PUBLIC COMMENTS REPORT

WRITTEN COMMENTS SUBMITTED BY WEBSITE, EMAIL & SOCIAL MEDIA

Purpose

The public comments report is in accordance with the NCTCOG Transportation Department Public Participation Plan, which became effective June 1, 1994, as approved by the Regional Transportation Council (RTC), the transportation policy board for the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and amended on Nov. 10, 2022.

This report is a compilation of general public comments submitted by members of the public from Monday, Nov. 20 through Tuesday, Dec. 19. Comments and questions are submitted for the record and can be submitted via Facebook, Twitter, fax, email, online and in person at the monthly RTC meeting.

This month, public comments were received on a number of topics across social media platforms and via email. Comments related to safety were in the majority.

In addition, comments can be submitted through Map Your Experience, the Transportation Department's online mapping tool. The tool allows users to drop a pin on a location in the region and leave a detailed comment. The tool received 5 new comments related to bicycle and pedestrian conditions. You can view these new comments as well as past comments by visiting http://nctcoggis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/CrowdsourceReporter/index.html?appid=b014e6d39b60 4b3ca329d9094ed1e9e2.

Air Quality

<u>Twitter –</u>

1. NCTCOG is collaborating with local stakeholders to develop a comprehensive Air Quality Improvement Plan. The plan will create a roadmap to improve air quality & protect public health. Please provide feedback at http://publicinput.com/dfwAQIP or in person on December 4th. — Dallas Climate Action (@DallasClimate)



2. @DallasCountyTx is seeking your input on ways to improve air quality, protect public health, & address extreme weather events! This feedback will help our DFW Air Quality Improvement Plan, a regional plan developed by @NCTCOGtrans.

Provide feedback-> <u>http://publicinput.com/dfwAQIP-survey</u> — Clay Lewis Jenkins (@JudgeClayJ)



Facebook –

1. We want your feedback on ways to improve regional air quality! — NCTCOG Transportation Department



Ban outdoor smoking. — Marty King

Alternative Fuel Vehicles

Twitter -

1. Data from @NCTCOGtrans — Luke Metzger (@Lukemetzger)



Bicycle/Pedestrian/Sustainable Development

Twitter -

1. Great morning to get outside We dedicated @NorthavenTrail bridge over 75 today. You can now take northhaven trail to cottonwood, white rock lake,santa fe trail, downtown + several others! Thanks to our partners @NCTCOGtrans @CityOfDallas @TxDOT @DallasCoTrails @DallasCountyTx — Clay Lewis Jenkins (@JudgeClayJ)



Didn't Clay get his Tesla stuck on the bridge a few weeks ago? Clay it is pedestrian only bridge! That includes EVs! — Nate Weymouth (@NateWeymouth)



Lay tagged 2 dormant county twitter accounts @DallasCoTrails @DallasCountyTx pretending the county has a social media presence — Cynic1234 (@cdsheetrs)

Clay, did you drive across the trail in your Tesla or do donuts on a motorcycle? — Cynic1234 (@cdsheetrs)

2. What a beautiful morning to officially open the @NorthavenTrail bridge! Thanks to @TxDOTDallas, @CityOfDallas, @DallasParkRec, Dallas County, @NCTCOGtrans, FoNHT, and all the agencies who collaborated to make this a reality. The bridge is awesome! #DallasParks #DallasTrails — Jeff Kitner (@JeffKitner)



3. Celebrating the completion of the new Northaven Trail Bridge, a 201-foot-long pedestrian bridge that connects the @NorthavenTrail to the White Rock Creek Trail and Cottonwood Creek Trail. — Senator Nathan Johnson (@NathanForTexas)



Thank you to the @CityOfDallas, Dallas County, @DallasParkRec, @NCTCOG_Official, @TxDOT, and Friends of @NorthavenTrail for providing a safe recreational area for pedestrians, cyclists, and joggers to enjoy. #TXLege#SD16 — Senator Nathan Johnson (@NathanForTexas)



4. Updates on @NorthavenTrail bridge surrounding infrastructure:

-Trash cans/dog waste stations installed by @DallasParkRec -More "No Motor Vehicles" signage from @TxDOTDallas Still to come:

-Improved road/bike lane barrier

-Better road/bike lane deviation signs from @CityOfDallas — Jeff Kitner (@JeffKitner)



