

AGENDA

Regional Transportation Council Thursday, November 9, 2023 North Central Texas Council of Governments

**1:00 pm Full RTC Business Agenda
(NCTCOG Guest Secured Wireless Connection Password: rangers!)**

Pledge to the United States and Texas Flags

- 1:00 – 1:10**
1. **Opportunity for Public Comment on Today's Agenda**
☒ Information Minutes: 10
Item Summary: Members of the public may comment on any item(s) on today's agenda at this time. If speaking, please complete a Speaker Request Card, available at the meeting, and provide it to the North Central Texas Council of Governments designated staff person. A maximum of three (3) minutes is permitted per speaker. At the conclusion of this item, no further opportunities for public comment will be provided for the duration of the meeting.
Background: N/A
- 1:10 – 1:15**
2. **Approval of October 12, 2023, Minutes**
☒ Action ☐ Possible Action ☐ Information Minutes: 5
Presenter: Gyna Bivens, RTC Chair
Item Summary: Approval of the October 12, 2023, meeting minutes contained in Electronic Item 2 will be requested.
Background: N/A
- 1:15 – 1:20**
3. **Consent Agenda**
☒ Action ☐ Possible Action ☐ Information Minutes : 5
 - 3.1. **Proposed Administrative Amendments to Mobility 2045 – 2022 Update**
Presenter: Brendon Wheeler, NCTCOG
Item Summary: Staff will request Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval to amend the Mobility 2045 Update with the inclusion of three non-regionally significant roadway projects.
Background: Three roadway projects are proposed for addition to Mobility 2045: the Metropolitan Transportation Plan for North Central Texas – 2022 Update for Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) to advance planning and design activities. These projects are not yet ready to be considered for inclusion in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and are only proposed to be included as a part of the system of recommendations in the Mobility 2045 Update at this time. As these projects are considered “non-regionally significant” (designation for air quality purposes), their addition to the Plan does not impact transportation air

quality conformity. Fact sheets of the proposed additions can be found in Electronic Item 3.1.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative, Roadway

1:20 – 1:35

4. Orientation to Agenda/Director of Transportation Report

☐ Action ☐ Possible Action ☒ Information Minutes: 15

Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG

1. Special Presentation from the Regional Coordination Committee – Dan Kessler, North Central Texas Council of Governments; Mike Coleman, Former Mayor of Westworth Village; and Captain Mark McLean, Base Commander at Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base
2. New Project for North Texas Center for Mobility Technologies (Electronic Item 4.1)
3. Texas Department of Transportation Statewide Active Transportation Plan (Electronic Item 4.2)
4. May 2024 Transportation Improvement Program Modification Submittal Deadline – December 8, 2023
5. Local Elected Officials Meeting with Texas Department of Transportation Commissioners
6. 2023 Ozone Season Update (Electronic Item 4.3)
7. National Drive Electric Week Recap (Electronic Item 4.4)
8. Upcoming Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Events (<https://www.dfwcleancities.org/events>)
9. Air Quality Funding Opportunities for Vehicles (www.nctcog.org/aqfunding)
10. November Online Input Opportunity Notice (Electronic Item 4.5)
11. October Public Meeting Minutes (Electronic Item 4.6)
12. Public Comments Report (Electronic Item 4.7)
13. Recent Correspondence (Electronic Item 4.8)
14. Recent News Articles (Electronic Item 4.9)
15. Recent Press Releases (Electronic Item 4.10)

1:35 – 1:50

5. Request to North Central Texas Council of Governments Executive Board to Reconsider Transportation Paid Education Campaigns for Fiscal Year 2024

☒ Action ☐ Possible Action ☐ Information Minutes: 15

Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will seek the Regional Transportation Council's (RTC's) support to request that the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) Executive Board reconsider and approve up to \$595,000 in funding for Education Campaigns for Transportation. This was previously approved by RTC at \$866,000 in Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 related to Congestion Relief and Air Quality. The Executive Board failed to approve funding for these two categories of paid education campaigns in September and asked the Regional Transportation Council to reevaluate the requests.

