

**Central Oklahoma Regional Transportation Planning Organization (CORTPO)  
Of the  
Central Oklahoma Economic Development District (COEDD)**

**Article I – Creation**

The Central Oklahoma Regional Transportation Planning Organization is hereby created by the Central Oklahoma Economic Development District in response to federal legislation created originally as part of the TEA-21 and other federal highway legislation created thereafter. Specifically, federal legislation calls for local government officials, other appropriate entities and organizations, as well as interested members of the public, to have a forum to discuss regional transportation needs and priorities and to develop a regional transportation plan for input into the statewide plan of state departments of transportation. The CORTPO region shall be contiguous with the COEDD region and shall include all areas within the counties of Pottawatomie, Lincoln, Payne, Pawnee, Seminole, Hughes and Okfuskee.

**Article II – Responsibilities**

The responsibilities of CORTPO shall be

- To provide a forum for local elected officials and community leaders to learn about and discuss relevant regional transportation topics;
- To evaluate and recommend projects with a regional impact to the Oklahoma Department of Transportation;
- To develop an intermodal regional mobility strategy, including road, rail, transit, aviation, bicycle, and pedestrian infrastructure for the seven-county area;
- To better integrate and coordinate regional transportation plans and priorities with COEDD's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), Area Plan on Aging, and other regional and local community economic development plans.
- To serve as a clearinghouse for transportation related data, research, and information; and
- To pursue other relevant transportation activities, research and projects as may be determined in the future.

COEDD shall provide staffing and administrative support for CORTPO activities.

### **Article III – Membership**

1. Seven (7) members shall represent municipal governments and shall be appointed by agreement of the chief elected officials or their designated appointee of the municipalities in each respective county. Such agreement shall consist of a simple majority vote with each incorporated entity with a functional unit of government having one (1) vote. If no individual receives a majority vote, or the incorporated entities within a county fail to appoint a representative, the CORTPO Policy Committee Board may appoint a representative for that county until such time as an individual is appointed.
2. Seven (7) members shall represent county governments. Any County Commissioner may represent in their respective county.
3. Communities with populations over 7,500 as determined by the last census may elect to appoint one (1) representative. If a community of over 7,500 population chooses to appoint a representative specific to their respective community, their vote is not considered in the tally of votes described in *Article III, Item 1*.
4. The COEDD Board of Trustees shall appoint up to two (2) members to represent Institutions of Higher Education and one (1) member each from the following group(s):
  - Secondary Education
  - Career Technology Education
  - Oklahoma Department of Transportation
  - Railroad companies
  - Tourism
  - Chambers of Commerce
5. The Board of Trustees may appoint up to five (5) members representing other entities or organizations or other interested individuals, provided it does not violate *Article III, Item 6*.
6. At least a majority (50% plus one) of the voting members shall be always comprised of municipal/county representatives.

7. Duration of the appointment is at the sole discretion of the appointing entity. Vacancies of membership shall be filled in the manner as specified above.

#### **Article IV – Officers**

1. CORTPO shall elect from among its members a Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary.
2. All CORTPO officers must represent a county or municipal government serving as a member.
3. Terms of office for all officers shall be for two (2) years beginning at the first organizational meeting of CORTPO.
4. In the event an officer is unable to fill his/her term, CORTPO shall elect a replacement, at a regular or special meeting, who shall serve for the remainder of the unexpired term.
5. In the case of a tie vote at which a quorum is present, the Chair will be deemed to have the authority to break the tie.
6. In the event the officers are absent or unable to preside over meetings, CORTPO may appoint Chair pro tem.

#### **Article V – Meetings**

1. The Policy Committee Board of CORTPO shall meet initially on a date established by action of the COEDD Board of Trustees and annually thereafter on the anniversary of that date.
2. Additional meetings throughout the year shall be as established by the CORTPO Policy Committee Board.
3. A quorum is a simple majority of those present except when actions related to financial matters, which a quorum requires a minimum of nine (9) municipal/county members are present.
4. If a quorum is present when a vote is taken the affirmative vote of a majority of all members present shall be required for the vote to pass.
5. All meetings of the CORTPO shall be open to the public and shall comply with the provisions of the Open Meeting Act of the State of Oklahoma. All CORTPO records shall comply with the provisions of the Open Records Act of the State of Oklahoma.

6. Rules of procedure may be as determined by the membership. If rules of procedure are not established by the membership, *Robert's Rules of Order* shall govern the conduct of the CORTPO meetings.

#### **Article VI – Committees**

Members of the CORTPO Policy Committee Board may establish committees as deemed necessary or desirable for the membership to carry out its purposes in the best and most efficient manner. The Chair shall nominate committee members who shall then be appointed by action of the membership at any meeting in compliance with *Article V*, above. A majority (50% plus 1) of all members of any committee constituted by the CORTPO shall be comprised of the municipal/county members of CORTPO.

#### **Article VII – Amendments**

Members of CORTPO Policy Committee Board may recommend amendments to these bylaws at a regular or special meeting. Any amendment shall be approved by action of the Board of Trustees of COEDD.

#### **Article VIII – Duration**

The duration of CORTPO shall be perpetuity unless terminated by action of the Board of Trustees of COEDD.

Amended \_\_November 8, 2023