



# MINUTES

## KCAG TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, March 13, 2024

**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, March 13, 2024, in the Conference Room, 339 West “D” Street, Suite B, Lemoore, California, and via Zoom Meeting.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Javier Andrade, City of Avenal, Community Development  
Kristie Baley, City of Lemoore, Community Development  
Angie Dow, Kings County Area Public Transit Agency  
Alex Hernandez, County of Kings, Community Development  
Orfil Muniz, City of Corcoran, City Engineer  
Sandra Scherr, Caltrans District 6  
Cristal Schisler, City of Lemoore Public Works  
Frank Senteno, City of Hanford Public Works  
Kevin Tromborg, City of Corcoran, Community Development  
Dominic Tyburski, County of Kings, Public Works

**STAFF PRESENT:** Joel Gandarilla, Jennifer Morales, Kayley Clay, Teresa Nickell

**VISITORS PRESENT:** Olson Eric, Caltrans Office Chief of Traffic Safety and Engineering, Safe System Lead; Perez Isidro, Caltrans Traffic Investigation Branch; Valerie Bega, City of Corcoran, Transit Coordinator; Mitch Cabrera, County of Kings, Public Works; Heather Corder, Kings County Area Public Transit Agency; Mark Pedreiro, Kings County Area Public Transit Agency; Lisa Dock, City of Hanford, Public Works; Alejandro Solorio, City of Hanford Public Works

**A. UNSCHEDULED APPEARANCES**

None.

**B. MINUTES**

It was moved and seconded (Dock / D0w) to approve the Minutes of February 14, 2024. The motion carried unanimously.

## TRANSPORTATION

### **A. FY 2024-25 Transportation Development Act Fund Summary**

Teresa Nickell stated that KCAG has been provided an estimate of Local Transportation Fund (LTF) and State Transit Assistance (STA) money to be available for apportionment and allocation during FY 2024-25. The estimate of FY 2024-25 LTF for KCAG member agencies is \$6,400,000 and STA is \$1,878,275. The claim forms and other required documentation have been sent to the claimants. The Kings County Area Public Transit Agency (KCAPTA) held one unmet transit needs hearing in February and will hold another hearing in March; while the City of Corcoran will hold its unmet transit needs public hearings in March and April this year. KCAG will hear unmet transit needs testimony at public hearings on April 24th and May 22nd. Findings and recommendations will be coming in May 2024.

Lisa Dock asked for clarification regarding Article 8 and 3 claims. The response was that Article 3 covers Local Transportation Funds for Bicycle and Pedestrian projects. However, Article 8 funds can be used for those purposes.

### **B. 2024 State Transportation Improvement Program Recommendations**

Kayley Clay reported that KCAG submitted the Kings County 2024 Regional Transportation Improvement Plan (RTIP) to the California Transportation Commission (CTC) seeking \$4.5 million of advanced future State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) shares to fund the Project Approval and Environmental Document (PA&ED) phase of the State Route (SR) 198 and 9th Avenue Interchange Project. KCAG's submission of \$4.5 million for the SR 198 and 9th Avenue interchange was recommended to receive funding in Fiscal Year 2024-25. This money will fund the selection of an interchange design, and the environmental documents for the selected design being completed.

Lisa Dock asked what steps would follow this approval. The response was that Caltrans will manage the project with local agency input.

### **C. Walkin Item: Caltrans Traffic Safety and Engineering Presentation**

Eric Olson introduced himself as a Safe System Lead member. The Federal Highway Administration adopted a Safe System Approach, in turn Caltrans adopted the program. There are six principles to the Safe Systems approach, fatalities are unacceptable, humans make mistakes, humans are vulnerable, responsibility is shared, safety is proactive not reactive, and redundancy is crucial. Caltrans has implemented a Vision Zero goal toward highway safety based on these six principles. A summary of the principles and possible application toward highway safety was provided. The Safe System team is seeking to connect with local agencies on state highway or local road safety planning and provide technical assistance on guidance and expertise where possible.

Isidro Perez echoed the presentation and encouraged feedback from local agencies. Last year Caltrans initiated a Traffic Incident Management (TIM) Stakeholder Summit and invited all agencies to attend future meetings. There will be two TIM meetings per year; a hybrid in April and May and an in person in October.

## REGIONAL PLANNING

### A. Regional Early Action Planning – REAP 1.0 Case Study Webinar Notice

Joel Gandarilla announced the upcoming March 19, 2024, webinar REAP 1.0 Case Studies.

## MISCELLANEOUS

Kayley Clay said that the project update meeting is next Thursday; the CMAQ and Carbon Reduction Program call for project applications are due Friday; and Caltrans is requesting an obligations plan update by Friday.

Teresa Nickell stated that TDA Claims forms are due April 1, 2024. The Low Carbon Transit Operations Program funds are available. The Regional Active Transportation Plan stakeholder meeting will be announced this week. There will be four meetings this year, with the first in April. Each agency should give thought to providing a list of local events where public participation could be conducted for developing the Plan.

Joel Gandarilla reminded those in attendance that Form 700's are due in April.

Kevin Tromborg said they are seeking grants for the Corcoran entryway from Whitely Avenue off SR 43 and a second grant for the west side entry on Whitely Avenue.

Javier Andrade stated that Avenal is working on completing the Audit and future projects.

Lisa Dock said that Hanford is waiting for the result of a few grant projects for the downtown area.

Mitch Cabrera stated that the County is still working on existing projects. The two Reconnecting Communities grants that the County applied for were not awarded to the County. The Avenal-Cutoff Road project has been postponed while SR 41 is closed.

Sandra Scherr said that if any agency needs support for Safe Route to School projects please reach out to Caltrans. Applications for 2024 FTA 5339 funds are due April 18, 2024. Caltrans can provide a review of the application if sent by April 1, 2024, to Michael Lang and Caltrans Headquarters.

Eric Olson asked if the SR 43 project near Corcoran is a Clean California project. One of the High-Speed Rail contractors is requesting removal of part of the SR 43 roundabout to transport large girders. The response was affirmation and the work starting early next year is closer to the city than SR 43.

Orfil Muniz stated that the projects held up due to the environmental impact studies are now cleared to move forward.

Angie Dow said that the Transit Center is actively under construction and still on schedule to be operational by July 1, 2025. The infrastructure planning for electric buses is ongoing. They are working on a JPA San Joaquin Rail funding agreement to increase connectivity between rail and public transit. Additional routes to the City of Visalia are being planned. Train passengers will be able to transfer seamlessly to public buses with the same train ticket.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the KCAG Technical Advisory Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for April 10, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Terri King, Executive Director