



Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission  
Annual Report

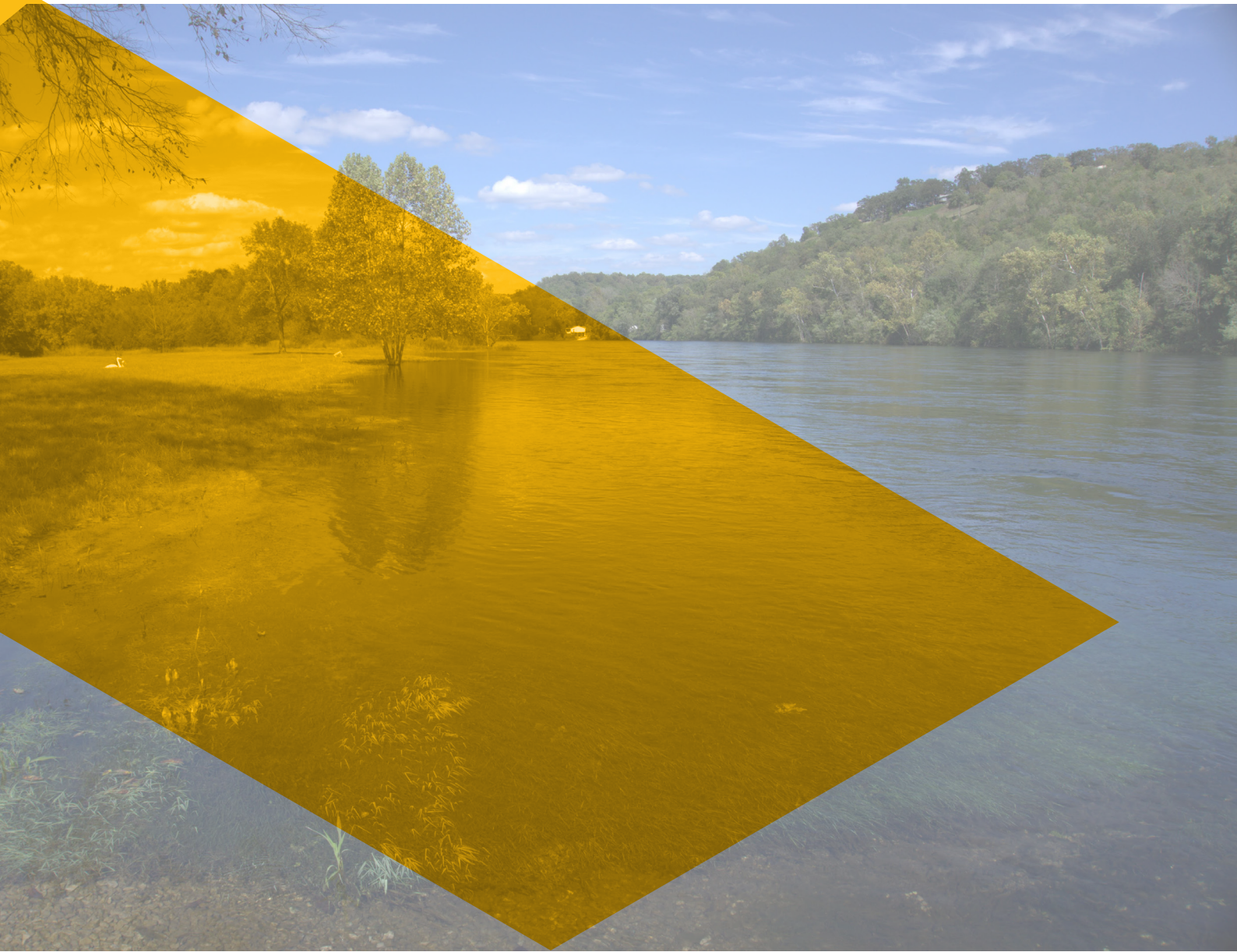
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Photo Credit: ARDOT



*This report was funded in part through grants from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Transit Administration (FTA), and the U.S. Department of Transportation (U.S.DOT). The views and opinions of the Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission (NWARPC) expressed herein do not necessarily state or reflect those of the U.S. Department of Transportation.*



## » About NWARPC

The Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission (NWARPC) was formed in 1966. In 1983, NWARPC was designated as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) under U.S. DOT regulations for transportation planning purposes. In 2019, NWARPC had 44 members with 37 jurisdictions in Benton and Washington Counties in Arkansas and three jurisdictions in Missouri. The MPO has four permanent committees: the Regional Planning Commission/Policy Committee (RPC/Policy Committee), the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), the Active Transportation Committee (ACT), and the Northwest Arkansas GIS Users Group. The RPC/ Policy Committee is the chief decision-making body for the MPO and consists of the jurisdictions' chief elected official and/or other appointed representatives. The TAC develops the technical aspects of plans and reports and makes recommendations to the RPC/ Policy Committee. The NWARPC is a multi-modal transportation planning agency for the region. In 2019 NWARPC started the update to its long range transportation plan, the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan.



## » Introduction

Welcome to the Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission 2019 Annual Report.

As the Northwest Arkansas region continues to grow, NWARPC continues to provide leadership and guidance in addressing issues of regional significance. This past year, our organization focused on planning for transportation projects that included roads and bicycle and pedestrian networks, a regional transit system, housing challenges in the region, protecting and conserving the region's open space environment and also preparing for the upcoming 2020 U.S. Census.

As the people in our region continue to value quality of life, issues related to transportation and infrastructure are transcending individual political boundaries. As such, our organization recognizes that local governments continue to follow our tradition of working together regionally to address problems and meet challenges confronting our rapidly growing region.

Our staff continues to face the challenges posed by the demand for services and our organization remains committed to the partnership that defines us. With continued hard work and diligence, and with the support of our members, we will be better prepared for the future.

Thank you for your continuous support and participation in our common efforts and initiatives.





