



#### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS -**

Numerous individuals provided knowledge, assistance, and insight throughout the process of developing the Northlake Next 2045 Comprehensive Plan (Plan). Significant contributions of the following are greatly appreciated:

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David Rettig, Mayor Brian Montini, Mayor Pro Tem Michael Ganz, Council Member Robert Keeker, Council Member Maryl Lorencz, Council Member Roger Sessions, Council Member Bill Moore, Council Member (term ended May 2023) Wes Boyer, Council Member (term ended May 2023)

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#### A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

We are proud to introduce to you the Northlake Next Comprehensive Plan 2045.

As we continue to grow and build our future, we are committed to preserving our core values: service, innovation, integrity, excellence, trust, and community. These values have been the foundation of our great town, and they will continue to guide us into the future.

In order to achieve a future that reflects the priorities and needs of Northlake's residents, the process involved close collaboration with the Town Council, local partners, and, most importantly, our community. Your input has been invaluable in shaping a plan that ensures we continue to thrive and flourish. I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all those who have been part of this effort. Your ideas, suggestions, and dedication to shaping the next steps for Northlake are deeply appreciated. Together, we are making Northlake a place for generations to come, a place where our children and their children can build their futures with confidence and pride.

The Northlake Next Comprehensive Plan 2045 is more than just a document; it is a commitment to our shared vision. I encourage you to explore this plan and take an active role in its implementation. This Plan aims to provide opportunities and quality amenities that enhance our residents' quality of life, strengthen our local economy, and protect the long-term wellbeing of our community. Whether it's improved infrastructure, better access to retail, or safeguarding our natural resources, we have considered every aspect that contributes to a sustainable and prosperous Northlake.

Once again, thank you for being a part of this incredible journey to shape our beloved Northlake. Together, we will build a community that we can all be proud of.

Sincerely,

Mayor David Rettig

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#### LIST OF ACRONYMS

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**CDC** | Community Development Corporation

**CIP** | Community Rating System

CRS | Housing and Urban Development

**DCTA** | Denton County Transportation Authority

**DFW** | Dallas-Fort Worth

**DOT** | U.S. Department of Transportation

**DUA** | Dwelling Units per Acre

**EDC** | Economic Development Corporation

**EPP**| Emergency Preparedness Plan

ERP | Emergency Response Plan

**ESD** | Emergency Services District

**ESRI** | Environmental Systems Research Institute

**ETJ** | Extraterritorial Jurisdiction

FAR | Floor Area Ratio

**FEMA** | Federal Emergency Management Agency

**FLUM** | Future Use Land Map

FM | Farm to Market Road

**GIS**| Geographic Information System

**HB** | House Bill

**HOA** | Homeowner's Association

**HUD** | Housing and Urban Development

**ISD** | Independent School District

135W | Interstate 35W

LGC | Local Government Code

**MMD** | Municipal Management District

MTP | Master Thoroughfare Plan

NCTCOG | North Central Texas Council of Governments

P&Z | Planning & Zoning Commission

PD | Planned Development

**PID** | Public Improvement District

R&D | Research & Development

**ROW** | Right-of-Way

**SF** | Square Feet

SH | State Highway

**SUP** | Special Use Permit

TCEQ | Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

TIF | Tax Increment Financing

TIRZ | Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone

TRA | Trinity River Authority

**TRWD** | Tarrant Regional Water District

**TxDOT** | Texas Department of Transportation

**USACE** | United States Army Corps of Engineers

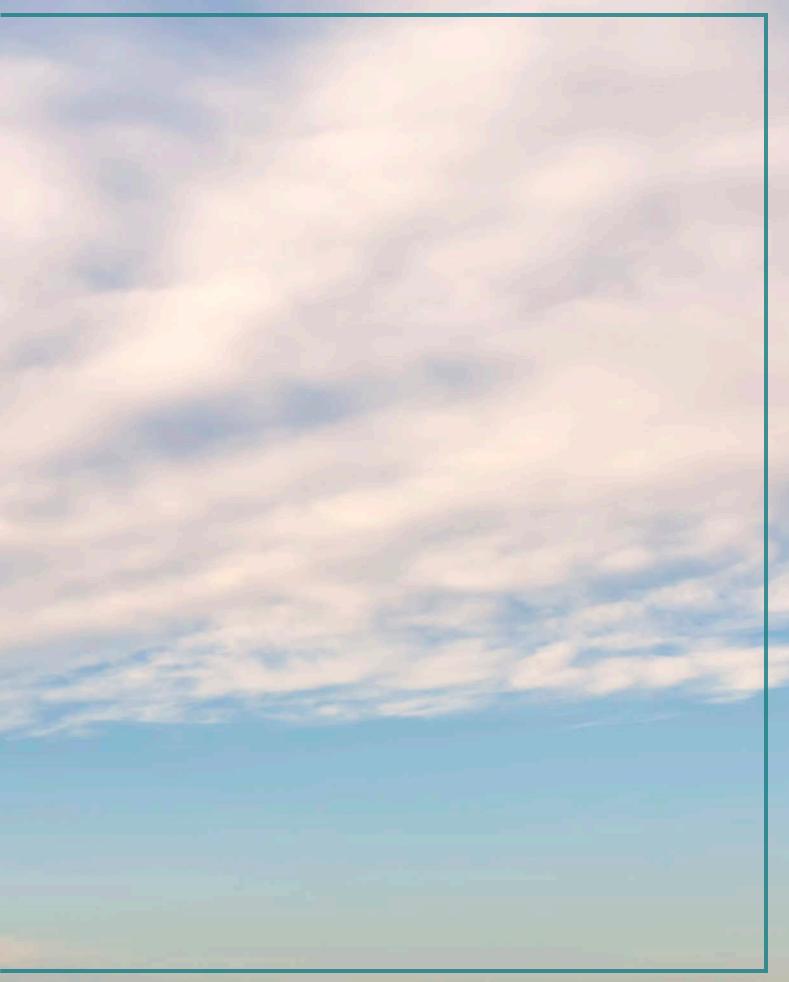
**UTRWD** | Upper Trinity Regional Water District

WUI | Wildland Urban Interface



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#### COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING OVERVIEW

#### WHAT IS A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN?

The Northlake Next 2045 Comprehensive Plan (Plan) is a policy document that articulates a vision, outlines goals and objectives, and recommends specific actions for implementation. It ensures that new development and redevelopment of land, roads, parks, utilities, and public facilities are well-planned and occur in a manner that achieves the desired vision of the community. **One of the primary purposes of a Comprehensive Plan is to guide land use decision-making.** Texas communities are given authority to conduct comprehensive planning in Section 213 of the Texas Local Government Code.

A Comprehensive Plan provides a 20-to-30-year framework for staff and elected and appointed officials to make public policy decisions related to land use, transportation, parks and recreation, capital investments, economic development, and other topics that shape the future growth and sustainability of the community.

#### STUDY LIMITS

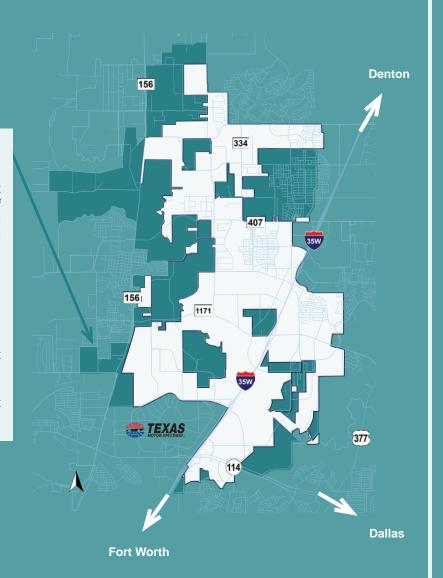
The study limits for the comprehensive plan include the incorporated Town limits and land designated as the Town's extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ).

# EXTRATERRITORIAL JURISDICTION (ETJ)

The area of land lying outside and adjacent to the corporate limits of the Town of Northlake over which the Town of Northlake has limited legal control today but exclusive ability to annex in the future as set forth in Chapter 42 of the Local Government Code.

There are a number of reasons for towns to annex adjacent land. Annexation provides a means for towns to expand their boundaries and their residential and commercial tax bases. It can also result in the more efficient provision of services while also allowing the jurisdiction to extend planning and zoning authority to areas that impact it.





#### THE PLANNING PROCESS

The Comprehensive Planning process should be tailored to the unique issues and opportunities of the community. Typically, this process is broken down into multiple phases with various engagement opportunities to capture the ideas and hopes for the future of Northlake residents and businesses. Over the course of one year, the following phases were complete to establish Northlake Next 2045:



#### PHASE I | EXPLORE

In the first phase, a thorough review was performed of the Town's existing conditions. This included a **community audit and market review** that focused on current demographic and economic trends, as well as existing opportunities and challenges that are present in Northlake. During this phase, a Steering Committee that served as an advisory body to the planning process and outcomes was established.



#### PHASE 2 | ENVISION

Community leaders, stakeholders, and residents were engaged using in-person and online engagement opportunities to **establish a vision for the future** of the community. Feedback gained through focus group meetings, public workshops, and an online survey served as the foundation for the Plan's guiding principles and vision statement, which were established during this phase. A plan website was also created to serve as a repository of engagement opportunities and outcomes.



#### PHASE 3 | GUIDE

Using the land use and engagement analyses established in the previous phases, growth scenarios were created to inform the **future land use map (FLUM)**. Plan themes were also drafted. Finally, a small area plan was developed to establish a framework and location for a potential Town Center.



#### PHASE 4 | ACTIVATE

The final phase focused on developing the recommendations, which serve as the vehicle for achieving the Plan's vision and goals and tracking the Plan's progress. Final revisions based on community feedback were incorporated into the Draft Plan before being presented to the Steering Committee, Planning and Zoning (P&Z) Commission, and Town Council for formal approval and adoption.

This document provides a high-level, graphic overview of the planning process, analysis and outcomes, and recommendations. Additional technical analysis is included in the Appendix.

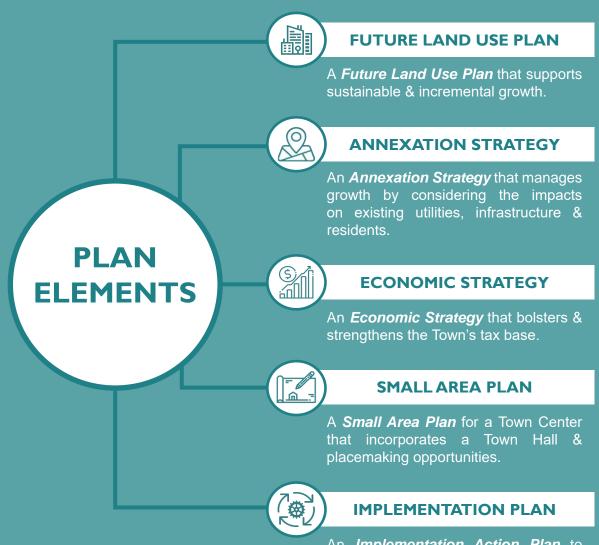
#### **HOW TO USE THIS DOCUMENT**

#### **PLAN SUMMARY**

This Plan document acts as a clear definition for what the Town aims to achieve over the next 20 years and provides an action plan that will help it reach its goals. This includes seven guiding principles, developed based on community input and background research, each with a specific set of goals corresponding to strategies that will be key to the Town achieving its vision for the future. It also includes the Town's Future Land Use Map (FLUM) and Place Types. When new development proposals are submitted to the Town, Staff and Town Council will use the policy framework established in this plan to determine whether the proposal fits with the community-driven vision. The document is flexible and can be amended over time to meet the needs of the community as it evolves.

#### PLAN ELEMENTS

The Plan includes the following elements that provide an overview of the community today and goals and strategies that will help shape the future growth and character of the Town over the next 20 years:



#### RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER PLANS

A sound plan is based on a thorough understanding of community assets and provides a firm footing upon which communities can make decisions about the future investment of their resources. It is important to note that a comprehensive plan does not replace zoning regulations, development codes, capital improvement programs, or other regulatory documents. Instead, the plan is meant to serve as the foundation for updates to those other regulations and implementation tools.

This Plan is an integral part of the Town's planning efforts to meet the needs of its growing community. Current planning efforts and projects that are relevant to the implementation of the Plan are listed below.

#### **PARKS MASTER PLAN (2014)**

#### **COMPREHENSIVE PLAN (2016)**

#### **TOWN COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN (2021)**

#### **UTILITY PROJECTS & STUDIES**

- Impact Fee Study
- Emergency Response Plan
- Emergency Preparedness Plan
- Public Works
  Risk & Resilience
  Assessment

#### **DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS**

- Industrial
- Hotel & Conference Center
- New Schools (K-12 & Sports Facility)
- Indoor Sports Facility

#### **MOBILITY & ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS**

- Roadway & Town Impact Fee Assessment
- Master Thoroughfare Plan & Impact Fee Study
- Monumentation
- Connections & Capacity Improvements



#### **COMMUNITY PROFILE**

#### **PLANNING AREA**

Northlake is a Town located in Denton County, about 13 miles southwest of the Denton's downtown and approximately 25 miles north of Downtown Fort Worth. The Town is connected to the Dallas-Fort Worth (DFW) Metroplex via access to Interstate I35W (I35W), which runs north and south through Northlake, and State Highway 114 (SH 114) which runs east and west through a small portion of southern Northlake. Some of the major landmarks near Northlake include the Alliance Airport and greater Alliance Corridor, as well as the Texas Motor Speedway.

Northlake's total area within Town Limits accounts for 19.1 square miles, with 13.5 additional square miles of ETJ available to annex. Northlake maintains a rural character despite its proximity to a bustling metroplex; however, consideration will need to be taken as to whether the Town would like to preserve this feeling as it inevitably grows. Currently, over 50% of the Town is zoned as rural residential land over five acres, and nearly 25% of the Town is zoned as mixed use/planned development. The Town, in cooperation with the Northlake Community Development Corporation (CDC) and the Northlake Economic Development Corporation (EDC), is preparing for increases in both residential and commercial development activity.

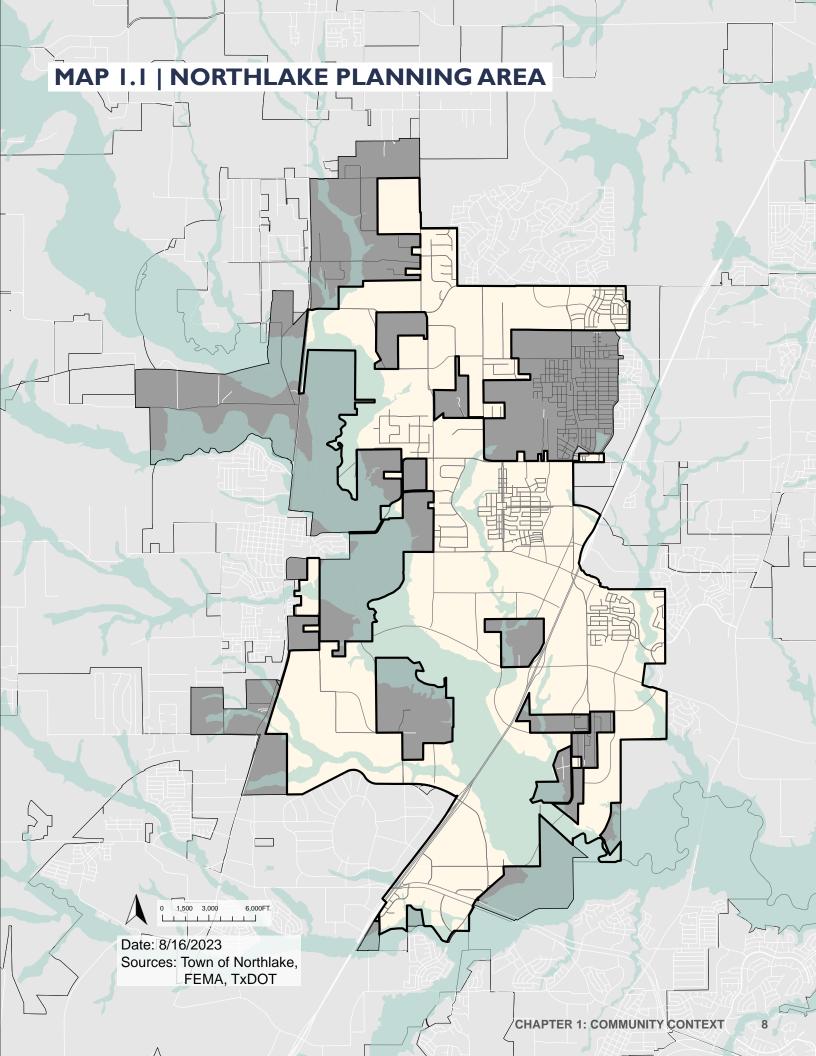
With a 2023 population of 10,430, and a location in one of the fastest growing counties in the country, Northlake can expect to see trends of development pressure as the DFW Metroplex continues to expand toward suburban markets. Additionally, as seen in **Table 1.1**, Northlake's proximity to a variety of surrounding major cities, amenities, and highways position the Town to experience local and regional growth pressures from multiple angles. To grow in an orderly and sustainable way, infrastructure investments will be needed to manage growth and provide the best return on investment of limited public funds.

TABLE I.I   PROXIMITY TO MAJOR LOCATIONS IN THE REGION			
Location	Miles from Town		
Downtown Dallas	40		
Downtown Fort Worth	25		
Downtown Denton	13		
DFW International Airport	17		
Alliance Airport	3		

Source: Google Earth

#### **KEY TAKEAWAYS**

- Northlake has a population of 10,430 people.
- Northlake is approximately 19.1 square miles.
- Northlake's ETJ is 13.5 square miles.
- Northlake's total land area equals 32.6 square miles.

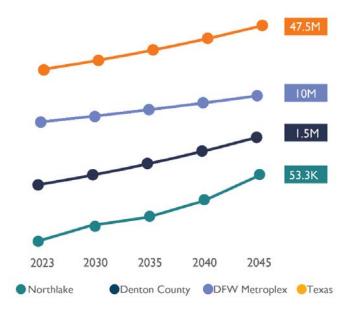


#### **COMMUNITY PROFILE**

#### **GROWTH TRENDS**

The Town of Northlake was incorporated in 1960 for the purpose of controlling its own destiny. In the first 50 years of its incorporation, the Town experienced marginal increases in population, with a recorded population of 20 people as of the 1970 Census and 1,724 residents by the 2010 Census. Since 2010, however, Northlake has experienced a 500% increase in residential growth, reaching a population of 10,430 in 2023. This increase in population mirrors the burgeoning population growth experienced across the State of Texas. In line with the state and Denton County growth trends, Northlake's population growth is expected to persist over the next 20 years. As graphed in Figure 1.1, which is based on recent development and growth trends, Northlake's population is projected to increase to approximately 53,317 by 2045, a 400% increase.

#### FIGURE I.I | DFW GROWTH TRENDS



Source: ESRI



Despite making up only 9% of the country's population, the State of Texas accounted for 32% of the population growth seen in the United States between 2019 and 2020. Texas has forty cities with populations over 100,000 and is projected to reach 52.5 million residents by 2050 according to the Texas Demographic Center. This trend of growth is also mirrored in Denton County.

- **941,647** Denton County Population (2022)
- **7,961,535** DFW Metroplex Population (2022)
- **29,527,941** Texas Population (2022)
- 8,790 Northlake Population (2022)
- **16%** Texas Pop. Growth (2010-2020)
- **20%** DFW Pop. Growth (2010-2020)
- 52.5M Projected Texas Pop. (2050)

52.5M
PROJECTED
TEXAS POP.
(2050)

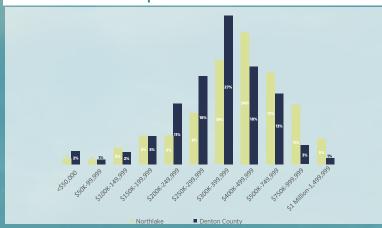
16% TEXAS POP. GROWTH (2010-2020)

20% DFW POP. GROWTH (2010-2020)

#### **DEMOGRAPHIC SNAPSHOT**

The infographics on the following page present a brief overview of demographic trends in Northlake as of 2022. The data was compiled using Esri Advanced Demographics.

FIGURE 1.2 | MEDIAN HOME VALUE



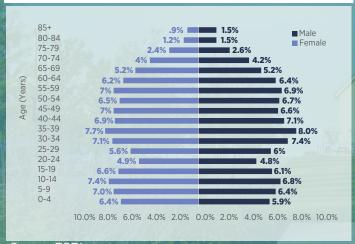
Source: ESRI

FIGURE 1.3 | TRAVEL TIME TO WORK



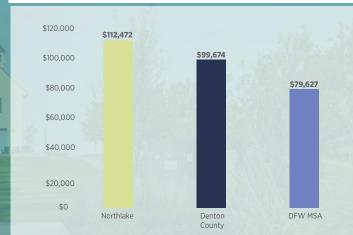
Source: ESRI

FIGURE 1.4 | AGE/SEX RATIO



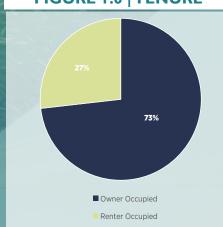
Source: ESRI

FIGURE 1.5| MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME



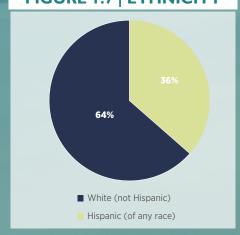
Source: ESRI

FIGURE 1.6 | TENURE



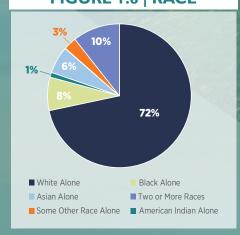
Source: ESRI

FIGURE 1.7 | ETHNICITY



Source: ESRI

FIGURE 1.8 | RACE



Source: ESRI

#### LAND USE CONDITIONS

#### **CURRENT ZONING**

Zoning regulations serve as the basis for applying land use goals and development standards for different areas or districts across the Town. It is a tool that ensures that land uses are located appropriately and provide synergistic and compatible uses to surrounding land uses. Zoning regulations create site-specific requirements for the types of development that are allowed. Traditional components of zoning regulations include the use of the property, intensity and density, and the design of site features like landscaping, parking, or setbacks.

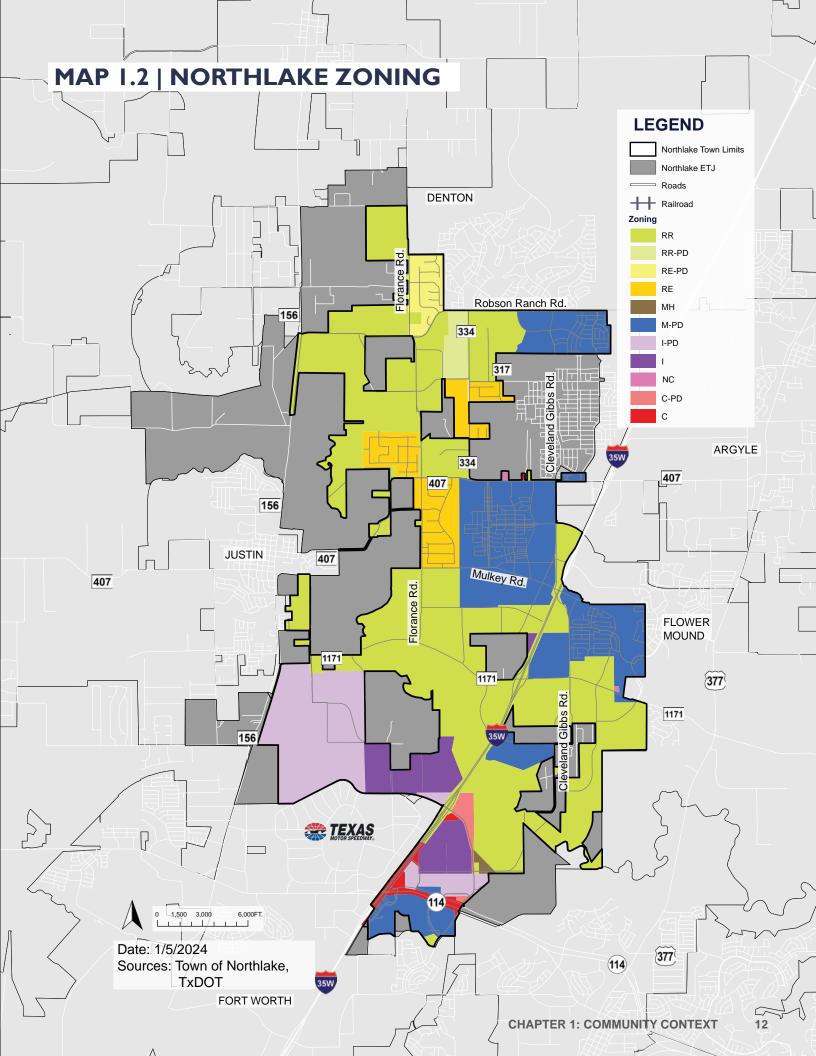
The Town of Northlake contains eleven zoning districts, including five residential categories, three commercial, two industrial, and one mixed-use zone. **Rural Residential (minimum 5 acres) accounts for over 50% of Northlake's incorporated area.** Mixed-Use/Planned Development makes up the second largest share of zoning districts at 22%. **Table 1.2** Provides a breakdown of the zoning districts within the Town.

There are 118 Special Use Permits (SUPs) throughout Town, the majority of which are for gas wells. Additionally, the Town of Northlake has allowed a significant portion of its development in the past decade to occur through the use of Planned Developments (PD). These methods allow developers a great deal of flexibility, and also allow the Town to closely work with developers to provide a master planned project that can better align with the goals and objectives in the comprehensive plan. The reliance on PDs and subsequent increase in staff coordination and review could be reduced however if the base zoning district regulations were updated to better align with the intended character of future growth.

TABLE 1.2   NORTHLAKE ZONING DISTRICTS			
Zoning	Acres	Percentage	
Rural Residential (RR) (Min. 5 ac)	6,188.53	50.6%	
Mixed-Use\Planned Development (M-PD)	2,689.14	22.0%	
Industrial\Planned Development (I-PD)	1,297.85	10.6%	
Rural Estate (RE) (Min. 1 ac)	787.41	6.4%	
Industrial (I)	622.22	5.1%	
Rural Estate\Planned Development (RE-PD) (Min. 1 ac)	236.09	1.9%	
Rural Residential\ Planned Development (RR-PD)	151.40	1.2%	
Commercial (C)	139.90	1.1%	
Commercial Planned Development (C-PD)	83.02	0.7%	
HUD Code Manufactured Housing (MH)	22.25	0.2%	
Neighborhood Commercial (NC)	8.99	0.1%	
Total	12,226.80	100%	

#### **KEY TAKEAWAYS**

- The largest land use category is Rural Residential (5+ Acres), encompassing **50.6**% of Town Limits.
- Mixed-Use/Planned Development makes up 22.0% of the land within Town Limits.
- There are I 18 parcels that have Special Use Permits, most of which are for gas well sites.



#### TRANSPORTATION & MOBILITY

#### **CURRENT THOROUGHFARE NETWORK**

Northlake's existing thoroughfare network consists of 145 miles of local, state, and interstate roads, creating connections to the surrounding region and access to the Town's neighborhoods, facilities, and commercial developments. I35W runs along the southeast quadrant of Northlake, providing access to Northlake's major commercial and industrial employers and connecting Northlake's residents to regional job centers, attractions, and transportation hubs. On the western edge of the Town, FM 156 provides north-south access along the western boundary of Northlake's limits, cutting through the Town's ETJ.

Other major north-south connections include Cleveland-Gibbs Road and Florance Road, however, both roads are fragmented, preventing complete north-south access across Northlake. The Town's major east-west connectors include FM 407, FM 1171, and SH 114. Similar to major north-south connections, many of the east-west connections are bifurcated, inhibiting direct access across the community. Notably, local roads are primarily circumscribed to the Town's existing subdivisions in eastern and northern portions of the Town.

