H. Policy Bundle

Metropolitan Transportation Plan Policy Bundle Incentive Program

The Mobility 2045 Update recommendations consist of policies, programs, and projects that reflect regional priorities and support the continued development and implementation of a robust transportation system. The Mobility 2045 Update includes a voluntary list of complementary policies that local governments and transportation agencies can choose to adopt. The policies in this initiative address a range of issues affecting transportation, including safe access to schools, land-use strategies, and transit support, among others. To encourage adoption of these policies, NCTCOG (North Central Texas Council of Governments) has developed a program whereby applicants that adopt a defined threshold of these complementary policies can receive Transportation Development Credits to help offset local matching funds for transportation projects.

Policy Bundle policies can be adopted by applicants in several ways. They can be adopted as part of a regional effort led by NCTCOG; be passed by resolution, court order, minute order, or other instrument by a governing body; be created by ordinance or other enforceable rule or law; or by an election.

Transportation Development Credits

TDCs (Transportation Development Credits) are a financing tool approved by the Federal Highway Administration that allows states to use federal obligation authority instead of matching funds. Credits are earned when the state, toll authority, or private entity entirely funds a capital transportation investment using toll revenues earned on existing toll facilities. In Texas, 75 percent of TDCs are allocated to Metropolitan Planning Organizations with the other 25 percent allocated on a competitive state-wide basis. In 2016, NCTCOG received 100 million TDCs from the TxDOT (Texas Department of Transportation).

Process:

The Policy Bundle process works as follows:
- NCTCOG receives TDCs from TxDOT
- Open call for applications requesting TDCs to all cities and transportation entities
- Applications submitted
- Applications reviewed
- Recipients awarded TDCs
- Projects added to the Transportation Improvement Program

Restrictions:

Applicants can only receive TDC offset credits for new projects, and applicants' projects must be programmed within two years of receiving notices of award.

Previous Policy Bundle Round Summary

In 2021, NCTCOG received 21 applications for review. After vetting the applications, 21 cities and organizations were awarded 33 million TDCs. The table below shows the number of applicants that were awarded TDCs each year.

Awards by Year			
2017	2018	2019	2020
11	15	14	21

The following table details the policies, actions, and applicability to each entity for this initiative.

List of Policies

Policy Name	Policy	Action Type	Agencies to Adopt or Implement					
			Cities	Counties	TxDOT	NTTA	Transit Authorities	ISDs
Air Quality								
Clean Fleet	Adopt and implement a Clean Fleet Policy, including annual reporting and partnership with Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities, consistent with RTC Resolution R14-10. Required for clean fleet funding as contained in Regional Transportation Council Resolution R14-10. Establish a framework for reducing emissions, reducing fuel consumption, partnering with NCTCOG/DFW Clean Cities, and training staff.	Governing Body Approval	1	1	1	1	1	1
Idling Restrictions	Adopt and implement an idling restriction ordinance, or any other idling restriction measure, to reduce idling within your jurisdiction as consistent with RTC Resolution R21-06.	Ordinance	1	1				1
Comprehensive Air Quality Action Plan	Adopt and implement a comprehensive air quality action plan or various strategies provided in the NCTCOG Comprehensive Air Quality Action toolkit (once toolkit is complete, we will insert the website to access the initiatives that are provided).	Joint Staff Coordination	1	1	1	1	1	1
Aviation								
Unmanned Aircraft Systems	Participate, share best practices and coordinate with regional stakeholders to assist with the integration of UAS Technology into the metroplex.	Joint Staff Coordination	1	1	1	1	1	1
Environmental								
Stormwater Management	Implement sustainable stormwater practices for transportation improvements and site development to promote improved water quality, flood control, and reduced run-off effects.	Governing Body Approval	1	1	1	1	1	1

Policy Name	Policy	Action Type	Agencies to Adopt or Implement					
			Cities	Counties	TxDOT	NTTA	Transit Authorities	ISDs
Sustainable Tire Disposal and Recycling	Adopt and implement an ordinance (cities), guidelines similar to an ordinance (counties) that promote sustainable tire disposal practices including recycling.	Ordinance	1	1				
Equity								
Equity	Based on meaningful community input, plan for and invest in projects that proactively address racial equity and barriers to opportunity or redress prior inequities and barriers to opportunity.	Joint Staff Coordination	1	1	1	1	1	
Freight								
Freight-Oriented Development	Enhance freight-oriented land-use sustainability by requiring local governments to adopt compatible zoning requirements to property adjacent to freight-oriented development land uses.	Ordinance	1					
Railroad Safety	Improve railroad safety through public education, innovation, and partnering with local governments to address railroad crossing safety improvements.	Joint Staff Coordination	1	1	1		1	1
Operations, Safety, and Security								
Integration	Integrate all traffic operations systems between public sector entities, including sharing of data and video.	Joint Staff Coordination	1		1	1	1	
Roadway Safety Improvement	Work with NCTCOG staff and the RTC to implement roadway safety strategies, countermeasures, and improvements to assist in reducing roadway crashes and fatalities.	Joint Staff Coordination	1	1	1	1	1	1

