

## **MINUTES**

### **Regional Transportation Council Thursday, August 7, 2025**

The Regional Transportation Council (RTC) met on Thursday, August 7, 2025, at 1:00 pm at the Irving Convention Center. The following RTC members or representatives were present: Daniel Alemán, Bruce Arfsten, Steve Babick, Rick Bailey, Adam Bazaldua, Curtis Bergthold, Alan Blaylock, Ceason Clemens, Jorga Clemson (representing Ron Jensen), Bill Cox, Jeff Davis, Pat Deen, Andy Eads, Vernon Evans, Carlos Flores, T.J. Gilmore, Raul Gonzalez, Lane Grayson, Mojoy Haddad, Jill Jester, Stephen Mason, Cara Mendelsohn, Ed Moore, Jesse Moreno, John Muns, Matthew Porter, Manny Ramirez, Jim Ross, David Salazar, Gary Slagel, Bobby Stovall, Burt Thakur, Jeremy Tompkins, William Tsao, Dennis Webb, and Chad West.

Others present at the meeting were: Rifat Alam, Vickie Alexander, Rich Andreski, Micah Baker, Berrien Barks, Jeff Basly, Cimajie Best, Natalie Bettger, Brandi Bird, Lori Blair, Lonnie Blaydes, Chris Bosco, Jackie Branson, Farhan Butt, Carlos Calle, Dixie Cawthorne, Derek Chatham, Lori Clark, Dina Colarossi, Kenneth Cole, Matt Craig, Paul Cristina, Erin Deck, Rebecca Diviney, Chad Edwards, Jared Elad, Amber Ellis, Tom Flaherty, Brian Flood, Austin Frith, Eric Gallt, Carmen Garcia, Amber Gaudet, Gypsy Gavia, Jillian Giles, Rebekah Gongora, Jesus Gonzalez, Christie Gotti, Gary Graham, Elisa Greenberg, Eric Greenman, Tom Hammons, Tony Hartzel, Brad Hernandez, Robert Hinkle, Doug Hobacek, Kristina Holcomb, Caroline Horner, David Hosseiny, John Hudspeth, Chad Humphrey, Joel James, Elaine Jin, Amy Johnson, Tim Karnegay, Travis Kelci, Dan Kessler, Gus Khankarli, Kavan Khosla, Ken Kirkpatrick, Chris Klaus, Andrea Klocinski, Mert Kurtums, Dan Lamers, Anette Landeros, Rich Larkins, Tom LeBeau, Peter LeCody, Nadine Lee, Eron Linn, Todd Little, Aaron Long, Dee Long, Paul Luedtke, Stanford Lynch, Terry Lynne, Chad Marbut, Dillon Maroney, Malcolm Mayhew, Kate Milner, Brian Moen, Michael Morris, Jenny Narvaez, Mark Nelson, Brian O'Neill, Linda Parere, David Parwell, Sam Piland, Ryan Plasse, Theresa Poer, John Polster, Kelly Porter, James Powell, Ezra Pratt, Vercie Pruitt-Jenkins, Maribel Randel, Dev Rastogi, Alexandra Renteria, Travis Reynolds, Angela Robinson, Ricky Rodriguez, Shawna Russell Jones, Maya Salvans, Robert Saucedo, Mike Schneider, Kay Shelton, Tom Shelton, Brian Shewski, Devon Skinner, Chelsea Smith, Dave Springob, Toni Stehling, Rick Stopher, Stephen Tanner, Lisa Taylor, David Tran, ,Shane Tully, Dan Vedral, Elisa Villnave, Eric Webb, Laura Weis, Brendon Wheeler, Amanda Wilson, Brian Wilson, Karla Windsor, Gionnis Woolridge, and David Yaqubian.

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 July 10, 2025, Minutes:** Approval of the July 10, 2025, meeting minutes contained in Electronic Item 2 was requested.

A motion was made to approve the July 10, 2025, meeting minutes as submitted in Electronic Item 2. Steve Babick (M); Matthew Porter (S). The motion passed unanimously.

### 3. Consent Agenda

- 3.1. **Air Quality Funding Recommendations Related to the Environmental Protection Agency National Clean Diesel Funding Assistance Program:** Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval was requested of funding recommendations for Dallas Fort Worth International Airport and Delta Air Lines, through the North Texas Diesel Emissions Reduction Project 2024 Call for Projects (CFP) utilizing Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) funds.
- 3.2. **Federal Functional Classification System Amendments:** Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of 14 amendments to the currently approved Federal Functional Classification System (FFCS) was requested.
- 3.3. **Funding for McKinney Amphitheater Transportation Improvements:** Regional Transportation Council approval of \$2 million in Regional Toll Revenue funding for improvements in proximity to a future amphitheater/event venue in the City of McKinney was requested.

A motion was made to approve Items 3.1, 3.2, and 3.3 on the Consent Agenda. Pat Deen (M); Jim Ross (S). The motion passed unanimously.

