



## Board of Directors Meeting

Friday, June 12, 2009, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**Location:** Doubletree Hotel Modesto,  
1150 Ninth St., Modesto, CA 95354  
Phone: 209-525-3006 | Fax: 209-525-3048

| <b>AGENDA</b> |  |   |
|---------------|--|---|
| 10:00         | I. <b>Convene Meeting &amp; Introductory Remarks</b>   | Chair Chrisman  |
| 10:05         | II. <b>Self-Introductions</b>  | Board & Public  |
| 10:15         | III. <b>Review and Approval of Minutes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• March 13, 2009 (<i>Action Item</i>)</li></ul>   | Chair Chrisman  |
| 10:20         | IV. <b>Blueprint Implementation Process</b>  | Barry Hibbard   |
| 10:40         | V. <b>Work Group Report</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Water Management Planning - Status and Resolution (<i>Action Item</i>)</li></ul>   | Chair Chrisman<br>Ray Watson<br>Jim Tischer<br>Sarge Green                                    |
| 11:10         | VI. <b>Work Group Report</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Progress of the PreK-12 Work Group</li></ul>  | Walt Buster<br>Marcy Masumoto   |
| 11:30         | VII. <b>In Depth Work Group Report</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Advanced Communications</li><li>• Energy</li></ul>  | David Hosley<br>Paul Johnson<br>Tim Fisher  |
| 12:00         | <b>Lunch Recess</b>  |   |
| 1:00          | VIII. <b>Priority Work Group Updates</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Transportation (<i>Action Item</i>)</li><li>• Air Quality</li></ul>   | Frank Bigelow<br>Pete Weber   |
| 1:30          | IX. <b>Report from the Secretariat</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Regional Economic Recovery Work Plan</li><li>• Work Group Quarterly Reports</li><li>• Communications Update</li><li>• Government Affairs Committee (<i>Action Item</i>)</li><li>• SJVCEO Board Appointments</li><li>• CA Forward Update</li><li>• Legislative Update and Support Letters Process</li><li>• Partnership Funding</li><li>• Annual Meeting / Annual Report</li></ul> | Mike Dozier<br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br>Pete Weber<br><br><br><br><br><br><br>David Hosley |
| 2:45          | X. <b>Public &amp; Board Comment</b>   | Public  |
| 3:00          | XI. <b>Adjournment</b>   | Chair Chrisman  |

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## Meeting of the Board of Directors

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**Friday, March 13, 2009**

10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Harris Ranch Inn & Restaurant

24505 Dorris Avenue

Coalinga, CA 93210

### **DRAFT Meeting Minutes**

**Present:** James Aleru, Frank Bigelow, Andy Chesley, Chair Mike Chrisman, Connie Conway, Sidney Craighead, DeeDee D'Adamo, Mike Dozier, Robert Gore (Representing the office of Governor Schwarzenegger), Frank Gornick, Coke Hallowell, Barry Hibbard, William Ing (Representing Secretary Kim Belshe'), Farrell Jackson, Mary Alice Kaloostian (Office of Senator Cogdill), A.G. Kawamura, Luisa Medina, Mike Navarro, Mike Nelson, Leroy Ornellas, Richard Ortega, Pete Parra, Nicole Parra, David Quackenbush, Jeff Rowe, Paul Saldana, Ashley Swearengin, Cindy Tuck (Representing Secretary Linda Adams), Gene Voiland, Ray Watson, Peter Weber, Jeff Wyly (Representing California Labor & Workforce Development Agency)

**Staff:** Mike Dozier, David Hosley

### **I. Convene Meeting & Introductory Remarks**

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Chair Chrisman called to order at 10:14 a.m. the meeting of the Board of Directors of the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley (Partnership). Chair Chrisman thanked the participants for their attendance and participation. Chair Chrisman acknowledged and welcomed the new Board members whose appointment was announced on March 12, 2009: Andrew Chesley, Sidney Craighead, Mike Nelson, Richard Ortega, David Quackenbush and Ashley Swearengin.

### **I. Self-Introductions**

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Members of the board introduced themselves.

### **II. Review and Approval of Minutes**

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Chair Chrisman reminded the board of the need to approve the minutes from the meetings on September 13, 2008, and December 13, 2008. The motion was made by Mr. Chesley and seconded by Mr. Saldana.

### **III. Report from the Secretariat**

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Mike Dozier introduced himself as the new Director of the Office of Community and Economic Development which serves as the Secretariat for the Partnership. Mr. Dozier commented that in the few weeks he has been in the role he has been impressed by breadth and dedication of the work groups working to address critical issues for the Valley and the magnitude of their collaboration reaching from San Joaquin to Kern County. Mr. Dozier further noted how impressed he is by the breadth, depth and commitment of the Partnership Board. He observed that there is a lot of work to be done but much activity under way.

Mr. Dozier commended the OCED staff, recognizing the work of Christine Nutting, Katie Stevens, Melanie Allen, Marcia Martin and Manjit Atwal by name and welcoming Jen Paul who joined the staff in March. The work of preparing materials for and setting up this meeting is emblematic of what the staff does on a regular basis, in addition to their respective and collective program and project activities. The most recent example of staff responsiveness is the speed and thoroughness with which the staff engaged with Nicole Parra on the Regional Economic Recovery Plan. The staff is working very hard and will continue to do so after June; the Partnership effort is too important to let go in June when the current budget ends.

In speaking about the Partnership budget, Mr. Dozier referred to page 29 of his report in the Board packet and conveyed the commitment by the Secretariat to continue its work even after June due to some cost savings over the years with California State University, Fresno, and Partnership monies. There is a \$142,000 funding gap for which the Secretariat is seeking support from the Councils of Governments (COGs) and is hoping for incremental funding from the City of Fresno. Without gap funding, there will be some reduction in services, maintaining most of the work groups, although HHS indicates this will be very difficult for them; OCED will pick up slack as possible. There is a possibility of funds from the economic

stimulus package. The Secretariat will provide as much information as we can to all counties regarding stimulus monies and see what's left in discretionary funds.

The office has undertaken a vigorous search for funding and in doing so has solicited input from the work groups for their activities based on optimal, minimal and no funding. The optimal budget to sustain current efforts is approximately \$3.2 million with a hope that Workforce Investment Board (WIB) funding will come through the Governor's discretionary fund. The minimal budget is approximately \$1.2 million and does not include Health and Human Services (HHS). In the event of no funding, which is the more realistic projection at this point, is the Secretariat will continue to provide administrative support for communications, board meetings, and some work group and legislative support. Referring to the Board packets, Mr. Dozier pointed out that the proposal sets out goals and objectives and provides a template for going to other agencies and asking for support. This indicates that we know what we want, and we're organized to go get it. It instills confidence that we will continue.

Mr. Dozier advised that the Secretariat will also continue to seek funding, partnered with the Great Valley Center (GVC), for the annual meeting and annual report and invited Mr. Hosley to comment. Mr. Hosley expressed his conviction that the Partnership is very important to Valley. There is great value in continuing to document and report on Partnership accomplishments through the Annual Report, as well as present the annual meeting, but as yet there is no funding. Mr. Hosley commented on the possibility of obtaining sponsors for annual meeting and reducing costs by doing a lot less printing and a lot more online documents. However, he continued, it is important to compile the Annual Report to reflect our progress and that there is value in having some printed materials to go into the hands of people who can make decisions to keep the Partnership viable. GVC doesn't have funds to pay for this but, as noted, there is the possibility of sponsorship. Mr. Hosley continued that page 34 of the Board packet provides an accurate assessment of costs; what is needed to keep it going.

Mr. Weber thanked Mr. Dozier for his introduction and update and provided clarification on funding; when Mr. Dozier speaks about no funding, he means no state funding. Governor Schwarzenegger did put in a \$2 million request last year that went to conference and got zeroed out with a number of other things. The Partnership is working to get that budget restored. In the meantime, the worst case scenario is to get no funding in the next fiscal year. However, what the Governor did do is sign a new Executive Order that has no expiration date so the Partnership is here for the duration.

Mr. Weber continued; Dr. John Welty is making available money and office space; California State University, Fresno is really enabling the Partnership to stay afloat. As Mr. Dozier made reference, we have asked Mayor Swearingin if the City of Fresno can cover the bare financial bones starting July 1. The request has not gone to the City Council, but we are hopeful that will happen. Beyond that is the deficit Mr. Dozier spoke about which we working with the COGs to help fund

Christine Nutting updated the board on the pending appointments which have been made official by the Governor's office. The current action before the Board is confirmation of appointment to Ray Watson to the Executive Committee. Ms. D'Adamo moved to approve Mr. Watson's appointment which was seconded by several other members simultaneously.

Ms. Nutting thanked Mayor Swearingin and Kelli Furtado for their engagement and support during the transition of Secretariat Leadership, with special thanks to Ms. Furtado.

#### **IV. Priority Work Group Updates**

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**Water Quality, Supply and Reliability:** Mr. Chrisman opened the discussion with a reminder to the group that since Governor Schwarzenegger's election in 2003, one of his primary objectives has been to address the issue(s) of water in California, a process and discussion ongoing since mid-2006. There are significant issues regarding water and population growth (close to 38 million people). In Sept 2006, the governor issued an Executive Order [ S-17-06] that laid out an intensive public process, established the Delta Vision and Blue Ribbon Task Force effort, and set up a Cabinet Committee through the Partnership <http://gov.ca.gov/executive-order/4525/>.

The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta) is the largest estuary on the coast, subscribed to by agricultural, industrial and municipal. The generally agreed upon thesis that the Delta as it's currently used is not sustainable. Five counties surround Delta and depend on it and there is a vibrant agricultural industry associated with the Delta. Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's Delta Vision process concluded at the end of 2008, a little more than two years after it began, with a suite of strategic recommendations for long-term,

sustainable management of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta which supports approximately 25 million people and more than 750 species of flora and fauna.

For its Final Report, and subsequent Strategic Plan and implementation strategies, the Task Force received significant public input (<http://deltavision.ca.gov/>). The legislature has become actively involved in the process discussion of water development and management in the state. Of significant importance is that the cabinet committee agreed with most of the Task Force recommendations, taking exception to the discussion regarding governance and the proposal for a whole new level of governance structure. The Partnership is initiating conversations with legislators about that topic. The teaming of Jim Tischer and Sarge Green of the California Water Institute and the Partnership with the legislature is going to be critical in moving forward. The time to support the Delta is now with critical issues of conveyance, storage and ecosystems at stake.

Mr. Watson reiterated the Partnership's commitment and responsibility to assemble Integrated Regional Water Management Plans (IRWMP) for the eight San Joaquin Valley counties. This is a benchmark meeting; the Water Work Group, starting with a template designed by the Department of Water Resources (DWR), has developed a template and method for gathering and assembling input from communities to be integrated into a statewide water management plan to address water supply, storage, conveyance, quality, flood control, conservation and management. The work group provided a list and then an analysis of the various sources and uses of water (see App II in the water section).

A fundamental point is the need to increase conservation; the formula that determines how a particular community is getting its water and using it must change. Integrated regional plans are necessary to ensure we have the water we need as the population grows. The IRWMPs include consideration for rural communities with deteriorating systems; those with increasing salinity, arsenic, etc. The outcome of this analysis will be proposed systems and projects. Kern County has over 40 agencies and political entities involved in process alone. As the different IRWMPs conclude their analysis, one of the results will be a difference in opinion on how to solve the problem. That is when the Work Group will get involved in the discussions and negotiations, with emphasis that conservation and reclamation is an important part of project. The Delta provides 25-35% of water for about 75% of the state population. Mr. Watson indicated the Work Group's intention to present today a resolution for approval of the IRWMP template; however, there are some questions that remain from San Joaquin County which need to be resolved. The Work Group committed in the beginning that all we do must be unanimous so proposed a side bar meeting later today with hopes of returning with a proposal that all can support.

Mr. Watson thanked David Zoldoske, Jim Tischer and Sarge Green and for their dedication and hard work. Mr. Watson further acknowledge the work of Gene Voiland whose many meetings with the technical group involved hundreds of hours in discussing and negotiating the many technical and controversial issues involved; the work wouldn't be this far without people like Gene.

Ms. Swearingen commented on her involvement with this work group; it has been inspirational to see how the group has gone about resolving some of the longstanding issues. Ms. Swearingen asked for a framing of concerns from San Joaquin County. Mr. Watson deferred to Mr. Ornellas for a summary of those issues. Mr. Ornellas thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak and deferred his comments until the side bar meeting had been concluded.

Mr. Chrisman commented that the Board ought to have a general conversation at some point but agreed it can happen at a later time.

Sarge Green and Jim Tischer presented an update on Delta and Valley water conditions and explained the need and purpose of the framework report:

- Develop a common Valleywide organizational/data tool from which to develop local water resources management strategies.
- Leverage IRWMPs and local strategy implementation into regional, state and federal investments into a full San Joaquin Valley Water Management Plan.
- Identify example integration strategies that need early adoption. Outline important aspects of the report. DWR slide showing shortage conditions across the state. On March 4, 2009, 84%, 77% and 83% of average snowpack; reservoirs that serve the West Valley are in bad shape although some local areas doing okay for water. Recommended integration strategies include rural water system improvement and groundwater recharge area protection.

An adaptive strategy is needed to address water crises, such as the instant drought year. This is a difficult subject to deal with; the Water Policy Work Group and Board Members Voiland, Watson and Ornellas are working hard to address and mitigate.

Synergies are being developed across areas, an example of which is water quality in Tulare County becoming compromised so Alta Irrigation District is developing a backbone pipeline to serve communities with surface water rather than aquifers.

Sarge Green provided an ARC GIS demonstration of groundwater data mapping including a depth to groundwater perspective. Mr. Green pointed out the mapping of all high recharge areas (sandy, easily percolated.) There is a need for strategies to integrate those recharge areas with land use, Blueprint and other planning; it is critical to maintain the ability to optimally recharge through that ground. Kern County is very active in groundwater banking with some already in place. Western groundwater is too saline for use although there are initiatives emerging to address this. When asked if the water in the saline aquifer is due to incursion of the ocean, Mr. Green responded yes, and said the water is also highly calcified which compromises desalination efforts such as reverse osmosis.  
[www.californiawater.org/SJVRWPdoc/SJVRWP\\_Framework.pdf](http://www.californiawater.org/SJVRWPdoc/SJVRWP_Framework.pdf)

Mr. Chrisman inquired about origination of the IRWMP program. Mr. Green responded that it started in 2000-2001. With federal and state agencies working on water, there was a need to develop local water group based integrated RWMPs. Mr. Chrisman commented that as a result of that program, the 2005 water plan itself has IRWMPs as an integral part of that effort. For the first time, a water plan has a 20 year prospective look at water needs; this provides the greatest opportunities to increase supplies through local optimization

Ms. D'Adamo remarked that even when the plans are not required, project proposals that are part of the plan are much more attractive to the appropriators and agencies to fund. The water supply chart is not just about the water supply, it's also about the change in regulations and court decisions that impact our ability to move the water around; moving water south through Delta has become much more challenging due to new regulations and court decisions. A recent UC Davis study assigned a dollar amount to drought conditions; a zero or near-zero supply (which is what we have) translates to 80,000 job losses in the Valley, statewide 90,000 jobs. The aggregate result is a \$2.2 billion impact to California; more than the losses of General Motors, Chrysler and Ford combined.

Mr. Chrisman noted that this time last year water supplies were at 114%; this year supplies are 83% of normal and the governor has declared state of water emergency. Mr. Parra asked, compared to other regions in the state, how do we stack up in our level of preparedness and what are the ramifications of that? Mr. Chrisman responded that Southern California is better prepared with well established desalination plants and additional conservation. Although urban areas in the state need to do a better job of water conservation, we in the rural communities have some catching up to do this is why the big push.

Ms. Tuck's feedback is the document is complete and comprehensive; as communities and farmers have to pump the groundwater, the quality of that groundwater will become a bigger and bigger issue. Mr. Chrisman: in summary, we need to work aggressively at the local and regional level with the state and federal governments. The IRWMP is the hub of the wheel of water management in the state; funding is "leveraged dollars", in order for any effort to compete for the funds, it must provide value-add.

Mr. Jackson asked for status on the local water districts. Mr. Green responded that regional districts are supporting the advisory group, and organizational board members are providing input to the regional plans as well as IRWMPs. Mr. Jackson further asked if Modesto, Turlock and Oakdale are involved in the discussions; Mr. Green commented that those folks are certainly aware of the process although the work group may need to do a better job of integrating them into the process.

Jennifer Smith, UC Merced, asked if there are discussions on alternative technologies such as atmospheric water generators. Mr. Green responded that atmospheric water generators are a cold plate technology, making them inefficient in the Valley's low humidity climate. Atmospheric water generators extract water directly from the air. That requires high humidity or water saturation in the atmosphere. Winter fog in the Valley is possible but unlikely due to the energy input/return ratio; coastal areas are more feasible.

Mr. Chrisman asked what additional technologies and conservation innovations are being considered. The only way we've created any water in the last 10 years is because of storage; conservation has mitigated use. Micro and drip irrigation conservation dollars and gallon usage numbers are difficult to assess or

calculate. There is certainly linkage between money and water conservation, possibly the stimulus package may include funding to support conservation efforts.

Mr. Green interjected that the only water we have “created” has been water that has been through conservation; we actually have less surface water. The Water Work Group is assessing other technologies; this is a high priority for the congressional delegation as well. In the stimulus package, we are hopeful the City of Fresno will receive funding for installation of water meters.

Mr. Weber advised that the Valley is recognized as one of three leading water technology centers of the world, along with Israel and Australia. Products such as PureSense (<http://www.puresense.com/>) enables through measurement devices to determine how much water is needed at various stages of its growth, then automatically sends that specific amount of water to that root at that time.

Mr. Watson summarized the IRWMP discussion, reminding the Board that the IRWMP effort in the Valley does not have the authority to require anybody to be a part of a water management plan. The Water Work Group has conducted extensive outreach to all the counties, many of whom have elected officials on this Board. Mr. Watson asked those officials to return to their communities and encourage them to participate in IRWMP process to ensure funding and support; it’s a mechanism to ensure they’re using resources wisely in a plan that works for everyone

Mr. Ornellas reminded the Board that one-third of San Joaquin County is water with major rivers flowing in and through it. Our challenge is in protecting the Delta, water rights and San Joaquin County while sharing the resource. “How can we do this together”? The Delta is not just an estuary, it is vital to the state with transit for two highways, PG&E major gas and power lines, Hetch Hetchy and the largest inland port on the west coast at Stockton. Captain John C. Fremont, for whom the East Bay community is named (1830-40s), wanted to travel to the Sierras but could not get across what is now the San Joaquin Valley, because of the spring water flow that had flooded the Valley. Captain Fremont had to travel south around Tulare and back up to the Sierras. That flooding was the source of the aquifer storage that exists now and its recharge is a big deal because our development of dams and levees in subsequent decades has virtually eliminated that scale of flood recharge.

Mr. Chrisman noted that the other influence over water availability is climate change. Most climate models are now suggesting a 30-70% reduction in the Sierra snow pack over the next 100 years.

The Water Work Group convened over the lunch break for separate discussion; Mr. Watson presented an update on that discussion from which the Water Work Group will undertake the following steps:

- o Redraft the water resolution to emphasize that it is a template, a framework, not a plan and that it is not intended to take a position on alternative conveyance in the Delta.
- o Redesignate the Valley framework as an Interregional Framework instead as a Valley framework and recirculate the redraft by end of month.
- o Continue with water technical meetings and try to deal with pending issues such as water conveyance.

Mr. Jackson commented that water is a highly complex issue. San Joaquin County has 3-4 very distinct areas of interest yet can come together in consensus; he is confident the Water Work Group will be able to as well. It is important the constituents don’t harm each other or become boxed into a position; San Joaquin County is opposed to the peripheral canal until all other avenues have been exhausted.

**Regional Economic Recovery Work Plan:** Ms. Nicole Parra introduced the Regional Economic Recovery Work Plan (RERWP) effort in which Secretary Bonner, Business, Transportation and Housing Agency (BTH), is taking the lead to create a comprehensive list of projects that may benefit from American Reinvestment & Recover Act (ARRA) stimulus money. Ms. Parra thanked Mike Dozier, Katie Stevens and Christine Nutting for their prompt and effective response to the request for this effort. On February 9, 2009, Secretary Bonner sent out numerous letters to ED stakeholders in California to advise them of the Recovery Work Plans he asked every region to prepare in advance of the ARRA (stimulus package) being signed. A week following the Secretary’s letter, on the BTH Web site came suggested guidelines and later templates the regions were asked to follow in order to submit projects. BTH divided the state following the 12 Caltrans zones and assigned a staffer to provide support for each zone. The Partnership, led by Mr. Dozier, is the lead organizer in the San Joaquin Valley with Nicole Parra of BTH providing staff support to the three counties in zone 10 and remainder in zone 6.

The Partnership is setting up workshops to get the information and process out to the eight Valley counties, the first of which was held last week at the Fresno Council of Governments offices. Placing projects on this list is not an application for funding but is an insurance policy through the Partnership; ensuring the respective cabinet secretaries and their staff have visibility to those projects. A number of federal agencies have done a good job of posting funding allocations, for example the Department of Transportation, with Caltrans getting 70% of the monies formula funding and competitive grants are the types of monies (30% of Trans, 25% of HCD) that will be available. In addition to formula money there are also competitive grants as examples of the types of money we will be going after as well as money tagged for rural areas (USDA and HCD). The Partnership has compiled a comprehensive list of competitive sources of funding and has a one-page document on how to submit projects through process.

Ms. Parra referred to the Partnership's Web site for reference materials and a list of ARRA competitive sources of funding. [http://www.sjvpartnership.org/static\\_pages.php?static\\_page\\_id=14&mn\\_id=67](http://www.sjvpartnership.org/static_pages.php?static_page_id=14&mn_id=67)

Mr. Dozier equated this effort to a 10-page term paper due in two weeks. The 10 Partnership work groups give us a tremendous advantage in ensuring a comprehensive and meaningful list.

Mr. Saldana observed from an overall economic development (ED) process, this list connects local with statewide ED initiatives and vision. Participation in this exercise gives the participants an opportunity to demonstrate to the Secretary that the local agencies are working collaboratively to showcase local needs and initiatives and solicit state engagement.

Mr. Tischer asked if there is an opt-out provision for any county or agency. Ms. Parra responded that those who elect not to participate may do so, but a lot of attention will be paid to the integrated work plans because of our direct and intense knowledge of the local and regional needs.

Mr. Rowe commented that there are other efforts to compile the same kinds of requests and asked who ultimately decides which requests go to the Feds. Ms. Parra responded that the Federal Agency (Region IX) directors will verify the projects. This compilation of projects gives the California Business, Transportation and Housing (BTH) Agency and the rest of the state an opportunity to demonstrate to the federal government the need for even more funding.

Mr. Rowe asked what role the work groups will play in this effort. Mr. Dozier replied that the Secretariat staff will accumulate the projects into a comprehensive list; the work groups will verify that the projects comply with BTH standards (e.g. Group A – 120 days; B – 12-24 months; C – mortgage crisis and small business issues) and are valid. Mr. Dozier counseled all participants to include a narrative about what should be included in the plan.

Mr. Saldana reiterated his earlier point that this process does not change the process for federal grants but is a way to ensure visibility to and support for the projects at the state level.

Mr. Weber pointed out that the Partnership has not been asked to do any prioritization of projects. The individual jurisdictions may submit their own priorities (this is recommended) .

Ms. D'Adamo asked Nicole Parra to provide a list of those areas committed to this process; we can influence those that are not committed to become a part of it. Ms. Parra responded that no county has indicated unwillingness to participate; there are non-profits and community organizations that also want to participate. They will be allowed to do so but are encouraging them to try to work through their county. If the county demurs, the entities will be allowed to submit directly. Ms. D'Adamo asked Katie Stevens to provide the RERWP information for the Legislative Staff Work Group (completed March 13, 2009).

Mr. Dozier advised the Board that the Draft plan will be posted to the Partnership Web site on April 1, 2009. ([http://www.sjvpartnership.org/static\\_pages.php?static\\_page\\_id=15&mn\\_id=68](http://www.sjvpartnership.org/static_pages.php?static_page_id=15&mn_id=68))

**Seed Grant Reports** Mr. Dozier provided a final summary of the 14 seed grants. Mr. Weber commended the work groups for their extraordinary accomplishments, leveraging the \$2.5 million in Partnership grants to nearly double that value.

**Priority Work Group Updates** Mr. Chesley referred to the Transportation tab in the Board binder which addresses goal 5 and goal 10 for the Transportation Work Group. Activities continue in support of High Speed Rail (HSR) development in the Altamont pass; with the High Speed Rail Authority (Authority) undertaking a number of environmental assessments around the Valley. There are a number of meetings

and hearings by HSRA for Pacheco Pass, the ongoing effort on Merced to Bakersfield segment, and a preliminary study on the Fresno to Sacramento segment as well as an environmental process on “higher speed” rail through the Altamont pass. The focus is to connect San Jose with Stockton and segments across the Valley floor to connect to HSR. This Board previously recommended HSR to select both Altamont and Pacheco passes to ensure all segments of the Valley end up being served.

The Authority acknowledged that both the Pacheco and Altamont routes needed to be developed to serve needs of the state. HSRA adopted Pacheco as the sole route, but identified that higher speed rail should be serviced along Altamont Route. Working with the Authority, the idea developed to form an Altamont Pass working group comprising Authority, Sacramento related interests (Capitol Corridors), Stanislaus COG and San Joaquin COGS, Altamont Commuter Express, Tri-Valley Policy Commission, BART, MTC and Alameda Congestion Management Agency. All have the interest and ability to provide approvals and potential funding for this project. While not a formalized committee, this is a working group that meets on a monthly basis and has moved this project along much farther than would otherwise be expected. The project will ultimately include branch service to HSR as well as connections to BART at Pleasanton and most likely Fremont with future Dumbarton service. The key component is that this alignment will occur along separate dedicated trackage for this service. The Altamont pass is the main corridor in and out of the San Joaquin Valley and traditionally carries higher traffic than Highway 99 to the Bay Area.

Mr. Chesley continued his update by noting that HSRA was successful in passing Prop 1A (<http://www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov/faqs/proposition-1a.htm>). High Speed Rail is caught up in state budget process; bonds will not be issued in the immediate term so HSRA has had to stop a number of projects. The economic stimulus package offers great opportunities for HSR through the \$8 billion identified in support of HSR and intercity rail. They are looking for projects right now so HSRA is looking for places where alignment will be, i.e. grade separation projects. Economic Stimulus funding is targeted to capital projects, not rights-of-way acquisition. Grade separation projects are better options. Mr. Chesley encouraged COG Directors to also look for areas that can connect; the SJCOG has sales tax revenue that can be used for rights of way needed for HSR.

#### Benefits of HSR to the Valley:

- o Improved rail service to support Stockton to San Jose – somewhere in the 100-140 mph range on separate trackage
- o Branch service to HSR to Stockton and Modesto
- o Intermodal connections to BART (Pleasanton and Fremont)
- o Includes connection to the future Dumbarton rail service
- o Intermodal connection to the SJ light rail
- o This alternative mode of transportation has the potential to reduce traffic on the Altamont pass by 180,000-220,000 vehicles per day

#### Next steps:

- o Next Steps for Altamont HSR include development of MOUs with regional partners (HSRA, SJCOG, and Altamont Commuter Express), identifying the public outreach and environmental clearance processes and providing input to BART for Livermore involvement. Future success of transportation connections for the SJV is contingent upon building good long-term partnerships with other regions and entities; the trade corridor investment fund is a demonstration of the success of a good strong coalition.
- o Pursue federal partnership (new administration is supportive w/potential \$)
- o Identified local outreach process to develop coalition of supporters and investors
- o Identify environmental resources
- o Provide input to BART for Tri-valley connection

Mr. Chrisman asked the role of the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) and whether it was involved in any of the decision making process. Mr. Chesley responded that the FRA is typically involved in issues of rail safety and national rail transportation policy. (<http://www.fra.dot.gov/us/content/2>)

**Air Quality** Mr. Weber opened the update on Air Quality by providing a brief historical recap. Originally convened in December 2005, this group brought together a diverse assemblage that has gelled nicely; all agree on the sources of the problems and agree on 95% of the solutions. The remaining 5% take up the majority of their time, working together on regulation, incentive funding sources, education programs and specific projects in environmental justice communities. The Air Quality group’s efforts are on cleaning the air without doing irreparable damage to the economy in the process. Mr. Weber noted there is no “silver bullet” for clean air; and eventually will have to address all sources although at present mobile sources are the single largest source of particle and NOx pollution. The technology exists to make major improvements, the

problem is affordability; the solution is to find compliance assistant funding. Recent California Air Resources Board (CARB) rulings, the Truck Rule and AB 32, in combination have significant cost implications for truckers in the Valley. Mr. Weber extended kudos to Secretary Linda Adams and Deputy Secretary Cindy Tuck for their support in modifications to the truck rule.

As of the time the rule was passed, all twelve of the surveyed participants indicated this ruling will cause them to significantly change their operations. One case in particular, a fleet in operation since 1932, had previously determined they will have to reduce the fleet from 27 to 22 trucks and use the sale value of the older trucks to do fleet replacement. In addition, they will have to go from a rate increase of 3.4% per year over the last 15 years to a rate increase of 8.5%. If the market won't accept that increase, they're out of business. In early March this same company realized they'll have to reduce the fleet to 18 trucks and defer some of the early purchases they thought they could make due to current economic influences. The company simply can't get the loans to support the differential between compliance assistance funding and the purchase price of new vehicles.

Mr. Weber continued his update with the comment that the Air Quality Work Group has a coalition in the environmental community and is working to get as much compliance funding as possible. Proposition 1B resulted in \$250 million allocated to the Valley over 4 years with a first increment of \$55 million. \$50 million was allocated and spent for early starts; the Air District then sent a letter to hold off further spending, the balance is still not received. There is \$140 million in applications remaining against that first increment. The Indirect Source Rule is a big victory for the Air Quality District by requiring mitigation funds from developers for sprawl. This is a good source of funding for projects but at present there is almost no development under way.

AB 2522 – Arambula – This bill called for the Valley to have discretion in raising its vehicle registration fees by as much as \$24 per vehicle per year on top of any state budget DMV fee increases. AB2522 has the potential to raise as much as \$60 million per year but given the state budget increase of DMV fees it is unclear if, or by how much, AB2522 will be invoked.

At the federal level there is \$7.5 million earmarked for air quality mitigation, especially diesel equipment emissions. The Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) has been authorized at \$200 million/year but was never appropriated at full authorization. The ARRA stimulus package allocates \$300 million for DERA, 30% is formula allocated to 50 states with the rest competitive. Region IX will receive about \$26 million and the maximum allowable grant request is \$10 million.

Mr. Weber thanked Ms. D'Adamo and Congressman Cardoza for leading the effort to include EQIP program funding in the Farm Bill, special treatment for agriculture that will generate \$10 million a year for four years, of which the Valley gets about \$11 mil/year.

Mark Keppler announced that the Tune In/Tune Up program received an Environmental Justice award for its efforts to create a significant improvement in the valley's air quality.

Ms. Tuck thanked Ms. D'Adamo for her efforts on behalf of the truck rule and clarified Mr. Weber's comment about "special treatment for agriculture". Ms. Tuck, Secretary Adams and Ms. D'Adamo encouraged agriculture leaders to start a process where they would meet regularly with ARB staff and show how agriculture trucks are different. They took the time, brought in data, and through fact-based discussion illustrated how farm operations differ from traditional fleet operations. Ms. Tuck expressed her pride in how effectively agriculture worked with the ARB to reach an equitable solution.

**UC Merced Medical School** Ms. D'Adamo introduced Bryn Forhan and Larry Salinas and provided the following historical recap of the UC Merced Medical School initiative.

In May 2008 the University Of California Board Of Regents endorsed continued planning for the UCM Medical School. Congressmen Cardoza and Costa sought a broad base of support across the Valley to encourage policy makers to support funding for the UCM Medical School; from this effort came the Valley Coalition for UC Merced Medical School. The Valley Coalition is committed to bringing a UC medical school to the San Joaquin Valley that will serve the region by increasing the number of physicians practicing in the area, expanding higher education opportunities for Valley students and serving as an economic engine. The Coalition is chaired by Bill Lyons, Jr. (former secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture) and Bryn Forhan. The UC Regents endorsed continued planning for a UCM School of Medicine, and in Fall of 2008, UCM contracted out with Washington Advisory Group (WAG) to assist evaluation of the school's planning efforts to establish the new medical school. WAG submitted recommendations UCM and the UC

Regents have provided for an adjustment to the previous plan. These recommendations included in the Board packets.

The WAG recommendations are advisory and offers suggestions for continued planning and options for development of a medical education program that ultimately leads to a fully-independent School for Medicine at UC Merced. The main recommendation: postpone for a year bringing the proposal back to the Regents; to allow for further development. However, the commitment to instituting a medical school at UC Merced remains undiminished. Further recommendations include a 3-phase proposal:

- Phase 1 – Develop, as early as 2010, a pre-medical bachelor's degree at UCM to help bolster development of existing programs and provide an academic "edge".
- Phase 2 – Develop, as early as 2012, a branch campus medical school between UC Merced and UC Davis.
- Phase 3 – Develop, by 2020, a fully independent medical school at UC Merced under a distributive model using campus for the first 2 years with clinical practice in regional settings.

The Valley Coalition endorsed the WAG report with several changes:

- For Phase 2, incorporate the existing medical education program at UCSF-Fresno and other Valley locations; the Coalition believes that some or all of those training needs should be met in the Valley.
- Accelerate Phase 3; bring the full-fledged medical school to the Valley no later than 2015.
- Ensure that research is a key component of the school
- Urging the President to provide support and funding for all three phases.
- On February 19, 2009, the Valley Coalition unanimously adopted a resolution supporting the three-phased plan (copy included in the Board packaged).

Mr. Weber acknowledged the support and hard work of Fred Ruiz, Luisa Medina, Michael Navarro and David Quackenbush and proposed the same resolution for the Partnership to adopt. The motion to approve was deferred pending detailed discussion.

