

Region 7 Regionally Coordinated Transportation Planning (RCTP) for West Central Texas needs you. We need you at the table for input from your area as we work to achieve the goals of the current Plan and to set the course for the 2022 Plan. Transportation barriers is always near the top of every needs assessment. With your active involvement in the Region 7 RCTP you can help chart a course to address those needs.

The purpose of the RCTP is to provide more efficient and more effective public transportation services, especially for seniors (65 and older), persons with disabilities, persons with low incomes, veterans, youth, and others. We hope that you will take a look at the documents and tools we have put on the accompanying Region 7 RCTP flash drive. See for yourself how much opportunity there is for improving public transportation in your area.

Region 7 RCTP covers the 19-counties of West Central Texas. It is a coordinated planning process currently led by the City of Abilene CityLink, includes the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) in cooperation with the Texas Department of Transportation –Public Transportation Division (TxDOT-PTN), rural and urban transits, health and human service agencies and other stakeholders.

RCTPs were originally developed in response to new requirements for planning for special needs transportation in the 2005 Federal Transportation Law, the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) and Texas House Bill 3588. Updated requirements and guidance are contained in the 2012 federal transportation law – Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) and incorporated into the new 2015 transportation bill, Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act.

We've included a roster of those who are already serving as stakeholders, in hopes that you will recognize why we are asking you to step up and join us. The RCTP works on a five-year cycle. The work of the stakeholders is more intense during the preparation of the new plan period but generally the work is accomplished with quarterly meetings.

We will be following up with you to answer any questions you might have about the processes and/or the work. Transportation is vital to everyone and with your involvement in RCTP we can ensure that your community's needs are acknowledged.