

San Joaquin Valley Regional Agencies' Directors' Committee



Meeting Agenda

Thursday, March 5, 2026

10:00 am

Location:

Join Zoom Meeting

Via Zoom:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81718960608?pwd=hwkVeJS2NUV2ffwy0dSQWx9TiFrLWz.1>

Meeting ID: 817 1896 0608

Passcode: 676282

One tap mobile, Phone: 1 (669) 444-9171

Yes	No	Director Agency	Yes	No	Director Agency
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Stacie Guzman Chair MCAG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Patricia Taylor MCTC
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Robert Phipps Vice Chair Fresno COG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kate Miller StanCOG
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jay Schlosser Kern COG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Diane Nguyen SJCOG
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Terri King KCAG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Samir Sheikh SJVAPCD
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ted Smalley TCAG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ahdel Ahmed SJPA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Enclosure

- | | | |
|---|--------------|--------------------------|
| 1. February 5, 2026, Directors' Meeting – <i>Minutes to be emailed by Monday, March 2, 2026</i> | Chair Guzman | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|---|--------------|--------------------------|

DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS

- | | | |
|--|---|--------------------------|
| 2. RTP/SCS Updates and Air Quality Issues | Ted Smalley, Ryan Niblock & Alex Marcucci | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| a. SB 375 – 2026 GHG Reduction Targets | Ryan Niblock | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. Clean Air Act Waiver Rescission – Lockdown/Endangerment Finding Update | Ryan Niblock | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c. State Implementation Plan Update | Samir Sheikh | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Accommodations – The meeting room and restrooms are ADA accessible. Representatives or individuals with disabilities should contact the SJV Regional Planning Agencies at (559) 259-9257, at least three days in advance, to request auxiliary aids and/or translation services necessary to participate in the meeting. At this time, most meetings are conducted via Zoom.

3. Legislative Updates

a. State

1. State Legislative Update *Gus Khouri*

2. Valley Voice Sacramento

a). Event Recap *Gus Khouri & Georgiena Vivian*

b. Federal

1. Federal Legislative Update *Jen Covino*

2. "BASICS" ACT – H.R. 7537 *Jen Covino*

4. Discussion: April 2026 Policy Council and Directors' Retreat *Georgiena Vivian*

5. April 9 joint CTC/CARB/HCD meeting *Vice Chair Phipps*

6. Committee Updates

a. VLAC – No update – First meeting set for March 12, 2026 *Chair Guzman*

b. SJV Swap Meet *Kayley Clay*

c. Housing and Land Use *Kim Anderson*

d. Travel Modelers Group *Rob Ball*

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 *Michael Navarro, D6 & Grace Magsayo, D10*

8. California High-Speed Rail *Augie Blancas, CHSRA*

9. San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority – Passenger Rail *Ahdel Ahmed*

10. San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District *Mark Montelongo*

11. Miocar Car Sharing *Michael Sigala*

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OTHER ITEMS

12. Future Agendas / Items:

Georgiena Vivian

- a. **Directors' Committee – March 5, 2026**
- b. **Executive Committee – March 27, 2026**
- c. **Directors' Committee – April 2, 2026**
- d. **Policy Council – April 24, 2026**
- e. **Directors' Committee – May 7, 2026 – Approve OWP**
- f. **Executive Committee – May 22, 2026 – Approve OWP**
- g. **Directors' Committee – June 4, 2026**
- h. **Policy Council – June 26, 2026 – Approve OWP**

13. Director Items

Chair

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.

15. Directors' Only Session – **Scheduled****ADJOURN MEETING**

Next Directors' Meeting: Thursday, April 2, 2026.

