

MINUTES

Regional Transportation Council Friday, September 11, 2026

The Regional Transportation Council (RTC) met on Friday, September 11, 2026, at 2:00 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, Curtis Bergthold, Lorie Blair, Stephanie Boardingham (representing Michael Evans), Randall Bryant, Ceason Clemens, Jorga Clemson (representing Ron Jensen), John Cordary (representing David Salazar), Theresa Daniel, Pat Deen, Carlos Flores, T.J. Gilmore, Raul Gonzalez, Mojoy Haddad, Darrell Hale, Angela Hunt, Clay Lewis Jenkins, Jill Jester, Stephen Mason, Ed Moore, John Muns, Matthew Porter, Manny Ramirez, Paul Ridley, Jim Ross, William 'Bill' Roth (representing Kathy Stewart), Garry Smith, Randy Stinson, Burt Thakur, Jeremy Tompkins, William Tsao, and Dennis Webb.

Others present at the meeting were: Amany Abu-Hijih, Vickie Alexander, Ahmed Alqaisi, Jan Anderson, Davis Arthur-Yeboah, Berrien Barks, Jay Barksdale, Emily Beckham, Nathan Benditz, Alberta Blair, Kyle Butler, Daniel Byrd, Katherine Cadena, Todd Carlson, Thomas Cochill, Dina Colarossi, Paul Cristina, Clarence Daugherty, Chad Edwards, Brian Flood, Andrew Fortune, Laura Freeland, Gypsy Gavia, Bobby Gomez, Rebekah Gongora, Christie Gotti, Vampy Harris, Tony Hartzel, Jeff Hathcock, Ernest Huffman, Kevin Isa, Joel James, Amy Johnson, Sidney Kelly, Dan Kessler, Amsal Khimani, Tony Kimmey, Ken Kirkpatrick, Michael Knowles, Alicia Kreh, Dan Lamers, Anette Landeros, David Leininger, Ivan Lemus, Aaron Long, Stanford Lynch, Alberto Mares, Rob Matwick, Monte Mercer, Michael Morris, Jenny Narvaez, Mark Nelson, Jackie Nolasco, James Novak, David Parnell, Michael Peters, Christopher Poe, John Polster, James Powell, Ezra Pratt, Vercie Pruitt-Jenkins, Randy Richardson, Jacob Roberts, Kyle Roy, Suzi Rumohr, Kay Shelton, Sid Sonck, Claude Spivey, Feliz Stafford, Toni Stehling, Dave Timbrell, Lauren Trimble, Celina Vasquez, Elisa Villnave, Amanda Wilson, and Brian Wilson.

The invocation was provided by Mayor Daniel Alemán, City of Mesquite, 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. Chair Mason noted that no members of the public chose to speak at the meeting or provide written comments.
2. **Approval of August 13, 2026, Minutes:** Approval of the August 13, 2026, meeting minutes contained in Electronic Item 2 was requested.

A motion was made to approve the August 13, 2026, meeting minutes as submitted in Electronic Item 2. Paul Ridley (M); Ed Moore (S). The motion passed unanimously.

3. Consent Agenda

- 3.1. **Fourth Quarter 2026 Transportation Improvement Program Revisions:** Regional Transportation Council approval of revisions to the 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) was requested, along with the ability to amend the Unified Planning Work Program and other planning documents with TIP-related changes.

- 3.2. **Federal Functional Classification System Amendments:** Regional Transportation Council approval was requested of six amendments to the currently approved Federal Functional Classification System.
- 3.3. **Transportation Paid Education Campaigns for Fiscal Year 2027:** Regional Transportation Council approval of support of a recommendation to the North Central Texas Council of Governments Executive Board for the approval of funding up to \$1,246,250 for Transportation Paid Education Campaigns that will initiate in Fiscal Year 2027 was requested.
- 3.4. **Modifications to the Fiscal Year 2026 and Fiscal Year 2027 Unified Planning Work Program for Regional Transportation Planning:** Regional Transportation Council approval of modifications to the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 and FY2027 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) was requested. Direction for staff to administratively amend the Transportation Improvement Program/Statewide Transportation Improvement Program and update administrative and/or planning documents, as needed, to incorporate the programs, projects, and funding contained in the UPWP modifications was also sought.
- 3.5. **Collin County Rides Funding Update:** Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval to utilize up to \$98,887 in remaining previously approved RTC Local funds to extend the Collin County Rides program through Spring 2027, to ensure Denton County Transportation Authority can continue transit service for seniors and individuals with disabilities for residents in Allen and Fairview was requested.

