PUBLIC COMMENTS REPORT WRITTEN COMMENTS SUBMITTED BY WEBSITE, EMAIL & SOCIAL MEDIA

<u>Purpose</u>

The public comments report is in accordance with the NCTCOG Transportation Department Public Participation Plan, which became effective June 1, 1994, as approved by the Regional Transportation Council (RTC), the transportation policy board for the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and amended on Nov. 10, 2022.

This document is a compilation of general public comments submitted from Thursday, Feb. 20 through Wednesday, Mar. 19, 2025, via website, email, social media and in person at NCTCOG's monthly Regional Transportation Council (RTC) meeting. This month, comments related to public involvement and transit were in the majority.

Additionally, comments can be submitted through Map Your Experience, the Transportation Department's online mapping tool. This tool allows users to drop a pin on a location in the region and leave a detailed comment. The tool received 30 new comments related to bicycle and pedestrian, roadway and transit conditions. You can view these new comments as well as past comments by visiting

http://nctcoggis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/CrowdsourceReporter/index.html?appid=b014e6d39b60 4b3ca329d9094ed1e9e2.

About Us

<u> Facebook –</u>

1. Our #TopicOfTheMonth series rolls on! This week, we're exploring how the North Central Texas Council of Governments' local, state and federal partners are making a real difference in our communities. Learn how these collaborations are positively impacting regional transportation, air quality, environmental sustainability and other key areas:

<u>https://www.nctcog.org/.../about/educate/topic-of-the-month.</u> – NCTCOG Transportation Department



And yet you backed the TexPress lanes that have impoverished people - WM Atkins

<u>LinkedIn –</u>

1. Every breakthrough in transportation begins with a good idea. And those ideas come from the people who've devoted their lives and careers to moving us, whether it's around the block

or across the country. This month, our #TopicOfTheMonth dives into the human element of transportation, exploring the roles of planners, partner governments, the public and – kicking things off today – policymakers. Learn more about the Regional Transportation Council here: <u>https://lnkd.in/gyx4PuRx</u> #transportation #planning #policy #innovation



Very true. Love this! – Brandon Krzynefski

Public Involvement

<u> Facebook –</u>

1. Long-range transportation plan, ozone season and more for review/comment.



Yawn. – Rob Dentremont

Well, given that some of the members on this Council are engaging in conflicts of interest with DCTA, I think that the meeting will be prematurely biased without concern for community input....... Doesn't Mr. Gilmore, a member of the NTCOG board and Mayor of Lewisville, also serve as Chairman of the Board for DCTA? — Bonni Crisfulli

Hector G. Bas Jr – Edward W Braun Jr

Hey, once again, why is a transportation meeting happening in a city with no public transportation? — Matthew Banks

Residents planning to use transit to attend the meeting can take advantage of \$6 roundtrip rides from the CentrePort/DFW Airport Station to NCTCOG via the

Arlington Transportation app. To download the app, go to <u>arlingtontx.gov/ondemand</u>. For special accommodations related to disabilities or language interpretation, please contact 817-573-1719 or email hwitcher@nctcog.org. — NCTCOG Transportation Department

You did not answer my question. Once. Again. Why is a meeting about transit in Texas happening in the largest city in the country with no public transit? — Matthew Banks

Additionally, for those unable to attend in person, the meeting will be streamed live at <u>publicinput.com/nctcogMar25</u>. Participants can also join the discussion by calling (855) 925-2801 and entering code 11112. A video recording will also be made available afterward. As well, public comments will be accepted until Tuesday, April 8, 2025, at 11:59 p.m. – NCTCOG Transportation Department

And will the tough questions/issues be heard, or will they be censored and removed like they are during the council meetings at the city which one of your board members is Mayor? — Bonni Crisfulli

All public comments and questions are collected before, during and after the meeting and are provided to the RTC following the meeting. – NCTCOG Transportation Department

I wonder if those grousing on this thread will attend this meeting to try to learn anything. They sound like they just enjoy being suspicious and disdaining those who serve to help the public. I wonder if anyone complaining on this thread has ever worked in public service. — Laurie Blue Lundberg

Additional public comments made on this social media post can be viewed at: <u>https://www.facebook.com/NCTCOGtrans/posts/pfbid02PqaiJNndrDGCggSp2VMxqL9y</u> <u>6gHnufo4xbHESTiN7kNKS4zHR2LCEt9YVgtuPH98I</u>

<u>RTC</u>

1. At yesterday's @NCTCOGtrans RTC meeting, we had an interesting presentation on regional sales tax impact, a discussion on DART legislation and transparency on a funding request, and an important project approved for continued TRE double tracking efforts. — Cara Mendelsohn

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Safety

<u>Nextdoor –</u>

1. Staying in DFW for Spring Break? Check out our newly updated 511 DFW Traveler Information System to plan your staycation activities! When it comes time to seeking help from a mapping website, there are many options that will lead drivers to their destinations. The updated 511DFW provides Dallas-Fort Worth residents and visitors with a local resource to get where they are going, whether they choose to drive or take transit. The website was recently upgraded to improve the user experience and it's available in either English or Spanish. With 511DFW, users can quickly access free information on traffic and transit conditions in North Texas before beginning their daily commute or other trip. Real-time information is available on the website, www.511dfw.org. The website includes a Trip Planner designed to help travelers make better decisions about their mode of transportation, time of travel and route. The Trip Planner allows users to plan trips via car, transit, bicycling or walking. The app is available for Apple and Android devices. Read the fact sheet at NCTCOG.org/factsheets —NCTCOG Transportation Department



Is this a free app? What is it used for? - Sherry W.

