

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 Wednesday, May 20, through Saturday, June 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. Project Planning comments related to Mobility 2045 and I-345 were in the majority.

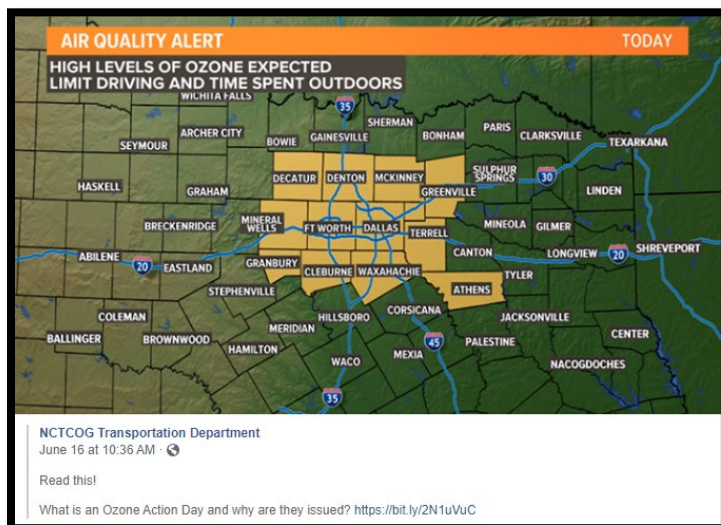
In addition, comments are currently being accepted through a new, online map tool. Users can drop a pin on a location in the region and leave a detailed comment. The tool is in test mode and open to the public through August 2020. This month, there were 13 Bicycle and Pedestrian comments, 13 Roadway comments and 6 transit comments. To read them, visit:

<http://nctcoggis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/CrowdsourcingReporter/index.html?appid=b014e6d39b604b3ca329d9094ed1e9e2>.

Air Quality

Facebook –

1. Find out exactly what an Ozone Action Day is and why we need to know about them.
NCTCOG Transportation Department – Keep Grapevine Beautiful



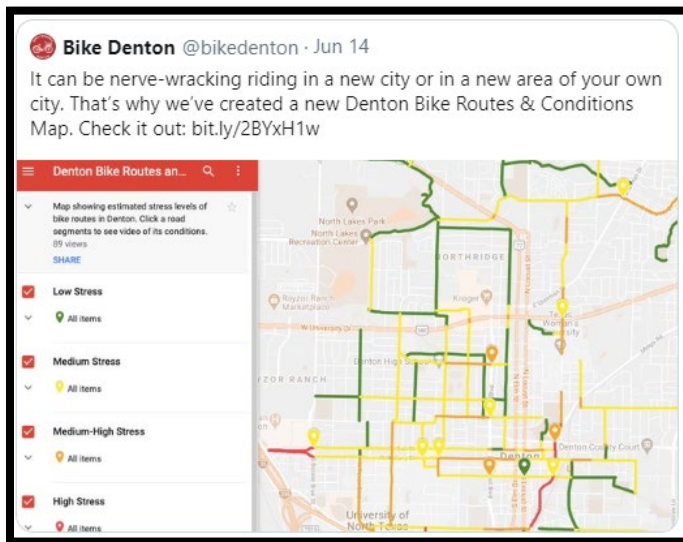
2. Today is an Ozone Action Day. You can stay up to date on these conditions by following NCTCOG Transportation Department – Keep Grapevine Beautiful



Bicycle & Pedestrian

Twitter –

1. Do we have a bike map like this in @CityOfDallas? If yes, I need a copy! @laneconner @LeeforDallas @JeffKitner – caraathome (@🏠)



@BikeDFW Maybe you all have something that can be shared? I remember the meeting in January that someone brought a large map with trails outlined. – Thomas James Slapfart (@TomJerkface)

Our friends at @NCTCOGtrans have an awesome map of the trails across the region at

https://nctcog.org/nctcg/media/Transportation/DocsMaps/Plan/Bike/RegTrailsBrochure_18.pdf AND we at BikeDFW have been working with @ridewithgps to produce a DFW route library that the community can contribute to that we will be launching soon!! – BikeDFW (@BikeDFW)

Thanks, @NCTCOGtrans and @BikeDFW. The map is slightly outdated as it shows both SoPAC and @NorthavenTrail as coming soon and doesn't include other trails like Trinity Forest or @BachmanLake. @DallasParkRec is also updating its trail mapping (which is very outdated). – Jeff Kitner (@JeffKitner)

