

AMENDED

MINUTES

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL June 11, 2015

The Regional Transportation Council (RTC) met on Thursday, June 11, 2015, at 1 pm in the Transportation Council Room of the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG). The following members or representatives were present: Brian Barth, Mike Cantrell, Rudy Durham, Andy Eads, Charles Emery, Mark Enoch, Gary Fickes, Robert Franke, Sandy Greyson, Mojoy Haddad, Darrell Cockerham (representing Roger Harmon), Vonciel Jones Hill, Clay Jenkins, Ron Jensen, Jungus Jordan, Sheffie Kadane, Lee Kleinman, Stephen Lindsey, David Magness, Scott Mahaffey, Matthew Marchant, Ray Smith (representing Maher Maso), Stan Pickett, Mark Riley, Kevin Roden, Amir Rupani, Kelly Selman, Lissa Smith, Mike Taylor, Stephen Terrell, Oscar Trevino, Oscar Ward, William Meadows (representing Bernice J. Washington), Cheryl Williams (representing Duncan Webb), Glen Whitley, Kathryn Wilemon, and Zim Zimmerman.

Others present at the meeting were: Vickie Alexander, Nancy Amos, Sia Ardekani, Gustavo Baez, Melissa Baker, Berrien Barks, Carli Baylor, Chris Bosco, Tanya Brooks, Bob Brown, Ron Brown, John Brunk, Michael Burbank, Loyl Bussell, Marrk Callier, Jack Carr, Angie Carson, Dave Carter, Sarah Chadderdon, Jim Cline, John Cordary, Michael Coyle, Clarence Daugherty, Ruben Delgado, Kim Diederich, Jerry Dittman, David Dryden, Chris Dyser, Traci Enna, Megan Everett, Kevin Feldt, Camille Fountain, Keineth Fuller, David Gattis, Bob Golden, Alessandro Gomez, Gary Graham, Bill Hale, Bob Hall, Tony Hartzel, Zen Hedrick, Rebekah Hernandez, Robert Hinkle, Trana Hoang, Jodi Hodges, Chia-Pin Hsu, Greg James, Tim Juarez, Kristy Keener, Dan Kessler, Roger Kittrell, Linda Koop, Kevin Kroll, Dan Lamers, April Leger, Sonny Loper, Stanford Lynch, Barbara Maley, Chad McKeown, Chris Mesuer, Michael Miles, Cliff Miller, Nancy Mitchell, Mindy Mize, Cesar Molina, Erin Moore, Michael Morris, Erica Mulder, Jenny Narvaez, Mikey Nowell, Nick Page, James Paris, Vaughn Parker, Todd Plesko, John Polster, Vercie Pruitt-Jenkins, Dean Radeloff, Chris Reed, Molly Rendon, Bill Riley, Carrie Rogers, Kyle Roy, Greg Royster, Moosa Saghian, Steve Salin, Russell Schaffner, Lori Shelton, Walter Shumac, Randy Skinner, Jim Sparks, Ryan Sparks, Kimberlin To, Lauren Trimble, Dan Vedral, Caroline Waggoner, Amy Wasielewski, Sandy Wesch, Elizabeth Whitaker, Amanda Wilson, Brian Wilson, Bruce Wood, Mykol Woodruff, Ed Wueste, and Susan Young.

1. **Approval May 14, 2015, Minutes:** The minutes of the May 14, 2015, meeting were approved as submitted in Reference Item 1. Mark Riley (M); Kathryn Wilemon (S). The motion passed unanimously.
2. **Consent Agenda:** The following items were included on the Consent Agenda.
 - 2.1. **2015-2018 Transportation Improvement Program Modifications:** A motion was made to ratify the May 2015 administrative amendment to the 2015-2018 Transportation Improvement Program provided in Reference Item 2.1.
 - 2.2. **Unified Planning Work Program Modifications:** A motion was made to recommend Regional Transportation Council approval of modifications to the FY2014 and FY2015 Unified Planning Work Program provided in Reference Item 2.2.1. Additional information was provided in Electronic Item 2.2.2.

Sheffie Kadane (M); Oscar Trevino (S). The motion passed unanimously.

