

AGENDA

**Regional Transportation Council
Thursday, June 8, 2023
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 it to the North Central Texas Council of Governments designated staff person. A maximum of 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 May 11, 2023, Minutes**
 Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 5
Presenter: Duncan Webb, RTC Chair
Item Summary: Approval of the May 11, 2023, meeting minutes contained in Electronic Item 2 will be requested.
Background: N/A
 - 3. Consent Agenda (There are no items on the Consent Agenda)**
 Action Possible Action Information Minutes : 0
- 1:15 – 1:30**
- 4. Orientation to Agenda/Director of Transportation Report**
 Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 15
Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG
 - Texas Legislature Testimony: Number 2
([Transportation - S/C Discretionary Funding Allocations - May 18, 2023 \(granicus.com\)](#))
(There will be no discussion on this item, pending Legislative Report)
 - Illumination Agreements - Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT)
 - City of Dallas/Dallas Area Rapid Transit Silver Line Mediation
 - Trinity Railway Express/Burlington Northern Santa Fe Mediation
 - City of Dallas Conditional Support for Texas Department of Transportation/Mobility Plan for Recommendations for Interstate Highway 345
 - Regional Broadband Program Updates
(Electronic Item 4.1)

7. Certification of Emerging and Reliable Transportation Technology (CERTT) Round 2: Local Government Submittals for Swyft Cities
8. No City of Irving Summit 2023
9. Progress North Texas (Handout)
10. 2023 Ozone Season Update (Electronic Item 4.2)
11. Status Report on Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (Electronic Item 4.3)
12. Upcoming Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Events (<https://www.dfwcleancities.org/events>)
13. Air Quality Funding Opportunities for Vehicles (www.nctcog.org/aqfunding)
14. Local Clean Air Project Spotlight (Electronic Item 4.4)
15. June Public Meeting Notice (Electronic Item 4.5)
16. Public Comments Report (Electronic Item 4.6)
17. Recent Correspondence (Electronic Item 4.7)
18. Recent News Articles (Electronic Item 4.8)
19. Recent Press Releases (Electronic Item 4.9)

1:30 – 1:40

5. Contingency Emergency Item - Amtrak

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff is requesting ratification of emergency funding authorization of \$700,000 in Regional Toll Revenue (RTR) funds for Amtrak’s Heartland Flyer Passenger Service from Fort Worth to Oklahoma City.

Background: Regional Transportation Council (RTC) Policy P20-02 authorizes the Transportation Director to take emergency funding actions up to approximately \$5,000,000 due to necessity of time or consequence. The policy requires the emergency action to be placed on the next scheduled RTC meeting for ratification. Texas’ share of funding for Amtrak’s Heartland Flyer passenger service from Fort Worth to Oklahoma City has a current funding shortfall of approximately \$700,000. The State’s Supplemental Budget for the biennium ending August 31, 2023, did not include funding to address this shortfall. The Transportation Director took emergency action to allocate \$700,000 in RTR funding for the Heartland Flyer Passenger Service to avoid a service disruption. Staff is meeting with Legislature officials if other means are available, otherwise requesting the RTC to ratify the emergency action pursuant to RTC Policy P20-02.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Transit

1:40 – 1:50

6. National Juneteenth Museum Funding Request

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff is requesting Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of proposed investments at the future National Juneteenth Museum. An amount not to exceed \$3 million is proposed.

Background: A national museum commemorating Juneteenth is proposed to be located in Fort Worth along East Rosedale Street east of Interstate Highway 35W. The community has requested assistance with infrastructure improvements at the future museum site. Electronic Item 6 contains additional details on the proposed partnership.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Roadway, Transit

1:50 – 2:00

7. Five Mile Creek/Revolver Trade

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Brian Dell, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of a proposed federal/local partnership with the City of Dallas and the distribution of these funds and prior Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) partnership funds between the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Revolver and RTC Local funds are being requested. This action is contingent upon City of Dallas approval.

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 the City of Dallas. The partnership will provide funding for several sections of the Five Mile Creek Trail in south Dallas and in return, the City would send local funds to help with federal reimbursement issues and to increase the funds in the RTC Local pool. Electronic Item 7 contains additional details on the partnership and a proposal regarding how to distribute these and additional local funds from a previously approved partnership with DART between the MPO Revolver fund and the RTC Local pool.

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

2:00 – 2:10

8. **Work Zone Data Exchange: Support for Local Partners**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Tom Bamonte, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff is requesting Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval to access a variety of services that improve the identification, monitoring, and reporting of work zones and to deploy these services to assist local partners.