High-Speed Transportation

<u>Twitter –</u>

1. U.S. House rail committee hears from Austin Mayor @KirkPWatson on need for intercity passenger rail in Texas Triangle. DFW-Austin-San Antonio pax rail corridor is "low handing fruit". https://texasrailadvocates.org/post/austin-mayor-kirk-watson-on-us-house-transpo-pax-rail-hearing-texas-needs-intercity-passenger-rail-corridors @TxDOT @TxDOTCommission @AndyBrownATX @NCTCOGtrans — Peter J LeCody (@railadvo)



2. U.S. House rail committee hears from Austin Mayor @KirkPWatson on need for intercity passenger rail in Texas Triangle. DFW-Austin-San Antonio pax rail corridor is "low handing fruit". https://texasrailadvocates.org/post/austin-mayor-kirk-watson-on-us-house-transpo-pax-rail-hearing-texas-needs-intercity-passenger-rail-corridors @TxDOT @TxDOTCommission @AndyBrownATX @NCTCOGtrans — Texas Rail Advocates (@TXRailAdvocates)



3. Federal Corridor ID Rail Grants awarded to @TxDOT, @Amtrak, @NCTCOGtrans to develop passenger rail plans. Details: <u>https://texasrailadvocates.org/post/texas-scores-in-federal-passenger-rail-corridor-grants</u> — Peter J LeCody (@railadvo)



4. Federal Corridor ID Rail Grants awarded to @TxDOT, @Amtrak, @NCTCOGtrans to develop passenger rail plans. Now let's Connect Texas. Details:

https://texasrailadvocates.org/post/texas-scores-in-federal-passenger-rail-corridor-grants — Texas Rail Advocates (@TXRailAdvocates)



5. Is Brightline Texas on the horizon? <u>https://texasrailadvocates.org/post/after-brightline-florida-and-soon-brightline-west-could-there-be-brightline-texas</u> @GoBrightline @TravisCoJudge @KirkPWatson @TxDOT @NCTCOGtrans — Peter J LeCody (@railadvo)



6. Is Brightline Texas on the horizon? https://texasrailadvocates.org/post/after-brightline-floridaand-soon-brightline-west-could-there-be-brightline-texas @GoBrightline @TravisCoJudge @KirkPWatson @TxDOT @NCTCOGtrans — Texas Rail Advocates (@TXRailAdvocates)



Let's hope so! — Clayton Meeker (@Clm1403)

Rideshare/Carpool

<u>Twitter –</u>

1. Irony: The prize for signing up for a carpool-vanpool-public transit sharing site is 2 tickets to the transit-deprived Dallas Cowboys @clarencehilljr — Bud Kennedy / #ReadLocal (@BudKennedy)

NCTCOGTransportation @NCTCOGtrans · Dec 14

Are you a Cowboys fan? Enter the Try Parking It drawing to win 2 tickets to the Dec. 30 Detroit Lions vs. Dallas Cowboys game at the AT&T Stadium in Arlington, TX. Create an account at TryParkinglt.com and enter to win! Winners will be chosen on Dec. 20, so don't delay!



COWBOYS VS. LIONS WIN 2 TICKETS

<u>Roadways</u>

Email –

1. John Donaghey, AIA-E

Dear NCTCOG, You are aware of the impossible traffic during the rush hours and how it is being impacted by the new construction of road improvements. An obvious aid for this situation is one used in Oregon. Limiting the number of new county residents would place a governor on the ever increasing strain on our infrastructure. Success is strangling the County. I thank my lucky stars everyday that I am retired and not required to participate in the rush hour traffic jambs. Here is Oregon's solution to urban sprawl. Some open space would be desirable over covering every spare area of land. Good for the air quality too.

https://www.wbur.org/hereandnow/2016/05/16/urban-sprawl-portland Thank you for the opportunity to add my two cents. John Donaghey AIA

Response by NCTCOG Transportation Staff:

Mr. Donaghey, Thank you for contacting the NCTCOG Transportation Department. Your comments will be provided to the Regional Transportation Council and have been shared with our roadway planning team for their consideration. Thank you.

