

MEETING SUMMARY

Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee

November 20, 2024

The Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) met in the Transportation Council Room at the North Central Texas Council of Governments at 2:00 pm on November 20, 2024.

See Page 5 for meeting attendance.

1. Welcome and Introductions – Anthony White, Vice Chair, TxDOT Fort Worth District

Anthony White welcomed attendees and introduced himself as the Vice Chair of BPAC filling in for Heather Dowell as Chair who was not able to attend. The August 2024 meeting summary was accepted as submitted.

2. Local Community Updates – Various Community and BPAC Members

a. Addison Quorum Dr Bike Lane Pilot Project / Park(ing) Day Event – Joe Pack, Town of Addison

The Town of Addison, in partnership with NCTCOG, conducted a pilot bike lane project and Parking Day event on Quorum Drive in anticipation of a future roadway reconfiguration project to install permanent bike lanes. The bike lanes will provide access to the future Addison Silver Line Commuter rail station. The pilot project included temporary bike lanes, painted barriers and physical barriers at the Addison Circle roundabout, and a survey for community feedback.

Town staff are still in the process of reviewing public feedback but overall, cyclists appreciated safety measures while some drivers expressed some inconvenience. The Town staff will refine the final bike lane design based on community input.

This presentation can be found on the BPAC website at: www.nctcog.org/BPAC.

b. Hi Line Connector Mid-Block Crossing – Philip Hiatt Haigh, The Loop Dallas

The City of Dallas implemented the first mid-intersection trail crossing on Oak Lawn Ave as part of the Hi Line Connector trail (a trail connecting Katy Trail to the Design District). The key feature of this crossing is the advanced signal technology which includes bike-specific signals and separated traffic phases to ensure safety. The signalization of the crossing prioritizes the safety of the most vulnerable roadway users, the bicyclist and pedestrian using the trail, while balancing the amount of vehicle traffic.

This presentation can be found on the BPAC website at: www.nctcog.org/BPAC.

c. 911 "What 3 Words" Signage – Phil Harris, City of Grand Prairie

The City of Grand Prairie has implemented What3Words signage on parts of the city trail system. What3Words is an application used by the city's emergency services to locate those reporting emergencies. What3Words assigns a location code, three random words, to each 10-foot square of a grid around the world. The application is free and available to anyone to download. The benefit of the What3Words system is that it provides precise locations to areas on and beyond the trail and enhances emergency response coordination. City staff plan to educate the community about this technology.

This presentation can be found on the BPAC website at: www.nctcog.org/BPAC.

d. TXDOT’s Transportation Alternative Plans and Programs – Terrence McAllister, TxDOT Fort Worth District

TxDOT is developing a Statewide Active Transportation Plan. The goal of the plan is to improve safety, comfort, accessibility, and enhance connectivity. The plan also seeks to address community needs, support economic vitality and promote healthy communities.

TxDOT is also in Round 2 of developing District Bike Plans. The plans will analyze the needs for bicycle infrastructure on the state highway system and prioritize locations for improvements.

Terrence announced the funding opportunities under the Transportation Alternatives Program (2027–29) providing an overview of eligibility, project categories, application process, and timeline for submittal and review.

Terrence informed the committee of the upcoming bicycle and pedestrian workshops and highlighted TxDOT’s environmental credits for bike lane projects.

This presentation can be found on the BPAC website at: www.nctcog.org/BPAC.

e. Upcoming Events – Anthony White, BPAC Vice-Chair.

This presentation can be found on the BPAC website at: www.nctcog.org/BPAC.

3. City of Arlington Safe Streets Plan – Jana Wentzel, City of Arlington

The City of Arlington has developed a comprehensive safety action plan, “Safe Streets Arlington”, aimed at preventing traffic-related deaths and injuries. The planning process was data driven and included robust community engagement. The plan identifies a Vehicle and Motorcycle High Injury Network (HIN) and, uniquely, a Pedestrian and Bicycle HIN. “Safe Streets Arlington” also establishes an implementation plan, and a safety toolkit centered around the Safe System Approach framework to address traffic safety issues identified. The plan was scheduled to go for adoption by the City Council on December 10, 2024.

This presentation can be found on the BPAC website at: www.nctcog.org/BPAC.

4. Custom Cycle Lane Separators – Daniel Herrig, City of Richardson and Andrew Howard, Team Better Block

The City of Richardson recently improved the bike lanes on Greenville Ave. by implementing pre-cast concrete bike lane separators. The city staff investigated many options for bike lane separation but ultimately selected pre-cast concrete separators due to the cost, durability, and safety benefits. The cycling community has responded positively to the upgrades, but there are still some issues with cars parking illegally in the bike lane and buses damaging the separators due to wide turns. Throughout the design and procurement process the city worked with Team Better Block to efficiently find the most cost-effective solution.

This presentation can be found on the BPAC website at: www.nctcog.org/BPAC.

5. Group Discussion

Questions:

- How is bicycle theft addressed in your community?
- Does your city have a program for bike registration and/or theft recovery?

