



*Get to know*

***STAR TRANSIT***





Inland Port TMA Service Update



Intro STAR Transit



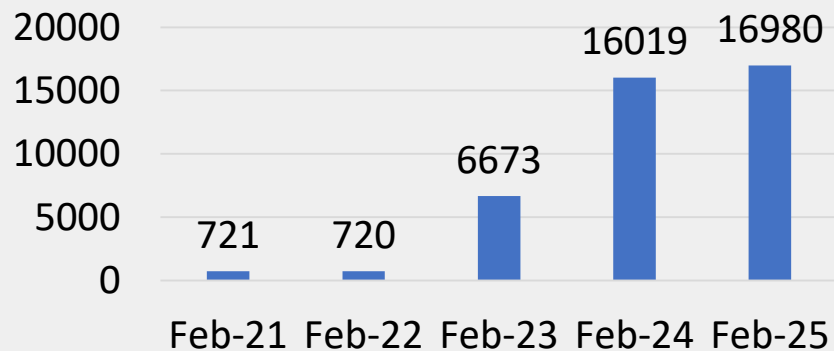
Discuss service options



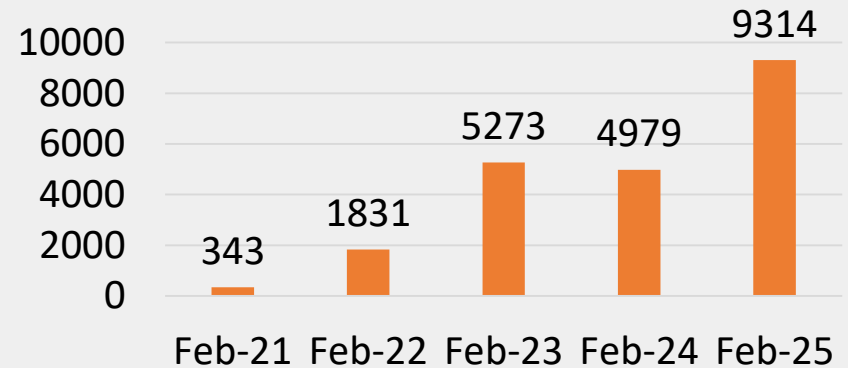
Discuss Next Steps

## Total Ridership:

DART Service Area Total Rides  
(Inland Port GoLink)

