

## MINUTES

### **Regional Transportation Council Thursday, April 9, 2026**

The Regional Transportation Council (RTC) met on Thursday, April 9, 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, Alan Blaylock, Randall Bryant, Travis Campbell (representing Ceason Clemens), John Cordary (representing David Salazar), Bill Cox, Michael Crain, Theresa Daniel, Pat Deen, Michael Evans, Carlos Flores, Raul Gonzalez, Angela Hunt, Ron Jensen, Jill Jester, Stephen Mason, Jon McKenzie (representing Jeremy Tompkins), Cesar Molina, Ed Moore, Jesse Moreno, Matthew Porter, Vidal Quintanilla (representing John Muns), Jim Ross, William Roth (representing Cara Mendelsohn), Andy Sommerman (representing Clay Lewis Jenkins), Kathy Stewart, Bobby Stovall, Burt Thakur, William Tsao, Dennis Webb, and Duncan Webb.

Others present at the meeting were: Vickie Alexander, Susan Alvarez, Micah Baker, Emily Beckham, Cimajil Best, Natalie Bettger, Jason Brown, Daniel Byrd, Katherine Cadena, Drew Campbell, Jaron Capps, Angie Carson, Dixie Cawthorne, Priscilla Chambliss, Lori Clark, Mandy Clark, Dina Colarossi, Will Conkey, Shawn Conrad, Paul Cristina, Clarence Daugherty, Don Dillard, Tom Flaherty, Andrew Fortune, Laura Freeland, Eric Gallt, Bobby Gomez, Rebekah Gongora, Christie Gotti, Tony Hartzel, Troy Hill, Jacob Holt, Ernest Huffman, Joel James, Jim Jarratt, Matt Johns, Amy Johnson, Wilson Kakembo, Dan Kessler, Ken Kirkpatrick, Chris Klaus, Alicia Kreh, Dan Lamers, Lorne Liechty, Eron Linn, Todd Little, Aaron Long, Stanford Lynch, Chad Marbut, Alberto Mares, Dillon Maroney, Malcolm Mayhew, Jeremy McGraham, Rogelro Meixuvero, Jumilett Mendoza, Kent Moore, Eric Morris, Michael Morris, Faith Morse, Kevin Moyer, Jenny Narvaez, Mark Nelson, Jackie Nolasco, Amir Omar, Michael Peters, Caleb Polster, John Polster, James Powell, Vercie Pruitt-Jenkins, Randy Richardson, Travis Ripley, Gary Slagel, Hedija Spahulic, Claude Spivey, Toni Stehling, Franklin Stephens, Vivek Thimmavajjhala, Makeyla Thompson, David Timbrell, Luke Tinker, Daniela Tower, Lauren Trimble, Victor Vandergriff, Linda Vela, Elisa Villnave, Glen Whitley, Amanda Wilson, Brian Wilson, and Vivek Yadou.

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. Lorne Liechty spoke on agenda item 7; Glen Whitley spoke on agenda items 4, 5 and 6; and Rogelio Meixueiro spoke on agenda item 3.2. Written comments were provided and can be found in the Public Comments Report under the Director's Report agenda item.
2. **Approval of March 12, 2026, Minutes:** Approval of the March 12, 2026, meeting minutes contained in Electronic Item 2 was requested.

A motion was made to approve the March 12, 2026, meeting minutes as submitted in Electronic Item 2. Theresa Daniel (M); Burt Thakur (S). The motion passed unanimously.

### **3. Consent Agenda**

- 3.1. **Fédération Internationale de Football Association Local Funding:** Regional Transportation Council approval was requested of latest cost adjustments, reallocation of previously approved funding, and anticipated expenditures

associated with the 2026 World Cup. North Central Texas Council of Governments staff have been working with partners to coordinate transportation needs and to prepare the region to host the 2026 Fédération Internationale de Football Association World Cup.

- 3.2. **Revision to the Regional Transportation Council Local Funds to Support the Regional Energy Management Assistance Program**: Regional Transportation Council approval was requested to revise details of Transportation Department participation in the Regional Energy Management Assistance Program.

A motion was made to approve Items 3.1 and 3.2 on the Consent Agenda. Duncan Webb (M); Jim Ross (S). The motion passed unanimously.

4. **Orientation to Agenda/Director of Transportation Report**: Michael Morris briefly highlighted items 1 through 11.

