Meeting Agenda
Thursday, January 11, 2018
Time: 9:00 a.m.

THIS IS A PHONE CONFERENCE MEETING

Teleconference Number: 1-515-739-1015
Participant Code: 432-600-639

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. December 7, 2017 Directors’ Meeting  T. Boren ✔

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

2. RTP/Sustainable Communities Strategies/Air Quality  R. Niblock
   Update and Discussion

3. Valley Legislative Affairs Committee  S. Dabbs ✔
   Valley Voice Sacramento, March 7, 2018

4. California Transportation Funding – SB 1  T. Smalley
   Implementation Strategy Updates:
   ▪ Trade Corridor Enhancements (SJCOG & MCAG)
   ▪ Solutions for Congested Corridors (Fresno COG)
   ▪ ITIP (TCAG & StanCOG)

5. State Route 99 Project Prioritization  A. Chesley
   Discuss Preliminary Framework for Criteria and Evaluation

6. Directors’ 2018 Workshop (January 22-23)  M. Sigala ✔
   Discuss Agenda and Other Logistics
INFORMATIONAL ITEMS
The following items are for informational purposes and require no action or vote. Written summaries of Informational Items are included in the agenda packet.

7. Caltrans Directors’ Report  S. Ehlert/D. Agar
8. San Joaquin JPA for Passenger Rail  D. Leavitt
9. California High Speed Rail  D. Gomez
10. Goods Movement Planning  M. Sigala
11. Rural Transit Alternatives Study/UC Davis  M. Sigala
12. California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley  I. Herrera

OTHER ITEMS
13. Director Items
14. Public Presentations for Items Not on Agenda. This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons wishing to address the Committee on items within its jurisdiction but NOT on this agenda. Unscheduled comments may be limited to three minutes. The public may comment on listed agenda items as they are considered.

ADJOURN MEETING.

Directors Only Closed Session if Necessary.

Next Directors’ Meeting: Thursday, February 1, 2018 (Kings County).

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Accommodations The meeting room and restrooms are ADA accessible. Representatives or individuals with disabilities should contact the SJV Regional Planning Agencies at (559) 266-6222, at least three days in advance, to request auxiliary aids and/or translation services necessary to participate in the meeting.
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, December 7, 2017
Time: 10:00 a.m.

Meeting Location:
Kern Council of Governments
1401 19th Street, Suite 300
Bakersfield, CA 93301

DIRECTORS

Robert Phipps for Tony Boren
Patrick Pittenger
Ted Smalley
Ahron Hakimi
Terri King
Patricia Taylor
Andrew Chesley
None present

MPOs
Fresno Council of Governments
Merced County Association of Governments
Tulare County Association of Governments
Kern Council of Governments
Kings County Association of Governments
Madera County Transportation Commission
San Joaquin Council of Governments
Stanislaus Council of Governments

Please see Appendix A for a list of other attendees

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. November 2, 2017 Directors’ Meeting T. Boren

There was a motion to approve the November 2, 2017 Directors Committee Minutes.

First Motion: Mr. Ahron Hakimi
Second Motion: Mr. Robert Phipps
No Nays
Motion Carried

DIRECTORS

Fresno Council of Governments
Tony Boren - Chair

Merced County Association of Governments
Patrick Pittenger - Vice Chair

Tulare County Association of Governments
Ted Smalley

Kern Council of Governments
Ahron Hakimi

Madera County Transportation Commission
Patricia Taylor

San Joaquin Council of Governments
Andrew Chesley

Stanislaus Council of Governments
Rosa Park

(559) 266-6222
(559) 314-6015 (Fax)
http://sjvcogs.org

2035 Tulare St, Suite 201
Fresno, CA 93721
DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

2. RTP/Sustainable Communities Strategies/Air Quality  

   Update and Discussion  
   Mr. Ryan Niblock noted that a request for a complete conformity run and post processing files was previously sent out to Valley staff. The purpose of this request was to confirm that MPOs can all pass conformity, and to allow MPOs to circulate latest planning assumptions through the IAC.

   Ozone Update: Mr. Niblock announced that since EPA has not yet released the final 2015 ozone standard designations, the new standard will not be addressed in the 2018 RTP/2019 FTIP conformity analysis.

