



Central Texas Council of Governments
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Central Texas Transportation Grants, Resources, and Updates Newsletter

10/31/2022

Federal and State Legislative Updates

TxDOT Section 5310 Funding Stakeholder Workshops

Every two years the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) accepts applications for 5310 program funding in early February. Before the Call for Projects, the Public Transportation Division (PTN) provides Public Involvement (PI) Workshops to get public input in 17 districts statewide. PI Workshops allow stakeholders (elderly, individuals with disabilities, and their advocates) to have a voice as to what is working in their area and what the unmet needs are. Each TxDOT District will be holding an entirely virtual workshop throughout early December 2022 and January 2023. Meeting link and registration details will be publicized prior to meetings for Districts that cover the CTCOG region. The **Bryan District** workshop is scheduled for **Dec.6, 2022, 1:00-3:00 PM**, and the **Waco and Brownwood District** workshops are scheduled for **Dec.12, 2022, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM**. To review the 2022-26 Regionally Coordinated Transportation Plan (RCTP) to see what strategies are being implemented to assist the elderly and disabled, [click here!](#)

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Vulnerable Road User Safety Assessment Guidance

On Oct.21, FHWA released new guidance to help States address roadway deaths of vulnerable road users, including pedestrians, cyclists, and the disabled, in accordance with the National Roadway Safety Strategy (NRSS). All States are required to develop a Vulnerable Road User Safety Assessment as part of their Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) in accordance with 23 U.S.C. 148(l). The guidance covers scheduling and frequency of the Safety Assessment, statutory and regulatory requirements, potential funding opportunities for it, and its relationship to the HSIP. To read the guidance, [click here!](#)

Learn About the U.S DOT SMART Grants Program

Nov.3, 10:00 AM

Registration Fee: Free

To register, [click here!](#)

Cybersecurity Awareness for Transit Agencies Webinar

Nov.3, 12:00-1:00 PM

To register, [click here!](#)

Central Texas Regional Transportation Advisory Group (CTRTAG) Updates

CTRTAG Meeting and HOP Fare Free Pilot Program

The next CTRTAG meeting will be held on Thursday, Nov.17th, 9:30-11:00 AM as a hybrid meeting, with the in person meeting held at CTCOG Offices. At this meeting, CTCOG's coordination of the implementation of the FY 2022-26 TxDOT Regionally Coordinated Transportation Plan (RCTP) will be discussed, including preparations for a Central Texas Transportation Summit, the Central Texas Transportation Facebook, and expansion of public transportation access. An agenda will be posted as we get closer to the meeting. To attend the meeting, [Click Here!](#) The HOP recently announced a pilot program suspending fares for rides in rural areas, including service in rural Bell County, Coryell, Hamilton, Lampasas, Milam, Mills, Mason, Llano, and San Saba counties for one year. Additionally, from Oct.31-Nov.17 the HOP will be taking in non-perishable food donations in lieu of cash fares on fixed route service and ADA paratransit as part of its Food for Families drive to stock food banks past the Holiday season! For more information, [click here!](#)

To access the 2022-26 RCTP, [Click Here!](#)

Like our Central Texas Transportation Facebook page [here!](#)

Funding Opportunities and Resources

U.S Department of Transportation's Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements Program (CRISI)

The CRISI Program funds projects that improve the safety, efficiency, and reliability of intercity passenger and freight rail. Eligible projects include:

1. Deployment of railroad safety technology;
2. Capital projects for intercity passenger rail service;
3. Capital projects that address and reduce congestion challenges affecting rail service
4. Highway-rail grade crossing improvement projects;
5. The development and implementation of a safety program or institute;

Political subdivisions of the State are eligible to apply by 5:00 PM, Dec.1, 2022. \$1.4 billion is available for FY 2022. For more information and to apply, click [here!](#)