

AGENDA

**Regional Transportation Council
Thursday, December 11, 2025
North Central Texas Council of Governments**

11:00 am - 12:00 pm RTC Transit Vision Subcommittee Meeting

**1:00 pm Full RTC Business Agenda
(NCTCOG Guest Secured Wireless Connection Password: rangers!)**

Pledge to the United States and Texas Flags

- 1:00 – 1:10 1. Opportunity for Public Comment on Today's Agenda**
☒ Information Minutes: 10
Item Summary: Members of the public may comment on any item(s) on today's agenda at this time. If speaking, please complete a Speaker Request Card available at the meeting and provide it to the North Central Texas Council of Governments designated staff person. A maximum of three (3) minutes is permitted per speaker. At the conclusion of this item, no further opportunities for public comment will be provided for the duration of the meeting.
Background: N/A
- 1:10 – 1:15 2. Approval of November 13, 2025, Minutes**
☒ Action ☐ Possible Action ☐ Information Minutes: 5
Presenter: Rick Bailey, RTC Chair
Item Summary: Approval of the November 13, 2025, meeting minutes contained in Electronic Item 2 will be requested.
Background: N/A
- 1:15 – 1:20 3. Consent Agenda**
☒ Action ☐ Possible Action ☐ Information Minutes: 5
- 3.1. Ratification of Emergency Funding: North Texas Multimodal Operations, Velocity, Efficiency, and Safety Cost Increase for Eastern Segment**
Presenter: Christie Gotti, NCTCOG
Item Summary: Regional Transportation Council (RTC) ratification is requested for emergency funding of \$3.82 million in Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program funds with a local

match of \$955,000 committed by Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) as the last funding piece for the eastern section of the Trinity Railway Express (TRE) federal discretionary grant. The action includes amending the Transportation Improvement Program and other administrative/planning documents to enable the project to proceed to construction.

Background: North Texas Multimodal Operations, Velocity, Efficiency, and Safety (NT MOVES) is a collaborative effort between the RTC, DART, Trinity Metro, and the TRE to increase regional freight and passenger mobility on the TRE corridor. The project was awarded \$25 million dollars in Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development federal discretionary grant funding, along with other RTC-approved funds. In October 2025, RTC approved a funding partnership for the western section of this project. As Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) modifications were being submitted, it was determined that the final estimate for the eastern section was slightly higher. While the TIP modification could have been delayed to the next revision cycle, that action would have delayed the project letting. This situation was resolved by utilization of the Transportation Director's authority under the RTC Policy Position Establishing Guidelines for Ratification Actions (P20-02), the additional funding was included in the TIP modification with the caveat that final RTC approval was needed to proceed. Under the Ratification Policy, staff is bringing this item to the RTC for ratification in December, which is the next scheduled meeting of the RTC, as specified by the policy.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Goods Movement, Transit

3.2. **Funding for Klyde Warren Park Phase 2 Cost Overrun**

Presenter: Brian Dell, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Regional Transportation Council approval of \$7.85 million in Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG) funding and changes to

non-federal funding for the Klyde Warren Park Phase 2 project will be requested.

Background: The Klyde Warren Park Phase 2 project in the City of Dallas is scheduled for a June 2026 letting and costs have increased based on a 95 percent design plans. To facilitate a June 2026 letting, a funding plan needs to be finalized so an amendment to the Advance Funding Agreement can be executed by the end of the year. The project is part of the 2023 Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhood grant award from the United States Department of Transportation. Additional STBG funding is being requested to fill the funding gap to ensure that the project can proceed to construction. There is approximately \$70 million in STBG funding unprogrammed, more than enough to accommodate this request. More details can be found in Electronic Item 3.2.1 and Electronic Item 3.2.2.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Bike/Ped+, Roadway

3.3. **Technology Project Identification Framework**

Presenter: Natalie Bettger, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request approval of projects within the Transportation Technology and Innovation Program and the new Technology Project Identification process.

