

NCTCOG FACT SHEET

August 2021

QUICK TAKE

What:

Map Your Experience is the NCTCOG Transportation Department's online mapping tool. It allows users to provide their transportation experiences in the Dallas-Fort Worth area in real time.

Significance:

The metropolitan planning area consists of 12 counties, and it can be difficult to hear first-hand what transportation issues are affecting residents in the area. Map Your Experience is a collaborative public input tool that allows North Texans to provide input and observations on transportation needs virtually. Comments left by residents will guide NCTCOG and its partners to create innovative transportation solutions.

By the Numbers:

400+

The number of comments posted on Map Your Experience in 18 months from residents in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, documenting their experience with the transportation system.



MAP YOUR EXPERIENCE: Tell Us Your Transportation Concerns

The Dallas-Fort Worth area continues to be one of the fastest-growing regions in the country. Currently, almost 8 million people call North Texas home, and by 2045 the population is expected to exceed 11 million residents. This expected growth will require the continued development of roads, public transportation and bicycle and pedestrian facilities, as well as maintenance of the current infrastructure. To effectively meet the needs of such a large region, planners must listen intently to residents. Historically, the North Central Texas Council of Governments has relied on public meetings and outreach events to correspond directly with users of the system. Although face-to-face meetings remain important, technology has enhanced planners' ability to reach people where they are.

Launched by NCTCOG's Transportation Department, Map Your Experience offers users of the transportation system an opportunity to share their comments on transportation needs in their community and throughout the region. This interactive public input tool empowers residents to help inform and transform transportation priorities and policies. Residents who want to participate in the transportation planning process may now find it easier than ever to voice their thoughts. NCTCOG will use the comments from this tool to guide transportation planning efforts such as Mobility 2045, the region's long-range Metropolitan Transportation Plan.

Map Your Experience is user-friendly and designed to help NCTCOG staff use public input to collaborate with partners and develop innovative solutions for transportation issues in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. The website gathers continuous public input on transportation, allowing residents to share observations based on their own travel experiences, whether they use the roads, public transit or bicycle-pedestrian facilities, or a combination of modes.

Members of the public can provide as much feedback as they wish as well as browse, comment, and like other pins on the map. Providing personal information is optional and will not be visible to others who use the tool. However, users will be asked to provide their ZIP code to help staff better serve their community as well as communities across the region.

How do I use the tool?

Users can follow the steps below to post comments.

1. Go to www.nctcog.org/mapyourexperience.
2. Select your comment category. Choose

from Roadway Issues, Transit Modes or Pedestrian/Bicycle issues. These categories include a range of topics such as roadway congestion, pollution, connections, service frequency, travel times, trails, crosswalks, lane markings, safety and more.

3. Click “submit a comment.” Zoom in on the map and enter your comment details.
4. You can provide optional information such as name and email.
5. Provide as many comments as you want and even browse pins placed by others on the map.

The views of the region’s residents are an important part of the planning process and will help planners and policymakers determine what changes should be made and where they are needed. Map Your Experience has added a new option for North Texans to make their voices heard and help NCTCOG and its transportation partners plan for the future. Share your transportation experiences at www.nctcog.org/mapyourexperience.

