North Texas **Regional Integration** of Sustainability Efforts (RISE) Coalition

January 29, 2025



RISE Coalition Website: https://www.nctcog.org/envir/development-excellence/rise-coalition RISE Coalition Committee Page: <a href="https://www.nctcog.org/envir/committees/regional-integration-of-sustainability-efforts-rise-coalition-sustainability-sustaina

North

Texas

Coalition

Welcome and Introductions

- <u>Virtual attendance form</u> today in-lieu of sign-in sheet.
- Please keep your microphone on mute unless you are speaking.
- Use the "raise hand" feature if you'd like to speak. When called on, state your name and the entity you are representing.
- Approval of action items will still be done by a voice vote. Please only vote if you are a member of the RISE Coalition.



January 29, 2025 RISE Coalition Agenda

Welcome

1) Welcome and Introductions

Presentation

2) Texan by Nature Presentation

Action Items

3) Meeting Summary

Discussion

4) FY2025 Work Plan and Project Updates

Information Items

- 5) FY2025 Member Cost Share Commitments
- 6) Bylaws Task Force
- 7) 89th Texas Legislative Session Update
- 8) NCTCOG Regional Opportunities

Other Business

- 9) Participant Roundtable
- 10) Future Agenda Items
- 11) Next Meeting Date



Demonstrating Return on Conservation[™]

Joni Carswell, CEO and President, Texan by Nature





We Exist to Advance Conservation

Texan by Nature brings conservation and business together. We connect the brightest minds and projects with the strongest resources and funding to make the biggest impact for Texans, our economy, and our natural world.

Accelerator. Strategic Resource.





Conservation

Summit

Roundtables

Statewide Initiatives (ROC, TxWAC)

Conservation Wrangler

Texas Water Action Collaborative

Texan by Nature 20

TxN Certification

CONVENE Bring experts, partners, and members together for action.

Connect Develop and broker trusted relationships.

Conservation Partner

Membership

E AN EN NATUR E REURNON CONSERVATION REPORT

TEXANBYNATURE.ORG

Biggest Issues – TxN View

Lack of Standard Data and Methodologies

Lack of System Thinking

•Fragmentation / Too Many Decision Makers

Scarcity Mindset / Budgeting

Lack of Business Case Examples and Tools



TEXAN 🍫 NATURE

RETURN ON CONSERVATION™ FRAMEWORK

A framework for understanding and analyzing the return realized by investing in conservation, encompassing positive financial, human, and natural resource impact.



TEXAN 🍫 NATURE

RETURN ON CONSERVATION™ FRAMEWORK

How do we evaluate projects?

How do we achieve the greatest impact?

How do we measure success?

How do we report in a way that is most beneficial and widely understood?



SUPPORTING SERVICES

Nutrient cycling, soil formation, primary production.

HUMAN WELL-BEING

The quality of life and satisfaction derived from the benefits provided by ecosystems.

SECURITY Personal safety Resource access Security from disasters

PROVISIONING

SERVICES

Food

Freshwater Fiber

Wood

HEALTH Strength Clean air Clean water **TT** Social relations

Social cohesion Mutual respect Ability to help others

BASIC MATERIAL FOR QUALITY OF LIFE

Adequate livelihoods, sufficient nutritious food, shelter, and access to goods.

REGULATORY SERVICES

Climate regulation Flood regulation Disease regulation Water purification

CULTURAL SERVICES Aesthetic, recreational, and educational.

\$639 MILLION IN CONSERVATION INVESTMENT

\$2.8 BILLION IN RETURN ON CONSERVATION[™] VALUE IN FY 2019.







*Included: 501c3 conservation nonprofits, Texas Parks & Wildlife, Texas Forest Service

**Not Included: Private landowners, Universities, Municipalities, National Parks



CONSERVATION INVESTMENT		TOTAL RETURN ON CONSERVATION™ VALUE
\$638,512,037	\$4.39	\$2,801,883,846
\$152,885,186	BLACKLAND PRAIRIES \$1.84	\$281,749,624
\$88,265,741	CROSS TIMBERS \$2.35	\$207,346,876
\$43,037,520	EDWARDS PLATEAU \$13.13	\$565,239,114
\$197,061,257	GULF COAST PRAIRIES & MARSHES \$3.37	\$663,530,288
\$2,448,788	HIGH PLAINS \$5.63	\$13,790,997
\$17,703,913	PINEY WOODS \$25.32	\$448,253,120
\$15,970,221	POST OAK SAVANNAH \$8.81	\$140,704,547
\$9,763,500	ROLLING PLAINS \$11.48	\$112,043,311
\$17,084,760	SOUTH TEXAS PLAINS \$5.05	\$86,344,453
\$16,579,021	TRANS PECOS \$17.04	\$282,435,096
\$77,712,130	GENERAL INVESTMENT \$0.01	\$446,419