Background: Work zones pose challenges for both human and automated drivers. In 2022, more than 25,000 traffic crashes occurred in work zones in Texas, resulting in 205 deaths and another 788 serious injuries. Working with industry and state Department of Transportation partners, including Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) has developed the [Work Zone Data Exchange](#) (WZDx). The WZDx is a standardized work zone data reporting protocol for use by (a) public agencies hosting work zones, (b) contractors performing work in work zones, and (c) smart devices like traffic cones and message boards that transmit information in real time about work zones. The auto industry, automated vehicle developers, freight industry, public transit operators, and travel navigation services have all indicated that better work zone information will help improve roadway/vehicle operations and safety. In 2022, the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) conducted a procurement of WZDx services through NCTCOG's TXSHARE cooperative purchasing program. [TXSHARE](#) procurements are conducted in compliance with federal procurement requirements so the contracts can be utilized by public agencies locally and around the country. Five vendors providing a variety of WZDx-related services were selected. Vendor information is available [here](#). Staff recommends that Dallas-Fort Worth (DFW) position itself as a technology and safety leader by utilizing these WZDx services to improve the identification and monitoring of work zones and the reporting of work zone data. Local partners will be able to access better information around work zones on their roadways. Staff requests RTC action: (1) Approving the WZDx Project; (2) Directing staff to engage regional partners on project scoping and execution; (3) Utilizing existing funding and NCTCOG contracts to advance the Project; and (4) Authorizing staff to take administrative steps necessary to implement the Project. Utilizing existing NCTCOG contracts to provide WZDx-related services for the region will be more efficient than requiring each local partner to make arrangements with one or more of the WZDx providers. Electronic Item 8 includes a presentation summarizing the project.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Roadway, Safety

2:10 – 2:15

9. **Safe Streets and Roads for All Regional Grant Application**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 5

Presenter: Karla Windsor, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Regional Transportation Council approval of a regional planning project submittal to the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Discretionary Grant program and approval of the partnership for a City of Dallas submittal of the implementation project of last year's Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd and Cedar Crest Blvd. in Dallas developed by the North Central Texas Council of Government (NCTCOG) will be requested.

Background: The United States Department of Transportation has announced a Notice of Funding Opportunity for the solicitation of applications for FY23 SS4A funding. A maximum of one grant application of any type may be submitted per agency. Staff will provide an overview of the proposed regional planning grant that will be submitted by NCTCOG. Total project cost is \$6.25 million. Staff will be submitting for \$5 million in federal funds and is requesting \$1.25 million of Regional Toll Revenue funds for the required 20 percent local match. Staff will also present on a partnership for implementation of the FY22 NCTCOG-submitted implementation grant of Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. and Cedar Crest Blvd. in Dallas near Fair Park. The City of Dallas will be the lead for the FY23 application with NCTCOG and Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) as partners. The anticipated total cost for the project is \$27.25 million with an anticipated federal request of \$21.8 million. The local match will be covered by the City of Dallas and DART. An overview of the proposed project is contained in Electronic Item 9.

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

2:15 – 2:25

10. **Federal and State Legislative Update**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Rebekah Gongora, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide an update on federal and State legislative actions related to transportation and air quality issues affecting the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

Background: Transportation issues continue to be a focus for both the United States Congress and the Texas Legislature. The 1st session of the 118th U.S. Congress convened on January 3, 2023. The 88th session of the Texas Legislature convened on January 10, 2023, and concluded on May 29, 2023. This item will allow staff to provide updates on key positions of the Regional Transportation Council and provide an overview of transportation and air quality legislation approved by the Texas Legislature.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Roadway, Safety

2:25 – 2:35

11. **Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025 United Planning Work Program**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Vickie Alexander, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will present a summary on the development of the proposed FY2024 and FY2025 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for Regional Transportation Planning.

Background: North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) staff, in cooperation with local governments and transportation agencies, is currently developing the draft FY2024 and FY2025 UPWP. This document identifies NCTCOG staff work activities to be performed between October 1, 2023, and September 30, 2025. Prior to the June Regional Transportation Council (RTC) meeting, a draft copy of the UPWP document will be provided to the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) for review and comment. Upon submittal to TxDOT, a copy of this draft will be available online for RTC review at: www.nctcog.org/trans/study/unified-planning-work-program. Regional Transportation Council action on the UPWP will be sought at the July meeting. The final document is due to TxDOT on July 31, 2023.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative

2:35 – 2:45

12. **Automated Transportation System Development Study**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Brendon Wheeler, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide an update on the results of the Automated Transportation System (ATS) Development Study, including technology assessments and project evaluations.

