

North Central Texas Council of Governments

SUMMARY

Public Works Council

Thursday, May 21, 2026
10 a.m. – 12 p.m. (CST)

In-person Meeting

Regional Forum Conference Room, 1st Floor
616 Six Flags Drive, Centerpoint II
Arlington, TX 76011

Chair: Glenn Barker, Director of Public Works, City of Corinth

Vice Chair: Bennett Howell, Director of Public Services, City of Benbrook

Welcome and Introductions. The Public Works Council (PWC) Chair will welcome everyone to the meeting.

Bennett Howell (Benbrook) called the meeting to order. Madisson Dunn (NCTCOG) welcomed attendees and reviewed housekeeping items.

PRESENTATIONS

- 1. Updates to TxCDBG Regional Allocation Formula.** Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) will showcase their tool and provide an update on the regional allocation formula for the Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) program.

Suzanne Barnard (TDA) provided an overview of the TxCDBG program and how funding is currently allocated. She shared that the allocation formula is being evaluated and presented potential adjustments to the formula. The presented formula changes are hypothetical, however, any changes to the formula will impact the NCTCOG region significantly, due to how much more funding the region currently receives in comparison to other regions. She emphasized that no changes will occur for 2026 or 2027, but the TDA wanted to open the discussion early to allow for feedback. Hypothetical formulas will not be distributed as these models are for TDA's internal use only. Upon finalization, the formula will be published into the Texas Administrative Code and the annual plan with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Suzanne also shared that TDA is communicating with the Texas Association of Regional Councils (TARC) on these discussions. Sue Alvarez (NCTCOG) asked if the hypothetical formulas cannot be shared, how can the information be communicated to NCTCOG's Executive Director without the formula models. Suzanne answered that this is just a theoretical discussion to allow for feedback. A member asked whether conversations have occurred with cities and counties that qualify for entitlement but have elected to not be considered 'entitled' – and how that is being factored into this discussion. Suzanne responded that being designated 'entitled' means the government is more involved in that process so that's a decision up to the entity to make. Denton County and Collin County haven't applied for funding in a long time, while some smaller cities have. Mike Rozelle (Garland) asked if the primary source of data used in formula is based on census data.

Suzanne responded that TDA is open to any data source, as long as the data is consistent and available for each non-entitlement community the grant is eligible for. Additional questions, concerns, or feedback about changes to the TxCDBG allocation formula may be submitted to CBBGApps@TexasAgriculture.gov.

2. **TWDB Funding Opportunities.** Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) will provide a short presentation on financial assistance programs for local governments.

Scott Galaway (TWDB) presented on various financial assistance programs to support water infrastructure development. Highlights included:

- House Bill 500 provides grant funding for water infrastructure and supply projects.
- Senate Bill 3 creates grant funding for outdoor warning systems for flood-prone regions (NCTCOG region not included).
- House Joint Resolution 7 and Constitutional Amendment Proposition 4 directs sale tax surplus to TWDB to fund existing financial programs. Funding available to local systems will become available in 2029.
- Texas Water Fund is receiving a new stream of funds.
- Draft Water Plan is open for public comments until May 29, 2026.
- State Water Implementation Fund for Texas (SWIFT) Program is dedicated to water planning processes.
- Drinking Water and Clean Water State Revolving Funds (SRFs) are longstanding programs administered through the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). These are popular programs since the entity may have up to 70% of the loan forgiven.

For more information, including additional resources and program links, please view the [presentation](#).

ACTION ITEMS

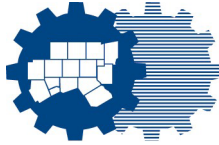
3. **Meeting Summary Approval.** The [February 19, 2026, meeting summary](#) is available for review. Approval will be sought at the meeting.

Bennett Howell (Benbrook) asked for a motion to approve the February 19, 2026, meeting summary. Matt Leppla (Weatherford) made a motion to approve the meeting summary. Andrew Figueroa (Celina) seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

4. **Public Works Construction Standards Amendments.** The Council will vote to add amendments to the Public Works Construction Standards. NCTCOG will share follow-up questions from the Public Works Construction Standards Subcommittee. (Madisson Dunn)

Madisson Dunn (NCTCOG) provided a brief overview of each Construction Standards amendment:

- Add “locatable/traceable” language to the warning tape specifications in the water and wastewater service section.
- Remove “asphaltic coating” requirement on ductile iron pipe.
- Remove “The addition of one-sack of cement per cubic-yard shall be required for all hand finish concrete”.
- Clarify unit pricing and lump sum pricing language.



