

June 3, 2008

AGENDA ITEM NO.

COUNCIL MEETING

APPROVED BY



DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR

CITY MANAGER

FROM: PATRICK N. WIEMILLER, Public Works Director 
Public Works Department

BY: SCOTT L. MOZIER, PE, City Engineer/Assistant Director 
Public Works Department

BRYAN D. JONES, PE, Traffic Engineering Manager
Public Works Department, Traffic Engineering Division

SUBJECT: A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FRESNO, CALIFORNIA, AUTHORIZING SUPPORT FOR AND PARTICIPATION IN THE COUNCIL OF FRESNO COUNTY GOVERNMENTS WEST AREA TRANSPORTATION AND CIRCULATION PLANNING STUDY AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF DOCUMENTS BY THE PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR OR HIS DESIGNEE

KEY RESULT AREA

One Fresno

RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt a resolution authorizing support for and participation in the Council of Fresno County Governments West Area Transportation and Circulation Planning Study and authorizing the execution of documents by the Public Works Director or his designee.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Council of Fresno County Governments (Fresno COG) has programmed a budget of \$100,000 in Federal funds to develop the West Area Transportation and Circulation Planning Study. The study will identify and prioritize the transportation improvement needs for the growing West Area of Fresno to resolve many issues such as congestion, delay, substandard roadways and infrastructure conditions. The West Area Transportation and Circulation Planning Study area is bounded by the triangle of Grantland Avenue to the west, State Route 180 to the south, and State Route 99 to the northeast. Fresno COG will formalize the Regional Transportation Planning funds in June of 2008 during the final adoption of the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Overall Work Program and Annualized Budget.

KEY OBJECTIVE BALANCE

The resolution balances the three Key Objectives of Customer Satisfaction, Employee Satisfaction and Prudent Financial Management. Customer Satisfaction is achieved by evaluating needs for public transportation facility improvements in the growing West Area of Fresno impacting both County and City residents. Employee Satisfaction is achieved by collaborating with Fresno COG and Fresno County to implement an important Regional Transportation Planning Study to address growing traffic congestion, traffic bottlenecks, and improve consistency between the County of Fresno and City of Fresno infrastructure standards. Prudent Financial Management is achieved by utilizing Federal funds and valuable interagency partnerships to implement a Regional Transportation Planning Study to benefit local citizens and to maximize the City resources to the furthest extent possible.

BACKGROUND

The Fresno COG, the County of Fresno and the City of Fresno administration, staff and elected officials have been working in collaboration to address the significant need for transportation improvements in the West Area of Fresno. There are many locations in West Fresno that are impacted by severe bottleneck conditions and unimproved roadways. The existing Caltrans interchange facilities cannot support the demand or capacity of the increasing traffic volumes or additional impacts from future development of the West Area.

Currently, both the County of Fresno and City of Fresno residents share the same roadways due to former annexation practices. The West Area Transportation and Circulation Study will include detailed evaluation of 30 roadway segments and 25 intersections to determine the appropriate roadway classification and cross sections based on the existing and future 2030 traffic volumes. The study will confirm whether the City's proposed roadway classifications are adequate and if necessary, recommend where cross sections should be modified. In addition, both agencies practice different standards requirements and methodologies for infrastructure improvements such as dedications of right-of-way which may substantially affect implementation of the 2025 Fresno General Plan.

The regional study will be the first circulation element developed specifically for the growing West Area of Fresno which will identify and prioritize the transportation improvement needs to resolve many issues such as congestion, delay, substandard roadways and infrastructure conditions. The West Area Transportation and Circulation Planning Study area is bounded by the triangle of Grantland Avenue to the west, State Route 180 to the south, and State Route 99 to the northeast. The study will include Fresno City Council Districts 1, 2, and 3 and Fresno County Supervisorial District 1. The study will identify potential solutions for implementing a circulation element in place of the County "parcelized" properties that are common in the West Area without the proper setbacks for homes and buildings to implement the 2025 Fresno General Plan circulation element.

