



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 July 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, Doug Verboon

CALTRANS REPRESENTATIVE: Michael Navarro

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Alvaro Preciado

STAFF PRESENT: Terri King, Joel Gandarilla, Luiz Ledezma, Kayley Clay, Teresa Nickell

KCAG COUNSEL PRESENT: Kris Pedersen

VISITORS PRESENT: Heather Corder; Steve Brandt, City of Lemoore; Kristie Baley, City of Lemoore; John Douglas, consultant via Zoom; Noelle Tomlinson, County of Kings via Zoom; Cynthia Baruch, LNAS via Zoom

A. Roll Call

Joel Gandarilla conducted roll call. A quorum was present.

B. Unscheduled Appearances

None.

C. Minutes

1. Minutes of June 22, 2022

A motion was made and seconded (Verboon / Palmerin) to approve the Minutes of the June 22, 2022, meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

II. KCAG TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE

A. General Transportation Items

1. Draft 2022 Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy, Draft Environmental Impact Report, Draft 2023 Federal Transportation Improvement Program, and Draft Air Quality Conformity Analysis

Terri King stated that KCAG has prepared the Draft 2022 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS), Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR), Draft 2023 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) and Draft Air Quality Conformity Analysis. She briefly explained the purpose of each document and noted that the Draft 2022 RTP/SCS was released on July 7, 2022, and the EIR, FTIP and the Air Quality Conformity documents was released on July 15, 2022 for a public review and comment period. A public hearing has been scheduled for August 10, 2022, for all of the association documents, and an additional public hearing scheduled for August 24, 2022, specifically for the SCS. There is special meeting scheduled for September 14, 2022 for the adoption of the 2022 RTP and associated documents. The documents are available for download from the KCAG website. KCAG staff has been attending City Council and Board of Supervisors meetings and held workshops in Avenal, Hanford and virtually to receive input on the RTP/SCS.

Commissioner Morrow asked about public attendance at these meetings. The response was the workshops were lightly attended, but we received good feedback from those that did attend.

B. Caltrans Report

Michael Navarro highlighted federal grant funding opportunities, including the Reconnecting Communities pilot program applications with applications due by October 13, 2022, and the Safe Streets and Road for All grant program which is limited to local agencies only with applications due September 15, 2022. He reported that the Avenal project associated with the Clean California Program is schedule to start by the end of the year; the SR 41 Kettleman City roundabout project is in the design and right-of-way phase, with construction anticipated to start in 2024; the SR 41 Stratford Bridge replacement is delayed until September 2023, with full closure of SR 41 between September 2023 and March 2024; the roadside safety and irrigation project on SR 198 is nearing completion; the I-5 project near the Kern County line is scheduled for winter of 2024 or 2025; the SR 41 rehab project in Kettleman City from Quail Avenue to Nevada Avenue is in the design and right-or-way phase with construction scheduled for 2024; the pavement rehab project on SR 198 between 14th Avenue and SR 43 is a few years out.

Commissioner Verboon asked if Caltrans had information regarding a pedestrian bridge project in Kettleman City and what their position was. The reply was that there was an earmark of about \$2,000,000 for a pedestrian overcrossing and that Caltrans is willing to work with the County of Kings if the County wishes to pursue such a project.

Commissioner Morrow inquired about the implementation of three roundabouts in downtown Hanford. The reply was that Caltrans is supportive of the efforts by the City of Hanford regarding installation of roundabouts and would be willing to discuss the matter with them. There was a brief discussion regarding roundabouts and traffic circles. There was additional discussion regarding construction of High-Speed Rail

over SR 43 and SR 198. There was discussion regarding the future aesthetic design and construction of the SR 198 and 9th Avenue interchange.

C. Correspondence

None.

D. Staff Comments

None.

E. Commissioner Comments

None.

III. KCAG COMMISSION

A. General Commissioner Items

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

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

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

2. Preliminary Draft 6th Cycle Regional Housing Needs Allocation Methodology

Terri King reported that KCAG is responsible for developing the Regional Housing Need Assessment (RHNA) plan completed every eight years based on figures from the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD). The consulting firm of Civic Solutions was hired to conduct the RHNA process and develop the methodology for distributing the housing units and preparing the RHNA Plan.

John Douglas, Project Manager, presented the draft RNHA Methodology to the Commission outlining the significance of the RHNA, the process, methodology factors, allocations, and recommended actions.

Commissioner Neves opened the public hearing for the purpose of receiving testimony regarding the Methodology of the RHNA, with no one coming forward the public hearing was closed.

There was further discussion regarding the practicality of the RHHA process, its impact on the region, the need for water, and possibilities for satisfying the allocation needs.

A motion was made and seconded (Verboon / Orth) to approve the Draft RHNA methodology. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

3. Areawide Planning Review Resolution 22-01

Teresa Nickell stated that Self-Help Enterprises is requesting a grant in the amount of \$200,000 for a minimum of eight low-income households. The applicant will provide \$10,000,000 from State funding and \$121,500 from program income in addition to the requested grant. The funding will assist with zero interest deferred payment loans for low to very-low income households located in Housing Preservation Grant (HPG) target rural areas having less than 50 percent of county median income. Staff received written comments from agencies stating that the project does not duplicate or conflict with any of their programs.

A motion was made and seconded (Palmerin / Verboon) to approve that the KCAG Commission's comments include and ratify those of staff and other reviewers regarding Planning Review No. 22-01. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

B. Closed Session – 4:05 pm

1. Closed session for the discussion of the Following:

- a) Performance Review- Executive Director. There will be a reporting out on this at the next meeting
- b) Conference with Labor Negotiator. This item was tabled to allow the Negotiator to collect additional information regarding comparable agency compensation.

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

A. Correspondence

None.

B. Staff Comments

Terri King stated that staff received a copy of the Grand Jury follow up report regarding the Kettleman City pedestrian overcrossing where KCAG is no longer listed as required to respond. There will be a San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council meeting tomorrow to discuss water issue topics for the upcoming Valley Voice trip. The Regional Early Action Planning Committee for Housing is meeting as well to discuss valley wide projects and services. There will be a Special KCAG Commission meeting August 10, 2022 in addition to the scheduled August 24, 2022 meeting to conduct public hearings; and a special meeting is scheduled for September 14, 2022 to adopt the final RTP/SCS, EIR, FTIP, and Air Quality Conformity Analysis. Tentatively, the September 28, 2022 meeting may be cancelled.

C. Commissioner Comments

None

V. ADJOURNMENT: Next meeting scheduled for August 10, 2022

There being no further business before the Kings County Association of Governments Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 4:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

KINGS COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

Terri King, Executive Director