

## PUBLIC COMMENTS REPORT

### WRITTEN COMMENTS SUBMITTED BY WEBSITE, EMAIL & SOCIAL MEDIA

#### Purpose

The public comments report is in accordance with the NCTCOG Transportation Department Public Participation Process, which became effective June 1, 1994, as approved by the Regional Transportation Council (RTC), the transportation policy board for the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and amended on November 8, 2018.

This report is a compilation of general public comments submitted by members of the public from Tuesday, April 20, through Wednesday, May 19. Comments and questions are submitted for the record and can be submitted via Facebook, Twitter, fax, email and online.

This month, public comments were received on a number of topics across social media platforms and via email. Bicycle and pedestrian comments, including the opening of the celebration of the Northaven Trail, were in the majority.

In addition, comments were accepted through a new, online map tool. Users can drop a pin on a location in the region and leave a detailed comment. This month, there were four bicycle and pedestrian comments, one transit comment and 19 roadway comments. To read them, visit: <http://nctcoggis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/CrowdsourcingReporter/index.html?appid=b014e6d39b604b3ca329d9094ed1e9e2>.

#### Aviation

##### Twitter –

1. .@MassDOT, @MnDOT, @NCTCOGtrans , the Ohio UAS Center of @ODOT\_Statewide and @citybeautiful - will to work with @NASAaero to consider inclusion of AAM in transportation plans.

[https://futuretransport-news.com/nasa-to-help-local-governments-plan-for-advanced-air-mobility/?utm\\_source=twitter&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_campaign=futuretrn-news&utm\\_term=News](https://futuretransport-news.com/nasa-to-help-local-governments-plan-for-advanced-air-mobility/?utm_source=twitter&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=futuretrn-news&utm_term=News) #futuretransport #news #urbanairmobility #futuremobility #urbanmobility @NASA – Future Transport-News (@FutureTrn\_News)



## Bicycle & Pedestrian

### Email –

#### 1. John Greer

More funding needed for bus, train, biking and walking. Biking should include commuters and separate riders from cars to appeal to more people concerned with safety and nonrecreational biking. Air pollution costs health and lives while biking and walking add years of life.

### Twitter –

1. Groundbreaking for the @NorthavenTrail bridge on Saturday, May 8! We're one step closer to connecting NHT, WRC, CWC, and SoPAC trails! #DallasParks #DallasTrails – Jeff Kitner (@JeffKitner)



2. Save the date! Groundbreaking for the bridge on May 8. Let us know if you're attending!  
<https://facebook.com/events/192370712700264/> – Northaven Trail (@NorthavenTrail)

# NORTHAVEN TRAIL BRIDGE

**GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY**  
SATURDAY MAY 8 at 10am



We invite you to join Dallas Mayor Eric Johnson  
and City of Dallas Park and Recreation Department  
11231 N. Central Expressway (The southwest corner of Northaven Road and southbound frontage road of US75)

A partnership with the City of Dallas, Dallas County, North Central Texas Council of Governments, TxDOT & Friends of Northaven Trail. Project is located in City Council Districts 10, 11 and 13 & County Commissioner Districts 1 and 2.



3. Big news in the neighborhood! Walk or bike over on Saturday, May 8! #DallasParks #DallasTrails – Jeff Kitner (@JeffKitner)

## Something big is happening your neighborhood!




We invite you to walk or bike over and join us for the  
Northaven Trail Bridge Groundbreaking Ceremony  
Saturday May 8 at 10am  
11231 N. Central Expressway (The southwest corner of Northaven Road and southbound frontage road of US75)

A partnership with the City of Dallas, Dallas County, North Central Texas Council of Governments, TxDOT & Friends of Northaven Trail. Project is located in City Council Districts 10, 11 and 13 & County Commissioner Districts 1 and 2.




4. Bridge groundbreaking on Saturday at 10 am! – Northaven Trail (@NorthavenTrail)



5. Yesterday's groundbreaking was so much fun! Thanks to all of elected officials, board members, and others who helped get the project kicked off. @CityOfDallas @DallasParkRec @TxDOT @TxDOTDallas @DallasCountyTx @NCTCOGtrans – Northaven Trail (@NorthavenTrail)



6. Take a ride on the Preston Ridge Trail! This 6.2-mile-long trail through Plano runs north from Ridgeview Drive down to Eldorado Park: <https://vimeo.com/377584525> @NCTCOGtrans #loveplano #recreateresponsibly - Plano Parks & Rec (@PlanoParksRec)



**Preston Ridge Trail**

The Preston Ridge trail is a fourteen-and-a-half-mile, north-south concrete trail that begins in Dallas and...

