10-Minute Walk Campaign
National Study Visit
Lewisville, Texas

March 27 - 29, 2019

Photo credit from left to right: Reema Singh, NRPA, Reema Singh

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Convenings | Research | Best Practices | Education

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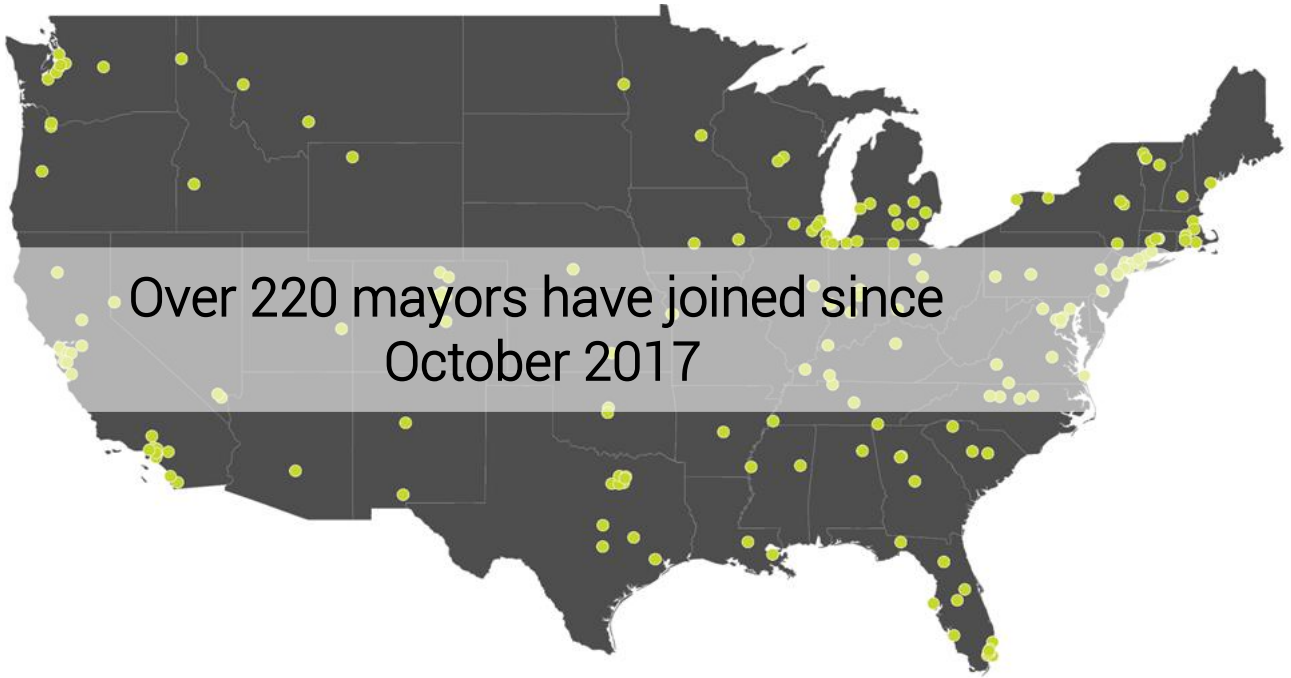
THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND

NRPA National Recreation and Park Association

ULI Urban Land Institute

10 MINUTE WALK™



Everyone, in every neighborhood, in every city **in America has a high-quality park** or public green space **within a 10-minute walk of home.**

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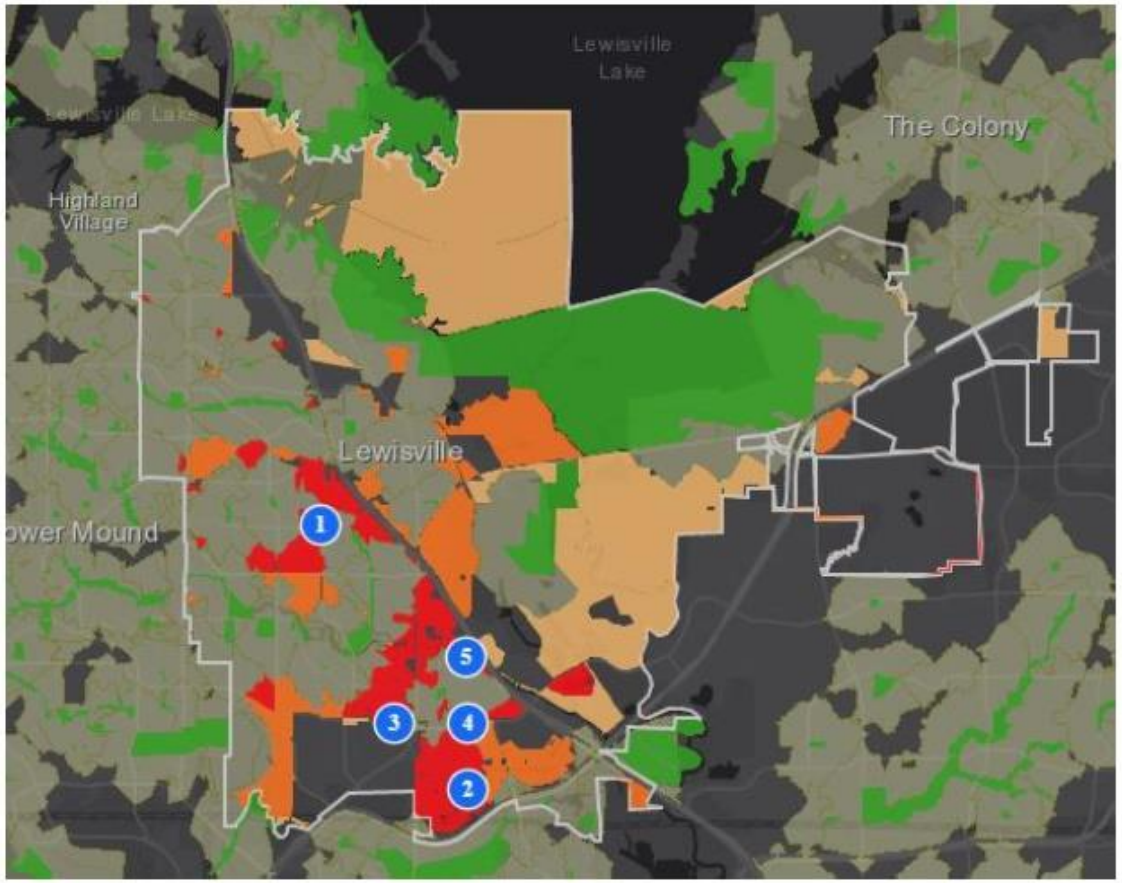
Lewisville, Texas



TPL Parkserve

60.4%

Current percentage of residents living within a 10 minute walk to a park

National Experts

- Cate Townley (Chair)
  Senior Built Environment Specialist, Colorado Dept. of Public Health and Environment, *Denver, Colorado*
- Isabel Domeyko
  Managing Member and Northern California Leader, New Economics and Advisory, *Roseville, California*
- Adrian B. Engel, PE, LEED AP
  Senior Associate, Fehr & Peers, *Sacramento, California*
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  Departmental Facilities Planner, Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation, *Los Angeles, California*
- TJ McCourt, AICP
  Planning Supervisor, City of Raleigh Parks Department, *Raleigh, North Carolina*
- Jared Mummert
  Program Specialist, National Recreation and Parks Association, *Ashburn, VA*
- Molly Plummer
  Parks for People Program Manager, Trust for Public Land, *Dallas, Texas*
- James Rojas
  Founder, PLACE IT!, *Los Angeles, California*
- Cassie Wright
  Founder and President, Urban Milestones, LLC, *Amarillo, Texas*

Photo credit: Reema Singh

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National Study Visit Process

Briefing materials

Tour of the study area

Stakeholder interviews

Develop actionable recommendations

Public Presentation

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Special Thanks to the Local Planning Group!

