



AGENDA STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: 2/7/2023

AGENDA SECTION: STUDY SESSION

SUBJECT:

Sustainable Transportation Grant for HSR Station Transit-Oriented Development and Connectivity Plan and Cross Valley Corridor Rail Service

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommendation: Presentation Regarding a Joint Application for a Sustainable Transportation Grant for the HSR Station Transit-Oriented Development and Connectivity Plan and Cross Valley Corridor Rail Service

BACKGROUND:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) has released the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-24 Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Application Guide and Call for Applications. A total of \$84 million is available for transportation planning projects statewide. The grants will fund plans that encourage local and regional planning that supports state goals, implements Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Sustainable Communities Strategies (SCS), and help achieve the State's greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction target of 40 and 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2030 and 2050, respectively.

This proposed project, led by the City of Hanford in partnership with San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority (SJJPA), the California High-Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA), Kings County Association of Governments (KCAG), Tulare County Association of Governments (TCAG), Fresno Council of Governments (Fresno COG), Kings County Area Public Transit Agency (KCAPTA), and Tulare County Regional Transit Agency (TCRTA), will build upon CHSRA's planning for the Kings-Tulare HSR Station and Cross Valley Corridor (CVC) planning (between Porterville and Huron) to progress strategies and recommendations to connect multiple transit services.

The Project will advance a local station-area transit-oriented development (TOD) and connectivity plan for the Kings-Tulare HSR station. Goals for the plan include reducing potential sprawl, preserving agricultural land, and promoting TOD surrounding and associated with the Kings-Tulare HSR Station, as well as increasing connectivity to the Downtown Hanford Core and communities throughout Kings County, Tulare County, and portions of Fresno County. The Project will result in a planning document that enables the City of Hanford to promote TOD, economic development, encourage revitalization in areas surrounding the Kings-Tulare HSR Station. The Project will support enhancing connections to transit, equitable design, and the advancement of CVC Phase 1 bus service implementation. The project will involve stakeholder and the community to develop a vision that is comprehensive of local and regional mobility needs.

An important component to the Project is the advancement of the planning for the CVC Rail Project

between Porterville and Huron, a vital transit corridor connecting Tulare, Fresno, and Kings Counties to the Kings-Tulare HSR Station. The Project will include CVC Rail station siting analysis, high-level environmental constraints review, UPRR coordination, phasing strategy, and an implementation plan. This effort will provide the planning needed to continue to move the implementation the future CVC Rail Project forward that is critical for providing economic opportunity, sustainable transportation, and TODs for the southern San Joaquin Valley.

FISCAL IMPACT:

A 11.47% minimum match (in cash or an inkind contribution) is required

ATTACHMENTS:

None