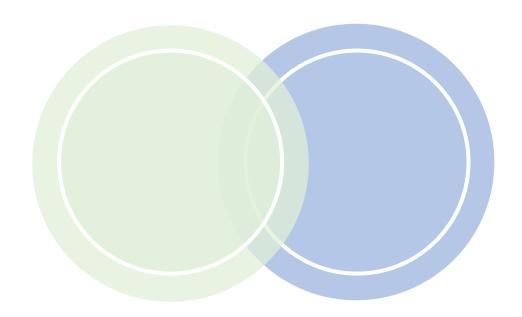
## Environmental Consultation for Mobility 2045

**Planning & Environment Linkages** 



North Central Texas Council of Governments
November 8, 2017

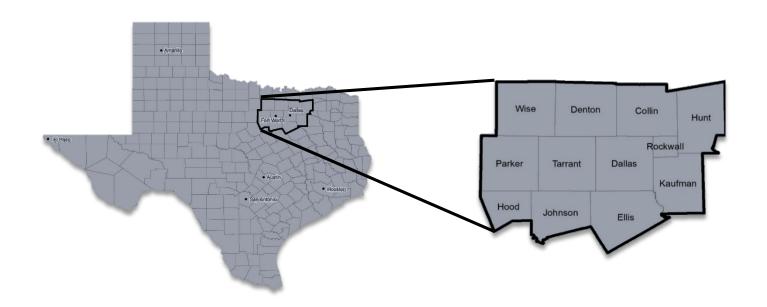
### Welcome & Introductions



Sandy Wesch, Project Engineer

## NCTCOG Metropolitan Planning Area

- 12 counties covering 9,441 square miles
- 7.2 million population in 2017
- 11.2 million population projected for 2045



## Metropolitan Planning Organization

- Transportation planning process in metropolitan areas
- Regional Transportation Council policy board
- NCTCOG Transportation Department staff



## Long-Range Transportation Planning

- Fiscally constrained
- Minimum 20-year planning horizon
- Project prioritization
- Performance-based planning
- Continuing, cooperative, comprehensive

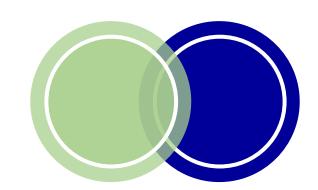






## Planning & Environment Linkages

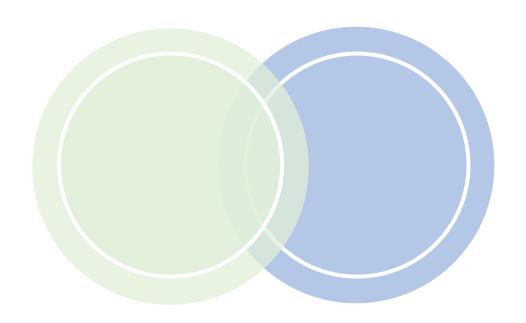
- Environmental, community values
- Early in planning process
- Relationship-building
- Streamlined environmental process
- Needs of the community
- Minimized impacts



www.nctcog.org/pel

### Introductions

## Mobility 2045 Schedule & Proposed Projects



Kevin Feldt, Program Manager

### What Is The Metropolitan Transportation Plan?

#### Required By Law



Represents a Blueprint for the Region's Multimodal Transportation System



Covers at Least a 20-year Timeframe



**Responds to Goals** 



Identifies Policies, Programs, & Projects for Continued Development





Guides the Expenditure of Federal & State Funds

## Regional Perspective

#### Population

- 12. Virginia 8,411,808
- 13. Washington 7,288,000



- 14. Arizona 6,931,071
- 15. Massachusetts 6,811,779
- 16. Tennessee 6,651,194

Source: US Census Bureau July 2016 estimate & NCTCOG DFW Estimate is January 1, 2016

#### Note:

Lake Erie – 9,910 square miles

Area (square miles)

44. Massachusetts – 10,554

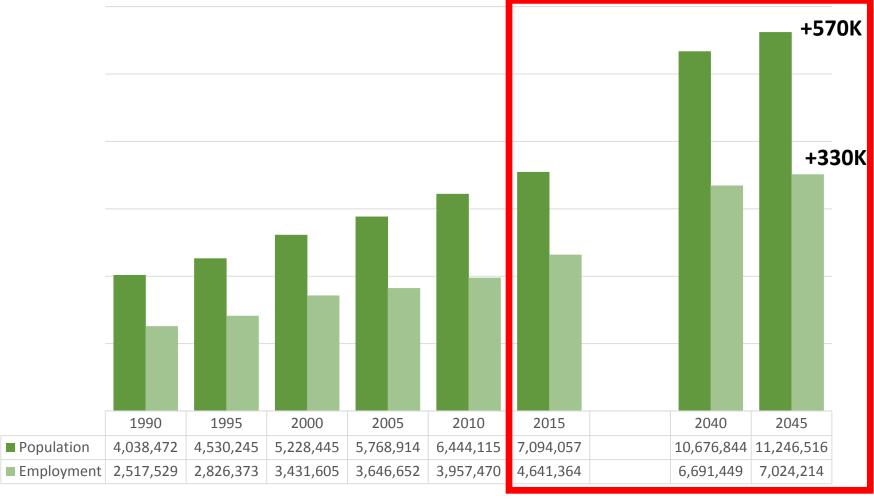
45. Vermont – 9,616



- 46. New Hampshire 9,349
- 47. New Jersey 8,722
- 48. Connecticut 5,543
- 49. Delaware 2,448
- 50. Rhode Island 1,545

Source: US Census Bureau, 2010 census & NCTCOG

#### Growth



Note: Historical figures are total population. Projected figures are household population.

