

# INTERAGENCY TRANSPORTATION REPORT – JUNE 2022

RTC / TxDOT / DART / Dallas County/ NTTA / DRMC / DFW Airport



## **RTC APPROVES THE 2023-2026 TIP/STIP**

At the June 9<sup>th</sup> Regional Transportation Council (RTC) meeting, the RTC approved the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the final Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) listings.

The TIP is a multi-year listing of transportation projects with committed funding from federal, state, and local sources within the Dallas-Fort Worth Metropolitan Area. It is developed every two years.

## **DALLAS AWARDED AIR QUALITY FUNDING**

**The RTC approved \$775,950 to the Department of Equipment and Fleet Management (EFM) for replacement of diesel refuse haulers at the June meeting.**

The funding is from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) National Clean Diesel Funding Assistance Program as follows:

\$155,190	Full rebate award to replace two class 8 diesel refuse haulers with one CARB low-NOx certified compressed natural gas hauler
\$114,293	Partial rebate award to replace class 8 diesel refuse hauler with CARB low-NOx certified compressed natural gas refuse hauler
\$506,467	Full rebate award to replace class 8 diesel refuse haulers with CARB low-NOx certified compressed natural gas refuse haulers using available funds from an unobligated project

## **DALLAS AWARDED FUNDING FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATIONS**

**During the June 9<sup>th</sup> meeting, the RTC also approved an award of \$376,334 to the EFM Department** for installation of two electric vehicle chargers at the Southeast Service Center and two at the Central Service Center.

## **MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW**

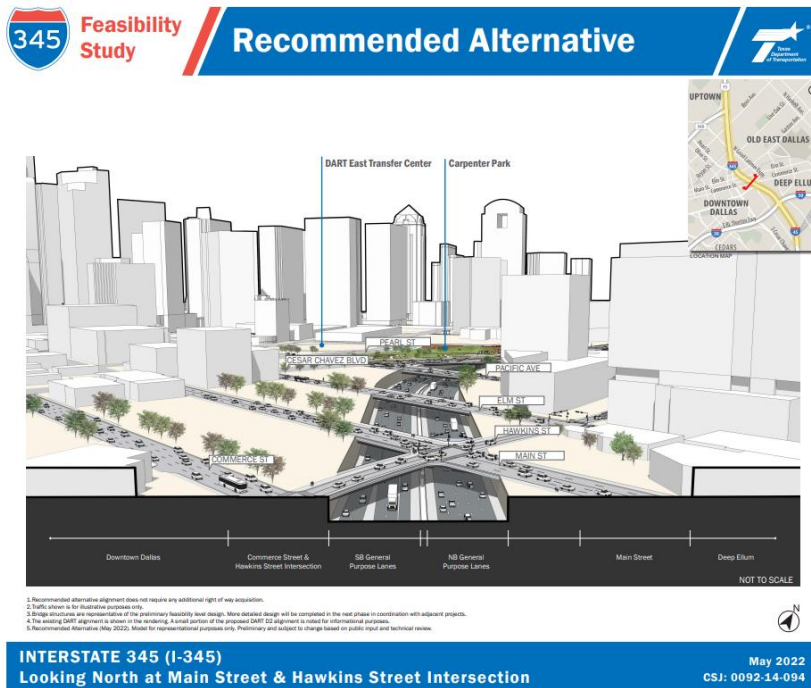
**The August 2022 RTC meeting will be held on August 18, 2022 at the Irving Convention Center** during the annual City of Irving Transportation Summit. The August RTC meeting has traditionally been held as part of this Summit but has not happened in the last two years due to Covid-19 concerns.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

The **next RTC meeting is in-person and is scheduled for July 14, 2022** at 1:00 PM in the Transportation Council Room at the NCTCOG headquarters (616 Six Flags Drive, Arlington, Texas 76011).



## I-345 Recommended Alternative



The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has recommended a preferred alternative for I-345.

Among the five alternatives studied, the recommendation is to place the highway in a trench between downtown and Deep Ellum (the “hybrid alternative”), re-establish the city street grid and reconnect downtown with Deep Ellum with opportunities for deck caps.

One option considered was to remove the highway and make it a boulevard, however, TxDOT noted that 66 percent of respondents from the public meetings and online surveys expressed a desire to keep the freeway.

**Through Monday, June 27<sup>th</sup>,** TxDOT is soliciting comments on the preferred alternative at [I-345 Survey](#).

Additional information can be found at the TxDOT website: [Virtual Public Meeting for I-345 Feasibility Study | Keep It Moving Dallas](#)

## Santa Fe Trail Detour

TxDOT revised the detour plans for connecting the Santa Fe Trail to the White Rock Trail while the pedestrian bridge over Garland Road is down for the 3G construction. Below is a map of the new detour route.



## SERVICE MODIFICATIONS

**Starting Monday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) implemented temporary service adjustments on 31 of its 97 bus routes** due to the ongoing shortage of bus operators.

DART implemented a five-minute temporary reduction in frequency on most routes currently operating every 15 minutes. Some routes with 20-minute midday and early evening service changed to 30-minute service. Light rail service, as well as service on the Trinity Railway Express (TRE) and the Dallas Streetcar, remain the same.

These temporary frequency adjustments will ensure that passengers can rely on the DART service schedule, improving service and reducing bus stop wait times, while continuing to aggressively recruit new bus operators.

DART tentatively plans to return to regular frequency on all services on January 23, 2023, based on bus operator hiring goals. As hiring continues, DART will continue

to re-evaluate the temporary service frequency adjustments and adjust as necessary.

**Detailed information about the service adjustments can be found at [DART.org - June 13, 2022 Service Change Information](https://www.dart.org/june-13-2022-service-change-information).**

### **BERNARD JACKSON SELECTED AS DART'S NEW COO**

**Mr. Bernard Jackson has been selected as the agency's new Chief Operations Officer** and began his new role at DART on May 23.

Mr. Jackson leads the agency's operations teams, including bus, light rail, facilities maintenance, GoLink, and mobility management.

Jackson joins DART from the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority where he served as the chief operations officer for service delivery.

Prior to his time at LA Metro, he worked nearly 30 years at the Chicago Transit Authority as the vice president of bus operations and the director of rail operations.

During his career in transit, Jackson has been instrumental in establishing customer-focused performance measures to improve transit operations for the benefit of riders.

### **OLDER AMERICANS MONTH**

**In May, DART hosted 1,000 older adults at the Older Americans Month Information & Health Fair at Centennial Hall in Fair Park.** This free annual event is one of the largest in North Texas.

This year's theme, Age My Way, focused on aging in place - how older adults can plan to stay in their homes and live independently in their communities for as long as possible.

The event showcased businesses and public services of special interest to older adults, caregivers and families, along with providing health screenings, giveaways, and live entertainment from the Dallas Tap Dazzlers, Ms. Senior America, and the Skyline Jazz Band.

Community partners supporting this year's event included the City of Dallas, Dallas Park & Recreation, Dallas Police Department, Dallas Area Agency on Aging, Community Council, Fair Park First and The Senior Source.



## UPCOMING MEETING

The next DART Board meeting will be on **Tuesday, June 28, 2022** at the DART Headquarters Building, 1401 Pacific Avenue in Dallas.

