



## San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agencies' Directors' Committee

**Meeting Agenda**  
**Thursday, April 1, 2021**  
**Time: 10:00 a.m.**

**THIS IS A ZOOM CONFERENCE MEETING**

Meeting ID: 834 5248 4208

Passcode: 045965

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83452484208?pwd=NzVCVUxtYit1Vm1oSkVVNnVYVGJHZz09>

Phone only: 1 (669) 900 9128

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Enclosure

1. March 4, 2021 Directors' Meeting

Terri King



### DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

2. MPO Activity During Coronavirus

Terri King

3. Draft 2021 Interregional Transportation Strategic Plan (ITSP)



***Presentation and Update by Scott Sauer, Office Chief for  
Multimodal System Planning, Caltrans***

4. RTP/Sustainable Communities Strategies/Air Quality

Ryan Niblock

***Update and Discussion***

5. Remnant SR 99 Bond Savings

Ted Smalley

***Update and Discussion***

6. Federal Infrastructure Proposal (America Rescue Plan)

Terri King

***Review and Discuss (Plan released on Wed. March 31)***

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

(559) 266-6222  
(559) 314-6015 (Fax)



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Stanislaus  
Council of  
Governments  
Rosa Park

Merced County  
Association of  
Governments  
Stacie Guzman

San Joaquin  
Council of  
Governments  
Diane Nguyen

Fresno  
Council of  
Governments  
Tony Boren

339 W. D. St. Suite B  
Lemoore, CA 93245

- |   |                                 |                                     |
|---|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 7. California Transportation Funding<br><b>Program and Project Funding Updates:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Trade Corridor Enhancement Program (SJCOG &amp; MCAG)</li><li>▪ Solutions for Congested Corridors Program (Fresno COG)</li><li>▪ State Transportation Improvement Program</li></ul> | Terri King                      |                                     |
| 8. Pending California Legislation<br><b>Update and Discussion</b>   | Michael Sigala                  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. SJV REAP Committee for Housing<br><b>Receive Update</b>  | Robert Phipps<br>Michael Sigala |                                     |
| 10. FY 2021-22 Valleywide OWP<br><b>Update and Discussion</b>   | Michael Sigala                  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 11. I-5 Freight ZERO Pilot Study<br><b>Receive Update</b>   | Ahron Hakimi                    |                                     |

#### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

*The following items are for informational purposes and require no action or vote.*

- |   |                             |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 12. Caltrans Directors' Report                        | Diana Gomez/Dennis Agar     |
| 13. California High Speed Rail                        | Garth Fernandez/Toni Tinoco |
| 14. San Joaquin JPA for Passenger Rail                | Dan Leavitt                 |
| 15. Valley GO (MioCar) and Valley Flex (Vamos & VoGo) | Michael Sigala              |
| 16. California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley | Eduardo Gonzalez            |

#### **OTHER ITEMS**

17. Director Items
18. Public Presentations for Items Not on Agenda.  
*This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons wishing to address the Committee on items within its jurisdiction but NOT on this agenda. Unscheduled comments may be limited to three minutes. The public may comment on listed agenda items as they are considered.*

#### **ADJOURN MEETING**

**Directors Only Closed Session**

**Next Directors' Meeting: Thursday, May 6, 2021**

**Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Accommodations** The meeting room and restrooms are ADA accessible. Representatives or individuals with disabilities should contact the SJV Regional Planning Agencies at (559) 266-6222, at least three days in advance, to request auxiliary aids and/or translation services necessary to participate in the meeting. *At this time, all meetings will be conducted via Zoom until further notice.*



## Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 4, 2021

ITEM 1

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Meeting Location:

ZOOM CONFERENCE CALL MEETING

Directors	MPOs
Terri King	Kings County Association of Governments
Ahron Hakimi	Kern Council of Governments
Patricia Taylor	Madera County Transportation Commission
Isael Ojeda for 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
Steve Dial for Diane Nguyen	San Joaquin Council of Governments

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

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

#### 1. February 4, 2021 Directors' Meeting

Terri King

There was a motion to approve the February 4, 2021 Directors' Committee Minutes.

First Motion: Ted Smalley  
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  
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Lemoore, CA 93245

## DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

### 2. MPO Activity During Coronavirus

T. King

No updates provided at this time.

### 3. Draft Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure (CAPTI)

Darwin Moosavi, California State Transportation Agency, gave a power point presentation on CAPTI. Darwin briefly discussed actions that will help meet state climate goals, various approaches and framework. There are seven CAPTI strategy areas and thirty actions under these strategies. Darwin identified several actions of importance; 1) fast track new CAPTI-Aligned projects in early planning phases by adding them to the ITIP, 2) how to mainstream zero-emission infrastructure investments under TCEP, 3) re-focus Caltrans Corridor Planning Efforts to prioritize sustainable multimodal investments in key corridors of statewide and regional significance. The full draft plan will be released and start of public comment period will begin on March 10. There will be a public workshop this month, CTC-CARB-HCD joint meeting presentation in April, and final CAPTI will be released in June. Kate Gordon, Director of the Office of Planning and Research gave an introduction and underlined the importance of group planning and goals for bigger initiatives. Ted Smalley opened discussion and discussed the future of SR 99, innovation, micro transit and rail. Stacy Guzman echoed the same thoughts and concerns.

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

R. Niblock

Ryan Niblock reported CARB is leaning on approving the 2018 RTP/SCS for Merced. All eight Valley 2021 FTIP documents are finalized and submitted to Caltrans and passing conformity. No amendment will be approved that accompany the 2021 FITP. Tomorrow is the last day to submit a Caltrans approved amendment to FHWA for review. EMFAC 2017 is being utilized by other regions. There was a question about RTP coordination. Ryan will take the lead in the RTP Valleywide chapter.

### 5. California Transportation Funding

T. King

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

- ***Trade Corridor Enhancement Program (SJCOG & MCAg)***  
There was no update provided.
- ***Solutions for Congested Corridors Program (Fresno COG)***  
There was no update provided.
- ***State Transportation Improvement Program***

Terri King noted that they are waiting on fund estimates for local transportation. There has been great participation on Covid funding and distribution scenarios. There were questions regarding distribution of funding received and if there was any guidance. Other MPO's shared some things that they have done or considered in anticipation of receiving stimulus funds.

### 6. SJV REAP Committee for Housing

R. Phipps/M. Sigala

Robert Phipps noted that they had their kickoff meeting with Mintier Harnish and Raimi Associates for the comprehensive Valleywide Housing report. Jim Harnish from Mintier Harnish and Ron Whitmore from Raimi Associates gave an introduction and discussed their roles on the Valleywide housing report. The third application has been submitted and HCD responded with follow-up questions. There are discussions with HCD regarding \$8.7 million funding as a revolving fund format on a quarterly basis. Robert clarified that there is a requirement that \$2.3 million of the entire share from the initial application be set aside for direct or indirect allocations to the jurisdictions. There were some concerns with the timing of expenditures on a Valleywide and local levels for reporting purposes. Discussions ensued regarding types of expenditures. Michael Sigala briefly went over a two page report attached in the agenda packet which summarized available REAP funding, the Comprehensive Housing Report and a list of consultants for technical assistance. There was a request for approval of up to \$1.5 million in contracting authority for these various Valleywide activities.

There was a motion to approve the request as stated.

