

PUBLIC INPUT SUMMARY

The public participated in the kick-off open-house events on Wednesday, October 16, 2019 in Rogers and on Thursday, October 17, 2019 in Fayetteville. Staff from NWARPC, Ozark Regional Transit, Razorback Transit and Alliance Transportation Group Consultants presented information, posters, and handouts about the 2045 MTP update process and the recommendations for transit routes as part of the Connect NWA future local transit system. The maps and information presented at these events are available here. The 2045 MTP opinion survey was also available for attendees to complete at the open house events.

NWARPC used a number techniques to educate and gain public input throughout the 2045 MTP development process including the following:

- 1. The Growing Mobility in a Growing Region educational speaker series focusing on how NWA can grow and expand transportation modes. The series consisted of four public events – three speaker lectures and one panel discussion with peer transit agencies. The four-part series featured nationally known speakers with an emphasis on how Northwest Arkansas can grow and expand transportation modes to improve mobility for NWA residents. KUAF radio personality Kyle Kellam's hosted each event and interviewed the speakers as well as NWARPC staff.
- 2. The 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Survey. As part of the MTP public involvement and input process a 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan opinion survey was made available between October 2019 and July 2020 with links to the online version from the NWARPC website, the NWARPC Facebook page, and also by providing the link through emails, media, and newspaper articles. A paper copy of the survey was also available in English and Spanish at public involvement events. A total of 378 surveys were received in English.
- 3. The 2019 NWA Regional Transportation Survey (Scientific, Random Sample). During September 2019, ETC Institute administered a regional transportation survey for the NWARPC. The purpose of the survey was to gather input from residents to better understand the level of satisfaction with the region's transportation system and attitudes toward prioritizing transportation

improvements. A five-page survey was mailed to a random sample of households in the MPA. Residents were given the option of returning the survey by mail or completing it online. Emails and phones calls were made to encourage households to participate. A total of 835 surveys were received.

- 4. The Public Outreach Activities in Connect NWA 10-year Transit Development Plan. CONNECT NORTHWEST ARKANSAS (NWA) is a 10-Year Transit Development Plan (TDP) that will serve as a "Blueprint" for improving and expanding transit in the NWA region. Connect NWA establishes a shared understanding of what successful transit looks like, how to design effective service and ultimately how to implement it regional and locally. Over 1,200 surveys (in English, Spanish, and Marshallese) were received. A survey summary can be found at this link.
- 5. Origin/Destination Transit Survey (Scientific, Random Sample). The Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission (NWARPC) System Wide Origin and Destination Survey was conducted in March 2018. The survey was completed for regional transit riders in the Northwest Arkansas area on both Ozark Regional Transit (ORT) and Razorback Transit (Razorback) systems, with a sample size of 1,080. The O/D Survey was Phase I of the TDP update.