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Other Meeting Participants

Yes	No	Director Agency	Yes	No	Director Agency
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Stephan Sanchez Kern COG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Georgiena Vivian SJV Coordinator VRPA
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rob Ball Kern COG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Carolina Ilic VRPA Technologies
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kayley Clay KCAG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dena Graham VRPA Technologies
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ben Kimball TCAG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ryan Vivian VRPA Technologies
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Steven Ingoldsby TCAG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gus Khouri Khouri Consulting
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Roberto Brady TCAG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mitch Weiss Khouri Consulting
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ben Giuliani TCAG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jen Covino Covino, Smith & Simon
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Aime Kane TCAG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	David Gellman Covino, Smith & Simon
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kasia Poleszczuk TCAG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Aly Hernandez Covino, Smith & Simon
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Paul Herman Fresno COG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Alex Marcucci Trinity Consultants
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ofelia Abundez Fresno COG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Samer Shaath, CHSRA
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Simran Jhutti Fresno COG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Augie Blancas, CHSRA
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Brenda Thomas Fresno COG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Michael Navarro Caltrans D6
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mykia Byrd Fresno COG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Braden Duran Caltrans D6
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dylan Stone MCTC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Harpreet Binning Caltrans D6
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jeff Findley MCTC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Alec Kimmel Caltrans D6
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Evelyn Espinosa MCTC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nabeelah Abi-Rached Caltrans D6
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nav Bagri MCAG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Grace Magsayo Caltrans D10
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Elizabeth Forte MCAG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Caleb Brock Caltrans D10
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Meg Prince MCAG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Eric Mather Caltrans D10
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Stephanie Jackson MCAG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tom Dumas Caltrans D10
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jose Luis Caceres StanCOG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Duper Tong Caltrans, D10
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Monica Streeter StanCOG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gurwinder Sekhon Caltrans D10
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nick St. Cook StanCOG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gregoria Ponce Caltrans D10
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Shannon Silva StanCOG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gabbie Sefranek Caltrans D10
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Josephine Oshana StanCOG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Natalia Castillo Deleon Caltrans
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jean Foletta StanCOG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bill Higgins CALCOG
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cindy Malekos StanCOG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sabrina Bradbury CALCOG
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ryan Niblock SJCOG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gregory McAteer CALCOG
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kim Anderson SJCOG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vincenzo Caporale CALCOG
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yvette Davis SJCOG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Michael Sigala Sigala, Inc.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Christine Corrales SJCOG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rene Gutierrez ACE Rail
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mark Montelongo SJVAPCD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Peter Whippy CHSRA
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dan Leavitt SJJPA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Shane Gunn Caltrans D6
		Michael Hanebutt SJJPA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Augie Blancas High-Speed Rail
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Blake Dunford SJCOG
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kristine Kai LSA

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AGENDA ITEM 1

February 5, 2026 Directors' Committee

Meeting Minutes

San Joaquin Valley Regional Agencies' Directors' Committee



Meeting Minutes

Thursday, February 5, 2026
10:00 am

Location:

Join Zoom Meeting

Via Zoom:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86205728219?pwd=3gwpXZtBh5aNTRaXEgnIFlaxTl7XC6.1>

Meeting ID: 862 0572 8219

Passcode: 542010

One tap mobile, Phone: 1 (669) 444-9171

Yes	No	Director Agency	Yes	No	Director Agency
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Stacie Guzman Chair MCAG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Patricia Taylor MCTC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Robert Phipps Vice Chair Fresno COG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kate Miller StanCOG
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jay Schlosser Kern COG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Diane Nguyen SJCOG (R. Niblock)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Terri King KCAG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Samir Sheikh SJVAPCD
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ted Smalley TCAG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ahdel Ahmed SJJPA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Enclosure

1. January 4, 2026, Directors' Meeting Chair Guzman

Member Jay Schlosser, Kern COG, made a motion to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Vice Chair Robert Phipps, Fresno COG. The motion passed.

DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS

2. RTP/SCS Updates and Air Quality Issues Ted Smalley, Ryan Niblock & Alex Marcucci
- a. **SB 375 – 2026 GHG Reduction Targets** Ryan Niblock
- b. **Clean Air Act Waiver Rescission – Lockdown/Endangerment Finding Update** Alex Marcucci

Ryan Niblock, SJCOG, provided an update focused on two primary issues: preparation for Valley Voice and emerging air-quality conformity challenges related to upcoming SIP updates. He explained that staff is

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developing a concise one-page document outlining concerns regarding how SCSs are reviewed and approved, with the goal of improving efficiency moving forward. Weekly Thursday coordination meetings are underway with Valley MPO leadership to refine messaging and materials, including separate leave-behind documents to ensure air quality information remains current ahead of upcoming engagements.

