

East Texas Council of Governments



Let's Talk
ETCOG

2025 Annual Performance & 2026 Projections Report



David A. Cleveland, Executive Director
Established: 1970; State Planning Region 6
3800 Stone Rd. Kilgore, TX 75662
Area: 10,022 square miles
Population: 904,313

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	2
Transmittal letter from the Executive Director	3
ETCOG 2025 – 2026 Principal Officials.....	4
ETCOG 2025 Member Governments	5
ETCOG 2025 Strategic Partners.....	7
ETCOG Service Area Map	8
ETCOG Organizational Chart.....	9
 Service Programs	
Area Agency on Aging Division.....	11
Public Safety	15
Transportation Division	19
Regional Workforce and Economic Development Division	23
Local Funds.....	27
Regional Technology Services & GIS	28
Operations Division	29
Program Services – FY 2025 Funding Estimates by Grant	30
Glossary of Terms and Grant Descriptions.....	33

East Texas Council of Governments (ETCOG) Region

As one of 24 “Regional Councils” or “Councils of Governments” in the State of Texas, the East Texas Council of Governments is responsible for comprehensive planning assistance, economic development, workforce development, environmental programs, services for the elderly and transportation. ETCOG is a voluntary association of counties, cities, school districts and special districts with the fourteen-county East Texas Region. ETCOG serves as a clearinghouse for state and federal funds and is uniquely positioned as an organization to provide social services, assist local governments in problem solving and fiscal management. ETCOG staff are skilled at consensus-building and creating partnerships throughout the 14-county region. Since its inception, ETCOG has administered millions of dollars in Federal and State funds assisting not only cities and counties, but private businesses and even individuals.

In compliance with Chapter 391.0095. (4) & (5) of the Local Government Code, this report contains information on the most relevant performance measures of activities funded by State and Federal grants during fiscal year 2025 and projections for fiscal year 2026. Comments on staffing, funding and performance measures for each of the ETCOG operating Divisions are provided in separate sections of the report by division beginning with the Area Agency on Aging Division on page 10. Supplementary information contained on pages 4-9 shows ETCOG Executive Committee officers, Member Jurisdictions and the ETCOG organizational chart.

Letter of Transmittal from the Executive Director:

Please accept the East Texas Council of Governments' (ETCOG) 2025 Annual Performance & 2026 Projections Report. Upon review, you will see ETCOG diligently pursues its mission of "...Improving the quality of life for all East Texans by pledging all of its resources to educate and assist its members to accomplish their goals". We remain committed to providing a forum for our elected officials to come together to solve common problems; and as resources allow, we do everything in our power to deliver solutions to those problems. As the New Year approaches, we stand ready to serve once again and grateful for the opportunity to do so!

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely yours,

David A. Cleveland,
Executive Director

**EAST TEXAS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
OFFICERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

2025 – 2026

**Mayor James Wansley, Chairman
City of Whitehouse**

**Judge AJ Mason, 1st Vice-Chairman
Camp County**

**Commissioner Ralph Caraway, Sr., 2nd Vice-Chairman
Smith County**

**Commissioner Tate Barber, 3rd Vice-Chairman
City of Carthage**

**Commissioner Rashad Mims, Treasurer
Anderson County**

Administrative Staff

Executive Director	David A. Cleveland
Assist. Exec. Director/Human Resources Director	Brandy Brannon
Director of Communications	Lindsay Vanderbilt
Director of Financial Operations	Wendi Horst
Director of Information Technology	Mike Kadar
Director of Public Safety	Stephanie Heffner
Director of Transportation	Vince Huerta
Director of Workforce & Economic Development	Doug Shryock
Director of Special Projects	David Scott
Director of Area Agency on Aging	Adrian Cornejo

Member Governments

COUNTIES:

Anderson	Henderson	Smith
Camp	Marion	Upshur
Cherokee	Panola	Van Zandt
Gregg	Rains	Wood
Harrison	Rusk	

CITIES:

Alba	Gallatin	Ore City
Alto	Gilmer	Overton
Arp	Gladewater	Palestine
Athens	Grand Saline	Payne Springs
Beckville	Gun Barrel City	Pittsburg
Berryville	Hallsville	Point
Big Sandy	Hawkins	Quitman
Brownsboro	Henderson	Reklaw
Bullard	Hideaway	Rusk
New Caney	Jacksonville	Seven Points
Canton	Jefferson	Star Harbor
Carthage	Kilgore	Tatum
Chandler	Lakeport	Tool
Clarksville	Lindale	Trinidad
Coffee City	Log Cabin	Troup
East Mountain	Longview	Tyler
East Tawakoni	Mabank	Van
Easton	Malakoff	Warren City
Edgewood	Marshall	Waskom
Edom	Mineola	White Oak
Elkhart	Moore Station	Whitchouse
Emory	Mt. Enterprise	Wills Point
Enchanted Oaks	Murchison	Winnsboro
Eustace	New London	Winona
Frankston	New Summerfield	Yantis
Fruitvale	Noonday	

Member Governments

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICTS:

Alba Golden ISD	Hallsville ISD	Palestine ISD
ARP ISD	Harmony ISD	Pittsburg ISD
Athens ISD	Hawkins ISD	Quitman ISD
Beckville ISD	Henderson ISD	Rains ISD
Big Sandy ISD	Kemp ISD	Slocum ISD
Brownsboro ISD	Kilgore ISD	Tatum ISD
Carlisle ISD	Laneville ISD	Trinidad ISD
Carthage ISD	LaPoyner ISD	Tyler ISD
Cross Roads ISD	Laverett's Chapel ISD	Union Hill ISD
Elysian Fields ISD	Longview ISD	Waskom ISD
Eustace ISD	Mineola ISD	Wells ISD
Frankston ISD	Mt. Enterprise ISD	Westwood ISD
Gilmer ISD	Neches ISD	White Oak ISD
Grand Saline ISD	Ore City ISD	

SPECIAL PURPOSE DISTRICTS:

East Cedar Creek Water Dist	Trinity Valley Community College
East Tx Municipal Utility Dist	Tyler Junior College
Harrison County SWCD	Texas State Technical College
Kilgore College	Upshur-Gregg SWCD #417
Panola College	Wood County SWCD #444
Smith County 911 District	

RIVER AUTHORITIES:

Sabine River Authority
Upper Neches River Municipal Water Authority



ETCOG PARTNERS, MISSION & VISION



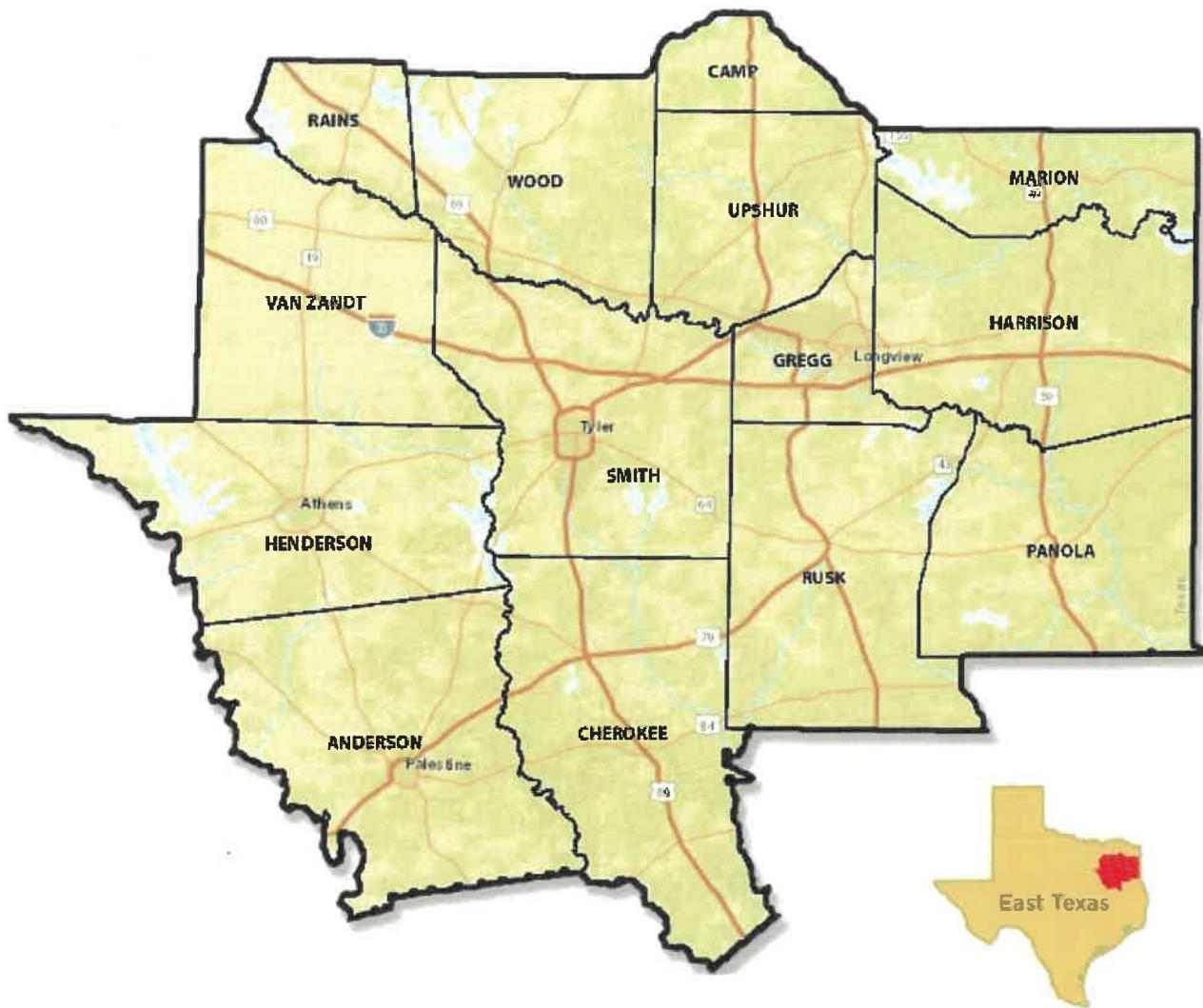
Mission

In order to improve the Quality of Life for all of our Citizens, ETCOG pledges all of its resources to educate and assist its members to accomplish their goals.

Vision

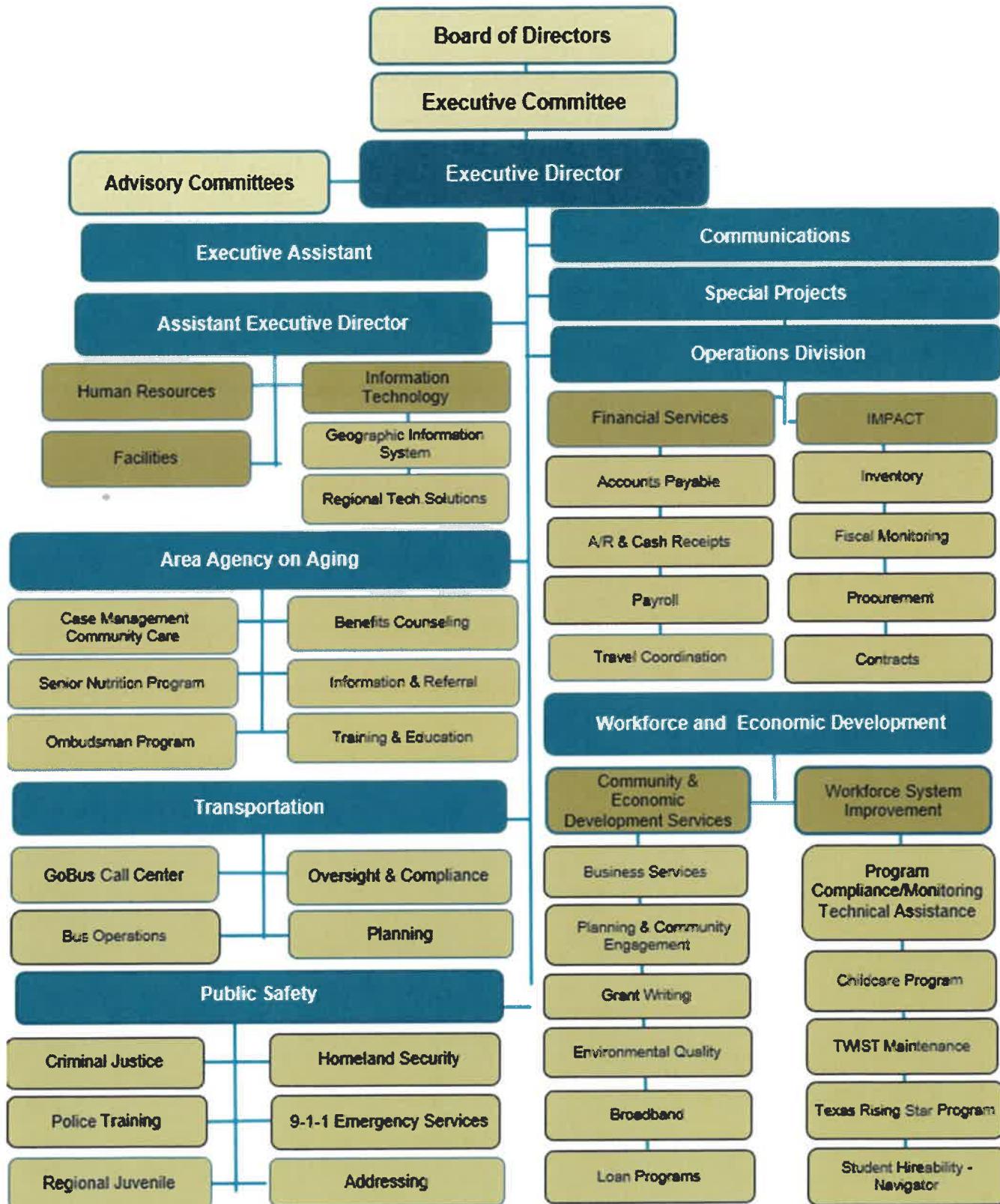
We are a trustworthy organization committed to providing leadership, education, and financial resources to our 14-county region.

