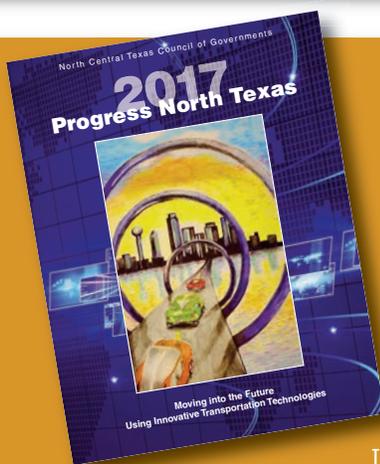
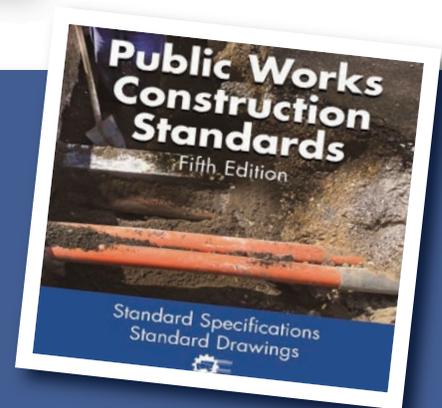


Public Works Construction Standards - Public Comment Period Now Open

As part of the continued effort between NCTCOG and the public works industry in North Central Texas, *Public Works Construction Standards – North Central Texas, 2004 Version* is in the process of being updated to the *Fifth Edition Public Works Construction Standards*. We have entered the public comment period for this review, which will end August 9, 2017. All public comments will be reviewed by NCTCOG and the Public Works Council. Following the public comment review, the *Fifth Edition Public Works Construction Standards* will be endorsed by the Public Works Council to the NCTCOG Executive Board for a fall 2017 anticipated release date.

The draft document of the *Fifth Edition Public Works Construction Standards* is likely to change pending the public comment period. Please submit your comments here, www.nctcog.org/envir/SEEDevEx/pubworks/standards.asp, or you may email any comments on the *Fifth Edition Public Works Construction Standards* to Kori Mullen at kmullen@nctcog.org.



Progress North Texas 2017 Electronic Version Now Available

Automated vehicles, smart traffic signals and guaranteed travel speeds are among the most exciting topics in transportation. NCTCOG has established a new program area to study automated vehicles and related topics and is working with researchers and area governments to help pave the way for smarter vehicles. While there is tremendous momentum behind vehicle automation, there are many more examples of how we are using technology to reshape the future.

Innovation is apparent from smartphone applications that help people navigate the roadway and rail systems to TEXpress Lanes that give people the choice to pay for a smoother ride along select corridors. *Progress North Texas 2017: Moving into the Future Using Innovative Transportation Technologies* is available at www.nctcog.org/ouregion. It examines how technology is at work in transportation planning and presents data on how the transportation system continues to meet the needs of the growing Dallas-Fort Worth area. To request copies, contact Brian Wilson at bwilson@nctcog.org.



Fleet Discounts on Alternative Fuel Vehicles!

North Texas public fleets have an opportunity to get substantial discounts on alternative fuel vehicles (AFVs). Compact and sub-compact sedans and half-ton pickups will be pursued within a vendor Request for Proposals to obtain regional, cumulative, volume-based pricing discounts. Vehicles will be pursued in electric and propane options and expect to be able to be procured starting early fall 2017. Learn how your fleet can participate and benefit from this unique regional procurement process by visiting www.nctcog.org/f4f.

Diesel Inspection and Maintenance Report

In the Dallas-Fort Worth region, approximately 49 percent of on-road emissions of nitrogen oxides are a result of heavy-duty diesel vehicles, yet these vehicles are excluded from the State's Inspection and Maintenance (I/M) Program.

To evaluate the feasibility of incorporating diesel vehicles into this program, NCTCOG partnered with the Texas Department of Transportation, Texas A&M Transportation Institute, the Texas Department of Public Safety and the University of Denver to examine the second prototype of an emissions-testing technology called the On-Road Heavy-Duty Emissions Measurement System.

Based on the findings outlined in this report the OHMS technology is seen as viable option for several potential applications, including a traditional Inspection and Maintenance Program, clean screening of vehicles, or identifying high emitters from a fleet. The final implementation will depend on the application that the system will be used for, based on the needs and priorities of the local stakeholders and relevant public agencies.

Nearly 1,000 heavy-duty diesel vehicles were included in the study and the final report can be found at www.nctcog.org/DieselRpt2.



Cities Taking Lead on Solar

Efforts to improve solar friendly policies and practices in North Central Texas are underway.

On June 22, the North Central Texas SolSmart program was kicked off with an informational webinar, during which interested cities learned about the program, its benefits, and why other local communities are already participating. To date, the cities of Plano, Kennedale, Cedar Hill, and Denton are participating and we expect more. To sign up or learn more about SolSmart, visit www.GoSolarTexas.org and select "SolSmart" in the top menu.



EV Incentive Program Reinstated

Future alternative fuel vehicle drivers in Texas can look forward to saving a little more on their vehicle purchase or lease thanks to the recently passed Senate Bill 1731, which includes the reestablishment of the Light-Duty Motor Vehicle Purchase or Lease Incentive Program. The program will offer up to \$2,500 for the purchase of new electric vehicles, up to \$5,000 for the purchase of compressed natural gas (CNG) or liquefied petroleum gas vehicles (LPG). Incentives are also available in pro-rated amounts based on a three-year lease term. A maximum of 2,000 EVs and 1,000 CNG/LPG vehicles can qualify per state fiscal biennium. Implementation of the program is pending rulemaking to determine administrative and accounting details, including whether the incentive may be applied retroactively.

FYI:

It's Your Region is published by the North Central Texas Council of Governments. For subscription changes, contact: **Lucille Johnson**, NCTCOG, P. O. Box 5888, Arlington, TX 76005-5888, e-mail: Lucille@nctcog.org, phone: **817-695-9103**. Visit our Website at www.nctcog.org. This publication can be made available in alternate formats upon request.

NORTH CENTRAL TEXAS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Executive Board

Tom Lombard, President
Councilmember
City of North Richland Hills

Kevin Strength, Vice President
Mayor, City of Waxahachie

J. D. Clark
Secretary-Treasurer
County Judge, Wise County

Lissa Smith, Past President
Former Mayor Pro Tem, City of Plano

Doug Athas
Mayor, City of Garland

Kelly Allen Gray
Councilmember, City of Fort Worth

Clay Jenkins
County Judge, Dallas County

Lee Kleinman
Councilmember, City of Dallas

Curtistene McCowan
Mayor, City of DeSoto

Bobbie Mitchell
Commissioner, Denton County

Nick Sanders
Mayor, Town of Trophy Club

Keith Self
County Judge, Collin County

Ray Smith
Mayor, Town of Prosper

Paul Voelker
Mayor, City of Richardson

Kathryn Wilemon
Councilmember, City of Arlington

B. Glen Whitley
County Judge, Tarrant County

Bruce Wood
County Judge, Kaufman County

Ron Simmons
Ex Officio Member
Texas State Representative

STAFF

Mike Eastland
Executive Director

Monte Mercer
Deputy Executive Director

Tim Barbee, Director
Research & Information Services

Doni Green, Director
Area Agency on Aging

Edith Marvin, Director
Environment and Development

Michael Morris
Director Transportation

David Setzer, Director
WorkForce Development

Molly McFadden, Director
Emergency Preparedness

Christy Williams, Director
911

Lucille Johnson
Editor