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 November 8, 2018.

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

This month, public comments were received on a number of topics across social media platforms and via email. Projects being planned in the region, including highway construction projects, the Preston Center Garage, the mobility plan for Midtown Dallas and Inland Port transportation progress were the most common topics of the month.

Air Quality

Twitter


Alternative Fuels

Facebook

1. Don’t forget:
NCTCOG Transportation Department
Clean Fleets North Texas 2018 Call for Projects
Next Deadline: December 28, 2018

The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) has approximately $448,000 remaining in grant funding through the Clean Fleets North Texas 2018 Call for Projects!

Eligible Applicants:
Local Governments
Private Companies that Contract with Local Governments
Eligible Activities:
Replacement of On-Road Diesel Vehicles
Replacement Non-Road Diesel Equipment

Funding Levels:
45% Cost if New Is Electric
35% Cost if New is Powered by Engine Certified to California Air Resource Board Optional Low-NOx Standards
25% Cost for All Others

For more information and to apply: www.nctcog.org/aqfunding – Texas NGV Alliance

1. DFW Airport plans to issue billions in bonds for improvements, possibly including a sixth terminal http://bit.ly/2DXNZqt – NCTCOG Transportation Department
A SIXTH? They have the room! Why not? – Tyler Stowe

**Bicycle & Pedestrian**

**Twitter**

1. Big Investment Connects Bike and Pedestrian Trails Across the Metroplex

   ![Big Investment Connects Bike and Pedestrian Trails Across the Metroplex](image)

   **Big Investment Connects Bike and Pedestrian Trails Across the Metroplex**
   New construction will complete a continuous 53-mile trail southern alignment connecting Fort Worth, Arlington, Grand Prairie, Irving and Dallas.
   nadallas.com

2. @NCTCOGtrans Survey: Cyclists most comfortable separated from cars – City of Fort Worth (@CityofFortWorth)
Survey: Cyclists most comfortable separated from cars

The closer respondents lived to a bicycle facility, the more likely they were to ride a bicycle in the past year. Another important conclusion drawn from fortworthtexas.gov

Electric Vehicles

Facebook
1. November EV Stats
For those of you who like to track Texas EV stats, our friends at NCTCOG Transportation Department (our hosts at NDEW) have released the November numbers -- note that they lag for Tesla by 30-60 days and 30 days for other brands...

Total North Texas EVs increased by 334 in November to 6,701 This is mostly due to the addition of 314 Teslas.

Tesla increased by 314
- Model S 1576 (increase of 14)
- Model X 686 (Increase of 10)
- Model 3 1595 (increase of 290)

Chevrolet increased by 7
- Volt 665 (decrease of 6)
- Bolt 262 (increase of 13)

Nissan decreased by 18
- Leaf 413

Total Texas EVs 17,505 (increase of 879 mainly due to adding 804 new Teslas.

Total Texas Teslas 9,508 (increase of 804) – Tesla Owners Club of North Texas

Email
1. Tom Stamey

What is the Ft Worth to Laredo high speed project

Mr. Stamey,

Thank you for contacting the NCTCOG Transportation Department.
The Fort Worth-to-Laredo Project is a bridge project that will help span the gap between the TxDOT Texas-Oklahoma Passenger Rail Project Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement effort and the Tier 2 Environmental Impact Statement effort. A joint effort with the Waco, Killeen/Temple, Austin, San Antonio and Laredo regions, it will refine alignment alternatives and investigate the feasibility of the Hyperloop technology for the corridor.

Please let us know if you have any further questions.

Thank you for your reply.

I must say that the NCTCOG considering this is alarming. Alarming to the point of shock that the council would even consider such a costly item that would be far more expensive than adding a lane to I-35 north and south. It would also be a continual money loser that the taxpayers would have to shoulder. We already have many money losers.

Please add me as being totally against such a financial boon doggle.

Twitter
1. The Texas bullet train now looks likely. Here’s what to expect | http://wfaa.com https://twitter.com/intent/user?screen_name=@wfaa … @CityOfDallas @NCTCOGtrans @TexasCentral – Lee M. Kleinman (@LeeforDallas)

2. We’ve seen a lot of buzz about the potential for high-speed rail between Dallas and Houston. Texas is on track to start a new tradition of transportation in the United States. Here’s what it could look like: http://bit.ly/2BGyhOM – NCTCOGTransportation (@NCTCOGtrans)
You can do a lot with $20+ billion in taxpayer backed loans. – Evan Lowe (@EvenLoweHiPo)

Facebook

1. We've seen a lot of buzz about the potential for high-speed rail between Dallas and Houston. Texas is on track to start a new tradition of transportation in the United States. Here's what it could look like: http://bit.ly/2BGyhOM – NCTCOG Transportation Department

