

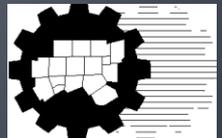
# NCTCOG Freight Program Overview

## Building Professionals Institute (BPI)

### Session: “Transportation Planning, Strategies, and Programs in the Dallas Metro Area”

May 21, 2012

North Central Texas Council of Governments  
Transportation Department



# Freight Program Review

## Topics

1. Overview of the NCTCOG Freight Planning Program
2. Freight North Texas
3. Moving Forward

# Dallas-Fort Worth Metropolitan Area

## International Crossroads of Trade

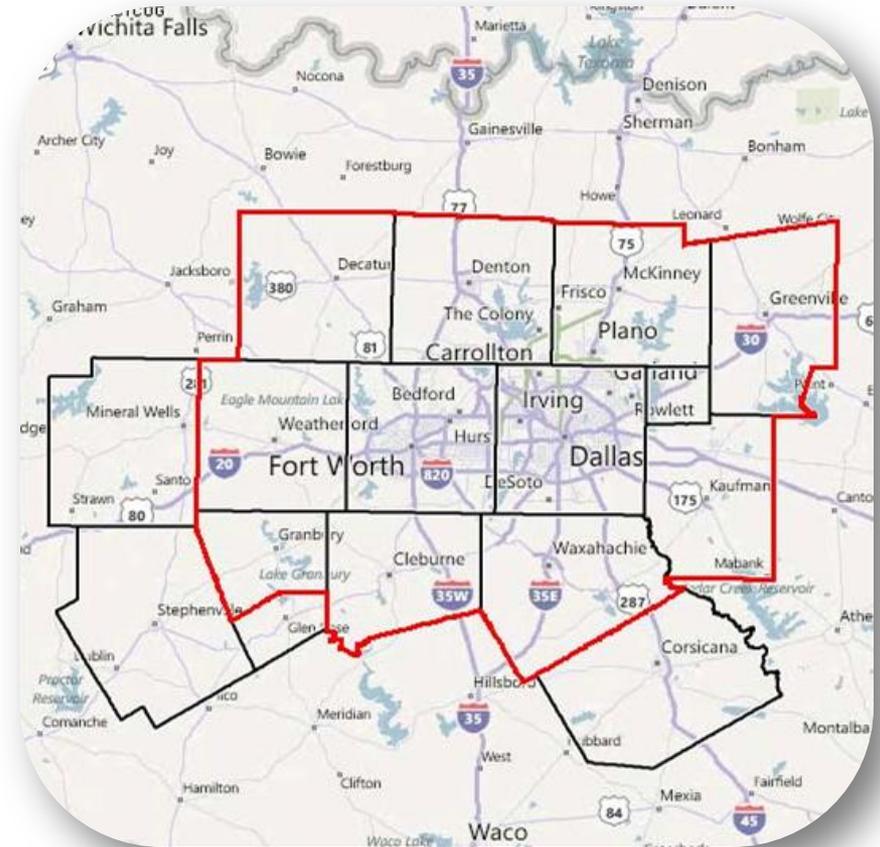


# Dallas-Fort Worth Metropolitan Area

## Background

Major freight hub dependant on freight mobility.

- Second largest metropolitan region geographically
- Fourth largest metropolitan region in population
- Fastest growing large metropolitan region in the country



# Freight Modes

Freight North Texas focuses on five main modes of freight transportation:



**Intermodal**



**Rail**



**Truck**



**Pipeline**



**Air**

# The Regional Transportation Council and Freight

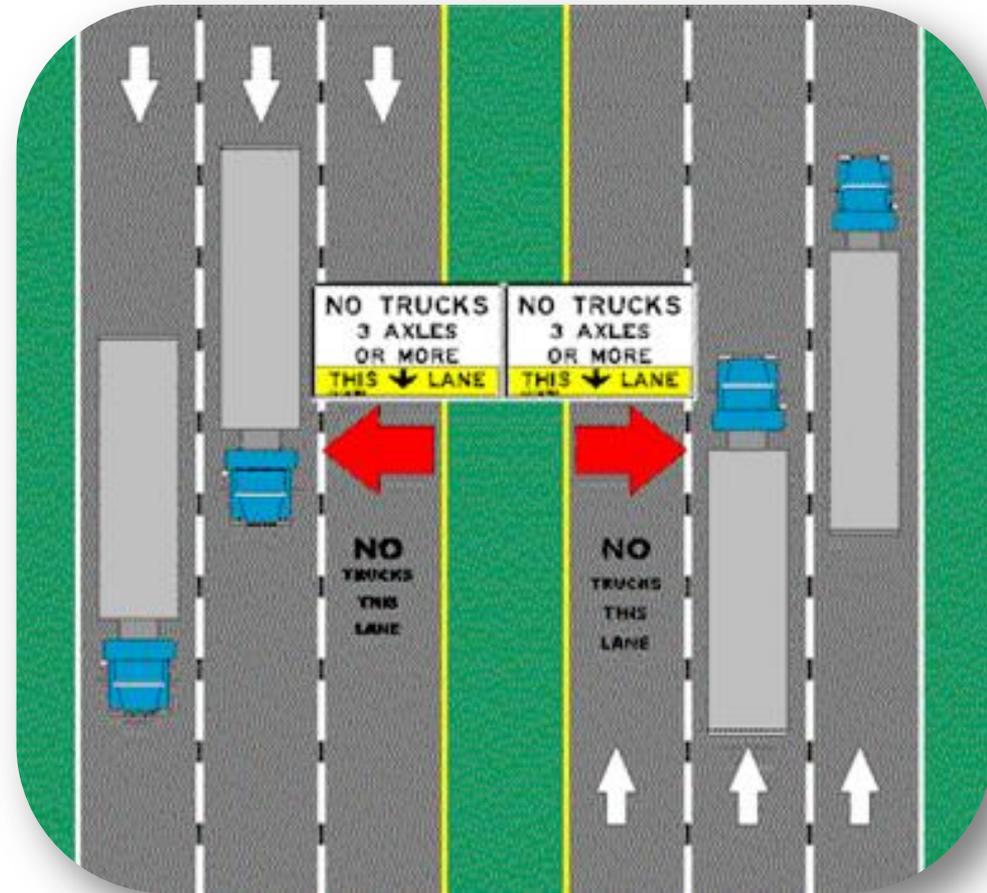
- Diesel Freight Vehicle Idle-Reduction Program
- Freight Facility Tracking and Mapping
- Quiet Zone Tracking and Mapping
- Railroad Crossing Reliability Partnership Program
- Regional Railroad Crossing Banking Program
- Tower 55 Rail Reliever Study
- Truck Lane Restrictions