TEXAN 🍫 NATURE

RETURN ON CONSERVATION™ FRAMEWORK **HOW TO USE:**

- Business case creation & evaluation
- Opportunity identification
 Impact forecasting / Goal setting
 Impact Reporting



Resources and Opportunities

- Utilize report and graphics: <u>Return on Conservation[™] Report Texan By Nature</u>
- Submit data: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ROCdata
- Submit feedback: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ROCfeedback24
- <u>Utilize the business casemaker</u>
- Talk to us about research opportunities or report use: info@texanbynature.org



Casemaker Tool

TEXAN 🍫 NATURE

RETURN ON CONSERVATION™ REPORT SUPPLEMENTAL RESOURCE

Texas Conservation Project Case-Maker Template

In June of 2024, Texan by Nature (TxN) launched a first-of-its kind, <u>Return on ConservationTM report</u> (ROCTM report) analyzing financial investments and conservation return value across Texas. This is an ROCTM report supplemental **resource created for leaders** who wish to use the data from the ROCTM report to articulate the ROCTM value of conservation project(s). TxN defines on the ground conservation as the restoration, protection, and sustainable management of natural lands, including forests, wetlands, grasslands, and other terrestrial ecosystems to conserve ecological integrity, biodiversity, and resources for present and future generations.

Ind

Eco

Se

This tab walks you through a **7-step process** to calculate the ROC™ value for your project(s). To use, downlo be self selecting and/or entering values into cells that are white.

TxN recommends **reading ALL instructions and the "Additional Resources" section before use.** Please c programs@texanbynature.org for questions or to provide feedback on this template.

 1. Select your Ecoregion. Use link to find Ecoregion.
 Pineywoods

 2. Select whether your Project Type is Restoration or Protection.
 Land Restoration - The efficient manatural resources through active acprocess of returning something to

 3. Go to the tab that corresponds with the Ecoregion that you selected in step 1. Select which Ecosystem Type best represents your project. This should align with your Project Type selected in step 2.
 Forests (Table 1) - Restoration ONLY

 Please note that all Ecosystem Types are NOT represented in every Ecoregion.
 Forests (Table 1) - Restoration ONLY

6. Skip this section if you answered YES for step 5. If you answered NO, copy and paste Ecosystem Services and the corresponding values that ONLY pertain to your project in rows (18-30) below. Be sure to ONLY use Ecosystem Services/Values that are for your Ecoregion and Ecosystem Type and be careful NOT to double-count. Your Total Ecosystem Service Value will automically sum in cell D31. Paste that value into cell D34 in step 7.

- BB- III BCC	P //		
	Air Quality		\$341.28
	Climate Regulation		\$95.52
	Erosion Control		\$802.56
	Flood and Storm Hazard Reduction		\$176.64
vidual	Water Filtration	Value of	\$208.80
system	Water Supply	Ecosytem	\$49.44
rvices		Services	
e name of the		Paste the dollar value of	
Services in the		the Ecosystem Services in	
o the right ir Quality)		the cells to the right (Le. \$341.28)	
		Total Ecosystem Service Value	\$1,674.24
the Total I	Ecosystem Service Value from vo	our last step into cell D34 and insert the	e total acres for your project into cell B34. These

7. Paste the Total Ecosystem Service Value from your last step into cell D34 and insert the total acres for your project into cell B34. These values are automatically multipled in row 36 which will produce the estimated ROC™ value of your project in cell D36. Please review the "Caveats", "Looking Forward", and "ROC™ Value Reference" section for more information on what to keep in mind when sharing any ROC™ values your produce using this template.

Estimated R of Project	eturn on Conservation™ Value		\$837,120.00
Total Project Acres	500	Total Ecosystem Service Value	\$1,674.24



Action Items

Meeting Summary

Vote to Approve October 30, 2024, <u>Meeting Summary</u>.



