



The Transportation Policy Body for the North Central Texas Council of Governments  
(Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Dallas-Fort Worth Region)

# NOTICE OF MEETING

THE  
REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL

WILL MEET

Thursday, January 9, 2025, 1:00 PM

Transportation Council Room  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
616 Six Flags Dr, Arlington, TX 76011

Members of the public may attend in person or view a livestream of the RTC meeting remotely at [www.nctcog.org/video](http://www.nctcog.org/video) under the "live" tab. Members of the public wishing to comment during the open comment period must do so from the Transportation Council Room.

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For special accommodations due to a disability or for language translation, contact Carli Baylor at 817-608-2365 or [cbaylor@nctcog.org](mailto:cbaylor@nctcog.org) at least 72 hours prior to the meeting.

Reasonable accommodations will be made.

Para ajustes especiales por discapacidad o para interpretación de idiomas, contacte a Carli Baylor llamando al 817-608-2365 o por email: [cbaylor@nctcog.org](mailto:cbaylor@nctcog.org) al menos 72 horas antes de la reunión. Se harán las adaptaciones razonables.



The Transportation Policy Body for the North Central Texas Council of Governments  
(Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Dallas-Fort Worth Region)

# AVISO DE REUNIÓN

THE  
REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL

SE REUNIRÁ

Jueves 1 de enero de 2025, 1:00 PM

Transportation Council Room  
North Central Texas Council of Governments  
616 Six Flags Dr, Arlington, TX 76011

Los miembros del público pueden asistir en persona o ver la transmisión en vivo de la reunión del RTC en [www.nctcog.org/video](http://www.nctcog.org/video) bajo la pestaña "live".

Los miembros del público que deseen hacer comentarios durante el periodo de comentarios abiertos pueden hacerlo en el Transportation Council Room.

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Se harán las adaptaciones razonables.

**AGENDA**

**Regional Transportation Council  
Thursday, January 9, 2025  
North Central Texas Council of Governments**

**1:00 pm Full RTC Business Agenda  
(NCTCOG Guest Secured Wireless Connection Password: rangers!)**

**Pledge to the United States and Texas Flags**

**1:00 – 1:10 1. Opportunity for Public Comment on Today’s Agenda**

Information Minutes: 10

Item Summary: Members of the public may comment on any item(s) on today’s agenda at this time. If speaking, please complete a Speaker Request Card available at the meeting and provide it to the North Central Texas Council of Governments designated staff person. A maximum of three (3) minutes is permitted per speaker. At the conclusion of this item, no further opportunities for public comment will be provided for the duration of the meeting.

Background: N/A

**1:10 – 1:15 2. Approval of December 12, 2024, Minutes**

Action  Possible Action  Information Minutes: 5

Presenter: Clay Lewis-Jenkins, RTC Chair

Item Summary: Approval of the December 12, 2024, meeting minutes contained in Electronic Item 2 will be requested.

Background: N/A

**1:15 – 1:20 3. Consent Agenda**

Action  Possible Action  Information Minutes: 5

**3.1. Amtrak Heartland Flyer Funding Shortfall**

Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of \$100,000 in Regional Toll Revenue (RTR) funds for Amtrak’s Heartland Flyer passenger service from Fort Worth to Oklahoma City to ensure there are no service disruptions. In addition, staff will seek the RTC’s approval to inform the Legislature that the TxDOT request for funding is inadequate.