Fresno COG has programmed \$100,000 in Federal funds to develop the West Area Transportation and Circulation Planning Study. The study is identified as Work Element 113 – Regional Transportation Planning Studies in the Fresno COG Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Overall Work Program. Fresno COG has maintained an extensive program of streets and highways

Report to the City Council

Adopt Resolution Authorizing Support for the West Area Transportation and Circulation Study

For the Council of Fresno County Governments Regional Transportation Planning Study

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planning over the past several years integrating a broad range of transportation monitoring, modeling, and planning activities that have been developed and implemented to address future traffic problems and to identify transportation solutions to respond to area growth impacts.

FISCAL IMPACT

The Regional Transportation Planning Study is to be entirely funded through Federal transportation planning funds that are available to Fresno COG. No additional funding contribution or matching funds is required from the City. Although a nominal amount of staff hours will be required to participate in project meetings and consultant interviews, as well as to review and comment on the study, the Public Works Department will be able to provide these services within the proposed FY09 operating budget. There will be no impact to the General Fund as a result of participation in the West Area Transportation and Circulation Planning Study.

PNW/SLM/BJ/MG/eam
Modified Staff Report West Area Transportation Circulation Study 6-3-08

Attachment: (A) Resolution
(B) Scope of Study
(C) Fresno COG Memorandum

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FRESNO, CALIFORNIA, AUTHORIZING SUPPORT FOR AND PARTICIPATION IN THE COUNCIL OF FRESNO COUNTY GOVERNMENTS WEST AREA TRANSPORTATION AND CIRCULATION PLANNING STUDY AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF DOCUMENTS BY THE PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR OR HIS DESIGNEE

WHEREAS, The Council of Fresno County Governments has programmed funds for the West Area Transportation and Circulation Planning Study from the Council of Fresno County Governments Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Overall Work Program as Work Element 113 for the Regional Transportation Planning Studies component; and

WHEREAS, the Council of Fresno County Governments plans and administers the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Overall Work Program budget of federal funds; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fresno's governing body certifies by resolution support of the West Area Transportation and Circulation Planning Study and program participation; and

WHEREAS, the West Area Transportation and Circulation Planning Study will identify and prioritize the transportation improvement needs for the growing West Area of Fresno to resolve many issues such as congestion, delay, substandard roadways, and infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the West Area Transportation and Circulation Planning Study area is bounded by Herndon Avenue and State Route 99 to the North, State Route 180 to the South, State Route 99 to the East, and Grantland Avenue to the West; and

WHEREAS, the West Area Transportation and Circulation Planning Study will examine the discrepancies between the City of Fresno and the County of Fresno infrastructure standards for road segments and intersections in the West Area of Fresno to identify integrative solutions; and

WHEREAS, through participation in the aforementioned Study, the City of Fresno may enter into an agreement with the Council of Fresno County Governments for development of the Study.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FRESNO HEREBY:

SECTION 1. Supports the West Area Transportation and Circulation Planning Study and authorizes participation therein, consistent with constitutional and local law requirements and this resolution.

SECTION 2. Certifies that the City has reviewed, understands and, to the extent consistent with all constitutional and local law requirements and this resolution, agrees to the provisions contained in the Council of Fresno County Governments program guidelines, manual and related documents.

SECTION 3. Appoints and authorizes the Department of Public Works Director or his designee as the agent for the City of Fresno to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents including, but not limited to applications, agreements, amendments, payment requests and so on which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned Study, subject to prior

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approval as to form by the City Attorney's Office.

CLERK'S CERTIFICATION

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF FRESNO)
CITY OF FRESNO)

I, REBECCA E. KLISCH, City Clerk of the City of Fresno, certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Council of the City of Fresno, California, at a regular meeting thereof, held on the _____ day of _____, 2008.

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:

Mayor Approval: _____, 2008

Mayor Approval/No Return: _____, 2008

Mayor Veto: _____, 2008

Council Override Veto: _____, 2008

REBECCA E. KLISCH
City Clerk

By _____
Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

JAMES C. SANCHEZ
City Attorney

By Stacie L. Melikian
Stacie L. Melikian, Deputy

Date: 5/28/08

SLM:eb (45236cb/Reso) 5/28/08

West Area Transportation and Circulation Planning Study

The intent of this study is to develop a transportation planning tool to evaluate and identify the required roadway and intersection improvements under near-term and 2030 conditions. The proposed study area would extend from the Herndon Avenue/SR-99 interchange to the north, State Route 180 to the south, State Route 99 to the east, and Grantland Avenue to the west. The scope of the study will be further refined by the proposed West Area Transportation Subcommittee during the consultant selection and contract negotiation process.

