

ACCESS NORTH TEXAS

County Public Outreach Meeting –
Dallas County

March 27, 2025

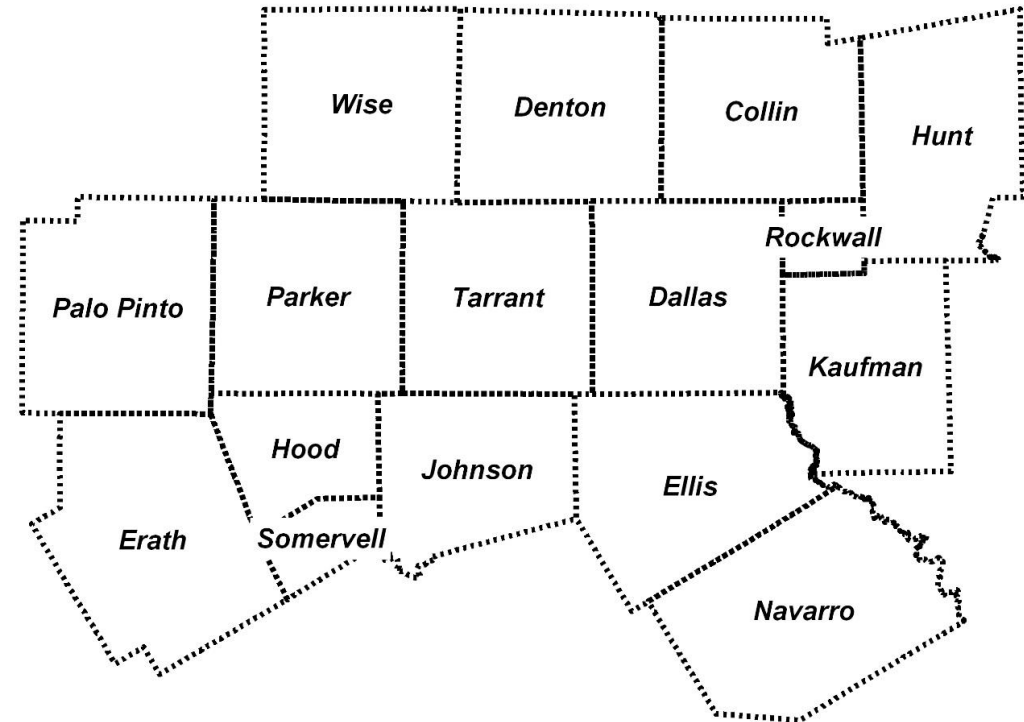
AGENDA

- Intro to Staff and NCTCOG
- Access North Texas
- The 2022 Plan
- Goals & Strategies
- County-Specific Public Transportation
- Timeline
- Public Survey
- Activities

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.

www.nctcog.org



WHAT IS PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AND NCTCOG'S ROLE?

Public transportation is considered a general or specialized transportation service provided to the public on a regular basis.

Example modes: Fixed route bus, On-demand microtransit, Demand-Response Paratransit (for eligible riders), Light rail, Commuter train (ex. TRE), Streetcar

- **Who operates public transportation in our region?**

- Transit Authorities (3 large; DART, DCTA, Trinity Metro)
- Small Transportation Providers (Urbanized and Rural)
- Private companies (contracted with cities)



ACCESS NORTH TEXAS

- Regional Public Transportation Coordination Plan to:
 - ✓ Identify the public transportation needs of older adults, people with disabilities, individuals with lower income, and others experiencing transportation challenges.
- Specify strategies to:
 - ✓ Address needs and current challenges
 - ✓ Eliminate gaps in service
 - ✓ Avoid duplication of transit services
- Updated every 4 years