| Policy Name | Policy | Action Type | Agencies to Adopt or Implement | | | | | |
			Cities	Counties	TxDOT	NTTA	Transit Authorities	ISDs
Traffic Incident Management	Implementation of a multi-agency Traffic Incident Management Program that establishes a common and coordinated response to traffic incidents consistent with Regional Transportation Council Resolution R08-10, which is a resolution supporting a comprehensive, coordinated, interagency approach to traffic incident management in the North Central Texas region. Includes the implementation of programs and projects that aid in quick incident clearance and roadway crash mitigation.	Governing Body Approval	1	1	1	1		
Asset Management	Plan for preservation, maintenance, and rehabilitation of existing and planned infrastructure throughout its intended life cycle.	Ordinance, Governing Body Approval	1		1	1	1	
Roadways								
Context-Sensitive Complete Streets	Implement a context-sensitive Complete Streets Policy including, but not limited to, vision and intent, applicability, design, and implementation strategy that applies to all types of transportation projects including all new and existing streets and facilities across the entire jurisdiction.	Governing Body Approval	1	1	1			
Street Connectivity	Develop and encourage strategies to enhance street connectivity through the use of connected street grids in new development or redevelopment projects, subdivisions, and/or local roadway construction.	Governing Body Approval	1	1				

Policy Name	Policy	Action Type	Agencies to Adopt or Implement					
			Cities	Counties	TxDOT	NTTA	Transit Authorities	ISDs
Sustainable Development								
Land-Use Strategies	Develop sustainable land-use codes that support multi-modal transportation options for areas of infill, redevelopment, historic main streets/downtowns, context-sensitive urban thoroughfares, and/or those that are transit oriented through development design. Codes support areas of conservation, preservation of rural land and reduction of suburban sprawl. Development codes include substantial area of jurisdiction where: A. Form-based design concepts (or similar) are used B. Allows increased density (properties may be developed at a floor to area ratio of 1 or greater) C. Allows mixing of residential and commercial land uses D. Sets streetscape standards in code supporting pedestrians	Governing Body Approval	1	1				
Parking Management	Cities have parking management strategies programed or in development code within areas of higher density or trip generation. Strategies would include smart parking management policies to reduce excessive traffic circulation and to set standards for supply ratios that might encourage alternative modes of transportation such as: transit, shared parking, on-street parking provisions, bicycle parking, parking management technologies, parking districts, etc.	Governing Body Approval	1				1	

			Agencies to Adopt or Implement					
Policy Name	**Policy**	**Action Type**	**Cities**	**Counties**	**TxDOT**	**NTTA**	**Transit Authorities**	**ISDs**
Safe Access to Schools/School Siting	Engage TxDOT, the city, and all Independent School Districts within their jurisdiction on topics of Safe Routes to School and/or School Siting. Safe Routes to School collaboration activities include actions to partner, prepare, and implement Safe Routes to School plans for existing and future schools, to address the five Es of engineering, education, enforcement, encouragement, and evaluation. Plans would include topics such as traffic operations, safety, bicycle, walking access, etc. School Siting collaboration would include the Independent School Districts' growth plans, the city's Comprehensive Plan, and other general coordination. Discussions should be had regarding school siting, safety, etc. (Credit will be given for cities that fulfill one or both submission requirements).	Governing Body Approval	1	1				
Transit								
Transit Funding	Support investment of general-access public transportation service that addresses existing and forecasted transit needs/demand in communities and promotes the integration of transportation services through shared technology, transit policy, or other means.	Governing Body Approval, Election	1				1	
Travel Demand Management								
Regional Trip Reduction Program	Implement Travel Demand Management strategies that assist in reducing the number of single occupancy vehicle (SOV) trips consistent with RTC Resolution R21-04 which supports the establishment of a regional SOV trip reduction target of 20% annually.	Joint Staff Coordination	1	1				

Level of Difficulty

Joint Staff Coordination: Regional Transportation Council staff and local agency staff work together to implement and encourage within the region.

Governing Body Approval: Resolution, Court Order, Minute Order, or other instrument reflecting governing body approval.

Ordinance: Ordinance or other locally enforceable rule or law.

Election: Requires an election in order to implement.