11:30 am  RTC Multimodal/Intermodal/High Speed Rail/Freight Subcommittee
1:00 pm  Full RTC Business Agenda

1:00 – 1:05  1. Approval of January 13, 2011, Minutes
☑ Action  □ Possible Action  □ Information  Minutes: 5
Presenter: Ron Natinsky, RTC Chair
Item Summary: Approval of the January 13, 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. Heavy-Duty Vehicle and Equipment Grant Program Call for Projects
Presenter: Carrie Reese, NCTCOG
Item Summary: Due to under-budget and withdrawn projects, approval will be requested to reopen the Heavy-Duty Vehicle and Equipment Grant Program Call for Projects to seek additional applications in order to fully expend $10 million in grant funding received through a third-party Texas Emissions Reduction Plan (TERP) grant from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ).
Background: The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) opened the Heavy-Duty Vehicle and Equipment Grant Program Call for Projects on July 20, 2009. The Call was administered as a modified first-come-first-served program with applications accepted each Friday until June 25, 2010. Final projects, including those on a waitlist, were presented to the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) in July 2010. Due to under-budget and withdrawn projects, available grant funding currently exceeds the approved award amount of all awarded projects. In an attempt to fully expend funds by the TCEQ contractual deadline of August 31, 2011, staff is requesting approval to reopen the grant program to seek additional applications. If approved, this Call will open on February 14, 2011, and will close each second Friday of the month until May 13, 2011, or until funds are fully expended, whichever occurs first. It will be open to local government, construction, and idle reduction technology projects. Detailed information is included in Reference Item 2.1. This program is included as a Voluntary Mobile Source Emissions Reduction Program (VMEP) commitment in the Dallas-Fort Worth 8-hour Ozone Attainment Demonstration State Implementation Plan (SIP).
2.2. **Environmental Protection Agency Air Quality Funding Reallocation**  
Presenter: Carrie Reese, NCTCOG  
Item Summary: Staff will request RTC approval to reallocate Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds to a project originally awarded funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) On-Road Heavy-Duty Diesel Replacement and Repower Project.

Background: NCTCOG received $2,188,195 from the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) through the ARRA National Clean Diesel Funding Assistance Program for an On-Road Heavy-Duty Diesel Replacement and Repower Project. As part of this award, $187,596 in grant funds were awarded to Frito-Lay North America, Inc. for the replacement of 13 heavy-duty diesel trucks. However, eight of these trucks fall below the EPA-mandated minimum gross vehicle weight rating required to receive funding from this program, leaving only $113,500 in project costs eligible for EPA reimbursement. NCTCOG proposes to maintain the original award amount allocated to Frito-Lay by providing $74,096 in CMAQ funds which were recently relinquished by a subrecipient of the 2006 Clean Fleet Vehicle Call for Projects. Additional detail is provided in Reference Item 2.2. Staff will be available to answer any questions.

1:05 – 1:20  
3. **Orientation to Agenda/Director of Transportation Report**

- Action  
- Possible Action  
- Information  
Minutes: 15

Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG

2. 2011 Cooperative Transit Vehicle Procurement  
3. Air Quality Funding Update (Electronic Item 3.1)  
4. Clean Cities Clean Vehicle Display (Electronic Item 3.2)  
5. Federal Highway Administration Pedestrian Safety Training Courses (Electronic Item 3.3 and Electronic Item 3.4)  
6. January Public Meeting Minutes (Electronic Item 3.5)  
7. February Public Meeting Flyer (Reference Item 3.6)  
8. Sustainability of the Region  
9. Coordination of Truck Routes Related to the Barnett Shale: Draft White Papers and Meetings Underway  
10. Annual Report on Performance and Expenditures (Handout)  
11. Appointment of Michelle Bloomer, Program Manager, NCTCOG, to the Public Transportation Advisory Committee (Electronic Item 3.7)  
12. SH 161 Funding/Strategic Partnership with the Texas Department of Transportation  
13. Freight Efficiency Outreach Center  
14. Innovative Finance Initiative Update  
15. Cost to Implement Web Broadcasting (Still Being Reviewed by Staff)  
16. Recent Correspondence (Handout)  
17. Recent News Articles (Electronic Item 3.8)  
18. Transportation Partners Progress Reports (Handout)
4. Latest Air Quality Emission Inventory Estimates, Future Conformity Impacts, and Correspondence to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Action: ☑
Possible Action: ☐
Information: ☐
Minutes: 10

Presenter: Chris Klaus, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide an update on the most recent emission inventory results, discuss possible impacts to future transportation conformity tests, and seek RTC approval for correspondence to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and North Central Texas Congressional Delegation.

