

AGENDA

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE Friday, January 25, 2019 North Central Texas Council of Governments

1:30 pm Full STTC Business Agenda
(NCTCOG Guest Secured Wireless Connection Password: rangers!)

1:30 – 1:35 1. **Approval of December 7, 2018, Minutes**
 Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 5
Presenter: Kristina Holcomb, STTC Chair
Item Summary: Approval of the December 7, 2018, meeting minutes
contained in [Reference Item 1](#) will be requested.
Background: N/A

1:35 – 1:35 2. **Consent Agenda**
 Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 0

2.1. **Endorsement of Regional Transportation Council Action Approving
Emergency Funds for Span, Inc.**
Presenter: Shannon Stevenson, NCTCOG
Item Summary: Staff will request Surface Transportation Technical
Committee (STTC) endorsement of the Regional
Transportation Council's (RTC) action to provide
emergency funding for the transit provider Span, Inc. to
continue providing critical transit services for residents
in Denton County.
Background: During 2018, the North Central Texas Council of
Governments coordinated with Span to improve
management of federally funded urban service,
including implementing processes to ensure greater
accuracy in reconciliation of urban and rural transit
service expenses. Urban transit service in Span's
provider area has increased. However, annually
allocated federal funds are reflective of service levels
from the former two years. Due to this gap, Span has
introduced new funding and service adjustments but is
facing reductions in urban service until additional
federal funds become available from the Federal
Transit Administration (FTA) and additional local funds
are secured.

Staff will request STTC approval to endorse RTC
action to utilize existing Regional Toll Revenue (RTR)
funds previously authorized by the Regional
Transportation Council for transit projects in an amount
not to exceed \$160,000 to ensure the continuation of
urban transit services for seniors and people with

disabilities by Span. All expenses paid with RTR funds will follow FTA requirements. More details can be found in [Electron Item 2.1](#).

Performance Measure(s) Addressed:

- Safety Pavement and Bridge Condition
 Transit Asset System Performance/Freight/CMAQ

2.2. Endorsement of Regional Transportation Council Action Approving Alliance Link Funding to Trinity Metro

Presenter: Shannon Stevenson, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request Surface Transportation Technical Committee (STTC) endorsement of the Regional Transportation Council's (RTC) action to provide funding to Trinity Metro to continue enhanced connectivity between the Fort Worth Alliance area and potential employee pools in Fort Worth, Denton, and surrounding areas.

Background: In 2018, Toyota Motor North Texas funded the Alliance Link, a pilot project implemented to increase public transit ridership and transportation access in the Fort Worth Alliance area. The pilot, scheduled to conclude January 31, 2019, demonstrated the importance of connecting employees with existing nearby bus routes and final destinations. As the Alliance area continues to grow at an accelerated rate, transportation will be a critical component for lasting success. Trinity Metro reached out to the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) seeking support for the continuation of this critical first/last mile connection. Trinity Metro is coordinating the service with the Denton County Transportation Authority and plans to integrate the Alliance Link into the High-Intensity Bus project, or guaranteed transit, taking shape along the IH 35W corridor that was previously funded by the RTC.

Staff will request STTC approval to endorse RTC action to utilize existing Regional Toll Revenue funds previously authorized by the Regional Transportation Council for transit projects in an amount not to exceed \$500,000 to continue enhanced connectivity between the Fort Worth Alliance area and potential employee pools in Fort Worth, Denton, and surrounding areas. [Electronic Item 2.2.1](#) contains a copy of Trinity Metro's request along with NCTCOG's response, and [Electronic Item 2.2.2](#) provides additional details on this project.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed:

- Safety Pavement and Bridge Condition
 Transit Asset System Performance/Freight/CMAQ

2.3. **FY2018 and FY2019 Unified Planning Work Program Modifications**

Presenter: Vickie Alexander, NCTCOG

Item Summary: A recommendation for Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of modifications to the FY2018 and FY2019 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) will be requested. Direction for staff to also amend the Transportation Improvement Program and other administrative/planning documents, as appropriate, to reflect the approved modifications will also be sought.