The more urgent issue involves conformity challenges associated with the 2015 ozone SIP update. Draft ozone budget numbers are creating difficulty for several Valley MPOs attempting to pass conformity for their RTP/SCS updates. Modeling staff has been directed to immediately run updated tests using a new post-processor that reflects anticipated ozone budget adjustments and to submit results promptly. In parallel, Directors are exploring advocacy options to potentially delay the effective date of revised ozone budgets until after RTP/SCS approvals to avoid disrupting board adoption timelines. Samir Sheikh, SJVAPCD, acknowledged the complexity of the consent decree timeline and EPA coordination, expressed willingness to support discussions, and noted related CARB priority actions for 2026.

c. State Implementation Plan Update

Samir Sheikh

□

Samir Sheikh, SJVAPCD, raised concerns stemming from a recent Citizen Advisory Committee meeting, where significant discussion, and in some cases criticism, emerged regarding the subject at hand. He noted that some of the commentary appeared to be driven by misinformation, suggesting a need for clearer communication and contextual understanding of the issue. His remarks reflected awareness of growing public discourse and the importance of ensuring that policy deliberations are grounded in accurate information.

Samir's primary question was directed at Gus Khouri and focused on the Policy Council's role and expectations at this stage of the process. Specifically, he sought clarification on whether there is any formal or informal pressure for regional policy bodies, such as the Policy Council, to publicly weigh in or express support at this time. He questioned whether engagement is expected now or remains primarily a political and strategic timing decision, as previously suggested by Bill Higgins, regarding whether the proposal is viable for advancement this year.

Samir also inquired about the broader regional landscape, asking whether other Councils of Governments (COGs) are actively engaging or signaling support. In referencing CalCOG's apparent involvement in a coalition, Samir sought to understand how politically relevant or influential a Policy Council position would be in advancing the effort. Overall, his comments reflected a desire to assess the strategic value, timing, and potential expectations surrounding formal support from regional policy bodies, particularly in light of advocacy efforts by stakeholders seeking momentum for the proposal..

3. Legislative Updates

a. State

1) State Legislative Update

Gus Khouri

□

Gus Khouri, State legislative Advocate, Khouri Consulting, reported that the Legislature reconvened on January 5, with Senator Monique Limón sworn in as the first Latina Senate President Pro Tem, marking a historic milestone.

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The Governor's State of the State Address was underway, and the proposed budget would be released the following day. The Legislative Analyst's Office projected an approximately \$18 billion deficit, though Gus suggested the Governor may present a slightly lower figure ahead of the May Revise. While revenues are \$11 billion above projections, rising education funding obligations and up to \$6 billion in federal cuts are creating pressure on the General Fund.

He also expressed concern about declining cap-and-trade auction revenues and the increased allocation to CAL FIRE, noting that the new cap-and-invest program does not take effect until July 1.

Gus flagged potential risks to SB 125 commitments and future funding for TIRCP Competitive and LCTOP programs.

Additionally, he mentioned monitoring two-year bills still in their house of origin, specifically SB 667, which would impose new unfunded safety mandates on railroads; he anticipated it may stall in committee.

2) *Valley Voice Sacramento*

a) *Event Status*

*Gus Khouri &
Georgiena Vivian*



Gus Khouri, State Legislative Advocate at Khouri Consulting, provided an update on the upcoming Valley Voice trip to Sacramento, outlining event logistics, confirmed meetings, and coordination needs. Lunch has been secured at Mayahuel to improve the meeting environment, and a reception will be held at Ella the evening prior to lobby visits to allow additional opportunities to connect with legislators who may not be available during the formal schedule. Approximately seven legislative meetings have been confirmed so far, with efforts underway to meet with key members, including Senator Cortese and Assemblymember Wilson. Gus is preparing a draft itinerary and talking points in advance of the Executive Committee meeting to assign speakers and ensure coordinated messaging. Attendance confirmations are being finalized to manage venue capacity and session attendance.

