

## AGENDA

**Regional Transportation Council  
Thursday, March 14, 2013  
North Central Texas Council of Governments**

**1:00 pm**

**Full RTC Business Agenda**

**1:00 – 1:05**

1. **Approval of February 14, 2013, Minutes**  
 Action       Possible Action       Information      Minutes: 5  
Presenter: Pete Kamp, RTC Chair  
Item Summary: Approval of the February 14, 2013, minutes contained in [Reference Item 1](#) will be requested.  
Background: N/A

**1:05 – 1:05**

2. **Consent Agenda**  
 Action       Possible Action       Information      Minutes: 0

2.1. **Unified Planning Work Program Modifications**

Presenter: Dan Kessler, NCTCOG  
Item Summary: Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of modifications to the FY2012 and FY2013 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) will be requested.  
Background: The Unified Planning Work Program is required by federal and State transportation planning regulations and provides a summary of the transportation and transportation-related air quality planning tasks to be conducted by Metropolitan Planning Organization staff. The FY2012 and FY2013 UPWP identifies the activities to be carried out between October 1, 2011, and September 30, 2013. Amendments to this document are being proposed to reflect new initiatives, project modifications, and funding adjustments. The proposed amendments were presented to the public during the February 11, 12, and 13, 2013, public meetings and are included as [Reference Item 2.1.1](#). A presentation, containing additional information, is provided in [Electronic Item 2.1.2](#). The minutes of the public meetings are included in Electronic Item 3.5. The Surface Transportation Technical Committee recommended RTC approval at its February 22 meeting.

**1:05 – 1:20**

3. **Orientation to Agenda/Director of Transportation Report**  
 Action       Possible Action       Information      Minutes: 15  
Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG

1. Thank You to Regional Transportation Council Vice Chair Kathryn Wilemon for Attending Austin Legislative Event
2. Regional Transportation Council (RTC) Subcommittees ([Reference Item 3.1](#)):  
RTC Chair Pete Kamp
3. Air Quality Funding Update ([Electronic Item 3.2](#))

4. Freeway Incident Management Executive Level Course Announcement ([Electronic Item 3.3](#))
5. Local Support for the Public-Private Partnership on the Cotton Belt Corridor ([Electronic Item 3.4](#))
6. Senate Bill 1420 SH 183 Committee
7. February Public Meeting Minutes ([Electronic Item 3.5](#)) and March Public Meeting Flyer ([Electronic Item 3.6](#))
8. Swagit Video Recording Renewal ([Electronic Item 3.7](#))
9. FY2014 and FY2015 Unified Planning Work Program
10. FY2012 Annual Report on Performance and Expenditures ([Electronic Item 3.8](#))
11. North Texas Tollway Authority President George Bush Turnpike State Infrastructure Bank Loan Complete
12. Managed Lanes Fact Sheet ([Reference Item 3.9](#))
13. Recent Correspondence ([Electronic Item 3.10](#))
14. Recent News Articles ([Electronic Item 3.11](#))
15. Transportation Partners Progress Reports (Handout)

1:20 – 1:40

4. **Panama Canal**

Action       Possible Action       Information      Minutes: 20

Presenter: RTC Chair Pete Kamp will lead a discussion on the Panama Canal with guest speakers.

Item Summary: With improvements to the Panama Canal, the goods movement logistics chain in the Dallas-Fort Worth region is anticipated to be modified. This agenda item will highlight anticipated opportunities.

Background: Regional Transportation Council (RTC) Chair Pete Kamp will lead a discussion with representatives who recently visited the Panama Canal, as well as view points from the Texas Department of Transportation. RTC may need to respond to adjustments in programs, policies, or projects to take advantage of the opportunities resulting from the expansion of the Panama Canal.

1:40 – 1:50

5. **2012 Job Access/Reverse Commute and New Freedom Programs Recommendations**

Action       Possible Action       Information      Minutes: 10

Presenter: Jessie Huddleston, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of the 2012 Job Access/Reverse Commute and New Freedom Call for Projects funding recommendations.

Background: Last month staff presented funding recommendations for projects received through the 2012 Job Access/Reverse Commute and New Freedom Call for Projects, which closed October 5, 2012. The projects and recommended funding levels were presented at three public meetings held February 11-13, 2013. Staff will request approval to award approximately \$4.4 million in Job Access/Reverse Commute and New Freedom funding. The Surface Transportation Technical Committee recommended RTC approval of the project recommendations contained in [Reference Item 5.1](#). Additional details are provided in [Electronic Item 5.2](#).