<u>Safety</u>

<u>Twitter –</u>

1. Congrats to @CityOfDallas, Dept of Transportation & @NCTCOGtrans for securing this grant which will have a major impact on safety. I believe we should prioritize fixing our most dangerous streets based on safety data, not district #. — Cara Mendelsohn(@caraathome)



Facebook –

1. Traveling for Thanksgiving? AAA predicts this will be one of the busiest years for holiday travel across the US! 3.7 million Texans are expected to be on the roads this week, so stay safe and #DriveAware! For driving tips and resources, visit driveawarentx.org — NCTCOG Transportation Department



Somebody take me with you! - Tim Norton

2. From 2018-2022, more than 80,000 crashes in North Texas were the result of distracted driving. It's not worth your life. — NCTCOG Transportation Department



As a truck driver I see plenty of people swerving and then when I am passing them there is a phone in their hand, especially those who try to hide it at their crotch (those are the most dangerous). This is not just car drivers but truck drivers as well. A Window Mount might cost \$20 and it will help you with the GPS functions when you need it. There are a few applications where you can do hands free texting, phone calls, or making your map program work for you. — Michael Harrington

so true — Edward Dent

ITS MY CAR AND I WILL TEXT AND LOOK AT FACEBOOK WHILE I DRIVE IT IF I WANT! CUZ I BELIEVE FREEDOM! — Pichael Mack

3. From 2018-2022, more than 80,000 crashes in North Texas were the result of distracted driving. It's not worth your life. — NCTCOG Transportation Department



But its worth that DoorDash tip — Shang Frazier

4. This week is Older Driver Safety Awareness Week. #DidYouKnow that in 2021, older drivers (age 65+) made up 21% of all licensed drivers in the United States? How to drive safely is a lifelong conversation and is especially important for aging adults. Begin talking about safe driving in general long before you notice difficulties. Remember: It is a person's driving performance, not age, that determines fitness to drive. Learn more: NHTSA.gov/OlderDrivers #ODSAW — NCTCOG Transportation Department



How about the people coming over the border no driver's license or insurance just good old paper plates..... And you are worried about senior s..... — Jere Tucker





Make it illegal for cops to use cell phones and laptops while driving if it is as dangerous as you claim. — Cooper Gatewood

There is only one way to know where you are going. And that is to look at your GPS. Smh. This ad is pointless — Chase Albright

Then stop making such great content. Can't help but comment on this while I drive — Samuel Smith

6. From 2018-2022, more than 80,000 crashes in North Texas were the result of distracted driving. It's not worth your life. — NCTCOG Transportation Department



if we arent meant to eat while driving, why are there cup holders and drive thrus? 😕 im not eating no cold fries lol — Jorge A. Valentin

Would really like to see drivers have to requalify for the privilege to operate on the roads. It hasnt been long on the road for me but god, seeing someone merge onto the freeway at 35mph is just insane. — Joshua Olesiak

Eating a burger has never killed someone else. Let's replace that with women taking selfies while driving, people in general texting while driving. Never heard of a hit and run burger eater — Tony Porter

Instagram –

1. From 2018-2022, more than 80,000 crashes in North Texas were the result of distracted driving. It's not worth your life. — NCTCOG Transportation (@nctcogtrans)



I'm going to play Clash Royale[™] and drive — rouxsauced (@rouxsauced)

2. How to drive safely is a lifelong conversation and is especially important for aging adults. Begin talking about safe driving in general long before you notice difficulties. Remember: It is a person's driving performance, not age, that determines fitness to drive. Learn more: NHTSA.gov/OlderDrivers #ODSAW — NCTCOG Transportation (@nctcogtrans)



NCT MENTIONED!?! ******!!**(**) — twnnitus (@twnnitus)

<u>Transit</u>

<u>Email –</u>

1. Phil Waigand

Have used and highlighted the TRE often as a place to show " Communities Coming Together". For example, having the FW, Arlington & Dallas Boys & Girls Club joining up at CentrePort. So you the East & West TRE arriving at about the same time at CentrePort. So have an Arlington Boys & Girls Club representatives welcoming both East & West TREs at CentrePort. Then , have all 3 cities take a shuttle to the nearby hotel for a joint luncheon. This idea could work with churches, synagogues and other business/ civic groups. It is very doable and highlights the Metroplex & Transportation in a positive light. Thanks for listening

Response by NCTCOG Transportation Staff:

Mr. Waigand, Thank you for contacting the NCTCOG Transportation Department. Your comments will be provided to the Regional Transportation Council and have been shared with our transit team. Thank you.

<u>Other</u>

Facebook –

1. Wishing you safe travels and a wonderful #Thanksgiving holiday! — NCTCOG Transportation Department



This is traffic daily in Parker County! - Eric Hagre



Lonnie Blaydes are you still donning the suit? Nice to see your Santa legacy still

chugging along. 🎄 😇 🎄 🤠 — Cinde Weatherby

2.