

and request action regarding public comments to be submitted to TxDOT.

Background: On September 11, 2023, TxDOT Headquarters staff briefed MPO partners statewide on its proposed policy to change allocation practices and limit carryover funding on certain MPO-selected categories, including Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ), Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program, and Category 2 - Metro Corridor funding. The result of this proposal is that MPOs will only have access to a portion of carryover funds. After carryover funds reach a certain percentage, the amount over the limit will be reallocated to other Districts and MPOs (in the case of CMAQ) or other Districts (in the case of STBG, but through the Category 2 funding program, and those funds would be selected by TxDOT Districts, not by MPOs). The same policy change proposal was presented at the September 28, 2023, Texas Transportation Commission (TTC) meeting, in which the TTC took action to send the proposed rule change through the public review and comment process. Comments are due by November 13, 2023. Staff briefed the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) in a special workshop during the October 2023 RTC meeting and sought feedback on a policy response. Electronic Item 3.1 is a summary of the slideshow TxDOT provided at the September 11, 2023, meeting. Electronic Item 3.2 contains the slides shown at the RTC workshop. The workshop recording can be viewed online at: <https://nctcog.new.swagit.com/videos/274392> under Item 6 within the recording. Electronic Item 3.3 contains staff's recommendation for discussion at the STTC meeting.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Air Quality, Roadway

1:55 – 2:05

4. **Federal/Local Funding Partnership with Collin County on U.S. 380**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Cody Derrick, NCTCOG

Item Summary: A recommendation for Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of a proposed federal/local partnership with Collin County is requested.

Background: The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) would like to expand the pool of RTC Local funds to allow the RTC to expedite projects and programs. To address these needs, a federal/local funding partnership is being proposed between the RTC and Collin County. In November 2020, the RTC approved partnerships with Collin County, the City of McKinney, and the City of Frisco associated with the U.S. 380 project. These partnerships involved funding projects for which Collin County Bond Program funds are ineligible in return for Collin County placing that local funding on the U.S. 380 corridor. An amended arrangement is being proposed that

would send Collin County's local funding to the RTC, with an equal amount of Category 2 funding being placed on U.S. 380. Electronic Item 4 contains additional details on the partnership.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Air Quality, Roadway

2:05 – 2:15

5. **2023 Transportation Conformity**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Jenny Narvaez, NCTCOG

Item Summary: A recommendation for Regional Transportation Council approval of the 2023 Transportation Conformity results will be requested. Staff will present a brief overview including conformity analysis results.

Background: On April 24, 2023, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published a Notice of Adequacy for the 2020 Motor Vehicle Emissions Budgets for the purpose of transportation conformity, with an effective date of May 24, 2023. This adequacy determination requires transportation conformity to be performed within two years of the effective date. Staff will present draft final emission results from the analysis. The current regional Metropolitan Transportation Plan (Mobility 2045 Update) was not updated for this analysis. Additional information is provided in Electronic Item 5.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Air Quality

2:15 – 2:20

6. **Electric Vehicle Charging and Energy Management Grants**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 5

Presenter: Jared Wright, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request a recommendation for Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval for the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) to pursue funding from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Electric Vehicle Charger Reliability and Accessibility Accelerator program and the use of RTC Local funds to satisfy match requirements for a State Energy Conservation Office (SECO) project.

Background: As part of a set aside from the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Formula Program, the FHWA's Electric Vehicle Charger Reliability and Accessibility Accelerator program will provide approximately \$100 million in funding for the repair and replacement of existing but non-operational publicly accessible electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure. FHWA has determined eligible non-operational EV charging infrastructure stations using the Alternative Fuels Data Center (AFDC) fueling station locator. Eligible sites located within the NCTCOG region are detailed in Electronic Item 6.1. Staff proposes to apply for the program to repair and replace eligible non-

operational electric vehicle chargers in or connecting travelers to the NCTCOG region, contingent on evaluation of site worthiness. NCTCOG has been awarded \$200,000 in Department of Energy (DOE) funds by SECO to continue regional energy management work, which is completed collaboratively by the NCTCOG Transportation and Environment and Development departments. This work has been ongoing for several years and seeks to further energy efficiency and renewable energy efforts in the region. These efforts are increasingly important as transportation electrifies, both in maintaining a reliable electric grid and mitigating increased air pollution from power generation. Receipt of \$200,000 federal funds requires a match of \$40,000. Both the award and match will be shared equally between departments. Up to \$20,000 RTC Local funds will be requested to fulfill the Transportation department share. Electronic Item 6.2 provides more information.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Air Quality

2:20 – 2:35

7. **Director of Transportation Report on Selected Items**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 15

Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG

Item Summary: An overview of current transportation items will be provided.