# Truck Lane Restrictions in Texas

1997—Law allows municipalities to request restrictions

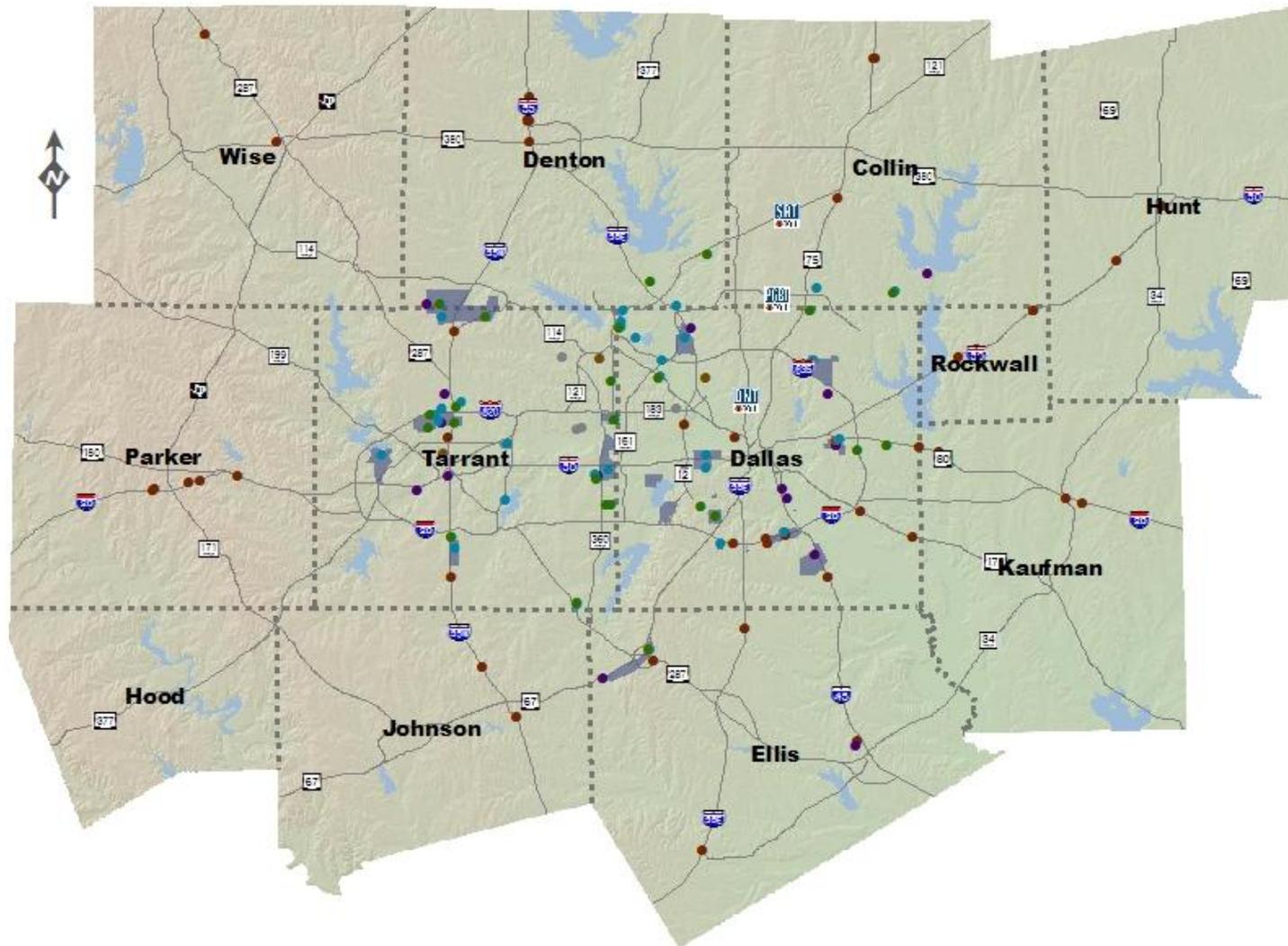
2003—Law allows counties and TxDOT to designate restrictions