- **Karen Locke,** 2025 Committee
- **Becky Nelson,** Chin Community Ministries
- **Andres Barbara**, Code Inspection, City of Lewisville
- **Travis Ersch**, Building Inspections, City of Lewisville
- **Jason Moore**, Economic Development, City of Lewisville
- **Meredith Mote**, Fire Inspections , City of Lewisville
- **Andrew Park**, Health, City of Lewisville
- **Prit Patel,** Neighborhood Services, City of Lewisville
- **Stacie Anaya**, Parks and Recreation Department, City of Lewisville
- **Michele Berry**, Planning Department, City of Lewisville
- **Captain Butterworth,** Police Department, City of Lewisville
- **Keith Marvin,** Public Services, City of Lewisville
- **Wanda Echevarria**, Lewisville Elementary, LISD
- **Dawn Shapley**, Next Steps Center
- **Mary Ellen Miksa**, Planning and Zoning Member
- **Casey Dunn**, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Member
- **Karl Zavitovsky**, Enterprise Bridge USA
- **Pam Stein** and Amber Crawford, ULI - North Texas

TRANSFORMING THE CITY ONE LIFE AT A TIME

The Study Area

Aerial

Study Questions from Lewisville, Texas

1. Identify **creative opportunities to increase connectivity** to existing parks, greenbelts and/or open space in or near the triangle? What strategies can be employed to enhance equity at new or existing connections?

2. Identify opportunities to **convert existing** City of Lewisville **drainage right-of-way, easements and/or open space** in or near the triangle to parks or trails. What **placemaking strategies** can be employed to create community gathering and activity opportunities.

3. What are the successful **community processes** to engage the wide range of stakeholders for creating strategies for improving the 10MWP ratios in the triangle?

4. What **investment and partnership strategies** can Lewisville employ to encourage **existing businesses** and multi-family residential units improve connectivity to existing parks, greenbelts and open space in or near the triangle?

5. What **incentive** or **regulatory approaches** can Lewisville employ to **spark redevelopment of properties** near the northern corner of the triangle and encourage the inclusion of parks, open space and trails?

Study Questions from Lewisville, Texas

6. The triangle is within an **Opportunity Zone**, how can the City leverage/market that to potential developers for redevelopment of multifamily housing to include public spaces?

7. What strategies can be employed to **fund infill sidewalk and trail projects on undeveloped property**, or property that was developed prior to the requirement for sidewalk construction. Is there a way to fund the infill with public funds and recover the cost from property owners?

8. What are **creative ways to engage the population** in this area which is predominantly made up of multi-housing units and **Spanish speaking residents**? We want to ensure the **community and cultural needs** of the residents are represented in the 10MWP triangle.

9. What are creative strategies for **employing micro-parks** in areas where larger open spaces are not achievable? Can the **amenities** of public spaces **be incorporated into the connectivity** elements to create spaces that function as both?

First Impressions of Lewisville

- Very engaged and passionate staff
- City leadership is committed to the 10-Minute Walk vision
- Residents deeply value parks
- Lots of natural community assets
- Community partners are willing to help
- Ready for action!

Photo credit: Adrian Engel, Reema SIngh

Key Opportunities for Lewisville

- Community Engagement
  - Stronger Together
  - Create social cohesion and stewardship
- Park Planning and Services
  - Achieve 100% Park Access
  - Activate existing spaces
- Connections and access
  - Stitch the community together
  - Create walking and biking connections
- Funding and Investment Partners
  - Leverage partnerships to foster development
  - Create a sense of place

Photo credit: Adrian Engel

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Equity

- Equity is…
  when everyone, regardless of who they are or where they come from has the opportunity to thrive.

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation: Health Equity

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

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Community Engagement: Prioritize Inclusion

Photo Credit: James Rojas | Lewisville, TX

By **meeting people where they are** – physically, socially and mentally – community engagement can be a **tool to promote: inclusion, social cohesion, a greater sense of belonging,** and **empowerment.**

Community Engagement: Think outside the box

Photo Credit: James Rojas

Creative strategies can involve:

- Engaging the heart, hands, and head
- Embracing story-building
- Using visual, spatial and emotional cues

Community Engagement Tool: Art-Making

Helps transforms ideas and emotions into physical realities by asking participants to…

- Imagine
- Construct
- Present
- Reflect

Dream big, you're in Texas!

Photo Credit: James Rojas

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Community Engagement Tool: Play/Brainstorming

- Relaxes participants (no concept of failure)
- Inquiry & experimentation
- Removes barriers and promotes collaboration

Photo Credit: James Rojas

Community Engagement: Possible Outcomes

- Builds trust
- Helps reframe planning
- Promotes listening, learning and collaboration
- Encourages self-determination

Photo Credit: James Rojas

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Park Planning: How to Achieve 100% Park Access

- Strategies
  - Increase the number of parks by studying opportunities for greater trail connectivity
  - Engage community in design process
  - Use innovative short-term/temporary park solutions to bridge current park access gap

Photo credit: Unsplash

Photo credits: City of Lewisville, Design Workshop, and Landscape Architecture Foundation

Park Planning: Approach

- Invest in various park types
  - Community Parks
  - Green Centerpiece Nature Park
  - Signature Community Plaza Park
  - Temporary Parks and Pop-Ups

- Programming Considerations
  - Community Gathering Spaces
  - Health & Fitness Programming
  - Everyday Hangout Areas
  - Nature Programming
  - Play and Activities for Both Children and Older Youth

Photo credit: Unsplash

Park Planning: What Could New Parks Look Like?

- 3 New Community Parks
- 2 Signature Parks
  - One Addition as an Extension of the Green Centerpiece
  - One Signature Park Designed to Serve as the "Community Plaza"
- 1 Schoolyard-to-Park Opportunity

Photo Courtesy of D.A. Horchner/Design Workshop

Park Planning: Next Steps and Considerations

- Implement quick, volunteer driven park solution where possible
- Land Acquisition and Design for select sites
- Consider Mid-Term and Long-Term Park Creation
- Community Land Trusts and Non-Profit Management
- Funding and Support from Future Lewisville Parks Foundation
- Encourage Public Access to Private Greenspaces through Policy or Incentives
- Think about Innovative and Short Term Solutions

Community members prioritized park and recreation improvements with a voting exercise at the first public open house.

Community members at Garfield Park discussed access to their local parks at one of the public open houses.

Photo credits: unsplash

Providing Park and Recreation Services

Development of Micro or Pocket Parks

- There is limited vacant land available in the study area
- Land acquisition can be a costly and lengthy process
- Park size is not always important provided that the park offers an amenity or amenities that meet community needs such as basketball courts, soccer/futsal courts, and playgrounds
- Examples: City of Los Angeles 50 Parks Initiative, L.A. City and County Partnerships with local land trusts

Photo credit: City of Los Angeles

Providing Park and Recreation Services

Temporary Street Closures for Recreation

- Closing some streets for recreational activities temporarily can also create additional opportunities for physical activity
- This can be a quick and low-cost way to create active play spaces for children
- Example: CicLAvia in Los Angeles, Play Street Program in New York City

Photo credit: Ciclavia

Photo credit: NYC Parks

Providing Park and Recreation Services

Mobile Recreation

- Mobile recreation is a means to bring more resources to the study area
- Portable soccer goals, basketball hoops, and skateboard ramps may be placed on vacant or parking lots on a regular basis or at special events
- This can also take the form of vans that bring exercise and play equipment to the community
- Example: Mobile Recreation Vans in New York City

Play Mobiles

Play Mobiles are stocked with games and toys and are most suitable for children.

