



San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agencies Policy Council

Special Meeting Agenda

Friday, June 24, 2022

Time: 9:00 a.m.

ZOOM CONFERENCE MEETING

Meeting ID: 851 3837 5169

Password: 571219

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85138375169?pwd=a1pJZ0NuNnRLejZwQnJVVWdnSIFGUT09>

Phone only: (669) 900-9128

Enclosure

A. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Poythress

B. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS


1. Motion to Adopt Resolution 062422 Making the Required AB 361 Findings for the Continuation of Teleconference Meetings for the Period June 24, 2022 – July 23, 2022.


Chair Poythress





C. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Poythress

 (559) 266-6222

 (559) 314-6015

 1401 19th Street, Suite 300
Bakersfield, CA 93301

 <http://sjvcogs.org/>

Chair
Supervisor Robert Poythress
Madera County

Vice-Chair
Mayor Rudy Mendoza
City of Woodlake

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SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCIES POLICY COUNCIL
RESOLUTION 062422

RESOLUTION OF THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCIES POLICY COUNCIL
MAKING THE REQUIRED AB 361 FINDINGS FOR THE CONTINUATION OF
TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS
FOR THE PERIOD JUNE 24, 2022 – JULY 23, 2022

WHEREAS, all meetings of the San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agencies Policy Council (Policy Council) are open and public as required by the Ralph M. Brown Act (Government Code §§ 54950 – 54963)(Brown Act) so members of the public may observe, attend, and participate as the Policy Council conduct their business; and

WHEREAS, section 54953(e) of the Brown Act, as amended by AB 361, allows legislative bodies to conduct meetings using teleconferencing without compliance with the provisions of Government Code section 54953(b)(3), subject to certain circumstances and the making of various findings; and

WHEREAS, in order to comply with AB 361, any of the following circumstances must exist: (a) there must be a proclaimed state of emergency, and state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing; (b) the legislative body has determined, by majority vote, that as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees; and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, the Governor issued a Proclamation of a State of Emergency in response to the outbreak of COVID-19 and the state of emergency remains in effect; and

WHEREAS, Cal/OSHA adopted emergency regulations, including section 3205, identifying physical distancing, face coverings, increased ventilation and respiratory protection decrease the spread of COVID-19 but are most effective when used in combination; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), recommends that all individuals, regardless of vaccination status, wear face coverings in indoor public settings; and

WHEREAS, the California Department of Public Health requires that all individuals, regardless of vaccination status, wear face coverings in indoor settings; and

WHEREAS, the CDC has identified the BA.2 variant as the dominant strain of COVID-19 in the country, is more infectious and more transmissible when compared with other COVID-19 variants, may cause more severe illness, and fully vaccinated individuals can spread the virus to others resulting in an alarming increase in the rates of COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations, thereby presenting an imminent risk to the health or safety of attendees of Policy Council meetings; and

WHEREAS, due to the recent increase in COVID-19 cases throughout the San Joaquin Valley, the Policy Council desires to allow the continuation of teleconference meetings.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCIES
POLICY COUNCIL DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AND FIND AS FOLLOWS:**

1. Recitals. The Recitals set forth above are true and correct and are incorporated into this Resolution as if set forth in full herein.
2. State of Emergency. Pursuant to the Governor's Proclamation of a State of Emergency, issued March 4, 2020, there is a proclaimed state of emergency in the State of California.
3. State or Local Measures. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the California Department of Public Health, and Cal/OSHA have recommended or imposed measures to promote social distancing and other measures to reduce the transmission of COVID-19.
4. Finding of Imminent Risk to the Health or Safety of Attendees. The BA.2 variant is the dominant strains of COVID-19 in the country, is more infectious and more transmissible than prior variants of the virus, may cause more severe illness, and even fully vaccinated individuals can spread the virus to others resulting in a rapid and alarming increase in the rates of COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations which will continue to cause conditions of peril to the safety of persons, thereby presenting an imminent risk to the health and/or safety of members of the Policy Council and attendees of Policy Council's public meetings.
5. Teleconference Meetings. Due to the proclaimed State of Emergency and the state and local recommended measures to promote social distancing, the Policy Council finds they may conduct their meetings, whether regular or special, without complying with Government Code section 54953(b)(3), as authorized by Government Code section 54953(e)(1), and shall comply with the requirements to provide public access to the meetings as set forth in Government Code section 54953(e)(2).
6. Implementation of Resolution. Policy Council staff are hereby authorized and directed to take all actions necessary to carry out the intent and purpose of this Resolution, including, conducting open and public meetings in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e) and other applicable provisions of the Brown Act. The circumstances of the state of emergency and the related findings will be reconsidered every thirty (30) days.

MEETING DATE: **June 24, 2022**

ROBERT POYTHRESS, CHAIR



San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agencies Policy Council Meeting Agenda

Friday, June 24, 2022

Time: 9:05 a.m.

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Phone only: (669) 900-9128

Enclosure

A. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Poythress

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Poythress



January 21, 2022 Regular Meeting

March 11, 2022 Special Meeting

March 25, 2022 Special Meeting

April 1, 2022 Special Meeting

May 27, 2022 Special Meeting

C. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

1. Valley Voice DC, September 20-21, 2022

Discuss Legislative Priorities & Trip Itinerary

Jen Covino



2. State Route 99 and Other Major Highway Funding


Receive update


Caltrans


3. California Budget and Policy Initiatives


Update and Discussion

Gus Khouri

 (559) 266-6222

 (559) 314-6015

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- | | | |
|--|----------------|---|
| 4. Fiscal Year 2022-23 Valleywide Overall Work Program
<i>Consider approving, including related professional services agreements</i> | Michael Sigala | ☑ |
| 5. Meeting Calendar for Fiscal Year 2022-23
<i>Consider Approving</i> | Michael Sigala | ☑ |

D. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

The following items are for informational purposes and require no action or vote. Individuals noted will be present to provide a brief verbal update.

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| 1. SJJPA/ACE | Dan Leavitt |
| 2. California High Speed Rail | Garth Fernandez/Toni Tinoco |
| 3. San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District | Tom Jordan |
| 4. California Inland Port | Braden Duran |
| 5. EV Car Sharing: MioCar, Vamos, STEP | Michael Sigala |
| 6. California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley | Eduardo Gonzalez |
| 7. San Joaquin Valley Annual Policy Conference 2022 | Robert Phipps |

E. OTHER ITEMS

- | | |
|--|--------------|
| 1. Executive Directors' Report | Ahron Hakimi |
| 2. Regional Policy Council Member Comments | |

F. PUBLIC COMMENT

This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons wishing to address the Council on items within its jurisdiction but NOT on this agenda. Public Comment will be allowed during the Discussion/Action Items above.