Ms. Forhan thanked the Partnership for its support and noted that the UC Merced Medical School is important to the Valley. On February 19 the Valley Coalition received a Cal Endowment grant of \$147,000 to outreach to the eight counties (plus Mariposa for 9 counties). The effort will involve a county-by-county outreach to local communities, elected officials, community based organizations and local providers to educate the public and increase awareness of the project and its importance to the Valley, thus gathering support. This outreach will help inform the planning process of challenges and information and will bring the Valley together in pursuit of a common goal.

Larry Salinas stated that the cost of a new medical school is a shared responsibility between public and private entities, requiring state, university and public support. The Valley Coalition's efforts are critical to success of the internal efforts and underscore the importance of the work. Mr. Salinas announced the medical school leadership transition from Dr. Maria Pallavicini to Dr. Fred Meyers, head of internal medicine at UC Davis. Dr. Meyers is already doing aggressive outreach working with physicians, medical societies and communities. Dr. Meyers is also working with the UC Office of the President (UCOP) to develop a clear and concise timeline and strategic plan. There are ongoing discussions between UC Davis, UC Merced and UCSF-Fresno on curriculum, research and long-term development of a health sciences institute.

One benefit to partnering with UC Davis is its existing accreditation as a medical school which supports accelerated development of the UCMMS. There is an ongoing discussion about the "where" of the distributed model and research facilities. UC Merced is developing biomedical facilities but they may not be complete in time to meet the recommended time line.

Mr. Salinas further commented that the UC campus at Merced from conception to opening was a 17 year project; it must not take that long for the UCM MS. 48.5% of all students enrolled in UCM are the first in their family to attend college. In May the first four-year class will graduate from UC Merced; two graduates have been selected to attend medical school (1-UCSF and 1 in Florida). That's the return on the investment in a short period of time.

Mr. Quackenbush commented that we need to keep our students here in the Valley or have them come back after they attend college. Medical students tend to stay where they're educated. If we train them here, they're more likely to stay, which will help overcome the health professional shortage across the Valley. The

intent of the distributive model is to have local and regional healthcare agencies involved in the training and delivery, not just create a Taj Mahal medical school. Mr. Quackenbush noted the Valley must keep the pressure on the UC Regents. Mr. Quackenbush noted an April 21 Legislative reception in Sacramento and asked for a Partnership contingent to support. Mr. Quackenbush provided a Save the Date flyer, an electronic copy of which will be sent out to the Partnership list.

Dr. Gornick commented that the UC Merced Medical School is long overdue; the unique approach to the distributed model is commendable. This is a great opportunity to link with the Central Valley Educational Leadership Institute (CVELI) to develop the link between local education, community college and UC Merced. Dr. Gornick suggested adding language to the Partnership resolution in Phase 1 articulating the linkage between community colleges and UC Merced, and be inserted as item three, shifting the next two items to four and five respectively. Following open discussion about this verbiage it was agreed to amend the draft to include the following language as item 3: *"Working with the Central Valley Higher Education Consortium, establish a fully articulated undergraduate health sciences program with the community colleges of the San Joaquin Valley"*.

Ms. D'Adamo noted the draft resolution for the Partnership was missing a section of verbiage and proposed correcting it to incorporate the bullets and the language suggested by Dr. Gornick. Ms. Swearingin moved adopting a resolution with the corrections noted by Ms. D'Adamo; Ms. Medina and Mr. Quackenbush seconded the motion.

**California Forward** Mr. Weber announced that several members of the Partnership Board also sit on the board of California Forward (CA Forward) so his presentation today was twofold: to tell a little about the organization and to introduce one specific initiative CA Forward is trying to advance. CA Forward is a bipartisan, public interest group whose objective is to plan and implement reforms in how public decisions are made and how public dollars are spent. Co-chaired by Thomas McKernan and Robert Hertzberg who replaced Leon Panetta, the fourteen-member board is very diverse. The initial \$15 million in funding came from five foundations: The California Endowment, The Evelyn and Walter Haas Jr. Fund, The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, The James Irvine Foundation, and The David and Lucile Packard Foundation. CA Forward's Executive Director is Jim Meyer, a former director for Little Hoover Commission. <http://www.caforward.org/>

Mr. Weber's slide presentation demonstrated that California is more dependent on income and sales tax and less dependent on property tax than most states across the nation. This year for the first year since 1932, California will experience a decrease in property tax revenues that will continue to decline for next 2-3 years. The goal of California Forward is to contribute to improving the quality of life for all Californians by creating more responsive, representative and cost-effective government; the slides explained CA Forward's proposal for a regional economic governance model.

Mr. Chrisman commented that this demonstrates a critical effort to affect the governance structure and is impressive by its depth and breadth and asked how CA Forward proposed to move the effort forward.

Mr. Bigelow asked if this topic falls into the discussion of MPO's (Metropolitan Planning Organizations) and possibly step on the toes of local government. Mr. Weber responded that this is complimentary to SB 375 (SB 375 provides incentives for creating attractive, walk able and sustainable communities and revitalizing existing communities); it will be a long time before regional governance could usurp local rights. CA Forward proposes to create a collaborative umbrella around the entire spectrum of community interests.

Mr. Weber continued there has been an effort by Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) to advocate for a constitutional convention; the Governor is supporting the idea. The two are not mutually exclusive ideas or paths but CA Forward's proposal does not require constitutional amendment and can continue to make progress on a project by project basis.

Secretary Kawamura observed that about 10 years ago California had the 5<sup>th</sup> largest economy on the planet; now it's 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup>; we certainly aren't moving forward now. It is advisable to converge toward a vision of where we want to go rather than move in parallel paths.

Mr. Weber closed with the comment that the week of March 16 CA Forward is meeting with Secretary Vickie Bradshaw to seek alignment and solicit comments.

## **V. Public Comment**

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No comments received from the public.

**VI. Adjournment**

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The next regularly scheduled board meeting of the Partnership is scheduled for June 12, 2009, in Modesto, Stanislaus County. Chair Chrisman provided closing remarks and at 3:24pm adjourned the board meeting of the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley.

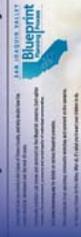
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Blueprints are being developed around the state by Metropolitan Planning Organizations to plan for the population growth that is anticipated in California over the next 40+ years. Blueprints are regional in scope and integrate land use, transportation and resource planning. The planning process considers the “Three Es” of sustainable communities: *prosperous economy, quality environment, and social equity*. Blueprint planning is a comprehensive undertaking that requires innovation, collaborative planning, thinking on a macro scale and a willingness to follow through to implementation.

The eight Valley COGs are committed to work with their member agencies – the 62 cities and 8 counties in the Valley - to integrate the Valley Blueprint principles into their general plans. The goal is to achieve the outcomes necessary for an improved quality of life for all who live here.

For more information go to:  
[www.valleyblueprint.org](http://www.valleyblueprint.org)

These future leaders need your ideas today.



SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY  
**Blueprint**  
Planning Process

Submitted by:

- Council of Fresno County Governments
- Kern Council of Governments
- MADERA CTC  
Madera County Transportation Commission
- MCAE  
Madera County Association of Governments
- Kern County Association of Governments
- TCAE  
Tulare County Association of Governments

In early 2006 the eight Councils of Governments in the San Joaquin Valley came together in an unprecedented effort to develop a coordinated valley vision – the San Joaquin Valley Regional Blueprint. This eight county venture is being conducted in each county, and has recently been integrated to form a preferred vision for future development throughout the Valley to the year 2050.

## Eight individual Valley COGs planning in unison.

*Phase 1:* Values and Vision – gathered from community input

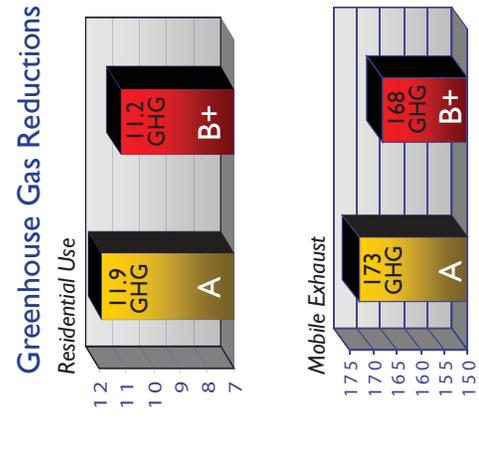
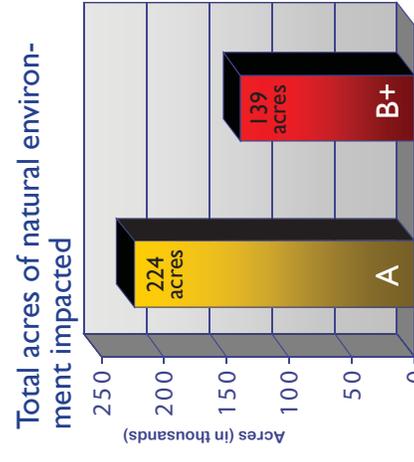
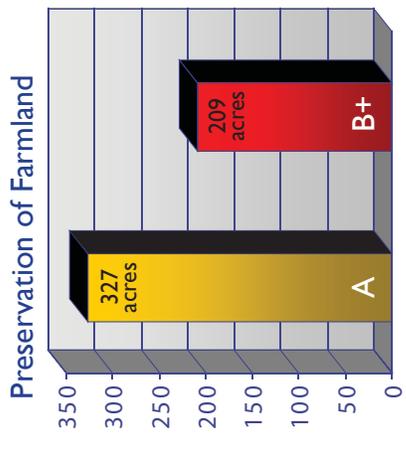
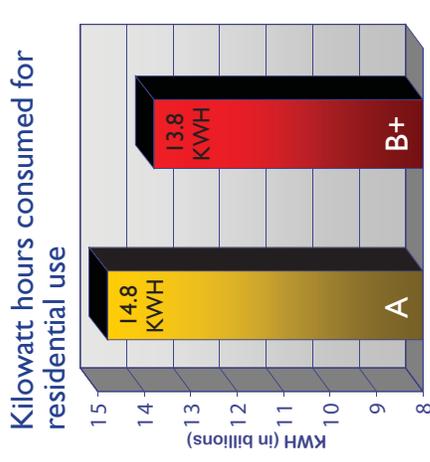
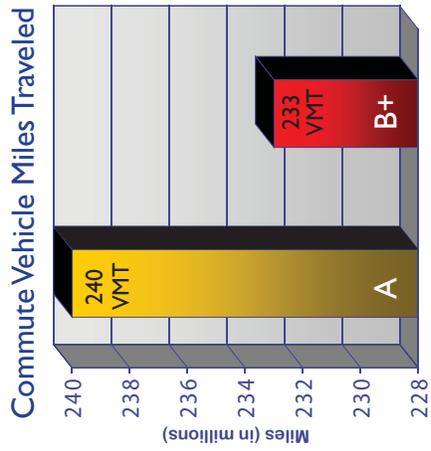
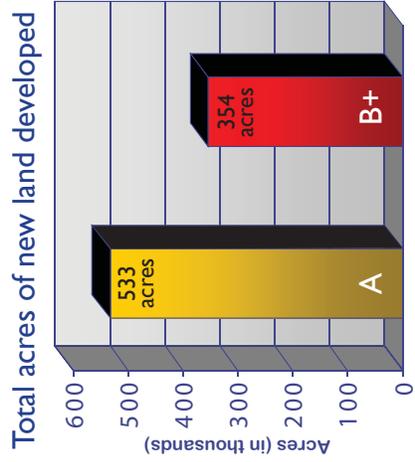
*Phase 2:* Goals, Objectives and Performance Measures based upon Values and Vision

*Phase 3:* Evaluation of alternative “what if” growth scenarios in each county.

- Selection of preferred county level scenarios for Valley-wide analysis.
- Evaluation of four Valleywide alternative scenarios
- Adoption of Smart Growth Principles and Preferred Growth Scenario for Valley

### Next Steps:

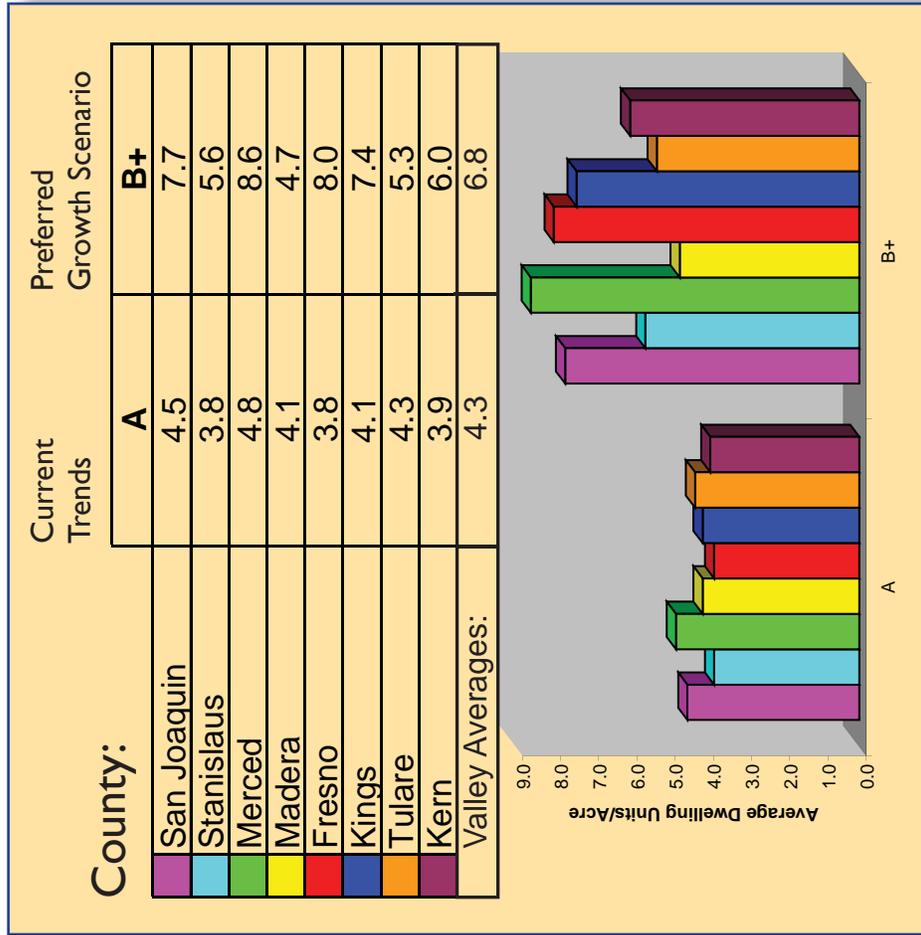
Work with local agencies to integrate Blueprint principles into general plans.



*Includes endangered species, habitats and corridors, riparian forest, wetlands and woodlands.*

On April 1, 2009 the San Joaquin Valley (SJV) Regional Policy Council reviewed the Valley COGs' collaborative work on the Blueprint and took the following actions:

- Adopted a list of Smart Growth Principles to be used as the basis of Blueprint planning in the San Joaquin Valley.
- Adopted Scenario B+ as the Preferred Blueprint Growth Scenario for the San Joaquin Valley to the year 2050. This preferred scenario will serve as guidance for the Valley's local jurisdictions with land use authority as they update their general plans.

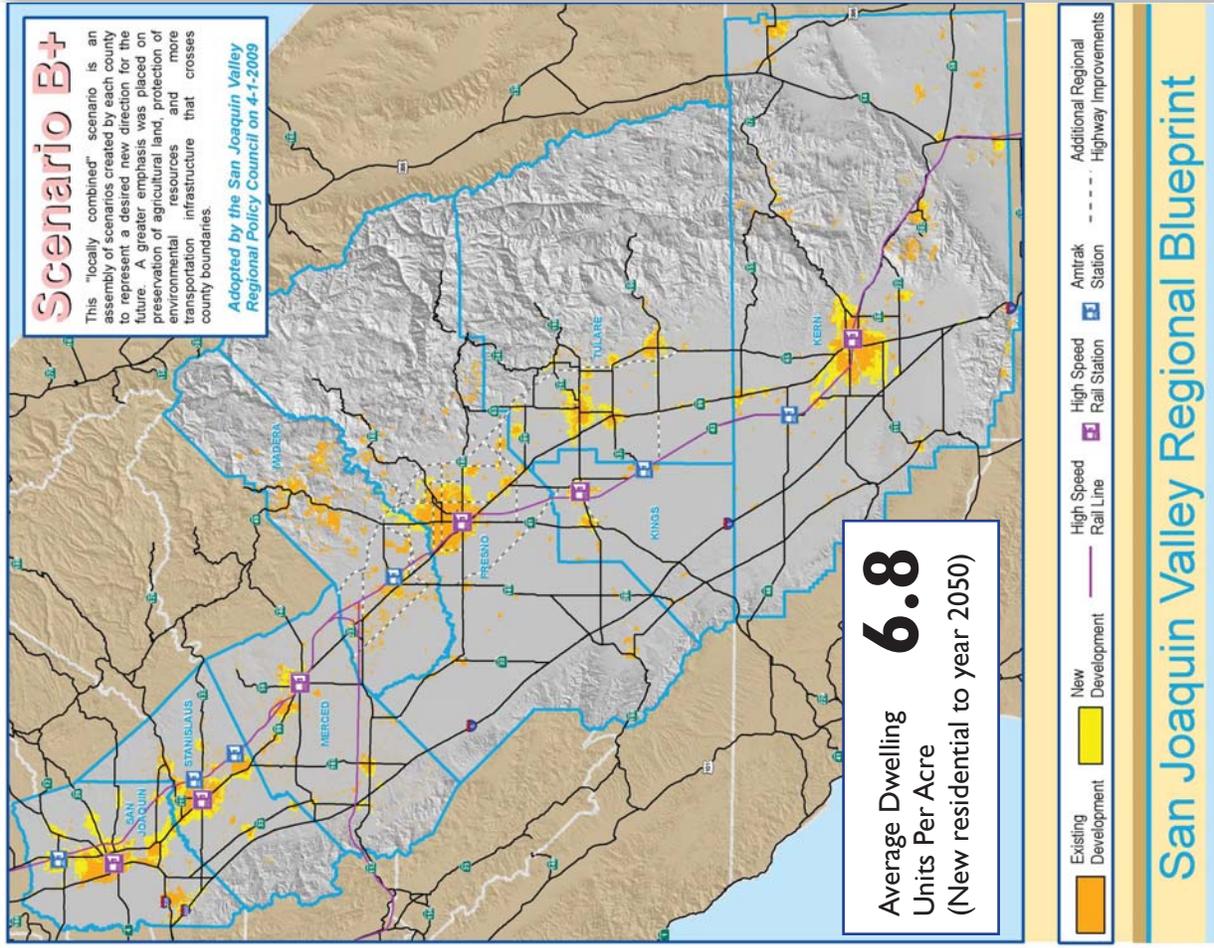


### Comparing Scenario Outcomes:

(See the following pages)

How we choose to grow will result in different outcomes.  
**Scenario A** represents current trends  
**Scenario B+** uses "Smart Growth" principles

1. Create a Range of Housing Opportunities & Choices
2. Create Walkable Neighborhoods
3. Encourage Community & Stakeholder Collaboration
4. Foster Distinctive, Attractive Communities with a Strong Sense of Place
5. Make Development Decisions Predictable, Fair & Cost Effective
6. Mix Land Uses
7. Preserve Open Space, Farmland, Natural Beauty & Critical Environmental Areas
8. Provide a Variety of Transportation Choices
9. Strengthen & Direct Development towards Existing Communities
10. Take Advantage of Compact Building Design
11. Enhance the Economic Vitality of the Region
12. Support Actions that Encourage Environmental Resource Management



# **SJV Blueprint ~ Looking Forward to the Fourth Year**

*Note to Project Managers – Please comment / make suggestions on this list. Also – you are welcomed to participate directly on planning and carrying out any and all tasks. (Rev. 5-4-09)*

## **1. Valleywide Blueprint Final Report (Which will include former task #3 - Translate Valley Blueprint principles into local implementation strategies and develop local government commitment.)**

*Currently developing a scope of work in preparation for RFQ. Fresno COG is working with John Wright and Kern COG.*

## **2. Toolkit for Implementation**

*Fresno and Kern COGs continue to work on the toolkit scope. We will forward notes by 5/4/09).*

## **3. Convene meetings with local officials to discuss funding challenges of local government (and related “fiscalization of land use”)**

*Continue discussions with GVC on this task as well as Tasks 6, 8 and 9. GVC will develop a proposal for these tasks and submit around the middle of May. .*

## **4. Develop adequate modeling tools for compliance with SB 375**

*Mike Bitner has convened the Valley Modelers to address this task. The Modelers have developed an RFP to implement the 4D modeling process into each of the valley’s MPO traffic models. The intention is to provide the initial introduction to the 4Ds through the Blueprint process which will allow the analysis of the selected Valleywide scenario and can be used for SB 375 SCS and APS analysis.*

*Currently the valley modelers are working with the valley COG Directors and the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District to develop a plan for updating the valley models. This includes a short range plan to update each of the valley models to be more sensitive to smart growth, completing the implementation of the 4D process discussed above and development of a long range model improvement plan.*

*Because of the possibility of obtaining additional funds for the model improvements we are delaying release of the 4D RFP until we can identify these funds and revise the RFP to add additional improvement to the models.*

## **Address new greenhouse gas directives (SB 375) (formerly Task #4)**

**Continue using adopted methods to measure the effectiveness of the Regional Blueprint Plan (Formerly Task # 10.)**

## **5. Address the increasing of residential densities**

**a. Determine the impact of various development densities on the fiscal health of cities and counties in the San Joaquin Valley**

**b. Determine the market demand for higher density residential housing projects**

*Mike Darnell of AFT raised these issues. My thought is to work with Mike (American Farmland Trust has done similar studies) the BIA, and perhaps the EDCs to come up with a scope of work for both tasks..*

## **6. Greenprint - incorporate Model Farmland Conservation Program mapping, that includes improved information on water resources into the Blueprint for each of the Valley Counties**

*Fresno COG will take lead on outreach activities associated with this task once the model program has been endorsed in Fresno County. We are talking with GVC about a possible role for them.*

## **7. Work with Central California EDCs and Partnership for SJV to address jobs/housing issue.**

*All project managers working to engage their local EDCs. PMs work together to develop a Vallewide approach to define a scope of work as well.*

## **8. Continue Blueprint’s Valleywide presence by maintaining partnership with Great Valley Center for website oversight and production of one Valleywide Blueprint event**

*Based on past work maintaining Valleywide website and production of Executive Forum.*

## **9. Continue extensive public outreach efforts**

*All continue with county level outreach. Talking with GVC about assistance with Valleywide coordination..*

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**Work Group:** Water Quality, Supply, Reliability and Environmental Restoration  
**Consultant:** Jim Tischer, Sarge Green  
**Organization:** California Water Institute  
**Quarter:** 1st 2009  
**Phone:** 559.260.6148, 559.298.6072 ext. 209  
**Email:** jtischer@csufresno.edu, sgreen@csufresno.edu

### **Description of Activity by Goal and Objective**

- Goal 1:** Develop and implement a comprehensive San Joaquin Valley Regional Water Plan.
- Goal 2:** Strengthen levees in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and San Joaquin Valley to safeguard regional water quality and quantity and provide flood control.
- Goal 3:** Augment surface, groundwater banking programs and recycled water projects in the San Joaquin Valley.
- Goal 4:** Develop and implement water quality and salinity management infrastructure.
- Goal 5:** Expand environmental restoration and habitat conservation strategies.
- Goal 6:** Expand agricultural and urban water-energy use efficiency programs

### **Planned Activities by Goal and Objective (for next 3-6 months)**

#### **Goal 1: Completed.**

The San Joaquin Valley Water Plan Framework final version (Version 3.0) is set to be affirmed by the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley (Partnership) Board of Directors at its June 12, 2009, meeting in Modesto. To obtain a copy, please visit the Partnership website: <http://www.sjvpartnership.org> or the California Water Institute (CWI) website: <http://www.californiawater.org>

#### **Goal 2:**

The Delta Vision Strategic Plan was released Nov. 3, 2008. The resolution may be found at: [http://deltavision.ca.gov/StrategicPlanningProcess/StaffDraft/Delta\\_Vision\\_Strategic\\_Plan\\_standard\\_resolution.pdf](http://deltavision.ca.gov/StrategicPlanningProcess/StaffDraft/Delta_Vision_Strategic_Plan_standard_resolution.pdf)

The Delta Vision Committee Implementation Report was released Jan. 5, 2009. The report may be found at: [http://deltavision.ca.gov/DV\\_Committee/Jan2009/08-1231\\_Delta\\_Vision\\_Committee\\_Implementation\\_Report.pdf](http://deltavision.ca.gov/DV_Committee/Jan2009/08-1231_Delta_Vision_Committee_Implementation_Report.pdf)

Both documents are under consideration by the California Legislature and will figure prominently in the formulation of a 2009 water bond.

The Delta Vision Foundation (<http://deltavisionfoundation.org>) was formed in January 2009 with the goal of promoting the full embrace and implementation of the seven recommendations contained in the Strategic Plan.

The Partnership sent a letter of support to Delta Vision Chair Phil Isenberg in June 2008. A copy is available on the Partnership website: [http://www.sjvpartnership.org/wg\\_overview.php?wg\\_id=10](http://www.sjvpartnership.org/wg_overview.php?wg_id=10)

#### **Goal 3:**

Development of the San Joaquin Valley Water Plan Framework will incorporate augmenting surface, groundwater banking and recycled water projects in the region as initiatives in each of these areas favorably impacts the overall macro-goals of the Partnership.

Additionally, CWI staff will seek to use the recently released California State University, Fresno, Integrated Water Management Plan for water reuse at the Campus Pointe project as a Best Practices template for the central San Joaquin Valley (Valley) and seek out other innovative projects in both the southern and northern Valley.

#### **Goal 4:**

CWI staff currently is working proactively with the water community to develop a San Joaquin Valley Water Management Structure that would include salinity management as one of its major program areas.

**Goal 5:**

Staff continues to be engaged with local, state and federal agencies for environmental restoration as a key strategy in integrated water planning.

The partial restoration of the San Joaquin River flows is a component of the Omnibus Public Lands Management Bill S22 passed Jan. 11, 2009, and awaiting President Obama's signature. To read the bill, visit:

<http://energy.senate.gov/public/files/publiclandsomnibusbill2009.pdf>

**Goal 6:**

The Center for Irrigation Technology (CIT) of California State University, Fresno, continues to be at the forefront of developing and implementing comprehensive water/energy conservation and management programs throughout California for the California Public Utilities Commission, PG&E and Southern California Edison. PG&E renewed CIT's Agricultural Pump Efficiency Program contract for the period 2009-11 in early January 2009.

The value of the contract is \$2.6 million.

**Activities in Support of California Partnership Goals**

The Partnership's Water Policy Working Group continues to make progress in proactively engaging water leaders in the eight-county area and Southern California areas to develop a unified water policy vision. At a meeting on April 23, 2009, with California's Department of Water Resources in Sacramento, the role of the San Joaquin Valley Water Management Plan was clarified as an "Inter-Regional" Plan versus a "Regional" Plan to reflect concerns expressed by some participants involved.

CWI will continue to support this effort until the Partnership contract ends June 30, 2009.

For more information on the efforts of this group, contact Ray Watson, Gene Voiland, Jim Tischer, (559)260-6148, [jtischer@csufresno.edu](mailto:jtischer@csufresno.edu), or Sarge Green, (559)298-6072 ext. 209, [sgreen@csufresno.edu](mailto:sgreen@csufresno.edu).

**Challenges/Problems/Bottlenecks/Feedback**

California water policy challenges continue with some of the most vulnerable citizens suffering inordinate hardship as a result of water shortages and regulatory imbroglios in the face of an economic downturn. It remains to be seen if the appropriate water policy mechanisms can be established to effectively and sustainably counter what has been the norm for the last 30 years.

**If you have coordinated any outreach, please describe briefly.**

Coordination is regularly effected with allied Partnership work groups, particularly Energy, Air, Land Use, Ag & Housing (Blueprint) as well as agencies and seed grantees. This coordination has proven to be of great value.

**Work Group:** PreK-12 Education  
**Consultant:** Dr. Marcy Masumoto  
**Organization:** Central Valley Educational Leadership Institute  
**Quarter:** 1<sup>st</sup> 2009  
**Phone:** 559.304.2190  
**Email:** mmasumoto@csufresno.edu

### Description of Activity by Goal and Objective

Based on the plan approved at the September 2008 California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley (Partnership) Board of Directors meeting, this report is formatted by priority area as opposed to delineating all the goals and objectives which are embedded in the responsibilities.

#### **1. Top priorities and actions to be carried out by County Offices of Education (COE)**

##### **a. English Learners (EL) – led by Fresno COE**

Fresno COE is providing training for the second cohort of districts participating in the English Language Learner Leadership Academy. Participating districts are paying \$750 to participate this year. (Note that the Partnership Seed Grant has ended.)

The PreK-12 Education Work Group (PreK-12) identified schools in the region that had made significant progress with their English Learners and had them share their successful strategies in three breakout sessions at the Jan.13, 2009, Exemplary Practices in Education Conference held at California State University, Fresno.

##### **b. Post Secondary Pursuits (College and Careers) – led by Kern COE and Tulare COE**

Kern COE has been working to develop college/career centers in middle schools and development of a collaborative web-based project focusing on college and careers for San Joaquin Valley (Valley) students. Multiple meetings occurred in January, February and March with the Kern County work group to develop the college/career website. In February, a preliminary site was unveiled to work group leads, which included a critical review. As a result, the website is continuing to be scrutinized, refined, and improved. The interactive web portion is moving forward slowly to make sure the security issues are all worked out.

A meeting with the two superintendents of the pilot school districts was held in January to explain the expectations for the project. The superintendents were asked to develop criteria for the selection of a control group that would be identified at the end of the 2008/2009 school year to be compared with the first participants in the college/career centers in 2009/2010. Criteria were identified and approved in March.

Contacts have been made with California State University, Bakersfield, and Bakersfield College to begin filming virtual campus tours. Virtual tours of other campuses in and out of state have been incorporated into our website. We will be contacting other higher education institutions throughout the Valley for the prospect of filming in the months to come.

Filming also has begun on the industry clusters with narration by local high school and college talent.

Kern COE received the check for \$25,000 from AT&T in January. As a result, various software packages have been purchased which will update the site to suit the student age group. It is expected the website will be presented to the two pilot schools in May with actual rollout in August. At that time, Kern COE and the technical staff from each of the eight COEs will work together to identify the technical requirements for the site and any assistance that is needed. If possible, the website will be presented to the eight county superintendents at the California County Superintendents Educational Services Association (CCSESA) meeting in June.

Under the leadership of Randy Wallace, Tulare COE, an assessment of career education programs in the region that addresses the priority industry clusters of the Economic Development Work Group continued this quarter.

Finally, PreK-12 identified exemplary schools and programs in the two areas (college-going culture and career education) and made contacts and arrangements for six breakout sessions conducted by school and university staff at the Exemplary Practices Conference in January 2009.

c. Pre-Kindergarten (PreK) – led by Merced COE

As part of the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley's Exemplary Practices in Education regional conference on Jan. 13, 2009, at California State University, Fresno, a group of nearly 70 participants from eight Valley counties met to discuss the status of preschool planning and implementation in the Valley. This imbedded preschool strand was funded by The David and Lucile Packard Foundation and was the culminating element of the Preschool Coordination and Alignment Project (PCAP). PCAP was funded to publish a written report on the status of preschool planning and implementation in Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, and Tulare counties and to use the report as a catalyst for conversation about the each county's interest in exploring a regional voice for preschool issues.

Dr. Karen Hill Scott, a premier group facilitator and well-known preschool champion, facilitated the day-long dialogue. The group reviewed the final draft of the preschool status report. More important, it discussed rationale for and explored interest in continuing a regional preschool conversation. The group agreed the first step was to develop a regional message and completed a draft of which by the end of the day: 8 Counties, One Voice for Today's Children and for the Future of California's Great Central Valley – Beginning Now. Nine representatives—one from each county and one from the California Preschool Instructional Network—were identified to continue regional conversation and explore next steps. Merced COE agreed to facilitate the process.

The final report of the Preschool Coordination and Alignment Project is posted on the PreK-12 Work Group web page.

**2. Top priorities and actions to be carried out by Central Valley Educational Leadership Institute (CVELI)**

CVELI's major task this quarter was facilitating the regional Exemplary Practices Conference (EPC) for PreK-12 education, business, and community leaders on Jan. 13, 2009. The two keynote speakers were Dr. Thelma Melendez de Santa Ana, superintendent of schools for Pomona Unified School District, and Dr. James Lanich, executive director of Just for the Kids California. Presenters from our nine-county region (Mariposa COE is included) conducted more than 25 breakout sessions. The purpose of the conference was to identify schools, districts and programs in our region that have positive demonstrable impact on student outcomes, and share their success strategies with others to impact schools and communities across the region. The conference was organized into 9 strands with three workshops each on our priority topics: English Learners, PreK, College-Going Culture, Career Education, Reading, Data Systems, Computer Literacy, Partnerships and Collaboration, and Teacher and Administrator Training Initiatives. There were 300 people who attended the conference from all nine counties. A summary of the conference content has been written and **all materials are available on the CVELI website** at [www.csufresno.edu/cveli](http://www.csufresno.edu/cveli). We plan to conduct another Exemplary Practices Conference in 2010, focusing on student transitions into middle school, high school, college and careers, and have engaged in partnership with the State Center Consortium and Fresno COE for the undertaking. The model also is being considered for replication by Just for the Kids-California and other California State University campuses.

CVELI hosted two sessions of the Executive Leadership Center for superintendents from six counties on Jan. 14 and March 18, and held another workshop on legal issues for superintendents and boards of trustees on Feb. 18. The three sessions were part of a series of 12 planned for school leadership this year. Through our partnership with Springboard Schools, direct coaching support is provided to teams of educational leaders in 17 Valley school districts. Professional development on closing the achievement gap and English Learners also was provided to Valley districts through leadership networks in multiple locations across the region.

All schools receiving Perkins funding for career education have been mandated to participate in Cal-PASS. This has expedited the progress of school districts participating in the data systems project with Cal-PASS to facilitate the transition between high school and higher education. Following the model by West Hills Community College District in our region last quarter, Cal-PASS conducted several events this quarter to stimulate participation in the data system project. Regional liaisons were identified to facilitate discussions between high school and college staff regarding curricular pathways.

