

# NORTH CENTRAL TEXAS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Minutes — August 24, 2023

Transportation Council Room | 616 Six Flags Drive | Arlington, Texas

The NCTCOG Executive Board meeting was conducted as a videoconference meeting that was live broadcast at <https://nctcog.swagit.com/live>. The presiding officer, President Heidemann, was present at the physical location, 616 Six Flags Drive, Arlington, Texas, which was open to the public during all open portions of the meeting.

President Heidemann called the regular meeting of the North Central Texas Council of Governments Executive Board to order at 12:45 pm on August 24, 2023. Mike Eastland took attendance and determined that a quorum was physically present.

### **Members of the Board Present:**

- |                     |                           |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Bill Heidemann   | 8. Jennifer Justice       |
| 2. Chris Hill       | 9. Linda Martin           |
| 3. Victoria Johnson | 10. Cara Mendelsohn       |
| 4. Andrew Piel      | 11. Bobbie Mitchell       |
| 5. J.D. Clark (V)   | 12. Tim O'Hare            |
| 6. Jorja Clemson    | 13. Kameron Raburn        |
| 7. Clay Jenkins (V) | 14. Victoria Neave Criado |

### **Members of the Board Absent:**

1. Carlos Flores
2. Bowie Hogg
3. Todd Little
4. Nick Stanley

### **Members of the Staff Present:**

Mike Eastland, Monte Mercer, Molly Rendon, Tim Barbee, Doni Green, Michael Morris, Susan Alvarez, Maribel Martinez, Phedra Redifer, Christy Williams, Jerri Watson, Ken Kirkpatrick, James Powell, Michael Bort, Tom McLain, Chris Klaus, Dan Kessler, Randy Richardson, Lisa Sack, Richard Michael, Steven Davis, Malik McClelland, Christian Davis, Megan Short, Andrei Radu, Shannon Stevenson, Amy Hodges, Maggie Quinn, Lori Clark, Irlenia Hermosillo, Cassidy Campbell

### **Visitors Present:**

Rob Barthen, GrantWorks; Greg Cox

## **REGULAR SESSION**

### **PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

President Heidemann opened the meeting for public comment and asked if there was anyone present wishing to speak. There being no one, he proceeded with the meeting.

### **ACTION:**

#### **Item 1 Approval of Minutes**

President Heidemann stated that the first item on the agenda was approval of the minutes from the July Board meeting.

Upon a Motion by Councilmember Mendelsohn (seconded by Councilmember Johnson), and unanimous vote of all members present, the Board approved the minutes of the July Executive Board meeting.

**Item 2 Resolution Authorizing the Granbury Workforce Center Lease Extension**

Phedra Redifer, Director of Workforce Development, requested Board authorization for a lease extension between NCTCOG and Memorial Mini Storage for the current Granbury Workforce Center, for a two (2) year term and at a price per square foot not to exceed \$12.50 (excluding insurance, taxes, utilities, janitorial, and common area maintenance). The current lease is scheduled to end November 30, 2023. She explained that the pandemic caused many organizations to adapt their delivery of programs and services available to existing customers and that staff has been analyzing data to better understand customers patterns for accessing the Workforce programs. The lease extension would allow for post-pandemic customer traffic patterns to stabilize and for staff to develop a strategic and comprehensive approach to where and how many stand-alone Centers are located throughout the 14-County region. The moderate lease extension term provides flexibility for introduction of a new service delivery model in the event the Granbury Center model does not meet the needs of evolving Workforce customer engagement behaviors. A current market survey of other comparable properties was performed and confirmed the proposed rate for this Center is within the market price for the surrounding area.

Exhibit: 2023-08-02-WD

*Judge Jenkins entered the meeting.*

Upon a Motion by Mayor Martin (seconded by Commissioner Mitchell), and unanimous vote of all members present, the Board approved the resolution as presented.

**Item 3 Resolution Authorizing Acceptance of the FEMA FY2023 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) Grant Funds and FY2022 Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Reallocation Grant Funds**

Maribel Martinez, Director of Emergency Preparedness, requested Board approval to receive approximately \$1,500,000 in FY2023 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) funds (UASI and SHSP combined) and approximately \$150,000 in FY2022 HSGP reallocation funds (UASI) to provide planning, equipment, training, and exercise assistance to local governments and first responders throughout the region.

