

INTERAGENCY TRANSPORTATION REPORT – MARCH 2023

RTC / TxDOT / DART / NCTCOG / DRMC /DFW Airport



RTC APPROVED REGIONAL ROADWAY SAFETY ACTION PLAN

At their April meeting, the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) **approved the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) Roadway Safety Plan.**

This plan, like the City's Vision Zero Plan, provides a framework for identifying, analyzing, and prioritizing roadway safety improvements on local roads. It serves as a guide to identify crash factors contributing to fatal and serious injuries. It identifies safety projects and countermeasures to reduce crashes with a goal to eliminate fatal crashes by 2050.

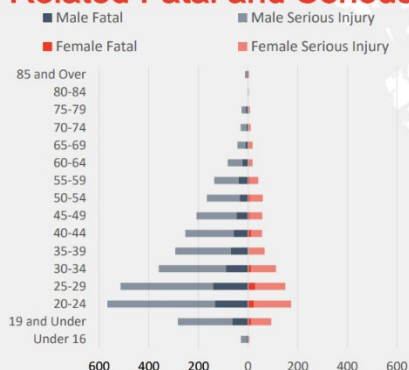
The number of fatalities and serious injuries has increased since 2016. In

2021, there were almost 5,000 serious injuries and 959 fatalities in the NCTCOG 12-county area.

Fatal and Serious Injuries Within the 12 - County Area (2016-2021)



Emphasis Area Example: Speeding Related Fatal and Serious Injuries



The emphasis areas for the Plan include a focus on speeding, distracted driving, impaired driving, intersection safety, bicyclist and pedestrian safety, roadway and lane departures, occupant protection, and motorcycles. Additional areas of concern include wrong way driving, crashes occurring at night, and drivers over 65.

Most serious injuries/fatalities are drivers under the age of 30. As such, **this plan also places a special emphasis on younger drivers.**

The plan includes FY 24-26 funding for:

- Bicycle/Pedestrian Education and Engineering - \$12 million

- Roadway Operations, Engineering, and Intercity Connections - \$25 million
- Speed Education and Enforcement - \$9 million
- Other safety projects and programs - \$4 million

MAJOR SOURCE OZONE EMISSIONS FEE REQUIREMENTS

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) reclassified the Dallas-Fort Worth ozone non-attainment area from serious to severe on November 7, 2022. The attainment deadline is July 20, 2027.

If the area fails to meet the attainment deadline, the Federal Clean Air Act (FCAA) imposes an annual “185 fee.”

The annual fee applies to major sources of ozone precursor emissions located in the ozone nonattainment area starting in 2028 until attainment is met.

The EPA-published fee rate for calendar year 2022 was \$11,122 per ton. **Based on this, NCTCOG estimates the fee will be about \$45 million in 2028.**

Defined in 30 Texas Administrative Code Section 116.12 based on actual or potential emissions

DFW 10-County Nonattainment Area Major Point Sources: Nitrogen Oxides (NOX)						
County	Number of Major Point Source Facilities				Emission Totals (TPY)	Total Percent of 10-County Major Source Point Emissions
	Cement, Hydraulic (Kilns)	Electric Services (EGUs)	Crude Petroleum & Nat. Gas	Other (82 Source Types)		
Collin	-	1	-	9	79	1%
Dallas	-	2	-	66	831	8%
Denton	-	2	11	14	278	3%
Ellis	3	2	1	20	4,332	42%
Johnson	-	1	17	13	1,116	11%
Kaufman	-	1	-	5	1,165	11%
Parker	-	-	5	17	251	2%
Rockwall	-	-	-	3	13	0%
Tarrant	-	1	17	47	784	8%
Wise	-	1	51	7	1,485	14%
Total	3	11	102	201	10,333	100%

Major source emissions typically include point sources such as power plants and cement plants.

The region must submit a Section 185 fee program to the EPA by November 7, 2025.

NCTCOG staff is drafting a letter to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for RTC review/approval at the April meeting. The letter will focus on the following topics:

Major Source Emissions (Section 185) Fees

- **Offering to assist in assessment of the program**
- Expand partnership to continue offering aggressive programs to reach attainment and avoid further sanctions.

TCEQ Predicted Forecast versus Observed

- **Requesting review of why projected design value was significantly different than observed** including:
 - Researching current state of regional Nitrogen Oxides (NOx): Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) chemistry ratio.
 - Investigating how impacts from Covid-19 may have played a role in high emissions in 2020.

State Implementation Plan (SIP) boundaries

- **Requesting reevaluation of SIP boundaries** including:
 - Investigating regional airshed and transport leading to high ozone background levels from outside the nonattainment area
 - Establishing emissions tracking and apportionment for Texas.

Inspection and Maintenance Vehicle Program Fraud

- **Requesting changes to the system to reduce fraudulent activity**, in coordination with the Department of Public Safety.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

The **next RTC meeting is in-person and is scheduled for April 13, 2023**, at 1:00 PM in the Transportation Council Room at the NCTCOG headquarters (616 Six Flags Drive, Arlington, Texas 76011).



SAFETY, SAFETY, SAFETY

Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has several upcoming programs and events focused on safety awareness/education.

BE SAFE. DRIVE SMART EVENT

On March 31st from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the AT&T Discovery District, TxDOT's DFW Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Street Team will be on site to raise awareness of the many laws in place intended to keep pedestrians and bicyclists safe.

The event will feature a series of walking billboards with messages for drivers, pedestrians, and cyclists about sharing the road safely.

A yellow rectangular graphic with black diagonal stripes at the top and bottom. In the center, the text "BE SAFE. DRIVE SMART." is written in bold, black, sans-serif capital letters.

**BE SAFE.
DRIVE SMART.**

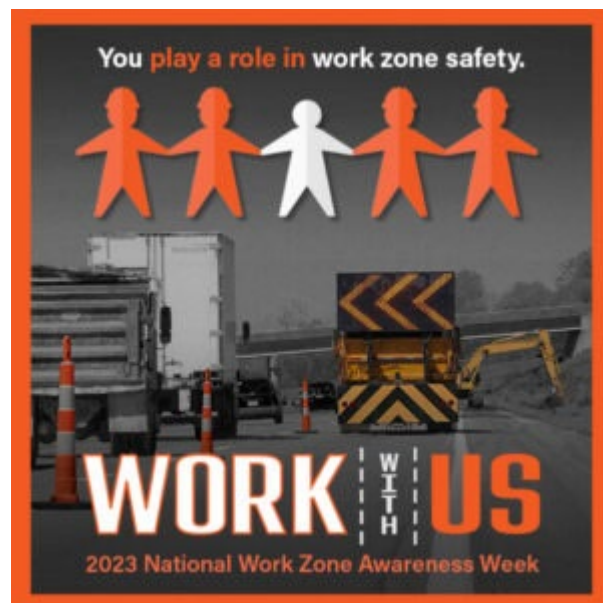
WORK-ZONE AWARENESS WEEK

National Work Zone Awareness Week for the Dallas metro area is April 17th through April 21st.

This year's theme is "Work With Us." The campaign encourages safe driving through work zones and urges drivers to exercise extreme caution while driving through them.

In Texas, in 2021 alone, there were

- Nearly **26,000 crashes** in work zones
- **244 fatalities** in work zone crashes (a 33% increase in traffic fatalities over the previous year). Deaths included 195 motorists and vehicle passengers, 38 pedestrians, four bicyclists, and three roadside construction workers.
- **Distracted driving**, including cell phone usage, is by far the **leading cause** of work zones crashes
- **Driving under the influence and speeding** are also contributing factors to work zone crashes.



Simple actions from drivers can be the difference between a safe drive or a crash in a work zone:

- **Slow down**
- **Pay attention**
- **Don't tailgate**
- **Watch out for road crews**
- **Allow extra time**

TEEN DRIVER SAFETY FAIR APRIL 15TH

On Saturday, April 15th from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. AAA and the City of Dallas are teaming up to host a Teen Driver Safety Fair **at the Campbell Green Recreation Center (16600 Park Hill Drive, Dallas, TX 75248).**

There will be safety-minded organizations on hand, including TxDOT, Mothers Against Drunk Drivers (MADD), Street Racing Kills, Youth 180, the Dallas Police Department and others to provide a one-stop shop for parents and teen drivers (or teens preparing to drive) to gain knowledge about the risks and rules of the road.

Go to <https://dallasteenfair.aceclub-events.com/> to register for the event.

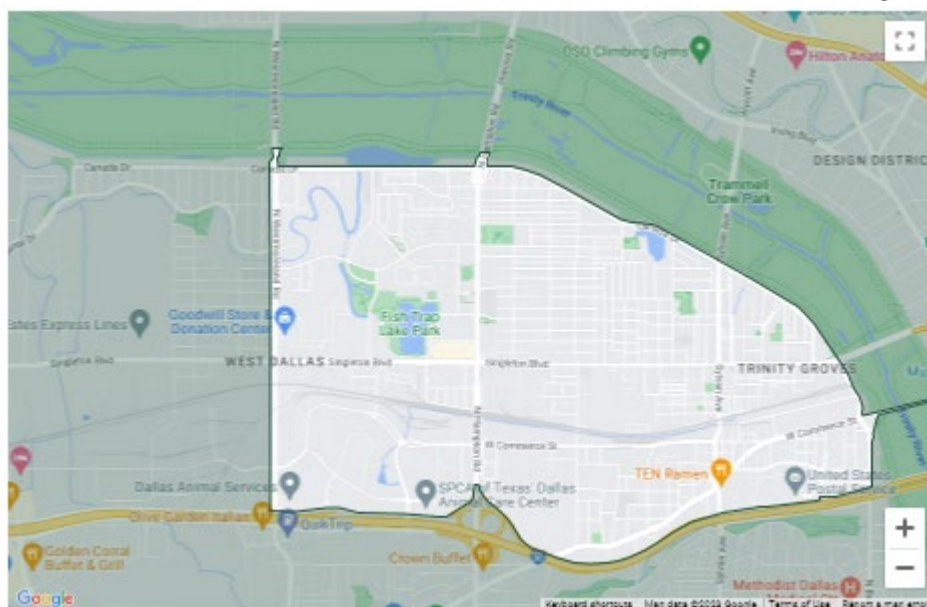


DART PARTNERS TO PROVIDE FREE RIDE-SHARING IN WEST DALLAS

Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) and Toyota have partnered with Circuit for **free ride-share services for West Dallas residents**. This provides an easy way to get to grocery stores, doctor visits, and other services throughout West Dallas.

In November 2022, the DART Board of Directors approved a one-year pilot program with Circuit to provide the West Dallas Site-Specific Shuttle Service. The program includes a fleet of six electric vehicles that operate Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The service area is bound by North Westmoreland Road to the west, Canada Drive to the north, and IH-30 to the south providing customers access to the DART EBJ Union Station and West End stations.



For more information, see <https://www.ridecircuit.com/westdallas>.

COMMUNITY MEETINGS ON BUS SERVICE PLANS

DART will host a series of community meetings seeking public input on the bus network and other system improvements planned for 2024 and later.

Meeting information

Meeting Date*	Meeting Time	Location
Monday, March 20 th	6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Crosby Recreation Center, Trinity Room 1610 E. Crosby Road Carrollton, TX 75006
Wednesday, March 22 nd	6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Plano Municipal Center 1520 K. Avenue Plano, TX 75074

Thursday, March 23 rd	6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Jaycee-Zaragoza Recreation Center 3114 Clymer Street Dallas, TX 75212
Saturday, March 25 th	9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	DART Headquarters 1401 Pacific Avenue Dallas, TX 75202
Monday, March 27 th	6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Virtual – Microsoft Teams**
Tuesday, March 28 th	6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Irving City Hall, Council Chambers 825 Irving Blvd. Irving, TX 75060
Wednesday, March 29 th	6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Walnut Hill Recreation Center 10011 Midway Road Dallas, TX 75229
Thursday, March 30 th	6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Highland Hill Library 6200 Bonnie View Road Dallas, TX 75241

*Two meetings were held prior to the publication of this report (March 15th & 16th)

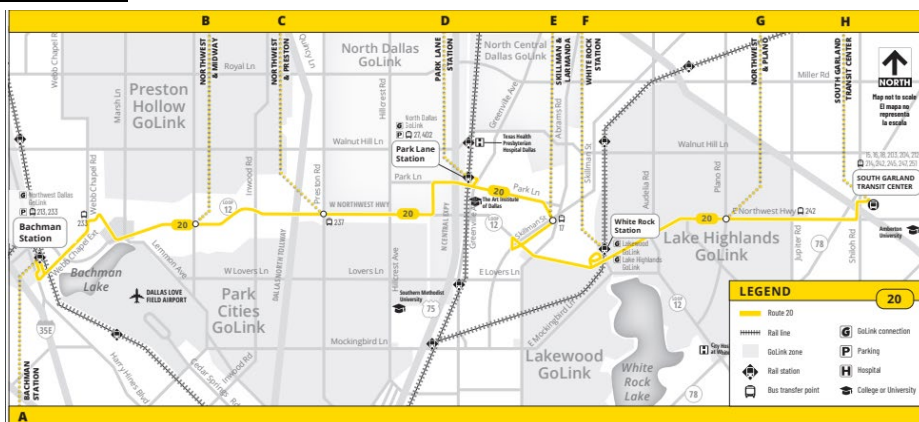
**Login information for virtual meeting can be found at [DART Future Projects](#)

DART's LONG RANGE ELECTRIC BUS IN SERVICE

DART's **first long range electric bus** began regular service on DART Bus Route 20 (see route map below).

With **a range of almost 300 miles**, the 40' Proterra ZX5 Max offers:

- Six lithium-ion battery packs (four mounted under the bus, two mounted on the roof). Each battery pack stores 112.5 kWh of charge (675 kWh total).
- Regenerative braking that captures the energy normally lost to heat and returns it to the battery packs.
- USB ports throughout the bus for customers to charge mobile devices.
- Two large customer information monitors.
- An exterior body built from corrosion resistant materials.



- Easy to clean vinyl upholstery on the seats.

The new bus will join the seven Proterra Catalyst 35 zero-emission electric buses that are currently in service on DART Bus Route 28.

REGIONAL TRANSIT SURVEY UNDERWAY

DART, in collaboration with the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG), is conducting **a comprehensive transit survey** to gather a range of customer data from public transit users.

Through two types of transit travel surveys, DART and Trinity Railway Express, as well as other regional transit agencies, will seek to determine how riders are using the transit system and what changes could be made in the future to better accommodate the needs of the region.

The first type of survey will be a stop-to-stop survey and will help planners understand passengers' trip patterns on selected bus routes and rail lines.

The second type of survey will be a questionnaire. Participating DART bus, rail and Trinity Railway Express (TRE) customers will answer questions to collect demographic information and details about their use of public transportation including demographic, trip-making behavior, and travel pattern characteristics.

The answers to these questions will provide information about how transit services are used and where the demand is throughout the system and will allow planners to better serve passengers' needs.

The transit survey project will continue through mid-May 2023.

For more information, see [2022-2023 Regional Transit Survey](#).

UPCOMING MEETING

The next DART Board meeting will be on **March 21, 2023**, at the DART Headquarters Building, 1401 Pacific Avenue in Dallas.