- Would your city be interested in participating in a national bike registration database to improve the rate of recovery?

Group responses:

City of Richardson's Police Department partners with Bike Index, a national bike registration platform. With the platform users can register their bicycle by serial number. If the bicycle is stolen, the users can mark their bike stolen on the website. The registry provides proof of ownership so if the bicycle is recovered, it can be returned to its owner. Other cities were amenable to joining a national registry so that there could be regional coordination.

City of Dallas staff mentioned the importance of bicycle parking. The city is working to improve the parking code so bicycle parking locations are more well defined. The staff also wants to encourage developers to create safe, visible and quality bicycle parking.

6. NCTCOG Updates

a. Status of Transportation Alternatives Funded Projects – Daniel Snyder

Daniel informed the committee of the status of programmed transportation alternatives projects pending obligations. Federal funds awarded through NCTCOG transportation alternatives call for projects have a three-year timeframe to be obligated or the funds may lapse.

Projects identified at risk of lapsing are the City of Arlington's Crow Leadership Academy SRTS Project, Thornton Elementary School SRTS Project, and Webb Elementary School SRTS Project and the City of Dallas's Ross Avenue Shared-Use Path. A project potentially at risk of lapsing is City of Fort Worth's Oakland-Miller Safe Streets.

This presentation can be found on the BPAC website at: www.nctcog.org/BPAC.

b. Upcoming TxDOT 2025 Statewide Call for Projects – Daniel Snyder

Daniel informed the committee about the upcoming TxDOT 2025 Statewide Transportation Alternatives (TA) Call for Projects and the NCTCOG TA Call for Projects which closed in January. Daniel explained the difference in eligibility requirements and funding available. He also provided a high-level overview of the TxDOT TA Call for Project's project categories and provided a timeline for both calls.

This presentation can be found on the BPAC website at: www.nctcog.org/BPAC.

c. 2025 BPAC Representative Nomination Process – Catherine Richardson

Catherine informed the committee that NCTCOG staff would be contacting Surface Transportation Technical Committee members to nominate a BPAC representative for 2025. The current BPAC member for each agency will continue unless NCTCOG is contacted to designate a new representative.

This presentation can be found on the BPAC website at: www.nctcog.org/BPAC.

d. Separated Bike Lanes on Higher Speed Roadways – Catherine Richarson

Catherine provided a high-level overview of FHWA's "Separated Bike Lanes on Higher Speed Roadways: A Tool Kit and Guide." The guide which was released in June 2024 informs best practices to plan, design, and maintain buffers and vertical separations for higher speed arterials with bicycle lanes. The guide synthesizes current research on vertical physical separation and identifies key elements for various forms of vertical separation. The guide can be found at:

https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bicycle_pedestrian/publications/separated_bike_lanes/#intro

This presentation can be found on the BPAC website at: www.nctcog.org/BPAC.

7. **Other Business**

The Vice Chair opened other business among members and received the following comments.

- Update on regional cooperative purchasing program for bikeway materials
- Halff developing the Collin County Trails Master Plan
- 511 systems capability of planning bicycle travel

NCTCOG added the Collin County Trails Master Plan to the region's tracking sheet and will work to provide updates to the committee.

After receiving no further comments, Anthony White informed the committee that the BPAC's next scheduled meeting will be held on February 19, 2025. Anthony White adjourned the meeting.

Members in Attendance at the November 20, 2024, BPAC meeting

Agency	Name
Town of Addison	Joe Pack
City of Arlington	Jana Wentzel
City of Cedar Hill	Shawn Ray
City of Cleburne	K Conner for Kenneth Overstreet
City of Coppell	Aaron Tainter
City of Dallas	Jessica Scott
City of Denton	Greg Scott
City of Euless	Duane Strawn
City of Farmers Branch	Alex Pharmakis
Town of Flower Mound	Brennon Peltier
City of Fort Worth	Armond Bryant
City of Frisco	Michael Kim
City of Garland	Matt Grubisich
City of Grand Prairie	Brett Huntsman
City of Grapevine	Kathy Nelson
City of Haltom City	Will Wiegand
City of Irving	James White
City of Keller	Cody Maberry
City of Lewisville	Sirwan Shahooie
City of Mansfield	Garett Smith
City of McKinney	Robyn Root
City of Midlothian	Heather Dowell
City of North Richland Hills	Michael Wilson
City of Plano	Jason Aprill
City of Richardson	Daniel Herrig
City of The Colony	Calvin Lehmann
City of Waxahachie	Oanh Vu
City of Weatherford	B Smith for Chad Marbut
City of Wylie	Rico Govea
Dallas County	Micah Baker for Minesha Reese
Hunt County	Kelly Brasseaux for Brian Crooks
Parker County	Cintia Oritz
Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART)	Patricio Gallo
Trinity Metro	Shawn Tubre
TxDOT, Dallas District	Rachael Twiggs
TxDOT, Fort Worth District	Anthony White

NCTCOG Staff in Attendance at the November 20, 2024 BPAC Meeting

Kevin Kokes	Jill Krauter
Catherine Richardson	Daniel Snyder