

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY REGIONAL POLICY COUNCIL



OVERALL WORK PROGRAM

FY 2025-26



San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council Members and Staff, July 2025

Merced County Association of Governments (MCAG)

Supervisor Daron McDaniel, Merced County - **CHAIR, POLICY COUNCIL**

Mayor Pat Nagy, City of Gustine

Alternate: Supervisor Scott Silveira, Merced County

***STAFF: Stacie Guzman, Executive Director.
Chair, Directors' Committee***



Stanislaus Council of Governments (StanCOG)

Supervisor Vito Chiesa, Stanislaus County - **VICE CHAIR, POLICY COUNCIL**

Councilmember Rosa Escutia-Braaton, City of Modesto

Alternate: Supervisor Buck Condit, County of Stanislaus

STAFF: Elisabeth Hahn, Acting Executive Director



Kern Council of Governments (Kern COG)

Supervisor David Couch, Kern County

Mayor Saul Ayon, City of McFarland

Alternate: Mayor Pro Tem Cathy Prout, City of Shafter

STAFF: Jay Schlosser, Executive Director



Kings County Association of Governments (KCAG)

Mayor Alvaro Preciado, City of Avenal

Supervisor Doug Verboon, Kings County

Alternate: Supervisor Joe Neves, Kings County

STAFF: Terri King, Executive Director



Tulare County Association of Governments (TCAG)

Mayor Rudy Mendoza, City of Woodlake

Supervisor Dennis Townsend, Tulare County

Alternate: Councilmember Linda Launer, City of Dinuba

STAFF: Ted Smalley, Executive Director



Fresno Council of Governments (Fresno COG)

Mayor Alma Beltran, City of Parlier

Councilmember Gary Yep, City of Kerman

Alternate: Mayor Pro Tem Bill Nijjer, City of Kerman

STAFF: Robert Phipps, Executive Director, Vice Chair, Directors' Committee

**Madera County Transportation Commission (MCTC)**

Supervisor Robert Poythress, Madera County

Councilmember Jose Rodriguez, City of Madera

Alternate: Councilmember Waseem Ahmed, City of Chowchilla

STAFF: Patricia Taylor, Executive Director

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

Mayor Gary Singh, City of Manteca

Supervisor Robert Rickman, San Joaquin County

Alternate:

STAFF: Diane Nguyen, Executive Director

**San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SJVAPCD)**

Samir Sheikh, Executive Director

Alternate: Mark Montelongo, Director, Policy, and Government Affairs

**San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority (SJJPA)**

Ahdel Ahmed, Public Relations Manager



Introduction

The San Joaquin Valley 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 (RPAs) have coordinated planning activities involving interregional issues, 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 Agencies' Directors' Committee (Directors' Committee) and the San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council (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), and the Executive Director of the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority (SJJA). In Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-22, government affairs contracts for state and federal representation were implemented for the Policy Council.

The FY 2025-2026 Valleywide Overall Work Program (OWP) is a summary document that details major coordinated activities in which all eight regional planning agencies, along with the Air District and SJJA, are actively engaged. The Valleywide OWP does not replace the need or requirements of each RPA to conduct its own OWP; instead, 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 throughout this document.

Current Valleywide Major Activities

1. MAJOR HIGHWAYS AND INTERSTATES

Objective: To develop and foster regional coordination and prioritization for improving State Route 99 (SR 99), Interstate 5 (I-5), and other regionally significant corridors.

Lead: Kern COG, MCAG, TCAG, MCTC

The RPAs work closely 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 in 2006, 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 RPAs on project selection and funding alternatives. The Directors, working in close consultation with Caltrans District 6 and 10 staff, routinely meet, and discuss continued project planning and funding utilizing SB1 funding, RAISE, and other funding strategies.

In recent years, multiple funding requests related to SR 99 improvements have been made, including State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and SB1, as well as federal grant funding awards for the Tulare, Merced, and Madera segments.

