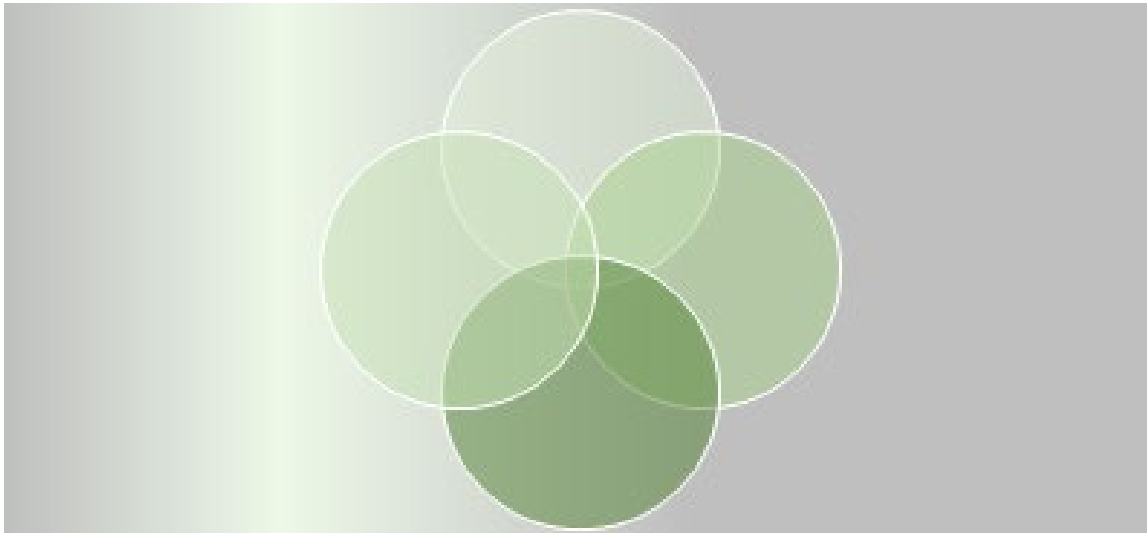


NORTH CENTRAL TEXAS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

# NCTCOG WORK ZONE DATA EXCHANGE CALL FOR PROJECTS

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**Application Information Packet**  
**Applications Due: November 15, 2024**



This Call for Projects - Application Information Packet contains information on: the type of Call for Projects, background information, funding information, eligible recipients, eligible activities, evaluation criteria, information on the application process, and the schedule.

# NCTCOG Work Zone Data Exchange 2024 Call for Projects – Application Information

## INTRODUCTION

The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) Work Zone Data Exchange (WZDx) 2024 Call for Projects includes \$2.5 million available for the implementation and reporting of work zone data in the North Central Texas (NCT) Metropolitan Planning Area. Eligible types of projects include converting raw work zone data into WZDx format, establishing WZDx-compliant reporting system and general WZDx services. To be considered for funding, the submitting agency must be a regional public-sector partner agency actively involved in work zone management in the NCT nonattainment area: Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Hood, Hunt, Johnson, Kaufman, Parker, Rockwall, Tarrant, and Wise Counties (see map below).



## BACKGROUND

In March of 2022, NCTCOG released a Request for Proposals (RFP) for Roadway Work Zone Data Reporting Services. Work zones are a common occurrence on roadways. A critical component to maintaining and upgrading our Nation's roadways, work zones unfortunately require changes in traffic patterns, narrowed rights-of-way, and other construction activities that, often create a combination of factors resulting in crashes, injuries, and fatalities.

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As the need for accurate and real-time reporting in these conditions become more prevalent, TXShare awarded 5 vendors for our new Roadway Work Zone Data Reporting Services. These include Blynscy, iCone, Mixon-Hill, NavJoy and One.Network. The awarded vendors are enabled to market their contract to any public sector entity within the United States that joins the TXShare Program.

As a follow-up to the RFP process, in 2023, the NCTCOG Regional Transportation Council approved the Work Zone Data Exchange (WZDx) Project. NCTCOG staff was directed to engage regional partners on project scoping and execution.

### GENERAL GUIDELINES

The following list is not all inclusive; it identifies the most basic guidelines of the NCTCOG WZDx 2024 Call for Projects process. Please contact NCTCOG early in the process for questions related to submitting a project application.

