

AGENDA

Regional Transportation Council Thursday, November 10, 2022 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 to the North Central Texas Council of Governments designated staff person. A maximum 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 13, 2022, Minutes**
☒ Action ☐ Possible Action ☐ Information Minutes: 5
Presenter: Duncan Webb, RTC Chair
Item Summary: Approval of the October 13, 2022, 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. **Modifications to the FY2022 and FY2023 Unified Planning Work Program**
Presenter: Vickie Alexander, NCTCOG
Item Summary: Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of modifications to the FY2022 and FY2023 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) will be requested. Direction for staff to also administratively amend the Transportation Improvement Program and other administrative/planning documents, as appropriate, to reflect the approved modifications will also be sought.
Background: The Unified Planning Work Program is required by federal and State transportation planning regulations and provides a summary of the transportation and related air quality planning tasks to be conducted by Metropolitan Planning Organization staff. The FY2022 and FY2023 UPWP was approved by the Regional Transportation Council and North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) Executive Board in July 2021 and identifies the activities to be carried out between October 1, 2021, and September 30, 2023. Amendments to this document

are being proposed to reflect new initiatives, project updates, funding adjustments, and updated Federal Transit Administration and Federal Highway Administration Planning Emphasis Areas. The proposed amendments have been posted on the NCTCOG website for public review and comment as part of the October public outreach opportunity and are also included as Electronic Item 3.1.1. Additional information is provided in Electronic Item 3.1.2. Public comments received as a result of the public outreach process, if any, will be provided prior to requesting RTC approval. The Surface Transportation Technical Committee took action at its October 28, 2022, meeting to recommend Regional Transportation Council approval.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative

3.2. **Argonne National Lab Cooperation Approval**

Presenter: Arash Mirzaei, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request approval by the Regional Transportation Council to sign an agreement with the Department of Energy's Argonne National Laboratory. The goal of the agreement with Argonne is to prepare a simulation-based travel model for planning purposes in the Metropolitan Planning Area. In this three-year cooperative, the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) will provide data and practical planning expertise to Argonne researchers as in-kind match. The Department of Energy will provide \$1.5 million in funding.

Background: The regional travel model is NCTCOG's main tool for transportation planning. The model is continually updated with the latest technology and data. This project is an effort toward improvement of planning analytical tools within the regional travel model using Argonne National Laboratory research products.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative

3.3. **Fiscal Year 2023 Education Campaigns for Transportation Initiatives: Phase One**

Presenter: Mindy Mize, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will seek the Council's support of a recommendation to the NCTCOG Executive Board to approve funding up to \$278,700 for education campaigns for transportation initiatives. If approved, Phase 1 will initiate in Fiscal Year (FY) 2021.

Background: Since 2014, the NCTCOG Executive Board has been authorizing annual large-scale advertising purchase and placement initiatives for the Transportation Department. The first phase of education campaigns is for public involvement and support activities such as notifications of opportunities for public input/public meetings, and

commuter education focused on congestion management. Efforts in this first phase will be funded by a combination of Surface Transportation Block Grant Program funds, Transportation Planning Funds, RTC Local funds, and RTC Transportation Development Credits in lieu of cash match. Education campaigns will be in multiple languages and may be presented through out-of-home advertising, print, screen, online, audio, and social media mediums. Electronic Item 3.3 provides more detail.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative, Safety

3.4. Traffic Signal Retiming in Tarrant County

Presenter: Natalie Bettger, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval to receive approximately \$1,066,000 in funding from Tarrant County for traffic signal retiming along corridors in Tarrant County.

Background: Tarrant County has identified funding through its 2006 and 2021 Bond Programs and has approached NCTCOG to utilize this funding for traffic signal retiming along selected corridors in Tarrant County. NCTCOG has existing, active consultant contracts that may be used to develop and implement traffic signal retiming. The consultants will work with local jurisdictions and Texas Department of Transportation to develop, review and implement signal timing. Tarrant County will provide approximately \$1,066,000 to fund the consultant work as well as NCTCOG staff time to administer the project.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Roadway, Safety

1:20 – 1:35

4. Orientation to Agenda/Director of Transportation Report

☐ Action ☐ Possible Action ☒ Information Minutes: 15
Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG

1. Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) Awards
2. Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) – End the Streak Video (<https://youtu.be/O4nxToYOiec>)
3. Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) - Commissioner Ryan – Thank You Comments
4. Dallas Fort Worth (DFW) Clean Cities Annual Fleet Recognition Awards (Electronic Item 4.1)
5. Changing Mobility: Data, Insights, and Delivering Innovative Projects During COVID Recovery (Electronic Item 4.2)
6. Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) Assistance on \$214 Million Distribution
7. National Drive Electric Week Success (www.driveelectricdfw.org)

