

Chair
Supervisor Daron McDaniel
Merced County



Vice Chair
Supervisor Vito Chiesa
Stanislaus County

San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council Meeting

April 24, 2026
10:00 a.m.

Members of the Policy Council may participate via video teleconference at the following locations:

Fresno Council of Governments

2035 Tulare Street, Suite 201
Fresno, CA 93721

Madera County Transportation Commission

2001 Howard Road, Suite 201
Madera, CA 93637

Tulare County Association of Governments

210 N. Church Street, Suite B
Visalia, CA 93291

McFarland Veterans Community Center

103 W. Sherwood Ave.
McFarland, CA 93250

Stanislaus County Farm Bureau

1201 L Street
Modesto, CA 95354

Kern Council of Governments

1401 19th Street, Suite 300
Bakersfield, CA 93301

San Joaquin Council of Governments

555 E. Weber Avenue
Stockton, CA 95202

Kern County Administration Building

1115 Truxtun Ave # 504
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Avenal City Hall

919 Skyline Blvd
Avenal, CA 93204

Merced County Association of Governments

At the Transit Joint Powers Authority for
Merced County
357 W. 18th Street
Merced, CA 95340

Kings County Association of Governments

210 E. 7th Street, Ste. 202
Hanford, CA 93230

Stanislaus Council of Governments

1111 I Street, Suite 308
Modesto, CA 95354

San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District

1990 E. Gettysburg Ave., Fresno, CA 93726

Madera County

200 W. 4th St., Ste. 4006
Madera, CA 93637

Public members may participate at any of the above locations or remotely via Zoom. Please contact Georgiena Vivian at (559) 259-9257 or gvivian@vrpatech.com prior to the meeting to determine which physical locations will be utilized.

Zoom Meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84260357804?pwd=vEvTaAW6CFGWi4adsjMRr6nPPWaj9G.1&from=addon>

Meeting ID: 842 6035 7804

Passcode: 110128

One tap mobile: +16694449171

Agenda Item

Speaker

Enclosure

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chair



B. ROLL CALL

Georgiena Vivian



Valleywide Coordinator, Georgiena Vivian
(559) 259-9257



Fresno Council of Governments
2035 Tulare Street, Suite 201
Fresno, CA 93721



Fresno Council of
Governments
Fax (559) 233-9645

Fresno Council
of Governments

Kern Council of
Governments

Kings County
Association of
Governments

Madera County
Transportation
Commission

Merced County
Association of
Governments

San Joaquin
Council of
Governments

Stanislaus
Council of
Governments

Tulare County
Association of
Governments

San Joaquin Valley
Air Pollution
Control District

San Joaquin
Joint Powers
Authority



San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council

Roll Call

| SJVPC | First Name | Last Name | Title | Agency | Present (Y/N) |
|--|------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| Fresno Council of Governments (Fresno COG) | | | | | |
| Member | Gary | Yep | Councilmember, District 1 | City of Kerman | |
| Member | Alma | Beltran | Mayor | City of Parlier | |
| Kern Council of Governments (Kern COG) | | | | | |
| Member | Saul | Ayon | Mayor | City of McFarland | |
| Member | David | Couch | Supervisor, 4 th District | County of Kern | |
| Kings County Association of Governments (KCAG) | | | | | |
| Member | Alvaro | Preciado | Mayor | City of Avenal | |
| Member | Doug | Verboon | Supervisor, District 3 | County of Kings | |
| Madera County Transportation Commission (MCTC) | | | | | |
| Member | Robert | Poythress | Supervisor, District 3 | County of Madera | |
| Member | Jose | Rodriguez | Councilmember, District 2 | City of Madera | |
| Merced County Association of Governments (MCAG) | | | | | |
| Member – Chair | Daron | McDaniel | Supervisor, District 3 | County of Merced | |
| Member | Matthew | Serratto | Mayor | City of Merced | |
| San Joaquin Council of Governments (SJCOG) | | | | | |
| Member | Robert | Rickman | Supervisor, District 5 | County of San Joaquin | |
| Member | Gary | Singh | Mayor, At-Large | City of Manteca | |
| Stanislaus Council of Governments (StanCOG) | | | | | |
| Member – Vice Chair | Vito | Chiesa | Supervisor, District 2 | County of Stanislaus | |
| Member | Rosa | Escutia-Braaton | Councilmember, District 1 | City of Modesto | |
| Tulare County Association of Governments (TCAG) | | | | | |
| Member | Dennis | Townsend | Supervisor, District 5 | County of Tulare | |
| Member | Rudy | Mendoza | Mayor | City of Woodlake | |
| San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SJVAPCD) | | | | | |
| Member | Samir | Sheikh | Executive Director | SJVAPCD | |
| San Joaquin Powers Authority (SJPA) | | | | | |
| Member | Ahdel | Ahmed | Public Relations Manager | SJPA | |

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Accommodations – The public meeting room and restrooms are ADA accessible. Representatives or individuals with disabilities should contact the SJV Regional Agencies Coordinator, Georgiena Vivian, at (559) 259-9257, at least three days in advance, to request auxiliary aids and/or translation services necessary to participate in the meeting.



