PUBLIC COMMENTS REPORT

WRITTEN COMMENTS SUBMITTED BY WEBSITE, EMAIL & SOCIAL MEDIA

Purpose

The public comments report is in accordance with the NCTCOG Transportation Department Public Participation Plan, which became effective June 1, 1994, as approved by the Regional Transportation Council (RTC), the transportation policy board for the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and amended on Nov. 10, 2022.

This document is a compilation of general public comments submitted from Thursday, June 20 through Friday, July 19, 2024 via website, email, social media and in person at NCTCOG's monthly Regional Transportation Council (RTC) meeting. This month, comments related to air quality and roadways were in the majority.

Additionally, comments can be submitted through Map Your Experience, the Transportation Department's online mapping tool. This tool allows users to drop a pin on a location in the region and leave a detailed comment. The tool received 40 new comments related to bicycle and pedestrian, roadway, and transit conditions. You can view these new comments as well as past comments by visiting

http://nctcoggis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/CrowdsourceReporter/index.html?appid=b014e6d39b604b3ca329d9094ed1e9e2.

Air Quality

Email -

1. Tamecia Bradshaw

Good morning, I want to know how I can apply for vehicle repairs or vouchers?

Response by NCTCOG Transportation Staff:

Hi Tamecia, Thank you for reaching out to us this morning regarding vehicle assistance. Unfortunately, there is currently no program available to assist with vehicle repair or replacement at this time. We did have a voucher program, perhaps the one you are referring to, the AirCheckTexas Program. That program hasn't operated since 2019 because of a veto by the Governor. However, below are a few resources that may be able to assist you with your vehicle.

If you are unable to pass an emissions test, there is a Department of Public Safety Waiver Station that exists to help motorists who are unable to pass the annual vehicle emissions test. An emissions testing waiver or a time extension defers the need for full compliance with the vehicle emissions standards of the vehicle emissions I/M program for a specified period of time after a vehicle fails an emissions test. Applications for emissions testing waivers and time extensions shall be accepted by the DPS. The motorist may apply once each annual testing cycle for the Low Mileage Waiver, Individual Vehicle Waiver, and Parts Availability Time Extension:

https://www.dps.texas.gov/section/vehicle-inspection/waivers-and-time-extensions

Additionally, the Cross Timbers Church in Denton has a program that repairs vehicles free of charge. The program opens twice a year and is by application only. They will be open for applications again in the fall. More information can be found here: https://crosstimberschurch.org/fixmyride/

Also, the following chart provides guidance on possible engine issues based on color of smoke exiting from the tailpipe. Please let us know if we can assist you further and thank you again for your email this morning.



Facebook -

1. Here's the weekend #AirQuality forecast for DFW:

Saturday, June 22: Ozone (yellow)

Sunday, June 23: Ozone (orange)*

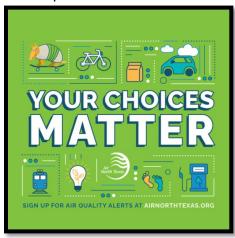
Monday, June 24: Ozone (yellow)

*Level Orange is unhealthy for sensitive groups. Children, older adults and people with lung disease, such as asthma, emphysema, or chronic bronchitis, should limit outdoor activity. To learn more and sign up for Air Pollution Alerts, visit AirNorthTexas.org — NCTCOG Transportation Department



The highway system in NT is messed up beyond hope of EVER being efficient! It takes so long to get the work done that it is obsolete before it is HALF finished and the congestion caused by the construction creates more air pollution! Jus' sayin'! — Michael Brussow

2. Join Air North Texas in improving North Texas air quality. Learn how to reduce the number of harmful pollutants that enter our air. — NCTCOG Transportation Department



Your primary goal is to blame me — Dennis Zahradnik

3. Join Air North Texas in improving North Texas air quality. Learn how to reduce the number of harmful pollutants that enter our air. — NCTCOG Transportation Department



How does signing up for air quality alerts improve North Texas air quality? The citizens can't improve the emissions allowed by TCEQ. — Terri White

Terri White It only helps if you are willing to suspend your life when those alerts are issued. — Randy Fischer

Democrats cause all the pollution in north tx — Dennis Zahradnik

No, they don't. As if any of you government spenders care what any taxpayer has to say.... Your "environmental, green" lie has been sucking taxpayers dry for years.... — Tricia Bouvette Lukaska

Liars — Tricia Bouvette Lukaska

It's amazing how the folks who have the big houses and big yards and pools and AC and all those little gas powered toys are the biggest supporters of the climate change hoax. Scale down YOUR carbon footprint before you tell me to scale down my carbon footprint. — Randy Fischer

4. Join Air North Texas in improving North Texas air quality. Learn how to reduce the number of harmful pollutants that enter our air. — NCTCOG Transportation Department



Maybe stop supporting sprawl with giant car-only roads through ranch land? The outside lane for all those 6 lane arterials should be a shaded multi-modal path instead. That would improve our air quality. — Pam Thompson

Don't worry you have the best up there go 5:00 am and check out the trinity river for clean air just take a look and smell of that fresh aroma — David Williams

Sure woulda been nice if we woulda invested more in mass transit than fancy overpasses — Sharyn Wisdom

5. Ozone Action Day – Ozone in the DFW area Friday, July 12, is predicted to be at Level Orange, unhealthy for sensitive groups. Children, older adults and people with lung disease, such as asthma, emphysema, or chronic bronchitis, should limit outdoor activity. — NCTCOG Transportation Department



Please fix our service road on I-20 between Mile Marker 409 to 410... in Parker County! We need a bridge over the train track to help alleviate the amount of traffic on I 20! — Hegre Eric

Twitter -

1. Ozone Action Day – Ozone in the DFW area Wednesday, July 10, is predicted to be at Level Orange, unhealthy for sensitive groups. Children, older adults and people with lung disease, such as asthma, emphysema, or chronic bronchitis, should limit outdoor activity. — NCTCOGTransportation (@NCTCOGtrans)



Back to more Orange Armadillo days here locally. — Bojo Pigeon (@BojoPigeon)

2. North Texas reports more poor air quality days to date than all of 2023 — Fort Worth Report (@FortWorthReport)



Carpool if you can," says Jenny Narvaez, #TRBvolunteer and #AirQuality program manager for the @NCTCOGtrans. "In our area, people don't really have a choice. They have to drive." — TRB (@NASEMTRB)

Alternative Fuel Vehicles

Facebook -

1.Congratulations to Fort Worth ISD for receiving a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Clean School Bus program for new electric school buses! — NCTCOG

Transportation Department



Dumb. Should convert to CNG. — Wm Atkins

Congratulations NCTCOG Transportation Department for the valuable service of sharing that news. — Rob Dentrement

