PUBLIC COMMENTS REPORT

WRITTEN COMMENTS SUBMITTED BY WEBSITE, EMAIL & SOCIAL MEDIA

Purpose

The public comments report is 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.

This report is a compilation of general public comments submitted by members of the public from Tuesday, March 20, 2018, through Thursday, April 19, 2018. Comments and questions are submitted for the record and can be submitted via Facebook, Twitter, fax, email and online.

Summary

This month, public comments were received on a number of topics across social media platforms and via email. The majority of comments received were non-project specific and included multimodal transportation in Dallas, regional population growth, toll road sentiments, highway repurposing trends, Car Care Clinics, outreach events and bluebonnet sightings.

Alternative Fuels

Twitter

1. Rep. Tony Dale, representing the Propane Education and Research Council and Propane Council of Texas, talking about propane benefits, resources and incentives. – NCTCOGTransportation (@NCTCOGtrans)
2. NCTCOG Clean Fleets North Texas 2018 Call for Projects - Workshop & Webinar
https://conta.cc/2uRn2IB  More info on the program can be found here:
http://www.nctcog.org/trans/air/programs/schoolbus/index.asp … @TCEQNews
@NCTCOGtrans @NCTCOGenv #regionalism – TARC (txregionalism)
3. RT @NCTCOGtrans Grants, Funding for projects that address air quality, such as clean vehicle projects, are available from a number of federal, state, local, and non-profit entities. – Marko Sakal (@markosakal)

**Facebook**

1. March is Texas #SmartScape Month! In honor of this, NCTCOG Transportation Department (DFW Clean Cities Coalition’s) quarterly meeting on March 27th at the Plano Environmental Education Center will focus on sustainability in landscaping.

Stakeholders, city parks and landscapers can attend to learn more about going green in their landscaping operations including using #propane commercial mowers. Learn more at https://www.dfwcleancities.org/…/march-dfw-clean-cities-mee… – Propane Autogas: Fueling Texas

**Aviation**

**Twitter**

1. RT @NCTCOGtrans #Plano Mayor envisions #UAS traffic between #DFW and Legacy East and West

Clean Cites – Marko Sakal (@markosakal)
Twitter

1. A group of my kiddos lobbied successfully for a crosswalk in front of our school. I’m so proud! HUGE thank you to the good folks at @NCTCOGtrans – plainy (@plainy)

2. @RedTexasyall @Danwhite7912Dan @NCTCOGtrans @BikeDFW @BikeTexas – Shawn Eric Gray (@ShawnEricGray)

3. @NCTCOGtrans great picture. The woman who is almost across the street is being blocked by the truck apparently making a right hand turn. How about working on traffic law enforcement and pedestrian right of way. It would be nice to safely cross the street in Plano – at Parker Road Station (DART Rail) – Evil_Cyclist (@evil_cyclist)
Facebook

1. Walk Bike Safe Texas is focused road user safety in #DFW area - invite us to one of your community events! http://ow.ly/M95u30jyxsk

Bike East Dallas

Bike Friendly South Dallas

Dallas Regional Chamber

NCTCOG NCTCOG Transportation Department

BikeDFW – Walk Bike Safe Texas
2. Did you know?

From 2012 through 2016
Collin, Dallas, Denton, and Tarrant Counties have reported the following, combined, Bicycle statistics:

- Non-Fatal Bicycle vs Car Crash (2,340)
- Fatal Bicycle vs Car Crash (37)

David Oates and I are looking for your concerns and questions.

We are working to bring Tips for Bicycle Safety & Enjoyment to the Eagle tribe, as well as the citizens and visitors of the Denton community.

Below is our "first cut" of providing basic information.
As we are a little concerned about the walk-ability and ride-ability of our local community; especially with the Bicycle Ride-Shares moving in.

Key note of the above dates, Bicycle Share-Rides did not begin in Dallas until August 2017. These are statistics that would be reported on bicycle owners...

The main concern is the increase of non-commuter, non-proficient, riders renting these Ride-Shares without proper head protection. And that the Cities, Counties, States... may not be separating, identifying, them in the coming data/statistics (i.e. whether the rider is a owner or renter).

Please, help use by sending your correspondence via direct message, or leaving comments below.

Let us know how we can improve these videos to provide you, and others, with valuable information to minimize hazards as they pertain to our means of travel in our Uniquely City of Denton, TX - City Hall community.