First Motion: Ahron Hakimi  
Second Motion: Ted Smalley  
Motion Carried

**7. Valley Voice Sacramento 2021**

M. Sigala

Michael Sigala briefly noted that the first set of meetings flowed very well and there was nothing else to report. Stacie Guzman anticipates a discussion around lobbyist and a closed session will be scheduled for April. Robert Phipps expressed his concern for SB 261 and the implication it has for everyone statewide. Fresno COG and CalCOG are in opposition of the bill. Robert recommended discussing this bill further at next month's meeting. Michael will provide a list of pending and will work with Bill Higgins and Robert Phipps. There was further discussion on SB 261 and others.

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

A. Hakimi

No update was provided at this time

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

**9. Caltrans Directors' Report**

D. Gomez/D. Agar

Michael Navarro, District 6 Planning Director, noted they are relocating in the next couple of weeks. The 2024 Strategic Plan was released yesterday with the six goals of supporting strategies; 1) safety first, 2) cultivate excellence, 3) enhance and connect the multimodal transportation network, 4) strengthen stewardship and drive efficiency, 5) lead climate action, and 6) advance equity and livability in all communities. The CTP 2050 was released this week. ATP staff recommendations came out February 8<sup>th</sup> and they anticipate them to be adopted at the next CTC meeting. Caltrans is holding a DBE statewide summit on March 30<sup>th</sup>. Dennis Agar, District 10 Director, noted that they are providing additional funding to focus on high litter areas and homelessness encampments.

**10. California High Speed Rail**

G. Fernandez

Garth Fernandez went over a few slides and gave a brief overview of the Business Plan. The plan is on a 30 day public review period and the final plan will be submitted on April 15<sup>th</sup>.

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

D. Leavitt

Rene Gutierrez noted the JPA released the 2021 Business Plan and its up for public comment. It will be presented at the next board meeting March 26. The social media outreach media is available on their platform.

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

M. Sigala

No update to report at this time

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

E. Gonzales

Shelby Gonzales noted the next board meeting is scheduled on March 12.

**OTHER ITEMS**

**14. Director Items**

Ted Smalley suggested inviting Darwin Moosavi, Egon Terplan and Kate Gordon back quarterly.

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

**Meeting Adjourned at Approximately 12:11 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
Tom Dumas	Caltrans District 10
Michael Sigala	Valleywide Coordinator, Sigala Inc
Ryan Niblock	San Joaquin Council of Governments
Michael Navarro	Caltrans District 6
Matt Fell	Merced County Association of Governments
Kristine Cai	Fresno Council of Governments
Jeff Findley	Madera County Transportation Commission
Dylan Stone	Madera County Transportation Commission
Bill Higgins	California Council of Governments
Robert Phipps	Fresno Council of Governments
Rob Ball	Kern Council of Governments
Dennis Agar	Caltrans District 10
Rene Gutierrez	San Joaquin JPA
Dan Leavitt	San Joaquin JPA
Nabeelah Abi-Rached	Caltrans
Meg Prince	Fresno Council of Governments
Tom Jordan	San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District
Isael Ojeda	Stanislaus Council of Governments
Roberto Brady	Tulare County Association of Governments
Shelby Gonzales	California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley
Marlon Regisford	Caltrans District 10
Branden Duran	Fresno Council of Governments
Becky Napier	Kern Council of Governments
Jennifer Solis	Fresno Council of Governments
Christine Corrales	San Joaquin Council of Governments
Steve Dial	San Joaquin Council of Governments
Linda Urata	Kern Council of Governments
Rick Rust	Mintier Harnish
Jim Harnish	Mintier Harnish
Ron Whitmore	Raimi Associates
Tony Dang	Caltrans HQ
Egon Terplan	Senior Advisor to Governor Newsom
Darwin Moosavi	California State Transportation Agency
Jean Ward Waller	Caltrans HQ
Toni Tinoco	High Speed Rail
Garth Fernandez	High Speed Rail
Kate Gordon	Director, OPR

# INTERREGIONAL PLAN

## Interregional Transportation Strategic Plan



### ***2021 Update***

Presented by Caltrans

April 1, 2021

# Background

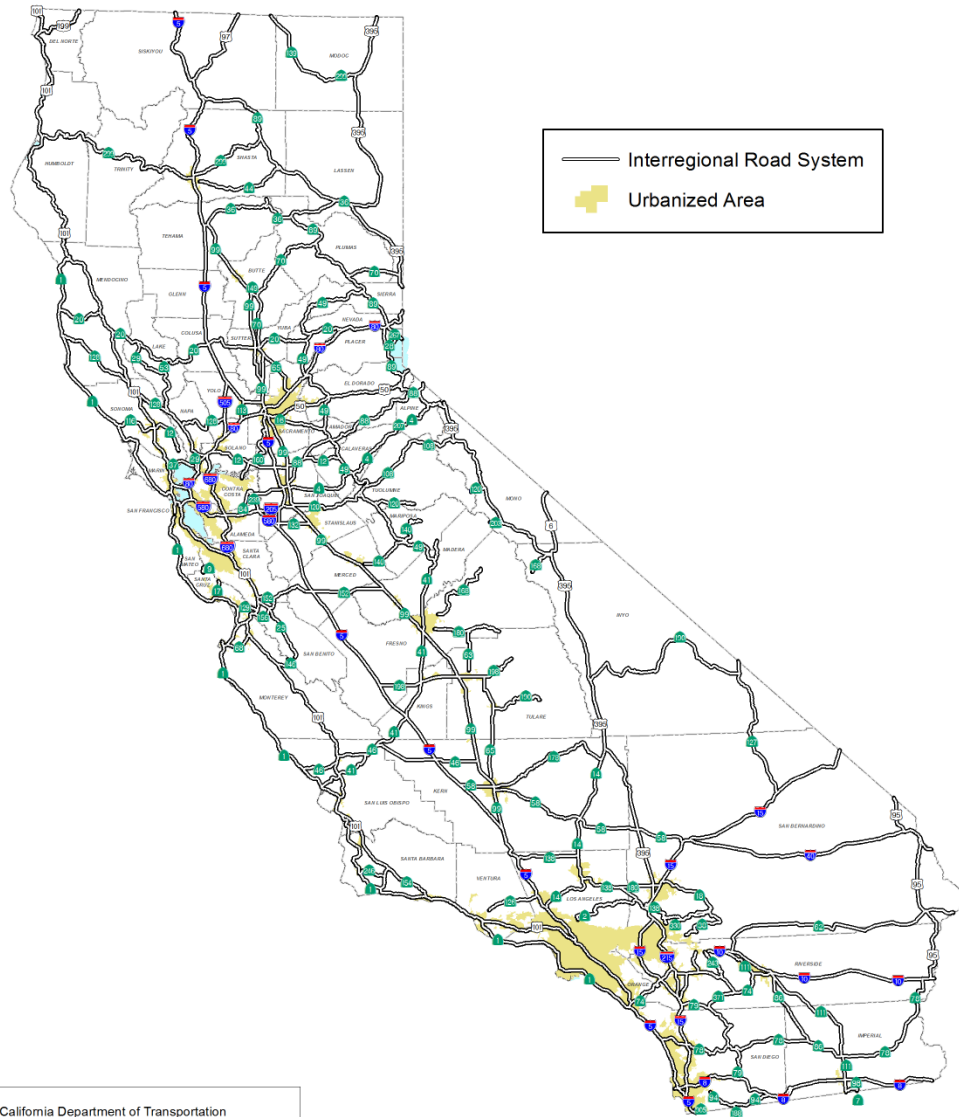


- ◆ 1998 – First Interregional Transportation Strategic Plan (ITSP) was developed
  - ◆ *Focused on improving the movement of people, vehicles, and goods*
  - ◆ *Provide guidance and prioritization to Interregional Transportation Improvement Program (ITIP) for Caltrans*
  
