

MINUTES

Regional Transportation Council Thursday, March 12, 2026

The Regional Transportation Council (RTC) met on Thursday, March 12, 2026, at 1:00 pm at the North Central Texas Council of Governments. The following RTC members or representatives were present: Bruce Arfsten, Rick Bailey, Elizabeth Beck, Curtis Bergthold, Alan Blaylock, Randall Bryant, Ceason Clemens, John Cordary (representing David Salazar), Bill Cox, Michael Crain, Theresa Daniel, Jeff Davis, Andy Eads, Michael Evans, Carlos Flores, Saji George (representing Daniel Alemán), T.J. Gilmore, Raul Gonzalez, Mojoy Haddad, Angela Hunt, Clay Lewis Jenkins, Ron Jensen, Jill Jester, Matt Krause, Terry Lynn (representing Steve Babick), Stephen Mason, Cesar Molina, Ed Moore, John Muns, Matthew Porter, Manny Ramirez, Paul Ridley, Jim Ross, William Roth (representing Cara Mendelsohn), Kathy Stewart, Bobby Stovall, Burt Thakur, Jeremy Tompkins, Dennis Webb, and Duncan Webb.

Others present at the meeting were: Vickie Alexander, Susan Alvarez, Micah Baker, Berrian Barks, Emily Beckham, Natalie Bettger, Brandi Bird, Christine Black, Jon Blackman, Alberta Blair, Farhan Butt, Daniel Byrd, Angie Carson, Lori Clark, Dina Colarossi, Paul Cristina, Dawn Dalrymple, Clarence Daugherty, Brian Dell, Cody Derrick, Emily Dryden, Chad Edwards, Tom Flaherty, Laura Freeland, Eric Gallt, Matt Gauntt, Shala Geer-Smith, Rebekah Gongora, Christie Gotti, Gary Graham, Michael Haithcock, Scott Hall, Tony Hartzel, Millie Hayes, Robert Hinkle, Joel James, Jim Jarratt, Dan Kessler, Gus Khankarli, Tony Kimmey, Ken Kirkpatrick, Gary Kraus, Dan Lamers, Anette Landeros, Sonya Landrum, Eron Linn, Aaron Long, Paul Luedtke, Stanford Lynch, Dillon Maroney, Gregory Masota, Rich Matyiku, Malcolm Mayhew, Jeremy McGraham, Monte Mercer, Brian Moen, Eric Morris, Michael Morris, Faith Morse, Jeff Neal, Mark Nelson, Dylan Niles, James Novak, Amir Omar, Donald Parker, Darla Payberah, Michael Peters, Vikrant Pokle, Caleb Polster, John Polster, James Powell, Vercie Pruitt-Jenkins, Andrei Radu, Liz Range-Pendell, Randy Richardson, Travis Ripley, Karl Rothermel, Charlie Salazar, Samuel Simmons, Gary Slagel, Sidney Sonck, Claude Spivey, Hedy Spuhalic, Feliz Stafford, Toni Stehling, Andy Taft, Luke Tinker, Caroline Vandergriff, Victor Vandergriff, Elisa Villnave, Myron Watkins, Glen Whitley, Brian Wilson, Chris Wright, and Sam Yacoub.

1. **Opportunity for Public Comment on Today's Agenda**: Rick Bailey, Regional Transportation Council Chair and Johnson County Commissioner, asked if there were any public comments. Glen Whitley spoke on agenda item 10. Written comments were provided and can be found in the Public Comments Report under the Director's Report agenda item.
2. **Approval of February 12, 2026, Minutes**: Approval of the February 12, 2026, meeting minutes contained in Electronic Item 2 was requested.

A motion was made to approve the February 12, 2026, meeting minutes as submitted in Electronic Item 2. Elizabeth Beck (M); Michael Evans (S). The motion passed unanimously.

