

MINUTES

Regional Transportation Council Thursday, September 11, 2025

The Regional Transportation Council (RTC) met on Thursday, September 11, 2025, at 1:00 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, Alan Blaylock, Ceason Clemens, John Cordary (representing David Salazar), Theresa Daniel, Jeff Davis, Pat Deen, Andy Eads, Michael Evans, T.J. Gilmore, Lane Grayson, Clay Lewis Jenkins, Ron Jensen, Jill Jester, Matt Krause, Stephen Mason, Cara Mendelsohn, Cesar Molina, Ed Moore, Jesse Moreno, John Muns, Jay Northcut (representing Bill Cox), Long Pham (representing Raul Gonzalez), Matthew Porter, Paul Ridley (representing Adam Bazaldua), Jim Ross, Gary Slagel, Bobby Stovall, Burt Thakur, Jeremy Tompkins, William Tsao, Dennis Webb, and Duncan Webb.

Others present at the meeting were: Vickie Alexander, Susan Alvarez, Renee Arnold, Micah Baker, Berrien Barks, Jay Barksdale, Carli Baylor, Emily Beckham, Natalie Bettger, Brandi Bird, Alberta Blair, Lorie Blair, Scott Booth, Farhan Butt, Jack Carr, Angie Carson, Lori Clark, Mandy Clark, Thomas Cochill, Dina Colarossi, Liam Crowley, Dawn Dalrymple, Clarence Daugherty, Brian Dell, Tom Flaherty, Andrew Fortune, Isabella Fuentes, Analisa Garcia, Subid Ghimire, Jillian Giles, Rebekah Gongora, Michael Haithcock, Tony Hartzel, Jeff Haithcock, Millie Hayes, Joel James, Matt Johns, Amy Johnson, Mike Johnson, Travis Kelly, Dan Kessler, Frances Key, Ken Kirkpatrick, Chris Klaus, Eron Linn, Arron Long, Dee Long, Paul Luedtke, Gregory Masota, Joshua Meshennedd, Kate Millner, Arash Mirzaei, Brian Moen, Eric Morris, Michael Morris, Mark Nelson, Jackie Nolasco, Amir Omar, Luis Oseguera, David Parcell, Michael Peters, John Polster, Ezra Pratt, Vercie Pruitt-Jenkins, Marcus E. Ray, Alexandra Renteria, Randy Richardson, Jasmine Rodriguez, Ricky Rodriguez, Jackson Rose, Madison Selldin, Devon Skinner, Toni Stehling, Stephen Tanner, Lauren Trimble, Ran Tu, Whitney Vandiver, Elisa Villnave, Brendon Wheeler, Amanda Wilson, Brian Wilson, Karla Windsor, Hannah Witcher, and Davis Yeboah.

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. Liam Crowley spoke on Agenda Item 3.2, Transitional Funding to Support Land Use and Transit Station Development. Written comments were provided and can be found in the Public Comments Report under the Director's Report agenda item.
2. **Approval of August 7, 2025, Minutes:** Approval of the August 7, 2025, meeting minutes contained in Electronic Item 2 was requested.

A motion was made to approve the August 7, 2025, meeting minutes as submitted in Electronic Item 2. Jeremy Tompkins (M); Michael Evans (S). The motion passed unanimously.

3. Consent Agenda

- 3.1. **Transportation Paid Education Campaigns for Fiscal Year 2026:** Regional Transportation Council (RTC) support of a recommendation to the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) Executive Board for the approval of funding up to \$1,849,500 for Education Campaigns for Transportation Initiatives that

will initiate in Fiscal Year (FY) 2026, such as Public Involvement, Drive Aware North Texas, Look Out Texans, Unmanned Aircraft Safety, 2026 FIFA World Cup Partnership. Try Parking It, Ozone Season Emissions Reduction Campaign (Air North Texas), and Car Care Awareness, was requested. Funding sources for the campaign include Transportation Planning Funds, Surface Transportation Block Grant Program funds, Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program funds, Environmental Protection Agency funds, Regional Toll Revenue funds, Federal Highway Administration funds, Regional Transportation Council Local funds, and private funds. Match sources include Transportation Development Credits, Regional Transportation Council Local funds, and private funds.

3.2. **Transitional Funding to Support Land Use and Transit Station Development:**

Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval was requested for \$400,000 in RTC Local transition funding to support land use, transit-oriented development, bike-pedestrian, safety, and other active transportation initiatives for North Central Texas Council of Governments staff. This action included directing staff to administratively amend the Transportation Improvement Program and other administrative/planning documents to implement this project.

3.3. **GoCarma Integration with Managed Lane Toll System Upgrades:** The Texas Department of Transportation is upgrading the toll collection software on the managed lanes that are not part of the P3 agreements. Staff sought Regional Transportation Council approval for integration improvements needed to continue to support the High-Occupancy Vehicle discount on the managed lanes and funding to support system updates. Staff requested RTC approval of \$250,000 in RTC Local funds to cover the one-time cost of the initial setup and \$1,000,000 in Regional Toll Revenue waterfall funding to pay for the annual Software as a Service fee for the gantry support.

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

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

1. Moment of Silence for the 24th Anniversary of 9/11
2. Summary of RTC Transit Vision Subcommittee Meeting
3. Regional Transportation Council Member Orientation in October (10:30 a.m., October 9, 2025)
4. 2024 Regional Safety Measures Performance Reports
5. West/East Equity Update
6. Additional Correspondence from Hunt-Related Entities on High-Speed Rail
7. Local Clean Air Spotlight
8. 2025 Ozone Season Update
9. Air Quality Funding Opportunities (www.nctcog.org/aqfunding)
10. Upcoming Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Events (www.dfwcleancities.org/events)
11. August Public Meeting Minutes
12. July – August Public Comment Report
13. Recent News Articles
14. Recent Correspondence
15. Recent Press Releases

Michael Morris also announced the next Transit Vision Subcommittee meeting will be held immediately after the October 9, 2025, Regional Transportation Council meeting.

