

Background: In June 2023, the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approved submittal of a grant application and local match funding for the Safe Streets and Roads for All grant opportunity. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) awarded funding to North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) to advance regional safety initiatives and the project was authorized to begin in June 2024. Project funding includes \$4,000,000 from FHWA and \$1,000,000 Regional Toll Revenue (RTR) funds to meet local match requirements. The RTR funds will not be finalized in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program until after the August 22, 2024, Texas Transportation Commission meeting. To meet the aggressive project schedule and maximize available federal funds, staff requests ratification of emergency funding authorization for RTC Local funds in an amount not to exceed \$100,000 as a backstop to the RTR funds committed to fulfill local match requirements of the grant. RTC Local funds will be returned upon receipt of the RTR funding.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative, Safety

3.2. **Modifications to the Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025 Unified Planning Work Program**

Presenter: Vickie Alexander, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of modifications to the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 and FY2025 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) will be requested. Direction for staff to also administratively amend the Transportation Improvement Program and other administrative/planning documents, as appropriate, to reflect the approved modifications will also be sought.

Background: The Unified Planning Work Program is required by federal and State transportation planning regulations and provides a summary of the transportation and related air quality planning tasks to be conducted by Metropolitan Planning Organization staff. The FY2024 and FY2025 UPWP was approved by the Regional

Transportation Council and North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) Executive Board in July 2023 and identifies the activities to be carried out between October 1, 2023, and September 30, 2025. Amendments to this document are being proposed to reflect new initiatives, project updates, and funding adjustments. The proposed amendments are provided in Electronic Item 3.2.1 and are posted on the NCTCOG website for public review and comment as part of the June 2024 public outreach opportunity. Additional information is provided in Electronic Item 3.2.2. The Surface Transportation Technical Committee took action at its June 28, 2024, meeting to recommend Regional Transportation Council approval.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative

3.3. Opportunity to Support Sponsorship of the Infrastructure Summit 2024 in Recognition of the Metropolitan Planning Organization's 50th Anniversary

Presenter: Brian Wilson, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval to utilize \$25,000 in RTC Local funds to support sponsorship of the Infrastructure Summit 2024.

Background: Throughout 2024, the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) and RTC are celebrating 50 years as the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Dallas-Fort Worth area. The August meeting of the RTC will be held at the Infrastructure Summit 2024 at the Irving Convention Center. A luncheon with guest speakers is planned before the August RTC meeting to recognize this Anniversary milestone and the partnerships in the region that have led to the transportation success achieved.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative

1:20 – 1:35

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

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

1. North Central Texas Council of Governments Annual Population Estimate (Electronic Item 4.1)
2. City Secretary Stamped City of Dallas Resolution on High-Speed Rail (Electronic Item 4.2)
3. North Texas Center for Mobility Technologies – Intelligent Power Management Strategy for Electric Vehicles Grid Integration in Localized Communities (Electronic Item 4.3) (Electronic Item 4.4)
4. Regional Transportation Council's 50th Anniversary Planning and Meeting: August 8, 2024
5. Transit 2.0 Implementation: Next Steps (Electronic Item 4.5)
6. Dallas County Inland Port Multimodal Connectivity Project (\$25 Million)
7. Swyft Cities Feasibility Study (Electronic Item 4.6)
8. Current Hold on Regional Transportation Council Policy – Temporary Suspension of Dynamic Pricing
9. Dallas-Fort Worth Reclassification of 2015 Ozone Standard (Moderate to Serious) Effective July 22, 2024 (Electronic Item 4.7)
10. Emissions Inventory Development Association with Transportation Conformity
11. Ozone Season Update (Electronic Item 4.8)
12. Air Quality Funding Opportunities (www.nctcog.org/aqfunding)
13. Upcoming Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Events (www.dfwcleancities.org/events)
14. May – June Public Comment Report (Electronic Item 4.9)
15. July Public Meeting Notice (Electronic Item 4.10)
16. June Online Input Opportunity Minutes (Electronic Item 4.11)
17. Recent News Articles (Electronic Item 4.12)
18. Recent Correspondence (Electronic Item 4.13)
19. Recent Press Releases (Electronic Item 4.14)

1:35 – 1:45

5. **Federal Transit Administration Transit Oriented Development Pilot Grant Fiscal Year 2024 Trinity Railway Express Transit Oriented Development Strategic Plan**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Karla Windsor, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval will be requested for the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) to submit a Federal Transit Administration grant application for Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) planning for the Trinity Railway Express corridor with RTC Local funds provided as match.

Background: NCTCOG is applying for a Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Fiscal Year 2024 Pilot Program for Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Planning grant. The FTA TOD Pilot Program provides funds to support planning for increased economic development, mixed-use, multimodal connectivity and other TOD concepts that support increased ridership on qualified fixed-route transit. NCTCOG's application is in partnership with Dallas Area Rapid Transit, Trinity Metro, Trinity Railway Express (TRE), and the Cities of Dallas, Irving, and Fort Worth. The effort will address TOD barriers at applicable TRE stations through station area redevelopment plans based on development markets and land use needs, a study of needed bicycle and pedestrian connections to the stations, and evaluation of public/private financing and funding plans for TOD. The federal application is due July 22, 2024. The proposed grant will request \$800,000 in federal funding matched with \$200,000 RTC local. More information is available in Electronic Item 5.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Bike/Ped+, Transit

1:45 – 1:55

6. **Application to the Environmental Protection Agency Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicles Grant Program**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Savana Nance, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of a grant application to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicles Grants Program.

