

ACCESS NORTH TEXAS

County Public Outreach Meeting –
Rockwall County

April 1, 2025

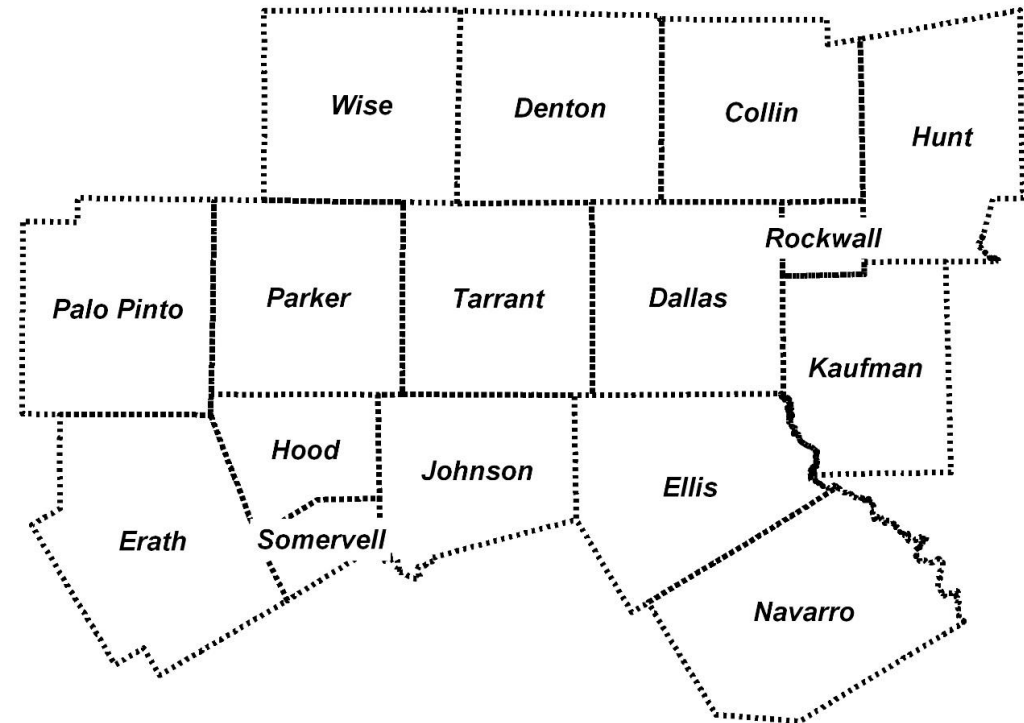
AGENDA

- 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

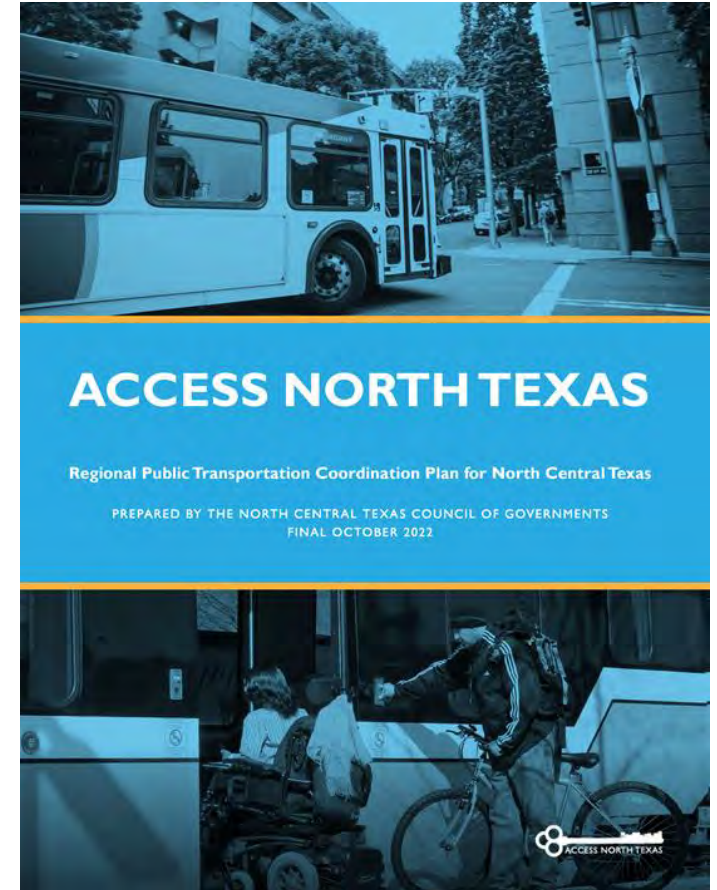
ACCESS NORTH TEXAS

- 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



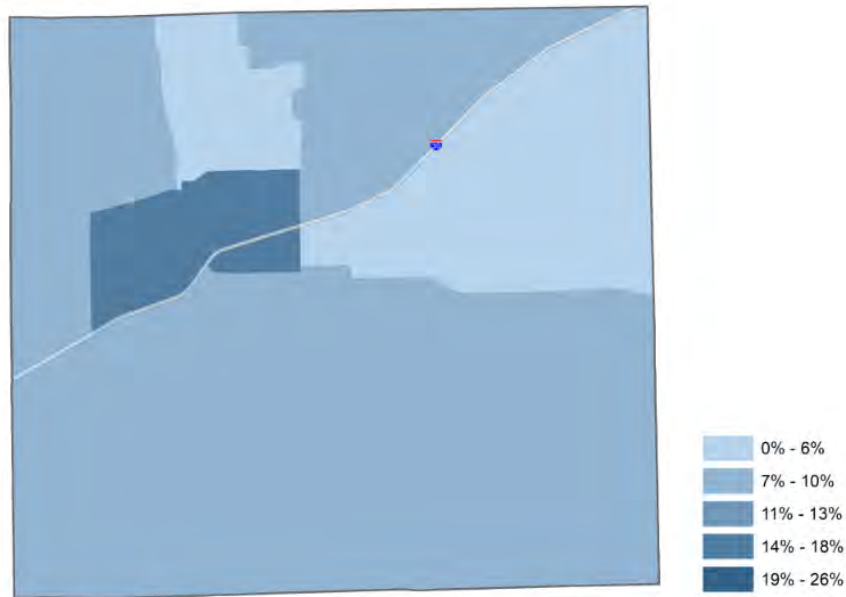
(5) Promote access and information about available transit

ROCKWALL COUNTY PRIORITIZED STRATEGIES FROM THE 2022 UPDATE

REGIONAL GOAL	ROCKWALL COUNTY-SPECIFIC STRATEGIES
Plan and Develop Transportation Options by Assessing Community Need and Challenges	A) Invest in programs that facilitate transportation trips to medical and healthcare appointments.
