

North Central Texas Council of Governments

**TO:** NCTCOG Executive Board **DATE:** February 19, 2026  
**FROM:** Todd Little  
Executive Director  
**SUBJECT:** Executive Board Meeting

The next meeting of the **NCTCOG Executive Board** will be:

**DATE:** February 26, 2026

Please RSVP to the Executive Director's office as soon as possible by email or call (817) 695-9100.

**AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING**

**TIME:** 11:15 a.m. – Brandon Huckabee, Chair; Christopher Boedeker, Carlos Flores, Gary Hulseley, Clay Jenkins, Bobbie Mitchell, Tim O'Hare  
(*Six Flags Conference Room*)

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

**TIME:** 12:00 noon – Lunch  
1:00 pm – Executive Board – Regular Session

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

*Immediately following the Regular Session.*

**PHYSICAL**

**LOCATION:** NCTCOG Offices  
Centerpoint II Conference Center  
616 Six Flags Drive, Arlington, TX 76011  
Transportation Council Room

Presiding officer will be physically present at this location, which shall be open to the public during open portions of the meeting.

**METHOD:** Via Videoconference

President Johnson hopes each of you will plan to attend this important meeting. I look forward to seeing you there!

# North Central Texas Council of Governments

## EXECUTIVE BOARD AGENDA

February 26, 2026 | 1:00 pm

**Physical Location of Meeting:** NCTCOG Offices, Centerpoint II Conference Center  
616 Six Flags Drive, Arlington, TX 76011, Transportation Council Room

**Method of Meeting:** Via Videoconference

The NCTCOG Executive Board meeting is posted as a videoconference meeting. The presiding officer shall be present at the physical location, which shall be open to the public during open portions of the meeting. Members of the public may attend in person or view the livestream via <http://nctcog.swagit.com/live>. The meeting will be recorded and posted later on NCTCOG's website <http://nctcog.swagit.com/executive-board/>

### Executive Board

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Victoria Johnson – President
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Jennifer Justice – Vice President
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Brandon J. Huckabee – Secretary/Treasurer
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Chris Hill – Past President
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Christopher Boedeker
6. \_\_\_\_\_ David Bristol
7. \_\_\_\_\_ Carlos Flores
8. \_\_\_\_\_ T.J. Gilmore
9. \_\_\_\_\_ Darrell Hale

10. \_\_\_\_\_ Bowie Hogg
11. \_\_\_\_\_ Rick Horne
12. \_\_\_\_\_ Gary Hulse
13. \_\_\_\_\_ Clay Jenkins
14. \_\_\_\_\_ Cara Mendelsohn
15. \_\_\_\_\_ Bobbie Mitchell
16. \_\_\_\_\_ Tim O'Hare
17. \_\_\_\_\_ Mitch Little

### Staff

- \_\_\_\_\_ Todd Little
- \_\_\_\_\_ Monte Mercer
- \_\_\_\_\_ Sue Alvarez
- \_\_\_\_\_ Tim Barbee
- \_\_\_\_\_ Doni Green
- \_\_\_\_\_ Maribel Martinez
- \_\_\_\_\_ Michael Morris
- \_\_\_\_\_ Phedra Redifer
- \_\_\_\_\_ Randy Richardson
- \_\_\_\_\_ Christy Williams
- \_\_\_\_\_ Jerri Watson

### **AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING: 11:15 am**

The Audit Committee will meet to discuss the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2025.

### **REGULAR SESSION: 1:00 pm**

Call to order time: \_\_\_\_\_

Pledge to the United States and Texas Flags

### **Public Comment on Agenda Items (Must be physically present)**

*Members of the public may comment on any item(s) on today's agenda at this time. If speaking, please announce your name, city of residence and the agenda item(s) on which you are commenting. A maximum three (3) minutes is permitted per speaker. At the conclusion of this item, no further opportunities for public comment will be provided for the duration of the meeting.*

### **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:**

Motion/Second    Item #    Name of Item

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_    1    **Approval of Minutes – January 22, 2026**

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_    2    **Resolution Authorizing an Interlocal Agreement with Public Employee Benefits Cooperative Members - Randy Richardson**

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_    3    **Resolution Authorizing TXShare Contracts for Enterprise Resource Planning Software Solutions - Randy Richardson**

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_    4    **Resolution Authorizing TXShare Contracts for Work Boots - Randy Richardson**

- \_\_\_/\_\_\_ 5    **Resolution Approving the North Central Texas Area Plan Federal Fiscal Years 2027-2029 - Doni Green**
  
- \_\_\_/\_\_\_ 6    **Resolution Approving the FY2026 State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) Grant Project's Priority Listing - Maribel Martinez**
  
- \_\_\_/\_\_\_ 7    **Resolution to Apply for, Administer, and if Awarded, Accept the FEMA GY2026 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) Grant Funds - Maribel Martinez**
  
- \_\_\_/\_\_\_ 8    **Resolution Authorizing Submittal and Acceptance of the FY2027 Statewide Emergency Radio Infrastructure Grant and an Interlocal Agreement with Palo Pinto County - Maribel Martinez**
  
- \_\_\_/\_\_\_ 9    **Resolution Authorizing Agreements for PM2.5-Related Local Air Quality Planning Activities Funded with Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Rider 7 Funds - Michael Morris**
  
- \_\_\_/\_\_\_ 10    **Resolution Authorizing an Agreement for the Receipt of Funds from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and an Agreement with the City of Granbury for Ozone-Related Local Air Quality Planning Activities Funded with Rider 7 Funds - Michael Morris**
  
- \_\_\_/\_\_\_ 11    **Resolution Authorizing an Agreement for the Receipt of Funds for Planning and Implementation Programs from the Texas Department of Transportation - Michael Morris**
  
- \_\_\_/\_\_\_ 12    **Resolution Authorizing an Agreement with Dallas Area Rapid Transit for GoPass® Application Enhancement for the 2026 Fédération Internationale de Football Association World Cup - Michael Morris**
  
- \_\_\_/\_\_\_ 13    **Resolution Amending Authorization of FY2026 Purchases of Computer Hardware, Software, and Information Technology Contract Services for the Agency - Tim Barbee**
  
- \_\_\_/\_\_\_ 14    **Appointments to the Emergency Preparedness Planning Council (EPPC) - Maribel Martinez**

**ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION:**

- \_\_\_/\_\_\_ 15    **Resolution to Accept and Acknowledge Receipt of the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2025 - Randy Richardson**
  
- \_\_\_/\_\_\_ 16    **Resolution Authorizing a Contract with Civic Solutions Partnership LLC for the NCTCOG Strategic Vision Plan through 2050 - Todd Little**
  
- \_\_\_/\_\_\_ 17    **Resolution Endorsing Submittal of Fiscal Year 2026 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development Grant Program Applications to the United States Department of Transportation - Michael Morris**

\_\_\_/\_\_\_ 18 Resolution Authorizing an Agreement with the City of Fort Worth for Increased Police Presence to Combat Aggressive Driving and Road Rage - Michael Morris

\_\_\_/\_\_\_ 19 Bylaws Review Committee Report and Consideration of Resolution Recommending General Assembly Enactment of the Amended Bylaws of the North Central Texas Council of Governments - Ken Kirkpatrick

**INFORMATION ITEMS:**

20 Status Report on Metropolitan Planning Organization Revolver Funds and Regional Transportation Council Local Pool - Michael Morris

21 Executive Director's Report

- North Central Texas Workforce Solutions Update
- Fiduciary Liability Coverage Questionnaire
- Board Vacancy

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

22 Future Calendar and Attendance

- General Assembly – June 12, 2026

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Time: \_\_\_\_\_

The Executive Board will convene in Executive Session pursuant to Open Meetings Act Section 551.074 to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee: Executive Director

**CLOSE EXECUTIVE SESSION** Time: \_\_\_\_\_

**RECONVENE REGULAR SESSION** Time: \_\_\_\_\_

**Adjournment:** \_\_\_\_\_

A closed executive session may be held on any of the above agenda items when legally justified pursuant to Subchapter D of the Texas Open Meetings Act (Texas Government Code Chapter 551).

APPROVED FOR POSTING:



\_\_\_\_\_  
Todd Little, Executive Director



**North Central Texas Council of Governments**

Meeting Date: February 26, 2026  
Submitted By: Randy Richardson  
Director of Administration  
Item Title: Audit Committee Memo

Attached to the Executive Board Item #15 are the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) and single audit reports for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2025.

Mr. Todd Pruitt, CPA, Partner, Pattillo, Brown & Hill, LLP, will be presenting to the Committee the final reports along with any audit findings and/or Management Letter Comments. At this time, staff is not aware of, nor expect any findings or Management Letter comments to be presented. The Committee will have the opportunity to ask questions of Mr. Pruitt or staff during the presentation as well as the opportunity to address the auditors independent of staff's presence.

I will be available to answer any questions during the meeting.

RR  
Attachment

**NORTH CENTRAL TEXAS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING**

Minutes — January 22, 2026

Transportation Council Room | 616 Six Flags Drive | Arlington, Texas

The NCTCOG Executive Board meeting was conducted as a videoconference meeting that was live broadcast at <https://nctcog.swagit.com/live>. The presiding officer, President Johnson, was present at the physical location, 616 Six Flags Drive, Arlington, Texas, which was open to the public during all open portions of the meeting.

President Johnson called the regular meeting of the North Central Texas Council of Governments Executive Board to order at 1:02 pm on January 22, 2026. Todd Little took attendance and determined that a quorum was physically present.

**Members of the Board Present:**

- |                             |                     |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Victoria Johnson         | 9. Darrell Hale     |
| 2. Jennifer Justice         | 10. Rick Horne      |
| 3. Brandon J. Huckabee      | 11. Clay Jenkins    |
| 4. Chris Hill               | 12. Cara Mendelsohn |
| 5. Christopher Boedeker (V) | 13. Bobbie Mitchell |
| 6. David Bristol (V)        | 14. Tim O'Hare      |
| 7. Carlos Flores            | 15. Kameron Raburn  |
| 8. T.J. Gilmore             |                     |

**Members of the Board Absent:**

1. Bowie Hogg
2. Gary Hulse
3. Mitch Little

**Members of the Staff Present:**

Todd Little, Monte Mercer, Susan Alvarez, Tim Barbee, Doni Green, Michael Morris, Maribel Martinez, Phedra Redifer, Randy Richardson, Christy Williams, Jerri Watson, Ken Kirkpatrick, James Powell, Michael Bort, Tom McLain, Kelly Schmidt, Prit Patel, Christy Martinez, Emily Beckham, Lori Clark, Shala Geer-Smith, Caroline Vandergriff, Chris Klaus, Heidi Garbe, Jessie Shadowens-James, April Leger, Kevin Moyer, Emily Dryden, Jennifer Oliver

**Visitors Present:**

Glen Whitley, Retired – Former Tarrant County Judge; Lauren Trimble, Dallas County

**REGULAR SESSION**

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

President Johnson opened the meeting for public comment and asked whether anyone present wished to speak. Former Tarrant County Judge, Glen Whitley, offered remarks regarding Item 14: *Status Report on Regional Transportation Council Partnership Letter and MPO Planning Agreement Roles and Responsibilities*.

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:**

Items 1 - 13 were posted on the agenda as Consent Items.

**Item 1 Approval of Minutes - November 20, 2025**

**Item 2 Resolution Authorizing Submittal of a Law Enforcement Training Grant Renewal Application to the Criminal Justice Assistance Grant Program (JAG) October 1, 2026 – September 30, 2027**

Board authorization was requested for the submittal of a Law Enforcement Training Grant renewal application to the Criminal Justice Assistance Grant Program (JAG). Staff reported that the North Central Texas Council of Governments Regional Police Academy has provided law enforcement training since 1968 and is seeking continued funding to support the expanded regional training initiative. The grant, estimated at \$120,000 for the period of October 1, 2026, through September 30, 2027, would fund an additional Police Training Coordinator position, allowing the Academy to continue offering an extra Basic Peace Officer Course annually and increase recruit capacity.

**Item 3 Resolution to Accept and Approve the Quarterly Investment Report**

Board acceptance and approval was requested for the Quarterly Investment Report for the quarter ended December 31, 2025. The report is required by the Investment Policy and Public Funds Investment Act and shows an average rate of return, cumulative transactions and beginning and ending balances for the quarter.

**Item 4 Resolution Authorizing TXShare Contracts for Self-Contained Breathing Apparatuses, Related Accessories, and Services**

Board authorization was requested to enter a five-year contract for Self-Contained Breathing Apparatuses (SCBAs), related accessories, and services through the NCTCOG TXShare cooperative purchasing program. Staff reported that Request for Proposals (RFP) 2025-124 was issued, with two responsive proposals received and evaluated by representatives from the Cities of Frisco, Plano, and Stephenville. Based on the committee's evaluation, contracts are recommended for award to Heat Safety Equipment, LLC and DiVal Safety and Supplies for all listed service categories, including SCBAs, accessories, replacement parts, accountability systems, and testing services.

**Item 5 Resolution Authorizing TXShare Contracts for 9-1-1 Telecommunications Fee Audit and Compliance Services**

Board authorization was requested to enter into contracts for 9-1-1 Telecommunications Fee Audit and Compliance Services through the NCTCOG TXShare cooperative purchasing program. Staff reported that Request for Proposals (RFP) 2025-118 was issued, with six responsive proposals received and evaluated by representatives from the Brazos County Emergency Communications District, McLennan County 9-1-1 Emergency Assistance District, and the North Central Texas Emergency Communications District. Based on the committee's evaluation, contracts are recommended for award to Just Communications, Inc., dba Digital Direction for all service categories, and to Rolka Loube Saltzer Associates, LLC for Service Category 1.

Categories are listed below:

- Service Category 1: 9-1-1 Telecommunications Fee Audit and Compliance
- Service Category 2: Other Ancillary Goods or Services

Item 6

**Resolution Endorsing Submittal of Texas Regional Broadband Program Grant Application, Authorizing an Additional Staff Position and Receipt of Funds from the Texas Association of Regional Councils**

Board authorization was requested for the submittal of the Texas Regional Broadband Program (TRBP) grant application and for the addition of a staff position supported by funds received from the Texas Association of Regional Councils (TARC). The TRBP, administered by TARC in partnership with the Texas Broadband Development Office, supports statewide broadband planning, digital opportunity strategies, and implementation, with each Council of Governments serving as a regional coordinator. Following the November Executive Board meeting, staff received final confirmation of NCTCOG's allocation, with an application deadline of January 16, 2026. Under the program, each of the 24 COGs is eligible to receive approximately \$107,000 annually for three years, contingent upon meeting program deliverables and reporting requirements. Participation requires the designation of a Regional Digital Access Specialist to lead stakeholder engagement, regional collaboration, data collection, digital opportunity planning, and implementation activities—roles that are especially critical for North Central Texas given ongoing broadband availability, affordability, and digital readiness challenges in rural and smaller communities. The position will also support North Central Texas Economic Development District (NCTEDD) functions, including grant assistance and development of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDDS). While the grant provides approximately \$60,000 annually toward personnel, market conditions indicate that a competitive salary may be up to \$90,000 (\$150,000 including benefits). As proposed, roughly 70 percent of the position's cost will be funded by the TRBP grant, with the remaining 30 percent supported by the NCTCOG General Fund as additional funding options are explored.

Item 7

**Resolution Authorizing Cooperative Contracts for Title III-Funded Meals**

Board authorization was requested to enter into cooperative contracts for the provision of Title III-funded Congregate and Home-Delivered Meals. Staff reported that, as the designated Area Agency on Aging, NCTCOG receives federal and state funding to support regional nutrition services and provides technical assistance and oversight to its twelve nutrition subrecipients. Because several subrecipients purchase meals but lack the capacity to conduct a federally compliant procurement, NCTCOG conducted a regional procurement in October 2025 on behalf of interested subrecipients. Two proposals were received, deemed responsive, and evaluated by NCTCOG staff. Based on the committee's review, cooperative contracts are recommended for award to Trio Community Meals and Golden Roots Meals for terms of up to five years. Staff noted that subrecipients will purchase meals directly from the selected vendors and that NCTCOG will incur no expenditures.

Item 8

**Resolution Endorsing Amended Agreement for Receipt of Funds from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality**

Board endorsement was requested for an amendment to the existing agreement with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for local air quality planning activities funded under Rider 7. Staff reported that NCTCOG, as the regional entity eligible to conduct PM2.5 inventory, monitoring, and modeling activities, previously entered into a not-to-exceed \$488,995 agreement approved by the Executive Board in March 2024 and executed in August 2024. TCEQ later notified NCTCOG of additional available funding for the FY 2026–2027 biennium and requested execution of an amendment by December 31, 2025. To avoid loss of funds, the Executive Director executed the amendment under the Annual Fiscal Program's delegated authority. The amendment provides an additional \$660,933.27, bringing the total agreement amount to approximately \$1,149,928.27. No local match is required. Consultant assistance will be pursued and Executive Board approval of that contract will be requested at a later date.

- Item 9**      **Resolution Authorizing Amended Agreement with the University of Texas at Arlington to Support Department of Defense Agile Curriculum Program**  
Board authorization was requested to amend an existing agreement related to the Department of Defense (DOD) Industry Resiliency–funded Agile Curriculum Development Program. Staff reported that NCTCOG received DOD funding to develop a program framework, in partnership with defense manufacturers, universities, and community colleges, to expand the regional pipeline of qualified applicants for Aerospace and Defense manufacturing careers. Agreements with the University of Texas at Arlington (UTA), Tarrant County College, and Dallas College were approved by the Executive Board on December 1, 2022. Due to the program’s shift toward advanced Cyber Security degree pathways—curricula not offered by Tarrant County College—the Board approved in March 2024 the reallocation of \$100,000 from that college’s agreement to UTA, increasing UTA’s contract to \$400,000. Authorization was requested to amend the UTA agreement again to reallocate funding from Dallas College and add an additional \$72,000, for a new not-to-exceed amount of \$472,000 in DOD funding. Dallas College has indicated it cannot participate in the final program year. This amendment is contingent upon the DOD extending the current grant through June 30, 2026.
- Item 10**      **Resolution Authorizing Agreements with Transportation Authorities for Travel Demand Management Event Support**  
Board authorization was requested to enter into agreements supporting regional trip reduction activities. Staff reported that NCTCOG, Trinity Metro, Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART), and the Denton County Transportation Authority (DCTA) have long partnered to implement trip reduction strategies, including operating the Vanpool Program, maintaining and marketing the Try Parking It website, and conducting educational outreach events. In January 2022, the Regional Transportation Council approved Surface Transportation Block Grant Program funding for region-wide employer trip reduction initiatives as part of the Congestion Management Planning and Operations Program. For Fiscal Year 2026, NCTCOG will continue coordinating trip reduction events with the three transportation authorities. Staff requested Executive Board approval to enter into agreements with Trinity Metro, DART, and DCTA for an amount not to exceed \$10,000 each, for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$30,000. Surface Transportation Block Grant Program funds, matched with Transportation Development Credits in lieu of local match, will be used.
- Item 11**      **Appointments to the Regional Aging Advisory Committee (RAAC) and Election of Officers**  
Board authorization was requested to approve appointments and officers for the Regional Aging Advisory Committee (RAAC). The RAAC, which supports NCTCOG in its role as the Area Agency on Aging (AAA), is composed of 28 members with two representatives from each of the 14 counties in the service area. With 13 current vacancies, NCTCOG solicited nominations from county judges, subrecipients, and staff. Nominees presented for appointment included: Ami Jane Vo (Denton County); Waynetta Dennis (Ellis County); Peggy Green (Erath County); Mel Birdwell (Hood County); Whitney Clotfelter (Johnson County); Allen Sparkman (Palo Pinto County); Linda Authier (Parker County); Karen Kiser and Patty Stern (Rockwall County); Juhree Knowles (Somervell County); and Shelby Hicks (Wise County). Staff also noted that, in accordance with RAAC bylaws, the AAA convened a nominations subcommittee, which recommended officers for Calendar Year 2026: President Karen Kiser (Rockwall County), Vice-President Lynda Sloan (Navarro County), and Secretary Dani Muckelroy (Ellis County). A brief summary of RAAC responsibilities and a membership chart were provided.

Item 12

**Appointments to the Criminal Justice Policy Development Committee**

Board approval was requested to appoint the following members to the Criminal Justice Policy Development Committee (CJPDC).

Officers				
Name	Title	Agency	County	
Ms. Felicia Oliphant	First Assistant District Attorney	Rockwall County District Attorney's Office	Chair – Rockwall County	
Ms. Kelly Pickens	Councilmember	City of Corinth	Vice Chair - Denton County	

Proposed New Members:				
Name	Title	Agency	Committee Status / County	
Ryan Bristow	Deputy Director of Administrative Services	Dallas County Juvenile Department*	Proposed new rep for Dallas County Juvenile Department	
Richard Brooks	Chief of Police	Aubrey Police Department	Proposed New Member – Denton County (Nominated by Charles Kreidler, Aubrey City Manager)	
Cindy Burnette	Director of Forensic Healthcare & Violence Intervention Department	Texas Health Resources	Proposed New Member – Tarrant County (Nominated by Anne Smith, Texas Health Resources Foundation)	
Colleen Campbell	CEO	Emily's Place (Victim Services agency)	Proposed New Member – Collin County (Self-nominated)	
Melissa Carr	Behavioral Health Program Manager	City of Mesquite (also provides services to Sunnyvale, Seagoville, and Balch Springs)	Proposed New Member – Dallas County (Self-nominated)	
Chawn Gilliland	Criminal Investigator	Parker County District Attorney's Office	Proposed New Member – Parker County (Nominated by Jeff Swain, Parker County District Attorney's Office and Kathryn Thompson, retired Executive Director of Parker County Children's Advocacy Center / past CJPDC member)	
Scott Ho	Captain	Euless Police Department	Proposed New Member – Tarrant County (Nominated by Chief Gary Landers, Euless Police Department)	
Kristen Howell	CEO	Children's Advocacy Center for North Texas (Victim Services agency)	Proposed New Member – Denton County (Self-nominated)	

Sharon Johnson	Department Chair of Public Safety Professions / Criminal Justice Degree Program Coordinator	Weatherford College	Proposed New Member – Parker County (Self-nominated)	
Sammy Knapp	Constable, Precinct 3	Collin County	Proposed New Member – Collin County (Self-nominated)	
Kristen Ostertag	Executive Director	Women In Need (Victim Services agency)	Proposed New Member – Hunt County (Self-nominated)	
Kyle Taliaferro	Assistant Chief of Police	Allen Police Department	Proposed New Member – Collin County (Self-nominated)	

\*Per CJPDC policies, these agencies shall have a permanent representative.

Reappointments				
Name	Title	Agency	County	
Mr. Shade Boulware	Assistant Superintendent of Leadership	Corsicana ISD	Navarro County	
Mr. Jon Ciarletta	Lieutenant	Trophy Club Police Department	Denton County	
Mr. Dan Harris Jr.	Chief of Police	Stephenville Police Department	Erath County	
Mr. Patrick Wiginton	Assistant Chief of Police	Granbury Police Department	Hood County	
Mr. Edward Wright	Assistant Chief of Police	North Richland Hills Police Department	Tarrant County	

Item 13

**Appointments to the North Central Texas Economic Development District Board (NCTEDD)**

This item was pulled from the Consent Agenda for Individual Consideration by Mayor Raburn.

Upon a Motion by Mayor Raburn (seconded by Commissioner Mitchell), the Board unanimously approved the Consent Agenda Items as posted with the exception of Item 13.

**ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION:**

**Item 13 Appointments to the North Central Texas Economic Development District Board (NCTEDD)**

This item was pulled from the Consent Agenda for Individual Consideration by Mayor Raburn.

Board authorization was requested to appoint the following individuals to the North Central Texas Economic Development District Board (NCTEDD).

<b>Three-Year Term Appointment Request</b>	<b>Board Category</b>
Judge Frank New, County Judge	Rockwall County
Jessica Rogers, Director of Economic Development, City of Fort Worth	>500,000 Population
Hillary Cromer, Economic Development Director, City of Alvarado	<30,000 Population
Gabby Everett, Director of Business Operations and Strategy, BioLabs	Principal Economic Interest

Additionally, Mayor Raburn requested to make some additions to the Ellis County seat and the <30,000 Population as follows:

- **ELLIS:** Kyle Kinader, President and CEO, Midlothian Economic Development – **fill empty Ellis County seat**
- **<30,000 Population:** Julie Pierce, President, Ennis Economic Development Corporation, who vacated this position. This seat will now be filled by: **Miriam Castillo, Economic Development Director, City of Ennis**

Exhibit: 2026-01-13-EDO

*Judge Boedeker and Mayor Bristol joined the meeting virtually.*

Upon a Motion by Mayor Raburn (seconded by Judge Jenkins), and unanimous vote of all members present, the Board approved the appointment as amended.

**INFORMATION ITEMS:**

**Item 14 Status Report on Regional Transportation Council Partnership Letter and MPO Planning Agreement Roles and Responsibilities**

Ken Kirkpatrick, General Counsel, presented a status report on Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Agreement Roles and Responsibilities. He explained that this information item provides context for Item 22 later in the agenda regarding legal assistance related to RTC responsibilities. Staff reviewed three items from the January 8, 2026 RTC meeting: the RTC Partnership Letter to NCTCOG President Johnson, Mayor Bristol's letter to RTC Chair Bailey, and the MPO Agreement Roles and Responsibilities. The RTC approved the Partnership Letter requesting a meeting with the Executive Board to discuss the shared responsibilities of both bodies in carrying out MPO functions and expressing interest in participating in the selection process for a new Transportation Director. Mayor Bristol's correspondence on this matter was also provided. At the same meeting, the RTC requested NCTCOG General Counsel to review key statutory provisions, agreements, and foundational documents related to RTC responsibilities and to provide a written report and presentation to both the RTC and Executive Board. Staff provided an initial briefing on the MPO Planning Agreement, executed in September 2018 between TxDOT, NCTCOG, and the RTC, which outlines the roles and responsibilities for the federally required metropolitan planning process. The Agreement has been extended through September 30, 2027, and a new agreement will need to be executed prior to that date to ensure continued eligibility for transportation planning funds.

Exhibit: 2026-01-14-EDO

This was an informational item and did not require a vote.

**ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION:**

**Item 15 Resolution Authorizing a Contract with Granicus, LLC for Agenda Management Software**

Jon Blackman, Assistant Director of Administration, requested Board authorization to enter a contractual agreement with Granicus, LLC for agenda management software. Staff reported that the current process for developing, reviewing, approving, and publishing Executive Board agendas is heavily manual, relies on multiple departments, and is spread across several disconnected systems, resulting in increased workload and duplication of effort. Agency Administration and Information and Innovation Services worked with the Executive Director's Office to evaluate potential solutions and, after reviewing available vendors over several months, recommend Granicus' Legistar platform. The cloud-based system will streamline agenda creation, meeting minutes, voting, search, archiving, and public access, while meeting ADA and Texas Open Meetings Act requirements. The proposed contract is for a three-year term through January 2029, with an optional two-year renewal for a total potential term of five years. Implementation is expected to begin immediately upon approval, with staff training, configuration, refinement cycles, and phased deployment leading to an anticipated rollout in late Summer 2026. Granicus is available through OMNIA Partners cooperative contract #159768. The contract with Granicus, LLC is for a term of up to five years and an amount not to exceed \$415,000.

Exhibit: 2026-01-15-AA

Upon a Motion by Judge Hill (seconded by Judge Huckabee), and unanimous vote of all members present, the Board approved the resolution as presented.

**Item 16 Resolution Adopting FY 2027 Criminal Justice Policies and Procedures**

Kelly Schmidt, Criminal Justice Program Administrator, requested Board approval to adopt the FY 2027 Policies and Procedures recommended by the Criminal Justice Policy Development Committee (CJPDC). As part of the Statement of Work (SOW), NCTCOG is responsible for reviewing and scoring criminal justice grant applications from local agencies and is required to adopt Policies and Procedures that guide the application process and define committee responsibilities. The most significant changes include replacing the Truancy Prevention grant category title with the new Youth Diversion title; adding language regarding grant application workshop notification and attendance; increasing suggested funding limits for the Criminal Justice Program – Justice Assistance Grant category; and incorporating language to address personnel overtime projects. Other revisions include updates to grant period timeframes and date revisions.

Exhibit: 2026-01-16-CJ

Upon a Motion by Judge O'Hare (seconded by Councilmember Justice), and unanimous vote of all members present, the Board approved the resolution as presented.

**Item 17 Resolution Authorizing an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Alvarado for Grant Administration Services**

Prit Patel, Senior Economic Development Manager, requested Board authorization to enter an Interlocal Agreement (ILA) with the City of Alvarado for management and administration of a U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) grant. Staff reported that the City has allocated approximately \$50,000 for NCTCOG to provide project management and financial management services, including record keeping, reporting, reimbursement processing, invoice review, and liaison support to the EDA. The City of Alvarado received a \$1,400,000 EDA grant to construct and install approximately 1.5 miles of new wastewater infrastructure, a project expected to create around 330 jobs, retain 180 jobs, and leverage an estimated \$30 million in private investment. The City requested that NCTCOG, through the North Central Texas Economic Development District, administer the grant on its behalf. Staff noted that the NCTCOG region was designated an Economic Development District by EDA in December 2016, and NCTCOG regularly supports local organizations in securing and administering EDA funding.

Exhibit: 2026-01-17-EDO

Upon a Motion by Commissioner Mitchell (seconded by Mayor Gilmore), and unanimous vote of all members present, the Board approved the resolution as presented.

**Item 18 Resolution Recommending General Assembly Enactment of the Amended Bylaws of the North Central Texas Council of Governments**

Ken Kirkpatrick, General Counsel, presented the proposed Amended Bylaws for Executive Board consideration. He noted that President Johnson appointed a Bylaws Review Committee last year to conduct a comprehensive review of the North Central Texas Council of Governments' Bylaws and recommend updates to reflect current laws and organizational practices. The Committee, chaired by Councilmember Jennifer Justice and including Councilmember Victoria Johnson, Judge Chris Hill, and Mayor Kameron Raburn, met throughout the fall with support from NCTCOG staff to evaluate potential revisions. The recommended amendments focus on nominating committee composition, procedures for filling Board vacancies, Board member indemnification, Board terms, Officer duties, and Officer succession. The Committee also reviewed Board composition and determined that the existing population categories continue to provide fair representation based on current and projected growth through 2035.

After Board discussion, the following questions were raised:

- Mechanics around Board appointment – General Assembly practice to defer to dedicated cities/counties
- Non-elected concern for Past President (if for removal/criminal action/etc.)
- Vacancy – deference or exemption for dedicated seats since Mayor/Judge/governing body makes appointment (e.g., City of Dallas)
- Maximum four (4) terms – (appropriateness of length of time; consecutive or sequential limitation)

The Board requested the Bylaws Review Committee to reconvene to consider those questions.

Exhibit: 2026-01-18-EDO

No action was taken on this item.

**Item 19 Resolution Authorizing Agreements with Subrecipients of the North Texas Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Call for Projects**

Michael Morris, Director of Transportation, requested Board authorization related to the implementation of the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) Community Program grant. Staff reported that NCTCOG was awarded the maximum grant amount of \$15 million in 2023 to deploy approximately 100 electric vehicle (EV) charging ports on public-sector properties and to retain a consultant team—referred to as the “Deployment Dream Team”—to support implementation. Of the award, \$3,037,884 was dedicated to Phase 1 activities, including staff time and consultant services, which proceeded following Board authorization in April 2025. The remaining \$11,962,116 is allocated to Phase 2 EV charging station deployment. Phase 2 was initiated through a Call for Projects opened July 25, 2025, and closed October 31, 2025. A total of 109 site applications were received from 36 public agencies, requesting more than \$18.6 million, exceeding available funding. Staff recommended awarding 55 sites to 31 applicants within the Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA), with a waitlist established for eligible but unfunded applications, and noted that costs may shift as charging vendors are procured. The Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approved these recommendations on January 8, 2026. One application was received from outside the MPA for Erath County; because FHWA funding obligations for Erath, Somervell, and Palo Pinto Counties remain pending, the RTC approved use of RTC Local Funds for the Erath County site, with FHWA funds to be substituted if later obligated. FHWA CFI funds will support up to 80 percent of deployment costs and 20 percent of operations and maintenance, with the private-sector vendor(s) providing the remaining shares. Agreements with selected charging vendors will be brought to the Board at a later date. Staff noted ongoing coordination with TxDOT to ensure complementarity with the State's NEVI Formula Program investments. TxDOT's plan is available at <https://www.txdot.gov/projects/projects-studies/statewide/texas-electric-vehicle-planning-03-22-22.html>.

Exhibit: 2026-01-19-TR

Upon a Motion by Councilmember Mendelsohn (seconded by Commissioner Mitchell), and unanimous vote of all members present, the Board approved the resolution as presented.

**Item 20 Resolution Approving Submittal of Fiscal Year 2024-2025 National Railroad Partnership Program Applications to the Federal Railroad Administration**

Michael Morris, Director of Transportation, requested Board approval for the submittal of Fiscal Year 2024–2025 National Railroad Partnership Program (NRPP) applications to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA). The FRA announced a Notice of Funding Opportunity in September 2025 for the \$5.07 billion NRPP, which funds projects that address state-of-good-repair needs, enhance passenger rail performance, or expand intercity rail service, with applications due February 6, 2026, across Project Planning, Project Development, and Final Design/Construction tracks. The Regional Transportation Council (RTC) is requesting NCTCOG apply under both the Planning and Development tracks for the East Trinity Railway Express (TRE) Corridor Improvement Project in Dallas, a \$9 million effort to complete planning and design for TRE double-tracking across the IH 35E Stemmons Freeway bridge and to reconstruct and grade-separate the Market Center Boulevard crossing. The NRPP request will seek up to \$7.2 million in federal funds (80 percent), matched with \$1.8 million in RTC Local funds (20 percent), with the city of Dallas and DART identified as implementing agents. RTC also seeks NCTCOG’s application under the Final Design/Construction track for the \$54 million Prairie Creek Road Grade Separation Project, which will construct a bridge over the Union Pacific Railroad corridor and request \$32.898 million in federal funds to complement previously committed federal, local, county, and UPRR contributions. The RTC approved submittal of these applications on December 11, 2025. NCTCOG will coordinate with FRA on fund transfer mechanisms and work closely with implementing agencies, railroads, and funding partners to support project delivery.

Exhibit: 2026-01-20-TR

Upon a Motion by Councilmember Mendelsohn (seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Flores), and unanimous vote of all members present, the Board approved the resolution as presented.

**Item 21 Resolution Authorizing a Contract with HNTB Corporation to Conduct a Feasibility Study for the Extension of the McKinney Avenue Transit Authority M-Line Trolley**

Michael Morris, Director of Transportation, requested Board authorization to enter a contractual agreement with HNTB Corporation, in an amount not to exceed \$530,000, to conduct a feasibility study for a potential 1.5-mile extension of the McKinney Avenue Transit Authority (MATA) M-Line Trolley. Staff noted that the Regional Transportation Council programmed funding for planning and engineering support for this effort, and the Executive Board previously approved the study of possible streetcar extensions on March 28, 2024. The consultant team will evaluate alignment options, operating scenarios, implementation and operating costs, potential funding sources, and an implementation strategy and schedule. The project is funded with Surface Transportation Block Grant Program funds and Transportation Development Credits in lieu of match. NCTCOG issued a Request for Proposals on May 2, 2025, receiving five submissions; three firms were interviewed, and the Selection Committee recommended HNTB Corporation.