This quarter, CVELI engaged four students from the California State University, Fresno, Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership to help with research on two high priority topics: an assessment of special services for English Learners in the region, and an investigation of effective dropout prevention strategies. The students contributed significant time to this research; we look forward to the reports next quarter. There is a significant need to enhance career education along with college-going options for K-12 students and to focus on dropout prevention strategies in our region.

Several activities were completed to facilitate communications and seek funding support for the efforts of PreK-12. Major activities this quarter were:

- Conference follow-up communications and meetings.
- E-Newsletter distributed in February.
- Planning meetings and calls were conducted with County Superintendents Lee Andersen and Larry Powell, Jill Tafoya, English Language Learner Leadership Academy, and key stakeholders,
- Meeting with the Partnership's Secretariat staff to orient the new director and associate director
- Participated in one legislative staffers meeting and two work group consultants meetings.
- Attended in March the Partnership Board meeting.
- Provided input and secured participation of three Valley representatives to be on the evaluation design team for the California Emerging Technology Fund's School2Home project for middle schools.
- Attended a national conference in February on partnerships and higher education at Arizona State University.

#### **Planned Activities by Goal and Objective (for next 3-6 months)**

- Host meetings of leaders from higher education and school districts to share current plans and assist in developing professional development programming for educational leaders in the Central Valley.
- Complete assessment of current curricula, programs and best practices in career education that support target industry clusters.
- Continue working on website development focused on students to enhance college-going culture and provide resources to help guide students to college and careers.
- Develop plans for Exemplary Practices Conference for 2010.
- Complete research projects with doctoral students related to ELL and dropout prevention.
- Pursue funding alternatives to continue PreK-12 work and broad-based regional activities that support the Partnership's Strategic Action Plan.

#### **Challenges/Problems/Bottlenecks/Feedback**

- Securing funding and support to continue the Partnership and PreK-12 Work Group.
- Issues with the state budget, impacts of the recession and cutbacks for school districts.

#### **If you have coordinated any outreach, please describe briefly.**

- Major outreach this quarter was for the Exemplary Practices Conference, including conference brochure which was distributed widely, and website postings on both CVELI and Partnership PreK-12 web pages.
- Media interactions (press releases sent by Secretariat's office) regarding Exemplary Practices Conference, resulting in Fresno Bee article on Jan.14 and coverage by one television station on Jan.13.
- Walt Buster, PreK-12 work group consultant, was a guest on The Maddy Report radio show in January.

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CVELI was formed by California State University, Fresno President Dr. John Welty in 2002 with the mission of supporting educational leaders in the Central Valley in their efforts to eliminate the achievement gap and raise the achievement of all students. Funding is provided by donations, grants, and contributions by districts. Efforts are made to provide high quality support at reduced costs.

We are pleased to offer the following opportunities for educational leaders in the Central Valley for 2009-2010.

### REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT INFORMATION

Registration will be required two weeks prior to each event. You may find updates to CVELI's schedule of events and registration links on the CVELI webpage: [www.csufresno.edu/cveli](http://www.csufresno.edu/cveli).

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#### **Back to School Legal Update for Educational Leaders**

**September 11, 2009** from 8:00am to 1:30pm

At: Smittcamp Alumni House at California State University, Fresno

Sponsored by: Lozano Smith

Cost: \$12 per person (includes continental breakfast and lunch)

#### **The Relationship of Quality School Facilities to School Achievement**

**February 4, 2010**

At: Clovis North High School

Sponsored by: Darden Architects

Facilitated by: Claudia Lourido- Habib, doctoral student and architecture teacher at Fresno City College

Cost: \$12 per person (includes continental breakfast and lunch)

#### **Live Video Conferences with Rick and Becky DuFour on Professional Learning Communities**

**October 28, 2009** from 8:30am to 11:00am

**November 2009** – time TBD

**February 2010** – time TBD

**March 17, 2010** from 8:30am to 11:00am

At: Various districts and remote sites

Cost: \$1,000 per district for a team of five, plus the cost of books. \$150 plus books for each additional member of team

#### **Local Discussions on Professional Learning Communities**

**September 23, 2009 – Kick Off** from 8:30am to 1:30pm at the Residence Dining Hall at California State University, Fresno

**January 13, 2010** from 8:30am to 1:30pm at the Smittcamp Alumni House

**April 28, 2010** from 8:30am to 11:00am at California State University, Fresno

Cost: FREE – included with Live Video Conferences on Professional Learning Communities

#### **Executive Leadership Center for Superintendents in Partnership with Springboard Schools: A Partnership with Springboard Schools and ACSA**

**September 30, 2009** from 12:00pm to 4:00pm

**October 28, 2009** from 12:00pm to 4:00pm

**January 13, 2010** from 12:00pm to 4:00pm

**March 17, 2010** from 12:00pm to 4:00pm

At: Smittcamp Alumni House

Cost: FREE to Superintendents, courtesy of Dean Paul Beare, Kremen School of Education and Human Development

### **ACSA/CVELI Superintendents' Academy**

This special offering is provided for future superintendents nominated by Valley superintendents.

1. Being the Political Leader (Mark Ford)
2. Creating a Culture of High Achievement through Human Resources Development (Ken Bergevin)
3. Ethical and Reflective Leadership (Rich Merlo)
4. Personal Advancement, Resumes and Interviews (Lloyd Wamhof and Walt Buster)
5. Finance, Budget, and Facilities (Terry Bradley)
6. Planning Your First Year as a New Superintendent (John Safford)
7. Effective Instruction and Curriculum Practices, Assessment and Accountability (Elaine Cash and Patrick Sweeney)
8. Laws as They Apply to the Superintendency (Lozano Smith and Dwight Miller)
9. Making Change in a Political Setting (Larry Powell and Michael Gardner and Mike McCoy)
10. Diversity, Equity, and the Superintendency (Juan Garza)
11. Collective Bargaining (John Cruz)
12. Public Relations, Communication and Community Engagement (Marilou Ryder)
13. Board Planning/Board Relationships (Dave Cash and Clovis Trustees Ginny Hovsepian and Sandra Bengel)
14. The Superintendency (Renee Whitson)

**September 25, 2009** from 4:00pm to 7:00pm

**September 26, 2009** from 9:00am to 4:00pm

**October 16, 2009** from 4:00pm to 7:00pm

**October 17, 2009** from 9:00am to 4:00pm

**November 13, 2009** from 4:00pm to 7:00pm

**November 14, 2009** from 9:00am to 4:00pm

**December 11, 2009** from 4:00pm to 7:00pm

**December 12, 2009** from 9:00am to 4:00pm

**January 22, 2010** from 4:00pm to 7:00pm

**January 23, 2010** from 9:00am to 4:00pm

**February 19, 2010** from 4:00pm to 7:00pm

**February 20, 2010** from 9:00am to 4:00pm

**March 12, 2010** from 4:00pm to 7:00pm

**March 13, 2010** from 9:00am to 4:00pm

At: California State University, Fresno

Cost: TBA

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley Exemplary Practices Conference**

The conference highlights exemplary practices of Valley schools and districts who have demonstrated success in eliminating the achievement gap. Dr. Marcy Masumoto and Dr. Virginia Boris will coordinate this "hands on" opportunity to learn from our colleagues.

The theme for this conference will be strengthening student transitions into secondary and higher education. The keynote speaker will be **Bill Daggett**, a nationally renowned expert with proven ability in moving educational systems towards more rigorous and relevant skills and knowledge for all students.

**January 20, 2010**

At: California State University, Fresno

Sponsored by: California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley, State Center Consortium and other organizations

Cost: TBA

### **Designing Curriculum for Increased Learning: A Workshop Series for District and Site Instructional Leaders**

District Office curriculum leaders, principals and teacher leaders are encouraged to attend this workshop series focused on guiding the improvement of English Language Arts curriculum, instruction and assessment --grades 2 through 11. Participants will learn a variety of practical leadership strategies to improve:

- depth understanding of California's ELA Content Standard, with particular emphasis on vocabulary, reading comprehension and writing strategies
- identifying and addressing gaps in standards-aligned resources
- alignment of student assignments with grade level standards
- guidelines for designing effective homework
- development of formative assessments at the classroom, site and district level
- interventions for Title I, EL and below proficiency students
- teachers' reflective practice in PLCs

**September 10, 2009** from 9:00am to 3:00pm

**October 8, 2009** from 9:00am to 3:00pm

**February 4, 2010** from 9:00am to 3:00pm

**March 4, 2010** from 9:00am to 3:00pm

At: Smittcamp Alumni House

Presented by: Virginia Boris

Cost: \$240 per person for this four part series, including lunch

### **Building and Leading Effective District Systems in Tough Economic Times**

Designed for P-16 educational leaders, this workshop series will focus on systems thinking and feature practical leadership and management strategies.

Workshop topics will include:

- Optimizing Time: Rethinking meeting to improve outcomes
- Building Teams: Proactive tactics to move groups of people through tough times and change
- PLC's for the Business Division

**DATES: TBA**

At: TBA

Presented by: Linda Hauser and Ginny Boris

Cost: \$75 per workshop

**Executive Instructional Leadership Program  
for Rural Central Valley School Districts**

**Cohort One:**

**Year One**

**June 2009** District leaders submit problem statement and letter of intent

**August 5, 2009** One day retreat for participants

**September 16, 2009** First cohort meeting at selected district

**November 2009** District Leadership Team Meetings with CVELI staff

1. Districts 1 and 2 meet (Alvina Elementary and Caruthers Unified)
2. Districts 3 and 4 meet (Corcoran Unified and Monroe Elementary)
3. Districts 5 and 6 meet (Pacific Union and Sierra Unified)
4. Districts 7 and 8 meet (Washington Colony Elementary and Golden Plains)

**January 20, 2010** Attendance and participation at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual California Exemplary Practices Conference at California State University, Fresno

**February 17, 2010** Second cohort meeting at one of the selected districts

**March 2010 - May 2010** CVELI staff meets with leaders in their districts to work on problem statements and resolutions

**Year Two**

**August 2010** One day retreat

**September 2010** Third cohort meeting in one of the selected districts

**November 2010** Group Meetings with Executive Coaches

1. Districts 1 and 3 meet (Alvina Elementary and Corcoran Unified)
2. Districts 2 and 4 meet (Caruthers Unified and Monroe Elementary)
3. Districts 5 and 7 meet (Pacific Union and Washington Colony Elementary)
4. Districts 6 and 8 meet (Sierra Unified and Golden Plains)

**January 2011** Attendance and participation at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Exemplary Practices Conference at CSUF and a one day meeting with key national leaders in rural reform

**March 2011 - May 2011** Executive coaches meet with leaders in their districts to work on problem statements and resolutions

**June 2011** Presentation of data and results of two year program and graduation ceremony: publication of results

**State Center Community College District Future Leaders' Cohort**

CVELI continues to provide training for future community college leaders. State Center Community College District Chancellor Dr. Tom Crow and Vice-Chancellor Randy Rowe designed this innovative program to ensure that their institutions have leaders ready for future challenges. Dr. Sharon Brown-Welty and Dr. Walt Buster facilitate these sessions. Two cohorts will meet this year. All sessions begin at 8:30 am and end at 2:00 pm.

**Cohort Five:**

**Year One**

**November 13, 2009** Getting to Know You; Establish Norms; Ropes Course at California State University, Fresno; Lunch with Leaders

**December 4, 2009** at Piccadilly Inn University; Strong Personal Traits of Leadership; Personal Vision; Leadership Profile; Differences between Managing and Leading; Least and

Most Effective Leadership Traits; Celebrating What's Right with the World; Lunch with Leaders

**February 19, 2010** at Smittcamp Alumni House; Supportive Communication Strategies; Leadership and the Art of Possibility; Masterful Coaching; Lunch with Leaders

**April 9, 2010** at Smittcamp Alumni House; Conflict Resolution; Collaborative Leadership; Building Consensus; Lunch with Leaders

**April 23, 2010** at Smittcamp Alumni House; Organizational Vision and a Discussion with Chancellor Dr. Tom Crow; Professional Learning Communities; Historical Mapping and Visionary Mapping; Lunch with Leaders

#### **Cohort Four:**

##### **Year Two**

**October 30, 2009** at Piccadilly Inn University; 12 o'clock High (Guest Presenter, Steve Weil); Introduction of Shadowing; Video Introduction to The Contrarian Leader

**November 20, 2009** at Piccadilly Inn University; Community College Personnel and Legal Issues; Lunch with Leaders

**February 5, 2010** at Smittcamp Alumni House; SCCCD Budget; The Floating Community College; Case Studies and Scenarios; SWOT Analysis; Lunch with Leaders

**March 5, 2010** at Smittcamp Alumni House; Jim Boren, Fresno Bee, and Shirley Armbruster, CSU Fresno and Media Relations; Practice Interviews and "Getting the Job"; Lunch with Leaders

**April 16, 2010** at Smittcamp Alumni House; Shadowing Reports; Leadership Book Reports; Graduation Ceremony

#### **Cohort One, Two, Three Reunion**

Scenario Planning and Leadership Updates

(Note: this program can be provided upon request to other organizations)

#### **Special Two Day Session at California State University, Fresno with Rick and Becky DuFour!**

**April 22, 2010 and Friday April 23, 2010** PLC Overview Workshop

CVELI is proud to announce that Rick and Becky DuFour will be in Fresno for a special workshop on Professional Learning Communities. This is an outstanding opportunity for Valley leaders to meet with the DuFours to learn about the practical application of PLC's in your district!

Registration is limited, so sign up immediately

Cost: TBD

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**Work Group:** Advanced Communications Services and Technology  
**Consultant:** David Hosley, President  
Dejeune Shelton, Senior Program Manager  
**Organization:** Great Valley Center  
**Quarter:** 1st 2009  
**Phone:** 209.522.5103  
**Email:** hosley@greatvalley.org  
dejeune@greatvalley.org

**By Goal and Objective – Description of Activity, Planned Activities, Challenges/Problems/Bottlenecks/Feedback**

- a. = Description of Activity
- b. = Planned Activities
- c. = Challenges/Problems/Bottlenecks/Feedback

**Goal 1: Expedite the provision of advanced communications services access in all areas of the San Joaquin Valley.**

Objective A: Raise the profile of access to ACS as a fundamental and necessary service for all residents and businesses.

- a. Discussion continues to take place on how to increase adoption rates.
- b. Determination of the current amount of penetration rate for ACS in the San Joaquin Valley.
- c. None

Objective B: Inform local elected officials about the benefits of ubiquitous access to ACS and provide model policies and other tools to help facilitate deployment.

- a. Discussions took place on topics to be included in primer and consensus was reached to expand on model policies and include financial benefits and terms.
- b. Research for primer.
- c. None

Objective C: Identify communities and neighborhoods without affordable connection to delivery of ACS.

Completed

Objective D: Increase availability of affordable ACS in rural and other underserved areas.

- a. Discussion of what is “affordable” took place with most providers believing fees are close to the same cost for a phone line. There are currently no subsidies for low-income clients; that can be a topic for the work group to explore.
- b. Determine what it would take to pass subsidies for low-income clients to receive ACS.
- c. None

Objective E: Increase deployment of ACS by current and prospective service providers.

- a. Discussion regarding access to ACS for all community members. Decided access is widely available except for areas with populations under 1,000 or where there is no infrastructure.
- b. Meeting with CPUC, CSAC, LCC and CSBA.
- c. None

Objective F: Increase deployment through wired, fixed wireless, wireless and other available technologies.

- a. Primer to support this concept.
- b. Work on primer.
- c. None.

Objective G: Eliminate installation barriers that discourage deployment.

- a. Discussed inviting Caltrans to present at an ACS meeting to provide information regarding how much installation has occurred.
- b. Invitation to Caltrans.
- c. None

Objective H: Identify and seek all available funding for deployment of ACS.

- a. Several grant applications have been submitted to support increase funding for ACS.
- b. Determine if any stimulus money will provide funding for ACS deployment.
- c. Understanding and tracking stimulus funding.

Objective I: Leverage unused bandwidth for the benefit of the greatest number of users.

- a. Providers advised most bandwidth is used or sold.
- b. Contact CENIC and BBIC to determine current policies.
- c. None

Objective J: Incorporate ACS infrastructure into all new residential and commercial construction.

- a. Discussion regarding current infrastructure trends.
- b. Meeting with BIA to increase the use of ACS in infrastructure.
- c. Current housing downturn.

**Goal 2: Promote accessibility and utilization of ACS in targeting underserved communities and populations.**

Objective A: Increase utilization of ACS by all residents.

- a. Working with Cutler-Orosi which received funding from CPUC to provide ACS services in Firebaugh and other underserved communities.
- b. Researching if technical support can be provided to other CPUC-funded programs.
- c. Funding

Objective B: Inform local officials about the importance and benefits of access to ACS and IT for all residents and businesses.

- a. Creating primer for elected officials which includes: importance of ACS, financial benefits, terms.
- b. Continued research
- c. None

Objective C: Implement projects to provide access to ACS and IT for all residents and businesses to eliminate the digital divide.

- a. Application to Zero divide to provide IT services to disadvantaged communities.
- b. Contact CETF to invite to ACS meeting to discuss current programs they are funding or will fund in the future to support this objective.
- c. None

Objective D: Develop and implement a program to ensure all high school students graduate with the basic computer literacy skills.

- a. Joint meeting with PreK-12 Work Group to discuss this goal and the possibility of expanding to include teacher training.
- b. Joint meeting with PreK-12 Work Group.
- c. Reduced school funding dollars for technology training.

Objective E: Expand the number of public locations for access to ACS to help disadvantaged residents and businesses to bridge the digital divide.

- a. ACS Work Group to determine which government agencies provide this service.
- b. Research to determine which agencies provide ACS to public.
- c. Difficult to determine by community

**Goal 3: Expand and replicate successful model programs to increase access to ACS and IT to bridge the digital divide.**

Objective A: Develop and implement a plan to expand and replicate the most successful strategies and programs to bridge the digital divide.

- a. Working to duplicate and expand programs that are successfully providing ACS services such as T3. Also looking to provide some technology social enterprise.
- b. Invitation for more technology groups to present at ACS meetings.
- c. Funding to support social enterprise is difficult to obtain.

Objective B: Foster demand for ACS access in underserved and disadvantaged communities, such as encouraging economic development and growth of home-based businesses.

- a. Application made to California Consumer Protection Foundation to expand ACS services underserved and disadvantaged communities.
- b. Application to Zero Divide.
- c. Due to downturn of economy, many funders do not have dollars to support such a venture.

**Goal 4: Accelerate deployment of ACS infrastructure through telemedicine and eHealth technology.**

Objective A: Develop and implement a telemedicine and eHealth plan to connect health clinics with medical centers.

- a. Telemedicine report completed for UC Merced.
- b. None
- c. None

Objective B: Build upon ACS infrastructure for telemedicine and eHealth to promote other applications for education and economic development to increase access and affordability.

- a. No activity

**If you have coordinated any outreach, please describe briefly.**

Outreach to California Consumer Protection Foundation

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## **COMMITTED TO IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN THE VALLEY THROUGH GREATER USE OF CLEAN ENERGY**

The San Joaquin Valley Clean Energy Organization (SJVCEO) is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping the eight county region of the San Joaquin Valley significantly increase its use and reliance on clean energy (that is, energy efficiency and renewable energy sources). A key strength of the organization is our large and diverse Board, which contains senior representatives from Federal, State, regional and local governments, the private sector, utilities, nonprofits, and colleges and universities from all counties in the region. Our Board has a strong united vision for a clean energy future for the region. Another source of our strength is our close working relationship with the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley -- an unprecedented public/private partnership focused on improving the region's quality of life. The mission of the SJVCEO is to build upon existing efforts and serve as a trusted resource on clean energy for San Joaquin Valley businesses, consumers, nonprofits and local governments. To significantly increase the level of clean energy activities in the Valley, the SJVCEO has established three priority areas of focus and is supporting work to:

- Help "green" the 62 cities and eight counties in the Valley
- Serve as a demonstration region for the 25x'25 Initiative designed to significantly increase our nation's use of renewables for fuels and power production
- Support and help grow a "green" energy workforce in the Valley

*The SJVCEO has accomplished a great deal since it began operation in 2007. This includes:*

### **SEEKING ENERGY STIMULUS FUNDING FOR THE VALLEY**

#### **HOSTING FORUMS**

**American Recovery & Reinvestment Act Workshops, in February and March, 2009.** These forums were attended by over 200 cities and counties, and other stakeholders to discuss key clean energy provisions of the Act, with a focus on the energy block grant provisions and how the Valley can work together as a region to pursue these resources and the role that the SJVCEO can play.

#### **PROVIDING ASSISTANCE**

**Energy Block Grant Peer Exchange Webinar.** The SJVCEO held its first peer exchange webinar in May 2009 for jurisdictions receiving direct energy block grants from the Department of Energy (DOE). This served as a forum for an exchange of information and ideas on the block grant program and plans and process experiences to date.

**Answering Questions.** The SJVCEO has served as a conduit for technical assistance by answering a broad array of questions about energy stimulus funding opportunities and how to apply for them.

#### **REPRESENTING VALLEY INTERESTS AND OPPORTUNITIES**

**Working with Federal and State Officials.** The SJVCEO has helped prepare a comprehensive data base of shovel-ready clean energy projects, marketed Valley opportunities to state and federal officials, marketed California Energy Commission (CEC) hearings in the Valley on funding opportunities. The SJVCEO currently represents Valley interests in a State wide working group established by the CEC.

## PARTNERSHIPS AND PROJECTS

### Tulare County, California

**Valley Innovative Energy Watch (VIEW) Partnership.** In April 2009, the SJVCEO signed a contract with Southern California Edison Company to serve as the lead implementing organization for a local government partnership program to provide energy efficiency services to Jurisdictions in Tulare County for the period of 2009-2011. This project will include all cities in Tulare County, as well as the county government. Southern California Gas Company is expected to join this project later this year.

### Visalia, California

**Greenhouse Gas Emissions.** In 2008, the SJVCEO partnered in a team effort with the City of Visalia to develop a greenhouse gas emissions baseline for the City. SJVCEO worked with the City and supported its efforts to develop reduction targets and a climate action plan for reducing emissions. This was completed in early 2009. We will encourage the remaining 61 cities in the Valley to undertake similar efforts.

**City Memorandum of Understanding.** In late 2007, the SJVCEO and the City of Visalia developed and signed a memorandum of understanding to help support the City's efforts to increase levels of clean energy investments and to create a model city program. Members of the Visalia city council sent the California Partnership a letter formally supporting this partnership.

### Arvin, California

**Greening Arvin.** In September 2008, Valley CAN approved a grant in the amount of \$46,000 to the SJVCEO to help the city of Arvin develop and implement clean energy policies and projects. We have implemented the REACON business model, in partnership with the Stockton Chamber of Commerce, to identify resource saving opportunities for local businesses. SJVCEO has been working with different partners on this project including Pacific Gas and Electric Co., Southern California Gas, the Kern Council of Governments and Chevron.

### Fresno, California

**Southeast Growth Area (SEGA).** SJVCEO provided technical advice and input to develop green energy features for the planned development of SEGA in areas just outside the current borders of Fresno. We also participated in a planning meeting held on June 10, 2008, at the Fresno Convention Center, to gain stakeholder input on types of assistance needed to create green efforts in this area.

### Nationwide

**National 25 by '25 Initiative.** SJVCEO signed an agreement and initiated work under a memorandum of understanding with the national 25 by '25 Initiative to help the San Joaquin Valley be a demonstration region for the nation on the production, use, and promotion of renewable energy.

## EDUCATION AND INFORMATION DEVELOPMENT

**Federal Energy Bill HR 6709.** On September 4, 2008, the SJVCEO Board met with Congressman Jim Costa to discuss HR 6709, a wide-ranging energy bill that he introduced. SJVCEO will serve as a resource for Congressman Costa, and has provided him with valuable data documenting the vast potential for renewables in the San Joaquin Valley. The Valley has the potential to generate all of its power in the future from renewable sources and can help the State meet its renewables goal.

**Grants and Incentives.** SJVCEO offered written comments and support for the national energy block grant and tax credit legislation.

**State Energy Efficiency.** SJVCEO actively participated in efforts to redesign the California low income energy efficiency program.

**Biofuels.** SJVCEO categorized the market for biofuels in the Valley and identified areas here it can assist in project development.

**Developing a Green Collar Workforce.** SJVCEO started the process of identifying existing green workforce development efforts and projects in the Valley. We have also identified specific opportunities to grow a green workforce in the region.

## CONFERENCES AND CAMPAIGNS

**Clean Energy Policy Conference, December, 2007, Fresno, CA.** SJVCEO co-sponsored and co-hosted the Clean Energy Policy Conference attended by approximately 300 people.

**Be More Green San Joaquin, Valley Public Television Campaign.** In September, 2008, SJVCEO joined KVPT's "Be More Green San Joaquin" Campaign promoting the implementation of clean energy and greening efforts in the southern and central part of the San Joaquin Valley.

**Clean Technology and Green Economy Forum, September 18, 2008, Fresno, CA.** This forum defined needs and opportunities for growing a green economy in the region.

**Farming Clean Energy Conference, November 5-6, 2008, Tulare, CA.** This conference explored the opportunities for developing projects and advocating regulatory changes and policies to significantly increase clean energy use in the agriculture sector.

# San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agencies' Directors' Committee

c/o Tulare CAG ♦ 5961 S. Mooney Blvd. ♦ Visalia, California 93277 ♦ 559-733-6291 ♦ FAX 559-733-6720

**Kern Council of  
Governments**  
Ronald Brummett

**Merced County  
Association of  
Governments**  
Jesse Brown, Vice Chair

**Kings County  
Association of  
Governments**  
Terri King

**Stanislaus Council  
Of Governments**  
Vince Harris

**Council of  
Fresno County  
Governments**  
Tony Boren

**Madera County  
Transportation  
Commission**  
Patricia Taylor

**San Joaquin  
Council of  
Governments**  
Andrew Chesley

**Tulare County  
Association of  
Governments**  
Ted Smalley Chair

May 28, 2009

Mike Dozier, Director  
California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley  
California State University, Fresno  
5010 N. Woodrow Ave., Suite 200, M/S WC 142  
Fresno, California 93740

RE: Transportation Work Group Management

Dear Mr. Dozier:

The San Joaquin Valley Regional Transportation Planning Agencies Committee has unanimously agreed to manage the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley's Transportation Work Group. We look forward to the opportunity to lead in this capacity.

The Valley COG Directors have been working together in a cooperative manner for over a decade. Multiple committees are already established to deal with issues such as: Regional Blueprints, Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) development; air quality planning, goods movement, and development of the new transportation bill. The San Joaquin Valley Policy Council, representing all eight counties, continues to develop consensus on complex issues such as the Regional Blueprint and funding priorities. Both the leadership and staff are ready to serve.

Thank you again for the opportunity. We look forward to the role of leading the Transportation Work group. Should you have further questions or would like to discuss this project in more detail, please contact me at: (559) 733-6291.

Sincerely,



Ted Smalley, Chair  
San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agencies' Directors' Committee  
Executive Director, Tulare County Association of Governments

cc: Valley COG Directors

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## Transportation Work Group: Transfer of Responsibilities

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The California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley Board of Directors Executive Committee is recommending a change, as of June 30, in convening and staff support of the Transportation Work Group to reduce duplication of efforts in meeting the goals of the Partnership.

In discussions this spring between the leadership of the San Joaquin Valley Councils of Government about the COGs providing bridge funding for the Partnership in FY10, the issue of the number of meetings on Valley transportation issues and the responsibility for planning and carrying out transportation system improvements emerged again. Some of the COG directors felt the eight county units, working in concert, could best support the goals of the Transportation Work Group if their organization could convene and coordinate the work group.

On April 24, a joint meeting of the Transportation Work Group and COG directors was held in Fresno. COG leadership pledged to support the Partnership with bridge funding. Transportation Work Group convener Frank Bigelow and David Hosley of the Great Valley Center stated they are amenable to the change. Hosley asked that the COGs select a point person to make an orderly transition of work group records and other relevant documents, pending board approval.

The Partnership Board Executive Committee discussed the transfer at its May 13 conference call; there is consensus that this change is in the best interest of the Partnership and should go before the Partnership Board for consideration at its June 12 meeting.

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**Work Group:** Air Quality  
**Consultant:** Mark Keppler, Executive Director  
**Organization:** The Kenneth L. Maddy Institute  
**Quarter:** 1st 2009  
**Phone:** 559.294.9119 or 559.213.0808  
**Email:** mkeppler@csufresno.edu

### **Description of Activity by Goal and Objective**

*Goal 1: Achieve U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) standards for 8-hour ozone and PM2.5 by the current attainment date, or as soon as practicable thereafter*

No action taken.

*Goal 2: Encourage EPA adoption of tighter federal emission control standards*

No action taken.

*Goal 3: Implement incentive mechanisms to accelerate adoption of air quality mitigation technologies*

### **Diesel Incentives Exploration Working Group**

AQWG participated in a meeting with business and environmental representatives on Feb.17, 2009, in an effort to pursue additional programs/funding for incentives to reduce diesel emissions in the greater Central Valley.

### **Legislation**

AQWG continues to work on passage and implementation of state and federal legislation that will bring additional clean air incentive funding to the San Joaquin Valley (Valley), including funding mechanisms included in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) enacted on Feb.17.

*Goal 4: Promote clean energy projects (with Energy Work Group)*

### **San Joaquin Valley Clean Energy Organization**

AQWG continues to participate in meetings of the established San Joaquin Valley Clean Energy Organization (SJVCEO) and provide input as necessary. Staff has provided government affairs support in the area of federal legislation on clean energy, including clean energy funding mechanisms, such as the Energy Efficiency Block Grant Program and the State Energy Program, in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) enacted on Feb.17.

*Goal 5: Improve transportation mobility and goods movement (with Transportation Work Group)*

AQWG consultants remain engaged in activities of the Transportation Work Group and the San Joaquin Valley COGs Regional Policy Council regarding goods movement plans and high-speed rail.

### **High-Speed Rail**

The California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley (Partnership) has been participating in a working group facilitated by the California High Speed Rail Authority to pursue construction of a higher-speed Altamont route connecting the Valley. With the passage of the HSR bond in November 2008, planning efforts are under way for the Altamont project. A Preliminary Project Description outlining the general project location, the purpose and goals of the project, the planning context within which the project is being developed, and a description of the general location and anticipated design elements of the project has been prepared by the consultants (AECOM) for review by the HSRA board in May 2009.

*Goal 6: Encourage "green" local government policies and sustainable communities*

No action taken

*Goal 7: Accelerate research on emission-reduction strategies and clean-air technologies, establishing the San Joaquin Valley as a leader in innovation*

No action taken

*Goal 8: Improve public understanding of air quality issues and solutions*

**“The Maddy Forum” KFSR 90.7/Podcast**

The Maddy Institute created a public affairs radio program called “The Maddy Forum” broadcast on 90.7 KFSR. The weekly program features conversations about important public policy issues facing the San Joaquin Valley, and interviews with local leaders and elected officials. Shows this quarter have highlighted issues such as clean energy and the regional economic stimulus plan. We are planning a future show on the health implications of poor air quality.

**Planned Activities by Goal and Objective (for next 3-6 months)**

Continue to pursue a “dual path” to clean air by seeking the commercialization of new technologies as well as incentive mechanisms that will assist the Valley in accelerating the attainment of clean air standards to achieve by 2017.

Continue to work with the High Speed Rail Altamont Working Group on efforts to build a high-speed rail system connecting the Valley.

Continue to monitor progress on CARB’s regulations, such as Heavy-Duty In-Use Diesel Regulation and AB 32/Greenhouse Gas Regulations, and analyzing them for impacts on the Valley.

Work with members in the state legislature and Congress as well as a new Presidential Administration to bring focus on assisting the Valley and address its air quality challenges.

**Challenges/Problems/Bottlenecks/Feedback**

None to report at this time

**If you have coordinated any outreach, please describe briefly**

AQWG remains directly involved with legislators and their staff, conducting consistent legislative outreach. The Partnership and Interagency Task Force convene Valley district office staffers from both the Congressional and State delegations monthly in which AQWG attends and actively participates.



California Partnership for the  
**San Joaquin Valley**

**FINAL**

**San Joaquin Valley Regional Economic Recovery Work Plan**  
**June 1, 2009**

**Mike Dozier, Lead Executive**  
Office of the Secretariat

**California State University, Fresno**  
**Office of Community and Economic Development**  
5010 N. Woodrow Ave., 2nd Floor, M/S WC 142  
Fresno, California 93740

559.294.6021 Office  
559.294.6024 Office Fax

[www.sjvpartnership.org](http://www.sjvpartnership.org)

## INTRODUCTION

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The California Business, Transportation and Housing Agency (BTH) requested that the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley (Partnership) prepare a Regional Economic Recovery Work Plan (Plan) for the San Joaquin Valley (Valley). The Plan covers the Valley's eight counties, which include all of Caltrans District 6 and a portion of District 10. The purpose of the Plan is to identify projects and programs that can be immediately initiated to maximize the impact of the funding provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). In accordance with BTH guidelines and requirements, the "Draft" Plan was prepared and submitted by April 1, 2009. The "Final" Plan is to be completed and submitted to Secretary Bonner by June 1, 2009. Following is a brief description of the Partnership, the Valley and its eight counties:

### California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley

Governor Schwarzenegger established the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley in 2005 by an Executive Order, renewed in 2006 and again in 2008. The Partnership has brought together experts and leaders committed to sustainable economic development, environmental stewardship and human advocacy.