#### STREET CLASSIFICATIONS •

The following functional classifications of streets as defined by the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) currently provide access to and within Northlake's town limits and ETJ:

#### **INTERSTATE HIGHWAYS**

Principal/Interstate arterials are designed and constructed with mobility and long-distance travel in mind. These roads provide the highest level of mobility and the highest speeds over the longest uninterrupted distance. Interstates nationwide usually have posted speeds between 55 and 75 mph. Design types are interstate, other freeways, and other principal arterials.

#### **ARTERIALS**

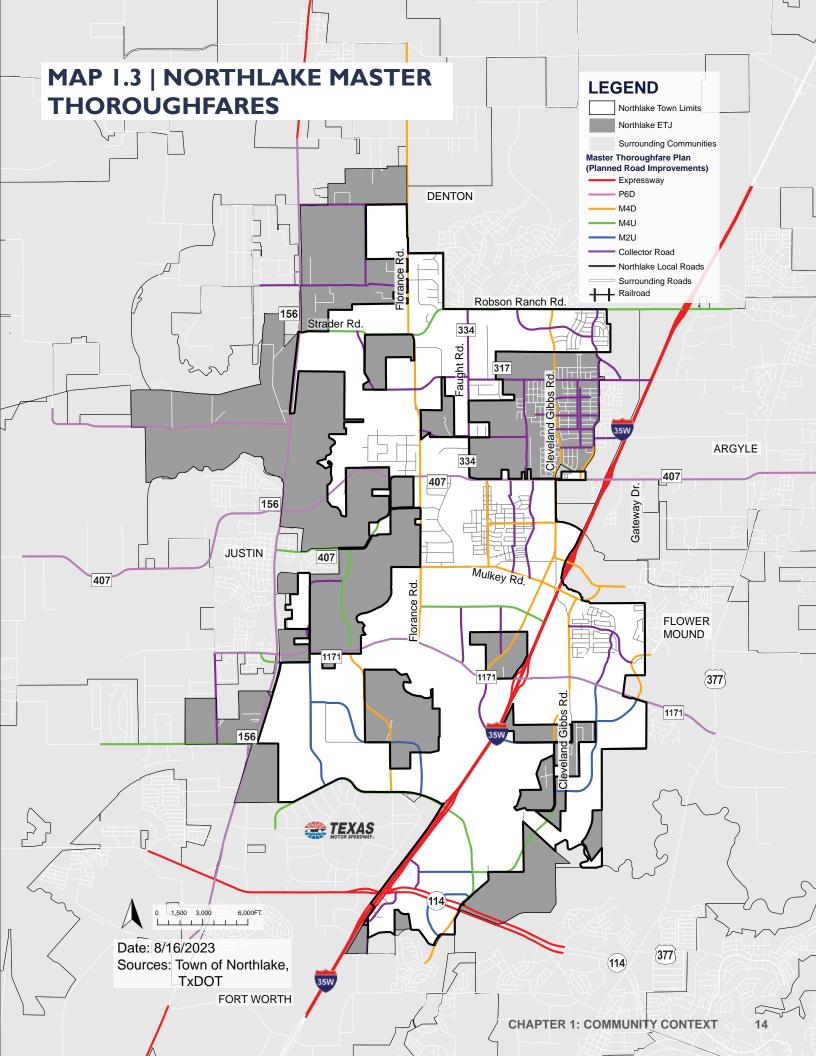
Arterials support trips of moderate length at a lower level of mobility than Interstates. Arterials may carry local bus routes and provide intra-community continuity but do not penetrate neighborhoods.

#### **COLLECTORS**

Collectors are major and minor roads that connect local roads and streets with arterials. Collectors provide less mobility than arterials at lower speeds and for shorter distances. They balance mobility with land access and the posted speed limit on collectors is usually between 35 and 55 mph.

#### **LOCAL STREETS**

Local roads provide direct access to adjacent land within a community and are not intended for long-distance travel. They support through access to residential areas, businesses, amenities, and other local areas. These roads give access to adjacent land by the lowest traffic volumes, between 20 and 45 mph, in the network and make-up the greatest percentage of the Town's entire transportation network and are usually intended to prevent through traffic.



#### TRANSPORTATION & MOBILITY

#### **CURRENT THOROUGHFARE NETWORK**

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) manages many of the existing and planned roads in Northlake providing the north/south and east/west principal arterials. The Town manages the minor arterials, collectors and local streets interconnecting the TxDOT roadways. With the increase in development and population growth, local and state efforts are focused on projects that improve the overall circulation, safety, and capacity within Northlake and neighboring communities. The Town adopted Master Thoroughfare Plan (MTP) updates in January 2022, prioritizing numerous alignment and capacity opportunities across the roadway network.

The Town is working with TxDOT, Denton County, and local developers to complete the following key roadway improvements:

- FM 407 capacity improvements between FM 1830 and FM 156
- FM 407 breakout capacity improvements between Gateway Drive and Cleveland-Gibbs Road
- FM 1171 West between I35W and FM 156
- SH 114 East between US 377 and I35W
- Cleveland-Gibbs Road south of FM 1171
- · Harmonson Road north of Victory Circle
- Faught Road between FM 407 and Robson Ranch Road
- Strader Road between Florance Road and FM 156
- Mulkey Road between Cleveland-Gibbs Road and Florance Road

#### **KEY TAKEAWAYS**

- There are 145 miles of roadway within the Town limits and ETJ that are managed by both TxDOT and the Town. The median commute time is 24.7 minutes.
- Almost 50% of Northlake's residents commute 30 minutes or more a day.
- Northlake is primarily comprised of residential uses, resulting in 70% of employed residents commuting out of the Town for work.
- There are no alternative modes of transportation, making automobiles the primary mode of transportation in Northlake.

#### **MOBILITY & CONNECTIVITY**

Northlake does not have direct access to public transportation options provided by Denton County Transportation Authority's (DCTA) (e.g. GoZones, bus networks), making automobiles the primary mode of transportation. As illustrated in Figure 1.9, approximately 70% of Northlake's employed residents commute outside of the Town limits for work. The median commute time is 27.4 minutes, which is less than both Denton County and the DFW region. However, Table 1.3 points out that almost half of the community, (49.8%) drives 30 minutes or more to commute to and from work. While the Town has a Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan that identifies a future trail plan, active or passive trails have primarily been developed as part of new subdivisions. Pedestrian and multimodal infrastructure (i.e., sidewalks and multi-use paths) are created with the development of new subdivisions, making the multi-use paths and sidewalks privately managed.

#### **ALTERNATIVE MODES OF** TRANSPORTATION

Incorporating "Complete Street" elements to future and existing roadways contributes to safer traffic patterns and encourages better habits among drivers, resulting in safer access between local destinations for all uses of the road. Street design elements can also establish clear delineations between the rural areas and areas targeted for future growth opportunities within Northlake. Complete Streets take a context sensitive approach to designing the right-of-way (ROW), so the streetscape design and elements support the surrounding characteristics of the adjacent land uses. Complete Street elements that are potentially feasible in Northlake include the following:

PEDESTRIAN SIGNALS

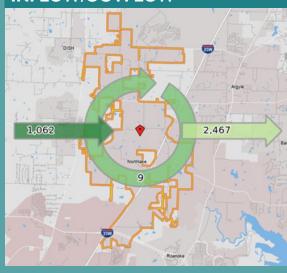
**SIDEWALKS** 

ON-STREET BIKEWAYS

**MEDIAN ISLANDS** 

CURB EXTENSIONS | SHARED-USE PATHS

#### FIGURE 1.9 | 2020 JOB COUNT INFLOW/OUTFLOW



#### TABLE 1.3 | TRAVEL TIME TO WORK

Time	Percentage
Less than 5 min	1.90%
5-9 min	9.70%
10-14 min	6.00%
15-19 min	9.30%
20-24 min	14.50%
25-29 min	8.80%
30-34 min	19.60%
35-39 min	6.30%
40-44 min	2.60%
45-59 min	17.80%
60-89 min	3.50%

#### **COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE**

#### **PARKS & RECREATION**

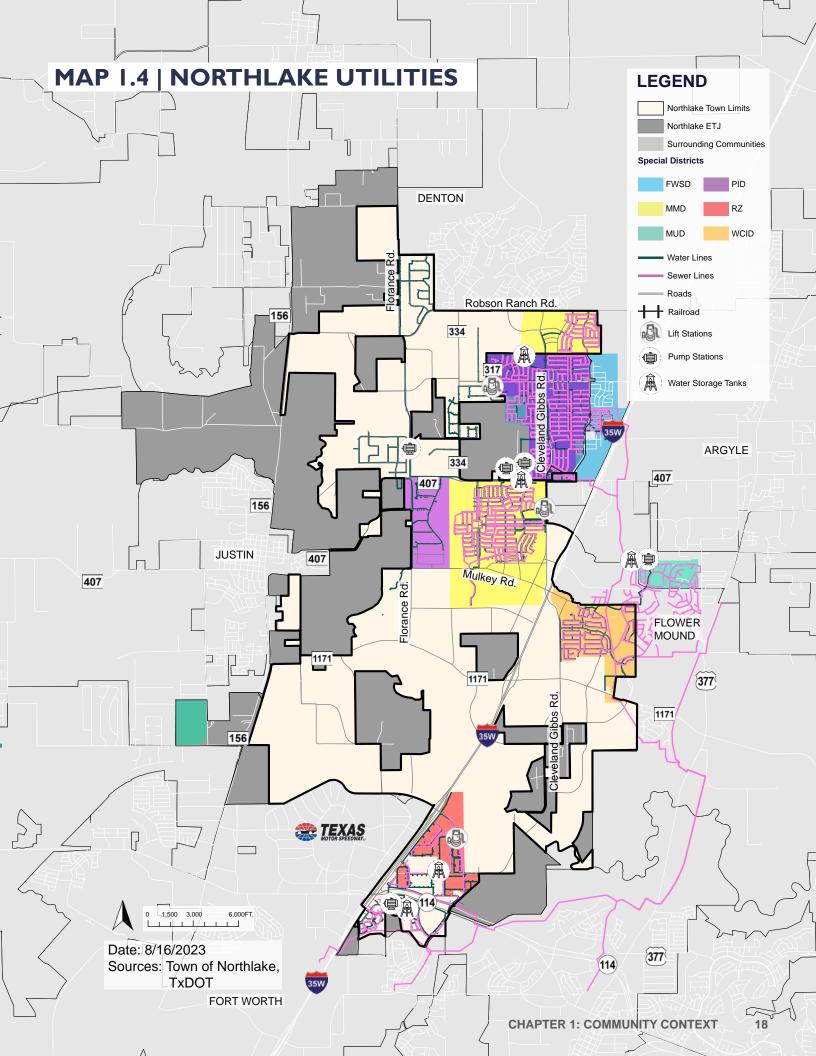
The Town of Northlake currently does not have a Parks and Recreation System. As a result, there are no publicly managed parks or trails, or any recreational open space areas managed by the Town. All existing dedicated parks, amenities, and open space lots are currently owned and/or maintained by the respective Homeowner Association's (HOA) to which they belong. Parks and recreational areas are generally located within the master planned communities throughout the Town. These lots amount to 271.8 acres of land and include both active and passive uses like playgrounds, sidewalks, activity spaces, and general open space.

#### **UTILITIES & FACILITIES**

The Town's drinking water is obtained from the Upper Trinity Regional Water District (UTRWD), and the City of Fort Worth's surface water system. The northern subdivisions are supplied by UTRWD for Lake Lewisville. The 2021 Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Water Quality Report determined that Northlake's drinking water meets and exceeds all state and federal quality laws. The Northlake Water System consists of 143.3 miles of water lines, and 131.4 miles of sewer pipes. This includes connections with surrounding communities and water systems. There are four ground storage tanks, two elevated storage tanks, four pump stations, and three lift stations.

Northlake is also served by seven Special Districts which are geographic subdivisions established to provide services and/or infrastructure to an area or neighborhood like water lines, sewer lines, roads, sidewalks, trails and landscaping, and drainage infrastructure. Property owners within a Special District may pay an additional property tax or assessment to support the district. These include Fresh Water Supply Districts, Municipal Management Districts, Municipal Utility Districts, Public Improvement Districts, Reinvestment Zones, and Water Control and Improvement Districts. These districts serve existing communities within Northlake.





#### **COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE**

#### **DESIGNING FOR RESILIENCE**

The Town has recently made efforts to increase its resiliency and mitigate future problems, particularly when dealing with its water and wastewater systems. This includes the adoption of an Emergency Response Plan (ERP) and Emergency Preparedness Plan (EPP), which provide pre-planned solutions and responses for unexpected natural and man-made hazards as well as power outages. These plans were both informed by a Risk and Resilience Assessment that analyzed the Town's water system for its ability to provide clean, plentiful water through a natural or man-made disaster.

As the Town establishes its growth trajectory, consideration should be given to environmental factors that impact the community's overall safety and resilience. Notably, future land use priorities need to identify and assess the Town's risk of fire and flooding within its natural preservation and future growth areas.

#### WILDFIRE RISK

The Wildland Urban Interface (WUI), developed by the U.S. Fire Administration, is the area where homes and other structures are built in or near natural vegetation and forests, which poses a risk for wildfires. The data shows that the Town of Northlake has a total of 3,742.51 acres, or 32.78% of its land, that falls within the WUI. **Table 1.4** provides an overview of housing density per acre.

Overall, the data suggests that in the Town of Northlake much of its land that falls within the WUI, and a significant portion of that land has a higher density of homes. This has the potential to increase the risk of wildfire. It may be necessary for the Town to implement measures to mitigate the risk of wildfire in these areas, such as increased education and awareness, stricter building codes, zoning regulations, and landscape planting and maintenance considerations.

TABLE 1.4   RESIDENTIAL ACRES EXPOSED TO WUI				
<b>Exposure</b> (Ratio of Homes per Acre)	Acres	Percentage		
Less than 1:40 acres	1228.29	10.76%		
1:40 to 1:20 acres	871.90	7.64%		
1:20 to 1:10 acres	624.17	5.47%		
1:10 to 1:5 acres	611.89	5.36%		
1:5 to 1:2 acres	276.90	2.43%		
1:2 to 3:1 acre	129.37	1.13%		
TOTAL	3742.51	32.78%		

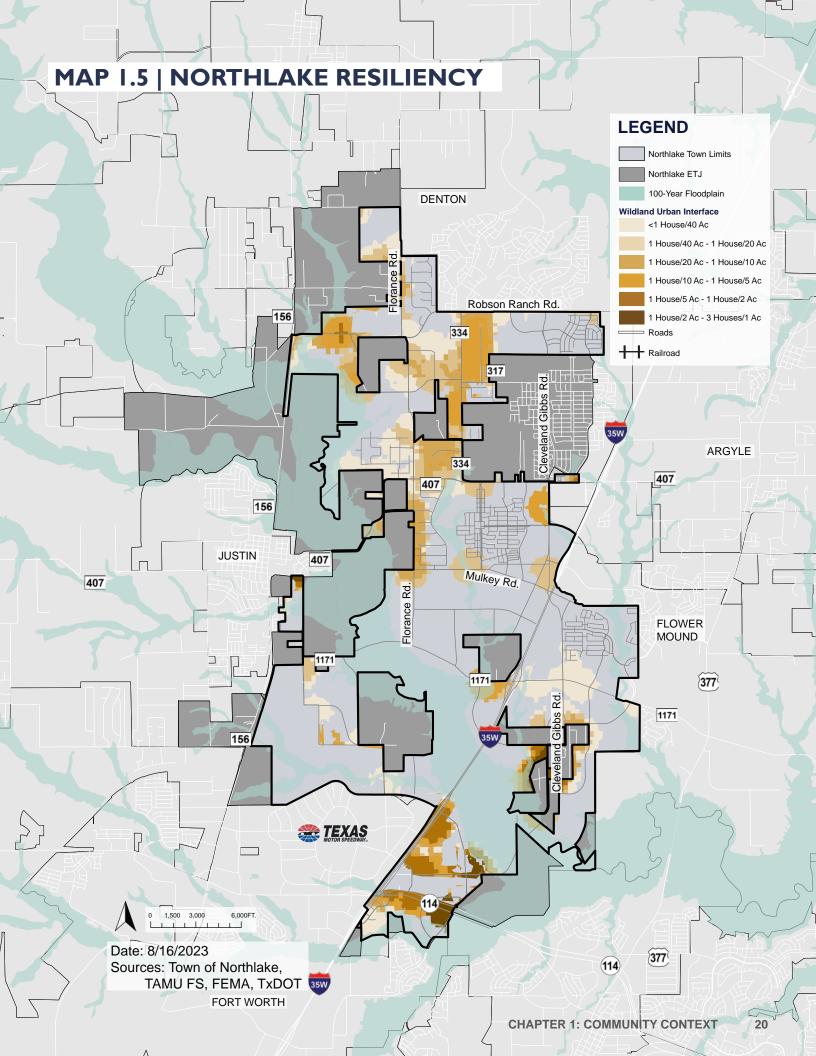
#### **FLOODPLAIN & FLOOD RISK**

While the Town does not have any significant water bodies within its limits, Northlake is less than 10 miles from Lake Grapevine. Denton Creek is a stream that originates from Lake Grapevine and runs through Northlake. The location and path of this stream mirrors the geography of the 100 year-floodplain that is mapped for the area. Northlake's Town Limits have approximately 2,643 acres within the 100-year floodplain. This accounts for 23.16% of the Town, with a lot of that land zoned as rural residential. In addition, a large portion of the Town's ETJ is also located within the floodplain, which has potential impacts if that land is annexed and developed.

Another sizable portion of the Town's land is owned by the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). The relationship between the Town and USACE is important so that Northlake can get the most out of its parkland and open spaces, especially considering the Town does not currently own much parkland. Creeks, streams, and floodplains provide opportunities to implement recreational features such as nature parks, trails, and open space. They also pose the opportunity to utilize unique ecosystem benefits that can improve the drainage and resilience of the Town as a whole.

The 100-year floodplain accounts for approximately 23% of the Town's incorporated land.

Over **30**% of the Town's residential land area is vulnerable to wildfires.



#### **FUTURE DEVELOPMENT TRENDS**

Northlake has developed a strong business community due to a combination of its strategic location, probusiness environment, diverse economy, and highly skilled workforce. These factors have helped the Town attract and retain businesses from a variety of industries, making it a hub of economic activity in Denton County and the North Fort Worth region. Today, Northlake has more than 5M square feet (SF) of industrial and over 75K SF of retail space occupied.

As previously discussed, Northlake has experienced significant growth in recent years due to its proximity to major highways, such as I35W and SH 114, as well as the development of Alliance Texas and Texas Motor Speedway in Fort Worth. Since the last comprehensive plan, Northlake has grown in population by more than 250% and has added more than 2M SF of industrial per year. Despite this growth, many residents still lack access to daily needs and desired services such as sit-down restaurants, medical services, and groceries. In addition to nearby industrial jobs and regional attractions and amenities, Northlake's rural character and planned neighborhoods are also attracting more residents.

Given these factors and projected population growth trends, Northlake is expected to experience significant growth in both households and household income in the coming years, which is likely to drive demand for additional retail space to serve the needs of the residents. This presents an opportunity for retailers and developers to work with the Town and plan for providing retail goods and services in the area.

#### **KEY TAKEAWAYS**

- Industrial It is anticipated that Northlake can absorb on average 500K-IM
   SF of industrial per year.
- **For-rent housing** It is estimated that Northlake could capture and absorb 272 units annually of renter-occupied housing, with 54% of the units at a price point of \$2,000.
- For-sale housing It is estimated that Northlake could capture up to 458 new owner-occupied, single family detached units annually with 47% of the units at a price point above \$350K.
- Office Conservatively, Northlake should be able to attract 10-20K SF of corporate offices annually, but also could attract national corporate tenants that can range from 50K to over 500K with appropriate planning.
- Retail There is a potential demand of 265,280 SF of retail space in Northlake currently. By 2027, it is expected that the additional retail demand will increase by 342,924 SF.

#### RESIDENTIAL TRENDS & POTENTIAL DEMAND

TABLE 1.5   TRADITIONAL SINGLE-FAMILY DETACHED DEMAND			
Home Value	Units		
Homes < \$200k	67		
Homes \$200k - \$250k	54		
Homes \$250k - \$350k	120		
Homes \$350k - \$450k	105		
Homes \$450k+	112		
Total Units	458		
Alternative Single-Family Product Demand	86		

Source: US	6 Census,	Catalyst
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TABLE 1.6   ANNUAL MULTI-FAMILY DEMAND		
Rental Rate	Units	
Rental Rate <\$1,000	49	
Rental Rate \$1,000 - \$1,500	34	
Rental Rate \$1,500 - \$2,000	41	
Rental Rate \$2,000+	148	
Total Units	272	
Alternative Multi-Family Product Demand	81	

Source: US Census, Catalyst

#### **OWNER-OCCUPIED HOMES**

One of the main drivers of residential demand in Northlake is its central location and highly amenitized master-planned communities. It is expected that Northlake will continue to experience this rapid growth in the immediate future as people continue to move to the DFW Metroplex. It is estimated that Northlake could capture up to 458 new owner-occupied, single family detached units annually. Tables 1.5 and 1.6 provide an overview of demand by product type by price point. Just under half of the demand (47%) is for units at a price point above \$350k, a total of 217 units annually. There is also demand for an additional 81 owner-occupied units annually in the form of duplex/triplex/fourplex, townhomes, rowhomes, or condos. This represents just under 16% of the owner-occupied demand within Northlake. These annual demand numbers do not represent what the Town of Northlake must absorb but rather represents the amount that Northlake could absorb annually if development of all types and price points were targeted.

#### **RENTER-OCCUPIED HOMES**

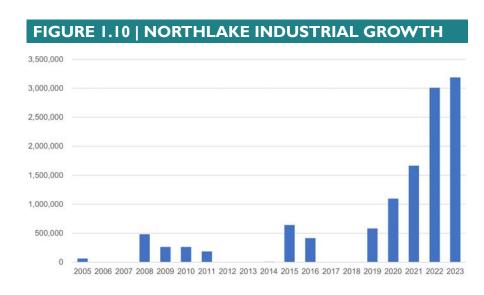
In addition to single-family demand, an analysis of the region was also performed to understand the renter-occupied residential market. As detailed in **Table 1.6**, it is estimated that **Northlake could capture and absorb 272 units annually of renter-occupied housing in the form of multi-family residential.** There is additional capacity for 81 units of renter-occupied housing in other formats such as duplex/triplex/fourplex or single-family build to rent. A majority (54%) of the multi-family demand is for units commanding rents of \$2,000+ per unit. Demand for units with rents of \$1,500+ per unit is at 69%, or 189 units annually.

#### **FUTURE DEVELOPMENT TRENDS**

#### **NON-RESIDENTIAL TRENDS & POTENTIAL DEMAND**

#### **INDUSTRIAL**

Northlake is home to several industrial parks, including the Catherine Branch Industrial District and the Northport Industrial District, which offer a range of facilities for manufacturing, distribution, and other industrial uses. Northlake's frontage along I35W and SH 114 creates a strategic base for future industrial attraction. In addition, Northlake's adjacency to the Alliance Texas development in Fort Worth creates infrastructure for businesses to transport goods and access suppliers and customers in the region.



In recent years, there has been significant market demand for industrial space in Northlake. Notably, **Northlake has a low industrial vacancy rate of 3%.** As noted in **Figure 1.10**, today, Northlake has approximately 5.7M SF of industrial space with an average size facility of 450K SF. There is over 3M SF under construction with 2M constructed in the prior period. Northlake has absorbed an average of 45K SF in 2022. **It is anticipated that Northlake can absorb on average 500K-1M SF of industrial per year.** Future development will be dependent on available development sites and market conditions.

#### **OFFICE**

Today, Northlake only has 41K SF of office space. According to CoStar, Northlake has an additional 10,500 SF under construction. Northlake's market vacancy rate is only 3.9% and has absorbed approximately 4,200 SF in 2023. Northlake is well positioned to build upon the corporate attraction of Alliance Texas and Westlake, which has similar corporate attraction factors of accessibility to talent, Alliance Airport and DFW Airport, and other workforce amenities. Conservatively, Northlake should be able to attract 10-20K SF of corporate office space annually, but could also attract national corporate tenants ranging from 50K to over 500K SF with appropriate planning.

#### **RETAIL**

Today, Northlake has over 75K SF of retail, with an additional unmet retail demand of 190,580 SF. This indicates that there is a potential demand for 265,280 SF of retail space in Northlake currently. By 2027, it is expected that the additional retail demand will increase by 342,924 SF. Looking forward, it is projected that the total supportable retail space will increase from 442,133 SF to 1,013,673 SF by 2030, with retail sales per square foot of \$325. Notably, the Town could capture 60% of the market, with Northlake's supportable retail space expected to increase from 265,280 SF to 608,204 SF by 2030. As previously noted, there is significant growth expected in households and average household income in Northlake over the next decade. It is projected that households will more than double, from 4,027 to 8,159. Furthermore, it is estimated that the average household income may increase from \$148,676 to \$168,232 supporting strong retail spending over this period.







#### **ENGAGEMENT EFFORTS**

To ensure that the updated Plan embodies the vision of the community, an extensive public engagement process was tailored for the Northlake community. Community Touchpoints, or engagement opportunities, were planned throughout the process to gain key feedback from the Town.



#### **STEERING COMMITTEE**

A Steering Committee was created for the Plan to serve as an advisory body to provide balanced opinions on important Town issues, review Plan content, and share input on the vision for the 20-year plan horizon.



#### **JOINT WORKSHOPS**

Joint workshops held in conjunction with Steering Committee meetings were conducted to further involve and engage Elected and Appointed Officials in the Plan process.



#### STAKEHOLDER LISTENING SESSIONS

A series of focus group meetings were held at the beginning of the process to identify common themes and hear unique insights from knowledgeable residents and stakeholders.



#### **PUBLIC MEETINGS**

Three Public Meetings were held at various points in the process to give the Northlake community an interactive opportunity to review draft materials and address key topics related to the Plan.



#### **ONLINE SURVEY**

The Town conducted an Online Survey to reach a broad audience and gain insights on the community's current conditions and preferences for future growth.

#### **ENGAGEMENT TIMELINE**











AUGUST 2023

Public Meeting #3
Recommendation
Review

# SEPTEMBER 2023

Steering
Committee #5
Implementation
Review

# NOVEMBER 2023

Steering
Committee #6
Town Center
Concepts

#### DECEMBER 2023

 Christmas at the Commons Engagement Booth

Joint Work Session with Council and P&Z

#### JAN - FEB 2024

P&Z and Town Council Review and Approval Meetings

#### **ENGAGEMENT KEY FINDINGS**

Community feedback is integral to identifying the Town's needs and defining the future priorities and direction for the community. The information collected during this process goes on to create the foundation from which the goals and recommendations of this Plan are built.

#### **ONLINE SURVEY**

The online survey received 315 responses from the community (3% of the Town's population) over the course of the month it was open.

Major feedback themes that were identified centered around the following topics:

- Active & Healthy Lifestyle
- Commercial Needs
- Parks & Open Space
- Public Gathering Spaces
- Town Events

#### STEERING COMMITTEE

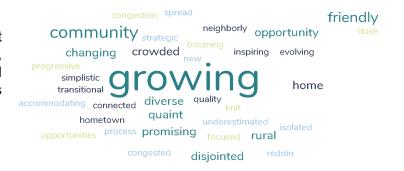
The Steering Committee met six times throughout the process to guide the outcomes of the plan, provide intermediary reviews of draft concepts and recommendations, and help ensure the plan aligns with the goals of the community.