Exhibit: 2026-01-21-TR

Upon a Motion by Councilmember Mendelsohn (seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Flores), and unanimous vote of all members present, the Board approved the resolution as presented.

**Item 22 Resolution Approving NCTCOG General Counsel to Conduct Legal Review and Authorizing Funding for External Legal Assistance for Regional Transportation Council Support**

Michael Morris and Ken Kirkpatrick presented this item at the request of the Regional Transportation Council (RTC). Staff noted that a presentation on this matter was provided to the RTC at its January 2026 meeting. At its January 8, 2026, meeting, the RTC authorized NCTCOG General Counsel and outside legal counsel to review key statutory, regulatory, and contractual documents in preparation for upcoming agreement deadlines. If, during this review, the General Counsel determines that the RTC and Executive Board are not aligned in a manner that creates a conflict of interest under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct, General Counsel will notify the RTC Chair, Transportation Director, Executive Board President, and NCTCOG Executive Director in writing. In such an event, the RTC Chair would authorize an amount not to exceed \$50,000 in RTC Local funds for the selection of external legal counsel.

In response to Board member questions, Ken Kirkpatrick noted that the RTC could engage external legal counsel without requiring Executive Board approval and NCTCOG would serve as its fiscal agent and payment function with RTC funds for these services.

Exhibit: 2026-01-22-TR

Upon a Motion by Mayor Bristol (seconded by Commissioner Hale), and unanimous vote of all members present, the Board tabled this item. No action was taken.

**Item 23 Resolution Accepting the Report from Pattillo, Brown & Hill, L.L.P. for the Transportation Department's Agreed Upon Procedures**

Michael Morris, Director of Transportation, reported that the accounting firm of Pattillo, Brown & Hill, L.L.P. completed an external review of Transportation Department consultant and subgrantee contracts exceeding \$250,000 that closed during Fiscal Year 2024. The review, required under the Transportation Department's Contractor Procurement Procedures—approved by TxDOT as the Metropolitan Planning Organization's procurement policies—found no exceptions in any area examined. The engagement included financial and non-financial testing to verify adherence to invoice and contract compliance procedures. Eleven contracts were selected from a random sample of twenty contracts that concluded in FY2024, including three funded in whole or in part by TxDOT, six funded through the Federal Transit Administration, and two funded through the Environmental Protection Agency. Reviewers evaluated seven procedural areas: allowable profit verification, DBE participation, verification of final work product prior to final payment, documentation of expenditures against budgets, overhead rate verification, determination of allowable costs, and timely payment. Communications from the reviewer's report, included as Attachment 1 to the resolution, confirmed no exceptions in all seven procedural areas for FY2024.

Exhibit: 2026-01-23-TR

*Mayor Raburn left the meeting and did not return.*

Upon a Motion by Judge O'Hare (seconded by Councilmember Justice), and unanimous vote of all members present, the Board approved the resolution as presented.

**Item 24 Possible Consideration to Take from Table Item 15 of the October 23, 2025, Executive Board Meeting: Resolution Authorizing a Contract with HNTB Corporation to Complete Step 1 of the Federal Railroad Administration's Corridor Identification and Development Program for the Fort Worth to Houston High-Speed Rail Corridor**

Michael Morris, Director of Transportation, requested Board authorization to take from the table Item 15 from the October 23, 2025, Executive Board meeting. Upon motion by Councilmember Mendelsohn and second by Councilmember Justice, the item was removed from the table. Staff reviewed the procedural history, noting that the item had been tabled at the October 23, 2025, meeting pending consideration by the City of Dallas. On November 13, 2025, the Regional Transportation Council (RTC), through Agenda Item 7, voted to request that the Executive Board and Project Team proceed with the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) Corridor Identification and Development (Corridor ID) Program for Step 1: Scope of Work Development for the Fort Worth to Houston High-Speed Rail Corridor. The Executive Board had previously been briefed on the item on September 25, 2025, and the FRA transmitted a grant amendment on October 14, 2025, extending the \$500,000 award through April 30, 2026. Staff provided background on NCTCOG's successful inclusion of the Fort Worth–Houston (via Dallas) corridor in the FRA Corridor ID Program, which positions the corridor for future federal funding opportunities and complements the ongoing FTA-led NEPA process for the Dallas–Fort Worth segment. NCTCOG issued a Request for Proposals on October 25, 2024, received three proposals, and interviewed all firms; the Selection Committee recommended HNTB Corporation. Step 1 of the Corridor ID Program is fully funded by the FRA with no local match and will produce a scope, schedule, and budget for Step 2, which will develop a Service Development Plan. Staff proposed that the HNTB agreement be co-terminus with the FRA grant. The RTC requested Executive Board approval, in its role as fiscal agent, of a contract with HNTB Corporation in an amount not to exceed \$400,000.

Exhibit: 2026-01-24-TR

Councilmember Mendelsohn made a motion to amend the resolution subject to the City of Dallas Council's Resolution No. 26-0265, seconded by Judge Jenkins. The resolution, as amended, passed with Judge O'Hare, Judge Huckabee, Judge Hill, and Commissioner Hale voting no.

**INFORMATION ITEMS:**

**Item 25 Executive Director's Report**

Mr. Little presented the Executive Director's Report by introducing two new staff members to the Executive Director's department: (1) Caroline Vandergriff – Public Affairs & Communications Officer and (2) Shala Geer-Smith – Administrative Program Coordinator. Additionally, he provided an update on the recruitment process for the Director of Transportation position.

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

**Item 26 Attendance and Calendar**

The Board was provided with a Calendar of meeting and a record of Attendance.

President Johnson adjourned the meeting at 3:56 pm.

Approved by:

Checked by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Victoria Johnson, President  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
Councilmember, City of Burleson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Todd Little, Executive Director  
North Central Texas Council of Governments



## North Central Texas Council of Governments

### ***Item 2***

*Exhibit: 2026-02-02-AA*

Meeting Date: February 26, 2026

Submitted By: Randy Richardson  
Director of Administration

Item Title: Resolution Authorizing an Interlocal Agreement with Public Employee Benefits Cooperative Members

This is a request for the Executive Board to authorize an Interlocal Agreement (ILA) entered into individually by the Counties of Tarrant, Dallas, Denton, and Parker, and the North Texas Tollway Authority (NTTA), as members of the Public Employee Benefits Cooperative (PEBC) - collectively referred to herein as “PEBC Members” - and the NCTCOG.

The PEBC was created by Tarrant County, Dallas County, and the North Texas Tollway Authority in 1998 to help local governments work together to save money on employee benefits. Since its inception, Denton and Parker counties have also joined the PEBC. Amidst rising healthcare costs, the organization seeks to provide affordable and flexible benefit packages to their staff and retirees through smart, shared solutions.

In 1999, the NCTCOG Executive Board authorized an ILA with the PEBC and its Members through which the NCTCOG serves as the fiscal and administrative agent for PEBC operations. Under this ILA, NCTCOG employs dedicated PEBC staff to provide professional services for which NCTCOG invoices each PEBC member monthly, such as:

- Management and disbursement of funds
- Data management – System audits, data integrity and security, HIPAA and privacy compliance
- Website management – Internet hosting, periodic modifications and updates, corrections, and design changes
- Development Services – Internet-based online enrollment processes and systems, data standards, system architecture, and process improvement
- Eligibility services – Acceptance of data from PEBC member groups and transmission of eligibility data to vendors
- Health and welfare benefits core consulting services – contracting with a consultant to provide professional services

For the PEBC’s Fiscal Year 2026 (January 2026-December 2026), the PEBC’s budget is approximately \$1,517,073.20.

A draft resolution authorizing an Interlocal Agreement with PEBC Members for professional services to be provided by the NCTCOG is attached for Executive Board consideration.

I will be available at the Board meeting should you have any questions.

RR

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH PUBLIC EMPLOYEE BENEFITS COOPERATIVE MEMBERS**

**WHEREAS**, the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is a Texas political subdivision and non-profit corporation organized and operating under Texas Local Government Code Chapter 391 as the regional planning commission for the 16-county North Central Texas region; and,

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

**WHEREAS**, Dallas and Tarrant Counties, and the North Texas Tollway Authority joined together in 1998 to create the Public Employee Benefits Cooperative of North Texas (PEBC) to provide quality health-related benefits to employees of each participating entity; and,

**WHEREAS**, Denton County joined the PEBC effective January 1, 2003, and Parker County joined the PEBC effective January 1, 2010; and,

**WHEREAS**, Chapter 791 of the Texas Government Code authorizes local governments, including councils of governments, to contact with each other for shared services, purchasing and joint performance of governmental functions; and,

**WHEREAS**, NCTCOG, in its role as the PEBC fiscal and administrative agent, provides professional services, including dedicated staff, financial, data, website and eligibility services to the PEBC for the exclusive benefit of the PEBC through an Interlocal Agreement between NCTCOG and local governments participating in the PEBC.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT:**

**Section 1.** An Interlocal Agreement between NCTCOG and the Counties of Tarrant, Dallas, Denton, and Parker, and the North Texas Tollway Authority (NTTA), as members of the PEBC to provide Professional Services for the exclusive benefit of the PEBC, be and is hereby approved.

**Section 2.** The Executive Director or his designee is authorized to execute necessary agreements to carry out the initiatives described herein, in the name of the North Central Texas Council of Governments.

**Section 3.** This resolution shall be in effect immediately upon its adoption.

---

Victoria Johnson, President  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
Councilmember, City of Burleson

I hereby certify that this Resolution was adopted by the Executive Board of the North Central Texas Council of Governments on February 26, 2026.

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Brandon Huckabee, Secretary-Treasurer  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
County Judge, Erath County

February 26, 2026

# ILA with Public Employee Benefits Cooperative Members Authorization Request Briefing

Presented By: Randy Richardson



## Public Employee Benefits Cooperative

- **Background** – Created by the County of Tarrant, the County of Dallas, and the North Texas Tollway Authority in 1998. Later, Denton and Parker county joined the cooperative.
- **Purpose** – To help local governments work together and save money on employee benefits with the goal of:
  - Keeping costs affordable for employees and their families
  - Offering choice and flexibility in benefits
  - Providing value through smart, shared solutions

# NCTCOG's Role



- **Role** – NCTCOG serves as the administrative and fiscal agent for PEBC operations.
- **Scope** – Professional services include the following duties performed by dedicated staff:
  - Fund management
  - Data management
  - Website management
  - Development services
  - Eligibility services
  - Health and welfare core consulting services

## What Is Being Requested Today?

Authorization to sign an Interlocal Agreement with PEBC Members for professional services.



**North Central Texas Council of Governments**

***Item 3***

*Exhibit: 2026-02-03-AA*

Meeting Date: February 26, 2026

Submitted By: Randy Richardson  
Director of Administration

Item Title: Resolution Authorizing TXShare Contracts for Enterprise Resource Planning Software Solutions

This is a request to award contracts for Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Software Solutions through the North Central Texas Council of Governments TXShare cooperative purchasing program.

The purpose of the contract(s) is to retain the services of one or more firms that offer one or more of the below listed Service Categories:

- Service Category 1: Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Software Solutions
- Service Category 2: Other Ancillary Goods or Services

NCTCOG prepared and issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) 2025-048 for Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Software Solutions with the proposals due on October 9, 2025. Fifteen (15) proposals were received, publicly opened, and deemed responsive. The proposals were evaluated by a committee comprised of representatives from the City of University Park, Denton County, and NCTCOG. Following evaluation, the Evaluation Committee is recommending contracts be awarded to:

- Achieve-ERP for ALL Service Categories
- Aclarian LLC for ALL Service Categories
- AVAAP U.S.A. LLC for ALL Service Categories
- Can/Am Technologies for Service Category 2
- CentralSquare Technologies, LLC for ALL Service Categories
- Crowe LLP for Service Category 2
- GovernmentJobs.com, Inc. dba NEOGOV for Service Category 2
- Harris ERP for Service Category 1
- Kastech Solutions LLC for ALL Service Categories
- Meridian Government Services LLC, for ALL Service Categories
- Phoenician, LLC for ALL Service Categories
- Tyler Technologies, Inc. for ALL Service Categories

A draft resolution authorizing contracts with the aforementioned vendors and the service categories listed herein for Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Software Solutions for maximum five (5) year terms is attached for Executive Board consideration. If approved, these contracts will be available through the TXShare cooperative purchasing program to agencies throughout the United States for services in the geographic regions served by the awarded vendors.

I will be available at the Executive Board meeting should you have any questions.

RR

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TXSHARE CONTRACTS FOR ENTERPRISE RESOURCE PLANNING SOFTWARE SOLUTIONS**

**WHEREAS**, the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is a Texas political subdivision and non-profit corporation organized and operating under Texas Local Government Code Chapter 391 as the regional planning commission for the 16-county North Central Texas region; and,

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

**WHEREAS**, a Request for Proposals (RFP) 2025-048 for Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Software Solutions was advertised and proposals received on October 9, 2025; and,

**WHEREAS**, proposals were evaluated by a committee comprised of member agencies and NCTCOG staff; and,

**WHEREAS**, following evaluation, it is recommended that contracts be awarded to Achieve-ERP, Aclarian LLC, AVAAP U.S.A. LLC, Can/Am Technologies, CentralSquare Technologies, LLC, Crowe LLP, GovernmentJobs.com, Inc. dba NEOGOV, Harris ERP, Kastech Solutions LLC, Meridian Government Services, LLC, Phoenician, LLC, and Tyler Technologies, Inc.; and,

**WHEREAS**, these contracts are intended to be utilized by NCTCOG member governments and other participating entities as part of NCTCOG's TXShare Cooperative Purchasing Program; and,

**WHEREAS**, NCTCOG has complied with federal and State regulations regarding contract and procurement proceedings for this procurement 2025-048.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT:**

**Section 1.** Contracts between NCTCOG and Achieve-ERP, Aclarian LLC, AVAAP U.S.A. LLC, Can/Am Technologies, CentralSquare Technologies, LLC, Crowe LLP, GovernmentJobs.com, Inc. dba NEOGOV, Harris ERP, Kastech Solutions LLC, Meridian Government Services, LLC, Phoenician, LLC, and Tyler Technologies, Inc., for Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Software Solutions for the service categories detailed in Attachment 1, for maximum five (5) year terms, be and are hereby approved.

**Section 2.** The Executive Director or his designee is authorized to execute necessary agreements to carry out this program, including agreements with member governments and other entities wishing to participate in NCTCOG's TXShare Cooperative Purchasing Program, in the name of the North Central Texas Council of Governments.

**Section 3.** This resolution shall be in effect immediately upon its adoption.

---

Victoria Johnson, President  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
Councilmember, City of Burleson

I hereby certify that this Resolution was adopted by the Executive Board of the North Central Texas Council of Governments on February 26, 2026.

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Brandon Huckabee, Secretary-Treasurer  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
County Judge, Erath County

<b>Respondents</b>	<b>Service Categories</b>	
	<b>Category 1:</b> Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Software Solutions	<b>Category 2:</b> Other Ancillary Goods or Services
<b>Achieve-ERP</b>	X	X
<b>Aclarian LLC</b>	X	X
<b>AVAAP U.S.A. LLC</b>	X	X
<b>Can/Am Technologies</b>		X
<b>CentralSquare Technologies, LLC</b>	X	X
<b>Crowe LLP</b>		X
<b>GovernmentJobs.com, Inc. dba NEOGOV</b>		X
<b>Harris ERP</b>	X	
<b>Kastech Solutions LLC</b>	X	X
<b>Meridian Government Services, LLC</b>	X	X
<b>Phoenician, LLC</b>	X	X
<b>Tyler Technologies, Inc.</b>	X	X



**North Central Texas Council of Governments**

***Item 4***

*Exhibit: 2026-02-04-AA*

Meeting Date: February 26, 2026

Submitted By: Randy Richardson  
Director of Administration

Item Title: Resolution Authorizing TXShare Contracts for Work Boots

This is a request to award contracts for Work Boots through the North Central Texas Council of Governments TXShare cooperative purchasing program.

The purpose of the contract(s) is to retain the services of one or more firms that offer one or more of the below listed Service Categories:

- Service Category 1: Work Boots
- Service Category 2: Other Ancillary Goods or Services

NCTCOG prepared and issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) 2026-004 for Work Boots with the proposals due on January 7, 2026. Four (4) proposals were received, publicly opened, and deemed responsive. The proposals were evaluated by a committee comprised of representatives from Hays County and the Cities of Friendswood, Bedford, and Allen. Following evaluation, the Evaluation Committee is recommending contracts be awarded to:

- Galls, LLC dba Workboots.Com for ALL Service Categories
- Red Wing Brands of America, Inc. for ALL Service Categories
- Northern Imports dba Work Wear Safety Shoes for ALL Service Categories

A draft resolution authorizing contracts with the aforementioned vendors and the service categories listed herein for Work Boots for maximum five (5) year terms is attached for Executive Board consideration. If approved, these contracts will be available through the TXShare cooperative purchasing program to agencies throughout the United States for services in the geographic regions served by the awarded vendors.

I will be available at the Executive Board meeting should you have any questions.

RR

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TXSHARE CONTRACTS FOR WORK BOOTS**

**WHEREAS**, the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is a Texas political subdivision and non-profit corporation organized and operating under Texas Local Government Code Chapter 391 as the regional planning commission for the 16-county North Central Texas region; and,

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

**WHEREAS**, a Request for Proposals (RFP) 2026-004 for Work Boots was advertised and proposals received on January 7, 2026; and,

**WHEREAS**, proposals were evaluated by a committee comprised of individuals from member or participating agencies; and,

**WHEREAS**, following evaluation, it is recommended that contracts be awarded to Galls, LLC dba Workboots.Com, Red Wing Brands of America, Inc., and Northern Imports dba Work Wear Safety Shoes; and,

**WHEREAS**, these contracts are intended to be utilized by NCTCOG member governments and other participating entities as part of NCTCOG's TXShare Cooperative Purchasing Program; and,

**WHEREAS**, NCTCOG has complied with federal and State regulations regarding contract and procurement proceedings for this procurement 2026-004.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT:**

**Section 1.** Contracts between NCTCOG and Galls, LLC dba Workboots.Com, Red Wing Brands of America, Inc., and Northern Imports dba Work Wear Safety Shoes for Work Boots for the service categories detailed in Attachment 1, for maximum five (5) year terms, be and are hereby approved.

**Section 2.** The Executive Director or his designee is authorized to execute necessary agreements to carry out this program, including agreements with member governments and other entities wishing to participate in NCTCOG's TXShare Cooperative Purchasing Program, in the name of the North Central Texas Council of Governments.

**Section 3.** This resolution shall be in effect immediately upon its adoption.

---

Victoria Johnson, President  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
Councilmember, City of Burleson

I hereby certify that this Resolution was adopted by the Executive Board of the North Central Texas Council of Governments on February 26, 2026.

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Brandon Huckabee, Secretary-Treasurer  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
County Judge, Erath County

<b>Respondents</b>	<b>Service Categories</b>	
	<b>Category 1: Work Boots</b>	<b>Category 2: Other Ancillary Goods or Services</b>
<b>Galls, LLC dba Workboots.Com</b>	X	X
<b>Red Wing Brands of America, Inc.</b>	X	X
<b>Northern Imports dba Work Wear Safety Shoes</b>	X	X



**North Central Texas Council of Governments**

***Item 5***

*Exhibit: 2026-02-05-AG*

Meeting Date: February 26, 2026

Submitted By: Doni Green  
Director of Aging Programs

Item Title: Resolution Approving the North Central Texas Area Plan Federal Fiscal Years 2027-2029

The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG), in its role as the designated Area Agency on Aging (AAA), is required by the Older Americans Act of 1965, as amended, to develop multi-year area plans for its service area, through which it provides, administers, and coordinate health and social services for persons age 60 and over, and their family caregivers. The Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) similarly requires AAAs to develop multi-year plans, which are to be reviewed and approved by their advisory committee and governing body.

NCTCOG has completed its three-year plan to reflect the needs of older persons and their family caregivers in the 14 counties surrounding Dallas and Tarrant Counties. The Regional Aging Advisory Committee reviewed and approved the Plan at its February 10<sup>th</sup> meeting and recommends it for favorable consideration by the Executive Board.

A draft resolution approving the North Central Texas Area Plan Federal Fiscal Years 2027-2029 is attached for Executive Board consideration.

I will provide a brief summary of the Area Plan at the February 26<sup>th</sup> meeting and respond to any questions.

Thank you.

DG: CT

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE NORTH CENTRAL TEXAS AREA PLAN FEDERAL FISCAL YEARS  
2027-2029**

**WHEREAS**, the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is a Texas political subdivision and non-profit corporation organized and operating under Texas Local Government Code Chapter 391 as the regional planning commission for the 16-county North Central Texas region; and,

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

**WHEREAS**, NCTCOG is a grantee agency of Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC); and,

**WHEREAS**, HHSC requires NCTCOG, in its capacity as the Area Agency on Aging (NCTAAA), to develop a three-year plan for funding, delivery, administration and coordination of health and human services for older adults and their family caregivers who live in the 14-county planning area; and,

**WHEREAS**, NCTCOG has developed a three-year area plan according to HHSC guidelines; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Regional Aging Advisory Committee has approved the North Central Texas Area Plan Federal Fiscal Years 2027-2029 and recommends its approval by the NCTCOG Executive Board; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Executive Board has been provided a copy of the Plan and acknowledges its receipt.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT:**

**Section 1.** The NCTCOG Executive Board approves the North Central Texas Area Plan Federal Fiscal Years 2027-2029.

**Section 2.** The Executive Director or his designee is authorized to submit the plan to HHSC.

**Section 3.** This resolution shall be in effect immediately upon its adoption.

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Victoria Johnson, President  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
Councilmember, City of Burleson

I hereby certify that the resolution was adopted by the Executive Board of the North Central Texas Council of Governments on February 26, 2026.

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Brandon Huckabee, Secretary/Treasurer  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
County Judge, Erath County

# **North Central Texas Area Agency on Aging Area Plan**

**FFY 2027 - 2029**

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**As Required by the Older Americans Act, As  
Amended in 2020: Section 306, Area Plans**

**Pending Approval by HHSC  
Office of Area Agencies on Aging February 2026**



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## Executive Summary

The North Central Texas Area Agency on Aging (NCTAAA) serves a diverse and dynamic planning and service area, comprised of the 14 counties surrounding, but excluding, Dallas and Tarrant. This area includes a mix of 10 urban and four rural counties, each with unique needs and challenges.

The North Central Texas area is experiencing rapid growth, with the total population expected to increase by 18% from 2025 to 2035. During the same 10-year period, the number of persons aged 60 and over in the region is expected to increase 44.6%, from 732,760 to 1,059,594.

Although older North Central Texans generally fare better economically than their statewide counterparts, rural counties continue to report elder poverty rates above regional (and, in the case of Navarro County) State averages.

The NCTAAA is charged with serving older adults and family caregivers with greatest need, regardless of geography. Moreover, it is committed to making its services accessible to those who are isolated, either geographically or socially, and prioritizes those who are experiencing financial need and/or dealing with disability.

The NCTAAA's work is guided by its mission to develop and maintain a coordinated network of health and social services for older adults and family caregivers. Its vision is that older North Central Texans may receive resource information, decision support, and direct services that promote living with dignity, exercising meaningful choice, and maximizing community engagement.

As the NCTAAA prepares to enter the three-year planning period—from October 1, 2026, through September 30, 2029—it encounters uncertainty regarding federal and state funding. As of January 2026, it is receiving “level” Older Americans Act funding under continuing resolutions that will expire at the end of the month. Further, it lost the benefit of pandemic relief funding as of October 1, 2024. As a result, NCTAAA entered Federal Fiscal Year 2026 with a 21% budget reduction, contending with a growing gap between demand and available funding.

In response to funding reductions, the NCTAAA has cut funding for in-house services—particularly its Care Coordination and Caregiver Support Coordination programs—and undergone a reduction in force. Similarly, it has reduced funding passed through to its subrecipients for Home-Delivered meals, in some cases resulting in unprecedented wait lists.

Although such cuts are painful, the NCTAAA is proud of its work to maintain its service array. It proposes to enter Federal Fiscal Year 2027 with all of the services under the prior area plan intact.

The NCTAAA has established goals of innovating service delivery systems through technologies and competitive grants. For example, it is working with several subrecipients who have expressed interest in providing Congregate Meals through a virtual platform, with the goal of growing participation in a program increasingly challenged to attract a critical mass of older North Central Texans. In addition, the NCTAAA has been awarded competitive grants from the Texas Department of State Health Services and Administration for Community Living to expand dementia-specific education and caregiver supports during the three-year planning period.

In providing direct services and administering pass-through services, the NCTAAA benefits from highly tenured staff and established procedures to ensure compliance with federal and state regulations. In 2025, it underwent a review of its administrative activities by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) Office of Area Agencies on Aging, which did not result in any findings.

To best meet the needs of older North Central Texans and their family caregivers, the NCTAAA will take the following actions during the planning period:

- Expand outreach and awareness of NCTAAA services.
- Enhance coordination between direct and pass-through services.
- Innovate service delivery systems and leverage available technologies to reach a broader audience.
- Establish clinical linkages to bridge the gap between healthcare and long-term services and supports.
- Strengthen caregiver supports.
- Continue to expand dementia-specific supports and develop a customized counseling program for people living with dementia and their family caregivers.

# Organizational Profile

**Reference:** [45 CFR 1321.57](#), [45 CFR 1321.63](#), & [45 CFR 1321.65\(b\)\(2\)](#)

## Organization and Staff Composition

The NCTAAA operates as a program of the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG), an organization established by state law in 1966 as a voluntary association of, by, and for local governments. Its purpose is to serve as a regional planning organization, with a mission 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.

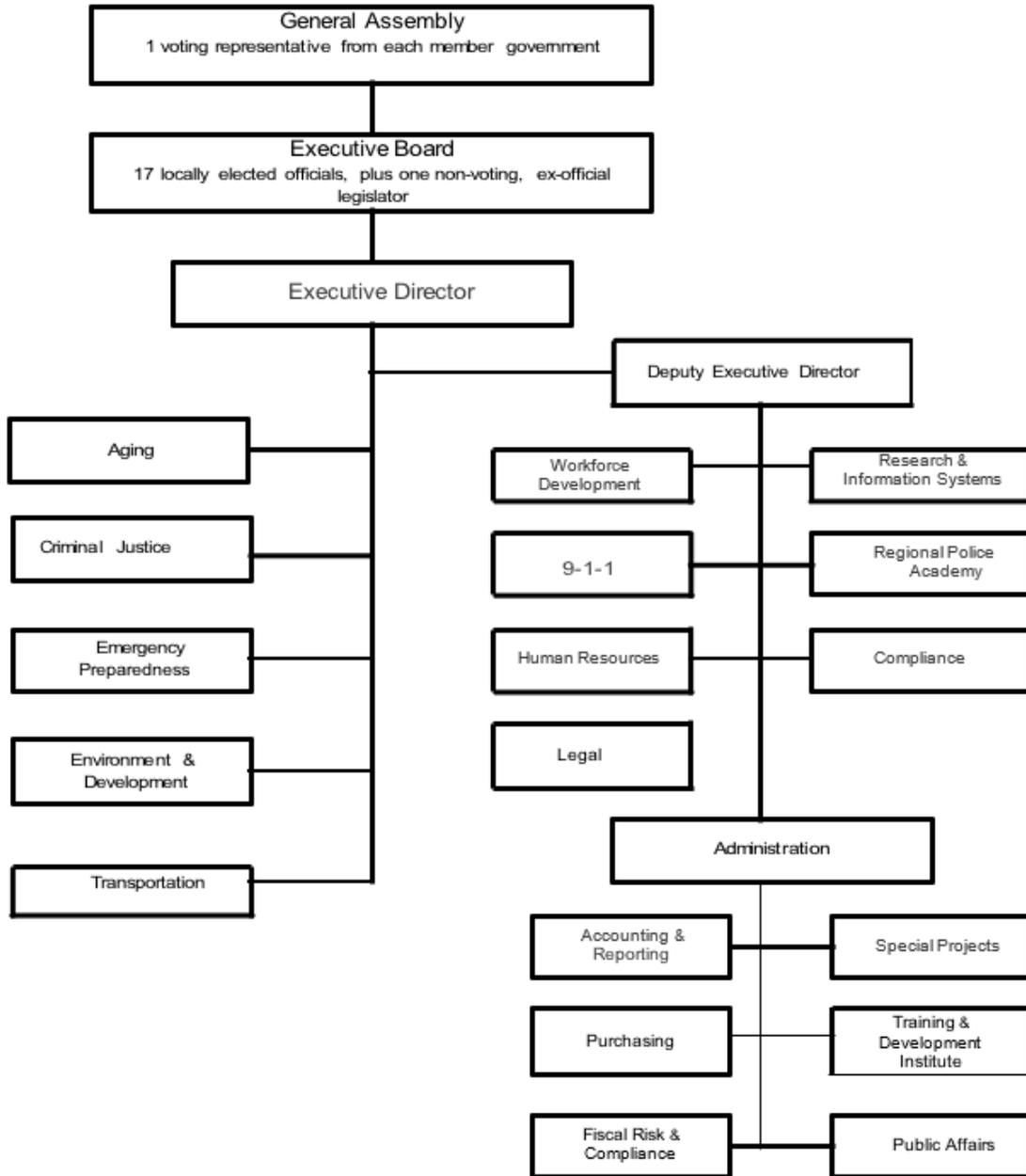
NCTCOG's Aging Department, which houses the NCTAAA, comprises 7.0% of the agency's 430 staff. Eight of the Department's 30 staff are funded entirely by grants and contracts apart from the Area Agency on Aging.

NCTAAA revenues, as of Fiscal Year 2026, comprised only 3.6% of NCTCOG's budget (i.e., with a departmental budget of \$14 million, relative to the organizational budget of \$388 million).

NCTCOG's organizational chart is as follows:

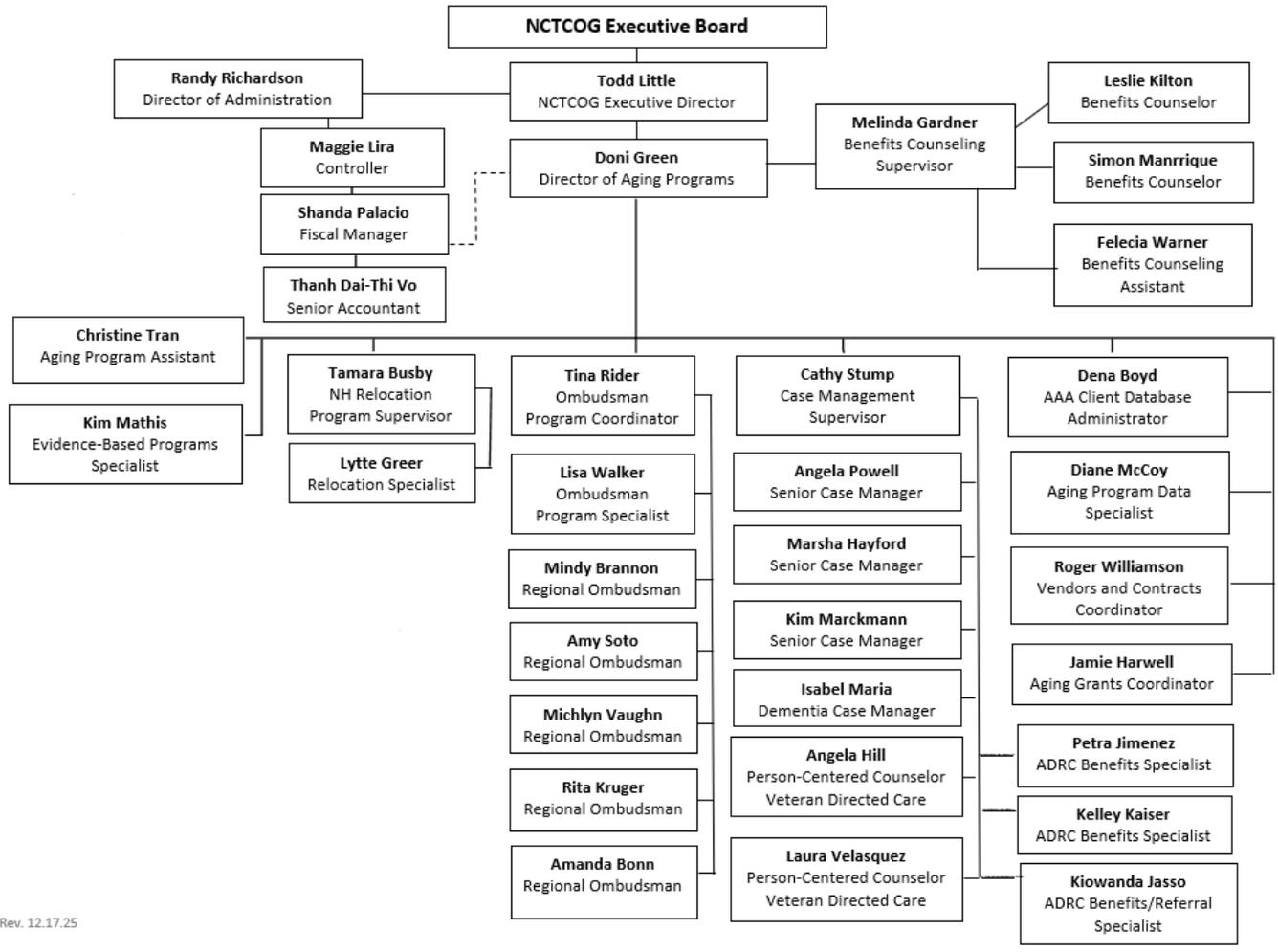
## North Central Texas Council of Governments

### Organizational Chart



The NCTAAA's organizational chart, as of January 2026, is as follows:

### North Central Texas Aging Department Organizational Chart

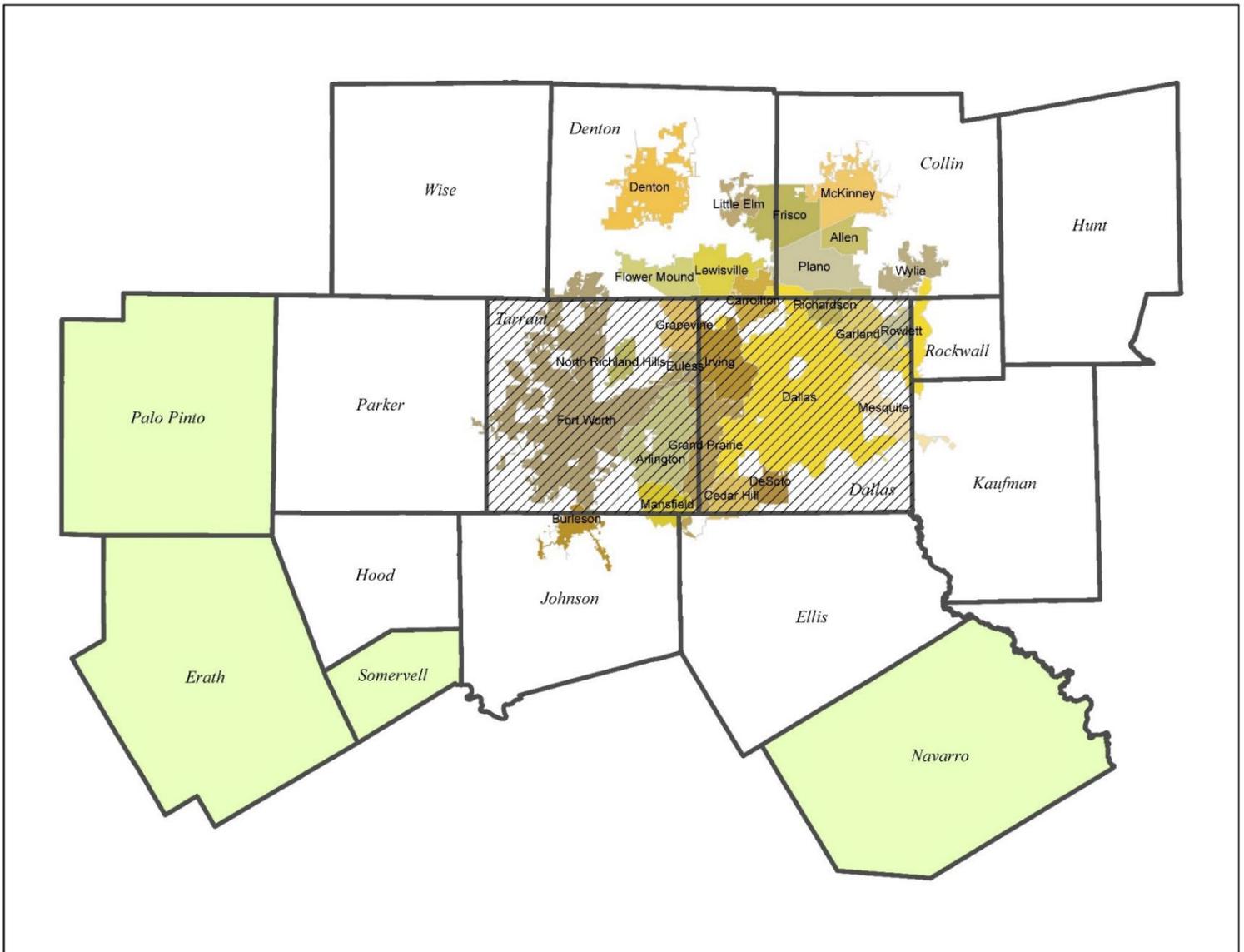


Rev. 12.17.25

High Level Narrative Summary of the Planning and Service Area

The NCTAAA Planning and Service Area (PSA) consists of the 14 counties that surround, but do not include, Dallas and Tarrant. They include Collin, Denton, Ellis, Erath, Hood, Hunt, Johnson, Kaufman, Navarro, Palo Pinto, Parker, Rockwall, Somervell, and Wise.