Yes, it is a free app! It's a map and travel resource, with live traffic information, roadside assistance and other helpful tools. Here's a detailed fact sheet with more

information: <u>https://nctcog.org/getmedia/0cb53673-4f03-4971-9fc9-</u> e3f0a83ac9d6/511facts2025.pdf — NCTCOG Transportation Department

<u>Transit</u>

1. Do you depend on public transportation? Help us identify your transit needs at an in-person meeting on March 20 at the Ella Mae Shamblee Library in Fort Worth at 6pm. Register at <u>AccessNorthTexas.org</u> You are also invited to take our survey, available in English and Spanish, on our website. Access North Texas is the regional public transportation coordination plan for the 16-county North Central Texas area and documents the transportation needs of older adults, individuals with disabilities and individuals with lower incomes across the region. The most updated version of the plan was approved by the Regional Transportation Council and endorsed by the Executive Board in October 2022. For more information, visit <u>AccessNorthTexas.org</u> – NCTCOG Transportation Department



No network to get one to the train. The HEB area, TRE runs from Dallas to FTW, but how do you get to the Train Station? — Vernon C.

Arlington via is 3 - Hailey P.

<u> Facebook –</u>

1. ¿Dependes del transporte público? Ayúdanos a identificar tus necesidades de transporte en una de las próximas reuniones.

Translation: Do you depend on public transport? Help us identify your transportation needs at one of the upcoming meetings. – NCTCOG Transportation Department



Safety, safety, and ... safety. Eso es todo. Translation: That is all. - Daniel Muller

2. Do you depend on public transportation? Help us identify your transit needs at one of our upcoming meetings. — NCTCOG Transportation Department



Nobody from the NCTCOG Transportation Department depends on public transportation. — Rob Dentremont

NO MORE HIGHWAY LANES! MORE TRAINS!!! - BulletTrains USA.com

3. Do you depend on public transportation? Help us identify your transit needs at one of our upcoming meetings. — NCTCOG Transportation Department



Yes. Public transit helps everyone, especially

drivers, by taking care of the road. What if you actually invested in it though? It'd be crazy. – Matthew Banks

4. Do you depend on public transportation? Help us identify your transit needs at one of our upcoming meetings. — NCTCOG Transportation Department



When do they propose these projects to be completed? – Joe Valdez

PublicInput.com Website -

1. What is the total budget divided by the number of riders? - Matt Reed

2. Hola me pregunto cuales son los planes claros para la FIFA 2026? ¿Y si hay algún plan de implementar transporte público en el area de Arlington que nos conecte con el transporte regional como TRE? Gracias

Translation: Hi, I'm wondering what the clear plans are for FIFA 2026? And if there is any plan to implement public transportation in the Arlington area that connects us with regional transportation like TRE? Thanks. — Rogelio Meixueiro

The 2026 FIFA World Cup transportation plan NCTCOG staff is currently working on does plan to provide public transportation for match days to the Stadium in Arlington. If you are interested in public transportation for Arlington residents on a recurring basis, our staff recommend contacting the City of Arlington to discuss. — NCTCOG Transportation Department Staff

3. What are plans for US80 corridor East of DFW (Forney, Terrell etc.)? - Paul Sampson

4. What is the average subsidy per rider for On-Demand rides (GoLink, Via) vs buses, rail or other modes of transportation? How do these costs look when taking the whole picture of capital + operating + overhead costs in the long term, as in multiple life cycles? Just as a monorail in a rural area doesn't make sense, On-Demand in the city often doesn't make sense either. — C Green

Thank you for your comment! Below is a table displaying the subsidy amount per passenger by mode for the Dallas Area Rapid Transit system (DART). DART has the widest range of modes of all of our local transit providers, which allows for easier cost comparison. It includes both the budgeted amounts from the last three years as well as the projected costs for the current year and the next four years.

Mode	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27	FY28	FY29
	(Actual)	(Actual)	(Budget)	(Projected)	(Proj.)	(Proj.)	(Proj.)	(Proj.)
Bus	\$10.39	\$10.95	\$11.94	\$10.11	\$9.71	\$9.76	\$9.75	\$9.89
Light Rail	9.61	8.55	8.34	7.71	7.44	7.41	7.41	7.51
GoLink	21.62	17.43	17.12	12.29	12.49	12.97	13.48	14.06
Trinity	34.16	26.57	30.40	31.14	29.26	29.54	29.83	30.62
Railway								
Express								
Silver Line	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	14.04	14.25	14.24	14.57
Streetcar	11.37	3.36	4.16	5.83	5.67	5.67	5.66	5.78
Paratransit	49.01	45.57	49.49	58.54	59.69	62.30	64.87	66.76

- The amounts were calculated with this formula: (Operating Expenses Operating Revenues) / Passenger Boardings
- These amounts account for all operating revenues associated with each mode, including fares, ad sales, rent revenue, and other sources of revenue.
- The subsidy per passenger amount did go up in Fiscal Years (FY) 2020-2021 because the total number of passengers, and therefore revenue, went down due to COVID-19. The effects of this can be seen in the earlier years included on this table, but costs for some modes are lowering as ridership returns to or exceeds pre-COVID-19 numbers.

