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 Friday, March 20, through Sunday, April 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. Comments in the “Other” category, regarding Census Day 2020 and COVID-19, were in the majority.

Air Quality

Twitter –

1. EPA’s recent grant of nearly $2.5M to @NCTCOGtrans will fund rebates to replace diesel-powered engines and equipment with cleaner-burning equipment. – EPA Region6 (@EPAregion6)

Bicycle & Pedestrian

Twitter –

1. Thank you to @FortWorthParks & @TRWD_News for building & maintaining the trails. Remember to keep your social distancing when you are out on the trails or at city parks. #FortWorthTrails @CityofFortWorth @StreamsValleys @TrinityMetro @FWBikeSharing @TarrantCountyTX @NCTCOGtrans – Sal Espino (@SAL_FW)
Email —

1. viperboy0098

Hello, the website I have been referred when I asked about how pricing is determined states “TEXpress Lanes use variable congestion-management pricing to help manage traffic flow and provide faster, more predictable travel. Roadside equipment recalculates real-time prices every 5 minutes, 24 hours a day, aiming to ensure the lanes are moving at 50 mph or faster.”

I find this interesting because I am always able to sustain a speed of 70+ from end to end. For example at 6:30 this morning, of course with tons of people not going to work and such, traffic is super light, but it was still over 6$ to go through the entire section. The traffic load was the same as when it was at 7am yesterday morning and the day prior. Is there simply a timing structure at which you guys use to vary rates based on expected demand as opposed to the above statement?

Good afternoon,

Thank you for contacting the NCTCOG Transportation Department.

For information on our TEXpress Lane system, please contact Robert Hinkle. I’ve enclosed his information below:

Robert Hinkle, Corporate Affairs
Dear TEXpress Lanes Customer,

We appreciate your question regarding the TEXpress lanes. As we are all trying to navigate during these unprecedented times we have been particularly mindful of the speed and volume of vehicles on the roadway. We are constantly monitoring the toll rates and adjustments will occur based on those factors.

Again, we appreciate your feedback and for reaching out with your question.

Projects & Planning

Email –
1. Jon Donhy

Recently, traveling Hwy 121, NE of Hwy 75 was a nightmare. One lane was open for many miles. Speed and travel time was greatly impacted.

It looks like the work could be broken down in sections so traffic could move a bit more easily. Just saying.

Twitter –
1. $15 million in Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality grants for a free parking garage, which creates congestion and worsens air quality. And another $25M from city of Plano: - patrick kennedy (@WalkableDFW)

This seems like one of the craziest and most reckless funding decisions by @NCTCOGtrans in recent years. How did Dallas’ reps vote? – Wylie H Dallas (@Wylie_H_Dallas)
I suppose Michael Morris gonna Michael Morris... Thumbs down – Loren S. (@txbornviking)

Public Meetings & Forums

Twitter –

1. Busy day of conference calls by audio or video. Listened earlier to audio meeting of the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) of the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG). https://nctcog.org/trans/about/committees/regional-transportation-council @CityofFortWorth @TrinityMetro @TarrantCountyTX @NCTCOGtrans – Sal Espino (@SAL_FW)

Facebook –

1. NCTCOG Transportation Department wants your input on regional transportation!

Check out the full flyer here: http://argyletx.com/…/NCTCOG-Regional-Transportation-Online…

Or learn more here: https://www.nctcog.org/trans/involve/meetings. – Town of Argyle
Email –

1. Alan Guard

Good morning – Would you know who I can contact at Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad to discuss fixing a very poor railroad crossing on FM 407 here in New Fairview? Thank you for your assistance.

Transit

Email –

1. Paul McManus

Hello,

As people have traveled less in the past week or so due to the Coronavirus, I’ve read and noticed that not only are many more people throughout DFW including where I live in Lantana here in Denton County going outside and walking, running, or riding bicycles, but air pollution is decreasing and air quality is improving in many parts of the U.S. and around the world due to the reduction of car traffic and other factors as well. As a result, I believe it’s absolutely critical going forward that the NCTCOG Transportation Dept. and Regional Transportation Council (RTC) focus even more on policies and action items that emphasize and encourage people to use multimodal forms of transportation here in DFW, including DART’s, Trinity Metro’s, and DCTA’s bus and train services. Plus, focusing on improving and expanding these transit services and other forms of transportation can also help reduce car traffic and road congestion, as well as to help improve air quality, regional mobility, and the overall quality of life here in DFW as our region continues to grow very rapidly.

I appreciate your consideration of my suggestions, and please let me know if you have any questions or need any additional information. Thanks so much!

Your timing could not be better. The Regional Transportation Council funded efforts last year and they are ready to go. Over the last year we have been working on efforts to expand transit service. Three consultant contacts will go to our Board on Thursday. They are for Collin County, Southern Dallas Count and Tarrant County. Shannon will give you more details. Please keep in touch. Our Board meeting is through a conference call do to social distancing.

Carli will make your comments available to the RTC. – Michael Morris

Facebook –
1. DCTA has created a survey regarding the Discount Pass Programs. Take the survey here: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FYTL5CK – NCTCOG Transportation Department

Thanks for sharing! - KL – Denton County Transportation Authority (DCTA)

Other

Twitter –

1. #CensusDay2020 🔗 – LaDryian Cole (@laydriancole)

It’s #CensusDay, North Texas! If you haven’t already, make sure you fill out the Census form TODAY. And it’s a great activity to do with your children because it doubles as both an adulting activity AND a social studies lesson. 😊 my2020census.gov
2. We owe a debt of gratitude to workers everywhere:

Healthcare, janitors, grocery cashiers, Pharmacists and their staff, transportation, those keeping our power grid and our water plants working, delivery drivers, food banks, all those who are risking their lives for us everyday. –

#SaveAmerica #resister 🦍 HonorHeatherHeyer#NoBernie (@NoraBrup)

YES!! @AmerMedicalAssn .@NationalNurses .@USDOT .@NCTCOGtrans ... I don't know other nat'l twitter accts but THANK YOU to all who have been serving the public – Alexandra Allred (@alexandraallred)

Facebook –

1. Certain requirements regarding vehicle registration, titling and disabled parking placards have been waived due to the current state of emergency. For more information, visit: http://txdmv.gov/covid-19. – NCTCOG Transportation Department

Texas Department of Motor Vehicles

ABC1234
01234567
04 20
YOUR COUNTY G123456

Vehicle Registration

Thanks. Good to know. – Ronnie Brady