Background: Due to the region’s ozone reclassification from moderate to serious (effective January 19, 2011), a revised State Implementation Plan (SIP), containing new emission inventories, is being developed by the TCEQ. Staff will summarize these inventories, highlighting Barnett Shale and on-road mobile emission forecasts as detailed in Reference Item 4.1. Unfortunately, the on-road mobile emission forecasts do not utilize estimates from the latest emission estimation model (MOVES), which calculates an increase of approximately 60 percent more emissions compared to its predecessor (MOBILE6). As a result of this projected increase, staff will explain possible difficulties in future transportation conformity tests and will seek two actions: 1) correspondence by the RTC to the TCEQ identifying options to incorporate MOVES into the SIP contained in draft Reference Item 4.2, and 2) correspondence to the North Central Texas Congressional Delegation identifying restrictive regulatory requirements and modification suggestions which will be provided at the meeting.

5. East/West Equity and Tracking of Texas Department of Transportation/Regional Transportation Council Commitments

Action: ☑
Possible Action: ☐
Information: ☐
Minutes: 10

Presenter: Christie Jestis, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide a report on the status of the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) non-formula commitments with regard to east/west equity in the region, along with an accounting of Regional Toll Revenue (RTR) commitments made due to State and federal funding shortfalls. In addition, staff will request that RTC approve the movement of Surface Transportation Program – Metropolitan Mobility (STP-MM) funds to the Eastern Subregion as noted in Reference Item 5.1.

Background: The RTC has taken a position to monitor the equity allocation of TxDOT non-formula commitments. The RTC appreciates the receipt of additional money to help the region build transportation projects and will monitor and reallocate funds when available to maintain similar equity levels established by the RTC during its own selection process. In addition, the RTC has asked staff to inventory RTR commitments on projects that were originally funded with State and federal dollars that have now been funded with RTR funds due to federal and State funding shortfalls. Reference Item 5.1 inventories TxDOT non-formula commitments and the impact of these commitments to date this calendar year,
and requests action for one item as noted by “Proposed Action.” Reference Item 5.2 inventories RTR commitments made to previous State or federally funded projects.

1:40 – 1:50  6. **2011 Pass-Through Finance Program**
- **Action**
- **Possible Action**
- **Information**
- **Minutes:** 10
- **Presenter:** Christie Jestis, NCTCOG
- **Item Summary:** Approval will be requested on the selected projects for funding through the 2011 Pass-Through Finance Program from the region.
- **Background:** In December 2010, 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. [Electronic Item 6.1](#) contains a brief description of the Pass-Through Finance process and a list of possible projects for submittal. Additional information about the 2011 Pass-Through Finance Program can be found in [Electronic Item 6.2](#).

1:50 – 2:00  7. **North Texas Tollway Authority/Regional Transportation Council Joint Resolution Supporting Public Private Partnerships**
- **Action**
- **Possible Action**
- **Information**
- **Minutes:** 10
- **Presenter:** Michael Morris, NCTCOG
- **Item Summary:** The RTC will be requested to approve a Joint Resolution with the North Texas Tollway Authority (NTTA) supporting TxDOT delivery of IH 35E, SH 183, and portions of the North Tarrant Express through public-private partnerships.
- **Background:** TxDOT’s authority to enter into comprehensive development agreements expires on August 31, 2011. TxDOT has requested RTC and NTTA to support TxDOT implementation of the following projects through public-private partnerships: 1) IH 35E Managed Lanes from US 380 to IH 635, 2) SH 183 Managed Lanes from SH 161 to IH35E/Trinity Parkway, and 3) portions of the North Tarrant Express (Segment 2: SH 183 from SH 121 to SH 161; Segment 3: IH 35W from IH 30 to SH 170; and Segment 4: IH 820 from SH 183 North to south of Randol Mill Road). The proposed Joint Resolution, included as Reference Item 7: 1) strongly supports TxDOT implementation of these projects through public-private partnerships, 2) strongly supports the necessary legislative change to provide TxDOT with this authority, and 3) requests that TxDOT proceed with implementation as soon as possible upon passage of the necessary legislation. NTTA and RTC would collectively develop a select list of projects in advance of future legislative sessions to be developed through public-private partnerships for approval by the legislature. The Joint Resolution will be considered by the NTTA Board on February 16, 2011.
8. **SH 161 Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act Update and NTTA Request to Extend Upfront Payment Deadline**

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**Presenter:** Ken Kirkpatrick, NCTCOG

**Item Summary:** TxDOT, the US Department of Transportation (US DOT), and NTTA have come to agreement on the terms for $400 million Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) loan for SH 161. The RTC will be asked to approve a time extension of the SH 61 Upfront Payment to April 15, 2011, to allow NTTA to complete the remaining steps for financial close.

