AGENDA

Mobility on Demand (MOD) Working Group Meeting at NCTCOG $7/23/2018\ 2:00\ pm-3:30\ pm$ NCTCOG Transportation Council Room

616 Six Flags Drive, CenterPoint II, Arlington, TX 76011

2:00 pm Welcome and Introductions (Jing Xu - NCTCOG)

<u>2:05 pm</u> Alliance Link Shuttle: Public/Private Partnerships (Zoha Momin – Toyota, Lindsey Baker - DCTA)

2:20 pm Partnership between FedEx and STAR Transit (Mike Sims – STAR Transit)

2:35 pm DART MOD Sandbox Project Update (Somayeh Moazzeni – DART)

2:55 pm Whitepaper on Accessibility and MOD Options (Cody Nelson – NCTCOG)

3:05 pm Using a MaaS Platform to Enable a MaaS Ecosystem (John Horner - Kapsch)

3:15 pm Q&A, Discussion and Future Topics (All)

Mobility on Demand (MOD) Working Group July 23, 2018 North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) Transportation Council Room

- 1. Meeting Summary
 - a. Welcome & Introductions
 - b. Alliance Link Shuttle: Public/Private Partnerships
 - c. Partnership between FedEx and STAR Transit
 - d. DART MOD Sandbox Project Update
 - e. Whitepaper on Accessibility and MOD Options
 - f. Using a MaaS Platform to Enable a MaaS Ecosystem
 - g. Q/A, Discussion and Future Topics
- 2. Attendee List

1. Meeting Summary

a. Welcome

Jing Xu from NCTCOG welcomed and thanked everyone for attending the meeting. All attendees gave brief introductions as well.

b. Alliance Link Shuttle: Public/Private Partnerships

Zoha Momin, Senior Green Mobility Analyst with Toyota Motor North America (TMNA) and Lindsey Baker, Director of Strategic Partnerships with Denton County Transportation Authority (DCTA) collaborated and gave an overview of their Public-Private Partnership with Alliance Link Shuttle to provide transportation options that support low-wage workers whom are employed in Alliance, Texas. The program focuses on job accessibility and improving access specifically targeting lower income individuals. The 9 month pilot program was recently implemented in April 2018 and has already served nearly 500 rides. It is a cost effective option at \$1/trip using the Alliance Link app. The app is free to download and allows the service to function on-demand which also allows for rides with other passengers going to the same or similar destinations. Currently, booking a trip via smartphone is the only option for payment, however, if a rider does not have access to a smartphone, there is a form to submit online to request additional information for commuting purposes.

Lastly, Alliance Link focuses on three specific overarching goals including: expansion into other sectors and areas, decreasing employment turnovers because of limitations on transportation, and reducing traffic in Alliance due to single-occupancy vehicles which also helps to improve local air quality.

c. Partnership between FedEx and STAR Transit

Mike Sims, Deputy Executive Director with STAR Transit gave an overview of the current service operations within Inland Port recognizing more recent initiatives to promoting MOD opportunities. FedEx Home Delivery is among the newest locations for service via Hutchins Shuttle. Hutchins Shuttle offers convenient service and is a cost effective option at \$1/trip, which is paid while boarding the bus. STAR Transit's current MOD operations include a more community-based feel including a cohesive and high quality customer-driven focus.

Currently, STAR Transit is collaborating with City of Desoto to add additional services and also has two other goal jurisdictions (Mesquite and Rockwall) for expansion. These options will likely become available in FY 2019.

New Wave MOD, as defined by STAR Transit, is focusing on increasing customer mobility while simultaneously decreasing costs. Successful goals and implementations will include ridership utilizing TNC and Taxi services as well as payment options via a mobile app or phone and collecting data and customer feedback.

d. DART MOD Sandbox Project Update

Somayeh Moazzeni, Service Planner II with DART, gave an update on DART's MOD Sandbox Project. This project has three main components to its vision:

- Continuously improving the transportation experience
- Expanding the reach of public transportation
- Allowing access to all consumers

DART has examined growth potential of population, economic growth, current issues such as affordable housing, poverty levels, and spatial mismatches regarding employment and transit availability. MOD is an alternative for increasing transit availability to address transportation issues for expansion into reaching underserved and lower income areas as well as promoting additional transportation options for areas that are growing rapidly.

DART's GoLink Program currently operates six MOD Zones, (Legacy, North Central Plano, Inland Port, Rowlett, Kleberg, and Rylie), and has seen ridership increases overall, with majority of its daily ridership in the Legacy and North Central Plano Zones. This on-demand service allows users to connect with services via the TapRide app, which allows riders the opportunities to schedule rides and request an accessible vehicle, if need be. For those who do not have access to a smartphone, there is also a call-in option as an additional add-on component.

DART has determined that MOD Microtransit is viable with TNC-style pricing and/or additional ridership. DART's hope through additional Sandbox Grant improvements via technology and TNCs, will increase ridership, both cost effectively and equitably.

e. Whitepaper on Accessibility and MOD Options

Cody Nelson from NCTCOG gave an overview of the current completed Whitepaper on Accessibility and MOD Options for people with disabilities in the Dallas-Fort Worth (DFW) region developed by NCTCOG staff. The whitepaper examines the mobility and accessibility needs of people with disabilities and helps to facilitate those needs via transportation options. The whitepaper includes current up-to-date options and will be updated on a regular basis to inform the public on transportation availability throughout the DFW region. The whitepaper does include organizations in DFW that assist with linking people with disabilities to the most appropriate transportation options. Some of the services in DFW that assist in mobility options are Transportation Network Companies (TNCs) and Taxis. The whitepaper includes regulations, restrictions, as well as

benefits geared specifically towards people with disabilities and can be used as a direct resource or guide for transportation availability and options.

f. Using a MaaS Platform to Enable a MaaS Ecosystem

John Horner, National Practice Lead with Kapsch gave an overview and demonstration of approaches to foster MaaS initiatives and defining an ecosystem with clear stakeholder functions and a cloud-based service solution. The company Fluidtime acts as a platform service operator in the MaaS Ecosystem and distinguishes between different levels of integration – from information, booking, and access to payment. This allows for a more seamless travel experience by using one single app incorporating all aspects including but not limited to: public transportation, sharing services, and taxis to achieve a common objective.

The demonstration included a brief presentation via online of how the service platform operates, combining traveler demand with integrated mobility offerings creating a seamless data transfer between mobility service providers and public transport service operators.

g. Q/A, Discussion and Future Topics

The committee did not recommend topics for next quarter's meeting. The next meeting will focus on academia and research-oriented perspective, as planned.

2. Attendee List

Catholic Charities of Fort Worth: Scott Hurbough City of Fort Worth: Gerald Taylor, Susan Alanis

City of Frisco: Kerin Smith

City of Grand Prairie: Walter Shumac City of Mesquite: Valerie Bradley City of Plano: Rama Dhanikonda

Community Transit Services, Inc.: Katie Ragan Dallas Area Rapid Transit: Somayeh Moazzeni

Denton County Transportation Authority: Jonah Katz, Lindsey Baker

Federal Transit Administration: Melissa Foreman Irving Holdings: Jack Beverly, Charlie Johnston

Kapsch: John Horner

North Central Texas Council of Governments: Marian Thompson, Natalie Bettger, Cody Nelson, Tom Bamonte, Clint Hail, Jing Xu, Shannon Stevenson, Karina Maldonado,

Caryn Sanders, Donald Parker, Ying Cheng, Tim O'Leary, Dan Lamers

Span, Inc.: Roger Muckel STAR Transit: Mike Sims

Toyota: Trey Ingram, Zoha Momin Trinity Metro: JD Smith, Carla Forman

Using a MaaS Platform to Enable a MaaS Ecosystem

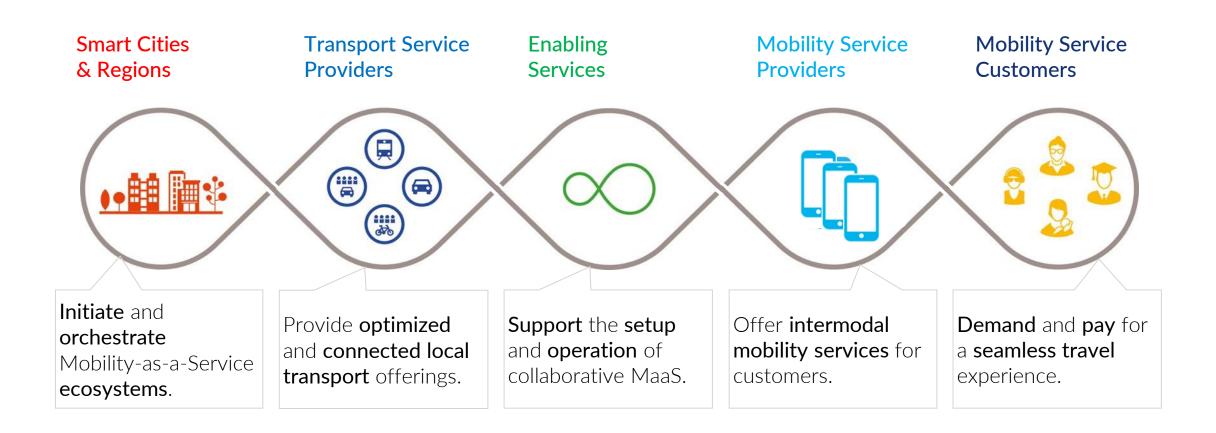
Enabling Smart Mobility.

Fluidtime





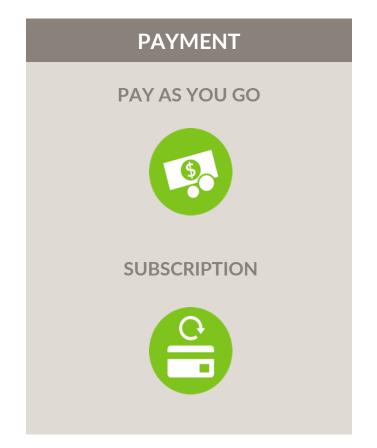
MaaS Ecosystem | Achieving a common objective

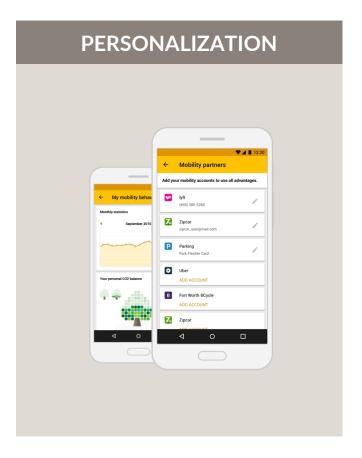




MaaS Operator | solution components











Fluidtime offering for MaaS operators

Fluidtime connects and standardizes (shared) transport offerings, makes them book- and payable from a personalized device.

INTEGRATION



A cloud service providing a **standardized access point** to all integrated Transport services.

PAYMENT



A set of services to manage customers, their bills and payment

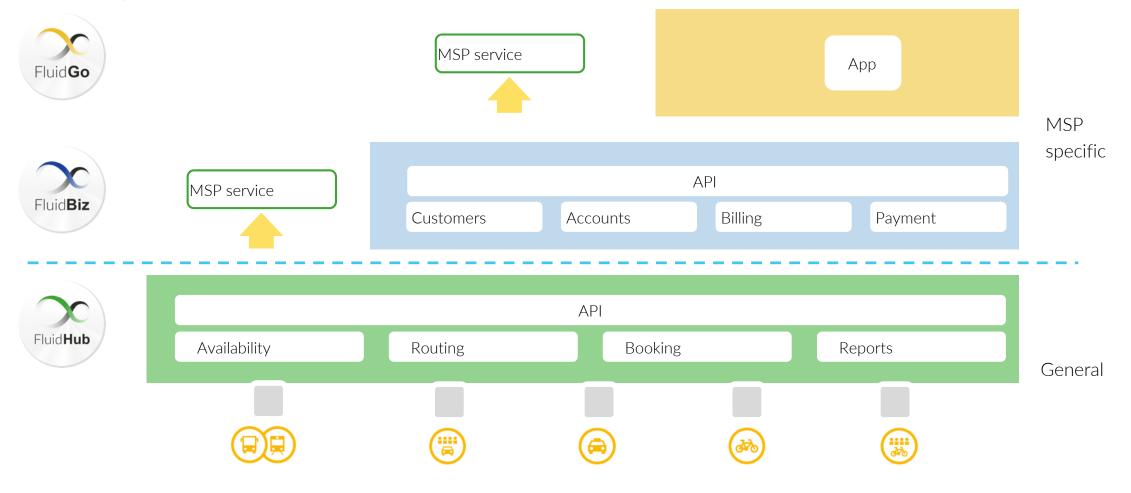
PERSONALIZATION



The white-label app as face to the customers.

