



# MINUTES

## I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The special meeting of the Kings County Association of Governments (KCAG) was called to order by Joe Neves, Chairperson, at 3:00 p.m., on April 27, 2022, in the Hanford City Council Chambers, Civic Auditorium at 400 N. Douty Street, Hanford, CA and via Zoom Meeting.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Kalish Morrow, Joe Neves, David Orth, Sid Palmerin, Alvaro Preciado, Doug Verboon

CALTRANS REPRESENTATIVE: David Padilla

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

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

KCAG COUNSEL PRESENT: Kris Pedersen

VISITORS PRESENT: Heather Corder

### A. Roll Call

Joel Gandarilla conducted roll call. A quorum was present.

### B. Unscheduled Appearances

None.

### C. Minutes

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

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

Ayes: Neves, Orth, Padilla, Palmerin, Preciado, Verboon  
Noes: None  
Abstain: Morrow

## II. KCAG TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE

### A. General Transportation Items

1. FY 2020-21 Transportation Development Act Financial and Compliance Audits

Jennifer Morales stated that the KCAG Transportation Policy Committee approved an extension for the submittal of the FY 2020-21 Transportation Development Act (TDA) financial and compliance audit reports, which are now due to be submitted to the State Controller's Office. The accounting firm of Hudson Henderson & Co. has prepared the audits for the Kings County Association of Governments, County of Kings, and the cities of Avenal, Corcoran, Hanford, and Lemoore. The Kings County Area Public Transit Agency had their audit conducted and completed under a separate contract. No problems or unauthorized use of TDA funds were identified and the audit reports found that these agencies are in compliance with all applicable TDA laws. KCAG was required to complete a Single Audit for FY 2020-2021, as our federal awards expenditures exceeded the \$750,000 threshold.

A motion was made and seconded (Verboon / Palmerin) to accept the final FY 2020-2021 TDA Financial and Compliance Audits for submittal to Caltrans and the State Controller's Office for Kings County Association of Governments, County of Kings, Kings County Area Public Transit Agency, the City of Avenal, the City of Corcoran, the City of Hanford, and the City of Lemoore. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

2. FY 2022-23 Transportation Development Act Activities

Teresa Nickell stated that KCAG monitors the Local Transportation Funds (LTF), determines the annual apportionments, notifies the claimants, approves the apportionments, and allocates the funds. Funding priorities are specified by the legislature for the use of the LTF. KCAG receives claims and other required documentation from all member agencies. Allocation amounts will be revised following the release of the 2022 population estimates by the California State Department of Finance (DOF) on May 1st and any changes from previously proposed budgets, and revised claim forms will be sent to claimants after that time. This year's LTF is \$5,800,000. Both Kings County Area Public Transit Agency KCAPTA and Corcoran were unable to meet the Transportation Development Act (TDA) farebox return ratio requirement due to low ridership due to COVID-19, however, the rules have been waived through FY 2022 along with providing additional regulatory relief measures. A public hearing must be conducted to determine if there are any unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet as defined by the TDA. KCAPTA held a public hearing in February 2022, the City of Corcoran held public hearings in February and March and KCAG will hold meetings in April and May. At their hearings, KCAPTA received five requests and Corcoran did not receive any requests for unmet transit needs testimony.

Commissioner Neves opened a public hearing for the purpose of receiving testimony regarding unmet transit needs and noted that this public hearing will remain open until May 25, 2022. No public testimony was provided at the hearing.

3. FFY 2022 and 2023 FTA Section 5311 Regional Program of Projects

Teresa Nickell stated that each year, Kings County receives an apportionment of Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5311 funds that are available to public and private non-profit transportation providers in rural areas for capital, operating, and administrative expenses. Caltrans announced that a combined

apportionment of \$1,073,566 in Federal Fiscal Years (FFY) 2022 and 2023 FTA Section 5311 funds would be available to Kings County. The Kings County Area Public Transit Agency (KCAPTA) has submitted an application for its share of funds to purchase a 35-39' CNG bus for expansion for \$365,969 for FY 2022 and a 35-39' replacement bus for \$373,289 for FY 2023 and will provide a local share overmatch. The City of Corcoran submitted an application for operating assistance to help fund their demand response transit services provided by Corcoran Area Transit (CAT) in the amount of \$165,499 for FY 2022 and for \$168,809 for FY 2023. A public hearing must be held to receive testimony before a final Regional Program of Projects for FTA Section 5311 funds is approved.

Commissioner Neves opened a public hearing for the purpose of receiving testimony regarding the Final Regional Program for Projects, Section 5311. With no one coming forward the public meeting was closed.

A motion was made and seconded (Verboon / Orth) to approve the FFY 2022 and 2023 FTA Section 5311 Regional Program of Projects, which includes for KCAPTA \$739,258 for capital purchases and for the City of Corcoran \$334,308 for operating assistance, with the adoption of Resolution No. 22-03. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

4. FY 2021-22 Overall Work Program Amendment No. 2

Jennifer Morales stated that the FY 2021-2022 Overall Work Program (OWP) for transportation planning includes projects funded with a variety of federal, state, and local funding sources. A total of \$1,591,550 in available federal planning funds apportioned to KCAG was programmed in the FY 2021-2022 OWP Amendment No. 1 for various work elements. The FY 2021-22 OWP Amendment No. 1 programmed \$662,483 in PL funds and \$68,583 in FTA Section 5303 funds. The final FY 2021-22 apportionment of PL funds is \$765,870, thereby requiring a total programming increase of \$103,387. The final apportionment of FTA Section 5303 funds is \$60,363, thereby requiring a program reduction of \$8,220 and an amendment to the FY 2021-22 OWP. Changes to the three work elements were included in the agenda materials.