Fitness Mobiles

Fitness Mobiles come with exercise equipment and instructors for physical activity on-the-go.

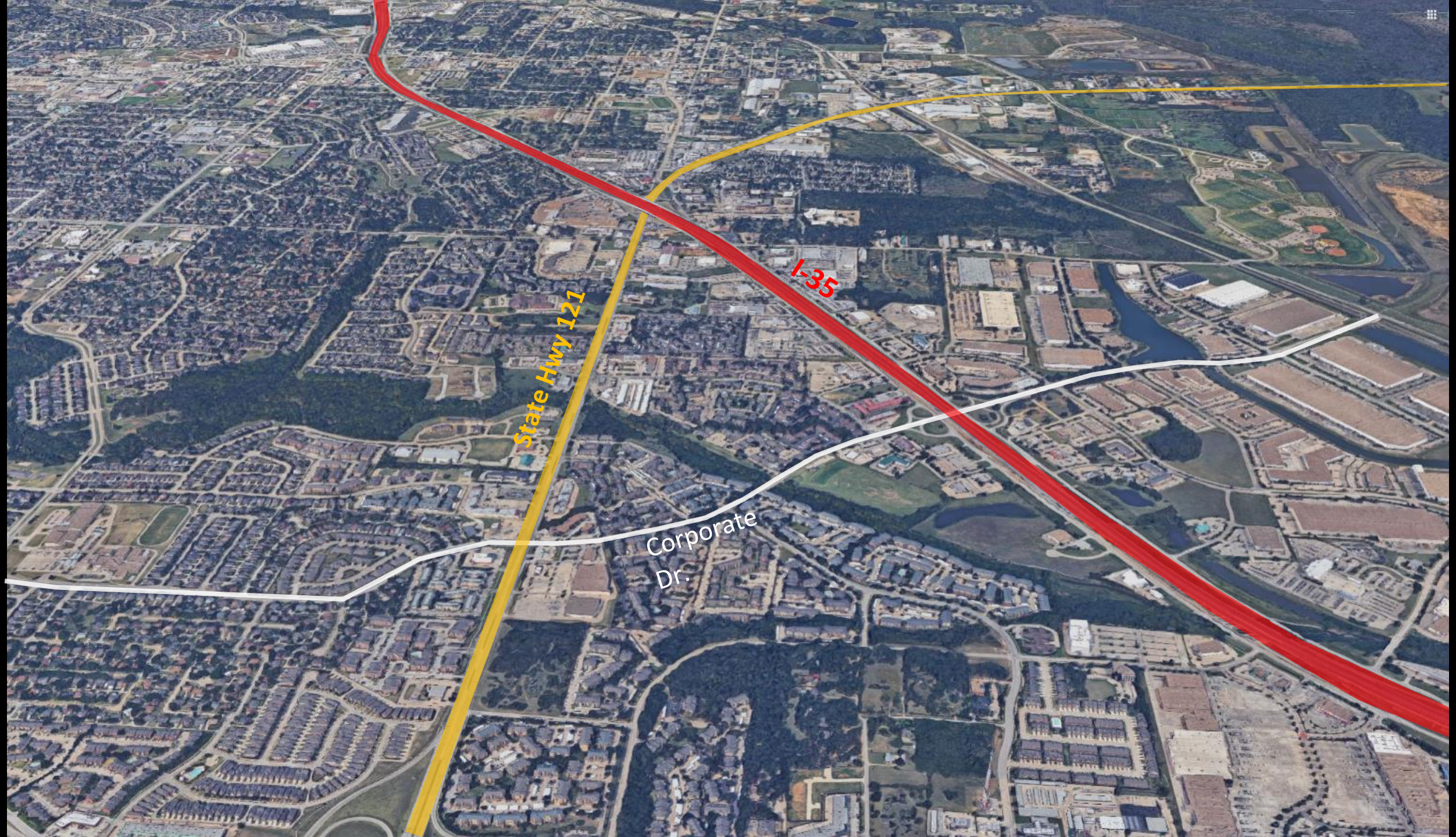
Photo credit: NYC Parks

Providing Park and Recreation Services

Transportation to Outside Parks and Recreational Amenities

- Residents without cars are less likely and less able to visit parks outside their neighborhood
- The City of Lewisville has some wonderful parks and recreational facilities such as Central Park and Lake Park
- Transporting residents, especially children, to some of these facilities is another way to address their recreation needs
- Example: Beach bus and The Link shuttle services in Los Angeles County

Photo credtt: Baldwin Hills Conservancy


I-35
State Hwy 121
Corporate
Dr.

2,100
Housing Units
4,000+
Residents
24%
Under 16
$58K
Lewisville, T
Median House
Income
$35K
Study Area
Median Household
Income

Central Park
Fox Creek
Timber Creek

Timber Creek

Linear Park

1. Stream Beautification
2. Pedestrian Passages
3. Community Visioning
4. Trail Design & Construction
5. Network Integration