Background: The Technology and Innovation Program supports the advancement of emerging transportation technologies across the region. Staff will provide updates on previous projects, an overview of the new technology identification process, available funding, emphasis areas, evaluation criteria, and the proposed implementation schedule. The program also outlines the use of \$8.7 million in Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG) funds to support eligible projects. Additional information is provided in Electronic Item 3.3.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Roadway, Safety

1:20 – 1:35

4. **Orientation to Agenda/Director of Transportation Report**

☐ Action ☐ Possible Action ☒ Information Minutes: 15
Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG

1. Status Report on the Regional Transportation Council Transit Vision Subcommittee Meeting in January
2. Federal Railroad Administration Corridor Identification Development Program
3. 2026 Schedule of Meetings for the Regional Transportation Council and Surface Transportation Technical Committee (Electronic Item 4.1)
4. End of 2025 Ozone Season (Electronic Item 4.2)
5. Integrating Transportation and Stormwater Infrastructure Study Workshop: January 29, 2025 (Electronic Item 4.3)
6. Additional Correspondence from Hunt-Related Entities on High-Speed Rail (Electronic Item 4.4)
7. Status Update on 2025 Transportation Conformity (Electronic Item 4.5)
8. Attendance Report: Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Technical Advisory Committee (Electronic Item 4.6)
9. Local Clean Air Project Spotlight (Electronic Item 4.7)
10. Air Quality Funding Opportunities
(www.nctcog.org/aqfunding)
11. Upcoming Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Events
(www.dfwcleancities.org/events)
12. October – November Public Comment Report (Electronic Item 4.8)
13. November Public Meeting Minutes (Electronic Item 4.9)
14. December Public Meeting Notice (Electronic Item 4.10)
15. Recent News Articles (Electronic Item 4.11)
16. Recent Correspondence (Electronic Item 4.12)
17. Recent Press Releases (Electronic Item 4.13)

1:35 – 1:45

5. **Fiscal Year 2024 – 2025 National Railroad Partnership Program**

☒ Action ☐ Possible Action ☐ Information Minutes: 10
Presenter: Jeff Neal, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval to submit applications for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-2025 National Railroad Partnership Program (NRPP). Applications are due to the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) by January 7, 2026.

Background: In September 2025, the USDOT announced a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) to solicit applications for

FY2024-2025 NRPP. This \$5 billion competitive grant program replaces the Federal-State Partnership for Intercity Passenger Rail National Program, with \$1.06 billion in funds integrated from the rescinded FY2024 NOFO. The program provides three application tracks, (1) Project Planning, (2) Project Development, and (3) Final Design/Construction. The North Central Texas Council of Governments plans to submit NRPP applications for the Prairie Creek Road Grade Separation Project and the East Trinity Railway Express (TRE) Corridor Improvement Project, both within the city of Dallas. Funds will be awarded on a competitive basis for a project (or group of projects) that improve American passenger rail assets through: (1) bringing rail assets into a state of good repair; (2) improving intercity passenger rail service; (3) expanding or establishing new intercity passenger rail service; and (4) planning, environmental studies, and final design supporting improvements proposed to accomplish one or more of the above objectives. Available at <https://railroads.dot.gov/federal-state-partnership-intercity-passenger>, the FY2024-2025 NRPP NOFO describes the application requirements, evaluation and selection criteria, applicable program and federal requirements, and available technical assistance during the solicitation period. Electronic Item 5 includes a presentation describing the proposed action.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Safety, Transit

- 1:45 – 2:05** 6. **Status Report on Major Regional Transportation Council Initiatives for 2025 and Approval of Fiscal Year 2027-2029 Management, Operations, and Air Quality Program**
- ☒ Action ☐ Possible Action ☐ Information Minutes: 20
- Presenters: Michael Morris and Christie Gotti, NCTCOG
- Item Summary: Staff will update the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) on accomplishments since June 2025 and Policy challenges over the next 60 days and request approval of the ongoing program. Focus will be placed on the “every three years” approval of the Management, Operations, and Air Quality Program.
- Background: RTC approval of the ongoing Management, Operations, and Air Quality Program will be requested. It includes largely existing transportation programs needing

approval and funding for the next three more years. Examples include the Texas Department of Transportation Mobility Assistance Patrol, the Regional Vanpool Program, Regional Traffic Signal Retiming Program, and other continuous programs conducted by staff on behalf of the RTC. Electronic Item 6.1 contains major accomplishments since June 2025 and activities for the next 60-plus days. Electronic Item 6.2 includes additional information on the funding program. Electronic Item 6.3 contains the proposed list of projects and programs for the Management, Operations, and Air Quality program.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Roadway, Transit

2:05 – 2:15

7. **Metropolitan Transportation Plan Policy Bundle Round 6**

☐ Action ☐ Possible Action ☒ Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Amy Johnson, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide an overview of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Policy Bundle Round 6 policy list and scoring framework.