Next Regular Regional Policy Council Meeting: Friday, January 27, 2023.

Provisional Meeting on August 19th at 9 a.m.

There will be a September 9th 10 a.m. meeting pertaining to Valley Voice DC.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Accommodations

The public meeting location and restrooms are ADA accessible. Representatives or individuals with disabilities should contact the SJV Regional Planning Agencies at 559.266.6222, at least 3 days in advance, to request auxiliary aids and/or translation services necessary to participate in the public meeting. *At this time, all meetings will be conducted via Zoom.*



ITEM B

Meeting Minutes

Friday, January 21, 2022

Time: 9 a.m.

Meeting Location:
ZOOM CONFERENCE

Policy Council Member Attendees:

MEMBER	MPO/COG	TITLE	JURISDICTION
Robert Poythress (Chair)	MCTC	Supervisor	Madera County
Rudy Mendoza (Vice Chair)	TCAG	Mayor	City of Woodlake
Cathy Prout (alternate)	Kern COG	Mayor	City of Shafter
Doug Verboon	KCAG	Supervisor	Kings County
Joe Neves	KCAG	Supervisor	Kings County
Gary Yep	Fresno COG	Mayor	City of Kerman
Michelle Roman	Fresno COG	Mayor	City of Kingsburg
Vito Chiesa	StanCOG	Supervisor	Stanislaus County
Bill Zoslocki	StanCOG	Councilmember	City of Modesto
Daron McDaniel	MCAG	Supervisor	Merced County
John Cale	MCAG	Councilmember	City of Atwater
Dennis Townsend	TCAG	Supervisor	Tulare County
Dan Wright	SJ COG	Councilmember	City of Stockton
Gary Singh	SJ COG	Councilmember	City of Manteca
Stacey Mortensen	SJJPA	Executive Director	SJJPA
Samir Sheikh	SJVAPCD	Executive Director	SJVAPCD
<i>Additional/Alternate Members</i>			
Linda Launer	TCAG	Councilmember	City of Dinuba
Diane Sharp	KCAG	Vice Mayor	City of Hanford

Please see Appendix A for a list of other attendees

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A. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Poythress

SPECIAL MEETING AB 361 RESOLUTION. THERE WAS A SEPARATE SPECIAL MEETING BEFORE THE BEGINNING OF THIS MEETING TO APPROVE AN AB 361 RESOLUTION (#01-21-22) FOR CONTINUING TO MEET VIA TELECONFERENCE FROM JANUARY 21, 2022 THROUGH FEBRUARY 20, 2022.

First Motion: Daron McDaniel
Second Motion: Bill Zoslocki
No Nays
Motion Carried

B. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

There was a motion to elect Robert Poythress as Chair.

First Motion: Rudy Mendoza
Second Motion: Vito Chiesa
No Nays
Motion Carried

There was a motion to elect Rudy Mendoza as Vice-Chair.

First Motion: Daron McDaniel
Second Motion: Bill Zoslocki
No Nays
Motion Carried

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There was a motion to approve the June 25, 2021 Regional Policy Council Meeting minutes.

First Motion: Gary Yep
Second Motion: Rudy Mendoza
No Nays
Motion Carried

D. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

1. Valley Voice Sacramento 2022

Gus Khouri

Gus Khouri noted a \$45.7 billion surplus in the recently announced state budget. There are several opportunities for funding ports, EV infrastructure, high speed rail, etc. The capitol is under renovation, and given the status of COVID, this year's trip will be virtual. Priorities for this year include: Complete SR 99; Goods Movement & Ports; Passenger Rail; Zero Emission Vehicle Investments; and REAP funding. Mr. Khouri noted that this is a preliminary list and solicited input and questions. Vice Chair Mendoza noted the need to meet in person.

2. State Route 99 Summit

Diana Gomez, Dennis
Agar, Ted Smalley

Diana Gomez noted the upcoming March 3-4 summit at the International Ag Center in Tulare. She noted various panel discussions and ongoing work on summit planning. The goal is a reimagined 99 Corridor Plan. Dennis Agar noted the partnership in the valley and the valuable input and outcomes. Discussion ensued regarding potential panelists and topics.

3. Federal Budget and Policy

Jen Covino

Jen Covino noted a few updates from DC. FY 2022 continuing appropriations will expire on February 18th. Current Community Project funding request for the Valley, \$10 million, are dependent on an omnibus request. FY 2023 President's budget will be out in March. Bipartisan Infrastructure Law implementation is ongoing. Key themes of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law; fixing and rebuilding bridges, travel safety, and ports and EV infrastructure. She noted funding guidance and amounts for various pending programs. Rudy Mendoza noted taking advantage of meeting with members we don't typically meet with.

E. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

The following items are for informational purposes and require no action or vote. Written summaries of Informational Items are included in the agenda packet.

1. Caltrans Director's Report

Diana Gomez/Dennis Agar

Diana Gomez noted emergency telework due to COVID. CalSTA Secretary Kim is stepping down. Mike Keaver has been appointed as chief deputy director. She noted the Clean California program as ongoing. Caltrans is hiring more staff due to an increased budget. Dennis Agar noted a mass hiring event for District 10. Mr. Agar also noted the broadband expansion efforts.

2. ACE/SJIPA

Dan Leavitt

Dan Leavitt noted impacts of COVID on ACE and San Joaquins rail service. SB 742 (bus only ticketing) is now available in most through-way routes. New train sets have been obtained for the San Joaquins. ACE extension to CERES planning is ongoing. Environmental work on the Madera new station is complete. SJIPA is actively working on TIRCP funding applications for Ceres to Turlock. Zero emission bus funding for the cross-valley project in Tulare and Kings County is also ongoing.

3. San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District

Tom Jordan

Samir Sheikh, Executive Director, noted Martha Guzman as the new administrator for EPA region nine. PM 2.5 plan is still awaiting approval action, several elements have been approved and we are making good progress. However, the contingency measures in the plan are not being approved at this time. A new ozone plan is also being worked on. Regarding Clean Air Act, 2021 has been a good year. Ag vehicle replacement programs are still being prioritized in the budget. Zero emission vehicle funding is also slated for a multi-year allocation of \$6 billion in California.

4. California Inland Port Project

Braden Duran

Braden Duran gave an overview of the project, a multi-modal transportation cargo system. The project is being coordinated with the ports of LA and Long Beach. Economic development is a key driver of the project, along with reduction in truck traffic and green-house gas emissions. Braden noted the various funding sources contributing to the project. Supervisor McDaniel asked about project outreach in Merced County.