Hi, Jeff! You can find an updated brochure here:

https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.nctcog.org%2Fnctcg%2Fmedia%2FTransportation%2FDocsMaps%2FPlan%2FBike%2FRegTrails-Brochure_20.pdf&data=02%7C01%7CVHenderson%40nctcog.org%7C522563f6b2be4800444e08d81149de60%7C2f5e7ebc22b04f4be934caabddb4e29b1%7C0%7C0%7C637278356241099116&sd=ata=VL00R9nAj5rpVlgMk2oCksmxad3kjp7%2FgVRLhT8NkKA%3D&reserved=0. We also have a current map that's interactive here:

<http://nctcoggis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=fff676318a624e50845e505842f54fe2> . Hope this helps! – NCTCOGTransportation (@NCTCOGtrans)



Looks good @NCTCOGtrans . Please update @NorthavenTrail which is complete from Preston to Monroe. – Lee Kleinman (@LeeforDallas)

Electric Vehicles

Twitter –

1. Here's some great local news! TxETRA - Texas Electric Transportation Resources Alliance
NCTCOG Transportation Department #texasEV

<https://www.areadevelopment.com/.../linear-labs-production-ce...> – Tesla Owners Club of North Texas



AREADEVELOPMENT.COM

Linear Labs Plans Electric Motor Development & Production Complex in Fort Worth, Texas - Area Development

Linear Labs, a smart electric motor company, will locate a 500,000-square-foot research, development and production center to create electric motors for industries as diverse as electric vehicles, robotics, HVAC, and last-mile...

Project Planning

Email –

1. Erin Larew

When you look further into the 2045 mobility plan please leave Wylie alone. We don't want a major highway. East wylie is beautiful with lots of green space where animals and plants thrive. We don't want it to be taken from us and replaced by a concrete, noise, light and car pollution. If Rockwall needs a way to get cars to and from it they need to build a roadway in their county and city. Wylie does not want to be used. The neighbors of Troy road especially want to remain quiet and peaceful. Thank you.

Ms. Larew,

Thank you for contacting the NCTCOG Transportation Department and providing comments related to roadways in the City of Wylie. The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is in the process of updating the region's long-range Metropolitan Transportation Plan. At this time, NCTCOG has not received any further information or requests regarding new studies or proposed alignments near Lake Lavon.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any further questions.

2. Chad Watson

You have recently requested input regarding mobility plan 2045. This letter is a formal request for you to leave east Wylie out of your plan completely. We are not interested in a thoroughfare, neither via rebuilding/expanding Troy Rd nor a new thoroughfare extending John King across Lake Ray Hubbard. These potential routes threaten low density neighborhoods and damage the sensitive ecosystem near the lake system. It's also obvious that these routes circumvent most of Wylie commerce district and simply allows an easier way to "pass over" Wylie instead of a "pass through." This is not a benefit to Wylie, it's citizens or it's business and is not supported in any way. We ask that you focus on more cost efficient methods to alleviate traffic concerns including improving and expanding existing facilities, particularly more turning lanes. We also ask that the traffic lights are timed better or are replaced with load sensitive intersections. There is no reason to have cars backed up in one direction and not the other. We should not strive to pour as much

concrete as possible but instead learn how to make do with what we have and utilize it more efficiently.

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Regarding improvements to existing facilities, your suggestions are encouraged. NCTCOG staff use public input to collaborate with partners and develop innovative solutions for transportation issues in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. Please visit our public input online mapping tool to record your transportation experience and make suggestions: www.nctcog.org/mapyourexperience.

3. G. Dan Minge

In the past, residents of East Wylie/ETJ have successfully thwarted COG plans to route heavy traffic through our neighborhoods. There was the Blacklands Corridor, the Lavon Lake Corridor, the Rockwall/Wylie bridge, all anathema to East Wylie/ETJ. What's next?

We haven't heard of any new plans recently, and the COG website is a bit fuzzy on specifics, but we are still vehemently opposed to any COG plans that would disrupt our way of life in East Wylie/ETJ.

I'll simply ask upfront for a clear answer, what plans are on the table now, under consideration, up for discussion, for new roadways through East Wylie/ETJ?

