



MINUTES

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Kings County Association of Governments (KCAG) was called to order by Joe Neves, Chairperson, at 3:05 p.m., on October 22, 2025, in the Board of Supervisors Chambers, Administration Building, Kings County Government Center, 1400 W. Lacey Blvd., Hanford, California and via Zoom.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Nancy Howze, Patricia Matthews, Joe Neves, Alvaro Preciado, Doug Verboon

CALTRANS REPRESENTATIVE: Jim Perrault

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Jeanette Zamora-Bragg

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

KCAG COUNSEL PRESENT: Kris Pedersen

VISITORS PRESENT: Via Zoom: Cristal Schisler, Lemoore Public Works

A. Remote Participation Due to Emergency Circumstances

None.

B. Roll Call

Joel Gandarilla conducted the roll call. A quorum was present.

C. Unscheduled Appearances

None

D. Minutes

1. Minutes of September 25, 2025

A motion was made and seconded (Verboon / Howze) to approve the Minutes of the September 25, 2025, meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Howze, Matthews, Neves, Perrault, Preciado, Verboon
Absent: Zamora-Bragg

II. KCAG TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE

A. General Transportation Items

1. Final 2025 KCAG Title VI Program

Teresa Nickell stated that The Final 2025 Kings County Association of Governments (KCAG) Title VI Program has been prepared by KCAG staff in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Plan uses a Four-Factor Analysis to determine which language assistance services are appropriate for KCAG and the LEP populations it serves. The State Department of Transportation (DOT) adopted a “Safe Harbor Provision” that outlines circumstances that can provide a “safe harbor” for KCAG regarding translation of written materials for LEP populations. The Spanish population is 37.74 percent and the only group that meets or exceeds the threshold in Kings County. KCAG’s Title VI grievance procedures, notices, and forms are published in both English and Spanish and are available online on the KCAG website.

A motion was made and seconded (Verboon / Matthew) to adopt Resolution No. 25-11 to approve the 2025 KCAG Title VI Program with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Plan. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Howze, Matthews, Neves, Perrault, Preciado, Verboon
Absent: Zamora-Bragg

2. FY 2025-26 Overall Work Program – Amendment No. 1

Jennifer Morales stated that the FY 2025-2026 Overall Work Program (OWP) for transportation planning includes projects funded with a variety of federal, state, and local funding sources. Amendment No. 1 to the FY 2025-26 OWP is needed to make changes in carryover funds and other changes requested by Caltrans since the OWP was first adopted. A total of \$1,400,774 in available federal planning funds apportioned to KCAG and \$210,000 in SB 1 Formula Grant funds was programmed in the FY 2025-26 OWP. The FY 2024-25 reconciliation letter provides a carryover balance of \$198,327.37 in total PL carryover funds, thereby requiring a total programmed decrease of \$353,102.63. The reconciliation letter also provided a carryover balance of \$20,479.36 in total FTA Section 5303 carryover funds, thereby requiring an increase of \$20,479.36 and a carryover balance of \$125,039.27 in total SB 1 Formula 1 Grant carryover funds, thereby requiring an increase of \$79,611.27. A summary of the changes to the work elements was provided. The changes do not affect the scope of work to these work elements.

A motion was made and seconded (Verboon / Preciado) to approve Amendment No. 1 to the FY 2025-2026 Overall Work Program with the adoption of Resolution No. 25-12. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Howze, Matthews, Neves, Perrault, Preciado, Verboon
Absent: Zamora-Bragg

3. Final Supplemental Public Participation Plan for 2026 Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy

Kayley Clay stated that KCAG is required to develop a comprehensive long-range planning document or Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) every four years. The

last RTP adopted in 2022 included the Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) in accordance with Senate Bill 375 (SB 375) that details how the Kings County region will reduce our GHG emissions. The KCAG Commission adopted a Public Participation Plan (PPP) according to the federal requirements in 2011. KCAG staff has updated the 2022 Supplemental PPP for the 2026 RTP/SCS process. A Draft Supplemental PPP was released on September 3, 2025, for a 45-day public review and comment period. No comments have been received.

