

## AGENDA

### SURFACE TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Friday, October 25, 2024

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 September 27, 2024, Minutes**

Action       Possible Action       Information      Minutes: 5

Presenter: Gus Khankarli, STTC Chair

Item Summary: Approval of the September 27, 2024, 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. Development of Transportation Mobility Plans for FIFA 2026: AT&T Stadium (Nine Matches), International Broadcast Center (Pending) and Fair Park (Fan Fest)**

Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG

Item Summary: FIFA has requested detailed Transportation Mobility Plans and the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is requesting consultant assistance in documenting existing plans into the FIFA format and detail.

Background: NCTCOG staff has been requested to take the transportation lead by the Dallas Host Committee for transportation-related FIFA activities. Plans are already in place and need to be documented into a nationwide common format. First drafts are necessary by March 2025 with consultants staying under coordination until September 30, 2026. The cost is anticipated to not exceed \$1 million. RTC Local is the funding source.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative, Transit

**2.2. Endorsement of Transit Strategic Partnerships Program: May 2024 Cycle Selected Project**

Presenter: Dora Kelly, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff is seeking endorsement of the project evaluated through the May 2024 Cycle of Transit Strategic Partnerships Program to provide funding to Feonix Mobility Rising for the pilot of a Transportation Assistance Hub in portions of Dallas and Ellis counties.

Background: In the May 2024 cycle, one project was reviewed as a carryover from the previous November 2023 cycle. It was presented to the Surface Transportation Technical Committee in September. Feonix Mobility Rising is proposing to address transit needs by using mobility navigators to connect riders with existing services and offer access to a volunteer driver program for mobility impaired residents and seniors where no other service is available or accessible. The selected project aligns with regional goals set forth in 2022 Access North Texas, the regional public transportation coordination plan for the 16-county North Central Texas area, which documents the transportation needs of older adults, individuals with disabilities, and individuals with lower incomes across the region. As part of the Transit Strategic Partnerships Program, staff requested Regional Transportation Council approval on October 17, 2024, for Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funding under Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities in an amount not to exceed \$475,000 in federal funding. Please see Electronic Item 2.2 for more information.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative, Transit

**2.3. Strategic Highway Network Route Proposed Additions**

Presenter: Roman Rangel, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request a recommendation for Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval to add a roadway location within the Dallas-Fort Worth region to the Strategic Roadway Network (STRAHNET).

Background: STRAHNET, a subset of the National Highway System (NHS), is a network of highways, including the Interstate System, that provide connecting routes to military installations, industries, and resources in times of peace and war. The Texas Department of Transportation

(TxDOT) and the Department of Defense (DOD) have been coordinating the addition of existing roadway locations to STRAHNET as part of the DOD's efforts to improve connectivity between Fort Bliss and Fort Cavazos and their designated seaports of embarkation in Port Beaumont and Port Arthur. As a result of this effort, a roadway location within the Dallas-Fort Worth region has been selected as a proposed addition to STRAHNET. A map and table detailing the proposed addition is included in Electronic Item 2.3.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Goods Movement, Roadway

#### **2.4. Blue-Green-Grey Application for New Ideas Round 4 – Project Funding Recommendations**

Presenter: Shawn Conrad, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request approval of the Blue-Green-Grey application recommended for funding.

Background: The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) issued the Round 4 Blue-Green-Grey funding opportunity on July 15, 2024. Applications were due on August 16, 2024. Eligible projects are within the 12-county Metropolitan Planning Area and incorporate three elements – Blue (water), Green (environment), and Grey (transportation infrastructure). The goal of the Blue-Green-Grey program is to support innovative pilot projects that provide resources for cities and organizations to replicate these ideas throughout the metroplex. The total of available funds is \$250,000 RTC Local. A project evaluation committee reviewed the nine applications received and is recommending three projects for a total funding recommendation of \$248,200 RTC Local. The recommended projects were presented at the September 27, 2024, Surface Transportation Technical Committee meeting as information as well as the Transportation Public Meeting on October 15, 2024. Additional information is provided in Electronic Item 2.4.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Roadway

1:40 – 1:50

3. **Endorsement of Community Noise Mitigation Program Grant Submission**

Action       Possible Action       Information      Minutes: 10

Presenter: Amanda Wilson, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request Committee endorsement of the submittal of grant applications to the Department of Defense Community Noise Mitigation Program and a recommendation to the Regional Transportation Council for local match funds.

Background: The United States Department of Defense has announced a Notice of Funding Opportunity for the Community Noise Mitigation Program. This program is intended to assist local governments impacted by military fixed-wing aviation noise through the installation of noise mitigating insulation at covered facilities, with specific funding set aside for reserve bases that have transitioned to a new type or model of aircraft. The Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth (NAS JRB Fort Worth) is in the process of transitioning from F-16 to F-35 aircraft. Staff will provide an overview of the proposed grants to be submitted by the North Central Texas Council of Governments. Total project cost is approximately \$4 million. The grant application will request 90 percent of the cost in federal funds, supported by a local match of Regional Transportation Council (RTC) Local funds and an equivalent amount provided by two participating school districts – Lake Worth and White Settlement Independent School Districts (ISD) – for the required 10 percent local match. If awarded, the grant applications will include noise insulation construction in six facilities in these two ISDs. These facilities include schools that are experiencing high levels of indoor noise as a result of military aviation operations. RTC Local funds previously approved by the RTC as part of the Regional Joint Land Use Study, has been used for upfront costs that will cover 5 percent of the match. The Lake Worth and White Settlement ISDs will pay the remaining 5 percent portion of the local match. Staff will request Committee action to backfill RTC Local funding for the Regional Joint Land Use Study. An overview of the proposed project is included in Electronic Item 3.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative

**1:50 – 2:00**

**4. Strategic Selection of Traffic Signal Equipment**

Action       Possible Action       Information      Minutes: 10

Presenter: Gregory Masota, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request Committee recommendation for Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval on a strategic selection process based on the traffic signal equipment inventory to select equipment upgrades.

