



MINUTES

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting of the Kings County Association of Governments (KCAG) was called to order by Joe Neves, Chairperson, at 3:00 p.m., on July 24, 2024, in the Board of Supervisors Chambers, Administration Building, Kings County Government Center, 1400 W. Lacey Blvd., Hanford, California and via Zoom.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Martin Devine, Patricia Matthews, Joe Neves, Sid Palmerin, Alvaro Preciado, Doug Verboon

CALTRANS REPRESENTATIVE: Michael Navarro

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

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

KCAG COUNSEL PRESENT: Kris Pedersen

VISITORS PRESENT: Logan Odneal, Field Representative for CA 33rd District Assemblymember Devon Mathis; Zoom: Gelacio Rogriguez, City of Avenal; Javier Andrade, City of Avenal, Community Development

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 June 26, 2024

A motion was made and seconded (Verboon / Devine) to approve the Minutes of the June 26, 2024, meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Devine, Navarro, Neves, Palmerin, Preciado, Verboon
Abstain: Matthews

II. KCAG TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE

A. General Transportation Items

1. Draft 2025 Federal Transportation Improvement Program and Corresponding Air Quality Conformity Analysis

Terri King reported that KCAG is a federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Kings County region and is required to biennially adopt a Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) as part of the formal process in applying for federal funds from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA). The FTIP must also be found to conform to the State Implementation Plan (SIP) for the attainment of air quality standards and the FTIP must be financially constrained. KCAG must prepare and adopt updated conformity documents to reflect the FTIP and the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). KCAG staff released the draft 2025 FTIP and corresponding Air Quality Conformity Analysis for the required 30-day public review and comment period beginning on June 24, 2024, through July 24, 2024, with a public hearing to be conducted today. The final documents are scheduled to be adopted on August 28, 2024.

Commissioner Neves opened the public hearing for the purpose of receiving testimony regarding the Federal Transportation Improvement Program and Air Quality Conformity Analysis. Seeing no one come forward, the public hearing was closed.

2. FY 2022-23 Transportation Development Act Financial and Compliance Audit

Jennifer Morales stated that on an annual basis the California Administrative Code requires claimants of Transportation Development Funds to submit financial statements and compliance audits to the State Controllers Office (SCO). Previously, the Transportation Policy Committee (TPC) approved an extension for the submittal to the SCO for an additional 90 days. KCAG's FY 22-23 Audit report has been completed by the accounting agency Moss Adams LLC. This audit report is final, and the auditor is currently working on the remaining audits. No problems or unauthorized use of TDA funds were identified in the completed audit and it was found that the agency is following all applicable TDA laws. Also, KCAG's completed single audit report was required as the federal awards expenditures for FY 22-23 exceeded the \$750,000 threshold.

A motion was made and seconded (Palmerin / Preciado) to accept the final FY 2022-2023 TDA Financial and Compliance Audit of the Kings County Association of Governments for submittal to Caltrans and the State Controller's Office. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Devine, Navarro, Neves, Matthews, Palmerin, Preciado, Verboon

B. Caltrans Report

Michael Navarro stated that Caltrans' Strategic Management Plan for FY 2024-28 has been released; Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) grant opportunity for Cycle 12 was released with applications due September 9, 2024; City of Avenal received a Climate Action and Adaptation Plan planning grant for \$309,000; there will be a call for projects in the fall of 2024

Michael Navarro reported the Clean California project awarded in Avenal will start this summer; the SR 41 and Bernard Ave. Roundabout in Kettleman City is still in the right-of-way phase; SR 41 and Stratford Bridge replacement project will have a ribbon cutting on August 1, 2024; SR 41 lane widening project in Fresno County is in the design and right-of-way phase; pavement work on SR 41, between SR 198 and Excelsior Ave., started July 16, to August 13, 2024; Reef City pavement rehabilitation project on SR 41 from the Kern County line to the I-5 separation is ready for advertisement.

Commissioner Neves asked for the location of the Stratford Bridge replacement ribbon cutting on August 1, 2024. The reply was on the Kings River Bridge, with parking on the northeast area.

C. Correspondence

None.

D. Staff Comments

Terri King reported that SR 198 and 9th Ave. interchange kick off meeting is scheduled for August 9, 2024.