A motion was made and seconded (Matthews / Verboon) to approve the Final Supplemental Public Participation Plan for the 2026 Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy with the adoption of Resolution No. 25-13. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Howze, Matthews, Neves, Perrault, Preciado, Verboon
Absent: Zamora-Bragg

4. Draft Regional Transportation Improvement Program

Kayley Clay stated that the California Transportation Commission (CTC) has adopted Guidelines and a Fund Estimate for the upcoming 2026 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). Regional Transportation Planning Agencies (RTPA) are required to submit an adopted 2026 Regional Transportation Improvement Plan (RTIP) to CTC by December 15, 2025. The 2026 Adopted STIP Fund Estimate is broken down into three categories, the Base (Minimum), the Total Target, and the Maximum. The Total Target table shows that Kings County has a balance of (\$4,129,000) in advanced regional shares from prior STIP periods and a formula distribution of \$2,737,000 in new STIP capacity through FY 2030-31. This leaves a balance of (\$1,392,000) in net shares through FY 2030-31. The Maximum table shows that Kings County has a balance of (\$4,129,000) in advanced regional shares from prior STIP periods and a formula distribution of \$4,743,000 in new STIP capacity through FY 2031-32. This would leave a balance of \$614,000 in net shares through FY 2031-32. The 5% limitation of regional shares for Planning, Programming, and Monitoring (PPM) is \$239,000 for FYs 2028-29 through 2030-31. Due to the lack of regional share funds to program the next phase of the SR 198 and 9th Avenue Interchange, development of the 2026 RTIP consists of programming new PPM funds in the amount of \$150,000 in FY 2026-27 to be used for project planning.

Commissioner Preciado asked about the impact of using \$150,000 in FY 2026-27 to be used for project planning. The reply was that 5% would be allowed for Planning, Programming, and Monitoring without impact on future projects.

Commissioner Howze inquired about the source of RTIP funding. The response was state and federal funds. Staff also clarified that no state funds were pulled from the SR 198 and 9th Ave intersection project.

Commissioner Neves opened the public hearing for the purpose of receiving testimony regarding the draft 2026 Regional Transportation Improvement Program. Seeing no one come forward the public hearing was closed.

B. Caltrans Report

Jim Perrault announced that Caleb Brock is the new Planning Deputy for District 10; the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) is set to expire at the end of the Federal Fiscal Year; California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) and Caltrans will be holding a sub-working group meeting in November for input on the

reauthorization bill; the new administration entered a final rule regarding the Federal Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program requiring DBEs to recertify; the California Transportation Commission (CTC) will have a public hearing on the 2026 Draft Interregional Transportation Improvement Program (ITIP) that will be available online; Caltrans will hold virtual office hours for the Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Program, with applications due November 21, 2025; and there will be a free training opportunity for local agency staff Local Assistance Day Quarterly webinar on November 4, 2025.

It was reported that the SR 99 draft Comprehensive Multi-Modal Plan draft review period has closed; the Avenal Clean California enhancements project will have an art unveiling on October 1, 2025; the SR 41 Kettleman City roundabout construction is anticipated to start in the summer of 2026; the CAPM project on SR 41, from Nevada Avenue to SR 198 has no updates; the temporary roundabouts at Bush Street has no updates; the SR 41 Excelsior Expressway segment of unfinished two lane project in Fresno County is scheduled to start construction in March 2026; the Reef City CAPM construction completion date is March 2026; and the Hanford SR 198 CAPM project construction is anticipated to start in 2028.

Commissioner Howze inquired about the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program. The response was there was an effort to level the playing field for women and minority owned business to provide them with sub-contractor work opportunities. Now, those businesses will need to be recertified as DBE. Commissioner Howze also asked about the “Excelsior Expressway”. The reply was that there is segment of unfinished two-lane road along SR 41 that is to be completed as a safety project.

Commissioner Preciado expresses appreciation for a productive meeting with Caltrans regarding safety along SR 33 and SR 269 near Avenal.

C. Correspondence

Terri King stated that a letter was received from the Tulare County Regional Transit Agency that they have taken a position against a suggested pilot fixed route between the cities of Corcoran and Tulare.