Background: The Unified Planning Work Program is required by federal and State transportation planning regulations and provides a summary of the transportation and related air quality planning tasks to be conducted by Metropolitan Planning Organization staff. The FY2018 and FY2019 UPWP identifies the activities to be carried out between October 1, 2017, and September 30, 2019. Amendments to this document are being proposed to reflect project updates and funding adjustments. The proposed amendments have been posted on the North Central Texas Council of Governments website for public review and comment and are also included as [Electronic Item 2.3.1](#). Additional information is provided in [Electronic Item 2.3.2](#). Comments received as a result of the public outreach process, if any, will be provided as a handout at the meeting.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed:

- Safety Pavement and Bridge Condition
 Transit Asset System Performance/Freight/CMAQ

1:35 – 1:45

3. **Performance Measures Target Setting: Roadway Safety and Transit Asset Management**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenters: Kevin Kroll and Jing Xu, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request a recommendation for the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) to reaffirm support of the 2018 Roadway Safety and Transit Asset Management regional targets and approve support for the Texas Department of Transportation's 2019-2022 target schedule for the federally required performance measures. Roadway Safety targets are focused on reducing serious injuries and fatalities for motorized and non-motorized travelers. Transit Asset Management targets are focused on ensuring that public transportation vehicles, rail lines, and other capital assets are in a state of good repair.

Background: In December 2015, the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act was signed into law. The FAST Act requires certain performance measures be included in the long-range metropolitan transportation planning process. These measures were established by a series of four rulemakings: Safety, Infrastructure Condition, System

Performance/Freight/Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality, and Transit Asset Management. In December 2017, the RTC adopted 2018 targets for Roadway Safety and Transit Asset Management performance measures. In November 2018, the RTC adopted the targets for Infrastructure Condition and System Performance/Freight/Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality required measures.

As the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the North Central Texas region, the RTC is required to set targets annually for Roadway Safety and Transit Asset Management. These targets will be used to track and report on the region's performance through existing documents such as the Metropolitan Transportation Plan, the Transportation Improvement Program, and the State of the Region report.

The proposed targets for Roadway Safety and Transit Asset Management will be discussed, and final targets and a support resolution will be proposed for RTC action at the February 14, 2019, meeting. More details can be found in [Electronic Item 3](#).

Performance Measure(s) Addressed:

- Safety Pavement and Bridge Condition
 Transit Asset System Performance/Freight/CMAQ

1:45 – 1:55

4. **Director's Update**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG

Item Summary: The Director will provide an update on various transportation items.

Background: Transportation items for discussion will include:

- Federal Government Shutdown: Reimbursement Stress Test
- Brownsville Trip
- Chicago Trip
- US 75 Technology Lanes
- Top Five RTC Policy Initiatives for 2019
 - High-Speed Rail Engineering and Planning
 - Public Transit Engineering and Planning
 - Tolled Facilities
 - Technology Advances
 - Next Amazon

Performance Measure(s) Addressed:

- Safety Pavement and Bridge Condition
 Transit Asset System Performance/Freight/CMAQ

1:55 – 2:05

5. **Legislative Update**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Rebekah Hernandez, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide an update on federal and State legislative actions related to transportation and air quality issues affecting the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

Background: Transportation issues continue to be a focus for both the United States (US) Congress and the Texas Legislature. The 1st session of the 116th US Congress convened on January 3, 2019. The 86th Texas Legislature convened on January 8, 2019. In December 2018, the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approved its Legislative Program for the 86th Texas Legislature, which is provided in [Electronic Item 5.1](#), and the 2019 RTC Principles for the Federal Surface Transportation Authorization, provided in [Electronic Item 5.2](#).

Performance Measure(s) Addressed:

Safety Pavement and Bridge Condition
 Transit Asset System Performance/Freight/CMAQ

2:05 – 2:15

6. **Federal-State Partnership for State of Good Repair Program Grant**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Jing Xu, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will brief the Committee on the funding opportunity for the Federal-State Partnership for State of Good Repair Program.

Background: In November 2018, the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) announced the funding opportunity for the State of Good Repair, dedicated for capital projects across the United States to repair, replace, or rehabilitate qualified railroad assets to reduce the State of Good Repair backlog and improve intercity passenger rail performance. [Electronic Item 6](#) is a copy of the Notice of Funding Opportunity that details the \$272.25 million in federal funds available for Fiscal Year 2017-2018 appropriations, as well as the project application requirements. Applications are due to the FRA by March 18, 2019. A candidate project, Trinity Railway Express Corridor State of Good Repair Improvements, will be discussed as part of this item. Final scope of the project selection will be presented for action at the February 22, 2019, meeting.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed:

Safety Pavement and Bridge Condition
 Transit Asset System Performance/Freight/CMAQ

2:15 – 2:25

7. **Policy Position on Communication with Tribal Nations**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Kate Zielke, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide information on a draft Regional Transportation Council policy position to support communication with tribal nations.

