

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 Process, 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 November 8, 2018.

This report is a compilation of general public comments submitted by members of the public from Thursday, February 20, through Thursday, March 19. Comments and questions are submitted for the record and can be submitted via Facebook, Twitter, fax, email and online.

This month, public comments were received on a number of topics across social media platforms and via email. Transit comments related to the expansion of service were in the majority.

Air Quality

Email –

1. **Beverly Townsley**

City dump-like truck #2040310 exhaust is terrible. Made me sick. 2/13/20 at 8:30 am on Chisholm Trail Parkway. Please have this truck checked. Thank You.

Ms. Townsley,

Thank you for submitting a report of a smoking vehicle that was driving on Chisholm Trail Parkway. As you may be aware, we have a specific program dedicated to helping inform the public that their vehicles may be emitting excessive smoke from their tailpipe. Citizens like yourself are crucial in not only helping spread program awareness of the Regional Smoking Vehicle Program (RSVP) but are also part of the air quality solution by helping to reduce the amount of excessively smoking vehicles on our roadways.

Through our website, www.smokingvehicle.net and phone reporting at 817-704-2522, vehicles can be directly reported by providing:

1. City
2. Cross streets
3. Texas License plate number
4. Date/Time

5. Type of Vehicle

Once an anonymous report is submitted, the vehicle owner is mailed a letter informing them that their vehicle may be smoking excessively. The letter also contains suggestions and steps to help mitigate their vehicles impact on regional air quality.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to us again if you have any questions.

This was the City's vehicle.

Ms. Townsley,

Any vehicle with a valid Texas license plate can be reported via our website and our telephone hotline, including city vehicles (dump trucks, buses, school buses etc.).

Alternative Fuels

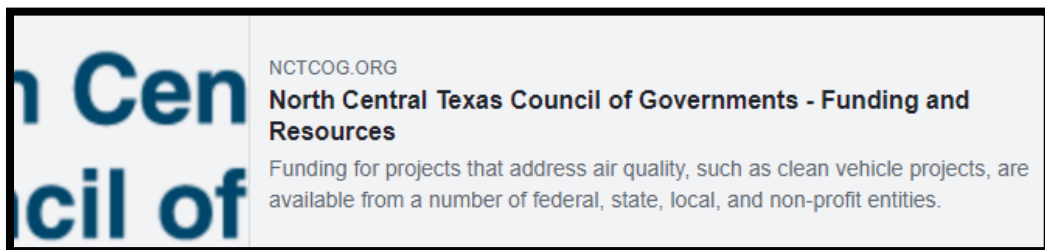
Facebook –

1. Call for Partners for North Texas Fleets Interested in Deploying AFVs

NCTCOG Transportation Department, through the Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities coalition, has opened a Call for Partners to solicit North Texas Fleets to work with NCTCOG on implementing an alternative fuel vehicle (AFV) deployment project involving public sector fleets. All fleets must be located within the 10-county ozone nonattainment area.

Responses must be received, in-hand, by 5:00 p.m., Friday, March 27th, 2020. Applications received after this time will not be considered and will be returned to the applicant unopened; postmarked by the published deadline does not constitute an on-time application.

For additional information on this project and how to apply, please visit: www.nctcog.org/aqfunding and look under "Hot Topics". If you would like to contact us, or have any questions, please contact cleancities@nctcog.org. – Texas NGV Alliance



2. Don't miss this meeting at NCTCOG Transportation Department:

Join DFWCC and the NAFA South Central Chapter to discuss the benefits of alternative fuels, alternative fuel vehicle availability, and tools to evaluate whether alternative fuels are a good fit for your fleet.

We are looking for alternative fuel vehicles for the ride and drive portion of our event! Contact DFWCC staff at cleancities@nctcog.org to make arrangements.

Date: March 25

Time: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Location: 616 Six Flags Dr. Arlington, Texas 76011 - Transportation Council Room

To Register:

<https://www.dfwcleancities.org/.../nafa-dfw-clean-cities-meet...> – Texas NGV Alliance



The advertisement features a graphic on the left showing a city skyline with a water tower and a car. Below the graphic is the text "Dallas-Fort Worth CLEAN CITIES". To the right of the graphic, the text reads: "DFWCLEANCITIES.ORG", "NAFA & DFW Clean Cities Meeting", and "Join DFWCC and the NAFA South Central Chapter to discuss the benefits of alternative fuels, alternative fuel vehicle availability, and tools to evaluate whether alternative fuels are a good fit for your fleet. After the meeting, participate in an interactive display of various alternative fuel vehic..."