- ◆ 2015 – ITSP updated to be consistent with CTP 2040
  - ◆ *Identified 11 Strategic Interregional Corridors and Priority Interregional Facilities*
  - ◆ *Considered short, medium, and long-term interregional needs on the facilities identified in the 11 Corridors using ITIP and other potential program funds.*
  
- ◆ The ITSP will
  - ◆ *Provide a framework on how it will implement the CTP 2050 and align with Modal Plans, Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure (CAPTI)*
  - ◆ *Provide guidance and prioritization for project selection*



# Interregional Road System (IRRS)

(Streets and Highway Code, Section 164.10 - 164.20)



California Department of Transportation  
Division of Transportation Planning  
Office of Multi-Modal System Planning  
June 2015



0 10 20 40 60 80  
Miles



INTERREGIONAL PLAN

Interregional Transportation  
Strategic Plan

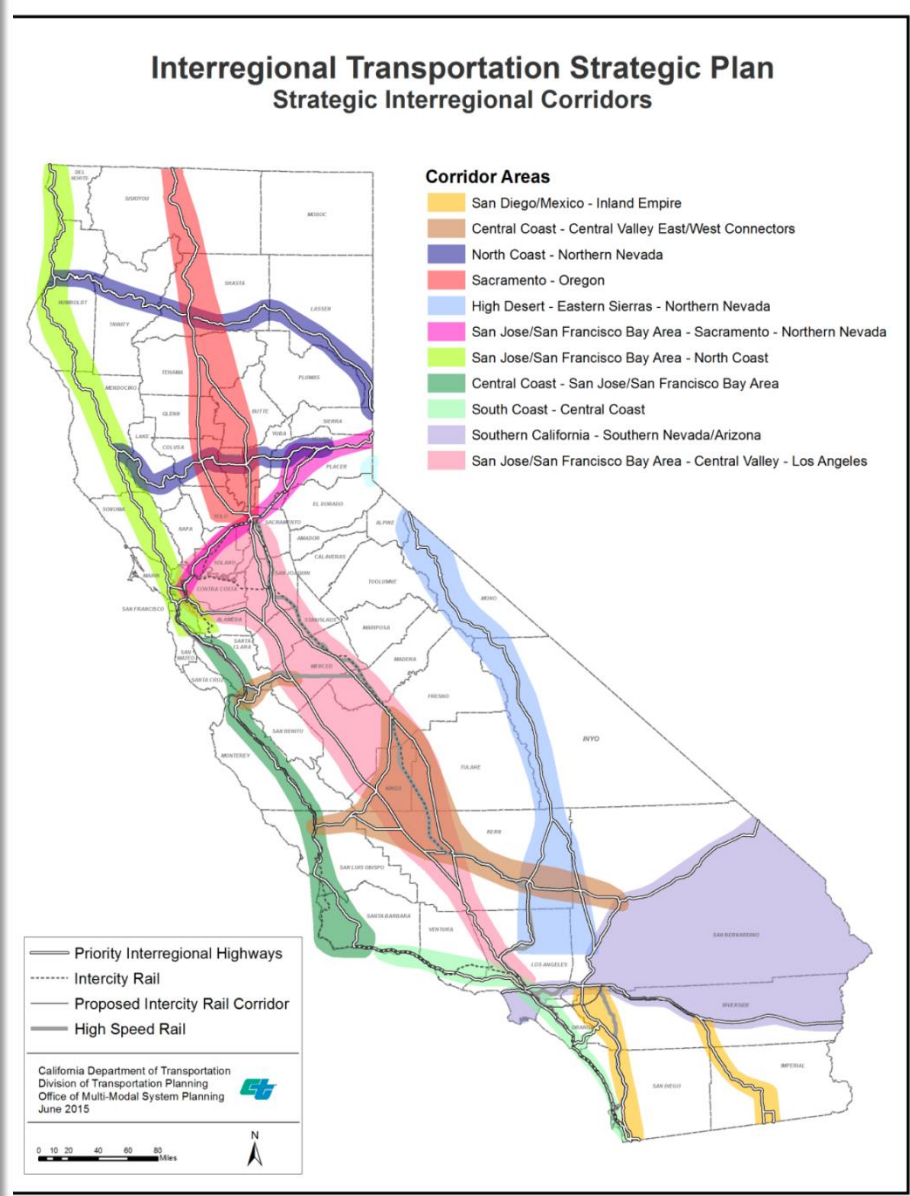
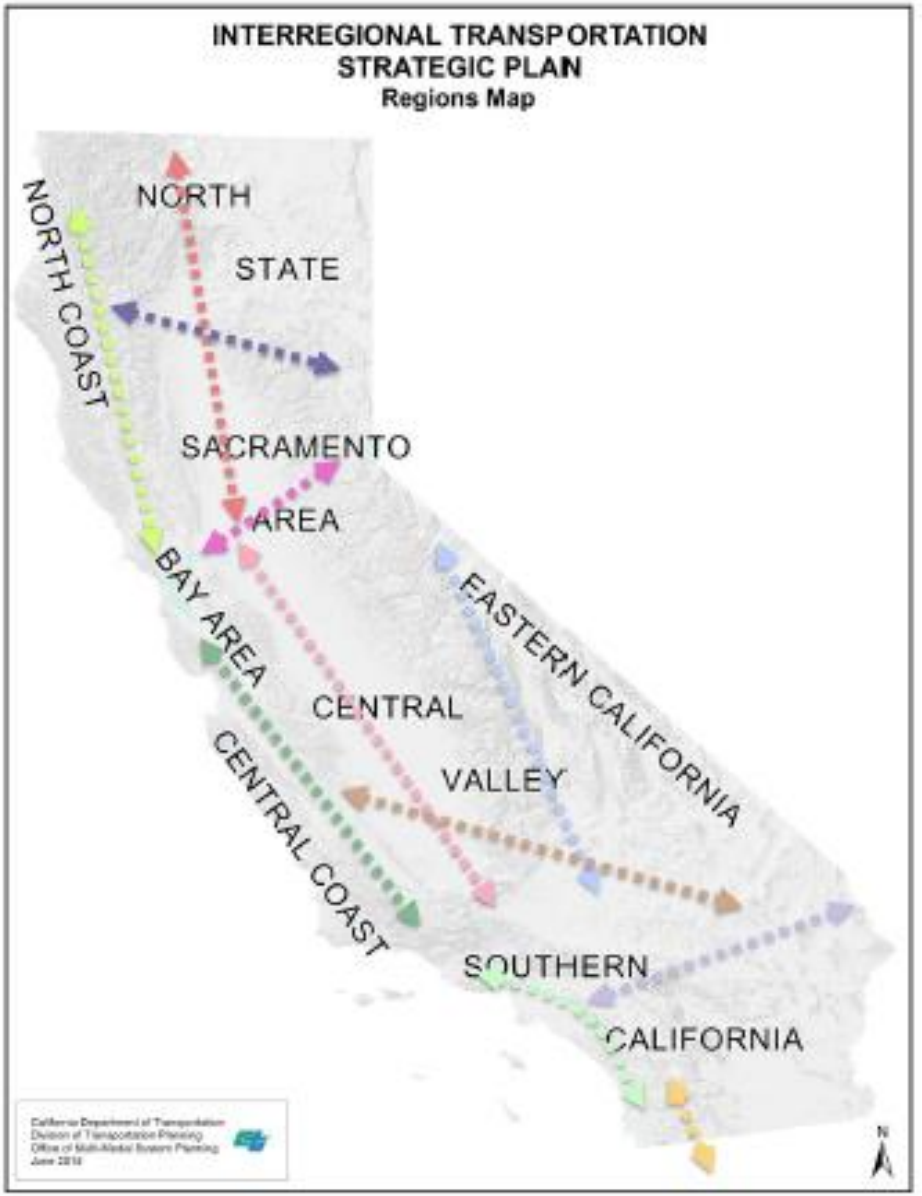