Source: Getty Images

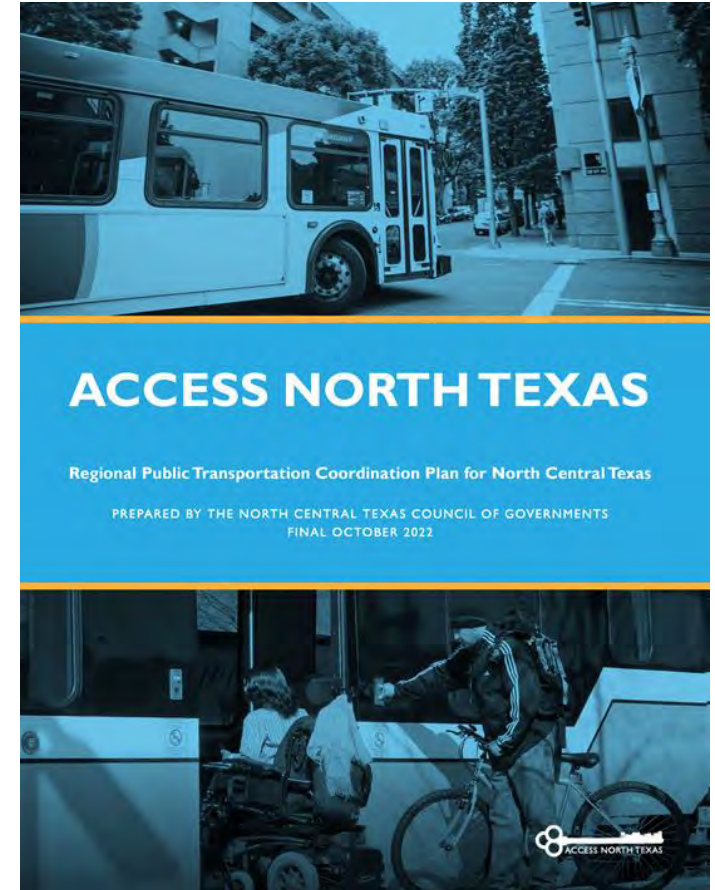
ACCESS NORTH TEXAS

- Meets Federal and State requirements for transit coordination within our region
- Information can be used for planning & funding decisions
- Visit www.accessnorthtexas.org to find previous versions of the plan



THE 2022 PLAN

- The most recent update was adopted by the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) in 2022
- The Plan Includes:
 - ✓ Executive Summary
 - ✓ Regional Goals
 - ✓ County-Specific Chapters
 - ✓ County-Specific Prioritized Strategies
 - ✓ Get-A-Ride Guide
- Public feedback is used to help develop the regional goals and prioritized strategies
- Surveys are available to collect public feedback



REGIONAL GOALS FROM THE 2022 UPDATE



(1) Plan and develop transportation options by assessing community needs and challenges



(2) Implement services by enhancing transportation options and expanding where service gaps exist



(3) Coordinate with transportation providers, public agencies, and stakeholders to increase efficiencies



(4) Support public transportation recovery and growth



(5) Promote access and information about available transit

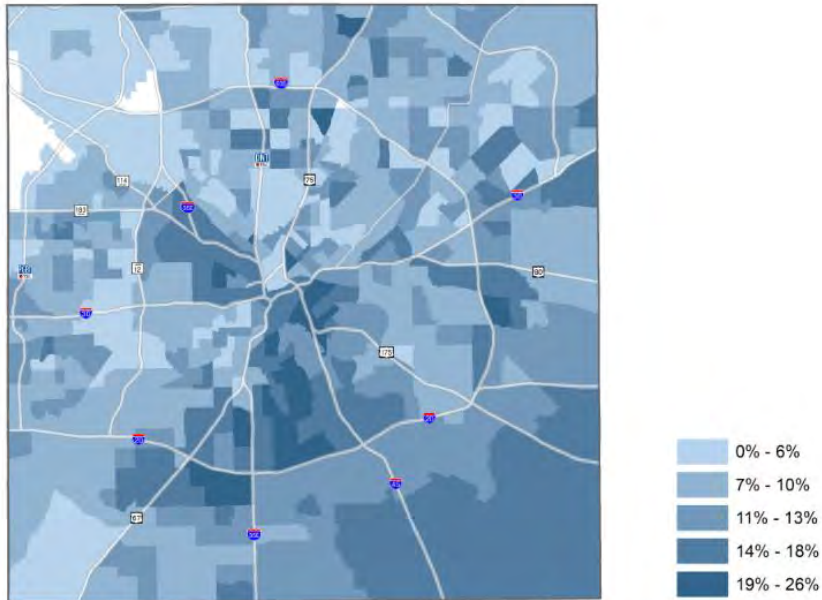
REGIONAL GOAL	DALLAS COUNTY-SPECIFIC STRATEGIES
Plan and Develop Transportation Options by Assessing Community Need and Challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A) Invest in programs to assist with filling gaps in public transportation and facilitate service for work-related trips B) Invest in programs that facilitate transportation trips to medical and healthcare appointments C) Launch a mobility toolbox to educate on and promote public transportation options such as fixed route, demand-respond, on-demand services, etc.
Implement Services by Enhancing Transportation Options and Expanding Where Service Gaps Exist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A) Improve existing public transportation options to better fit the needs of riders and households with 1 or zero cars by increasing service frequency and availability B) Expand eligible trips for specialized public transportation services to include employment, social, religious, and well-being trips C) Establish additional assistance or more specialized public transportation options for customers who are not ADA paratransit eligible or physically capable of utilizing regular public transportation services D) Expand service hours to support needs of low-income individuals in the service industry and outside traditional 9am-5pm jobs
Coordinate with Transportation Providers, Public Agencies, and Stakeholders to Increase Efficiencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A) Work with regional and local organizations to increase ease of travel across municipal and county boundaries B) Foster cooperation between public transit providers within counties to allow better connectivity and simplify regional trips
Support Public Transportation Recovery and Growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A) Promote safe and healthy practices on public transportation services B) Partner with organizations to coordinate training and recruitment for future public transportation professionals and create pipelines with area schools C) Establish driver recruitment and retention programs for public transportation services to address difficulties in retaining drivers