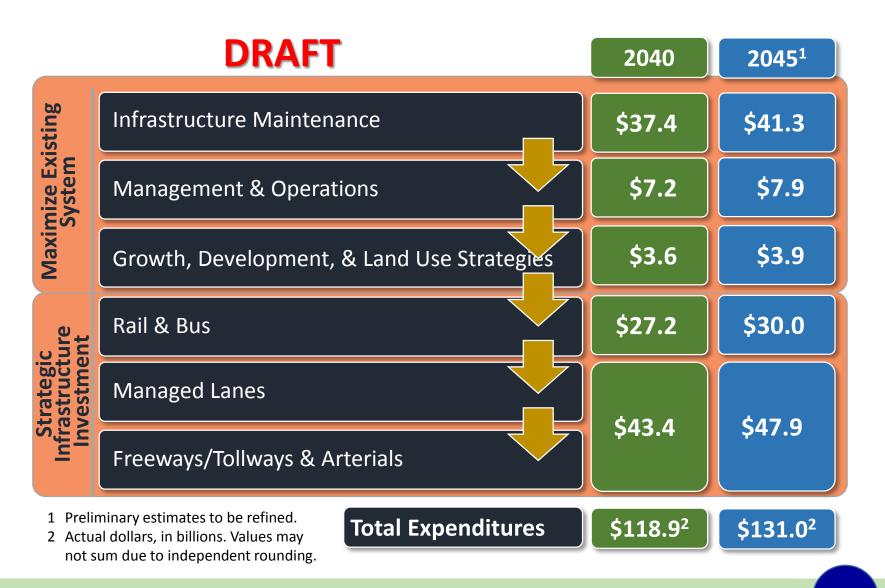
## **Transportation Funding Basics**



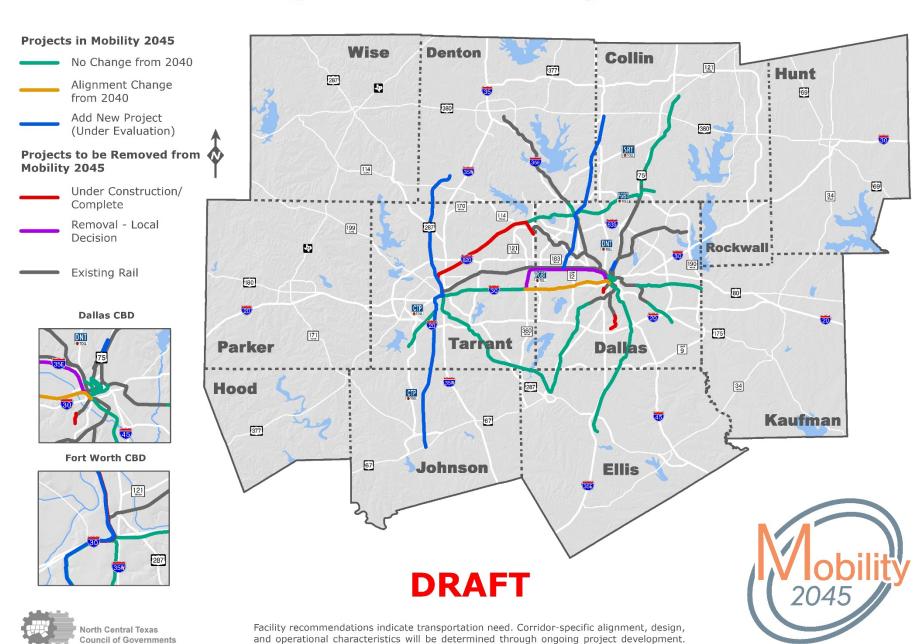
- •Motor Fuel Taxes
- VehicleRegistrationFees
- •Other Federal Sources
- •Other State Sources

- •Tollroads
- •Managed Lanes
- Public/PrivatePartnerships
- PublicTransportationFares
- •Sales or Special Taxes
- Bond Programs
- •Impact Fees
- Property Taxes
- Value Capture

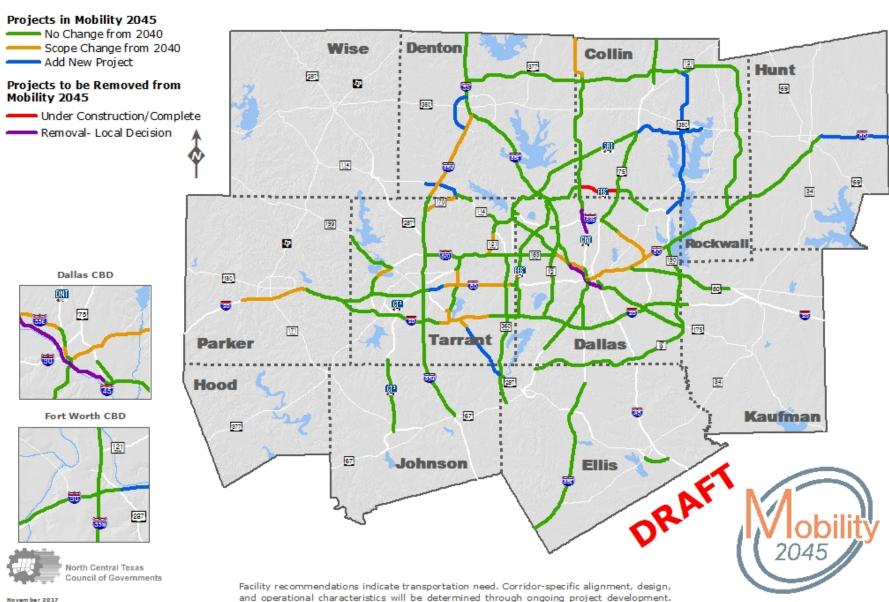
## Prioritization & Expenditures



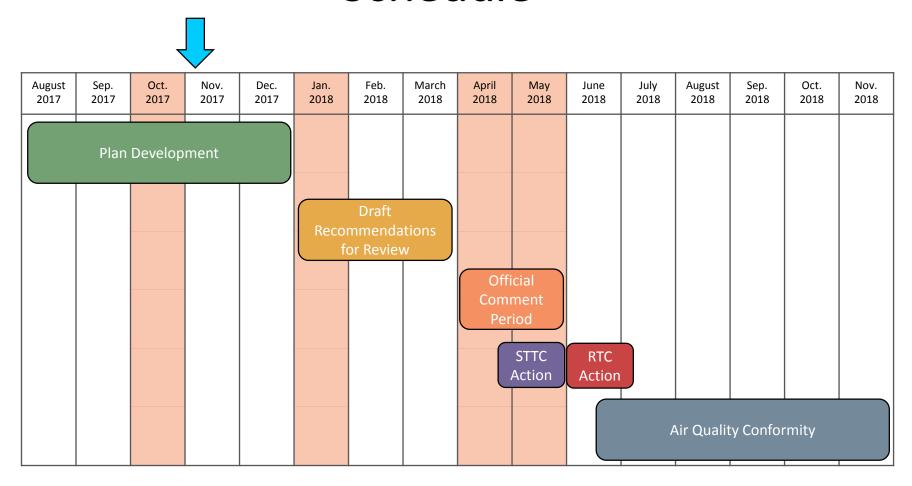
#### **Mobility 2045 Transit Project Status**



#### **Mobility 2045 Roadway Project Status**



#### Schedule

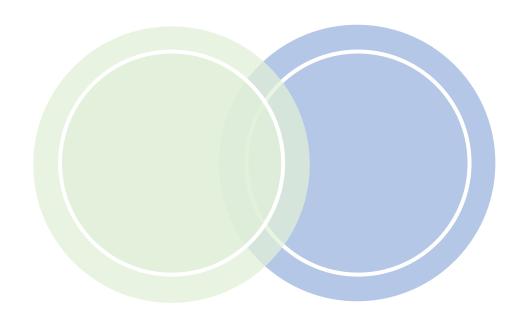


Public meetings held during highlighted months.

Regional Transportation Council plan adoption scheduled for June 14, 2017.

www.nctcog.org/mobility2045

## **Environmental Policy Review**



Sandy Wesch, Project Engineer

#### **Environmental Considerations Policies**

**ER3-001**: Promote livable communities by Pprotecting, retaineing, restoreing/mitigateing, or enhancing the region's built & natural environmental assets during planning & implementation of transportation programs & projects.

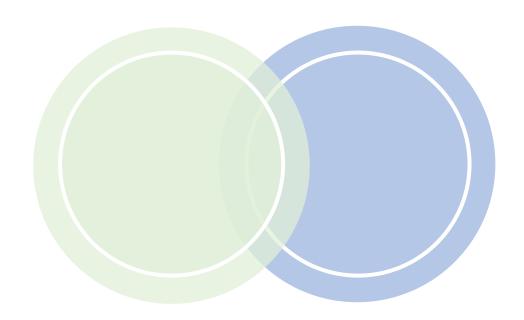
**ER3-002**: Work cooperatively with regulatory & conservation partners to develop innovative approaches that meet their conservation priorities & facilitate the delivery of transportation projects.

#### **Environmental Considerations Policies**

**ER3-003**: Encourage transportation programs & projects that provide appropriate access to the natural environment to support healthy lifestyles.

**F3-002**: Incorporate sustainability & livability options during the project selection process. Include additional weighting or emphasis as appropriate & consistent with Regional Transportation Council policy objectives including, but not limited to, demand management, air quality, natural environment preservation, social equity, or consideration of transportation options & accessibility to other modes (such as freight, aviation, bicycle, & pedestrian).

