

ACCESS NORTH TEXAS

County Public Outreach Meeting –
Erath, Hood, and Somervell Counties

April 10, 2025

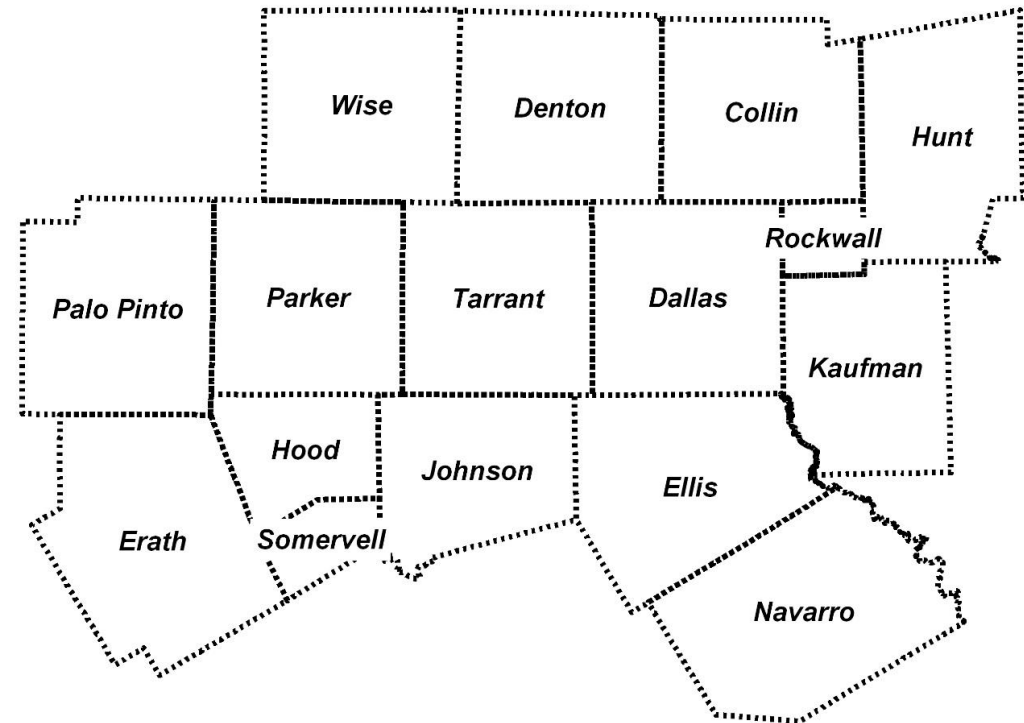
AGENDA

- 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



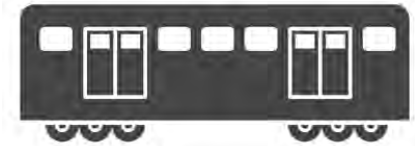
WHAT IS PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AND NCTCOG'S ROLE?

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

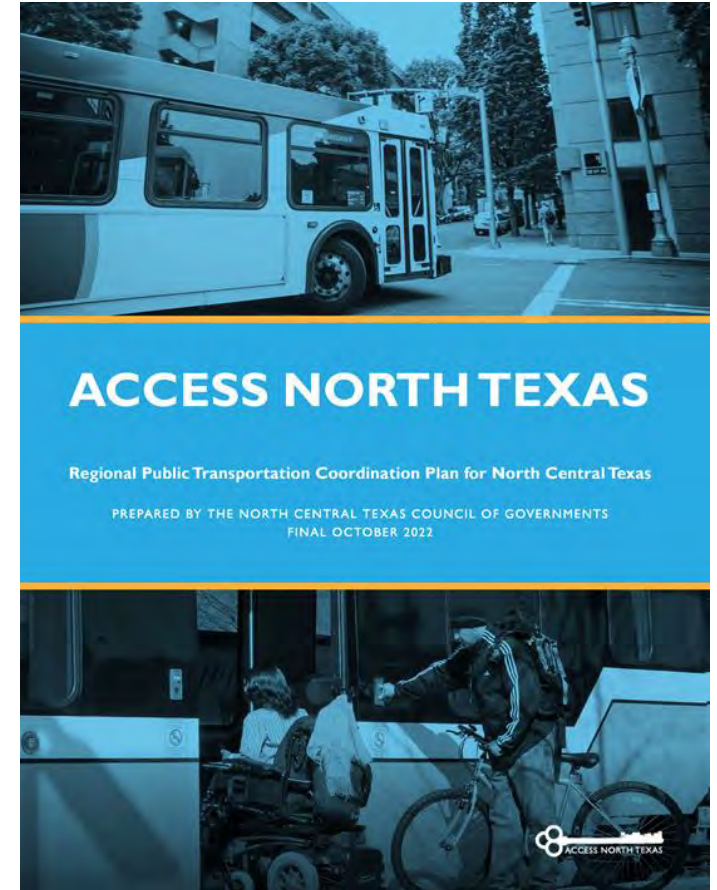
ACCESS NORTH TEXAS

- 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



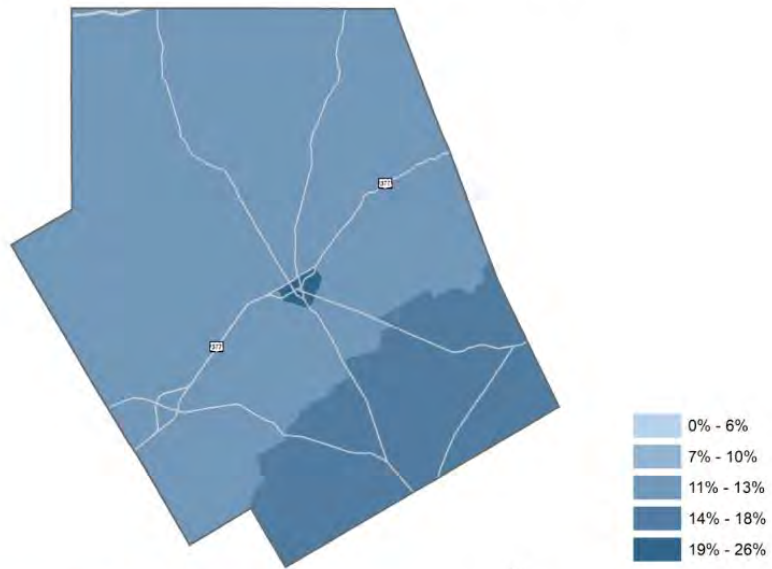
(5) Promote access and information about available transit