Aviation

Twitter –

1. #319 @navcanada selects @UniFlyUTMS, BlueBird wins big UAS order, Texas trains new drone pilots, mystery drone emails, shooting the Golden Gate Bridge, students develop drones for environmental studies: <http://bit.ly/3ccNMP3> @NCTCOGtrans - UAVdigest (@UAVDigest)



Bicycle & Pedestrian

Facebook –

1. It is going to be the perfect day to check out the NCTCOG Transportation Department's Regional Trail of the Month, the Dallas SoPac Trail!! Check out the video of this beautiful trail at <https://www.nctcog.org/trans/plan/bikeped/veloweb/bikeweb> – BikeDFW

<p>n Cen ncil of</p>	<p>NCTCOG.ORG North Central Texas Council of Governments - Local Trails Websites The DFW metropolitan planning area has approximately 775 miles of existing trails and many more miles funded for construction. Residents and visitors to the region can utilize these trails for both transportation and exercise. Learn...</p>
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2. Happy First Day of Spring! Though we're all practicing social distancing, you can still celebrate by going for a walk or bike ride. Just be sure to be mindful of others. 🌸🌺🌻 – NCTCOG Transportation Department



I've seen more people walking and riding bicycles here in Lantana in Denton County over the past week than I have in a long time! – Paul McManus

We love to hear it! – NCTCOG Transportation Department

Innovative Vehicles & Technology

Twitter –

1. I'm starting a petition and sending it to @TxDOT and NTTA @TollTagNews. What do we need to do to get air gondolas like Disney Skyliner all over DFW highways? Limited median interference. Existing right of way. Small carbon footprint. I want lane-mile comparisons. #FlyMetrolplex – Justin Bond (@JustinPBond)



@NCTCOGtrans @NCTCOG_Official Has there ever been discussion on this? Thinking back to my days in EconDev and City planning I know your crew was a major driver in what could be possible for DFW mobility. Surely I'm not the first to think of this wacko thought. – Justin Bond (@JustinPBond)

Hi, Justin! Our apologies on the delayed response. Working on getting more information for you. – NCTCOGTransportation (@NCTCOGtrans)

OK, so the short of it is we did not find the gondolas to be an appropriate technology for efficient and effective movement of people and goods. – NCTCOGTransportation (@NCTCOGtrans)

They were considered as part of our Midtown people mover project, but they didn't make the cut due to lack of capacity (they operate slowly and cannot carry large loads). Environmental conditions (especially wind and rain) were also a barrier. – NCTCOGTransportation (@NCTCOGtrans)

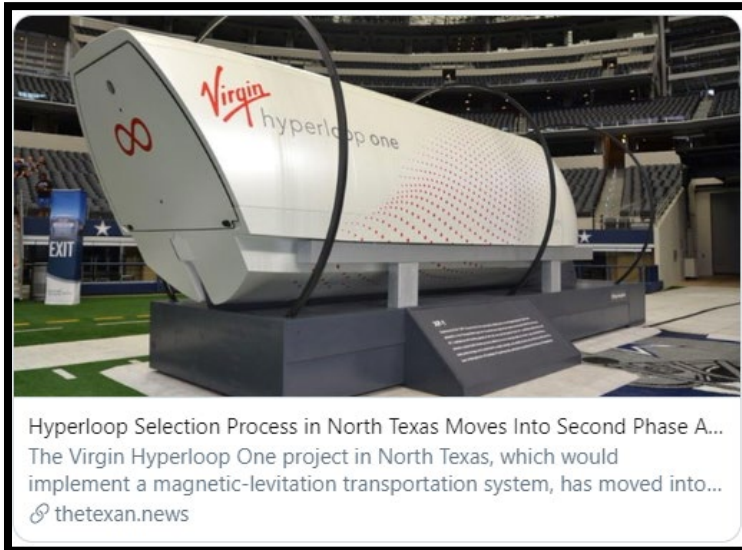
Thanks! I continued my research as well and can see where that would be the conclusion. I hope however that we see improvement in this technology over time as I'm still convinced by its compatibility with our transit system and potential for regional application in DFW. – Justin Bond (@JustinPBond)

2. How about following Foxx's lead when @USDOT and offering serious funding for an Innovation Challenge? – LegacyConnect (@LegacyConnectMe)



3. Hyperloop Selection Process in North Texas Moves Into Second Phase
<https://thetexan.news/hyperloop-selection-process-in-north-texas-moves-into-second-phase->

