

## AGENDA

**Regional Transportation Council  
Legislative Workshop  
Thursday, November 12, 2020  
11:30 am**

**1. Introductions**

Action       Possible Action       Information

Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG

Item Summary: NCTCOG staff will provide the committee with an overview of the agenda and the workshop's purpose.

**2. Communication and Partnerships During the Legislative Session: Non-Legislative Focus**

Action       Possible Action       Information

Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG

Item Summary: RTC members received information last month on current practices related to the implementation of provisions in the Texas Transportation Code and formula funding allocations. Communication with the Texas Legislature, partnerships with the Texas Transportation Commission and State, and program enhancements with TxDOT headquarters will be discussed as strategies to be used when discussing interpretation of current statutes.

**3. Review Draft Legislative Topics for the 87<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature**

Action       Possible Action       Information

Presenter: Rebekah Hernandez, NCTCOG

Item Summary: RTC members will be provided with an overview of draft topics to include in the 2021 RTC State Legislative Program for the 87<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature. Members submitted comments on the 2021 draft Legislative Program prior to the workshop. The updated draft RTC Legislative Program is included as [Electronic Item 3](#).

**4. Other Business (Old or New):** This item provides an opportunity for members to bring items of interest before the group.

**DRAFT REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM  
87<sup>TH</sup> TEXAS LEGISLATURE****Adequately Fund Transportation and Utilize Tools**

- Ensure fair-share allocation of funds to metropolitan regions
- Identify additional revenue for all modes of transportation
- Support full appropriation of funding initiatives, including Proposition 1 and Proposition 7, previously approved by the Legislature

**Expand Transportation Options in Mega-Metropolitan Regions**

- Allow for the ability to utilize tolling, managed lanes, debt financing and public-private partnerships for roadway and transit projects through a MPO and local decision-making process
- Authorize the use of a Comprehensive Development Agreement for specific needed projects
- Plan, fund, and support the implementation of all modes of transportation, including transit
- Retain eminent domain authority to allow planning and development of new and/or expanded transportation corridors including high speed rail, commuter rail, freight rail, roadways, and trails
- Support legislation using a balanced liability insurance program that would allow North Texas transit agencies to operate on additional rail corridors as part of the regional transportation system

**Pursue Innovation, Technology, and Safety**

- Utilize innovation in high-speed transportation, transit, autonomous vehicles, and freight
- Support the collaboration between local governments, the military, the State, and FAA to advance regulations for compatible land use and the safe operations of unmanned aircraft vehicles
- Plan for shared mobility solutions; enable transportation data sharing and accessibility with appropriate privacy protection
- Increase safety, including but not limited to texting while driving, speed limits, driving under the influence, bicycle, and pedestrian safety

**Improve Air Quality**

- Protect the TERP Trust fund and revenue balance to ensure funds are used for TERP purposes; modernize the program and ensure flexibility to accommodate innovative approaches to improving air quality and reducing emissions, including purchase of heavy-duty zero emission vehicles such as hydrogen fuel cell and battery electric vehicles and associated infrastructure.
- Modernize and increase flexibility in the Local Initiative Projects (LIP) through a limited program focused on transportation and air quality improvements; appropriate LIRAP's residual balance of previously collected funds back to counties
- Support system reliability, congestion relief, and encourage trip reduction strategies, while maintaining lifestyle choices
- Support legislation that improves air quality