5. I-5 Freight ZERO Study

Linda Urata

Chair Poythress asked for this report via email.

6. EV Car Sharing: MioCar, Vamos, STEP

Michael Sigala

7. Chair Poythress asked for this report via email.

8. SJV Policy Conference

Tony Boren

Robert Phipps provided a brief overview of the conference to occur from May 11-13, 2022 in Old Town Clovis.

F. OTHER ITEMS

1. Executive Directors' Report Ahron Hakimi
Ahron Hakimi noted several Directors' meetings recently around RTP/SCS development, the 99 Summit and the Policy Conference.
2. Policy Council Member Comments
Rudy Mendoza asked for more frequent meetings of the Regional Policy Council.

G. PUBLIC COMMENT

This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons wishing to address the Council on items within its jurisdiction but NOT on this agenda. Public Comment will be allowed during the Discussion/Action Item above.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:27 am.

Appendix: A – List of other meeting attendees.

Individual(s)	Organization
Michael Sigala	SJV Coordinator, Sigala Inc.
Rosa Park	Stan COG
Patricia Taylor	MCTC
Diane Nguyen	SJ COG
Terri King	KCAG
Tony Boren	Fresno COG
Jen Covino	Simon & Co.
David Gellman	Simon & Co.
Braden Duran	Fresno COG
Robert Phipps	Fresno COG
Kristine Cai	Fresno COG
Steve Dial	SJ COG
Ben Kimball	TCAG
Michael Navarro	Caltrans District 10
Dylan Stone	MCTC
Becky Napier	Kern COG
Meg Prince	Fresno COG
Stacie Guzman	MCAG
Jeff Findley	MCTC
Dennis Agar	Caltrans D10
Monica Streeter	StanCOG
Gus Khouri	Khouri Consulting
Ahron Hakimi	Kern COG
Diana Gomez	Caltrans District 6
Tom Jordan	SJVAPCD



Special Meeting Minutes

March 11, 2022

9 a.m. via ZOOM

X	Robert Poythress (chair), Madera County		Michelle Roman (alternate) City of Kingsburg
X	Rudy Mendoza (vice chair), City of Woodlake		Brett Frazier, Madera County
	Zack Scrivner, Kern County		Jose Rodriguez (alternate), City of Madera
	Bob Smith, City of Bakersfield	X	Daron McDaniel, Merced County
X	Cathy Prout (alternate), City of Shafter	X	John Cale, City of Atwater
X	Dennis Townsend, Tulare County		Scott Silveira (alternate), Merced County
X	Linda Launer (alternate), City of Dinuba	X	Bill Zoslocki, City of Modesto
X	Doug Verboon, Kings County		Vito Chiesa, Stanislaus County
	Alvaro Preciado, City of Avenal	X	Jenny Kenoyer, City of Modesto
	Joe Neves (alternate), Kings County	X	Chuck Winn, San Joaquin County
	Diane Sharp (alternate) City of Hanford	X	Dan Wright, City of Stockton
X	Gary Yep, City of Kerman		Gary Singh (alternate), City of Manteca
	Eli Ontiveros, City of Sanger	X	Samir Sheikh, SJVAPCD
		X	Dan Leavitt for Stacey Mortensen, SJJPA

Discussion/Action Items

1. Inland Port Concepts in the San Joaquin Valley

Chair Poythress provided an introduction for the special meeting, to discuss and better understand inland port concepts throughout the Valley. Tony Boren, Fresno COG, provided background and an informational presentation on California Inland Port Study. Mr. Boren noted the various funding sources and partners to date contributing to the project. Mr. Boren noted the surplus in the state budget and the administration's intent to fund a supply chain project(s), estimated at \$50 million. Mr. Boren noted the importance of Valleywide support for the project. Supervisor McDaniel noted that Merced County has a project in place, not a concept, with the Merced project at Castle AFB. Councilmember Dan Wright noted the Port of Stockton as an integral member of the supply chain in the Valley. Merced County Economic Development officials also spoke in favor of the Merced project. Tony Boren then presented a detailed slide deck presentation on the California Inland Project, highlighting the sustainable "green" aspects of the project. Mr. Boren also noted new Federal funding that could be available. Chair Poythress asked about California Forwards' decision to approach Fresno COG versus Merced. Mr. Boren answered that this is a regional transportation project and California Forward reached out to them on behalf of the Valley. Supervisor McDaniel noted an MOU exists with the Port of LA and that a similar presentation was made to California Forward five years ago. Supervisor Winn asked for Valleywide support of this items for multiple sites, including the Port of Stockton. Mr. Boren stressed this is not a Fresno centric proposal. Discussion ensued. Chair Poythress stressed the need for a consensus to move forward. Mayor Mendoza stressed the need for elected officials to meet more; and suggested general support for inland ports. Chair Poythress recommended Merced and Fresno members meet and further discuss, and a generic support position to not risk losing potential funding. Rudy Mendoza motioned to keep the existing legislative platform in place for Valley Voice Sacramento.

First Motion:

Rudy Mendoza

Second Motion:

Dennis Townsend

No Nays

Motion Carried

Meeting Adjourned at 10:35 a.m.



Special Meeting Minutes

March 25, 2022

10:30 a.m. via ZOOM

X	Robert Poythress (chair), Madera County		Michelle Roman (alternate) City of Kingsburg
X	Rudy Mendoza (vice chair), City of Woodlake	X	Brett Frazier, Madera County
	Zack Scrivner, Kern County		Jose Rodriguez (alternate), City of Madera
	Bob Smith, City of Bakersfield	X	Daron McDaniel, Merced County
X	Cathy Prout (alternate), City of Shafter	X	John Cale, City of Atwater
X	Dennis Townsend, Tulare County	X	Scott Silveira (alternate), Merced County
X	Linda Launer (alternate), City of Dinuba	X	Bill Zoslocki, City of Modesto
X	Doug Verboon, Kings County	X	Vito Chiesa, Stanislaus County
	Alvaro Preciado, City of Avenal	X	Jenny Kenoyer, City of Modesto
	Joe Neves (alternate), Kings County	X	Chuck Winn, San Joaquin County
	Diane Sharp (alternate) City of Hanford	X	Dan Wright, City of Stockton
X	Gary Yep, City of Kerman	X	Gary Singh (alternate), City of Manteca
X	Eli Ontiveros, City of Sanger	X	Samir Sheikh, SJVAPCD
		X	Stacey Mortensen, SJJPA