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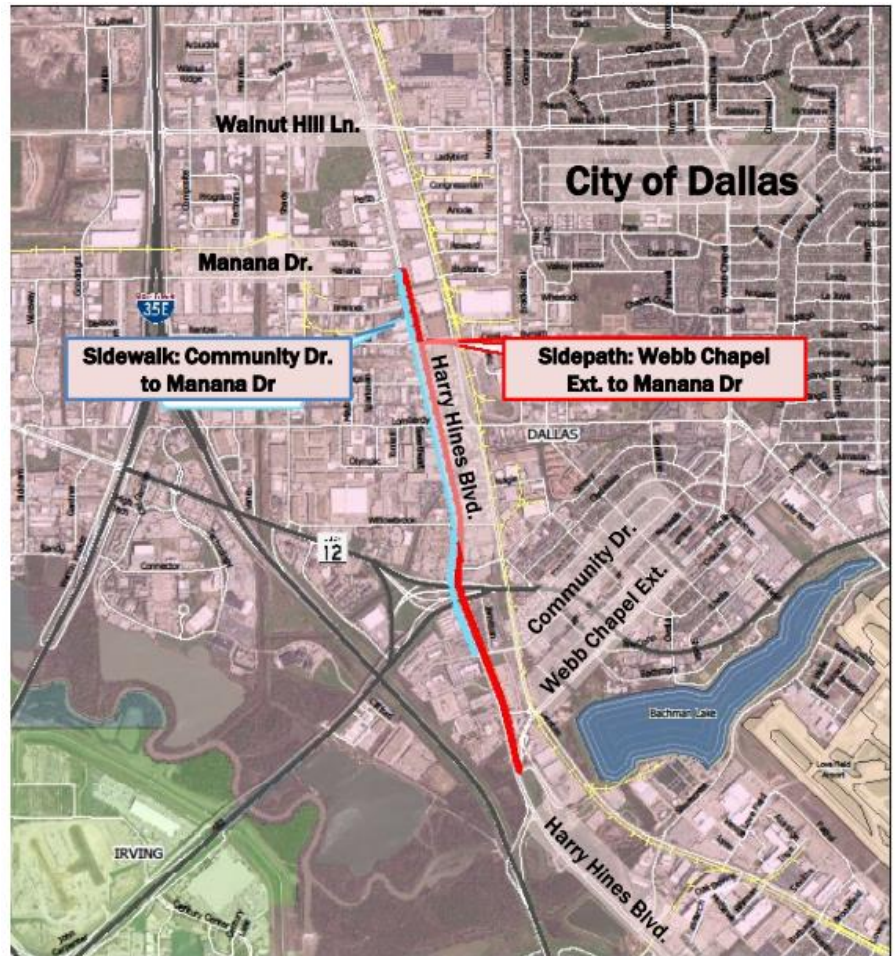
## HARRY HINES TRAIL PRE-BID MEETING HELD

On Thursday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, Dallas County held their pre-bid meeting for the Harry Hines Shared Use Path project.

Dallas County has completed design of this \$5.2 million project and anticipates construction to start at the end of 2022.

This project includes construction of:

- A seven-foot-wide sidewalk on the west side of Harry Hines Blvd. from Community Drive to Manana Drive.
- An eight to ten-foot-wide shared use path on the east side of Harry Hines from Webb Chapel Extension to Manana Drive.
- Driveway reconstructions, pedestrian traffic signal improvements, storm drain inlet relocations, fire hydrant relocations, bollards at some locations for safety, and underground conduit for the length of the project.



The project is being led by Dallas County with TxDOT, the City of Dallas, and the North Central Texas Council of Governments supporting the efforts.

### **UPDATE - RIVERFRONT BOULEVARD PROJECT**

The City and Dallas County continue to coordinate with the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) and Union Pacific Railroad to address the technical requirements for drainage placement below the road pavement as it passes under the existing railroad bridge.

As a reminder the project is approximately 1.25 miles from **Cadiz** and **to just north of the Union Pacific Railroad** crossing (north of Commerce).

The scope includes **improvement of roadway** with **provisions for bicycle lanes** in each direction and **enhanced sidewalks**. The scope also includes **water, wastewater and storm drainage** improvements.



### **BOARD MEETING HELD MAY 18<sup>TH</sup>**

The NTTA Board of Directors held their regular meeting on Wednesday, May 18, 2022.

The Board heard Committee Chair reports from the Regional Transportation Council Chair, the Customer Service, Projects, and Operations Chair, and the Finance, Audit and Administration Chair.

