



VALUE OF TRANSIT STUDY

CITY OF FARMERS BRANCH

SUMMARY

Farmers Branch was settled in 1842 and today is a small town with big city conveniences, making it a great place to live, work, and play.

Farmers Branch incorporated in 1949, having a population of only 800. Farmers Branch is located in northwest Dallas County and is surrounded by the cities of Dallas, Irving, and Carrollton, as well as the Town of Addison. The city is 12 square miles with a population of over 38,000 today. With convenient access to the Dallas North Tollway, I-35E and I-635, Farmers Branch is a business center with more than 250 corporate headquarters. The city is approximately 14 miles from downtown Dallas and DFW International Airport.

Farmers Branch voters elected to join DART in 1983. The Farmers Branch Station is on the Green Line linking Carrollton to downtown Dallas and the full DART rail system. The city also has GoLink, bus, and other transit services. Farmers Branch, like many suburban communities, lacks a traditional downtown. This has made transit-oriented development surrounding the DART light rail station a high priority. With the successful completion of the Mustang Station Apartments, the city recently adopted an updated master plan for the larger 144-acre station area.

Farmers Branch Supports Systemwide Benefits



Economic Impact

Annual DART operating expenditures and travel cost savings ripple through the economy

41.2K
jobs

\$730M
in wages

\$1B
in GDP

Annual savings include:

- **\$630 million** in reduced travel costs
- Average travel time savings of **15 hours** for DART Service Area households



Accessibility & Mobility

The DART network provides access and mobility options to **94% of service area residents and jobs**

- **2.3 million people** within ½ mile of service
- **1.75 million jobs** within ½ mile of service
- **Connections** to jobs, medical service, housing, educational opportunities, and special events



Environmental & Safety

Transit reduces annual vehicle miles of travel by **400 million**, creating environmental and safety benefits

- **\$42 million** saved in congestion delay
- **240 million pounds** of reduced carbon emissions
- **\$106 million** in reduced crash costs (600 crashes avoided)

Current DART Services and Facilities

DART provides an extensive multi-modal network of services that provide mobility and access to jobs, medical services, educational opportunities, special events and more.

Farmers Branch benefits from:

- **Green Line** serving Farmers Branch Station
- **5 local bus routes** connecting Farmers Branch to the rest of the DART Service Area
- **One GoLink zone** providing on-demand service for customer flexibility
- **DART Rides Program** for registered residents who are either age 65 or over, or have a certified disability
- **Paratransit services** for temporarily or permanently mobility impaired citizens



In 2019, DART provided nearly 700,000 transit trips in Farmers Branch, over 65% of these were by bus.

- Most transit trips to and from Farmers Branch are completed by individuals belonging to traditionally disadvantaged populations
- **52%** of transit trips beginning and/or ending in Farmers Branch were for work purposes¹
- **95%** of Farmers Branch trips begin or end outside of the city
 - o The average length of these trips is nearly **30%** more than the regional average (12.6 miles vs. 9.9 miles)
- The cost of driving to and from Farmers Branch is over **four times** the cost of a comparable transit trip
 - o This is nearly **\$3 million** in annual savings for transit riders



Farmers Branch employers benefit from DART.

77% of Farmers Branch's **78,000 jobs²** are within **½ mile of DART service**

98% of these jobs are filled by non-residents, and 26% commute from Dallas, Plano, and Irving

43% of jobs in Farmers Branch qualify as low-income; those employees are more likely to be transit-reliant³



DART benefits Farmers Branch residents.