- 1:50 – 2:00**    6.    **Proposal to Change the Transportation Improvement Program Modification Policy**
- Action             Possible Action     Information            Minutes: 10
- Presenter:            Christie Gotti, NCTCOG
- Item Summary:      Staff will request Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of changes to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Modification Policy.
- Background:        The TIP is the four-year transportation funding document that outlines all federal, State, and local funding on regional projects in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. It is updated on a quarterly basis as projects move through the implementation process. The number of modifications to projects in the TIP has increased dramatically over the last 10 years, largely due to requirements set forth in the last transportation bill, the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient, Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), which required significantly more information for each project. These changes were carried through in the new transportation bill, Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21).
- The expanded amount of information required for each project has multiplied the number of modifications needed throughout a project’s lifecycle under the current TIP modification policy. Staff proposes updates to the modification policy in an effort to reduce the number of modifications needed and the number of changes that require Surface Transportation Technical Committee and RTC action, while continuing to maintain RTC’s authority to approve major changes to a project’s scope of work, limits, and funding. [Reference Item 6.1](#) contains the revised TIP modification policy proposed for RTC approval. Changes to the proposed policy since it was last seen by RTC in February 2013 are shown using underlined and strikethrough text. Additional details are provided in [Electronic Item 6.2](#).
- 2:00 – 2:10**    7.    **High Speed Rail**
- Action             Possible Action     Information            Minutes: 10
- Presenter:            Michael Morris, NCTCOG
- Item Summary:      Recently, a letter was authored and signed by five State Senators stating their preference for high-speed rail service directly to Terminal Areas A and B of the Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport as the only route serving the North Texas region via the SH 360 corridor. A copy of this letter is provided in [Reference Item 7](#). A joint response letter from the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and the North Central Texas Council of Governments is anticipated.
- Background:        Mobility 2035: The Metropolitan Transportation Plan for North Central Texas, as approved by the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) in March 2011, defines high-speed rail service for the North Texas region using the “3 station concept” serving downtown Dallas, Arlington-D/FW Airport, and downtown Fort Worth. TxDOT, working in partnership with North Central Texas

Council of Governments staff, has recently initiated two high-speed rail corridor studies that will evaluate all appropriate high-speed rail corridors considering technology options, alignment options, ridership, and capital costs. This includes an evaluation of high-speed rail on the SH 360 corridor.

- 2:10 – 2:20**    8.    **Legislative Update**  
 Action       Possible Action       Information      Minutes: 10  
Presenter:    Amanda Wilson, NCTCOG  
Item Summary: The Regional Transportation Council (RTC) will receive an update on State and federal legislative actions. The Texas Legislature convened on January 8, 2013. The US Congress convened January 3, 2013. Transportation issues will be a focus for both the Texas Legislature and US Congress. One item of note is a recent presentation made by Texas Senate Transportation Committee Chairman Robert Nichols regarding transportation funding, which is included as [Electronic Item 8](#).  
Background:    The Texas Legislature and US Congress will be in session at the time of the March RTC meeting. This item will allow staff to provide updates on key positions of the RTC and allow any additional positions to be taken, if necessary.
- 2:20 – 2:30**    9.    **Transportation Enhancements**  
 Action       Possible Action       Information      Minutes: 10  
Presenter:    Karla Weaver, NCTCOG  
Item Summary: Staff will provide information regarding the Transportation Enhancement applications received and evaluation methodology. A draft recommendation of projects to select for funding will also be provided.  
Background:    The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) issued a \$70 million Transportation Enhancement Call for Projects on September 14, 2012, utilizing remaining Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient, Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) funding. Applications were due to the TxDOT district offices on November 16, 2012.
- Due to program rule-making changes, the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Dallas-Fort Worth region qualifies to be awarded approximately \$13 million to select eligible projects. In late 2012, RTC approved eligible and ineligible project types and a methodology for project evaluation screens and scoring. Projects will now be provided for review. [Reference Item 9](#) provides additional information.
- 2:30 – 2:40**    10.    **Mobility 2035 – 2013 Amendment and 2013 Transportation Conformity**  
 Action       Possible Action       Information      Minutes: 10  
Presenters:    Chad Edwards and Chris Klaus, NCTCOG  
Item Summary: This is the final informational presentation staff will make for the Mobility 2035 – 2013 Amendment before seeking Regional Transportation Council (RTC) action in April. Staff will outline the projects that will be amended and the projects added to the long-

range transportation plan. Additionally, projects will be identified that will be phased/staged differently than previously assumed. [Electronic Item 10](#) outlines the projects and financial impact the additional projects have on the amendment.