ERATH, HOOD, AND SOMERVELL COUNTIES PRIORITIZED STRATEGIES FROM THE 2022 UPDATE

REGIONAL GOAL	ERATH, HOOD AND SOMERVELL COUNTY-SPECIFIC STRATEGIES
Plan and Develop Transportation Options by Assessing Community Need and Challenges	A) Conduct planning activities to further identify public transportation needs of residents outside of the existing transportation authorities and define additional coordination opportunities for existing providers
Implement Services by Enhancing Transportation Options and Expanding Where Service Gaps Exist	A) Expand public transportation services to key destinations throughout the region - work, medical appointments, religious services, and social/entertainment needs
Coordinate with Transportation Providers, Public Agencies, and Stakeholders to Increase Efficiencies	A) Work with regional and local organizations to increase ease of travel across municipal and county boundaries
Support Public Transportation Recovery and Growth	A) Promote safe and healthy practices on public transportation services
Promote Access and Information about Available Transportation Options	A) Enhance education 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

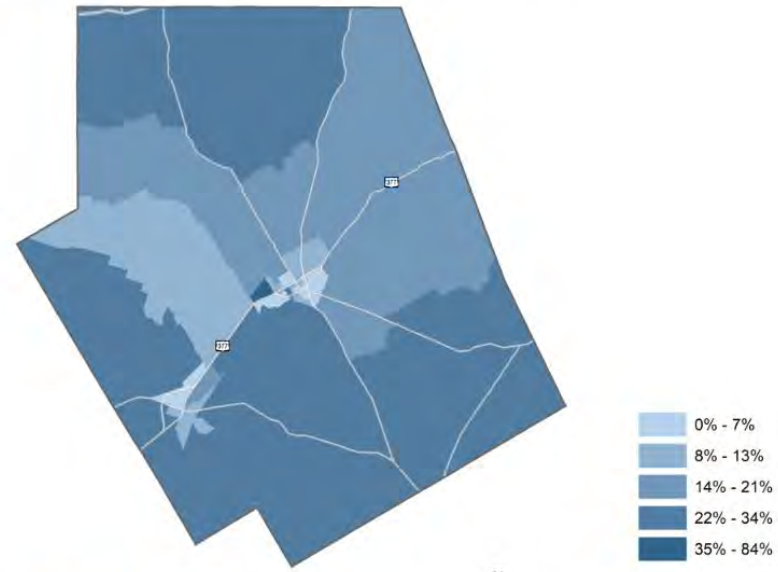
ERATH COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS

Erath County Persons with Disabilities



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

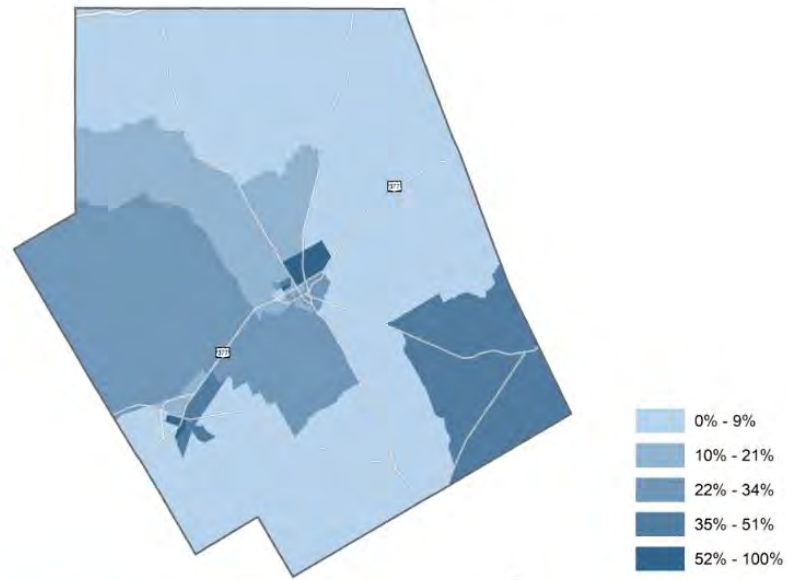
Erath County Population Over 65



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

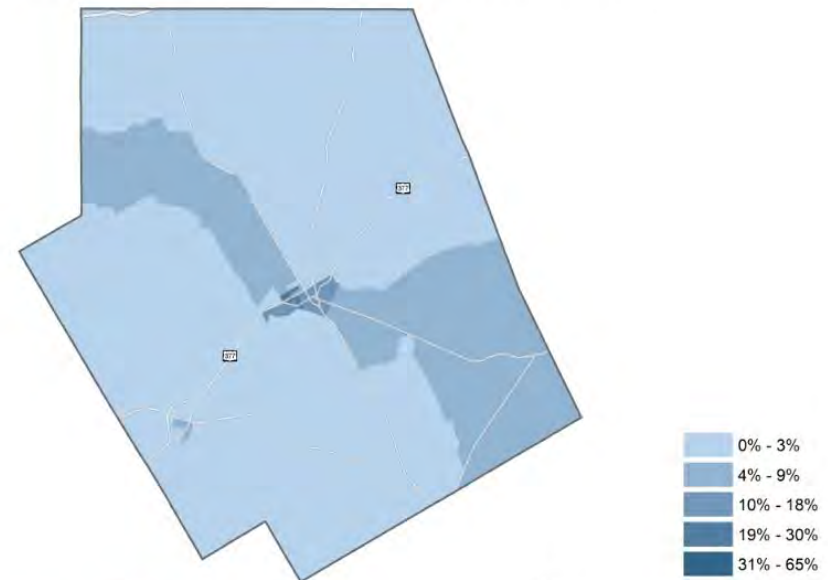
ERATH COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS

Erath County Low-Income Individuals



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

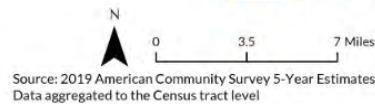
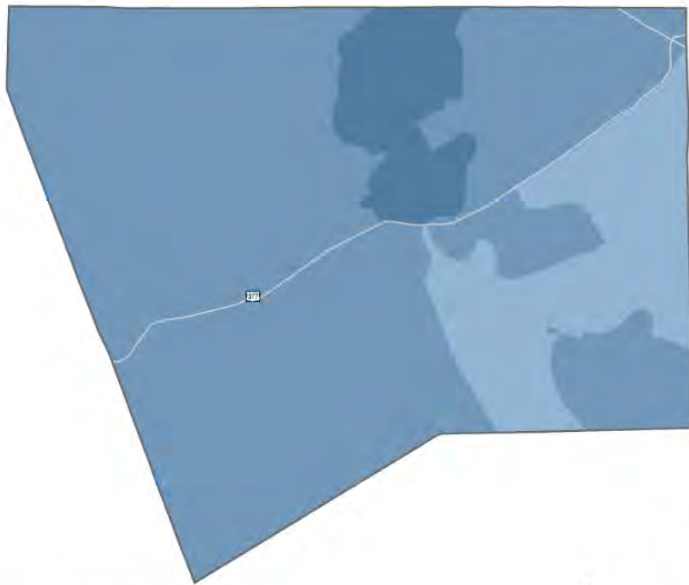
Erath County Zero-Car Households