A map of the region appears below. The two counties in the center—Dallas and Tarrant—are outside the North Central Texas PSA and marked with diagonal shading.



Counties within the PSA exhibit notable differences in their classification as urban, suburban, rural, as well as their size, disability rates, poverty rates, and access to resources. Generally,

the smaller, more rural counties experience higher rates of disability and elder poverty compared to regional averages. These counties also tend to have more limited social service networks, which can exacerbate challenges for their aging residents.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey (2019-2023), overall disability rates across the 14 counties ranged from a low of 7.7% in Collin County (classified as urban) to a high of 17.5% in Navarro County (classified as rural). The weighted regional average for disability rates was 12.2%. Among the rural counties, Erath County reported a disability rate of 13.0%, while Somervell County reported a disability rate of 11.4%. Data were not available for Palo Pinto County.

Similarly, elder poverty rates vary by county. The PSA's four rural counties (Erath, Navarro, Palo Pinto, and Somervell) appear in red type below. Notably, all have poverty rates that exceed the regional average of 7.6%. Navarro County had an elderly poverty rate (13%) that was higher than the statewide elderly poverty rate (11.6%).

<b>County</b>	<b>U. S. Census Bureau American Community Survey: 2019 - 2023 Percent of Persons Aged 60 and Over Living in Poverty</b>
Collin	6.6%
Denton	6.1%
Ellis	6.9%
<b>Erath</b>	<b>10.3%</b>
Hood	7.3%
Hunt	9.2%
Johnson	8.8%
Kaufman	10.5%
<b>Navarro</b>	<b>13.0%</b>
<b>Palo Pinto</b>	<b>10.5%</b>
Parker	8.2%
Rockwall	4.8%
<b>Somervell</b>	<b>8.5%</b>
Wise	10.1%
<b><i>All North Central Texas Counties Combined</i></b>	<b><i>7.6%</i></b>
<b><i>State of Texas</i></b>	<b><i>11.6%</i></b>

Elder poverty rates are of particular significance since the Older Americans Act (OAA) requires that the NCTAAA prioritize service for older adults with the greatest economic need (GEN).

Since neither the OAA nor the Texas Health and Human Services Commission, in its stead as the State Unit on Aging, has established a formal definition of GEN, the NCTAAA uses income household that is no more than 150% of the federal poverty limit (i.e., \$1,995 per month for single people or \$2,705 for married couples, as of 2026) as a proxy. At the same time, the NCTAAA recognizes that limited income is not the sole determinant of economic need and takes into consideration income relative to expenses—specifically, the extent to which an individual can meet basic needs with his/her available resources—when determining whether a potential client is experiencing greatest economic need.

Similarly, the HHSC Office of Area Agencies on Aging (HHSC-OAAA) requires the NCTAAA to prioritize individuals with the greatest social need (GSN), a term that also lacks a formal definition at the federal or state level. The NCTAAA has adopted the working definition as having little or no support from family or friends. As with GEN, the NCTAAA acknowledges that this working definition may need to be adapted based on individual circumstances. For example, an older person who has a supportive family but declines assistance may experience GSN. With an obligation to administer services that are responsive to individual needs, the NCTAAA takes into consideration all factors that may influence an older adult's or caregiver's economic well-being and social engagement.

#### Economic and social resources available within the service area

Though many older North Texas experience resource gaps (as detailed in the “Community Needs Assessment”), the 14-county region boasts economic and social strengths. Regional strengths include:

- **Lower Elder Poverty Rates:** Elderly poverty rates that, at the regional level, are lower than the State average. As noted on page 8, 7.6% of North Central Texans aged 60 and over were assumed to be living in poverty, per Census Bureau American Community Survey data for 2019-2023, compared to 11.6% of all older Texans.
- **Affordable Cost of Living:** A relatively low cost of living and housing, grocery, gas, and healthcare expenses that are below the national average.
- **Diverse Housing Options:** A broad range of housing options, spanning the continuum from independent living to skilled nursing care. As of December 2025, the service area was home to 65 retirement communities, 290 assisted living facilities, and 113 skilled nursing facilities.

- **Strong Workforce Opportunities:** Diversified workforce opportunities, with unemployment rates that are lower than the State average. The service area's Labor Force Participation Rate as of October 2024 was 68.22%, several points higher than the rates for Texas and the nation.
- **High Educational Attainment:** Relatively high levels of educational attainment: Nearly half (49%) of North Central Texas adults had a bachelor's degree in late 2024. This was higher than the state and nation by more than 6 and 4 percent, respectively.
- **Thriving Service Economy:** A vibrant service economy, particularly in the urban portions of the PSA.
- **Comprehensive Health and Social Service:** A well-developed system of health and social services, particularly in the urban portions of the PSA.

#### Population trends and other issues impacting older North Central Texans

The most prominent population trend impacting older North Central Texans is rapid growth. As a region, North Central Texas is a statewide and national leader in population growth. Three cities located in Collin County (Princeton, Celina, and Anna) were among the top five most rapidly growing United States cities between 2023 and 2024.

However, growth rates vary significantly across the region's 14 counties. Based on the Texas Demographic Center population estimates for 2025-2035, North Central Texas counties can be classified as either high, moderate, or low growth.

- **High growth** (i.e., greater than 20% increase in persons of all ages during the decade):
  - **Collin County:** Its total population is projected to increase from 1,281,137 in 2025 to 1,561,719 in 2035, constituting a growth rate of 21.9%. Its number of residents aged 60 and over is projected to increase from 244,970 in 2025 to 385,932 in 2035, constituting a growth rate of 57.5%.
  - **Denton County:** Its total population is projected to increase from 1,068,212 in 2025 to 1,302,540 in 2035, constituting a growth rate of 21.94%. Its number of residents aged 60 and over is projected to increase from 202,861 in 2025 to 335,131 in 2035, constituting a growth rate of 65.2%.
  - **Kaufman County:** Its total population is projected to increase from 202,167 in 2025 to 247,014 in 2035, constituting a growth rate of 22.18%. Its number of residents aged 60 and over is projected to increase from 30,151 in 2025 to 38,304 in 2035, constituting a growth rate of 27.0%.

- **Rockwall County:** Its total population is projected to increase from 139,886 in 2025 to 169,995 in 2035, constituting a growth rate of 21.52%. Its number of residents aged 60 and over is projected to increase from 27,748 in 2025 to 41,258 in 2035, constituting a growth rate of 48.7%.
- **Moderate growth** (i.e., 10-20% increase in persons of all ages during the decade)
  - **Ellis:** Its total population is projected to increase from 236,584 in 2025 to 279,360 in 2035, constituting a growth rate of 18.08%. Its number of residents aged 60 and over is projected to increase from 43,190 in 2025 to 53,480 in 2035, constituting a growth rate of 23.8%.
  - **Hood:** Its total population is projected to increase from 70,086 in 2025 to 80,088 in 2035, constituting a growth rate of 14.27%. Its number of residents aged 60 and over is projected to increase from 21,969 in 2025 to 23,180 in 2035, constituting a growth rate of 5.5%.
  - **Hunt:** Its total population is projected to increase from 120,125 in 2025 to 134,378 in 2035, constituting a growth rate of 11.87%. Its number of residents aged 60 and over is projected to increase from 25,762 in 2025 to 28,300 in 2035, constituting a growth rate of 9.9%.
  - **Johnson:** Its total population is projected to increase from 213,298 in 2025 to 240,941 in 2035, constituting a growth rate of 12.96%. Its number of residents aged 60 and over is projected to increase from 42,872 in 2025 to 49,630 in 2035, constituting a growth rate of 15.8%.
  - **Parker:** Its total population is projected to increase from 182,622 in 2025 to 212,559 in 2035, constituting a growth rate of 16.4%. Its number of residents aged 60 and over is projected to increase from 40,629 in 2025 to 47,927 in 2035, constituting a growth rate of 18%.
  - **Somervell:** Its total population is projected to increase from 10,201 in 2025 to 11,394 in 2035, constituting a growth rate of 11.7%. Its number of residents aged 60 and over is projected to increase from 3,090 in 2025 to 3,341 in 2035, constituting a growth rate of 8.1%.
  - **Wise:** Its total population is projected to increase from 82,145 in 2025 to 90,625 in 2035, constituting a growth rate of 10.32%. Its number of residents aged 60 and over is projected to increase from 18,551 in 2025 to 20,930 in 2035, constituting a growth rate of 12.8%.
- **Low** (less than 10% increase in persons of all ages during the decade)

- **Erath:** Its total population is projected to increase from 44,986 in 2025 to 49,050 in 2035, constituting a growth rate of 9.0%. Its number of residents aged 60 and over is projected to increase from 9,326 in 2025 to 10,026 in 2035, constituting a growth rate of 7.5%.
- **Navarro:** Its total population is projected to increase from 57,072 in 2025 to 62,562 in 2035, constituting a growth rate of 9.6%. Its number of residents aged 60 and over is projected to increase from 13,377 in 2025 to 14,221 in 2035, constituting a growth rate of 6.3%.
- **Palo Pinto:** Its total population is projected to increase from 30,282 in 2025 to 30,385 in 2035, constituting a growth rate of .3%. Its number of residents aged 60 and over is projected to decrease from 8,264 in 2025 to 7,934 in 2035, constituting a growth rate of -4.0%.

Notably, the service area’s four rural counties (Erath, Navarro, Palo Pinto, and Somervell) are unique in facing growth rates among older adults that are lower than all-age growth rates. All other 10 counties are projected to have percentage increases in the number of residents aged 60+ that are higher than the percentage increases for residents of all ages. Further, Collin, Denton, and Rockwall Counties are projected to have older adult growth rates more than double the all-age growth rates.

At the regional level, the total population is projected to increase by 18.30% between 2025 and 2035. While this represents one of the most rapid growth rates in the state and nation, it is dwarfed by a projected growth rate of 44.6% among North Central Texans aged 60 and over during the same period. More specifically, the number of older residents is projected to increase from 737,760 in 2025 to 1,059,594 in 2035. This sharp increase highlights that the region’s older adult population is growing much more quickly than its working-age population. The Texas Demographic Center notes that this shift has important implications for the region’s economy, healthcare systems, and social service networks as a larger share of the population will require support without contributing directly to the labor force if older North Central Texans retire at or before traditional retirement ages.

While population growth often brings economic benefits, these benefits are not always evenly distributed. Those who are financially secure may enjoy a wide range of economic and social benefits, but individuals with low incomes are often left behind. An analysis of housing options

underscores this disparity, showing that the region's older adults with greatest economic need may struggle to keep a roof over their heads, despite a flurry of homebuilding activity.

In late 2025, housing starts in the North Central Texas area were dominated by Class A luxury units, reflecting a focus on high-end development. At the state level, there remained only 25 affordable housing units for every 100 households in need. None of the public housing authorities in the North Central Texas service area was accepting applications for housing vouchers in late 2025, and the average wait for an affordable unit was more than two years.

Older North Central Texans in need of assisted living had 290 facilities from which to choose in late 2025. However, all but seven were private-pay only. Even among these seven facilities, the number of Medicaid-designated beds was limited. Similarly, the region offered 64 retirement communities, including continuing care retirement communities, but only one participated in Medicaid. Further, this community reserved its few Medicaid beds for current residents who had depleted their savings.

In addition to uneven benefits, robust growth presents challenges related to urbanization and infrastructure needs. It fuels demand for transportation, housing, water supply, and public services that may exceed available resources. Further, such rapid growth often exacerbates air quality issues, with the region already facing difficulties in meeting federal standards. This growth also intensifies congestion on major transportation arteries, contributing to persistent gridlock and further straining the region's infrastructure.

#### Advisory Council Composition

The Regional Aging Advisory Committee (RAAC) is structured to ensure representation from each of the 14 counties within its PSA, with each county entitled to two seats. When all vacancies are filled, RAAC consists of 28 members.

Preference for committee membership is given to older adults, who must comprise at least half of all members. Additionally, the committee is encouraged to include representatives of older persons, health care provider organizations, and/or supportive service provider organizations; persons with leadership experience in the private and voluntary sectors; local elected officials; and the general public.

The Director of Aging Programs is charged with securing nominations for RAAC membership and presenting them to the NCTCOG Executive Board for approval. Nominations are first sought from county judges, who have the right to first refusal. If county judges do not provide nominees, the Director conducts outreach to NCTAAA subrecipients (e.g., providers of home-delivered meal services) and solicits recommendations from NCTAAA staff.

The NCTCOG's Executive Board reviews all nominations and makes appointments. The Board takes action at least annually to appoint new members and approve the slate of RAAC officers, who serve one-year terms with the option to serve up to two years in the same role. Additional appointments are made as needed to fill vacancies.

After RAAC members are appointed, the Director of Aging Programs screens them for conflicts of interest, conducts new member orientation, and serves as their primary staff contact. The Director also collaborates with the committee chair to develop the agendas for quarterly meetings and facilitates those meetings. Since the 2020 public health emergency, RAAC meetings have been conducted virtually.

RAAC members' primary responsibilities include assisting the NCTAAA in developing and implementing this area plan, advocating for the interests of older persons and family caregivers, and providing feedback on policies that impact older North Central Texans. In addition, the NCTAAA invites RAAC members to assist with local outreach.

As of February 2026, all counties within the NCTAAA PSA had representation by at least one member. However, two counties (Erath and Wise) had only one representative, leaving one seat unfilled at the county level and two seats at the regional level.

## Stewardship & Oversight

**Reference: [OAA of 1965, as amended through P.L. 116-131 \(3/25/2020\), & 45 CFR 1321.59](#)**

The NCTAAA establishes policies and procedures to ensure that Older Americans Act (OAA) programs are administered in full compliance with federal and state requirements. In doing so, it acts as a good steward of OAA funds that are entrusted to its care. The agency leverages the extensive tenure and expertise of its key staff, who possess deep understanding of relevant rules and regulations. Further, the NCTAAA benefits from the support of NCTCOG administrative staff, who provide technical assistance and oversight without charging their time directly to the OAA.

The NCTAAA's commitment to positive stewardship is reflected in its efforts to maintain strong administrative and fiscal controls, perform quality assurance activities, uphold consumer rights, and diversify revenue streams to expand program impact. The following are specific actions the NCTAAA takes relative to each category of positive stewardship.

### Administrative and Fiscal Controls

The NCTAAA ensures strong administrative and fiscal controls by maintaining exceptionally experienced staff and implementing policies that are grounded in a deep understanding of federal and state requirements.

The NCTAAA experiences minimal turnover, most often related to retirement, resulting in highly tenured staff. Senior Case Manager Angela Powell and Director of Aging Programs Doni Green have served in their roles since 1996. Across the NCTAAA, all managers' tenure ranges from 10 to 27 years, while case managers have between three years to 29 years of experience, reflecting a wealth of institutional knowledge.

NCTCOG employs an interdisciplinary approach to grant management, ensuring that key program staff possess a working knowledge of grant management procedures. For example, Doni Green has completed a two-day intensive on 2 CRF 200. Similarly, NCTCOG expects its fiscal staff to maintain a high-level understanding of programmatic requirements, ensuring seamless coordination between fiscal and programmatic operations.

The NCTAAA benefits from being part of a large Council of Governments, with more than 400 employees, and having access to an administrative team of more than 50 professionals. Among these, two administrative employees—the Fiscal Manager, Shanda Palacio, and Senior Accountant, Thanh- Dai Vo—charge their time directly to the NCTAAA. Their work includes developing OAA budgets, requesting reimbursement from HHSC, issuing reimbursement to NCTAAA subrecipients and contractors, preparing fiscal reports, and working with NCTAAA program staff to reconcile fiscal and program data. In addition to administrative staff who charge their time to the OAA, several other NCTCOG administrative staff provide critical support to NCTAAA functions, either without charging their time to the OAA or allocating a nominal portion of their time through NCTCOG's indirect rate. Key administrative staff with active engagement include:

- NCTCOG Controller (Maggie Lira): Supervises the Fiscal Manager, reviews and approves budgets and requests for reimbursement, participates in all subrecipients' rate-setting and performs testing of subrecipients' expenses to verify expense data, contributes to the Subrecipient Pre-Award Risk Assessment scoring and development of mitigating controls, reviews subrecipient monitoring reports, and performs other fiscal functions on an as-needed basis.
- NCTCOG General Counsel (Ken Kirkpatrick): Reviews legal documents (e.g., subrecipient agreements, amendments, extensions, and Calls for Projects) and provides legal advice on an as-needed basis.
- NCTCOG Assistant Counsel (James Powell): Reviews all Executive Board resolutions.
- NCTCOG Procurement Team (Craig Johnson, Brent Moll, and Christopher Calhoun): Leads fair, open, and competitive procurements for all contract expenditures of \$100,000 or more, helps obtain competing bids for expenditures of less than \$100,000, provides procurement-related technical assistance, coordinates proposal review, and prepares and issues contracts, as authorized by the NCTCOG Executive Board.
- NCTCOG Compliance Staff (attorney Lisa Rascoe): Serves as the Title VI Coordinator, coordinating departments' nondiscrimination policies under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, and investigates all ethics-related complaints.
- NCTCOG Human Resources Staff (Carmen Morones, Marcos Nunez, Amy Cornell, Denise Brown-Anderson, and Fran Lacey) support recruitment, employee training and professional development, and personnel-related matters.

The NCTAAA documents its programmatic and fiscal policies in writing and amends them as necessary to reflect changes in federal or state guidance. It also develops procedures that describe specific steps required to implement these policies effectively. During Fiscal Year 2025, the NCTAAA underwent an administrative policy review that resulted in no findings. Key policies, including those related to gathering consumer satisfaction data, collecting and reporting program income, assessing subrecipient risk, conducting subrecipient monitoring, and ensuring subrecipients have sufficient outreach plans, were reviewed by HHSC and found to be compliant.

### Quality Assurance Activities

The NCTAAA implements the following measures to ensure that its services are administered in compliance with federal and state requirements.

- **Staff Training and Knowledge:** All staff are required to be familiar with relevant provisions of the Older Americans Act, Texas Administrative Code, OAA Handbook, HHSC Desk Guide, and program-specific requirements.
- **Client Satisfaction Surveys:** The NCTAAA regularly collects satisfaction data from clients, utilizing program-specific tools. It surveys 100% of participants in its Care Coordination, Caregiver Support Coordination, Evidence-Based Intervention, Instruction and Training, Caregiver Training, and Caregiver Information Services. For all other services, whether provided directly by NCTCOG or through subrecipients, it conducts a statistically valid random sample. It uses feedback gathered to provide insight into provider-specific issues, identify trends, resolve concerns, and guide program improvements.
- **Subrecipient Risk Management:** Before entering into agreements with subrecipients, the NCTAAA conducts the Subrecipient Pre-Award Risk Assessment Survey, develops mitigating controls as necessary, and provides training and technical assistance. It conducts regular desk reviews and on-site reviews at least once during the agreement period of performance. If it identifies compliance issues, it may require subrecipients to develop and implement corrective action plans, receive targeted technical assistance, and/or undergo more detailed monitoring.
- **Data Management and Oversight:** To ensure accurate and compliant data management, the NCTAAA supports a database administrator and employs a database specialist. The specialist is responsible for entering client data into the statewide

database for subrecipients and contractors without direct access; auditing Care Coordination and Caregiver Support Coordination cases to ensure all required documents have been completed; running special reports of direct and pass-through services to flag any missing data or potential eligibility violations (e.g., consumer age of less than 60); and reconciling programmatic data with expenditure data. In early 2026, it was preparing to onboard a temporary employee who will assist with the conversion from WellSky to PeerPlace and provide back-up to the three NCTCOG staff who have data management responsibilities.

These quality assurance activities reflect NCTAAA's commitment to maintaining high standards of service delivery, compliance, and continuous improvement.

### Consumer Rights

Clients of all registered services (including Home-Delivered Meals, Congregate Meals, Demand-Response Transportation, Care Coordination, Caregiver Support Coordination, and Legal Assistance) receive written notice of their Participant Rights and Consumer Rights. If clients have questions or believe their rights have been violated, they are directed to contact the NCTAAA program director. The director or her designee is responsible for investigating complaints, communicating the outcomes to clients, and reporting complaints to HHSC as required.

Additionally, all NCTAAA direct service staff receive training on elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation, as well as their mandatory reporting requirements under Texas Human Resources Code 510.46. This ensures staff are equipped to recognize and respond appropriately to any concerns regarding client safety and well-being.

### Diversified Revenue

As the gap between OAA funding and demand has grown, the NCTAAA has been diligent in seeking and securing other revenue sources. Discretionary grants that have been awarded to the NCTCOG for the benefit of the Aging program include the following:

- **Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) Grant**, awarded by HHSC in Fiscal Year 2025, with options to renew for up to four consecutive years. This funding supports two Information and Benefits Specialists who provide information and referral specific to

long-term services and supports; help arrange community-based services for those preparing for discharge from hospitals, rehabilitation facilities, and nursing facilities; and provide information about affordable, integrated, and accessible housing. ADRC staff provide back-up to the NCTAAA Information, Referral, and Assistance staff.

- **Grants to Increase Local Dementia Support (GILDS):** The GILDS grant was awarded by the Texas Department of State Health Services during State Fiscal Year 2025, with option to renew for up to four consecutive years. GILDS funding enables the NCTAAA to maintain three dementia-capable staff who provide information, referral, training, and consultation to people living with dementia and their family caregivers.
- **Alzheimer’s Disease Programs Initiative Community Health Worker Grant:** Awarded in October 2025, this cooperative agreement has a three-year period of performance. Funding allows the NCTAAA to conduct dementia training for community health workers, screen older persons for possible dementia, make referrals for accurate diagnosis, screen both persons living with dementia and their family caregivers for depression, and provide dementia-capable counseling to people living with dementia and their family caregivers.
- **Managed Care Organizational Contracts:** The NCTAAA has contracts with Molina Health Care, United Healthcare of Texas, and WellPoint to assist their members residing in nursing homes with transition back to community living.
- **Veterans Administration Contract:** Through this contract, the NCTAA serves as an Aging and Disability Network Agency, implementing the Veteran Directed Care program across the 14-county service area.
- **Better Business Bureau Grant:** These funds allow the NCTAAA to provide Senior Medicare Patrol services and educate beneficiaries about preventing, detecting, and reporting fraudulent Medicare activity.
- **WellMed Charitable Foundation Grant:** This grant supports the NCTAAA’s delivery of evidence-based programs, including A Matter of Balance and Tai Chi for Arthritis and Fall Prevention.

## Key Topic Areas

**Reference:** [45 CFR 1321.65\(b\)\(5\)](#), [45 CFR 1321.65\(b\)\(2\)](#), & [45 CFR 1321.65\(c\)](#)

The NCTAAA invests Older Americans Act and Texas Health and Human Services Commission funds in the following services.

### Core Program Area 1: Supportive Services

“Supportive services” are defined as those funded by the Older Americans Act Title III-B. The NCTAAA proposes to support the following services with these funds during the planning period:

- **Area Agency Administration:** NCTAAA staff persons Christine Tran, Doni Green, Dena Boyd, Diane McCoy, Roger Williamson, Dai Vo, and Shanda Palacio provide essential administrative support functions, as described in HHSC’s “Service Definitions for Area Agencies on Aging.” These include advocating for older people in the service area (Green), evaluating regional strengths and local resources (Green), identifying service gaps (Green), developing and implementing an area plan (Green), procuring services funded with federal and state funds (Green, in coordination with NCTCOG’s procurement team), negotiating and managing contracts (Green and Palacio), processing contractor invoices (Tran, Williamson, and Vo), reporting (Boyd, McCoy, Williamson, Vo, and Palacio), reimbursing subrecipients (Vo and Palacio), accounting (Vo and Palacio), auditing (Palacio), monitoring (Palacio and Green), and quality assurance (Green, Palacio, Boyd, and McCoy). Other essential duties include providing technical assistance to subrecipients (Green) and ensuring that in-house and pass-through services form a coordinated network (Green).
- **Care Coordination:** NCTAAA staff members Cathy Stump, Kim Marckmann, Marsha Hayford, and Angela Powell provide Care Coordination services to clients in their assigned counties. In addition, contractors Kim Morgan and Jayne Doyle provide back-up if referrals exceed staff capacity.

HHSC defines Care Coordination as “a service to assess the needs of an older person and effectively plan, arrange, coordinate, and follow up on services which most appropriately meet the identified needs, as mutually defined by the older person, the [care coordination] staff, and where appropriate, a family member or other caregiver.”

As the NCTAAA prepares to enter the Fiscal Years 2027-2029 planning period, it has structured its Care Coordination program as a three-month intervention. Staff and contract case managers assess the needs of older adults and arrange short-term services that support clients' goals. Subject to funding availability, they use Title III-B funds to purchase services, including emergency response, residential repair, health maintenance, homemaker services, personal assistance, and transportation. They also work to identify and arrange services that may provide ongoing assistance.

Since the NCTAAA consistently has greater demand for Care Coordination (and services authorized through Care Coordination) than its funding allows, it has developed targeting criteria consistent with the Older Americans Act (OAA). The OAA specifies specific populations who should receive priority for services, including older adults with greatest economic need, greatest social need, and frailty. The NCTAAA has developed indicators for each population and developed screening criteria that give them priority consideration.

As of January 2026, the screening criteria are as follows. To receive Care Coordination services, a person must be age-eligible and meet at least 4 of the 5 screening criteria.

- Low income, no more than 150% of the poverty level (\$1,995 per month for a single individual and \$2,705 per month for married couples);
  - Difficulty with three or more daily activities (i.e., getting out of bed or a chair, walking, dressing, bathing, eating, grooming, and toileting);
  - Recent stay in a hospital, emergency department, rehabilitation facility, or skilled nursing facility;
  - Severe health condition, with need for regular assistance; and
  - Absence of support from family or friends .
- **Data Management:** HHSC defines Data Management as “activities directly related to data entry and reporting for services not directly provided by the AAA.” In addition, it includes “validation of complete and accurate data in the HHSC statewide system.” The NCTAAA has two staff members who charge a small percentage of their time to Data Management. The Aging Database Administrator (Dena Boyd) trains subrecipient employees to conduct data entry, validates data they enter into the statewide database, and prepares annual and quarterly performance reports. The Aging Data Program Specialist (Diane McCoy) enters subrecipients' and contractors' data into the statewide

database and performs quality assurance activities in support of annual and quarterly reporting to HHSC.

- **Emergency Response:** Emergency Response Services provide homebound older adults with automatic monitoring systems that link to emergency medical services. These services are authorized on a temporary basis through Care Coordination and Caregiver Support Coordination Services. The systems are installed and monitored by one or more competitively procured contractors, as authorized by the case manager.
- **Evidence-Based Intervention.** Title III-B funds are used to expand preventive health services, supplementing limited Title III-D funds. For more details, please refer to the section entitled "Core Program 3: Evidence-Based Prevention and Health Promotion Services."
- **Health Maintenance:** NCTAAA case managers may authorize Health Maintenance services based on client needs identified through assessments for Care Coordination and Caregiver Support Coordination services. As defined by HHSC's Service Definitions, these services are broad in scope and may include medical treatment by health professionals, health education and counseling, home health services, and provision of medications, nutritional supplements, glasses, dentures, hearing aids, or other devices necessary to promote or maintain the health or safety of the older person. Frequently authorized items include incontinence supplies, durable medical equipment (e.g., elevated toilet seats, transfer benches, shower chairs), and grab bars. To ensure compliance with HHSC guidelines and maintain cost efficiency, the majority of these goods are procured through a competitively selected contractor, McKesson.
- **Homemaker Services (including Homemaker Voucher):** As defined by HHSC, Homemaker Services are "provided by trained and supervised homemakers involving the performance of light housekeeping tasks and home management tasks including meal preparation, escort, and shopping." NCTAAA case managers may authorize these services based on identified client needs. Clients are given the option of utilizing one of the NCTAAA's competitively procured provider agencies or selecting their own provider, subject to a few restrictions. They include paying oneself, paying a relative who lives in the home, and/or paying someone who does not have authorization to work in the U.S.

To ensure comprehensive service delivery, the NCTAAA conducts competitive procurement to establish a comprehensive network of Homemaker provider agencies. As of early 2026, each county in the service area had coverage by at least three agencies, allowing clients opportunities for choice.

- **Income Support:** As outlined by HHSC, Income Support is defined as “assistance in the form of payment to a third-party provider for services or goods that support the basic needs of the person, on behalf of an older person or his/her caregiver.” This service is available to clients of the Care Coordination and Caregiver Support Coordination who are experiencing financial hardship and require assistance with essential needs. The most frequently provided form of support is assistance with utility bills, with a maximum benefit of \$500 per client. In less common instances, the NCTAAA may make payment directly to health care professionals for services rendered to clients who are uninsured or under-insured.
- **Information, Referral, and Assistance:** This service involves a comprehensive process to address callers’ needs. It includes assessing the caller’s situation, identifying organizations capable of meeting those needs, and providing sufficient information about each organization to help inquirers make an informed choice. Staff members follow up with a random sample of callers to determine whether the referrals were appropriate and services were received.

The NCTAAA relies on one staff person (Kiowanda Jasso) to provide Information, Referral, and Assistance Services. She is supported by two staff members from the Aging and Disability Resource Center. Additionally, most NCTAAA employees participate in this effort by serving as “phone buddies” at least one day per month, fielding incoming calls to help ensure callers get timely responses.

- **Instruction and Training:** Per HHSC service definitions, Instruction and Training activities “provide experience or knowledge with older people to acquire skills in formal or informal individual or group settings.”

These activities are an essential part of NCTAA’s efforts to support older adults and caregivers. NCTAAA provides Instruction and Training as both a direct service and a pass-through service, working with subrecipients who applied for funding through a 2021 Call for Projects. The resulting multi-year agreements will terminate on September 30, 2026. The NCTAAA plans to issue a new Call for Projects in Spring 2026 and execute agreements for services during Fiscal Years 2027-2031.

- **Legal Assistance:** Please refer to the section entitled “Core Program 5: Legal Assistance” below for a detailed description of NCTAAA legal assistance activities.
- **Legal Awareness:** Please refer to the section entitled “Core Program 5: Legal Assistance” below for a detailed description of legal awareness activities.

- **Ombudsman:** Please refer to the section entitled “Core Program 6: Ombudsman Services” for a detailed description of ombudsman activities.
- **Personal Assistance Services:** Case managers may authorize these services for older clients who need assistance with at least three activities of daily living (i.e., transferring from bed or chair, walking, bathing/showering, dressing, grooming, toileting, and feeding). They provide essential support with tasks that individuals would typically perform independently if able.

To meet client needs, NCTAAA case managers may authorize the service through one of the NCTAAA’s 14 provider agencies. All provider agencies are required to submit applications through a Request for Proposals (RfP) process. Responsive proposals are reviewed and recommended for funding by NCTCOG reviewers, and the NCTCOG Executive Board must take action if the lifetime value of all contracts under the RfP exceeds \$100,000.

- **Public Information Services:** This service is intended to increase awareness about resources and services for older adults and their caregivers. Per the HHSC Service Definitions, activities include sharing information at senior fairs, distributing publications, answering questions, and launching targeted mass media campaigns, including targeted internet-based outreach.

To support these efforts, NCTAAA contracts with Sheryl Ross, who develops and distributes a monthly eblast, promoting services. The director is also charged with making at least monthly updates to the website, located at: <https://nctcog.org/aging-services>, and uses analytics to track and report visitor activity as part of programmatic reporting. Additionally, NCTAAA staff who attend health and information fairs may charge their time and travel to Public Information Services and report their activity accordingly.

- **Residential Repair:** HHSC defines Residential Repair Services broadly as “repairs or modifications of a dwelling occupied by an older person that are essential for the health and safety of the older person.” Due to funding limitations, the NCTAAA focuses almost exclusively on accessibility-related modifications.

NCTAA case managers may authorize residential repairs for clients in the Care Coordination and Caregiver Support Coordination programs. Two competitively procured contractors carry out these repairs and typically include projects such as installing wheelchair ramps, widening bathroom doorways, and installing grab bars and handrails. The process begins with the case manager determining the scope of work, which is

documented in a Residential Repair Agreement. The client must sign the Agreement before work is initiated. Once the work is completed, clients are asked to sign a Certification of Successful Residential Repair Completion to confirm their satisfaction with the repair.

