

AGENDA

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Friday, May 22, 2026

North Central Texas Council of Governments

1:30 pm Full STTC Business Agenda (Meeting Will be Held as a Videoconference)

1:30 – 1:35

1. Approval of April 24, 2026, Meeting Summary

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 5

Presenter: Brian Shewski, STTC Chair

Item Summary: Approval of the April 24, 2026, meeting summary contained in Electronic Item 1 will be requested.

Background: N/A

1:35 – 1:40

2. Consent Agenda

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 5

**2.1. Endorsement of Projects for Federal Transit Administration 2026
Fédération Internationale de Football Association World Cup Funding
Allocations**

Presenter: Gypsy Gavia, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Surface Transportation Technical Committee (STTC) endorsement will be requested for the activities approved by the Regional Transportation Council's (RTC) on May 14, 2026, for the \$10,033,037 in United States Department of Transportation Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funding to prepare transit agencies for the 2026 Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) World Cup.

Background: North Central Texas Council of Governments staff have been working with transit agencies and local governments to coordinate transportation needs and to prepare the region to host the 2026 FIFA World Cup. FTA announced on March 3, 2026, a total of \$100.3 million in federal allocations for public transit systems to ensure communities can expand transit options and meet increased demand in services around stadiums. Funding will be provided at a 100 percent federal share, with no local match required, and will be available to support operating and capital expenses generally eligible under the Section 5307 Urbanized Area Formula Program. STTC previously approved the recommendation for funding allocations per recipient, and staff are now

requesting STTC endorsement of the allocation for activities to be funded for City of Arlington, City of Grand Prairie, Dallas Area Rapid Transit, and Trinity Metro. Additional details are provided in Electronic Item 2.1.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative, Transit

1:40 – 1:50

3. **Endorsement of Resolution Approving the Regional Transportation Council as the Metropolitan Planning Organization, Support for the Proposed Texas Department of Transportation Agreement and Negotiation with North Central Texas Council of Governments as Fiscal Agent**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenters: Michael Morris and Dan Kessler, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Endorsement of the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval will be requested to approve the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) agreement that contains the responsibilities of the RTC being the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). On April 30, 2026, the RTC took action to negotiate with the North Central Texas Council of Governments as the fiscal agent. This Resolution reaffirms moving forward with these negotiations in order to complete the agreement with TxDOT.

Background: Electronic Item 3.1 is the proposed agreement; Electronic Item 3.2 is the red-lined version from the existing agreement; and Electronic Item 3.3 contains the proposed resolution that will be presented by Michael Morris. Dan Kessler will present a summary of the new agreement provided in Electronic Item 3.4.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative

1:50 – 2:00

4. **Endorsement of Approval to Begin a Negotiation Agreement for Michael Morris to be Appointed by the Regional Transportation Council Consistent with the New Texas Department of Transportation Agreement**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG

Item Summary: The proposed Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) agreement contains in Article 5H and 5J that the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Transportation Director is appointed by the Regional Transportation Council (RTC). Endorsement of the RTC approval of this item approves the Chair to begin negotiations with the current MPO Director Michael Morris.

Background: Michael Morris has been the Transportation Director for the RTC since 1990. He holds a professional engineering license in Texas and is a member of the National Academy of Science. The RTC wishes to continue his service. The new TxDOT agreement requires the MPO Planning Director to be appointed by the RTC.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative

2:00 – 2:10

5. **Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Railroad Crossing Elimination Program**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Valerie Alvarado, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request Surface Transportation Technical Committee (STTC) endorsement of the RTC approval of the submittal of candidate projects for the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 (FY2025-2026) Railroad Crossing Elimination Program (RCEP) on May 14, 2026. Applications are due to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) by June 8, 2026.

Background: In April 2026, FRA announced the FY2025-2026 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) to solicit applications for approximately \$1.147 billion in competitive grant funds for the RCEP, designated for highway-rail or pathway-rail grade crossing improvement projects that focus on improving the safety and mobility of people and goods. Eligible entities are limited to a maximum of three applications per solicitation. Funds will be awarded on a competitive basis for a project (or group of projects) improving the safety/mobility of people and goods through: (1) grade separation or closure; (2) track relocation; (3) improvement/ installation of protective devices, signals, signs, or other measures pertaining to above activities; and, (4) innovative solutions via technology, education, and/or other means. Available at <https://railroads.dot.gov/crossing-safety-program>, the FY2025-2026 RCEP NOFO describes the application requirements, selection and evaluation criteria, applicable program and federal requirements, and available technical assistance during the grant solicitation period. A presentation specifying key RCEP details, as well as those of the proposed STTC action, is included in Electronic Item 5.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Goods Movement, Safety

2:10 – 2:20

6. **Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements Program**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Valerie Alvarado, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request the Committee's recommendation for Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of candidate projects to be submitted for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-2026 Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Program. Applications are due to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) by June 22, 2026.

