

# Memorandum



DATE October 23, 2015

TO The Honorable Members of the Transportation and Trinity River Project Committee: Lee M. Kleinman (Chair), Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Erik Wilson (Vice-Chair), Sandy Greyson, Mayor Pro Tem Monica R. Alonzo, Adam Medrano, and Casey Thomas II

SUBJECT **Regional Transportation Committee (RTC) 10-Year Project Milestone Policy**

On Monday, October 26, 2015, you will be briefed on the Regional Transportation Committee (RTC) 10-Year Project Milestone Policy. The briefing materials are attached for your review.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Alan E. Sims'.

Alan E. Sims  
Chief of Neighborhood Plus

c: A.C. Gonzalez, City Manager  
Warren M.S. Ernst, City Attorney  
Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor  
Rosa A. Rios, City Secretary  
Daniel F. Solis, Administrative Judge  
Ryan S. Evans, First Assistant City Manager  
Eric D. Campbell, Assistant City Manager

Jill A. Jordan, P.E., Assistant City Manager  
Mark McDaniel, Assistant City Manager  
Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager  
Jeanne Chipperfield, Chief Financial Officer  
Sana Syed, Public Information Officer  
Elsa Cantu, Assistant to the City Manager – Mayor & Council

# Regional Transportation Committee (RTC) 10-Year Project Milestone Policy

Transportation and Trinity River Project Committee

October 26, 2015



# Purpose of Briefing

- Brief the Transportation and Trinity River Project Committee (TTRPC) on the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) 10-year Milestone Project Policy
- Discuss the City of Dallas projects that are affected by the policy
- Consider a staff recommendation to continue support for certain projects and to cancel other projects
- Provide a draft Council Resolution for TTRPC consideration

# Milestone Policy - Background

- The RTC is responsible for maintaining the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) which is an inventory of regionally significant projects that are funded and expected to go to construction within a four year period.
- North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) staff updates the TIP every two years and is currently developing the 2017-2020 TIP for approval by the RTC early next year.
- The RTC approved a “Milestone Project” Policy to reexamine projects that have been funded for a least 10 years to determine if they are still priority projects and to move them forward to construction.

# Requirements to Keep a Milestone Project

In order to maintain funding for a Milestone Project, the City must satisfy the following three requirements:

1. Provide current documentation of City Council support
  - If the City Council has taken some action on the project in the last six months or if the project is immediately advancing to construction, then no action is required.
  - If it has been more than six months since the City Council took some action in support of a project, then a new resolution of support is required.
2. Provide a realistic schedule for implementation
3. Document the availability of local matching funds, if required

# Overview of Dallas Projects

- There are 14 Milestone Projects within the City of Dallas
- Project types include the addition of intersection turn lanes, addition of roadway lanes, addition of a median, complete street, trail bridge, railroad safety/quiet zone, and traffic signal/safety improvements
- The lead agency varies by project:
  - DART – 3 projects
  - TxDOT- Dallas District – 4 projects
  - Dallas County – 2 projects
  - City of Dallas – 5 projects

# Why are Projects Delayed?

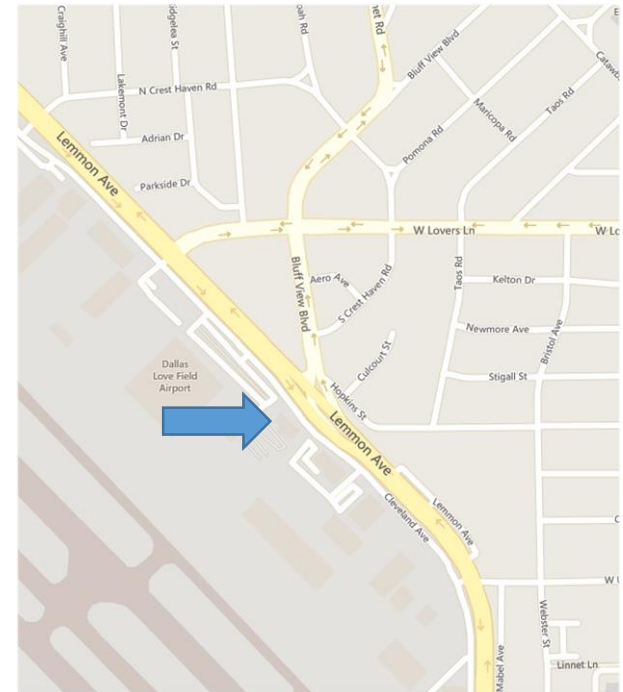
- Lead agency on partnership projects is not always the best agency to implement a particular project
- Projects have had a lower priority than other projects
- Project scopes have changed due to funding shortfalls, right-of-way issues, community/property owner involvement, changes in City policies/priorities
- No local funding match to leverage federal funding
- Right-of-way acquisition issues
- Franchise utility issues

