



# MINUTES

## I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Kings County Association of Governments (KCAG) was called to order by Joe Neves, Chairperson, at 4:31 p.m., on March 23, 2022, via teleconference, in accordance with COVID-19 Public Meeting Protocol.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Joe Neves, David Orth, Sid Palmerin, Doug Verboon

CALTRANS REPRESENTATIVE: Michael Navarro

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Kalish Morrow, Alvaro Preciado

STAFF PRESENT: Terri King, Jennifer Morales, Joel Gandarilla, Teresa Nickell

KCAG COUNSEL PRESENT: Kris Pedersen

VISITORS PRESENT:

### A. Roll Call

Joel Gandarilla conducted roll call. A quorum was present.

### B. Unscheduled Appearances

None.

### C. Minutes

#### 1. Minutes of February 23, 2022

A motion was made and seconded (Orth / Verboon) to approve the Minutes of the February 23, 2022 meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Navarro, Neves, Orth, Palmerin, Verboon

Noes: None

Absent: Morrow, Preciado

## II. KCAG TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE

### A. General Transportation Items

1. FY 2022-23 Transportation Development Act Fund Summary

Teresa Nickell stated that the estimate of FY 2022-23 Local Transportation Fund (LTF) for KCAG member agencies is \$5,800,000 and State Transit Assistance (STA) is \$1,476,972. The claim forms and other required documentation have been sent to the claimants and must be returned to KCAG by April 1st. A breakdown of the FY 2022-23 LTF and STA apportionments and allocations is included in the agenda packet.

2. FY 2021-22 Low Carbon Transit Operations Program

Teresa Nickell stated that the FY 21-22 allocations of Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP) for the Kings County Area Public Transit Agency's (KCAPTA) is a total of \$334,513 and the City of Corcoran's is a total of \$51,937. KCAPTA proposes three projects designed to benefit priority populations and Corcoran proposes one project. These projects are eligible expenses under LCTOP guidelines and are also consistent with the adopted Sustainable Communities Strategies.

A motion was made and seconded (Palmerin / Verboon) to adopt Resolution No. 22-02 approving the distribution of the FY 21-22 Low Carbon Transit Operations Program allocations for the projects included in the LCTOP Project List and designating the KCAG Executive Director as an authorized agent for the Low Carbon Transit Operations Program. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Navarro, Neves, Orth, Palmerin, Verboon  
Noes: None  
Absent: Morrow, Preciado

**B. Caltrans Report**

Michael Navarro reported that after April 1, 2022, Caltrans will return to a hybrid work model, with alternating in office work schedule. He thanked KCAG staff and Chair Neves for representing Kings County at the State Route 99 Summit.

Michael Navarro reported on the status of various highway projects, including that the Kettleman City roundabout project is moving to the Right-of-Way phase and outreach to the business community, with construction slated for summer 2024, and that the County of Kings will be installing a permanent Dana Circle extension road; the SR 41 and Stratford bridge replacement project has been delayed until September 2023 with road closure until March 2024, and outreach meetings for impacted communities are being scheduled; the winter suspension for SR 198 roadside safety improvement project between SR 43 and SR 41 was lifted on March 8, 2022; the SR 41 and Bush Street interchange temporary roundabout is in the permitting process; and CTC approved funding for the SR 41 widening project, with construction to begin in 2024; and the encroachment activity through a culvert underneath SR 41 was investigated and found to be an illegal encroachment, so Caltrans will continue to work with the land owners to resolve the issue.

Commissioner Orth asked who owns the land of the encroachment activity. The reply was "Sandridge" appears to be the owner.

**C. Correspondence**

None.

**D. Staff Comments**

None.

**E. Commissioner Comments**

None.

**III. KCAG COMMISSION**

**A. General Commissioner Items**

Joel Gandarilla conducted roll call. A quorum was present.

1. Reaffirm all Actions Taken by the TPC on March 23, 2022

A motion was made and seconded (Orth / Verboon) to reaffirm all actions taken by the Transportation Policy Committee on March 23, 2022. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Neves, Orth, Palmerin, Verboon  
Noes: None  
Absent: Morrow, Preciado

2. San Joaquin Valley Blueprint Awards Program

Terri King introduced the nomination packet for the San Joaquin Valley Blueprint Awards Program. There are six award categories for development projects that seek to reflect the diversity in Valley communities with special attention to residential and commercial developments, mixed use, downtown revitalization, transportation enhancements, and historic districts. In addition to the development projects, award categories include individual leadership, outstanding local elected official and planning projects or programs. The 2022 awards will be presented by the Regional Policy Council at the Annual San Joaquin Valley Policy Conference luncheon to be held in Clovis on May 12, 2022. It was recommended that local agencies consider projects to nominate for the San Joaquin Valley Blueprint Awards.