## Interregional Road System (IRRS)

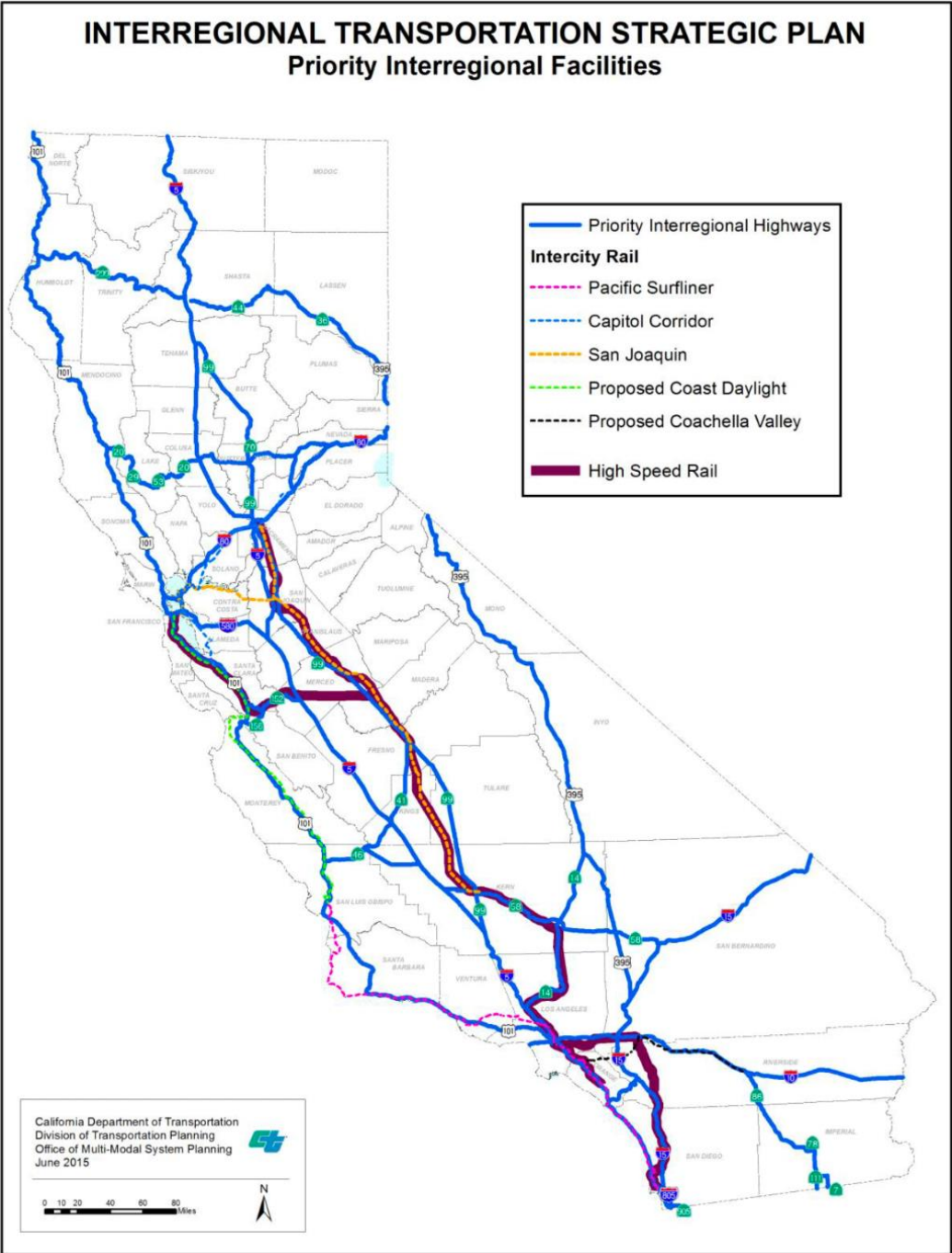
- 93 State Highways that are legislatively designated
- Must be on the IRRS to be eligible for ITIP Funding



California  
Regions and  
Strategic  
Interregional  
Corridors



Priority  
Interregional  
Facilities



# Implementation

## How the ITSP is Implemented

- ◆ Project Selection Criteria in State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Guidelines for ITIP
- ◆ Corridor Plan Guidance
- ◆ District System Planning Corridor Plans

## Funding Opportunities

- ◆ State Highway Operations and Protection Program (SHOPP)
- ◆ Solutions for Congested Corridors Program
- ◆ Trade Corridor Enhancement Program
- ◆ Local/Regional Funds (RTIP, Count Sales Tax)
- ◆ Federal Grants

## ◆ What is CAPTI

- ◆ A plan to meet California's Climate Goals
  - ◆ Executive Order N-19-19
    - Aligning funding priorities to meet State's Climate Scoping Plan (this is how it affects the ITSP since it does have influence over the ITIP)
  - ◆ Executive Order N-79-20
    - Zero-Emission Vehicles state goal, reinforces clean transportation options as outlined in N-19-19.
- ◆ CAPTI's Vision are the CTP 2050 Goals

# Additional Considerations

- ◆ Equity and Engagement
- ◆ COVID-19
  - ◆ *Access to goods, medical needs, and services (including transportation)*
- ◆ Multimodal Integration and Connectivity
- ◆ Broadband Infrastructure
- ◆ Zero-Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Needs
- ◆ Climate Change
  - ◆ *Wildfires, flooding, sea-level rise, land slides etc.*
  - ◆ *Caltrans Vulnerability Assessments and Adaptation Planning*



# Major Changes: CTP 2050 Goals

**INTERREGIONAL PLAN**  
Interregional Transportation  
Strategic Plan



## Safety

Provide a safe and secure transportation system

## Climate

Achieve statewide GHG emissions reduction targets and expand resilience to climate change

## Equity

Eliminate transportation burdens across all communities, particularly low-income communities, communities of color, and people with disabilities

## Accessibility

Improve multimodal mobility and access to destinations for all users

## Quality of Life & Public Health

Enable vibrant, healthy communities

## Economy

Support a vibrant, resilient economy

## Environment

Enhance environmental health and reduce negative transportation impacts

## Infrastructure

Maintain a high-quality, resilient transportation system

# Outreach and Engagement

## ◆ Outreach and Engagement

### ◆ *Public Outreach Summer*

- ◆ Virtual Format due to COVID-19
- ◆ Anticipate hosting four workshops

### ◆ *Additional Engagement*

- ◆ Caltrans will present updates on the ITSP at any regularly scheduled RCTF, NAAC, CalCOG and other meetings upon requests