# STAKEHOLDER LISTENING SESSIONS

Listening Session participants were grouped based on the following topics:

- Neighborhood associations, community and philanthropic groups, interest groups
- Developers and landowners
- Business community
- Governmental entities (TxDOT, NCTCOG, County, surrounding communities, school districts, Town departments)
- Other groups

The following is a compilation of the words that participants used to describe **Northlake Today**:



#### **COMMUNITY SURVEY KEY TAKEAWAYS**

- 64% of survey respondents feel a sense of community in Northlake.
- 45% of survey respondents are satisfied with the **direction development has taken** in Northlake over the past few years.
- 12% are dissatisfied with the direction of development.
- 58% of survey respondents identified **quality services** as a neighborhood issue that is very important to them.

#### **PUBLIC MEETINGS**

#### PUBLIC MEETING #1: KICK-OFF WORKSHOP (APRIL 3, 2023)

Purpose: Introduce the community to the planning process and obtain feedback on current needs and priorities for the future.

The most popular needs and priorities highlighted by participants are listed below:

- Town Center
- Natural Recreation Space
- Hike & Bike Trails
- Single-Family Neighborhoods
- Age-Inclusive Programming
- Grocery & Retail Options
- Entertainment & Restaurants
- Traffic Improvements
- Active Amenities
- Public Gathering Space

#### PUBLIC MEETING #2:TOWN CENTER DESIGN WORKSHOP (JUNE 26, 2023)

Purpose: Develop a vision for the Town Center regarding architectural styles, streetscape design, amenity needs, and Town Hall functions.

The most popular preferences that were voted for by participants are listed below:

- Large Venue Space (Town Hall)
- Active Retail
- Courtyard

- Contemporary Building Style
- 2-Story Building Scale
- Wide Sidewalks

- Off-Street Parking
- Setbacks with Parking
- Trails

#### PUBLIC MEETING #3: DRAFT RECOMMENDATION REVIEW (AUGUST 28, 2023)

Purpose: Present the draft future development maps, goals, and strategies for public review and feedback.

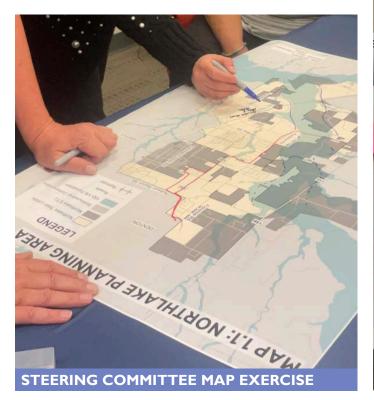
Meeting participants prioritized implementation strategies related to buffer areas, maintaining rural character, coordination with other entities, quality of life amenities, increased road capacity, new Town Hall, attracting grocery and retail businesses, setbacks and design features, and a multi-use trail along Denton Creek.

#### **VISION FRAMEWORK**

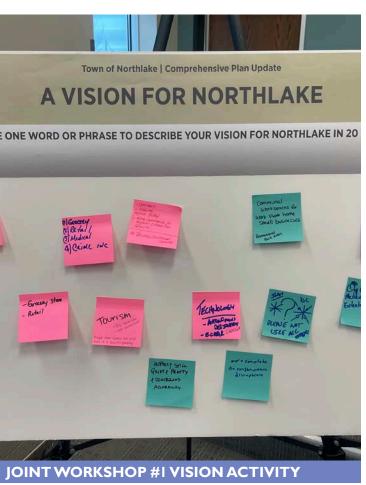
The overarching plan vision was determined based on all feedback that was shared throughout the engagement process. This vision is what provides the framework for Northlake to guide future decisions and make improvements to the Town. It can be broken down into three categories: Guiding Principles, Goals, and Strategies.

The **Guiding Principles** of the Plan were identified and refined by the Steering Committee and include community value statements that tie to key plan themes. A set of **Goals** are associated with each Guiding Principle, which are broad statements of intent. Each Goal outlines a set of **Strategies** that include recommended policies, operational changes, studies, investments, and partnerships with associated timeframe and implementing entities that would help the Town achieve its goals.

The goals and associated strategies are compiled into an implementation program to guide the Town and its partners over the next 20 years. The implementation program is included in **Chapter 5**: **Community Implementation**.



# GOALS STRATEGIES



#### **GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

The Guiding Principles and associated value statements are outlined below. The associated goals and strategies for each guiding principle are described in **Chapter 5**: **Community Implementation**.



#### **Growth Management**

Northlake manages the direction and intensity of development through a thoughtfully planned land use pattern in coordination with utilities and infrastructure to protect the Town's natural spaces and rural heritage while sustaining and enhancing the community's high-quality neighborhoods, amenities, and services.



#### Housing & Neighborhoods

Northlake is a community that welcomes all ages, backgrounds, and abilities, with neighborhoods that give residents a sense of community and access to a range of diverse housing options with amenities, open and recreational space, trail networks, and access to local goods and services and the Town's natural assets.



#### Community Infrastructure

Northlake provides a reliable and modern infrastructure network that establishes a blueprint for future development decisions, affording access to critical utilities and infrastructure, including roadways, public safety services, water, and sewer that serve the basic needs of residents and stakeholders throughout the community.



#### Community Facilities

Northlake ensures a high-quality of life and well-being for all ages and stages of life, providing a range of civic programming, recreation opportunities, and modern technology and facilities that have the capacity to support needs of this evolving and growing community.



#### **Economic Development**

Northlake is a business-friendly community that invites and attracts a diversity of retail offerings, services, and employment opportunities that cater to local needs and create regional attractions, bolstering economic vitality and prosperity for the community.



#### Community Character

Northlake fosters a strong sense of community that celebrates the Town's diversity and natural features through high-quality development standards, branding, well-maintained and connected neighborhoods, and social gathering spaces.



#### Natural Environment

Northlake prioritizes environmental stewardship through the preservation and conservation of the Town's natural resources and features and the implementation of development and mitigation standards that safeguard the community from natural hazards while connecting the community to natural areas and recreational space where possible.

#### FUTURE GROWTH SCENARIOS -

#### SCENARIO PLANNING OVERVIEW

As part of the comprehensive plan process, distinct development scenarios were created to evaluate different ways the Town could grow and develop in the future. Scenario planning is a quantitative process that can help communities better evaluate the benefits and trade-offs of different development patterns. Three development scenarios were generated as part of Northlake Next Comprehensive Plan. These scenarios are described in more detail on pages 35-38 and the scenario maps are included in **Appendix B**.

- 1. Trend Scenario: represents what the Town would look like if recent development trends were to continue.
- 2. Alternative Scenario: represents what the Town could look like with different development policies.
- 3. Preferred Scenario: represents a refinement of both scenarios based on stakeholder feedback.

The below elements were used as inputs for each of the three alternative growth scenarios:

**Existing Land Use** 

**Entitled Parcels** 

Development Agreements

**Existing Zoning** 

Master Thoroughfare Plan

Prior Community Engagement

#### **PLACE-BASED APPROACH**

Each of the three scenarios utilize future land use categories called **place types**, which embody a placed-based approach to future development. Traditional future land use maps don't consider character of development, rather they just focus on separating different land uses. A future land use map that utilizes place types considers how development within an area should look and feel and provides guidance on community design considerations.

Each place type has corresponding appropriate land uses, development characteristics, and density ranges. For Northlake, nine total place types are recommended as described on the facing page.

Additional descriptions of each place type are included in **Chapter 3: Community Development.** 



#### **PLACE TYPES**

#### RURAL RESERVE

- Intended to preserve the Town's larger agricultural spaces and rural heritage.
- Include land uses such as farming, ranching, and other agriculture-related services; supporting farmsteads; and large-lot residential estates.
- Future provision of supporting infrastructure is not projected.

#### SUBURBAN NEIGHBORHOOD

- Provides for low-to-moderate density residential land uses intermixed with areas of supporting commercial development.
- Predominant land uses include single-family detached and attached homes.

#### LIFESTYLE NEIGHBORHOOD

- Includes a variety of residential housing types at slightly higher densities and areas of supporting neighborhood commercial development.
- Includes single family detached and attached dwelling types, and neighborhood retail, institutional, and office use.

#### RURAL ESTATE

- Provides for low-density residential and limited agricultural land uses including ranchettes, themed subdivisions, large-lot single family subdivisions, and conservation subdivisions.
- Large areas within this place type are reserved for resource conservation or open space preservation.

**NEIGHBORHOOD** 

RETAIL

- Intended to provide neighborhood-scale goods and services, including fast casual dining options, healthcare and other professional services, and groceries.
- Commercial land uses are of a scale and character to serve local residential needs.

# LIVABLE CENTER

- Provides a central community gathering space, including neighborhoodscale, commercial and entertainment, and civic activities planned around a highly walkable street grid.
- A mix of denser housing product types, such as townhomes, and small-scale multi-family uses.

#### LIGHT INDUSTRIAL/ COMMERCIAL FLEX

- Provides for areas in the ETJ that are developed or developing as commercial or light industrial uses.
- Sites have limited water and sewer infrastructure.

### CORRIDOR COMMERCIAL

- Includes a mix of horizontal commercial, office, and entertainment uses.
- These areas are defined by large retail and professional service uses, often located in multi-tenant shopping centers and office buildings, as well as hotels, restaurants, and other services.

# INDUSTRIAL INNOVATION

- Supports industrial uses that sustain the Town's tax base.
- Invites corporate headquarters and clean industrial uses, such as R&D, data centers, showrooms, and shipment and warehousing.
- Heavy industrial uses should be limited.

#### **FUTURE GROWTH SCENARIOS**

#### TREND SCENARIO

This scenario looked at predominant development patterns in Northlake over the past five years as the starting point for future growth. The resulting scenario represents what Northlake would look like if current development patterns were continued into the future. In this scenario it is assumed that low-density development characterized in the rural and suburban place types would remain the most prevalent development patterns. This scenario would largely support low-to-moderate residential developments, commercial and office spaces, and a significant portion of industrial uses, all of which can be found to some degree in Northlake today.

#### **Key Attributes:**

- The Town Center is located where existing zoning and entitlements support the land uses of the Livable Center place type.
- All currently entitled development is realized.
- Industrial Innovation is expanded where future industrial development is entitled.
- The Lifestyle Neighborhood place type is contained to existing locations and development agreements.

TABLE 2.1   TREND SCENARIO PROJECTIONS		
Place Type Category	% of Land	
Rural Reserve	23.30%	
Industrial Innovation	20.20%	
Floodplain	19.40%	
Suburban Neighborhood	17.50%	
Rural Estate	10.50%	
Corridor Commercial	5.80%	
Lifestyle Neighborhood	1.50%	
Neighborhood Retail	1.40%	
Livable Center	0.60%	

#### **ALTERNATIVE SCENARIO**

The Alternative Scenario introduces more areas of mixed-use that support moderate to high density residential developments, commercial, retail, and office spaces. The amount of land dedicated to rural place types is generally the same as the Trend Scenario in order to keep the desired rural character in parts of the community. The Alternative Scenario features more urban place types than the Trend Scenario to provide more diverse housing options. This scenario also indicates a higher level of growth with an increased focus on a mix of uses.

#### **Key Attributes:**

- The Livable Center place type is expanded and includes an area on the western side of I35W.
- All currently entitled development is realized.
- There is an increase in Neighborhood Retail place type locations.
- There is more diversity in housing types/ densities.
- The Corridor Commercial place type continues the development pattern along major thoroughfares.

TABLE 2.2   ALTERNATIVE SCENARIO PROJECTIONS		
Land Use Category	% of Land	
Rural Reserve	20.10%	
Floodplain	19.60%	
Industrial Innovation	17.80%	
Suburban Neighborhood	17.60%	
Rural Estate	9.10%	
Corridor Commercial	6.30%	
Lifestyle Neighborhood	5.10%	
Livable Center	2.40%	
Neighborhood Commercial	2.00%	

#### PREFERRED SCENARIO

During the Scenario Workshop, the Steering Committee reviewed the Trend and Alternative Scenarios and participated in exercises to provide their feedback. The resulting Preferred Scenario incorporates refinements from Town staff and Steering Committee feedback.

The Preferred Scenario includes elements from previous scenarios to reflect a future growth pattern that best reflects the community vision. In this scenario the development patterns show what Northlake would look like if there was a balance of rural, suburban, and urban place types. Moderate-to-high density development could be focused along major corridors such as I35W, FM 1171, and in activity centers such as the future Town Center. Additionally, a new place type was added to accommodate lighter industrial uses with a mix of commercial activity primarily found in the ETJ.

TABLE 2.3   PREFERRED SCENARIO PROJECTIONS		
Land Use Category	% of Land	
Rural Reserve	20.00%	
Floodplain	19.80%	
Suburban Neighborhood	17.40%	
Industrial Innovation	16.00%	
Rural Estate	9.70%	
Corridor Commercial	6.10%	
Lifestyle Neighborhood	4.40%	
Light Industrial/Commercial Flex	2.90%	
Livable Center	1.90%	
Neighborhood Commercial	1.80%	



#### **FUTURE GROWTH SCENARIOS -**

#### SCENARIO COMPARISON SUMMARY

Even minor differences between growth scenarios can affect development patterns and make a big impact on the fiscal sustainability of a community's future. **Table 2.4** compares the overall place type breakdown for each of the three growth scenarios, with each scenario projected for the same amount of land area (the existing town limits and ETJ area).

As shown in the table, the Trend Scenario has the highest percentage of the Industrial Innovation and Rural Reserve place types, while the Preferred Scenario has the least. When all scenarios are compared, the Alternative Scenario has the highest percentage of the Lifestyle Neighborhood place type, although the preferred scenario would have a greater amount than the Trend Scenario. The addition of the Light Industrial/ Commercial Flex place type to the Preferred Scenario accounts for 3.8% of Northlake's total land use. This has a slight impact on the rest of the land use categories and positions the Preferred Scenario as the middle ground between the two alternative scenarios.

TABLE 2.4   SCENARIO COMPARISON					
Place Type Category	Trend Scenario		Preferred Scenario		Alternative Scenario
Rural Reserve	23.3%	>	20.0%	<	20.1%
Rural Estate	10.5%	>	9.7%	>	9.1%
Light Industrial/Commercial Flex	<del>-</del>	: - :	2.9%	· - i	-
Suburban Neighborhood	17.5%	>	17.4%	<	17.6%
Neighborhood Commercial	1.4%	<	1.8%	<	2.0%
Corridor Commercial	5.8%	<	6.1%	<	6.3%
Lifestyle Neighborhood	1.5%	<	4.4%	<	5.1%
Livable Center	0.6%	<	1.9%	<	2.4%
Industrial Innovation	20.2%	>	16.0%	<	17.8%
Other					
Floodplain	19.4%	<	19.8%	>	19.4%

#### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

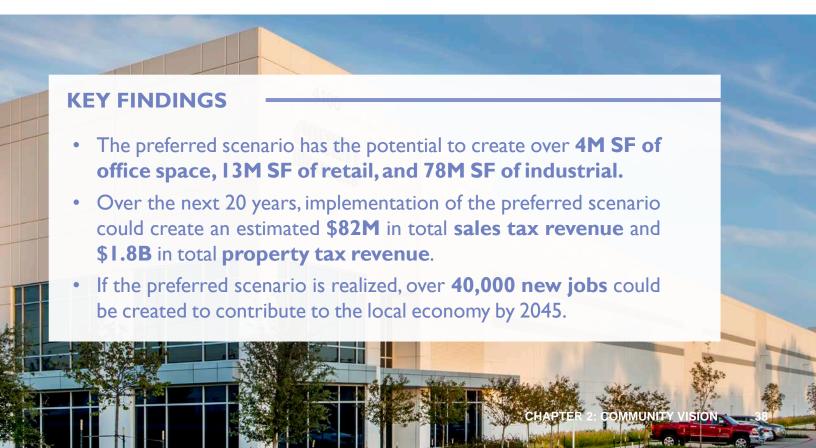
In order to understand the potential fiscal impact the preferred scenario could have over the next 20 years, an analysis was conducted to determine the potential revenue that could be generated through annual property and sales taxes. A series of assumptions were utilized to conduct the fiscal analysis as listed below. Additional detail about the assumptions and analysis can be found in **Appendix B**.

- Breakdown of land uses (residential, office, retail, industrial, open space) for each place type.
- Floor Area Ratio (FAR) to estimate land coverage for each place type.
- Annual absorption estimates for residential, office, retail, and industrial uses.
- City, County, school district, and municipal management district tax rates.
- Single-family and multi-family unit average household size.
- Value per square foot for residential, office, retail, and industrial uses.
- Jobs per square foot for office, retail, and industrial.

Table 2.5 depicts the projected land use program for 2045 for residential, office, retail, and industrial uses. The figures shown in the table represent the additional number of residential units or office, retail, and industrial square footage the preferred scenario would bring beyond what exists in Northlake today.

The resulting fiscal analysis estimated how much additional residential, office, retail, and industrial would come online each year and applied the value and tax rate assumptions to calculate the estimated net fiscal benefits for each year out to 2045.

TABLE 2.5   PREFERRED SCENARIO LAND USE PROGRAM		
Land Use	Units or SF	
Single-Family Residential	24,500 units	
Multi-Family Residential	2,800 units	
Office	4,500,000 SF	
Retail	13,300,000 SF	
Industrial	78,600,000 SF	



# 03 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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#### **FUTURE DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

Illustrated in Map 3.1, Northlake's Future Development Map outlines the preferred future development pattern within the town limits and ETJ. The place types established for Northlake guide the character, development intensity, and distribution of land uses so that the overall vision for the Town can be achieved. Table 3.1 provides a breakdown of the percentage of the total land area within the town limits and ETJ for each place type.

As Northlake continues to grow, consideration must be given to accommodating the projected growth likely to be seen in the Town. The Preferred Growth Scenario, created during the scenario planning process (see **Chapter 2: Community Vision**), was used in the planning process to inform the Future Development Map. The distribution of place types on the Future Land Use Map reflects the key attributes developed in the Preferred Growth Scenario including:

- Land use pattern around the Livable Center place type that provides for transition to residential place types, fostering vibrant neighborhoods with amenities.
- Preservation of the floodplain throughout the entire planning area.
- Concentration of the lifestyle neighborhood place type along the major commercial corridors only, to preserve the balance of land uses and densities desired by the community.

The place type boundaries shown in **Map 3.1** represent approximate locations. When proposed development or redevelopment projects come forward, the Town should use discretion when determining which place type parameters should be applied to parcels that have more than one place type identified.

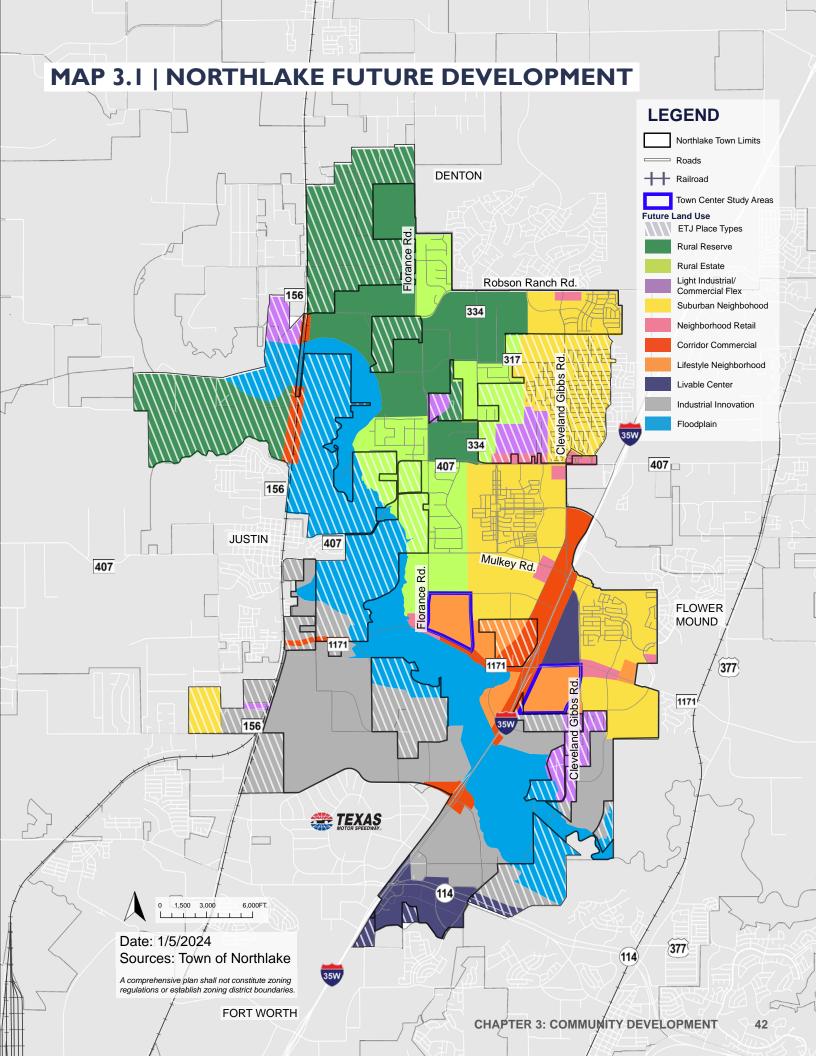
It is important to note that the Future Development Map does not constitute zoning regulations or establish zoning district boundaries, but it should serve as the foundation for future updates to the zoning regulations.

Updates and amendments to the Future Development Map are discussed in **Chapter 5: Community Implementation**.

	TABLE 3.1   PLACETYPE BREAKDOWN			
	Place Type Category	Town Limits (%)	ETJ (%)	Total (%)
	Rural Reserve	8.6	11.4	19.9
	Rural Estate	6.7	2.9	9.6
	Light Industrial/Commercial Flex	0.1	2.9	3.0
	Suburban Neighborhood	11.8	5.0	16.8
	Neighborhood Retail	1.1	0.3	1.4
	Corridor Commercial	2.7	1.8	4.5
	Lifestyle Neighborhood	2.9	0.4	3.3
	Livable Center	2.7	0.6	3.3
	Industrial Innovation	12.0	5.9	17.9
Otl	Other			
	Floodplain	9.6	10.7	20.3

# TOWN CENTER SMALL AREA PLAN FOCUS AREAS

Today, the Town of Northlake does not have a true Town Center, nor does it have a historic downtown to build upon. Throughout the process, members of the community have voiced the need for a centralized community gathering space and more retail options. A well-planned downtown has the potential to become the heart of Northlake and can attract new businesses and visitors to the area. Recent and future growth trends justify the investment in a centralized Town Hall, which can become a strong foundation for a Town Center. There are two locations in Map 3.1 shown as the Livable Center place type that represent different options for a future Town Center. Additional details about the Town Center planning process and design concept is included in Chapter 4: Town Center.



#### COMMUNITY PLACE TYPES -

There are nine recommended place type categories that provide guidance for new development and redevelopment, describing the typical mix of land uses and design characteristics, as well as categories that preserve and enhance the Town's existing neighborhoods and natural assets.

During the planning process, Northlake's ETJ was included in the planning area for the development of the Future Development Map. However, due to recent changes in state law, unilateral annexations are no longer possible for most Texas municipalities. Any annexation within a community's ETJ must be voluntary and led by landowners. As the plan focuses on long-term growth, it is beneficial to establish preferred development patterns that align with fiscal responsibility goals and accommodate projected growth within the ETJ. The Future Development Map therefore identifies recommended place types for these areas, which would be considered in the case of voluntary annexation. This allows for the establishment of future development parameters in line with the long-term community vision for these areas.

#### PLACE TYPE ATTRIBUTES

Place Types describe the way different areas of the community could look and work to meet future goals, market potential, and the vision established by the community. **Table 3.2** describes each of the attributes and the following pages describe each of the nine place types in more detail using these attributes. The density range, building height, supported land uses, and compatible zoning are all related to the overall character and form of the place type.

TABLE 3.2   PLACE TYPE ATTRIBUTES		
Attribute Definition		
Objective	Provides a brief description of the purpose and intended character of the Place Type.	
Density Range	Outlines the minimum or maximum lot size or Floor Area Ratio (FAR) associated with each Place Type. Density Range is measured in Dwelling Units per Acre (DUA) for residential place types and the percentage of the lot that is covered by buildings for non-residential place types.	
Building Height	Describes the maximum building height, by number of stories, that is appropriate for each Place Type.	
Supported Land Uses	Provides a list of land uses that are best suited for the Place Type. In most cases, more than one land use is appropriate within a single Place Type.	
Compatible Zoning Districts	Lists existing zoning districts that may support some or all of the identified land uses. Since some of the Place Types represent new types of development, there are some instances where there are not existing zoning categories that fit, therefore new zoning categories would need to be created.	
Community Design Considerations	Outlines design considerations for each Place Type related to, but not limited to, screening, circulation, building form, and landscaping. These preliminary design considerations should serve as a framework for future updates to the Town's development regulations.	







#### **RURAL RESERVE**



#### **Objective**

The Rural Reserve place type is intended to preserve the Town's larger agricultural spaces and rural heritage. These areas include a mix of land uses such as farming, ranching, and other agriculture-related services; supporting farmsteads; and large-lot residential estates. Natural features, such as native landscaping, trees, passive trails, and open spaces, should serve as buffers between other development types neighboring these agricultural spaces and to protect the 100-year floodplain. Suburban or urban development is not anticipated in these areas, and therefore future infrastructure development is not projected.

#### **CHARACTER & FORM**

#### Density Range

Minimum lot size = 5 to 20 acres (0.2 DUA); 1-acre lots could be allowed through clustered residential development if the 0.2 DUA average density is maintained

#### **Building Height**

One to Two Stories

#### Supported Land Uses

- Agricultural or Ranch Lands
- Natural Areas & General Open Space
- Single-Family Dwellings (Detached)

#### Compatible Zoning Districts

- Rural Residential (RR)
- Agricultural (A)
- Conservation Residential Overlay (CRO)

- Promote land conservation and agricultural activities
- Maintain local, two-way streets and mitigate stormwater impacts through green street design
- Locate residential development in a manner that does not disrupt the economic viability of agricultural operations
- All structures should be sited out of the 100-year floodplain
- Incorporate fencing and screening standards (manufactured and natural)
- Contain spill lighting to curb light pollution
- Allow for cluster development in which 1-acre lots are allowed as long as an average density of 0.2 DUA is maintained throughout the larger open space area

#### **COMMUNITY PLACE TYPES**







#### **RURAL ESTATE**



#### Objective

The Rural Estate place type provides for low-density residential and limited agricultural land uses including ranchettes, large-lot single family subdivisions, and conservation subdivisions. Open space within this place type are reserved for resource conservation or habitat preservation. Low-impact and green infrastructure, including tree canopies, bioswales, permeable surfaces, planter boxes, and vegetated curb extensions can be incorporated to minimize flooding. Sidewalk and multi-use path connections should be made where possible.

#### **CHARACTER & FORM**

Density Range

Lot Size Range = 1 to 5 Acres (0.8 DUA Avg)

**Building Height** 

One to Two Stories

#### Supported Land Uses

- Single-Family Dwellings (Detached)
- Ranchettes
- Estates
- Accessory Dwelling Units

#### Compatible Zoning Districts

- Rural Estates (RE)
- Rural Estate/Planned Development (RE-PD)

- Minimize grading activity and design new development in a manner that best utilizes existing topography
- Mitigate stormwater impacts through green street design
- Limit extensions of water and sewer infrastructure to only serve small-scale development activity
- Provide a continuous system of open space throughout new development
- All structures should be sited out of the 100-year floodplain







#### LIGHT INDUSTRIAL/COMMERCIAL FLEX



#### **Objective**

The Light Industrial/Commercial Flex place type provides for areas in the ETJ that are developed or developing as commercial or light industrial uses. These sites have limited water and sewer infrastructure with some areas being served by wells and septic. The future provision of supporting infrastructure is not projected.

