

North Texas Regional Integration of Sustainability Efforts (RISE) Coalition

October 21, 2026



North Central Texas
Council of Governments

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

Housekeeping Items

- Please sign in using the sheet at the back of the room
- Bathrooms, Emergency Exits, and Safety Procedures

Welcome & Introductions

- We will go around the room and do introductions – please share your name and city/organization
- Welcome guests
- Thank you all for attending!

October 21, 2026

RISE Coalition Agenda

Welcome

- 1) Welcome and Introductions

Presentation

- 2) Purpose of the RISE Coalition

Action Items

- 3) Meeting Summary

Discussion Items

- 4) FY2027 Work Plan and Project Updates
- 5) Texas 90th Legislative Session

Information Items

- 6) RISE Bylaws Updates
- 7) FY2027 Member Cost Share Commitments
- 8) North Texas Zero Emission Vehicles (NTxZEV) Program Update
- 9) NCTCOG Regional Opportunities

Other Business

- 10) Participant Roundtable
- 11) Future Agenda Items
- 12) Next Meeting Date

Purpose of the RISE Coalition

What is RISE?

The mission of the RISE Coalition is to bring together North Central Texas (NCT) governmental, quasi-governmental, university, and non-profit organizations to achieve measurable environmental benefits and emissions reductions that contribute to the vitality of the NCT economy and the quality of life of its residents.

Timeline

2012 – North Central Texas Stewardship Forum met for the first time.

- Funded through EPA grant in partnership with the Stewardship Action Council and Gresham, Smith, and Partners
 - NCTCOG played less of a central role
- Promote environmental stewardship and economic responsibility to achieve measurable progress
- Knowledge sharing, education, and action benefitting communities and the region

Timeline

2014 – Forum re-forms following completion of EPA grant

- Promote stewardship throughout the North Central Texas region through a variety of social, economic, and environmental initiatives
- Partnership between participating cities, EPA, and other organizations
- Steering committee guides work

2020 – Forum is rebranded as the RISE Coalition

- Expanded its composition and scope to meet the increasing challenges of rising global temperatures

2025 – RISE Coalition combines with the work of Center of Development Excellence (CDE) due to similar purposes

- CDE aims to create a North Central Texas region that is resilient, sustainable, and provides a high quality of life for residents

Past Efforts – North Central Texas Stewardship Forum

2015 – DFW Area Food Recovery Event

- Full day workshop that dove into the challenges and solutions surrounding food waste and our food systems
- Primarily presentations from a local government perspective

2016 – North Central Texas Energy Forum

- Full day workshop that explored energy policy, technologies, partnerships, and funding
- Included presentations from local governments, universities, and non-profit perspectives

Webinars primarily focused on solid waste topics

Past Efforts – RISE Coalition

2020 – Regional Climate Action Workshop

- Full day workshop hosted in partnership with the Greater Dallas Planning Council
- Presentations explored climate action in the context of energy and buildings, mobility, and industry
- Broad representation
 - Local governments, colleges and universities, transit agencies, water and electric utilities, non-profits, and private industry

Past Efforts – RISE Coalition

2021 – Local and Regional Greenhouse Gas Emission Inventory

- Regional greenhouse gas inventory effort supported by Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway
- 12 cities participated and built inventories using the Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI) ClearPath software tool to create the first North Central Texas Regional Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory.
- The emissions inventory built from this cohort later served as the basis for the 2019 greenhouse gas inventory created for the Dallas-Fort Worth Air Quality Improvement Plan Priority Climate Action Plan.

Who can participate in RISE?

- **Voting membership** is open to all NCTCOG members, which includes:
 - County governments
 - City governments
 - School districts
 - Special districts
 - Other groups also eligible to be **voting members** include:
 - Universities and colleges
 - Non-profit Environmental/Public Interest Groups related to sustainability
 - Voting membership is contingent on paying an annual cost share
-

Who can participate in RISE?

- Those eligible for membership who choose not to pay a cost share can participate as **non-voting members**
- Quasi-governmental, local private sector and industry organizations, and others may also join as **non-voting members** or attend meetings and activities of the Coalition.

Action Items

Meeting Summary

Action Item: Vote to Approve July 29, 2026, [Meeting Summary](#).