   Carbon Monoxide Update: On November 30th, EPA sent an email stating that carbon monoxide conformity will no longer be required as of June 1, 2018. This does not need to be included in the conformity analysis, including all RTPs, for plans adopted after June 1st. CMAG apportionment requirements will also be reduced in the future.

   SB 375 Update: ARB is not taking their Target recommendations in December. CalCOG expects March/April for Target Adoption. An MPO call was hosted by CalCOG to discuss these developments. Further discussion followed.

3. Valley Legislative Affairs Committee  

   Discuss Valley Voice Sacramento, March 7, 2018, Including Selection of Lobbyist  
   Ms. Stacie Dabbs reviewed the Draft Regional Priorities Summary for Valley Voice Sacramento 2018. Ms. Dabbs sought feedback and input for changes. Discussion on each item ensued. Final draft brochure will be presented at the next Regional Policy Council meeting.

   Ms. Dabbs presented lobbyist proposals from Mr. Christopher Townsend (Townsend Public Affairs) and Mr. Mark Watts (Smith, Watts & Hartmann) for consideration. Discussion followed.

   There was a motion to move forward with negotiating a contract with Mr. Watts first, and Mr. Townsend second if a contract is not agreed upon. MCAG will carry the contract.

   First Motion: Mr. Andrew Chesley  
   Second Motion: Mr. Ahron Hakimi  
   No Nays  
   Motion Carried

4. California Transportation Funding—SB 1  

   Implementation Strategy Updates:  
   - Trade Corridor Enhancements (SJCOC & MCAG)  
     No update.

   - Solutions for Congested Corridors (Fresno COG)  
     Approved at CTC meeting.

   - ITIP (TCAG & StanCOG)  
     No update.
5. State Route 99 Project Prioritization  
   T. Smalley/A. Chesley

   Discuss Preliminary Framework for Criteria and Evaluation
   Mr. Ted Smalley and Mr. Andrew Chesley provided and discussed a handout on State Route 99 project prioritization. Some of the preliminary criteria developed includes “regional” determinations (SR 99, I-5 and interchanges at these), is project really ready, traffic volumes, safety, fund leveraging, and performance measures which are important at the federal level. Further discussion followed.

6. Additional Discussion Items:
   a. Agenda for December 15 Regional Policy Council Meeting
   Mr. Michael Sigala briefly reviewed agenda items for the upcoming meeting and requested feedback. RPC Chair Rudy Mendoza requested to hold an executive meeting beforehand, in which he will seek approval for a letter of support to retain private activity bonds for affordable housing in the latest federal tax bill. Mr. Sigala will be sending a notice for an executive committee phone meeting.

   b. Directors’ Workshop, January 2018
   Directors’ Workshop will be held January 22nd and 23rd in Fresno.

   c. Spring Policy Conference

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

7. Caltrans Directors’ Report  
   S. Ehlert/D. Agar

8. San Joaquin JPA for Passenger Rail  
   D. Leavitt

9. California High Speed Rail  
   D. Gomez

10. Goods Movement Planning
    Final report has been circulated.

11. Rural Transit Alternatives Study/UC Davis  
    M. Sigala

12. California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley  
    M. Sigala

OTHER ITEMS

13. Director Items
    Ms. Terri King announced that she is seeking eligible projects to expend surplus P&L funds on.

14. Public Presentations for Items not on Agenda
    • “EVs made EZ Workshop” hosted by San Joaquin Valley Electric Vehicles Partnership in Stockton on Tuesday, January 23rd.
    • “Clean Transportation Summit” in Fresno on March 14th and 15th

Meeting Adjourned at Approximately 12:00 P.M.

