ACCESS NORTH TEXAS

County Public Outreach Meeting – Ellis County and Navarro County

April 8, 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

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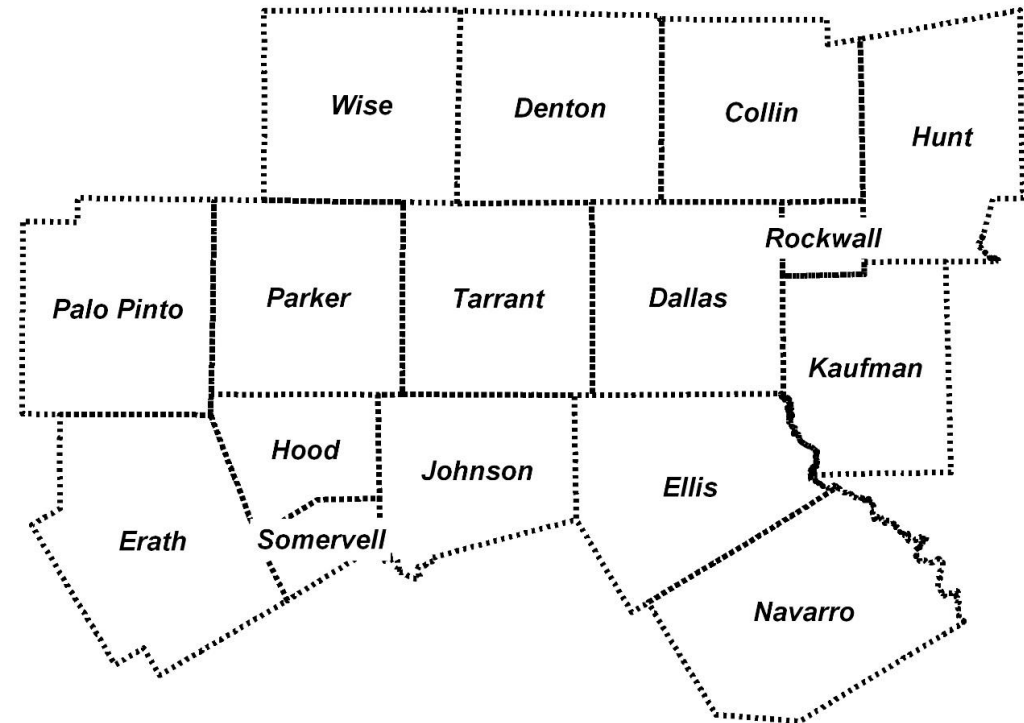
WHAT IS PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AND NCTCOG'S ROLE?

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)

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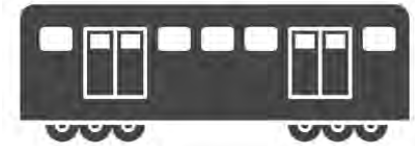
ACCESS NORTH TEXAS

- 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
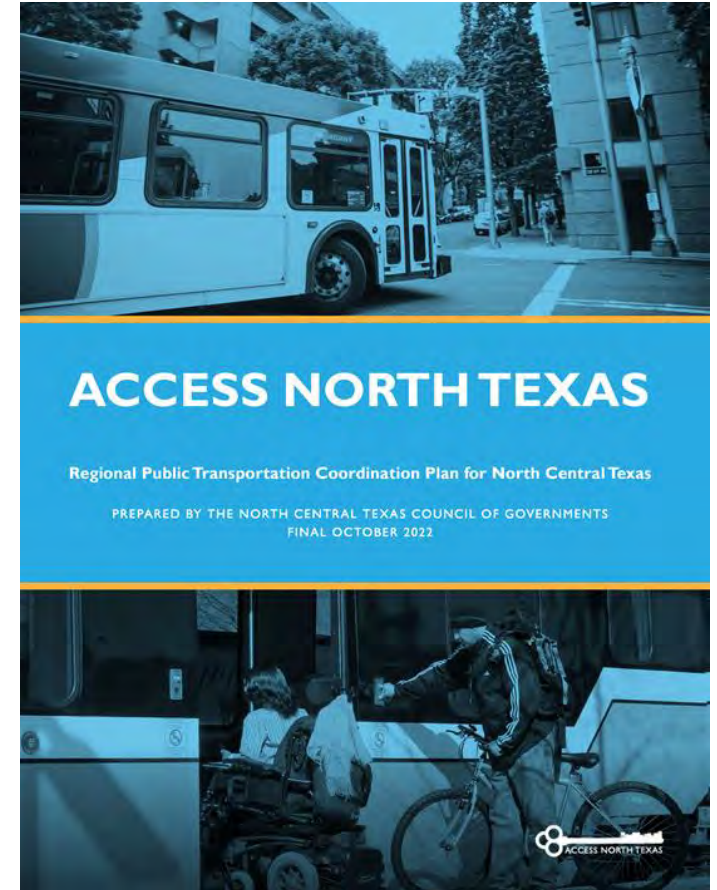
Source: Getty Images

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- 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

ACCESS NORTH TEXAS

Regional Public Transportation Coordination Plan for North Central Texas

PREPARED BY THE NORTH CENTRAL TEXAS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
FINAL OCTOBER 2022

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

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ELLIS COUNTY AND NAVARRO COUNTY PRIORITIZED STRATEGIES FROM THE 2022 UPDATE

| REGIONAL GOAL	ELLIS AND NAVARRO 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	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	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	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

