

TO: Regional Transportation Council

DATE: May 2, 2014

Interested Parties

FROM: Michael Morris, P.E.

Director of Transportation

SUBJECT: Notice of Meeting – May 8, 2014

The next business meeting of the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) will convene at **1:00 pm, Thursday, May 8, 2014**, in the Transportation Council Room, First Floor at the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG), 616 Six Flags Dr., Arlington, TX, 76011.

Enclosed with this memorandum is a summary agenda containing links to material supporting items to be addressed at the meeting. The meeting agenda and all items can be accessed through the Internet at NCTCOG's Transportation Department RTC home page. The address is www.nctcog.org/trans/committees/rtc.

Should you have any questions about this material, please feel free to call me, or I will be happy to meet at your convenience. I hope that each of you will be able to attend the meeting.

Michael Morris, P.E.

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Enclosures

**If you plan to attend this public meeting and you have a disability that requires special arrangements at the meeting; please contact Amanda Wilson at NCTCOG 72 hours in advance of the meeting at 817/695-9284.
Reasonable accommodations will be made to assist your needs.**

AGENDA

Regional Transportation Council

Thursday, May 8, 2014

North Central Texas Council of Governments

1:00 pm Full RTC Business Agenda

(NCTCOG Guest Secured Wireless Connection Password: wirelessNCTCOG!)

1:00 – 1:05 1. Approval of April 10, 2014, Minutes

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 5

Presenter: Kathryn Wilemon, RTC Chair

Item Summary: Approval of the April 10, 2014, 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. Nominating Subcommittee Appointments (Chair Kathryn Wilemon)

2. North Central Texas Council of Governments Receives SmartWaySM Affiliate Challenge Award ([Electronic Item 3.1](#))
3. Introduction of Paul Ballard, President/Chief Executive Officer, Fort Worth Transportation Authority (FWTA) (FWTA Chair Scott Mahaffey)
4. Final Regional Transportation Council (RTC) Bylaws and Operating Procedures ([Electronic Item 3.2](#))
5. Air Quality Funding for Vehicles ([Electronic Item 3.3](#))
6. Ozone Season Update ([Electronic Item 3.4](#))
7. Air North Texas' Clean Air Action Day Scheduled for June 27, 2014 ([Electronic Item 3.5](#))
8. Sierra Club Notice of Intent Update ([Electronic Item 3.6](#))
9. Public Hearing on Final Environmental Impact Statement on the Trinity Parkway Project
10. First Meeting of the Commission for High-Speed Rail in the Dallas/Fort Worth Region
11. Regional Workshop on People Mover System
12. Regional Vehicle-for-Hire Program Updates ([Electronic Item 3.7](#))
13. Safety Performance Measures ([Electronic Item 3.8](#))
14. RTC Signatures on 40th Anniversary Banner
15. Recent Correspondence ([Electronic Item 3.9](#))
16. Recent News Articles ([Electronic Item 3.10](#))
17. Press Releases ([Electronic Item 3.11](#))
18. Transportation Partners Progress Reports (Handout)

1:20 – 1:30 4. **Incident Management Survey Results and Call for Projects**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Natalie Bettger, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide an update on the incident management commitment survey and request approval to conduct a 2014 Incident Management Equipment Purchase Call for Projects. The survey was an initiative requested by Regional Transportation Council (RTC) member Sandy Greyson who attended the Freeway Incident Management (FIM) Executive Level course.

