

MINUTES

Regional Transportation Council Thursday, March 13, 2025

The Regional Transportation Council (RTC) met on Thursday, March 13, 2025, at 10:30 am in the Ballroom at the Ruthe Jackson Center. The following RTC members or representatives were present: Daniel Alemán, Bruce Arfsten, Steve Babick, Rick Bailey, Elizabeth Beck, Gyna Bivens, Alan Blaylock, Michael Crain, Theresa Daniel, Jeff Davis, Andy Eads, Michael Evans, Vernon Evans, George Fuller, Raul Gonzalez, Lane Grayson, Mojoy Haddad, Clay Lewis Jenkins, Ron Jensen, Brad LaMorgese, Stephen Mason, Tammy Meinershagen, Cara Mendelsohn, Cesar Molina, Ed Moore, John Muns, Matthew Porter, Manny Ramirez, Paul Ridley (representing Jesse Moreno), Jim Ross, David Salazar, Gary Slagel, Bobby Stovall, Jeremy Tompkins, William Tsao, and Duncan Webb.

Others present at the meeting were: Vickie Alexander, Majed Al-Ghafry, Renee Arnold, Melissa Baker, Micah Baker, Amajie Best, Natalie Bettger, Alberta Blair, Randall Bryant, Angie Carson, Lori Clark, Damarcus Clifford, Nancy Cline, Tom Cochill, Dina Colorossi, Clarence Daugherty, Becky Diviney, Gwen Dorko, Chad Edwards, Kevin Feldt, Andrew Fortune, Samantha Fries, Eric Gallt, Carmen Garcia, Jillian Giles, Elena Glassman, Rebekah Gongora, Christie Gotti, Tony Hartzel, Jeff Hathcock, Joel James, Amy Johnson, Mike Johnson, Travis Kelly, Dan Kessler, Gus Khankarli, Tony Kimmy, Ken Kirkpatrick, Chris Klaus, Bethany Kurtz, Dan Lamers, Victoria Lara, Nadine Lee, Aaron Long, Aaron Long, Paul Luedtke, Terry Lynne, Tobin Maples, Chad Marbut, Dillon Maroney, Malcolm Mayhew, Kate Milner, Brian Moen, Michael Morris, Mark Nelson, Cintia Ortiz, Kristen Petree, Christopher Poe, John Polster, James Powell, Lauren Prieur, Vercie Pruitt-Jenkins, Michael Quildon, Travis Reynolds, Minerva Rodriguez, Tracy Scott, Kelli Shields, Andy Sommerman, Sidney Sonck, Claude Spivey, Toni Stehling, Stephen Tanner, Jonathan Toffer, Lizzie Welch, Brendon Wheeler, Amanda Wilson, Karla Windsor, and Michelle Wong-Krause.

1. **Opportunity for Public Comment on Today's Agenda**: This item allows members of the public an opportunity to comment on agenda items. Regional Transportation Council Chair Clay Lewis Jenkins asked if there were any public comments. Rick Stopfer, Mayor, City of Irving, spoke on Agenda Items 9 and 10; Andy Sommerman, Commissioner, Dallas County, spoke on Agenda Items 9 and 10. Written comments were provided and can be found in the Public Comments Report under the Director's Report agenda item.
2. **Approval of February 13, 2025, Minutes**: The minutes of the February 13, 2025, meeting were approved as submitted in Electronic Item 2. Steve Babick (M); Manny Ramirez (S). The motion passed unanimously.
3. **Consent Agenda**
 - 3.1. **May 2025 Transportation Improvement Program Revisions**: Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of revisions to the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) was requested.
 - 3.2. **Pavement and Bridge Condition and System Performance, Freight, and Air Quality: PM2/PM3 Performance Measures**: A request for Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval was requested to reaffirm existing targets for the remainder of the current reporting period for two groups of federally required

performance measures: Pavement and Bridge Condition (PM2) and System Performance and Freight (PM3).

3.3. **Local Funding for On-Demand Transit Services in the Southern Dallas Inland**

Port: Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval was requested to utilize up to \$750,000 in Regional Toll Revenue funds to match STAR Transit's existing \$750,000 in Section 5307 Urbanized Area Program funds to support transit service operations in the South Dallas Inland Port area.

A motion was made to approve Items 3.1, 3.2, and 3.3 on the Consent Agenda. Theresa Daniels (M); Paul Ridley (S). The motion passed unanimously.

4. **Orientation to Agenda/Director of Transportation Report:** Michael Morris briefly highlighted items 1, 2, 3, and 4.