This train will be absolutely wonderful in helping to reduce car traffic and road congestion between Dallas and Houston, as well as helping to improve air quality, encouraging more use of mass transit options, and providing alternative transportation options for people who need and want them! – Paul McManus

We think so too, Paul! – NCTCOG Transportation Department

It needs to be extended to Fort Worth. – Jamie Terrell

Hi, Jamie! While this story focuses on the high-speed rail line between Dallas and Houston, the Regional Transportation Council is seeking to bring an Fort Worth-Dallas high-speed rail line to connect the planned line between Dallas and Houston. More information, as well as a presentation on HSR in Texas, can be found here: https://www.nctcog.org/....transit-planning/high-speed-rail. – NCTCOG Transportation Department

This is just one of the Shinkansen Bullet Trains, what Texas Central will use, that we zipped all over Japan in, at over 200mph, and two others that were at the station at the same time. These are just three of the great many in Japan alone, meanwhile the USA has ZERO High-Speed trains that can go anywhere near those speeds!

Bullet Trains USA!!!!
Project Planning

Email

1. **Marie Andrews**

I live within a half mile from Central Expressway and do not find anything EXPRESS about that road. I have lived at the border of Richardson/Plano for 30 years and watched as that road seems to always be behind the 8-ball in capacity due to growth to the north or expansion to deal with growth.

I now would rather travel on streets with all the stop and go traffic than get stuck on an expressway mired in delays. The HOV lanes always seemed like a waste of good concrete that could be used to increase the flow and speed of traffic. Therefore, I am in hearty support to convert the existing HOV lanes on US 75 (Central Expressway) to SMART high demand lanes that are free to all.

Many people within my neighborhood feel the same. I have heard from a neighbor with where this conversion has been successfully put in place to the north further solidified this stance.

2. **Robert Brown**

My family has had land here at [redacted] and [redacted] I-30 W, Greenville TX [redacted] since 1963. I moved away in 1991 to Fort Worth @ I-30 and Eastchase Pkwy, then in 2005 to I-820 & Hwy 26 in NRH. I've seen well done upgrades and improvements to I-30 in both Fort Worth and Dallas. I cheered the neighborhood that pushed for noise abatement and won during the widening of I-30 approaching downtown Dallas.

Now having had a rare painful spinal disease hit me in 2015 and force me to return home to fight for disability in 2017, I see and hear the difference in traffic over those 30+ years of being gone.
I want to be an active voice in this project as it directly impacts my remaining years and the impact of Syringomyelia on my nervous system. How do I become a voice that is heard during this expansion? My mobile home now shows up on Google Maps at Interstate Hwy 30 W. Street view will show my Grandmother’s house which was removed in 2007.

Please listen to these small citizens of the Meadowview community and let's make a highway we can all live with.

3. Oscar Pearson

Expedite the completion of 380 from Denton to the North Dallas Tollway. Also, have found it very difficult to work with TxDot and get answers. We need to push the Thoroughfare Plan through Aubrey. East and west traffic is not being addressed in a timely manner. Thank you

4. Stephanie Wagner-Irvin

These is so needed some of Texas cities and towns are so outdated. This could help remove cars off the roads, pollution and multiple fatal accidents.

Twitter

1. @DMNOpinion published a column by Laura Miller today that is filled with inaccuracies and misinformation regarding Preston Center. I have taken no position on either zoning case she mentions in the column but supporting a process with neighborhood input to take place. – Jennifer S. Gates (@cmjsgates)

   In addition my office along with @NCTCOGtrans have been working on the redevelopment of the Preston Center Garage over the last two years most recently a public meeting was held Sept 6 with a second scheduled for Jan 31. https://www.nctcog.org/trans/plan/land-use/land-use-planning-projects/general-land-use-projects#Northwest%20Highway%20&%20Preston%20Road … – Jennifer S. Gates (@cmjsgates)

   Discussion regarding a potential gift from Mr Deason occurred but I was never notified a 10 million gift was secured. – Jennifer S. Gates (@cmjsgates)

The @CityOfDallas & @NCTCOGtrans as well as @TollTagNews are studying adding ramps on the Tollway at Walnut Hill as well as a Texas u-turn at NWH. Funds and more public input are required before either would move forward. – Jennifer S. Gates (@cmjsgates)

   You firmly oppose our Taskforce recommendation to build the Tollway off-ramps at Walnut Hill Lane and Lovers Lane. You told Robert Wilonsky in a column of his on August 10, 2018 that “there are other things I would do with transportation dollars.” – Laura Miller (@Laura_S_Miller)

   Because you did not fund the underground garage that our Taskforce recommended, the private and public matching funds did not come through. The current effort, funded by NCTCOG and championed by Preston Center business
owners, is a poor substitute to gerrymander what’s there now. – Laura Miller (@Laura_S_Miller)