Discussion Items

FY2027 Work Plan and Updates

[FY2027 Work Plan](#)

- **Summary of FY2027 Goals:**
 - Hold up to 4 public meetings
 - Support work on regional air quality planning
 - Establish at least 1 partnership with a local university
 - Host 2 webinars or workshops on key topics of interest
 - Administer FY2027 CLIDE Awards
 - Host sustainability-focused professional certification workshop
 - Conduct Regional Sustainability Survey

Current Focus Topics



Regional Air Quality
Planning



Resilience Hubs



Turning Sustainability
Goals into Actions



Green Business

Discussion Items

FY2027 Work Plan and Updates

Task 3. Regional Collaboration and Capacity Building

Regional Green Business Certification Standards

- Green Business Panel Discussion at April meeting to discuss individual green business programs and opportunities for collaboration
- As we look at establishing a regional set of green business standards, what does the group want to prioritize?
 - Waste diversion, transportation, and air quality were topics suggested by panelists
 - Developing a template for cities was also suggested

Current Focus Topics



Regional Air Quality
Planning



Resilience Hubs



Turning Sustainability
Goals into Actions



Green Business

Discussion Items

FY2027 Work Plan and Updates

Task 3. Regional Collaboration and Capacity Building

Regional Green Business Certification Standards

- For those who do not currently have a green business program, what would you like to see in a set of regional standards to assist in your efforts?
- Is the group interested in establishing a subcommittee to brainstorm and develop these standards?

Current Focus Topics



Regional Air Quality
Planning



Resilience Hubs



Turning Sustainability
Goals into Actions



Green Business

Discussion Items

FY2027 Work Plan and Updates

Task 3. Regional Collaboration and Capacity Building

RISE Coalition Member LinkedIn Group

- NCTCOG staff has established a LinkedIn group for RISE members to connect, share resources, and collaborate
- The group is open only to voting members and their alternates
 - Voting members and alternates will receive an email with information on how to join the group

Current Focus Topics



Regional Air Quality
Planning



Resilience Hubs



Turning Sustainability
Goals into Actions



Green Business

Discussion Items

FY2027 Work Plan and Updates

Task 4. Educational Resources

Webinars and Workshops

- Resilience Hubs
 - Steps to establish a resilience hub in your community
 - Resilience hub success stories
- Turning Sustainability Goals into Actions
 - Emerged out of the idea of sustainability for smaller communities - any specific ideas in mind?
 - More resident focused or municipality focused initiatives?

Current Focus Topics



Regional Air Quality
Planning



Resilience Hubs



Turning Sustainability
Goals into Actions



Green Business

Discussion Items

FY2027 Work Plan and Updates

Task 4. Educational Resources

Webinars and Workshops

- Sustainability Taboo Workshop
 - This workshop will look at how local governments can adjust the language they use around sustainability discussions to advance initiatives while avoiding polarization and resistance.
 - Date: December 2nd at 10:00 AM
 - Location: NCTCOG Offices
 - [Register to attend](#)

Current Focus Topics



Regional Air Quality
Planning



Resilience Hubs



Turning Sustainability
Goals into Actions



Green Business

Discussion Items

FY2027 Work Plan and Updates

Task 6. Sustainability-Focused Professional Certification Workshop

- NCTCOG held LEED Green Associate Exam Preparation Course in September
 - For those who attended, did you find the course beneficial? What could have improved the experience?
 - For those who did not attend, what were the limitations?

Current Focus Topics



Regional Air Quality
Planning



Resilience Hubs



Turning Sustainability
Goals into Actions



Green Business

Discussion Items

FY2027 Work Plan and Updates

Task 6. Sustainability-Focused Professional Certification Workshop

- This FY, we will host a workshop where participants can earn CE hours for their LEED GA accreditation
 - General CE hours (12 hours minimum)
 - Activities that are relevant to general green building concepts
 - Rating system-specific CE hours (3 hours minimum)
 - Activities that explicitly connect to the current LEED rating systems

Current Focus Topics



Regional Air Quality
Planning



Resilience Hubs



Turning Sustainability
Goals into Actions



Green Business

Discussion Items

Texas 90th Legislative Session

- NCTCOG plans to track relevant bills over the course of the 90th Legislative Session and share updates with the group
- Are there any specific topics that members would like us to track?
 - Topics previously tracked include energy, climate, greenhouse gas emissions, and resilience
 - Planning to also track data center legislation
- Updates are provided at each meeting, with an updated matrix to be posted to the RISE Coalition webpage monthly

Information Items

RISE Bylaws Updates

- The Bylaws Ad Hoc Subcommittee met on October 1st to discuss recommended changes to the RISE Coalition Bylaws
- The [revised bylaws](#) were emailed out to RISE Coalition members on Monday, October 19th to review suggested changes
- To allow members adequate time to review, a vote to approve the recommended changes to the bylaws will be conducted electronically

