

AGENDA

**Regional Transportation Council
Thursday, May 12, 2022
North Central Texas Council of Governments**

Only limited seats will be available in the Transportation Council Room. Members of the public wishing to comment during the open comment period will do so from the Transportation Council Room. Otherwise, all other members of the public in attendance at the meeting will be requested to view a livestream of the meeting from the Metroplex Conference Room. Members of the public may also view a livestream of the RTC meeting remotely at www.nctcog.org/video under the "live" tab.

**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 April 14, 2022, Minutes**
 Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 5
Presenter: Theresa Daniel, RTC Chair
Item Summary: Approval of the April 14, 2022, minutes contained in Electronic Item 2_will be requested.
Background: N/A
- 1:15 – 1:15** 3. **Consent Agenda (There are no items on the Consent Agenda)**
 Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 0
- 1:15 – 1:25** 4. **Orientation to Agenda/Director of Transportation Report**
 Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10
Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG
1. Recognition of Members Concluding Service on the Regional Transportation Council (RTC): former Councilmember, City of Fort Worth, Ann Zadeh; former Mayor, City of Arlington, Jeff Williams; and Chief Engineer, Texas Department of Transportation, Bill Hale
 2. Regional Transportation Council Subcommittee Appointments – Chair Daniel (Handout)
 - Bylaws Revision Subcommittee
 - Nominating Subcommittee

3. RTC Group Seat Membership Designations – June 30, 2022, Response Deadline
4. Changing Mobility: Data, Insights, and Delivering Innovative Projects During COVID Recovery (Electronic Item 4.1)
5. Executive Session Follow Up (Electronic Item 4.2)
6. Presentation to Texas Transportation Commission on Safety
7. Invited Testimony to Texas House Transportation Committee (Electronic Item 4.3)
8. Air Quality Funding Opportunities for Vehicles
(<https://www.nctcog.org/trans/quality/air/funding-and-resources>)
9. 2022 Ozone Season Update (Electronic Item 4.4)
10. Status of Ozone Reclassification (Electronic Item 4.5)
11. Lori Clark appointed to Environmental Protection Agency Mobile Source Technical Review Committee (Electronic Item 4.6)
12. Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Events
(<https://www.dfwcleancities.org/events>)
13. Input Opportunity: Comment on the Statewide Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Plan by May 15 (Electronic Item 4.7)
14. Input Opportunity: Submit Energy Efficiency Needs to SECO by May 20 (Electronic Item 4.8)
15. Auto Occupancy/High-Occupancy Vehicle Quarterly Subsidy Report (Electronic Item 4.9)
16. April Public Meeting Minutes (Electronic Item 4.10)
17. May Public Meeting Notice (Electronic Item 4.11)
18. Public Comments Report (Electronic Item 4.12)
19. Recent Correspondence (Electronic Item 4.13)
20. Recent News Articles (Electronic Item 4.14)
21. Recent Press Releases (Electronic Item 4.15)

1:25 – 1:45

5a. **Approval of Western Subregion Transit Partnership**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request Regional Transportation Council approval of Electronic Item 5a on transit partnerships that permits a path forward for the East Lancaster corridor to be submitted for INFRA and MEGA funding in Electronic Item 5b.

Background: Electronic Item 5a, presents the funding allocation for the extension of passenger rail into the Fort Worth hospital district and the construction of the Trinity Lakes Station. The City of Fort Worth is proceeding with Katy Lofts without Regional Transportation Council funds. A minor adjustment to the IH 35W Guaranteed Transit Program is included in the approval request.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Safety, Transit

5b. **Fiscal Year 2022 Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant Multimodal Projects Discretionary Grant Program**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenters: Michael Morris and Jeff Neal, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of projects to be submitted for funding consideration

through the Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant (MPDG) Program. This \$2.85 billion program solicits project applications for three combined funding opportunities: the National Infrastructure Project Assistance Grants Program (MEGA), the Nationally Significant Multimodal Freight and Highway Projects Grant Program (INFRA), and the Rural Surface Transportation Grant Program (RURAL).

Background: In March 2022, the United States Department of Transportation (US DOT) announced the solicitation of project applications for the FY2022 MPDG Discretionary Grant Program (<https://www.transportation.gov/grants/mpdg-announcement>). The Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) combines three major discretionary grant programs in efforts to reduce burdens for state and local applicants, increase the pipeline of “shovel-worthy” projects now possible because of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), and enable US DOT to get a more comprehensive view of projects in development nationwide, with additional details provided in Electronic Item 5b. Applications are due to the US DOT by May 23, 2022. For the east subregion, NCTCOG proposes to submit the South Dallas County Inland Port Multimodal Connectivity Project as a consolidated application under both the INFRA and RURAL Grant programs. Additionally, NCTCOG will partner with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) – Dallas District as a co-sponsor for the re-submittal of the IH 30 Downtown Dallas Canyon Project under the INFRA and MEGA Grant programs (originally submitted in FY2021). For the west subregion, NCTCOG proposes to re-submit the East Lancaster Avenue Complete Streets and Transit Technology Project under the INFRA and MEGA Grant programs (originally submitted in FY2021). For agencies in the region submitting projects, please be aware you must complete the www.grants.gov registration process, usually requiring two-four weeks for completion, prior to submitting applications. Assuming the projected timing for application development, agency requests to receive a letter of support from the RTC should be submitted to Kyle Roy by Thursday, May 12, 2022, at kroy@nctcog.org.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Goods Movement, Roadway