## Air Quality in Mobility 2045



Lori Clark, Program Manager

#### **CRITERIA POLLUTANTS**

Clean Air Act (CAA) Last Amended in 1990

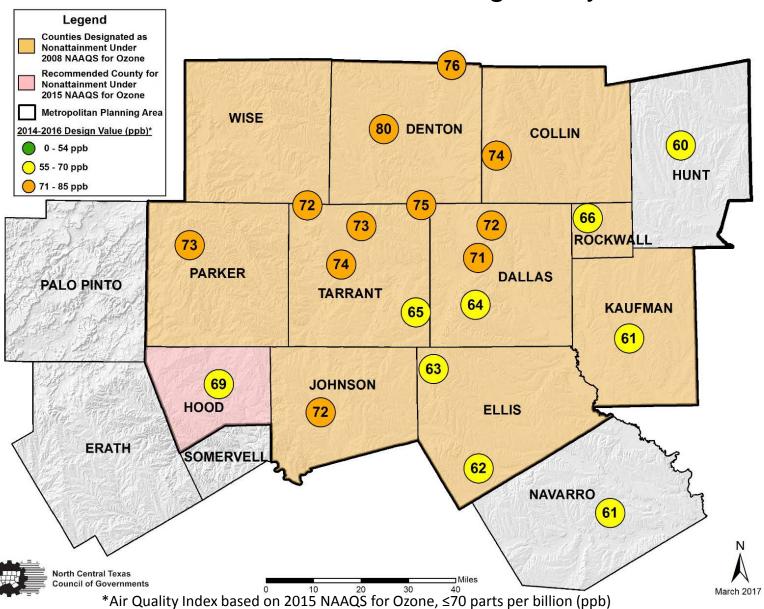
Requires Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to Set National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for 6 Criteria Pollutants:

```
Carbon Monoxide (CO)
Lead (Pb)
Nitrogen Oxides (NO<sub>X</sub>)
Ozone (O<sub>3</sub>)
Particulate Matter (PM)
Sulfur Dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>)
```

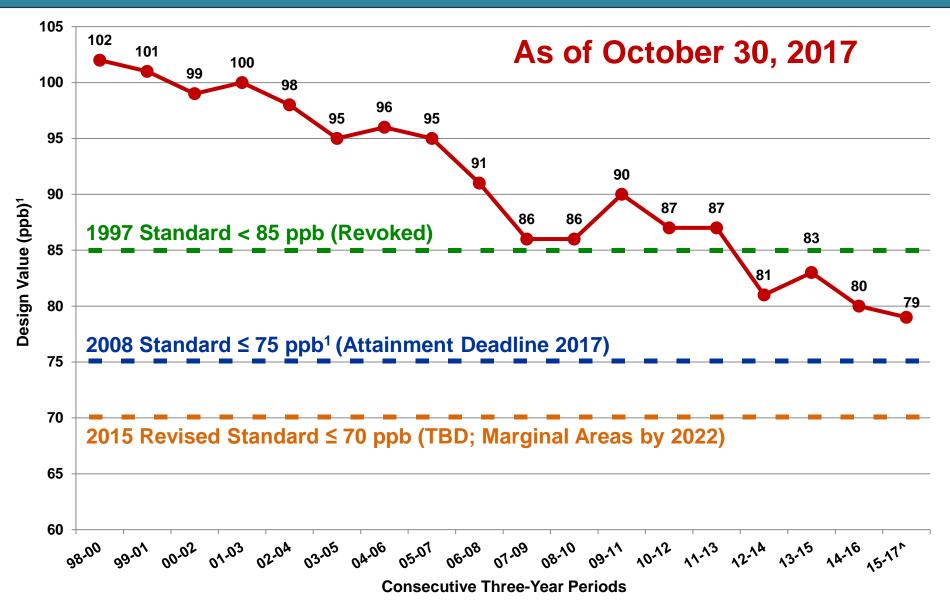
EPA Must Complete a Review of NAAQS Every 5 Years

#### AIR QUALITY PLANNING AREA

#### Ozone Nonattainment Area & Regulatory Monitors



#### **EIGHT-HOUR OZONE HISTORICAL TRENDS**

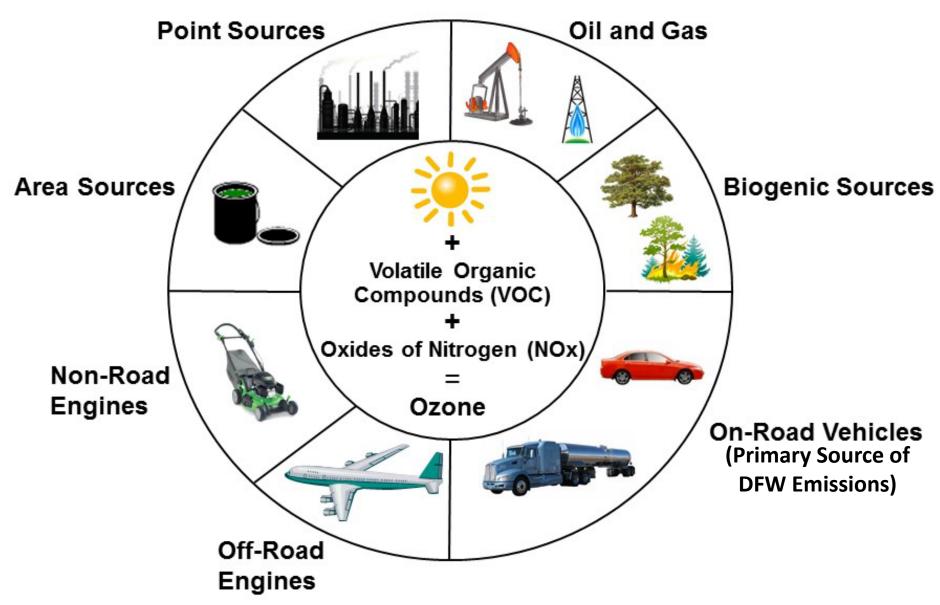


<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Attainment Goal - According to the US EPA National Ambient Air Quality Standards, attainment is reached when, at each monitor, the *Design Value* (three-year average of the annual fourth-highest daily maximum eight-hour average ozone concentration) is equal to or less than 70 parts per billion (ppb).

^Not a full year of data

Source: NCTCOG TR Dept

#### **OZONE FORMATION**



#### NONATTAINMENT REQUIREMENTS

New Source Review Permit Program

Potential for Pollution Control Requirements or Operational Restrictions on Companies or Businesses

#### State Implementation Plan (SIP) Required

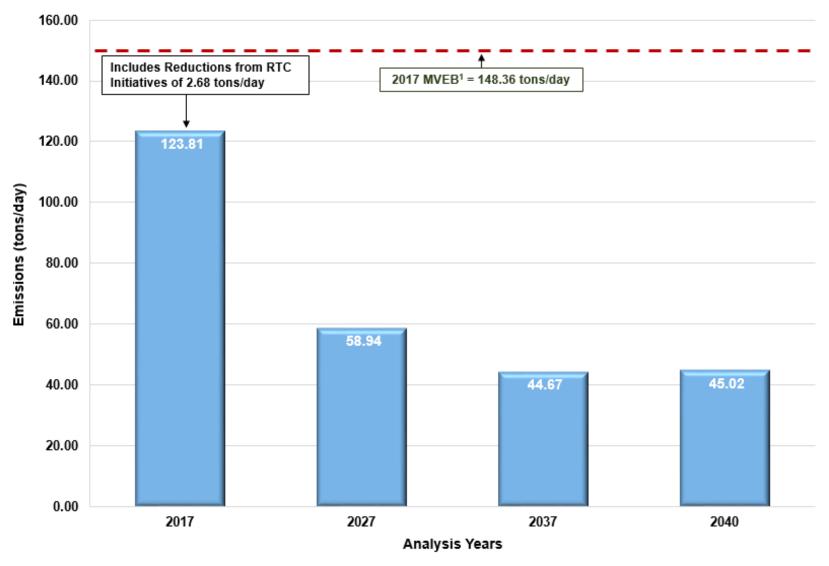
- Develop On-Road Mobile Source Emissions Inventories
- Implement Local <u>Voluntary</u> Emissions-Reduction Projects/Programs

