

## **MEETING SUMMARY**

### **Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee**

**November 16, 2016**

The Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) met at 2:30 pm on November 16, 2016, at NCTCOG offices.

**Please see Pages 5-6 for meeting attendance.**

#### **Meeting Summary Outline**

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Statewide TxDOT Bicycle Advisory Committee Update
3. Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program
4. Potential Lapsing of Transportation Alternatives Program Funds and the Importance of Accurate Phase Timing
5. Local Community Updates and Accomplishments
6. Other Business/ Open Discussion

#### **1. Welcome and Introductions: Renee DeSoto, Chair, City of DeSoto**

Reneé Johnson, Chair of BPAC, welcomed attendees and explained the function of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee. All attendees introduced themselves and affiliation.

The summary of the August 17, 2016 Meeting was accepted as submitted. There was no discussion.

#### **2. Statewide TxDOT Bicycle Advisory Committee Update – Karla Weaver, NCTCOG**

Karla Weaver, Program Manager with NCTCOG, provided an update on the Statewide TxDOT Bicycle Advisory Committee meeting held on October 21, 2016 in Austin.

Earlier in the year, TxDOT adopted a *Bicycle Strategic Report* outlining programs and policies the agency should prioritize to improve conditions for bicyclists in Texas. When this report is posted online in early 2017, NCTCOG staff will email a link to the report.

TxDOT is initiating an eco-tourism planning effort to identify bicycle routes crisscrossing the state. There are two proposed U.S. Bicycle Routes (USBR) in the North Central Texas Region, USBR 55 and USBR 84. As this project progresses and public input is solicited, BPAC members will be notified of scheduled meetings.

TxDOT hired the Texas Transportation Institute (TTI) to conduct a study on bicycle and pedestrian count equipment and data management methods. The purpose of this study is to develop a statewide bicycle and pedestrian traffic count monitoring program, similar to the comprehensive motor vehicle count program. Ms. Weaver is a member of the stakeholder committee and will provide updates as work progresses.

**3. Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TA Set-Aside) Program – Karla Weaver and Kevin Kokes, NCTCOG**

Kevin Kokes, Principal Transportation Planner with NCTCOG, and Karla Weaver presented an overview and the proposed framework for the regional TA Set-Aside Program Call for Projects (CFP). This CFP applies to the 12-county metropolitan planning area, with approximately \$23 million available to be awarded for active transportation and safe routes to school projects. The funding is from the Fiscal Year (FY) '17, '18, and '19 sub allocations to the metropolitan area and includes a small carryover of FY '16 funds not awarded in the 2014 CFP. The former Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) is now referenced as the TA Set-Aside Program under the FAST Act, the current federal transportation bill.

The proposed evaluation and scoring criteria for the CFP was developed based on active transportation goals and programs outlined in Mobility 2040, the region's long-term transportation plan. Regional priorities include an emphasis on safety, ADA accessibility, connections to transit, schools, and major employers, providing facilities with a level of comfort for people of all ages and abilities to walk and bicycle, and implementing the Regional Veloweb.

Public input was solicited on the proposed eligible project activities, proposed eligible entities, proposed evaluation and scoring criteria, proposed CFP schedule, and proposed maximum and minimum federal funding award. Minimum application requirements such as all right-of-way or easements acquired, official funding resolution, and completed environmental checklist were also addressed.

Based on BPAC's feedback on the proposed CFP guidelines, NCTCOG staff will present to the Surface Transportation Technical Committee (STTC) and Regional Transportation Council (RTC) in December to take action on approving the guidelines.

Entities interested in submitting an application for TA Set-Aside Program funding can download application materials when the Call opens on 12/12/16 at [www.nctcog.org/TAP](http://www.nctcog.org/TAP). The Call is scheduled to close on 2/24/2017 at 5pm.

**4. Potential Lapsing of Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Funds and the Importance of Accurate Phase Timing – Kenneth Bunkley, NCTCOG**

Kenneth Bunkley, Principal Transportation Planner with NCTCOG, updated committee members on the issues and agency concerns regarding the potential lapse of TAP funds awarded by the Regional Transportation Council in 2014. Per federal legislation, TAP funds have a limited three-year timeframe to be obligated. Any funds not obligated in a timely manner are rescinded. NCTCOG is currently monitoring TAP-funded projects and encouraging agencies to implement projects in a timely manner.

In response to the number of TAP projects experiencing cost overruns and schedule delays, an emphasis will be placed on project readiness for the 2017 TA Set-Aside CFP. The TA Set-Aside Program funds have the same obligation timeframe requirements as TAP funds.

## **5. Local Community Updates and Accomplishments**

### **a. Pro Walk/Pro Bike/Pro Place Conference Highlights – Kevin Kokes, NCTCOG, Jared White, City of Dallas, and Christina Sebastian, City of Plano**

Kevin Kokes, Principal Transportation Planner with NCTCOG, presented highlights from the Pro Walk / Pro Bike / Pro Place Conference held in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada in September 2016. The growing trend observed at the event was the implementation of bicycle infrastructure emphasizing physical separation from motor vehicles. The City of Vancouver found physical barriers increase ridership by creating a level of comfort suitable for bicyclists of all ages and abilities. Other conference highlights include bicycle-specific traffic light signals and phasing, intersection designs integrating separated bikeways, as well as comprehensive bicycle signage and wayfinding. Mr. Kokes highlighted presentation slides from a session by staff with the City of Vancouver and City of Seattle which provided an overview of their all ages and abilities (AAA) plans.