FY2025 Work Plan and Updates

- FY2025 Work Plan was approved at the July meeting
- Summary of FY2025 Goals:
 - Hold up to 4 public meetings
 - Support work on Climate Action Plan
 - Establish at least 1 partnership with a local university
 - Host 2-3 webinars or workshops on key topics of interest
 - Administer FY2025 CLIDE Awards
 - Conduct Regional Sustainability Survey





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Task 3. Regional Collaboration and Capacity Building

- NCTCOG/SPEER Advancing Campus Sustainability Workshop January 16, 2024
 - Representation from universities and colleges from throughout the region, including UTD, UTA, UNT, SMU, TCCD, and Dallas College
 - o Workshop materials posted on Conserve North Texas
- CDE Newsletter Regional Colleges and Universities Highlight
 - <u>December Newsletter</u> featured Southern Methodist University
 - $\,\circ\,$ Highlighted Sustainability and Development Program and the Hunt Institute



Task 4. Educational Resources

Workshops/Webinars

- Order of interest for topics, based on survey responses
 - 1. Engaging with Communities on Sustainability
 - 2. Incorporating Regional Greenspaces
 - 3. Resilience Hubs
- Coordinating a workshop on engaging communities in coming months
 - Specific aspects of sustainability to focus on? Specific communities?

Newsletter

• December Newsletter - Feedback on content?



Task 5. Administer Celebrating Leadership in Development Excellence (CLIDE) Awards

- Created to encourage innovative development projects, recognizing projects and programs exemplifying the <u>Principles of Development Excellence</u>
- Application will open on the <u>Center of Development Excellence website</u> February 3rd, 2025, and will be accepted through February 28th.

Staff Contact:

Crysta Guzman Sr. Environment & Development Planner cguzman@nctcog.org 817-695-9107





CATEGORIES FOR SUBMITTAL

New Development

Projects on previously undeveloped sites exemplifying many Principles of Development Excellence.

Redevelopment

Projects that reuse or rebuild existing structures, exemplifying many Principles of Development Excellence.

Special Development

Projects that excel in promoting one or two Principles of Development Excellence, which could include Environmental Stewardship. Examples include sustainable infrastructure, energy conservation, open space or trail projects, and low-impact development.

Raising Public Awareness

Organizations or individuals that have educated the public about development excellence, such as through media stories or public education campaigns.

Public Policy and Planning

Entities that have adopted policies or programs related to Principles of Development Excellence. Examples include mixed-use policies, open space protection, historic preservation, design standards, and comprehensive plans.

SECO Contract Scope of Work – LEED for Cities

- <u>Applications are now open</u> for USGBC's 2025 LEED for Cities Certification Cohort
 - Applications open through February 14th
 - $\,\circ\,$ 2025 cohort to commence April 1st
- Looking to facilitate a NCTCOG roundtable for past and current participants to exchange information and ideas
 - $\,\circ\,$ Are any cities planning to apply for the 2025 cohort?
 - \circ What specific information would you find helpful?
 - $\,\circ\,$ When would a roundtable exchange be most beneficial?



SECO Contract Scope of Work – Energy and Water Conservation Signage for Municipally Owned Buildings

- NCTCOG staff is drafting energy and water conservation signage to promote behavioral change among municipal building occupants
- We are seeking feedback on the messages NCTCOG staff should prioritize in developing this deliverable



SECO Contract Scope of Work – Energy and Water Conservation Signage for Municipally Owned Buildings

Example:

Let the light in!

Approximately 30% of a building's electric load comes from electric lighting, so utilize natural lighting when possible to reduce both energy usage and cost.



SECO Contract Scope of Work – Energy and Water Conservation Signage for Municipally Owned Buildings

Example:

Open the blinds and let the sun shine!

Turn off artificial lights and choose to use natural lighting instead! This change not only helps lower energy usage and costs, but can also improve your productivity and happiness.



SECO Contract Scope of Work – Energy and Water Conservation Signage for Municipally Owned Buildings

Example:

Lighten your load and unplug!

Many electronics continue to draw power even when turned off, so unplug devices like TV's, chargers, and kitchen appliances when not in use to save energy and extend your device's lifespan.



SECO Contract Scope of Work – Energy and Water Conservation Signage for Municipally Owned Buildings

Example:

Wash your loads on cold!

With 90% of the energy used by washing machines going towards heating the water, making the switch from hot to cold is an easy way to see significant energy savings.