[vimeo.com](https://vimeo.com/377584525)

7. Travel Demand Management addresses travel behavior by reducing the number of cars on roadways through the promotion of alternatives to driving alone. Do you walk, bike, carpool or ride transit? Guess what? You're part of TDM! Earn rewards here: <https://tryparkingit.com> #TDMWeek – NCTCOGTransportation (@NCTCOGtrans)



Is there some way we can further encourage or incentivize our local businesses to provide bicycle parking? I'd love to use my bike more, but there aren't any secure facilities to lock my bike to at most destinations. – Stephen Rausch (@StephenJRausch)

Thanks for your patience with us! One way to encourage local businesses to provide more bike parking is to contact the BPAC representative from the city you are in to let them know you would like to see more bike parking near essential destinations. 1/2 – NCTCOGTransportation (@NCTCOGtrans)

You can find BPAC representatives by following this link and selecting "Roster:" <https://bit.ly/3ffW5Nx>. Hope this helps, but feel free to reach out if not! 2/2 – NCTCOGTransportation (@NCTCOGtrans)

Awesome! Thank you so much! – Stephen Rausch (@StephenJRausch)

### **Electric Vehicles**

#### **Twitter –**

1. Why you're going to be seeing more Electric Vehicles in North Texas with footage from @pluginamerica Drive Electric Earth Day at @ShannonBrewery, hosted by @NTXTeslaOwners and sponsored by @oncor. Watch tonight on @CBSDFW News @ 10 @NCTCOGtrans @TxETRA\_TX @MyEVJourney – Rick Bollar (@bollar)



### Programs

#### Twitter –

1. The Try Parking It program through @NCTCOGtrans is ingenious! You can join the program, and if you telecommute, you can earn rewards. Learn more at – KGV Texas (@KGBVTexas)

try parking it  
Rideshare. Record. Reward.

Try Parking It - Get Rewards for Greener Trips  
Join Try Parking It and get rewards when you walk, bike, telecommute, carpool, vanpool, take the train, ride the bus, or work a compressed ...  
[tryparkingit.com](http://tryparkingit.com)

## Project Planning

### Email –

#### 1. **Ashleigh McClendon**

The outer loop proposes route is concerning as the proposed route through established neighborhoods and also through 100+ year-old farms and ranches.

### Roadway

### Oral –

#### 1. **Mona Fields (this is an oral comment submitted via voicemail on 5/4/21)**

West of Fort Worth in the Aledo area, exit 1187 is a nightmare between 7:30 in the morning and 9 or 9:30 in the morning and again in the afternoon from about 3:30 to 6 pm.

### Email –

#### 1. **Darwin Yeary**

Dear NCTCOG Representatives,

The Weatherford Transportation Issues meeting, which is held on the last Thursday of the month, in which you referred me to, I want to report about to you.

Upon attending their last meeting in April, I was quite disappointed with some of the same complainants in which were there were back from the prior meeting that I attended. I also had reported some of the same complaints four months prior to that.

Upon asking why no explanation was given to my request, little to no answer was given. You may refer to my last e-mail to you. These are the same issues with no regard by this unaccountable panel. I will list again for your inquiry.

1. Speeding 55 to 60 MPH on Harmon St. in which is posted 35 MPH sign limit.
2. Other streets in this same area Connaways Addition, with the same problem.
3. This area with no sidewalks has many families with children, with is of no concern by this board.
4. The Mineral Wells Hwy connects with the South end of this subdivision, where Street racing into late hours at night are yet to be enforced. The Dept of Transportation location is only two blocks west of this Connaways Addition exits.
5. Motorcycle racing even at night, exceeds 90 to 100 MPH. Absolutely no "Disturbing the Peace" laws are recognized or concerned about.
6. North Main St, is State Hwy 51N, which runs thru a large residential low income area north of the Union Pacific railroad tracks. It is severely deficient toward the residents living there.

There are no protected crosswalks or Red Lite protections for Automobiles to cross over, with uncontrolled speeding by Tractor Trailers going the same speed of

automobiles, for the three miles within the Weatherford City limits.

