



RICHARDSON

2015 CITY BOND ELECTION

2015-17 Richardson City Council



**Mayor
Paul Voelker**



**Mayor Pro Tem
Mark Solomon
Place 2**



**Council Member
Bob Townsend
Place 1**



**Council Member
Scott Dunn
Place 3**



**Council Member
Mabel Simpson
Place 4**



**Council Member
Marta Gómez Frey
Place 5**



**Council Member
Steve Mitchell
Place 6**

PRSR-T STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
RICHARDSON, TEXAS
Permit No. 59



THE CITY OF RICHARDSON
P.O. BOX 830309
RICHARDSON, TEXAS 75083

Postal Customer
Richardson, TX



Oct. 9, 2015

Dear Resident,

This pamphlet has been prepared to help you learn more about a bond election that will be on the Nov. 3, 2015 ballot. The election will consist of four propositions totaling \$115 million.

The list of proposed projects you will find inside was finalized after a lengthy review process that began late last year. The City Council heard presentations on needs from various City departments, and public input was also gathered to provide guidance on needs. What City Council heard the most was a desire to make an impact on infrastructure at several different levels, so the four propositions in this bond package focus on those needs with funds identified for public buildings, streets, parks and sidewalks.

No tax rate increase is tied to any of the bond propositions up for voter consideration. The sale of any approved bonds would be staggered over six years, with bonds being sold as existing debt is retired.

Early voting begins Oct. 19, 2015 and Election Day is Nov. 3, 2015. It is our hope that this document will provide information regarding the bond election and address any questions you may have so that you can make an informed decision when you head to the polls.

Sincerely,

Paul Voelker
Mayor



City Council
Paul Voelker
Mayor
Mark Solomon
Mayor Pro Tem
Bob Townsend
Scott Dunn
Mabel Simpson
Marta Frey
Steve Mitchell

Dan Johnson
City Manager

Propositions

- | | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| 1. Public Buildings
\$67,000,000 | 3. Parks
\$7,230,000 |
| 2. Streets
\$38,570,000 | 4. Sidewalks
\$2,200,000 |

VOTE Nov. 3
Voting information on page 7



RICHARDSON

2015 CITY BOND ELECTION

Bond program would not include tax rate increase

The way the 2015 bond program is planned means that no tax rate increase will be required if the program is approved by voters Nov. 3. The \$115 million in bonds would be sold over six years in what is called a serial sale, which means that only a portion of the authorized debt will be issued each year. By structuring the sale this way, new debt is issued when existing debt is scheduled to be paid off.

A large portion of the City's debt from the late 1990s and early 2000s will be paid off over the next six years. This debt includes funding for projects such as the Eisemann Center and the adjacent parking garage, as well as Fire Station 6, which was funded through the voter-approved 1997 bond program.

"We issue our general obligation debt in 20-year increments" said Chief Financial Officer Kent Pfeil. "The majority of the 1997 general obligation bond program will be paid off by 2021. We are taking advantage

of property tax growth and the paying off of the major projects and structuring this in a way where we would not need to increase the tax rate if voters approve one or all four of the proposed bond election propositions."

"Triple A" status helps save money

One reason the City has been able to receive such low interest rates on recent bond sales, often under 3 percent, is because of its "Triple A" bond ratings from both Standard and Poor's (since 2008) and Moody's (since 2010). Richardson is one of only six cities in Texas to hold the highest rating from both agencies.

"We are able to get the most favorable rates so we are able to spend more money on the projects themselves rather than on the financing costs," Director of Finance Keith Dagen said. "When we issued debt 15 to 20 years ago we had several years where rates were 5 percent or higher, but over the years we have been able to refinance that debt at lower interest rates and save money."

Another way the high ratings help the city is by instilling confidence in investors that Richardson is a safe investment.

"S&P has cited our strong financial practices and policies and our long-tenured management when they make their rating," Dagen said. "I think you see institutional investors who become familiar with us and feel that we are a safe and secure investment for their resources. What we tend to find is that when we go into the market we have strong demand for our bonds."

Flexibility built into bond program

The issuance of debt in increments allows bonds to not only be sold without the need to raise the tax rate, but also allows the City to have flexibility in the amount that is sold each year in order to make adjustments as economic and market factors dictate. The specific projects in the bond program may also be added or removed during the implementation of the bond program as future economic conditions and priorities change.

"Each year we will look at where the market is and where property tax values are and determine how much debt we will be able to issue," Pfeil said. "Richardson has shown strong property tax growth in recent years, but we have planned the bond issuance assuming very modest growth in future years to provide a reasonable level of certainty that we will not be impacted by future shifts in the economy."



Bond program frequently asked questions

What is a bond program?