### 4. **Orientation to Agenda/Director of Transportation Report:** Michael Morris briefly highlighted items 1 and 2.

1. Regional Transportation Council (RTC) Member Orientation in October)
2. Changing Mobility: Data, Insights, and Delivering Innovative Projects During COVID Recovery
3. Electric Vehicle Charging Grant – Communication to Relevant Departments Within Cities, Counties, School Districts, Universities, and other Governmental Agencies
4. 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program Development
5. Update: Air Quality Handbook
6. Additional Correspondence from Hunt-Related Entities on High-Speed Rail
7. High Occupancy Vehicle Quarterly Report
8. Air Quality Funding Opportunities
9. Upcoming Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Events
10. July Public Meeting Minutes
11. June–July Public Comment Report
12. August Public Meeting Notice
13. Recent News Articles
14. Recent Correspondence
15. Recent Press Releases

### 5. **Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program – Fiscal Year 2026-2028 Goal Update:** Ken Kirkpatrick requested Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of the proposed Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Participation Goal for Fiscal Year (FY) 2026-FY2028 for United States Department of Transportation contracting opportunities.

A motion was made to approve the 8.6 percent Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Participation Goal for Fiscal Years 2026-2028 for United States Department of Transportation contracting opportunities, subject to any final public comment, and administratively amend the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)/Statewide

Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and update any administrative and/or planning documents as needed to incorporate the change. Adam Bazaldua (M); Gary Slagel (S). The motion passed unanimously.

6. **2026 Unified Transportation Program and Regional 10-Year Plan Update**: Christie Gotti briefed the Council on Category 12 funds proposed for approval by the Texas Transportation Commission and requested Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval on the proposed changes for the Regional 10-Year Plan Update.

A motion was made to approve the Regional 10-Year Plan project listings, including the proposed changes on the “Let and Completed Projects” listing, and administratively amend the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)/Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and update any administrative and/or planning documents as needed to incorporate these changes. Ed Moore (M); Pat Deen (S). The motion passed unanimously.

7. **Dallas-Fort Worth High-Speed Rail Update and Proposed Fiscal Year 2026 House Appropriation Bill**: Brendon Wheeler briefed the Regional Transportation Council in response to proposed language in the Fiscal Year 2026 House Transportation, Housing and Urban Development (THUD) Appropriations bill, which may have the unintended consequences of prohibiting federal funds for North Central Texas Council of Governments’ (NCTCOG) high-speed rail development efforts. RTC approval to send a letter requesting reconsideration of language included in this bill was requested. Additionally, staff provided an update on study progress, including advancement of downtown Dallas alignments, status of high-speed rail economic studies, and leadership update for the Dallas-to-Houston corridor.

A motion was made to authorize staff to send a letter from the Regional Transportation Council Chair to the North Texas Congressional Delegation in the United States House of Representatives and Congressional leadership opposing the current language in the Fiscal Year 2026 House Transportation, Housing and Urban Development appropriations bill regarding federal funds for high-speed rail corridor identification projects in Texas. Jim Ross (M); Adam Bazaldua (S). Cara Mendelsohn and Burt Thakur opposed. The motion passed.

8. **Acceptance of Transit 2.0 Information and Request of the Formation of a Regional Transportation Council Transit Subcommittee**: Michael Morris requested Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval to accept the Transit 2.0 information. In addition, he requested the formation of an RTC Transit Subcommittee to focus on two items. The first item would be to review the Transit 2.0 recommendation impacting RTC, and the second item would be to create a vision on how to advance transit in the region. All Subcommittee items will need the approval of the full RTC.

A motion was made to acknowledge receipt of Consultant Transit 2.0 information, form an Regional Transportation Council (RTC) Subcommittee to review transit elements impacting the RTC for later RTC action, develop a transit vision to meet the needs of a 12+ million persons region by 2050, and to administratively amend the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)/Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and update any administrative and/or planning documents as needed to incorporate the project. Steve Babick (M); Matthew Porter (S). John Muns and Dennis Webb opposed. The motion passed.

9. **Updates Regarding Metropolitan Planning Organization-Selected Funding and Texas Department of Transportation Cost Overrun Funds:** Christie Gotti briefed the Regional Transportation Council on the latest updates about Metropolitan Planning Organization-selected funding categories and Texas Department of Transportation Change Order and Cost Overrun funds received for regional projects.
10. **89th Texas Legislature Final Actions:** Rebekah Gongora presented final actions of the 89th Texas Legislature related to transportation issues affecting the Dallas-Fort Worth area.
11. **New Regional Transit Safety Performance Measure Targets:** Ezra Pratt provided draft updated federally required Public Transit Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) regional performance measure targets for Fiscal Year 2026-2029.
12. **Update on Regional Air Quality and Dallas-Fort Worth Air Quality Improvement Plan - Transportation Elements:** Jenny Narvaez provided an update on current air quality initiatives, including development of the Dallas-Fort Worth Air Quality Improvement Plan, a comprehensive plan to improve air quality, and latest trends regarding ground level ozone.
13. **Progress Reports:** Regional Transportation Council attendance was provided in Electronic Item 13.1 and Surface Transportation Technical Committee attendance, and minutes 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, September 11, 2025.**

Meeting adjourned at 2:56 pm.