REGIONAL GOAL	COUNTY-SPECIFIC STRATEGIES
Promote Access and Information about Available Transportation Options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A) Enhance communication and outreach programs to improve awareness of existing or new transportation options B) Conduct travel training to educate the public on available services and policies C) Partner with agencies, recreation centers, senior residencies, housing-assisted living centers, and other organizations to publicize information

DALLAS COUNTY PRIORITIZED STRATEGIES FROM THE 2022 UPDATE

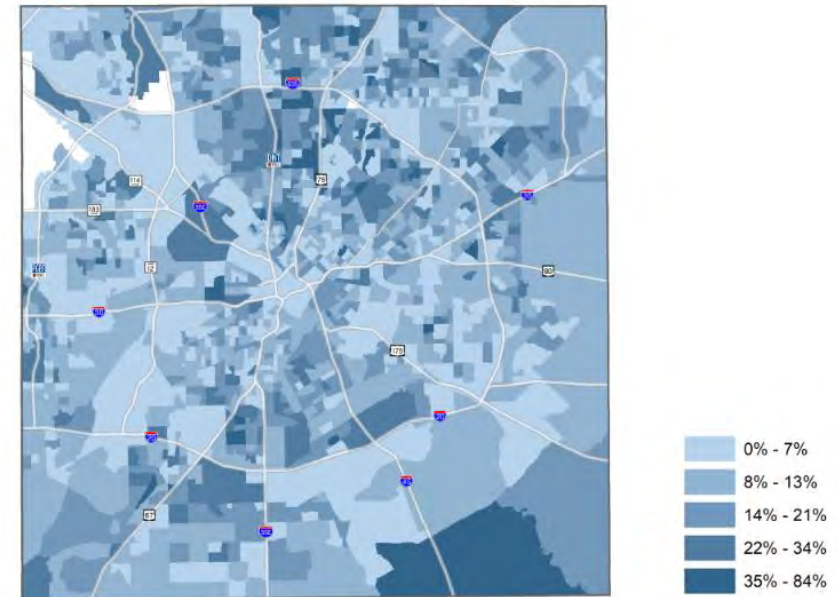
DALLAS COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS

Dallas County Persons with Disabilities



N
0 5 10 Miles
Source: 2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates
Data aggregated to the Census tract level

Dallas County Population Over 65



N
0 5 10 Miles
Source: 2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates
Data aggregated to the Census block group level

