



Citizens Advisory Committee MINUTES

DATE

Friday, September 2, 2022

The regular meeting of the Citizens Advisory Committee held Friday, September 2, 2022, held in person at the MCAG Office, Front Conference Room, 369 W. 18th Street, Merced, CA and via webinar was called to order by Chair Shane Smith at 8:37 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Maddie Brown, Student**
 Jose Delgadillo, Citizen at Large
 Rene Gutierrez, Citizen at Large, Vice Chair ***
 Jack Jackson, Citizen-at-Large
 Shane Smith, Citizen at Large, Chair
 Ursula Stock, Citizen at Large
 Michelle Symes-Thiara, Education**
 Paul Villarreal Jr., Goods Movement**
 Paul Ward, Commerce/Finance

MEMBERS ABSENT

Michael Beltran, Engineering
 Mike Jensen, Water/Irrigation
 Bryan Kroeger, Construction
 Jean Okuye, Agriculture
 Patricia Ramos-Anderson, Economic Development
 Jaswinder Singh, Real Estate
 Yamilet Valladolid, Healthcare
 Vacant, Small Business

OTHERS PRESENT

None

STAFF PRESENT

Natalia Austin, Senior Planner
 Nav Bagri, Deputy Executive Director **
 Elizabeth Forte, Director of Planning and Programming**
 Xavier Garcia, Assistant Planner **
 Stephanie Jackson, Executive Assistant**
 Alicia Ochoa-Jones, Procurement Manager
 Jose Perez, Transit Assistant Manager**
 Meg Prince, Senior Planner**
 Mary-Michal Rawling, Public Affairs Manager
 Tara Rodriguez, Staff Services Analyst I
 Mauricio Torres, Associate Planner
 Joy Young, Administrative Assistant II **

*Arrived after roll call

**Attended via zoom

1. Call to order

- a. Roll call
- b. Pledge of allegiance

At this time, Chair Shane Smith called the meeting to order and instructed that the roll call for attendance be taken. It was determined that a quorum was not present. Chair Shane Smith led the pledge of allegiance.

2. Public comment

Jose Perez introduced Tara Rodriguez as the new Staff Services Analyst for the Transit department.

3. Information items:

- a. **Merced County Association of Governments**
 - i. CAC highlights of the July 1, 2022 meeting
 - ii. Sign-up sheet for CAC representative to the MCAG Governing Board meetings – 2022
 - iii. CAC calendar – 2022
 - iv. CAC attendance roster – 2022
 - v. Calendar of meetings, conferences, and events
 - vi. MCAG newsletter – September 2022
 - vii. Draft minutes of the August 18, 2022 MCAG Governing Board meeting

So noted.

At this time, Chair Shane Smith stated that information items would be heard prior to action items until a quorum is present.

MERCED COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

6. Discussion items:

- a. Transportation Planning and Measure V update

Elizabeth Forte presented the Transportation Planning and Measure V update and discussed the following topics:

- Regional Transportation Plan was adopted on August 18, 2022
- Federal Transportation Improvement Program final draft was adopted on August 18, 2022
- Air Quality Conformity document was adopted on August 18, 2022
- Finish the 99 is still moving forward with collaboration on unfinished segments of Highway 99 and Caltrans is preparing the RFP for the Multimodal Corridor Plan
- SB 743/VMT Implementation Plan materials expected to be released for review in mid-September
- Electric Vehicle Readiness Plans RFP is currently being worked on and will soon be released
- Active Transportation Plan (previously titled Regional Non-Motorized Plan) held a kickoff meeting and will continue to hold meetings over the next few months
- Short Range Transit Plans 60-day comment period ended on August 18, 2022 and was adopted the same day

The committee discussed the Active Transportation Plan previously titled Regional Non-Motorized Plan.

b. Regional Housing Planning update

Meg Prince presented the Regional Housing Planning update and discussed the following topics:

- REAP 1.0 expenditure deadline has been extended by 12 months
 - Regional Housing Needs Allocation
 - Water and Sewer Infrastructure Capacity Assessment
 - Regional Housing Trust Fund and Housing Consortium Study
- REAP 2.0 application has been submitted to the California Department of Housing and Community Development to secure funding for required outreach for development and submittal

The committee discussed the following topics:

- Current housing elements and state requirements that are needed for state funded allocations
- The importance of submitting support letters for future projects
- Agricultural land preservation as well as concern that a transportation planning agency is being required to address housing needs

At this time, it was noted that a quorum was present, and Chair Shane Smith stated that action items will be heard starting with Item 4a Consent calendar.