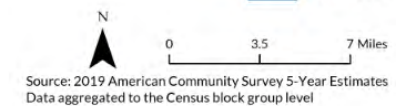
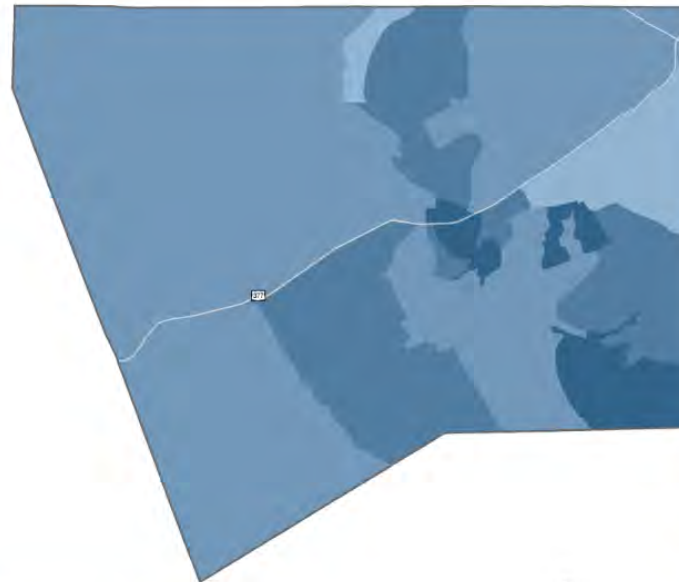
Source: 2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates
Data aggregated to the Census block group level

HOOD COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS

Hood County Persons with Disabilities

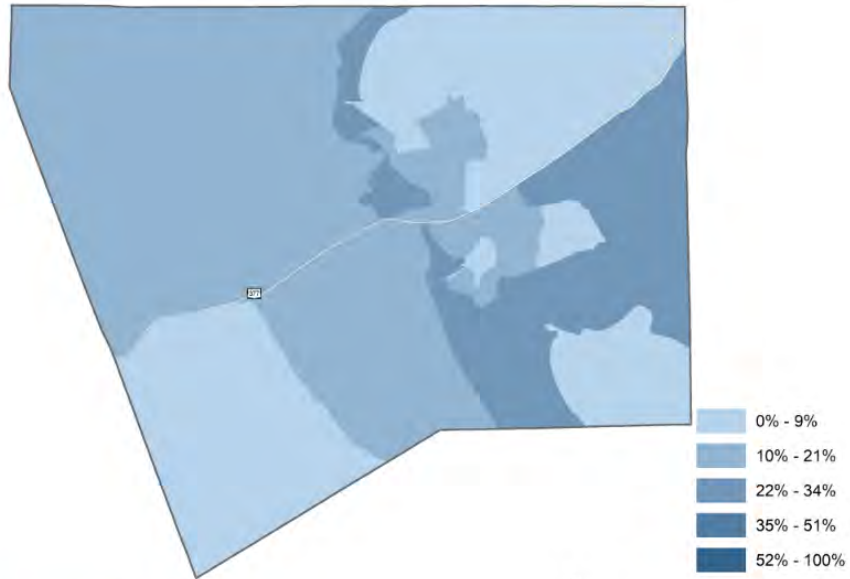


Hood County Population Over 65



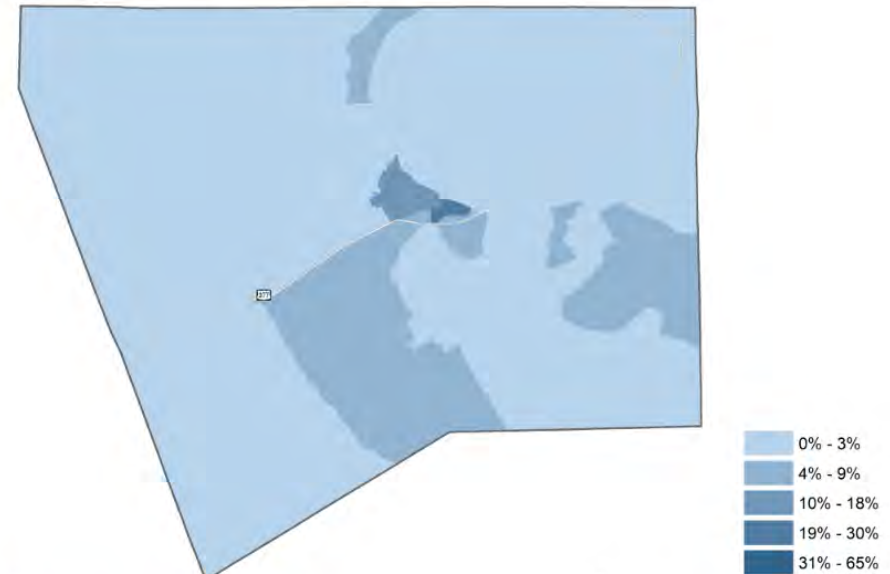
HOOD COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS

Hood County Low-Income Individuals



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

Hood County Zero-Car Households



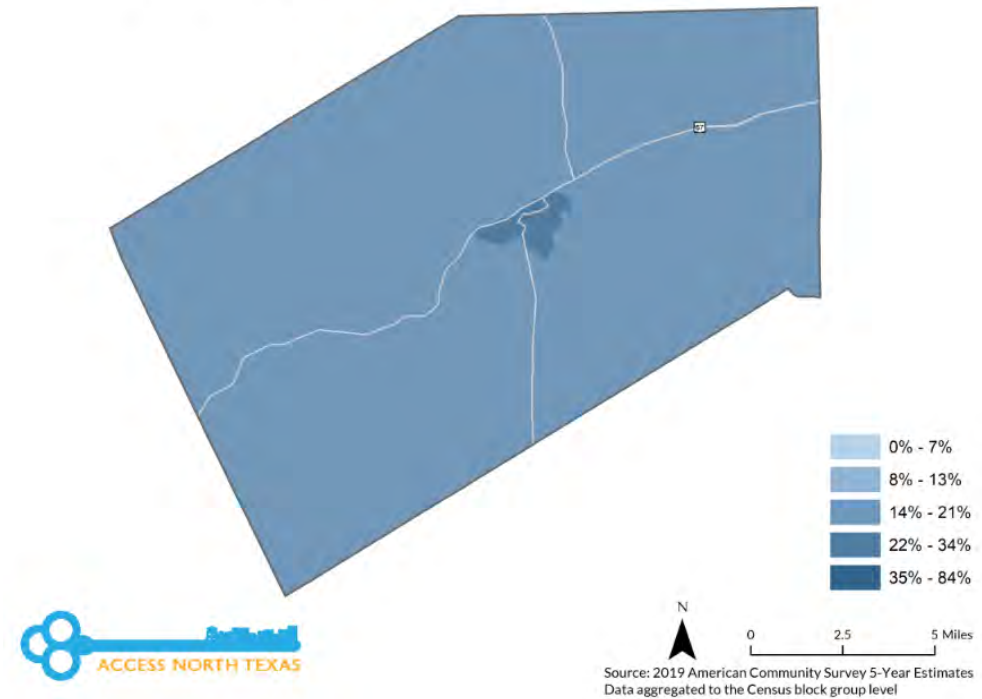
Source: 2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates
Data aggregated to the Census block group level

