

Regional Transportation Council Legislative Program
88th Texas Legislature

RTC Position	Addressed in Legislation
Adequately Fund Transportation and Utilize Tools	
Identify additional revenue for all modes of transportation.	<p>HB 1 (Bonnen) General appropriations bill.</p> <p>HB 78 (Ortega) Relating to the authorization by referendum of an optional county fee on vehicle registration in certain counties. Please note: this only affects El Paso County.</p> <p>HB 321 (Lopez) Relating to authorizing the increase or decrease of the rates of the gasoline and diesel fuel taxes based on the cost of certain highway projects.</p> <p>HB 615 (Patterson) Relating to authorizing certain projects to be undertaken by economic development corporations.</p> <p>HB 640 (Johnson) Relating to the municipal sales and use tax for street maintenance.</p> <p>HB 820 (King) Relating to imposing an additional fee for the registration of electric and hybrid vehicles.</p> <p>HB 960 (Jetton) Relating to imposing a road maintenance fee for the registration of an electric vehicle.</p> <p>HB 1259 (Jetton) Relating to studies and reports regarding public-private partnerships and funding for certain public projects, including transportation projects.</p> <p>HB 1392 (Craddick) Relating to the allocation of certain constitutional transfers of money to the economic stabilization fund, the state highway fund, and the Grow Texas fund and to the permissible uses of money deposited to the Grow Texas fund.</p> <p>SB 1 (Huffman) General appropriations bill.</p>

	<p>SB 254 (Eckhardt) Relating to increasing the rates of the state gasoline and diesel fuel taxes.</p> <p>SB 282 (Eckhardt) Relating to authorizing an optional county fee on vehicle registration in certain counties to be used for transportation projects. Please note: this only applies to Travis County.</p> <p>SB 505 (Nichols) Relating to imposing an additional fee for the registration of an electric vehicle.</p>
Support innovative funding methods to expand rail and transit options within the region.	
Allocate funds to the existing Texas Rail Relocation and Improvement Fund.	
Return approximately \$80 million in air quality user fees to counties for Local Initiatives Projects.	<p>HB 1175 (Plesa) Relating to the distribution of funds designated for the low-income vehicle repair assistance, retrofit, and accelerated vehicle retirement program.</p> <p>HB 1351 (Hernandez) Relating to the distribution of funds designated for the low-income vehicle repair assistance, retrofit, and accelerated vehicle retirement program.</p> <p>SB 607 (Johnson) Relating to the distribution of funds designated for the low-income vehicle repair assistance, retrofit, and accelerated vehicle retirement program.</p>
Ensure fair-share allocation of funds for roadway capacity improvements to metropolitan regions.	
Support full appropriation of current funding initiatives previously approved by the Legislature, including Proposition 1 and Proposition 7.	<p>SB 225 (Nichols) Relating to the determination of the sufficient balance of the economic stabilization fund for the purpose of allocating certain constitutional transfers of money to that fund and the state highway fund.</p> <p>SCR 2 (Nichols) Extending the duty of the comptroller of public accounts under Section 7-c, Article VIII, Texas Constitution, to deposit certain tax revenue to the state highway fund.</p>

	<p>SJR 37 (Miles)/HJR 77 (Walle) Proposing a constitutional amendment to permit additional uses of certain dedicated general revenue transferred each fiscal year to the state highway fund.</p>
Expand Transportation Options in Mega Metropolitan Regions	
Support use of Public-Private Partnerships; allow for the ability to create data corridors (i.e., digital twins) and tolled managed lanes for roadway and transit projects through an MPO/local decision-making process.	
Authorize the use of a Comprehensive Development Agreement for specific needed projects.	
Retain eminent domain authority to allow planning and development of new and/or expanded transportation corridors, including high-speed rail, commuter rail, freight rail, roadways, and trails.	<p>HB 376 (Rogers) Relating to a landowner's bill of rights statement in connection with the acquisition of real property through eminent domain.</p> <p>HB 718 (Goldman) Proposing a constitutional amendment concerning the right to repurchase real property acquired through eminent domain.</p> <p>HJR 26 (Schofield) Proposing a constitutional amendment concerning the right to repurchase real property acquired through eminent domain.</p> <p>HJR 81 (Schofield) Proposing a constitutional amendment prohibiting the taking of property by eminent domain for the purpose of transferring the property to a private entity.</p>

Support the use of a balanced liability insurance program that would allow North Texas transit agencies to operate on additional rail corridors as part of the regional transportation system.	
Provide counties and cities with expanded tools for land use control to preserve future transportation corridors.	
Pursue Innovation, Technology, and Safety	
Utilize innovation in high-speed transportation, transit, autonomous vehicles, and freight	HB 366 (Bell) Relating to the filing of a bond by a private high-speed rail operator with the Texas Department of Transportation.
Support the collaboration between local governments, the military, the State, and FAA to advance regulations for compatible land use and the safe operations of unmanned aircraft.	HB 1302 (Geren) Relating to inspections and examinations by the Railroad Commission of Texas of certain sites and facilities conducted using unmanned aircraft. HB 1516 (Wilson)/ SB 423 (Paxton) Relating to the use of unmanned aircraft by the Texas military forces.
Plan for shared mobility solutions and technology-based transportation solutions; enable transportation data sharing and accessibility with appropriate privacy protection.	HB 1657 (Capriglione)/ SB 535 (Paxton) Relating to state agency information technology infrastructure and infrastructure security assessments.
Establish and support programs to improve cybersecurity.	

