announced the reopening of all remaining passenger rail for the San Joaquin's and the Bay Area on October 5<sup>th</sup>. In addition, Ace Rail will start in person ticket sales in Stockton, Livermore, Pleasanton, Fremont and Great America. The Railroad Commission board meeting is tomorrow and the final Sacramento extension (EIR) will be up for approval and they expect to release the draft EIR for the Madera station relocation. The next JPA board meeting is November 20<sup>th</sup>.

**13. Valley GO (MioCar) and Valley Flex (Vamos & VoGo)**

M. Sigala

Michael Sigala reported MioCar is activated now at all eight sites and 16 of the 27 vehicles are operational. Last week members logged 227 hours. Vamos Easy Hub payment option is being integrated and is in Beta testing. VoGo has only five volunteers providing essential medical trips at the moment. They hope to find out in two weeks the status of the STEP application. They continue to work with ARB as they resubmitted for expansion funding for MioCar for the next year.

**14. California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley**

E. Gonzalez

Shelby Gonzales reported they successfully had the second partnership meeting via ZOOM and the main topics on the agenda were update to COVID, health and water. The next board meeting is on December 11<sup>th</sup> and the topic points for discussion will be housing and distance learning.

**OTHER ITEMS**

**15. Director Items**

Terri King noted that KCAG will have their reconciliation letter approved and signed. KCAG will have funds available for the proposed study to determine the implications on employment and income for rural and exurban regions and historically disadvantaged populations from strategies that seek to reduce vehicle miles of travel. Andy Chesley suggested developing and defining a scope of work associated with the study this next month and finalize in the November meeting. Andy proposed SJ COG as lead agency for this study. Fresno COG and Stan COG both offered to help in any way possible. KCAG anticipates having \$250k available for this study.

There were some discussions regarding CalVans. Stacie Guzman and Rosa Park recommended having another meeting to discuss CalVans and its member agencies. Rosa suggested inviting Georgina Cardenas, CalVans Executive Director, to next month's meeting during closed session.

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

Michael shared a Climate Adaptation workshop flyer by email to group to share with other city staff.

**Meeting Adjourned at Approximately 12:00 P.M.**

Appendix A – Additional Meeting Participants

| <b>In Attendance:</b> |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| <b>Individual(s)</b>  | <b>Organization(s)</b>                   |
| Ben Kimball           | Tulare County Association of Governments |
| Michael Sigala        | Valleywide Coordinator, Sigala Inc       |
| Ryan Niblock          | San Joaquin Council of Governments       |
| Rene Gutierrez        | San Joaquin JPA                          |
| Michael Navarro       | Caltrans District 6                      |
| Matt Fell             | Merced County Association of Governments |
| Kristine Kai          | Fresno Council of Governments            |
| Jeff Findley          | Madera County Transportation Commission  |
| Diana Gomez           | Caltrans District 6                      |
| Bill Higgins          | California Council of Governments        |
| Robert Phipps         | Fresno Council of Governments            |
| Rob Ball              | Kern Council of Governments              |
| Dylan Stone           | Madera County Transportation Commission  |
| Trai Herr             | Fresno Council of Governments            |
| Tom Dumas             | Caltrans District 10                     |
| Elisabeth Hahn        | Stanislaus Council of Governments        |
| Meg Prince            | Fresno Council of Governments            |
| Miguel Jaller         | UC Davis ITS                             |
| Brandon Duran         | Fresno Council of Governments            |
| Jennifer Solis        | Fresno Council of Governments            |
| Dennis Agar           | Caltrans District 10                     |
| Linda Urata           | Kern Council of Governments              |
| Nabeelah Abi-rached   | Caltrans District 10                     |
| Shelby Gonzales       | OCD                                      |
| Tom Jordan            | SJVAPCD                                  |