



Texas Innovation Alliance: Spring Meeting Agenda

Texas State Innovation Council

April 4, 2024 | 9:00am – 12:00pm CT

Location: TxDOT Stassney Campus, Duro Canyon Room

6230 E Stassney Ln, Austin, TX 78744

OBJECTIVES

- Introduce TxDOT, FHWA, TIA members, and CTR staff
- Understand EDC-7 topics and STIC Incentive Program opportunities
- Highlight innovation projects at local, regional, and state level

8:30 AM | Tech Check

9:00 AM | Welcome & Introductions – Darran Anderson, TxDOT and Kirk Fauver, FHWA

9:15 AM | Every Day Counts (EDC) Initiative – Kristie Chin, UT Austin

UT Austin reviews current EDC innovations and introduces presentations on prioritized EDC topics: 1) Strategic Workforce Development and 2) Nighttime Visibility for Safety.

9:20 AM | Strategic Workforce Development: Kodiak Robotics and Dallas College Partnership – LaKesha Raynor, Dallas College

9:30 AM | Nighttime Visibility for Safety: Texas A&M Transportation Institute, TxDOT Tyler District, University of Texas Tyler – Okan Gurbuz, Texas A&M Transportation Institute

9:40 AM | Audience Questions

9:45 AM | State Innovative Project Showcase: AI and Data Culture at Texas Workforce Commission – Courtney Arbour, Texas Workforce Commission

Texas Workforce Commission is supporting a changing workforce by identifying and respond to emerging skill demands. TWC is training workers to use AI tools, automated processes, and data resources to streamline daily operations and expand skill sets.

10:00 AM | Regional Innovative Project Showcase: Freight Optimization System – Connor Sadro, North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG)

Since the improved movement of trucks not only assists with expedited deliveries but also reduces emissions, NCTCOG initiated a Freight Optimization System deployment in 2022 to identify traffic signals that would benefit the most from freight flow optimization.

10:15 AM | Local Innovative Project Showcase: SA WORX – Romanita Matta-Barrera, greater:SATX

Led by greater:SATX, the SA WORX program is focused on developing a skilled workforce that meets the needs of regional employers. The initiatives include apprenticeships, partnerships with local educational intuitions and employers, and tailored training.

10:30 AM | Break

10:45 AM | STIC Incentive Program Overview – Kirk Fauver, FHWA and Shelley Pridgen, TxDOT

The STIC team shares background information on the STIC Incentive Program funding opportunity, past project awards, eligible applicants, and timeline.

11:00 AM | Closing Remarks & Next Steps – Darran Anderson, TxDOT and Kristie Chin, UT Austin

TxDOT reviews past progress and UT Austin presents preview of upcoming activities. STIC members identify strengths and growth opportunities.

11:15 PM | Adjourn