

## MINUTES

### Regional Transportation Council PUBLIC MEETING

#### **Mobility 2045 Update & 2022 Transportation Conformity**

#### **Beginning of Ozone Season & Car Care Awareness**

#### **Electric Vehicle Charging Station Call for Projects**

#### **Fort Worth to Dallas Regional Trail Branding & Wayfinding Project**

#### **Meeting Date and Location**

The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) held a hybrid public meeting Monday, April 11, 2022, at noon at the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) in Arlington. Patrons could attend in person, via phone, or view the live stream at [www.nctcog.org/input](http://www.nctcog.org/input). Chris Klaus, Senior Program Manager, moderated the meeting, attended by 67 people.

#### **Public Meeting Purpose and Topics**

The public meeting was held in accordance with the NCTCOG Transportation Department Public Participation Plan, which became effective June 1, 1994, as approved by the Regional Transportation Council (RTC), the transportation policy board for the metropolitan planning organization, and amended on November 8, 2018. Staff presented information about:

- Mobility 2045 Update & 2022 Transportation Conformity – **presented by Amy Johnson and Jenny Narvaez**
- Beginning of Ozone Season & Car Care Awareness – **presented by Nick Van Haasen and Anthony Moffa**
- Electric Vehicle Charging Station Call for Projects – **presented by Amy Hodges**
- Fort Worth to Dallas Regional Trail Branding & Wayfinding Project – **presented by Shawn Conrad**

The public meeting was held to educate, inform, and seek comments from the public. Comments were solicited from those attending who wished to speak for the record. The presentations made during the meeting as well as a video recording were posted online at [www.nctcog.org/input](http://www.nctcog.org/input).

#### **Summary of Presentations**

##### ***Mobility 2045 Update & 2022 Transportation Conformity presentation:***

<https://nctcog.org/getmedia/cce7f710-6826-4eb9-bbee-195ffba5fb98/Mobility-2045-Conformity.pdf.aspx>

Mobility 2045 is the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) that defines a long-term vision for the region's transportation system and guides spending of federal and State transportation

funds. This includes funding for highways, transit, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, and other programs that reduce congestion and improve air quality.

The Plan was adopted by the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) on June 14, 2018, and Transportation Conformity was achieved on November 21, 2018. Mobility 2045 has nine goals and its vision is to improve the region's mobility today and tomorrow by embracing technology and innovation.

NCTCOG staff is working on an update to Mobility 2045 and has finalized a draft plan and financial forecasts. Policy and program updates include the Health Accessibility Program, Travel Demand Management (TDM) strategies, advancing High-Speed Transportation recommendations, and the safe integration of mobile technologies throughout the Dallas-Fort Worth region.

The official comment period began on April 1, 2022 and ends on May 31, 2022. The RTC will take action on the Mobility 2045 - 2022 Update on June 9, 2022.

2022 Transportation Air Quality Conformity is required by federal legislation and demonstrates that projected emissions from transportation projects are within emission limits established by the State Implementation Plan (SIP). Conformity also ensures federal funding is applied to transportation projects that are consistent with air quality planning goals.

***Beginning of Ozone Season & Car Care Awareness presentation:***

<https://nctcog.org/getmedia/850910d7-4bae-47a8-ae9e-5b579750732f/Ozone-Car-Care.pdf.aspx>

Ozone is a gas composed of three atoms of oxygen and occurs both in the Earth's upper atmosphere and at ground level. Ground-level ozone is commonly referred to as "bad ozone" and forms when emission sources emit nitrogen oxides and/or volatile organic compounds that react in the presence of sunlight. Ozone can make it more difficult to breathe, aggravate lung diseases, and inflame and damage the airway.

North Texas is currently under two ozone standards, one for 2008 and one for 2015. The attainment deadline for the 2008 standard is July 20, 2027. The attainment deadline for the 2015 standard is August 3, 2024. Everyone in the region can help improve air quality by working from home, using mass transit, avoiding unnecessary trips, carpooling, etc.

The Car Care Awareness (CCA) campaign is one of many educational programs implemented by NCTCOG staff to help improve regional air quality. The campaign seeks to inform owners about vehicle maintenance and helps build stronger community relations.

NCTCOG began hosting car care clinics in April 2013. The clinics, which have a hands-on, educational approach, provide vehicle owners the chance to speak with qualified technicians about their check engine light and any other issue they might be experiencing with their vehicle.