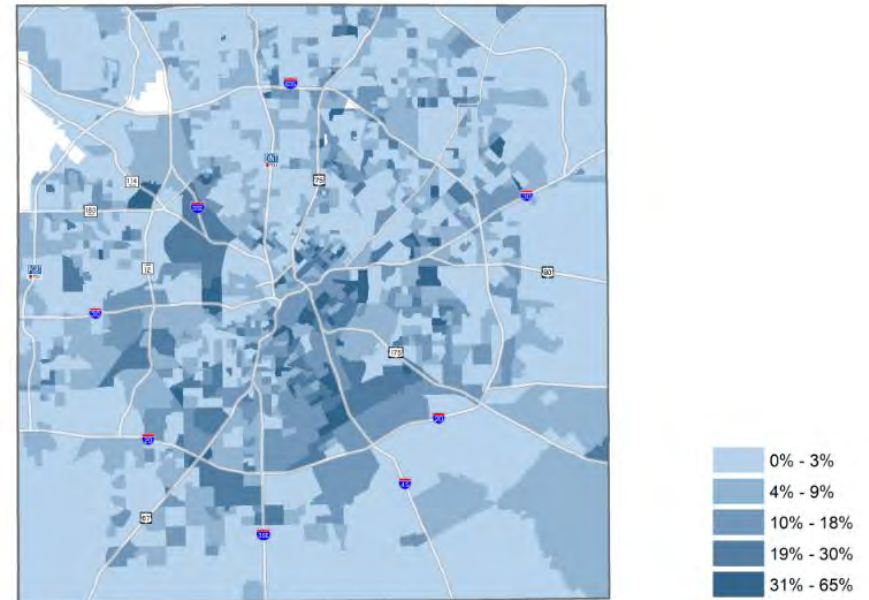
DALLAS COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS

Dallas County Low-Income Individuals



N
0 5 10 Miles
Source: 2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates
Data aggregated to the Census block group level

Dallas County Zero-Car Households

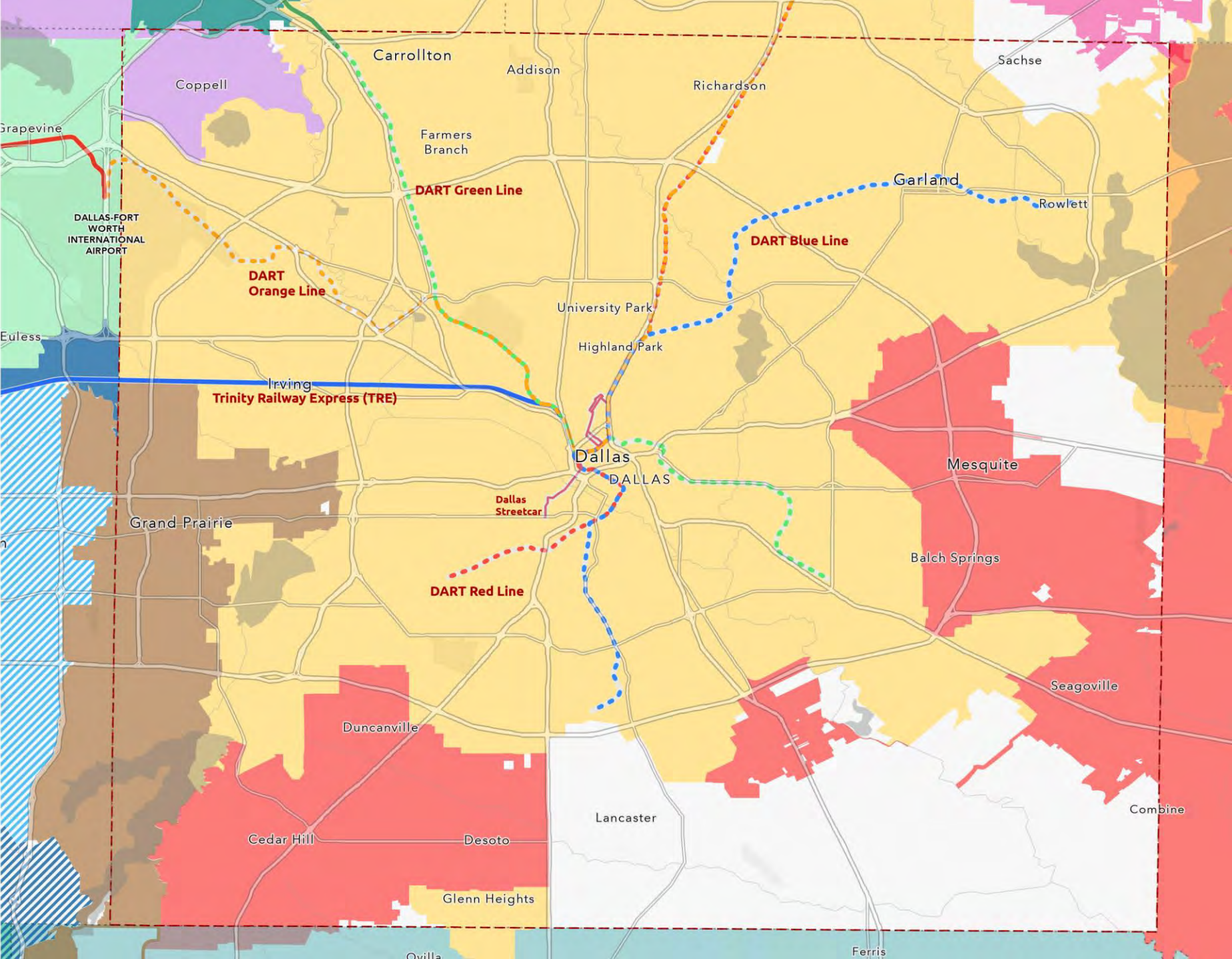
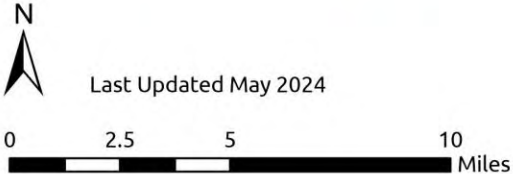
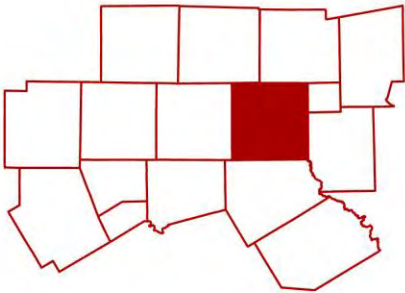