The Partnership is focused on the action of 10 work groups:

1. Advanced Communications Services and Information Technology
2. Air Quality
3. Economic Development
4. Energy
5. Health and Human Services
6. Higher Education and Workforce Development
7. Land Use, Housing and Agriculture
8. PreK-12 Education
9. Transportation
10. Water Quality, Supply and Reliability

The Partnership is the most comprehensive movement of civic leadership in the history of the Valley. Thousands of concerned stakeholders from business and industry, government, nonprofit and community sectors are involved in this effort. For the first time, public and private sectors from all eight counties are working together to find and implement solutions that will improve the quality of life for Valley residents

Members of the Partnership Board of Directors are appointed by Governor Schwarzenegger. The Partnership Board consists of eight state cabinet secretaries; eight local government officials; eight civic leaders; one representative each from the Federal Interagency Task Force for the Economic Development of the San Joaquin Valley (officially created by Executive Order of President Clinton in 2000, implemented by President Bush in 2002, and amended and reaffirmed by President Bush in 2004), Economic Strategy Panel, California Transportation Commission, California Air Resources Board, and California Workforce Investment Board; seven representatives of regional consortia; and three individuals with specialized experience and knowledge of Valley issues. Members of the state and Congressional Valley Delegation are ex-officio, nonvoting members of the board. The Partnership Board has laid the foundation by approving the Strategic Action Proposal, a 10-year plan of action items to improve the vitality of the region.

The Office of Community and Economic Development (OCED) at California State University, Fresno, is the appointed Secretariat, the lead coordinating agency, for the Partnership. The Partnership, because of its formation and activity in the Valley, is uniquely positioned to provide BTH this comprehensive Regional Economic Recovery Work Plan for the San Joaquin Valley within the expedited time lines requested.

## San Joaquin Valley

The San Joaquin Valley comprises eight counties: Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, and Tulare, with 62 cities and more than 3.9 million residents. The Valley has a long history of contribution to the success of California. Although it is recognized worldwide as an agriculture powerhouse and is one of the fastest growing regions in the nation, it also is one of the most challenged in comparison to the rest of the state. Unemployment rates in the Valley continuously exceed state and national averages. Current unemployment rates range anywhere from 10 percent to 40 percent. All eight counties have experienced significant growth in their unemployment numbers during the last year.

The Valley has persistent problems of poverty, environmental degradation, and social separation, as evidenced by consistent underperformance compared to other regions in California.

- Average per capita incomes are 32.2 percent lower than the rest of the state
- College attendance is 50 percent below state average
- Violent crime is 24 percent higher than the rest of the state
- Access to health care is 31 percent lower than the rest of the state
- Air quality is among the worst in the nation

If the eight-county Valley were a state, it would have:

- A population greater than 23 states
- More revenues from agriculture than every other state
- Higher unemployment than every other state
- The lowest per capita income
- The highest percentage of people living below the poverty line
- Among the worst air quality in the nation
- The highest high school dropout rate in the union
- The highest usage of methamphetamine and intravenous drugs
- Fewer doctors per 100,000 population than every other state
- A higher growth rate than all but six other states
- Per capita funds to the Valley: federal is 30 percent below national average, 21 percent below state average

## Fresno County

As of the July 2008 U.S. Census estimates, the population was 802,123. The county seat is Fresno. Fresno County was formed in 1856 from parts of Mariposa, Merced and Tulare counties. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the county has a total area of 6,017 square miles (15,585 km<sup>2</sup>), of which, 5,963 square miles (15,443 km<sup>2</sup>) of it is land and 55 square miles (142 km<sup>2</sup>) of it (0.91%) is water.

## Kern County

As of the July 2008 U.S. Census estimates, the population was 663,510. The county seat is Bakersfield. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the county has a total area of 8,161 square miles (21,137 km<sup>2</sup>), of which, 8,141 square miles (21,085 km<sup>2</sup>) of it is land and 20 square miles (53 km<sup>2</sup>) of it (0.25%) is water. It is the third largest county by area in the contiguous United States.

## Kings County

As of the July 2008 U.S. Census estimates, the population was 129,776. The county seat is Hanford. Kings County was formed in 1893 from the western part of Tulare County. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the county has a total area of 1,391 square miles (3,600 km<sup>2</sup>), of which 0.04% is water.

## Madera County

As of the July 2008 U.S. Census estimates, the population was 123,572. The county seat is Madera. The southernmost part of Yosemite National Park is located in the county's northeast. Madera County was formed in 1893 from parts of Fresno County. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the county has a total area of 2,153 square miles (5,577 km<sup>2</sup>), of which, 2,136 square miles (5,532 km<sup>2</sup>) of it is land and 17 square miles (45 km<sup>2</sup>) of it is water. The total area is 0.81% water.

## Merced County

As of the July 2008 U.S. Census estimates, the population was 211,552. The county seat is Merced. The county is named after the Merced River. Merced County was formed in 1855 from parts of Mariposa County. Parts of its territory were given to Fresno County in 1856. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the county has a total area of 1,972 square miles (5,107 km<sup>2</sup>), of which, 1,929 square miles (4,995 km<sup>2</sup>) of it is land and 43 square miles (112 km<sup>2</sup>) of it (2.19%) is water.

## San Joaquin County

As of the July 2008 U.S. Census estimates, the population was 672,388. The county seat is Stockton. San Joaquin County was one of the original counties of California, created in 1850 at the time of statehood. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the county has a total area of 1,426 square miles (3,694 km<sup>2</sup>), of which, 1,399 square miles (3,624 km<sup>2</sup>) of it is land and 27 square miles (70 km<sup>2</sup>) of it (1.89%) is water.

## Stanislaus County

As of the July 2008 U.S. Census estimates, the population was 510,694. The county seat is Modesto. Stanislaus County was formed from part of Tuolumne County in 1854. The county is named for the Stanislaus River. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the county has a total area of 1,515 square miles (3,923 km<sup>2</sup>), of which 1,494 square miles (3,869 km<sup>2</sup>) of it is land and 21 square miles (54 km<sup>2</sup>) of it (1.38%) is water.

## Tulare County

As of the July 2008 U.S. Census estimates, the population was 426,276. The county seat is Visalia. The county is named for Tulare Lake, once the largest freshwater lake west of the Great Lakes and now drained. Tulare County was formed from parts of Mariposa County in 1852.

## DRAFT WORK PLAN

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The Partnership Secretariat conducted several meetings with affected and eligible cities, counties and agencies throughout the Valley, requesting voluntary compliance in submitting projects for the "Draft" Plan. Projects were due to the Secretariat by Wednesday, March 18, 2009. The Secretariat activated seven work groups to assemble, review, and compile the projects based on the minimum criteria established by BTH. Projects need to: 1) leverage resources, 2) expedite infrastructure delivery, 3) support growth of business and innovation, 4) develop California's workforce, and 5) enhance environmental quality, where possible. The projects submitted were forwarded to the following work groups: Air Quality, Transportation, Workforce, Economic Development, Water, Energy, and Housing. Projects submitted but not fitting one of the seven work groups were reviewed by Secretariat staff and included in the Plan labeled as one of the aforementioned work groups or as Miscellaneous.

Projects are designated as Group A, Group B, Group C, which separates projects by timetable for beginning the work and type of project. Group A projects can be started within 120 days of the "Final" Plan submission date: June 1, 2009. Group B projects can begin within one to two years of the submission date of the "Final" Plan. Group C projects have various dates for initiation ranging from immediate to two years and address housing and small business projects and programs. There were more than 4,000 submittals, which was reduced, after eliminating redundancies, to **2,412 projects**, totaling **\$9.3 billion** in requested funding.

The Partnership's active work groups and excellent communication over the broad area of the Valley enabled the formation and completion of the "Draft" Plan within the timeframe requested by BTH of April 1, 2009. The Partnership takes pride in the working relationship with its work groups and the various entities eligible for ARRA funding. Completion of the "Draft" Plan was a collaborative effort by all who submitted projects, work groups who reviewed and assembled projects, and the Partnership Secretariat in preparing and forwarding the "Draft" Plan for BTH consideration.

## FINAL WORK PLAN

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On Thursday, April 30, Partnership staff met with BTH Secretary Dale Bonner and his staff as well as staff from these state agencies: Department of Food and Agriculture, Infrastructure Bank, General Services, Labor and Workforce Development, Housing and Community Development, and California Environmental Protection Agency. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the San Joaquin Valley "Draft" Regional Economic Recovery Work Plan.

Secretary Bonner was impressed with, and gave high praise for, the participation and collaboration that the Valley showed in the "Draft" Plan; however, the number of projects made it difficult to identify specific

projects that BTH and other state agencies can use to advocate for stimulus funding. To that end, in addition to the project list provided in the "Draft," Secretary Bonner asked that projects are highlighted in the "Final" Plan which meet the following criteria:

- Projects that can begin construction within 120 days
- Projects that have support from multiple organizations and agencies
- Projects that are regional or multijurisdictional (affect more than one city and/or county)
- Projects that cross over several categories, such as: Water, Energy, Transportation, Infrastructure
- Public/Private Projects leverage additional dollars other than public—BTH wants to attract investor interest

Secretary Bonner also asked that the Secretariat include discussion on projects that could take advantage of the \$8 billion appropriated for high-speed rail-related construction, and suggestions for streamlining the environmental permitting process.

To meet the Secretary Bonner's request, the Secretariat sent out emails to all those who submitted projects through the "Draft" Plan process requesting that they check the "Draft" list of projects for any errors or inadvertent omissions and report those additions or corrections. It also was requested that if one or more of the projects submitted met the criteria identified above, to please forward that project to the Secretariat office by May 15 and include the following information:

- Short description (no more than one page in length) of the project
- How the project meets one or more of the stated criteria above
- Number of jobs generated by the project
- Estimated start time of the project and duration of construction
- Estimated cost of the project

Partnership staff and BTH representative Nicole Parra held three public meetings (see below) to review the recommended highlighted projects for the "Final" Plan.

- Wednesday, May 20, Great Valley Center, Modesto
- Thursday, May 21, Council of Fresno County Governments, Fresno
- Friday, May 22, Kern Council of Governments, Bakersfield

After review and consideration by the Partnership work groups, the Secretariat, and the public, the following 26 projects/programs are highlighted in the "Final" Plan:

#### Transportation

Total Request: \$691,400,000

- A. SR-99 Widening Project
- B. SR-99 Business Plan Projects
- C. High-Speed Rail & Inter-City Rail

#### Infrastructure

Total Request: \$188,850,000-\$201,350,000

- D. Port of Stockton Infrastructure Improvement Projects (4)

Economic Development

Total Request: \$41,053,277

- E. California Innovation Zone Program
- F. Small Business Development Programs (4)
- G. Certified Sites Program

Broadband

Total Request: \$8,195,572-\$8,445,572

- H. Increasing Health Care Access by Expanding Telemedicine – UC Merced
- I. Rural Broadband Program – West Hills Community College District
- J. Digital Connectors

Work Force Development

Total Request: \$4,300,000

- K. California Green Jobs Corps (Eight-County Workforce Investment Board Project to Access Funding)
- L. Integrated Workforce Development Strategy for Regional Industry Clusters in the San Joaquin Valley (California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley Workforce Project)
- M. Central California Workforce Collaborative High-Growth Industries

Environmental Streamlining

Total Request: \$100,000,000

- N. Environmental Strategic Plan Program

Clean Energy

Total Request: \$61,900,000

- O. Central Valley Schools Partnership Program for Energy Conservation
- P. Southern Sierra Regional Collaborative: Renewable Energy Training and Technical Assistance Center

Water

Total Request: \$13,400,000-\$17,500,000

- Q. Arvin-Edison Water Storage District – Forrest Frick Pumping Plant Rehabilitation
- R. Deer Creek/Friant Kern Canal Basin Modification and Environmental Groundwater Banking Project
- S. Semitropic Water Storage District Poso Creek Detention Ponds and Upland Habitat Enhancement
- T. Poso Creek IRWMP Disadvantaged Community Engineering Design Fund
- U. North Fork Kings River Area Groundwater Recharge Project
- V. Clovis Intertie Project

Air Quality

Total Request: \$325,000,000

- W. SJVCEO/Air District – Regional Implementation of EECBG
- X. SJVCEO/Air District – Regional Coordination of State Energy Program
- Y. Diesel Emissions Reduction ACT Vehicle and Equipment Retrofit/Replacement
- Z. Clean Cities Petroleum Reduction Tech Project

## TRANSPORTATION

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### Project A: SR-99 Widening Project

**Project Description:** The San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council's unanimously endorsed prioritizing funding for the following project through California's application for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Supplementary Discretionary Grants for a National Surface Transportation System program:

Convert SR-99 from a four-lane expressway to six-lane freeway between Buchanan Hollow Road to the Miles Creek Overflow. This project also includes a new interchange at Arboleda Road.

The federal \$1.5 billion competitive program through the Department of Transportation seeks to fund capital investments in surface transportation projects that will have a significant impact on the nation, a metropolitan area or a region, and meet certain requirements. The SR-99 project not only is in a trade corridor of national significance but has multijurisdictional consensus. Additionally, it would create hundreds of jobs, leverage non-federal sources of funding, and complete work within the three-year requirement.

**Request: \$50,000,000**

### Project B: SR-99 Business Plan Projects

**Project Description:** Below is a list of SR-99 projects that would continue to implement the SR-99 Business Plan that was adopted by the Valley's Regional Policy Council. The list is based on delivery requirements of the current stimulus program. Any future stimulus scenarios would result in the need to revisit the summary. All eight COGs can agree from a regional perspective that implementing the SR-99 Business Plan is a regional benefit. Funding these projects also would further the \$850 million the Valley has received for SR-99 widening as part of Proposition 1B.

**Request: \$533,000,000 (total)**

| County/City or County/County | Project   | Cost        |
|------------------------------|---|-------------|
| Fresno<br>City of Fresno     | Golden State Blvd Resurfacing, SR-99 to Ashlan      | \$159,000   |
| Fresno<br>City of Fresno     | Herndon Ave Widening, SR-99 to Weber                | \$5,040,600 |
| Fresno<br>City of Fresno     | Traffic Signal at Ventura & SR-99 NB Ramps          | \$900,000   |
| Fresno<br>City of Fresno     | Traffic Synchronization of Shaw Ave, SR-99 to SR-41 | \$4,199,900 |
| Fresno<br>City of Kingsburg  | SR-99 Southern Monument                             | \$500,000   |

| County/City or County/County       | Project  | Cost                 |
|------------------------------------|--|----------------------|
| Madera<br>City of Madera           | Ellis/Avenue 16 - Granada to Road 26 & new SR-99 OC - Reconstruct street and construct new overcrossing  | \$20,000,000         |
| Stanislaus<br>City of Modesto      | Modesto<br>SR-99/ Pelandale Ave Interchange Reconstruction   | \$58,998,000         |
| Stanislaus<br>City of Modesto      | Pelandale/SR-99 Interchange Design   | \$3,500,000          |
| Stanislaus<br>City of Ceres        | Service Road/SR-99 Overcrossing  | \$50,000,000         |
| Stanislaus<br>County of Stanislaus | Stanislaus County<br>Kiernan Interchange   | \$85,000,000         |
| Kern<br>City of Bakersfield        | Interchange Construction: SR-99 at Hosking Ave   | \$28,000,000         |
| Kern<br>City of Delano             | Project involves interim improvements to the on and off ramps from the SR-99 to Woollomes Ave, which provides improved access to the Home Depot and the planned development including a Super Wal-Mart and other big box retail outlets. All environmental and design work is complete with the final off ramp design currently under review by Caltrans. This project supports the above-private sector development, job creations beyond construction positively affecting the City of Delano and Kern County. | \$4,460,000          |
| Madera<br>City of Madera           | 4th Street - K street to Lake street - widen to four lanes - Reconstruct/Widen SR-99 OC and UPRR Crossing  | \$8,500,000          |
| Madera<br>County of Madera         | Avenue 7 from SR-99 to SR-145  | \$4,000,000          |
| Madera<br>County of Madera         | Madera County<br>Avenue 12 Construction from Highway 41 to SR-99   | \$27,500,000         |
| Madera<br>County of Madera         | Madera County<br>Avenue 9 Construction from Highway 41 to SR-99  | \$23,000,000         |
| Madera<br>County of Madera         | Madera County<br>Construction of the Avenue 12/99 Interchange  | \$75,000,000         |
| Madera<br>County of Madera         | Madera County<br>Resurface Avenue 7 from SR-99 to SR-145   | \$4,000,000          |
| Tulare<br>City of Tulare           | Betty Drive - Widen from 2 to 4 lanes from SR-99 to Road 80  | \$8,017,000          |
| Tulare<br>City of Tulare           | Tulare<br>Agricenter / SR-99 Interchange   | \$45,000,000         |
| Tulare<br>City of Tulare           | Tulare<br>Bardsley Ave/SR-99 Interchange   | \$1,000,000          |
| Tulare<br>City of Tulare           | Tulare<br>Paige Ave/SR-99 Interchange  | \$45,000,000         |
| Tulare<br>City of Tulare           | Tulare<br>Tulare Ave (SR-137)/SR-99 Interchange  | \$1,000,000          |
| Tulare<br>City of Tulare           | Tulare<br>Unfunded portion of Cartmill Ave/SR-99 Interchange (total cost is \$55M)   | \$30,000,000         |
| <b>TOTALS</b>                      |  | <b>\$532,774,500</b> |

## Project C: High-Speed Rail & Inter-City Rail

Total Request: \$108,400,000

### Project Description:

#### High-Speed Rail:

- Preparation of an EIR/EIS for the Sacramento to Merced High-Speed Rail/Inter-City/Commuter Rail corridor. The process will involve the development of preliminary engineering designs and assessment of environmental effects associated with the construction, operation and maintenance of the Sacramento to Merced High-Speed Rail/Inter-City/Commuter Rail corridor.

Request: \$50,000,000

- Preparation of an EIR/EIS for the Stockton to San Jose High-Speed Rail/Inter-City/Commuter Rail corridor. The process will involve the development of preliminary engineering designs and assessment of environmental effects associated with the construction, operation and maintenance of the Stockton to San Jose High-Speed Rail/Inter-City/Commuter Rail corridor.

Request: \$50,000,000

- Conduct aerial mapping of the terrain adjacent to the UPRR Fresno Sub over the approximate 55 mile route from Lathrop to Sacramento to determine the feasibility of obtaining sufficient land to build new, dedicated railroad track(s) to support High-Speed Rail/Inter-City/Commuter Rail with a connection to the Altamont Pass High-Speed Rail corridor.

Request: \$3,000,000

#### Inter-City Rail:

- Track, switch and signal changes to the current station track design at UPRR Control Point at SP083, El Pinal to allow for southbound inter-city trains to crossover from the Fresno subdivision to a new extended ACE station track and utilized the ACE station and platform prior to reentering the UPRR mainline and accessing the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad. Completion of this project will eliminate the use of the Weber Street crossing for loading and unloading of passengers of Caltrans inter-city passengers and would allow full utilization of the recently rehabilitated Robert Cabral Station. The project is already through environmental, design and engineering.

Request: \$3,000,000

- Track, switch and signal changes to the current station track design at UPRR Control Point SP084 to allow for southbound and northbound inter-city trains to utilized the ACE station and platform and reenter the mainline with the ability to crossover and access the Burlington Northern Santa Fe to continue the route to Fresno, Bakersfield and intermediate points.

Request: \$2,400,000

## INFRASTRUCTURE

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### Project D: Port of Stockton Infrastructure Improvement Projects (4)

Total Request: \$188,850,000 (minimum)  
\$201,350,000 (maximum)

#### D. 1. Ship to Railroad and Other Improvements Project, Port of Stockton

**Project Description:** This project provides and improves vital transportation links to goods movement at the Port's East and West Complex facilities and immediate vicinities. Stockton is one of the very few California ports where direct ship to rail cargoes (and vice versa) can be handled. The Port's rail system connects directly to two transcontinental railroads. This project will provide new tracks, improve existing tracks and yards, improve port roads, rehabilitate and improve the railroad bridge and construct a renewable fuels pipeline. Increased unit trains, consisting of 80 plus car trains, can be significantly increased at the Port. The pipeline would collect renewable fuels from adjacent fuel depots and would be distributed to their destinations. Improved air quality and economic efficiencies would be robust and beneficial to the community and region. The overall amount of trucking would be reduced. The Port would own the rail lines, roads, and the pipeline involved with this project.

The project is estimated to start three to six months from date of receipt of funds and will take two years to construct. Estimated jobs created: 340 direct, 375 indirect.

Request: \$27,000,000

#### D. 2. Short Sea Shipping Container Yard, Port of Stockton

**Project Description:** This project would introduce a container vessel service between major ports and inland ports in the San Francisco Bay Delta region. No container service currently exists among Bay Area ports and Delta ports. This initial phase would include construction of a secure facility where containerized cargo would be stored. A 10-acre area located adjacent to the shore side of the Port would be developed. Containers can be offloaded and efficiently transported to the secure holding area. Removal of existing structures (Boiler House) would allow installation of a crane to unload containers from the ship and then transport to the secure holding facility. A rail loop would be built around the secure facility. This rail loop would connect the cargo yard to the dock with a final connection to the existing rail lines. The Port has rail connections for two transcontinental railroad lines. A master plan would be prepared for the initial project phase to long-term build out. This project has a high capacity for future development with additional cranes, expanded container yard and upgrades of Port-owned railroad lines.

The project is estimated to start December 2009 and construction will last from six months to one year. Estimated jobs created: Phase 1 - 30 direct, 50 indirect.

Request: Phase 1 - \$3,500,000  
Subsequent Phases - \$12,500,000

### **D. 3. San Francisco Bay to Stockton Ship Channel Deepening Project, Port of Stockton**

**Project Description:** This is an ongoing federal project with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Contra Costa County and the Port of Stockton are the non-federal sponsors. The project is cost shared at a 75 percent federal basis and 25 percent non-federal basis. The County and the Port have been providing the 25 percent non-federal share. A general reevaluation study and EIS/R has been under way since 2004. The project purpose is to deepen the Contra Costa County portion of the channel from 35 feet to 45 feet (approximately 25 nautical miles) and the Stockton Ship Channel from 35 feet to 40 feet (approximately 50 nautical miles). The California Transportation Commission, under Proposition 1B (TCIF), has designated a construction award of \$17.5 million toward meeting the estimated non-federal share of \$35 million. Additional funds are needed to meet the full non-federal share of construction costs. For ongoing engineering and environmental studies, \$2 million is needed to meet the non-federal share of study costs. The project would benefit the entire Central Valley by increasing opportunities for manufacturing and agricultural exports.

Project has been ongoing since 2004; construction estimated to take five years; expected to start in 2012. Estimated jobs created: 180 direct, 200 indirect.

**Request: \$141,000,000**

### **D. 4. West Complex Road and Bridge Improvements, Port of Stockton**

**Project Description:** The project would reconstruct and rehabilitate vital Port roads from the dockside to the Expressway, the Port's primary link to State Highway 4 and US Interstate 5. The road and bridge improvements would divert truck traffic away from the residential neighborhood located east of the Port property. The current roads are decades old and outdated for modern heavy bulk truckloads and oversize project cargoes. The reconstructed roads would serve today's heavy bulk movements, including beneficial reuse of dredge materials, project cargoes and the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) rock stockpile at the Port for Delta islands emergencies. Navy Bridge improvements and the new bridge between Rough & Ready Island and Roberts Island would reduce the need for additional truck traffic on State Highway 4. The only available route between the two islands is a 15-mile trip via State Highway 4. A direct connection between the two islands would save considerable operating costs and enhance operational flexibilities. In summary, the project would reduce community impacts, reduce traffic congestions, and improve air quality, economic growth, employment, and safety. More opportunities would be generated for manufacturing and agricultural exports in the Central Valley.

Project will start within six months to one year from receipt of funds; construction will take three years.

Estimated jobs created: 217 direct; 241 indirect.

**Request: \$17,350,000**

### **Project E: California Innovation Zone Program**

**Project Description:** California's competitive advantage is its ability to inspire innovation and entrepreneurship. The California Innovation Zone Program (iZone) would serve as the centerpiece of efforts to modernize California's approach to fostering competitive research and development and break down barriers to public/private collaboration on the commercialization of technology developed in California.

Innovation Zones would enhance California's global competitiveness, encouraging research to accelerate investment and economic development around research clusters. The Innovation Zones approach operates by a local collaborative made up of government entities, universities and nonprofit economic development organizations. Assets of Innovation Zones would include research parks, technology incubators, universities, federal laboratories and adjacent properties. Local collaborative would focus efforts on accelerating the development of these assets thereby creating jobs and growing the economy.

It is therefore recommended that the State of California create iZone, to reverse recent trends showing that California is losing its competitive advantage in innovation and provide a tool for local economic development organizations to encourage and support early stage technology companies.

#### What is an Innovation Zone?

Innovation Zones are about collaboration and commercialization. California Innovation Zones are designated areas that encompass state universities, research institutions, federal laboratories and related businesses and are designed to spur collaborative efforts and encourage the rapid transfer of discoveries from the laboratory to the marketplace. The "i" stands for innovation, invention, inspiration, idea and imagination. Innovation Zones would be run by local collaboratives made up of universities, government entities and nonprofit economic development organizations. Enhanced financial incentives would be available to eligible technology based businesses locating in these zones. Companies within the Innovation Zones will benefit from enhanced partnership opportunities through the state, coordinated by the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency (BTH).

Each Innovation Zone will be anchored by an existing or planned state-of-the-art technology center, offering companies opportunities to lease office, wet and dry laboratory and production space at attractive rents. In addition, partnering universities and/or research laboratories will offer businesses in the Innovation Zone priority access to services and funds at reduced or no cost.

#### Benefits of Innovation Zones:

- Encourages new business models
- Increases open source around the sharing of ideas
- Clusters talent, techniques, companies, institutions and technologies
- Promotes and supports technology transfer and commercialization
- Business creation, attraction, retention and expansion tool
- Financial incentives (upon funding)
- Branding of iZone

## Recommendation

It is recommended that iZone be established and coordinated through BTH, which serves as the state's lead economic development agency. Each iZone would operate independently through a local/regional nonprofit organization. Costs of establishing the program would fall within existing or local resources and the program could be established through executive order.

## Implementation

Establish an iAdvisory Committee through BTH to oversee iZone. The suggested 15 members of the iAdvisory Committee should include:

- California Science Center
- Housing and Community Development
- Representation from a National Laboratory
- Representation from a University
- Representation from an Innovation Center
- Representation from the leading Industry Clusters (5)
- Representation from a Venture Capitalist Group
- Representation from the Business Community
- Representation from the Nonprofit Community
- Representation from an Incubator
- Representation from local government

The application, selection criteria and process of an iZone will be framed/conducted by this iAdvisory Committee. All of this documentation will then be posted on the Web site.

In particular, the application process would be competitive (a maximum of 20 zones would be designated throughout the state) and eligible entities include universities, government organizations and nonprofit economic development organizations. The relationship and partnerships between these organizations and businesses could be through a Virtual iZone relationship. The specifics about the format of the iZone and the area of interest would be left for each region to coordinate and decide.

To be an eligible business within the iZone, it must be:

- Less than eight years old
- Doing business in the targeted industry clusters selected by the local collaborative. (e.g., Advanced Manufacturing, Life Sciences, Information Technology, Environmental or Renewable Energy)
- A participant in the iZone partnership

**Request:** \$40 million a year in tax credits (maximum \$100,000) (Pending an allocation of funding, companies in the iZone would be eligible to compete for a statewide pool of the requested amount that could be used to offset startup costs or sold to more profitable companies in return for cash to run their businesses)

Nonprofit groups operating iZones in partnership with a university or national laboratory would be expected to assist with the raising of additional money to run their program, aggressively implement technology transfer programs, and provide grants to companies within the iZones. Additionally, incentives offered by redevelopment agencies, housing authorities, workforce investment boards, ROPS, and institutions of higher education would be combined with state and federal resources.

## **Project F: Small Business Development (SBDC) Programs (4)**

**Total Request:** \$953,277

### **F. 1. SBDC Training Courses**

**Project Description:** Training courses will deliver QuickBooks and computer training as well as technical assistance to San Joaquin Valley businesses via the Internet with the implementation of the San Joaquin Valley Rural Technology and Communication Program (RTCI) to achieve increased productivity, revenues and job growth. This project links to another project submitted by San Joaquin Valley SBDCs.

Delivered through Video Conferencing:

- Reduced Green House Gasses (GHG)
- Reduced Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)
- Sharing with Resource Partners to reduce their costs for traveling to or from rural areas

**Request:** \$391,846

### **F. 2. San Joaquin Valley Business Cluster Development and Marketing**

**Project Description:** An outreach program to local and national business to create more jobs in the San Joaquin Valley by enhancing business clusters: agri-business, renewable energy, manufacturing, health and medical and logistics. Central California Economic Development Corporation (CCEDC) will be at the center of the network of this outreach program, leveraging all eight counties in a unified marketing and business development program. The extremely high unemployment and regional underfunded economic development program makes this project vital to industry and job creation.

**Request:** \$329,000

### F. 3. SBDC New Venture Program

**Project Description:** Displaced workers interested in entrepreneurship over unemployment can be successfully served through the New Venture Program. The SBDCs are licensed and approved to offer these classes. These programs can be offered exclusively for displaced workers or the general population.

Delivered through Video Conferencing:

- Reduced Green House Gasses (GHG)
- Reduced Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)
- Sharing with Resource Partners to reduce their costs for traveling to or from rural areas

**Request: \$105,572**

### F. 4. SBDC Business Training

**Project Description:** Most small business owners know their craft well; this course will teach them about the business end of their craft. Many entrepreneurs want to take their business to the next level but lack the knowledge, skills and abilities to do so; this 12-week course is the answer to that dilemma. Classes are taught using the cohort method with group participants matriculating through all 12 sessions together.

Delivered through Video Conferencing:

- Reduced Green House Gasses (GHG)
- Reduced Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)
- Sharing with Resource Partners to reduce their costs for traveling to or from rural areas

**Request: \$126,859**

### Project G. Certified Sites Program

**Project Description:** In virtually all cases, clients and prospects, when evaluating locations for investment and expansion, look for a site or building that is immediately available. Business leaders and location consultants nationwide recognize the "Certified Sites" designation as a mark of excellence. They know these pre-permitted sites will reduce constructions costs and development delays, saving time and money.

In 2007, the Central California Economic Development Corporation (CCEDC) received a grant through the Partnership to develop a "Certified Sites" Program. CCEDC worked with the Partnership's Energy Work Group and Land Use, Agriculture and Housing Work Group as well as industry cluster groups to identify and promote shovel-ready sites and buildings throughout the eight-county San Joaquin Valley region. Sponsors of these sites have worked cooperatively with state and local officials to get permits and approvals necessary for the site to be developed.

Proposed certified sites are evaluated and reviewed to ensure that they conform to the needs of particular industries and commercial interests, have secured appropriate approvals, and have access to required infrastructure in order to enable proponents who acquire the sites to commence the building process without delay.

CCEDC's Certified Sites Program offers:

- Attractive incentive to lure companies to a particular site
- Marketing assistance from the County EDC
- Ability to select the type of development most suited to your community and to develop local "buy in" before a project is announced
- Technical assistance and help with permitting issues
- Ability to substantially expedite any construction project

**Request:** \$100,000 (Funding to create this project expired Dec. 31, 2008. CCEDC is seeking this additional amount to expand this program to incorporate and market additional shovel-ready sites in the region.)

## BROADBAND

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### Project H: Increasing Health Care Access by Expanding Telemedicine – UC Merced

#### Increasing Health Care Access by Expanding Telemedicine in the San Joaquin Valley via UC Merced's Valley Telehealth Partnership (VTP)

**Project Description:** Telemedicine and eHealth present unique opportunities to increase access to health care in the San Joaquin Valley, particularly in rural regions where residents often experience difficulties in accessing high quality and/or specialized medical services. Through previous support from a Seed Grant from the San Joaquin Valley Partnership, and by leveraging resources from multiple organizations (California Emerging Technologies Fund and at&t™), UC Merced established six eHealth Centers spanning the San Joaquin Valley, from Stockton to Bakersfield. These eHealth Centers at clinics and rural hospitals for underserved populations provide opportunities to access specialists, internal and external, to the region and form the core of the Valley Telehealth Partnership (VTP). VTP stakeholders are committed to developing sustainable models for telemedicine in the Valley. The California Emerging Technologies Fund supported the development of a vision to create a Valley-wide telemedicine partnership. This vision, based on site assessment and data, prioritized sites in the Valley for telemedicine readiness based on a number of criteria. VTP is now poised to develop a second core of six telemedicine sites.

Timing to expand sites for telemedicine is advantageous. The vision and site assessments are completed, and the California Telehealth Network (CTN), an FCC-sponsored venture, is seeking to connect approximately one thousand health care sites throughout the state of California over the next 12 months for telemedicine applications. The CTN will include connections to dozens of new clinical sites in the Valley, but does NOT include any funding for telemedicine equipment, program development, employee training and/or support in the use of telemedicine at the connected sites—all of which are necessary aspects for successful development and use of telemedicine.

With California's financial crisis, it is very unlikely that clinics and rural hospitals in the San Joaquin Valley, which is amongst the hardest financially hit areas in the state, will be able to afford the capital investments needed to take advantage of newly formed connectivity. To ensure that telemedicine opportunities are not lost in our region, the core of stakeholders committed to telemedicine success for the underserved in the Valley must increase. UC Merced plans to continue to spearhead development of a sustainable

telemedicine program in the Valley by and implementing an additional telemedicine sites to serve as eHealth Centers.

UC Merced's experience in establishing six flagship VTP clinical sites in the Valley has demonstrated that financing for new programs - including the costs of program development, training and staffing - are necessary for sustainable telemedicine success.

**Request: \$250,000** (Would enable purchase of equipment for **six additional sites**, connectivity to CTN, and include staff training, staff salary assistance for the first year, and steady guidance with program development. This six-site expansion effort would seamlessly combine with work already completed by UC Merced in the San Joaquin Valley by piggybacking on the original six VTP sites, further strengthening telemedicine capabilities for our rural and underserved populations. As UC Merced is familiar with the setting up of sites, this project should be deemed shovel-ready in that it can easily be completed by the end of 2010 and will leverage resources provided by CETF, at&t™ and the FCC-sponsored CTN.)

\*\*Stanislaus County requests that this project incorporate access to three additional sites in the rural west side Stanislaus and Merced Counties. With approximately 44,000 citizens, urgent care medical services and serious issues of medical isolation related to emergency care services continue to plague the quality of life in this large, rural landscape. Expansion would coordinate with the Del Puerto Health Center.

**\$500,000** (Total request is for **nine sites**, including six sites established through UC Merced)

### **Project I: Rural Broadband Program - West Hills Community College District**

**Project Description:** West Hills College will establish new Technology Learning Centers in five west side communities. Staff will teach computer literacy, GED, pre-employment, entrepreneurial and other vocational skills and/or college classes.