D. Staff Comments

Terri King reported that there will be a Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS) workshop next week in Avenal and Hanford. Leftover earmark funds from the SR 198 widening project were repurposed for the Houston Avenue Bridge project. The Regional Policy Council Executive Committee will meet this Friday with important updates and the regular Regional Council Meeting will be November 21, 2025. The CalCOG Board meeting is November 7, 2025 and the Caltrans quarterly meeting is October 27, 2025.

E. Commissioner Comments

None.

III. KCAG COMMISSION

A. Roll Call

Joel Gandarilla conducted the roll call. A quorum was present.

C. General Commissioner Items

1. Reaffirm all Actions Taken by the TPC on October 22, 2025

A motion was made and seconded (Matthews / Verboon) to reaffirm all actions taken by the KCAG Transportation Policy Committee on October 22, 2025. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Howze, Matthews, Neves, Preciado, Verboon
Absent: Zamora-Bragg

2. Areawide Planning Review No. 25-10

Teresa Nickell stated that the Lily of the Valley Church is applying for a grant in the amount of \$650,000 from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention's FFY 2025 Mentoring for Youth Affected by Opioid and Other Substance Use Program. The Lily of the Valley Church proposes a Peerlink Mentoring Program to reduce the risks and harms of opioid and other substance use to youth by delivering prevention, intervention, and supportive mentoring services to underserved, Medi-Cal-eligible, and low-income youth and their families within Kings and Tulare Counties and rural Fresno County. The comment period ended October 20, 2025, and staff received written comments that the project does not duplicate or conflict with any of their programs from Kings County Fire Marshal, Kings County District Attorney's Office, Kings County Community Development, City of Hanford Public Works, and City of Lemoore Planning Department. Comments received from the City of Lemoore Planning Department included concerns about how the proposal could be improved and several discrepancies in the information provided.

Commissioner Howze inquired as to the Areawide Clearinghouse process. The response was that KCAG sends out the forms and receives comments on the grant application, then presents those comments to the Board. The Board in turn motions to ratify or not ratify the process as outlined.

A motion was made and seconded (Preciado / Howze) to recommend that the KCAG Commission's comments include and ratify those of staff and other reviewers regarding Planning Review No. 25-10. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Howze, Neves, Preciado
Noes: Verboon
Absent: Zamora-Bragg
Abstain: Matthews

Commissioner Matthews left the meeting at 4:21 p.m.

3. KCAG Finance Director Job Specification and Salary

Terri King stated that the Commission authorized the creation of a new position for a Finance Director and work with the County of Kings Human Resources Department for a Job Specification and Salary Range to be presented to the Commission. KCAG staff worked with HR staff to prepare the draft Job Specification for a KCAG Finance Director included in the agenda packet. However, the Human Resources Director would not approve it. KCAG staff recommended a title change to Fiscal Manager with a salary range of 252.5.

A motion was made and seconded (Verboon / Neves) to approve the Fiscal Manager Job Specification with a salary range of 252.5. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Howze, Neves, Preciado, Verboon
Absent: Matthews, Zamora-Bragg

4. Reschedule November / December KCAG Meeting Dates

Commissioner Neves recommended rescheduling the meeting to either December 3 or 10, 2025, morning or afternoon. KCAG and KCAPTA should coordinate meeting dates and times.

A motion was made and seconded (Verboon / Howze) to cancel the November 26th and December 24th meetings and to schedule a Special Meeting for either December 3 or 10, 2025, based on Commissioners' availability. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Howze, Neves, Preciado, Verboon
Absent: Matthews, Zamora-Bragg

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

A. Correspondence

None.

B. Staff Comments

Terri King said that the next agenda will include the FY 2026-27 Overall Work Program activities, FY 2024-45 TDA Audit extensions, FY 2024-25 Annual Federal Obligations report, FY 2025-26 Quarter 1 financial report, Final 2026 Regional Transportation Improvement Program, and 2026 Meeting Calendar.

C. Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Verboon stated that the rebranding event to establish the Amtrak San Joaquins service to the "Gold Runner" will be in Stockton.

Commissioner Howze said that the City of Hanford will have two meetings regarding the East Lacey Blvd. project for public outreach.

V. ADJOURNMENT: Next meeting scheduled for December 10, 2025

There being no further business before the Kings County Association of Governments Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

KINGS COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

Terri King, Executive Director