Offering for MaaS Operators

Enabling various approaches towards MaaS based on a modular SaaS



Integration Levels of TSPs





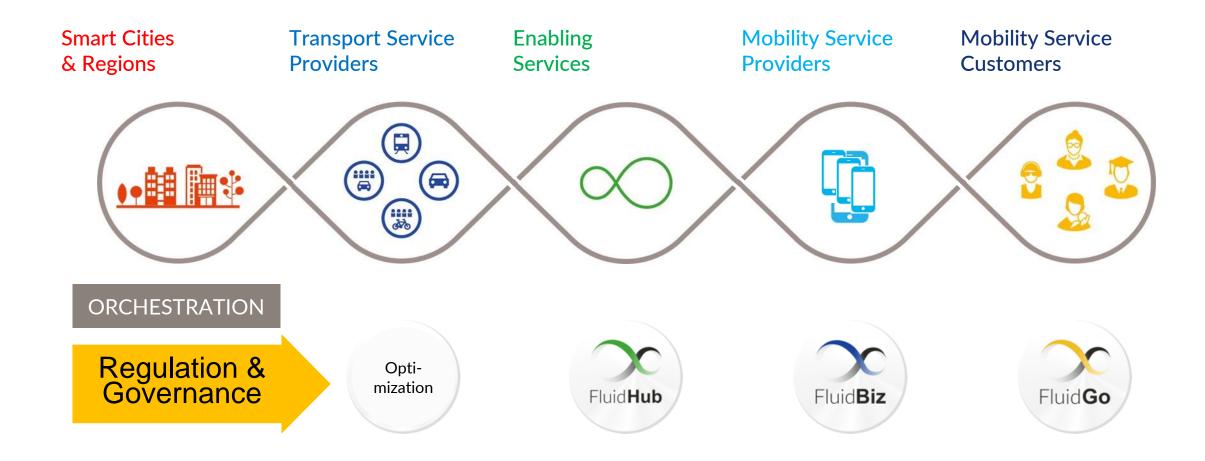
Level 0 Static Data Level 1 Dynamic Data

Level 2 Direct Booking Level 3 Pay as you Go Level 4
Account based billing

Level 5
Account based subscriptions



Cities, Regions and MaaS ecosystems

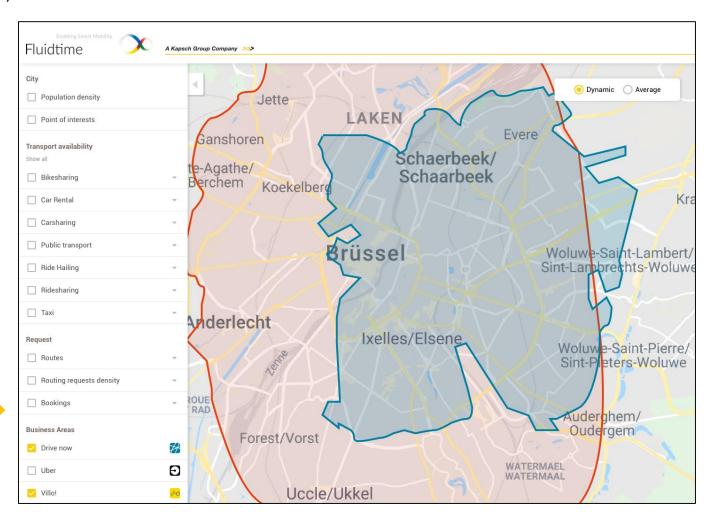


Benefits - orchestrate the MaaS ecosystem

Smart Cities & Regions



Regulate coverage & business areas, see which zones get transport and govern the mix of offerings





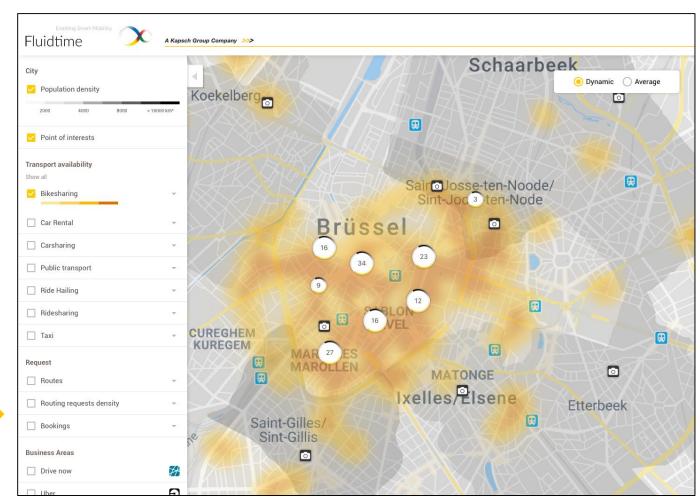
Benefits - optimize transportation

Transport Service Providers



OPTIMIZATION

See coverage vs. transportation demand and optimize service





MOD in Conjunction with FluidHub

OPTIMIZATION

Driver App

On-Demand Optimization Dispatching

Making closed transport service publicly accessible

Capabilities

- Door to door
- Stop to stop
- Real-time
- Pre-bookings
- Mixed fleets
- Demand-profile and supply matching

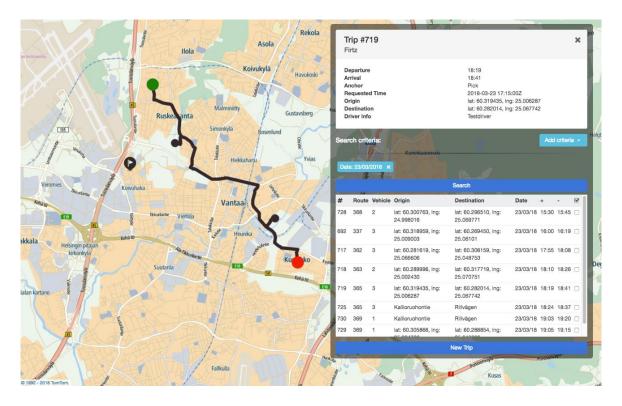
Offering

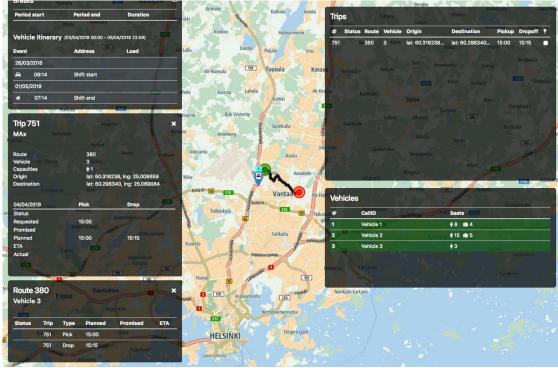
- Operation center
- Driver app
- APIs
- Simulator

Domains

- Taxi
- Public Transit
- Paratransit
- MaaS

MOD | Operator dashboard





Example: Helsinki



Thank you.



John Horner john.horner@kapsch.net

Vlad Marica vlad.marica@fluidtime.com



STAR TRANSIT

Connecting you to where you want to go.

STAR TRANSIT and Mobility on Demand

July 23, 2018

NCTCOG

STAR Transit Basics



Connecting you to where you want to go.

- STAR Transit is a state established public transportation agency.
- Based in Kaufman County operating as a Rural Transit District.
- Agreements in place with 10+ entities (as big as Mesquite and as small as Fate) with service ranging from Royce City to Navarro County.
- Stellar safety record with 65+ buses in daily operation.
- Fourth largest transit agency in greater
 North Texas, all with no dedicated sales tax.
- Roughly 200,000 rides each year.

ST R TRANSIT

Core Services Tool Box



Connecting you to where you want to go.



Call, Schedule a Ride, Curb to Curb Service

Circulators

Fixed Routes from Transit Generators to Transit Destinations

Commuter Routes fixed Routes from residential areas to jobs/DART

Reverse Commute Fixed Routes to Jobs



STAR Transit Service Area



Connecting you to where you want to go.

Kaufman County

Rockwall County

Balch Springs

DeSoto

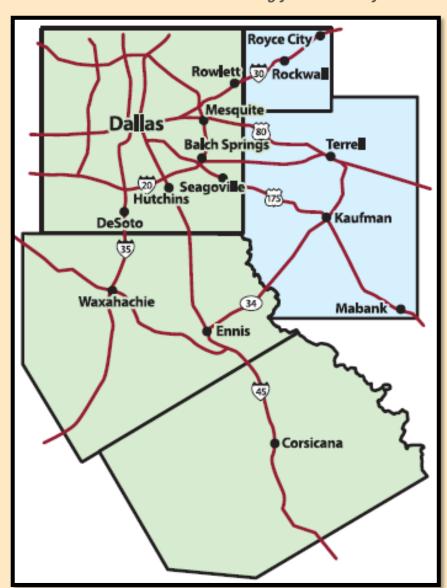
Hutchins

Mesquite

Seagoville

Ellis County (Medicaid/Aging)

Navarro County (Medicaid/Aging)



Current Inland Port Operations START TRANSIT





STAR Transit MOD Topics



Connecting you to where you want to go.

- Current Mobility on Demand Operations
- 3rd Party Provider Relationships
- New Wave Mobility on Demand

Current MOD

STAR TRANSIT

Current Mobility on Demand Operations

- Hometown Style
- Not Advertised
- Availability Based
- Customer calls, Customer speaks with Driver
- Driver and Dispatch Discuss
- If we have flexibility when you ask for "right now service" we accommodate based solely on driver/dispatch discretion
- We pick you up
- We take you there
- Demand Response Fare Schedule

Connecting you to where you want to go.





3rd Party Provider



Connecting you to where you want to go.

FY19 Taxi Cab Pilot Programs

Goal Jurisdictions

- Mesquite
- Desoto
- Rockwall



Traditional Taxi Cab Voucher Program plus STAR Transit as trip provider as available.

Working through contract topics with Desoto currently; aiming for start prior to close of calendar year.

Anticipate small trials of Desoto program in Mesquite and Rockwall by end of FY19.



New Wave MOD



Connecting you to where you want to go.

Future Mobility on Demand Operations

How do we define New Wave MOD?

Ability to direct riders originating in the STAR Transit Service area to a TNC, Taxi or STAR Vehicle MOD through a mobile app or phone.

Ability to facilitate MOD payments through a mobile app or prepaid card.

Ability to collect data and customer service feedback throughout any/all methods of MOD.

Increase customer mobility while decreasing costs.

New Wave MOD



Connecting you to where you want to go.

Future Mobility on Demand Operations

What elements are in place now?

Dispatch integrated with drivers

Drivers with connected tablets

Supervisory oversight

Local government partners requesting innovation

Back office technologies

Flexible Fleet

E&D verification already in place





New Wave MOD



Future Mobility on Demand Operations

Connecting you to where you want to go.

What would we like to put in place?

MOD Cost of Service Policy

Sign on with GoPASS with DART

Cheer on DART progress with MOD Sandbox; cooperate as feasible

Increase Station Access with DART

Minor Website Updates

Trial operations in Kaufman County

Trial operations in Mesquite

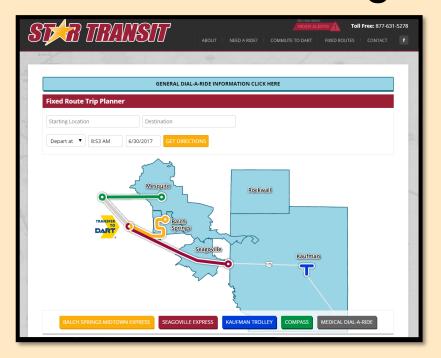
Trial operations in Wilmer, Hutchins, Ellis County, Navarro County

More Information



Connecting you to where you want to go.

www.STARtransit.org





FACEBOOK.com/STARtransit

877-631-5278



Current population demand diversity in mode of access

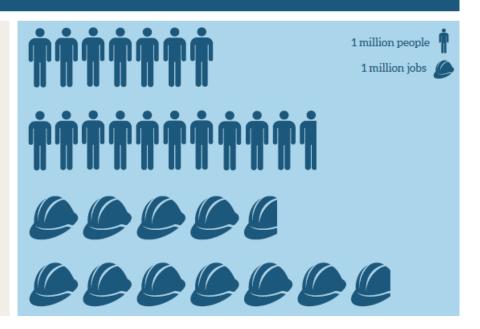
The Dallas-Fort Worth area is the fourth largest metropolitan region in the country in terms of population – and it is growing. With a current population of 7 million, the area adds approximately 1 million people every decade. By 2040, the region will be home to nearly 10.7 million people and will provide 6.7 million jobs.