Background: The goal of the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) FIM Training Program is to initiate a common, coordinated response to traffic incidents that will build partnerships, enhance safety for emergency personnel, reduce secondary traffic crashes, improve the efficiency of the transportation system, and improve air quality in the Dallas-Fort Worth region. In October 2008, the RTC adopted Resolution R08-10 (an update to RTC Resolution R03-01) that supports a comprehensive, coordinated, interagency approach to freeway incident management. As part of continued efforts to emphasize the importance of effective incident management goals and objectives throughout the region, in January 2014 staff released an online survey to gather information on partner agencies' commitment to incident management. The survey was distributed to regional partners and consisted of questions on the current incident management policies and performance measures that are being collected within the region. Staff will provide the results of the regional survey. In addition, equipment and technology that aid in quick incident clearance can both assist with keeping motorists and first responders safe on the roadway and improve air quality in the region. In support of the NCTCOG FIM Training Program, funding is available for the purchase of equipment and technology to be used to mitigate traffic incidents in the North Central Texas nonattainment area. Additional details are provided in [Reference Item 4](#). The Surface Transportation Technical Committee recommended RTC approval of this item at its April 25, 2014, meeting.

1:30 – 1:40 5. **Partnership with the Texas Rangers for Exchanging Park-and-Ride Lots at IH 30**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Michael Morris and Natalie Bettger, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide an overview of a partnership with the Texas Rangers. In addition, staff will request approval to utilize Regional Transportation Council (RTC) local funds to pay for upgrades to the existing Texas Rangers parking lot that will become the new public park-and-ride lot at IH 30. The existing public park-and-ride lot south of the ballpark will be returned to the Texas Rangers.

Background: In July 2009, the IH 30 West (Tom Landry Highway) High Occupancy Vehicle/Managed Lane opened from Sylvan Avenue west of Downtown Dallas to the Dallas/Tarrant County line. The City of Arlington, City of Grand Prairie, Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), North Central Texas Council of Governments, and the event venues have worked closely to ensure park-and-ride facilities are located along the corridor and in close proximity to the t-ramp in Arlington. On April 8, 2014, the t-ramp was closed for TxDOT to enhance the ramp to allow for 24-hour operation. The t-ramp is planned to reopen in July 2014. In preparation for the reopening of the t-ramp, staff would like to make upgrades to the Texas Ranger’s parking lot at the southwest corner of the IH 30 frontage road and AT&T Way to allow the region to utilize this lot as a park-and-ride for the corridor. This new location is much better than the existing location that will be exchanged as part of this initiative. The upgrades include lighting, signage, short sections of sidewalks, striping, and improvements to median openings. The Surface Transportation Technical Committee will be asked to endorse the RTC position later this month. Additional details are provided in [Reference Item 5](#).

1:40 – 1:50 6. **National Focus on Transportation Funding: Request from United States Secretary of Transportation Secretary Foxx**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenters: Michael Morris and Amanda Wilson, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval will be requested to support United States (US) Secretary of Transportation Anthony Foxx's efforts to get a fully funded transportation bill completed this fiscal year.

Background: US Secretary of Transportation Anthony Foxx was in the region on Friday, April 18, 2014, on the "Invest in America, Commit to the Future" bus tour. The RTC will be asked to support his position and request local government, private business, chambers of commerce, and public interest groups to encourage Congress to fully fund a new transportation bill this fiscal year.

1:50 – 2:00 7. **Texas Municipal League/Texas Department of Transportation/Metropolitan Planning Organization Position on On-System Roadways**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenters: Jungus Jordan, Councilmember, City of Fort Worth and Dan Kessler, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will seek Regional Transportation Council (RTC) endorsement of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), the Texas Municipal League (TML), and the Association of Texas Metropolitan Planning Organizations (TEMPO) regarding the parameters for the TxDOT Highway Turnback Program. [Reference Item 7](#) is the proposed RTC resolution endorsing the executed TxDOT/TML/TEMPO Memorandum of Understanding, which is attached to the resolution.

Background: In August 2013, TxDOT informed mayors and county judges in certain populous areas of the State of a proposed approach for the return of off-system roadways to local governments known as the Highway Turnback Program. The Texas Transportation Commission also conducted a public meeting on the program later that month. City officials and leaders from TEMPO met with TxDOT in January 2014 to discuss cooperative efforts in relation to the Highway Turnback Program. They developed an MOU governing the general parameters for TxDOT and the cities to voluntarily choose to take control of certain state highways, as well as written confirmation of the program's voluntary nature.