Bicycle/Pedestrian/Sustainable Development

Facebook -

1. The North Central Texas Council of Governments is holding a pre-application meeting on July 17 from 1 - 3 pm to provide information on the Blue-Green-Grey proposal process, schedule, and submittal guidelines. The meeting will be held in person at NCTCOG with a virtual option available. For more info and to sign up visit https://nctcog.org/trans/plan/land-use/green-infrastructure — NCTCOG Transportation Department



"NCTCOG promotes the planning and construction of green or sustainable infrastructure in the region to help reduce carbon emissions, mitigate urban heat islands, reduce pollution from stormwater runoff, and provide health benefits to communities." Except for at your home office in Arlington, the largest city in the U.S. without mass transit. How

about a little "leadership by example, NCTCOG Transportation Department? — Rob Dentremont

2. Help the League of American Bicyclists gain a better understanding of local bicyclists' experiences and perceptions of bicycling in XYZ. Take this survey today! https://bit.ly/4bL8Zgs — NCTCOG Transportation Department



The League of American Bicyclists gets full credit for the sad state of biking in the United States. Bunch of Washington D.C. bureaucrats who don't even ride bikes, else their profiles would be front and center on their website. Don't believe them phonies like the phony NCTCOG Transportation Department does! — Rob Dentremont

Twitter -

1. You still have time! #DallasBikePlan surveys are open through July 7. Review maps, share your insights, and tell your neighbors! #dallastraffic #dfwtraffic #VisionZeroDallas — Dallas Department of Transportation (@DDOTransport)



2. On Friday (July 5), our crews turned on the city's first bike signals at Abrams Road and Gaston Avenue. These signals reduce conflicts between cyclists and drivers and are important for our #VisionZero goal of eliminating traffic deaths. #DallasBikePlan #DFWTraffic #dallastraffic

Dallas Department of Transportation (@DDOTransport)

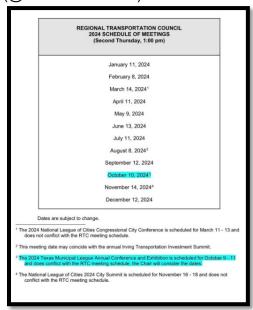


How many deaths is this intersection responsible for ? I never see cyclists on this road. They stay on the Santa Fe trail. — Morris Wanchuk (@MoeWanchuk)

I agree. Not too many cyclists on Gaston as the route can be achieved by SFT. A few feet over on Abrams and Richmond might be better. Where there is a bike lane at Richmond and Abrams. And people get confused how to take a right turn across a bike lane. — JohnyBot (@Johnyalamo)

Instagram -

1. Tomorrow is @nctcogtrans monthly regional transportation council meeting at 1 p.m. Virtual link will be on Linktree. The Transportation Department at NCTCOG serves as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the 12-county Dallas-Fort Worth region. The MPO works closely with regional, state and federal partners to plan and recommend transportation projects that will improve mobility and encourage more efficient land use, all while minimizing the impact on the region's air quality. #urbanism #dart #trinitymetro #texrail — Walkable Fort Worth (@walkablefortworth)



High-Speed Transportation

Twitter -

1. Who needs Big D? New high-speed rail plan would bypass Dallas for @cityofArlington @cityofFortWorth connection. @NCTCOG_Official @NCTCOGtrans — Robert Francis (@RobertF1414)



Other

Instagram -

1. @unt Nonprofit Leadership Studies and Urban Planning here are some great career opportunities @untnlsa @cupa_unt @untcareercenter @unthps @atx.meliyah @prspurpose @nctcogtrans — UNT Public Administration (@unt.public.administration)



Public Involvement

Instagram -

1. Meet Gigi, our Program Manager for Transit Mobility Management in the Sustainable Development team. She grew up in DFW and is passionate about improving access to employment opportunities, healthcare and social services to improve the quality of life in her hometown and beyond. View other People Behind the Plan at nctcog.org/peoplebehindtheplan

#Transportation #DFW #Mobility2050 — NCTCOG Transportation (@nctcogtrans)

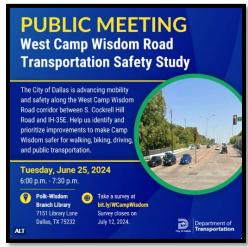


So proud of her <u>\(\) !</u> Strides were needed and this lady is making it happen. — Maria Salazar (@pita2us)

Roadways

Twitter -

1. We want your input! Come join us on Tuesday (6/25) for a public meeting on transportation safety along Camp Wisdom Road in #Dallas. Take our survey! #dallastraffic #dfwtraffic #VisionZeroDallas — Dallas Department of Transportation (@DDOTransport)



- 2. Bluff Springs Rd. is getting safer. ✓ New data shows a 58% drop in vehicles exceeding the speed limit by 10+ mph since #VisionZero upgrades.Upgrades include: → Protected bikeways
- 🚶 Pedestrian crossing islands 🚍 Upgraded bus stops 🚥 New signals & street lighting

coming soon — ATX Transportation and Public Works (@austinmobility)



@MayorMattie @NCTCOGtrans let's take notes! — DCbyLonghorn (@WMATASoldier)

3. North Texas is one of the fastest-growing regions in the country, adding more than 1 million residents every 7 years. @NCTCOGtrans expects that more corridors will become significantly congested by 2045. Planners say that means they have to think beyond highway expansions. 5/6 — Laura Fingal-Surma is at Edge Esmeralda → (@urbanistvc)

Swyft Cities has been working with the North Central Texas Council of Governments to identify potential sites. The company chose North Texas because of an @NCTCOGtrans program that looks to attract new transit technology to the region and connect them with local governments. 6/6 — Laura Fingal-Surma is at Edge Esmeralda \times (@urbanistvc)

4. A simple bollard could have saved this man's life. Instead, we give free rein to cars. How fast do you have be driving to even do that? How is this possible? — DCbyLonghorn (@WMATASoldier)



@NCTCOGtrans @LewisvilleTexas @TxDOTDallas Road design killed this person. — DCbyLonghorn (@WMATASoldier)

Instagram -

1. SHARE YOUR FEEDBACK! Take the first Access Butler Place Plan community survey today to shape future transportation, infrastructure, and mobility priorities across the Central Area, which includes Downtown Fort Worth, Butler Place, and the United Riverside. Visit www.AccessButlerPlacePlan.com to learn how to get involved throughout the process and to learn more about the planning goals across the Central Area! #AccessButlerPlacePlan #Accessibility #Reconnect #FortWorth #Community #Transportation #FWHS #Mobility #Infrastructure #Downtown #Neighborhoods #Engagement #GetInvolved #Planning @CityofFortWorth @DowntownFortWorth @NCTCOGTrans @TxDOT — Access Butler Place Plan (@accessbutlerplaceplan)



