MEETING SUMMARY

Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee May 21, 2025

The Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) met in the Transportation Council Room at the North Central Texas Council of Governments at 2:00 pm on May 21, 2025.

See Page 6 for meeting attendance.

1. Welcome and Introductions - Anthony White, Chair, TxDOT Fort Worth District

Anthony White welcomed attendees and introduced himself as Chair of BPAC. Daniel Herrig introduced himself as Vice Chair. The February 2025 meeting summary was accepted as submitted.

2. <u>Local Community Updates</u> – Various Community and BPAC Members

a) Safe Streets McKinney Community Engagement - Pamela Alummoottil, City of McKinney

The City of McKinney is one of several local communities in the region that received a funding award from the USDOT Safe Streets and Roads for All discretionary grant program. With the grant funding, the city staff is leading a local Safety Action Plan that focuses on making McKinney's streets safer for all modes of travel. The city's Safety Action Plan kicked off in December 2024 and is expected to be completed in September 2025.

A key component of safety action plan development is public and stakeholder engagement. To effectively engage the public and stakeholders, the city is hosting and attending several public meetings. Engaging all stakeholders in the plan development process is key. However, it can be challenging to schedule meetings where our stakeholders can attend, so it is a best practice to be familiar with your local community groups and engage with groups at their regularly occurring meetings. The city is also conducting a city-wide survey for residents and visitors of McKinney. The survey is scheduled to close May 25.

To learn more about Safe Streets McKinney, visit: https://www.mckinneytexas.org/3356/Safe-Streets-McKinney

This presentation can be found on the BPAC website at: www.nctcog.org/BPAC.

b) Bicycle Friendly Community Workshop Highlights - Jessica Scott, City of Dallas

In January 2025, the City of Dallas was officially recognized as a Bronze-Level Bicycle Friendly Community by the League of American Bicyclists. The award evaluation process considers bicycle infrastructure, adult and youth bicycle education, encouragement through events like Bike to Work Day, evaluation mechanisms, and enforcement, all through the lens of equity. Each applicant that applies for the Bicycle Friendly Community program receives a report card that provides recommendations on how cities can improve and become more bicycle friendly. This is helpful for identifying and prioritizing potential areas for improvement.

With the League, the City of Dallas hosted a Bicycle Friendly Community Workshop, an opportunity for local bicyclists and advocates to provide input on their experiences and perceptions of bicycling in their community. The two-day workshop included an overview of national trends and the city standing, a group ride, and action planning.

The action planning element of the workshop provided an opportunity for the city and local stakeholders to take ownership of issues identified and plan for improvements.

To learn more about Dallas Bronze level certification, visit: https://dallascityhall.com/departments/transportation/bikeway/Pages/Bicycle-Friendly-Community.aspx This presentation can be found on the BPAC website at: www.nctcog.org/BPAC.

c) Upcoming Events and Training - Daniel Herrig, BPAC Vice Chair, City of Richardson

This presentation can be found on the BPAC website at: www.nctcog.org/BPAC.

3. BPAC Member Introductions

Each BPAC member was requested to provide their name, title, department, and the agency they represent.

After the introductions a live poll was conducted. Meeting attendees were asked to "Rank the following active transportation goals you would like your agency to prioritize over the next five years."

The results are listed below:

- 1. Improve accessibility and connectivity (plan/implement a connected bikeway facilities/ sidewalk network in areas of high demand)
- 2. Enhance safety (reduce the number of serious and fatal crashes, encourage vision zero)
- 3. Increase walking and bicycling travel (mode share)
- 4. Promote Equity (prioritize active transportation projects in areas with high proportions of low-income or transit dependent residents)

This presentation and results can be found on the BPAC website at: www.nctcog.org/BPAC.

4. Silver Line Stations Area Plan – Jason Aprill, City of Plano

The Silver Line Station Areas Plan is a long-range planning document that prepares the 12th Street and Shiloh Road Station Areas for the introduction of the new 26-mile-long Silver Line commuter rail corridor. The plan establishes land use, transportation, and open space and character priorities to support Transit-Oriented Development environment.