Background: In November 2024, staff learned that Texas’ share of funding for Amtrak’s Heartland Flyer Passenger service from Fort Worth to Oklahoma

City has a potential funding shortfall of approximately \$72,000. Staff will request approval of up to \$100,000 in RTR funds be used to supplement the State's funding shortfall. The Heartland Flyer travels along the Interstate Highway 35 Corridor located in both Denton and Tarrant counties. This action ensures that the Amtrak Heartland Flyer passenger service will not experience any disruptions. RTC had previously approved \$700,000 for a shortfall for fiscal year 2023, which was ultimately not needed as the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) resolved the funding gap. Staff previously reported this to the RTC. The current request is for the funding shortfall for the 2024 fiscal year.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Transit

### 3.2 Funding for Riverfront Boulevard Cost Overrun

Presenter: Brian Dell, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of \$1,401,658 in Dallas County Regional Toll Revenue (RTR) funding will be requested to cover a cost overrun at letting on the Riverfront Boulevard project with local funds covering the remainder of the gap, along with the ability to administratively amend the Transportation Improvement Program/Statewide Transportation Improvement Program and other planning and administrative documents needed to incorporate the funding. Additionally, staff is requesting additional cost overruns must be covered by Dallas County and/or the City of Dallas.

Background: Dallas County is implementing a project along Riverfront Boulevard from Canal Street to Justice Center Way in the City of Dallas. The project will reconstruct the roadway to six lanes with bicycle and pedestrian accommodations and various intersection improvements. The project currently has \$38,291,442 of RTR funds along with \$18,149,497 of funding from the County and City of Dallas. Bids for the project were recently opened and there is a funding gap of approximately \$13.81 million between the available funds and the lowest bid. The County

has requested funding assistance to cover a portion of this gap. This project is on the RTC's Metropolitan Planning Organization Milestone Policy list and thus it is of particular importance that it proceeds to construction.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Roadway, Safety

1:20 – 1:30 4.

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

Action       Possible Action       Information      Minutes: 10

Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG

1. Transit 2.0 Policy Oversight Preparation for February Action
2. \$60 Million Received from Environmental Protection Agency Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicle Program (Electronic Item 4.1)
3. Department of Defense \$4 Million Noise Mitigation Award for Elementary Schools in Lake Worth and White Settlement
4. Transportation Research Board January 5, 2025, (Washington, D.C.): Integrating Operational Change into Transportation Agencies to Optimize Project Delivery (Michael Morris and Season Clemons)
5. Sandy Wesch Celebration of Life: January 9, 2025, at 4:00 p.m.
6. Regional Transportation Council Policy – Temporary Suspension of Dynamic Pricing No Longer Requested
7. Local Clean Air Project Spotlight: (Electronic Item 4.2)
8. Air Quality Funding Opportunities ([www.nctcog.org/aqfunding](http://www.nctcog.org/aqfunding))
9. Upcoming Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Events ([www.dfwcleancities.org/events](http://www.dfwcleancities.org/events))
10. November – December Public Comment Report (Electronic Item 4.3)
11. January Public Meeting Notice (Electronic Item 4.4)
12. Recent News Articles (Electronic Item 4.5)
13. Recent Press Releases (Electronic Item 4.6)

