

Quick Take

What:

Access North Texas: The short-term regional public transportation coordination plan for the 16-county North Central Texas region. The plan is updated every four years.

Significance:

This plan is in the process of being updated to allow transportation providers to improve public transportation, particularly for older adults, people with disabilities, low-income individuals and others that rely on transit. It is being developed through a comprehensive process that includes local residents, social service agencies, employers, transit providers, human service providers, medical facilities and local governments. All these entities will collaborate to identify the transportation challenges faced in the 16-county region.

By the Numbers:

7,058,290

Population of the 16-county region in 2016, according to NCTCOG estimates.

- 16 counties
- 3 Transit Authorities (DART, FWTA, DCTA)
- 12 small/medium transit providers
- Hundreds of non-profit, private, non-emergency medical and social service transportation providers

Access North Texas Plans for Transportation Link to Local Residents in Need



In every community, people struggle to find transportation options that connect them to doctors, jobs, grocery stores, social services, churches and more. Access North Texas includes prioritized strategies that guide the region as partners work together to

make the most of existing public transit services, increase the efficiency of existing services and expand services where necessary.

The plan is being updated to allow North Texas to continue meeting the transit needs of its residents. As more people move to North Texas, additional schools, hospitals and other community assets open to accommodate the additional residents. Updating Access North Texas in four-year increments helps ensure assets are accessible to those who need them most.

The final product, expected to be approved in fall 2017, will help regional public transportation providers and human services transportation providers balance limited funding opportunities and facilitate transit improvements.

Interactive outreach meetings will be held across the 16-county North Central Texas Council of Governments region to provide stakeholders an opportunity to provide feedback on public transportation needs in their communities.



Photo: Getty Images

Community input will help NCTCOG enhance Access North Texas to provide better transportation services for those in need throughout the 16-county region.

FACTSheet

Types of Strategies Across Our Region

Access North Texas includes many types of strategies to address the different transportation needs throughout the region, in both the rural and urban areas. Below are some common themes for the region:

- Improve public awareness of existing public transportation services
- Improve access to jobs in large employment centers from outlying areas
- Improve coordination and connectivity between service providers
- Improve access to Veterans Affairs (VA) services

Why You Should Participate

It is challenging to develop a plan that includes all of the public transportation needs for the 16-county region and it is not something one agency can accomplish alone. In 2017, there are opportunities for stakeholders to collaborate to identify transportation challenges faced by

older adults, individuals with disabilities and low-income North Texans. Your feedback directly impacts future projects that will improve transit services for these groups and others throughout the region.

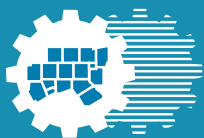
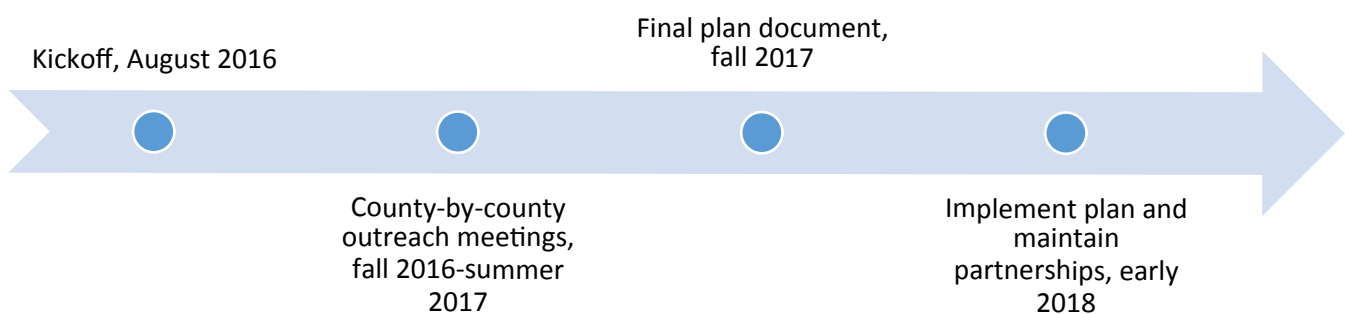
Get Involved

There are many ways you can provide input on potential changes to Access North Texas. You can:

1. Attend a meeting in your area
2. Fill out our online survey (www.accessnorthtexas.org/survey)
3. Spread the word about the online survey
4. Provide feedback directly to NCTCOG staff

Presentations from previous meetings are posted online at AccessNorthTexas.org. Please contact Kelli Schlicher, transportation planner, at **817-695-9287** or kschlicher@nctcog.org with any questions or to discuss how to become involved in efforts to update the plan.

Project Timeline



North Central Texas Council of Governments

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