FEDERAL/LOCAL FUNDING PARTNERSHIPS WITH DALLAS AREA RAPID TRANSIT AND CITY OF DALLAS

Public Meeting

March 2023



North Central Texas Council of Governments Transportation Department

BACKGROUND

- The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG)/Regional Transportation Council (RTC) is required to pay for expenses associated with projects and programs it implements before federal reimbursement can be requested.
- With the recent award of numerous federal discretionary grants that NCTCOG will be administering, the amount of funding needed to cash flow projects has increased significantly.
- NCTCOG would also like to expand the pool of RTC Local funds available to implement projects outside of the restrictive federal process.
- The RTC does not have taxing authority to generate revenue to pay these invoices and fund these projects, so a source of local dollars is needed.
- The "MPO Revolver Fund" and RTC Local funds are typically used for these purposes, but those funds are already committed, leading to the need for more local dollars.

BACKGROUND (CONT'D)

- In July 2022, the RTC directed staff to pursue a funding partnership with Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) or the City of Dallas to expand the Revolver Fund to cash flow federal grant projects and replenish the RTC Local funding pool.
- Two federal/local partnerships with DART and the City of Dallas are being finalized to accomplish these goals:
 - MPO Revolver and RTC Local Partnership with DART (approved December 2022)
 - Five Mile Creek Partnership with City of Dallas (pending)
- A third partnership with DART and the City of Dallas was approved in December 2022 to facilitate the construction of two parking garages.

MPO REVOLVER AND RTC LOCAL PARTNERSHIP WITH DART

- The DART Board recently approved a program to send approximately \$234 million back to its member cities.
- Two methods yielding different amounts were considered for how to disburse those funds: population and the proportion of sales tax paid to DART.
- To allow DART to return the higher of the two amounts to each city, a proposal was made for the RTC to provide federal funds to offset the difference between the two methods at a cost of \$19.674 million.
- In return for providing this solution and funding, an exchange of \$44 million in federal funds for \$40 million of local funds from DART was proposed and approved by the RTC in December 2022.
- The federal funds will be placed on the DART Silver Line.

PARKING GARAGE PARTNERSHIP WITH DART

- In July 2022, the RTC funded two parking garages in proximity to DART Stations.
 - Dallas Zoo Station Garage \$10 million
 - SMU/Mockingbird Station Garage \$20 million
- The RTC approved a federal-for-local funding exchange concept for either DART or Dallas to fund these projects with local dollars as parking garages are easier to implement with non-federal funds.
 - An exchange with DART was proposed and approved in December 2022.
 - Federal funding of \$30 million will be placed on the DART Silver Line Rail project.
 - DART will utilize \$30 million of DART local funds to implement the two garages.

FIVE MILE CREEK PARTNERSHIP WITH CITY OF DALLAS

- The City of Dallas approached NCTCOG regarding funding for part of the Five Mile Creek Trail and expressed interest in helping create local funds for the "MPO Revolver."
- The trail would provide critical connections to numerous parks, schools, transit facilities, and other trails throughout south Dallas.
- In return for \$15.4 million of federal funding for the project, the City would send \$10 million of local funds to the RTC.
- Sections 1, 2, and 4 of the trail would be designed and constructed with this funding.
- Contingent upon final City action



Source: City of Dallas

CONTACT/QUESTIONS?

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