

## **MINUTES**

### **Regional Transportation Council Thursday, June 12, 2025**

The Regional Transportation Council (RTC) met on Thursday, June 12, 2025, at 1:00 pm at the North Central Texas Council of Governments. The following RTC members or representatives were present: Daniel Alemán, Bruce Arfsten, Steve Babick, Rick Bailey, Alan Blaylock, Ceason Clemens, Pat Deen, Andy Eads, Vernon Evans, Carlos Flores (representing Michael Crain), Raul Gonzalez, Clay Lewis Jenkins, Ron Jensen, Jill Jester, Brad LaMorgese, Stephen Mason, Cara Mendelsohn, Ed Moore, Jesse Moreno, John Muns, Matthew Porter, Manny Ramirez, Jim Ross, David Salazar, Gary Slagel, Bobby Stovall, Jeremy Tompkins, William Tsao, and Duncan Webb.

Others present at the meeting were: Vickie Alexander, Gustavo Baez, Micah Baker, Berrien Barks, Jay Barksdale, Emily Beckham, Jon Blackman, Alberta Blair, Jason Brown, Farhan Butt, Daniel Byrd, Jack Carr, Angie Carson, Morgan Chivers, Tom Cochill, Dina Colorossi, Liza Cox, Cristina Criado, Paul Cristina, Liam Crowley, Dawn Dalrymple, Clarence Daugherty, Gwen Dorko, Chad Edwards, Tom Flaherty, Andrew Fortune, Eric Gallt, Andres Gamez, Carmen Garcia, Bobby Gomez, Rebekah Gongora, Tony Hartzel, Kyle Hoener, Joel James, Amy Johnson, Clay Johnson, Matt Johnson, Dan Kessler, Gus Khankarli, Dylan Konur, Dan Lamers, James Lance, Zihae Li, Eron Linn, Todd Little, Aaron Long, Terry Lynn, Sydnee Mangini, Isaac Manning Jr., Dillon Maroney, Gregory Masota, Rob Matwick, Rich Matyiko, Malcolm Mayhew, Joshua Menhennett, Monte Mercer, Brian Moen, Michael Morris, Jenny Narvaez, Mark Nelson, Justine Nguyen, Jackie Nolasco, Linda Pawle, Darla Payberah, Michael Peters, John Polster, James Powell, Ezra Pratt, Vercie Pruitt-Jenkins, Samuel Quesada, Andrei Radu, Jacob Rednig, Randy Richardson, Dan Rosenfield, Jennifer Schwakzbach, Madison Selldin, Samuel Simmons, Devon Skinner, Sid Sonch, Claude Spivey, Toni Stehling, Lauren Trimble, Ran Tu, Melissa Valdez, Laura Weis, Brendon Wheeler, Ben Whisnant, Molly White, Larry Williams, Brian Wilson, Frank Wise, Chris Wright, Jared Wright, Sam Yacoub, Hua Yang, and David Yaqubian.

1. **Opportunity for Public Comment on Today's Agenda:** Clay Lewis Jenkins, Regional Transportation Council Chair and Dallas County Judge, asked if there were any public comments. Morgan Chivers spoke on Agenda Item 10; Liam Crowley spoke on Agenda Item 4. Written comments were provided and can be found in the Public Comments Report under the Director's Report agenda item.
2. **Approval of April 10, 2025, Minutes:** The minutes of the April 10, 2025, meeting were approved as submitted in Electronic Item 2. Matthew Porter (M); Ed Moore (S). The motion passed unanimously.
3. **Consent Agenda**
  - 3.1. **Approval to Participate in Regional Energy Management Assistance Program Contract and Use Regional Transportation Council Local Funds as Match:** Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval was requested to participate in ongoing efforts related to the State Energy Conservation Office's (SECO) Regional Energy Management Assistance Program and use approximately \$75,000 in RTC Local funds to satisfy match requirements.

- 3.2. **Air Quality Funding Recommendations Related to the Environmental Protection Agency National Clean Diesel Funding Assistance Program:** Regional Transportation Council approval was requested to fund a recommendation for the North Texas Diesel Emissions Reduction Project 2024 Call for Projects (CFP) utilizing Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) funds.
- 3.3. **Backstop Funding for Regional Air Quality Initiatives Program:** Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval was requested for \$300,000 in RTC Local transitional funding for the Regional Air Quality Initiatives Program.