General obligation bonds are used by cities to finance major capital projects. Investors purchase the bonds and provide the city the money it needs to pay for the projects. The amount of money borrowed, plus interest, is then repaid over a period of time (usually 20 years) using the debt service portion of the City's property tax rate. General obligation bonds are just one way to pay for capital projects, and must be approved by voters. Richardson has held three bond elections in the past 20 years: 1997, 2006 and 2010.

Will this bond package raise my taxes?

No. The City carefully analyzes the capacity it has to issue debt from year-to-year without increasing the tax rate. No increase to the tax rate will be required to pay for the projects in the 2015 Bond Program because the bonds will only be sold when existing debt is paid off.

How will the bond program impact the City's debt levels?

The \$115 million in bonds would be sold over six years in what is called a serial sale, where only a portion of the total debt will be issued each year.

When will the projects be constructed?

The bonds to pay for the projects will be sold over a six-year period, and staff will present an implementation plan to Council annually for approval.

How were the projects selected?

The list of projects was finalized after a lengthy process that began late last year. The City Council heard presentations on potential projects from various City departments and then weighed and evaluated the merits and needs of each proposal. The final bond package, totaling \$115 million, was narrowed down over the summer from an initial list that included more than \$221.6 million in projects. In August 2015, the City Council voted to call the election for November 2015.

Is the bond election part of the Charter election?

While the elections will be held on the same day, the bond election and the Charter election are completely separate, and the outcome of one will not affect the outcome of the other. The Charter, the City's governing document, may only be modified by popular vote. There are 83 charter amendments on the Nov. 3 ballot. The amendments were placed on the ballot by the City Council after receiving input from a Charter Review Commission, which was appointed in 2014 and met monthly for eight months.

**Questions about the
Bond Program? Call 972-744-4280
or e-mail bondquestions@cor.gov
www.cor.net/bondelection**

On the Web

Citizen's Information Television has created a  short video that focuses on the bond package and each individual proposition. Visit CITV's YouTube page at www.cor.net/bondelection to view the video, which is available in both English and Spanish.

**Copies of this
voter's guide
are available at:**

- **Richardson City Hall**
411 W. Arapaho Rd.
- **Richardson Public Library**
900 Civic Center Dr.
- **Heights Recreation Center**
711 W. Arapaho Rd.
- **Huffhines Recreation Center**
200 N. Plano Rd.
- **Senior Citizens Center**
820 W. Arapaho Rd.

*Projects may be added or removed during implementation of the bond program as future economic conditions and priorities change.

Proposition 1—Public Buildings

\$67,000,000

This \$67,000,000 proposition includes projects to replace, expand, update or maintain several city facilities. The vast majority of this proposition involves renovations and additions to the existing Public Safety Complex to meet growth and changing public safety needs. Also included in Proposition 1 are Animal Shelter kennel suite upgrades; Library facility upgrades; City Hall renovations; a new Fire Station #3; and additional parking spaces at the Fire Training Center.

Richardson Public Library

A study done in 2014 identified opportunities to improve usability and overall customer satisfaction at the Library. Proposition 1 would include implementation of a portion of that study by renovating the basement study area and adding a third floor study area. Electrical and lighting enhancements, replacement of the staff elevator, renovations to basement and second floor rest rooms, and rehabilitation to exterior concrete panels are also included.



Library basement customer service desk would be replaced with two smaller desks.

Public Safety Complex

If approved, the current facility would be renovated to include expanded patrol locker rooms to improve space utilization. Expanded secure parking for police and staff, new parking entrances and exits, perimeter fencing and a surveillance system would also be included.



Public Safety Complex would have expanded secure parking.

Animal Shelter

Proposition 1 includes modernizations to the kennel area. If approved, funding would be used to remove the existing chain link holding areas and replace with stainless steel and glass enclosures featuring watertight seals. Floors will be sealed with a three-coat epoxy coating for cleaning and sanitation. New acoustic panels would also be installed to replace worn baffles and aide in noise reduction. Current doggie doors would be replaced with models that provide a more controlled air conditioned environment.



Chain link holding areas would be replaced with new steel and glass enclosures with watertight seals.

Richardson City Hall

Proposition 1 includes renovations to City Hall. If approved, funding would be used to renovate customer service areas on the east and west public entrances off the main concourse. Also included would be security improvements, office space alterations, a renovation of the visitors' information desk and converting public restrooms to be ADA compliant.



City Hall would receive interior renovations.

Fire Station #3

This proposal would include the construction of an entirely new station equipped to handle more and larger apparatus and address the needs of a more diverse workforce. If approved, a new ADA-compliant facility would be constructed to include three pull-through apparatus bays, a visitor's lobby, separate living quarters and a fitness room.