Background: Since 2014, the NCTCOG Executive Board has been authorizing annual large-scale advertising purchase and placement initiatives for the Transportation Department. In September, the Executive Board approved paid education funding for Public Involvement, Safety and Contingency categories but did not approve funding for Congestion Relief and Air Quality programs previously approved by the RTC. Staff has evaluated the original funding request approved by the RTC based on discussion at the Executive Board meeting in September. A risk assessment was performed and included the following elements: Institutional/Relationship Risk; Contract Commitments; Congestion Management Process; Air Quality Conformity; State Implementation Plan/Weight of Evidence; Program Fatal Flaw; RTC/Executive Board Policy Risk; 23 USC 134 Requirements; and 23 CFR 450, Subpart C – Metropolitan Planning and Programming Regulations. Electronic Item 5 provides more information on the original and revised funding requests for Congestion Relief and Air Quality programs. Education campaigns for these categories will support the Congestion Management Program, Car Care Awareness, the HOV 2+ Incentive Program (GoCarma), Ozone Season Emissions Reduction Campaign (Air North Texas), and Clean Cities/National Drive Electric Week. Education campaigns will be in multiple languages and may be presented through out-of-home advertising, print, screen, online, audio, and social media mediums.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative (Legal)

1:50 – 2:00

6. **Federal/Local Funding Partnership with Collin County on U.S. 380**

☒ Action ☐ Possible Action ☐ Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Christie Gotti, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of a proposed federal/local partnership with Collin County will be requested.

Background: The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) would like to expand the pool of RTC Local funds to allow the RTC to expedite projects and programs. To address these needs, a federal/local funding partnership is being proposed between the RTC and Collin County. In November 2020, the RTC approved partnerships with Collin County, the City of McKinney, and the City of Frisco associated with the U.S. 380 project. These partnerships involved the RTC funding projects for which Collin County Bond Program funds are ineligible in return for Collin County placing that local funding on the U.S. 380 corridor. An amended arrangement is being proposed that would send Collin County's local funding to the RTC, with an equal amount of Category 2 funding being placed on U.S. 380. Electronic Item 6 contains additional details on the partnership.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative, Roadway

2:00 – 2:15

7. **Proposed Regional Transportation Council Comments Regarding Texas Department of Transportation Rule Making for Metropolitan Planning Organization-Selected Funding**

☒ Action ☐ Possible Action ☐ Information Minutes: 15

Presenter: Christie Gotti, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will brief the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) on Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) proposed policy/rule change for Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)-selected funding categories and request action regarding public comments to be submitted to TxDOT.

Background: In September 2023, TxDOT Headquarters staff briefed MPOs statewide on its proposed rulemaking to change allocation practices and limit carryover funding on certain MPO-selected categories, including Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ), Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program, and Category 2 - Metro Corridor funding. The result of this proposal is that MPOs will only have access to a portion of carryover funds. After carryover funds reach a certain percentage, the amount over the limit will be reallocated to other Districts and MPOs (in the case of CMAQ) or other Districts (in the case of STBG, but through the Category 2 funding program, and those funds would be selected by TxDOT Districts, not by MPOs). The same policy change proposal was presented at the September 28, 2023, Texas Transportation Commission (TTC) meeting, in which the TTC took action to send the proposed rule change through the public review and comment process. Comments are due by November 13, 2023. Based on Surface Transportation Technical Committee and RTC feedback in October, staff will discuss and request action on proposed comments. Electronic Item 7.1 provides additional information about this topic. Electronic Item 7.2 includes the draft language of the proposed rulemaking.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative, Air Quality

2:15 – 2:20

8. **Electric Vehicle Charging and Energy Management**

☒ Action ☐ Possible Action ☐ Information Minutes: 5

Presenters: Lori Clark, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval for the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) to pursue funding from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Electric Vehicle Charger Reliability and Accessibility Accelerator Program. Staff will also request use of RTC Local funds to satisfy match requirements for a State Energy Conservation Office (SECO) project on energy management.