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 July 24, 2024

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

Ayes: Devine, Neves, Matthews, Palmerin, Preciado, Verboon

2. Areawide Planning Review No. 24-11

Teresa Nickell stated that the Kings County Sheriff's Office is applying for a formula grant in the amount of \$100,000 from the FY 2024 State Criminal Alien Assistance Program. This Program is designed to promote civil rights and equity, increase access to justice, support crime victims and individuals impacted by the justice system, among other strategies. Approximately 164 of the inmates housed in Kings County Jail for 4 or more days were undocumented criminal aliens. KCAG staff received written comments from three agencies stating that the project does not duplicate or conflict with any of their programs.

A motion was made and seconded (Matthews / Preciado) to recommend that the KCAG Commission's comments include and ratify those of staff and other

reviewers regarding Planning Review No. 24-11. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

3. Areawide Planning Review No. 24-12

Teresa Nickell stated that Hanford Pacific Associates II, a California limited partnership for workforce housing development, is pre-applying for a \$4,149,000 loan from the USDA-RD Section 514 Off-Farm Labor Housing Loans for New Construction Program. This program supports the construction of new housing units of off-farm labor housing for domestic, retired, and/or disabled farm laborers. The applicant proposes to construct 40 new units of the second phase of the Tierra Vista Apartments, located on South Williams Street in Hanford. In addition to the federal fund request, the applicant will supply \$600,000, \$15,184,881 in State funds, and \$1.8 million in a bank loan as a permanent source of funds. The total project cost is \$21,733,881. KCAG staff received written comments from two agencies stating that the project does not duplicate or conflict with any of their programs.

A motion was made and seconded (Verboon / Preciado) to recommend that the KCAG Commission's comments include and ratify those of staff and other reviewers regarding Planning Review No. 24-12. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Devine, Neves, Matthews, Palmerin, Preciado, Verboon

4. Areawide Planning Review No. 24-13

Teresa Nickell stated that Self-Help Enterprises (SHE) is applying for FY 2024 Section 533 Rural Housing Preservation Grant funds in the amount of \$500,000. The applicant will utilize the grant funds to benefit at least 18 housing units in target areas with low-income and very low-income owner-occupied households. SHE will utilize \$7,843,500 in State grant funds and \$113,563 in program funds to supplement the HPG Program funds, to provide zero interest deferred payment loans to these households. The total project cost will be \$8,457,063.

A motion was made and seconded (Verboon / Matthews) to recommend that the KCAG Commission's comments include and ratify those of staff and other reviewers regarding Planning Review No. 24-13. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Devine, Neves, Matthews, Palmerin, Preciado, Verboon

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

A. Correspondence

None.

B. Staff Comments

Terri King noted that KCAG is the designated Areawide Clearinghouse for Kings County, and that Staff is now automatically notified by the state of an application that requires intergovernmental review. She reported that next month's agenda will include

adoption of the 2025 Federal Transportation Improvement Program and Air Quality Conformity; Approval of the State of Good repair project list; possibly another TDA audit for approval; Staff received notice from the State Housing and Community Development regarding revised allocations of \$1,743,000 for the REAP 2.0 program. A CalCOG board meeting will be August 12, 2024, at 1:00 p.m.

Commissioner Verboon requested advance notification of unusual Clearinghouse applications.

C. Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Matthews stated that Lemoore hired Marissa Trejo as their new city manager and that Baskin Robins is now open.

Commissioner Palmerin said that Corcoran is having elections in November for City Council members.

Commissioner Verboon restated the Stratford Bridge replacement ribbon cutting on August 1, 2024, and that the Avenal Cutoff Road will be closed for pavement rehabilitation.

Commissioner Devine stated that Hanford has a revenue measure on the November ballot for a one percent sales tax for public safety. If the measure passes, there will be an oversight committee appointed.

Commissioner Preciado said there are three seats for re-election in Avenal and two ballot measures. Avenal will keep the cooling stations open this week, which has had 10 to 20 visitors.

V. ADJOURNMENT: Next meeting scheduled for August 28, 2024

There being no further business before the Kings County Association of Governments Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 3:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

KINGS COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

Terri King, Executive Director