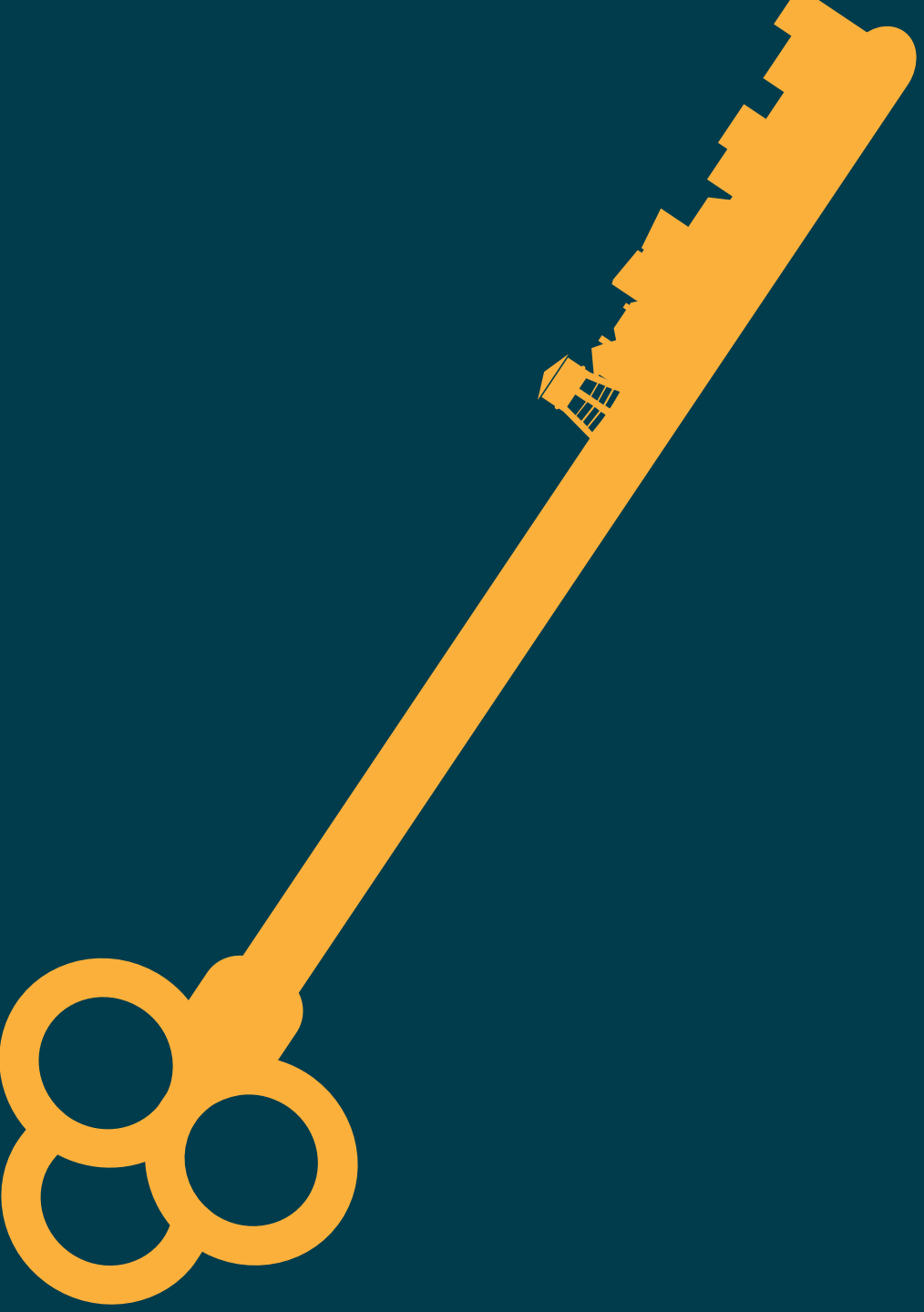




ACCESS NORTH TEXAS

Evan Paret | Transportation Planner III

Gypsy Gavia | Program Manager

2026 Update Overview, Public Comment

October 20, 2026

AGENDA

- Introduction
- Background
- 2026 Update
- Proposed Goals and Strategies
- Public Comment/Feedback
- Next Steps