Fire Station #3 would be rebuilt.

Fire Training Center

Proposition 1 includes funding to expand the parking area at the fire training center from the current 25 spaces.



Fire Training Center would expand parking area.

*Projects may be added or removed during implementation of the bond program as future economic conditions and priorities change.

Proposition 2—Streets

\$38,570,000

This \$38,570,000 proposition addresses repairs and renovations to 17 alley segments totaling 3.8 miles, 3.2 miles of collector streets, 1.7 miles of local streets and a flood prevention project impacting West Belt Line Road and Cottonwood Drive. Proposition 2 also includes traffic projects consisting of crosswalk beacons, signal cabinets and battery backups, traffic signal rebuilds and traffic operational efficiency projects.

Alley and street repair



City crews pour concrete to repair an alley.

Alleys

- 400 Lynn, 400 W. Arapaho
- 1100 Overlake, 1100 Greenway
- 900-1000 Crestview
- 828-834 Teakwood
- 800 Chadwick
- 826-834 Northlake
- 600-700 Kindred, 600 Williams
- 500 Winchester
- 1100 Pacific
- 1600-1710 Syracuse
- 400 Fairview
- 800 Willowcrest
- 800 Fontana, Lomita and Meadow View
- 1100 High Vista, 3300 Canyon Creek
- 2000 Nantucket
- 500 West Shore
- 24-34 Creekwood

Local Streets

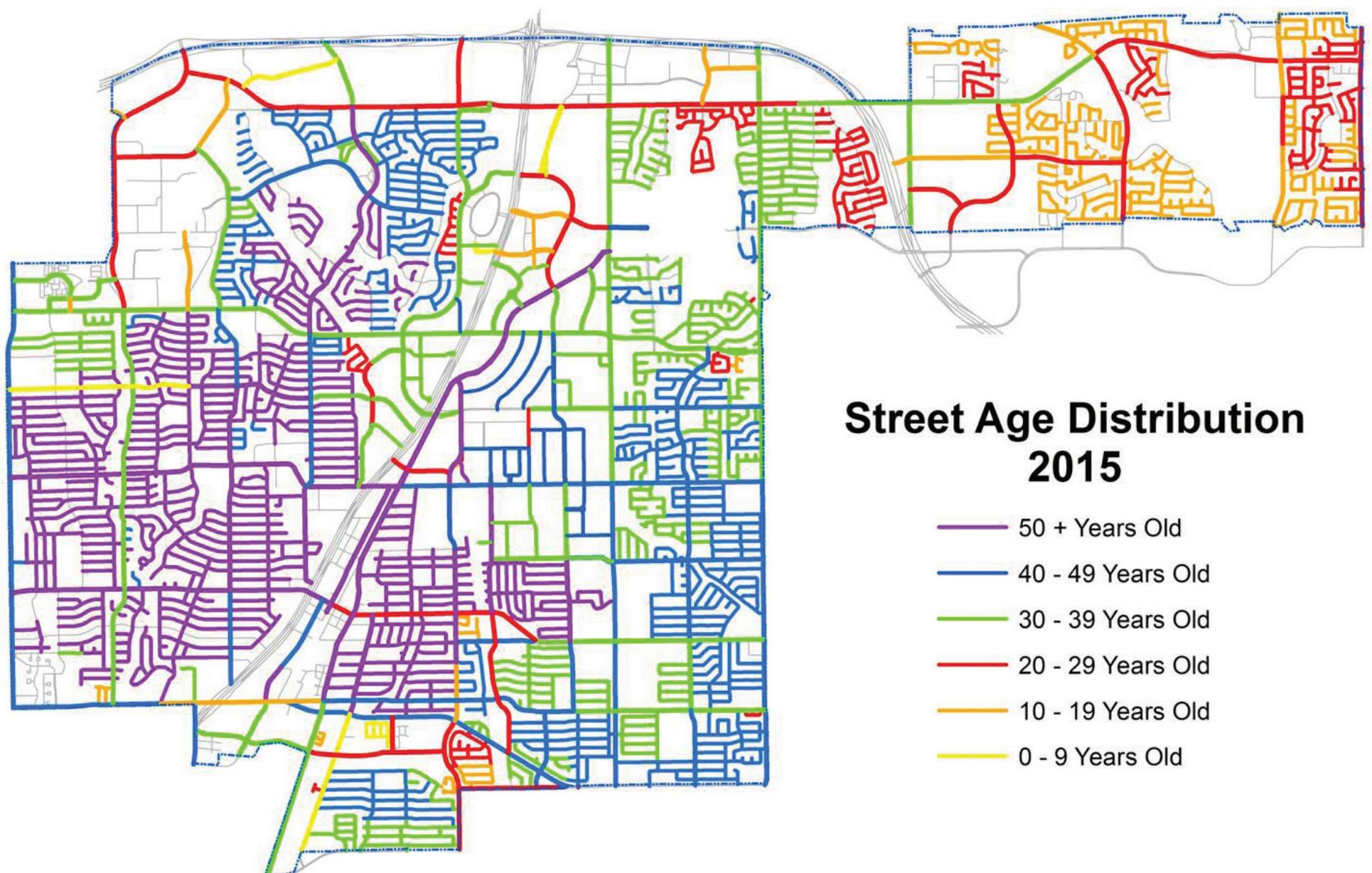
- 700 Block Greenleaf
- 700 Block Winchester
- 900 Block Lakeview
- Bradshaw: Northstar north to city limit
- S. Dorothy: Frances to Highland
- Pinehurst: Wisteria to Floyd
- 700 Block Scottsdale
- 600 Block Scottsdale