Background: The MTP Policy Bundle Program encourages local governments, school districts, and transportation agencies to voluntarily implement policies from Mobility 2050. Participating entities receive Transportation Development Credits (TDCs) to offset local matching funds for federal transportation projects. The Transit 2.0 Study identified the Policy Bundle as an opportunity to better incentivize transit-supportive actions, concluding that prior program rounds did not adequately reward cities investing local resources in transit. Round 6 proposes structural changes to address this finding, including expanded policy options for transit authorities and integrating transit funding participation into the scoring methodology for all applicants. Electronic Item 7 provides additional information.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Air Quality, Safety

2:15 – 2:25

8. **Project Status Report: Metropolitan Planning Organization
Milestone Policy Round 2, Fiscal Year 2025 and Fiscal Year 2026
Project Tracking Update**

☐ Action ☐ Possible Action ☒ Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Brian Dell, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) with a status report on the Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 and FY2026 Project Tracking and Milestone Policy Round 2 projects.

Background: The Milestone Policy was adopted by the RTC to focus on projects that have been funded for more than 10 years and have not gone to construction. By highlighting these projects, the policy creates agency accountability to implement projects in a timely manner. Staff coordinates with implementing agencies to assess project risk until they go to construction. Similarly, the annual project tracking effort focuses on projects slated for implementation in the current fiscal year. Projects are monitored early, allowing staff to highlight potential problems that could lead to delays, which enables the RTC to take corrective actions to avoid building up carryover balances in federal funding categories. Milestone Policy status updates, along with the latest risk ratings, can be found in Electronic Item 8.1. FY2025 Project Tracking status updates can be found in Electronic Item 8.2. FY2026 Project Tracking status updates can be found in Electronic Item 8.3. A summary of the status reports can be found in Electronic Item 8.4. Entities with projects delayed four or more years from their originally proposed start dates will be called out at the meeting.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Roadway, Transit

2:25 – 2:35

9. **Off-System Rail Grade Separation State Fund Program**

☐ Action ☐ Possible Action ☒ Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Michael Johnson, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide a brief overview of the Texas Off-System Rail Grade Separation State Fund Program, established to provide financial assistance to eligible state government entities for rail grade separation projects that improve public safety, support economic development, and reduce traffic congestion.

Background: In 2025, the 89th Texas State Legislature passed Senate Bill 1555, establishing the Texas Off-System Rail Grade Separation State Fund Program. The Legislature allocated \$250 million for this program through a supplemental budget allocation and authorized the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) to prepare administrative rules governing its management and implementation. TxDOT will conduct a two-staged solicitation process that began on November 3, 2025, targeting the development and construction of projects that eliminates one or more existing adjacent at-grade roadway-rail crossings or provides a grade-separated pedestrian-rail crossing. Applications will be web-based and submitted online through TxDOT's Rail Division website, with preliminary applications that were due by November 14, 2025. Following an expedited review by TxDOT's Project Evaluation Committee, applicants will be selected to prepare a detailed application starting in December 2025. A preliminary list of candidate projects that were approved for detailed applications are contained in Electronic Item 9. Selected projects will be recommended to the Texas Transportation Commission for final approval and award.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Roadway, Safety