# 2021 ITSP Schedule



# Website and Contact Information

Scott Sauer  
Office of Multimodal System Planning  
Caltrans  
scott.sauer@dot.ca.gov

Email: ITSP@dot.ca.gov  
Website: <https://www.caltrans-itsp2021.org/>



DATE: April 1, 2021

TO: San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agencies' Directors' Committee

FROM: Michael Sigala, Valleywide Coordinator

SUBJECT: Pending California Bills

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**AB 106 (Salas) Regions Rise Grant Program. (Support)**

This bill would establish the Regions Rise Grant Program within GO-Biz to support an inclusive, cross-jurisdictional, and innovative engagement processes that lead to inclusive strategies to address barriers and challenges confronting communities in creating economic prosperity for all. The bill would define "region" as a geographic area composed of one or more counties and cities that form a functional economy. Requires GO-Biz to develop and implement a process for the awarding of competitive grants to eligible applicants within the program. The bill would define an eligible applicant as a regional collective composed of a diverse set of public and private stakeholders who organize themselves around one or more community challenges or priorities impacting a region and meet certain requirements. The bill would require GO-Biz, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to issue grants to qualified regional collectives, as specified. California Forward is an active participant in this bill.

**SB 261 (Allen) Regional Transportation Plans: Sustainable Communities Strategies (Oppose)**

This bill makes five significant changes the development of the sustainable communities strategy (SCS) within the regional transportation plan. First, it extends the duration of the target setting from 2035 to 2050. Second, it adds a second target (VMT) that would also have to be achieved. Third, it adds a new target year, 2045, to be in line with the governor's "net zero" carbon objective. Fourth, it allows ARB greater discretion to comment and approve (or disapprove) of strategies within an SCS. Finally, it requires local governments to report certain metrics to the MPO as it relates to land use implementation strategies. Fresno COG is on record as opposing citing the bill as an "unnecessary intrusion into, and a usurping of local authority over transportation and land use planning and decision making." CalCOG and Fresno COG cite the Draft Mobile Source Strategy as points where CARB and the MPOs could work cooperatively to improve MPO/CARB relationships and help achieve state GHG and VMT reduction goals.

**AB 786 (Cervantes) California Transportation Commission: Executive Director (Oppose)**

Requires the CTC executive director to be appointed by the Governor, subject to confirmation by the Senate, and subject to removal at the discretion of the Governor.

**SB 542 (Limon) Zero-Emission Vehicles: Fees (Oppose)**

Eliminates the \$100 ZEV fee established by SB1. CalCOG opposes based on concern that such vehicles pay a fair share to maintain the system.

**SB 475 (Cortese) Transportation Planning: Sustainable Communities Strategies (spot two-year bill, likely oppose, need to monitor)**

Would require the State Air Resources Board, on or before June 30, 2023, and in coordination with the California Transportation Commission and the Department of Housing and Community Development, to issue new guidelines on sustainable communities strategies and require these guidelines to be updated thereafter at least every 4 years. The bill would delete the provisions related to the Regional Targets Advisory Committee and instead require the State Air Resources Board to appoint, on or before January 31, 2022, the State-Regional Collaborative for Climate, Equity, and Resilience, consisting of representatives of various entities. The bill would require the State-Regional Collaborative for Climate, Equity, and Resilience to develop a quantitative tool for metropolitan planning organizations to use to evaluate a transportation plan's consistency with long-range greenhouse gas emission reduction targets and recommend guidelines for metropolitan planning organizations to use when crafting long-range strategies that integrate state goals related to climate resilience and social equity.

**REQUESTED ACTION:**

Discuss and consider taking a position as appropriate.



## ITEM 9

DATE: April 1, 2021

TO: San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agencies' Directors' Committee

FROM: Michael Sigala, Valleywide Coordinator

SUBJECT: Valleywide Overall Work Program, FY 2021-22

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The purpose of this discussion item is to provide input for the Valleywide Overall Work Program (OWP) for Fiscal Year 2021-22.

For reference, the OWP from last year is attached to this memo.

During the month of April, the Valleywide Coordinator will work with MPO staff to further refine the activities and cost. The final Valleywide OWP for FY 2021-22 will be submitted for approval at the May 6, 2021 Directors' Meeting.

**REQUESTED ACTION:**

- 1) Discuss content and modifications to priority topics.
- 2) Discuss budget.



San Joaquin Valley

# REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCIES

Overall Work Program  
Fiscal Year 2020-21



Kern Council  
of Governments



StanCOG  
Stanislaus Council of Governments



## SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCIES POLICY COUNCIL

### MEMBERS AND STAFF, JUNE 2020

#### **Fresno Council of Governments (Fresno COG)**

Mayor Amarpreet Dhaliwal, City of San Joaquin

Mayor Pro-Tem Gary Yep, City of Kerman

[Alternate:]

**STAFF: Tony Boren, Executive Director – Fresno COG**

#### **Kern Council of Governments (Kern COG)**

Supervisor Zack Scrivner, Kern County

Councilmember Bob Smith, City of Bakersfield

[Alternate: Councilmember Cathy Prout, City of Shafter]

**STAFF: Ahron Hakimi, Executive Director – Kern COG**

#### **Kings County Association of Governments (KCAG)**

Supervisor Doug Verboon, Kings County

Councilmember Martin Devine, City of Hanford

[Alternate: Supervisor Joe Neves, Kings County]

**STAFF: Terri King, Executive Director – KCAG**

#### **Madera County Transportation Commission (MCTC)**

Supervisor Robert Poythress, County of Madera – **VICE CHAIR**

Supervisor Brett Frazier, County of Madera

[Alternate: Mayor Andrew Medellin, City of Madera]

**STAFF: Patricia Taylor, Executive Director – MCTC**

**Merced County Association of Governments (MCAG)**

Supervisor Daron McDaniel, County of Merced

Mayor Mike Villalta, City of Los Banos

[Alternate: Mayor Mike Murphy, City of Merced]

**STAFF: *Stacie Guzman, Executive Director – MCAG***

**San Joaquin Council of Governments (SJ COG)**

Supervisor Chuck Winn, County of San Joaquin – **CHAIR**

Vice-Mayor Dan Wright, City of Stockton

[Alternate: Councilmember Gary Singh, City of Manteca]

**STAFF: *Andy Chesley, Executive Director – SJ COG***

**Stanislaus Council of Governments (StanCOG)**

Supervisor Vito Chiesa, County of Stanislaus

Councilmember Bill Zoslocki, City of Modesto

[Alternate – Councilmember Jenny Kenoyer, City of Modesto]

**STAFF: *Rosa Park, Executive Director – StanCOG***

**Tulare County Association of Governments (TCAG)**

Mayor Rudy Mendoza, City of Woodlake

Supervisor Dennis Townsend, County of Tulare

[Alternate – Councilmember Linda Launer, City of Dinuba]

**STAFF: *Ted Smalley, Executive Director – TCAG***

**San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District, Samir Sheikh, Executive Director**



## INTRODUCTION

The San Joaquin Valley (SJV) covers over 27,000 square miles and encompasses the eight-county region of Kern, Kings, Tulare, Fresno, Madera, Merced, Stanislaus and San Joaquin counties. Since 1992, the San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agencies (Valley RPAs) have coordinated planning activities where interregional issues are involved, including air quality conformity, goods movement, funding for regional transportation projects, legislative advocacy, and Sustainable Communities Strategies.