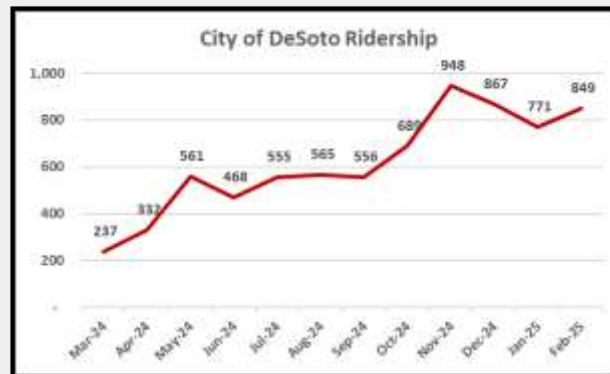
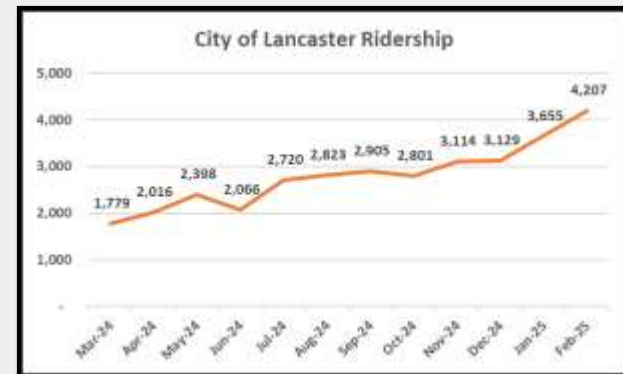
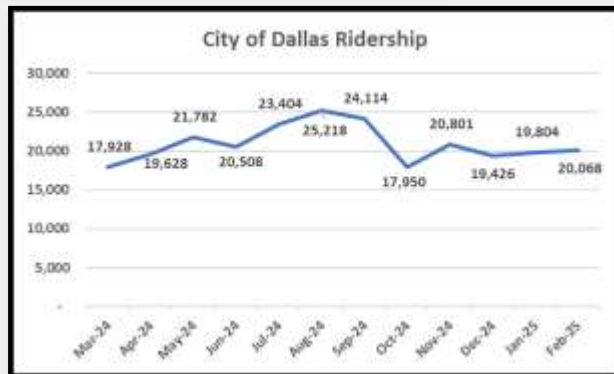
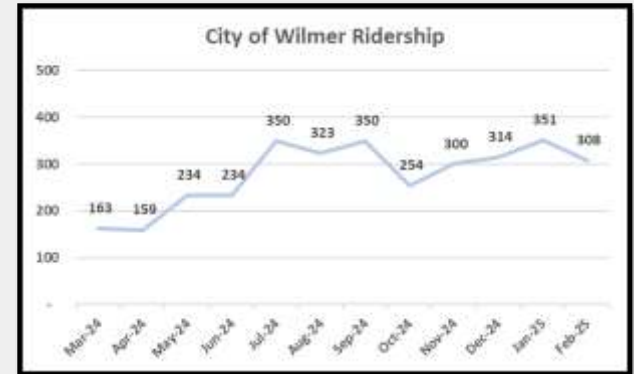
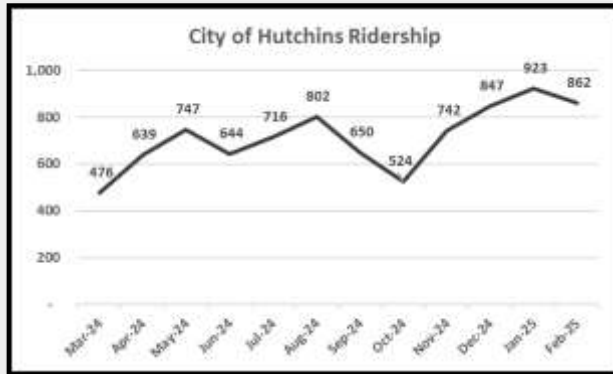


IPTMA Service Area Total Rides  
(Inland Port Connect GoLink)



Ridership for the expanded Inland Port area has steadily increased since 2021.

## Ridership by City:



## Introduction & Background

- The Inland Port GoLink services continues to successfully address transportation needs in Southern Dallas County area.
  - As ridership increased dramatically these last two years, so has transportation costs.
  - However, membership revenue has not increased at a level to cover transportation costs.
- Since 2020, NCTCOG has provided \$4.5M in funding to cover transportation through September 2025.
- Future transportation options include:
  - Have STAR Transit provide service directly to the individual cities.
  - Potential funding from LGC once revenue stream increases in future years.