Background: The Regional Transportation Council (RTC) and its transportation partners have continued to pursue and develop transportation projects across the region since Mobility 2035 was approved by RTC in March 2011. To include the latest project-level assumptions, the long-range transportation plan must be periodically amended to account for this work. As amendments are made to the long-range transportation plan they must be tested for air quality impacts. The 2013 transportation conformity analysis will be conducted to ensure the region meets its clean-air guidelines.

**2:40 – 2:50 11. Support for Additional Comprehensive Development Agreement Authority for the Texas Department of Transportation**

Action       Possible Action       Information      Minutes: 10

Presenter: Ken Kirkpatrick, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will brief the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) on efforts to develop a joint position of the RTC and North Texas Tollway Authority (NTTA) supporting additional comprehensive development agreement (CDA) authority for the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT).

Background: Currently, TxDOT has authority to enter into concession-type comprehensive development agreements (CDAs) for the following projects: IH 35E Managed Lanes from US 380 to IH 635, North Tarrant Express, and SH 183 Managed Lanes from SH 161 to IH 35E. TxDOT's authority to execute a CDA for these projects expires August 31, 2015. There is a need to extend TxDOT CDA authority for the North Tarrant Express beyond this timeframe. In addition, there is a need to include portions for SH 114 and Loop 12 in the SH 183 Managed Lanes CDA authority. Also, there is a need to provide TxDOT CDA authority for two additional projects: IH 35E/US 67 from downtown Dallas to IH 20 and Loop 9 from US 67 to IH 45. [Electronic Item 11](#) contains maps showing the current projects and limits that are under discussion. Staff will provide additional information at the meeting.

**2:50 – 3:00 12. New Federal Transit Administration Program for Elderly and People with Disabilities and Designated Recipient Status**

Action       Possible Action       Information      Minutes: 10

Presenters: Michael Morris and Jessie Huddleston, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will present an overview of the newly created Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program (Section 5310) and outline the process the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) plans to follow to become the designated recipient for the program in the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington and Denton-Lewisville Urbanized Areas.

Background: The recently enacted legislation, Moving Ahead for Progress in

the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (MAP-21), reauthorized surface transportation programs through fiscal year 2014. A new program was created under MAP-21 called the Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program. In large urbanized areas, including Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington and Denton-Lewisville, a designated recipient must be selected to administer the program. [Reference Item 12](#) contains correspondence on this initiative.

- 3:00 – 3:10**
13. **Local Option to Opt-In to the Regional Vehicle-for-Hire Program**  
 Action       Possible Action       Information      Minutes: 10  
Presenters: Michael Morris and Jessie Huddleston, NCTCOG  
Item Summary: This item will review the current status of the Regional Vehicle-for-Hire Program for limousines, taxicabs, and shuttles. Options for local governments to opt-in to the regional program will be highlighted.  
Background: With the success of Super Bowl XLV, one of the legacy projects was the establishment of a Regional Vehicle-for-Hire Program. Work has progressed with preliminary technical and policy support to advance the program. This included extensive conversations between the North Central Texas Council of Governments, the Cities of Dallas and Fort Worth, and Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport.
14. **Progress Reports**  
 Action       Possible Action       Information  
Item Summary: Progress Reports are provided in Items 14.
- RTC Attendance ([Reference Item 14.1](#))
  - STTC Attendance and Minutes ([Electronic Item 14.2](#))
  - Local Motion ([Electronic Item 14.3](#))
15. **Other Business (Old or New):** This item provides an opportunity for members to bring items of interest before the group.
16. **Future Agenda Items:** This item provides an opportunity for members to bring items of future interest before the Council.
17. **Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the Regional Transportation Council is scheduled for ***Thursday, April 11, 2013, at 1:00 pm, at the North Central Texas Council of Governments.***