SPECIAL MEETING

Place: Kings County Association of Governments
339 W. “D” Street, Suite B
Lemoore, CA

Time: 1:30 p.m., Wednesday, July 23, 2014

Agency: KCAG Technical Advisory Committee

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

A. Unscheduled Appearances

Any person may address the Committee on any subject matter within the jurisdiction or responsibility of the Committee at the beginning of the meeting; or may elect to address the Committee on any agenda item at the time the item is called by the Chair, but before the matter is acted upon by the Committee. Unscheduled comments will be limited to three minutes.

B. Minutes of June 11, 2014

II. TRANSPORTATION:

A. Final RTP/SCS Environmental Impact Report

Attachment

B. Final 2014 Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy

Attachment

C. Final 2015 Federal Transportation Improvement Program And Final Air Quality Conformity Analysis

Attachment

III. REGIONAL PLANNING:

A. 2014 San Joaquin Valley Blueprint Awards

IV. MISCELLANEOUS:

V. ADJOURNMENT: Next meeting scheduled for August 13, 2014.
CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the KCAG Technical Advisory Committee was called to order by Terri King, at 1:32 p.m. on Wednesday, June 11, 2014, in the Conference Room, 339 West “D” Street, Suite B, Lemoore, California.

MEMBERS PRESENT:  
Lou Camara, City of Hanford  
Angie Dow, KCAPTA  
Greg Gatzka, County of Kings  
Kevin McAlister, County of Kings  
Paul Marquez, Caltrans  
Steve Sopp, City of Avenal  
David Wlaschin, City of Lemoore

STAFF PRESENT:  
Bruce Abanathie, KCAG Staff  
Terri King, KCAG Staff  
Teresa Nickell, KCAG Staff  
Chris Williams, KCAG Staff

VISITORS PRESENT:  
Jim Christian

A. UNSCHEDULED APPEARANCES

None

B. MINUTES

It was moved and seconded (McAlister / Gatzka) to approve the Minutes of May 14, 2014. Motion carried with Sopp and Camara abstaining.

TRANSPORTATION:

A. FY 2014-15 Transportation Development Act Funds

Ms. Nickell indicated the Social Service Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) has held two meetings to review and evaluate the unmet transit needs testimony received for Kings County transit systems. The Kings County Area Public Transit Agency (KCAPTA) has received testimony during the public comment period.
Ms. Nickell stated before the KCAG Transportation Policy Committee (TPC) may approve the Local Transportation Fund (LTF) claims for streets and roads, a determination must be made that there are no unmet transit needs that can be reasonably met.

Ms. Nickell indicated the City of Corcoran received no transit needs testimony. She noted that three transit requests were received as testimony for KCAPTA, which were reviewed by KCAPTA and the SSTAC and considered to be unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet. The three exceptions included a request for additional weekday service to Avenal/Kettleman City with an afternoon stop to West Hills College and Lemoore schools; a bus stop at the United Cerebral Palsy office in Hanford; and additional night time service to West Hills College. KCAPTA has determined that they will be able to meet these needs within the existing budget with service modifications.

It was moved and seconded (Wlaschin / McAlister) to recommend that the KCAG Transportation Policy Committee approve the finding that there are no unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet in FY 2014-15 with the adoption of Resolution No. 14-05; approve the apportionment and allocation of the LTF for FY 2014-15 with the adoption of Resolution No. 14-06; and approve the allocation of the STA funds for FY 2014-15 with the adoption of Resolution No. 14-07. Motion carried with Marquez abstaining.

B. Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program

Mr. Abanathie stated that the State Natural Resources Agency has announced the availability of funding through the Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation (EEMP) program. He summarized the program and eligible project types and encouraged members to visit their website to view the guidelines and application and consider applying for funds.

C. Draft 2015 FTIP, Draft 2014 RTP, Draft EIR, and Draft Air Quality Conformity

Mr. Abanathie reviewed the staff report, explaining the legislative requirements at the federal and state levels for the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) with the new Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) element, the Environmental Impact Report (EIR), the Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP), and the Air Quality Conformity Analysis document.