Additionally, Caltrans initiated the **State Route 99 Comprehensive Multimodal Corridor Plan (CMCP)** to identify a broad range of multimodal opportunities for improving and enhancing the SR 99 corridor and for developing a stakeholder-shared vision and implementation plan for the corridor that aligns with state goals to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emission and passenger vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and increase freight reliability and throughput for inclusive economic development. The CMCP is a prerequisite for additional state funding for SR 99 capital projects. The CMCP planning process is being coordinated between Caltrans' district offices and the RPAs and is an ongoing planning effort. A draft CMCP is expected in August 2025 and is currently under review. A final CMCP is expected in summer 2025.

Activities for FY 2025-2026:

- Continue to advocate for completing the SR 99 system, with at least six lanes of travel throughout the San Joaquin Valley, including non-SOV and truck lanes, which the CMCP is considering.
- Continue to monitor and participate in the planning process for the State Route 99 CMCP.
- Participate in and lead discussions with the Regional Policy Council, the California Transportation Commission, legislators, and others on the importance of identifying and prioritizing state and federal funding for all significant Valley projects.

- Seek federal and state funding for major highway and interstate projects and coordinate pre-construction activities when feasible to ensure project readiness. Federal infrastructure funding programs, including the State Trade Corridor Enhancement Program (TCEP), the Solutions for Congested Corridors Program (SCCP), and the STIP, are major SB1 funding sources to be targeted.
- Work closely with Caltrans Districts 6 and 10 to identify the most congested highway segments for eligibility in the TCEP and the SCCP or SB 1 funding. Continue to refine and prioritize regionally significant projects through a methodical and mutually agreed-upon evaluation process.
- Outline policies for converting temporary lanes to permanent lanes when feasible. Kern COG will coordinate with Caltrans District 6, and MCAG will coordinate with District 10 on opportunities for additional programming.
- Combine SHOPP and ITIP funding to address rehabilitation and expansion of the SR 99 segments that need to be widened.
- Consider funding for truck-only and HOV lanes along SR 99.
- Continue to review findings of the 2025 Rural Induced Demand Study, funded by Caltrans (<https://www.nctc.ca.gov/Reports/RCTF-Rural-Induced-Demand-Study/index.html>), which was conducted to determine impacts in predominantly rural areas.

2. 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 long been California's geographic and agricultural production center, generating more than \$50 billion annually in agricultural commodities. It also plays a significant role in the national and international distribution of processed foods and energy products, with a burgeoning logistics and distribution industry.

The RPAs have a strong history of planning for regional goods movement. The San Joaquin Valley Interregional Goods Movement Plan (2015), San Joaquin Valley I-5/SR 99 Goods Movement Corridor Plan (2017), the San Joaquin Valley Goods Movement Sustainable Implementation Plan (2017), and the I-5 Freight ZERO Pilot Study (2019) are examples of regional coordination to enhance freight movement in the Valley. In 2020, funding and regional support for the California Inland Port concepts were solidified among the RPAs.

Activities for FY 2025-26:

- Continue to coordinate project prioritization for Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE), SB1, and other federal and state funding for goods movement, particularly for State Route 99.
- Participate and provide input to California's Freight Mobility Plan and the Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure (CAPTI).
- Continue to collaborate with regional partners on logistics and economic development initiatives, enhancing goods movement planning and implementation efforts.
- Continue to identify multimodal strategies to complement and support the movement of goods in the Valley.
- Continue to fund and participate in inland port concepts for the Valley, including the now TradePort California and the Castle Commerce Center.
- Continue to explore alternative fuels and technology strategies for meeting California's Sustainable Freight mandates.

3. AIR QUALITY TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AND COORDINATION

Objective: To continue the successful coordination of Valleywide air quality planning, minimizing potential impacts on project delivery.

Lead: San Joaquin COG, TCAG, Kern COG, SJV Air Pollution Control District

The federal Clean Air Act (CAA) requires transportation conformity, ensuring that federal funding is allocated to transportation activities that are consistent with air quality goals. The CAA 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 addressing air quality, conformity, and transportation modeling issues in the Valley.

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

In FY 2023-24, the ***SJV Swap Meet Committee*** was reinstated at the staff level. The SJV Swap Meet Group comprises transportation programming staff from each of the San Joaquin Valley Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs). The group meets virtually approximately every other month. Meetings provide a forum for staff to discuss various programming topics, including Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) best practices, apportionment exchange opportunities, new programming rules and regulations, air quality conformity, and other vital issues. The forum also offers an excellent opportunity for entry-level programmers to learn about the complexities of programming from more experienced staff members. In the coming months, meetings will focus on topics related to preparing the 2026 FTIP and Air Quality Conformity documentation.