b) *Legislative Platform – Discuss CHSRA Business Plan Approach*

Chair Guzman



The discussion then shifted to high-speed rail and the need for unified messaging before the Sacramento visit. Members acknowledged significant volatility surrounding the project, including station relocation discussions in Merced, recent gubernatorial announcements, the forthcoming draft business plan, and a letter from Senator Cortese requesting analysis of legislative proposals sought by the High-Speed Rail Authority. Concerns were raised about inconsistent communication with Kern County and broader regional equity. While most participants expressed continued but cautious support for high-speed rail investment in the Valley, there was consensus on the need to present a coordinated regional position, supporting investment while also emphasizing transparency, respectful engagement with all Valley jurisdictions, and careful consideration of legislative changes that could affect local authorities.

b. *Federal*

Jen Covino



David Gellman, Federal Legislative Advocate, Covino, Smith and Simon, provided a federal update on behalf of Jen Covino, focusing on appropriations, earmarks, and upcoming grant opportunities. He reported that 11 of

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the 12 FY2026 federal appropriations bills have been completed, with only the Homeland Security bill outstanding and potentially subject to a short-term continuing resolution. The Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development (THUD) bill is finalized, meaning most federal agencies are funded through September 30, 2026.

He highlighted several enacted earmarks benefiting the region, including projects in Visalia, Kern County, San Joaquin County, and the Regional Rail Commission (Modesto & Empire Terminal Railroad Positive Train Control project). He noted that implementing agencies such as FHWA and HUD will issue guidance on next steps, including federal compliance requirements. Looking ahead, he advised that the FY2027 earmark cycle is beginning soon, with guidance forthcoming from California's congressional delegation. He also flagged key upcoming federal grant deadlines, including the Federal-State Partnership Program, BUILD grants, and the Port Infrastructure Development Program.

4. Continued Review: Preliminary Draft 2026/27 SJV OWP Georgiana Vivian

Georgiana Vivian, SJV Coordinator, VRPA Technologies, reported that the draft Overall Work Program (OWP) has been distributed to the full group, with only minor comments received to date. She confirmed that Mayor Serrato has been included in the circulation and noted that no major changes have been made to the document for Merced.

The OWP will be presented to the Executive Committee on February 13th and to the Policy Council on the 27th as informational items only. Formal adoption will occur after the Sacramento Valley Voice trip to allow for any necessary adjustments resulting from those discussions. Members were encouraged to submit additional comments as soon as possible so revisions can be incorporated before the next distribution, with another opportunity for input prior to Policy Council consideration.

5. Recommend Washington D.C Valley Voice Travel/Session Dates Georgiana Vivian

Georgiana Vivian, SJV Coordinator, VRPA Technologies, reviewed scheduling options for the upcoming Washington, D.C. Valley Voice trip in September. Because Congress will not return to session until the 14th, the first full week of September is not recommended. Proposed options include travel beginning the weeks of September 13, 20, or 27, with the current preference being departure on the 13th and return on the 17th. These proposed dates will be presented to the Executive Committee and Policy Council for confirmation, with this discussion serving as a final check for conflicts before travel arrangements are made.

During the discussion, several conflicts were raised. The SJVAPCD and other agencies have board meetings the third week of September, and other conflicts during the week of the 13th. Members acknowledged that September typically presents conflicts due to board meetings and statewide conferences and agreed to continue evaluating options through the Executive Committee before finalizing dates.

6. Discussion: April 2026 Policy Council and Directors' Retreat Georgiana Vivian

Georgiana Vivian, SJV Coordinator, VRPA Technologies, provided an overview of the upcoming Policy Council Retreat scheduled for late April in Merced at the El Capitano Hotel. She outlined a two-day format, with Day 1 featuring a group icebreaker activity followed by a dinner reception, and Day 2 consisting of a full day of facilitated sessions. The retreat agenda includes a "State of the Valley" panel (covering housing, economic development, legislative, and modal perspectives), discussions on organizational vision, goals, and priorities, strengthening organizational structure, meeting and communication protocols, leadership development, and a

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closing session focused on outcomes and next steps. She noted that a draft program has been distributed, that comments are welcome, and that refinements will be made before the event.