2. On June 11, Public Works in partnership with @nctcogtrans (NCTCOG), hosted a new two-day construction inspection training seminar for City employees and North Central Texas Council of Governments representatives, with more than 70 attendees from 22 different local municipalities in attendance. The session featured speakers from the City of Dallas and attendees learned about a variety of in-depth construction inspection topics including traffic control planning, materials testing, construction material calculations, and effective communication. — City of Dallas (@dallascityhall)



Facebook -

1. Your input is needed! Join us for one of two Fair Park Links Public Meetings on July 30. — NCTCOG Transportation Department



Tabitha Wheeler-Reagan — Jay McGee

Jay McGee thank you. I recieved it earlier from PUD and sent it to the Neighborhood Association. — Tabitha Wheeler-Reagan

Where is 345? — Velma Collins

Email -

1. Marcus Wood

I received the below email yesterday sent by the frustrated residents of Kleberg (Dallas District 8) to Dr. Leslie Feinglas, Assistant Superintendent of Partnerships & Strategic Initiatives for Mesquite ISD. Although MISD is trying hard to educate the children of Henrie Elementary School, everything else is stacked against the children and their parents including the danger to children going to and from school. Because Manufactured Houses are "owned personal property housing" set on "rented pads" this causes the area to not rate as an Equity Priority Area for Dallas Public Works Projects even when there is severe poverty of minorities, many of whom are not fluent in English.

Lasater Road remains a "Failure State" 2-lane country asphalt road although it has been classified as a Primary 6-lanes divided Arterial in Dallas for over thirty years. The Dallas 2024 Bond Program includes funds for "resurfacing" the 2-lanes sometime in the next how many years. And more than 600 additional mobile homes are set to be added on two vacant Dallas MH zoned acreages accessible only by Lasater Road.

Because Lasater Road and Lawson Road (called West Lawson or Belt Line Extension in Dallas) consist of pieces in various cities (Balch Springs, Mesquite, Dallas, Seagoville) or none (Dallas County section adjoining Balch Springs), I suggest these roads might best be described as "orphans." NCTCOG/RTC need to adopt both – and while doing so add E. Simonds Road in Seagoville since Lasater and Simonds connect. The two pdf files describe the overall situation (Attachments 1 and 2). Additionally COG, Dallas, and MISD need to work together and take emergency actions to provide safe travel for the students of all grades that use these roads. Please note I am submitting this also as an official comment to the currently open Unified

Planning Work Program for FY2024 and FY2025 (until July 9th) "NCTCOG Online Public Input Opportunity." (See information posted at publicinput.com/nctcogJune24)

I suggest NCTCOG and RTC have simply overlooked the conditions and needs of this area. Please take action to remediate that now.

Dear Dr. Leslie Feinglas,

My name is David Carranza, and I am the president of the Kleberg Neighborhood Association & Crime Watch. Our organization is a volunteer group committed to building community and maintaining a beautiful, safe, and enjoyable neighborhood.

Our goals include:

- Maintaining and improving property values within our community.
- Providing safety and security through Crime Watch and Volunteers in Patrol (VIP).
- Upkeeping current and creating new beautification projects in the neighborhood.
- Enforcing city ordinances and code requirements as regulated by the City of Dallas.
- Cooperating with City Officials and City Hall on issues affecting our community.
- Communicating information to neighbors via email newsletters and social media.
- Connecting neighbors and encouraging input on ways to improve and enhance the neighborhood.

We are very concerned about the area around Dr. Linda Henrie Elementary School, located at 253 W. Lawson Rd, which lies in the city of Dallas. Parents of children who attend this school have expressed concerns about the traffic and lack of infrastructure in this area, which they believe is unsafe for their children.

We have had meetings with District 8 City Councilman Tennell Atkins and Planning Commissioner Lorie Blair, requesting that they not allow new developments until the area receives wider roads, a stoplight, and sidewalks for the children. Unfortunately, the development was still approved.

In March, we sent a letter (Attachment 3) outlining our concerns to Mayor Eric Johnson, all 14 City Council Representatives, and the City Manager's Office, but we did not receive a response.

We believe this is a critical issue and hope that Mesquite ISD shares our concerns. Therefore, we are reaching out to invite you to join us in our efforts to make Dr. Linda Henrie Elementary School a safer environment for the children.

We were unsure who would be the best person to contact within Mesquite ISD, but we felt that you would be an appropriate choice given your leadership role. Please read the attached letter and let us know if you would be interested in working with us to address this important issue.

We look forward to hearing from you.

2. Jessica Ramirez

Dear Council of Governments,

I am writing to express my serious concern regarding the safety of residents of Yes Communities who commonly bike and walk to the newly opened gas station located at 5065 Lawson Rd. Mesquite, TX 75181. The current conditions of the roads and lack of necessary infrastructure pose significant dangers to the City of Dallas pedestrians and cyclists. The primary issues that need immediate attention are:

- Absence of Traffic Lights: The roads leading to the gas station have no traffic lights, making it exceedingly dangerous for residents, especially during peak traffic hours. This lack of traffic control increases the risk of accidents.
- Lack of Bike Lane Access: There are no designated bike lanes on the roads to the gas station. This forces cyclists to share the road with vehicles, which is particularly hazardous given the narrow and poorly maintained roads.
- Poor Road Conditions: The roads are in bad condition, with numerous potholes and uneven surfaces. These conditions make it difficult for both pedestrians and cyclists to travel safely.
- Increased Traffic Volume: Since the opening of the gas station, traffic volume has significantly increased, exacerbating the safety issues for non-motorized road users.

These conditions are not only inconvenient but also pose a serious risk to the safety and wellbeing of our community members. Many residents rely on biking and walking as their primary

means of transportation, and the current infrastructure fails to support their safety needs. I kindly request the Council of Governments to take the following actions:

- Install traffic lights at critical intersections leading to the gas station.
- Develop and implement designated bike lanes or sidewalks on these roads.
- Repair and maintain the roads to ensure they are safe for all users.
- Conduct a traffic safety assessment to identify further necessary improvements.

Addressing these concerns promptly will significantly enhance the safety and quality of life for the residents of Yes Communities and surrounding mobile home communities. I urge you to consider this matter with the urgency it deserves and to take the necessary steps to protect our community members.

Thank you for your attention to this pressing issue. I look forward to your prompt response and to seeing positive changes implemented in my area.

RTC/STTC/Executive Board

RTC -

Please see Attachment 4 for comments submitted during the RTC meeting on July 11, 2024.

