

## AGENDA

### Regional Transportation Council

Thursday, August 8, 2024

### Irving Convention Center at Las Colinas

3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Junior Ballroom, 500 W. Las Colinas Blvd., Irving, TX 75039

Members of the public may view a livestream of the RTC Meeting at  
[www.nctcoq.org/video](http://www.nctcoq.org/video) under the “watch live” tab

**11:45 am      50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Regional Transportation Council Member Luncheon at Infrastructure Conference 2024**

**2:00 pm      Full RTC Business Agenda  
(Guest Secured Wireless Connection Password Will Be Provided)**

#### **Pledge to the United States and Texas Flags**

**1. Opportunity for Public Comment on Today's Agenda**

Information Minutes: 10

Item Summary: Members of the public may comment on any item(s) on today's agenda at this time. If speaking, please complete a Speaker Request Card, available at the meeting, and provide it to the North Central Texas Council of Governments designated staff person. A maximum of three (3) minutes is permitted per speaker. At the conclusion of this item, no further opportunities for public comment will be provided for the duration of the meeting.

Background: N/A

**2:00 – 2:05      2. Approval of July 11, 2024, Minutes**

Action       Possible Action       Information Minutes: 5

Presenter: Clay Lewis Jenkins, RTC Chair

Item Summary: Approval of the July 11, 2024, meeting minutes contained in Electronic Item 2 will be requested.

Background: N/A

**2:05 – 2:05      3. Consent Agenda (There are no items on the Consent Agenda)**

Action       Possible Action       Information Minutes: 0

2:05 – 2:15

4. **Orientation to Agenda/Director of Transportation Report**

Action       Possible Action       Information      Minutes: 10  
Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG

1. Regional Transportation Council's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
2. Changing Mobility: Data, Insights, and Delivering Innovative Projects During COVID Recovery (Electronic Item 4.1)
3. Connecting the Dots: High-Speed Rail, Transit 2.0, and 2050 Demographics Forecast
4. Op Ed (Electronic Item 4.2)
5. North Central Texas Council of Governments Not Selected Under Environmental Protection Agency Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Implementation Grants Program
6. Current Hold on Regional Transportation Council Policy – Temporary Suspension of Dynamic Pricing of Managed Lanes During Reconstruction
7. 2023 Annual North Central Texas Council of Governments Roadway Safety Program, Traffic Incident Management Program, and Safety Patrol Performance Measure Report (Electronic Item 4.3)
8. Air Quality Funding Opportunities for Vehicles ([www.nctcog.org/aqfunding](http://www.nctcog.org/aqfunding))
9. Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Events (<https://www.dfwcleancities.org/events>)
10. 2024 Ozone Season Update (Electronic Item 4.4)
11. Local Clean Air Spotlight (Electronic Item 4.5)
12. July Public Meeting Minutes (Electronic Item 4.6)
13. August Public Meeting Notice (Electronic Item 4.7)
14. June – July Public Comments Report (Electronic Item 4.8)
15. Recent Correspondence (Electronic Item 4.9)
16. Recent News Articles (Electronic Item 4.10)
17. Recent Press Releases (Electronic Item 4.11)

2:15 – 2:30

5. **2025 Unified Transportation Program and Regional 10-Year Plan Update**

Action       Possible Action       Information      Minutes: 15  
Presenter: Brian Dell, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Regional Transportation Council (RTC) action on the proposed changes for the Regional 10-Year Plan Update will be requested.

Background: Since December 2016, the RTC has annually approved a set of projects funded with Category 2 (Metropolitan Planning

Organization selected) and Category 4 (Texas Department of Transportation [TxDOT] District selected) funds and submitted for Texas Transportation Commission (TTC) consideration with Category 12 (TTC selected) funds that cover 10 years of highway projects. Since the last update in 2023, North Central Texas Council of Governments staff has coordinated with the TxDOT Dallas, Paris (Hunt County), and Fort Worth Districts regarding updates to previously approved projects, as well as potential additions to the 10-Year Plan to be included in the 2025 Unified Transportation Program (UTP). Electronic Item 5.1 includes additional information about the process. Electronic Item 5.2 contains the proposed list of planned projects for the Regional 10-Year Plan. Electronic Item 5.3 contains the 10-Year Plan projects that have let or been completed. Electronic Item 5.4 is a copy of the letter that was submitted as a public comment on behalf of the region regarding the 2025 UTP as discussed at the RTC meeting last month.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Roadway, Safety

2:30 – 2:45

6. **Dallas-Fort Worth High-Speed Rail: Advancing Environmental Review**

Action       Possible Action       Information      Minutes: 15

Presenter: Brendon Wheeler, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Following meetings with relevant project partners and stakeholders since the July 11, 2024, High-Speed Rail Workshop, the project team will propose a path forward to continue advancing the project through preliminary engineering and environmental documentation in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process. Additional project funding will be requested of the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) as a result of the additional alignment alternatives and the ensuing effect on the NEPA process. Surface Transportation Block Grant funds are requested for this purpose, with the request not to exceed 15 percent of the original consultant contract budget.

