

PUBLIC COMMENTS REPORT

WRITTEN COMMENTS SUBMITTED BY WEBSITE, EMAIL & SOCIAL MEDIA

Purpose

The public comments report is in accordance with the NCTCOG Transportation Department Public Participation Process, which became effective June 1, 1994, as approved by the Regional Transportation Council (RTC), the transportation policy board for the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and amended on May 12, 2022.

This report is a compilation of general public comments submitted by members of the public from Wednesday, July 20, through Friday, August 19. Comments and questions are submitted for the record and can be submitted via Facebook, Twitter, fax, email, online and in person at the monthly RTC meeting.

This month, public comments were received on a number of topics across social media platforms, via email and in-person. Air Quality comments related to Clean Air Action Day were in the majority.

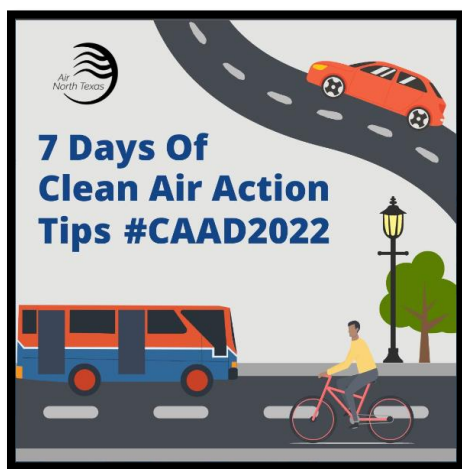
In addition, comments can be submitted through Map Your Experience, the Transportation Department's online mapping tool. The tool allows users to drop a pin on a location in the region and leave a detailed comment. This month, no comments were made. However, to read previously submitted comments, visit:

<http://nctcoggis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/CrowdsourcingReporter/index.html?appid=b014e6d39b604b3ca329d9094ed1e9e2>.

Air Quality

Twitter –

1. I am refraining from raining down abuse on NCTCOG here because I know it's just a staffer running this account and not Michael Morris personally. – Nathaniel Barrett (@ncoxbarrett)



2. DART is proud to partner with @NCTCOGtrans and Air North Texas to promote Clean Air Action Day on Wednesday, Aug. 3. Make a small change or two to your routine during ozone

season to improve the region's air quality. Read more at: <https://bit.ly/3JkEjpy> #HopOn #CAAD2022 – dartmedia (@dartmedia)



3. With our partners at @NCTCOGtrans, we're showing school districts around North Texas zero-emission school buses today, getting ready for the Aug. 19 deadline to apply for the #CleanSchoolBus rebates! <https://epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-region-6-announces-showcase-emission-free-school-buses-north-texas-school> – EPA Region6 (@EPAregion6)



4. Celebrate Clean Air Day with Action. <https://buff.ly/3PYFOMi> #caad2022 #cleanair #airpurifier #nature #airquality #airpollution #freshair #health #pollution #environment #air #climatechange #love #trees #ecofriendly #forest #clean #sustainability #dallas #texas @NCTCOGtrans – Natural Awakenings (@NaturalDallas)

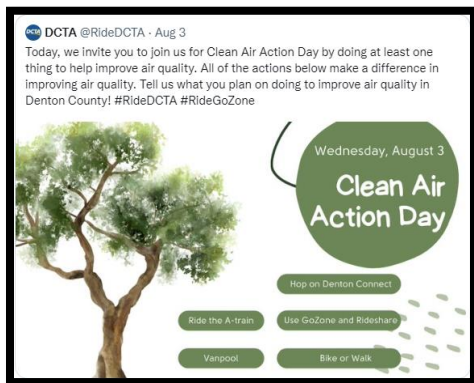


5. We're helping @NCTCOGtrans promote #CleanAirActionDay today! Residents can take their lunch to work, use public transportation like the City's on-demand @ridewithvia Rideshare to get to work, or take steps to reduce idling when they have to drive.

http://arlingtontx.gov/news/my_arlington_t_x/news_stories/clean_air_action_day – City of Arlington (@CityOfArlington)