Next Directors’ Meeting: Thursday, January 4, 2018 in Fresno (later moved to Jan 11).
## Appendix A – Additional Meeting Attendees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Individual(s)</th>
<th>Organization(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ben Kimball</td>
<td>Tulare County Association of Governments</td>
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<td>Stacie Dabbs</td>
<td>Merced County Association of Governments</td>
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<td>Becky Napier</td>
<td>Kern Council of Governments</td>
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<td>Linda Urata</td>
<td>Kern Council of Governments</td>
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<td>Michael Sigala</td>
<td>Valleywide Coordinator, Sigala Inc</td>
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<td>Robert Ball</td>
<td>Kern Council of Governments</td>
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<td>Tom Dumas (ph)</td>
<td>Caltrans</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gail Miller (ph)</td>
<td>Caltrans</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dylan Stone (ph)</td>
<td>Madera County Transportation Commission</td>
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<td>Tom Jordan (ph)</td>
<td>San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District</td>
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<td>Kristine Kai (ph)</td>
<td>Fresno Council of Governments</td>
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<tr>
<td>Matt Fell (ph)</td>
<td>Merced County Association of Governments</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ryan Niblock (ph)</td>
<td>San Joaquin Council of Governments</td>
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<td>Trai Her (ph)</td>
<td>Fresno Council of Governments</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alex Maricucui (ph)</td>
<td>Sierra Research</td>
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San Joaquin Valley Regional Priorities

AIR QUALITY REGULATION FUNDING

REQUEST: Provide funding for regional and local governments to meet new air quality regulations.

Despite achieving significant emissions reductions through decades of implanting the most stringent stationary and mobile regulatory control program in the nation, NOx emissions in the San Joaquin Valley must be reduced by an additional 90% in order to attain the latest federal standards. Support is needed for the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District to petition the EPA for new national standards for on-road, heavy-duty trucks and locomotives under federal jurisdiction and the establishment of a National Clean Air investment fund to accelerate the deployment of low-emission vehicles in a timeframe that will meet the standards, protect public health and avoid federal sanctions.

INTERCITY PASSENGER RAIL

REQUEST: Support the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority (SJJPA) and the San Joaquin Rail Commission (SJRTC) application for funding under the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) for rail infrastructure improvements to better connect travelers to and from the Sacramento region with the San Joaquin Valley and Bay Area.

This grant funding will enable two more daily round trips for the Amtrak San Joaquin service from Fresno to the Sacramento region, as well as the extension of Altamont Corridor Express (ACE) service to/from Sacramento. The funding will also enable buildout of new stations located in Lodi, Elk Grove, Sacramento City College, Midtown Sacramento, Old North Sacramento, and Natomas. Extending the ACE service between Natomas and San Jose and between Merced and Natomas will offer a new direct connection between Sacramento and the Bay Area, while increasing frequency of Amtrak San Joaquins will improve connectivity between the Valley and Sacramento.

CAP AND TRADE FUNDING

REQUEST: Structure investments to favor integrated transportation and land use strategies with an emphasis on poor air quality regions.

Funding should be allocated regionally by population, air quality status and disadvantaged community status, recognizing different strategies are necessary to achieve greenhouse gas reductions in different areas of the state. This approach requires maintaining CalEnviroScreen criteria as the tool to determine disadvantaged community status.

GOODS MOVEMENT

REQUESTS: (1) Recommend the California Transportation Commission adopt the Interregional Transportation Improvement Program (ITIP) as proposed by staff. (2) Consider air quality and low-income challenges to ensure a fair and equitable distribution of Senate Bill 1 program funds, specifically the Trade Corridor and Congested Corridor programs. These considerations can be incorporated in funding decisions through the use of existing tools such as CalEnviroScreen.
CATEGORICAL EXCLUSIONS FOR PROJECTS OF LIMITED FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

REQUEST: Encourage Caltrans to exercise the authority provided to them by Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to make NEPA categorical exclusion (CE) certifications or determinations.

Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration amended their joint procedures to streamline compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) by designating two types of actions as categorical exclusions for transportation projects:

1. Any project (as defined in 23 U.S.C 101(a)) within an existing operational right-of-way; and
2. Any project that receives limited federal funding.

HIGH-DENSITY MARKET-RATE HOUSING

REQUEST: Support the development of high-density market-rate housing in the San Joaquin Valley.

To transform transportation and land use in the San Joaquin Valley, funding programs and policies need to support and incentivize the development of high-density market-rate housing in the region. Current state funding programs, policies and processes such as the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) target low-income housing in California while the San Joaquin Valley region is challenged with providing market-rate high-density options.

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN ADOPTION CYCLE PILOT PROGRAM

REQUEST: Encourage state support for a federal pilot program to explore a 10 year Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) adoption cycle.