All contractors are selected through a Request for Proposals process. They are required to have a working knowledge of Americans with Disabilities Act design standards and must document their work with “before” and “after” photos to ensure compliance with the defined scope of work.

- **Transportation (Demand Response):** Demand Response transportation provides older adults with scheduled rides from specific origins to specific destinations, tailored to their individual needs. Rides must be scheduled in advance.

In 2024, the NCTAAA conducted a Call for Projects to establish a network of nine subrecipients to provide transportation services. Collectively, these subrecipients serve 12 of 14 counties in the North Central Texas service area. During the most recent Call for Projects, no entities applied to serve Johnson County, although the City of Cleburne serves as the public transportation provider and assists older Johnson County residents. Similarly, the NCTAAA did not fund proposals for service in Navarro County, although Community Services, Incorporated continues to provide public transportation for county residents.

Fiscal Years 2027 - 2029 Transportation subrecipients and their service areas are Meals on Wheels of Collin County (Collin County); SPAN (Denton County); STAR Transit (Ellis, Kaufman, and Rockwall Counties); Erath County Senior Citizens Services, Inc. (Erath County); Hood County Committee on Aging (Hood County); Senior Center Resources and Public Transit (Hunt County); Public Transit Services, Inc. (Palo Pinto and Parker Counties); Somervell County Committee on Aging (Somervell County); and Wise County Committee on Aging (Wise County).

Transportation subrecipients are required to serve their entire counties and may provide out-of-county transportation as their resources allow. In addition, the NCTAAA contracts with The Transit System to provide transportation to residents of Hood and Somervell Counties who require travel out of county for critical healthcare services. Such transportation must be authorized by an NCTAAA case manager.

## Core Program 2: Nutrition Services—Congregate Meals, Grab and Go Meals, and Home Delivered Meals

The NCTAAA utilizes Title III-C funds to support the following nutrition services that promote health, social engagement, and independence for older adults:

- **Congregate Meals:** As defined by HHSC, Congregate Meals are “a hot or other appropriate meal served to an older person who is eligible in a congregate setting (e.g., community centers, schools, restaurants, faith-based locations, and other community gathering places).” Beyond providing nutritious meals, these programs offer opportunities for social engagement, learning, and volunteering.

To deliver these services, the NCTAAA conducted a Call for Projects in 2024 to establish a network of Congregate Meal subrecipients. As of January 2026, its subrecipients are Meals on Wheels of Collin County (Collin County), SPAN (Denton County), Hood County Committee on Aging (Hood County), Senior Center Resources and Public Transit (Hunt County), Senior Connect (Kaufman County), Parker County Committee on Aging (Parker County), Meals on Wheels Senior Services (Rockwall County), Wise County Committee on Aging (Wise County), and Meals on Wheels of Tarrant County (serving eligible people in North Central Texas counties who travel to Tarrant County senior centers).

In total, the NCTAAA funds Congregate Meal Services in 9 of its 14 counties. As of January 2026, Ellis, Erath, Johnson, Navarro, and Palo Pinto Counties did not have meal sites. However, Meals on Wheels North Central Texas was working to open a site in Keene (Johnson County), anticipated to open in early 2026.

Congregate Meal subrecipients are responsible for all aspects of program delivery, including assessing the needs of prospective participants, preparing and serving meals, and reporting programmatic activity. Some subrecipients provide congregate meals directly, while others partner with subcontractors, such as local governments that manage meal sites. The NCTAAA actively monitors subrecipients for compliance with program requirements and provides technical assistance to ensure high-quality service delivery.

- **Congregate Meals-Grab and Go:** Since October 2025, HHSC has allowed the provision of Congregate Meals through a “grab and go” model. This model enables age-eligible participants (i.e., those who are at least 60 years of age and/or are married to someone who’s at least 60 years of age) to pick up meals or have them delivered for off-site consumption. To maintain the program’s social engagement goals, participants must

receive an in-person, phone, or virtual live interaction, ideally occurring when the meal is being consumed.

As of December 2025, five subrecipients had chosen to participate or were considering participation in the grab-and-go model. They consist of SPAN (Denton County), Meals on Wheels of Palo Pinto County (Palo Pinto County), Meals on Wheels North Central Texas (Ellis, Johnson, and Navarro Counties), Meals on Wheels Senior Services (Rockwall County); and Somervell County Committee on Aging (Somervell County).

Since the NCTAAA pays for all eligible meals that are served through the traditional model (having all participants attend a congregate site during mealtime) introducing the grab-and-go model will not detract from Congregate Meals. Rather, grab-and-go meals will complement the traditional approach by enabling subrecipients to serve a wider range of participants, including those who are unable or prefer not to visit a congregate site.

All nutrition subrecipients are contractually required to create and implement outreach plans that target older adults with the greatest economic need and social needs. In addition, they bear responsibility for developing policies and procedures, consistent with HHSC guidance, and communicating to the public about the initiative.

NCTAAA will monitor subrecipients who implement the grab-and-go model, ensuring the programs meet all HHSC requirements, including providing face-to-face or virtual socialization. Additional oversight measures include requiring subrecipients to conduct participant satisfaction surveys; conducting its own satisfaction survey; and ensuring that no more than 25% of all congregate meal expenses are allocated to grab-and-go meals.

- **Home-Delivered Meals:** HHSC defines Home-Delivered Meals as “hot, cold, frozen, dried, canned, fresh or supplemental food (with a satisfactory storage life), delivered to an eligible person in his/her place of residence.” Generally, eligible participants must be at least 60 years of age, though spouses of any age and Home-Delivered volunteers may also participate.

In Spring 2024, the NCTAAA launched a Call for Projects to establish a network of 12 Home-Delivered Meal subrecipients, ensuring coverage across the entire 14-county Planning and Service Area. The resulting agreements are in effect from Fiscal Years 2025 through 2029.

Home-Delivered Meal subrecipients and their coverage areas are as follows: Meals on Wheels of Collin County (Collin County), SPAN (Denton County), Meals on Wheels North Central Texas (Ellis, Johnson, and Navarro Counties), Erath County Senior Citizens Services, Inc. (Erath County), Hood County Committee on Aging (Hood County), Senior Center Resources and Public Transit (Hunt County), Senior Connect (Kaufman County), Meals on Wheels of Palo Pinto County, Inc. (Palo Pinto County), Parker County Committee on Aging (Parker County), Meals on Wheels Senior Services (Rockwall County), Somervell County Committee on Aging (Somervell County), and Wise County Committee on Aging (Wise County),

Under their agreements, subrecipients are responsible for all aspects of service delivery, including conducting program outreach, assessing clients for eligibility, preparing and serving meals, and reporting program activity. The NCTAAA supports subrecipients by providing training and technical assistance, negotiating unit rates, processing reimbursements, performing quality assurance, and conducting program monitoring to ensure compliance and effectiveness.

- **Nutrition Education:** All NCTAAA nutrition subrecipients are required to provide Nutrition Education Services to participants of the Congregate Meal and Home-Delivered Meal programs. According to HHSC Service Definitions, Nutrition Education is defined as “the provision of information to an older person to promote nutritional well-being and to delay the onset of adverse health conditions resulting from poor nutritional health or sedentary behavior.”

To support its subrecipients, the NCTAAA conducted a Request for Proposals (RFP) for development of a Nutrition Education curriculum. A Texas AgriLife dietitian was awarded a contract to develop a comprehensive nutrition education curriculum and participant handouts. Subrecipients have the option to use the curriculum but are not obligated to do so. If they choose to use the curriculum, they must complete online training.

The AgriLife curriculum is designed to align with the Determine Your Nutritional Health assessment tool, which consists of 10 targeted questions. For each positive response, the assessor provides the participant with a fact sheet addressing the specific topic (e.g., eating alone or managing multiple medications) and engages in a discussion to address any concerns the participant may have.

The NCTAAA offers subrecipients flexibility in how they manage the costs of providing Nutrition Education. Subrecipients may choose to be reimbursed for Nutrition

Education as a separate service or include its costs in the calculation of unit rates for Congregate Meals and Home-Delivered Meals. Regardless of the reimbursement methodology, all subrecipients are required to provide at least one annual nutrition education session and document the delivery of this service accordingly.

- **Participant Assessment:** Participant Assessment involves “activities directly related to the initial assessment and required reassessment of an older person for congregate and home-delivered meals.” This service includes completing all forms necessary to determine eligibility, including the Participant Intake, Consumer Needs Evaluation (CNE) for Home-Delivered Meal participants, Determination of Meal Type for Home-Delivered Meal participants who receive meals that are not hot, and Determine Your Nutritional Health for all Congregate and Home-Delivered Meal participants. Participants receiving ongoing services must be reassessed at least annually, within 30 days of their anniversary dates.

The NCTAAA offers subrecipients flexibility in managing the cost of Participant Assessment Services. Subrecipients may choose to be reimbursed separately for Participant Assessment Services or include assessment costs in the unit rates for Congregate Meal and Home-Delivered Meal services. Regardless of the reimbursement methodology, all subrecipients are contractually obligated to either gather or procure the necessary participant assessment data and ensure it is available for review upon request by NCTCOG. As part of its oversight responsibilities, NCTCOG conducts on-site reviews of subrecipients, examining a random sample of client files for completeness and accuracy. Additionally, NCTCOG utilizes special reports to identify active participants who have not undergone an assessment in over 12 months, ensuring compliance with program requirements.

### Core Program 3: Evidence-Based Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Services

An evidence-based program is one that has been scientifically tested and proven effective through rigorous research and evaluation. These programs rely on empirical evidence—data collected from controlled studies, peer-reviewed research, or systematic evaluations—to demonstrate that they have achieved their intended outcomes. In Texas, evidence-based programs supported by Older Americans Act funds must be approved by HHSC.

The NCTAAA receives less than \$200,000 per annum in Title III-D funds to support its suite of seven evidence-based programs. Driven by its strong commitment to preventive health, the

NCTAAA supplements Title III-D funds with Title III-B funds and local cash contributions (e.g., a WellMed fall prevention grant) to expand the programs' reach.

The NCTAAA allocates Title III-D and Title III-B funds to support the following evidence-based programs.

- **A Matter of Balance (AMoB):** AMoB consists of eight consecutive two-hour workshops for small groups of older adults. Developed by Maine Health, the curriculum focuses on overcoming the fear of falling and taking proactive steps to avoid falls. The program is coordinated by staff member Kim Mathis and supported by approximately 20 volunteers, including Texas AgriLife staff and Master Wellness Volunteers, as well as staff of Texas Health, Medical City, and Methodist hospital systems.
- **Chronic Disease Self-Management Program (CDSMP):** The Chronic Disease Self-Management Program is designed to help older adults manage ongoing health conditions and improve their overall quality of life. Developed by Stanford University, the program consists of six 2.5-hour workshops that encourage interactive discussions and activities. Participants learn practical skills such as managing medications, eating healthily, reducing stress, communicating effectively with healthcare providers and family members, and evaluating new treatments. The program also supports participants in creating personalized action plans to address their specific health goals.

The program is coordinated by Kim Mathis and supported by seven volunteers, including AgriLife staff, Master Wellness Volunteers, and Texas Health staff. Workshops are led by two lay leaders who have completed at least 24 hours of pre-service training to ensure effective facilitation and participant engagement.

- **Chronic Pain Self-Management Program (CPSMP):** The Chronic Pain Self-Management Program is a specialized adaptation of the Chronic Disease Self-Management Program, designed to help older adults manage chronic pain effectively. The program consists of six 2.5-hour workshops for small groups, focusing on strategies to improve quality of life despite ongoing pain. The program is coordinated by Kim Mathis and supported by two volunteers, including AgriLife agents, Master Wellness Volunteers, and Texas Health staff. Workshops are facilitated by two lay leaders who have completed the Chronic Disease Self-Management Program training, along with an additional 9-11 hours of crossover training specific to chronic pain management.
- **Diabetes Self-Management Program (DSMP):** The Diabetes Self-Management Program is a specialized adaptation of the Chronic Disease Self-Management Program,

tailored to help older adults manage diabetes and improve their overall health. It consists of six 2.5-hour workshops that provide participants with tools and strategies to manage their condition effectively. The program is coordinated by Kim Mathis and supported by four volunteers. Workshops are facilitated by two lay leaders who have completed the Chronic Disease Self-Management Program training, along with an additional 9-11 hours of diabetes-specific crossover training.

- **Tai Chi for Arthritis and Fall Prevention (TCAFP):** TCAFP is designed to help older adults, with or without arthritis, reduce pain, improve balance, and strengthen muscles, thereby lowering the risk of falls. Additional benefits include enhanced relaxation, vitality, posture, and immune system function. The program consists of 16-20 one-hour classes, which can be held twice a week for 8-10 consecutive weeks or once a week for 16-20 weeks, offering flexibility to meet participants' needs.

The program is coordinated by Kim Mathis and supported by four volunteers. All instructors, including staff and volunteers, are required to complete at least 40 hours of pre-service training and practice to ensure high-quality instruction and participant safety.

- **Program to Encourage Active, Rewarding Lives (PEARLS):** Developed by the University of Washington, the PEARLS program provides supportive counseling to older adults experiencing depression or persistent sadness. The program consists of seven one-on-one sessions, delivered face-to-face and/or or virtually. It focuses on helping participants develop plans to engage in meaningful activities that enhance their well-being.

The NCTAAA department director manages referrals for the program, ensuring that participants meet inclusion criteria, including having symptoms of depression, no active suicidal ideation, cognitive capacity to engage in action planning, and willingness to participate. Eligible individuals are referred to the program's competitively procured counselor, Dr. DeWanda Harris Trimiar, who delivers the intervention. To maintain program fidelity, Harris Trimiar undergoes monthly supervision provided by the Women's Center of Tarrant County.

In Summer 2025, the NCTAAA applied for and was awarded one of five nationwide grants from the Administration for Community Living (ACL) to expand the PEARLS program. Through ACL's Alzheimer's Program Disease Initiative, the NCTAAA will adapt the PEARLS program to serve individuals living with early-stage dementia and their family caregivers. In collaboration with the program's developers at the University of Washington, the NCTAA will create a supplemental curriculum tailored to these

populations. Once finalized, the program will utilize community health workers, including Harris Trimiari, to screen older adults for dementia and depression, as well as caregivers for depression. Those who meet the program's criteria and agree to participate will be offered the adapted intervention.

The ACL grant, totaling \$750,000 over three years, will enable the NCTAAA to pilot this innovative approach to providing dementia-capable counseling to two high-risk populations. Research indicates that up to 30% of individuals living with dementia and up to 60% of caregivers for family members with dementia experience depression, underscoring the critical need for this expanded program.

- **Resources for Enhancing Alzheimer's Caregiver Health (REACH-TX):** Established in 1995, the Resources for Enhancing Alzheimer's Caregiver Health (REACH) program is a unique, multisite research initiative sponsored by the National Institute on Aging and the National Institute on Nursing Research. It is designed to support informal caregivers of individuals with Alzheimer's disease by addressing their specific needs through tailored education and support. Trained interventionists conduct a comprehensive caregiver assessment to identify priority needs. Based on this assessment, they develop a personalized plan covering topics such as maintaining home safety, using social support effectively, managing stress and engaging in enjoyable activities, understanding and addressing emotions, communicating skillfully, relating memory problems to behaviors, and organizing legal and medical affairs. Additionally, all participants receive resources to further support their caregiving journey.

The NCTAAA employs two REACH interventionists: Jamie Harwell, who works with English-speaking caregivers, and Isabel Maria, who works with Spanish-speaking caregivers. Their salaries, along with other program expenses, are primarily funded by non-OAA formula-based revenues. These include competitive grant funds from the Administration for Community and a five-year Grants to Increase Local Dementia Support (GILDS) grant, awarded by the Texas Department of State Health Services.

#### Core Program Area 4: Family Caregiver Support Services

To meet its administrative responsibilities and respond to regional needs, the NCTAAA has chosen to invest its Title III-E funds in the following programs.

- **Area Agency Administration:** Administrative efforts ensure effective management and oversight of Title III-E agreements. Staff responsibilities providing technical assistance to

subrecipients, entering subrecipient data into WellSky, reimbursing subrecipients, and conducting monitoring and other necessary oversight activities. These tasks are carried out by NCTAAA staff members Christine Tran, Doni Green, Dena Boyd, Diane McCoy, Roger Williamson, Dai Vo, and Shanda Palacio.

- **Caregiver Counseling:** This service is designed to support caregivers by improving their emotional well-being and assisting them in their decision-making and problem-solving. The NCTAAA currently has an agreement with Maurice Barnett Geriatric Wellness Center to provide caregiver counseling to eligible individuals, with the agreement set to terminate on September 30, 2026. In Spring 2026, the NCTAA will issue a Call for Projects and accept applications for Title III-E funded projects, including Caregiver Counseling. Multi-year agreements will be awarded to successful applicants, with services beginning on October 1, 2026.

Additionally, the NCTAAA was awarded a competitive grant from the Administration for Community Living (ACL) in October 2025. The funding will allow the NCTAA to adapt the evidence-based counseling program known as Program to Encourage Active, Rewarding, Lives (PEARLS) to meet the needs of caregivers for family members with dementia who are experiencing depression. All program development and implementation costs will be covered by ACL.

- **Caregiver Information Services:** This service is defined by HHSC as providing for the “dissemination of accurate, timely, and relevant caregiver-related information through public group activities such as handing out publications, conducting group presentations, seminars, health fairs, and mass media.”

The NCTAAA has achieved distinction in the scope and quality of its Caregiver Information Services. Frequent presentations are delivered by staff members Jamie Harwell (Grant Manager) and Isabel Maria (Senior Case Manager) on topics including resources for family caregivers, respite programs for family caregivers, programs that consider family members as paid providers, managing caregiver stress, responding to dementia-related behaviors, and promoting brain health. These educational activities are supported by funding from HHSC, the Texas Department of State Health Services (through its Grants to Increase Local Dementia Support), and the Administration for Community Living (through its Alzheimer’s Disease Programs Initiative Grant).

In addition to supporting Caregiver Information Services directly, the NCTAAA allocates funding to subrecipients through a Call for Projects. During Fiscal Year 2026, subrecipients include the Alzheimer’s Association—Dallas and Northeast Texas

Chapter, Alzheimer’s Association—North Central Texas Chapter, James L. West Presbyterian Center for Dementia Care, Mascari Corporation, Meals on Wheels Senior Services of Rockwall County, and the Senior Source. A new Call for Projects will be launched in Spring 2026, with multi-year agreements, including Caregiver Information Services, taking effect October 1, 2026.

- **Caregiver Support Coordination:** The Caregiver Support Coordination program is designed to assess and address the needs of caregivers who meet specific screening criteria, ensuring they receive the support and resources necessary to manage their caregiving responsibilities. NCTAAA staff and contract case managers work closely with caregivers to develop written care plans that facilitate the purchase of short-term services from NCTCOG competitively procured contractors and other providers. Case managers also connect caregivers with ongoing support resources whenever available.

Case managers arrange services at NCTCOG’s expense, including Health Maintenance (usually consisting of the purchase of health-related goods and supplies, such as incontinence supplies and durable medical equipment that’s not covered by insurance), Income Support (usually consisting of payment on utility bills), Respite Care, and Emergency Response.

Through its Older Relatives program, the NCTAAA makes Caregiver Support Coordination Services available to caregivers who are at least 55 years of age and have primary custody of minors who are not their biological children. Custodial grandparents are the most common type of caregiver served through this program. In addition to authorizing standard Caregiver Support Coordination services, case managers may authorize funding for back-to-school clothing and supplies and provide respite care vouchers that can be used with daycare programs.

To ensure services are directed to those with the greatest need, the Caregiver Support Coordination program prioritizes caregivers who live with the care receiver, are the sole source of support for the dependent family member, care for family members with severe disabilities, care for family members who have recently been hospitalized or received therapy in rehabilitation facility, and/or have limited income or care for dependent family members with limited income.

- **Caregiver Training:** As of Fall 2025, the NCTAAA supports one Caregiver Training program: Resources for Enhancing Alzheimer’s Caregiver Health (REACH-TX). For a detailed program description, please refer to “Core Program Area 3: Evidence-Based

Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Program.” Certified interventionists Jamie Harwell and Isabel Maria deliver this program.

In Spring 2026, the NCTAAA will issue a Call for Projects inviting applicants to submit proposals for Caregiver Training Services.

- **Emergency Response:** Through the Caregiver Support Coordinator program, NCTAAA staff and contract case managers may authorize the short-term rental of personal emergency response devices for eligible clients. For a detailed service description, please refer to “Core Program Area 1: Supportive Services.” The NCTCOG utilizes competitively procured contractors to install and support the devices during the specified term of service. If clients qualify for Title XX services, funded by HHSC, case managers make appropriate referrals to ensure client needs are met after the term of service ends.
- **Health Maintenance:** NCTAAA staff and contract case managers may authorize the purchase of essential health-related goods and supplies for clients of the Caregiver Support Coordination program. These purchases are made at NCTCOG’s expense. For more details on service definitions, common health maintenance purchases, and provider information, please refer to “Core Program Area 1: Supportive Services”.
- **Income Support:** Through the Caregiver Support Coordination program, NCTAAA staff and contract case managers may assist caregivers by paying utility bills or making other essential purchases on the basis of documented client needs. For a detailed service definition and information on NCTAAA’s service delivery system, please refer to “Core Program Area 1: Supportive Services.”
- **Information, Referral and Assistance:** NCTAAA staff, particularly case managers who screen caregivers for Caregiver Support Coordination Services, provide Information, Referral and Assistance to family caregivers. For HHSC’s service definition and details on the NCTAAA’s delivery system, please refer to: “Core Program Area 1: Supportive Services.”
- **Residential Repair:** NCTAAA staff and contract case managers may authorize Residential Repair Services for caregivers enrolled in the Caregiver Support Coordination program. For a detailed service definition and information on the NCTAAA’s service delivery system, please refer to “Core Program Area 1: Supportive Services.”
- **Respite In-Home:** Respite In-Home, as defined by HHSC, provides “temporary services for an eligible dependent care recipient to relieve the primary caregiver. These services are delivered in a caregiver’s home or the care recipient’s home on a short-

term, temporary basis when the primary caregiver is unavailable or needs relief. In addition to supervision, services may include meal preparation, housekeeping, assistance with personal care, and social and recreational activities.” Per HHSC’s service definitions, an eligible older care recipient must be unable to perform a minimum of two activities of daily living (e.g., transferring, walking, bathing/showering, dressing, grooming, toileting, and feeding) or require substantial supervision due to a cognitive or other mental impairment.

NCTAAA staff and contract case managers authorize Respite In-Home services based on the results of the HHSC Caregiver Assessment tool. Eligible caregivers are given two options for receiving respite care; they may choose a provider agency contracted with NCTCOG or select an individual or agency of their own choosing. Caregivers who select their own providers are considered the employers of record and responsible for negotiating the provider’s rate of pay and work schedule. They are given broad flexibility in selecting paid providers, as long as they meet the following criteria: they are adults, do not live in the care recipient’s home, and have legal authorization to work. Further, caregivers cannot reimburse themselves through the Respite program.

- **Respite Out-of-Home:** NCTAAA staff and contract case managers occasionally authorize Out-of-Home Respite Services for eligible clients of the Caregiver Support Coordination program. According to HHSC, this service is defined as “temporary respite services provided in settings other than the caregiver or care recipient’s home, including activity and health services facility, senior center, or other non-residential setting (or, in the case of older relatives raising children, day camps) that allow the caregiver time away to do other activities and where an overnight stay does not occur.” As with in-home respite, the older care recipient must meet eligibility criteria, which include being unable to perform at least two activities of daily living or requiring substantial supervision due to a cognitive or other mental impairment that causes behaviors that jeopardize health or safety.
- **Respite Out-of-Home Overnight:** NCTAAA staff and contract case managers may authorize Respite Out-of-Home Overnight services for eligible clients of the Caregiver Support Coordination program. This service is defined as “temporary respite services provided in residential settings such as nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and adult foster homes (or, in the case of older relatives raising children, residential summer camps), in which the care receiver resides in the facility (temporarily) for a full 24-hour

period.” Among all Respite Services administered by the NCTAAA, Out-of-Home: Overnight is the least requested and utilized.

When NCTAAA case managers determine that respite care is appropriate, they work with caregivers to identify the most appropriate type of respite care: In-Home, Out-of-Home, or Out-of-Home Overnight. They have the option of authorizing two or more types of respite care, although that does not increase the total amount of respite funding available to caregivers.

### Core Program 5: Legal Assistance

The NCTAAA’s Legal Assistance Programs are as follows:

- **HICAP (Health Insurance Counseling and Assistance Program) Assistance:**

HICAP Assistance funds originate from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and are passed through HHSC. They allow program staff to provide support to Medicare beneficiaries of all ages. Per HHSC’s service definitions, HICAP Assistance involves “counseling or representation services provided by a non-lawyer such as certified benefits counselor, where permitted by law, to Medicare beneficiaries, family members, caregivers or others working on behalf of an eligible person.” Eligible individuals include those already receiving Medicare benefits or preparing to receive them (i.e., are nearing eligibility age or receiving Social Security Disability benefits).

NCTAAA’s HICAP Assistance services are delivered by a team of four benefits counselors. Melinda Gardner (working manager), Leslie Kilton (full-time), Simon Manrique (full-time), and Felecia Warner (part-time). To address the increased demand during Open Enrollment, the NCTAAA hires a temporary employee to help handle Medicare-related calls from mid-October to early December.

These benefits counselors provide personalized counseling, screen Medicare beneficiaries for Medicare Savings Program and/or Low-Income Subsidy benefits, and assist presumptively eligible individuals in completing applications. They are supported by a small group of certified volunteer benefits counselors who assist clients over the phone and services face-to-face at benefits counseling clinics.

- **HICAP Outreach:** HICAP Outreach funds, allocated by CMS to HHSC, are distributed to all Texas Area Agencies on Aging, including North Central Texas. According to HHSC, this service “provides for the dissemination of accurate, timely, and relevant information eligibility criteria, requirements and procedures to Medicare beneficiaries and other

target audiences about Medicare, public entitlements when related to low-income assistance for healthcare affordability, health and long-term care insurance, individual beneficiary rights, and health insurance planning and protection options.”

The NCTAAA team of four certified staff benefits counselors and nine volunteers deliver HICAP Outreach services. They are typically provided to groups, and the scope of work includes participating in a health or information fairs, making live presentations, and conducting virtual education on Medicare and related topics.

HICAP Outreach may also consist of providing general Medicare information to individuals without collecting identifying information.

- **Legal Assistance:** Per HHSC’s service definitions, Legal Assistance involves advice or representation by an attorney or a benefits counselor for individuals aged 60 and over or their caregivers. Services may include advice or counseling, document preparation, and representation. Legal Assistance services may address issues specific to Medicare, although HICAP Assistance is the primary funding source in such cases. Additionally, Legal Assistance funds may be used to support older adults with public benefits (e.g., SNAP and Medicaid for the Elderly and Disabled), and consumer advocacy issues, such as unfair business practices and violations of renters’ rights.

The NCTAAA provides Legal Assistance as a direct service through its four staff benefits counselors. In cases requiring specialized legal expertise, the program manager (Melinda Gardner) may authorize consultation with attorneys on a fee-for-service basis. Due to limited Legal Assistance funds, attorney consultations are typically limited to permanency planning issues, such as preparation of advance directives, durable powers of attorney, and wills.

- **Legal Awareness:** HHSC defines Legal Awareness as “a service that provides for the dissemination of accurate, timely, and relevant information, eligibility criteria, requirements, and procedures to an older person about public entitlements, health and long-term services, individual rights, planning and protection options, and housing and consumer needs.” Legal Awareness activity may include making group presentations and providing general information to individuals without collecting identifying information sufficient to complete a Participant Intake.

The NCTAAA provides Legal Awareness as a direct service through its four staff benefits counselors and nine volunteers.

## Core Program 6: Ombudsman Services

The HHSC defines Ombudsman activity as “services to protect the health, safety, welfare, and rights of residents of nursing facilities and assisted living facilities, including identifying, investigating, and resolving complaints that are made by, or on behalf of residents.”

The North Central Texas Planning and Service Area presents unique challenges to the Ombudsman team due to its vast geography and number of facilities. It consists of 14 counties, spanning 11,154 square miles, with counties separated by the urban core of Dallas and Tarrant Counties. As of late 2025, it had 113 nursing facilities and 289 assisted living facilities, for a total of 402 facilities of all types. Per HHSC performance measures, all facilities require regular in-person visits—even in the absence of complaints—and more frequent visits as needed to address complaints.

The NCTCOG has demonstrated a strong commitment to the Long-Term Care Ombudsman, recognizing the critical need for advocacy in light of persistent quality-of-care issues. As of State Fiscal Year 2024, slightly more than one-third of all Texas facilities were assigned a one-star quality rating—the lowest rating of the five-star scale—or designated a Special Focus Facility (SFF), indicating persistent and serious deficiencies. Texas ranked 48<sup>th</sup> nationwide in overall facility quality ratings.

The NCTAAA supports the Ombudsman program with a dedicated team of seven staff members: a Managing Local Ombudsman (Tina Rider), five field-based Regional Staff Ombudsmen (Amy Soto, Rita Kruger, Mindy Brannon, Michlyn Vaughn, and Amanda Bonn), and an office-based program specialist (Lisa Walker) who responds to general ombudsman-related phone calls and emails, provides technical assistance to volunteers, enters volunteers’ report data into the statewide program tracking system, and generates program reports.

Volunteers play a critical role in extending the reach of the Ombudsman program. As of late 2025, the NCTAAA had 29 Certified Volunteer Ombudsmen, all of whom completed extensive pre-service orientation and internships before being assigned to facilities in their area. However, volunteer recruitment has been hindered by budget cuts. In April 2025, the NCTCOG eliminated its staff recruiter position, although the incumbent, Sharon Rowbottom, continues to perform many of her staff duties as a volunteer on a time-limited basis.

In the absence of a staff volunteer recruiter, NCTAAA programs that utilize volunteers must be prepared to assume a greater role for recruiting and onboarding qualified candidates. Although the Ombudsman program has critical need for volunteers, staff face competing priorities, including responding to complaints in a timely manner and conducting facility visits, which limit their capacity to expand the volunteer base.

### Greatest Economic Need in North Central Texas and Strategies/Practices to Give Priority

As outlined on pages 7-8, the NCTAAA adopts a flexible definition of “greatest economic need.” While the agency assumes that individuals with incomes below 150% of the poverty level are likely to experience such need, it also recognizes that those with higher incomes may face similar challenges if their expenses exceed their incomes, resulting in difficulty meeting basic needs.

As noted on page 8, elder poverty rates vary significantly across the region. The service area’s four rural counties (Erath, Navarro, Palo Pinto, and Somervell) all have elderly poverty rates higher than the regional average of 7.6%. However, older adults in every county may experience greatest economic need, whether on a recurring basis or due to unanticipated expenses or reductions in income.

The NCTAAA prioritizes older adults with greatest economic need through the following strategies:

- **Program Preferences:** For Care Coordination and Caregiver Support Coordination programs, giving preference to individuals with incomes below 150% of the poverty level and/or those whose expenses exceed their income.
- **Strategic Partnerships:** Collaborating with programs that serve low-income older adults, including food pantries, churches’ benevolence programs, local charities, and HHSC Regional Local Service, to encourage qualified referrals.
- **MIPPA Outreach:** Conducting targeted outreach to low-income Medicare beneficiaries through Medicare Improvement for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) Outreach. The NCTAAA has prepared flyers that highlight potential for cost savings through the Medicare Savings Program and Low-Income Subsidies and make available staff members’ assistance in completing and submitting the applications

- **Subrecipients Outreach Plans:** The NCTAAA requires subrecipients to develop and implement outreach plans that detail specific strategies for identifying older adults with the greatest economic need.

In addition to addressing economic need, the NCTAAA prioritizes older adults with greatest social need, a key population identified by the Older Americans Act. As noted on page 9, the NCTAAA equates greatest social need with isolation and having less support than desired or needed, particularly from family and friends. Risk factors for social isolation include living alone; being widowed, divorced, or never married; having disabilities; living in a rural community; having low income; experiencing language barriers; and lacking access to transportation.

Because social isolation is correlated with rurality, low income and disability, older residents of the service area’s four rural counties—Erath, Navarro, Palo Pinto, and Somervell—are disproportionately affected.

The NCTAAA targets older adults with greatest social need through the following strategies:

- Giving priority for Care Coordination services to older adults who report not having support from friends or family;
- Giving priority for Caregiver Support Coordination services to family members who are the sole source of support for the dependent person;
- Giving priority for Caregiver Support Coordination services to family members who live with the care receiver—particularly those whose care receivers require total or near-total supervision; and
- As needed, encouraging its subrecipients to develop wait list procedures that prioritize persons who live alone and/or those who lack informal support.

The NCTAAA offers several services specifically designed to reduce social isolation, including the PEARLS counseling program, Demand-Response Transportation, and Congregate Meals.

#### Collaborative Efforts with Home-and Community-Based Services (HCBS)

Through provision of Information, Referral and Assistance Services, the NCTAAA plays a critical role in connecting older adults and caregivers to Home and Community Based Services (HCBS). These include, but not limited to:

- STAR+PLUS Personal Assistance Services (PAS): Providing in-home services to adults who receive Medicaid benefits and require help with their activities of daily living (e.g., transferring, walking, bathing, grooming, toileting and feeding);
- STAR+PLUS Waiver: Providing a comprehensive array of in-home services to adults who receive Medicaid benefits and qualify medically for nursing home care; and
- Community Attendant Services (CAS): Delivering in-home support to adults with low incomes, limited resources, and need for assistance with at least one activity of daily living.

NCTAAA staff receive intensive pre-service and continuing education on HCBS programs noted above. When clients express needs that may be addressed through these programs, staff explain program benefits and provide a high-level overview of program requirements. As their schedules allow, they are encouraged to do a preliminary screen for program eligibility and facilitate a warm transfer or make a referral to the appropriate agency at client request.

Staff providing case management services have an affirmative obligation to make HCBS referrals for clients deemed presumptively eligible. To maximize the use of OAA revenues, the NCTAAA does not pay for services covered under the Medicare, Medicaid, Title XX Social Security Block Grant, or Veterans Administration programs, unless the individual is on an extended wait list.

Although not funded by the Older Americans Act, the NCTCOG's Aging and Disability Resource Center is funded by HHSC to provide information and referral specific to long-term services and supports. Its two referral specialists receive enhanced training in HCBS, including Medicaid programs for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (including Home and Community Services, Community Living and Support Services, Texas Home Living, and Community First Choice) and Veterans Administration long-term care programs. These specialists are available to assist NCTAAA with more specialized HCBS inquiries.