CURRENT POPULATION: 7.0 MILLION

> 2040 POPULATION: 10.7 MILLION

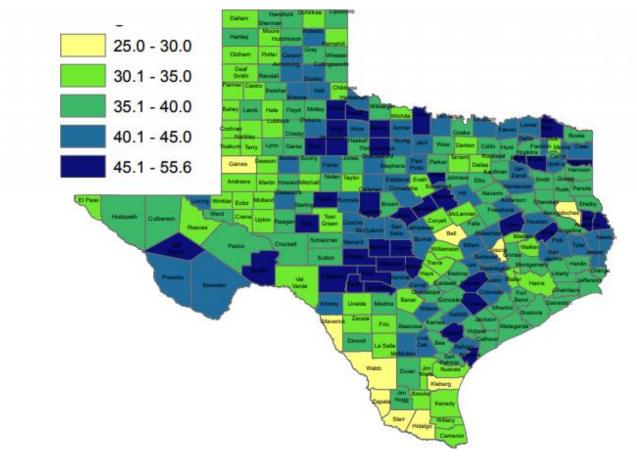
CURRENT EMPLOYMENT: 4.6 MILLION

> 2040 EMPLOYMENT: 6.7 MILLION





Current population demand diversity in mode of access

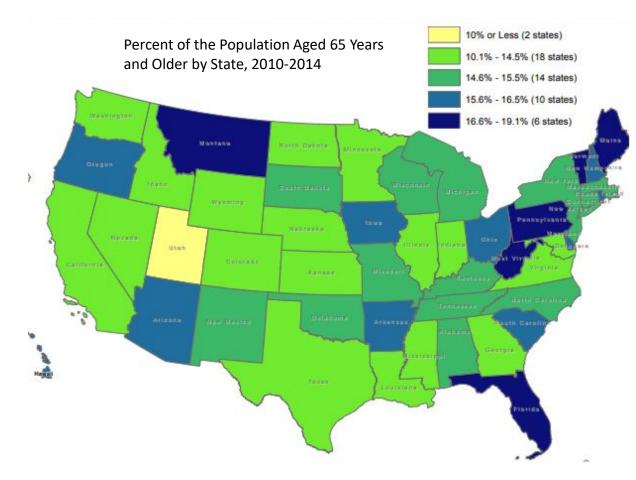




Current population demand diversity in mode of access

Texas is ranked 3rd for number of senior in US (65 and older)

2014			
State	Total	Aged 65 and Older	Percent of those Aged 65 and Older in the US
CA	38,802,500	4,993,047	10.8%
FL	19,893,297	3,791,544	8.2%
TX	26,956,958	3,099,081	6.7%
NY	19,746,227	2,898,094	6.3%
PA	12,787,209	2,134,521	4.6%
ОН	11,594,163	1,799,169	3.9%
IL	12,880,580	1,788,533	3.9%
MI	9,909,877	1,530,052	3.3%
NC	9,943,964	1,463,362	3.2%
NJ	8,938,175	1,313,503	2.8%
US	318,857,056	46,243,211	100%





Growth potential in DFW

 Magnet for major corporate headquarters

Projected economic growth, in GDP

Three Texas counties take the nation's top spots for projected economic growth in the five-year period from 2017-2021.

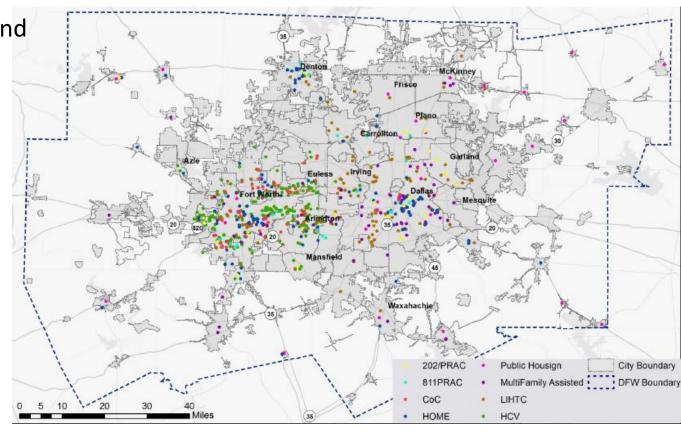




Tracy M. Cook / DMN

Growth potential in DFW

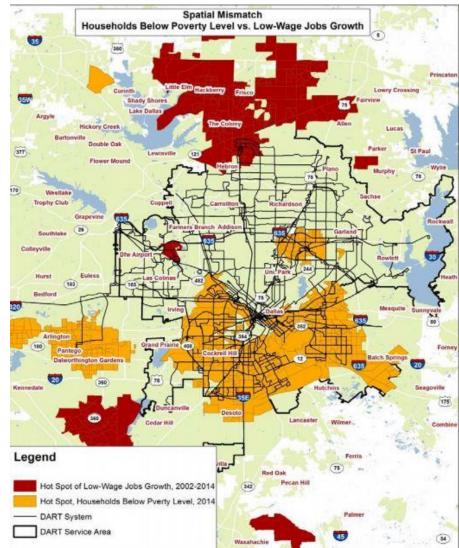
 Low costs of living and affordable housing opportunities





Current issues in DFW

Less jobs are accessible by transit (Spatial Mismatch)

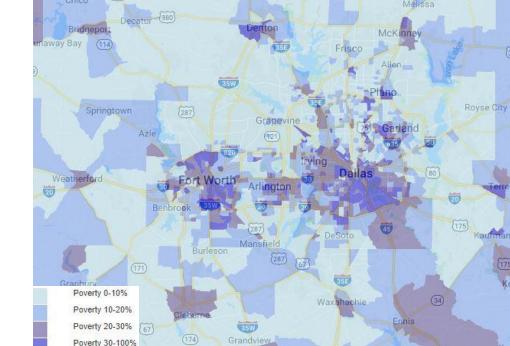




Current issues in DFW

 High Poverty Rate (30 % of children in Dallas are living in poverty)

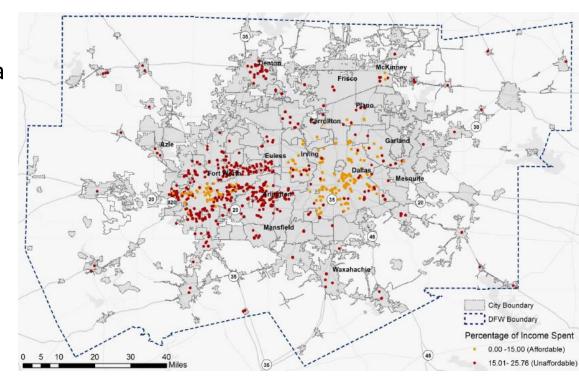






Current issues in DFW

 The residents of affordable units in DFW are spending a higher percentage (15.1% to 26%) of their income on transportation





Why Transit?

- Helping urban density as it continues to grow
- Matching demand with supply
- Response to expected needs of customers
- Approach for reducing traffic congestion
- Increases job access for low income riders
- Provide alternatives modes of transportation
- Create the fundamentals for households costs savings





Mobility on Demand is one of the alternatives





DART'S Vision



CONTINUOUSLY IMPROVE THE TRANSPORTATION EXPERIENCE

A seamless and user-friendly solution for public and third party mobility transport options with a one-touch payment solution.



EXPAND THE REACH OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Lower the cost and expand the reach of public transportation to provide high quality, first and/or last mile services.



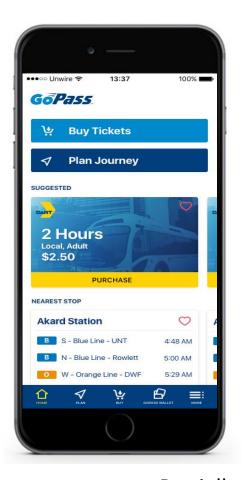
ACCESS TO ALL CONSUMERS

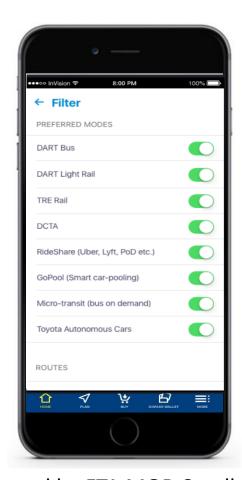
Integrate equitable MOD solutions including comparable access for the unbanked, disabled, low income, smartphone challenged customers and typically non-transit customers.

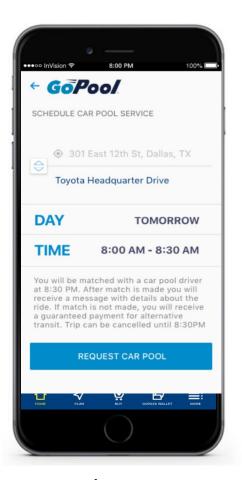


Simple Idea:

Integrated Ticketing, Payment and Mobility Options



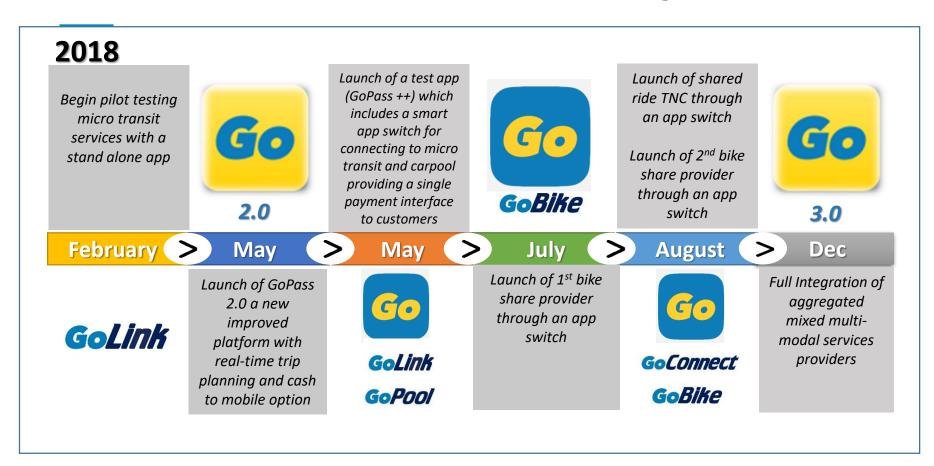






Partially Sponsored by FTA MOD Sandbox Demonstration

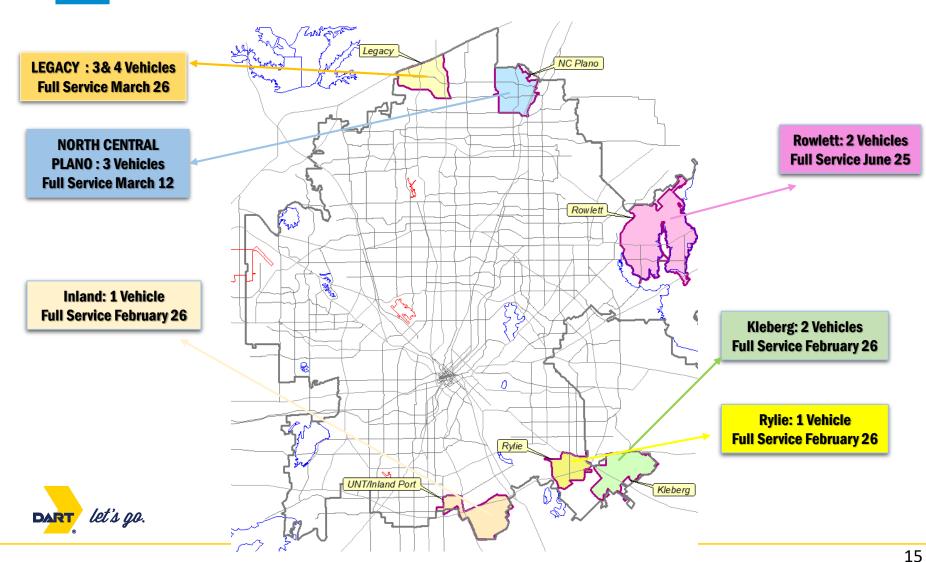
DART's APP Based Shared Mobility Transition