A graphic for the Access North Texas website and survey. It features a dark blue background with a white bus on the right side. The title 'ACCESS NORTH TEXAS' is in large white letters, with 'WEBSITE + SURVEY' in smaller yellow letters below it. The graphic includes several text blocks: 'WHAT IS ACCESS NORTH TEXAS?' describing the regional public transportation coordination plan; 'HOW DOES THIS PLAN HELP MY COMMUNITY?' explaining its use by local governments; 'HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?' providing information on email updates and public surveys; and 'Target populations for the plan:' listing older adults, individuals with disabilities, and individuals with lower income. A QR code is located in the bottom right, and the logos for Access North Texas and the North Central Texas Council of Governments are at the bottom.

ACCESS NORTH TEXAS

WEBSITE + SURVEY

WHAT IS ACCESS NORTH TEXAS?
Access North Texas is the regional public transportation coordination plan for the 16-county North Central Texas area. The plan, which is updated every 4 years, documents the transportation needs of older adults, individuals with disabilities, and individuals with lower incomes across the region.

HOW DOES THIS PLAN HELP MY COMMUNITY?
Upon completion of the plan, local governments and transportation agencies may use the Access North Texas Plan to help with their transportation planning (Example: identifying existing transportation resources, and where public transit may be needed).

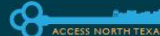
HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?
Sign up for email updates, take the public survey and attend stakeholder meetings. For more information about Access North Texas and how you can get involved, visit www.publicinput.com/AccessNorthTexas.

Target populations for the plan:

- Older adults
- Individuals with disabilities
- Individuals with lower income

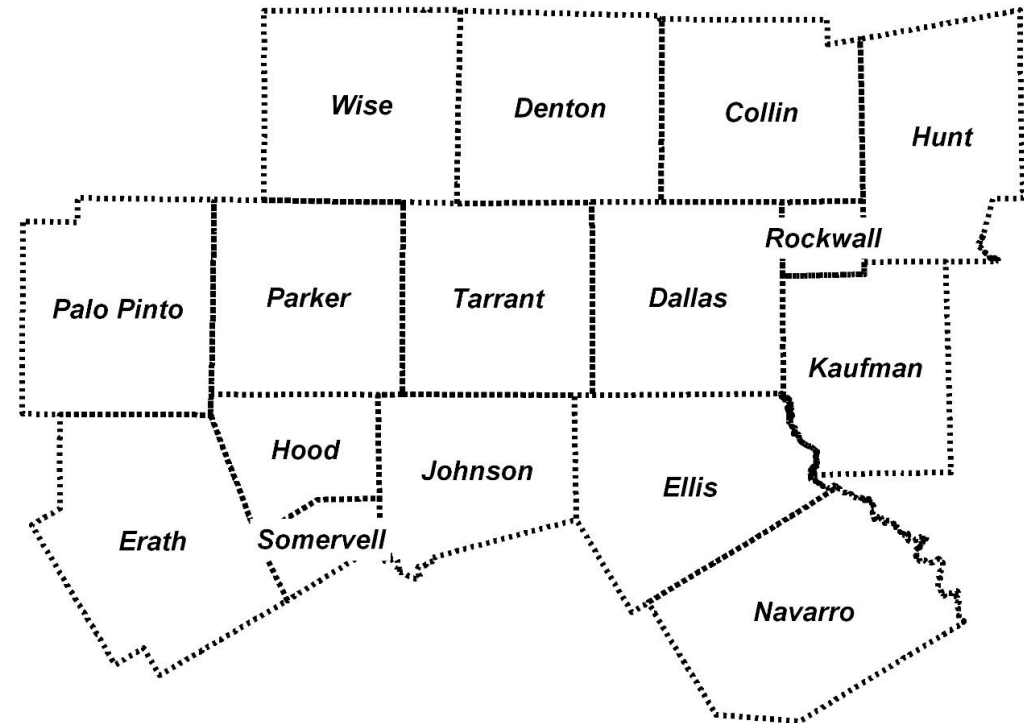


Scan to visit the Access North Texas webpage and learn more, or contact us at accessnorthtexas@mctcog.org.

