

AGENDA

**Regional Transportation Council
Thursday, December 8, 2022
North Central Texas Council of Governments**

**1:00 pm Full RTC Business Agenda
(NCTCOG Guest Secured Wireless Connection Password: rangers!)**

Pledge to the United States and Texas Flags

- 1:00 – 1:10**
1. **Opportunity for Public Comment on Today's Agenda**
 Information Minutes: 10
Item Summary: Members of the public may comment on any item(s) on today's agenda at this time. If speaking, please complete a Speaker Request Card, available at the meeting, and provide to the North Central Texas Council of Governments designated staff person. A maximum three (3) minutes is permitted per speaker. At the conclusion of this item, no further opportunities for public comment will be provided for the duration of the meeting.
Background: N/A
- 1:10 – 1:15**
2. **Approval of November 10, 2022, Minutes**
 Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 5
Presenter: Duncan Webb, RTC Chair
Item Summary: Approval of the November 10, 2022, meeting minutes contained in Electronic Item 2 will be requested.
Background: N/A
- 1:15 – 1:20**
3. **Consent Agenda**
 Action Possible Action Information Minutes : 5
 - 3.1. **Regional Transportation Council Local Funds Requested as Match on Department of Energy-Funded Projects**
Presenter: Lori Clark, NCTCOG
Item Summary: Staff will request approval to use Regional Transportation Council (RTC) Local funds to satisfy match requirements for two Department of Energy (DOE) proposals and a State Energy Conservation Office (SECO) project.
Background: The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) has been asked to partner on six proposals competing for funding through the Department of Energy's Fiscal Year 2022 Vehicle Technologies Office Program Wide Funding Opportunity (DE-FOA-0002611). As a partner, NCTCOG would be a subrecipient for funding. Two of the proposals require matching funds, totaling up to \$300,000 in match for up to \$300,000 in federal funds. RTC Local funds will be requested to satisfy these match requirements. The North Central Texas

Council of Governments (NCTCOG) stands to receive federal funds with no match requirement on the other four proposals. In addition, NCTCOG has been awarded \$200,000 in DOE funds by SECO to continue regional energy management work. This is a continuation of work completed collaboratively by the NCTCOG Transportation Department and Environment and Development Departments which began four years ago. The award and resulting work will be split between the departments to further energy efficiency and renewable energy efforts in the region. The award of \$200,000 federal funds requires match of \$40,000. Both the award and match will be shared equally between departments. Up to \$20,000 RTC Local funds will be requested. More information is available in Electronic Item 3.1.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Air Quality, Transit

1:20 – 1:35

4. **Orientation to Agenda/Director of Transportation Report**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 15
Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG

1. Final Regional Transportation Council Bylaws (Electronic Item 4.1)
2. Final Regional Transportation Council Legislative Program (Handout)
3. Medal Of Honor – Museum Partnership Program: Leadership Institute (Handout)
4. Ribbon Cutting IH 35 E – Southern Gateway
5. Groundbreaking For Southeast Connector
6. Upcoming Transit Studies Project Advisories Committee Meetings (www.nctcog.org/transitstudies)
7. Air Quality Funding Opportunities for Vehicles (www.nctcog.org/aqfunding)
8. Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Events (<https://www.dfwcleancities.org/events>)
9. Local Clean Air Project Spotlight (Electronic Item 4.2)
10. November Public Meeting Minutes (Electronic Item 4.3)
11. December Public Meeting Notice (Electronic Item 4.4)
12. Public Comments Report (Electronic Item 4.5)
13. Recent Correspondence (Electronic Item 4.6)
14. Recent News Articles (Electronic Item 4.7)
15. Recent Press Releases (Electronic Item 4.8)

1:35 – 1:45

5. **Emergency Funding: Backstop Funding for Transit Cooperative Vehicle Procurement**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenters: Michael Morris, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request ratification of emergency funding authorization for a temporary backstop for the Transit Cooperative Vehicle Procurement (CVP) to secure vehicle prices and avoid an additional price increase.

