

AGENDA

**Regional Transportation Council
Thursday, August 9, 2012
North Central Texas Council of Governments**

- 11:00 am** **Legislative Fundamentals Subcommittee**
- 11:30 am** **Legislative Communications Subcommittee**
- 1:00 pm** **Full RTC Business Agenda**
- 1:00 – 1:05** 1. **Approval of July 12, 2012, Minutes**
 Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 5
Presenter: Pete Kamp, RTC Chair
Item Summary: Approval of the July 12, 2012, minutes contained in [Reference Item 1](#) will be requested.
Background: N/A
- 1:05 – 1:05** 2. **Consent Agenda (There are no items on the Consent Agenda)**
 Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 0
- 1:05 – 1:20** 3. **Orientation to Agenda/Director of Transportation Report**
 Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 15
Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG
1. Texas Department of Transportation Opportunity Two ([Electronic Item 3.1](#)), Opportunity Three (NTTA Loan), and Opportunity Five (Transit Funds)
 2. Air Quality Funding Update ([Electronic Item 3.2](#) and [Electronic Item 3.3](#))
 3. Ozone Season Update ([Electronic Item 3.4](#))
 4. Clean Cities Motorweek Segments ([Electronic Item 3.5](#) and [Electronic Item 3.6](#))
 5. Clean Cities Annual Survey Results ([Electronic Item 3.7](#))
 6. Environmental Protection Agency Sustainable Practices Symposium ([Electronic Item 3.8](#))
 7. 2012 Job Access/Reverse Commute and New Freedom Call for Projects
 8. July Public Meeting Minutes ([Electronic Item 3.9](#))
 9. Collin County Regional Toll Revenue Project Priorities
 10. Private Sector Rail Proposal
 11. Vehicle Procurement
 12. Recent News Articles ([Electronic Item 3.10](#))
 13. Recent Correspondence ([Electronic Item 3.11](#))
 14. Transportation Partners Progress Reports (Handout)
- 1:20 – 1:30** 4. **Endorsement of Regional Air Quality Assessment for IH 35E**
 Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10
Presenter: Jenny Danieau, NCTCOG
Item Summary: Staff will provide public comments and seek Regional Transportation Council (RTC) endorsement of the Regional Air Quality Assessment Effort for IH 35E.
Background: On July 14, 2011, the US Department of Transportation (USDOT) granted a transportation conformity determination for [Mobility](#)

2035: The Metropolitan Transportation Plan for North Central Texas and 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program for North Central Texas – 2011 Amendment. Since that time, the IH 35E Senate Bill (SB) 1420 Committee was formed to determine the delivery method for the IH 35E project. The SB 1420 Committee concluded, and based on availability of funding and the desire to expedite improvements in the corridor, no changes were made to the ultimate design of the facility in Mobility 2035. However, it recommended year 2020 operational modifications to the construction staging. Last month, staff briefed RTC on the status of the recommended 2020 operational changes, presented preliminary technical results, and demonstrated that the year 2020 operational modifications to IH 35E are consistent with the existing July 14, 2011, USDOT conformity findings. Details are provided in [Reference Item 4](#).

1:30 – 1:40

5. **Metropolitan Planning Organization Planning Contract**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Dan Kessler, NCTCOG

Item Summary: The Regional Transportation Council (RTC) will be briefed on and asked to approve the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Planning Contract with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT). Authorization for Michael Morris to execute the Planning Contract on behalf of the RTC will also be sought.

Background: The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) and RTC together serve as the MPO for the Dallas-Fort Worth metropolitan area and are authorized to receive federal transportation planning funds to carry out planning activities required by federal law. The mechanism to receive these funds is through an MPO Planning Contract with TxDOT. The current six-year MPO Planning Contract is set to expire on September 30, 2012. As such, execution of a new MPO Planning Contract is necessary. The proposed MPO Planning Contract sets out the responsibilities of RTC as the MPO Policy Committee, the NCTCOG Executive Board as the fiscal agent, and TxDOT as the conduit of the federal funds. As the MPO Policy Committee, RTC has the responsibility for establishing overall transportation policy for the MPO, including development and adoption of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan, Transportation Improvement Program, and Unified Planning Work Program. NCTCOG, through the Executive Board, has the responsibility to provide fiscal, human resource, and staff support services for the MPO, including fiscal administration of the federal transportation planning funds. The MPO Planning Contract also outlines TxDOT's responsibility to make available all appropriate federal transportation planning funds to the MPO.

1:40 – 2:00 6.

Coordination of Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act Applications and Upcoming Public-Private Partnerships Requiring Legislative Support

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 20

Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG

Item Summary: The Regional Transportation Council (RTC) will be requested to instruct staff to coordinate Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) applications from implementation agencies from within the Dallas-Fort Worth region. In addition, RTC will be requested to instruct staff to work with regional partners to identify the next group of public-private partnerships for the next legislative session.