# Lemmon Avenue at Bluffview

Table: Project 1

Council District: 2

- Lead agency: DART
- Source of partnership funds: DART
- Intersection Improvement: Coordinated with Aviation Department to revise project design to improve access to Love Field property on the west side of Lemmon and provide a way for pedestrians to safely cross Lemmon to access a bus stop
- Recommendation: Reaffirm Support



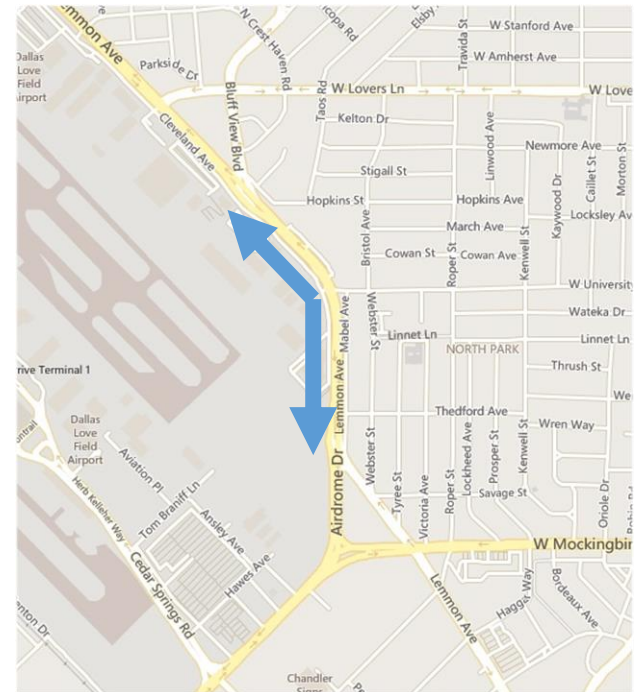


# Lemmon Avenue from Bluffview to Airdrome

Table: Project 2

Council District: 2

- Lead agency: DART
- Source of partnership funds: DART
- Roadway widening: Project is to widen Lemmon Avenue from 6 to 8 lanes – traffic volumes do not warrant widening and eight lanes would be inconsistent with a complete streets approach to create walkability
- Recommendation: Cancel Project



# Harry Hines at Mockingbird

Table: Projects 3

Council District: 2

- Lead agency: DART
- Source of partnership funds: DART
- Intersection Improvement: Project would extend the eastbound left turn lane storage and modify the northbound ramp – minimal improvement in traffic flow
- Recommendation: Cancel Project

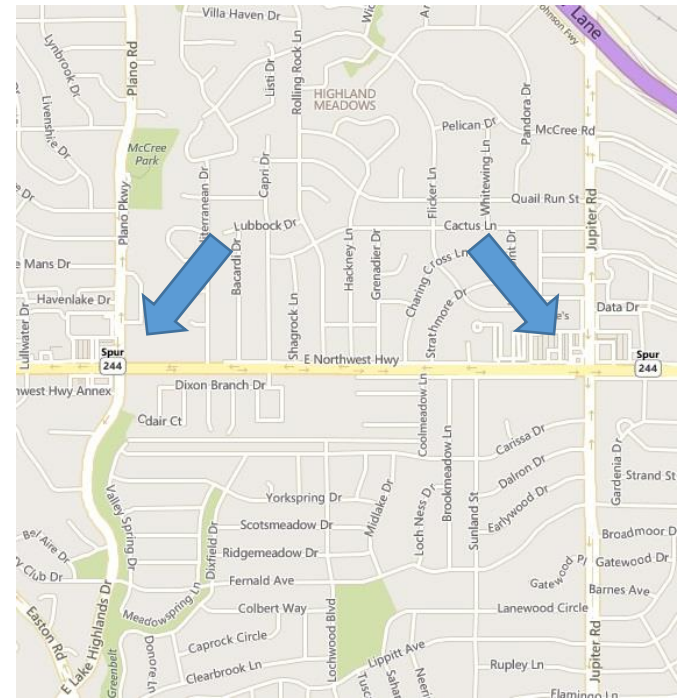


# Northwest Highway at Jupiter and Plano

Table: Projects 4/5

Council Districts: 8/9

- Lead agency: TxDOT
- Source of partnership funds: Congestion Mitigation / Air Quality (CMAQ)
- Intersection Improvements: Proposed turn lane additions provide minimal improvement in traffic flow – work with TxDOT to revise project scope to include only signal upgrades and pedestrian improvements
- Recommendation: Reaffirm Support

