



CENTRAL TEXAS REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY GROUP (CTRTAG)

Thursday, February 10, 2022
9:30 a.m.

Central Texas Council of Governments (CTCOG)
2180 North Main Street
Belton, TX

Voting Members Present

Leslie Hinkle, CITY OF KILLEEN-MUNICIPALITIES
Michael Boyd, CITY OF KILLEEN-CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE-MUNICIPALITIES
Thomas Wilson-AREA AGENCY ON AGING REP.-HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Walter Murphy, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY CENTRAL TX – EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES REP.
Holly Doggett, CEDAR CREST HOSPITAL- MEDICAL FACILITIES
Terry Mustapher, BRINGING EVERYONE IN ZONE- MILITARY AND VETERANS ORG.
Darrell Burtner, HCTD-TRANSIT DISTRICT
Alicia Dunn, UNITED WAY CENTRAL TX- CHILD ADVOCACY GROUP
Ben Lopez, WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS OF CENTRAL TEXAS-WORKFORCE AGENCIES
Janell Frazier, CENTRAL TEXAS 4C HEADSTART- CHILD ADVOCACY GROUP
Ursula Johnson, HOCTIL, PROXY FOR MELISSA INGRIOLA-AGING AND DISABILITY ORG
Phillip Hohle, DRIVING HOPE OF TEXAS-PRIVATE TRANSPORTATION PROVIDER
Ebony Jackson, BELL COUNTY INDIGENT HEALTH SERVICES-COUNTIES

Non-Voting Members Present

James McGill -KTMPO
Hope Geiger-CTCOG
Dominic Elizondo-CTCOG
Dan Malsom- KIMLEY-HORN
Anna Barge-CTCOG
Kara Escajeda-NOLANVILLE
Anna Olvera-CTCOG

Terry Mustapher opened the meeting at 9:30 a.m.


1. Welcome and Introductions: Terry Mustapher called the meeting to order, and quorum was met. Introductions of Board members were made.

2. Public Comments: No comments were made by the public.

3. Staff Update: Dominic Elizondo announced the grant was fiscally on track along with its deliverables being met. Staff is in the process of applying for Continuation funding from TxDOT for the coordination of the implementation of the 2022-2026 RCTP.

4. Action Item: Approve minutes from the Nov.18, 2021 CTRTAG meeting

Walter Murphy made a motion to approve the meeting minutes, seconded by Ben Lopez; the motion passed unanimously.



5. Action Item: Regarding Approval of New Board Members

Kara Escajeda, the City Manager of Nolanville, requested approval by the Board to join CTRTAG as a part of the Military and Veterans stakeholder group as a veteran of 22 years in the army. Janell Frazier made a motion to approve Kara's application to the Board, seconded by Darrell Burtner. The motion was approved unanimously.

6. Discussion Item: Regarding Approval of FY 22-26 Regionally Coordinated Transportation Plan

Dominic Elizondo gave an update on the 2022-26 RCTP update process; a public comment period was open from Nov.20-Dec.4, 2021 with a Public Hearing on Nov.23. No comments were received from the public. The RCTP was also sent to the Board for comment after the Nov.18 meeting, with a deadline of Dec.4 for receiving feedback. Feedback included a correction to a State Loop name and three new strategies for the RCTP's Implementation Table. The revised Implementation Table was sent out to the Board for comment on Dec.6 with a deadline of Dec.13, with no additional comments received. The final RCTP was sent to TxDOT for review prior to this meeting for comments, and they provide corrections for a legend and a description of the Section 5310 program. The revisions were incorporated into the final RCTP. Alicia Dunn made a motion to approve the 22-26 RCTP, with Darrell Burtner seconding. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Discussion and Action Item: Regarding Approval of Letter of Support from CTRTAG Board for CTCOG Application for RCTP Continuation Funding

Dominic Elizondo discussed the CTCOG application for Continuation funding from TxDOT for the continued coordination of the implementation of the RCTP. This funding would be \$52,500, split into two periods. The Letter of Support is needed from transportation stakeholders in order to submit an application. TxDOT notified staff that one letter from the Chair of the Board is sufficient as long as the other members compose emails stating their support for the application as part of their stakeholder group. A draft letter of support from the Board was presented, and Janell Frazier asked if it would be better to list all the Board members and the entity they represent on the letter along with the emails. Dominic Elizondo responded that he only had Terry Mustapher's name as the Chair of the Board since he would be the only one to sign it, but that he would enter the other Board members' names and organizations. Alicia Dunn made a motion to approve the Letter of Support with the changes suggested, seconded by Darrell Burtner. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Discussion Item: Regarding FY 22-26 RCTP Implementation Matrix

Dominic Elizondo discussed the Implementation Matrix for the FY 22-26 RCTP, which provided different strategies and action for addressing seven transportation needs, with each strategy being ranked as high, medium, and low priorities. Dominic Elizondo brought up several strategies that were high priority and could be performed by staff. The first was improving coordination with local leaders and elected officials. He had already put together a list of contacts at city planning departments and transportation divisions to send transportation information to, and wanted feedback from the Board on who else should be included. Ben Lopez suggested that EDCs be included as well. Dominic Elizondo brought up dispersing the transportation as a newsletter, and requested feedback on what information should go on it and how often it should be sent out. Janell Frazier suggested adding Chambers as well. Dominic Elizondo suggested doing the newsletter biweekly with federal updates and information on the State PTAC Board meetings.

As part of the same strategy, Dominic Elizondo asked if there were any suggestions for the Local Agency Item at CTRTAG meetings. Ebony Jackson suggested contacting Friends/Families in Crisis, a non-profit in Killeen and Temple. George Lopez stated that the AAA could present an update at a later meeting. Under the next strategy, to establish regular communication between CTCOG, cities, counties, and other regional stakeholders, Dominic Elizondo suggested sending out older meeting minutes to fulfill the first steps of sending out meeting summaries to regional contacts. The next strategy was to hold another Transportation Summit, and Dominic Elizondo asked what the 2019 Summit covered and how the new one could be coordinated. Alicia Dunn stated that she is on the Board of Reinvent Healthy, the non-profit that provided the funding for the previous Summit, and that they have expressed interest in holding another. Dominic Elizondo asked for the contact information for Reinvent Healthy and what topics were covered in the previous Summit. Alicia Dunn responded that it covered expansion and addition of routes, rides for people who could not make their medical appointments, and focusing on individual rides. Darrell Burtner noted that many participants said it was a highly successful event, and that for him many people walked away understanding what HCTD did. He also noted that needs and capabilities have changed since the last summit, and that these new items should be considered. The next strategy was allowing virtual options for Board meetings, which is already being performed. The last high priority strategy for CTCOG/CTRTAG was to increase activity on social media. Dominic Elizondo asked if it would be beneficial to have a Central Texas Transportation facebook to post updates on grants and resources for transportation. Terry Mustapher suggested using Twitter as well.

9. Discussion Item: Regarding Quarterly Report, Urban and Rural Committees, and Service Study Update from the Hill Country Transit District

Darrell Burtner provided the quarterly report for Q4 of 2021, including fixed route ridership for Killeen and Temple, which was lower than the target of 10 passengers per service hour. Paratransit ridership was also lower than the goal of 2 passengers per service hour. The percentage of trips missed was significantly lower than 1%, thus meeting HCTD's goals of keeping them under 2%. Customer complaints and traffic accidents also met their target rates. October 2021 did not meet the goal of having less than 10 road calls per 100,000 miles due to HCTD's aging fleet. The ridership was down in the high -30s% compared to pre-pandemic levels. HCTD's Urban Advisory Committee is meeting Mar.7th, and the Rural Advisory committee Mar.10th. HCTD awarded a procurement of interim general manager contract to Hendricks Transportation Group, which selected Steve Beck as interim general manager. He has worked in the transit field from a bus driver to the management level, and is an expert in route planning. The Board is also planning on voting on the Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan recertification. The Urban Advisory Committee will also see a presentation on introducing the GoPass mobile app for trip planning.

Dominic Elizondo asked that members email new updates from the region as far as transportation needs, gaps, or inefficiencies to his email address.

10. Discussion Item: Regarding TxDOT's Public Transportation Division (PTN) Director's Report to the Public Transportation Advisory Committee on Public Transportation Matters

Dominic Elizondo discussed the PTN Director's report to the State PTAC, which included an update on CARES, ARPA, the CRRSAA, FTA Section 5339 Bus and Bus Facilities grant, and the State's Rural Transit Asset Replacement and Modernization Project.

11. Discussion Item: Regarding Federal Updates

Dominic Elizondo gave an update on the Infrastructure, Investment, and Jobs Act (IIJA) funded RAISE Grant. This grant provides \$1.5 billion in investments for surface transportation projects that have a significant local or regional impact, including highway, bridge, and public transportation projects. These grants are up to \$25 million with an 80% federal cost share, or higher if the project is in a rural area or Area

of Persistent Poverty. The IJJA also funds the Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Technology (SMART) grant program, which will provide \$500 million in funding for demonstration projects focused on smart cities and communities technology that will improve transportation efficiency and safety.


12. Discussion Item: Regarding Discussion of Any New Unmet Transportation Needs, Gaps and Inefficiencies for Special Populations and Strategies for Implementing the FY22-26 RCTP

Dominic Elizondo asked that members email new updates from the region as far as transportation needs, gaps, or inefficiencies to his email address.

13. Other Business; Next meeting date Thursday, May 26, 2022 at 9:30 AM

14. Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 10:23 AM


Terry Mustapher, CRTAG Vice-Chair


Uryan Nelson, CTCOG Planning Director