MINUTES
Regional Transportation Council
PUBLIC MEETINGS

Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Modifications

Local Bond Program Partnerships

Call for Projects Recommendations: Federal Transit Administration Funding Programs

Electric Vehicles in North Texas Update

Meeting Dates and Locations

The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) held public meetings as follows:

1. Monday, Sept. 11, 2017 – 6:00 pm – Splash Dayz Water Park & Conference Center (White Settlement); attendance: 3; moderated by Chris Klaus, Senior Program Manager
2. Wednesday, Sept. 13, 2017 – 2:30 pm – North Central Texas Council of Governments (Arlington); attendance: 8; moderated by Christie Gotti, Senior Program Manager
3. Monday, Sept. 18, 2017 – 6:00 pm – Lewisville Public Library (Lewisville); attendance: 9; moderated by Dan Lamers, Senior Program Manager

Public Meeting Purpose and Topics

The public meetings were held in accordance with the NCTCOG Transportation Department Public Participation Process, which became effective June 1, 1994, as approved by the Regional Transportation Council (RTC), the transportation policy board for the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and amended on February 12, 2015. Staff presented information about:

1. Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Modifications – presented by Vickie Alexander
2. Local Bond Program Partnerships – presented by Adam Beckom (White Settlement and Lewisville); Brian Dell (Arlington)
3. Call for Projects Recommendations: Federal Transit Administration Funding Programs – presented by Karina Maldonado
4. Electric Vehicles in North Texas Update – presented by Kristina Ronneberg (White Settlement and Lewisville); Lori Clark (Arlington)

The NCTCOG public meetings were held to educate, inform and seek comments from the public. Comments were solicited from those present who wished to speak for the record. The presentations made at the meetings are available at www.nctcog.org/input, and a video recording of the Arlington public meeting was posted at www.nctcog.org/video.

Each person who attended one of the public meetings received a packet with a meeting agenda, a sheet on which to submit written comments and copies of the presentations.
Summary of Presentations

Summary of Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Modifications presentation: The UPWP summarizes transportation activities for NCTCOG’s metropolitan planning area, which covers a 12-county region. The Work Program is divided into five major task areas: Administration and Management, Transportation Data Development and Maintenance, Short-Range Planning and Programming and Air Quality and Transit Operations, Metropolitan Transportation Plan, and Special Studies and System Operations.

Most of the modifications presented at this meeting address budget adjustments and fall under Short-Range Planning and Programming and Air Quality and Transit Operations or Special Studies and System Operations. Said modifications include an additional $217,600 in FY 2018 for air quality planning, text updates and non-Transportation Planning Funds (TPF) FY 2018 and FY 2019 budget increases in coordination with our Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) modifications. Both the Regional Transportation Council and the NCTCOG Executive Board will take action on the FY 2018 and FY 2019 UPWP modifications in October 2017. Final modifications will be submitted to the Texas Department of Transportation on October 27, 2017.

Summary of Local Bond Program Partnerships presentation: In April 2017, a process to select projects via several funding programs was presented to the Regional Transportation Council. Projects were categorized into 11 programs, and project selection is proposed to occur in stages throughout 2017 and into early 2018.

The purpose of the Local Bond Program is to leverage bond funds for projects of strategic importance to local governments and the region. The City of Dallas, Hunt County, Parker County, the City of Grapevine and the City of Cedar Hill are proposed to receive approximately $85.5 million in federal funding.

Additionally, All RTC funds will be contingent upon the materializing of bond program and/or private sector contributions. Individual projects will not be added to the Transportation Improvement Program until overall agreement about each partnership is executed. In addition to this funding, up to $40 million has been approved for the Southern Gateway Pedestrian Plaza through a previous RTC action. Staff are currently working with the City of Grapevine to determine the status of its Bond Program. The RTC will take action on the Local Bond Program in October 2017.

Summary of Call for Projects Recommendations: Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Funding Programs presentation: The Federal Transit Administration apportions funds to the region through two different programs. The Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program provides funding for existing transit projects, new transit projects and non-traditional new and existing transit projects. The Urbanized Area Formula Program provides funding for existing transit projects and non-traditional new and existing transit projects. About $6.5 million in funding is available through both programs combined, and eligible costs for reimbursement include capital, operating and planning.