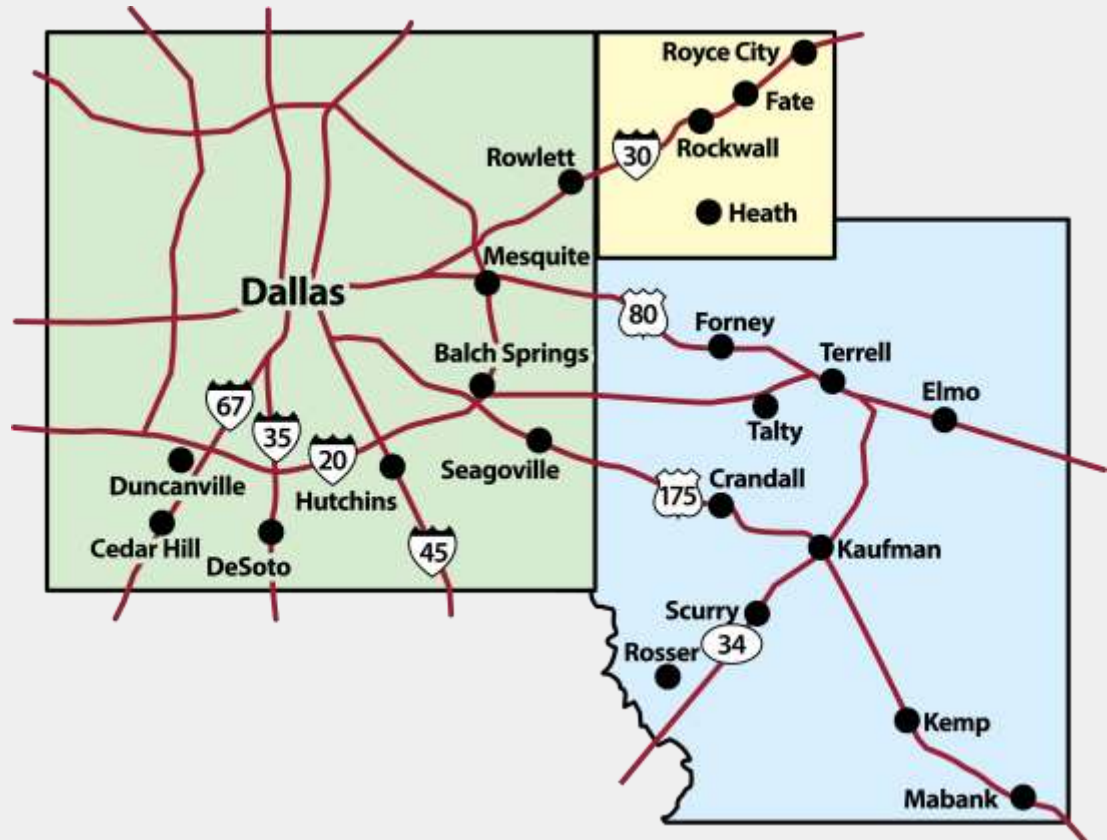
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***Intro STAR Transit***



- **Providing public transportation for over 40 years** and our mission is to provide people with safe, affordable, convenient and desirable mobility options to enrich quality of life by connecting all to services and opportunities.
- We are a political sub-division of the state of Texas providing over **215,000 rides** per year with a **staff of 100** and a **fleet of 55+ vehicles**.
- Based in **Kaufman County** operating as a Rural Transit District.
- **4<sup>th</sup> largest transit agency** in greater North Texas, with **no dedicated sales tax**.

- Kaufman County
- Rockwall County
- Seagoville
- Balch Springs
- Mesquite
- DeSoto
- Cedar Hill (June 2023)
- Duncanville (July 2023)
- Ellis County (Title IIIB)



**Nov 2019**

- Launched STARNow
- Mesquite zone – Urban
- Terrell zone - Rural

**May 2020**

- Kaufman zone - Rural
- Converted Fixed Route

**Sep 2020**

- Balch Springs zone - Urban
- Converted Fixed Route

**Dec 2021**

- DeSoto zone – Urban
- Converted Fixed Route

**Oct 2021**

- Seagoville zone – Urban
- Converted Fixed Route

**Nov 2020**

- DART GoLink service
- Dallas County - Urban

**Dec 2022**

- Integrated TNC service
- DeSoto zone only

**June 2023**

- Cedar Hill zone - Urban

**July 2023**

- Duncanville zone - Urban

## **Demand Response:**

- Pre-booked origin to destination rides within our service area.
- Booked at least one business day; up to two weeks in advance.
- Scheduling Agents are available Mon – Fri, 8 am – 4 pm.
- Buses operate Mon - Fri, 6 am – 6 pm. We do operate in Mesquite until 8 pm.
- Fares range from \$1 - \$12 and are based on mileage. Discounted fares for 60+, veteran and/or disabled riders.