Collector Streets

- Lookout Drive: Plano east to terminus
- Glenville Drive: Campbell to Commerce
- Custer Road: Campbell to Arapaho
- Prairie Creek Drive West:
Campbell to Collins

Richardson's Roads

More than 80 percent of the City's roadways are 30 years or older, and 60 percent of the streets are 40 years or older. The typical design life for a concrete road is 25 years, which is why roadway rehabilitation is the largest part of the Proposition 2 project list.



Street Age Distribution 2015

- 50 + Years Old
- 40 - 49 Years Old
- 30 - 39 Years Old
- 20 - 29 Years Old
- 10 - 19 Years Old
- 0 - 9 Years Old

*Projects may be added or removed during implementation of the bond program as future economic conditions and priorities change.

Proposition 2—Streets

Selection process for the streets and alleys that are included in Proposition 2

The selection of streets and alleys to be included in Proposition 2 was based on engineering criteria that the City uses on all projects in order to best leverage available funding for needed infrastructure improvements.

The criteria is based on the condition of pavement, traffic volume, condition of any underlying infrastructure that can also be updated at the same time, availability of other funding resources (ex: county, state or federal) and mobilization cost saving opportunities.

Other criteria also taken into consideration includes pavement marking needs and conditions, alley width, primary garage access, drainage considerations and development or redevelopment timing considerations.



Traffic Projects

Proposition 2 includes traffic projects consisting of crosswalk beacons, signal cabinets and battery backups, traffic signal rebuilds and traffic operational efficiency projects.

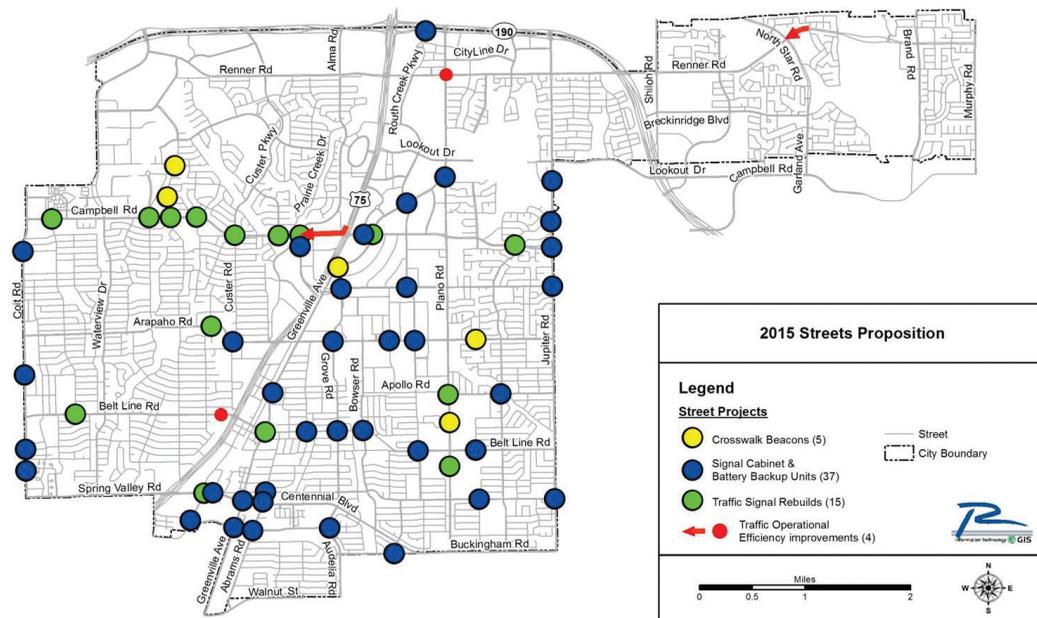
Crosswalk beacons

If approved, these Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs) would be placed at five mid-block crosswalks on higher volume streets with trail crossings located at:

- Plano at Larkspur (Duck Creek Trail)
- Greenville at Alma (Central Trail)
- Floyd at Bunker Hill (UT Dallas Trail)
- Floyd at Wilderness (UT Dallas Trail)
- Polk at Texas (Central Trail)



Crosswalk Beacons



2015 Streets Proposition

Legend

Street Projects

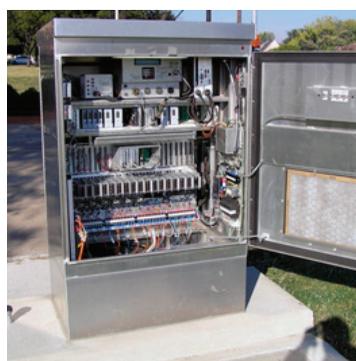
- Crosswalk Beacons (5)
- Signal Cabinet & Battery Backup Units (37)
- Traffic Signal Rebuilds (15)
- Traffic Operational Efficiency improvements (4)

Street
City Boundary

Miles 0 0.5 1 2

Signal cabinets and battery backups

There are 37 signal cabinets with backup battery units included in this proposal. A multi-phased replacement program started with the 2010 Bond Program with plans to eventually install new cabinets at all 127 intersections in the city.



Signal Cabinets

Traffic signal rebuilds

There are 15 traffic signal rebuilds proposed in Proposition 2. Many of the City's traffic signals are more than 30 years old and a multi-phased reconstruction program started with the 2006 Bond Program.



Traffic Signal

Traffic operational efficiency projects

Proposition 2 includes four projects that would add to, extend, shift and modify existing lanes. The proposed projects are located at:

- Plano at Renner
- Belt Line at northbound Inge and medians
- Campbell—US 75 to Collins
- Renner—Northstar to Mackenzie

Flood Prevention

West Belt Line Road at Hunt Branch

This flood prevention project would add three, 9 feet by 5 feet box culverts to alleviate flooding problems.



*Projects may be added or removed during implementation of the bond program as future economic conditions and priorities change.

Proposition 3—Parks

\$7,230,000

This \$7,230,000 million proposal includes funds for the replacement of five neighborhood playgrounds, the expansion of hike and bike trails, renovations at the Senior Center and updates to the pool building and equipment at the Canyon Creek Pool.

Richardson Senior Center

If approved, Proposition 3 would fund the renovations of the Senior Center, located at 820 W. Arapaho Rd. The work would include a new dance/activity room with a raised ceiling, an enlarged and updated exercise area, kitchen and dining area upgrades, technology upgrades, accessibility upgrades to restrooms and entrances, improved efficiency in operations and security, and the remodeling of an existing wing to allow for more usable square footage.



Reception area



Exercise room



Dance/activity area



Kitchen

Park Trails



Park trail

The hike and bike trails at Breckinridge Park and the Spring Creek Nature Area would be expanded if Proposition 3 is approved. The new trails in the Spring Creek Nature Area would run through both the older, southern portion of the park and the newly acquired northern portion, which the City purchased in January of this year.

Park Playgrounds



Playground equipment

Proposition 3 includes the redevelopment of playgrounds at five locations in the city. These playgrounds are in need of replacement due to age of the equipment and lack of compliance with current safety standards. The proposed playgrounds to be replaced are at Breckinridge Park, Canyon Creek Park, Cottonwood Park, Crowley Park North and Duck Creek Linear Park.

Pool Building

The pool building at Canyon Creek Park would receive plumbing upgrades, including ADA compliant fixtures, as well as upgrades to its ventilation, electrical and lighting systems if Proposition 3 is approved.