For more information on the long-term impacts and plans associated with these costs, as well as more details on how these amounts were calculated, we would recommend reviewing the latest FY25 budget plans and financial reports adopted by DART and other local transit providers.

- For more information about DART's adopted budget and financial plan, visit their website <u>here</u>.
- For more information about Trinity Metro's adopted budget and financial plan, visit their website <u>here</u>.
- For more information about DCTA's adopted budget and financial plan, visit their website <u>here</u>.

For more information about City of Arlington's adopted budget and financial plan, visit their website <u>here</u>. - NCTCOG Transportation Department Staff

5. Transportation to & From Cedar Hill TX To & From Carrollton TX - Tammy Medina

<u>Email –</u>

1. I just moved into Cedar Hill TX. Just wondering what public transportation there is to & from Dallas, Houston. And What transportation is there for people that can't drive. — Tammy Medina

2. Need Cedar Hill to Mansfield to Service Road 360 North. Just Need Bus Route Services Please — Tammy Medina

Thank you for reaching out, Tammy! The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is not a transportation service provider, but we are happy to help identify transportation options and assistance resources that may fit your needs.

There is no public transportation that runs between Dallas and Houston, but there are several private options that you may find useful.

- <u>Flixbus/Greyhound</u> runs between Dallas and Houston several times a day.
- <u>Red Coach</u> also runs between Dallas and Houston a couple of times a day.

Within the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex, there are many public transportation options you can use. **Cedar Hill and Carrollton** are connected by STAR Transit in Cedar Hill and the Dallas Area Rapid Transit system (DART) in Dallas.

- You would first need to either call STAR to schedule a ride (877-631-5278) or use the same-day STARNow service, offered in the GoPass App or through its own STARNow app, to travel from Cedar Hill to a DART station. The specific DART stations that STAR Transit can drop you off at are the UNT Dallas Station, Red Bird Transit Center, and Glenn Heights Park & Ride. All of these stations have bus or light rail service that connects to Downtown Dallas.
- Akard Station in downtown can serve as a good connection point to transfer to the Green Line, which is a light rail that will take you to downtown Carrollton. There are several bus lines and on-demand microtransit zones that can then bring you to your destination in Carrollton.

More information about STAR Transit in Cedar Hill can be found on their website <u>here</u> or by calling their customer service line at 877-631-5278. More information about DART can be found on their website <u>here</u> or by calling their customer service line at 214-979-1111. DART

also offers additional assistance through their **Mobility Ambassador program**. A Mobility Ambassador can help you learn how to plan a trip on transit, purchase a ticket, and safely travel to your destination. More information on this program can be found on the DART website <u>here</u>, or you can call during regular business hours at 214-828-8588.

There is unfortunately not any bus service available between Cedar Hill, Mansfield, and Service Road 360 North. However, you can still travel through these areas using the Trinity Railway Express and several on-demand services offered.

To get from **Cedar Hill to Arlington** (Service Road 360 North) and back, you will follow the same steps listed above to get to Downtown Dallas.

- Once in Downtown, you will transfer to the Trinity Railway Express (TRE), a train that runs between Dallas and Fort Worth. You can catch the TRE at EBJ Union Station or at Victory Station.
- If you ride the TRE from Downtown Dallas to the CentrePort Station, you will then be able to connect to locations along Service Road 360 in Arlington using the Arlington On-Demand app, or by calling 817-784-7382 to book your ride.

For assistance with the trip to Downtown Dallas and the TRE, please reach out to DART using the information listed above. For more information and assistance with Arlington On-Demand, contact support-arn@ridewithvia.com or call their customer line at 817-784-7382.

To get to and from **Cedar Hill to Mansfield**, you will follow the same steps to get from Cedar Hill to Arlington.

- Once in Arlington, use Arlington On-Demand to book a ride to Tarrant Community College's Southeast campus (2100 Southeast Pkwy, Arlington, TX 76018).
- From there, you can use Trinity Metro's on-demand service to book a ride from the campus to any location in Mansfield. You can book a ride through the GoPass App or through its own Trinity Metro On-Demand app.

For more information and assistance with the Trinity Metro On-Demand trip from Arlington to Mansfield, you can visit their website <u>here</u>, or contact their customer support line at 817-215-8600.

If you have any additional questions, or if you would prefer to discuss this request further by phone, please feel free to reach out again*. Thank you again for your comment! — NCTCOG Transportation Department