

AGENDA

**Regional Transportation Council
Thursday, August 7, 2025
Irving Convention Center at Las Colinas
3rd Floor, Junior Ballroom, 500 W. Las Colinas Blvd., Irving, TX 75039**

Members of the public may view a livestream of the RTC Meeting at www.nctcog.org/video under the “watch live” tab

**1:00 pm Full RTC Business Agenda
(Guest Secured Wireless Connection Password Will Be Provided)**

Pledge to the United States and Texas Flags

- 1:00 – 1:10** 1. **Opportunity for Public Comment on Today’s Agenda**
 Information Minutes: 10
Item Summary: Members of the public may comment on any item(s) on today’s agenda at this time. If speaking, please complete a Speaker Request Card available at the meeting and provide it to the North Central Texas Council of Governments designated staff person. A maximum of three (3) minutes is permitted per speaker. At the conclusion of this item, no further opportunities for public comment will be provided for the duration of the meeting.
Background: N/A
- 1:10 – 1:15** 2. **Approval of July 10, 2025, Minutes**
 Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 5
Presenter: Rick Bailey, RTC Chair
Item Summary: Approval of the July 10, 2025, meeting minutes contained in Electronic Item 2 will be requested.
Background: N/A
- 1:15 – 1:20** 3. **Consent Agenda**
 Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 5
- 3.1. **Air Quality Funding Recommendations Related to the Environmental Protection Agency National Clean Diesel Funding Assistance Program**
Presenter: Jason Brown, NCTCOG
Item Summary: Staff will request Regional Transportation Council approval of funding recommendations for Dallas Fort Worth International Airport and Delta Air Lines, through the North Texas Diesel Emissions

Reduction Project 2024 Call for Projects (CFP) utilizing Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) funds.

Background: The North Central Texas Council of Governments opened the North Texas Diesel Emissions Reduction Project 2024 CFP through an EPA National Clean Diesel Funding Assistance Program award. The CFP award grants fund replacements of on-road diesel vehicles and engines, nonroad diesel equipment, diesel transport refrigeration unit trailers, diesel drayage trucks, locomotive engines, and locomotive shore power installation in North Central Texas. Two applications were received by the CFP round two deadline on June 13, 2025: Dallas Fort Worth International Airport for one all-electric class 8 shuttle bus and Delta Air Lines for 10 all-electric non-road ground support equipment. Electronic Item 3.1.1 provides an overview of the call for projects and staff recommendations. Electronic Item 3.1.2 provides detailed project listings. This initiative is an extension of clean vehicle efforts listed as Weight-of-Evidence in the current State Implementation Plan.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Air Quality

3.2. **Federal Functional Classification System Amendments**

Presenter: Brian Flood, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of 14 amendments to the currently approved Federal Functional Classification System (FFCS) will be requested.

Background: While inclusion in the FFCS is based on a roadway's purpose and functioning capabilities, it is also used to determine eligibility for federal funding. Amendments to the FFCS occur as the function of existing roadway changes, or as roadways need to be added due to construction, new developments, and shifts in demographic trends. Staff is currently working with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) on 14 proposed FFCS amendments within the Dallas and Fort Worth TxDOT districts. These

amendments involve the construction of new roadways and improvement of existing roadways resulting from a project development process involving the North Central Texas Council of Governments staff, local governments, and external partners. Maps, tables, and a presentation detailing the proposed functional class changes are included in Electronic Item 3.2. The Surface Transportation Technical Committee recommended approval of these changes at its July 25, 2025, meeting.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Roadway, Safety

3.3. Funding for McKinney Amphitheater Transportation Improvements

Presenter: Christie Gotti, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Regional Transportation Council approval of \$2 million in Regional Toll Revenue funding for improvements in proximity to a future amphitheater/event venue in the City of McKinney will be requested.

Background: A 20,000-seat music amphitheater is being constructed in the City of McKinney and is scheduled to open in 2026. The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) was approached by the City of McKinney about possible funding for improvements to facilitate access into and out of the venue. After reviewing the requests, NCTCOG staff is recommending funding for selected roadway, bicycle/pedestrian, and technology improvements near the site. Electronic Item 3.3 contains additional details on the proposed improvements and funding.

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

1:20 – 1:35 4. Orientation to Agenda/Director of Transportation Report

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 15

Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG

1. Regional Transportation Council (RTC) Member Orientation in October (Item 8, if approved, will include a RTC Transit Subcommittee meeting in September)

2. Changing Mobility: Data, Insights, and Delivering Innovative Projects During COVID Recovery (Electronic Item 4.1)
3. Electric Vehicle Charging Grant – Communication to Relevant Departments Within Cities, Counties, School Districts, Universities, and other Governmental Agencies (Electronic Item 4.2)
4. 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program Development (Electronic Item 4.3)
5. Update: Air Quality Handbook
(<https://www.nctcog.org/trans/quality/air>)
6. Additional Correspondence from Hunt-Related Entities on High-Speed Rail (Electronic Item 4.4)
7. High Occupancy Vehicle Quarterly Report (Electronic Item 4.5)
8. Air Quality Funding Opportunities
(www.nctcog.org/aqfunding)
9. Upcoming Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Events
(www.dfwcleancities.org/events)
10. July Public Meeting Minutes (Electronic Item 4.6)
11. June–July Public Comment Report (Electronic Item 4.7)
12. August Public Meeting Notice (Electronic Item 4.8)
13. Recent News Articles (Electronic Item 4.9)
14. Recent Correspondence (Electronic Item 4.10)
15. Recent Press Releases (Electronic Item 4.11)

1:35 – 1:45

5. **Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program – Fiscal Year 2026-2028 Goal Update**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Ken Kirkpatrick, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of the proposed Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Participation Goal for Fiscal Year (FY) 2026-FY2028 for United States Department of Transportation contracting opportunities.