An additional \$45,000 in funds will be received through an interlocal agreement with the City of Dallas to assist UASI jurisdictions with grant management and administrative tasks associated with the UASI Grant Program. NCTCOG will also enter an interlocal agreement with the Office of the Governor (OOG) in the amount of \$50,000 serving as a liaison between our regional stakeholders and the OOG assisting with grant management requirements.

At this time, the grant program is 100% federally funded with no local cost-share or match requirements.

Exhibit: 2023-08-03-EP

Upon a Motion by Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Clemson (seconded by Councilmember Johnson), and unanimous vote of all members present, the Board approved the resolution as presented.

**Item 4 Resolution Endorsing the 2023 Update to the North Central Texas Water Quality Management Plan**

Susan Alvarez, Director of Environment and Development, requested Board endorsement to the *2023 Update to the North Central Texas Water Quality Management Plan* and authorization of transmittal of relevant materials to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for certification and subsequent transmission to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for approval. The Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP) supports current and future planning decisions concerning water quality efforts, wastewater infrastructure development, watershed management, and related issues and is updated annually. The TCEQ provides the funding to develop the WQMP. The complete *2023 Update to the North Central Texas Water Quality Management Plan* is available at: <https://www.nctcog.org/envir/natural-resources/water-resources>. NCTCOG staff will forward the WQMP to TCEQ for final approval.

Exhibit: 2023-08-04-ED

*Judge Jenkins left the meeting.*

Upon a Motion by Commissioner Mitchell (seconded by Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Clemson), and unanimous vote of all members present, the Board approved the resolution as presented.

**Item 5 Resolution Endorsing the Adoption of the 2023 Edition of the National Electrical Code with Regional Amendments**

Susan Alvarez, Director of Environment and Development, requested Board endorsement adopting the 2023 edition of the National Electrical Code with regional amendments by all cities and counties in the North Central Texas region. She explained that NCTCOG has actively promoted the standardization of model construction codes since 1967 when the disparity in codes was first documented. The Regional Codes Coordinating Committee (RCCC), composed of public and private sector code professionals, encourages the adoption of NCTCOG recommended model codes and regional amendments to reduce the variation of local construction codes in the region.

As part of a continuation of code uniformity initiatives, the RCCC's Electrical Advisory Board (EAB) conducted several open review meetings for recommendations and development of regional amendments to the National Electrical Code (NEC). Upon completed deliberations, the RCCC reviewed and approved the amendment recommendations on July 18, 2023, with final recommendation of adoption to the 2023 NEC and corresponding regional amendments for all cities in the North Central Texas region.

Exhibit: 2023-08-05-ED

*Judge Jenkins returned to the meeting. Councilmember Justice entered the meeting.*

Upon a Motion by Councilmember Piel (seconded by Councilmember Mendelsohn), and unanimous vote of all members present, the Board approved the resolution as presented.

**Item 6 Resolution Endorsing Submittal of FY2023/FY2024 Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant Program Applications to the United States Department of Transportation**

Michael Morris, Director of Transportation, requested Board endorsement for the submittal of three applications to the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) under the FY2023/FY2024 Multimodal Projects Discretionary Grant (MPDG) Program in the amount of \$240,440,000. He explained the \$5.575 billion program solicits project applications for three combined funding opportunities: \$1.8 billion from the National Infrastructure Project Assistance (MEGA) Program, \$3.1 billion from the Nationally Significant Multimodal Freight and Highway Projects Grant (INFRA) Program, and \$675 million from the Rural Surface Transportation Grant (RURAL) Program.

On August 10, 2023, the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approved the submission of the following NCTCOG projects: Dallas County Inland Port (DCIP) Multimodal Connectivity Project (INFRA/RURAL), implemented by Dallas County; AllianceTexas Smart Port Deployment & SH 170 Connections Project (INFRA), and US 81/287 North Tarrant County Reconstruction Project (MEGA), both implemented by TxDOT.

Details of each project are identified below.