Projects submitted for this particular Call for Projects were evaluated in four different categories: Implementation/Operations/Sustainability, Needs Assessment, Coordination/Collaboration/Partnership and Overall Strategic Value. Projects being recommended for funding include Workforce Solutions of Greater Dallas, Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART), the City of Dallas, the City of DeSoto, Fort Worth Transportation Authority (FWTA), Dallas County HHS Older Adult Services Program, the City of Lancaster, Span, Inc. Flower Mound and Span, Inc. Lake Cities.
The Regional Transportation Council will take action on recommended projects in October 2017. Projects are projected to begin in the spring of 2018.

**Summary of Electric Vehicles in North Texas Update presentation:** It is currently National Drive Electric Week, and we have several events going on to help educate the public about EVs. A Dallas-Fort Worth NDEW event was held this past Saturday, September 9, 2017, at the Grapevine Mills Mall and had over 150 EVs attend. Additionally, a free webinar series will be hosted by NCTCOG and will be presenting a different EV topic every day the week of September 11, 2017 from Noon to 1 pm.

Electric Vehicles North Texas is just one of many programs that helps improve air quality around the region. Data shows EVs are cost effective, help reduce emissions and provide energy security. Current collaborative efforts include a gap analysis of EV corridors designated by the Federal Highway Administration and an investment of $250 million in new charging infrastructure through the Volkswagen Settlement. Information about several current incentives for purchasing an EV and more information about all of these initiatives can be found at dfwcleancities.org/evnt.

**ORAL COMMENTS RECEIVED AT MEETING**

**Call for Projects Recommendations: Federal Transit Administration Funding Programs**

Liz Holland, Citizen

A. Expansion of Span, Inc. bus service

<Comment: I’m here to support the expansion of Span, Inc. I have a son with special needs. He worked for Blockbuster for almost 20 years, and he was one of the original Span riders. People really need this service. There needs to be more consideration for both people with disabilities and the elderly. Would it be possible to consider designating more money for Span?

Summary of response by Dan Lamers: Karina and her team wake up every day to work on this type of service. I wish we could provide this to every person who needs it. We do the best we can with the funding we have available. Karina also mentioned we’re extending the life of vehicles in good condition and providing them to organizations who provide the type of services you are referring to.

Summary of response by Karina Maldonado: Yes, there’s not a lot of money being proposed but if awarded, Span has the opportunity to come to NCTCOG and request continued service funds. This particular Call for Projects is intended to be a pilot service that gets people involved and educates them on available services. There’s opportunity in the future to increase funding.

Paula Woolworth, Mayor Pro Tem of Shady Shores

A. Funding allocations

<Comment: Are all the recommended projects awarded full funding?

Summary of response by Karina Maldonado: Yes, both Span, Inc. projects from the Denton-Lewisville Urbanized Area are being recommended to receive the funding requested in their project submittals.
Electric Vehicles in North Texas Update

Lauren Simeic, City of Mesquite

A. Use of fossil fuels

Comment: People argue electric vehicles aren’t environmentally friendly because they use fossil fuels. Can you respond?

Summary of response by Lori Clark: If you look at slide 4 of our presentation, it takes into account electricity generation at a national level. Even looking at national numbers, EVs are a better option. The Texas Electrical Grid is isolated, and those numbers are even more beneficial.

Barbra

A. Fueling infrastructure incentives

Question: Are there any fueling infrastructure incentives available?

Summary of response by Lori Clark: Incentives should be available this fall through the Alternative Fueling Facilities Program. You can contact me for more information or visit terpgrants.org
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name and Title</th>
<th>Agency, City Represented</th>
<th>Topics Addressed</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Liz Holland</td>
<td>Citizen</td>
<td>Span bus service expansion</td>
<td>Attachment 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Councilmember Tom Newell</td>
<td>Town of Shady Shores</td>
<td>Funding for Span services in Denton County</td>
<td>Attachment 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mayor Pro Tem Paula Woolworth</td>
<td>Town of Shady Shores</td>
<td>FTA funding; Safe Routes to School</td>
<td>Attachment 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Public Meeting Comment Form

Instructions:
1. Please mark the box indicating whether you would like to make an oral comment, a written comment, or both oral and written comments.
2. Please fill in your name and affiliation as well as the date and location of meeting.
3. If you are submitting a written comment, please write your comment on this form.
4. Please return this form to an NCTCOG employee at the registration desk.

