

AGENDA

**Regional Transportation Council
Thursday, October 12, 2023
North Central Texas Council of Governments**

**1:00 pm Full RTC Business Agenda
(NCTCOG Guest Secured Wireless Connection Password: rangers!)**

Pledge to the United States and Texas Flags

- 1:00 – 1:10** 1. **Opportunity for Public Comment on Today's Agenda**
 Information Minutes: 10
Item Summary: Members of the public may comment on any item(s) on today's agenda at this time. If speaking, please complete a Speaker Request Card, available at the meeting, and provide it to the North Central Texas Council of Governments designated staff person. A maximum of three (3) minutes is permitted per speaker. At the conclusion of this item, no further opportunities for public comment will be provided for the duration of the meeting.
Background: N/A
- 1:10 – 1:15** 2. **Approval of September 14, 2023, Minutes**
 Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 5
Presenter: Gyna Bivens, RTC Chair
Item Summary: Approval of the September 14, 2023, meeting minutes contained in Electronic Item 2 will be requested.
Background: N/A
- 1:15 – 1:20** 3. **Consent Agenda**
 Action Possible Action Information Minutes : 5
- 3.1. **November 2023 Transportation Improvement Program Modifications**
Presenter: Ken Bunkley, NCTCOG
Item Summary: Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of revisions to the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) will be requested, along with the ability to amend the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) and other planning and administrative documents with TIP-related changes.
Background: November 2023 revisions to the 2023-2026 TIP are provided as Electronic Item 3.1 for the Council's consideration. These modifications have been reviewed for consistency with the Mobility Plan, the air quality conformity determination, and financial constraint of the TIP.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Roadway, Transit

3.2. **Transit Strategic Partnerships Program: Selected Projects from the May 2023 Cycle**

Presenter: Shannon Stevenson, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval to provide funding for projects selected through the Transit Strategic Partnerships Program May 2023 Cycle.

Background: As part of the Transit Strategic Partnerships Program, staff is recommending projects for Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funding under two programs: Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program and Section 5307 Urbanized Area Formula's Job Access/Reverse Commute Program. From the May 2023 Cycle of applicants, three projects have been selected for funding: Dynamic Direct Route pilot in the City of Arlington; Mobility Management in/to Collin County by Denton County Transportation Authority; and Transit On-Demand Service provided by Trinity Metro in the City of Forest Hill. These selected projects all align with regional goals set forth in Mobility 2045, Access North Texas, and completed transit studies in Collin and Tarrant counties. Staff is requesting RTC approval to utilize existing Transit Strategic Partnerships Program funding in an amount not to exceed \$2,313,693 for the three selected projects. Please see Electronic Item 3.2 for more information.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative, Transit

1:20 – 1:30

4. **Partnerships for Regional Events: Arlington Entertainment District Partnership**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Karla Windsor, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request approval of funds to support planning and infrastructure for upcoming regional events. Special guests will be recognized.

Background: The Dallas-Fort Worth area has national and international events coming to the region. In 2024, the Texas Rangers will host the Major League Baseball All-Star Game. The region has also been selected to participate in the North American FIFA World Cup in 2026. Both events will be held in the Arlington Entertainment District. There are also regionally significant partners in need of assistance in preparing for an event that will affect transportation systems in an area with constrained access. The Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base (NAS JRB) in Fort Worth will be hosting the "Wings Over Cowtown" Air Show featuring the Blue Angels in April 2024 and is expecting 150,000–180,000 spectators daily to access their facility off State Highway 183. All events will bring significant economic development to various parts of the region but also present transportation challenges. Staff met with event representatives and stakeholders to determine a list of needs. For events occurring within the

Arlington Entertainment District, projects were identified in the categories of operations, transit, and streetscape/safety. The amount of funds requested is \$17.5 million. Due to the timing of needed infrastructure, the City of Arlington has agreed to “swap” \$17.5 million in local funds currently allocated for improvements to Randol Mill Road for \$17.5 million in federal funds to construct the project. Those local funds can go towards improvements identified by the City and Event/Entertainment District Stakeholders. Staff will request an allocation of \$17.5 million in Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program funds, matched with Regional Transportation Development Credits be programmed to the City of Arlington in exchange for an equal amount of City local funds to be allocated for the projects identified. Additionally, \$3.8 million in Regional Toll Revenue funds will be requested for interim improvements to Randol Mill Road, including overlay and sidewalk repairs/modifications in specific portions of the corridor. Also, \$750,000 of STBG funds with Regional Transportation Development Credits to match will be requested for the North Central Texas Council of Governments and Texas Department of Transportation to purchase regional dynamic message signs. Likewise, through conversations with NAS JRB representatives, needs have been identified to assist with parking, traffic analysis, and increased transit support. Staff will request a total of \$250,000 Regional Transportation Council (RTC) Local funds to assist with transportation needs for the event. An overview of the proposed funding request is contained in Electronic Item 4.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Roadway, Transit

1:30 – 1:45

5. **Orientation to Agenda/Director of Transportation Report**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 15
 Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG

1. North Central Texas Council of Governments Executive Board Action on Advertising and Introduction of Risk Analysis
2. Metropolitan Planning Organization Revolver Fund: Receipt of \$10 Million from Dallas Area Rapid Transit
3. Texas Innovation Alliance 2023 Invitational Award Winner
4. Correspondence on High-Speed Rail (Electronic Item 5.1)
5. Professional Services Agreement with Sandra Wesch
6. City of Irving Environmental Career Symposium - November 11, 2023 (Electronic Item 5.2)
7. Fall 2023 Traffic Incident Management Executive Level Course Announcement – November 2, 2023: ([North Central Texas Council of Governments - TIM Training Program \(nctcog.org\)](https://www.nctcog.org)) and (Electronic Item 5.3)

8. 2023 Crash Responder Safety Week – November 13 – 14, 2023 ([Crash Responder Safety Week \(CRSW\) November 13-17, 2023 - FHWA \(dot.gov\)](https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/crsw/2023-11-13-17-2023/))
9. 2023 Ozone Season Update (Electronic Item 5.4)
10. Local Clean Air Spotlight (Electronic Item 5.5)
11. Upcoming Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Events (<https://www.dfwcleancities.org/events>)
12. Air Quality Funding Opportunities for Vehicles (www.nctcog.org/aqfunding)
13. October Public Meeting Notice (Electronic Item 5.6)
14. September Public Meeting Minutes (Electronic Item 5.7)
15. Public Comments Report (Electronic Item 5.8)
16. Recent Correspondence (Electronic Item 5.9)
17. Recent News Articles (Electronic Item 5.10)
18. Recent Press Releases (Electronic Item 5.11)

1:45 – 2:45

6. **Workshop on Texas Department of Transportation Proposed Rules for Category 5 and Category 7**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 60

Presenters: Christie Gotti and Michael Morris, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will brief the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) on Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT's) proposed policy/rule change for Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) selected funding categories. Staff will present a range of options for RTC consideration. Approval by the RTC and comments submitted to TxDOT will occur next month.

Background: On September 11, 2023, TxDOT Headquarters staff briefed MPO partners statewide on its proposed policy to change allocation practices and limit carry over funding on certain MPO-selected categories, including Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ), Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program, and Category 2 - Metro Corridor funding. The result of this proposal is that MPOs will only have access to a portion of carryover funds. After carryover funds reach a certain percentage, the amount over the limit will be reallocated to Districts in other nonattainment areas (in the case of CMAQ) or other Districts (in the case of STBG, but through the Category 2 funding program, and those funds would be selected by TxDOT Districts, not by MPOs). The same policy change proposal was presented at the September 28, 2023, Texas Transportation Commission (TTC) meeting, in which the TTC took action to send the proposed rule change through the public review and comment process. MPOs were not asked their opinion on the option but were told the schedule for rule change. Comments are due by November 13, 2023. Staff will brief the RTC on the discussion from the September 11, 2023, meeting, discuss transportation ramifications, and propose a policy response. Electronic Item 6.1 contains a portion of the slideshow TxDOT provided at the September 11 meeting. Electronic Item 6.2

provides additional information on current RTC funding utilization.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Air Quality, Roadway

2:45 – 2:55

7. **Regional Transit Version 2.0: Planning for Year 2050**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request Regional Transportation Council (RTC) action to initiate a comprehensive transit study focused on advancing transportation authority city communication on common concerns, greater transportation authority collaboration between agencies and additional attention on expanding transit services to areas with transit needs, therefore, the consideration of Transit Version 2.0.

Background: It is being suggested that the RTC initiate a comprehensive transportation partnership initiative that addresses seven programs:

- More aggressive transit legislative program.
- Increased membership.
- Three agency collaboration between systems.
- Creating in-fill development.
- Transit Board teamwork.
- Transit fare rewards programs.
- Budget understanding.

Electronic Item 7 contains the proposed action.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative, Transit

2:55 – 3:05

8. **2023 Transportation Conformity and Mobility 2050**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenters: Jenny Narvaez and Brendon Wheeler, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide an overview of efforts on a 2023 Transportation Conformity analysis and development of the next Metropolitan Transportation Plan, Mobility 2050.

Background: On April 24, 2023, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published a Notice of Adequacy for the 2020 Motor Vehicle Emissions Budgets for the purpose of transportation conformity, with an effective date of May 24, 2023. This adequacy determination requires transportation conformity to be performed within two years of the effective date. Staff will present draft emission results from the analysis. The current regional Metropolitan Transportation Plan (Mobility 2045 Update) was not updated for this analysis. Currently under development is a new multi-modal transportation plan, Mobility 2050. A draft timeline for this next plan will be highlighted. Additional information is provided in Electronic Item 8.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Air Quality, Transit

9. **Progress Reports**

Action Possible Action Information

Item Summary: Progress Reports are provided in the items below.

- RTC Attendance (Electronic Item 9.1)
- STTC Attendance and Minutes (Electronic Item 9.2)

10. **Other Business (Old or New)**: This item provides an opportunity for members to bring items of interest before the group.
11. **Future Agenda Items**: This item provides an opportunity for members to bring items of future interest before the Council.
12. **Next Meeting**: The next meeting of the Regional Transportation Council is scheduled for ***1:00 pm on November 9, 2023, in the Transportation Council Room.***