Planning efforts of Valleywide importance are conducted among the eight RPAs through the San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agencies' Directors' Committee (Directors' Committee) and the San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agencies Policy Council (Regional Policy Council), a governing board including elected officials from each Valley RPA and the Executive Director of the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District.

The FY 2020-2021 Valleywide Overall Work Program is a summary document and details major coordinated activities that all eight regional planning agencies are actively engaged in. The Valleywide OWP does not replace the need or requirements of each RPA to conduct their own OWP, rather it is a planning and budgeting tool for shared Valleywide activities.

*{Note – the terms Regional Planning Agency (RPA), Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA), Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), and Council of Governments (COG) are used interchangeably in this document.}*

## CURRENT VALLEYWIDE MAJOR ACTIVITIES

### 1. MAJOR HIGHWAYS AND INTERSTATES

***Objective: To develop and foster regional coordination and prioritization for SR 99, I-5, and other regionally significant corridor improvements.***

Lead: Kern COG and MCAG

The Valley RPAs work in close consultation with Caltrans, and other stakeholders, to prioritize funding for SR 99, and other major highways and interstates. The 99 Business Plan helped the Valley achieve dedicated funding for SR 99 through Proposition 1B, the only transportation earmark in the bond placed before the voters. Caltrans Districts 6 and 10 have completed the necessary Corridor System Management Plans required by the State, updated the 99 Business Plan and Master Plan, and worked with the Valley RPAs on project selection and funding alternatives. The Directors, working in close

consultation with Caltrans District 6 and 10 staff, routinely meet and discuss Proposition 1B bond savings, SB1, BUILD, INFRA, and other funding strategies and opportunities to enhance and improve SR 99, I-5, and other critical corridors.

**Activities for FY 2020-2021:**

- Advocate to complete the system for SR 99, to a least six lanes of travel throughout the SJV.
- Prioritize significant regional projects in accordance with criteria developed by the Directors' Committee for coordinated, and consensus driven, advocacy for funding.
- Lead discussions with the Regional Policy Council, and others, about the importance of SB1 funding for all major Valley projects.
- Seek federal and state funding for major highway and interstate projects and coordinate pre-construction activities, when feasible, to ensure project readiness. The Trade Corridor Enhancement Program, and Solutions for Congested Corridors Program, are major SB1 funding sources to be targeted.
- Work in close consultation with Caltrans Districts 6 & 10 to identify the most congested highway segments for eligibility for Trade Corridor Enhancement Program, and Solutions for Congested Corridors Program (SB 1) funding. Continue to refine and prioritize regionally significant projects through a methodical mutually agreed upon evaluation process.
- Explore SHOPP funding for auxiliary lane, and other concepts, as projects are eligible. Develop a Master Strategy for the SHOPP. Kern COG to coordinate with Caltrans D6, and MCAG to coordinate with D10 on opportunities for additional programming.

**2. JOINT FUNDING STRATEGIES – STIP, IIP AND OTHER FUNDING**

***Objective: To develop and foster greater coordination across various funding programs to enhance and increase transportation funding to the Valley.***

Lead: TCAG and San Joaquin COG

The State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) is a multi-year capital improvement program to assist the State and local entities to plan and implement transportation improvements, and to utilize resources in a cost-effective manner. STIP funded improvements include state highways, local roads, public transit, intercity rail, pedestrian and bicycle facilities, grade separations, intermodal facilities, etc. Interregional Improvement Program (IIP) funds are programmed by Caltrans on a statewide priority basis, for use primarily on the State highway system (outside urbanized areas) and projects that generate economic development.

In 2015, the Valley RPAs formed the “Valley Swap Meet” working group, to reach consensus on a coordinated Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP).

**Activities for FY 2020-21:**

- Collaborate on 2020 STIP policy development and preparation of the RTIPs. This includes the goal of coordinating RIP/IIP priorities and developing consistent RTIP submittals which showcase valleywide priorities and transportation themes to the California Transportation Commission.
- Continue partnership efforts (through the Valley “Swap Meet”) to exchange information on federal funding programs such as the Regional Surface Transportation Program and the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program so no funds lapse in the Valley.
- Continue communication on emerging policy and process changes to the state Active Transportation Program.
- Brief directors on any key developments and issues related to various funding programs throughout the year including the Congested Corridor Program, Local Partnership Program, other SB 1 funding, BUILD, INFRA, etc.
- Monitor and report on any developments that impact the Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) process.
- Participate and provide input to the Interregional Transportation Strategic Plan (ITSP) to ensure appropriate state highways are included in the system.

### **3. SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY INTERREGIONAL GOODS MOVEMENT**

***Objective: To prioritize, coordinate and implement goods movement planning and capital projects to improve the Valley’s economic competitiveness.***

Lead: Fresno COG, TCAG and Kern COG

The San Joaquin Valley (SJV) has always been California’s geographic and agricultural production center generating more than \$35 billion every year in nuts, lettuce, tomatoes, wine, and other grains and agricultural products. It also plays a major role in the national and international distribution of processed foods and energy products, and has a burgeoning logistics and distribution industry. The region has relatively inexpensive land and low cost labor, good access to the national rail and interstate highway networks, connections to major deep-water ports in Oakland, Los Angeles, and Long Beach, and proximity to major consumer markets in Southern California and the San Francisco Bay Area.

Recognizing the importance of goods movement to the region, the eight San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agencies and Caltrans commissioned the San Joaquin Valley Interregional Goods Movement Plan completed in 2013. In FY 2014-15, the Valley RPAs were awarded two additional goods movement

related planning grants from Caltrans to continue to identify strategies and recommendations for improving freight movement in the Valley, the San Joaquin Valley I-5/SR 99 Goods Movement Corridor Plan and the San Joaquin Valley Goods Movement Sustainable Implementation Plan. Both studies were completed in 2017. In 2019, funding was identified for the I-5 Freight ZERO Pilot Study to ascertain the feasibility of utilizing cargo depots and driverless autonomous electric trucks on Interstate 5. Goods movement continues to be a priority for transportation related investments in the region.

#### **Activities for FY 2020-21:**

- Continue to coordinate project prioritization for INFRA, BUILD, SB1 and other goods movement federal and state funding.
- Continue to participate in the California Freight Advisory Committee. Policy Council Member Mayor Amarpreet Dhaliwal, City of San Joaquin, is the current representative from the Valley.
- Participate and provide input to California's Freight Mobility Plan.
- Continue to work with regional partners conducting logistics, economic development and other analysis related to goods movement.
- Advocate and support efforts to maintain short line rail corridors, inland ports and last-mile connectivity facilities.
- Continue to explore alternative fuels and technology strategies for meeting the California's Sustainable Freight mandates.
- Develop a strategy for "telling the story" of the importance of goods movements and related transportation investments in the Valley. Implement a Valleywide goods movement task force if necessary.