1. Overview of Today's Regional Transportation Council Agenda
2. North Texas Center for Mobility Technologies – Private 5G Testbed and Laboratory Supporting Advanced Mobility Research and Product Development
3. Additional Correspondence from Hunt-Related Entities on High-Speed Rail
4. Correspondence with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
5. Local Clean Air Project Spotlight
6. Air Quality Funding Opportunities (www.nctcog.org/aqfunding)
7. Upcoming Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Events (www.dfwcleancities.org/events)
8. February Public Meeting Minutes
9. January – February Public Comment Report
10. March Public Meeting Notice
11. Recent News Articles
12. Recent Correspondence
13. Recent Press Releases

5. **Mobility 2050: Draft Recommendation and Approval to Seek Public Comments:**

Brendon Wheeler provided a summary of the draft Mobility 2050 recommendations prior to requesting approval to take these draft recommendations to the public in April and May. Plan recommendations included policies, programs, and projects to advance improvements for a multimodal transportation system within the region and can be found online for review at www.nctcog.org/planinprogress. The financial plan, major roadway and transit projects, results of the nondiscrimination analysis, and public input to-date were highlighted in the presentation.

A motion was made to direct staff to take draft Mobility 2050 policy, program, and project recommendations, including associated air quality conformity and nondiscrimination analyses to public meetings for review and comment. Staff will provide an update to the Regional Transportation Council in May and June on public feedback. Daniel Alemán (M); Theresa Daniels (S). The motion passed unanimously.

6. **2025 Strategic Transportation Funding Program:** Christie Gotti requested Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of the 2025 Strategic Transportation Funding Program.

A motion was made to approve the proposed 2025 Strategic Transportation Funding Program project listings, along with amending the Transportation Improvement Program

(TIP)/Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and updating any administrative and/or planning documents as needed to incorporate the project funding. Michael Evans (M); Matthew Porter (S). Rick Bailey abstained. The motion passed unanimously.

7. **Regional Transit Partnerships and Federal Discretionary Grant Funding**: Michael Johnson provided an update on five Regional Transit Partnerships within the region. Regional Transportation Council approval was requested for additional federal funding for Fiscal Year (FY) 2020: Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) grant projects, Victory Station Pedestrian Crossing, Stemmons Rail Bridge, Trinity Railway Express (TRE) Signal Improvements and Silver Line Construction/FIFA World Cup partnership.

A motion was made to approve the allocation of federal funds for: \$21.7 million Surface Transportation Block Grants (STBG) - Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) grant cost overruns on the east and west segments, \$17 million Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) – accommodating future reconstruction of Interstate Highway 35 East/Stemmons at Trinity Railway Express (TRE), \$6.8 million (STBG) - Victory Station Pedestrian Crossing upgrades, \$5.6 million (STBG) - Silver Line improvements, \$2.5 million (CRP) - TRE track and signal improvements; and to administratively amend the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Statewide TIP (STIP), as well as other planning and administrative documents for the Fiscal Year 2020 North Texas Multimodal Operations, Velocity, Efficiency, and Safety BUILD Grant double tracking projects and Regional Transit Partnership projects. Ed Moore (M); Theresa Daniels (S). The motion passed unanimously.

8. **Texas Top 100 of Influential People**: Dan Lamers recognized Michael Morris for inclusion in the Austin, Dallas, Houston, and San Antonio Business Journals' Texas 100.

Break for Lunch

Regional Transportation Council Meeting: Part Two

9. **Federal and State Legislative Update**: Rebekah Gongora provided an update on federal and State legislative actions related to transportation and air quality issues affecting the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

A motion was made to reaffirm the Regional Transportation Council's (RTC) current position, "Ensure fair-share allocation of funds for roadway capacity improvements to metropolitan regions." The action also included approval for RTC members and staff members to participate in the House Transportation Subcommittee on Transportation Funding, related to House Bill 1288, confirming the need for the Dallas-Fort Worth region to retain future funding for transportation improvements. Steve Babick (M); Andy Eads (S). The motion passed unanimously.

10. **Transit 2.0 Implementation, Dallas Area Rapid Transit Legislation and Local Mediation via the Regional Transportation Council**: Michael Morris suggested at the last Regional Transportation Council (RTC) meeting that RTC action would be proposed if the Texas Legislature introduced legislation negatively impacting Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART). This proposed action would be that the RTC not support the proposed legislation and initiate a local mediation process to resolve the matter.

A motion was made to approve the initiation of a local mediation process between Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART), DART member cities, and the Regional Transportation Council. Paul Ridley (M); George Fuller (S). The motion passed unanimously.

Following much discussion, a motion was made to oppose legislation that would reduce funding for DART. Theresa Daniel (M); Paul Ridley (S). No vote was taken for this motion due to the amended motion below.

An amended motion was made to suspend all discussions regarding the DART legislation until the next Regional Transportation Council meeting. Steve Babick (M); Rick Bailey (S). The motion passed unanimously.

11. **Progress Reports**: Regional Transportation Council attendance was provided in Electronic Item 11.1 and Surface Transportation Technical Committee attendance, and minutes were provided in Electronic Item 11.2.
12. **Other Business (Old or New)**: There was no discussion on this item.
13. **Future Agenda Items**: There was no discussion on this item.
14. **Next Meeting**: The next meeting of the Regional Transportation Council is scheduled for **1:00 pm, Thursday, April 10, 2025.**

Meeting adjourned at 2:17 pm.