Background: As part of the Regional Automated Transportation System (ATS) Initiative (formerly referred to as the “People Mover Initiative”), the recently completed ATS Development Study assessed the state of the ATS market, including vehicles for moving people and cargo/goods; developed standards for innovative, lightweight, and modular guideways; and evaluated the state of the industry for dynamic wireless electric charging. The study also evaluated its findings against two pilot projects and two retrofit opportunities, to ensure compatibility with existing regional efforts. Staff will present a summary of the study results as well as information on ATS pilot/retrofit opportunities.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Goods Movement, Transit

2:45 – 2:55

13. **Federal Performance Measures Condition Targets for National Highway System Pavement/Bridge Access**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Jeff Neal, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will brief the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) on continued collaboration between North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) and the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) on evaluating and establishing condition targets for National Highway System (NHS) pavement and bridge assets, in accordance with existing and updated rulemaking for required Federal performance measures (PM2).

Background: The Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act required certain performance measures, including two- and four-year projected pavement and bridge condition ratings for designated NHS facilities, be addressed in the long-range metropolitan transportation planning process. During the first four-year performance period, which occurred starting in 2018, the RTC affirmed regional support for TxDOT's statewide good and poor condition pavement and bridge (PM2) targets, and it also agreed to collaborate with TxDOT and local governments on various project planning and programming efforts as contributions toward accomplishment of NHS pavement/bridge performance goals. PM2 rulemaking was updated with passage of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) ahead of the second four-year performance period, which began in 2022. Consideration of new two- and four-year target-setting for statewide good and poor condition NHS pavement/bridge assets now includes the following factors:

- TxDOT is required to consider extreme weather and resilience as part of the lifecycle planning and risk management analyses within its Transportation Asset Management Plan (TAMP) resulting from BIL changes to Title 23, U.S.C. 119(e)(4). Integration of extreme weather and resilience risk implications may affect target projections.
- Metrics of pavement condition for all NHS facilities are now identical, with cracking, rutting, and faulting indices added to International Roughness Index (IRI) ratings for non-Interstate pavement assets. This change may have the greatest impact on condition estimates for off-system NHS arterial roadways.

Accompanying Electronic Item 13, staff will explain updated condition similarities and differences between statewide and regional NHS pavements and bridges, outline the potential effects of new BIL formula/discretionary funds on condition projections, and provide status updates for ongoing and planned initiatives aimed at fulfilling the RTC's performance goal obligations for TxDOT. Public input will also be obtained and considered ahead of RTC action, which is required within 180 days of TxDOT's establishment of statewide PM2 targets.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative, Roadway

2:55 – 3:05

14. **Air Quality Ozone: Federal vs. State**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Jenny Narvaez, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide information on the national and state process for air quality standards and current local efforts to meet them.

Background: Sections 108 and 109 of the Clean Air Act govern the establishment, review, and revision, as appropriate, of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for each criteria pollutant to provide protection for the nation's public health and the environment. The Clean Air Act requires periodic review of the science behind how the standards are set and the standards themselves. Once a standard has been revised by the Environmental Protection Agency, the State has the responsibility of creating a State Implementation Plan documenting how it will comply with the air quality standard. Staff will inform the Council on the process of reviewing and setting, the plan toward attaining, and the region's work toward coming into compliance with these standards. For more information, please see Electronic Item 14.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Air Quality

3:05 – 3:10

15. **Election of Regional Transportation Council Officers**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 5

Presenter: Andy Eads, RTC Nominating Subcommittee Chair

Item Summary: Approval of Regional Transportation Council (RTC) officers for the next 12-month period will be requested.

Background: According to the RTC Bylaws and Operating Procedures, the officers of RTC are elected to serve for a term of one year. The Nominating Subcommittee is charged with providing a slate of officers to the full Council for consideration in June of each year. The Nominating Subcommittee is tasked with confirming that the current Vice Chair and Secretary should move up to the office of Chair and Vice Chair, respectively, and nominate a new Secretary. Members of the nominating committee are eligible to be nominated for an officer position. The Nominating Subcommittee, in its deliberations, shall address issues of diversity, including sensitivity to gender, ethnicity, and geography in its recommendations. Officers shall be elected public officials appointed by and from the governing body of the member government. The slate of officers shall reflect leadership in rough proportion to the revenue distribution between the Eastern and Western Subregions. This will not be measured on a year-to-year basis but will be aggregated over longer periods of time. The new officers will begin their terms at the conclusion of the June meeting.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative

16. **Progress Reports**

Action Possible Action Information

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

- RTC Attendance (Electronic Item 16.1)
- STTC Attendance and Minutes (Electronic Item 16.2)

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

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

19. **Next Meeting**: The next meeting of the Regional Transportation Council is scheduled for ***1:00 pm on July 13, 2023, in the Transportation Council Room.***