

1:20 – 1:35

4. **Orientation to Agenda/Director of Transportation Report**

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

1. US 75 Technology Lane Texas Department of Transportation Advancement
2. Friends of Texas Department of Transportation Safety Committee
3. Legislative Items
4. City of Dallas/Dallas Area Rapid Silver Lane Transit Mediation
5. Trinity Railway Express/Burlington Northern Santa Fe Mediation
6. US High Speed Rail Coalition Membership
7. Tennessee Advances P3 Legislation
8. Medal of Honor Event
9. Traffic Incident Management Executive Level, May 4, 2023, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm
10. Correspondence to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (Electronic Item 4.1)
11. Air Quality Handbook Available in Third Language: Vietnamese (Electronic Item 4.2)
12. 2023 Ozone Season Update (Electronic Item 4.3)
13. Air Quality Funding Opportunities for Vehicles (www.nctcog.org/aqfunding)
14. Upcoming Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Events (<https://www.dfwcleancities.org/events>)
15. Local Clean Air Project Spotlight (Electronic Item 4.4)
16. March Public Meeting Minutes (Electronic Item 4.5)
17. April Public Meeting Notice (Electronic Item 4.6)
18. Public Comments Report (Electronic Item 4.7)
19. Recent Correspondence (Electronic Item 4.8)
20. Recent News Articles (Electronic Item 4.9)
21. Recent Press Releases (Electronic Item 4.10)

1:35 – 1:45

5. **Emergency Funding: Adjustment to the Multi-source Funding Strategy to Expedite Environmental and Design Review for Surface Transportation Projects**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10
Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request ratification of emergency funding authorization to increase Regional Transportation Council (RTC) Local funding for a professional services contract to expedite environmental and design review and other technical assistance for surface transportation projects.

Background: The RTC previously approved Regional Toll Revenue (RTR) and RTC Local funding to support a professional services contract for environmental clearance and design review. The existing funding of \$500,000 RTR and \$200,000 RTC Local supports multiple technical assistance initiatives over three years. Funding Agreement limitations restrict the specific tasks

that can be conducted with Regional Toll Revenue funds. Additional RTC Local funds of \$60,000 are needed to pay for activities that are outside the RTR funding agreement scope of work. RTR funding in the amount of \$60,000 will be reduced from the contract to retain the total contract commitment of \$700,000 for work accomplished from April 2020 through December 2023. Staff requests ratification of emergency funding in the amount of \$60,000 RTC Local to support technical assistance. Additional information is provided in Electronic Item 5.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative, Transit

1:45 – 1:55

6. **2023 Federal Transit Administration Low or No Emissions and Bus/Bus Facilities Competitive Grant Program**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Shannon Stevenson, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request Regional Transportation Council (RTC) action on a proposed regional submittal to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Low or No Emissions and Bus/Bus Facilities Competitive Grant Programs to procure electric vehicles and charging infrastructure for small transit providers to replace buses.

Background: The Federal Transit Administration has released the Fiscal Year 2023 Low or No Emissions and Bus/Bus Facilities Competitive Grant Programs Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), which is expected to award approximately \$1.7 billion for modernizing bus fleets, improving bus facilities, and supporting workforce development. Eligible projects include the purchasing or leasing of low or no emission buses, related equipment (e.g., electric vehicle charging stations), and workforce development and training. Applications are due by April 13, 2023. In response to the NOFO, North Central Texas Council of Governments staff requests approval to submit a proposal to procure electric vehicles and charging infrastructure for small transit providers to replace buses near or at the end of their useful life with electric vehicles. The total grant budget will not exceed \$7,300,000 including utilizing 1,210,000 Transportation Development Credits (TDCs) previously set aside for small transit providers in lieu of local match. Please see Electronic Item 6 for more information.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Air Quality, Transit

1:55 – 2:05

7. **Environmental Protection Agency Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Program for the Metropolitan Statistical Area**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Chris Klaus, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval to pursue funding from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (CPRG) program. Staff will also request letters of support from local governments within the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) for the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) to be the lead applicant for the grant.