Background: A Notice of Funding Availability (NoFA) has been transmitted by the US Department of Transportation for the next round of TIFIA applications. In the Dallas-Fort Worth region there are several potential opportunities, given the immediacy of the projects that are able to move forward. The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) may wish to consider the submittal of SH 183 Airport Freeway, as well as the remaining portion of IH 35W. The North Texas Tollway Authority (NTTA) may wish to review the next round of potential toll roads, with SH 360 having the earliest opportunity for implementation. Transit opportunities exist with the potential submittal by the private sector in the “Cotton Belt Corridor” from southeast Fort Worth to Richardson/Plano. And finally, managed lanes could potentially advance in other sections of the North Tarrant Express, as well as Loop 9. Staff will request RTC direction to coordinate agency submittals to maximize revenue to the region.

[Electronic Item 6](#) contains a copy of the last resolution between NTTA and RTC on potential Comprehensive Development Agreement projects from the previous legislative session. RTC will be asked to instruct staff to coordinate with NTTA, TxDOT, the Dallas Regional Mobility Coalition, and the Tarrant Regional Transportation Coalition in identifying approximately three additional corridors for the next legislative session. RTC work is completed on those projects identified in [Electronic Item 6](#), and a new set of projects is necessary in advance of the next legislative session. A joint NTTA/RTC resolution would need to be developed.

2:00 – 2:15 7.

Managed Lane Policy Revisions

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 15

Presenter: Dan Lamers, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will brief the Council on potential regional managed lane policy revisions necessitated as a result of managed lane development and upcoming implementation. It is likely a managed lane policy for permanent and interim facilities will be necessary. This is an information item that will take several months to develop, with staff inclusion of extensive public involvement.

Background: In 2006, the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) adopted regional managed lane policies to support the Comprehensive Development Agreement (CDA) procurement effort for LBJ. The guidelines were intended to be used for all proposed managed lane facilities. Since then, additional managed lane procurement efforts have been initiated, as well as discussions regarding the evolution of current interim High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) facilities to managed lane operations. As the discussions regarding the development of additional managed lane projects have proceeded in light of ever-changing financial constraints and other regional issues, the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG), in cooperation with regional partners, has concluded that the policies should be reviewed and modified as appropriate.

2:15 – 2:25 8. **Transportation Improvement Program Quarterly Update: East/West Equity, American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, and Texas Department of Transportation/Regional Transportation Council Commitments**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Christie Gotti, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide a report on the status of the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) non-formula commitments with regard to east/west equity in the region, updates on projects selected with the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) funds, and TxDOT commitments assumed by the Regional Transportation Council (RTC).

Background: The Regional Transportation Council (RTC) has taken a position to monitor the equity allocation of TxDOT non-formula commitments. RTC appreciates the receipt of additional money to help our region build transportation projects and will monitor and reallocate funds when available to maintain similar equity levels established by RTC during its own selection process. [Electronic Item 8.1](#) inventories TxDOT non-formula commitments and the impact of these commitments to date.

Since enactment in February 2009, over \$890 million in ARRA projects were funded in the region. Staff committed to providing regular updates on the status of these projects. To this end, [Electronic Item 8.2](#) provides an update on projects funded through ARRA.

[Electronic Item 8.3](#) provides a report of the TxDOT commitments previously assumed by the RTC, and recent projects funded by TxDOT that offset the original reductions in funding. Please note that the latest funding by TxDOT offsets all remaining balances. Therefore, RTC staff recommends that tracking of this item be concluded. The east/west equity and ARRA tracking items will continue.

2:25 – 2:45

9. **Transportation Funding Initiatives Results**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 20

Presenter: Amanda Wilson, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will present results of the Transportation Funding Initiative, including actions taken by Subcommittee 1: Legislative Fundamentals, Subcommittee 2: Partnerships, Subcommittee 3: Funding Source, and Subcommittee 4: Legislative Communications.

Background: Members of the Regional Transportation Council have been working on a transportation funding initiative to present to the 83rd Texas Legislature. Over several subcommittee meetings, members have discussed policy issues related to transit authority partnerships, equity among transit and non-transit cities, and multiple funding scenarios.

10. **Progress Reports**

Action Possible Action Information

Item Summary: Progress Reports are provided as Reference Item 10.

- RTC Attendance ([Reference Item 10.1](#))
- STTC Attendance and Minutes ([Electronic Item 10.2](#))
- Local Motion ([Electronic Item 10.3](#))
- North Texas Transportation Connection ([Reference Item 10.4](#))

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

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

13. **Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the Regional Transportation Council is scheduled for ***Thursday, September 13, 2012, at 1:00 pm, at the North Central Texas Council of Governments.***