EAST TEXAS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS SERVICE AREA



DAVID A. CLEVELAND
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Organizational Chart



SERVICE **PROGRAMS**

Area Agency on Aging Division

The Area Agency on Aging of East Texas (AAA) is funded by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) in accordance with the Older American Act of 1965, as amended. The AAA provides services to the senior population and recipients of Medicare throughout the fourteen counties in the East Texas region (Anderson, Camp, Cherokee, Gregg, Harrison, Henderson, Marion, Panola, Rains, Rusk, Smith, Upshur, Van Zandt, and Wood). The AAA's mission is to serve as the region's leader in advocating for and providing a variety of services to our senior population. These services are designed to enable older individuals to live independent, meaningful, and dignified lives in their own homes and communities for as long as possible. This objective is accomplished through the delivery of various programs operated through the AAA including benefits counseling; respite (in-home, out-of-home, and overnight) programs; caregiver support; case management and advocacy; evidence-based programs; information, referral, and assistance; nutrition; ombudsman; residential repair; and transportation.



With the life expectancy of the senior population increasing, the demand for AAA services will also increase due to the agency's outreach efforts throughout the 14-county region. The AAA uses its resources in a fair, consistent and effective manner by investing in services most needed by seniors. The AAA agency priorities are to: (1) enhance, advocate, and promote the quality of life of persons as they grow older to foster independence, (2) advocate for the protection and prevention of abuse, neglect, and financial exploitation of the older adults and persons with disabilities, (3) promote the health and wellness of older adults, (4) continue outreach efforts to create new community based partnerships, and (5) leverage funding through public and private opportunities.

In FY 2025, the AAA focused its efforts to develop a robust outreach plan for target program areas (congregate meal, benefits counseling, and evidence-based classes). The AAA, in FY 2025, secured two new nutrition providers for the Home Delivered Meal Program for most of the counties that were operated by the AAA. These new nutrition providers significantly reduced the administrative cost of the HDM program budget. Due to new budget realities caused by the expiration of temporary pandemic funding, the in-home and respite programs were realigned to pre-pandemic levels, allowing the AAA to continue baseline client services without staff reductions.

The FY 2026 budget is consistent with the pre-pandemic (FY 2019) funding level. The AAA will continue to strive to meet the ever-increasing needs and demands of the seniors in the East Texas Region. The AAA will continue to provide program services to support the independent sustainability of our seniors, work to expand and enhance public- private partnerships, collaborate with our intra- agency partners through information sharing, and continue outreach and marketing efforts throughout the East Texas region.

The AAA is expanding our case management and service delivery to include veterans and their families with introduction of the Veteran's Directed Care Program. This program will provide valuable support services to a growing veteran's adult population within East Texas. We are excited to be able to introduce this new program in cooperation with the U.S. Veteran's Administration during the coming year!

