



News Release

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Federal Stimulus Package: San Joaquin Valley's Final Plan

FRESNO –The California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley (Partnership) continues outreach efforts to capitalize on the \$787 billion federal stimulus package for our Valley's eight-county region. Through collaboration, the Partnership submitted the Valley's "Regional Economic Recovery Work Plan draft" on April 1, 2009. **On June 1, 2009, the "final" Plan is due to Business, Transportation & Housing Agency (BTH).**

BTH was tasked with developing a statewide economic recovery strategy and advocating California's funding needs at the national level. **Without regional collaboration, this task would not be attainable and stimulus funds would not be as effective.** The stronger the case BTH can present on behalf of California, the better the Valley will be positioned for funding opportunities. Therefore, the Partnership will be holding a second round of community forums focusing on the "final" Plan at the following times and locations.

City	Venue	Date/Time
Modesto	Great Valley Center 201 Needham Street Modesto, California 95354	5/20/09 10am – noon
Fresno	Fresno COG 2035 Tulare Street, Suite 201 Fresno, California 93721	5/21/09 10am – noon
Bakersfield	Kern COG 1401 19 th Street, Suite 300 Bakersfield, CA 93301	5/22/09 10am – noon

On April 30, the Partnership met with BTH Secretary Dale Bonner, his staff and representatives from other state agencies including Department of Food and Agriculture, Infrastructure Bank, General Services, Labor & Workforce, Housing & Community Development, and California Environmental Protection Agency. **The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the Valley’s “draft” Plan, the criteria for the Valley’s “final” Plan and other funding opportunities.**

The Valley was complemented on its unified delivery as it was one of three regions that met the provided requirements from BTH and had a more comprehensive “draft” Plan than expected. However, the “final” Plan will have additional criteria for inclusion of projects from that submitted in the “draft” Plan. **In addition to the project list we provided in the “draft,” BTH has asked that the Partnership highlight projects in the “final” Plan that meet the following criteria:**

- 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 – projects that leverage additional dollars other than public. BTH is looking to attract investor interest.

Secretary Bonner also asked that the Partnership 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.

Participating in the regional Plan is not an application for funding; however, the Partnership will continue to send out grant notices and information on stimulus funding as they become available. The following Web sites provide additional grant opportunity resources:

- www.grants.gov
- www.recovery.gov
- www.recovery.ca.gov
- www.cacities.org/federalstimulus
- www.ncsl.org/statefed/2009economicstimulus.htm

The California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley, initiated by an executive order from Governor Schwarzenegger, is an unprecedented effort to bring together public and private leaders and resources to address economic, environmental and social issues in the eight-county San Joaquin Valley (from Kern to San Joaquin counties).