## Multimodal Projects Discretionary Grant (MPDG) Program FY 23/24 Candidate Project List & Details

PROJECT				COST / FUNDING STATUS						
TITLE	DESCRIPTION / LIMITS	NEW?	E / W	NON-FEDERAL			FEDERAL			TOTAL COST
				NCTCOG / TxDOT	Local / Private	%	NCTCOG / TxDOT	MPDG Amount (Grant Type)	%	
<b>FY 23 MPDG CANDIDATE PROJECTS - NCTCOG (as lead applicant)</b>										
Dallas County Inland Port (DCIP) Multimodal Connectivity Project	Rebuild Belt Line Rd, Lancaster Hutchins Rd - East of Mason Rd & Sunrise Rd, Belt Line Rd - Loop 970 & 4-lane arterial w/ bike paths for better mobility/accessibility	NO	EAST	N/A	\$16,995,000 <sup>1</sup>	21%	\$20,530,000 <sup>2</sup>	\$45,000,000 (INFRA/RURAL)	79%	\$82,525,000
Alliance Smart Port Deployment & SH 170 Connections Project	Deliver comprehensive infrastructure assets including SH 170 intermodal. Play direct connectors, smart technology deployments, & new EV/alternative fuel capacities to unleash Alliance logistics optimization concept	YES	WEST	\$25,973,800 <sup>3</sup>	\$132,450,000 <sup>4</sup>	61%	\$23,400,000 <sup>5</sup>	\$80,000,000 (INFRA)	39%	\$261,823,699
US 81/207 North Tarrant County Reconstruction Project	Reconstruct for six miles of continuous one-way frontage roads, new bike/ped accommodations, improved intersections, relocated ramps, & new grade-separations SH 25W - Avondale Hasset Rd	YES	WEST	\$50,858,000 <sup>6</sup>	\$19,400,000 <sup>7</sup>	20%	\$158,704,000 <sup>8</sup>	\$115,440,000 (MEGA)	80%	\$344,400,000

**NOTES:**

- Dallas County - \$5,200,000 City of Lancaster - \$7,600,000 City of Wilmer - \$3,625,000 Franchise Leases - \$1,600,000
- RTC (Existing) - \$8,000,000 STBG RTC (New) - \$10,200,000 STBG - \$2,700,000 TDC (New RTC funds identified to FY 22 INFRA/RURAL application)
- RTC (New) - \$22,000,000 RTC - \$80,000 TDC - TxDOT - \$14,973,800 (Local/TEB)
- Commuter (Private) - \$22,850,000 Hillwood (Private) - \$81,400,000 City of Fort Worth (Local Bond) - \$8,250,000 Tarrant County (Local Bond) - \$6,750,000 (Existing) - \$20,000,000 (New)
- RTC (New) - \$23,400,000 STBG
- TxDOT State Funds - \$16,000,000 (Engineering) - \$34,858,000 (Construction) - 2024 UTP Cat 2/4 - CSJ #0014-25-078
- City of Fort Worth (ROI) - \$6,900,000 City of Fort Worth Franchise Leases - \$12,500,000
- TxDOT Federal Funds - \$29,424,000 (Construction) - 2024 UTP Cat 2/4 - CSJ #0014-25-078 - \$19,280,000 (Construction) - Future UTP Cat 2/4

Exhibit: 2023-08-06-TR

Upon a Motion by Councilmember Mendelsohn (seconded by Councilmember Raburn), and unanimous vote of all members present, the Board approved the resolution as presented.

### Item 7 Resolution Authorizing Participation in Projects Awarded by the United States Department of Energy

Michael Morris, Director of Transportation, requested Board authorization to participate as a subrecipient in projects that were recently awarded funds by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) based on the fiscal year 2022 Vehicle Technologies Office funding opportunity. Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval, including the use of RTC Local funds for the purpose detailed below, was received in December 2022.

Details of each project are identified in the below table.