Area Agency on Aging Division

Staffing: The Area Agency on Aging Division is under the supervision of the Director of Aging and various staff members. For FY 2025 the program employed 18.80 full time equivalent positions and projects 17.30 for FY 2026.

Funding and Performance Measures: Funding comes from the Federal Government through the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS).

Major sources of funding for Area Agency on Aging include the following:

- **Senior Nutrition**
- **Caregiver Support**
- **Ombudsman Program Title VII- EAP and OAG**
- **Information Referral and Legal Assistance**

An explanation of the funding and information relative to Performance Measures is shown below beginning with the Senior Nutrition Program.

Senior Nutrition- The Older Americans Act, as Amended, provides funds for nutrition services for persons sixty years of age and older. Hot, nutritious meals provided five days a week, except with an approved waiver from Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services (TDADS), at a congregate meal site with home-delivered meals available to those who are not physically able to attend the meal site.

Caregiver Support- To assist States in providing multifaceted systems of support services for: (1) Family caregivers; and (2) grandparents or older individuals who are relative caregivers. Services to be provided include: information to caregivers about available services; assistance to caregivers in gaining access to the services; individual counseling, and caregiver training to caregivers to assist the caregivers in making decisions and solving problems relating to their care giving roles; and respite care to enable caregivers to be temporarily relieved from their care giving responsibilities.

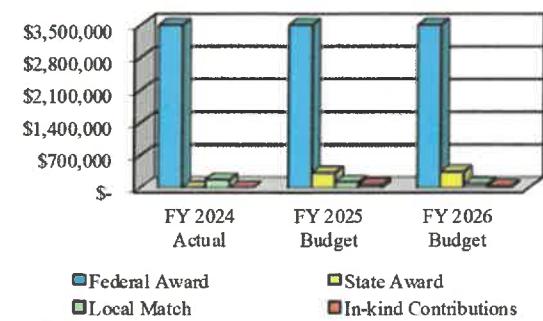
Ombudsman Program Title VIII B, Title VII-EAP and OAG- Residents in nursing homes are among the most frail and vulnerable Texans. At times, they need help to improve their quality of life and care. Federal and state authority mandates ombudsmen to identify, investigate and resolve complaints made by, or on behalf of, residents and to provide services to help in protecting health, safety, welfare and right.

Information Referral and Legal Assistance- The State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) was created under Section 4360 of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (OBRA) of 1990 (Public Law 101-508). SHIP is known as the Health Information Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP), which is a partnership of the Area Agencies on Aging, Texas Legal Services Center, and the Texas Department of Insurance. The law authorizes the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to make grants to states to establish and maintain statewide programs to provide health insurance information, counseling, and assistance to Medicare eligible individuals. The Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) for beneficiary outreach and assistance grant is intended to strengthen the capability of states to enroll all Medicare eligible individuals who are eligible for the Low-Income Subsidy (LIS) for Part D premiums and co-pays and Part B premiums.

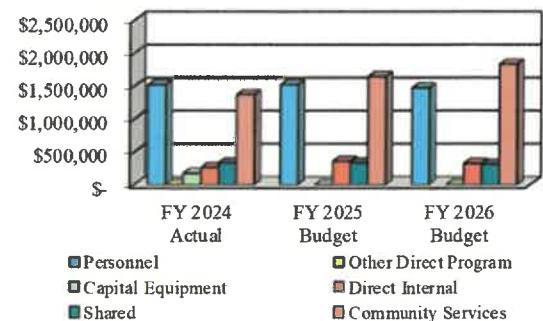
Following this page are the performance measures and budget for the AAA.

Area Agency on Aging Summary

	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Budget
Funding Sources			
Federal Award	\$ 5,609,439	\$ 3,891,156	\$ 3,859,594
State Award	-	326,196	345,700
Local Match	176,586	129,653	80,759
Other Income	-	1,295,552	565,577
In-kind Contributions	-	71,362	34,256
Total Resources	\$ 5,786,025	\$ 5,713,918	\$ 4,885,886

