

AGENDA

**Regional Transportation Council
Thursday, March 21, 2024
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 February 8, 2024, Minutes**
 Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 5
Presenter: Gyna Bivens, RTC Chair
Item Summary: Approval of the February 8, 2024, 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. May 2024 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: May 2024 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. **Modification to the Critical Regional Infrastructure Land Banking Program**

Presenter: Dan Kessler, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff is seeking Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of a reallocation of funding between parcel acquisition and site/maintenance cost associated with the Critical Regional Infrastructure Land Banking Program.

Background: On March 10, 2022, the RTC approved \$2,700,000 in RTC Local funds for the Critical Regional Infrastructure Land Banking Program. The funding was allocated as \$2,600,000 for parcel acquisition and \$100,000 for site improvements/maintenance. On March 24, 2022, the Executive Board authorized North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) to enter into an Interlocal Agreement (ILA) with the City of White Settlement to support Land Banking for Critical Regional Infrastructure. Efforts on the first of two site acquisitions was completed in June of 2022. Staff is requesting reallocation of the funding to \$2,400,000 in parcel acquisition and \$300,000 in site improvements/maintenance. The total amount of funding of \$2,700,000 is proposed to remain the same. This reallocation of funds will be used to accommodate acquisition of the second remaining parcel through a land exchange. This property is located at the south end of the Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth runway within the Accident "Clear Zone". Additional supplemental materials are included in Electronic Item 3.2.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative, Safety

1:20 – 1:35

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

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

1. University of Texas at Arlington 2024 Star Partner - Public Award (Dan Kessler)
2. North Central Texas Council of Governments Awarded 2024 Transit System of the Year by Federal Transit Administration Region VI (Shannon Stevenson)
3. Spring 2024 Traffic Incident Management Executive Level Course Announcement – May 2, 2024 (Electronic Item 4.1)
4. 2024 National Work Zone Awareness Week – April 15-19, 2024 ([2024 National Work Zone Awareness Week](#))
5. Recent Federal Approvals from National Competitions; Reconnecting Communities
6. Federal Transit Administration Support for Environmental Assessment, Federal Railroad Administration Corridor ID Program, Dallas City Council Presentation with AMTRAK and Upcoming High-Speed Rail Workshop (Electronic Item 4.2)
7. Transit 2.0 Implementation (Electronic Item 4.3)
8. Fiscal Year 2022 – 2024 Congestion Relief Grant Program – Proposals due April 22, 2024 (grants.gov/search-results-detail/352531)
9. Notice of Funding Opportunity – Now Open for Safe Streets and Roadways for All Grant Program ([Safe Streets and Roads for All \(SS4A\) Grant Program | US Department of Transportation](#))
10. United States Department of Transportation Fiscal Year 2024 Appropriations Approved Through September 30, 2024
11. Auto Occupancy/High Occupancy Vehicle Quarterly Subsidy Report (Electronic Item 4.4)
12. Environmental Protection Agency 2015 Ozone Standard Reclassification Proposal (Electronic Item 4.5)
13. Oscar Trevino, Jr. Letter (Electronic Item 4.6)
14. Local Clean Air Spotlight (Electronic Item 4.7)
15. Air Quality Funding Opportunities www.nctcog.org/aqfunding
16. Upcoming Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Events www.dfwcleancities.org/events
17. February Online Input Opportunity Minutes (Electronic Item 4.8)
18. April Public Meeting Notice (Electronic Item 4.9)

- 19. Public Comments Report (Electronic Item 4.10)
- 20. Recent News Articles (Electronic Item 4.11)
- 21. Recent Correspondence (Electronic Item 4.12)
- 22. Recent Press Releases (Electronic Item 4.13)

1:35 – 1:45 5. Approval of Transportation Progress for the Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Program

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Lori Clark, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request Regional Transportation Council approval of transportation measures to be included in a grant application to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (CPRG): Implementation Grants Program, as well as approval of key principles for staff to follow as the grant request is refined.

Background: With funding support from the EPA CPRG: Planning Grants Program, the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) has collaborated with local governments and other stakeholders throughout the region to develop the Dallas-Fort Worth Air Quality Improvement Plan (the Plan), which outlines measures to achieve comprehensive air quality improvement. The Plan includes measures to reduce emissions produced from transportation, energy, water, wastewater, solid waste, and agriculture/forestry/land use sectors. The RTC approved transportation measures to be included in the Plan on February 8, 2024, and the NCTCOG Executive Board approved the Plan on February 22, 2024. The Plan was submitted to the EPA on March 1, 2024, and is posted at www.publicinput.com/dfwAQIP. Submittal of the Plan enables eligible applicants in the NCTCOG region to pursue grant funding to implement measures contained in the Plan under the EPA CPRG Implementation Grants Program. The Implementation Grants application is due by Thursday, April 1, 2024. NCTCOG proposes to apply on behalf of the region for up to \$199 million, a portion of which would be used for transportation measures. Additional detail is available in Electronic Item 5.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Air Quality

1:45 – 1:55

6. **Transit Strategic Partnerships Program: Selected Project from the November 2023 Cycle**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Shannon Stevenson, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval to provide funding to Trinity Metro for on-demand service to the City of Mansfield through the Transit Strategic Partnerships Program.