A motion was made to approve Items 3.1, 3.2, and 3.3 on the Consent Agenda. Manny Ramirez (M); Alan Blaylock (S). The motion passed unanimously.

4. **Orientation to Agenda/Director of Transportation Report:** Michael Morris briefly highlighted items 1 through 9.

1. Medal of Honor Museum – Partial Refund
2. Federal Certification Review – June 4-6, 2025
3. Next Regional Transportation Council Meeting:
  - Endorsement of Safe Streets Grant Request
  - 89th Texas Legislature – Final Actions
  - Progress on Traffic Signals
  - Unified Transportation Program Funding
  - 2027 – 2030 Transportation Improvement Program
  - Dallas-Fort Worth High-Speed Rail (Economic Impact Studies)
4. Progress on Federal Competitive Grants
5. Jack Fink TV Interview: **DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION DISCUSSES FUTURE OF TRANSIT IN NORTH TEXAS**
6. Draft Fiscal Year 2026 and 2027 Unified Planning Work Program ([NCTCOG - Unified Planning Work Program](#))
7. Progress North Texas 2025
8. Additional Correspondence from Hunt-Related Entities on High-Speed Rail
9. 2025 Ozone Season Update
10. Air Quality Funding Opportunities ([www.nctcog.org/aqfunding](http://www.nctcog.org/aqfunding))
11. Upcoming Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Events ([www.dfwcleancities.org/events](http://www.dfwcleancities.org/events))
12. May Public Meeting Minutes
13. April-May Public Comment Report
14. June Public Meeting Notice
15. Recent News Articles
16. Recent Correspondence
17. Recent Press Releases

Michael Morris announced the August Regional Transportation Council meeting will be held on August 7, 2025, at the Irving Convention Center to coincide with the Infrastructure Summit.

5. **Title VI Program Update:** Ken Kirkpatrick requested the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of updates to the Title VI Program. The document is necessary for compliance with federal civil rights requirements and must be adopted by the RTC as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Policy Committee and the North Central

Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) Executive Board as the MPO Fiscal Agent. The updated Title VI Program was submitted to the Federal Transit Administration in draft on May 30, 2025, subject to RTC and NCTCOG Executive Board approval.

A motion was made to approve the resolution Adopting the 2025 Title VI Program Update: Title VI/Nondiscrimination policy statement and updates to the Metropolitan Planning Organization Title VI Program (R25-01). The motion included a request for the North Central Texas Council of Governments Executive Board, as the Federal Transit Administration recipient and Designated Recipient, to approve the 2025 Title VI Program update and Title VI Policy. Duncan Webb (M); Manny Ramirez (S). The motion passed unanimously.

6. **Mobility 2050 and Transportation Conformity: Plan Adoption:** Brendon Wheeler and Chris Klaus requested Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of Mobility 2050: The Metropolitan Transportation Plan for North Central Texas and associated Transportation Conformity. Plan recommendations and a brief overview of the Transportation Conformity analysis results were presented. Plan information included public comments received; changes to plan documentation; and document contents, including policies, programs, and projects.

A motion was made to approve the amended Resolution adopting Mobility 2050: The Metropolitan Transportation Plan for the North Central Texas region and the 2025 Transportation Conformity (R25-02) as presented. Gary Slagel (M); Matthew Porter (S). The motion passed unanimously.

7. **Grant Application Partnership for the Cotton Belt Trail Next Phase (3a):** Kevin Kokes requested the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) to approve a partnership with Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) to submit an application to Texas Department of Transportation 2025 Transportation Alternatives Program call for projects, and for additional federal funds and Regional Toll Revenue funds to leverage the requested Transportation Alternatives Program funds for Phase 3a of the Cotton Belt Trail along the Silver Line rail corridor.

A motion was made to approve the partnership with Dallas Area Rapid Transit to submit the large-scale construction application to the Texas Department of Transportation 2025 Transportation Alternatives Program Call for Projects requesting \$25 million in federal funding for Cotton Belt Trail Phase 3a; the additional contribution of \$7.6 million in federal Surface Transportation Block Grant Program/Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program funds and \$4.9 million in Regional Toll Revenue funds for non-federal match should the project be selected for funding award; along with directing staff to administratively amend the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), the Statewide TIP and other planning/administrative documents to incorporate these changes, if awarded funding. Cara Mendelsohn (M); Steve Babick (S). The motion passed unanimously.

