

North Texas Regional Integration of Sustainability Efforts (RISE) Coalition

January 28, 2022

Texas

Coalitio



RISE Coalition Website: <u>https://www.nctcog.org/envir/development-excellence/rise-coalition</u> RISE Coalition Committee Page: <u>https://www.nctcog.org/envir/committees/regional-integration-of-sustainability-</u> efforts-ris



## January 28, 2022 RISE Coalition Agenda

1) Welcome and Introductions – Member Roll Call

#### **Action Items**

2) Meeting Summary

#### Discussion

- 3) FY 2022 Work Plan Program and Project Update and Discussion
- 4) Member Recruitment Strategy
- 5) Mendie White, City of Lewisville
- 6) Meghna Tare, North Texas Food Policy Alliance

### **Informational Items**

7) NCTCOG Regional Opportunities

#### **Other Business**

- 8) Participant Roundtable
- 9) Future Agenda Items
- 10) Next Meeting Date
- 11) Adjournment

## **Action Items**

2. Meeting Summary: <u>Approve October 15 Meeting Summary</u>

# FY 2022 Project Update and Discussion

Guided by FY2022 Work Program

FY2022 focus on four key topic areas

## **Under Development:**

- First regional greenhouse gas inventory
- Emission reduction strategy toolkit for local government
- FY2022: Urban heat island emphasis; developing an equity working group; continuing to grow membership; and continuing existing projects (GHG Inventory and Toolkit)

**Regional Emissions** Assessment XX 12+ **Emissions Impact Analysis** and Mitigation/Adaptation **Strategy Toolkit Urban Heat Island Reduction Strategy** Analysis

Topics

Sn

Current



Food Diversion and Waste Reduction Programs

## **Meadows Foundation Grant Application Update**

**August 2021** – NCTCOG submitted an application to the Meadows Foundation for a \$200,000 grant for FY22-24, to support expanding the RISE Coalition and its programs.

This grant would support the following initiatives:

- Municipal Sustainability/Climate Training
- Sustainability Plan Framework development
- Mentorship Program
- RISE Coalition Equity Subcommittee
- Regional Equity and Sustainability Mapping
- Regional Sustainability/Climate Mitigation Workshop
- Regional GHG Emissions Inventory and Toolkit

**January 2022** – The Meadows Foundation was scheduled to discuss our grant application at their Board meeting earlier this month. We anticipate a response with a final decision within the next few weeks.

# Task 2. Regional Greenhouse Gas Emissions Project

### **Regional GHG Inventory**

- Contracting with Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI), formally known as the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives, thanks to generous contribution from Burlington-Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) railroad
- NCTCOG continuing data collection related to Energy, Transportation, Waste, Water, and Wastewater for region and cohort participants

### **NCTCOG GHG Inventory Cohort**

• Participants:

Dallas

- Carrollton
  Farmers Branch
- Cedar Hill
  Fort Worth
  Lewisville
  - Frisco
    - Grand Prairie
- Grapevine
- Mesquite
- Plano

• Training schedule:

Denton

• August 18, 2021 - February 9, 2022 (work on inventories will continue past this date)

## **Update on Regional Tree Cooperative Concept**

- Proposed NCTCOG managed Tree Cooperative Purchase Program
  - Would be open to local governments in the region (possibly out of region)
  - Coop Program likely set-up as a "catalogue discount" or "list less" option
- Could have two phases:
  - **Replacement Program:** source trees **now** to replace damaged stock (local govt. owned/managed properties)
  - **Planting Program:** source trees for local govt. use and/or residential giveaway programs in years thereafter
- Next steps:
  - Gather program commitments from local governments
    - Replacement Program: Identify how many trees (of each type) are needed now
    - Planting Program: Identify how many trees (of each type) would be needed each year after
  - Establish Focus Group to identify which tree species and sizes should be specified in RFP
  - Issue RFP by summer 2022

Contact Craigan Johnson, cjohnson@nctcog.org, to join Tree Focus Group or if interested in program