ELLIS COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS

Ellis County Persons with Disabilities
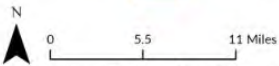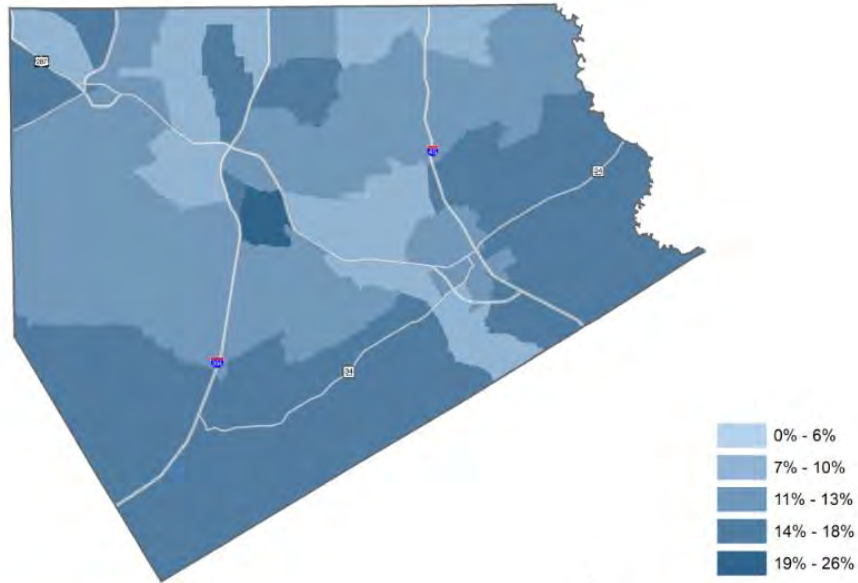
Legend:
0% - 6%
7% - 10%
11% - 13%
14% - 18%
19% - 26%

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

Ellis County Population Over 65
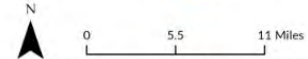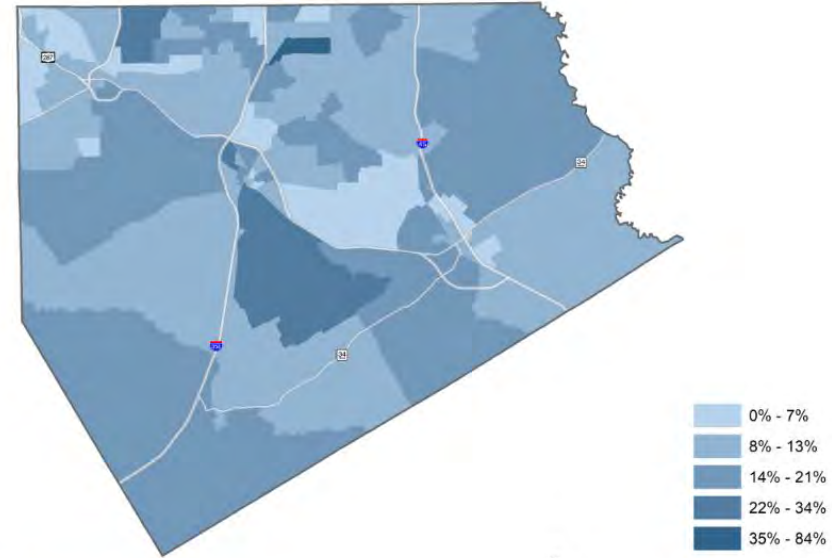
Legend:
0% - 7%
8% - 13%
14% - 21%
22% - 34%
35% - 84%

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

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ELLIS COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS

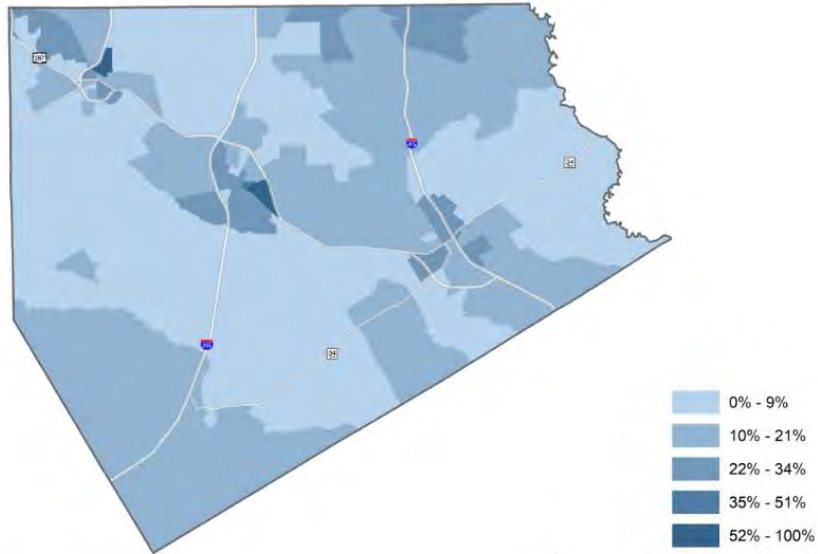
Ellis County Low-Income Individuals

0% - 9%
10% - 21%
22% - 34%
35% - 51%
52% - 100%

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

Ellis County Zero-Car Households

0% - 3%
4% - 9%
10% - 18%
19% - 30%
31% - 65%

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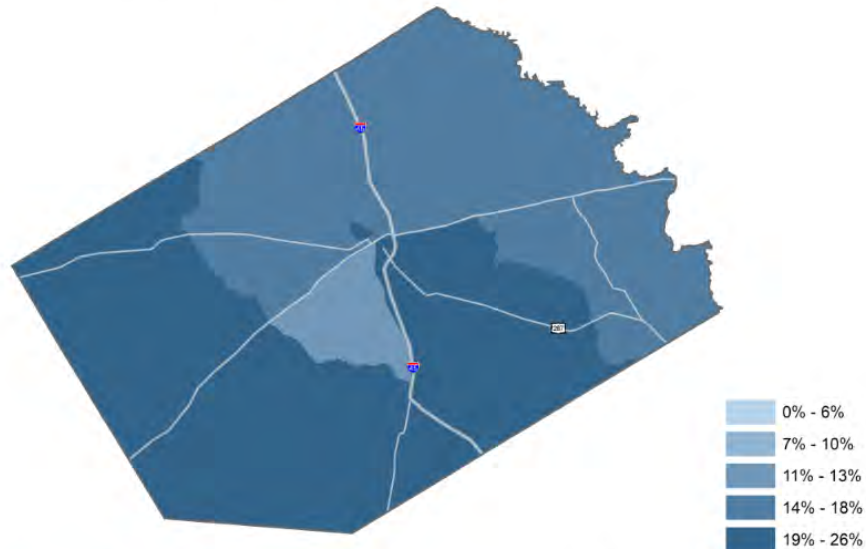Data aggregated to the Census block group level

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NAVARRO COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS

Navarro County Persons with Disabilities

Legend:
- 0% - 6%
- 7% - 10%
- 11% - 13%
- 14% - 18%
- 19% - 26%

ACCESS NORTH TEXAS

N

0   6.5   13 Miles

Source: 2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates
Data aggregated to the Census tract level
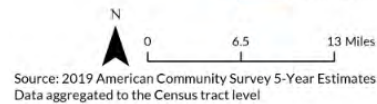
Navarro County Population Over 65

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- 0% - 7%
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- 14% - 21%
- 22% - 34%
- 35% - 84%

ACCESS NORTH TEXAS
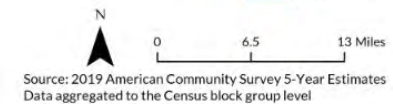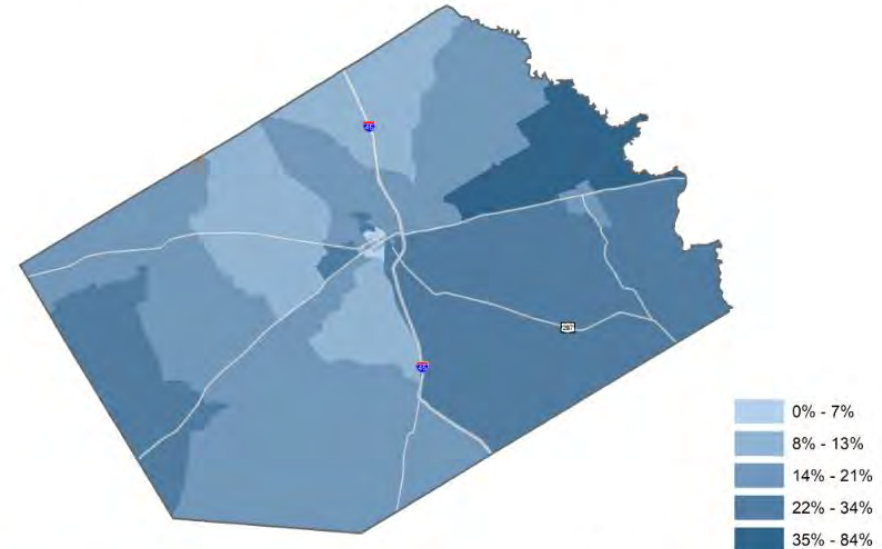
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0   6.5   13 Miles

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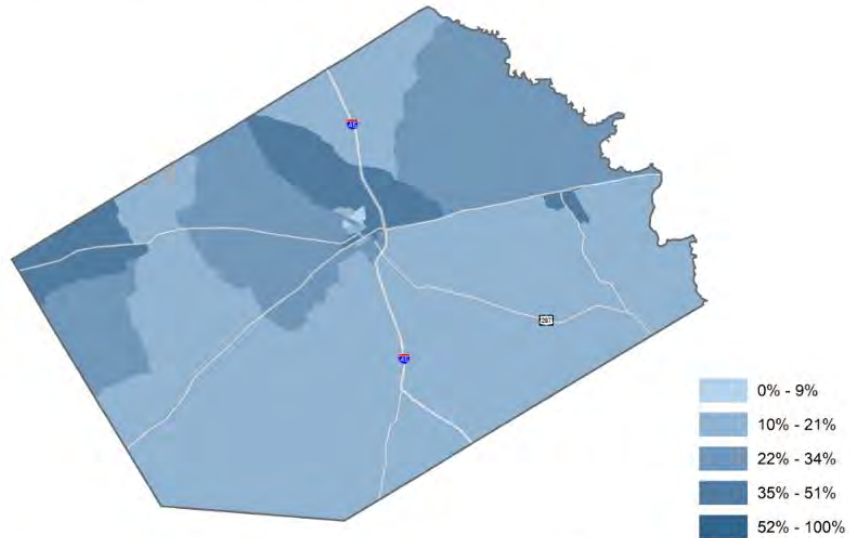
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NAVARRO COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS

Navarro County Low-Income Individuals

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35% - 51%
52% - 100%

ACCESS NORTH TEXAS

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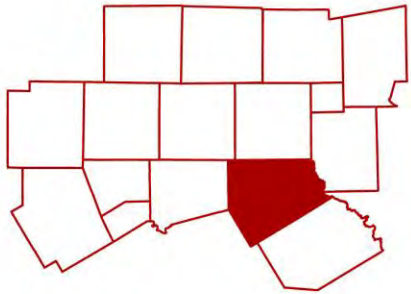

Navarro County Zero-Car Households
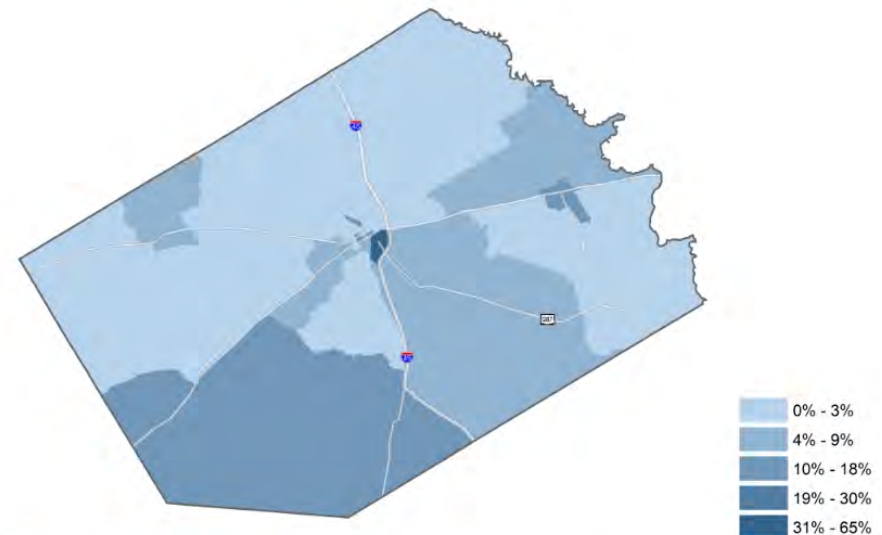
0% - 3%
4% - 9%
10% - 18%
19% - 30%
31% - 65%

ACCESS NORTH TEXAS

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

Ellis County Transit Providers

Legend:

- Dallas Area Rapid Transit
- Community Transit Services
- Grand Prairie Via & Grand Connection
- Contracted Service by Trinity Metro*
- STAR Transit

*Mansfield service begins July 2024
Last Updated May 2024

0   2.5   5   10
Miles

N

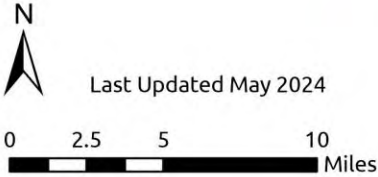North Central Texas
Council of Governments

Cedar Hill
Ferris
Red Oak
Midlothian
Waxahachie
ELLIS
Ennis
Rice
Italy
Corsicana
NAVARRO
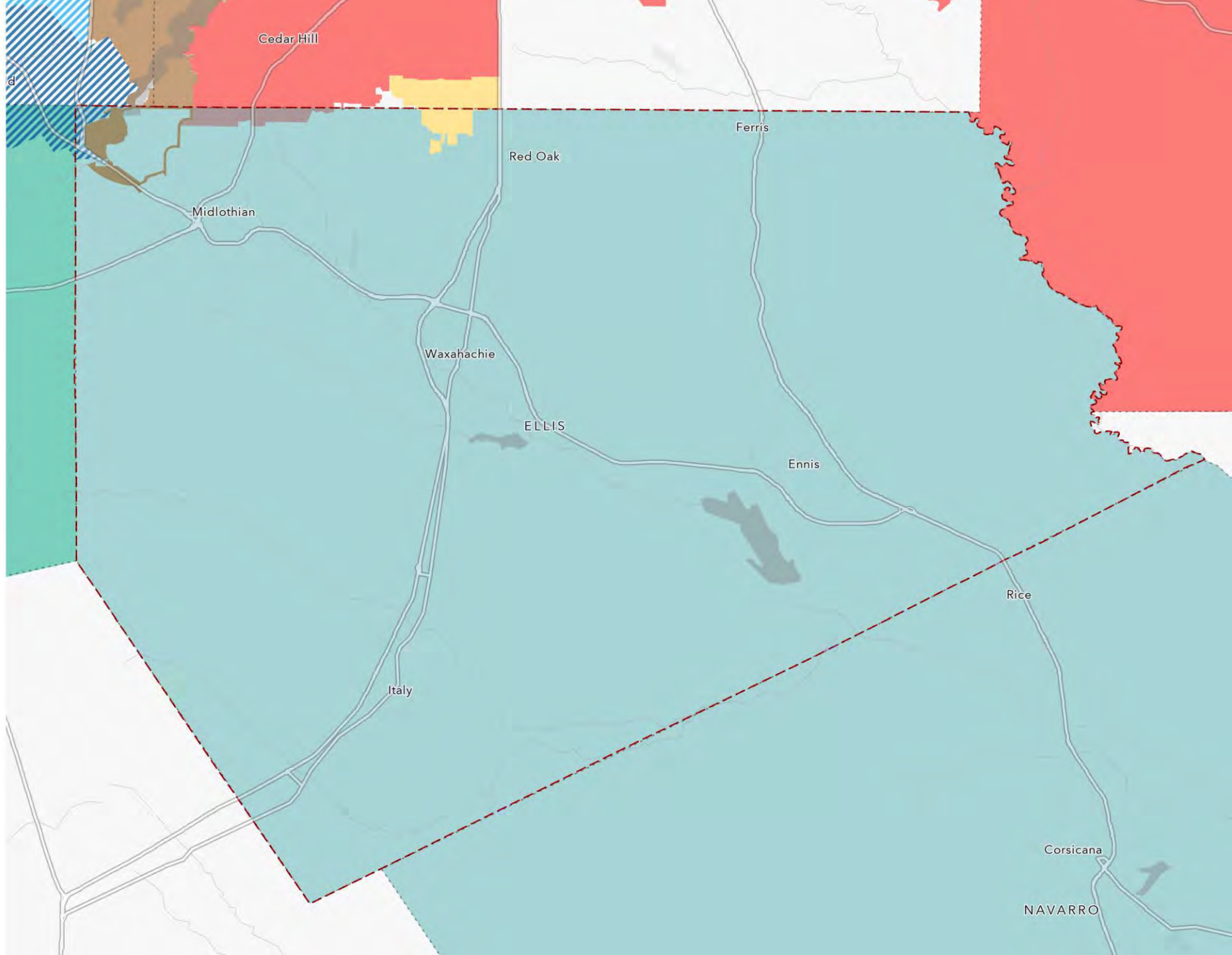
Navarro County Transit Providers

Community Transit Services

Last Updated May 2024

N

0   2.5   5   10
Miles
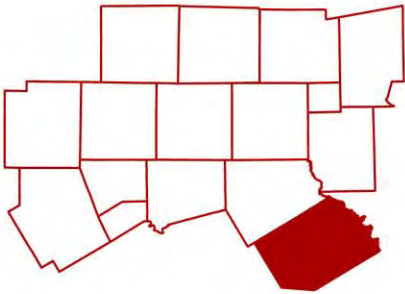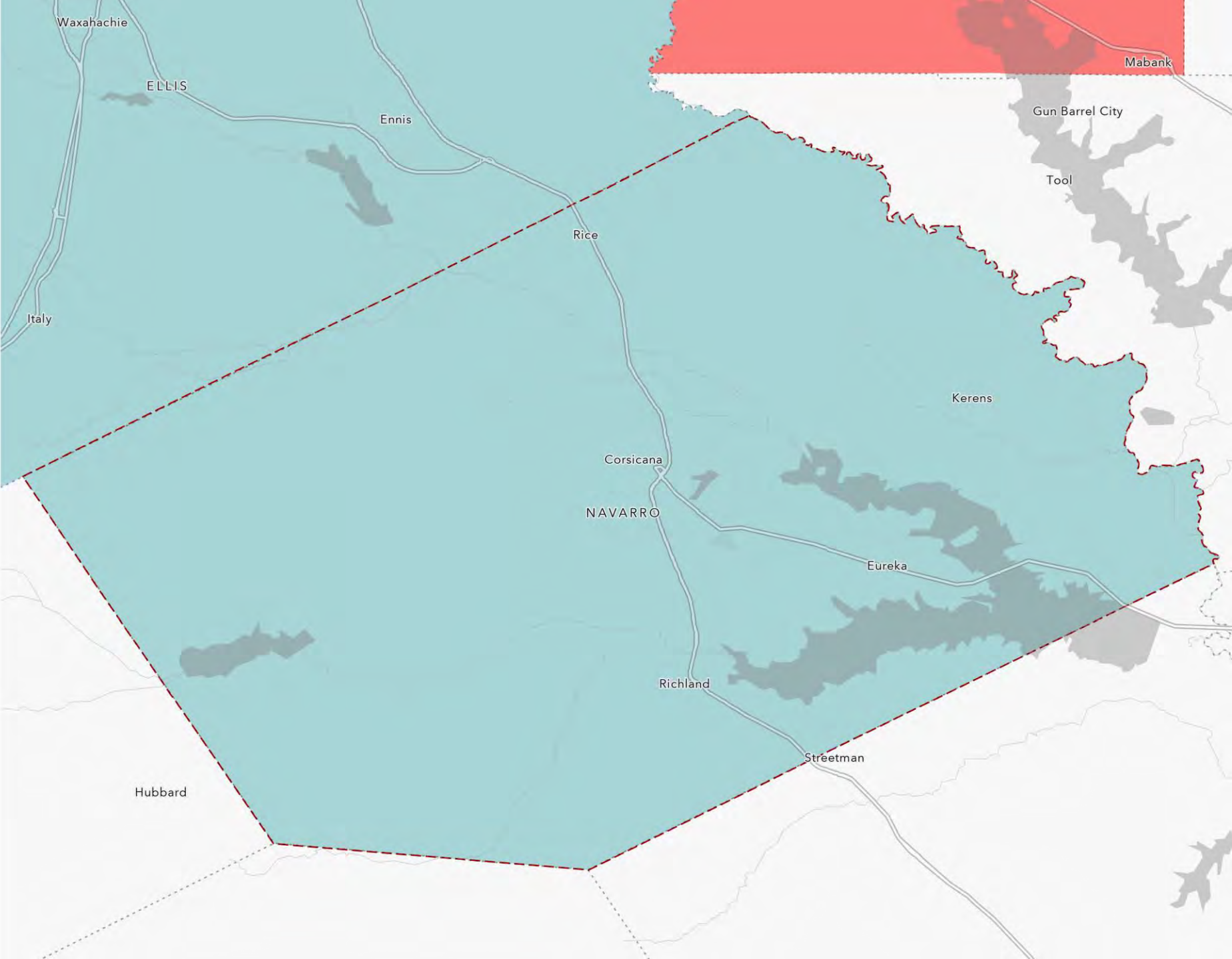
TIMELINE FOR 2026 UPDATE

