



GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND ACRONYMS

Active Transportation

The transport of people or goods through non-motorized means such as biking or walking.

Alignment (highway)

Simply, it is the direction through which a road may pass and is typically identified based on engineering and design criteria as well as avoidance of environmental constraints.

Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT)

A measure of traffic volume, Average Annual Daily Traffic (AADT) is the total number of vehicles on a roadway for a year, divided by 365 days.

Arterial

A class of roads serving major traffic movements (high-speed, high volume) for travel between major points.

Census

A national head count completed every 10 years. The early phases of this study considered 2010 Census data. Information was then updated to reflect the 2020 census as the project moved forward.

Collin County Mobility Plan

A multi-modal comprehensive plan for transportation systems in Collin County last updated in 2016, that was aimed toward serving the mobility needs of county residents and businesses and also guide major transportation investments. The Mobility Plan, which is updated approximately every five years, identifies the future transportation network that will be needed to serve projected population and employment growth and increased travel demand across a county-wide system of roadways, transit facilities, and hike-and-bike-trails. More information about the Mobility Plan is available [here](#).



Collin County Outer Loop

The Collin County Outer Loop is a limited access freeway that will provide a necessary link across the outer northern and eastern parts of the County, is expected to help relieve congestion on other roadways, and would help support economic development for northern and eastern Collin County. The full loop will provide access to the extension of the Dallas North Tollway (DNT), US 75, State Highway (SH) 121, and US 380, and enhance access to Rockwall County. More information about the Outer Loop is available [here](#).

Commercial Development

Any development and/or structure constructed mainly for the purpose of conducting business, including but not limited to retail stores, restaurants, shopping centers, business offices, gas stations, etc.

Congestion

A condition where the demand for road space exceeds the supply, resulting in slower speeds and longer travel times.

Constraint

In regards to this study, a constraint is a resource that would limit or restrict a transportation improvement. Two large environmental constraints include Lavon Lake and Lake Ray Hubbard.

Density

In land use planning, density is the ratio of a particular type of land use per a given area of land.

- *Transit-Supportive Density* – Higher density development (both residential and commercial) along transit routes.

Employment Projections

An estimate of the changes in industry and occupational employment over time resulting from industry growth, technological change, and other factors.



Environmental Justice Communities

These are communities that may experience both a disproportionate number of environmental harms and risks, as well as a greater vulnerability to these risks due to various socio-economic factors. For this study, environmental justice communities were identified as communities within the study area that have disproportionate minority and low-income populations when compared with the rest of the study area.

Express Lanes

For the purpose of this study, express lanes are referring to limited access lanes that run generally underneath the existing local arterial and provide a faster option for regional trips, preserving capacity on the local arterial for local trips.

Floodplain

An area that is subject to natural flooding from an adjoining waterway.

Land Use

Refers to the manner in which portions of land or the structures on them are used or designated for use in a plan (e.g., commercial, residential, retail, or industrial).

Limited Access Roadway (LAR)

A limited access roadway is a highway or arterial roadway that includes:

- Limited or no access to adjacent property;
- Some degree of separation of opposing traffic flow;
- Use of grade-separated interchanges;
- Prohibition of some modes of transport, such as bicycles; and
- Very few or no intersecting cross streets.

Major Arterial

For this study, these are 4- to 6-lane large capacity roadways that will provide intra-community travel and carry local traffic to principal arterials.

Mitigate

To make an action less impactful.



Mobility

The ability to move or be moved from place to place effectively and efficiently.

Modes of Transportation

The different means of transportation or transporting people or goods. The different modes include but are not limited to car, transit, air, bicycle, truck, rail and pipelines.

Mode Share

The portion of each type of transportation taken by all users of a transportation network. Typically presented as a percentage.

North Central Council of Governments (NCTCOG)

Voluntary association of, by and for local governments, established to assist in regional planning including in the areas of transportation planning, environment and development, demographic research, and more. NCTCOG serves a 16-county region of North Central Texas, which is centered around the two urban centers of Dallas and Fort Worth. NCTCOG has over 230 member governments including 16 counties, numerous cities, school districts, and special districts.

North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD)

A regional provider of water, wastewater and solid waste disposal services, the NTMWD serves a population of about 1.8 million residents in 80 communities across the North Texas counties of Collin, Dallas, Denton, Fannin, Grayson, Hopkins, Hunt, Kaufman, Rains, and Rockwall.

Origin-Destination Traffic Study (O-D or O and D Study)

A tool that can be used to better understand travel patterns such as where people begin their trip, where they end their trip, the routes they take, and the time of day they travel.

Planned Developments

Any development and/or structure (residential or business) that is either in planning, permitting or under construction, but not yet complete.