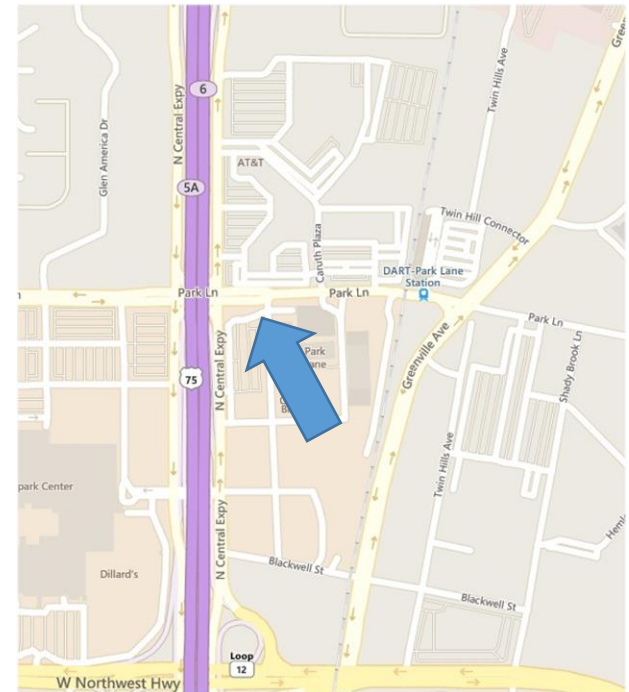


# Park Lane from US 75 to Greenville

Table: Project 6

Council District: 13

- Lead agency: TxDOT
- Source of partnership funds: Surface Transportation Program for Metropolitan Mobility (STP-MM)
- Capacity Improvement: Work with TxDOT to downsized this project from a roadway widening to a right-turn lane improvement at the northbound US 75 service road and Park
- Recommendation: Reaffirm Support

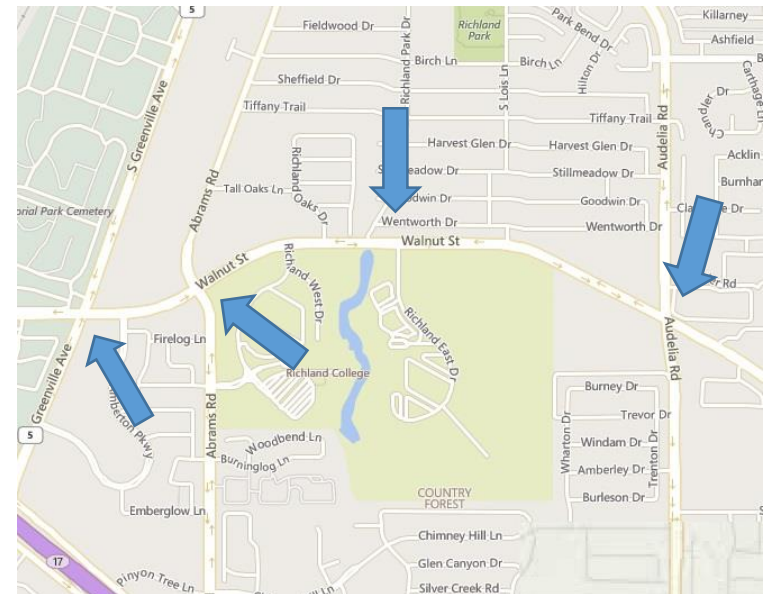


# Valley View/Walnut from Greenville to Forest Ridge

Table: Project 7

Council District: 10

- Lead agency: TxDOT
- Source of partnership funds: STP-MM
- Intersection Improvements: Project has been downsized from a road widening project to turn lane additions at four intersections
- Recommendation: Reaffirm Support

