

AGENDA

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE Friday, April 24, 2020 North Central Texas Council of Governments

1:30 pm Full STTC Business Agenda (via WebEx/Audio Conference)

1:30 – 1:35 1. Approval of March 27, 2020, Minutes

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 5

Presenter: Bryan Beck, STTC Chair

Item Summary: Approval of the March 27, 2020, 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. Clean Fleets North Texas Funding Recommendations

Presenter: Amy Hodges, NCTCOG

Item Summary: A recommendation for Regional Transportation Council approval of funding recommendations for the second funding round under the Clean Fleets North Texas 2019 Call for Projects (CFP) will be requested.

Background: The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) opened the Clean Fleets North Texas 2019 CFP in June 2019 to award approximately \$2 million in grant funds for diesel vehicle or equipment replacement projects in North Central Texas. This initial application period (Round 1) ended in July 2019. A second application period (Round 2) opened November 15, 2019, and ended February 14, 2020. Staff received one application for Round 2 from the City of Arlington for the replacement of two dump trucks and one backhoe/loader. Staff has completed review and emissions quantification and developed a funding recommendation regarding this project. This CFP was funded through the Environmental Protection Agency's National Clean Diesel Funding Assistance Program and Texas Commission of Environmental Quality Supplemental Environmental Project funding. This initiative is an extension of clean vehicle efforts listed as Weight-of-Evidence in the current State Implementation Plan. Electronic Item 2.1.1 provides an overview of the call for projects and staff recommendations. Electronic Item 2.1.2 provides detailed project listings.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed:

- Safety Pavement and Bridge Condition
 Transit Asset System Performance/Freight/CMAQ

1:40 – 1:50

3. **Federal Transit Administration Funding in Response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19)**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Shannon Stevenson, NCTCOG

Item Summary: The Surface Transportation Technical Committee (STTC) will be requested to endorse the overall United States Department of Transportation's (US DOT's) Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funding levels approved by the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) for response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19). A recommendation for RTC approval of the specific funding allocations is included in this action.

Background: The US DOT's Federal Transit Administration announced April 2, 2020, a total of \$25 billion in federal funding allocations to help the nation's public transportation systems respond to COVID-19. Funding is provided through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, signed by President Trump on March 27, 2020. The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is the designated recipient for the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington (DFWA) Urbanized Area (UZA) and the Denton-Lewisville (DL) UZA.

The DFWA UZA will receive \$318,629,129 and the DL UZA was allocated \$23,461,867. Funding will be provided at a 100 percent federal share, with no local match required, and will be available to support operating, capital and other expenses generally eligible under the Urbanized Area Formula Program, and incurred beginning on January 20, 2020, to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19.

FTA funds are typically included in the Transportation Improvement Program and follow that approval process, but the FTA is waiving those requirements for these funds in order to expedite the process. While NCTCOG continues to interpret the details related to the CARES Act, RTC approved a phased approach for the FTA funding to be allocated based on the federal formula methodology. Endorsement of the overall funding total will be requested. STTC action on specific allocations will be requested in order to be presented at the May 14, 2020, RTC meeting. Details can be found in Electronic Item 3. More information regarding FTA's response to COVID-19 can be found at www.transit.dot.gov/coronavirus.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed:

- Safety Pavement and Bridge Condition
 Transit Asset System Performance/Freight/CMAQ

1:50 – 2:00

4. **Fiscal Year 2020 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development Discretionary Grant Program**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Jeffrey C. Neal, NCTCOG

Item Summary: A recommendation for Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of projects to be submitted for consideration of funding through the Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Discretionary Grant Program will be requested.

Background: In February 2020, the United States Department of Transportation (US DOT) announced the solicitation of project applications for the FY2020 BUILD Discretionary Grant Program for capital investments in surface transportation infrastructure, expected to have significant mobility and economic benefits at the local or regional level. Applications are due to the US DOT by May 18, 2020. A review of the previous FY2020 BUILD Grant Program presentation from last month's meeting can be found in Electronic Item 4.

