

AGENDA

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Friday, March 27, 2020

North Central Texas Council of Governments

1:30 pm

Full STTC Business Agenda

(NCTCOG Guest Secured Wireless Connection Password: rangers!)

1:30 – 1:35

1. **Approval of February 28, 2020, Minutes**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 5

Presenter: Bryan Beck, STTC Chair

Item Summary: Approval of the February 28, 2020, meeting minutes contained in Reference Item 1 will be requested.

Background: N/A

1:35 – 1:40

2. **Consent Agenda**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 5

2.1. **Transportation Improvement Program Modifications**

Presenter: Rylea Roderick, NCTCOG

Item Summary: A recommendation for Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of revisions to the 2019-2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) will be requested, along with the ability to amend the Unified Planning Work Program and other planning documents with TIP-related changes.

Background: May 2020 revisions to the 2019-2022 TIP are provided as Electronic Item 2.1 for the Committee'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:

Safety Pavement and Bridge Condition
 Transit Asset System Performance/Freight/CMAQ

2.2. **Western Extrusions Transit Pilot Funding**

Presenter: Shannon Stevenson, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request a recommendation for Regional Transportation Council approval to provide funding to Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) to enhance connectivity between Western Extrusions and DART service areas.

Background: In August 2019, the City of Carrollton requested assistance from the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) to find a first/last mile solution to connect Western Extrusions employees with existing nearby rail stations and final destinations. Western Extrusions currently employs 900 North

Texas residents and is a second-chance employer, providing meaningful employment opportunities to those with criminal records and limited transportation options. As a company, it is dedicated to expanding transit access and purchases transit passes for employees who will use public transportation, as well as adjusting shift times to accommodate local rail schedules. However, it is located over a mile away from rail stations and pedestrians are challenged with lack of sidewalks and unsafe crossings. In coordination with DART and Western Extrusions, NCTCOG is recommending to pilot on-demand service in the area to connect employees with the nearby rail stations. Funding will support an on-demand transit pilot for two years while DART determines if service will be incorporated through its bus network redesign.

Staff requests Committee approval to utilize existing Regional Toll Revenue funds previously authorized by the Regional Transportation Council for transit projects in an amount not to exceed \$325,000 to support enhanced connectivity between Western Extrusions and potential employee pools in DART service areas.

Electronic Item 2.2.1 contains a copy of the City of Carrollton's request with NCTCOG's response and Electronic Item 2.2.2 provides additional details on this project.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed:

- Safety
- Pavement and Bridge Condition
- Transit Asset
- System Performance/Freight/CMAQ

1:40 – 1:50

3. **2021 Unified Transportation Program and Regional 10-Year Plan Update**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will update the Committee on the latest schedule and process to formulate the Unified Transportation Program (UTP) for this year.

Background: Discussions continue with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) districts on the process and schedule to develop an updated project listing for the 2021 UTP. August 2020 is the deadline for Texas Transportation Commission (TTC) action. Electronic Item 3.1 contains a letter from the Texas Legislature to the TTC. Electronic Item 3.2 contains a copy of the Regional Transportation Council resolution approved at the March 12, 2020, meeting.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed:

- Safety
- Pavement and Bridge Condition
- Transit Asset
- System Performance/Freight/CMAQ

1:50 – 2:00

4. **Letters to the Texas Department of Transportation on High-Speed Rail**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG

Item Summary: As the Fort Worth to Laredo High-Speed Transportation Study draws to a conclusion, staff will provide an update regarding next steps for the project. North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) staff will request the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) submit a letter to the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) to brainstorm on advancing this corridor to a Tier II Environmental document. In addition, a letter requesting TxDOT approval to advance the Tier II Environmental document between Dallas and Fort Worth, with priority on public-sector rights-of-way and the use of discretionary funds from Washington, D.C., will also be requested from the RTC. The second letter will also include a request for a letter of support for the VHO Certification Center.

Background: NCTCOG staff, with the assistance of AECOM, are working to complete the Fort Worth to Laredo High-Speed Transportation Study. This study has analyzed high-speed transportation technologies and corridors in the study area. As the study is anticipated to conclude in April, next steps identifying a strategy to move the project forward will be presented.

NCTCOG staff submitted a final proposal to VHO on February 28, 2020, to host the HCC in the region. The Dallas to Fort Worth High-Speed Transportation Connections Study procurement process is ongoing. During the process, NCTCOG staff continue to work on the study's Phase 1 tasks, including:

- Travel demand forecasting
- Data collection
- Public and agency engagement
- Alternatives analysis

Performance Measure(s) Addressed:

Safety Pavement and Bridge Condition
 Transit Asset System Performance/Freight/CMAQ

2:00 – 2:10

5. **Start of 2020 Ozone Season: A New Day**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Jenny Narvaez, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide an update on the region's 2020 ozone season and other transportation trends that will be monitored to assess impacts.