### **b. Promoting Bicycling Through Bike Rides – Julie Anderson, City of Denton**

Julie Anderson, Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator with the City of Denton, discussed how the city is organizing and promoting themed bike rides. One of the goals of the city's bicycle master plan is to increase the bicycle mode share from the current 4.7 percent to 7 percent. As part of the Five E's model to bicycle planning (engineering, education, encouragement, enforcement, and evaluation and planning), organized public bike rides aim to educate and encourage residents on how to safely ride a bicycle while having fun during the event. Throughout the rides, city staff identify existing and planned bicycle infrastructure and describe how these facilities function and the destinations they connect. The Streets Division involves other city departments to develop rides focused on a particular topic, such as a ride showing residents where the various branches of the library are located and stopping at each one to learn about upcoming events. Before every ride, a local non-profit bike shop is available to help participants check their bicycle and make any repairs. This is an additional opportunity to educate residents on how their bicycles work and how to maintain them to ensure a safe ride.

### **c. Upcoming Events and Training – Terry Hughes, City of Weatherford**

Terry Hughes reviewed upcoming events and training opportunities for active transportation professionals.

## **6. Other Business/Open Discussion**

Reneé opened the floor to Committee members for open discussion. No additional comments were made by meeting attendees. Ms. Johnson reminded committee members to coordinate with their respective STTC representatives to submit their agency's nominations for 2017 BPAC representative. Committee membership must be confirmed on an annual basis as outlined by the committee's by-laws.

NCTCOG staff and BPAC members thanked Ms. Johnson for serving as Chair of BPAC in 2016. A new Vice-Chair will be designated to represent the eastern side of the region for 2017.

The next BPAC meeting is scheduled February 15, 2017.

## Members in Attendance at the November 16, 2016 BPAC

Agency	Name	11/16/2016
City of Allen	Randy Thompson	√
City of Burleson	Laura Melton	√
City of Carrollton	John Romberger	√
City of Cedar Hill	Carolyn Skeels	√
City of Coppell	George Marshall	√
City of Dallas	Jared White	√
City of Denton	Julie Anderson	√
City of DeSoto	M. Renee Johnson	√
City of Duncanville	Bart Stevenson	√
City of Farmers Branch	Mitzi Davis	√
City of Fort Worth	Clarence Bryant	√
City of Frisco	Robert Caskey	√
City of Garland	Ann McGinnes	√
City of Grand Prairie	Daon Stephens	√
City of Grapevine	Kathy Nelson	√
City of Haltom City	William Wiegand	√
City of Mansfield	David Boski	√
City of McKinney	Robyn Root	√
City of North Richland Hills	Joe Pack	√
City of Plano	Christina Sebastian	√
City of Richardson	Jessica Shutt	√
City of The Colony	Eve Morgan	√
City of Weatherford	Terry Hughes	√
Town of Flower Mound	Kari Biddix	√
Dallas County	Micah Baker	√
Hunt County	Staron Faucher	√
Ellis County	Joseph Jackson	√
Rockwall County	Lee Gilbert	√
Wise County	Chad Davis	√
Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART)	Renée Esses	√
Denton County Transportation Authority	Kristina Brevard	√
North Texas Tollway Authority (NTTA)	Lori Shelton	√
TxDOT, Dallas District	Sandra Williams	√
TxDOT, Fort Worth District	Phillip Hays	√

√ = representative was present

## Non-Members and Guests in Attendance at the November 16, 2016 BPAC

Alta Planning + Design	Catrine Machi
Blais & Associates	Susan Worley
BW2 Engineering	Jim Waldbauer
Carrollton Cycling Club	Steve Goff
City of Allen	Kelly McGinnis
City of Allen	Katie Tran
City of Arlington	De'Onna Garner
City of Arlington	Bob Watson
City of Balch Springs	Chris Dyser
City of Bedford	Michele Wilson
City of Benbrook	Bennett Howell
City of Coppell	John Elias
City of Dallas	Jason Ney
City of Dallas	Richard Ritz
City of Dallas	Chelsea St. Louis
City of Denton	Pritam Deshmukh
City of DeSoto	Phil Lozano
City of Duncanville	Jon Bunner
City of Ennis	Randall Heye
City of Ennis	Paul Liska
City of Fort Worth	David Jodray
City of Fort Worth	Chandrakanth Muruganahdham
City of Fort Worth	Julia Ryan
City of Garland	Rebecca Beckham
City of Grapevine	Scott Hardeman
City of Grapevine	Rich Larkins
City of Grapevine	Chris Smith
City of Haslet	Travis Attanasio
City of Lewisville	Bob Monaghan
City of Mesquite	Lauren Simcic
City of Richland Hills	Jason Brown
City of Richland Hills	Jason Moore
City of Rowlett	Richard Harris

City of Southlake	Jerod Potts
Dallas County	Komala Narra
Dallas County	Minesha Reese
david mccaskill design group	James Hazzard
Fort Worth Bicycling Assoc.	David Wagner
Fort Worth ISD	Tracy Marshall
Grapevine-Colleyville ISD	Michele Linn
Halff Assoc., Inc.	David Buchanan
Halff Assoc., Inc.	Lenny Hughes
Halff Assoc., Inc.	W.J. "Bud" Melton
Halff Assoc., Inc.	Dean Stuller
Hall Albert Construction	Phillip Stephenson
Innovative Trans. Solutions, Inc.	Claud "Buz" Elsom
Kimley-Horn	My Thu Lam
Kimley-Horn	Tyler Wacker
Pacheco Koch	Brian D. O'Neill
Tarrant Regional Water District	Rachel Navejar
Town of Argyle	Paul E. Frederiksen
Town of Sunyvale	Cheri Dolan
Trinity Strand Trail	Clare Freeman
TxDOT Dallas District	Maher Ghanayem
	James C. Paris

**NCTCOG Staff in Attendance at the November 16, 2016 BPAC**

Kevin Kokes
Gabriel Ortiz
Kathryn Rush
Daniel Snyder
Karla Weaver
Jeremy Williams