SOMERVELL COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS

Somervell County Persons with Disabilities

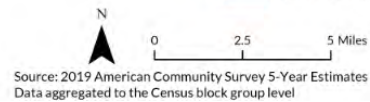
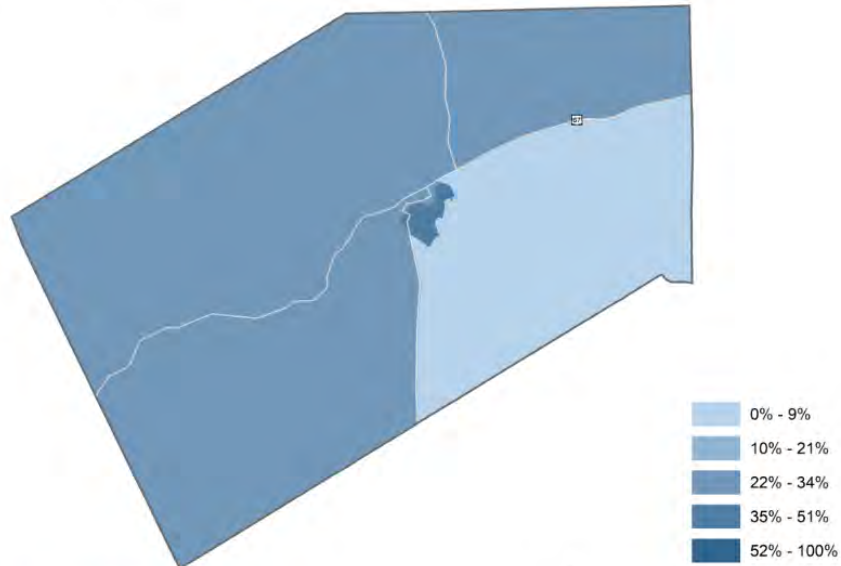


Somervell County Population Over 65

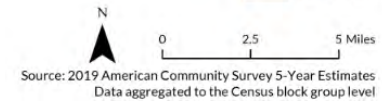
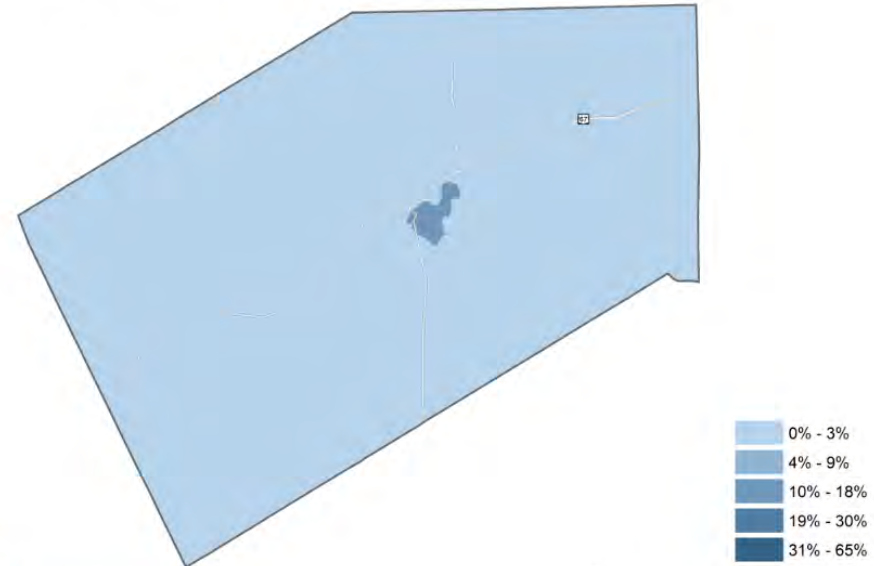