#### **Transportation Conformity Required**

- Evaluate Emissions of Future Transportation System
   Against SIP
  - Ensure Federal Funding Available for Transportation

#### 2016 DFW CONFORMITY RESULTS

#### Oxides of Nitrogen (NO<sub>X</sub>) Emission Results`



#### SEVEN AIR QUALITY EMPHASIS AREAS



Strategies
Designed
for Air
Quality

Strategies
Designed
for
Mobility

#### **Mobility Strategies Include:**

Transportation System Management wing it
Travel Demand Management



#### **EXISTING AIR QUALITY INITIATIVES**

Air Quality Communication Program

Air Quality Demonstration Program



Idle-Free School Zones

Air Quality Enforcement Program

Air Quality Partnerships & Collaborations

**Alternative Fuel Corridors** 

Air Quality Regional Policies

Air Quality Technology Improvements

~\$159.2 Million Awarded Since 2006

Clean Technologies Revolving Loan

Volkswagen Settlement????







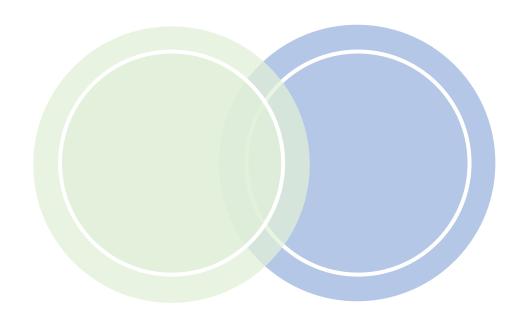








# Natural Environment Screening in Mobility 2045



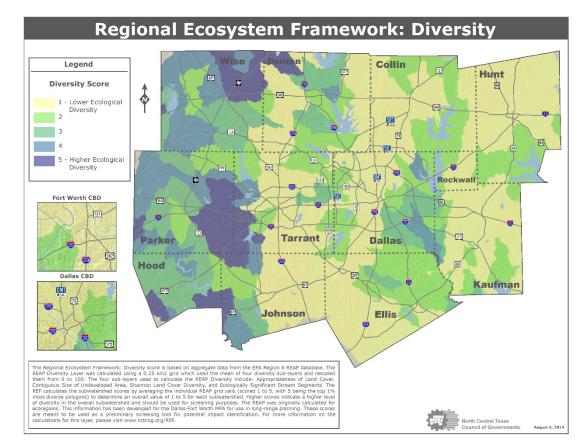
Kate Zielke, Senior Transportation Planner

## Mobility 2040 Method

**NEPAssist** 

NCTCOG Regional Ecosystem Framework

Threatened, endangered species; potential impacts, mitigation strategies separate



www.nctcog.org/REF

## Goals for Revising Method

#### Identify...

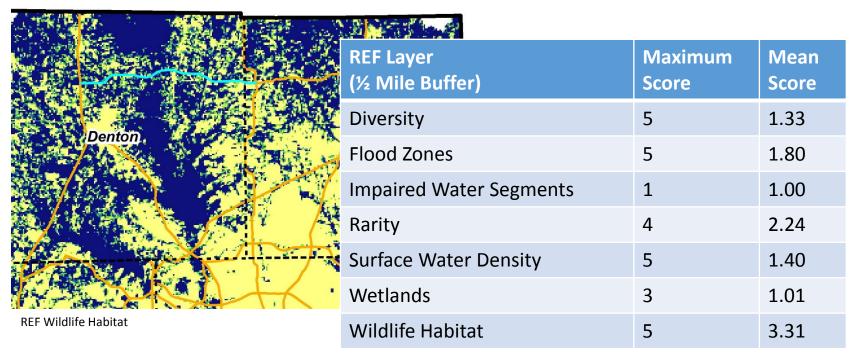
- 1. Resources facing greatest potential effects
- 2. Subwatersheds facing greatest potential effects
- 3. Agencies for environmental coordination guiding future MPO work

#### Integrate...

- 1. Strategies for minimizing, mitigating
- 2. Threatened & endangered species (from US Fish & Wildlife Service's IPaC tool)

## Proposed REF Method

## REF grid-level data Restricted to natural environment



Ultimately low, medium, high designation

## Proposed REF Method

#### **Questions:**

Maximum vs. average score?

Buffer size?

#### Pro:

REF includes data not easily replicated (contiguous size undeveloped area, Shannon land cover diversity, vegetation rarity...)

#### Con:

Layers that aggregate data limit ability to identify resources affected, agencies with whom to coordinate (Diversity, Wildlife Habitat)

## Proposed Multiple Data Source Method

Supplement REF grid-level data with raw data (parks, Ecologically Significant Stream Segments...)

#### Pro:

Provides ability to tease out potential effects, agencies with whom to consult

#### Cons:

Actual alignment unknown
Limits ability to identify subwatersheds facing
greatest effect

## Minimization, Mitigation Strategies

- Loss of habitat
- Fragmentation of habitat
- Erosion
- Sedimentation
- Stormwater runoff, pollutants
- Alteration of hydrological flows
- Removal of wetlands
- Reduced flood storage capacity
- Increased velocities
- Raised flood water levels
- Disturbance of protected species

## Natural Environment Screening

#### **Seeking feedback:**

Natural Environment Screening method

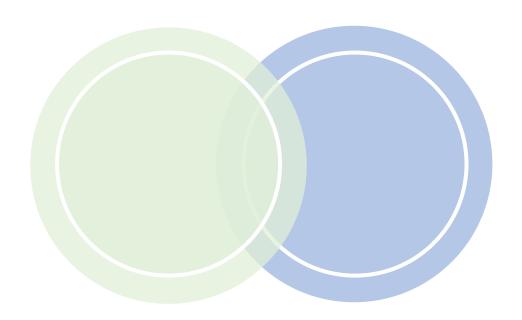
Minimization, mitigation strategies

### **Environmental Coordination Goal**

### Seeking partnerships to...

- Create continuity with transportation partners
- Overcome temporal disconnect between planning, construction

# Environmental Justice in Mobility 2045



Kate Zielke, Senior Transportation Planner

### **Environmental Justice in Transportation**

- Address any disproportionately high & adverse effect
- Ensure full & fair participation in transportation decision-making
- Prevent the denial of, reduction in, or significant delay in the receipt of benefits by minority & lowincome populations

www.nctcog.org/ej

## Demographic Profile

Environmental Justice (EJ)	2000 Decennial Census		2006-2010 ACS Estimates*		2011-2015 ACS Estimates	
Groups	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Total Minority</b>	2,121,346	40.82%	2,988,753	48.21%	3,495,535	51.22%
Low Income	549,051	10.74%	817,184	13.39%	982,780	14.59%

<sup>\*</sup>In 2010, the Decennial Census discontinued reporting on low-income populations. This data is now only available through the American Community Survey.