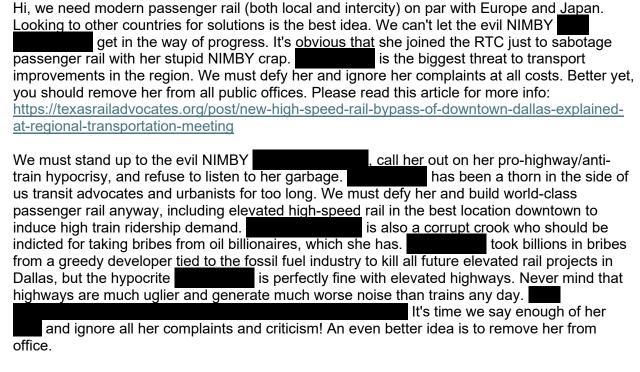
Email -

1. Paul McManus

Hello, I watched the recording of the RTC meeting held on Thursday (June 13), and I just wanted to say that I'm pleased that both the NCTCOG Transportation Dept. and the RTC as a whole governing body will continue to move forward on the Dallas-to-Fort Worth High-Speed Rail (HSR) project. The implementation of the HSR corridor is absolutely critical toward reducing car traffic, road congestion and air pollution, as well as providing a terrific transportation option given the current growth in the region and population projections through at least 2050. Thanks

so much for all of the great work that NCTCOG Transportation Dept. staff and the RTC do to improve mobility throughout north Texas!

2. Matt James



Below is a wonderful article that highlights the importance of building modern passenger rail in North America: https://reecemartin.ca/2024/07/09/why-having-few-modern-railways-is-going-to-throw-the-brakes-on-for-north-america/

Facebook -

1. The Regional Transportation Council will begin at 1 PM today! Watch the meeting live at https://bit.ly/3SOQrWo — NCTCOG Transportation Department



Please fix our service road on I-20 between Mile Marker 409 to 410... in Parker County! We need a bridge over the train track to help alleviate the amount of traffic on I 20! — Hegre Eric

No toll roads in Parker County — Hegre Eric

Good Day Weatherford 95.5 The Coyote Txdot District Office, Waco, Tx — Hegre Eric

Transit

Twitter -

1. @dartmedia wants to raise rider fares, especially for local transit, as they eliminate the least costly option. DART has GREATLY increased their revenue in the last 5 yrs. Guess they want more \$ for exec bonuses from transit-dependent riders. ② @NCTCOGtrans @TxDOT @FTA DOT — Cara Mendelsohn (@caraathome)



Facebook -

1. North Texas comes together this week to celebrate Independence Day. Avoid traffic and parking and let your red, white and blue fly at these DARTable Fourth of July events. Read more: https://bit.ly/4cxErA8 #DARTable — Dallas Area Rapid Transit (Official DART page)



No DART for you though, huh NCTCOG Transportation Department, you chose to locate your office in Arlington, largest city in the United States with no mass transit. No biking for you, either, apparently not even carpooling. Way to lead not by example! — Rob Dentremont

Email -

1. Mary Starnes

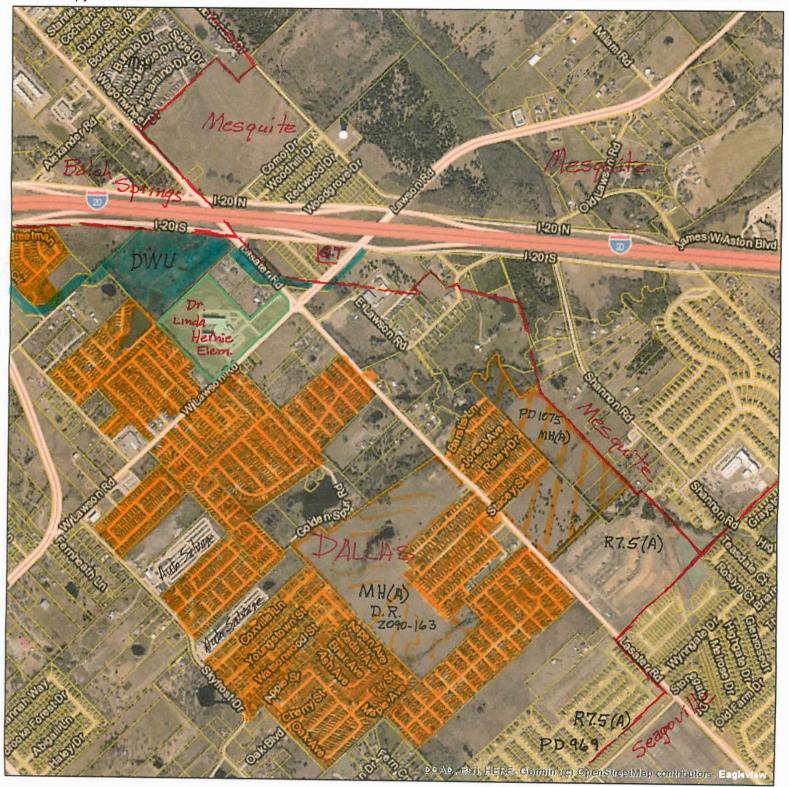
We need more bus service and other transportation services available in Lake Worth! We live outside of the zone for any transportation services.

LASATER-W. LAWSON-S. BELT LINE

Attachment 1

Date of copy: 4/7/2024

DCAD Tax Account: 008837000C0010000

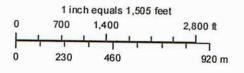


This product is for INFORMATIONAL purposes only and may not have been prepared for or be suitable for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes. It does not represent an on-the-ground survey and represents only the approximate relative location of property boundaries.