Partially Sponsored by FTA MOD Sandbox Demonstration



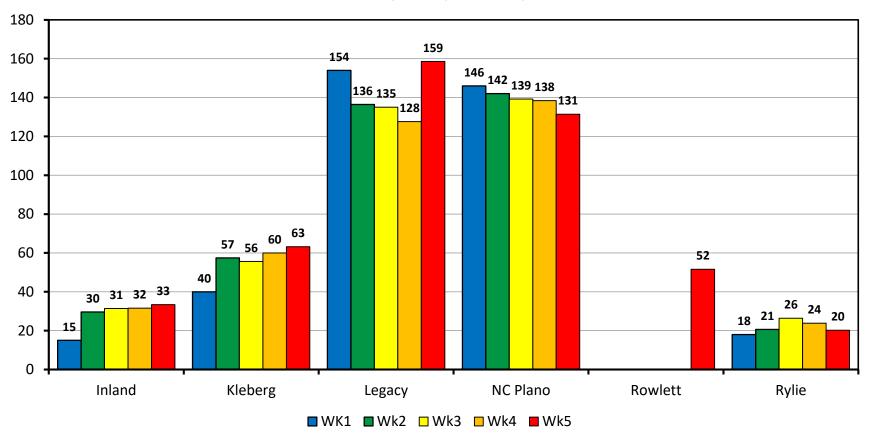
Current Mobility on Demand Zones



Average Daily Ridership-June 2018

Mostly from Legacy

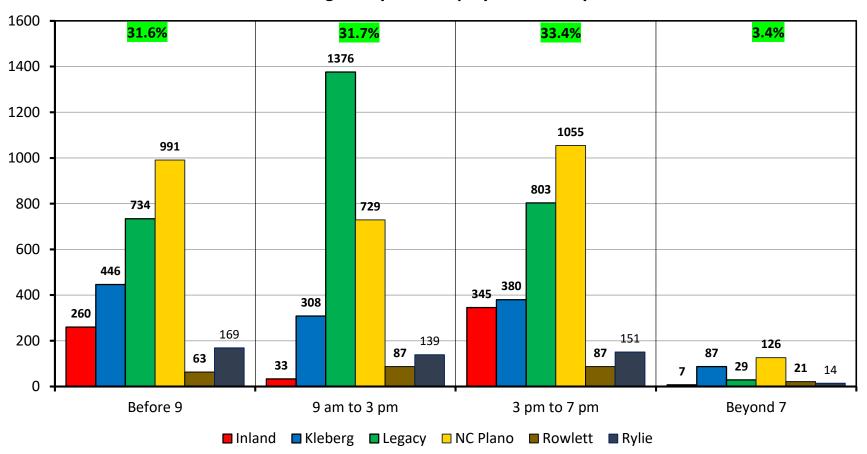
Average Daily Ridership





Ridership by Time Quadrant - June 2018

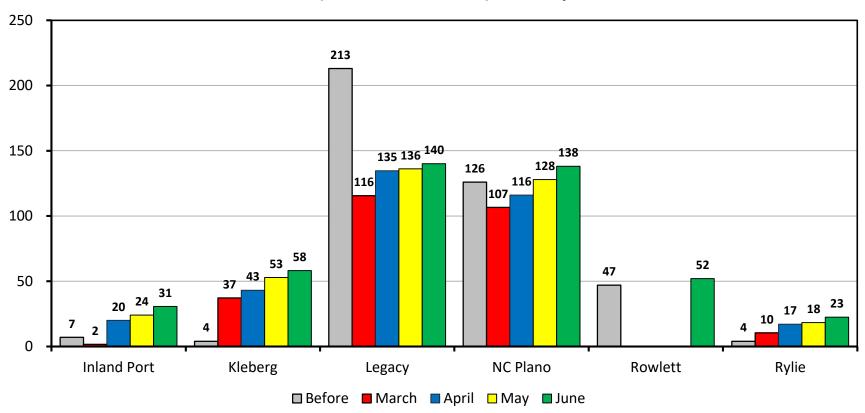
Average Daily Ridership by Time of Day





Average Daily Ridership

Average Daily Ridership
Before – After (March to June 2018) MOD Implementation

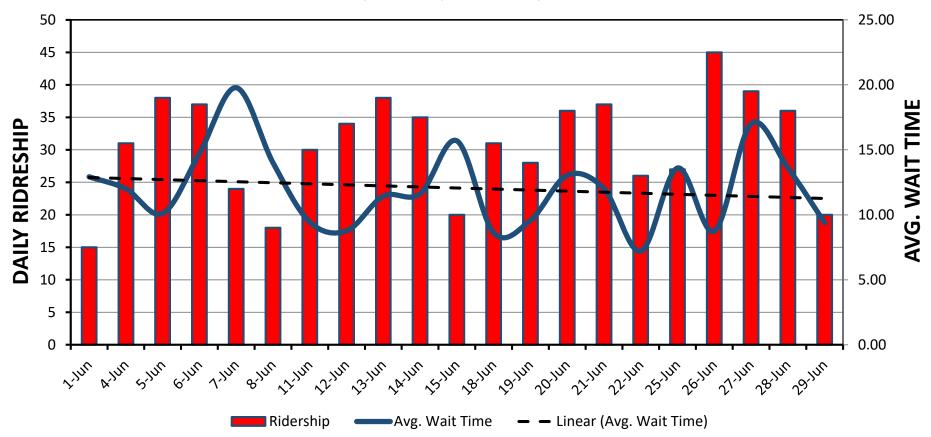




Inland Port

645 Riders Average waiting Time: 12 minutes

Total Daily Ridership and Average Wait Times

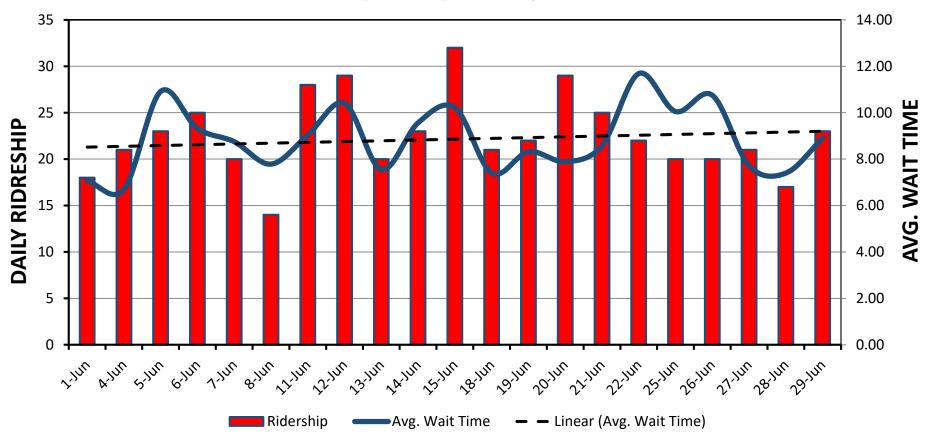




Rylie

473 Riders Average waiting Time: 9 minutes

Total Daily Ridership Vs. Average Wait Times

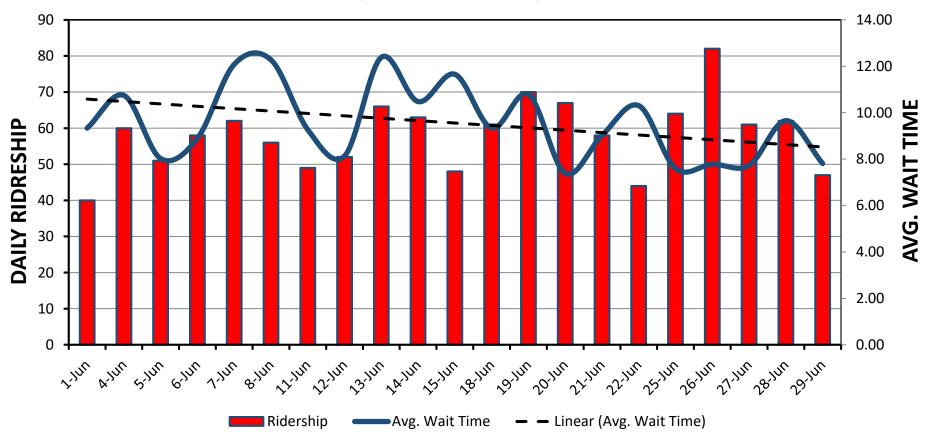




Kleberg

1,221 Riders Average waiting Time: 10 minutes

Total Daily Ridership and Average Wait Times

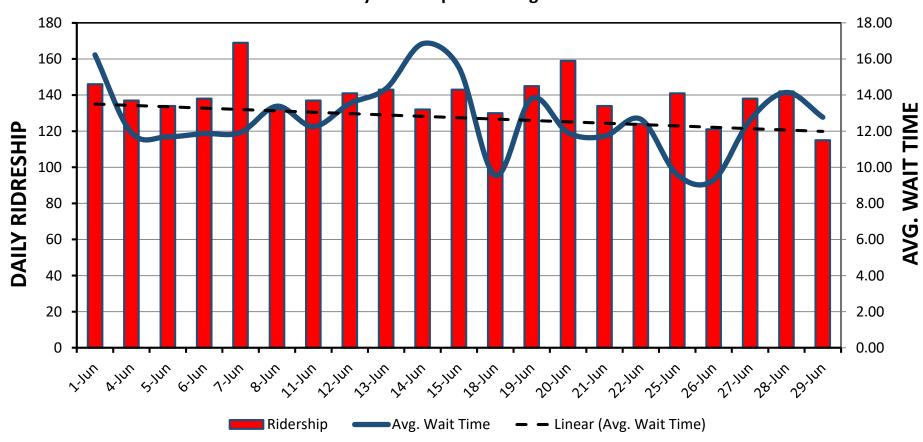




North Central Plano

2,901 Riders Average waiting Time: 13 minutes

Total Daily Ridership Vs. Average Wait Times

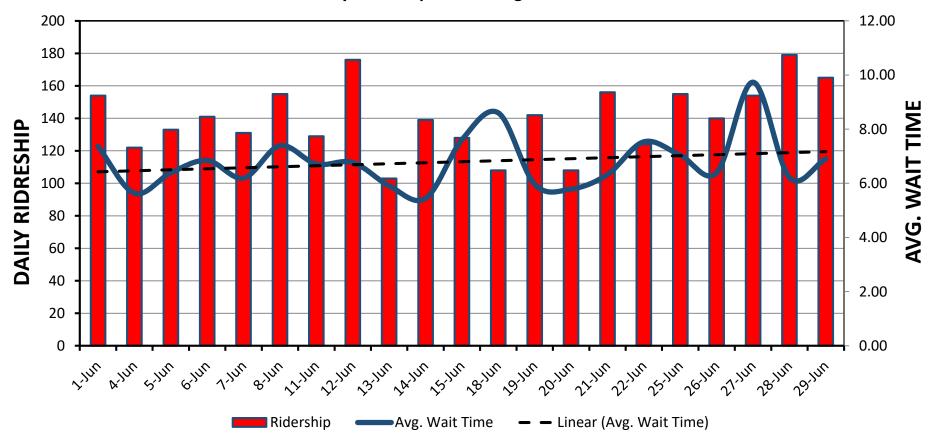




Legacy

2,942 Riders Average waiting Time: 7 minutes

Daily Ridership and Average Wait Times

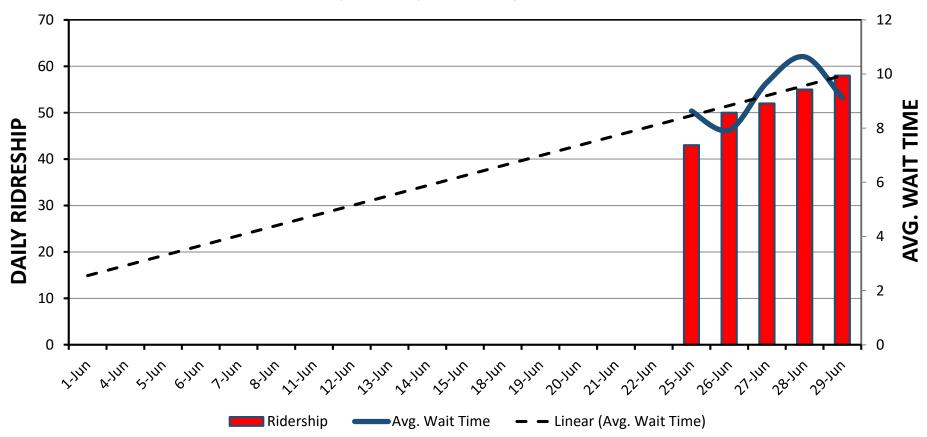




Rowlett

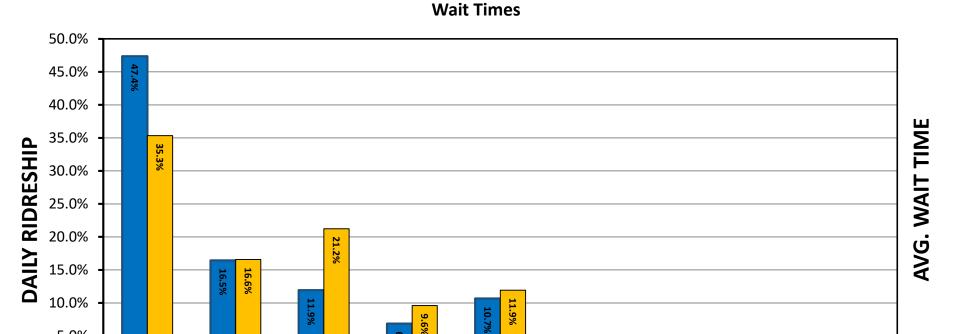
258 Riders Average waiting Time: 9 minutes