A motion was made to approve Items 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, and 3.5 on the Consent Agenda. Matthew Porter (M); Lorie Blair (S). The motion passed unanimously.

4. **Orientation to Agenda/Director of Transportation Report:** Michael Morris briefly highlighted items 1 through 12.
1. Dismissal Papers Filed to the District and Appellate Courts
 2. Status of Texas Department of Transportation Signature on Three-Party Agreement
 3. New Regional Transportation Council Member Orientation and Partnership on Responsibilities – October
 4. November 12, 2026, Regional Transportation Council Meeting Conflicts with the 2026 Texas Municipal League Annual Conference (November 11–13)
 5. Changing Mobility: Data, Insights, and Delivering Innovative Projects During COVID Recovery
 6. Fall 2026 Traffic Incident Management Executive Level Course Announcement – November 5, 2026
 7. Regional Transportation Council (RTC) Bylaws Revision Subcommittee and Next Steps for RTC Metropolitan Planning Organization Director
 8. Irving Summit – August 31 and September 1, 2026
 9. High-Speed Rail Follow Up – August 20, 2026
 10. AMTRAK Heartland Flyer (Proposed Three-Year Program by Texas Department of Transportation)
 11. Three Additional Railroad Grade Separations: Grant Award \$189,840,698; Total Project Cost - \$237,300,873
 - o Dallas – Westmoreland Road @ Union Pacific Railroad/Dallas, Garland, Northeastern Railroad - Grant Award - \$89,828,698

- Fort Worth – NE 23rd Street/Decatur Avenue @ Union Pacific Railroad/Burlington Northern and Santa Fe/Fort Worth & Western Railroad/TEXRail - Grant Award - \$75,821,000
- Terrell – Las Lomas Parkway @ US 80/Union Pacific Railroad - \$24,191,000
- 12. Texas Transportation Commission Approval of the Unified Transportation Program
- 13. Walk & Roll to School Day (October 7)
- 14. Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Technical Advisory Committee Information
- 15. Recent Correspondence to the Environmental Protection Agency
- 16. Resilient Electric Vehicle Charging Plan Stakeholder Invitation
- 17. Texas Department of Transportation Texas Electric Vehicle Plan North Central Texas Council of Governments Region Results ([Texas electric vehicle planning](#))
- 18. High Occupancy Vehicle Quarterly Report
- 19. Local Clean Air Spotlight
- 20. 2026 Ozone Season Update
- 21. Air Quality Funding Opportunities (www.nctcog.org/aqfunding)
- 22. Upcoming Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Events (www.dfwcleancities.org/events)
- 23. July – August Public Comments Report
- 24. August Public Meeting Minutes
- 25. August Public Meeting Notice
- 26. September Public Meeting Notice
- 27. Recent News Articles August
- 28. Recent Correspondence
- 29. Recent Press Releases

Due to the schedule conflict with the Texas Municipal League's Annual Conference (noted above), RTC Chair Mason authorized the November RTC meeting be moved to November 5. In addition, several RTC members requested a merit pay increase of three or four percent retroactive from 2025 for Michael Morris. An action item regarding a merit increase for Mr. Morris will be placed on the October agenda. Michael Morris also mentioned bringing the chief executive officers of the three transit agencies regarding microtransit impacting rail, bus, and on demand ridership with some ideas to potentially help the transit agencies.

5. Federal Performance Measures: Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality

Performance and Transit Asset Management Targets: Jenny Narvaez provided information on federal performance measures: Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Performance and Transit Asset Management Targets and requested approval of draft targets for certain federally required performance measures, specifically Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (i.e. PM3) and Transit Asset Management. Michael Morris mentioned that staff will bring the Smart Port project at Alliance that has dedicated truck lanes that will work on the next generation traffic signals for goods movement with 20 locations with a request to pay for re-timing of traffic signals and dedicated truck lanes using our express lanes as a way to platoon trucks at certain hours of the day.