1. **There is no limitation on the number of project purchases included in the application that may be submitted by an eligible agency.** However, agencies submitting more than one project purchase must rank the project purchases by priority. The submitting agency must also specify the fiscal year in which the purchases will occur.
2. **The NCTCOG WZDx 2024 Call for Projects funding is a cost reimbursement program (not a grant).** The funds provided are on a cost reimbursement basis. Therefore, it is important to understand that the applicant will need adequate cash flow to accommodate the payment of 100 percent of the project purchase costs. Applicants will be reimbursed after submitting the appropriate documentation to NCTCOG.
3. **Project purchases must be completed within the 3 years of award (June 30, 2028) or risk the loss of funding.**
4. **The agency receiving the award is responsible for any and all cost overruns.**
5. **To comply with the federal and state regulations, as well as internal agency policy, NCTCOG will need a Risk Assessment on file prior to making any subrecipient agreements.** Has your agency completed a Risk Assessment with NCTCOG within the past calendar year? If you are unsure, you may contact Nancy Luong at 817-704-5697 or [nluong@nctcog.org](mailto:nluong@nctcog.org) to verify. **If not, applicants must complete the online form at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WZDxNCTCOGCFP>.**

As part of this process, Applicants will be required to provide a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI), and proof of a current registration with the System for Award Management (SAM). Applicants can receive a UEI and start the registration process in SAM at no cost at [www.SAM.gov](http://www.SAM.gov). If a UEI has not yet been assigned or the SAM registration has not been approved by the time the application is submitted, please include the date the applicant requested the UEI and/or the date the SAM registration was submitted.

6. **The Regional Transportation Council will approve all final projects and funding levels.** Itemized budgets submitted through the 2024 Call for Projects will be reviewed by NCTCOG to ensure that project purchases are eligible and itemized costs are

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reasonable. Based on available funds, project application requests for funds may not be fully funded.

### FUNDING AVAILABILITY

The NCTCOG WZDx 2024 Call for Projects is funded through the Category 7 –Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG) and covers multiple jurisdictions throughout the NCT Metropolitan Planning Area. The East/West equity split for the allocation of STBG funds is 69 percent east and 31 percent west. The total approved project budget is \$2.5 million. Agencies selected to receive funding will be responsible for purchasing the desired services through the preapproved TXShare vendors and seeking reimbursement from NCTCOG.

<b>Eastern Subregion Dallas District Share (69%)</b>	<b>Western Subregion Fort Worth District Share (31%)</b>	<b>Total NCTCOG WZDx 2024 Call for Projects Funding Available</b>
<b>\$1,725,000</b>	<b>\$775,000</b>	<b>\$2,500,000</b>

### ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS AND REQUIREMENTS

Agencies eligible to be awarded funding through the NCTCOG WZDx 2024 Call for Projects must be public-sector partner agencies actively involved in work zone management in the NCT nonattainment area. The public sector agencies must be located in one of the following counties: Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Hood, Hunt, Johnson, Kaufman, Parker, Rockwall, Tarrant, or Wise Counties. Eligible recipients must complete a Risk Assessment (detailed in #5 above).

Agencies must attend the WZDx Call for Projects Vendor Workshop. The first workshop was held on Tuesday, September 17, 2024. The second WZDx Call for Projects Vendor Workshop will be held on Tuesday, October 8, 2024, in the Transportation Council Room, First Floor at the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG), 616 Six Flags Dr., Arlington, TX, 76011. A virtual option is also available at the same time, it can be accessed through the link:

#### **Microsoft Teams**

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 234 462 884 448

Passcode: EPB9zU

Participation in the workshop is required to educate and inform about WZDx technologies and potential projects. NCTCOG staff will verify if the agency has participated in NCTCOG-sponsored roundtable.

Agencies must feed their work zone data to the 511DFW/Transportation System Management and Operations (TSMO) Data Exchange to produce a single, consolidated feed that will be registered with the US DOT. It is required that Cities' vendors provide a WZDx Specification 4.x compliant feed that the 511DFW/TSMO Data Hub can consume. Specifically, making a URL end point available that can be accessed to retrieve the feed.

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**Other Requirements:** Some things that the NCTCOG will need to determine and require cities to follow:

- A user configurable interval at which entities must update their feed. The feed must be updated on the hour and every 15 minutes thereafter.
- Cities have to upgrade their WZDx application within one month if there is a major (breaking) version change in the specification.
- Cities have to upgrade their WZDx application within three months if there is a minor (breaking) version change in the specification.