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 public transportation services to key destinations throughout the region without comprehensive service and support regional integration of new services. 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.
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) Develop partnerships across transportation providers to improve access to trips in the evening and weekends
Support Public Transportation Recovery and Growth	A) Promote safe and healthy practices on public transportation services
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

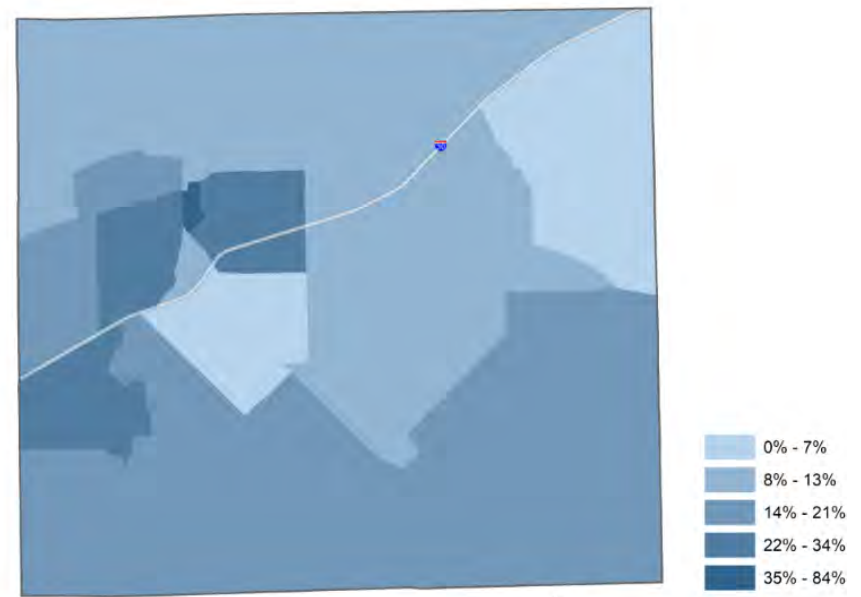
ROCKWALL COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS

Rockwall County Persons with Disabilities



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

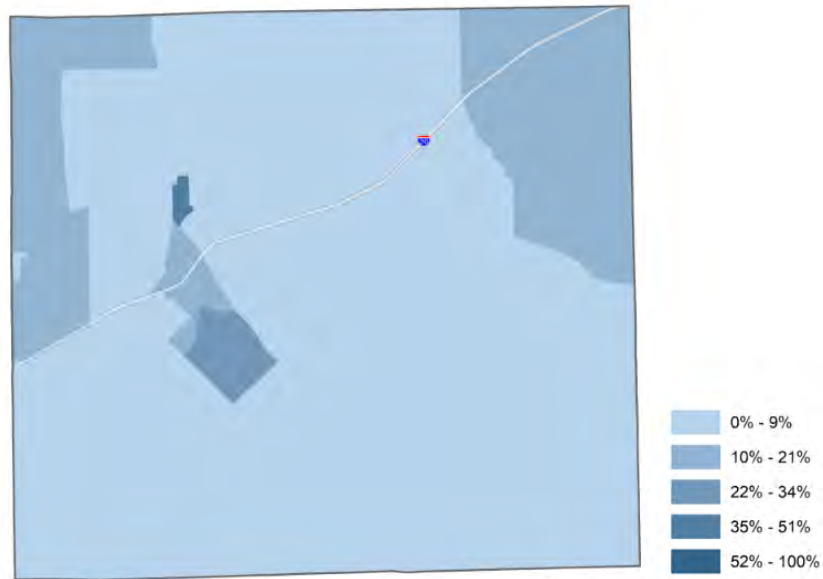
Rockwall County Population Over 65



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

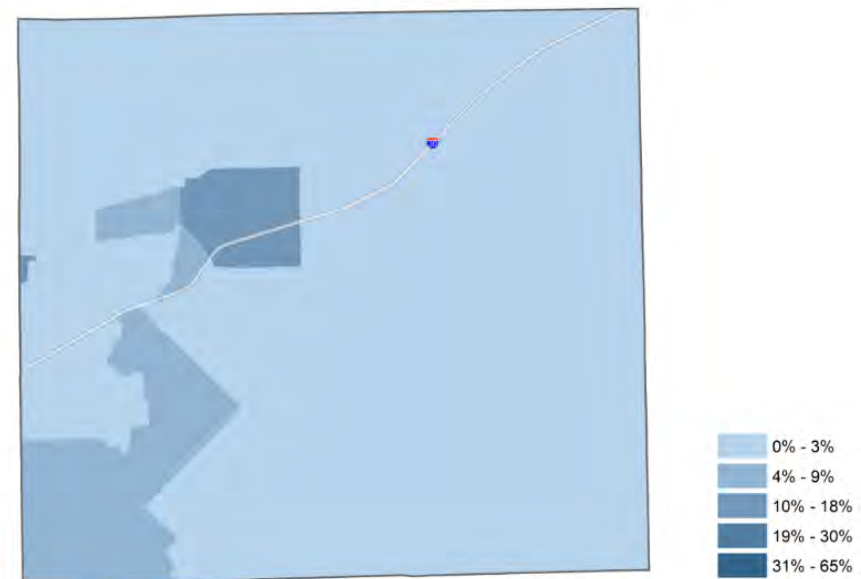
ROCKWALL COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS

Rockwall County Low-Income Individuals



N
0 2 4 Miles
Source: 2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates
Data aggregated to the Census block group level

Rockwall County Zero-Car Households






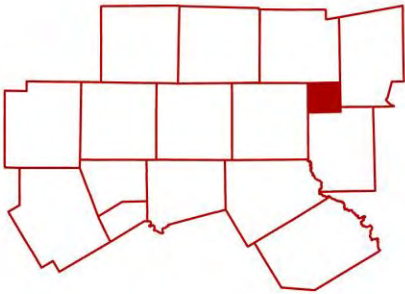
N
0 2 4 Miles
Source: 2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates
Data aggregated to the Census block group level



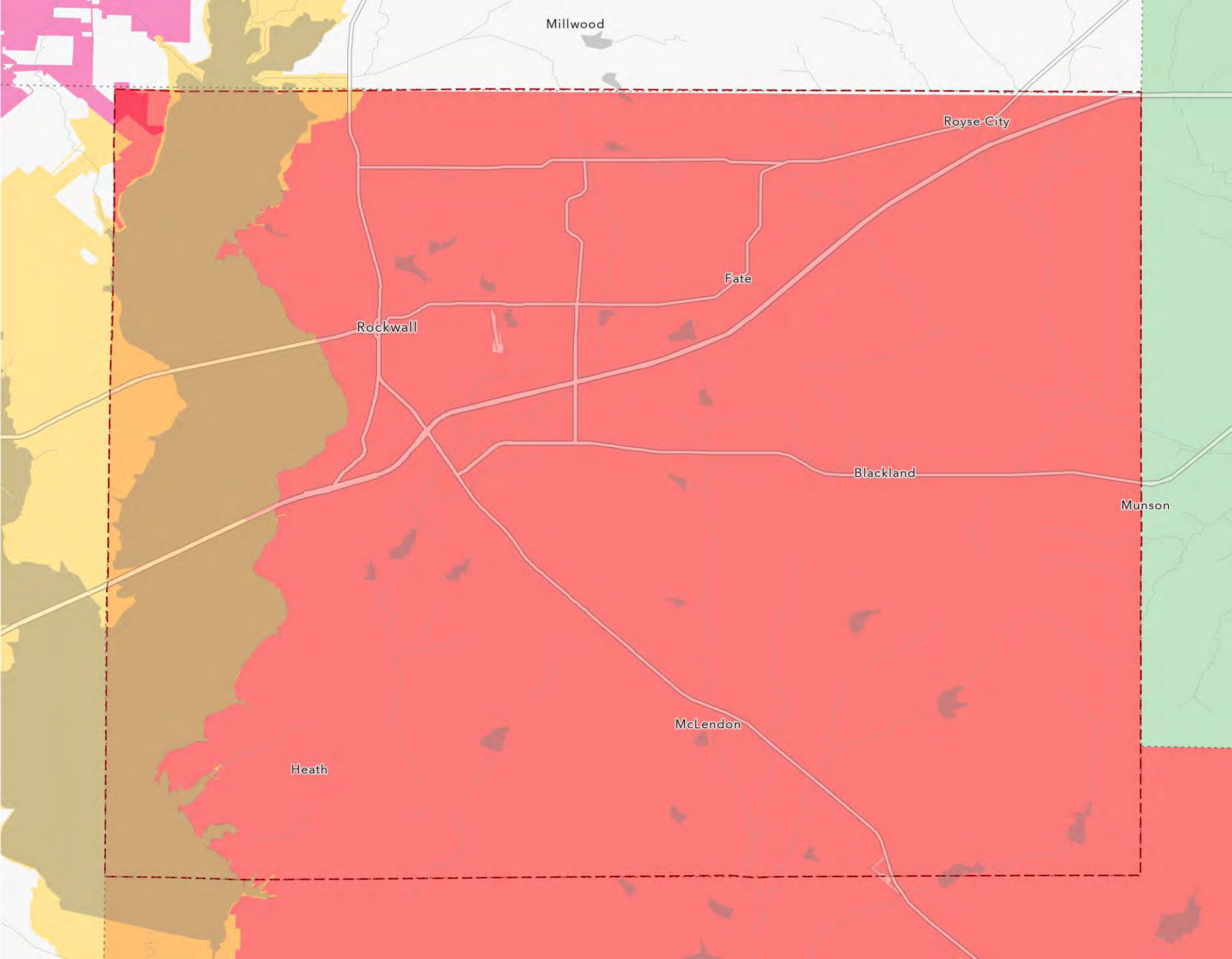
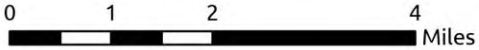
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Rockwall County Transit Providers