Background: Funded through a set-aside from the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Formula Program, the FHWA Electric Vehicle Charger Reliability and Accessibility Accelerator Program will provide approximately \$100 million nationwide for the repair, upgrade, or replacement of existing but non-operational publicly accessible electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure. FHWA has established a list of eligible non-operational EV charging

infrastructure stations. Staff proposes to apply on behalf of the region to repair, upgrade, and replace eligible EV chargers located within, or providing connectivity to, the NCTCOG region, contingent on evaluation of site worthiness. NCTCOG has been awarded \$200,000 in Department of Energy (DOE) funds by SECO to continue regional energy management work, which is completed collaboratively by the NCTCOG Transportation and Environment and Development departments. This work has been ongoing for several years and seeks to further energy efficiency and renewable energy efforts in the region. These efforts are increasingly important as transportation electrifies, both in maintaining a reliable electric grid and mitigating increased air pollution from power generation. Receipt of \$200,000 federal funds requires a match of \$40,000. Both the award and match will be shared equally between departments. Up to \$20,000 RTC Local funds will be requested to fulfill the Transportation Department share. Electronic Item 8 provides more information.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Air Quality

2:20 – 2:30

9. 2023 Transportation Conformity and Mobility 2050

☒ Action ☐ Possible Action ☐ Information Minutes: 10

Presenters: Chris Klaus and Brendon Wheeler, NCTCOG

Item Summary: A resolution by the Regional Transportation Council approving the 2023 Transportation Conformity results will be requested. Staff will present a brief overview, including conformity analysis results.

Background: On April 24, 2023, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published a Notice of Adequacy for the 2020 Motor Vehicle Emissions Budgets for the purpose of transportation conformity, with an effective date of May 24, 2023. This adequacy determination requires transportation conformity to be performed within two years of the effective date. Staff will present draft final emission results from the analysis. The current regional Metropolitan Transportation Plan (Mobility 2045 Update) was not updated for this analysis. The resolution is included as Electronic Item 9.1 for review. Staff will also present the timeline for the next Metropolitan Transportation Plan, Mobility 2050. Additional information is provided in Electronic Item 9.2.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Air Quality, Roadway

2:30 – 2:40

10. Project Status Report: Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Project Tracking Update

☐ Action ☐ Possible Action ☒ Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Brian Dell, NCTCOG

Item Summary: The Regional Transportation Council (RTC) will be provided with a status report on the FY2023/FY2024 Project Tracking effort, which is of increased importance given the State's proposed rule changes for Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) and Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program funds.

Background: Almost every year, RTC selected projects being implemented by local governments experience delays. Projects tend to be

delayed year after year, until it has been 3-4 years since the originally committed start date. These repeated delays led to the need to implement a project tracking initiative which highlights project schedule commitments to the Surface Transportation Technical Committee (STTC) and the RTC on a regular basis and reports local agency progress toward the committed project development schedules. A list of project phases that were scheduled to begin in FY2023 and their current statuses can be found in Electronic Item 10.1. A list of project phases that are scheduled to begin in FY2024 and their current statuses can be found in Electronic Item 10.2. A summary of overall progress towards funding obligation and project completion is provided in Electronic Item 10.3.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Roadway, Transit

2:40 – 2:50

11. **North Texas Tollway State Infrastructure Bank Loan Update**

☐ Action ☐ Possible Action ☒ Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Ken Bunkley, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will brief the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) on the repayment of the North Texas Tollway Authority (NTTA) State Infrastructure Bank (SIB) loan. NTTA has paid the loan in full prior to the maturation date and staff will present interest earned by each participating county.

Background: In 2012, the RTC authorized the use of \$138,972,561 in Regional Toll Revenue (RTR) funds from Collin, Dallas, and Denton Counties to assume the NTTA SIB loan from the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT). This action freed up funds in the State Infrastructure Bank for use across Texas. Interest was earned at a rate of 4.2 percent with payments due on January 1, beginning 2014 and ending January 1, 2029. Payment in full was made early, in October 2022, and the total amount of interest earned was \$38,897,636. Additional information is available in Electronic Item Electronic Item 11.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Roadway, Transit

12. **Progress Reports**

☐ Action ☐ Possible Action ☒ Information

Item Summary: Progress Reports are provided in the items below.

- RTC Attendance (Electronic Item 12.1)
- STTC Attendance and Minutes (Electronic Item 12.2)

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

14. **Future Agenda Items:** This item provides an opportunity for members to bring items of future interest before the Council.

15. **Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the Regional Transportation Council is scheduled for ***1:00 pm on December 14, 2023, in the Transportation Council Room.***