RTPs are federally required long-range transportation plans that metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) are required to update every four years. Looking ahead 20 years or more, these documents serve as a master plan for the region’s transportation network including a listing of all projects anticipated to receive federal funding. Under the current four-year cycle, federal planning grants do not cover the costly transportation and air quality modeling expenses required to produce the document. The San Joaquin Valley MPOs are interested in pursuing a pilot program to explore an optional 10 year RTP adoption cycle that would still allow for agency’s to amend adopted RTPs as needed from year to year.

WATER

REQUEST: Michael will provide ......
San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council

The San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council is a partnership that exemplifies the regional transportation planning agencies’ commitment to working collaboratively to address regional issues, challenges and opportunities. This sixteen member Policy Council was established to build regional consensus and provide a forum for the Valley to organize, coordinate and communicate as a region. The Policy Council consists of two elected officials from each of the eight regional planning agencies’ policy boards.

Valley Voice is the Policy Council’s advocacy program that communicates the region’s priorities to policy makers and agency staff in Sacramento and Washington, DC. Each year, a coalition of elected officials and COG staff from throughout the region travel to Sacramento and Washington, DC to advocate on behalf of the valley with a unified voice.

California’s San Joaquin Valley

California’s San Joaquin Valley lies between the Sierra Nevada mountain range to the east, the Tehachapi mountains to the south, the coastal ranges to the west and the Sacramento Valley to the north. The region is comprised of eight counties (San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced, Madera, Fresno, Kings, Tulare and Kern) and 62 cities. While most of the Valley is rural and economically driven by agriculture, there is a significant proportion of its 4 million residents that resides in urban areas, most of which are along the major transportation corridors.

Interstate 5 connects the entire state north to south in the western part of the San Joaquin Valley, bypassing the major population centers. State Route 99, also known as the backbone of California—is a major goods movement state highway connecting southern California to northern California through the major cities of the San Joaquin Valley. Due to its location in the center of the state, the Valley is a major transportation corridor between large California cities to and from western sea ports.

The Valley is currently home to more than 4 million people which is about 10% of the state’s population. However, by 2050, it is estimated that the region will be home to more than a quarter of all Californians. These growth projections promise to challenge an already stressed regional transportation network, but also provide tremendous opportunity for state and federal investments.
A Region of Challenges and Opportunities

The San Joaquin Valley has always been California’s geographic and agricultural production center, generating more than $45 billion in agricultural products annually. It also plays a major role in the national and international distribution of processed foods and energy products, and has a burgeoning logistics and distribution industry. The Valley is California’s fastest-growing region with a population of over 4 million that is anticipated to grow to more than 6 million people by 2035. It is a region ripe with opportunities, but not without significant economic and environmental challenges.

Valley demographics reflect low income and low educational attainment that contribute to some of the worst unemployment rates in the nation. Weather and topography create an ideal setting for retention of pollutants, causing extreme levels of air pollution. As a result, the region faces chronically high asthma rates and other health-related challenges. The region struggles with the quality, availability and reliability of water, including areas with significant levels of groundwater pollution. And the region’s transportation infrastructure is deteriorating and decaying due to a historical lack of investment, making it unable to keep up with a surging population and increasing economic development potential.

In order to improve the quality of life, actualize the full economic potential of the region, and be able to accommodate the anticipated population growth over the next 20 years, investment in transportation and other systems must go beyond basic needs. Federal and state programs and investments play a critical role in continuing efforts to meet the current and future needs of the San Joaquin Valley, its residents, businesses and stakeholders.

The passage of Senate Bill 1, the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017, was a considerable step in the right direction towards providing much-needed investments into California’s aged transportation network. While SB 1 is putting people to work in the Valley and around the state, the region continues to coordinate and collaborate in the areas of goods movement, air quality, vanpooling and ridesharing, transit, housing, water and many other aspects that affect the quality of life in the San Joaquin Valley.

Most recently, the Valley COGs completed the San Joaquin Valley Goods Movement Sustainable Implementation Plan which better positions the region for freight investments. Also, the Valley continues to work collaboratively to meet the State’s goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from passenger vehicle use. These are just a few of the current regional efforts that demonstrate the decade long commitment of the eight valley transportation planning agencies’ to work collaboratively to provide a cleaner and healthier Valley with a safe and efficient multimodal transportation system.

