

San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agencies' Directors' Committee

Meeting Agenda

Thursday, November 7, 2024 10:00 am

Via Zoom:

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82809757536

Phone: 1 (669) 444-9171, Meeting ID: 828 0975 7536

| Yes | No | Director Agency | Yes | No | Director Agency | |
|-------------------------|--|--|--------|---------|---|------------------|
| | | Robert Phipps Chair Fresno COG | | | Diane Nguyen SJCOG | |
| | | Stacie Guzman Vice Chair MCAG | | | Rosa De León Park Stan COG | |
| | | Ahron Hakimi Kern COG | | | Ted Smalley TCAG | |
| | | Terri King KCAG | | | Samir Sheikh SJVAPCD (phone | <u>e)</u> |
| | | Patricia Taylor MCTC | | | Stacey Mortensen SJJPA | |
| | | | | | | |
| APPR | OVAL | OF MINUTES | | | | <u>Enclosure</u> |
| 1 | Oct | ober 3, 2024, Directors' Meeting | | | Robert Phipps | \boxtimes |
| DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS | | | | | | |
| 2 | | /Sustainable Communities Strategies/Air Qu | ality | | Ryan Niblock | |
| | • | late and discussion | | | | |
| 3. | Budget, Policy, and Legislative Updates a. State Gus Khouri | | | | | |
| | | Federal | | | | _ |
| | i. Federal Budget, Policy, and Legislative Update Jen Covino | | | | | |
| | ii. | 2025 Valley Voice Trip: Hotel Search - Se | eptemi | ver /-1 | 11, 2025 Georgiena Vivian/ Dena Graham | Ш |
| v | | | | | Dena Granam | |

Fresno Council of Governments Robert Phipps - Chair

Merced County Association of Governments Stacie Guzman – Vice Chair Kern Council of Governments Aaron Hakimi

Kings County Association of Governments Terri King Madera County Transportation Commission Patricia Taylor San Joaquin Council of Governments Diane Nguyen Stanislaus Council of Governments Rosa De León Park Tulare County Association of Governments Ted Smalley

Valleywide Coordinator Georgiena Vivian (559) 259-9257



Fresno Council of Governments 2035 Tulare Street, Suite 201 Fresno, CA 93721



Fresno Council of Governments Fax (559) 233-9645



4. Committee Updates

| a. | Valley Legislative Affairs Committee (VLAC) | Robert Phipps |
|----|---|----------------|
| b. | SJV Swap Meet | Ofelia Abundez |
| c. | Housing and Land Use | Kim Anderson |
| d. | Travel Modelers Group | Rob Ball |

5. SJV REAP Program Michael Sigala /
Receive update Robert Phipps

6. San Joaquin Valley Annual Policy Conference 2025 Stacie Guzman □

April 9-11, 2025, in Merced, CA

INFORMATION ITEMS

The following items are for informational purposes and require no action or vote. The individuals listed will provide a <u>brief</u> verbal update at the meeting.

7. Caltrans Directors' Report Diana Gomez/

Grace Magsayo

8. California High-Speed Rail Toni Tinoco

9. San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority – Passenger Rail Michael Hanebutt

10. San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District Tom Jordan

11. Miocar Car Sharing Michael Sigala

12. California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley

OTHER ITEMS

- 13. Director Items
- 14. Public presentations for items not on the 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 session.