Fayetteville Mayor Jordan at the Ruppel Rd. Improvement Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on July 30, 2019



Local Officials at the Dixieland Rd. Extension Ground Breaking Ceremony in Lowell on July 22, 2019



Dean's Trail Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at Parson's Stadium in Springdale - Photo Credit: A Grajeda - KUAF



Officials at the I-49/8th St. Interchange Ribbon Cutting event in Bentonville on April 24, 2019



Ruppel Rd. Improvement Ribbon Cutting Ceremony - Ruppel Rd. is a STBGP-A funded project



# » 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (2045 MTP)

NWARPC began the process of updating the existing 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) to the NWARPC 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (2045 MTP) in the fall of 2019. The 2045 MTP will serve as the 5-year regional transportation plan for the Northwest Arkansas metropolitan transportation planning area. The plan will provide a long range, comprehensive look at the region's transportation needs and implementation strategies including, but not limited to highways, transit, and bicycle and pedestrian facilities. The public participated in two kick-off open-houses in October in Rogers and Fayetteville. These open-house events were held by NWARPC and the Connect Northwest Arkansas project team and information on the 2045 MTP and Connect Northwest Arkansas was presented jointly to the public. More than 100 people participated in these events. A public opinion survey was distributed at the open-houses,

through the use of a paper survey and a mobile phone survey. The survey is currently available on the [2045 MTP webpage](#).

The 2045 MTP process will continue through 2020 and the RPC/Policy Committee will vote to approve it in spring 2021.

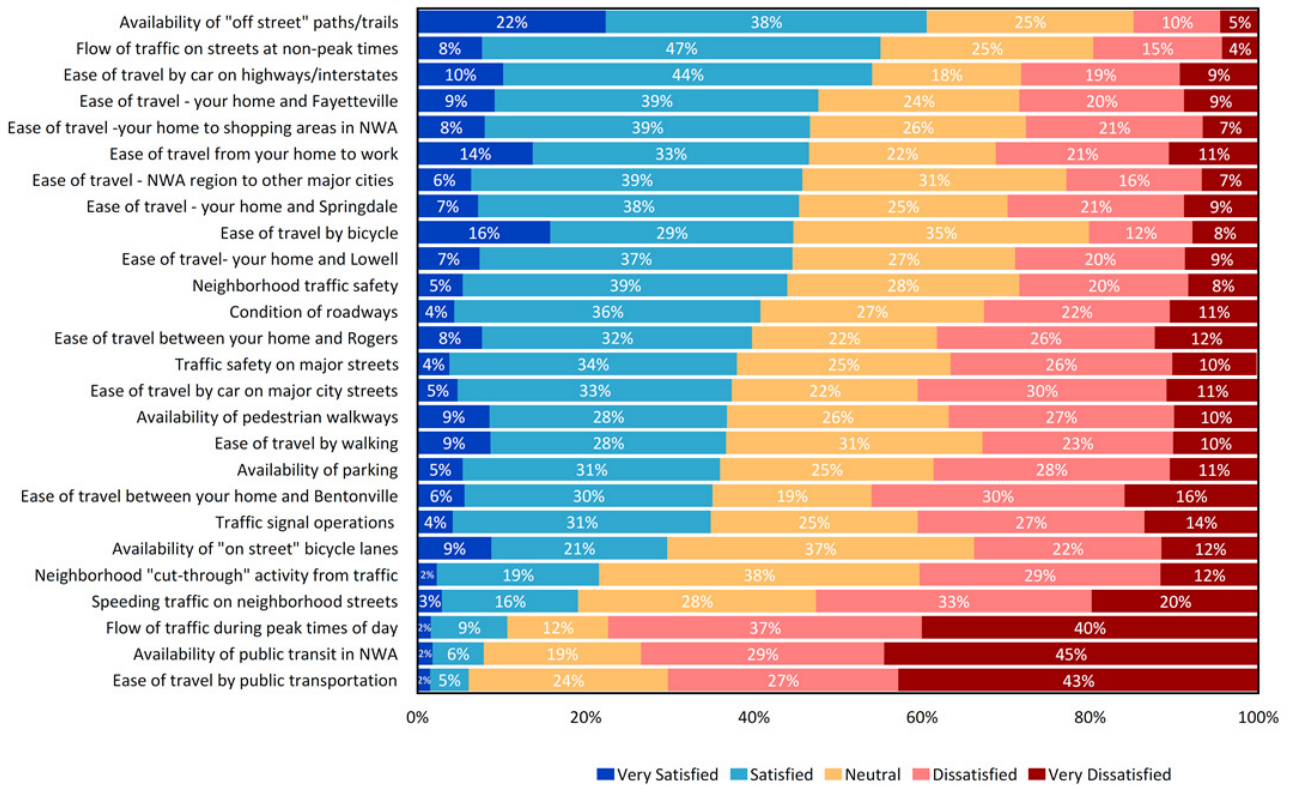
As part of the 2045 MTP process, NWARPC also conducted the 2019 Northwest Arkansas Regional Transportation Survey. The purpose of this survey was to gather input from residents to better understand the level of satisfaction with the region's transportation system and attitudes toward prioritizing transportation improvements. The final report and findings of this survey can be found here: [2019 NWA Regional Transportation Survey – Final Findings Report](#).



Public engagement events as part of Connect Northwest Arkansas in Fayetteville and Bentonville. Page to the right: 2045 MTP public input meeting in Fayetteville



**Question from the NWA Regional Transportation Survey: How satisfied are you with the following aspects of transportation in the Northwest Arkansas region?**





# » Notable Road Projects

## I-49 Missouri-Arkansas Connector

In December 2018, NWARPC was notified by Secretary of Transportation that the agency had received approval of a \$25 million Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) grant to enable MoDOT to construct 4.8 miles of I-49 in McDonald County, Missouri. The grant will also allow ARDOT to complete the voter-approved 14.1-mile section in Benton County.

MoDOT officials approved the finances and timeline for completion of the 4.8 miles of I-49 from Pineville, Missouri to the state line in April 2019.

ARDOT bid the remaining projects on the Arkansas side in summer 2019. The two

projects are the final 2.5 miles (4-lane divided highway) from Benton County Road 34 to the state line and a new interchange to replace the roundabout at I-49 and U.S. 71 in Bentonville.

Arkansas opened a two-lane section of the Connector (Bella Vista bypass) in May 2017. Work on the other two lanes which parallel this section was underway in 2019.

The completion of the 18.9 mile I-49 Missouri-Arkansas Connector project will close the gap in the 278-mile I-49 corridor between Ft. Smith, Arkansas and Kansas City, Missouri.