| Agenda Item | Speaker | Enclosure |
|--|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 27, 2026, Meeting | Chair | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| D. DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS | | |
| 1. Discussion: Budget, Policy, and Legislative Updates | | |
| a. State Budget, Policy, and Legislative Update | | |
| 1). State Legislative Update | Gus Khouri | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2). ACTION: Approve Positions on State Legislation | Gus Khouri | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| b. Federal Budget, Policy, and Legislative Update | | |
| 1). Federal Legislative Update | Jen Covino | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2). Washington D.C Valley Voice – Recommended Travel/Session Dates | Georgiena Vivian | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Discussion - RTP/SCS Updates and Air Quality Issues | Ted Smalley | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| a. SB 375 – 2026 GHG Reduction Targets Update | Ryan Niblock | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. Clean Air Act Waiver Rescission Update | Alex Marcucci | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c. State Implementation Plan Update | Samir Sheikh | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d. San Joaquin Valley Air Quality Update | Samir Sheikh | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Discussion - 2026 Policy Council and Directors' Committee Retreat | Georgiena Vivian | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| E. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS | Chair | |
| The following items are for informational purposes only and require no action. Individuals noted will be present to provide a verbal update. | | |
| 1. Future Meetings/Agenda Items: | | |
| a. Directors' Committee – May 7, 2026 – Approve OWP | | |
| b. Executive Committee – May 22, 2026 – Approve OWP | | |
| c. Directors' Committee – June 4, 2026 | Georgiena Vivian | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d. Policy Council – June 26, 2026 – Approve OWP | | |
| F. OTHER ITEMS | | |
| 1. Executive Committee Report | Chair | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Directors' Committee Report | Stacie Guzman | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Policy Council Member Comments | Members | <input type="checkbox"/> |

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G. PUBLIC COMMENT

This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons wishing to address the Council on items within its jurisdiction but NOT on this agenda. Public comment will be allowed during the Discussion Items above.

Chair

H. ADJOURN

Chair

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Other Meeting Participants

| Yes | No | Director Agency | Yes | No | Director Agency |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Jay Schlosser Kern COG | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Gus Khouri Khouri Consulting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Stephan Sanchez Kern COG | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Mitch Weiss Khouri Consulting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Rob Ball Kern COG | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Jen Covino Covino, Smith & Simon |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Ted Smalley TCAG | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | David Gellman Covino, Smith & Simon |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Ben Kimball TCAG | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Aly Hernandez Covino, Smith & Simon |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Steven Ingoldsby TCAG | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Georgiena Vivian SJV Coordinator VRPA Technologies |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Roberto Brady TCAG | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Carolina Ilic VRPA Technologies |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Terri King KCAG | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Dena Graham VRPA Technologies |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Robert Phipps Fresno COG Vice Chair, Directors' Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Ryan Vivian VRPA Technologies |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Paul Herman Fresno COG | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Samer Shaath CHSRA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Ofelia Abundez Fresno COG | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Augie Blancas CHSRA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Simran Jhutti Fresno COG | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Peter Whippy CHSRA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Brenda Thomas Fresno COG | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Michael Navarro Caltrans D6 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Patricia Taylor MCTC | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Nabeelah Abi-Rached Caltrans D6 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Dylan Stone MCTC | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Braden Duran Caltrans D6 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Jeff Findley MCTC | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Grace Magsayo Caltrans D10 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Stacie Guzman Chair, Directors' Committee MCAG | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Eric Mather Caltrans D10 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Elizabeth Forte MCAG | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Tom Dumas Caltrans D10 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Meg Prince MCAG | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Duper Tong Caltrans, D10 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Amber Collins StanCOG | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Gurwinder Sekhon Caltrans D10 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Jose Luis Caceres StanCOG | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Caleb Brock Caltrans D10 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Monica Streeter StanCOG | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Bill Higgins CALCOG |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Nick St. Cook StanCOG | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Sabrina Bradbury CALCOG |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Diane Nguyen SJCOG | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Gregory McAteer CALCOG |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Ryan Niblock SJCOG | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Vincenzo Caporale CALCOG |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Kim Anderson SJCOG | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Linda Launer City of Dinuba TCAG |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Mark Montelongo SJVAPCD | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Patricia Matthews City of Lemoore KCAG |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Morgan Lambert SJVAPCD | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Tim Franquist SJVAPCD | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Dan Leavitt SJJPA | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Ahdel Ahmed SJJPA | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Michael Hanebutt SJJPA | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |

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AGENDA ITEM C

February 27, 2026, Regional Policy Council

Meeting Minutes



San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council Meeting

February 27, 2026

10:00 a.m.

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Zoom Meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84819135188?pwd=Frp5BaYTUmOI3aOi7NNi5ETWxjLyyG.1>

Meeting ID: 848 1913 5188

Passcode: 568150

One tap mobile: +16694449171

| Agenda Item | Speaker | Enclosure |
|--|------------------|--------------------------|
| A. CALL TO ORDER | Chair | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| The meeting was called to order by Chair McDaniel, MCAG, who welcomed members and framed the discussion around key regional transportation, policy, and coordination priorities facing the San Joaquin Valley. | | |
| B. ROLL CALL | Georgiena Vivian | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Roll call was conducted by Georgiena Vivian, VRPA Technologies, SJV Coordinator. A quorum was established. | | |

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San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council