Daily Ridership and Average Wait Times





Inland Port



20 to 30

■ May □ June

6.9%

10 to 15

15 to 20



0 to 5

5 to 10

5.0%

0.0%

0.9%

50 to 60

40 to 50

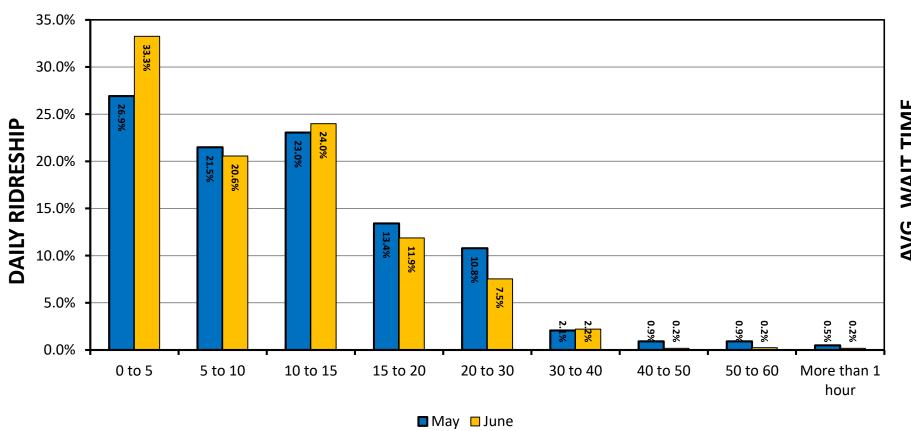
30 to 40

0.5%

More than 1 hour

Kleberg

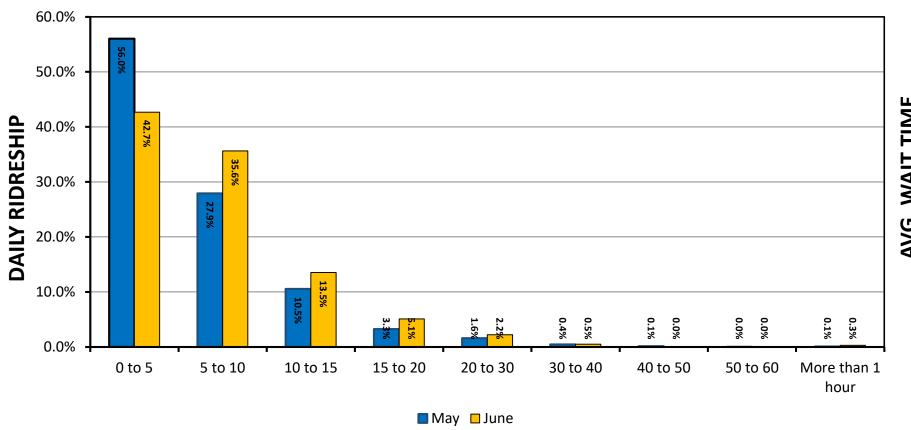
Wait Times





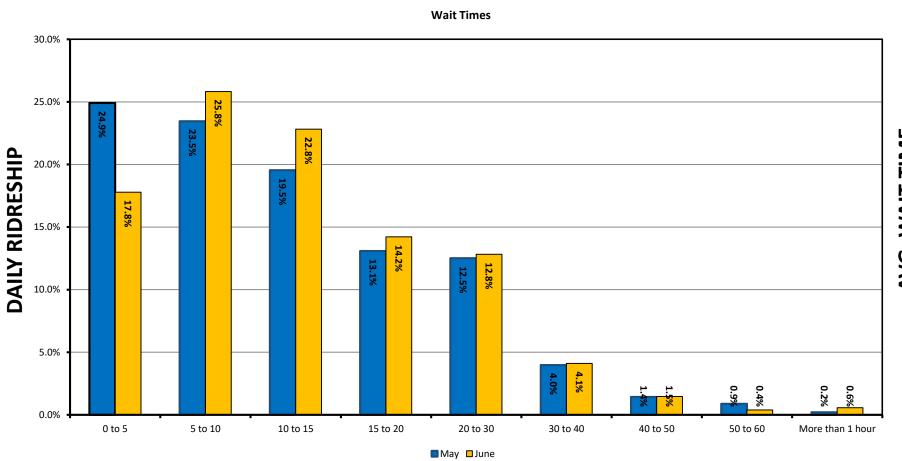
Legacy

Wait Times





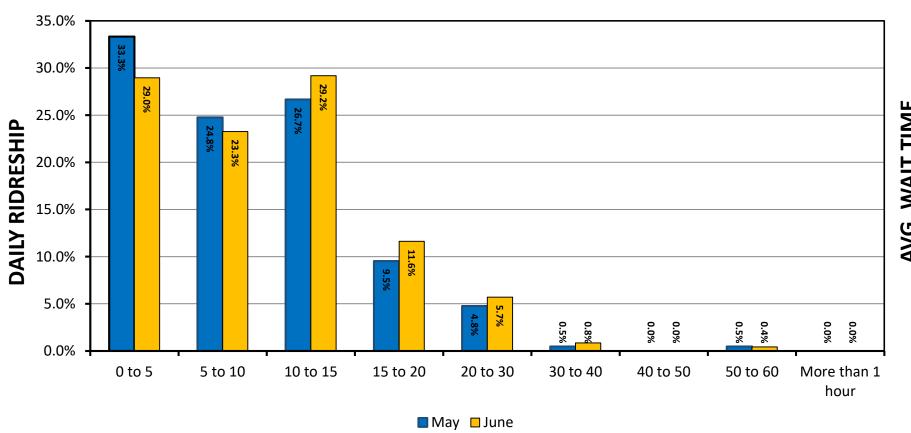
NC Plano





Rylie

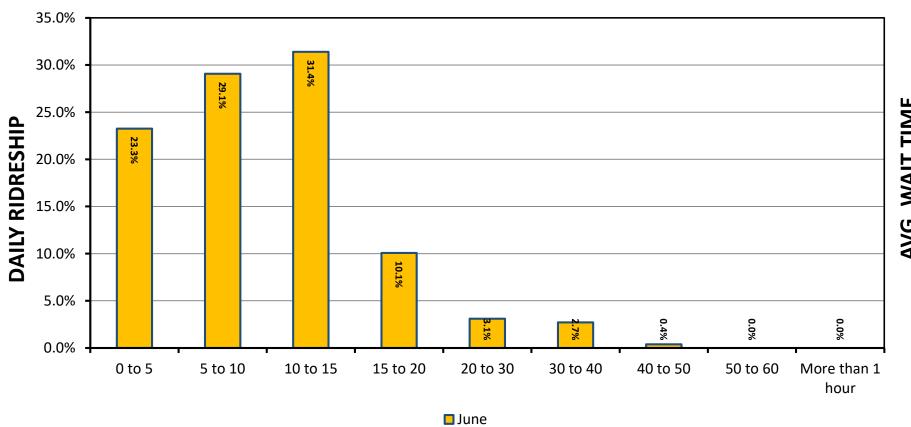






Rowlett

Wait Times

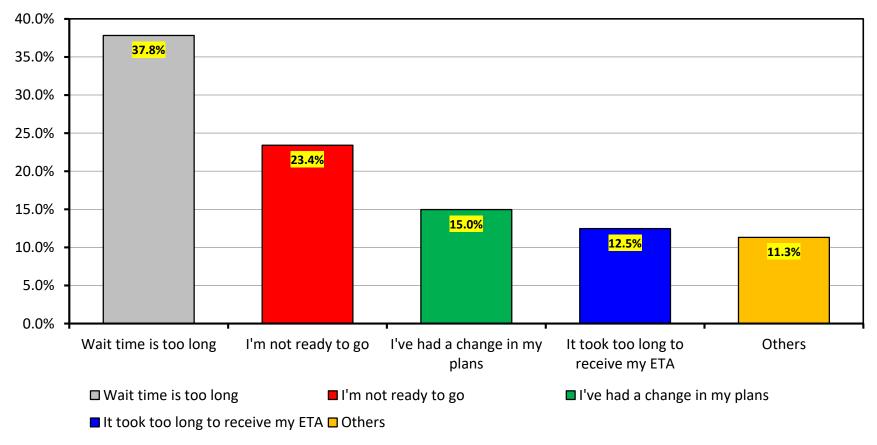




Cancelled Trips

6.5 % (521) of Requested Trips was Cancelled by Passengers

Passenger Messages

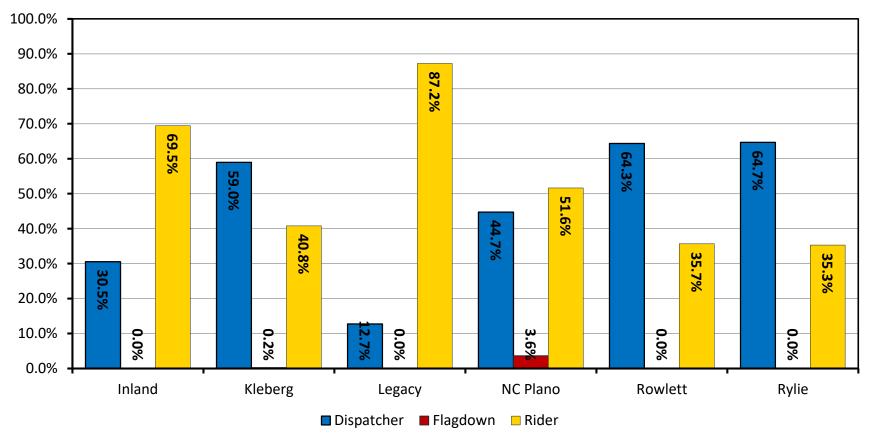




Reservation Type - June 2018

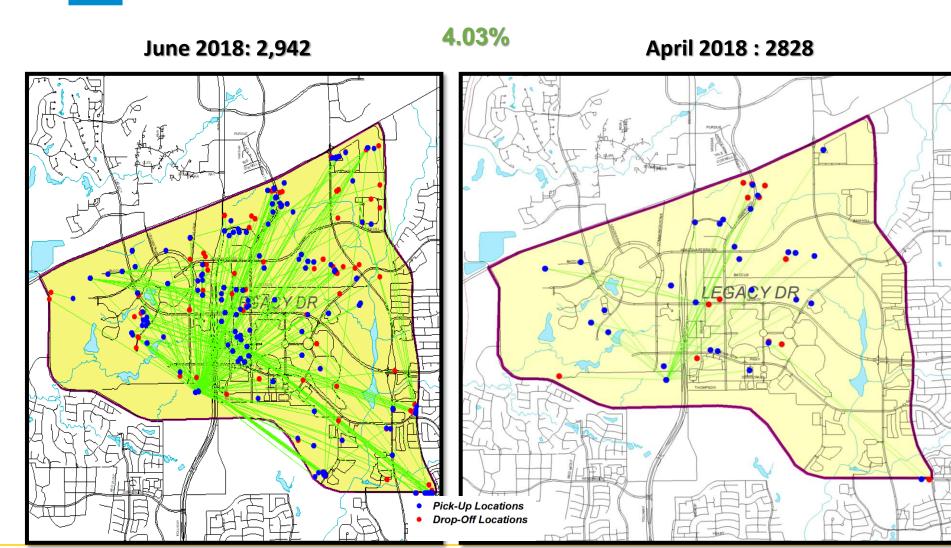
Mostly through App: 62.4%

Reservation Type





Legacy Origin Destinations

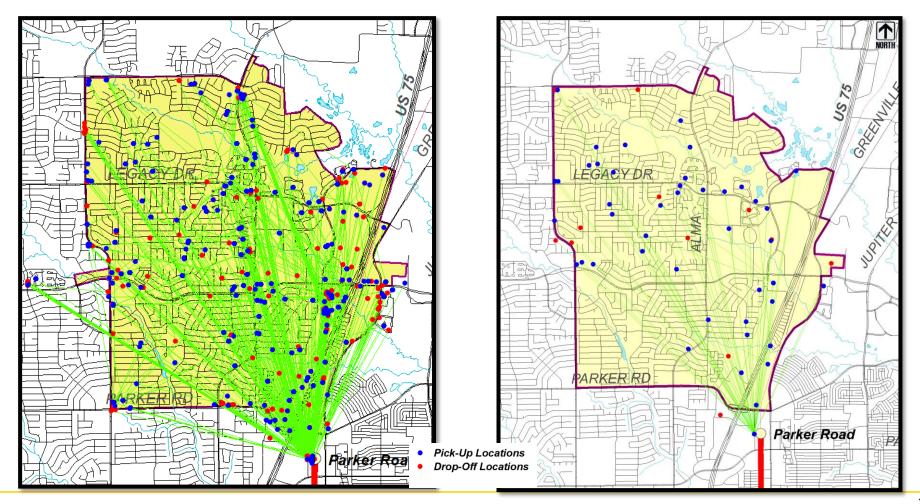


Legacy: Lunch Time Legacy West Hall Office Park Stonebriar Mall SRT IKea Dr y Club McDermott Rd SRT (121) **Toyota HQ** SRT Dominion Phys Headquarters **Shops @ Legacy** Legacy Dr Tennyson Pkwy (289) Legacy Di W Spring Creek Phys W Spring Creek Pkwy 289 McKamy Trail WSpring Creek Pkwy Windhaven Ph Windhaven PKW McKamy Trail

