

# Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE September 27, 2019

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT **Interagency Transportation Report – September 2019**

Many agencies in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex support the region's vast transportation network including the North Central Texas Council of Governments Regional Transportation Council (RTC), the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART), the North Texas Tollway Authority (NTTA), Dallas Fort-Worth International Airport (DFW Airport) and others.

The attached Interagency Transportation Report aims to deliver brief updates on these agency's efforts and their impact on the City of Dallas. This report has traditionally been distributed monthly to the Mobility Solutions, Infrastructure and Sustainability (MSIS) Committee. When committee meetings are re-established, staff anticipates returning to a similar practice coinciding with the Committee that oversees the City's transportation efforts.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me by phone at (214) 670 – 1875 or by email at [majed.al-ghafry@dallascityhall.com](mailto:majed.al-ghafry@dallascityhall.com).

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Majed Al-Ghafry'.

Majed Al-Ghafry, P.E.  
Assistant City Manager

[Attachment]

c: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager  
Chris Caso, City Attorney (Interim)  
Mark Swann, City Auditor  
Biliera Johnson, City Secretary  
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge  
Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, Chief of Staff to the City Manager  
Jon Fortune, Assistant City Manager

Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager  
Nadia Chandler Hardy, Assistant City Manager and Chief Resilience Officer  
Michael Mendoza, Chief of Economic Development and Neighborhood Services  
M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer  
Laila Alequresh, Chief Innovation Officer  
M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Chief of Equity and Inclusion  
Directors and Assistant Directors

# INTERAGENCY TRANSPORTATION REPORT - SEPTEMBER 2019

RTC / TxDOT / NTTA / DART / DRMC / DFW Airport / HSR



## **TRANSPORTATION INVESTMENT SUMMIT**

The annual "Transportation Investment Summit" was held in Irving, Texas on September 12 and 13, 2019. This Summit highlighted the growth in Texas' infrastructure market and examined strategies for increasing investment in sectors such as transportation, economic development, water, and international trade, as well taking a fresh look at technology innovation.

At this summit, private sector and public agencies' staff and legislatures from transportation and water-related disciplines come together to discuss the future of infrastructure and its importance in developing a strong and robust economy.

The September 2019 RTC meeting was held during the Summit.

## **OCTOBER 2, 2019 IS NATIONAL WALK TO SCHOOL DAY**

October 2, 2019 is "National Walk and Bike to School Day". Children and adults from around the world walk to school to celebrate the benefits of walking and bicycling, and to spotlight the importance of traffic safety.

For more information and for organizer resources, see NCTCOG's website at [NCTCOG Walk to School Day Website](#)

## **UBER RELOCATION INCENTIVES**

At their September 12, 2019 meeting, the RTC approved NCTCOG staff's request for approval of a mobility partnership program for Uber. NCTCOG offered five main elements to assist with transportation ideas with an implementation range of \$10-\$15 Million. They are (high-level summary only):

- Annual transit passes for Uber employees
- Evaluate sidewalks and bicycle connections to and from Uber headquarters
- Modernize signal intersections to create "pedestrian progression"
- Battery powered transit shuttle to aid in circulation of Deep Ellum to Downtown
- Use of land under I-345 near Uber headquarters for recreational activities and potential parking

## UPCOMING RTC MEETINGS

Date	Time	Location
October 10, 2019	1:00 PM	North Central Texas Council of Governments
November 14, 2019	1:00 PM	North Central Texas Council of Governments
December 12, 2019	1:00 PM	North Central Texas Council of Governments



## TXDOT OPEN HOUSE FOR TEXAS TRANSPORTATION PLAN 2050

**On Wednesday, October 9<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM**, TxDOT will host a second-round open house to gather public input for development of their Texas Transportation Plan 2050 (TTP).

**The open house is being held at North Central Texas Council of Governments Transportation Council Meeting Room 616 Six Flags Drive, Arlington, TX 76011.**

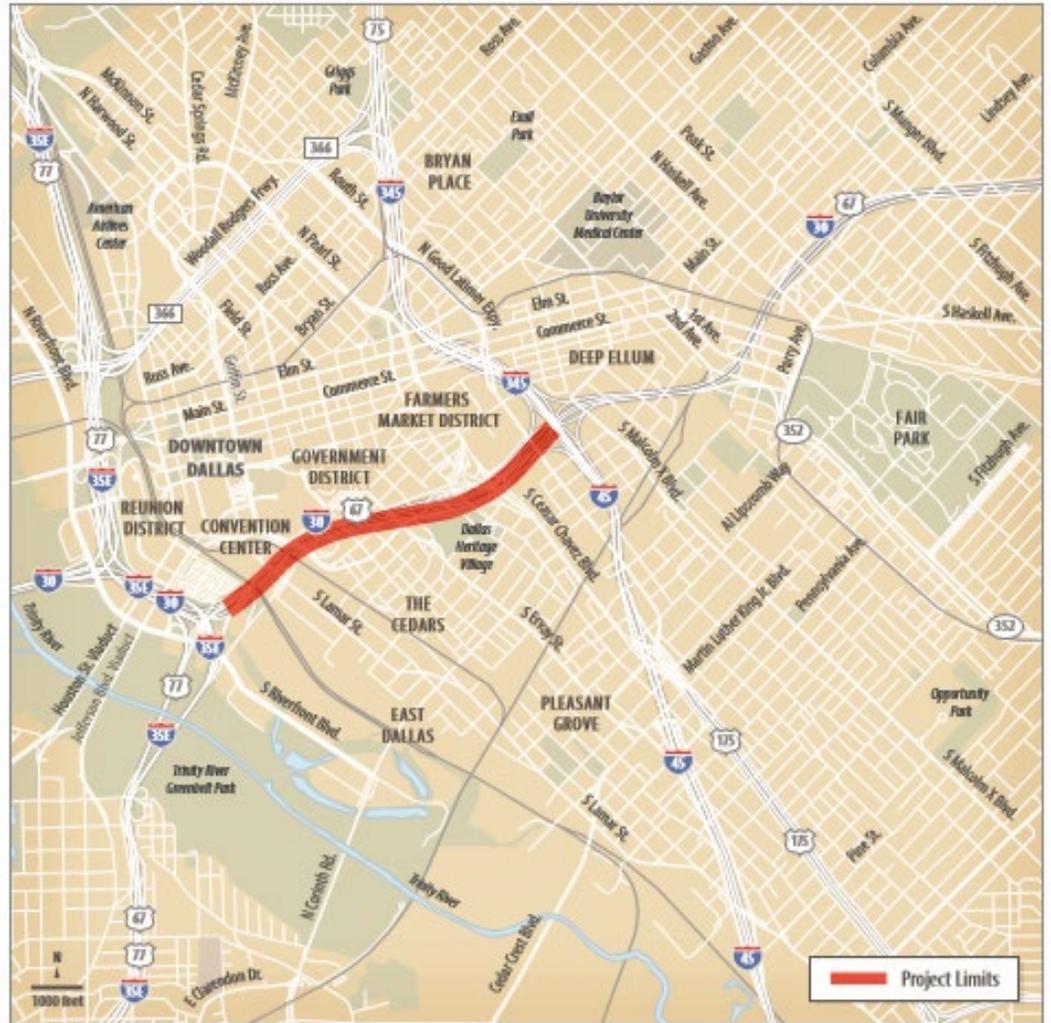
The TTP 2050 is the state's multi-modal, long-range transportation plan that guides policy development for the state's future transportation. The TTP 2050 will include strategies for development, construction, and implementation of projects and services for all transportation modes, information about emerging transportation technology (i.e. self-driving cars) and emergency operations.

## TEXAS TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION APPROVES I-30 CANYON FUNDING

On August 29, 2019 the Texas Transportation Commission **approved \$300 million for design and construction of the I-30 Canyon from I-35E to I-45.**

Earlier this year, the City Council adopted “Guiding Principles” for the design of this important project. City staff continues to work closely with TxDOT staff and other stakeholders to ensure a design that conforms to this guidance.

TxDOT’s preliminary timeline shows the construction procurement process starting in the Spring of 2021 with contract execution completed in the Summer of 2022. The construction would start thereafter, although a construction start date is still to be determined.



NOTE: Highlighted areas are not drawn to exact scale.

TxDOT graphic

## UPDATE ON I-635 EAST

- TxDOT SIGNS CONTRACT WITH DESIGN BUILD FIRM

On August 22, 2019, TxDOT signed a contract with the design/build firm who will be completing the project. They anticipate beginning construction in Spring 2020.

- PROJECT INFORMATION

Project will increase capacity by:

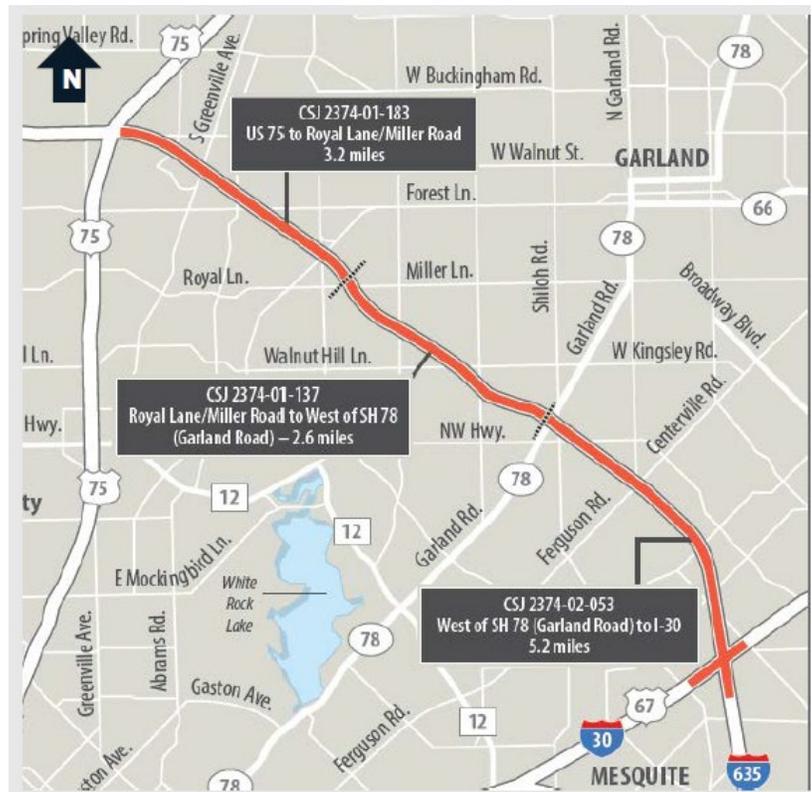
- Adding one general purpose lane in each direction
- Constructing two new continuous frontage roads in each direction
- Reconstructing existing "grandfathered" toll managed lanes, (one in each direction)
- Improving I-635/I-30 interchange

Project limit

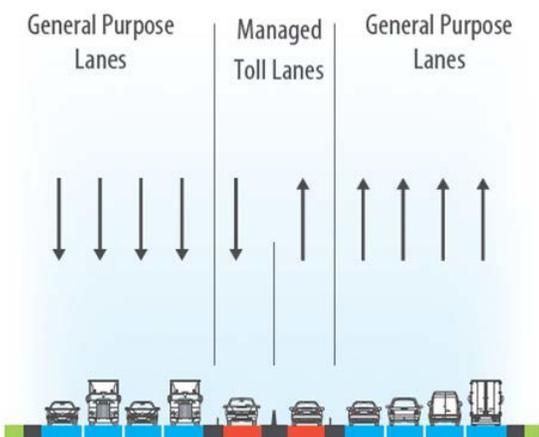
- US 75 to I-30 including the I-30 interchange

Project length

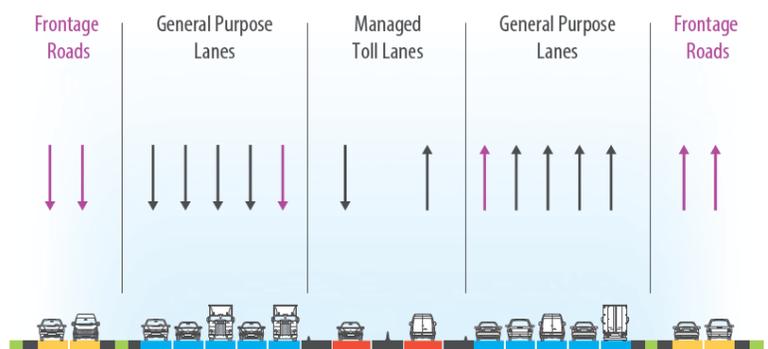
- 11 miles



### EXISTING Typical Section



### PROPOSED Typical Section





## **DART BOARD APPROVES CONTRACT TO ANALYZE BUS SERVICE**

At their September 24, 2019 meeting, the DART Board approved a contract with Jarrett Walker & Associates, LLC, for bus planning service.

Earlier this year, a workshop was held focusing on best practices for the design of a new bus network to increase ridership and significantly improve access to jobs, education, medical services and nutrition. Following that workshop, the DART Board directed staff to hire a firm with proven experience in designing effective bus networks.

There will be a presentation to the DART Board on **October 22, 2019** outlining the study timelines and decision points.

## **SILVER LINE BREAKS GROUND**

On September 19<sup>th</sup>, DART held six events with local officials along the Silver Line rail corridor to mark the official kick-off of the construction project. The rail line from Plano to DFW Airport, is expected to start service in December 2022.

Updates on this project and the CBD D2 project can be found on DART's website using the following links:

- Cotton Belt – [www.dart.org/cottonbelt](http://www.dart.org/cottonbelt)
- CBD Subway (D2) – [www.dart.org/d2](http://www.dart.org/d2)

## **AMAZON SITE SPECIFIC AGREEMENT ADDS WEEKEND AND HOLIDAY SERVICE**

In August 2019, the DART Board **approved a one-year extension** of the GoLink On-Demand Site-Specific Shuttle Service Funding Agreement **for services to the Amazon Fulfillment Center at I-20 and JJ Lemmon in southern Dallas.** This agreement also expands services to include weekend and holiday services.

The shuttle service runs between 5:00 AM and 8:00 AM during morning peak hours and between 5:00 PM and 8:00 PM during evening peak hours and runs from the Amazon Fulfillment Center to the Blue Line stations at UNT Dallas and Camp Wisdom.



## **NTTA BOARD CHAIR CHANGES**

At the September 11, 2019 NTTA Board meeting, Mr. John Mahalik was unanimously re-elected to serve as chairman. Other officers elected at the meeting:

- Vice Chairwoman – **Jane Willard**
- Board Secretary – **Lorelei Griffith**
- Asst. Board Secretary – **Karen Madison-Ponds**
- Board Treasurer – **Horatio Porter**
- Asst. Treasurer – **Cynthia Demers**



## **DRMC MEETING**

The Dallas Regional Mobility Coalition is a transportation advocacy group made up of cities, counties and transportation agencies in a five-county region (Dallas, Denton, Collin, Rockwall and Ellis) with a primary mission to advance critical mobility projects through advocacy efforts with state and federal elected officials and regional transportation agencies.

**The next DRMC meeting is scheduled for 11:00 AM on Friday, October 4, 2019.** Meetings are held at the North Texas Tollway Authority headquarters at 5900 West Plano Parkway, Plano, Texas 75093.

2019 Airport of the Year



## **DFW CONTINUES SUSTAINABILITY EFFORTS**

As a part of DFW's continual effort to reduce its environmental footprint, our concessionaires began to phase out single-use plastic straws at all terminal locations beginning Sept. 16, 2019. Restaurants are being encouraged to provide a naturally degradable straw alternative to customers upon request and offer reusable straw products for customer purchase. With the implementation of this initiative, DFW Airport will achieve 16 of the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

DFW Airport was recently recognized by the United Nations Secretariat for Climate Change as part of the UN Global Climate Action in New York City. DFW

was presented with a certificate recognizing its role as North America's 1st, and the world's largest, Carbon Neutral Airport.

### **DFW NEW SERVICE**

American Airlines has announced that **it will begin direct service to Tel Aviv**, Israel next year. This will be the only nonstop service between Texas and Israel with three weekly flights, utilizing a Boeing 787-900 aircraft. Service is expected to commence in fall of 2020.

Additionally, Avianca Cargo has launched a new route from Bogota, Colombia to Dallas Fort Worth. This new service begins October 2 and will operate twice a week. Avianca Cargo selected this new route because DFW's central location in the United States which will allow Colombian providers to get their goods to US consumers faster than through other major ports. This new cargo route supports DFW's goal of serving as the gateway between Latin America and Asia.



### **FEDERAL SAFETY REGULATIONS MOVED FORWARD**

The **Federal Railroad Administration agreed to move forward** in its rule-making for the set of safety regulations overseeing the project.

This is **a major step forward** in order to ensure the first high-speed train comes to construction and completion. The project will be the first true high-speed train in America and has a specific approach – no at-grade crossings, dedicated and bidirectional tracks, and based on the latest generation of Shinkansen trains, the N700 Supreme. This type of train is currently being tested and will be deployed in advance of the Olympics this summer. This system has transported over 10 billion people over more than 50 years without any crashes or fatalities as a result of operations. It is an impeccable safety case, and no other system in the world is like it.

### **TEXAS CENTRAL SELECTS DESIGN BUILD PARTNERS**

**Salini Impreglio and Lane Construction have been selected as the civil infrastructure design build partners.** The scope of the contract includes the design and construction of the viaduct and embankment sections along the entire route, the installation of the track system and construction of related buildings and services along the route that will house maintenance and other rail system equipment. They are working to ensure that when the federal approvals and financial close are complete, the construction can start quickly thereafter.