Coordinated through MPOs and adjacent jurisdictions





# Freight Transportation Facilities

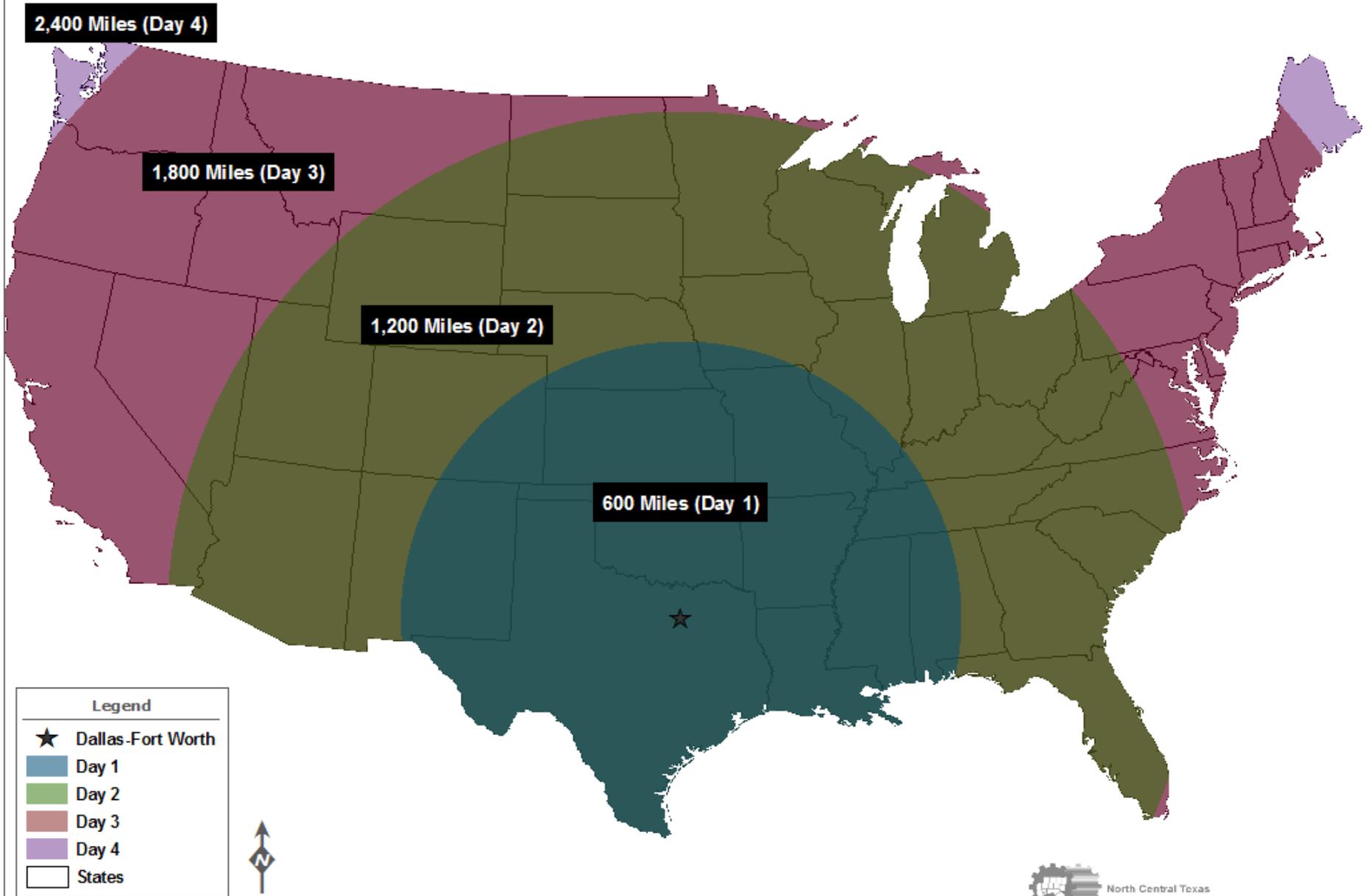


**Legend**

- Foreign Trade Zones
- Industrial Parks
- Parcel Shipping
- Pipelines
- Rail
- Truck Stops
- Freight Oriented Developments
- Highways
- - - Counties
- Major Lakes



# National Travel Times from NCTCOG Region



# Tower 55

## Freight Rail Reliever Study

**Busiest at-grade railroad intersection in the United States**

**Awarded \$38 million through the TIGER II Grant Program**



# Regional Quiet Zones

One or more railroad crossings where the sounding of train horns is prohibited

Coordinated with Federal Railroad Administration



*Source: Railroad Controls Limited, 2006*



# Freight North Texas

## Background



# Freight North Texas

## Need

1. Major freight hub
2. Regional economy depends on freight mobility
3. Large region with diverse needs
4. Identify and prioritize regional freight mobility needs
5. A comprehensive freight study of the 16-county region



# Freight North Texas

## Study Goal

The overarching goal of Freight North Texas is to enhance the safety, mobility, and air quality of regional freight movements by creating a comprehensive freight system review within North Central Texas.

This plan will recommend future freight policies, programs, and projects.

# **Freight North Texas**

## **Study Components**

- 1. Introduction to freight planning**
- 2. Overview of freight within North Central Texas**
- 3. A snapshot of the current regional freight system**
- 4. Future projections for freight within the region**
- 5. Recommendations for future freight policies, programs, and projects**

# **Freight North Texas**

## **DRAFT Recommendations**

- **Collection and management of innovative performance measures**
- **Coordinated regional freight planning between local governments and the freight industry**
- **Adoption of a regional freight agenda by the Regional Transportation Council**
- **Completion of county-level freight scans for all 12 counties within the MPA**

# Freight North Texas

## DRAFT Recommendations

- Publication of a quarterly freight newsletter
- Publication of a Regional Freight Fact Book
- Publication of mode-specific Freight Fact Sheets
- Completion of follow-up studies recommended in Freight North Texas
- A freight summit every two years to educate and inform regional stakeholders regarding regional freight planning

# Freight North Texas

## **DRAFT Recommended After Studies**

- Freight Congestion and Delay Report
- Economic Impact of Freight on the Region
- Freight and Environmental Justice Report
- Freight Project Evaluation System
- Land-Use Compatibility Analysis
- Regional Truck Parking Study

# NCTCOG Freight Program Overview

**For more information:**

Becky Karasko, AICP  
Senior Transportation Planner  
rkarasko@nctcog.org  
**(817) 695-9258**

or

Kyler Erhard  
Transportation Planner II  
kerhard@nctcog.org  
**(817) 704-5645**

[www.nctcog.org/freight](http://www.nctcog.org/freight)