The NCTAAA is unique among all Texas area agencies on aging in holding contracts with three managed care organizations (i.e., Molina Healthcare, United Healthcare of Texas, and Wellpoint) to provide nursing home relocation services. Under these contracts, NCTCOG relocation specialists assess the needs of Medicaid-funded nursing home residents interested in returning to community living. They develop and implement independent living plans, assisting

program participants in securing community-based housing, establishing banking services, transferring benefits from facility to community Medicaid, and arranging community-based services that are not funded by Medicaid. Relocation specialists work in partnership with managed care organizations' service coordinators, who arrange Medicare-funded community-based services.

By providing nursing home relocation services, the NCTCOG arranges services that maximize independence and choice at no cost to the Older Americans Act. During State Fiscal Year 2025, the program successfully relocated more than 200 long-term nursing facility residents to community settings.

The NCTAAA has demonstrated innovation in educating older adults, family caregivers, and professionals about publicly-funded HCBS. It has conducted regular webinars on topics including "Federal and State Services for Older Adults and Family Caregivers," "Services for Texans Living with Dementia," and "Programs That Consider Family Members as Paid Providers." In addition, it has developed fact sheets to accompany these webinars and posted presentations and educational resources on its webpages, located at: <https://nctcog.org/aging-services/dementia-friendly/resources-memory-loss-family-caregivers>.

#### Practices/Strategies to Serve Older Adults with Physical and Mental Health Conditions

While aging does not inherently equate to disability, it is a significant risk factor for developing one or more chronic health conditions. The NCTAAA takes proactive steps to ensure it effectively serves older adults with physical and/or mental health conditions.

The NCTAAA employs the following strategies to identify and support older adults with disabilities:

- **Building Relationships with Healthcare Providers.** The NCTAAA actively seeks partnerships with healthcare providers, particularly those involved in discharge planning functions at hospitals, rehabilitation facilities, and nursing facilities. It also conducts outreach to community-based social workers responsible for coordinating in-home services for older adults. These professionals are uniquely positioned to identify older adults with disabilities who could benefit from NCTAAA services. To support these providers, the NCTAAA conducts regular community education programs for

professionals, including: “Area Agency on Aging and Aging and Disability Resource Center Services for Older Adults,” “Federal and State Services for Older Adults,” “Resources for Older Patients Discharging from Hospital, Rehab., and Nursing Facilities,” and “Federal and State Services for Family Caregivers.” The NCTAAA has also conducted targeted outreach to the region’s largest health systems (including Texas Health Resources, Baylor Scott and White, Methodist Health, and Medical City), offering free live and virtual continuing education. These training programs emphasize eligibility for OAA services, particularly those designed for older adults with disabilities, and provide clear referral protocols.

- **Conducting Targeted Outreach to Social Service Providers:** The NCTAAA engages with the region’s social service providers through provision of regular professional education, with complimentary continuing education units; participation in professional networking meetings; attendance at health and information fairs; and dissemination of monthly e-blasts that promote NCTAAA services for individuals with all types of disabilities.
- **Collaborating with Key Organizations:** The NCTAAA partners with highly visible organizations that serve older adults with physical and mental health challenges to encourage bi-directional referrals. For example, the NCTAAA ensures its Home-Delivered Meal subrecipient agencies are familiar with its case management programs. Similarly, it draws on contractual relationships with organizations including REACH (the region’s Center for Independent Living), the Alzheimer’s Association, Molina Healthcare, United Healthcare of Texas, and Wellpoint to provide information about NCTAAA services beyond the scope of those contracts.

To ensure its services effectively address the needs of older adults with physical and/or mental health conditions, the NCTAAA offers services tailored to their unique challenges and establishes service priority when demand exceeds available resources.

NCTAAA services that meet the unique needs of individuals with health challenges include:

- **Program to Encourage Active, Rewarding Lives (PEARLS).** This evidence-based program provides free counseling to older adults who are experiencing depression or persistent sadness. A contract counselor guides participants through a structured curriculum that focuses on developing and implementing plans for meeting social, physical, and recreational goals.

- **Caregiver Counseling.** The NCTAAA makes funding available to subrecipients for services including Caregiver Counseling, through which a licensed professional counselor provides individual and group therapy to those who are experiencing care-related stress.
- **Chronic Disease Self-Management, Diabetes Self-Management, and Chronic Pain Self-Management programs.** These evidence-based programs guide small groups of older adults through structured curricula. All three programs include content on communicating with health care providers, using medications wisely, developing an eating and activity plan, evaluating new treatments, and dealing with common stressors.
- **A comprehensive array of in-home services, authorized through the Care Coordination and Caregiver Support Coordination programs.** These include Homemaker, Personal Assistance, Respite, Residential Repair, and Health Maintenance services. These services prioritize individuals with significant disabilities. As of January 2026, the two programs' screening criteria give preference to care receivers who require assistance with three or more activities of daily living (e.g., transferring, walking, bathing, dressing, grooming, toileting, and feeding).

# Needs Assessment Activities

## Population Trends and Issues Affecting Older Adults in the Service Area

As noted on pages 9 and 10, rapid growth is the primary population trend impacting older adults in North Central Texas, with the number of older residents expected to increase from 732,760 in 2025 to more than a million in 2035. The most significant growth is occurring in Collin and Denton Counties, along major highways such as Interstate 35-East, Interstate 35-West, and State Highways 75, 121, and 161.

While rapid growth may bring benefits, these advantages are often unevenly distributed, leaving certain populations at risk of being underserved. Those most vulnerable are:

- Residents who live in rural counties, with less ready access to services.
- Older adults with the greatest economic need, including the approximately 55,689 older North Central Texans who lived in poverty as of 2025. Many of these individuals—and others—struggle to afford basic necessities.
- Residents in medically underserved areas (MUA). According to the Health Resources and Services Administration, portions of Collin, Denton, Ellis, Hunt, and Palo Pinto are designated as primary care shortage areas.
- Socially isolated older adults who lack support from friends and family.
- Older adults without reliable transportation and limited access to essential community-based services.
- Uninsured older adults, a population estimated at 50,000-55,000, according to 2020 – 2023 American Census Bureau American Consumer Survey data. Notably, rural counties in the service area tend to have higher rates of uninsured residents compared to urban counties. For example, approximately 18% of Navarro County residents of all ages were uninsured in 2020, as were 15% of Erath County residents. Among Collin County residents, 11.3% were uninsured, according to a data analysis by Texas Community Health News.

An analysis of 2025 population estimates highlights key differences across the region:

- In high or moderate growth counties such as Collin, Denton, Kaufman, Rockwall, and Ellis, fewer than one in five residents were aged 60 and over. Hood County had the

highest percentage of residents aged 60 plus at 31.3%, followed by Palo Pinto County at 27.29% and Navarro County at 23.18%. Notably, rural counties tend to have higher concentrations of older adults, which translates to a greater potential demand for aging services. This challenge is not exclusive to rural counties but is more pronounced in these areas due to limited resources and accessibility.

All 14 counties in the North Central Texas area will face significant challenges in meeting the growing demand for aging services over the next decade, with the population of residents aged 60 and older projected to increase by 44.6% between 2025 and 2035. This demographic shift raises complex issues, particularly as rising dependency ratios result in fewer working-age individuals who must support a growing number of dependents. This dynamic can strain public resources, increase demand for healthcare and social services, and potentially lead to labor shortages, all of which impact the region's economic stability.

The key challenge for North Central Texas communities will be to create meaningful opportunities for older residents to thrive well into their 60s and beyond. This includes enabling them to remain in the workforce if they choose and encouraging their contributions to the community through civic engagement, voluntarism, and other impactful roles.

#### Analysis of How Programs, Services, and Policies Can Improve

The NCTAAA is committed to continuous quality improvement, recognizing the potential to expand its reach, enhance effectiveness and efficiency, and positively transform more lives. While the ability to serve more people (or even maintain current service levels) depends heavily on adequate funding, which has declined during Fiscal Years 2025 and 2026, the organization remains focused on providing its services more effectively and efficiently.

The NCTAAA had identified key strategies for improvement and specific actions to support these goals.

- Expand outreach and awareness: Launch a regional outreach campaign leveraging a variety of media platforms, including print media and digital channels, to increase awareness of NCTAA services. Targeted outreach will focus on:
  - Major employers in the service area to better connect with working caregivers.

- Health care providers, particularly discharge planners, to ensure older adults recovering from illnesses or injuries are connected to community-based services that support their return to independent living.
  - Local faith-based and civic organizations to strengthen community partnerships and extend the reach of services.
  - Elected officials to raise awareness of NCTAAA services available to their constituents.
- **Enhance coordination between direct and pass-through services.** Ensure that all NCTAAA subrecipients are well-informed about the full range of Older Americans Act services. Host at least semi-annual meetings for subrecipients to provide training on direct services and provide networking opportunities.
  - **Target older adults and family caregivers at greatest risk of adverse outcomes).** As needed, collaborate with nutrition subrecipients to develop waitlist policies that comply with OAA requirements. Regularly review the Care Coordination and Caregiver Support Coordination screening criteria and revise as needed to prioritize older persons and family caregivers with greatest economic need and greatest social need.
  - **Innovate service delivery systems and leverage available technology to reach more older adults and family caregivers.** Support any nutrition subrecipients who wish to participate in the grab-and-go Congregate Meal model and utilize virtual activity to satisfy the program’s socialization requirement. Conduct one or more Instruction and Training and/or Caregiver Information Services programs on innovative technologies that support older adults’ independence and community tenure. Develop a caregiver fact sheet that summarizes tools and resources.
  - **Establish healthcare partnership.** To bridge the gap between healthcare and long-term services and supports, conduct targeted outreach to the region’s primary, secondary, and tertiary health care providers, increasing awareness of NCTAAA services and referral protocols.
  - **Strengthen caregiver supports and advance planning.** Conduct community education on financial and legal considerations to help caregivers plan for the future.

- **Become a center of excellence in dementia care.** Leverage the expertise of its two dementia educators to promote the dementia-specific resource including consultation on responding to behavioral expressions, training, and evidence-based programming (i.e., Resources for Enhancing All Caregivers' Health).
- **Leverage supplemental funding to expand programs.** Utilize funding from the Administration for Community Living's Alzheimer's Disease Programs Initiative Community Health Worker grant, awarded in October 2025, to enhance services for individuals living with dementia and their family caregivers. More specifically, develop and implement a program by which community health workers will screen older adults with cognitive concerns for dementia and refer them for diagnosis as needed, screen older persons with early-stage dementia and their caregivers for depression, and provide dementia-capable counseling for depression. All of this work will be supported by non-HHSC funds and complement the NCTAAA service array.
- **Incorporate data-driven planning.** Use data to anticipate demographic changes and emerging needs. Collaborate with interested groups to help local governments improve age-readiness and dementia capability. Increase participation in local professional development networks. Engage in local professional development networks to encourage bi-directional referrals and strengthen partnerships.
- **Contribute to workforce development.** Offer regular community education on age-related and caregiving topics. Provide continuing education units to incentivize professionals to participate.

#### Needs Assessment Activities

The NCTAAA established and prioritized goals for this area plan by conducting primary and secondary research of service gaps. Primary research included the following:

- Conducted a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) analysis at two NCTAAA staff meetings, held August 18, 2025 and October 20, 2025.
- Collected needs assessment data from members of the Regional Aging Advisory Committee at its November 11, 2025 meeting. In preparation for this discussion, the NCTAAA provided an overview of the area plan development process during the August 12, 2025 committee meeting and provided a detailed description of services supported by Older Americans Act funds during Fiscal Year 2025.

- Surveying older adults, family caregivers, and professionals about service gaps and needs through a web-based tool. The survey went live on October 20, 2025 and accepted responses through December 15, 2025.
- Conducting a listening session for NCTAAA subrecipients on November 12, 2025.
- Conducting a listening session for older adults on December 3, 2025.
- Conducting a listening session for family caregivers on December 8, 2025.
- Conducting a listening session for professionals on December 4, 2025.
- Conducting a listening session for those who care for family members with dementia on December 3, 2025.
- Gathering and analyzing Federal Fiscal Year 2025 client satisfaction data.
- Analyzing Federal Fiscal Year 2025 Information, Referral and Assistance topics to determine services most frequently requested.
- Conducting a community needs assessment of resource gaps for people living with dementia during Fall 2024.

In addition to collecting data directly, the NCTAAA reviewed needs assessment data and strategic plans from external agencies. Data sources include the HHSC State Plan on Aging 2027-2029, HHSC Aging Texas Well Strategic Plan for 2024-2025, Texas Department of State Health Services Texas State Plan for Alzheimer’s Disease 2024 – 2028, Texas A&M Statewide Needs Assessment of Services and Supports for Unpaid Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Disorders Caregivers Presentation, Methodist Health System Community Needs Assessment, Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs Housing and Health Services Coordination Council 2024-2025 Biennial Plan, and Texas Veterans Commission 2024 Statewide Needs Assessment, conducted by the Public Policy Research Institute (PPRI) and Texas A&M.

### Top Needs

The following top needs were identified by key stakeholder groups, including older adults, family caregivers, family caregivers of persons living with dementia, Regional Aging Advisory Committee members, NCTAAA staff, NCTCOG subrecipients, and professionals.

## *Older Adults*

Assessment data indicate a broad range of unmet needs for older adults in North Central Texas, particularly in the areas of in-home care, physical and mental health supports, basic needs, navigating complex systems of care, and reliable transportation. Below are the key categories and specific needs identified by older adults who received services from the NCTAAA, responded to its surveys, participated in focus groups, and/or participated in other agencies' community needs assessments.

- **Affordable in-home supports:** Survey respondents identified in-home care services as the most important support service, likely because of its critical role in helping older adults maintain independence. However, the cost of these services remains a significant barrier for older adults with limited incomes. In late 2025, the statewide average cost of unskilled in-home care was \$29 per hour, with many provider agencies requiring a minimum three to four hours per visit. This results in a cost per visit of \$78 - \$116, making in-home services such as housekeeping, personal assistance, and chore assistance unaffordable for many in need.
- **Physical health:** Older adults identified the following critical health concerns, ranked in order of importance:
  1. Mobility problems.
  2. Alzheimer's disease or dementia.
  3. Falling or having an accident.
  4. Diet, fitness, and nutrition.
  5. Heart disease or stroke.
- **Mental health:** More than  $\frac{3}{4}$  of older adults who responded to its survey expressed concerns about their mental health. Depression was identified as the top mental or behavioral health concern by 50% of survey respondents. Anxiety was a concern for 45.5% of respondents. Approximately 40% expressed concerns about isolation/loneliness, loss of purpose, and memory loss. Only 22.73% of respondents reported having no concerns about their mental or behavioral health.
- **Basic needs:** Older North Central Texans with low incomes or expenses that exceed their incomes face significant challenges in meeting basic needs, including:

- Housing and utilities: Between 2022 and 2024, rents in North Central Texas increased by approximately 20%, though they were beginning to stabilize in late 2025. The NCTAAA has seen a sharp rise in calls for emergency rental assistance, utility assistance, and emergency housing since the pandemic.
- Food insecurity: Despite the NCTAAA's annual investment of over \$5 million in nutrition services (home-delivered and congregate meals), many older adults struggle to afford food. The North Texas Food Bank estimates that approximately 95,000 individuals aged 50 and older in the 23 counties surrounding Dallas and Tarrant (including, but not limited to, the North Central Texas service area) experience food insecurity.
- Prescription drugs: Many older adults struggle to afford necessary medications.
- **Assistance navigating complicated public benefit systems:** Older adults face significant challenges navigating public benefit systems, particularly Medicaid. Following the pandemic, HHSC began recertifying 4 million Texas Medicaid recipients, resulting in nearly 1.8 million Texans, including older adults, losing coverage. In many cases, beneficiaries no longer met program requirements. However, some eligible persons lost benefits due to inability to complete and return applications and/or system errors. Although the NCTAAA does not have formal responsibilities for Medicaid, its benefits counselors assist older adults with applications for Medicaid for the Elderly and Persons with Disabilities, Medicare Savings Programs, and Low-Income Subsidies. They also advocate for age-eligible individuals who have had their Medicaid benefits terminated. Since Medicaid unwinding began in Fall 2023, the NCTAAA has experienced a surge in calls related to Medicaid eligibility issues.

Among older adults who completed the North Central Texas Community Needs Assessment, 54.55% indicated that “lack of information about where to get help” prevented them from accessing medical care or support services.

- **Reliable, affordable transportation.** Transportation remains a critical unmet need for older adults in the region. While the NCTAAA funds demand-response transportation in 12 of its 14 counties, the program's annual budget of approximately \$400,000 is insufficient to meet the needs of older riders. Additionally, NCTCOG Transportation subrecipients are required to provide service within their designated counties but are not obligated to cross county lines. This limitation often

forces older adults who need to travel across county lines to rely on private-pay providers, which may not be affordable.

### *Family Caregivers*

The late 2025 North Central Texas Needs Assessment Survey revealed significant challenges faced by family caregivers. The three most frequently mentioned difficulties were:

1. Balancing caregiving responsibilities with other personal responsibilities (noted by 55% of respondents).
2. Finding and paying for in-home care (noted by 50% of respondents).
3. Planning for major decisions, such as end-of-life issues.

Notably, 40% of caregiver respondents reported providing constant care, with an additional 30% stating they provide care at least eight but less than 24 hours per day.

When asked about specific challenges, caregivers identified the following as most common barriers:

- Not getting enough sleep.
- Not having enough time to spend with friends or attend community events.
- Not having a healthy diet.
- Not getting enough physical activity.

The NCTAAA identified other caregiver needs and concerns through an analysis of information, referral and assistance calls, client surveys and review of other agencies' needs assessments.

Caregiver needs identified through this process include:

- Locating community resources.
- Paying for long-term care, provided in the community and/or institutions.
- For working caregivers who reduce hours or exit the workplace, finding ways to replace lost income streams.
- Acquiring the skills or knowledge necessary to care for someone with complex medical needs.

- Dealing with caregiving-related stress.
- Learning about technologies that will help them provide better care to their dependent family member.

### *Family Caregivers of Persons Living with Dementia*

Recognizing the unique stressors of dementia care, the NCTAAA conducted interviews in Summer 2025 with 20 caregivers of family members living with dementia. While the sample size was small, the interviews provided valuable insights into service gaps, barriers to access, challenges, and training needs.

### *Service Gaps and Barriers to Access*

- Lack of awareness about available services and eligibility.
- Financial ineligibility for Medicaid, but inability to afford private care.
- Long waitlists for respite care and counseling.
- Limited dementia education and training.
- Difficulty accessing transportation, assessments, and qualified care providers.
- Emotional and physical toll of caregiving without adequate support.
- System navigation complexity.

### *Most Pressing Caregiver Challenges and Burden*

- Emotional strain, depression, and burnout.
- Loss of social connections and isolation.
- Inflexible employment and job insecurity.
- Inconsistent or unqualified care providers.
- Managing care coordination and behaviors.
- Financial stress, including the cost of care and lack of direct caregiver aid.

### *Training Needs*

- Managing safe hygiene.
- Wandering and safety solutions.
- Fatigue management.
- Technology assistance (reminders, centralized resource platforms).
- Emotional support and connection.
- Navigation of Medicaid and home health services.

These findings align with the 2025 Texas A&M study “Services and Supports for Unpaid Caregivers of People Living with Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Dementias.” When asked about services or resources they needed but had not used, survey participants identified the following top needs, in rank order:

1. Learning about helpful technologies for caregiving.
2. Learning about the newest research for cognitive impairment.
3. Health and wellness programs.
4. Community resources.
5. Respite care.
6. Learning about treatments in development.
7. Grief and loss.
8. Information about how to remain safe as a caregiver.
9. Care planning for disease transitions.
10. Financial planning.
11. Legal planning.
12. Information about providing care safely to recipients.
13. End of life planning.
14. Transition to long-term care facilities.

#### *Regional Aging Advisory Committee Members*

At the August 11, 2025 meeting of the Regional Aging Advisory Committee, members identified several critical needs for older adults in the region, including: affordable housing (including accessibility-related home modifications), supports for older adults who are newly unhoused, transportation (particularly in rural communities), senior-friendly food boxes (i.e., food pantry items that can be delivered to older adults who cannot travel to distribution sites), affordable in-home care, expanded caregiver respite, and meaningful employment opportunities. Members also highlighted the harmful impact of ageism on older job-seekers.

### *NCTAAA Staff*

NCTAAA staff identified several pressing needs, particularly in light of challenges stemming from budget reductions that resulted in a reduction in force. Key concerns included:

#### Staffing Support:

- The reduction in force eliminated the sole administrative assistant position, which had been budgeted to provision of Information, Referral, and Assistance (IRA) services. As a result, all office-based staff were tasked with supporting the single employee responsible for handling IRA calls to the NCTAAA.
- Staff also expressed need for additional support for Care Coordination services.

#### Volunteer Recruitment:

- The reduction in force also eliminated the volunteer recruiter position, placing additional burdens on the four programs that rely on volunteers (Long-Term Care Ombudsman, Benefits Counseling, Senior Medicare Patrol, and Healthy Living/Preventive Health) to recruit, train, and support their own volunteers.

#### Other Needs:

- Greater community visibility to raise awareness of NCTAAA services.
- A transportation provider network capable of crossing county boundaries.
- Reduced reliance on government funding, which has not kept pace with the growing demand for services.

### *Subrecipients*

The NCTAAA hosted a listening forum for subrecipients on November 12, 2025, where attendees identified several gaps in services for older adults, including nutrition, transportation, social connection, and caregiver supports. Subrecipients emphasized the importance of increased collaboration, regular communication, and leveraging community partnerships to address gaps.

## *Professionals*

At a listening forum for professionals on December 4, 2025, participants identified the following as the most pressing unmet needs for older adults in North Central Texas:

- Affordable in-home care.
- More robust transportation services.

These issues were seen as cross-cutting, impacting both older adults and their caregivers.

When discussing the unique needs of family caregivers of persons living with dementia, professionals identified need for:

- Education about the condition and how to communicate: One professional noted, “The major issue is the family doesn’t understand the condition or how to relate.”
- Engagement and self-care: Another participant observed that while quality education is available, “the primary barrier is getting caregivers to engage and provide self-care.”

## Constraints Limiting NCTAAA’s Ability to Address Identified Needs

The NCTAAA faces significant challenges in addressing regional needs, primarily due to funding limitations, although resource availability also serves as a significant constraint.

Funding Constraints:

- **The zero-sum nature of the Older Americans Act (OAA) budget.** As the primary funding source for NCTAAA programs, the OAA budget is expected to relatively remain flat during Fiscal Year 2027. This means the NCTAAA cannot allocate funds to new services without reducing or eliminating existing ones.
- **Impact of Inflation.** Inflation increases the cost of operations, effectively reducing service levels if funding does not increase.
- **Restrictions on Allowable Services:** All OAA funds must be used for services permitted by HHSC. For example, while the NCTAAA has identified a critical need for money management services, particularly for individuals with dementia who live alone, However, they fall outside HHSC’s current service definitions and cannot be funded through the OAA.

- **Balancing Service Reach and Resource Allocation:** The NCTAAA must maximize the impact of available funds to serve the greatest number of individuals. For instance, while senior center operations address important needs like socialization and meaningful activity, the funding required to provide meaningful support would consume the NCTAAA's entire III-B budget, making it an impractical investment. Similarly, while the NCTAAA could purchase expensive health-related goods and services, such as dentures or hearing aids, it imposes a cap of \$800 on Health Maintenance and Income Support items to ensure broader service reach. For example, the agency opts to provide a moderate benefit of \$750 to four clients rather than spending \$3,000 on a single client.

# Goals, Objectives, Strategies, and Outcomes

Reference: [45 CFR 1321.65\(e\)](#)

The NCTAAA is tasked with developing individualized goals based on needs assessment findings. Additionally, it must develop objectives, strategies and outcomes that support the four goals established by the 2026 Texas State Plan on Aging (SPoA). The following are goals, objectives, strategies, and outcomes specific to the SPoA, as well as those developed in response to its own needs assessment data.

## SPoA Goals

- **Goal 1:** Support older adults to age in their community by accessing available resources, including Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS).

Objectives	Strategies	Outcomes
<p>1.1 Ensure that NCTAAA access and assistance staff are familiar with Texas HCBS programs serving older adults.</p>	<p>Provide robust pre-service and continuing education to staff who provide Information, Referral, and Assistance, Care Coordination, Caregiver Support Coordination, and Benefits Counseling so they understand major programs' service array, eligibility requirements, and referral procedures.</p>	<p>Short term: Develop fact sheets for staff on HCBS programs funded by HHSC, including STAR+PLUS, STAR+PLUS Waiver, and Community Attendant Services.</p> <p>Intermediate: Require staff to use fact sheets referenced above.</p> <p>Long-term: All staff will indicate that they are confident in explaining HCBS programs referenced above.</p>

<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Outcomes</b>
<p>1.2 Standardize the provision of information about HCBS to ensure its accuracy and completeness.</p>	<p>Develop and implement strategies for Access and Assistance staff to counsel clients about HCBS.</p>	<p>Short-term: Develop fact sheets for staff that describe major HCBS program benefits, eligibility, and referral procedures.</p> <p>Intermediate: Require staff to use fact sheets referenced above.</p> <p>Long-term: At least 90% of clients surveyed will indicate that information provided by the NCTAAA helped them understand and access HCBS for which they may qualify.</p>
<p>1.3 Conduct community education to increase awareness of HCBS.</p>	<p>Through Instruction and Training and Caregiver Information Services, provide training on federal, state, and regional HCBS.</p>	<p>Short-term: Develop and market community education programs.</p> <p>Intermediate: Conduct at least 15 programs during the planning cycle that reach at least 750 caregivers.</p> <p>Long-term: At least 90% of those who participate in training programs will indicate that the information they receive is helpful.</p>

- **Goal 2:** Increase awareness about caregiving and the support available.

<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Outcomes</b>
<p>2.1 Conduct community education to increase awareness about caregiving the support available.</p>	<p>Through Caregiver Information Services, provide training on topics identified in the Needs Assessment section (pages 54-55).</p>	<p>Short-term: Develop at least three discrete training programs that will increase caregivers' awareness of available supports.</p> <p>Intermediate: Conduct at least 30 caregiving training programs for at least 1,500 caregivers during the planning period</p> <p>Long-term: At least 90% of training participants will indicate that training information they receive is helpful.</p>
<p>2.2 Increase working caregivers' awareness of available supports.</p>	<p>Conduct lunch and learn programs for the service area's employers.</p>	<p>Short-term: Prepare a guide for employers to support employees with caregiving responsibilities.</p> <p>Intermediate: Conduct training for at least 250 working caregivers during the planning period.</p> <p>Long-term: At least 90% of training participants will indicate that training information they receive is helpful.</p>

<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Outcomes</b>
<p>2.3 Develop specialized supports for caregivers of family members with dementia.</p>	<p>1. Work with the University of Washington to amend the Program for Encouraging Active, Rewarding Lives (PEARLS) program for caregivers of family members with dementia.</p> <p>2. Train NCTAAA community health workers to the adapted PEARLS program.</p> <p>2. Provide dementia-capable counseling through the adapted PEARLS program to support caregivers who are dealing with depression.</p>	<p>Short term: Develop a dementia-specific variant of PEARLS.</p> <p>Intermediate: Enroll at least 150 caregivers of persons living with dementia in PEARLS.</p> <p>Long-Term: Reduce at least 80% of caregivers' depression by one level of severity during the six-month intervention.</p>

Objectives	Strategies	Outcomes
<p>2.4 Support development of comprehensive sources of web-based information for family caregivers.</p>	<p>1. Support <a href="http://www.familycaregiversonline.net">www.familycaregiversonline.net</a>, a web-based source of education and resource information.</p> <p>2. Continue to build out the NCTAAA's Dementia Friendly resource information, located at: <a href="#">NCTCOG - Resources for People with Memory Loss &amp; Family Caregivers</a>, to include links to programs that serve people living with dementia and their family caregivers, presentation archives, and fact sheets.</p>	<p>Short-term: Regularly update the two websites to ensure content is complete and accurate.</p> <p>Intermediate: At least 200 individuals per month will visit the two websites.</p> <p>Long-term: The number of visitors to <a href="http://www.familycaregiversonline.net">www.familycaregiversonline.net</a> and <a href="#">NCTCOG - Resources for People with Memory Loss &amp; Family Caregivers</a> will increase by at least 5% year over year.</p>

- **Goal 3:** Improve communication and collaboration among Texas state agencies, AAAs, providers, and community-based organizations.

Objectives	Strategies	Outcomes
<p>3.1 Be active participant in HHSC Office of Area Agencies on Aging trainings, network meetings, and work groups.</p>	<p>The NCTAAA director or designee will participate in HHSC semi-annual live training programs and bimonthly network meetings and communicate information to staff and subrecipients with need to know.</p>	<p>Short-term: NCTAAA staff will be aware of HHSC requirements.</p> <p>Intermediate: NCTAAA will communicate relevant HHSC requirements to subrecipients.</p> <p>Long-term: NCTAAA staff and subrecipients will operate their programs in full compliance with HHSC requirements.</p>
<p>3.2 Ensure NCTAAA direct services are integrated with pass-through services.</p>	<p>Hold at least semi-annual meetings with subrecipients to increase awareness of NCTAAA's direct and pass-through services, share best practices, and provide networking opportunities.</p>	<p>Short-term: At least half of subrecipients will participate in semi-annual training and networking sessions.</p> <p>Intermediate: Subrecipients will increase their knowledge of NCTAAA direct and pass-through services and make appropriate referrals.</p> <p>Long-Term: The percentage of clients receiving two or more services funded by the NCTAAA will increase by at 5% year over year.</p>

- **Goal 4:** Strengthen Aging Services Network infrastructure.

Objectives	Strategies	Outcomes
<p>4.1 Ensure NCTAAA legal assistance staff are familiar with all service delivery requirements.</p>	<p>Require all benefits counseling staff members to participate in HHSC training on function and duties of legal assistance and legal awareness duties.</p>	<p>Short-term: Staff will provide legal assistance and legal awareness services in keeping with all service delivery requirements.</p> <p>Intermediate: The NCTAAA will not have any findings relative to provision of legal assistance or legal awareness services.</p> <p>Long-term: At least 80% of legal assistance customers surveyed will indicate they are satisfied with legal assistance services received.</p>
<p>4.2 Support State Plan on Aging goal of providing education to manage finances and determine personal life decisions.</p>	<p>Provide HHHS copy of “Financial Fitness for Older Adults,” a financial self-management program created by NCTAAA and Aetna.</p>	<p>Short-term: Provide HHSC educational modules on avoiding on using healthcare wisely, avoiding scams, avoiding predatory loans, qualifying for Medicaid, and getting legal affairs in order.</p> <p>Long-term: To the extent that any “Financial Fitness for Older Adults” materials are relevant, HHSC will realize greater efficiencies in its curriculum development.</p>

Goals Specific to North Central Texas Needs Assessment Data

<b>Goal</b>	<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Outcomes</b>
<p>5.1. Under ACL’s Alzheimer’s Disease Programs Initiative Community Health Worker cooperative agreement and contract with the Texas Department of State Health Services, provide community education on signs and symptoms of dementia and assist those with cognitive impairment to obtain accurate differential diagnosis.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Develop and implement processes for screening older persons for dementia.</li> <li>2. For those with positive screening results, develop and implement processes for making referrals for accurate diagnosis.</li> <li>3. Follow up with those who’ve been referred for accurate diagnosis to determine outcome.</li> <li>4. Evaluate program outcomes.</li> </ol>	<p>Short-term: Screen at least 300 people living with dementia and their family caregivers for dementia.</p> <p>Intermediate: Refer those with positive screening results for differential diagnosis.</p> <p>Long-term: At least 90% of those who’ve been diagnosed with dementia will receive information and services that are helpful to them.</p>

<b>Goal</b>	<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Outcomes</b>
<p>5.2. Provide relocation assistance to long-term nursing home residents who wish to return to the community.</p>	<p>Assist long-term residents of nursing facilities who are funded by Medicaid and enrolled in Molina Healthcare, United Health Care of Texas, and/or Wellcare to return to community living.</p>	<p>Short-term: Assign relocation specialists to nursing home residents who wish to relocate and assist in arranging community-based supports, including housing and non-medical transportation.</p> <p>Intermediate: Support at least 180 residents per year in successfully relocating.</p> <p>Long-term: Ensure that at least 90% of individuals who successfully relocate remain in the community for at least 90 days post-relocation.</p>

## Long Range Planning

**Reference:** [OAA of 1965, as amended through P.L. 116-131 \(3/25/2020\)](#)  
**Page 63**

### Preparedness of Local Aging Services Network

The North Central Texas local aging services network—defined as the NCTAAA, its subrecipients, and partners—is well-positioned to provide Older Americans Act services effectively and efficiently. However, the combination of dramatic population growth and stagnant funding is placing significant strain on the system, widening the gap between demand for and availability of OAA services. In 2025, this strain became more evident as some subrecipients created waitlists for home-delivered meals for the first time in their agencies' history.

The NCTAAA recognizes the critical contributions of other entities in building and maintaining local aging services networks. These include federal providers of long-term services and supports (e.g., the Veterans Administration and managed care organizations under contract with HHSC to administer Medicaid services), State services administered by entities including HHSC and Local Intellectual/Developmental Disability Authorities, and local professional, service and charitable organizations. The NCTAAA strives to collaborate with all these entities to create and maintain a coordinated network of supports for older adults and family caregivers. For example, in early 2026, the NCTAAA began efforts to form a regional coalition of dementia-care providers to enhance synergies in serving individuals living with dementia and their family caregivers.

While NCTAA is committed to making North Central Texas more dementia-friendly, its ability to serve as a convener is limited due to the labor-intensive nature of creating and maintaining interagency collaborations. In most cases, NCTAAA staff participate in coalitions of aging providers as their schedules permit.

To ensure the North Central Texas local aging services network is fully prepared for the demographic changes between 2025 and 2035, it will require increased funding, enhanced interagency collaboration, and a shared vision that extends both within and beyond the NCTAAA.

### How Programs/Services/Policies Can Improve

While the needs assessment process has identified several needs beyond the scope of the NCTAAA's Fiscal Year 2026 service area, the agency does not propose adding new services under this plan due to funding and resource constraints.

During the planning period, the NCTAAA will continue to support its current array of services, detailed on pages 18 to 37, and will focus on continuous quality improvement through the following strategies:

- **Client Feedback:** Continue to provide opportunities for client feedback and use this insight to improve service delivery.
- **Outcome Data Analysis:** To the extent possible, gather and analyze outcome data. For example, the NCTAAA's survey of case management clients asks whether services helped them remain safely in their homes, as opposed to moving in with family or entering an assisted living or nursing facility. Positive responses indicate effective targeting and effective use of limited funding as a means of preventing more costly and restrictive institutional care.
- **Staff Development:** Encourage staff to participate in continuing education as a means of expanding their knowledge base and ability to meet the full range of clients' needs.
- **Collaboration with HHSC:** Participate fully in HHSC meetings and participate in workgroups as opportunities arise.
- **Adopting Best Practices:** Seek out and adopt other agencies' best practices.

### Analysis of How Population Growth and Change May Impact Service Delivery and Those Served

The population of North Central Texans is projected to increase by more than 40% over the next decade. However, federal funding for the Older Americans Act was expected to be flat (i.e., at the same level as the prior year) during Fiscal Year 2026, with little indication of significant increases in subsequent years.