**Background:** Within the last week, a breakthrough has occurred on the negotiations for the TIFIA loan for SH 161. TxDOT, US DOT, and NTTA have come to agreement on the terms. The issues related to creditor remedies and priorities have now been resolved. The TIFIA loan is necessary to ensure financial feasibility of both SH 161 and the Southwest Parkway/Chisholm Trail project. NTTA is proceeding with the remaining steps to finalize financing of SH 161. NTTA estimates that it will need up to April 15, 2011, to achieve financial close for SH 161 and is requesting RTC approval and recommendation to TxDOT to extend the time. If approved, TxDOT and NTTA will need to amend the SH 161 Project Agreement to reflect the new date. Also, NCTCOG’s agreement with NTTA to hold the $200 million in escrow pending NTTA’s financial close will also need to be amended. Reference Item 8 contains additional information.

9. **Legislative Update**

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**Presenter:** Amanda Wilson, NCTCOG

**Item Summary:** Staff will update the RTC on current legislative initiatives. Staff will also ask RTC to approve correspondence. Reference Item 9 is a letter related to the proposed State budget that will impact funding for NCTCOG air quality programs.

**Background:** Both the Texas Legislature and the US Congress are currently in session. The Texas Legislature recently filed SB1/HB1, the draft FY 2012-2013 State budget. The proposed budget reduces funding for the Texas Emission Reduction Program (TERP) by 51 percent and completely eliminates funding for the Low Income Vehicle Repair, Replacement and Retrofit Program (LIRAP). The correspondence requests that the Texas Legislature increase TERP funding and reinstate funding for the LIRAP program.

10. **TxDOT Revenue Estimates and Proposed Statewide Allocation for 2012 Unified Transportation Program**

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**Presenters:** NCTCOG and TxDOT Representatives

**Item Summary:** TxDOT is in the process of developing the 2012 Unified Transportation Program (UTP) and requests assistance on how to proceed. TxDOT has been requested to brief the RTC on TxDOT’s latest revenue estimates and proposed statewide allocation. RTC authorization will be requested to direct staff to
provide formal comments to TxDOT regarding the proposed allocation of revenue for the 2012 UTP.

Background: TxDOT is holding public meetings across the state to receive input on the development of the 2012 Unified Transportation Program (UTP). The UTP is TxDOT’s comprehensive ten-year planning document to allocate funds across the state for transportation projects. The Commission was briefed in January that the state may have an additional $1 billion in cash flow to allocate in the 2012 UTP. It is not clear at this time, whether this figure reflects new funds, savings on existing projects, or a slower rate of spending on existing projects. 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. A TxDOT public hearing in the Dallas-Fort Worth region has been scheduled for Thursday, February 17, 2011, at the TxDOT-Fort Worth District offices. Electronic Item 10.1 contains TxDOT’s Public Meeting Notice. Electronic Item 10.2 contains an example of projects and funding amounts for the projects in the 2010 UTP funded with Category 2/Texas Mobility Funds (i.e., funds for capacity improvements). Staff will request RTC authorization to communicate formal comments to TxDOT regarding the development of the 2012 UTP.

2:35 – 2:45  11. Mobility 2035
□ Action  □ Possible Action  ☑ Information  Minutes: 10
Presenter: Dan Lamers, NCTCOG
Item Summary: Staff will summarize the Mobility Plan draft recommendations, adoption schedule and preliminary results of the Air Quality Conformity Analysis and coordination with the TIP. Electronic Item 11 is provided to show expenses related to Mobility 2035 and the remaining schedule for approval.

Background: Since December 2009 staff has been in the process of developing a new metropolitan transportation plan, Mobility 2035. This effort has included many public meetings and discussions with the RTC and the STTC. The development effort has resulted in modified policies, an understanding of the financial situation, and project recommendations. The official public involvement effort began in January and RTC adoption of Mobility 2035 anticipated in March 2011. An Air Quality Conformity Analysis must be conducted on the MTP to ensure the region meets federal air quality rules. Additionally, Mobility 2035 and the TIP must be coordinated to ensure projects are represented in both documents accurately.

12. Progress Reports
□ Action  □ Possible Action  ☑ Information
Item Summary: Progress Reports are provided as Reference Item 12.

- RTC Attendance (Reference Item 12.1)
- STTC Attendance and Minutes (Electronic Item 12.2)
- Local Motion (Electronic Item 12.3)
- North Texas Transportation Connection (Handout)
13. **Other Business (Old or New):** This item provides an opportunity for members to bring items of interest before the group.

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

15. **Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the Regional Transportation Council is scheduled for *Thursday, March 10, 2011, at 1 pm, at the North Central Texas Council of Governments.*