# **EPA-Funded Organic Waste to Fuel Feasibility Study**

- Regional study to evaluate the potential for expanding organic waste-to-energy technologies in North Texas
- Funded through a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency, in partnership with the University of Texas at Arlington
- Regional study goals:
  - Advance regional efforts to divert food waste and other organics from landfills
    - Key organic feedstocks: residential and commercial food waste, wastewater biosolids
  - Increase regional renewable energy opportunities via renewable natural gas (RNG)
  - Evaluate the potential to reduce fleet emissions by utilizing RNG fuel
  - Identify pilot projects and partnerships to advance waste-to-energy projects, including potential sites for anaerobic digestion facilities
- **Current status:** Contractor has initiated market assessment & evaluation of available regional feedstocks, and a current vehicle inventory and consumption analysis for regional fleets

More information here: <a href="https://nctcog.org/envir/materials-management/materials-management-plan-1">https://nctcog.org/envir/materials-management/materials-management-plan-1</a>

Related to RISE focus area: Food Diversion and Waste Reduction Programs

## Future FY2022 Efforts – Brainstorm and Planning Discussion

### Task 3. Capacity Building and Educational Resources

- Webinars (2) on key topics identified by RISE members
  - Topic idea Urban Heat Resilience: Strategies for Mitigation and Management
- Website Toolkit: "how to" resources for developing a sustainability plan and a focus on resources and information related to urban heat island impacts and mitigation/adaptation strategies
- Social Equity Workshop: Conduct one regional workshop on the topic of equity
  - New Equity Subcommittee to assist in planning workshop; volunteers?

## **Other Topics for Consideration:**

Regional Sustainability Survey – Virtual survey to be conducted in early March

- Goal: learn communities' sustainability goals, challenges, successes
- Survey responses will guide future RISE initiatives and workshops

# **Coalition Member Recruitment Strategy**

### **Recent Recruitment Activities:**

- November 3, 2021 American Planning Association Presentation with Cedar Hill, Denton, and Plano
- January 2022 Member Recruitment Subcommittee met to discuss recruitment strategy

### **FY2022 Current Commitments**

- Carrollton
- Cedar Hill
- Dallas
- Denton
- Farmers Branch

### Budget as of today: \$12,750

- Fort Worth
- Lewisville
- Plano
- Tarrant Regional Water District

## **City of Lewisville Sustainability Action Plan**

## Mendie White Neighborhood Services & Sustainability Manager City of Lewisville



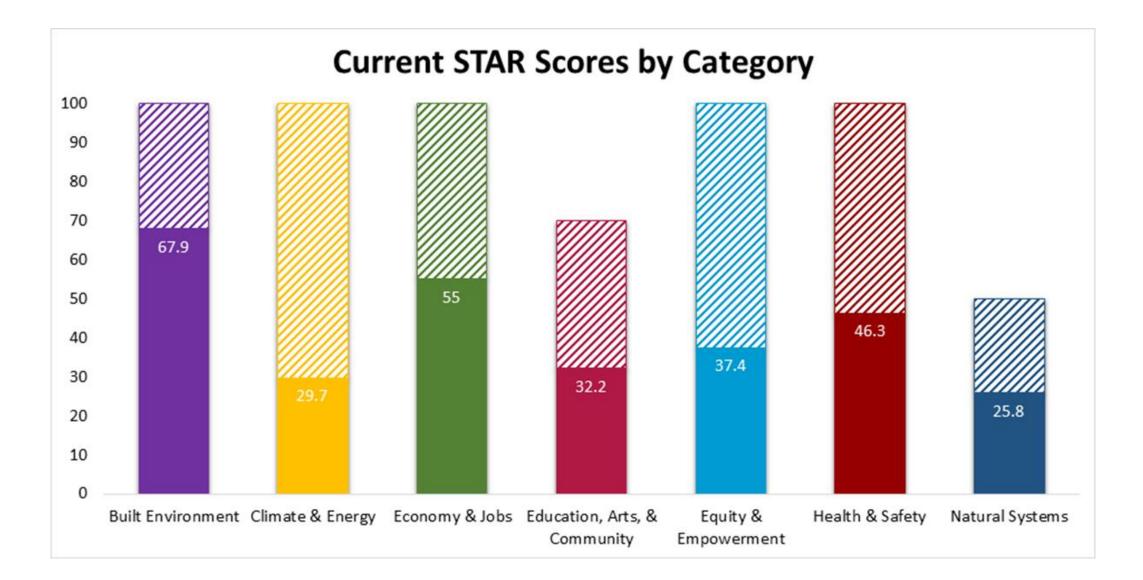
# City of Lewisville Sustainability Action Plan January 28, 2022