Background: The North Central Texas Council of Governments is required by the Federal Transit Administration to revisit its DBE Participation Goal every three years. The current DBE Participation Goal is valid until September 30, 2025. Staff is monitoring the latest developments at the federal level, including the Mid-America Milling Company Case in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky. Staff has developed proposed goals for the next three years based on federal requirements as of the

development of the agenda. The public comment period will be completed on August 12, 2025. Electronic Item 5 includes additional details.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative, Transit

1:45 – 1:55

6. **2026 Unified Transportation Program and Regional 10-Year Plan Update**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Christie Gotti, NCTCOG

Item Summary: The Regional Transportation Council (RTC) will be briefed on Category 12 funds proposed for approval by the Texas Transportation Commission (TTC) and action on the proposed changes for the Regional 10-Year Plan Update will be requested.

Background: Since December 2016, the RTC has annually approved a set of projects funded with Category 2 (Metropolitan Planning Organization [MPO] selected) and Category 4 (Texas Department of Transportation [TxDOT] District selected) funds and submitted for TTC consideration with Category 12 (TTC selected) funds that cover 10 years of highway projects. Since the last update in 2024, North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) 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 2026 Unified Transportation Program (UTP). As part of the draft 2026 UTP, TxDOT is also proposing that Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) allocations be reduced and flexed to non-MPO (Statewide) funding categories starting in Fiscal Year 2029. Electronic Item 6.1 and Electronic Item 6.2 include additional information about the 10-Year Plan process and the proposed CMAQ allocation changes. Electronic Item 6.3 contains the proposed list of planned projects for the Regional 10-Year Plan. Electronic Item 6.4 contains the 10-Year Plan projects that have let or been completed. Electronic Item 6.5 is a copy of the public comment letter NCTCOG staff provided to TxDOT regarding the CMAQ allocation changes proposed in the 2026 UTP.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Roadway, Safety

1:55 – 2:05

7. **Dallas-Fort Worth High-Speed Rail Update and Proposed Fiscal Year 2026 House Appropriation Bill**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Brendon Wheeler, NCTCOG

Item Summary: In response to proposed language in the Fiscal Year 2026 House Transportation, Housing and Urban Development (THUD) Appropriations bill, which may have the unintended consequences of prohibiting federal funds for North Central Texas Council of Governments' (NCTCOG) high-speed rail development efforts, staff will recommend Regional Transportation Council (RTC) action to send a letter requesting reconsideration of language included in this bill. Additionally, staff will provide an update on study progress, including advancement of downtown Dallas alignments, status of high-speed rail economic studies, and leadership update for the Dallas-to-Houston corridor.

Background: Following August 2024 RTC direction, the project team has advanced conceptual engineering and stakeholder coordination on alignment concept west of downtown Dallas. Additionally, first-and-last-mile connections leveraging the proposed high-speed rail alignment along the entire corridor have been reviewed. In April 2020, NCTCOG staff began work on the Dallas-Fort Worth High-Speed Transportation Connections Study with consultant assistance. Completed in 2021, the first phase included an alternatives analysis of high-speed modes and corridors that recommended high-speed rail generally following the Interstate Highway 30 corridor. The second phase includes preliminary engineering and an environmental analysis through the National Environmental Policy Act process, resulting in a federal government action identifying the project's next steps. In December 2023, NCTCOG's application of the Fort Worth-to-Houston High-Speed Rail Corridor was accepted in the Federal Railroad Administration's Corridor Identification and Development grant program. The July 22, 2025, Dallas Morning News op-ed by John Kleinheinz on the Dallas-to-Houston high-speed rail project is included as Electronic Item 7.1. The draft letter to Congress for RTC's consideration is provided as

Electronic Item 7.2. Additional information is provided in Electronic Item 7.3.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Safety, Transit

2:05 – 2:15 8. **Acceptance of Transit 2.0 Information and Request of the Formation of a Regional Transportation Council Transit Subcommittee on a Transit Vision**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG

Item Summary: This item requests the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) to accept the Transit 2.0 information. In addition, the item is to request a RTC Transit Subcommittee to focus on two items. The first is to review the Transit 2.0 recommendation impacting RTC and second, create a vision on how to advance transit in the region. All Subcommittee items will need the approval of the full RTC.