6. Help us celebrate Clean Air Action Day! #AirNorthTexas @NCTCOGtrans – Pamela Burns (@pburns81)



Facebook –

1. Did you know conserving water and electricity is a clean air action? Reducing water and electricity helps us breathe easier. Visit airnorthtexas.org/cleanairactionday for more ways to improve air quality. #AirNTx #CAAD2022 – NCTCOG Transportation Department



Then build more Nuke plants — Jere Tucker

2. Enjoy a weekend away from the lawnmower and relax. Mowing on Ozone Action Days increases air pollution in the region. Visit airnorthtexas.org/cleanairactionday and make a clean air commitment today. #AirNTx #CAAD2022 – NCTCOG Transportation Department



Tell that to all of the thousands of landscapers in the DFW area.. that really do not give a crap about air Quality. And why are you not making them go all electric by 202___?? To witch they can. – Jere Tucker

3. Looking for a way to get outside? Try walking or biking to your next location. Using alternative modes of transportation allows for less emissions and cleaner air. Visit airnorthtexas.org/cleanairactionday for more information. #AirNTx #CAAD2022 – NCTCOG Transportation Department



You make this sound so easy! – Jere Tucker

4. One way to help reduce congestion and air pollution is to work from home on Clean Air Action Day. Are you planning on doing that? If so, log your Clean Air Actions at airnohtexas.org/cleanairactionday. #AirNTx #CAAD2022 – NCTCOG Transportation Department



So how am I in construction going to make a weld across town ?? You got this figured out... – Jere Tucker

5. Small actions can make a big impact. Reducing your vehicle's idle time is a great way to improve air quality in the region. Looking for more tips? Visit airnorthtexas.org/cleanairactionday for more information. #AirNTx #CAAD2022 – NCTCOG Transportation Department



Then railroad crossing need to be on a overpass.. – Jere Tucker

6. We've got another summer tip for you to beat the heat! Tip #3: Stay in cooled environments as much as you can, whether it be in an air-conditioned room or under the shade of a beach umbrella! – NCTCOG Transportation Department



And when it's 105 in the shade! What temperature is your office set at? – Jere Tucker

7. DART is teaming up with us for Clean Air Action Day! One way to improve air quality is to incorporate mass transit into your daily commute, like using DART to get to the office! Read more here: <https://bit.ly/3JkEjpy> #HopOn #CAAD2022 – NCTCOG Transportation Department



How? Maybe lowering the toll road prices! \$ 6.00 plus dollar's! Thats ridiculous. Should be free – Jere Tucker

8. Hello. You REALLY need to simplify your reporting procedure for smoking vehicles. The form on your website is only formatted for desktop use, so it's a real PITA to use on a phone. And usually I only have my phone on me when I'm reporting because I am out and about and spotting a vehicle so I try to make the report then. But the form always effs up! And it's hard to fill out from a phone. Please make this form mobile friendly! And simplify the process! Seriously need to set up a texting number for this – Winston Giles Edwards

Response by NCTCOG Transportation staff

Hi, thanks for contacting us. We've received your message and appreciate you reaching out.

Email –

1. Mary M. Gibson

There is no greener energy than the energy that comes from living crops, forests, farms, etc. BUT there IS SUSTAINABLE ENERGY THAT OPERATES ALL YEAR LONG EVEN WHEN NO WIND IS BLOWING.

1. Every wave of water that hits our shores is ENERGY POWER, if we are willing to do what Israel and other countries have done to harness it. Harness wave power, especially good!

2. Build the NUCLEAR POWER plants we said we would build years ago! Build several of them in the Western States using water from the Pacific Ocean.

3. Since our president is robbing our emergency oil reserve and inviting our worst enemy, China, to buy our farmland, and export what they grow! We have to move fast to stop them! This is food suicide!! Why would we let that happen?!

4. Build up farm bureau assistance for American farmers - we have done it in the past. Offer federal flatlands for farming near adjacent American cities.

5. Call Texas, Louisiana, Missouri, Mississippi, Arkansas (good water), and pass a bill in each state that requires

3. Do NOT REDUCE OUR FARMING IN TEXAS OR THE MIDWEST ! INCREASE IT! MAKE TEXAS A SHOWCASE FOR GROWING SUSTAINABLE FARMS WITH WATER AND BIG GREENHOUSES THAT PRODUCE crops YEAR-round! YEAR-ROUND!