Phase 1
Public outreach (Spring 2024 – Mid-Spring 2025)

Phase 2
Data analysis (Begins in Mid-Spring 2025)

Phase 3
Develop Goals, Strategies, Draft Chapters (Begins in Summer 2025)

Phase 4
Public Comment on the Plan (Begins in Spring 2026)

Phase 5
Release Update (In Fall 2026)
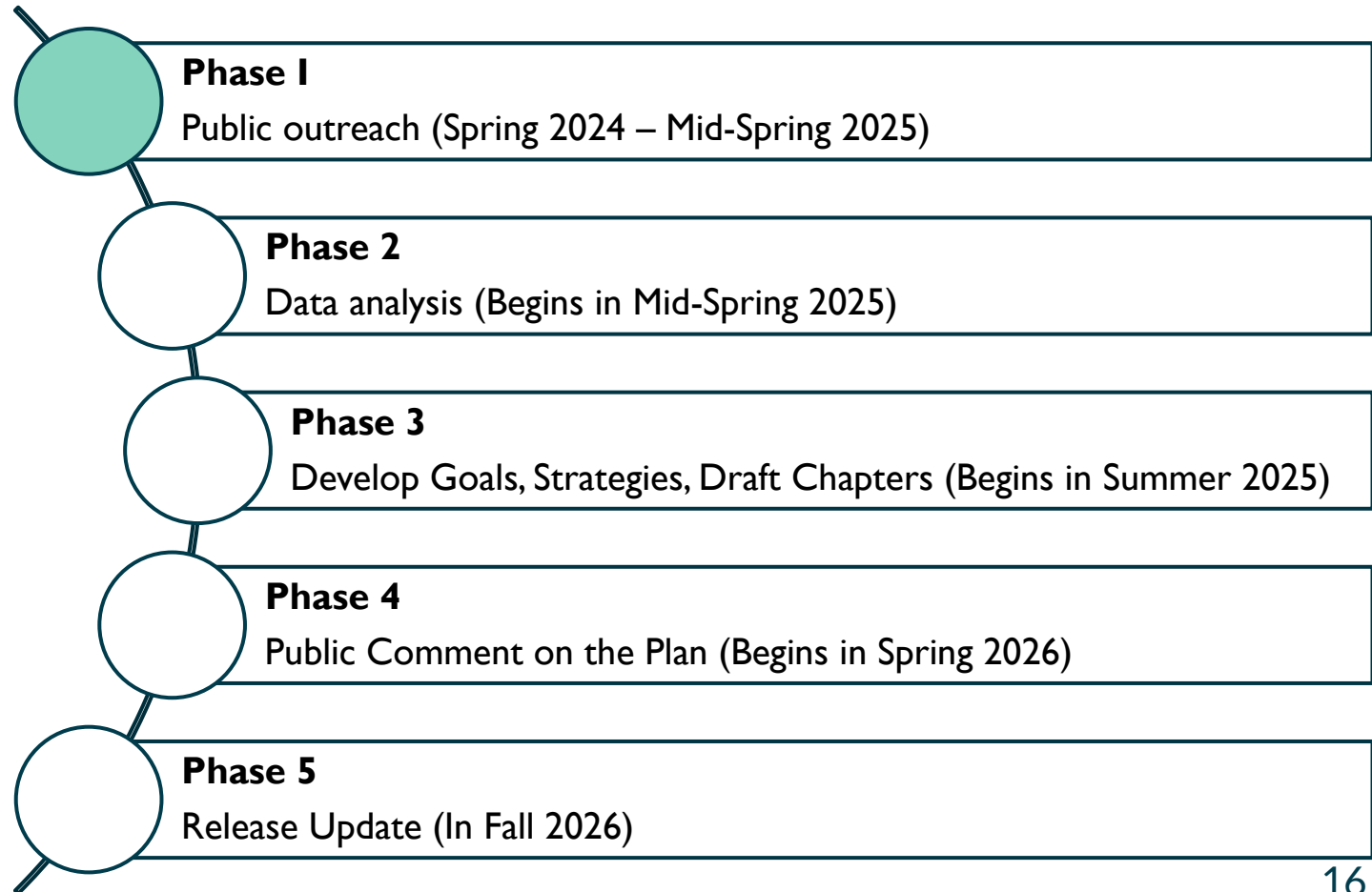
ACCESS NORTH TEXAS SURVEY

