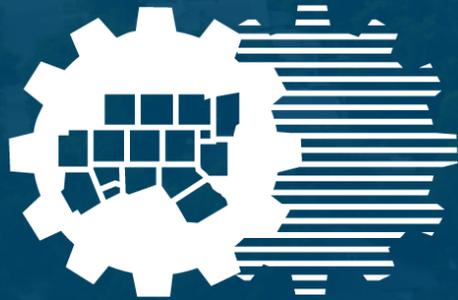


Meeting will begin at 5:45 p.m.



**North Central Texas
Council of Governments**



North Central Texas Council of Governments

76104 Transit Needs

Public Meeting | March 25, 2024



This initiative is funded through an *Areas of Persistent Poverty Program* Grant awarded by the Federal Transit Administration.

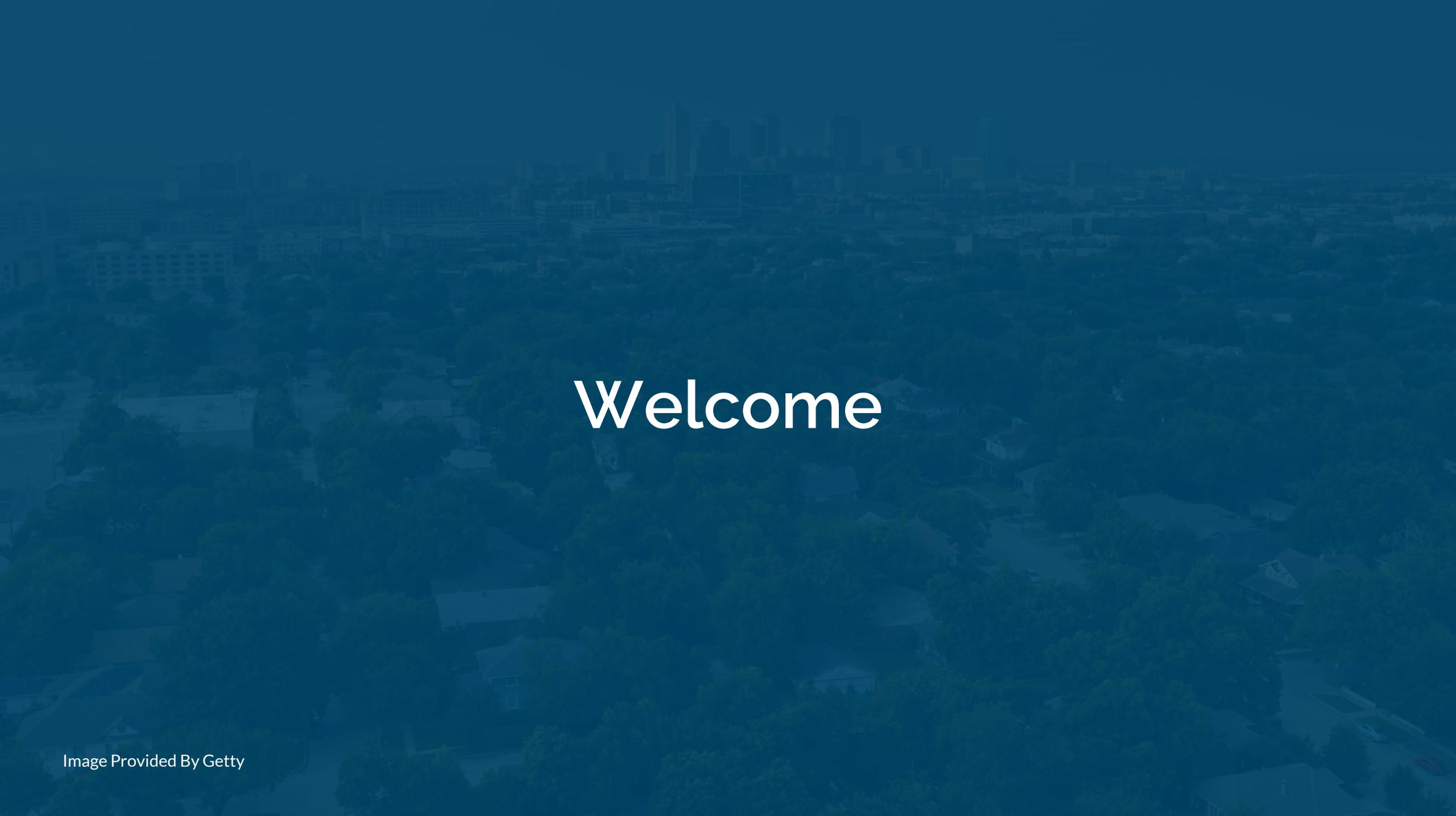
AGENDA

- Welcome

- Project Overview
 - Area of Persistent Poverty
 - Scope of Work
 - Project Schedule
 - Public Engagement

- Public Comment/Open House



An aerial photograph of a city, likely San Francisco, with a blue overlay. The image shows a dense urban area with many buildings and trees. The word "Welcome" is centered in the middle of the image in a white, sans-serif font.