If we can't drill oil wells, drill water wells and farm more produce! We are going to need it because the Chinese are buying up our farmland to export the food back to China!

Pass a law that no person can buy a generational farm who is not a lifetime American citizen.

4. Finally, figure out who is burning the chickens both before and after they have been produced! Put the perps

In jail forever. Grow more pigs, chickens, lambs, and goats, and put defense on those routes with the truckers.

There is so little COMMON SENSE at work in our states!!

How DARE anyone say we can't be food and water self/ sufficient in our country!

Let's get busy and BUY FROM TEXAS FARMERS MARKETS. We need their corn, truck farms, And cattle ranches to become bigger!

Response by NCTCOG Transportation staff

Good afternoon, Ms. Gibson,

Thank you for contacting the NCTCOG Transportation department. We appreciate you providing your thoughts and input. We will provide your comments to our policy board as part of our monthly public comments report.

2. Citizen (Commenting on April 2022 Public Meeting)

I will vote Against ANY Elected official that supports this!

Aviation

Facebook –

1. Do you dream of flying planes? Rising Aviation High School can make that a reality. Join other like-minded students for a hands-on learning experience. More information can be found at: <https://www.risingaviation.com/> #close – NCTCOG Transportation Department

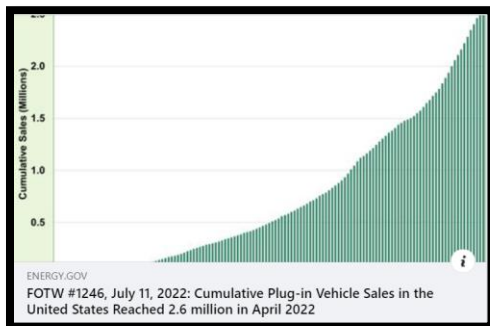


How much pollution does planes put out? Why are not they be EV aircraft? – Jere Tucker

Innovative Vehicles and Technology

Facebook –

1. Here's a fun fact. According to the Argonne National Laboratory, over half a million plug-in EVs were sold in the U.S. in just 10 months: – NCTCOG Transportation Department



And where are all the charging stations between west coast to east coast every one hundred miles – Jere Tucker

2. Just use it! Did you know that you can put the #EPASmartWay logo on your tractor or trailer if it meets EPA's specs? Move your goods sustainably and efficiently with SmartWay. Learn more: <http://epa.gov/smartway> #fuelsavings #freightsustainability – NCTCOG Transportation Department



So by just putting a Logo on your truck or vehicle will do this ? Wow so my gasoline truck is now a EV – Jere Tucker

3. Special guests from the Coast-to-Coast Electric Vehicle Road Trip stopped by the DFW Clean Cities Coalition to charge up! The trip is 3 weeks and 4,350 miles from Connecticut to California in an electric vehicle to break the range anxiety barrier. Learn more at www.evroadtrip.org or at Life on the EV Highway. Safe travels! #cleancities #electricvehicles – NCTCOG Transportation Department

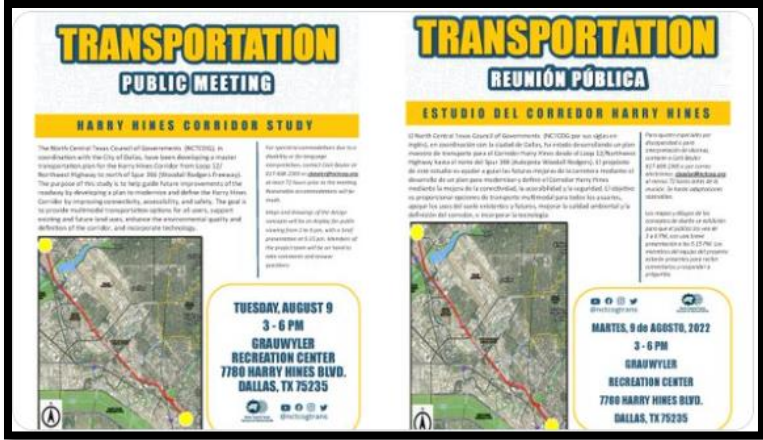


Show all charging locations. And you Had to an you route by. Charging locations – Jere Tucker