Background: Authorized by the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, the EPA Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicles (CHDV) Grant Program has made \$932 million available to reduce vehicle and

equipment emissions through the replacement of non-zero emission (e.g., gasoline, diesel, propane, compressed natural gas) heavy-duty vehicles with zero-emission vehicles (battery-electric and hydrogen fuel cell electric). The CHDV Grant Program has two sub-programs: a School Bus sub-program and the Vocational Vehicles sub-program, which includes vehicles used as refuse trucks, utility vehicles, transit vehicles, etc. Eligible activities include the replacement of existing Class 6 and 7 vehicles with battery-electric or hydrogen fuel cell versions, infrastructure (charging infrastructure, hydrogen refueling infrastructure, and workforce development). Staff proposes to apply to the Vocational Vehicle sub-program on behalf of public agencies and private fleets in the Dallas-Fort Worth region. To determine the amount of funding to apply for, staff requested feedback from the region through a survey which closes Monday, July 8, 2024. Completion of the survey is non-binding and there is no obligation on the part of the entity to replace vehicles through the program if the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is awarded. If awarded, NCTCOG will issue an open, competitive Call for Partners to select program participants who will receive funds to replace vehicles and/or complete workforce development/training activities (e.g., first-responder training, mechanic training or certification, etc.). The maximum amount of funding that can be requested in an individual application is \$60 million. Applications for the CHDV Grant Program are due to EPA by July 25, 2024. NCTCOG staff proposes to apply for up to \$60 million on behalf of the region, with the final amount to be determined based upon assessment of regional fleet demand through the survey and other stakeholder input. All federal funding will be used as pass-through to fund project implementation; staff administrative efforts will be funded using RTC Local funding from the NCTCOG Grants Management and RTC Initiative Fund as recently approved by the RTC and NCTCOG Executive Board. Electronic Item 6 provides additional details. For more information visit:
<https://www.nctcog.org/trans/quality/air/funding-and-resources/chdv>.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Air Quality

1:55 – 2:05

7. **Blue-Green-Grey Round Four Application for New Ideas**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Karla Windsor, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval will be requested for the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) to open the Blue-Green-Grey Applications for New Ideas Round 4. Staff will provide information and the schedule for the Blue-Green-Grey Application for New Ideas Round 4 funding opportunity for the North Central Texas region.

Background: NCTCOG's Blue-Green-Grey Applications for New Ideas Round 4 will open on July 15, 2024, and applications will be due on August 16, 2024. The program has \$250,000 of RTC Local funds available with no local match required. Eligible projects are within the 12-county Metropolitan Planning Area and incorporate three elements – Blue (water), Green (environmental), and Grey (transportation infrastructure). The goal of the Blue-Green-Grey program is to break silos and support innovative pilot projects that provide resources for cities and organizations to replicate these ideas throughout the metroplex. Eligible applicants include individuals, private firms, educational entities, nonprofit organizations, and governmental agencies. A hybrid format pre-application workshop will be held on July 17, 2024, which will cover the schedule, goals, eligibility, application process and application scoring for interested parties. More information is available in Electronic Item 7.1 and Electronic Item 7.2 is the pre-application workshop flyer to be shared.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Air Quality

2:05 – 2:20

8. **Discussion on High-Speed Rail Workshop**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 15

Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Regional Transportation Council members will hold a workshop earlier on July 11, 2024. The next steps from the workshop will be presented with August action items highlighted (if any).

Background: The City of Dallas passed a resolution temporarily preventing the High-Speed Rail corridor from proceeding through downtown as originally proposed by Texas Central Partners and the City of Dallas. The workshop

will propose a resolution to this dilemma and be summarized for information to the RTC.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Safety, Transit

2:20 – 2:30 9. **2025 Unified Transportation Program and Regional 10-Year Plan Update**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Christie Gotti, NCTCOG

Item Summary: The Regional Transportation Council (RTC) will be briefed on the proposed recommendations for the Regional 10-Year Plan Update.

Background: Since December 2016, the RTC has annually approved a set of projects funded with Category 2 (Metropolitan Planning Organization selected) and Category 4 (Texas Department of Transportation [TxDOT] District selected) funds and submitted for Texas Transportation Commission (TTC) consideration with Category 12 (TTC selected) funds that cover 10 years of highway projects. Since the last update in 2023, North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) staff has coordinated with the TxDOT Dallas, Paris (Hunt County), and Fort Worth districts regarding updates to previously approved projects, as well as potential additions to the 10-Year Plan to be included in the 2025 Unified Transportation Program (UTP). Electronic Item 9.1 includes additional information about the process. Electronic Item 9.2 contains the proposed list of planned projects for the Regional 10-Year Plan. Electronic Item 9.3 contains the 10-Year Plan projects that have let or been completed.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Roadway, Safety

2:30 – 2:35 10. **Invitation to Participate in Charging Smart Program**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 5

Presenter: Amy Hodges, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide a brief update and invite local governments to participate in Charging Smart, a new designation program that awards municipalities for electric vehicle (EV) readiness.

Background: The North Central Texas Council of Governments, in conjunction with its role as host agency of the Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Coalition (DFWCC), received funding to partner in a project led by the Interstate Renewable

Energy Council (IREC) called Charging Smart. Through this program, DFWCC will provide personalized, no-cost technical assistance to local governments in setting and achieving EV readiness goals. This will help local governments align their local policies with national best practices to facilitate the equitable expansion of EVs. Local governments that achieve certain metrics are awarded Bronze, Silver, or Gold designations, providing national recognition of their work to support the advancement of EVs and the improvement of local air quality. Electronic Item 10 provides additional details.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Air Quality

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 **2:00 pm, Thursday, August 8, 2024, at the Irving Convention Center.**