1:45 – 1:55

6. **\$15M Dallas Area Rapid Transit/Garland Partnership that Expedited the IH 635 East Project**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Christie Gotti, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request a recommendation for Regional Transportation Council (RTC) action to finalize a \$15 million funding exchange with Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) and the City of Garland to fulfill the funding partnership originally approved by the RTC in September 2019.

Background: During the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) procurement process for IH 635 East, potential contractors submitted alternative technical concepts at Garland Avenue. As a result, the City of Garland, TxDOT, and RTC staff developed a plan for the Garland Avenue area, which led to a lower cost but was not ideal for the City of Garland. In order to build IH 635 East as one project versus having to split this area out into a separate project due to complications at the KCS Railroad, the City of Garland accepted the design and the RTC agreed to offset elements of the recommendation that were not consistent with Garland's interest in a \$15 million partnership on a future project. Since that time, the City has worked on a development plan in the area, which is part of, and adjacent to, the South Garland Transit Center. As such, DART, the City, and RTC staff have agreed to a three-party partnership to allow the City to use local funds from DART for the work. Instead of the RTC's federal funding going to the City directly, the RTC funds would pay for a DART project. Details of the partnership are provided in Electronic Item 6.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Roadway, Transit

1:55 – 2:05

7. Regional Transportation Council Policy for Transportation Certification Program

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Brendon Wheeler, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will introduce and request action on a proposed policy outlining the guiding principles and process by which the RTC may transparently coordinate with transportation infrastructure providers wishing to certify innovative transportation technology to move people and/or freight within the region. This draft policy would serve to guide a consensus-building path among the RTC, interested local governments, and transportation technology providers in bringing innovative transportation solutions to our region with the end goal of a commercial application to serve a long-range transportation need.

Background: In February 2022, the RTC adopted Policy P22-01 to Advance High-Speed Rail in the Dallas-Fort Worth High-Speed Transportation Connections Study into the Phase 2 National Environmental Policy Act Process. This policy directed staff to advance high-speed rail on the Dallas-to-Fort Worth corridor along IH 30 and to monitor the advancement of hyperloop technology. This draft policy on a Transportation Infrastructure Certification Program is a follow-up to Policy P22-01 that provides a collaborative and transparent process for the RTC to pursue innovative technologies like hyperloop and others requiring certification or performing a pilot application. In recent months, the RTC and NCTCOG staff have been approached by hyperloop companies and transportation infrastructure providers that are interested in proving their innovative transportation technology for the first time in the US or the

world here in Dallas-Fort Worth. This outside interest began after the RTC responded to Virgin Hyperloop's Request for Proposals for a Certification Center site in early 2020 and continued through the Technology Forum outreach and coordination efforts as a part of the Dallas-to-Fort Worth High-Speed Transportation Connections Study. With Dallas-Fort Worth being a leader in advancing new technologies in transportation in the US, staff is introducing a formalized approach via the attached draft policy to outline the process that transportation technology providers may coordinate with the RTC and the region to prove their technology while serving a public transportation need. The draft policy is provided in Electronic Item 7.1. Existing RTC Policy P22-01 is provided as Electronic Item 7.2. Electronic Item 7.3 includes additional details.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Goods Movement, Transit

2:05 – 2:15 8.

Title VI Program Update

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Ken Kirkpatrick, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will seek approval of updates to the Title VI Program and Language Assistance Plan. Both documents are necessary for compliance with federal civil rights requirements and must be adopted by the Regional Transportation Council. The updates must be submitted to Federal Transit Administration (FTA) by May 31, 2022.

Background: The FTA requires Metropolitan Planning Organizations update their Title VI Programs every three years. Title VI is a component of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The Title VI Program identifies actions (NCTCOG) takes to ensure nondiscrimination based on race, color, and national origin, including limited English proficiency. The Title VI Program includes information on how NCTCOG monitors its transit subrecipients for Title VI compliance. The Language Assistance Plan describes how NCTCOG addresses the needs of residents whose native language is not English and who have a limited ability to communicate in English. It is part of the Public Participation Plan. Both the Title VI Program update and the Language Assistance Plan update have undergone a public comment period. The Title VI Program update is available at <https://nctcog.org/TitleVI>, and the Language Assistance Plan update is available at <https://nctcog.org/LAP>. Electronic Item 8 includes additional details.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative, Transit

2:15 – 2:25 9.