Current efforts for the CCA campaign include the following:

- Partnering with regional nonprofit organizations and vehicle repair shops to provide focused outreach
- Providing digital toolkits and educational materials to local governments and organizations upon request

- Updating the campaign website with vehicle maintenance tips and online, educational materials

For more information on air quality and ozone alerts visit [www.airnorthtexas.org](http://www.airnorthtexas.org). For more information on the NCTCOG Car Care Awareness campaign, visit [www.ntxcare.org](http://www.ntxcare.org).

**Electric Vehicle Charging Station Call for Projects presentation:**

<https://nctcog.org/getmedia/9a7c9eed-589f-445e-a0a3-3edb9f8676aa/EV-CFP.pdf.aspx>

NCTCOG is currently accepting applications for grant funding for the installation of Level 2 and Direct Current Fast Charge (DCFC) electric vehicle charging stations. Up to \$1 million in Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program funds is available, and all public entities are eligible to apply. Stations must be publicly accessible, located on an applicant-owned property in the 10-county ozone nonattainment area, and meet Federal Highway Administration Buy America requirements. Round 1 applications are being accepted through April 22, 2022. If there are any remaining funds after Round 1, Round 2 applications will be taken through May 20, 2022. More information is available at [dfwcleancities.org](http://dfwcleancities.org).

**Fort Worth to Dallas Regional Trail Branding & Wayfinding Project presentation:**

<https://nctcog.org/getmedia/97b17e1b-ca1d-4b2e-84ab-ad23e89bce7e/Regional-Trail.pdf.aspx>

The Regional Trail Branding and Wayfinding project will create unified branding and signage for the Fort Worth to Dallas Regional Trail, a 66-mile paved bicycle and pedestrian trail which runs through the cities of Fort Worth, Arlington, Grand Prairie, Irving, and Dallas. The project, which is expected to be fully completed by early 2024, will help build regional consensus for ongoing marketing and operations for the trail and provide recommendations for support infrastructure.

The project has the following goals:

- Create a unified branding and signage package that includes cobranding of local trails
- Provide infrastructure recommendations for holding major regional and national events
- Provide integrated regional 911 signage system and lighting recommendations
- Provide electronic message boards and real-time display trail counter recommendations
- Build consensus for on-going marketing and operations

A public feedback form is open to name the trail as well as provide more input on trail use, places, access, and more. For more information on the Fort Worth to Dallas Regional Trail Branding and Wayfinding Project and to sign up for updates, visit [FortWorthtoDallasTrail.com](http://FortWorthtoDallasTrail.com)

**COMMENTS RECEIVED DURING THE MEETING**

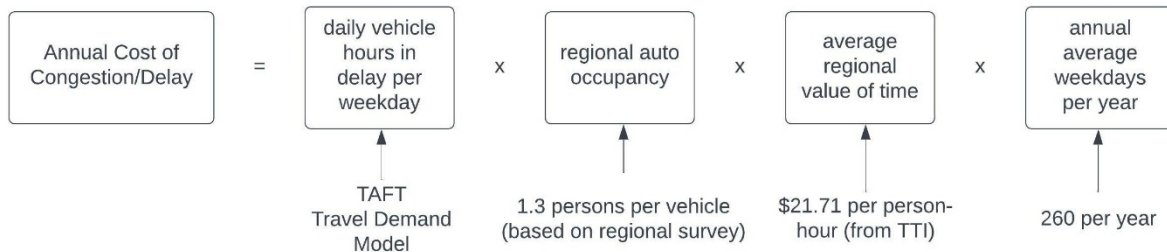
**Mobility 2045 Update & 2022 Transportation Conformity**

**Andy Nguyen, Citizen**

A. Calculation of congestion cost

*Question:* How is the annual congestion cost calculated? What factors do you take into consideration?

*Summary of Response by Amy Johnson:* The equation for the cost of congestion is the daily vehicle hours spent in delay per weekday multiplied by the regional auto occupancy (1.3 persons per vehicle), multiplied by the average regional value of time (\$21.71 per person-hours [weighted average of autos and trucks]), multiplied by the annual average weekdays (260 weekdays per year). The value of time for autos and trucks is based on the latest research by Texas A&M Transportation Institute (TTI).



### B. Impact of congestion cost

*Question:* Does congestion cost impact the allocation and the funding for highway maintenance and expansion?

*Summary of Response by Amy Johnson:* They will be separate. The cost of congestion tells us how bad congestion is going to get. When it comes to maintenance, we have a few other inputs. We have our revenue sources that are dedicated to maintenance, which will funnel down regardless of congestion. Those are typically set by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT). We also have additional programs for asset optimization. Those are added up with our TxDOT revenues to form our maintenance revenue and expenditure category, which is separate from the cost of congestion.