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Bennett Howell (Benbrook) asked for a motion to approve all four amendments together. Matt Leppla (Weatherford) made a motion to approve the four amendments. Daphne King (AtkinsRealis) seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Madisson asked follow-up questions the Public Works Construction Standards Subcommittee wanted to pose to Council. Madisson asked if municipalities had experience with expansion joint materials other than redwood (specifically pine). No one recognized the use of pine as an expansion joint material while one member mentioned their entity used polymer type plastic as a spacer. Madisson asked if sole source products should be included in the Public Works Construction Standards. Bennett mentioned inclusion of sole sources is too complicated and if an entity wants to utilize a sole source, it should be up to that respective entity. Madisson clarified that even if the Standards do not include sole sources, that doesn't limit cities to use those sources. The consensus is to not include sole source products or services in the Public Works Construction Standards. Madisson asked if a chlorine residual of less than 4 mg/L is too high to discharge into drainage systems. Justin Stoker (Waxahachie) mentioned this number seems too high, and he has observed lower chlorine residuals result in fish kills. Sue Alvarez (NCTCOG) stated to check the requirements of the general stormwater and industrial stormwater permits. Madisson asked how often the standards should be published and what merits an entirely new publication. The consensus is to create a new edition every five years, with annual amendments published online. Madisson asked Council about the current and proposed pricing structure for the printed version. Bennett stated that at the current printed price, people cannot print their own copy for that cheap. Michael Owen (Fort Worth) asked if providing printed copies is necessary anymore, and if we could only offer the digital version. The consensus was to remove the printed option from the NCTCOG storefront.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- 5. Regional Public Works Draft FY27 Work Program.** NCTCOG will introduce the draft FY27 Work Program for the Regional Public Works Program and invite members to provide input. The FY27 Work Program will be brought forward for approval at the August PWC Meeting. (Madisson Dunn)

Madisson Dunn (NCTCOG) shared the [draft FY27 Work Program](#) for the Regional Public Works Program. Sue Alvarez (NCTCOG) mentioned the department is considering moving the integrated Stormwater Management (iSWM) program from the Regional Public Works Program over to the Regional Stormwater Management Program under the Water Resources team. Matt Leppla (Weatherford) stated that this is a good idea. Bennett Howell (Benbrook) asked about the overlap between the Public Works Council and Regional Stormwater Management Coordinating Council (RSWMCC) and asked about the capacity of the RSWMCC to manage iSWM. Sue stated there may be some overlap, but the Public Works Council would continue to receive updates on iSWM activities. She stated that the RSWMCC has the capacity to manage iSWM. Members may provide feedback on the Draft FY27 Work Program to PublicWorks@nctcog.org by June 26, 2026.

- 6. Council Bylaws Update.** NCTCOG will share an update on the Bylaws Subcommittee meeting as well as proposed recommendations. (Crysta Guzman)

Crysta Guzman (NCTCOG) shared an update on the Bylaws Subcommittee meeting and provided a summary of the [Draft Public Works Program Bylaws](#). Crysta explained the biggest consideration is subregion organization and seating recruitment. She asked the Council for feedback on how the subregions are structured. Joe Trammel (Tarrant County/Smaller Cities Coalition) asked, on behalf of Everman, Forest Hill, Kennedale, Dalworthington Gardens, and Edgecliff Village, if he could represent them, as those cities want more equitable representation. Matt Leppla (Weatherford) asked if those cities were aware of the Public Works Council before they requested to change representation. Joe stated those cities were likely not aware. Bennett Howell (Benbrook) requested those cities reach out to him [Bennett] to assist with representation. Sue Alvarez (NCTCOG) mentioned that the City of Pflugerville wants to participate in this Council and asked Council if they are open to having them attend meetings. Bennett stated that these meetings are open, so Pflugerville may attend if they want to participate. Crysta added that for future appointment processes, NCTCOG staff plans to provide each subregion representative with a list of their constituents' contact information to help bridge communication gaps. Bennett agreed that action would be a good idea. Crysta asked the Council if the cost share structure needs to be evaluated. Bennett mentioned that smaller communities can still participate without being a cost share member. No one provided feedback that cost share structures are too high for smaller communities. Bennett added that the question he receives the most is "What's in it for me?" and there should be an evaluation on promoting the Public Works program. Matt asked if any small communities had raised this concern. Crysta answered no. Crysta asked if there are any outstanding concerns with the bylaws. Bennett asked if all current subregions seats are filled. Madisson Dunn (NCTCOG) confirmed all subregion seats are filled. Members may provide feedback on the Draft Public Works Program Bylaws, including subregion organization, to PublicWorks@nctcog.org by June 26, 2026.