# Highway 265 Improvements

On January 4, 2019 state and city leaders celebrated the completion of a segment of Arkansas Highway 265 and honored Dick Trammel of Rogers, outgoing chairman of the Arkansas Highway Commission, in a ceremony at the Jones Center in Springdale. Construction of a 4-mile segment of Highway 265, from Randall Wobbe Lane in Springdale, north to Pleasant Grove Road in Rogers was completed. The southern section, south of Highway 264 to Randal Wobbe Lane, a \$10.2 million 1.92-mile project, completed in 2019, has been improved to five lanes.

The Highway 265 project allows for another north-south route east of Interstate 49. During the ceremony, Arkansas Governor Asa Hutchinson recognized Mr. Dick Trammel's leadership and work on the Highway Commission.



Governor Asa Hutchinson and other officials at the Hwy. 265 Improvements Ribbon Cutting event in Springdale

During his tenure of 12 years with the Highway Commission Trammel said: *"We recognized that there needed to be a new north-south corridor, and this corridor is the quickest and least expensive to the taxpayer that we could do to make a new north-south corridor go straight through. It's practically finished."*

## » STBGP-A and TAP Projects

In 2019 the following projects were awarded as part of the FFY 2020, Surface Transportation Block Group Program - Attributable (STBGP-A) and Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

NWARPC has awarded over \$62,000,000 in STBGP-A and TAP funds to its members since 2013.

Year	County	ARDOT Job No.	Jurisdiction	STBGP-A Projects (Includes HIP Funds FFY 2018)	Awarded
2019	Benton	090436	Bella Vista	Mercy Way and Bridge and Road	\$ 149,152
2019	Benton	090218	Bentonville	8th Street	\$ 500,000
2019	Benton	090471	Centerton	Hwy 102B/Seba Rd Intersection Improvements	\$ 495,000
2019	Washington	040683	Farmington	Hwy 170	\$ 1,200,000
2019	Washington	040688	Fayetteville	Sain Street Ext (N Front St to Vantage Blvd)	\$ 475,000
2019	Washington	040xxx	Fayetteville Washington Co.	Highway 112/Howard Nickell Road Intersection Improvements	\$ 280,000
2019	Benton	090393	Rogers	JB Hunt Road (Pauline Whitaker Parkway to Bellview Road)	\$ 2,900,000
2019	Benton	090392	Rogers	28th Place (Pleasant Grove to Blossom Way)	\$ 200,000
2019	Washington	040680	Springdale Johnson	Gene George Blvd. (Don Tyson Parkway to 1000' South) Phase 1	\$ 2,900,000
<b>Total STBGP-A</b>					<b>\$ 9,099,152</b>

Year	County	ARDOT Job No.	Jurisdiction	TAP Projects	Awarded
2019	Benton	090479	Bentonville	McCollum Rd Sidepath	\$ 160,000
2019	Benton	090494	Lowell	KJMP Trailhead/Connector Trail	\$ 90,000
2019	Benton	090xxx	Siloam Springs	Hico Trail from Wash. St. to Cheri Whitlock Pkwy	\$ 250,000
2019	Benton	090338	Rogers	Walnut Street/US 71B (Dixieland Rd to 8th St.) (Note: FFY 2017-18 TAP Funds)	\$ 218,847
2019	Benton	090486	Gravette	Trails (Note: FFY 2018 TAP Obligated in FFY 2019)	\$ 81,041
<b>Total TAP</b>					<b>\$ 799,888</b>



