MINUTES

Regional Transportation Council
Thursday, October 8, 2026

The Regional Transportation Council (RTC) met on Thursday, October 8, 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, Randall Bryant, Jeffrey Bush (representing Ceason Clemens), Bill Cox, Theresa Daniel, Pat Deen, Andy Eads, Carlos Flores, T.J. Gilmore, Brianne Goetz (representing Curtis Bergthold), Raul Gonzalez, Darrell Hale, Clay Lewis Jenkins, Ron Jensen, Jill Jester, Pete Kamp (representing Mojy Haddad), Stephen Mason, Cesar Molina, Ed Moore, Jesse Moreno, Deborah Peoples, Matthew Porter, Vidal Quintanilla (representing John Muns), Manny Ramirez, Paul Ridley, Jim Ross, William 'Bill' Roth (representing Kathy Stewart), David Salazar, John Stacy (representing Garry Smith), Randy Stinson, Jeremy Tompkins, and William Tsao.

Others present at the meeting were: Rama, Abjel-Jager, Amany Abu-Hijih, Vickie Alexander, Afnan Ali, Susan Alvarez, Jake Anderson, Jason Arkill, Micah Baker, Berrien Barks, Carli Baylor, Emily Beckham, Paul Bennett, Natalie Bettger, Hetal Bhatt, Jon Blackman, Alberta Blair, Jason Brown, Ian Bryant, Doug Burnett, Kyle Butler, Farhan Butt, Daniel Byrd, Katherine Cadena, Jasmyn Carter, Paul Cristina, Clarence Daugherty, Don Dillard, Rebecca Diviney, Emily Dryden, Tom Flaherty, Andrew Fortune, Eric Gallt, Gypsy Gavia, Shala Geer-Smith, Bobby Gomez, Vanoy Harris, Tony Hartzel, Millie Hayes, Yanoy Hua, Joel James, Sidney Kelly, Dan Kessler, Gus Khankarli, Amsal Khimani, Ken Kirkpatrick, Alicia Kreh, Dan Lamers, David Leinnger, Eron Linn, Dee Long, Paul Luedtke, Derek Malena, Chad Marbut, Alberto Mares, Nick Matos, Malcolm Mayhew, Daniel McCullough, Monte Mercer, Arash Mirzaei, Kenna Mitchell, Travis Mitchell, Anthony Moffa, Eric Morris, Michael Morris, Faith Morse, Jeff Neal, Mark Nelson, Jackie Nolasco, James Novak, Amir Omar, Darla Payberah, Michael Peters, Caleb Polster, John Polster, Kelly Porter, James Powell, Vercie Pruitt-Jenkins, Mithlesh Reody, Eddie Reyes, Randy Richardson, Teale Robinson, Suzi Rumohr, Marc Sandhu, Bhavya Seelanletiehomcks, Kay Shelton, Claude Spivey, Toni Stehling, Vivek Thimmavajjhala, Lauren Trimble, Elisa Villnave, Duncan Webb, and Brian Wilson.

The invocation was provided by Deborah Peoples, Councilmember, City of Fort Worth, and the pledges were recited to the United States and Texas flags.

1. **Opportunity for Public Comment on Today's Agenda**: Stephen Mason, Regional Transportation Council Chair and City of Cedar Hill Mayor, asked if there were any public comments. Philip Kingston spoke on the McKinney/Cole Ave Two-Way Conversion.

2. **Approval of September 11, 2026, Minutes**: Approval of the September 11, 2026, meeting minutes contained in Electronic Item 2 was requested.

   A motion was made to approve the September 11, 2026, meeting minutes as submitted in Electronic Item 2. Paul Ridley (M); Deborah Peoples (S). The motion passed unanimously.

3. **Consent Agenda**

   3.1. **Merit Increase for Michael Morris – December 2024 to December 2025**: Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of consideration of a one-time

lump-sum merit payment for the Metropolitan Planning Organization Director, Michael Morris was requested. The recommendation approved by the RTC will be provided to North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) staff for implementation consistent with the NCTCOG Wage and Salary Policy.