Next Directors' Meeting: Thursday, December 5, 2024

Other Meeting Participants

| Yes | No | Director Agency | Yes | No | Director Agency |
|-----|----|------------------------------|-----|----|--|
| | | Brenda Thomas Fresno COG | | | Dan Leavitt SJJPA |
| | | Ofelia Abundez Fresno COG | | | Michael Hanebutt, SJJPA |
| | | Paul Herman Fresno COG | | | Samer Shaath, CHSRA, SJJPA |
| | | Simran Jhutti Kern COG | | | Gus Khouri Khouri Consulting |
| | | Becky Napier Kern COG | | | Sabrina Bradbury CALCOG |
| | | Rob Ball Kern COG | | | Gregory McAteer CALCOG |
| | | Dylan Stone MCTC | | | Diana Gomez Caltrans D6 |
| | | Jeff Findley MCTC | | | Michael Navarro Caltrans D6 |
| | | Elizabeth Forte MCAG | | | Nabeelah Abi-Rached Caltrans D6 |
| | | Meg Prince MCAG | | | Grace Magsayo Caltrans D10 |
| | | Ryan Niblock SJCOG | | | Tom Dumas Caltrans D10 |
| | | Kim Anderson SJCOG | | | Duper Tong Caltrans, D10 |
| | | Elisabeth Hahn Stan COG | | | Jen Covino Covino, Smith & Simon |
| | | Jose Luis Caceres Stan COG | | | David Gellman Covino, Smith & Simon |
| | | Monica Streeter Stan COG | | | Sommer Sison Covino, Smith & Simon |
| | | Nick St. Cook Stan COG | | | Aly Hernandez Covino, Smith & Simon |
| | | Ben Kimball TCAG | | | Michael Sigala Sigala, Inc. |
| | | Derek Winning TCAG | | | Kristine Cai LSA |
| | | Steven Ingoldsby TCAG | | | Georgiena Vivian, Valleywide Coordinator VRPA |
| | | Roberto Brady TCAG | | | Carolina Ilic, Valleywide Coordinator Staff VRPA |
| | | Mark Montelongo SJVAPCD | | | Dena Graham, Valleywide Coordinator Staff VRPA |

AGENDA ITEM 1 October 3, 2024, Directors' Committee Meeting Minutes



San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agencies' Directors' Committee

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 3, 2024 10:00 am

| Yes | No | Director Agency | Yes | No | Director Agency |
|--|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|--|
| \boxtimes | | Robert Phipps Chair Fresno COG | \boxtimes | | Diane Nguyen SJCOG |
| \boxtimes | | Stacie Guzman Vice Chair MCAG | \boxtimes | | Rosa De León Park Stan COG |
| \boxtimes | | Ahron Hakimi Kern COG | | \boxtimes | Ted Smalley TCAG |
| \boxtimes | | Terri King KCAG | \boxtimes | | Tom Jordan for Samir Sheikh SJVAPCD |
| \boxtimes | | Patricia Taylor MCTC | \boxtimes | | Michael Hanebutt for Stacey Mortensen SJJPA |
| APPROVAL OF MINUTES | | | | | |
| 1. | . Sep | tember 5, 2024, Directors' Meeting | | | Robert Phipps 🖂 |
| There was a motion to approve the September 5, 2024, Directors' Committee meeting minutes. | | | | | |
| | Firs | st: Ahron Hakimi (Kern COG) | | | |
| | Second: Robert Phipps (Fresno COG) | | | | |

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

2. RTP/Sustainable Communities Strategies/Air Quality Update and discussion.

Motion Carried.

Ryan Niblock

Ryan Niblock, SJCOG, provided an update related to the Particulate Matter 2.5 (PM 2.5) contingency measure issue and highway sanctions discussed a year ago. Ryan mentioned the email from Alex Marcucci (Trinity Consulting) noting that the issue related to PM 2.5 contingency measures is now put to rest, interim final approval is official, and final action is expected in October, which would allow agencies to sidestep any sanction issues.

Ryan also noted that he circulated the draft RFP for Valleywide air quality coordination within the last month and asked the directors for feedback and approval to post the RFP. Robert Phipps (FCOG and Chair) noted that there were no objections, and directed Ryan to move forward.

Robert noted that the greenhouse gas target response to CARB would be discussed in the Directors' only session.

Governments Robert Phipps - Chair Merced County Association of Governments Stacie Guzman - Vice Chair

Fresno Council of

Kern Council of Governments Aaron Hakimi

Kings County Association of Governments Terri King

Madera County Transportation Commission Patricia Taylor San Joaquin Council of Governments

Diane Nguven

Stanislaus Council of Governments Rosa De León Park Tulare County Association of Governments Ted Smallev