 ACCESS NORTH TEXAS  North Central Texas Council of Governments

NCTCOG

- Established in 1966 as a voluntary association assisting local governments in the North Central Texas region.
- **PLANNING** for common needs
- **COOPERATING** for mutual benefit
- **COORDINATING** for sound regional development
- The Transportation Department, federally designated as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), coordinates service and creates short-term and long-term plans.

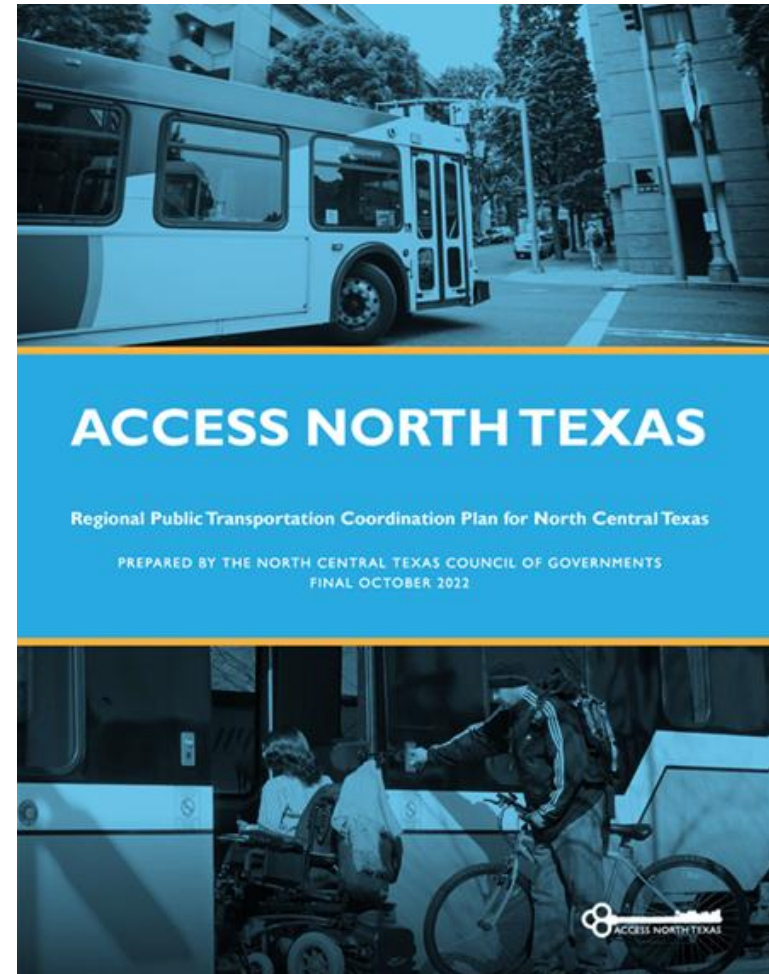


BACKGROUND

Regional Public Transportation Coordination Plan (RPTCP) to:

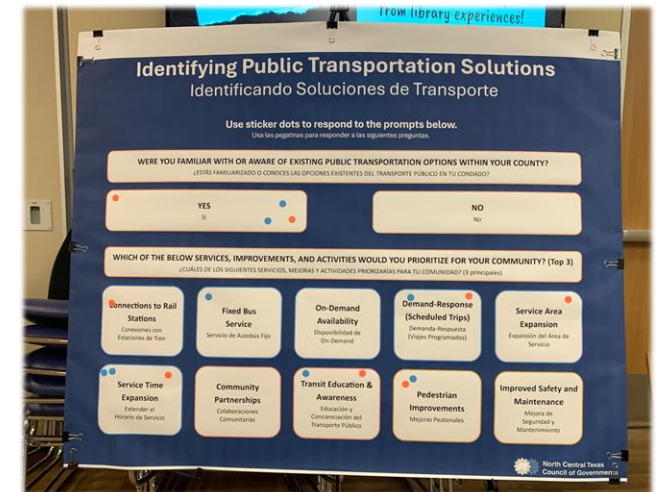
- Identify the public transportation needs of older adults, people with disabilities, individuals with limited financial resources, and others experiencing transportation challenges.
- Specify strategies to:
 - Address needs and current challenges
 - Eliminate gaps in service
 - Avoid duplication of transit services

Meets Federal and State Requirements for transit coordination in the 16-county region.