Mr. Abanathie gave some highlights on the development of the documents, including the public workshops and the stakeholder group for the RTP/SCS, as well as the meetings with the cities to discuss the stakeholder inputs and to ascertain the compatibility of the SCS with their general plans and land use decisions. He summarized the four scenarios included in the SCS.

Mr. Abanathie then explained that all of the documents are currently out for public review and comment, that there will be three additional public workshops, two additional stakeholder meetings, and the pending public hearings at the next two KCAG Transportation Policy Committee meetings. The next Stakeholder Working Group meeting is June 19th.

Kevin McAlister discussed his comments on the draft EIR and asked to receive the Calif. High Speed Rail Authority’s comments.
D.  **Caltrans Newsletter**

Mr. Marquez summarized the articles in Caltrans’ newsletter focused on biking and highway preservation and effective management.

### MISCELLANEOUS

Mr. Camara reported on various projects underway in Hanford, noted that the general plan update was moving along with the assistance of the Citizens Advisory Committee, and that a commercial development was being proposed at the southeast quadrant of SR 198 and 12th Ave. area.

Angie Dow reported that the bus intelligence system was being installed, the transfer center purchase from Hanford was complete, and that KCAPTA will be going with an outside contractor for the phone IVR notification system since the County determined that if housed at the County that there is no value added.

Mr. McAlister reported that the CMAQ seal project is being advertised and that the jail construction bids will be a blind, with the proposals being scored and then the price bid opened from the best scored proposal.

Mr. Wlaschin reported that the decision regarding the golf course will be made by the Lemoore City Council this month, including a possible ballot measure. He also reported that there has been developer interest on the west side due to reduced FEMA restrictions for the area that created incentive for development. The city is developing solar projects at well sites. He also reported that Shirley Sopp is retiring.

Mr. Sopp reported that the City of Avenal received a $420,000 grant from the Strategic Growth Council to prepare the general plan update and is waiting on the contract before starting. He also reported that there is now potential for commercial development at the I-5 site. Ms. Dow asked for an update on available property for a bus station.

### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the KCAG Technical Advisory Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for July 9, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

Terri King, Executive Director
TO: KCAG Technical Advisory Committee
FROM: Terri King, Executive Director
DATE: July 17, 2014

SUBJECT: 2014 Kings County Regional Transportation Plan / Sustainable Communities Strategy Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR)

Introduction

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires the development of a long-range planning, policy, action, and financial document by each urbanized area Regional Transportation Planning Agency. This requirement is satisfied by the development of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) every four years. CEQA also requires that an environmental document accompany the RTP. The RTP/SCS and the projects included in it are considered "a series of actions that may be characterized as one large project" for the purposes of CEQA review.

The 2014 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) covers a 26-year period from 2014 to 2040 and is an update of the 2011 RTP. The programs, plans, and projects in this document are inclusive of the entire area of Kings County; the cities of Avenal, Corcoran, Hanford and Lemoore, as well as the unincorporated communities of the County. Capital improvement projects identified in the RTP/SCS are located on state highways, county roads and locally owned streets. The RTP/SCS reflects changes in legislative requirements, local land use policies, and resource constraints.

For the first time, KCAG now has the responsibility to prepare a Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) as part of the RTP, pursuant to the requirements of California Senate Bill 375 as adopted in 2008. The SCS sets forth a forecasted development pattern for the region, which, when integrated with the transportation network and other transportation measures and policies, is intended to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from passenger vehicles and light trucks to achieve the regional GHG reduction targets set by the California Air Resources Board (ARB).

The RTP/SCS is intended to encourage and promote the safe and efficient management, operation and development of a regional intermodal transportation system that will serve the mobility needs of people and goods. Therefore, the overall purpose of the RTP/SCS is to establish regional goals, identify present and future needs, deficiencies and constraints, analyze potential solutions, estimate available funding, and propose infrastructure improvements.