#### **CHARACTER & FORM**

Density Range 20% FAR

Building Height
One to Two Stories

#### Supported Land Uses

- Commercial
- Light Industrial

#### Compatible Zoning Districts

N/A

- Minimize grading activity and design new development in a manner that best utilizes existing topography
- Mitigate stormwater impacts through green street design
- All structures should be sited out of the 100-year floodplain
- Employ green infrastructure in site design that buffers the property from surrounding development and contains and filters stormwater onsite

#### **COMMUNITY PLACE TYPES**







#### SUBURBAN NEIGHBORHOOD



#### **Objective**

The Suburban Neighborhood place type provides for low-to-moderate density residential land uses intermixed with areas of supporting commercial development. Predominant land uses include single-family detached and attached homes. Supporting uses including limited retail uses. Other ancillary institutional and public uses such as schools and places of worship should be incorporated when appropriate. These amenity-rich neighborhoods provide ample recreation areas and open space, internal and external connections through a network of trails and sidewalks, and a range of housing types that support individuals and families at various stages of life.

#### **CHARACTER & FORM**

Density Range
3 to 4 DUA average

Building Height
One to Two Stories

#### Supported Land Uses

- Single-Family Dwellings (Detached)
- Single-Family Dwellings (Attached)/ Townhomes
- Patio Homes
- Accessory Dwelling Units
- Limited Retail & Institutional Uses
- Parks & Recreational Space

#### Compatible Zoning Districts

 Mixed Use/Planned Development (M-PD)

- Provide a diversity of residential building types, lot sizes, density ranges, and architectural styles
- Provide transitions between developments with residential lots and buildings of varying size, heights, and scale
- Distribute areas of 'missing middle' housing types to promote mixedresidential neighborhoods
- Concentrate neighborhood-scale commercial land uses around intersections
- Reserve land for parks, schools, churches, and other civic and institutional
  uses
- Minimize grading activity and design new development in a manner that best utilizes existing topography
- Provide a continuous system of natural or recreational open space throughout new development
- Provide a system of interconnected streets that provide accessibility from developments to community destinations
- All structures should be sited out of the 100-year floodplain







#### **NEIGHBORHOOD RETAIL**



#### **Objective**

The Neighborhood Retail place type provides neighborhood-scale goods and services, including fast casual dining options, healthcare and other professional services, and groceries. Commercial land uses are of a scale and character to serve local residential needs and are in proximity to more suburban and rural areas throughout the Town. Smaller-scale retail and professional service uses will be located along major or minor arterial roads within these residential areas. A mix of non-residential uses may be achieved through horizontal development, that may support shopping plazas and pad sites.

#### **CHARACTER & FORM**

Density Range 20% FAR

Building Height
One Story

#### Supported Land Uses

- Retail
- Office
- Institutional

#### Compatible Zoning Districts

- Commercial (C)
- Commercial/Planned Development (C-PD)
- Neighborhood Commercial (NC)

- Apply a uniform architectural style to buildings, and uniform design to signage, landscaping and other site features
- All structures should be sited out of the 100-year floodplain
- Provide primary vehicular access points from major thoroughfares
- Preserve major thorough fare corridors through development sites and arrange buildings, parking areas, and driveway aisles to provide for future street extensions
- Provide a system of convenient pedestrian and bicycle facilities to ensure connectivity between parking, adjacent streets, and all on-site facilities
- Maximize tree cover and landscaping along pedestrian corridors and in association with public gathering spaces

#### COMMUNITY PLACE TYPES







#### CORRIDOR COMMERCIAL



#### **Objective**

The Corridor Commercial place type provides a mix of commercial, office, and entertainment uses. These areas are defined by large retail and professional service uses, often located in multi-tenant shopping centers and office buildings, as well as hotels, restaurants, and other services. Corridor Commercial land uses are of a scale and character to serve as a Town and regional draw. A mix of larger box stores, specialty stores, medical and professional services, entertainment venues, and a mix of upscale and fast casual dining options will serve both local and regional needs. Emphasis is placed on pedestrian walkability throughout developments.

#### CHARACTER & FORM

Density Range 30% FAR

Building Height
One to Four Stories

#### Supported Land Uses

- Commercial
- Retail
- Office
- Entertainment

#### Compatible Zoning Districts

- Commercial (C)
- Commercial/ Planned Development (C-PD)

- Apply a uniform architectural style to buildings and uniform design to signage, landscaping and other site features
- All structures should be sited out of the 100-year floodplain
- Provide primary vehicular access points from major thoroughfares
- Provide a system of convenient pedestrian and bicycle facilities to ensure connectivity between parking, adjacent streets, and all on-site facilities
- Incorporate social space for public gathering and relaxation
- Maximize tree cover and landscaping along pedestrian corridors and in association with public gathering spaces
- Provide amenities in parking areas including lighting, waste receptacles, and landscaping







#### LIFESTYLE NEIGHBORHOOD



#### Objective

The Lifestyle Neighborhood place type includes a variety of residential housing types at slightly higher densities and areas of supporting neighborhood commercial development. The place type includes single family detached and attached dwelling types, neighborhood retail, institutional, and office use. Transitions between non-residential and residential uses are achieved through horizontal mixed-use development patterns. Open green space and social gathering spaces are woven throughout these neighborhoods.

#### **CHARACTER & FORM**

Density Range
Up to 10 DUA

**Building Height** 

One to Three Stories

#### Supported Land Uses

- Small-lot, Single-Family (Detached)
- Single-Family Attached (Townhomes, Duplexes)
- Retail
- Office
- Institutional
- Recreational Spaces

#### Compatible Zoning Districts

 Mixed Use/ Planned Development (M-PD)

- Allow for a diverse mix of detached and attached single-family housing types
- Promote higher development intensities along major thoroughfares
- Incorporate small-scale commercial uses or mixed-use buildings on major thoroughfares
- Provide transitions in development scale between commercial and mixed-use corridors and nodes, and surrounding single-family neighborhoods
- Conceal non-residential parking areas behind building facades where feasible
- Design roadways with large active roadsides suited for pedestrian activity
- Maximize tree cover and landscaping along pedestrian corridors and in association with public gathering spaces
- Provide amenities in parking areas including lighting, waste receptacles, and landscaping
- All structures should be sited out of the 100-year floodplain

#### **COMMUNITY PLACE TYPES**







#### LIVABLE CENTER



#### **Objective**

The Livable Center place type provides a central gathering space for the Northlake community, creating a nexus of neighborhood-scale commercial and entertainment, and civic activities planned around a highly walkable street grid that is supported by a mix of vertical and horizontal developments. A mix of denser housing product types will serve as the anchor for non-residential uses. Neighborhood-scale shopping and dining options and entertainment and civic activities will be incorporated throughout this category, inviting all ages and stages to enjoy this space. Extensive landscaping, continuous shade, public art, and plentiful amenities should be incorporated into streetscape, commercial uses, and residential areas.

#### **CHARACTER & FORM**

Density Range
Up to 40 DUA

Building Height
One to Five Stories

#### Supported Land Uses

- Townhomes
- Duplexes
- Multi-Family Dwellings
- Retail
- Office
- Hotels
- Institutional Uses
- Entertainment Uses
- Recreational Spaces

#### Compatible Zoning Districts

N/A

- Construct mixed-use buildings with upper-floor residential and groundfloor flex space for residential and non-residential uses
- Line streets and other public spaces with building facades that incorporate windows and architectural features that provide visual interest
- Maintain and promote street grid interconnectivity
- Design roadways with large active roadsides for pedestrian activity
- Conceal parking areas behind buildings and within structures
- Incorporate civic parks for public gatherings and relaxation
- Orient buildings to provide direct pedestrian access from street-facing facades
- Allow for a diverse mix of attached single-family and multi-family housing types
- Promote higher development intensities along major thoroughfares
- Provide transitions in development scale between commercial and mixeduse corridors and nodes and surrounding single-family neighborhoods
- Conceal non-residential and multi-family parking areas behind building facades where feasible
- All structures should be sited out of the 100-year floodplain







#### INDUSTRIAL INNOVATION



#### **Objective**

The Industrial Innovation place type supports industrial uses that sustain the community's tax base. This category invites corporate headquarters and clean industrial uses, such as research and development, data centers, showrooms, and shipment and warehousing. Heavy industrial uses should be limited.

#### **CHARACTER & FORM**

Density Range 50% FAR

Building Height
One to Five Stories

#### Supported Land Uses

- Industrial Uses
- Commercial Uses
- Retail Uses (Limited)

#### Compatible Zoning Districts

- Industrial (I)
- Industrial/ Planned Development (I-PD)

- Development should consider development transitions and adjacency and screening standards
- Consideration should be given to shipping and transportation logistics associated with these industrial uses
- All structures should be sited out of the 100-year floodplain
- Design public streets with ample median and parkway widths to provide visual and physical separation between large vehicles and pedestrians
- Provide primary vehicular access points from major thoroughfares
- Preserve major thoroughfare corridors through development sites and arrange buildings, parking areas, and driveway aisle to provide for future street extensions
- Provide transition areas from non-residential land to residential uses
- Consider queuing areas for freight trucks
- Design roadways with adequate turning radii to accommodate large trucks

#### **FUTURE GROWTH CONSIDERATIONS**

There are other town-wide plans that have future growth implications, including the master thoroughfare plan, water master plan, and wastewater master plan. Infrastructure projects are implemented as development occurs in Northlake through cost-sharing with developers. The projects identified in the infrastructure plans are incorporated into the Town's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) to prioritize public expenditures in the near-term. The Future Development Map as presented on page 42 is consistent with the proposed roadway, water, and wastewater improvements as identified in their respective master plans. **Appendix C** includes graphics depicting the master thoroughfare plan, water master plan, and wastewater master plan overlaid with the Future Development Map.

#### **MASTER THOROUGHFARE PLAN (2021)**

This plan provides guidance for locations of future roadway expansions and extensions. Roadways are categorized into distinct thoroughfare classifications based on roadway width, number of lanes, and presence of medians. See pages 13-16 in **Chapter 1: Community Context** for more discussion on the master thoroughfare plan classifications. The roadway projects included in the 10-year CIP amount to about 18 miles of roadway at a cost of approximately \$200M (estimate does not include collector roads).

#### **WATER MASTER PLAN (2023)**

This plan provides guidance for future extensions of water infrastructure improvements to provide the necessary capacity and pressures as the Town grows. The current master plan identifies 68 miles of additional water lines to serve existing and future residents and businesses. The water infrastructure projects included in the 10-year CIP amount to about 23 miles of new water lines, 2.75 million gallons of ground storage, and 1.5 million gallons of elevated storage at a cost of approximately \$110M (estimate does not include water distribution lines).

#### **WASTEWATER MASTER PLAN (2023)**

This plan provides guidance for future extensions of sewer lines or capacity improvements to sewer infrastructure. The current master plan identifies 13 miles of additional sewer trunk lines to serve existing and future residents and businesses. The sewer infrastructure projects included in the 10-year CIP amount to about 10 miles of new sewer trunk lines at a cost of approximately \$90M (estimate does not include sewer collection lines).

#### **FUTURE GROWTH AREAS**

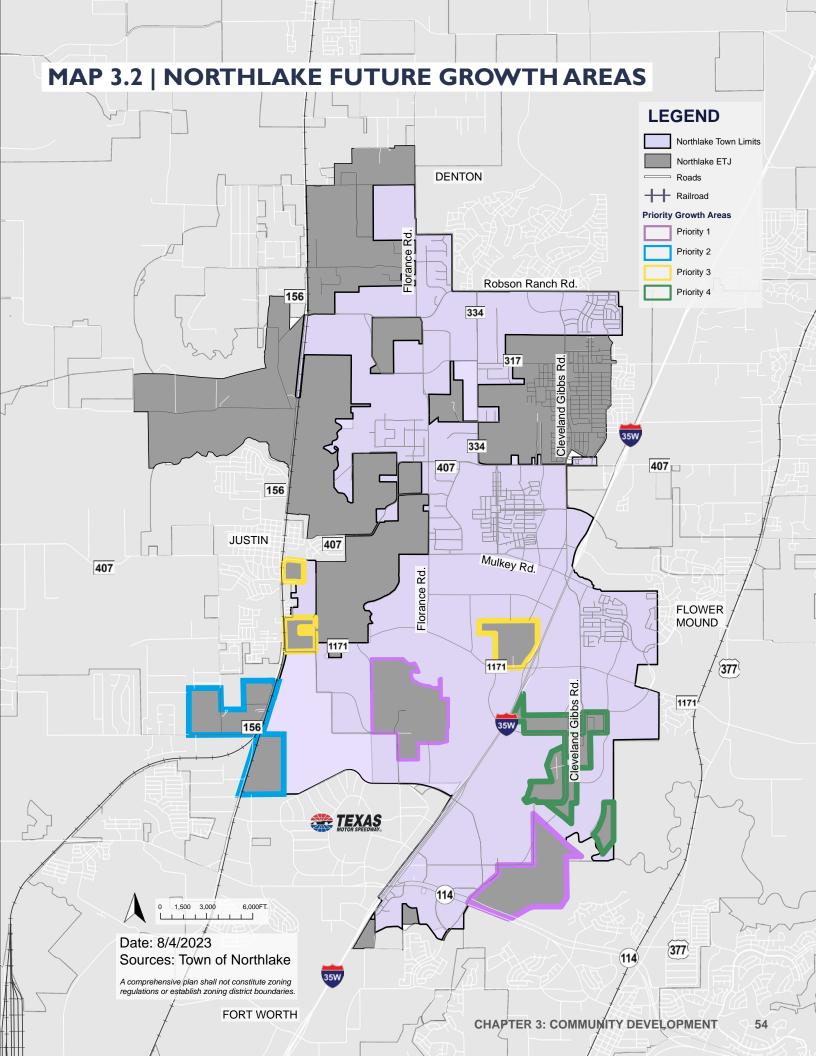
**Map 3.2** identifies areas within the current ETJ to consider future provision of infrastructure and services given the identified place type classification in the Future Development Map. These are areas that will likely see growth in the future based on the surrounding context. In order for the Town to be able to guide the quality and character of development in these areas, annexation may be considered.

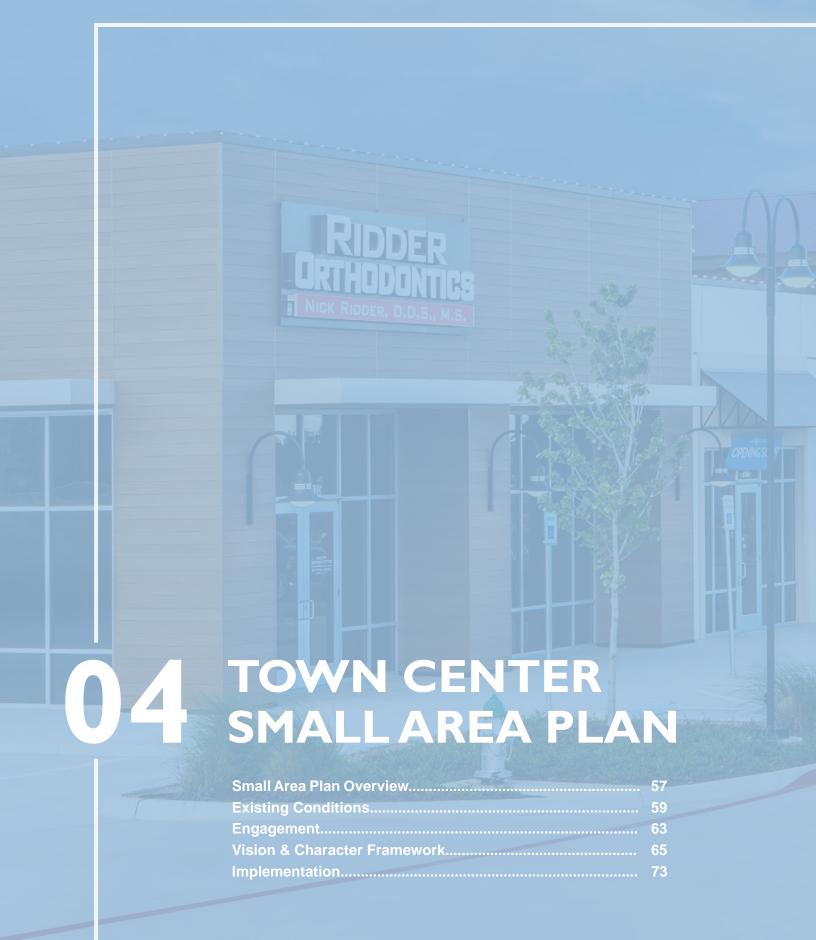
**Priority 1 - Industrial.** This area consists of land in the south and southeast portions of Town. There are existing and planned industrial developments on the portion that is west of I35W. The portion east of I35W is identified as Industrial Innovation and Corridor Commercial place types in the Future Development Map.

**Priority 2 - Southwest.** This area includes land that abuts the recently annexed industrial land in the southwest portion of Town. This area consists of a mixture of place types including Industrial Innovation, Suburban Neighborhood, Lifestyle Neighborhood, and Light Industrial/Commercial Flex.

**Priority 3 - FM 1171 Frontage.** This area encompasses two portions of the ETJ that are slated for higher intensity uses in the Future Development Map. As TxDOT moves forward with expanding FM 1171, these areas in the ETJ will likely develop into Corridor Commercial and Lifestyle Neighborhood place types.

**Priority 4 - Northwest Regional Airport.** This area includes the airport and adjoining light industrial uses. Integrating the airport into the Town's development and expansion plan will facilitate improved accessibility and connectivity, ensuring its seamless alignment with the vision for the nearby Town Center.







#### SMALL AREA PLAN OVERVIEW

#### **PURPOSE**

Many cities and towns in the DFW Metroplex have historic main streets or courthouse squares that have been invested in and redeveloped to serve as community, cultural, and commercial hubs. Considering Northlake's evolution through the annexation of neighborhoods, the community does not have a true downtown area. Additionally, Northlake lacks a centralized Town Hall; the Town services are spread out in three different buildings in the Northlake Commons shopping center.

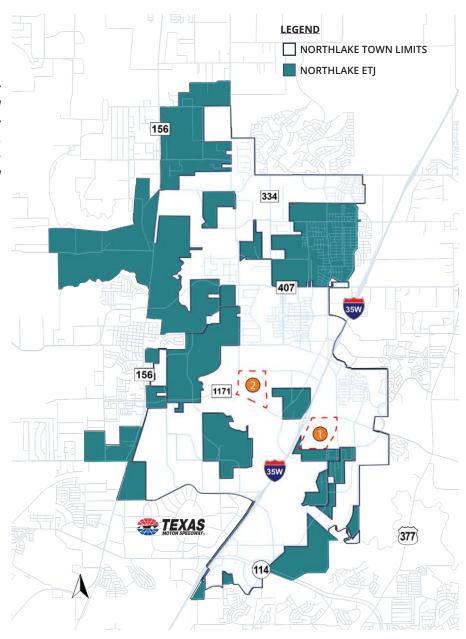
Over time as Northlake has grown, the lack of a community center has become more apparent as the desire for more community events has increased and the size of Town staff has grown. The 2016 Comprehensive Plan identified the geographic center of Northlake as a potential location for a future Town Center. As part of this comprehensive plan update, the Town decided to conduct a small area plan to reassess potential locations and develop a community vision for a future Town Center.

This chapter represents the results of the small area plan analysis, engagement, and two proposed Town Center concepts that could include a consolidated Town Hall. It is important to note that the vision, graphics, and concepts depicted in this chapter are illustrative and will not be realized unless there is significant investment from both the public and private sector. Furthermore, having a community-backed vision established is important and can help generate momentum for a future Town Center and Town Hall.

The two potential locations for a future Town Center are illustrated to the right. The existing conditions of these two sites are described on pages 59-62.

**Location 1:** Southeast corner of the intersection of I35W and FM 1171. This option has high visibility from major thoroughfares and is closer to existing population centers.

**Location 2:** Northeast corner of the future intersection of FM 1171 and Florance Road. This option is in the geographic center of Town and closer to the Denton Creek floodplain.



#### **TOWN CENTER CASE STUDIES**

At the first comprehensive plan public meeting, attendees provided feedback on Town Centers in other communities that they like to visit. Three of the most frequently mentioned communities included Roanoke, Keller, and Southlake. These three communities were chosen to serve as inspiration for potential elements that Northlake could draw from while creating the vision for the Town Center small area plan.

#### ROANOKE



- Population: 9,830 (NCTCOG, 2022)
- 29,000 SF Town Hall
- 115 acres

#### SOUTHLAKE



- Population: 31,770 (NCTCOG, 2022)
- 80,000 SF Town Hall
- 135 acres

#### KELLER



- Population: 46,060 (NCTCOG, 2022)
- 55.000 SF Town Hall
- 130 acres

#### HISTORIC DOWNTOWN ROANOKE

Centered along Oak Street, Historic Downtown Roanoke is anchored by a Town Hall on the southern end and about just under a mile of retail, restaurants, and multi-family lining the corridor. Roanoke developed a master plan to reinvigorate their historic downtown in 2004 and 2009; some of the key priorities from these planning efforts were to attract **destination restaurants** and focus on keeping the area **pedestrian-oriented**. The first implementation phase was the reconstruction of Oak Street to serve as a catalyst for new development and redevelopment. Around this time, the Town also branded themselves as the '**Unique Dining Capital of Texas**' as a way to attract more restaurants. There was no PID or TIF established, rather the Town made initial infrastructure investments as a catalyst and then relied on pay as you go incentives. Construction of the Town Hall began in 2017 and was completed in 2019. Today, Oak Street is a bustling corridor with numerous restaurants, retail, well-occupied multi-family units, and a well-designed streetscape.

#### KELLER TOWN CENTER

Keller Town Center is located between Keller Parkway (FM 1709) and Bear Creek in central Keller. The main anchor of the Town Center is Tom Thumb, with numerous retail and restaurants uses in the development. The Keller Town Hall is located in the southern part of the complex on a 14 acre lake in a more natural setting. The Town Center began in 2001, and the key priorities included preserving Bear Creek, **incorporating meandering open space**, keeping the space pedestrian-oriented, and focusing on community services. There is multi-family located along Town Center Lane as well as a hotel that separates the Town Hall node from the commercial hub of the overall Town Center. Overall, Keller Town Center has a **suburban-oriented development pattern** and the residential density is not dense enough to create a vibrant sense of place.

#### **SOUTHLAKE TOWN SQUARE**

Southlake Town Square is a **retail destination** located off SH 114 and features the Town Hall in the middle of the development. The site was initially vacant land off the highway and was developed in phases starting in the late 1990s. Currently there are over 500,000 SF of retail and restaurant uses, 26,000 SF of office space, 250 hotel rooms, and a phase of single-family residential. Priorities for the initial master plan included bringing a **mixture of uses**, keeping the space pedestrian-oriented, and incorporating a public square for gathering and events. Future phases for additional residential and retail are ongoing.

#### **EXISTING CONDITIONS: CONCEPT**

#### LOCATION

Concept 1 for the Town Center encompasses 205 acres at the southeast intersection of I35W and FM 1171 as shown in **Map 4.1**. The original concept included an additional 183 acres north of FM 1171 as this site is already entitled for mixed-use development (see call-out box on this page for more information). For comparison purposes to Concept 2, just the southern portion of the site is assessed in this Chapter. The strategic location of the site near the I35W/FM 1171 interchange offers the opportunity to become the focal point of the town's social, cultural, and economic activities, providing easy access for residents and visitors alike.

#### **TOPOGRAPHY**

The topography of the site is relatively flat; the maximum elevation change is 110 ft. The contours of the site offer opportunities for creating natural amenities, such as water features and recreational trails. While leveraging the advantages of the topography, careful grading will be necessary to ensure the site's safety and optimal functionality for development.

#### **EXISTING ZONING**

The existing zoning of the site includes Rural Residential (RR) and Mixed-Use/Planned Development (M-PD). The portion of the site to the northeast of I35W and FM 1171 is zoned M-PD and is entitled for mixed-use development, including up to 500 multi-family units, retail, and a 300-room hotel.

#### PLANNED INFRASTRUCTURE

The site is bordered to the north by FM 1171, which is identified as a principal arterial in the Master Thoroughfare Plan that will be six lanes divided by a median. Cleveland Gibbs, which forms part of the eastern border of the study area, is identified as a minor arterial with an ultimate configuration of four lanes divided by a median. In terms of utility infrastructure, the site is not currently served by water or sewer, but the 10-year CIP includes water and sewer extensions that would serve the study area.

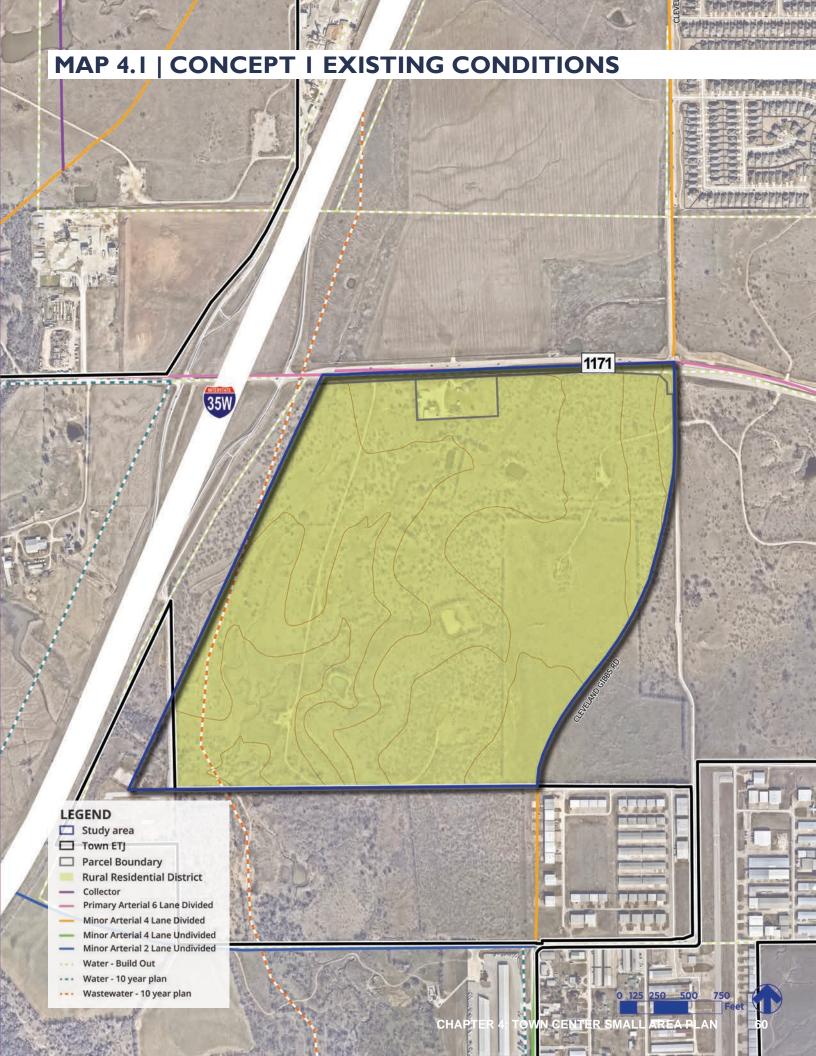
#### SURROUNDING CONTEXT

The site is situated amidst a diverse surrounding context, including open land, Northwest Regional Airport, and existing industrial development. While the airport is of a smaller scale, its presence offers opportunities for additional industrial development and improved transportation linkages within the region. Additionally, the site's frontage along I35W provides advantageous access points, ensuring visibility and excellent connectivity.

#### **SPEEDWAY TOWN CENTER**

In 2008, nearly 160 acres of land in the northeas corner of I35W and FM 1171 was entitled as a Mixed-Use Planned Development District. The site plan identified retail, restaurants, office, hotel, and multi-family residential uses. Since the land was originally entitled, the ownership of the property has transfered to Hillwood. It is anticipated that the property will be developed as mixed-use in the future, which would be contextually appropriate to the Town Center concept across FM 1171.