### C. Traffic Safety

*Question:* Do you take traffic safety into consideration during planning efforts?

*Summary of Response by Amy Johnson:* Yes, absolutely. We have a safety section in the Mobility Plan, called operational efficiency. We also incorporate crash data and detailed information about certain programs designed to address safety issues and concerns.

## **Beginning of Ozone Season & Car Care Awareness**

**Andy Nguyen, Citizen**

### A. Meeting ozone standards

*Comment:* Is there a penalty for our region not meeting the ozone standard?

*Summary of Response by Jenny Narvaez:* When we don't meet a standard by the set deadline, our region is reclassified to the next highest standard. Since we did not meet the 2008 and 2015 standards on time, we are being reclassified to severe under the 2008 standard and to moderate under the 2015 standard. When this occurs we are given more time to meet the standards but might have more requirements or work that needs to be completed.

## **Electric Vehicle Charging Station Call for Projects**

**Kelvin Bass, Office of Congressman Royce West**

A. Cost of EV Charging Stations

*Comment:* It is stated that up to \$1 million is available for vehicle charging stations. Is that per applicant or the total funding available for the region?

*Summary of Response by Amy Hodges:* It's the amount of funding available for the whole region.

*Summary of Response by Chris Klaus:* The Regional Transportation Council had allocated this funding some time ago, but there were some additional restrictions created by the Federal Highway Administration so the money was unable to be spent. Staff worked hard to figure out how to spend it and came up with the idea to utilize it for electric vehicle charging stations. There will also be more funding available through the federal government's Infrastructure, Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). We're waiting for the guidelines and requirements to be released for that, but in the meantime, we'll go through the process of scoring projects submitted for this particular Call for Projects and announce the results in the near future.

## **Fort Worth to Dallas Regional Trail Branding & Wayfinding Project**

**Mark Solo, Pathfinders Fun Cycling**

A. Connecting trails

*Question:* Does the completion of the Fort Worth to Dallas Regional Trail have anything to do with connecting the Campion South and Campion North Trails together?

*Summary of Response by Shawn Conrad:* The segment of the Fort Worth to Dallas Regional Trail that the Campion Trail connects to is complete, and the South Campion Trail is also complete. The North Campion Trail is a separate project independent of the regional trail. Phase 1 of the North Campion Trail which connects to the regional trail is anticipated to be complete by spring 2023.

### **COMMENTS SUBMITTED DURING THE COMMENT PERIOD VIA WEBSITE, EMAIL, SOCIAL MEDIA & MAIL**

#### **Website/Email**

#### **Mobility 2045 Update & 2022 Transportation Conformity**

**Melissa Brown, Citizen**

I hope future projects will include Vision Zero goals, incorporate mass transit and safe dedicated bicycle infrastructure. Many of our streets need "road diets". Cooper St. is a prime example of this.

*Summary of Response by Amy Johnson:* Hello Melissa, thank you for taking the time to share your feedback on the transportation system and the Mobility Plan Update! In the coming weeks

we will be working to incorporate feedback we've received as appropriate. Safety, including bicycle and pedestrian safety, is a bigger priority for this Mobility Plan Update, and voicing your support helps us to plan to make it better!

### **Mike Wyss, Mayor's Committee On Persons With Disabilities**

Make sure ALL sidewalks and curb ramps go somewhere, not like some sidewalks that don't connect. Also if there's bus serve in the area, make sure bus stops AREN'T in grassy area and AREN'T on a SLANT. Make sure ALL materials are Accessible to ALL Disabilities, like wheelchairs, vision impairment, walkers, etc. Also make sure there's not any type of poles in the middle of sidewalks and curb ramps. Please keep in mind, fancy may look good but fancy doesn't work for EVERYBODY.

*Summary of Response by Amy Johnson:* Hello Mike, thank you for taking the time to share your feedback on the transportation system and the Mobility Plan Update! In the coming weeks we will be working to incorporate feedback we've received as appropriate. We are also continuing to work with our partner agencies like local governments, transit authorities, and the Texas Department of Transportation to create a better transportation system for all users in the North Central Texas region.

### **Evan Rosner, Citizen**

I am sorely disappointed at the lack of mass transit integration. Adding more roads and expanding our highways has been continuously shown to make congestion and our cities worse. Better integration and access to regional rail between Dallas and Fort Worth as well as lines to locations like Plano, Arlington, Frisco, etc. will reduce traffic and pollution across the metroplex while also increasing economic activity and raising property values along each location where mass transit is considered.