Background: Efforts continue to advance transportation in the region. Staff will highlight the following:

1. North Central Texas Council of Governments Executive Board Action on Advertising and Introduction of Risk Analysis
2. Metropolitan Planning Organization Revolver Fund: Receipt of \$10 Million from Dallas Area Rapid Transit
3. Texas Innovation Alliance 2023 Invitation Award Winner
4. New Project for North Texas Center for Mobility Technologies (Electronic Item 7.1)
5. Correspondence on High-Speed Rail (Electronic Item 7.2)
6. Professional Services Agreement with Sandra Wesch
7. City of Irving Environmental Career Symposium – November 11, 2023 (Electronic Item 7.3)
8. Fall 2023 Traffic Incident Management Executive Level Course Announcement – November 2, 2023 ([North Central Texas Council of Governments - TIM Training Program \(nctcog.org\)](https://www.nctcog.org)) and (Electronic Item 7.4)

9. 2023 Crash Responder Safety Week – November 13 – 14, 2023 ([Crash Responder Safety Week \(CRSW\) November 13-17, 2023 - FHWA \(dot.gov\)](https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/crash-responder-safety-week/))

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative

2:35 – 2:45

8. **Project Status Report: Fiscal Year 2023/Fiscal Year 2024 Project Tracking**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Brian Dell, NCTCOG

Item Summary: The Committee will be provided with a status report on the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023/FY2024 Project Tracking effort, which is of increased importance given the State's proposed rule changes for Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) and Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program funds.

Background: Almost every year, Regional Transportation Council (RTC)-selected projects being implemented by local governments experience delays. Projects tend to be delayed year after year, until it has been 3-4 years since the originally committed start date. These repeated delays led to the need to implement a project tracking initiative which highlights project schedule commitments to the Committee and the RTC on a regular basis and reports local agency progress toward the committed project development schedules. A list of project phases that were scheduled to begin in FY2023 and their current statuses can be found in Electronic Item 8.1. A list of project phases that are scheduled to begin in FY2024 and their current statuses can be found in Electronic Item 8.2. A summary of overall progress towards funding obligation and project completion is provided in Electronic Item 8.3.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Roadway, Transit

2:45 – 2:55

9. **North Texas Tollway Authority State Infrastructure Bank Loan Repayment Update**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Liza Cox, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will brief the Committee on the repayment of the North Texas Tollway Authority (NTTA) State Infrastructure Bank (SIB) loan. NTTA has paid the loan in full prior to the maturation date and staff will present interest earned by each participating county.

Background: In 2012, the Regional Transportation Council authorized the use of \$138,972,561 in Regional Toll Revenue (RTR) funds from Collin, Dallas, and Denton Counties to assume the NTTA SIB loan from the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT). This action freed up funds in the State Infrastructure Bank for use across Texas. Interest was earned at a rate of 4.2 percent with payments due on January 1, beginning 2014

and ending January 1, 2029. Payment in full was made early, October 2022, and the total amount of interest earned was \$38,897,636. Additional information is available in Electronic Item 9.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Roadway, Transit

2:55 – 3:05

10. **Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Update**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Savana Nance, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide an update on the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (CPRG) Planning Grants program and provide an overview of the EPA's CPRG Implementation Grants Program.

Background: Created by the Inflation Reduction Act, the EPA's CPRG program will provide grants to develop and implement plans for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and other harmful air pollution. This two-phase program provided \$250 million in noncompetitive planning grants under the CPRG Planning Grants and \$4.6 billion in competitive implementation grants under the CPRG Implementation Grants. The North Central Texas Council of Governments has received \$1 million from the CPRG Planning Grants to develop a regional plan to improve air quality. The CPRG Implementation Grants will fund measures included in the regional plan developed under the CPRG Planning Grants. Applications for the CPRG Implementation Grants are due on April 1, 2024. Electronic Item 10 provides additional details.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Air Quality

3:05 – 3:15

11. **Fast Facts**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Item Summary: Brief staff presentations will be provided. Please reference the material provided for each of the following topics.

1. *Bradley LeCureux* – Air Quality Funding Opportunities for Vehicles (www.nctcog.org/aqfunding)
2. *Bradley LeCureux* – Upcoming Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Events (<https://www.dfwcleancities.org/events>)
3. *Nicholas Van Haasen* – 2023 Ozone Season Update (Electronic Item 11.1)
4. *Savana Nance* – National Drive Electric Week Recap (Electronic Item 11.2)
5. *Jackie Castillo* – November Online Input Opportunity Notice (Electronic Item 11.3)
6. *Jackie Castillo* – September Public Meeting Minutes (Electronic Item 11.4)
7. *Taylor Benjamin* – Public Comments Report (Electronic Item 11.5)
8. Written Progress Reports:
 - Partner Progress Reports (Electronic Item 11.6)

12. **Other Business (Old or New)**: This item provides an opportunity for members to bring items of interest before the group.
13. **Next Meeting**: The next meeting of the Surface Transportation Technical Committee is scheduled for ***1:30 pm on December 8, 2023.***