Discussion/Action Items

1. State Budget Allocations; Discuss Priority Valley Projects

Gus Khouri noted the state budget surplus of \$47 billion, and \$25 billion in federal funding to the state, and there could be more. Mr. Khouri noted a “mega regional” letter that would include the Valley, central coast, and inland empire priority budget requests. Mr. Khouri reviewed the Valley priority projects via screen share; many of the projects were SR 99 projects. Members reiterated their support for the project list. Stacey Mortensen noted ACE and SJJPA projects. Vito Chiesa noted air quality projects from the Air District. Rudy Mendoza asked about the likelihood of funding. Ahron Hakimi noted that project readiness is key for funding. Discussion ensued regarding prioritizing projects in each county versus SR 99 projects in Madera, Tulare and Merced counties. Chair Poythress asked for a draft version of the impending letter to address the concerns of the group. Dennis Townsend motioned to ask for funding for SR 99 before other projects are funded. Brett Frazier motioned for a list of projects that prioritize funding SR 99 projects and include projects from the Air District and ACE/SJJPA. Discussion ensued; Brett Frazier re-motioned for Gus to prepare a draft letter for consideration next week that addresses the concerns of the discussion today and that Gus further have conversations with the Air District, ACE/SJJPA and legislators in the interim.

First Motion: Brett Frazier
Second Motion: Dan Wright
 No Nays
 Motion Carried

2. CalSTA Supply Chain Funding and Central Valley Listening Session

Giles Giovanni, Senior Advisor, provided a background for supply chain funding at the state. The funding is to address core supply chain congestion issues. {impaired audio} Mr. Giovanni mentioned the listening sessions around the state. He mentioned \$1.2 billion in state funds for supply chain projects, and federal funding opportunities. The April 12th Fresno listening session was noted. A short discussion ensued.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:05 p.m.



Special Meeting Minutes **April 1, 2022** **9 a.m. via ZOOM**

X	Robert Poythress (chair), Madera County	X	Michelle Roman (alternate) City of Kingsburg
	Rudy Mendoza (vice chair), City of Woodlake	X	Brett Frazier, Madera County
	Zack Scrivner, Kern County		Jose Rodriguez (alternate), City of Madera
	Bob Smith, City of Bakersfield	X	Daron McDaniel, Merced County
X	Cathy Prout (alternate), City of Shafter	X	John Cale, City of Atwater
	Dennis Townsend, Tulare County		Scott Silveira (alternate), Merced County
X	Linda Launer (alternate), City of Dinuba		Bill Zoslocki, City of Modesto
X	Doug Verboon, Kings County	X	Vito Chiesa, Stanislaus County
	Alvaro Preciado, City of Avenal		Jenny Kenoyer, City of Modesto
	Joe Neves (alternate), Kings County	X	Chuck Winn, San Joaquin County
	Diane Sharp (alternate) City of Hanford	X	Dan Wright, City of Stockton
X	Gary Yep, City of Kerman		Gary Singh (alternate), City of Manteca
X	Eli Ontiveros, City of Sanger	X	Samir Sheikh, SJVAPCD
		X	David Lipari for Stacey Mortensen, SJJPA

Discussion/Action Items

1. State Budget Allocations; Consider Approving Support Letter for Priority Valley Projects

This meeting was a continuation of the March 25th special meeting. The meeting started with a unanimous approval of a letter of support for the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission's RAISE application for the North Lathrop Transfer Station and Lathrop Wye Project. Gus Khouri reiterated the budget surplus numbers again and noted the discussion last week on priority Valley projects. Mr. Khouri noted a multiregional support letter that was drafted including central coast and inland empire legislators. Tom Jordan with the Air District noted the need to support the Farmers Program at \$240 million, and AB 2836 to extend the Carl Moyer program. He asked for a separate letter of support for these items. There was a motion by Daron McDaniel to support the Air District's request, and unanimous approval was given. Gus Khouri noted the state goods movement funding again for the inland port concepts. Discussion ensued about the need to pursue funding for multiple inland port projects throughout the Valley. Supervisor Frazier motioned to add multiple inland port support to the letter.

<u>First Motion:</u>	Brett Frazier
<u>Second Motion:</u>	Eli Ontiveros
	No Nays
	Motion Carried

Supervisor Chuck Winn reiterated a couple of items he brought up in the last special meeting: raising truck speed limits to 65-mph and a water sales tax concept. Chair Poythress provided direction to the Directors to support the 65-mph truck speed limit item. Samir Sheikh noted AB 2550 (Arambula) that came out last week. Mr. Sheikh noted that the bill would allow the state to take over some air quality measures, and he asked the Policy Council to consider an oppose position.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:47 a.m.



Special Meeting Minutes **May 27, 2022** **9 a.m. via ZOOM**

X	Robert Poythress (chair), Madera County		Michelle Roman (alternate) City of Kingsburg
	Rudy Mendoza (vice chair), City of Woodlake		Brett Frazier, Madera County
	Zack Scrivner, Kern County		Jose Rodriguez (alternate), City of Madera
	Bob Smith, City of Bakersfield	X	Daron McDaniel, Merced County
X	Cathy Prout (alternate), City of Shafter	X	John Cale, City of Atwater
X	Dennis Townsend, Tulare County		Scott Silveira (alternate), Merced County
X	Linda Launer (alternate), City of Dinuba	X	Vito Chiesa, Stanislaus County
X	Doug Verboon, Kings County	X	Jenny Kenoyer, City of Modesto
X	Alvaro Preciado, City of Avenal	X	Chuck Winn, San Joaquin County
	Joe Neves (alternate), Kings County	X	Dan Wright, City of Stockton
X	Diane Sharp (alternate) City of Hanford		Gary Singh (alternate), City of Manteca
X	Gary Yep, City of Kerman	X	Samir Sheikh, SJVAPCD
X	Eli Ontiveros, City of Sanger	X	Stacey Mortensen, SJJPA

Discussion/Action Items

1. AB 2550 State Air Resources Board: Ambient Air Quality Standards, Consider Approving Letter of Opposition.

Tom Jordan, SJVAPCD, gave an overview of AB 2550 which would allow ARB to take over local air district activities should the Valley fail to attain a federal air quality standards. Mr. Jordan noted that the bill wouldn't be very productive as stationary sources have already been regulated extensively. He noted that the state would serve a better role focusing on mobile sources. He noted CSAC, and several valley jurisdictions have opposed this bill. No other Valley legislator besides the author (Arambula) supports this bill. Samir Sheikh also provided input and noted the attached letter of opposition for approval by the Policy Council.