*Summary of Response by Amy Johnson:* Hello Evan, thank you for taking the time to share your feedback on the transportation system and the Mobility Plan Update! In the coming weeks we will be working to incorporate feedback we've received as appropriate. We want to improve the availability of options for people, and we're planning now for future active transportation and transit networks. Maps of the Veloweb and transit system recommendations can be found at [www.nctcog.org/planinprogress](http://www.nctcog.org/planinprogress). Funding travel options like transit has been a challenge in recent years, so voicing your support helps us to plan to make it better!

### **Joel McLelland, Citizen**

When will the final connections be made to link Interstate 20 up fully to the Chisholm Trail Toll Road? East on I-20 to South on CT / North on CT to West I-20 / South on CT to East I-20 / West of I-20 to North CT.

*Summary of Response by Amy Johnson:* Hello Joel, thank you for taking the time to share your feedback on the transportation system and the Mobility Plan Update! In the coming weeks we will be working to incorporate feedback we've received as appropriate. We've sent you an email with the details on the IH 20 recommendations and who you can contact at TxDOT for more information.

*Summary of Response by Amy Johnson (Email):* Thanks for reaching out in our Mobility Plan Public Comment Form with the question about IH 20/Chisolm Trail. We have the

full interchange in our year 2045 network of the Mobility Plan, meaning it is planned to be completed by the year 2045. If you would like further information or details, the contact for that project is Ricardo Gonzalez, Texas Department of Transportation Fort Worth, ricardo.gonzalez@txdot.gov.

Additionally, I wanted to let you know you may have received automatic emails as part of the public comment form. I apologize if you got one with the incorrect name. The public comment form is a new system for us and we we're glad you've taken the time to use it!

Thanks, and let us know if you have additional questions or comments.

**Matthew Havener, Citizen**

345 should be demolished or buried downtown. Add capacity around the suburban edge to accommodate through traffic.

*Summary of Response by Amy Johnson:* Hello Matthew, thank you for taking the time to share your feedback on the transportation system and the Mobility Plan Update! In the coming weeks we will be working to incorporate all the feedback we've received as appropriate. We are also continuing to work with our partner agencies like local governments, transit authorities, and the Texas Department of Transportation to create a better transportation system for the North Central Texas region.

**Michael Weiss, Citizen**

All freeways need to be widened now to a minimum of 4 travel lanes with NO TOLL ROADS. Get the police back on the freeways to clear accidents sooner and enforce the speed limits. It is very dangerous driving through some of the construction zones with speeding motorists and poor traffic control.

*Summary of Response by Amy Johnson:* Hello Michael, thank you for taking the time to share your feedback on the transportation system and the Mobility Plan Update! In the coming weeks we will be working to incorporate all the feedback we've received as appropriate. We want to improve transportation systems for North Texans, so we thank you for your thoughts. We also understand that traffic safety and enforcement has been a challenge in recent years, so voicing your support for safety helps us to plan to make it better!

**Mail**

**Other**

**Phyllis Silver, Citizen**

Please see attachment for comments submitted via postal mail.

Comments on April 2022 Public Input Opportunity

Due May 10, 2022

Phyllis Silver  
April 25, 2022

Comment

Start of 2022 ozone season and Spring Car Care 2022  
Car Care Awareness

+  
Electric Vehicle Charging Station Call for Projects

I am pleased that NCTCOG continues in earnest to take  
measures to clean up our air.

Comments  
Fort Worth to Dallas Regional Trail Branding and  
Wayfinding Project

slides #9  
#10

I am in favor of the top selections:

- Vision - welcoming, friendly, timeless and modern
- dominant experience on the Path - Peace and quiet  
and natural refuge.
- look & feel of the Regional Trail - natural

Concern about the trail.

One concern that I have about the trail is the possible  
allowance of dogs. I know that dog owners can be very  
attached to their dogs, however I feel that permitting them  
can be hazardous. Dogs tend to want to wander, even when  
on a leash, and bother other trail lovers. Also dogs can  
want to be aggressive toward other dogs. In addition, you  
would have the clean-up problem if you allow dogs. So, I  
think dogs should be prohibited for the peaceful enjoyment of all.

Naming the Trail

Without a computer, I am not able to see the 2 trail names &  
logo combinations - I would like to propose DFW Regional Trail  
as a name.  
(if it's not too late to  
make this proposal)