# Sustainability Plan/STAR Crosswalk

Built Environment	Climate & Energy	Economy & Jobs	Education, Arts, & Community	Equity & Empowerment	Health & Safety	Natural Systems	Innovation & Process
BE-1: Ambient Noise & Light	CE-1: Climate Adaptation	EJ-1: Business Retention & Development	EAC-1: Arts & Culture	EE-1: Civic Engagement	HS-1: Active Living	NS-1: Green Infrastructure	IP-1: Best Practices & Processes
BE-2: Community Water Systems	CE-2: Greenhouse Gas Mitigation	EJ-2: Green Market Development	EAC-2: Community Cohesion	EE-2: Civil & Human Rights	HS-2: Community Health	NS-2: Biodiversity & Invasive Species	IP-2: Exemplary Performance
BE-3: Compact & Complete Communities	CE-3: Greening the Energy Supply	EJ-3: Local Economy	EAC-3: Educational Opportunity & Attainment	EE-3: Environmental Justice	HS-3: Emergency Management & Response	NS-3: Natural Resource Protection	IP-3: Local Innovation
BE-4: Housing Affordability	CE-4: Energy Efficiency	EJ-4: Quality Jobs & Living Wages	EAC-4: Historic Preservation	EE-4: Equitable Services & Access	HS-4: Food Access & Nutrition	NS-4: Outdoor Air Quality	IP-4: Good Governance
BE-5: Infill & Redevelopment	CE-5: Water Efficiency	EJ-5: Targeted Industry Development	EAC-5: Social & Cultural Diversity	EE-5: Human Services	HS-5: Health Systems	NS-5: Water in the Environment	
BE-6: Public Parkland	CE-6: Local Government GHG & Resource Footprint	EJ-6: Workforce Readiness	EAC-6: Aging in the Community	EE-6: Poverty Prevention & Alleviation	HS-6: Hazard Mitigation	NS-6: Working Lands	
BE-7: Transportation Choices	CE-7: Waste Minimization				HS-7: Safe Communities		



# STAR Benchmarking





# SAP Process

- Gap analysis using STAR Communities platform to gauge current policies and programs (worked in "functional groups" with directors and key personnel)
  - Consolidated results to identify opportunities to focus on in the Sustainability Action Plan
  - Council workshop to present framework and get feedback on identified focus categories
- Stakeholder feedback process
  - Concurrent with update to Lewisville 2025 Vision Plan
  - Targeted public meetings (neighborhoods, businesses, LISD, etc.)
  - Online survey
  - Sustainability stakeholder group

# Internal Stakeholders

- Employee Focus Group (key personnel from Public Works, Parks, Planning, Economic Development, Neighborhood Services, Library, IT, Facilities/Fleet)
  - Helped narrow down strategies in each Focus Category
  - Provided input on departmental plans/ongoing priorities (Parks and Trails Master Plan, Library Strategic Plan, Stormwater Management Plan, Water Conservation and Management Plan, Small Area Plans, Thoroughfare Plan, etc.)
  - Input on feasibility of proposed strategies
- Departmental Directors
- Employee Green Team



# SUSTAINABILITY ACTION PLAN





#### CityOfLewisville.com

# Sustainability Action Plan Priorities



Strategy	Priority	Department	External Partners	Timeline
1. Advance Energy Performance of City Facilities and Properties				
a. Design new facilities with energy efficiency in mind.	high	Facilities, Sustainability		ongoing
b. Identify energy efficiency alternatives when performing building updates.	high	Facilities, Sustainability		ongoing
c. Use past energy performance programs to help set a baseline in order to set future energy goals.	medium	Facilities, Sustainability		annually
d. Evaluate the feasibility of demand/response programs to mitigate the impact of the City's energy usage on the state grid during periods of high demand.	high	Facilities, Sustainability	NCTCOG, SECO, external consultant ?	year 1
2. Develop a Community-Wide Renewable Energy Strategy				
a. Consider hiring a consultant to work with City staff and community stakeholders to develop an overall renewable energy strategy for Lewisville.	medium	Sustainability, Planning, Neighborhood Services, Economic Development, CMO, Facilities, PARD	external consultant	year 3
3. Increase Building Efficiency Within the Community				
a. Consider low- and no-cost energy efficiency incentives such as third party energy audits	medium	Sustainability, Neighborhood Services Economic Development		vear 2