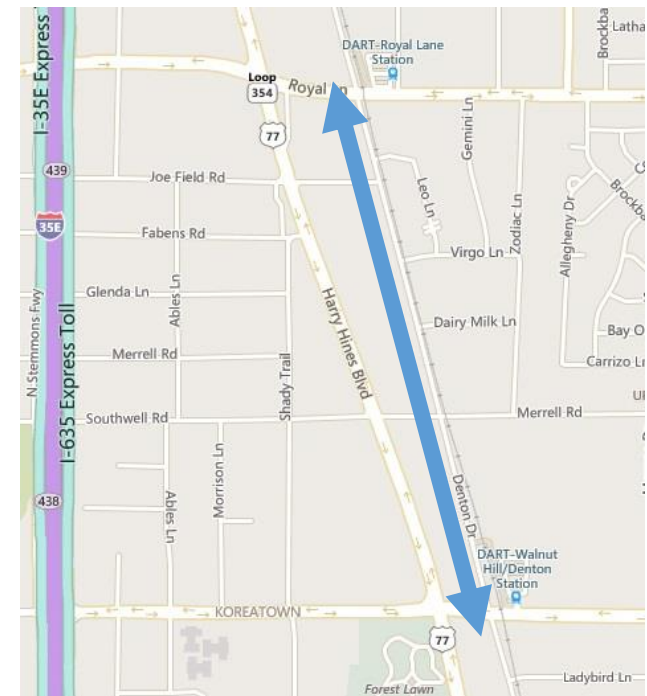


# Denton Drive from Walnut Hill to Royal

Table: Project 8

Council District: 6

- Lead agency: Dallas County
- Source of partnership funds: Dallas County
- Complete Street: Build Denton as a 3-lane urban roadway with a center turn lane, bike lanes and sidewalks; and provide pedestrian connections to Harry Hines and the DART stations
- Recommendation: Reaffirm Support

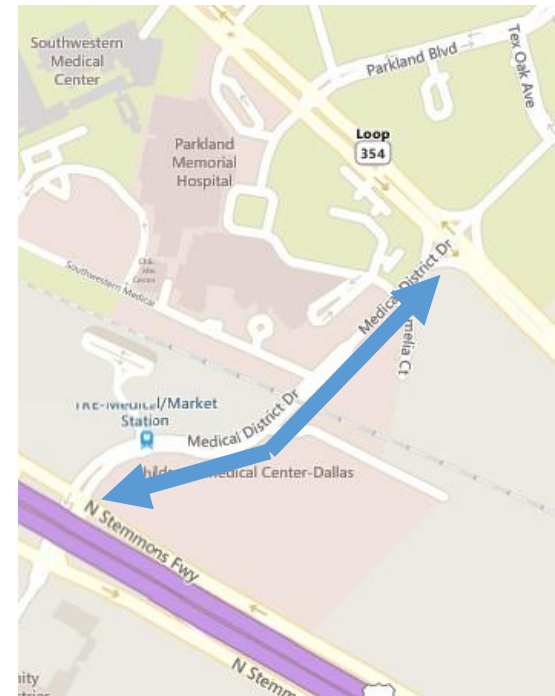


# Medical District Drive from I-35E to Harry Hines

Table: Project 9

Council District: 2

- Lead agency: Dallas County
- Source of partnership funds: STP-MM
- Roadway Widening: Reconstruct Medical District Drive as a 6-lane divided roadway to improve emergency access to the Medical District area
- Recommendation: Reaffirm Support

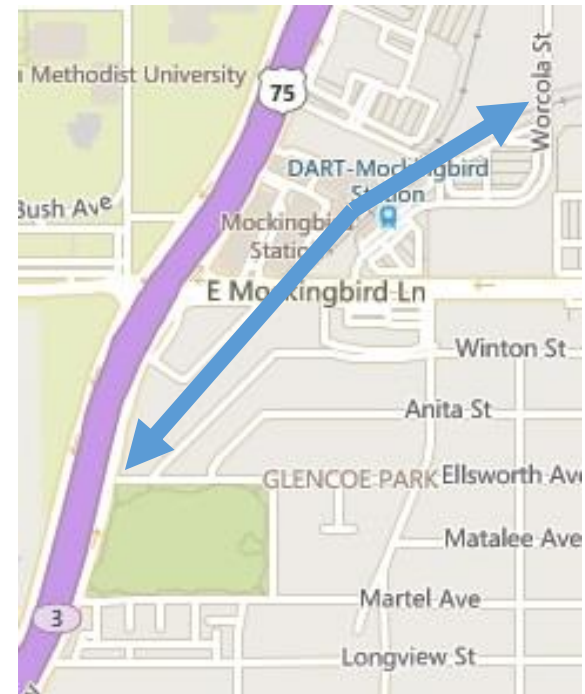


# Katy Trail Phase VI from Ellsworth to Worcola

Table: Project 10

Council District: 14

- Lead agency: City of Dallas – Public Works
- Source of partnership funds: Regional Toll Revenues
- Trail Connection: Build trail connections and two pedestrian bridges – one over Mockingbird Lane and the other over the DART LRT line
- Recommendation: Reaffirm Support