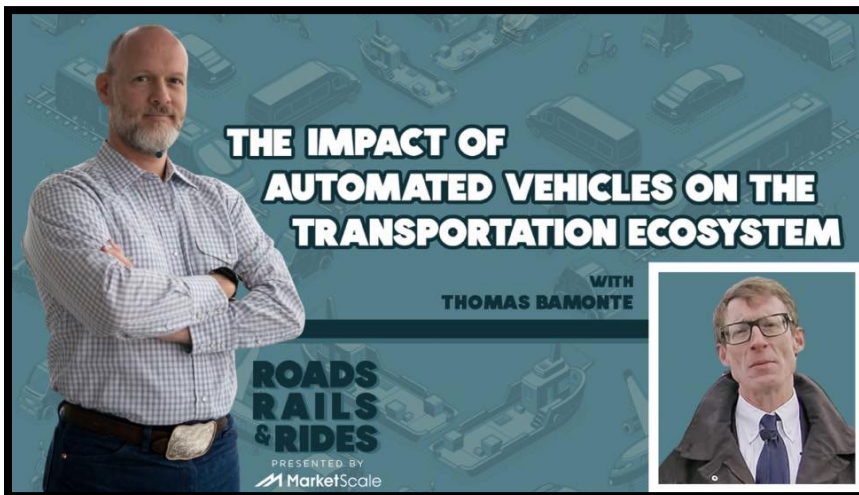
amid-some-opposition/ @NCTCOGtrans @CityOfDallas @DFWAirport – Lee M. Kleinman (@LeeforDallas)



4. The latest episode of Roads Rails & Rides is out now! I sit down with @TomBamonte of the @NCTCOGtrans to discuss automated vehicles and their future in North Texas. Join us for the discussion! #roadsrailsandrides – roads_rails_rides (@RailesRides)

Facebook –

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Programs

Email –

1. viperboy0098

Hello, the website I have been referred when I asked about how pricing is determined states “TEXpress Lanes use variable congestion-management pricing to help manage traffic flow and provide faster, more predictable travel. Roadside equipment recalculates real-time prices every 5 minutes, 24 hours a day, aiming to ensure the lanes are moving at 50 mph or faster.”

I find this interesting because I am always able to sustain a speed of 70+ from end to end. For example at 6:30 this morning, ofcourse with tons of people not going to work and such, traffic is super light, but it was still over 6\$ to go through the entire section. The traffic load was the same as when it was at 7am yesterday morning and the day prior. Is there simply a timing structure at which you guys use to vary rates based on expected demand as opposed to the above statement?

Projects & Planning

Twitter –

1. The only kind of new road we should allow. Impressive that it will stretch 40 miles after hitting Celina. – Nathaniel Barrett (@ncoxbarrett)



2. TFW @NCTCOGtrans funds a \$30 million parking garage over 1 mile walking distance across Central from nearest DART rail station as part of a new program. 🏠🏠🏠🏠🏠🏠🏠
Could have built out most of Dallas bike/micro-mobility lanes for same price. 🧑 1/ – Wylie H Dallas (@Wylie_H_Dallas)

Watch this debate, lead by Michael Morris. So much misleading info. This is @nctcog at its worst. <https://nctcog.org/nctcg/media/Transportation/Committees/RTC/2020/agenda-packet-feb.pdf> <https://nctcog.swagit.com/play/02272020-674> 2/ – Wylie H Dallas (@Wylie_H_Dallas)

If this debate accurately reflects the future of transit planning in North Texas, we are in very serious trouble. What a mess. Exhibit A in making the case for rebooting @NCTCOG. 3/ – Wylie H Dallas (@Wylie_H_Dallas)

@CityOfDallas doesn't know how to design Bike Lanes.... this is the new project on Harwood between Farmers Market & Downtown...they've left parking meters so cars are blocking the Bike Lane 🙄 @DavidBlewettD14 – I PROBABLY DON'T LIKE YOU (@Dallas104)



They also recently removed the bike lanes on Main St. connecting downtown and Deep Ellum to allow for more parking. As a result, both pedestrians and bicyclists are now forced into motor vehicle lanes due to the absence of sidewalks. – Wylie H Dallas (@Wylie_H_Dallas)

Ah yes...I recall seeing that awesome project as well! – I PROBABLY DON'T LIKE YOU (@Dallas104)

3. In celebration of North Texas having transportation infrastructure ranking near the bottom in terms of efficiency, on Feb 27 @NCTCOGtrans awarded \$30 mil for construction of a parking garage in a private Collin County development over 1 mile away from nearest light rail station. – Wylie H Dallas (@Wylie_H_Dallas)



Where? – David Salazar (@eltoca03)