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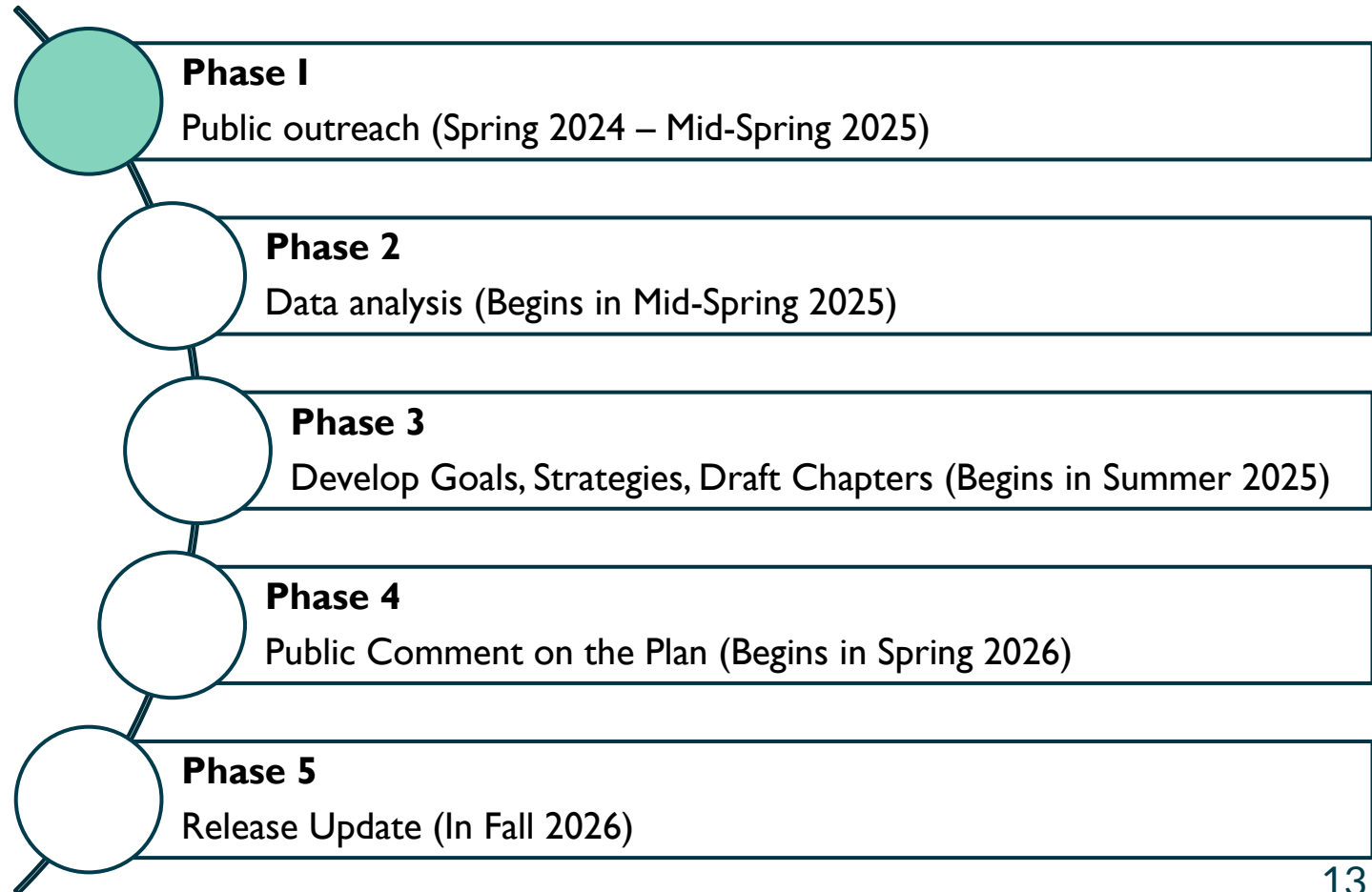


