



North Central Texas Council of Governments

AGENDA

Water Resources Council

Wednesday, October 9, 2024

10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

In-Person at NCTCOG

Chair: Stacy Walters, City of Fort Worth

Vice-Chair: Rachel Ickert, Tarrant Regional Water District

1. Welcome and Introductions.

Council members will introduce themselves and welcome three new WRC members.

The council welcomed three new members to the Water Resources Council (WRC):

- Jason Sutton, Town of Addison
- Michael Brinkmann, City of Garland
- Darrel Andrews, Tarrant Regional Water District

PRESENTATION

2. The History and Purpose of the Water Resources Council. NCTCOG staff will share the history of the WRC from its installation in 1979 to the present. The presentation will include how the council's activities have evolved throughout its existence to fulfill the purpose of supporting regional water quality needs.

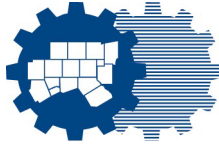
NCTCOG discussed the influence the Trinity River has had on water quality planning in North Central Texas and how the Water Resources Council was formed to address impairments in the river. This mission eventually expanded to address the water quality of all regional water bodies. The presentation discussed the council's four main roles: the reviewer of water and wastewater projects, the enabler of water-related groups and activities, the advisor to the NCTCOG's Executive Board on technical and policy issues related to water resources, and the promoter of regional water conservation and water quality initiatives. The presentation also addressed how these roles and the council's purview have evolved. The full presentation is available in the [presentation slides](#), beginning on slide 5.

ACTION ITEMS

3. Meeting Summary. The [July 10, 2024 meeting summary](#) will be presented for approval.

Tim Abbott, City of Plano, made a motion to approve the meeting summary. Larry Patterson, Upper Trinity Regional Water District, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

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DISCUSSION

4. Recognition of WRC Service Milestones. NCTCOG staff will recognize and appreciate council members who have achieved service milestones (5, 10, 15, or 20 years+) on the WRC.

The council recognized six service milestones: Joshua Howard (5 years), Eric Robison (5 years), Kelly Rouse (5 years), Meghna Tare (5 years), Kevin Mercer (15 years), Glenn Clingenpeel (20 years).

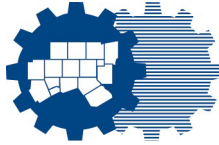
5. Review of the *Texas Integrated Report of Surface Water Quality for Clean Water Act Sections 305(b) and 303(d)*. NCTCOG will share relevant items from the newly adopted [Texas Integrated Report of Surface Water Quality for Clean Water Act Sections 305\(b\) and 303\(d\)](#) from TCEQ. This document is updated every two years and will inform the creation of the 2025 North Central Texas Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP) Update. This discussion will include questions on activities to include in the 2025 WQMP Update.

NCTCOG reviewed new Category 5 impairments, as well as impairments downgraded to Category 4 in the report. NCTCOG requested feedback from the council regarding the timeline for including pending reservoirs in future Water Quality Management Plan Updates. Bill Gase, City of Arlington, suggested that inclusion might begin when the ground has broken on the pending reservoir. Larry Patterson, Upper Trinity Regional Water District, suggested that inclusion could begin when all funding is acquired. Grace Darling, Arlington Conservation Council, suggested reaching out to other Councils of Governments (COGs) so that plans are standardized across the state. NCTCOG agreed to contact water quality planning staff at other COGs to explore options.

NCTCOG requested feedback on the size thresholds for reservoirs to be included in the plan. Tim Abbott, City of Plano, said that any water body could be pertinent and should be included in the plan. Larry Patterson, Upper Trinity Regional Water District, encouraged the avoidance of a size threshold for the plan, as even small reservoirs can have a significant impact.

6. Results of the 2024 North Central Texas Water Resources Questionnaire. NCTCOG staff will review the results of the 2024 North Central Texas Water Resources Questionnaire distributed in the spring. The council will share ideas on incorporating the results into water quality activities in FY25.