### **Environmental Justice Policies**

**EJ3-001:** Evaluate the benefits & burdens of transportation policies, programs, & plans to prevent disparate impacts & improve the decision-making process, resulting in a more equitable system.

**EJ3-002:** Balance transportation investment across the region to provide equitable improvements

**PI3-001:** Meet federal & state requirements to ensure all individuals have full & fair access to provide input on the transportation decision-making process.

### **Environmental Justice Policies**

**PI3-003:** Use strategic outreach & communication efforts to seek out & consider the needs of those traditionally underserved by the transportation planning process.

**PI3-005:** Provide education to the public & encourage input & engagement from all residents on the transportation system & the transportation decisionmaking process.

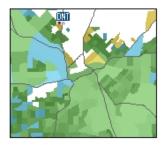
### **EJ-Related Initiatives**

- Technical support for partners, including Environmental Justice Index
- MTP EJ analysis
- Tracking demographic trends
- Project prioritization
- Access North Texas
- Regional Toll Analysis
- Education/outreach for air quality programs
- Infrastructure to reduce diesel idling

Environmental Justice Index

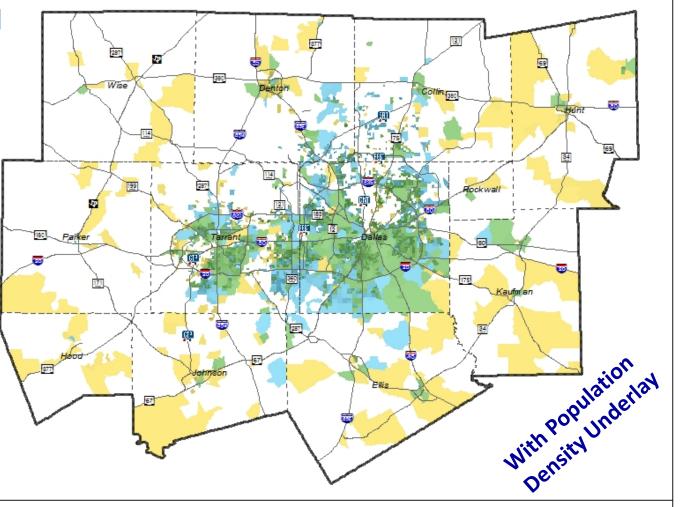
Central Business Districts

Dallas

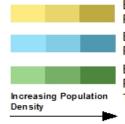


Fort Worth





#### Legend



Block Groups Above Regional Percentage: Low Income

Block Groups Above Regional Percentage: Total Minority

Block Groups Above Regional Percentage: Low Income and Total Minority

MPA Boundary

Block Groups At or Below Regional Percentage: Low Income and Total Minority Counties

....

Highways



North Central Texas
Council of Governments

March 27, 2017

0 5 10 20 Miles

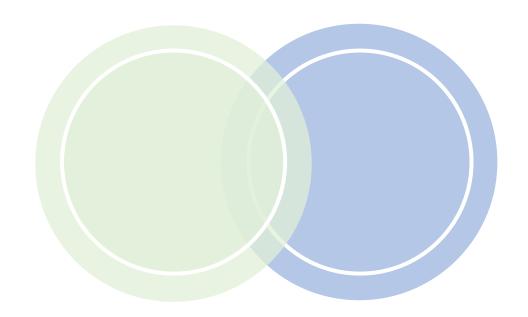
Source: 2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

44

### MTP EJ Analysis

- Number of jobs accessible by auto
- Number of jobs accessible by transit
- Number of jobs accessible within biking/walking distance
- Percent of lane miles congested
- Average time to travel 20 miles
- Percent of population within 30 minutes of university or shopping
- Percent of population within 15 minutes of hospital

# Sustainable Planning in Denton Greenbelt

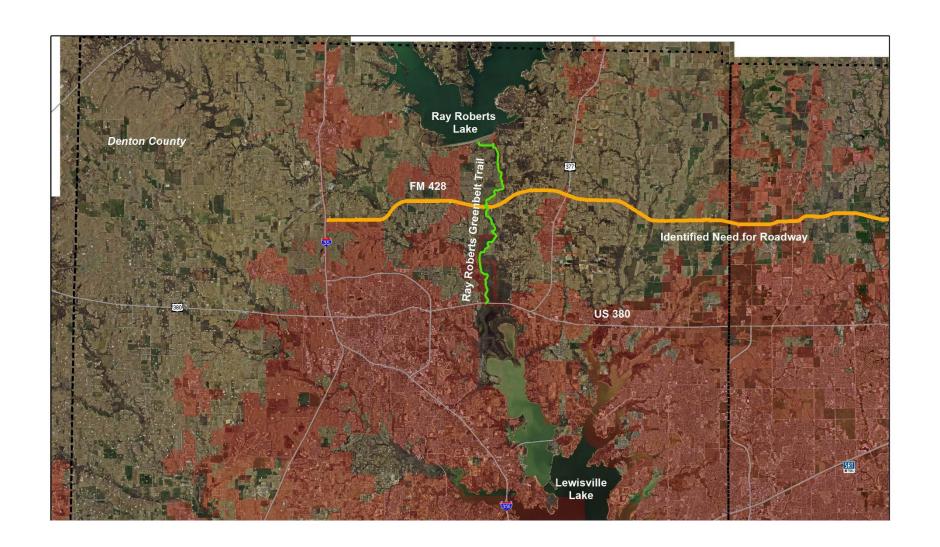


Kate Zielke, Senior Transportation Planner

## **Identifying Transportation Need**

County	2000 Population	2010 Population	2040 Population (Forecasted)	Percent Increase 2010-2040
Denton	432,976	662,614	1,241,681	87.39%
Collin	491,675	782,341	1,560,421	99.46%
Dallas	2,218,899	2,368,139	3,357,469	41.78%
Tarrant	1,446,219	1,809,034	3,094,649	71.07%
Region	5,197,317	6,417,724	10,676,844	66.36%

## **Identified Need for Roadway**



## PEL Feasibility Study

### Plans for feasibility study:

- Assess transportation needs
- Identify transportation solutions
- Preliminary-level review of the affected environment
- Incorporate sustainability & environmental stewardship best practices recommended by Federal Highway Administration sustainability tool, INVEST



www.sustainablehighways.org/

### **FHWA INVEST Tool**

The INVEST tool is used to address the economic, social, & environmental sustainability of transportation projects.

### Goals:

- Reduce impacts to natural environment
- Increase social & economic benefits



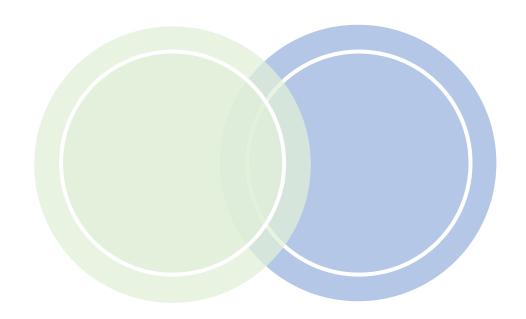
### Stakeholder Engagement

- Stakeholder meetings to identify sustainability & environmental stewardship needs in the Denton Greenbelt
- Representatives from:
  - City of Dallas
  - City of Denton
  - Cross Timbers Equestrian
     Trails Association
  - Greenbelt Alliance
  - Lake Ray RobertsEquestrian Trails Association

- Texas Parks & Wildlife Department
- Upper Trinity Regional Water
- District
- US Army Corps of Engineers
- Venable Ranch