### **BUILD AMERICA, BUY AMERICA REQUIREMENTS**

Build America, Buy America. The PERFORMING PARTY agrees to comply with all Build America, Buy America (BABA) requirements under 23 USC 313, 2 CFR 200.184 and 2 CFR 200.322 for the purchase, acquisition, or use of goods, products, or materials (including but not limited to iron, aluminum, steel, cement, and other manufactured products). Consistent with 2 CFR §200.322, “Produced in the United States” means, for iron and steel products, that all manufacturing processes, from the initial melting stage through the application of coatings, occurred in the United States. “Manufactured products” means items and construction materials composed in whole or in part of non-ferrous metals such as aluminum; plastics and polymer-based products such as polyvinyl chloride pipe; aggregates such as concrete; glass, including optical fiber; and lumber. The PERFORMING PARTY must provide a Certification completed by the manufacturer or demonstrate that the Federal Highway Administration has granted a waiver of the BABA requirements.

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## PROPERTY MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Agencies must maintain grant-funded equipment, including information technology systems such as computing devices, ancillary equipment, software, firmware, and similar procedures, services (including support services), and related resources, in accordance with federal property management requirements and will be subject to monitoring by NCTCOG. This means that an Agency must maintain grant-funded equipment in good working order, operate it in a manner consistent with the grant until the fair market value is \$5,000 or less, and provide information concerning the use and condition of the equipment upon request. When the equipment acquired is no longer needed, the Agency must contact NCTCOG for further instructions regarding disposition. Equipment may not be sold, scrapped or otherwise disposed of until written approval is received from NCTCOG. Sale, scrap or other disposal without NCTCOG approval or when fair market value exceeds \$5,000, may result in a partial return of funding.

## MATCHING REQUIREMENTS

Agencies receiving funds through the NCTCOG WZDx 2024 Call for Projects will not be required to provide a local match as a part of this Call for Projects.

## EVALUATION CRITERIA

Projects will be awarded through a competitive selection process. Each project application will be screened for completeness and timeliness. Applications that are deemed incomplete or arrive after the deadline will not be reviewed. Applicants will be considered based on the following Scoring Criteria:

Scoring Component	Available Points
Describe your proposed project and how this project will help benefit current work zone activities.	25
Summarize your agency's current work zone reporting process and how this project will improve operations.	25
Outline your project implementation schedule showing estimated timeframes.	25
Describe what processes your agency will put in place to ensure your work zone data is accurate.	25
Total Points	100

- 1. Project Description and Benefits:**  
Briefly describe the scope of the proposed project. Summarize the current experience with work zones within your agency. Identify how this project will benefit the work zone activities in your area.
- 2. Current Workzone Reporting Process:**  
Please provide a summary of how various types of work zones are reported or tracked by your agency (permits for lane closures, roadway construction, etc). Please note if

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they are tracked in different departments. Provide a write-up specifying how this project will improve upon current operations.

### **3. Proposed Implementation Schedule:**

Outline the estimated time frame to begin project implementation. Schedule should include procurement time (if necessary) and estimated date of completion. All projects need to be completed by June 30, 2028.

### **4. Data Accuracy:**

Submitted applications should describe the process that your agency will put in place to ensure accurate work zone data will be provided as a result of the project. If known, provide the frequency at which the data will be updated.

Applications will be evaluated based on the criteria above and projects recommended for funding will be brought to the Surface Transportation Technical Committee (STTC), and the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) for approval. Applicants will be notified of the final awards after RTC approval scheduled for February 2025.

NCTCOG is not obligated to fund an application from a submitting agency that has demonstrated marginal or unsatisfactory performance on previous grants, funding and/or agreements with NCTCOG or other State agencies. NCTCOG is not obligated to fund an application from a submitting agency based on a determination of the risks associated with the agency, including the financial condition of the agency and other risk factors as may be determined by NCTCOG.

NCTCOG may base funding decisions on factors associated with best achieving the goals of the program, and NCTCOG is not obligated to select a project for funding. Additionally, NCTCOG may select parts of an application for funding and may offer to fund less than the dollar amount requested in an application. NCTCOG reserves the right to not fund every project and reprogram remaining funds for a later Call for Projects. In an effort to eliminate the agency's risks associated with Buy America non-compliance, NCTCOG reserves the right to lead procurement activities for the purchase of bulk equipment or services requests, when appropriate.