NCTCOG shared findings from the 2024 North Central Texas Water Resources Questionnaire and discussed how the council conducts outreach to its community members. Bill Gase, City of Arlington, stated that the communications teams at each entity play an important role in these decisions and they are largely driven by budget. Because of this, social media can often be more cost-effective for cities. Haley Salazar, City of Denton, shared how the city's daily usage volumes website is popular among residents and that the city would welcome supplemental information to share on the platform. Kevin Mercer, Upper Trinity Regional Water District, shared the success of school presentations and their indirect influence on adult customers.



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Larry Patterson, Upper Trinity Regional Water District, discussed movie theater advertising as another way to spread messaging.

NCTCOG staff asked the council for topics they would like NCTCOG to develop regional messaging for. Stacy Walters, City of Fort Worth, stated greater education is needed regarding winterizing homes and preventing misinformation. Stacy also stated that litter in waterways is a big issue in her community. Tiffany Bruce, Town of Flower Mound, shared that homeowners often need education on not watering their lawns as often. She stated that stressing the cost savings of less watering helps drive this message home. Michael Brinkmann, City of Garland, said he would like to see more workshops and resources on extreme weather events and preparing for them in the short term.

NCTCOG will examine ways to provide digitally accessible resources on these topics this fiscal year to provide cohesive regional messaging. NCTCOG will present topics and resources for council approval in future WRC meetings.

OTHER BUSINESS AND ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

7. NCTCOG Updates. NCTCOG will update the WRC on recent and upcoming items of interest.

a. Dallas-Fort Worth Air Quality Improvement Plan: Comprehensive Climate Action Plan Update

NCTCOG is accepting feedback on the [DFW-AQIP Priority Climate Action Plan](#) and suggestions for the Comprehensive Climate Action Plan via an [online survey](#).

NCTCOG will be hosting a listening session on November 12, 2024, via Zoom to discuss water/wastewater, waste, agricultural, forestry, and land use management measures to include in the Comprehensive Climate Action Plan. This will seek to improve regional air quality over a 25-year period. [Registration for the listening session is open now.](#)

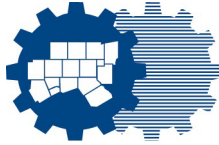
b. Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Implementation-Plan (I-Plan) Revisions

NCTCOG is seeking feedback on the implementation strategies within the current TMDL [I-Plan](#), including suggestions for changes or additions to the strategies, or removal entirely. Comments and feedback can be sent to Hannah Ordonez at hordonez@nctcog.org.

c. Region C Regional Water Planning Group Meeting. Monday, January 6, 2025; 1:00 p.m.- 3:30 p.m.; NCTCOG Offices, Transportation Council Room.

d. NCTCOG Webinar: *Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI): Strategies to Strengthen Drinking Water.* Wednesday, November 6, 2024; 1:00 p.m. [Register here](#)

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e. Holiday Grease Roundup. November 18, 2024 - January 10, 2025. Email Hannah Ordonez at hordonez@nctcog.org to get more information.

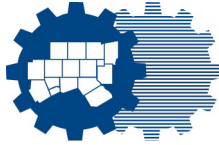
8. Future Agenda Items. The committee can request future agenda items.

- Grace Darling, Arlington Conservation Council, requested to hear what providers are doing about PFAS.
- Bill Gase, City of Arlington, requested to hear about EPA's water quality standards for aquatic life, PFAS, and PFOA, specifically how this will impact watershed protection plans.
- Susan Alvarez, NCTCOG, discussed EPA's request to include PFAS in regional stormwater sampling as part of the permit process.
- Larry Patterson, Upper Trinity Regional Water District, stated that finding labs to do PFAS testing is a big hurdle. EPA is trying to figure out if it can get a coalition together to get a better price.
- Stacy Walters, City of Fort Worth, requested to hear more about handling backflow issues in fire department connections.