FY2025 Cost Shares

Cost shares have been received from:

- City of Cedar Hill City of Plano
- City of Dallas
 Tarrant Regional
- City of Farmers Branch
- City of Grand Prairie

Current commitments: \$10,675

2024 Population (NCTCOG Estimates) **Cost-Share** 1 million+ \$3,750 \$3,500 750,000 - 999,999 \$3,000 500,000 - 749,999 350,000 - 499,999 \$2,500 \$2,075 200,000 - 349,999 100,000 - 199,999 \$1,625 \$1,075 50,000 - 99,999 \$700 25,000 - 49,999 \$500 10,000 - 24,999 Less than 10,000 \$250 Other Local Government Partners \$1,000

If you are interested in becoming a cost sharing member, please email Corinne Buckley at cbuckley@nctcog.org to request an invoice.

Water District



Bylaws Task Force Recommendations

- The Bylaws Task Force met twice to discuss recommended changes to the RISE Coalition Bylaws
- Revised bylaws were emailed out to RISE Coalition members on Monday to review
- Revised bylaws



Bylaws Task Force Recommendations

- Shortening Chair and Vice Chair terms from two years to one year
- Expanding membership to include transit agencies, universities, and non-profit environmental/public interest groups related to sustainability
- Reducing membership terms to one year, with membership contingent on paying cost shares

To allow members adequate time to review, a vote to approve the recommended changes to the bylaws will be conducted electronically.



89th Texas Legislative Session Update*

Bill Number	Author	Торіс	Status
<u>HB 1438</u>	Zweiner	Relating to climate change planning and reporting.	Introduced (11/21/2024)
<u>HB 866</u>	Reynolds	Relating to the creation of the Climate Change Impact Assessment Council.	Introduced (11/12/2024)
<u>HJR 27</u>	Goodwin	Proposing a constitutional amendment guaranteeing the right to a clean and healthy environment.	Introduced (11/12/2024)



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89th Texas Legislative Session Update*

Bill Number	Author	Торіс	Status	Companion Bill
<u>HB 941</u>	Cain	Relating to the resilience of the electric grid and certain municipalities.	Introduced (11/12/2024)	<u>SB 75</u>
<u>HB 1360</u>	Hernandez	Relating to certain regulations adopted by governmental entities for the construction or alteration of residential or commercial buildings.	Introduced (11/15/2024)	<u>SB 783</u>

Full Matrix Available Here


Dallas-Fort Worth Air Quality Improvement Plan



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Dallas-Fort Worth Air Quality Improvement Plan

Dallas-Fort Worth Air Quality Improvement Plan

Stakeholders in the region are collaborating with the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) to develop the **Dallas-Fort Worth (DFW) Air Quality Improvement Plan (AQIP)**

The DFW AQIP-Priority Climate Action Plan development is supported by funding from the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (CPRG): Planning Grants





CPRG Implementation Grant Awardees





DFW AQIP-PCAP and CCAP Requirements

Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP) - Near-term (5 years), high-priority, implementation-ready measures

Tasks	Description
GHG Emissions Inventory	Calculate the GHG produced in the 16 counties in North Texas
Quantified GHG Reduction Measures	Identify and quantify benefits of measures
Review of Authority to Implement	Review GHG reduction measures to ensure they can be implemented
Funding Analysis*	Identify funding to implement measures

*Not required for PCAP, NCTCOG voluntarily included

Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP) - Long-term (25 years) measures to meet emission reduction goals

Tasks	Description
All PCAP Tasks**	PCAP Tasks will be updated/enhanced for CCAP
Workforce Analysis	Determine what workforce gaps exist and strategies to fill them
GHG Targets/Goals	Develop near-term and long-term targets for GHG reductions
GHG Projections	Develop comprehensive sector- based emission projections for a near and long-term
** The first 5 required tasks from the Priority Climate Action Plan	

table are still required in the Comprehensive Climate Action Plan



DFW AQIP- PCAP GHG EI and CCAP GHG Projections and Goals

2019 DFW 16-County MPA Carbon Dioxide Equivalent (CO2e) = 105,435,559 Metric Tons



CCAP Projections:

- 1. "Business as Usual Projections" for near-term (2030) and long-term (e.g., 2050)
- 2. Projections where measures in the CCAP are fully implemented for near-term and long-term

CCAP Targets/Goals Should:

- Be consistent with U.S. Commitments to reduce GHG emissions by 52% by 2030 and be net-zero by 2050
- Be actionable, ambitious, and achievable
- Be informed by data about largest growing/declining emission sources
- Influence selection and design of measures
- Include near-term (e.g., <u>2030</u>-2035) and long-term economy wide goals (e.g. <u>2050</u>)