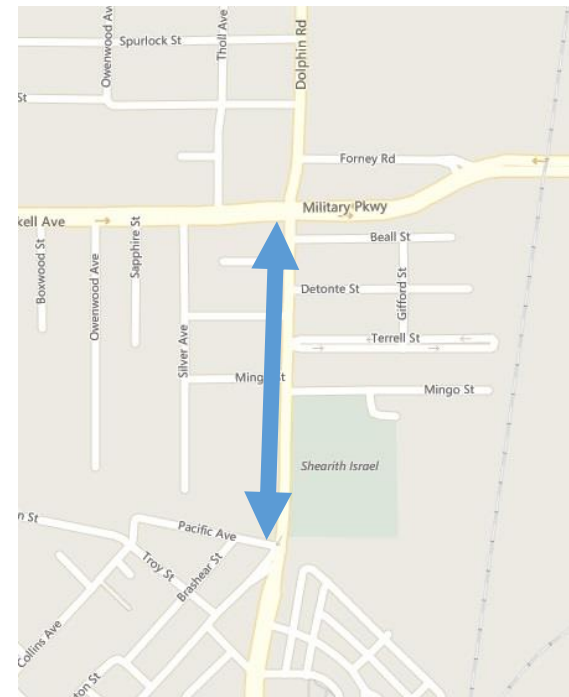


# Hatcher (Dolphin) from Spring to Haskell-Military

Table: Project 11

Council District: 7

- Lead agency: City of Dallas – Public Works (originally lead agency was TxDOT)
- Source of partnership funds: STP-MM
- Median Enhancement: Add a median to a 4-lane undivided roadway
- Recommendation: Reaffirm Support

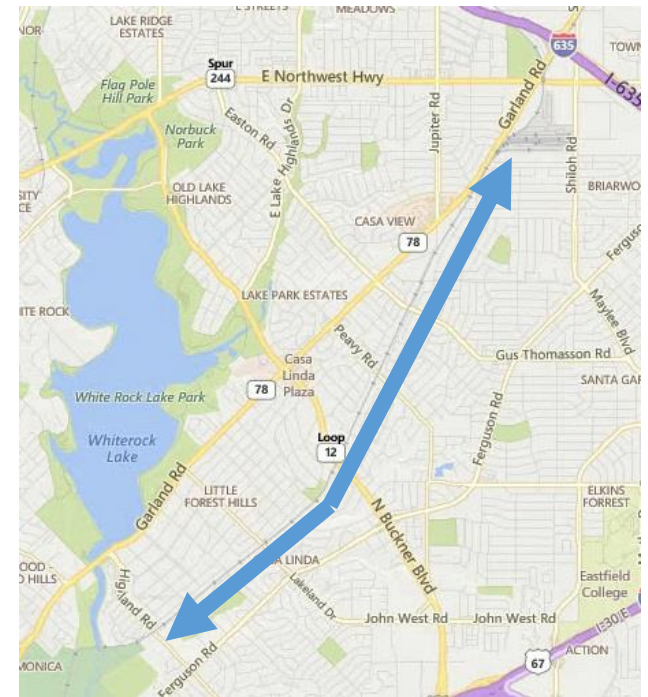


# KCS Railroad from Highland to Santa Anna

Table: Project 12

Council District: 9

- Lead agency: City of Dallas – Public Works
- Source of partnership funds: STP-MM
- Railroad Crossing Quiet Zone: Modify railroad crossings at eight streets, and upgrade equipment and signage to establish a quiet zone
- Recommendation: Reaffirm Support



# Intersection Safety Program and Signal Improvement Program

Table: Projects 13/14      Council Districts: Various

- Lead agency: City of Dallas – Street Services
- Source of funding: STP-MM and CMAQ
- Traffic Signal Improvements: Project primarily involves signal timing and installation of advanced vehicle detection equipment
- Recommendation: Reaffirm Support

# Funding from Cancelled/Modified Projects?

- Federal/Regional Funding – According to the Milestone Policy, federal and regional funding for cancelled or modified projects is returned to the RTC to be reprogrammed for current priority projects.
- DART Funding (local funds that are controlled by the transit agency) – City staff concurs with DART staff recommendation that these funds be reprogrammed to the “DART Street Repair Program” which is currently underfunded and also years behind schedule.
- City Funding (local funds that are controlled by the City)
  - Staff will work with the Council to reprogram funds that become available as a result of the cancellation or modification of a project.