Thank you to all who have contributed to this effort:

Gabe Velo Republic
Ivan University of North Texas
Cpl. Crawford University of North Texas Police Department
Chris & Trista UNT Transportation Services
Adam UNT New Media
Justin UNT Emergency Management
Daniel NCTCOG Transportation Department
Prof. Tapia UNT College of Health and Public Service UNT EADP – Nathan Robert
Today, a cyclist was hit by a vehicle on campus...

https://www.facebook.com/NorthTexasDaily/posts/10156107472512349

Please help us address interests and concerns by DM or commenting below.

Thank you, – Nathan Robert

Collin County Strategic Roadway Plan

1. Chad Watson

Thank you for asking for input. I am opposed to the John King/Alanis connector including the bridge over Lake Ray Hubbard. This is an environmentally sensitive area that should be left in its current state. I feel like the newly improved HWY 78 to the North and HWY 66 to the South fills the travel needs adequately and into the future.

2. Krystle Jackson

This wig is on Troy Rd do not want the proposed bridge to go over Ray Hubbard. We do not want the traffic, air pollution, and noise pollution. I did not pay premium prices for lake front property and to live in the country to then have major traffic end up down the street. It is bringing Rockwall traffic to us and dumping and bypassing Wylie businesses. Wylie shouldn’t be saddled with the cost to help maintain it either. We already have 3 bridges over the lake and with the improvements on 78, it is a breeze to travel any time of day now. Would be great if the traffic survey for 78 could be a focus as proposed months ago.

High-speed Rail

Twitter

1. Fort Worth and @NCTCOGtrans suggest HSR stop in Tarrant County at the Intermodal Transportation Center, the heart of Tarrant County and with dozens of bus connections and 2 commuter rail connections. This is the ideal location for HSR in Tarrant County. – Tarrant Transit Alliance (@TarrantTransit)
Innovative Vehicles & Technology

Twitter

1. New @NASEMTRB E-Circular 232 now online: Automated Vehicles Symposium 2017 from San Francisco http://www.trb.org/main/blurbs/177488.aspx …. Featuring breakout sessions and panel discussions by researchers at @CTRUTAustin @TTI @TexasSouthern @SwRI @NCTCOGtrans @utarlington – CTR Library (@ctrlib)
2. REMINDER! Free Webinar Today! Incorporating #ElectricVehicles Into Your Fleet | Join F4F @ 2PM ET to learn about current opportunities, how to assess suitability for your #fleet, and more | http://bit.ly/2E2hiEF – FleetsForTheFuture (@Fleets4future)

Project Planning

Email

1. Tanah Martin

You need to repair Finley Ct. It is in terrible condition.
2. Martin Kralik

Ten counties in the Dallas-Fort Worth area are designated as nonattainment for the pollutant ozone, and the transportation sector is a major pollution source.

I recently contacted the City of Dallas (311) about 3 troublesome traffic signals that appeared to not be sensing traffic correctly and are severely impeding major traffic flows:

- 2 signals are on Hillcrest just south of LBJ
- 1 signal is on Preston Rd just north of LBJ by the closed Valley View center

Traffic at all of these locations are needlessly stopped and idling traffic produces much more pollutants besides causing more traffic congestion and driver irritation.

After months of multiple complaints and calls to 311, I received a call back explaining that the signals at all of these locations AND 70% OF ALL OTHER SIGNALS IN DALLAS WERE NOT WORKING PROPERLY!!! And the current sensing equipment is slowly being replaced by new radar equipment. Meanwhile we have needless pollution and traffic congestion.

This is unacceptable. Dallas should expedite fixing all signals immediately.

Response by Natalie Bettger, NCTCOG

Mr. Kralik,

Thank you for your comments and we appreciate your interest in transportation in the Dallas-Fort Worth Region. Through the Regional Traffic Signal Retiming Program (RTSRP) and Minor Improvement Program, NCTCOG will work with the City of Dallas to retime 106 traffic signals in Dallas and also provide $860,000 to the City to address detection issues in some of the intersections. These projects are anticipated to start sometime this year after NCTCOG executes an agreement with TxDOT.

NCTCOG will also reach out to the City of Dallas regarding your feedback to continue working to improve traffic signal coordination within the region.

Thank you again for your comments and have a nice day.