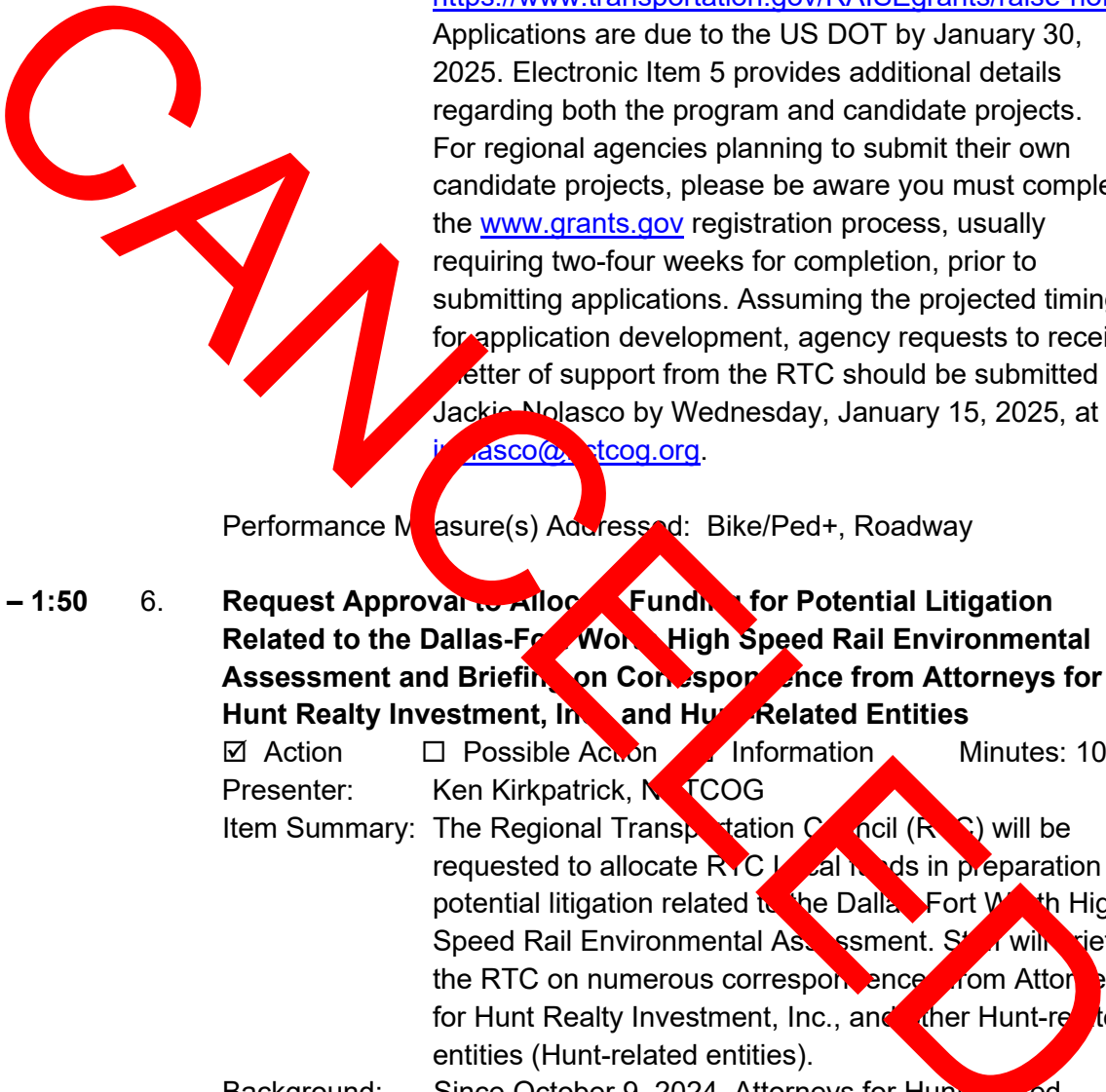
1:30 – 1:40 5.

**Fiscal Year 2025 Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity Discretionary Grant Program**

Action       Possible Action       Information      Minutes: 10

Presenter: Jeffrey Hathcock, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of projects to be submitted for funding consideration through the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024



Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Discretionary Grant Program.

Background: In November 2024, the United States Department of Transportation (US DOT) announced the solicitation of project applications for the FY 2025 RAISE Discretionary Grant Program. The Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), with information and application requirements for the \$1.5 billion program, can be accessed at <https://www.transportation.gov/RAISEgrants/raise-nofo>. Applications are due to the US DOT by January 30, 2025. Electronic Item 5 provides additional details regarding both the program and candidate projects. For regional agencies planning to submit their own candidate projects, please be aware you must complete the [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) registration process, usually requiring two-four weeks for completion, prior to submitting applications. Assuming the projected timing for application development, agency requests to receive a letter of support from the RTC should be submitted to Jackie Nolasco by Wednesday, January 15, 2025, at [jnolasco@nctcog.org](mailto:jnolasco@nctcog.org).