ACCESS NORTH TEXAS 2026

- Regional Transportation Council adopted the last update in 2022; Updates required every 4-5 years.
- Encourages coordination and non-traditional transit solutions.
- Revisits previous regional goals and prioritized county strategies.
 - Conduct regional outreach
 - Coordination with transit providers
 - Use of survey and public data
- May be used to guide funding and project implementation decisions.



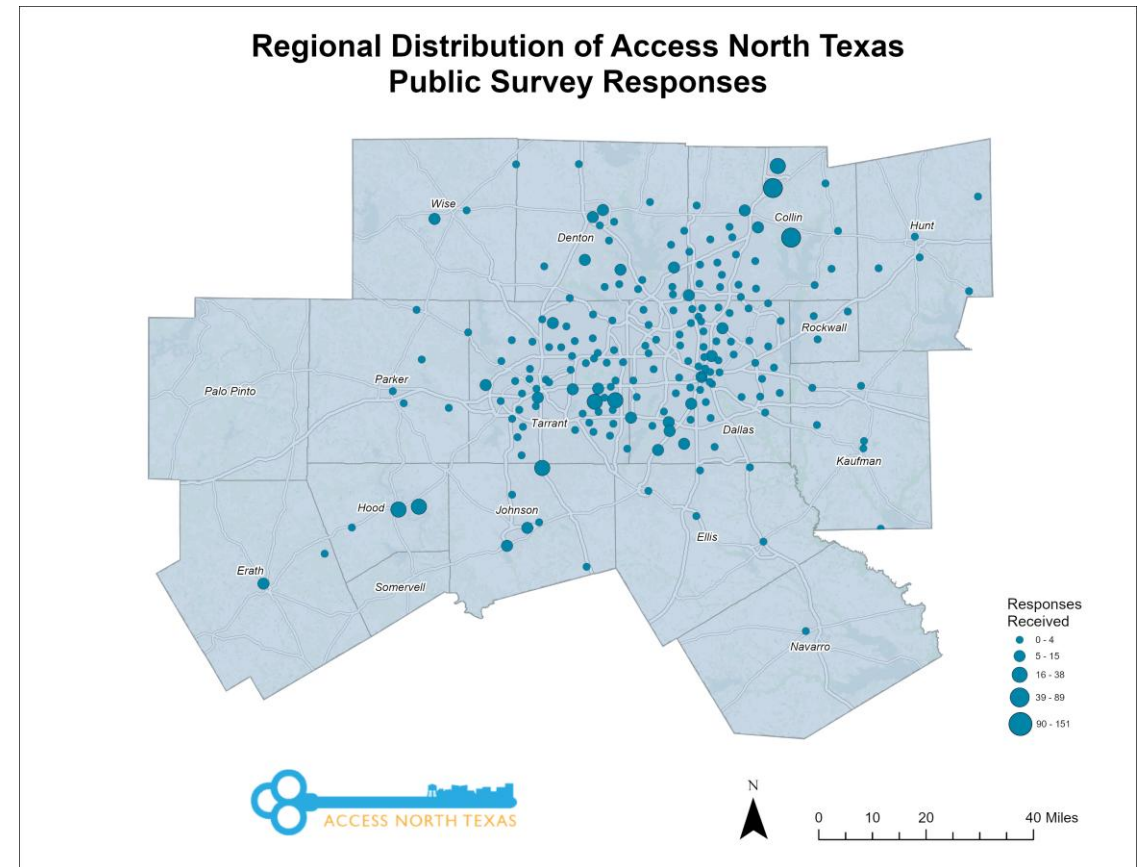
2026 ACCESS NORTH TEXAS TIMELINE



★ Identifies current phase

DATA ANALYSIS AND MAPPING

- Identified existing transportation resources
- Reviewed and codified over 700 survey responses (public and agency), outreach meeting feedback, and comments
- Collected demographic data including population growth and zero-car households
- Utilized Transit Accessibility Improvement Tool (TAIT) to identify populations that may depend on public transportation