3. Councilman Oscar Pearson, City of Aubrey

It seems that anything above Hwy 380 is stalled. We have bypass plans in place for Aubrey and it looks like it will be years before it is even looked at. We have north and south streets that are already overcrowded due to the influx of housing and little is being addressed in a timely manner from McKinney all the way to Denton. When is the North Texas Tollway north of Hwy 380 going to be completed? We have a serious safety issue in Aubrey that has never been addressed to my knowledge. Emergency vehicles have to wait on trains which delays them to respond in a timely manner. We have schools that are a mess in the morning and after school is out due to lack of streets and different choices to go to and leave from each school. FM 1385 and FM 2931 are both in dire need of widening today, not tomorrow. So much more could be discussed and shared. It is called being proactive and instead of reactive.

Response by Carli Baylor, NCTCOG
Councilman Pearson,

Thank you for contacting the NCTCOG Transportation Department. Please find enclosed below and attached answers related to your comments/questions.

**When is the North Texas Tollway north of Hwy 380 going to be completed?**

We have two related TIP projects along DNT at/north of US 380. The project profiles for both projects are attached and both fully funded. The section of DNT from FM 428 to CR 60 (the Collin/Grayson County Line) is not funded.

There is also an NTTA fact sheet about this project, which can be found here: [https://www.ntta.org/newsresources/reports/projectprogressreports/Documents/current_cpr/CPR_DNT4_secure.pdf](https://www.ntta.org/newsresources/reports/projectprogressreports/Documents/current_cpr/CPR_DNT4_secure.pdf)

**We have a serious safety issue in Aubrey that has never been addressed to my knowledge. Emergency vehicles have to wait on trains, which delays them to respond in a timely manner. We have schools that are a mess in the morning and after school is out due to lack of streets and different choices to go to and leave from each school.**

The goods movement team was not aware of any rail crossing issues in Aubrey. We do understand there are three crossings located in the city, one at Main Street/FM 428, Elm Street and Plum Street. There are approximately 20 trains that pass through the town a day.

If there are safety concerns with emergency vehicles being able to respond in a timely manner, we would be happy to work with local officials to find some possible solutions for their concerns. If this is the case, please contact Jeff Hathcock at jhathcock@nctcog.org or 817-608-2354. He would be happy to reach out to councilmembers to initiate the process.

4. **Tom Spencer**

I am writing to request that the RTC vote to fund the $10,000,000 Shady Shores Bridges Project, a joint project between the NCTCOG, Denton County, the City of Lake Dallas, and the Town of Shady Shores on April 12, 2018. The flooding of South Shady shores Road frequently causes severe impairment in, out, and through the area and creates enhanced safety concerns for the citizens of the area. S. Shady Shores Rd. also provides some relief for traffic stoppages by accidents on I 35. We really are dealing with the effect of the 2018 population growth on 1960’s infrastructure. Funding this project will help improve safety and mobility for the region. Thank you for your service to the Region.

5. **Glenda Rufer**

I am in favor of a bridge on Shady Shores Rd to eliminate road closures due to high water.

6. **Paul Brown**
Shady Shores has limited access into town during flooding events due to the elevation of South Shady Shores Road. It is imperative to address this elevation deficiency as soon as possible in our growing community. The long term benefit to our community cannot be emphasized enough. The engineers have outlined the problem, let’s fix it.

7. Edward A. Sassone

Regarding the South Shady Shores Bridges project. I am writing in support of this project. When the Lewisville Lake conservation pool level was raised in 1987 when Lake Roberts was completed nothing was done at the time to address the effect that would have on South Shady Shores Rd. So this project is righting that oversight. When the road has flooded it has stayed in that state for matter of months. Alternate routes add to travel time and can impact neighborhood streets. Thank you.

Twitter

1. Very important for @dartmedia D2 and @DtownDallasInc. Thank you @PeteSessions @RepEBJ @CityOfDallas @NCTCOGtrans – Lee M. Kleinman (@LeeforDallas)

2. Language passed through BOTH #republican and #democrat Conventions today supporting option managed toll LANES! Now can we move?? @GovAbbott @DanPatrick @DonHuffines @SenatorBobHall #putintheagenda @TxDOT @NCTCOGtrans @TxDOTCommission – LBJNow (@LBJ_Now)

3. Participating in the SD16 Republican Convention, it was exciting to see all the support for passing resolution 212a. Optional toll managed express lanes are key to @GovAbbott’s congestion relief initiative. @DanPatrick @TxDOTCommission @DonHuffines @LBJ_Now @NCTCOGtrans – Susan Morgan (@heysmorgan)
4. Thank you @PeteSessions for listening to your constituents. A little help from @GovAbbott @DanPatrick @DonHuffines @SenatorBobHall would be nice. @LBJ_Now @NCTCOGtrans @CityOfDallas @TxDOTCommission @AdamMcGoughD10 http://www.quorumreport.com/Subscribers/Article.cfm?IID=27927 … – Lee M. Kleinman (@LeeforDallas)