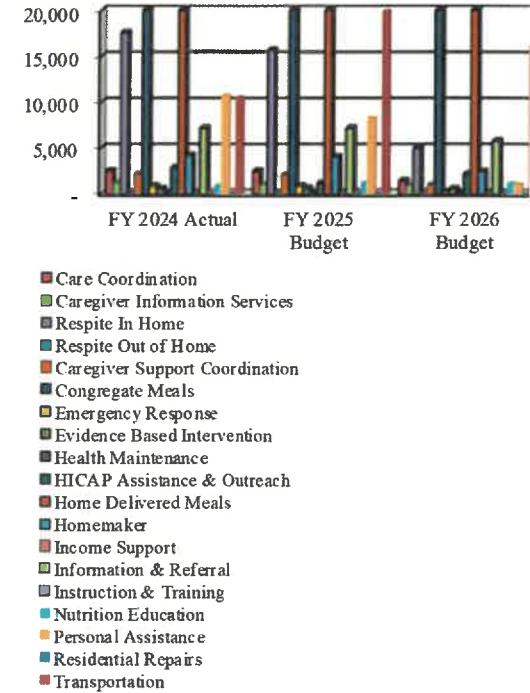


	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Budget
Expenditures			
Personnel	\$ 1,516,200	\$ 1,518,699	\$ 1,467,830
Other Direct Program	2,134,206	1,861,478	957,017
Capital Equipment	172,262	-	-
Direct Internal	260,720	359,120	321,848
Shared	333,943	332,590	311,185
Community Services	1,368,694	1,642,032	1,828,006
Total Department	\$ 5,786,025	\$ 5,713,918	\$ 4,885,886



FTE	20.50	18.80	17.30

	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Budget
Performance Measures			
Care Coordination	2,550	2,550	1,500
Caregiver Information Services	1,237	1,052	1,000
Respite In Home	17,591	15,694	5,000
Respite Out of Home	60	110	50
Caregiver Support Coordination	2,200	2,095	1,000
Congregate Meals	68,400	68,400	66,000
Emergency Response	900	900	324
Evidence Based Intervention	630	660	600
Health Maintenance	38	15	-
HICAP Assistance & Outreach	2,901	1,203	2,200
Home Delivered Meals	350,000	403,000	268,000
Homemaker	4,250	4,100	2,500
Income Support	3	10	-
Information & Referral	7,200	7,200	5,800
Instruction & Training	249	300	-
Nutrition Education	900	1,218	1,144
Personal Assistance	10,700	8,250	1,000
Residential Repairs	40	10	5
Transportation	10,500	19,848	16,200





Public Safety Division

The Public Safety Division oversees the Criminal Justice (CJ), Homeland Security (HS) and 911 Emergency Services (911) programs within the ETCOG region. The Criminal Justice and Homeland Security programs cover all fourteen counties, while the 911 Emergency Services Program serves ten counties directly (Anderson, Camp, Cherokee, Gregg, Marion, Panola, Rains, Upshur, Van Zandt, and Wood). The remaining four counties (Harrison, Henderson, Rusk, and Smith) and two cities (Kilgore and Longview) are served by local 911 districts.



Specifically, CJ staff responsibilities include - long and short-term planning, technical assistance for current and new grantees applying for funding through the Office of the Governor, Public Safety Office, facilitation of grant application workshops, online support in eGrants, priority hearings, program reporting, administration of the region's State Fund 421 grant which helps fund Continuing Education for Law Enforcement, administration of the region's Regional Juvenile Services grant which helps fund psychiatric and psychological evaluations, counseling services and substance abuse testing for youth referred to juvenile probation departments within the ETCOG region, development and maintenance of the Regional Criminal Justice Strategic Plan and facilitation of materials needed for review and approval by the Criminal Justice Advisory Committee and Executive Committee.

HS staff responsibilities include - long and short term planning; technical assistance for current and new grantees applying for funding through the Office of the Governor, Public Safety Office, facilitation of grant application workshops, regional training of varying types/sizes of Disaster Exercises for First Responders, online support in eGrants, funding allocation meetings, program reporting, assisting agencies with Emergency Management Plan updates, providing oversight of all the region's Hazard Mitigation Plans and facilitation of materials needed for review and approval by the Homeland Security Advisory Committee and Executive Committee.

The 911 staff responsibilities include long and short-term planning, design, implementation, monitoring, training, maintenance of equipment, network, database, and financial responsibilities for eighteen Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP). We also provide database maintenance (911 Addressing) for twelve counties and thirty-nine cities within the ETCOG region.

