

MINUTES

Regional Transportation Council Thursday, December 11, 2025

The Regional Transportation Council (RTC) met on Thursday, December 11, 2025, at 1:00 pm at the North Central Texas Council of Governments. The following RTC members or representatives were present: Daniel Alemán, Steve Babick, Rick Bailey, Elizabeth Beck, Curtis Bergthold, Lorie Blair, Alan Blaylock, Randall Bryant, Ceason Clemens, Jorga Clemson (representing Ron Jensen), Bill Cox, Michael Crain, Theresa Daniel, Jeff Davis, Pat Deen, Andy Eads, Michael Evans, Vernon Evans, Carlos Flores, T.J. Gilmore, Raul Gonzalez, Mojoy Haddad, Clay Lewis Jenkins, Jill Jester, Matt Krause, Stephen Mason, Cara Mendelsohn, Cesar Molina, Ed Moore, John Muns, Amir Omar (representing Bruce Arfsten), Matthew Porter, Paul Ridley, Jim Ross, William Roth (representing Jesse Moreno), David Salazar, John Stacy (representing Bobby Stovall), Kathy Stewart, Burt Thakur, Jeremy Tompkins, William Tsao, and Duncan Webb.

Others present at the meeting were: Vickie Alexander, Susan Alvarez, Renee Arnold, Micah Baker, Jay Barksdale, Emily Beckham, Will Bepresi, Kenny Bergstrom, Natalie Bernal, Natalie Bettger, Brandi Bird, Jonathan Blackman, Farhan Butt, Daniel Byrd, Katherine Cadena, Angie Carson, Lori Clark, Mardy Clash, Dina Colarossi, Shawn Conrad, Paul Cristina, Liam Crowley, Dawn Dalrymple, Clarence Daugherty, Brian Dell, Cody Derrick, Caryl DeVries, Emily Dryden, Chris Dyser, Chad Edwards, Andrew Fortune, Eric Gallt, Eric Garcia, Jillian Giles, Rebekah Gongora, Christie Gotti, Gary Graham, Shala Greer-Smith, Scott Hall, Tony Hartzel, Millie Hayes, Irlenia Hermosillo, Robert Hinkle, Ernest Huffman, Joel James, Jim Jarrat, Matt Johns, Amy Johnson, Mike Johnson, Wilson Kakembo, Dan Kessler, Gus Khankarli, Tony Kimmey, Ken Kirkpatrick, Andrew Kissig, Chris Klaus, Denise Koon, Tom Kramritz, Garry Kraus, Dan Lamers, Anette Landeros, Zihau Li, Eron Linn, Todd Little, Aaren Long, Dee Long, Paul Luedtke, Stanford Lynch, Chad Marbut, Dillion Maroney, Kit Marshall, Rob Matwick, Rich Matyiku, Malcolm Mayhew, Brian Moen, Erin Moore, Alex Morgan, Eric Morris, Michael Morris, Faith Morse, Jenny Narvaez, Jeff Neal, Mark Nelson, Jackie Nolasco, Darla Paybzzrah, Michael Peters, Christopher Poe, Caleb Polster, John Polster, Kelly Porter, James Powell, Ezra Pratt, Vercie Pruitt-Jenkins, David Purnell, Randy Richardson, Kay Shelton, Walter Shumac III, Samuel Simmons, Gary Slagel, Sidney Sonch, Claude Spivey, Feliz Stafford, Toni Stehling, David Sweet, Luke Tinker, Kimberlin To, Lauren Trimble, Caroline Vandergriff, Victor Vandergriff, Elisa Villnave, Noah Walker, Brendon Wheeler, Brian Wilson, Karla Windsor, Carson Wright, Chris Wright, Sam Yacomb, and Colleen Zweibel.

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. Chair Bailey noted that no members of the public chose to speak at the meeting or provide written comments.
2. **Approval of November 13, 2025, Minutes:** Approval of the November 13, 2025, meeting minutes contained in Electronic Item 2 was requested.

A motion was made to approve the November 13, 2025, meeting minutes as submitted in Electronic Item 2. Matthew Porter (M); Ed Moore (S). The motion passed unanimously.

3. Consent Agenda

- 3.1. **Ratification of Emergency Funding: North Texas Multimodal Operations, Velocity, Efficiency, and Safety Cost Increase for Eastern Segment:** Regional Transportation Council ratification was 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 as the last funding piece for the eastern section of the Trinity Railway Express federal discretionary grant. The action included amending the Transportation Improvement Program and other administrative/planning documents to enable the project to proceed to construction.
- 3.2. **Funding for Klyde Warren Park Phase 2 Cost Overrun:** Regional Transportation Council approval of \$7.85 million in Surface Transportation Block Grant Program funding and changes to non-federal funding for the Klyde Warren Park Phase 2 project was requested.
- 3.3. **Technology Project Identification Framework:** Regional Transportation Council approval was requested of projects within the Transportation Technology and Innovation Program and the new Technology Project Identification process.

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

4. **Orientation to Agenda/Director of Transportation Report:** Michael Morris briefly highlighted items 1 through 3, and 7.

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
4. End of 2025 Ozone Season
5. Integrating Transportation and Stormwater Infrastructure Study Workshop: January 29, 2025
6. Additional Correspondence from Hunt-Related Entities on High-Speed Rail
7. Status Update on 2025 Transportation Conformity
8. Attendance Report: Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Technical Advisory Committee
9. Local Clean Air Project Spotlight
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
13. November Public Meeting Minutes
14. December Public Meeting Notice
15. Recent News Articles
16. Recent Correspondence
17. Recent Press Releases

5. **Fiscal Year 2024 – 2025 National Railroad Partnership Program:** Jeff Neal requested Regional Transportation Council approval to submit applications for the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 National Railroad Partnership Program. Applications are due to the United States Department of Transportation by February 6, 2026.

A motion was made to approve the submittal of applications supporting the Prairie Creek Road Grade Separation and East Trinity Railway Express Corridor Improvement projects for funding consideration through the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-2025 National Railroad Partnership Program; along with direction for staff to administratively amend the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)/Statewide Transportation Improvement Program and update any administrative and/or planning documents as needed to incorporate the proposed projects, if selected for FY2024-2025 National Railroad Partnership Program awards. Paul Ridley (M); Daniel Alemán (S). The motion passed unanimously.

6. **Status Report on Major Regional Transportation Council Initiatives for 2025 and Approval of Fiscal Year 2027-2029 Management, Operations, and Air Quality Program**

Michael Morris updated the Regional Transportation Council on accomplishments since June 2025 and Policy challenges over the next 60 days. Christie Gotti requested approval of funding to extend the region's ongoing Management, Operations, and Air Quality projects and programs into Fiscal Year 2027-2029.

A motion was made to approve proposed projects and programs listed in Electronic Item 6.3; along with direction for staff to administratively amend the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)/Statewide Transportation Improvement Program and update any administrative and/or planning documents as needed to incorporate these changes. Elizabeth Beck (M); Bill Cox (S). The motion passed unanimously.

7. **Metropolitan Transportation Plan Policy Bundle Round 6**: Amy Johnson provided an overview of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan Policy Bundle Round 6 policy list and scoring framework.

8. **Project Status Report: Metropolitan Planning Organization Milestone Policy Round 2, Fiscal Year 2025 and Fiscal Year 2026 Project Tracking Update**: Brian Dell provided the Regional Transportation Council with a status report on the Fiscal Year 2025 and FY2026 Project Tracking and Milestone Policy Round 2 projects.

9. **Off-System Rail Grade Separation State Fund Program**: Michael Johnson provided a brief overview of the Texas Off-System Rail Grade Separation State Fund Program. The program was 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.

10. **Regional Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan Transit Safety Performance Measures – Crime Data Request**: Karla Windsor provided an overview of the collected crime statistics from Dallas Area Rapid Transit, Trinity Metro, and Denton County Transportation Authority as requested by the Regional Transportation Council.

11. **North Texas Electric Vertical Takeoff and Landing and Advanced Air Mobility Aircraft Integration Pilot Program Proposal**: Ernest Huffman provided an overview of the North Central Texas Council of Governments planned competitive application to the Federal Aviation Administration's Electric Vertical Takeoff and Landing Aircraft Integration Pilot Program to demonstrate near-term, real-world Advanced Air Mobility operations in the Dallas-Fort Worth region.

12. **Interim Final Rule on the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program**: Ken Kirkpatrick provided an update on the United States Department of Transportation Interim Final Rule on the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program issued on October 3, 2025, and a summary of implications.
13. **Transportation Director Succession Plan**: Michael Morris provided an update on the North Central Texas Council of Governments Transportation Department Director's Succession Plan for 2025 through 2027.
14. **Progress Reports**: Regional Transportation Council attendance was provided in Electronic Item 14.1, and Surface Transportation Technical Committee attendance and minutes were provided in Electronic Item 14.2.
15. **Other Business (Old or New)**: There was no discussion on this item.
16. **Future Agenda Items**: There was no discussion on this item.
17. **Next Meeting**: The next meeting of the Regional Transportation Council is scheduled for **1:00 pm, Thursday, January 8, 2026.**

Meeting adjourned at 3:28 pm.