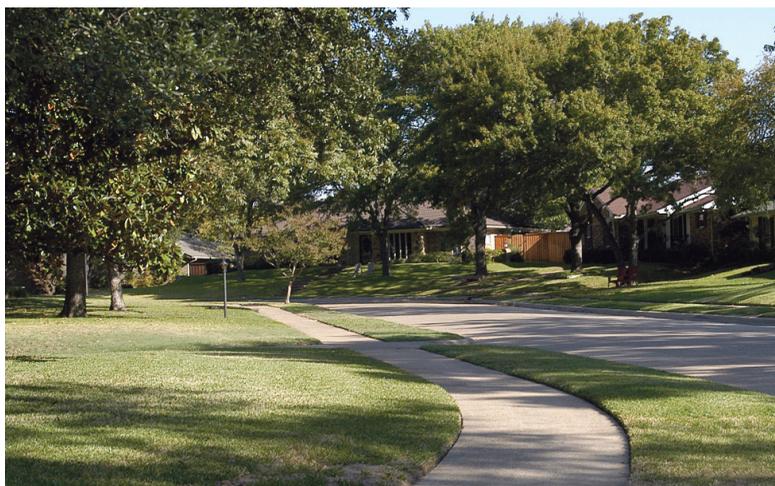
Proposition 4—Sidewalks

\$2,200,000

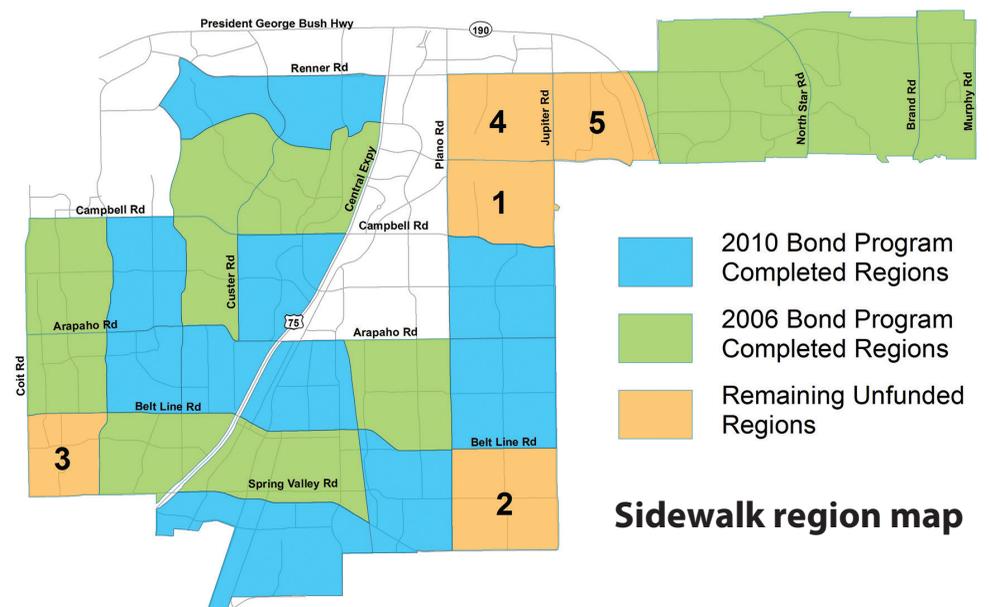
Proposition 4 includes \$2,200,000 for sidewalk replacement in five areas of the city.

Sidewalks

A 2003 city-wide inventory of sidewalks subdivided the City into 27 sidewalk repair regions, which were then ranked according to the identified sidewalk repair needs. Previous bond programs in 2006 and 2010 repaired sidewalks in 22 of the regions. The remaining five regions are slated for repair if Proposition 4 is approved. Repairs in the five regions would focus on areas where sidewalks have trip hazards exceeding 1 inch in vertical separation of concrete. Sections which also have significant flaking concrete or lack barrier-free ramps would also be eligible for repair.



Neighborhood sidewalk



Sidewalk region map

*Projects may be added or removed during implementation of the bond program as future economic conditions and priorities change.

Early voting for Dallas and Collin counties

Early voting for Richardson residents who live in Dallas County will be available at the Richardson Civic Center/City Hall, 411 W. Arapaho Rd., or at any of the other Dallas County early voting locations.

Early voting for Richardson residents who live in Collin County will be available at the Methodist Richardson Medical Center, 2831 E. President George Bush Turnpike, conference room A first floor, or at any of the other Collin County early voting locations.

DATE	DALLAS COUNTY	COLLIN COUNTY
Oct. 19-23	8 a.m.-5 p.m.	8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Oct. 24	8 a.m.-5 p.m.	7 a.m.-7 p.m.
Oct. 25	1-6 p.m.	1-6 p.m.
Oct. 26-28	8 a.m.-5 p.m.	7 a.m.-7 p.m.
Oct. 29-30	7 a.m.-7 p.m.	7 a.m.-7 p.m.