EIR Overview

Preparation of the EIR for the 2014 RTP/SCS was initiated in October 2013. In October, a Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the EIR was sent to the State Clearinghouse, Kings County Clerk Recorder's Office and other public agencies and organizations in accordance with CEQA Guidelines. A scoping meeting was held on November 6, 2013. No comments were received during the scoping meeting; however, three comment letters were submitted from recipients of the NOP regarding preparation of the EIR.
The environmental issues areas addressed in the EIR, pursuant to CEQA include:

- Aesthetics
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Energy
- Environmental Justice
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Geology and Soils
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use
- Noise
- Transportation and Circulation

The EIR identified a few significant and unavoidable impacts related to aesthetics (change of visual character), biological resources (wildlife movement), cultural resources (historic structures), and land use (the conversion of agricultural lands), wildlife movement. All other environmental issue areas were determined to be either significant but mitigable or less than significant. For those issue areas where potentially significant, but mitigable impacts were identified, mitigation measures have been developed, which once implemented, would reduce impacts to a less than significant level.

On May 9, 2014, KCAG staff released the Draft EIR for public review and distributed the Draft EIR to the State Clearinghouse and Kings County Clerk in accordance with CEQA requirements. This started the 45-day public review period, which ended on June 25, 2014, however, the KCAG Transportation Policy Committee extended the comment period to July 15, 2014.

Three comment letters on the Draft EIR were received. The comment letters were received from the Central Valley Flood Protection Board, the California High Speed Rail Authority, and the Kings County Farm Bureau. This letter along with a response to this letter has been provided in the Final EIR along with a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program. In addition to the Final EIR, CEQA Findings of Fact, and a Statement of Overriding Considerations have been developed.

It is recommended that the Final EIR be certified and the requisite CEQA findings be made by the adoption of the attached Resolution.

**Recommendation**

KCAG staff recommends that the KCAG Transportation Policy Committee Certify the Final EIR for the 2014 RTP/SCS with the adoption of Resolution No. 14-08.
BEFORE THE KINGS COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE

* * * * * * *

IN THE MATTER OF CERTIFYING THE ) RESOLUTION NO. 14-08
FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT )
REPORT FOR THE 2014 REGIONAL )
TRANSPORTATION PLAN/SUSTAINABLE ) RE: CERTIFY THE FINAL EIR
COMMUNITIES STRATEGY ) FOR THE 2014 RTP/SCS

WHEREAS, the Kings County Association of Governments (KCAG) is a Regional Transportation Planning Agency and a Metropolitan Planning Organization, pursuant to State and Federal designation; and

WHEREAS, KCAG has prepared a Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Reporting (EIR) for the Kings County 2014 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS) in compliance with the California Government Code (CGC)Section 65080, the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the State CEQA Guidelines; and

WHEREAS, KCAG filed a Notice of Preparation (NOP) with the State Clearinghouse and the Kings County Clerk’s Office on October 18, 2013 with a 30-day public comment period. The State Clearinghouse identified this EIR as State Clearinghouse No. 2013101053; and

WHEREAS, the Draft EIR was completed and filed with the State Clearinghouse and the Kings County Clerk’s office on May 9, 2014, thereby initiating the 45-day public review period as required by CEQA, which was scheduled to conclude on June 25, 2014. KCAG Transportation Policy Committee received a request to extend the public review period for the Draft EIR, which was extended to July 15, 2014 for a total public review and comment period of 68 days; and

WHEREAS, on June 25, 2014, in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15087(a), a duly-noticed public hearing on the Draft EIR was held, during which all persons were provided with an opportunity for public comment on the analysis in the Draft EIR; and

WHEREAS, the environmental impacts of the project have been analyzed through the Final EIR, which is comprised of the Draft EIR, changes and revisions to the Draft EIR, the Response to Comments, technical appendices, and the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP), a full, true and current copy of which is on file with the County Clerk and KCAG; and
WHEREAS, KCAG has reviewed all comments received from the public in response to the proposed EIR and included them in the Final EIR; and

WHEREAS, KCAG has considered all factors relating to the potential environmental impacts addressed in the Final EIR.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the KCAG Transportation Policy Committee finds and declares as follows:

SECTION 1. KCAG adopts the foregoing recitals as true and correct.

SECTION 2. KCAG hereby finds that the Final EIR reflects the independent judgment of KCAG as Lead Agency for the 2014 Kings County Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy.

SECTION 3. KCAG hereby finds that the Final EIR has been completed in compliance with CEQA, and that KCAG has independently reviewed and considered the Final EIR, together with all comments received during the public review process, prior to certifying the Final EIR.