1. Appointment of Regional Transportation Council Nominating Subcommittee (Chair Bailey)
2. Senator Tan Parker Named Texas Senate Transportation Committee Chair
3. Fédération Internationale de Football Association – 60 Days Out
4. Cancellation of Regional Transportation Council Meeting in July 2026
5. Regional Transportation Council Correspondence Sent to and from the Texas Department of Transportation
6. Correspondence from the City of Plano – Dallas Area Rapid Transit
7. Changing Mobility: Data, Insights, and Delivering Innovative Projects During COVID Recovery – Transit Data Updates
8. Regional Transportation Council (RTC) Local Grant Management and RTC Initiatives Fund Status
9. Illumination Maintenance
10. Annual Recognition Awardees
11. Texas Conformity Process/Dallas-Fort Worth Conformity Status Update, and the Federal Highway Administration
12. Local Clean Air Project Spotlight
13. Air Quality Funding Opportunities ([www.nctcog.org/aqfunding](http://www.nctcog.org/aqfunding))
14. Upcoming Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Events ([www.dfwcleancities.org/events](http://www.dfwcleancities.org/events))
15. February-March Public Comments Report
16. March Public Meeting Minutes
17. April Public Meeting Notice
18. Recent News Articles
19. Recent Correspondence
20. Recent Press Releases

5. **Status Report on Commercial Vehicle Compliance with Officer Vinson**: Agenda item was not presented and postponed until the next Regional Transportation Council meeting on May 14, 2026.
6. **Hiring Temporary Outside Legal Counsel**: Chair Rick Bailey requested approval for temporary legal assistance in areas that can no longer be served by North Central Texas Council of Governments legal counsel.

A motion was made to approve the agenda item as presented with the agreement with Taylor, Olson, Adkins, Sralla, Elam for Engagement #3, Texas Open Meetings Act and

Meeting Procedures, executed by Chair Bailey on April 8, 2026; hire external legal counsel for Engagement #1, Governance, and Engagement #2, Ongoing support for Regional Transportation Council (RTC) Policy and Programs; utilize Regional Transportation Council Local funds to cover external legal expenses for all three engagements; along with administratively amending the Transportation Improvement Program and Unified Planning Work Program as needed to incorporate the external legal counsel activities. Andy Sommerman (M); Steve Babick (S). The motion passed.

An amended motion was made to approve the motion as stated and to direct Regional Transportation Council Chair Bailey to send an official letter to the President of the North Central Texas Council of Governments Executive Board requesting to pause any search activities and cease hiring of a new Transportation Director until further clarification is received from the Texas Department of Transportation. Elizabeth Beck (M); Andy Sommerman and Steve Babick accepted the amended motion. The motion passed unanimously.

7. **Rockwall County Outer Loop Partnership Memorandum of Understanding**: Christie Gotti briefed the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) on a draft Memorandum of Understanding between the RTC and Rockwall County regarding the Regional Outer Loop through Rockwall County.

Duncan Webb asked if there is anything in the draft Rockwall County agreement that has not been offered to other counties/cities in terms of soundwalls, construction below grade, or other requests that would set precedent for future agreements. Christie Gotti responded that there are some particular scope items that are being requesting, but not necessarily being required as part of the final scope. The environmental process will drive the final outcome and scope. Christie also noted that sound or noise walls have been put in before construction begins on other projects, when warranted, to help communities during the construction process. Christie emphasized that all requests will be considered using sound engineering judgment, which includes cost considerations, as well as many other considerations (e.g., constructability, public consensus). In addition, Burt Thakur requested for Memorandums of Understanding to be multimodal, not just single purpose, and to include more definition when it comes to alignment. This agenda item will be brought back for action at the May 2026 RTC meeting.

8. **North Texas Zero Emissions Vehicles Call for Projects Funding Recommendations**: Lori Clark provided an overview of the North Texas Zero Emissions Vehicles (NTxZEV) Call for Projects (CFP) including applications received to date, scoring results, and activities recommended for funding. Staff requested Regional Transportation Council approval of funding recommendations and a revised NTxZEV CFP schedule.

A motion was made to approve proposed funding recommendations for the North Texas Zero Emissions Vehicles Call for Projects as outlined in Electronic Item 8.2, a revised schedule to increase frequency of rolling deadlines to approximately every 30 days; along with administratively amending and updating any administrative and/or planning documents as needed to incorporate funding recommendations. Burt Thakur (M); Lorie Blair (S). The motion passed unanimously.

9. **Bike and Roll to School Day**: Shawn Conrad provided an overview of efforts to increase school and city participation for Bike and Roll to School Day 2026 and requested local government assistance. As requested, a flyer promoting Bike and Roll to School Day was

transmitted to the Regional Transportation Council members to provide to their respective constituents and community partners.

10. **Air Quality Status Update**: Jenny Narvaez provided an air quality update focusing on ozone and fine particulate matter (PM2.5).
11. **Progress Reports**: Regional Transportation Council attendance was provided in Electronic Item 11.1, and Surface Transportation Technical Committee attendance and minutes were provided in Electronic Item 11.2.
12. **Other Business (Old or New)**: There was no discussion on this item.
13. **Future Agenda Items**: There was no discussion on this item.
14. **Next Meeting**: The next meeting of the Regional Transportation Council is scheduled for 1:00 pm, Thursday, May 14, 2026.

Meeting adjourned at 2:27 pm.