Welcome

INTRODUCTIONS: NCTCOG STAFF

Project Management

Julie Anderson
Sr. Transportation Planner

Zoë Aguilar
Transportation Planner I

Other NCTCOG Staff

Shannon Stevenson
Sr. Program Manager

Gypsy Gavia
Principal Transportation Planner

Ezra Pratt
Sr. Transportation Planner

Mike Makris
Transportation Planner II

Noah Walker
Transportation Planner I

Taylor Benjamin
Communications Specialist II



WHAT IS NCTCOG?

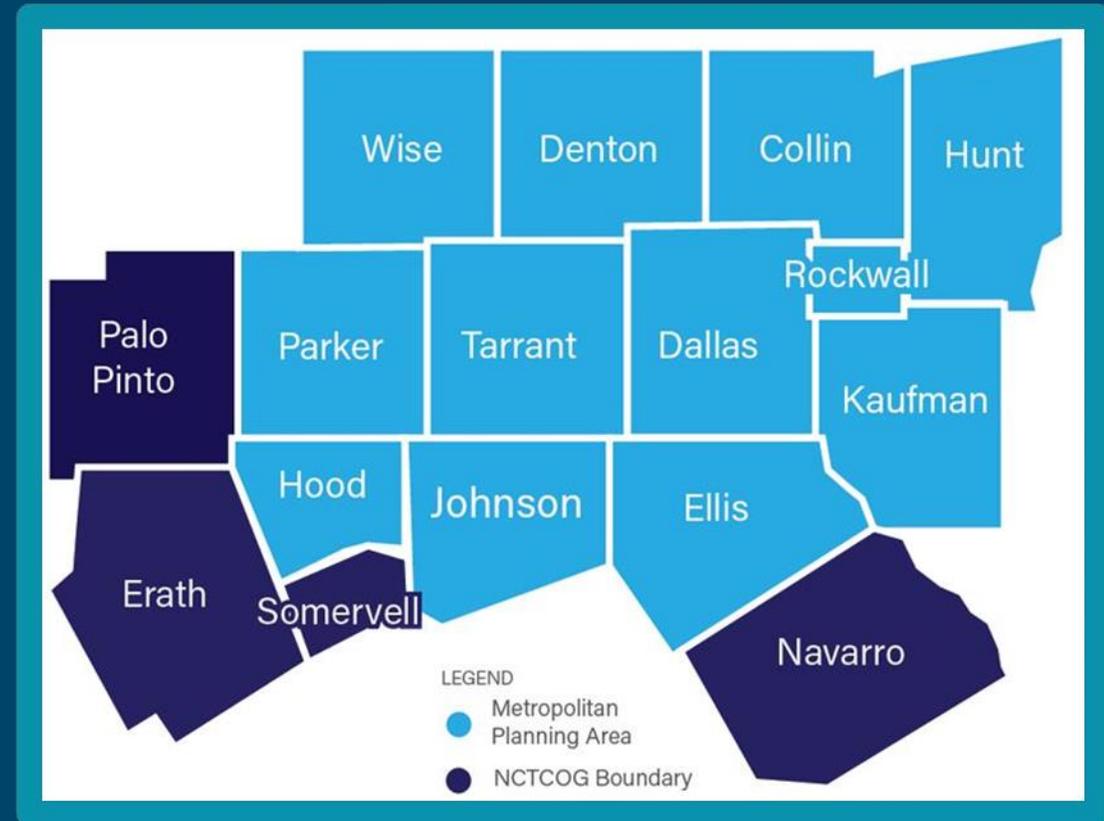
A voluntary association of local governments established in 1966.

Assists local governments in planning for common needs, cooperating for mutual benefit, and coordinating for sound regional development.

238 member governments, including:

- 16 counties
- 169 cities
- 22 school districts
- 27 special districts

The Transportation Department acts as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the DFW area.



WHAT DOES THE MPO DO?