In FY 2023-24, the ***Valley Transportation Modelers Group (TMG)*** was created on the staff level to coordinate with the Valleywide air quality modeling consultant and RPA transportation modeling consultants. The Valley TMG offers the COG Directors group a staff perspective on technical modeling issues, such as induced demand, and coordinates resource-saving collaborations, including travel model updates, training, data collection, software licensing, and best practices.

Activities for FY 2025-26:

- Monitor state and federal guidance related to air quality transportation planning requirements.
- Conduct conformity determinations to ensure that the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), 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 Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) review templates.
- Assist Valley staff in demonstrating conformity; provide EMFAC emissions modeling support.
- Assist Valley staff in target setting and SCS review performed by the California Air Resources Board.

4. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES STRATEGIES / REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANS

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

Lead: San Joaquin COG and Fresno COG

California's Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection Act of 2008 (SB 375) requires each RPA to develop a Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) as part of its Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). An SCS outlines a 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) establishes regional targets for reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from passenger vehicle use. The RPAs will work independently and collectively to meet the 2022 and 2026 targets, having invested considerable resources in technical staff, modeling, and scenario development. Furthermore, SB 743 (2014) introduced the vehicle miles traveled (VMT) metric, which is separate from SB 375 but shares similar goals with reducing single-occupancy vehicle trips.

In addition, the RPAs will continue to work with ARB on new protocols for the updated SCS review guidelines and establish regular and ongoing communication with ARB staff to better implement the SCS planning process for future plan cycles.

In FY 2023-24, a ***Housing and Land Use Committee*** at the staff level was formed to further evaluate and monitor land use policy and funding decisions at the state level that impact the RTP/SCS planning process.

Activities for FY 2025-26:

- Work with and encourage ARB staff to finalize the 2022 RTP/SCS reviews as quickly as possible.
- Establish regular and ongoing communication between ARB staff and Valley MPOs to enhance transparency and ensure consistency in SCS planning and review processes in future cycles.
- As needed, assist ARB and other state entities with SB 375 progress reporting and other guidance or policy documents.
- Continue implementing transportation and land use strategies developed in the RTP/SCS.
- Continue to evaluate and monitor the Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure (CAPTI), CSIS, and other climate change and social equity policies for implementation into Valley RTPs where appropriate.
- Monitor RPAs' preparation of RTP/SCS documents.

5. RELATIONSHIP DEVELOPMENT WITH EXTERNAL AGENCIES AND ENTITIES

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

Lead: Valleywide Coordinator, Government Affairs Consultants

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

Federal entities include the Department of Transportation (DOT), the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), the Federal Railroad 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 (County Farm Bureaus, California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), Western Growers Association, County Agricultural Commissioners, Water Management Districts, and others), the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley, colleges and universities, environmental groups, the business community (Economic Development Corporations, Chambers of Commerce, and other business stakeholders), and the public.

A high level of participation by Policy Council members is critical for successful relationship development with external agencies and entities. Policy Council members will partner with Directors in activities noted below for 2025 to 2026.

Activities for FY 2025-2026:

- Directors will coordinate and attend one-third of CTC meetings and meet yearly with our CTC Commissioner representative.
- Directors to meet annually with the CalSTA Secretary or pertinent staff.
- CTC staff will be invited to the Directors' Committee meeting once a year; Directors will meet with at least two CTC Board Members they don't know.
- RPA staff should be encouraged to take leadership positions on Valleywide matters.

- Valley Directors to develop and maintain relationships with the Caltrans Director and Deputy for Planning.
- Valley Directors' Committee meetings should be scheduled periodically at a time of the month when Valley Directors can review and discuss the CalCOG meetings to develop timely joint strategies on key issues.
- Request sister MPOs (MTC, Central Coast, or SCAG) to come to a Valley Directors' Committee meeting.
- Valley Directors to meet annually with ARB management and board members and attend the joint CTC/ARB and joint CTC/ARB/HCD Board meetings.