# Strategy Prioritization

- Prioritized based on:
  - Projects already underway
  - Time sensitive projects
  - Impact on the organization or the community
  - Budget implications

# Departmental Business Plans

Big Mo	ve: Sustainabilit	у	
Big Move Objective or Priority: Implement sust	ainability measures	in City Operatio	ns to reduce waste and
consumption and to serve as a role model for the	community's busines	sses and reside	nts
Play Lewi	isville Strategy Tas	ks	
Task	Task Owner	Target Date	Additional Resources
Determine what vehicles and equipment can be	Jesse Allen	09/30/21	
converted to alternate fuel sources at next			
upgrade			
Identify recyclable, compostable, eco-friendly	Ismael Martinez	09/30/21	
materials and supplies for programs and			
operations			
Identify local sources for material and	Deborah Kerr	11/1/21	
equipment purchases			
Create a report for director's review detailing the	Michael Kim	01/1/22	
cost implications of implementing a transition to			
products, services and equipment identified			
above			

# Questions?

Mendie White Neighborhood Services & Sustainability Manager 972-219-3503 mwhite@cityoflewisville.com



## **North Texas Food Policy Alliance**

Meghna Tare Director of Sustainability University of Texas – Arlington UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS 🔶 ARLINGTON

# **Sustainability Programs**

Office of Sustainability

Meghna Tare Chief Sustainability Officer



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## OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY

Institute for Sustainability and Global Impact (ISGI) Regional Centers of Expertise for Education on Sustainable Development RCE North Texas

North Texas Food Policy Alliance (NTFPA) Launching Fall 2021



# Scope

### UT Arlington Community

#### Operations

- Waste Management
- Transportation
- Community Garden and Composting
- Energy Efficiency
- LEED construction
- Sustainable Dining
- Water conservation
- Emissions Inventory
- Sustainability Reporting

#### **Education and Research**

- Working with faculty on research projects and grants
- Faculty Advisory Network on Sustainability
- Student engagement
- Applying for grant funding- success with NSF funding
- Teaching Intro to Sustainability COS

#### Engagement and Outreach

- Events on Campus- Earth day, electronic waste recycling day, reduce food waste
- Food Recovery Networkdonated 1300 lbs since March to Arlington Life Shelter
- MavsGoGreen Student organization- 500+ students
- Working with NCTCOG, EPA, cities, and non-profit organizations
- Office Green Team

# **Regional Center of Expertise**

Education on Sustainable Development An initiative of the United Nations University

- Engagement with Public, Private and Non-profits in the North Texas region
- Implemented projects like developing a Water Quality Report Card for the Trinity River- funded by the Trinity Coalition
- Hosted an annual summit with keynote by UN Asst. Secretary General and UNESCO Chair on ESD





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	Education	
> Dallas College	> SMU Hunt Institute	> UNT
> UNT Health Science Center	> UT Arlington	> UT Dallas
> Wylie ISD		

#### **Private Sector**

- > Arup
- > C2G Stragetgies
- > Lennox International
- > Nexus PMG
- > Scheneider Electric
- > YPO

- > BMC Software
- > DFW Airport
- > Mag Collective
- > Performance Services
- > Toyota

- > BNSF
- > Interface Carpet
- > Meraki Design Agency, LLC
- > RPS Group
- > Trademark Propoerty

Public Sector

- > City of Dallas OEQ
- > City of Lewisville
- > Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas
- > Tarrant Regional Water District