The NCTAAA recognizes that federal funding will never fully meet the growing demand for services and has implemented policies to prioritize those with greatest need. As the gap between demand and capacity widens, the NCTAAA has a limited set of options, including:

- Becoming more restrictive in providing client services and giving priority to the high-risk populations of the Older Americans Act: those with greatest economic need, social need, and/or disability. For example, some of its nutrition subrecipients have adopted policies to authorize Home-Delivered Meals for new clients only if they are homebound (going beyond the minimum requirement that clients require some assistance with their activities of daily living and instrumental activities of daily living). Similarly, the NCTAAA has had to tighten its screening criteria for Care Coordination and Caregiver Support Coordination services.
- Offering a lesser benefit to those who qualify. For example, the NCTAAA has had to reduce its standard term of service from five months to three for case management clients. In addition, it has imposed lower caps on Health Maintenance purchases and Income Support payments.
- Seeking supplemental funding to mitigate the gap between need and resources.

As the NCTAAA navigates unprecedented population growth without proportionate funding increases, it anticipates serving a smaller number of eligible individuals and providing reduced benefits to its clients.

#### Recommendations to State Unit on Aging to Build Capacity

As part of this Area Plan, HHSC has invited Texas area agencies on aging (AAAs) to provide recommendations for building capacity to better support the Aging Services Network. The NCTAAA recognizes the constraints faced by HHSC's Office of Area Agencies on Aging (OAAA) in terms of staffing and funding. To the extent possible, the NCTAAA recommends the following:

- **Increase Training Opportunities:** Offer more frequent training for AAAs on topics such as compliance issues and program requirements (e.g., case management and benefits counseling).
- **Pursue Competitive Grants:** Apply for competitive grants to supplement Older Americans Act (OAA) formula funds and expand available resources.
- **Facilitate Sharing of Best Practices:** Coordinate presentations on best practices, leveraging expertise both within and beyond the AAA network.
- **Engage in Interdepartmental Collaboration:** As staffing allows, participate in interdepartmental workgroups with agencies such as the Texas Department of Housing

and Community Affairs, Texas Workforce Commission, and Adult Protective Services. The Aging Texas Well initiative serves as an effective model for convening stakeholders across agencies.

#### Activities and Effort Specific to Organizational Sustainability Planning

The NCTAAA takes pride in its staff, including several who qualify for Older Americans Act services based on their age and tenure of up to 30 years. These team members bring invaluable lived experiences and institutional knowledge to their roles. However, this longevity presents potential vulnerability, particularly when staff perform unique functions without documented procedures. To address this, the NCTAAA is actively developing a two-pronged sustainability plan:

- **Cross-Training:** When a staff person is solely responsible for a critical function, provide cross-training to one or more colleagues to ensure that services are not disrupted in the absence of the primary staff person.
- **Documenting Policies and Procedures:** Commit to writing policies and procedures for major tasks, promoting consistency when multiple staff have common responsibilities and clear guidance to those who may be asked to perform duties outside of their normal scope of work when covering for a staff member who is absent. Given the variety of tasks that NCTAAA staff members perform—and the rapid pace of change—maintaining current policies is always a work in progress.

In late 2025, NCTAAA Director Doni Green participated in a three-month StrengthFinders assessment, training, coaching, and leadership development program, to refine her pre-retirement succession plan. Shortly thereafter, Cathy Stump, NCTAAA manager of case management and Aging and Disability Resource Center services, participated in the same program, with a goal of advancing her career development.

Whenever possible, the NCTAAA strives to replace key staff before their departure dates, allowing for on-the-job training with their successors to ensure a smooth transition.

## Appendix A – Emergency Preparedness

Reference: [45 CFR 1321.103](#)

The NCTAAA maintains an Emergency Preparedness Plan, which is attached as Appendix #1. Its parent organization, NCTCOG, requires that the plan be updated at least annually and submitted to the administration department for review.

Following is a general summary of activities it will undertake in an emergency situation, whether man-made or natural.

1. Determine impact on NCTAAA staff by ensuring all are accounted for. The Emergency Preparedness Plan includes contact information for all staff, including personal phone numbers and email addresses, to allow for all managers to invoke a “call-down” for the purposes of ensuring their employees’ safety and communicating critical information.
2. Determine impact on NCTCOG facilities. If it is unsafe for employees to travel to or work in NCTCOG offices, they have the option of telecommuting, with full connectivity if they have internet access. All NCTCOG staff use VOIP “soft phones” that are not dependent on phone lines.
3. Determine impact on NCTAAA clients, with emphasis on those who are frail. If so, gather information to determine extent. This may include asking its staff to contact those who are receiving direct services and asking subrecipients to contact those who are receiving pass-through services.
4. As needed, establish an on-site or off-site base of operations. Aging staff may partner with other agencies such as FEMA, Red Cross, and local governments’ emergency planning staff to carry out tasks such as gathering consumer data, reporting data to HHSC, authorizing services, and assisting with application for public benefits.
5. Work in cooperation with the NCTAAA’s 14 “focal points.” Its home-delivered meal subrecipients have been designated as these focal points and have contractual obligations to coordinate services for older persons in their counties in the case of a disaster.
6. Maintain open communication with HHSC to ensure it is aware of the impact and NCTCOG response.

7. Upon request, serve on regional disaster teams, coordinated by entities including the Red Cross, Salvation Army, and Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster.

The NCTAAA maintains a collaborative relationship with regional and local emergency management partners. Its offices are located next to the NCTCOG Emergency Preparedness Department, and the NCTAAA director meets at least monthly with all NCTCOG directors, including Emergency Preparedness Director Dr. Maribel Martinez, on organizational and inter-departmental issues. Emergency Preparedness staff provide technical assistance and training to Aging staff, including a February 2026 tabletop exercise.

The NCTAAA collaborates with local emergency partners, either through NCTCOG's Emergency Preparedness or upon request from the local partner. As indicated, the NCTAAA may obligate funds as permitted by HHSC to provide assistance with basic needs. It will comply with HHSC guidance in doing so.

To ensure its leadership is familiar with basic emergency preparedness procedures, the Director of Aging Programs is required to complete basic training in the National Incident Management System (NIMS), consisting of Courses IS100 (Introduction to the Incident Command System) and IS200 (Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response).

## Appendix B – Public Comment Activities

**Reference:** [45 CFR 1321.65\(b\)\(4\)](#) and [45 CFR 1321.29](#)

The NCTAAA solicited public comment for this draft area plan by soliciting input during the preparation of a draft. Prior to finalizing the draft, it:

- Gathered input from NCTCOG staff during September 15 and October 20, 2025 Aging program staff meetings. More specifically, participants engaged in a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) analysis.
- Gathered input from members of the Regional Aging Advisory Committee who attended the August 12 and/or November 11, 2025 meetings.
- Hosted a listening forum for NCTAAA subrecipients on November 12, 2025.
- Hosted four listening forums for older North Central Texans, family caregivers, family caregivers of persons living with dementia, and professionals. These listening sessions were held on December 2, 3, 4, and 8, 2025.
- Invited the public to submit comments through an on-line survey at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3BKVPBN>. The NCTAAA adapted the 2026 – 2028 State Plan on Aging Assessment Survey for use at the regional level, and promoted the survey through monthly eblasts to approximately 2,500 users and links on its webpage located at: <https://nctcog.org/aging-services/professionals-and-advocates>

Once it completed a draft of the area plan on December 18, 2025, the NCTAAA placed the plan on its website and invited comments through January 22, 2026. It notified stakeholders and the general public of the opportunity to provide comment by disseminating the following press release to major media outlets in the public service area.

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

December 18, 2025

**CONTACT:** Doni Green  
Director of Aging Programs  
817-695-9193  
[dgreen@nctcog.org](mailto:dgreen@nctcog.org)

**North Central Texas Area Agency Invites Comment on Area Plan**

*The North Central Texas Area Agency on Aging (NCTAAA), a program of the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG), receives federal and state funds to provide services to people aged 60+ and family caregivers in its 14-county service area, including Collin, Denton, Ellis, Erath, Hood, Hunt, Johnson, Kaufman, Navarro, Palo Pinto, Parker, Rockwall, Somervell, and Wise Counties. It has prepared a plan for services it intends to fund during a three-year period and invites public comment through January 22, 2026. The plan is located at: [NCTCOG - Professionals & Advocates](#) and is available in hard-copy format upon request.*

*The NCTAAA provides funding to local agencies for nutrition and transportation services. In addition, its staff and volunteers provide services that include information and referral, help understanding Medicare benefits and options, case management services, caregiver respite, caregiver education, fall prevention workshops, dementia-care consultation, and advocacy for people who live in assisted living and nursing facilities. All services are provided at no charge to those who qualify. For more information about NCTAAA services, go to: [NCTCOG - North Central Texas Area Agency on Aging](#) or call 800-272-3921.*

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**What is NCTCOG?**

*The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is a voluntary association of local governments (counties, cities, school districts, and special districts) established in 1966 to assist local governments in planning for common needs, cooperating for mutual benefit, and recognizing regional opportunities for improving the quality of life for the citizens of North Central Texas.*

In addition, the NCTAAA emailed a link to its subrecipients and promoted the comment opportunity through its two e-blasts (each of which has more than 2,000 users).

RAAC members took action on the plan at its February 10, 2026 meeting. The NCTCOG Executive Board took action on the plan at its February 26, 2026 meeting.

# Attachment 1: 2027-2029 Projected Distribution of Services by County

Attached please find an attachment that identifies services by county. It is based on projections at the time of the area plan submission (February 2026). The NCTAAA reserves the right to revise this document on an annual basis, as it prepares its working budgets for Fiscal Years 2027-2029.

2027-2029 Projected Distribution of Direct Service Funds by County					
Supportive Services	Collin	Denton	Ellis	Erath	Hood
Assisted Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Care Coordination (Case Management)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Chore Maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Day Activity & Health Services	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Emergency Response	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Homemaker	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Homemaker - Voucher	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Income Support	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Information, Referral & Assistance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Instruction and Training	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Legal Assistance 60+	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Legal Awareness (Legal Outreach)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Outreach	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Participant Assessment	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Personal Assistance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Public Information Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Residential Repair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Senior Center Operations	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Social Reassurance	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Transportation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Transportation - Voucher	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Visiting	<input type="checkbox"/>				
<b>Nutrition Services</b>					
Congregate Meals	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Home Delivered Meals	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Nutrition Consultation	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Nutrition Counseling	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Nutrition Education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Participant Assessment - Nutrition Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Health Promotion Services</b>					
Evidenced Based Intervention	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Health Maintenance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Health Screening and Monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Mental Health Services	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Physical Fitness	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Recreation	<input type="checkbox"/>				
<b>Family Caregiver</b>					
Caregiver Counseling	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Caregiver Information Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Caregiver Support Coordination / CM	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Caregiver Support Groups	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Caregiver Training	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Respite In Home	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Respite Out of Home	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Respite Out of Home, Overnight	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Respite, Voucher	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
<b>Ombudsman Services</b>					
Ombudsman Program Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
<b>Special Activities - As Approved</b>					
Special Initiative	<input type="checkbox"/>				

<b>Supportive Services</b>	<b>Hunt</b>	<b>Johnson</b>	<b>Kaufman</b>	<b>Navarro</b>	<b>Palo Pinto</b>	<b>Parker</b>	<b>Rockwall</b>	<b>Somervell</b>	<b>Wise</b>
Assisted Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Care Coordination (Case Management)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								
Chore Maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Day Activity & Health Services	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Emergency Response	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								
Homemaker	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								
Homemaker - Voucher	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>							
Income Support	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								
Information, Referral & Assistance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								
Instruction and Training	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								
Legal Assistance 60+	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								
Legal Awareness (Legal Outreach)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								
Outreach	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Participant Assessment	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Personal Assistance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								
Public Information Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								
Residential Repair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								
Senior Center Operations	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Social Reassurance	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Transportation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Transportation - Voucher	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Visiting	<input type="checkbox"/>								
<b>Nutrition Services</b>									
Congregate Meals	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Home Delivered Meals	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								
Nutrition Consultation	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Nutrition Counseling	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Nutrition Education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Participant Assessment - Nutrition Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Health Promotion Services</b>									
Evidenced Based Intervention	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								
Health Maintenance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								
Health Screening and Monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Mental Health Services	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Physical Fitness	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Recreation	<input type="checkbox"/>								
<b>Family Caregiver</b>									
Caregiver Counseling	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Caregiver Information Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								
Caregiver Support Coordination / CM	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Caregiver Support Groups	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Caregiver Training	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Respite In Home	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								
Respite Out of Home	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								
Respite Out of Home, Overnight	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								
Respite, Voucher	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Ombudsman Services</b>									
Ombudsman Program Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								
<b>Special Activities - As Approved</b>									
Special Initiative	<input type="checkbox"/>								

## **Attachment 2: Verification of Intent & Assurances**

**Reference:** [OAA of 1965, as amended through P.L. 116-131 \(3/25/2020\)](#)

Attached please find assurances that the following requirements have been met in preparation of this area plan:

- Input through a public comment period of more than 30 days.
- Input from the AAA advisory council.
- Composition requirements of advisory council are met.
- Approval from the AAA's governing board.
- Active policies and procedures are in place to identify both organizational and individual conflicts of interest.
- Direct Service Waiver will be submitted as required.
- Annual budget process will include submission of number of individuals served, type and number of units provided, and corresponding expenditures.



## North Central Texas Council of Governments

### **Item 6**

*Exhibit: 2026-02-06-EP*

Meeting Date: February 26, 2026

Submitted By: Maribel Martinez  
Director of Emergency Preparedness

Item Title: Resolution Approving the FY2026 State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) Grant Project's Priority Listing

The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) will assist the Office of the Governor (OOG), Homeland Security Grants Division in administering the State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) grant.

SHSP is part of the Department of Homeland Security Homeland Security Grant Program, which provides funding for prevention, protection, mitigation, response, and recovery from acts of terrorism and other hazards. The OOG requires COG's to submit a prioritized list of projects for consideration of SHSP funding.

SHSP projects were submitted by the 14 approved Regional Emergency Preparedness Advisory Committee (REPAC) regional working groups. Projects were then reviewed and prioritized by REPAC. The Emergency Preparedness Planning Council (EPPC) made funding recommendations and approved the project list on December 4, 2025.

#### NCTCOG Recommended SHSP Priority Listing:

1. 2026 SHSP - NCTCOG - Regional Planning; \$463,050 (includes M&A)
2. 2026 SHSP - NCTCOG - Hazmat Training; \$157,290 (includes M&A)
3. 2026 SHSP LE - City of Grand Prairie - Special Weapons and Tactics Thermal Project (SWAT); \$30,000
4. 2026 SHSP LE - City of Carrollton - SWAT Thermal Project; \$30,000
5. 2026 SHSP LE - City of Arlington - SWAT Thermal Project; \$30,000
6. 2026 SHSP LE - Johnson County - SWAT Thermal Project; \$30,000
7. 2026 SHSP LE - Parker County - SWAT Thermal Project; \$30,000
8. 2026 SHSP LE - City of Duncanville - SWAT Thermal Project; \$30,000
9. 2026 SHSP LE - City of Burleson - SWAT Thermal Project; \$30,000
10. 2026 SHSP LE - City of North Richland Hills - SWAT Thermal Project; \$30,000
11. 2026 SHSP LE - City of Plano - Regional Explosive Ordinance Device (EOD) Special Effects Training; \$52,500
12. 2026 SHSP LE - City of Fort Worth - Unmanned Aerial Surveillance Drone Detection; \$39,700

13. 2026 SHSP - City of Arlington - Regional Urban Search and Rescue Training - \$135,000
14. 2026 SHSP - NCTCOG - Training & Exercise Family Assistance Center Training - \$183,750
15. 2026 SHSP - City of Richardson - Public Works Emergency Response Team (PWERT) Interdiction Trailer - \$77,110
16. 2026 SHSP - City of Roanoke - PWERT Interdiction Trailer - \$77,110
17. 2026 SHSP - City of Rowlett - PWERT Interdiction Trailer - \$77,110
18. 2026 SHSP - City of Plano - EOD Improvised Explosive Device Training - \$148,090
19. 2026 SHSP - City of Corsicana - Emergency GIS Response Team (EGRT) Trailer Upgrades & Training - \$26,300
20. 2026 SHSP - Kaufman County - Emergency Management (EM) Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Trailer Upgrade - \$37,500
21. 2026 SHSP - City of Lewisville - EM EOC Trailer Upgrade - \$37,500
22. 2026 SHSP - NCTCOG - Community Preparedness Programs Project - \$61,425
23. 2026 SHSP LE - City of Fort Worth - Fusion Centers Trailer Project - \$216,000
24. 2026 SHSP - NCTCOG - Public Education Project - \$63,000

A draft resolution approving the FY2026 State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) Grant Project's Priority Listing, as reflected above, is attached for Executive Board consideration.

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FY2026 STATE HOMELAND SECURITY PROGRAM (SHSP)  
GRANT PROJECT'S PRIORITY LISTING**

**WHEREAS**, the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is a Texas political subdivision and non-profit corporation organized and operating under Texas Local Government Code Chapter 391 as the regional planning commission for the 16-county North Central Texas region; and,

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

**WHEREAS**, NCTCOG is working with local governments and others in building regional emergency preparedness capacity; and,

**WHEREAS**, the health, safety and welfare of people in North Central Texas is threatened by a variety of natural and technological hazards including severe weather and terrorism; and,

**WHEREAS**, NCTCOG finds it in the best interest of the North Central Texas Region to facilitate the GY2026 State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) grant activities; and,

**WHEREAS**, SHSP projects were submitted by the fourteen (14) approved Regional Emergency Preparedness Advisory Committee (REPAC) regional working groups and subsequently reviewed and prioritized by REPAC; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Emergency Preparedness Planning Council (EPPC) made funding recommendations and approved the SHSP project list on December 4, 2025, and recommends Executive Board approval.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT:**

- Section 1.** The NCTCOG Executive Board approves the GY2026 SHSP prioritized project listing and authorizes submittal to the Officer of the Governor for funding consideration.
- Section 2.** The Executive Director or his designee is designated as the authorized official to apply for, accept, execute, reject, alter, or terminate the grant(s) and any subsequent or related agreements on behalf of and in the name of the North Central Texas Council of Governments.
- Section 3.** The Director of Administration or his designee is designated as the grantee's financial officer. The financial officer is given the power to submit financial and/or programmatic reports or alter a grant on behalf of and in the name of the North Central Texas Council of Governments.
- Section 4.** This resolution shall be in effect immediately upon its adoption.

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Victoria Johnson, President  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
Councilmember, City of Burleson

I hereby certify that the resolution was adopted by the Executive Board of the North Central Texas Council of Governments on February 26, 2026.

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Brandon J. Huckabee, Secretary-Treasurer  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
County Judge, Erath County



## North Central Texas Council of Governments

### ***Item 7***

*Exhibit: 2026-02-07-EP*

Meeting Date: February 26, 2026

Submitted By: Maribel Martinez  
Director of Emergency Preparedness

Item Title: Resolution to Apply for, Administer, and if Awarded, Accept the FEMA GY2026 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) Grant Funds

The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) wishes to continue to assist the Office of the Governor, Homeland Security Grants Division (OOG) and the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) in administering the Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) and providing planning assistance for the region and urban area.

This funding is a part of the FEMA GY2026 Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Appropriations Act. The DHS Homeland Security Grant Program includes provisions for funding assistance to NCTCOG to provide planning, equipment, training, and exercise assistance to local governments and first responders throughout the region. Funds will be used to fill gaps and existing capabilities pertaining to prevention, protection, response, and recovery activities. The federal performance period for projects under this FEMA GY2026 HSGP grant program is September 1, 2026, to August 31, 2029.

Projects expected to be funded under FEMA GY2026 HSGP are:

- 2026 SHSP - NCTCOG - Regional Planning
- 2026 SHSP - NCTCOG - Hazmat Training
- 2026 SHSP - NCTCOG - Training & Exercise Family Assistance Center Training
- 2026 SHSP - NCTCOG - Community Preparedness Programs Project
- 2026 SHSP - NCTCOG - Public Education Project
- 2026 UASI - NCTCOG - Planning

NCTCOG will also receive up to an additional \$45,000 through an interlocal agreement with the City of Dallas to assist UASI jurisdictions with grant management and administrative tasks associated with the UASI Grant Program. NCTCOG facilitates the UASI grant application process every year by collecting grant applications, writing investment justifications, submitting the investment justifications into the federal grant portal, facilitating stakeholder questions, assisting with audits, monitoring visits, grant close out activities, and reallocation of funds, as well as the threat and hazard identification and critical infrastructure protection activities.

A draft resolution authorizing acceptance of approximately \$2,000,000 in FEMA GY2026 Homeland Security Grant Program funds and authorizing an interlocal agreement (ILA) with the City of Dallas is attached for Executive Board consideration. The grant program is 100% federally funded with no local cost-share or match requirements.

Staff will be present at the meeting to address any questions.

MM: jc

**RESOLUTION TO APPLY FOR, ADMINISTER, AND IF AWARDED, ACCEPT THE FEMA GY2026  
HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM (HSGP) GRANT FUNDS**

**WHEREAS**, the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is a Texas political subdivision and non-profit corporation organized and operating under Texas Local Government Code Chapter 391 as the regional planning commission for the 16-county North Central Texas region; and,

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

**WHEREAS**, NCTCOG is working with local governments and others in building regional emergency preparedness capacity; and,

**WHEREAS**, the health, safety and welfare of people in North Central Texas is threatened by a variety of natural and technological hazards including severe weather and terrorism; and,

**WHEREAS**, NCTCOG finds it in the best interest of the North Central Texas Region to facilitate the GY2026 Homeland Security Grant Program activities; and,

**WHEREAS**, NCTCOG agrees that in the event of loss or misuse of the Office of Governor funds, the funds will be returned to the Office of the Governor in full.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT:**

- Section 1.** NCTCOG is authorized to receive approximately \$2,000,000 in GY2026 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) funds (UASI and SHSP combined) to provide planning, equipment, training, and exercise assistance to local governments and first responders throughout the region.
- Section 2.** An Interlocal Agreement (ILA) between NCTCOG and the City of Dallas in the amount of \$45,000 to assist UASI jurisdictions with grant management and administrative tasks associated with the UASI Grant Program, be and is hereby approved.
- Section 3.** The Executive Director or his designee is designated as the authorized official to apply for, accept, execute, reject, alter, or terminate the grant(s) and any subsequent or related agreements on behalf of and in the name of the North Central Texas Council of Governments.
- Section 4.** The Director of Administration or his designee is designated as the grantee's financial officer. The financial officer is given the power to submit financial and/or programmatic reports or alter a grant on behalf of and in the name of the North Central Texas Council of Governments.
- Section 5.** This resolution shall be in effect immediately upon its adoption.

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Victoria Johnson, President  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
Councilmember, City of Burleson

I hereby certify that the Executive Board of the North Central Texas Council of Governments adopted this resolution on February 26, 2026.

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Brandon Huckabee, Secretary-Treasurer  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
County Judge, Erath County



## North Central Texas Council of Governments

### ***Item 8***

*Exhibit: 2026-02-08-EP*

Meeting Date: February 26, 2026

Submitted By: Maribel Martinez  
Director of Emergency Preparedness

Item Title: Resolution Authorizing Submittal and Acceptance of the FY2027 Statewide  
Emergency Radio Infrastructure Grant and an Interlocal Agreement with Palo  
Pinto County

The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG), through its Emergency Preparedness (EP) Department, is seeking Executive Board authorization to apply for, manage, and administer the FY2027 Statewide Emergency Radio Infrastructure (SERI) Grant. For the FY2027 SERI Grant, Councils of Governments and State Agencies are allowed to submit one application per region.

NCTCOG worked with regional stakeholders including the Interoperable Communications Working Group and the Regional Emergency Preparedness Advisory Committee (REPAC) to review and score applications and submit one application up to \$2,000,000 on behalf of NCTCOG. The project will be titled 2027 NCTCOG-SERI (5753401).

This funding is a part of the Texas General Appropriations Act, Article I, Rider 24 for Trusteed Programs within the Office of the Governor (OOG). Funds will be used to enhance current capabilities or address capability gaps identified by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) or Texas Interoperable Communications Coalition (TxICC) in either the Texas Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP), COG Regional Interoperability Communications Plan (RICP) or the DPS Report on Interoperable Communications to the Texas Legislature.

Grant projects must be in support of one of the following approved activity areas:

1. Development or enhancement of primary interoperable emergency radio communications infrastructure;
2. Connection to a regional or statewide systems or expansion of a regional system;
3. Improving or establishing tower sites and/or related communications equipment (shelters, generators, etc.); or
4. Enhancement or maintenance of existing capabilities (e.g., life cycle replacement of equipment other than subscriber equipment).

NCTCOG is requesting authorization, if awarded, to accept the SERI Grant Award, administer the grant funds, and enter into an Interlocal Agreement with Palo Pinto County. Responsibilities of NCTCOG will include serving as a liaison between our regional stakeholders and the OOG to assist in distributing information, administering the grant program, and ensure all grant and eligibility requirements are met so that expenses are reimbursed. Responsibilities of Palo Pinto County will be to fund all purchases, procure equipment and services, complete installation, maintain the equipment, and ensure all receipts are submitted to NCTCOG for reimbursement. The performance period for projects under this FY2027 SERI grant program is September 1, 2026, to August 31, 2028.

A draft resolution authorizing acceptance of an amount not to exceed \$2,000,000 in FY2027 SERI Grant Funds and to enter into an Interlocal Agreement with Palo Pinto County is attached for Executive Board consideration. The grant program is 100% federally funded with no local cost-share or match requirements.

Staff will be available at the Executive Board meeting should you have any questions.

MM: jc

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMITTAL AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE FY2027 STATEWIDE EMERGENCY RADIO INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT AND AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH PALO PINTO COUNTY**

**WHEREAS**, the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is a Texas political subdivision and non-profit corporation organized and operating under Texas Local Government Code Chapter 391 as the regional planning commission for the 16-county North Central Texas region; and,

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

**WHEREAS**, NCTCOG is working with local governments and others in building regional emergency preparedness capacity; and,

**WHEREAS**, the health, safety and welfare of people in North Central Texas is threatened by a variety of natural and technological hazards including severe weather and terrorism; and,

**WHEREAS**, NCTCOG finds it in the best interest of the North Central Texas Region to facilitate the FY2027 Statewide Emergency Radio Infrastructure (SERI) Grant; and,

**WHEREAS**, Palo Pinto County will have responsibility to fund all purchases, procure equipment and services, complete installation, maintain the equipment, and ensure all receipts are submitted to NCTCOG for reimbursement; and,

**WHEREAS**, NCTCOG agrees that in the event of loss or misuse of the Office of Governor funds, the funds will be returned to the Office of the Governor in full.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT:**

**Section 1.** NCTCOG is authorized to submit and, if awarded, receive an amount not to exceed \$2,000,000 in FY2027 Statewide Emergency Radio Infrastructure (SERI) Grant funds to improve regional communication systems and expand capabilities of first responder services and enhance redundancy among regional partners..

**Section 2.** The Executive Director or his designee is designated as the authorized official to apply for, accept, execute, reject, alter, or terminate the grant(s) and any subsequent or related agreements on behalf of and in the name of the North Central Texas Council of Governments.

**Section 3.** The Director of Administration or his designee is designated as the grantee's financial officer. The financial officer is given the power to submit financial and/or programmatic reports or alter a grant on behalf of and in the name of the North Central Texas Council of Governments.

**Section 4.** An Interlocal Agreement (ILA) between NCTCOG and Palo Pinto County, consistent with the initiatives described herein, be and is hereby approved.

**Section 5.** This resolution shall be in effect immediately upon its adoption.

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Victoria Johnson, President  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
Councilmember, City of Burleson

I hereby certify that the resolution was adopted by the Executive Board of the North Central Texas Council of Governments on February 26, 2026.

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Brandon J. Huckabee, Secretary-Treasurer  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
County Judge, Erath County



**North Central Texas Council of Governments**

***Item 9***

*Exhibit: 2026-02-09-TR*

Meeting Date: February 26, 2026

Submitted By: Michael Morris, P.E.  
Director of Transportation

Item Title: Resolution Authorizing Agreements for PM<sub>2.5</sub>-Related Local Air Quality Planning Activities Funded with Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Rider 7 Funds

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) administers funds for local air quality planning activities under Rider 7 of the agency's legislative appropriation. This funding can be used to inventory fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>)-related emissions, monitor PM<sub>2.5</sub>-related pollution levels, model PM<sub>2.5</sub> pollution levels and expected activity development, conduct regional air quality planning activities, and cover administrative costs. In the North Central Texas Council of Governments region, eligible activities may be conducted in Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Hood, Hunt, Johnson, Kaufman, Navarro, Parker, Rockwall, Tarrant, and Wise Counties.

In January 2026, the Executive Board endorsed the receipt of \$660,933 from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for local air quality planning under Rider 7 PM<sub>2.5</sub> of the agency's legislative appropriation. The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) received an amendment with TCEQ for a new contract total of approximately \$1,149,928 of which approximately \$337,572 has been expended. The remaining funds, approximately \$812,356, represent the approval being sought in this item.

In its role as RTC's fiscal agent, Executive Board approval will be requested to execute a Personal Services Agreement in an amount not to exceed \$80,000 with Kevin G. Overton to assist with monitoring site evaluations, as well as data interpretation and analysis. In its role as RTC's fiscal agent, Executive Board approval will also be requested to execute an agreement in an amount not to exceed \$400,000 with the Texas Transportation Institute (TTI) to maintain current monitoring sites, install new monitoring stations, and quality control data. Finally, a set aside of up to \$250,000 is proposed to conduct a future procurement for PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions modeling activities. Staff will bring back a recommended contractor for Board consideration upon completion of procurement activities. No local match is required. Revenues of approximately \$82,356 will be retained for administrative costs.

A draft resolution authorizing agreements to implement this initiative is attached for Executive Board consideration. I will be available to answer any questions the Board may have on this item.

DT:jls  
Attachment

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AGREEMENTS FOR PM<sub>2.5</sub>-RELATED LOCAL AIR QUALITY PLANNING ACTIVITIES FUNDED WITH TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY RIDER 7 FUNDS**

**WHEREAS**, the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is a Texas political subdivision and non-profit corporation organized and operating under Texas Local Government Code Chapter 391 as the regional planning commission for the 16-county North Central Texas region; and,

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

**WHEREAS**, NCTCOG has been designated as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Dallas-Fort Worth Metropolitan Area by the Governor of the State of Texas in accordance with federal law; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) serves as the MPO Policy Committee, comprised primarily of local elected officials, and is the regional transportation policy body associated with NCTCOG, and has been and continues to be a forum for cooperative decisions on transportation; and,

**WHEREAS**, the RTC is committed to the development and implementation of policies, projects, and programs to improve air quality and reduce fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) and those emissions that create ozone; and,

**WHEREAS**, in February 2026 the RTC approved subcontracting with Kevin Overton and the Texas A & M Transportation Institute to continue monitoring and initiate modeling activities with a yet to be determined entity; and,

**WHEREAS**, Subtask 3.02 of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 and FY2027 Unified Planning Work Program for Regional Transportation Planning includes air quality planning initiatives; and,

**WHEREAS**, NCTCOG is actively involved in the development and implementation of the State Implementation Plan for air quality; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) administers funds for local air quality planning activities under Rider 7 PM<sub>2.5</sub> of the agency's legislative appropriation; and,

**WHEREAS**, local air quality planning activities may be conducted in Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Hood, Hunt, Johnson, Kaufman, Navarro, Parker, Rockwall, Tarrant, and Wise counties; and,

**WHEREAS**, in January 2026, the Executive Board endorsed the Executive Director's executed amendment under the Annual Fiscal Program provision to "approve and accept any and all funding revisions for ongoing programs" for an additional amount of \$660,933 for a total amount of \$1,149,928.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT:**

- Section 1.** An agreement between NCTCOG and Kevin G. Overton for an amount not to exceed \$80,000 in Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Rider 7 PM<sub>2.5</sub> funds, be and is hereby approved to assist with new monitor site evaluations and selection, as well as data interpretation and analysis for both existing and new monitor locations.
- Section 2.** An agreement between NCTCOG and the Texas A&M Transportation Institute for an amount not to exceed \$400,000 in Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Rider 7 PM<sub>2.5</sub> funds, be and is hereby approved to maintain the currently installed six PM<sub>2.5</sub> monitors, install and maintain up to four additional monitoring stations, and quality control collected data.
- Section 3.** These funds will be incorporated into the appropriate fiscal year budget(s) and Unified Planning Work Program.
- Section 4.** The Executive Director or his designee is authorized to execute necessary agreements in the name of the North Central Texas Council of Governments to carry out the initiatives described herein.
- Section 5.** This resolution shall be in effect immediately upon its adoption.

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Victoria Johnson, President  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
Councilmember, City of Burleson

I hereby certify that this resolution was adopted by the Executive Board of the North Central Texas Council of Governments on February 26, 2026.

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Brandon Huckabee, Secretary-Treasurer  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
County Judge, Erath County



**North Central Texas Council of Governments**

***Item 10***

*Exhibit: 2026-02-10-TR*

Meeting Date: February 26, 2026

Submitted By: Michael Morris, P.E.  
Director of Transportation

Item Title: Resolution Authorizing an Agreement for the Receipt of Funds from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and an Agreement with the City of Granbury for Ozone-Related Local Air Quality Planning Activities Funded with Rider 7 Funds

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) administers funds for local air quality planning activities under Rider 7 of the agency's legislative appropriation. The TCEQ Rider 7 program is designed to help counties avoid being classified as non-attainment for federal emissions standards. This funding can be used to inventory ozone-related emissions, monitor ozone-related pollution levels, model ozone pollution levels and expected activity development, conduct regional air quality planning, and cover administrative costs. In the North Central Texas Council of Governments region, eligible activities may be conducted in Hood or Hunt Counties to assist with remaining in attainment of federal ozone standards. Hunt County remains in attainment of both, the 2015 as well as the 2008 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS), therefore planned activities are focused on Hood County, where Ozone Design Values have increased over the past years.

In March 2024, the Executive Board approved an agreement with TCEQ to receive up to \$281,250. The agreement was executed, and was closed out at the end of the 2024-2025 biennium. In its role as RTC's fiscal agent, the Executive Board will be requested to enter into a new agreement with the TCEQ for the receipt of \$281,250 over the 2026-2027 biennium and to enter into an agreement with the City of Granbury for an amount not to exceed \$253,125 to continue air quality monitoring activities conducted in the last biennium and to update the conceptual model for ozone for Hood County that was developed in 2015. Source apportionment modeling in Hood County is also planned to be conducted. No local match is required. Revenues of approximately \$28,125 will be retained for NCTCOG administration.

A draft resolution authorizing an agreement with the TCEQ and an agreement with the City of Granbury is attached for Executive Board consideration. I will be available to answer any questions the Board may have on these items.

