

## MINUTES

### **Regional Transportation Council Thursday, February 12, 2026**

The Regional Transportation Council (RTC) met on Thursday, February 12, 2026, at 1:00 pm at the North Central Texas Council of Governments. The following RTC members or representatives were present: Daniel Alemán, Bruce Arfsten, Steve Babick, Rick Bailey, Elizabeth Beck, Curtis Bergthold, Lorie Blair, Randall Bryant, Jeffrey Bush (representing Ceason Clemons), Jorga Clemson (representing Ron Jensen), Michael Crain, Theresa Daniel, Jeff Davis, Pat Deen, Andy Eads, Carlos Flores, T.J. Gilmore, Raul Gonzalez, Mojoy Haddad, Gerard Hudspeth (representing Jill Jester), Angela Hunt, Matt Krause, Stephen Mason, Cara Mendelsohn, Cesar Molina, Ed Moore, Jesse Moreno, John Muns, Jay Northcut (representing Bill Cox), Deborah Peoples (representing Alan Blaylock), Manny Ramirez, Paul Ridley, Jim Ross, David Salazar, Michael Schaeffer (representing Matthew Porter), Andy Sommerman (representing Clay Lewis Jenkins), Kathy Stewart, Bobby Stovall, Burt Thakur, Jeremy Tompkins, William Tsao, and Duncan Webb.

Others present at the meeting were: Jamie Adelman, Vickie Alexander, Susan Alvarez, Davis Arthur, Jay Barksdale, Carli Baylor, Taylor Benjamin, Cimajie Best, Natalie Bettger, Brandi Bird, Jon Blackmon, Alberta Blair, Lonnie Blaydes, Doug Burnett, Joel Burns, Farhan Butt, Daniel Byrd, Katherine Cadena, Byron Campbell, Angie Carson, Dixie Cawthorne, Meredith Cebelak, Priscilla Chambliss, Lori Clark, Nancy Cline, Cristina Criado, Paul Cristina, Rebecca Diviney, Emily Dryclen, Luke Easterling, Tom Flaherty, Andrew Fortune, Howard Freed, Matt Gauntt, Shala Geer-Smith, David Goins, Rebekah Gongora, Christie Gotti, Michael Haithcock, Tony Hartzel, Harris Hassan, Millie Hayes, Robert Hinkle, Chris Hoff, Curtis Hound, Mark Israelson, Matt Johns, Amy Johnson, Victoria Johnson, Vinnie Jolly, Jennifer Justice, Wilson Kakembo, Lilly Kersh, Dan Kessler, Gus Khankarli, Ken Kirkpatrick, Garry Kraus, Dan Lamers, Anette Landeros, Nadine Lee, Eron Linn, Todd Little, Aaron Long, Carlos Lopez, Paul Luedtke, Stanford Lynch, Terry Lynne, Dana Macalik, Clem Maddox, Gregory Masota, Monte Mercer, Sean Merrell, Kenna Mitchell, Brian Moen, Anthony Moffa, Joaquin Moreno, Michael Morris, Faith Morse, Mark Nelson, Jackie Nolasco, Amir Omar, Darla Payberah, Pablo Pena, Michael Peters, Caleb Polster, John Polster, James Powell, Ezra Pratt, Vercie Pruitt-Jenkins, Brintow Raena, Phedra Redifer, Jacob Reinig, Randy Richardson, Travis Ripley, William Roth, Charlie Salazar, Orlando Sanchez, Chris Sharp, Kay Shelton, Ashley Shroyer, Samuel Simmons, Gary Slagel, Randy Smith, Sidney Sonck, Feliz Stafford, Toni Stehling, Judith Takel, Stephen Tanner, Luke Tinker, Daniela Tower, Ariel Traub, Lauren Trimble, Caroline Vandergriff, Celina Vasquez, Dan Vedral, Elisa Villnave, Bernard Wade, Chris Wallace, Laura Weis, Glen Whitley, Julia Wicks, Brian Wilson, Chris Wright, and Sam Yaconb.

