

**COURT ORDER
2019-0418**



Dallas County Mobility Plan – Final Comprehensive Summary

On a motion made by Commissioner Dr. Theresa M. Daniel, District 1, and seconded by Commissioner Dr. Elba Garcia, District 4, the following order was passed and adopted by the Commissioners Court of Dallas County, State of Texas:

BRIEFING DATE: 4/16/2019
FUNDING SOURCE: n/a

Be it resolved and ordered that the Dallas County Commissioners Court does hereby approve the Dallas County Mobility Plan Comprehensive Summary that will signify the adoption of the Dallas County Mobility Plan and authorize Dallas County Public Works to publish the plan in a final document. The Mobility Plan will serve as a guide for transportation infrastructure improvements in Dallas County over the next 25 years. The adoption of this plan will enable Dallas County Public Works to use the findings and deliverable of the Mobility Plan to guide the administration of the 7th Call for projects and other future Call for projects as long as the MCIP criteria appropriately reflects projects that are beneficial for the future of Dallas County.

Done in open court April 16, 2019, by the following vote:

IN FAVOR: Honorable Clay Lewis Jenkins, County Judge
Commissioner Dr. Theresa M. Daniel, District 1
Commissioner J.J. Koch, District 2
Commissioner John Wiley Price, District 3
Commissioner Dr. Elba Garcia, District 4

OPPOSED: None
ABSTAINED: None
ABSENT: None

Recommended by: Alberta Blair
Originating Department: Public Works

COMMISSIONERS COURT BRIEFING



DATE: 4/16/2019

SUBMITTING DEPARTMENT: Public Works

THROUGH:

SUBJECT: Dallas County Mobility Plan – Final Comprehensive Summary

BACKGROUND:

The Dallas County Thoroughfare Plan originated in 1965 with one major update in 1973 and various minor updates over the years. The original plan provided the basic framework for thoroughfares within the County and was used to establish the basic County responsibility for major thoroughfares and the Road and Bridge Policy. Since then, the state of transportation in the region and the role of Dallas County as a planning and programming agency have evolved.

In 1977 Local governments in the Dallas-Fort Worth region cooperated with the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) to establish the area's first regional Thoroughfare Plan for North Central Texas. Dallas County modified its Road and Bridge Policy to make reference to this regional thoroughfare plan regarding eligibility for classification as Type B Roads.

In 1999, the Dallas County Commissioners Court replaced its traditional bond-financing approach to funding infrastructure improvements with a Major Capital Improvement Program (MCIP). Dallas County Public Works implements the MCIP periodically, typically every two to four years, through a county-wide call-for-projects that evaluates transportation infrastructure improvement projects that improve capacity and safety on regional roadways and multi-modal pathways within Dallas County that have been submitted by Dallas County cities. Since 1999, six calls for projects have been issued that have utilized a similar prioritization criteria and classification of Type B Roads.

Beginning in 2015, Dallas County began coordination with all municipalities and transportation agencies within the county to develop a unified thoroughfare plan, now appropriately renamed as a "mobility plan", that considers each of the cities' different multimodal networks (thoroughfares, transit, bicycle/ pedestrian, and trails). Dallas County is now substantially made up of incorporated areas within individual municipalities, and relatively little unincorporated county land remains for the county to plan, build, and maintain roads within. Because of this, the cities within the county are responsible for the planning of their thoroughfare networks within their respective incorporated areas and extra-territorial jurisdictions. Therefore, it is important to note that this Mobility Plan does not supersede the city thoroughfare plans, but rather encourages regional and multimodal connectivity. The resulting product will encourage better integration of travel modes and complement the Major Capital Improvement Project evaluation system for funding and implementing transportation projects. The updated MCIP selection criteria developed through this process was adopted by the County on December 18, 2018 by

RECOMMENDED BY:	Public Works	PREPARED BY:	Linette Malloy
		APPROVED BY DEPT HEAD:	Alberta Blair

Court Order 2018-1526 as a preamble to the Dallas County Mobility Plan.

OPERATIONAL IMPACT:

The core purpose of this Mobility Plan is to further Dallas County’s vision to be a model government entity, a proactive regional partner, to be safe, secure and prepared, and to be a destination of choice for residents and businesses. It is intended to serve as a regional guide for transportation planning in Dallas County and promote a countywide multimodal transportation system that:

- Integrates the transportation planning goals and infrastructure priorities of each city’s thoroughfare and multimodal plans,
- Promotes greater coordination between cities, regional transportation partners, and Dallas County in developing and maintaining an effective and sustainable transportation system, and
- Influences the availability and access to transportation options by facilitating the funding and implementation of mobility solutions with the highest benefit to the Dallas County region

The Dallas County Mobility Plan Comprehensive Summary has been put together to illustrate a summary of the Mobility Plan development process and to highlight the findings and deliverables of the Plan. The summary is broken down into four main chapters:

Chapter 1: Mobility Plan Development Process

Beginning in 2015, Dallas County with support from Kimley-Horn, began coordination with all municipalities and transportation agencies within the county to develop a unified thoroughfare plan, now appropriately renamed as a “mobility plan”, that considers each of the different multi-modal networks (thoroughfares, transit, bicycle/pedestrian, and trails). Through a process of outreach, data collection, and a series of workshops in 2017 and 2018, Dallas County staff and Kimley-Horn worked together to develop updated County demographic maps, modal transportation maps, and MCIP selection criteria methodology with a projection year of 2045.

Based on the input we have received from the cities and transportation agencies in Dallas County we have made updates and adjustments to the final Mobility Plan document in order to effectively meet the future transportation needs of Dallas County as a whole. While this document serves the purpose of defining Type B roads, projecting growth and transportation need across the County, integrating existing transportation plans across the County, updating the MCIP selection criteria, and revolutionizing the MCIP Call for Projects process; the overarching goal of this plan is to serve as a guide for transportation infrastructure improvements in Dallas County over the next 25 years.

Chapter 2: Dallas County Transportation Policies and Services

Kimley-Horn reviewed the Road and Bridge Policy of the Dallas County Code which defines the transportation planning and programming functions of the County. Under this Policy, Dallas County MCIP funds are only available for roadways that meet the definition of a Type B thoroughfare. The Dallas County Mobility Plan is meant to serve as a guide for the prioritization and funding of future MCIP projects. Therefore, Kimley-Horn, under the direction of Dallas County Public Works, has recommended changes to the Type B definition as illustrated in Chapter 2.

Chapter 3: MCIP Call for Projects Assessment and Update

Kimley-Horn reviewed the list of submitted projects and scoring criteria used during the 6th Call for Projects (2014) (see Appendix). While a significant number of submitted projects were related to thoroughfare capacity improvements, many of the projects either included multi-modal elements or were projects entirely focused on non-vehicular connectivity (bicycle, pedestrian, or transit-related improvements). This range of project types includes trails, road diets, sidewalks, improved transit access, and planning studies. The current scoring criteria are structured so that each project regardless of project type is scored equally using the same set of prioritization measures. This approach, however, produced limitations when comparing one project type to another. The current scoring criteria places a large emphasis on traffic operations, roadway capacity, and project delivery.

Dallas County updated the MCIP selection criteria, which was adopted by the County on December 18, 2018 by Court Order 2018-1526.

Chapter 4: Mobility Plan Map Package

This chapter showcases all of the Dallas County maps that were developed during the Mobility Plan process and will be used to illustrate the plans and forecasts for Dallas County over the next 25 years. The Mobility Plan is made up of three map components that were developed using the existing plans of all the transportation agencies and municipalizes within Dallas County. Those components include the Street Network Plan, Bikeways & Trails Plan, and Transit Plan maps.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There are no direct financial impacts being requested through this briefing. Instead the Dallas County Mobility Plan that is being proposed will guide recommendations that Dallas County Public Works makes to the Commissioners Court for future MCIP project funding allocations such as the proposed 7th Call for Projects. The 7th Call for Projects is tentatively scheduled to be briefed and commenced in Spring 2019.

LEGAL IMPACT:

N/A

PROJECT SCHEDULE:

October 22, 2015	Mobility Plan Kickoff Meeting
October 7, 2016	Sent Letter Requesting City & Partner Agency Participation and City Transportation Plans
December 2, 2016	Presented Project Update at SAME Infrastructure Forum
June 29, 2017	Held Phase 1 Mobility Plan Workshop for Cities and Partner Agencies
October 3, 2017	Began Phase 2 of Mobility Plan
July 17, 2018	Began Phase 2 City Meetings Workshop
September 15, 2018	Completed City and Partner Agency Comment Period
Pending items:	
April 16, 2019	Briefing Comprehensive Summary of the Dallas County Mobility Plan
Spring 2019	Send letter to Cities announcing the 7th Call for Projects
Fall 2019	Dallas County Mobility Plan Report Publication

SBE PARTICIPATION:

N/A

ADMINISTRATIVE PLAN COMPLIANCE:

This action models the Dallas County Administrative Plan and embodies four of the strategic goals:

Dallas County is a model interagency partner - The Dallas County Mobility Plan is both the first of its kind in Dallas County history, and also one of the first of its kind for many of the local governments in our region.

Dallas County proactively addresses critical regional issues - This Plan will serve as a guide for future transportation needs in Dallas County and in the Cities that make up Dallas County. The new Mobility Plan is meant to improve on the way that we partner with cities, regional councils, state agencies and federal administrations.

Dallas County is safe, secure, and prepared – The new MCIP selection criteria will help guide the selection of future MCIP projects; helping us to implement projects that are safe, secure, and prepared for the future of transportation.

Dallas County is the destination of choice for businesses and residents – Much of the process behind developing this plan was guided by our study of population and employment density and growth in Dallas County. This plan will guide the implementation of projects that create economic development which will help ensure the creation of opportunities for businesses and residents.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the Dallas County Mobility Plan Comprehensive Summary that will signify the adoption of the Dallas County Mobility Plan and authorize Dallas County Public Works to publish the plan in a final document. The Mobility Plan will serve as a guide for transportation infrastructure improvements in Dallas County over the next 25 years. The adoption of this plan will enable Dallas County Public Works to use the findings and deliverable of the Mobility Plan to guide the administration of the 7th Call for projects and other future Call for projects as long as the MCIP criteria appropriately reflects projects that are beneficial for the future of Dallas County.