

MINUTES

Regional Transportation Council Thursday, August 13, 2026

The Regional Transportation Council (RTC) met on Thursday, August 13, 2026, at 1:00 pm at the North Central Texas Council of Governments. The following RTC members or representatives were present: Daniel Alemán, Bruce Arfsten, Steve Babick, Rick Bailey, Elizabeth Beck, Curtis Bergthold, Lorie Blair, Stephanie Boardingham (representing Michael Evans), Ceason Clemens, Bill Cox, Michael Crain, Theresa Daniel, Jeff Davis, Andy Eads, T.J. Gilmore, Raul Gonzalez, Mojoy Haddad, Darrell Hale, Angela Hunt, Clay Lewis Jenkins, Jill Jester, Stephen Mason, Cesar Molina, Ed Moore, Jesse Moreno, John Muns, Matthew Porter, Paul Ridley, Jim Ross, David Salazar, Gary Slagel (representing Randall Bryant), Garry Smith, Kathy Stewart, Randy Stinson, Burt Thakur, Jeremy Tompkins, and William Tsao.

Others present at the meeting were: Ruma Abdul-Jaber, Vickie Alexander, Jadon Aprill, Renee Arnold, Davis Arthur-Yeboah, Melissa Baker, Micah Baker, Berrien Barks, Jay Barksdale, Carli Baylor, Emily Beckham, Braulio Bessa, Natalie Bettger, Jeff Bickerstaff, Brandi Bird, Dorcas Bisi, Jon Blackman, Alberta Blair, Kyle Butler, Farhan Butt, Daniel Byrd, Angie Carson, Lori Clark, Tom Cochill, Dina Colarossi, Paul Cristina, Dawn Dalrymple, Clarence Daugherty, Brian Dell, Rebecca Diviney, David Dryden, Emily Dryden, Everett Eads, Chad Edwards, Andrew Fortune, Laura Freeland, Eric Gallt, Russ Gamber, Eric Garcia, Matt Gauntt, Gypsy Gavia, Brianne Goetz, Bobby Gomez, Rebekah Gongora, Gary Graham, Shala Greer-Smith, Jackie Griffiths, Jeff Gurley, Michael Haithcock, Tony Hartzel, Millie Hayes, Alton Hemmelgarn, Robert Hinkle, Charlie Hoag, Chad Humphrey, Kevin Isu, Erley Jackson, Joel James, Jim Jarratt, Matt Johns, Amy Johnson, Travis Kelly, Dan Kessler, Gus Khankarli, Chris Klaus, Michael Knowles, Jacki Kocmoud, Kevin Kokes, Alicia Kren, Peter LeCody, Paul Luedtke, Lorne Liechty, Eron Linn, Todd Little, Aaron Long, Cameron Lopez, Stanford Lynch, Sydnee Mangini, Chad Marbut, Matthew Mayhew, Kalon Melton, Joshua Menhennett, Monte Mercer, Kate Milner, Brian Moen, Jason Moore, Eric Morris, Michael Morris, Faith Morse, Gina Nash, Mark Nelson, Dylan Niles, Jackie Nolasco, Deborah North, Amir Omar, David Parnell, Brinton Payne, Michael Peters, John Polster, James Powell, Ezra Pratt, Randy Richardson, Jackson Rose, Lauren Rose, Suzi Rumohr, Charlie Salazar, Paul Slough, Feliz Stafford, Toni Stehling, Lauren Trimble, Caroline Vandergriff, Elisa Villnave, Rob Walter, Christy Willhite, Amanda Wilson, Brian Wilson, and Karla Windsor.

1. **Opportunity for Public Comment on Today's Agenda:** Stephen Mason, Regional Transportation Council Chair and City of Cedar Hill Mayor, asked if there were any public comments. Chair Mason noted that no members of the public chose to speak at the meeting or provide written comments.
2. **Approval of June 11, 2026, Minutes:** Approval of the June 11, 2026, meeting minutes contained in Electronic Item 2 was requested.

A motion was made to approve the June 11, 2026, meeting minutes as submitted in Electronic Item 2. Matthew Porter (M); Daniel Alemán (S). The motion passed unanimously.