During the discussion, members clarified that invitations were extended to Policy Council members, Directors, and alternates, with flexibility to include relevant staff. There was support for adding a focused discussion of high-speed rail to the retreat agenda, particularly in light of recent developments and the need for a unified regional message. The retreat is intended to build alignment, establish consensus priorities for the coming year, and generate clear action items for the Policy Council and its committees.

7. Committee Updates

Chair Guzman

a. **VLAC**

Stacie Guzman provided an update on the Valley Legislative Affairs Committee (VLAC), noting prior discussions about whether to reestablish the committee and clarify its purpose and added value. Following outreach to the COGs, each agency designated a representative to participate in a discussion about VLAC's scope and structure.

Meg Prince confirmed that the group has scheduled a meeting for March 12, the first date when all representatives are available, to evaluate the committee's role and determine next steps. An update and recommendations will be presented at the April Directors' Meeting.

b. **SJV Swap Meet**

Kayley Clay

Kayley Clay, KCAG, noted that the group was scheduled to meet next week, so she did not have an update.

c. **Housing and Land Use**

Kim Anderson

Kim Anderson, SJCOG, noted that the Housing and Land Use Committee met in January for an informational session focused on affordable housing and the Sustainable Communities Housing Program. Attendees were encouraged to connect with local developers to determine potential project submittals and were reminded that technical assistance is available to jurisdictions interested in participating. The committee also received a presentation from SACOG's Dov Caden on Sacramento's Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) methodology, which HCD recognized as a best practice. While no major surprises were identified, the RHNA process continues to grow more complex, and agencies anticipate further challenges in the next cycle, expected in 2030.

The committee has begun conducting in-depth reviews of housing-related legislation to ensure staff are well-informed, utilizing CalCOG's legislative synopses and coordinating with the reconstituted VLAC. Additionally, members were reminded that REAP annual reporting deadlines are approaching. Agencies should prepare for follow-up questions from the state and note that many jurisdictions have extended REAP agreements through December 2026.

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d. Travel Modelers Group*Rob Ball*

Rob Ball, Kern COG, reported that the group's last full meeting was held in November, with a special modelers-only meeting conducted on January 7. At that meeting, most regions indicated they remain on track for August adoption of their Regional Transportation Plans (RTPs), although modeling challenges continue to be addressed. The next meeting, originally scheduled for February 9, will be postponed to later in February or early March.

Additionally, the VTransform project—a valley-wide freight study—is hosting virtual workshops across the region this month, and agencies may see related outreach materials.

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.

8. Caltrans Directors' Report

Michael Navarro, D6 &
Grace Magsayo, D10

Michael Navarro announced that Jason Mao has been appointed to serve in an interim capacity as Deputy District Director for Maintenance Operations following John Liu's retirement on December 30. Jason brings experience in traffic safety, operations, and maintenance, and is expected to continue strong collaboration with local partners. Navarro also reported that District 6 reviewed 10 Caltrans planning grant applications, with recommendations now submitted to headquarters; award announcements are anticipated in May or June. For the 2026 BILD grant cycle (due February 24), the District received five requests for letters of support or partnership, which are under review to ensure timely signature and submission.

He provided updates on SHOPP and STIP hearings, noting recent meetings in San Diego and Sacramento, with additional hearings forthcoming. Navarro also highlighted the upcoming 5th Annual DBE Summit to be held on March 4 at the Fresno Downtown Convention Center, featuring state and regional transportation leaders.

9. California High-Speed Rail

Augie Blancas, CHSRA

No report provided.

10. San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority – Passenger Rail

Ahdel Ahmed

Ahdel Ahmed, SJJPA, highlighted the Route 40 bus service connecting Merced to San Jose and expressed appreciation to local partners, including staff and the Hispanic Chamber, for their support in promoting the service. He also noted plans to coordinate introductions for the agency's new CEO, who is meeting with regional stakeholders, and encouraged members to reach out directly if needed.

Additionally, he announced that service levels have returned to pre-pandemic operations. Plans are underway for a joint press conference in Sacramento this spring with partner JPAs, Capital Corridor and Pacific Surfliner, to formally recognize the restoration of full service across all three rail corridors.