Lead Applicant	Project Name and Scope	Potential NCTCOG Budget	
		Federal	Match Required
GTI Energy	Houston to Los Angeles (H2LA) – Interstate 10 Hydrogen Corridor Project  The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) will assist with development of an infrastructure plan for hydrogen truck fueling around the Texas Triangle and along Interstate 10	Approximately \$107,000	\$0
Louisiana Clean Fuels	Guaranteeing Access to Underserved and Marginalized Populations by Building Employment Opportunities (GUMBO)  NCTCOG will assist in promoting and replicating curricula for electric vehicle (EV) charging station technician training across the Dallas-Fort Worth (DFW) region	Approximately \$50,000	\$0

Interstate Renewable Energy Council	EV Smart Communities  NCTCOG will pilot the implementation of a program to assist municipalities in ways to be EV friendly and receive a national EV-friendly designation	Approximately \$50,000	\$50,000 RTC Local Funds
City of Arlington	Multimodal/Drone Delivery Demonstration to Disadvantaged Communities and Mobility Challenged Populations  NCTCOG will assist with the planning, development, and deployment of a multimodal demonstration project in the city of Arlington, coordinate the development of performance metrics, and lead an evaluation of electrification opportunities.	Approximately \$200,093	\$200,094 RTC Local Funds
<b>Total</b>		Approximately \$407,093	\$250,094 RTC Local Funds

Exhibit: 2023-08-07-TR

Upon a Motion by Commissioner Mitchell (seconded by Councilmember Piel), and unanimous vote of all members present, the Board approved the resolution as presented.

**Item 8 Resolution Authorizing a Contract with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. to Study the Implementation of Bikeway Facilities to DART Rail Stations**

Michael Morris, Director of Transportation, requested Board authorization to enter a contractual agreement with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. to conduct a bikeway facility study to DART rail stations of various corridors in the Town of Addison, Cities of Carrollton, Dallas, Irving, and Plano in an amount not to exceed \$375,000 (\$150,000 STBG, \$180,000 FTA TOD, 37,500 TDC) and \$45,000 Sustainable Development RTC Local funds. The project is funded with federal Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program funds and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Planning Grant funds, with local match provided by Sustainable Development Regional Transportation Council (RTC) Local funds and Transportation Development Credits (TDCs).

A Request for Proposals (RFP) was issued and reviewed by a Consultant Selection Committee (CSC). Four proposals were received in response to the RFP. Upon evaluation by the CSC, Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. is recommended for award. Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. has committed to meet a minimum Disadvantaged Business Enterprise participation goal of 32.0 percent for this project.

Exhibit: 2023-08-08-TR

Upon a Motion by Judge Jenkins (seconded by Councilmember Justice), the resolution was approved with Judge Hill, Judge O'Hare, Councilmember Mendelsohn, and Councilmember Johnson voting no.

**Item 9 Resolution Authorizing Agreement Amendment with Morningstar Concerning Old Weatherford Road in Parker County to Assist the Aledo Independent School District**

Michael Morris, Director of Transportation, requested Board authorization to amend the agreement with FG Aledo Development, LLC d/b/a Morningstar and/or its related entities regarding the design and construction funding strategy for Old Weatherford Road in Parker County. He explained that the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approved a total of \$10,500,000 in Regional Toll Revenue funds in August 2020 for the project. Morningstar has an obligation after August 2022, under a development agreement with the City of Fort Worth, to design and construct the northern half (two lanes) of Old Weatherford Road that fronts its development, with an initially anticipated obligation of \$3.5 million.

He further explained that the RTC's cost share increased from \$10,500,000 to \$16,640,000 and Morningstar's cost share increased from \$3,500,000 to \$5,000,000 due to increased costs associated with higher construction costs, inclusion of additional design features such as a traffic signal at the new middle school's main entrance, and right-of-way negotiations. Morningstar has committed \$5 million to the project: 1) approximately \$2.1 million to fund the design of the ultimate four-lane facility and 2) payment of the remaining balance (\$5 million less design fees paid by Morningstar) anticipated to be \$2.9 million to NCTCOG. Payment would be received four years after the roadway is open to traffic. The amendment reflects the updated increased project costs and incorporates the additional payment NCTCOG will receive from Morningstar. These cost share increases were approved by the RTC at its regular July 13, 2023 meeting.

Exhibit: 2023-08-09-TR

Upon a Motion by Mayor Martin (seconded by Councilmember Johnson), and unanimous vote of all members present, with Councilmember Piel abstaining, the Board approved the resolution as presented.

