

MINUTES

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL PUBLIC MEETING

Blue-Green-Grey Call for Projects

Regional Parking Management Toolbox and Database

Strategic Selection of Traffic Signal Equipment

Meeting Date and Location

The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) held a hybrid public meeting Tuesday, Oct. 15, 2024, at noon in Arlington. Patrons could attend in person, via phone or view the live stream at www.publicinput.com/nctcogOct24. Karla Windsor, Senior Program Manager, moderated the meeting attended by 67 people.

Public Meeting Purpose and Topics

The public meeting was held in accordance with the NCTCOG Transportation Department Public Participation Plan, which became effective June 1, 1994, as approved by the Regional Transportation Council (RTC), the transportation policy board for the metropolitan planning organization, and amended on November 8, 2018. Staff presented information about:

- Blue-Green-Grey Call for Projects – **presented by Devia Joshi**
- Regional Parking Management Toolbox and Database – **presented by Travis Liska**
- Strategic Selection of Traffic Signal Equipment – **presented by Vickie Morris**

The public meeting was held to educate, inform and seek comments from the public. Comments were solicited from those attending who wished to speak for the record. The presentations made during the meeting as well as a video recording were posted online at: www.publicinput.com/nctcogOct24.

Summary of Presentations

Blue-Green-Grey Call for Projects presentation:

<https://www.nctcog.org/getmedia/7eaa1149-b6cb-4b7b-ae90-c6a42577d589/BlueGreenGrey-Call-for-Projects.pdf>

The Blue-Green-Grey (BGG) Funding Program provides money for innovative projects that combine Blue (water), Green (environment) and Grey (transportation infrastructure) components that help address challenging regional issues and promote the planning and construction of green and/or sustainable infrastructure.

Most recently, NCTCOG conducted a competitive Call for Projects related to this initiative. The review committee included five NCTCOG staff members, and nine applications were submitted. Three of the nine applications were recommended to receive funding.

While reviewing applications for the program, staff focused on the following principles:

- Projects must be scored and should have a score sufficient to qualify for funding
- Incorporation of Blue (water), Green (environment) and Grey (transportation infrastructure) components
- Impact
- Innovation and significance
- Applicability, adaptation, transferability and practicality
- Collaboration with various stakeholders

The Regional Transportation Council (RTC) will take action on the recommended applications on Nov. 14, 2024. For more information, visit www.nctcog.org/greeninfrastructure.

Regional Parking Management Toolbox and Database presentation:

<https://www.nctcog.org/getmedia/cd2efda9-507b-4460-99fd-e9f5d890750b/Regional-Parking-Management-Toolbox-Database.pdf>

To help North Texas cities achieve a more efficient transportation system, NCTCOG is collecting data on parking demands and promoting best practices in parking management. The Parking Toolbox offers resources and information for local governments to better manage parking in strategic locations.

The current parking supply decision process often lacks adequate information and can highly overestimate demand, resulting in parking oversupply. More observed data on parking use could help our region build more efficiently. NCTCOG has developed a Regional Parking Demand Database from local parking counts and studies. You can contribute to this data with NCTCOG and explore the database and best practice strategies.

For more information, visit www.NCTCOG.org/Parking or email Travis Liska at tliska@nctcog.org.

Strategic Selection of Traffic Signal Equipment presentation:

<https://www.nctcog.org/getmedia/df07d640-1d3f-4af2-b18f-9a1738d46f47/Strategic-Selection-of-Traffic-Signal-Equipment.pdf>

NCTCOG conducted a regional inventory to establish a Regional Traffic Signal Minimum Standard and identify traffic signals that don't have equipment to meet the standard. This prioritization follows a NCTCOG regional inventory that identified traffic signals lacking the necessary equipment to meet the standard. However, due to limited funding, not all equipment needs can be addressed.

Traffic signal equipment improvements in the region include:

- Coordination (GPS Clocks)
- Communication
- Vehicle Detection
- Flashing Yellow Arrow
- Controllers
- Cabinet
- LED Signal Bulbs

The project selection process will be submitted to the RTC for approval on November 14, 2024.

COMMENTS RECEIVED DURING THE MEETING

Blue-Green-Grey Call for Projects

David Yaqubian, Congresswoman Jasmine Crockett's Office

A. Transit budget cuts

Question: What are the different approaches being utilized at NCTCOG to mitigate the recent budget cuts to DART?

Summary of response by Karla Windsor: We have an initiative underway called Transit 2.0. The RTC has awarded funding, and we have selected consultants to undergo a study to look at coordination issues related to transit. We will be looking into how more cities could join transit, how the three transit agencies could work better together, how funding works with transit agencies, legislative priorities for transit and more.

James Kovic, Smart City Texas

B. Regional connectivity

Question: Why are we not discussing connectivity along the old interurban route?

Summary of response by Karla Windsor: We have information about the region's high-capacity bus corridors, light rail and a variety of other transit choices as part of our long-term transportation plan and transit planning initiatives. A staff member will reach out and follow up with you to provide additional information.

Strategic Selection of Traffic Signal Equipment

Phyllis Silver, Citizen

A. Pedestrian safety

Comment: You mentioned coordination in certain major intersections where there are shopping centers. I realize pedestrians have the right of way, but this is not a pedestrian-oriented region, and I think that there should be some delays. Is that one of the things that is being looked at for coordination?

Summary of response by Vickie Morris: The GPS clocks inside the signal equipment serve as the coordination mechanism for this project. That allows your signals to coordinate with the next and following signals down the road, resulting in continuous green time. So, in this project, coordination specifically refers to signal timing within the individual intersections that handle pedestrian crossings. However, if you believe there is a hazard or that the timing is incorrect at a certain intersection, we can notify the city traffic engineers in charge of that intersection's signal timing.

Other

Phyllis Silver, Citizen

A. Addison popup bike lane

Comment: Somebody printed me a copy of an article regarding the Addison Popup Bike Lane Community Celebration. I was not able to attend the celebration, however, the article says we can share our feedback with NCTCOG. Who can I direct my comments to?

Summary of response by Karla Windsor: Our Sustainable Development Team is coordinating with the City of Addison for that popup. It's a road diet modification to the street to test out bike lanes. Kevin Kokes on our staff is leading this initiative with our consultant team and can take your comments.

**COMMENTS SUBMITTED DURING THE COMMENT PERIOD VIA WEBSITE,
EMAIL, SOCIAL MEDIA & MAIL**

Mail

Phyllis Silver, Citizen

Please see Attachment 1 for comments submitted via postal mail.

Blue-Green Grey Application for New Ideas Round 4

Pg. 6 - Comment - I like the bicycle docking stations. I think it should be a requirement to have docking stations that the bicycles need to be returned to. In downtown Dallas, bicycles and other devices provided by rental companies are left on the sidewalks, creating dangerous situations for pedestrians.

P. 8 - Question - the right-most image Farmers Branch Green Bus Stop Designs. what does this image represent? It appears to be a map, but I don't know what it is showing. What do the numbers 1-5 represent and why are there three number 3's?

Parking Toolbox

Comment - I found this to be interesting, especially on page 3 where it indicates that some office parking spaces allow more space for an ^{auto} parking space than they do for a person in the office.

Comment - I shared this handout with others who are particularly interested in this subject.

Strategic Selection of Traffic Signal Equipment

Question - on page 3 & other pages, the acronym INRIX appears. What does this stand for?

Comment - I have comments about traffic signals and pedestrian safety. During the public meeting, I made some live comments over the phone. I believe Vickie Morris was the one who asked that I send in the specifics. I am attaching a separate sheet with that information.

Phyllis Silver
11/1/2024