Roll Call

| SJVPC | First Name | Last Name | Title | Agency | Present (Y/N) |
|--|------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| Fresno Council of Governments (Fresno COG) | | | | | |
| Member | Gary | Yep | Councilmember, District 1 | City of Kerman | Y |
| Member | Alma | Beltran | Mayor | City of Parlier | Y |
| Kern Council of Governments (Kern COG) | | | | | |
| Member | Saul | Ayon | Mayor | City of McFarland | Y |
| Member | David | Couch | Supervisor, 4 th District | County of Kern | N |
| Kings County Association of Governments (KCAG) | | | | | |
| Member | Alvaro | Preciado | Mayor | City of Avenal | Y |
| Member | Doug | Verboon | Supervisor, District 3 | County of Kings | Y |
| Madera County Transportation Commission (MCTC) | | | | | |
| Member | Robert | Poythress | Supervisor, District 3 | County of Madera | Y |
| Member | Jose | Rodriguez | Councilmember, District 2 | City of Madera | Y |
| Merced County Association of Governments (MCAG) | | | | | |
| Member – Chair | Daron | McDaniel | Supervisor, District 3 | County of Merced | Y |
| Member | Matthew | Serratto | Mayor | City of Merced | Y |
| San Joaquin Council of Governments (SJCOG) | | | | | |
| Member | Robert | Rickman | Supervisor, District 5 | County of San Joaquin | Y |
| Member | Gary | Singh | Mayor, At-Large | City of Manteca | N |
| Stanislaus Council of Governments (StanCOG) | | | | | |
| Member – Vice Chair | Vito | Chiesa | Supervisor, District 2 | County of Stanislaus | Y |
| Member | Rosa | Escutia-Braaton | Councilmember, District 1 | City of Modesto | Y |
| Tulare County Association of Governments (TCAG) | | | | | |
| Member | Dennis | Townsend | Supervisor, District 5 | County of Tulare | Y |
| Member | Rudy | Mendoza | Mayor | City of Woodlake | Y |
| San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SJVAPCD) | | | | | |
| Member | Samir | Sheikh | Executive Director | SJVAPCD | Y |
| San Joaquin Powers Authority (SJJPA) | | | | | |
| Member | Ahdel | Ahmed | Public Relations Manager | SJJPA | Y |



| Agenda Item | Speaker | Enclosure |
|-------------|---------|-----------|
|-------------|---------|-----------|

| | | |
|---|-------|-------------------------------------|
| C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 12, 2026, Meeting | Chair | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|---|-------|-------------------------------------|

The minutes of the January 12, 2026, meeting were presented for approval. Member Poythress made the motion to approve, which was seconded by Vice Chair Chiesa. The motion passed.

D. DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS

1. Discussion: Budget, Policy, and Legislative Updates

a. State Budget, Policy, and Legislative Update

| | | |
|------------------------------|------------|--------------------------|
| 1). State Legislative Update | Gus Khouri | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|------------------------------|------------|--------------------------|

Gus Khouri, Khouri Consulting, State Legislative Advocate, provided an update on current state legislative and budget conditions, noting ongoing fiscal pressures and policy uncertainties affecting transportation funding. Discussion centered on the structural challenges facing the State, including declining cap-and-trade revenues, competing General Fund obligations, and risks to key transportation programs.

Members discussed the implications of these trends for the San Joaquin Valley, emphasizing the need to proactively position the region to protect funding and influence policy outcomes. There was consensus that the Valley must continue advancing a coordinated legislative strategy to ensure its priorities remain competitive at the state level.

b. Valley Voice Sacramento – March 3-4, 2026

| | | |
|------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1). Event Status | Gus Khouri & Georgiena Vivian | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|

An update was provided on the planning and coordination of the Valley Voice Sacramento advocacy trip. Preparations included scheduling legislative meetings, coordinating logistics, and organizing program materials.

| | | |
|--|---------------|--------------------------|
| 2). Legislative Platform – High Speed Rail | Stacie Guzman | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|--|---------------|--------------------------|

Stacie Guzman, Directors’ Committee Chair, MCAG, discussed issues surrounding the Valley’s position regarding high-speed rail and related legislative priorities. Members highlighted the importance of maintaining a unified regional stance while acknowledging varying perspectives across counties.

| | | |
|---|------------|-------------------------------------|
| 3). Preliminary Itinerary, Recommended Speaker Assignments, Draft Talking Points (Approved Platform is attached for reference) – Itinerary and Talking Points will be sent on Monday, Feb. 23, 2026 | Gus Khouri | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|---|------------|-------------------------------------|

Gus Khouri, Khouri Consulting, State Legislative Advocate, discussed draft talking points and a preliminary itinerary, which were reviewed by members. Members stressed the need for concise, compelling messaging that clearly communicates the Valley’s priorities, including transportation funding, air quality compliance, and economic competitiveness.

A strong emphasis was placed on presenting a unified “One Voice” message supported by tangible project examples and data.

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c. Federal Budget, Policy, and Legislative Update

1). Federal Legislative Update

Jen Covino



Jen Covino, Covino, Smith and Simon, Federal Legislative Advocate, provided an update on federal legislative activity, including the status of appropriations and early discussions regarding surface transportation reauthorization.

Discussion highlighted uncertainty surrounding long-term federal funding mechanisms and the potential need for interim extensions. Members were encouraged to begin preparing for future funding opportunities and potential changes in federal policy direction.

2). Washington D.C Valley Voice – Recommended Travel/Session Dates

Georgiena Vivian



Georgiena Vivian, VRPA Technologies, SJV Coordinator, discussed scheduling considerations for the Washington, D.C. Valley Voice trip, noting potential conflicts with federal and state calendars. Members discussed alternative timing options to maximize participation and effectiveness.

