

Frequently Asked Questions



What is the Long-Range Transportation Plan?

The Long-Range Transportation Plan focuses on what road and transit improvements should be built or improved over the next 25 years to help address expected growth in the county; it is this plan that guides future capital improvements. The plan analyzes current population and employment data in order to make projections about how and where the county will grow in the future. It also contemplates land-use patterns and the role of transit moving forward. The outcome of this analysis is a list of recommended transportation-improvement projects to help the county best address future mobility congestion.

Why does the county need a Long-Range Transportation Plan?

Williamson County is the thirteenth-fastest-growing county in the country. In fact, one out of every four Williamson County residents has arrived since 2000. By updating the plan now, the county is able to better plan for future transportation-improvement projects and programs and help guide growth. Based on even conservative population and growth projections, traffic congestion is expected to dramatically increase over the next 25 years, which will lengthen commute times and raise safety issues. Congestion also has a negative impact on economic development and job creation.

How is the Long-Range Transportation Plan approved?

The Williamson County Commissioners Court votes on the recommended plan upon completion of a public input process, including four precinct-based open houses and a county-wide open house at the Williamson County Courthouse in Georgetown.

What role does transit play in Williamson County's future?

Williamson County is served in some areas by Capital Metro and in others by the Capital Area Rural Transportation System (C.A.R.T.S). Additionally, many cities in the county are currently exploring ways to connect to Capital Metro's new commuter rail line. The public input process will also provide valuable information into the long-range transit planning process.

How will the projects in the Long-Range Transportation Plan be funded?

The plan includes proposed projects and their estimated costs; however, it does not define specific funding sources. In fact, funding for transportation projects comes from a variety of sources. The county, as well as many of the cities in Williamson County, has historically held road-bond elections to build local roads and to make other transportation improvements. Some cities within Williamson County also provide up to one-cent of their sales tax for transit services. Additionally, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) collects a gas tax and vehicle-registration fees at the state level and distributes funding through regional mobility planning organizations for local projects. Pass-through financing allows local municipalities, or private entities, to pay for costs to build transportation projects and receive reimbursements from the state as they become operational. Unless there are new funding sources identified in the future, toll roads also will remain an option. Finally, private entities, such as developers, often build road projects and donate right-of-way to the county.

Will this plan be incorporated into the CAMPO 2035 plan?

Yes. Upon approval by the Williamson County Commissioners Court, the plan will be submitted to the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) for inclusion in its 2035 plan update. However, it is unlikely that all projects in the Long-Range Plan will be included by CAMPO; this is due to a requirement that a plan be fiscally constrained to funding the county and local communities know they will receive. As other funding sources become available or priorities change, the plan can be modified by CAMPO.

How can I provide feedback on the plan or get more information?

Please visit the county's web site at www.roadbond.org for more information.

You may provide feedback at any of the open houses,

e-mail us at roads@wilco.org or

call the information line at: (512) 943-1195.