3.2. **North Texas Zero Emissions Vehicle Project**: Regional Transportation Council approval of an update to the North Texas Zero Emission Vehicles Call for Projects requirements, and to enter into an agreement to provide first responder training on zero-emission vehicles incidents was requested.

3.3. **Fiscal Years 2024-2026 Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost Saving Transportation Competitive Grant Program**: Regional Transportation Council approval of candidate projects to be submitted for the Fiscal Years 2024-2026 Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation Competitive Grant Program was requested, with applications due to the United States Department of Transportation by October 9, 2026.

3.4. **North Central Texas Council of Governments 60th Anniversary Policy Officials and Staff Celebrations**: Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of the use of up to $25,000 in RTC Local funds to support a portion of the costs associated with the 60th anniversary of the North Central Texas Council of Governments was requested. RTC Local funding returned from Fédération Internationale de Football Association support activities will be used for this recognition.

A motion was made to approve Items 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, and 3.4 on the Consent Agenda. Matthew Porter (M); Daniel Alemán (S). The motion passed unanimously.

4. **Orientation to Agenda/Director of Transportation Report**: Michael Morris briefly highlighted items 1 through 13.

    1. Status Report on Metropolitan Planning Organization Revolver Funds and Regional Transportation Council Local Pool
    2. Monthly Costs of North Central Texas Council of Governments Outside Legal Assistance
    3. New Regional Transportation Council Member Orientation/Funding Workshop – Three Optional Meeting Dates
    4. November 12, 2026, Regional Transportation Council Meeting Rescheduled to November 5, 2026 (No North Central Texas Council of Governments 60th Anniversary Celebration at This Time)
    5. 2026 North Texas Regional Leadership Award – Elected Official Leadership – Victoria Johnson, City of Burleson
    6. Proposed Transportation Legislative Partnerships
    7. Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base – Wings Over Cowtown – April 2027 (Overview provided by Dan Kessler)
    8. Three-Party Agreement, Regional Transportation Council (RTC) Bylaws Revision Subcommittee and Next Steps for RTC Metropolitan Planning Organization Director
    9. High-Speed Rail Follow Up – October 2026
    10. Dallas Area Rapid Transit $70 Million Light Rail Replacement
    11. Interstate Highway 635 East Phase Three $1.7 Billion (Managed Lanes)

12. Interstate Highway 820/State Highway 183 P-3 Freeway and Managed Lanes $450 Million
13. The Importance of Independent Air Quality Analysis
14. Safe Routes to School Training Workshop
15. Resilient Electric Vehicle Charging Plan Stakeholder Invitation
16. 2026 Ozone Season Update
17. Air Quality Funding Opportunities (www.nctcog.org/aqfunding)
18. Upcoming Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Events (www.dfwcleancities.org/events)
19. August–September Public Comments Report
20. September Public Meeting Minutes
21. Recent News Articles September
22. Recent Correspondence
23. Recent Press Releases

5. **2027 Regional Transportation Council Legislative Policy Program for the 90th Texas Legislature**: Rebekah Gongora presented the 2027 Regional Transportation Council Legislative Policy Program for the 90th Texas Legislature.

   A motion was made for approval of the 2027 Regional Transportation Council (RTC) Legislative Policy Program for the 90th Texas Legislature, bringing regional transportation organizations together to identify a set of shared top policy priorities, and keeping all major bullets, striking all sub-bullets, and moving "Support legislation to restructure the Dallas Area Rapid Transit Board of Directors as agreed to by Dallas Area Rapid Transit's Service Area Cities," to the first bullet under Legislation to Actively Pursue. The motion also includes the RTC's support of a statewide effort to quantify the transportation needs of the State as an added fifth bullet to the program. Steve Babick (M); Manny Ramirez (S). Deborah Peoples opposed. The motion passed.

6. **Request to Use Regional Transportation Council Local Funds for Air Quality**: Chris Klaus requested Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval to use RTC Local funds that will establish modeling capabilities, acquire necessary resources, and provide technical training to support future air quality analyses related to transportation planning, air quality conformity, and emissions reduction efforts. In addition, staff also requested to use RTC Local funds to cover administrative costs related to emissions modeling for the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Rider 7 Local Air Quality Planning Grant — fine particulate matter (PM2.5).