The Board approved recommendations by the Customer Service, Projects and Operations Committee to:

- **Advertise for:** purchase of 2023 fleet vehicles; construction services for the Addison Airport Toll Tunnel improvements; and for construction services for frontage road joint and crack sealing on the Sam Rayburn Tollway.
- **Approve contracts for** fourth lane widening from Sam Rayburn Tollway to US 380.

The Board received briefings on the Consolidated Monthly Performance Report, the Quarterly Investment Report for the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter of 2022, and the Executive Director's report on contracts, supplements, and change orders less than \$300,000 that were executed in April 2022.

### UPCOMING MEETING

**The June 13<sup>th</sup> Board meeting was canceled, and a mid-year Board Retreat was held on June 17<sup>th</sup>** at the Gaylord Texan in Grapevine.

The next Board meeting is scheduled at **10:00 on Wednesday July 20, 2022** at the NTTA headquarters in Plano (5900 West Plano Parkway, Plano, Texas 75093).



### GUEST SPEAKER

**State Senator Nathan Johnson was the guest speaker at the June 3<sup>rd</sup> Dallas Regional Mobility Coalition (DRMC) meeting.** Senator Johnson was elected in 2018 to represent Senate District 16. He received bipartisan support and is the first Democrat to represent that District in thirty years. Senator Johnson serves on the Senate Business & Commerce, Water, and Jurisprudence Committees. He discussed the importance of bipartisan cooperation in the next legislative session.

**Senator Johnson provided information about the Broadband Development Office (BDO), operated out of the Office of the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts.** The BDO created in the 2021 Legislative Session. The BDO is charged with:

- Creating an accurate broadband map of eligible versus ineligible areas for financial assistance;
- Establishing a long-term, statewide plan that addresses strategies and goals for expanding access to and further adoption of broadband services;



- Awarding grants and other financial tools to meet the goals of the plan
- Setting the effective threshold speed for broadband service
- Engaging in outreach to communities regarding expansion of broadband services
- Addressing barriers for future expansion efforts

The office was appropriated \$5 million for the biennium. Senator Johnson reiterated the importance of this Office for the future of Texas and expects additional support in the next Session.

### UPCOMING MEETING

**There is no DRMC meeting in July.** The next meeting is at **11:00 on August 5, 2022, via Zoom.**

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### DFW AIRPORT ANNOUNCES NEW SERVICE TO AUKLAND

Dallas Fort Worth International Airport (DFW) will be adding another route into the Southern Hemisphere as **American Airlines announces a daily non-stop route between DFW and Auckland, New Zealand to begin October 29.**

Seasonal, daily service will connect DFW passengers with New Zealand and beyond aboard a Boeing 787-9 aircraft. This addition continues to make DFW one of the most connected airports in the world with over 70 international destinations.

### TERMINAL C RENOVATED GATES OPEN

DFW Airport is proud to announce the opening of **five newly renovated gates at the south end of Terminal C.**

Known as the Terminal C High Gates, Gates 35-39 were built utilizing the latest innovation in engineering. The gates were constructed offsite, then moved into place to allow for the inside finish out to begin. This process, known as modular construction, reduced the amount of time needed to construct the gates, reducing the impact on customers.

The gates were completed under budget and four months ahead of schedule. Gate C33 will be renovated as part of this project and will open as C35, once renovations are complete.

**The four new gates are the beginning of renovations to Terminal C as the Airport prepares to add nine new gates as part of the Terminal C pier project.**

The High C gates will elevate the customer experience with innovative technology such as **dynamic glass windows** and **smart restrooms**. The new gates also feature



**unique artwork** throughout providing a relaxing atmosphere to help customers de-stress while in the gate waiting area. The gate holding areas feature **large information screens** featuring flight information for that gate. There also will be **space for additional dining options** in Terminal C.

### UPCOMING MEETING

**The next board meeting will be Thursday, August 4, 2022.** There will be **no board or committee meetings in the month of July.** For more information, including agendas and actions, please visit [www.dfwairport.com/board](http://www.dfwairport.com/board).