- Determines the allocation of federal, state, and regional transportation funds
- Selects transportation projects or recommends projects for State funding
- Ensures the metropolitan area complies with state and federal laws on transportation and air quality
- Guides the development of multimodal transportation plans and programs



Project Overview

FIRE STATION
COMMUNITY CENTER
City of Fort Worth

FREE BEGINNER'S PICKLEBALL
CLINICS!

DEC. 20 & 21

817 392 2240

AREAS OF PERSISTENT POVERTY FEDERAL GRANT PROGRAM

The Areas of Persistent Poverty Program is awarded for planning, engineering, and technical studies or financial plans to improve transit in census-defined low-income areas.

NCTCOG was awarded \$270,000 from this program



NCTCOG Awarded Grant to Study Transit Options for 76104 ZIP Code

8/2/2022
Area of Fort Worth has lowest life expectancy in state

PRESS RELEASE
[Brian Wilson](#)

Arlington, Texas – The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) has been awarded a grant of approximately \$270,000 to identify innovative, affordable transit solutions to improve access to basic needs and create strategies to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions in a part of Fort Worth identified as an area of persistent poverty.

NCTCOG's plan will focus on finding transit solutions in the 76104 ZIP code, which despite being home to the Fort Worth Medical District has the lowest life expectancy in the state, according to a study by UT-Southwestern Medical Center.

The 2021 Areas of Persistent Poverty Program grant, awarded by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), will fund a transit needs assessment that could lead to the development of transit solutions to connect the community to healthy food, health care, affordable housing and employment. The study will also look to develop strategies to reduce the formation of greenhouse gases and improve air quality in the community.

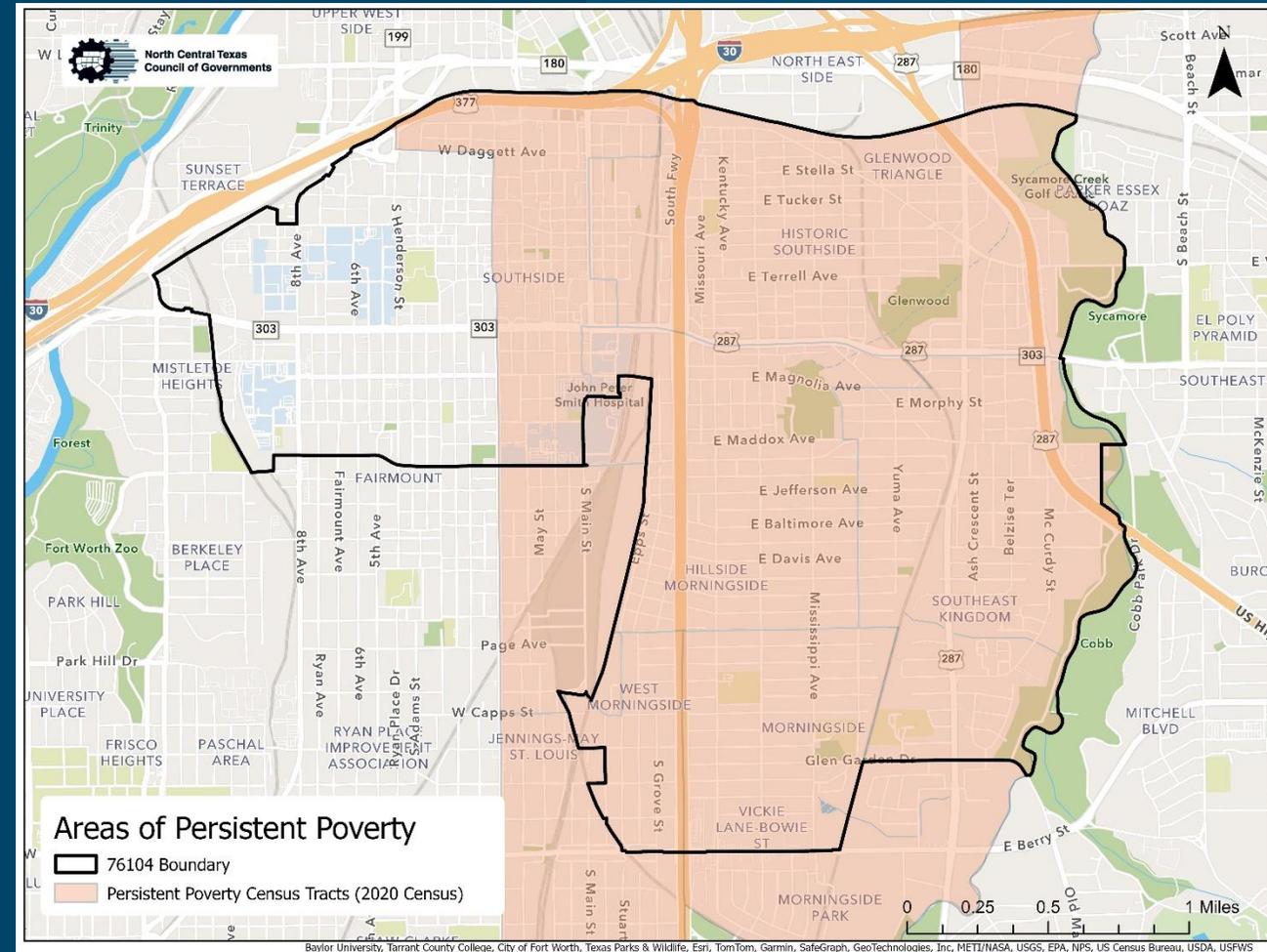
Improved transit connections could help residents whose transportation issues lead them to struggle with these necessities. For example, 14% of residents living in areas of the ZIP code identified as facing "persistent poverty" have no vehicle, compared to 4.3% of households throughout Tarrant County.

"NCTCOG and the Regional Transportation Council are committed to working with our valued public-sector and community partners to find solutions to improve access of residents of this area to life-sustaining services," said Shannon Stevenson, NCTCOG senior program manager, transit management and planning. "We look forward to collaborating with the community to develop strategies that lead to real solutions for those who live and work in the study area."

AREA OF PERSISTENT POVERTY + ZIP CODE

“Area of Persistent Poverty” as defined by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA):

- Any county that has consistently had greater than or equal to 20 percent of the population living in poverty during the last 30-year period, measured by the 1990 and 2000 decennial census
- Any census tract with a poverty rate of at least 20 percent as measured by the 2014-2018 5-year data series available from the American Community Survey of the Bureau of the Census



PROJECT SCOPE OF WORK

Conduct a transit needs assessment based on **technical data** and **community input** to identify **transit solutions** to increase mobility and access to:



Food



Healthcare



Housing



Jobs



PROJECT OUTCOMES

The needs assessment will be analyzed to produce a report proposing **transit solutions**, including strategies to **fund** and **implement** those solutions.



ANTICIPATED PROJECT SCHEDULE



PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Public Meeting #1: March 25, 2024

Project overview + discussion/feedback

Summer 2024 Outreach

Survey & data collection

Public Meeting #2: Fall 2024

Review scenario development

Public Comment Period

Spring 2025



PROJECT WEBPAGE

www.nctcog.org/76104



Project information, maps, and meeting presentations/minutes.



Link to project survey to gain information from those that live and work in 76104 and how they **currently use transit** and how they would like to **use transit in the future**.

76104 Transit Needs



Project Overview

The 76104 Transit Needs study will conduct a transit needs assessment to identify innovative transit solutions to increase mobility and access for residents to food, healthcare, housing, and jobs in a part of Fort Worth identified as an area of persistent poverty. The planning study will also identify strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions related to transit.

This project is made possible through the Areas of Persistent Poverty 2021 Program, awarded to the North Central Texas Council of Governments. The Areas of Persistent Poverty Grant Program is awarded for planning, engineering, and technical studies or financial plans to improve transit in census-defined low-income areas. FTA awarded over \$16 million in FY20 and FY21 funding to the Areas of Persistent Poverty program for 40 different projects. For more information on this grant program or to view other selected projects, please visit the [FTA website](#).

Project Details



Existing Conditions

FIRE STATION PARK

CITY OF FORT WORTH

PARK & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

BUREAU OF OUTDOOR RECREATION

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

TEXAS PARK AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT

1601 LIPSCOMB ST.

EXISTING PUBLIC TRANSIT

In the Trinity Metro service area

- Fixed Route Bus Service
- ACCESS Paratransit
- On-Demand Rideshare (ZIPZONE)
- Regional Connections/Transfer Centers