## **Same Day Service - STARNow:**

- Same day, origin to destination, demand response service operates in Terrell, Kaufman, Forney, Mesquite, Balch Springs, Seagoville, DeSoto, Cedar Hill and Duncanville.
- Rides can be booked via the STARNow app or by calling our call center.
- Buses operate Mon – Fri, 6 am – 6 pm (Mesquite – 8 pm)
  - Mesquite/Balch Springs/Terrell - Sat, 8 am – 5 pm.
- Rides within travel zone (13 – 59) = \$2.00, Qualified 60+, Veterans, Disabled Riders = \$1.00 Children 12 and under = Free with a fare paying adult.

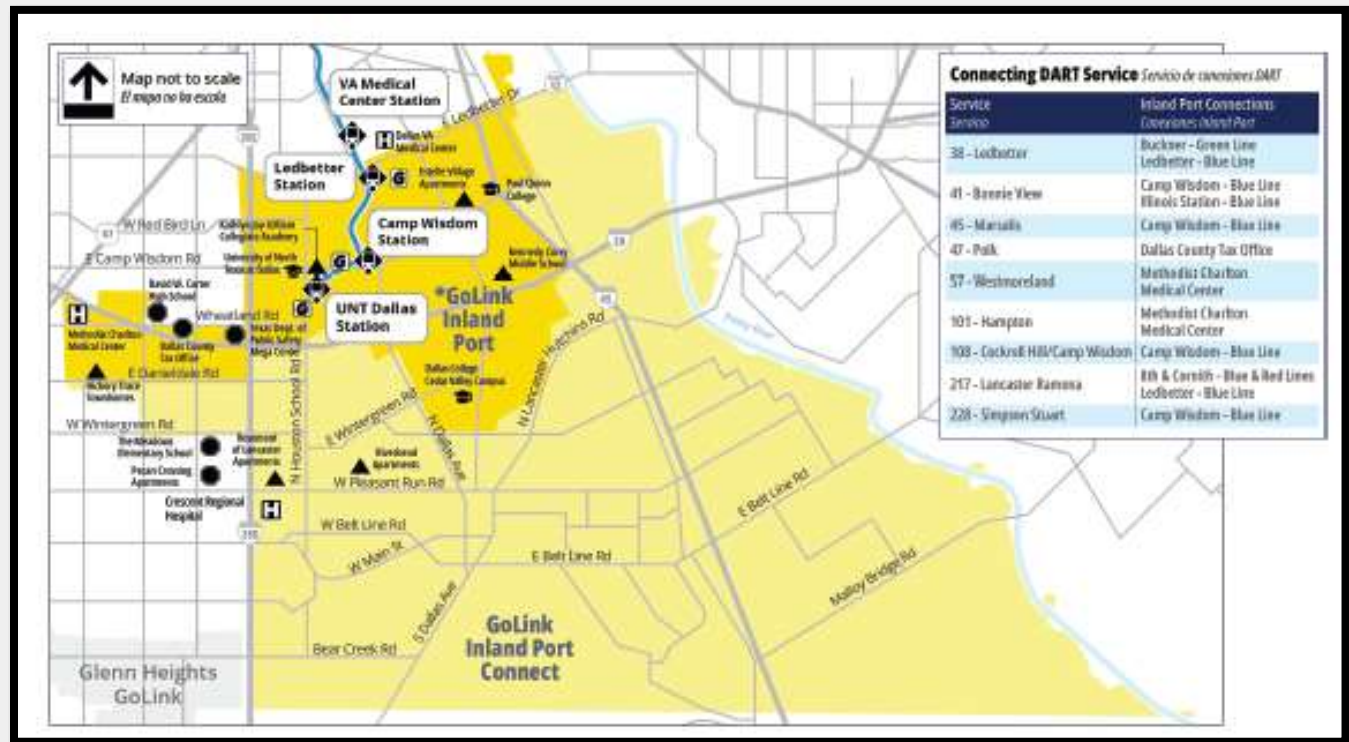
## **Fixed Routes:**

- Balch Springs Midtown Express Route 101.
- Fares are \$1 (13 – 59), free for 60+, 12 and below, veterans and/or disabled riders.