Dallas County

214-819-6389, www.DallasCountyVotes.org

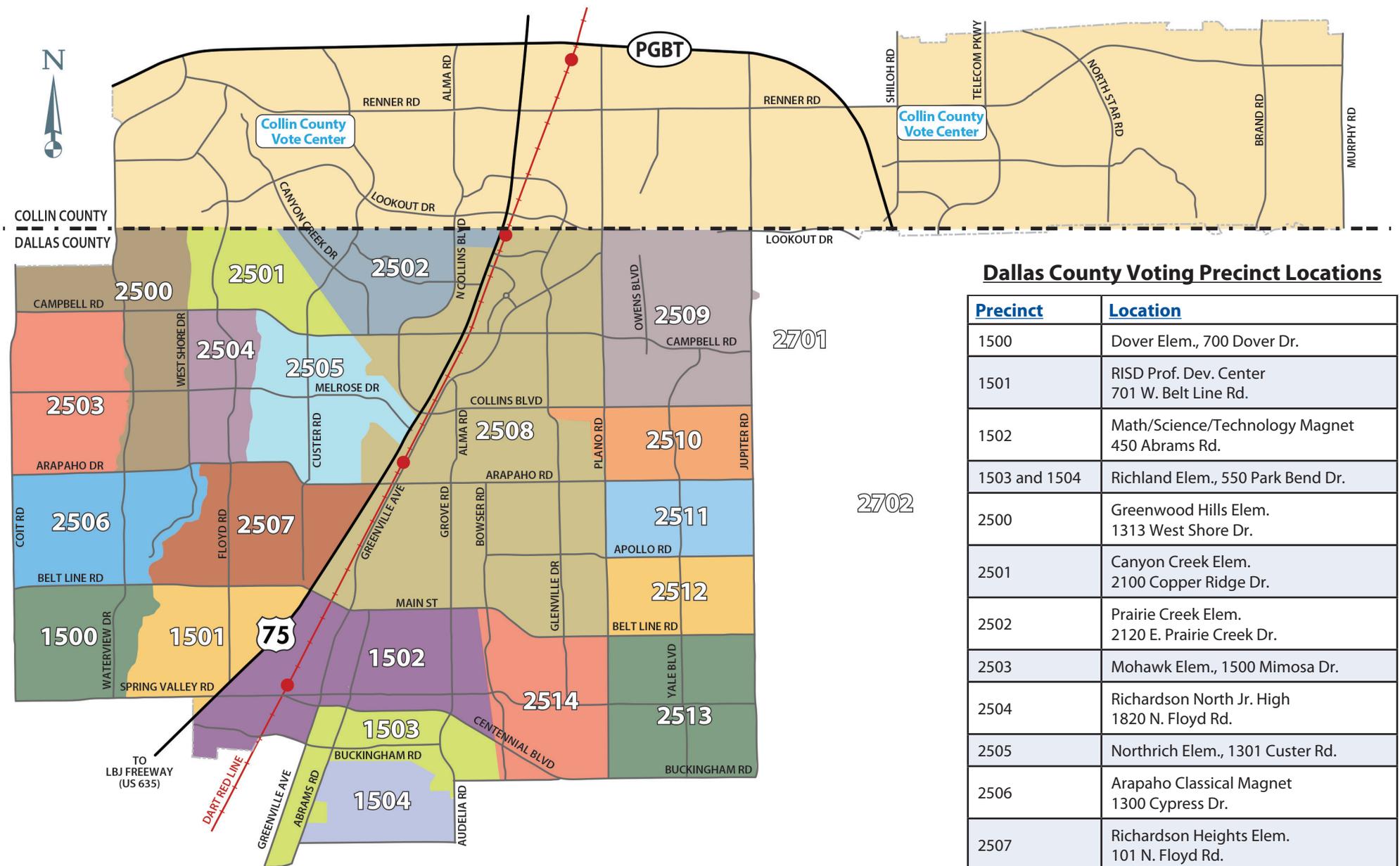
Collin County

972-547-1990, www.co.collin.tx.us/elections

City of Richardson

972-744-4280, bondquestions@cor.gov, www.cor.net/bondelection

Richardson Election Day Polling Locations



Dallas County Voting Precinct Locations

Precinct	Location
1500	Dover Elem., 700 Dover Dr.
1501	RISD Prof. Dev. Center 701 W. Belt Line Rd.
1502	Math/Science/Technology Magnet 450 Abrams Rd.
1503 and 1504	Richland Elem., 550 Park Bend Dr.
2500	Greenwood Hills Elem. 1313 West Shore Dr.
2501	Canyon Creek Elem. 2100 Copper Ridge Dr.
2502	Prairie Creek Elem. 2120 E. Prairie Creek Dr.
2503	Mohawk Elem., 1500 Mimosa Dr.
2504	Richardson North Jr. High 1820 N. Floyd Rd.
2505	Northrich Elem., 1301 Custer Rd.
2506	Arapaho Classical Magnet 1300 Cypress Dr.
2507	Richardson Heights Elem. 101 N. Floyd Rd.
2508	Richardson Terrace Elem. 300 N. Dorothy Ave.
2509	Richardson East Church of Christ 1504 E. Campbell Rd.
2510	Yale Elem., 1900 E. Collins Blvd.
2511 and 2512	Dartmouth Elem. 417 Dartmouth Lane
2513	Springridge Elem. 1801 E. Spring Valley Rd.
2514	Jess Harben Elem. 600 S. Glenville Dr.
2701	Big Springs Elem. 3301 W. Campbell Rd., Garland
2702	Spring Creek Elem. 1510 Spring Creek Dr., Garland

Collin County Vote Centers in Richardson

Aldridge Elem.
720 Pleasant Valley Ln.