INFORMATION ITEMS

7. **PWC Representative Terms Expiring.** NCTCOG will identify PWC representative terms that will expire September 30, 2026, and will discuss the appointment process. (Madisson Dunn)

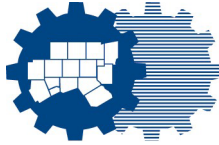
Madisson Dunn (NCTCOG) provided a list of members with expiring terms and the upcoming procedure for appointments. Madisson will send an email to all members with expiring terms, requesting them to submit a nomination form by July 2, 2026.

8. **FY2026 Public Works Program Update.** The PWC will be updated on recent Public Works Program efforts and Subcommittee activities.

- **PWC Marketing.** NCTCOG will share updates on marketing the PWC, including potential agency-wide social media changes. (Crysta Guzman)

Crysta Guzman (NCTCOG) shared an update on marketing efforts, including the potential to sunset the Public Works Council LinkedIn account. Matt Leppla (Weatherford) shared his concerns with consolidating the Public Works Council LinkedIn account with the main Environment and Development LinkedIn account, specifically that public works topics will be diluted and less focused information will be shared on the main account due to accommodating other committees/councils. Justin Stoker (Waxahachie) mentioned that social media algorithms are dependent on user engagement, and if public works content is active and consistent. However, consolidation will make it easier for the organization.

- **Training.** NCTCOG will provide an update on the FY26 training. (Madisson Dunn)



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Madisson Dunn (NCTCOG) provided an update on the Asphalt Training event. Madisson asked the Council for their date preference for the training. Members leaned towards the August dates to avoid conflicts with people on vacation in July. Madisson asked the Council for any additional topics that needed to be covered by the training. No topics were suggested. Madisson asked if any municipality is willing to host the classroom setting for the training.

Madisson provided an update on the New Inspector Training event. Madisson asked the Council for their date preference for the training. Matt Leppla (Weatherford) stated he prefers the Wednesday, October 7 date. Madisson asked if there are any additional topic needs or interest in a test demonstration or tour of a laboratory. No feedback was received. Madisson asked if any municipality is willing to host the classroom setting for the training. Matt stated Weatherford would be willing to host.

- **Public Works Roundup.** NCTCOG will provide an update for the 27th Annual Public Works Roundup, scheduled for August 20, 2026, at the Hurst Conference Center. (Madisson Dunn)

Madisson Dunn (NCTCOG) shared that the Call for Abstracts has been extended to May 29, 2026. Gold sponsorships are almost sold out, but silver sponsorships are still available. Registration will open in June. The program agenda will be published in July. For more information on the Public Works Roundup, please visit the [event webpage](#).

- **Sustainable Public Rights of Way (SPROW) Subcommittee.** NCTCOG will provide an update on subcommittee activities. (Madisson Dunn)

Madisson Dunn (NCTCOG) provided an update on the last SPROW Subcommittee meeting, including the guest presentation and future direction of the subcommittee. The next meeting will be virtual on June 23, 2026, at 10:00am. A guest speaker from the Native Plant Society of Texas will present on low-maintenance landscaping for ROW areas. For more information, please visit the [SPROW webpage](#).

