



Kings County Association of Governments

339 W. "D" Street, Suite B, Lemoore, California 93245
(559) 582-3211 extension 2654 ❖ FAX (559) 924-5632
www.countyofkings.com/kcag

Member Agencies: Cities of Avenal, Corcoran, Hanford and Lemoore, County of Kings
Chair – Joe Neves ❖ Vice Chair – Ray Lerma

MINUTES

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting of the Kings County Association of Governments was called to order by Joe Neves, Chairperson, at 4:30 p.m., in the Board of Supervisors Chambers, Administration Building, Kings County Government Center, 1400 W. Lacey Blvd., Hanford, California. The Chairperson conducted Roll Call.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Tony Barba, Dan Chin, Ray Lerma, Joe Neves, Paul Marquez

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Sid Craighead, Ed Martin

STAFF PRESENT: Victoria Hall, Terri King, Chris Lehn, Kyle Sand, County Counsel

VISITORS PRESENT: Henie Ring, Kings County Human Resources

UNSCHEDULED APPEARANCES

None

MINUTES – August 27, 2008

A motion was made and seconded (Barba / Lerma) to approve the Minutes of August 27, 2008. Motion carried unanimously.

KCAG TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE

A. General Transportation Items

1. 2009 Interim FTIP – Amendment No. 1

Ms. King reported that the 2009 Interim Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) was adopted in July 2008. The Interim FTIP only included projects and phases that can be processed until the new conformity budgets can be used in an emission analysis. There are four projects and or project phases that can be added by this amendment that can rely on the previous emissions analysis.

The proposed Amendment No. 1 was released for public review and comment on September 8, 2008 for a 30 day review period and a public hearing has been scheduled for this evening. Included in the notice was a description of the projects and phases added, financial tables, and the previously approved conformity analysis.

Commissioner Neves opened the public hearing, seeing no one come forward the public hearing was closed. Written comments are still being accepted through October 8th. All comments will be addressed in the final FTIP Amendment No. 1, which will be brought before the Commission at the October TPC meeting.

2. San Joaquin Valley Express Transit Study

Ms. King stated the Merced County Association of Governments received a grant to conduct the San Joaquin Valley Express Transit Study in coordination with the other Valley COGs. The study is being conducted with Nelson Nygaard Consulting Associates. The study is to evaluate existing transit interregional services, identify markets that can support inter-county commuter express transit service in the San Joaquin Valley, design services to meet the identified need, and develop an organizational structure for service and funding plan.

Included in the agenda packet are the first two steps in the study, the Existing Conditions and Case Study report. The consultant is currently analyzing the demand for services base on existing and future conditions as the next step. The study has found that the area between Tulare and Fresno Counties along with the Merced/Modesto/Stockton area presents the most demand for inter-county travel.

B. Caltrans Reports

Mr. Marquez reported there is going to be a project development meeting tomorrow in Hanford regarding the SR 198 Corridor System Management Plan. They hope to have a final draft by next month. There is an overhead exit sign being installed for Interstate 5 on SR 41 at Kettleman City and may cause traffic delays. Last month a question was asked regarding a ribbon cutting ceremony for the Sunflower II project, Caltrans has decided there will not be a ceremony. A State planning grant has been awarded to KCAG for the Kettleman City Safety and Community study. Several other grants for the San Joaquin Valley which have limited effect on Kings County have been awarded which will be administered by City of Fresno regarding further study of the Metro Rural Loop and by Kern COG regarding Tribal collaboration transportation planning.

Commissioner Barba asked what the Kettleman City grant was about. Ms. King stated it was to address concerns in the Kettleman City Community Plan regarding a safe pedestrian crossing of SR 41 and establishing community identity through potential gateway signs. The goal is to lead toward grants for Safe Routes to Schools and Transportation Enhancement projects that could be incorporated into an upcoming SHOPP project on SR 41. Commissioner Barba suggested that we let the news media know about receiving the grant. Ms. King stated that staff will work on a news release and contact stakeholders.

C. Correspondence

None

D. Staff Comments

None

E. Commissioner Comments

None

A. General Commission Items

1. Reaffirm all Actions Taken by TPC on September 24, 2008

A motion was made and seconded (Barba / Chin) to reaffirm all actions taken by the Transportation Policy Committee on September 24, 2008. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Housing Element Update – Consultant Selection

Ms. Lehn reported under State law the County of Kings, City of Avenal, City of Corcoran, City of Hanford & the City of Lemoore are required to update the Housing Elements by August 31, 2009. All jurisdictions have agreed to combine efforts and prepare a joint housing element update with KCAG serving as the coordinating agency. Six proposals received in response to the request for proposals seeking qualified consultants to provide planning and environmental services for the Multi-Jurisdiction Housing Element update. The Kings Regional Housing Technical Advisory Committee consisting of planning managers from each jurisdiction met and reviewed the proposals. The consensus was to accept the proposal from Conexus as being the best qualified at a reasonable cost. Conexus has twenty five years of experience and has prepared more than twenty housing elements in a wide variety of cities and counties in the past year. The cost of the base proposal was a little under \$142,000 and is expected to increase slightly with the costs of optional tasks added as necessary. The contract is under review and expected to be sent to County Counsel in the very near future.

A motion was made and seconded (Lerma / Chin) to approve the selection of Conexus to provide professional services for the Multi-Jurisdiction Housing Element Update and authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract for their services. Motion carried unanimously.

3. San Joaquin Valley Housing Trust

Ms. Lehn stated the San Joaquin Valley (SJV) Housing Trust is a newly created organization that will provide flexible funding and technical resource expertise to the cities and counties in the Valley. A board meeting of the SJV Housing Trust was held in Hanford. This meeting was attended by the official KCAG representative of Sid Craighead. Highlights of the meeting included a discussion of housing preservation in regards to the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008. Also discussed at length was the soon to be created local county housing teams. The County teams will provide leadership, monitor the local at risk affordable housing units, gather and share information and serve as a point of contact for local housing non profits. Sid Craighead, Steve Sopp, and Greg Gatzka have committed to participating in the Kings County Housing Team. A joint housing meeting in October with Tulare and Fresno is in the planning stages.

4. KCAG Regional Planner Series Job Specifications

Ms. King reported the KCAG Commission approved in January 2008 new job titles and salary ranges for the purpose of KCAG retention and recruitment. In coordination with Kings County Human Resources and KCAG staff, the job specifications for the Regional Planner have been revised to reflect the duties of KCAG Regional Planners. The revised job specifications are attached. Henie Ring from Kings County Human Resources is available for any questions. When the job specifications are approved we can start recruitment for the two open Regional Planner positions in KCAG.

A motion was made and seconded (Barba / Chin) to approve the job specifications for the KCAG Regional Planner Series I-IV. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Valley COG Fall Policy Conference

Ms. King stated the Fall Policy Conference will be held in Visalia October 2-3, 2008 and that the registration form is included in the agenda materials if anyone else is interested in going.

MISCELLANEOUS

A. Correspondence

None

B. Staff Comments

None

C. Commissioner Comments

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Kings County Association of Governments Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 4:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

KINGS COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

Terri King, Executive Director