# DART Street Repair Program

- Program was initiated in 1997 and provided \$10.5 million to provide street repairs on 21 streets distributed across the City.
- The intent was for DART to fund street repairs at a level that addressed the aggregate impact of their buses on City street pavements.
- Nine of the original streets programmed for repairs were completed.
- The remaining 12 streets have been designed and are ready to be bid for construction.
- Estimated cost for the remaining streets is \$10.4 million, but remaining DART program funding is only \$5.0 million.
- DART funds saved from Milestone Policy projects combined with other DART project savings is expected to cover the funding shortfall.

# Summary of Project Recommendations

- Recommended for Continued Support
  - Lemmon Avenue at Bluffview
  - Northwest Highway at Jupiter and Plano
  - Park Lane from US75 to Greenville
  - Valley View/Walnut from Greenville to Forest Ridge Drive
  - Denton Drive from Walnut Hill to Royal
  - Medical District Drive from I-35E to Harry Hines
  - Katy Trail Phase IV from Ellsworth to Worcola
  - Hatcher (Dolphin) from Spring to Haskell-Military
  - KCS Railroad Quiet Zone in East Dallas
  - Intersection Safety Program and Signal Improvement Program
- Recommended for Cancellation
  - Lemmon Avenue from Bluffview to Airdrome
  - Harry Hines at Mockingbird

# Committee Action Requested

- Concurrence on the list of projects recommended for continued support and for cancellation, and forward a resolution for full Council consideration on November 10, 2015.
- Direct staff to work with DART to reprogram DART funding from cancelled projects to the DART Street Repair program within the City of Dallas.
- Direct staff to review other partnership projects to develop implementation strategies that will reduce delay, and if needed, shift lead project responsibility to the agency that can most effectively deliver the project.

City of Dallas Projects - Regional Transportation Council (RTC) 10-Year Milestone Project Review for the 2017-2020 Transportaton Improvement Program (TIP)

	Recommendation	Project Location	Council	Project Scope	Lead Agency	Total Funding	Funding Category	Notes
1	Complete project	Lemmon Avenue at Bluffview	Medrano	Intersection realignment to improve access to Love Field property on the west side of Lemmon, and to improve pedestrian safety	DART	\$2,245,000	Local (DART)	This project was part of a defederalization process between TxDOT, DART and the City of Dallas that left it funded with only local funds from DART. City staff supports completion of this project consistent with Love Field access needs -- current cost estimate is \$800,000 -- and reprogramming excess funds to the DART Street Repair Program.
2	Cancel project	Lemmon Avenue from Bluffview to Airdrome	Medrano	Widen from 6 to 8 lanes divided from Bluffview to University; reconstruct from 6 to 6 lanes from University to Airdrome	DART	\$323,044	Local (DART)	This project was part of a defederalization process between TxDOT, DART and the City of Dallas that left it funded with only local funds from DART. City staff supports cancellation of this project and reprogramming these funds to the DART Street Repair Program.
3	Cancel project	Harry Hines at Mockingbird	Medrano	Intersection improvements; increase EB left turn storage and NB ramp improvement	DART	\$151,378	Local (DART)	This project was part of a defederalization process between TxDOT, DART and the City of Dallas that left it funded with only local funds from DART. City staff supports cancellation of this project and reprogramming these funds to the DART Street Repair Program.
4	Complete project - rescope to include only traffic signal and pedestrian improvements	Northwest Highway at Jupiter	Clayton, McGough	Add dual left turn lanes on all approaches	TxDOT-Dallas	\$317,500	Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (CMAQ)	Staff recommends rescoping this project to include only traffic signal upgrades and pedestrian improvements because the original turn lane additions would provide minimal improvement and make the area less pedestrian-friendly.
5	Complete project - rescope to include only traffic signal and pedestrian improvements	Northwest Highway at Plano Road	Clayton, McGough	Add turn lanes and traffic signal improvement	TxDOT-Dallas	\$522,500	CMAQ	Staff recommends rescoping this project to include only traffic signal upgrades and pedestrian improvements because the original turn lane additions would provide minimal improvement and make the area less pedestrian-friendly.
6	Complete project - rescope to include only right-turn lane on NB service road to Park Lane	Park Lane from US75 to Greenville Avenue	Gates	Widen Roadway from 4 to 5 lanes (2EB and 3WB) and construct right turn lane on NB US75 frontage road to Park Lane	TxDOT-Dallas	\$4,694,450	Surface Transportation Program-Metropolitan Mobility (STP-MM)	Project has been linked to a TIGER application for the Vickery Meadows area. It has been determined that additional lanes on Park Lane are not desirable. The project is now proposed to be limited to the addition of a right-turn lane on the northbound service road of Central Expressway at Park Lane. If the City of Dallas cancels this project, TxDOT will require the City to reimburse them about \$1 million for costs already incurred.
7	Complete project	Valley View/Walnut from Greenville Avenue to Forest Ridge Drive	McGough	Intersection Improvements	TxDOT-Dallas	\$2,441,800	STP-MM	This was originally a widening project from 4 to 6 lanes that was rescoped to include only intersection improvements at Greenville, Abrams, the eastern entrance to Richland College and Audelia. It is on the border with Richardson and they are supportive of the project. Council recently took action to approve design funds for the project.