3. Consent Agenda

- 3.1. **Texas Wesleyan University/Collard Street Improvements Study**: Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of \$150,000 in RTC Local funding for the Texas Wesleyan University (TWU)/Collard Street Improvements Study. Funds will be used for staff to conduct planning study activities including review of existing conditions and development of a funding plan, as well as to engage TWU students in developing surveys and corridor branding materials for the project.
- 3.2. **North Tarrant Express Funding Request**: Regional Transportation Council approval was requested for the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) to utilize \$45 million in Regional Toll Revenue (RTR) funding for construction of northbound Interstate Highway 35 West to State Highway (SH) 121 frontage roads and reconstruction of the Sylvania Ave bridge over SH 121. TxDOT funding in the amount of \$97 million and RTR managed lane revenue of \$45 million from the North Tarrant Express were proposed to fund the construction of this project.
- 3.3. **Lyndon B. Johnson East Funding Request**: Regional Transportation Council approval was requested for the Texas Department of Transportation to utilize Regional Toll Revenue (RTR) funding up to \$10 million for change orders on the Lyndon B. Johnson (LBJ) East project. RTR managed lane revenue in the amount of \$10 million from the LBJ East corridor was proposed to fund this request.
- 3.4. **Clarification on Interstate Highway 35 Roadway Project**: Regional Transportation Council approval of a clarification to the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) entry for Control Section Job 0195-02-092 for Interstate Highway 35 from North of Rector to South of Farm-to-Market 455 was requested, along with the ability to amend other planning/administrative documents, if necessary, with TIP-related changes.

A motion was made to approve Items 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, and 3.4 on the Consent Agenda. Jeff Davis (M); Raul Gonzalez (S). The motion passed unanimously.

4. **Orientation to Agenda/Director of Transportation Report**: Michael Morris briefly highlighted items 1 through 8.
 1. Potential Outcomes from Workshop on Metropolitan Planning Organization Roles and Responsibilities and Related Agreements: March 2026 (Ken Kirkpatrick and Michael Morris)
 2. New Officers in June 2026
 3. Propose Cancellation of Regional Transportation Council Meeting in July 2026
 4. Bylaws Review by November 2026
 5. Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity Fiscal Year 2022 Four Stations Grant Update
 6. Update on Existing and New Transit Funding for Fédération Internationale de Football Association
 7. Correspondence from February Regional Transportation Council Meeting
 8. Spring 2026 Traffic Incident Management Executive Level Course Announcement – May 7, 2026
 9. Recent Correspondence to City Managers – Collaboration Opportunity Managing Heavy-Duty Vehicle Idling and Regional Air Quality
 10. Status Update on 2025 Transportation Conformity Determination

11. Local Clean Air Project Spotlight
12. Air Quality Funding Opportunities (www.nctcoq.org/aqfunding)
13. Upcoming Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Events (www.dfwcleancities.org/events)
14. January - February Public Comments Report
15. February Public Meeting Minutes
16. March Public Meeting Notice
17. Recent News Articles
18. Recent Correspondence
19. Recent Press Releases

5. **Fort Worth Heritage Park Regional Pedestrian Connection:** Karla Windsor requested Regional Transportation Council approval for the North Central Texas Council of Governments to assign \$8 million in Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program funding matched with \$2 million local funding from the City of Fort Worth to construct the Heritage Park Regional Pedestrian Connection.

A motion was made to approve \$8 million Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program funding matched with \$2 million local funding from the City of Fort Worth to construct the Heritage Park Regional Pedestrian Connection; administratively amending the Transportation Improvement Program/ Statewide Transportation Improvement Program and updating any administrative and/or planning documents as needed to incorporate the project/change; and the requirement for the City of Fort Worth and the Regional Transportation Council to execute a Memorandum of Understanding. Elizabeth Beck (M); Raul Gonzalez (S). The motion passed unanimously.

6. **Proposed Traffic Signal Program Funding:** Natalie Bettger presented the proposed traffic signal funding program based on the recently approved Regional Transportation Council traffic signal improvement types and associated funding categories.

A motion was made to approve the allocation of \$36 million in total program funding (\$28.8 million federal plus required State and/or local match) for the Traffic Signal Funding Program; the use of a combination of Surface Transportation Block Grant, Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program, and State and/or local matching funds to support the program, subject to funding availability; along with administratively amending the Transportation Improvement Program, Statewide Transportation Improvement Program, and other planning/ administrative documents, as necessary, to implement the approved funding. Matthew Porter (M); Burt Thakur (S). The motion passed unanimously.

7. **2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program Development:** Christie Gotti requested Regional Transportation Council approval of the 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program.