Valleywide Coordinator Georgiena Vivian (559) 259-9257



Fresno Council of Governments 2035 Tulare Street, Suite 201 Fresno, CA 93721



Fresno Council of Governments Fax (559) 233-9645



3. Budget, Policy, and Legislative Updates

| a. State Gus Khouri | | | | | |
|---------------------|--|---------------|-------------|--|--|
| b. Fe | ederal | | | | |
| i. | 2024 Valley Voice Meetings Summary | Jen Covino | \boxtimes | | |
| ii. | Federal Budget, Policy, and Legislative Update | Jen Covino | \boxtimes | | |
| iii. | 2025 Valley Voice Trip: Proposed Reservation of Hyatt | Carolina Ilic | | | |
| | Regency Capitol Hill Room Block for September 7-11, 2025 | | | | |

State update

Gus Khouri (Khouri Consulting) provided a brief report on recent legislative updates affecting transportation and housing policies. He noted that the regular legislative session ended on August 31, and Governor Newsom had until September 30 to sign or veto bills. One significant bill that was signed was Senate Bill 768, authored by Senator Caballero, which mandates the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to provide more clarification on the application of Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) in housing projects. This clarification could assist both transportation planning and housing development, as VMT reduction requirements have been challenging for housing production.

Another bill, SB 1216 by Senator Blakespear, was also signed, prohibiting the use of "sharrows" (shared-lane markings for bicycles) on highways with speed limits above 30 miles per hour. Additionally, Assembly Bill 1 by Assemblymember Greg Hart is under consideration, aiming to require oil companies to maintain a more consistent gas supply to help prevent price spikes.

Gus mentioned other pending activities, including recent workshops to consider updates to the Draft Climate Action Plan for Infrastructure (CAPTI), which will affect grant programs funded by SB 1, such as the Solutions for Congested Corridors Program and the Trade Corridor Enhancement Program. Upcoming revisions to CAPTI are expected by spring 2025, and may put greater emphasis on reducing passenger VMT on highways, which could negatively affect regions with heavy state and national commerce. He also touched on a workshop for SB 1121, which explores alternatives to the gas tax, a topic that will be revisited in the 2025 legislative platform development.

Robert Phipps acknowledged that much of this information had been reported in the media, particularly SB 768, which had been a positive development.

Federal Valley Voice

Jen Covino (Covino, Smith and Simon) thanked everyone who traveled to Washington DC for the Valley Voice trip, and noted that a summary was attached. Stacie Guzman, MCAG expressed gratitude to Jen and Georgiena's teams for their exceptional work in representing the Valley. Despite the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair on the trip, both teams managed the situation smoothly, earning positive feedback from Board members. Others echoed this appreciation, commending the Chair's leadership and the supportive role of all staff involved, particularly first-time attendees.

Federal Budget, Policy, and Legislative Update

Jen Covino cautioned that due to the hurricane recovery efforts in the southeastern U.S., federal attention and resources are temporarily redirected, possibly slowing down decision-making. Jen urged the execution of pending grant agreements, like the Reconnecting Communities and the Safe Streets and Roads grants, to avoid delays amid personnel transitions and upcoming holidays. She highlighted recent progress on Congressman Valadao's Farm to Market Road Improvements Act, which has gained bipartisan support, and noted ongoing efforts to engage additional cosponsors. Jen outlined upcoming funding opportunities, including programs from the Department of Transportation and a range of grant solicitations for infrastructure, rail, port, and emissions projects. She also mentioned that hurricane impacts may delay major announcements, such as the Mega grant program. Jen concluded by emphasizing the proactive preparation for a potential executive branch transition and the upcoming release of infrastructure policy details from presidential candidates.

2024 Valley Voice Trip: Proposed Reservation of Hyatt Regency Capitol Room Block for September 7-11, 2025

Carolina Ilic (VRPA Technologies) highlighted a proposal to reserve a room block at the Hyatt Regency Capitol Hill from September 7-11. She noted that the draft contract includes 25 rooms at a nightly rate of \$369 and a commitment for food and beverages, totaling \$38,400 plus taxes. During her review, concerns were raised about ongoing hotel renovations that may disrupt the experience, despite assurances that reserved rooms would be in remodeled sections. The draft contract includes a clause allowing for date changes based on the Congressional calendar without penalties. Given the potential delays in receiving the Congressional schedule, flexibility in accommodations was highlighted as beneficial. The group decided to revisit this discussion in a closed session to weigh other options.