Background: From the November 2023 Cycle of applicants, one project has been selected for funding: Transit On-Demand Service provided by Trinity Metro in the City of Mansfield. This selected project aligns with regional goals set forth in Mobility 2045, Access North Texas, and a completed transit study for Tarrant County. As part of the Transit Strategic Partnerships Program, staff is recommending this project for Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funding under Section 5307 Urbanized Area Formula's Job Access/Reverse Commute Program. In 2021, the Tarrant County Transit Study was finalized, which explored the transit and mobility needs of Tarrant County residents that reside in municipalities without general-access transit service. As recommended in the study, the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) began facilitating discussions between Trinity Metro and the City of Mansfield for potential expansion of transit service. Staff is requesting RTC approval to utilize existing Transit Strategic Partnerships Program funding in an amount not to exceed \$855,318 total (\$684,254 federal, \$171,064 local) for the selected project. Please see Electronic Item 6 for more information.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative, Transit

1:55 – 2:05

7. **Broadband as a Transportation Service: Four Proposed Elements**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Connor Sadro, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide information on the Municipal Stakeholder Broadband Roundtable held on December 4, 2023, at the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG).

Background: On December 4, 2023, NCTCOG hosted the Municipal Stakeholder Broadband Roundtable to discuss the state of municipal involvement in broadband and digital equity in local communities. Several members of the 16-county

region attended, and together with NCTCOG staff, compiled the following suggested action steps be taken to increase the presence of broadband in the region: The NCTCOG Transportation Department shall:

1. Assist the region with the coordination of data collection and analysis for the purpose of better reporting broadband availability, affordability, and residential usage rates.
2. Create a policy committee consisting of elected officials in the region to provide clear and consistent feedback to the Texas Broadband Development Office.
3. Leverage this policy committee to form a legislative program that will help guide the State of Texas legislature on regional needs.
4. Continue with outreach to broadband practitioners in the region and encourage municipalities to appoint broadband technical leads. Additionally, the NCTCOG Transportation Department will create a strategy for municipal best practices in achieving internet for all residents.

As part of actions steps 1 and 2, staff will request members of the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) to provide feedback and interest in participation. Staff will also request action in the future regarding these items and would preferably do so with sufficient insight and guidance from the RTC.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative, Goods Movement

2:05 – 2:15

8. **Regional Roadway Safety Performance Targets Update**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Sonya Landrum, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide an update on the 2024 Regional Roadway Safety Targets for federally required performance measures and actual performance of the 2022 Safety targets. Roadway Safety targets are focused on reducing serious injuries and fatalities for motorized and non-motorized travelers.

Background: In December 2015, the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation (FAST) Act was signed into law. The FAST Act requires certain performance measures be included in the long-range metropolitan transportation planning process. These measures were established by a series of

four rulemakings: Safety, Infrastructure Condition, System Performance/ Freight/Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality, and Transit Asset Management. As the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the North Central Texas region, the North Central Texas Council of Governments is required to set regional targets for roadway safety. These targets are used to track and report on the region's performance through existing documents such as the Metropolitan Transportation Plan, the Transportation Improvement Program, and the State of the Region report. In February 2023, the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approved the reduction schedule for the 2023-2027 regional roadway safety targets. Staff will provide the Council with an update on the proposed 2024 targets based on the approved reduction schedule and actual performance of the 2022 targets. Additional information provided in Electronic Item 8.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Safety

2:15 – 2:25

9. **Developing Mobility 2050: Kickoff**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Brendon Wheeler, NCTCOG

Item Summary: The Mobility 2045 Update was adopted by the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) on June 9, 2022. Staff will provide a report regarding efforts to develop the next Metropolitan Transportation Plan, Mobility 2050.

Background: Following RTC adoption of the Mobility 2045 Update, staff and partner agencies have been working toward implementing the mobility plan. These efforts include extensive coordination with the public and transportation partners and project development activities to advance projects through the planning and design phases toward implementation. Federal guidelines require the Dallas-Fort Worth region to update the long-range transportation plan a minimum of every four years and cover at least 20 years into the future. In addition, Mobility 2050 must demonstrate federal transportation conformity for air quality. The updated plan will include a new financial plan, updated demographics and technical analysis, updated project recommendation listings, and robust public involvement. Electronic Item 9 contains additional details.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Roadway, Transit

2:25 – 2:35

10. **Look Out Texans Video Local Distribution**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Kevin Kokes, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide an update about the Look Out Texans safety campaign and a request for local government assistance to distribute the campaign videos through local media outlets.

Background: In 2015, the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) launched the Look Out Texans Bike, Walk, Drive Safely education campaign aimed at increasing safety for all road users across North Texas. The campaign highlights everyone's rights and responsibilities when walking, biking, or driving and encourages our neighbors, friends, and family to do so as well. A wide variety of Look Out Texans branded education videos are available which include North Texas volunteers providing tips for drivers, pedestrians, and bicyclists traveling on the region's roadways. In recent years NCTCOG has promoted these videos primarily through social media. However, throughout 2024 staff will be coordinating with local governments staff and officials to supplement NCTCOG's safety outreach efforts by distributing these videos through local media, government access channels and online streaming platforms, community buildings, and message boards. Videos available for distribution range in length from 15 seconds to 15 minutes and can be viewed online: www.lookouttexans.org/videos. Various videos will include an introduction by Regional Transportation Council (RTC) Chair Gyna Bivens emphasizing traffic safety as a top priority by the RTC. An overview of this partnership effort for local safety education and outreach is contained in Electronic Item 10.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Roadway, Safety

11. **Progress Reports**

Action Possible Action Information

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

- RTC Attendance (Electronic Item 11.1)
- STTC Attendance and Minutes (Electronic Item 11.2)

12. **Other Business (Old or New)**: This item provides an opportunity for members to bring items of interest before the group.
13. **Future Agenda Items**: This item provides an opportunity for members to bring items of future interest before the Council.
14. **Next Meeting**: The next meeting of the Regional Transportation Council is scheduled for **1:00 pm, Thursday, April 11, 2024, in the Transportation Council Room.**