3. **Orientation to Agenda/Director of Transportation Report:** Former Regional Transportation Council (RTC) members Linda Koop and Bill Hale were recognized for their years of service on the RTC. In addition, Chief Gary Lindsey and Chief Scott were recognized for their work as instructors for the Freeway Incident Management Executive Level Course. Oscar Ward, City of Irving, announced the upcoming Transportation and Water Summit hosted by the city, August 18-19 at the Irving Convention Center. RTC members will receive complimentary registration to the event and additional details are available at www.transportationsummit.com. Michael Morris highlighted items from the meeting agenda and the Director of Transportation report. He noted that the Fort Worth Transportation Authority (The T) has received approval from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to advance its TEX Rail line from Fort Worth to the Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport into the engineering phase. In addition, Stadler was the winning bid to manufacture rail vehicles for the TEX Rail project. Mr. Morris noted the passing of former RTC Chair Ron Harmon and highlighted his accomplishments in the region. Current ozone season information was provided in Electronic Item 3.1, air quality funding opportunities for vehicles were provided in Electronic Item 3.2, and information regarding Clean Air Action Day were provided in Electronic Item 3.3. In addition, members were provided with a post card and drink tumblers for the upcoming Clean Air Action Day on June 26. He discussed the SH 161 shoulder project to relieve congestion in the corridor that is anticipated to open to the public later in June. Details were provided in Electronic Item 3.4. Progress North Texas, the annual state of the region, was provided to members at the meeting. It was noted that additional copies were available to members upon request. A June public meeting notice was provided in Electronic Item 3.5, and May public input opportunities minutes were provided at the meeting as Reference Item 3.9. Recent correspondence was provided in Electronic Item 3.6, and Mr. Morris noted the response from the Texas Department of Transportation regarding maintenance funds. Recent news articles were provided in Electronic Item 3.7, recent press releases were provided in Electronic Item 3.8, and transportation partner progress reports were provided at the meeting.

4. **Proposed Implementation of a Project Milestone Policy During the 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program/Statewide Transportation Improvement Program Development Process:** Christie Gotti presented information regarding the proposed Project Milestone Policy to be implemented as part of the 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) /Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) development process. North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) staff has reviewed projects funded ten or more years ago in which construction has not started to determine if the projects remain a priority for the region. The proposed policy applies to projects selected for funding between 1992 and 2005 and is intended to increase the amount of available funds for higher-priority projects. In addition, this effort will provide a realistic assessment of project status for funding decisions and balance the construction schedule capacity within the current financial constraints. Reference Item 4.1 is a listing of projects identified as being funded ten or more years ago that have not yet been implemented. These projects are divided into two categories: 1) 41 projects with an undetermined status totaling approximately \$118 million and 2) 14 projects with a known status totaling approximately \$108 million. Staff is proposing that as part of the 2017-2020 TIP/STIP development effort, agencies will be notified about the listed projects through formal correspondence. Agencies can justify keeping projects by providing a realistic, achievable schedule and documentation of policy board support. In addition, agencies should also provide documentation of local matching fund availability. Ms. Gotti clarified that the proposed action was for the proposed policy, not the list of projects. Regional Transportation Council Vice Chair Mark Riley asked the deadline for agencies to

provide justification. Ms. Gotti noted that this would be detailed in the formal correspondence provided to agencies, but would likely be in the fall. A motion was made to approve the proposed Project Milestone Policy detailed in Reference Item 4.2, direct staff to report back on the ten-year project list, and delete projects resulting from the policy through the 2017-2020 TIP/STIP action in April 2016. Mark Riley (M); Sheffie Kadane (S). The motion passed unanimously.