SECTION 4. KCAG finds that the Final EIR provides an adequate assessment of the potentially significant environmental impacts of the project.

SECTION 5. KCAG adopts the Findings of Fact and Statement of Overriding Considerations attached hereto and incorporated by this reference, which documents and supports the conclusion that even with the implementation of all feasible mitigation measures recommended in the Final EIR, it is infeasible to reduce the project’s impact related to aesthetics (change of visual character), biological resources (wildlife movement), cultural resources (historic structures), and land use (the conversion of agricultural lands), wildlife movement to a level of less than significant, and which further sets forth the overriding benefits of the project, which outweigh the unavoidable environmental impacts of the project. Therefore, KCAG finds that the project’s benefits outweigh the adverse impacts.

SECTION 6. KCAG adopts the MMRP (included in Appendix E of the Final EIR and incorporated by reference) as the mitigation monitoring and reporting program for the project.

SECTION 7. Based on the foregoing, KCAG certifies the Final EIR.

SECTION 8. KCAG staff is authorized and directed to cause a Notice of Determination concerning the certification of the Final EIR for the project to be filed in the office of the Kings County Clerk and State Clearinghouse in accordance with CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines. KCAG staff are further authorized and directed to take all steps necessary or convenient to proceed with the project in accordance with the Final EIR, the MMRP, and the terms of this Resolution.

SECTION 11. The Executive Director or her designee(s) are directed to take such further actions as may be necessary and appropriate to carry out the intent of this Resolution.
SECTION 12. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

The foregoing Resolution was adopted on a motion by Commissioner ____________, seconded by Commissioner ____________, at a regular meeting held on the 30th day of July, 2014 by the following vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:

KINGS COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE

________________________________________
Chair

WITNESS, my hand this __________ day of ____________, 2014.

________________________________________
Terri King, Executive Director
TO: KCAG Technical Advisory Committee
FROM: Terri King, Executive Director
DATE: July 17, 2014

SUBJECT: Final 2014 Regional Transportation Plan / Sustainable Communities Strategy

Introduction

Title 23 United States Code (USC) §134 requires Regional Transportation Planning Agencies (RTPAs) and Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) in National Ambient Air Quality Standard Non-attainment regions to prepare a Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) every four years. The RTP is the long range transportation planning document for the region.

California Government Code §65080 et seq., the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), require the preparation of an accompanying environmental document that addresses the cumulative environmental impacts of the projects and programs contained in the RTP.

California Senate Bill 375 (SB 375), the “Transportation Planning - Environmental Review”, (2008) requires that the 2014 RTP include a new element, a Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS), to explain how the region will meet the California Air Resources Board established reduction targets for Greenhouse Gases (GHG). SB 375 was developed as an adjunct to help cities and counties reach their GHG reductions mandated by Assembly Bill 32 (2006), the “California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006” (AB 32)

2014 RTP Process

Work developing the RTP/SCS began even prior to the adoption of the 2011 RTP. KCAG Staff began participating in meetings and workshops with other valley regional agencies to establish a process whereby the 2014 RTPs could meet all of the requirements of the federal and state legislations as well as develop a SCS that would meet the required Greenhouse Gas reduction targets.

The RTP represents an accumulation of all of the plans and programs adopted by the local agencies, such as the cities and county general plans, bicycle plans, the college and the Naval Air Station plans. Additionally, the short term transportation improvement programs, the Federal and Regional Transportation Improvement Programs (the FTIP and the RTIP) are subsets of this plan. These are the programs that include the transportation projects being programmed and receiving the funding to go forward to construction.

The RTP discusses major transportation issues in the Kings County region including state highways, routes of regional significance, public transit, railroads, aviation facilities, non-motorized facilities, transportation systems management, and transportation control measures.
The RTP/SCS has completed two rounds of public outreach presentations to the city councils and county board, created a website and an email blast program, completed a 45 day public review and comment period, and asked the public and the KCAG Transportation Policy Committee to select a preferred scenario to meet the goals of the RTP/SCS. At their June 25, 2014 meeting, the KCAG transportation Policy Committee expressed their preference for Scenario No. 2 – Moderate Transit Investment as the preferred scenario of the SCS to carry forward in the final RTP/SCS and EIR.