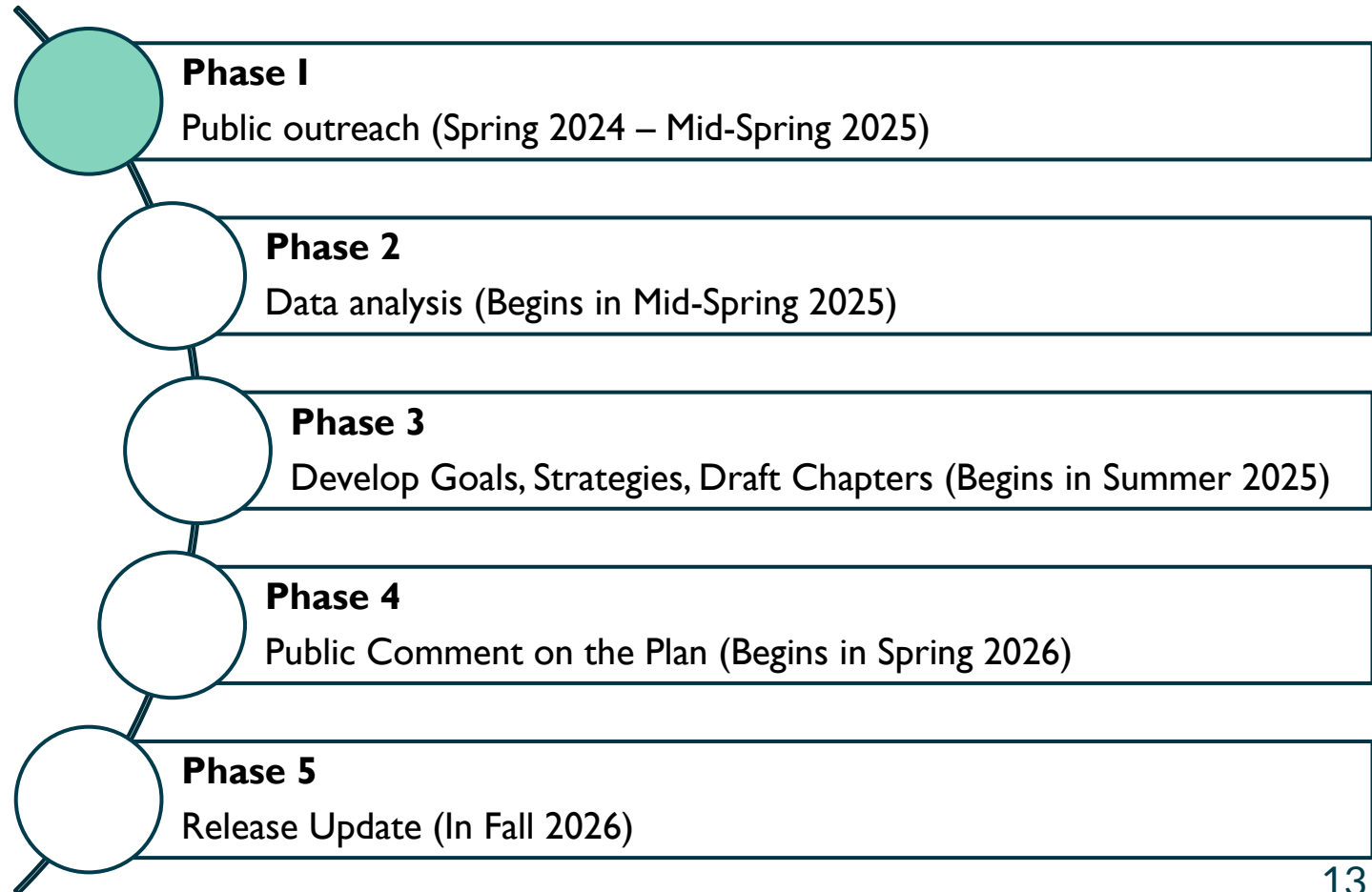
-  Dallas Area Rapid Transit
-  STAR Transit
-  Ride Awake Wylie