Seeking transportation stakeholders

# Quantifying the Benefits of Environmental Stewardship

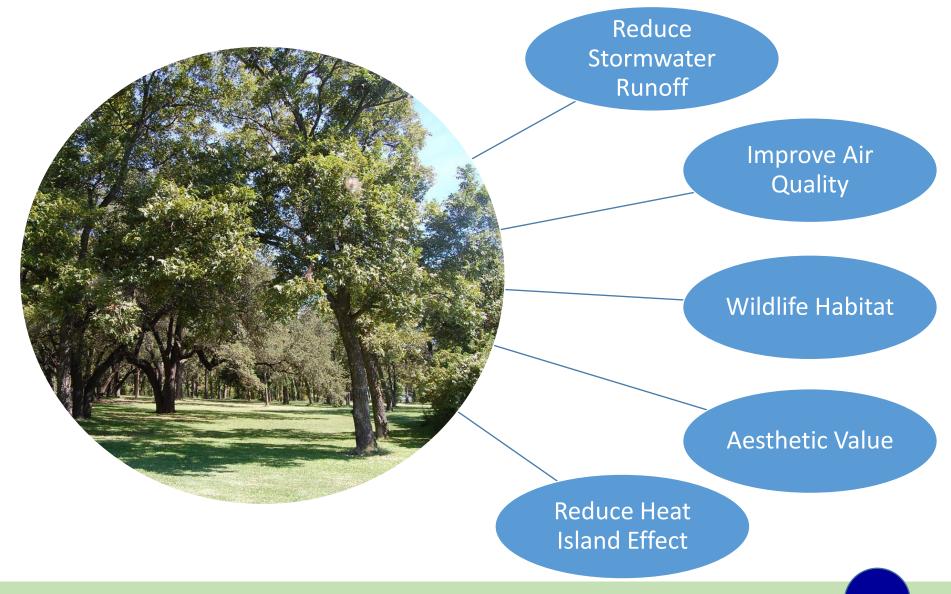


Amanda Long-Rodriguez, Transportation Planner

### Mitigation of Environmental Impacts

- To avoid, minimize, rectify, reduce, or compensate for the environmental impact
- Necessary as transportation projects can have a negative impact on the environment
- Often seen as a cost
- Benefits are not easily captured
  - Public goods
  - e.g., Trees

### **Environmental Benefits**



## Quantifying the Benefits of Environmental Stewardship Tool

### What is it

A decision-making tool that identifies the benefits & return on investment that result from engaging in non-regulatory mitigation activities

### Purpose

- Assist political subdivisions in reducing the burden that transportation-related infrastructure places on the environment.
- Help political subdivisions gain benefits from nonregulatory mitigation

## Quantifying the Benefits of Environmental Stewardship Tool

Decision Making Tool will identify

Transportation impacts three Environmental

Systems:

Open Space/ Natural Area

Stormwater/ Water Pollution Non-Jurisdictional Waters

**Environmental Impacts** 

**Environmental Impacts** 

**Environmental Impacts** 

Mitigation Activities

Mitigation Activities

Mitigation Activities

**Ecosystem Services** 

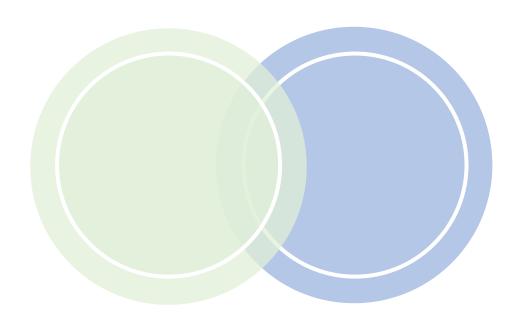
**Ecosystem Services** 

**Ecosystem Services** 

## Information on Value of Ecosystem Services Seeking Committee Members

- Consultant Selection Committee
  - Reviewing & selecting qualified proposals
  - Must be public entities
- Project Review Committee
  - Assist NCTCOG staff with guidance & technical review of the selected firm
  - Can be any entity with expertise in the three environmental systems

## Environmental Stewardship Program



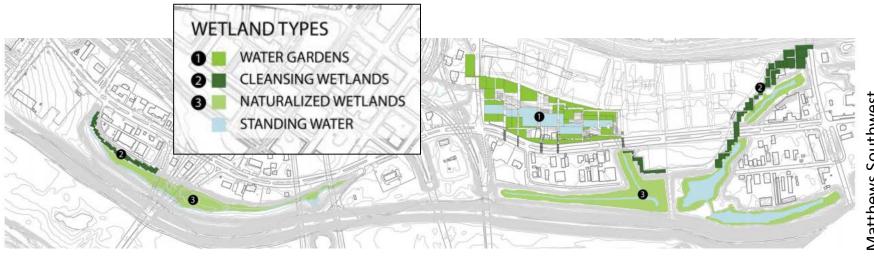
Nathan Drozd, Senior Transportation Planner

## **RTC-Approved Projects**

Project	Funding	Category			
Eastern Subregion					
Southwest Water Gardens	\$350,000	Engineering			
NeighborWoods	\$300,000	Trees			
Western Subregion					
Lancaster/Hemphill-Lamar	\$200,000	Trees			
Lake Worth Mitigation (now Zoo Creek Project)	\$200,000	Engineering			
Regional					
Education Campaign	\$100,000	Education			
GIS-Based Tree Tracker	\$100,000	Software			

### Proposed Dallas Water Gardens

- Preliminary design
- Old Trinity River Channel
- Wetlands & wetland treatments
- Flood control, water quality, public space
- Public access to wetlands, aquatic features, boardwalk



## Zoo Creek Project

- Bacteria & sediment reduction program
- Zoo Creek-Clear Fork Trinity River oxbow area
- Engineering design possibilities
  - Sedimentation, trash fore-bay
  - Dredging oxbow
  - Hydraulic infrastructure to manage flows
- In-situ natural treatment, outdoor education, recreation



ity of Fort Worl



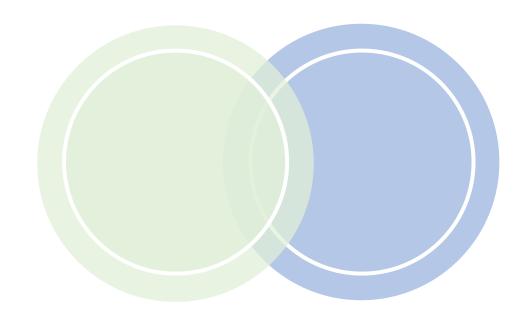
y of Fort Worth

## **Education Campaign**

- Mitigation focus
- Workshop for developers, builders minimizing impacts to streams, wetlands
- Webinar for mitigation bankers seeking transportation partners

www.nctcog.org/trans/environmentalstewardship/

# Follow-Up to Mitigation Assessment



Kate Zielke, Senior Transportation Planner

### Wetland & Stream Mitigation Assessment

- Completed 2016
- Supply of Compensatory Mitigation Credits
- Demand for Compensatory Mitigation Credits
   Mobility 2040 Estimates
- Potential Mitigation Sites
- Recommendations & Action Environmental Stewardship Program Education Campaign