<u>First Motion:</u>	Vito Chiesa
<u>Second Motion:</u>	Daron McDaniel
	No Nays
	Motion Carried

2. California Transportation Assessment (AB 285 report), Strategic Growth Council Presentation

Lynn von Koch-Liebert, Executive Director of the California Strategic Growth Council and Senior Advisor Egon Terplan provided a slide deck presentation on this item. The AB 285 report looks at the California Transportation Plan and all 18 SCSs in California and how integrating both will create a multimodal transportation system that meet state goals. Mr. Egon noted the five major issue areas: aligning existing funding to state goals; updating plans; re-evaluating project funding; assessing role of transportation institutions; and, assessing MPO roles. He noted they are in the outreach and summary stage of this process, and highlighted action areas stakeholders have provided input on. Discussion ensued. Vito Chiesa noted many multimodal initiatives in the Valley. Dan Wright noted electric and alternative fuel modifications to transit in the north Valley. Daron McDaniel noted how the lack of health care impacts increases in VMT. Chuck Winn noted improvements to the Port of Stockton that would reduce truck traffic. Stacie Mortensen noted transit (buses) rely on a good road network. Mrs. Koch-Liebert noted the August 31st SGC meeting at UC Merced.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:07 a.m.

**SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCIES POLICY COUNCIL
VALLEY VOICE 2022**

DRAFT LEGISLATIVE BROCHURE

Introduction

The *Bipartisan Infrastructure Law* (P.L. 117-58) was signed into law by President Joseph R. Biden on November 15, 2022, authorizing \$1.2 trillion over Fiscal Years (FY) 2022 through FY 2026 for transportation, climate and resiliency, energy, broadband, and water infrastructure programs. As the Biden Administration implements this historic piece of legislation, this legislative brochure outlines priority policies and projects from the San Joaquin Valley. This booklet also highlights regional Congressionally directed spending proposals under consideration in Congress.

About California's San Joaquin Valley

California's San Joaquin Valley lies between the Sierra Nevada Mountain range to the east, the Tehachapi mountains to the south, the coastal ranges to the west and the Sacramento Valley to the north. The region is comprised of eight counties (San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced, Madera, Fresno, Kings, Tulare, and Kern) and 62 cities. Most of the Valley is rural and economically driven by agriculture and goods movement, with 25 percent of the nation's food supply coming from the region. However, a significant proportion of its residents reside in urban areas, most of which are along the major transportation corridors. The Valley is also home to 23 of the 30 most disadvantaged communities in California. The Valley is currently home to more than four million people, which is about 10 percent of the state's population. However, by 2060, it is estimated that the region will be home to 5.7 million people, a 44 percent increase in population compared to 21 percent for California during the same time period. These growth projections promise to challenge an already stressed regional transportation network, but also provide tremendous opportunity for state and federal investments.

About the San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council

The San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council is a partnership that exemplifies the regional transportation planning agencies' commitment to working collaboratively to address regional issues, challenges, and opportunities. The 17-member Policy Council was established to build regional consensus and provide a forum for the Valley to organize, coordinate, and communicate as a region. The Policy Council consists of two elected officials from each of the eight regional planning agencies' policy boards, and the Executive Director of the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District.

Valley Voice is the Policy Council's advocacy program that communicates the region's priorities to policymakers and agency staff in Sacramento and Washington, DC. Each year for over a decade, a coalition of elected officials and COG staff from throughout the region travel to Sacramento and Washington, DC to advocate on behalf of the Valley with a unified voice.

Implementation of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

Thank you to the Biden Administration and lawmakers on Capitol Hill for their leadership in passing the *Bipartisan Infrastructure Law* (P.L. 117-58). We welcome the historic investment provided by this \$1.2 trillion measure and look forward to working with federal partners to leverage these resources to make meaningful investments in our community over the next five years from Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 to FY 2026. In follow-up to our 2021 Valley Voice efforts, we were heartened by robust investments in the law for goods movement, electric vehicles, and emissions reduction efforts. We also look forward to working with our partners in the State of California as they administer sub-allocations of the following formula programs to the local level: the Carbon Reduction Program (CRP), the Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-saving Transportation (PROTECT) Program, the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Formula Program, the Bridge Formula Program (BFP), and other existing Federal-Aid Highway Programs. Our member agencies will also take advantage of newly-established discretionary or competitive programs

authorized by the law in the years ahead. We will be sure to engage Members of Congress and the Administration on those opportunities as appropriate. However, given the fact that workforce development and job training investments were largely included in the *Build Back Better Act*, we encourage lawmakers to pass a piecemeal measure or increase levels of funding through the FY 2023 budget and appropriations process to address the multitude of needs for our workforce in the Central Valley.

Buy America Waivers

The Buy America provisions of the *Bipartisan Infrastructure Law* (P.L. 117-58) state that the head of each federal agency must ensure that “none of the funds made available for a Federal financial assistance program for infrastructure...may be obligated for a project unless all of the iron, steel, manufactured products, and construction materials used in the project are produced in the United States.” While the San Joaquin Valley supports the tenets of the *Build America, Buy America Act*, a common-sense application of the provisions in regulation is needed to ensure project delivery is not delayed. For example, necessary components of fleet vehicles or construction materials such as the bristles on a street cleaning truck are often not manufactured domestically due to the production costs or resource availability. As a result, recipients of Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) grants to purchase certain vehicles or materials must complete a Buy America waiver to receive funds.

The San Joaquin Valley recommends that (1) FHWA and FTA are consistent in the implementation of waivers to the *Build America, Buy America Act* as outlined in recent guidance issued by the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to ensure transportation projects are progressing without significant delays; and (2) these agencies develop clear guidelines on exceptions to create a consistent nationwide application of rules at the federal level. We support the temporary waiver of Buy America requirements for construction materials issued by FHWA to reduce the burden, delays, and resources expended over small percentages of materials.

We encourage FHWA and FTA to expedite the review and approval of Buy America waiver requests from the San Joaquin Valley as quickly as the BIL allows. If Buy America waivers are not reviewed or approved in a timely manner, grant recipients may be forced to forfeit their awards and be unable to leverage federal funding toward their projects. We request that FHWA and FTA review any Buy America waiver requests that have been submitted from the San Joaquin Valley, and that the determinations be published for notice and comment in the *Federal Register* as soon as possible.

State Route 99

Due to its location in the center of the State with 31,000 road miles, more than the San Francisco Bay Area and Sacramento region combined, the San Joaquin Valley is a major generator of economic activity and transportation corridor between large California cities to and from western seaports. Goods movement has become an increasingly important transportation, economic, and environment issue for the eight counties in the San Joaquin Valley. The region’s dominant industries include agriculture, food production, and energy and construction, among many others. The critical role that the San Joaquin Valley plays in California and the nation’s food supply will continue to require an effective goods movement system to distribute and export products quickly and efficiently.