KCAG received eight total comment letters, four of which were more appropriately answered in the Environmental Impact Report. The remaining four have been incorporated in the final RTP with modifications where appropriate and responses from KCAG Staff.

Recommendation

KCAG staff recommends that the Technical Advisory Committee concur with staff and recommend that the KCAG Transportation Policy Committee approve the Final 2014 RTP/SCS with the adoption of Resolution No. 14-09.
BEFORE THE KINGS COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE

* * * * * * *

IN THE MATTER OF ADOPTING THE 2014 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN /
SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES STRATEGY, 2015 FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION
IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM, AND CORRESPONDING AIR QUALITY
CONFORMITY ANALYSIS

RESOLUTION NO. 14-09

RE: 2014 RTP/SCS, 2015 FTIP AND AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY

WHEREAS, the Kings County Association of Governments (KCAG) is a Regional
Transportation Planning Agency and a Metropolitan Planning Organization, pursuant to State
and Federal designation; and

WHEREAS, federal planning regulations require Metropolitan Planning Organizations
to prepare and adopt a long range Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) for their region; and

WHEREAS, federal planning regulations require that Metropolitan Planning
Organizations prepare and adopt a Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) for
their region; and

WHEREAS, Section 65080 of the California Government Code requires each regional
transportation planning agency to prepare a regional transportation plan and update it for
submission to the governing Policy Board for adoption; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill (SB) 375 (Steinberg, 2008) requires that Metropolitan
Planning Organizations prepare a Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) as part of the
2014 Regional Transportation Plan that demonstrates how the region will reduce the
greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) from automobiles and light trucks to achieve, if there is a
feasible way to do so, the greenhouse gas emission reduction targets approved by the
California Air Resources Board (ARB); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to SB 375, ARB set the per capita GHG emission reduction
targets for the San Joaquin Valley region at 5% below 2005 per capita emissions levels by
2020 and 10% below 2005 per capita emissions levels by 2035; and

WHEREAS, a 2014 Regional Transportation Plan / Sustainable Communities Strategy
(RTP/SCS) has been prepared in full compliance with federal guidance; and

WHEREAS, a 2014 (RTP/SCS) has been prepared in accordance with state
guidelines adopted by the California Transportation Commission; and

WHEREAS, federal planning regulations require that Metropolitan Planning
Organizations prepare and adopt a short range Federal Transportation Improvement Program
(FTIP) for their region; and
WHEREAS, the 2015 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) has been prepared to comply with Federal and State requirements for local projects and through a cooperative process between the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), the State Department of Transportation (Caltrans), principal elected officials of general purpose local governments and their staffs, and public owner operators of mass transportation services acting through the KCAG forum and general public involvement; and

WHEREAS, the 2015 FTIP program listing is consistent with: 1) the 2014 RTP/SCS; 2) the 2014 State Transportation Improvement Program; and 3) the Corresponding Conformity Analysis; and

WHEREAS, the 2015 FTIP contains the MPO’s certification of the transportation planning process assuring that all federal requirements have been fulfilled; and

WHEREAS, the 2015 FTIP meets all applicable transportation planning requirements per 23 CFR Part 450; and

WHEREAS, projects submitted in the 2015 FTIP must be financially constrained and the financial plan affirms that funding is available; and

WHEREAS, the 2014 RTP/SCS and 2015 FTIP includes a new Conformity Analysis; and

WHEREAS, the MPO must demonstrate conformity per 40 CFR Part 93 for the RTP/SCS and FTIP; and

WHEREAS, the 2014 RTP/SCS and 2015 FTIP do not interfere with the timely implementation of the Transportation Control Measures; and

WHEREAS, the 2014 RTP/SCS and 2015 FTIP conforms to the applicable SIPs; and

WHEREAS, the documents have been widely circulated and reviewed by KCAG advisory committees representing the technical and management staffs of the member agencies; representatives of other governmental agencies, including State and Federal; representatives of special interest groups; representatives of the private business sector; and residents of Kings County consistent with public participation process adopted by KCAG; and