Draft Scope of Work:

Update Travel Demand Forecasts

- Utilize COG Travel Demand Model
- Calibrate and Verify Consistency with 2025 General Plan Land Uses
- Utilize Aerial Photos, Posted Speed Limits, Existing Lane Configurations

Determining the Need: Roadway Segment and Intersection Evaluation

- Review City and County planned circulation elements
- Evaluate 30 roadway segments
- Evaluate 25 critical intersections
- Use AM/PM turning movement counts for intersections (utilize available data and supplement as necessary)
- Determine the appropriate roadway classifications/cross sections based on future traffic volumes
- Confirm where City's proposed roadway classifications are adequate
- Confirm where City's planned roadway cross sections should be modified
- Recommend potential changes to the planned circulation element to facilitate proper traffic flow

Prioritized Improvement Program

- Make recommendations for the priority improvements to be made to the West Area road and traffic signal network in the short-term (next 3 years) and medium-term (5-10 years)

Approximate Budget for Transportation and Circulation Study \$100,000

Proposed Funding Source:

Fresno COG Federal transportation planning funds

Currently available in the 2007-08 Official Work Program (OWP)



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May 6, 2008

Memorandum

TO: Transportation Technical Committee
Policy Advisory Committee
COG Policy Board

FROM: Barbara Goodwin, Executive Director
Tony Boren, Deputy Director
Les Beshears, Finance Director

SUBJECT: Final FY 2008-09 Overall Work Program

Recommendation:

Staff recommends approval of the final FY 2008-09 Overall Work Program and Annualized Budget totaling \$9,915,569.

Note: The first two pages of Appendix F compare annualized revenue and expense estimates for FY 2008-09 with approved FY 2007-08 values. The annualized budget eliminates the impact of the carryover projects and is thereby more accurate in highlighting current revenue and expenditure trends. The budget details following these first two pages include all carryover projects (in keeping with Federal and State requirements) and reflect overall COG workload.

Summary:

The FY 2008-09 Overall Work Program (OWP) totaling \$11,500,898 (including carryover projects) is submitted for your review. This year's budget total reflects an increase of 44% (\$3,515,853) from the approved FY 2007-08 budget. Federal revenues declined \$928,488 as a number of large studies funded by federal funds were completed last year. These large federally funded projects included the Freeway Deficiencies Study Phase II, Valleywide Goods Movement Study, and Phase One of the Regional Transportation Mitigation fee process associated with the renewal of Measure "C". State revenues increased 42% due to increased emphasis on the Blueprint Planning Process. Local Revenues increased 152%, (\$4,083,386). A significant amount of this increase comes from new revenues associated with Measure "C" programs.

Member Agencies: The cities of Clovis, Coalinga, Firebaugh, Fowler, Fresno, Huron, Kerman, Kingsburg, Mendota, Orange Cove, Parlier, Reedley, San Joaquin, Sanger, Selma & Fresno County

The six primary components of the COGs' Overall Work Program are as follows:

1. Regional Transportation Planning
2. Transportation Program Development
3. Service and General Coordination Activities
4. Regional Coordination of Transportation, Land Use & Housing
5. Valleywide Coordinated Activities
6. Administrative Activities

Highlights for each of the six OWP components are listed below:

1. Regional Transportation Planning

The sixteen work elements contained within this section primarily carryout the long-range regional transportation planning program which the COG is statutorily responsible for.

Work Element 111 - Regional Transportation Modeling This \$307,000 program includes \$125,000 to update our Traffic Model.

Work Element 113 – Regional Transportation Planning Studies This element provides \$100,000 to fund a West Area Circulation Study.

Work Element 115 - Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee Study – Phases I and II The Nexus study on the RTM fee is anticipated to be complete by the end of the current year. The process of adopting the program through all the member agencies will then begin. \$162,700 is programmed to cover this involved and complicated process.

Work Element 120 – Regional Public Transportation Planning - FCMA This \$627,000 Urban Transit planning effort includes \$100,000 in Developer fees carried over from last year to complete Fresno Area Express's Master Transit Plan. It also reserves \$100,000 of FAX's Section 5307 grant to go Transit studies as needed.