Dallas County Transit Providers

- Dallas Area Rapid Transit
- STAR Transit
- SPAN Transit
- Northeast Transportation Services
- Ride Awake Wylie
- Grand Prairie Via & Grand Connection

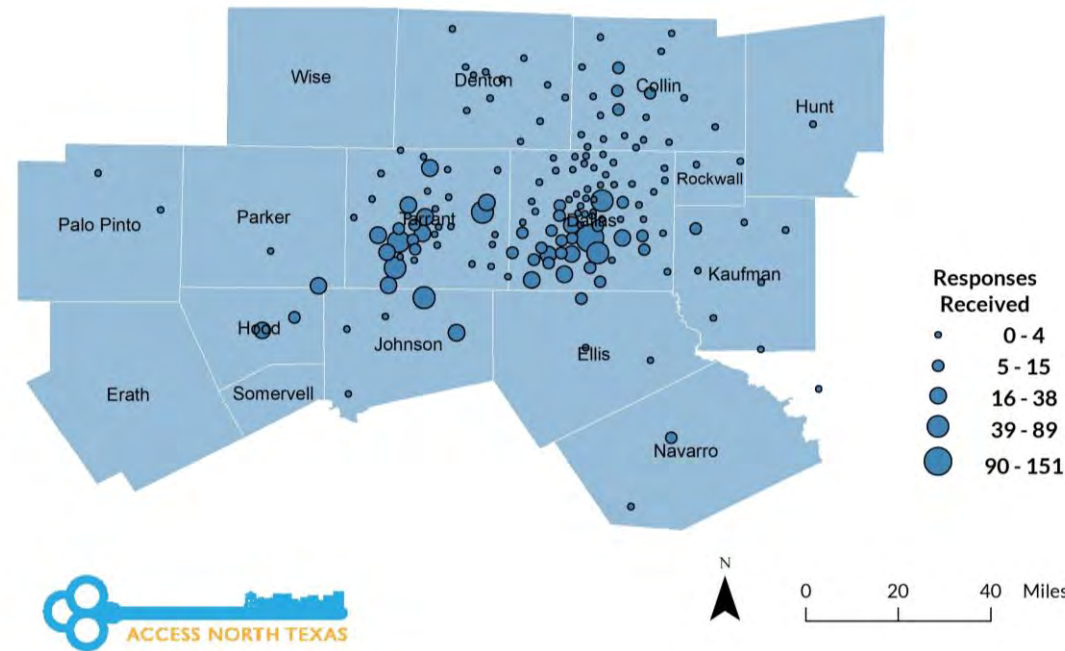


TIMELINE FOR 2026 UPDATE



ACCESS NORTH TEXAS SURVEY