SOMERVELL COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS

Somervell County Low-Income Individuals




Somervell County Zero-Car Households

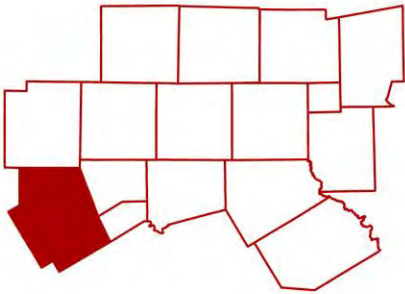




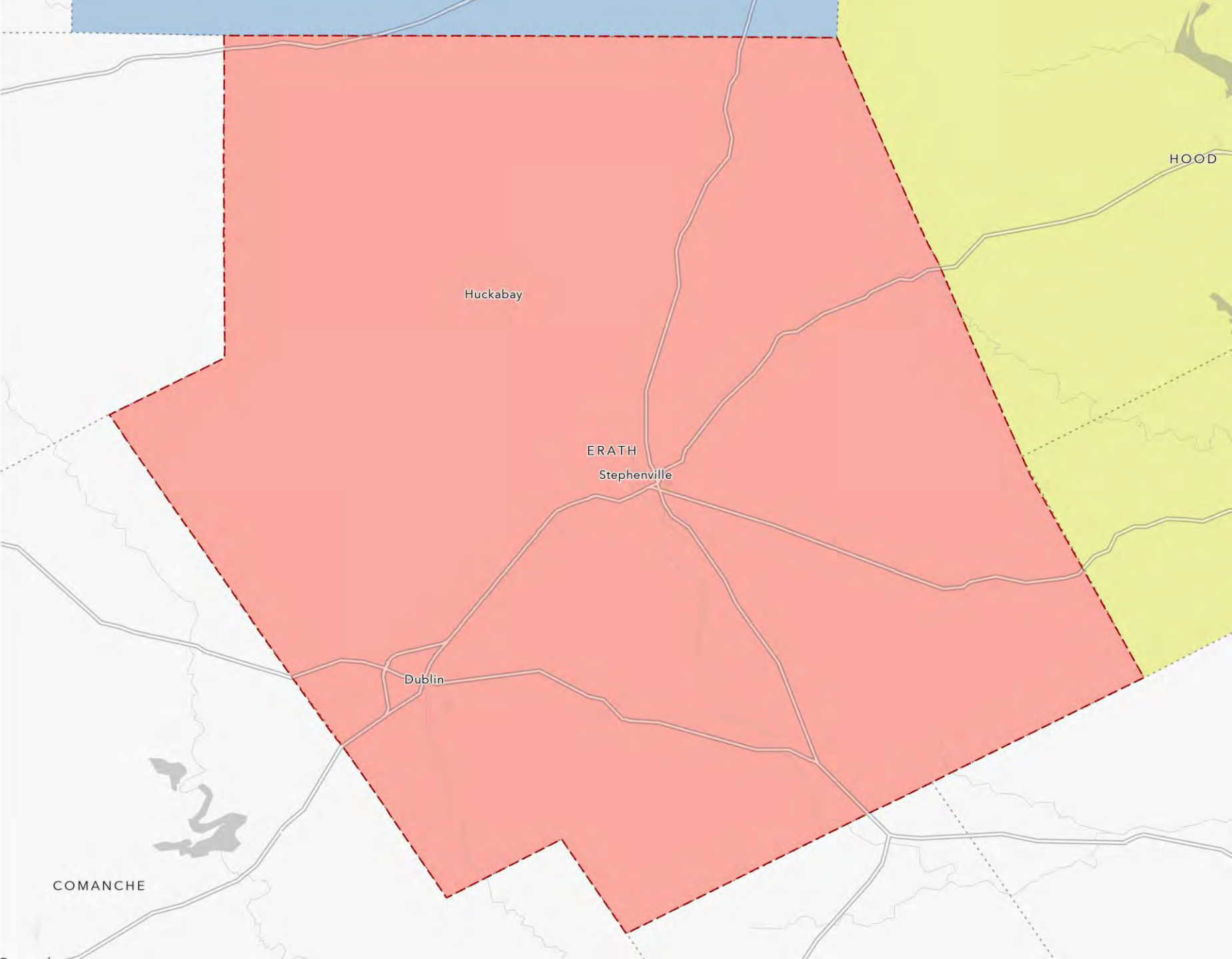
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Erath County Transit Providers

 City & Rural Rides



Last Updated May 2024

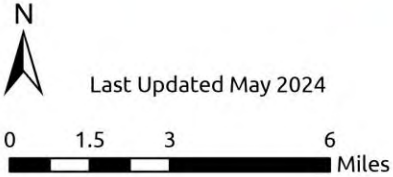
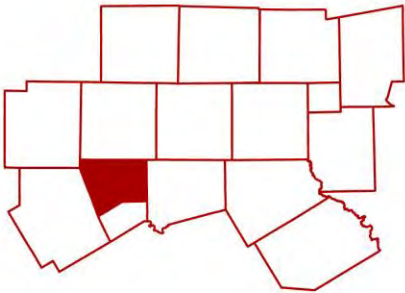




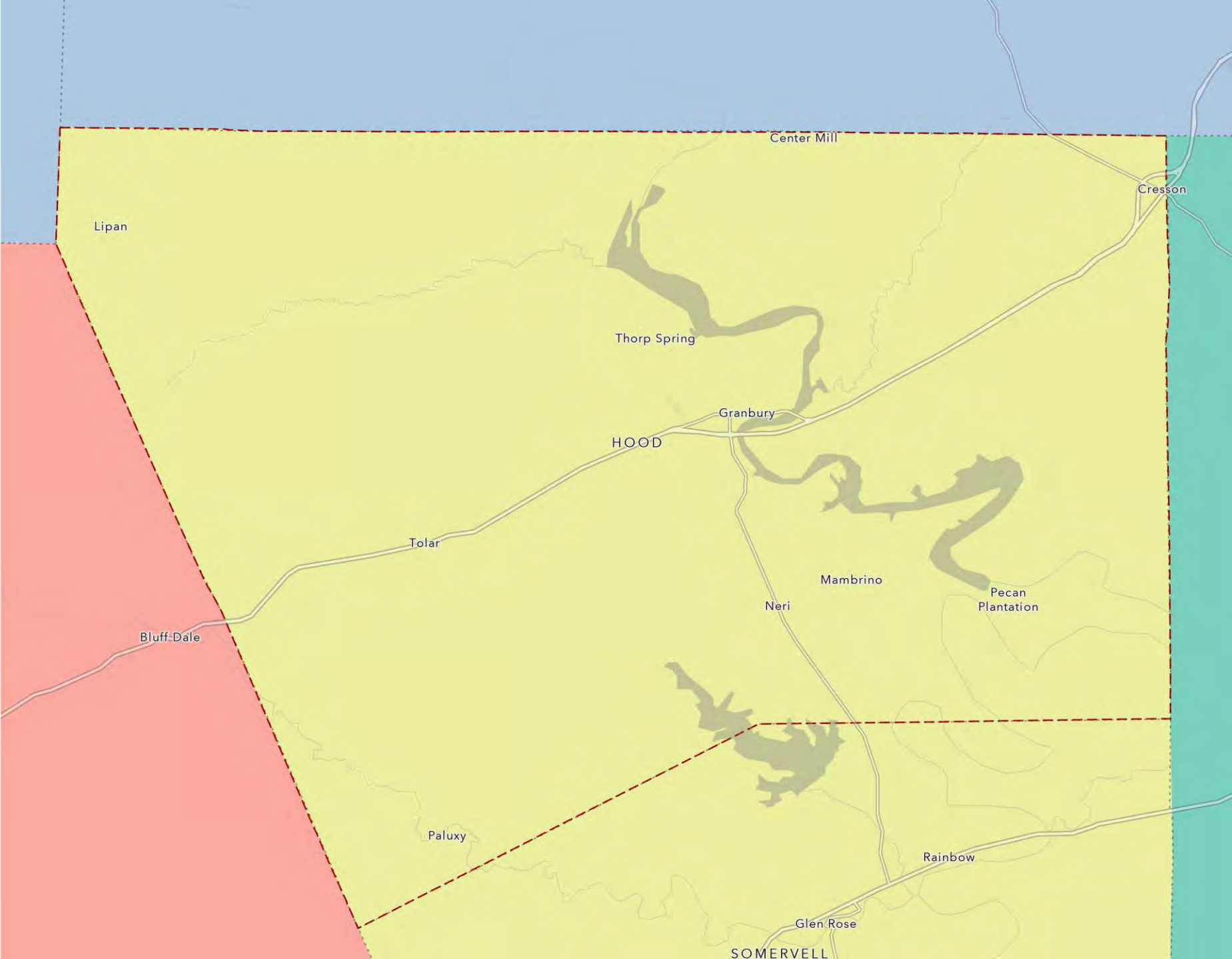
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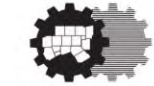
Hood County Transit Providers