# » Public Transportation

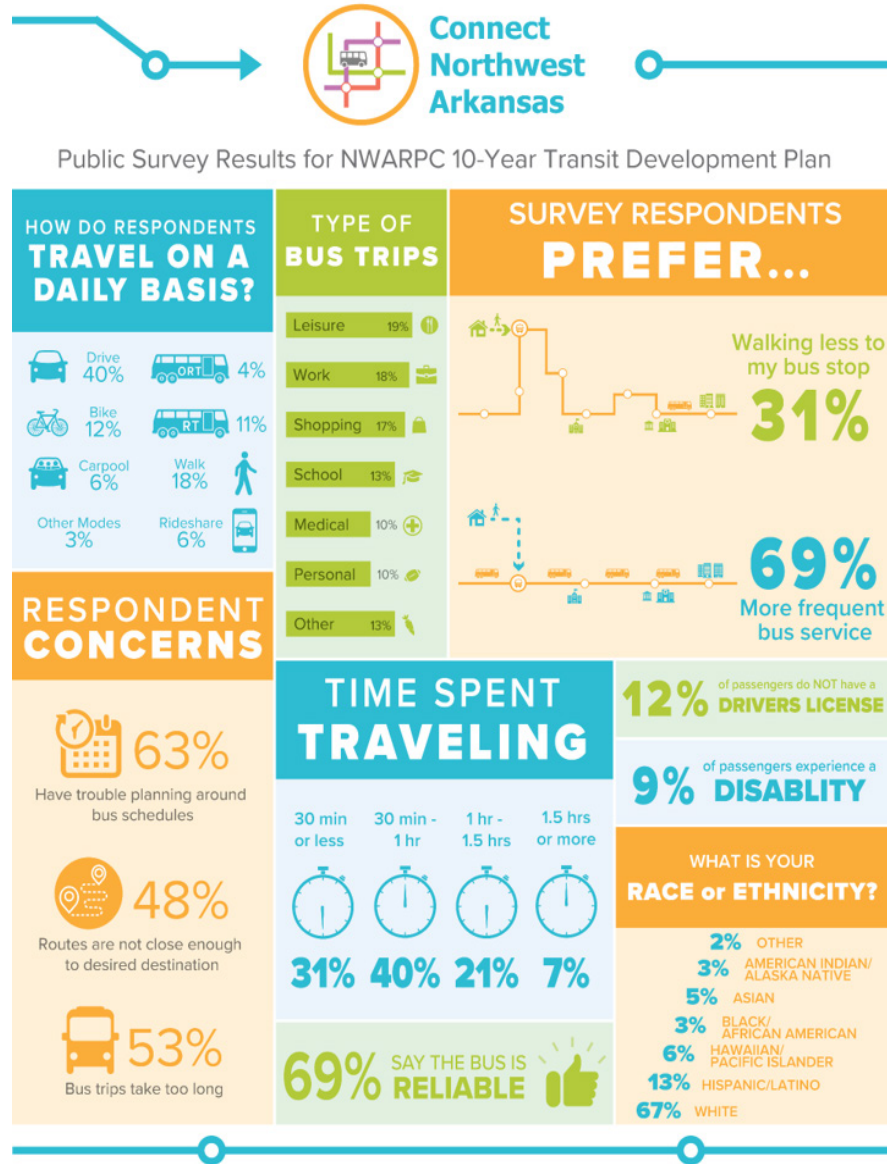


## Connect Northwest Arkansas

In 2019, NWARPC continued the work on the transit development plan “Connect Northwest Arkansas” which started in early 2018. Connect Northwest Arkansas is a 10-Year Transit Development Plan (TDP) that will create a “Blueprint” for improving and expanding transit in the Northwest Arkansas region. As part of the public engagement plan, a series of eleven public input events took place in spring 2019 in Fayetteville, Springdale, Rogers and Bentonville.

A survey was distributed as part of the public engagement process and a total of 1,299 surveys were received. The survey was filled out by 491 online respondents, and 808 respondents took the survey on hard-copies at the various public engagement events. Surveys were available in paper form at the events in English, Spanish and Marshallese. The project team analyzed responses and developed a graphic to easily depict key results from the public survey.

When completed, the Connect Northwest Arkansas plan will provide a robust plan to be utilized by the region in planning transit for the next 10 years. More information and draft chapters of Connect NWA can be found on the project's [webpage](#).





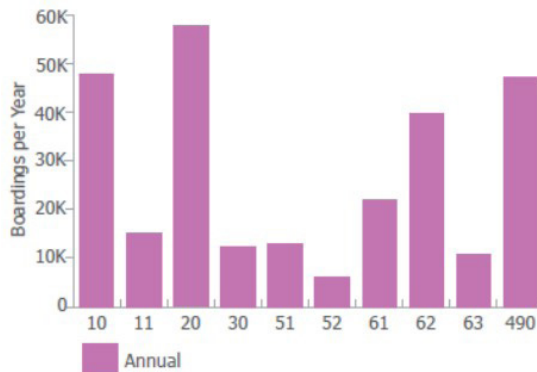
# Transit Agencies Service and Ridership Statistics

## Ozark Regional Transit Profile



	DAILY REVENUE HOURS	DAILY REVENUE MI	DAILY TRIPS	AVERAGE DAILY BOARDINGS	ANNUAL BOARDINGS	BOARDINGS PER REV HR	BOARDINGS /REV MI	BOARDINGS /TRIP
10	26:00	328	27	188	47,915	7.2	0.6	7.0
11	11:00	153	11	60	15,287	5.5	0.4	5.5
20	13:30	216	14	227	57,896	16.8	1.0	16.8
30	13:30	198	27	49	12,443	3.6	0.2	1.8
51	10:30	146	11	50	12,808	4.8	0.3	4.5
52	10:30	190	11	24	6,242	2.3	0.1	2.2
61	13:00	204	13	86	22,046	6.6	0.4	6.6
62	13:35	153	14	156	39,693	11.5	1.0	11.1
63	8:00	155	9	42	10,612	5.3	0.3	4.7
490	9:00	295	6	185	47,146	20.6	0.6	30.8
<b>ORT</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>2,038</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>1,067</b>	<b>272,088</b>	<b>8.41</b>	<b>0.51</b>	<b>9.1</b>

RIDERSHIP BY ROUTE



ROUTES BY CITY

CITY	ROUTES
BENTONVILLE	11
ROGERS	51, 52
SPRINGDALE	61, 62, 63
FAYETTEVILLE	10, 20, 30
REGIONAL	490

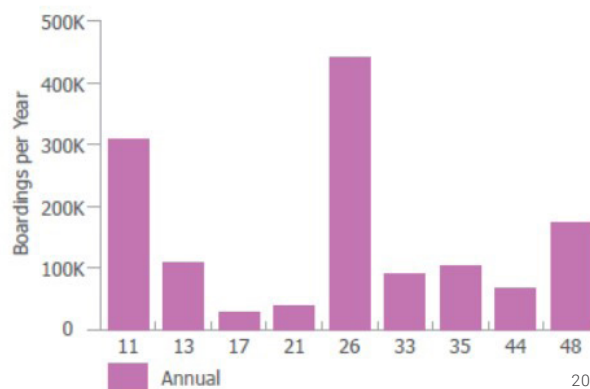
NWARPC, is the designated recipient for for the Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers AR-MO Urbanized Area and Formula Grants apportioned by FTA. It is also responsible for monitoring compliance with Federal Transit Administration (FTA) requirements for the life of FTA Section 5339-funded projects that are maintained by subrecipients in the MPO area (Ozark Regional Transit and Razorback Transit).

## Razorback Transit Profile



	DAILY REVENUE HOURS	DAILY REVENUE MI	DAILY TRIPS	AVERAGE DAILY BOARDINGS	ANNUAL BOARDINGS	BOARDINGS PER REV HR	BOARDINGS /REV MI	BOARDINGS /TRIP
11	32:10	273	97	1,782	309,254	55.4	6.5	18.4
13	23:23	212	43	578	108,948	24.7	2.7	13.4
17	11:45	77	47	181	26,910	15.4	2.3	3.9
21	16:00	160	27	261	38,425	16.3	1.6	9.7
26	67:00	720	54	1,858	441,576	277	2.6	34.4
33	23:27	173	38	459	89,163	19.6	2.7	12.1
35	31:19	323	34	510	102,882	16.3	1.6	15.0
44	25:10	342	49	392	66,639	15.6	1.1	8.0
48	32:15	402	63	964	172,246	29.9	2.4	15.3
<b>RT</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>2,681</b>	<b>452</b>	<b>6,985</b>	<b>1,356,043</b>	<b>24.5</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>14.5</b>

RIDERSHIP BY ROUTE



In summer 2019 NWARPC conducted a subrecipient compliance review. The final compliance reports were submitted to the two transit agencies in October 2019. There were no deficiencies noted in either report.

