

Mobility 2035 Policy Language

As Review by the Regional Transportation Council

Summary:

The Metropolitan Transportation Plan includes polices, programs, and projects for the continued development of the region's multimodal transportation system. The information provided here includes staff-recommended policy language for inclusion in Mobility 2035. Policy language related to various elements of the long-range transportation plan was brought to the Regional Transportation Council as an informational item for discussion according to the schedule provided below. A comprehensive review of all policy language occurred in December 2010 and approval of the policy language will occur in March 2011 with the local adoption of Mobility 2035.

Policy Review Schedule:

Information	Action	Policy Review Topics
	June 2010	Selection of Policy Review Process
July		Financial, Public Transportation
August		Intermodal, Management/Operations, Safety, and Security
September		Roadway, Tollway, Sustainable Development, and Bicycle/Pedestrian
October		Environmental Justice, Public Involvement, Air Quality, and Natural Environment
December		Review of Completed MTP Policies
	March 2011	Approval of MTP Policies

Mobility 2035 Policies

MTP REFERENCE #	AIR QUALITY
AQ3-001	Pursue successful transportation conformity determinations of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) consistent with federal and state guidelines.
AQ3-002	Provide technical assistance and analysis to attain and maintain NAAQS and reduce negative impacts of other air pollutants.
AQ3-003	Support and implement educational, operational, technological, and other innovative strategies that improve air quality in North Central Texas, including participation in collaborative efforts with local, regional, state, and federal stakeholders.
AQ3-004	Support and implement strategies that promote energy conservation, reduce demand for energy needs, reduce petroleum consumption, and/or decrease greenhouse gas emissions.

MTP REFERENCE #	AVIATION
AV3-001	Improve efficiency, safety, air quality, and access related to aviation.
AV3-002	Provide input to the National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems and Texas Airport System Plan.
AV3-003	Encourage compatible land use planning surrounding airports in the region.
AV3-004	Establish a comprehensive and integrated Aviation Education System in North Central Texas.

MTP REFERENCE #	BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN
BP3-001	Promote bicycle and pedestrian transportation, safety, and education.

MTP REFERENCE #	ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE
EJ3-001	Evaluate the benefits and burdens of transportation policies, programs, and plans to prevent disparate impacts and improve the decision-making process, resulting in a more equitable system.
EJ3-002	Balance transportation investment across the region to provide equitable improvements.

MTP REFERENCE #	FINANCIAL
F3-001	RTC will select and program projects within the guidelines established by the funding source. Programming and selection guidelines for RTC Local Funds are determined by the RTC.
F3-002	Incorporate sustainability and livability options during the project selection process. Include additional weighting or emphasis as appropriate and consistent with RTC policy objectives, including but not limited to: demand management, air quality, natural environment preservation, social equity, or consideration of transportation options and accessibility to other modes (i.e. freight, aviation, bicycle and pedestrian).
F3-003	Ensure adequate funding for multi-modal elements within implemented projects.
F3-004	Utilize project staging and phasing of Metropolitan Transportation Plan recommendations to maximize funding availability and cash flow.

MTP REFERENCE #	FINANCIAL
F3-005	Ensure that adequate funding is given to maintenance and operations of the existing multimodal transportation system consistent with federal and/or state guidelines and recommendations.
F3-006	Pursue roadway and transit pricing opportunities to expedite project delivery.
F3-007	Pursue project cost reductions through value engineering, streamlined project development, and other activities.
F3-008	Pursue an increase in North Central Texas' share of state and federal allocated funds consistent with RTC legislative position.
F3-009	Pursue legislative actions aimed at increasing revenue through initiatives identified by the RTC.
F3-010	Leverage traditional and non-traditional transportation funding to expand services across the region.
F3-011	Utilize multiple funding sources including innovative funding methods in order to fully fund projects.

MTP REFERENCE #	FREIGHT
FP3-001	Improve efficiency, safety, economic development opportunities, and air quality related to freight movement.
FP3-002	Support planning related to truck and freight rail enhancements, including feasibility studies and project implementation.
FP3-003	Support freight data collection and monitoring, including the placement of Automated Traffic Recorder station sensors on all new/improved freight corridors.

MTP REFERENCE #	MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE MAINTENANCE, REHABILITATION, AND OPERATIONS
MO3-001	Ensure the efficient operation of the existing multimodal transportation system by evaluating and/or implementing maintenance, rehabilitation, enhancement, and/or operational type projects in order to maintain safe, efficient travel conditions.
MO3-002	Ensure the existing multimodal transportation system operates efficiently by constructing bridge replacements with approaches, new bridges, overpasses, or underpasses for railroads, bicycle/pedestrian facilities, off-system roads, and non-regionally significant facilities.
CONGESTION MANAGEMENT PROCESS	
TDM3-001	Support the Congestion Management Process which includes explicit consideration and appropriate implementation of travel demand management, transportation system management, and intelligent transportation system strategies during all stages of corridor development and operations.
TDM3-002	Support an integrated planning process that maximizes existing transportation system capacity before considering major capital infrastructure investment in the multi-modal system.
TSM3-001	Installation of pedestrian facilities by local agencies as part of intersection improvement and traffic signal improvement program shall provide access to usable walkways or sidewalks.
TSM3-002	Require regional partners to coordinate during major special events or planned events to ensure minimal impact on the transportation system for individuals traveling to an event or through an event zone. (Consistent with RTC Policy April 2010)

INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS

ITS3-001	Priority funding consideration will be given to projects that meet the regional ITS deployment initiatives as outlined in the Dallas-Fort Worth Regional ITS Architecture.
ITS3-002	ITS projects must be consistent with the architecture and standards described in the Dallas-Fort Worth Regional ITS Architecture.
ITS3-003	Encourage, evaluate, and deploy new energy efficient, low cost technologies for ITS and TSM projects.
TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM SAFETY	
TSSF3-001	Require implementation of safety strategies in work zones consistent with industry best practices.
TSSF3-002	Develop safety information partnerships with TxDOT, local governments, local police departments, the Texas Transportation Institute, and other organizations to encourage the sharing of regional/jurisdictional safety data (including, but not limited to, crash data, red light camera data, and incident response and clearance times data).
TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM SECURITY	
TSSC3-001	Transportation System Security should be considered and mitigation strategies put in place during planning, engineering, construction, and operation stages of corridor implementation for corridors with identified critical infrastructure or key resources.
TSSC3-002	Support the regional Transportation Emergency Responders Uniform Communication System (TERUCS).