 The Transit System



Last Updated May 2024

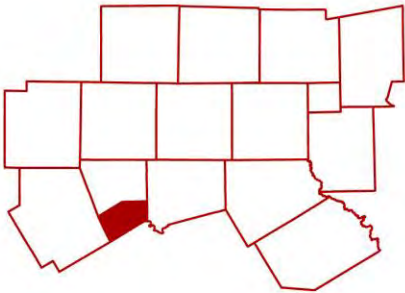




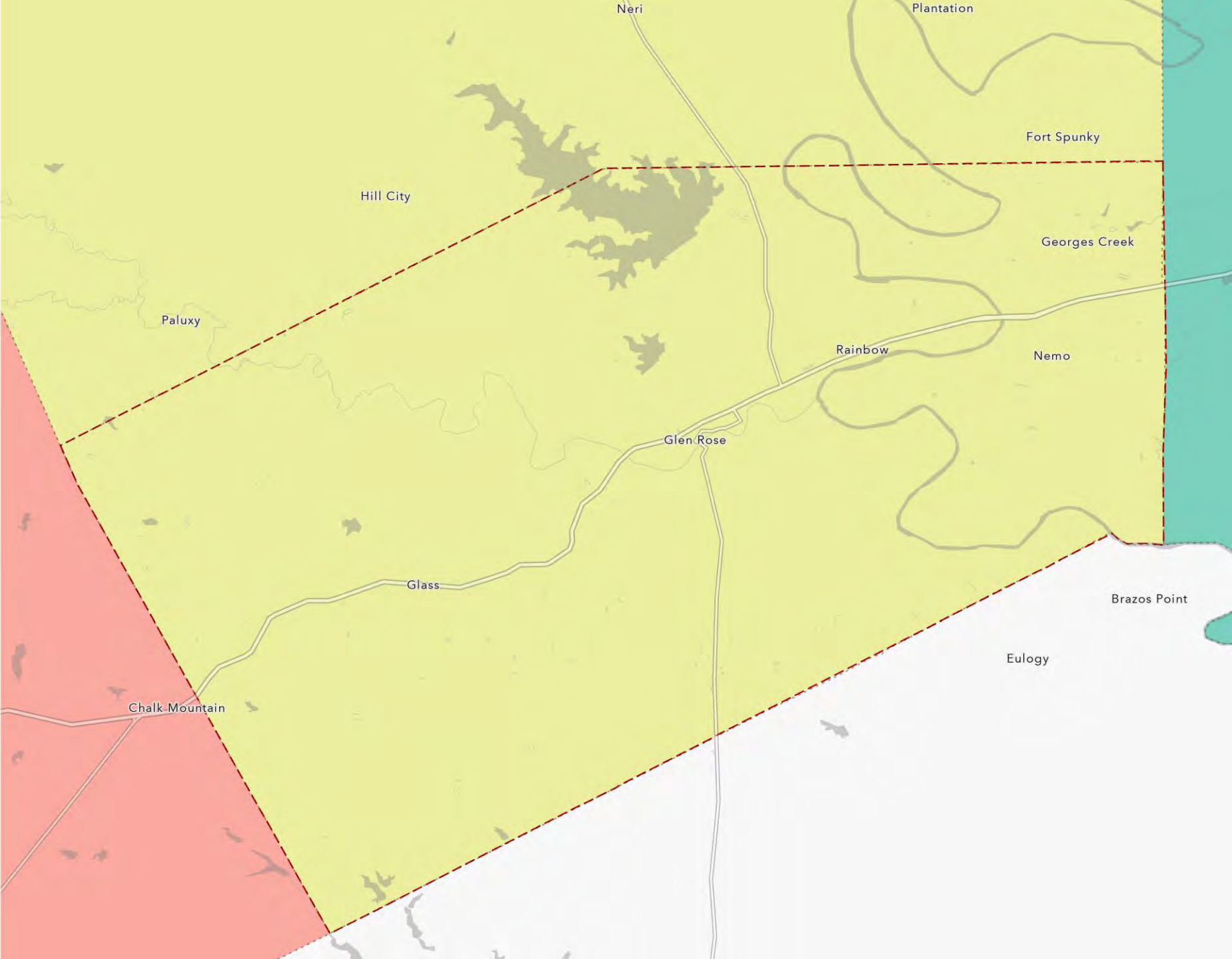
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Somervell County Transit Providers