1. **Opportunity for Public Comment on Today's Agenda:** Rick Bailey, Regional Transportation Council Chair and Johnson County Commissioner, asked if there were any public comments. Victoria Johnson spoke on agenda item 1; Glen Whitley spoke on agenda item 7; Chris Wallace spoke on agenda item 8; Orlando Sanchez spoke on agenda item 8; and Dana Macalik spoke on agenda item 4.7. Written comments were provided and can be found in the Public Comments Report under the Director's Report agenda item.

2. **Approval of January 8, 2025, Minutes:** Approval of the January 8, 2025, meeting minutes contained in Electronic Item 2 was requested.

A motion was made to approve the January 8, 2026, meeting minutes as submitted in Electronic Item 2. Theresa Daniel (M); Paul Ridley (S). The motion passed unanimously.

### 3. **Consent Agenda**

- 3.1. **Endorsement to Receive Rider 7 PM2.5 Planning Funds from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and Approval to Use Funds for PM2.5-Related Regional Air Quality Activities:** Regional Transportation Council endorsement was requested to receive Rider 7 Local Air Quality Planning Grant – fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) funds from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026-2027 biennium to conduct local air quality planning and authorization to enter into agreements with subrecipients to assist with work to be carried out.
- 3.2. **Approval to Receive Rider 7 Ozone Planning Funds from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and to Use Funds for Ozone-Related Regional Air Quality Activities:** Regional Transportation Council approval was requested to receive Rider 7 Local Air Quality Planning Grant - Ozone program funds from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026-2027 biennium to conduct local air quality planning and enter into agreements with the City of Granbury to assist with work to be carried out.

A motion was made to approve Items 3.1 and 3.2 on the Consent Agenda. Manny Ramirez (M); Steve Babick (S). The motion passed unanimously.

4. **Orientation to Agenda/Director of Transportation Report:** Michael Morris briefly highlighted items 1 through 3, and 7.

1. Dallas Area Rapid Transit Employees, Dee Leggett and Anthony Fuller, Are Leaving the Agency
2. Anticipated Workshop on Texas, Metropolitan Planning Organization, and Fiscal Agent Agreements: March or April 2026 (Ken Kirkpatrick, Texas Department of Transportation to be Invited, and Executive Board Orientation from Michael Morris)
3. Arlington's Request to Explore Technology-Based Transit Authority
4. Changing Mobility: Data, Insights, and Delivering Innovative Projects During COVID Recovery
5. Amanda Wilson's Service Recognition on the AMPO Policy Committee in 2025
6. Michael Morris is the ENR Texas and Louisiana's 2026 Legacy Award Winner
7. Future Discussion on Rockwall County/Partnership Program
8. Fiscal Year 2026 Appropriations Update and Fédération Internationale de Football Association Funding
9. Fiscal Year 2025 Transportation Development Credit Annual Report
10. 2027–2030 Transportation Improvement Program Development
11. Mobility Assistance Patrol Program
12. Engine Off North Texas Status Report
13. Status Update on 2025 Transportation Conformity
14. Quarterly High Occupancy Vehicle Carma Subsidy Report
15. Air Quality Funding Opportunities ([www.nctcoq.org/aqfunding](http://www.nctcoq.org/aqfunding))
16. Upcoming Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Events ([www.dfwcleancities.org/events](http://www.dfwcleancities.org/events))

17. December-January Public Comments Report
18. February Public Meeting Notice
19. Recent News Articles
20. Recent Correspondence
21. Recent Press Releases

A motion was made to move Item 8 (reflected below as Item 5) up on the agenda for presentation and action. Lorie Blair (R); Ed Moore (S). The motion passed unanimously.