**Item 10 Resolution Approving NCTCOG to Serve as the Designated Recipient for Federal Transit Administration Funds for the McKinney-Frisco Urbanized Area**

Ken Kirkpatrick, General Counsel, requested Board approval for the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) to serve as the designated recipient for Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funds for the newly designated McKinney-Frisco Urbanized Area. He explained that under the new 2020 Census designations, Frisco is now combined with McKinney to create the McKinney-Frisco Urbanized Area, which requires designation of a new Designated Recipient for FTA funds prior to October 1, 2023. The cities of Frisco and McKinney took action on July 3, 2023, and July 18, 2023, respectively, approving the recommendation of NCTCOG serving as the FTA Designated Recipient for the McKinney-Frisco Urbanized area and confirmed that NCTCOG, in conjunction with the Regional Transportation Council (RTC), will continue to serve as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the new McKinney-Frisco Urbanized Area. The RTC also approved the Designated Recipient recommendation on August 10, 2023.

Exhibit: 2023-08-10-TR

Upon a Motion by Judge Hill (seconded by Councilmember Johnson), and unanimous vote of all members present, the Board approved the resolution as presented.

**Item 11 Resolution Authorizing use of Regional Transportation Council Local Funds to Support Regional Traffic Signal Enhancement Initiatives**

Michael Morris, Director of Transportation, requested Board authorization to use \$200,000 in Regional Transportation Council (RTC) Local funds in support of the Regional Traffic Signal Enhancement Initiatives. These initiatives help relieve congestion and includes development of functional standards and performance measures, inventory and review of existing signals, identification of gaps between minimum standards and existing conditions, and other strategies to maximize the capacity of the existing roadway system by improving traffic operations through signal retiming. Traffic Signal Enhancement initiatives are funded with federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) funds. A combination of State and local funds has been used to fulfill the match requirements, with some local match provided by local governments to support location-specific signal projects. The use of RTC funds for support of match commitments was proposed to assist with the advancement of new strategies that are not correlated with a specific location.

Exhibit: 2023-08-11-TR

Upon a Motion by Councilmember Mendelsohn (seconded by Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Clemson), and unanimous vote of all members present, the Board approved the resolution as presented.

**STATUS REPORTS:**

**Item 12 Status Report on Proposed Fiscal Year 2024 Annual Fiscal Program**

Mike Eastland addressed the Board and mentioned that the Finance Committee met earlier for a presentation on the Proposed Fiscal Year 2024 Annual Fiscal Program. He recognized Monte Mercer, Molly Rendon, and other members of the Administration Department, along with the Operating Departments, for their contributions to the

process. Commissioner Mitchell, standing in for Judge Hill, Chair of the Committee, congratulated the staff on their presentation and for being very thorough.

Following the introductory remarks, Randy Richardson, Assistant Director of Finance, presented the Proposed FY 2024 Annual Fiscal Program and stated that it would be brought to the Board in September for final approval.

Exhibit: 2023-08-12-AA

*Judge Hill left the meeting and did not return.*

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

**Item 13 Old and New Business**

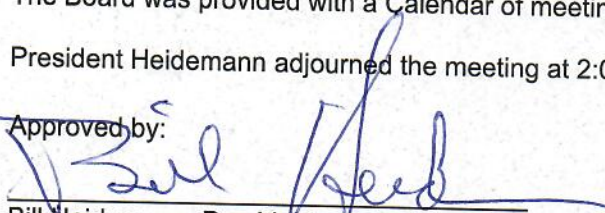
Mike Eastland mentioned that the December Board meeting was cancelled.

**Item 14 Attendance and Calendar**

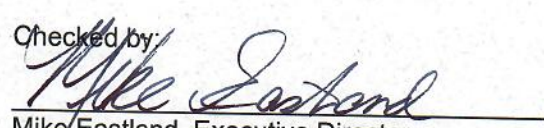
The Board was provided with a Calendar of meeting and a record of Attendance.

President Heidemann adjourned the meeting at 2:09 pm.

Approved by:

  
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Bill Heidemann, President  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
Mayor, City of Corinth

Checked by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mike Eastland, Executive Director  
North Central Texas Council of Governments