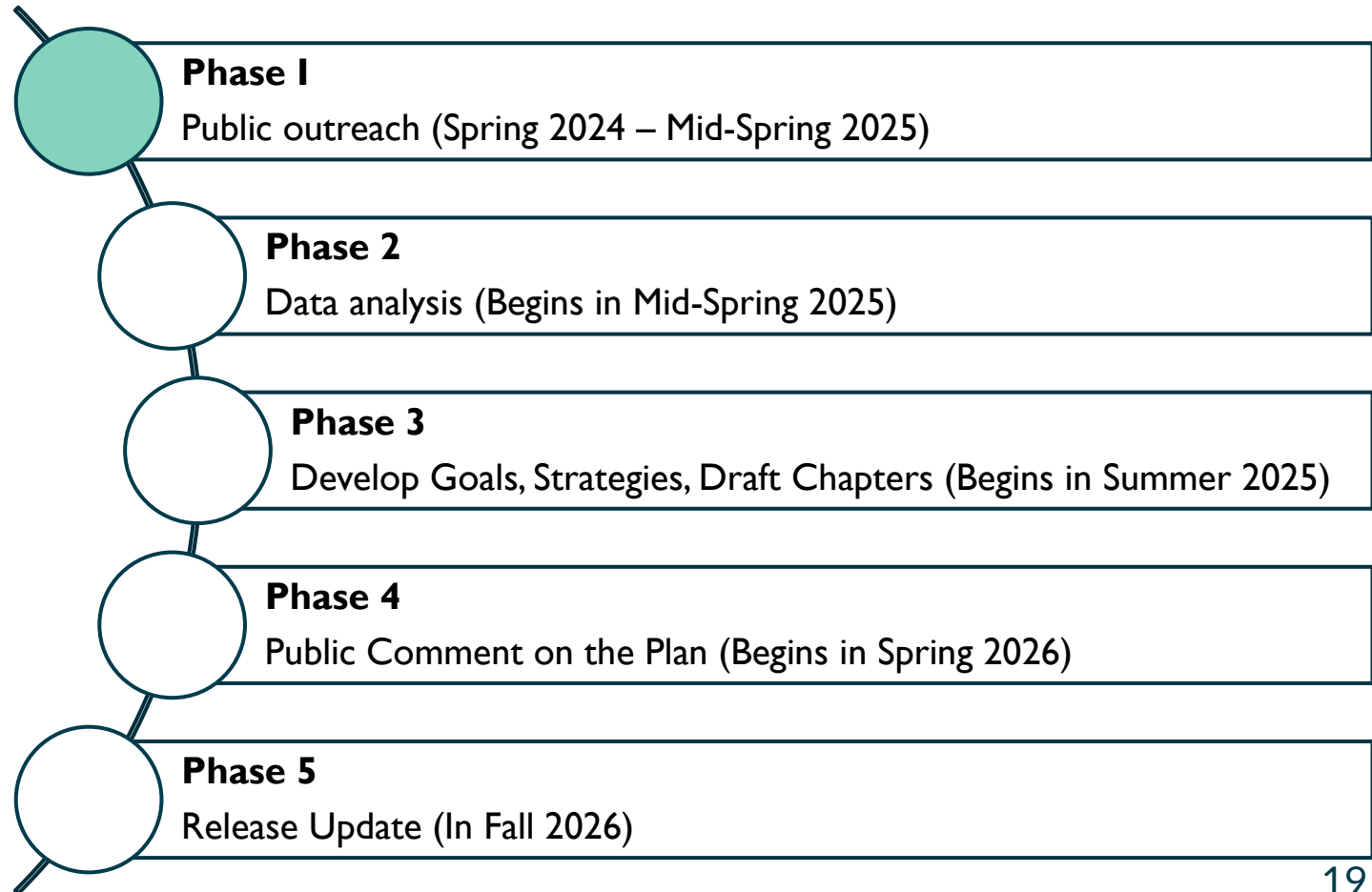
 The Transit System



Last Updated May 2024

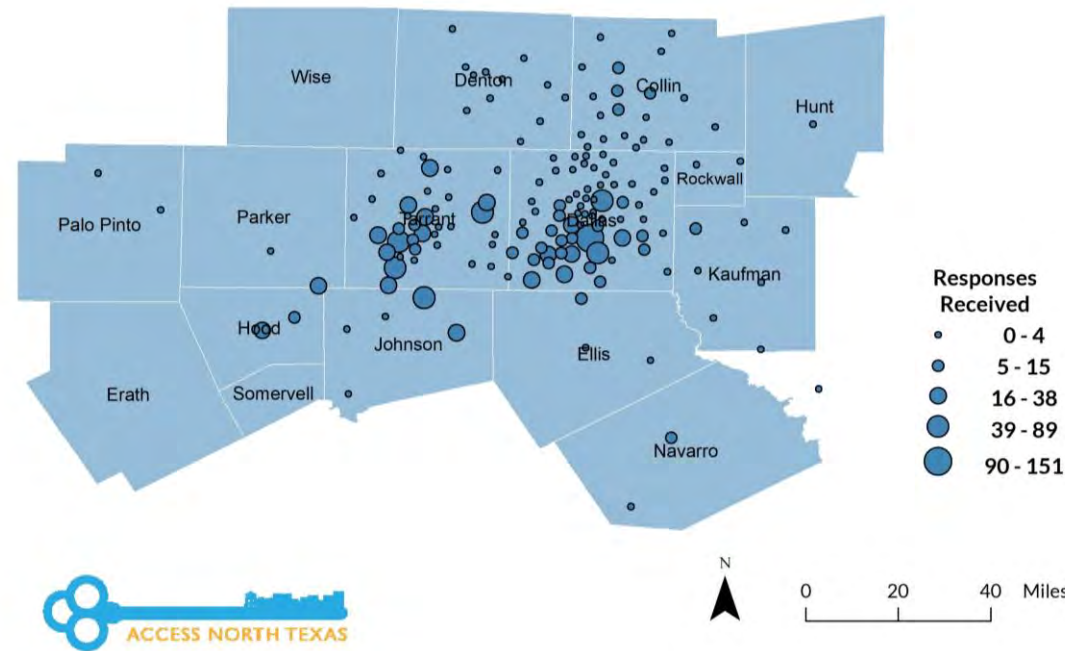


TIMELINE FOR 2026 UPDATE



ACCESS NORTH TEXAS SURVEY

2022 Access North Texas Regional Distribution of Public Survey Responses



Public Survey

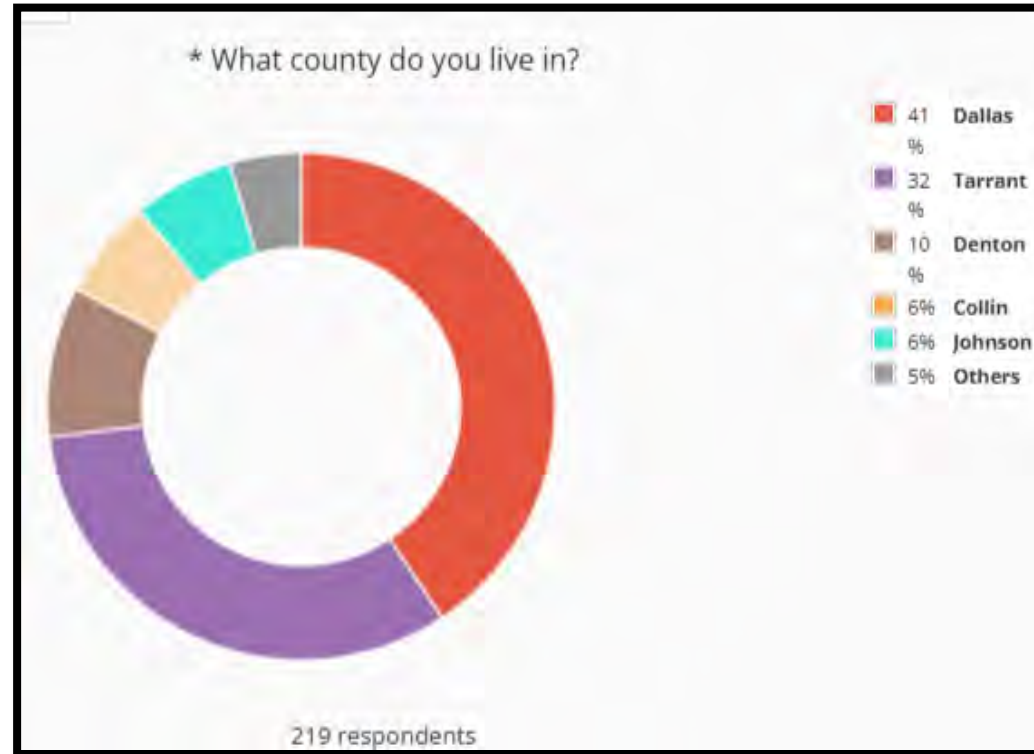
Agency Survey

Survey Translations

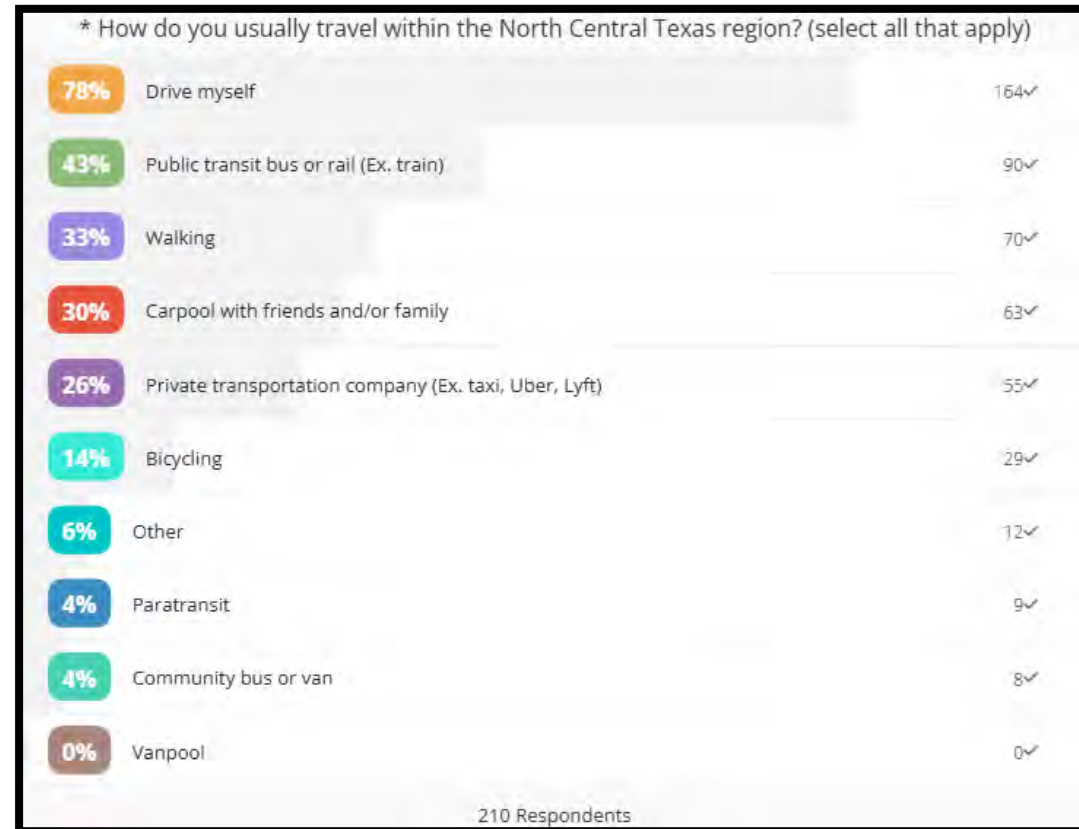
The survey was made available in May 2024 and will close in April 2025

www.publicinput.com/AccessNorthTexas

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



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



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

* Is there anywhere you would like to travel but cannot due to lack of transportation?



213 respondents

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)



Image Provided By Getty

ACTIVITY ONE

HOW CAN TRANSIT BE THE ANSWER

IDENTIFY CHALLENGES

How Can Transit Be The Answer?

¿Cómo Puede Ser el Transporte Público la Respuesta?

Share what challenges exist in using public transportation to access **food, housing, jobs and healthcare.**

Comparte los desafíos que existen al usar el transporte público para acceder a la **alimentación, vivienda, empleo y atención médica.**



INSTRUCTIONS

Respond using the chat box feature

AND/OR

Unmute your microphone and let us know your thoughts



Image Provided By Getty

ACTIVITY TWO

Ask About Access North Texas

*FEEDBACK TO IMPROVE
ACCESS*

ASK ABOUT ACCESS NORTH TEXAS

PREGUNTA SOBRE ACCESS NORTH TEXAS

IDENTIFYING PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION NEEDS

IDENTIFICANDO LAS NECESIDADES DEL TRANSPORTE PÚBLICO

Share how you think transit can provide better access for older adults, people with disabilities, and individuals with lower income.

Comparte tu opinión de cómo el transporte público puede facilitar un mejor acceso para las personas mayores, personas con discapacidades y para individuos de bajos recursos.