Background: In April 2026, FRA announced the FY2025-2026 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) to solicit applications for the CRISI competitive grant program, with nationwide availability of nearly \$2.04 billion. The CRISI Program assists in funding eligible projects to improve railroad safety and reliability, enhance multimodal connections, and mitigate congestion at both freight and intercity passenger rail chokepoints to support more efficient travel and goods movement. Available at <https://railroads.dot.gov/grants-loans/consolidated-rail-infrastructure-and-safety-improvements-crisi-program>, the FY2025-2026 CRISI NOFO describes application requirements, selection and evaluation criteria, applicable program and federal requirements, and available technical assistance during the grant solicitation period. A presentation specifying key CRISI details, as well as those of the proposed STTC action, is included in Electronic Item 6.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Goods Movement, Safety

2:20 – 2:30

7. **Director of Transportation Report on Selected Items**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG

Item Summary: An overview of current transportation items will be provided.

Background: Efforts continue to advance transportation in the region. Staff will highlight the following:

1. Texas Conformity Progress/Correspondence from the United States Department of Transportation and Federal Highway Administration (Electronic Item 7)
2. Cancellation of Surface Transportation Technical Committee in June 2026 and Regional Transportation Council in July 2026
3. New Surface Transportation Technical Committee (STTC) Officers (Dan Kessler)

4. Status of Rockwall County Agreement

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative, Transit

2:30 – 2:40

8. 2027 Unified Transportation Program and Regional 10-Year Plan Update

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Brian Dell, NCTCOG

Item Summary: The Committee will be briefed on anticipated revenues and proposed changes for the Regional 10-Year Plan Update.

Background: Since December 2016, the Regional Transportation Council has annually approved a set of projects funded with Category 2 (Metropolitan Planning Organization selected) and Category 4 (Texas Department of Transportation [TxDOT] District selected) funds and submitted for Texas Transportation Commission (TTC) consideration with Category 12 (TTC selected) funds that cover 10 years of highway and arterial projects on the TxDOT system. Since the last update in 2025, North Central Texas Council of Governments staff has coordinated with the TxDOT Dallas, Paris (Hunt County), and Fort Worth districts regarding updates to previously approved projects, as well as potential additions to the 10-Year Plan to be included in the 2027 Unified Transportation Program. Electronic Item 8.1 includes additional information about available revenue and the process. Electronic Item 8.2 contains the proposed list of projects and funding amounts for the Regional 10-Year Plan. Electronic Item 8.3 contains the 10-Year Plan projects that have let or been completed.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Roadway, Safety

2:40 – 2:50

9. Regional Bicycle Safety Action Plan

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Catherine Richardson, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide an overview of the development of the Regional Bicycle Safety Action Plan including the purpose, goals, crash data analysis, public opinion survey results, priority emphasis areas and corridors to target for future study and implementation of safety countermeasures, and recommended action items.

Background: The Regional Transportation Council approved a safety position in 2017 to eliminate serious injuries and fatalities across all modes of travel. However, in recent years the number of bicyclists serious injuries and fatalities have

trended upward in North Central Texas consistent with State and national trends. The purpose of the Regional Bicycle Safety Action Plan is to provide a framework for reducing the number of bicyclist crashes and fatalities in the North Central Texas metropolitan planning area. This Plan, in conjunction with the 2021 Pedestrian Safety Action Plan, and the 2023 Roadway Safety Action Plan, is intended to improve safety for all road users. Additional details are provided in Electronic Item 9. The draft Plan, including appendices, is available online for public review at www.nctcog.org/bikesafety.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Bike/Ped+, Safety

2:50 – 3:00

10. **Technology Project Identification Submitted Ideas and Evaluation Update**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Braulio Bessa, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide an overview of submitted project ideas received through the 2026 Technology Project Identification (TPI) Call for Projects and outline next steps in the review and evaluation process.