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11. San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District

Mark Montelongo

Mark Montelongo, SJVAPCD, reported that on January 29, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) finalized its determination in the Federal Register that the District attained the 1995 annual PM2.5 standard by the December 31, 2024, deadline. He characterized this as a significant milestone achieved through effective regulatory plans, collaboration with residents and businesses, and strong stakeholder partnerships.

He also noted that the board approved its 2026 legislative platform, outlining advocacy priorities for the coming year. In addition, the board accepted \$12.5 million in state vehicle replacement funding to support the District's Drive Clean in the San Joaquin program, which provides residents with options such as vehicle repair and replacement to reduce emissions.

12. Miocar Car Sharing

Michael Sigala

Michael Sigala, Sigala Inc., provided a brief update on program utilization, sharing data in the chat for December, year-to-date 2025, and cumulative usage since 2019. He highlighted a major milestone: by the end of 2025, Miocar had logged its one-millionth miles of service.

He also noted that the locations identified in the shared attachment remain active service areas, with continued activity underway and additional efforts forthcoming in Watsonville, Kern County, and Fresno.

OTHER ITEMS

13. Future Meetings and Agenda Items:

Georgiena Vivian

- a. ***Executive Committee – February 13, 2026***
- b. ***Policy Council – February 27, 2026***
- c. ***Directors' Committee – March 5, 2026***
- d. ***Directors' Committee – April 2, 2026***
- e. ***Policy Council – April 24, 2026***
- f. ***Directors' Committee – May 7, 2026***
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- h. ***Directors' Committee – June 4, 2026***
- i. ***Policy Council – June 26, 2026***

Georgiena Vivian, SJV Coordinator, VRPA Technologies, reviewed upcoming meeting dates and the draft Executive Committee agenda. She also summarized items planned for the upcoming Executive Committee agenda. Members were invited to suggest any additional items before the agenda was finalized and distributed.

2. Director Items

Kate Miller, StanCOG, reported that the StanCOG Board will meet in closed session next Thursday to conduct final interviews for the Executive Director position, with a potential announcement expected at the board meeting on the 21st. She anticipates remaining involved temporarily to assist with project work during the transition.

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Kate also reminded members to pay outstanding invoices for Covino, Smith and Simon and Khouri Consulting legislative advocacy services, noting that some agencies remain in arrears and that invoices for July through December are forthcoming.

During the follow-up discussion, members confirmed that the boards have approved the Covino, Smith and Simon contract and have begun processing invoices effective January.

Additionally, in response to a question regarding the RTP/SCS from Member Patricia Taylor, MCTC, it was confirmed that the Valley-wide chapter has been completed and circulated to planners, with an offer to provide an additional copy as needed.

3. 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.

No public comment was provided.

4. Directors' Only Session

A Directors' Only Session was not conducted.

ADJOURN MEETING

The meeting was adjourned at 11:56 AM.

Next Directors' Meeting: Thursday, March 5, 2026.

Next steps

- ✓ Stacie: Send an email to directors emphasizing the urgency of submitting modeling test files and information for air quality/SIP updates within the next two weeks
- ✓ Ryan/Alex/Technical Staff: Complete and circulate the one-pager on SCS review and approval concerns within this month
- ✓ Georgiena: Send an invitation to Samir (and Mark) for the Thursday 8 am Air Quality Group meetings
- ✓ Samir/Planning Director: Attend Thursday 8 am Air Quality Group meetings and support SIP issues, as appropriate
- ✓ Bill Higgins: Send out the coalition letter regarding SB1421/Fair Transportation Funding Coalition to the group
- ✓ Gus: Share draft itinerary for the Sacramento Valley Voice trip with the group
- ✓ Gus: Work on talking points for Valley Voice trip, and share in advance of Executive Committee