Background: The 2020 ozone season began on March 1 for the North Central Texas 9- and 10-county nonattainment areas and runs through the end of November. Concurrently, the region remains in nonattainment for both the 2015 and 2008 National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for ozone. Results this year is of interest as 2018-2020 monitoring data will be

used to determine if the region complies with each standard. As daily habits swiftly change in light of the ongoing pandemic, other parts of the world are seeing significant emissions reductions. Staff will monitor transportation trends over the year to compare against emission levels. Daily ozone information including current conditions and forecasts is provided at: <https://www.nctcog.org/trans/quality/air/ozone>. More details can be found in Electronic Item 5.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed:

- Safety
- Pavement and Bridge Condition
- Transit Asset
- System Performance/Freight/CMAQ

2:10 – 2:20

6. Completion of Transit-Oriented Development Parking Study

- Action
- Possible Action
- Information
- Minutes: 10

Presenter: Travis Liska, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide information on the findings of the Transit-oriented Development (TOD) parking utilization and management study.

Background: To advance regional TOD, a parking study was conducted at 16 developments near Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) Red and Blue Line stations to understand how parking requirements and parking management practices may be adjusted to better meet TOD goals. The North Central Texas Council of Governments partnered with DART, Dallas, Plano, Richardson, and Garland on this as part of a larger TOD Planning Pilot funded by a grant from the Federal Transit Administration. The study also produced a new webtool, parkingtoolboxntx.org, which includes parking management strategies applicable not only to TOD but also useful to downtowns, main streets, all walkable centers in the region. Staff will present the study process, key findings, and the new webtool of best practices developed as part of the study.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed:

- Safety
- Pavement and Bridge Condition
- Transit Asset
- System Performance/Freight/CMAQ

2:20 – 2:30

7. Auto Occupancy/High-Occupancy Vehicle Quarterly Report

- Action
- Possible Action
- Information
- Minutes: 10

Presenter: Natalie Bettger, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide the most recent managed lane subsidy performance report as well as an update on the GoCARMA application, including additional managed lane performance items.

Background: As part of the adoption of the Toll Managed Lane and High-Occupancy Vehicle/Express Managed Lane policies, the Regional Transportation Council requires regular reports provided by the Texas Department of Transportation regarding performance of the managed lane facilities and the North Texas Tollway Authority regarding customer service

demands. Staff will present an overview of the performance of the operational managed lanes in the region as well as an update on the GoCARMA application that was released in January 2020.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed:

- Safety
- Pavement and Bridge Condition
- Transit Asset
- System Performance/Freight/CMAQ

2:30 – 2:40

8. **Fiscal Year 2020 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development Discretionary Grant Program**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Jeff Neal, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will brief the Committee on the Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Discretionary Grant Program for surface transportation projects having a significant local or regional impact. Staff will provide details highlighting grant requirements, evaluation of potential project candidacy elements, and will identify recommended multimodal projects to submit as part of this effort.

Background: In February 2020, the United States Department of Transportation (US DOT) announced the solicitation of project applications for the FY2020 BUILD Discretionary Grant Program for capital investments in surface transportation infrastructure expected to have a significant mobility and economic benefits at the local or regional level. A copy of the Notice of Funding Opportunity detailing the \$1 billion discretionary grant program for FY2020, as well as the application requirements, is available at https://www.transportation.gov/sites/dot.gov/files/2020-02/BUILD%202020%20NOFO_0.pdf. Applications are due to the US DOT by May 18, 2020.

For agencies in the region expecting to submit projects, please be aware that you must complete the www.grants.gov registration process before submitting an application, and this process usually takes two-to-four weeks to complete. In addition, if an agency would like to receive a letter of support from the Regional Transportation Council, requests must be submitted to Rebekah Hernandez by Friday, May 1, 2020, at rhernandez@nctcog.org.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed:

- Safety
- Pavement and Bridge Condition
- Transit Asset
- System Performance/Freight/CMAQ

2:40 – 2:40

9. **Fast Facts**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 0

Item Summary: Staff presentations will not be made. Please reference the material provided for each of the following topics:

1. Metropolitan Transportation Plan Policy Bundle Round 4 (Electronic Item 9.1)
 2. Traffic Incident Management Executive Level Course Announcement (Electronic Item 9.2)
 3. Dallas-Fort Worth Area High Occupancy Vehicle Transportation Control Measure Substitution (Electronic Item 9.3)
 4. Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Events (<https://www.dfwcleancities.org/dfw-clean-cities-meetings>)
 5. Air Quality Funding Opportunities for Vehicles (www.nctcog.org/trans/quality/air/funding-and-resources/fundingvehicle)
 6. Mobility Matters (<https://www.nctcog.org/trans/about/publications/mm/mobility-matters-winter-2020>)
 7. Public Comments Report (Electronic Item 9.4)
 8. Written Progress Reports:
 - Local Motion (Electronic Item 9.5)
 - Transportation Partner Progress Reports (Electronic Item 9.6)
10. **Other Business (Old or New):** This item provides an opportunity for members to bring items of interest before the group.
11. **Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the Surface Transportation Technical Committee is scheduled for ***1:30 pm on April 24, 2020, at the North Central Texas Council of Governments.***