DT:jls  
Attachment

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT FOR THE RECEIPT OF FUNDS FROM THE TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AND AN AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF GRANBURY FOR OZONE-RELATED LOCAL AIR QUALITY PLANNING ACTIVITIES FUNDED WITH RIDER 7 FUNDS**

**WHEREAS**, the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is a Texas political subdivision and non-profit corporation organized and operating under Texas Local Government Code Chapter 391 as the regional planning commission for the 16-county North Central Texas region; and,

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

**WHEREAS**, NCTCOG has been designated as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Dallas-Fort Worth Metropolitan Area by the Governor of the State of Texas in accordance with federal law; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) serves as the MPO Policy Committee, comprised primarily of local elected officials, and is the regional transportation policy body associated with NCTCOG, and has been and continues to be a forum for cooperative decisions on transportation; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Dallas-Fort Worth region is in nonattainment of the federal air quality standard for ozone and NCTCOG is actively involved in the development and implementation of the State Implementation Plan for air quality; and,

**WHEREAS**, the RTC is committed to the development and implementation of policies, projects, and programs to improve air quality and reduce fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) and those emissions that create ozone; and,

**WHEREAS**, in February 2026 the RTC approved subcontracting with the City of Granbury to continue monitoring and initiate modeling activities with a yet to be determined entity; and,

**WHEREAS**, Subtask 3.02 of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 and FY2027 Unified Planning Work Program for Regional Transportation Planning includes air quality planning initiatives; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) administers funds for local air quality planning activities under Rider 7 Ozone of the agency's legislative appropriation; and,

**WHEREAS**, local air quality planning activities may be conducted in Hood and Hunt counties, including PM<sub>2.5</sub> related emission inventories, pollution level monitoring, air quality modeling, implement air quality planning activities, and cover administrative costs; and,

**WHEREAS**, Hunt County's attainment values holding steadily below required levels, therefore focus on Hood County will continue; and,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT:**

- Section 1.** A new agreement between NCTCOG and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality for Rider 7 Ozone air quality planning activities in Hood county for \$281,250 in the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 biennium and is hereby approved.
- Section 2.** NCTCOG is authorized to receive \$281,250 in funds from TCEQ to continue air quality planning activities.
- Section 3.** An agreement between NCTCOG and the City of Granbury for an amount not to exceed \$253,125 in Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Rider 7 Ozone funds, be and is hereby approved to conduct air quality monitoring and modeling in Hood County.
- Section 4.** These funds will be incorporated into the appropriate fiscal year budget(s) and Unified Planning Work Program.
- Section 5.** The Executive Director or designee is authorized to execute necessary agreements in the name of the North Central Texas Council of Governments to carry out the initiatives described herein.
- Section 6.** This resolution shall be in effect immediately upon its adoption.

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Victoria Johnson, President  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
Councilmember, City of Burleson

I hereby certify that this resolution was adopted by the Executive Board of the North Central Texas Council of Governments on February 26, 2026.

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Brandon Huckabee, Secretary-Treasurer  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
County Judge, Erath County



**North Central Texas Council of Governments**

***Item 11***

*Exhibit: 2026-02-11-TR*

Meeting Date: February 26, 2026

Submitted By: Michael Morris, P.E.  
Director of Transportation

Item Title: Resolution Authorizing an Agreement for the Receipt of Funds for Planning and Implementation Programs from the Texas Department of Transportation

The Executive Board periodically approves receipt of funding for continuation and enhancement of ongoing transportation and air quality initiatives and for new projects implemented and managed by the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) at the request of the Regional Transportation Council (RTC). The resolution approving receipt of revenue and execution of necessary agreements is included in agreements with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT). This item allows planning and implementation programs in the region to be administered and managed by NCTCOG that focus on efforts such as congestion reduction, multi-modal transportation opportunities, and air quality.

In preparation for the development and execution of FY2026 agreements, staff will request Executive Board authorization in its role as RTC's fiscal agent to receive funding for one additional project totaling approximately \$15,000,000 in Texas Mobility Funds. Attachment 1 contains a table detailing the individual funding agreement and RTC approval date. NCTCOG will coordinate with TxDOT to enter into an agreement to receive these funds.

A draft resolution authorizing the receipt of funds for this planning and implementation program is attached for Executive Board consideration. I will be available to answer any questions the Board may have on this item.

al  
Attachments

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT FOR THE RECEIPT OF FUNDS FOR PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMS FROM THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**WHEREAS**, the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is a Texas political subdivision and non-profit corporation organized and operating under Texas Local Government Code Chapter 391 as the regional planning commission for the 16-county North Central Texas region; and,

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

**WHEREAS**, NCTCOG has been designated as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Dallas-Fort Worth Metropolitan Area by the Governor of the State of Texas in accordance with federal law; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) serves as the MPO Policy Committee, comprised primarily of local elected officials, is the regional transportation policy body associated with NCTCOG, and has been and continues to be a forum for cooperative decisions on transportation; and,

**WHEREAS**, in October 2025 the RTC authorized the programming of Texas Mobility Funds for planning and implementation programs to be administered and managed by NCTCOG.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT:**

**Section 1.** NCTCOG is authorized to receive Texas Mobility Funds in the amount of approximately \$15,000,000, as reflected in Attachment 1.

**Section 2.** These funds shall be incorporated into the appropriate fiscal year budgets and Unified Planning Work Program.

**Section 3.** The Executive Board accepts the fiduciary responsibility to administer the planning and implementation programs carried out with these funds.

**Section 4.** The Executive Director or his designee is authorized to enter into an agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation for the project specified in Attachment 1.

**Section 5.** NCTCOG is authorized to expend funds for the project and in the amount specified in Attachment 1. NCTCOG is responsible for 100 percent of project costs in excess of the authorized federal and regional funding amount for the project in Attachment 1.

**Section 6.** The Executive Director or his designee is authorized to enter into agreements with other partners to carry out this program.

**Section 7.** This resolution shall be in effect immediately upon its adoption.

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Victoria Johnson, President  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
Councilmember, City of Burleson

I hereby certify that this resolution was adopted by the Executive Board of the North Central Texas Council of Governments on February 26, 2026.

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Brandon Huckabee, Secretary-Treasurer  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
County Judge, Erath County

ATTACHMENT 1

Program Title (Non-Construction Projects)	TIP Code	RTC Approval Date	Funding Source	Total Funding Amount	Federal/ Regional	Match		Fiscal Year(s)*	Program Status
						Local			
North Texas Moves Western Subregion TRE Project from Handley Ederville Road to Precinct Line Road	25072.5	10/9/2025	TMF	\$ 15,000,000	\$ 15,000,000	-		2026	Ongoing
				<b>\$15,000,000</b>	<b>\$ 15,000,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>			

\* Fiscal Year denotes year in which funds are programmed in the Transportation Improvement Program. However, funds may be spent over multiple years depending on project requirements and schedules, pursuant to this authorization.



**North Central Texas Council of Governments**

***Item 12***

*Exhibit: 2026-02-12-TR*

Meeting Date: February 26, 2026

Submitted By: Michael Morris, P.E.  
Director of Transportation

Item Title: Resolution Authorizing an Agreement with Dallas Area Rapid Transit for GoPass® Application Enhancement for the 2026 Fédération Internationale de Football Association World Cup

The Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approved \$250,000 in October 2023 to enhance and integrate regional apps for the 2026 Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) World Cup.

One of the applications is for Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) who owns the GoPass® application, an all-inclusive travel app for North Texas transit. Individuals are able to plan, buy, and ride with DART, Trinity Metro, the Denton County Transportation Authority, and other transportation agencies through use of the app. GoPass® is available in 11 languages and seamlessly delivers riders to their destinations. Executive Board approval will be requested to enter into an agreement with DART to enhance GoPass® for the 2026 FIFA World Cup in an amount not to exceed \$150,000 in Regional Toll Revenue funds. No local match is required for this project.

A draft resolution authorizing an agreement with Dallas Area Rapid Transit for GoPass® Application Enhancements for the 2026 Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) World Cup is attached for Executive Board consideration. I will be available to answer any questions the Board may have on this item.

NB  
Attachment

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH DALLAS AREA RAPID TRANSIT FOR GOPASS® APPLICATION ENHANCEMENT FOR THE 2026 FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION WORLD CUP**

**WHEREAS**, the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is a Texas political subdivision and non-profit corporation organized and operating under Texas Local Government Code Chapter 391 as the regional planning commission for the 16-county North Central Texas region; and,

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

**WHEREAS**, NCTCOG has been designated as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Dallas-Fort Worth Metropolitan Area by the Governor of the State of Texas in accordance with federal law; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) serves as the MPO Policy Committee, comprised primarily of local elected officials, and is the regional transportation policy body associated with NCTCOG, and has been and continues to be the regional forum for cooperative decisions on transportation; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Dallas-Fort Worth region is in nonattainment of the federal air quality standard for ozone and NCTCOG is actively involved in the development and implementation of the State Implementation Plan for air quality; and,

**WHEREAS**, Subtask 3.07 of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 and FY2027 Unified Planning Work Program contains congestion management strategies, including transit solutions and traveler information, tailored for special events; and,

**WHEREAS**, on October 12, 2023, the RTC set aside \$250,000 to create or integrate applications to provide traveler information about routes and transit solutions to attend special events; and,

**WHEREAS**, Dallas Area Rapid Transit is a public transportation provider in the Dallas-Fort Metropolitan Area.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT:**

**Section 1.** An agreement between NCTCOG and Dallas Area Rapid Transit in an amount not to exceed \$150,000 of Regional Toll Revenue funds, be and is hereby approved.

**Section 2.** The Executive Director or his designee is authorized to execute necessary agreements in the name of the North Central Texas Council of Governments to carry out the initiatives described herein.

**Section 3.** This resolution shall be in effect immediately upon its adoption.

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Victoria Johnson, President  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
Councilmember, City of Burleson

I hereby certify that this resolution was adopted by the Executive Board of the North Central Texas Council of Governments on February 26, 2026.

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Brandon Huckabee, Secretary-Treasurer  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
County Judge, Erath County



**North Central Texas Council of Governments**

***Item 13***

*Exhibit: 2026-02-13-IIS*

Meeting Date: February 26, 2026

Submitted By: Tim Barbee  
Director of Research and Information Services

Item Title: Resolution Amending Authorization of FY2026 Purchases of Computer Hardware, Software, and Information Technology Contract Services for the Agency

The Executive Board will be asked to amend vendor purchase authorization amounts originally approved in September 2025. The cumulative amount of the authorization will increase by \$162,000 from \$4,715,000 to \$4,877,000.

This amendment restructures previously approved FY2026 security funding to enable a three-year Secure Access Service Edge (SASE) agreement that provides secure web gateway and zero trust network access for NCTCOG and Workforce Solutions subrecipient staff. While the FY2026 authorization increases by \$162,000, this change results in no net increase in total expenditures over the three-year term and avoids anticipated cost increases in FY2027 and FY2028.

Vendor purchase authorization amounts in the previously approved FY2026 Purchase of Computer Hardware, Software and Information Technology Contract Services item will be adjusted as follows:

- Decrease Line 12 by \$85,000 for Security Software, Services, and Hardware
- Add Line 13 in the amount of \$247,000 for Secure Access Service Edge (SASE) Solution

Through negotiations with the vendor, we are not only avoiding anticipated price increases for this service in FY2027 and FY2028, but we will also enhance the capabilities of this service at no additional cost.

A resolution authorizing this amendment to the FY2026 Purchase of Computer Hardware, Software and Information Technology Contract Services is enclosed for Executive Board consideration. Details of the amendment are included in Attachment A of the proposed resolution. The purchase will be made in compliance with State of Texas procurement requirements through a Cooperative Purchasing Contract agreement.

I will be available to respond to any questions prior to requesting Board approval.

**RESOLUTION AMENDING AUTHORIZATION OF FY2026 PURCHASES OF COMPUTER HARDWARE, SOFTWARE, AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CONTRACT SERVICES FOR THE AGENCY**

**WHEREAS**, the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is a Texas political subdivision and non-profit corporation organized and operating under Texas Local Government Code Chapter 391 as the regional planning commission for the 16-county North Central Texas region; and,

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

**WHEREAS**, NCTCOG staff annually reviews and determines anticipated computer hardware, software, and information technology contract services needs for the upcoming year; and,

**WHEREAS**, the FY2026 purchase of Computer Hardware, Software and Information Technology Contract Services was originally approved by the NCTCOG Executive Board in September 2025; and,

**WHEREAS**, the requirements for information technology purchases have varied from the originally anticipated purchases necessitating a modification of the authorization amounts for vendors from the original authorization; and,

**WHEREAS**, the North Central Texas Council of Governments will comply with federal and state regulations regarding contracting and procurement.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT:**

- Section 1.** The NCTCOG Executive Board amends the purchase of Computer Hardware, Software, and Information Technology Contract Services, consistent with Attachment A.
- Section 2.** The Executive Director or his designee is authorized to execute contractual agreements consistent with Attachment A, in the name of the North Central Texas Council of Governments.
- Section 3.** The Executive Director or his designee is authorized to increase contract amounts for purchase categories in Attachment A, up to a maximum of twenty-five percent (25%), subject to the total authorized amount contained in Section 1.
- Section 4.** This resolution shall be in effect immediately upon its adoption.

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Victoria Johnson, President  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
Council Member, City of Burleson

I hereby certify that the resolution was adopted by the Executive Board of the North Central Texas Council of Governments on February 26, 2026.

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Brandon Huckabee, Secretary-Treasurer  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
County Judge, Erath County

# Attachment A

#	Category	Vendor(s)	FY2026 Approved	FY2026 Amended	Change in Authorization
<b>New Board Authorizations</b>					
12	Security Software, Services, and Hardware: Includes funds for the maintenance, support, and associated services for security hardware and software.	Carahsoft, ePlus, General Datatech, Kudelski Security, Optiv, SHI	\$510,000.00	\$425,000.00	-\$85,000.00
13	Secure Access Service Edge (SASE) Solution: Includes the cost of a 3-year agreement for secure web gateway and zero trust network access services and the support thereof.	ePlus	\$0.00	\$247,000.00	\$247,000.00
<b>Net Change</b>					\$162,000



**North Central Texas Council of Governments**

***Item 14***

*Exhibit: 2026-02-14-EP*

Meeting Date: February 26, 2026

Submitted By: Maribel Martinez  
Director of Emergency Preparedness

Item Title: Appointments to the Emergency Preparedness Planning Council (EPPC)

The Emergency Preparedness Planning Council (EPPC) serves in an advisory role to the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) Executive Board. From a pool of nominations, the Executive Board appoints qualified local elected officials to serve on EPPC for an approximately two-year term. EPPC is responsible for providing policy direction and oversight functions pertaining to the development and maintenance of a coordinated and integrated regional approach to emergency management planning and response systems. It also makes recommendations as to how the region can most efficiently and effectively utilize state and/or federal grant funding made available for emergency and disaster preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery.

Staff requests approval to appoint the following representatives at the next EPPC meeting on April 2, 2026.

EPPC Nominees Include:

15,000 – 29,999

- Brandi Elder, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Colleyville

50,000 – 99,999

- Crystal Chism, Mayor Pro Tem, City of DeSoto

100,000 – 169,999

- Patrick Kelly, Councilmember, City of Lewisville
- Steve Babick, Mayor, City of Carrollton

170,000 – 249,999

- Bill Cox, Mayor, City of McKinney

1,000,000+

- Charles Lauersdorf, Councilmember, City of Fort Worth

Should either you or the Executive Board members have questions, staff will be present at the meeting to address any questions.

MM:jc



**North Central Texas Council of Governments**

***Item 15***

*Exhibit: 2026-02-15-AA*

Meeting Date: February 26, 2026

Submitted By: Randy Richardson  
Director of Administration

Item Title: Resolution to Accept and Acknowledge Receipt of the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2025

The ACFR and related reports are located at: <https://www.nctcog.org/edo/board>

The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR), single audit reports, and the accompanying independent auditor's report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2025, are presented for acceptance and acknowledgement to the Executive Board. Representatives from NCTCOG's independent auditing firm, Pattillo, Brown & Hill, LLP, will be available to review the reports with Board members.

The Executive Board Audit Committee will meet with NCTCOG staff and audit firm representatives prior to the Executive Board meeting to review the reports.

A draft resolution accepting and acknowledging receipt of the ACFR and single audit reports is attached for Executive Board consideration.

I will provide a brief presentation on this item and be available to answer any questions prior to requesting Board approval.

RR

**RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT AND ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THE ANNUAL COMPREHENSIVE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025**

**WHEREAS**, the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is a Texas political subdivision and non-profit corporation organized and operating under Texas Local Government Code Chapter 391 as the regional planning commission for the 16-county North Central Texas region; and,

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

**WHEREAS**, NCTCOG's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) and single audit reports for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2025, are hereby submitted as audited by independent auditing firm Pattillo, Brown & Hill, LLP; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Audit Committee of the Executive Board and the Executive Board have been provided with the documents.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT:**

**Section 1.** The NCTCOG Executive Board accepts and acknowledges receipt of the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report and single audit reports for fiscal year 2025.

**Section 2.** This resolution shall be in effect immediately upon its adoption.

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Victoria Johnson, President  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
Councilmember, City of Burleson

I hereby certify that this Resolution was adopted by the Executive Board of the North Central Texas Council of Governments on February 26, 2026.

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Brandon J. Huckabee, Secretary/Treasurer  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
County Judge, Erath County



## North Central Texas Council of Governments

### **Item 16**

*Exhibit: 2026-02-16-EDO*

Meeting Date: February 26, 2026

Submitted By: Todd Little  
Executive Director

Item Title: Resolution Authorizing a Contract with Civic Solutions Partnership LLC for the NCTCOG Strategic Vision Plan through 2050

North Central Texas continues to experience significant population growth and economic expansion. The region is projected to grow from approximately 8.7 million residents today to more than 12.6 million residents by 2050. This growth will continue to create opportunities and challenges for local governments across transportation, infrastructure, workforce development, emergency response, environmental sustainability, and quality of life initiatives. To ensure that NCTCOG remains responsive to member governments and continues to effectively support regional planning and collaboration, the agency initiated a long-term strategic visioning effort to define organizational direction, priorities, and service delivery approaches through 2050.

In August 2025, the Executive Board approved a resolution authorizing staff to conduct a formal procurement process for a consultant to assist in guiding this long-term strategic visioning process. In response to Executive Board approval, NCTCOG prepared and issued Request for Proposals (RFP) 2025-094 for Strategic Visioning Process Through 2050. Thirty (30) proposals were received and publicly opened, and twenty-seven (27) were deemed responsive. Evaluation was conducted by a committee comprised of NCTCOG staff members. The evaluation process included the following phases:

- Phase 1: Scored the initial twenty-seven (27) proposals to determine the top ten (10) firms.
- Phase 2: Virtually interviewed the top ten (10) firms to identify the top three (3) firms.
- Phase 3: Interviewed the top three (3) firms in-person to determine the final selection of Civic Solutions Partnership LLC.

The recommended consulting firm, Civic Solutions Partnership LLC, demonstrated:

- Strong experience supporting regional governments and complex multi-stakeholder organizations
- A structured and actionable approach to long-range visioning and implementation
- Proven stakeholder engagement frameworks that align with NCTCOG's regional collaboration model
- The ability to integrate strategic planning with organizational culture, workforce development, and succession-oriented thinking
- A project approach that supports both immediate strategic direction and long-term adaptability

The resulting contract with Civic Solutions Partnership LLC will include, at a minimum, the following key deliverables:

- An Executive summary of the visioning process and outcomes
- A vision narrative for the agency's future
- An insightful analysis of emerging opportunities, challenges, and internal capabilities

- Strategic pathways and organizational recommendations for implementation
- Presentation-ready materials that can be shared across leadership and stakeholders

Approval of this item will allow NCTCOG to engage the awarded consultant and initiate the visioning process. A draft resolution authorizing a contract with Civic Solutions Partnership LLC for the NCTCOG Strategic Vision Plan Through 2050 for a maximum five (5) year term and in an amount not to exceed \$350,000 is attached for Executive Board consideration.

I will provide a brief presentation on this item and be available to answer any questions prior to requesting Board approval.

TL

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH CIVIC SOLUTIONS PARTNERSHIP LLC FOR THE NCTCOG STRATEGIC VISION PLAN THROUGH 2050**

**WHEREAS**, the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is a Texas political subdivision and non-profit corporation organized and operating under Texas Local Government Code Chapter 391 as the regional planning commission for the 16-county North Central Texas region; and,

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

**WHEREAS**, following the recent appointment of a new Executive Director, NCTCOG initiated a formal procurement process to evaluate qualified consulting firms to guide the agency through a strategic visioning process to define a long-term organizational direction; and,

**WHEREAS**, Request for Proposals (RFP) 2025-094 for Strategic Visioning Process Through 2050 was advertised and proposals received on October 22, 2025; and,

**WHEREAS**, proposals were evaluated by a committee comprised of NCTCOG staff in a multiple-round evaluation process; and,

**WHEREAS**, following evaluation, it is recommended that a contract be awarded to Civic Solutions Partnership LLC; and,

**WHEREAS**, NCTCOG has complied with federal and State regulations regarding contract and procurement proceedings for this procurement 2025-094.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT:**

**Section 1.** A contract between NCTCOG and Civic Solutions Partnership LLC for the NCTCOG Strategic Vision Plan Through 2050, for a maximum five (5) year term and in an amount not to exceed \$350,000, be and is hereby approved.

**Section 2.** The Executive Director or his designee is authorized to execute necessary agreements to carry out the initiatives described herein, in the name of the North Central Texas Council of Governments.

**Section 3.** This resolution shall be in effect immediately upon its adoption.

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Victoria Johnson, President  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
Councilmember, City of Burleson

I hereby certify that this Resolution was adopted by the Executive Board of the North Central Texas Council of Governments on February 26, 2026.

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Brandon Huckabee, Secretary-Treasurer  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
County Judge, Erath County



# NCTCOG Strategic Vision Plan Consultant Engagement

Request for Authorization to Sign a Contract with Civic Solutions Partnership LLC

Presented by: Todd Little, NCTCOG Executive Director

February 26, 2026

2/26/2026

NCTCOG Strategic Vision Plan Through 2050: Contract Authorization Request Briefing

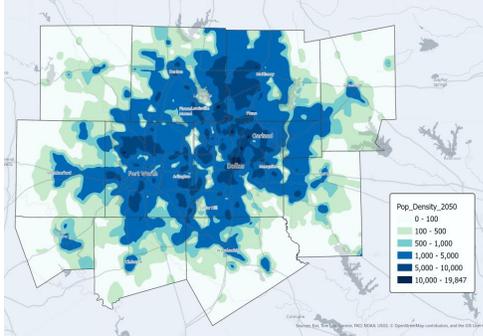
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## Presentation Overview

- North Central Texas continues to experience rapid growth and increasing complexity.
- NCTCOG seeks to proactively position the organization for long-term resilience and strategic alignment.
- In August 2025, the Executive Board authorized the procurement of a consultant to lead a long-term strategic visioning process.
- Today's item fulfills that authorization by requesting approval to execute a contract.



# Strategic Vision Context



- The population in the NCTCOG region is projected to grow from 8.7 million today to 12.6 million by 2050.
- NCTCOG must evolve to remain responsive to member governments.
- Supports our mission to:
  - Assist in regional planning
  - Strengthen local governments
  - Recognize and address regional opportunities
  - Avoid duplication and promote joint decisions

# Procurement Approach



- Formal Request for Proposals issued
- Transparent and competitive process
- Multi-phase evaluation designed to identify best-fit firm:
  - Initial Evaluation
  - Virtual 1<sup>st</sup> Round Interviews
  - In-Person 2<sup>nd</sup> Round Interviews
  - Final Selection

# Recommended Firm

## Recommended Consultant: Civic Solutions Partnership LLC

### Demonstrated:

- Experience supporting regional governments and complex organizations
- Stakeholder engagement frameworks that align with NCTCOG’s regional collaboration model
- Ability to incorporate organizational culture, workforce development, and succession-oriented thinking
- A project approach that supports immediate strategic direction *and* long-term adaptability
- An actionable approach to implementation



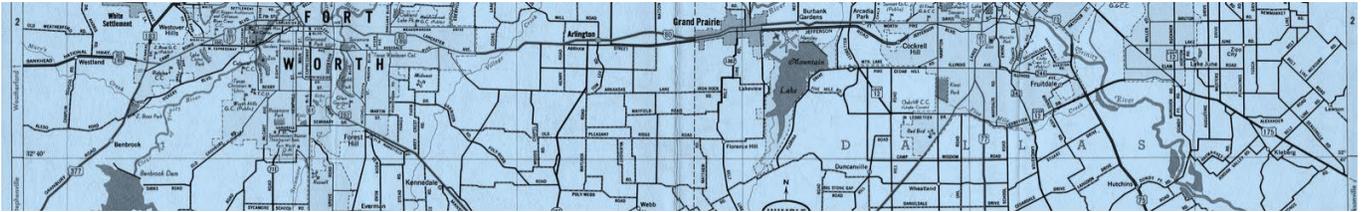
# Timeline & Key Touchpoints

Milestone	Estimated Timeframe
Finalize RFP Language & Scope	Late August 2025
Issue RFP	Mid-September 2025
Vendor Response Window	September – October 2025 (30–60 days)
Close RFP	Late October 2025
Evaluate Proposals + Finalist Interviews	November 2025 – January 2026
Board Approval of Selected Consultant	February 2026
Initiate Consultant Engagement	March – April 2026
Final Deliverables Received	March – September 2027 (12-18 month process)



# What Is Being Requested Today?

Authorization to sign a contract with Civic Solutions Partnership LLC for a maximum five (5) year term and in an amount not to exceed \$350,000.



## Q&A



## North Central Texas Council of Governments

### ***Item 17***

*Exhibit: 2026-02-17-TR*

Meeting Date: February 26, 2026

Submitted By: Michael Morris, P.E.  
Director of Transportation

Item Title: Resolution Endorsing Submittal of Fiscal Year 2026 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development Grant Program Applications to the United States Department of Transportation

In November 2025, the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) announced the solicitation of project applications for the \$1.5 billion Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant Program, dedicated for surface transportation infrastructure projects that will have a significant local or regional impact. Applications are due to the USDOT by February 24, 2026.

The Regional Transportation Council (RTC) requested the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) apply for three capital projects through the FY2026 BUILD Grant Program. The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will be the implementing agent for each of these projects:

- **United States (US) Highway 287/Prairie Ridge Project** – With an estimated total cost of \$78,085,417, this project will expedite freeway grade separations in south Grand Prairie to address safety, mobility, and connectivity in a fast-growing and flood-prone area. This project's application requests \$25 million in FY2026 BUILD Grant funds to be packaged with Federal allocations of TxDOT Category 2 and Category 4 funds, along with TxDOT non-Federal matching funds against each of those contributions.
- **State Highway (SH) 183/Pumphrey Drive Bettering Access, Safety, and Efficiency (BASE) Project** – Located in Westworth Village immediately adjacent to the Fort Worth Naval Air Station/Joint Reserve Base main gate, this \$52.25 million project will rebuild the SH 183 junction with Pumphrey Drive and Roaring Springs Road for improved multimodal capacity, safety, and accessibility in support of the region's largest military asset. This project's application requests \$25 million in FY2026 BUILD Grant funds to be packaged with a Federal allocation of TxDOT Category 2 funds, along with TxDOT non-Federal matching funds against those contributions.
- **Farm-to-Market Road (FM) 917/Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway (BNSF) Grade Separation Project** – With an estimated total cost of \$37,634,857, this project will realign and grade separate FM 917 across the BNSF corridor in downtown Joshua to improve multimodal safety and mobility, as well as catalyze context-sensitive

redevelopment. This project's application requests \$15,867,866 in FY2026 BUILD Grant funds to be packaged with a Federal allocation of TxDOT Category 2 funds, along with TxDOT non-Federal matching funds against those contributions, TxDOT preliminary engineering funds, and TxDOT right-of-way funds.

The RTC approved submittal of these applications at the February 12, 2026, meeting, with a total of \$65,867,886 in FY2026 BUILD Grant funds requested for the three projects. In its role as the RTC's fiscal agent, Executive Board endorsement of these grant applications will be requested. If selected, NCTCOG will work with USDOT on the most efficient method for transferring awarded funds to the region, while also collaborating with the implementing agent, affected stakeholders, and funding partners on project delivery functions.

A draft resolution endorsing submittal of FY2026 BUILD Grant applications, is attached for Executive Board consideration. I will provide a brief presentation on this item and will be available to answer any questions prior to requesting Board approval.

JN:bw  
Attachment

**RESOLUTION ENDORSING SUBMITTAL OF FISCAL YEAR 2026 BETTER UTILIZING INVESTMENTS TO LEVERAGE DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATIONS TO THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**WHEREAS**, the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is a Texas political subdivision and nonprofit corporation organized and operating under Texas Local Government Code Chapter 391 as the regional planning commission for the 16-county North Central Texas region; and,

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

**WHEREAS**, NCTCOG has been designated as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Dallas-Fort Worth Metropolitan Area by the Governor of the State of Texas in accordance with federal law; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Regional Transportation Council (RTC), serving as the MPO Policy Committee comprised primarily of local elected officials, is the regional transportation policy body associated with NCTCOG, and has been and continues to be the regional forum for cooperative decisions on transportation; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Dallas-Fort Worth region is in nonattainment of the federal air quality standard for ozone and NCTCOG is actively involved in the development and implementation of the State Implementation Plan for air quality; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 and FY2027 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) includes project development, technical support for transportation corridors, and surface access to aviation planning; and,

**WHEREAS**, in November 2025, the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) announced project solicitation for the FY2026 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant Program; and,

**WHEREAS**, on February 12, 2026, the RTC approved the submittal of three applications requesting a total of \$65,867,886 in funding under the FY2026 BUILD Program, packaged with federal allocations of TxDOT Category 2 and Category 4 funds, along with TxDOT non-federal matching funds against those contributions, TxDOT preliminary engineering funds, and TxDOT right-of-way funds.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT:**

**Section 1.** The NCTCOG Executive Board endorses the submittal of three FY2026 BUILD Grant applications to the USDOT requesting the total amount of \$65,867,886, as detailed in Attachment 1, which includes other committed federal and non-federal funding contributions.

**Section 2.** The Executive Board instructs staff to work with USDOT and partner agencies to determine the most efficient methods to bring those funds to the region, with the intention for the Texas Department of Transportation to be the implementing agent for the proposed projects.

**Section 3.** NCTCOG is authorized to receive approximately \$65,867,886 in FY2026 BUILD Grant funds and any required non-federal matching funds subject to Section 2.

**Section 4.** These funds shall be incorporated into the appropriate Fiscal Year budgets, Transportation Improvement Program, Unified Planning Work Program, and other planning/administrative documents.

**Section 5.** The Executive Director or his designee is authorized to execute necessary agreements in the name of the North Central Texas Council of Governments to carry out the initiatives described herein, including any such instruments with TxDOT for any non-federal matching funds.

**Section 6.** This resolution shall be in effect immediately upon its adoption.

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Victoria Johnson, President  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
Councilmember, City of Burleson

I hereby certify that this resolution was adopted by the Executive Board of the North Central Texas Council of Governments on February 26, 2026.

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Brandon Huckabee, Secretary-Treasurer  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
County Judge, Erath County

# FY2026 BUILD Grant Program – NCTCOG Applications: Cost/Funding Breakdown – US 287/Prairie Ridge Project



PROJECT			COST/FUNDING BREAKDOWN			
TITLE	DESCRIPTION/LIMITS	URBAN/RURAL	NON-FEDERAL	FEDERAL (Other)	FEDERAL (BUILD)	TOTAL COST
<b>US 287/ Prairie Ridge</b>	Expedite US 287 grade separations in south Grand Prairie to address safety, mobility, and connectivity in fast-growing/flood-prone area.	<b>RURAL</b>	\$23,777,083 (30%)	\$29,308,334 (38%)	<b>\$25,000,000</b> (32%)	<b>\$78,085,417</b>

**Non-Federal:** \$6,250,000 (TxDOT BUILD Grant Match) + \$3,663,542 (TxDOT Category 2 Match) + \$3,663,541 (TxDOT Category 4 Match)  
**Federal (Other):** \$14,654,167 (Category 2 Funds - Federal Only) + \$14,654,167 (TxDOT Category 4 Funds - Federal Only)



# FY2026 BUILD Grant Program – NCTCOG Applications: Cost/Funding Breakdown – SH 183/Pumphrey Dr BASE Project



Looking NE at Pumphrey Drive & Roaring Springs Road



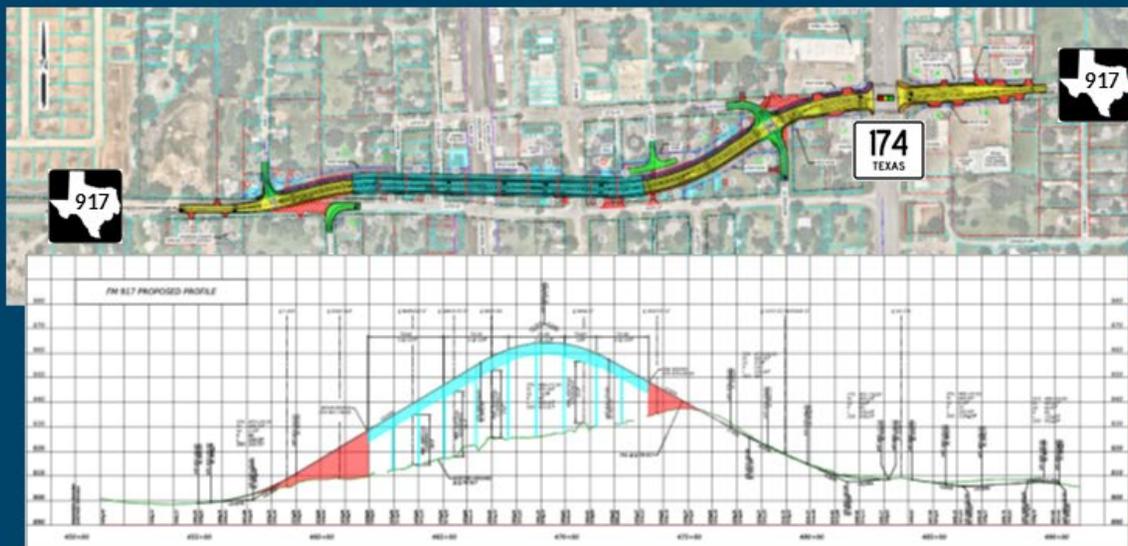
Project total does not include \$6,000,000 previously approved in 2025-2028 TIP (\$3,000,000 – Engineering, \$3,000,000 – ROW/Utilities)

PROJECT			COST/FUNDING BREAKDOWN			
TITLE	DESCRIPTION/LIMITS	URBAN/RURAL	NON-FEDERAL	FEDERAL (Other)	FEDERAL (BUILD)	TOTAL COST
<b>SH 183/ Pumphrey</b>	Rebuild SH 183 junction with Pumphrey Dr and Roaring Springs Rd for improved multimodal capacity, safety, and NAS JRB accessibility.	<b>URBAN</b>	\$10,450,000 (20%)	\$16,800,000 (32%)	<b>\$25,000,000</b> (48%)	<b>\$52,250,000</b>

**Non-Federal:** \$4,200,000 (TxDOT Category 2 Match) + \$6,250,000 (TxDOT BUILD Grant Match)  
**Federal (Other):** \$16,800,000 (TxDOT Category 2 Funds – Federal Only)



# FY2026 BUILD Grant Program – NCTCOG Applications: Cost/Funding Breakdown – FM 917/BNSF Grade Separation Project



PROJECT			COST/FUNDING BREAKDOWN			
TITLE	DESCRIPTION/LIMITS	URBAN/RURAL	NON-FEDERAL	FEDERAL (Other)	FEDERAL (BUILD)	TOTAL COST
<b>FM 917/ BNSF</b>	Realign and grade separate FM 917 at BNSF in downtown Joshua to improve multimodal safety/mobility and context-sensitive redevelopment	<b>RURAL</b>	\$11,366,971 (30%)	\$10,400,000 (28%)	<b>\$15,867,886</b> (42%)	<b>\$37,634,857</b>

**Non-Federal:** \$2,600,000 (TxDOT Category 2 Match) + \$3,966,971 (TxDOT BUILD Grant Match) + \$1,100,000 (TxDOT PE Funds) + \$3,700,000 (TxDOT ROW Funds)  
**Federal (Other):** \$10,400,000 (TxDOT Category 2 Funds – Federal only)





**North Central Texas Council of Governments**

***Item 18***

*Exhibit: 2026-02-18-TR*

Meeting Date: February 26, 2026

Submitted By: Michael Morris, P.E.  
Director of Transportation

Item Title: Resolution Authorizing an Agreement with the City of Fort Worth for Increased Police Presence to Combat Aggressive Driving and Road Rage

The Regional Transportation Council (RTC) has set aside \$7 Million to partner with local law enforcement agencies to combat aggressive driving and road rage to help reduce fatalities on North Texas roadways as part of the RTC Safety Program. To identify corridors and phases of implementation for this funding, a strategic selection of safety corridors was approved by the RTC in June 2025. As part of this approval, filtering criteria for corridor selection was approved, including corridors with high-speed limits (freeways), high crash characteristics (crashes by month, day of week and time of day) and corridors with highest observed speeds based on Texas Department of Transportation data. The RTC also approved a phased approach with a pilot phase followed by an implementation phase.