Did you know?

The San Joaquin Valley covers 27,000 square miles and is home to 4 million people.

The region has 31,828 publicly maintained road miles—more than 18% of California’s public road system.

The region’s transportation network accommodates 99,054 average daily vehicle miles traveled which is 10.8% of the state total. (Source: Caltrans 2014 California Public Road Data Report)

With annual crop values exceeding $45 billion, the San Joaquin Valley is one of the most productive agricultural regions in the world.

Millions of tourists visit the Valley each year on their way to three National Parks (Yosemite, Sequoia and Kings Canyon) and three national monuments (Giant Sequoia, ,Cesar E. Chavez, Tule Lake Unit)

The region is home to five universities, including the 10th campus of the University of California, and dozens of community colleges.

Five important military bases are located in the San Joaquin Valley.

The Valley is a major producer of energy, including a fast growing solar energy sector.
2018 Valley Voice Delegation

SAN JOAQUIN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (SJCOG)
Andy Chesley, Executive Director, SJCOG
chesley@sjcog.org, Phone: 209-468-3913
555 E. Weber Ave, Stockton, CA 95202

KINGS COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS (KCAG)
Terri King, Executive Director, KCAG
terri.king@co.kings.ca.us, Phone: 559-852-2678
339 W. D Street, Suite B, Lemoore, CA 93245

STANISLAUS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (STANCOG)
Rosa Park, Executive Director, StanCOG
rpark@stan cog.org, Phone: 209-525-4600
1111 “I” Street, Suite 308, Modesto, CA 95354

TULARE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS (TCAG)
Ted Smalley, Executive Director, TCAG
tsmalley@tularecog.org, Phone: 559-623-0450
210 N. Church St., Visalia, CA 93291

MERCED COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS (MCAG)
Patrick Pittenger, Executive Director, MCAG
patrick.pittenger@mcagov.org, Phone: 209-723-3153
369 W. 18th Street, Merced, CA 95340

Ben Kimball, Deputy Executive Director, TCAG
bkimball@tularecog.org, Phone: 559-623-0450
210 N. Church St., Visalia, CA 93291

STACIE DABBS, Deputy Executive Director, MCAG
stacie.dabbs@mcagov.org, Phone: 209-723-3153
369 W. 18th Street, Merced, CA 95340

KERN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (KERN COG)
Ahron Hakimi, Executive Director, Kern COG
ahakimi@kerncog.org, Phone: 661-635-2901
1401 19th Street, Suite 300, Bakersfield, CA 93301

MADERA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION (MCCT)
Patricia Taylor, Executive Director, Madera CTC
patricia@maderactc.org, Phone: 559-675-0721, X13
2001 Howard Road, Suite 201, Madera, CA 93637

Becky Napier, Deputy Director- Administration, Kern COG
bnapier@kerncog.org, Phone: 661-635-2901
1401 19th Street, Suite 300, Bakersfield, CA 93301

FRESNO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (FRESNO COG)
Tony Boren, Executive Director, Fresno COG
tboren@fresnocog.org, Phone: 559-233-4148, X204
2035 Tulare Street, Suite 201, Fresno, CA 93721

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT
Tom Jordan, Senior Policy Advisor
tom.jordan@valleyair.org, Phone: 559-230-6000
1990 E. Gettysburg Avenue, Fresno, CA 93740

Robert Phipps, Deputy Executive Director, Fresno COG
rphipps@fresnocog.org, Phone: 559-233-4148
2035 Tulare Street, Suite 201, Fresno, CA 93721

SAN JOAQUIN REGIONAL RAIL COMMISSION
Dan Leavitt, Manager of Regional Initiatives
dan@acerail.com, Phone: 209-944-6266 949 E. Channel St.,
Stockton, CA 95202

MADERA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION (MCCT)
Patricia Taylor, Executive Director, Madera CTC
patricia@maderactc.org, Phone: 559-675-0721, X13
2001 Howard Road, Suite 201, Madera, CA 93637