3. Consent Agenda

- 3.1. **Approval of North Texas Zero Emissions Vehicle Call for Projects Funding Recommendations**: Regional Transportation Council approval of the North Texas Zero Emissions Vehicles Call for Projects including applications received to date, scoring results, and activities recommended for funding was requested.
- 3.2. **Rockwall County Outer Loop Memorandum of Understanding**: Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval was requested for a Memorandum of Understanding between the RTC and Rockwall County about the Regional Outer Loop through Rockwall County.
- 3.3. **US 67 at Chisholm Trail Parkway/Nolan River Road Funding Partnership**: Regional Transportation Council approval of a funding partnership with the Texas Department of Transportation was requested.
- 3.4. **Returning \$5 Million in Emergency Regional Transportation Council Local to the Program**: Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of the return of an approved \$5 million in RTC Local funds for emergency purposes was requested. No funds were used.
- 3.6. **North Central Texas Council of Governments Regional Transportation Council Land Banking Program Overview**: Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval to pay for appraisals related to the Land Banking Program was requested.
- 3.7. **Purchase of Geographic Information System Servers to Support Implementation of a High-Performance Geographic Information System Computing Environment**: Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval was requested for the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) Transportation Department to propose partnering with the NCTCOG Information and Innovative Services Department and the Agency to purchase three high performance Artificial Intelligence (AI)/Graphics Processing Units Accelerated Enterprise Computer servers that would enhance NCTCOG's Geographical Information System computing environment. The anticipated cost for the three machines to be acquired was \$375,000. In order to help facilitate the upfront payment of these machines, the Transportation Department proposed covering the cost of two machines in the amount of \$250,000 in RTC Local dollars.

A motion was made to approve Items 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.6, and 3.7 on the Consent Agenda. Theresa Daniel (M); Edward Moore (S). The motion passed unanimously.

- 3.5 **Fédération Internationale de Football Association Funding Support**: The Regional Transportation Council (RTC) was requested to approve an informal luncheon to thank the transportation team members from across the region for efforts during Fédération Internationale de Football Association events. RTC was asked to approve the use of \$1,000 in RTC Local funds from previously approved food costs to express appreciation to the transportation colleagues.

This agenda item was pulled off of the consent agenda at the request of Chair Mason. Chair Mason presented a trophy to honor Michael Morris for a job well done for all of the Fédération Internationale de Football Association events. A motion was made to approve

Item 3.5 on the Consent Agenda. Burt Thakur (M); Edward Moore (S). The motion passed unanimously.

4. **Orientation to Agenda/Director of Transportation Report:** Michael Morris briefly highlighted items 1 through 8.

1. Moment of Silence for former United States Representative Kay Granger
2. Recognition for Captain Beau Hufstetler, United States Navy, Commanding Officer, Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth – Dan Kessler
3. North Texas Center for Mobility Technologies Smart and Resilient Urban Mobility and Energy Integration Framework
4. Bylaws Committee Process
5. Irving Summit – August 31 and September 1, 2026
6. High-Speed Rail Follow Up – August 20, 2026
7. Proposed Oak Farms Dallas County Convention Center Resolution
8. AMTRAK Heartland Flyer (Proposed Three-Year Program by Texas Department of Transportation)
9. 2026 Ozone Season Update
10. Air Quality Funding Opportunities (www.nctcog.org/agfunding)
11. Upcoming Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Events (www.dfwcleancities.org/events)
12. May – June Public Comments Report
13. June – July Public Comments Report
14. June Public Meeting Minutes
15. July Public Meeting Minutes
16. July Public Meeting Notice
17. Recent News Articles June and July
18. Recent Correspondence
19. Recent Press Releases

5. **Update on Approval of Four Items: Reapproval of the Metropolitan Planning Organization Agreement, Approval of the Settlement Agreement, Approval of the Two-Party Operating Agreement, and Approval of the Letter to the Governor:** Rob Walters, with Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP; Dan Kessler; and Michael Morris covered materials presented earlier at the workshop and presented the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation, Settlement Agreement between the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) and North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG), and the Operating Agreement between the RTC and NCTCOG. The presentation summarized the major provisions of each agreement. In addition, conversations regarding support from the Governor's office were discussed. RTC approval of the agreements and approval of the letter to the Governor was requested.

A motion was made for re-approval of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Agreement, including authorization for execution by the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) Chair, approval of the Settlement Agreement between the RTC and North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG), including authorization for execution by the RTC Chair, approval of the Operating Agreement between the RTC and NCTCOG, including authorization for execution by the RTC Chair and MPO Director, and approval of the Letter to the Governor. Andy Eads (M); Rick Bailey (S). The motion passed unanimously.

6. **2027 Unified Transportation Program and Regional 10-Year Plan Update:** Christie Gotti briefed the Regional Transportation Council on Category 12 funds proposed for approval by the Texas Transportation Commission and action on the proposed changes for the Regional 10-Year Plan Update was requested.

