

AGENDA

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE Friday, January 28, 2022 North Central Texas Council of Governments

1:30 pm Full STTC Business Agenda (Videoconference)

1:30 – 1:35

1. **Approval of December 3, 2021, Minutes**
 Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 5
Presenter: Tanya Brooks, STTC Chair
Item Summary: Approval of the December 3, 2021, meeting minutes contained in Electronic Item 1 will be requested.
Background: N/A

1:35 – 1:40

2. **Consent Agenda**
 Action Possible Action Information Minutes : 5

2.1. **Federal Functional Classification System Amendment**

Presenter: Brian Flood, NCTCOG
Item Summary: Staff will request a recommendation for Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of two amendments to the currently approved Federal Functional Classification System (FFCS).
Background: While inclusion in the FFCS is based on a roadway's purpose and functioning capabilities, it is also used to determine eligibility for federal funding. Amendments to the FFCS occur as the function of an existing roadway changes, or as roadways need to be added due to construction, new developments, and shifts in demographic trends. Staff is currently working with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) on two proposed FFCS amendments within the Dallas and Fort Worth TxDOT districts. Both amendments involve the construction of new roadways which are included in the current Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The Surface Transportation Technical Committee will be asked to recommend these amendments for RTC consideration at its February 2022 meeting. Additional information can be found in Electronic Items 2.1.1 and 2.1.2.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Safety, Roadway

2.2. **Traffic Incident Management Regional Transportation Council Local Funds for Farmersville**

Presenter: Camille Fountain, NCTCOG
Item Summary: Staff will request approval of \$8,264.70 in Regional Transportation Council (RTC) local funding to fund the City of Farmersville Incident Management Trailer.

Background: In support of the North Central Texas Council of Governments' Traffic Incident Management Training Program, the 2020 Incident Management Equipment Purchase Call for Projects (CFP) made Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program funds available for the purchase of equipment and technology to be used to mitigate traffic incidents in the North Central Texas Nonattainment Area. In July 2020, the RTC approved the project recommendations submitted as part of the 2020 Incident Management Equipment Purchase CFP. Due to the City of Farmersville not meeting federal procurement requirements, staff is requesting to fund the City of Farmersville Incident Management Trailer with RTC local funds. Additional information on this funding source request is provided in Electronic Item 2.2.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Safety

1:40 – 1:50

3. **MPO Milestone Policy Update**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Brian Dell, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request a recommendation for Regional Transportation Council (RTC) action on the recommendations for three projects and provide the Committee with an update on the status of the Milestone Policy Round 2 projects that have not let for construction.

Background: The MPO Milestone Policy was adopted by the RTC to ensure that projects that have been funded for more than 10 years and have not gone to construction are being implemented in a timely manner. In February 2021, the RTC took action on the second round of the Milestone Policy, including a project tracking process and revised set of policy procedures. Staff coordinates with implementing agencies to assess project risk on all Milestone Policy projects until they go to construction. The responses are reviewed and a rating is assigned to each project. Action is being requested on several projects, including revising deadlines for two projects and removing federal funding on another at the request of the implementing agency.

Status updates on each project, along with their latest ratings, can be found in Electronic Item 3.1. Details on the MPO Milestone Policy and the proposed action items can be found in Electronic Item 3.2.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Roadway, Transit

1:50 – 2:00

4. **Automated Vehicles Program 2.2: Round 2 Projects and Supplemental Round 3 Projects**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Clint Hail, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff seeks approval of a second round of projects recommended for funding under the consolidated Automated Vehicles Program, including supplemental round 3 projects.

Background: In October 2018, the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approved Automated Vehicle Program 2.0, which included \$10 million for assisting local partners in hosting automated vehicle deployments (AV2.2) and \$20 million for AV deployments to explore use cases that further regional priorities (AV2.3). In November 2020, with the funding now available, the RTC approved the application process and selection criteria for the consolidated program. In December 2020 staff held an information session for Committee members, followed by a request to the Committee for approval of the first round of projects in June 2021. From August until mid-November 2021, staff provided technical assistance to local partners considering applications for the second round of proposals, including a general information session and consultation on project ideas. Projects recommended for advancement include telemedicine solutions using automated vehicle platforms in McKinney and South Dallas; expanding a current on-demand shuttle service in Arlington; an automated parking/curb management test bed at DFW Airport; and adding technology-related elements to the Lancaster Avenue project in Fort Worth and improvements to zip code 76104.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Roadway, Safety

2:00 – 2:10

5. **Regional Vanpool Program Vehicle Revised Partnership**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Gypsy Gavia, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request Surface Transportation Technical Committee (STTC) recommendation for Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval for temporary Regional Vanpool Program modifications due to an inadequate supply of vans.