Last Updated May 2024

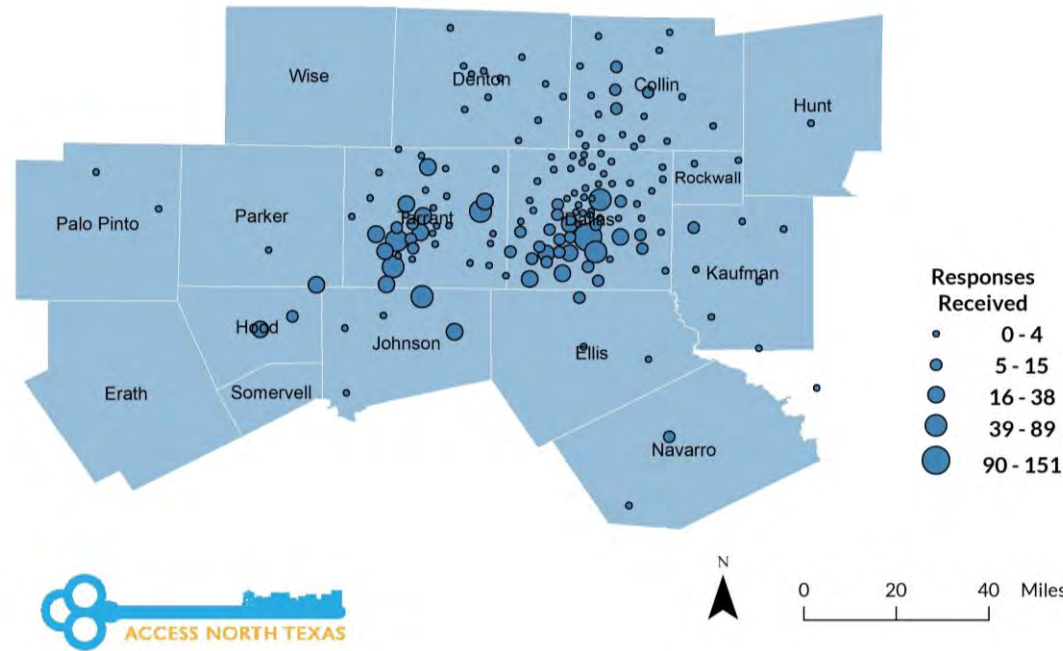


TIMELINE FOR 2026 UPDATE



ACCESS NORTH TEXAS SURVEY

2022 Access North Texas Regional Distribution of Public Survey Responses