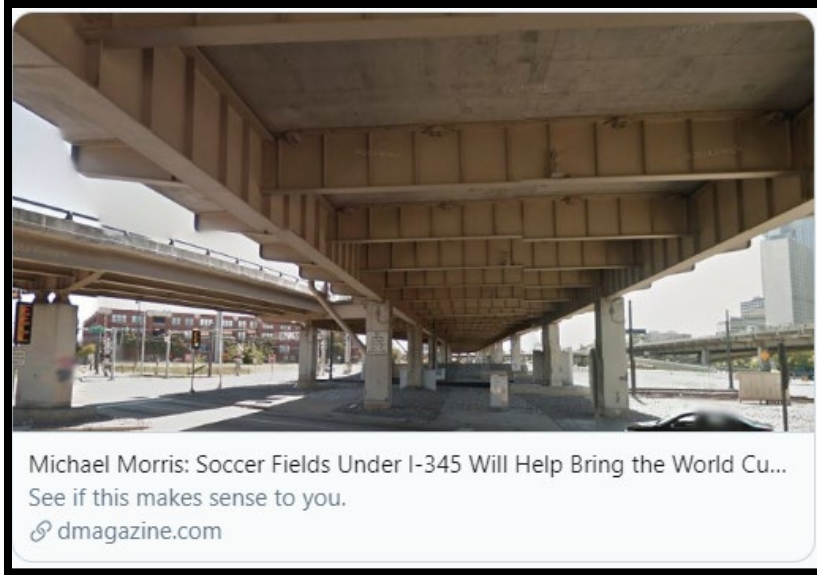
I look forward to your response.

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Twitter –

1. Why did @NCTCOGtrans's Michael Morris tell the RTC that the murky, ill-conceived I-345 soccer would help bring the World Cup to Dallas? This appears to be a laughable false claim. Why is Sen. @RoyceWestTx' son involved? – Wylie H Dallas (@Wylie_H_Dallas)



Royce West is one of the most corrupt politicians & it saddens me as a Democrat. I am not voting for Royce in the upcoming July runoff. – Amber-DFW Girl 🏠 🏠 ⚽ 🏠 🏠 🌈 (Amber_DFWGirl)

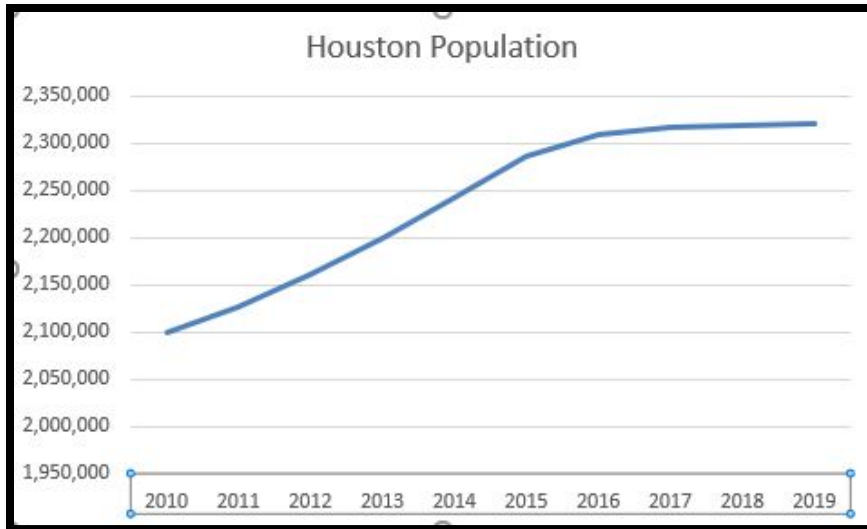
This isn't corruption IMO, and that's not how I see Royce. He is simply wrong about I-345, and we haven't been able to change his mind.

He's still the crystal clear choice for the runoff. – antifa HR and Benefits - OPEN ENROLLMENT IN JUNE- (@PhilipTKingston)

I stand by my comments & lost my vote in the July runoff. – Amber-DFW Girl 🏠 🏠 ⚽ 🏠 🏠 🌈 (Amber_DFWGirl)

You're entitled to your opinion. I don't want another Sinema – antifa HR and Benefits - OPEN ENROLLMENT IN JUNE- (@PhilipTKingston)

2. Houston has flattened the curve of population growth cc: @dmtrubman – patrick kennedy (@WalkableDFW)



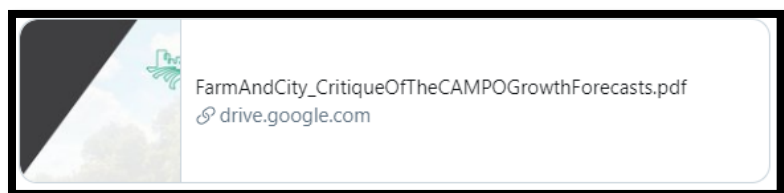
Annexation is not a good way to grow a city. Ending sprawl subsidies and massive infill is. – Jay Blazek Crossley (@JayCrossley)

Easier to set the zoning if you annex the land. – Virtue of Masked Crowds (@VirtueofCrowds)

We should not be building on open land at all anymore in Texas metro regions. – Jay Blazek Crossley (@JayCrossley)

but our 2045 plans show exponential growth out there. I am being sarcastic. I completely agree. – patrick kennedy (@WalkableDFW)

We're trying to fix that. We'll be coming for ya next @NCTCOGtrans 😊. – Jay Blazek Crossley (@JayCrossley)



happy to help when you do – patrick kennedy (@WalkableDFW)

To explain briefly: 1 of 4 @FarmAndCity programs is 50 Million Texans. We work w/ MPOs & the people to get more equitable, sustainable regional growth strategies. We've been focused on ATX for 3 years & the idea is to move on to DFW next.

So yes, please. – Jay Blazek Crossley
(@JayCrossley)



3. Hearing strong rumors that the stupid, opaque "soccer park" proposed by Sen. Royce West's son, with support of @NCTCOGtrans & @TxDOT is not, in fact, dead. Is @RoyceWestTX collaborating with @Johnson4Dallas behind the scenes? 😞 – Wylie H Dallas (@Wylie_H_Dallas)

.@LeeforDallas is out front in pushing for this, circulating a pic of a Toronto homeless camp to whip up fear. Behind the scenes, the action appears to center around wealthy strongman @SenRoyceWest & @Johnson4Dallas. – Wylie H Dallas (@Wylie_H_Dallas)

Who's the council district is this in? – Steven (itsstevenlewis)

I believe it is in @DavidBlewettD14's district. Neither he nor his constituents have been consulted, and he is on record opposing it for all the obvious reasons. – Wylie H Dallas (@Wylie_H_Dallas)

4. It sounds like (pun intended) that cities aren't loud, cars are loud. Why does the COG insist on always building deafening highways instead of funding walking and biking infrastructure? #Dallas #DFW – Andrew Wallace (@agwallace92)



5. It got a little quieter around here. Did you notice? Seismologists found the Dallas-Fort Worth area registered a 30 percent drop in urban noise since COVID-19 lockdowns began in late March, an SMU study finds: <https://bit.ly/36I0wk3>. – NCTCOGTransportation (@NCTCOGtrans)



So why does @NCTCOGtrans continue to fixate on the continued growth of high-speed, poorly sound-insulated highways, as the near-monopoly solution to our urban mobility requirements? Wylie H Dallas (@Wylie_H_Dallas)

Highway lobby, and quick turnaround of, "We're doing something about it."

Regardless of actual efficacy or damage to cities.

Add DOT fixation, automakers, American psyche,... – Larry (@LarryBrautigam)

Public Meetings & Input

Facebook –

1. NCTCOG Transportation Department is now accepting public input through a new, online map tool. Map Your Experience is easy to use and designed to help NCTCOG staff use public input to collaborate with partners and develop innovative solutions for transportation issues in the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

<https://www.nctcog.org/trans/plan/mtp/map-your-experience> – Lewisville Staff



Roadway

Email –

1. Tracy Pearson

I would like to know if there are lane restrictions in place for 18-wheelers on IH-35E through Ft Worth. If so, heading north, where do they begin and end? Thank you

Mike Johnson, NCTCOG

Tracy,

Good morning.

I believe you mean IH 35W through Ft Worth.

The truck lane restrictions on IH 35W in Ft Worth run from the Tarrant/Johnson county line to IH 30 in Downtown Ft Worth.

Please see the following links for more information:

<https://www.nctcog.org/trans/plan/freight/truck-lane-restrictions>

<https://www.nctcog.org/nctcog/media/Transportation/DocsMaps/Plan/Freight/Truck-Lane-Restrictions.jpg>

Please let me know if you have any additional questions

Thank you.

Twitter –

1. Another week brings another @CityofDallas award- we have the nation's THIRD deadliest municipal road network. Congrats, @TxDOTDallas and @NCTCOGtrans - great stimulus for funeral homes, etc. <https://fxn.ws/36sbxzt> #FoxBusiness - Wylie H Dallas (@Wylie_H_Dallas)



So wrong on so many levels for so long. We need sustainable infrastructure and transportation systems that move people and not cars. We have a system of politics, government and business that only serves a few at the expense of the many. Time to reset. #BuildBackBetter – Marcos Ronquillo (@MGRonquillo)

Tweets to COG are only seen by comms staffers. Find Dallas reps on RTC and point this out to them. Also, this seems like a step in the right direction:



Transit

Email –

1. **Vickie Williams**

Please NO future mass transit projects in Lancaster Tx please. Non residents have increased crime rates for homeowners and the businesses here.

This will be easy access for Dallas' Oak Cliff, "a high crime area" to have easy access into a place with senior citizens and property owners whose property value continue to decrease.

We also have increased crime due to low income complexes which have lowered property values.

No mass transit in Lancaster Tx please.

2. **Tom Ufert**

I am a physically-challenged wheel-chair bound citizen of Haltom City. It became quickly evident to me that there was NO PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION for physically-challenged citizens in Haltom City after moving here in 2010! It baffled me, after the 1991 ADA that this situation still persists.

Since moving to Haltom City, I have spoken with the City Managers on 3 different occasions over the years inquiring why. The answer has consistently been that the voters have seen fit to allocate the city's portion of TXDOT revenue to other items such as cleaner streets & roadway improvements. Furthermore, when presented with any ballot initiatives designed to rectify this problem, the voters didn't support the idea of paying annual TRE fees.

I AM BEGGING...PLEASE confirm whether my information is correct; advise me of any/all suggestions to help with the correct legal/civic approaches to try and reverse this systemic adversity; point me in the right direction to agencies, contacts or regs/laws that might be helpful in my quest to provide accessible public transportation for all of Haltom City's physically-challenged citizens.

Pamela Burns, NCTCOG

Thank you for reaching out to us about transportation needs in Haltom City. You are correct that in order for a city to be member of a transit agency, a ballot initiative would have to be passed by the citizens of the city which would then dedicate a portion of the city's sales tax revenues to support the transit agency. For members of Trinity Metro (formerly the Fort Worth Transit Authority), the required commitment is one-half cent of the city's two cents local sales tax. Although Haltom City is not a current member of a transit agency, Northeast Transportation Service (NETS), which is administered by Trinity Metro and operated by Catholic Charities of Fort Worth, provides public paratransit services in the area. This service provides a door-to-door, demand response service for any resident of Bedford, Euless, Grapevine, Haltom City, Hurst, Keller, and North Richland Hills who is disabled or at least 65 years of age. For more information please visit their website at www.ridenets.com.

We recognize there is still additional demand for public transportation services in the area. In coordination with a wide range of stakeholders, we document in Access North Texas the transportation needs of older adults, individuals with disabilities, individuals with lower incomes and others with transportation challenges within our 16-county region and outline strategies to address those needs for the next four years. An identified strategy for Tarrant County is connecting communities county-wide and across the region. Therefore, North Central Council of Governments is implementing a Tarrant County Transit Study that focuses on non-member transit cities, such as Haltom City, to develop a comprehensive public transportation plan, including funding and institutional structure options, that can be strategically implemented in the region. This study has recently begun and will be completed in Spring 2021.

If you have any other questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Gypsy Gavia at ggavia@nctcog.org or 817-695-9134. Please note that the majority of our staff is currently working at home, so if you call, kindly leave a message and we will get back to you shortly.

Tom Ufret

THANK YOU, Pamela!!! The info you have provided is truly a Godsend because I finally feel better informed about this subject so dear to my quality of life.

If and when you might have some free time, I'd GREATLY APPRECIATE your experienced input/suggestions on how I might lend a helping hand to this process of strategic planning & hopefully successful implementation.

Though I have extensive experience with gov't issues, political campaigning, and private advocacy (just Google my name for further details), I'm feeling slightly overwhelmed at the gargantuan task of bringing accessible non-medical public transport to my locale. There is no doubt that you could at least point me in the right direction!

Twitter –

1. Strong solidarity among #SWTANation members @dartmedia, @RideDCTA & @TrinityMetro for #SoundTheHorn today! – South West Transit Association (@swtanation)



2. Feels good to ride #TEXRail. Taking the train to @GrapevineTXCity from @CityofFortWorth. Social distancing on the train as seats blocked off. @GrapevineCoC @VisitGrapevine @TarrantCountyTX @TarrantTransit @NCTCOGtrans – Salvador Espino Michel (@SAL_FW)



Facebook –

1. If you hear a large number of train and bus horns this afternoon, Thursday, May 21, 2 p.m., just know it is a salute to front line transit heroes. Thanks for all you do! – Lewisville Staff



Other

Facebook –

1. It got a little quieter around here. Did you notice?

Seismologists found the Dallas-Fort Worth area registered a 30 percent drop in urban noise since COVID-19 lockdowns began in late March, an SMU study finds: <https://bit.ly/36l0wk3>. – NCTCOG Transportation Department



I miss the quiet mornings. – JR Reiner