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Bike/Ped+, Roadway

1:40 – 1:50

6. **Request Approval to Allocate Funding for Potential Litigation Related to the Dallas-Fort Worth High Speed Rail Environmental Assessment and Briefing on Correspondence from Attorneys for Hunt Realty Investment, Inc. and Hunt-Related Entities**

Action  Possible Action  Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Ken Kirkpatrick, NCTCOG

Item Summary: The Regional Transportation Council (RTC) will be requested to allocate RTC local funds in preparation for potential litigation related to the Dallas-Fort Worth High Speed Rail Environmental Assessment. Staff will brief the RTC on numerous correspondence from Attorneys for Hunt Realty Investment, Inc., and other Hunt-related entities (Hunt-related entities).

Background: Since October 9, 2024, Attorneys for Hunt-related entities have sent 16 separate items of correspondence to the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) asserting various legal and factual claims regarding the Environmental Assessment, the 1975 Master Agreement between Hunt-related entities and the City of Dallas, Alignment 2B, the City of Dallas June 12, 2024 resolution concerning high-speed rail, RTC's one-seat ride policy, the City of Arlington, among other items.

Electronic Item 6.1 contains NCTCOG's responses to date and the corresponding Hunt letter. Electronic Item 6.2 contains the remaining Hunt correspondence to date, in which NCTCOG is preparing a response, as warranted. This is in addition to approximately 2,500 pages of documents NCTCOG provided in April 2024 in response to an informal request from Hunt's Attorney. Included in Electronic Item 6.1 is an October 21, 2024, "formal request and demand" from the Hunt's Attorney for NCTCOG to "Preserve and Not Destroy" documents broadly related to High-Speed Rail and the Environmental Assessment in particular. Such a notice is often a precursor to litigation. Staff recommends the RTC allocate \$1 million in RTC Local funds to be used in \$250,000 increments for additional legal support to assist in responding to these matters and other preparatory work in anticipation of litigation related to the Environmental Assessment. Staff propose reporting expenditures of these funds on a quarterly basis to the RTC. If approved by the RTC, staff requests the RTC communicate its action to the Executive Board as follows: "Upon a vote \_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_, the RTC requests the Executive Board to secure external legal counsel to supplement internal legal resources related to the Dallas to Fort Worth High Speed Rail Environmental Assessment."

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative, Transit

1:50 – 2:00

7. **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. Staff will provide an update on key legislative positions of the Regional Transportation Council. The 1<sup>st</sup> session of the 119th U.S. Congress convened on January 3, 2025. The 89th Texas Legislature is scheduled to convene on January 14, 2025.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Administrative

2:00 – 2:10

8. **New 511 Dallas-Fort Worth Traveler Information System**

Action       Possible Action       Information      Minutes: 10

Presenter: Natalie Bettger, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide an overview of the new 511 Dallas-Fort Worth (DFW) Traveler Information System highlighting the public-facing and agency user interface.

Background: The 511DFW Traveler Information System was developed as a component of the Dallas Integrated Corridor Management (ICM) project in 2007, which was an initiative funded by the United States Department of Transportation to help advance the state of the practice in transportation operations and manage congestion in urban areas. The 511DFW system provides travel time and speeds, transit trip planning, and road condition information accessible via the web for the DFW region. By calling 511 or utilizing the 511DFW Mobile Apps for iOS and Android, users can connect to partner agencies providing roadside assistance, report transportation problems or link to other regional applications. The system is available in both English and Spanish. In addition, an agency user interface provides partner agencies with the ability to enter crashes and other transportation-related data as well as view historic data to assess system performance. The previous 511DFW system ended in June 2023 as NCTCOG went through a new procurement. On November 4, 2024, the new 511DFW Traveler Information System went live. Additional information can be found in Electronic Item 8.

Performance Measure(s) Addressed: Roadway, Safety

9. **Progress Reports**

Action       Possible Action       Information

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

- RTC Attendance (Electronic Item 9.1)
- STTC Attendance and Minutes (Electronic Item 9.2)

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

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

12. **Next Meeting**: The next meeting of the Regional Transportation Council will be held at **1:00 pm, Thursday, February 13, 2025.**

Posted on official bulletin board and website on **Monday, January 06, 2025, at 10:15 a.m.**

1/6/2025 CSO