A motion was made for approval of the 2030 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality targets: peak-hour excessive delay, non-single occupancy vehicle travel, and on-road mobile source emissions reductions; 2027-2030 Transit Asset Management targets: rolling stock (transit vehicles), including directing staff to work with agencies on performance, infrastructure (rail track), equipment (support vehicles), and facilities (buildings, stations, park & rides). Randall Bryant (M); Rick Bailey (S). The motion passed unanimously.

6. **Metropolitan Transportation Plan Policy Bundle Round 6:** Amy Johnson requested Regional Transportation Council approval of Transportation Development Credit allocations for successful applicants from the sixth round of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan Policy Bundle Program.

A motion was made to approve 34,900,000 Transportation Development Credits (TDCs) distributed to successful Policy Bundle applicants for Round 6, which includes an increase of 4,900,000 in TDCs over the original 30,000,000, along with administratively amending the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)/Statewide TIP and updating any administrative and/or planning documents as needed to incorporate the awards. Paul Ridley (M); Burt Thakur (S). The motion passed unanimously.

7. **Regional Bicycle Safety Action Plan:** This item was tabled until the October meeting.

8. **Approval of 2026 Bus and Bus Facilities and Low or No Emissions Grant Applications:** Bobby Gomez requested Regional Transportation Council approval of applications to the Federal Transit Administration Bus and Bus Facilities and Low or No Emission Grant programs.

A motion was made to approve 2026 Bus and Bus Facilities and Low or No Emissions Grant Applications as presented and if awarded, administratively amending the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)/Statewide TIP and updating any administrative and/or planning documents as needed to incorporate the projects. Daniel Alemán (M); Theresa Daniel (S). The motion passed unanimously.

9. **North Texas Advanced Air Mobility Readiness Call for Projects Update:** Ernest Huffman presented the recommended projects and funding allocations resulting from the North Texas Advanced Air Mobility Readiness Call for Projects and requested Regional Transportation Council approval of the recommended projects and associated funding allocations for electric aircraft charging infrastructure at Fort Worth Meacham International Airport, Denton Enterprise Airport, Granbury Regional Airport, and Greenville Municipal Airport.

A motion was made to approve recommended Advanced Air Mobility Airport Charging Infrastructure Projects based on evaluation and scoring results; utilization of \$477,500 in existing Regional Transportation Council (RTC) Local funds for eligible projects identified through this process, the remaining RTC approved funding allocation will be used for a future Advanced Air Mobility program; and administratively amending the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)/Statewide TIP and updating any administrative and/or planning documents as needed to incorporate this new framework. Burt Thakur (M); Theresa Daniel (S). The motion passed unanimously.

An amended motion was made for the Regional Transportation Council to include fire safety training for aviation and unmanned aircraft and to extend and instruct staff for a second Call for Projects for the remaining funds if the first Call for Projects does not exceed the allotted amount. If the Call exceeds the allotted amount, staff will request additional RTC Local funds with clarification that the Call for Projects is for general aviation, unmanned aircraft airports, heliports, and any public accessible facility. Darrell Hale (M); Burt Thakur (S). The motion passed unanimously.

10. **Fiscal Year 2026 Public Transportation Funding Programs of Projects**: Christie Gotti requested Regional Transportation Council action on the Fiscal Year 2026 Public Transportation Funding Programs of Projects.

A motion was made to approve the proposed funding for the Fiscal Year 2026 Programs of Projects for 5307, 5310, 5337, and 5339, along with administratively amending the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)/Statewide TIP and updating any administrative and/or planning documents as needed to incorporate this funding on these projects. Randall Bryant (M); Daniel Alemán (S). The motion passed unanimously.

11. **Regional Rail Crossing Inventory Database**: Jeff Hathcock provided an overview of the Regional Rail Crossing Inventory Database, which includes information on all public at-grade railroad crossings in the Metropolitan Planning Area, including the counties of Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Hood, Hunt, Johnson, Kaufman, Parker, Rockwall, Tarrant, and Wise.
12. **Draft 2027 Regional Transportation Council Legislative Program for the 90th Texas Legislature**: Rebekah Gongora provided a federal and State legislative update and presented the draft Regional Transportation Council Legislative Program for the 90th Texas Legislature.
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, October 8, 2026.

Meeting adjourned at 4:15 pm.