

AGENDA

**Regional Transportation Council
Thursday, September 13, 2012
North Central Texas Council of Governments**

11:00 am

Work Session

- **Regional Managed Lane/High Occupancy Vehicle Policy**
- **Regional Taxi Cab/Limousine Permit: Implications to Cities**
- **TxDOT Opportunity Three: NTTA Loan**
- **Innovative Finance Initiative Private Sector Rail Proposal ([Work Session Attachment](#))**

1:00 pm

Full RTC Business Agenda

1:00 – 1:05

1. **Approval of August 9, 2012, Minutes**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 5

Presenter: Pete Kamp, RTC Chair

Item Summary: Approval of the August 9, 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. General Aviation Regional Mobility Initiative Publication Cover Receives Hermes Creative Awards – 2012 Gold Recognition
2. Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations Award for Sustainable Development
3. Air Quality Funding Update ([Electronic Item 3.1](#))
4. Clean Air Action Day Results ([Electronic Item 3.2](#))
5. Air Quality Assessment on IH 35E Successfully Concluded ([Electronic Item 3.3](#))
6. Environmental Protection Agency Sustainable Symposium Follow Up
7. Ozone Season Update ([Electronic Item 3.4](#))
8. Mobility 2035, 2013 Amendment
9. Regional Toll Revenue Fact Sheet ([Electronic Item 3.5](#))
10. Update on Transportation Funding Initiative Subcommittee Results ([Electronic Item 3.6](#))
11. Public Meeting Flyer ([Electronic Item 3.7](#))
12. Recent Correspondence ([Electronic Item 3.8](#))
13. Recent News Articles ([Electronic Item 3.9](#))
14. Transportation Partners Progress Reports (Handout)

- 1:20 – 1:30** 4. **Congressional Demonstration and High Priority-Projects**
 Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10
 Presenter: Christie Gotti, NCTCOG
 Item Summary: Staff will brief the Council on the latest developments regarding federal rescissions of congressional-demonstration and high-priority projects, as well as the redistribution of FY2003-2006 earmark funds to other transportation projects in Texas. Staff may also request action to administratively amend the Transportation Improvement Program/Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (TIP/STIP) if needed to ensure that these funds are not lost to the region.
- Background: In June 2012, staff presented a listing of projects that were in jeopardy of losing federal earmark funding. At that time the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) directed staff to amend the TIP/STIP as needed to avoid losing funds in the region. [Reference Item 4.1](#) contains the listing of projects with an updated status summary for each project.
- Earlier this month, staff became aware of the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) intent to redistribute FY2003-2006 earmarks. The FHWA announcement (<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/pressroom/redisfy0306earmarks.htm>) identified approximately \$30 million in federal earmark funds to be redistributed in Texas. The list of projects within our region and proposed plan for each project are outlined in [Electronic Item 4.2](#). Staff is working with TxDOT to capitalize on any funds that may be available from this redistribution effort.
- 1:30 – 1:45** 5. **Texas Department of Transportation Opportunity 5: Transit Funds, Dallas-Fort Worth Region Vehicle Procurement, and Regional Transportation Council Transit Partnership Program**
 Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 15
 Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG
 Item Summary: Staff will review elements of a Regional Transportation Council (RTC) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Texas Department of Transportation to advance the purchase of street cars and regional rail vehicles in the region, finalize a procurement process with the transportation authorities to advance vehicle procurement potentially with Local (non-federal) funds, and initiate an RTC transportation authority partnership program.
- Background: RTC has instructed staff to advance a manufacturing facility in North Central Texas. This item will highlight progress on this process and discuss possible future actions to advance the concept.
- 1:45 – 2:00** 6. **Texas Department of Transportation Opportunity 3: North Texas Tollway Authority Loan**
 Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 15
 Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG
 Item Summary: Staff will brief the Council on the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) potential purchase of the North Texas Tollway Authority (NTTA)/Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) loan.

Background: As occurs from time to time, TxDOT has requested RTC to purchase the NTTA/TxDOT loan related to the President George Bush Turnpike. This program would free up a significant amount of revenue for TxDOT to then loan to entities across the State, including the Dallas-Fort Worth region. [Reference Item 6](#) highlights the details for the NTTA/TxDOT loan.