The garage is built in the midst of a private mixed-used redevelopment of Collin Creek Mall. – Wylie H Dallas (@Wylie_H_Dallas)

So wrong on so many levels for so long. #WeCanDoBetter – Marcos Ronquillo (@MGRonquillo)

Putting aside the car-centric theme of this... What did public get for this public support of a private venture? – Edward Scott HOF LAND (@ScottHofland)

Nothing, best I can tell. – Wylie H Dallas (@Wylie_H_Dallas)

Public Meetings & Forums

Twitter –

1. Attending the February meeting of the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) of the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG). Here is web link to the RTC meetings: <https://nctcog.org/trans/about/committees/regional-transportation-council/meetings>
@TrinityMetro @CityofFortWorth @NCTCOGtrans – Sal Espino (@SAL_FW)



Transit

Email –

1. Laura Ragland

Can the DART orange line extended service to Plano begin earlier in the morning on weekdays

Twitter –

1. ICYMI on demand ZIPZONE service arriving in @CityofCrowley this spring. @TrinityMetro continues to provide more mobility options through partnerships w/cities, @TarrantCountyTX & @NCTCOGtrans. Thank you Comm @RoyCBrooks for your leadership! – Sal Espino (@SAL_FW)



2. Learn about how transit could change in Fort Worth. @CityofFortWorth @TrinityMetro @TarrantTransit @NCTCOGtrans – Sal Espino (@SAL_FW)



3. Great news for TEXRail and a future extension into the Medical District in the @nearsouthside. @TrinityMetro @CityofFortWorth @TarrantCountyTX @TarrantTransit - @NCTCOGtrans – Sal Espino (@SAL_FW)

Rep. Kay Granger @RepKayGranger · Feb 28

Fort Worth's economy is booming and #TX12 deserves infrastructure that keeps our momentum moving. After @TrinityMetro's TEXRail opened on time and under budget, I supported TEXRail's further expansion into the Medical District. So proud to announce today that's becoming reality.

Granger Announces Extension of TEXRail Commuter Train

February 28, 2020 | Press Release

WASHINGTON – Congresswoman Kay Granger (R-TX), top Republican on the House Appropriations Committee, announced today that Trinity Metro, previously known as Fort Worth Transportation Authority (FWTA), was authorized to use \$38.9 million of leftover Department of Transportation (DOT)-Federal Transit Administration (FTA) grant funds to extend TEXRail two more miles into the Fort Worth Medical District.

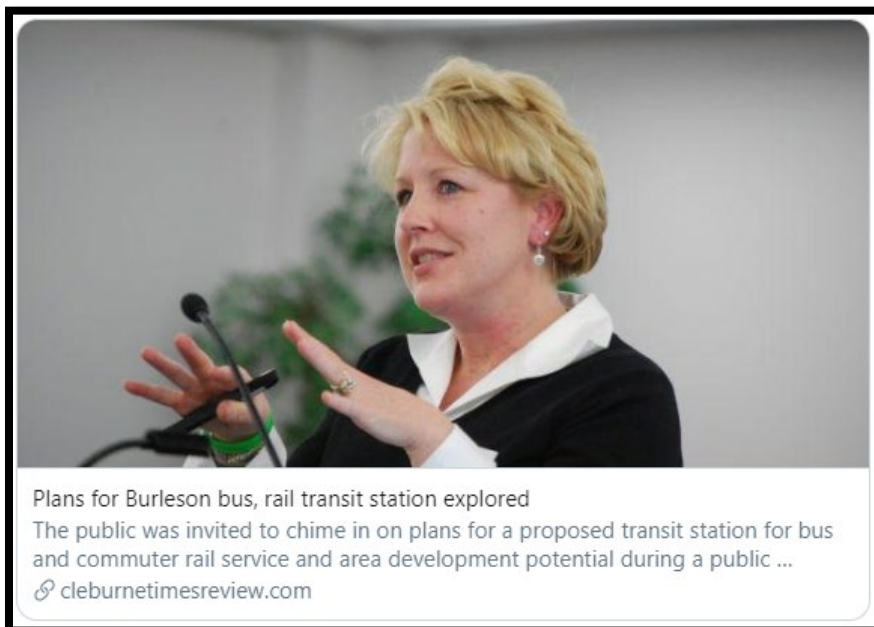
"As the economy of the Fort Worth area continues to boom, North Texans deserve infrastructure that keeps pace with our region's rapid development. Five years ago, I advocated strongly on behalf of Trinity Metro to secure a \$500 million grant to build TEXRail, a 26.8 mile commuter rail line extending from downtown Fort Worth across Tarrant County, through North Richland Hills and