MARCH BOARD MEETING

The NTTA Board of Directors held their regular meeting on Wednesday, March 15, 2023.

The Board approved staff **requests to advertise** for construction services for the Dallas North Tollway wall rehabilitation, and construction management services for the Dallas North Tollway wall rehabilitation.

The Board **approved a contract** for fuel card services and assumed design/build maintenance contracts for the 360 Tollway. And, the Board **reviewed and approved** the organization's debt policy and the investment policy and strategy including qualified institutions.

The **Board received briefings** on the Consolidated Monthly Performance Report, and the Executive Director's report on contracts, supplements, and change orders less than \$300,000 executed in February 2023.

Finally, the **Board entered executive session** to receive updates on cyber security and the internal audit.

UPCOMING MEETING

The next Board meeting is scheduled at **10:00 AM on Wednesday, April 19, 2023**, at the NTTA headquarters in Plano (5900 West Plano Parkway, Plano, Texas 75093).



CONGRESSMAN COLIN ALLRED JOINED VIA SKYPE

United States Congressman Colin Allred joined the March 3rd meeting of the Dallas Regional Mobility Coalition (DRMC) via Skype.

He spoke about the \$35 million Airport Terminal Program (ATP) grant DFW Airport received to help fund a portion of Terminal D energy efficiency program (\$25 million) and to fund the second phase of the installation of the Airport's Zero Carbon Electric Utility Plant (\$10 million).

He also discussed a bill he and Daniel Webster (R-FL) introduced in January called the Federal Infrastructure Bank Act of 2023. This bill would create a national infrastructure bank to work with state and local partners to facilitate private infrastructure investments via loans and loan guarantees. The bank would be prohibited from engaging in other types of banking activities. The intent is to leverage the private sector to spur sustained, long-term investment to create jobs and help meet infrastructure needs.

The bank would help finance work such as transportation projects, ports, electric grid security and broadband connectivity. The bill also allows for broad discretion by the bank to invest in any infrastructure projects that it identifies as “providing a public benefit with regards to infrastructure.”

As proposed, the bank would encourage private investment for initial capitalization through tax incentives for those investments during the first three years of operation. This approach differs from prior Infrastructure Bank proposals as it will be entirely capitalized by private investment.

UPCOMING MEETING

The next DRMC Board meeting is scheduled at **11:00 AM on Friday, April 14, 2023**, at the NTTA headquarters in Plano (5900 West Plano Parkway, Plano, Texas 75093).



DFW BIDS FAREWELL TO MATRICE ELLIS-KIRK

The DFW Airport Board held a **farewell ceremony for former board member from Dallas, Matrice Ellis-Kirk**.

Ms. Ellis-Kirk served with distinction and honor for nearly six years. She served as Vice Chair of the Board from 2018 to 2020 and continued her service as Chair of the Board from February 2020 to February 2022. She also served as Chair of the Concessions and Commercial Development Committee from 2018 to 2020, and Chair of the Executive Compensation Committee from 2020 to 2021.



Her leadership is well known in the community and garnered her several awards including the 93rd Linz Award presented by The Dallas Morning News, the Communities Foundation of Texas, and The Dallas Foundation for her leadership during one of the most challenging times for the Airport.

BOARD APPROVES SUPPLEMENTAL ELECTRIC UTILITIES PLANT (ECUP)

The Airport Board approved a contract to **construct a new Supplemental Electric Central Utilities Plant (ECUP)** to provide additional heating and cooling capacity to support future growth, including the Central Terminal Area Program.

It is anticipated that the new ECUP utilizing electric equipment and running on the Airport's 100% renewable electricity, will significantly reduce overall emissions, since the new CUP is planned to become the primary heating source and the first source utilized for cooling.



UPCOMING MEETING

The next board meeting will be held on Thursday, April 6, 2023. For more information, please visit www.dfwairport.com/board.