

**North Central Texas Council of Governments
Air Transportation Advisory Committee
September 1, 2022**

The Air Transportation Advisory Committee (ATAC) convened at 1 pm on September 1, 2022, at the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG).

1. Welcome and Introductions

Vice-Chair Haley Cuevas introduced herself, stating that she was chairing today's meeting in place of Chair Eric Pratt. Members and NCTCOG staff in attendance introduced themselves.

2. Orientation to Agenda, Natalie Bettger, NCTCOG

Natalie listed the agenda items, noting that Agenda Item 7, "DBE as a Prime" would be presented at a later date as the presenter could not be at today's ATAC meeting.

3. Approval of July 7, 2022, ATAC Meeting Summary

The summary of the July 7, 2022, ATAC meeting was accepted as submitted.

4. FAA Southwest Regional Office Update, Heather Peet, Federal Aviation Administration

Heather Peet announced that Doug Lane is the new Deputy Regional Administrator. The FAA Southwest Regional Office is responsible for the five states of Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Arkansas, and New Mexico. The office has the largest number of commercial space operations in the southwest region, heavily involved in the environmental processes that come along with that. What started as a conversation in the hallway to get students engaged during the pandemic about aviation careers at all levels has now moved to the national level. The FAA is excited to be a part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, and about the airport terminal and infrastructure money that is coming over the next several years. Ms. Peet also mentioned that there will be \$5 billion dedicated towards improvements of air traffic control facilities.

5. FAA Southwest Regional Office ADO Update, Jessica Bryan, Federal Aviation Administration

Jessica Bryan is the program manager with the Southwest Regional Airports Division and District Offices (ADOs). She spoke primarily on the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill (BIL), also referred to as Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). The BIL is a huge infrastructure package, a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to bring infrastructure up to current modernization, bringing equity in transportation, helping to fight climate change, strengthen the supply chain and creating jobs across all modes of transportation. BIL provided \$25 billion over five years to the FAA. She further delineated available funding opportunities, the amounts available, the number of projects submitted for each, and what airports in the state of Texas were awarded and how much they received per category.

6. TxDOT Aviation Update

Jim Halley announced that the Aviation Capital Improvement Program (ACIP) was formally approved by the Texas Transportation Commission. Over three years, \$212 million (\$151M in federal funds, \$30m State funds, just under \$31 million in local funds) is programmed for general aviation airport improvement projects. The Aviation Program Overview is a supplemental document of the ACIP. It explains Funding; Coordination, Project Development, and the CIP Cycle; New Facility Information and Project Database; the Texas Airport System Plan; and offers New Resource Documents. The documents can be found at www.txdot.gov/projects

7. **DBE as a Prime** (This will be presented at a future ATAC meeting.)

8. NCTCOG Aviation/UAS Update, Ernest Huffman, NCTCOG

Regional Airport Funding Update

Ernest provided the regional funding report the Texas Transportation Commission updates every month. To date, the State has received just over \$91 million, with just over \$11 million for the DFW region.

Aviation Planning and Education Program Update

Ernest listed the several grants NCTCOG was applying for in the upcoming fiscal year, including the North Central Texas General Aviation and Heliport System Plan; the FAA Aviation Workforce Development Grant; and the Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) grant program. The Urban Weather Infrastructure Testbed for the DFW Metroplex is a new project being applied for.

Aviation Career Education

Ernest listed the upcoming outreach events, including Thinkers and Tinkers; a “Know Before you Fly” UAS Workshop; Girls in Aviation Day Dallas; and iWork Youth Career Exploration 2022. Ernest invited committee members to participate in the outreach events. He also asked for members to join the speaker’s bureau. Members could be scheduled to speak at events throughout the year to further aviation interest and education opportunities.

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality is hosting a call to discuss the proposed changes to the reclassification of the DFW region due to the inability to meet federal attainment for the pollutant ozone. Two outreach events are scheduled for September 6 and 7 for this call.

The next ATAC meeting is scheduled for December 9, 2022 at NCTCOG.

Meeting Participants

Voting Members in Attendance

Trent Ballard, Arlington Municipal Airport
Keith Barrett, Caddo Mills Airport
Christian Childs, Alliance Air
Haley Cuevas, Mineral Wells Airport
Mark Divita, Grand Prairie Municipal Airport
Rafael Garza, Dallas Executive Airport
Scott Gray, Denton Enterprise Airport
Ty Helton, Greenville Municipal Airport
Joel Jenkinson, Addison Airport
Eric Pratt, Mesquite Metro Airport
Pat Stewart, Granbury Regional Airport
Sharlette Wright, Cleburne Regional Airport

Non-Voting Members in Attendance

Jim Halley, TxDOT - Aviation
Joe Hammond, City of Fort Worth, Aviation
Chase Patterson, Denton Enterprise Airport
Marisa Sanchez, City of Dallas, Aviation
Bobby Waddle, Chair Emeritus
Brenda Weber, DFW International Airport

Others in Attendance

Jessica Bryan, Federal Aviation Administration
Heather Peet, Federal Aviation Administration
James McKenzie, KSA Engineers
Garrett Watson, Cleburne Regional Airport

NCTCOG Staff in Attendance

Natalie Bettger
Ernest Huffman
Nicole Johnson
Barbara Walsh