High school literacy will be improved by internet access to Gen-Yes computer literacy programs and CA Bridge K16 internet-based high school literacy enrichment program. Generation YES Corporation will operate its GenYes and TechYes computer literacy for students and faculty programs at five area middle schools, and its GenYes program at one high school. "Computers for Classrooms" will provide 1620 refurbished computers for rural residents without computers or access of which 120 will be donated to Technology Centers.

Project will affect all 32 of rural Fresno County Office of Education school districts, over 200,000 children and their families, by providing broadband internet access to all school districts and wireless access to the children's homes. Additionally, the cities of Firebaugh, Mendota and San Joaquin will increase T-1 connectivity to the city administration building and wireless radio/node connection to available resident's homes.

**Partners:**

- Fresno County Office of Education
- Kings County Office of Education
- West Hills Community College District
- City of Firebaugh
- City of Mendota
- City of San Joaquin
- Firebaugh Community Technology Center
- Westside Institute of Technology
- California Public Utilities Commission
- California Emerging Technology Fund

**Request: \$7,845,572**

**Project J: Digital Connectors**

**Project Description:** Technology and its benefits and opportunities are more often unavailable to rural community members. Few homes have computers and access to computers at schools, the library or other places is severely limited. Members of these communities have limited opportunities to learn technical skills further limiting their employment choices, including advancement in their current positions and educational opportunities.

Great Valley Center (GVC) knows how to use technology to improve the economic, educational, social and cultural opportunities in small communities. GVC has already experienced success in Pixley, a town of about 2,500 residents, where GVC created the Pixley Connect Program. This program trained teens and adults in how to use a computer and basic software. The program also trained young graduates to become Digital Connectors who provide technical support in the community including computer set up and troubleshooting. With the funding requested, GVC would like to expand this program to train more teens and adults to: access the internet, create and use email accounts and chat rooms safely, improve job skills, write a business plan, build a resume, look for work, use online banking, and participate in distance learning courses. GVC also would provide advanced classes in the use of power point, excel, and Microsoft Office Publisher. Technical support and assistance would be provided to other communities throughout the Valley in order to engage business leaders, community members and groups, train staff, create curriculum, increase awareness, and reduce the fears associated with technology. This effort would allow them to create their own community technology training centers further reducing the digital divide.

This program will increase college bound rates for 240 teens in rural, low-income areas of southern San Joaquin Valley.

**Request: \$100,000**

## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

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### **Project K: Central California Green Job Corps**

(Eight-county Workforce Investment Board Project to access funding)

**Overview:** The Merced County Department of Workforce Investment (MCDWI) will apply for a grant through California Volunteers for the Central California Workforce Collaborative that includes workforce investment boards in Mariposa, Madera, Kings, Merced, Tulare, Stanislaus, San Joaquin, Kern/Inyo/Mono and Fresno counties. MCDWI is the administrative entity of the Merced County Workforce Investment Board. The department has 30 years of experience administrating state and federal departments of labor grants. It is currently the lead in a \$1.8 million dollar federal grant supporting Licensed Vocational Nurse training. The partnership for this grant includes community colleges and workforce investment boards that cover Stanislaus, Merced and Madera counties.

### **Project Description:**

Target Population: Central California Green Job Corps participants (at-risk youth ages 16-24)  
Depending on local needs, programs may choose to focus on a group within this age range.

### Education/Curriculum:

Job Skills: MCDWI is proposing that job skills may be developed through classroom or site training or a combination of both.

Formal classroom/technical education: The proposal will include educational funds for each Local Workforce Area based on the number of youth served. Each county may contract with local community colleges or other educational entities to provide training.

Soft skills: Each area will provide soft skills training.

Community Service: All youth must participate in community service. Youth aged 16 through 18 will be required to participate for a minimum of 20 hours. Youth aged 19-24 will be required to participate for a minimum of 100 hours. The proposal suggests that participants return to the Outdoor School at least one weekend where they will work with the Sierra National Forest and California Department of Forestry in a project or a weekend project in their local area. In addition, it is suggested that each area adopt a local volunteer project. The proposal suggests that each area choose at least one public park in its jurisdiction to focus on a community project that would allow youth to use green job skills learned in their educational program as well as complete their community service.

### **Partners: Eight County WIBs –**

- Fresno County Workforce Investment Board
- Kern County Workforce Investment Board
- Kings County Workforce Investment Board
- Madera County Workforce Investment Board
- Merced County Workforce Investment Board
- San Joaquin County Workforce Investment Board
- Stanislaus County Workforce Investment Board
- Tulare County Workforce Investment Board

WIBs will enroll participating eligible youth from their area and provide stipends and supportive services for youth as matching funds. In each area, they may provide additional training funds for educational services and project support and/or paid work experience sites.

PG&E is proposed primary employer partner and may provide additional training for the youth.

**Request:** \$1,000,000 (Applicant will apply for this approximate amount to serve a minimum of 140 youth)

**Project L: Integrated Workforce Development Strategy for Regional Industry Clusters in the San Joaquin Valley**

**Lead Agency:**

California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley

**Partners: Eight County WIBs –**

- Fresno County Workforce Investment Board
- Kern County Workforce Investment Board
- Kings County Workforce Investment Board
- Madera County Workforce Investment Board
- Merced County Workforce Investment Board
- San Joaquin County Workforce Investment Board
- Stanislaus County Workforce Investment Board
- Tulare County Workforce Investment Board

**Project Description:**

In the 27,300-square-mile San Joaquin Valley (Valley), the average annual unemployment dipped below double digits only one year in the quarter century from 1978 to 2003. In response to this condition and several other conditions affecting quality of life in the Valley, Governor Schwarzenegger issued an executive order in June 2005 creating the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley (Partnership). Its mission, as defined in the executive order, was to develop a Strategic Action Proposal that provides recommendations to improve the economic conditions of the Valley. The Proposal was developed and presented to the governor in October 2006. The governor has since issued two additional executive orders calling for implementation of the recommendations in the Proposal.

One of the important recommendations in the Proposal was to align all regional economic development efforts in support of target industry clusters chosen on the basis of their high job-growth potential. These efforts began to show fruit when the Valley average unemployment fell below double-digits for three consecutive years beginning in 2006. However, the current recession, coupled with a severe drought, has caused the Valley's jobless rate to soar once again, the most recent numbers showing an unemployment rate of about 17 percent, well above the state average numbers. A UC Davis report issued in March 2009 predicts up to 80,000 lost jobs and between \$1.6 billion and \$2.2 billion in direct and indirect income loss as a result of the drought, affecting the diverse farming and ranching communities that grow 50 percent of the nation's fruits, vegetables, nuts and dairy products. Unemployment here has a potential nationwide impact on our food supply.

Almost one in every five Valley residents is unemployed, yet there are available jobs in the Valley because of an insufficient workforce. Potential employees do not have the skills to meet job demands. The Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs) throughout the Valley work diligently with the Partnership to address the Valley's job creation needs, but they have been constrained by the following issues:

- Lack of resources—cutbacks in WIA funding have affected the capacity of the WIBs. It is estimated that the WIBs are able to serve only 5 percent to 10 percent of eligible applicants.
- The WIBs do not have jurisdiction over all the organizations that need to be engaged in the implementation of a fully integrated workforce development network.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) provides an opportunity to bring some resources to bear on these two constraints. Formula funding going to the WIBs will enable them to more effectively serve a larger pool of eligible applicants.

This proposal requests support from state discretionary WIA funding to address the second constraint, specifically to enhance the ability of the Partnership and WIBs to effectively and efficiently get the best return on investment for the Valley's unemployed and to stimulate the regional economy. In this endeavor, the Partnership would act as a convener to bring all Valley stakeholders together to target industry clusters that show the most promise for future job growth regionwide.

Industry clusters and labor pools do not align themselves along the borders of political jurisdictions. They are more a function of regional geography, climate, natural resources and history and culture, particularly as regards the clustering of innovation. Cities and counties don't have isolated economies but are part of regional economies. Successful regional economies compete globally on the basis of innovation, technology, entrepreneurship, workforce skills and industry-specific productivity. Of these factors, a skilled workforce is most strongly correlated with growth in per capita income, productivity and growth. But California has no governance to address regional economies, so the aim of this proposal is to create a seamless, multigovernment, multisector network focused on the development of a regional workforce built around targeted industry clusters with high-demand occupations in the Valley. It is our goal that this network will serve as a template that other regions can adopt and modify to suit their own needs and conditions.

Spurred in part by the Partnership, the creation of such a network in the Valley has been started. Indeed, according to a November 30, 2008, report issued by California State University, Northridge, for the California Workforce Association, the eight WIBs in the San Joaquin Valley have come together to form one of the two regions in the state with the highest density of effective relationships. Joint surveys have been done to determine high-demand occupations in the targeted industry clusters; a single Web site now connects employers and candidates throughout the Valley; a common job applicant assessment tool is now in use throughout the Valley. But there is much work to be done to fully integrate the work of the WIBs with the work of the economic development corporations and other business, industry and agriculture organizations; the educational institutions from K-12 through the community colleges and universities; local governments; state and national government; and the myriad other organizations, including CBO's, that all have an impact on the success of the targeted industry clusters.

This grant will serve to bring all these parties together to produce the following specific deliverables over a two-year period, with quarterly comprehensive progress reports.

### **Deliverable # 1:**

A fully coordinated academic and training program, from high-schools through institutes of higher learning, which provides curriculum programs with the rigor and relevance needed to yield qualified trained employees with immediate value for the following industry clusters:

- Agribusiness, including Food Processing, Agricultural Technology and Biotechnology;
- Water Technology
- Renewable Energy
- Manufacturing
- Supply Chain Management and Logistics

These clusters all have a strong connection to the heart of the regional economy, which is agribusiness. Water technology is crucial to the success of agribusiness; more than 20 percent of the energy consumed in California is used to move water; there is a significant intersection of agribusiness waste management, energy efficiency, air quality and carbon footprint; our manufacturing industry in the Valley is heavily oriented towards agribusiness and water markets; much of our supply chain and logistics business has been built up around agribusiness.

### **Partners:**

- Eight County WIBs
- Partnership Economic Development Work Group, including EDCs, Chambers and Business Councils
- Partnership PreK-12 Work group
- Partnership Higher Education and Workforce Development Work Group, including community colleges, CSUs and UC Merced
- San Joaquin Valley Clean Energy Organization
- Partnership Water Work Group
- Partnership Air Quality Work Group
- Representatives from the industry clusters.
- Partnership Secretariat

### **Deliverable #2**

A workforce readiness program that addresses areas of significant deficiency in the San Joaquin Valley, specifically:

- English Language Learners Program
- Digital Literacy Program

The intent would be to connect the curriculum of both of these programs to subjects that are relevant to the targeted regional industry clusters.

### **Partners:**

- Eight County WIBs
- Partnership PreK-12 Work group
- Central Valley Education Leadership Institute
- California Emerging Technology Fund
- Partnership Secretariat

### Deliverable #3

Ensure that the green economy and green workforce are part of this new regional occupational development in the San Joaquin Valley, consistent with the needs of agribusiness, the goals of AB 32, the air quality goals of the Partnership and the “energy independence” goals of the San Joaquin Valley Clean Energy Organization. This would set national model.

#### Partners:

- Eight County WIBs
- San Joaquin Valley Clean Energy Organization
- Partnership Water Work Group
- Partnership Air Quality Work Group
- Representatives from the industry clusters
- Partnership Secretariat

### Deliverable #4

Establish a network throughout the eight-county region of business incubators and entrepreneurship development programs focused on the targeted regional industry clusters.

#### Partners:

- Eight County WIBs
- Lyles Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, California State University, Fresno
- Partnership Economic Development Work Group, including EDCs, Chambers and Business Councils
- Partnership Higher Education and Workforce Development Work Group, including community colleges, CSUs and UC Merced
- Representatives from the industry clusters
- Partnership Secretariat

**Request:** \$2,000,000 (ARRA WIA discretionary funding for the two-year period July 2009 through June 2011; agencies will provide cash and in-kind matching)

### **Project M: Central California Workforce Collaborative High-Growth Industries**

**Project Description :** Central California Workforce Collaborative (CCWC) in support of the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley (Partnership) will use these funds to target high-wage, high-growth industry sectors in Manufacturing, Agri-Business (including biotechnology), Health Care, Supply Chain Management, Renewable Energy, Auto Technology, Information Systems, and Construction Trades to: 1) develop a well-trained workforce that meets the needs of these industry sectors, and 2) connect qualified job seekers with the employers that are in need of their skills across the 14 county region of San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced, Madera, Fresno, Kings, Tulare, Kern, Inyo, Mono, Tuolumne, Mariposa, Calaveras, and Amador.

**Request:** \$1,300,000

## ENVIRONMENTAL STREAMLINING

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### **Project N: Environmental Strategic Plan Program**

#### Renewable Energy and Water Technology Environmental Permit Grant and Loan Program

A major obstacle to providing opportunity for development of Energy and water technology businesses and industrial parks is the cost and length of the environmental process. If the majority of the process can be addressed prior to interest and a part of the certified sites program, the cost and time for the development would be reduced and there would be more certified sites available for economic development professionals and the state to market for future business. Cities and counties are strapped financially and cannot afford to have this work prepared in advance.

The Program would focus on streamlining the environmental and entitlement process in order to attract and “nest” clean, renewable energy and water technology companies in California. The Program would be open to a diverse set of stakeholders, including local and county agencies, state and federal regulatory agencies, private industry, universities, and public interest to create a foundational base of information that will propel new projects to completion quickly. Information will be developed and disseminated in multiple methods including formal documents complying with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Clean Water Act, and state and federal endangered species acts. More specifically, the state in cooperation with local, regional, and state leads and responsible agencies will provide funding for programmatic-level EIRs (per CEQA) to analyze the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects of installing broad renewable energy and water technology developments within a designated area. Practical program-level mitigation measures will be described along with a description of, and stream-lined plan for, obtaining local, state, and federal permits. This approach will facilitate the entitlement process by clearly describing the regulatory environment and critical issues facing renewable energy and water technology companies seeking to develop projects in designated areas of California, and reduce the time lines and costs for entitling individual projects.

CEQA Guidelines use the term “program” to mean a series of actions that can be characterized as one large project, and can be related in several ways: 1) geographically, 2) as logical parts in the chain of contemplated actions, 3) in connection with the issuance of rules, regulations, plans, or other general criteria to govern the conduct of a continuing program, or 4) as individual activities carried out under the same authorizing or statutory authority and having generally similar environmental effects that can be mitigated in similar ways (CEQA Guidelines §15168, subd. (a)). A programmatic-level EIR will allow the designated entity to provide an analytical structure for more detailed site-specific analyses of future alternative energy projects through the adoption of performance standards and objectives that can be translated into site-specific mitigation measures when the individual projects are proposed. These subsequent analyses can incorporate by reference materials from the program EIR. CEQA documentation for the individual projects would only focus on new effects not considered in the programmatic document. This pre-work is anticipated to reduce entitlement schedules by 30 percent to 75 percent.

Through the initiation of comprehensive environmental reviews and preliminary entitlement procurement, in collaboration with the counties as well as the rural, economically depressed cities, the state will be able to maximize existing transportation infrastructure and minimize negative impacts on regional assets and

resources such as water and productive agricultural lands. Phase 1 of the Plan will include a section to identify obstacles in the permitting process and develop strategies to streamline the overall process.

**Request:** \$100,000,000 (Proposing the state create this funding amount to provide grants and/or loans [\$2,000,000 maximum] to pay for the necessary work to attract clean renewable energy and water technology businesses to regions within the state)

## CLEAN ENERGY

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### **Project O: Central Valley Schools Partnership Program for Energy Conservation**

**Overview:** As part of San Joaquin Valley, Ceres Unified School District (CUSD) submits this proposal on behalf of five school districts in the Central Valley partnership on energy conservation. This project targets school districts served by the Turlock Irrigation District (the primary electrical provider), representing five separate districts in the Valley.

**Project Description:** This regional partnership program goal is to implement a comprehensive Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Project in collaboration with an experienced energy partner and industry leader that will allow us to produce approximately 70 percent of the electrical demand from renewable energy.

Project will provide the following:

- Support from multiple organizations and agencies: San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District, Turlock Irrigation District, each city agency of our partners including Ceres, Hilmar, Patterson, Hughson, and Newman-Crows Landing.
- Regional or Multijurisdictional: The project serves a region served by the Turlock Irrigation District (the primary electrical provider), representing five separate districts in the Valley.
- While the project is focused on energy, our partner, Turlock Irrigation District, is anticipating increased efficiency in their processes for the delivery of water to the area.
- Leveraging additional dollars: Our partners, Chevron Energy Solutions and the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District, are interested in assisting our program in leveraging additional dollars to support broader implementation of this program across the region.

With support of stimulus funding, program is expected to deliver:

- Significant operational budget relief bringing dollars back into the classroom and save teacher jobs, approximately eight teaching positions. This project will also generate approximately 60 new industry-related jobs.
- Start time: Project will be ready to start construction as early as July 1, 2009, employing local labor; will take six to nine months to complete.

Project is well-aligned with the state's key criteria for a successful Regional Economic Recovery Work Plan:

- Provides immediate job growth
- Demonstrates environmental stewardship by providing "green" energy infrastructure that complies with AB 32 and SB 375

- Delivers long-term regional economic benefits as it exposes local contractors and the future workforce (students) to the growth industry
- Expedites infrastructure delivery (our industry partner has worked closely with the Department of State Architect to secure a pre-check on the solar (PV) equipment to accelerate the construction schedule and get people to work sooner)
- Creates small business participation with employment of local contractors
- Provides expedited permit review (prior to and during construction) with pre-check on the DSA solar installation submittals
- Supports the growth of business and innovation
- Enhances environmental quality with clean energy

**Request: \$44,000,000**

**Project P: Southern Sierra Regional Collaborative: Renewable Energy Training & Technical Assistance Center**

**Project Description:** The Southern Sierra Regional Collaborative (SSRC) proposes to establish Renewable Energy Training & Technical Assistance Centers in five key renewable energy locations. The project area contains five of the top twelve California Competitive Renewable Energy Zones (CREZ) and is considered the most important resource area in the entire state; accounting for nearly half of all new renewable energy development in California. The U.S. Dept of Energy 2009 analysis projects 400%-500% increase in renewable energy generating capacity over the next eleven years. The CPUC's RETI Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative estimates 70,000-90,000 new renewable energy jobs of which 11,000-14,000 are renewable energy technician jobs. Regional industry partners estimate 7,150 new technician jobs in the project service area not including expected workforce shrinkage due to retirements over the next ten years. This project graduates renewable energy technicians with urgently needed industry skills and competencies.

The Kern Community College District, the lead partner of the Southern Sierra Regional Collaborative (SSRC). Partners include: Bakersfield College, Cerro Coso Community College, Porterville College, Taft College, Kern Economic Development Corporation (KEDC), California Biomass Energy Association (CBEA), California Wind Energy Association (CalWEA), Covanta Delano; Eastern Kern Economic Alliance, Geothermal Resource Council; Independent Energy Producers Association (IEPA), Kern Wind Energy Association (KWEA), Mt. Poso Cogeneration; NextEra Energy Resources (previously Florida Power & Light (FPL), Oak Creek Systems; Solar Millennium, and Terra-Gen Power.

The Renewable Energy T&TACs Project meets key stimulus funding criteria:

- Start Date: July 1, 2009; 18-month project period
- Generates 306 construction jobs
- Provide service to an underserved multi-jurisdictional area
  - Cal Trans Zones 6 & 9: Kern, Southeastern Tulare, Inyo & Mono Counties

The Renewable Energy T&TAC project will:

- Develop & deliver Industry-Recognized Renewable Energy Training
  - Utility & commercial scale renewable energy production

- Solar photovoltaic, Solar Thermal, Geothermal, Biomass & Wind
- Renewable Energy Training and Technical Assistance Centers
  - Training: Bakersfield, California City, Tehachapi, Delano, Taft
  - Technical Assistance Center: Bakersfield (serves the entire project area)
- Focus on retraining unemployed workers
- Provide community and incumbent worker training
- Respond to and meet urgent industry need for trained workforce:
  - Provide trained workers over the next five years to meet projected workforce shortfalls for commercial and utility producers
  - Fill existing jobs and knowledge/competencies gaps
  - Graduate 192 students the first year; 500 students each year thereafter
- Provide Renewable Energy Training and Technical Assistance to
  - Oil production and refining, Ranchers, Farmers, Business and Home Owners
- Provide Technology Transfer to Commercial Renewable Energy Producers
- Self-sustaining in the third project year

**Request:** \$17,900,000 (two-year program expenses: \$4,700,000; equipment and facilities expense: \$12,500,000)

## WATER

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### **Project Q: Arvin-Edison Water Storage District – Forrest Frick Pumping Plant Rehabilitation**

**Project Description:** The Arvin-Edison WSD project involves both water and energy conservation for a water pumping facility rehabilitation project that involves a regionally integrated water district. Arvin-Edison WSD delivers water to customers ranging from local irrigation and drinking water customers to customers in Southern California including Metropolitan Water District through a conjunctive use groundwater bank.

Project duration is 15 months.

**Request:** \$8,200,000 to \$12,300,000

### **Project R: Deer Creek/Friant Kern Canal Basin Modification and Environmental Groundwater Banking Project**

**Project Description:** The Deer Creek project is part of the Deer Creek/Tule River Authority Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP). IRWMPs by nature implement strategies that provide multiple benefits. This project increases groundwater recharge and the conserved water is part of a larger effort of local river system riparian corridor restoration. The specific component is construction of a recharge facility that also serves as a 76-acre wetland habitat for migrating water fowl and shorebirds.

Project duration is 12 months.

**Request:** \$200,000

**Project S: Semitropic Water Storage District Poso Creek Detention Ponds and Upland Habitat Enhancement**

**Project Description:** This project is part of the Poso Creek IRWMP. This project will restore retired agricultural lands to native upland habitat (alkali scrub – home to numerous endangered species; including but not limited to, blunt-nosed leopard lizards and kangaroo rats). The land will be used for natural sedimentation of Poso Creek flood flows prior to the introduction of the water into groundwater recharge pond. The technique maintains the viability and reduces the cost of maintenance of removing silt from the floor of recharge ponds. The project involves the native restoration of 320 acres and the distribution and delivery system capabilities needed to divert and re-divert the Poso Creek flood flows. The land has already been purchased.

Project duration is 12 months.

**Request: \$2,000,000**

**Project T: Poso Creek IRWMP Disadvantaged Community Engineering Design Fund**

**Project Description:** The Poso Creek IRWMP region includes a number of disadvantaged communities (the cities of Delano, McFarland, Shafter and Wasco along with a number of unincorporated communities) that often cannot pull together sufficient resources to even make application for grants and loans for drinking water supply and wastewater disposal projects because the applications often require up-front investment in engineering studies. This project involves developing an engineering study revolving fund that can be used to complete such up-front work. The Poso Creek IRWMP has projects in their plan to improve groundwater and surface water supplies for the communities but the communities need the engineering design to apply for the grants and loans to take advantage of the IRWMP proposals.

Project duration is 24 months.

**Request: \$300,000**

**Project U: North Fork Kings River Area Groundwater Recharge Project**

**Project Description:** This project is also part of an IRWMP in the Upper Kings River Basin Forum. The project involves developing groundwater recharge ponds in a seriously over drafted portion of the Kings River groundwater basin. Improving the groundwater will improve local supplies for agricultural lands and small disadvantaged communities (Caruthers, Lanare, Laton, Riverdale and others) and reduce energy costs for pumping. The specific elements consist of construction of 2 recharge basins, an 83-acre site and a six-acre site.

Project duration is six months.

**Request: \$1,700,000**

## **Project V: Clovis Intertie Project**

**Project Description:** This project is another element of the Upper Kings River Forum IRWMP that involves improving the delivery capability of raw water supplies to the Clovis drinking water treatment facility. The Clovis facility serves a number of water users in the Cities of Clovis and Fresno as well as unincorporated areas. The project has the support of 19 public agency members of the forum and other local stakeholders in the Forum.

Project duration is six months.

**Request: \$1,000,000**

## **AIR QUALITY**

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### **Project W: SJVCEO/Air District: Regional Implementation of EECBG**

**Project Description:** Regional Implementation support for San Joaquin Valley Energy Efficiency/Conservation Block Grants to Local Jurisdictions. The San Joaquin Valley Clean Energy Organization (SJVCEO) and the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (Air District) propose to lead a team effort to develop and deliver energy efficiency services in the residential and nonresidential (commercial and municipal) sector to cities with populations under 35,000 across the San Joaquin Valley.

The goal of this effort will be to enable small jurisdictions to receive needed energy efficiency services from credible and respected organizations to meet their needs and capture opportunities in their communities without administrative burden. The primary premise is simple: by leveraging resources from the Air District, utilities, and others, SJVCEO/Air District will be able to provide participating jurisdictions access to greater resources by working through us than if they were to apply to the California Energy Commission (CEC) for direct energy efficiency and conservation (EECBG) funding (currently proposed at \$7 per capita for participating jurisdictions). SJVCEO/Air District would develop these services in bundles based on best practice experiences to date and offer these bundles of services to small jurisdictions with a particular focus on underserved, economically distressed, air quality-challenged portions of the region.

SJVCEO/Air District will form the Project Team, develop a suite of offerings, and recruit jurisdictions, and obtain permission to represent them through the EECBG grant program administered through the CEC. SJVCEO/Air District will work closely with PG&E, Southern California Edison, and Southern California Gas Company to leverage resources and support, particularly through their local government partnership programs. SJVCEO/Air District will then coordinate the delivery of these bundled energy efficiency services through a team of contractors, maximizing use of Valley-based labor for this work.

Project will yield significant energy, economic and air quality benefits.

**Request: \$3,000,000**

## **Project X: SJVCEO/Air District: Regional Coordination of State Energy Program**

**Project Description:** Regional Coordination for the implementation of clean energy projects through the State Energy Program (SEP). The San Joaquin Valley Clean Energy Organization (SJVCEO) and the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (Air District) propose to lead a team effort to identify and select a large and diverse mix of shovel-ready clean energy projects across the region meeting the criteria established by the California Energy Commission (CEC) for funding projects through the State Energy Program. The final criteria for selecting these projects would be developed by the Project Team and approved by the CEC.

A special focus of this effort will be to locate projects in underserved, economically distressed, air quality-challenged portions of the region. The shovel-ready project list compiled through the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley will be the starting point for this effort. SJVCEO/Air District will seek out additional projects across the region consistent with the criteria approved by the CEC. SJVCEO/Air District will seek out viable projects not eligible for funding from other sources.

A major focus of this effort will be to work closely with PG&E, Southern California Edison, and Southern California Gas Company to identify additional shovel ready projects in their service territories and leverage resources and support, particularly through their local government partnership programs. SJVCEO/Air District will then coordinate the delivery of energy efficiency services to fully implement these projects through a team of contractors, seeking to maximize use of Valley-based labor for this work.

Project will yield significant energy, economic and air quality benefits.

**Request: \$20,000,000**

## **Project Y: Diesel Emissions Reduction Act: Vehicle and Equipment Retrofit/Replacement**

**Project Description:** The San Joaquin Air Pollution Control District (Air District) will seek funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) program for the following purposes throughout the Valley region:

- School Buses - replacements and retrofits
- Off-Road Equipment - replacement, repower, and retrofit
- On-Road Heavy Duty Trucks- replacement and retrofit
- Agriculture Irrigation Pumps - replacement and repower
- Locomotives - replacement, repower and retrofit
- Emerging Diesel Technology - selective catalytic reduction (SCR)
- Emerging Diesel Technology - potential technology partners

**Request: \$290,000,000**

**Project Z: Clean Cities Petroleum Reduction Technology Projects**

**Project Description:** The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District will seek funding through the Clean Cities Petroleum Reduction Technology Projects program. They will partner with project proponents and the San Joaquin Valley Clean Cities Coalition to:

- Increase alternative fuel infrastructure (CNG/LNG)
- Increase alternative fueled vehicles - light, medium, and heavy-duty vehicles throughout the Valley

Project duration is two years.

**Request: \$12,000,000**

## Work Group Consultants' Reports

The attached reports summarize the 2009 First Quarter Activity from January through March 2009 for each of the Partnership's 10 work groups.

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**Work Group:** Advanced Communications Services and Technology  
**Consultant:** David Hosley, President  
Dejeune Shelton, Senior Program Manager  
**Organization:** Great Valley Center  
**Quarter:** 1st 2009  
**Phone:** 209.522.5103  
**Email:** hosley@greatvalley.org  
dejeune@greatvalley.org

**By Goal and Objective – Description of Activity, Planned Activities, Challenges/Problems/Bottlenecks/Feedback**

- a. = Description of Activity
- b. = Planned Activities
- c. = Challenges/Problems/Bottlenecks/Feedback

**Goal 1: Expedite the provision of advanced communications services access in all areas of the San Joaquin Valley.**

Objective A: Raise the profile of access to ACS as a fundamental and necessary service for all residents and businesses.

- a. Discussion continues to take place on how to increase adoption rates.
- b. Determination of the current amount of penetration rate for ACS in the San Joaquin Valley.
- c. None

Objective B: Inform local elected officials about the benefits of ubiquitous access to ACS and provide model policies and other tools to help facilitate deployment.

- a. Discussions took place on topics to be included in primer and consensus was reached to expand on model policies and include financial benefits and terms.
- b. Research for primer.
- c. None

Objective C: Identify communities and neighborhoods without affordable connection to delivery of ACS.

Completed

Objective D: Increase availability of affordable ACS in rural and other underserved areas.

- a. Discussion of what is “affordable” took place with most providers believing fees are close to the same cost for a phone line. There are currently no subsidies for low-income clients; that can be a topic for the work group to explore.
- b. Determine what it would take to pass subsidies for low-income clients to receive ACS.
- c. None

Objective E: Increase deployment of ACS by current and prospective service providers.

- a. Discussion regarding access to ACS for all community members. Decided access is widely available except for areas with populations under 1,000 or where there is no infrastructure.
- b. Meeting with CPUC, CSAC, LCC and CSBA.
- c. None

Objective F: Increase deployment through wired, fixed wireless, wireless and other available technologies.

- a. Primer to support this concept.
- b. Work on primer.
- c. None.

Objective G: Eliminate installation barriers that discourage deployment.

- a. Discussed inviting Caltrans to present at an ACS meeting to provide information regarding how much installation has occurred.
- b. Invitation to Caltrans.
- c. None

Objective H: Identify and seek all available funding for deployment of ACS.

- a. Several grant applications have been submitted to support increase funding for ACS.
- b. Determine if any stimulus money will provide funding for ACS deployment.
- c. Understanding and tracking stimulus funding.

Objective I: Leverage unused bandwidth for the benefit of the greatest number of users.

- a. Providers advised most bandwidth is used or sold.
- b. Contact CENIC and BBIC to determine current policies.
- c. None

Objective J: Incorporate ACS infrastructure into all new residential and commercial construction.

- a. Discussion regarding current infrastructure trends.
- b. Meeting with BIA to increase the use of ACS in infrastructure.
- c. Current housing downturn.

**Goal 2: Promote accessibility and utilization of ACS in targeting underserved communities and populations.**

Objective A: Increase utilization of ACS by all residents.

- a. Working with Cutler-Orosi which received funding from CPUC to provide ACS services in Firebaugh and other underserved communities.
- b. Researching if technical support can be provided to other CPUC-funded programs.
- c. Funding

Objective B: Inform local officials about the importance and benefits of access to ACS and IT for all residents and businesses.

- a. Creating primer for elected officials which includes: importance of ACS, financial benefits, terms.
- b. Continued research
- c. None

Objective C: Implement projects to provide access to ACS and IT for all residents and businesses to eliminate the digital divide.

- a. Application to Zero divide to provide IT services to disadvantaged communities.
- b. Contact CETF to invite to ACS meeting to discuss current programs they are funding or will fund in the future to support this objective.
- c. None

Objective D: Develop and implement a program to ensure all high school students graduate with the basic computer literacy skills.

- a. Joint meeting with PreK-12 Work Group to discuss this goal and the possibility of expanding to include teacher training.
- b. Joint meeting with PreK-12 Work Group.
- c. Reduced school funding dollars for technology training.

Objective E: Expand the number of public locations for access to ACS to help disadvantaged residents and businesses to bridge the digital divide.

- a. ACS Work Group to determine which government agencies provide this service.
- b. Research to determine which agencies provide ACS to public.
- c. Difficult to determine by community

**Goal 3: Expand and replicate successful model programs to increase access to ACS and IT to bridge the digital divide.**

Objective A: Develop and implement a plan to expand and replicate the most successful strategies and programs to bridge the digital divide.

- a. Working to duplicate and expand programs that are successfully providing ACS services such as T3. Also looking to provide some technology social enterprise.
- b. Invitation for more technology groups to present at ACS meetings.
- c. Funding to support social enterprise is difficult to obtain.

Objective B: Foster demand for ACS access in underserved and disadvantaged communities, such as encouraging economic development and growth of home-based businesses.

- a. Application made to California Consumer Protection Foundation to expand ACS services underserved and disadvantaged communities.
- b. Application to Zero Divide.
- c. Due to downturn of economy, many funders do not have dollars to support such a venture.

**Goal 4: Accelerate deployment of ACS infrastructure through telemedicine and eHealth technology.**

Objective A: Develop and implement a telemedicine and eHealth plan to connect health clinics with medical centers.

- a. Telemedicine report completed for UC Merced.
- b. None
- c. None

Objective B: Build upon ACS infrastructure for telemedicine and eHealth to promote other applications for education and economic development to increase access and affordability.

- a. No activity

**If you have coordinated any outreach, please describe briefly.**

Outreach to California Consumer Protection Foundation

**Work Group:** Air Quality  
**Consultant:** Mark Keppler, Executive Director  
**Organization:** The Kenneth L. Maddy Institute  
**Quarter:** 1st 2009  
**Phone:** 559.294.9119 or 559.213.0808  
**Email:** mkeppler@csufresno.edu

### **Description of Activity by Goal and Objective**

*Goal 1: Achieve U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) standards for 8-hour ozone and PM2.5 by the current attainment date, or as soon as practicable thereafter*

No action taken.

