

AGENDA

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Friday, October 25, 2019

North Central Texas Council of Governments

1:30 pm

Full STTC Business Agenda

(NCTCOG Guest Secured Wireless Connection Password: rangers!)

1:30 – 1:35

1. Approval of October 4, 2019, Minutes

☒ Action ☐ Possible Action ☐ Information Minutes: 5

Presenter: Bryan Beck, STTC Chair

Item Summary: Approval of the October 4, 2019, meeting minutes contained in Reference Item 1 will be requested.

Background: N/A

1:35 – 1:40

2. Consent Agenda

☒ Action ☐ Possible Action ☐ Information Minutes: 5

2.1. 2020 Incident Management Equipment Purchase Call for Projects

Presenter: Camille Fountain, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request a recommendation for Regional Transportation Council approval to host a new round of the Incident Management Equipment Purchase Call for Projects in 2020.

Background: The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) hosted the first Incident Management Equipment Purchase Call for Projects (CFP) in 2014 to assist first responder partner agencies in purchasing equipment and technology used to mitigate traffic incidents in the North Central Texas Nonattainment Area. The 2014 CFP was developed in support of the NCTCOG Traffic Incident Management Training Program's recommendation to use best practice equipment and technology. The goal of the North Central Texas Council of Governments Traffic Incident Management Training Program is to initiate a common, coordinated response to traffic incidents that will build partnerships, enhance safety for emergency personnel and the traveling public, reduce secondary traffic crashes, improve the efficiency of the transportation system, and improve air quality in the Dallas-Fort Worth region. Non-recurring traffic incidents are responsible for about 50 percent of all congestion. Additionally, the secondary crashes caused by these incidents lead to fatalities. Equipment and technology that aid in quick incident clearance can both assist with keeping motorists and first responders safe on the roadway and assist in improved air quality for the region. The 2020 Incident Management Equipment

Purchase CFP will be the second round of the CFP. An overview is provided in Electronic Item 2.1.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed:

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

2.2. AirCheckTexas Funding

Presenter: Chris Klaus, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff requests a recommendation for Regional Transportation Council approval allowing Chairman Andy Eads to submit follow-up communication to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) regarding locally generated funds from the AirCheckTexas Program.

Background: As follow up to recent correspondence from the TCEQ regarding locally generated interest and rebate funds, included in Electronic Item 2.2.1, Electronic Item 2.2.2 is a draft letter to the TCEQ. The letter requests TCEQ's continued review of all options allowing the AirCheckTexas funds be utilized in counties where collected and to remain allocated or returned to the counties where collected if the funds are ultimately required to be returned back to the Clean Air Account 151. The letter also requests that the TCEQ actively pursue all dedicated air quality funds collected be appropriated for their intended purposes in order to continue reducing precursor emissions under Weight-of-Evidence in the State Implementation Plan. Staff requests general approval of the concept of the letter. Electronic Item 2.2.3 provides additional details.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed:

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

1:40 – 1:50

3. Clean Fleets North Texas 2019 Call for Projects Funding Recommendations

☒ Action ☐ Possible Action ☐ Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Nancy Luong, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request a recommendation for Regional Transportation Council approval of funding recommendations for the Clean Fleets North Texas 2019 Call for Projects (CFP).

Background: The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) opened the Clean Fleets North Texas 2019 CFP to award approximately \$2 million in grant funds for diesel vehicle or equipment replacement projects in North Central Texas. The application deadline was September 6, 2019. Staff has completed review and emissions quantification, and developed recommendations regarding projects to be funded. This CFP is funded through the Environmental Protection Agency's National Clean Diesel Funding Assistance Program.

This initiative is an extension of clean vehicle efforts listed as Weight-of-Evidence in the current State Implementation Plan. Electronic Item 3.1 provides an overview of the call for projects and staff recommendations. Electronic Item 3.2 provides detailed project listings.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed:

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

1:50 – 2:00

4. **2019 Metropolitan Planning Organization Milestone Policy Update**

☒ Action ☐ Possible Action ☐ Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Brian Dell, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide the Committee with an update on the projects that are part of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Milestone Policy list, request action on delayed project(s), and introduce the proposed next round of the Milestone Policy.

Background: In June 2015, the last MPO Milestone Policy was approved by the Regional Transportation Council (RTC). This policy affects projects that had been funded ten or more years prior to the time of the policy approval but had not proceeded to construction. Projects were evaluated and in April 2016, the RTC approved the MPO Milestone Policy project list, which contained the recommendations for each project based on the information received from implementing agencies. The RTC also approved a policy to give agencies one additional fiscal year from their proposed start/let date to proceed. If projects do not let by that deadline, funding is to be removed from the project. Since that time, staff has been coordinating with agencies to ensure that project implementation progresses in a timely manner. Letters were sent to all agencies with a project on the Milestone Policy List in December 2016 reminding them of the deadlines for each project, and agencies were reminded again during development of the 2019-2022 and 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Programs (TIP). Furthermore, an update on the status of all projects on the list was provided to the Committee in October 2018, and in April 2019 on the status of the projects that did not meet their deadline of the end of Fiscal Year 2018. Staff is requesting the Committee's approval of the staff recommendation to the RTC regarding the proposed course of action for projects that did not meet the deadline. Staff will bring an item to the Committee at its December 2019 meeting that will identify the next group of Milestone Policy projects. Details on the Milestone Policy can be found in Electronic Item 4.1. The updated Milestone Policy Project list with project statuses can be found in Electronic Item 4.2.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed:

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

2:00 – 2:10

5. Hyperloop Certification Facility

☐ Action ☐ Possible Action ☒ Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will present a status report on how the Dallas-Fort Worth region will respond to the anticipated Request for Proposals for a hyperloop certification facility.