DEVELOPMENT OF REGIONAL GOALS AND STRATEGIES

Collected data was reviewed to identify new and ongoing challenges/needs



Compared information to previously approved goals and strategies



Reconciled and made necessary updates for 2026

NEW

Goal 1	Goal 2	Goal 3	Goal 4	Goal 5
Plan and Develop Transportation Options by Assessing Community Needs and Challenges	Implement Services by Enhancing Transportation Options and Expanding Where Service Gaps Exist	Coordinate with Transportation Providers, Public Agencies, and Stakeholders to Increase Efficiencies	Drive Sustained Growth of Public Transportation Ridership	Promote Access and Information about Available Transportation Options

PROPOSED SUMMARIZED STRATEGIES

- ✓ **Goal # 1**
 - ❑ Conduct planning activities to identify needs of residents outside existing transit agencies
 - ❑ Develop commuter or high-intensity bus line connections to rail
 - ❑ Invest in programs to fill gaps in service
 - ❑ Prioritize programs that facilitate work, medical, and healthcare trips
 - ❑ Engage transit-dependent populations to provide access to planning process
 - ❑ Identify unmet needs of local providers
- ✓ **Goal # 2**
 - ❑ Increase access to employment, social, religious, and well-being trips
 - ❑ Establish additional assistance and options for non-paratransit eligible riders
 - ❑ Expand public transportation to destinations throughout the region without service and support integration of new services
 - ❑ Implement service enhancements
 - ❑ Provide accessible public transportation and supportive resources for older adults and individuals with disabilities to improve connections
 - ❑ Work with specialized service providers to improve transit access by streamlining rider registration and scheduling processes
 - ❑ Support increased pedestrian connections to transit
- ✓ **Goal # 3**
 - ❑ Improve coordination among public transit providers and cities
 - ❑ Identify, evaluate, and implement non-traditional ways to deliver and support transportation
 - ❑ Secure sustainable funding to maintain existing programs
 - ❑ Work with providers and stakeholders to improve or maintain services connecting to the transit system, healthcare and other key destinations
 - ❑ Improve regional connectivity by increasing ease of travel
 - ❑ Facilitate collaboration between agencies for long-range strategic planning to benefit riders
- ✓ **Goal # 4**
 - ❑ Promote partnerships to increase opportunity to make fares more affordable to those in need
 - ❑ Integrate various funding sources to maximize efficiency and increase affordable options
 - ❑ Explore sources of local revenue for public transportation
 - ❑ Work with providers to train, recruit, and retain drivers
 - ❑ Improve safety, security, and sanitation measures to build rider confidence and comfort
- ✓ **Goal # 5**
 - ❑ Enhance communication and outreach programs
 - ❑ Conduct travel training to educate the public on services and policies
 - ❑ Partner with organizations to publicize information
 - ❑ Identify, recruit, educate, and support influential champions for public transportation
 - ❑ Use innovative technology to distribute public transportation service information
 - ❑ Expand outreach and marketing to increase accessibility