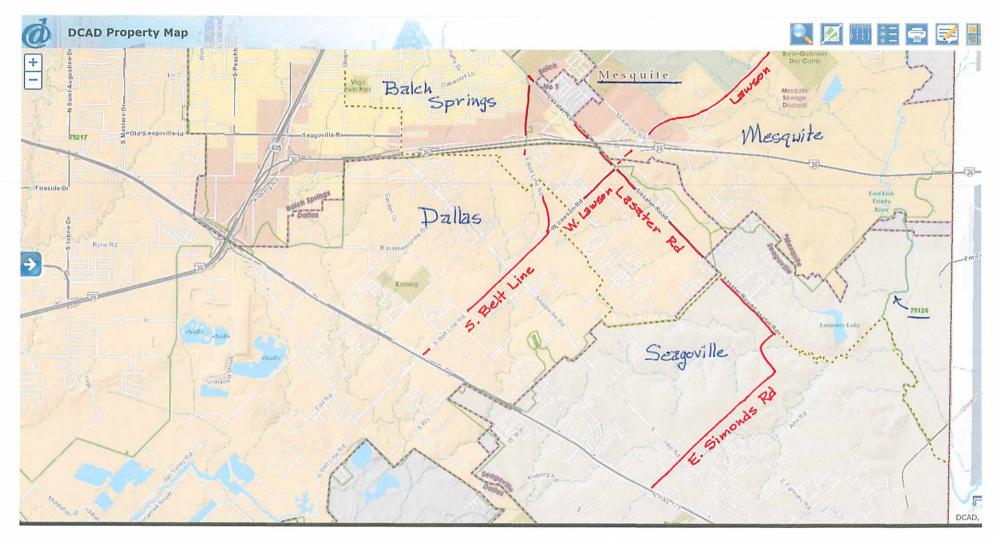




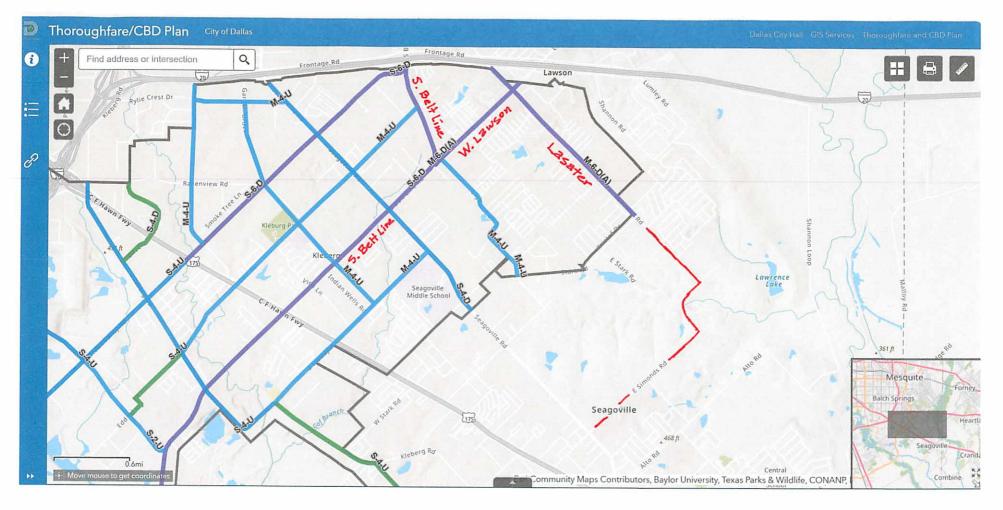
Dallas Central Appraisal District 2949 N Stemmons Freeway Dallas, TX 75247-6195 (214) 631-1342 www.dallascad.org







CITY LIMITS



S = Standard Width 107'

M = Minimum Width 90'

6 = No. of Lanes

D = Divided

Lasater = PA Principal Arterial

W. Lawson = PA Principal Arterial

FY2024 and FY2025 Unified Planning Work Program

for Regional Transportation Planning

TIP CODE	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	FUNDING SOURCE	MATCH SOURCE	FY2026 FUNDING
11650.1	TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL SUPPORT; TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR DEVELOPING, MONITORING, ENVIRONMENTALLY APPROVING, AND IMPLEMENTING CORRIDOR STUDIES/PROJECTS ACCORDING TO CAPITAL ASSET MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES	STBG	TDCs	\$1,800,000
11647.2	LAND USE/TRANSPORTATION AND BIKE/PEDESTRIAN INITIATIVES INCLUDES BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN PLANNING, TRANSIT ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT, REGIONAL PEDESTRIAN SAFETY PROGRAM,	STBG	TDCs	\$3,110,000
	IMPLEMENTATION OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES, REGIONAL WAYFINDING, AND ADA COMPLIANCE; INCLUDES NCTCOG STAFF TIME AND	Y20	and H	FY2024
	POSSIBLE CONSULTANT ASSISTANCE TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT FUNDING PROGRAMS, COLLECT AND ANALYZE DATA; SCHOOL SITING/LAND USE CONNECTIONS, SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL, SAFETY AND EDUCATION	oneno Bull	Flams al Transp	UNITEA vot Region
	MANAGEMENT AND OVERSIGHT OF REGIONAL SAFETY PROGRAM; INCLUDING REGIONAL DATA TOOLS AND ANALYSIS, TRAFFIC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT, DRIVE AWARE NORTH TEXAS SAFETY CAMPAIGN, STRATEGIC TARGETING OF AGGRESSIVE DRIVING AND ROAD RAGE, INCLUDES CONSULTANT, NCTCOG STAFF TIME AND EQUIPMENT	STBG	TDCs	\$6,070,000
	ENTIRE MANAGED LANE SYSTEM; DEVELOP, TEST, & IMPLEMENT TECHNOLOGY TO DETECT & VERIFY AUTO OCCUPANCY ON REGIONAL MANAGED LANE SYSTEM INCLUDING PUBLIC OUTREACH, EDUCATION, & INTEGRATION INTO EXISTING TOLLING SOFTWARE/HARDWARE; PROJECT INVOLVES CONSULTANT ASSISTANCE & NCTCOG STAFF TIME	STBG	TDCs	\$2,088,000
	SPECIAL EVENTS MANAGEMENT; INCLUDING MEASURES SUCH AS EXTENDED TRANSIT SERVICE FOR EVENTS, STAGING OF TOW TRUCKS TO CLEAR INCIDENTS QUICKLY, CLEARING ROADWAYS QUICKLY AFTER INCIDENTS, ETC. TO REDUCE CONGESTION DURING SPECIAL EVENTS; INCLUDES NCTCOG STAFF TIME	STBG	TDCs	\$600,000

- Identification of needed transportation solutions along the entire corridor;
- Identification of transportation solutions to be processed as Transportation Improvement Program recommendations for engineering and construction; and
- Development of a communications plan for the City of Dallas, Dallas County, TxDOT, the North Texas Tollway Authority, Southwest Airlines, and public entities/citizens.

5.03 Land-Use/Transportation Initiatives

This subtask is ongoing throughout both FY2024 and FY2025. Work will include various elements, including Sustainable Development Initiatives, Transit-Oriented Development, and Bicycle/Pedestrian Planning, Safety, and Engineering Initiatives.