2022 Access North Texas Regional Distribution of Public Survey Responses



Public Survey

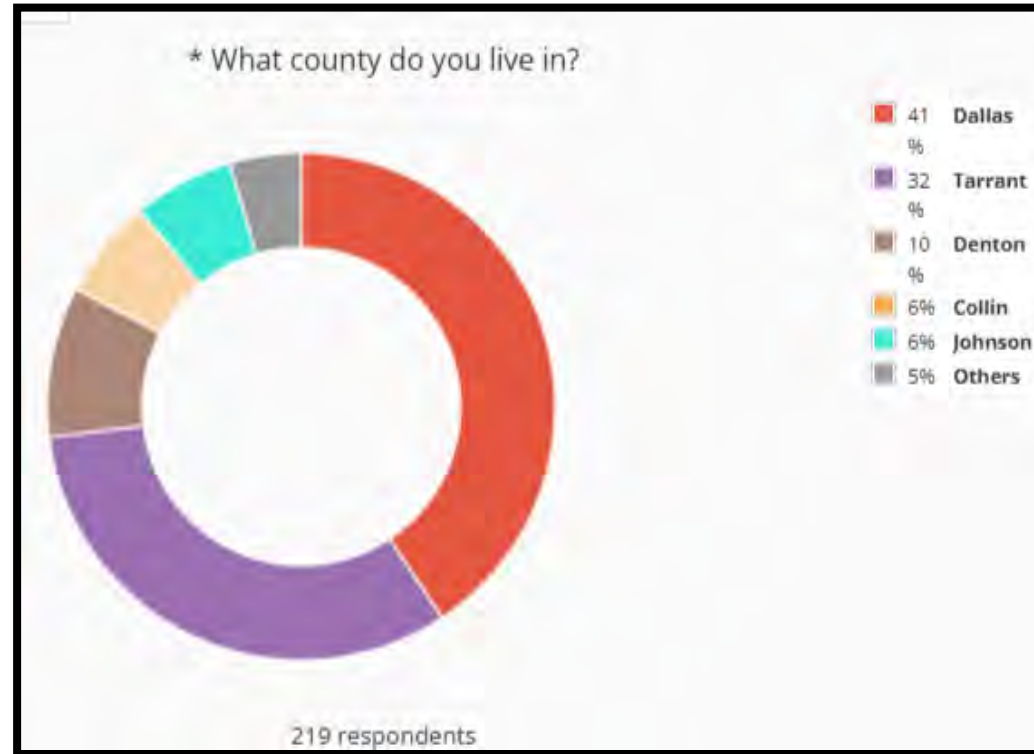
Agency Survey

Survey Translations

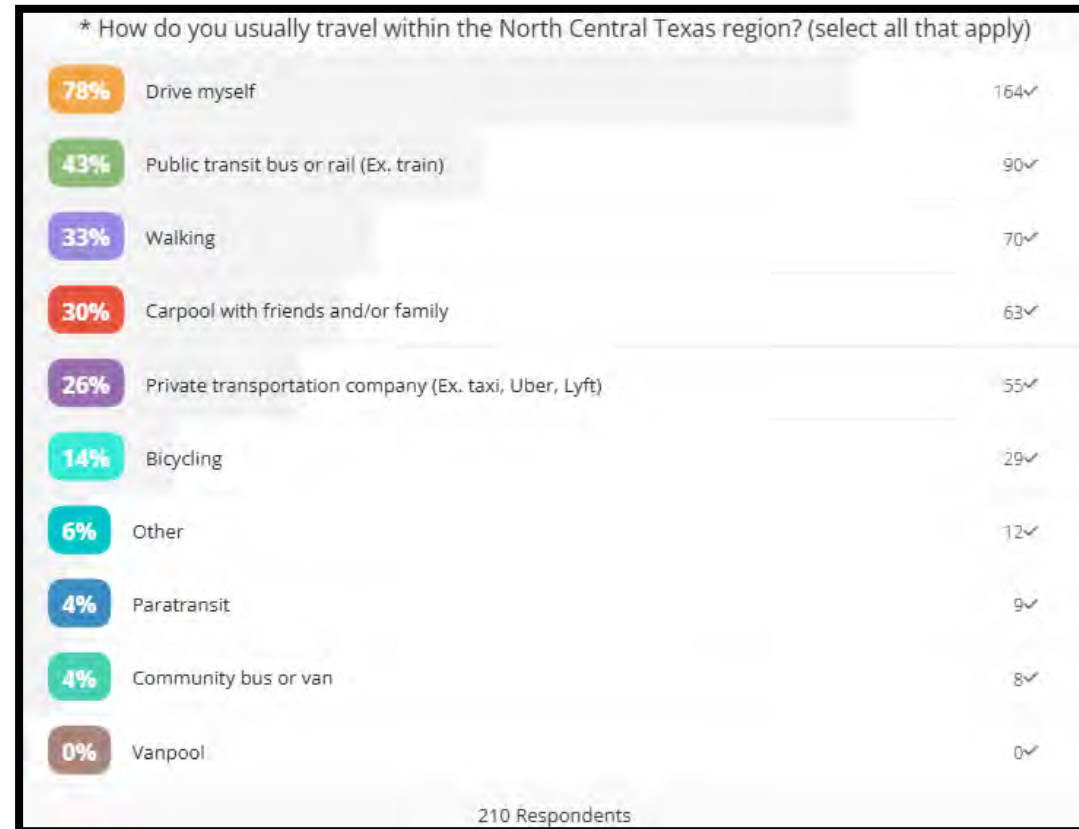
The survey was made available in May 2024 and will close in April 2025

