

# *The Office of Mobility Management*

## An Innovative Approach to Regional Transit Coordination

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**Regional Coordination Planner**

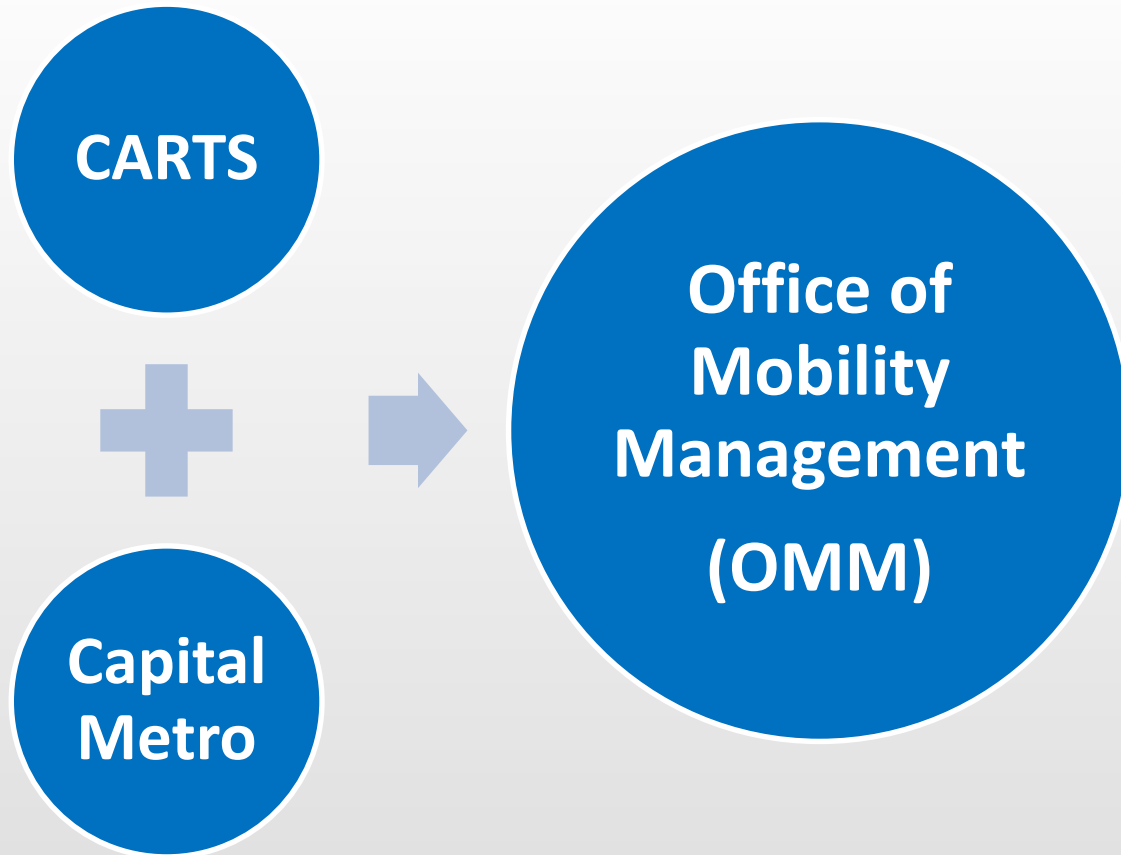
**Austin, TX**



OFFICE OF  
MOBILITY  
MANAGEMENT

CENTRAL TEXAS

# Who We Are



# CARTS

- Rural Transit District in Central Texas
- Serves Bastrop, Blanco, Burnet, Caldwell, Fayette, Hays, Lee, Travis, and Williamson Counties
- CARTS also serves as an urban transit district for the San Marcos UZA
- 9 Interurban routes
- Country Bus – Curb-to-curb transit service throughout CARTS service area
- Municipal Bus – San Marcos & Bastrop
- MetroConnector Route – Elgin/Manor
- Commuter Route – Smithville/Bastrop