Background: The North Central Texas Regional Vanpool Program is operated by Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART), Denton County Transportation Authority (DCTA), and Trinity Metro and achieves many regional benefits including lowering emissions by removing single occupant vehicles off the road. On May 13, 2021, the Regional Transportation Council approved various program modifications to the North Central Texas Regional Vanpool Program including defining transit agency boundaries, allowing temporary flexibility to the subsidy funding structure, and pursuing a regional cooperative vanpool procurement to create a more unified program. This program has significant air quality benefits essential to air quality conformity.

DART recently informed NCTCOG that their current vanpool contractor is unable to meet their obligations to DART and is

not able to secure vehicles for the program due to supply chain issues created by the ongoing pandemic and related semiconductor chip shortage on newer vehicles. DART and their vanpool contractor are terminating their contract. To meet current air quality commitments, staff has been working with all three transit agencies to ensure there are no gaps in service or coverage for the North Central Texas Regional Vanpool Program. Staff is requesting recommendation for RTC approval for DCTA and Trinity Metro to replace the current service provided by DART.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative, Transit

2:10 – 2:20

6. **2045 Demographic Forecast and Mobility 2045 Update**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Dan Kessler and Amy Johnson, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide a brief summary on the completion of the 2045 Demographic Forecast. In addition, an overview of efforts to update Mobility 2045, including the updated draft financial forecast, will be provided.

Background: Efforts are coming to a close on the development of the 2045 Demographic Forecasts as the local government review and comment period has ended. Based on input received, the demographic forecasts are being finalized and transitioned for use by the Mobility 2045 Plan Update Team. Mobility 2045 was adopted by the Regional Transportation Council on June 14, 2018. Federal guidelines require the Dallas-Fort Worth region to update the long-range transportation plan a minimum of every four years. Development of the Mobility 2045 Update is currently underway which will include a new financial plan and necessary refinements to projects in the current Mobility 2045 plan.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Roadway, Transit

2:20 – 2:30

7. **Director of Transportation Report on Selected Items**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide an overview of current transportation items.

Background: Efforts continue to advance transportation in the region. Staff will highlight the following:

- Regional Transportation Council's focus for 2022: The Year of Doing
- Director recommends continuing with electronic materials for 2022 STTC meetings
- Future role of certification facilities interested in coming to Dallas-Fort Worth region
- Slotting of DFW transportation projects in anticipation of federal Notice of Funding Opportunities

- US Army Corp of Engineers funding of the Downtown Trinity Bypass Channel
- Action on the Dallas-Fort Worth High-Speed Transportation Connections Study (Action Item 10)

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative

2:30 – 2:40

8. Changing Mobility: Data, Insights, and Delivering Innovative Projects During COVID Recovery

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide a summary of current performance metrics related to the impacts of COVID-19 to the transportation system and highlight how those metrics have changed over time.

Background: Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and recovery process, staff developed and tracked performance metrics related to: 1) travel behavior response to COVID-19, 2) financial implications to traditional revenue sources, 3) benefits of travel behavior responses to areas of Regional Transportation Council responsibility, and 4) prioritization of infrastructure improvements that offset unemployment increases. A summary of these performance metrics will be provided.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Roadway, Transit

2:40 – 2:50

9. SH 183 Segment 2E Design Cost Contingency

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Ken Kirkpatrick, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide a status update on the Regional Transportation Council financial backstop for SH 183 Segment 2E design costs.

Background: Staff has been working to advance SH 183 Segment 2E as the next phase of the North Tarrant Express (NTE). Cintra has an interest in certain capacity improvements to Segment 2E as a change order under the Comprehensive Development Agreement for the NTE. In June 2020, the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approved a \$3 million financial backstop to permit Cintra to proceed with the design elements for Segment 2E, pending the Texas Department of Transportation formally issuing a "Request for Change Proposal." The backstop trigger date has been extended to February 28, 2022. Additionally, the RTC requested a letter of support be sent to the Legislative Budget Board to advance Segment 2E. A map and latest financial information for the project is provided in Electronic Item 9.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Roadway, Safety

2:50 – 3:00

10. **Dallas-Fort Worth High-Speed Transportation Connections: Environmental Study**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Brendon Wheeler, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide an update on current Phase 2 activities and coordination efforts with the Federal Railroad Administration and the Federal Transit Administration as it pertains to the National Environmental Policy Act process. Staff will introduce content to develop a policy for RTC's consideration regarding advancement of hyperloop and high-speed rail in parallel processes.