A motion was made to approve the Regional 10-Year Plan project listings, including the proposed changes on the "Let and Completed Projects" listing, along with approval to administratively amend the Transportation Improvement Program/Statewide Transportation Improvement Program and update any administrative and/or planning documents as needed to incorporate the changes. Steve Babick (M); Burt Thakur (S). The motion passed unanimously.

7. **Updates to the Southern Dallas Inland Port Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity Grant Project and Regional Transportation Council Local Contingency for Pre-Award Activities:** Karla Windsor requested Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval to repurpose \$1,004,000 RTC Local temporary backstop and increase by \$269,247 for a total of \$1,273,247 in RTC Local funds to support contract obligations and expenditures for the purchase of electric buses, associated in-plant inspection services, and insurance costs pending transfer. The additional funds would ensure contract obligations were met, offset the costs to RTC, and allow staff to identify entities to purchase or receive these vehicles.

A motion was made to approve repurpose of the \$1,004,000 Regional Transportation Council (RTC) Local temporary backstop and increase by \$269,247 for a total of \$1,273,247 RTC Local funds to support contract obligations and expenditures for the purchase of electric buses, associated in-plant inspection services, and insurance costs pending transfer; direct staff to identify entities to receive or purchase electric vehicles and return proceeds to RTC to offset impacts to RTC Local; confirm support for project changes for Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant and send letter to Federal Transit Administration to advance the FY21 RAISE Grant; and amend the North Central Texas Council of Governments' Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the Statewide TIP, as well as other planning and administrative documents to revise and include the proposed projects. Jeremy Tompkins (M); Bill Cox (S). The motion passed unanimously.

8. **Technology Project Identification Call for Projects:** Natalie Bettger requested Regional Transportation Council approval of the recommended projects and funding amounts for the 2026 Technology Project Identification Call for Projects.

A motion was made to approve the recommended projects and associated funding amounts based on the evaluation and scoring results, utilization of \$11.2 million in Surface Transportation Block Grant funds with Category 2 Transportation Development Credits as local match to support the recommended projects and administratively amending the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)/Statewide TIP and updating any administrative and/or planning documents as needed. Raul Gonzalez (M); Burt Thakur (S). The motion passed unanimously.

9. **Submittal of Grant Application to the Federal Transit Administration for the 2026 Access and Mobility Partnership Grant:** Karla Windsor requested Regional Transportation Council approval to submit an application to the Federal Transit Administration's Fiscal Year 2026 Innovative Coordinated Access and Mobility Grant Program to implement a mobility management program with an interactive software-as-a-

service platform with conversational Artificial Intelligence (AI) to improve coordination between healthcare providers and transportation services for older adults and individuals with disabilities.

A motion was made to approve submission of an application for Federal Transit Administration's Access and Mobility Partnership Grant for Innovative Coordinated Access and Mobility Pilot Program not to exceed \$1,250,000 (\$750,000 federal, \$500,000 Regional Transportation Council Local) to improve access to public transportation by building partnerships among health, transportation and other service providers, and to administratively amend the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)/Statewide TIP and update any administrative and/or planning documents as needed to incorporate the program if selected. Matthew Porter (M); Steve Babick (S). The motion passed unanimously.

10. **Metropolitan Transportation Plan Policy Bundle – Round 6**: Amy Johnson briefed the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) on the proposed allocation of transportation development credits (TDCs) to be awarded in this round of the Policy Bundle. Staff proposed a total allocation of 34.9 million TDCs, compared to the original allocation of 30 million which was previously approved by the RTC for this purpose.
11. **Regional Bicycle Safety Action Plan**: Kevin Kokes provided an overview of the development of the Regional Bicycle Safety Action Plan including the purpose and 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. It was requested that statistical data be brought back to the Council at a future meeting with regard to education, roadway lighting, research related to safety of separated bike lanes, and their comparative safety levels.
12. **Federal Performance Measures Update: Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Performance and Transit Asset Management**: This item was not presented due to time constraints.
13. **Progress Reports**: Regional Transportation Council attendance was provided in Electronic Item 13.1. The Surface Transportation Technical Committee attendance and meeting summary were provided in Electronic Item 13.2.
14. **Other Business (Old or New)**: There was no discussion on this item.
15. **Future Agenda Items**: There was no discussion on this item.
16. **Next Meeting**: The next meeting of the Regional Transportation Council is scheduled for 1:00 pm, Thursday, September 10, 2026.

Meeting adjourned at 3:06 pm.