4. Consent calendar:

a. Merced County Association of Governments

- i. Approve the minutes of the August 5, 2022 Citizens Advisory Committee meeting

Jose Delgadillo moved to approve the consent calendar.

Seconded by Paul Ward.

Roll call vote:

AYES: Maddie Brown, Jose Delgadillo, Rene Gutierrez, Jack Jackson, Shane Smith, Ursula Stock, Michelle Symes-Thiara, Paul Villarreal Jr., Paul Ward

NOES: None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MERCED COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

5. Action items:

- a. Recommend adoption of Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) Methodology – Option 1C

Natalia Austin summarized the request to adopt the Regional Housing Needs Allocation Methodology with Option 1C being the preferred scenario.

Rene Gutierrez moved to recommend the MCAG Governing Board adopt by resolution the Regional Housing Needs Allocation Methodology – Option 1C.

Seconded by Jose Delgadillo.

Roll call vote:

AYES: Maddie Brown, Jose Delgadillo, Rene Gutierrez, Jack Jackson, Shane Smith, Ursula Stock, Michelle Symes-Thiara, Paul Villarreal Jr., Paul Ward

NOES: None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- b. Recommend COVID Relief Regional Surface Transportation Program Funding/Local Transportation Fund Swap

Nav Bagri summarized the request to recommend a COVID Relief Regional Surface Transportation Program Funding/Local Transportation fund swap.

Rene Gutierrez moved to recommend the Governing Board approve the \$1,234,325 CRRSAA RSTP/LTF swap and authorize the by-population-distribution of the Local Transportation Fund to the jurisdictions.

Seconded by Paul Ward.

Roll call vote:

AYES: Maddie Brown, Jose Delgadillo, Rene Gutierrez, Jack Jackson, Shane Smith, Ursula Stock, Michelle Symes-Thiara, Paul Villarreal Jr., Paul Ward

NOES: None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MERCED COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

6. Discussion items:

- c. REAP 2.0 Program Development and Public Outreach

Meg Prince presented the REAP 2.0 Program Development and Public Outreach update stating that the scope of work includes substantial community and stakeholder engagement efforts combined with coordination with the jurisdictions to identify funding expenditures.

- d. Unmet Transit Needs FY 2023-2024

Mauricio Torres presented the Unmet Transit Needs for FY 2023-2024 and explained the process that is required to conclude prior to the apportionment of the funding. Transit will hold public hearings in October 2022 to receive public input regarding transit service needs.

The committee discussed ongoing public outreach and the methods used to conduct said outreach.

TRANSIT JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY FOR MERCED COUNTY

7. Action items:

None.

8. Discussion items:

- a. Transit Joint Powers Authority for Merced County monthly update

Jose Perez presented the Transit Joint Powers Authority for Merced County monthly update and discussed the following topics:

- Free Fares for the months of July through the end of September
- Ridership for July 2022 was provided
- Transit Administration Office estimated completion by end of September pending no supply chain delays

- Short Range Transit Plan was approved at the Governing Board meeting in August
- New Bus purchases are being finalized with delivery expected in March 2023
- Electric Bus Infrastructure scope of work is being developed
- Bus Stop Improvements Project began with bus shelter installations in July 2022 and new shelters will continue to be installed in other jurisdictions
- Public outreach at the 2022 Kids Connect Community Celebration took place on August 17, 2022

OTHER REPORTS

9. Committee reports

- a. San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District Citizens Advisory Committee

No report was given at this time.

10. Announcements

Mary-Michal Rawling reminded the committee that the next Citizens Advisory Committee meeting will be held at the Highway 59 Landfill in Merced.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 9:34 a.m.