

North Central Texas Council of Governments

SUMMARY

Sustainable Public Rights-of-Way Subcommittee

Wednesday, November 13, 2024

1:30 pm to 3:00 p.m., Microsoft Teams

Or call in (audio only)

+1 903-508-4574

Phone Conference ID: 165 252 600#

Chair: N/A

1. Welcome and Introductions.

Attendees: Brett Bourgeois (City of Denton); DJ Brouwer (City of Terrell); Teanna Thompson (City of Fort Worth); Cameron Anderson (City of Dallas); Daniel Acevedo (City of Ferris); Erin Blackman, Carl Singleton, Shawn Conrad, Susan Alvarez, Kate Zielke, Rami Tafesh (NCTCOG)

DISCUSSION ITEMS

2. Overview of Complete Streets Policies and Programs in North Texas. NCTCOG'S Transportation Department will report on their recent Roundtable.

Shawn Conrad, NCTCOG, discussed Complete Streets considerations, including FHWA standards and policies. She emphasized that Complete Streets can incorporate local priorities, and policies don't treat streets as one-size-fits all.

Shawn informed the subcommittee of the history of the NCTCOG Transportation Department Complete Streets efforts in the region and the attempt to create a comprehensive policy. Over the years the Complete Streets concept in North Texas has evolved into a Regional rebrand and focus on Context Sensitive Solutions and Context Sensitive Design. In 2022 the Transportation Department presented a Complete Streets policy to the Regional Transportation Council; the policy was modified and adopted by the Council. In 2024 NCTCOG held a workshop to gather cities' interest level in Complete Streets policy.

3. Legal Parameters for Local Public Rights-of-Way. The Subcommittee will discuss funding and rules that affect local governments as they design and construct public rights-of-way.

Kate Zielke posed questions about funding and/or other concerns that will aid in the development of a SPROW BMP Guidebook. Kate noted that there could be legal parameters governing their local right-of-way and she asked subcommittee members about funding sources and their restrictions.

If you plan to attend this public meeting and you have a disability that requires special arrangements at the meeting, please contact Ashley Barnett by phone at (817) 608-2363 or by email at ABarnett@nctcog.org, 72 hours in advance of the meeting. Reasonable accommodations will be made to assist your needs.

Brett Bourgeois, City of Denton, stated they receive funding from Texas Department of Transportation and federal sources; he said they do have some restrictions depending on the roadway and its intended use. Brett stated prior to design, the scope of the project is important to identify funding options.

Teanna Thompson, City of Fort Worth, stated she will inform other Fort Worth public works officials about this meeting discussion involving funding sources and their restrictions.

Cameron Anderson, City of Dallas, stated initially the city uses the roadway needs and goals to determine which funding source to seek.

4. **Format of Guidebook.** The Subcommittee will discuss the pros and cons of different formats for the BMP Guidebook.

Kate Zielke asked about the pros and cons of the BMP proposed format.

Brett Bourgeois stated a simpler approach is acceptable, but detailed technical data is still necessary.

Cameron Anderson stated simplicity is more desirable for the public; but more technical information for public works/engineering personnel might be best.

Daniel Acevedo, City of Ferris, agreed with Cameron.

5. **Sources of Information of Guidebook.** NCTCOG will propose a general list of references for the Guidebook.

Kate Zielke requested feedback regarding the list of references she presented.

Brett Bourgeois agreed with the list of references included in Kate's presentation.

6. **Chapter: Green Infrastructure and Low Impact Development.** NCTCOG seeks specific references and additional topics to research.

Brett Bourgeois stated the City of Denton examines water quality and they direct the public to reference the iSWM manual.

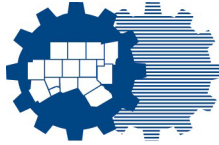
Kate Zielke gave the subcommittee examples of research done so far on the topic of Green Infrastructure and Low Impact Development, including a document from Tarrant Regional Water District.

7. **Chapter: ROW Planning, Administration, and Policy.** NCTCOG seeks specific references and additional topics to research.

DJ Brouwer, City of Terrell, stated Terrell's biggest concern is obtaining adequate Subsurface Utility Engineering (SUE) data and as-builts for recently installed utilities.

Brett Bourgeois stated the City of Denton has issues acquiring as-builts for critical infrastructure. Daniel Acevedo stated that it may be necessary to mandate identifying all franchise utilities in the right-of-way.

DJ stated the contractor needs to know where all utilities are located to ensure that they will not be damaged during construction.



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Brett said the City of Denton has recently adopted a street light pole standard which states requirements for installation.

DJ said the City of Terrell has adopted some Complete Streets standards from the City of Dallas.

8. **Chapter: Complete Streets.** NCTCOG seeks specific references and additional topics to research.

Carl Singleton, NCTCOG, discussed research regarding right-of-way and advisory pavement markings at intersections and the importance of the process to proactively coordinate with utilities prior to construction.

Brett Bourgeois and DJ Brouwer added that these intersections' pavement markings are difficult to maintain due to traffic volumes and the advisory pavement markings are usually not placed.

Rami Tafesh, NCTCOG, discussed research on Complete Streets and the safety benefits of roundabouts.

Teanna Thompson stated the City of Fort Worth has some roundabouts and bicycle lanes. DJ Brouwer said many cities now have roundabouts, and they are safe and there will be more in the future.

9. **Relevant Construction Standards Drawings.** Several Division 2000 drawings address bike lanes.

Kate Zielke informed the subcommittee of Division 2000 Pavement Systems relevant drawings located in the Construction Standards Drawings Fifth Edition Amended August 2023.

OTHER BUSINESS AND ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

10. **Public Works Program Updates.**

Kate Zielke invited the subcommittee to the next Public Works Council (PWC) meeting on November 21, 2024, and the next integrated Stormwater Management (iSWM) meeting on January 29, 2025.

11. **Roundtable Discussion.**
No comments.

12. **Schedule for the Next Meeting.** The next Subcommittee meeting is TBD.

The next SPROW Meeting will be the week of February 3, 2025.

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13. Adjournment.

If you have any questions regarding the meeting or agenda items, please contact Carl Singleton by phone at (817) 458-4768, or by email at Csingleton@nctcog.org .