



North Central Texas
Council of Governments

PRESS RELEASE

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Bicycle-Pedestrian Trail Could Stretch 64 Miles, Connect Region

5 cities, 2 counties in the heart of Dallas-Fort Worth would be linked

Dec. 13, 2013 (Arlington, Texas) – Dallas-Fort Worth's comprehensive transportation network makes it easy for residents to get in their cars and travel from one city to the next. The same cannot always be said for people who choose to get around on two wheels or their own two feet.

The mayors of Fort Worth, Arlington, Grand Prairie, Irving and Dallas want to send a message that they are committed to making travel among their cities easier and safer for those wishing to walk or bicycle.

Mayors Betsy Price, Fort Worth; Robert Cluck, Arlington; Ron Jensen, Grand Prairie; Beth Van Duyne, Irving; and Mike Rawlings, Dallas; met recently with staff members from the North Central Texas Council of Governments Transportation Department to discuss their desire to provide a 64-mile continuous network of trails between downtown Fort Worth and downtown Dallas.

The \$30 million plan would involve using regional and local funding over the next several years to build approximately 24 additional miles of trails to create the continuous network, providing easier access to parks, nature areas, schools and neighborhoods in the five cities. The expansion would build on what is already available for cyclists and pedestrians.

About 30 miles of the trail corridor is complete, and an additional 10 miles has funding for construction. Once this corridor is finished, numerous north-south connections could be developed, providing access to other communities.

The completed trail corridor would showcase the region's unique assets while providing transportation and recreation facilities for residents and tourists. It would provide several connections to Trinity Railway Express commuter rail stations in Fort Worth, Irving and Dallas.

The mayors will work to coordinate efforts between the cities, NCTCOG and the Regional Transportation Council to identify funding and plan for completing critical trail connections. They also pledged to pursue branding and promotional efforts for the corridor, possibly including a naming competition involving the communities.

About the North Central Texas Council of Governments:

NCTCOG is a voluntary association of local governments established in 1966 to assist local governments in planning for common needs, cooperating for mutual benefit and coordinating for sound regional development.

NCTCOG's purpose is to strengthen both the individual and collective power of local governments and to help them recognize regional opportunities, eliminate unnecessary duplication, and make joint decisions. NCTCOG serves a 16-county region of North Central Texas, which is centered on the two urban centers of Dallas and Fort Worth. Currently, NCTCOG has 240 member governments including 16 counties, 170 cities, 24 school districts and 30 special districts.

For more information on the Transportation Department, visit NCTCOG.org/trans.

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