- > City of Denton
- > City of Plano
- > NCTCOG

- > City of Fort Worth
- > DART
- > ParkLand Hospital

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- > 350Dallas
- > Climate Reality Project
- > Environmental Defense Fund
- > Green Career Dallas
- > Liveable Arlington
- > North Texas Food Bank
- > State of Texas Alliance for Recycling
- > Texas Campaign for the Environment
- > The Welman Project

#### **Non Profit**

- > Arlington Conservation Council
- > Dallas 2030
- > GEMUN
- > Green Source DFW
- > Natural Awakenings Dallas
- > North Texas Innovation Alliance
- > State Fair of Texas
- > Texas Health Resources
- > Trinity Coalition

- > Children's Health
- > EarthX
- > Girl Scouts of America
- > Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas
- > Nature Conservancy
- > North Texas Master Naturalist
- > Tarrant Area Food Bank
- > Texas Tree Foundation
- > Women in the Environment



# **North Texas Food Policy Alliance**

- Engagement with Public, Private and Non-profits in the North Texas region
- Unique- 2% of the National FPCs are embedded in Academic Institutions
- Hosted "North America Local Food Dialogue on Inclusive Food Systems"-A Contributing Dialogue to the UN Food Summit, Biden Administration's Food Policy Agenda, and national discussions.
- Engage in workshop, education, outreach, capacity building, sharing of resources





#### North Texas Food Policy Alliance Stakeholders

- 1. Blue Zones Project Fort Worth
- 2. CoAct
- 3. City of Arlington
- 4. City of Dallas
- 5. City of Denton
- 6. City of Lewisville
- 7. City of Plano
- 8. Cowboy Compost
- 9. Dallas Coalition for Hunger Solutions
- 10. Dallas College
- 11. DART
- 12. Downtown Arlington Urban Market
- 13. EPA Region 6
- 14. Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas
- 15. FEED Oak Cliff
- 16. Food Source DFW
- 17. Grow Garden Grow
- 18. Grow North Texas
- 19. Healthy Tarrant County Collaboration
- 20. NCTCOG
- 21. Nexus PMG
- 22. JPS Health Network
- 23. Texas Hunger Initiative

- 24. North Texas Commission
- 25. North Texas Food Bank
- 26. North Texas Innovation Alliance
- 27. Parkland Hospital
- 28. Reach out Rise Up
- 29. Restorative Farms Dallas
- 30. Schneider Electric
- 31. Shiloh Park Denton
- 32. Southern Methodist University
- 33. Tarrant County Food Policy Council
- 34. Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Tarrant County
- 35. Texas A&M AgriLife Research Dallas Center
- 36. Turn Compost
- 37. UNT Health Science Center
- 38. USDA
- 39. UT Arlington
- 40. UT Dallas
- 41. DFW Airport
- 42. Texan By Nature
- 43. Toyota





## North Texas Food Policy Alliance 2022 Meeting



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Join the <u>North Texas Food Policy Alliance</u> on March 1 at 9 am for our first in-person group meeting at UT Arlington.

#### March 2022

## THANK YOU !

Email: <u>mtare@uta.edu</u> Phone: 817-272-0753

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# **NCTCOG Regional Updates and Opportunities**

### **REGIONAL INITIATIVES AND UPDATES**

### Property Assessed Clean Energy Regional Program

- Regional program
- Issuing a Request for Proposals in the future
- Developing documents, etc. to initiate efforts
- Future Executive Board Agenda Item

### Local Government Energy Reporting

- 2021 Local Government Energy Reports (LGER), reflecting energy consumption from January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021, are due to the Texas State Energy Conservation Office (SECO) by <u>February 1, 2022</u>.
- Submit your 2021 Annual Report to SECO online at: <u>https://comptroller.texas.gov/programs/seco/reporting/local-gov.php</u>

### **Regional Codes Coordinating Committee**

- Now posted: 2021 International Building Code and International Energy Conservation Code Regional Amendments
- View all Recommended Regional Amendments here.