A motion was made and seconded (Verboon / Palmerin) to approve Amendment No. 2 to the FY 2021-2022 Overall Work Program with the adoption of Resolution No. 22-04. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

5. Final FY 2022-23 Overall Work Program and Budget

Terri King stated that in February 2022, the Draft FY 2022-23 Overall Work Program (OWP) and Budget was released for review and comment. Comments received from Caltrans were incorporated into the Final OWP. A brief summary of funding sources was provided, and a summary of the work elements and funding is included in the OWP. The total cost of next year's activities is \$2,325,557.

A motion was made and seconded (Verboon / Preciado) to approve the final FY 2022-23 OWP and Budget with the adoption of Resolution No. 22-05. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

6. FY 2020-22 Federal Transit Act Section 5310 Regional Priority List of Projects

Teresa Nickell stated that Federal Transit Act (FTA) Section 5310 provides grant funds to private nonprofit corporations and some public agencies for the purpose of providing transportation services. Approximately \$15 million for Small Urban and Rural areas are available in this grant cycle FFY 2020 and 2021 for eligible capital purchases. KCAG received two applications, one for Traditional Program capital purchases from the Kings Rehabilitation Center (KRC), and one application for the Expanded Program operating activities from the Kings County Area Public Transit Agency (KCAPTA). KRC operates under contract with federal, state, county, and city agencies and provides transportation needs for their clients. Because a majority of KRC's clientele are transported by KRC vans between their homes, events, and various work locations throughout the county, and some clients work non-traditional hours that would be difficult for Kings Area Rural Transit (KART) or other transportation providers to accommodate. The vehicles requested for KRC's services will help to fill these gaps in service for the transit dependent. KCAPTA proposes a curb-to-curb demand response service in the City of Avenal to transport elderly and disabled residents to the cities of Lemoore and Hanford to provide access to medical appointments and shopping opportunities that current fixed route service does not provide. KCAPTA is requesting funding for operating assistance for improved access/connections for a total project cost of \$51,314. KRC is requesting to purchase four service expansion vehicles for a total project cost of \$354,000. KCAG staff has scored KRC's "Traditional" application, and the Statewide Review Committee (SRC) will score KCAPTA's 5310 "Expanded Projects" application and concurrently verify KCAG's scores. Caltrans then prioritizes the Expanded projects, and together with the "traditional" projects, develops the Draft Statewide Prioritized List of Projects and determines the cutoff point on the draft list, based on the States adopted criteria.

A motion was made and seconded (Morrow / Orth) to adopt Resolution No. 22-06, approving the FY 2020-2022 FTA Section 5310 Regional Prioritized Project List, which includes projects for the Kings Rehabilitation Center and the Kings County Area Public Transit Agency for submittal to the State Review Committee to be considered for funding. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

**B. Caltrans Report**

David Padilla reported on the Caltrans Planning Grant awarded to Corcoran for their EV charging infrastructure planning for \$350,000. The proposed Kettleman City pedestrian and bike path is seeking funding. Caltrans will hold a fallen workers memorial at the State Capital. Since 1921, 189 Caltrans workers have been killed on the job. April is distracted drivers' month and Caltrans will unveil a new safety driving programs "Quit Phoning Around" and "Get Off Your Apps".

David Padilla 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; 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 is scheduled to be completed in September 2022.

**C. Correspondence**

None.

**D. Staff Comments**

Terri King related some agenda items for the next meeting including the new Department of Finance population estimates, continue the unmet transit needs public hearing, revised Governor's budget, third quarter financial report, triennial performance audit, and more. She stated that the 2022 San Joaquin Valley Policy Conference starts May 11 to May 13, 2022 and that there will be free registration for the REAP committee for housing and Commissioners Neves and Verboon will be attending the Conference. KCAG anticipates having two new employees start work next month.

**E. Commissioner Comments**

Commissioner Orth stated that on May 18, 2022, Lemoore is hosting a peace officer memorial to Honor Officer Diaz and the 19th Avenue overpass dedication will be Friday. There will be a Cinco de Mayo celebration in Downtown Lemoore.

Commissioner Preciado said that the Sand Drags are this weekend.

Commissioner Palmerin announced there will be a car show on May 14, 2022; City Officials are working on the final Veteran's Memorial; and Corcoran will be raising a statute in honor of the late Ray Lerma.

Commissioner Morrow stated that the Farmer's Market starts May 5, 2022 and there will be a grand opening for Kings Fitness.

**III. KCAG COMMISSION**

**A. General Commissioner Items**

1. Reaffirm all Actions Taken by the TPC on April 27, 2022

A motion was made and seconded (Verboon / Preciado) to reaffirm all actions taken by the Transportation Policy Committee on April 27, 2022. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

**B. Adjourn to Closed Session – 3:50 pm**

2. Closed Session for the Discussion of the Following

- a. Conference with Labor Negotiator(s): [Govt. Code Section 54957.6] Unrepresented Employees and Management
- b. Performance Review – Executive Director
- c. Conference with Labor Negotiator: [Govt. Code Section 54957.6] Executive Director

**C. Adjourn Closed Session / Reconvene Open Session – 4:36 pm**

No reporting out.

**IV. MISCELLANEOUS**

**A. Correspondence**

None.

**B. Staff Comments**

None.

**C. Commissioner Comments**

None.

**V. ADJOURNMENT: Next meeting scheduled for May 25, 2022**

There being no further business before the Kings County Association of Governments Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 4:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

KINGS COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

Terri King, Executive Director