Information Items

RISE Bylaws Updates

- Separating colleges and universities into their own separate tier
 - \$500 cost share, with option to petition for a lower rate
 - As voting members, colleges and universities should plan to contribute an annual educational component to the group such as through collaborative workshops, meeting presentations, student involvement, etc.
 - Transitioning non-profits to the non-voting member category
 - Encourage participation in a non-voting member capacity
 - Allow for private sector donations to support general work program efforts
 - Donations are not towards a particular cause or concern
 - Donations capped at \$1000 for consistency with Other Local Government Partners cost share amount
-

Information Items

RISE Bylaws Updates

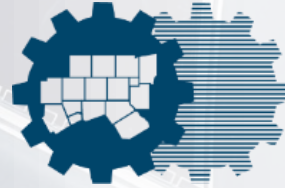
- Clarified language for Chair/Vice Chair terms
 - When the Chair is unable to fulfill his/her term, the Vice Chair will assume the responsibilities of the Chair for the remainder of their unexpired term (two years total)
- NCTCOG has authority to use cost share budgets on behalf of members to provide items like snacks and beverages at trainings, events, etc., as appropriate
- Administrative updates to Section 3: Meetings
 - Addition of Robert's Rules of Order under Procedure
 - Responsibility of member to notify alternate of meeting under Quorum/Voting

Information Items

FY2027 Cost Shares

- Cost shares invoices for FY2027 were sent out electronically in early October 2026
 - If you are interested in becoming a cost sharing member, please email Corinne Buckley at cbuckley@nctcog.org to request an invoice.

2025 Population (NCTCOG Estimates)	Cost-Share
1 million+	\$3,750
750,000 - 999,999	\$3,500
500,000 - 749,999	\$3,000
350,000 - 499,999	\$2,500
200,000 - 349,999	\$2,075
100,000 - 199,999	\$1,625
50,000 - 99,999	\$1,075
25,000 - 49,999	\$700
10,000 - 24,999	\$500
Less than 10,000	\$250
Other Local Government Partners, Universities, and Non-Profit Environmental/Public Interest Groups	\$1,000



North Texas Zero Emissions Vehicles Call for Projects

Juliana VandenBorn, Senior Air Quality Planner

Regional Integration of Sustainability Efforts (RISE) Coalition

October 21, 2026

North Texas Zero Emission Vehicle Project

Overview: \$60 million award from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicles Grant

Purpose: Rebates to replace Class 6 and 7 heavy-duty vehicles with zero-emissions versions (battery electric or hydrogen fuel cell electric)

Eligibility:

- Public or Private fleets
- *Must adopt a policy consistent with the **RTC Clean Fleet Policy** by project completion (www.nctcog.org/fleetpolicy)*

NCTCOG Project Scope

Activity	Federal Funding	Match Requirement
Rebates to Replace Existing Vehicles with Zero Emissions Versions	\$58.6 million	Provided by program participants
Workforce Development	\$1.4 million	No match required
Training		
Total Federal Funding:	\$60 million	

\$54.8 Million in rebate funding still available!