# » Active Transportation

In 2019 the Active Transportation Committee worked on three resolutions which were approved for the following:

**A** mending the NWA Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan adding the City of Highfill, Arkansas Adopted Plan

**A** mending the NWA Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan for Arkansas Highway 112 Side Path

**A** mending the NWA Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan and Adopting the NWA Bike Infrastructure Plan Targeted Bicycling Priority Network

## 2019 PlacesForBikes City Ratings

The 2019 PlacesForBikes city ratings, published by PeopleforBikes, used a data-driven approach to quantify the impacts and benefits of bikes on communities. The ratings focused on five categories: ridership, safety, the cycling network, the cycling network's reach, and the acceleration of cycling programs and infrastructure.

In the Northwest Arkansas region Bentonville came in at No. 11 on the PlacesForBikes ranking. Fayetteville (No. 15), Springdale (No. 19) and Bella Vista (No. 22) also stood out nationally on the list.

Bentonville, Fayetteville and Bella Vista received higher rankings for their individual performances in the acceleration category, which is a measure of how quickly a community is improving its cycling infrastructure and getting more people riding. Springdale placed on the strength of its reach, a measure of how well the city's cycling network serves the entire community.

Jenn Dice - Chief Operating Officer with PeopleforBikes:

***"Northwest Arkansas cities continue to benefit from the investments made by organizations committed to making cycling safe, accessible and convenient. The investment in bike infrastructure, education, bike culture, volunteer and community capacity building are truly world class. All of this hard work, volunteer support, and investment manifests itself in a healthier and happier community that really benefits from and embraces all things bikes."***



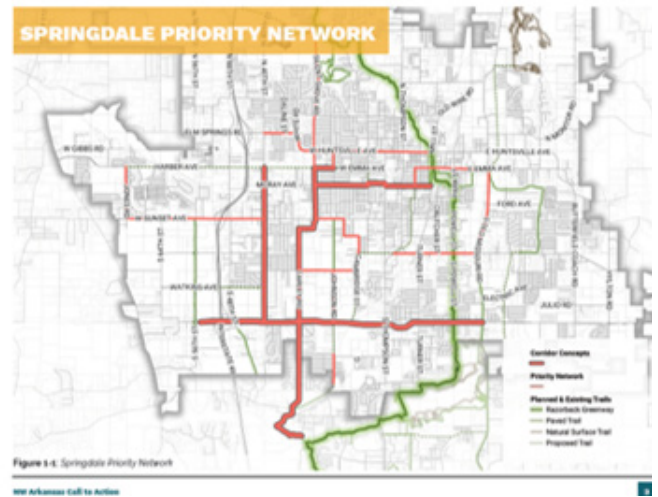
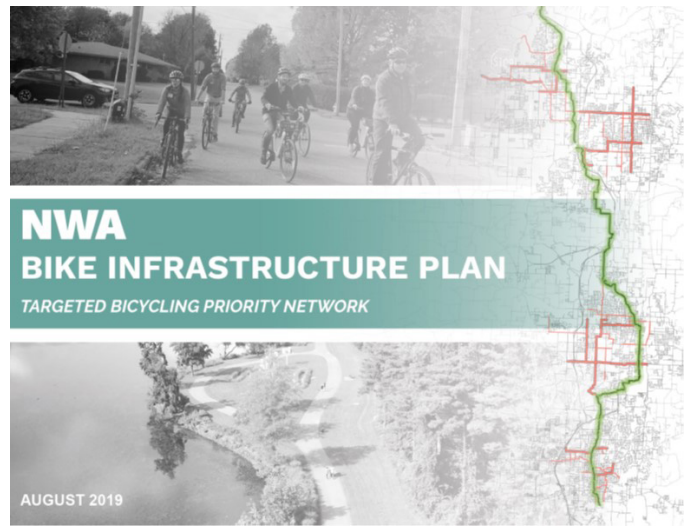


# NWA Bike Infrastructure Plan

The Bike Infrastructure Plan was made possible through a grant from the Walton Family Foundation and with NWARPC's support. Bike Infrastructure Plan updates were developed for Springdale, Fayetteville, Rogers and Bentonville. These cities committed to follow the NACTO Urban Street and Urban Bikeway guidance in designing cycling infrastructure projects.



FHWA Bikeway Selection Guide Training Session at NWARPC Office



## 2019 Bicycle Friendly Awards by the League of American Bicyclists

Northwest Arkansas was recognized in 2019 by the League of American Bicyclists as a bicycle friendly region. The following entities were recognized and awarded bicycle friendly status as follows:



**City of Bentonville and City of Springdale** were awarded a Bronze level designation.

**Northwest Arkansas** – which includes Benton and Washington Counties - was awarded a Silver designation, a step up from the Bronze level designation awarded the previous year.

**University of Arkansas** was awarded a Gold level designation, a step up from their Silver designation in the previous year.

# The Northwest Arkansas Trail System

The table below illustrates the total mileage of trails by type in the two-county area. The data was derived from the Northwest Arkansas online interactive map which can be found here: <https://trails.cast.uark.edu/>

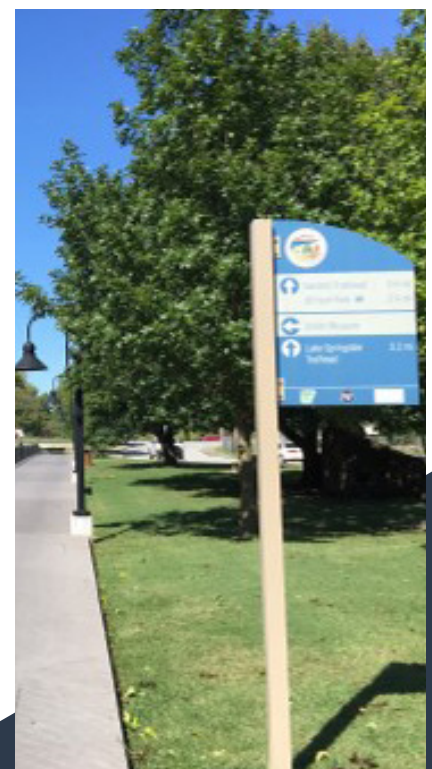
Trail Type	2016	2017	2018	2019
Shared Use Paved Trails	108	142	154	157
Shared Roadway	14	60	62	62
Bike Lanes	18	20	20	20
Protected Bike Lanes	1	1	4	7
Neighborhood Park Trails	22	24	26	26
Soft Surface Trails	143	218	253	323
<b>Total</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>465</b>	<b>519</b>	<b>595</b>

## Razorback Greenway Update

The Razorback Regional Greenway continues to be the most utilized trail in the region. The 37-mile trail continues to be very popular and to bring in people from all walks of life who live the region and beyond. The annual *Square to Square* bike-ride on the Razorback Greenway (from Fayetteville to Bentonville in the spring and Bentonville to Fayetteville in the fall) is one of the most popular biking events in the area.