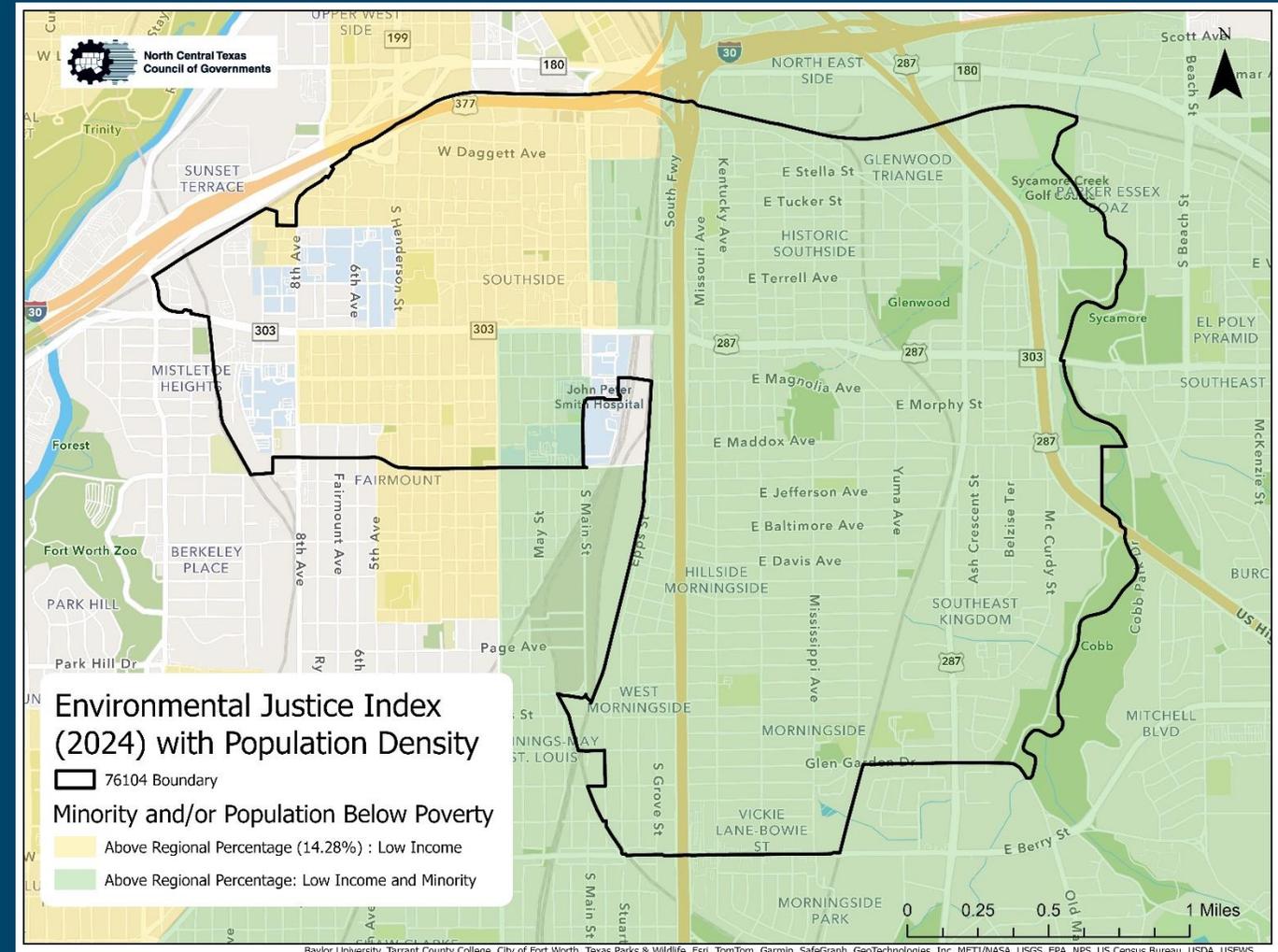


ZIP CODE DEMOGRAPHICS

| | 76104 ZIP Code | City of Fort Worth | State of Texas |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Total Population | 21,571 | 918,915 | 29,145,505 |
| Black or African American | 7,544 (35%) | 180,439 (20%) | 3,552,997 (12%) |
| Hispanic or Latino | 9,027 (42%) | 319,836 (35%) | 11,441,717 (39%) |
| Median Household Income | \$46,098 | \$71,527 | \$72,284 |
| Employment Rate | 53.6% | 64.5% | 62.1% |
| Without Healthcare Coverage | 28.0 % | 17.7% | 16.6% |
| Zero Car Households | ~12% | ~6% | 5.4% |

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE POPULATIONS

The [Environmental Justice Index](#) displays census block groups as yellow, blue, or green when they are above the North Central Texas regional percentage for low-income (below poverty) individuals, aggregate minority individuals, or both, respectively.

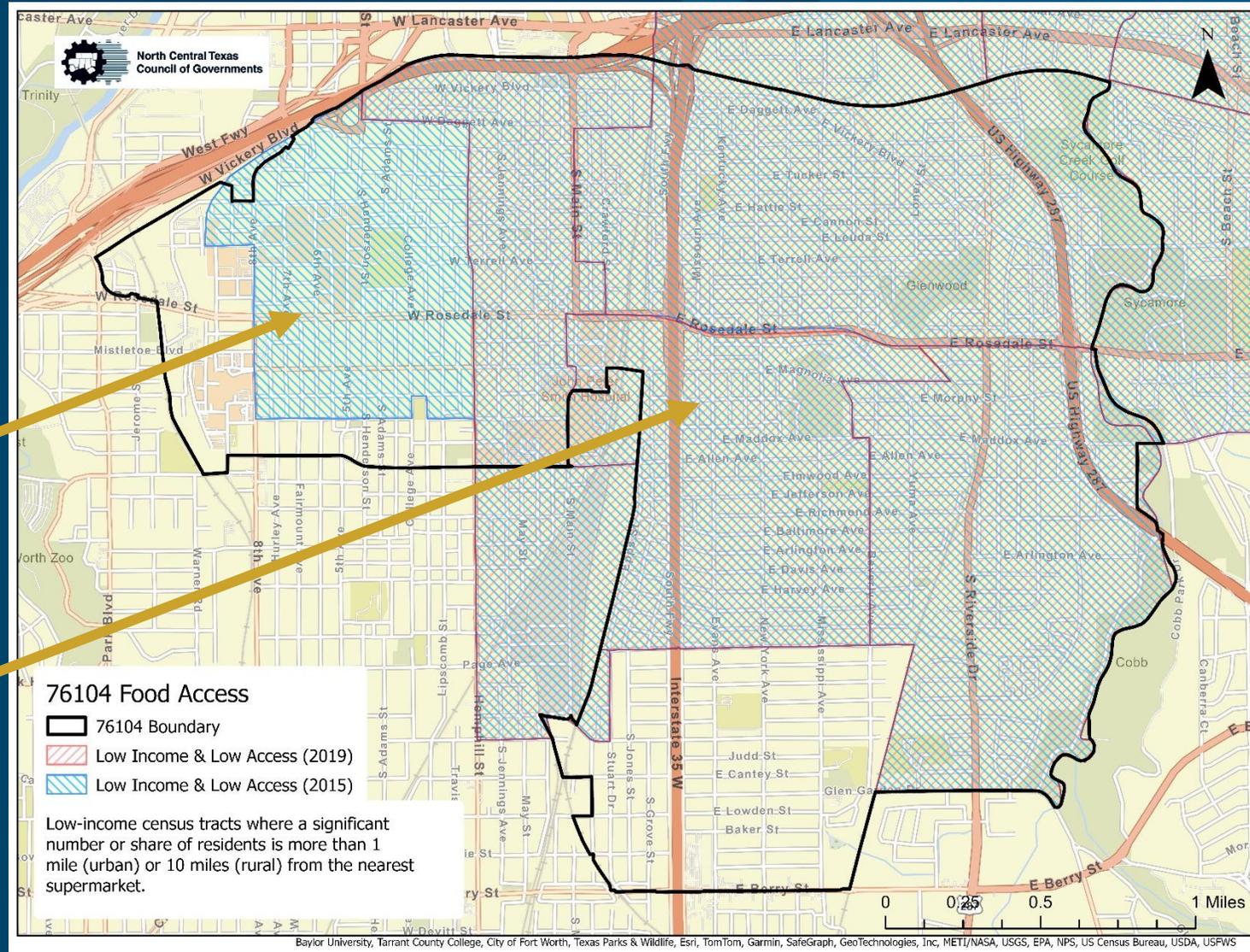


FOOD ACCESS

USDA Economic Research Service: Food Access Atlas 2015 compared to 2019

The Medical Center area lost its Low Income and Low Access to food designation between 2015 and 2019

The neighborhood area of the ZIP retained its Low Income and Low Access to food designations between 2015 and 2019





Public Comment/Open House

WE NEED YOUR FEEDBACK!

Display boards and maps throughout the room

Identifying
Transit Use
Barriers

How Can
Transit Be
the Answer

Current
Transit
Experience

Opportunities
for
Transit



PUBLIC COMMENT AND OPEN HOUSE

- Review the information
- Ask questions!
- Provide input



www.nctcog.org/76104



Project Contacts:



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Transportation Planner

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