www.nctcog.org/traces/documents/WhitePaper.pdf

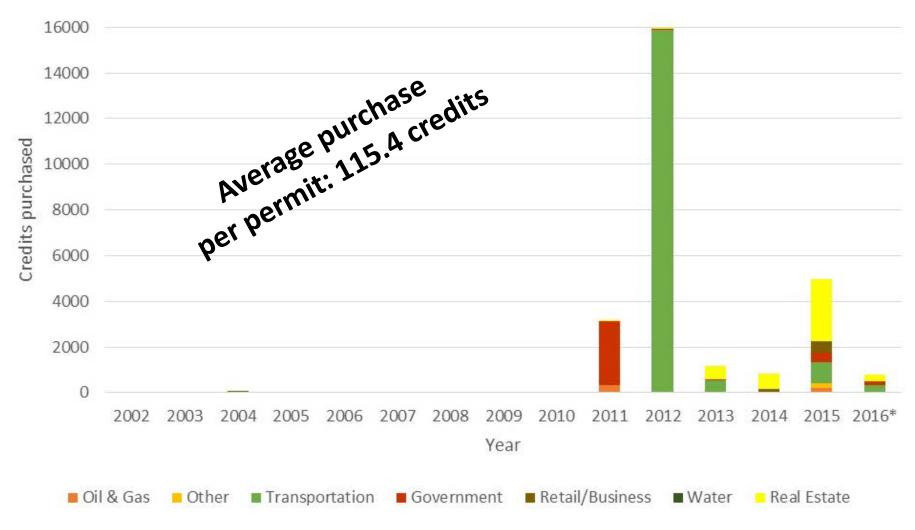
#### Legend **Perennial In-Channel Stream Credits** Sub-basin (HUC8) **Estimated Availability** Ecoregions Number of credits 0 **Denton** 121 413.82 Collin -jap 1.050.30 380 This map does not differentiate between Wise primary, secondary, and tertiary service areas. Perennial in-channel stream credits are those generated by work on Roc channel condition, 199 in-stream condition, and hydrologic condition. Available credits are those that have been 180 released but not yet withdrawn. The numbers on this map do not CTP account for pre-sales of credits that have 360 175 **Parker** not been recorded in Dallas RIBITS. Data were Kaufman acquired from the RIBITS database and 287 are current as of August Hood 28, 2017. August 2017 Update **Ellis Johnson** August 29, 2017

Hunt

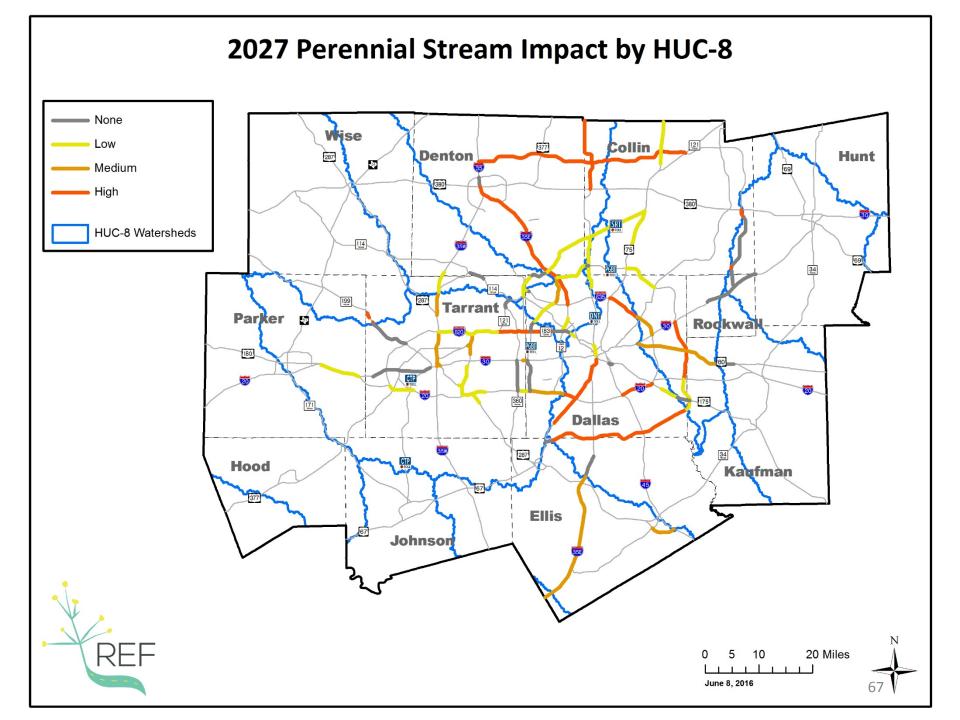
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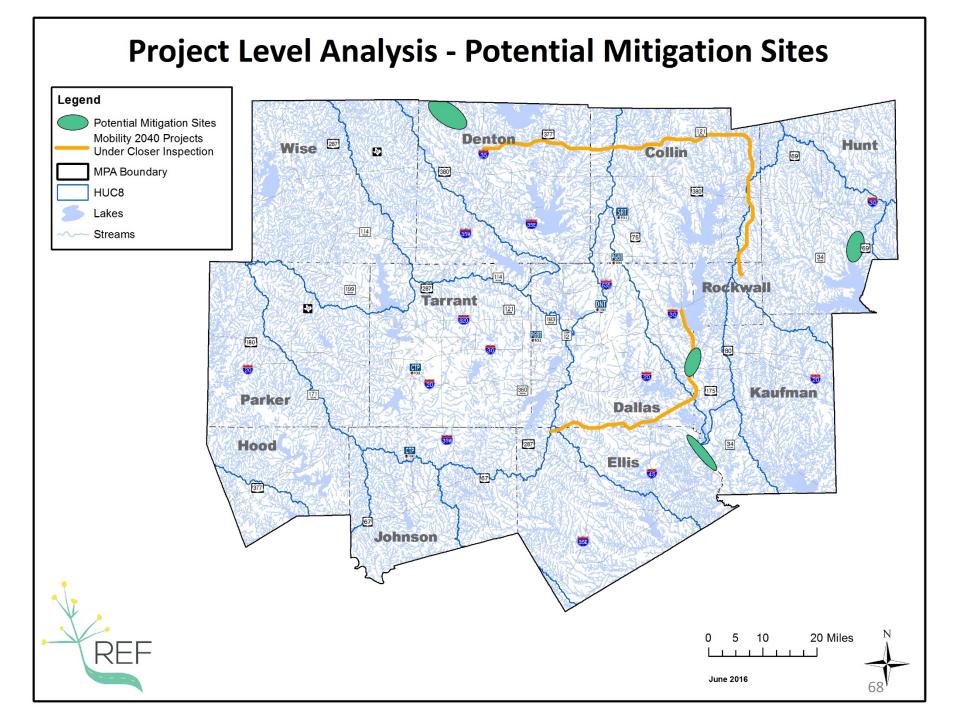
34

### Stream Credits Purchased



Data source: USACE Regulatory In-lieu Fee & Bank Information Tracking System

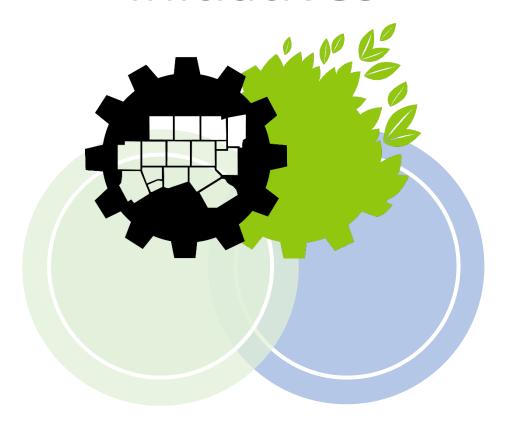




### Recommendations & Action

Recommendation	Action	Timing
Address supply/demand	Workshop with developers, builders on how to avoid, minimize impacts	Completed – September 2017
	Webinar with mitigation bankers	Tentatively February 2018
Conduct analysis with each long-range plan	Planning for Mobility 2045	Plan approval in June 2018
Seek mitigation in primary service area	Impacted by TxDOT method for acquiring mitigation credits	No current plans to address

