

North Central Texas Council Of Governments

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March 27, 2014

The Honorable Keith Self
County Judge
Collin County
Jack Hatchell Collin County Administration Building
2300 Bloomdale Rd., Suite 4192
McKinney, TX 75071

Dear Judge Self:

Following up on the October 22, 2013, letter the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) sent you outlining an outreach plan to encourage residents of Collin County to make use of the AirCheckTexas program, I wanted to let you know about the success of staff efforts. Since last fall, staff focused their attention on increasing participation in the AirCheckTexas program from Collin County residents through targeted outreach to repair facilities, auto dealers, and inspection stations located in Collin County. Special attention was paid to those areas with high emissions inspection failure rates and low-income households.

While the repair component of the program continues year-round, the replacement component has only been available for a limited time each year due to the reduction in funds. I am happy to report that funds spent on repairs in Collin County increased by 55 percent during the first two quarters of this fiscal year (FY) when compared to the same timeframe for FY2013.

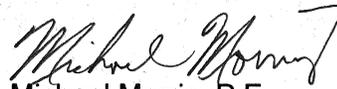
Since the replacement component of the program just launched in February, not enough time has lapsed yet for the vouchers issued to be redeemed or paid out, so the best performance measure to determine success at this point is to compare the number of applications received for replacement assistance. Again, I am pleased to inform you that the program saw a 40-percent increase in applications from Collin County residents during the first month of the replacement component this year when compared to the first month of replacement assistance in FY2013.

Additional information including details on outreach activities can be found in the enclosed document. NCTCOG staff plan to continue efforts to reach out to Collin County residents, to encourage participation in the AirCheckTexas program, to make use of funds collected in Collin County. As you are aware, the program has not been receiving all the funds collected from Collin County residents so as we begin preparing for the upcoming legislative session in 2015, your leadership will be important on ensuring the region is able to utilize all dedicated air quality funds, and be able to flex some funds to traditional transportation improvements.

March 27, 2014

If you have further questions, please feel free to contact Amanda Wilson, Public Involvement Manager, at (817) 695-9284 or awilson@nctcog.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Morris".

Michael Morris, P.E.
Director of Transportation

SS:lk
Enclosure

cc: Mike Eastland, Executive Director, NCTCOG
Amanda Wilson, Public Involvement Manager, NCTCOG

**Low-Income Vehicle Repair Assistance, Retrofit, & Accelerated Retirement Program (LIRAP)
Collin County Performance Measures
Fiscal Year 2014
September 2013 – March 2014**

Summary of Activities

- NCTCOG staff focused on increasing participation from Collin County through targeted outreach to participating service providers including repair facilities, automobile dealerships and inspection stations and also through participation in scheduled events.
- Since the beginning of September 2013, the Program continued to offer repair assistance.
- The replacement component of the Program resumed on February 10, 2014, and is expected to continue until April 11, 2014.

Funds Expended and Participation Rates

Repairs

Collin County LIRAP Repair Funds Spent			
Quarter 1			
	FY2013	FY2014	% Change
Repairs Dollars Spent	\$9,364	\$12,937	38% increase
Quarter 2			
	FY2013	FY2014	% Change
Repairs Dollars Spent	\$8,057	\$14,112	75% increase
TOTAL (Q1 + Q2)	\$17,421	\$27,049	55% increase

NOTE: During Quarter 1, the Program was not accepting replacement applications.

Replacements

Collin County LIRAP Replacement Applications Received			
1st Month of Replacement Launch			
	FY2013	FY2014	% Change
Applications Received	78	109	40% increase

NOTE: Since the Program just launched the replacement component on February 10, 2014, not enough time has lapsed yet for the vouchers issued to be redeemed and paid out so compared number of applications received during the first month of the replacement component of each FY.

Outreach Efforts

- Car Care Clinics
 - October 2013
 - Monday, October 14, 2013, at City Garage – Plano, 6301 Independence Pkwy, Plano, TX 75023
 - Saturday, October 19, 2013, at Sav-Mor Auto Center, 1114 14th St., Plano, TX 75074
 - Saturday, October 26, 2013, at The Auto Shop, 2560 E. Plano Pkwy, Plano, TX 75074
 - April 2014
 - Saturday, April 5, 2014, at The Auto Shop, 2560 E. Plano Pkwy, Plano, TX 75074

- Farmers and Flea Market in Farmersville
 - Saturday, November 2, 2013
 - 120 repair applications and fact sheets were distributed
- Public Meeting
 - Thursday, November 7, 2013, NCTCOG hosted a public meeting in Nevada at the McClendon Elementary School with 99 people attending. As part of the open house displays, staff provided AirCheckTexas Program applications and fact sheets to meeting attendees.
- Repair Facilities and Inspection Stations Outreach
 - Wednesday, November 6, 2013, delivered repair applications (100 to each facility) to four inspection stations
 - Thursday, November 14, 2013, delivered repair applications (100 to each facility) to five inspection stations and five repair facilities
 - Wednesday, November 20, 2013, delivered repair applications (100 to each facility) to six inspection stations and two repair facilities
 - Total sites visited: 22
- Automobile Dealerships Outreach
 - January 14 – January 16, 2014, hosted three automobile dealership workshops at NCTCOG in order to sign up participating dealerships.
 - Monday, January 27, 2014, visited three automobile dealerships to present the workshop training and sign up dealerships
 - Friday, January 31, 2014, visited one automobile dealership to present the workshop training and sign up dealership
 - Total automobile dealerships participating: 27
- McKinney Trade Days
 - Saturday, January 25, 2014
 - Repair applications and fact sheets were distributed
- Press Release and Media Coverage
 - Wednesday, February 12, 2014, press release announcing Program's replacement assistance accepting applications for a limited time.
 - As a result of the press release, NCTCOG staff provided interviews with NBC Channel 5 news, Telemundo Channel 4 news, KRLD radio news, Al Dia/The Dallas Morning News
 - Richardson Today Newsletter: article published about LIRAP in January 2014 edition