Purpose

The public comments report is in accordance with the NCTCOG Transportation Department Public Participation Process, which became effective June 1, 1994, as approved by the Regional Transportation Council (RTC), the transportation policy board for the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and amended on November 8, 2018.

This report is a compilation of general public comments submitted by members of the public from Sunday, March 20, through Tuesday, April 19. Comments and questions are submitted for the record and can be submitted via Facebook, Twitter, fax, email and online.

This month, public comments were received on a number of topics across social media platforms and via email. Comments related to innovative vehicles, including zero-emissions and autonomous vehicles, were in the majority.

In addition, comments were accepted through a new, online map tool. Users can drop a pin on a location in the region and leave a detailed comment. This month, there were three bicycle and pedestrian comments, three roadway comments and six transit comments. To read them, visit: http://nctcoggis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/CrowdsourceReporter/index.html?appid=b014e6d39b604b3ca329d9094ed1e9e2.

Aviation

Twitter –

1. Michael Hill of #CumulusImaging talks about SB 763 and the Texas Urban Air Mobility Advisory Committee, the efforts by the @NCTCOGtrans to promote urban air mobility, and how Texas is positioning itself to be a leader in advance air mobility system https://bit.ly/3CZLtwx – Drone Radio Show (@DroneRadioShow)
Innovative Vehicles & Technology

Twitter –

1. Three cheers to @CityOfArlington's #autonomous vehicle RAPID program and @FTA_DOT Integrated Mobility Innovation grantee for over 28,000 trips and securing an extension grant from @NCTCOGtrans 🚗 – Shared-Use Mobility (@SharedUseCntr)

metro-magazine.com
Public AV Service Gains New Grant Funding for Ex...
Arlington RAPID has been selected to receive additional funding to continue to integrate ...

2. Thank you @govtechnews for highlighting the initial success and upcoming expansion of the Arlington RAPID program!

We are excited to continue partnering with @ridewithvia, @CityOfArlington, and @utarlington on this service with support from @NCTCOGTrans. – May Mobility (@May_Mobility)

govtech.com
Autonomous Transit Pilot Project in Texas to Expand Service
Arlington RAPID, an on-demand, autonomous service, launched a year ago and is already planning for an expanded operation. The vehicles ...

3. 28,000+ rides given. 98% satisfaction rating. 99% on-time performance.
It is clear the Arlington community has embraced the RAPID program. After a successful one-year pilot, Arlington RAPID has been renewed through 2024. – May Mobility (@May_Mobility)

With additional grant support from @NCTCOGTrans, RAPID will continue to operate for two more years.

Our plans for the extension include adding vehicles with a higher seating capacity and moving further towards our goal of driver-out operations in the city. – May Mobility (@MayMobility)

4. Exciting new #autonomousvehicle projects in @NCTCOGTrans see the draft #mobility plan which will be considered June 9 2022 by the #Regional #Transportation Council – Susanna Gallun (@SLGALLUN)
5. Huge statement made by @NCTCOGtrans in formally setting the standard that "technology is a transportation mode and should be defined as such" Projects for roads and rail must be integrated with tech considerations. Bravo! https://bit.ly/3vkK9Rd #smartmobility #smartregion – Dallas Innovation Alliance (@DallasSmartCity)

Facebook –

1. "A major shift to electric vehicles and a clean power grid in the US could save tens of thousands of lives over the next few decades, according to a new report by the American Lung Association."
How switching to EVs would improve health in the US: https://www.theverge.com/.../electric-vehicles-improve.... – NCTCOG Transportation Department

Like to see this lot all queuing at a charge station 😅😅😅 – Stephen James French

100% propaganda CRAP. – Phil Neil

Project Planning

Email –

1. John Helmer

Hi Stephen. Thanks for considering comments on the Hwy 380 Bypass plan. Mine exceeded the online form limit so here it is:

The Sam Rayburn Toll Road (SRT) was built in record time by the NTTA. Same with the President George Bush turnpike (PGBT) in North Dallas/Plano. Also, the LBJ Express project in North Dallas. These are great roads. I am in favor of tolling all public arterial roads. Consider that the Highway 380 congestion is not just localized to McKinney; Hwy 380 is difficult from Denton to Princeton and beyond. It is a 36 mile problem. Denton built loop 288 many years ago, which allows access both north and south to Hwy 35. We need a visionary plan to reduce the drive times throughout this area. Why not consider a limited access toll road on the original Hwy 380 ROW, either elevated or below grade. Operate it like all the other toll roads. I see a need for eventual rail down the centerline, serving Denton, McKinney, possibly over to Greenville and all points in between. The current plan to deviate north will require the purchase of very expensive right-of-way, and will be detrimental to Prosper and North McKinney. And the increased distance would be a deterrent to use, and not of much interest to drivers intending to go south on Hwy 75. The proposals I have seen are short-sighted knee-jerk reactions on the “just do anything” category of bad planning. Why not slow down and think big in creating solutions that will not be obsolete when the last concrete is poured? Consider asking the NTTA for their ideas.
Thanks for listening.