Support broadband expansion as a mode of transportation.	SB 272 (Blanco) Relating to the composition of the governor's broadband development council. SJR 27 (Perry) Proposing a constitutional amendment creating the Texas Connectivity Fund for the development of broadband and other telecommunication services.
Improve Air Quality	
Support legislation that improves air quality.	HB 57 (Zwiener) Relating to climate change planning and reporting. HB 821 (King) Relating to the placement of electric vehicle charging equipment on state property. HB 846 (Reynolds) Relating to the creation of the Climate Change Impact Assessment Council. SB 238 (Menendez) Relating to the installment of electric school buses and solar panels in Texas public schools. HB 1503 (Gonzalez) Relating to the establishment of a grant program to support the elimination of illegally disposed of scrap tires.
Modernize and increase flexibility in the Local Initiative Projects (LIP) through a limited program focused on transportation and air quality improvements.	
Strengthen emissions enforcement through temporary tag enforcement.	HB 718 (Goldman) Relating to the issuance of temporary tags and license plates by a motor vehicle dealer. HB 914 (Hefner) Relating to temporary vehicle tags and the offense of tampering with a governmental record.
Protect the TERP Trust fund and revenue balance to ensure funds are used for TERP purposes; modernize the program and ensure flexibility to accommodate innovative approaches to improving air quality and reducing emissions, including the purchase of heavy-duty zero emission vehicles such	SB 104 (Johnson) Relating to the creation of a small non-road engine purchase incentive program under the Texas emissions reduction plan.

as hydrogen fuel cell and battery electric vehicles and associated infrastructure.	
Support system reliability, congestion relief, and encourage trip reduction strategies.	HB 521 (Cain) Support system reliability, congestion relief, and encourage trip reduction strategies.
Enhance Safety	
Improve the safety of the statewide transportation system for all users, including controlling texting while driving, eliminating driving under the influence, lowering excessive speed limits, reducing aggressive driving, reducing the number of fraudulent temporary tags, and improving bicycle and pedestrian safety.	<p>HB 167 (Schaefer) Relating to contracts authorizing the use of photographic traffic signal enforcement systems.</p> <p>HB 177 (Cortez) Relating to contracts authorizing the use of photographic traffic signal enforcement systems.</p> <p>HB 198 (Noble) Relating to vehicle safety inspections of certain travel trailers.</p> <p>HB 210 (Swanson) / HB 393 (Goldman) Relating to restitution payments for the support of a child whose parent or guardian is a victim of intoxication manslaughter.</p> <p>HB 396 (Collier) Relating to pedestrian use of a sidewalk.</p> <p>HB 421 (Lopez) Relating to the operation of a motor vehicle passing a pedestrian or a person operating a bicycle.</p> <p>HB 485 (Gervin-Hawkins) Relating to increasing the criminal penalty for certain offenses committed in a vehicle operated by a public transportation system.</p> <p>HB 560 (Raymond) Relating to analyzing and mitigating transportation security threats in this state.</p> <p>HB 648 (Gervin-Hawkins) Relating to the enforcement of the prohibition on passing a school bus using images from a school bus monitoring system.</p> <p>HB 718 (Goldman) Relating to the issuance of temporary tags and license plates by a motor vehicle dealer.</p> <p>HB 806 (VanDeaver) Relating to a study regarding the placement of rumble strips on highway shoulders.</p> <p>HB 898 Stucky</p>

	<p>Relating to the offense of passing certain vehicles on a highway; increasing a criminal penalty. HB 1639 (Canales) Relating to the authority of the Texas Transportation Commission to establish variable speed limits SB 478 (Zaffirini) Relating to the administration of the motorcycle operator training and safety program.</p>
Reduce distracted driving through measures such as the use of hands-free cell phone technology.	SB 41 (Zaffirini) Relating to the use of a wireless communication device while operating a motor vehicle.
Oppose legislation to increase freight truck weight limits above 80,000 pounds.	
Support legislation allowing sponsorships to support roadside assistance programs.	
Eliminate deferred adjudication for safety related traffic violations (e.g., traffic violations in construction zones are not eligible for deferred adjudication).	
Allow non-sworn police officers to complete crash reports and clear minor, non-injury traffic crashes/	