Background: In April 2020, North Central Texas Council of Governments staff began work on the Dallas-Fort Worth High-Speed Transportation Connections Study with consultant assistance. The project is divided into two phases, the first being an alternatives analysis of high-speed modes and corridors. The second phase includes conceptual and preliminary engineering and a National Environmental Policy Act effort resulting in a federal government action identifying the project's next steps. Having completed Phase 1, staff and the consultant have initiated the conceptual engineering and carried forward the desires of RTC to advance both high-speed rail and hyperloop along the IH 30 corridor as described in Policy P21-01 (Policy Support to Advance the Dallas-Fort Worth High-Speed Transportation Connections Study into Phase 2). Policy P21-01 is provided as Electronic Item 10 and will be updated based on STTC comments for the Regional Transportation Council meeting.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Transit, Safety

3:00 – 3:10

11. **Safety Performance Targets Update**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Kevin Kroll, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide an update on the federally required regional Roadway Safety Performance regional targets for 2022 and compare 2020 actual observed performance to 2020 targets. Roadway Safety targets are focused on reducing serious injuries and fatalities for motorized and non-motorized travelers.

Background: In December 2015, the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act was signed into law. The FAST Act requires certain performance measures be included in the long-range metropolitan transportation planning process. These measures were established by a series of four rulemakings: Safety, Infrastructure Condition, System Performance/ Freight/Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality, and Transit Asset Management. In December 2017, the Regional Transportation Council adopted 2018 targets for Roadway Safety performance and in February 2019 affirmed that support through target year 2022. As the Metropolitan

Planning Organization for the North Central Texas region, the North Central Texas Council of Governments is required to set regional targets for Roadway Safety. These targets will be used to track and report on the region's performance through existing documents such as the Metropolitan Transportation Plan, the Transportation Improvement Program, and the State of the Region report. The proposed 2022 targets for Roadway Safety will be discussed along with the preliminary biennial report for 2020 targets vs. 2020 actual performance. Additional information will be provided at the meeting.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Safety

3:10 – 3:15

12. **Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Annual Survey**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 5

Presenter: Amy Hodges, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will present an update on the Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities (DFWCC) Coalition Annual Survey. Local fleets are asked to submit information on various alternative fuel and other fuel-saving practices by February 18, 2022.

Background: The North Central Texas Council of Governments has been the host organization for DFWCC, a US Department of Energy (DOE) initiative to reduce energy impacts in the transportation sector, since 1994. Clean Cities coalitions are required to complete annual reporting to DOE every March. The Coalition has a goal of increasing energy use impacts by 16 percent and greenhouse gas reductions by 20 percent year-over-year. In order to complete this report and meet these goals, DFWCC seeks information from local fleets about alternative fuel use and other fuel-saving activities. DFWCC also uses this data to highlight fleets that demonstrate excellence in their fleet reporting through a Fleet Recognition Program. The annual survey is now open and DFWCC is requesting participation from all local fleets.

Electronic Item 12 provides additional details. The survey is accessible at <https://www.dfwcleancities.org/annualreport>.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Air Quality

3:15 – 3:15

13. **Fast Facts**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 0

Item Summary: Staff presentations will not be made. Please reference the material provided for each of the following topics.

1. Title VI Program Update (www.nctcog.org/input)
2. Air Quality Funding Opportunities for Vehicles (www.nctcog.org/aqfunding)
3. Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Events (www.dfwcleancities.org)
4. Auto Occupancy/High-Occupancy Vehicle Quarterly Subsidy Report (Electronic Item 13.1)

5. Status Report on Texas Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Program Funding (Electronic Item 13.2)
 6. Local Government Energy Reporting (Electronic Item 13.3)
 7. December Online Input Opportunity Minutes (Electronic Item 13.4)
 8. February Public Meeting Notice (Electronic Item 13.5)
 9. Public Comments Report (Electronic Item 13.6)
14. **Other Business (Old or New):** This item provides an opportunity for members to bring items of interest before the group.
 15. **Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the Surface Transportation Technical Committee is scheduled for ***1:30 pm on February 25, 2022.***