Background: In 2022, North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) staff conducted a comprehensive inventory of approximately 7,000 traffic signals across the Dallas-Fort Worth region. As part of this initiative, they collaborated with partner agencies to establish minimum standards for traffic signal equipment. RTC has allocated funding to begin upgrading signals that fall below these standards. To maximize the impact of this funding, staff is proposing a strategic selection process based on the regional inventory to prioritize locations for upgrades. While the inventory identified numerous signals requiring equipment improvements, the available funds will not cover all necessary upgrades. Additional information is provided in Electronic Item 4.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Safety

**2:00 – 2:10**

**5. Call for Projects to Reduce Diesel Emissions**

Action       Possible Action       Information      Minutes: 10

Presenter: Jason Brown, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request action on a recommendation for Regional Transportation Council approval to open a new, competitive Call for Projects (CFP) to award rebates through the North Texas Diesel Emissions Reduction Project 2024 utilizing Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) funds.

Background: Over the past years, the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) has been successful in receiving grant funding for multiple proposals submitted to the EPA under the National Clean Diesel Funding Assistance Program authorized by the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act. The latest award based on NCTCOG's proposal submitted in December 2023 identifies open and competitive CFPs to distribute funds. The North Texas Diesel Emissions Reduction Project 2024 funding initiative provides rebates to replace older, high-emitting diesel-powered vehicles, engines, and equipment in addition to locomotive engine idle reduction technology, owned by public and private fleets in the ten-county ozone nonattainment area. A schedule and project selection criteria

for the CFPs is proposed. These initiatives are an extension of clean vehicle and technology improvements listed as Weight-of-Evidence in the current State Implementation Plan. Electronic Item 5 provides additional details.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Air Quality

**2:10 – 2:30**

**6. Director of Transportation Report on Selected Items**

Action       Possible Action       Information      Minutes: 20

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. Safety Review of Older Freeway Sections: Five Examples
2. Regional Transportation Council Recognition
3. Regional Transportation Council Legislative Program (Electronic Item 6.1) and (Electronic Item 6.2)
4. Executive Board Follow-Up: White Paper on Federal Eligibility of Broadband As a Travel Demand Management Strategy
5. North Central Texas Council of Governments Not Pursuing Low-Carbon Transportation Materials Grant Opportunity
6. Current Hold on Regional Transportation Council Policy – Temporary Suspension of Dynamic Pricing of Managed Lanes During Reconstruction

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative

**2:30 – 2:40**

**7. Swyft Cities Certification of Emerging and Reliable Transportation Technology Program Update**

Action       Possible Action       Information      Minutes: 10

Presenter: Mike Johnson, NCTCOG

Item Summary: As part of the Certification of Emerging and Reliable Transportation Technology (CERTT) Program, staff will provide information on the recent progress of Swyft Cities and their advancement through the program.

Background: In May 2022, the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) adopted Policy P22-02 to develop a process for the Transportation Infrastructure Certification Program (now named CERTT). This program serves to guide a consensus-building path among the RTC, interested local governments,

and transportation technology providers in bringing innovative transportation solutions to our region with the end goal of a commercial application serving a long-range transportation need. Swyft Cities advanced through Round 2 of the CERTT Program in spring 2023 and received several proposals from interested local governments. Since that point, Swyft Cities has been engaged with the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) and interested local governments in advancing potential project locations, determining appropriate technology certification oversight structures, considering public-private partnerships, balancing roles and shared risk, and developing a potential funding package for initial deployment. Recently, NCTCOG submitted a letter of commitment to the United States Department of Transportation supporting the City of Arlington's "Improving Access, Safety, and the Environment with Aerial Automated Transit Networks" grant application and their request for the 2024 Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) grant submittal. Electronic Item 7 provides more information.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Safety, Transit

2:40 – 2:50

8. **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. *Daniel Snyder* - North Central Texas Council of Governments 2025 Transportation Alternatives Call for Projects Informational Webinar ([www.nctcog.org/tap2025](http://www.nctcog.org/tap2025))
2. *Analisa Garcia* – 2024 Ozone Season Update (Electronic Item 8.1)
3. *Jared Wright* – Texas Department of Transportation Rider 48 Report: Evaluation of Medium-Duty and Heavy-Duty Vehicle Charging Infrastructure and Capacity ([rider-48-report.pdf \(txdot.gov\)](http://rider-48-report.pdf.txdot.gov))
4. *Trey Pope* – Engine Off North Texas Status Report (Electronic Item 8.2)
5. *Savana Nance* – Local Clean Air Project Spotlight: Arlington Multi-Modal Delivery Demonstration Success (Electronic Item 8.3)
6. *Savana Nance* – Air Quality Funding Opportunities ([www.nctcog.org/AQfunding](http://www.nctcog.org/AQfunding))
7. *Savana Nance* – Upcoming Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Events (<https://www.dfwcleancities.org/events>)
8. Written Progress Reports:
  - Partner Progress Reports (Electronic Item 8.4)

- September Public Meeting Minutes (Electronic Item 8.5)
- November Public Meeting Notice (Electronic Item 8.6)
- August – September Public Comments Report (Electronic Item 8.7)

9. **Other Business (Old or New)**: This item provides an opportunity for members to bring items of interest before the group.
10. **Next Meeting**: The next meeting of the Surface Transportation Technical Committee is scheduled for ***1:30 pm on December 6, 2024.***