Boardwalk trail at Lake Atalanta in Rogers and signage on the Razorback Greenway to the right.



The Razorback Regional Greenway is a TIGER II funded project NWARPC was awarded in 2011 and it completed in 2015.



# The Netherlands Bike Tour

In October, 2019 NWARPC led a delegation of nine representatives from organizations in the region on a study tour to the Netherlands. The group attended the 2019 CityBuilders Symposium Study Tour in the Netherlands from September 30, 2019 to October 4, 2019. The trip was sponsored by the Walton Family Foundation and supported by PeopleforBikes.

Quotes by Rogers' Mayor Greg Hines and Springdale's Mayor Doug Sprouse from their op-ed following the bike tour:

*"As we traveled the city by bike and on foot –experiencing good weather and bad, bike-friendly roundabouts and other innovations—there was much to learn about how bicyclists, pedestrians and drivers all move about safely and with civility on complete and connected transportation networks –and how the whole community benefits."*



*"When it comes to bikes, one clear priority is connecting more public spaces—schools, shopping centers, hospitals—to our region's world-class network of trails."*

*As mayors, we also can work together to ensure the bicycling experience in Northwest Arkansas is cohesive across our region. Consistent rules and design standards for signs and roadway markings, for example, can make for an even safer and more seamless experience that is welcoming to local riders and visitors alike."*



Mayor Sprouse (left) and Mayor Hines (above) leading the group on bikes in the Netherlands



## » GIS and Mapping

In 2019 NWARPC continued its coordination with the GIS and mapping professionals in the area and continued to provide support to its members and collaborators. Staff continued to develop and publish mapping products for a number of cities and the counties. Staff also continued support to ORT and Razorback Transit with both data development and publishing and the Remix software licensing share.

2019 was a critical year in preparing for the 2020 Census data collection. NWARPC offered its support and GIS expertise to its member jurisdictions in their participation in the Local Update of the Census Addresses (LUCA) program with the U.S. Census Bureau. NWARPC was also the liaison for 11 jurisdictions in Benton and Washington counties and successfully participated in the program on their behalf.

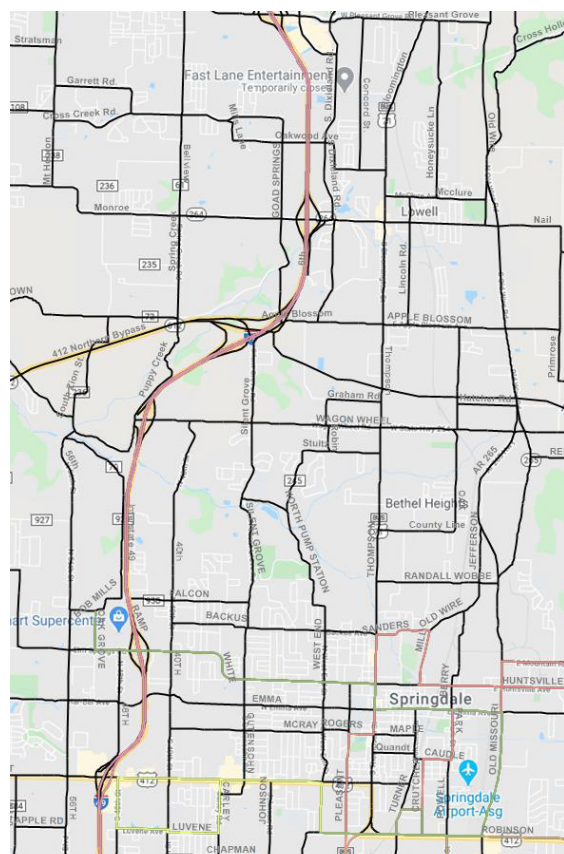
In addition, NWARPC has also participated in the Census Bureau's Participant Statistical Areas Program (PSAP), which enables participants to review and update selected statistical area boundaries for 2020 Census data tabulation following Census Bureau guidelines and criteria.

NWARPC staff continued the support of the 2019 Imagery project for Benton and Washington Counties. There were 23 contributors for both Counties, which was one of the strongest in recent years. In 2019, both Counties acquired 6-inch resolution imagery that was made available by NWARPC to its project participants, as well as to the general public through online mapping products. These maps can be viewed at the GIS and Mapping link on the NWARPC website.

## » Travel Demand Model Upgrade

In 2019 NWARPC started the work of upgrading its current travel demand model. Recent upgrades to the model included completed enhancements to the mode choice model work by refining the model calibration and performing additional sensitivity testing. This model enhancement improved the coded transit route system and the transit assignment calibration and validation.

Since the Origin-Destination On-board Survey was completed in 2018, the consultants are using this survey to calibrate the mode choice model and to upgrade the model to a 2018 base year. Once the base year model is calibrated, forecast years 2025, 2035 and 2045 will be completed and utilized in the 2045 MTP update.





### Census Data Support

*GIS and Mapping*

NWARPC supported its members and the Census Bureau by reviewing and commenting on the Local Update of Census Addresses Operation (LUCA) and also with the Participant Statistical Areas Program (PSAP) statistical area boundaries for 2020 Census data tabulation .



### 2019 Aerial Imagery Project

*GIS and Mapping*

NWARPC staff continued the support of the 2019 Imagery project. All the interactive maps include both counties most current aerial imagery and can be found at the following link:

<https://www.nwarpc.org/interactive-gis-maps/>



### Interactive Maps for Member Jurisdictions

*GIS and Mapping*

NWARPC staff continued to support its member jurisdictions with publishing customized interactive maps and provident data development and support. The maps can be accessed from NWARPC's website and individual cities' websites.