State Route (SR) 99, also known as the backbone of California—is a major goods movement state highway connecting southern California to northern California through the major cities of the San Joaquin Valley. SR 99 is on the National Primary Freight Network and has higher than average truck volumes. Lack of capacity for SR 99 results in congestion, fatal accidents, and poor air quality. The Valley Voice delegation encourages Congress and the Administration to support robust federal investments for this critical corridor, including the SR 99 Corridor Plan, I-5 Freight ZERO Pilot Study, and California Inland Port Study.

Passenger Rail

California is making significant investments in intercity passenger and commuter rail and supports new federal investments for rail included in the *Bipartisan Infrastructure Law* (P.L. 117-58). Modernizing the

state's passenger rail system will reduce emissions by enabling more Californians to switch from driving and flying to traveling by clean, fast, and efficient rail service; open freight capacity to enhance the flow of goods from our fields and ports; connect regional economies (e.g., the Central Valley and the Coast), and sustain an innovative state economy that will help drive America's economic competitiveness. The Valley Voice delegation encourages Congress and the Administration to support federal investments that will enhance intercity passenger rail in the Central Valley, maintain short line rail corridors, and improve last-mile connectivity. We also support federal investments in our region's new inland ports to keep up with demand for goods movement.

Budget and Appropriations **Community Project Funding Requests**

The Valley Voice delegation welcomes the restoration of Community Project Funding (CPF) and Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) through the annual budget and appropriations process. We are grateful that lawmakers providing funding for the following local projects in the *Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022* (P.L. 117-103)

- 1) \$2 million for the Merced County Courthouse Museum Facility Repairs project requested by Representative Costa on behalf of Merced County through the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies appropriations bill;
- 2) \$279,664 for the Water Plant Clarifier Replacement project requested by Representative Costa on behalf of the City of Dos Palos through the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies appropriations bill;
- 3) \$950,000 for the Water Loop Line Completion project requested by Representative Costa, Senator Feinstein, and Senator Padilla on behalf of the City of Gustine through the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies appropriations bill;
- 4) \$1.5 million for the North Lathrop Multi-Modal Transfer Station project requested by Representative McNerney on behalf of the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission through the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies appropriations bill;
- 5) \$1.5 million for the ACE Locomotive Zero Emission Engine Conversion Project requested by Representative McNerney and Senator Padilla on behalf of the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission through the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies appropriations bill; and
- 6) \$4.485 million for the Manteca Station Rider Safety Improvement and Station Modernization project requested by Representative Harder on behalf of the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission.

The Valley Voice delegation appreciates that the House and Senate Appropriations Committees have also agreed to consider CPF and CDS requests submitted by Members of Congress in the FY 2023 appropriations cycle. We urge lawmakers to ensure that the following proposals from the Valley are ultimately funded in any final spending package agreed to by both chambers of Congress:

- 1) Stanislaus Council of Government seeking \$7 million for the State Route 132 West Project Phase 2 project through the Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies appropriations bill (Harder/Padilla);
- 2) Merced County Association of Governments seeking \$3.86 million for the Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS) Fleet Replacement Project through the Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies appropriations bill (Costa);
- 3) San Joaquin Council of Governments seeking \$7 million for the State Route 99/120 Connector Project Phase 1B through the Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies appropriations bill (McNerney/Harder/Feinstein);
- 4) San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission seeking \$1.5 million for the Rail Academy of Central California – Rail/Transit Workforce Development Program through the Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies appropriations bill (McNerney);
- 5) San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority seeking \$1.65 million for the Amtrak Fresno Santa Fe Station project through the Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies appropriations bill (Padilla);

- 6) San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority seeking \$2.1 million for the Amtrak Hanford Station project through the Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies appropriations bill (Padilla);
- 7) Tri-Valley – San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority seeking \$4 million to provide green hydrogen fuel for local bus transit operators in San Joaquin County through the Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies appropriations bill (Padilla);
- 8) Kings County Area Public Transit Agency seeking \$5 million for the Kings County Regional Multi-Modal Transit Center project through the Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies appropriations bill (Valadao/Feinstein);
- 9) Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission seeking \$500,000 for the Local Conservation Corps Workforce Development Project through the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies appropriations bill (Costa);
- 10) Madera County seeking \$1.95 million for the State Route 41 Expressway project through the Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies appropriations bill (Costa);
- 11) City of Fresno – Airports Division seeking \$4.4 million for the FAT Runway 11L-29R Reconstruction Project through the Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies appropriations bill (Costa);
- 12) City of Fresno – Airports Division seeking \$4.92 million for the FAT Remote Transmitter Receiver (RTR) Relocation Project through the Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies appropriations bill (Feinstein/Padilla);
- 13) City of Fresno seeking \$4 million for the Tiny Homes Housing Solution project through the Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies appropriations bill (Costa/Padilla); and
- 14) City of Fresno seeking \$5.616 million for the Electric Bus Purchase project through the Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies appropriations bill (Padilla).

Pending Federal Grant Applications

The Valley Voice delegation encourages Congress and the Administration's support for the following projects seeking federal grant assistance through the Rebuilding America Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Program and Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant (MPDG) Program administered by the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT):

- 1) The Madera County and Madera County Transportation Commission's application for \$25 million in RAISE funding for the \$51 million SR 41 Expressway project. This project would modernize a rural highway into a facility that provides safe and efficient regional traffic operations.
- 2) The Fresno Council of Government's application for RAISE planning funding for the California Inland Port project. Upon completion, the California Inland Port will be a multimodal network of integrated clean and highly efficient truck, rail, and cargo facilities that will underpin a next-generation ecosystem of goods movement and radically boost the economic competitiveness of California's economy.
- 3) The Kern Council of Government's applications for RAISE and MPDG funding for the Southwest U.S. Goods Movement Freeway Connector through Bakersfield on State Routes 58 & 99 project. This project would construct a connector from eastbound State Route 58 to northbound State Route 99, adding a ramp movement where none currently exists and building two bridges.
- 4) The San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission's application for \$25 million in RAISE funding for the North Lathrop Transfer Station and Lathrop Wye Project. This project will enable Altamont Corridor Express (ACE) passengers on trains traveling between Ceres/Merced and Sacramento to be able to transfer at the North Lathrop Station to ACE trains heading to Silicon Valley.
- 5) The San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission's application for \$66.7 million in MPDG funding for the \$133.4 million Union Pacific (Fresno Subdivision) Ceres to Turlock Double Tracking Project. This project will construct a new, second mainline track and complete track upgrades on a portion of the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) Fresno Subdivision between milepost (MP) 1117.4 in Ceres and MP 128.2 in Turlock, including culvert, under crossing, and at-grade crossing improvements.