Project Planning

Twitter –

1. The City of Dallas and @NCTCOGtrans and invite you to attend the Harry Hines Corridor Study Public Meeting! Learn about the plans to improve the Harry Hines corridor thorough accessibility, connectivity, and safety. Tuesday, August 9 3-6 p.m. Grauwlyer Recreation Center — City of Dallas (@CityOfDallas)



2. 300+ people in hot gym for @dartmedia Cotton Belt/Silver Line meeting. #D12 @NCTCOGtrans — caraathome (🏠) (@caraathome)



Let's go baby! More safe travel! — Mitchell Davis (@therealallpro)

Waste of money + no community involvement, let barrelling ahead... —

Eric Williamson (@MEricWilliamson)

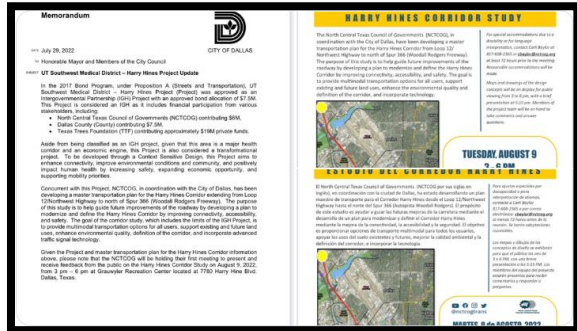
Considering the almost complete lack of masks, have we considered that these people might just be absolutely terrible at making calculated risk assessments, including, but not limited to, trains? — J (@jmckee)

Well, yes, like most areas in North Dallas, residential areas are largely suburban. It looks like many of the attendees are older. What was the temp at the time of the meeting? — Dallas As A Hole (@dallasasahole)

Can almost guarantee everyone in that room drove there. — Eric (@EricTheTexan)

Dart got an F for presentation. I have never seen a more unprofessional meeting. There was clearly no meeting of the minds with the community. I don't understand how Dart can proceed forward when there seems to be a lack of interest from the community and likely future riders. — SethM (@sethm007)

3. @CityOfDallas and @NCTCOGtrans have been developing a master transportation plan for the Harry Hines corridor. A public meeting for the project is scheduled to take place tomorrow Tue, Aug 9, 2022 from 3-6 PM at the Grauwlyer Recreation Center located at 7780 Harry Hines Blvd — Jesse Moreno (@JesseForDallas)



Public Meeting and Forums

August 2022 RTC Meeting -

1. Marcus Wood

I am here to speak about the Riverfront Boulevard reconstruction adjacent to the Dallas County Criminal Courts. Union Pacific has stalled this project, which has been in progress for over a decade. I support the plan being developed by Dallas County, the City of Dallas and NCTCOG to reduce the project length of 6,652 linear feet by 350 feet, including 147 feet of property owned by Union Pacific Railroad (UP). There are several UP obstructions which must not be ignored but resolved as soon as possible. Currently the public, both drivers on Riverfront and pedestrians walking within the current pathways, may be hit by ballast rocks falling from Union Pacific Main Line trains which pass overhead 26 times per day. Falling ballast protection of any kind is lacking. More important, the threat of major flooding of roadways and structures in Stemmons Corridor will remain until the construction of the 14 foot x 10 foot stormwater box culvert in Riverfront under Union Pacific Railroad overhead structure is completed. Many railroad structures around the region have no protection.

Twitter –

1. Attending the @TEX21_Transport conference & @CityOfDallas Dir of Transportation Gus Khankarli just finished his talk. He knocked it out of the park! Leaders across TX telling me how impressed they are with him. @DallasCityMgr @NCTCOGtrans #transitgeek #goodinfo #leaderintransit – caraathome (🏠) (@caraathome)



2. Great to address the #Irving Summit about helping employees with better wages and benefits to spur economic development with my good friends @IrvingChamber leader, #BethBowman, economist Jon Hockenyo and @TomBamonte @NCTCOGtrans 🙌 us — Clay Jenkins (@JudgeClayJ)



Better wages and benefits? In this economy? Liars gonna lie! — TheTexasTrow (@FrancisTheFraud)

Better wages for who exactly? They're killing the middle class with their green new deal, not to mention killing small businesses too. Only ones getting richer are the rich! — TheTexasTrow (@FrancisTheFraud)

