

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A REGIONAL SINGLE-OCCUPANCY VEHICLE TRIP REDUCTION TARGET TO REDUCE DRIVE ALONE VEHICLE TRIPS IN NORTH CENTRAL TEXAS: SUSTAINING BENEFITS OF CHANGES IN TRAVEL BEHAVIOR ON CONGESTION LEVELS EXPERIENCED DURING COVID-19
(R21-04)**

WHEREAS, the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is designated as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Dallas-Fort Worth Metropolitan Area by the Governor of Texas in accordance with federal law; and

WHEREAS, the Regional Transportation Council (RTC), comprised primarily of local elected officials, is the regional transportation policy body associated with the North Central Texas Council of Governments, and has been and continues to be the regional forum for cooperative decisions on transportation; and

WHEREAS, the Dallas-Fort Worth region is a federally designated nonattainment area for the pollutant ozone; and

WHEREAS, Travel Demand Management (TDM) strategies reduce the number of vehicles that travel on roadways by promoting alternatives to driving alone, assist in improving air quality, and reduce peak-period travel by shifting drive-alone travel to off-peak periods; and

WHEREAS, TDM strategies such as carpooling, vanpooling, biking, walking, taking transit, teleworking, and flexible work schedules are relatively low-cost, quick-implementation programs and projects that encourage alternatives to driving alone; and

WHEREAS, the Regional Employer Trip Reduction (ETR) Program, a cooperative educational program that seeks to reduce vehicle trips by employees working for large employers, encourages individual employers to develop trip reduction programs and set a goal of a minimum 20 percent reduction in vehicle commute trips; and

WHEREAS, an essential tool used within the Regional ETR Program is TryParkingIt.com, the regional commute tracking and ride-match website and application system; and

WHEREAS, Travel Demand Management Policy TDM3-003 of Mobility 2045, the current Metropolitan Transportation Plan adopted by the Regional Transportation Council, requests local agency staff and NCTCOG staff to meet with all major employers (defined as employers of 250 or more employees) to discuss and encourage the implementation of voluntary employer trip reduction programs; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to lead by example in 2021 NCTCOG updated its Alternative Commute Options Program to include a 20 percent target to reduce single-occupancy commutes by employees; and

WHEREAS, the Regional Transportation Council has shown a commitment to advancing active transportation facilities throughout the region by investing in the construction and improvement of bicycle and pedestrian facilities that provide a means of nonmotorized commute travel to major destinations, including transit stations, employment and education centers, and/or other major activity venues with high volumes of users; and

WHEREAS, the Regional Transportation Council has shown a commitment to advancing transit infrastructure and ridership throughout the region by investing in the construction and improvement of transit and rail facilities to support region-wide passenger rail and transit systems that increase transportation choices, reliability, and opportunities for economic development.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT:

- Section 1.** The Regional Transportation Council supports the establishment of a regional trip reduction target of 20 percent to reduce the number of single-occupancy vehicle (SOV) commute trips during the peak period.
- Section 2.** The Regional Transportation Council strongly encourages both public and private sector employers to reduce employees' SOV trips consistent with Section 1 of this resolution through the establishment of a formal Employee Commute Program.
- Section 3.** The Regional Transportation Council strongly encourages both public and private sector employers to monitor and track agency participation of the Program through an online commute tracking platform.
- Section 4.** To aid in Program tracking and monitoring activities, both public and private sector agencies are strongly encouraged to utilize TryParkingIt.com, the region's commute tracking and ride-matching website and application. Employers may utilize an existing tracking platform comparable to Try Parking It for this purpose.
- Section 5.** For public sector agencies, the Regional Transportation Council will evaluate the agency's participation and implementation of the Program through a new policy established as part of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan Policy Bundles. Non-participation may impact the level of Transportation Development Credits received through the Policy Bundle Survey process.
- Section 6.** For private sector agencies, the Regional Transportation Council will monitor the agency's participation and implementation of the Program through TryParkingIt.com or a comparable tracking platform. Participation may result in awarding regional funding for TDM-related efforts (e.g., transit passes)
- Section 7.** NCTCOG staff will provide the Regional Transportation Council with annual updates on the status of the Regional Trip Reduction target to reduce SOV commute trips. Reported performance measures shall include Try Parking It utilization rates, number of users, trips reduced, and emissions reduced.
- Section 8.** This resolution shall be in effect immediately upon its adoption.

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Roger Harmon

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Roger Harmon, Chair
Regional Transportation Council
County Judge, Johnson County

I hereby certify that this resolution was adopted by the Regional Transportation Council of the North Central Texas Council of Governments for the Dallas-Fort Worth Metropolitan Area on June 10, 2021.

DocuSigned by:

Ann Zadeh

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Ann Zadeh, Secretary
Regional Transportation Council
Councilmember, City of Fort Worth