WHEREAS, a public hearings were conducted on May 28, 2014 for the 2014 RTP/SCS and June 25, 2014 to hear and consider comments on the 2014 RTP/SCS, 2015 FTIP, and Corresponding Conformity Analysis.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the KCAG Transportation Policy Committee adopts the 2014 RTP/SCS, 2015 FTIP, and Corresponding Conformity Analysis; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the KCAG Transportation Policy Committee finds that the 2014 RTP/SCS and 2015 FTIP are in conformity with the requirements of the Federal Clean Air Act Amendments and applicable State Implementation Plans for air quality; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the KCAG Transportation Policy Committee finds that the 2014 RTP/SCS meets the SB 375 GHG reduction targets of 5% below 2005 per capita emissions levels by 2020 and 10% below 2005 per capita emissions levels by 2035.

The foregoing Resolution was adopted on a motion by Commissioner ________________, seconded by Commissioner ________________, at a special meeting held on the 30th day of July, 2014 by the following vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:

KINGS COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE

_________________________________________________________________________

Chair

WITNESS, my hand this ________ day of ________________, 2014.

_________________________________________________________________________

Terri King, Executive Director
TO: KCAG Technical Advisory Committee  
FROM: Bruce Abanathie, Regional Planner  
DATE: July 11, 2014  
SUBJECT: Approval of Final 2015 Federal Transportation Improvement Program and Air Quality Conformity Analysis

Introduction

KCAG, as a federally designated metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for Kings County, is required to biennially adopt a Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) as part of the formal process in applying for federal funds from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA). Projects requiring federal funding, a federal action, or projects that are considered regionally significant must be included in the FTIP. The FTIP must also be found to conform to the State Implementation Plan (SIP) for the attainment of air quality standards and the FTIP must be financially constrained.

The Final Draft 2015 KCAG FTIP

The 2015 FTIP includes the ongoing projects from the last federally-approved FTIP, as amended, and new projects received since the last 2013 FTIP amendment for the FYs 2014-2015 through 2017-18. The FTIP provides a priority list of projects to be delivered during this quadrennial period. Prior and later years are included for informational purposes, but projects listed may be moved into the quadrennial element by subsequent FTIP amendments as funding allows. The FTIP includes a financial plan that demonstrates financial constraint for both capital and operational costs on an annual basis.

Kings County is part of the San Joaquin Valley, which is a non-attainment area for several pollutants. Failure to meet air quality requirements could result in a lapse of federal funding for non-exempt projects. Therefore, prior to adopting the FTIP, KCAG must make a finding that the FTIP projects cumulatively do not result in an increase in vehicle emissions of non-attainment pollutants or their precursors. As such, the FTIP is accompanied by an Air Quality Conformity analysis that assures that the 2015 FTIP meets the air quality plans established by the SIP.

KCAG staff released the draft 2015 KCAG FTIP for the required 30-day public review and comment period from May 9 to June 25, 2014. A public hearing was held before the KCAG Transportation Policy Committee June 25, 2014, to hear and consider comments. KCAG received comments from Caltrans and the Federal Highways Administration. All comments received have been responded to and necessary changes have been incorporated into the Final 2015 FTIP. The 2015 FTIP and conformity analysis will be presented to the KCAG Transportation Policy Committee for approval July 30, 2014.

Recommendation

KCAG staff recommends that the Technical Advisory Committee concur with KCAG staff and recommend that the KCAG Transportation Policy Committee approve the Final 2015 FTIP and the corresponding Air Quality Conformity Analysis with the adoption of Resolution No. 14-09.
TO: KCAG Technical Advisory Committee
FROM: Terri King, Executive Director
DATE: July 15, 2014

SUBJECT: San Joaquin Valley Blueprint Awards Program

Introduction

In an effort to recognize projects in the San Joaquin Valley that exemplify the Blueprint Smart Growth Principles, the Valley’s eight Regional Transportation Planning Agencies (RTPAs) created a special awards program.