*Goal 2: Encourage EPA adoption of tighter federal emission control standards*

No action taken.

*Goal 3: Implement incentive mechanisms to accelerate adoption of air quality mitigation technologies*

### **Diesel Incentives Exploration Working Group**

AQWG participated in a meeting with business and environmental representatives on Feb.17, 2009, in an effort to pursue additional programs/funding for incentives to reduce diesel emissions in the greater Central Valley.

### **Legislation**

AQWG continues to work on passage and implementation of state and federal legislation that will bring additional clean air incentive funding to the San Joaquin Valley (Valley), including funding mechanisms included in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) enacted on Feb.17.

*Goal 4: Promote clean energy projects (with Energy Work Group)*

### **San Joaquin Valley Clean Energy Organization**

AQWG continues to participate in meetings of the established San Joaquin Valley Clean Energy Organization (SJVCEO) and provide input as necessary. Staff has provided government affairs support in the area of federal legislation on clean energy, including clean energy funding mechanisms, such as the Energy Efficiency Block Grant Program and the State Energy Program, in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) enacted on Feb.17.

*Goal 5: Improve transportation mobility and goods movement (with Transportation Work Group)*

AQWG consultants remain engaged in activities of the Transportation Work Group and the San Joaquin Valley COGs Regional Policy Council regarding goods movement plans and high-speed rail.

### **High-Speed Rail**

The California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley (Partnership) has been participating in a working group facilitated by the California High Speed Rail Authority to pursue construction of a higher-speed Altamont route connecting the Valley. With the passage of the HSR bond in November 2008, planning efforts are under way for the Altamont project. A Preliminary Project Description outlining the general project location, the purpose and goals of the project, the planning context within which the project is being developed, and a description of the general location and anticipated design elements of the project has been prepared by the consultants (AECOM) for review by the HSRA board in May 2009.

*Goal 6: Encourage "green" local government policies and sustainable communities*

No action taken

*Goal 7: Accelerate research on emission-reduction strategies and clean-air technologies, establishing the San Joaquin Valley as a leader in innovation*

No action taken

*Goal 8: Improve public understanding of air quality issues and solutions*

**“The Maddy Forum” KFSR 90.7/Podcast**

The Maddy Institute created a public affairs radio program called “The Maddy Forum” broadcast on 90.7 KFSR. The weekly program features conversations about important public policy issues facing the San Joaquin Valley, and interviews with local leaders and elected officials. Shows this quarter have highlighted issues such as clean energy and the regional economic stimulus plan. We are planning a future show on the health implications of poor air quality.

**Planned Activities by Goal and Objective (for next 3-6 months)**

Continue to pursue a “dual path” to clean air by seeking the commercialization of new technologies as well as incentive mechanisms that will assist the Valley in accelerating the attainment of clean air standards to achieve by 2017.

Continue to work with the High Speed Rail Altamont Working Group on efforts to build a high-speed rail system connecting the Valley.

Continue to monitor progress on CARB’s regulations, such as Heavy-Duty In-Use Diesel Regulation and AB 32/Greenhouse Gas Regulations, and analyzing them for impacts on the Valley.

Work with members in the state legislature and Congress as well as a new Presidential Administration to bring focus on assisting the Valley and address its air quality challenges.

**Challenges/Problems/Bottlenecks/Feedback**

None to report at this time

**If you have coordinated any outreach, please describe briefly**

AQWG remains directly involved with legislators and their staff, conducting consistent legislative outreach. The Partnership and Interagency Task Force convene Valley district office staffers from both the Congressional and State delegations monthly in which AQWG attends and actively participates.

**Work Group:** Economic Development  
**Consultant:** Jennifer Faughn  
**Organization:** Central California Economic Development Corporation  
**Quarter:** 1st 2009  
**Phone:** 661.366.0756  
**Email:** cacentralvalley@aol.com

## **GOAL 1, OBJECTIVE A. INFRASTRUCTURE**

### **Description of Activity by Goal and Objective**

(Champion: Mike Locke, San Joaquin Partnership)

The Economic Development Work Group (EDWG) is tasked with identifying capital improvement projects and the need for a regional financing authority.

- In addition to asking each city each member county of Central California Economic Development Corporation (CCEDC) has been asked to assist in gathering:
  - **Capital Improvement Plans to understand the scope of funding requirements**
  - **City or County Finance Policy**
- **CHANGE IN SCOPE OF WORK:** With the government stimulus dollars available, the task has been changed to identifying capital projects that will fit within the program specifications.

### **Progress**

- Each county worked with its cities to identify stimulus projects.
- The consultant compiled a list of all economic development projects in the San Joaquin Valley (Valley) eight-county region and submitted it to the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley (Partnership).

### **Planned Activities (for next 3-6 months)**

- Review the stimulus projects and make any alterations to the list.
- Present the information to city managers
- Determine the need for a regional financing authority or other vehicle to assist with infrastructure, especially in rural areas.

## **GOAL 1, OBJECTIVE B. INCENTIVES**

### **Description of Activity by Goal and Objective**

(Champion: Bill Bassitt, The Alliance-Stanislaus County)

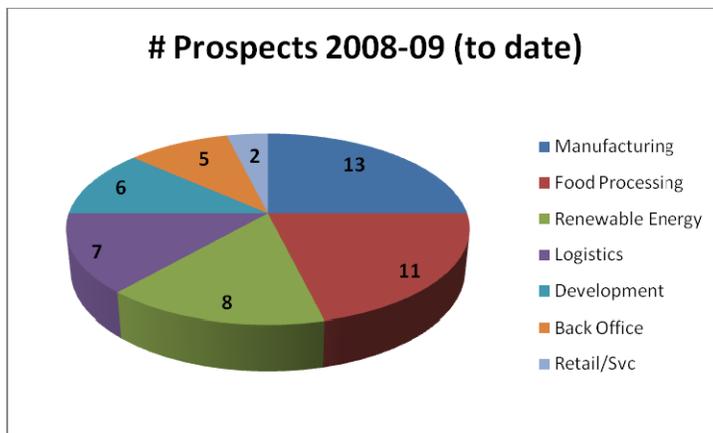
- The Economic Development Work Group completed a mission to Sacramento on **March 18, 2009**, to inform legislators and interested parties about the Partnership and what is going on with economic development in the region.
- Continued focus on legislative concepts:
  1. San Joaquin Valley Regional Economic Recovery Work Plan
  2. Reinstitution of the Manufacturer's Investment Credit
  3. Prevailing Wage for the Valley

### **Planned Activities (for next 3-6 months)**

**All action items have been completed for this goal**

**GOAL 1, OBJECTIVE C. MARKETING**  
 (Champion: Richard Chapman, Kern EDC)

*Overall new businesses looking at Central California for a location since July 2008*



**Trade Missions**

- The very aggressive trade mission program has continued in 2008-2009. The program includes visits with site selectors, brokers and tenant reps to discuss and provide information on Central California. EDC directors rotate participation.

| Date            | Place      | Attending                 | Progress   |
|-----------------|------------|---------------------------|--|
| Jan 27-29, 2009 | Sacramento | Tulare, San Joaquin, PG&E | Outreach/Contacts: 172 Brokers<br>Appointments: 11<br>Leads: 2 |

**Trade Shows CCEDC Attended:**

| Date              | Place   | Attending                                       | Progress  |
|-------------------|---|---|---|
| Feb. 10-12, 2009  | Anaheim WESTPACK                              | Madera, Merced, Stanislaus, San Joaquin, PG&E   | 159 contacts, 37 leads, 15 w/ requirements, 6 qualified prospects, so far |
| March 10-12, 2009 | 2009 Renewable Energy World Conference & Expo | San Joaquin, Merced, Kern, Fresno, Tulare, PG&E | 159 contacts, 25 leads, 7 qualified prospects, so far                     |

**Marketing Tools:**

- ENewsletter for Central California was sent out to more than 2,500 broker contacts. The electronic newsletter, distributed by e-mail, notes positive real estate and business growth articles. In addition, there is a section for the **Partnership**.

**Industry Direct Mail:**

- Called 1,500 Food processing and Packaging contacts
- 11 leads
- 5 business prospects

**Planned Activities (for next 3-6 months)**

- The Central California Market Profile is almost complete.
- April 2009 Dallas Broker Mission
- April 2009 CCEDC Board Work Session
- June 3 and 22, CoreNet Events Northern and Southern California

## **GOAL 2, CLUSTERS**

(Champion: John Lehn, Kings County EDC)

- **Detail notes from Business Cluster Meeting was submitted to the Partnership** with request for subcommittees to comments on what is being done on issues of concern to business. (Attached)
- **Executive Summary of meeting** was distributed to all business cluster contacts.

### **Goals Reached**

- **Business Cluster meetings were held**
  - Northern San Joaquin Valley, **Dec. 2, 2008**, at the Alliance in Modesto
  - Southern San Joaquin Valley, **Dec. 3, 2008**, at the International Ag Pavilion in Tulare
  - Workforce and EDC Directors throughout the Valley worked together to enter **3,000 businesses** into the business tracking system **Executive Pulse**. A final report is available online. **This also fulfills the goal for an eight-county CEO/senior database for each cluster.**
- An inventory of industry and service associations was completed in association with the Lyle Center. The site is called **Start, Run, Grow**, which signifies three of the stages of a business where they need assistance. Please see online at <http://www.valleybizconnect.org/>
- The work groups have identified university researchers and programs that are aligned with each target cluster sufficiently through <http://www.careersinthevalley.org/>

### **Planned Activities (for next 3-6 months)**

- Follow-up with Business Cluster Groups on any actions the Partnership has taken regarding their concerns.

## **GOAL 3, ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

(Champion: Scott Galbraith, Merced County EDC with Dr. Timothy M. Stearns, Lyles Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship)

- Galbraith met with Stearns to finalize deliverables to the Partnership.

### **Planned Activities (for next 3-6 months)**

- A Draft Action Plan for (1) long-term funding (2) increase risk-capital in the region (3) increase investment worthiness of Valley business.

## **GOAL 4, RENEWABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY**

(Champion: Steve Geil, Fresno County EDC)

### **Goals reached**

The San Joaquin Valley Clean Energy Organization was formed. Steve Geil, representing the Economic Development Work Group sits on the board. See website <http://www.sjvcleanenergy.org/> New activity detailed in Energy Work Group report.

### **Planned Activities (for next 3-6 months)**

- Attend Energy Work Groups and follow their lead.

**Goal 5, TOURISM**

(Champion: Paul Saldana, Tulare County EDC)

**No change/No funding**

The Economic Development Work Group was asked to oversee the Tourism Goal presumed to be championed by the Central Valley Tourism Association. However, the initial challenge grant was turned down by the CVTA. Their region is much larger than the San Joaquin Valley, and they have not shown a dedicated interest in pursuing the goals of the Partnership.

**Planned Activities (for next 3-6 months)**

- Identify revenue sources for marketing strategy.
- Continue discussions with CVTA.

**If you have coordinated any outreach, please describe briefly.**

The Economic Development Work Group has coordinated outreach to Legislators to promote business growth and retention in state.

**Work Group: Energy**

**Quarter: 1<sup>st</sup> 2009**

**Consultant: Paul Johnson**

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**Consultant: Tim Fisher**

Organization: Great Valley Center

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### **Description of Activity**

Priorities of the Energy Work Group (EWG):

- Provide information and support to ensure that stakeholders in the San Joaquin Valley (Valley) were aware of energy-related funding opportunities through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). Provided information and assistance to help stakeholders access ARRA funding.
- Conduct marketing and outreach to increase the depth and breadth of stakeholder awareness and involvement in EWG and its activities.
- Continue operation of the San Joaquin Valley Clean Energy Organization (SJVCEO) as a vehicle and focal point through which the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley (Partnership) will implement the energy provisions of its Strategic Action Proposal.
- Continue work to implement EWG recommendations not directly related to the creation of SJVCEO.

Specific accomplishments during the quarter include the following. Relevant EWG objectives are noted in ***Bold Italics***.

- Submitted final report to the Partnership on its seed grant which enabled us to successfully establish the SJVCEO and begin its startup operation(***1A***)
- SJVCEO and EWG followed up on work coming out of the Farming Clean Energy Conference at AGTAC in Tulare, Nov. 5-6, 2009 (3A, B, C, D and E). More than 200 participants attended the conference, which explored actions needs to significantly increase clean energy investments in the agricultural sector in the San Joaquin Valley (Valley). SJVCEO drafted a grant to the U.S. Department of Agriculture and is pursuing financial assistance from other sources to carry out the recommendations for moving forward as a result of the conference.
- The SJVCEO Board met on Jan. 29, 2009, in Fresno. (***1, 2, and 3***) The primary topics of discussion were the energy-related provisions of ARRA and opportunities that they presented for the Valley. (See attached minutes for the board meeting.) As a result of this meeting, SJVCEO staff began shaping value-added services that it could provide to help jurisdictions access these resources. In addition, staff developed plans for an April 2, 2009, Board meeting in Merced.
- SJVCEO presented and hosted a forum on Feb. 26 in Fresno on ARRA funding opportunities for the Valley. Over 225 people participated. On March 26, a follow-up workshop was conducted which focused on HUD and housing opportunities.
- SJVCEO continued efforts to secure sustainable funding for the organization. (***1A***)
- Responding to a call-for-projects from the Partnership, SJVCEO staff compiled a data base of shovel-ready clean energy projects throughout the region that were potential candidates for funding through ARRA. Initial results show that almost 300 projects totaling more than \$1 billion were submitted from 40-plus sources.
- EWG staff began outreach efforts to work with jurisdictions to help them pursue ARRA clean energy funding.

- GVC conducted a “Green Bus Tour” on Feb. 20, 2009.
- GVC has started a daily e-newsletter highlighting energy and planning issues in the San Joaquin Valley. Distribution is to more than 1,700 recipients.
- GVC is publishing an Energy Primer for local officials for distribution at its May 2009 conference to elected officials.
- GVC staff participated in an AB 32/SB375 strategy event in S. Lake Tahoe for ClimatePlan.
- GVC staff continues to meet with the Water Group Advisory Committee to discuss recommendations from group to the Partnership Board. GVC continues to work with the cities of Ceres and Modesto on a regional waste water plan and recently spoke to Modesto Bee Editorial Board on the subject.

**Planned Activities by Goal and Objective (for next 3-6 months)**

- Undertake efforts to transition EWG efforts by the end of June 2009
- Hold at least one EWG/SJVCEO Board meeting (April 2).
- Present an AB 32 Forum (through GVC) in Merced in cooperation with Institute for Local Governments and Local Government Commission in April
- Continue to plan for the May 6-7 Annual GVC Conference [2020 Foresight] with several energy-related panels.

**Challenges/Problems/Bottlenecks/Feedback**

Our greatest challenge is not finding opportunities or support but rather sustainable funding.

**If you have coordinated any outreach, please describe briefly.**

- We coordinated efforts across the work groups to prepare the “shovel ready” list of clean energy projects to be considered for ARRA funding.
- We expect to coordinate future outreach with other regions for Climate Action Planning.

**The following attachments may be downloaded from the [Energy Work Group Document Library](#) located on the Partnership Web site:**

1. Minutes of the Jan. 29, 2009, SJVCEO Board Meeting

**Work Group:** Health and Human Services (Health)  
**Consultant:** Dr. John Capitman, Melanie Briones  
**Organization:** Central Valley Health Policy Institute  
**Quarter:** 1<sup>st</sup> 2009  
**Phone:** 559.228.2150  
**Email:** jcapitman@csufresno.edu, mebriones@csufresno.edu

**Goal 1, Objective A: Establish a UC Merced medical school within 10 years.**

*Action: Work with UC Merced to identify and engage key leaders to champion effort.*

**Description of Quarter's Activity/Impact on Partnership**

- In January 2009, consultants with the Washington Advisory Group (WAG), who were retained by UC Merced, submitted a final report to Chancellor Steve Kang after reviewing background materials and meeting with numerous individuals on campus, at sister campuses, at the UC Office of the President, representatives from potential clinical affiliates in the San Joaquin Valley (Valley), academic planning partners at UC Davis and UCSF Fresno and leaders of Valley Coalition for UC Merced Medical School.
- The principal recommendation contained in the report suggests planning for a fully independent medical school in three stages:
  1. Establish an undergraduate program in biomedical education to attract exceptional students to pursue a BS degree that emphasizes the health needs of the Valley and prepares students for advanced study in all of the health sciences, medicine included.
  2. Start as a "branch campus" in conjunction with the UC Davis School of Medicine as early as 2012 provided key milestones are met (e.g., 16-24 students would be admitted into a UC Merced-specific program of medical study with learning experiences on the Davis campus and at UC Merced and in the Valley).
  3. Establish a fully independent UC Merced medical school after having functioned as a successful branch campus after a period of time and seek Regent approval when the economy is more favorable, ideally no later than 2020.
- In early February 2009, the simultaneous development of phases one and two as recommended by WAG was encouraged by UC President Mark Yudof.
- Valley Coalition for UC Merced Medical School and California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley expressed support for the WAG report's phased approach to establishing a medical school, and passed resolutions in support of an expedited time line whereby the independently accredited UC Merced medical school is established by 2015.

**Planned Activities for the next 3-6 months**

**Next Steps**

- Valley Coalition for UC Merced Medical School, whose leadership consists of several Partnership board members, will initiate an outreach campaign in spring 2009 designed to educate and develop support among Valley community members (at a grassroots level) about the need for a UC Merced medical school in the Valley and engage them in the planning process.
- Continue advocacy and fundraising activities
- Planning – driven by faculty – will continue at UC Merced in collaboration with academic partners primarily at UC Davis and UCSF Fresno and with the UC Office of the President.

**Challenges/Problems/Bottlenecks/Feedback**

- Securing state funding to help establish the planned medical school at a time when California is experiencing a deficit more than \$40 billion continues to be a challenge.

## **Goal 1, Objective B: Establish Central Valley Nursing Education Consortium**

### **Description of Quarter's Activity**

- The San Joaquin Valley Nursing Education Consortium was not funded in 2009 so, at this time, there will be no further activity.

## **Goal 2, Objective A: Provide incentives for difficult-to-recruit health and medical professionals.**

*Action: Develop regionwide strategic plan for enterprise zones and financial incentives (Health Enterprise Zone project).*

- Refer to Health Enterprise Zone Interim Report

## **Goal 2, Objective B: Enhance public health capabilities**

### **Description of Quarter's Activity/Impact on Partnership**

- Data collection in the eight-county region that includes assessment and development of products specific to epidemiology resources and staff time, as well as a regional template for reporting (data matrix) is done.
- Presentation of the data matrix was reported to the Public Health Partnership in April 2009.

#### **Next Steps**

- An SJV data warehouse demonstration is scheduled for May 15. This presentation will include SJV epidemiologists and data staff in the eight county health departments. The goal is to develop a system for staff to use the data warehouse.

### **Challenges/Problems/Bottlenecks/Feedback**

- This project is moving along smoothly. Developing a data warehouse "user friendly system" is the key priority at this time.

## **Goal 2, Objective C: Develop a regional plan to address the needs of the uninsured**

### **Description of Quarter's Activity/Impact on Partnership**

- **No changes since the last report. Highlights of last report are repeated below.**
- Since California's failed health reform effort, this objective has been "on hold." However, we continue to monitor President Obama's interests/efforts related to national health reform and look for opportunities to align the Central Valley with national interests in health reform.
- Complete work through the Health Enterprise Zone (HEZ) project that includes preliminary regional stakeholder interests to increase FMAP rates in the Central Valley. Although FMAP rates do not assume coverage of the uninsured, there is regional conversation and interest in developing new strategies to address the needs of the uninsured.

### **Planned Activities for next 3-6 months**

- Continue participating in the Children's Health Initiative efforts, both local and regional
- Participate in local farm worker expansion initiative
- Participate in and provide technical assistance to Specialty Care Access Initiatives
- Monitor political environment specific to health reform

#### **Next Steps:**

- Continue participation in regional health expansion initiatives
- Monitor political environment and opportunities to address the objective

### **Challenges/Problems/Bottlenecks/Feedback**

- Dramatic external and political changes result in uncertainty about the future
- Limited to no resources to support the Partnership work beyond current commitments
- Need time to monitor current political activity before implementing further actions specific to this objective

**Goal 2, Objective D: Improve delivery of health care services through the use of information technology infrastructure and services.**

*Action: Assess e-health readiness*

**Description of Quarter's Activity/Impact on Partnership**

Draft report continues to be under review

**Planned Activities for the next 3-6 months**

- Complete final report
- Make report available through the Partnership

**Challenges/Problems/Bottlenecks/Feedback**

Delays in final review have occurred

**Work Group:** Health and Human Services (Human)  
**Consultant:** Juanita Fiorello  
**Organization:** Central California Social Welfare Evaluation, Research and Training Center  
**Quarter:** 1st 2009  
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**Email:** jfiorello@csufresno.edu

### **Description of Activity by Goal and Objective**

1. Goal 3, Objective A, Methamphetamine Recovery Project:
  - a. Project Coordinators completed community meetings throughout the San Joaquin Valley (Valley) in October.
  - b. Information from the public meetings was entered into a database for demographic and content and analysis for the final deliverable, a report that included community-informed recommendations for addressing methamphetamine issues in the region.
  - c. The Advisory Council held its final meeting on Dec. 5, 2008. The meeting included two speakers and Council acceptance of the final Project report.
  - d. The final report has been posted on the Partnership Web site.
2. Goal 4, Objective A, Foster Care Prevention:
  - a. Continued partnership with California Welfare Directors Association (CWDA), Children's Regional Committee, to address impact of substance abuse on foster care placements, including relative approvals.
  - b. David Foster, staff director at the Central California Social Welfare Evaluation, Research and Training Center (SWERT) at California State University, Fresno, presented data in December 2008 at the Partnership Annual Summit in Stockton regarding the rates at which children are placed with relatives in Valley counties.
  - c. Further activities are pending, to be based on the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) release of pilot county selection criteria and an application process. A CWDA task force is monitoring the process, and several Valley counties have expressed interest in applying. At the point the RFP is released, and if a Valley county is selected, SWERT will serve in an advocacy and support role in the implementation process.
3. Goal 5, Objective A, Competitive funding application process:

As agreed by the [Health and] Human Services Work Group and Co-Conveners, research is under way to develop a document that provides baseline information about the Valley, particularly in underserved rural and unincorporated communities, which takes an informational approach to conditions in the region that should be considered when funding decisions are made. In particular, the report will describe the fiscal and social impact of those communities on the counties in which they are located, as well as the impact on small communities of decisions made based on data of large communities.

### **Planned Activities by Goal and Objective (for next 3-6 months)**

1. Goal 3, Objective A: Although seed grant funding for the Methamphetamine Recovery Project has ended, SWERT utilized work group consultant funding to host a final Advisory Council meeting in March and continues to seek resources to sustain and advance the Project's goals.
2. Goal 4, Objective A: Continue advocacy and support; provide input if requested by CDSS/CWDA for selection criteria development; serve in an advocacy and support role for participating Valley counties.
3. Goal 5, Objective A: Prepare a draft report for review by co-conveners and other stakeholders by March 2009.

### **Challenges/Problems/Bottlenecks/Feedback**

1. The loss of funding constitutes a severe limitation on SWERT's ability to move a Valleywide initiative forward to address methamphetamine and other substance abuse issues.
2. Significant delays in efforts to develop a selection criteria and application process for the AB340 legislation pilot process have suspended SWERT's ability to engage in planned activities for this goal. If the process for selection of pilot counties isn't completed soon, funding may no longer be available to support SWERT participation in this goal.
3. The modified deliverable for this goal is research-based and therefore more labor-intensive than anticipated; funding for support staff is very limited. With available resources, progress on the objective is exceeding the time line originally envisioned.

**Work Group: Higher Education and Workforce Development**

**Higher Education (Goals 2, 3)**

Consultant: Cheri Cruz, Executive Director  
Organization: Central Valley Higher Education Consortium, California State University, Fresno  
Quarter: 1<sup>st</sup> 2009  
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Email: ccruz@csufresno.edu

Consultant: Pilar De La Cruz, Executive Director  
Organization: San Joaquin Valley Nursing Education Consortium  
Quarter: 1<sup>st</sup> 2009  
Phone: 559.660.5693  
Email: preyes@hospitalcouncil.net

**Work Force Development (Goal 1)**

Consultant: Manjit Muhar Atwal, Workforce Projects Manager  
Organization: Office of Community and Economic Development, California State University, Fresno  
Quarter: 1<sup>st</sup> 2009  
Phone: 559.294.6023  
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**Description of Activity: Workforce Development**

**Goal 1: Create a demand-driven workforce investment system that supports target clusters.**

Objective A: Align workforce development resources to support target industry clusters.

**This umbrella objective will be accomplished through meeting the following supporting objectives:**

Objective B: Conduct occupational analysis of key jobs in target industries.

Central California Workforce Collaborative (CCWC) is seeking funds to continue the studies in 2009-2010.

Objective C: Develop Web-based inventory of vocational training and "gap analysis."

- By February 2009, CCWC partners received training as Web site administrators to assist both job seekers and employers to best utilize the Web site.
- Marketing efforts were launched to include a jingle promoting the Web site that was developed and played for two weeks on major radio stations in each county. The careersinthevalley.com icon was provided to public partners for their use.
- CCWC purchased a spidering system from EmployOn LCC. Since the San Joaquin Valley has more than 3,300 job portals, EmployOn uses its technology to aggregate the job content. Job postings on those sites will now be available in one place at careersinthevalley.com. EmployOn "creates real-time search-and-match technology services for the Human Capital Management marketplace." (<http://www.employon.com>).
- CCWC continues to discuss the sustainability of this Web site.

Objective D: Implement regionwide business intelligence tool.

*Executive Pulse*

All eight county workforce investment boards (WIBs) have been using Executive Pulse (EP), a software program that allows various entities to submit critical information regarding individual business hiring, training, expansion, relocation needs, which can be shared by all who have access to the program. It has been nearly a year since initial training sessions took place; however, training sessions continue as Local Workforce Investment Areas (LWIAs) fully implement EP.

The current CCWC Executive Pulse contract ends May 16, 2009. WIB Directors were notified at the last CCWC grant meeting that they needed to decide if they would like to continue working EP. Each LWIA will need to have an individual contract with EP because the CCWC grant will no longer be paying and coordinating this effort. The feedback received was that most of the CCWC partners would not renew unless a good group rate or good individual rates could be negotiated. Jeff Rowe, Stanislaus County WIB director, and John Solis, San Joaquin County WIB director, indicated they would renew with EP even if the other partners did not renew.

Recently, EP provided a revised per county renewal fee structure. The regional referral fee was allocated on a per county basis (based on percentage of total population that each county represents). They also made a modest reduction in the

renewal fee for many of the counties to achieve parity for similarly sized counties and in recognition of the budget constraints that everyone faces.

Many of the counties have made considerable progress using the EP platform to manage their internal staff interactions and external interactions with company officials. They will continue to provide: 1) remote online training at no cost; and 2) normal and customary changes agreed upon by all participating counties.

Objective E: Create a just-in-time training fund.

This objective has been accomplished through the ETP grant with Bakersfield College.

Objective F: Address workforce supply on a regional basis.

*Career Readiness Certificate and WorkKeys Implementation*

- CCWC's 14 partners continue to use the WorkKeys standardized assessments and are using the Central California Career Readiness Certificate. A regionwide Work Ready Certificate using WorkKeys was developed and adopted by CCWC last year. The Central California Work Ready Certificate verifies to employers that an individual has essential core employability, as well as skills in Reading for Information, Applied Mathematics and Locating Information.
- CCWC has been working with the State Workforce Investment Board (State WIB) to move forward on a State Career Readiness Certificate. The State WIB director is considering the option of pursuing this through the state's Green Jobs Subcommittee.

*Manufacturing Skills Standards Certification (MSSC)*

MSSC provides a process for ascertaining that an individual has the specific skills necessary to be recognized as a Certified Production Technician. It was determined that Tulare County will continue to work with two large employers for the MSSC project. Merced County has completed the pilot project and plans to make it available to employers if funding becomes available.

Working closely with its local WIB, Merced County Department of Workforce Investment and a consortium of employers, Merced College proposes to conduct a Merced Industrial Automation Technologies, Programmable Logic Controls (PLC) pilot project. The proposed education and training is aligned with the nationally recognized industry credential of the National Association of Manufacturers, Advanced Manufacturing Industry competency model, developed in conjunction with the Department of Labor/Employment and Training Administration. This project builds toward the industry-recognized associates in science degree.

Objective G: Align vocational and career technical education with target industries.

Four subregional Career Technical Education (CTE) Community Collaborative applications to the Governor's CTE are currently in progress at State Center Community College District, Sequoia Center Community College District, Yosemite Community College District, and Kern Community College District. Each subregion is applying for additional funding.

Objective H: Establish San Joaquin Valley Workforce Consortium.

CCWC LWIA partners include San Joaquin County, Stanislaus County, Merced County, Madera County, Tulare County, Fresno County, Kings County and the Kern/Inyo/Mono Consortium. CCWC met November 2008 in Madera during this quarter in addition to preparing for the 15% Workforce Investment Area (WIA) state grant.

Objective I: Align the efforts of the San Joaquin Valley's economic development corporations, the San Joaquin Valley Workforce Consortium and the California Community College Central Region Consortium.

Members of the Economic Development, PreK-12 Education and Higher Education and Workforce Development Work Groups had a conference call to discuss future joint meetings. A meeting is being planned for June 2009.

Other Work Group Projects

*San Joaquin Valley Workforce Funding Collaborative (SJVWFC)*

- San Joaquin Valley Workforce Funding Collaborative (SJVWFC) is an effort that convenes funders and leverages its workforce-related grantmaking to support innovative initiatives that target the employment development needs of low-skilled, low-income workers to improve their economic stability.
- The Fresno Regional Foundation (FRF) submitted a proposal to the National Fund for Workforce Solutions (NFWS) in March. NFWS invited six SJVWFC participants to attend the Peer Learning meeting in Bellevue, Wash., April 15-17, 2009.
- The California Endowment awarded \$300,000 to SJVWFC. This provided seed funding to hire a program officer, who joined FRF staff in early March.

### *Central California Workforce Collaborative Phase II Grant Application Update*

Phase 1 CCWC grant ended on March 31, 2009. Phase II grant proposal was submitted to the state; CCWC is awaiting feedback.

#### Planned Activities for next 3-6 months

- Plan 2009 joint session.
- Continue promotion of careersinthevalley.com.
- Follow up with the state regarding 15% WIA grant.
- Support SJVWFC grant applications and attend planning sessions.

#### Next Steps

Find more funding to continue the work of the Consortium

#### Challenges/problems/bottlenecks

Identifying additional monies for the continuation of the Consortium

### **Goal 2, Objective A: Develop a College Going Culture**

#### Description of Quarter's Activity/Impact on Partnership

From February through March 2009, high school students from Washington Union, El Diamante, Riverdale, and Hoover high schools launched the Save Me A Spot in College Campaign and developed advocacy activities as part of the Higher Education Work Group's (HEWG) efforts to coordinate the Youth Ambassadors for College Opportunity. As a result of the HEWG's efforts, more than 100 students are now trained as peer college coaches. In March, HEWG launched Embark: A Guide to Higher Education in the Central Valley. The publication was distributed to middle school counselors who attended the College Making It Happen Event. More than 70 middle school counselors were represented.

- The College Place, the HEWG's seed grant project, reached its peak serving more than 1,400 students through the newly developed e-mentoring project. [www.myspace.com/thecollegeplace](http://www.myspace.com/thecollegeplace).
- HEWG supported the Valley Coalition for UC Merced Medical School and the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley expressed support for the Washington Advisory Group (WAG) report's phased approach to establish a medical school, and passed resolutions in support of an expedited time line whereby the independently accredited UC Merced medical school is established by 2015. Frank Gornick, president of the Central Valley Higher Education Consortium, Frank Gornick signed a resolution on behalf of the Presidents and Chancellors of the regions' colleges and universities.

#### Planned Activities for the next 3-6 months

- April 30: Partnering with California Dollars for Scholars to host a mixer to support national scholarship endeavor – A Dollar A Day in May
- May: The College Place, as a national model, will be presented at national education conference National College Access Network
- May 6: HEWG to meet for strategic planning. Two guest speakers to attend via web conference: Terry Hartle, ACE, and Dr. Janice Eaton, National Accreditation for Higher Education.
- June: HEWG launching new campaign – Ask Me How to Go to College

### **Goal 3, Objective A: Establish a UC Merced medical school within 10 years.**

*Action: Work with UC Merced to identify and engage key leaders to champion effort.*

#### Description of Quarter's Activity/Impact on Partnership

- In January 2009, consultants with the Washington Advisory Group (WAG), who were retained by UC Merced, submitted a final report to Chancellor Steve Kang after reviewing background materials and meeting with numerous individuals on campus, at sister campuses, at the UC Office of the President, representatives from potential clinical affiliates in the San Joaquin Valley (Valley), academic planning partners at UC Davis and UCSF Fresno and leaders of Valley Coalition for UC Merced Medical School.

- The principal recommendation contained in the report suggests planning for a fully independent medical school in three stages:
  1. Establish an undergraduate program in biomedical education to attract exceptional students to pursue a BS degree that emphasizes the health needs of the Valley and prepares students for advanced study in all of the health sciences, medicine included.
  2. Start as a “branch campus” in conjunction with the UC Davis School of Medicine as early as 2012 provided key milestones are met (e.g., 16-24 students would be admitted into a UC Merced-specific program of medical study with learning experiences on the Davis campus and at UC Merced and in the Valley).
  3. Establish a fully independent UC Merced medical school after having functioned as a successful branch campus after a period of time and seek Regent approval when the economy is more favorable, ideally no later than 2020.
- In early February 2009, the simultaneous development of phases one and two as recommended by WAG was encouraged by UC President Mark Yudof.
- Valley Coalition for UC Merced Medical School and California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley expressed support for the WAG report’s phased approach to establishing a medical school, and passed resolutions in support of an expedited time line whereby the independently accredited UC Merced medical school is established by 2015.