- **94%** of Farmers Branch's 32,000 residents and **98%** of low-income residents⁴ are within ½ mile of DART service
- **92%** of Farmers Branch's labor-force⁵ are within ½ mile of DART service
- **16,200** Farmers Branch residents (**88%** of Farmers Branch's Workforce) are employed outside the city
 - o **64%** commute to jobs within the DART Service Area, half of those commute to Dallas

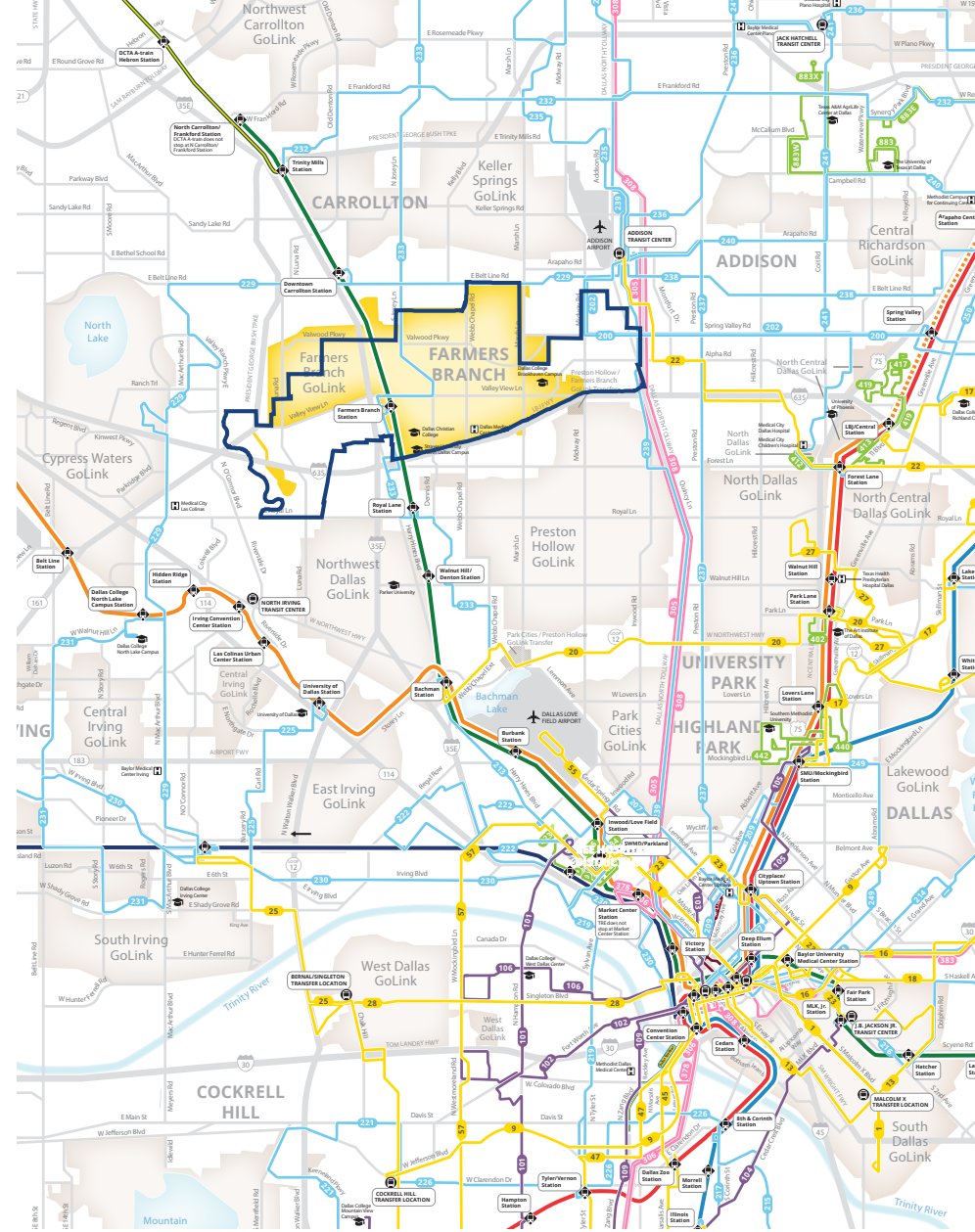
¹ 2014 NCTCOG/DART On-Board Survey

² Jobs data based on LEHD 2019 (latest available data)

³ Jobs with earnings less than \$3,333 per month, which translates to less than \$40,000 per year

⁴ Defined as earning incomes within 150% of the poverty line

⁵ ACS 5-Year estimates (2021)



Project and Service investments support Farmers Branch's future.