Background: Tribal nations have interests in North Central Texas. Infrastructure projects may alter or damage the integrity of sites with historical or current cultural importance. Disturbance

of human remains is of particular concern for tribal nations. Infrastructure projects also could damage, destroy, or limit access to culturally significant natural resources. Tribal nations are interested in raising the Texas public's awareness of Native history and current issues and interests. Tribal nations also are interested in the welfare of their members who are living outside of currently recognized tribal territories. A substantial number of Native people have moved to Dallas-Fort Worth since the 1970s. [Electronic Item 7.1](#) contains a presentation with background information. [Electronic Item 7.2](#) contains the draft Policy Position to Support Communication with Tribal Nations.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed:

- Safety
- Pavement and Bridge Condition
- Transit Asset
- System Performance/Freight/CMAQ

2:25 – 2:35

8. **2019 Infrastructure for Rebuilding America Discretionary Grant Program**

- Action
- Possible Action
- Information
- Minutes: 10

Presenters: Jeff Neal and Jeff Hathcock, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will brief the Committee on the Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) Discretionary Grant Program for highway and freight projects of national and regional significance. Staff aims to propose both passenger/freight rail and major roadway projects as part of this effort and will provide details highlighting potential candidacy.

Background: In December 2018, the United States Department of Transportation (US DOT) announced the solicitation of project applications for the 2019 INFRA Discretionary Grant Program regarding surface transportation initiatives that have a significant impact on the nation, a region, or a metropolitan area. [Electronic Item 8.1](#) is a copy of the Notice of Funding Opportunity that details the \$950 million discretionary grant program for FY2019, as well as the application requirements. Applications are due to the US DOT by March 4, 2019. [Electronic Item 8.2](#) details the most recent discretionary grant program efforts in the Dallas-Fort Worth region and the resulting funding decisions.

For agencies in the region submitting projects, please be aware that you must complete the www.grants.gov registration process before submitting the application and that this process usually takes two-four weeks to complete. In addition, if an agency would like to receive a letter of support from the Regional Transportation Council (RTC), requests must be submitted to Rebekah Hernandez by Friday, February 15, 2019, at rhernandez@nctcog.org.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed:

- Safety
- Pavement and Bridge Condition
- Transit Asset
- System Performance/Freight/CMAQ

2:35 – 2:55

9. **Fast Facts**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 20
Item Summary: Brief presentations will be made on the following topics:

1. *Berrien Barks* – High-Occupancy Vehicle Subsidy Report ([Electronic Item 9.1](#))
 2. *Clint Hail* – Automated Driving System Demonstration Grants Notice of Funding Opportunity (www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=310839)
 3. *Jeff Neal* – Federal Highway Administration Transportation Asset Management Expert Task Group Meeting – Invitation to STTC Members
 4. *Kathryn Rush* – Building Schools, Building Communities – A School Siting and Collaboration Forum
 5. *Jessica Scott* – Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee Nominations
 6. *Eric Conner* – Celebrating Leadership in Development Excellence Awards Applications Launching February 4, 2019 ([Electronic Item 9.2](#))
 7. *Bailey Muller* – Air Quality Funding Opportunities for Vehicles (www.nctcog.org/trans/quality/air/funding-and-resources/fundingvehicle)
 8. *Bailey Muller* – Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Events (www.dfwcleancities.org/dfw-clean-cities-meetings)
 9. *Bailey Muller* – Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Annual Survey Underway (www.dfwcleancities.org/annualreport)
 10. *Bailey Muller* – Project to Ensure Compliance with Required Energy Reporting ([Electronic Item 9.3](#))
 11. *Nancy Luong* – Regional Input Submitted on Volkswagen Mitigation Plan ([Electronic Item 9.4](#))
 12. *Evan Newton* – East/West Equity Update ([Electronic Item 9.5](#))
 13. *Cody Derrick* – Transportation Development Credit Annual Report ([Electronic Item 9.6](#))
 14. *Carli Baylor* – December Online Comment Opportunity Minutes ([Electronic Item 9.7](#))
 15. *Carli Baylor* – January Online Comment Opportunity Notice ([Electronic Item 9.8](#))
 16. *Carli Baylor* – February Public Meeting Notice (Handout)
 17. *Victor Henderson* – Public Comments Report ([Electronic Item 9.9](#))
 18. Written Progress Report:
 - Local Motion ([Electronic Item 9.10](#))
 - Transportation Partner Progress Reports ([Electronic Item 9.11](#))
10. **Other Business (Old or New)**: This item provides an opportunity for members to bring items of interest before the group.
11. **Next Meeting**: The next meeting of the Surface Transportation Technical Committee is scheduled for **1:30 pm on February 22, 2019, at the North Central Texas Council of Governments.**