Hey Laura, Preston Center is some of the most valuable and potentially useful real estate in the city. I’m sure you and your filthy rich neighbors would be best served by it being an empty field with no traffic, but JSG represents the rest of us too. – Smuckers (@SMuCKAZZZ)

If you choose to live near one of the busiest and most important intersections in the city, you should expect it to be... busy. If you don't like that, the answer is for you use some of your $$$$ to move, not use your clout to kill development that should benefit the whole city – Smuckers (@SMuCKAZZZ)

Exactly at this time not a priority there are limited funds available. Would prefer to invest in deferred infrastructure of streets inherited from former leadership. – Jennifer S. Gates (@cjmsgates)

I agree with you, @cjmsgates. We need to get our neighborhood streets fixed first. – Wylie H Dallas (@Wylie_H_Dallas)

@TxDOT has improved all intersections from Midway to Central and retimed all signals. – Jennifer S. Gates (@cjmsgates)

The firehouse light was not deactivated because it is necessary for @DallasFireRes_q Station 27 to safety & quickly exit the station on a call but @CityOfDallas reprogrammed the light to remain green at all times unless activated to RED as necessary for emergency calls. – Jennifer S. Gates (@cjmsgates)

2. Come and see the mobility plan for Midtown. @CityOfDallas @NCTCOGtrans @dartmedia @DallasCityMgr @cjmsgates @Mike_Rawlings @TxDOTDallas – at One Galleria Tower – Lee M. Kleinman (@LeeforDallas)
3. Excited to see progress on bringing Transportation to the Inland Port. A Transportation Management Association has been created, with an independent board. @NCTCOGtrans is providing funding for the 1st 2 years and @dartmedia is acting as a facilitator #Transportation #Dallas – at Southwest Center Mall – Dominique P. Torres (@attorneydtorres)
Transit

Email

1. Richard P Sickler

Sir, We as a group fell that we need buses in North Richland Hills and surrounding areas it would greatly help our busy highway. Thanks, Richard P Sickler dickiedaddles@yahoo.com

2. Calvin Davis

It is my right as an American citizen to be able to go wherever I want to go when I want to go. I should not have to relocate to the city of Dallas simply because the city of Dallas has made a way so I can go places on my own. I should be able to have my independence regardless of what city or town I choose to live in within the state of Texas. That is why I am asking the city of Cedar Hill to allow dart para transit to come to the city of Cedar Hill.

Twitter

1. Excited about new Trinity Lakes station & transit oriented development along the Trinity Railway Express (TRE) in East Fort Worth @TrinityMetro @TarrantCountyTX @TarrantTransit @NCTCOGtrans – Sal Espino (@SAL_FW)
I read this last night! Yaaas! Restoring the Subways is a great idea! I sure miss riding them when they were available! – Nora Delgado Ramirez (@NoraDelgadoRam4)

2. We really need to stop wasting time & energy on the "hyperloop" & other "more hype than substance" proposals.

It's clear what solutions will work TODAY to improve mobility throughout the region. We need fast, frequent, & reliable #bus & #rail solutions! – Loren S. (@txbornviking)
Attn @NCTCOGtrans @TxDOT @TxDOTFortWorth & @CityofFortWorth – Loren S. (@txbornviking)

3. Love these Downtown Fort Worth banners for #TEXRail! Time to train from downtown to Terminal B at DFW Airport starting January 5. Free from January 5 to January 31st. @TrinityMetro @CityofFortWorth @DTFortWorth @DFWAirport @TarrantCountyTX @TarrantTransit @NCTCOGtrans – Sal Espino (@SAL_FW)
Facebook

1. TEXRail will kick off service with free rides http://bit.ly/2G14a9h – NCTCOG Transportation Department
Awesome! – Edith Wilson Owens

This train will be absolutely wonderful! – Paul McManus

We think so, too! – NCTCOG Transportation Department

We can't wait to ride this train!!!! ETA - Enthusiasts of Transit Association!!! – Curtis Garrison

Yay! We can't either! – NCTCOG Transportation Department

WHEN will the free rides be? – Connie Cook Sandlin

Hi, Connie! From January 5, through February 1, 2019. – NCTCOG Transportation Department

Can we get a blown up map of the three Fort Worth stops? Is it stopping in the stockyards? Then where downtown? – Aaron Kreag

Aaron Kreag downtown TEXRail will share the TRE stations. For the Stockyards, the station is at 28th & Decatur (approx 1mi away) – Loren Stewart

Aaron Kreag Trinity Metro will have bus service from the TEXRail station to the Stockyards. Buses will meet the train for seamless service. – Linda Jacobson Thornton

I hope the NCTCOG Transportation Department is looking at Greenville, Texas seriously for rail service into Dallas. I have a rare disease called #Syringomyelia and medical care will have to be through specialists of many disciplines which will have to come through UT Southwestern. – Robert Brown