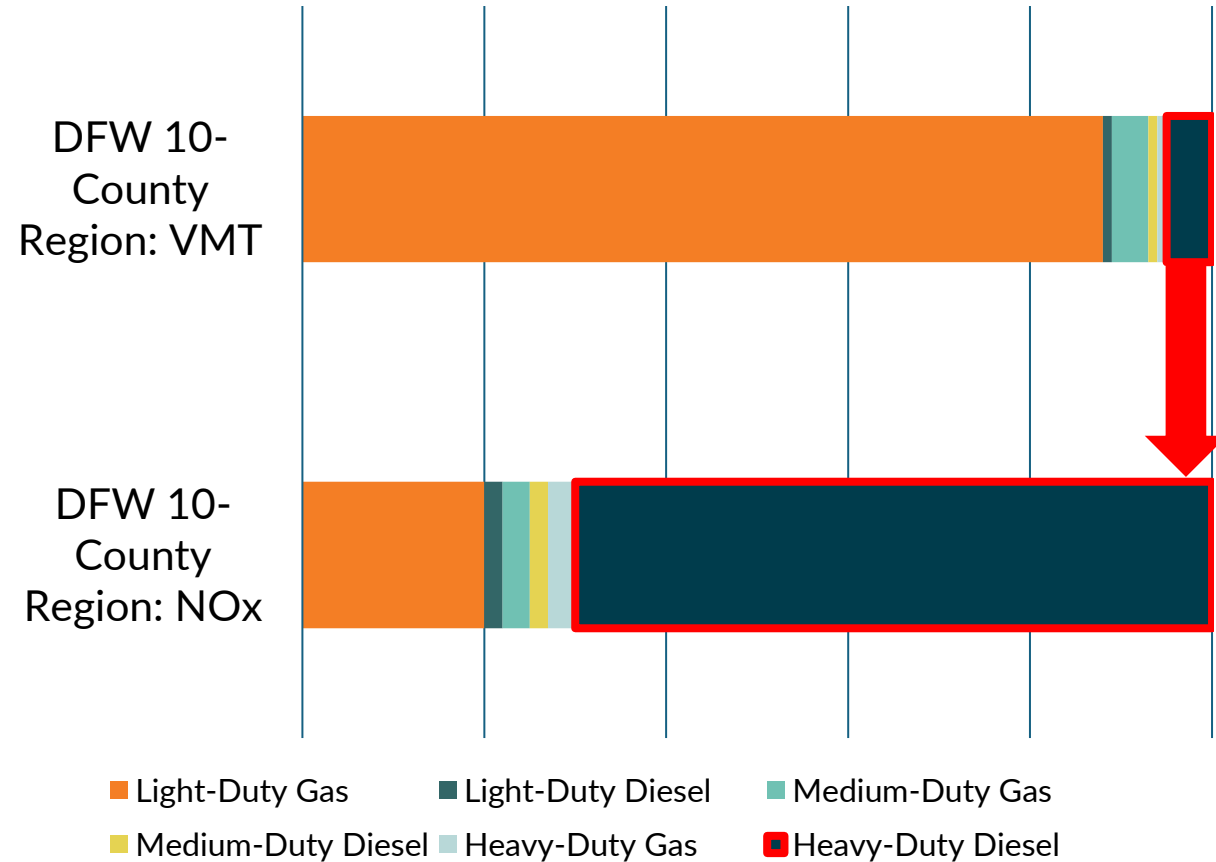


Air Quality and Trucks

- Current Ozone design value of 83 ppb* continues to exceed the EPA standard
- Heavy-duty diesel vehicles have disproportionate impact on regional air quality

For more information on North Texas Air Quality, check out the 2025 AQ Handbook at:
www.nctcog.org/airquality

Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) Versus Nitrogen Oxides (NO_x) Contribution by On-Road Vehicle Type in Dallas-Fort Worth Analysis Year 2026



*www.nctcog.org/ozone



Project Benefits

Community

- Reduce truck noise and exhaust while improving conditions for residents

Economic

- Use rebate funding to offset the upfront cost of replacing aging fleet vehicles.
- Bring new funding to the community and attract partnerships/investments

Estimated Fuel Savings Through Transitioning Diesel Vehicle to Battery-Electric*

Vehicle Type	Estimated Annual Fuel Savings
Straight/Box Truck	\$18,500
Step Van	\$11,800
Septic/Bucket Truck	\$8,300
Dump Truck	\$8,500
Refuse Hauler	\$60,000
Bucket/Aerial Truck	\$8,300

**Calculated using the Alternative Fuel Life Cycle Environmental and Economic Transportation Tool. All inputs used were defaults except fuel costs.*



Eligible Vehicle Types

- Class 6 or Class 7 vehicle (GVWR between 19,501 lbs to 33,000 lbs)*
- **Vocational Vehicles:** Any vehicle that is equipped for a particular industry, trade or occupation such as construction, heavy hauling, mining, logging, oil fields, refuse; includes vehicles such as school buses, motorcoaches and RVs
- **Disposition Options:**
 - Scrap existing vehicles if 2010 or older OR may sell, donate, put into reduced service if 2011 or newer

Straight/Box Truck



Step Van



Septic/Bucket Truck



Street Sweeper



Transit Bus



Refuse Hauler



Other Vocational Vehicles**



Photo Credit: NCTCOG/Trinity Metro



North Texas Zero Emissions Vehicles Call for Projects – October RISE Coalition

*NTxZEV Guidelines Appendix A, GVWR maximum design loaded weight of a single vehicle set by the manufacturer

**School bus eligible only if NOT operated as a typical school bus as defined in Guidelines Appendix A

Eligible Funding Levels

Funding limited by cost share percentage or dollar funding cap, whichever is lower