   A motion was made to approve an additional $365,000 of Regional Transportation Council (RTC) Local funds to continue establishing and supporting the in-house modeling infrastructure and training; $180,000 previously approved (for a combined total $545,000); $55,000 of RTC Local funds for Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Rider 7 PM2.5 in-house conceptual modeling; unused funds will be returned to the RTC Local account; along with amending the Transportation Improvement Program and updating other administrative and/or planning documents as needed to incorporate the funds. Andy Eads (M); Matthew Porter (S). The motion passed unanimously.

7. **Regional Bicycle Safety Action Plan**: Kevin Kokes provided an overview on the development of the Regional Bicycle Safety Action Plan including the purpose and goals, crash data analysis, public opinion survey results, priority emphasis areas and corridors to target for future study and implementation of safety countermeasures, and recommended action items. A recommendation to adopt the Plan was also provided and action requested.

A motion was made to adopt the Regional Bicycle Safety Action Plan and direct staff to implement the recommendations of the Regional Bicycle Safety Action Plan as consistent with the programs and policies of the existing Metropolitan Transportation Plan (Mobility 2050). The motion also directed staff to incorporate the recommendations of the Regional Bicycle Safety Action Plan into future metropolitan transportation plans. Raul Gonzalez (M); Paul Ridley (S). The motion passed unanimously.

8. **2027 Transportation Alternatives Call for Projects for the North Central Texas Region (Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities Plus)**: Kevin Kokes requested Regional Transportation Council approval to open the 2027 Transportation Alternatives Call for Projects for the North Central Texas region, including eligibility, criteria, and schedule.

   A motion was made to approve elements related to program rules, eligible activities, eligible project areas, schedule, funding, and use of Transportation Development Credits for the 2027 Transportation Alternatives Call for Projects for the North Central Texas region. Jesse Moreno (M); Theresa Daniel (S). The motion passed unanimously.

9. **Organization Identity and Naming Convention**: Amanda Wilson briefed the Council on a request from the Regional Transportation Council Bylaws Revision Subcommittee to select an organization identity and naming convention for the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Policy Board and MPO Staff in light of the 2026 MPO Agreement, the Operating Agreement, and the Settlement Agreement.

   A motion was made to approve selecting Regional Transportation Council (RTC) as the organization identity with a tagline of North Central Texas Metropolitan Planning Organization to complete the naming convention; directing the RTC Bylaws Revision Subcommittee to incorporate this naming convention into the RTC Bylaws; directing staff to effectuate organization identity changes in all external communications, website address, e-mail addresses, documents, agendas, and other appropriate places upon full execution of the Tri-Party Agreement and approval of the updated RTC Bylaws; along with administratively amending the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)/Statewide TIP and updating any administrative and/or planning documents as needed to incorporate the new organization identity and naming convention, at the appropriate time. Additionally, legal counsel was requested to verify the trademark and Intellectual Property rules to ensure that the chosen name can be used. Andy Eads (M); Ed Moore (S). William Roth opposed. The motion passed.

10. **Status Report on Commercial Vehicle Compliance**: Jason Brown and Officer Derek Malena provided information on regional Commercial Vehicle Enforcement (CVE) efforts, including observations from recently attended CVE events and future activities. Michael Morris thanked Officer Malena and Jason for their presentations and noted that the RTC is focused on reducing fatalities. Staff will bring back information to the Regional Transportation Council to possibly partner with the Legislature on a safety program for Commercial Vehicle Enforcement.

11. **Integrated Transportation and Stormwater Infrastructure Study – Progress Update and Initial Recommendations**: This item was not presented due to time constraints.

12. **Access North Texas 2026 Update**: This item was not presented due to time constraints.

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

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

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

16. **Next Meeting**: The next meeting of the Regional Transportation Council is scheduled for 1:00 pm, Thursday, November 5, 2026.

Meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm.