1:00 pm Full RTC Business Agenda

1:00 – 1:05 1. Approval of February 10, 2011, Minutes
☑ Action ☐ Possible Action ☐ Information Minutes: 5
Presenter: Ron Natinsky, RTC Chair
Item Summary: Approval of the February 10, 2011, minutes contained in Reference Item 1 will be requested.
Background: N/A

1:05 – 1:05 2. Consent Agenda
☑ Action ☐ Possible Action ☐ Information Minutes: 0

2.1. 2011 Pass-Through Finance Program Call for Projects
Presenter: Christie Jestis, NCTCOG
Item Summary: Staff will request Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of updated limits for the project selected for submittal in the 2011 Pass-Through Finance Program.
Background: In December 2010, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) Austin announced the availability of $250 million in Pass-Through Finance Program funding. Through this program, local or regional agencies can pay for improvements on the State highway system upfront and be paid back with pass-through financing over a period of 10-15 years. Reference Item 2.1.1 contains information about the difference between the project originally proposed and the updated limits for the project that was submitted. Per TxDOT staff, it was determined that US 75 from Telephone Rd to Melissa Rd (including the SH 121 Interchange) was a better candidate for submittal in the 2011 Pass-Through Finance Call for Projects. Additional information about the 2011 Pass-Through Finance Program can be found in Electronic Item 2.1.2.

2.2. Environmental Protection Agency Air Quality Funding Reallocation
Presenter: Carrie Reese, NCTCOG
Item Summary: Staff will request RTC approval to reallocate Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds among existing subrecipients of the SmartWaySM Technology Upgrade Project.
Background: The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) received $1,550,157 from the US EPA through the ARRA National Clean Diesel Funding Assistance Program for a SmartWay Technology Upgrade Project. As
A part of this award, grant funds were awarded to seven partner companies who had been identified in the original grant application submitted to EPA. A total of $237,819 has been relinquished due to withdrawal of previously approved projects. Staff solicited interest in pursuing implementation of additional eligible SmartWay activities from the remaining six companies already under contract for this project. Two companies submitted applications requesting a total of $427,135. Staff is recommending full funding for one request and partial funding for the second, with the balance of submitted activities approved on a contingency basis pending availability of additional funds. Details are available in Reference Item 2.2. Staff will be available to provide additional information or answer any questions.

1:05 – 1:20  

Orientation to Agenda/Director of Transportation Report

- Action  - Possible Action  - Information  

Minutes: 15

Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG

1. Recognition of Bob Brown
2. February Public Meeting Minutes (Electronic Item 3.1)
3. March Public Meeting Flyer (Reference Item 3.2)
4. Innovative Finance Initiative Update
5. Web Broadcasting: Status Report
6. FY2012 and FY2013 Unified Planning Work Program
7. June RTC Possible Meeting Change (Discussion)
8. Hurst-Euless-Bedford Transit Annual Report (Electronic Item 3.3)
9. Freeway Incident Management and Executive Level Course (Electronic Item 3.4 and Electronic Item 3.5)
10. Regional Freight Advisory Committee
11. Air Quality Funding Update (Electronic Item 3.6)
12. Clean Fleets North Texas Results (Electronic Item 3.7)
13. 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)/Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Approval (Electronic Item 3.8)
14. Electric Vehicle Inspector, Contractor, and First Responder Training (Electronic Item 3.9)
15. Public Comment Period Open for Proposed Revisions to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality’s (TCEQ) Motor Vehicle Idling Rule (Electronic Item 3.10)
17. Joint RTC/North Texas Tollway Authority (NTTA) Resolution (See “Recent Correspondence”)
18. Executive Board Approval of 2035 Demographics
19. Mega Region Partnerships
20. New Option to Access Agenda Items Electronically
21. Recent Correspondence (Electronic Item 3.11)
22. Recent News Articles (Electronic Item 3.12)
23. TxDOT/RTC/McKinney/McKinney Independent School District Workshop with Geralyn Kever
4. **Mobility 2035, Air Quality Conformity, and Transportation Improvement Program**

   **Item Summary:** Staff will seek RTC approval of a resolution adopting Mobility 2035, resulting changes to the 2011-2014 TIP, and associated air quality conformity and environmental justice results. A copy of this resolution is provided in Reference Item 4.1.

   **Background:** Staff has worked with the RTC, transportation partners, and local governments for over a year developing a new Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), Mobility 2035. This effort also includes ensuring consistency with the 2011-2014 TIP, development of the associated air quality conformity analysis for the Plan and TIP, and ensuring compliance with Executive Order 12898 regarding environmental justice. Public involvement efforts have been ongoing since December 2009 with the most recent set of meetings beginning on February 8. STTC recommended RTC adoption at its February 25, 2011, meeting.

   Mobility 2035 contains approximately $101 billion worth of polices, programs, and projects for implementation between now and 2035. As required by federal law, analyses indicate that Mobility 2035 and the 2011-2014 TIP meet federal air quality conformity and environmental justice requirements. Reference Item 4.2 contains additional information about Mobility 2035 recommendations, air quality conformity and environmental justice results. Reference Item 4.3 contains a list of TIP changes necessary to accommodate the new Mobility Plan recommendations. Reference Item 4.4 contains the draft goals and policies for Mobility 2035 which were discussed during previous meetings and that will be adopted as part of the MTP. The final MTP recommendations, air quality conformity, and environmental justice results will be presented at March public meetings.

5. **Texas Department of Transportation Revenue Estimates and Projects Listed in the 2012 Unified Transportation Program**

   **Item Summary:** The RTC will be briefed on updates to TxDOT’s revenue estimates and asked to approve projects in the 2012 Unified Transportation Program (UTP). Staff will also brief the RTC on assumptions and resulting changes to projects in the SH 161 Funding Initiative, as the funding for this program is impacted by available TxDOT revenues.

   **Background:** TxDOT is drafting the 2012 UTP and seeking input on the distribution of new revenue and cash flow estimates. The UTP is TxDOT’s comprehensive ten-year planning document to allocate funds across the State for transportation projects. The Texas Transportation Commission was briefed in January and February
that the State may have additional cash flow and bond funding to allocate in the 2012 UTP. The new cash flow is created by a slower than anticipated rate of spending on existing projects, while new funding would come from the Texas Mobility Fund, Proposition 14 bonds, Proposition 12 bonds, and Category 12 (Strategic Priority) funds. The RTC has a policy position regarding formula allocating new transportation funding to ensure the Dallas-Fort Worth region receives a fair allocation of new funding. NCTCOG staff delivered comments as directed by RTC at a TxDOT public hearing in the Dallas-Fort Worth region on February 17, 2011. Reference Item 5.1 is a presentation outlining 2012 UTP projects for which the RTC will be asked to approve. Reference Item 5.2 contains a copy of the official written comments NCTCOG staff submitted to TxDOT.

1:50 – 2:00  

6. **Funding Environmental Clearance of SH 170 from IH 35W to US 287**

☐ Action  ☐ Possible Action  ☐ Information  Minutes: 10

Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request RTC approval of funding to initiate the environmental clearance efforts for SH 170 from IH 35W to US 287 in order to establish a locally preferred route and preserve right-of-way along the corridor.

Background: NTTA is currently funding the environmental clearance efforts associated with SH 170 east of IH 35W. At the same time, NCTCOG staff is concerned about preserving right-of-way to the west of IH 35W, especially as the areas affected by gas wells increase, thereby limiting constructible land area. As part of a three-agency partnership, staff proposes to initiate the environmental clearance process on SH 170 from IH 35W to US 287 with NTTA serving as the implementing agency, and both the RTC and TxDOT serving as funding partners. The total funding needed is $2,500,000 with 80 percent ($2,000,000) being federal Surface Transportation Planning-Metropolitan Mobility (STP-MM) funds, and the remaining 20 percent ($500,000) being paid by TxDOT using State matching funds. At this cost point, the NCTCOG Streamlined Project Delivery team would need to provide a small level of support to the NTTA staff that is actively clearing the facility. NTTA would secure a consultant for this activity.

2:00 – 2:10  

7. **Recognition of Mayor Moncrief, City of Fort Worth**

☐ Action  ☐ Possible Action  ☐ Information  Minutes: 10

Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG

Item Summary: The RTC wishes to recognize the accomplishments of Mayor Mike Moncrief and former Mayor Tom Leppert. Due to schedule conflicts, Mayor Leppert is not available for this RTC meeting. This item will recognize the achievements of Mayor Moncrief.

Background: County Judge State Senator Mayor Mike Moncrief has over 30 years of public service to the community and has been a strong supporter of the RTC. This item will recognize Mayor Moncrief for his partnership with the RTC and his commitment to
public service.

2:10 – 2:20  8. **Freight Efficiency Outreach Center**

- **Action**
- **Possible Action**
- **Information**

**Minutes:** 10

**Presenter:** Carrie Reese, NCTCOG

**Item Summary:** Staff will request RTC approval of a Call for Proposals to establish a Freight Efficiency Outreach Center in the North Central Texas area.

**Background:** Freight traffic has a significant impact on air quality in the Dallas-Fort Worth ozone nonattainment area, but has traditionally been a difficult sector for NCTCOG staff to work with due to geographic constraints on resources and funding programs. To help fill this gap, staff proposes establishment of a facility that could provide comprehensive outreach, education, and financial assistance to the industry. NCTCOG has received a $486,767 grant award from the US EPA Climate Showcase Communities program to establish a Freight Efficiency Outreach Center, contingent upon fulfillment of certain EPA requirements. **Reference Item 8** provides additional detail. This center would support NCTCOG’s current role as an affiliate of the EPA SmartWaySM Transport Partnership, which focuses on increasing efficiency and reducing emissions from the freight sector.

2:20 – 2:30  9. **Legislative Update**

- **Action**
- **Possible Action**
- **Information**

**Minutes:** 10

**Presenter:** Michael Morris, NCTCOG

**Item Summary:** The Regional Transportation Council will hear an update on important federal and State legislative initiatives. Michael Morris testified to the Senate Finance Committee on Thursday, March 3, 2011, regarding the possible elimination of the Low Income Vehicle Repair, Replacement and Retrofit Program. This item will summarize progress to date. A copy of this testimony was transmitted to RTC members by e-mail.

**Background:** Both the Texas Legislature and the United States Congress are currently in session and are expected to consider major pieces of transportation legislation. **Electronic Item 9** is a copy of Senate Bill 814, related to Regional Toll Revenue funds.

10. **Progress Reports**

- **Action**
- **Possible Action**
- **Information**

**Minutes:**

**Item Summary:** Progress Reports are provided as Reference Item 10.

- RTC Attendance (Reference Item 10.1)
- STTC Attendance and Minutes (Electronic Item 10.2)
- Local Motion (Electronic Item 10.3)
- North Texas Transportation Connection (Handout)

11. **Other Business (Old or New):** This item provides an opportunity for members to bring items of interest before the group.
12. **Future Agenda Items:** This item provides an opportunity for members to bring items of future interest before the Council.

13. **Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the Regional Transportation Council is scheduled for *Thursday, April 14, 2011, at 1 pm, at the North Central Texas Council of Governments.*