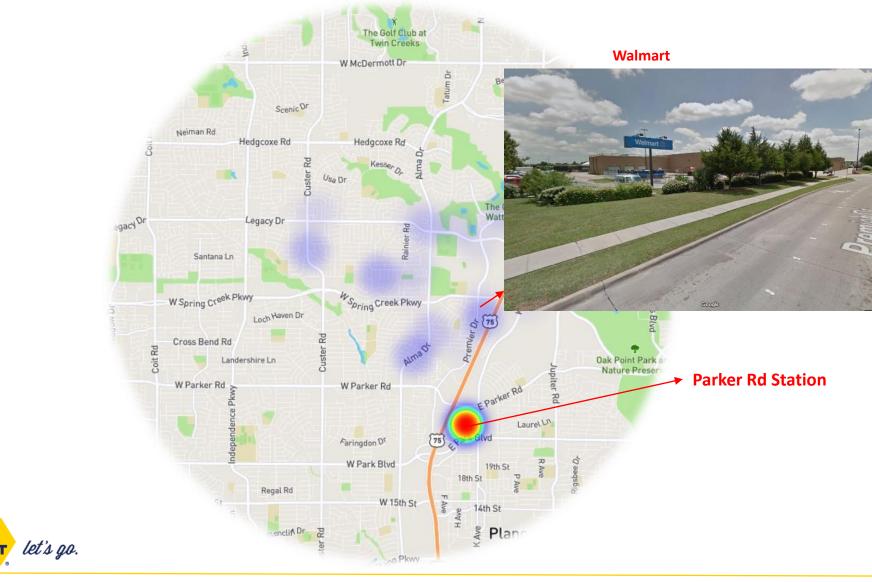


NC Plano Origin Destinations

June 2018 : 2901 19.09% April 2018 : 2,436

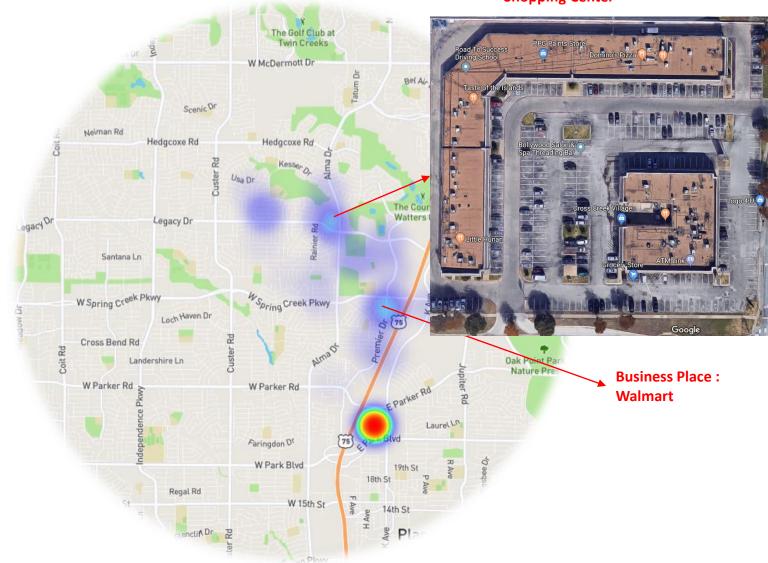


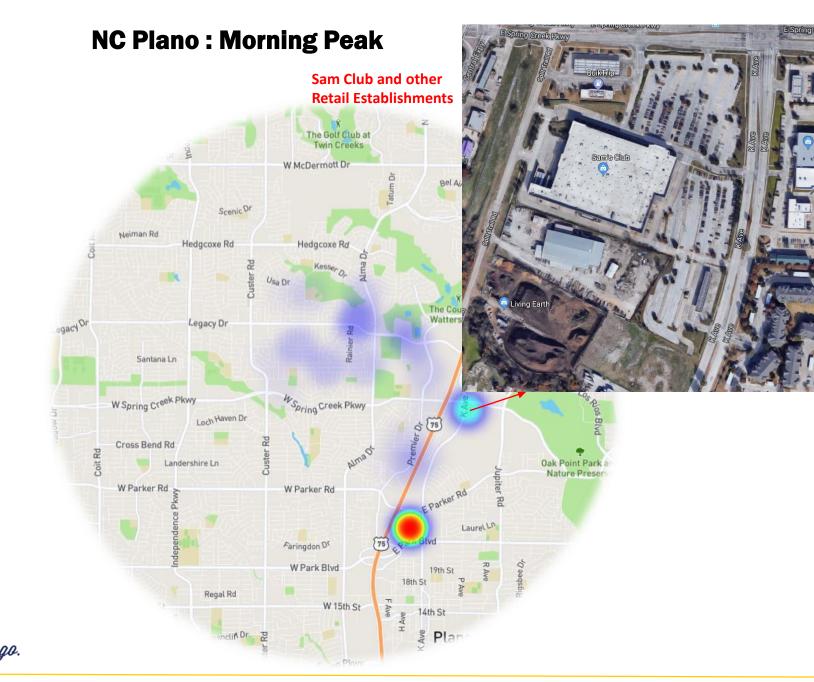
NC Plano: Morning peak



NC Plano: Morning peak

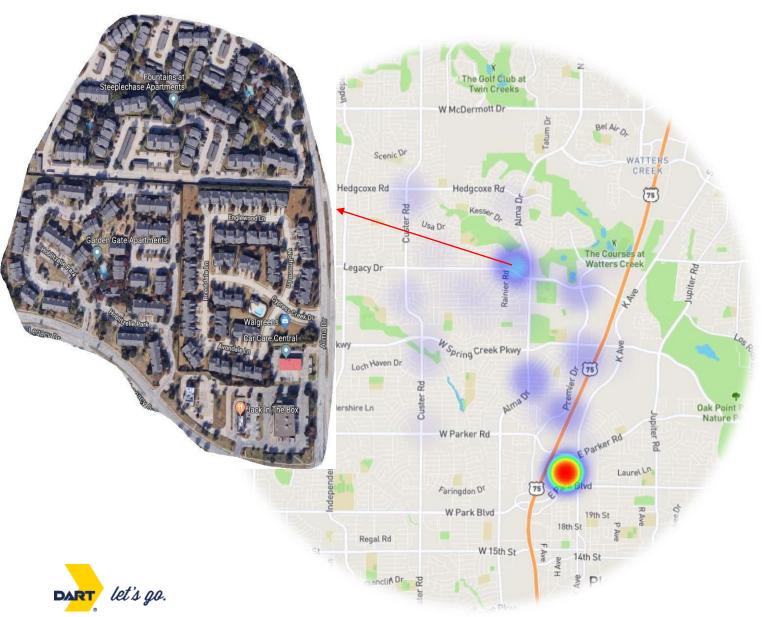
Cross Creek Village Neighborhood Shopping Center



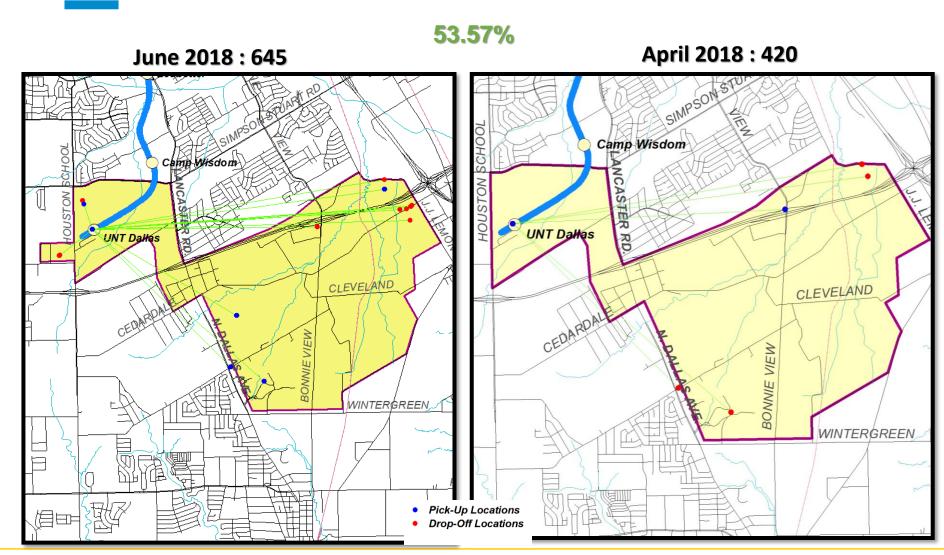


NC Plano: Midday

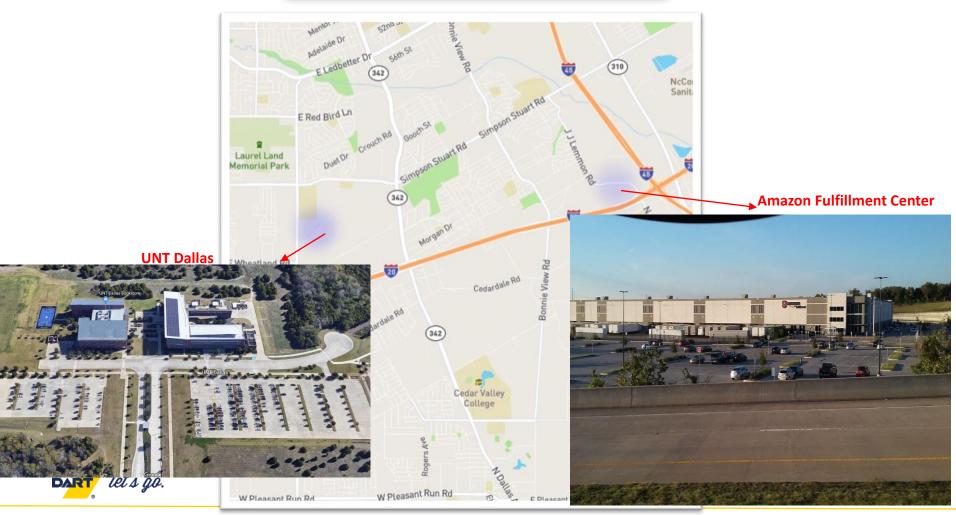
6600 Custer Rd., Plano TX



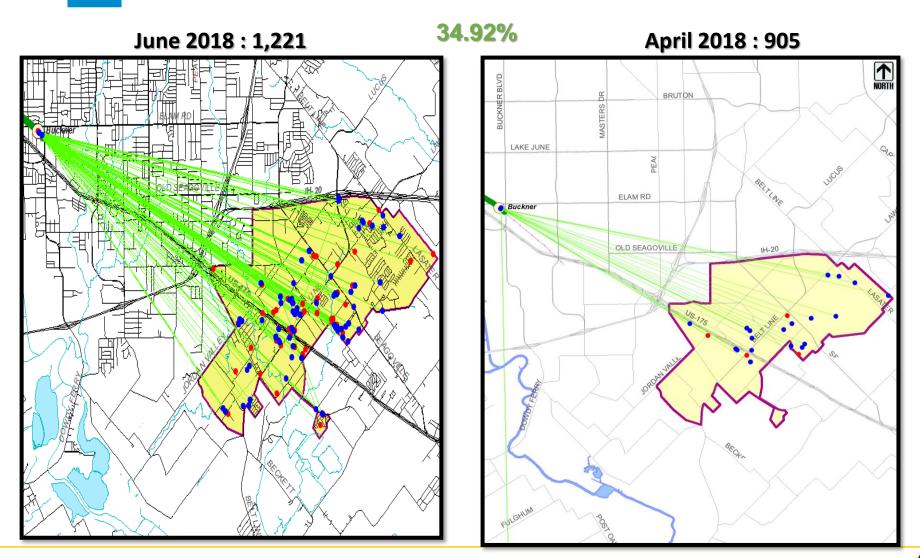
Inland Origin Destinations



Origin	Destination	# of Trips
UNT Dallas Station	Amazon Fulfillment Center	228
Amazon Fulfillment Center	UNT Dallas Station	113