It is election season "pretending" to care about the economy and business growth. That is right you cared more about destroying the cities economy than helping. Go Away Little Man you are an utter disgrace. — William Mercer (@WilliamMercer82)



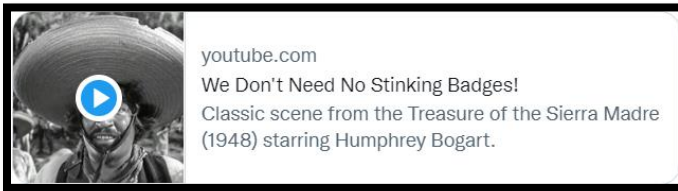
— TheTexasTrow (@FrancisTheFraud)

SAVE US LORD from these blurry minded — Nonnie News (@NewsNonnie)

Creamy is a favorite of @TJHILLInD — Cynic1234 (@cdsheetr)



"We don't need any stinking plan or badges! I am Clay Jenkins, the all knowing savior of humanity, and on the fifth day I will control Dallas County in my own equalitarian vision!" says Clay to his critics. — Nate Weymouth (@NateWeymouth)



Safety

Twitter –

1. #MondaySafetyTip: Yield to pedestrians at crosswalks and intersections (look left, right, and left again). @TxDOT @NCTCOGtrans @WalkBikeSafeTX #WatchForWalkers – Texas A&M Transportation Institute (@TTITAMU)



2. #DriverSafetyTip: Look twice near a stopped bus — people may be crossing in front of it. @TxDOT @NCTCOGtrans @WalkBikeSafeTX #WatchForWalkers —Texas A&M Transportation Institute (@TTITAMU)



3. #WeekendSafetyTip: Be cautious near bus stops – people may be running to catch the bus. @TxDOT @NCTCOGtrans @WalkBikeSafeTX #WatchForWalkers —Texas A&M Transportation Institute (@TTITAMU)



4. #MondaySafetyTip: Don't block the crosswalk. @TxDOT @NCTCOGtrans @WalkBikeSafeTX #WatchForWalkers —Texas A&M Transportation Institute (@TTITAMU)



5. #DriverSafetyTip: As always, use signals when turning to alert pedestrians to your intentions. @TxDOT @NCTCOGtrans @WalkBikeSafeTX #WatchForWalkers —Texas A&M Transportation Institute (@TTITAMU)



6. #WeekendSafetyTip: Never pass vehicles stopped at a crosswalk. @TxDOT @NCTCOGtrans @WalkBikeSafeTX #WatchForWalkers —Texas A&M Transportation Institute (@TTITAMU)



7. #MondaySafetyTip: Slow down and be prepared to stop when entering a crosswalk. @TxDOT @NCTCOGtrans @WalkBikeSafeTX #WatchForWalkers —Texas A&M Transportation Institute (@TTITAMU)



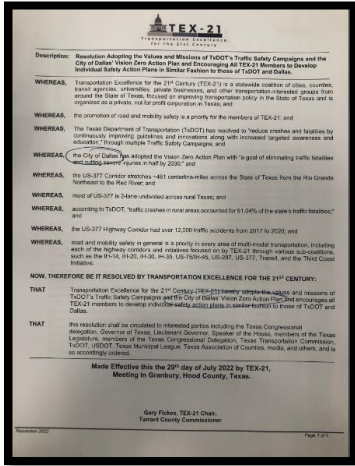
8. #DriverSafetyTip: Be extra cautious when backing up — pedestrians can move into your path. @TxDOT @NCTCOGtrans @WalkBikeSafeTX #WatchForWalkers —Texas A&M Transportation Institute (@TTITAMU)



