



**STAFF REPORT**  
Board Meeting of July 21, 2021

**AGENDA ITEM:** 5-A

**PREPARED BY:** Dylan Stone, Principal Regional Planner

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**SUBJECT:**

Fresno-Madera State Route 41 and Avenue 9 Sustainable Corridors Study - Final

**Enclosure:** Yes

**Action:** Accept the Fresno-Madera State Route 41 and Avenue 9 Sustainable Corridors Study

**SUMMARY:**

Fresno Council of Governments (Fresno COG), in partnership with Madera County Transportation Commission (MCTC), have prepared a study to determine State Route 41's future transportation needs in the City of Fresno, as well as the southern segment in Madera County. In addition, the study is analyzing future transportation needs along the Avenue 9 corridor in Madera County between SR 41 and SR 99. This project began in July 2020.

The study recommends sustainable improvements to address residents' transportation needs in both counties for issues such as: mobility, access, safety, and connectivity for all modes of travel, including automobiles, transit, walking, and rolling/cycling.

A bi-county model was built to forecast future travel conditions. The model was an extension of Fresno COG's activity-based model utilizing data from MCTC's four-step model. Base future conditions were based on currently adopted transportation plans and programs from the two regions.

The study was guided by a steering committee with representatives from: Fresno COG, MCTC, City of Fresno, County of Madera, County of Fresno, Caltrans, Fresno Area Express, California Highway Patrol, Building Industry Association of Fresno and Madera, Valley Children's Hospital, Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability, and local stakeholders such as active transportation groups and business organizations. The committee provided input and feedback on the study development process and assisted in identifying key issues and solutions to for the project study area.

Due to COVID-19, outreach efforts were focused towards online engagements, including a public workshop/open house, interactive activities and surveys, and a mass social media campaign that included a digital information center. These efforts were intended to be inclusive and maximize diverse community and stakeholder participation. Outreach materials were available in various languages and via an "offline" option.

The study makes a series of recommendations by mode or facility type (Highway, Arterial, Public Transit, Active Transportation, and Multi-Modal/Climate Resiliency) based on three specific area types identified for the study analysis (State Route 41 South in the City of Fresno, State Route 41 North in Madera County and Ave 9 between State Route 99 and Valley Children’s Hospital). The recommendations are categorized into the following groups: policy changes, additional analysis/studies, near-term suggestions (less than 5 years), mid-term suggestions (5 to 15 years) and long-term suggestions (over 15 years).

The study was circulated for a public review and comment period that began June 11, with the project team then incorporating received comments into the final draft. The final draft is available to view here: <https://www.fresnocog.org/project/fresno-madera-state-route-41-and-avenue-9-sustainable-corridors-study/>.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

No fiscal impact to the approved 2021-22 Overall Work Program and Budget.