DFW AQIP-CCAP Targets/Goals





PCAP Measures and CCAP Requirements

A measure is a policy, project or program that is used to reduce GHG emissions

Measures should be <u>specific</u> enough to develop milestones, cost, authority to implement

PCAP measures can be changed or removed from CCAP

New measures can be added to the CCAP

Sector	Number of Measures in PCAP
Transportation	13
Energy	6
Water, Wastewater, Watershed Mgmt	9
Materials Management (Solid Waste)	6
Agriculture, Forestry, and Land Use	5
Cross-Sector	5

CCAP Measure Requirements
Measure description
Quantified GHG and criteria pollutant reductions (can be aligned with near and long-term targets)
Key implementing agency or agencies
mplementation schedule and milestones
Expected geographic location
Authority to implement or milestones for obtaining authority
dentification of funding sources and cost
Metrics for tracking progress



Next Steps in DFW AQIP



Update Measures, Identify Funding, Identify Authority to Implement



Finalize 2022 GHG EI – Soon! Develop Business as Usual Projections – Spring 2025

2

Collaborate with Stakeholders to Develop GHG Targets/Goals – Summer 2025

4

Complete Benefits Analysis, Workforce Analysis, and Post Draft Plan – Fall 2025

5



DALLAS-FORT WORTH ARQUALITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Funded through the Environmental Protection Agency's Climate Pollution Reduction Grants

Go to <u>www.publicinput.com/dfwAQIP</u> for more information!

Email us at <u>dfwaqip@publicinput.com</u> to provide any feedback.





Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicles Program

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North Texas Zero-Emission Vehicle Project (NTx-ZEV)

Funded through the Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicles Program

Go to www.nctcog.org/trans/quality/air/funding-and-resources/chdv for more information

	Vehicle & Infrastructure ~\$58 million available	ZEV Workforce Development ~\$1.2M available
Eligible Projects	Any battery-electric or hydrogen fuel cell Class 6 or 7 vocational vehicle and infrastructure replacing a non- zero emission (gasoline, diesel, propane, natural gas) Class 6 or7 vehicle	
	Public and private entities eligible*	
	Call for Projects – Expected to open Spring 2025	
Project		Strategic Selection or Other Selection Process
Selection	Priority given to operations in 10 county ozone nonattainment area**	
Funding Level	Maximum federal share allowed by EPA 33% to 65% per battery-electric vehicle 60% to 80% per hydrogen fuel cell vehicle	Workforce costs not subject to maximum federal share
		Must adopt Clean Fleet Policy **Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Johnson, Kaufman, Parker, Rockwall, Tarrant, and Wise

Program Benefits

New opportunities for the region, including: Increased funding levels for hydrogen fuel cell vehicles and electric vehicles

Replacement of non-diesel (gasoline, compressed) natural gas, propane) vehicles

Flexible scrappage alternatives

Funding for infrastructure, renewable on-site power generation systems, and workforce development activities related to zero-emission vehicles

Supports the Clean Vehicles and Equipment Measure in the Dallas-Fort Worth Air Quality **Improvement Plan** (www.publicinput.com/dfwAQIP)

Current Ozone design value of 78 ppb continues to exceed the EPA standard

Vehicle Miles Traveled Versus Nitrogen Oxides Contribution by On-Road Vehicle Type in Dallas-Fort Worth



Emissions Impact of Heavy-Duty Diesel is Disproportionately High Compared to Miles Traveled



NTx-ZEV Funding Levels

EPA will fund cost share percentage of the new vehicle, up to the pervehicle funding cap

Project implementation costs are not included or subject to the per-vehicle caps listed on the table

Ex: Personnel/benefits, contractual services, consulting on vehicle deployments, travel, supplies, etc.