6. 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: Government Affairs Consultants, Valleywide Coordinator, VLAC

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 a year, position letters are written and circulated regarding legislation to support or oppose, as well as funding opportunities to pursue and support. Working closely 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.

In FY 2023-24, the ***Valley Legislative Affairs Committee (VLAC)*** was reinstated as a subcommittee of the Directors' Committee. In conjunction with government affairs personnel, the VLAC provides a staff perspective to the COG Directors' Committee and the SJV Regional Policy Council on legislative priorities and potential bills to sponsor, as well as helping to direct logistics for the annual "Valley Voice" trips to Sacramento and Washington, D.C.

Activities for FY 2025-26:

- Track legislation and regulations, develop a unified Valley-wide position, communicate those positions to federal and state officials, and participate in advocacy campaigns and other coalition-building activities as appropriate.
- Share information regarding grant opportunities and other financial resources available at the state or federal level.
- Develop the Valleywide Legislative Platform (state and federal).
- Continue to meet regularly with state and federal officials, including regional elected representatives, to discuss legislation, regulations, and funding opportunities that interest or concern the Valley.
- Plan and execute the "Valley Voice" Washington D.C. visit scheduled for September 2025.
- Plan and execute the "Valley Voice" Sacramento visit scheduled for Spring 2026.
- Advocate for additional PL funding to address inflation and increased transportation planning funding needs.

7. OTHER VALLEYWIDE ACTIVITIES

- **Housing Planning Funds, REAP.** \$59 million in REAP 2.0 funding was slated to come to Valley MPOs starting in FY 2022-23. Valley RPAs have completed initial applications for funding and are starting the implementation process. The Governor’s budget for FY 2024-25 included significant proposed cuts to the REAP 2.0 program. The Valley is advocating for REAP 3.0.
- **Passenger Rail.** The valley regional planning agencies coordinate and implement regional passenger transportation planning and capital efforts with the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority (SJ JPA). The SJ JPA was added as a member of the Policy Council at the beginning of FY 2021-22. The SJ JPA advises the Policy Council on passenger rail matters that require a coordinated and unified position, and passenger rail remains a significant component of the annual state and federal legislative platforms. The Policy Council fully supports passenger rail activities and frequently provides letters of support for funding applications. Creation of the Passenger Rail, Transit, and Land Use Working Group occurred in FY 2024-25 and is an ongoing work activity.
- **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 2025 conference was held in Merced County. The next scheduled conference will be in 2027. The Central California American Planning Association also contributes to the conference and helps manage the Blueprint Awards.

Past Conferences

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 (Fresno COG), Spring 2022
Manteca (SJ COG), Spring 2023
Visalia (TCAG), Spring 2024
Merced County (MCAG), 2025

Future Conferences

Under discussion, 2027
Kings County (KCAG), 2028
Fresno County (Fresno COG), 2029
San Joaquin County (SJ COG), 2030
Tulare County (TCAG), 2031
Kern County (Kern COG) – may be available to host at some time.

- **Policy Council, Executive Committee, and Directors’ Committee Meetings.** The Valleywide Coordinator will continue to schedule monthly meetings for the Directors’ Committee, the Policy Council, and its Executive Committee.

The Regional Policy Council typically meets three to four times a year, and it is anticipated that the Executive Committee will also meet at least three to four times a year, before the Policy

Council meetings. Additionally, up to four provisional and emergency meetings may be held annually.

The Policy Council Chair is elected for a two-year term at the first meeting of the fiscal year (usually in January). Activities for the Valley's coordinated efforts are maintained at www.sjvcogs.org.

In the fiscal year 2024-25, revisions were made to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and the Bylaws to ensure clarity and alignment with current operational needs. These updates included essential administrative edits that streamlined various processes and adjustments to reflect recent changes in the organization's name and the name of the Directors' Committee. Additionally, the frequency of meetings was modified to accommodate the evolving dynamics of the organization better, allowing for improved collaboration and communication.