North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) staff reviewed the data and reached out to communities that have corridors that meet these criteria. The City of Fort Worth responded and would like to partner with NCTCOG on a pilot to measure impact. In its role as RTC's fiscal agent, Executive Board approval will be requested to enter into an agreement with the City of Fort Worth to implement a pilot for an amount not to exceed \$200,000. Projects funded through the RTC Safety Program will utilize up to \$200,000 of Surface Transportation Block Grant Program funds and 50,000 Transportation Development Credits in lieu of local cash match.

A draft resolution authorizing an agreement with the City of Fort Worth to conduct a pilot program to combat aggressive driving and road rage is attached for Executive Board consideration. I will be available to answer any questions the Board may have on this item.

VM:cc  
Attachment

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF FORT WORTH FOR INCREASED POLICE PRESENCE TO COMBAT AGGRESSIVE DRIVING AND ROAD RAGE**

**WHEREAS**, the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is a Texas political subdivision and non-profit corporation organized and operating under Texas Local Government Code Chapter 391 as the regional planning commission for the 16-county North Central Texas region; and,

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

**WHEREAS**, NCTCOG has been designated as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Dallas-Fort Worth Metropolitan Area by the Governor of the State of Texas in accordance with federal law; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) serves as the MPO Policy Committee, comprised primarily of local elected officials, and is the regional transportation policy body associated with NCTCOG, and has been and continues to be the regional forum for cooperative decisions on transportation; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Dallas-Fort Worth region is in nonattainment of the federal air quality standard for ozone and NCTCOG is actively involved in the development and implementation of the State Implementation Plan for air quality; and,

**WHEREAS**, the RTC has set aside \$7 Million to partner with local law enforcement agencies to combat aggressive driving and road rage to help reduce fatalities on North Texas roadways as part of the RTC Safety Program; and,

**WHEREAS**, on June 12, 2025, the RTC approved the criteria for the Strategic Selection of Safety Corridors in the region for the purpose of building partnerships with law enforcement agencies along those corridors to target aggressive driving and road rage; and,

**WHEREAS**, agencies that contained identified Safety Corridors were contacted and the City of Fort Worth Police Department responded expressing interest to partner with NCTCOG on a pilot to measure impact.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT:**

**Section 1.** An Agreement between NCTCOG and the City of Fort Worth in an amount not to exceed \$200,000 in Surface Transportation Block Grant Program funds be and is hereby approved.

**Section 2.** The Executive Director or his designee is authorized to execute necessary agreements in the name of the North Central Texas Council of Governments to carry out the initiatives described herein.

**Section 3.** This resolution shall be in effect immediately upon its adoption.

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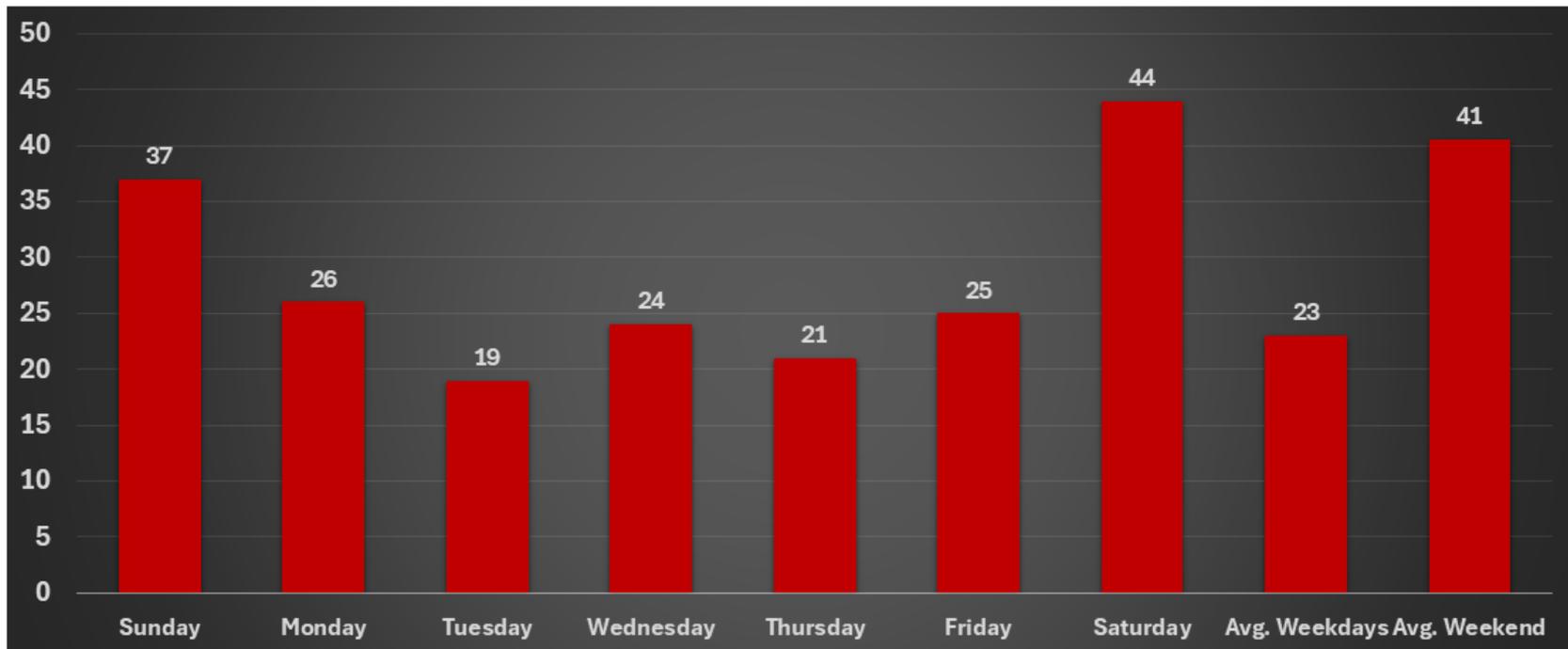
Victoria Johnson, President  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
Councilmember, City of Burleson

I hereby certify that this resolution was adopted by the Executive Board of the North Central Texas Council of Governments on February 26, 2026.

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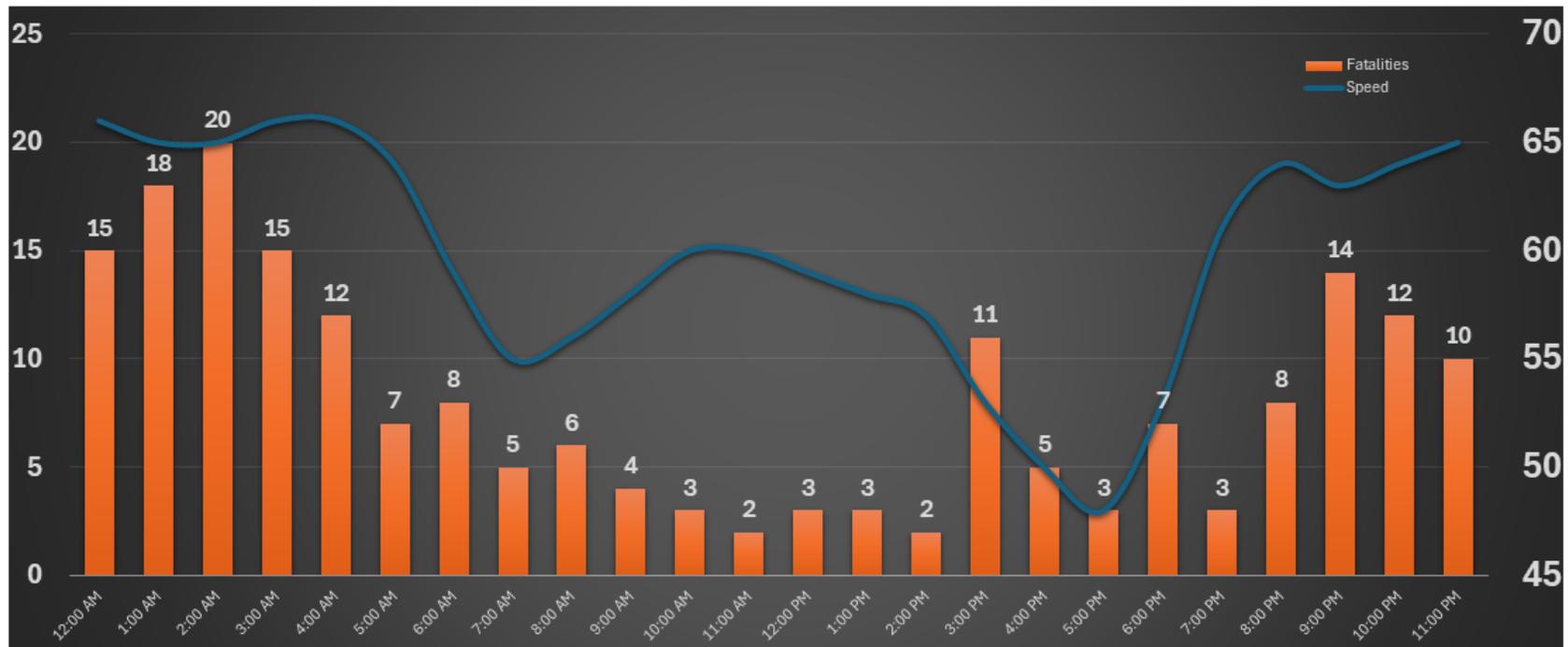
Brandon Huckabee, Secretary-Treasurer  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
County Judge, Erath County

# DISTRIBUTION OF FATALITIES ON FREEWAYS AND RAMPS BY DAY OF WEEK (2024)



Source: TxDOT Crash Record Information System

# FATALITIES ON FREEWAYS AND RAMPS BY TIME OF DAY (2024)



Source: TxDOT Crash Record Information System



**North Central Texas Council of Governments**

***Item 19***

*Exhibit: 2026-02-19-EDO*

Meeting Date: February 26, 2026

Submitted By: Ken Kirkpatrick  
General Counsel

Item Title: Bylaws Review Committee Report and Consideration of Resolution Recommending General Assembly Enactment of the Amended Bylaws of the North Central Texas Council of Governments

Last month, the Bylaws Review Committee presented its proposed Amended NCTCOG Bylaws for review and consideration to the Executive Board. Based on the discussion and feedback received, the Committee met on February 5, 2026, and reviewed the four considerations below:

1. Non-elected concern for Immediate Past President (Section V. K);
2. Process to fill a vacancy from a “dedicated” seat (Section V. M);
3. Appropriateness of term limitation and whether it’s consecutive (Section X); and
4. Mechanics around General Assembly appointment process for “dedicated” seats.

Following review, the Committee is proposing edits to address items 1 – 3 above and cataloguing item 4 for consideration when the Bylaws are next reviewed. The fully revised redline version of the Amended Bylaws is enclosed in Attachment 1, with the new revisions since last month reflected in blue.

If approved, the Amended Bylaws will be presented for enactment to the General Assembly at its June 2026 meeting. A draft resolution recommending General Assembly enactment of the Amended Bylaws of the North Central Texas Council of Governments is attached for Executive Board consideration. I will provide a brief presentation on this matter and will be available to answer any questions the Board may have.

**BYLAWS REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT AND CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION  
RECOMMENDING GENERAL ASSEMBLY ENACTMENT OF THE AMENDED BYLAWS OF THE  
NORTH CENTRAL TEXAS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

**WHEREAS**, the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is a Texas political subdivision and non-profit corporation organized and operating under Texas Local Government Code Chapter 391 as the regional planning commission for the 16-county North Central Texas region; and,

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

**WHEREAS**, the NCTCOG Bylaws were last amended in 2018; and,

**WHEREAS**, the NCTCOG President, Councilmember Victoria Johnson, appointed a Bylaws Review Committee in August 2025 to comprehensively review the Bylaws and recommend any changes necessary to comport with current law and practices; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Bylaws Review Committee met numerous times throughout the fall of 2025 and early 2026 to consider potential revisions with support from NCTCOG staff; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Bylaws Review Committee reviewed the proposed Amended Bylaws and recommended forwarding to the NCTCOG Executive Board for consideration; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Executive Board has reviewed the Amended Bylaws and is in favor of the revisions contained therein; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Executive Board desires to recommend General Assembly enactment of the Amended Bylaws at its June 2026 annual meeting.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT:**

**Section 1.** The Executive Board recommends General Assembly enactment of the Amended Bylaws of the North Central Texas Council of Governments in substantially similar form to Attachment 1.

**Section 2.** The Executive Board acknowledges the revisions contained in the Amended Bylaws were submitted to it in writing on this date, February 26, 2026.

**Section 3.** This resolution shall be in effect immediately upon its adoption.

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Victoria Johnson, President  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
Councilmember, City of Burleson

I hereby certify that this Resolution was adopted by the Executive Board of the North Central Texas Council of Governments on February 26, 2026.

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Brandon Huckabee, Secretary-Treasurer  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
County Judge, Erath County

**AMENDED AND RESTATED BYLAWS (REVISED) OF THE**  
**North Central Texas Council of Governments**

~~2018~~2026  
\*\*\*\*\*

**INTRODUCTION**

The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is the regional planning commission for the 16-county Texas State Planning Region 4 comprising Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Erath, Hood, Hunt, Johnson, Kaufman, Navarro, Palo Pinto, Parker, Rockwall, Somervell, Tarrant and Wise counties. NCTCOG is a Texas political subdivision and non-profit corporation organized and operating under Texas Local Government Code Chapter 391.

**STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES AND POLICIES**

1. The underlying concept of the North Central Texas Council of Governments (hereinafter referred to as the Council) is that the general purpose units of government, which are closest to the people, should exercise the basic initiative and leadership and have the primary responsibility for dealing with those problems and needs which require action on an areawide or regional basis.
2. The physical, economic, and social well-being of the region, its citizens and business enterprises, now and in the future, are dependent upon an orderly development of the entire region. This will be possible only with the successful coordination of governmental services and policies.
3. Counties and cities are the principal units of local government in the region. As such, they have the responsibility for anticipating and meeting the local governmental needs which future development will produce, including the need for joint and coordinated areawide services.
4. County and city governing bodies are, and should continue to be, the top policy makers in local government. They are directly concerned with all services and regulations affecting the public in their communities.
5. Constructive and workable policies and programs for meeting and solving the areawide problems of local government will be most effectively and expeditiously developed by regular meetings of governmental unit members in an areawide voluntary council dedicated to the solution of these problems.
6. The Council is an organization through which individual governmental units can coordinate their efforts. It is not in itself a government nor does it seek to become one.
7. The Council shall consider such matters as are areawide or regional in nature or as requested by or deemed beneficial to its member governments.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

### Section I.

Membership in the Council of Governments shall be voluntary and will be determined by passage of a resolution, the payment of dues, and shall be open to the following eligible entities:

- A. Any county in State Planning Region 4, as determined by the Office of the Governor, State of Texas.
- B. Any incorporated cities, municipalities, towns, and villages within State Planning Region 4, as determined by the Office of the Governor, State of Texas.
- C. Any authority, district or other political subdivision of the State within State Planning Region 4, as determined by the Office of the Governor, State of Texas.

## **GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

### Section II.

- A. The General Assembly shall be composed of one (1) elected or appointed public official from each governmental member of the Council whose annual dues are current. The General Assembly shall be responsible for the election of officers, directors and for amendments to these Bylaws except as otherwise provided herein.
- B. The members present at any Assembly meeting shall constitute a quorum, and the majority vote of said members shall decide any business under consideration except Bylaws. Bylaws may be revised by an affirmative vote of seventy-five percent (75%) of the members present. (See Section XI.)
- C. The General Assembly shall elect a President, Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer, and Directors to serve on the Executive Board.

## **GENERAL MEMBERSHIP (GENERAL ASSEMBLY) MEETINGS**

### Section III.

- A. An annual membership meeting of the General Assembly shall be held after the municipal elections for the purpose of electing Officers and Directors to the Executive Board. Additional meetings may be called by the Executive Board, as necessary. General membership meetings shall be for the purposes of amending Bylaws, electing officers, and conducting any other business which may be deemed appropriate.

- B. Written notice of the time, date and location of general membership meetings shall be transmitted to each member government entitled to vote thereat (at the member's physical or electronic address as it appears on the books of the Council) at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting.
- C. Special general membership meetings, for any purpose or purposes, shall be called by the President at the written request of a majority of the members of the General Assembly.
- D. Written notice of special general membership meetings, stating the time, place, and object of such meetings, and the business to be transacted, shall be transmitted to each member government entitled to vote thereat, at least ten (10) days before such meeting. Business transacted at all special meetings shall be confined to the objects and business to be transacted as stated in the notice.
- E. The time, date, and location of all general membership meetings shall be determined by the President as recommended by the Executive Board.

### **ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

#### Section IV.

- A. The Council shall be concerned with the planning of the region with respect to transportation, water supply, storm water, waste water, flood management, emergency management, work force development, community services, data support services, land use, environmental protection, public facilities, conservation, and any other governmental functions beneficial to its members. Such Council shall be vested with full authority to perform all acts, to render all services, to initiate all studies and to make all recommendations authorized by law. The Council is authorized to apply for, contract for, receive and expend for its purposes, any funds or grants from any participating governmental unit or from the State of Texas, Federal Government, or any other sources, and to contract with and receive payments for services rendered to any incorporated municipality, the State of Texas or any of its political subdivisions, or the Federal Government. The Council shall have no power to levy any character of tax whatsoever. The participating governmental units shall pay annual dues, as determined by the Executive Board, to the Council to help offset the costs and expenses required in the performance of its purpose.

The Council is empowered to make use of funds to employ staff and/or agents, rent office space, and contract for goods and services as it deems necessary to expeditiously carry to completion any studies, activities and/or programs with which it may be charged.

- B. A member government(s) may request the Council to conduct or administer a special study, activity or service on their behalf wherein they agree to pay or share in the costs of such. If said study, activity or service is deemed feasible by the Council, it may enter into an agreement(s) with the member government(s) and any other interested parties to conduct same.

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

### Section V.

- A. The Executive Board shall constitute the Board of Directors and governing body of the Council and shall be responsible for the general policies, programs and the control of funds.
- B. The Executive Board shall also be responsible for approving a work program, including a complement of personnel to implement it, adopting the annual budget following a public hearing of such budget, and making necessary amendments to the budget during the fiscal year.
- C. The Executive Board shall be empowered to appoint an Executive Director as the chief administrative and executive officer of the Council.
- D. The Executive Board shall be empowered to employ consultants and to authorize contracts necessary to carry out the business of the Council.
- E. The Executive Board shall be empowered to appoint study committees, technical advisory committees, and policy development committees deemed necessary to carry out the business of the Council.
- F. The President of the Executive Board shall appoint a nominating committee, ~~comprised~~ composed of the most recent fifteen (15) NCTCOG Past Presidents, to prepare a slate of Officer and Director candidates for consideration at the annual membership meeting of the General Assembly. The minimum quorum for such nominating committee to conduct its business shall be five (5) Past Presidents. In the event quorum cannot be reached amongst the most recent 15 Past Presidents, the most recent 16<sup>th</sup> Past President shall be invited to participate, or in their unavailability or absence the 17<sup>th</sup> Past President, and so on until the quorum is satisfied. The President shall preside over but not be a voting member of the nominating committee.
- G. The Executive Board shall meet regularly at least once each month, unless otherwise determined by its members, to conduct the continuing business of the Council.
- H. Representation on the Board shall meet the following minimum requirements at all times:
- Counties (6 Seats)
- Four (4) locally elected officials on the Board shall be representatives from the four (4) largest populated member Counties (one from each County), as of the last official census.
  - One (1) locally elected official on the Board shall be from a member County with a population of between Seventy Five Thousand (75,000) and Six Hundred Fifty Thousand (650,000), as of the last official census.

- One (1) locally elected official on the Board shall be from a member County with a population of less than Seventy Five Thousand (< 75,000), as of the last official census.

Cities (10 Seats)

- Three (3) locally elected officials on the Board shall be representatives from the three (3) largest populated member Cities (one from each City), as of the last official census.
- One (1) locally elected official on the Board shall be from a member City with a population of between Two Hundred Thousand (200,000) and Three Hundred Fifty Thousand (350,000), as of the last official census.
- One (1) locally elected official on the Board shall be from a member City with a population of between One Hundred Thousand (100,000) and Two Hundred Thousand (200,000), as of the last official census.
- One (1) locally elected official on the Board shall be from a member City with a population of between Fifty Thousand (50,000) and One Hundred Thousand (100,000), as of the last official census.
- One (1) locally elected official on the Board shall be from a member City with a population of between Twenty Thousand (20,000) and Fifty Thousand (50,000), as of the last official census.
- One (1) locally elected official on the Board shall be from a member City with a population of less than Twenty Thousand (20,000), as of the last official census.
- One (1) locally elected official on the Board shall be from a member City with a population of between Fifty Thousand (50,000) and Three Hundred Fifty Thousand (350,000), as of the last official census.
- One (1) locally elected official on the Board shall be from a member City with a population of less than Fifty Thousand (< 50,000), as of the last official census.

No entity shall have more than one representative on the Board at any one time, with the exception that the Past President shall serve in a designated position on the Board and shall not be deemed to be a representative of any specific entity.

- I. The Executive Board shall be composed of the following members:
  1. The Immediate Past President of the Council;
  2. The sixteen (16) Directors of the Council; and,
  3. One (1) ex-officio, non-voting member who is a Texas State Legislator representing a Legislative District that is located in-whole or in-part in a county holding membership in the North Central Texas Council of Governments for so long as required by State law.
  
- J. Each member of the Executive Board shall be entitled to one vote, with the exception of the President who will only vote in the event of a tie. Members must be in attendance to vote. Attendance via telephone and/or videoconference is allowable when permitted by State law and as prescribed by Board resolution.

- K. The membership of the Executive Board shall always be composed of elected local government officials except as provided in ~~I.1 and~~ I.3. above or, subject to nominating committee approval, in the event the Immediate Past President no longer holds local elected office.
- L. A majority of the Executive Board members in office immediately before a meeting, excluding the ex-officio, non-voting member, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. No business shall be considered by the Board at any meeting at which a quorum is not present.
- M. Should a vacancy lasting more than sixty (60) calendar days occur in the Officers or Directors of the Executive Board, a successor shall be appointed by the remaining members of the Board to fill the unexpired term and in accordance with Section V. H. Specific to Director vacancies occurring in the four (4) largest populated member counties and three (3) largest populated member cities, the Executive Board shall consider the successor nomination provided by the member entity in which the vacancy occurs.
- N. The Executive Board shall establish an Ethics Policy, consistent with State law related to Metropolitan Planning Organizations, which is applicable to Board members and employees.

#### **DIRECTOR AND OFFICER LIABILITY AND INDEMNIFICATION**

##### Section VI.

- A. No Director or Officer of the Council shall be personally liable to the Council or any other person for an action taken or omission made by the Director or Officer in such person's capacity as a Director or Officer unless a Director's or Officer's conduct was not exercised (1) in good faith, (2) with ordinary care, and (3) in a manner the Director or Officer reasonably believed to be in the best interest of the Council.
- B. The Council shall indemnify and reimburse a Director or Officer for necessary expenses and costs, including attorney's fees, judgments, fines and amounts reasonably paid in settlement, incurred by the Director or Officer in connection with any claim asserted against the Director or Officer in their respective capacity as a Director or Officer so long as the Director's or Officer's conduct was/is determined by the Executive Board to have been exercised (1) in good faith, (2) with ordinary care, and (3) in a manner the Director or Officer reasonably believed to be in the best interest of the Council.

#### **WAIVER OF NOTICE**

##### Section VII.

Whenever any notice is required to be given under the provisions of the Bylaws to any member, a waiver thereof in writing signed by the person or persons entitled to

such notice, whether before or after the time stated therein, shall be deemed equivalent thereto.

### **ADVISORY GROUPS**

#### Section VIII.

- A. It is the intent of this organization that the Council shall, when advisable, seek the advice and cooperation of interested citizen groups in the formulation of recommendations and to establish the priority of projects for consideration.
- B. The Council may recommend to the Executive Board the establishment of such citizen and/or technical advisory committees as may be necessary to effectively carry out the business of the Council.

### **FINANCES**

#### Section IX.

All checks or demands for money and notes of the corporation shall be signed by such officer or officers, or such persons as the Executive Board may from time to time designate.

### **ELECTIONS, ~~AND OFFICERS'~~ TERMS AND DUTIES**

#### Section X.

Election of Officers and Directors to the Executive Board will be conducted at the annual membership meeting of the General Assembly. The elected Officers and Directors shall hold office for one (1) year, said term to begin immediately following the aforementioned meeting and continuing through the next annual membership meeting or until such time as a replacement has been duly elected in accordance with Section V. M. Directors shall have the opportunity to serve additional one (1) year terms, subject to nominating committee approval. No Director shall serve more than four (4) consecutive one (1) year terms unless elected to be an Officer. This term limitation shall not apply to Directors representing the four (4) largest populated member counties or three (3) largest populated member cities. To promote continuity of leadership, the Secretary-Treasurer shall be promoted to Vice President, the Vice President shall be promoted to President, and the President, upon completion of their term, shall be appointed to Past President, subject to nominating committee approval.

#### Section XI.

The Officers of the Executive Board shall be President, Vice President, and Secretary-Treasurer. The President shall preside at meetings of the Executive

Board and perform all duties incident to his or her office and such other duties as may be required by law, by these Bylaws, or which may be prescribed from time to time by the Executive Board. The Vice President shall assume all duties and responsibilities of the President in his or her absence, or in the event of the President's inability or refusal to act. The Vice President shall have other powers and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by law, these Bylaws, or by the Executive Board. The Secretary-Treasurer shall be responsible for oversight of the keeping of the records of the Executive Board's actions and shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by law, these Bylaws, or by the Executive Board. In the event the President and Vice President are both absent, the Executive Board shall elect a temporary President by majority vote to serve for the duration of the meeting. The temporary President shall have all powers and responsibilities of the President during said meeting, except the power to appoint committees.

## Section XII.

An Executive Committee composed of the President, Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer and Immediate Past President may be constituted to serve in an advisory role to the NCTCOG Executive Director regarding matters affecting the organization.

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS**

## Section XIII.

These Bylaws may be altered, amended, or added to by written ballots from the members or by action of the General Assembly or Executive Board, provided:

- A. Proposed changes shall contain a full statement of the proposed amendment or amendments.
- B. The enactment of the amendment by written ballots shall require a majority vote of the city and county member governments.
- C. The enactment of amendments at the General Assembly shall require an affirmative vote of seventy-five percent (75%) of the members present at the General Assembly and shall be submitted in writing to the Executive Board at least sixty (60) days prior to the General Assembly.
- D. The enactment of amendments by the Executive Board shall require a majority vote and shall be limited to only those changes necessary to conform the Bylaws to State law. Any such changes by the Executive Board shall be transmitted in writing to all member governments within thirty (30) days of enactment.

## **BUDGETS AND PAYMENTS**

### Section XI V.

- A. The fiscal year of the organization shall begin on the first day of October in each year.
- B. The annual budget, including the dues structure, for the organization shall be prepared and submitted to the Executive Board for approval and adoption on or before the last day of September of each year, after a public hearing thereon.
- C. New members may join the Council upon the pro-rated payment of dues for the remaining portion of the current fiscal year.
- D. The annual dues for city and county member governments shall be established in accordance with current population of such member governments as certified annually by the Council. All other member governments shall pay annual dues as established by the Executive Board.
- E. The books of the Council shall be audited annually by a certified public accountant or accountants, and the audit report shall be approved by the Executive Board and be available no later than six (6) months after the close of the fiscal year.



**North Central Texas Council of Governments**

***Item 20***

*Exhibit: 2026-02-20-TR*

Meeting Date: February 26, 2026

Submitted By: Michael Morris, P.E.  
Director of Transportation

Item Title: Status Report on Metropolitan Planning Organization Revolver Funds and  
Regional Transportation Council Local Pool

The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is required to pay for expenses associated with projects and programs it implements before federal reimbursement can be requested. To do this, the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Revolver Fund was created to hold local funds that pay these invoices. In September and December 2015, the RTC approved the programming of projects to establish the MPO Revolver Fund. The MPO Revolver Fund is reimbursed as federal/State reimbursements are received. This memo refers to this fund as the “Permanent MPO Revolver Fund.”

The Executive Board also authorized the Transportation Director to move interest between the Permanent MPO Revolver Fund, the Temporary MPO Revolver Fund, and the RTC Local Fund Pool based on need. This action also requires staff provide a semi-annual report to the Executive Board on the status of the MPO Revolver Funds and RTC Local Pool including interest transferred, if any, between funds. The Director has not moved any interest funds between accounts. Each account continues to accrue its own interest.

Attached is a summary of the status of the Permanent MPO Revolver, the Temporary MPO Revolver, and the RTC Local Fund Pool. I will provide a brief presentation on this item and be available to answer questions from the Board.

BM  
Attachment

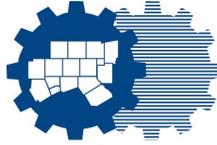
RTC LOCAL Accounts (January 30, 2026)

<b>Permanent MPO Revolver Balance (as of 1/30/2026)</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>4,670,479</b>
Permanent MPO Revolver	\$	15,000,000
Permanent MPO Revolver Interest	\$	621,665
Permanent MPO Revolver Utilization	\$	10,951,186
Number of times Permanent Revolver has rotated		21.03
<b>Temporary MPO Revolver Balance (as of 1/30/2026)</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>11,016,431</b>
Temporary MPO Revolver Receipts	\$	10,000,000
Temporary MPO Revolver Interest	\$	1,016,431
Temporary MPO Revolver Utilization	\$	-
<b>RTC Local Fund Pool Balance (as of 1/30/2026)</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>107,135,917</b>
RTC Local Fund Receipts	\$	95,000,000
RTC Local Fund Interest	\$	20,237,545
Committed Funds	\$	8,101,628
<b>Historical RTC Local Fund Pool Balance (as of 1/30/2026)</b>		<b>Fully Committed</b>

## NCTCOG EXECUTIVE BOARD ATTENDANCE

June 2025 - May 2026

	Name	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	TOTAL
	<b>Victoria Johnson President</b>	P	P	P	P	P	P	NM	P					7
	<b>Jennifer Justice Vice President</b>	P	P	P	V	P	P	NM	P					7
	<b>Brandon J. Huckabee Secretary/Treasurer</b>	P	P	A	P	P	P	NM	P					6
	<b>Chris Hill Past President</b>	A	P	A	P	P	P	NM	P					5
	<b>Christopher Boedeker</b>	P	P	A	P	P	P	NM	V					6
	<b>David Bristol</b>	V	P	P	P	P	V	NM	V					7
	<b>Carlos Flores</b>	P	A	P	P	P	V	NM	P					6
	<b>T.J. Gilmore</b>	P	P	P	A	P	V	NM	P					6
	<b>Darrell Hale</b>				P	P	P	NM	P					4
	<b>Bowie Hogg</b>	A	P	P	P	P	V	NM	A					5
	<b>Rick Horne</b>	P	P	A	P	P	V	NM	P					6
	<b>Gary Hulsey</b>	P	P	P	P	P	P	NM	A					6
	<b>Clay Jenkins</b>	P	P	P	P	P	P	NM	P					7
	<b>Cara Mendelsohn</b>	P	P	P	P	P	P	NM	P					7
	<b>Bobbie Mitchell</b>	P	P	P	P	P	P	NM	P					7
	<b>Tim O'Hare</b>	P	P	P	P	P	P	NM	P					7
	<b>Kameron Raburn</b>	P	P	P	P	P	P	NM	P					7
	<b>Mitch Little - Ex Officio, Non-Voting Member</b>	A	A	A	A	A	A	NM	A					0
	<b>TOTAL PRESENT</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>106</b>
	<b>Attendance Code:</b>	P=Present    A=Absent    V=Virtual    NM=No meeting    *Check previous the posted attendance sheet for that month												



**North Central Texas Council of Governments**

**2026 NCTCOG Executive Board Calendar**

Regular Meetings start at **1:00 pm** unless otherwise posted  
 Meeting Location: CenterPoint II, 616 Six Flags Drive, Arlington, Texas

<b>March 26, 2026</b>	Executive Board Meeting – NCTCOG Offices
<b>April 23, 2026</b>	Executive Board Meeting – NCTCOG Offices
<b>May 28, 2026</b>	Executive Board Meeting – NCTCOG Offices
<b>June 12, 2026</b>	<i>General Assembly</i>
<b>June 25, 2026</b>	Executive Board Meeting – NCTCOG Offices
<b>July 23, 2026</b>	Executive Board Meeting – NCTCOG Offices
<b>August 27, 2026</b>	Executive Board Meeting – NCTCOG Offices
<b>September 24, 2026</b>	Executive Board Meeting – NCTCOG Offices
<b>October 22, 2026</b>	Executive Board Meeting – NCTCOG Offices
<b>November 19, 2026</b>	Executive Board Meeting – NCTCOG Offices
<b>December 17, 2026</b>	Executive Board Meeting – NCTCOG Offices