### **Planned Activities for the next 3-6 months**

#### **Next Steps**

- Valley Coalition for UC Merced Medical School, whose leadership consists of several Partnership board members, will initiate an outreach campaign in spring 2009 designed to educate and develop support among Valley community members (at a grassroots level) about the need for a UC Merced medical school in the Valley and engage them in the planning process.
- Continue advocacy and fundraising activities
- Planning – driven by faculty – will continue at UC Merced in collaboration with academic partners primarily at UC Davis and UCSF Fresno and with the UC Office of the President.

### **Challenges/Problems/Bottlenecks/Feedback**

- Securing state funding to help establish the planned medical school at a time when California is experiencing a deficit more than \$40 billion continues to be a challenge.

### **Goal 3, Objective B: Establish Central Valley Nursing Education Consortium**

#### **Description of Quarter’s Activity**

- The San Joaquin Valley Nursing Education Consortium was not funded in 2009; there will be no further activity at this time.

**Work Group:** Land Use, Agriculture and Housing (LUAH)  
**Consultant:** Carol Whiteside, Consultant  
Dejeune Shelton, Senior Program Manager  
**Organization:** Great Valley Center  
**Quarter:** 1<sup>st</sup> 2009  
**Phone:** 209.522.5103  
**Email:** carol@greatvalley.org  
dejeune@greatvalley.org

**By Goal and Objective – Description of Activity, Planned Activities, Challenges/Problems/Bottlenecks/Feedback**

- a. = Description of Activity
- b. = Planned Activities
- c. = Challenges/Problems/Bottlenecks/Feedback

**Goal 1: Foster regional consensus to support development and implementation of the Regional Blueprint Plan.**

Objective A: Assist development of regional consensus on values, goals, strategies, and guidelines for the Regional Blueprint Plan to achieve the desired outcomes and identify appropriate locations for growth and economic development that accommodates projected population increases while contributing to the conservation of important agricultural land and natural resources.

- a. Policy Council has adopted Scenario B+ for the Valley; this decision will no longer go to the local boards and councils for ratification. LUAH wrote a letter of support to the Policy Council for Scenario C. LUAH is keeping informed of developments and considering next steps in terms of implementation.
- b. Transportation and (former) BRAC members to attend joint LUAH/Transportation meeting on May 13 in Fresno to discuss issues relevant to both work groups.
- c. Concern over local reaction to change in Blueprint process. Policy Council did not adopt the densest scenario.

Objective B: Develop a high-value parks and open space strategy to be used in the development of the Regional Blueprint Plan with a goal of encouraging the designation and long-term management and restoration (as feasible) of a permanent open space system that will include public and private lands, state, regional and local parks, and conservancies and conservation easement areas.

- b. GVC setting up a meeting with leaders of the San Joaquin River Restoration Group for late May/early June to discuss open space possibilities near San Joaquin River.

**Goal 2: Promulgate and promote adoption of community design guidelines that will ensure strong neighborhoods, improve mobility and health by promoting walking and biking, improve air quality by reducing trip generation and parking requirements, increase energy efficiency by modifying building standards, and increase infrastructure cost effectiveness through efficient land use.**

Objective A: Increase the overall density of new development.

- a. Adoption of Scenario B+ by Policy Council.
- b. Discuss and decide what a set of design guidelines could look like. Collect and determine what has been done before on the topic. Does anything exist that can serve as a model?
- c. Identifying members of the group with the requisite experience to put together the design guidelines.

Objective B: Reduce urban run-off by decreasing the land covered by commercial and industrial parking.

- a. GVC is monitoring reports and studies (including from cities and COGs) which establish that reducing parking area ratios will not only reduce run-off but allow for other uses of land and buildings and encourage people to walk more.
- b. Joint meeting in May with Transportation Work Group. To discuss parking ordinances and what is being done in other regions/cities. Possible workshops also could be discussed.
- c. Need an alternative strategy if attorneys will not undertake the ordinance drafting. Funding for workshops.

Objective C: Promote the adoption and implementation of zoning ordinances that are form-based and more flexible to encourage desired outcomes.

- a. Policy Council has adopted Scenario B+ so form-based codes and zoning will need to conform to the regional Blueprint.
- b. Explore ways to promote information about form-based codes and zoning options; include this information as part of the Tool Kit for Planners.
- c. No funding; finding someone to help develop the Tool Kit.

Objective D: Study and adopt a strategic concept for accommodating new growth by encouraging communities with the necessary elements and constraints to be cost-effective and self-sufficient in achieving the overall goals and objectives.

- a. Policy Council has adopted Scenario B+ which sets the framework for the new growth.
- b. Betty Deakin has discussed the possibility that one of her graduate students doing some research on the topic for us, if there are no funds to complete the study previously discussed.
- c. Funding

**Goal 3: Determine requisite regional infrastructure and funding strategies to support implementation of the Regional Blueprint Plan**

Objective A: Develop and implement a plan for the provision of regional infrastructure.

- a. Attendance at Policy Council meeting. Awaiting decisions on funding.
- b. Will need to follow and complement the regional Blueprint plan.
- c. Defining what regional infrastructure means, coming to a consensus and then finding funding to implement.

Objective B: Develop and implement a process for monitoring the performance and adequacy of regional infrastructure and determining future needs.

- a. Part of implementation strategy for blueprint. Not until 2010 at the earliest.
- c. Public and/or city councils and county supervisors could choose a scenario that is not much better than the status quo.

**Goal 4: Improve the planning and development process to be consistent with the Regional Blueprint Plan and to provide incentives for smart growth.**

Objective A: Improve the sharing, access, and use of planning and environmental resource data among state, COGs, local governments, business organizations, environmental groups, other stakeholders, and the public for more informed decision-making.

- a. COG directors meeting on a monthly basis to discuss and share information.
- b. Discussions will be held about creating a shared data center for the region. GVC is hosting events to discuss the impact of AB32 and SB375 for planners in the region.
- c. Data must be shared in meaningful ways.

**Goal 5: Develop a long-range strategy for agriculture in the San Joaquin Valley that ensures its viability and sustainability.**

Objective A: Develop a long-range plan to maintain the viability of agriculture in the region, as a leading strategy for economic development and as a key component of the Regional Blueprint Plan.

- a. AFT is wrapping up their work from the seed grant.
- b. LUAH will monitor their work and discuss how to proceed next and to expand the model, regionally.

Objective B: Minimize the proliferation of ranchette development on important farmland.

- a. AFT and ICE continuing previous work from seed grant.
- b. Assess the conclusions of AFT regarding ranchette development in the context of Scenario B+ of the regional Blueprint.

Objective C: Reduce the loss of farmland attributable to General Plan amendments.

- b. Group discussion about how to best preserve farmland within the context of AFT's and ICE's work, and of the chosen growth Scenario B+.

**Goal 6: Ensure safe and healthy communities that provide a variety of housing types affordable to all residents with increased opportunities for home ownership.**

Objective A: Increase the number and availability of housing units for people of all income levels, especially working families.

- a. Stimulus dollars provided to counties to purchase foreclosed homes at a reduced rate to low-income community members.
- c. Down-payment cost.

Objective B: Provide incentives for affordable housing that meet the needs of all income levels in the region.

- a. Housing Trust has applied for permanent funds to sustain itself and is working on a model for obtaining matching funds from the state and others.

- b. Continuing search for funds.
- c. Lack of participation by many of the Housing Trust members.

**Goal 7: Identify legislative and regulatory changes necessary to facilitate the implementation of adopted goals and strategies.**

Objective A: Use the San Joaquin Valley as a pilot for testing new permitting and environmental review incentives that will facilitate infill and refill developments.

- b. GVC hosting meetings on SB375 and AB32, which discuss what CEQA infill incentives could mean for the Valley.
- c. Unclear how SB375 and the Regional Blueprint will interface.

Objective B: Develop an innovative approach to establishing a voluntary high-value open space conservation system.

- a. Discussions taking place
- b. Meeting with San Joaquin River Restoration leaders to discuss open space or river parkway as part of an open space and conversation system. Workshops also could be an option.
- c. Funding

Objective C: Increase the coordination among local General Plans regionwide to facilitate better land use, transportation, air quality, and energy outcomes.

- a. SB375 will require some alignment of certain general plan elements.
- b. Joint meeting of LUAH and Transportation work groups will discuss energy and regional strategies for implementing the Blueprint.
- c. Local governments are low on funds; waiting for guidance from the state about how their general plans need to comport with AB32 and SB375 before incurring significant expenses to update them.

Objective D: Analyze options for assessing impact fees that will promote above goals and objectives.

- a. Policy Council selected Scenario B+ as the preferred alternative.
- b. More regional developments in terms of the Blueprint will need to occur before reaching the stage of considering assessing fees.

**Work Group:** PreK-12 Education  
**Consultant:** Dr. Marcy Masumoto  
**Organization:** Central Valley Educational Leadership Institute  
**Quarter:** 1<sup>st</sup> 2009  
**Phone:** 559.304.2190  
**Email:** mmasumoto@csufresno.edu

### Description of Activity by Goal and Objective

Based on the plan approved at the September 2008 California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley (Partnership) Board of Directors meeting, this report is formatted by priority area as opposed to delineating all the goals and objectives which are embedded in the responsibilities.

#### **1. Top priorities and actions to be carried out by County Offices of Education (COE)**

##### a. English Learners (EL) – led by Fresno COE

Fresno COE is providing training for the second cohort of districts participating in the English Language Learner Leadership Academy. Participating districts are paying \$750 to participate this year. (Note that the Partnership Seed Grant has ended.)

The PreK-12 Education Work Group (PreK-12) identified schools in the region that had made significant progress with their English Learners and had them share their successful strategies in three breakout sessions at the Jan.13, 2009, Exemplary Practices in Education Conference held at California State University, Fresno.

##### b. Post Secondary Pursuits (College and Careers) – led by Kern COE and Tulare COE

Kern COE has been working to develop college/career centers in middle schools and development of a collaborative web-based project focusing on college and careers for San Joaquin Valley (Valley) students. Multiple meetings occurred in January, February and March with the Kern County work group to develop the college/career website. In February, a preliminary site was unveiled to work group leads, which included a critical review. As a result, the website is continuing to be scrutinized, refined, and improved. The interactive web portion is moving forward slowly to make sure the security issues are all worked out.

A meeting with the two superintendents of the pilot school districts was held in January to explain the expectations for the project. The superintendents were asked to develop criteria for the selection of a control group that would be identified at the end of the 2008/2009 school year to be compared with the first participants in the college/career centers in 2009/2010. Criteria were identified and approved in March.

Contacts have been made with California State University, Bakersfield, and Bakersfield College to begin filming virtual campus tours. Virtual tours of other campuses in and out of state have been incorporated into our website. We will be contacting other higher education institutions throughout the Valley for the prospect of filming in the months to come.

Filming also has begun on the industry clusters with narration by local high school and college talent.

Kern COE received the check for \$25,000 from AT&T in January. As a result, various software packages have been purchased which will update the site to suit the student age group. It is expected the website will be presented to the two pilot schools in May with actual rollout in August. At that time, Kern COE and the technical staff from each of the eight COEs will work together to identify the technical requirements for the site and any assistance that is needed. If possible, the website will be presented to the eight county superintendents at the California County Superintendents Educational Services Association (CCSESA) meeting in June.

Under the leadership of Randy Wallace, Tulare COE, an assessment of career education programs in the region that addresses the priority industry clusters of the Economic Development Work Group continued this quarter.

Finally, PreK-12 identified exemplary schools and programs in the two areas (college-going culture and career education) and made contacts and arrangements for six breakout sessions conducted by school and university staff at the Exemplary Practices Conference in January 2009.

c. Pre-Kindergarten (PreK) – led by Merced COE

As part of the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley's Exemplary Practices in Education regional conference on Jan. 13, 2009, at California State University, Fresno, a group of nearly 70 participants from eight Valley counties met to discuss the status of preschool planning and implementation in the Valley. This imbedded preschool strand was funded by The David and Lucile Packard Foundation and was the culminating element of the Preschool Coordination and Alignment Project (PCAP). PCAP was funded to publish a written report on the status of preschool planning and implementation in Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, and Tulare counties and to use the report as a catalyst for conversation about the each county's interest in exploring a regional voice for preschool issues.

Dr. Karen Hill Scott, a premier group facilitator and well-known preschool champion, facilitated the day-long dialogue. The group reviewed the final draft of the preschool status report. More important, it discussed rationale for and explored interest in continuing a regional preschool conversation. The group agreed the first step was to develop a regional message and completed a draft of which by the end of the day: 8 Counties, One Voice for Today's Children and for the Future of California's Great Central Valley – Beginning Now. Nine representatives—one from each county and one from the California Preschool Instructional Network—were identified to continue regional conversation and explore next steps. Merced COE agreed to facilitate the process.

The final report of the Preschool Coordination and Alignment Project is posted on the PreK-12 Work Group web page.

**2. Top priorities and actions to be carried out by Central Valley Educational Leadership Institute (CVELI)**

CVELI's major task this quarter was facilitating the regional Exemplary Practices Conference (EPC) for PreK-12 education, business, and community leaders on Jan. 13, 2009. The two keynote speakers were Dr. Thelma Melendez de Santa Ana, superintendent of schools for Pomona Unified School District, and Dr. James Lanich, executive director of Just for the Kids California. Presenters from our nine-county region (Mariposa COE is included) conducted more than 25 breakout sessions. The purpose of the conference was to identify schools, districts and programs in our region that have positive demonstrable impact on student outcomes, and share their success strategies with others to impact schools and communities across the region. The conference was organized into 9 strands with three workshops each on our priority topics: English Learners, PreK, College-Going Culture, Career Education, Reading, Data Systems, Computer Literacy, Partnerships and Collaboration, and Teacher and Administrator Training Initiatives. There were 300 people who attended the conference from all nine counties. A summary of the conference content has been written and **all materials are available on the CVELI website** at [www.csufresno.edu/cveli](http://www.csufresno.edu/cveli). We plan to conduct another Exemplary Practices Conference in 2010, focusing on student transitions into middle school, high school, college and careers, and have engaged in partnership with the State Center Consortium and Fresno COE for the undertaking. The model also is being considered for replication by Just for the Kids-California and other California State University campuses.

CVELI hosted two sessions of the Executive Leadership Center for superintendents from six counties on Jan. 14 and March 18, and held another workshop on legal issues for superintendents and boards of trustees on Feb. 18. The three sessions were part of a series of 12 planned for school leadership this year. Through our partnership with Springboard Schools, direct coaching support is provided to teams of educational leaders in 17 Valley school districts. Professional development on closing the achievement gap and English Learners also was provided to Valley districts through leadership networks in multiple locations across the region.

All schools receiving Perkins funding for career education have been mandated to participate in Cal-PASS. This has expedited the progress of school districts participating in the data systems project with Cal-PASS to facilitate the transition between high school and higher education. Following the model by West Hills Community College District in our region last quarter, Cal-PASS conducted several events this quarter to stimulate participation in the data system project. Regional liaisons were identified to facilitate discussions between high school and college staff regarding curricular pathways.

This quarter, CVELI engaged four students from the California State University, Fresno, Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership to help with research on two high priority topics: an assessment of special services for English Learners in the region, and an investigation of effective dropout prevention strategies. The students contributed significant time to this research; we look forward to the reports next quarter. There is a significant need to enhance career education along with college-going options for K-12 students and to focus on dropout prevention strategies in our region.

Several activities were completed to facilitate communications and seek funding support for the efforts of PreK-12. Major activities this quarter were:

- Conference follow-up communications and meetings.
- E-Newsletter distributed in February.
- Planning meetings and calls were conducted with County Superintendents Lee Andersen and Larry Powell, Jill Tafoya, English Language Learner Leadership Academy, and key stakeholders,
- Meeting with the Partnership's Secretariat staff to orient the new director and associate director
- Participated in one legislative staffers meeting and two work group consultants meetings.
- Attended in March the Partnership Board meeting.
- Provided input and secured participation of three Valley representatives to be on the evaluation design team for the California Emerging Technology Fund's School2Home project for middle schools.
- Attended a national conference in February on partnerships and higher education at Arizona State University.

#### **Planned Activities by Goal and Objective (for next 3-6 months)**

- Host meetings of leaders from higher education and school districts to share current plans and assist in developing professional development programming for educational leaders in the Central Valley.
- Complete assessment of current curricula, programs and best practices in career education that support target industry clusters.
- Continue working on website development focused on students to enhance college-going culture and provide resources to help guide students to college and careers.
- Develop plans for Exemplary Practices Conference for 2010.
- Complete research projects with doctoral students related to ELL and dropout prevention.
- Pursue funding alternatives to continue PreK-12 work and broad-based regional activities that support the Partnership's Strategic Action Plan.

#### **Challenges/Problems/Bottlenecks/Feedback**

- Securing funding and support to continue the Partnership and PreK-12 Work Group.
- Issues with the state budget, impacts of the recession and cutbacks for school districts.

#### **If you have coordinated any outreach, please describe briefly.**

- Major outreach this quarter was for the Exemplary Practices Conference, including conference brochure which was distributed widely, and website postings on both CVELI and Partnership PreK-12 web pages.
- Media interactions (press releases sent by Secretariat's office) regarding Exemplary Practices Conference, resulting in Fresno Bee article on Jan.14 and coverage by one television station on Jan.13.
- Walt Buster, PreK-12 work group consultant, was a guest on The Maddy Report radio show in January.

**Work Group:** Transportation  
**Consultant:** David Hosley, President  
Dejeune Shelton, Senior Program Manager  
**Organization:** Great Valley Center  
**Quarter:** 1<sup>st</sup> 2009  
**Phone:** 209.522.5103  
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dejeune@greatvalley.org

**By Goal and Objective – Description of Activity, Planned Activities, Challenges/Problems/Bottlenecks/Feedback**

- a. = Description of Activity
- b. = Planned Activities
- c. = Challenges/Problems/Bottlenecks/Feedback

**Goal 1: Implement a universally accepted Route 99 Corridor Master Plan (Enhancement and Business Plan Elements) for the 274-mile section within the San Joaquin Valley as a leading economic development strategy.**

Objective A: Improve Highway 99 to freeway standards to increase safety.

- a. Stimulus funding request all supported improvements to Highway 99.
- b. Joint meeting with COG directors.
- c. Funding

Objective B: Increase Highway 99 capacity which will result in improved mobility and reduced congestion while protecting environmental resources and fostering economic vitality.

- a. Attended COG directors meeting. Discussed Highway 99 and what can be done to protect the environmental resources and foster economic vitality.
- b. Joint meeting with LUAH Work Group and Blueprint on May 13.
- c. Funding

Objective C: Create a San Joaquin valley Route 99 Corridor identity.

- a. Projects submitted to the Partnership for stimulus funding. If funded, more attention and dollars could be contributed to Route 99 Corridor identity.
- b. Joint meeting between Transportation Work Group and COG directors.
- c. Funding

Objective D. Build an ongoing coalition of civic leaders to support improvements to the Highway 99 corridor.

- a. COG directors all submitted shovel-ready projects for stimulus funding that supported improvements to Highway 99.
- b. Continued discussions with elected officials as implementation of the Blueprint takes place.

**Goal 2: Improve safety and capacity of vital east-west corridors.**

Objective A: Support construction of projects to improve safety and capacity of vital east-west corridors.

- a. Discussions regarding the best shovel-ready projects for which to request stimulus funding. Some east-west corridors discussed. The conclusion was to submit projects that support Highway 99. Continued conversations on east-west corridors will take place.
- b. Joint meeting with LUAH Work Group and Blueprint on May 13.

Objective B: Incorporate plans for improving east-west corridors into Regional Blueprint Plan.

- a. Adoption of Scenario B+ by Policy Council.
- b. Review of east-west as it relates to the Blueprint.

**Goal 3: Improve goods movement within the region to increase economic vitality, traffic safety, and mobility.**

Objective A: Increase benefits to the San Joaquin Valley from goods movement through a “goods movement enhancement system” specific to the region.

- a. Continued discussions on ways to support the Goods Movement Action Plan.
- b. Joint meeting with LUAH Work Group and Blueprint on May 13.
- c. Funding

**Goal 4: Enhance goods movement capacity while increasing safety, decreasing congestion, improving air quality, and promoting economic development.**

Objective A: Accommodate current and future goods movement needs while improving air quality and economic prosperity.

- a. Policy Council adopted Scenario B+ for the Regional Blueprint Plan.
- b. Implementation support of the Blueprint in year four.
- c. Funding

**Goal 5: Develop a sustainable regionwide transit system.**

Objective A: Implement a comprehensive and efficient alternative transportation system for intra-regional and inter-regional passenger trips.

- a. Most participants at the Blueprint Summit on Jan. 26, 2008, wanted a higher level of transportation and housing options.
- b. Joint meeting with LUAH Work Group and Blueprint on May 13, 2009.
- c. Funding

**Goal 6: Transform roadside rest stops into user-friendly amenities that benefit the overall region and host communities.**

Objective A: Improve roadside rest stop amenities and facilities to benefit user safety, facilitate tourism and educate users about the environment and local communities.

- a. Request for stimulus money for Highway 99 projects could lead to improvements for rest stops.
- b. Possible inclusion of projects for rest stops with BTH.
- c. Funding

**Goal 7: Improve mobility through more efficient land use patterns that will reduce single-occupant trip generation and support use of alternative modes.**

Objective A: Encourage the Regional Blueprint Plan process to integrate land use and transportation planning to improve mobility.

- a. Adoption of Scenario B+ at Policy Council meeting.
- b. Joint meeting with LUAH Work Group and Blueprint on May 13.
- c. Incorporating water, air quality, etc., into Blueprint.

Objective B: Incorporate into regional transportation plans those actions that support and encourage implementation of the Regional Blueprint Plan.

- a. San Joaquin Valley Policy Council adopted Scenario B+ of the Blueprint.
- b. Support in implementation process.

**Goal 8: Improve understanding by public officials and public of the relationship between investments in transportation improvements and economic development.**

Objective A: Develop and implement a system for tracking economic development that results from investments in transportation improvements.

- a. Adoption of Scenario B+ has increased awareness of the public regarding transportation needs. Discussions continue on how to inform the public of transportation improvements leading to economic development
- b. Input from stakeholders at joint meeting.

**Goal 9: Implement “intelligent transportation system” (ITS) technologies to assist the region in achieving mobility goals.**

Objective A: Integrate ITS into all transportation planning and construction projects.

- a. Update from Caltrans regarding ITS Strategic Deployment Plan to took place at joint meeting on April 24.

**Goal 10: Assure the high-speed rail system, if implemented, supports the San Joaquin Valley in achieving its economic, environmental, land use, and mobility goals.**

Objective A: Provide tangible benefits and mitigate impacts to the region while assisting the state in meeting transportation goals.

- a. High-Speed Rail passed in November 2008.
- b. Update on high-speed rail at joint meeting with Transportation Work Group and COG directors.
- c. Funding

**Work Group:** Water Quality, Supply, Reliability and Environmental Restoration  
**Consultant:** Jim Tischer, Sarge Green  
**Organization:** California Water Institute  
**Quarter:** 1st 2009  
**Phone:** 559.260.6148, 559.298.6072 ext. 209  
**Email:** jtischer@csufresno.edu, sgreen@csufresno.edu

### **Description of Activity by Goal and Objective**

- Goal 1:** Develop and implement a comprehensive San Joaquin Valley Regional Water Plan.
- Goal 2:** Strengthen levees in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and San Joaquin Valley to safeguard regional water quality and quantity and provide flood control.
- Goal 3:** Augment surface, groundwater banking programs and recycled water projects in the San Joaquin Valley.
- Goal 4:** Develop and implement water quality and salinity management infrastructure.
- Goal 5:** Expand environmental restoration and habitat conservation strategies.
- Goal 6:** Expand agricultural and urban water-energy use efficiency programs

### **Planned Activities by Goal and Objective (for next 3-6 months)**

#### **Goal 1: Completed.**

The San Joaquin Valley Water Plan Framework final version (Version 3.0) is set to be affirmed by the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley (Partnership) Board of Directors at its June 12, 2009, meeting in Modesto. To obtain a copy, please visit the Partnership website: <http://www.sjvpartnership.org> or the California Water Institute (CWI) website: <http://www.californiawater.org>

#### **Goal 2:**

The Delta Vision Strategic Plan was released Nov. 3, 2008. The resolution may be found at: [http://deltavision.ca.gov/StrategicPlanningProcess/StaffDraft/Delta\\_Vision\\_Strategic\\_Plan\\_standard\\_resolution.pdf](http://deltavision.ca.gov/StrategicPlanningProcess/StaffDraft/Delta_Vision_Strategic_Plan_standard_resolution.pdf)

The Delta Vision Committee Implementation Report was released Jan. 5, 2009. The report may be found at: [http://deltavision.ca.gov/DV\\_Committee/Jan2009/08-1231\\_Delta\\_Vision\\_Committee\\_Implementation\\_Report.pdf](http://deltavision.ca.gov/DV_Committee/Jan2009/08-1231_Delta_Vision_Committee_Implementation_Report.pdf)

Both documents are under consideration by the California Legislature and will figure prominently in the formulation of a 2009 water bond.

The Delta Vision Foundation (<http://deltavisionfoundation.org>) was formed in January 2009 with the goal of promoting the full embrace and implementation of the seven recommendations contained in the Strategic Plan.

The Partnership sent a letter of support to Delta Vision Chair Phil Isenberg in June 2008. A copy is available on the Partnership website: [http://www.sjvpartnership.org/wg\\_overview.php?wg\\_id=10](http://www.sjvpartnership.org/wg_overview.php?wg_id=10)

#### **Goal 3:**

Development of the San Joaquin Valley Water Plan Framework will incorporate augmenting surface, groundwater banking and recycled water projects in the region as initiatives in each of these areas favorably impacts the overall macro-goals of the Partnership.

Additionally, CWI staff will seek to use the recently released California State University, Fresno, Integrated Water Management Plan for water reuse at the Campus Pointe project as a Best Practices template for the central San Joaquin Valley (Valley) and seek out other innovative projects in both the southern and northern Valley.

#### **Goal 4:**

CWI staff currently is working proactively with the water community to develop a San Joaquin Valley Water Management Structure that would include salinity management as one of its major program areas.

**Goal 5:**

Staff continues to be engaged with local, state and federal agencies for environmental restoration as a key strategy in integrated water planning.

The partial restoration of the San Joaquin River flows is a component of the Omnibus Public Lands Management Bill S22 passed Jan. 11, 2009, and awaiting President Obama's signature. To read the bill, visit:

<http://energy.senate.gov/public/files/publiclandsomnibusbill2009.pdf>

**Goal 6:**

The Center for Irrigation Technology (CIT) of California State University, Fresno, continues to be at the forefront of developing and implementing comprehensive water/energy conservation and management programs throughout California for the California Public Utilities Commission, PG&E and Southern California Edison. PG&E renewed CIT's Agricultural Pump Efficiency Program contract for the period 2009-11 in early January 2009.

The value of the contract is \$2.6 million.

**Activities in Support of California Partnership Goals**

The Partnership's Water Policy Working Group continues to make progress in proactively engaging water leaders in the eight-county area and Southern California areas to develop a unified water policy vision. At a meeting on April 23, 2009, with California's Department of Water Resources in Sacramento, the role of the San Joaquin Valley Water Management Plan was clarified as an "Inter-Regional" Plan versus a "Regional" Plan to reflect concerns expressed by some participants involved.

CWI will continue to support this effort until the Partnership contract ends June 30, 2009.

For more information on the efforts of this group, contact Ray Watson, Gene Voiland, Jim Tischer, (559)260-6148, [jtischer@csufresno.edu](mailto:jtischer@csufresno.edu), or Sarge Green, (559)298-6072 ext. 209, [sgreen@csufresno.edu](mailto:sgreen@csufresno.edu).

**Challenges/Problems/Bottlenecks/Feedback**

California water policy challenges continue with some of the most vulnerable citizens suffering inordinate hardship as a result of water shortages and regulatory imbroglis in the face of an economic downturn. It remains to be seen if the appropriate water policy mechanisms can be established to effectively and sustainably counter what has been the norm for the last 30 years.

**If you have coordinated any outreach, please describe briefly.**

Coordination is regularly effected with allied Partnership work groups, particularly Energy, Air, Land Use, Ag & Housing (Blueprint) as well as agencies and seed grantees. This coordination has proven to be of great value.

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## Communications Plan Update

### Phase III Implementation

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Phase III of the Communications Plan, aimed at promoting and supporting Partnership success, is well under way. Phase III is focused on sustaining and improving media and community outreach to support the Partnership's identity as well as promoting its successes. Its metrics for success includes obtaining ongoing support from the public, governor, and legislature for the work of the Partnership.

The media outreach strategy has resulted in significant editorial support for the Partnership's efforts throughout the San Joaquin Valley. The Valley's major newspapers have written in support of the Partnership and its regional approach to addressing the region's major challenges. The Partnership also has received considerable media recognition for its work on air quality, water, education, energy, transportation, and high-speed rail issues.

The Partnership is working with The Maddy Institute, a public affairs institute based at California State University, Fresno, on "The Maddy Forum," a weekly 30-minute public affairs program that highlights the efforts of the Partnership's work groups. The show airs on KFSR, the campus radio station at Fresno State. The Maddy Forum began Sept. 20, 2008, and has featured the work of the Air Quality, Water, Energy, Transportation, PreK-12, Higher Education and Workforce Development, Land Use, Ag and Housing, and Economic Development work groups as well as a number of seed grant projects, such as the Metro Rural Loop.

The Partnership also has been the topic of a number of presentations to groups throughout the Valley and state.

### Communications Tools

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#### Web site

The Partnership Web site continues to be improved. The addition of Spanish translation is planned for the next quarter. The Partnership's secretariat consistently updates for relevance including an active calendar as well as a document library with important Partnership reports, board agendas and minutes, and additional resource documents. Several documents were developed and posted on the Web site:

#### Economic Recovery Work Plan

1. Draft Plan
2. Press Release (2)
3. Frequently Asked Questions
4. Final Plan

#### e-Newsletter

The distribution frequency of the newsletter has been changed and is now quarterly. It is sent to all Partnership stakeholders that highlights successes of the Partnership and

includes updates on the progress of the work groups, important dates, as well as a features section that profiles people connected to the Partnership and showcases impacts of the Partnership's work.

### **Daily News Briefing**

The Maddy Daily has changed its publishing frequency to once a day. It is a daily overview of news stories, information and events related to Partnership priorities and activities, which is sent to board members, work groups, business and community leaders, and other government and legislative contacts throughout the Valley.

### **Speakers Bureau**

Partnership board members will soon be contacted to provide input on organizations and groups that should be targeted for speaking opportunities. Board members and work group participants also will continue to be recruited to speak at those events to raise awareness and encourage involvement in and support of Partnership activities. The following speaking engagements took place during the last quarter:

| <b>Event/Venue</b>  | <b>Speaker</b>  |
|---|---|
| CALED Annual Training Conference  | Mike Dozier   |
| Great Valley Center Annual Conference                                     | Mike Dozier<br>Jim Tischer                                    |
| Kings County Association of Governments                                   | Mike Dozier   |
| Council of Fresno County Governments                                      | Mike Dozier   |
| Selma Rotary  | Mike Dozier   |
| Clovis Rotary   | Mike Dozier   |
| California Forward  | Mike Dozier   |
| Regional Economic Recovery Work Plan<br>– Bakersfield, Fresno and Modesto | Mike Dozier<br>Katie Stevens<br>Christine Nutting<br>Jen Paul |
| Sequoia Regional Leadership and Northern Tulare County Leadership classes | Paul Saldana  |

### **Outreach**

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The Communications Team continues to build and fine-tune the communications management system to ensure effective outreach and communications with key stakeholders throughout the Valley. The database organizes stakeholders by sector and industry. Through various strategies, including contact lists from Partnership work groups and the “sign-up” function through the Web site, the stakeholder base continues to grow.

The Partnership continues sustaining relationships with state and federal legislators as well as forming new relationships with recently elected members. A good example is the

meeting with BTH regarding the Economic Recovery Work Plan; several government agencies were represented and provided valuable information on various funding opportunities available to the Valley. Additionally, members of the Partnership have participated in the Valley COGs “One Voice” trips to Washington, D.C., and Sacramento. Monthly meetings continue with Valley legislative staffers hosted by the Partnership in coordination with the Federal Interagency Task Force for the San Joaquin Valley.

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## Government Affairs Committee

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The Government Affairs Committee comprises up to four Partnership Board members, including at least one private sector representative.

The Government Affairs Committee will be staffed by the Partnership's Government Affairs Associate.

The Government Affairs Committee members will be nominated by the Executive Committee for the Partnership Board's consideration.

The Government Affairs Committee will be responsible for:

- Evaluating fact sheets prepared by the Government Affairs Associate on bills the Partnership is considering supporting. Based on the board's policy for supporting legislation, determining the bills that will be submitted to the board of directors for consideration.
- Working with the Partnership's Government Affairs Associate to ensure the San Joaquin Valley's state and federal delegations are well-informed of and engaged in the overall work of the Partnership.
- Providing overall direction and guidance to the Secretariat staff on the implementation of board policy related to government affairs.

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## Legislative Overview

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### **Action Taken by Executive Committee**

#### **ARRA Transportation Funding – Letter of Support**

On May 12, the Partnership sent a letter to Secretary Bonner Support in support of a Route 99 widening project to be funded through California's application for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)'s Supplementary Discretionary Grants for a National Surface Transportation System program. The request was supported by the San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council and specifically asked for \$50 million to "convert State Route (SR)-99 from a four-lane expressway to six-lane freeway between Buchanan Hollow Road to the Miles Creek Overflow. This project also includes a new interchange at Arboleda Road."

#### **AB 118 – California Energy Commission**

On May 15, the Partnership sent a letter to the Chairman of the CEC, Karen Douglas, urging them to take into consideration the air quality challenges in the San Joaquin Valley when evaluating the ARRA-related pre-proposals submitted and future proposals submitted under the AB 118 program.

Background: Assembly Bill 118 (Núñez, Chapter 750, Statutes of 2007) created the Energy Commission's Alternative and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle Technology Program. The program is intended to increase the use of alternative and renewable fuels and innovative technologies that will transform California's fuel and vehicle types to help attain the state's climate change policies.