**John Helmer**

Hi Mike, Thanks for advocating for rail service extending to McKinney. I am forwarding my comments about the McKinney Hwy 380 bypass. I don’t like their plan. I think it should be a toll road with eventual rail service. I know you have influence. Thanks.

**Twitter –**

1. North Texas transportation planners are in touch with Elon Musk’s Boring Company to build underground tunnels around Dallas to help with our congested roadways NBC DFW reports – Dallas Texas TV (@DallasTexasTV)

@NCTCOGtrans is determined to waste our money yet again. – TeePope 🤦‍♂️❤️
2. Dallas is using taxpayer's money to build a people mover around a site that, and I am NOT making this up, is 500 meters wide and 1000 meters long. At a typical pace, that's a 5 and 10 minute walk respectively. Pathetic.

It's how we end up with the plot of Wall-E, y'all. – Dazzling Urbanite (@apressler3)

A people mover on a site this small is a pathetic waste of money and space. Based on the drawings, the streets are not car free and there is very limited sidewalk space. This is pathetic. – Dazzling Urbanite (@apressler3)
Public Meetings & Forums

Twitter –

1. Join the North TX Council of Government @NCTCOGtrans for a Transportation Public Meeting next MONDAY, APRIL 11 at 12PM. Input from residents impacts transportation & air quality policy for North Texas. Join in person or watch live! For more info, visit https://buff.ly/3uGsL9l – Dallas Innovation Alliance (@DallasSmartCity)

2. We want your input at an upcoming meeting for regional transportation initiatives, hosted by @NCTCOGtrans. Attend in-person or virtually on April 11. https://bit.ly/3DKaTOM – Mayor Mattie Parker (@MayorMattie)

3. There's still time to register for the Zero Emission Vehicle Workshop hosted by Dallas-Forth Worth Clean Cities Coalition and others on April 25.

Register by TOMORROW! It's FREE! http://ow.ly/FcFQ50lKjwF

#Dallas #FortWorth #GrandPrairie #heavyduty #trucks #trucking #ZEV – FuelCellPartnership (@CaFCP)
Email –
1. Kelsey Abel

Good afternoon,

I am emailing in hopes that someone can provide an update for a project taking place on Old Weatherford Road from FM 3325, CSJ 0902-38-140. May I ask what is currently underway and what the schedule looks like moving forward?

I really appreciate your time!

Good afternoon, Kelsey

Thank you for contacting the North Central Texas Council of Governments Transportation Department.

Response by NCTCOG Transportation staff

Plans are to rebuild and realign Old Weatherford Road from FM 3325 to just past Purple Thistle Lane (part of the Walsh Ranch development). The rebuilt section will include a concrete two-lane curb and gutter section (one lane each way) with a 10’ pedestrian trail on the north side. This will eventually be expanded to a four-lane median and divided thoroughfare at some point in the future as demand grows. The schedule for this construction is expected to start sometime this fall once design and city/county review processes are complete.

If you have further questions on this project, feel free to reach out to Brendon Wheeler directly at bwheeler@nctcog.org or 682-433-0478.

Twitter –
1. @TxDOTDallas and @NCTCOGtrans induced sprawl, coupled with lack of mass transit infrastructure, drives growth in motor vehicle injuries and deaths – Wylie H Dallas (@Wylie_H_Dallas)
Hey @TxDOT and @NCTCOGtrans Hopefully this means stopping all highway expansions and removing inner city highways in DFW. Otherwise, this is proof you're responsible for the deterioration of the health of our region. – Andrew Wallace (@agwallace92)

EPA is seeking to list the Houston and Dallas metro areas as "severe" violators of 2008 federal ozone pollution standards.

This will likely mean stricter pollution controls in both regions to reduce local smog. More details: texaatribune.org/2022/04/13/tex...

Show this thread

Transit

Twitter –

1. Want to know more about the issues & problems @CityOfDallas residents are facing along the @dartmedia Cotton Belt/Silver Line? Here's a short history as told by a compilation of local news media clips: https://youtu.be/Y6L8RslBn2M @NCTCOGtrans @TxDOTDallas @TxDOT @VisionZeroTexas – caraathome (@Lisa) (@caraathome)
2. "City Manager asks Dart to make safety changes to plan" #CottonBelt @SilverLine @USDOTFRA @dartmedia @herzogcompanies @NCTCOGtrans @TxDOTDallas @TxDOT @KenKalthoffNBC5 @DallasCityMgr @DallasMayor @Johnson4Dallas – caraathome (@caraathome)

Other

Twitter –

1. Happy to see my friend, former colleague and transportation guru recognized today at @NCTCOGtrans Regional Transportation Council. Thank you @LeeforDallas for your service and contribution to our city/region! – Adam R. Bazaldua (@AdamBazaldua)
2. @LeeforDallas receiving recognition from @NCTCOGtrans RTC for his service. @CityOfDallas – caraathome (@jeta) (@caraathome)
If you could travel anywhere, where would it be and how would you get there?

Anywhere the bus doesn't go, using any private transportation I like so I get there and go on MY terms. – Phil Neil

Boat – Robert Moore

Robert Moore, ah, so a cruise? Love the water! – NCTCOG Transportation Department