2:00 – 2:10 8. Blacklands Corridor Study Status Report

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG

Item Summary: At the direction of the Regional Transportation Council (RTC), staff has been in the process of conducting a Blacklands Corridor Feasibility Study for purposes of determining the needs and opportunities of a possible new capacity tolled facility in portions of Dallas, Collin, and Hunt Counties. Staff will provide an update on the current status of the feasibility study and a summary of comments received through many opportunities of public involvement.

Background: Over one year ago, initial interest was expressed by a private sector entity for a possible new capacity tolled facility within the Blacklands Corridor. To better gauge support of the public and policy officials, RTC directed staff to perform a feasibility study to confirm the need, analyze various alternatives, and conduct a thorough public involvement process. Positive progress has been achieved to date with initial technical analysis results, recent presentations documented in public meeting minutes, newsletters, and the project's Web site. Recent public meeting minutes are provided in [Electronic Item 8.1](#), and the current Blacklands Corridor newsletter is provided in [Electronic Item 8.2](#).

2:10 – 2:20 9. Proposed Clean Fleet Vehicle Policy Revision

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Chris Klaus, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will present information about efforts to update the current Clean Fleet Vehicle Policy.

Background: In October 2005, the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approved a resolution in support of a Clean Fleet Vehicle Policy and Model Ordinance to ensure that public-sector fleets in the ozone nonattainment area are as low emitting as possible. This policy is one of the RTC strategies to improve air quality and attain the federal ozone standard. As new regulations and vehicle technologies have become available in recent years, revisions are needed to ensure that the policy remains relevant

and effective. Staff has been working with fleet representatives to evaluate potential revisions, including expansion to include private fleets, inclusion of multi-pollutant benefits, and promotion of petroleum reduction. The proposed policy is available in [Electronic Item 9.1](#) and a comparison between the proposed and original policies is available in [Electronic Item 9.2](#). More information, including a proposed schedule, is available in [Electronic Item 9.3](#).

2:20 – 2:30 10. Status Report on Streetcars

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Tom Shelton, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide an update on the status and ongoing progress of streetcar projects under construction in the Dallas area.

Background: Included within the City of Dallas Comprehensive Plan, streetcar projects have been identified as a cost-effective means to unite the urban residential neighborhoods to job opportunities, entertainment venues, and medical appointments. In addition, streetcar projects are viewed as providing the “last mile” connections for other transportation modes such as Dallas Area Rapid Transit Light Rail, regional rail, bikeways, and high speed rail. The Downtown–West Oak Cliff Streetcar Project and the McKinney Avenue Trolley–Urban Circulator Extension, currently under construction in the City of Dallas, are two of the starter streetcar projects and part of the planned larger system. [Electronic Item 10](#) contains additional details.

2:30 – 2:40 11. Use of Strategic Design Approaches Using Management Systems: A Capital Asset Management Approach

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenters: Michael Morris and Jeff Neal, NCTCOG

Item Summary: The process and outcomes of a strategic design approach will be summarized for the IH 35E project in Waxahachie.

Background: In October 2013, use of strategic design approaches was presented to the Regional Transportation Council as a new method to address corridor improvement planning based on asset management principles. Shortly afterward, a pilot project for the

IH 35E corridor in Waxahachie was initiated to demonstrate potential applications. With substantial stakeholder input and following an intensive analysis of available performance data, various design/engineering options were developed. Staff will outline the key elements of the proposed staged solution, and highlight an important item. IH 30 from downtown Fort Worth to Weatherford will be used as an example for this approach in the western side of the region. [Electronic Item 11](#) contains additional details.

12. **Progress Reports**

Action Possible Action Information

Item Summary: Progress Reports are provided in the items below.

- RTC Attendance ([Reference Item 12.1](#))
- STTC Minutes ([Electronic Item 12.2](#))
- Local Motion ([Electronic Item 12.3](#))

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 *Thursday, June 12, 2014, at 1:00 pm, at the North Central Texas Council of Governments.*