Sustainable Development Initiatives

General Land Use and Transportation Coordination

Transportation Planning Funds

This subtask includes regional, subarea, corridor, and district-level planning, along with technical assistance focused on the interface between transportation and land use. Staff will continue work on the development and implementation of tools related to land-use planning principles such as sustainable zoning practices and others and will host training sessions and develop educational information. Staff will continue to pursue funding opportunities to expand or enhance activities. Anticipated products during FY2024 and FY2025 include:

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IS NOT:

- connected to the Agenda 21 Movement; nor
- an avenue to promote United Nations Policies; nor
- a challenge to, or restriction of, property rights of landowners.
- Technical assistance to local governments on implementing Sustainable Development programs and projects such as the development of unified corridor plans, land-use analysis, data collection, education and training regarding transportation and land-use planning best practices, form-based code review, school siting and safe routes to school, curb lane management, parking, housing and transportation analysis, 3D visualization services, financing strategies and tools for economic development, zoning and special district analysis, and planning to promote infill and mixed-use developments;
- Online information, training, and education on topics related to Green Infrastructure, transportation and sustainable stormwater projects and practices, and other such topics to assist in growth management and land-use planning;
- Planning support for the development of the Blue-Green-Grey Program;
- Technical assistance to local governments and Independent School Districts (ISD's) for school siting in relation to transportation infrastructure;
- Coordination with NCTCOG's Environment and Development-related programs;
- Practical tools and planning support for curb lane management throughout the region;
- Meetings and materials for the Coordinated Land Use and Transportation Planning Task Force;

- Analysis of the impacts of mixed-use developments on travel patterns and congestion compared to conventional single-use development; and
- Technical assistance to the City of Plano regarding context-sensitive thoroughfare design best practices.

Increasing Safe and Accessible Transportation Options

Transportation Planning Funds

During FY2024 and FY2025, NCTCOG staff will coordinate with various local governments, transportation agencies, and the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) to increase safe and accessible options for multiple travel modes for people of all ages and abilities. Technical assistance and education and training will be provided on the concepts and principles related to Complete Streets and context-sensitive design. Anticipated products include:

- Adoption of regional and local Complete Streets standards or policies, and the development of Complete Streets prioritization plans that identify a specific list of Complete Streets projects to improve the safety, mobility, or accessibility of a street;
- Development of transportation projects and plans that support a network of active transportation facilities (sidewalks, bikeways, or pedestrian and bicycle trails) to connect neighborhoods with destinations such as workplaces, schools, residences, businesses, recreation areas, healthcare and childcare services, or other community activity centers;
- Planning and technical assistance to create multiuse transportation facilities, including bikeways or pedestrian and bicycle trails that make connections within or between communities, increase public transportation ridership, and improve the safety of bicyclists and pedestrians;
- Multimodal corridor coordination with the regional model on active transportation modes and performance measure reporting; and
- Education and training on Complete Streets and context-sensitive design topics.

Other Funding Sources

The Regional Transportation Council (RTC) selected a series of infrastructure/construction, planning, and land-banking projects during three Sustainable Development Calls for Projects (SDCFP) in 2001, 2005-2006, and 2009-2010. Efforts in overseeing passthrough construction dollars are conducted in conjunction with local governments to better coordinate transportation investments and land use. This program of projects was originally funded by Surface Transportation Program—Metropolitan Mobility funds (now known as Surface Transportation Block Grant Program [STBG] funds), and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) funds and was established in 2001 when the RTC selected the first Land-Use/Transportation Joint Venture projects. Additional RTC Local funds were programmed to fund these projects through the 2005-2006 SDCFP. Regional Toll Revenue funds, Surface Transportation Block Grant Program funds, and local funds were allocated to the program with the 2009-2010 Sustainable Development Call for Projects, and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program funds, Surface Transportation Block Grant Program funds, and local funds were allocated to the program with the Sustainable Development Phase IV: Turnback, Context-Sensitive, and Transit-Oriented Development funding initiative in FY2018.

Exhibit VI-1 contains the listing of the Sustainable Development infrastructure and land-banking projects still underway. The funds are used to provide:

• Road construction, sidewalks, pedestrian amenities, bike trails, etc.

EXHIBIT VI-1 Sustainable Development Projects

Project Name	Туре	Funding Source		
Dallas Collective	Infrastructure	RTR/STBG/TDCs		
Dallas-Lake Highlands Transit-Oriented Development Town Center	Infrastructure	RTC Local/Local		
Irving Heritage District	Land banking	RTC Local/Local		
Crowley Main Street	Infrastructure	CMAQ/STBG/Local		
Ennis UPRR Safety Zone	Infrastructure	CMAQ/STBG/Local		
Irving SH 356/Irving Boulevard	Infrastructure	CMAQ/STBG/Local		
Lewisville College Street	Infrastructure	CMAQ/STBG/Local/TDCs		
DCTA Intermodal Transit Center	Infrastructure	CMAQ/STBG/TDCs		

The 2001 and 2018 projects are coordinated directly between the implementing agencies and the Texas Department of Transportation with staff monitoring project progress. Utilizing Regional Transportation Council Local funds, NCTCOG staff will provide oversight for the implementation of the 2005-2006 infrastructure and land-banking projects. Utilizing Surface Transportation Block Grant Program funds and Transportation Development Credits (TDCs), staff will oversee the implementation of the 2009-2010 infrastructure projects that may be assigned that are project/corridor specific. Regional Transportation Council Local funds will also be used to identify and support the development of future funding opportunities for Sustainable Development initiatives. Anticipated products during FY2024 and FY2025 include:

- Implementation and tracking of infrastructure and land-banking projects which include invoice, progress report, and schedule review; and project sponsor meetings;
- Project tracking and technical assistance to local governments developing Sustainable Development projects;
- · Work scopes for plan procurements and consultant selection;
- In-house studies on land use/transportation and sustainability/livability topics of regional benefit:
- Coordination on growth and demographics;
- Training opportunities on regional land use/transportation and sustainability/livability topics of benefit to stakeholders;
- Collection of data as needed, and development and tracking of regional performance measures for reporting to stakeholders and elected officials; and
- Development and assistance in identifying funding programs and grants for regional sustainability/livability initiatives.

Community Schools and Transportation

Other Funding Sources

During FY2024 and FY2025, staff will coordinate with various local cities, counties, independent school districts, and the Texas Department of Transportation to assist in Safe Routes to School project development. The team will provide technical assistance related to needed safety improvements and best practices related to school location siting. Surface Transportation Block Grant Program funds and Transportation Development Credits will support work activities. Anticipated products include:

- Development of Safe Routes to School plans, training, and education information, as well as promotion of Safe Routes to School encouragement activities;
- Technical assistance and best practices related to school siting and transportation connections to schools, and assistance in reviewing roadway and active transportation projects impacting schools and analysis of potential school sites;
- Various maps and route analysis for specific safety or access projects;
- Training opportunities for technical staff and elected officials;
- Coordination meetings between independent school districts (ISDs) and other stakeholders
 to engage in regional issues related to school siting, safe routes to school, and policy and
 transportation issues;
- Practical tools for rapidly growing and greenfield cities and ISDs to plan proactively for school siting and safe bicycle/pedestrian access to schools;
 - Survey and/or data collection of site conditions as needed;
- Development of a Safe Routes to School Plan for the City of Richardson and provision of resources for larger-scale planning by City staff; and
 - Development of Teen Driver education materials and outreach to targeted high school campuses and Independent School Districts around the region.