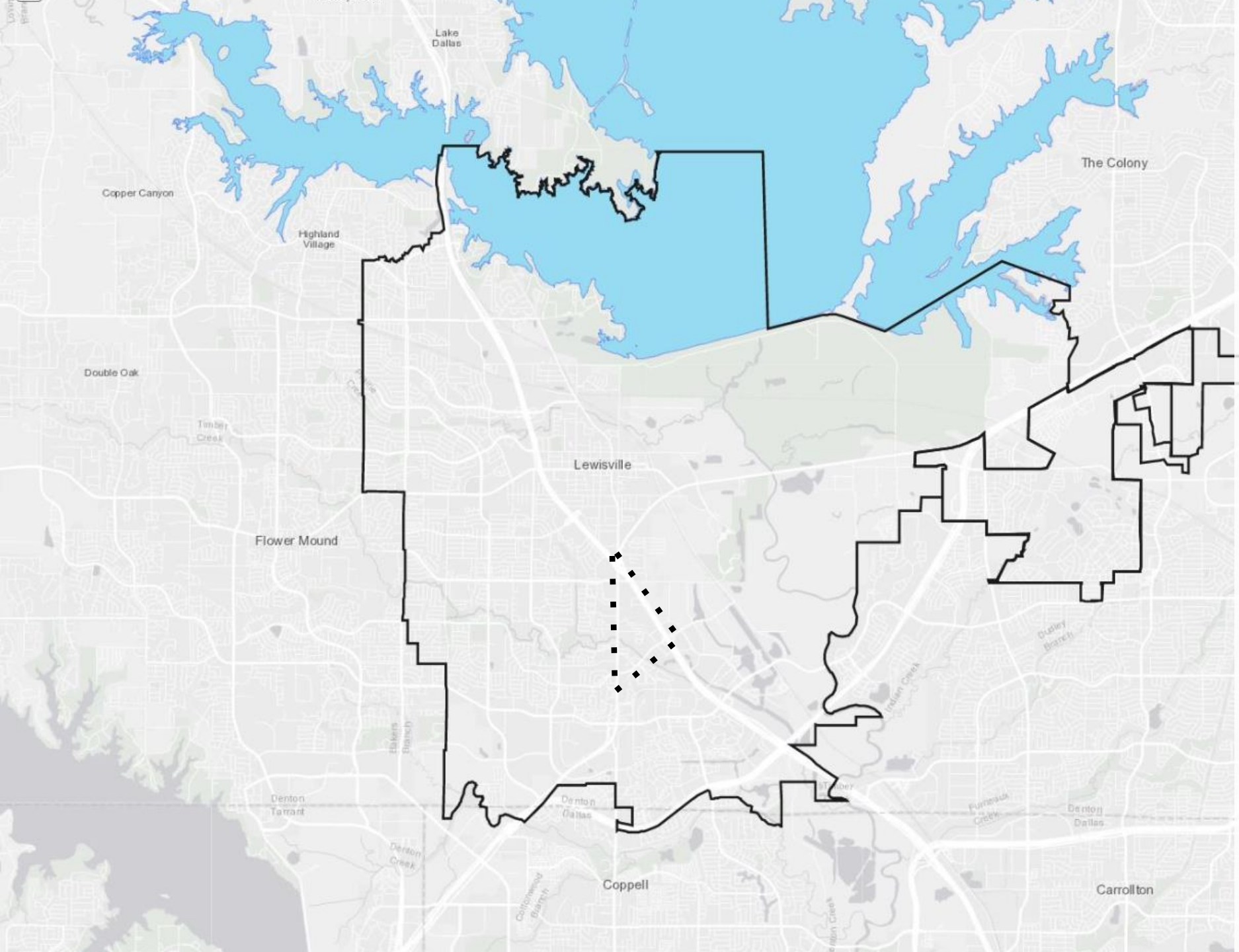
Quantifying Equity

Measuring Project Impact

1. Create walkable park access for 4,000 people (+ 4%!)

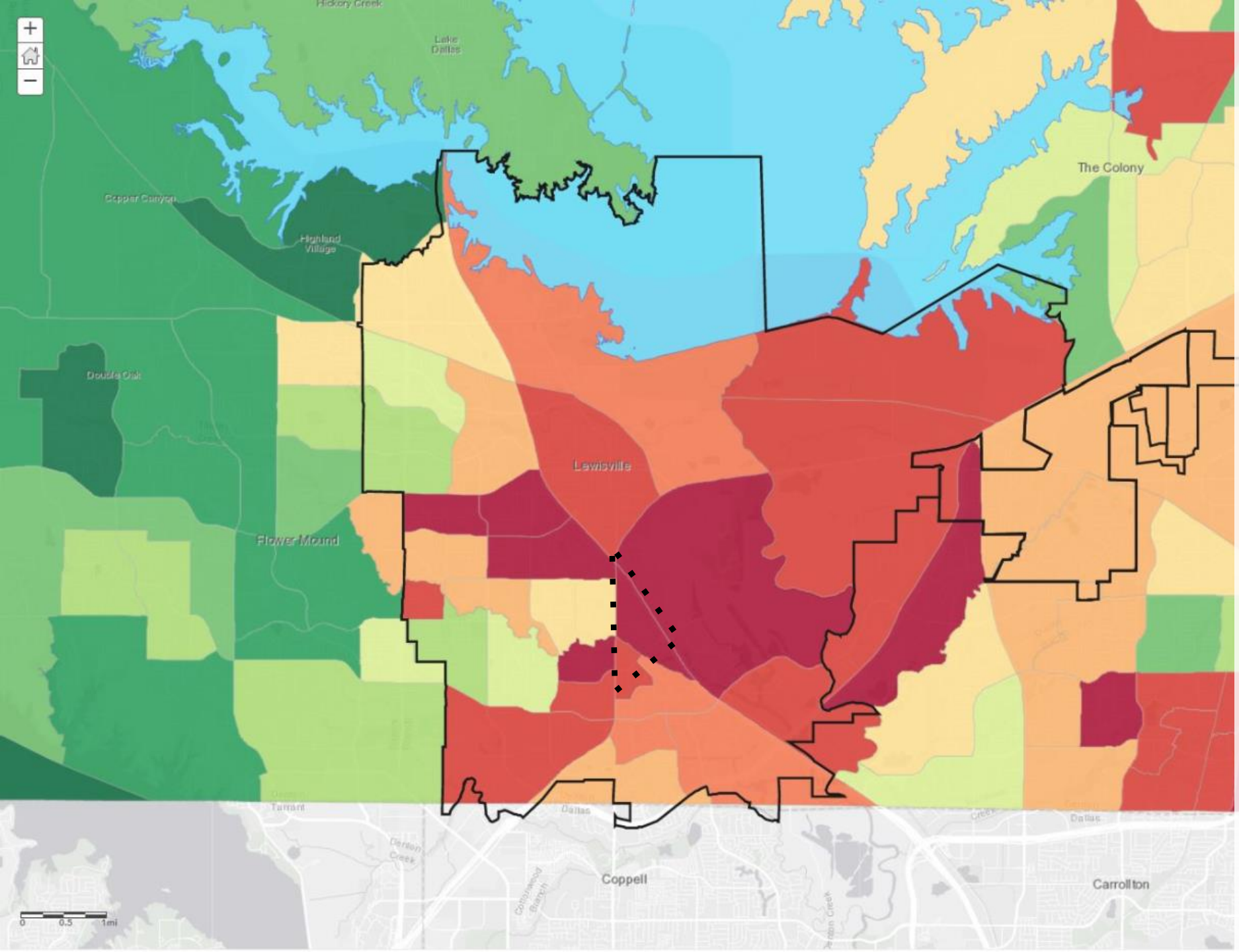
60% 85%

2. **Equity**: Prioritizing investment in communities where it will have the biggest impact