Currently, our Public Safety initiatives involve (1) installing a 9-1-1 backup network, (2) replacing all UPS batteries in our PSAPs, (3) preparing for full equipment replacement next year and (4) progressing towards establishment of the Piney Woods 9-1-1 district.

Public Safety Division

Staffing: This division is overseen by the Director of Public Safety. The staff breakdown includes 9 support positions for 9-1-1 Emergency Services, an Operations Manager, Homeland Security Coordinator, a Support Specialist and Criminal Justice/Homeland Security Planner. During FY 2025 the Division employed 13.00 full-time positions and has projected 12.55 for FY 2026. These staff members oversee the day-to-day operations of each of the programs.

Funding and Performance Measures: Funding is provided by the Governor's Office, Criminal Justice Division and the Texas Division of Emergency Management. State funding for the 9-1-1 Program is provided by the Texas Legislature with oversight of the Commission on State Emergency Communications (CSESC). Programs funded include Homeland Security, Police Training, Criminal Justice and 9-1-1 Emergency Services. Each of the Public Safety Program areas is described as follows:

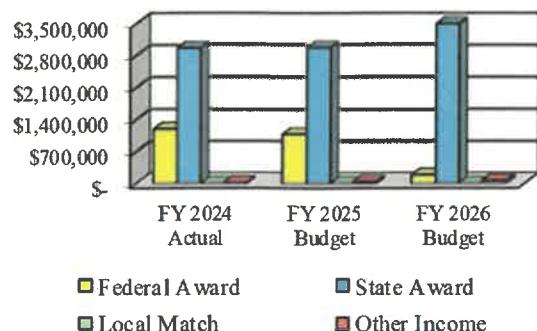
Homeland Security- Since 2003, Congress has provided funding to the States to strengthen critical infrastructure, purchase interoperable communications equipment, train first responders, and perform other tasks essential to ensure the security of the nation. ETCOG has assisted jurisdictions in completion of Emergency Response Plans; purchased 14 mobile communications gateways, placing one in each county; and created GIS maps of the region, now being used by first responders.

Police Training and Criminal Justice - The Criminal Justice program provides training and technical assistance to agencies within the 14-county region in the areas of criminal justice, juvenile justice, and victim services. The Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (CJAC) ranks grant applications within four funding streams administered by the Governor's Office, Criminal Justice Division (CJD): Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) and STOP Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) for victim services; Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) for juvenile services; and the State 421 Fund (SF421) for all other criminal justice purposes, which is primarily used in our region for the Police Training program. This program provides funds to train new peace officers, jailers, and communication operators employed or sponsored by ETCOG member agencies. Additional funds are used to bring talented instructors from outside the region to conduct classes here, and to send officers elsewhere to attend needed classes that are not available within the region. In FY 2023 more than 1,200 peace officers received training with 1,500 expected in FY 2025.

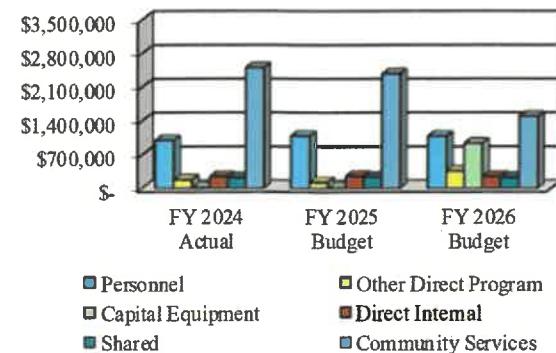
9-1-1 Emergency Communications- The goal of 9-1-1 Emergency Services is to establish and maintain equipment, networks and databases to preserve and enhance public safety and health through reliable access to emergency communication services, while building the interface to new technologies that will connect people with emergencies with those who respond. During FY 2024 over 1,550 peace officers were trained, 18 PSAP's were replaced, more than 40 dispatchers were trained and approximately 235,000 911 calls were received.