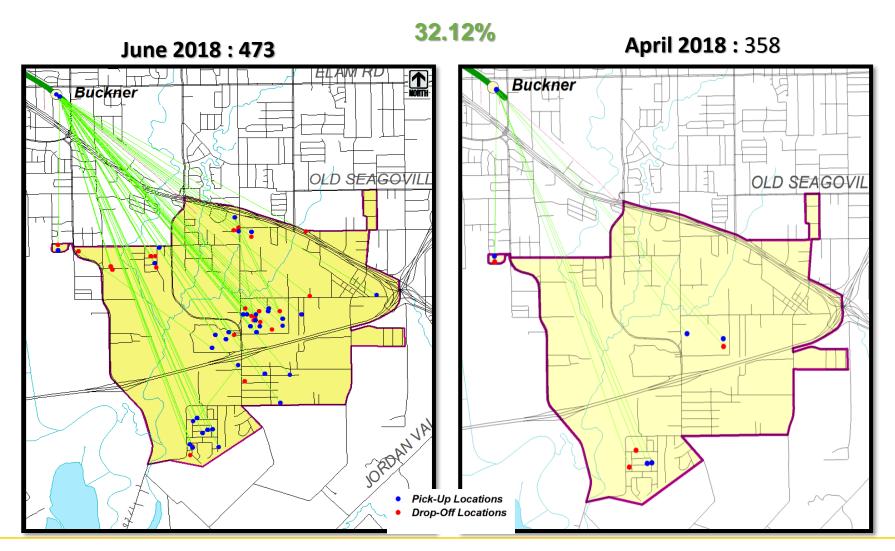


Kleberg Origin Destinations



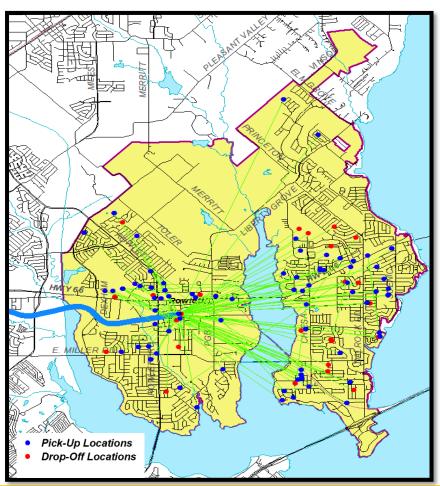


Rylie Origin Destinations

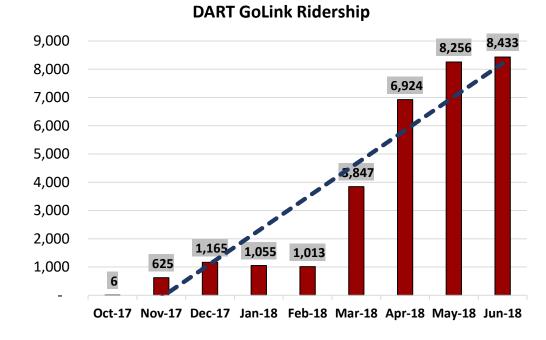


Rowlett Origin Destinations





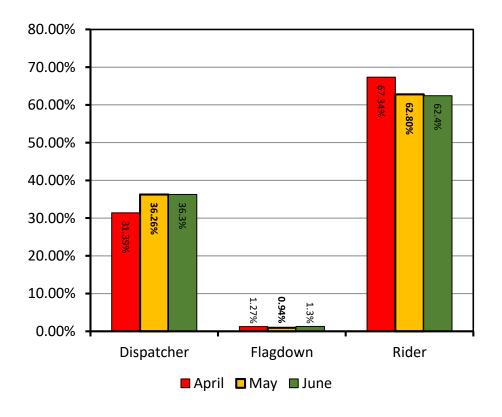






• Ridership

Call Volumes



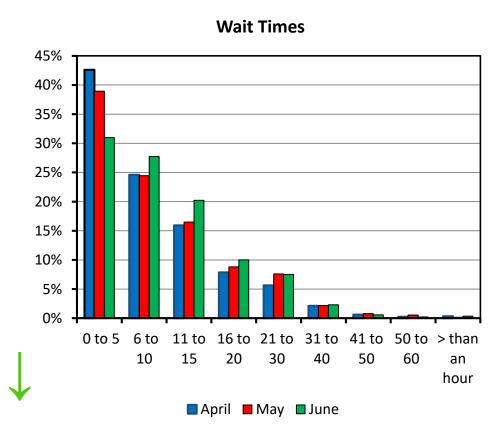


- Ridership
- Call Volumes
- Dispatch Activity



- Dispatch Activity
- Service with 10 minutes







Is MOD Microtransit Financially Viable?

Not Viable without TNC-Style Pricing and/or more ridership

Subsidy per rider Legacy
Route 346
\$35



GoLink Subsidy per Rider \$18.07 In Legacy Zone \$12.36 in N Central Zone



TNC Subsidy per Rider in GoLInk Zones

\$5.51





DART's TNC/Taxi Negations Update

- At least one TNC wants exclusivity to participate in MOD project
- TNC's have been willing to offer shared Ride Service for Dallas for MOD
- Without drug/alcohol testing transit must use FTA taxi exemption approach to include TNC's in the MOD services
- Taxi's are willing to comply with all drug and alcohol regulations
- Taxi's have offered a shared ride product but exactly how it works is unclear
- Seamless integration of TNC's and Taxi into the DART Microtransit software and GoPass has yet to be developed and negotiated with taxis and TNCs
- Data sharing with TNCs will be suboptimal due to TNC concerns
- TNC background checks seems to be increasingly feasible
- To offer choice to customer, MOD will need to include taxi, DART operated, and TNC as a rider choice



Key Takeaways

High level of interest in MOD has sparked rampant software development activity and various PPP agreements



Although there are many pieces to an integrated journey planning and payment "ecosphere", a mastery solution has not been developed



Determining who "owns and controls" integrated mobility solutions is open for debate



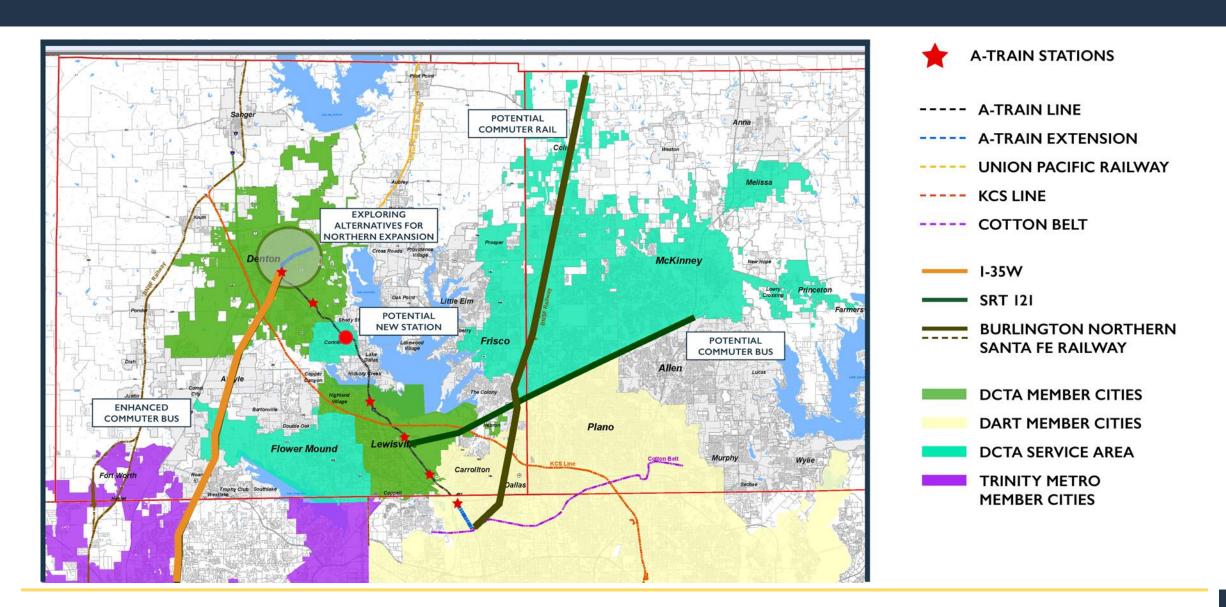
Negotiating acceptable agreements with the TNCs for shared ride service and access to data to evaluation the program has proven more difficult that anticipated **Thank You**







DCTA: REGIONAL PARTNER



TOYOTA – SOCIAL INNOVATION

Toyota aims to directly enable affordable, low emissions mobility, improving environmental outcomes and quality of life for elderly, disabled and low-income Americans, while also strengthening Toyota North America's competitive advantage

Green Mobility

Improve access to mobility solutions that are Greener, Safer, Integrated, and more inclusive by designing, delivering & scaling solutions for communities across North America



Lower Emission Transport



Support Services for LE Transport



to LE transport

Personal Mobility

Improve usability, affordability & quality of mobility products and services for those individuals facing the greatest mobility challenges, the elderly & people living with disabilities



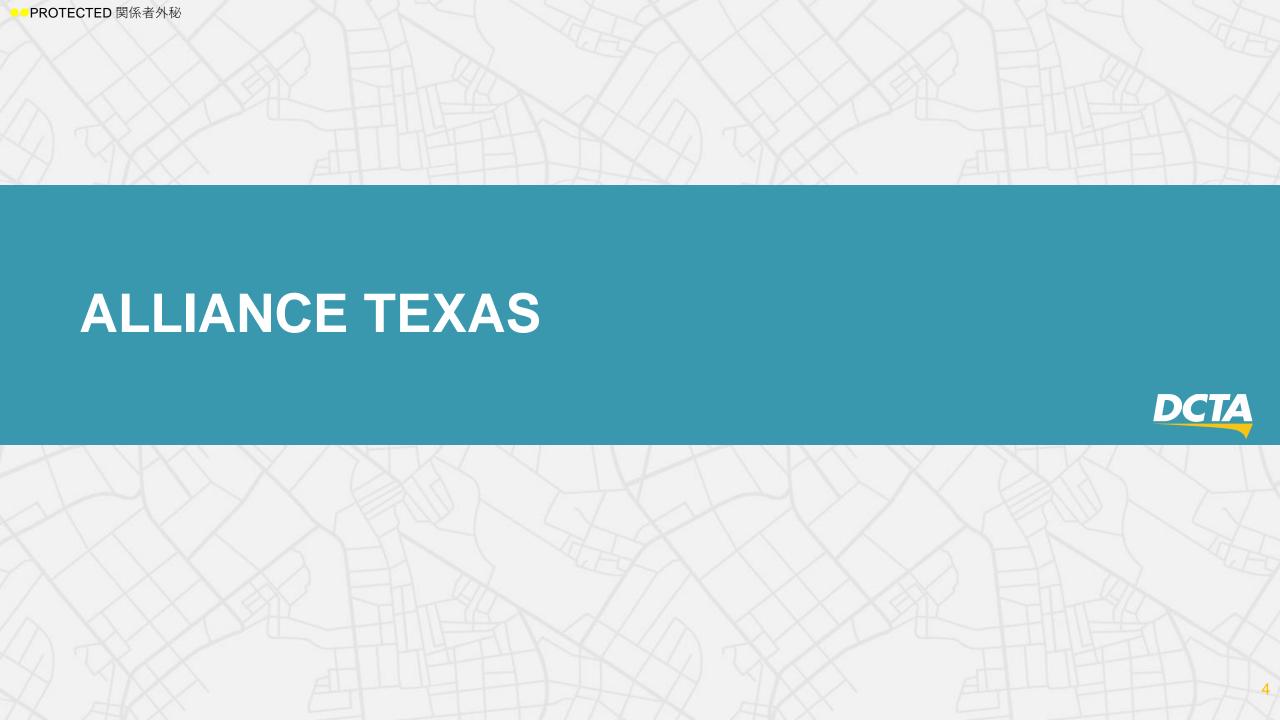
Accessible vehicles



On Demand



Assistive devices



ALLIANCE TEXAS

Alliance Texas	Developed by Hillwood Properties in Fort Worth
	Home to more than 480 companies with 48,000 employees
	Employees arrive to Alliance Texas from Denton, Fort Worth, etc.
Challenges	Access to transportation – first mile/last mile
	High employee turnover
	Tapped out talent pipeline
-	

ALLIANCE LINK



Alliance Link:

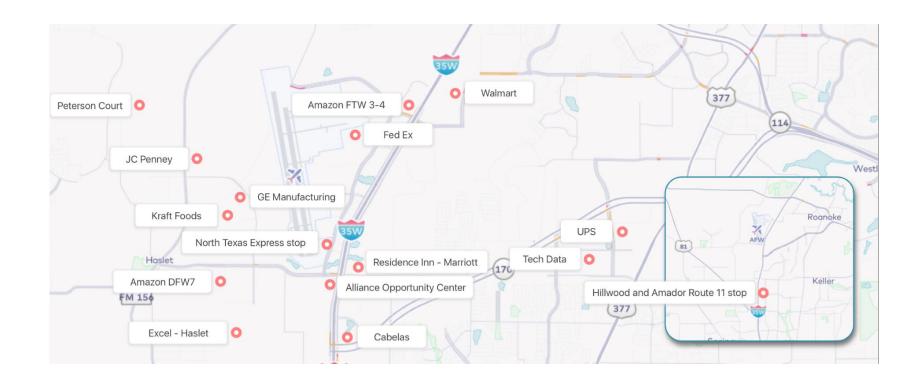
- Established for low wage workers of Alliance Texas
- Alliance is a 9 month pilot shuttle that started in April 2018
- Riders book a trip with the
 Alliance Link app \$1 cost per trip
- Service Hours
 - M-F 4:30-7:30am & 4:40-7:30pm
 - Sa-Su 5:30-7:30am & 4:00-7:30pm

ALLIANCE LINK GOAL

Ultimate Goal: Provide an on-demand, last-mile transportation solution for Alliance employees with mobility challenges