☑ I wish to make an oral comment at the public meeting
☐ I wish to submit a written comment at the public meeting
☐ I wish to make both oral and written comments at the public meeting

Name  

Organization  

Date 9-18-2017  

Meeting Location Lewisville

Please provide written comments below:

Span bus service for Shady Shores. Great need!
Public Meeting Comment Form

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Name: Tom Newell
Organization: Town of Shady Shores - Alderman Place 3
Date: 9/18/17
Meeting Location: Lebanon Library

Please provide written comments below:
Support funding of Denton County Span Funding - Lake Cities Transportation Service. Very needed in our Community. Hope in the future to have more funding annually to support it.

To submit comments or questions by mail, fax, or e-mail, please send to:
North Central Texas Council of Governments, Transportation Department
P.O. Box 5888, Arlington, TX 76005-5888 Phone: (817) 695-9240 Fax: (817) 640-3028
E-mail: transinfo@nctcog.org Website: http://www.nctcog.org/trans
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Name   Paula Woolworth
Organization  Mayor RoTom - Shady Shores
Date  9/18/17
Meeting Location  Lewisville Library

Please provide written comments below:

- I'd like to understand more about funding opportunities for Safe Routes to Schools.
- Are all projects that are "recommended" tonight to be awarded funds? Or put differently, what rate of failure/approval will we experience on this project list?
- What should we do if either 9/12 STTC or 10/12 RTC NTP to show support for these projects?
- Pass - expansion for I-35/HC in future?

To submit comments or questions by mail, fax, or e-mail, please send to:
North Central Texas Council of Governments, Transportation Department
P.O. Box 5888, Arlington, TX 76005-5888 Phone: (817) 685-9240 Fax: (817) 640-3028
E-mail: transinfo@nctcog.org Website: http://www.nctcog.org/trans
COMMENTS SUBMITTED BY WEBSITE, EMAIL & SOCIAL MEDIA

Local Bond Program Partnerships Comments

**Website & Email**

1. Kevin Hefley, Sept. 20, 2017

If people that didn't belong in Texas stayed where they belong, we wouldn't need any bonds to build anything. Case closed.. You "cater" to all the yuppies moving here, that's why they keep coming.

**Electric Vehicle Comments**

**Facebook**

1. Great event – Dallas 2030 District

2. Dan Lepinski built his own solar car 😱! Check it out for yourself at our National Drive Electric Week event tomorrow at Grapevine Mills mall from 10a-12p. ⚡🔌 – NCTCOG Transportation Department

Tell Dan I said hello! – Becki Boal Begley
3. Check out this video from North Texas' record-breaking National Drive Electric Week celebration.  
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PktpqWISqKM&feature=youtu.be  
NCTCOG Transportation Department Mike Taylor – Tesla Owners Club of North Texas

4. National Drive Electric Week North Texas is tomorrow and we’re looking forward to seeing you! This is going to be a fun, record setting event. With 170+ cars attending, we’ll handily break every Texas EV record you can think of and we’ll set a few other NDEW 2017 superlatives as well:
   - Most electric miles driven — 4.6 million. The record is 9.0 million, but it took 640 cars to do it.
   - Most Teslas in one location — by far (about 50 more than Poolesville, MD)
   - Second largest NDEW event in the world (unless you can find 30-40 cars to get us ahead of San Diego)

And don’t forget:
   - For the first time, solar-powered racing cars built by students
   - A fully-autonomous vehicle
   - Cars charging from a portable solar array

5. It’s not to late to join us, whether you WANT or HAVE an electric car.  
https://www.dfwcleancities.org/ndew NCTCOG Transportation Department #texasEV – Teresa Rickerson Schaefer