

**JOINT TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENT  
AND QUALITY OF LIFE  
COMMITTEE MEETING RECORD**

The Transportation and Environment Committee (TEC) meetings are recorded. Agenda materials are available online at [www.dallascityhall.com](http://www.dallascityhall.com). Recordings may be reviewed/copied by contacting the TEC Staff Coordinator at 214-670-4545.

**Meeting Date:** September 27, 2010    **Start Time:** 12:06 p.m.    **Adjournment:** 3:03 p.m.

**Committee Members Present:**

Linda L. Koop (Chair, Transportation and Environment), Sheffie Kadane (Vice Chair, Transportation and Environment), Pauline Medrano (Chair, Quality of Life), Vonciel Jones Hill (Vice Chair, Quality of Life), Jerry Allen, Tennell Atkins, Carolyn R. Davis, Angela Hunt, Delia Jasso, Ron Natinsky, David A. Neumann, Steve Salazar

**Committee Members Absent:**

None

**Other Council Members Present:**

None

**City Executive Staff Present:**

Jill A. Jordan, Assistant City Manager  
Theresa O'Donnell, Director, Sustainable Development and Construction  
Peer Chacko, Assistant Director, Sustainable Development and Construction  
Rick Galceran, Director, Public Works and Transportation  
Alan Hendrix, Assistant Director, Public Works and Transportation

**TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA**

**1. Approval of Minutes for August 10, 2010 Transportation and Environment Committee Meeting**

**Action Taken/Committee Recommendation:**

Motion was made to approve the minutes for the August 10, 2010 meeting subject to corrections. No corrections were suggested and the minutes were approved as submitted.

Made by: Kadane

Seconded by: Natinsky

Passed unanimously

## **2. Approval of Minutes for September 14, 2010 Quality of Life Committee Meeting**

### **Action Taken/Committee Recommendation:**

Motion was made to approve the minutes for the August 10, 2010 meeting subject to corrections. No corrections were suggested and the minutes were approved as submitted.

Made by: Hill

Seconded by: Kadane

Passed unanimously

Ms. Medrano said that she liked the idea of a joint Transportation and Environment and Quality of Life Committee meeting, and suggested holding a joint meeting twice a year. Ms. Hill agreed and commented that Quality of Life is impacted by Transportation and Environment issues particularly in the North Texas area.

Ms. Koop distributed an article by Theresa O'Donnell, Director, Sustainable Development and Construction, regarding her commitment to DISD schools.

## **3. Overview of forwardDallas!**

**Presenter:** Theresa O'Donnell, Director, Sustainable Development and Construction

Ms. O'Donnell gave an overview of the forwardDallas! Plan that was adopted in 2006 as Dallas' first comprehensive plan. Peer Chacko, Assistant Director, Sustainable Development and Construction, assisted in answering questions.

### **Action Taken/Committee Recommendation:**

Ms. Davis asked if the forwardDallas! Plan would be updated in the future. Ms. O'Donnell stated that the plan would be updated when the 2010 Census data is released.

Mr. Allen asked for a definition of affordable workforce housing. Mr. Chacko stated that a general definition of affordable workforce housing consists of units that families earning 80-120 percent of an area's median income can purchase. It includes a portion of households that are below median income, as well as some above it, to capture a midrange.

Ms. Jasso stated that breaking down "silos" is a great idea, but there should be more emphasis on updating zoning and building codes to allow our housing stock to be updated and complete streets to be implemented more easily.

No action was taken on this item.

**4. Vision North Texas – North Texas 2050**

**Presenter:** Mike Eastland, Executive Director, North Central Texas Council of Governments

Mr. Eastland briefed the Committee on the background and objectives of Vision North Texas project.

**Action Taken/Committee Recommendation:**

Ms. Koop emphasized the importance of the demographic forecasting model to the City of Dallas, and indicated that if it is not updated, there will be adverse impacts on transportation funding decisions.