2. Discussion - RTP/SCS Updates and Air Quality Issues

a. SB 375 – 2026 GHG Reduction Targets Update

Ted Smalley

b. Clean Air Act Waiver Rescission Update

Ryan Niblock



c. State Implementation Plan Update

Alex Marcucci



d. San Joaquin Valley Air Quality Update

Samir Sheikh



Samir Sheikh



A comprehensive discussion was provided by Ted Smalley, TCAG; Ryan Niblock, SJCOG; and Samir Sheikh, SJAPCD regarding RTP/SCS updates and air quality challenges impacting the region.

Key topics included:

- ✓ Impacts of federal and state actions on emissions modeling and conformity determinations.
- ✓ Ongoing challenges in meeting SB 375 greenhouse gas reduction targets due to changing growth projections and travel patterns.
- ✓ The critical importance of State Implementation Plan (SIP) approvals to avoid transportation funding consequences.

Members noted that regulatory uncertainty continues to pose risks to project delivery and emphasized the importance of Valleywide coordination in responding to evolving requirements.

There was broad agreement on the need to develop clear messaging and educational materials to communicate these complex issues to policymakers and stakeholders.

3. Discussion - 2026 Policy Council and Directors' Committee Retreat

Georgiena Vivian



Georgiena Vivian, VRPA Technologies, SJV Coordinator, provided an update on planning for the upcoming retreat.

Discussion focused on:

- ✓ Structuring the retreat to include both team-building and substantive working sessions.

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- ✓ Developing a clear Valleywide vision and measurable goals.
- ✓ Identifying actionable next steps to guide regional efforts.

Members emphasized the importance of maximizing participation and ensuring the retreat produces meaningful, outcome-oriented results. The retreat was identified as a key opportunity to align long-term strategies and priorities.

4. Discussion - Draft 2026/27 San Joaquin Valley Regional Agencies Overall Work Program (OWP), Budget, and Meeting Schedule Georgiena Vivian

Georgiena Vivian, VRPA Technologies, SJV Coordinator, presented a draft Overall Work Program (OWP), including proposed updates to the budget and meeting calendar.

Discussion highlighted:

- ✓ Adjustments to reflect current priorities and anticipated workload.
- ✓ Budget considerations, including cost increases and new program elements.
- ✓ Scheduling updates, particularly related to Valley Voice activities.

Members discussed the importance of aligning the OWP with the region's strategic priorities and ensuring adequate resources to support Valleywide coordination efforts.

5. Discussion: 2027 San Joaquin Valley Policy Conference – Madera County/MCTC Host – Review Alternative Conference Dates
- a. *Wednesday, April 7 – Friday, April 9, 2027 (Preferred)***
Aligns closely with the timing of the 2025 conference (April 9–11 in Merced)
 - b. *Wednesday, April 14 – Friday, April 16, 2027***
May be close to the CSAC and League of California Cities conferences
 - c. *Wednesday, March 24 – Friday, March 26, 2027***
Potential conflict with Valley Voice Sacramento trips
- Patricia Taylor

Patricia Taylor, MCTC, reviewed potential dates for the 2027 Policy Conference.

Discussion focused on:

- ✓ Avoiding conflicts with other major conferences and events.
- ✓ Aligning timing with prior successful conferences.
- ✓ Ensuring adequate planning time and participation.

Consensus favored the preferred April 7–9, 2027 timeframe, subject to further confirmation.

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E. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Chair

The following items are for informational purposes only and require no action. Individuals noted will be present to provide a verbal update.

1. Future Meetings/Agenda Items:
 - a. **Policy Council – February 27, 2026**
 - b. **Directors' Committee – March 5, 2026**
 - c. **Executive Committee – March 27, 2026**
 - d. **Directors' Committee – April 2, 2026**
 - e. **Policy Council – April 24, 2026**
 - f. **Directors' Committee – May 7, 2026 – Approve OWP**
 - g. **Executive Committee – May 22, 2026 – Approve OWP**
 - h. **Directors' Committee – June 4, 2026**
 - i. **Policy Council – June 26, 2026 – Approve OWP**

Georgiena Vivian



Georgiena Vivian, VRPA Technologies, SJV Coordinator reviewed upcoming meetings and key milestones. Members were encouraged to maintain participation and engagement in upcoming Policy Council, Directors' Committee, and Executive Committee meetings.

F. WORKSHOP

Road User Charge/Transportation Funding Conversion Discussion

Potential Outcomes:

1. Provide Direction to the Executive Committee, Directors' Committee, and/or Staff.
2. Add to Future Meeting Agenda.

Member Robert
Poythress
Gus Khouri



Member Robert Poythress, MCAG and Gus Khouri, Khouri Consulting, State Legislative Advocate, initiated workshop discussion regarding long-term transportation funding alternatives.

Key discussion points included:

- ✓ The structural decline of gas tax revenues due to fuel efficiency, electrification, and changing travel behavior.
- ✓ Exploration of alternative funding mechanisms, including road user charge concepts.
- ✓ Consideration of political feasibility and public perception.

Members expressed differing perspectives:

- ✓ Some supported exploring conversion strategies to ensure sustainable funding.
- ✓ Others cautioned against approaches that could be perceived as new taxes.

There was strong agreement that any solution must:

- ✓ Be equitable across urban and rural communities.
- ✓ Maintain affordability.

