

North Central Texas Council of Governments

SUMMARY

North Texas Regional Integration of Sustainability Efforts (RISE) Coalition

April 13, 2020

9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Uber Conference Line

(817) 953-6828, www.uberconference.com/nctcogenv

1. **Welcome and Introductions.**

Tamara Cook (NCTCOG) welcomed everyone to the meeting and attendees introduced themselves. Tamara provided a background on the Stewardship Forum and how it led to the creation of North Texas Regional Integration of Sustainability Efforts (RISE) Coalition.

ACTION ITEMS

2. **Meeting Summary.** Review previous meeting summary.

The January 27, 2020, meeting summary was motioned for approval by Katherine Barnett, City of Denton, and the motion was seconded by Mendie White, City of Lewisville. It was approved by the all attendees with no dissent.

3. **North Texas RISE Coalition Bylaws Adoption.** The members will be asked to adopt Bylaws for the RISE Coalition.

Robert Smouse, City of Fort Worth, motioned for approval of the bylaws under the condition to include the discussed changes and Katherine Barnett, City of Denton, seconded the motion. The group agreed to have different levels of membership for the coalition and at a cost that is not prohibitive of smaller communities being able to join. Membership level of the Coalition will be reserved for local governments that are eligible to be a member of NCTCOG. The participant level will be reserved for industry and institutes of higher education.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

4. **Administrative Items.** Discussion of officer elections, membership roster, and membership expansion. The members discussed officer elections, membership roster, membership expansion and the new logo. Tamara Cook of NCTCOG informed the members that rebranding of RISE Coalition has been completed and official logos are ready. The group discussed when to elect officers and the eligibility criteria for appointments. Pharr Andrews, City of Dallas, pointed out that at this time there are four paying members (Dallas, Denton, Fort Worth and Plano) who are eligible to serve as officers. The group agreed to schedule a call with those members before the July meeting to discuss appointing officers with the goal of having officer elections by October 1st. The group discussed the membership roster for FY2021, membership expansion of paying participants, and agreed on sending out membership commitment emails. NCTCOG will develop a membership commitment timeline with a call for cost shares to go out in early January each year.

5. **Debrief of Regional Climate Action Plan Workshop.**

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Gennadii Prykhodko (NCTCOG) provided a debrief of the Regional Climate Action Plan Workshop that was held on February 26, 2020. The Greater Dallas Planning Council (GDPC), in partnership with the RISE Coalition, hosted the Climate Action Planning Workshop. Gennadii presented a summary of the workshop's evaluation questions that were completed by the attendees. Overall, the results of the survey showed that the event was successful in bringing people from public, private and the non-profit sector together in an effort to talk about climate related actions in the region. Those who completed the evaluations expressed that they found the event beneficial and would like to see more of such events in the future. NCTCOG will be following up with the answers to the write-in questions for the Coalition to review.

6. **Regional Greenhouse Gas Inventory.** The group will discuss the application to the Meadows Foundation and review the proposal for the Urban Sustainability Directors Network (USDN) grant in detail.

Vivek Thimmavajhala (NCTCOG) updated the Coalition on the progress made regarding the Meadows Foundation application that will be submitted to support development of a regional greenhouse gas inventory for North Texas. Tamara Cook (NCTCOG) provided an update on the proposal for the USDN Partners in Places grant. Proposals for this grant will be due in August 2020. Heather Merchant, the City of Plano, reminded the group about the importance of reviewing existing toolkits that are provided by USDN to avoid duplication of efforts. To assist NCTCOG in the preparation of the USDN proposal, a small group of USDN members volunteered to help. The small group will consist of Dallas, Denton, Farmers Branch, Lewisville, and Plano. NCTCOG will schedule this follow-up small group meeting in early May.

7. **FY 2021 Work Program.** In July, NCTCOG will bring forward a draft FY2021 Work Program for consideration and approval. The group will discuss the activities to be completed within the anticipated budget.

The group discussed the process for reviewing the FY2021 Work Program for review and comments. The draft FY2021 Work Program will be approved at the July meeting. NCTCOG will draft a timeline for review by the Coalition members that will provide the annual process and deadlines associated with approval of the budget, work program approvals, and payment deadlines. Membership Commitment email – NCTCOG will create a form to be sent out as a separate email to the potential FY2021 members.

INFORMATION ITEMS

8. **NCTCOG Updates as Time Permits.**

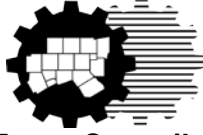
- RISE Calendar Updates – NCTCOG will be updating the calendar on the website in addition to making website updates to reflect the final Bylaws, presentation, and the attendee log.
- Lori Clark from (NCTCOG) presented information about the Civic Innovation Challenge funding opportunity from the National Science Foundation. An institute of higher education must lead the application. Information will be shared in the followup email for consideration by the Coalition members.
- NCTCOG provided an update to the Coalition on a tentative award for an EPA Trash Free Waters grant. More information will be shared with the Coalition as the award is finalized and the project gets underway.

OTHER BUSINESS

9. **Future Agenda Items.** Suggestions of future agenda items.

The FY2021 Work Plan, the Coalition logos, and a discussion of how the Coalition can leverage the data related to environmental changes due to the COVID 19 quarantine to make a stronger case for adoption of sustainability strategies will be added to the July meeting agenda.

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10. **Roundtable.** Members are asked to share what is happening in their communities.
11. **Next Meeting Date.** The next RISE Committee meetings is scheduled for Monday, July 27, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Location TBD.
12. **Adjournment.**

If you have any questions regarding the meeting or agenda items, please contact Tamara Cook at (817) 695-9221 or tcook@nctcog.org. If you plan to attend this public meeting and you have a disability that requires special arrangements at the meeting, please contact department staff at (817) 695-9210 or EandD@nctcog.org at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting. Reasonable accommodations will be made to assist your needs.

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