Safe Routes to Schools in Lower-Income Communities

Transportation Planning Funds

During FY2024, data will be collected, and areas of concern evaluated related to school safety in lower-income and underserved communities. Contributing factors will be examined and transportation policies reviewed. This information will be developed into a best practice that can be shared with local governments and Independent School Districts (ISDs) and expanded in the future for additional areas of concern. University assistance will be utilized. Anticipated products include:

- Summary of sites studied; and process to be accessed to the studied of the studied.
- Best practice guide on the process and policies to enhance safety around schools in lowincome communities.

The Kleberg Neighborhood Association is writing to you all to please reconsider ENZ223_125_sent_2-21-23.pdf (dallascityhall.com) and ENZ223_139_sent_3-17-23.pdf (dallascityhall.com) or give us the infrastructure needed to support this growth.

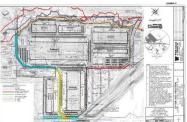
In April of 2023 we were asked by Dallas Planning Commissioner Blair to call a community meeting on these two zoning cases. In our meeting the majority were adamantly against them. The community felt there was not enough infrastructure to support the proposed businesses along Lawson Rd and Lasater Rd.

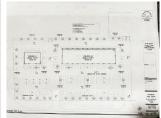
Both streets are one lane roads with no sidewalks and only one stop sign. On that street there is Dr. Linda Henrie Elementary School. This street is already very busy, but when the parents drop off their children in the morning and the evening traffic comes to a standstill. When it's raining it's even worse because since there are no sidewalks parents park in the mud and wait for kids.



We have been asking for sidewalks and infrastructure here, but it hasn't come. The traffic will get worse because Mesquite just added a Quick Trip at Hwy 20 and Lawson Rd. and will be adding a 30-acre industrial park and an apartment complex on the other side of Hwy 20. The City of Dallas approved a Manufactured Home Development that will house 257 homes with 900 parking spaces around the corner on Lasater and The City is proposing to fix the street in front of that development with the 2024 Bond Issue. Yet leaving the road in front of the school untouched.







Now the City of Dallas has approved a Gas station and Mini Mart with approximately 100 parking spaces which will be directly across the street from the school. If that wasn't enough the City of Dallas also approved a 54' 4 story Public Storage Warehouse that will be on 13900 Lasater Dr and Lawson Rd.

In the evening at Lawson Rd and Lasater Rd. the intersection is full of traffic because of several Roach Coaches that come and sell their goods causing congestion. The city tries to combat them, but they keep coming. This happens almost every night and on weekends its much worse.

Just recently I learned of The Vision Zero Action Plan where The Mayor, City Council and City Manager all signed. This plan was adopted roughly June of 2022.

Here is the Mayor's Letter introducing the plan.

Safety is the number one responsibility of every level of government. Without safety, we cannot expect our residents to thrive. And safety is not only about preventing crime in our neighborhoods. It is also about allowing people to walk, bike, drive, and move around safely throughout Dallas.

Traffic safety has not always been treated as a priority, unfortunately. The data shows that despite the major advances over the years in vehicle safety and technology, the rate of traffic deaths in Dallas has been steadily increasing during the past two decades. Frankly, this is a tragedy — one that has not received the attention it deserves. Far too many lives and livelihoods have been forever altered by these awful incidents and accidents.

Action is needed now. That is why the Dallas City Council and I have responded to these alarming trends by setting ambitious goals: zero traffic fatalities and a 50% reduction in severe injuries by 2030. However, this plan, which we call Vision Zero, is much more than just a goal. It is a strategic and collaboratively designed roadmap to a safer, more prosperous Dallas. Our plan includes input from nearly every city department, including the Department of Transportation and the Dallas Police Department. This plan also outlines steps we can take to improve safety for all modes of transportation in Dallas.

Achieving our goals will not be easy. But this work is imperative. Safety must come first in Dallas. We must ensure that our residents are able to safely get to school, go to work, run errands, visit friends and family, and travel to restaurants, events, and entertainment. That is what is at stake: the lives, livelihoods, health, and well-being of our residents.

We understand our challenges and opportunities clearly. And through our Vision Zero plan, we will make Dallas a safer, more livable, and more vibrant city for years to come.

Here is a link of the entire plan FINAL-Vision Zero Action Plan (high res).pdf (dallascityhall.com)

Although our area is not in the "High Injury Network," we should still be aware and plan to keep this area safe. Two weeks ago, Dallas Morning News had a story "Is Dallas unsafe for Walkers"

In our opinion adding this much traffic and density on a one lane road each way with no stop lights or sidewalks in front of an Elementary School is fiscally irresponsible and must be stopped. These developments and lack of infrastructure is a disaster waiting to happen.

Already in this area last year there was an attempted kidnapping of a child, a Kidnap of a teacher that was found murdered, and accident where a child died wrecking a car that he was joy riding in.

Last week alone in that area there were approximately 6 car thefts and other crimes,

Please help our neighborhood and help stop these developments or get us wider roads, sidewalks and stop lights to make this a safer area.

Sincerely

David Carranza, President
Dakota Wrinkle, Vice President
Jessica Ramirez, Treasure
Niki Kingsberry, Secretary
Kleberg Neighborhood Association & Crime Watch



Regional Transportation Council Speaker Request Card

Instructions:

- 1. Please mark the box indicating whether you would like to make an oral comment (pursuant to HB 2840), a written comment, or both oral and written comments.
- 2. Speakers are permitted up to three (3) minutes to speak. A person addressing the RTC through a translator will be provided up to six (6) minutes.

 Please fill in your name, affiliation and agenda item you are providing comments on. If you are submitting a written comment, please write your comment on this form. Please return this form to an NCTCOG employee.
wish to make an oral comment at the Regional Transportation Council meeting wish to submit a written comment at the Regional Transportation Council meeting wish to make both oral and written comments at the Regional Transportation Council meeting
Name Jessica Ramiroz
Organization, if any Klubery Neighborhood 4550C.
City of Residence Dallas Zip Code 75253
RTC Agenda Item # #3.2 #1 #13
Please select one of the following:
wish to speak on this topic wish to speak for this topic wish to speak against this topic
ease provide written comments below:
Collaboration between Balch Sommas Mesquite,
eagrable, and Dallas County To movive Lasater
Ind Lawson roads that are dangerous for
tudents of this grea.



Regional Transportation Council Speaker Request Card

Dear Members of the Council,

I am writing to urgently express my concern regarding the safety and infrastructure of the Kleberg/Rylie communities. My name is David Carranza, and I serve as the President of the Kleberg Neighborhood Association & Crime Watch. We represent residents in the 75253 and 75217 zip codes in Dallas, which encompass approximately 50% of District 8. Kleberg/Rylie remains one of the last rural areas of Dallas, and this has led to a longstanding neglect of our infrastructure needs. Since Dallas annexed our area in 1979, the infrastructure has been insufficiently developed, leaving us ill-prepared for the ongoing and accelerating developments in Southeast Dallas County. It is imperative to stop overlooking our community; there is more to the region than the affluent northern areas.

