DEVELOPING THE INNOVATIVE TRANSPORTATION TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

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REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL
5/12/2022
BACKGROUND
Policy 22-01: Advancing High-Speed Rail

Advance only high-speed rail into NEPA process

*Purpose:*
- To environmentally clear IH 30 corridor
- To not hold up NEPA process with developing technology

Monitor hyperloop technology advancement

*Purpose:*
- To advance hyperloop along technology certification and demonstration path
- To advance these two technologies in different corridors
Interest in DFW Region

Virgin Hyperloop’s request for proposals for certification center site in 2020
DFW High-Speed Transportation Connections Study
Technology Forum outreach
Interest received to date
  • Hyperloop developers
  • Advanced gondola-like systems/suspended pods

Many new transportation infrastructure technologies require certification prior to widespread application
Technologies face difficulties in advancing through traditional planning processes
History of Innovation in DFW Region

Telecom Corridor
The Superconducting Super Collider project
Managed lanes network
First all-electronic tolltag facility
Vehicle occupancy verification technology
Mobility Innovation Zone – Alliance
Autonomous vehicle testing and deployment
Drone technology
POLICY
for Transportation Technology
Infrastructure Certification Program
Innovative Transportation Technology Infrastructure Certification Program

Purpose of RTC policy to:

• Outline RTC’s guiding principles
• Define transparent process by which RTC may coordinate with technology provider for certification facility or pilot applications
• Provide structure for periodic solicitation or acceptance of new technology infrastructure solutions
• Ensure level playing field for transportation infrastructure technology providers wishing to move to region and local governments wishing to propose their site for consideration
Innovative Transportation Technology Infrastructure Certification Program

Guiding Principles:

• Must serve long-range transportation need (MTP)
• Technology developer responsible for navigating certification process
• NCTCOG will facilitate mutual cooperation
• Local government considerations:
  • Contingency should technology fail to perform as intended
  • Expected timeframe for infrastructure to be operational
  • Public use goals and performance expectations
Innovative Transportation Technology Infrastructure Certification Program

Process:

1) NCTCOG staff to ensure technology solution conforms to policy guidance and long-range transportation need (MTP).

2) NCTCOG staff to brief RTC and RTC to take action on initiating process.

3) Upon RTC action, local governments to submit potential locations of interest.

4) Technology provider to determine preferred location to pursue.

5) RTC to initiate development activities; NCTCOG staff to provide support.
Requested RTC Action

Staff requests RTC adopt this policy to develop a process for the Innovative Transportation Infrastructure Certification Program:

• Advances hyperloop and other innovative infrastructure technologies through the certification process to commercial application
• Outlines guiding principles and transparent process by which RTC may coordinate with technology providers needing certification
• Ensures a long-range transportation need is met
• Allows for periodic solicitation or acceptance of developing technology solutions for region
• Creates level playing field for transportation infrastructure providers and local governments
Schedule

- January 28, 2022 – STTC Action
  HSR Policy (P22-01)
- February 10, 2022 – RTC Action
  HSR Policy (P22-01)
- April 21, 2022 – STTC Action
  Certification Policy (P22-02)
- May 12, 2022 – RTC Action
  Certification Policy (P22-02)
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