



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 3:08 p.m., on April 24, 2024, in the Lemoore City Council Chambers, 429 C Street, Lemoore, CA.

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

CALTRANS REPRESENTATIVE: Caleb Brock

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Kalish Morrow

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

KCAG COUNSEL PRESENT: Kris Pedersen

VISITORS PRESENT: Patricia Matthews, City of Lemoore Mayor; Kevin Northcraft, Interim Lemoore City Manager; Via Zoom, Dominic Tyburski, County of Kings, Public Works; Matthew Tuttle, Field Representative for CA 33rd District Assemblymember Devon Mathis; Kristie Baley, City of Lemoore, Community Development; Cristal Schisler, City of Lemoore Public Works.

A. Remote Participation Due to Emergency Circumstances

None.

B. Roll Call

Joel Gandarilla conducted roll call. A quorum was present.

C. Unscheduled Appearances

None.

D. Minutes

1. Minutes of March 27, 2024

A motion was made and seconded (Palmerin / Verboon) to approve the Minutes of the March 27, 2024, meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Brock, Neves, Orth, Palmerin, Preciado, Verboon

Absent: Morrow

II. KCAG TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE

A. General Transportation Items

1. FY 2024-25 Transportation Development Act

Teresa Nickell stated that KCAG is to administer Transportation Development Act (TDA) funds composed of Local Transportation Funds (LTF) and State Transit Assistance (STA) funds. KCAG has received claims and other required documentation from all member agencies for their apportionment of FY 2024-25 TDA funds. The FY 2024-25 allocation amounts will be revised following the release of the 2024 population estimates by the California State Department of Finance (DOF). Each claimant was required to hold a public hearing and present an adopted resolution, stating their findings on unmet transit needs, and required environmental documents for streets and roads projects within their jurisdiction before funds can be allocated for road purposes. The Kings County Area Public Transit Agency (KCAPTA) held public hearings during its February and March 2024 meetings, the City of Corcoran held a public hearing in March and will hold a second hearing in April, and KCAG will hold two public hearings for unmet transit needs testimony during the April and May meetings. The Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) will hold two public meetings in April and May to review unmet transit needs testimony and finalize their recommended determination on unmet transit needs in accordance with the TDA.

Commissioner Neves opened the public hearing for the purpose of receiving testimony on any unmet transit needs. With no one coming forward, the public hearing will remain open until May 22, 2024.

2. FY 2024-24 Low Carbon Transit Operations Program

Teresa Nickell stated that the FY 2023-24 Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP) estimate has been received and the Kings County Area Public Transit Agency's (KCAPTA) apportionment share is \$357,030 and the City of Corcoran's apportionment share is \$59,015. KCAPTA proposes two projects, a route to Lemoore Naval Air Station and quarterly bus passes; and Corcoran proposes to add solar panels to the bus parking structure located at the City's corporation yard. These projects are eligible expenses under LCTOP guidelines and are also consistent with the adopted Sustainable Communities Strategies.

A motion was made and seconded (Verboon / Orth) to adopt Resolution No. 24-01 approving the distribution of the FY 2023-24 Low Carbon Transit Operations Program allocations for the projects included in the LCTOP Project List and designation of the KCAG Executive Director as an authorized agent for the Low Carbon Transit Operations Program. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

3. Final FY 2024-25 Overall Work Program and Budget

Terri King reported that the Draft FY 2024-25 Overall Work Program (OWP) was submitted for review and comments. Comments were received from Caltrans and the Federal Highway Administration and appropriately incorporated into the final OWP. The proposed final FY 2024-25 OWP is included in the agenda packet as an attachment. There are no significant changes in the work elements tasks from the draft document except for the addition of a new work element to administer the new SB 125 funding source for transit capital improvements for electric buses, and additional consulting costs for the Regional Transportation Plan. The FY 2024-25 proposed final budget increased by \$175,000 from the draft budget. The total cost of next year's activities will be approximately \$2,091,500. The cost includes new computers and office furniture for the new KCAG offices expected to be ready by July 1, 2025. Consultants will be used in FY2024-25 for several activities. The FY 2024-25 Budget includes a total expenditure of \$955,248 for salaries and benefits, for an increase of about 5%, and expenditure of \$340,752 for Services and Supplies for an increase of 45% compared to the prior year budget.

A motion was made and seconded (Verboon / Orth) to approve the final FY 2024-25 Overall Work Program and Budget with the adoption of Resolution No. 24-02. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

4. Final FY 2023-24 Overall Work Program – Amendment No. 2

Terri King stated that with Amendment No. 2 KCAG is programming revised FY 2023-24 Federal planning funds. The final FY 2023-24 apportionment of PL funds is \$807,141, thereby requiring a total programming reduction of \$1,619, and the final apportionment of FTA Section 5303 funds is \$59,285, thereby requiring a program reduction of \$16,153. Caltrans will not approve reimbursement of federal funds for over expenditures and after estimated final expenditures, some work elements may have over expenditures. Therefore, Amendment No. 2 to the FY 2023-24 OWP is needed to make changes in PL and FTA 5303 fund amounts, and other funding changes since the OWP was first adopted. A summary of the affected work elements was provided.