Interested applicants are urged to develop projects that involve multiple jurisdictions or multiple discipline and/or agencies partnering to provide service over a greater area and to serve a higher number of individuals. This in turn can broaden the impacts of a project and enable a greater number of people to be served more cost effectively than several small projects.

## **APPLICATION PROCESS**

The Project Application and supplemental materials related to the NCTCOG WZDx 2024 Call for Projects may be obtained online or by contacting Vickie Morris, Project Engineer at [vmorris@nctcog.org](mailto:vmorris@nctcog.org).

To be considered under the 2024 Call for Projects, three (3) signed copies of the application and supporting materials should be submitted "in hand" at the NCTCOG offices and one (1) electronic copy should be submitted to: [TransRFPS@nctcog.org](mailto:TransRFPS@nctcog.org). The in-hand submittal will count as the official submittal. All electronic documents should be submitted as portable document format (PDF). Graphics, such as maps or photographs, should also be submitted as

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PDF, jpeg, or bitmap files. Supplemental information, other than administrative clarifications, will not be accepted after the application deadline. Incomplete applications or those not submitted by the deadline will not be accepted.

In accordance with Call for Projects Procedures established by the Regional Transportation Council Bylaws, NCTCOG must have the submitted project applications “in hand” at the NCTCOG offices by the **5:00 pm, Central Standard Time deadline on Friday, November 15, 2024**. A postmark by the established deadline does not constitute an on-time application. Project sponsors are encouraged to submit their applications far enough in advance of the submission deadline to allow NCTCOG staff to review applications for completeness.

Project applications should be submitted to:

Mail:  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
Transportation Department  
Attn: Vickie Morris  
P.O. Box 5888  
Arlington, Texas 76005-5888

OR

Physical location:  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
Transportation Department  
Attn: Vickie Morris  
616 Six Flags Drive  
Arlington, Texas 76011

## **FUNDING ADMINISTRATION AND REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES**

Successful applicants will be notified in writing of their selection and the amount of funds awarded. Agencies selected to receive funding will be required to enter into an agreement with NCTCOG. In addition, all purchases under an agreement awarded as a result of this Call for Projects must be completed within the scope, time frames, and funding limitations specified by the agreement. Upon signature and execution of the agreement by NCTCOG, a copy of the executed agreement will be returned to the applicant. A sample agreement is provided.

Funding recipients must receive “approval to purchase” from NCTCOG prior to purchasing equipment/technology, in order to ensure beforehand that equipment/technology is approved/eligible for reimbursement.

Funding recipients will be required to submit information as follows:

Reimbursement – Invoices should be submitted following the costs incurred for each project purchase. Reimbursement should be made consistent with NCTCOG’s internal procedures.

Required Documentation – Requests for reimbursement should include an itemized list of expenses for which reimbursement is requested, as well as supporting documentation.



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Eligible Expenses – Costs must be determined by NCTCOG to be the reasonable, necessary, actual, and eligible costs of the project purchase.

Availability of Funds – This Agreement and all claims, suits, or obligations arising under or related to this Agreement are subject to and limited to the receipt and availability of STBG funds.

Funding recipients shall comply with applicable clauses of 2 CFR 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, to the Texas Uniform Grant Management Standards, as well as state clauses and funding agency flow down provisions.

### SCHEDULE

Date	Action
August 23, 2024	STTC (Action) – Request Approval of Call for Projects Criteria
September 12, 2024	RTC (Action) – Request Approval of Call for Projects Criteria
September 16, 2024	Open Call for Projects (60 days)
September 17, 2024	First Call for Projects Vendor Workshop @10:00 am (Hybrid)
October 8, 2024	Second Call for Projects Vendor Workshop @10:00am (Hybrid)
November 15, 2024	Close Call for Projects
Nov. 18, 2024 – Jan. 3, 2025	Evaluate Submitted Proposals
January 2025	STTC (Action) – Approval of Selected Projects
January 2025	Public Comment Period Begins
February 2025	RTC (Action) – Approval of Selected Projects
Spring/Summer 2025	NCTCOG Agreements with Implementing Agency
Summer 2025	Cities Implement

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Website: [NCTCOG - Work Zone Data Exchange](#)

#### NCTCOG PROJECT STAFF:

Vickie Morris  
 Project Engineer  
[vmorris@nctcog.org](mailto:vmorris@nctcog.org)  
 (817) 695-9136

Natalie Bettger  
 Senior Program Manager  
[nbettger@nctcog.org](mailto:nbettger@nctcog.org)  
 (817) 695-9280