Funding can be applied to infrastructure if the cost share % is the limiting factor

Based on difference between cost share % and dollar amount

e.g. a \$200k box truck qualifies for \$130k based on cost share %; leaves \$60k for infrastructure

Vehicle Type	Battery Electric Vehicles Maximum Funding	Hydrogen Fuel Cell Electric Vehicles Maximum Funding
School Bus*	75%, up to \$280,000*	N/A
Straight/Box Truck	65%, up to \$190,000	80%, up to \$400,000
Step Van	65%, up to \$160,000	80%, up to \$340,000
Septic/Bucket Truck	65%, up to \$330,000	80%, up to \$670,000
Other Vocational Vehicle	65%, up to \$355,000	80%, up to \$720,000
Refuse Hauler	50%, up to \$260,000	70%, up to \$600,000
Street Sweeper	50%, up to \$315,000	70%, up to \$720,000
Transit Bus	33%, up to \$265,000	60%, up to \$780,000

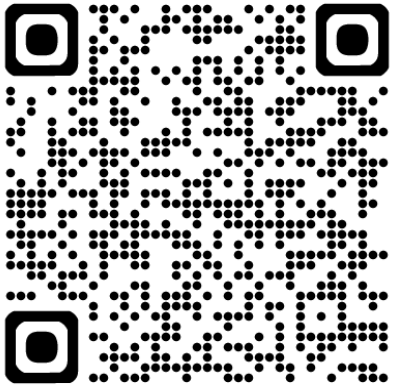
*ADA-compliant buses are eligible for an additional \$20,000 per-vehicle funding cap



Resources for Applicants

- Virtual 'Office Hours' on Mondays at 10 a.m. CT
- Resources to help identify vendors/vehicles
- Workshop/meeting recordings
- Free technical assistance for fleet planning through National Laboratory of the Rockies

Details at www.nctcog.org/NTxZEV



Scan the QR code to visit the NTxZEV website to find resources!

Need Reminders?

- Sign up for email and text updates on the website to receive reminders for project updates and deadlines.

A screenshot of the NTxZEV website's navigation menu. It features a dark blue header with white text. The 'How to Apply' section is expanded, showing four steps: Step 1: Determine Your Eligibility, Step 2: Determine New Vehicles and Rebate Amount, Step 3: Collect and Fill Out Application Documents, and Step 4: Submit Your Application. A red arrow points from the 'Need Reminders?' box to the 'Stay Connected!' section. The 'Stay Connected!' section includes a link to sign up for email and text updates. The 'Application Assistance!' section includes a link to 'Office Hours'.

How to Apply	Help Spread the Word!
▶ Step 1: Determine Your Eligibility <i>(Click to Expand)</i> ▶ Step 2: Determine New Vehicles and Rebate Amount <i>(Click to Expand)</i> ▶ Step 3: Collect and Fill Out Application Documents <i>(Click to Expand)</i> ▶ Step 4: Submit Your Application <i>(Click to Expand)</i>	• NTxZEV CFP Flyer • NTxZEV 3 Slide Summary • NTxZEV Partner Toolkit
	Stay Connected! Sign up for NTxZEV email and texts on the NCTCOG Subscription page
	Application Assistance! Office Hours



Project Selection Criteria

Each vehicle scored individually

Most points associated with regional air quality improvement

Vehicle Cost per Ton - Up to 30 Points	Impact on Regional Air Quality – Up to 30 Points
Cost per ton of nitrogen oxides and volatile organic compound reduced	Amount of time operating in priority areas, idling hours, and vehicle disposition method
Feasibility and Risk – Up to 25 Points	Long-Term Sustainability Efforts – Up to 15 Points
Implementation plan, damage mitigation, NCTCOG administrative burden	Environmental planning/practices, vehicle-to-grid compatibility or use of distributed energy resources

All Eligibility Requirements and Scoring Criteria are outlined in the NTxZEV Guidelines available at www.nctcog.org/NTxZEV



Outreach

NCTCOG is looking for:

- Assistance sharing this opportunity with your local communities!
- Invite NCTCOG to meetings/outreach events or email cleancities@nctcog.org with recommendations on who we should speak to.
- Check out the NTxZEV Partner Toolkit on our website for even more outreach material!

How to Apply

- ▶ Step 1: Determine Your Eligibility *(Click to Expand)*
- ▶ Step 2: Determine New Vehicles and Rebate Amount *(Click to Expand)*
- ▶ Step 3: Collect and Fill Out Application

Help Spread the Word!