4. Committee Updates

a. Valley Legislative Affairs Committee (VLAC)

Robert Phipps (FCOG) noted that the Valley Legislative Affairs Committee (VLAC) update was brief, since the meeting primarily covered the same legislative updates already presented. The main focus was on providing committee members with similar insights and information on state and federal legislative matters.

Robert Phipps Ofelia Abundez Kim Anderson Rob Ball

b. SJV Swap Meet

Ophelia Abundez (FCOG) noted that at the recent San Joaquin Valley (SJV) Swap Meet on September 20, participants received an overview of the earmark repurposing process, which allows member agencies to convert earmarked funds into Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funds, potentially increasing Obligation Authority (OA). Updates to the 2026 RTP revenue process and CARB's involvement were also shared. The group plans to revisit OA discussions in November after assessing each agency's obligations, and the next meeting on October 10 will cover updates on earmark repurposing, STBG and CMAQ guidelines, and revised CMAQ cost-effectiveness requirements. An optional Q&A session will follow for any additional inquiries.

c. Housing and Land Use

No update.

d. Travel Modelers Group

Rob Ball, Kern COG noted that the next Modelers Group meeting is scheduled for November 4 at 1pm. He had no other updates other than the rural induced travel demand study has not yet been released.

5. SJV REAP Program

Receive update.

The SJV REAP Program update highlighted key financial and project activities. Michael Sigala (Sigala Inc.) provided a financial overview, noting that the program concludes on December 31, with final reporting due by year-end. Recent invoices, including a \$749,000 request for overrun costs in Tulare, Kings, and Merced counties, were submitted, and the final invoice for the remaining \$2.9 million is in progress to fully draw down REAP funds. Michael noted that the program's remaining projects include ADU and AFFH technical assistance for 30 jurisdictions, the Small Lot Planning Study with a workshop scheduled for October 22, and an RFP for a residential design standards guidebook. The Directors emphasized completing all expenditures and documentation by December 31, ensuring compliance and maximizing allocated funds.

Michael Sigala

□ and Robert

Phipps

6. San Joaquin Valley Annual Policy Conference 2025

April 9-11, 2025, in Merced, CA

Stacie Guzman (MCAG) provided a brief update on the 2025 San Joaquin Valley Annual Policy Conference, scheduled for April 9-11 in Merced. She encouraged participants to mark their calendars and get this on their elected officials' calendars and mentioned that planning is focused on securing sponsorships. Stacie welcomed any agenda suggestions, including topics or speakers, and Robert Phipps offered assistance from the group, as needed.

Stacie Guzman

INFORMATION ITEMS

The following items are for informational purposes and require no action or vote. The individuals listed will provide a brief verbal update at the meeting.

7. Caltrans Directors' Report

During the Caltrans Directors' Report, Michael Navarro (Caltrans District 6) noted that the Department's strategic plan has been completed and is awaiting approval from the agency secretary and Governor's office before release to local agencies. Michael provided updates on the SR-99 Comprehensive Multimodal Corridor Plan, with an upcoming website launch featuring public outreach recordings. Stakeholders were urged to participate in TAC meetings to review draft

Diana Gomez/Grace Magsayo

solutions for the corridor plan, with the next meeting set for October 17. Progress updates were also given on several SR-99 projects, including the Tagus project set to finish by winter and others in various planning and bidding stages. Michael highlighted recent grant successes and encouraged agencies to apply for the new Caltrans planning grants, with applications due in January. Robert Phipps thanked Caltrans and others for hosting a recent CAPTI workshop, which had valuable turnout and learning opportunities.

8. California High-Speed Rail

Samer Shaath (California High-Speed Rail Authority - CHSRA) shared that the California High-Speed Rail (HSR) project reached 14,000 construction jobs, with over 75% of those jobs held by local workers. The Central Valley Training Center recently celebrated 17 graduates who completed its apprenticeship program, preparing them for roles in HSR construction. The 2024 HSR Sustainability Report was released, and HSR will be featured at the upcoming WTS luncheon on October 16, with presentations by key female leaders from the organization. In terms of construction milestones, HSR has reached peak weekly worker numbers, particularly in Construction Packages (CP) 1 and CP 2-3, with goals to complete CP 1, 2, and 3 by the end of 2026. Construction is progressing on multiple sites, including McKinley Avenue and Avenue 24.