	Battery-Electric Vehicles (BEVs)		Hydrogen Fuel Cell Vehicles (FCEVs)	
Vehicle Type	EPA Cost Share Percentage of New Vehicle Price	Per-Vehicle Funding Cap (Vehicle + Infrastructure)	EPA Cost Share Percentage of New Vehicle Price	Per-Vehicle Funding Cap (Vehicle + Infrastructure)
School Bus	75%	\$280,000*	N/A	N/A
Straight/Box Truck	- 65%	\$190,000		\$400,000
Step Van		\$160,000	000/	\$340,000
Septic/Bucket Truck		\$330,000	80%	\$670,000
Other		\$355,000		\$720,000
Refuse Hauler	- 50% -	\$260,000	- 700/	\$600,000
Street Sweeper		\$315,000	70%	\$720,000
Transit Bus	33%	\$265,000	60%	\$780,000

* ADA-compliant school buses are eligible for an additional \$20,000 per-vehicle funding cap



Heavy-Duty Clean Vehicles Webinar

Learn about the available Class 6 to 7 zero-emission vehicles (ZEV), how they work, and the best use cases! When: March 25, 26, & 27 from 10:30 am – 11:30 am Registration available at <u>www.dfwcleancities.org/events</u>







NCTCOG Regional Updates and Opportunities

Upcoming Meetings and Events Help DFWCC identify:

Stakeholder Input Session

Date: Wednesday, February 26, 2025

Time: 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Location: NCTCOG

Register at <u>www.dfwcleancities.org/events</u>

- Where electric vehicle charging is needed
- How to improve resilience in EV charging
- Opportunities to use autonomous robots
- Ways transportation technologies can improve air quality



NCTCOG Regional Updates and Opportunities

DFW Clean Cities Annual Survey Impacts

Impacts Over Calendar Year 2023

45 Reporting Fleets

7,725 Alternative Fuel Vehicles & Equipment

59 Tons Ozone-Forming Nitrogen Oxides (NO_X) Reduced

228,968 Tons Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduced

Annual Survey Release Date: January 27, 2025

Go to www.dfwcleancities.org/annualreport



2021

2022

---- Number of Reporting Fleets

2023

35

30

25

20

15

10

5

0

2018

2019

Gasoline Gallon Equivalent

2020

Millions of Gasoline Gallon

Equivalent Reduced



NCTCOG Regional Updates and Opportunities

Planning Resilient EV Charging for North Texas Stakeholder Group

Project Objectives:

- Create North Texas Resilient Electric Vehicle (NTX-REV) plan for North Central Texas region
- Implement plan and enhance critical electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure
- Evaluate strategies, technologies, & equipment via:
 - o Tabletop Scenario
 - o Technology Demonstration

Intended Impact:

- Ensure critical EV travel continuity during grid outages for:
 - o Evacuation routes
 - o Critical facilities & services
 - Freight operations

Get Involved:

- Regional stakeholders can support project initiatives by:
 - Providing input to assist with developing the NTX-REV Plan
 - Engaging with other stakeholders,
 - o Contributing to the distribution and adoption of the plan

Planning Resilient EV Charging in North Texas Stakeholder Form





Drive Electric Earth Month

National campaign to raise awareness on the benefits of owning an electric vehicle

If interested in having a Drive Electric Earth Month booth at your event contact us at: <u>cleancities@nctcog.org</u>

For More Information about Drive Electric Earth Month visit: <u>https://driveelectricearthmonth.org/</u>

Additional Funding Opportunities

Program/Incentive	Eligible Activities	Funding Amount	Key Dates
<u>Energy Improvements in</u> <u>Rural or Remote Areas</u> (ERA)	support for rural and remote communities of 10,000 people or less to build clean energy projects	Varies – up to \$400 million available	Concept papers due February 27, 2025 Application due August 28, 2025
<u>Texas Volkswagen</u> Environmental Mitigation Program (TxVEMP)	Upgrade or replace vehicles and equipment operating in eligible areas with new, all-electric models	Up to 100% of the incremental cost for government entities Up to 75% for non- governmental entities	August 31, 2025
North Texas Diesel Emissions Reduction Project (funded by Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Diesel Emissions Reduction Act)	 Replace on-road diesel vehicles with a GVWR of over 16,001 or non-road diesel equipment and drayage with GVWR of over 33,001 lbs Replace diesel transport refrigeration unit with all-electric Install EPA verified idle reduction technologies 	vehicle	March 14, 2025
	Research more fundi	ng here: www.nctcog.org	g/aqfunding 55

Funding – Texas Emissions Reduction Plan (TERP)