8. **Managed Lane Policy, High Occupancy Vehicle 2+/3+ Subsidy Funding, and High Occupancy Vehicle Quarterly Report:** Christie Gotti requested Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of a \$5.6 million funding increase for North Tarrant Express High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) Subsidy funding, to reaffirm the RTC policy for HOV 2+ users, and to amend the Transportation Improvement Program/Statewide Transportation

Improvement Program and update any administrative and/or planning documents as needed to incorporate the project funding.

A motion was made to approve of an increase in funding for North Tarrant Express High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) 2+ by \$5.6 million in Regional Toll Revenue (no local match); reaffirm the existing Regional Transportation Council policy that HOVs are subsidized for 2+ occupants; along with amending the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)/Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and updating any administrative and/or planning documents as needed to incorporate the project funding. Jim Ross (M); Daniel Alemán (S). The motion passed unanimously.

9. **2025 Transportation Alternatives Call for Projects for the North Central Texas**

**Region:** Karla Windsor provided information regarding the Transportation Alternatives Program, an overview of the applications received, and the evaluation process.

A recommendation for projects to select for funding was provided and action requested.

A motion was made to approve the list of projects to fund through the 2025 Transportation Alternatives Call for Projects, as provided; administratively amend the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)/Statewide TIP (STIP) and other planning/administrative documents to incorporate these changes. The motion included approval of program rules that project sponsors must execute an agreement (AFA) with the Transportation Department of Transportation within one year of the funding award by the Regional Transportation Council (inclusion in the TIP/STIP), projects must advance to construction within three fiscal years of the funding award by the RTC or the funding may be reprogrammed. Cara Mendelsohn (M); Jill Jester (S). The motion passed unanimously.

10. **Safety Program - Strategic Selection of Safety Corridors:** Natalie Bettger requested Regional Transportation Council approval of the strategic selection of safety corridors to reduce speed and aggressive driving.

A motion was made to approve the process, criteria, and schedule for the Strategic Selection of Safety Corridors; along with administratively amend the North Central Texas Council of Governments Transportation Improvement Program/State Transportation Improvement Programs, as well as other planning and administrative documents. Matthew Porter (M); Jeremy Tompkins (S). The motion passed unanimously.

11. **Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Community Electric Vehicle Charging Grant – Site Selection Criteria and Call for Projects:** Lori Clark provided information on a proposed Call for Projects to select electric vehicle charging sites to be built using funds awarded under the Federal Highway Administration Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Discretionary Grant Program Community Award.

12. **Metropolitan Planning Organization Milestone Policy and Project Tracking Update:** Brian Dell provided a status report on the Fiscal Year 2025 Project Tracking and Milestone Policy Round 2 projects.

13. **Election of Regional Transportation Council Officers:** Duncan Webb, Chair of the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) Nominating Subcommittee, announced the following slate of officers recommended by the Subcommittee for the 2025-2026 term: Rick Bailey, Commissioner, Johnson County (Chair); Stephen Mason, Mayor, City of

Cedar Hill (Vice-Chair); and Jill Jester, Councilmember, Denton County (Secretary). RTC officers are elected to serve a term of one year and began their terms at the conclusion of the June RTC meeting.

A motion was made to approve the slate of officers as recommended by the Nominating Subcommittee for the 2025-2026 term. Duncan Webb (M); Andy Eads (S). The motion passed unanimously.

14. **Proposed Follow-up to Transit 2.0: P25-01**: Michael Morris presented a proposed Regional Transportation Council (RTC) Policy 25-01 aimed at assisting the region to resolve transit delivery and preparing the region for the new Mobility 2050 Plan. Action on Policy P25-01 and proposed funding will be sought at the RTC meeting in July.
15. **Progress Reports**: Regional Transportation Council attendance was provided in Electronic Item 15.1 and Surface Transportation Technical Committee attendance, and minutes were provided in Electronic Item 15.2.
16. **Other Business (Old or New)**: There was no discussion on this item.
17. **Future Agenda Items**: There was no discussion on this item.
18. **Next Meeting**: The next meeting of the Regional Transportation Council is scheduled for **1:00 pm, Thursday, July 10, 2025.**

Meeting adjourned at 3:03 pm.