www.publicinput.com/AccessNorthTexas

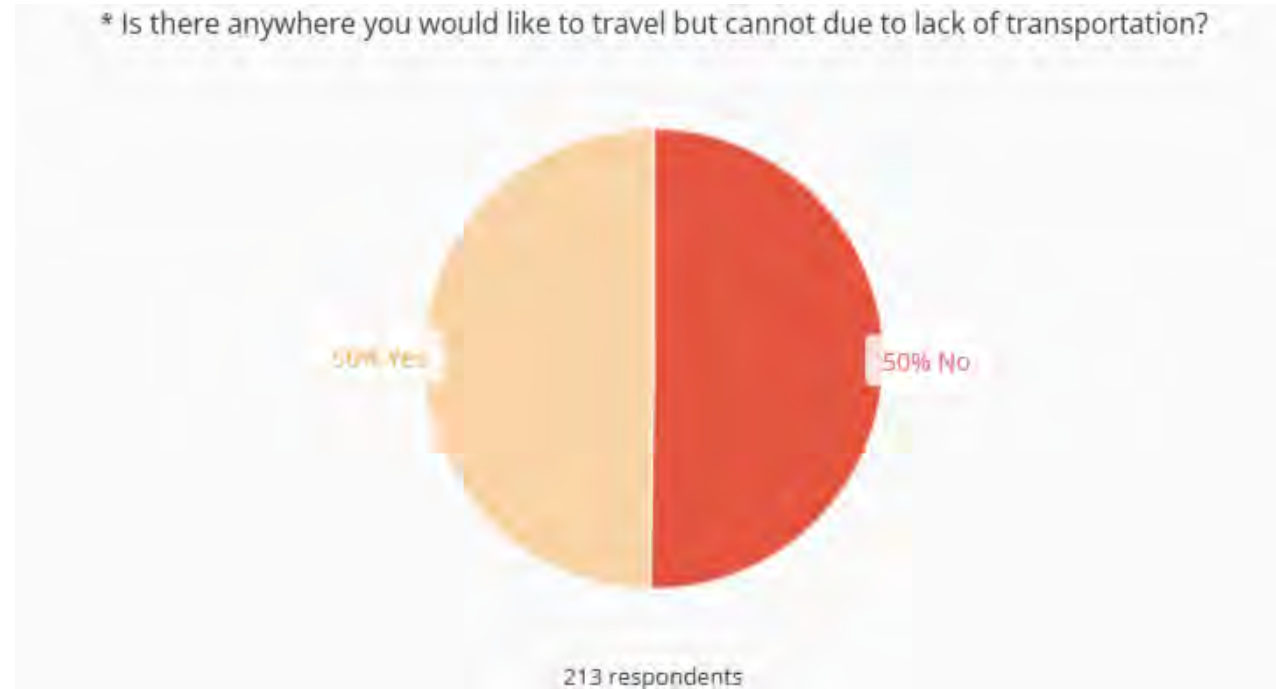
ACCESS NORTH TEXAS SURVEY – EXAMPLE FEEDBACK (2/5/2025)



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STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS

Starting in Spring 2025

Review transportation providers and solicit feedback

County-specific meetings, combination of in-person and virtual

Regional meeting in April 2025 (virtual)



Source: Getty Images (both photos)

STAKEHOLDER MEETING ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

Activity One

How Can Transit Be The Answer
Identify Challenges

- Use a sticky note and marker to provide feedback
- Apply sticky note to the activity paper

Activity Two

Ask About Access North Texas
Feedback to Improve Access

- Use a sticky note and marker to provide feedback
- Apply sticky note to the activity paper
- QR Code to public survey is on the activity if interested. Scan it with your phone.

Activity Three

Public Transportation Access Needs
Identify Solutions

- Use sticky dots
- Identify top 3 services and activities you would prioritize

CONTACT US

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THANK YOU

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Scan QR Code
For Survey