City of Dallas Projects - Regional Transportation Council (RTC) 10-Year Milestone Project Review for the 2017-2020 Transportaton Improvement Program (TIP)

	Recommendation	Project Location	Council	Project Scope	Lead Agency	Total Funding	Funding Category	Notes
8	Complete project	Denton Drive from South of Walnut Hill Lane to North of Royal Lane	Alonzo	Build Denton as a 3-lane urban roadway with a center turn lane, bike lane, and sidewalks; provide sidewalk connections between Harry Hines and DART	Dallas County	\$8,703,250	Local (Dallas County and City)	This is an important complete street project that will improve access to two DART LRT stations. Dallas County is actively leading the project; it is currently being designed.
9	Complete project	Medical District Drive from I-35E to Harry Hines	Medrano	Reconstruct and widen from a 4-lane to a 6-lane divided	Dallas County	\$16,712,500	STP-MM	This is an important project serving the Medical District that Dallas County is actively leading; the project is currently being designed.
10	Complete project	Katy Trail Phase VI from Ellsworth Ave to Worcola Street	Kingston	Construct 0.65 mile of trail and two pedestrian bridges over Mockingbird Lane and over DART LRT Red Line at Twin Sixties	City of Dallas: Public Works	\$8,100,000	Regional Toll Revenues	Bid opening for construction occurred in 6-2015; contract award in 8-2015. Construction: 10-2015 to 1-2017.
11	Complete project	Hatcher (Dolphin) from Spring Ave to North of Haskell-Military	Young	Reconstruct existing roadway from 4-lane undivided to 4-lane divided intersection improvements at Haskell	City of Dallas: Public Works	\$4,694,450	STP-MM	TxDOT was the lead agency on this project until the City Council took action on 5-27-2015 to shift implementation responsibility to the City of Dallas. Design: 10-2015 to 4-2017. ROW acquisition: 4-2016 to 4-2017. Construction: 4-2017 to 4-2018.
12	Complete project - Commit \$50,000 in local match for design	Eight intersections along KCS RR - Peavy, Gus Thomasson, Barnes Bridge, Centerville, Lakeland, Highland, Santa Anna, St. Francis	Clayton	Upgrade gates, install medians and signage to improve safety and establish a RR Quiet Zone	City of Dallas: Public Works	\$2,260,000	STP-MM	Local match has not been previously identified by the City. Council has taken action to declare intent to establish a RR Quiet Zone. Staff supports a strategy to identify \$50,000 in local matching funds to complete planning and design. Construction funding would be considered for next bond program -- if not funded, the project would be cancelled.
13	Complete project	Intersection Safety Program	Various	Signal retiming and installation of advanced vehicular detection equipment	City of Dallas: Streets	\$703,750	STP-MM and CMAQ	Traffic Operations has identified signal improvements to be implemented and will provide local match from operating funds. Intersections are not specifically identified in the TIP.
14	Complete project	Signal Improvement Program	Various	Signal retiming and installation of advanced vehicular detection equipment	City of Dallas: Streets	\$519,560	CMAQ	Traffic Operations has identified signal improvements to be implemented and will provide local match from operating funds. Intersections identified in the TIP are generally in northeast Dallas.