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- ✓ Provide a stable, long-term funding source.

Potential Outcomes:

- ✓ Provide direction to committees and staff for further analysis.
- ✓ Consider agendaing the issue for future Policy Council action.

G. OTHER ITEMS

1. Executive Committee Report Chair

Chair McDaniel, MCAG provided a brief update on Executive Committee activities, including governance and coordination matters.

2. Executive Directors' Committee Report Stacie Guzman

Stacie Guzman, Directors' Committee Chair, provided an update regarding Directors' Committee activities, including coordination on air quality, SB 375 targets, and ongoing policy discussions

3. Policy Council Member Comments Members

Members raised several key issues, including:

- ✓ The urgency of addressing long-term transportation funding challenges.
- ✓ The importance of maintaining strong regional coordination and unified advocacy.
- ✓ Interest in further discussion of governance and policy direction.

H. PUBLIC COMMENT

This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons wishing to address the Council on items within its jurisdiction but NOT on this agenda. Public comment will be allowed during the Discussion Items above. Chair

No public comment was received.

I. ADJOURN Chair

The meeting was adjourned at 11:44 AM.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Accommodations – The public meeting room and restrooms are ADA accessible. Representatives or individuals with disabilities should contact the SJV Regional Agencies Coordinator, Georgiena Vivian, at (559) 259-9257, at least three days in advance, to request auxiliary aids and/or translation services necessary to participate in the meeting.



Other Meeting Participants

| Yes | No | Director Agency | Yes | No | Director Agency |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Jay Schlosser Kern COG | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Gus Khouri Khouri Consulting |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Stephan Sanchez Kern COG | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Mitch Weiss Khouri Consulting |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Rob Ball Kern COG | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Jen Covino Covino, Smith & Simon |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Ted Smalley TCAG | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | David Gellman Covino, Smith & Simon |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Ben Kimball TCAG | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Aly Hernandez Covino, Smith & Simon |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Steven Ingoldsby TCAG | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Georgiena Vivian SJV Coordinator VRPA Technologies |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Roberto Brady TCAG | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Carolina Ilic VRPA Technologies |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Terri King KCAG | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Dena Graham VRPA Technologies |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Robert Phipps Fresno COG Vice Chair, Directors' Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Ryan Vivian VRPA Technologies |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Paul Herman Fresno COG | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Samer Shaath CHSRA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Ofelia Abundez Fresno COG | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Augie Blancas CHSRA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Simran Jhutti Fresno COG | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Peter Whippy CHSRA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Brenda Thomas Fresno COG | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Michael Navarro Caltrans D6 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Patricia Taylor MCTC | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Nabeelah Abi-Rached Caltrans D6 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Dylan Stone MCTC | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Braden Duran Caltrans D6 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Jeff Findley MCTC | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Grace Magsayo Caltrans D10 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Stacie Guzman Chair, Directors' Committee MCAG | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Eric Mather Caltrans D10 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Elizabeth Forte MCAG | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Tom Dumas Caltrans D10 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Meg Prince MCAG | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Duper Tong Caltrans, D10 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Kate Miller StanCOG | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Gurwinder Sekhon Caltrans D10 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Jose Luis Caceres StanCOG | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Caleb Brock Caltrans D10 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Monica Streeter StanCOG | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Bill Higgins CALCOG |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Nick St. Cook StanCOG | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Sabrina Bradbury CALCOG |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Diane Nguyen SJCOG | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Scott Tyrrell SJ County |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Ryan Niblock SJCOG | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Linda Launer City of Dinuba TCAG |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Kim Anderson SJCOG | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Patricia Matthews City of Lemoore KCAG |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Mark Montelongo SJVAPCD | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | W B Aguilera |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Morgan Lambert SJVAPCD | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Mary Elizabeth Sierra Club |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Tim Franquist SJVAPCD | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Mykia Byrd Fresno COG |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Dan Leavitt SJJPA | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Ben Giuliani TCAG |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Ahdel Ahmed SJJPA | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Kristine Cai LSA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Michael Hanebutt SJJPA | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Dan Ress CVAG |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |

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AGENDA ITEM D.1.a.2).

Positions on State Legislation

SJVRPC Bill Matrix – April 2026

| Measure | Status | Bill Summary | Recommended Position |
|--|--|--|------------------------------------|
| <p>AB 1421 (Wilson) Vehicles: Road Usage Charge Technical Advisory Committee</p> | <p>1/29/26 Senate Rules</p> | <p>This is a spot bill for a possible gas tax successor source solution. The bill was amended on January 5 to require the California Transportation Commission (CTC), in consultation with the California State Transportation Agency, to consolidate and prepare research and recommendations related to a road user charge or a mileage-based fee system. The bill would require the CTC to submit a report, as specified, on the research and recommendations described above to the appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature by no later than January 1, 2027.</p> | <p align="center">Watch</p> |
| <p>AB 1608 (Wilson) Office of the Inspector General, High-Speed Rail</p> | <p>4/15/26 Assembly Appropriations</p> | <p>This bill would require the Inspector General, upon completion of an audit or review of the high-speed rail project, to publish a complete report on its internet website, provide notification of the published report to the Governor and the High-Speed Rail Authority, and submit a copy of the report to the Legislature. The bill would authorize the Inspector General to hold a report, or portion of the report, confidential if the Inspector General determines that it would describe or otherwise reveal weaknesses that would pose a substantial and articulable risk to the project or to state operations if publicly disclosed. If the Inspector General makes that determination, the bill would require the Inspector General to deliver a confidential report to state officials with oversight of the project, as specified. The recent version of the bill limits items that are confidential, such as items pertaining to fraud investigations or litigation, and a general disclosure must be provided for those reasons.</p> | <p align="center">Watch</p> |