- 6) The California Department of Transportation and San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority's application for \$87.6 million in MPDG funding for the \$146 million Madera High-Speed Rail Station project. This project will improve and expand the size of the previously-relocated Madera passenger rail station and provide a high-speed rail (HSR) station for California HSR Interim Service to serve Madera County and Northern Fresno County.



DATE: June 24, 2022

TO: San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agencies Policy Council

SUBJECT: Valleywide Overall Work Program for Fiscal Year 2022-23

An Overall Work Program (OWP) is a federal and state mandated planning and budgeting work product that Regional Planning Agencies of the San Joaquin Valley develop on an annual basis. The OWP is a one-year scope of work and budget for transportation, related planning activities, and funding sources to be accomplished between July 1 and June 30 of the fiscal year. The Regional Policy Council has stipulated in its memorandum of understanding the need to annually produce an eight-county Valleywide OWP.

The Valleywide Overall Work Program for FY 2022-23 details the coordinated activities that all eight regional planning agencies, and its partners, are actively engaged in. Contracted regional activities including the government affairs consultants, valleywide coordinator and air quality coordinator are included in the Valleywide OWP.

The government affairs contracts for FY 2022-23 need to be approved by the Regional Policy Council. The contracts are managed by StanCOG and each partner has received copy of the proposed contracts and reimbursement agreement with StanCOG. The contract amounts are the same as the previous year totaling \$120,000 (Simon and Company \$50,000; Khouri Consultants \$70,000). Each of the ten member agencies of the Policy Council contribute \$12,000 annually (\$1,000 per month) for shared legislative representation.

The San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agencies' Directors' Committee approved the FY 2022-23 Valleywide Overall Work Program at their May 5, 2022 meeting.

Requested Action(s):

1. Consider approving the Valleywide Overall Work Program for FY 2022-23.
2. Approve professional service agreements for the government affairs representatives, Simon & Company and Khouri Consulting.

San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agencies

Overall Work Program

Fiscal Year 2022-23

ke Robinson



SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCIES POLICY COUNCIL

MEMBERS AND STAFF, JUNE 2022

Fresno Council of Governments (Fresno COG)

Mayor Gary Yep, City of Kerman

Mayor Eli Ontiveros, City of Sanger

Alternate: Councilmember Michelle Roman, City of Kingsburg

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

Mayor Alvaro Preciado, City of Avenal

Alternate: Supervisor Joe Neves, Kings County

STAFF: Terri King, Executive Director – KCAG

Madera County Transportation Commission (MCTC)

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

Supervisor Brett Frazier, Madera County

Alternate: Councilmember Jose Rodriguez, City of Madera

STAFF: Patricia Taylor, Executive Director – MCTC

Merced County Association of Governments (MCAG)

Supervisor Daron McDaniel, Merced County

Councilmember John Cale, City of Atwater

Alternate: Supervisor Scott Silveira, Merced County

STAFF: *Stacie Guzman, Executive Director – MCAG*

San Joaquin Council of Governments (SJ COG)

Supervisor Chuck Winn, San Joaquin County

Vice-Mayor Dan Wright, City of Stockton

Alternate: Councilmember Gary Singh, City of Manteca

STAFF: *Diane Nguyen, Executive Director – SJ COG*

Stanislaus Council of Governments (StanCOG)

Supervisor Vito Chiesa, Stanislaus County

Councilmember Rosa Escutia-Braaton, City of Modesto

Alternate: Councilmember Jenny Kenoyer, City of Modesto

STAFF: *Rosa Park, Executive Director – StanCOG*

Tulare County Association of Governments (TCAG)

Supervisor Dennis Townsend, Tulare County

Mayor Rudy Mendoza, City of Woodlake – **VICE CHAIR**

Alternate: Councilmember Linda Launer, City of Dinuba

STAFF: *Ted Smalley, Executive Director – TCAG*

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

San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority, Stacey Mortensen, 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 (Air District).

In FY 2021-22, the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority (SJJPA) was added to the membership of the Regional Policy Council, represented by the Executive Director. Also in FY 2021-22, government affairs contracts for state and federal representation for the Regional Policy Council was implemented.

The FY 2022-2023 Valleywide Overall Work Program is a summary document and details major coordinated activities that all eight regional planning agencies, along with the Air District and SJJPA, 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 improving SR 99, I-5, and other regionally significant corridors.

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 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 funding programs, RAISE, INFRA, and other funding strategies and opportunities to enhance and improve SR 99, I-5, and other critical corridors.

In FY 2021-22, considerable activities related to SR 99 improvements took place including coalition building for finishing the system, a SR 99 Summit held in March 2022, and STIP funding awards for Tulare and Madera segments.

Activities for FY 2022-2023:

- Continue to advocate to complete the SR 99 system, to a least six lanes of travel throughout the SJV.
- Continue to prioritize significant regional projects in accordance with criteria developed by the Directors' Committee for coordinated, and consensus driven, advocacy for funding.
- Partake in and lead discussions with the Regional Policy Council, the California Transportation Commission, and others, about the importance of identifying and prioritizing state and federal 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. New federal infrastructure funding programs, and the state Trade Corridor Enhancement Program, and Solutions for Congested Corridors Program, are major SB1 funding sources to be targeted. Other sources at the state level include budget surplus funds.
- 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.
- Outline policies for using SHOPP funding for auxiliary lanes, and other concepts, as projects are eligible. Outline policies for converting temporary lanes to permanent lanes when feasible. 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.

Activities for FY 2022-23:

- Collaborate on 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 (for example the former 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, RAISE, 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 \$40 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.

Recognizing the importance of goods movement to the region, the eight San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agencies and Caltrans commissioned a series of regional goods movement plans: San Joaquin Valley Interregional Goods Movement Plan (2015), San Joaquin Valley I-5/SR 99 Goods Movement Corridor Plan (2017) and the San Joaquin Valley Goods Movement Sustainable Implementation Plan (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. In 2020, funding and regional support for the California Inland Port Study was solidified among a majority of the RPAs. Goods movement continues to be a priority for transportation related investments in the region.

In FY 2021-22, Regional Policy Council member Dan Wright (Stockton City Council) was assigned as the representative from the Valley for the California Freight Advisory Committee.

Activities for FY 2022-23:

- Continue to coordinate project prioritization for INFRA, RAISE, SB1 and other goods movement federal and state funding.
- Participate and provide input to California’s Freight Mobility Plan and the Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure (CAPTI).
- 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 identify multimodal strategies to compliment and support the movement of goods in the SJV.
- Continue to actively fund and participate in inland port concepts for the Valley.
- 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.