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- ✓ All Policy Council Members/Electeds: Respond to Georgiena with RSVPs and invited guest lists for Sacramento events/reception by the requested deadline
- ✓ Gus: Check availability of high-speed rail leadership (Tolleson, Hacker, etc.) for a potential meeting with electeds/exec directors during Valley Voice trip, pending Executive Committee direction
- ✓ Blake: Send an extra copy of the Valley-wide RTP chapter to Madera
- ✓ Kate: Send out invoices for July-December legislative advocacy work to member agencies
- ✓ Meg: Coordinate and hold the March 12th meeting to discuss the purpose and scope of VLAC; report back to the April Director's meeting
- ✓ All Directors/Staff: Review Cortese letter and high-speed rail legislative asks; provide feedback to Jay and the group as appropriate
- ✓ Georgiena: Add election of chair and vice chair term discussion to Executive Committee agenda
- ✓ Georgiena: Update and circulate the final draft retreat program, including possible high-speed rail/legislative platform review
- ✓ All Directors: Provide comments on the draft retreat program to Georgiena as soon as possible
- ✓ All Directors: Review and provide any additional agenda items for the Executive Committee to Georgiena before tomorrow night
- ✓ All Directors: Review and comment on the draft Overall Work Program (OWP) before Executive Committee and Policy Council meetings
- ✓ All Directors: Review the air quality email/memo from Alex and ensure technical staff are providing the required information within two weeks
- ✓ Georgiena: Add high-speed rail business plan approach discussion to the Executive Committee agenda under state legislative update
- ✓ All Directors: Review potential date conflicts for the September Valley Voice DC trip and inform Georgiena of any issues
- ✓ All Directors: Ensure payment of outstanding invoices for legislative advocacy work (per Kate's request)

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Other Meeting Participants

Yes	No	Director Agency	Yes	No	Director Agency
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Stephan Sanchez Kern COG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gus Khouri Khouri Consulting
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rob Ball Kern COG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mitch Weiss Khouri Consulting
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kayley Clay KCAG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jen Covino Covino, Smith & Simon
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ben Kimball TCAG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	David Gellman Covino, Smith & Simon
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steven Ingoldsby TCAG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Aly Hernandez Covino, Smith & Simon
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Roberto Brady TCAG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Alex Marcucci Trinity Consultants
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ben Giuliani TCAG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Samer Shaath, CHSRA
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Aime Kane TCAG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Augie Blancas, CHSRA
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Paul Herman Fresno COG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Michael Navarro Caltrans D6
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ofelia Abundez Fresno COG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Braden Duran Caltrans D6
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Simran Jhutti Fresno COG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Harpreet Binning Caltrans D6
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Brenda Thomas Fresno COG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Alec Kimmel Caltrans D6
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dylan Stone MCTC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nabeelah Abi-Rached Caltrans D6
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jeff Findley MCTC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grace Magsayo Caltrans D10
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Evelyn Espinosa MCTC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Caleb Brock Caltrans D10
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nav Bagri MCAG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Eric Mather Caltrans D10
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Elizabeth Forte MCAG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tom Dumas Caltrans D10
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Meg Prince MCAG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Duper Tong Caltrans, D10
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Stephanie Jackson MCAG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Gurwinder Sekhon Caltrans D10
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jose Luis Caceres StanCOG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Gregoria Ponce Caltrans D10
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Monica Streeter StanCOG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Gabbie Sefranek Caltrans D10
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nick St. Cook StanCOG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Natalia Castillo Deleon Caltrans
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Shannon Silva StanCOG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bill Higgins CALCOG
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Josephine Oshana StanCOG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sabrina Bradbury CALCOG
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jean Foletta StanCOG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Gregory McAteer CALCOG
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cindy Malekos StanCOG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Vincenzo Caporale CALCOG
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ryan Niblock SJCOG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Michael Sigala Sigala, Inc.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kim Anderson SJCOG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rene Gutierrez ACE Rail
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yvette Davis SJCOG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Peter Whippy CHSRA
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Christine Corrales SJCOG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Shane Gunn Caltrans D6
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mark Montelongo SJVAPCD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Blake Dunford SJCOG
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dan Leavitt SJJPA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kristine Kai LSA
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Michael Hanebutt SJJPA			Santosh Bhattarai Fresno COG
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Georgiena Vivian SJV Coordinator VRPA Technologies			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Carolina Ilic VRPA Technologies			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dena Graham VRPA Technologies			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ryan Vivian VRPA Technologies			

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