Quantifying Equity

Measuring Project Impact

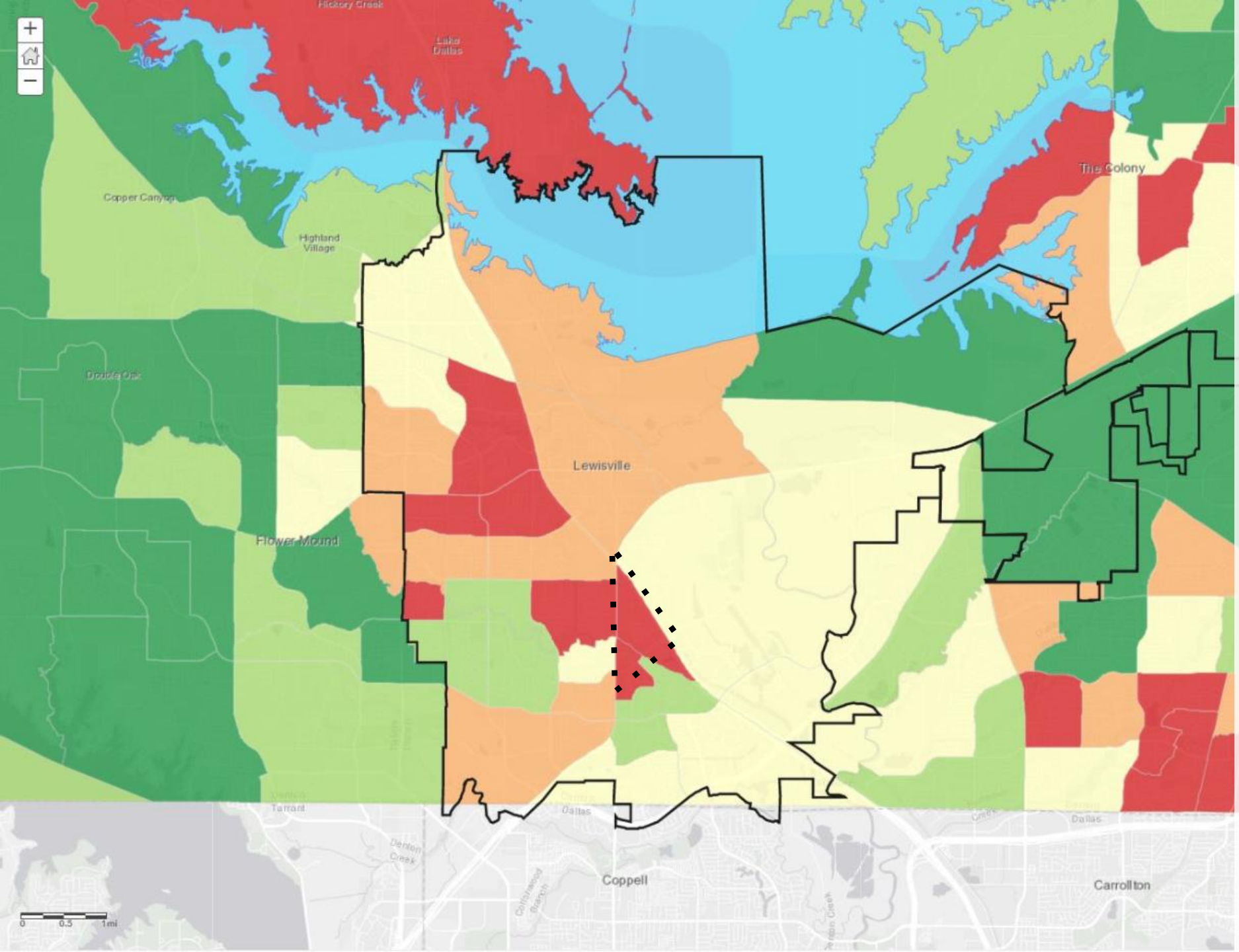


Quantifying Equity

Measuring Project Impact

71.5%

Non-White/Hispanic

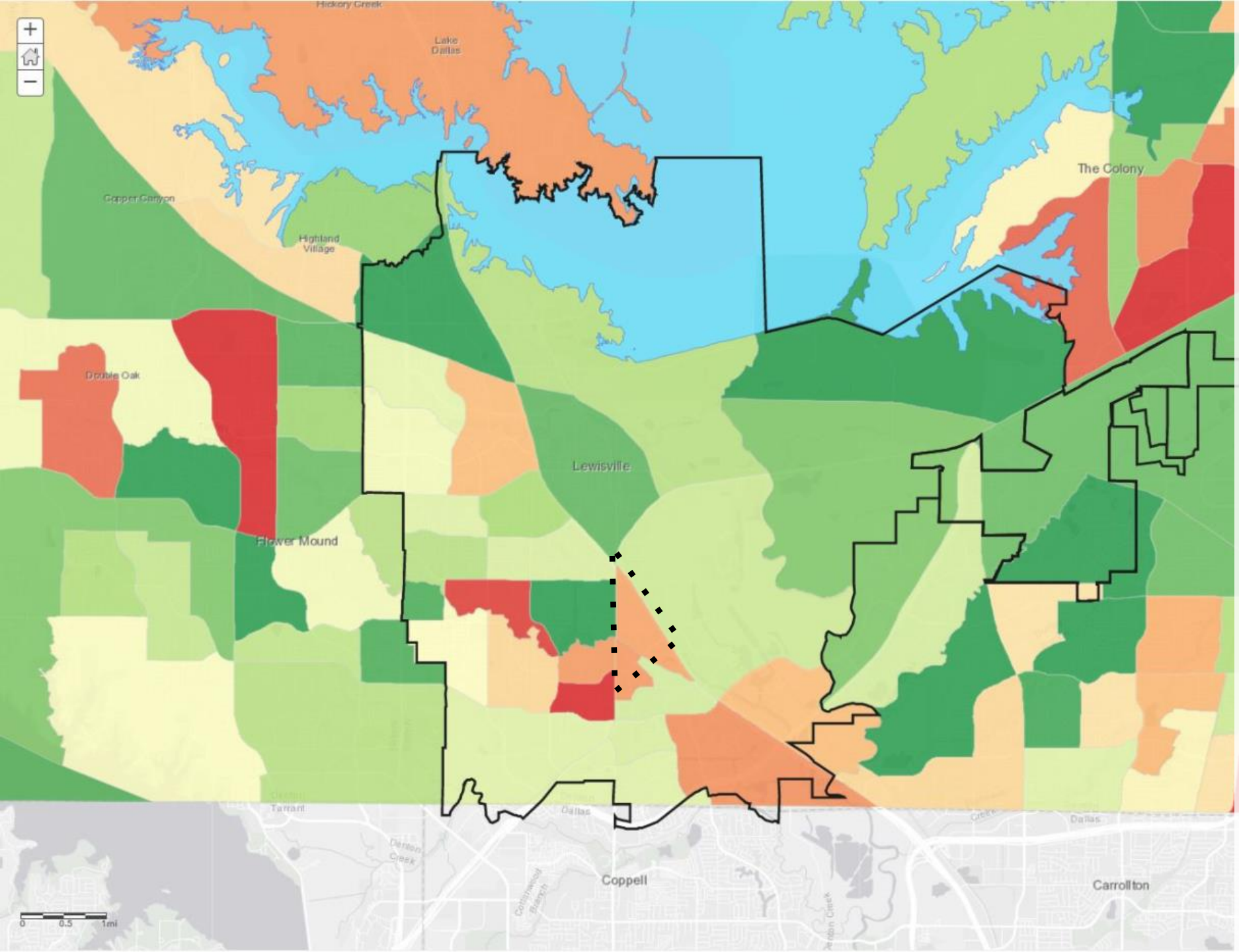


Quantifying Equity

Measuring Project Impact

71.5%
Non-White/Hispanic

26.1%
Associate's or Bachelor's



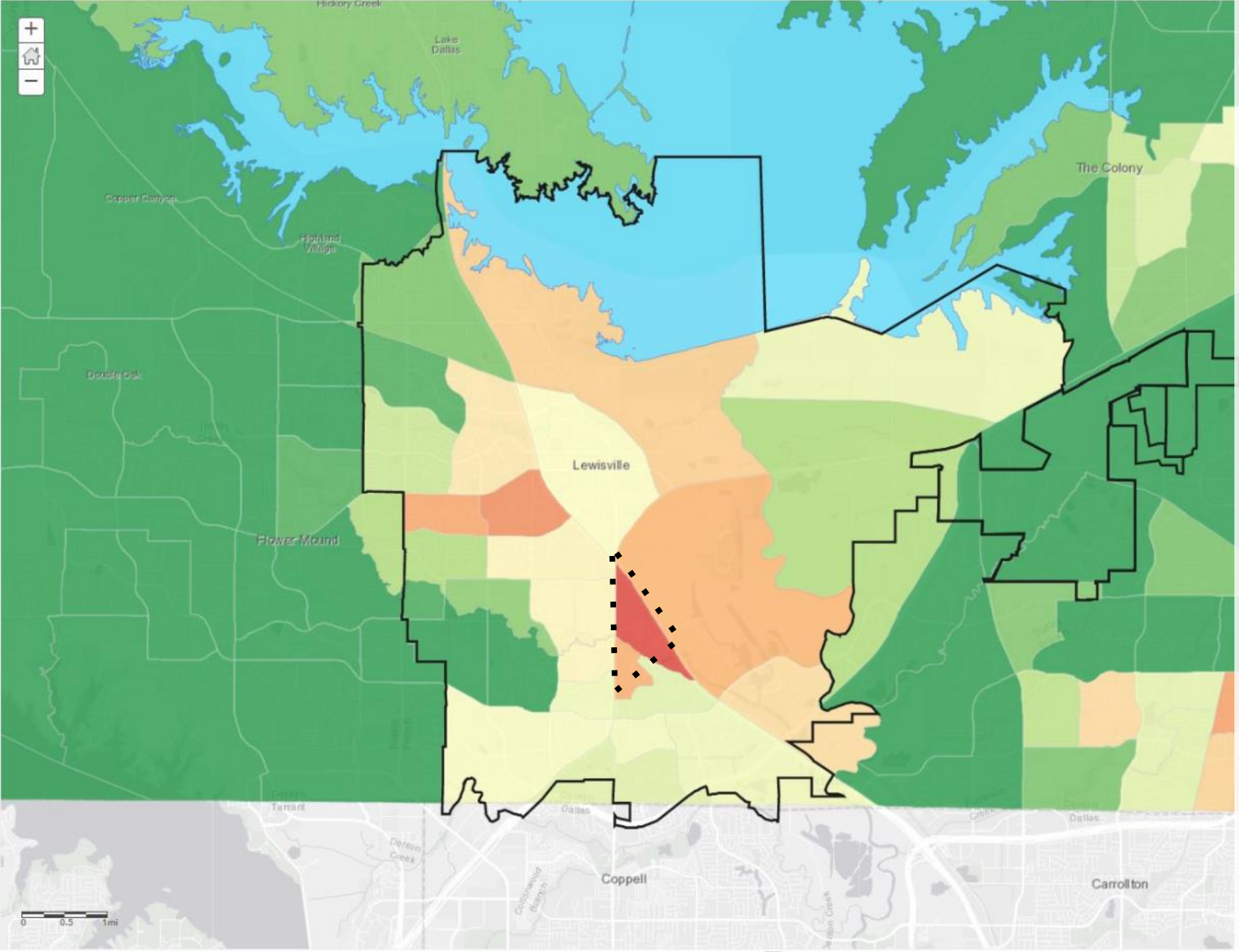
Quantifying Equity

Measuring Project Impact

71.5%
Non-White/Hispanic

26.1%
Associate's or Bachelor's

6%
Unemployment



Quantifying Equity

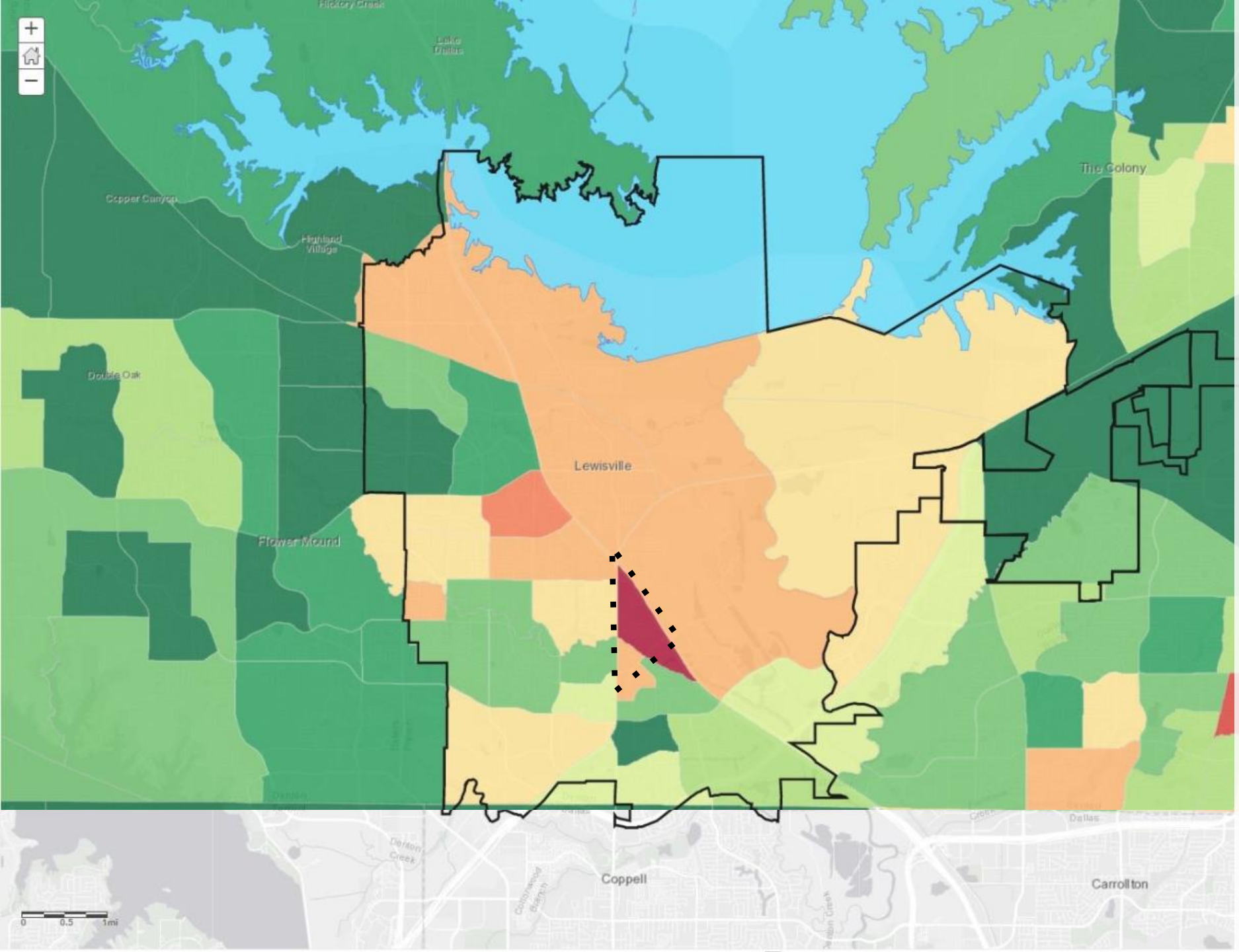
Measuring Project Impact

71.5%
Non-White/Hispanic

26.1%
Associate's or Bachelor's

6%
Unemployment

$35,000
Median HH Income



Quantifying Equity

Measuring Project Impact

71.5%
Non-White/Hispanic

26.1%
Associate's or Bachelor's

6%
Unemployment

$35,000
Median HH Income

406
Children in Poverty

Next Steps and Considerations

- Short-Term
  - Initiate community engagement activities centered around greenspace
  - Start creek clean-up initiatives
  - Use temporary and pop-up parks
- Mid-Term
  - Consider planning and design for longer-term solutions
  - Work with outside partners like a Lewisville Parks Foundation to fund projects
  - Continue organizing community groups and empowering residents to “own” greenspaces
- Long-Term
  - Implement the vision, build parks and trails based on a community plan
  - Connect the study area to the rest of the city through parks and trails

CONNECTIONS & ACCESS

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Leverage Regional Transportation Projects