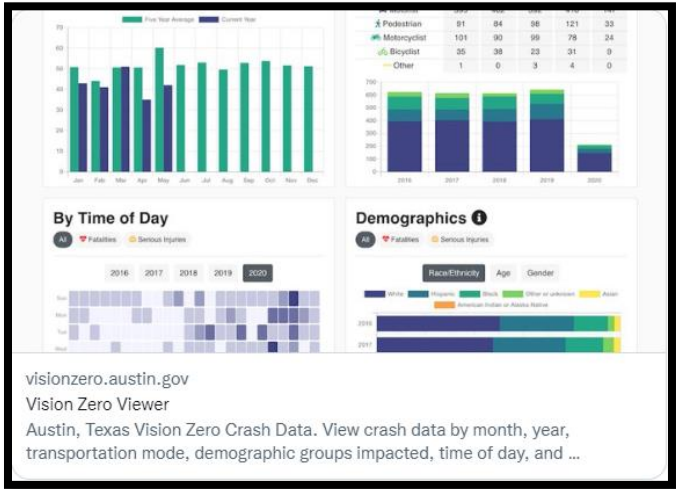
9. #FridaySafetyTip: Obey traffic signals. @TxDOT @NCTCOGtrans @WalkBikeSafeTX #WatchForWalkers —Texas A&M Transportation Institute (@TTITAMU)



10. .@TEX21_Transport just adopted a resolution based on @CityOfDallas Vision Zero Action Plan as developed & presented by Gus. @DallasCityMgr @NCTCOGtrans @VisionZeroTexas – caraathome (🏠) (@caraathome)



11. I work on the Data & Technology Services team for the Transportation Department in Austin. We built the Vision Zero Viewer <https://visionzero.austin.gov/viewer/> and some internal tools to help the Vision Zero team with analysis. Happy to share our work with Dallas if y'all are interested. – Patrick McDonnell (@patrickm02L)



Toll Roads/HOV

Facebook–

1. When you share the ride on TEXpress Lanes, you can qualify for a HOV toll discount. Download the GoCarma app to save! #GettingThereTogether – NCTCOG Transportation Department

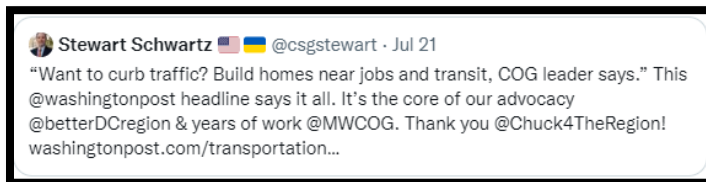


At \$6.00 for one section! Get real want us to pay for something that is already paid for – Jere Tucker

Transit

Twitter –

1. [@NCTCOGtrans](#) @DallasPlanUD 🗳️🗳️ – Philip (@gosspl)

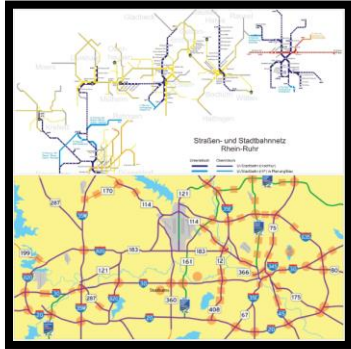


2. @NCTCOGtrans numbers are in, and North Central Texas has surpassed 8 million in population with @CityofFortWorth leading in absolute growth –<https://bit.ly/3yP4qAI> – Mayor Mattie Parker (@MayorMattie)



Travel on 35W confirms this report. – Danny Biscuits (@DaninFortWorth)

When are we gonna start investing in robust & frequent public transit networks like we're a region of 8million people? (pic is the rail network(s) for the Rhine-Ruhr region of Germany. Similar in population & size to DFW. They have great bus networks to augment this too.) – Loren S. (@txbornviking)



Great city! My hometown btw. Photo by me :) – Joseph Haubert (@josephhaubert)

Beautiful photo @josephhaubert!! – Mayor Mattie Parker (@MayorMattie)

Thank you, Joseph! – Mario Monterroso (@Weddingtornado)

How sad is it that Dallas nor Fort Worth make it in the first 30 cities with the best public transportation in the entire USA? A country that is known for terrible walkability and transit already. The 4th largest Metropolitan area in the country, ha! Ridiculous @Johnson4Dallas – Xe (@batsyinlalaland)