- **Silver Line** Regional Rail (opening 2026), providing rail service connections to DFW Airport and Plano
- **Light Rail Modernization** investments to update rail vehicles, stations, and systems
- **Mobility+ Program**, focusing on bus service, amenities, facilities, and corridor investments
- **\$110M effort** in enhanced security, reliability, and cleanliness improvements on the system

DART Adds Value for Farmers Branch Residents



As a daily rider, transit is my only way to work so it is needed; I also use transit for school shopping & getting to entertainment like special events.

Transit gives me a shorter commute to/from work, saving me time I won't get back every day.

Transit also gives communities mobility.

Transit helps people that have no personal transportation and also those that just want to lower their monthly transportation costs.



Feedback from survey conducted Fall 2022

Transit-Oriented Development

Promoting transit-supportive land use can elevate quality of life, attract riders, create thriving live-work-play destinations, and deliver higher values and fiscal benefits.

The most recent 2020 DART Economic Impact Study found that development within ¼ mile of DART stations between 2016 and 2018 had a total value of \$5.1 billion and generated:

\$10B

in GDP

61K

construction jobs

\$286M

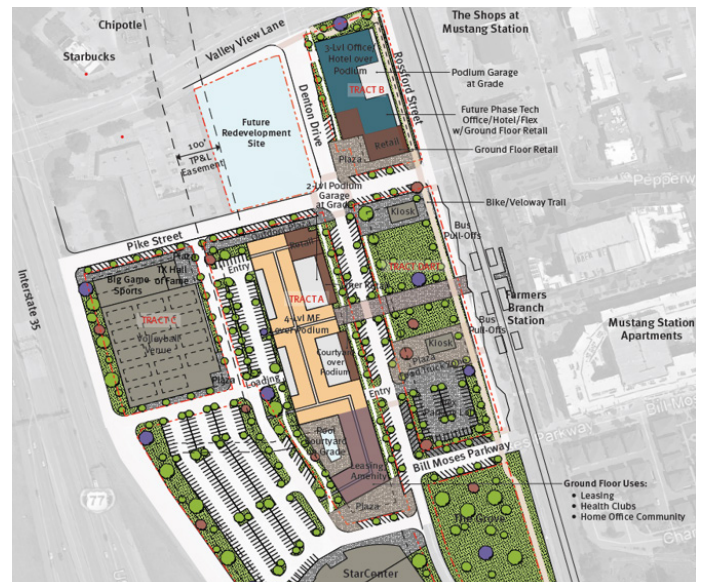
in state and local tax revenues

City of Farmers Branch Rail Station Transit-Oriented Development

The City of Farmers Branch has been proactive in developing comprehensive plans that establish a vision for how the city will continue to thrive in the future. The City completed an update to its comprehensive plan in 2023. Through the West Side Plan (2003), Central Area Plan (2012), and the East Side Plan (2017), the city has emphasized the importance of a multimodal transportation network and how it is essential to economic growth and quality of life. The Farmers Branch DART Station is seen as the anchor of that multimodal network and a catalyst to ignite future transit-oriented development building upon recent city successes.

I-35E Corridor in Farmers Branch – Future Vision for Redevelopment/ Transit Connections to the West

“Future redevelopment along Valley View Lane provides an opportunity to provide a better connection to the DART Station Area. Another potential driver of change along Valley View Lane is the Irving to Frisco Passenger Rail Corridor Study, a North Central Texas Council of Governments commuter passenger rail study along the BNSF/ DART-owned rail line with a time horizon of 2045, if approved.”



FARMERS BRANCH STATION - DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT