

PUBLIC COMMENTS REPORT

WRITTEN COMMENTS SUBMITTED BY WEBSITE, EMAIL & SOCIAL MEDIA

Purpose

The public comments report is in accordance with the NCTCOG Transportation Department Public Participation Process, which became effective June 1, 1994, as approved by the Regional Transportation Council (RTC), the transportation policy board for the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and amended on May 12, 2022.

This report is a compilation of general public comments submitted by members of the public from Thursday, Oct. 20, through Saturday, Nov. 19. Comments and questions are submitted for the record and can be submitted via Facebook, Twitter, fax, email, online and in person at the monthly RTC meeting.

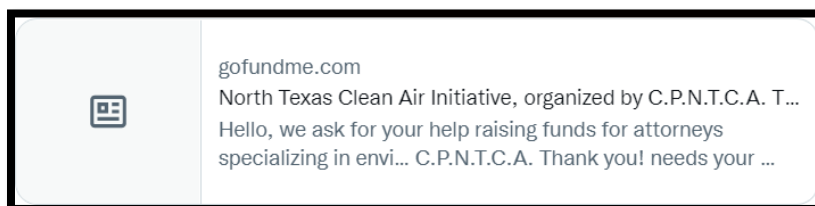
This month, public comments were received on a number of topics across social media platforms and via email. Comments related to safety were in the majority.

In addition, comments can be submitted through Map Your Experience, the Transportation Department's online mapping tool. The tool allows users to drop a pin on a location in the region and leave a detailed comment. This month, there were 4 comments related to roadway conditions and 3 comments related to bicycle and pedestrian conditions. To read them, visit: <http://nctcoggis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/CrowdsourceReporter/index.html?appid=b014e6d39b604b3ca329d9094ed1e9e2>.

Air Quality

Twitter –

1. @NCTCOGtrans — Nick Owens (Nickowens321)



Bicycle and Pedestrian

Facebook –

1. We're partnering with Texas Department of Transportation on a virtual public hearing for policies affecting bicycle use on the Texas highway system. Provide your input through Friday, Dec. 2 at: <http://keepitmovingdallas.com/bicycle>



get all of the fuel saving devices back from the oil company — George Knudson
put the fuse back on the electric car - no or wrong fuse = fire — George Knudson

Twitter –

1. .@CityOfDallas Bike & Pedestrian tour in #D12. Thank you for spending the morning learning about the challenges and opportunities in our area! #cycling @VisionZeroTexas @NCTCOGtrans — caraathome (@caraathome)



Is it common to drive a car through the bike/pedestrian tour? 😞 — Chumbucket (@ObiWanKodos)

Yes — caraathome (@caraathome)

Thanks Cara! As a runner, cyclist and walker in D12 I appreciate you taking the time to evaluate how we can improve non-car modes of transit in our district. Dallas has a LONG way to go but as they say the journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step. — Carl Swan (@carlswan)

2. We need YOU! We are partnering with @NCTCOGtrans to offer a virtual public hearing on the district's transportation projects, programs and policies affecting 🚲 bicycle use 🚲 on the state highway system. More info here: <http://keepitmovingdallas.com/bicycle> — TxDOT Dallas (@TxDOTDallas)



Parking

Twitter –

1. Why do bars have parking requirements? — Kelsey Huse (@kelseyhuse30)

Response by NCTCOG Transportation staff:

Great question. City development codes typically require parking & may be calculated to reflect demand for various users, including late-shift employees. Commercial real estate decision-makers are also involved in setting parking supply. More resources, <http://nctcog.org/parking>

Public Meetings/Forums

Twitter –

1. Look at our employees being recognized at the Regional Transportation Council meeting! Proud of our 2022 Transportation Short Course winners Walter (Ray) Fisher III, Tamelia Spillman and Dan Perge! @NCTCOGtrans — TxDOT Dallas (@TxDOTDallas)



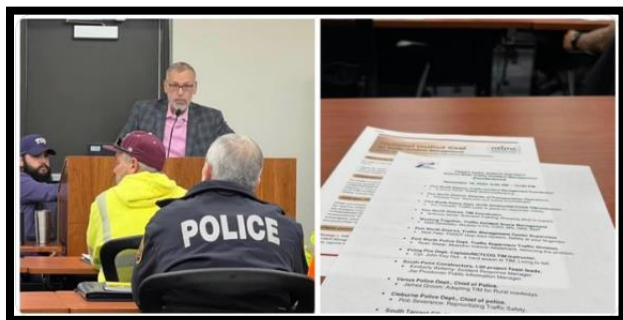
2. DFW Clean Cities Gold Award presented today at @NCTCOGtrans meeting! Good work by @cityofdallasTransportation Director Gus Khankarli. 🏆 @AdamMcGoughD10 @ChadWestDallas @Johnson4Dallas @DallasMayor — caraathome (@caraathome)



3. 2022 Transportation Crossroads Conference on 12/16 @HiltonAnatole. Speakers include @RepColinAllred, @SenRoyceWest, @TxDOT, @NCTCOGtrans, @dartmedia, @ToITagNews, and more. Register at <http://ndcc.org>. — North Dallas Chamber (@NDCC)



4. Attending the TxDOT Fort Worth District Traffic Incident Management Conference — Chief Rob Severance (@ChiefSeverance)



Railroads

Email –

1. Martin Bernard

Both of my comments concern local Amtrak service.

One: Why does Amtrak not make a stop at Center Point TRE station, on the north and south runs of the Texas Eagle? This would connect them direct to DFW!

A very important stop, more passengers, would not cost much, other than some signage.

Two: When is Amtrak going to connect the daily Texas Heartland Flyer [Texas Chief/Lone Star], from Fort Worth to Newton, Kansas, with the Southwest [Super Chief] Chief to Kansas and Chicago? Also includes Wichita, Kansas and Guthrie, Oklahoma.

Three: When is Amtrak going to connect Dallas to Meridian, Miss. Crescent Star via the Kansas City Southern railroad, would give DFW direct daily access to New Orleans, Atlanta, Washington D.C. , New York City, Boston and the whole northeast of the country!

Number 2 & 3 would cost a couple of hundred million each to start up, but is not the new Biden stimulus money what this is for, expand and improve Amtrak!

Thank You

Response by NCTCOG Transportation staff:

Good morning, Mr. Bernard,

Thank you for contacting the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) Transportation Department.

The NCTCOG Transportation Department serves as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the 12-county Dallas-Fort Worth region, and we work on a variety of projects and initiatives, including roadways, bicycle/pedestrian infrastructure, aviation, public transportation, safety, congestion management, and air quality.

Amtrak is an intercity rail service intended to bring passengers to the region, allowing connections to regional transit, which then provides service within the region. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act provides \$16 billion in grant funding to the Amtrak National Network, and NCTCOG will coordinate with Amtrak as needed to help identify funding needs in the region. NCTCOG does support passenger rail network expansion throughout the region in its long-range transportation plan, Mobility 2045: The Metropolitan Transportation Plan for North Central Texas – 2022 Update, located here: www.nctcog.org/mobilityplan. Please see the Mobility Options Chapter for recommendations regarding rail. (Also see subsections TR2-004: State and National Transit Connections (6-51 through 6-52) and Private Transportation Providers (6-56 through 6-58) of the Mobility Options Chapter.)

The region does currently have three rail connections from the Amtrak stations in Fort Worth (Fort Worth Central Station) and Dallas (Eddie Bernice Johnson Union Station) to the DFW International Airport: The Trinity Railway Express via a connection at

CentrePort, TEXRail from Fort Worth Central Station to Terminal B on the north side of the airport, and the Orange Light Rail Line from Union Station in Dallas to Terminal A on the north side of the airport.

With regard to the Heartland Flyer, the Regional Transportation Council (RTC), NCTCOG's policy board for transportation-related matters, supports service expansion and has provided several letters of support over the years. Additionally, the RTC supports passenger rail service connection to the east towards Atlanta, Georgia. For more information, please see subsections TR2-004: State and National Transit Connections (6-51 through 6-52) and Private Transportation Providers (6-56 through 6-58) of the Mobility Options Chapter in Mobility 2045 Update. Questions regarding the timing of these and other potential future expansions would be best answered by Amtrak, which can be contacted at <https://www.amtrak.com/contact-us/email.html>.

If you have any additional questions or need clarification, please feel free to contact us again.

Safety

Email –

1. Trish Donaghey

Thank you for beginning to make improvements at the intersection at 175 Southview Dr., Allen, TX 75002, where Lucas Food Mart is located. The trees were a blessing and a curse: you could wait at the light in the shade of the trees when it was beastly hot, but visibility around the curve was virtually non-existent. We wish the crushed guard rail at this intersection could be moved further away from the road, so a tire won't run over the sharp edge and become damaged. We greatly appreciate your timing the light at this intersection, so that even in rush hour, traffic tends to move!

Looking forward to continued improvements as more houses are built,

P.S.1 Will there be new bridges over Lake Lavon constructed alongside what is already there to prevent eventual backup, like at the Holland Tunnel in NYC, where many lanes wait a long time to merge into the few lanes in the tunnel?

P.S.2 Looking forward to a traffic light at the intersection of FM 982 and FM 546 to prevent accidents as traffic becomes more and more congested!

P.S.3 Hope we won't need a traffic light to exit our own property on FM 982.

Response by NCTCOG Transportation staff:

Good afternoon and thank you for your comments concerning roadways in the Lucas area. The initial improvements at the FM 1378/FM 3286 intersection are a result of preliminary utility relocation activities, but the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) project to reconstruct and add capacity to the intersection is scheduled to begin in May 2023 (completed by mid-2025). The City of Lucas has draft copies of TxDOT roadway plans for the intersection, including traffic routing and signal operation plans, at <https://www.lucastexas.us/documents/bait-shop-intersection-roadway-plans/>.

We share your concern about the rapid traffic growth along FM 546, FM 982, and FM 3286 as new residential and commercial development takes place within the Lake Lavon peninsula. Since much of these corridors in the peninsula remain in unincorporated Collin County, I would suggest contacting Clarence Daugherty, Collin County Director of Engineering at cdaugherty@co.collin.tx.us to see if traffic signal evaluations have been requested from TxDOT at the specified locations. Jennifer Vorster, Area Engineer for the TxDOT Collin County Area Office may also have information about how TxDOT evaluates, approves, and installs traffic signals along their roadways. She can be reached at 972-542-2345.

Also, though the Mobility 2045 Plan – 2022 Update (the region’s long-range transportation plan; <https://www.nctcog.org/trans/plan/mtp/mobility-2045-2022-update>) identifies a need on FM 3286 across Lake Lavon, TxDOT has not yet initiated an engineering and environmental study to assess how or when additional lanes may be built. Once TxDOT can fund and complete such a study, they will work with the public and stakeholders to determine the best option(s).

If you have any follow-up questions or comments, please let me know.

Facebook –

1. Sadly, today marks 22 years of daily deaths on Texas roadways. Let’s help #EndTheStreakTX together. Texas Department of Transportation City of Garland, City of Irving, Texas - City Hall — NCTCOG Transportation Department



How many have died in Tarrant County during this evil private toll road construction? — Wm Atkins

Twitter –

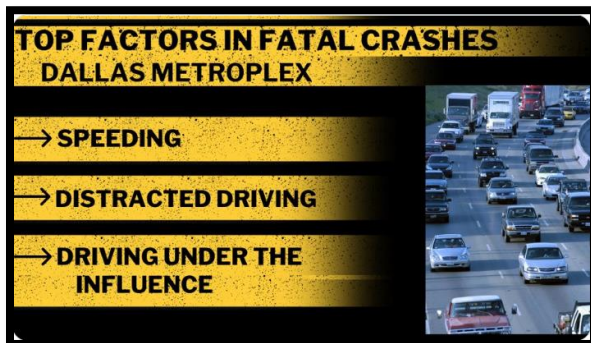
1. Deja tus distracciones a un lado y mantén ambas manos en el volante. ¡Ese es el gooooooIIII que todos necesitamos! ¡Gracias @FCDallas y @Edwincerrillo por asociarse con nosotros en este mensaje! #EndTheStreakTX #MLSCupPlayoffs #FCDallas #Dallas #MLS #mls2022 #soccer @NCTCOGtrans — TxDOT Dallas (@TxDOTDallas)



2. ICYMI - @FCDallas & @PaxiPomy joined us in our goooooaaaaaIIIII to #EndTheStreakTX! Kick your distractions to the side & keep both hands on the wheel. Drive safe & good luck in the #MLSPayoffs! #mls2022 #MLS #Dallas #soccer #FCDallas #safety @NCTCOGtrans — TxDOT Dallas (@TxDOTDallas)

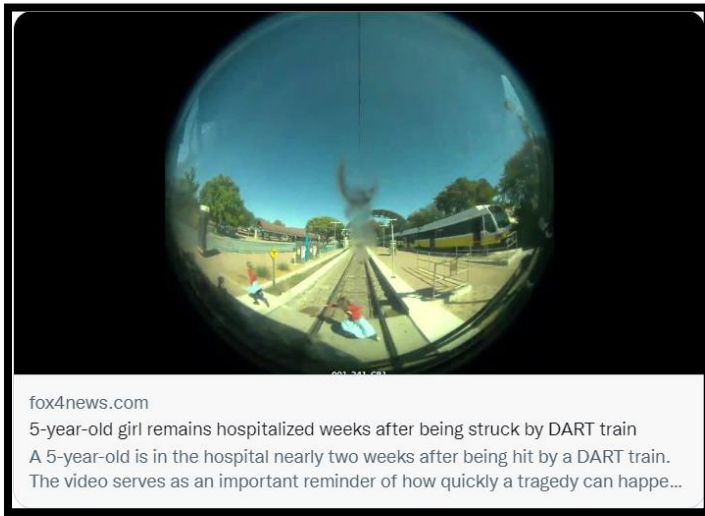


3. Speeding, distracted driving & driving under the influence are the top factors cited in fatal crash data in the #Dallas area. These are all preventable actions. Do your part to keep you, your passengers & everyone on the road safe. #EndTheStreakTX #DFWTraffic @NCTCOGtrans — TxDOT Dallas (@TxDOTDallas)



@TxDPS If DPS failed the families, school or community, "then absolutely, I need to go." "Ten minutes in, there was enough officers and information for things to be done," For 77 minutes those children called 911 for help that stood outside the door refusing to act. Resign McCraw — justsomeguy (@doodiepoopy)

4. Terrifying - This could happen to any child, any family. Watch as she gets hit by the train. There are a lot of questions about @dartmedia safety record. @NCTCOGtrans 5-year-old remains hospitalized weeks after being struck by DART train — caraathome (@caraathome)




5. #EndTheStreakTX can be accomplished with robust investment into public transit. That will decongest roadways and provide safe means of transport that isn't a risk to pedestrians. End car based infrastructure. — William 🌻UA (WilliamJackson)

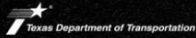


6. My fellow county judges and I urge you to help #EndTheStreakTX ! @TxDOTDallas @NCTCOGtrans @Andy_Eads @judge_whitley @JDClarkTX — Clay Jenkins (@JudgeClayJ)



 TxDOT Dallas @TxDOTDallas · Nov 7

Today marks 22 years since the last day without a fatality crash on a #Texas road. In the #Dallas metro, preventable actions like speeding, distracted driving and DUI are causing more fatalities each year. Make every drive as safe as possible and help #EndTheStreakTX.



Since **Nov. 7, 2000**, at least **1** person has **died** on Texas roadways every day.

#EndTheStreakTX



— William Mercer

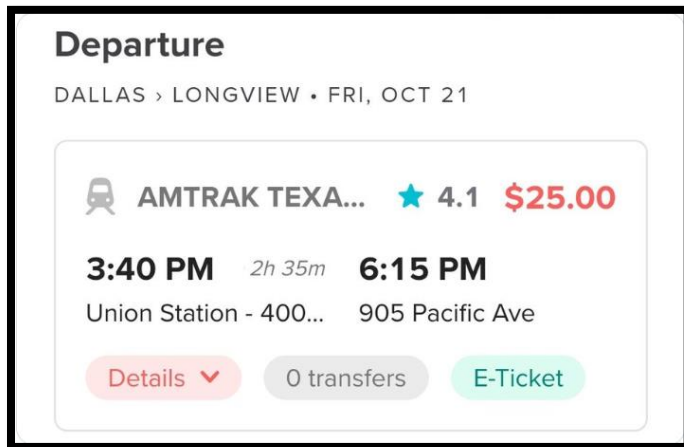
(@WilliamMercer82)

Transit

Twitter –

1. Tomorrow's my first @Amtrak. Friday I'll mosey Longview. Saturday I'll hail cab to Gilmer for Yamboree Festival 🍌🌿 With this small town excursion I'll have officially ridden every passenger rail service in Dallas

Do I get a badge? @dartmedia @NCTCOGtrans @TrinityMetro — Hexel (@hexel_co)



Congrats on the journey, don't hesitate to treat yourself at the café — PedroInfante

🚲🚌🏠 (@PedroInfante410)

2. Presenters in desperate need of community engagement training because they can't read the room & making a bad situation worse. @dartmedia Cotton Belt/Silver Line presentation. It isn't going well. @NCTCOGtrans @wsp @herzogcompanies #150attendees — caraathome (@caraathome)



Had Dallas initially built an effective subway system in the metroplex like other cities have, this wouldn't be such an issue with Dart. As usual, Dallas is 25 years behind when it comes to development. — Bonni M. Crisfulli (@BonniCrisfulli)

3. Seriously, with \$5/day parking available with @TrinityMetro & #TEXRail stations, you should never drive to the airport again. — Loren S. (@txbornviking)



Other

Email –

1. **Ginger Cole**

I think the idea of getting smoking vehicles off the road is great.

However, your process is quite cumbersome. I tried once. I took a picture and was going to upload it. It was too much like work.

Seems like there could be an easier way. I think most phone cameras include the time, date and gps. If so, maybe if a person just got a good image or video showing the plate number and could upload it in an app or via email this might be more user friendly.

Response by NCTCOG Transportation staff:

Hello, Ms. Cole,

Thank you for your comment. We have shared your comments with the project team.

Twitter –

1. Great time learning about the @kcstreetcar expansion and their current success of reimplementing a streetcar network that existed decades ago to move their residents. I am advocating for the same in The @CityOfDallas ...#NLCCS — Adam R. Bazaldua (@AdamBazaldua)



I hope to one day see a street car on Martin Luther King Blvd that not only helps move South Dallas residents but also ignite economic growth for the local business owners in the area!
#CitySummitKC — Adam R. Bazaldua (@AdamBazaldua)

Did you learn about how @KansasCity officials conducted a rigged election that disenfranchised poor and minority residents and how less than 400 people in a city of about half a million decided to build it? — The Hand (@TheHand77)

They're also the ones shouldering the burden to pay for it...it's hardly rigged when people in the TDD petitioned for the SC, then voted for it. The SC has literally all of this info available open source as well, need be — Anthony Hugo (@Anthony_Hugo98)