

KERN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
REGIONAL PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TRANSPORTATION MODELING COMMITTEE

KERN COG CONFERENCE ROOM
1401 19TH STREET, THIRD FLOOR
BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA

WEDNESDAY
February 3, 2016
1:30 P.M.

Vice Chairman Poire called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m.

I. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Paul Hellman	City of Bakersfield
Matt Alexander	City of Ridgecrest
Suzanne Forrest	City of Shafter
Mark Staples	City of Taft
Emery Rendez	GET
Paul Marquez	Caltrans
Jason Cater	Community Member
Richard Rowe	Community Member (phone)
Patty Poire	Community Member
Rebecca Moore	LAFCO

STAFF:

Rob Ball	Kern COG
Ben Raymond	Kern COG
Becky Napier	Kern COG
Ed Flickinger	Kern COG

OTHERS:

Ted James	Consultant
Dave Dmohowski	Consultant
Tad Andars	Caltrans District 9
Jim Appodaca	Tejon Tribe
Colin Rambo	Tejon Tribe
Ricardo Perez	GET
Cindy Parra	Bike Bakersfield
Adam Kahler	Bike Bakersfield

- II. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons to address the Committee on any matter not on this agenda but under the jurisdiction of the Committee. Committee members may respond briefly to statements made or questions posed. They may ask a question for clarification; make a referral to staff for information or request staff to report to the Committee at a later meeting. **SPEAKERS ARE LIMITED TO TWO MINUTES. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD PRIOR TO MAKING A PRESENTATION.**

None.

III. APPROVAL OF DISCUSSION SUMMARY:

Committee Member Rowe made a motion to approve the minutes of November 4, 2015, seconded by Committee Member Forrest with all in favor.

XII. SB 375 GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION TARGET SETTING TIMELINE (Ball)

Mr. Ball informed the Committee that in spring of 2016 (April) the valley MPOs will provide their recommendations formally or informally for target setting to ARB staff for review. In late spring 2016 (May): ARB staff will provide a progress report to the Board on MPO target recommendations. In summer 2016, ARB staff holds public workshops, develops a staff proposal, and prepares and circulates a draft environmental document. In fall 2016, ARB staff reviews and responds to public input on the staff proposal, and responds to comments on and finalizes the environmental document. In late 2016, the ARB Board will consider approval of updated targets, which would become effective for Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS) that will be adopted by the valley MPOs after January 1, 2018.

This was an information item.

XIII. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL EQUITY ROUNDTABLE (Napier)

Ms. Napier informed the Committee that the Environmental and Social Equity Roundtable (Roundtable) was reactivated to begin the Regional Transportation Plan process. Ms. Napier informed the Committee that the purpose of the Roundtable was to review the methodology to be used by Kern COG to designate Environmental Justice areas and Title VI areas in Kern County. A discussion ensued concerning the involvement of the Federal Review Agencies in this item.

This was an information item.

XIV. GROWTH FORECAST BY SUB-REGION (Raymond)

Mr. Raymond discussed the 2015-2050 Regional Growth Forecast which was adopted by the Kern COG board at its November 19th Board meeting. The forecast is used for local transportation and air quality planning as well as by the member agencies for a variety of long range planning activities. The forecast will serve as the growth assumption for the 2018 RTP/SCS. The Growth Forecast for the 2014 RTP was distributed to the aggregated Regional Statistical Areas in 2012 by the RPAC. The latest growth forecast shows a slight slowing in growth compared to the previous forecast. Kern COG staff has applied the new growth numbers to the percentage of growth each sub-region was allocated in the 2014 RTP to generate new county sub-region growth forecast estimates.

Committee Member Hellman made a motion to direct staff to use the growth forecast numbers for modeling purposes and bring the item back at the next meeting for formal action, seconded by Committee Member Staples with all in favor.

XV. MODEL INPUT ASSUMPTIONS: DRAFT AVERAGE LAND USE DENSITY ANALYSIS YIELD RATES (Raymond)

Mr. Raymond informed the Committee that in an effort to more accurately reflect future residential growth in the land use model, Kern COG performed a density analysis on the developed residential areas of general and specific plans in Kern County. The analysis was made using current Land Use Element maps from each jurisdiction and parcels from the Assessor's Office. Each jurisdiction was asked to review the jurisdiction's rates and provide comments to Michael Heimer at mheimer@kerncog.org by March 2, 2016.

This was in information item.

XVI. DRAFT REGIONAL TRAFFIC MONITORING SYSTEM PROGRAM UPDATE (Flickinger)

Kern COG is updating the Regional Traffic Count Program to include bicycle and pedestrian count locations. The Committee was provided a copy of the Phase II Amendment of Chapter 3 of the Regional Traffic Monitoring Improvement Plan (RTMIP) to incorporate bicycle and pedestrian counts.

Committee Member Cater made a motion to accept the Phase II amendment of Chapter 3 of the RTMIP, seconded by Committee Member Staples with all in favor. Additionally, the individual cities were encouraged to work with Mr. Flickinger to recommend count sites and count times by February 10, 2016.

IX. CEQA GUIDELINES UPDATE (Napier)

Ms. Napier explained to the Committee that Senate Bill 743 was signed by the Governor on September 27, 2013. The legislation required that the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) amend the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines to provide an alternative to delay-based level of service (LOS) for evaluation transportation impacts. The alternative is Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)

After lengthy discussion, Committee Member Hellman made a motion to direct staff to prepare a comment letter to be sent to OPR. Vice Chairman Poire and citizen/consultant Ted James will review comment on the letter prior to sending it to OPR. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Forrest with all in favor.

X. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES STRATEGIES AND CONSERVATION (Napier)

Ms., Napier provided the Committee with a link to the January 2016 Nature Conservancy document that identified results of the first rounds of SCSs as they pertained to conservation. The document also made policy recommendations for future rounds of SCS development.

This was an information item.

XI. INFORMATION ITEMS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

XII. MEMBER ITEMS

Committee Member Alexander provided the Committee with a presentation on the Median Project in Ridgecrest that is a success story for the 2014 RTP/SCS. The presentation was moved to the beginning of the Agenda.

Mr. Ball provided information on Autonomous Vehicles to the Committee.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 3:37 p.m.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, March 2, 2016, at 1:30 p.m.