Public Survey

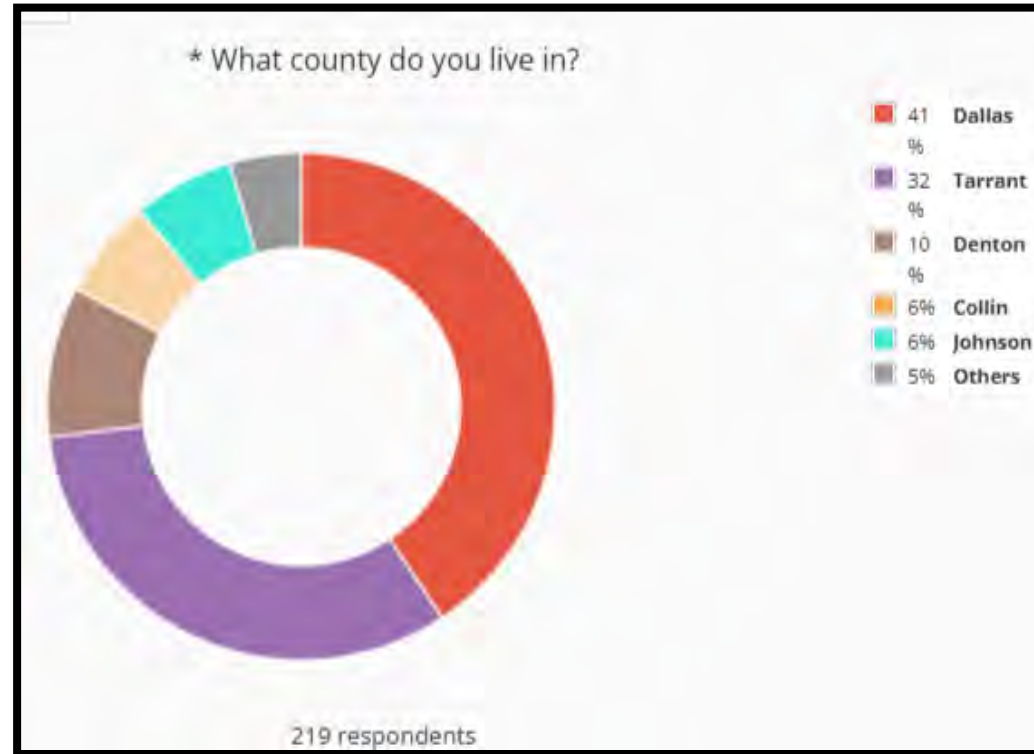
Agency Survey

Survey Translations

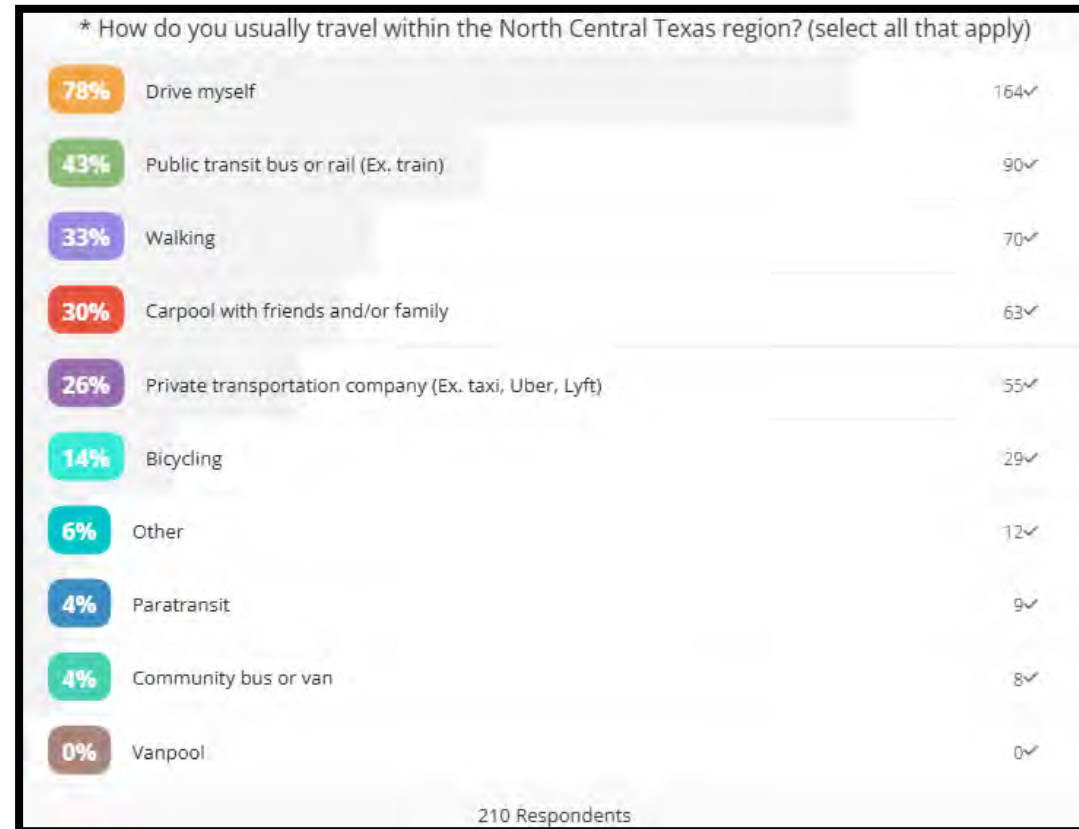
The survey was made available in May 2024 and will close in April 2025

