

MINUTES

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL ONLINE INPUT OPPORTUNITY

Changing Mobility: Data, Insights and Delivering Innovative Projects During COVID Recovery

Transportation Performance Measures

2020 Transportation Alternatives Call for Projects: Recommended Funding Awards

IH 45 Zero Emission Corridor Plan Update

Online Public Input Opportunity Dates

Monday, August 10, 2020 - Wednesday, September 9, 2020 – The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) posted information at www.nctcog.org/input for public review and comment.

Purpose and Topics

The online public input opportunity was provided in accordance with the NCTCOG Transportation Department Public Participation Plan, 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. Staff posted information regarding:

1. Changing Mobility: Data, Insights and Delivering Innovative Projects During COVID Recovery
2. Transportation Performance Measures
3. 2020 Transportation Alternatives Call for Projects: Recommended Funding Awards
4. IH 45 Zero Emission Corridor Plan Update

The NCTCOG online public input opportunity was provided to inform and seek comments from the public. Comments and questions were submitted by email at transinfo@nctcog.org, online at www.nctcog.org/input, by mail at PO Box 5888, Arlington, TX 76005 and by fax at 817-640-3028. Printed copies of the online materials were also made available by calling 817-608-2365 or emailing cbaylor@nctcog.org.

Summary of Presentations

Changing Mobility: Data, Insights and Delivering Innovative Projects During COVID Recovery presentation:

<https://www.nctcog.org/nctcg/media/Transportation/DocsMaps/Involve/InputMeetings/2020/08/COVID-Effects.pdf>

This presentation includes information related to what NCTCOG is doing to help assist transportation projects and programs during these challenging economic times. Four policy metrics entitled Changing Mobility have been developed to help guide NCTCOG staff in alleviating the negative impacts of COVID-19:

- Travel behavior response to COVID-19
- Financial implications to traditional revenue sources
- Benefits of travel behavior responses to areas of RTC responsibility
- Prioritization of infrastructure improvements that offset unemployment increases

Metric 1: Travel behavior response to COVID-19

- Compared to pre-COVID activity, use of bike/ped trails was up 22 percent in June
- Compared to pre-COVID activity, use of roadways was down 6 percent in June
- Compared to pre-COVID activity, toll road transactions were down 41 percent in May
- Compared to pre-COVID activity, use of transit was down 54 percent in June
- Compared to pre-COVID activity, aviation travel was down 80 percent in May

Metric 2: Financial implications to traditional revenue sources

- Compared to 2019, sales tax revenue saw a 4 percent increase in July 2020
- Compared to 2019, motor fuel tax revenue saw a 2 percent decrease in July 2020
- Compared to 2019, IH 35E TEXpress Lane transactions saw a 60 percent decrease in May 2020

Metric 3: Benefits of travel behavior responses to areas of RTC responsibility

- Less vehicles on the road reduces emissions
- Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport is the busiest airport in the world and despite decrease in travel, no employees have been furloughed throughout the pandemic
- Local transit authorities have been partnering with nonprofits and local governments to deliver essential supplies to those in need

Metric 4: Prioritization of infrastructure improvements that offset unemployment increases

- For a long-term unemployment event, need near-term and long-term transportation investment for maximum benefit
- Staff focused on implementing major transportation projects, including high-speed rail from Dallas to Fort Worth, autonomous transit, the Y Connector and SH 183.

Members of the public are encouraged to provide feedback on the NCTCOG strategies and policy metrics for managing the impacts of COVID-19 on the transportation system.

Transportation Performance Measures presentation:

<https://www.nctcoq.org/nctcg/media/Transportation/DocsMaps/Involve/InputMeetings/2020/08/Performance-Measures.pdf>

A performance measurement is a framework for relating observed performance of the transportation system to regional goals and priorities, planning processes, and project selection and policies. A measure is usually calculated from regularly updated data and a target is then established for where the measurement should be.

NCTCOG conducts a variety of activities related to performance measures, including the creation of Progress North Texas and the current examination of COVID-19's impact on the transportation system. Some performance measures are required by federal legislation such as MAP-21 and the FAST Act.

This presentation primarily focuses on performance measures established by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration. Known as PM3, these seven measures are related to various aspects of the transportation system, including reliability, congestion, mode choice and emissions.

The Regional Transportation Council (RTC) adopted quantitative 2020 and 2022 regional targets for PM3 on November 8, 2018, and updated targets are due to FHWA on October 1, 2020.