2:00 – 2:15 7. Coordination of Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act Applications and Upcoming Public-Private Partnerships Requiring Legislative Support

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 15

Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will update the Council on regional Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) applications and upcoming public-private partnerships.

Background: At its August meeting, the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) instructed staff to coordinate TIFIA applications from implementation agencies from within the Dallas-Fort Worth region. In addition, RTC instructed staff to work with regional partners to identify the next group of public-private partnerships for the next legislative session.

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 IH 35E (north of LBJ), 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 IH 35E/US 67 and Loop 9. Staff will request RTC direction to coordinate agency submittals to maximize revenue to the region.

[Electronic Item 7](#) contains a copy of the last resolution between NTTA and RTC on potential Comprehensive Development Agreement projects from the previous legislative session. RTC was 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 7](#), 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.

2:15 – 2:25

8. **Collin County Regional Toll Revenue Project Prioritization**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Christie Gotti, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide an update on the latest project prioritization efforts in Collin County. The Council will be briefed on the process and timeline proposed for consideration of project changes, including subsequent inclusion in the Transportation Improvement Program/Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (TIP/STIP).

Background: In March 2012, the Collin County Regional Toll Revenue (RTR) Taskforce, led by Collin County leaders, in coordination with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG), began a project ranking and prioritization effort to identify the next subset of projects to fund in Collin County. Funding available for projects includes: unprogrammed Collin County RTR funds, interest from RTR funds, cost savings from existing RTR projects, and a limited amount of federal funds. Collin County may bring additional bond funds forward to fund additional improvements. [Electronic Item 8](#) shows the full list of projects recommended by the Taskforce and includes the criteria and weights used to evaluate the projects.

2:25 – 2:35

9. **Updates to the Transportation Improvement Program Modification Policy and Process**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Christie Gotti, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will discuss immediate and upcoming changes to the manner in which projects are modified in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)/Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), including changes to the TIP modification policy.

Background: Managing modifications to projects in the TIP/STIP has become an overly complicated process. The volume of TIP modifications has increased dramatically over the last 10 years. In addition, with the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient, Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) requirements, the amount of information needed for each modification has grown substantially. In order to get ahead of the six-month modification process, project modification requests are often submitted by local and transportation agencies without resolution to pending funding, scope, and limits changes. Subsequently, North Central Texas Council of Governments' staff spends an inordinate amount of time researching each modification request. In addition, the current TIP modification policy is outdated and could be streamlined to ensure that RTC sees and approves substantial changes up front, but enables staff to approve minor and clerical changes and report the results to RTC after the fact. With this item, staff will initiate a conversation with RTC and propose changes to the modification process, timeline, and policy. Some changes will be relatively quick action items, and others will occur over the next few months. [Electronic Item 9](#) contains a presentation detailing the initiative.

2:35 – 2:45 10.

Overview on the Congestion Management Process Update

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Natalie Bettger, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will present an overview on the Congestion Management Process (CMP) document update.

Background: Staff is currently working on an update to the Congestion Management Process (CMP). The current CMP document for the North Central Texas region was adopted by the Regional Transportation Council in 2007. An online version of the current CMP is available at <http://www.nctcog.org/trans/cmp/index.asp>. Staff will brief the Council on the draft structure for the CMP update. This presentation will outline the role of the CMP in the planning process. This will include proposed additions to the CMP document such as safety and sustainable development as well as performance measures to monitor and evaluate system performance, and measures of effectiveness to analyze the mobility and air quality benefits for implemented strategies. The presentation is provided in [Electronic Item 10](#).

11. **Progress Reports**

Action Possible Action Information

Item Summary: Progress Reports are provided as Reference Item 11.

- RTC Attendance ([Reference Item 11.1](#))
- STTC Attendance and Minutes ([Electronic Item 11.2](#))
- Local Motion ([Electronic Item 11.3](#))
- North Texas Transportation Connection ([Reference Item 11.4](#))

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

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

14. **Next Meeting**: The next meeting of the Regional Transportation Council is scheduled for ***Thursday, October 11, 2012, at 1:00 pm, at the North Central Texas Council of Governments.***