2022 Access North Texas Regional Distribution of Public Survey Responses

Responses Received
- 0 - 4
- 5 - 15
- 16 - 38
- 39 - 89
- 90 - 151
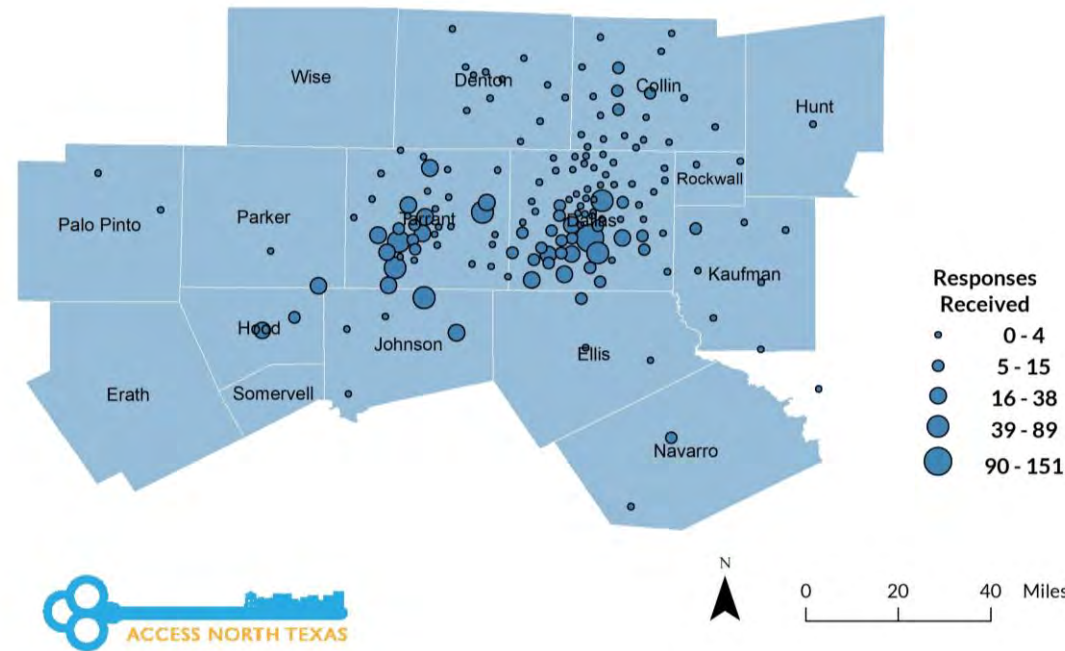
Public Survey

Agency Survey

Survey Translations

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

www.publicinput.com/AccessNorthTexas
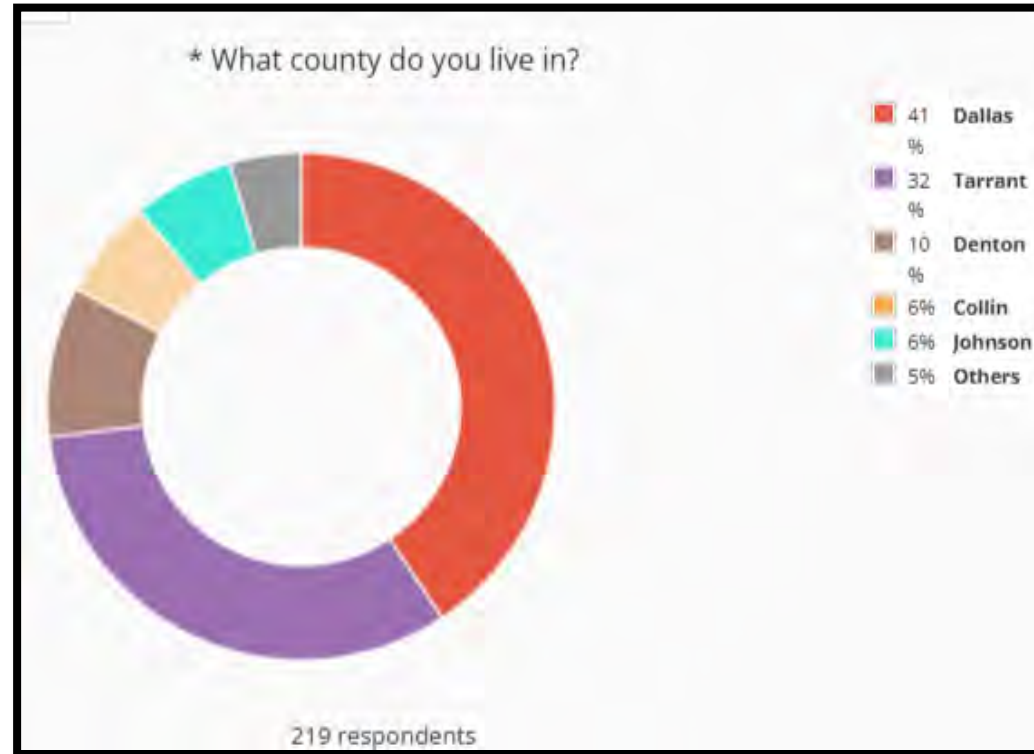
ACCESS NORTH TEXAS SURVEY – EXAMPLE FEEDBACK (2/5/2025)

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

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

* Is there anywhere you would like to travel but cannot due to lack of transportation?