9. San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority – Passenger Rail

Michael Hanebutt from the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority provided an update on the Madera High-Speed Rail Station, announcing that the recent Mega grant award has fully funded the Amtrak relocation and initial construction of the HSR station. He invited the group to share ideas for ongoing transit-oriented development (TOD) and rail transit projects through their TOD working group under the Directors Committee, which will meet again soon. Additionally, Michael mentioned that a new website for the working group is in development, aimed at highlighting the group's efforts. Congratulations were extended to Michael and his team for securing the grant, marking a significant milestone for the Valley.

10. San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District

Tom Jordan (San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District - SJVAPCD) reported that the EPA has given interim final approval on the PM 2.5 contingency plan. While pleased with this progress, the district remains anxious about the pending approval of the ozone plan, which EPA staff has committed to finalizing by October to avoid

Toni Tinoco

Michael Hanebutt

Tom Jordan

sanctions set for early November. Tom expressed continued efforts to ensure EPA meets this timeline, and Robert Phipps thanked the Air District for its ongoing work and collaboration on air quality issues.

11. Miocar Car Sharing No report.

Michael Sigala

12. California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley No report.

OTHER ITEMS

13. Director Items

ADJOURN MEETING

The meeting was adjourned at 10:59 a.m.

Directors only session.

Next Directors' Meeting: Thursday, November 7, 2024

Other Meeting Participants

| Yes | No | Director Agency | Yes | No | Director Agency |
|-------------|-------------|------------------------------|-------------|-------------|--|
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| \boxtimes | | Ofelia Abundez Fresno COG | \boxtimes | | Samer Shaath, CHSRA |
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| | \boxtimes | Mark Montelongo SJVAPCD | | | |
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AGENDA ITEM 5

SJV Reap Program Update



REAP Update November 7, 2024

- The REAP program will end on December 31, 2024.
- All to-date (through 9/30/24) quarterly reports from MPOs to Fresno COG were due October 7, 2024. The fourth quarter (10/1/24 to 12/31/24) report is due at the end of December 2024. Jurisdictional expenditure reporting for the life of the REAP program is also required.
- A final report template for MPOs has been provided to staff and is due at the end of December 2024.
- A final invoice for \$2.9M has been submitted and accepted by HCD for processing.
- ADU and AFFH only Technical Assistance to Valley jurisdictions is available utilizing the following consultants:
 - Precision Engineering (ADU)
 - > VTA (AFFH)

31 jurisdictions have requested technical assistance to date: Arvin, McFarland, Atwater, Kingsburg, Bakersfield, Clovis, Stanislaus County, Hughson, Wasco, Stockton, Madera County, Madera, Merced County, Tulare County, Kings County, Selma, Lodi, Parlier, Porterville, Merced, Gustine, Dos Palos, Lemoore, Woodlake, Lindsay, Dinuba, Farmersville, Exeter, Los Banos and Taft.

- Additional Valleywide work efforts include:
 - Comprehensive Housing Report; status complete and available on-line.
 - ➤ Housing Element Data Sets; status complete and available on-line.
 - ADU Template Program; status complete, on-line, ongoing TA.
 - Guide to Recent California Housing Laws and Policies Affecting Local Land-Use Planning; status – complete and available on-line.
 - > RHNA Insights GIS Tool (UF); status complete, 11 jurisdictions/COGs are utilizing.
 - Condo Construction Analysis (EPS); status complete and available on-line.
 - Inclusionary Housing Analysis (EPS); status complete and available on-line.
 - Water Supply/SGMA Analysis (Mintier/Rincon Consultants); status- complete and available on-line.
 - > Small lot planning study (Mintier Harnish); status complete and available on-line.
 - Residential Objective Design Standards Guidebook; status pending.
 - REAP Workshop Series -
 - Next workshop is scheduled for January 2025.
- **REAP TAC Committee** meeting was held on October 8th. The next TAC meeting will occur on November 12th.