INSTRUCTIONS

Respond using the chat box feature

AND/OR

Unmute your microphone and let us know your thoughts

Email us at:

Envíanos un correo electrónico en:

ACCESSNORTHTEXAS@NCTCOG.ORG

TAKE OUR SURVEY

CONTESTA

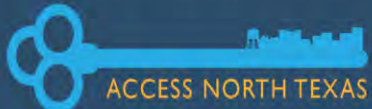
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Visit us at:

Vístanos en:

www.AccessNorthTexas.org



North Central Texas
Council of Governments



Image Provided By Getty

ACTIVITY THREE

Public Transportation Access Needs

IDENTIFY SOLUTIONS

Identifying Public Transportation Solutions

Identificando Soluciones de Transporte

Respond to the prompts below.
Responder a las siguientes preguntas.

WERE YOU FAMILIAR WITH OR AWARE OF EXISTING PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS WITHIN YOUR COUNTY?
¿ESTÁS FAMILIARIZADO O CONOCES LAS OPCIONES EXISTENTES DEL TRANSPORTE PÚBLICO EN TU CONDADO?

YES
Si

NO
No

WHICH OF THE BELOW SERVICES, IMPROVEMENTS, AND ACTIVITIES WOULD YOU PRIORITIZE FOR YOUR COMMUNITY? (Top 3)
¿CUÁLES DE LOS SIGUIENTES SERVICIOS, MEJORAS Y ACTIVIDADES PRIORIZARÍAS PARA TU COMUNIDAD? (3 principales)

Connections to Rail Stations
Conexiones con Estaciones de Tren

1

Fixed Bus Service
Servicio de Autobús Fijo

2

On-Demand Availability
Disponibilidad de On-Demand

3

Demand-Response (Scheduled Trips)
Demanda-Respuesta (Viajes Programados)

4

Service Area Expansion
Expansión del Área de Servicio

5

Service Time Expansion
Extender el Horario de Servicio

6

Community Partnerships
Colaboraciones Comunitarias

7

Transit Education & Awareness
Educación y Concienciación del Transporte Público

8

Pedestrian Improvements
Mejoras Peatonales

9

Improved Safety and Maintenance
Mejora de Seguridad y Mantenimiento

10

INSTRUCTIONS

Respond using the chat box feature

AND/OR

Unmute your microphone and let us know your thoughts

CONTACT US

General Comments or Questions:
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THANK YOU