Provide access with TxDOT projects

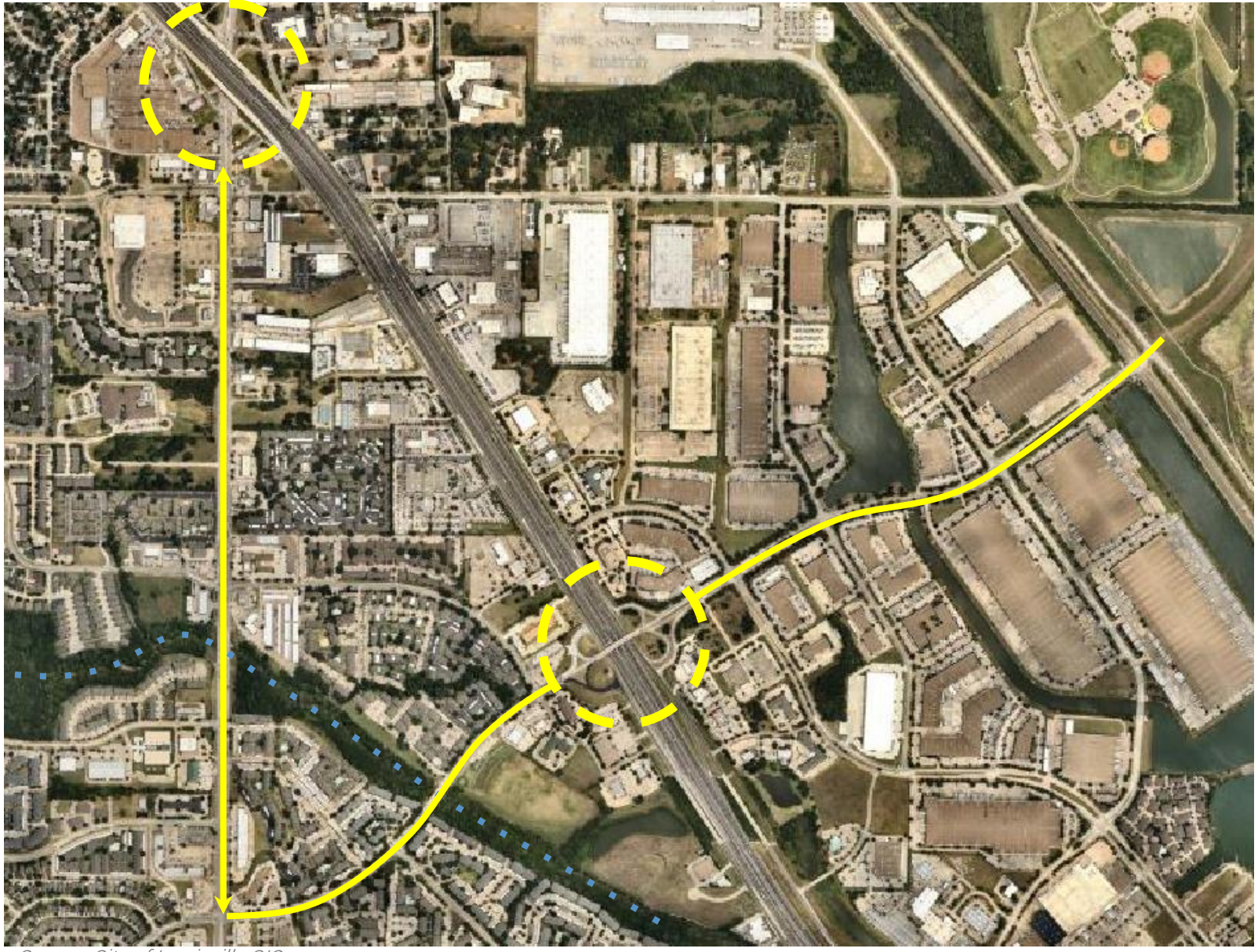
- Corporate Drive and Bus-121 / I-35 Interchange Improvements
- Incorporate quality pedestrian and bicycle facilities similar to Lake Park Road
- Retrofit existing city streets to provide access for people walking and biking

Source: Google Maps - Nov. 2018

Connections

Complete Streets

- Add a shared use path on the north side of Corporate Drive
- Add continuous wide separated sidewalks on both sides of Business 121



Source: City of Lewisville GIS

Access: Stitching the Project Area

Create access to accommodate people of all ages and abilities

- Perform a Road Safety Audit for Business 121
- Apply proven safety measures as recommended by FHWA such as high visibility crossings with appropriate signal crossing times for children
- Perform a technical study for new signal or Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon (PHB) at McCart Drive
- Evaluate a grade separated crossing over Business 121 at Lewisville Elementary

Photo by: Adrian Engel - 2019

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Connections & Access: Building Healthy Corridors

ULI Case Study: Aurora Avenue North - Shoreline, Washington

Photo credit: City of Shoreline (before)

Photo credit: City of Shoreline (after)

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Connections & Access: Safe Routes to School

Educate and Encourage families to walk to school

- Create a Safe Routes to School committee with LISD, City of Lewisville, community members
- Apply for SRTS funds through NTCOG
- Develop a Safe Routes to School Plan
- Celebrate Walk to School Day
- Educate students and parents on traffic safety
- Plan a monthly Walking School Bus

Photo by: Green-Schools CC BY-NC-SA 2.0

FUNDING & INVESTMENT PARTNERS

Near-Term Recommendations

Leverage existing programs and relationships

- Coordinate with LISD and others to leverage safe routes to schools $$
- Support creation of parks foundation for future private donations and grants
- Cooperate with local non-profits and/or property owners to apply for existing funding programs
  - Love Your Block
  - Property Enhancement Grants
- Create relationships with local business owners to sponsor creek clean up efforts
- Opportunity Zone - ?

Photo credit: Cassie Wright

Mid-Term Recommendations

Work with private sector partners

- Build relationships with large Lewisville businesses
- Explore opportunities to add publicly-accessible open spaces on privately-owned sites.
  - retail centers
  - residential projects
  - lodging facilities

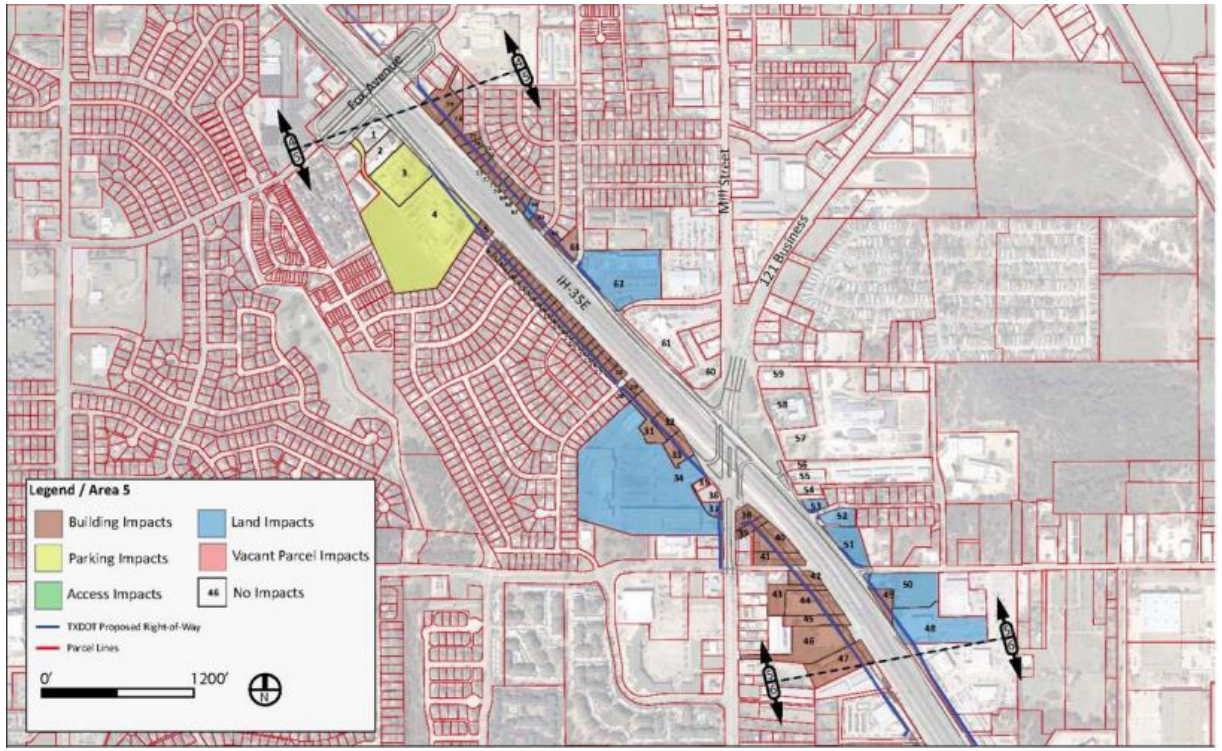
Photo Credit: Isabel Domeyko

Photo Credit: Cassie Wright

Long-Term Recommendations:

Integrate strategies for multiple “Big Moves” identified in Lewisville 2025 vision.

- Implement Lewisville 2025 vision for central node at Business 121 and IH 35E (Big Move #7).
  - Consider forming a new TIF (such as a barbell TIF), PID, and/or market tax credits
  - Implement funding mechanisms before interchange upgrades are completed.
- Allocate funding to park/trail improvements (Big Move #2)
- Include affordable housing program to ensure long-term mixed income development (Big Move #4).
- Look to include a variety of densities and types (Big Move #5).

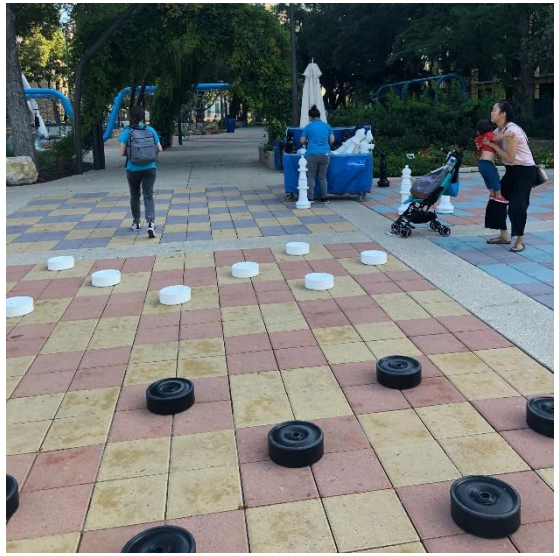


Source: Lewisville 2025 Vision. www.cityoflewisville.com

Long-Term Recommendations

Creating a Destination/Sense of Place for the Area

- Co-development opportunities to incorporate signature park
  - Acquire or form development partnership(s)
- Link to Timber Creek where possible
- Involve adjacent multi-family property owners
  - Land donations/access for plaza amenity
  - Shared parking agreements
  - Access easements between properties to create neighborhood trail network

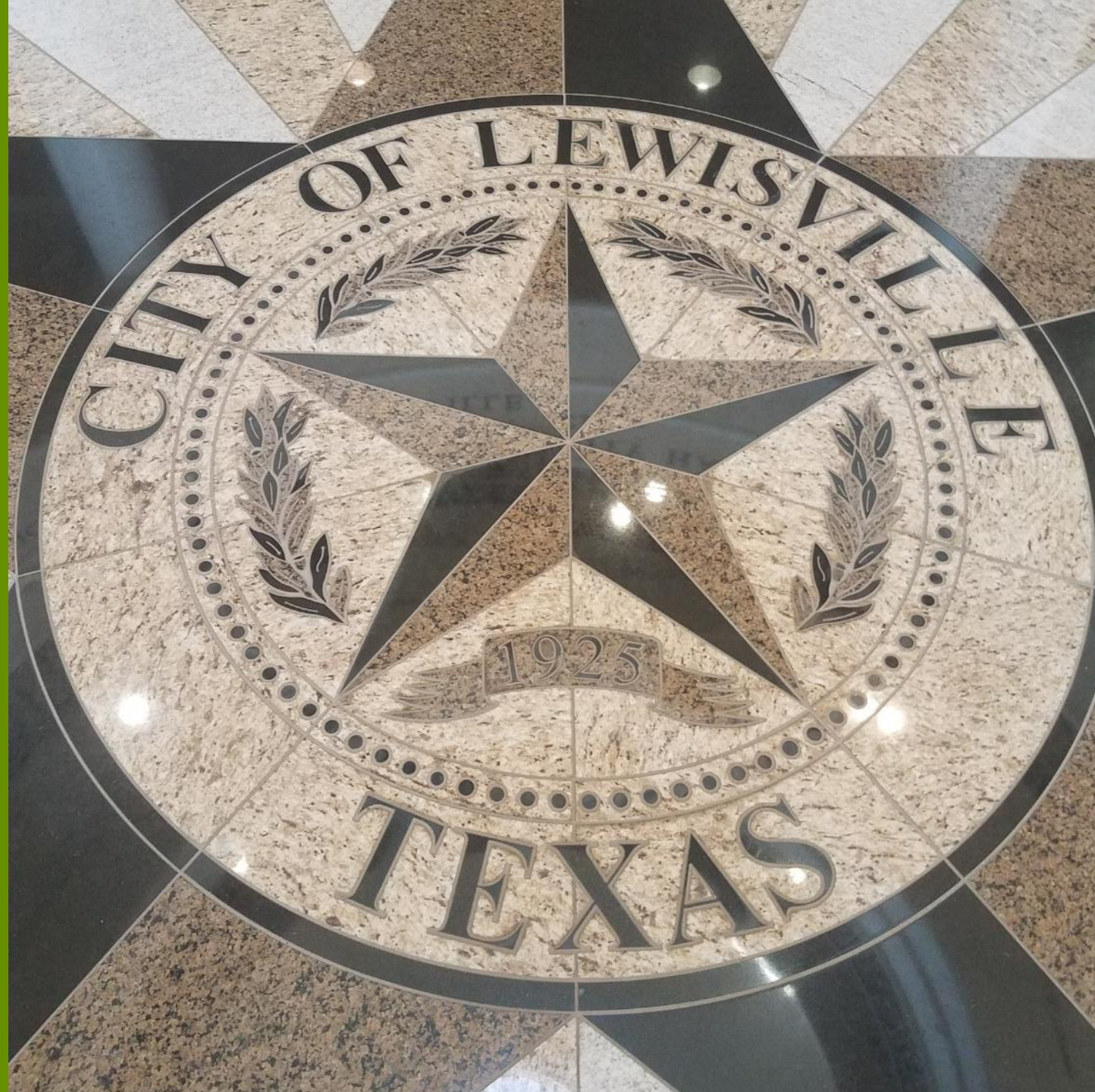


Photos Courtesy of Cassie Wright

Summary Next Steps

- Community Engagement
  - Engage through hands-on activities and pop-ups
  - Continue to foster partnerships
  - More active engagement with the school
- Park Planning and Services
  - Host pop-up park event within one year
  - Conduct Timber Creek clean-up, with a minimum of 10 residents of the study area participating
  - Evaluate priority projects using equity impact metrics
- Connections and Access
  - Coordinate with the DOT for multimodal connections
  - Work with school and city on safe routes to school program
- Create a Destination
  - Leverage existing programs
  - Engage with the hotels and existing commercial/multifamily

Thank You



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Q&A
Questions and Comments?
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