A motion was made and seconded (Palmerin / Preciado) to approve Amendment No. 2 to the FY 2023-2024 Overall Work Program with the adoption of Resolution No. 24-03. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

B. Caltrans Report

Caleb Brock reported that Clean California Community Days were held April 19-22, 2024, to coincide with Earth Day; the City of Corcoran is holding their annual dump days from April 1 to April 27, 2024; the Statewide Caltrans worker memorial event is tomorrow at the State Capital at 11:00am, and District 6 will be holding their workers memorial in Visalia on May 8, 2024; the Safe Streets for All grant deadline is April 4,

2024 for Planning and Demo grants, May 16, 2024, for implementation grants, and August 29, 2024 for Planning and Demo, the Active Transportation Plan Cycle 7 applications are due June 17, 2024; Caltrans is working with the Shared Use Path in Kettleman City; and the Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure (CAPTI) listening sessions will be May 1-2, 2024, and will include the Caltrans System Investment Strategy (CSIS).

Commissioner Preciado inquired about the Kettleman City Shared Use Path Project. The reply was it is a project that connects the residential and commercial communities.

Regarding projects, Caleb Brock reported that the bids for City of Avenal's Clean California project opened on March 8, 2024, and will be awarded in the next few weeks; Caltrans continues to work on the Kettleman City roundabout and right of way, with construction anticipated in 2025; the SR 41 Stratford bridge replacement work continues; the signal timing on SR 198 and the Lemoore NAS intersection has been increased to all red for 3 seconds; the SR 41 pavement rehabilitation near Kettleman City from Quale Ave. to Nevada Ave. is ongoing; the interim roundabout at Bush St. and SR 41 is in the permitting phase, with construction anticipated to begin in the spring of 2024; the SR 41 widening project in Fresno County from Excelsior Avenue is in the design phase; and the SR 41 Reef City pavement rehabilitation project from the Kern County line to the I-5 and SR 41 separation is in the design phase.

C. Correspondence

None.

D. Staff Comments

None

E. Commissioner Comments

None.

III. KCAG COMMISSION

A. Roll Call

Joel Gandarilla conducted roll call. A quorum was present.

B. General Commissioner Items

1. Reaffirm all Actions Taken by the TPC on April 24, 2024

A motion was made and seconded (Verboon / Preciado) to reaffirm all actions taken by the KCAG Transportation Policy Committee on April 24, 2024. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

2. Areawide Planning Review No 24-01

Teresa Nickell stated that the City of Avenal is applying for a discretionary grant in the amount of \$17,200,250 from the FY 2024 Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant program. The City's project vision, "Advancing Community Connectivity with Equity, Safety, and Sustainability" (ACCESS), will span several years from 2025 to 2030 with a focus on improving the community's connectivity. The project scope will encompass approximately 2 miles of paving unpaved streets along main travel corridors and constructing unfinished segments to improve traffic efficiency and reduce air pollution. The project is consistent with the Avenal Active Transportation and Safe Routes to School Plan and will also include construction of bicycle and pedestrian facilities. Staff received written comments from various agencies that the project does not duplicate or conflict with any of their programs.

A motion was made and seconded (Verboon / Orth) that the KCAG Commission's comments include and ratify those of staff and other reviewers regarding Planning Review No. 24-01. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

C. Adjourn to Closed Session (3:59 p.m.)

1. Closed Session for the Discussion of the Following

- a. Conference with Labor Negotiator(s): [Govt. Code Section 54957.6]
KCAG Negotiator: Terri King, Executive Director
Unrepresented Employees and Management
- b. Performance Review – Executive Director
Public employee performance evaluation review, pursuant to subdivision (b)(1) of Government Code section 54957
- c. Conference with Labor Negotiator: [Govt. Code Section 54957.6]
KCAG Negotiator: Kris B. Pedersen, General Legal Counsel
Executive Director

D. Adjourn Closed Session / Reconvene Open Session (4:41 pm)

No reporting out

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

A. Correspondence

None.

B. Staff Comments

Terri King stated that there is a High-Speed Rail Station Open House on Tuesday, April 30, 2024, at the Hanford West High School Cafeteria; the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority is requesting two nominations for a vacancy on the Rail Committee for the citizen positions; the San Joaquin Valley COG Director's are meeting tomorrow, with California Transportation Commissioner Bob Tifanny; and the Washington DC

Valley Voice Trip is scheduled for September 8-11, 2024. She reported that next month's agenda will continue the Unmet Transit Needs public hearing, Department of Financial population estimates updates, and the FY 2023-24 Third Quarter financial report.

C. Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Preciado stated that the Safe Routes to School work on Skyline Blvd. has begun; the Old Timers' Spaghetti Dinner is May 4, 2024, with a parade and park activities; and on Sunday there will be an Oil Field Tour and picnic event.

Commissioner Orth stated that the Panda Express will have a grand opening on Friday; Starbuck will temporarily close for remodeling; and the City of Lemoore is actively recruiting a new City Manager.

Commissioner Palmerin stated that on May 18, 2024, there was a car/truck show, and the City Council Chambers was remodeled.

Commissioner Neves stated that the Portuguese celebration will start in Stratford on May 12, 2024, then later in Hanford and Lemoore; and Riverdale will celebrate their centennial memorial in June.

V. ADJOURNMENT: Next meeting scheduled for May 22, 2024

There being no further business before the Kings County Association of Governments Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 3:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

KINGS COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

Terri King, Executive Director