#### **CA Air Resource Board: DERA Allocation**

On May 15, the Partnership sent a letter to the Chairman of the Air Resources Board, Mary Nichols, seeking a fair allocation of the \$1.7 million Diesel Emission Reduction Act (DERA) funding. Instead of allocated based on population alone, the letter argues that the ARB should use the criteria developed for the Proposition 1B Lower Emission School Bus program. The Proposition 1B criteria has been fully vetted by the public and takes into account key factors, such as the average bus age in each region and the clean air attainment status.

### **Ongoing Activities**

#### **HR 1, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009**

At the request of the CA Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, the Partnership worked with partners throughout the Valley's eight counties to prepare a list of infrastructure projects that could be funded through federal economic stimulus legislation. The San Joaquin Valley Economic Recovery Plan included over 2,400 "shovel-ready" projects and 26 highlighted projects that met the guidelines requested by Secretary Bonner after his review of the "Draft" Plan. The Partnership will continue to work with state and federal agencies to seek funding for these Valley projects.

**Sustainability of the Partnership**

On December 23, Governor Schwarzenegger issued a new executive order, S-17-08, acknowledging the important work and success of the Partnership and extending it indefinitely on the terms set forth in its prior executive order, S-22-06.

Funding remains a critical issue as the \$5 million appropriated by the State Legislature in 2006 to fund a round of seed grants, the 10 work groups and the Secretariat, must be exhausted by June 30, 2009. These needs have been relayed to the governor and state representatives. However, the Secretariat and the work groups are currently seeking additional public and private sources of funding.



California Partnership for the  
San Joaquin Valley

May 15, 2009

Mary Nichols  
Chairman  
California Air Resources Board  
1001 "I" Street  
Sacramento, CA 95812

**RE: Support DERA Allocation Based on Prop 1B Criteria**

Dear Chairman Nichols:

We write you on behalf of the board of the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley to seek a fair allocation of the Diesel Emission Reduction Act (DERA) funding. Specifically, we urge ARB to use the criteria developed for the Proposition 1B Lower Emission School Bus program for the allocation of the DERA funding. The Proposition 1B criteria has been fully vetted by the public and takes into account key factors, such as the average bus age in each region and the clean air attainment status. It seems appropriate that the \$1.7 million in DERA funding should be allocated in this same manner.

As you are aware, the San Joaquin Valley does not have a proportional share of the air quality problem in relation to other regions in the state. The Valley is uniquely challenged with 80% of the Nitrogen Oxides coming from mobile sources. Additionally, the Valley contains one of the oldest fleets of public school buses in the state, further contributing to the pervasive respiratory difficulties faced by Valley children. Over 20% of the state's population of older model year 1977-1986 school buses operate in the Valley, despite a much lower proportional population. A reduction of related emissions will move us along the critical path towards attainment in the Valley.

We look forward to working with you on establishing criteria that fully serves the purpose of the DERA program. Please feel free to contact Mike Dozier, lead executive for the Partnership's Secretariat, with any questions you may have at [mdozier@csufresno.edu](mailto:mdozier@csufresno.edu) or (559) 294-6027. We thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Fritz Grupe".

Fritz Grupe, Deputy Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ashley Swearingin".

Ashley Swearingin, Deputy Chair

5010 N Woodrow Ave.  
2nd Floor, M/S WC 142  
Fresno, California 93740

559.294.6021 T  
559.294.6024 F

[www.sjvpartnership.org](http://www.sjvpartnership.org)

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California Partnership for the  
San Joaquin Valley

May 12, 2009

Dale Bonner  
Secretary  
California Business, Transportation & Housing Agency  
980 9th Street, Suite 2450  
Sacramento, CA 95814-2719

**RE: Support for Route 99 Widening Project in the San Joaquin Valley through California's ARRA discretionary grant program application**

Dear Secretary Bonner:

We write you on behalf of the board of the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley (Partnership) in strong support of the San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council's unanimous endorsement to seek funding for the following project through California's application for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)'s Supplementary Discretionary Grants for a National Surface Transportation System program:

**Convert State Route (SR)-99 from a four-lane expressway to six-lane freeway between Buchanan Hollow Road to the Miles Creek Overflow.  
This project also includes a new interchange at Arboleda Road.  
Funding Request: \$50 million**

As you are aware, this \$1.5 billion competitive program through the Department of Transportation seeks to fund capital investments in surface transportation projects that will have a significant impact on the nation, a metropolitan area or a region, and meet certain requirements. This project is not only in a trade corridor of national significance, but it has multijurisdictional consensus, would create hundreds of jobs, leverages non-federal sources of funding, and would complete work within the three-year requirement. Additionally, implementation of this project would support a number of transportation goals and objectives provided in the Partnership's *Strategic Action Plan* as approved by the governor, such as "improving goods movement within the region to increase economic vitality, traffic safety, and mobility" and "enhancing goods movement capacity while increasing safety, decreasing congestion, improving air quality and promoting economic development."

Improving the region's transportation infrastructure is a key priority for the Partnership and a vital piece of the puzzle required to adequately address the major challenges we currently face, such as improving our poor air quality, achieving sustainable growth, and growing a

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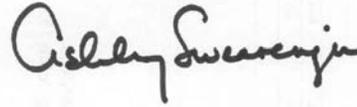
competitive economy in the face of high unemployment. We look forward to working with you to include this project in the state's application for ARRA's Supplementary Discretionary Grants for a National Surface Transportation System program funding.

Please feel free to contact Mike Dozier, lead executive for the Partnership's Secretariat, with any questions you may have at [mdozier@csufresno.edu](mailto:mdozier@csufresno.edu) or (559) 294-6027. We thank you in advance for your support.

Sincerely,



Fritz Grupe, Deputy Chair



Ashley Swearengen, Deputy Chair



California Partnership for the  
San Joaquin Valley

May 15, 2009

Karen Douglas  
Chairman  
California Energy Commission  
1516 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Development of AB 118 Program Criteria**

Dear Chairman Douglas:

We write you on behalf of the board of the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley to respectfully urge you to take into consideration the air quality challenges in the San Joaquin Valley when evaluating the ARRA-related pre-proposals submitted and future proposals submitted under the AB 118 program.

As you are aware, the San Joaquin Valley experiences the worst ozone and particulate air pollution in the nation, causing severe health, social and economic impacts. It is important to note that, largely as a result of its bowl-shaped geography, very hot summer temperatures and temperature inversions, the San Joaquin Valley Air basin is far less tolerant of pollutant emissions than other air basins in California. This is illustrated by the fact that the Valley has comparable 8-hour ozone exceedances to the South Coast despite having only one tenth the emissions density, and more than 7 times the exceedances of the Bay Area despite having only one sixth the emissions density.

Improving the region's air quality is a key priority for the Partnership and a vital piece of the puzzle required to adequately address the major challenges we currently face. We look forward to working with you on this issue.

Please feel free to contact Mike Dozier, lead executive for the Partnership's Secretariat, with any questions you may have at [mdozier@csufresno.edu](mailto:mdozier@csufresno.edu) or (559) 294-6027. We thank you in advance for your support.

Sincerely,

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Fritz Grupe, Deputy Chair

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## GRANT REQUEST

May 6, 2009

- Applicant:** The California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley
- Co-Applicants:**
- Fresno County Workforce Investment Board
  - Kern/Inyo/Mono Counties Workforce Investment Board
  - Kings County Workforce Investment Board
  - Madera County Workforce Investment Board
  - Merced County Workforce Investment Board
  - Mother Load Consortium Workforce Investment Board
  - San Joaquin County Workforce Investment Board
  - Stanislaus County Workforce Investment Board
  - Tulare County Workforce Investment Board
- Grant Title:** Integrated Workforce Development Strategy for Regional Industry Clusters in the San Joaquin Valley
- Funding Request:** \$2 million to cover a two-year period (July 2009 through June 2011)
- Sources of Funds:** ARRA – Workforce Investment Act & WIA Discretionary

### BACKGROUND

In the 27,300-square-mile San Joaquin Valley (the “Valley”), the average annual unemployment dipped below double digits only one year in the quarter century from 1978 to 2003. In response to this condition and several other conditions affecting quality of life in the Valley, Governor Schwarzenegger issued an executive order in June 2005 creating the *California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley* (“The Partnership”). Its mission, as defined in the executive order, was to develop a “San Joaquin Valley Strategic Action Proposal that provides recommendations to improve the economic conditions of the San Joaquin Valley”. The Proposal was developed and presented to the Governor in October 2006. The governor has since issued two additional executive orders calling for implementation of the recommendations in the proposal. In the fall of 2006, at the request of the Governor, the legislature approved funding in the amount of \$5 million dollars to launch implementation of the Partnership’s ten-year plan. This was to cover the 30 month period from January 2007 through June 2009. To date, the \$5

million state investment in the Partnership has been leveraged with other funding totaling \$13.2 million plus in-kind support of the Work Groups in excess of \$2 million.

One of the important recommendations in the Strategic Action Proposal was to align all region economic development efforts in support of target industry clusters chosen on the basis of their high job growth potential. These efforts began to show fruit when the Valley average unemployment fell below double-digits for three consecutive years beginning in 2006. However, the current recession, coupled with a severe drought, has caused the Valley's jobless rate to soar once again, the most recent numbers showing an unemployment rate of about 17%, well above the state average numbers. A UC-Davis report issued in March 2009 predicts up to 80,000 lost jobs and between \$1.6 billion and \$2.2 billion in direct and indirect income loss as a result of the drought, affecting the diverse farming and ranching communities that grow 50 percent of the nation's fruits, vegetables, nuts and dairy products. Unemployment here has a potential nationwide impact on our food supply

It is noteworthy that even in these days when almost one of every five Valley residents are unemployed, there are jobs going wanting in the Valley because we have insufficient workers with the skills to meet job demands. The Workforce Investment Boards (WIB's) throughout the Valley work diligently with the Partnership to address the Valley's job creation needs, but they have been constrained by a couple of issues:

- Lack of resources: cutbacks in WIA funding have affected the capacity of the WIB's. It is estimated that the **WIB's are able to service only 5-10% of eligible applicants for service.**
- The WIB's do not have jurisdiction over all the organizations that need to be engaged in the implementation of a fully integrated workforce development network.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) provides an opportunity to bring some resources to bear on these two constraints. Formula funding going to the WIB's will enable them to more effectively serve a larger pool of the eligible applicants. If approved, a pending grant request from the Central Valley Workforce Collaborative (CCWC), will add the systems and oversight capacity to handle the additional case load and provide the resources to do ongoing employer surveys in the targeted industry clusters. That will ensure that training dollars will go towards real available jobs.

This proposal requests support from State discretionary WIA funding to address the second constraint; specifically to enhance the ability of the Partnership and WIBs to effectively and efficiently get the best ROI for the Valley's unemployed and to stimulate the regional economy. The WIBs are understandably concerned about what will happen when the peak funding from ARRA goes away. Specifically, how will they be able to sustain the higher level of training made possible by the temporary stimulus funding? The answer to sustainability at this higher level lies in increasing the effectiveness and efficiency with which all the stakeholders that have a role in workforce development work together: shared goals, articulated strategies and synergistic actions. In this endeavor, the Partnership would act as a convener to bring all Valley stakeholders together to target industry clusters that show the most promise for future job growth region-wide.

## **ACCELERATING INTEGRATED WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT FOR REGIONAL INDUSTRY CLUSTERS IN THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY**

Industry clusters and labor pools do not align themselves along the borders of political jurisdictions. They are more a function of regional geography, climate, natural resources and history and culture, particularly as regards the clustering of innovation. Cities and counties don't have isolated economies but are part of regional economies. Successful regional economies compete globally on the basis of innovation, technology, entrepreneurship, workforce skills and industry-specific productivity. Of these factors, a skilled workforce is most strongly correlated with growth in per capita income, productivity and growth. But California has no governance to address regional economies, so the aim of this proposal is to create a seamless, multi-government, multi-sector network focused on the development of a regional workforce built around targeted industry clusters with high-demand occupations in the Valley. It is our goal that this network will serve as a template that other regions can adopt and modify to suit their own needs and conditions.

Spurred in part by the Partnership, the creation of such a network in the Valley has been started. Indeed, according to a November 30, 2008 report issued by CSU Northridge for the California Workforce Association, the eight WIB's in the San Joaquin Valley have come together to form one of the two regions in the State with the highest density of effective relationships. Joint surveys have been done to determine high-demand occupations in the targeted industry clusters; a single website now connects employers and candidates throughout the Valley; a common job applicant assessment tool is now in use throughout the Valley. But there is much work to be done to fully integrate the work of the WIBs with the work of the economic development corporations and other business, industry and agriculture organizations; the educational institutions from K-12 through the community colleges and universities; local governments; state and national government; and the myriad other organizations, including CBO's, that all have an impact on the success of the targeted industry clusters.

This grant will serve to bring all these parties together to improve tax holder return on investment in WIA training funds. It will do so by producing the following specific deliverables over a two-year period, with quarterly comprehensive progress reports.

### **Deliverable # 1 – Sector Based Articulation**

**A fully coordinated academic and training program, from high-schools through colleges and universities that provides curriculum programs with the rigor and relevance needed to yield qualified trained employees with immediate value for the following industry clusters:**

- Agribusiness, including Food Processing, Agricultural Technology and Biotechnology;
- Water Technology;
- Renewable Energy;
- Manufacturing; and
- Supply Chain Management and Logistics.

This grant will help make highly impactful, long term changes in the entire system of workforce development in the San Joaquin Valley. Some description of the current system is required in order to understand the need for the system change.

In the current system, young people receive an education in a K-12 system that is designed to maximize success in the passing of standardized tests and production of high school graduates. While these are worthy goals, the education received by the vast majority of K-12 students has no direct connection with preparation of these students for successful careers, and the curriculum is not linked in any consistent manner with the high-demand, targeted industry clusters in the Valley. In addition, while a small minority of students may take vocational or "technical education" courses while in high school, these courses are not articulated with the courses available in our community colleges and universities that would prepare these students for high wage occupations. As a result, most students that do not pursue a 4-year college degree end up out of high school with an entry level, low paying job while perhaps taking a few classes at the local community college. After a few years and a few dead-end jobs, they realize that they require a higher skill set to be qualified for career opportunities that offer wages that result in self-sufficiency for them and their families. At this point, they turn to the WIBs as a "second chance" system to gain the skills needed for high-demand, high-wage jobs. As previously noted, the WIBs receive enough funding to only assist 5-10% of these individuals.

This grant proposal is aimed at providing the workforce with the skills necessary for success the first time, rather than requiring them to seek the training they need through the WIBs after failing to receive it in the educational system.

Through the Sector Based Articulation process described in this deliverable, we seek to provide 90% of the non-4-year college bound Valley students with the skills they need to meet the requirements of the high demand industry sectors in the Valley. This will allow the WIBs to target their efforts on the remaining 10% in addition to providing services to dislocated workers whose skill sets become out-dated as a result of the natural changes in skill requirements that occur as a result of a growing and evolving economy.

Rather than incrementally and temporarily increasing the training capacity of the WIBs, this proposal takes a visionary approach to making the dramatic changes needed to unify the K-12, Higher Education, and WIB systems into alignment to better prepare the workforce for career opportunities that exist in the targeted industry sectors.

The clusters listed above all have a strong connection to the heart of the regional economy, which is agribusiness. Water technology is crucial to the success of agribusiness; more than 20% of the energy consumed in California is used to move water; there is a significant intersection of agribusiness waste management, energy efficiency, air quality and carbon footprint; our manufacturing industry in the Valley is heavily oriented towards agribusiness and water markets; much of our supply chain and logistics business has been built up around agribusiness.

With data garnered from individual "Employment Gap Analyses" conducted by partnering WIBs across the Valley, a remarkably different picture of the causes and drivers of Valley unemployment has emerged. While a classic unemployment model is predicated on the lack of jobs for a qualified workforce, in the Valley the exact converse is found in many areas. Simply put - good paying, career-path jobs are going wanting for lack of a qualified workforce.

With this realization, the necessity of articulating educational opportunities with the needs of these clusters becomes crucial. This focus on the need of existing valley employers dovetails with the new emphasis among Valley Economic Development Corporations (EDCs) to make the retention and expansion of existing valley businesses on par with their business attraction efforts. Valley EDCs have also determined, through their individual survey work with local employers, that “lack of an available qualified workforce” is among the top three stated needs of local businesses.

In some instances, training opportunities do exist with public education partners that are focused on the above iterated clusters. Their existence is, however, piecemeal. By implementing this deliverable we are talking about the creation of a cohesive system to ensure the availability of training in growth clusters across the Valley, where such training is needed by identified employers.

By identifying, and or creating, such training opportunities articulated to cluster needs, partnering WIBs will be better able to optimally spend the ARRA formula funding they will be receiving to retrain dislocated workers, poor adults, and older youth.

Partners:

- All Nine (-9-) Valley WIBs { Fresno, Kern/Inyo/Mono, Kings, Madera, Merced, Mother Load Consortium, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, and Tulare}
- Partnership Economic Development Work Group, including EDC’s, Chambers & Business Councils
- Partnership pre K-12 Work group
- Partnership Higher Education and Workforce Development Group, including community colleges, CSU’s and UC Merced
- San Joaquin Valley Clean Energy Organization
- Partnership Water Work Group
- Partnership Air Quality Work Group
- Representatives from the industry clusters.
- Partnership Secretariat

During the 2-year term covered by this grant request our goals under deliverable # 1 are:

- Develop at least one demonstration project of a fully articulated academic training program, from high school through colleges and universities, for each of the five target industry clusters.
- Assure that at least one of the demonstration projects is developed for the northern, central and southern sub- region of the San Joaquin Valley.

Metrics to be measured:

- The number of high schools, 2 and 4 year colleges that have adopted the models by sub-region.
- The number of additional training slots the models will open up in the San Joaquin Valley.
- The number of students enrolled in each of the sector course offerings by educational segment.

- Track student placement and outcomes through the full sequence of each of the segments.

### **Deliverable #2 – Basic Education Proficiency**

**A workforce readiness program that addresses areas of significant deficiency in the San Joaquin Valley, specifically:**

- **English Language Learners Program**
- **Digital Literacy Program**

It is the concerted opinion of all the Valley WIBs partnering on this proposal that the particular barriers to employment faced by many Valley job seekers warrant special attention. We have gained an understanding from the multiple employment studies conducted by the Valley WIBs last year (Employment Gap Analyses) that a large portion of the Valley Unemployment problem is really a Valley **“lack of qualified job applicants”** problem.

Specifically, many Valley job seekers will be unable to take advantage of the career training opportunities that will be afforded by deliverable Number One - Sector Based Articulation , without a separate deliverable that deals with basic education deficiencies in the areas of English and digital literacy. What this deliverable aims to achieve is to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the WIB’s by increasing the pool of applicants for WIB training with the very basic skills needed by Valley employers. Additionally, employer requirement for these basic skills applies not only to job seekers who go through the WIB’s, but to the 90% of job candidates who do not go through the WIB’s.

The intent is to connect the curriculum of both of these programs to subjects that are relevant to the targeted regional industry clusters.

Partners:

- All Nine (-9-) Valley WIBs
- Partnership preK-12 Work group
- Central Valley Education Leadership Institute
- California Emerging Technology Fund
- Partnership Secretariat

During the 2-year term of this grant our goals are:

- Establish three pilot programs for English Language Learners developed to impact workforce readiness in the northern, central and southern sub- region of the San Joaquin Valley.
- Establish three pilot programs for Digital Literacy developed to impact workforce readiness in the northern, central and southern sub- region of the San Joaquin Valley.

Metrics to be measured:

- The number of slots implemented in the pilots for the English Language Learners
- The number of slots implemented for Digital Literacy Learners
- The number of enrolled learners.
- The completions for each workforce readiness area.
- The outcomes of those completers (entered employment, entered skills training, etc.).

### **Deliverable #3 – Green Economy & Workforce**

**Ensure that the green economy and green workforce are part of this new regional occupational development in the San Joaquin Valley, consistent with the needs of agribusiness, the goals of AB 32, the air quality goals of the Partnership and the “energy independence” goals of the San Joaquin Valley Clean Energy Organization. This would set a national model.**

Partners:

- All Nine (-9-) Valley WIBs
- San Joaquin Valley Clean Energy Organization
- Partnership Water Work Group
- Partnership Air Quality Work Group
- Representatives from the industry clusters
- Partnership Secretariat

During the 2-yr term of this grant the goals are:

- Establish a central repository of information for education and business to use to develop new occupational opportunities for a Green Economy.
- Develop a mechanism for expeditious curriculum review that ensures that the green economy and green workforce are included in the development of the articulated clusters developed with this grant.
- Review each model or pilot to assure that they are consistent with the needs of agribusiness, AB 32, the air quality goals of the SJVP, and the energy independence and clean energy goals of the San Joaquin Clean Energy Organization.

**Metrics to be measured:**

- Numbers of models or pilots that are reviewed.
- Time needed for review of each model or pilot.

- Number of models or pilots that meet the established goals for “Green”.
- Number of training slots created that meet the established goals for “Green”.

#### **Deliverable #4 – Business Incubation & Entrepreneurship Development**

##### **Establish a network throughout the 8-county region of business incubators and entrepreneurship development programs focused on the targeted regional industry clusters.**

One out of 9 adults is currently engaged in a start-up effort across the nation. By offering support and training to this demographic, we create the potential for generating and sustaining large numbers of new firms in the San Joaquin Valley. The prospects for entrepreneurial success are enhanced if new ventures are directed at industry clusters that have been shown to offer growth potential in the Valley.

The *Lyles Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship* has established a national reputation for its program in development of entrepreneurs. They have initiated work to “export “ their capability to other parts of the Valley. One aim of this grant proposal is to develop a Valley-wide “entrepreneurial pathway”, where 2-year and 4-year colleges will be linked through curricula and workshops preparing adults for self-employment. This pathway will provide for leveraged resources, common training, and a comprehensive series of services that will assist entrepreneurs in building knowledge and skills that lead to entrepreneurial success.

It is envisioned that the entrepreneurial pathway will be implemented through workshops and training of faculty on 14 community college campuses and 5 four-year campuses in the 8 county region by (1) building a common curricula for youth and adults in preparation for the launch of a new business; (2) community workshops directed at business plan writing, idea feasibility, product development, and technology commercialization; and (3) shared database for resources to support entrepreneurship activities.

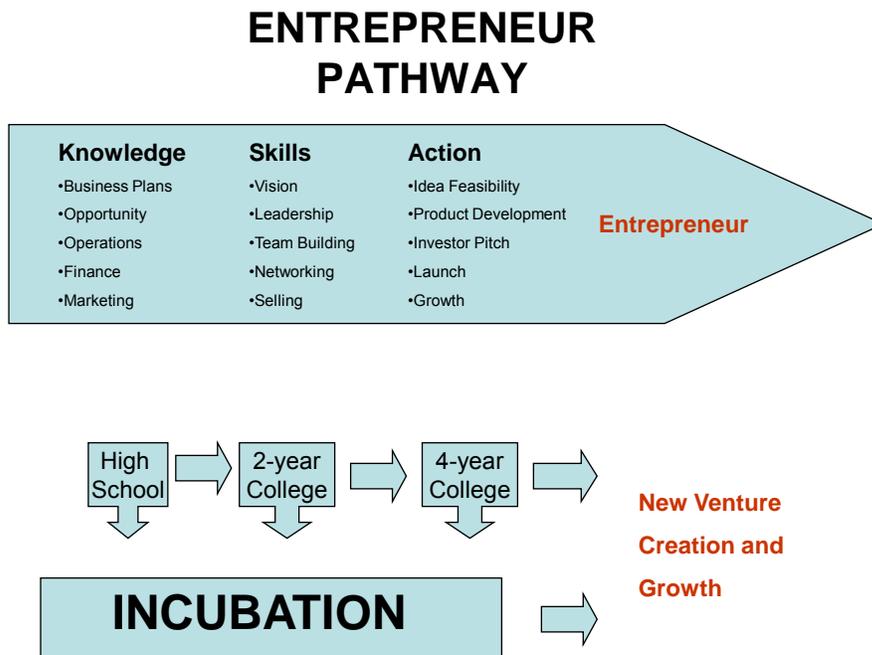
We propose building on this pathway by fully integrating all 14 community college campuses in the Central Valley through the development of “Entrepreneurial Centers” on each campus serving both the student and community population, with the Lyles Center serving as the facilitator for the creation of a wide array of services that will enable the launch of new businesses and the creation of new jobs in each community. Services would include (1) incubation of new businesses, (2) educational programs geared to the community college, (3) product development and commercialization, (4) legal, accounting, and financial services that promote and support entrepreneurial development and growth.

This is intended to be a build-as-you-plan program. To the extent funding can be identified, “E-Centers” will be created on each of the community college campuses and four-year universities, providing incubation space, connectivity to Central Valley resources, and coaching services to entrepreneurs.

Partners:

- All Nine (-9-) Valley WIBs
- Lyles Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, CSU Fresno
- Partnership Economic Development Work Group, including EDC's, Chambers & Business Councils
- Partnership Higher Education and Workforce Development Group, including community colleges, CSU's and UC Merced
- Representatives from the industry clusters.
- Partnership Secretariat

A diagram of the Pathway is shown below.



Metrics to be measured:

During the 2-year term covered by this grant request, we will measure the following:

- Development of the “Entrepreneurial Pathway”.
- Number of 2-year and 4-year colleges that have adopted the program.
- Number of 2-year and 4-year colleges that have established E-Centers.
- Number of students enrolled in entrepreneurship courses.

- Numbers of attendees at workshops and related programs.
- Utilization of data base resources.

In the longer term, we will measure and hope to achieve significant progress on the following metrics:

- Number of entrepreneurs who utilize E-Centers.
- Number of jobs created by business start-ups.
- Number of firms launched.
- Payroll of new firms.
- Revenue of new firms

## BUDGET

The following budget shows the total funding for the Partnership for FY 2009-10 and the percentage of the funding being requested from WIA. Note that the requested WIA funds are being matched with cash and in-kind funds from other sources on a slightly better than one-to-one basis. Every effort will be made by the Partnership to leverage the WIA funds at the highest possible level.

### California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley Budget for FY 2009-10, Showing Allocations from WIA Funding

*(Same amounts apply to FY FY 2010-11)*

| <u>Expense Category</u>  | <u>Total Expense</u> | <u>WIA Funding</u> | <u>% From WIA</u> |
|--|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Secretariat  |                      |                    |                   |
| > Personnel (4 FTE's)  | \$498,000            | \$164,000          | 33%               |
| > Miscellaneous Other Expenses   | \$85,000             | \$28,000           | 33%               |
| Annual Report/Annual Meeting (1)   | \$142,000            | \$47,000           | 33%               |
| Work Group Consultants (2)   |                      |                    |                   |
| > K-12/Higher Education and Workforce Development (2 FTE')                 | \$220,000            | \$220,000          | 100%              |
| > Advanced Communications - broadband access and computer literacy (1 FTE) | \$120,000            | \$60,000           | 50%               |
| > Economic Development (1 FTE)   | \$120,000            | \$120,000          | 100%              |
| > Agribusiness(1 FTE)  | \$120,000            | \$60,000           | 50%               |
| > Energy(1 FTE)  | \$120,000            | \$60,000           | 50%               |
| > Air Quality (1 FTE)  | \$120,000            | \$60,000           | 50%               |
| > Water (1FTE)   | \$120,000            | \$60,000           | 50%               |
| > Health & Human Services (1 FTE)  | \$120,000            | \$120,000          | 100%              |
| > Other Work Groups  | <u>\$240,000</u>     | <u>\$0</u>         | <u>0%</u>         |
|  | \$2,025,000          | \$999,000          | 49%               |

*Note 1: Annual Report and Annual Meeting are required under Governor's Executive Order*

*Note 2: FTE costs are inclusive of overhead and miscellaneous expenses, including travel.*

The funding requirements for the second program year, FY 2010-11, are anticipated to be identical to those for the first program year, so the total funding request is for \$1,998,000.

Conscious of the fact that this grant covers only a two-year period, the intent is to use contract hires ("work group consultants ") to perform most of the work – some full-time and some part-time. Task forces will be assembled for each of the four deliverables, comprised of all partners, contracted experts, and others who may be able to make a contribution. A chair will be appointed to each of the four task forces, who will serve as the paid lead executive for the task forces. The WIBs will appoint a co-chair to

serve on each of the task forces. The role of the lead executives will be to convene the partners, lead the effort to plan and implement the work necessary to achieve each deliverable, monitor progress, and issue quarterly reports and the final report.

A leadership group, comprised of the eight task force co-chairs, a Partnership staff person, a Partnership board member and up to three ad hoc members selected by the other members, will provide overall guidance to the project.

#### **JOB AND ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF ARRA SUPPLEMENTARY FUNDS, INCLUDING THIS GRANT REQUEST**

Prior to the announcement of WIA funds from the ARRA being made available, the eight San Joaquin Valley WIBs were on track to enroll and serve approximately 9300 adults and dislocated workers. Out of these 9300 individuals, a little over 1800 would receive job training. In addition, over 5200 youth were to be enrolled and provided employment and education services which includes a paid work experience for approximately 2,250 of these youth.

Based on initial estimates of funds to be received through ARRA, the eight WIBs will enroll and train significantly higher numbers of Valley residents. The WIBs project increasing the number of adults/dislocated workers to be enrolled to almost 15,000, an additional 5700 over the 9300 that were targeted to be enrolled pre-ARRA. Most of these individuals (approx. 5000) will receive job training services for careers in the targeted industry sectors. At the current average placement rate of 75%, the eight Valley WIBS should place 11,250 Valley residents in employment. Almost 4000 of these placements will be a result of receipt of the additional ARRA funds.

In addition, the number of youth to be enrolled as a result of ARRA will increase from approximately 5200 to about 15,500. The vast majority of the additional youth to be served will be placed in paid work experience assignments over the summer of 2009, amounting to approximately 13,600 Valley youth working and receiving pay checks this summer.

The Valley WIBs have already begun recruiting and hiring the temporary staff to provide the capacity necessary to serve the additional Valley job seekers. Meetings are also underway with local adult schools, community colleges, universities, and private technical schools to facilitate the development of new programs and additional courses in the targeted industry sectors that will accommodate the additional trainees that will be referred by the WIBs. Special attention is being paid to workers displaced by the impacts of the drought. In keeping with the stimulus intent of ARRA, the WIBS will start enrolling and training individuals immediately upon receipt of the additional funds.

Regarding youth funding, the Valley WIBs are well along in the process of increasing staffing capacity, recruiting youth, and developing work sites for the summer.

The long-standing relationship of the Valley WIBs through their Central California Workforce Collaborative (CCWC) and the effects of initiatives supported by the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley have been of tremendous value in facilitating planning efforts for the efficient and effective expenditure of the ARRA funds. The CCWC has met twice to share best practices and discuss ways to collaborate in this effort.

The \$1,998,000 million grant requested here will have tremendous impact on the number of individuals who get trained for and employed in high-demand, high-wage jobs in the San Joaquin Valley. This grant will help coordinate all of the education and training efforts of the K-12, Higher Education, Economic Development, and Workforce Development partners around training for high-wage, high-demand jobs in the targeted industry sectors. Particular attention will be paid to linkage of high school career technical education (CTE) and ROP programs to the targeted industry clusters. The WIBs project placing about 11,250 in employment over the 2-year life of the grant. By developing an on-going system that better prepares Valley residents for careers in high-demand occupations, the benefits of this grant will extend far beyond its 2 year life. As business incubators turn out new businesses, a fully articulated education system will be producing their future employees. In addition, programs will be in place that provide English language training, basic skills remediation, and computer literacy for those who require it in order to be productive members of the workforce. This will all result in WIB customers who are better prepared to take advantage of the technical skill training and re-training that the WIBs offer, thus improving the training and placement outcomes of the Valley WIBs far into the future. The ultimate result of these efforts is a lower unemployment rate, improved economy, and better quality of life for residents of the San Joaquin Valley.

## **CONCLUSION**

This proposal is intended to produce the highest possible return on investment from the supplementary ARRA funds. We seek not only to make more effective and efficient use of the temporary increase in training capacity made possible through these funds, but to leave behind a more effective overall workforce development system that will serve the Valley long into the future. By connecting all elements of the complex system that yields the workforce skills needed by the industry clusters with the most growth promise in the Valley, we are using the ARRA funds to leave a lasting legacy for the Valley.

By linking the existing expenditure of both formula WIA funds and ARRA stimulus funds to the needs of employers in the high-growth industry sectors of the Valley, this proposal will lead to a demonstrable long-term improvement in the key benchmarks used by the United States Department of Labor to measure the effectiveness of WIB's:

- Increase in the "Entered Employment Rate" of Valley WIB clients
- Increase in the "Wage at Placement" of Valley WIB clients
- Increase in the "Certification Rate" of Valley WIB clients
- Increase in the "Retention Rate" of Valley WIB clients

As can be seen from the numbers cited above, funding limitations, even with the supplementary ARRA moneys, allow the WIBs to reach only a small fraction of job seekers in the Valley. This proposal will have a significant impact in preparing the 90% of job seekers who are not touched by the WIB's for jobs and careers in the Valley's high-demand occupations. It's our hope that this comprehensive, integrated approach will serve as a template for other regions to consider.

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## Secretariat Cost-Saving Measures

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The Office of Community and Economic Development (OCED) at California State University, Fresno, has been examining ways to maintain operations of the Secretariat, at a reduced level, in the event no state funding is received for FY 2009-10. While we continue to look externally for funds, we must look internally for cost savings.

The Secretariat is committed to maintaining a variety of staffed services in support of the Partnership but has found more cost-effective methods for running the logistics of the board meeting, while ensuring that meetings run smoothly and are of high quality.

Starting July 1, staff suggests the following changes take place:

- **Board Packages** – Packages will no longer be shipped prior to the meeting. However, a link to the board package will be posted on the Partnership Web site within 10 days of the meeting. Hard copies will be provided at the board meeting with the same content as previously provided but in a scaled-down and simpler version.
- **Board Meeting Meals** – Staff is exploring several options to reduce costs for food. One option is to provide assistance with pre-board dinners rather than host the dinner. Another is to provide lunch only to board members on days of the board meetings. If the venue does not provide a quick and easy alternative for no-host meals, except for the catered meal we provide board members, we may be able to facilitate setting up the meal and collecting payment.

As these options are fully developed, we will communicate with the board and those that normally attend the meetings so that logistics are smooth and attendees can anticipate any costs.

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