- Regional connections with Small Urban and Rural Transit system
- STAR Transit access agreement for DART Light-Rail stations
- Use same scheduling software
- Use same electronic fare system
- Use same route planning tools
- Subcontractor in DART GoLink service.



- DART Service operated by STAR Transit.
- Monday – Friday, 4 am – 8 pm
- Follows DART fare policy.



- **DART UNT Dallas Station**
  - STARNow
- **DART Buckner Station**
  - STARNow
  - Balch Springs Express Rte. 101
- **DART Lawnview Station**
  - STARNow
- **Lake Ray Hubbard Transit Center**
  - STARNow
- **DART Red Bird Transit Center**
  - STARNow
- **Glenn Heights Park and Ride**
  - STARNow
- **DART Rowlett Station**
  - Demand Response



- All vehicles meet the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements, offering wheelchair lifts and other features to accommodate riders with disabilities.
- Seating Capacity: 6-18 seats.



## *Board Policies*

- Each jurisdiction is required to be self supporting with a standardize hourly cost of service across all geographic area: FY25 - \$56.75
- Federal/State grants through STAR Transit reduce this cost by 60% in urban areas; remaining operating costs are passed on to the local government partner as grant local match.
- All capital projects are funded by Federal/State grants; no major capital cost to the local jurisdiction.
- Each bus is approximately \$120,000; STAR Transit obtains these at no cost to the local jurisdiction; major capital costs covered 100% by federal funds.
- Interlocal agreements are 12-month renewable terms.



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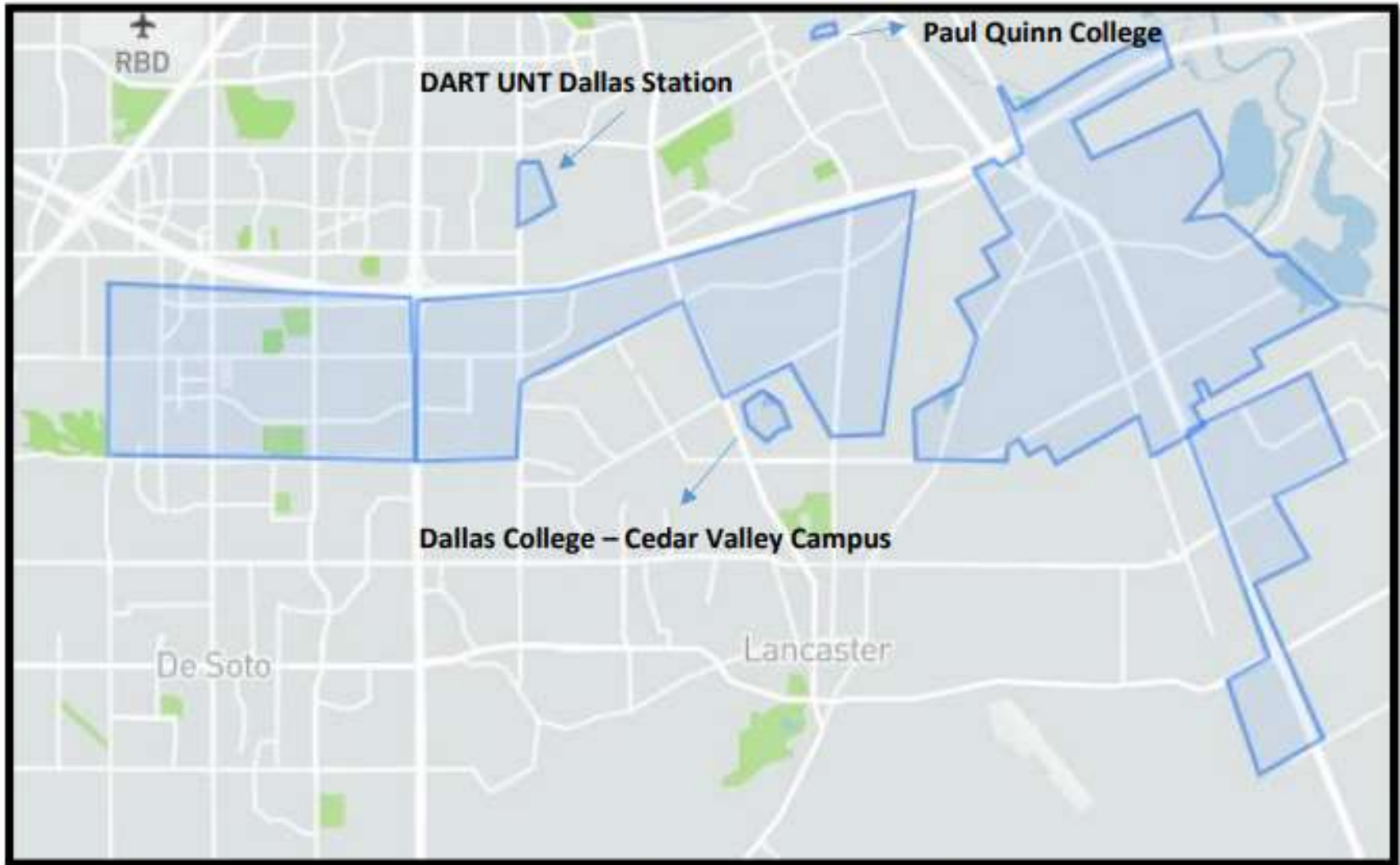
***Proposed Service***



