



North Central Texas Council Of Governments

RECEIVED
COMMISSIONER'S COURT
2014 APR -2 AM 10:16

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,


Michael Morris, P.E.
Director of Transportation

SS:lk
Enclosure

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