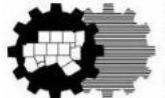


# **COVID-19 INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM TRANSIT PARTNERSHIP (ROUND 2)**

Public Meeting

March 2023



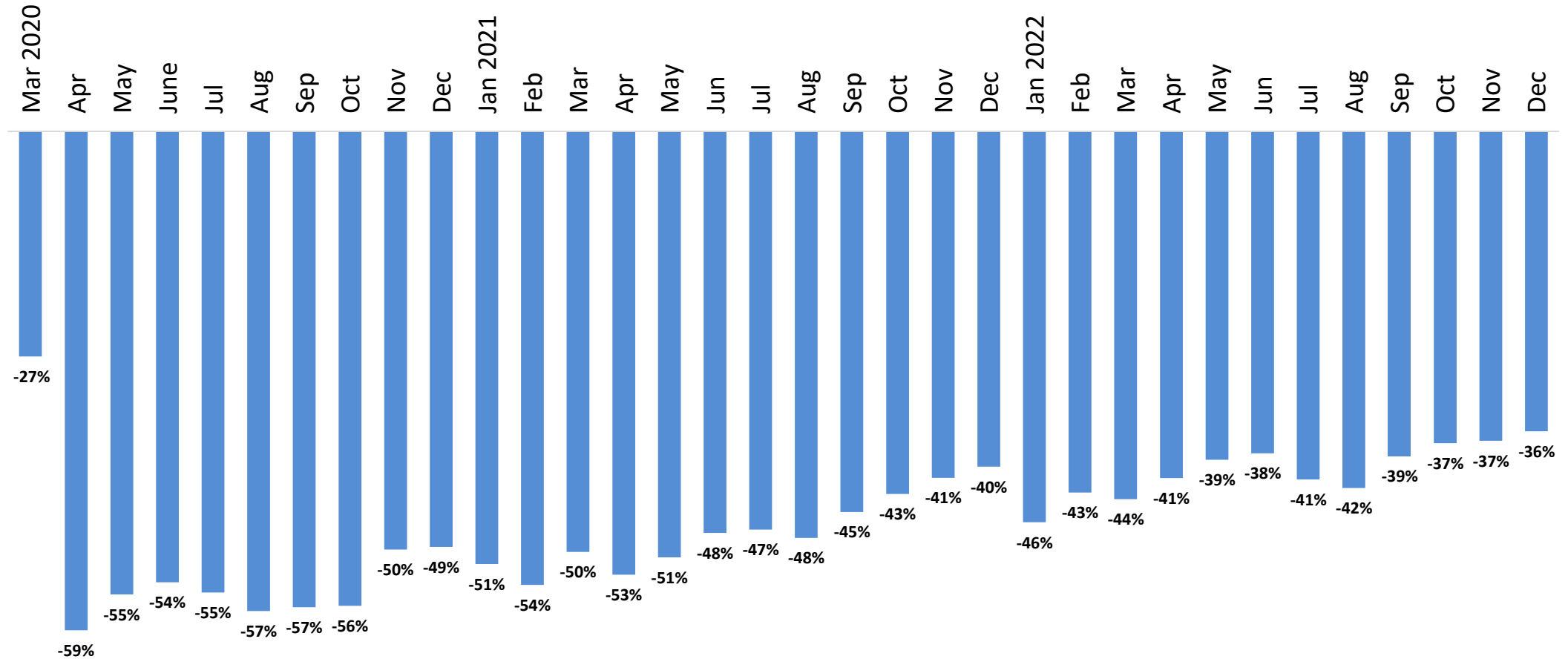
North Central Texas  
Council of Governments  
Transportation Department

# PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

- In response to a decline in transit ridership due to the COVID-19 outbreak, the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approved a \$25,000,000 placeholder of funds for transit investments in the COVID-19 Round 3 Infrastructure Program in November 2020.
- In March 2021, the RTC awarded \$14,000,000 to several projects, including:
  - Regional Transit Education Campaign
  - Insurance for Passenger Rail Integration
  - Regional Railroad Design Review
  - Regional Bus Stop Improvements
- In October 2021, the RTC awarded an additional \$620,000 for a first/last mile connection between the Trinity Railway Express Centreport Station and DFW Airport.
- Additional projects are being proposed to utilize the remaining funding and complete this initiative.

# TRANSIT IMPACTS (WEEKDAY RIDERSHIP)

## Decrease vs Baseline



# REGIONAL BUS STOP IMPROVEMENTS

- Many bus stops leave transit riders waiting in the grass and dirt
- The proposed projects would provide funding for concrete foundations, overhead shelters, lighting, seating, real-time schedule information, etc.
  - \$2,780,000 of Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funds for bus stops in the Trinity Metro service area
  - \$2,100,000 of STBG funds for bus stops in the Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) service area
  - \$1,000,000 of STBG funds for bus stops in the Denton County Transportation Authority (DCTA) service area
- The above funding would be matched with regional Transportation Development Credits (TDC)



# DCTA A-TRAIN EXPANDED SERVICE

- There are instances when the DCTA A-Train service connection does not align with the larger DART system during major events in downtown Dallas, especially for a return trip.
- The proposed project would fill this gap by extending service for ~130 annual events.
- \$3,000,000 of Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) funds proposed (to be matched with Regional TDCs)
- This funding can only be spent for the first three years of the expanded service.
- DCTA would be responsible for funding this service once the RTC's funds are exhausted.

# NCTCOG IMPLEMENTED TRANSIT PROGRAMS

- Regional Transit Coordination Program
  - Would fund NCTCOG staff time for regional coordination of transit services with a focus on increasing economies of scale, technical assistance, mobility on demand, and mobility as a service.
  - \$1,000,000 of STBG funds proposed (to be matched with Regional TDCs)
- Transit Driver Workforce Development and Training Program
  - Would address the shortage of transit drivers (especially for small transit providers) by providing CDL license tuition reimbursement
  - Program would be coordinated with the regional and county workforce development agencies
  - \$500,000 of STBG funds proposed as 100% federal per federal legislation for workforce development programs/projects

# APPROVAL TIMELINE

<b>Meeting/Task</b>	<b>Date</b>
RTC Director's Report	March 9, 2023
<b>Public Meeting</b>	<b>March 2023</b>
STTC Action	March 24, 2023
RTC Action	April 13, 2023

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