### Public Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Working Group

- Monthly working group established to put together publicly accessible EV charging project ideas in anticipation for competitive grant opportunities
- To join group, email Bailey Muller at <a href="mailto:bmuller@nctcog.org">bmuller@nctcog.org</a>

# **NCTCOG Regional Updates and Opportunities**

### **REGIONAL INITIATIVES AND UPDATES**

### **Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Annual Survey**

- Report Innovative Projects (Alternative Fuels and Others) Being Done by Local Fleets
- Share Goals and Provide Input on Resources and Information that would be Most Valuable
- Deadline February 18, 2022
- DFW Clean Cities Annual Report

### **Feedback Needed – Texas SHARE**

- How would your organization look for "clean vehicles"?
- <u>Available Contracts North Texas Share</u>

# **NCTCOG Regional Updates and Opportunities**

## **FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

#### USDA's Energy Audit and Renewable Energy Development Assistance Program

- The USDA intends to assist rural small businesses and agricultural producers by conducting and promoting energy audits and providing Renewable Energy Development Assistance. <u>Program</u> <u>Information can be found here</u>.
  - Applications are due <u>February 1, 2021</u>.

### **Environmental Protection Agency's Ambient Monitoring Technology Information Center (AMTIC)**

- The EPA will make \$50 million from the American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding available to improve ambient air quality monitoring for communities across the United States. <u>More information can be found here.</u>
  - Applications are due February 25, 2022.

### **Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Programs**

- Inventory of Transportation Electrification Elements: <u>Atlas Public Policy</u>
- Summary of Energy-Related Elements: National Association of State Energy Officials Summary
  - Infrastructure Act Resource Hub | NASEO
- EPA Announcement and Summary of Water Infrastructure Investments

## **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

### Trash Free Texas Webinar: Making the Most of New Resources for Reducing Litter

**Date:** Thursday, February 10, 2022 **Time:** 10:30 – 11:30 am CST Register online at <u>https://www.addevent.com/event/wF10911604</u>

### February Air Quality Health Task Force

**Date:** Friday, February 11, 2022 **Time:** 9:30 – 11:30am CST For more information visit <u>https://nctcog.org/trans/about/committees/aq-health-monitoring-task-force</u> and email Nick Vanhaasen at <u>nvanhaasen@nctcog.org</u> to join the February Meeting.

### **5th National Climate Assessment: Southern Great Plains Public Engagement Workshops Date:** February 15 & 16, 2022

**Time:** Various times

Join the authors of the 5th National Climate Assessment for virtual workshops to share your thoughts on the climate change-related issues that are most important to you and the Southern Great Plains region. These workshops are free and open to the public. Register online at: <a href="https://www.globalchange.gov/content/nca5-engagement-workshops">https://www.globalchange.gov/content/nca5-engagement-workshops</a>

### **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

Public Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Working Group Date: Wednesday, February 23, 2022 (recurring monthly) Time: 1:00 – 2 pm CST Email Bailey Muller at <u>bmuller@nctcog.org</u> to get added to the calendar event

What Water Planners in Texas Need to Know About Climate Webinar Date: Wednesday, February 23, 2022 Time: 1:30 – 2:45 pm CST Register online at <u>https://www.addevent.com/event/zt11133045</u>

Sustainability Communications Workshop – Hosted by ICLEI & UTA Date: Thursday, February 24, 2022 Time: 12:00 – 1:30 pm CST Register online at https://icleiusa.org/event/sustainability-communications-workshop/



## **Participant Roundtable**

## What is your community doing to advance sustainable food systems? What challenges are you facing related to food and sustainability?

Members will be called on first, and then others will have the opportunity to share what is happening within their organization

**Future Agenda Items** 

# **Next Meeting Dates**

### **Next RISE Coalition Meeting:**

Friday, April 22, 2022 9:30 a.m.

### **NCTCOG's Free E-Mail Lists and Committee Updates**

https://www.nctcog.org/stay-informed?ext=

https://www.nctcog.org/envir/mail

### **RISE Website:**

https://www.nctcog.org/envir/development-excellence/rise-coalition

https://www.nctcog.org/envir/committees/regional-integration-of-sustainability-efforts-ris

# **NCTCOG RISE Coalition Contacts**

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Lori Clark Air Quality Program Manager Transportation 817-695-9232 Iclark@nctcog.org Jenny Narvaez

Program Manager Transportation 817-608-2342 jnarvaez@nctcog.org



# Thank you!