SJVRPC Bill Matrix – April 2026

| Measure | Status | Bill Summary | Recommended Position |
|---|---|--|-----------------------------|
| AB 1745 (Jeff Gonzalez) Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax Law: suspension of tax | 2/23/26 Assembly Transportation | This bill would suspend the imposition of the tax on motor vehicle fuels for one year. The bill would require that all savings realized based on the suspension of the motor vehicle fuels tax by a person other than an end consumer, as defined, be passed on to the end consumer, and would make the violation of this requirement an unfair business practice, in violation of unfair competition laws, as provided. | Oppose |
| AB 1783 (DeMaio) Additional local taxes: vehicle miles traveled tax | 3/23/26 Assembly Local Government | This bill would prohibit a city, county, or any political subdivision thereof from imposing a tax, fee, assessment, or charge, that is calculated, in whole or in part, based on the number of miles traveled by a motor vehicle. It would not prohibit the collection of tolls for the use of specific facilities, as provided. The bill would provide that any existing program, pilot program, regulation, or administrative action inconsistent with this prohibition is void and unenforceable. | Watch |
| AB 2002 (Solache) Local government assistance: Regional Early Action Planning Fund | 4/8/26 Assembly Appropriations | This bill would establish the Regional Early Action Planning Fund to provide agencies with one-time funding for planning activities for the regional housing needs assessment. Funds would be distributed on a population basis. While establishing a fund, the bill does not a source of revenue for the fund. | Watch |
| AB 2168 (Wicks) Active Transportation Program: guidelines | 4/20/26 Assembly Transportation | As amended on April 13, this bill would require the California Transportation Commission to make facilities and school bus stops accessible by biking and walking, as specified, and projects that will expand access to transit in underserved or rural areas, eligible for Active Transportation Program funding. | Support |

SJVRPC Bill Matrix – April 2026

| Measure | Status | Bill Summary | Recommended Position |
|--|--|--|-------------------------------------|
| <p>AB 2184 (Wilson) Cap-and-Invest Program: nature-based climate solutions: funding</p> | <p>4/7/26 Assembly Appropriations</p> | <p>As amended on March 26, this bill would annually appropriate up to \$250,000,000 from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund in the annual Budget Act each fiscal year from the 2027–2028 to the 2045–46 fiscal year, inclusive, to achieve nature-based climate solutions, including \$100,000,000 to be allocated to the Natural Resources Agency to fund nature-based climate solutions, not less than \$150,000,000 to be allocated to the Department of Food and Agriculture to fund nature-based climate solutions in croplands and grasslands, and the remaining amount to be allocated for nature-based climate solutions at the discretion of the Legislature.</p> <p>More transit funding is needed. The legislature has not met its obligations under SB 125, and transit has become a lower priority under Cap and Invest. The FARMER program has also been a priority for the Policy Council.</p> | <p align="center">Oppose</p> |
| <p>AB 2349 (Solache) State Air Resources Board: regional air quality incident response program</p> | <p>4/15/26 Assembly Appropriations</p> | <p>This bill would require the Air Resources Board to expand its incident air monitoring program, subject to an appropriation by the Legislature for those purposes, to provide support for a regional network of air quality incident response centers, including at least one air quality incident response and evaluation center located at the South Coast Air Quality Management District, in order to facilitate emergency air monitoring response at the local and regional level. The bill would require each air quality incident response center to be operated by the state board or an air district and would require the state board and each district that operates an air quality incident response center to coordinate to provide emergency air monitoring response for disasters or other crises impacting air quality and public health in the state.</p> | <p align="center">Watch</p> |

SJVRPC Bill Matrix – April 2026

| Measure | Status | Bill Summary | Recommended Position |
|--|--|--|-----------------------------|
| AB 2407 (Macedo) High-speed Rail | 3/10/26 Assembly Transportation | As amended on March 9, this bill would require the High-Speed Rail Authority Inspector General the duty and responsibility to review financial disclosures and identify conflicts of interest for officials who make, or participate in making, decisions to execute contracts, or contract changes, for the authority. | Watch |
| AB 2432 (Ellis) Air Resources Board: regulations: analysis of financial impact on drivers | 3/24/26 Assembly Natural Resources | This bill would require the state board, when it revises, adopts, or establishes any policy, standard, rule, or regulation that would have a direct financial impact on drivers in the state, to consider the financial burden on drivers, and to prepare a thorough analysis and evaluation of the financial impact of the proposed action on drivers to ensure full transparency. | Watch |
| AB 2560 (Schultz) Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure: goals | 3/26/26 Assembly Transportation | This bill would establish the Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure (CAPTI) goals and would authorize the California State Transportation Agency to update those CAPTI goals, as specified. The bill would require a project under the above-described programs to apply, where feasible, within the fix-it-first approach, the CAPTI goals as established or updated by the agency, as specified. | Oppose |

