Team Introductions

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North Central Texas Council of Governments
Team Introductions

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Study Purpose

Identify, analyze, prioritize and develop a comprehensive approach to planning and implementing transit services outside of transit authority services areas.

Implement Strategic and Near-Term Strategies

Review Transportation Options

Identify Funding Options
Advisory Board

Helps guides the study by developing the project goals, objectives, defines the project outcomes and provides technical advice; while supporting and encouraging participation in the community.
Advisory Board (SAG + TAG)

- Arlington
- Azle
- Catholic Charities FW
- Community Enrichment Center
- Crowley
- DCTA
- Everman
- Forest Hill
- Fort Worth
- Fort Worth CoC
- Haltom City
- Hurst
- Grand Prairie
- Grapevine
- Kennedale
- Richland Hills
- Tarrant County
- Tarrant RTC
- Tarrant Transit Alliance
- Trinity Metro

Government
Transit
Business
Advocacy
Public Engagement

Virtual Public Meetings
Project Website
Email Updates
Digital Surveys
Social Media
Poll Question #1

What city do you live in?
Study Background

The Tarrant County Transit Study will be built from previous studies conducted over the last several years.
Study Background
## Study Background

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<th>Geographic Focus</th>
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<th>Tarrant County (outside Trinity Metro service Area)</th>
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<td>Vulnerable Users</td>
<td>All Users</td>
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<td>Travel Types</td>
<td>Car, High Intensity Bus, Commuter Rail</td>
<td>Bus, Demand Response, and Paratransit</td>
<td>Bus and Demand Response</td>
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<td>Vision</td>
<td>Long Range</td>
<td>Short-Medium Range</td>
<td>Short-Medium Range</td>
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Study Background

In the 2018 Access North Texas, the following key strategies were identified for Tarrant County.

- Increase affordable mobility solutions
- Connect communities county-wide
- Expand public awareness, education, skills development and traveler support services
- Implement a holistic approach to wellness transportation
Study Area

Trinity Metro Service Area

Current Transit Providers

TRINITY METRO
TEXRail

DCTA
a-Train
Denton/Lewisville Connect
University Services
North Texas Xpress
Access

VARIOUS PROVIDERS
ARLINGTON
Via Transit

Catholic Charities
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Project Focus Areas

Existing Conditions | Scenario Development | Funding + Partnerships | Implementation
Existing Conditions

• America’s mobility needs are changing.

• Families seek affordable housing.

• Workers without reliable access to personal vehicles need to reach their jobs.

• Seniors want to maintain mobility as they age.
Existing Conditions

- Tarrant County—including areas outside of Fort Worth—continue to experience enormous growth.
Existing Conditions

- Tarrant County—including areas outside of Fort Worth—continue to experience enormous growth.

- Tarrant County’s different communities have different—and changing—needs.

Source: American Community Survey 2014-2018 data.
Poll Question #2

How often do you take transit or shared mobility options?

- Frequently (once a week or more)
- Occasionally (once a month or more)
- Rarely (less than once a month)
- Never
Scenario Development: Transit Service Design

Factors that Influence Transit Use

- Demographics
- Trip Characteristics
- Price and Availability
- Quality of Service
  - Travel Time and Reliability
  - Span of Service
  - Frequency
  - Routing
  - Stop Spacing and Accessibility
Scenario Development: Density Thresholds for Transit Service

Arterial Transit Service Thresholds for Household Density

Light Rail Transit, 15 min service
Bus Rapid Transit, 15 min service
Local Bus, 15 min service
Local Bus, 30 min service
Local Bus, 60 min service
Express Bus
Shared Mobility

Household Density (HHe / acer)

Source: TCORP 167 Making Effective Fixed Guideway Transit Investments
Scenario Development: Transit Service Design

Matching Service to the Environment

Commuter Services
- Long distance, limited stop
- Usually tied to park-and-ride lots
- Examples:
  - TexRail, TRE
  - Park & Ride Express Routes
  - Van Pool

Local Service
- Urban and Suburban short- to mid-distance travel
- ¼ mile stop spacing
- Frequencies typically 15-60 min.
- Examples:
  - Trinity Metro local route network
Scenario Development: Transit Service Design

Matching Service to the Environment

Circulator and Shuttle Services
- Specific travel market
- Frequent service levels
- Local Examples:
  - The Dash
  - TRE Link

Shared Mobility Services
- Flexible routing
- First mile/last mile solution
- Addresses localized travel needs
- Local Examples:
  - Trinity Metro ZIPZONE
  - Arlington Ride Via
  - DART Go Link
Scenario Development: Shared Mobility Solutions