Background: In April 2020, North Central Texas Council of Governments staff began work on the Dallas-Fort Worth High-Speed Transportation Connections Study with consultant assistance. The project is divided into two phases. The first phase, an alternatives analysis of high-speed modes and corridors, recommended high-speed rail generally following the Interstate Highway 30 corridor in 2021. The second phase includes conceptual and preliminary engineering and an

environmental analysis within the NEPA process, resulting in a federal government action identifying the project's next steps. Following the RTC's workshop held on July 11, 2024, the project team has coordinated with the Federal Transit Administration; Federal Railroad Administration; other federal and state partners involved in the NEPA process; the cities of Dallas, Fort Worth, and Arlington; Amtrak; and other project partners and stakeholders. These discussions inform the direction staff will present on which downtown Dallas alignments to advance and impact to NEPA scope and schedule. More information is included in Electronic Item 6.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Safety, Transit

2:45 – 2:55

7. **Safe Streets and Roads for All Planning Grant Application**

Action       Possible Action       Information      Minutes: 10

Presenter: Karla Windsor, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request action for the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) to approve the submittal of a regional *planning grant* application and local match funds for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Discretionary Grant program.

Background: The U.S. Department of Transportation announced a Notice of Funding Opportunity for the solicitation of applications for FY2024. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law established the new SS4A discretionary program with \$5 billion in appropriated funds over five years. A maximum of one grant application of any type may be submitted per agency. Staff will provide an overview of the proposed regional *planning grant* totaling \$2 million to be submitted by the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG). The grant application will request \$1.6 million in SS4A federal funds and staff will request RTC approval of \$400,000 of Regional Transportation Council (RTC) Local funds for the required 20 percent local match. If awarded, the planning grant will advance the regional Pedestrian Safety Action Plan by conducting a feasibility study and in-depth planning for regional trail and on-street bikeway connections through the cities of Fort Worth, Haltom City, North Richland Hills, and Richland Hills to passenger rail stations in northeast Tarrant County including various Trinity Metro TEXRail stations and the Trinity Railway Express Trinity Lakes station. This supplemental safety planning will include the future Cotton Belt Trail alignment between Fort Worth and North Richland Hills and numerous

necessary safe trail crossings of major arterial roadways, highways, freight railroads, and waterways. An overview of the proposed planning is contained in Electronic Item 7.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Bike/Ped+, Safety

**2:55 – 3:15**

**8. Regional Transportation Council Legislation Program and Status of Transit 2.0**

Action       Possible Action       Information      Minutes : 20  
Presenters: Michael Morris, NCTCOG; Michael Schneider, InfraStrategies; and Jay Walder, McKinsey & Company

Item Summary: This item will introduce the Transit 2.0 consultants to the Regional Transportation Council (RTC). Significant progress is underway. The staff Director will highlight the tasks associated with Transit 2.0 and the role of the RTC in the implementation of each task.

Background: Electronic Item 8.1 provides additional information on Transit 2.0 and Electronic Item 8.2 provides the schedule for the legislative program.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Air Quality, Transit

**3:15 – 3:30**

**9. Implications to Mobility 2050 Based on New Demographics**

Action       Possible Action       Information      Minutes : 15  
Presenters: Dan Kessler and Brendon Wheeler, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide a report regarding efforts to develop the next Metropolitan Transportation Plan, Mobility 2050, including approaches to integrating the new demographic forecast, public perceptions and needs, and policy considerations.

Background: Federal guidelines require the Dallas-Fort Worth region to update the long-range transportation plan at a minimum of every 4 years and to look at least 20 years into the future. In addition, Mobility 2050 must demonstrate federal Transportation Conformity. The updated plan will include a new financial plan, updated demographics and technical analysis, updated project recommendation listings, and robust public involvement. Regional Control Totals were shared with the Regional Transportation Council in June. North Central Texas Council of Governments Research and Information Services and Transportation staff have completed an analysis and modeled a forecast for 2050 Population and Employment

throughout the region, which is currently under local review. The implications of this forecast on the transportation system will be presented.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Roadway, Transit

10. **Progress Reports**

Action     Possible Action     Information

Item Summary: Progress Reports are provided in the items below.

- RTC Attendance (Electronic Item 10.1)
- STTC Attendance and Minutes (Electronic Item 10.2)

11. **Other Business (Old or New)**: This item provides an opportunity for members to bring items of interest before the group.

12. **Future Agenda Items**: This item provides an opportunity for members to bring items of future interest before the Council.

13. **Next Meeting**: The next meeting of the Regional Transportation Council is scheduled for ***1:00 pm on September 12, 2024.***