SJVRPC Bill Matrix – April 2026

| Measure | Status | Bill Summary | Recommended Position |
|--|---|---|-----------------------------|
| <p>AB 2635 (Rodriguez) Air pollution: small off-road engines: rebate programs: local regulation.</p> | <p>4/14/26 Assembly Natural Resources</p> | <p>As amended on April 13, this bill would require each large and medium air pollution control and air quality management district, no later than January 1, 2028, to implement and maintain a commercial voucher program to support the transition to zero-emission small off-road equipment consistent with specified requirements.</p> <p>The bill would also prohibit a local government from adopting or enforcing an ordinance that prohibits the use of small off-road engine landscaping equipment, except as specified, and would prohibit the punishment of a violation of an ordinance adopted by a local government governing the use of any small off-road engine landscaping equipment as an infraction or misdemeanor, as specified.</p> | <p>Oppose?</p> |
| <p>AB 2722 (Ellis) Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax Law: suspension of tax</p> | <p>3/26/26 Assembly Transportation</p> | <p>As amended on March 24, this bill would suspend the gas tax for one year and would transfer from the General Fund to the Motor Vehicle Fuel Account an amount equal to the gas tax collected in fiscal year 2023-24, adjusted for inflation.</p> | <p>Oppose</p> |
| <p>SB 417 (Cabaldon) The Affordable Housing Bond Act of 2026</p> | <p>4/13/26 Assembly Housing and Community Development</p> | <p>This bill would enact the Affordable Housing Bond Act of 2026, which, if adopted, would authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$10,000,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law. Proceeds from the sale of these bonds would be used to finance programs to fund affordable rental housing and home ownership programs, including, among others, the Multifamily Housing Program, the Cal Home Program, and the Joe Serna, Jr. Farmworker Housing Grant Program. This bill would provide for submission of the bond act to the voters at the November 3, 2026, statewide general election.</p> | <p>Watch</p> |

SJVRPC Bill Matrix – April 2026

| Measure | Status | Bill Summary | Recommended Position |
|--|-------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| SB 667 (Archuleta) Railroads: safety: wayside detectors: train length: emergency vehicle crossing | 1/27/26 Assembly Rules | This bill requires a railroad to operate a network of wayside detector systems on or adjacent to any track used by a freight train. By mandating comprehensive detection coverage and communication protocols, it attempts to enhance California's ability to detect potential equipment failures before they result in catastrophic incidents. As amended on January 5, the bill would cap train speed based on whether they fit into one of three classes.-While this bill is intended to enhance safety, it may have an adverse impact on freight operations and, ultimately, scheduling slots for passenger rail service and ridership if enacted. ACE and Gold Runner oppose. | <p align="center">Oppose</p> |

| | | | |
|---|--|---|---------------------|
| <p>SB 1087 (Cabaldon)</p> <p>Transportation planning: sustainable communities strategies: Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Program: local planning grants.</p> | <p>4/9/26</p> <p>Senate Transportation</p> | <p>Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs), such as AMBAG, must prepare a Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) to be eligible for state grant funding. The SCS is a document that details how a region intends to create livable communities by addressing housing needs and reducing miles traveled and greenhouse gas emissions. The bill does the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extends the timeline for metropolitan planning organizations to prepare a regional transportation plan, including a sustainable communities strategy, from 4 to 8 years. • Removes the requirement for a separate Alternative Planning Scenario (APS) document. • Exempts the preparation of an RTP and SCS from CEQA. • Maintains the Air Resources Board (ARB) 's responsibility for setting greenhouse gas targets, and requires ARB to set targets for 2045, but requires establishing a Regional Target Advisory Committee before setting targets, deviating from the one-size-fits-all approach the ARB has taken in setting statewide targets. • Targets must be based on what is achievable for the region, considering existing conditions, exogenous factors, and financial constraints, including existing resources, the built environment, and access to modes of travel outside of single-occupant passenger vehicles. • Targets must also reflect the combined effect of policies, regulations, and investments by cities, counties, special districts, county transportation agencies, air districts, metropolitan planning organizations, the state, and the federal government to improve fleet efficiency and reduce vehicle miles traveled. • Establishes a robust public outreach process contained in the bill. <p>Concerns remain regarding the inclusion of language requiring an MPO to account for all on-road activity, such as commercial truck traffic, which may drive a more daunting</p> | <p>Watch</p> |
|---|--|---|---------------------|

SJVRPC Bill Matrix – April 2026

| Measure | Status | Bill Summary | Recommended Position |
|--|---|--|-------------------------------------|
| | | target if funding does not follow. Also, CARB’s continued oversight of the targets may still pose issues for smaller MPOs. | |
| <p>SB 1075 (Reyes)</p> <p>Air resources: toxic air contaminants: criteria air pollutants: community emissions reduction programs: local community emissions reduction plans.</p> | <p>4/14/26</p> <p>Senate Local Government</p> | <p>This bill would require CARB’s statewide strategy to reduce emissions of toxic air contaminants and criteria air pollutants in communities affected by a high cumulative exposure burden to be updated every three years, rather than five, and would require the AQMDs to develop local community emission reduction plans (CERPs) to be submitted to CARB for review and approval. CARB would be authorized to enforce these plans to ensure they are consistent with not only the statewide strategy but that federal Clean Air Act attainment is achieved. This bill would allow land use decisions to be reviewed and stayed by the Attorney General, describing requirements for participating communities to cease participation in the Community Air Protection Program (CAPP). The bill would also add a member of an environmental justice organization to air district governing boards, and providing the California Air Resources Board oversight authority</p> <p>Proposed amendments are need to maintain local decision making authority.</p> | <p>Oppose unless amended</p> |