Background: The Regional Transportation Council (RTC) previously approved Federal Transit Administration funding to design, manufacture, and deliver over 60 light-duty buses and small transit vehicles to support urban transportation services. On June 24, 2021, the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG’s) Executive Board approved a contract with Creative Bus Sales, Inc. for the purchase of the transit vehicles. As staff began finalizing work orders for the vehicles, it was discovered that the funding was programmed incorrectly, which requires a Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) modification before all work orders can be released. Staff is currently working through the needed TIP modifications and anticipates resolution in January 2023; however, Creative Bus Sales, Inc. notified NCTCOG in October 2022 of an additional price increase for work orders released after November 30, 2022. Due to ongoing supply chain issues resulting in previous price increases, any additional price increase will require NCTCOG to resolicit the procurement causing severe delays and an undue burden on all small transit providers. Staff requests ratification of emergency funding utilizing existing Regional Toll Revenue (RTR) and RTC Local funds in an amount not to exceed \$1,500,000 as a temporary backstop to fund the Transit Cooperative Vehicle Procurement to prevent additional vehicle price increases and further vehicle delivery delays. More details can be found in Electronic Item 5.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative, Transit

1:45 – 1:55

6. **Regional Transportation Council/Dallas Area Rapid Transit Federal and Local Funding Partnership**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Christie Gotti, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of a proposed federal/local partnership with Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART).

Background: The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) needs a source of local funds to pay expenses for federal projects/programs prior to federal reimbursement. With the award of multiple federal discretionary grants to the region, the payment sizes have become significantly larger. In addition, NCTCOG would like to expand the pool of RTC Local funds to allow the RTC to expedite projects and programs. To address these needs, a federal/local funding partnership is being proposed between the RTC and DART. The partnership will

assist DART with its recently approved arrangement to send approximately \$234 million back to member cities by allowing the higher of two payment amounts to be returned to each city. It costs \$19.674 million to pay the higher amount to each city and the proposal is for the RTC to cover these costs, while DART agrees to provide additional local funds to help with federal reimbursement issues and to increase the funds in the RTC Local pool. It also formalizes the funding exchange on two parking garage projects previously funded by the RTC. Additional details can be found in Electronic Item 6.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Air Quality, Transit

1:55 – 2:05

7. **Milestone Policy Update and Fiscal Year 2022 Project Tracking Wrap Up/Fiscal Year 2023 Kickoff**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Brian Dell, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) with a status report on the Milestone Policy Round 2 and FY2022 & FY2023 Project Tracking projects. RTC approval of the updated deadline proposed for the Conflans Road project will be requested.

Background: The Milestone Policy was adopted by the RTC to focus on projects that have been funded for more than 10 years and have not gone to construction. By highlighting these projects, the policy creates agency accountability to implement projects in a timely manner. Staff coordinates with implementing agencies to assess project risk until they go to construction. Similarly, the annual project tracking effort focuses on projects slated for implementation in fiscal years 2022 and 2023. Projects are monitored early, allowing staff to highlight potential problems that could lead to delays, which enables the RTC to take corrective actions to avoid building up carryover balances in federal funding categories. Milestone Policy status updates, along with the latest risk ratings, can be found in Electronic Item 7.1. FY2022 and FY2023 Project Tracking status updates can be found in Electronic Items 7.2 and 7.3. Details on the status reports can be found in Electronic Item 7.4.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative

2:05 – 2:15

8. **Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program Call for Projects Funding Recommendations**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Kevin Kokes, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide information regarding the Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program, an overview of the applications received, and the evaluation process. A recommendation of projects to select for funding will also be provided and action requested.

Background: The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) opened the Call for Projects for the Urbanized Area of the

North Central Texas region on July 18, 2022, and applications were due on September 9, 2022. Projects eligible under this program include the construction of on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, multi-modal connections to rail stations and schools, education activities promoting students to walk and bike to school, and pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure that will substantially improve safety. Project scoring was based on project eligibility and a methodology for project evaluation as previously approved by the Regional Transportation Council. Electronic Item 8.1 provides additional information. Electronic Item 8.2 reflects project evaluations and recommended funding awards.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Bike/Ped+, Safety

2:15 – 2:25

9. **Automated Vehicles 2.1: Regional Planning Exercise for Local Partners**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Clint Hail, NCTCOG

Item Summary: The Automated Vehicles 2.1 planning exercise recently completed, and staff will brief the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) on the key deliverables and findings of the project. Staff will also invite local governments to host in-depth briefings with staff and colleagues from their respective agencies. Materials, reports, and findings can be found online at: www.connectntxfutures.org.