Sure would. This seems so easy. – LBJNow (@LBJ_Now)

Which begs the question, why won’t they? – Susan Morgan (@heysmorgan)

=https? – LBJNow (@LBJ_Now)

Text of @quorumreport @LBJ_Now – Lee M. Kleinman (@LeeforDallas)
Public Meetings & Forums

1. Featured at #GT18: "A Taste of Future #Transportation Technologies in the Real World". Join panelists from @DowntownATXinfo @AustinEnergy @CapitalMetroATX @NCTCOGtrans as they discuss #AutonomousVehicles, #electricvehicles, & innovative transit solutions. – IEEE GreenTech 2018 (@ieeegreentech18)
2. DFW: Make your voice heard to @NCTCOGtrans as they craft a 2045 Transportation Plan!

Meetings will be held in April and online to help shape the DFW of tomorrow. Public engagement in this process is critical to achieving a sustainable, equitable future.

http://campaign.r20.constantcontact.com/render?m=1102365104652&ca=16c3c3a9-6175-4598-8b9a-bd63337a5ba5 … – FarmAndCity (@FarmAndCity)

3. @NCTCOGtrans is seeking public input on transportation in our region. This week, they are holding meetings in Garland, North Richland Hills & Arlington. – Senator Jane Nelson (@SenJaneNelson)
4. We can't do this alone. We need YOUR help. Speak up and let @NCTCOGtrans know that improving Tarrant County transportation INCLUDES improving public #transit! – Tarrant Transit Alliance (@TarrantTransit)
5. Huge crowd honoring @TxDOTCommission Former Commissioner Victor Vandergriff and his advocacy for our region @NCTCOGtrans @LBJ_Now @AdamMcGoughD10 – at North Central Texas Council of Governments – Lee M. Kleinman (@LeeforDallas)

6. Michael Morris from @NCTCOGtrans showing the different roles of officials at today’s RTC meeting. We’re still waiting for a financing mechanism for 635E – at North Central Texas Council of Governments – Philip Hiatt Haigh (@philip_inRL)
7. @AdamMcGoughD10 informs RTC members at @NCTCOGtrans of the 2nd fatality in the 635E area since Texas Transportation Commission denied funding mechanisms #LBJNow – Philip Hiatt Haigh (@philip_inRL)

8. At the @NCTCOGtrans meeting @AdamMcGoughD10 said “My ten year old knows the difference between toll roads and optional tolled managed lanes”

Why don’t our representatives? @GregAbbott_TX @DanPatrick #txlege – Lynn Davenport (@lynnsdavenport)

    #truth – LBJNow (@LBJ_Now)

9. The tone at the @NCTCOGtrans today was one of unity and collaboration in support of #LBJNow. Constituent and local leader support spans the DFW metroplex. The politics is petty and Texans are over it. @LBJ_Now #getmoving #txlege – Brad McCutcheon (@BMcCutcheon)

    RayDMN @RayLeszcynski
    With Sessions’ support, regional transit officials lean toward Plan A; including tolled lanes on LBJ East dallasnews.com/news/transport...

10. DCTA will host a series of open house meetings this month and they want your feedback! Check here for times, topics and locations: http://bit.ly/2qAl6Jj – NCTCOGTransportation
Thanks for sharing info on our upcoming open house meetings! – DCTA (@RideDCTA)

**Facebook**

1. DCTA will host a series of open house meetings this month and they want your feedback! Check here for times, topics and locations: http://bit.ly/2qAl6Jj – NCTCOG Transportation Department

    Thanks for spreading the word about our April open house meetings! – Denton County Transportation Authority (DCTA)

    Of course! 😊 – NCTCOG Transportation Department

**Transit**

**Twitter**

1. Tomorrow morning @dartmedia opens route 84, connecting patients to #healthcare at @HealingHandsDal. Join us at 8am to celebrate...@KenKalthoffNBC5 @cbs11jack @CBSDFW @DMNOpinion @wfaa @NBCDFW @NCTCOGtrans https://www.facebook.com/AdamMcGoughD10/posts/995801487238420 … – Serve Dallas (@AdamMcGoughD10)

**Facebook**

1. Words cannot express how excited I am to celebrate the opening of Dallas Area Rapid Transit (Official DART page) route 84! Over the last three years we have been working with Healing Hands Ministries to provide transit service to their patients. A decade in the making and
tomorrow the ribbon will officially be cut! Stop by the corner of Royal and Greenville, tomorrow morning, as we celebrate the access this grants thousands of people every single year!