50% Yes   50% No

213 respondents
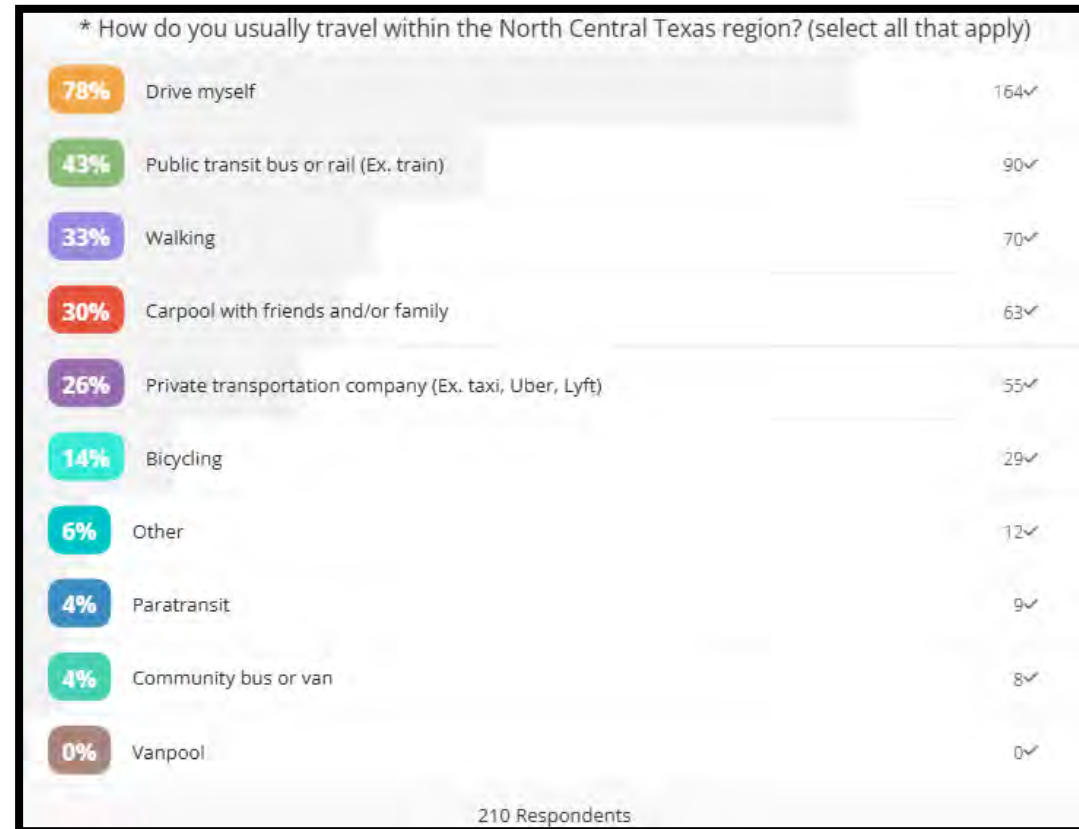
STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS

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.

North Central Texas Council of Governments

INSTRUCTIONS

Respond using the chat box feature

AND/OR

Unmute your microphone and let us know your thoughts

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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 <u>older adults, people with disabilities, and individuals with lower income</u>.

Comparte tu opinión de cómo el transporte público puede facilitar un mejor acceso para las <u>personas mayores, personas con discapacidades y para individuos de bajos recursos</u>.
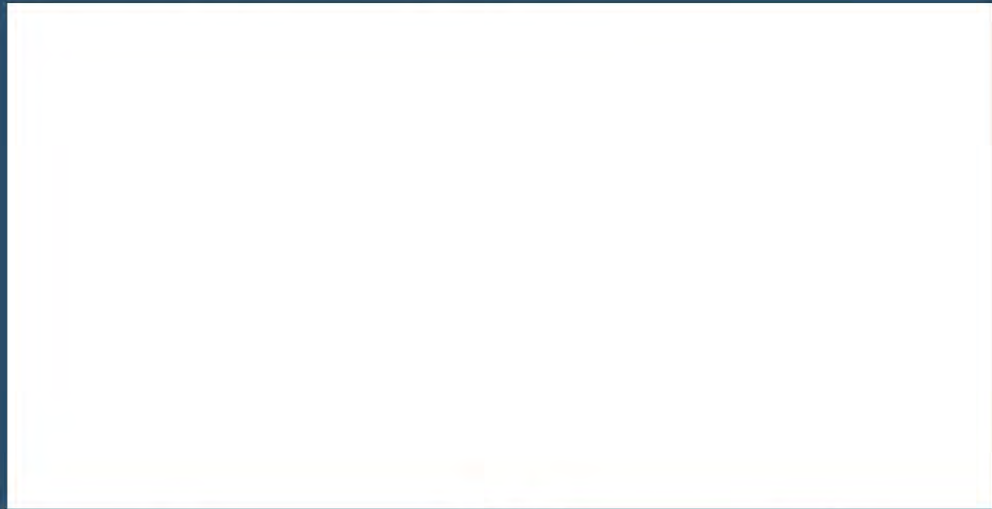
Email us at:
Envianos un correo electrónico en:
ACCESSNORTHTEXAS@NCTCOG.ORG

TAKE OUR SURVEY
CONTESTA
NUESTRA ENCUESTA

Visit us at:
Visitanos en:
www.AccessNorthTexas.org

ACCESS NORTH TEXAS

North Central Texas Council of Governments

INSTRUCTIONS

Respond using the chat box feature

AND/OR

Unmute your microphone and let us know your thoughts

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ACTIVITY THREE

Public Transportation Access Needs

IDENTIFY SOLUTIONS

Image Provided By Getty

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	NO
Si	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	Fixed Bus Service	On-Demand Availability	Demand-Response (Scheduled Trips)	Service Area Expansion
Conexiones con Estaciones de Tren	Servicio de Autobús Fijo	Disponibilidad de On-Demand	Demanda-Respuesta (Viajes Programados)	Expansión del Área de Servicio
1	2	3	4	5

Service Time Expansion	Community Partnerships	Transit Education & Awareness	Pedestrian Improvements	Improved Safety and Maintenance
Extender el Horario de Servicio	Colaboraciones Comunitarias	Educación y Concienciación del Transporte Público	Mejoras Peatonales	Mejora de Seguridad y Mantenimiento
6	7	8	9	10

INSTRUCTIONS

Respond using the chat box feature

AND/OR

Unmute your microphone and let us know your thoughts

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CONTACT US

General Comments or Questions:
accessnorthtexas@nctcog.org

Gypsy Gavia Program Manager ggavia@nctcog.org	Evan Paret Transportation Planner eparet@nctcog.org 817-695-9145

Transportation Department Phone:
817-695-9240

THANK YOU