Project 13  
Intersection Safety Program

Central at Lovers  
Buckner at Lake June  
Abrams at LBJ  
Greenville at LBJ  
Hampton at Singleton  
Forest at LBJ  
Dallas Parkway at Frankford  
Central at Lemmon  
Central at Hall  
Cockrell Hill at Illinois  
Central at Haskell  
Bruton at Buckner  
Central at Park Ln  
Central at Knox/Henderson  
Coit at LBJ  
Lake June at Masters  
Forest at Greenville  
Bonnie View/Sunnyvale at Ledbetter  
Buckner at Elam  
Hampton at Jefferson  
Lemmon at Mckinney  
MD Love at Red Bird  
Lancaster at Ledbetter  
Dallas Parkway at Keller Springs  
Cockrell Hill at Davis  
Lemmon at Turtle Creek  
Illinois at Westmoreland  
Forest at Marsh  
Preston at Spring Valley  
Kiest at I-35E  
MD Love at Wheatland  
Abrams at Royal  
Garland at Jupiter  
Buckner/Great Trinity Forest at CF Hawn

Project 14  
Signal Improvement Program

Buckner at Casa Linda Plaza (Loop 12)  
Buckner at Chenault (Loop 12)  
Buckner at Garland (SH 78)  
Buckner at Hermosa (Loop 12)  
Buckner at Mercer (Loop 12)  
Buckner at Northcliff (Loop 12)  
Buckner at Peavy (Loop 12)  
Buckner at Poppy/Atholone (Loop 12)  
Casa Linda at Garland (SH 78)  
E. Grand/Garland at Gaston (SH 78)  
Easton at Garland (SH 78)  
Garland at Jupiter (SH 78)  
Garland at Lakeland (SH 78)  
Garland at Old Gate (SH 78)  
Garland at San Rafael (SH 78)  
Garland at Winsted (SH 78)  
Audelia at Northwest Hwy (Spur 244)

November 10, 2015

**WHEREAS**, the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) is the policy-making body of the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Dallas-Fort Worth region; and

**WHEREAS**, the RTC is responsible for maintaining the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) which is an inventory of regionally significant transportation projects that are funded and scheduled to go to construction within a four year period; and

**WHEREAS**, in June 2015, the RTC adopted a Milestone Projects Policy that requires the City Council to reaffirm their support for any TIP project that has been funded for more than ten years, but not gone to construction; and

**WHEREAS**, there are fourteen TIP projects located in the City of Dallas that are affected by the Milestone Projects Policy; and

**WHEREAS**, the lead agency varies from project to project; and the City of Dallas has coordinated a review of all fourteen projects with our partner agencies to determine the status and priority of each project.

**NOW, THEREFORE,**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DALLAS:**

**SECTION 1.** That the City Council reaffirms its support for implementation of the following twelve RTC Milestone Policy projects:

1. Lemmon Avenue at Bluffview – intersection improvement (TIP Code 533)
2. Park Lane at US 75 – intersection improvement (TIP Code 665.2)
3. Valley View/Walnut from Greenville to Forest Ridge – intersection improvements (TIP Code 684)
4. Denton Drive from Walnut Hill to Royal – complete street (TIP Code 2310.1)
5. Medical District Drive from I-35E to Harry Hines – roadway widening (TIP Code 11727)
6. Katy Trail Phase VI from Ellsworth to Worcola – trail and bridge (TIP Code 11018.2)
7. Hatcher (Dolphin) from Spring to Haskell-Military – add a median (TIP Code 633)
8. KCS Railroad from Highland to Santa Anna – quiet zone at eight crossings (TIP Code 11258.9)
9. Intersection Safety Program – low cost safety improvements (TIP Code 11746)
10. Signal Improvement Program – signal retiming and vehicle detection (TIP Code 11808.1)
11. Northwest Highway at Jupiter – intersection improvement (TIP Code 535)
12. Northwest Highway at Plano – intersection improvement (TIP Code 537)

November 10, 2015

**SECTION 2.** That the City Council cancels the following two RTC Milestone Policy projects:

1. Lemmon Avenue from Bluffview to Airdrome – roadway widening (TIP Code 2785)
2. Harry Hines at Mockingbird – intersection improvement (TIP Code 2795)

**SECTION 3.** That this resolution shall take effect immediately from and after its passage in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the City of Dallas, and it is accordingly so resolved.