SJVRPC Bill Matrix – April 2026

| Measure | Status | Bill Summary | Recommended Position |
|--|--|--|------------------------------------|
| <p>SB 1136 (Blakespear) Intercity rail and commuter rail: special events service plans</p> | <p>4/15/26 Senate Appropriations</p> | <p>This bill would require, as a condition of receiving funding under the State Rail Assistance Program, a public agency responsible for commuter rail services that has a transfer connection station between 2 or more commuter rail services to adopt a special events service plan for each event that meets specified requirements. The bill would require the special events service plan to include schedules to access the event without requiring a transfer, ticket interoperability, and all other technical, equipment, and infrastructure requirements.</p> <p>This bill would also require an interagency transfer agreement to require a joint powers board to ensure that supplemental service is provided for major, publicly attended events, as specified. The bill would require the business plan to include a special events service plan that includes detailed operating schedules, fare information, and rolling stock requirements designed to satisfy the requirement to provide that supplemental service.</p> | <p align="center">Watch</p> |
| <p>SB 1177 (Cortese) High-Speed Rail Authority: project update report</p> | <p>4/15/26 Senate Appropriations</p> | <p>This bill would require the High-speed Rail project update report to include (1) an explanation of the assumptions used for financing methods calculations, (2) a comparison of the current and projected work schedule to projected schedules in previous project update reports, (3) an analysis of potential ancillary revenue sources, and (4) a comparison and benchmarking of cost, scope, and timeline to international high-speed rail projects.</p> | <p align="center">Watch</p> |

SJVRPC Bill Matrix – April 2026

| Measure | Status | Bill Summary | Recommended Position |
|---|--|--|-------------------------------------|
| <p>SB 1411 (Stern) Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: funding conditions: high-speed rail</p> | <p>4/15/26 Senate Appropriations</p> | <p>Existing law prohibits the High-speed Rail Authority (HSRA) from entering into new funding commitments with those moneys for activities outside of the Merced to Bakersfield segment, until June 30, 2030, or when that segment is fully funded, whichever is sooner. Notwithstanding that prohibition, existing law authorizes HSRA to enter into new funding commitments outside of the Merced to Bakersfield segment for additional activities, not to cumulatively exceed \$500,000,000, that maximize the efficiency of delivering the project, as specified.</p> <p>This bill would authorize HSRA to enter into new funding commitments with the above-described moneys outside of the Merced to Bakersfield segment in any amount for additional activities that maximize the efficiency of delivering the project, as specified. By expanding the purposes for which continuously appropriated moneys may be used, the bill would make an appropriation.</p> | <p align="center">Oppose</p> |

SJVRPC Bill Matrix – April 2026

| Measure | Status | Bill Summary | Recommended Position |
|--|--|---|-----------------------------|
| <p>SB 1423 (Stern) Transportation funding: State Transportation Improvement Program: Active Transportation Program</p> | <p>4/10/26 Senate Transportation</p> | <p>As amended on March 25, this bill would require at least 50% of funds programmed in the Interregional Transportation Improvement Program and 50% of the funds programmed in a Regional Transportation Improvement Program be program for safe streets projects, with priority to be given to safe streets projects located in transit-oriented development zones that lack adequate pedestrian safety and mobility access. The bill defines a safe street project as one that increases the proportion of trips accomplished by biking and walking, that increases safety and mobility for nonmotorized users, and that advances the active transportation efforts of regional agencies to achieve greenhouse gas reduction goals. The bill further specifies that a project consisting of roadway widening or capacity expansion shall not be classified as a safe streets project solely because it includes incidental bicycle lanes or sidewalks.</p> <p>This bill would also rename the Active Transportation Program as the Safe Streets Program and would require a two-step application process under which an applicant submits an initial application that does not include detailed engineering drawings, and if the application is deemed to be in conformance with the guidelines a project selection criteria, the applicant would then be asked to submit a final and more comprehensive application for review.</p> <p>This bill may be amended into a study bill to assess opportunities for active transportation funding.</p> | <p>Oppose</p> |

SJVRPC Bill Matrix – April 2026

| Measure | Status | Bill Summary | Recommended Position |
|--|--|---|------------------------------------|
| <p>SB 1425 (Cortese) High-Speed Rail Authority: right-of-way: encroachment permits</p> | <p>4/15/26 Senate Appropriations</p> | <p>As amended on March 25, this bill would establish a permit program, administered by the authority, for encroachments on the authority’s rights-of-way. The bill would make any person who installs or performs an encroachment within the authority’s right-of-way, without a permit, guilty of a misdemeanor. The bill would also make any person who willfully damages any feature of the high-speed train system or any portion of the authority’s right-of-way guilty of a misdemeanor. The bill would provide for civil penalties for specified categories of encroachment and, unless authorized by law or an encroachment permit, would make it unlawful to manage water flows in certain ways that impact the high-speed train system or the authority’s right-of-way, as specified. The bill would require all moneys, including moneys from permit fees and civil penalties, collected pursuant to its provisions to be deposited into the High-Speed Rail Property Fund. The bill would, upon appropriation by the Legislature, make the penalty moneys available to the authority for use in the development, improvement, and maintenance of the high-speed rail system, and the other moneys available for administering these provisions.</p> | <p align="center">Watch</p> |