Population Projections

Estimates of the population for future dates.

Principal Arterial

For this study, these are typically 6-lane higher-capacity roads that will serve as key links between cities, identifiable neighborhood areas, and major activity centers, carry most intra-regional traffic, and act as feeders to highways. The construction of these roads will be prioritized first.

Protected Facilities

Exclusive bike facilities where bicyclists are separated from sidewalks and motor vehicle traffic by physical features.

Public Meeting

A meeting held with the purpose of hosting informal discussions with local public officials, agency representatives, interested citizens or the general public and local, neighborhood or special interest groups for the purpose of exchanging ideas and collecting input on a project.

Residential Development

Means land, buildings or portions thereof used, designed or intended for residential use.

Right-of-Way

Refers to the total the total strip of land over which a road is built. Its width should be enough to accommodate all the elements of the roadway.

Road Network

A system of roadways with varying levels of capacity, designed to work together to manage the flow of vehicle traffic traveling within and through an area.

Roadway Design

Concerned with the positioning of the physical elements of the roadway according to standards and constraints. Route studies and roadway design are not part of the initial phase of this study.



Route Study

A study to identify a specific path(s) of a proposed roadway for further detailed schematic design and/or environmental impact analysis. Route studies and roadway design are not part of the initial phase of this study.

Shared Use Path

A multi-use path designed for both transportation and recreation purposes, typically separated from motorized vehicular traffic by an open space or barrier and located either within a highway right-of-way or within an independent right-of-way.

Stakeholder

A group or individual who is interested or wants to be involved in a study or project. Stakeholders can include representatives of businesses, community organizations, municipalities, and government agencies.

Study Area

The study area is bound by I-30 on the south, SH 121 on the north and the Collin County/Hunt County line on the east. The western boundary is a combination of President George Bush Turnpike, SH 78, FM 2551, SH 5 and Airport Boulevard. A map of the study area can be found [here](#).

Travel Demand Modeling (TDM)

A computer model used to estimate travel behavior and travel demand for a specific future time frame, based on a number of assumptions. Traditionally, an approach known as the “four-step process” has been used for regional transportation planning analysis. As its name implies, this process has four basic phases:

1. Trip generation (the number of trips to be made);
2. Trip distribution (where those trips go);
3. Mode choice (how the trips will be divided among the available modes of travel); and
4. Trip assignment (predicting the route trips will take).



Technical Work Session

Regarding this study, it was a meeting used by the County to present study data and gather initial input from representatives of the counties and cities in the study area.

Texas Demographic Center

The Texas Demographic Center functions as a focal point for the production, interpretation, and distribution of demographic information for Texas.

Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT)

A State agency responsible for planning, designing, constructing, maintaining, and operating state transportation facilities including roads, bridges, waterways, and airports.

Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)

The Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) is the state's water planning and water project financing agency. TWDB's responsibilities include collecting and disseminating water-related data; assisting with regional water supply and flood planning and preparing the state water plan and state flood plan; and administering cost-effective financial programs for constructing water supply, wastewater treatment, flood control, and agricultural water conservation projects.

Thoroughfare Plan

A long-range plan that identifies the location and type of roadways that are needed to support future growth and mobility needs. Sometimes called "Master Thoroughfare Plan" or "MTP".

Traffic Survey Zone (TSZ)

Traffic Survey Zones (TSZs) are relatively small planning areas and are used in the demographic forecasting process. TSZs considered in this study were developed by the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) and focus on specific neighborhoods and business centers in the region. In some areas, a TSZ may extend beyond physical land boundaries and city limits.



Ultimate Buildout

Buildout is an estimate of the amount and location of potential development for an area. Regarding this study, ultimate buildout is the point in which land in the county will be fully developed.

US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)

The United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is an engineer formation of the United States Army that has three primary mission areas: engineer regiment, military construction, and civil works. Its most visible civil works missions include: planning, designing, building, and operating locks and dams. Other civil engineering projects include:

- Flood control, beach nourishment, and dredging for waterway navigation;
- Design and construction of flood protection systems through various federal mandates;
- Design and construction management of military facilities; and
- Environmental regulation and ecosystem restoration.

Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) (per capita)

A measure used in transportation planning of the amount of travel for all vehicles in a geographic region over time. It is calculated as the total annual miles of vehicle travel divided by the total population in a geographic area (e.g., a state or urbanized area.)

Veloweb

A 2,165 mile network of off-street shared-use paths (trails) throughout the DFW region designed for multi-use trip purposes by bicyclists, pedestrians, and other non-motorized forms of transportation.

Wetlands

Land that is inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater at a frequency and duration to support a prevalence of hydrophytic vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Examples include swamps, marches, bogs, and similar areas.