MTP REFERENCE # NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

ER3-001	Protect, retain, restore, or enhance the region's environmental assets through avoiding, minimizing, and/or compensating for the effects of transportation programs and projects.
ER3-002	Work cooperatively with regulatory and conservation partners to develop innovative approaches that meet their conservation priorities and expedite the delivery of transportation projects.
ER3-003	Encourage transportation programs and projects that provide access to the natural environment to support healthy lifestyles.

MTP REFERENCE # PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

PI3-001	Meet federal and state requirements to ensure all individuals have full and fair access to provide input on the transportation decision-making process.
PI3-002	Demonstrate explicit consideration and response to public input received.
PI3-003	Use strategic outreach and communication efforts to seek out and consider the needs of those traditionally underserved by the transportation planning process.
PI3-004	Enhance visualization of transportation policies, programs, and projects.
PI3-005	Provide education to the public and encourage input and engagement from all residents on the transportation system and the transportation decision-making process.

MTP REFERENCE #	PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION
TR3-001	Public transportation needs should be met by existing transportation authorities and providers through a comprehensive, coordinated, and cooperative approach to maximize existing transportation resources. Alternative implementation approaches may be necessary if existing transportation authorities and providers are unable to provide needed services in a timely manner. (Consistent with RTC Policy P09-03)
TR3-002	Work with the region's existing public transit providers to ensure a seamless multimodal transit system through: A. Seamless connections B. Coordinated fare structure C. One-stop access to services D. Standardization of assets, technologies, and service characteristics that promote interoperability E. Improved interaction between public, private-for-profit and private-non-profit transit providers (Consistent with RTC Policy P09-03) F. Elimination of gaps in service to establish a minimum level of service G. Service expansion
TR3-003	Existing public use rights-of-way should be monitored for appropriate public transportation service.
TR3-004	Transportation authority members who receive funds for the implementation of projects that promote transit accessibility will be required to pay back funds, as determined by the RTC, should the entity choose to not continue as a member of that authority.
TR3-005	Support the planning and development of high/higher speed rail and additional interregional passenger rail corridors, including state and federal initiatives as appropriate.
TR3-006	Maximize the efficient use of public transportation resources in North Central Texas, including public, private-non-profit, and private-for-profit providers of services.
TR3-007	Implement safety, management and operations, and multimodal system integration projects and programs as appropriate.
TR3-008	Establish policies and procedures that encourage and reward coordination.
TR3-009	Support efforts to make accommodations for rail and other public transportation services to major events centers during special events.
TR3-010	Support efforts by transit authorities to secure funding through local, state, federal, and other sources for the development and implementation of public transportation, including the Federal Transit Administration's New Starts program.

MTP REFERENCE #	ROADWAY/TOLLWAY
FT3-001	The RTC does not support converting existing free non-HOV/managed lane corridors to tollways.
FT3-002	Evaluate all new limited access capacity for priced facility potential.
FT3-003	To maximize the use of available funds, where reasonable, priced facilities should be developed with no or minimal federal and state funding assistance.
FT3-004	Plan and program non-regionally significant arterial improvements cooperatively with local governments.
FT3-005	Management strategies, consistent with the Regional Congestion Management Process, congestion management plans for regional tollway operators, and federal SOV justification requirements, unless precluded by existing bond covenants, should be implemented when an existing freeway, tollway, or managed lane adds capacity. Future bond covenants should accommodate a full range of management strategies.
FT3-006	System-wide HOV occupancy will be consistent with the latest RTC policy.
FT3-007	Additional and improved interchanges, frontage roads, and auxiliary lanes should be considered and implemented as appropriate, on all freeway/tollway facilities in order to accommodate a balance between mobility, access, operational, and safety needs.
FT3-008	Encourage the early preservation of right-of-way in recommended roadway corridors.
FT3-009	Encourage the preservation of right-of-way in all freeway/tollway corridors to accommodate potential future transportation needs.

MTP REFERENCE #	ROADWAY/TOLLWAY
FT3-010	Corridor specific design and operational characteristics for recommended roadways will be determined through the project development process.
FT3-011	Support advanced planning activities to aid in strategic decision making regarding long-term plan and project development.
FT3-012	Corridor and environmental studies should be conducted with consideration for the region's air quality and financial constraints.
FT3-013	Support federal and state interregional corridor initiatives as appropriate.

MTP REFERENCE #	SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
SD3-001	Support mixed use, infill, and transit-oriented developments that utilize system capacity, reduce vehicle miles of travel, and improve air quality through improved rail mobility and access management.
SD3-002	Promote livable communities that offer safe, reliable and economical transportation choices; contain equitable and affordable housing; and enhance economic competitiveness which support the HUD-DOT-EPA Interagency Partnership Principles of Livability.
SD3-003	Plan and implement multimodal transportation options that connect and compliment a variety of land uses while serving diverse demographic groups.
SD3-004	Encourage sustainability through a cooperative process of preservation, integration, and development of land which support healthy transitions between ranges of development possibilities from natural areas to the urban core.