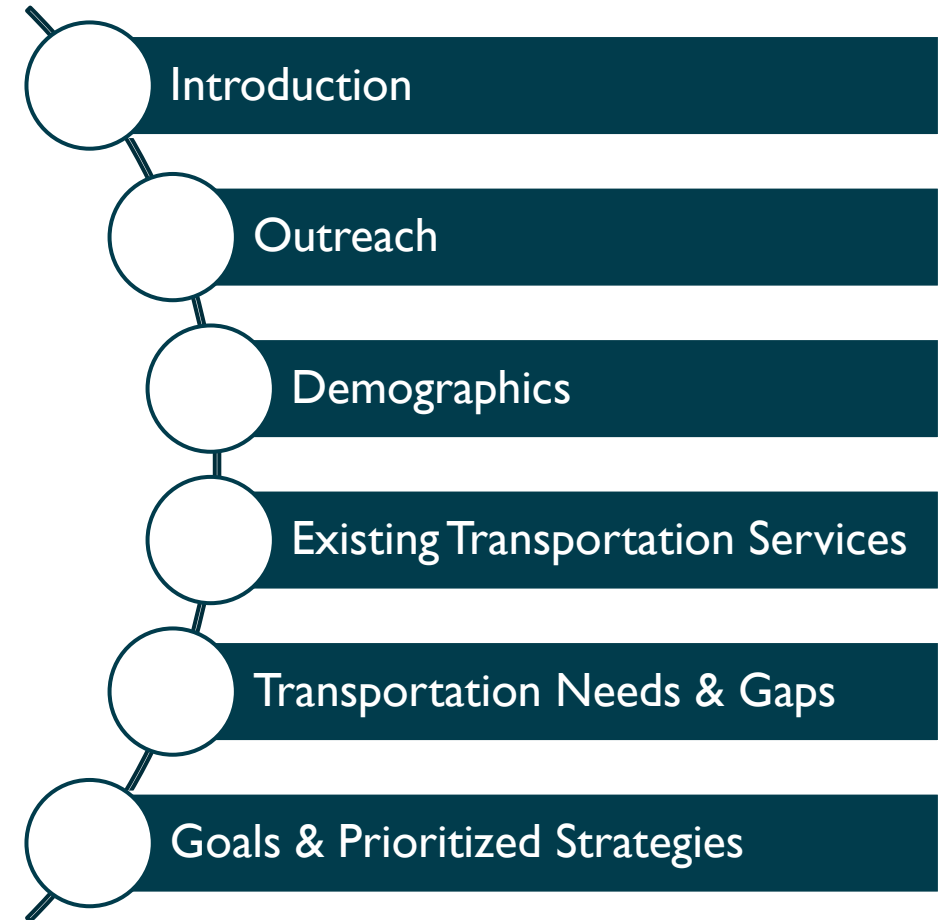
PLAN STRUCTURE

The Executive Summary provides a regional introduction to the plan.

Each county chapter follows the same process to identify transportation needs and develop recommendations.

Community and stakeholder feedback, transportation data, and service information are used to identify local needs and gaps.

Those findings help shape prioritized strategies for each county or set of counties in the chapter.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

The appendices provide supporting information for referenced findings throughout the plan, including:

- Progress since the previous plan update
- Regional transportation resources
- Accessibility and planning tools
- Data and analysis methods
- Outreach documentation and supporting materials

The appendices will be available for those interested in exploring the data and methodology in greater detail

Appendix A – Summary and Status of 2022

Appendix B – Get-A-Ride Guide

Appendix C – Transit Accessibility Improvement Tool (TAIT)

Appendix D – Data and Analysis

Appendix E – Outreach and Supplemental Information

FEEDBACK

Executive summary and county chapters are available at www.AccessNorthTexas.org

Physical copies are available upon request.

Encouraged to share feedback on:

- Existing transportation services
- Transportation needs in your county
- Proposed goals and strategies
- Transportation priorities



Are there important transportation services missing?

Do the identified needs and gaps reflect your experience?



Will the regional goals and proposed strategies improve transportation access in your county?

Are there other priorities we should consider?



Comments should be submitted to accessnorthtexas@nctcog.org by 5:00 PM CST on Thursday, November 12, 2026

Next Steps



Documents posted online for public comment and final review of goals and strategies



Technical committee and policy board feedback and approvals



Staff and regional partners to implement strategies identified in the plan

OVERALL SCHEDULE

Date	Deliverable
September 14, 2026	Public Meeting
September 25, 2026	STTC: Information Item
October 1, 2026	Post Draft Documents Online
November 5, 2026	RTC: Information Item
November 12, 2026	Comments Due at 5PM
December 4, 2026	STTC: Action Item
December 10, 2026	RTC: Action Item

QUESTIONS?

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