#### **4. AIR QUALITY TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AND COORDINATION**

***Objective: To continue successful coordination of Valleywide air quality planning minimizing potential impacts to project delivery.***

Lead: San Joaquin COG and StanCOG

Transportation conformity is required by the federal Clean Air Act and ensures that federal funding is given to transportation activities that are consistent with air quality goals. The Clean Air Act strengthened conformity requirements for transportation projects, necessitating a more enhanced level of technical analysis of plans, programs, and projects than in the past. Conformity determinations must be conducted at least every four years, or as amendments are made to plans or projects. The federal transportation conformity rule requires interagency consultation on issues that would affect the conformity analysis, such as the underlying assumptions and methodologies used to prepare the

analysis. Consultation is generally conducted through the San Joaquin Valley Interagency Coordinating Committee (IAC). The IAC has been established to provide a coordinated approach to Valley air quality, conformity and transportation modeling issues. Each of the eight Valley Regional Transportation Planning Agencies (RTPAs) and the Air Pollution Control District are represented. In addition, the Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration, the Environmental Protection Agency, the California Air Resources Board and Caltrans have members on the committee.

Coordination among the Valley RPAs, the Air District and other air quality and transportation agencies is proving to be a very effective process. The Valley RPA Directors have budgeted to continue joint funding for a valleywide Air Quality Coordinator, responsible to the Directors, to ensure that air quality conformity and related modeling within the Valley is accomplished on a consistent and timely basis.

#### **Activities for FY 2020-21:**

- Monitor state and federal guidance related to air quality transportation planning requirements.
- Conduct conformity determinations to ensure that the Regional Transportation Plan, Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP), and subsequent amendments conform to the State Implementation Plans (SIPs), as required by federal laws and regulations.
- Submit future-year travel forecasts to the SJVAPCD and the California Air Resources Board as requested.
- Continue to utilize the Interagency Coordinating Committee (IAC) for routine communication and coordination.
- Coordinate with California Air Resources Board staff related to future SCS review template.

## **5. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES STRATEGIES / REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANS**

***Objective: To develop and coordinate SB 375 compliant Sustainable Communities Strategies for the Valley***

Lead: Fresno COG and San Joaquin COG

California's Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection Act of 2008 (SB 375) requires each MPO to develop a Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) as part of their Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). A SCS outlines the plan for reducing per capita greenhouse gas emissions by integrating transportation and land use elements.

Under the Sustainable Communities Act, the California Air Resources Board (ARB) sets regional targets for GHG emissions reductions from passenger vehicle use. New targets will be applied to the 2022 RTP/SCS for the Valley MPOs. The Valley Regional Planning Agencies will be working independently, and

collectively, to meet these targets and have invested considerable resources towards technical staff, modeling, and scenario development.

In addition, the Valley's Regional Planning Agencies will continue to work with ARB to interpret the new protocols for the updated SCS review guidelines.

**Activities for FY 2020-21:**

- Continue to work with ARB staff on the 2018 RTP/SCS reviews.
- Assist ARB, and other state entities, with fulfilling SB 150 requirements on SB 375 progress reporting, and other guidance or policy documents as needed.
- Continue to implement transportation and land use strategies developed in the 2018 RTP/SCS.
- Start the 2022 RTP/SCS development process.
- Incorporate SB 743 requirements into the RTP/SCS.

**6. RELATIONSHIP DEVELOPMENT WITH EXTERNAL AGENICES AND ENTITIES**

***Objective: To develop and foster greater communication and coordination within Valley Regional Planning Agencies and with other related agencies and stakeholders.***

Lead: TCAG and StanCOG

To maintain ongoing communication and cooperation with other external agencies, the Valley RPAs have included a relationship development component to foster routine "two way" communication with our related state and federal transportation agencies.

Federal entities include the Department of Transportation (DOT), Federal Transit Administration (FTA), the Federal Rail Administration (FRA), the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). State entities include the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA), California Transportation Commission (CTC), Caltrans Districts 6 and 10, Caltrans Headquarters, California Association of Council of Governments (CalCOG), California Self Help Counties Coalition, Strategic Growth Council (SGC), High Speed Rail Authority, and the California Air Resources Board (ARB). Regional entities include the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District, the San Joaquin Valley JPA for Passenger Rail, Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), Sacramento Council of Governments (SACOG), and the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG). Other stakeholders include the California Trucking Association, agricultural associations, the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley, colleges and universities, environmental groups, and the public.

**Activities for FY 2020-2021:**

- Directors to coordinate and attend one-third of CTC meetings, and meet throughout the year with our CTC Commissioner representative.
- Directors to meet with at least two CTC Board Members they don't currently know.
- Directors to meet annually with CalSTA Director.
- CTC staff to be invited to Directors' Committee meeting once a year.
- RPA staff to be encouraged to take more leadership positions on Valleywide matters.
- Valley Directors to develop and maintain relationships with the Caltrans Director and Deputy for Planning.
- All Valley Directors should attend and speak at each CalCOG meeting.
- Valley Directors' Committee meetings should be moved, periodically, to a time of the month where Valley Directors can review and discuss the CalCOG meetings, to develop timely joint strategies on issues.
- Request MTC or SCAG staff come to a Valley Directors' Committee meeting.
- Valley Directors to meet annually with management of ARB, ARB Board members, and attend the joint CTC/ARB Board Meetings.
- Additional, and targeted outreach, shall be made to the Strategic Growth Council, SJV Air Pollution Control District, High Speed Rail, and the "Big Four" metropolitan planning organizations.

## **7. VALLEY VOICE ADVOCACY AND POLICY DEVELOPMENT**

***Objective: To engage in a unified process that allows the eight county region to discuss and comment on legislative affairs, and build consensus on issues of Valleywide importance.***

Lead: Valleywide Coordinator, Fresno COG

The Valleywide Coordinator, working in close consultation with the Directors and MPO staff, will develop policy positions for pending legislation, and track other legislation and regulatory matters. When legislative positions appear to have a consensus within the Valley, the Regional Policy Council will be encouraged to make a unified statement to inform the state and federal governments of the importance to the Valley. Working in close consultation with the Directors and government affairs personnel, the Coordinator will plan and coordinate the annual Valley Voice advocacy visits to Sacramento and Washington D.C.

### **Activities for FY 2020-21:**

- Plan and execute “Valley Voice” Washington D.C. visit for September 2020 (note: this activity may be conducted virtually this year due to the COVID 19 pandemic).
- Interview, and meet with, government affairs consultants, CalCOG, legislators, and others, to identify any measures to improve upon our Valley Voice visits.
- Track legislation, communication with legislative offices, letter campaigns and other activities to develop a unified, Valleywide position.
- Develop the Valleywide Legislative Platform (state and federal).
- Facilitate discussions around controversial topics such as water and high speed rail among Regional Policy Council members.
- Plan “Valley Voice” Sacramento visit for early 2021.

## **8. VALLEYWIDE MODEL IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

***Objective: To maintain a continuing, cooperative, and coordinated regional transportation modeling process which is responsive to local needs as well as state and federal requirements.***

Lead: Fresno COG

Fresno COG was the lead agency for the San Joaquin Valley Model Improvement Plan, which updated all eight San Joaquin Valley transportation demand models. These improvements were required to respond to the requirements Assembly Bill 32, the Global Solutions Warming Act of 2006, and Senate Bill 375, which requires the development of a Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) in Regional Transportation Plans (RTP).

Traffic model runs are made as necessary to support transportation planning, conformity analysis and greenhouse gas emissions analysis. The COG staff also runs the latest EMFAC emissions model for air quality in support of transportation conformity. This activity supports both highway planning activities and the air quality conformity process. Some MPO staff used the Envision Tomorrow visioning tool to help test various land use scenarios for SB 375 target setting and Sustainable Communities Strategies.