**Current funding for the GoLink Inland Port Connect service is expected to be depleted by September 2025.**

### **Current Daily Ridership:**

- Hutchins to/from Hutchins/Wilmer/Lancaster/DeSoto – 8
  - Hutchins to/from Dallas – 13
  - Hutchins to/from DART Stations – 14
  - Total Hutchins activity – 35 trips per day
- 
- Ridership numbers include both pickups and drop-offs occurring in the City.



## **Hutchins Proposed Service – Following Inland Port Connect Service:**

- Shared service with City of Wilmer to reduce costs and increase efficiency.
- 16 hours of dedicated transit service per day (Monday – Friday, 5:00 am – 8:00 pm)
  - STARNow (Same day service within the Hutchins travel zone)
    - The zone includes the city limits of Hutchins, the DART UNT Dallas Station, Dallas College – Cedar Valley Campus and Paul Quinn College.
    - The zone will also include business and industrial parks located in Wilmer, Lancaster and DeSoto.
  - Shifts 5:00 am – 1:00 pm and Noon – 8:00 pm
  - Estimated 36 trips per day on dedicated vehicles.
    - 16 hours x 2.25 trips per hour. Exceeds current ridership.
- Adding \$75,000 for Uber service is estimated to cover up to 20 additional trips per day.

## **Estimated Ridership:**

- Estimate up to 50 trips per day and over 1,200 trips per month.

Wilmer/Hutchins		
Category	Amount	Notes
Weekday Service Days	254	Weekday Standard
Weekday Hours	16	16 hours STARNow dedicated vehicle service (5:00am - 8:00pm)
Weekday Hourly Cost	\$ 56.75	FY25 Cost of Service ( subject to update annually as per STAR Transit Cost of Service Letter)
STAR Transit Operating Cost	\$ 230,632	Cost of dedicated vehicle service
TNC Contract Cost	\$ 75,000	Up to 20 trips per day on average
Total Operating Cost	\$ 305,632	Calculated Annual Cost
Federal Grant Subsidy Amount 5307	\$ 175,879	FTA formula funding
RTC Subsidy Amount	\$ 69,190	RTC funding for first three years
Annual Cost to the City of Wilmer	\$ 30,282	
Annual Cost to the City of Hutchins	\$ 30,282	
Monthly Charge to each City	\$ 2,523	Estimated 1,200 trips per month



***Discuss Next Steps***



- ☒ NCTCOG to execute grant funding.
- ☐ Review inter-local agreement.
- ☐ Present to City Council.
- ☐ Conduct public involvement process.
- ☐ Finalize service plans.
- ☐ Advertise service updates.
- ☐ Transition service.



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***Thank You!***