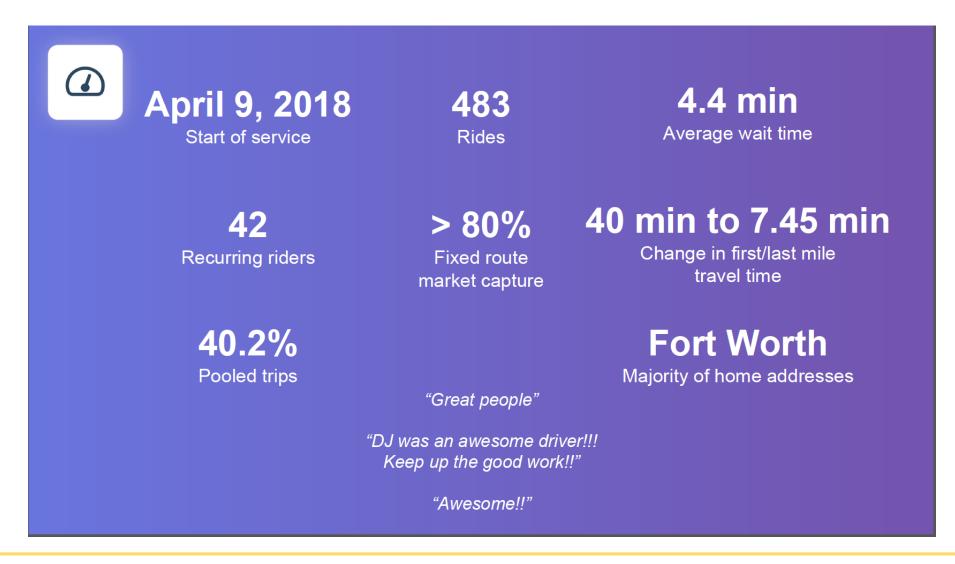
Expand	Expand talent pipeline in different areas
Decrease	Decrease employee turnover due to transportation issues Decrease traffic in the area by reducing single passenger vehicles on the road
Reduce	Reduce carbon footprint of employees commuting and improve local air quality

ALLIANCE LINK – SERVICE STOPS





ALLIANCE LINK - SPARE LABS METRICS



ALLIANCE LINK - CHALLENGES

Data of employees

- Zip code
- Mode of transportation
- Mobility Challenges

Employer Support

- Advocating service
- Key stakeholder on project
- Data Collection
- Serving all shifts

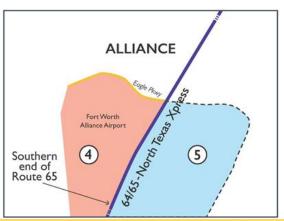
Ridership

- Ridership of Trinity Metro/DCTA
- Public Transit Connectivity
- Behavior Change public transit versus personal vehicle

ENHANCED CONNECTIVITY TO ALLIANCE

- Economic Opportunity Lyft Zones
 - Considered transfer within transit system/linked trip
- Route 65 Service to complement Routes 63/64
 - 7 days a week
 - Enhanced Service Hours to address shift work
 - Direct access to employer
- Target populations
 - UNT, TWU, NCTC students
 - Low-income workers





NEXT STEPS

Short Term

- Engage Alliance Employers
- Engage DCTA/Trinity Metro/Hillwood
- Establish marketing and communication plan
- Collect and analyze data

Mid-Term

- Engage Alliance Employers
- Engage DCTA/Trinity Metro/Hillwood
- Continuous Improvementrefine service area/hours
- Collect and analyze data

Long Term

 Work with stakeholders to implement Sustainability Plan

Whitepaper on Accessibility & Mobility on Demand (MOD) Options

Mobility on Demand (MOD) Working Group Meeting

Cody Nelson, Transportation Planner North Central Texas Council of Governments

July 23, 2018



Overview

Introduction

Purpose of Whitepaper

Mobility on Demand (MOD) Options

Transportation Network Companies (TNCs) & Taxis Benefits

Transportation Network Companies (TNCs) & Taxis Restrictions

Recommendations to Improve Equity in Mobility on Demand (MOD)

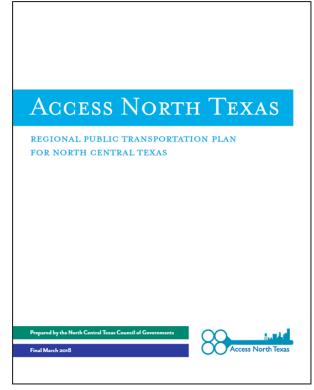
Questions & Feedback

Introduction

Access North Texas & Public Outreach Meetings

Fort Worth Mayor's Committee on Persons with Disabilities







Purpose of Whitepaper

"Let's improve services to help assure greater access to transportation options" -Shared Use Mobility Center

Use as a **brief** guide, tool, & informational resource

Easy-to-read for public perspective, helpful tips, & includes current options





Mobility on Demand (MOD) Options

Transportation Network Companies (TNCs)

Taxis







Transportation Network Companies (TNCs) & Taxi's Benefits

TNC Benefits

Spontaneity

Connections

Flexible Schedules

Cost effective



Taxi Benefits

Accessible

Wide coverage areas

Safe & easier for accommodating needs



Transportation Network Companies (TNCs) & Taxi's Restrictions

TNC Restrictions

Rural access

Long distances

Costly for some

Personal vehicle accessibility

Hours of operation



Rural access

Spontaneity



Recommendations to Improve Equity in Mobility on Demand (MOD)

Continue to...

Foster public & private relationships between public transit agencies and MOD operators

Leverage late-night mobility services

Implement multiple fare payment options

Employ services and technologies that overcome physical challenges





Questions & Feedback

Cody Nelson Transportation Planner I <u>cnelson@nctcog.org</u> 817-704-5602

Kelli Schlicher, AICP Transportation Planner III <u>kschlicher@nctcog.org</u> 817-695-9287

Jing Xu Senior Transportation Planner jxu@nctcog.org 817-608-2335 7

Visit us at www.nctcog.org/mod!



Whitepaper on Accessibility and Mobility on Demand (MOD) Options

Table of Contents

	Pages
Introduction	1
Dallas-Fort Worth (DFW) Transportation Organizations	1
Transportation Network Companies (TNCs) & Taxis – Private Transportation Requirements &	
Transportation Network Companies (TNCs) & Taxis – Private Transportation Requirements & Regulations	2
Transportation Network Companies (TNCs) & Taxis – Private Transportation Benefits &	
Restrictions	2-3
Paratransit	3
Technology	3
Conclusion	3-4
References	Δ

Introduction

Transportation and mobility play extremely important roles in people's daily lives. More specifically, people with disabilities need accessible, efficient, and reliable modes of transportation to fulfill daily activities. The rights of people with disabilities to access transportation for their everyday needs are guaranteed under the federal law – the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. With advancement in transportation modes, more options are now available for accessibility than ever before. Innovations in transportation and technology make it possible for people with disabilities to live more independently. Accessibility is a civil right and it must be assured in all operating decisions, including safety measures for all passengers with and without disabilities. (Transit Report – Volume 22, Number 12 & Transit Report – Oct. 13, 2015).

Dallas-Fort Worth (DFW) Transportation Organizations

The Dallas-Fort Worth (DFW) region has a few organizations that are dedicated to linking people with disabilities and older adults to the most appropriate transportation options. My Ride Dallas, My Ride Tarrant, and My Ride North Texas, are dedicated to helping people with disabilities and older adults understand the transportation options available to them. My Ride Dallas offers over-the-phone transportation counseling, e-mail, and printed guides for accessing rides that are available throughout Dallas County. My Ride Tarrant also offers assistance over-the-phone, e-mail, and via text message. Contacting a MyRide Navigator can help with finding the best transportation for needs for Tarrant County and Dallas County. My Ride North Texas is a website that offers users an easy-to-use database option using origin and destination information, time, date, and mobility options based on the riders' needs. My Ride North Texas also provides other resources such as flyers, travel assistance resources, and frequently asked questions (FAQs). All three of these resources help people with disabilities and older adults understand transportation options for easier accessibility.

Transportation Network Companies (TNCs) & Taxis – Private Transportation Requirements & Regulations

Taxi companies in Texas are regulated at the municipal level and comply with ADA requirements for engaging in the transporting of people to provide demand-responsive transportation. Within the DFW region, wheelchair accessible taxicabs are available upon request. Texas policies state that taxicab services cannot deny rides to people with disabilities. Similar to TNCs, if a person is using a wheelchair or other mobility aids that can be stowed in the cab and can also transfer from a wheelchair to a vehicle seat, the company and driver must provide service. In situations where a person cannot transfer to a vehicle seat, the driver and/or company must connect them to the appropriate service options that operate ramps and lifts or other similar accommodating needs for transport purposes. This could be an additional accessible vehicle from the taxicab company or another transit provider that is within the specified area.

TNCs such as Uber and Lyft have specific accessibility requirements that they must follow in order to operate services. In May 2017, Texas lawmakers passed House Bill 100 that requires all TNCs to provide people an opportunity to indicate whether they need a wheelchair accessible vehicle when booking a ride. Moreover, TNCs cannot impose any additional charges for transporting people with disabilities. If an accessible vehicle is not available, the company directs the requesting person to an alternate provider that can provide an accessible vehicle and does not unreasonably delay the service.

Transportation Network Companies (TNCs) & Taxis – Private Transportation Benefits & Restrictions

To help solve transportation challenges in DFW, major transit agencies including Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) and Denton County Transportation Authority (DCTA) have formed public-private partnerships with Transportation Network Companies (TNCs) such as Uber and Lyft to help people get to and from where they need to go. Partnerships that exist between TNCs and transit agencies can:

- Lower transit provider's operational costs
- Serve additional riders outside of public transit agency coverage areas
- Improve access and provide improvements on services
- Provide more convenient services for paratransit riders

TNCs and Taxis, have made significant positive increases in mobility for people with disabilities, although, they operate with benefits as well as restrictions. TNCs are beneficial for people who choose and are able to use them, by offering same day spontaneous services, connections to public transportation, flexible schedules, and can be a cost effective option. TNCs offer an additional option, instead of having to reserve rides a day or so in advance. By TNCs partnering with transit agencies, within the DFW region, it increases the reach and coverage areas of transit for riders.

There can also be some limiting measures for TNCs, such as having a limited number of options for people with disabilities in rural communities. Since TNCs operate personal vehicles, accessibility is a major restriction because they are not all equipped with lifts or ramps. Other restrictions include recruiting 24/7 drivers, long distances between destinations, accessibility of technology, and costly for people with low incomes.

An operational benefit for taxis includes accessible vehicles. Several taxi services in the DFW region offer rides that are wheelchair accessible. They offer better chances of rides during difficult times such as peak periods, have a wider coverage area, and are easier and safer to serve mobility users. Some of the main operational restrictions for taxi services can be when an accessible vehicle is requested for a spontaneous ride, it can be difficult to obtain because many services require wheelchair accessible taxi vehicles to be requested at least one day or more in advance. This can restrict people with disabilities from being mobile, especially if they are in an area where there are a limited number of public and private transportation services.

Paratransit

In the context of transportation planning, mobility has been defined as the potential for movement, the ability to get from one place to another. More specifically, mobility is having services that are going to and from destinations that people want to travel to, information and/or data about such services, how to use them, accessible for everyone to use, and affordable. Paratransit services help to empower people with disabilities by focusing on their mobility needs. "Disability need not be an obstacle to success" —Stephen Hawking.

Paratransit is a specialized transportation that serves people who are physically unable to use a fixed-route transit system. According to ADA, paratransit must provide service within a ¾ mile radius of fixed-route services that are comparable to the service provided to people who use fixed-route systems. Paratransit must be provided to all eligible riders if it is requested in the appropriate timeframe, which in most cases is one day ahead of time.

The three transit agencies in DFW that provide paratransit service are Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART), Trinity Metro, and Denton County Transportation Authority (DCTA). All agencies offer services in accordance with ADA regulations and provide demand-responsive service to qualified riders.

Technology

Transit agencies' technology has increased mobility options and made it easier for people with disabilities to find rides. The GoPass app, which is an easy-to-use and personalized means to planning rides, allows users to purchase tickets on DART, Trinity Metro, and DCTA transit systems. Regional tickets and passes are also available to travel on any combination of the three transit agencies' systems. For getting around the Fort Worth area specifically, NextBus is a mobile app that provides real-time service information on fixed-route buses. Riders can find the exact service and routes to get to and from their destinations.

Conclusion

Public and private transportation organizations in the DFW region continually strive to make it easier for people with disabilities to meet their daily mobility needs by offering opportunities for transportation. As Mobility on Demand (MOD) continues to improve the accessibility of people with disabilities, the focuses include: fostering public and private relationships between public transit agencies and MOD operators, leveraging around-the-clock services, implementations of fare payment options, and employing services and technologies that cater to people with physical disabilities. People with disabilities have identified transportation equity as an issue that should be addressed, not only to increase mobility, but also to increase community participation, economic stability, and social inclusion.

As transportation services, both public and private, continue to grow and technology becomes more advanced, restrictions on mobility for people with disabilities will decrease, thus providing a higher quality of life. "Let's improve services to help assure greater access to transportation options" – Shared Use Mobility Center (SUMC).

References

Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990
Shared Use Mobility Center (SUMC)
Stephen Hawking
Texas Legislature House Bill 100
Transit Access Report October 13, 2015
Transit Access Report Volume 22, Number 12