- 2:35 – 2:40** 10. **Regional Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan Transit Safety Performance Measures – Crime Data Request**
- ☐ Action ☐ Possible Action ☒ Information Minutes: 5
- Presenter:** Karla Windsor, NCTCOG
- Item Summary:** Staff will provide an overview of the collected crime statistics from Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART), Trinity Metro, and Denton County Transportation Authority as requested by the Regional Transportation Council (RTC).
- Background:** On September 11, 2025, the RTC adopted updated targets to cover Fiscal Years 2026-2029 for the federally required Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP). PTASP includes measures related to transit safety for passengers, transit workers, and those who share the road with transit vehicles. A request was made for staff to collect current crime data, preferably in the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) format. The information will include an overview of the data provided to Federal Transit Administration's

National Transit Database and NIBRS for DART as the only transit agency in the region with an independent police force. Additional details are provided in Electronic Item 10.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Safety, Transit

2:40 – 2:45 11. North Texas Electric Vertical Takeoff and Landing and Advanced Air Mobility Aircraft Integration Pilot Program Proposal

☐ Action ☐ Possible Action ☒ Information Minutes: 5

Presenter: Ernest Huffman, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide an overview of the North Central Texas Council of Governments planned competitive application to the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) Electric Vertical Takeoff and Landing (eVTOL) Aircraft Integration Pilot Program (eIPP) to demonstrate near-term, real-world Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) operations in the Dallas-Fort Worth region.

Background: The pilot program is non-funded (partners carry their own costs) and will leverage American-manufactured aircraft in FAA certification, a network of participating airports/heliports, and enabling systems (charging, weather/data, and operational coordination). The briefing will cover scope, candidate mission profiles (short-haul cargo and passenger demonstrations), partner roles (Texas Department of Transportation Aviation, airports/heliports, Original Equipment Manufacturers [OEMs], universities, local jurisdictions), safety and performance data collection to inform federal policy, and how the effort aligns with the FAA's new Center for Advanced Aviation Technologies (CAAT) in Fort Worth. Staff will outline timeline, near-term deliverables (letters of support, site/route readiness checks), and request Council feedback on regional coordination and outreach to airport tenants and industry partners. Additional details are provided in Electronic Item 11.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Safety, Transit

2:45 – 2:50

12. Interim Final Rule on the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program

☐ Action ☐ Possible Action ☒ Information Minutes: 5

Presenter: Ken Kirkpatrick, NCTCOG

Item Summary: The United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) issued an Interim Final Rule on the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program on October 3, 2025. Staff will provide a summary of impacts on the DBE Program.

Background: In August 2025, the Regional Transportation Council approved an overall DBE Goal of 8.6 percent for Fiscal Years 2026-2028. During presentation of the goal, staff highlighted a pending United States Federal District Court case in Kentucky which could impact the DBE Program regulations in the future. The Interim Final Rule was published and became effective on October 3, 2025. The Interim Final Rule eliminates the sex and race-based presumptions to determine social and economic disadvantage. This requires all DBE firms to be re-certified under the new rule. Staff will provide a summary of changes and impacts on the DBE Program. Electronic Item 12.1 and Electronic Item 12.2 contain USDOT's initial guidance and frequently asked questions regarding the new DBE Rule. Additional information is included in Electronic Item 12.3.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative

2:50 – 3:00

13. Transportation Director Succession Plan

☐ Action ☐ Possible Action ☒ Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG

Item Summary: The Transportation Department has been requested to update the Transportation Director's Succession Plan for 2025 through 2027.

Background: Director of Transportation, Michael Morris, has updated the Department Succession Plan related to the Transportation Director. Electronic Item 13 contains the summary of the Succession Plan. Micheal will highlight the transition to Director "Emeritus" status as he will assist the new Director in the transition. Michael will continue his commitment to the Fédération Internationale de Football Association World Cup 2026.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative

14. **Progress Reports**

☐ Action ☐ Possible Action ☒ Information

Item Summary: Progress Reports are provided in the items below.

- RTC Attendance (Electronic Item 14.1)
- STTC Attendance and Minutes (Electronic Item 14.2)

15. **Other Business (Old or New)**: This item provides an opportunity for members to bring items of interest before the group.

16. **Future Agenda Items**: This item provides an opportunity for members to bring items of future interest before the Council.

17. **Next Meeting**: The next meeting of the Regional Transportation Council will be held at **1:00 pm, Thursday, January 8, 2026.**