Recognizing the critical role of the Overall Work Program (OWP) in coordinating efforts among member agencies, the annual Draft San Joaquin Valley Council of Governments (SJVCOG) OWP must be prepared to reflect proposed work activity and budget estimates, allowing the member agencies to accommodate such information in their budgets and OWPs. This draft should be presented to the Directors' Committee, Executive Committee, and Policy Council during January or February each year. The presentation serves as an opportunity for collaboration and feedback, ensuring that all member agencies are aligned in their objectives and strategies. Final adoption of the OWP is expected by June of each year.

Directors' Chair	Merced County Association of Governments, 2025-26
Rotation Schedule	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
	San Joaquin Council of Governments, 2030-31
	Tulare County Association of Governments, 2031-32
Policy Council Chairs	Daron McDaniel, Merced County Supervisor, 2025
	Daron McDaniel, Merced County Supervisor, 2024
	Robert Poythress, Madera County Supervisor, 2023
	Robert Poythress, Madera County Supervisor, 2022
	Robert Poythress, Madera County Supervisor, 2021
	Charles "Chuck" Winn, San Joaquin County Supervisor, 2020
	Rudy Mendoza, Mayor, City of Woodlake, 2019

Rudy Mendoza, Mayor, City of Woodlake, 2018
Rudy Mendoza, Mayor, City of Woodlake, 2017
Amarpreet “Ruby” Dhaliwal, Mayor, City of San Joaquin, 2016
Robert Poythress, Mayor, City of Madera, 2015
Robert Poythress, Mayor, City of Madera, 2014
Allen Ishida, Tulare County Supervisor, 2013
Allen Ishida, Tulare County Supervisor, 2012
Bill Spriggs, Mayor, City of Merced, 2011
Bill Spriggs, Mayor, City of Merced, 2010
Michael Rubio, Kern County Supervisor, 2009
Michael Rubio, Kern County Supervisor, 2008

- **San Joaquin Valley Policy Council and Directors’ Retreat**

Major topics include the following:

- ✓ Plan and Facilitate the Annual Retreat: Organize a thoughtful and engaging retreat where participants can collaboratively explore and discuss critical elements of the organization.
- ✓ Develop Organization Vision, Goals, and Objectives: Collaboratively refine the organization’s vision and goals, setting measurable objectives that align with the mission, ensuring that all members are aligned and motivated toward a common purpose.
- ✓ Review and Improve the Organization and Structure: Examine the current organizational framework, identifying strengths and areas for improvement to ensure clarity and efficiency in roles and responsibilities.
- ✓ Establish Meeting Protocols: Review and establish effective meeting procedures that promote inclusivity, efficiency, and productive discussions, ensuring that every voice is heard and valued.
- ✓ Establish Communication Protocols: Develop clear internal and external communication guidelines to foster transparency, consistency, and cohesion among all members.
- ✓ Invest in Comprehensive Training and Development Programs: Focus on empowering Directors, staff, and Policy Council Members by enhancing their skills through targeted workshops and learning opportunities.

This retreat aims to enhance operational effectiveness, strengthen team dynamics, and foster a shared commitment to the organization's future.

Fiscal Year 2025-26 Budget

The budget for the shared Valleywide activities noted in this document is detailed below. Budget amounts by agency represent the total direct cost for this activity. Budget amounts by activity are apportioned by population share for all items, except for legislative advocacy and Valley Voice trips, which are apportioned equally.

SJ COG serves as the fiscal agent for Air Quality Planning, a project conducted by Trinity Consultants with project management support from SJ COG staff.

Fresno COG is the fiscal agent for the Valleywide Coordinator contract with VRPA Technologies.

MCAG is the fiscal agent for the federal government affairs contract with Covino, Smith, and Simon.

Fresno COG is the fiscal agent for the state government affairs contract with Khouri Consulting.

The total budget for shared valleywide activities for the fiscal year 2025-2026 is detailed below.

Fiscal Year 2025-26 Meeting Schedule

The FY meeting schedule of the Policy Council, Executive Committee, Directors' Committee, Valley Voice Trips, and other valleywide activities is provided below.