5. **Regional Transportation Council Action on Scenario 1 and Scenario 2: City Requests Impacting Dallas Area Rapid Transit: Action from Workshop**: Prior to the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) meeting, a workshop was held on Scenario 1 and Scenario 2: Cities Impacting Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART). At the RTC meeting, Michael Morris reiterated information from the workshop regarding DART cities that are considering withdrawing from DART and have requested action from RTC to have the latest information for their entities to make a final decision regarding withdrawal elections by February 23, 2026. Scenario 1 pertained to cities opting out of DART and Scenario 2 contained partnership opportunities resulting in cities not withdrawing from DART. A motion was made to approve Scenario 2, Funding Support if a City Elects to Stay in DART, with the Transportation Control Measure substitute need eliminated and assistance provided for a DART/Member City Partnership consisting of Part A, \$75 million over five years to meet DART's target and assist local government request; Part B, RTC pays for City Capital Projects and would need DART review; and Part C, Legislative requests, including Governance and other RTC Initiatives. Randall Bryant (M); John Muns (S).

Following much discussion regarding staff's recommended action and equity concerns regarding funding for DART and not Trinity Metro and Denton County Transportation Authority, an amendment to the motion was made to include funding in the amount of \$65 million for Denton County Transportation Authority for the expansion of rail and \$40 million for Trinity Metro for expansion of their service to the medical district, and a charge for Regional Transportation Council staff and Transit 2.0 to advance the Regional Rail Mobility Authority. Andy Eads (M); Elizabeth Beck (S). The motion to amend passed by a vote of 22 to 12. A substantive vote on the motion as amended was held and passed by a vote of 31 to 2.

A motion was made to table Scenario 1, Funding Elements if a City Withdraws from DART (funds from formula). Andy Sommerman (M); Lorie Blair (S). The motion passed unanimously.

6. **Fiscal Year 2026 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development Grant and Texas Off-System Rail Grade Separation State Fund Programs**: Karla Windsor requested Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval to submit projects in the Fiscal Year 2026 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development Grant Program. Applications are due to the United States Department of Transportation by February 24, 2026. RTC approval was also requested for \$30 million in Surface Transportation Block Grant Program/Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program funding to support the Bonds Ranch Road Segment #2 project recently submitted by Tarrant County for the Texas Off-System Rail Grade Separation State Fund Program.

A motion was made to approve submission of the following projects for Fiscal Year 2026 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development Grant funding consideration:

1) United States 287/Prairie Ridge Project (including proposed 50 percent Category 2/50 percent Category 4 funding and State match), 2) State Highway 183/Pumphrey Dr. Bettering Access, Safety, and Efficiency Project (BASE), and 3) Farm-to-Market 917/Burlington Northern Sante Fe Grade Separation Project; \$30 million in federal Surface Transportation Block Grant/ Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program funding and \$9 million in Regional Toll Revenue funding for Tarrant County's Bonds Ranch Road Segment #2 Project application to the Off-System Rail Grade Separation State Fund Program; and administratively amend the Transportation Improvement Program/Statewide Transportation Improvement Program and update any administrative and/or planning documents as needed to incorporate the proposed projects if selected. Manny Ramirez (M); Jorga Clemson (S). The motion passed unanimously.

7. **Proposed Traffic Signal Program Funding**: This item was not presented due to time constraints.
8. **Status Report on Executive Board Items**: Ken Kirkpatrick provided a brief summary of Metropolitan Planning Organization roles and responsibilities, a similar presentation provided to the North Central Texas Council of Governments Executive Board on January 22, 2026.
9. **Progress Reports**: Regional Transportation Council attendance was provided in Electronic Item 9.1, and Surface Transportation Technical Committee attendance and minutes were provided in Electronic Item 9.2.
10. **Other Business (Old or New)**: There was no discussion on this item.
11. Future Agenda Items: There was no discussion on this item.
12. Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Regional Transportation Council is scheduled for 1:00 pm, Thursday, March 12, 2026.

Meeting adjourned at 3:03 pm.