#ALLinD10 #loveyourneighbor

NBC DFW, WFAA, The Dallas Morning News, Lake Highlands Advocate, Lake Highlands Residents, Pamper Lake Highlands, Lake Highlands Public Improvement District, Richland College, Lee M. Kleinman, NCTCOG Transportation Department, City of Dallas - City Hall, CBS DFW, KERA – Adam McGough, Dallas City Council, District 10

Other

Twitter

1. @UrbanFortWorth @TrinityMetro @RideDCTA @Wylie_H_Dallas @WalkableDFW @Wylie_H_Dallas @txbornviking @Uber_DFW @NCTCOGtrans @TexasCentral @Amtrak @McKinneyAveTX @limebike @olo_bicycle @Zipcar @FluidMarket @BikeDFW @BikeTexas @VBikesTech – Shawn Eric Gray (@ShawnEricGray)
2. This is happening in spite of, not because of, @NCTCOGtrans

@BudKennedy @VoteGiovanni @KonniBurton – Jim Carson (@liberalsaremean)

3. Thanks @NCTCOGtrans for being a great partner and for giving @DallasCountyTx two vehicles for the @Dallas_Sheriff to use to keep the roads safe and catch polluters! – Judge Clay Jenkins (@JudgeClayJ)
Wow that is most generous. And those SUVs look bad a** (in a good way) to keep the roads safe. That is what supporting our people in uniform looks like! 📸 – JBDallas (@JBDal)

My commute from Northeast Tarrant to Fort Worth has doubled in the past two years: It takes nearly an hour to drive 22 miles. Please, everyone stop moving here. – Tracy Bristol (@TheTracyShow)

5. More Cities Are Banishing Highways Underground—And Building Parks on Top http://www.routefifty.com/infrastructure/2018/04/more-cities-are-banishing-highways-underground-and-building-parks-top/147124/ ... via @route fifty @DallasParkRec @BobbyAbtahi @NCTCOGtrans @TxDOTCommission @TxDOTDallasPIO @DallasParkRec @scottgriggsdal @DwaineForDallas @DallasCityMgr @Mike_Rawlings – Lee M. Kleinman (@LeeforDallas)

PAYMENT IS Easy.

TOLL TAG  PAY BY MAIL

NO MORE TOLLS
Let’s tell lawmakers
The game is over
WWW.TEXASTOLL-LAWSUIT.COM

– J_C.Alexander (@JYakburger)
8. Traffic in North Texas is going to get REALLY complicated in the near future 😵
@NBCDFWWetter @SDaviesNBC5 @NCTCOGtrans – Andrew A. Yeager (@aayeager)

9. We can't wait to celebrate UNT with all of you at University Day! Come check out our booth and learn about what we’re doing to improve transportation and air quality in our region! #UNTUday18 – NCTCOGTransportation (@NCTCOGtrans)
Look for @UNT_EM, @NCTCOGtrans We'll be tabling close to yall, I believe!! #GoMeanGreen #UNTUday18 – UNT Emergency Mgmt (@UNT_EM)

– NCTCOGTransportation (@NCTCOGtrans)

**Facebook**

1. Bluebonnets have begun to bloom here in Arlington, TX!
#Protip: For everyone’s safety, avoid taking photos of bluebonnets on highways and busy roads. – NCTCOG Transportation Department

Bluebonnet patches can be found in some Arlington parks. – Susan Schrock

Yes! A park is a great place to go! – NCTCOG Transportation Department

Does anyone know any parks that have the bluebonnets here in Arlington or Grand Prairie – Diana Munoz Montoya

How lovely! – Susan Schrock

Yay! Beautiful day!! – Julia M. Ballard

2. ICYMI: New TEXpress Lanes have opened on I-35W! Payment for driving on #TEXpress is easy. Pay electronically with a TollTag or pay-by-mail. www.TEXpressLanes.com – NCTCOG Transportation Department
Toll Roads are unethical and evil. – Phil Neil

3. Free Car Care Clinics in April – Natural Awakenings Dallas Metroplex Magazine

Free Car Care Clinics for Air Safety

The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is partnering with local automotive repair shops to sponsor free Car Care Clinics in April to help North Texas drivers with vehicles that have the check engine light illuminated.

NADALLAS.COM