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCATE
Mark Watts

VALLEYWIDE COORDINATOR
Michael Sigala, Principal, Sigala Inc.
michael@sigalainc.com, Phone: 559-960-6944 2525 Alluvial, Suite
201, Clovis, CA 93611
### DRAFT AGENDA

**Monday, January 22**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9 – 10 a.m.</td>
<td>Arrive, Informal Network</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 a.m.</td>
<td>Welcome, Introductions</td>
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<td>Agenda Review, Modification</td>
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<td>Happy New Year Ice Breaker</td>
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<td>Last Workshop Review</td>
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<td>Status of Projects</td>
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<td>12 p.m.</td>
<td>Lunch Break — Lunch Provided on Site</td>
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<td>1 p.m.</td>
<td>Project Prioritization</td>
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<td>Identify Projects and Assess:</td>
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<td>Based on Readiness, Feasibility, Urgency and Importance</td>
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<td>Determine Action, Responsibility and Timelines</td>
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<td>3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Review Valleywide Coordinator Roles, Responsibilities and Contract</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 p.m.</td>
<td>Break for Dinner</td>
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<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Dinner — Location TBA</td>
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**Tuesday, January 23**

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<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9 a.m.</td>
<td>Reconvene</td>
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<td>Insights, Observations from Monday’s Workshop</td>
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<td>Discussion of Valleywide Overall Work Program</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. MAJOR HIGHWAYS AND INTERSTATES</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2. JOINT FUNDING STRATEGIES – STIP, IIP AND OTHER FUNDING</td>
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<td>3. SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY INTERREGIONAL GOOD MOVEMENT</td>
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<td></td>
<td>4. AIR QUALITY TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AND COORDINATION</td>
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<td>5. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES STRATEGIES / REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANS</td>
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<td>6. RELATIONSHIP DEVELOPMENT WITH EXTERNAL AGENCIES AND ENTITIES</td>
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<td>7. VALLEY LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE</td>
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<td>8. VALLEYWIDE MODEL IMPROVEMENT PLAN</td>
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<td></td>
<td>9. OTHER VALLEYWIDE ACTIVITIES</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Including Consideration of:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Scope Creep</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Valleywide Priorities for Goods Movement</td>
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<td>Long-term, Ways to Spend Down P&amp;L Balance</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Executive Director’s Role with VLAC</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 p.m.</td>
<td>Lunch/Adjourn</td>
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*Times approximate except for start and end — Monday’s workshop begins at 10 a.m. and ends at 5 p.m.; Tuesday’s workshop begins at 9 a.m. and ends at 1 p.m.*
7. **Caltrans Directors’ Report**  
   **S. Ehlert/D. Agar**

   Sharri Ehlert (District 6 Director) and Dennis T. Agar (District 10 Director), or their representatives, may be in attendance to provide an update and answer any questions.

8. **San Joaquin JPA for Passenger Rail**  
   **D. Leavitt**

   Dan Leavitt, Manager of Regional Initiatives, or his representative may be in attendance to provide an update and answer any questions.

9. **California High Speed Rail**  
   **D. Gomez**

   Diana Gomez, Central Valley Regional Director, or her representative may be in attendance to provide an update and answer any questions.

10. **San Joaquin Valley Goods Movement Planning**  
    **M. Sigala**

    - All work for the I-5/SR 99 Goods Movement Corridor Study, and San Joaquin Valley Goods Movement Sustainable Implementation Plan has been completed.
    - Major deliverables including the final reports, and other information for both studies, are posted on the sjvcog’s website: [http://sjvcogs.org/valleywide_activities/good-movement/](http://sjvcogs.org/valleywide_activities/good-movement/)

11. **Rural Transit Alternatives Study/UC Davis ITS**  
    **M. Sigala**


    The technical advisory committee had a meeting in November to discuss continued implementation of the Conceptual Programs. The ARB grant for shared mobility options will commence in 2018 and coincide with the ongoing implementation efforts. The ARB grant contract is under review with the SJVAPCD at this time. After approved by ARB board (presumably in February), then a start-up meeting can be planned.

12. **California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley**  
    **I. Herrera**

    Ismael Herrera, Lead Executive, may be in attendance to provide an update and answer any questions.