Background: Electronic Item 8 references all the information contained in Transit 2.0. Transit 2.0 is produced by outside consultants to advance ideas for transit authorities, member cities, non-member cities and the RTC. The information is contained in detailed reports, summary reports, videos, and PowerPoint slide decks. It is proposed that an RTC Subcommittee review ideas impacting the RTC and explore a broader assignment of creating a vision for implementing transit to meet the needs of a growing anticipated population of 12 plus million persons by 2050. If approved, RTC members will have ten days to request Subcommittee membership of the Chair in order for a Subcommittee meeting to be held in September.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Transit

2:15 – 2:25 9. **Updates Regarding Metropolitan Planning Organization-Selected Funding and Texas Department of Transportation Cost Overrun Funds**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Christie Gotti, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will brief the Council on the latest updates about Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)-selected funding categories and Texas Department of

Transportation (TxDOT) Change Order and Cost Overrun (COCO) funds received for regional projects.

Background: In January 2024, the Texas Transportation Commission approved a rule change that updated allocation practices and limited carryover funding on certain MPO-selected categories, including Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) AND Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG). A result of this rule change was clarification that TxDOT Districts must provide concurrence for all CMAQ projects going forward. TxDOT has also requested that a larger share of CMAQ funds be allocated to projects on the State Highway System. Staff will provide a status update on carryover balances for all MPO-selected categories. In addition, a one-time allocation of funds to both the STBG and Transportation Alternatives Set Aside programs will be discussed along with the TxDOT COCO program. Finally, funding shortfalls in earlier years of the Unified Transportation Program are creating the need to “level lettings” and slow down engineering and right-of-way acquisition expenditures, which have resulting project schedule impacts, which will be discussed. Electronic Item 9 contains additional details on these topics.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative, Air Quality

If time permits:

2:25 – 2:35

10. **89th Texas Legislature Final Actions**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Rebekah Gongora, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will present final actions of the 89th Texas Legislature related to transportation issues affecting the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

Background: The Regular Session of 89th Texas Legislature convened on January 14, 2025, and concluded on June 2, 2025. Staff will provide an update on final legislative actions in the 89th Regular Session related to key legislative positions of the Regional Transportation Council. Additional information can be found in Electronic Item 10.1. A summary of approved transportation and air quality bills of interest can be found in Electronic Item 10.2.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative

- 2:35 – 2:45** 11. **New Regional Transit Safety Performance Measure Targets**
 Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10
Presenter: Ezra Pratt, NCTCOG
Item Summary: Staff will provide updated federally required Public Transit Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) regional performance measure targets for Fiscal Year 2026-2029.
Background: In 2021, the Regional Transportation Council adopted targets to cover Fiscal Year 2022-2025 for the federally required performance measures under PTASP. PTASP includes measures related to transit safety for passengers, transit workers, and those who share the road with transit vehicles. The North Central Texas Council of Governments now has an opportunity to adjust or reaffirm the previously adopted targets, and adopt several new targets required by the Federal Transit Administration. Electronic Item 11.1 provides more information. Current progress toward previously adopted federally required performance measures under Transit Asset Management will also be included for review in Electronic item 11.2. Transit Asset Management includes measures related to keeping all transit vehicles, equipment, facilities, and infrastructure in a state of good repair. A general update and schedule for all federal performance measures will be provided as well.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Safety, Transit

- 2:45 – 2:55** 12. **Update on Regional Air Quality and Dallas-Fort Worth Air Quality Improvement Plan - Transportation Elements**
 Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10
Presenter: Jenny Narvaez, NCTCOG
Item Summary: Staff will provide an update on current air quality initiatives, including development of the Dallas-Fort Worth Air Quality Improvement Plan (DFW AQIP), a comprehensive plan to improve air quality, and latest trends regarding ground level ozone.
Background: The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) Transportation and Environment and Development Departments are collaborating with regional stakeholders to comprehensively improve air quality. To prevent economic loss due to our region's air

quality status, NCTCOG is developing the DFW AQIP, a comprehensive plan to improve air quality through the reduction of criteria pollutants and carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) emissions through 2050. The DFW region is currently in nonattainment for the pollutant ozone, for which the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality is responsible for ensuring compliance by July 20, 2027. Recent emission estimates prepared for Mobility 2050 and transportation conformity show a significant rise in nitrogen oxides (NO_x), a precursor to the formation of ozone. Development of the DFW AQIP will provide a vision to limiting this NO_x increase. Finally, staff recently completed an inventory of CO₂e for transportation, energy, water, wastewater, solid waste, and agriculture/forestry/land use sectors to include in the DFW AQIP. For more information on the DFW AQIP, including a preliminary plan published in March 2024, go to www.publicinput.com/dfwAQIP. Electronic Item 12 provides further information.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Air Quality

13. **Progress Reports**

Action Possible Action Information

Item Summary: Progress Reports are provided in the items below.

- RTC Attendance (Electronic Item 13.1)
- STTC Attendance and Minutes (Electronic Item 13.2)

14. **Other Business (Old or New)**: This item provides an opportunity for members to bring items of interest before the group.

15. **Future Agenda Items**: This item provides an opportunity for members to bring items of future interest before the Council.

16. **Next Meeting**: The next meeting of the Regional Transportation Council will be held at **1:00 pm, Thursday, September 11, 2025.**