Background: Created by the Inflation Reduction Act, the EPA’s CPRG program will provide grants to develop and implement plans for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and other harmful air pollution. This two-phase grant program will provide \$250 million for noncompetitive planning grants and \$4.6 billion for competitive implementation grants. As one of the 67 most populous metropolitan statistical areas (MSA), the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington MSA, which includes Wise, Denton, Collin, Parker, Tarrant, Dallas, Rockwall, Kaufman, Ellis, Johnson, and Hunt counties, is eligible for a \$1 million noncompetitive planning grant to develop a Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP). The CPRG program requires a single eligible lead organization to apply for the grant, manage grant funds, and oversee the CCAP development process on behalf of the MSA. Implementation grants to fund measures contained in a CCAP will be made available later in 2023 and will be awarded through a competitive process to entities included in, or covered by, the CCAP. Electronic Item 7 provides additional details.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Air Quality

2:05 – 2:15

8. **Carbon Reduction Program**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Christie Gotti, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will present a plan of action to the Council on the new Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) funding introduced in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). Approval of the proposed plan for utilizing the first increment of funding will be requested.

Background: The CRP was created with the goal of reducing carbon dioxide emissions from on-road sources. Now that the funding can be programmed for projects, staff have formulated a plan for utilizing these funds and administering them. Additional details on CRP funding, including eligible project types and the amount of funding available, can be found in Electronic Item 8.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Air Quality, Transit

2:15 – 2:25

9. **COVID Transit Funding Round 2**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Brian Dell, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of the COVID-19 #00X Infrastructure Program Transit Partnership (Round 2) projects and programs.

Background: In the fall of 2020, the Surface Transportation Technical Committee (STTC) and the RTC approved the third round of the COVID-19 #00X Infrastructure Program, including a \$25 million placeholder for investments in transit. Since then, the RTC has awarded approximately \$15 million to various transit initiatives to address the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on transit and advance transit in the region. In an effort to utilize the remaining funding and complete the initiative, additional projects are being proposed. The details of the proposed programs and projects are provided in Electronic Item 9.1 and Electronic Item 9.2.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Safety, Transit

2:25 – 2:35

10. **Federal and State Legislative Update**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Rebekah Gongora, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide an update on federal and State legislative actions related to transportation and air quality issues affecting the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

Background: Transportation issues continue to be a focus for both the United States Congress and the Texas Legislature. The first session of the 118th U.S. Congress convened on January 3, 2023. The 88th Texas Legislature convened on January 10, 2023. This item will allow staff to provide updates on key positions of the Regional Transportation Council and allow any additional positions to be taken, if necessary.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Roadway, Safety

2:35 – 2:45

11. **Creation of Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Technical Advisory Committee**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Lori Clark, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will discuss the creation of a new Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Technical Advisory Committee and invite participation.

Background: Staff continues to implement goals established during the most recent Department of Energy redesignation of the Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Coalition, which was finalized in March 2020. One goal is to establish a Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Technical Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee will guide the Coalition's strategic direction, support its activities, and facilitate its capacity for growth by providing input, assisting in event and project promotion, and increasing stakeholder engagement. The committee will consist of at least 51 percent public sector representatives but will also be open

to private sector participation. Staff plans to have the Advisory Committee in place by the end of the fiscal year and is seeking nominations. Nominees should be knowledgeable about alternative fuels, vehicles, infrastructure, or other subject matter relating to the Advisory Committee. Nominations should be submitted to cleancities@nctcog.org by May 31, 2023. For more information, please see Electronic Item 11. A more detailed document detailing Committee expectations, roles, and responsibilities is also posted at www.dfwcleancities.org.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Air Quality, Administrative

2:45 – 2:55

12. **Census Bureau Update to Urbanized Areas: Potential Implications**

Action Possible Action Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Ken Kirkpatrick, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide a status report on recent Census Bureau updates to urban area boundaries impacting the Dallas-Fort Worth region.

Background: On December 29, 2022, the Census Bureau published updates to urban areas based on the 2020 Census of Population and Housing counts and density calculations. Based on the 2010 Census there are three urbanized areas in the Dallas-Fort Worth region: Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, Denton-Lewisville, and McKinney. Under the new 2020 designations, Frisco is being combined with McKinney to create the McKinney-Frisco urbanized area. The Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration are expected to issue guidance in the coming weeks. Staff is reviewing potential implications and will provide an initial status report. More information is available in Electronic Item 12.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative

13. **Progress Reports**

Action Possible Action Information

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

- RTC Attendance (Electronic Item 13.1)
- STTC Attendance (Electronic Item 13.2)

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

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

16. **Next Meeting**: The next meeting of the Regional Transportation Council is scheduled for **1:00 pm on May 11, 2023, in the Transportation Council Room.**