www.publicinput.com/AccessNorthTexas

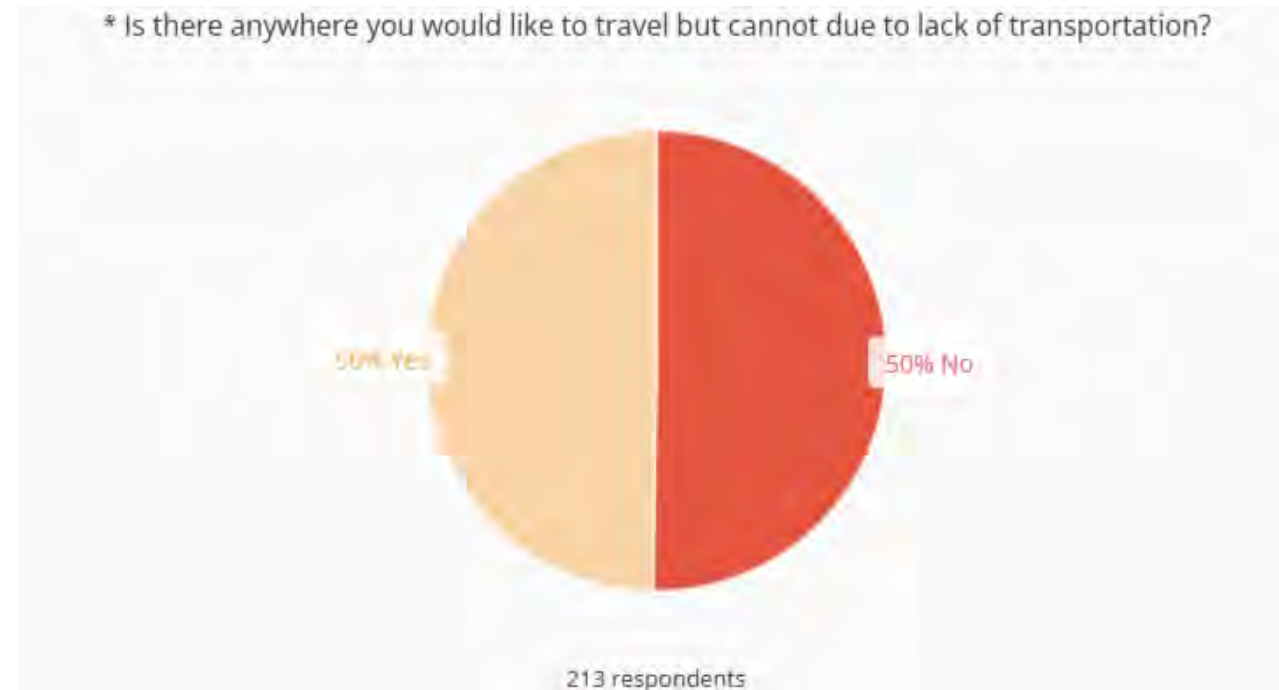
ACCESS NORTH TEXAS SURVEY – EXAMPLE FEEDBACK (2/5/2025)



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



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

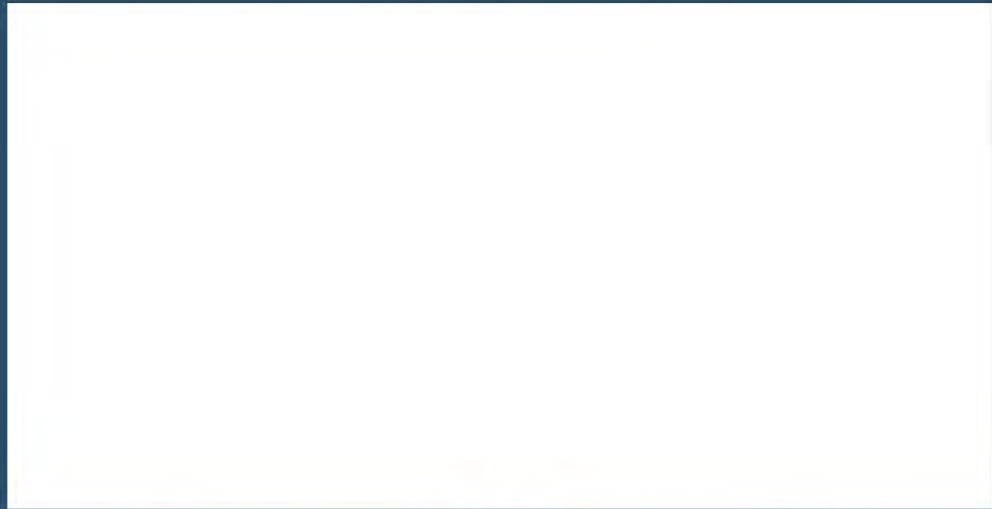
IDENTIFYING PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION NEEDS

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.



Email us at:

Envíanos un correo electrónico en:

ACCESSNORTHTEXAS@NCTCOG.ORG

TAKE OUR SURVEY

CONTESTA

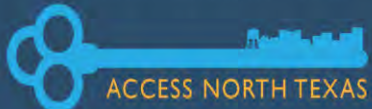
NUESTRA ENCUESTA



Visit us at:

Visítanos en:

www.AccessNorthTexas.org



North Central Texas
Council of Governments

INSTRUCTIONS

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feature**

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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

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CONTACT US

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THANK YOU