Background: In October 2018, the RTC approved the three-part Automated Vehicles Program 2.0, which includes the AV2.1 project. AV2.1 is a planning exercise designed to help the region prepare for higher levels of automation in the transportation sector (e.g., automated vehicles). In 2021, through a procurement a team was selected to assist staff in the planning process. At that time, Committee members were invited to participate as part of the Project Advisory Committee. In September, the contract completed its 18-month term. Electronic Item 9.1 contains additional information. Electronic Item 9.2 provides an executive summary and key takeaways.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Roadway

2:25 – 2:35

10. **Status Of Conformity Determination – Lapse Grace Period**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Jenny Narvaez, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will inform the Regional Transportation Council of the current status and future outlook regarding the region's latest Transportation Conformity Analysis.

Background: Transportation conformity is the process in nonattainment areas which ensures federal funding approvals are given to highway and transit activities that are consistent with air quality goals. The latest conformity analysis for Mobility 2045: The Metropolitan Transportation Plan for North

Central Texas – 2022 Update was locally approved on June 9, 2022. This local conformity approval is followed by an interagency consultation review leading to a US Department of Transportation (USDOT) Transportation Conformity Determination (Determination). Per regulation, a Determination was required by November 21, 2022. Electronic Item 10.1, dated November 17, 2022, is notice by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) that a one-year conformity lapse grace period was likely to begin on November 22, 2022, due to FHWA not completing its review. A conformity lapse grace period prevents the advancement of new or modified transportation projects in the Mobility 2045 – 2022 Update. For further information see Electronic Item 10.2.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Air Quality, Transit

2:35 – 2:40

11. **End of 2022 Ozone Season**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 5

Presenter: Jenny Narvaez, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide a summary of the 2022 ozone season activity and other air quality updates for the Dallas-Fort Worth (DFW) region. The ozone season is from March 1 to November 30, 2022.

Background: The end of November concluded another ozone season for the DFW region. Staff has been tracking the exceedance days at each monitor and will provide a summary of the 2022 ozone season data for the North Central Texas 9- and 10-county nonattainment areas, compare against previous ozone seasons, and provide a snapshot for the 2023 ozone season. Effective November 7, 2022, the region was reclassified for failure to meet the latest attainment goals of both the 2008 and 2015 ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). Federal, State, and local efforts to reduce emissions will be highlighted. For further information see Electronic Item 11.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Air Quality

2:40 – 2:50

12. **Parking Management Resources**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Karla Windsor, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will introduce available resources that can assist local governments with managing parking challenges and ask for feedback on future technical tools and information that is needed.

Background: The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) parking management program provides information on strategic management of new and existing parking that can help improve transportation and land use outcomes in North Texas. The program has developed several existing tools and resources, including a parking

management toolbox, best practices in district management, and curb management guide. These are available at www.NCTCOG.org/Parking. Other projects currently in development include a regional parking utilization study database and other technical assistance guides. Going forward NCTCOG staff would like input from local governments on priority regional parking management challenges and desired technical tools and guides. Additional details provided in Electronic Item 12.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Air Quality, Roadway

2:50 – 2:55

13. **Walk To School Day Promotion 2022**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 5

Presenter: Karla Windsor, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide an overview of the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) 2022 Walk to School Day promotional efforts and the results of the events held at participating schools.

Background: Walk to School Day is a national event where students from across the nation walk to school on the same day. Students that walk or bike to school show up more alert and ready to learn. Walk to School Day and similar events generate excitement and interest in the community around the importance of pedestrian and bicyclist safety on our roadways, as well as the benefits of active transportation to school. NCTCOG provided safety-related prizes and promotional items to schools to generate excitement and incentivize participation for numerous schools in the region. The Dallas-Fort Worth region accounted for over half of the registered Walk to School Day events in Texas. Electronic Item 13 contains additional details.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Bike/Ped+, Safety

14. **Progress Reports**

Action Possible Action Information

Item Summary: Progress Reports are provided in the items below.

- RTC Attendance (Electronic Item 14)

15. **Other Business (Old or New):** This item provides an opportunity for members to bring items of interest before the group.

16. **Future Agenda Items:** This item provides an opportunity for members to bring items of future interest before the Council.

17. **Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the Regional Transportation Council is scheduled for ***1:00 pm on January 12, 2023, in the Transportation Council Room.***