Staff will propose the submittal of applications for the following three projects. The North Texas Multimodal Operations, Velocity, Efficiency, and Safety (MOVES) Program, submitted during the previous FY2019 BUILD round, will improve passenger/freight rail operations and capacity along the Trinity Railway Express corridor. The Dallas Fort Worth International Airport East-West Connector Project will complete a long-awaited continuous thoroughfare connection between Euless and Irving. The South Dallas Enhanced Mobility Project will provide new technology and infrastructure applications to boost multimodal efficiency and accessibility in the vicinity of the International Inland Port of Dallas (IIPOD). Specific details on project scope, cost, and BUILD grant requests will be presented at the meeting.

For agencies in the region expecting to submit projects, please be aware that you must complete the www.grants.gov registration process before applying, and this process usually takes two to four weeks to complete. In addition, if an agency would like to receive a letter of support from the Regional Transportation Council, requests must be submitted to Rebekah Hernandez by Friday, May 1, 2020, at rhernandez@nctcog.org.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed:

Safety Pavement and Bridge Condition
 Transit Asset System Performance/Freight/CMAQ

2:00 – 2:10

5. **Effect of COVID-19 Restrictions on the Transportation System**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Francisco Torres, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide an update on the effect of COVID-19 restrictions of movement on the transportation system based on specific measures.

Background: Staff is monitoring several transportation measures including traffic volume, vehicle speed, transit ridership, emission levels, and others. These measures will indicate impacts to the transportation system as a result of COVID-19 pandemic restrictions. Monitoring these measures will also be beneficial to plan accordingly for normalization of travel patterns.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed:

Safety Pavement and Bridge Condition
 Transit Asset System Performance/Freight/CMAQ

2:10 – 2:20

6. **Transportation Infrastructure Post COVID 19- and Regional 10-Year Plan Update**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will update the Committee on the potential impacts of COVID-19 to the region's transportation infrastructure and provide the latest information on the schedule and process to develop the Fiscal Year 2021 Unified Transportation Program (UTP) and Regional 10-Year Plan for this year.

Background: Staff has closely monitored the impacts of COVID-19 on the region's transportation infrastructure and has started to analyze how these impacts could potentially affect transportation in the short-term and moving forward. A summary of the staff's preliminary findings will be provided.

Discussions continue with the Texas Department of Transportation districts on the process and schedule to develop an updated project listing for the Regional 10-Year Plan and the 2021 UTP. With August 2020 being the anticipated schedule for Texas Transportation Commission action, staff proposes to bring the Regional 10-Year Plan listings to the public in May, request Committee approval at its May 2020 meeting, and request Regional Transportation Council approval at its June 2020 meeting.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed:

Safety Pavement and Bridge Condition
 Transit Asset System Performance/Freight/CMAQ

7. **Fast Facts**

Action Possible Action Information

Item Summary: Staff presentations will not be made. Please reference the material provided for each of the following topics.

1. Postponement Announcement for the May 2020 Traffic Incident Management Executive Level Course (Electronic Item 7.1)
2. East/West Equity Update (Electronic Item 7.2)
3. Metropolitan Transportation Plan Policy Bundle Round 4 (Electronic Item 7.3)
4. Air Quality Funding Opportunities or Vehicles (<https://www.nctcog.org/trans/quality/air/funding-and-resources/fundingvehicle>)
5. Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Events (<https://www.dfwcleancities.org/dfw-clean-cities-meetings>)
6. Department of Energy Redesignates Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities (Electronic Item 7.4)
7. May Online Input Opportunity Notice (Electronic Item 7.5)
8. Public Comments Report (Electronic Item 7.6)
9. Written Progress Report:
 - Local Motion (Electronic Item 7.7)

8. **Other Business (Old or New):** This item provides an opportunity for members to bring items of interest before the group.

9. **Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the Surface Transportation Technical Committee is scheduled for **1:30 pm on May 22, 2020.**