Trinity Metro ZIPZONES
- First mile/last mile solution
- Four ZIPZONES (Alliance, Crowley, Mercantile, Near Southside)
- Trip bookings completed via app
- Provides connections to Trinity Metro fixed route service or point-to-point within the zone
- Travel $3 fee for point-to-point within zone
- Program operated by Trinity Metro
- Service contracted to Via Mobility Services and Lyft
Scenario Development: Shared Mobility Solutions

Arlington Via Rideshare

- Uses a smartphone application and a fleet of rideshare vehicles to provide a service that has no fixed schedules and no fixed routes
- Launched in December 2017
- Service area includes Centreport TRE Station
- Fleet includes a limited number of wheelchair-accessible vehicles
- Fares are $3
- Service contracted to Via Mobility Services
Poll Question #3

Prior to this meeting, what was your level of familiarity with shared mobility transit services offered by transit agencies in the DFW area?

- Very familiar and have used them in the past
- Familiar that the services are offered, but have never tried using it
- Somewhat familiar, but not aware of how the programs work
- Never heard of them
**Funding + Partnerships**

**Trends in Funding and Finance**
- Dollars for construction of new systems (CapEx) are typical opportunities from federal sources.
- There are limited Federal and State dollars for operations and maintenance (O&M).

*2016 Transit Funding for the 25 largest US metropolitan regions (+Austin #34)*

- Local transit funding per capita
- State transit funding per capita
- Federal transit funding per capita
Funding + Partnerships

Trends in Funding and Finance

- More funding from the federal level is being directed towards Transit Planning and specifically Transit-Oriented Development Planning
- NCTCOG has been at the forefront of innovative financing programs
Funding + Partnerships

Opportunities
- Highly competitive
- Not consistent
- Typically use constrained (CapEx)
- Allocation requires local match
Funding + Partnerships

Opportunities

- Typical Debt related
- Requires creation of new authorities
- Requires creation of region-wide collaboration
Funding + Partnerships

Opportunities

- Some funds are federal allocations
- Requires creation of new authorities
- Requires creation of region-wide collaboration
Funding + Partnerships

Opportunities
- Locally created and managed
- Self-sufficient means
- Assessed off future revenues
- High partnership focus
- Typically counts toward local match
Funding + Partnerships

Projected population increase:

- Tarrant County Population (2019): 2,102,515
- # of Auto Commuters in Tarrant County: 1,275,806 (82% drive alone)

Source: US Census and Kimley-Horn

10 Years: 2,507,170 (+330,000 drivers)
20 Years: 2,862,672 (+600,000 drivers)
30 Years: 3,196,603 (+900,000 drivers)
Poll Question #4

Is it worth investing in transit now, so that we don’t have to continuously build or expand freeways in our county to meet population demands?

- Yes
- No
- Still not sure
Implementation

- COVID-19 has accelerated the search for innovative mobility options.
- Agencies must balance the speed of short-term pilot projects with the effort needed to develop full-scale programs.
- Trinity Metro, DART, DCTA, and Arlington have all developed programs to facilitate shared mobility.
Poll Question #5

Have you learned about new mobility options that you were not aware of before this meeting?

- Yes, I learned about new transportation choices
- I knew some of these options existed elsewhere, but did not know they were available in Tarrant County
- No, I already knew about these transportation options
Next Steps

- Tarrant County Study (2021)
- Transit Moves Fort Worth (2021)
- Dallas & Collin County Studies (2021)
- Other Regional Mobility Studies
- Future Mobility Options
Get Involved + Participate

Stay informed of upcoming meetings, surveys, as well as the different ways you can provide your ideas, feedback, comment on the project and share with your community.
Get Involved + Participate

Project Website: tarrantcountytransitstudy.com
• Sign up for email updates
• Submit questions or comments through the Contact Us page
• Complete the public input survey (EN/ES)

Facebook Group Page: @tarrantcotransit
• Like and follow to stay informed

Share with your Community.
• Become a project ambassador to help share the message to your community.
Public Input Survey

- Project Website: tarrantcountytransitstudy.com
- Facebook Group Page: @tarrantcotransit

Participate!

- Raise your hand to ask a question.
- Type questions in the Q&A box.
- Unmute your microphone to speak.
Group Discussion #1

Tell us your mobility story.
Group Discussion #2

Describe your mobility vision for the future.
Open Discussion