Thanks for your comment, Robert! We'll make sure to provide it to the Regional Transportation Council. – NCTCOG Transportation Department

Perhaps you can direct me... how do I insure that sound abatement is considered when I-30 through Hunt County expands from 4 to 6 lanes? Dallas enjoys that on the West approach of I-30 to downtown. I just moved back from I-820/Hwy 26 and I can tell a difference. My family has had this land by I-30 frontage since 1963. I'm not going anywhere but this highway noise is awful now and will be worse. – Robert Brown

We encourage you to send us an email with your comments to transinfo@nctcog.org. We also encourage you to visit https://www.nctcog.org/trans/involve/meetings. There, you can subscribe to our updates and see when and where our public meetings are held as well as the topic or topics of discussion. We appreciate your concern and for providing your comments and we hope that you continue to engage. – NCTCOG Transportation Department

Done and forwarded on to others in the area. Thanks. – Robert Brown
Glad to hear it! – NCTCOG Transportation Department

Any plans to expand service into the far north Fort Worth neighborhoods, Keller, Roanoke? I'd love to use the service when flying out of DFW. – Gary Simonson

Hi, Gary! That sounds like a question for Trinity Metro. Sorry we couldn't be more helpful. – NCTCOG Transportation Department

Can you use your regional pass to use TexRail or is it separate ticketing? – Veronica Hodges

Hi, Veronica! You should be able to use your regional pass for all transit services in Tarrant, Dallas and Denton counties. – NCTCOG Transportation Department

NCTCOG Transportation Department thank you! That's great! – Veronica Hodges

When will the NRH stations open? – Rebekah C. Ralston

Hi, Rebekah! Service to those stations is expected to begin January 5, 2019. – NCTCOG Transportation Department

Okay. The graphic legend made it look like they're opening later. – Rebekah C. Ralston

Other

Email

1. Brandon Meeks

This is in regards to tractor/trailer parking and not staying to Irving truck routes

The parking of tractor/trailer trucks in our district has really become a safety issue. More specifically around Esters & Pioneer as well as the new development off Conflans between Hard Rock Rd and 161. There are times that 20 plus trucks are parked at the AMC movie theater at night and they all start to leave around the same time children in the area are walking to school. There is also a large number of trucks parking on the new residential streets in the new development. Sometimes they are even parking on Hard Rock (I have called the police department and they have been helpful in getting trucks off the main roads). I have also spoken with code enforcement and they have been helpful in going out to AMC for parking violations (but they are not 24 hours so there is only so much they can do).

These trucks are very large to have moving around masses at the same children are around. I have spoken with AMC, Burger King, and the other corner store at Esters & Pioneer and hopefully they will be posting no truck/trailer/tractor parking signs (they do have NO OVERNIGHT PARKING signs and have been calling the tow agency that is authorized to be on AMC property which has helped drive the amount of trucks coming in down). By the duck pond at Esters & Conflans I know there is NO TRUCK signs put up. I would like to know what we can
do to get NO TRUCK signs placed on Esters between Conflans and 183 and on Conflans between Esters &161. These trucks are using this as a route with business on route. It would not matter the direction they are coming form off 183 as they could use 161 and then exit Conflans to get to the warehouse they are coming and going from.

With this all being a residential area and nothing being zoned for industrial the tractor/trailer parking should not be taking place at these locations, and unless they are delivering or picking up fright from these areas they should be staying to the Irving truck route and not using these streets.

Twitter

1. Happy Thanksgiving Day! @TrinityMetro @CityofFortWorth @TarrantCountyTX @TarrantTransit @NCTCOGtrans @SteerFW – Sal Espino (@SAL_FW)

   Right back at you! 🦃 – SteerFW (@SteerFW)

   Your continued advocacy on behalf of better #transit for all of us across Tarrant County is certainly something to be thankful for. – Tarrant Transit Alliance (@TarrantTransit)

2. Happy thanksgiving @NCTCOGtrans – Philip Goss (@gosspl)

   Don Kostelec @KostelecPlan
   “If we could only get one more lane, then it would be solved.”
   - A Caltrans engineer, probably twitter.com/StreetsblogUSA...
3. #PublicRoads article "Boosting Pavement Resilience" covers study of temp & precip impacts for TX SH-170 pavement design. More info in FHWA-HEP-17-082 https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/sustainability/resilience/ongoing_and_current_research/teacr/synthesis/ … #climatechange @CAMPOTexas @NCTCOGtrans @TxDOT 🚗🚧 – CTR Library (@ctrlib)

4. So yesterday running a little late to work I decided to give the #Texpress lanes a try...

Result, epic fail. Backup at I-30 & I-35 to get onto the lanes, then bumper to bumper on the lanes... So "glad" I paid for this privilege.

@TollTagNews @TxDOT @TxDOTFortWorth @NCTCOGtrans – Loren S. (@txbornviking)