Background: It is anticipated that Virgin Hyperloop One will request a partnership with a local entity to build a certification facility for the new hyperloop technology. Staff will engage the Greater Dallas Chamber to address non-certification requirements and the Regional Transportation Council will retain the presentation of potential certification track locations. Staff will also transmit a call for candidate locations to governmental entities within the Dallas-Fort Worth region.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed:

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

2:10 – 2:20

6. Buy America Act Proposed Safety Equipment Exception

☐ Action ☐ Possible Action ☒ Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Rebekah Hernandez, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will present information on Buy America requirements and their effects on incident management equipment.

Background: The Buy America Act was originally established to ensure the use of domestic iron and steel for road and bridge projects but has resulted in possible unintended challenges for safety initiatives. Buy America requirements are restricting the purchase of vital safety equipment, like cameras, that are made up of complex components from all over the world. Staff proposes to request a legislative change through a letter to the Congressional Delegation creating an exception for traffic incident management equipment.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed:

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

2:20 – 2:30

7. High-Occupancy Vehicle Transportation Control Measures: Application of Managed Lanes and Substitution of Traffic Signal Progression

☐ Action ☐ Possible Action ☒ Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Jenny Narvaez, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide information on tolled managed lanes and transportation control measure (TCM) traffic signalization project substitutions for high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) projects.

Background: HOVs are currently listed in the State Implementation Plan (SIP) as TCMs. Over time, increased congestion in these corridors has resulted from increased population and vehicle miles traveled. As a result, tolled managed lanes with HOV discounts are being built, providing congestion relief and associated air quality benefits.

Removal of TCMs from the SIP requires a substitution process ensuring emissions benefits are equivalent. Traffic signal improvements, such as signal retiming and signal coordination, can enhance traffic flow and help decrease vehicular emissions. The North Central Texas Council of Governments has identified several corridors in the nonattainment area where recent traffic signal improvements were completed. Staff will provide further information on the substitution.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed:

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

2:30 – 2:40

8. Truck Stop Electrification Study Results

☐ Action ☐ Possible Action ☒ Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Huong Duong, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide a summary of the completed Truck Stop Electrification Study conducted by the University of Texas at Arlington (UTA).

Background: Overnight idling by diesel-fueled, long-haul trucks is a contributor to mobile-source emissions in the Dallas-Fort Worth region and impacts overall air quality. Truck stop electrification (TSE) systems, also known as electrified parking space (EPS) systems, are commercial products that provide long-haul truck drivers an alternative to idling their engines during rest periods.

Through the University Partnership Program, the University of Texas at Arlington completed a study to identify the rate of usage at TSE and EPS locations. Staff will present the results of the study and recommendations from UTA. Electronic Item 8 provides additional details.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed:

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

2:40 – 3:00

9. Fast Facts

☐ Action ☐ Possible Action ☒ Information Minutes: 20

Item Summary: Brief presentations will be made on the following topics:

1. *April Leger* – Reminder of Combined November/December Surface Transportation Technical Committee Meetings (Next Meeting December 6, 2019)
2. *Jessica Scott* – National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) Design Guidance: Don't Give Up at the Intersection (<https://nacto.org/publication/urban-bikeway-design-guide/dont-give-up-at-the-intersection/>)
3. *Ernest Huffman* – Unmanned Aircraft Systems Taskforce Invitation (www.nctcog.org/uas)

4. *Rylea Roderick* – Transportation Improvement Program Modification Submittal Deadline
 5. *Jason Brown* – Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Appointment to Vehicle Inspection Advisory Committee (Electronic Item 9.1)
 6. *Nancy Luong* – Air Quality Funding Opportunities for Vehicles (www.nctcog.org/trans/quality/air/funding-and-resources/fundingvehicle) and Comments on New Texas Emissions Reduction Plan Government Alternative Fuel Fleet (Electronic Item 9.2)
 7. *Dorothy Gilliam* – Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Events (www.dfwcleancities.org/dfw-clean-cities-meetings)
 8. *Trey Pope* – Status Report on Ozone (Electronic Item 9.3)
 9. *Carli Baylor* – September Online Input Opportunity Minutes (Electronic Item 9.4)
 10. *Carli Baylor* – November Public Input Notice (Handout)
 11. *Victor Henderson* – Public Comments Report (Electronic Item 9.5)
 12. Written Progress Report:
 - Local Motion (Electronic Item 9.6)
 - Transportation Partner Progress Reports (Electronic Item 9.7)
10. **Other Business (Old or New):** This item provides an opportunity for members to bring items of interest before the group.
11. **Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the Surface Transportation Technical Committee is scheduled for ***1:30 pm on December 6, 2019, at the North Central Texas Council of Governments.***