District 8 contains the highest concentration of mobile home parks in Dallas, which limits our access to essential amenities like big-box stores, forcing us to travel to neighboring cities such as Mesquite, Balch Springs, or Seagoville.

One of the most pressing issues is the situation at Dr. Linda Henri Elementary School, located at the busy intersection of Lawson Ave and Lasater Rd. This intersection, with its single-lane roads, is surrounded by mobile home parks and open spaces slated for further development, including a business mart, gas station, Self Storage Facility and a 454 Manufactured Home Development around the corner. Currently, there is only a stop sign to manage traffic at this intersection. During peak hours, parents must park on the gravel and dirt roadside to pick up their children, resulting in gridlock and unsafe conditions, especially in bad weather. Moreover, the lack of sidewalks forces children to walk on the grass, mud, or street, further endangering their safety.

Despite raising these concerns with our City Council Representative, we have received no response to our letters sent on May 25th to Mayor Eric Johnson, City Council Members, and the City Manager's Office. This lack of response led us to send a follow-up letter on June 11th, inviting key stakeholders, including the Mayor, City Council, City Manager's Office, and Mesquite ISD, to discuss solutions for making the school and the intersection safer.

We also extend this invitation to the North Texas Council of Governments to participate in this crucial meeting, scheduled for August 5th, at 6pm to be held at the Kleberg/Rylie Recreation Center at 1515 Edd Rd, Dallas, Texas, 75253. The primary issues requiring immediate attention are:

- 1. **Wider Roads or Additional Lanes:** The current single lanes are inadequate for the busy intersection, especially with impending developments.
- 2. **Traffic Lights:** The absence of traffic lights at key intersections poses significant danger, particularly during peak hours.
- 3. **Bike Lane Access:** There are no designated bike lanes, forcing cyclists to share narrow, poorly maintained roads with vehicles.

- 4. **Road Conditions:** The roads are in poor condition, with potholes and uneven surfaces, endangering pedestrians and cyclists.
- 5. **Increased Traffic Volume: ** The opening of new developments has exacerbated traffic volume, increasing the risk of accidents.

These conditions are not only inconvenient but also present a serious risk to our community's safety and well-being. Many residents rely on biking and walking as primary transportation modes, and the current infrastructure fails to support their needs.

I urgently request that the Council of Governments take the following actions:

- 1. **Enhance Lawson and Lasater Roads:** Transform these roads into the thoroughfares they were intended to be.
- 2. **Install Traffic Lights:** At critical intersections, particularly those leading to the new gas station.
- 3. **Develop Bike Lanes and Sidewalks: ** Ensure safe pathways for non-motorized road users.
- 4. **Repair and Maintain Roads: ** Improve road conditions for the safety of all users.
- 5. **Conduct a Traffic Safety Assessment: ** Identify further necessary improvements.

Addressing these concerns promptly will significantly enhance the safety and quality of life for the residents of East Kleberg and surrounding mobile home communities. I urge you to consider this matter with the urgency it deserves and take the necessary steps to protect our community members.

Thank you for your attention to this pressing issue. I look forward to your prompt response and to seeing positive changes implemented in our area.

Sincerely,

David Carranza KlebergCommunity@gmail.com cell 408-230-3276

President

Kleberg Neighborhood Association & Crime Watch



Regional Transportation Council Speaker Request Card

Instructions:

- 1. Please mark the box indicating whether you would like to make an oral comment (pursuant to HB 2840), a written comment, or both oral and written comments.
- 2. Speakers are permitted up to three (3) minutes to speak. A person addressing the RTC through a translator will be provided up to six (6) minutes.
- 3. Please fill in your name, affiliation and agenda item you are providing comments on. 4. If you are submitting a written comment, please write your comment on this form. 5. Please return this form to an NCTCOG employee. ☐ I wish to make an oral comment at the Regional Transportation Council meeting I wish to submit a written comment at the Regional Transportation Council meeting I wish to make both oral and written comments at the Regional Transportation Council meeting MARCUS WOOD Name Organization, if any Zip Code 75214 (RE 75253) City of Residence DALLAS RTC Agenda Item # 4.17 "Recent New Articles" and #3.2; #9; #13. Please select one of the following: ✓ I wish to speak on this topic I wish to speak for this topic I wish to speak against this topic Please provide written comments below: (See attached comments and enclosed Dallas Observer June 27, 2024.)

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There is a need for NCTCOG and RTC to work with the cities of Balch Springs, Dallas, Mesquite, and Seagoville as well as Dallas County in developing a consolidated plan for the design, funding, and construction of Lasater and E. Simonds Roads in or adjacent to these cities and unincorporated Dallas County in Southeast Dallas County from S. Belt Line Road in Balch Springs to Seagoville Road in Seagoville.

The portion of Lasater in Dallas is designated as a Primary Arterial (6-lanes, divided), but today is two lanes, most of which distance is in "Failure State."

The Pre-k through 5th Grade Dr. Linda Henrie Elementary School (MISD) with enrollment of about 900 students is located at the west corner of Lasater and West Lawson Roads, in Dallas. It is dangerous for students or anyone to travel by foot or bike along such narrow and poor Lasater Road.

This effort by COG, RTC, cities, and Dallas County needs to be part of today's RTC Agenda Items:

- #3.2 Modifications to the Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025
 Unified Planning Work Program
- #9 2025 Unified Transportation Program and Regional 10-Year Plan
 Update
- #13 Future Agenda Items.

There is a well established history of such coordination in northern sections of COG region resulting in trails (such as the DART Silver Line) and roads. Please undertake such actions now in this often overlooked area. The residents of these often lower income and large ethnic groups need immediate actions by COG and you.

RE RTC AGENDA ITEM 4.17 "RECENT NEWS ARTICLES"

(Electronic Item 4.12)

PLEASE ADD THE FOLLOWING **DALLAS OBSERVER** ARTICLES REGARDING INFRASTRUCTURE ISSUES INCLUDING ROADS IN EASTERN MOST AREA OF DALLAS DISTRICT 8 (ZIP CODE 75253) AND SOUTHEAST DALLAS COUNTY:

May 20, 2024 ON-LINE

https://www.dallasobserver.com/news/some-inkleberg-rylie-say-they-feel-neglected-by-dallas-citycouncil-19396647

JUNE 26, 2024 PRINT - COVER STORY

https://www.dallasobserver.com/news/residents-in-a-kleberg-rylie-struggle-to-get-dallas-city-services-19705350