# » NWA Heritage Trail Partners

In 2019 the Heritage Trail Partners (HTP) worked with the City of Fayetteville and the Arkansas Department of Transportation to install two Heritage Trail signs on a portion of the Razorback Greenway that runs parallel to Highway 265 near the Kessler Mountain Regional Park.

Forty Heritage Trail signs were purchased by the Benton County Historical Preservation Commission and will be placed along Civil War Routes from the Pea Ridge National Military Park area to Highway 43 north of Siloam Springs.

Working in conjunction with the Arkansas Chapter of the Trail of Tears Association, seventeen Trail of Tears Historic Routes signs were installed in Benton County including along the Old Wire Road through Cross Hollow near Lowell and six signs

in the City of Rogers. More Original Route signs are planned for Benton and Washington Counties.

Heritage Trail Partners continued work with the Shiloh Museum and the City of Springdale to protect, preserve, and interpret the Fitzgerald Farmstead property in Springdale. This site is important due to its connections to The Trail of Tears, the Butterfield Overland Mail route, and the Civil War troop movements. The Fitzgerald Farmstead is part of a trailhead for the Fitzgerald Mountain trail system and will also be used to provide the public with an increased knowledge of and appreciation for the rich history of Northwest Arkansas.





## » Open Space Plan

NWARPC is actively supporting and participating in monthly Open Space Plan Committee meetings organized by the Northwest Arkansas Land Trust. In 2019, a number of conservation initiatives were in progress; one of them was an effort to acquire Williams Hollow, which consists of 140 acres of land adjacent to Pea Ridge National Military Park with the purpose of including it in a conservation fund.

Other activities of the Open Space Plan Committee in 2019 included the development of a plan for designation of a sustainable funding source and continuing the outreach and education effort in conservation and land preservation in the region.



## » Housing Report

In 2019 the Walton Family Foundation released “Our Housing Future - A Call to Action for Northwest Arkansas”. During the development of this report NWARPC provided critical support to its team by leading logistics for community engagement activities, including focus groups, public meetings and other outreach. NWARPC was also the primary liaison to the housing committee.

The full report can be found here:  
<https://www.waltonfamilyfoundation.org/learning/our-housing-future>



Participants at one to the Housing Committee meetings in 2019





Photo credit: ARDOT

## » Stormwater Management

Nineteen Northwest Arkansas cities, Benton and Washington counties, and the University of Arkansas are partnering with the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture Cooperative Extension Service and NWARPC on a regional approach to stormwater management. The 15-year partnership creates the NWA Urban Stormwater Education Program and is responsible for the educational components that are required through the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) jurisdictions. During the 2019 year, the Extension's stormwater program held 50 educational opportunities that reached 3,639 MS4 residents with the message of stormwater pollution prevention. The audiences ranged from homeowners to industry professionals to youth programs. Available to all MS4 jurisdictions, the pre-construction educational program is developed for contractors and includes post-test examinations eliminating the "I didn't know" response that is often used during site inspections. In 2019, there were an additional 239 construction industry personnel trained on Stormwater Construction BMPs. Additional stormwater construction inspection trainings were conducted with local builders. In 2019, the 5-year NPDES MS4 permit educational emphasis was disconnecting impervious surfaces and irrigation management to minimize runoff.

In response, a Redirecting Downspouts Resource Guide was developed and printed in four formats. These were mailed to 283,480 addresses through utility bills, municipal newsletters, in mailing services, and as individual postcards serving portions or all MS4 jurisdictional areas in the NWA Urban Stormwater Education Program. An additional LID Options for Homeowners Guide was developed and distributed at public talks, displays, and through local landscape architects. The guide helps homeowners determine which LID features may work best for their landscapes.

The goal of the program is to help jurisdictions stay in compliance of permit requirements which are set to maintain local water quality standards. To do this, the program, with NWARPC, conducts bi-monthly stormwater compliance meetings for MS4 representatives to ask questions of what others in the area are doing. The regional program provides shared knowledge and individualized audit support for each jurisdiction. Additional guidance is given to MS4s as unique situations arise to find resources that ensure they are staying compliant with federal and state stormwater regulations. This regional program has received praise from the Arkansas Division of Environmental Quality which oversees the permit requirements as an innovative and cost-efficient way to help jurisdictions stay compliant.



# » Conferences and Workshops

- January 30-31, 2019 – Little Rock, AR – FHWA SHRP2PlanWorks – Workshop
- February 8, 2019 – Jefferson City, MO – MODOT Statewide Planning Conference
- March 14-15, 2019 – Bentonville, AR – National Trail Symposium
- May 2-3, 2019 – Little Rock, AR – APA Spring Conference
- August 1, 2019 – Bentonville, AR – PlacesForBikes Conference
- August 2, 2019 – Bentonville, AR – People for Bikes Summit
- September 10-12, 2019 – Little Rock AR – Arkansas Transportation Planning Conference
- September 30-October 4, 2019 – City Builders Conference – The Netherlands
- October 9-11, 2019 – Tulsa, OK – APA 4 State Conference
- October 28- November 1, 2019 – Eureka Springs, AR – Arkansas GIS Users Forum Symposium
- October 31, 2019 – Springfield, MO – MODOT Southwest District Planning Partner Workshop.



