

AGENDA

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Friday, February 28, 2025

North Central Texas Council of Governments

**1:30 pm Full STTC Business Agenda
(NCTCOG Guest Secured Wireless Connections Password: rangers!)**

- 1:30 – 1:35** 1. **Approval of January 24, 2025, Minutes**
 Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 5
Presenter: Gus Khankarli, STTC Chair
Item Summary: Approval of the January 24, 2025, meeting minutes contained in Electronic Item 1 will be requested.
Background: N/A
- 1:35 – 1:40** 2. **Consent Agenda**
 Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 5
- 2.1. **Endorsement of Regional Transportation Council Local Backstop Funding for Small Transit Operators**
Presenter: Bobby Gomez, NCTCOG
Item Summary: Surface Transportation Technical Committee endorsement will be requested to utilize Regional Transportation Council (RTC) Local funds in an amount not to exceed \$200,000. This is a financial backstop pending execution of federal grants and anticipated to be returned.
Background: North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is working with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to obligate over \$6,800,000 in federal funding for small transit providers who operate through subrecipient agreements with NCTCOG. This funding was programmed by the RTC but is not available for drawdown because it is not yet included in the executed grant agreements. Delays in federal grant agreement execution have led to significant gaps in federal funding for small transit operators, providing critical transit services between urban and rural areas. These small transit providers are making adjustments where possible to maximize other funding sources but may be faced with requirements to reduce urbanized area services if federal funds are not made available quickly. Electronic Item 2.1 provides additional detail.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Transit

2.2. **May 2025 Transportation Improvement Program Revisions**

Presenter: Charles Marsh, NCTCOG

Item Summary: A recommendation for Regional Transportation Council approval of revisions to the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) will be requested, along with the ability to amend the Unified Planning Work Program and other planning documents with TIP-related changes.

Background: May 2025 revisions to the 2025-2028 TIP are provided as Electronic Item 2.2 for the Committee's consideration. These modifications have been reviewed for consistency with the mobility plan, the air quality conformity determination, and financial constraint of the TIP.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Roadway, Transit

2.3. **Pavement and Bridge Condition and System Performance, Freight, and Air Quality: PM2/PM3 Performance Measure Targets**

Presenter: Chris Klaus, NCTCOG

Item Summary: A recommendation for Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval will be 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).

Background: In 2022, the RTC adopted 2024 and 2026 targets for two sets of federally required performance measures commonly known as PM2 and PM3. PM2 includes measures related to pavement and bridge condition, while PM3 includes measures related to roadway system performance, freight, and air quality. The North Central Texas Council of Governments now has an opportunity to adjust or reaffirm the previously adopted 2026 targets, if appropriate, based on new data and analysis methodologies. As RTC took action to reaffirm 2026 targets for a subset of PM3 measures in September 2024, this item will cover the remainder of the PM3 measures not included with that action. This consent action item now includes adjustments to North Texas Tollway Authority pavement condition metrics. See Electronic Item 2.3 for more information.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Goods Movement, Roadway

1:40 – 1:50

3. **2025 Strategic Transportation Funding Program**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Brian Dell, NCTCOG

Item Summary: A recommendation for Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of the 2025 Strategic Transportation Funding Program will be requested.

Background: Over the past year, North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) staff has inventoried numerous funding requests from transportation agencies and local governments. After evaluating the requests, several projects and partnerships are being proposed for funding. The recommended projects meet one or more of the following criteria: addresses the RTC's policies or improvements outlined in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), aids in meeting safety goals, implements outcomes of planning activities, and/or assists in reaching the region's federal performance targets. A list of the proposed projects and partnerships are provided in Electronic Item 3.1. Additional details on the funding program can be found in Electronic Item 3.2.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Roadway, Safety

1:50 – 2:00

4. **Regional Transit Partnerships and Federal Discretionary Grant Funding Update**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Savannah Briscoe, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide an update on Regional Transit Partnerships within the region, as well as an update on the Federal Discretionary Grant Funding awarded in 2020. Staff will request a recommendation for Regional Transportation Council approval of additional federal funding for Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) grant projects, Victory Station Pedestrian Crossing, Trinity Railway Express (TRE) Signal Improvements and Silver Line Construction. In addition, action will be requested to administratively amend the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) and State Transportation Improvement Programs, as well as other planning and administrative documents for the FY2020 North Texas Multimodal Operations, Velocity, Efficiency, and Safety (NT MOVES) BUILD Grant double-tracking projects and Regional Transit Partnership Projects.

Background: In 2020, The NT MOVES program was awarded \$25 million dollars in BUILD federal discretionary grant funding. The NT MOVES BUILD Grant Project is a collaborative effort between NCTCOG, Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART), Trinity Metro,

and the TRE to increase regional freight and passenger mobility on the TRE corridor. The partner agencies have been working diligently to bring this project to construction by completing all pre-construction activities. Upon completion of the engineering and design for the double-tracking projects, cost overruns have been identified due to inflation and future proofing the corridor for Interstate Highway 35 East freeway construction. Additionally, Regional Transit Partnership projects such as the Victory Station Pedestrian Crossing, TRE Signal Improvements, and Silver Line Construction are requiring additional funding. Electronic Item 4 includes a presentation of the update as well as the proposed action.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Goods Movement, Transit

2:00 – 2:10

5. Local Funding for On-Demand Transit Services in the Southern Dallas Inland Port

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Gypsy Gavia, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request Surface Transportation Technical Committee (STTC) recommendation for Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval 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 for service operations in the South Dallas Inland Port area.

Background: In December 2018, RTC approved funding to create the Southern Dallas Inland Port Transportation Management Association (IPTMA) to reduce congestion and single occupancy trips. As a result, the IPTMA, in partnership with Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) and STAR Transit, began to provide on-demand microtransit service in 2020 to connect local workforce with employment opportunities across the Inland Port. Bridge funding was approved by RTC in July 2023 to further support transit within the Inland Port area due to delays in the awarded Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant. The bridge funding is anticipated to be expended approximately by October 1, 2025, and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) determined that the \$1.5 million transit operations cost is not an eligible expense under FY2021 RAISE grant activities. Currently, the North Central Texas Council of Governments, IPTMA and STAR Transit are collaborating with local governments to restructure transit service to prevent major gaps in service. The newly formed Southern Dallas County Inland Port Local Government Corporation (LGC) is also exploring local revenue solutions that could be leveraged to support transit operations for

participating cities in the Southern Dallas Inland Port area.
More details can be found in Electronic Item 5.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative, Transit

2:10 – 2:20

6. Director of Transportation Report on Selected Items

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG

Item Summary: An overview of current transportation items will be provided.

Background: Efforts continue to advance transportation in the region. Staff will highlight the following:

1. March Surface Transportation Technical Committee Meeting will be Virtual
2. Recognition of John Hudspeth, Deputy District Engineer, Texas Department of Transportation, Dallas District
3. Changing Mobility: Data, Insights, and Delivering Innovative Projects During COVID Recovery – Transit Data Update (Electronic Item 6.1)
4. Staff Work on Awarded Discretionary Grants, Federal Agencies, Federal Courts, and Presidential Executive Orders
5. North Texas Center for Mobility Technologies – Private 5G Testbed and Laboratory Supporting Advanced Mobility Research and Product Development (Electronic Item 6.2)
6. Support for Transportation Authority Funding is out of the Legislative Program Starting in March 2025

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative

2:20 – 2:30

7. Federal and State Legislative Update

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Jackie Nolasco, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide an update on federal, and State legislative actions related to transportation and air quality issues affecting the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

Background: Transportation issues continue to be a focus for both the United States (U.S.) Congress and the Texas Legislature. Staff will provide an update on key legislative positions of the Regional Transportation Council. The 1st session of the 119th U.S. Congress convened on January 3, 2025. The 89th Texas Legislature convened on January 14, 2025.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative

2:30 – 2:40

8. **Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Coalition Update**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Juliana Vandenberg, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide updates on Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Coalition (DFWCC) initiatives including re-designation approval from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), the 2024 DFWCC Fleet Recognition awardees, and the release of the 2025 DFWCC Annual Survey.

Background: The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) was designated as the host agency for the DFWCC in 1995. Clean Cities and Communities is a DOE partnership to advance clean transportation nationwide, with local coalitions working to strengthen the nation's environment, energy security, and economic prosperity. DFWCC has received re-designation approval from DOE, which confirms the Coalition and host agency are aligned with the Clean Cities and Communities mission. Additionally, DFWCC recently hosted an awards recognition luncheon for the 2024 Fleet Recognition program, which recognizes fleets for their efforts to improve air quality through adopting transportation strategies. Finally, DFWCC has opened the 2025 DFWCC Annual Survey to collect local fleet data on alternative fuel usage, idle reduction initiatives, fuel economy improvement activities, and efforts to reduce vehicle miles traveled. Fleets who submit an annual survey and adopt the Regional Transportation Council's Clean Fleet Policy are eligible for the DFWCC Fleet Recognition. To learn more about DFWCC, please visit www.dfwcleancities.org. Additional information is provided in Electronic Item 8.1, the DFWCC Letter of Re-designation is provided in Electronic Item 8.2, and Electronic Item 8.3 provides more detail on the DFWCC Redesignation.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Air Quality

2:40 – 2:50

9. **Fast Facts**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Item Summary: Brief staff presentations will be provided. Please reference the material provided for each of the following topics.

1. *Daniela Tower* – Correspondence with Texas Commission of Environmental Quality (Electronic Item 9.1)
2. *Hannah Thesing* – Local Clean Air Project Spotlight (Electronic Item 9.2)
Hannah Thesing – Air Quality Funding Opportunities
(www.nctcog.org/AQfunding)
4. *Hannah Thesing* – Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Events
(<https://www.dfwcleancities.org/events>)

5. Written Progress Reports:

- Partner Progress Reports (Electronic Item 9.3)
- January Public Meeting Minutes (Electronic Item 9.4)
- December – January Public Comments Report (Electronic Item 9.5)
- March Public Meeting Notice (Electronic Item 9.6)

10. **Other Business (Old or New)**: This item provides an opportunity for members to bring items of interest before the group.
11. **Next Meeting**: The next meeting of the Surface Transportation Technical Committee is scheduled for ***1:30 pm on March 28, 2025.***