San Joaquin Valley Blueprint Awards Program

The goal of the Blueprint Awards Program is to encourage planning and development that embodies the Blueprint Smart growth Principles. There are five award categories that seek to reflect the diversity in Valley communities with special attention to residential and commercial developments, mixed use, downtown revitalization, and historic districts. A jury panel of six members representing a wide range of organizations will review all nominations that are received by the August 20, 2014 noon deadline. The project/leadership nomination process consists of a simple application form, with one to two pages describing how the project reflects the established criteria, project photos, and at least one letter of support, packaged together on a CD.

Over the last few years, KCAG member agencies have been very successful in receiving awards of achievement or awards of merit. The 2014 awards will be presented by the Regional Policy Council at the Fall Policy Conference luncheon on October 3, 2014 to be held at the Visalia Convention Center.

Recommendation

KCAG staff recommends that local agencies consider projects to nominate for the San Joaquin Valley Blueprint Awards.
2014 San Joaquin Valley Blueprint Awards

Sponsored by:
Community and Regional Planning Center, Fresno State
San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council
Central Section of Cal Chapter APA (American Planning Association)
Community and Economic Development, Fresno State

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of the San Joaquin Valley Blueprint Awards Program is to encourage quality in planning and development and to increase the public’s awareness of the San Joaquin Valley Blueprint by recognizing outstanding achievements and practices in the built environment. This awards program is intended to recognize and celebrate projects that reflect the Blueprint Smart Growth Principles. In doing so, we hope to provide visual examples of attractive, functional and environmentally friendly projects that could have relevance throughout the Valley.

Awards will be presented by the Regional Policy Council at the Fall Policy Conference luncheon on October 3, 2014 at the Visalia Convention Center.

II. AWARD CATEGORIES

Nominations are open to candidate projects and individuals in all jurisdictions within the San Joaquin Valley (counties of Kern, Kings, Tulare, Fresno, Madera, Merced, Stanislaus and San Joaquin). Previous Blueprint Award recipients are not eligible.

A. Sustainable Development Projects
On the ground, existing examples of projects that exemplify the Blueprint Principles.

1. Residential Development Project (built within the past 5 years)
2. Commercial Development Project (built within the past 5 years)
3. Mixed Use Project (built within the past 5 years)
4. Downtown Revitalization Project (built within the past 5 years)
5. Historic District that exemplifies Blueprint Smart Growth Principles

B. Darrel Hildebrand Blueprint Leadership Award
This award is in memory of the former Blueprint project manager from Kern COG who was thoroughly engaged in the planning process. The fruits of his labor are still with us today as we move the Blueprint from the planning to the implementation phase. Darrel is remembered for his attention to detail and his insistence that the planning principles were the centerpiece of the San Joaquin Valley Blueprint Planning Process.
III. CRITERIA

A. Sustainable Development Projects
   How does the project reflect the following Blueprint Principles?

   1. Create a range of housing opportunities and choices
   2. Create walkable neighborhoods
   3. Encourage community and stakeholder collaboration
   4. Foster distinctive, attractive communities with a strong sense of place
   5. Make development decisions predictable, fair and cost effective
   6. Mix of land uses
   7. Preserve open space, farmland, natural beauty and critical environmental areas
   8. Provide a variety of transportation choices
   9. Strengthen and direct development towards existing communities
  10. Take advantage of compact building design
  11. Enhance the economic vitality of the region
  12. Support actions that encourage environmental resource management

B. Darrel Hildebrand Blueprint Leadership Award
   Candidates for the Darrel Hildebrand Blueprint Leadership Award have demonstrated enthusiasm and tenacity in promoting the Blueprint principles.

IV. NOMINATION SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS

   The following materials are required for each nomination:

   Seven CD/DVDs of the complete nomination package. One CD/DVD must be labeled Master Copy. All eight CD/DVDs must be labeled with the appropriate award category for the nomination. The nomination package includes the following. Please create a separate folder on the CD/DVD for each of the following five items:

   1. NOMINATION FORM: The completed Blueprint Awards Nomination Form
   2. SUMMARY DESCRIPTION: One page summary of the nominated award candidate
   3. AWARD CRITERIA: One to two page explanation of how the candidate specifically reflects the criteria listed in item III above.
   4. LETTER(S) OF SUPPORT: At least one (1) but no more than five (5) one-page letter of support for the nominated candidate from someone familiar with the candidate, but other than the nominator and/or staff/consultant.
   5. IMAGES: Ten (10) digital images in JPEG format. No powerpoint presentations. The images should be representative of the nomination, as they will be used during the Awards Ceremony. Please include a brief description identifying each image.