- **Public Works Construction Standards Subcommittee.** NCTCOG will provide an update on subcommittee activities. (Madisson Dunn)

Madisson Dunn (NCTCOG) provided an update on the last Public Works Construction Standards Subcommittee meeting, including the request to create an Asphalt Special Focus Group. Matt Leppla (Weatherford) stated he would ask his department to see if anyone would volunteer. Mat Busby (LJA) mentioned he is currently on the Public Works Construction Standards Subcommittee but would volunteer for this group as well. Bennett Howell (Benbrook) asked for a motion to form the Asphalt Special Focus Group to revise Item 302 of the Construction Standards. Cecelia Rutherford (Dallas County) made a motion to create the group. Daphne King (AtkinsRealis) seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously. Members may volunteer for this subcommittee by emailing PublicWorks@nctcog.org by June 3, 2026.

- **Integrated Stormwater Management (iSWM) Subcommittee.** The Subcommittee Chair will provide an update of iSWM program activities. (Madisson Dunn)

Madisson Dunn (NCTCOG) provided an overview of the last *i*SWM Subcommittee meeting, including FY26 work program updates. Members who use the *i*SWM Manual are encouraged to complete the [FY27 Work Program Survey](#) to help prioritize tasks. During the next *i*SWM meeting, the subcommittee will vote on FY27 work program tasks. The next meeting will be virtual on July 15, 2026, at 1:30pm. For more information, please visit the [iSWM webpage](#).

9. Other Program Updates. The PWC will be updated on other items of interest.

- **Public Works Emergency Response Team (PWERT).** A representative will give an update on recent PWERT activities. (Justin Stoker)

Justin Stoker (Waxahachie) shared that PWERT recently reviewed FIFA World Cup efforts and pre-staged some assets. The City of Lewisville is auditing all of PWERT's assets and documenting their condition. Justin shared there is no update on the State Homeland Security Grants. Scott Galaway (TWDB) shared that TxWARN is an assistance program for drinking water/wastewater service entities. The program encourages sharing assets and knowledge during an emergency.

- **Integrating Transportation and Stormwater Infrastructure (TSI).** NCTCOG will give an update on progress made on the TSI project. (Madisson Dunn)

Madisson Dunn (NCTCOG) shared that the final round of meetings for TSI are scheduled for late summer or early fall. Resources from the recent stakeholder meetings are available on the [TSI webpage](#).

- **Community Rating System Users Group.** NCTCOG will provide an update on the floodplain administrators/Community Rating System Users Group. (Madisson Dunn)

Madisson Dunn (NCTCOG) stated that the Community Rating System Users Group is returning to a quarterly meeting schedule, with the next meeting scheduled for Fall 2026. Topics of discussion include multi-jurisdictional program for public information and roundtable.

- **Texas Chapter of American Public Works Association (TX-APWA).** A representative will give an update on upcoming APWA local events and meetings.

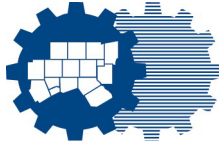
Madisson Dunn (NCTCOG) provided information on the APWA Public Works Expo. More information on this event can be found on their [event webpage](#).

OTHER BUSINESS AND ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

10. Future Agenda Items. PWC members and NCTCOG may suggest future agenda items. (Bennett Howell)

Bennett Howell (Benbrook) asked the Council for any future agenda items. No items were suggested.

11. Roundtable Topics/Other Business. PWC members and NCTCOG may share additional items as time allows. (Bennett Howell)



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Madisson Dunn (NCTCOG) shared various upcoming events, conferences, and other opportunities, all of which are available on the [Public Works Training Calendar](#). Don Strange (Highland Village) presented his pavement management staff development and succession planning strategies. Cesar Molina (American Public Works Association) presented on the Texas Chapter Award Programs and provided examples of previous awarded projects.

12. The Next PWC Meeting is scheduled for August 13, 2026, from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. (virtual).

13. Adjournment.

Bennett Howell (Benbrook) adjourned the meeting.

If you have any questions regarding the meeting or agenda items, please contact Madisson Dunn by phone at (817) 704-5611, or by email at mdunn@nctcog.org.

If you plan to attend this public meeting and you have a disability that requires special arrangements at the meeting, please contact Ashley Barnett at (817) 695-9231 or abarnett@nctcog.org at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting. Reasonable accommodations will be made to assist your needs.