

## MINUTES

### REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL ONLINE PUBLIC INPUT OPPORTUNITY

#### End of 2023 Ozone Season

#### Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Fleet Recognition Awards and Annual Survey Results

#### National Drive Electric Week Recap

#### Online Public Input Opportunity Dates

Monday, Dec. 11, 2023 - Tuesday, Jan. 9, 2024 – The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) posted information at [www.publicinput.com/nctcogDec23](http://www.publicinput.com/nctcogDec23) for public review and comment.

#### Purpose and Topics

The online public input opportunity was provided in accordance with the NCTCOG Transportation Department Public Participation Plan, 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 November 8, 2018. Staff posted information regarding:

1. End of 2023 Ozone Season
2. Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Fleet Recognition Awards and Annual Survey Results
3. National Drive Electric Week Recap

The NCTCOG online public input opportunity was provided to inform and seek comments from the public. Comments and questions were submitted by email at [nctcogDec23@publicinput.com](mailto:nctcogDec23@publicinput.com), online at [www.publicinput.com/nctcogDec23](http://www.publicinput.com/nctcogDec23), by mail at PO Box 5888, Arlington, TX 76005 and by fax at 817-640-3028. Printed copies of the online materials were also made available by calling 817-695-9255 or emailing [jcastillo@nctcog.org](mailto:jcastillo@nctcog.org).

#### Summary of Presentations

**End of 2023 Ozone Season presentation:** <https://www.nctcog.org/getmedia/80eb1881-0b85-4e4b-8868-00f980857fbe/End-of-2023-Ozone-Season.pdf>

Ozone is a gas composed of three atoms of oxygen and occurs both in the Earth's upper atmosphere and at ground level. Ground-level ozone is commonly referred to as "bad ozone" and forms when emission sources emit nitrogen oxides and/or volatile organic compounds that react in the presence of sunlight. Ozone can make it more difficult to breathe, aggravate lung diseases, and inflame and damage the airway.

North Texas is currently under two ozone standards, one for 2008 and one for 2015. Because the region did not meet attainment for either standard, NCTCOG staff is preparing for the region to be reclassified from marginal to moderate under the 2015 standard and from serious to severe under the 2008 standard.

Staff expects the attainment deadline for the new classifications to be no later than July 20, 2027 for the 2008 standard and no later than August 3, 2024 for the 2015 standard.

For more information on regional air quality, visit <https://www.nctcog.org/trans/quality/air/ozone>.

**Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Fleet Recognition Awards and Annual Survey Results presentation:** <https://www.nctcog.org/getmedia/58763cc1-c92d-4e9e-84de-3b58ba836269/DFWCC-2023-Fleet-Recognition-Survey-Results.pdf>

NCTCOG is the host organization for Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities (DFWCC), a U.S. Department of Energy initiative to reduce total energy impacts in the transportation sector. As part of these efforts, DFWCC surveys local fleets each year about alternative fuel use and other fuel-saving activities.

Fifty-two fleets participated in the 2022 Annual Survey and assisted in reducing approximately 27 tons of ozone-forming nitrogen oxides and approximately 176,226 tons of greenhouse gas emissions. Staff also recognized winners of the 2023 Fleet Challenge Goals, Greatest Progress in NOX Reduction, Alternative Fuel Champions and Greatest Showcase of Efficiency Strategies. Winners included the City of Addison, City of Grand Prairie, City of Southlake, Tarrant County, Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) and DFW International Airport.

To view the 2022 Annual Report and for more information on the 2023 Annual Survey, visit [www.dfwcleancities.org](http://www.dfwcleancities.org).

**National Drive Electric Week Recap presentation:** <https://www.nctcog.org/getmedia/e5c6a329-1892-4443-9fee-f2176206cf21/National-Drive-Electric-Week-Recap.pdf>

This year's National Drive Electric Week (NDEW) event provided an array of free activities that helped educate the public on electric vehicles (EV). The event featured opportunities for attendees to engage with current EV owners, explore EV displays, participate in ride-and-drives and witness EV charging demonstrations. The event's location at the Tanger Outlets in Fort Worth drew more attendees than in previous years.

The exhibition showcased 20 exhibitors and more than 70 ride-and-drives were provided by Pedego Electric Bikes and Autobahn Fort Worth. Attendee feedback also highlighted an appreciation for the range of EVs available for exploration as well as the opportunity to interact one-on-one with the owners.

To learn more about NDEW and EVs, visit [www.driveelectricdfw.org](http://www.driveelectricdfw.org).

**COMMENTS SUBMITTED DURING THE COMMENT PERIOD VIA WEBSITE,  
EMAIL, SOCIAL MEDIA, PHONE, AND MAIL**

**Mail**

**Phyllis Silver, Citizen**

Please see Attachment 1 for comments submitted via postal mail.

December 2023 Regional Transportation Public  
Input Opportunity

End of 2023 Ozone Season

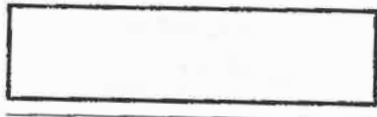
Comment

Since we continue to be in the nonattainment category for ozone, perhaps we can delve deeper into all contributors to this (bad) ozone. For example, leaf blowers are used throughout our Region throughout the hot summer. I'm not sure if they are powered by propane or some other method,

One leaf blower will have very little impact on the environment, however, with hundreds of leaf blowers running during the hottest part of the day throughout our Region, this can contribute to <sup>our</sup> pollution. I think that a full analysis of all sources of pollution needs to be made. Restrictions of use and enforcement to lessen the use of identified offenders need to follow. Instead of leaf blowers, the use of rakes and other mechanical devices can be used.

I use leaf blowers as an example because personally, I have trouble breathing when they are in use and I have to avoid them by walking down a different street when they are in use. I'm sure there are many other offenders. I'm suggesting brainstorming and "thinking outside the box" to identify these factors.

Thank you.



Phyllis Silver

12/25/2023

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TRANSPORTATION