4. Come join us tomorrow, Tues, 3/4 @ 8:30 am, Fort Worth Central Station for update on @TrinityMetro & transit. @CityofFortWorth @TarrantCountyTX @trtcmobility @NCTCOGtrans – Sal Espino (@SAL_FW)



5. Really want to see more commuter rail planned to surrounding cities/towns, even if some cannot be achieved for years: Denton, Cleburne, Haslet, Roanoke, Aledo/Weatherford, Mansfield, Rhome/Decatur. The earlier everyone knows routes, the better can plan land use/transport around. – Andrew Blake (@andrewcblake)

@NCTCOGtrans Mobility 2045 and the Cities Comprehensive Plan both have a few options on potential future routes. @CityofBurleson has TOD plans in place. – Fort Worth Urban (@UrbanFortWorth)



Facebook –

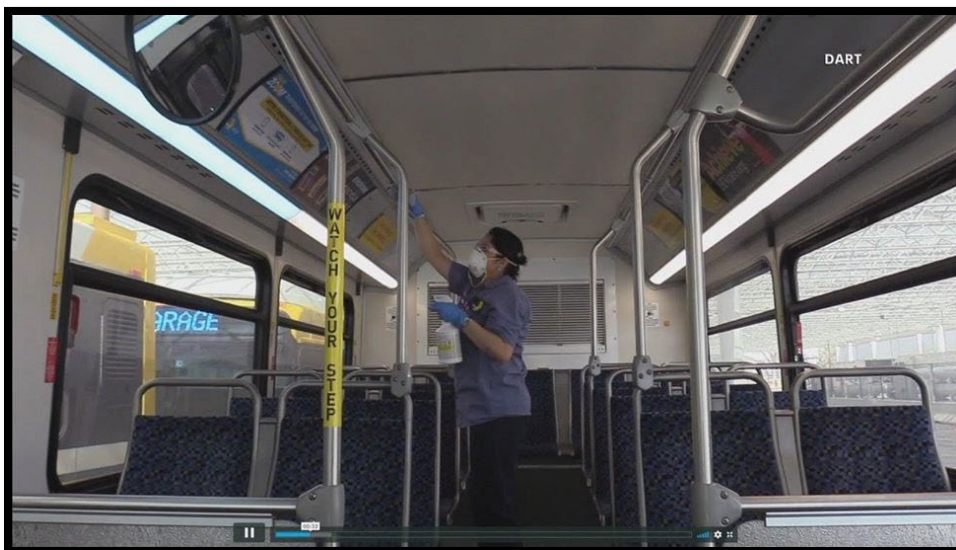
1. DART's interactive kiosks aim to make you safer and better-connected: <http://bit.ly/2SZUDm2>
– NCTCOG Transportation Department



For everyone reading this post, riding DART's (as well as Trinity Metro's and DCTA's) buses and trains whenever possible make for terrific and relaxing ways to help reduce car traffic and road congestion, as well as to help improve air quality and regional mobility as DFW continues to grow very rapidly! – Paul McManus

2. We know we're not a health department, but this seems like a good time to remind you to wash your hands. 🧼

DART conducts enhanced cleaning on trains, buses amid coronavirus concerns: <http://bit.ly/3cNXrM4>. – NCTCOG Transportation Department



Other

Email –

1. William Cole

I'm looking for the most recent commuter population estimate for Greenville. I believe this number would be somewhat higher than our actual resident population.

Mr. Cole,

The latest data that we have related to commuter population in Greenville, TX corresponds to 2016. For this year, the number of workers was 19,140 while the population was 26,305. The source of these estimations is the Census American Community Survey 2012-2016.

Please let me know in you need further assistance.

Twitter –

1. Hopefully we can lighten up your day by wishing you a very lucky St. Patrick's Day! #StPatricksDay2020 Four leaf clover – NCTCOGTransportation (@NCTCOGtrans)



Michael Morris message falls dud. But I regress. – Linda Ld Thornton, APR (@LindaLdThornton)

Facebook –

1. Happy Friday, y'all! Don't forget we spring forward (lose an hour of sleep) this Sunday. Prepare now so that you're not driving drowsy Monday morning. 😊 – NCTCOG Transportation Department



I HATE THE TIME CHANGE!!!! – JoAnn Lucero

2. We want to give a special shout out to GPS Insight! Because of their sponsorship, we're able to host workshops, create educational materials and more. Thank you! – NCTCOG Transportation Department



We're glad we can help! – GPS Insight