A related action includes the coordination of valleywide modeling analysis, and participation in the San Joaquin Valley model users group. These activities are critically important to an understanding of the role of the transportation sector in resolving serious air quality problems in the San Joaquin Valley Air Basin.

### **Activities for FY 2020-21:**

- Continue long-term model improvements.



- Participate in the testing of EMFAC adjustment factors and monitor other EMFAC update activities.
- Continue to research off-model GHG reduction quantification methodology for strategies that can't be modeled by traffic models.
- Continue development and improvement of advanced four step models, tour base models or activity based models in select counties.
- Improve coordination and participation of the Valley model users group.
- Coordinate with SJV Goods Movement planning efforts to develop a framework for a regional freight movement modeling tool.
- Provide VMT analysis assistance for SB 743 implementation.

## 9. OTHER VALLEYWIDE ACTIVITIES

- **Ecosystems of Shared Mobility Services in the San Joaquin Valley** was funded by ARB in 2017 and was implemented starting in 2018. The \$2.25M grant is for technology improvements, and BEV car sharing in rural areas of four Valley counties. This grant activity is a continuation of the SCS Implementation Alternatives for Meeting Transit Needs in the Rural San Joaquin Valley, a Caltrans planning grant administered by MCAG, and conducted by the UC Davis Institute for Transportation Studies. The current project is segmented into Valley Go in the south valley counties of Tulare and Kern for the MIOCAR car sharing program, strategically located at affordable housing communities. Valley Flex and VOGO in the north valley counties of Stanislaus and San Joaquin is implementing technology enhancements (software application) for coordinated interregional transit, as well as coordinated volunteer driver services.
- **Affordable Housing Planning Funds.** The Governors' budget proposal for FY 2019-20 included housing planning funds to the Valley MPOs through the Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) grant program. The Valley MPOs have organized and coordinated activities for this program starting in January 2020. A 24-member working group has been formed and an initial application for \$4.7 million has been submitted to the State of California. Considerable and additional work efforts utilizing this new funding source will commence in earnest in fiscal year 2020-21 thru December 2023, or later. Work efforts will include planning activities in support of the upcoming sixth cycle of the regional housing needs allocation (RHNA) and Housing Element processes, valleywide housing analysis and planning activities, and funding suballocations to local jurisdictions.
- **San Joaquin Valley Policy Conference.** The valleywide conference is held in the spring, at a different location each year, and is coordinated by the host agency. The 2020 conference was to be held in May 2020 at Bass Lake in Madera County. Due to the ongoing coronavirus

pandemic, it was postponed until May 2021. The 2021 conference will be hosted by the Madera County Transportation Commission. The conference is planned by the Valleywide Coordinator, and event coordinator subconsultant, who will work with the host agency for conference implementation. The California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley is also a contributor to the conference planning and manages the Blueprint Awards.

<b>Past Conferences</b>	Modesto (StanCOG), Fall 2010
	Bass Lake (MCTC), Fall 2011
	Lemoore (KCAG), Fall 2012
	Stockton (SJ COG), Fall 2013
	Visalia (TCAG), Fall 2014
	Tenaya (MCAG), Fall 2015
	Fresno (Fresno COG), Spring 2017
	Modesto (StanCOG), Spring 2018
	Lemoore (KCAG), Spring 2019
	Bass Lake (MCTC, Spring 2021)
<b>Future Conferences</b>	San Joaquin COG, 2022
	TCAG, 2023
	MCAG, 2024
	Fresno COG, 2025
	StanCOG, 2026
	KCAG - 2027
	Kern COG –may be available to host at some time.

- **San Joaquin JPA for Passenger Rail.** The work efforts for passenger rail are strongly supported by the Valley RPAs who support funding applications, policy, organizational development, and other activities of the SJ JPA, and ACE Rail.
- **Regional Policy Council Meetings and Directors' Committee Meetings.** The Valleywide Coordinator shall continue to schedule, develop agenda packets, conduct valleywide outreach, and perform web site maintenance for [www.sjvcogs.org](http://www.sjvcogs.org). In FY 2017-18, an Executive Committee and Water Policy Committee were created for the Regional Policy Council. The Regional Policy Council usually meets twice a year in person and holds two to three phone conference meetings in preparation for Valley Voice visits. The Chair of the Regional Policy Council is elected for a one year term in the first meeting of the fiscal year (usually in December or January).

**Directors' Chair**

**Rotation Schedule**

Kings County Association of Governments, 2020-21

Kern Council of Government, 2021-22

San Joaquin Council of Governments, 2022-23

Tulare County Association of Governments, 2023-24

Fresno Council of Governments, 2024-25

Merced County Association of Governments, 2025-26

Stanislaus Council of Governments, 2026-27

Madera County Transportation Commission, 2027-28

## FISCAL YEAR 2020-21 BUDGET

The budget for the Valleywide activities, identified in the OWP, is detailed below. Budget amounts by MPO represent the total direct cost for this activity by MPO. Budget amounts by activity are apportioned by population share for all items, except for Valley Voice advocacy visits, which are apportioned equally.

SJ COG is the fiscal agent for Air Quality Planning. In FY 2020-21, the Kings County Association of Governments will provide funding for the Air Quality Planning conducted by Trinity Consultants.

Fresno COG is the fiscal agent for Valley Voice, and the Valleywide Coordinator contract.

Fresno COG is also the fiscal agent for the San Joaquin Valley Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) program, an eight-county program for housing planning activities (page 11). In fiscal year 2020-21, \$4.7 million from the initial application to the state, and \$5.5 million from a subsequent application are expected. A 24-member working group established by California statute, the San Joaquin Valley Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) Committee, has budgetary authority over REAP funding.

Valleywide Activities			Air Quality Planning <sup>(2)</sup>	Valley Voice <sup>(3)</sup>	Valleywide Coordinator <sup>(4)</sup>	Total FY 2020-21
MPO Share By Population <sup>(1)</sup>						
Fresno	1,023,358	23.5%	\$11,769	\$3,125	\$31,778	\$46,672
Kern	917,553	21.1%	\$10,553	\$3,125	\$28,492	\$42,170
Kings	153,608	3.5%	\$1,767	\$3,125	\$4,770	\$9,662
Madera	158,147	3.6%	\$1,819	\$3,125	\$4,911	\$9,855
Merced	283,521	6.5%	\$3,261	\$3,125	\$8,804	\$15,190
San Joaquin	773,632	17.8%	\$8,897	\$3,125	\$24,023	\$36,045
Stanislaus	557,709	12.8%	\$6,414	\$3,125	\$17,318	\$26,857
Tulare	479,977	11.0%	\$5,520	\$3,125	\$14,904	\$23,550
<b>Total FY 2020-21</b>	<b>4,347,505</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>	<b>\$25,000</b>	<b>\$135,000</b>	<b>\$210,000</b>

(1) CA DOF, January 1, 2020 estimates

(2) SJ COG Staff (\$50,000). Kings County is separately providing funding for Trinity Consultants on behalf of the Valley (\$150,000).

(3) No PL Funds, cost for Valley Voice is apportioned equally (not by population). Amount may be lower if travel restrictions are in place due to the coronavirus.

(4) Sigala Inc, includes subcontract for administering the Annual Policy Conference.