

**REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL**  
**April 9, 2020**

In accordance with the Texas Governor's March 13, 2020, Disaster Declaration and subsequent suspension of certain Texas Open Meetings Act provisions, the April 9, 2020, meeting of the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) was conducted via teleconference call. Staff conducted a roll call of members and the presence of a quorum was confirmed. The following members or representatives were present on the conference call: Tennell Atkins, Richard E. Aubin, Adam Bazaldua, David Blewett, Mohamed Bur, Loyl C. Bussell, Dianne Costa, Theresa Daniel, Jeff Davis, Rudy Durham, Andy Eads, Kevin Falconer, Gary Fickes, George Fuller, Rick Grady, Lane Grayson, Mojoy Haddad, Roger Harmon, Ivan Hughes, J.J. Koch (representing Clay Lewis Jenkins), Ron Jensen, Jungus Jordan, John Keating, Lee M. Kleinman, Mike Leyman, David Magness, Curtistene McCowan, Robert Miklos, Cary Moon, Barbara Odom-Wesley, John Ryan, Jeremy Tompkins, T. Oscar Trevino Jr., William Tsao, Paul N. Wageman, Dennis Webb, Duncan Webb, Chad West, B. Glen Whitley, W. Jeff Williams, and Ann Zadeh. Individual attendance was not taken for non-RTC member attendees.

Regional Transportation Council Chair Andy Eads thanked members of the Regional Transportation Council and local governments for the collaboration and partnership across the region over the last several weeks. He noted that with change and challenge comes opportunity, and that he was hopeful, from a mobility standpoint, new funds may be available for projects the region has been discussing for many years through some of the benefits of the stimulus packages and other items being considered at the federal level.

1. **Opportunity for the Public to Speak on Today's Agenda: Consistent with HB 2840:** This item allows members of the public an opportunity to give input on agenda items. Regional Transportation Council Chair Andy Eads asked if there were any public comments. No members of the public chose to speak.
2. **Approval of the March 12, 2020, Minutes:** The minutes of the March 12, 2020, meeting were approved as submitted in Reference Item 2. B. Glen Whitley (M); Theresa Daniel (S). The motion passed unanimously.
3. **Consent Agenda:** The following items were included on the Consent Agenda.
  - 3.1. **Transportation Improvement Program Modifications:** Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of revisions to the 2019-2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), provided in Electronic Item 3.1, and the ability to amend the Unified Planning Work Program and other planning/administrative documents with TIP-related changes was requested.
  - 3.2. **Western Extrusions Transit Pilot:** Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of existing Regional Toll Revenue funds, previously authorized by the RTC for transit projects, to Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) in an amount not to exceed \$325,000 was requested to enhance connectivity between Western Extrusions and DART service areas. Electronic Item 3.2.1 contained a copy of the City of Carrollton's request with the North Central Texas Council of Governments' response, and Electronic Item 3.2.2 provided additional details on the project.

- 3.3. Approval of Additional Funding to Expedite Environmental and Design Review for Surface Transportation Projects: Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval for \$100,000 in RTC Local funds to expedite environmental and design review for surface transportation projects was requested. This effort will involve development of the environmental documentation for the Collin County Outer Loop and the Dallas to Fort Worth High-Speed Transportation Connections Study, as well as other technical assistance as may be required.
- 3.4. Letters to the Texas Department of Transportation on High-Speed Rail: Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval to submit letters to the Texas Department of Transportation in three high-speed rail areas was requested. The first letter will request a path forward to conduct the Tier II environmental document on the proposed corridor from Fort Worth to Monterrey, Mexico. The second letter impacts the Tier II environmental document that the North Central Texas Council of Governments is conducting between Fort Worth and Dallas and will confirm that public sector right-of-way is available for high-speed rail use and to confirm interests to pursue discretionary funds from the federal government. The third letter will request clarification on the status of the Virgin Hyperloop One Certification Center technology being able to be constructed on public sector right-of-way.
- 3.5. Contingency Funds for Negotiations on the Tier II Environmental Document from Fort Worth to Dallas: Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of additional Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG) funds to close the funding gap to conduct the environmental document on high-speed rail between Fort Worth and Dallas was requested. Originally, the RTC approved \$5 million to conduct the environmental review for the project and instructed the North Central Texas Council of Governments to procure a consultant to conduct the environmental documents necessary between Fort Worth and Dallas. Negotiations are currently underway with the winning proposer and additional funding is necessary to close the funding gap on the required environmental documentation. A specific dollar amount was not requested in order to not bias the negotiations currently underway.
- 3.6. Federal Transit Administration Funding Allocations in Repose to the Coronavirus (COVID-19): The United States Department of Transportation (US DOT) Federal Transit Administration (FTA) announced April 2, 2020, a total of \$25 billion in federal funding allocations to help the nation's public transportation systems respond to the Coronavirus (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 UZA. The DFWA UZA will receive \$318,629,129 and the Denton-Lewisville 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 has waived those requirements for these funds in order to expedite the process. Regional