5. **New Regional Transit Safety Performance Measure Targets:** Ezra Pratt requested Regional Transportation Council approval for updated federally required Public Transit Agency Safety Plan regional performance measure targets for Fiscal Year 2026-2029.

A motion was made to approve the New Regional Transit Safety Performance Measure Targets for Fiscal Year (FY) 2026-FY2029, administratively amend the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)/Statewide TIP, and update any administrative and/or planning documents as needed to incorporate the new transit safety targets. Included in the motion was direction for staff to collect current crime data, preferably in the National Incident-Based Reporting System format, integrate into the transit safety performance measures, and present the findings to the Regional Transportation Council. Cara Mendelsohn (M); Andy Eads (S). The motion passed unanimously.

6. **2025 Public Participation Plan Update:** Rebekah Gongora presented an overview of the 2025 Public Participation Plan and outlined proposed revisions, which are necessary to reflect federal policies and Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act requirements.

A motion was made to approve the proposed Public Participation Plan's (PPP) revisions: federal policy and planning regulation updates, reaffirmation of Unified Planning Work Program public involvement process, reaffirmation of public comments cataloging, updates to terminology for keypad polling and virtual public engagement, performance measures review and evaluation, and a new layout and design of the PPP document. The motion also included 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 program/policy/project/change. Theresa Daniel (M); Michael Evans (S). The motion passed unanimously.

7. **Fiscal Year 2025 Public Transportation Funding: Programs of Projects:** Brian Dell requested Regional Transportation Council action on the Fiscal Year 2025 Public Transportation Funding Programs of Projects.

A motion was made to approve the proposed funding for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 and FY2025 Public Transportation Programs of Projects included in the meeting packet, and to administratively amend the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)/Statewide TIP and update any administrative and/or planning documents as needed to incorporate this funding on these projects. Theresa Daniel (M); Paul Ridley (S). The motion passed unanimously.

8. **Rail Crossing Improvement Program:** Michael Johnson briefed the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) on the Rail Crossing Improvement Program and requested approval for funding of the program and direction for staff to administratively amend the North Central Texas Council of Governments and Statewide Transportation Improvement Programs, as well as other planning and administrative documents. The Rail Crossing Improvement Program is to improve safety near at-grade rail crossings.

A motion was made to approve the allocation of Regional Toll Revenue funding for: West City of Fort Worth Rail Crossings - \$3.1 million (Western Subregion) and City of Dallas

Rail Crossings - \$6.9 million (Eastern Subregion), to administratively amend the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)/Statewide TIP, and update any administrative and/or planning documents as needed to incorporate the Rail Crossing Improvement Program. Cara Mendelsohn (M); Steve Babick (S). The motion passed unanimously.

9. **Funding for Transportation Improvements in Cleburne Near Amazon Facility:**

Michael Morris requested Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of up to \$3 million in RTC Local funding for roadway improvements to provide safe access to a new Amazon facility at United States 67 and Chisholm Trail Parkway. The request includes \$362,000 in grant funding and up to \$2,638,000 in funds to be loaned to the City of Cleburne. This action includes directing staff to administratively amend the Transportation Improvement Program and other administrative/planning documents to implement this project.

A motion was made to approve the proposed funding and improvements detailed in slides 2-4 of the presentation, including up to \$3 million in Regional Transportation Council Local funds of which \$362,000 is a grant and \$2,638,000 is a loan to be repaid by the City of Cleburne, along with direction for staff to administratively amend the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)/Statewide TIP and update any administrative and/or planning documents as needed to incorporate these changes. Matthew Porter (M); Jeremy Tompkins (S). Burt Thakur left the room prior to this agenda item. The motion passed unanimously.

10. **2025 Regional Transportation Council Priorities for Federal Surface Transportation**

Authorization: Rebekah Gongora provided an overview of recent federal actions related to the development of the next surface transportation authorizing legislation and presented the draft 2025 Regional Transportation Council Federal Surface Transportation Authorization Priorities.

11. **2025 Texas Department of Transportation Surveys in the Dallas-Fort Worth**

Metropolitan Planning Area: Arash Mirzaei provided information on the Texas Department of Transportation travel surveys being conducted in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metropolitan Planning Area beginning in 2025.

12. **Strategic Traffic Signal Program:** Natalie Bettger presented a proposed funding process for the Strategic Traffic Signal Program. The process outlined agency eligibility requirements, the evaluation criteria for funding requests, and the categorization of traffic signal improvements. It also included recommendations for cost-sharing between agencies and the North Central Texas Council of Governments.

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):** Chair Bailey informed the Regional Transportation Council that the federal agencies are looking at increasing the gross weight on the interstate system from 80,000 to 91,000 and encouraged everyone to reach out to Senator Cruz to let the Senate know this is not good for Texas.

15. **Future Agenda Items:** Michael Morris announced that staff will bring to the Regional Transportation Council, the Fédération Internationale de Football Association

transportation plan with some final refinements on the nine events being held at AT&T Stadium in Arlington.

16. **Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the Regional Transportation Council is scheduled for **1:00 pm, Thursday, October 9, 2025.**

Meeting adjourned at 2:42pm.