Arkansas Transportation  
Planning Conference



Arkansas GIS Users  
Forum Symposium



PeopleforBikes Conference



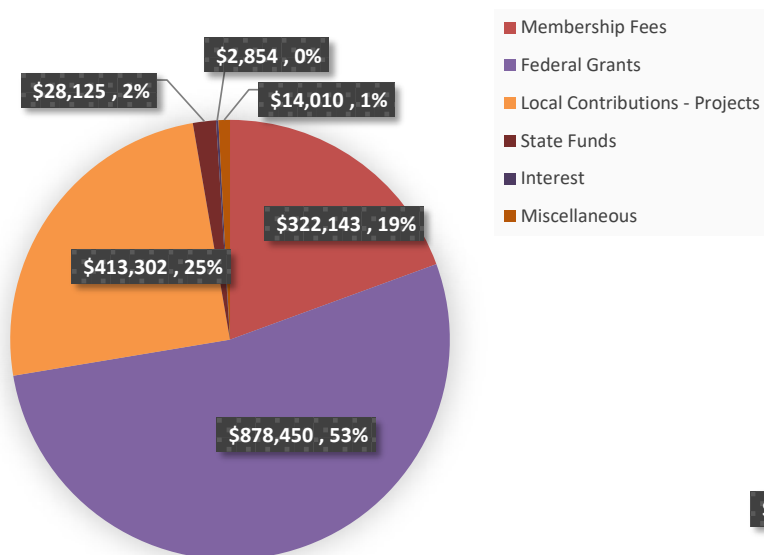
PeopleforBikes Summit

## » Clearinghouse Review

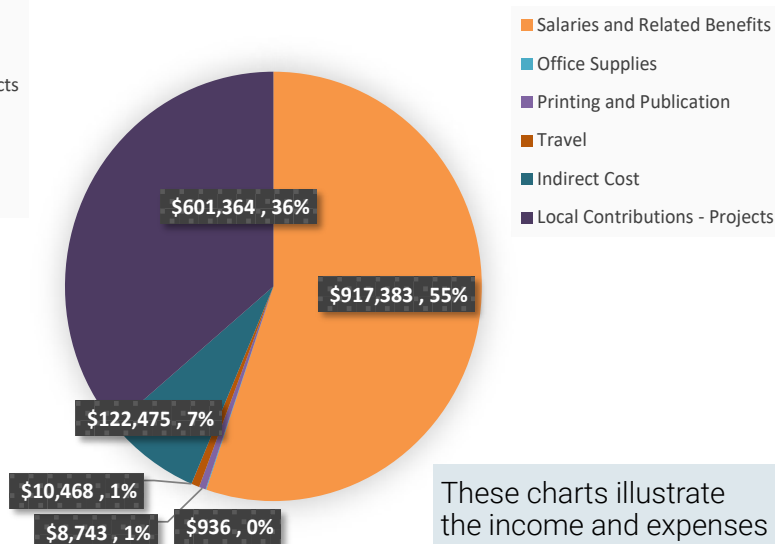
NWARPC is the federally designated review agency and Clearinghouse for Washington and Benton County portion of the Fayetteville/Springdale/Rogers Arkansas, Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA). The MSA includes the counties of Washington, Benton and Madison County in Arkansas. The purpose of this designation, which is made pursuant to Executive Order #12372, is to ensure that requests for federal funding are reviewed to determine compatibility with local and regional plans, and that such funding will not be used for duplicative purposes. In 2019, federal-aid grants with a total value of \$128,284,718 were submitted and were cleared in order to insure that proposed uses were consistent with, and in furtherance of, the goals, objectives and planned development for the MSA.

## » Financial Report

**Income Total = \$1,658,884**



**Expenses Total = \$1,661,369**



These charts illustrate the income and expenses summary for the Fiscal Year 2019 (July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019).

## » Staff

Jeff Hawkins - Executive Director  
 Tim Conklin, AICP - Assistant Director/ NARTS Director  
 Donna Lange - Office Manager  
 Celia Scott-Silkwood, AICP - Regional Planner  
 Cristina Scarlat - GIS Coordinator/Travel Demand Modeler  
 Elizabeth Bowen - Project Manager  
 Stephanie Shaw - Transportation GIS Analyst  
 Brandon Ives - IT/GIS Specialist



# » Membership

Avoca	Mayor Robert Whitehorn, Nanette Barnes
Bella Vista	Mayor Peter Christie (Secretary)
Benton County	Judge Barry Moerhing, Josh Beam, Jay Frasier
Bentonville	Mayor Stephanie Orman, Shelli Kerr
Bethel Heights	Mayor Cynthia J. Black, Amanda Fenton
Cave Springs	Mayor Randy Noblett
Centerton	Mayor Bill Edwards (Chair), Rick Hudson
Decatur	Mayor Bob Tharp, James Boston
Elkins	Mayor Bruce Ledford
Elm Springs	Mayor Harold D. Douthit
Farmington	Mayor Ernie Penn, Melissa McCarville
Fayetteville	Mayor Lioneld Jordan, Chris Brown, Garner Stoll
Garfield	Mayor Gary L. Blackburn
Gateway	Mayor Andrew Tillman
Gentry	Mayor Kevin Johnston
Goshen	Mayor Max Poye, Albert Skiles
Gravette	Mayor Kurt Maddox
Greenland	Mayor Bill Groom
Highfill	Mayor Michele Reiff
Hindsville	Mayor X Dotson*
Huntsville	Mayor Darrell Trahan*
Johnson	Mayor Chris Keeney (Vice-Chair)
Lincoln	Mayor Doug Hutchens
Little Flock	Mayor Tracy Englebrecht
Lowell	Mayor Chris Moore, Rick Stone
McDonald County, Missouri	Commissioners Bill Lant, John Bunch, David Holloway
Pea Ridge	Mayor Jackie Crabtree
City of Pineville, Missouri	Mayor Greg Sweeten
Prairie Grove	Mayor Sonny Hudson (Treasurer)
Rogers	Mayor Greg Hines, Bob Crafton, Lance Jobe, John McCurdy
Siloam Springs	Mayor John Turner, Phillip Patterson
Springdale	Mayor Doug Sprouse, Patsy Christie, Jim Ulmer
Springtown	Mayor Terri Glenn
Sulphur Springs	Mayor Shane Weber
Tontitown	Mayor Paul Colvin, Jr.
Washington County	Judge Joseph K. Wood, Carl Gale, Nathan Crouch
West Fork	Mayor S. Heith Caudle
ARDOT – Planning	Steve Frisbee
ARDOT Districts	Chad Adams (District 4)
MODOT	Dave Taylor
Beaver Water District	Lane Crider*
Razorback Transit	Gary Smith, Adam Waddell
University of Arkansas	Mike Johnson*
Regional Airport Authority	Aaron Burkes
	*Non-voting on NARTS matters

## Non-Voting Transportation Planning Partners:

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) – Amy Heflin  
Federal Transit Administration (FTA) – Lynn Hayes  
Arkansas Highway Commission – Phillip Taldo  
Human Service Agencies  
Arkansas Missouri Railroad

✉ [comments@nwarpc.org](mailto:comments@nwarpc.org)

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Cristina Scarlet: writing, editing, graphics and layout  
Celia Scott-Silkwood: writing and editing  
All photos are by NWARPC staff except where noted.