



# 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 3:04 p.m., on December 7, 2022, in the Hanford City Council Chambers, Civic Auditorium at 400 N. Douty Street, Hanford, CA and via Zoom.

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

CALTRANS REPRESENTATIVE: Michael Navarro via Zoom

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Alvaro Preciado

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

KCAG COUNSEL PRESENT: Kris Pedersen

VISITORS PRESENT: In-person: Robert Phipps; Ron Kilcoyne, TMD; Via Zoom: Adam Wasserman; Evelyn Espinoza, MCTC; Georgina Landecho, CalVans; G. Pacheco; Lois Yates; Moses Stites, Fresno County Rural Transit Agency; Simran Jhutti.

### A. Roll Call

Joel Gandarilla conducted roll call. A quorum was present.

### B. Unscheduled Appearances

None.

### C. Minutes

#### 1. Minutes of October 26, 2022

A motion was made and seconded (Verboon / Orth) to approve the Minutes of the October 26, 2022, meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Navarro, Neves, Orth, Palmerin, Verboon  
Absent: Preciado  
Abstain: Morrow

## II. KCAG TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE

### A. General Transportation Items

#### 1. Revised FY 2022-23 Local Transportation Fund Claims

Terri King reported that in June 2022, the KCAG Transportation Policy Committee adopted Resolution No. 22-08 to approve the FY 2022-23 Local Transportation Fund (LTF) apportionments and allocations for planning, transit and roads. KCAG may revise the allocations if the financial needs of the claimant change. Last month KCAG approved an amendment to the FY 2022 Overall Work Program due to the loss of funds originally programmed and will need to backfill the amounts. KCAG has increased its LTF claim for FY 2022-23 from \$123,000 to \$347,100, which results in a decrease in the amount of shares remaining for streets and roads.

A motion was made and seconded (Palmerin / Verboon) to adopt Resolution No. 22-15 to amend FY 2022-23 LTF apportionments and revise the allocation instructions to the Kings County Auditor-Controller, based on the revised estimate. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Morrow, Navarro, Neves, Orth, Palmerin, Verboon  
Absent: Preciado

#### 2. Draft KART Fixed Route Study

Terri King stated that in May 2021, KCAG hired Transportation Management & Design, Inc. (TMD) to conduct the Kings Area Regional Transit (KART) Fixed Route Schedule Study to develop a redesigned fixed route system in Hanford due to the new Hanford KART station location. The public Draft KART Hanford Fixed Route Schedule Study is presented as part of the final phase of the project.

Ron Kilcoyne provided the PowerPoint presentation of the KART Hanford Fixed Route Study which included background data, key survey findings, service design principles, proposed route network, travel times savings, and impacts of alternatives and scenarios. Terri King stated that the final study will be brought back for acceptance in January.

#### 3. California Inland Port Grant Application Support

Terri King said that the Fresno Council of Governments is submitting an application for funds from the State of California's FY 2022-23 Port and Freight Infrastructure Program for the California Inland Port System (CAIPS) project. A summary of the project and information about the grant program is included in the agenda materials. She introduced Robert Phipps, Deputy Executive Director for FresnoCOG who provided a PowerPoint presentation about the project.

Robert Phipps provided the presentation which included project-goods movement/ environmental/ economic benefits, project objectives, supply chain/ goods movement benefits, project facts, participation and partners, phases overview, project foundation, trade ports and satellites, logistics, and support. Other co-presenters were Adam Wasserman, Lois Yates, and Simran Jhutti. There was further discussion after the presentation.

Commissioner Verboon explained how important it is for Kings County to have agriculture produce shipped out of California, not necessarily staging the produce in a second port in California. He also encouraged the team to continue reaching out to Oakland Port to bring them in on this project.

Commissioner Orth asked if the purpose is to relocate goods to a second location, then have them shipped out again. The reply was to allow of an import/export process that improved the connectivity and efficiency, while minimizing empty cargo trips, and using EV trucks. Commissioner Orth stated how EV trucks may not address the goods movement issue, given the lack of infrastructure. He asked for this Commission to be at the table during the development of the study.

Commissioner Neves stated how the goods movement issue also appears to have become a political issue. It was asked why the Government insists on taking a path that is not supported by the market. It appears to be an issue of commit and leave no other option. He also noted that the testimony does not match the resolution that states this to be a project for clean energy. The reply was this is a clean energy project.

Commissioner Morrow expressed how this project has the potential to be a strain on the current infrastructure.

A motion was made and seconded (Verboon / Orth) to approve the support for a grant application to the State of California's FY 2022-23 Port and Freight Infrastructure Program funding for the California Inland Port Project, with the adoption of Resolution No. 22-16. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Morrow, Navarro, Neves, Orth, Palmerin, Verboon  
Absent: Preciado

4. FY 2023-24 Overall Work Program Activities

Terri King reported that each year KCAG is required to prepare and submit an Overall Work Program (OWP) to Caltrans for approval. This allows KCAG to receive federal funds to conduct planning activities. An estimated \$793,000 in Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and \$74,600 in Federal Transit Administration (FTA) apportionments is available to fund the OWP activities. A summary of the various planning activities to be included in the draft FY 2023-24 OWP was provided. The draft OWP will be presented in February 2023, and the final will be presented in April 2023.

5. FY 2021-22 Transportation Development Act Audits Extension

Terri King stated that KCAG is required to have fiscal audits performed for the Transportation Development Act (TDA) claimants and submitted within 180 days after the end of the fiscal year. The accounting firm of Hudson Henderson & Co. is preparing the audits of each claimant, but it is anticipated that the auditor will not be able to submit draft audit reports in time so that KCAG can accept and submit them to the State Controller. In accordance with the California Administrative Code, the regional transportation planning agency (KCAG) may grant an extension of up to 90 days.

A motion was made and seconded (Verboon / Orth) to approve an extension for the submittal of the FY 2021-22 TDA audits be granted and that the State Controller be notified of the extension. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Morrow, Navarro, Neves, Orth, Palmerin, Verboon  
Absent: Preciado

6. FFY 2021-22 Federal Funds Obligation Report

Cayley Clay stated that Federal regulations require that Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) either publish or make available to the public an annual listing of projects for which federal funds have been obligated in the proceeding federal fiscal year (FFY). KCAG staff has prepared the annual report of obligated projects for the FFY 2021-22, which shows that KCAG member agencies and state agencies on behalf of the region obligated approximately \$4 million (and \$2 million de-obligated) for streets, roads, and highway projects and \$1.5 for transit projects within Kings County in FFY 2021-22. Of the total obligations, \$522,157 was for active transportation projects. De-obligated funds are from the close-out of previously obligated projects and does not necessarily represent a project was cancelled.

**B. Caltrans Report**

Michael Navarro reported on the grant funding opportunities such as the Clean California Local Grant program with a call for projects to go out in January 2023. The Reconnecting Communities Highway to Boulevards Program with \$150,000,000 available, with a workshop on December 19, 2022. The 2023 RAISE Grant of \$1.5 billion nationwide was announced in November. Letter of support may be requested from Caltrans by January 13, 2023. There is \$50,000,000 available for climate adaptation planning grants and \$34,000,000 for Caltrans Planning Grants with applications due in March 2023. Projects reported on included a Clean California project in Avenal with construction completed by June 2023, Kettleman City roundabout project is moving forward with the right-of-way phase, SR 41 and Stratford bridge replacement is still scheduled to begin in December 2023, the combined Roadside Safety and Irrigation project along SR 198 is reaching its completion, the Bush St. and SR 41 interchange roundabout is moving toward permitting, the Stratford road rehabilitation project from Nevada Avenue to SR 41 and SR 198 separation is completing the environmental work with construction scheduled in 2024, the Kettleman City project from Quail Avenue to Nevada Avenue will be ready to list January 2023. There was a fatality on SR 41 of a Caltrans worker. The light at SR 41 and Kansas has not been energized due to a right-of-way issue with the PG&E and landowner.

(Commissioner Neves left the meeting at 4:30 p.m.)

**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 December 7, 2022

A motion was made and seconded (Verboon / Orth) to reaffirm all actions taken by the KCAG Transportation Policy Committee on December 7, 2022. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Morrow, Orth, Palmerin, Verboon  
Absent: Neves, Preciado

2. California Vanpool Authority – KCAG Withdrawal

Terri King stated that on January 26, 2011, the KCAG Commission approved Resolution No. 11-01, by which KCAG resolved to join the California Vanpool Authority (CalVans). At the October 26, 2022 KCAG Commission meeting, Commissioners discussed the potential of KCAG withdrawing from CalVans. The CalVans Joint Powers Agreement states that a Member Agency may withdraw from the Transit Authority by filing its written notice of withdrawal with the Executive Director 180 days before the actual withdrawal. Attached is a draft Resolution which would approve the withdrawal of KCAG from the California Vanpool Authority and a draft Notice of Withdrawal to be submitted, with an effective date of June 6, 2023, the last day of the 180-day period.

Georgina Landecho, Executive Director of CalVans, expressed gratitude for being part of the County of Kings and stated that CalVans had no intentions of leaving the County of Kings. She noted that CalVans can only operate within member counties, and withdrawal would mean CalVans would cease to operate within Kings County all together. The current CalVans office space will be occupied by the Sheriff's Office and CalVans will seek another office location.

A motion was made and seconded (Verboon / Orth) to adopt Resolution No. 22-07 to repeal Resolution No. 11-01, by which KCAG resolved to join the California Vanpool Authority (CalVans); and Authorize the Executive Director to withdraw KCAG from the CalVans Joint Powers Agreement, in accordance with its terms. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Orth, Palmerin, Verboon  
Abstain: Morrow  
Absent: Neves, Preciado

3. Regional Early Action Planning 2.0 Grant Full Application Submittal

Terri King stated that previously the KCAG Commission delegated authority to the KCAG Executive Director to submit a Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) 2.0 Advance Application for the initial allocation of funds. The purpose of the REAP 2.0 program is help accelerate infill, affordable housing development, and reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled. REAP 2.0 allocates \$600 million from state and federal investment, with 85% allocated directly to Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs). KCAG's maximum award of REAP 2.0 funds is \$2,060,590. On November 18, 2022, KCAG submit a REAP 2.0 Advance Application for the initial allocation of 10% of total funds in the amount of \$206,059. The full application for REAP 2.0 program funding is due by December 31, 2022. KCAG is anticipated to

receive an amount up to \$1,854,531 in the REAP 2.0 Full Application for eligible activities. KCAG staff is conducting outreach activities and meetings with local agency staff to obtain input in the planned use of the funds for eligible activities.

A motion was made and seconded (Verboon / Orth) to adopt Resolution No. 22-07 authorizing the Executive Director to submit a Full Application allocation request for the REAP 2.0 program funding in the amount of \$1,854,531. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Morrow, Orth, Palmerin, Verboon  
Absent: Neves, Preciado

4. FY 2022-23 Quarter 1 Financial Report

Terri King stated that each quarter KCAG submits a report to Caltrans summarizing the expenditures and revenues for the fiscal year and a reimbursement request for federal funds expended. For the period of July 1, 2022 through September 30, 2022 KCAG received a total of \$124,681.87 in federal funds as reimbursement for eligible activities. Total expenditures for FY 2022-23 Quarter 1 were \$283,250 and total revenues received were \$787,702, which included FY 2021-22 Quarter 4 reimbursements.

5. Assembly Bill 2449 Brown Act Updates

Terri King reported that Assembly Bill 2449 (AB 2449) takes effect January 1, 2023. A summary of the new teleconferencing rules was provided which include, that members can teleconference into meetings without meeting the requirements of the Traditional Rules only for just cause or due to emergency circumstances. These provisions will expire on January 1, 2026. Kris Pedersen provided a summary of the rules as they apply to this Commission, noting that Commissioners may only attend remotely in 20% of annual meetings, must notify in advance of the meeting if attending remotely, must declare if any persons over 18 years old are also present with the remote attendee, and must attend visually and with audio.

6. CalCOG Regional Leadership Forum

Terri King said that the CalCOG Regional Leadership Forum will be held on March 6-7, 2023, in Riverside, California. Commissioners were encouraged to let KCAG know if they are available to attend.

7. 2023 KCAG Meeting Calendar

Terri King presented the KCAG Commission meeting calendar for 2023.

**IV. MISCELLANEOUS**

**A. Correspondence**

None.

**B. Staff Comments**

Terri King provided a summary of items on next month's agenda which included an AVA meeting, the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council appointments, RHNA Plan and Final KART Fixed Route study approvals.

**C. Commissioner Comments**

None.

**V. ADJOURNMENT: Next meeting scheduled for January 25, 2023**

There being no further business before the Kings County Association of Governments Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

KINGS COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

Terri King, Executive Director