

1:40 – 1:50

3. **2024 Strategic Transportation Funding Program**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Brian Dell, NCTCOG

Item Summary: A recommendation for Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of the 2024 Strategic Transportation Funding Program will be requested.

Background: Over the past couple of years, North Central Texas Council of Government (NCTCOG) staff has inventoried numerous funding requests from transportation agencies and local governments. After evaluating the requests, several projects and partnerships are being proposed for funding. The recommended projects meet one or more of the following criteria: addresses the RTC’s policies or improvements outlined in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), implements outcomes of planning activities, and/or assists in reaching the region’s federal performance targets. A list of the proposed projects and partnerships are provided in Electronic Item 3.1. Additional details on the funding program can be found in Electronic Item 3.2.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Air Quality, Roadway

1:50 – 2:00

4. **Fiscal Year 2024 Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity Discretionary Grant Program**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Jeff Neal, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request a recommendation for Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of projects to be submitted for funding consideration through the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Discretionary Grant Program.

Background: In November 2023, the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) announced availability of \$1.5 billion toward the solicitation of project applications for the FY 2024 RAISE Discretionary Grant Program, targeting strategic capital investments for surface transportation projects that will have significant local or regional impacts. As a supplement to specific program details provided by staff, additional information like the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), application requirements, analysis tools, and other relevant data can be accessed at <https://www.transportation.gov/RAISEgrants>. Electronic Item 4 provides information regarding candidate projects (with applications to be authored and/or submitted by NCTCOG). Applications are due to the USDOT by February 28, 2024. For regional agencies planning to submit their own candidate projects, please be aware you must complete the www.grants.gov registration process, usually requiring two to four weeks for completion prior to submitting applications. Assuming the projected timing for

application development, agency requests to receive a letter of support from the RTC should be submitted to Nicholas Allen by Wednesday, February 14, 2024, at nallen@nctcog.org.

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

2:00 – 2:10

5. **Endorsement of Advanced Transportation Technology and Innovation Program**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Natalie Bettger, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request a recommendation for Regional Transportation Council endorsement of the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) submission of a 2023 Advanced Transportation Technology and Innovative (ATTAIN) Program application.

Background: In November 2023, the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) issued an announcement for the ATTAIN program proposals that deploy, install, and operate advanced transportation technologies to improve safety, mobility, efficiency, system performance, intermodal connectivity, and infrastructure return on investment. USDOT will provide funding of up to \$12 million per project with a required 20 percent non-federal match. grants.gov/search-results-detail/351055 contains a copy of the Notice of Funding Opportunity that details the grant program for Fiscal Year 2023-2024, as well as the application requirements. Applications are due to the USDOT by February 2, 2024. Staff will provide a summary grant and provide an overview of the application. More information is available in Electronic Item 5.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Roadway, Safety

2:10 – 2:20

6. **Director of Transportation Report on Selected Items**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG

Item Summary: An overview of current transportation items will be provided.

Background: Efforts continue to advance transportation in the region. Staff will highlight the following:

1. Analysis of Dallas High-Speed Rail Tunnel Request and Other Options
2. Status of Consultants for Transit 2.0 (Electronic Item 6.1)
3. Status of Texas Department of Transportation Rule Making for Metropolitan Planning Organization-Selected Funding
4. Audit Results
5. Fort Worth Airshow Receipt of Funds
6. FIFA World Cup Committees

7. Assistance on Agenda Item 8 - Safety

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative

2:20 – 2:30

7. **Safe Streets and Roads for All Grant Program**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Catherine Richardson, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide an update regarding the anticipated Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24) Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Discretionary Grant program and highlight Fiscal Year (FY23) planning, and infrastructure grants awarded to local governments in the North Central Texas region.

Background: The United States Department of Transportation is anticipated to announce a Notice of Funding Opportunity in February 2024 for the solicitation of applications for FY24 funding. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law established the SS4A discretionary program with \$5 billion in appropriated funds over the next five years. Staff will provide an overview of eligible applicants and the types of grant applications. Staff will also highlight the more than \$29 million in federal funding awarded in FY22 and FY23 in the region for planning activities and an implementation project. An overview is contained in Electronic Item 7.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Roadway, Safety

2:30 – 2:40

8. **Regional Roadway Safety Performance Targets Update**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Michael Misantonis, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide an update on the Regional Roadway Safety Performance Targets for 2024 for federally required performance measures and provide an update on actual performance of the 2022 targets. Roadway safety targets are focused on reducing serious injuries and fatalities for motorized and non-motorized travelers.