Valleywide Meeting Calendar

San Joaquin Valley Policy Council

FY 2025-2026

July 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
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27	28	29	30	31		

Aug 2025						
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31						

Sep 2025						
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Oct 2025						
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Nov 2026						
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Dec 2026						
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Jan 2026						
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25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Feb 2026						
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





Mar 2026						
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						TBD

Apr 2026						
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						TBD

May 2026						
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31						

Jun 2026						
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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Important dates:

	Directors' Committee Meetings		Annual Policy Conference (April or May 2026, Dates TBD)
	Washington DC Valley Voice [September 9-10, 2025 (session/meeting dates)]		Sacramento Valley Voice (March 2026, Dated TBD)
	Regional Policy Council Regular Meetings		Policy Council Executive Committee Meetings
	Pre Valley Voice Planning Meetings		

All scheduled meeting dates may be altered due to conflicts with other planned conferences or meetings with partner agencies.

SJV Regional Policy Council 2025-2026 Overall Work Program Budget

Costs by Agency
Last Updated 07/18/25

Agency	Population ⁽¹⁾	% of Population	Air Quality Planning ⁽²⁾	Legislative Advocacy, Valley Voice DC ⁽³⁾	Legislative Advocacy, California ⁽⁴⁾	Valleywide Coordinator ⁽⁵⁾	Legal Counsel ⁽⁶⁾	Valley Voice Misc. Costs ⁽⁷⁾	Total FY 2025-26
Fresno COG	1,037,053	23.47%	58,663	5,250	12,600	42,237	1,200	1,400	121,350
Kern COG	923,961	20.91%	52,266	5,250	12,600	37,631	1,200	1,400	110,347
KCAG	154,015	3.48%	8,712	5,250	12,600	6,273	1,200	1,400	35,435
MCTC	162,599	3.68%	9,198	5,250	12,600	6,622	1,200	1,400	36,270
MCAG	293,080	6.63%	16,579	5,250	12,600	11,937	1,200	1,400	48,965
SJCOG	805,856	18.23%	45,585	5,250	12,600	32,821	1,200	1,400	98,856
StanCOG	555,765	12.58%	31,438	5,250	12,600	22,635	1,200	1,400	74,523
TCAG	487,209	11.02%	27,560	5,250	12,600	19,843	1,200	1,400	67,853
SJIPA				5,250	12,600		1,200	1,400	20,450
SJVAPCD				5,250	12,600		1,200	1,400	20,450
Total FY 2025-26	4,419,538	100.0%	\$ 250,000	\$ 52,500	\$ 126,000	\$ 180,000	\$ 12,000	\$ 14,000	\$ 634,500

Notes:

- (1) State of California, Department of Finance, E-1 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State with Annual Percent Change — January 1, 2024 and 2025. Sacramento, California, May 2025.
- (2) SJCOG Staff (\$50,000). Air Quality Consultant, Trinity (\$200,000 or \$175,000 with \$25,000 contingency, if needed). Contractor cost approved to \$170,000 as of July 11, 2024.
- (3) No Federal Metropolitan Planning (PL) Funds; cost for Valley Voice D.C. is apportioned equally (not by population). Legislative advocacy costs are November 2024 approved contract costs.
- (4) No PL Funds; cost for Valley Voice Sacramento is apportioned equally (not by population). Legislative advocacy costs are November 2024 approved contract costs of \$120,000, plus a 5% Cost of Living (COL) increase for each contract year.
- (5) VRPA Technologies, Inc. A 3% COL increase was applied consistent with the approved contract. A contract adjustment of \$46,537 was applied (see justification memorandum).
- (6) No PL Funds; cost for Legal Counsel is apportioned equally (not by population).
- (7) Other Direct Costs (Valley Voice DC Breakfast and Dinner Costs and Sacramento Reception and Lunch Costs - Calculated equally by agency). In reality, the costs will be billed considering the number of attendees by agency as a percentage of total costs paid.

* Fiscal Year 2025-26 Budget:

- Budget amounts by activity are apportioned by population share for all items, except as otherwise noted.
- SJCOG is the fiscal agent for Air Quality Planning, which is conducted by Trinity Consultants with project management support by SJCOG staff.
- Fresno COG is the fiscal agent for the Valleywide Coordinator contract with VRPA Technologies.
- Fresno COG and MCAG are the fiscal agents for the state and federal government affairs contracts and legal support.