8. Air Quality Funding Opportunities for Vehicles (www.nctcog.org/aqfunding)
9. Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Events (<https://www.dfwcleancities.org/events>)
10. 2022 Ozone Season Update (Electronic Item 4.3)
11. Status of Conformity Determination – Potential Lapse Grace Period
12. Local Clean Air Project Spotlight (Electronic Item 4.4)
13. Auto Occupancy/High Occupancy Vehicle Quarterly Subsidy Report (Electronic Item 4.5)
14. Mobility Matters ([North Central Texas Council of Governments - Mobility Matters - 2022 Summer](http://www.nctcog.org) ([nctcog.org](http://www.nctcog.org)))
15. 2022 Texas Department of Transportation Highway System Safety Improvement (HSIP) Call for Projects Deadline to District Offices – November 30, 2022 (<https://www.nctcog.org/trans/quality/safety/transportation-safety/statewide-safety-initiatives>)
16. October Online Input Opportunity Public Meeting Minutes (Electronic Item 4.6)
17. November Public Meeting Notice (Electronic Item 4.7)
18. Public Comments Report (Electronic Item 4.8)
19. Recent Correspondence (Electronic Item 4.9)
20. Recent News Articles (Electronic Item 4.10)
21. Recent Press Releases (Electronic Item 4.11)

1:35 – 1:45

5. **Regional Transportation Council Bylaws Revisions Subcommittee –Second Reading**

- ☒ Action ☐ Possible Action ☐ Information Minutes: 10
- Presenters: Rick Grady, Vice Chair, RTC Bylaws Revision Subcommittee and Councilmember, City of Plano and Ken Kirkpatrick, NCTCOG
- Item Summary: Recommendations for revision of the Regional Transportation Council's Bylaws and Operating Procedures will be presented for a second and final reading and approval.
- Background: The RTC Bylaws Revision Subcommittee met over the last few months to review and discuss possible revisions to the Bylaws and Operating Procedures. Proposed policy changes to the Bylaws include the addition of 13 new cities over 5,000 in population; an additional seat for the City of Fort Worth which leads to a complete roster of 45 members; the addition of language related to county/city group member appointments, including mandatory rotation; clarification of teleconferencing, in person, and videoconferencing as they relate to voting; language that affirms that members of the Nominating Subcommittee are eligible to be nominated as officers; and language noting that the RTC will maintain public involvement procedures, including public comment rules and decorum requirements as part of the Public Participation Plan. The Subcommittee unanimously approved the proposed Bylaws revisions and recommended Regional Transportation Council approval. The Subcommittee's recommendations were presented to the full RTC at its October 13, 2022, meeting for a first reading. There were no proposed changes discussed at the

meeting. A copy of the proposed Bylaws is provided in Electronic Item 5.1 and Electronic Item 5.2 contains a presentation that summarizes the proposed revisions.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative

1:45 – 2:00

6. **Resolution Supporting a Regional Model for Complete Streets (Context Sensitive Design)**

☒ Action ☐ Possible Action ☐ Information Minutes: 15

Presenter: Karla Windsor, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will introduce a draft resolution and request action supporting a regional model for complete streets (context sensitive design) which outlines the importance of planning and constructing complete streets and is intended to serve as the framework for encouraging local policies and projects across the region.

Background: The National Complete Streets Coalition defines 'Complete Streets' as an approach to planning, designing, building, operating, and maintaining streets that enable safe access for all people who need to use them including pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, and transit users of all ages and abilities. The needs of roadway users are different in rural, suburban, and urban communities, and thus streets should be designed to fit the distinct context, circumstances, and local characteristics. The proposed resolution will: 1) direct staff to collaborate with local governments and transportation providers to develop a checklist and/or guide for projects with complete streets/context sensitive design elements to be used for regional transportation planning and project implementation; 2) encourage the adoption and implementation of local government policies/resolutions related to complete streets/context sensitive design; 3) encourage consideration of complete streets (context sensitive design) elements in future updates to local plans, manuals, ordinances, codes, and associated rules and regulations; 4) encourage local collaboration with the Texas Department of Transportation to implement transportation projects that apply context sensitive solutions consistent with local community characteristics; and 5) direct staff to provide technical support for the development of local policies, resolutions, and methodologies/applications for performance management. The draft resolution is provided in Electronic Item 6.1, and additional information is provided in Electronic Item 6.2.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Bike/Ped+, Safety

2:00 – 2:10

7. **Regional Transportation Legislative Program**

☒ Action ☐ Possible Action ☐ Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Rebekah Gongora, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will present the draft Regional Transportation Council (RTC) Legislative Program for the 88th Texas Legislature.