9. Roundtable. WRC members are invited to share what is happening in their communities.

- Steve Pettit, City of Irving, received a request from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to fill out a survey on Forecast-informed Reservoir Operations and other members confirmed they received it as well.
- Kelly Rouse, City of Lewisville, reminded the council of the deadline for the customer service line inventory and encouraged members to do a test run of the portal first.
- Grace Darling, Arlington Conservation Council, reminded the council to engage with local non-profits to fill volunteer needs and to share messages on water resources topics.
- Bill Gase, City of Arlington, is preparing for the FIFA World Cup and Indy Grand Prix racing coming in 2026.
- Susan Alvarez, NCTCOG, informed the council that the Texas Water Development Board's (TWDB) Region 3 Flood Planning Group met recently and is taking projects as necessary to update the flood plan. Flood plan amendments need to be submitted by December 1, 2024.
- Michael Nieswiadomy, University of North Texas, asked the council how cities are telling customers about lead service line inspections and praised his own quick and efficient personal experience. He also asked how cities can encourage water efficiency with builders and new homeowners.
- Mike Adams, City of Midlothian, is completing a water treatment model plan and planning to do dredging in Joe Pool Lake.

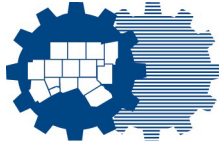
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- Tiffany Bruce, Town of Flower Mound, discussed plans for growth and development on the west side of town.
- Billy George, North Texas Municipal Water District, is tracking a recent ruling out of California regarding fluoride levels in water, which would require EPA to make a new standard. He also discussed a Texas state-proposed new rule regarding the land application of biosolids. He shared the last 5 years have been the highest years of pumping production on record for the district, but they are still making strides in conservation. The district recently presented a legislative “Lunch and Learn” on water supply at the Capitol and spoke about Bois D’Arc Lake. The district asked the group to think about dedicated funding for water supply needs and suggested that TWDB be given more flexibility in how state water funds are distributed.
- Tim Abbott, City of Plano, shared that the city’s biggest concern is dealing with power issues, particularly problems with motors and sensitive equipment. Tim also shared that he will be moving out of the region. Drew Zaeske, City of Plano, will be taking over the remainder of his term on the council.
- Michael Brinkmann, City of Garland, is completing the lead and copper inventory. The city is rolling out a website that interacts with customers to inform them of their service line type.
- Stacy Walters, City of Fort Worth, shared the lead and copper inventory and website are close to completion. The city is working to get certified plumbers to customers for service line replacement. The city is especially looking to support disadvantaged communities who may be dealing with justice concerns during the line replacement.
- Darrel Andrews, Tarrant Regional Water District, shared the district is focusing on the conservation and stormwater impacts of a large period of growth. The district is moving forward with the Cedar Creek Wetlands project.
- Larry Patterson, Upper Trinity Regional Water District, discussed the significant growth of the capital program. Jointly with North Texas Municipal Water District, the district is bringing a delegation and staffers to Bois D’Arc Lake and facilitating a tour of Lake Ralph Hall to prepare for the legislative session. The district reports having a good power rate until May of 2027, and it is getting bids for projects going from 2027-2034.
- Kevin Mercer, Upper Trinity Regional Water District, says they have completed their service line inventory and reminded the council that the inventory’s online portal does not save work if you back out of the website.
- Taylor Alvarez, City of Watauga, alternate for Paul Hackleman, says the city is completing its lead and copper service line inventory and is currently double-checking some previously unknown items.
- Haley Salazar, City of Denton, alternate for Stephen Gay, shared the city hosted a ribbon cutting for a pump station, which will be used to support future capacity in the northwest part of the city. The city was able to lift Stage 2 drought restrictions recently. Haley shared communication challenges regarding overlapping regulations for summer irrigation and drought irrigation, which can lead to confusion among community members. The city is rewriting the project plan for the Ray Roberts Treatment Plant,

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which will provide an additional 6 to 10 million gallons of capacity to support west-side growth.

- Ryan Edmunson, Texas A&M Forest Service, shared that the Forest Service is offering 14 \$50,000 grants specifically for areas under a watershed protection plan. The application deadline is November 1, 2024.

10. Next Meeting. The next WRC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 15, 2025, and will be held virtually, via Microsoft Teams. [Add to Calendar](#)

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