Background: In December 2015, the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act was signed into law. The FAST Act requires certain performance measures be included in the long-range metropolitan transportation planning process. These measures were established by a series of four rulemakings: Safety, Infrastructure Condition, System Performance/ Freight/Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality, and Transit Asset Management. As the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the North Central Texas region, the North Central Texas Council of Governments is required to set regional targets for roadway safety. These targets are used to track and report on the region's performance through existing documents such as the Metropolitan Transportation Plan, the Transportation Improvement Program, and the State of the Region report. In February 2023, the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approved the reduction schedule for the 2023-

2027 regional roadway safety targets. Staff will provide the Committee with an update on the proposed 2024 targets based on the approved reduction schedule and provide an update on the actual performance of the 2022 targets. Additional information will be provided at the meeting.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Safety

2:40 – 2:50

9. **Update on the Dallas-Fort Worth Air Quality Improvement Plan**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Savana Nance, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide an update on North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) efforts to develop a Dallas-Fort Worth Air Quality Improvement Plan, including the status of a regional greenhouse gas emission inventory and provide a list of potential measures for the transportation sector.

Background: NCTCOG received a \$1 million planning grant from the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) Program, which was created by the Inflation Reduction Act. CPRG planning grants support development and implementation of plans for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and other harmful air pollution of local concern. NCTCOG is using this funding to develop a Dallas-Fort Worth Air Quality Improvement Plan that will outline strategies to reduce emissions of ozone-forming pollutants, fine particulate matter, and greenhouse gases across all 16 counties of the NCTCOG planning area. The first EPA deliverable, a Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP), is due March 1, 2024. Upon PCAP submittal, NCTCOG intends to begin drafting a grant proposal to seek funding from the EPA CPRG Implementation Grants Program, which can be used to help pay for implementation of strategies included in the PCAP. The Implementation Grants application is due by April 1, 2024. Staff will present a list of potential measures for inclusion in the PCAP, along with a CPRG Implementation Grants application. Electronic Item 9 provides additional details. More information on this effort is available at www.publicinput.com/dfwAQIP.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Air Quality

2:50 – 3:00

10. **Broadband as a Transportation Service: Four Proposed Elements**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Connor Sadro, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide information on the Municipal Stakeholder Broadband Roundtable recently held at the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG).

Background: On December 4, 2023, NCTCOG hosted the Municipal Stakeholder Broadband Roundtable to discuss the state of municipal involvement in broadband and digital equity in their

respective communities. Several members of the 16-county region attended, and together with NCTCOG staff, compiled the following suggested action steps be taken to increase the presence of broadband in the region: The NCTCOG Transportation Department shall:

1. Assist the region with the coordination of data collection and analysis for the purpose of better reporting broadband availability, affordability, and residential usage rates.
2. Create a policy committee consisting of elected officials in the region to provide clear and consistent feedback to the Texas Broadband Development Office.
3. Leverage this policy committee to form a legislative program that will help guide the State of Texas legislature on regional needs.
4. Continue with outreach to broadband practitioners in the region and encourage municipalities to appoint broadband technical leads. Additionally, the NCTCOG Transportation Department will create a strategy for municipal best practices in achieving internet for all residents.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative, Goods Movement

3:00 – 3:10

11. **Fast Facts**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Item Summary: Brief staff presentations will be provided. Please reference the material provided for each of the following topics.

1. *Shawn Conrad* – School Crossing Guard Implementation Survey (Handout)
2. *Shawn Conrad* – Walk to School Day Follow-up Survey (Handout)
3. *Jenny Narvaez* – State Implementation Plan Comments to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (Electronic Item 11.1)
4. *Daniela Tower* – Update on Greenhouse Gas Performance Measures
5. *Joaquin Escalante* – Local Government Energy Reporting (Electronic Item 11.2)
6. *Joaquin Escalante* – Air Quality Funding Opportunities for Vehicles (www.nctcog.org/aqfunding)
7. *Joaquin Escalante* – Upcoming Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Events (<https://www.dfwcleancities.org/events>)
8. *Jackie Castillo* – November Online Input Opportunity Minutes (Electronic Item 11.3)
9. *Jackie Castillo* – December Online Input Opportunity Minutes (Electronic Item 11.4)
10. *Jackie Castillo* – January Online Input Opportunity Notice (Electronic Item 11.5)
11. *Jackie Castillo* – February Online Input Opportunity Notice (Electronic Item 11.6)
12. *Taylor Benjamin* – Public Comments Report (Electronic Item 11.7)
13. *Kimberlin To* - Air North Texas Partner Awards ([2023 Partner of the Year | airnorthtexas](#))

14. Written Progress Reports:
 - Partner Progress Reports (Electronic Item 11.8)
12. **Other Business (Old or New)**: This item provides an opportunity for members to bring items of interest before the group.
13. **Next Meeting**: The next meeting of the Surface Transportation Technical Committee is scheduled for ***1:30 pm on February 23, 2024.***