5. **United States Department of Transportation Issues Positive Transportation Conformity Determination:** Chris Klaus discussed the Regional Transportation Council's approval of the Mobility 2035-2014 Amendment and 2015-2018 Transportation Improvement Program in November 2014. Since that time, staff has been coordinating with interagency consultation partners, and on May 29, 2015, received a positive transportation conformity determination from the United States Department of Transportation, provided in Reference Item 5. This positive determination shows that all technical and procedural requirements of the Clean Air Act, required due to the region's ozone nonattainment designation, have been satisfactorily met and allows projects to proceed. Michael Morris discussed the importance of a positive transportation conformity determination that permits transportation projects to be implemented in the region. He noted that staff will bring back efforts over the summer to extend existing and develop new Regional Transportation Council air quality and management/operations projects and programs that will assist with emissions reductions necessary for future air quality conformity.
6. **Demographic Forecast for Mobility 2040:** Dan Kessler presented information regarding Forecast 2040, the forecasts of future population and employment for the 12-county metropolitan area that will be used to support the ongoing development of Mobility 2040. The North Central Texas Council of Governments Executive Board approved these updated forecasts at its May 2015 meeting. Mr. Kessler highlighted growth trends for households, population, and employment in the Dallas-Fort Worth (DFW) metropolitan area noting that between 2004 and 2014 more jobs were created in the DFW region than in the entire state of California during the same timeframe. Working with demographers across the state and country, forecasts estimate approximately 10.6 million in population for the region by 2040, 12 million by 2050, and 14 million by 2060, doubling the population between now and 2060. Highest population growth is expected in Dallas and Tarrant counties, as well as Collin and Denton counties. In addition, the highest employment growth is expected in Dallas County. Comparisons of 2035 and 2040 population and employment forecasts were highlighted to give perspective of the dramatic growth anticipated in the region. As staff continues development of Mobility 2040, these forecasts present a challenge from a mobility perspective. Staff will be working to identify the appropriate transportation needs and resources to meet the expected growth.
7. **Mobility 2040:** Dan Lamers discussed the development of Mobility 2040, the next long-term transportation plan. He highlighted focus areas for Mobility 2040, specifically noting new demographics, financial assumptions for the legislative session, and resulting recommendations. Demographic information was highlighted, which may have considerable impacts on the type of transportation solutions necessary. In addition, financial assumptions will be reviewed in order to meeting federal regulations for a financially constrained document. He noted that the 84th Legislative Session ended June 1, 2015, and four main sources of revenue are anticipated: 1) Proposition 1, 2) the end of diversions, 3) portions of the sales tax, and 4) excise tax. Potential funding and the anticipated timeframe for each category were highlighted, with approximately \$1.7 billion anticipated statewide in 2015. Many of the funds prohibit use on toll roads or for transit. Staff has not yet determined how

anticipated funding and demographics will impact overall recommendations. It is anticipated that more centralized growth in population and employment will impact recommendations for urban areas. In addition, new revenue restrictions will impact project scopes resulting in a need to balance tolled versus tax funded projects. Over the last decade, efforts have been made to establish a stable funding source for regional rail. This has been unsuccessful in the legislature and the reevaluation of local government support for new or expended passenger rail service will affect transit recommendations. Lastly, there will be focus on system connectivity in order to implement more strategic improvements within the region that focus on activities for daily living. Mr. Lamers highlighted the Mobility 2040 development schedule noting that Regional Transportation Council action is anticipated in March 2016. Jungus Jordan asked how the region's demographics compare to the rest of the state and how formulas will work going forward. Michael Morris noted that discussions will occur with district engineers and Texas Department of Transportation headquarters regarding formulas. The Legislature has adjusted the formula for Proposition 1 funds to urban regions. Regarding traditional formula allocations, the region has not received those funds in many years. He discussed the ability to leverage projects and the success of those partnerships in the region. Conversations must continue over the summer as staff looks at both statewide and regional funding in order to determine the best path forward, options for leveraging, and resources for a "balanced transportation vision." Mr. Lamers also noted the Mobility 2040 infographic, provided at the meeting, and encouraged members to complete the survey provided at the link on the handout.

8. **State and Federal Legislative Update:** Amanda Wilson provided a federal legislative update. She noted that Congress recently passed a two-month extension of Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century through July 31. However, another extension or long-term bill is needed. An extension through the end of December would require an additional \$8 billion at the current funding level. A six-year reauthorization would require up to \$90 billion in additional revenue. She noted that the House Ways and Means Committee has scheduled a hearing to discuss options for replenishing the Highway Trust Fund, which is a positive step. In addition, Ms. Wilson provide a state legislative update and specifically highlighted items related to the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) State Legislative Program. Revenue for roadway projects moved ahead positively, as well as full funding of the AirCheckTexas program. Related to retaining limited authority for TxDOT to enter into public-private partnerships, the same authority remains. RTC requested new authority for the IH 635E project but no new authority was granted. A legislative caucus was created of all senators and representatives surrounding the corridor that will begin meeting in the near future. Related to high-speed rail, no bills that would prohibit high-speed rail moved forward. Specifically related to funding, HB 1 was passed and included Article VII that will provide an additional \$3.7 billion in transportation funding over the biennium. This will be achieved by ending diversions (\$1.3 billion) and through Proposition 1 funding (\$2.4 billion). Ms. Wilson noted that the Proposition 1 funding allocation was increased for mobility and capacity in urban areas. She also discussed SJR 5 that will be on the ballot in November 2015. If approved by voters, \$2.5 billion of general sales tax revenue over \$28 billion will go to the State Highway Fund per year beginning in September 2017. Also, 35 percent of the motor vehicle sales tax that exceeds \$5 billion will be dedicated to the State Highway Fund beginning in September 2019. In the fiscal note of this bill, approximately \$430 million is estimated for the first fiscal year. She noted that safeguards are included if the Legislature feels as if there is not enough general revenue. Ms. Wilson also discussed the success for the AirCheckTexas program which will receive \$87 million over two years and appropriation of the collected revenue. Regarding legislation to support, Texas Emissions Reduction Plan funding will increase \$81 million over the last biennium. In addition, HB 735 will allow for the