The active transportation priorities of the plan focus on the areas around the station. The priorities are listed as:

- Enhance pedestrian safety on neighborhood streets
- Utilize context-sensitive street design
- Enhance first mile/last mile connectivity
- Enhance bicycle connectivity and safety
- Prioritize pedestrian safety and connectivity to create a walkable environment
- Provide additional pedestrian connections to improve transit access to businesses

To learn more about the Silver Line Station Areas Plan, visit: www.planocompplan.org/SilverLine

This presentation can be found on the BPAC website at: www.nctcog.org/BPAC.

5. E-Bike User Experience and Regulations – Jessica Scott, City of Dallas

E-bikes allow users to take longer and more challenging trips than traditional bicycles. They can mitigate challenges such as hills, distance, weather conditions (heat and wind), and motor vehicle speed. The assistance e-bikes provides allow users to be more confident that they can get to their destination quicker without exerting as much energy. And, when traveling on the road, the speed of the e-bike can better keep up with the pace of vehicle traffic and allow the user to start quickly after being stopped at an intersection. Because of these benefits, users are more likely to travel longer distances and make more trips.

However, there are some challenges. E-bikes are more costly than traditional bicycles. That being said, more e-bike brands and types are now available that are more affordable. There is the initial upfront cost, but they can be more cost effective in the long run compared to a traditional car. E-bikes are also heavier than traditional bikes. However, lightweight e-bikes are now available which may better align with the users intended purpose of the bike. Because e-bikes are growing in popularity, transit providers should consider how e-bikes can be more easily racked while traveling by bus or train. Additionally, there are fire risks associated with charging a battery that is in poor condition. Those considering purchasing an e-bike should be mindful of the quality of the battery.

The Texas Transportation Code Chapter 551 identifies three classes of e-bikes based on speed, pedal and throttle assist. Class 1 and 2 E-bikes are allowed on trails in Dallas, with the exception of Class 3. Cities should investigate their current policy on e-bike operation. E-bikes provide greater mobility and accessibility to those that may have barriers to driving a car. It is important that regulations do not create more barriers to this accessible transportation option.

This presentation can be found on the BPAC website at: www.nctcog.org/BPAC.

6. NCTCOG Updates

a. Regional Bicycle Safety Action Plan: Bicycle Safety at Intersections - Catherine Richardson

NCTCOG is in the process of developing a Regional Bicycle Safety Action Plan. Regional crash analysis shows that most bicycle crashes occur at intersection locations. BPAC members were asked about their perception of safety issues at intersections, how bicycle safety can be improved, and how NCTCOG can best assist in improving bicycle safety in their communities.

Live poll questions:

- 1. What do you think are contributing factors to bicycle crashes at intersections?
- 2. How can bicycle safety be improved at intersections?
- 3. How can NCTCOG assist your community improve bicycle safety at intersections?

This presentation and results can be found on the BPAC website at: www.nctcog.org/BPAC

b. <u>AASHTO Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities, 5th Edition and NACTO Urban Bikeway Design Guide, 3rd Edition Training– Kevin Kokes</u>

NCTCOG is coordinating potential training on the AASHTO Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities, 5th Edition and NACTO Urban Bikeway Design Guide, 3rd Edition. The Committee was asked about agency interest and availability for training.

- 1. Would members of your agency (transportation and public works staff) be willing to participate in in-person training opportunities on the AASHTO Bike Guide, 5th Edition (published Dec 2024) and the NACTO Urban Bikeway Design Guide, 3rd Edition (published Jan 14, 2025)?
- 2. What elements of the AASHTO/ NACTO Guide would you be interested in expanded training?
 - a. Bicycle Planning (designing for intended users, mode share goals, low stress network)
 - b. Guidance for Choosing a Bikeway Facility Type (evaluating design alternatives and trade-offs to select a bikeway)
 - c. Design of Shared Use Paths (width, level of service, separation of pedestrians and bicyclists)
 - d. Design of Separated Bike Lanes and Side Paths
 - e. Bicycle Boulevard and Advisory Bicycle Lanes Planning and Design
 - f. Traffic Signal Phasing for Managing Conflicts
 - g. Intersection Design Guidance
 - h. Other
- 3. Will agency staff prefer to attend a one- or two-day training course?