2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program Draft Listings

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Christie Gotti, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement

Program (TIP) draft project listings and the ability to amend the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) and other planning/administrative documents. The Council will also be briefed on changes being made to the TIP Development process as a result of recent discussions with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

Background: A new TIP is developed every two years through a cooperative effort between the North Central Texas Council of Governments, the Texas Department of Transportation, local governments, and transportation authorities. The TIP is a staged, multi-year listing of transportation projects with committed funding from federal, State, and local sources within the Dallas-Fort Worth Metropolitan Area. Electronic Item 9 contains an overview of the TIP development process and schedule. The financially constrained draft project listings for the 2023-2026 TIP are available at the following weblink: <https://www.nctcog.org/trans/funds/tip/transportation-improvement-program/2023-2026tip>. Projects in FY2023-2026 will be included in the 2023-2026 TIP, and projects in FY2027 and later will be placed in Appendix D of the TIP. Projects in FY2022 and earlier are provided but will not be included in the 2023-2026 TIP.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Roadway, Transit

2:25 – 2:35

10. **Mobility 2045 Update and Transportation Conformity**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Brendon Wheeler, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Work continues on the region's next long-range transportation plan, Mobility 2045 Update, and corresponding 2022 Transportation Air Quality Conformity. Staff will present a brief overview of the draft plan and draft air quality conformity analysis results. In addition, staff will present information regarding:

- Any recent revisions
- Public comments received
- Schedule for completion

The draft plan and the recommendations as identified graphically and in tabular format are available at www.nctcog.org/PlaninProgress.

Background: Mobility 2045 was adopted by the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) on June 14, 2018. Air quality conformity determination was achieved on November 21, 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, updated demographic forecasts, updated travel demand modeling tool, and necessary refinements to policies, programs, and projects in the current plan, Mobility 2045. The Clean Air Act (CAA) requires Metropolitan Planning Organizations to perform an air quality analysis when a new Metropolitan Transportation Plan

is developed to ensure the multimodal transportation system complies with applicable Motor Vehicle Emission Budgets (MVEB) established for the region. Per the CAA, staff has conducted a successful analysis for the required MVEB analysis year (2023), the Metropolitan Transportation Plan horizon year (2045), and interim years (2026 and 2036). STTC is expected to take final action on the Mobility 2045 Update and 2022 Transportation Air Quality Conformity in May 2022. The RTC is expected to take final action on both documents in June 2022.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Air Quality, Roadway

- 2:35 – 2:45** 11. **Fiscal Year 2023-2025 Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Goal Update**
 Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10
Presenter: Ken Kirkpatrick, NCTCOG
Item Summary: Staff will provide a summary of the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program requirements and present the proposed DBE Participation Goal for FY2023-FY2025, in advance of initiating the formal public comment period.
Background: The North Central Texas Council of Governments is required by the Federal Transit Administration to revise its DBE Participation Goal every three years. The current DBE Participation Goal is valid until September 30, 2022. Staff has developed a schedule to meet this deadline that also encourages and provides opportunity for public participation and comment. Electronic Item 11 includes additional details.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative, Transit

- 2:45 – 2:55** 12. **Dallas-Fort Worth Regional East/West Funding Distribution – Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act**
 Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10
Presenter: Christie Gotti, NCTCOG
Item Summary: Given that a new transportation funding bill has been enacted, staff will provide the Council with information regarding proposed updates to the funding distribution between the Eastern (Dallas and Paris Districts) and Western (Fort Worth District) subregions. The latest East/West Equity quarterly report detailing transactions that affect the current distribution will also be provided.
Background: The Regional Transportation Council (RTC) selects projects to be funded with Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) and Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG) funds. To ensure equity within the region, once these funds are distributed by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), the RTC seeks to program funding to the eastern and western subregions based on the proportion of each area's emissions, demographics, and activity. Generally, the RTC re-evaluates the funding distribution after each new transportation funding bill is approved by the US Congress. The Infrastructure Investment &

Jobs Act (IIJA) was signed into law in November 2021, so staff has initiated the process to update the region's funding splits. Based on updated inputs (e.g., demographics, emissions), adjustments to both percentages are being proposed. Electronic Item 12.1 provides additional information on the process for establishing the split and the proposed new splits for both mobility and air quality funds. Electronic Item 12.2 contains the final East/West Equity report for the FAST Act.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Transit

13. **Progress Reports**

Action Possible Action Information

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

- RTC Attendance (Electronic Item 13.1)
- STTC Attendance and Minutes (Electronic Item 13.2)
- Local Motion (Electronic Item 13.3)

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

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

16. **Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the Regional Transportation Council is scheduled for **1:00 pm, Thursday, June 9, 2022**, at the North Central Texas Council of Governments.