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 2022-23:

- 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.
- Assist Valley staff in demonstrating conformity.
- Assist Valley staff in SCS review performed by the California Air Resources Board.

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 2022-23:

- Work with ARB staff on 2022 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 RTP/SCS.
- Continue to evaluate and monitor CAPTI, and other climate change and social equity policies for implementation into Valley RTPs where appropriate.
- Continue work on the 2022 RTP/SCS planning process; Assist Valley staff, as necessary, with 2022 RTP/SCS planning documentation.
- Monitor CARB 2022 Scoping Plan updates

6. RELATIONSHIP DEVELOPMENT WITH EXTERNAL AGENICIES AND ENTITIES

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

Lead: StanCOG, Valleywide Coordinator

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 related state and federal transportation and related 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), California Air Resources Board (ARB), Caltrans Districts 6 and 10, Caltrans Headquarters, California Association of Council of Governments

(CalCOG), California Self Help Counties Coalition, Strategic Growth Council (SGC), the High-Speed Rail Authority, and Housing and Community Development (HCD). 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), Bay Area Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), Sacramento Council of Governments (SACOG), MPOs in the Central Coast, 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 2022-2023:

- 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.
- 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 and joint CTC/ARB/HCD Board Meetings.
- Additional, and targeted outreach, shall be made to the Strategic Growth Council, SJV Air Pollution Control District, High-Speed Rail Authority, and other 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, StanCOG

In FY 2021-22, government affairs contracts for state and federal representation for the Regional Policy Council were implemented with StanCOG as the fiscal agent. The federal and state government affairs staff routinely update the Directors and Policy Council when legislative advocacy is needed for the Valley. Several times annually, position letters are written and circulated regarding legislation to support or oppose, and funding opportunities to pursue and support. 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 2022-23:

- Plan and execute “Valley Voice” Washington D.C. visit for September 2022.
- Continue to routinely meet with our state and federal legislators regarding legislation and funding opportunities for the Valley.
- 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).
- Plan “Valley Voice” Sacramento visit for early 2022.

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 (MIP), which updated all eight San Joaquin Valley transportation demand models. These improvements were required to respond to the requirements of 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). Six of the eight MPOs are still using the MIP models. Fresno COG has developed an Activity-Based Model (ABM), and TCAG is in the process of transitioning into ABM.

Traffic model runs are made as necessary to support transportation planning, conformity analysis, SB 743 VMT 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 2022-23:

- 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.
- Conduct a Valleywide Household Travel Survey, and start new model updates with survey results.

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. ARB funding for these programs expired in FY 2021-22; ongoing operational support is being sought to continue these programs.

- **Housing Planning Funds, REAP.** 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 approximately \$10.2 million of the roughly \$19 available to the Valley has been received from the State of California. Considerable and additional work efforts utilizing this new funding source have begun and will continue through August 2023. 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, technical assistance, educational workshops, and funding suballocations to local jurisdictions.

Approximately \$59 million in REAP 2.0 funding is slated to come to Valley MPOs beginning in FY 2022-23. Valley MPOs are currently assessing eligible activities and completing initial applications for funding.

- **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 2022. The 2022 conference was hosted by the Fresno Council of Governments at the Clovis Veterans Memorial District. The conference is co-planned by the Valleywide Coordinator, and event subconsultant(s), who will work with the host agency for conference implementation. The Central California American Planning Association is also a contributor to the conference planning and manages the Blueprint Awards.

Past Conferences	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
	Fresno COG, 2022
Future Conferences	San Joaquin COG, 2023
	TCAG, 2024
	MCTC, 2025
	MCAG, 2026
	StanCOG, 2027

KCAG – 2028

Fresno COG – 2029

Kern COG –may be available to host at some time.

- **Regional Policy Council Meetings and Directors' Committee Meetings.** The Valleywide Coordinator shall continue to schedule monthly Directors' Committee meetings and meetings for the Regional Policy. 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 zoom 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 January). Activities for the coordinated efforts of the Valley are maintained at www.sjvcogs.org.

Directors' Chair

San Joaquin Council of Governments, 2022-23

Rotation Schedule

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

Kings County Association of Governments, 2028-29

Kern Council of Government, 2029-30

FISCAL YEAR 2022-23 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.

Fresno COG is the fiscal agent for Valley Voice, the Valleywide Coordinator contract, and is coordinating funding for the California Inland Port study (figures for the Inland Port Study are not shown below).

StanCOG is the fiscal agent for the state and federal government affairs contracts.

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 12). 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. REAP budgets figures are not shown below.

Valleywide Activities			Air Quality Planning ⁽²⁾	Valley Voice ⁽³⁾	Valleywide Coordinator ⁽⁴⁾	Total FY 2022-23
MPO Share By Population ⁽¹⁾						
Fresno	1,026,681	23.6%	\$47,117	\$15,125	\$29,448	\$91,691
Kern	914,193	21.0%	\$41,955	\$15,125	\$26,222	\$83,302
Kings	152,543	3.5%	\$7,001	\$15,125	\$4,375	\$26,501
Madera	158,474	3.6%	\$7,273	\$15,125	\$4,546	\$26,943
Merced	284,836	6.5%	\$13,072	\$15,125	\$8,170	\$36,367
San Joaquin	783,534	18.0%	\$35,959	\$15,125	\$22,474	\$73,558
Stanislaus	555,968	12.8%	\$25,515	\$15,125	\$15,947	\$56,587
Tulare	481,733	11.1%	\$22,108	\$15,125	\$13,818	\$51,051
SJIPA				\$12,000		
SJVAPCD				\$12,000		
Total FY 2022-23	4,357,962	100.0%	\$200,000	\$145,000	\$125,000	\$470,000

(1) CA DOF, January 1, 2021 estimates

(2) SJ COG Staff (\$50,000). Air Quality Consultant, Trinity (\$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.

Cost for Valley Voice includes federal and state government affairs consultants at \$120,000.

(4) Sigala Inc, includes subcontracts for administering the Annual Policy Conference, website maintenance (sjvcogs.org) and IT support, and other subcontracts and subscription services.

Meeting Calendar FY 2022-2023

San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council (& RPA Directors' Comm.)

2022						
July						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

August						
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

September						
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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

October						
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

November						
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

December						
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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

2023						
January						
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29	30	31				

February						
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26	27	28				

March						
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26	27	28	29	30	31	

April						
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

May						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

June						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

	Executive Directors' Committee Meetings
	Washington DC Valley Voice (September 19-22)
	Regional Policy Council Regular Meetings
	Regional Policy Provisional Meetings
	Pre Valley Voice Planning Meetings
	Annual Policy Conference May 2023, Dates TBD
	Sacramento Valley Voice (actual dates TBD)