Background: Through the 2026 TPI Call for Projects, public agencies submitted innovative project ideas to address regional transportation challenges. Staff have completed eligibility reviews and will provide an overview of the ideas submitted. Staff will also outline the evaluation process and discuss next steps in the review and committee coordination process. A listing of the proposed projects is provided in Electronic Item 10.1. Additional details on the Technology Project Identification process are provided in Electronic Item 10.2.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Safety

3:00 – 3:10

11. **Dallas-Fort Worth High-Speed Rail: Update and Next Steps**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Ezra Pratt, NCTCOG

Item Summary: This information item is a follow-up from the November 2025 Regional Transportation Council (RTC) action that requested staff to move forward with the “Western Alignment” in central Dallas and that the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) Executive Board approve the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) Corridor Identification and Development (CID) Step 1 consultant contract. Staff will provide a brief status update on project progress for both the Dallas-Fort Worth High-Speed Rail (DFWHSR) Study and

FRA CID Step 1. The item will also cover the Fort Worth-Arlington High-Speed Rail Economic Impact Analysis, as well as recent city of Dallas and Executive Board actions that affect the CID project and may impact the DFHWSR Study National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process.

Particularly the January 2026 Dallas city council resolution on high-speed rail (Dallas Resolution 26-0265). Staff requested RTC action at the May 14, 2026, meeting to provide guidance on next steps for the study and coordination with the City of Dallas and other major stakeholders in central Dallas.

Background: Following the RTC action at the November 13, 2025, meeting to request staff to advance design of only one alignment (“Western Alignment”) in the NEPA Environmental Assessment (EA) process for the Dallas-Fort Worth corridor, staff have continued the refinement of the design and environmental impact considerations for the “Western Alignment” and the overall corridor that was advanced into NEPA with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) in March 2024. This has included collaboration with federal partners on the project, FTA and FRA, and with major stakeholders such as the City of Dallas and the Kay Bailey-Hutchison Convention Center Master Plan team. Additionally, NCTCOG staff and their consultant team have made significant progress on the FRA CID Step 1 grant project for the Fort Worth-Houston high-speed rail corridor. This work began in February 2026 after receiving Executive Board approval of the consultant contract, contingent on the conditions for approval that were included in Section 2 of the City of Dallas January 2026 council Resolution on high-speed rail (See Electronic Item 11.1 for more information). More information on both high-speed rail projects and the recent RTC action regarding ongoing communication and coordination with the City of Dallas is included in Electronic Item 11.2.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Safety, Transit

3:10 – 3:20

12. **Fast Facts**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Item Summary: Brief staff presentations will be provided. Please reference the material provided for each of the following topics.

- 1. *Charles Marsh* – Submittal Deadline for Transportation Improvement Program Modification Requests for the Fourth Quarter Cycle (Electronic Item 12.1)

2. *Denise Koon* – High Occupancy Vehicle/GoCarma Quarterly Report (Electronic Item 12.2)
3. *Benjamin Whisnant* – Draft North Texas Transit-Oriented Development Progress Report Ready for Local Review (www.nctcog.org/TOD)
4. *Skylar Staffaroni* – Metropolitan Transportation Plan Policy Bundle Round Six – Final Deadline
5. *Catherine Richardson* – Training Course: American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities, 5th Edition (www.nctcog.org/AASHTObike26) (Electronic Item 12.3)
6. *Daniela Tower* – 2026 Ozone Season Update (Electronic Item 12.4)
7. *Quinnton DeBolt* – Air Quality Funding Opportunities (www.nctcog.org/AQfunding)
8. *Quinnton DeBolt* – Upcoming Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Events (<https://www.dfwcleancities.org/events>)
9. Written Progress Reports:
 - Partner Progress Reports (Electronic Item 12.5)
 - March – April Public Comments Report (Electronic Item 12.6)
 - April Public Meeting Minutes (Electronic Item 12.7)
 - June Public Meeting Flyer (Electronic Item 12.8)
13. **Other Business (Old or New)**: This item provides an opportunity for members to bring items of interest before the group.
14. **Next Meeting**: The next meeting of the Surface Transportation Technical Committee is scheduled for **1:30 pm on July 24, 2026**.