Work Element 121 – Public Transit-Human Services Transportation - Job Access and Reverse Commute Program (JARC) and Work Element 122 – Public Transit-Human Services Transportation (New Freedom). The Public Transportation Human Services Plan has been adopted clearing the way for staff to conduct a competitive process to solicit \$1.6 million (representing two years of apportionments) in Federal Transit Administration Sect. 5317 and Sect. 5317 funds to eligible projects. Both programs have a required 80/20% match for capital and 50/50% match for operations.

Work Element 123 -Public Transportation Infrastructure Study (PTIS) Completion of this \$3 million Measure "C" funded study is required before Measure money can be spent on various Transit components and the Transit Oriented Infrastructure program. The cash flow of this program will require arrangements to borrow from other Measure programs to front load this study. The Fresno County Transportation Authority is presently preparing a policy to address this necessity.

2. Transportation Program Development

WE 210 Measure "C" Reauthorization Implementation This \$210,467 work element continues work done previously to implement the Measure and develop an implementable Capital Projects Strategic Plan.

WE 211 Measure "C" – Citizen Oversight Committee In this new work element, \$10,500 is implemented to provide staff support for the Oversight Committee.

WE 212 Measure "C" – Rideshare/Van Pool Coordination The new work element programs \$95,000, to cover the cost of a new Rideshare/Van Pool coordinator position and office fixtures. As the program is developed, the budget will be amended to bring the cost of the Taxi subsidy and Van Pool programs into the budget.

WE 213 Measure "C" – Rail Consolidation This new work element provides \$260,000 to update the Rail Consolidation study previously done by HDR Engineering in 2001.

3. Services and General Coordination

Work Element 360 – One Voice Advocacy In order to clarify our lobby efforts to our funding agencies, this new \$113,300 work element isolates the cost of the federal and state One Voice Advocacy programs. These activities are ineligible for state and federal participation and must be funded by local assessments.

4. Regional Coordination of Transportation, Land Use & Housing

Work Element 410 – San Joaquin Valley Regional Blueprint Planning Staff anticipates a high level of work activity with this \$591,000 program as the planning work evolves into development of alternative future land use scenarios for our region and the valley as a whole. This work element anticipates the State will fund a third year of grant funding for San Joaquin Valley Blueprint Planning Activities. The new grant would add \$148,501. Our match, which was previously subsidized by the Air District, will be \$80,851.

5. Valleywide Coordinated Activities

Work Element 810 Valley Air Quality Coordination The scope of this \$173,500 program isolates the cost associated with our lead role in San Joaquin Valley Air Quality Planning. The cost of this program is split among our eight valley partner MPO's and RTPA's.

Work Element 812 San Joaquin Valley Express Transit Study This \$11,800 program provides staff In-Kind to support a larger grant funded valley wide transit study.

Work Element 820 Valley Coordination Activities General activities associated with coordinating valley wide planning have been moved out of WE 810 to this new work element. It is anticipated that this work element will be amended to include a contract to coordinate the valley wide planning effort. The cost of the contract will be split among the valley partners. This work element also contains \$115,000 in state funding to perform the State Route 99 Economic

Benefits Study approved by the San Joaquin Valley COGs to determine the economic benefits associated with converting State Route 99 into an interstate.

6. Administrative Activities

Work Element 940 Freeway Service Patrol The Freeway Service Patrol is continued for a 16th year of operation. The current year is the final year of a three year contract and it has been six years since the rates changed. We are budgeting a 20% contingency to accommodate the bidding process. State apportionment and local match funding are adequate to cover the increase.

Work Element 950 Abandon Vehicle Abatement Program FY 2008-09 marks the fifth year of operation for the Abandoned Vehicle Abatement Program. The COG has been designated the local Abandoned Vehicle Abatement Service Authority to administer the AVA Program and Plan. The program is funded by an assessment of a \$1 additional registration fee to be used exclusively for the purpose of abandoned vehicle abatement within Fresno County.

Staffing

- This year's OWP continues the additional Planning Coordinator position that was budgeted in last year's OWP but not filled. The position is requested to help with the additional workload resulting from the passage of Proposition 1B and the reauthorization of Measure "C". In addition, a new position is requested to fulfill the Rideshare/Van Pool requirements of Measure "C"

Office Overhead

Office overhead increased slightly (\$3,747) from FY 2007/08 reflecting operating expenses associated with the facility.