smartasset

BY THE NUMBERS

THE BEST CITIES FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Rank	City	Average Commute Time (Minutes)	Percentage Using Transit	Income Difference for Transit Users	Index		
		Car	Transit	Difference			
1	Washington, DC	27.8	36.4	21%	36%	-4%	100.00
2	San Francisco, CA	30.0	40.3	34%	34%	-6%	98.12
3	Boston, MA	29.2	39.8	30%	34%	-13%	95.63
4	Chicago, IL	33.2	43.6	31%	28%	-9%	95.83
5	New York, NY	32.6	48.1	48%	57%	-2%	93.96
6	Seattle, WA	25.0	38.9	56%	21%	-14%	93.56
7	Jersey City, NJ	30.2	46.3	53%	49%	16%	93.37
8	Pittsburgh, PA	23.3	32.4	39%	17%	-18%	93.17
9	Philadelphia, PA	30.1	44.0	46%	27%	16%	92.97
10	Oakland, CA	27.0	44.3	64%	21%	-2%	90.99
11	Portland, OR	23.0	40.8	77%	12%	-16%	86.63
12	Minneapolis, MN	21.6	37.8	75%	16%	-38%	82.48
13	Madison, WI	18.7	32.2	72%	10%	-33%	80.40
14	Newark, NJ	30.3	54.5	80%	36%	-18%	78.61
15	Denver, CO	23.7	43.0	81%	7%	-34%	76.63
16	St. Paul, MN	21.8	39.9	83%	10%	-34%	76.04
17	Honolulu, HI	21.4	41.4	93%	12%	-36%	75.16
18	Los Angeles, CA	28.3	49.6	72%	11%	-43%	74.65
19	Baltimore, MD	26.1	49.2	89%	19%	-35%	74.55
20	Salt Lake City, UT	18.1	33.5	85%	7%	-28%	72.77
21	San Jose, CA	23.2	41.5	78%	9%	-22%	71.89
22	Richmond, VA	20.1	38.9	79%	6%	-37%	70.50
23	Houston, TX	26.2	46.1	83%	4%	-39%	68.12
24	Cleveland, OH	21.9	44.7	104%	11%	-34%	67.63
25	Buffalo, NY	19.2	36.9	106%	11%	-38%	66.34

* Income difference for transit users is the percentage difference between the median income for the entire city and the median income of workers who commute by public transportation.
 * SmartAsset's analysis also considered the total number of commuters who rely on transit in each city, which could not appear in this table.

All these politicians want is more cars, more dirty highways, more traffic and less walkability, less parks, and less social life. After traveling to Japan, Europe, and New York, I feel disgusted when I come back to Fort Worth. Can't wait to leave. – Xe (@batsyinlalaland)

When are we gonna start having TALLER SKYSCRAPERS to establish our Size and economical Power? Austin isn't that far ahead in population, and yes I understand it's the state capital, but We're right there with them. Our skyline has looked pretty much the same for decades. WEAK! – Ziggy Magaña (@ziggy_magana)

Downtown Fort Worth needs more high rises and taller buildings. So much room to build downtown. – BladeRunner Fan (@JustinMartyr16)

How can I pull numbers for Cincinnati? – Scott Ford (@GreatScottFord)

3. Without funding for transportation projects @NCTCOGtrans projects a \$60.8 billion cost of congestion for North Texas in 2045 #Transportation #infrastructure — Jennifer Vilbig Lawson, PE (@jmayvil)

COMMENTS TO THE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL OF
NCTCOG

Thursday, August 18, 2022

I am Marcus Wood speaking about the **Riverfront Boulevard Reconstruction Project** adjacent to the Dallas County Criminal Courts which you will hear more about later today (Page 281 of the Agenda Packet).

- Union Pacific Railroad has stalled this badly needed reconstruction for years making it Code Red in your packet which Ms. Gotti will explain later.
- I support the plans by Dallas County, Dallas City, and COG to reduce the project length of 6,652 linear feet by 350 feet - including 147 feet of UPRR owned property - from the current project so as get this construction underway.
- UP obstructions, which are several, must not be ignored and must be resolved ASAP because:
 - Currently the public – both drivers on Riverfront and pedestrians walking within the current pathways - may be hit by ballast rocks falling from UP Main Line trains which pass overhead 26 times per day. Falling ballast protection of any kind is lacking, and UP refuses to allow County to install protection. Every time I check the location I pick up more rocks.
 - More importantly, the threat of major flooding of roadways and structures in the Stemmons Corridor will remain until the construction of the 14' x 10' stormwater box culvert in Riverfront under the UPRR overhead structure is completed.

Many railroad structures have no ballast protection. Look up and Lookout.