Light-Duty Motor Vehicle Purchase or Lease Incentive Program - Expected to open Spring 2026	Emissions Reduction Incentive Grants (ERIG) – Expected Fall 2026
<u>Alternative Fueling Facilities Program</u> (AFFP) - Expected to open Spring 2026	Texas Clean School Bus Program (TCSB) – Expected to open Spring 2026
<u>Seaport and Rail Yard Areas Emissions Reduction</u> <u>Program</u> (SPRY) – Open through March 4, 2025	New Technology Implementation Grant (NTIG) – Open Now- Closes January 31, 2025
Texas Natural Gas Vehicle Grant Program (TNGVGP)- Open through March 4, 2025Funds the replacement of medium-duty or heavy-duty on-road vehicles with natural gas versions	Governmental Alternative Fuel Fleet Grant Program (GAFF) – Open through February 5, 2025 Funds the replacement of Class 1-8 vehicles with alternative fuel versions
Texas Clean Fleet Program (TCFP) – Open Now; Applications due March 21, 2025 Funds the replacement of diesel vehicles with alternative fuel or electric	Rebate Grants - Expected to open Summer 2026 Funds medium- and heavy-duty non-road and on-road equipment

Go to <u>www.tceq.texas.gov/airquality/terp/programs</u> for a full list of programs

DOE-Google Collaboration Connecting Consumers with Qualified Energy Technicians

- <u>DOE has announced a new partnership</u> with Google to connect users with Energy Skilled technicians
 - Energy Skilled is a DOE designation indicating worker has the knowledge and skills to work with modern building systems
- HVAC, plumbing, and home-energy audit contractors with one or more employees recognized as <u>Energy</u> <u>Skilled</u> under Google Business Profiles
- Provides an easy way for customers to make energyconscious decisions





Focus North Texas 2025

- The Midwest and North Central sectors of Texas APA are hosting <u>Focus North</u> <u>Texas</u> on **February 21, 2025,** at the Westin Galleria Dallas.
- This year's theme is "Let's Grow Together"
- Symposium will focus on how planners can prepare communities and the North Texas Region for growth.
- <u>Registration is open here.</u>



NCTCOG Regional Updates and Opportunities

North Central Texas, where nature + economic development happens (Eco-Tourism) Webinar

- The Trinity Coalition has created a mapping tool for residents and visitors to explore nature, providing potential for eco-tourism and economic development
- Stephen S. Smith, Trinity Coalition's founder board president, will be conducting a roll-out of their interactive mapping tool at North Central Texas Economic Development District's upcoming webinar
- Date: March 10, 2025, at 10:00 AM
- Meeting information



11th Annual TRACS Summit

- The Texas Regional Alliance for Campus Sustainability (TRACS) is hosting their <u>11th Annual Summit</u> at Texas State University from April 6-8, 2025.
- This year's theme is The Power of Sustainability: Energy Transitions, Conservation, and Education on your Campus.
- <u>Call for proposals</u>: Thought leaders, innovators, and sustainability champions are invited to share their insights on the role of sustainability in higher education.
 - Speaker deadline is February 21st, 2025
- <u>Attendee registration is now open!</u>



EarthX2025 Congress of Conferences

- Registration is open for the EarthX2025 Congress of Conferences.
- The 5-day event will be held at the Hilton Anatole in Dallas on April 21-25, 2025.
- This year's disciplines include
 - $\,\circ\,$ The Future of Energy
 - \odot The Circular Economy
 - $\,\circ\,$ The Blue Economy and Ocean Conservation
 - $\,\circ\,$ Conservation, Biodiversity, and Habitat and Land Management
- The full conference agenda and registration are available on the <u>EarthX</u> <u>website.</u>



Other Business

Participant Roundtable

Members will be called on first, and then others will have the opportunity to share what is happening within their organization.

Future Agenda Items

Future meeting presentation topics?



Next Meeting Date

Next RISE Coalition Meeting:

Wednesday, May 14, 2025, at 9:30 a.m.

In-person at NCTCOG Offices

Add to Calendar

Tentative Upcoming 2025 Meeting Dates:

• July 30, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. – Virtual



NCTCOG RISE Coalition Contacts

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Thank you!

NCTCOG's Free E-Mail Lists and Committee Updates

General: <a href="https://www.nctcog.org/stay-informed?ext="https://www.nctcog.org/stay-ext="https://www.nctcog.org/stay-informed?ext="https://www.nctcog.or

Environment and Development: <u>https://www.nctcog.org/envir/mail</u>

RISE Websites

Information page: <u>https://www.nctcog.org/envir/development-excellence/rise-coalition</u>

Committee page:

https://www.nctcog.org/envir/committees/regional-integrationof-sustainability-efforts-ris



North

Texas

Coalition