- NTxZEV CFP Flyer
- NTxZEV 3 Slide Summary
- NTxZEV Partner Toolkit

Stay Connected!

Sign up for NTxZEV email and texts on the [NCTCOG Subscription page](#)



Heavy Duty Vehicle Funding for North Texas Fleets

[Up to **\$54.8 million** is available for fleets to upgrade trucks and reduce operational costs]



Eligible Projects

Class 6 and 7 fleets wanting to switch to battery electric or hydrogen fuel cell vehicles



Eligible Applicants

Public or Private Sector Fleets Operating in North Texas Region



Funding Level

Up to 33 percent to 80 percent of new vehicle price

Example Vehicles



INTERESTED?

- Attend virtual office hours every Monday with NCTCOG staff for application assistance
- Free technical assistance from the National Lab of the Rockies
- Email cleancities@nctcog.org
- Rolling deadline: 3rd Friday of the month at 5 p.m. - until funds are exhausted

ABOUT NCTCOG

The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is a voluntary association of, by and for local governments, established to assist in regional planning. NCTCOG's purpose is to strengthen both the individual and collective power of local governments and to help them recognize regional opportunities, eliminate unnecessary duplication, and make joint decisions.

www.nctcog.org/NTxZEV





Upcoming Dates!

Using NCTCOG Truck Incentives for Economic Development Webinar

- October 27, 2026, at 2:00-3:00 p.m. CT
- This webinar will cover the NTxZEV project, funding opportunities for zero-emission trucks, and ways communities and organizations can support local fleet participation.
- Registration: www.dfwcleancities.org/events

Upcoming NTxZEV CFP Deadlines

- **Next Deadline is *November 20, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. CT***
- **Applications must be received “in-hand” by the deadline at NCTCOG offices!**
- ***Subsequent deadlines: 3rd Friday of every month at 5:00 p.m. CT***



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Contact us at cleancities@nctcog.org for any questions on fleet electrification, funding opportunities, or other inquiries



Upcoming webinars and events posted regularly at dfwcleancities.org/events



Follow us on LinkedIn: linkedin.com/showcase/dfwcleancities



NCTCOG Regional Opportunities

Sustainable Public Rights of Way Subcommittee

- Last Meeting: September 9, 2026
 - Guest speaker Julie Wyatt presented right-of-way considerations of the Design Downtown Denton Plan.
- The next meeting will be held virtually on **December 9, 2026, at 10:00 AM**
 - Guest speakers will share preliminary findings of the integrating Transportation Stormwater Infrastructure (TSI) study.
 - [Register to attend](#)



Other Regional Updates and Opportunities

Texas Energy Summit

- Energy Systems Laboratory will be hosting the Texas Energy Summit 2026 in Austin, Texas from October 26-28, 2026
- This year's summit will focus on the intersection of air quality and energy systems, aiming to lead to actionable next steps to improve air quality in Texas
- Registration available on the [Texas Energy Summit website](#)



Other Regional Updates and Opportunities

- **Community Centers Energy Efficiency Retrofits for the State Energy Program**
 - The State Energy Conservation Office is currently accepting applications from eligible community centers to receive low-interest loan funding for energy efficiency retrofit projects
 - Community centers must provide services and support for people with intellectual and development disabilities, serious mental illness, and substance use disorders to qualify
 - Successful applicants may borrow up to \$3,000,000
 - Applications are being accepted through **December 18, 2026**
 - [More information and application](#)
-

Other Business

Participant Roundtable

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

Future Agenda Items

Future meeting presentation topics?

Next Meeting Date

Next RISE Coalition Meeting:

Wednesday, January 27, 2027, at 9:30 a.m.

Online via Microsoft Teams

[Add to Calendar](#)

Tentative Upcoming Meeting Dates

- April 29, 2027, at 9:30 a.m. – In person at NCTCOG Offices
- July 28, 2027, at 9:30 a.m. – Online

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Thank you!

NCTCOG's Free E-Mail Lists and Committee Updates

- ✉ General: <https://www.nctcog.org/stay-informed?ext=>
- ✉ Environment and Development: <https://www.nctcog.org/envir/mail>

RISE Websites

- 🌐 Information page: <https://www.nctcog.org/envir/development-excellence/rise-coalition>
- 🌐 Committee page: <https://www.nctcog.org/envir/committees/regional-integration-of-sustainability-efforts-ris>