collection of the number of alternative fuel vehicles registered in the state and HB 1633 will require notification of a permit to drill an oil or gas well in or near a TxDOT easement. HB 20, related to legislation to monitor, will require the Texas Transportation Commission/TxDOT to develop and implement a performance-based planning process that will look at performance metrics, project prioritization, and a scoring system for projects across the state. Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) will also be required to develop a new ten-year plan that bridges the gap between the four-year Transportation Improvement Program and 20-year mobility plan. MPOs will also be required to look at project recommendation criteria similar to what is currently required in federal law. In addition, the lieutenant governor and speaker of the house will appoint a legislative committee for oversight, and design-build terms will be amended to be used only on larger projects. Additional bills were also discussed including HB 122 that prohibits issuing debt from Texas Mobility Funds and from using the funds on toll roads, HB 565 that prohibits a private toll road corporation from using eminent domain authority and clarifies that they may work with a public toll project entity. In addition, SB 1237 requires MPO policy boards with populations over 350,000 to broadcast meetings live and achieved online and HB 2612 will require TxDOT to create a report regarding how much money it would take to eliminate toll roads throughout the state. Ms. Wilson noted that staff is working to prepare a full summary of all transportation that will be provided to members.

9. **Development of the FY2016 and FY2017 Unified Planning Work Program:** Dan Kessler presented a summary on the development of the proposed FY2016 and FY2017 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). The UPWP documents activities to be carried out by the Metropolitan Planning Organization utilizing federal transportation formula funds over FY2016 and FY2017 and is a cooperative effort with local governments and transportation agencies in the region. Planning and programming activities to be carried out in the 12-county metropolitan area by North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) and local agency staffs are included in the document, along with allocated funding for each activity. Mr. Kessler reviewed the format of the UPWP which includes five major tasks and various subtasks to document the work to be performed. Major planning initiatives include efforts such as the University Partnership Program, data collection, Mobility 2040, the 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program, the regional Joint Land-use study, transit, high-speed rail, SH 183/SH 199, asset management, and managed lane technology. Staff anticipates having approximately \$5.3 million in Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5303 funds, \$13 million in Federal Highway Administration funds, and \$6.2 million in FY2015 carry-over funds for a total of approximately \$24.6 million in transportation planning funds based on current estimates. Staff anticipates approximately \$20 million in expenditures leaving approximately \$4.6 million to carry over to FY2018. Mr. Kessler discussed the importance of carry over funds, which will allow NCTCOG to operate in the event that congress fails to act with a continuing resolution or a long-term funding bill. He noted that the draft document was submitted to the Texas Department of Transportation on June 5 and will presented to members for action at the July 9 RTC meeting. A copy of the document is available online at www.nctcog.org/trans/admin/upwp.
10. **Election of Regional Transportation Council Officers:** Lee Kleinman announced the slate of officers recommended by the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) Nominating Subcommittee for the 2015-2016 term: Chair Mark Riley, Vice Chair Ron Jensen, and Secretary Rob Franke. A motion was made to approve the slate of officers recommended for the 2015-2016 term. Lee Kleinman (M); Vonciel Jones Hill (S). The motion passed unanimously.

11. **Progress Reports:** Regional Transportation Council attendance was provided in Reference Item 11.1, Surface Transportation Technical Committee attendance and minutes were provided in Electronic Item 11.2, and the current Local Motion was provided in Electronic Item 11.3.
12. **Other Business (Old or New):** There was no discussion on this item.
13. **Future Agenda Items:** There was no discussion on this item.
14. **Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the Regional Transportation Council is scheduled for Thursday, July 9, 2015, 1:00 pm, at the North Central Texas Council of Governments.

The meeting adjourned at 2:35 pm.