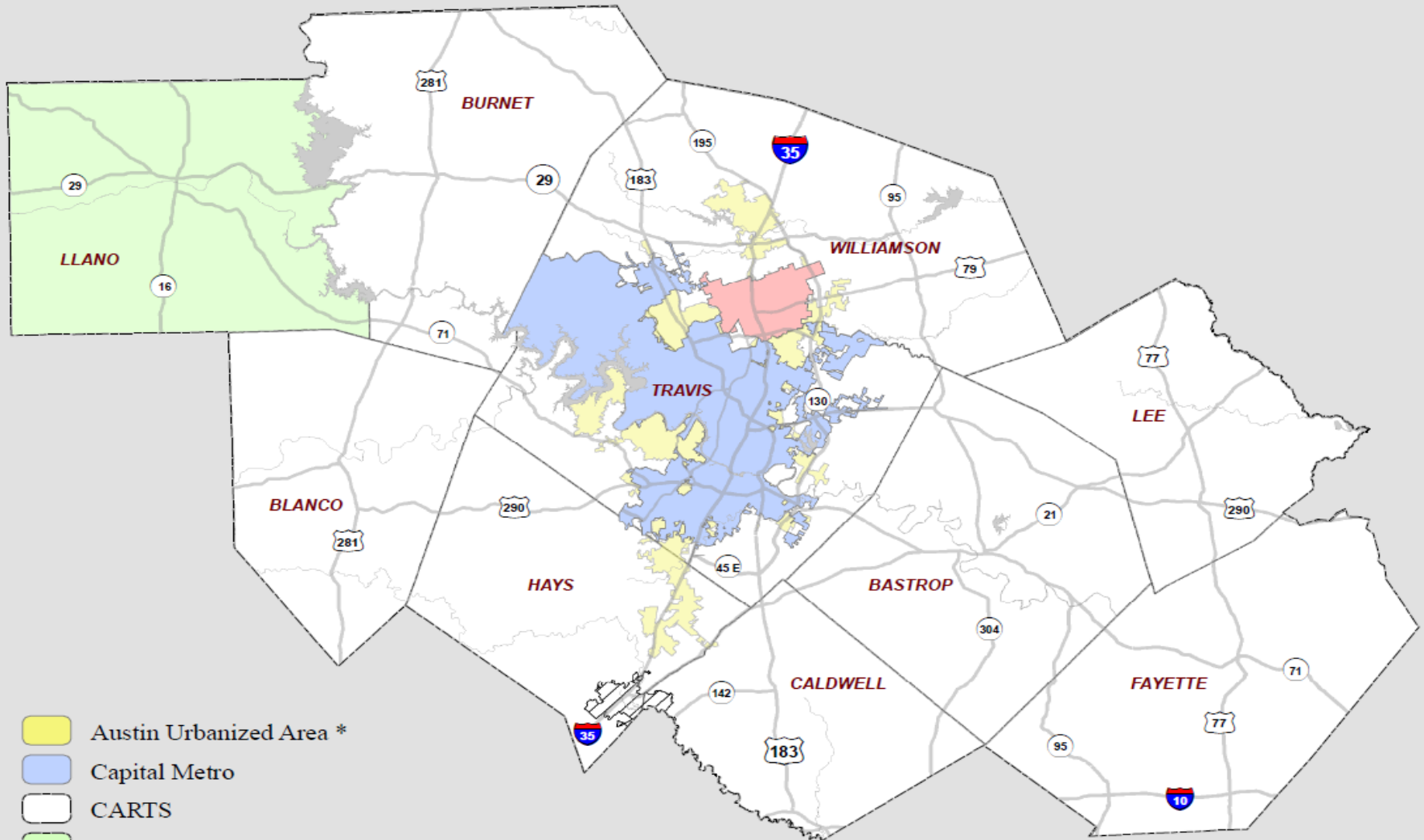
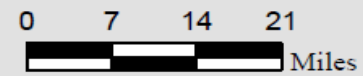








# Capital Metro

- Regional urbanized area transit provider for Central Texas
- Over 65 MetroBus routes
- Two MetroRapid lines
- One MetroRail line
- 12 UT Shuttle Routes
- 12 Park & Rides
- MetroAccess paratransit service for customers with disabilities
- MetroRideShare vanpool service



# Capital Area Region



-  Austin Urbanized Area \*
-  Capital Metro
-  CARTS
-  Hill Country Transit
-  San Marcos Urbanized Area
-  Round Rock

\* Capital Metro contracts for service in parts of the urbanized area.



# How We Got Started

- The OMM was a priority project in the 2011 Capital Area Coordinated Plan
- Capital Metro & CARTS had a good history of coordination
- The agencies partnered on a \$500,000 JARC grant in 2012 to create the OMM
- The project had support from many sources: government agencies, non-profits, transportation agencies, & the RTCC

# What We Do

Regional  
Coordination

Development of  
Partnerships to  
Implement Projects

Development of  
Projects to Close  
Gaps in Service

Regional Planning

Trip Planning

Grant Writing

Regional Ride Guide  
& Transportation  
Database

Capital Metro  
Service Expansion  
Program & Transit  
Development Plans

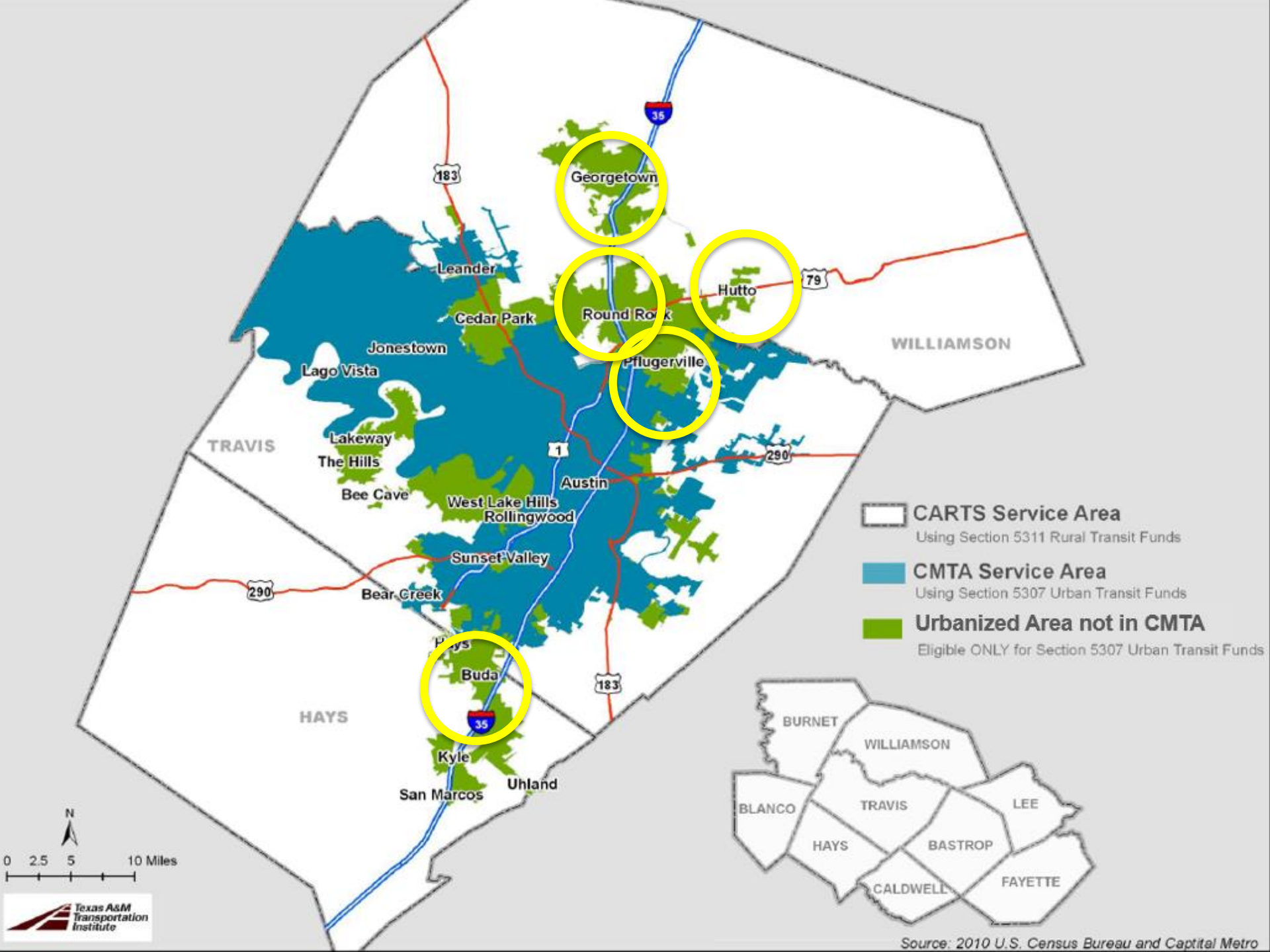
# OMM Projects

- Community Mobility Van Grant Program: Distributed 75 vans to non-profits in the region
- Development and implementation of the Manor Flex Route
- 5310 Projects:
  - Senior routes in the Capital Metro service area
  - Additional staff for the OMM
- Routes 233/237:
  - Unincorporated Travis County
  - Funded through Travis County and CDBG



# Service Expansion Policy Revision

- Policy revised in 2014 to expand program & provide new options for service expansion
- The policy revision was regionally coordinated
  - Capital Metro, CARTS, TxDOT, City of Austin, City of Georgetown
  - Policy was adopted by Capital Metro and the MPO
- Regional goals were established
  - Provide seamless service & avoid fragmentation of the urbanized area
  - Provide access to FTA funds based on jurisdiction's proportionate share
  - Establish financial commitment to transit projects



# Where Are We In the Process?

## Georgetown

- Transit plan approved. Fixed-route service will begin August 2017.

## Hutto

- Transit plan approved. Funding approved for a park & ride lot in Fiscal 2017 budget.

## Buda

- Transit plan approved. Securing site for park & ride lot.

## Pflugerville

- Transit plan completed. City Council will consider adoption

## Round Rock

- Completed a 10 Year Transit Master Plan. Coordinating with Capital Metro on implementation of service

# Success in the Region

## City of Georgetown

- The City will implement a fixed route system in 2017
- Established partnerships with Capital Metro, CARTS, Georgetown Health Foundation & Faith In Action to secure funding and coordinate service

## City of Round Rock

- Largest city outside Capital Metro service area
- The city is a direct recipient of FTA funding & operates demand response transit
- The city is now working with Capital Metro as a result of the Service Expansion Program
- Round Rock & Capital Metro Service will be coordinated & operated seamlessly

# Success in Funding

- Capital Metro received \$11.2 million for the Regional Mobility Program
- Grant supports purchase of buses for Capital Metro & CARTS

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## Buda on path to gain from Capital Metro's \$11.2 million grant

City is working on a transit plan with Capital Metro

By Carlie Porterfield | Posted Sept. 13, 2016 at 3:15 pm

**f** Buda residents looking for a ride to Austin are likely to benefit from a federal grant of over \$10 million to a public transportation provider in Austin, officials say.

**t** On Friday, The Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority announced they received an \$11.2 million Federal Transit Agency grant through the federal Regional Mobility Bus Program to purchase new buses, according to a press release.

**e** The money will go toward supporting regional transit projects and further the partnership between Capital Metro and the Capital Area Rural Transportation System, a transportation provider that connects residents in rural communities to Capital Metro services.

**...**

**...**

According to the press release, the grant will help boost the Service Expansion Program, which provides a process for cities outside Capital Metro's service area to participate and benefit from its transit services. Buda was named as one of the towns the agency is collaborating with.

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# Lessons Learned

- Partnerships matter – You can't do it alone!
- The regional approach is the key to success
- Providing options encourages participation
- Cost-sharing is important
- Provide a fair & detailed process for participation, but be ready to compromise
- Patience is key – this approach takes time

# *Thanks!*

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