Transportation Council approval of US DOT Federal Transit Administration funding allocations in response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) was requested. Specific funding recommendations will be requested at a future meeting. More information regarding FTA's response to COVID-19 can be found at [www.transit.dot.gov/coronavirus](http://www.transit.dot.gov/coronavirus).

Paul N. Wageman requested a brief description of the request and asked how it differed from typical approval requests. Michael Morris noted that this item was included on this month's agenda due to the urgency of funding from Congress to help the nation's public transportation systems respond to COVID-19. Preliminary approval permits the overall funding to proceed, and staff will review the allocation methods from the FTA for action on the specific funding amounts within the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington Urbanized Area to be provided to 11 transportation providers and confirmation of the allocation for the Denton-Lewisville Urbanized Area at the May 14, 2020, RTC meeting.

A motion was made to approve the items on the Consent Agenda. Curtistene McCowan (M); Rick Grady (S). The motion passed unanimously.

4. **Orientation to the Agenda/Director of Transportation Report:** Presentation of the Director of Transportation Report was not provided. Details were included in the associated meeting material.
  1. 2020 and 2021 Unified Transportation Program Status Report (Electronic Item 4.1)
  2. Dallas-Fort Worth Area High-Occupancy Vehicle Transportation Control Measure Substitution (Electronic Item 4.2)
  3. Auto Occupancy/High-Occupancy Vehicle Quarterly Report (Electronic Item 4.3)
  4. 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program Draft Listings (Postponed at the March 12, 2020, Meeting and will Remain Postponed)
  5. Mobility 2045 Update (High-Speed Rail Recommendations) (Postponed at the March 12, 2020, Meeting and will Remain Postponed)
  6. Metropolitan Transportation Plan Schedule (Postponed at the March 12, 2020, Meeting and will Remain Postponed)
  7. Trail of the Month Video (Postponed at the March 12, 2020, Meeting and will Remain Postponed)
  8. Postponement Announcement for the May 2020 Traffic Incident Management Executive Level Course (Electronic Item 4.4)
  9. Air Quality Funding Opportunities for Vehicles ([www.nctcog.org/trans/quality/air/funding-and-resources/fundingvehicle](http://www.nctcog.org/trans/quality/air/funding-and-resources/fundingvehicle))
  10. Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Events ([www.dfwcleancities.org/dfw-clean-cities-meetings](http://www.dfwcleancities.org/dfw-clean-cities-meetings))
  11. Regular Travel Behavior Reports/Start of 2020 Ozone Season: A New Day (Electronic Item 4.5)
  12. March Public Meeting Minutes (Electronic Item 4.6)
  13. April Online Input Opportunity Notice (Electronic Item 4.7)
  14. Public Comments Report (Electronic Item 4.8)
  15. Recent Correspondence (Electronic Item 4.9)
  16. Recent News Articles (Electronic Item 4.10)
  17. Recent Press Releases (Electronic Item 4.11)

5. **Progress Reports:** Regional Transportation Council attendance was provided in Electronic Item 5.1, Surface Transportation Technical Committee attendance and minutes in Electronic Item 5.2, and the current Local Motion was provided in Electronic Item 5.3.
6. **Other Business (Old or New):** There was no discussion on this item.
7. **Future Agenda Items:** There was no discussion on this item.
8. **Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the Regional Transportation Council is scheduled for 1:00 pm, Thursday, May 14, 2020.

The meeting adjourned at 1:25 pm.