



MEETING SUMMARY

Regional Freight Advisory Committee North Central Texas Council of Governments

**February 8, 2017
12:30 pm-2:00 pm**

The Regional Freight Advisory Council (RFAC) convened at 12:30 p.m. on February 8, 2017, at NCTCOG Offices.

Attendees

Jason Brown, NCTCOG
Paul Christina, BNSF Railway
Huong Duong, NCTCOG
Dan Harbeke, Union Pacific Railroad
Jeff Hathcock, NCTCOG
Mike Johnson, NCTCOG
Dan Kessler, NCTCOG
Lisa Key, NCTCOG
Gus Khankarli, UTA
Dan Lamers, NCTCOG
Martin Molloy, Halff Associates
Curtis Morgan, TTI
Nilo Rezaei, UTA
Mark Rhea, Frozen Food Express
Jonathan Unger, NCTCOG

Meeting Summary Outline

1. Welcome/Previous Meeting Recap, Jeff Hathcock, NCTCOG
2. Overview of Goods Movement Planning in North Central Texas, Jeff Hathcock
3. General Discussion and Announcements

1. Welcome/Previous Meeting Recap, Jeff Hathcock, NCTCOG

Jeff opened the meeting by noting that the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and Texas Freight Advisory Committee, along with other partners and stakeholders, concluded a workshop at NCTCOG offices this morning. These workshops are ongoing through June 29, 2017, in different locations throughout the state, to solicit input on freight transportation projects. TxDOT will be updating the Texas Freight Mobility Plan to ensure compliance with the FAST Act legislation funding requirements for projects designed to improve the safety and efficiency of goods movement throughout the state.

After introductions, Jeff gave a brief recap of the December 7, 2016 meeting, highlighting the importance of the Critical Freight Corridor designations and the value in the Commercial Motor Vehicle modeling work presented by NCTCOG staff at that meeting.

2. Overview of Goods Movement Planning in North Central Texas, Jeff Hathcock

Jeff briefed the Committee on the status of ongoing freight programs and discussed briefly the proposed Regional Freight Mobility Plan (RFMP). During the development of the Plan, it is anticipated that this Committee will have an active role as NCTCOG staff will seek feedback and member expertise for development workshops and project selection. NCTCOG hopes to hold two RFAC meetings per year at a member-hosted location.

The second quarter FASTLANE grant applications, DFW Connector and IH 35 E Merge Interchange, were resubmitted requesting federal funding for approximately \$85 Million and \$168 Million respectively. The 84th Texas Legislature passed HB 20 that requires TxDOT and Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) to develop a 10-year plan for the use of allocated funds. They must use performance based planning and project selection and develop criteria set forth in the Bill. NCTCOG staff proposes to use similar performance measures to those used during the development of Mobility 2040, to prioritize improvements in response to the HB 20 10-year plan requirements.

3. General Discussion and Announcements

There was a question about the 10-year plan projects criteria. Dan Lamers explained that all National Highway Freight Program (NHFP) funding is allocated through the State to the MPOs. The MPOs will designate goods movement project significance for allocation of NHFP funds.

A Committee member asked about the status of Loop 9. Dan explained that sections of Loop 9 would be constructed in phases, with Phase 1 limits in Southern Dallas and Northern Ellis counties. Initial construction would consist of the frontage roads between IH 35E and IH 45.

Jeff noted that the next RFAC meeting date would be revised and shared with the Committee, to accommodate those wishing to attend the next Texas Freight Advisory Committee meeting in Austin.

As there was no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned.

More information is available at www.nctcog.org/rfac.