A motion was made to approve the 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP), including the final TIP listings to be included in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program, and to amend the Unified Planning Work Program and other planning/administrative documents as needed. Duncan Webb (M); Theresa Daniel (S). The motion passed unanimously.

8. **Recommendations to the Texas Department of Transportation on the Texas Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Plan:** Lori Clark provided an update on the status of the Texas Department of Transportation's (TxDOT) implementation of the Texas Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Plan. Staff also requested approval of an approach to provide recommendations to TxDOT regarding grants that they will administer for additional electric vehicle charging stations within the Metropolitan Planning Area boundary.

A motion was made to approve the submittal of study areas for National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Program Phase II to the Texas Department of Transportation in April 2026; methodology proposed for direct current fast charging and Megawatt charging station locations, subject to adjustments recommended by the Surface Transportation Technical Committee at its March 27, 2026, meeting; additional submittals using the approved methodology to subsequent funding rounds if funding remains available; and administratively amending the Transportation Improvement Program/Statewide Transportation Improvement Program and updating any administrative and/or planning documents as needed to incorporate the project. Paul Ridley (M); Burt Thakur (S). The motion passed unanimously.

9. **Update on McKinney Passenger Rail Corridor Study:** Dan Lamers provided a brief update on this study which the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) postponed in November 2025 due to issues that arose between Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) and its member cities. In light of the emerging partnership among DART, its member cities, and RTC, as well as the ongoing work of the RTC Transit Vision Subcommittee, staff requested RTC approval to resume the study.

Following several suggestions from RTC members to expand the McKinney Passenger Rail Corridor Study to include other modes of transportation and a request from Burt Thakur to also consider transportation short and vertical take-offs and landings, as well as autonomous drones in the study, Michael Morris noted that the McKinney study had already received federal approval and a new contract to include changes would take a year. Michael announced that staff would email Councilmember Thakur to capture his ideas regarding the use of technology in multimodal methods of transportation for future integration into the Unified Planning Work Program.

A motion was made for staff to resume activities related to the McKinney Passenger Rail Corridor Study. Randall Bryant (M); Bill Cox (S). The motion passed unanimously.

10. **Approval of Proposed Letter to the Texas Department of Transportation Regarding Metropolitan Planning Organization/Fiscal Agent Agreement:** Michael Morris explained North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG)/Regional Transportation Council (RTC)/Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) agreements during the workshop. This item requested information from TxDOT.

A motion was made to approve correspondence sent to Brian Barth, Deputy Executive Director for Program Delivery, with the Texas Department of Transportation on behalf of the Regional Transportation Council modifying the correspondence to specify Director of Transportation along with including in the correspondence; which Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) across the State does the MPO Transportation Planning Director report directly to the transportation policy board and in which MPOs does the MPO Transportation Planning Director report to the fiscal agent. Andy Eads (M); Duncan Webb (S). The motion passed unanimously.

11. **Integrating Transportation and Stormwater Infrastructure Study Overview**: Jeff Neal provided a brief overview of the Integrating Transportation and Stormwater Infrastructure Study and highlighted expected outcomes. Members were encouraged to visit <https://www.nctcog.org/tsi> to learn more information about the study, expected to conclude by the end of 2026.

12. **Regional Roadway Safety Performance Targets Update**: Sonya Landrum provided an update on the proposed 2026 Regional Roadway Safety Targets for federally required performance measures and observed 2018 through 2025 crash data that highlighted improvements in the reduction of fatalities and fatal crashes in the region. Roadway Safety targets are focused on reducing serious injuries and fatalities for motorized and non-motorized travelers. In addition, a progress report on the \$57 million safety program was highlighted in Electronic Item 12.

Mayor Matthew Porter asked if there had been any thought to developing a special safety program aimed at reducing speeding and red-light running. Michael Morris suggested Mayor Matthew send him an email requesting staff to develop a new program aimed at red-light enforcement.

13. **Progress Reports**: Regional Transportation Council attendance was provided in Electronic Item 13.1, and Surface Transportation Technical Committee attendance and minutes were provided in Electronic Item 13.2.

14. **Other Business (Old or New)**: There was no discussion on this item.

15. **Future Agenda Items**: There was no discussion on this item.

16. **Next Meeting**: The next meeting of the Regional Transportation Council is scheduled for 1:00 pm, Thursday, April 9, 2026.

Meeting adjourned at 2:42 pm.