   Do not submit paper copies of any materials.

   All submissions must be received by the deadline (12:00 Noon on August, 20, 2014) and strictly follow the requirements outlined above and on the Blueprint Awards Nomination Form.

   Incomplete submissions received before the deadline may be returned and resubmitted before the deadline at the discretion of the Associate Director at the Office of Community and Economic Development at Fresno State.

   Only one submission per award category or subcategory.
V. AWARDS SELECTION PROCESS & SCHEDULE

A jury of six members shall be appointed to judge the entries. The decision of the majority of the jury shall be final. The jury is comprised of one representative from each of the following partner organizations:

- Regional Policy Council
- COG Directors
- APA – Central Section
- Community and Regional Planning Center, Fresno State
- Urban and Regional Transformation Cohort, Fresno State
- At Large (community member)

Schedule:

- Begin call for nominations – July 1, 2014
- Nomination deadline – August 20, 2014
- Judging completed by September 12, 2014
- Announcement of awards – September 17, 2014
- Fall Policy Conference Blueprint Awards luncheon – October 3, 2014 at the Visalia Convention Center

VI. SUBMITTALS

Nominations must be **received** by 12:00 Noon on **Wednesday, August 20, 2014**.

**MAIL nomination packets to:**  
Stacie Dabbs, Associate Director  
Community and Economic Development  
California State University, Fresno  
5010 N. Woodrow Ave, M/S WC142  
Fresno, CA 93740

**OR**

**DELIVER nomination packets to:**  
Stacie Dabbs, Associate Director  
Community and Economic Development  
California State University, Fresno  
5010 N. Woodrow Ave, Suite 200  
Fresno, CA 93740

VII. NUMBER OF AWARDS

Only one first-place award will be selected per category/sub-category. When exceptional circumstances warrant, one award finalist may also be given per category. If the jury finds that none of the nominations in a particular category meets the criteria, there may be no award in that category.

VIII. HONORING THE AWARD RECIPIENTS

Award recipients will be honored during an awards ceremony luncheon at the annual Fall Policy Conference on October 3, 2014 at the Visalia Convention Center. Each award recipient will be provided with one awards luncheon ticket at no cost.
San Joaquin Valley Blueprint Awards Program
2014 Nomination Form

Nominations for the SJV Blueprint Awards are due by 12:00 Noon, Friday, August 29, 2014. Materials received after this date will not be accepted and will not be returned.

I nominate ____________________________________________

for a 2014 SJV Blueprint Award for the category of:

____________________________

NOMINATION INFORMATION
It is imperative that all of the following documentation is provided in full.

A. Nominator: The Nominator will be considered the primary communications contact for all decisions made on this nomination and will work with Blueprint Awards Program staff to obtain additional information and materials.

Name ____________________________________________
Organization ______________________________________
Title ______________________________________________
Address ____________________________________________
City ____________________________ Zip Code __________
Phone __________________________ Fax ________________
E-mail ____________________________________________

B. Primary Award Recipient:

Name ____________________________________________
Organization ______________________________________
Title ______________________________________________
Address ____________________________________________
City ____________________________ Zip Code __________
Phone __________________________ Fax ________________
E-mail ____________________________________________

C. Recognition: Primary organization to be listed on trophy/plaque if chosen as winner:

________________________________________________

Optional: Other supporting organization(s) that you wish to be recognized at the Awards Ceremony who worked on this project:

________________________________________________

D. Acknowledgement of Nominator/Award Recipient

I acknowledge that the submitted work was done by the parties credited in this Awards Application Form, and that the work meets the appropriate nomination submittal requirements listed in the instructions. I understand that all winning documents will be placed on the SJV Blueprint website under Award Winners and Best Practices.

_________________________   _______________________
Signature of Nominator       Date

Printed Name of Nominator

Questions: 559-347-3918 or sdabbs@csufresno.edu