This presentation and results can be found on the BPAC website at: www.nctcog.org/BPAC

c. 2025 Statewide TA Call for Projects Application Reminder – Rachael Twiggs

The deadline to submit the detailed application for the 2025 Statewide TA Call for Projects is June 20, 2025. Agencies applying within the boundaries of the NCTCOG Metropolitan Planning Area must request an MPO Transportation Improvement Program inclusion letter by May 30,2025.

Additionally, on June 17, 2025, TxDOT will hold a public meeting for the Texas Statewide Active Transportation Plan at Fort Worth Central Station, 1001 Jones St, Fort Worth, TX 76102.

This presentation can be found on the BPAC website at: www.nctcog.org/BPAC.

d. NCTCOG 2025 TA Call for Projects: Recommended Funding Award - Daniel Snyder

NCTCOG received 22 applications in the 2025 TA Call for Projects with funding requests totaling over \$123 million. NCTCOG is recommending 12 projects for funding totaling nearly \$60 million Federal Transportation Alternative funds. Projects include shared-use paths, connecting to major destinations and filling gaps in the off-street network, sidewalks, on-street bike lanes, and Safe Routes to School planning.

Projects sponsors recommended for funding must submit Transportation Improvement Program modifications by June 27, 2025.

This presentation can be found on the BPAC website at: www.nctcog.org/BPAC.

e. NCTCOG Safe Streets for All Planning Grant Update - Chris Nelson

In 2024 NCTCOG was awarded a planning and demonstration grant from the Safe Streets and Roads for All discretionary grant program. The goal of this in-depth planning study is to advance roadway safety by completing Road Safety Audits (RSAs) and Safe Routes to School (SRTS) plans for 30 roadway corridors and intersections and 25 schools in the Dallas-Fort Worth metropolitan region with a

high density of serious injury or fatal crashes, as reflected in the NCTCOG regional <u>Pedestrian Safety Action Plan (PSAP)</u> and the regional <u>Roadway Safety Plan (RSP)</u>. RSAs will begin June 2025 and conclude May 2026. Schools will be studied from August 2025 to May 2026.

This presentation can be found on the BPAC website at: www.nctcog.org/BPAC.

7. Other Business

After receiving no comments, Anthony White informed the committee that the BPAC's next scheduled meeting with be held on August 20, 2025. Anthony White adjourned the meeting.

Members in Attendance at the May 21, 2025, BPAC meeting

Agency	Full Name/Members
City of Allen	Krishan Patel
City of Arlington	Chris Funches(for Jana Wentzel)
City of Bedford	Mark Long
City of Burleson	Randy Morrison
City of Cedar Hill	Robert Foust (for Shawn Ray)
City of Cleburne	Kenneth Overstreet
City of Dallas	Jessica Scott
City of Denton	Sahar Esfandyari
City of Euless	Duane Strawn
City of Farmers Branch	Alexander Pharmakis
City of Duncanville	Bart Stevenson
City of Grand Prairie	Brett Huntsman
City of Grapevine	Justin Jordan (For KNelson)
City of Haltom City	Will Wiegand
City of Lewisville	Sirwan Shahooei
City of Mansfield	Garett Smith
City of McKinney	Robyn Root
City of Mesquite	Bryan Cabrera
City of North Richland Hills	Michael Wilson
City of Plano	Jason Aprill
City of Richardson	Daniel Herrig
City of The Colony	Calvin Lehmann
City of Waxahachie	Oanh Vu
City of Weatherford	Chad Marbut
DART	Patricio Gallo
DCTA	Karina Maldonado
Hood County	Joe Atwood
Hunt County	Daniela Kosnacova (for B Crooks)
Parker County	Cintia Ortiz
Tarrant County	Dee Long
Town of Addison	Joe Pack
Trinity Metro	Shawn Tubre
TxDOT Dallas District	Rachael Twiggs
TxDOT FW District	Anthony White

NCTCOG Staff in Attendance at the May 21, 2025 BPAC Meeting

Gwen Dorko	Devia Joshi
Kevin Kokes	Jill Krauter
Chris Nelson	Catherine Richardson
Daniel Snyder	