Overall, NCTCOG staff is reaffirming the original PM3 targets for 2022 but also recommending adjusting targets for truck travel time reliability and emissions reductions.

The RTC will take action on the revised PM3 targets in September 2020.

2020 Transportation Alternatives Call for Projects: Recommended Funding Awards presentation:

<https://www.nctcog.org/nctcog/media/Transportation/DocsMaps/Involve/InputMeetings/2020/08/2020-TA-CFP-Pres.pdf>

Handout:

<https://www.nctcog.org/nctcog/media/Transportation/DocsMaps/Involve/InputMeetings/2020/08/2020-TA-CFP-Handout.pdf>

Project activities eligible to receive funding from the 2020 Transportation Alternatives Call for Projects (TA CFP) include shared-use paths, on-street bikeways, signage and protected intersections, among others. The 2020 TA CFP had two eligible project categories: active transportation and Safe Routes to School (SRTS). Each category had its own set of scoring criteria.

NCTCOG staff received 38 applications and is recommending awarding funding to projects in the City of Arlington, City of Fort Worth, City of Dallas, City of Richardson, Dallas County and along Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) routes. A breakdown of funding allocations can be viewed at www.nctcog.org/input.

The RTC will take action on the 2020 Transportation Alternatives Call for Projects funding recommendations in September 2020.

IH 45 Zero Emission Corridor Plan Update presentation:

<https://www.nctcog.org/nctcog/media/Transportation/DocsMaps/Involve/InputMeetings/2020/08/IH-45-Update.pdf>

In 2019, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) awarded funding to NCTCOG to develop a plan for infrastructure to support both battery electric and hydrogen fuel cell electric vehicles along IH 45 from Dallas to Houston.

NCTCOG staff has proposed the following strategies to meet FHWA's deployment plan goals:

- Develop electric and hydrogen corridor along IH 45
- Expand infrastructure needs for medium and heavy-duty electric trucks and buses
- Support future strategic initiatives in the corridor, such as AV technology deployment and truck platooning

For the corridor to be classified as ready under FHWA's criteria, electric vehicle supply equipment must be placed every 50 miles within 5 miles of IH 45. There is currently one gap remaining along the corridor, and it's from Ennis to Maidsonville. Additionally, there are currently no publicly available hydrogen stations in Texas. For the corridor to be classified as ready, a station must be placed every 100 miles within 5 miles of IH 45.

Staff will continue to identify the best technologies suitable for vocational needs, identify best market development opportunities and convene stakeholder groups. Additional case studies and an infrastructure deployment plan will be completed by May 2021.

COMMENTS SUBMITTED BY WEBSITE, MAIL, EMAIL and SOCIAL MEDIA

Mail

Please see attachment for comment submitted via mail.

August 31, 2020

Ms. Carl: Baylor
Communications Specialist
North Central Texas Council of
Governments
Transportation Department
PO Box 5888
Arlington, TX 76005-5888

Dear Carl:

Enclosed are my questions & comments
on your latest updates. You stated
that they be submitted by Sept-9.

Thank You

Sincerely,
Phyllis Silver



Phyllis H. Silver
15720 Artist Way Apt 10
3912 Addison, TX 75001

Enclosure

RECEIVED

SEP - 4 2020

TRANSPORTATION

Comments + Questions TO Submit

By 9/9/2020

Handout: Interstate Highway 45 Zero-Emission Vehicle Corridor Plan Update

Comment: I am pleased that there is a continuing effort to improve our air quality.

Handout: Draft 2020 Transportation Alternatives

Question Program Call for Projects (FY21-22-23)

Page 3 - Dallas TxDOT District #15 Town of Addison
Trail Gap Closure -

Question: Where in Addison is this (cross streets)?

Handout: Transportation Alternatives

2020 Call for Projects Recommendations
for the North Central Texas Region

Question - pg 2 - What are Road Diets?

Comment: I recommend safer pedestrian access to travel to hospitals? ^{when taking public transportation.} For example, in the City of Dallas, when taking a bus eastbound along Forest Lane and going to Medical City Dallas, there is not a safe way to get

across the street ^(Forest Lane) to the hospital. The Medical
City Shuttle from the Forest Lane Train Station
only runs during certain times of the day,
so taxis is not a good alternative.

Handout: Changing Mobility

Data Insights, and Delivery Innovative
Projects During COVID Recovery

Comment: I commend you for quantifying the
changes in various measures between last
year and this year to study the impact
of COVID-19.

Phyllis Silver

8/31/2020