7. Many residents feel this is a disregarded threat to them, and a discrimination issue for low income citizens who also pay Weatherford taxes.

8. The same Hwy 51N coming from the north, where the loop exist has no "Truck Route" sign routing southwest to I 20. This loop was approved and begun for Citizen's input who were expecting limited Truck traffic off of the Town Square. Instead this Loop was used primarily for "Economic Development" for new businesses. I do hope the NCTCOG will request that the Traffic Control Board of Weatherford, do the right thing for Citizen Taxpayers and their Safety and future consideration. Also hoping your board will consider a Passenger West to Los Angeles Ca. Railroute by Southern Pacific Railway. It's Depo is still at Weatherford, in need of repair.

### **Response from NCTCOG Transportation staff**

Mr. Yeary,

Thank you for contacting the NCTCOG Transportation Department.

Your input is of great importance, and your comments will be included in our monthly public comments report that is provided to both the Surface Transportation Technical Committee (STTC) and Regional Transportation Council (RTC).

Please don't hesitate to contact us with any additional comments or concerns.

### **Transit**

#### **Email –**

##### **1. John Hatler**

Request for more bus service on route 18, 25, 7 and 24 as well as more service to Alliance later into the evening in Fort Worth.

##### **2. Pamela Rambert**

Good Morning,

I hope this email finds you well.

I am reaching out today to voice my concern and opposition to proposed public transportation in DeSoto, Duncanville, Cedar Hill, and Lancaster. My family and every friend and associate I've



spoken with who leave in these cities are opposed to it. I have been a home owner in both Cedar Hill and DeSoto since 1998, so I am a vested resident and my opinion matters.

Have a blessed day and stay safe.

**Response by DeSoto city councilmember**

Hello Ms. Rambert,

Thank you for sharing your sentiments about public transportation. Currently in the City of DeSoto, we contract public transportation services with Star Transit - <https://www.startransit.org/routes/desoto/> . They have provided transportation services for the city since 2018.

Services Explanation:

[http://www.ci.desoto.tx.us/DocumentCenter/View/18082/09292020-Online-Final--DeSoto\\_STAR-Transit-east-dallas-county-Final?bidId=](http://www.ci.desoto.tx.us/DocumentCenter/View/18082/09292020-Online-Final--DeSoto_STAR-Transit-east-dallas-county-Final?bidId=)

Star Transit in the News:


<https://www.dallasnews.com/news/healthy-living/2020/03/03/transportation-options-are-increasing-for-seniors/>

<https://www.masstransitmag.com/management/press-release/21156907/star-transit-star-transit-updates-routes-services-in-east-dallas-county>

The City of DeSoto also receives federal funding through the Community Development Block Grant Program. A portion of those funds have appropriated for our a CDBG transportation program to provide taxi cab transportation for essential services to our low to moderate income residents. Senior Citizens are the primary participants in this program. Program Details: <http://www.ci.desoto.tx.us/1844/Transportation>

Thank you again for reaching out. Please feel free to contact me to share any additional details about your concerns.

**Twitter –**

1. What will happen when it's a diesel engine on Cotton Belt/Silver Line going faster (45 mph) than any speed in the area allowed for cars (35 mph)? It won't be able to stop in time. This is my fear. @dartmedia #SafetyFirst #TooFast @VisionZeroTexas @NCTCOGtrans @NCTCOG\_Official – caraathome (@) (@caraathome)

 **Doyle Rader** @DoyleRader · Apr 21  
Some kid was walking in between the tracks between Blue Line stations out in east Dallas. Train had to slam on the brakes.

2. How you drive plays a role in your fuel consumption. Speeding, aggressive and jerky driving can reduce gas mileage as much as 33% on the highway and 5% on city streets.  
#CarCareMonth #DriveEfficiently – NCTCOGTransportation (@NCTCOGtrans)



The most efficient driving habit is one involving public #transit.

It's time we as a region invest as heavily in our bike, bus, & rail networks as we do our highway infrastructure. 🚲🚌🚆 > 🏠 – Loren S. (@txbornviking)

That way we can afford the increase in the toll rate every other year, essential since we can't do anything new besides tollroads or tolled lanes here in DFW. – Garrett Trietsch (@gtrietsc)