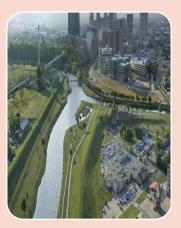
# Environment & Development Initiatives



Derica Peters, Senior Planner Tamara Cook, Manager

### **Environment & Development Department Focus Areas**











Materials Management

Regional Landfill Capacity

Recycling

Waste to Energy

Illegal Dumping

Technical Resources Watershed Management

Stormwater Management

Water Quality

Trinity River Common Vision

Flood Risk Reduction Natural Resources

Water Supply Energy

Open Space Planning/
Preservation

**Public Works** 

Construction Standards

**Block Grants** 

Wastewater Roundtable Development Excellence

Principles of Development Excellence

Building Codes

**Technical Tools** 



Integrated system of development, design, and construction strategies to address:

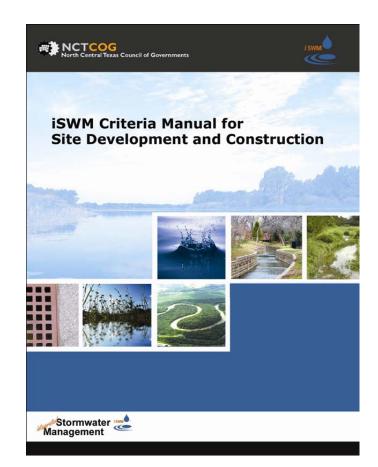
- Water Quality
- Streambank Protection
- Flood Mitigation and Conveyance



- Comprehensive stormwater management design manual developed by NCTCOG and more than 60 participating public entities
- Relevant for private and public development project sites as well as public rights-of-way
- Seventeen local entities now require iSWM for design
- Some form of low impact design and/or postconstruction controls is now required in all 50 states by EPA



- Part of a larger urban design initiative
- Provides a "greener" community and improved water quality
- Addresses regulatory program feedback and helps with permit compliance
- Helps with undersized existing drainage systems
- Provides a consistent framework and NCTCOG training opportunities





### **TriSWM**

Available for use by cities, counties, engineers, private developers, contractors and transportation agencies in the planning and design of stormwater management for streets, roads, and highways.

Provides planning and design guidance and a framework for incorporating effective and environmentally sensitive stormwater management practices into the street and roadway project development process and to encourage a greater uniformity in developing plans for stormwater management systems that meet the following goals:

- Provide safe driving conditions
- Minimize downstream flood risk to people and properties
- Minimize downstream bank and channel erosion
- Reduce pollutants in stormwater runoff to protect water quality

Strategies to aid local governments and the private sector to:

- Design roads and highways with stormwater impacts in mind
- Address and mitigate the adverse impacts of development on runoff
- Implement stormwater controls to meet the TriSWM planning and design approach

#### **Certified iSWM Cities**

- Denton (Silver)
- · Frisco (Silver)
- Kennedale (Silver)
- Grand Prairie (Silver)
- Fort Worth (Silver)

#### **Founding iSWM Communities**

- Azle
- Hurst
- Benbrook
- Lakeside
- Dallas Duncanville
- Mansfield
- Fort Worth
- Northlake
- Roanoke Southlake
- · Glenn Heights · Grand Prairie
- University Park

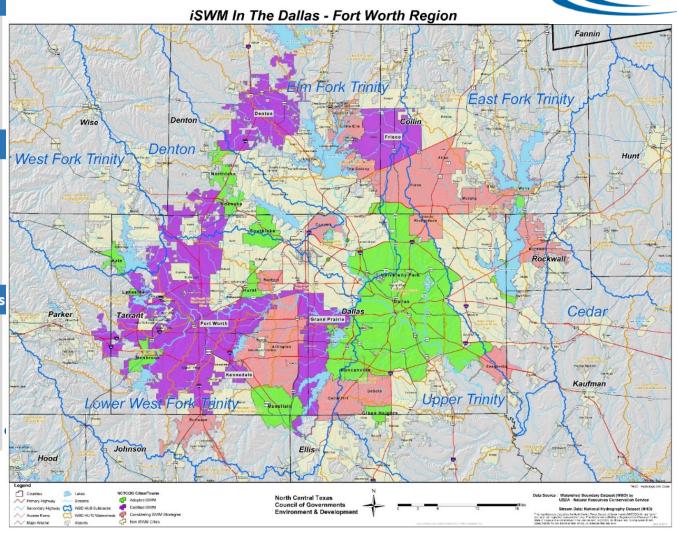
#### Cities considering iSWM Strategies

- Allen
- Arlington
- - Bedford Richardson
- Burleson
- Rockwall

Murphy

Plano

- Cedar Hill Coppell
- Seagoville · The Colony
- DeSoto
- Wylie · Little Elm · Others?



### 16-County Watershed Initiative

Developed through partnership with Transportation Department, Environment and Development, Texas Floodplain Management Association, & local county governments.

## Menu of Regionally Recommended Standards in Watershed Management For New Development Within County Regulated Areas

- Design infrastructure to fully developed conditions 8.
   with approved land-use maps if data is available
  - 8. Define written operation and maintenance responsibilities
- Begin protection at the most upstream end of the watershed above Federal Emergency Management Agency Limit of Detail Study
- 9. Size conveyance of street and storm systems adequately to safely convey traffic

3. Maintain unfilled valley storage areas

- 10. Create stream buffers and preserve open space; limit clearing and grading
- 4. Protect against and reduce erosive velocities
- 11. Consider regional (on or off stream) detention incentives

5. Match pre-developed site runoffs

- 12. Implement Conservation and/or Cluster Development incentives
- 6. Verify/require adequate downstream conveyance
- 13. Encourage low impact development techniques and/or green infrastructure
- 7. Require freeboard from fully developed (if data is available) and changing watershed conditions

## North Central Texas Green Infrastructure Guidebook

- Made in partnership with Transportation Department
- This guide focuses transportation-relevant green infrastructure elements:
  - 1. Energy-efficient light-emitting diode (LED) and renewable-energy lighting
  - 2. Recycled construction materials in roadways and trails
  - 3. Cool pavements
  - 4. Green trail materials
  - 5. Green stormwater infrastructure techniques such as permeable pavement and bioretention, and trees



www.nctcog.org/greeninfrastructure

## North Central Texas Green Infrastructure Guidebook

Developed local, state, and national case studies to examine:

- Long-term cost effectiveness
- Community improvement
- Environmental impacts



Location of Green Infrastructure Case Studies

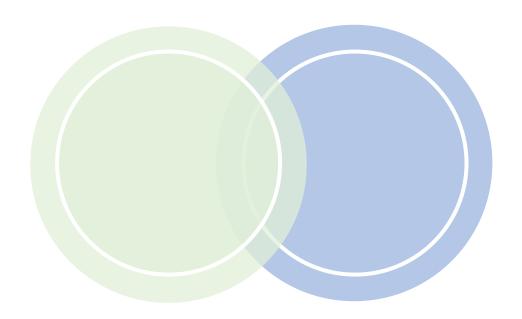
## Sustainable Public Right of Ways (SPROW)

Hosts education forums and site visits for engineering and planning professionals

- Next scheduled for December 4, 2017
- Topics will include:
  - Municipal LED Retrofitting, City of Frisco
  - Complete Streets Policy Adoption and Implementation, City of Weatherford
  - Integration of Green Infrastructure in University of Texas Arlington Green at College Park
  - Visiting Various Sites in Dallas



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