3. Valley Voice Sacramento Report

Terri King reported that the San Joaquin Valley RTPAs and elected officials from the region participated in the 2022 Valley Voice Sacramento legislative advocacy virtual meetings on March 18th. A summary of agenda items discussed and brief highlights was presented. Agenda items included State Route 99, AB285 Report that impacts the Kings County area and transportation funding. The contracted lobbyist has written a draft letter opposing AB 2438 that seeks to align all funding programs with the State climate goals set. Also opposing, AB 2237 that focuses on the Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP), and would require proposed project to be consistent with climate goals or risk funds being reallocated to other such programs. Currently, there is not a legislative analysis for these two bills. A more complete report on the Valley Voice Sacramento trip will be provided later.

Commissioner Verboon stated that he is in support of the SR 99 project and looking forward to fully participating in future discussions.

The San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council is working on a Regional Priority list to seek state budget surplus funds. KCAG has submitted two projects including the Kettleman City roundabout and the KART Hanford Transit Station. Other meetings with elected officials are being requested to seek funding for additional projects.

4. KCAG Commission In-Person Meeting Options

Terri King stated that KCAG Staff was tasked with developing in-person meeting options. Staff has been working with the City of Hanford to use the City Council Chambers since the County Board of Supervisors' chambers will be undergoing a lengthy renovation. The KCAG Transportation Policy Committee and KCAG Commission meeting would propose to start at 3:00 p.m., and due to the new meeting location and time, these meetings would be considered special meetings. KCAG Staff recommends hybrid meetings using Zoom Meetings and in person.

Kris Pederson stated that the Governor's order that allows for teleconferencing meetings due to the pandemic expires March 31, 2022. Returning to a hybrid also required returning to the Brown Act provisions. Remote locations will need to be noticed on the agenda and allow for public participation.

Commissioner Palmerin said that having a public meeting in Corcoran should not be a problem. He also requested that LAFCo and KCAG meetings be on separate dates, and for KCAG meeting to start at 3:30 p.m. due to travel constraints.

The KCAG Commission directed KCAG staff to set the goal of having in-person meetings at Hanford City Council Chambers temporarily and Zoom Meeting capability, with Avenal and Corcoran as remote locations.

5. Findings of Necessity and Reaffirming Resolution 21-03 Regarding Continued Use of Remote Teleconferencing Provisions of AB361

Kris Pederson stated that the Governor's order that allows for teleconferencing meetings is set to expire on March 31, 2022. If the Governor extends the order, and KCAG Commission reaffirms Resolution 21-03, KCAG could hold the next meeting telephonically if needed. Or, the KCAG Commission may allow Resolution 21-03 to expire and wait to see if the Governor extends the order, then call for a special meeting, if needed.

A motion was made and seconded (Orth / Verboon) to allow Resolution 21-03 to expire. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Neves, Orth, Palmerin, Verboon  
Noes: None  
Absent: Morrow, Preciado

**IV. MISCELLANEOUS**

**A. Correspondence**

None.

**B. Staff Comments**

Terri King encouraged the Commissioners to review AB 2438 and AB 2237 and have local lobbyist respond accordingly. She provided a brief summary of other items previously mentioned during today's meeting. Staff is working on the Regional Transportation Plan, Sustainable Communities Strategy, Federal Transportation Improvement Program, Regional Housing Needs Assessment, interviews for two Regional Planner vacancies, Transportation Development Act audits, and other items. Next month's agenda will include the final FY 22-23 Overall Work Program (OWP), amendment to the current FY 21-22 OWP, public hearings for unmet transit needs, 5311 and 5310 funds. A list of projects for which local agencies will be receiving Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 (CRRSSA) funds totaling \$738,212 was sent to Caltrans to be approved by the CTC in May. The Governor's proposed \$11 Billion relief package does have an impact on local road and transportation funds by reducing gas tax revenues.

Commissioner Neves asked if 700 forms have been received. The reply was that not all, however a reminder will be sent out.

**C. Commissioner Comments**

Commissioner Orth asked for more information regarding AB 2438 and AB 2237. Terri King responded that she would email the Commissioners with information about the two bills. On April 22, 2022, the City of Lemoore will be dedicating the SR 198 and 19th Avenue Overpass to Lemoore Police Officer Diaz, who died a few year ago.

**V. ADJOURNMENT: Next meeting scheduled for April 27, 2022**

There being no further business before the Kings County Association of Governments Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 5:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

KINGS COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

Terri King, Executive Director