#### **EXISTING CONDITIONS: CONCEPT 2**

#### **LOCATION**

Concept 2 for the Town Center encompasses 192 acres at the future intersection of FM 1171 and Florance Road as shown in **Map 4.2**. While neither of these roads exist today, this site represents the approximate geographic center of Northlake and is consistent with the general area for a Town Center that was identified in the 2016 Comprehensive Plan. The site is approximately one mile from I35W, which carried about 67,000 vehicles per day in 2022 (Source: TxDOT Traffic Count Database System). The parcels within the study area are owned by two private property owners.

#### **TOPOGRAPHY**

The topography of the site slopes gradually down towards Denton Creek on the other side of FM 1171. The contours of the site offer opportunities for creating natural amenities, such as water features and recreational trails.

#### **EXISTING ZONING**

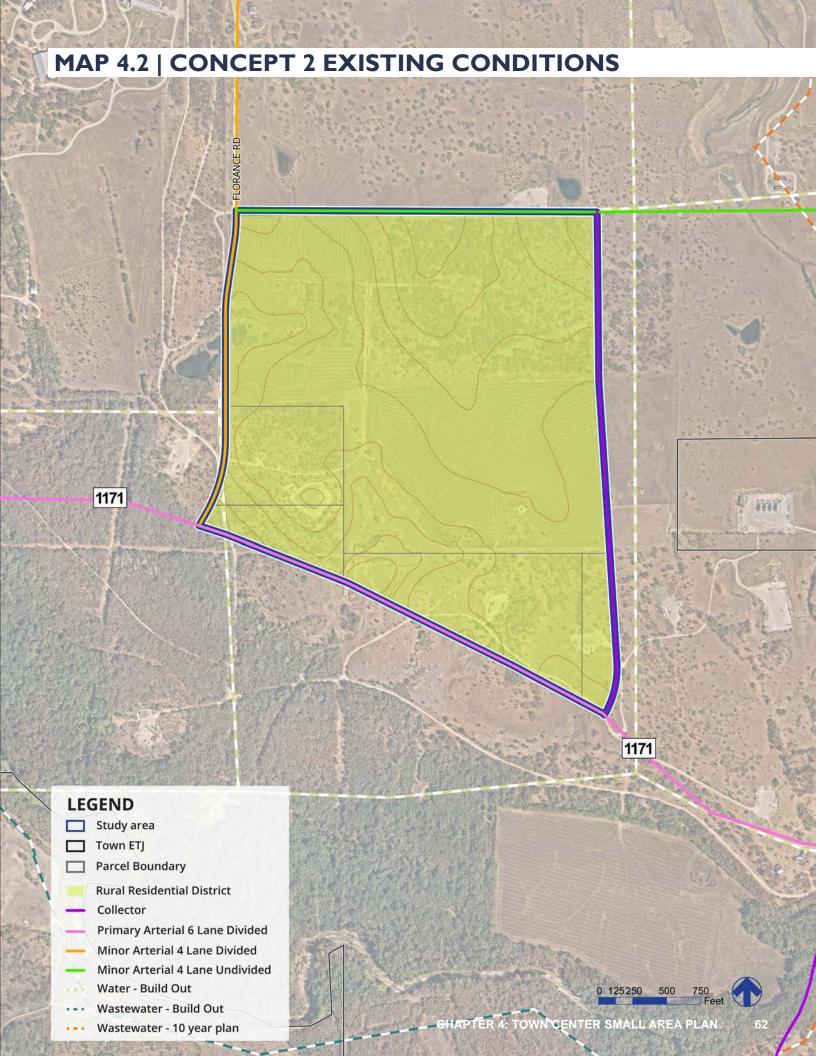
The existing zoning of the site is Rural Residential (RR). To the northeast of the site, there is a parcel zoned M-PD which is the future location of a Northwest ISD middle school.

#### **PLANNED INFRASTRUCTURE**

The site is bordered on all sides by future thoroughfares, including: FM 1171 to the south which will be a six-lane divided principal arterial; Florance Road to the west which will be a four-lane divided minor arterial; a four-lane undivided minor arterial to the north; and, a collector road to the east. The extension of FM 1171 will be funded and constructed by TxDOT, who does not have a timeframe identified for construction yet. In terms of utility infrastructure, the site is not currently served by water or sewer, and there are no connections identified in the 10-year plan.

#### SURROUNDING CONTEXT

Denton Creek and the associated floodplain is located to the south of FM 1171 from the site. The Northwest ISD Outdoor Learning Center is to the northwest of the site and the remaining context is rural residential. As noted previously, future surrounding context will include a middle school, which the district indicates may be open in 2026 or 2027.



#### **ENGAGEMENT**

Throughout the comprehensive plan process, there were several engagement opportunities in which residents and stakeholders shared their thoughts about the need for a Town Center.

#### INITIAL VISIONING FEEDBACK

The first public meeting and community-wide survey offered residents opportunities to provide their feedback on issues related to a potential Town Center.









#### PUBLIC MEETING #1

- Top Economic Development Priority: Town Center
- Generational Needs: Restaurants and Retail
- Vision for the Future:
  - Walkable Town Center
  - Increased Entertainment Options







#### **COMMUNITY SURVEY**

#### Top Needs:

- Commercial Uses
- Town Events
- Community Gathering Space

#### TOWN CENTER INSPIRATION TOUR

The Steering Committee participated in a Town Center Inspiration Tour in April 2023 to assess what features of the visionary Town Centers they think could work in Northlake. The group visited Historic Downtown Roanoke, Keller Town Center, and Southlake Town Square. A summary of the key feedback shared by the Committee during the visits are listed below.



#### **HISTORIC DOWNTOWN ROANOKE**

#### **Committee Perceptions:**

- Very Positive (3)
- Positive (8)

#### **Top Features:**

- Aesthetic Quality (10)
- Pedestrian Access (9)

#### **Positive Attributes:**

- Charming
- Comfortable
- Unique



#### **KELLER TOWN CENTER**

#### **Committee Perceptions:**

- Very Positive (4)
- Positive (2)
- Neutral (1)
- Negative (1)

#### **Top Features:**

- Mix of Uses (8)
- Pedestrian Access (8)

#### **Positive Attributes:**

- Family Friendly
- Nature
- Open



#### **SOUTHLAKE TOWN SOUARE**

#### **Committee Perceptions:**

- Very Positive (3)
- Positive (2)
- Neutral (4)

#### **Top Features:**

- Pedestrian Access (8)
- Aesthetic Quality (7)

#### **Positive Attributes:**

- Retail
- Walkable

#### **TOWN CENTER DESIGN WORKSHOP**

An evening workshop was held in June 2023 to present proposed concepts for the Town Center area. One concept showed the Town Hall to the west of I35W and another kept the Town Hall and greater Town Center area to the east of I35W.

#### **KEY FEEDBACK**

- Keep Town Hall Complex east of I35W
- Integrate more open space and trails
- Have retail/restaurants within walking distance to community event plaza space
- Include less density for multi-family
- Incorporate more buffer to Canyon Falls neighborhood
- Consider options for safe crossing of FM 1171



#### STEERING COMMITTEE REVIEW

At a September 2023 Steering Committee review meeting, the group requested to assess an additional alternative site for the Town Center. This spurred the analysis and development of Concept 2 located at the future intersection of FM 1171 and Florance Road. The Steering Committee members were sent a questionnaire after the September meeting to determine their vision for the alternative site. The types of uses that were most popular based on this questionnaire included green space, small scale retail, mixed-use, and trails.

The Steering Committee met again in November 2023 to review the proposed concepts for the alternative site location. At this meeting, the group provided feedback on which concept they preferred and directed the project team to seek additional public feedback at the Christmas at the Commons event.

#### CHRISTMAS AT THE COMMONS EVENT

The annual Christmas at the Commons Celebration was held on December 4, 2023 and provided an outlet to seek engagement on the Town Center concepts. Among the market vendors, children's activities, and a festive Christmas parade, attendees explored and voted on proposed Town Center concepts showcased at the event. This unique opportunity allowed residents to actively participate in selecting a favored concept, discussing features and amenities crucial for the Town Center's development. The event concluded with both concepts having the same amount of votes, however, it fostered a sense of collaboration and ownership, emphasizing the community's role in shaping Northlake's landscape and identity, ensuring the forthcoming development aligns with residents' aspirations.



### VISION & CHARACTER FRAMEWORK

#### **CONCEPT PLAN I**

The first concept plan for the Northlake Town Center as depicted in **Map 4.3** envisions a cohesive and vibrant community hub that addresses the diverse needs of the town's residents. This option is located to the south of FM 1171 and prioritizes community-centric districts, including the Town Hall District, the Municipal District, and the Community District, along with substantial space allocated for recreation and mixed-use development. The site plan carefully integrates with the existing conditions and major corridors (I35W, FM 1171, and Cleveland Gibbs Road) while aligning with the Future Thoroughfare Plan. This option will also be supported by the entitled mixed-use development likely to occur to the north of FM 1171.

It is essential to note that this concept plan is illustrative, and any future development must undergo the regular Town approval process.

#### **KEY COMPONENTS**

Concept Plan 1 is centered around building a strong community core. It encompasses five essential districts: the Town Hall District, Municipal District, Community District, Recreation District, and Mixed-Use District. These districts aim to cater to the administrative, civic, and community needs of Northlake's residents.

- Town Hall District: The heart of governance and civic engagement, the Town Hall District could host the new Town Hall and related administrative offices. This district would serve as a focal point for residents to access government services, attend town meetings, and participate in community events.
- Municipal District: Adjacent to the Town Hall District, the Municipal District can provide essential civic amenities such as a fire station, public library, police station, and other municipal facilities as the need arises with an increasing population. Creating a centralized municipal complex promotes operational efficiency and enhances public access to these vital services.
- Community District: Designed as a vibrant social and cultural gathering space, the Community District
  can offer amenities like a community center, event space, cultural venue, or recreational facility. This
  district would be the heart of social interactions and promote a strong sense of community identity.
- Recreation District: Emphasizing the importance of a healthy and active lifestyle, a significant portion of this concept is allocated to the Recreation District. Green spaces, walking trails, and recreational amenities would be thoughtfully integrated to encourage community gathering spaces.
- Mixed-Use District: To complement the municipal complex, mixed-use developments can be strategically placed within the concept. These developments could include a blend of office and retail spaces, contributing to a vibrant environment.

### MAP 4.3 | TOWN CENTER CONCEPT |





#### LEGEND

— EXISTING ROADS

---- PROPOSED ROADS

--- PROPOSED TRAILS

**TOWN HALL** 

MUNICIPAL

MIXED-USE

WATER FEATURES

COMMUNITY

**RECREATION** 

**CHAPTER 4: TOWN CENTER SMALL AREA PLAN** 

### VISION & CHARACTER FRAMEWORK

#### **CONCEPT PLAN 2**

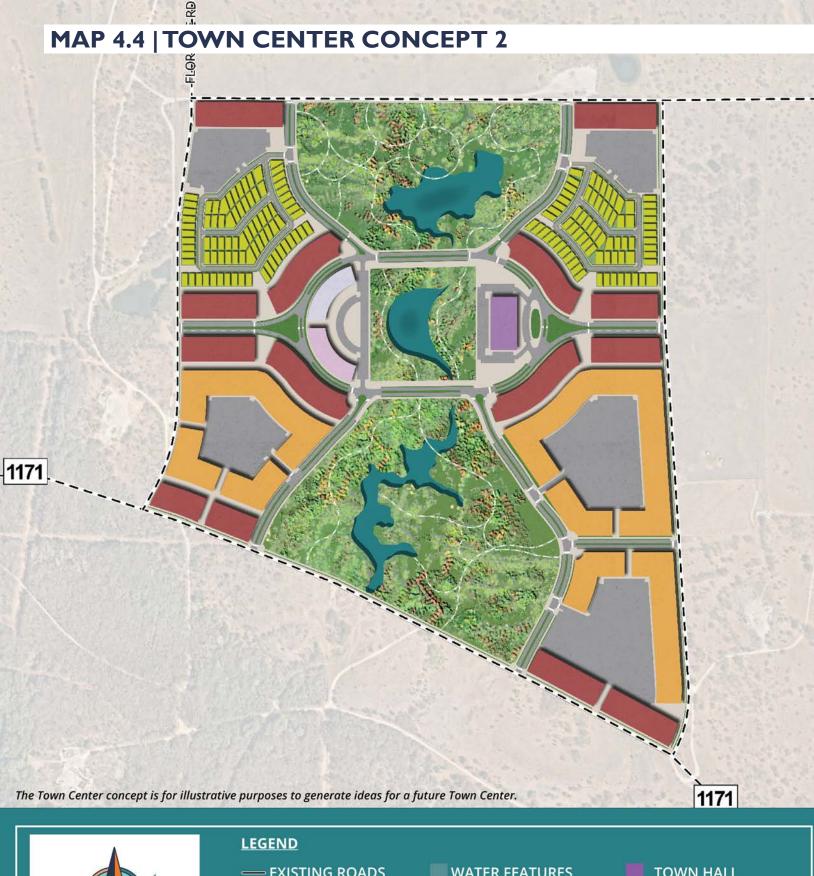
The second concept plan for the Northlake Town Center as depicted in **Map 4.4** aims to establish an interconnected and lively community focal point for Town residents. Situated north of the future extension of FM 1171, this option prioritizes the creation of community-focused zones, such as the Town Hall District, the Municipal District, and the Community District. It also allows significant space for recreational activities and mixed-use developments.

It is essential to note that this concept plan is illustrative, and any future development must undergo the regular Town approval process.

#### **KEY COMPONENTS**

Concept Plan 2 encompasses seven total districts: the Town Hall District, Municipal District, Community District, Recreation District, Mixed-Use District, Retail District, and Single-Family District. These districts aim to cater to the administrative, civic, and community needs of Northlake's residents.

- Town Hall District: Serving as the epicenter for governance and civic engagement, the Town Hall
  District could house the new Town Hall and associated administrative offices. This district aims to be
  a central hub where residents can access government services, participate in town gatherings, and
  engage in community activities.
- Municipal District: Positioned adjacent to the Town Hall District, the Municipal District is designed to
  accommodate civic amenities such as a fire station, public library, police station, and other municipal
  facilities to meet the needs of a growing population. Centralizing these essential services promotes
  operational efficiency and facilitates public accessibility.
- Community District: The Community District intends to offer facilities like a community center, event space, cultural venue, or recreational facility.
- Recreation District: Highlighting the significance of a healthy and active lifestyle, a substantial portion
  of the middle portion of this concept is earmarked for the Recreation District. Carefully integrating green
  spaces, walking trails, and recreational amenities, this area aims to encourage communal spaces for
  gatherings and activities that promote well-being.
- Mixed-Use District: Complementing the municipal complex and retail development, strategically situating mixed-use developments within the southern section is envisioned. These developments may encompass a fusion of office and retail spaces, contributing to a dynamic environment that encourages a seamless blend of living, working, and recreational experiences.
- Retail District: The Retail District can host areas designated exclusively for commercial use, encouraging the growth of businesses and services regionally and within the Town Center.
- Single-Family District: Complementing the mixed-use and retail areas, the Single-Family District could include attached single-family products such as townhomes.





### VISION & CHARACTER FRAMEWORK

The character framework of the Northlake Town Center Plan provides guidance for key elements of the Town Center vision such as land use, architectural style, placemaking, streetscape, and mobility. Each element plays a role in crafting an active and vibrant Town Center that fosters a sense of belonging and pride among residents.

#### **LAND USE**

Land use sets the foundation for an integrated and balanced community by striking a balance between commercial, residential, institutional and recreational spaces. The careful allocation of land ensures efficient land utilization, promoting walkability and reducing dependency on vehicular transportation. Moreover, thoughtful integration of green spaces, public parks, and recreational areas can enhance the quality of life. The potential approximate land use breakdown for both Town Center Concepts is depicted in **Table 4.1**.

TABLE 4.1   TOWN CENTER LAND USE				
Program	Town Center Option 1		Town Center Option 2	
	Acres	(%)	Acres	(%)
Open Space	141	69	60	31
Single Family Residential	0	0	23	12
Mixed-Use	29	14	40	21
Office	6	3	8	4
Retail	29	14	61	32
Industrial	0	0	0	0
Total Area	205	-	192	-

#### **ARCHITECTURAL STYLE**

Architectural style seeks to establish a coherent and timeless visual language for the Northlake Town Center. Building on the valuable input gathered during the engagement phase, the architectural style aims to strike a harmonious blend of **contemporary and traditional architectural elements**. Architectural guidelines should foster a cohesive and visually captivating townscape, encouraging innovative yet harmonious building expressions that resonates with residents and visitors alike, encapsulating Northlake's distinctive spirit.

Key architectural elements for consideration in the future development of the Town Center include:

- Buildings should be two to three stories in height
- Buildings should be strategically set back to allow for wide sidewalks, landscaped areas, and welcoming plazas
- Building placement should encourage a pedestrian-friendly environment







#### **PLACEMAKING**

Placemaking focuses on cultivating vibrant and inviting public spaces that serve as the heart of community life. This section celebrates the art of creating interactive gathering places, animated by cultural events, recreational activities, and community gatherings that encourage social interactions and community engagement. By empowering residents to actively shape their environment, Placemaking breathes life into the town center, transforming it from a physical space into a cohesive tapestry of shared memories and experiences.

Gathering spaces play a pivotal role in the Placemaking vision for Northlake. Envisioned as welcoming spaces, the concepts can be designed to accommodate a diverse range of activities—from informal chats to larger community events. Ample seating, vibrant greenery, and interactive elements coalesce to create environments that foster a sense of belonging and fellowship. The inclusion of public art can help create a sense of place and also showcase local artists. Sculptures, murals, and interactive installations breathe life into the town center. Public art, like the town itself, becomes a canvas for shared experiences and a source of inspiration.

Placemaking also integrates comprehensive **wayfinding systems**. By leveraging elements such as well-placed signage, intuitive maps, and distinctive landmarks, visitors are effortlessly guided through the heart of Northlake. This approach doesn't merely facilitate exploration; it becomes a conduit for expressing the town's unique identity.







## INSPIRATION: BURLINGTON'S CHURCH STREET MARKETPLACE



Several decades ago, a traffic-snarled street in downtown Burlington, Vermont was closed to traffic and is now a pedestrian mall with vibrant retail, restaurants, and places to stay. The space is a destination for residents and visitors alike and is a successful application of pedestrian-oriented development with gathering spaces, wayfinding, branding, monumentation, and public art. Northlake Town Center Concept One includes a short pedestrian mall in the northeast corner of the study area and should draw inspiration from Burlington and other successful pedestrian malls across the country.

### VISION & CHARACTER FRAMEWORK

#### **STREETSCAPE**

This element is paramount in shaping the character of the public realm within the Town Center. Through meticulous urban design, streets are transformed into pedestrian-friendly avenues, with landscaping, wide sidewalks, and inviting public spaces. By prioritizing safety, accessibility, and aesthetics, streets can be reimagined as bustling corridors of community life and not just thoroughfares.

To ensure convenient access to the town center's various destinations, the streetscape design should adhere to a carefully balanced approach between on-street and off-street parking. On-street parking offers a seamless transition between vehicular and pedestrian spaces, promoting a safe and efficient flow of traffic. Meanwhile, strategically placed off-street **parking facilities** are designed to be discreet and thoughtfully integrated, preserving the overall aesthetic appeal of the town center. This balanced approach ensures that parking does not dominate the landscape but rather complements the overall streetscape experience.

A vibrant town center thrives on the energy of its retail spaces. In response to the design workshop feedback, the streetscape considerations accentuates the importance of **active retail frontages**. By encouraging businesses to embrace engaging storefronts and dynamic displays, the streetscape comes alive with a sense of bustling activity. Pedestrians are enticed to explore, shop, and linger, contributing to a lively and thriving community ambiance.

The streetscape design should also incorporate **ample seating** throughout the Town Center. Benches, pocket parks, and public squares can be thoughtfully placed along sidewalks and retail areas, inviting residents and visitors alike to rest, converse, and enjoy the town's communal spaces. These inviting seating areas encourage a sense of community and provide opportunities for impromptu gatherings, strengthening the social fabric of Northlake.









#### CONNECTING ACROSS FM 1171

#### AT-GRADE CROSSING

Looking to successful examples like the intersection of Legacy and Bishop Road at the Shops at Legacy in Plano can provide valuable guidance for integrating an at-grade crossing. This design option fosters a seamless interaction between pedestrians and vehicles, creating a pedestrian-friendly environment while maintaining efficient vehicular flow. By thoughtfully incorporating features such as crosswalks, signalization, and pedestrian islands, this choice prioritizes accessibility and convenience, ensuring a safer passage for all.

#### **PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE**

A pedestrian bridge is a striking architectural statement that not only ensures safe passage but also could become an iconic element of the town center. Enhancing connectivity, a pedestrian bridge creates an elevated walkway that harmoniously navigates the intersection, granting pedestrians unobstructed access while adding a distinctive landmark to the landscape.



#### **MOBILITY**

Mobility centers on creating an efficient and interconnected transportation network. Emphasizing a **multi-modal approach** allows for well-planned roads, trails, and pedestrian pathways to facilitate seamless movement within the Town Center.

The incorporation of trails enhances the connectivity of Northlake with its surrounding natural spaces. By integrating pedestrian-friendly trails into the streetscape, residents are offered the opportunity to explore the town's scenic surroundings, fostering a deeper connection between the community and the natural environment. Wide sidewalks form the backbone of the streetscape design, championing the needs and comfort of pedestrians. By providing ample walking space, the Town Center becomes inherently inviting to pedestrians, encouraging people to explore on foot and enjoy leisurely strolls. The wide sidewalks also accommodate outdoor dining areas for restaurants, extending the vibrancy of the streetscape into the culinary realm.

In harmony with the preferences expressed during the design workshop, the mobility element of the Northlake Town Center Plan fosters an environment that not only caters to the practical aspects of mobility and parking but also prioritizes social interactions, sustainability, and the aesthetic charm of the community. This thoughtful integration of elements ensures that the streetscape serves as a unifying thread, binding the fabric of Northlake together in a tapestry of connectivity and shared experiences.







#### CONNECTING ACROSS FM 1171

#### **BOLD IDEA - DEPRESS ROADWAY**



A visionary approach would be to depress the roadway itself. This revolutionary design concept involves creating an underground passage for vehicles, allowing pedestrians to traverse the intersection seamlessly above and creating enhanced amenity options such as deck parks. This solution not only enhances safety and accessibility but also transforms the town center into a multi-dimensional experience, promoting both functional efficiency and aesthetic appeal.

### **IMPLEMENTATION**

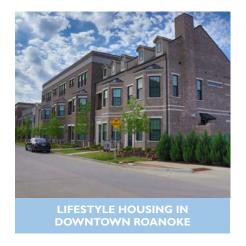
#### **NEXT STEPS**

The Town Center Concepts depicted in this chapter are the first step towards making the vision a reality as it represents the community's vision. Next steps include choosing which site to move forward, public investment in infrastructure and the Town Hall, working with the development community to attract initial private investment, and generating interest in the development over time.

**Public Investment.** The primary public investment in the Town Center centers on constructing a consolidated Town Hall. Funding sources to consider include municipal bonds to spread costs over time, potential 380 agreements with private entities for financial support, and exploration of other avenues like grants and partnerships to diversify funding streams and reduce financial strain on the town.

Market Activation Strategies. The market analysis conducted for this comprehensive plan revealed that today Northlake has a significant unmet demand for additional retail and office space. The Town Center can serve as a hub for additional office space as well as local and regional-serving retail that is missing in Northlake today. Strategies include implementing mixed-use zoning, considering incentives, and engaging local stakeholders to ensure alignment with market needs, fostering a vibrant and appealing environment.

**Development Phasing.** Given the Town Center's size, a phased approach is crucial. Initial phases should prioritize essential infrastructure development to attract interest, followed by securing anchor establishments like the Town Hall and major retailers. Subsequent phases should focus on introducing mixed-use spaces gradually, ensuring sustainable growth and balanced development.



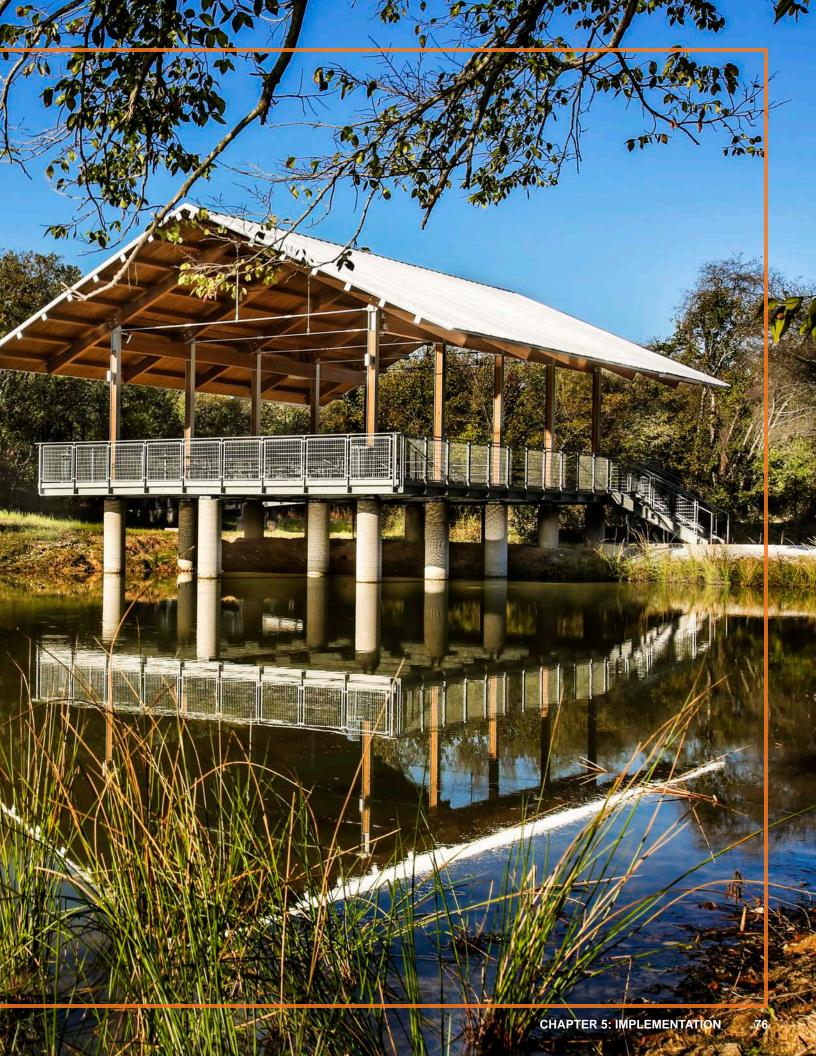


EVENT IN SOUTHLAKE TOWN SOUARE



# 05 COMMUNITY IMPLEMENTATION

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### IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM

The Implementation Program acts as a community blueprint for the next 20 years. It includes a series of strategies that will help the Town of Northlake work toward and achieve the Vision that's been established by the community throughout this process. The Implementation Program is displayed in a matrix form, beginning on page 82, that organizes each recommendation by the associated Guiding Principle and Goal. The matrix also outlines parameters for execution including the type of strategy and its associated timeframe and implementing partners.

The Implementation Program is organized around three main components: Guiding Principles, Goals and Strategies. There are seven total Guiding Principles, each with two associated Goals. Each Goal has a varied number of associated Strategies, with a total of 61 Strategies.



**GUIDING PRINCIPLES:** Guiding Principles are broad statements of desired community outcomes/achievements.

**GOALS:** Goals are a broad thematic area of focus that is used to create structure around how an organization can achieve its goals.

**STRATEGIES:** Associated polices and actions that advance the intent of the goals and are measurable.

### NORTHLAKE'S GUIDING PRINCIPLES



GROWTH MANAGEMENT



HOUSING & NEIGHBORHOODS





COMMUNITY FACILITIES



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



COMMUNITY CHARACTER



NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

### **IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM COMPONENTS**

#### **TYPES OF STRATEGIES**

Each strategy in the Implementation Program is categorized into a distinct type, which will impact how it is implemented, who will be in charge, and whether there is a cost associated with implementation.

- INVESTMENT: These strategies involve allocating financial resources to fund specific projects, initiatives, or infrastructure developments. Examples include Town signage, a Town Hall, or a sports facility.
- **STUDY:** These strategies involve conducting in-depth research, analysis, or assessments to gather information or data essential for informed decision-making. These actions may include demographic studies, environmental impact assessments, traffic flow analysis, or market research. The outcomes of such studies inform subsequent actions and policies.
- REGULATION: These strategies refer to proposed or revised rules and guidelines that are intended to govern various aspects of a community's development and operation. These strategies require Council approved modification to Town ordinance.
- OPERATIONS: These strategies pertain to the day-to-day functioning and management of various aspects within a community. They encompass strategies for efficient service delivery, maintenance, and ongoing administration. These actions focus on improving the efficiency and effectiveness of existing services and processes.
- POLICY: These strategies focus on policy frameworks and initiatives that guide the Town's actions. Policies and programs aim to address specific challenges and foster positive change.

#### **TIMEFRAME**

Since this is a long-term plan, not all of the strategies can be implemented in the same time horizon. The timeframe associated with each strategy identifies when it should be initiated. Factors that help to determine the timeframe include feasibility of implementation, anticipated costs, and overall priority based on feedback from the community.

• SHORT-TERM: 1-3 Years

MID-TERM: 3-5 Years

• LONG-TERM: 5 Years or beyond

• **ONGOING:** Throughout Plan horizon

#### **PRIORITY**

Some strategies are identified as high-priority based on critical need or public interest. These strategies should have allocated resources to implement in the near-term.

#### **IMPLEMENTING AGENCY**

While the comprehensive plan was initiated by the Planning and Development Department, there are other departments or external partners that can help implement the plan. The implementing agency represents the organization, department, or entity responsible for carrying out and executing the recommended action or initiative.

#### **PARTNERS**

In many cases, there are partner organizations, entities, or stakeholders with whom collaboration and cooperation are essential to successfully implement the recommended strategies. These partners play a critical role in contributing resources, expertise, or support to achieve the Plan's goals.



### **GROWTH MANAGEMENT**

Northlake manages the direction and intensity of development through a thoughtfully planned land use pattern in coordination with utilities and infrastructure to protect the Town's natural spaces and rural heritage while sustaining and enhancing the community's high-quality neighborhoods, amenities, and services.

The Town's commitment to preserving its natural spaces and rural heritage while enhancing high-quality neighborhoods, amenities, and services is imperative. The challenge lies in managing the direction and intensity of development with a thoughtful land use pattern that harmonizes with available utilities and infrastructure. Striking this balance necessitates a proactive approach to infrastructure planning and expansion, ensuring it keeps pace with the demands of a growing population while safeguarding the town's cherished rural character. This endeavor presents an opportunity to foster sustainable growth, mitigate potential conflicts, and maintain a cohesive community identity in the face of increasing development pressures. By strategically addressing these issues, Northlake can harness the opportunities presented by responsible growth management to create a more vibrant, resilient, and harmonious town for current and future residents.

**Goal GM1:** Encourage balanced development patterns that reflect the vision of the comprehensive plan.

### GM1.1: Update the town's zoning and subdivision regulations to incorporate the character and design attributes identified in each of the recommended place types.

This strategy seeks to enhance both the aesthetic and functional aspects of different neighborhoods and districts. This can lead to more efficient land use, improved pedestrian and vehicular circulation, and a stronger sense of place throughout the Town, ultimately contributing to a more vibrant and livable community. Some of the place types introduced in this plan will necessitate new zoning districts to be created or existing zoning districts to be modified. The development parameters associated with each place type as outlined in **Table 5.2** on page 83 should be used as a framework for making the zoning and subdivision regulations updates.

### GM1.2: Evaluate future development proposals based on their consistency with the established place types and the surrounding land use context.

This strategy ensures that new development or redevelopment projects align with the existing character and design attributes of the area in which they are proposed. This evaluation process serves as a crucial step in maintaining the overall coherence and compatibility of the Town's development. Town staff, the Planning & Zoning Commission, and Town Council all play a role in reviewing the development proposals.

### GM1.3: Incorporate buffer areas in developments to ensure adequate transitions between different land uses.

This strategy aims to prevent abrupt shifts in intensity or character, preserving the visual and functional harmony between neighboring areas. Buffer areas could be a gradual increase or decrease in density or open spaces incorporated into a development. These buffer zones serve as a critical tool for mitigating potential conflicts and enhancing the overall livability and appeal of the community as it continues to grow.

### GM1.4: Utilize Planned Developments (PDs) when necessary to attain desired development patterns consistent with the Comprehensive Plan vision.

By selectively employing PDs, the Town can maintain control over development outcomes while allowing flexibility when conventional zoning regulations may not suffice. This approach ensures that PDs are used as a strategic tool to meet specific planning objectives, promoting responsible and intentional growth while adhering to the overarching vision of the Comprehensive Plan.



# GM1.5: Minimize the provision of infrastructure for areas identified as Rural Estate and Rural Reserve in order to maintain the rural character.

The Town can protect the open and natural qualities of certain areas by limiting water and sewer infrastructure development, thus maintaining a more bucolic and low-density environment. This approach aligns with the Plan's objective to balance development with the preservation of rural landscapes, contributing to the long-term sustainability and charm of these rural areas. The areas identified in the Future Development Map as Rural Estate and Rural Reserve coincide with the Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Plans. In these areas, many residents and businesses may use only well water and/or septic for their daily needs. Additionally, in these place types roadway capacity can be limited due to less density and stormwater can be handled via bar ditches instead of traditional curb and gutter.



### PLANNED DEVELOPMENTS

Planned Developments (PDs) are specialized zoning tools that allow for flexibility and customization in development projects. They provide developers with the opportunity to deviate from conventional zoning regulations when justified by unique project needs, resulting in more tailored and innovative approaches to land use and design. Pecan Square, Canyon Falls, and the Northlake Commons are examples of PDs within Northlake Town Limits.



**Goal GM2:** Promote phasing of development that is coordinated with infrastructure development and expansions.

#### GM2.1: Reference the Growth Areas Map when targeting future areas for annexation.

**Map 3.2** on page 54 identifies areas for potential expansion of the Town limits. Having a strategy for annexation ensures that any expansion aligns strategically with the town's long-term growth objectives and planned development areas, promoting a coherent and well-informed approach to growth that conforms to the Plan's vision. This process helps in preserving the town's overall character while facilitating responsible growth.

### GM2.2: Assess the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) project listing as new infrastructure projects are completed by the Town and external partners.

This practice ensures that the CIP remains up-to-date and responsive to changing community needs, enabling efficient allocation of resources and funding to priority projects. By regularly assessing and updating the CIP, the Town can maintain a dynamic and adaptable approach to infrastructure planning and development in line with its Plan objectives. The current CIP encompasses projects focused on enhancing and expanding the Town's infrastructure, specifically its roads, water supply, and sewer systems. These projects are designed to address various aspects, including capacity upgrades, expansions, enhanced monitoring capabilities, and increased storage capacity for these systems.

### GM2.3: Continue to utilize development agreements as a tool to encourage highly amenitized developments.

Development Agreements are legal contracts between property owners and local jurisdictions or developers that state terms and conditions of a real estate development project. By utilizing development agreements, the Town can promote the incorporation of valuable community amenities, infrastructure, and services within new projects. This approach not only enhances the overall quality of life for residents but also aligns with the Plan's vision for a well-rounded and attractive built environment.

### GM2.4: Continue coordination with area school districts to ensure timely planning and construction of new schools in response to population growth and development.

This collaborative effort ensures that the educational infrastructure keeps pace with the changing needs of the community, preventing overcrowding, coordinating infrastructure expansions, and ensuring that residents have access to quality education. By working together, the Town and school districts can proactively address the demands of a growing population and align educational facilities with the Plan's objectives for sustainable growth and community well-being. School districts currently serving the Northlake community are Argyle ISD, Northwest ISD, and Ponder ISD.

TABLE 5.1   GROWTH MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION SUMMARY					
Strategy	Type of Strategy	Timeframe	Implementing Agency	Partners	
Goal GMI: Encourage balanced development patte	erns that refl	ect the vision	of the compre	hensive plar	
<b>GM1.1:</b> Update the town's zoning and subdivision regulations to incorporate the character and design attributes identified in each of the recommended place types.	Regulation	Short	Development Services	Town Council, P&	
<b>GM1.2:</b> Evaluate future development proposals based on their consistency with the established place types and the surrounding land use context.	Policy	Ongoing	Development Services	Town Council, P&	
*GM1.3: Incorporate buffer areas in developments to ensure adequate transitions between different land uses.	Regulation	Ongoing	Development Services	P&Z, Town Council, Developers	
<b>GM1.4:</b> Utilize Planned Developments (PDs) when necessary to attain desired development patterns consistent with the comprehensive plan vision.	Policy	Ongoing	Development Services	Developers Town Council, P&	
*GM1.5: Minimize the provision of infrastructure for areas identified as Rural Estate and Rural Reserve in order to maintain the rural character.	Policy	Ongoing	Public Works	Developmen Services, Town Counc	
Goal GM2: Promote phasing of development that i	s coordinate	d with infrast	ructure develo	pment and	
<b>GM2.1:</b> Reference the Growth Areas Map when targeting future areas for annexation.	Operations	Long	Town Manager	Town Council, P&	
<b>GM2.2:</b> Regularly assess the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) project listing as new infrastructure projects are completed by the Town and external partners.	Operations	Ongoing	Public Works	Developmer Services, Finance	
<b>GM2.3:</b> Continue to utilize development agreements as a tool to encourage highly amenitized developments.	Policy	Ongoing	Development Services	Town Council, P&	
*GM2.4: Continue coordination with area school districts to ensure timely planning and construction of new schools in response to population growth and development.	Operations	Ongoing	Town Manager	Area Schoo Districts	

See page 78 for descriptions of the implementation program parameters. \*Indicates a high priority strategy.



### **HOUSING & NEIGHBORHOODS**

Northlake is a community that welcomes all ages, backgrounds, and abilities, with neighborhoods that give residents a sense of community and access to a range of diverse housing options with amenities, open and recreational space, trail networks, and access to local goods and services and the Town's natural assets.

The Town's commitment to diverse housing options and vibrant community living is central to its vision. The opportunities are abundant, as Northlake can harness its commitment to amenity-rich neighborhoods to create a strong sense of community and enhance quality of life. However, the challenge lies in ensuring that housing remains accessible and attainable to accommodate diverse housing needs. By proactively addressing these housing-related challenges and leveraging its assets, Northlake has the potential to establish itself as a welcoming and dynamic community where residents can thrive while enjoying the town's natural beauty and access to quality amenities.

### Goal HN1: Provide a range of housing choices for residents at all ages and stages.

HN1.1: Update the density requirements for residential zoning districts to be consistent with the recommendations in this Comprehensive Plan.

**Table 5.2** outlines acceptable density ranges for each place type category. By updating the Town's density requirements to match the recommendations within this Comprehensive Plan, the Town can ensure that zoning regulations reflect its long-term vision for housing and neighborhoods. This update aims to create a more harmonious and balanced built environment, accommodating diverse housing needs and fostering a well-planned and sustainable community that adheres to the goals set forth in the Comprehensive Plan.

TABLE 5.2   PLACE TYPE DENSITIES					
Place Type	Density Range				
Residential Place Types					
Rural Reserve	Minimum Lot Size = 5 to 20 Acres				
Rural Estate	Lot Size Range = 1 to 5 Acres				
Suburban Neighborhood	Dwelling Units Per Acre = 3 to 4				
Lifestyle Neighborhood	Dwelling Units Per Acre = Up to 10				
Livable Center	Dwelling Units Per Acre = Up to 40				
Non-Residential Place Types					
Light Industrial/Commercial Flex	Floor Area Ratio = 20%				
Neighborhood Retail	Floor Area Ratio = 20%				
Corridor Commercial	Floor Area Ratio = 30%				
Industrial Innovation	Floor Area Ratio = 50%				

### HN1.2: Allow senior housing options within the Lifestyle Neighborhood place type to encourage aging in place within Northlake.

The AARP Foundation states that by 2030, one in every five Americans will be over the age of 65. Currently there are no designated senior living options in Northlake; the Lifestyle Neighborhood place type could allow for senior living complexes or mixed-age communities. This initiative not only supports the well-being of older residents but also contributes to the creation of a more inclusive and age-friendly environment, aligning with the Plan's vision for diverse and accommodating neighborhoods.

### HN1.3: Conduct a housing needs assessment to determine regional housing demand and housing types that are currently underserved in Northlake.

This assessment is a crucial step in understanding the evolving housing market, ensuring that the community can effectively address housing disparities and evolving market trends. An effective housing needs assessment typically encompasses elements such as demographic analysis, housing market needs and demand evaluation, cost considerations, and community stakeholder input. By gaining a deeper insight into the diverse housing needs of its residents, Northlake can develop targeted strategies to enhance housing accessibility, attainability, and variety, thereby aligning its housing policies with the changing demographics and preferences of the population.





### Goal HN2: Support efforts to preserve the quality and longevity of neighborhoods.

### HN2.1: Encourage the use of high-quality building materials that are consistent with the Town's character and monitor future legislation related to building materials.

This approach aims to preserve the visual appeal and architectural integrity of Northlake's built environment. While the current state legislature restricts local control of building material requirements (HB 2439, 2019), the laws could change in the future. Therefore, staying informed about evolving building material regulations ensures that the Town remains adaptable to any changes in construction practices and can continue to maintain its unique character while complying with legal requirements. In Northlake, development agreements have been one way to uphold quality building materials within the Town limits to match the surrounding context.

### HN2.2: Continue to work with developers to include quality of life amenities such as parks, trails, landscaping, and sidewalks within residential and commercial developments.

This strategy enhances the livability of Northlake while ensuring that new developments contribute positively to the Town's overall quality of life. By integrating these amenities, Northlake can create more walkable and community-centric neighborhoods, foster recreational opportunities, and reinforce its commitment to a high-quality living environment as outlined in its Comprehensive Plan. The Town can utilize various tools to promote highly amenitized development, including development agreements, incentives, Planned Developments, and policy updates, among others.

### HN2.3: Maintain existing and cultivate new relationships with HOAs to increase communication and awareness of neighborhood priorities.

By nurturing relationships with HOAs, the Town can facilitate a constructive dialogue with residents, ensuring that neighborhood concerns and aspirations are effectively addressed. This approach underscores Northlake's commitment to promoting community engagement, building trust, and collaboratively working towards neighborhood enhancements, all of which are central to the Plan's vision of creating strong and connected neighborhoods. One consideration for the future is to hold an annual HOA forum to invite members of all HOAs to interact with different Town departments.

### HN2.4: Ensure that code enforcement is fully staffed to maintain effective oversight and enforcement of regulations.

Effective and expedient code enforcement is critical to maintaining property values and neighborhood longevity as Northlake grows and evolves. Ensuring this strategy is met will allow the Town to uphold its commitment to enforcing zoning and housing regulations consistently. This approach helps in preserving neighborhood standards, ensuring the safety and well-being of residents, and aligning with the objective of maintaining the quality and integrity of Northlake's housing and neighborhoods.

TABLE 5.3   HOUSING & NEIGHBORHOODS IMPLEMENTATION SUMMARY					
Strategy	Type of Strategy	Timeframe	Implementing Agency	Partners	
Goal HNI: Provide a range of housing choices for r	esidents at al	l ages and sta	ges.		
<b>HN1.1:</b> Update the density requirements for residential zoning districts to be consistent with the recommendations in this Comprehensive Plan.	Regulation	Short	Development Services	Town Council, P&Z	
<b>HN1.2:</b> Allow senior housing options within the Lifestyle Neighborhood place type to encourage aging in place within Northlake.	Regulation	Short	Development Services	Town Council, P&Z	
<b>HN1.3:</b> Conduct a housing needs assessment to determine regional housing demand and housing types that are currently underserved in Northlake.	Study	Mid	Development Services	Consultant	
Goal HN2: Support efforts to preserve the quality	and longevity	of neighborh	oods.		
*HN2.1: Encourage the use of high quality building materials that are consistent with the Town's character and monitor future legislation related to building materials.	Policy	Ongoing	Development Services	Town Manager, Developers	
*HN2.2: Continue to work with developers to include quality of life amenities such as parks, trails, landscaping, and sidewalks within residential and commercial developments.	Policy	Ongoing	Development Services	Developers, Town Council, P&Z	
HN2.3: Maintain existing and cultivate new relationships with HOAs to increase communication and awareness of neighborhood priorities.	Operations	Ongoing	Town Manager	HOAs	
<b>HN2.4:</b> Ensure that code enforcement is fully staffed to maintain effective oversight and enforcement of regulations.	Operations	Short	Town Manager	Code En- forcement	

See page 78 for descriptions of the implementation program parameters. \*Indicates a high priority strategy.



### **COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE**

Northlake provides a reliable and modern infrastructure network that establishes a blueprint for future development decisions, affording access to critical utilities and infrastructure, including roadways, public safety services, water, and sewer that serve the basic needs of residents and stakeholders throughout the community.

Maintaining and expanding infrastructure to meet the evolving needs of a growing community can be formidable. Ensuring access to essential utilities, safe and efficient roadways, and top-tier public safety services requires careful planning and investment. Nevertheless, these challenges also present opportunities for Northlake to enhance its quality of life, bolster economic development, and establish a resilient foundation for the future. By addressing infrastructure issues proactively and leveraging the potential for sustainable growth, Northlake can create a vibrant and thriving community that continues to meet the basic needs of its residents while facilitating a high quality of life for all.

Goal CI1: Ensure public infrastructure is proactively provided and maintained in an efficient, equitable manner.

Cl1.1: Conduct routine reviews of impact fees to ensure their accuracy, relevance, and alignment with the community's growth and development needs.

Impact fees are charges imposed by local governments on developers to fund the necessary infrastructure and services required to accommodate the increased demand resulting from new development projects. This strategy ensures that the Town can maintain a fair and equitable system for financing essential infrastructure improvements, ensuring that new development bears its share of the costs. This approach supports responsible growth management and helps secure resources needed to accommodate development without disproportionately burdening existing residents. Impact fees should be reviewed at least every five years.

CI1.2: Implement the projects identified in the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) to ensure completion of the 10-year and build-out phases.

By following through with these projects, Northlake can ensure that its infrastructure development aligns with the long-term vision of the community. This approach reinforces the Town's commitment to responsible planning, efficient resource allocation, and a well-prepared future, all contributing to the sustainability and growth of Northlake. The Thoroughfare Map and the Water/Wastewater Map, included in **Appendix C**, contain essential geographical references to infrastructure projects expected to unfold over the next decade and beyond. The planning process for the Future Development Map considered the positioning and development of these critical infrastructure systems.

Cl1.3: Regularly review the water and wastewater master plans to ensure their alignment with changing community needs, technological advancements, and environmental considerations.

These master plans should be updated every five to ten years to account for planned growth and associated infrastructure needs. This proactive approach allows the Town to adapt its infrastructure planning to evolving circumstances, maintain efficient utility services, and address environmental concerns, all of which align with the Plan's goal of providing reliable and modern infrastructure.

# Cl1.4: Collaborate with relevant local authorities, utilities, and regulatory bodies to facilitate the sharing of water resources and infrastructure.

Throughout this planning process, smart allocation of water resources was brought up by many stakeholders and residents. Collaboration with partner entities will help ensure that the Town can optimize the use of resources, promote sustainable water management, and ensure efficient infrastructure planning. This collaborative effort aligns with the Plan's objectives for responsible and coordinated community development.

# Cl1.5: Implement a Geographic Information System (GIS)-based asset management inventory to efficiently track and manage community assets.

The Public Works Department has begun developing an asset management tracking system. Other departments within the Town should employ similar technology to monitor and maintain critical infrastructure, leading to improved resource allocation, cost-effective maintenance, and more informed decision-making.

### Cl1.6: Proactively plan and establish additional police and fire facilities in tandem with community growth.

By strategically expanding these essential public safety services, the Town can ensure timely emergency response and policing for its growing population. This approach aligns with the Plan's commitment to maintaining the well-being and security of Northlake's residents while accommodating development and population growth.





### **TxDOT RELATIONSHIPS**

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) wields significant influence on Texas communities due to its pivotal role in planning, constructing, operating, and maintaining much of the state's roadway infrastructure. TxDOT's decisions regarding roadways, highways, and transportation projects can profoundly impact a community's connectivity, accessibility, and economic development. In Northlake, TxDOT oversees a substantial portion of the Town's primary thoroughfares, including I35W, SH 114, and FM Roads 1171, 407, 156. This constrains the Town's ability to manage operations and enhancements on these roads since TxDOT maintains exclusive jurisdiction over these routes. TxDOT does offer a program known as the 'Turnback Program,' in which TxDOT turns over ownership of a segment of roadway to a community. The benefit of this program is that the local community would have control over improvements and enhancements within the ROW, while the drawback is that the community would be fully responsible for funding the operations and maintenance costs. Additionally TxDOT offers "Municipal Maintenance Agreements" that allow local governments to fund enhanced roadways within TxDOT ROW.

#### Goal CI2: Support the development of a safe, convenient, and accessible transportation system.

### Cl2.1: Prioritize the development of improved north-south connections to enhance regional mobility, alleviate congestion, and promote efficient transportation flow.

Currently the only continuous north-south roadway in Northlake is I35W. Developing alternative north-south routes will allow Northlake to address traffic challenges, facilitate smoother movement of goods and people, and support the Plan's vision of a well-connected and accessible community. This approach aims to improve overall transportation infrastructure, benefiting both residents and businesses within the Town.

### Cl2.2: Work with state and regional partners to increase road capacity on FM 407 and extend FM 1171 to accommodate the community's growth and improve mobility.

By working with TxDOT, Denton County, NCTCOG, and surrounding communities on these road improvement projects, the Town can alleviate traffic congestion and provide better transportation options for residents and employees. This approach contributes to improved regional connectivity and supports Northlake's sustainable development as it continues to grow.

# Cl2.3: Promote active transportation opportunities to create a pedestrian and cyclist-friendly community that promotes healthy lifestyles, reduces traffic congestion, and enhances overall quality of life.

As new roadways are constructed and as existing roadways are expanded, the Town should prioritize adding bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure to allow for active transportation opportunities. By doing this, Northlake can create a more sustainable and inclusive built environment aligned with the Plan's vision for a vibrant and accessible community.

# Cl2.4: Maintain an ongoing and collaborative partnership with TxDOT, Denton County, and adjacent communities to ensure synchronized planning and execution of future roadway widenings.

By coordinating with partner entities, Northlake can contribute to well-planned and efficient roadway expansions that align with regional transportation needs. This collaborative approach supports the Plan's vision of a well-connected and accessible community, enhancing overall mobility and transportation infrastructure for Northlake's residents and commuters. Continued participation in regional mobility efforts such as the NCTCOG Regional Transportation Council and Surface Transportation Technical Committee are also important.

### Cl2.5: Establish a designated funding source or fee structure dedicated to roadway maintenance to ensure the longevity of the community's road infrastructure.

There are certain fees that a community can impose, such as a Street Maintenance Tax (incorporated into the sales tax rate) or a Road Assessment (fees charged to property owners who would benefit from a roadway improvement instead of raising taxes for the community at large). Funds generated by these sources can be used towards the ongoing maintenance and repair of roadways. If these fee structures were to be created in the future, Northlake can be better equipped to ensure the long-term durability of its road infrastructure, ultimately maintaining a reliable and modern transportation network.

TABLE 5.4   COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE IMPLEMENTATION SUMMARY					
Strategy	Type of Strategy	Timeframe	Implementing Agency	Partners	
Goal CII: Ensure public infrastructure is proactively provided and maintained in an efficient, equitable manner.					
<b>CI1.1:</b> Conduct routine reviews of impact fees to ensure their accuracy, relevance, and alignment with the community's growth and development needs.	Operations	Ongoing	Public Works	Finance, Development Services	
CI1.2: Implement the projects identified in the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) to ensure completion of the 10-year and build-out phases.	Investment	Long	Public Works	Development Services	
<b>CI1.3:</b> Regularly review the water and wastewater master plans to ensure their alignment with changing community needs, technological advancements, and environmental considerations.	Study	Ongoing	Public Works	TRWD, TRA	
<b>CI1.4:</b> Collaborate with relevant local authorities, utilities, and regulatory bodies to facilitate the sharing of water resources and infrastructure.	Operations	Ongoing	Public Works	TRWD, TRA, Surrounding Communities	
CI1.5: Implement a Geographic Information System (GIS)-based asset management inventory to efficiently track and manage community assets.	Operations	Ongoing	Development Services	Public Works	
*CI1.6: Proactively plan and establish additional police and fire facilities in tandem with community growth.	Operations	Ongoing	Development Services	Town Council, Fire, Police, ESD	
Goal CI2: Support the development of a safe, conve	enient, and a	ccessible tra	ansportation sy	rstem.	
*CI2.1: Prioritize the development of improved north-south connections to enhance regional mobility, alleviate congestion, and promote efficient transportation flow.	Investment	Long	Public Works	TxDOT, Denton County	
*CI2.2: Work with state and regional partners to increase road capacity on FM 407 and extend FM 1171 to accommodate the community's growth and improve mobility.	Investment	Long	Development Services	TxDOT, NCTCOG, Denton County	
Cl2.3: Promote active transportation opportunities to create a pedestrian and cyclist-friendly community that promotes healthy lifestyles, reduces traffic congestion, and enhances overall quality of life.	Policy	Ongoing	Development Services	NCTCOG, Public Works	
Cl2.4: Maintain an ongoing and collaborative partnership with TxDOT, Denton County, and adjacent communities to ensure synchronized planning and execution of future roadway widenings.	Operations	Ongoing	Development Services	TxDOT, Denton County, Surrounding Communities	
CI2.5: Establish a designated funding source or fee structure dedicated to roadway maintenance to ensure the longevity of the community's road infrastructure.	Operations	Mid	Town Manager	Town Council, Public Works, Finance	



### COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Northlake ensures a high quality of life and well-being for all ages and stages of life, providing a range of civic programming, recreation opportunities, and modern technology and facilities that have the capacity to support needs of this evolving and growing community.

The Town's commitment to enriching the high quality of life and well-being for residents of all ages and life stages is clear. However, as Northlake evolves and grows, it will encounter challenges in keeping pace with the rising demand for civic programming, parks, and modern facilities. Ensuring that these amenities and facilities cater to the diverse needs of a growing population requires careful planning and resource allocation. Nonetheless, these challenges also present opportunities for Northlake to strengthen its civic infrastructure, enhance recreational offerings, and leverage modern technology to foster a more vibrant and connected community. By addressing these issues proactively and maximizing these opportunities, Northlake can continue to provide a high quality of life and well-being for its residents as the Town evolves and flourishes.

**Goal CF1:** Invest in community facilities to better serve residents as the community and associated needs continue to grow.

CF1.1: Construct a new Town Hall facility that will serve as a central hub for civic activities, administration, public services, and community events.

As discussed in Chapter 4, there is a need and desire for a new, centralized Town Hall. Such a facility would act as a focal point for municipal functions, enhancing accessibility to essential services and fostering a sense of community identity. This allows the Town to continue fostering well-equipped and cohesive civic infrastructure, benefiting both residents and stakeholders in Northlake.

CF1.2: Integrate advanced technology within community facilities to enhance user experiences and streamline operations.

This strategy will allow Northlake to provide residents with enhanced services and experiences while optimizing resource management. Potential technological additions to community facilities may encompass offerings like complimentary public Wi-Fi, electric bike-sharing programs, digital signage, and emergency phone systems, among other possibilities.

### CF1.3: Develop a public-private partnership to construct a state-of-the-art sports complex that offers indoor sports fields and sports courts facilities.

Due to the lack of public parks and recreation facilities in Northlake, there is a need for sports fields and sports courts. A public-private partnership can help the Town share the cost burden of developing this type of facility. An indoor sports complex would offer a modern sports venue that benefits both residents and visitors, fostering athletic and recreational opportunities, thus enhancing community amenities and promoting healthy and active lifestyles in Northlake.

### CF1.4: Explore partnerships with neighboring communities and external vendors to offer shared community facilities such as libraries and recreation centers.

As communities face lean operating budgets, many partner with neighboring communities to provide joint services or facilities that would otherwise be very expensive for one community to provide on its own. By collaborating in this way, Northlake can optimize resource utilization and expand access to essential services and recreational opportunities for its residents. This approach aligns with the Plan's goal of fostering cost-effective and efficient community infrastructure development, enhancing the overall quality of life in Northlake.

### **FUTURE SPORTS FACILITY**

In September 2022, the Town of Northlake conducted a Market and Financial Feasibility Study for an Ice Center and Hardcourt Sports Facility. The study aimed to assess demand, analyze regional trends, gather cost data, and evaluate the economic and fiscal advantages of investing in this type of facility. The positive outcomes of this study led the Town to call for a special election to seek approval for the construction of a \$45M sports facility located near SH 114, featuring amenities like ice rinks and hard courts. The special election passed, and the facility is expected to open by 2026 and would be funded through a combination of hotel occupancy tax, dedicated sales tax, and lease payments, with no impact on property taxes. Officials believe the complex will attract more businesses to the area and boost sales tax revenue while maintaining low property taxes for residents.





Rendering source: Stellar Group, Incorporated

### Goal CF2: Continue existing and implement new community programs based on resident needs.

### CF2.1: Implement a comprehensive schedule of annual programmed events that cater to diverse interests and age groups within the community.

Northlake offers a few existing annual events including the Christmas at the Commons event in December. As the community and staff grows and interests become more diverse, the Town can explore adding to the annual schedule of events. These events can be used to enhance community engagement, foster a sense of belonging, and create vibrant social connections.

### CF2.2: Develop a comprehensive branding strategy that positions the Town Center as the heart of the community, a dynamic gathering space, and a vibrant cultural hub.

The Town Center concept plan presented in **Chapter 4** represents a grand vision for a new community center. To help attract developers, tenants, and eventually residents and visitors, the Town Center should have an identifiable brand. This can help create a distinct identity for the Town Center, drawing residents and visitors alike to enjoy its amenities and cultural offerings.

# CF2.3: Consider establishing a Parks and Recreation Department as the Town grows to oversee the planning, development, and management of public parks, recreational facilities, recreation programs, and community events.

A municipal Parks and Recreation Department typically oversees the planning, design, programming, operations, and maintenance of parks and recreation facilities. As the population continues to grow, there will likely be a need for community parks, sports fields, and recreation programs that are typically included within a community and that are not present in Northlake today. Adding a Parks and Recreation Department when feasible would allow Northlake to create a well-coordinated and enriching recreational environment for its residents.





TABLE 5.5   COMMUNITY FACILITIES IMPLEMENTATION SUMMARY					
Strategy	Type of Strategy	Timeframe	Implementing Agency	Partners	
Goal CFI: Invest in community facilities to better serve residents as the community and associated needs continue to grow.					
<b>CF1.1:</b> Construct a new Town Hall facility that will serve as a central hub for civic activities, administration, public services, and community events.	Investment	Long	Development Services & Town Manager	Town Council, All Departments	
<b>CF1.2:</b> Integrate advanced technology within community facilities to enhance user experiences and streamline operations.	Investment	Long	Town Manager	Business Partners	
<b>CF1.3:</b> Develop a public-private partnership to construct a state-of-the-art sports complex that offers indoor sports fields and sports courts facilities.	Investment	Mid	Town Manager	EDC, CDC, Developers, Sports Entitie	
<b>CF1.4:</b> Explore partnerships with neighboring communities and external vendors to offer shared community facilities such as libraries and recreation centers.	Operations	Mid	Town Manager	Surrounding Communities	
Goal CF2: Continue existing and implement new c	ommunity pro	ograms base	ed on resident ı	needs.	
<b>CF2.1:</b> Implement a comprehensive schedule of annual programmed events that cater to diverse interests and age groups within the community.	Operations	Ongoing	Communica- tions & Marketing	EDC, CDC, Community Groups	
*CF2.2: Develop a comprehensive branding strategy that positions the Town Center as the heart of the community, a dynamic gathering space, and a vibrant cultural hub.	Investment	Long	Communica- tions & Marketing	EDC, CDC, Town Counc	
<b>CF2.3:</b> Consider establishing a Parks and Recreation Department as the Town grows to oversee the planning, development, and management of public parks, recreational facilities, recreation programs, and community events.	Operations	Long	Town Manager	Town Counci	

See page 78 for descriptions of the implementation program parameters. \*Indicates a high priority strategy.



### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Northlake is a business-friendly community that invites and attracts a diversity of retail offerings, services, and employment opportunities that cater to local needs and create regional attractions, bolstering economic vitality and prosperity for the community.

The Town is on a trajectory to establish a reputation as a business-friendly community that attracts a diverse range of retail offerings, services, and employment opportunities. However, establishing and sustaining this vibrancy requires addressing issues such as workforce development, supporting infrastructure, and sustainable growth management. The need for a skilled and adaptable workforce, along with infrastructure enhancements to support businesses, presents areas of focus. Yet, these challenges also present opportunities for Northlake to invest in workforce training, strategic infrastructure development, and targeted incentives to attract and retain businesses. By proactively addressing these economic development challenges and harnessing opportunities, Northlake can bolster its economic vitality and prosperity, ensuring that it continues to be an attractive and thriving community for both residents and businesses alike.

**Goal ED1:** Promote procedures and policies that help create a favorable atmosphere for business recruitment and retention.

ED1.1: Facilitate collaborative joint meetings among the Community Development Corporation (CDC), Economic Development Corporation (EDC), Town Council, and Planning & Zoning Commission (P&Z) to enhance synergy, streamline communication, and foster informed decision-making.

During the Northlake Next Comprehensive Plan process, these four elected and appointed official groups met for the first time. Additional joint meetings should be considered in the future to promote coordination and open dialogue. By doing so, Northlake can better ensure that development and economic initiatives align with the Town's Comprehensive Plan, fostering a more efficient and well-informed approach to community growth and prosperity.

ED1.2: Maintain participation in regional chamber initiatives to foster collaboration, economic growth, and community development.

The Metroport Chamber serves the business community in Northlake, Argyle, Justin, Roanoke, Trophy Club, and Westlake. By continuing to actively engage with the chamber, the Town can promote synergies with neighboring communities, leverage collective resources, and strengthen its position as a hub for economic vitality and collaboration. This allows Northlake to create a thriving and interconnected community, contributing to the Town's overall prosperity and well-being.

ED1.3: Conduct and periodically update a target industry/cluster study to identify potential industries to come to Northlake.

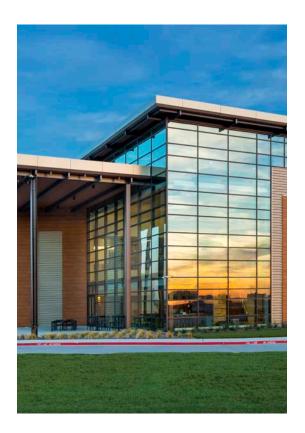
The Town's active monitoring and assessment of industry trends and opportunities will allow it to proactively attract and support businesses that align with its economic development goals. This approach enhances Northlake's ability to diversify its economic base, create employment opportunities, and stimulate sustainable growth, in accordance with the Plan's vision of a prosperous and thriving community.

# ED1.4: Track job creation, public/private investment, change in tax value, and income to measure Northlake's economic health over time.

Monitoring these indicators provides valuable insights into the community's economic well-being, ensuring that Northlake remains on a path of sustainable growth and prosperity. This data-driven approach allows for responsible and informed economic development, facilitating informed decision-making and the continued enhancement of Northlake's economic vitality.

# ED1.5: Create a database of all major employers, key contacts, number of employees, average pay, industries, and other factors.

By maintaining such a database, Northlake can gain a holistic understanding of its economic landscape, support business growth and development, and facilitate strategic decision-making to enhance the community's economic vitality. This initiative aligns with the Plan's vision for data-driven and informed economic development, fostering a thriving and resilient local economy.



Goal ED2: Work with partners to diversify offerings for retail, commercial, and entertainment uses.

### ED2.1: Implement targeted strategies to attract grocery and retail businesses to the community, enhancing convenience and local economic vitality.

Both the market assessment and the community engagement process for this Plan revealed that there is demand in the community for grocery and additional retail. Through coordination with the EDC, CDC, and Chamber, the Town can implement targeted strategies such as proactive outreach, working with third-party recruitment firms, and creating additional marketing highlighting commercial opportunities to attract these types of retailers. This approach enables the Town to foster a vibrant and well-served community, ensuring that essential goods and services are readily available while bolstering the local economy through increased commercial activity.

### ED2.2: Regularly meet with commercial developers, property owners, and brokers to identify opportunities to collaborate on corporate attraction.

Fostering such partnerships allows the Town to leverage local expertise and resources to attract businesses, create job opportunities, and enhance economic development. This approach encourages strategic economic growth and prosperity, reinforcing Northlake's position as a business-friendly community. These conversations can also be used as a venue to promote the development of the Town Center.

### ED2.3: Support the development of regional commercial centers to provide convenient access to daily needs and services, learning, access to employment, and recreation.

The place types identified on the Future Development Map (page 42) that include commercial uses are Corridor Commercial, Neighborhood Commercial, and Livable Center. Facilitating the creation and expansion of these areas will ensure that Northlake can meet the diverse needs of its residents while promoting economic growth and community development. This aligns with the Plan's vision of a well-served and vibrant community, enhancing accessibility and fostering a high quality of life for all.

#### ED2.4: Maintain a database of development sites suitable for commercial uses.

Given that Northlake is a growing community in a large, competitive region, it is prudent to understand viable development sites when potential developers and investors make inquiries. This database can serve as a valuable resource, streamlining the site selection process and promoting efficient and targeted economic development efforts within the Town.

### ED2.5: Create tourism packages by partnering with local businesses, hotels, and complementary venues.

By collaborating in this way, the Town can offer visitors comprehensive experiences that highlight the region's attractions and amenities. These tourism packages can help boost local businesses, promote the area's unique offerings, and attract tourists. A notable example of this initiative is the groundbreaking of the Cambria Hotel along SH 114 in Northlake. This hotel will include four stories, 111 rooms, a restaurant, bar, and an adjoining 10,000-square-foot conference center with 6,000 square feet of meeting space.

### ED2.6: Promote sports-oriented tourism to function as catalyst for economic development.

Leveraging sports events and activities enables the Town to attract visitors, stimulate local businesses, and enhance its economic vitality. This approach creates a thriving and economically vibrant community, positioning Northlake as a destination for sports enthusiasts and contributing to its overall prosperity and growth.

### SPORTS-ORIENTED TOURISM

Sports-oriented tourism injects a surge of economic vitality into the local community, particularly during tournaments. Hotels, restaurants, and shops thrive as visitors flock to the community, boosting revenue and creating jobs. This type of tourism also elevates the community's profile on a regional, national, and even global scale, drawing attention and potential investments. Moreover, it fosters community cohesion, as residents take pride in showcasing their community as a sporting destination. Sports-oriented tourism not only enhances the overall quality of life for residents but also leaves a legacy of upgraded infrastructure and facilities.



TABLE 5.6   ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IMPLEMENTATION SUMMARY					
Strategy	Type of Strategy	Timeframe	Implementing Agency	Partners	
Goal EDI: Promote procedures and policies that help create a favorable atmosphere for business recruitment and retention.					
*ED1.1: Facilitate collaborative joint meetings among the CDC, EDC, Town Council, and P&Z to enhance synergy, streamline communication, and foster informed decision-making.	Operations	Short	Town Manager	Town Council, P&Z, CDC, EDC	
*ED1.2: Maintain participation in regional chamber initiatives to foster collaboration, economic growth, and community development.	Operations	Ongoing	Town Manager, Development Services	Metroport Chamber, EDC, CDC	
<b>ED1.3:</b> Conduct and periodically update a target industry/cluster study to identify potential industries to come to Northlake.	Study	Ongoing	Development Services	EDC, CDC	
<b>ED1.4:</b> Track job creation, public/private investment, change in tax value, and income to measure Northlake's economic health over time.	Operations	Ongoing	Development Services	EDC, CDC	
<b>ED1.5:</b> Create a database of all major employers, key contacts, number of employees, average pay, industries, and other factors.	Operations	Mid	Development Services	EDC, CDC	
Goal ED2:Work with partners to diversify offering	s for retail, c	ommercial, a	nd entertainme	ent uses.	
*ED2.1: Implement targeted strategies to attract grocery and retail businesses to the community, enhancing convenience and local economic vitality.	Operations	Short	Development Services	EDC, CDC	
<b>ED2.2:</b> Regularly meet with commercial developers, property owners, and brokers to identify opportunities to collaborate on corporate attraction.	Operations	Ongoing	Development Services	EDC, CDC	
<b>ED2.3:</b> Support the development of regional commercial centers to provide convenient access to daily needs and services, learning, access to employment, and recreation.	Policy	Mid	Development Services	EDC, CDC	
<b>ED2.4:</b> Maintain a database of development sites suitable for commercial uses.	Operations	Ongoing	Development Services	EDC, CDC	
<b>ED2.5:</b> Create tourism packages by partnering with local businesses, hotels and complementary venues.	Investment	Long	Development Services	Communi- cations & Marketing	
<b>ED2.6:</b> Promote sports-oriented tourism to function as catalyst for economic development.	Operations	Mid	EDC, CDC, Development Services	Communi- cations & Marketing	

See page 78 for descriptions of the implementation program parameters. \*Indicates a high priority strategy.



### **COMMUNITY CHARACTER**

Northlake fosters a strong sense of community that celebrates the Town's diversity and natural features through high-quality development standards, branding, well-maintained and connected neighborhoods, and social gathering spaces.

The Town has successfully cultivated a strong sense of community that celebrates its rural character and natural features through strong development standards and branding efforts. However, maintaining this sense of community amidst growth necessitates careful stewardship of high-quality development practices that protect the Town's distinctive character and natural assets. Issues such as responsible land use, preservation of open space, and sustainable development are crucial focal points. Nevertheless, these challenges also offer opportunities for Northlake to continue prioritizing well-maintained, connected neighborhoods, and strategically designed recreational and social gathering spaces. By preserving and enhancing its unique character while embracing growth, Northlake can ensure that the community remains cohesive, vibrant, and inclusive, fostering a high quality of life for all residents.

### Goal CC1: Promote the development of a Town Center as a centralized hub for the community.

### CC1.1: Explore funding mechanisms for implementing the Town Center concept in a phased approach.

Northlake can strategically develop its Town Center over time by exploring funding options such as public-private partnerships, tax increment financing, grants, bond issuances, and revenue from property taxes or special assessments. A phased approach allows for responsible and sustainable growth while fostering community engagement and economic development in Northlake.

### CC1.2: Work with an architect to design the new Town Hall in regards to space and facility needs.

As discussed in Chapter 4, there is potential to incorporate a new, consolidated Town Hall as part of a future Town Center in Northlake. With all of the growth that has occurred and is expected to continue within the community, an updated space needs analysis should be conducted to help inform the design needs of a future municipal facility.

### CC1.3: Coordinate with external agencies to update infrastructure leading to the proposed Town Center site.

Collaboration with agencies such as TxDOT, Denton County, Trinity River Authority (TRA), and Oncor ensures that the necessary infrastructure improvements are in place to support the development of the Town Center, which would be of a denser scale than existing development in Northlake today. This approach helps facilitate responsible growth and enhances the overall accessibility and appeal of Northlake's Town Center.

# CC1.4: Develop marketing materials to generate interest and share the vision for the Town Center site.

By creating informative and engaging materials, the Town can effectively communicate its vision, attract potential investors, businesses, and community support, and promote the development of a vibrant and successful Town Center.

#### Goal CC2: Celebrate and highlight the unique features of the community.

# CC2.1: Signify the entrances into the community by implementing impactful gateways that leave a lasting impression on residents and visitors alike

Gateways are designed to create a lasting impression on residents and visitors alike, serving as symbolic and aesthetically pleasing markers that reflect the Town's identity and values. Gateways are most impactful at community entrances that experience a lot of traffic, such as along major roadways. TxDOT does have a policy of one gateway monument along interstates per community.

#### **GATEWAYS**

Gateways are symbolic thresholds that welcome residents and visitors alike into the heart of a community. They often feature distinctive architectural elements, landscaping, and signage that reflect a community's identity and values. Beyond their aesthetic appeal, they serve as a point of pride, instilling a sense of belonging and marking a transition into a shared space.





# CC2.2: As roadways are reconstructed, utilize the streetscape to create an inviting and aesthetically pleasing built environment.

Streetscape refers to the visual elements of a roadway such as landscaping, lighting, pedestrian and bicycle facilities, and street furniture (e.g. benches and trash cans). The integration of thoughtful design elements into road reconstruction projects will enhance the visual appeal of its streets, making them more welcoming and visually appealing. Streetscape features should vary based on the function of the roadway and the surrounding land uses; for example, the streetscape within the Town Center area should be more pedestrian-oriented while the streetscape within the industrial areas should accommodate large trucks.

## CC2.3: Explore exaggerated setbacks and design features that can maintain the "Northlake" look and feel.

Preservation of the Town's rural character was voiced by many residents and stakeholders during this plan process. By incorporating design elements such as large setbacks and rural theming, the Town can ensure that new developments harmonize with the existing character and aesthetics of Northlake, fostering a cohesive and visually appealing community.

#### STREETSCAPE

As new roads are built and when existing roads are reconstructed, thoughtful consideration should be given to the streetscape, or the visual elements of a roadway. The below images represent how pedestrian facilities, lighting, landscaping, and parking can create different types of streetscape environments based on the surrounding context.





TABLE 5.7   COMMUNITY CHARACTER IMPLEMENTATION SUMMARY						
Strategy	Type of Strategy	Timeframe	Implementing Agency	Partners		
Goal CCI: Promote the development of a Town Co	enter as a cer	tralized hub	for the comm	unity.		
<b>CC1.1:</b> Explore funding mechanisms for implementing the Town Center concept in a phased approach.	Investment	Mid	Town Manager	Development Services, Finance		
<b>CC1.2:</b> Work with an architect to design the new Town Hall in regards to space and facility needs.	Investment	Mid	Development Services	Consultant		
*CC1.3: Coordinate with external agencies to update infrastructure leading to the proposed Town Center site.	Operations	Ongoing	Public Works	TRWD, TRA, Oncor, TXDOT		
CC1.4: Develop marketing materials to generate interest and share the vision for the Town Center site.	Operations	Mid	Communi- cations & Marketing	EDC, CDC		
Goal CC2: Celebrate and highlight the unique feat	ures of the co	ommunity.				
<b>CC2.1:</b> Signify the entrances into the community by implementing impactful gateways that leave a lasting impression on residents and visitors alike.	Investment	Mid	Communi- cations & Marketing, Development Services	EDC, CDC, Consultant		
*CC2.2: As roadways are reconstructed, utilize the streetscape to create an inviting and aesthetically pleasing built environment.	Investment	Long	Public Works	Development Services		
CC2.3: Explore exaggerated setbacks and design features that can maintain the "Northlake" look and feel.	Regulation	Short	Development Services	Town Council		

See page 78 for descriptions of the implementation program parameters. \*Indicates a high priority strategy.



#### NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Northlake prioritizes environmental stewardship through the preservation and conservation of the Town's natural resources and features and the implementation of development and mitigation standards that safeguard the community from natural hazards while connecting the community to natural areas and recreational space where possible.

The Town's commitment to environmental stewardship, preservation of natural resources, and mitigation of natural hazards reflects its dedication to preserving its natural character. Managing growth while safeguarding the environment presents challenges in terms of responsible land use, floodplain management, and habitat protection. These challenges also offer opportunities for Northlake to implement sustainable development practices, create green spaces, and enhance connectivity to natural areas. By taking proactive measures to balance development with environmental preservation, Northlake can continue to protect its unique natural features, provide recreational opportunities, and ensure the long-term well-being of the community. This approach aligns with the Plan's vision of a sustainable and resilient Town that values and conserves its natural heritage.

**Goal NE1:** Protect natural spaces from development to conserve natural resources and provide natural areas for residents.

NE1.1: Develop a comprehensive floodplain protection plan to safeguard the community against potential flood hazards.

Approximately 22% of Northlake town limits and 36% of the ETJ is within the 100-year floodplain. A comprehensive floodplain protection plan can help enhance its resilience to flooding events, protect property and residents, and ensure responsible land use in flood-prone areas. This type of plan typically includes a detailed assessment of flood risks, mitigation strategies, floodplain management regulations, emergency response plans, and public education and outreach efforts aimed at reducing flood-related risks and enhancing community resilience.

NE1.2: Establish and maintain a collaborative partnership with the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for lands owned by the USACE within the community.

Within Northlake, the USACE owns significant acreage centered along Denton Creek. The environmental mission of the USACE is to restore degraded ecosystems, construct sustainable facilities, regulate waterways, and manage natural resources. Fostering this partnership will allow the Town to ensure coordinated conservation efforts, potentially unlocking opportunities for passive recreational uses within the USACE lands.

# NE1.3: Identify and capitalize on passive park opportunities to create serene and natural spaces that promote relaxation, reflection, and connection with nature.

Passive parks refer to a recreational area designed for quiet and contemplative activities, emphasizing natural surroundings, green spaces, and serene environments, rather than active sports or structured facilities. Developing such parks can enable Northlake to offer residents tranquil and accessible areas for respite, fostering a sense of well-being and community engagement.

# NE1.4: Implement a multi-use trail along Denton Creek, creating a scenic and recreational corridor that allows residents to connect with nature, explore the waterway, and engage in outdoor activities.

The previous Comprehensive Plan identified a multi-use trail adjacent to Denton Creek through the community. By establishing this trail, Northlake can provide an accessible and enjoyable way for its residents to interact with the natural environment, fostering a sense of well-being and promoting outdoor recreation. Based on current state and national standards, a paved trail should be a minimum of 10' wide, but 12' wide is preferred if multiple user types are expected.

# NE1.5: Explore the use of conservation neighborhoods to provide clustered residential development that maintains large natural spaces.

Conservation neighborhoods are characterized by natural preservation, low-density development, sustainable practices, and access to nature. By promoting these neighborhoods, Northlake can accommodate growth while safeguarding significant portions of its natural environment.

#### **REGIONAL VELOWEB**

The NCTCOG Regional Veloweb is a visionary network of interconnected cycling and pedestrian pathways that spans across North Central Texas. Designed with the goal of promoting sustainable and active transportation, the network weaves through urban, suburban, and rural areas, parks, and scenic routes, providing residents and visitors with safe, convenient, and eco-friendly options for commuting and recreation. Information on the Veloweb can be found at the following link:

Source: https://www.nctcog.org/trans/plan/bikeped/veloweb/adopted-2045-regional-veloweb



**Goal NE2:** Promote community resiliency to be better prepared for responding to natural and manmade disasters.

NE2.1: Execute the strategies outlined in the Emergency Response Plan (ERP) and Emergency Preparedness Plan (EPP) to ensure a robust and coordinated approach to handling various crises and disasters.

The ERP and EPP were adopted in 2022. The ERP includes comprehensive procedures and strategies for mitigating, responding to, and recovering from environmental and man-made emergencies. In response to Winter Storm Uri (2021), the EPP was developed to detail preparedness and mitigation strategies, ensuring Northlake's ability to recover from power outages and maintain water service for its customers. These plans are essential tools for preparing, responding to, and recovering from emergencies, safeguarding the safety and well-being of Northlake's residents, and maintaining the Town's resilience in the face of unexpected events.

# NE2.2: Coordinate with the Denton County Emergency Management Department to enhance community resilience and disaster response capabilities.

The Denton County Emergency Management Department leads a comprehensive and well-coordinated emergency management program that effectively minimizes the impact of hazards on Denton County through teamwork and collaborative efforts. By collaborating with county authorities, the town can leverage expertise and resources to strengthen its preparedness and response efforts in the face of disasters.

# NE2.3: Routinely review water conservation guidelines over time to ensure responsible and sustainable water usage within the community.

By periodically assessing and updating these guidelines, the Town can adapt to changing circumstances and promote efficient water management practices. This approach aligns with the Plan's commitment to environmental stewardship and responsible resource use, ensuring that Northlake continues to conserve water resources while meeting the needs of its growing population.

# NE2.4: Explore becoming certified through FEMA's Community Rating System (CRS) to reduce flood insurance rates.

Achieving CRS certification can lead to reduced flood insurance rates for residents, providing financial relief and incentivizing responsible floodplain management practices. Additionally, the Town can attain increased community resilience and potential eligibility for federal grants and assistance for flood-related projects.

Strategy	Type of Strategy	Timeframe	Implementing Agency	Partners
Goal NEI: Protect natural spaces from developme areas for residents.	nt to conserve	e natural res	ources and pro	vide natura
<b>NE1.1:</b> Develop a comprehensive floodplain protection plan to safeguard the community against potential flood hazards.	Study	Mid	Development Services	Floodplain Administrato
*NE1.2: Establish and maintain a collaborative partnership with the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for lands owned by the USACE within the community.	Operations	Ongoing	Town Manager	USACE
<b>NE1.3:</b> Identify and capitalize on passive park opportunities to create serene and natural spaces that promote relaxation, reflection, and connection with nature.	Investment	Mid	Development Services	Developers Landowners Town Council, P&
<b>NE1.4:</b> Implement a multi-use trail along Denton Creek, creating a scenic and recreational corridor that allows residents to connect with nature, explore the waterway, and engage in outdoor activities.	Investment	Long	Development Services	USACE, Public Work NCTCOG
<b>NE1.5:</b> Explore the use of conservation neighborhoods to provide clustered residential development that maintains large natural spaces.	Policy	Mid	Development Services	Town Council, P&
Goal NE2: Promote community resiliency to be be made disasters.	tter prepared	for respond	ling to natural a	and man-
<b>NE2.1:</b> Execute the strategies outlined in the Emergency Response Plan (ERP) and Emergency Preparedness Plan (EPP) to ensure a robust and coordinated approach to handling various crises and disasters.	Operations	Ongoing	Public Works	Police, Fire, Town Manager, Denton County ESI
<b>NE2.2:</b> Coordinate with the Denton County Emergency Management Department to enhance community resilience and disaster response capabilities.	Operations	Ongoing	Development Services & Public Works	Denton County ESD, Fire & Emergency Services
*NE2.3: Routinely review water conservation guidelines over time to ensure responsible and sustainable water usage within the community.	Policy	Ongoing	Public Works	Developmer Services
<b>NE2.4:</b> Explore becoming certified through FEMA's Community Rating System to reduce flood insurance rates.	Operations	Mid	Town Manager	Public Work

See page 78 for descriptions of the implementation program parameters. \*Indicates a high priority strategy.

#### PLAN ADMINISTRATION

#### **IMPLEMENTATION ROLES**

The Town of Northlake and its partners are responsible for administering this Plan. Town staff will be responsible for the day-to-day oversight of Plan implementation, monitoring, and amendments. This section describes those administration activities in more detail.

#### **TOWN DEPARTMENTS**

While all Town of Northlake departments will engage in the Plan's implementation to some degree, the Development Services Department will primarily oversee its administration and annual updates to the Town Council.

#### **PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION**

The Planning & Zoning Commission plays a crucial role in evaluating and endorsing upcoming developments and potential alterations to the Future Development Map, collaborating closely with staff on the progress reports that detail the plan's advancement.

#### **TOWN COUNCIL**

The Town Council will play a pivotal role in advancing Plan implementation by providing continuous guidance and direction to staff, as well as other boards and commissions, while also making decisions concerning budget allocations and regulatory modifications as specified in the Implementation Program.

# OTHER BOARDS, COMMITTEES & COMMISSIONS

Within Northlake, various boards, committees, and commissions are designated to fulfill specific roles in reviewing and guiding various initiatives, all of which will play a pivotal role in implementing the recommendations specified in the Implementation Program that align with their respective areas of focus.

#### **OTHER PARTNERS**

Numerous external stakeholders, including business owners, developers, and community groups, actively contributed to the Plan's development and will remain engaged in leadership or support roles to facilitate the implementation of the recommendations outlined in the Implementation Program.

#### **MONITORING PROGRESS**

Extensive efforts were dedicated throughout the planning process to engage a wide spectrum of residents, land and business owners, and other key stakeholders to ensure the Plan aligns with the overarching community vision. To sustain community engagement and enthusiasm, transparency about forthcoming progress in Plan implementation is crucial. An effective approach for conveying this progress is through an annual progress report, which should provide updates on the status of implementation strategies and showcase achievements accomplished in the preceding year. The responsibility of producing the annual progress report will be led by the Development Services Department and presented to the Town Council.

#### AMENDING THE PLAN

Northlake's Comprehensive Plan captures a moment in time, with changes expected as the Town grows and matures. To ensure the attainability of the overarching vision, the implementation approach must remain adaptable, capable of accommodating shifts in demographic, economic, physical, and political factors as they evolve over time. The Development Services Department will provide annual updates to the Town Council on Implementation Program progress, including necessary Future Development Map revisions due to development. The Plan should undergo a comprehensive review and update every five years to align with growth trends and evaluate the relevance of action plan strategies, while a completely new comprehensive plan should be developed approximately every 10 years, encompassing a 20-year planning horizon, incorporating community visioning, public engagement, issue analysis, trend assessment, growth projections, future land use mapping, and implementation planning.

#### **FUNDING THE PLAN**

While some recommendations within the Implementation Program pertain to administrative actions without the need for additional funding, many categorized as investments or studies will necessitate financial support for their execution. In addition to conventional municipal funding sources such as tax revenues and fees, communities in Texas can explore other funding avenues to facilitate the implementation of comprehensive plan initiatives. These resources include, among others:

- Tax Increment Finance (TIF)/Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone (TIRZ)
- Public Improvement District (PID)
- Chapter 380 Economic Development Agreements
- Texas Main Street Program
- Community Development Block Grant
- Transportation Alternative Funding
- Recreational Trails Program
- Texas Parks and Wildlife Local Park Grants



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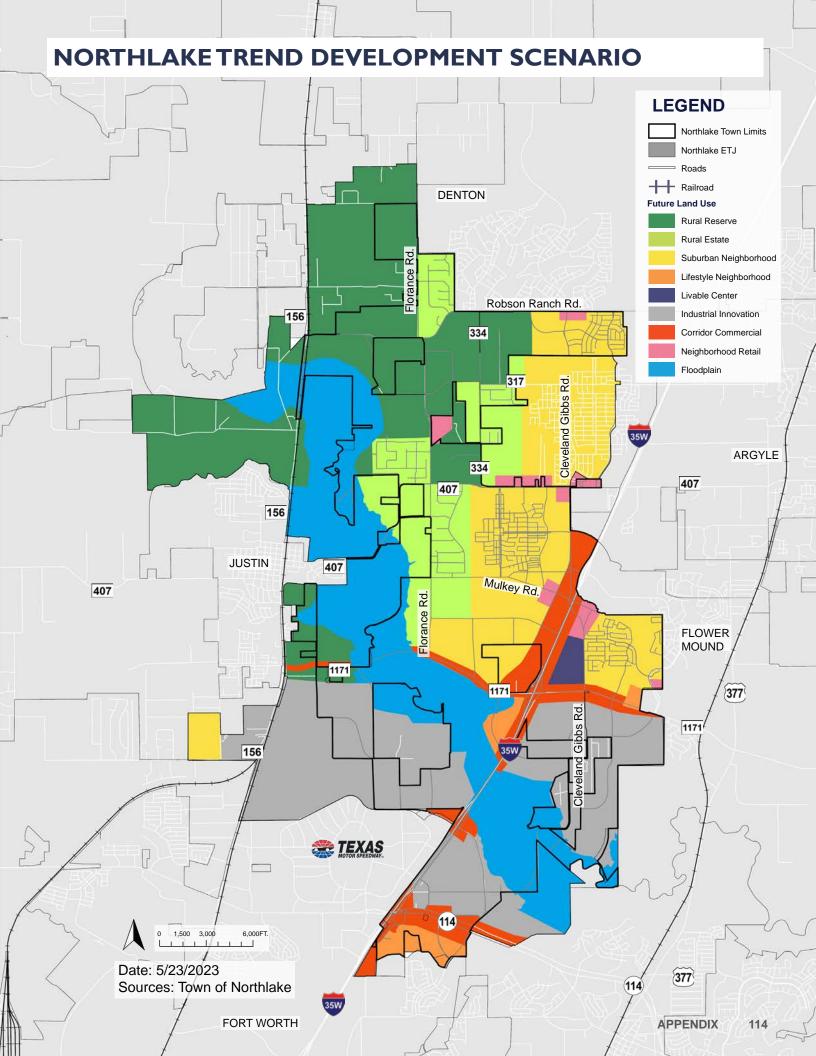


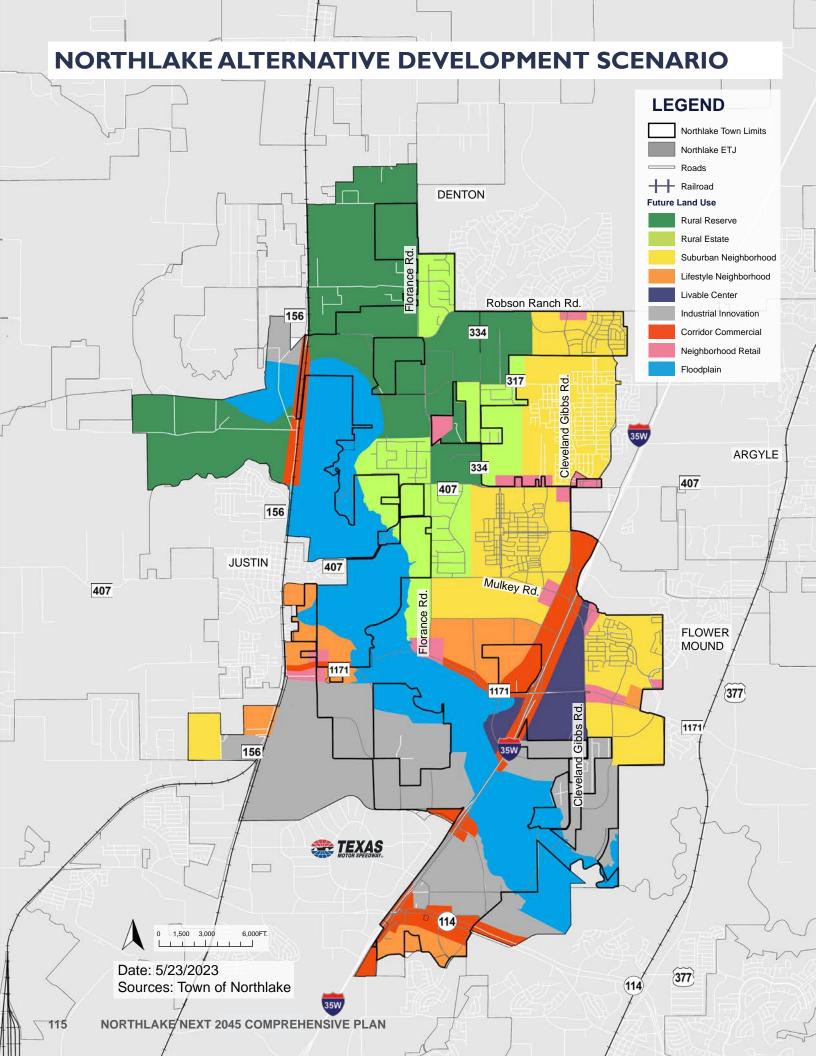


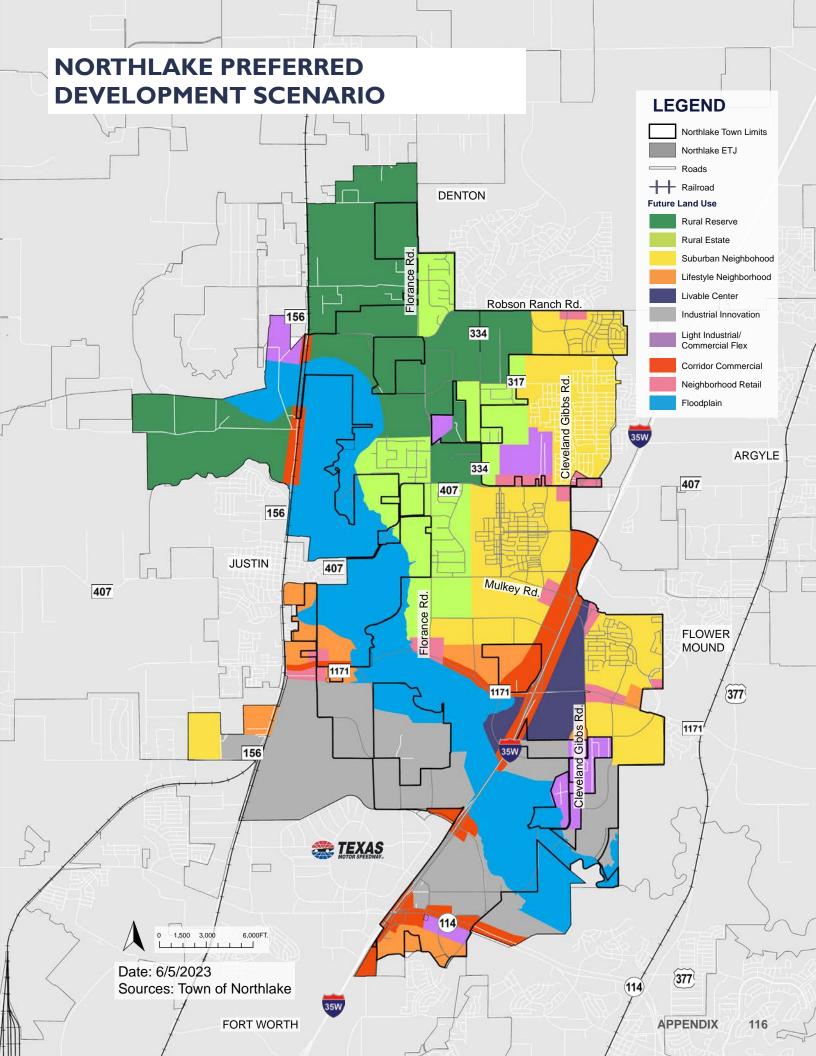
### LIST OF ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Event   Meeting	Timeframe	Objective	Audience
Stakeholder Listening Sessions	3/20/2023 3/23/2023	Discuss issues, opportunities and priorities for Northlake	Invited stakeholder groups included neighborhood associations, business community, developers, and governmental partners
Steering Committee Meeting #1	3/20/2023	Introduction to planning process; Discuss issues, opportunities and priorities for Northlake	Steering Committee Members
Elected and Appointed Official Kick-Off Meeting	3/23/2023	Introduction to planning process; Discuss issues, opportunities and priorities for Northlake	Town Council, P&Z, CDC, EDC
Public Meeting #1	4/3/2023	Introduction to planning process; Discuss issues, opportunities and priorities for Northlake	Public
Online Community Survey	4/3/2023 - 4/29/2023	Seek feedback on current issues and future needs in Northlake	Public
Steering Committee Meeting #2	4/28/2023	Conduct site visits to area town centers to gain inspiration for Northlake	Steering Committee Members
Steering Committee Meeting #3	5/23/2023	Scenario planning workshop and review of guiding principles and place types	Steering Committee Members
Public Meeting #2	6/26/2023	Present draft concepts and seek feedback on the vision for a Town Center	Public
Steering Committee Meeting #4	7/31/2023	Review of preferred scenario, town center small area plan, and discussion on plan goals	Steering Committee Members
Public Meeting #3	8/28/2023	Present draft Future Development Map and review Implementation Program	Public
Steering Committee Meeting #5	9/25/2023	Review of Town Center Small Area Plan and prioritization of strategies	Steering Committee Members
Steering Committee Meeting #6	11/13/2023	Review alternate Town Center concepts	Steering Committee Members
Community Touchpoint at Christmas at the Commons Event	12/4/2023	Final review of Town Center concept	Public
Joint P&Z/Town Council Meeting	12/19/2023	Review of Draft Plan	P&Z Town Council
P&Z Review Session	1/16/2024	Review of Updated Draft Plan	P&Z
Town Council Review Session	1/25/2024	Review of Updated Draft Plan	Town Council
Town Council Review Session	2/8/2024	Final Review of Draft Plan	Town Council
P&Z Public Hearing	2/20/2024	Recommendation for Plan Adoption	P&Z Public
Town Council Public Hearing	2/22/2024	Plan Adoption	Town Council; Public

# APPENDIX B DEVELOPMENT SCENARIO SUMMARY









# NORTHLAKE NEXT 2045 COMPREHENISVE PLAN FISCAL IMPACT SUMMARY

As part of the Comprehensive Planning process, Catalyst estimated the fiscal analysis based upon the Preferred Land Use Scenario prepared by Halff.

#### **Summary:**

The proposed scenario creates an estimated \$1.2B in total property tax (to all taxing entities) and \$75.9M in sales tax (to Northlake) over the Planning Period (2024 to 2045). In addition, the Preferred Scenario is estimated to create over 38,000 new jobs and increase population by over 28,000 new residents that can contribute to the local economy.

The analysis area includes 12,165 acres (existing Town limits and ETJ) of developable land. For each Place Type Catalyst used the following assumptions for each land use.

Table 1. Place Type Program Breakdown

Place Type	Area (ac)	Percent	Ag/ Open Space	Residential	Office	Retail	Industrial	Multifamily
Rural Reserve	1,527	12.6%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Rural Estate	673	5.5%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Suburban Neighborhood	1 <b>,</b> 957	16.1%	10%	85%	0%	5%	0%	0%
Lifestyle Neighborhood	538	4.4%	10%	75%	5%	10%	0%	0%
Livable Center (Town Center)	437	3.6%	10%	40%	10%	15%	0%	25%
Industrial Innovation	2,267	18.6%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%
Corridor Commercial	551	4.5%	10%	0%	20%	65%	0%	5%
Neighborhood Retail	196	1.6%	10%	0%	20%	70%	0%	0%
Light Industrial/Commercial Flex	315	2.6%	30%	0%	10%	20%	40%	0%
Floodplain	3,704	30.4%						

Grand Total 12,165

<u>Density</u>: To estimate density, Catalyst and Halff used the following floor area ratios to estimate land coverage for each Place Type.

Table 2. Place Type FAR

Place Type	Residential Units Per Acre	Office FAR	Retail FAR	Industrial FAR	Multifamily Units Per Acre
Rural Reserve	0.2	0%	20%	50%	0
Rural Estate	0.8	0%	20%	50%	0
Suburban Neighborhood	3.0	0%	20%	50%	0

Place Type	Residential Units Per Acre	Office FAR	Retail FAR	Industrial FAR	Multifamily Units Per Acre
Lifestyle Neighborhood	6.0	20%	20%	50%	16
Livable Center (Town Center)	8.0	40%	20%	50%	20
Industrial Innovation	0.0	0%	20%	50%	0
Corridor Commercial	0.0	20%	20%	50%	0
Neighborhood Retail	0.0	20%	20%	50%	0
Light Industrial/Commercial Flex	0.0	20%	20%	50%	0

<u>Program</u>: Based upon the above assumptions, the following represents the total additional program for each Place Type.

Table 3. Additional Program by Place Type

Place Type	SF Residential Units	Office SF	Retail SF	Industrial SF	Multifamily Units
Rural Reserve	305	0	0	0	0
Rural Estate	538	0	0	0	0
Suburban Neighborhood	4,990	0	852,469	0	0
Lifestyle Neighborhood	2,421	234,353	468,706	0	0
Livable Center (Town Center)	1,398	761,429	571,072	0	2,185
Industrial Innovation	0	0	0	49,375,260	0
Corridor Commercial	0	959,731	3,119,127	0	0
Neighborhood Retail	0	341,510	1,195,286	0	0
Industrial/Commercial Flex	0	274,428	548,856	2,744,280	0
Floodplain	0	0	0	0	0
Grand Total	9,654	2,571,451	6,755,516	52,119,540	2,185

To estimate fiscal impact, Catalyst used the demand assumptions from the Market Analysis to estimate the future absorption through the planning year horizon of 2045. Years 2024-2026 for single family and years 2024-2025 used absorption assumptions based on city input of active developments and their estimated delivery dates.

#### **Annual Absorption Estimates:**

Annual Residential Absorption: 458
Annual Multifamily Absorption: 272
Annual Retail Absorption: 50,000
Annual Office Absorption: 20,000
Annual Industrial Absorption 750,000

Note: Projected absorption is based upon historical and future projections and actual absorption is subject to the regulatory environment, business conditions, market factors, and other external influences.

<u>Fiscal Impact</u>: Based upon the proposed Place Types and above assumptions, Catalyst estimated the future sales tax and property tax implications for the Town of Northlake through 2045.

Table 4. Cumulative Additional Program by Year (2024-2045)

Year	Cumulative Residential	Cumulative Office SF	Cumulative Retail SF	Cumulative Industrial	Cumulative Multifamily Units
2024	800	20,000	50,000	750,000	460
2025	1,600	40,000	100,000	1,500,000	460
2026	2,200	60,000	150,000	2,250,000	732
2027	2,658	80,000	200,000	3,000,000	1,004
2028	3,116	100,000	250,000	3,750,000	1,276
2029	3,574	120,000	300,000	4,500,000	1,548
2030	4,032	140,000	350,000	5,250,000	1,820
2031	4,490	160,000	400,000	6,000,000	2,092
2032	4,948	180,000	450,000	6,750,000	2,185
2033	5,406	200,000	500,000	7,500,000	2,185
2034	5,864	220,000	550,000	8,250,000	2,185
2035	6,322	240,000	600,000	9,000,000	2,185
2036	6,780	260,000	650,000	9,750,000	2,185
2037	7,238	280,000	700,000	10,500,000	2,185
2038	7,696	300,000	750,000	11,250,000	2,185
2039	8,154	320,000	800,000	12,000,000	2,185
2040	8,612	340,000	850,000	12,750,000	2,185
2041	9,070	360,000	900,000	13,500,000	2,185
2042	9,528	380,000	950,000	14,250,000	2,185
2043	9,654	400,000	1,000,000	15,000,000	2,185
2044	9,654	420,000	1,050,000	1 <i>5,</i> 750,000	2,185
2045	9,654	440,000	1,100,000	16,500,000	2,185

To calculate fiscal impact, Catalyst used the following assumptions:

Sales per SF	\$300.00
Sales Tax Rate	2.0%
City Tax Rate	0.295000
County Tax Rate	0.189485
Northwest ISD Tax Rate	1.090200
Northlake ESD #1 Tax Rate	0.080283

Residential Unit Size	2,800 sf
Multifamily Unit Size	1,000 sf

To calculate values, Catalyst used the following values per square foot assumptions:

Residential:	\$140
Office:	\$180
Retail	\$180
Industrial:	\$60
Multifamily:	\$150

To estimate the number of additional jobs and population, Catalyst used the following assumptions:

Jobs	Est. SF/Job
Retail	980
Industrial	450
Office	600
Industrial	450
Population	
People per SF household	2.61
People per MF unit	1.5

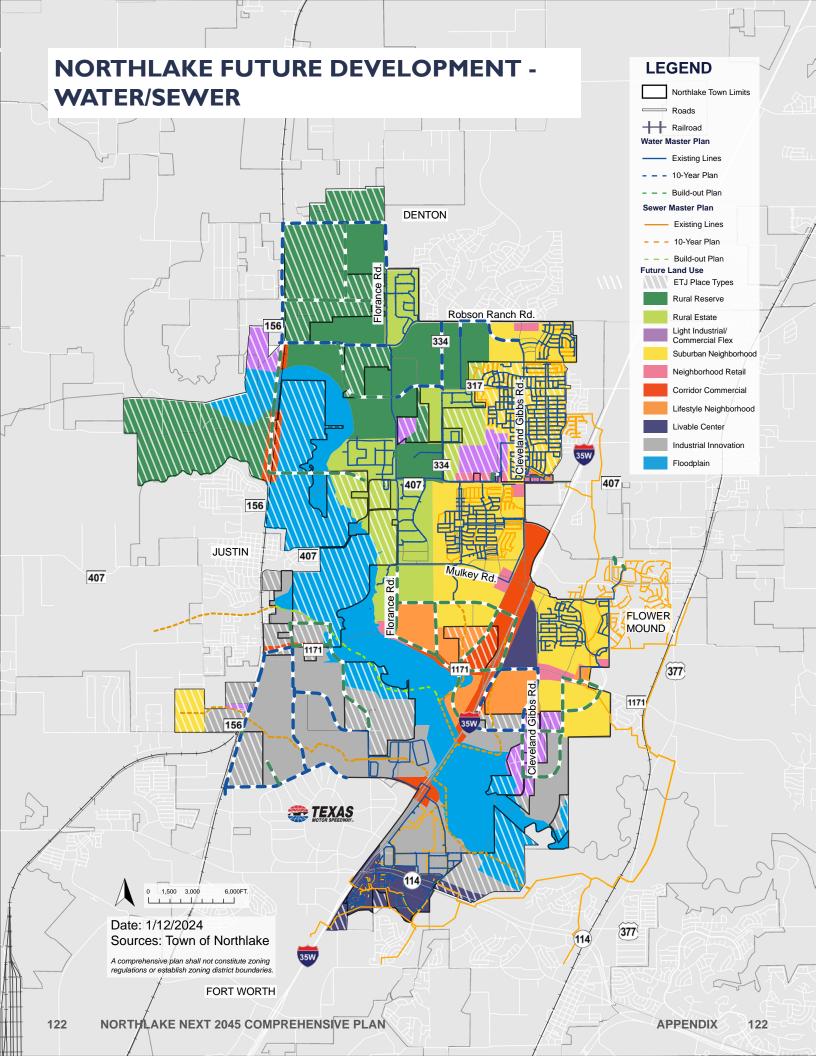
<u>Net Fiscal Benefits</u>: Based upon the above values and tax rate assumptions, Catalyst calculated the estimated net fiscal benefits of the Preferred Scenario. The results are shown below.

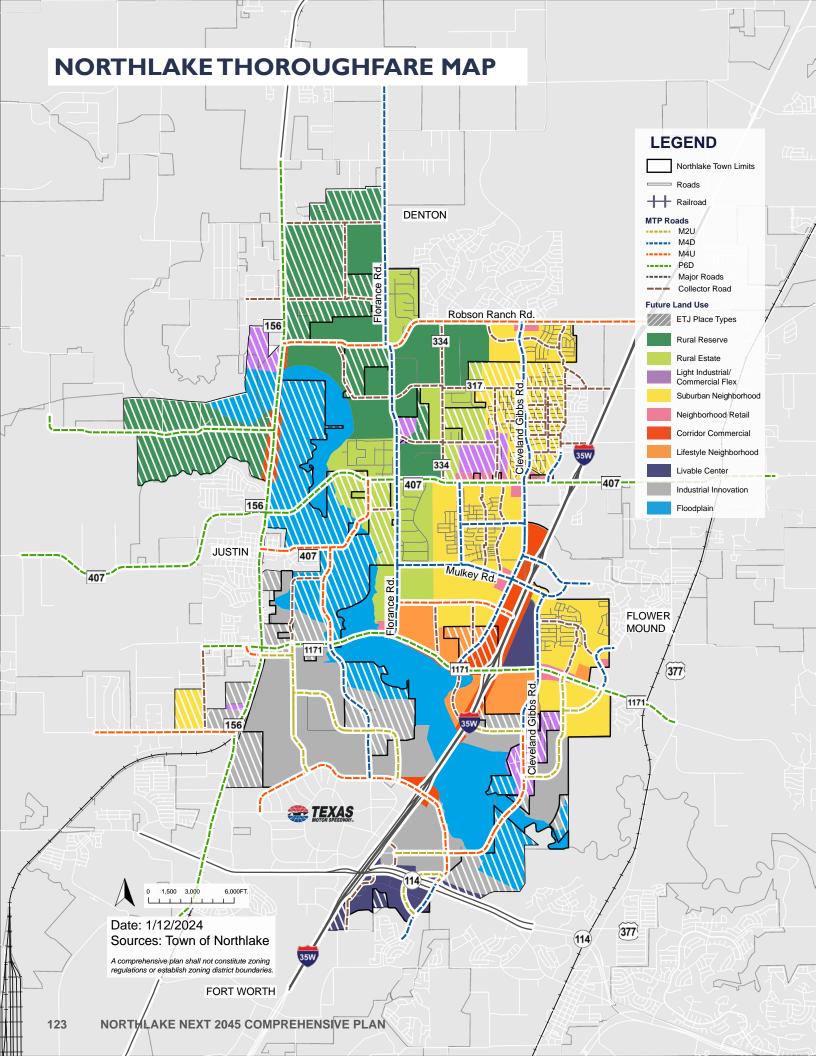
Table 5. Northlake Preferred Scenario Net Fiscal Benefits (2024-2045)

	Total Tax Value (Existing + New)	Annual Property Tax	Annual Net New Sales Tax	Annual Additional Jobs	Annual Increase in Population
2024	\$440,200,000	\$ <b>7,</b> 285 <b>,</b> 169	\$300,000	1,751	2,778
2025	\$811,400,000	\$13,428,410	\$600,000	1,751	2,088
2026	\$1,145,000,000	\$18,949,384	\$900,000	1,751	1,974
2027	\$1,422,936,000	\$23,549,135	\$1,200,000	1,751	1,603
2028	\$1,700,872,000	\$28,148,887	\$1,500,000	1,751	1,603
2029	\$1,978,808,000	\$32,748,639	\$1,800,000	1,751	1,603
2030	\$2,256,744,000	\$37,348,391	\$2,100,000	1,751	1,603
2031	\$2,534,680,000	\$41,948,143	\$2,400,000	1,751	1,603
2032	\$2,785,766,000	\$46,103,536	\$2,700,000	1,751	1,335
2033	\$3,022,902,000	\$50,028,061	\$3,000,000	1,751	1,195
2034	\$3,260,038,000	\$53,952,586	\$3,300,000	1,751	1,195
2035	\$3,497,174,000	\$57,877,111	\$3,600,000	1,751	1,195
2036	\$3,734,310,000	\$61,801,636	\$3,900,000	1,751	1,195
2037	\$3,971,446,000	\$65,726,160	\$4,200,000	1,751	1,195
2038	\$4,208,582,000	\$69,650,685	\$4,500,000	1,751	1,195
2039	\$4,445,718,000	\$73,575,210	\$4,800,000	1,751	1,195
2040	\$4,682,854,000	\$77,499,735	\$5,100,000	1,751	1,195
2041	\$4,919,990,000	\$81,424,260	\$5,400,000	1,751	1,195
2042	\$5,157,126,000	\$85,348,785	\$5,700,000	1,751	1,195
2043	\$5,263,941,600	\$87,116,549	\$6,000,000	1,751	328
2044	\$5,321,541,600	\$88,069,811	\$6,300,000	1,751	-
2045	\$5,379,141,600	\$89,023,072	\$6,600,000	1,751	-
		\$1,190,603,356	\$75,900,000	38,522	28,473

# APPENDIX C FUTURE GROWTH

**CONSIDERATIONS MAPS** 





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