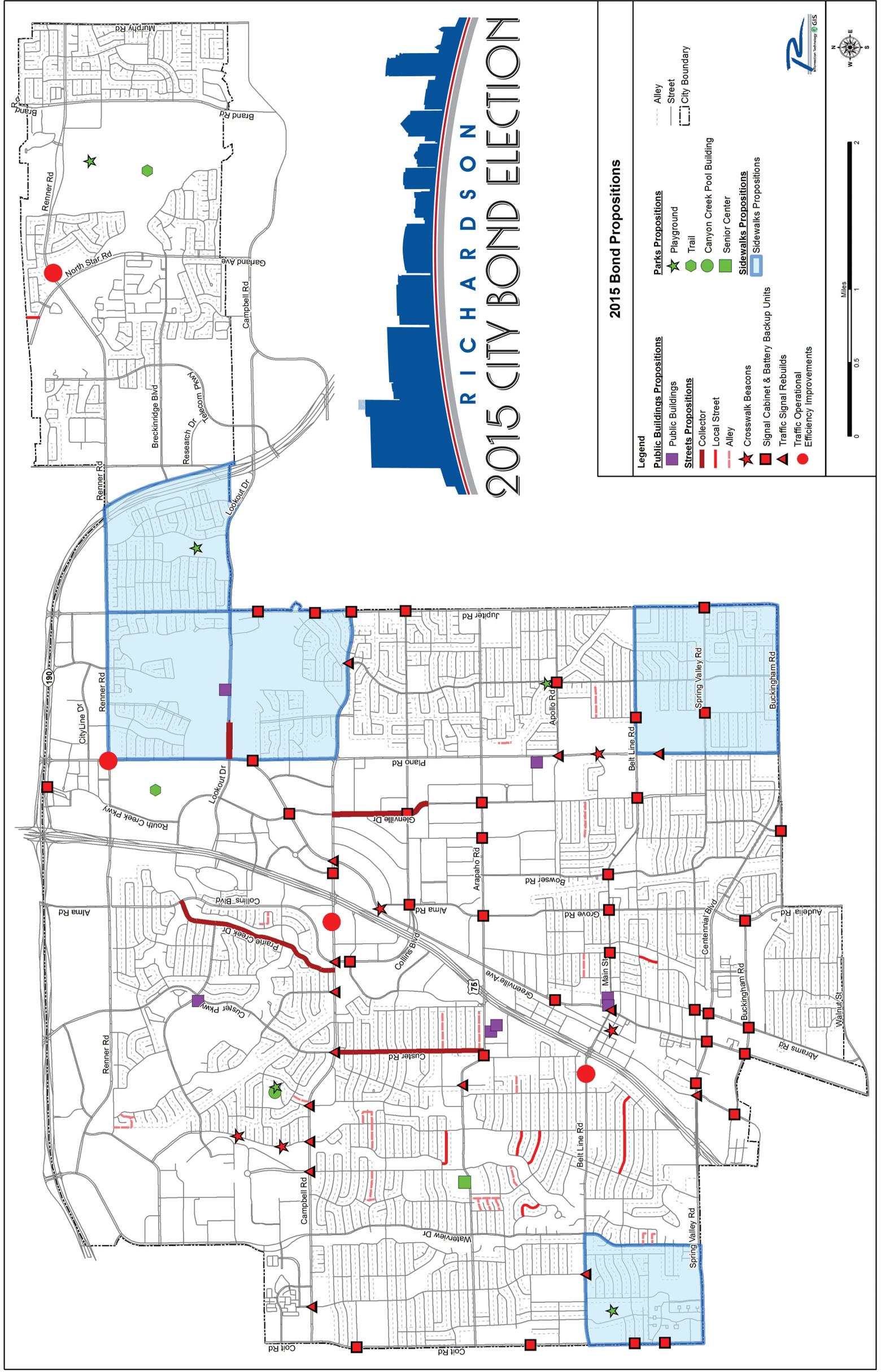
Woodcreek Church
3400 E. Renner Rd.

* Collin County residents may vote at any Vote Center in Collin County on Election Day.

All polling locations will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 3. Identification and/or a voter registration card will be required.

*Projects may be added or removed during implementation of the bond program as future economic conditions and priorities change.

2015 Bond Program Planned Project Overview Map



*Projects may be added or removed during implementation of the bond program as future economic conditions and priorities change.