Ms. Hunt stated that she is supportive of complete streets, but sees the discussion about adding more travel lanes to roads as contradictory to the development of complete streets. Ms. Jordan responded that a complete street does not mean that lanes cannot be added or must be reduced, because we still need to address congestion. Complete streets means that we make intentional decisions about how to design streets that accommodate and serve all modes of transportation – pedestrian, bicyclist, streetcars, buses, and cars. Ms. Hunt requested a list of projects that would identify where we are increasing, keeping the same, and decreasing the number of lanes.

Mr. Kadane stated that he would like to see the Garland Road Vision Committee continue as an advisory group after the study is completed. He also asked about the status of projects from the 2006 Bond Program. Ms. Jordan stated that various projects were complete and she would provide a report to the Committee.

Mr. Atkins asked if a forecast for school districts were taken into consideration during the implementation of forwardDallas!. Ms. O'Donnell stated that the data used for forwardDallas! is from about five years ago and the new census data will allow the City to know where City of Dallas policies were successful.

Ms. Jasso stated that with the federal funding and partnerships between the Council of Governments, cities, and DART, she wants to make sure that the operations and maintenance costs are addressed for the streetcar project. Mr. Eastland stated that this is a concern that must be addressed with all projects because most of the transportation funds are only allowed to be spent for design and construction.

Ms. Davis indicated that she wants to be sure that we are sensitive to the results of the new census data in making transportation funding decisions.

Ms. Koop requested that Mr. Eastland present an updated briefing at a future joint meeting of these Committees so that the City can have input into the concepts discussed in Vision North Texas. She also requested that Mr. Eastland involve City staff in the planning processes, and requested written notification each time staff is involved. Ms. Koop stated that it is crucial for the North Central Council of Governments to have the forwardDallas! Plan as a part of the Vision North Texas Plan, and asked Mr. Eastland to commit to incorporating forwardDallas! into Vision North Texas. Mr. Eastland stated that staff was not intentionally left out of the process and that he would commit to incorporating the forwardDallas! plan and will

provide Ms. Koop and Ms. Medrano with written notification each time staff is involved with the planning process.

No action was taken on this item.

**5. DART's State Fair (Texas/OU) Transit Plan**

**Presenter:** Gary Thomas, Executive Director/President, Dallas Area Rapid Transit

Mr. Thomas briefed the Committee on DART's 2010 State Fair Major Event Service Goals and Game Day Pre-Game and Post-Game Operating Plan. A service schedule brochure for the State Fair of Texas was distributed to the Committee. Mr. Bill Velasco, Chair of the DART Board and Dallas Board appointee, attended the meeting.

**Action Taken/Committee Recommendation:**

Ms. Medrano confirmed the game time of 2:30 p.m. for the Texas/Oklahoma football game, and suggested that it would have been a different story last year if the game time had been mid-afternoon.

Ms. Davis expressed her disappointment that she was not notified about the changes to the bus and train routes affecting District 7. She was not pleased to learn that the Green Line would not be scheduled to stop at the MLK Station during game days. Mr. Thomas apologized and stated that bus service would be available to get people where they needed to go. Ms. Davis stated that next year DART should hold a community meeting before any schedule changes are in place.

Mr. Atkins asked if DART's State Fair of Texas brochure had been posted at area hotels and universities. Mr. Thomas stated he was not sure, but would make sure that it was distributed to those locations.

Ms. Koop and Ms. Medrano thanked Mr. Velasco for his leadership on the DART Board.

No action was taken on this item.

**6. Information Item**

**2011 D/FW International Airport Board Appointment Timeline**

The Council members were presented with an appointment timeline for three positions on the D/FW International Airport Board. Beginning in November, the Council will receive weekly updates on nominees and background checks. The deadline for nominations or re-nominations will be Friday, December 10<sup>th</sup>. Interviews will be conducted by the Transportation and Environment Committee on January 10, 2011, with full Council consideration on January 12, 2011.

Linda L. Koop, Chair  
Transportation and Environment Committee