Background: Last month, RTC members were presented with the draft RTC Legislative Program for the 88th Texas Legislature, which can be found in Electronic Item 7.1. Additional information can be found in

the presentation in Electronic Item 7.2. Transportation and air quality issues are a focus for both the United States Congress and the Texas Legislature. The 88th Session of the Texas Legislature will convene on January 10, 2023.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative

2:10 – 2:20

8. **Strengthening Mobility and Revolving Transportation Grant Program: Approval of North Central Texas Council of Governments Applications**

☒ Action ☐ Possible Action ☐ Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Tom Bamonte, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request approval of North Central Texas Council of Governments' (NCTCOG's) submission of Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation Grant Program applications.

Background: In October, staff briefed the Council on the Notice of Funding Opportunity under the Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) Program (<https://www.transportation.gov/grants/SMART>). The grants in this first year of the SMART Program are planning grants of up to \$2 million. SMART grants in later years will fund implementation of projects developed by planning grant awardees. Planning grant applications are due on November 18, 2022. A local match is not required. Staff is preparing three SMART planning grant applications:

- Advanced Aerial Mobility: Optimization of low altitude weather detection and reporting to support safe deployment of advanced aerial vehicles such as last mile drone delivery services and Electric Vertical Takeoff and Landing (eVTOL) vehicles.
- Flooded Roads Information: Use of advanced sensor and big data tools to improve the prediction, identification, and reporting out of flooded roadways.
- Traffic Signal Upgrades: Leverage tools made available by Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and information generated from NCTCOG's recent survey of traffic signal equipment to identify, research, and leverage technologies and data to optimize traffic signals in the region.

The U.S. Department of Transportation's SMART program fact sheet is included as Electronic Item 8.1. More information is available in Electronic Item 8.2.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Roadway, Safety

2:20 – 2:30

9. Advanced Transportation Technology and Innovation Grant Application

☒ Action ☐ Possible Action ☐ Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Natalie Bettger, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of the regional application for the 2022 Advanced Transportation Technology and Innovation (ATTAIN) Program.

Background: In September 2022, the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) issued an announcement for the ATTAIN Program proposals that deploy, install, and operate advanced transportation technologies to improve safety, mobility, efficiency, system performance, intermodal connectivity, and infrastructure return on investment. During this first year of the five-year program, USDOT will provide funding of up to \$12 million per grant. A 20 percent local match is required. Electronic Item 9.1 is a copy of the Notice of Funding Opportunity that details the \$60 million grant program for Fiscal Year 2022, as well as the application requirements. Applications are due to USDOT by November 18, 2022. Electronic Item 9.2 includes staff's summary and an overview of the proposed Transportation System Management and Operations Data Engine: Foundation for Success, the regional implementation project by the North Central Texas Council of Governments to advance mobility, the environment and quality of life through integrated data use for regional operations.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Goods Movement

2:30 – 2:40

10. Draft Updated Rules for Public Comments at Regional Transportation Council Meetings

☒ Action ☐ Possible Action ☐ Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Amanda Wilson, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request Regional Transportation Council approval of Rules for Public Comments at RTC meetings.

Background: Since 2019, public comments have been accepted at Regional Transportation Council (RTC) meetings per HB 2840 (86th Texas Legislature). In March 2020, the RTC approved Rules for Public Comments at RTC meetings. The rules are part of the Public Participation Plan as an appendix. Several updates are being proposed at this time to the original rules, including general audience and speaker decorum standards, overall time limit for a public comment period and a clarification of when public comments would be accepted in-person or virtually at RTC meetings. A draft of the updated rules is provided in Electronic Item 10.1 and will be presented at the meeting. Once approved, the rules will be updated in the Appendix to the Public Participation Plan. Electronic Item 10.2 is a presentation that provides more information.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative

2:40 – 2:50

11. **Automated Vehicles 2.1: Regional Planning Exercise for Local Partners**

☐ Action ☐ Possible Action ☒ Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Clint Hail, NCTCOG

Item Summary: The Automated Vehicles 2.1 planning exercise recently completed, and staff will brief the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) on the key deliverables and findings of the project. Staff will also invite local governments to host in-depth briefings with staff and colleagues from their respective agencies. Materials, reports, and findings can be found online at: www.connectntxfutures.org.

Background: In October 2018, the RTC approved the three-part Automated Vehicles Program 2.0, which includes the AV2.1 project. AV2.1 is a planning exercise designed to help the region prepare for higher levels of automation in the transportation sector (e.g., automated vehicles). In 2021, through a procurement a team was selected to assist staff in the planning process. At that time, Committee members were invited to participate as part of the Project Advisory Committee. In September, the contract completed its 18-month term. Electronic Item 11.1 is a presentation that provides additional information. Electronic Item 11.2 provides an executive summary and key takeaways.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Roadway

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 8, 2022, in the Transportation Council Room.***