Public Safety Division Summary

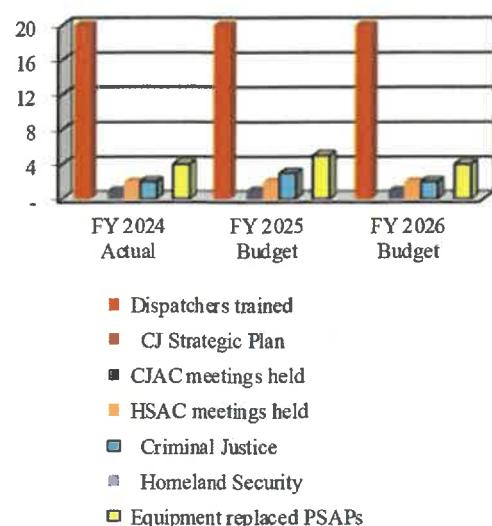
	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026
	Actual	Budget	Budget
Funding Sources			
Federal Award	\$ 1,199,151	\$ 1,084,139	\$ 197,058
State Award	2,966,361	2,978,136	4,090,966
Local Match	-	-	-
Other Income	18,262	41,810	75,369
Total Resources	\$ 4,183,774	\$ 4,104,085	\$ 4,363,393



	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026
	Actual	Budget	Budget
Expenditures			
Personnel	\$ 1,001,696	\$ 1,090,016	\$ 1,085,258
Other Direct Program	181,551	127,465	364,089
Capital Equipment	24,176	14,000	936,985
Direct Internal	249,661	255,776	251,273
Shared	223,532	238,710	230,079
Community Services	2,503,158	2,378,119	1,495,709
Total Department	\$ 4,183,774	\$ 4,104,085	\$ 4,363,393
FTE	13.15	13.05	12.55



	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026
	Actual	Budget	Budget
Performance Measures			
9-1-1 calls received	235,000	180,000	235,000
Dispatchers trained	40	39	40
Revised Regional			
CJ Strategic Plan	1	1	1
CJAC meetings held	2	2	2
HSAC meetings held	2	3	2
Grant App. Workshops:			
Criminal Justice	4	5	4
Homeland Security	4	4	4
Equipment replaced PSAPs	18	-	8
Peace Officers trained	1,550	2,190	1,500





Transportation Division



Since 1990, ETCOG has served as the East Texas Rural Transit District under the Federal Transit Administration's Section 5311 program, a cornerstone of rural public transportation. TxDOT state funds continue to provide the primary match for this federal program, supplemented by contracts with non-emergency medical transportation brokers, governmental entities, the Area Agency on Aging, and other local partners.

GoBus provides rural, demand-response transportation across a fourteen-county region, offering more than 150,000 passenger trips and covering over 1.5 million miles each year. In addition to core demand-response services, GoBus operates specialized offerings, including a flex route in Marshall, a seasonal flex route in Palestine, and the GoNow microtransit service recently launched in Palestine to meet real-time, app-based transit needs.

To ensure our system remains reliable and rider-focused, GoBus continues to invest in advanced internal systems and on-board technologies. These tools support efficient operations, safeguard customer information, and allow real-time performance monitoring. Our data-driven approach enables us to adapt to rider needs and ensure consistent access to essential destinations such as healthcare facilities, workplaces, grocery stores, and social services.

Looking ahead to FY2026, our focus is on strengthening regional mobility through strategic service enhancements and operational expansion. Building on the early success of GoNow, we plan to scale flexible microtransit models, expand service for elderly and disabled residents, and improve rural-to-urban connectivity. These improvements are designed to meet growing demand while continuing to provide equitable, accessible transportation options.

At the same time, the GoBus team continues efforts to increase ridership by reaching underserved areas and supporting a stable, well-trained workforce through competitive pay and benefits for bus operators. These initiatives align with a broader strategy to generate local revenue, improve long-term financial sustainability, and implement a regional coordination plan to streamline operations and enhance rider experience.

Supporting these service improvements are key infrastructure investments guided by the GoBus Strategic Plan. Construction of our new eastern maintenance facility is nearing completion, while the western facility has been successfully acquired and is now fully operational. Both facilities are integral to our five-year strategy to optimize maintenance operations, reduce service interruptions, and extend fleet longevity. With continued support from the EasTexConnects Committee, these developments will directly improve service quality across the region.

Through these initiatives, ETCOG remains committed to advancing public transportation in East Texas. Our strategic priorities reflect not only the evolving needs of our riders but also our long-term vision of building a more connected, resilient, and inclusive transit system for the region.

Transportation Division

Staffing: Transportation is overseen by the Director of Transportation and the Transportation Manager. The remaining staff consists of drivers, dispatchers and other support staff totaling 51.8 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) positions and two PRN staff. The staffing number is expected to be the same for FY 2026 as FY 2025.

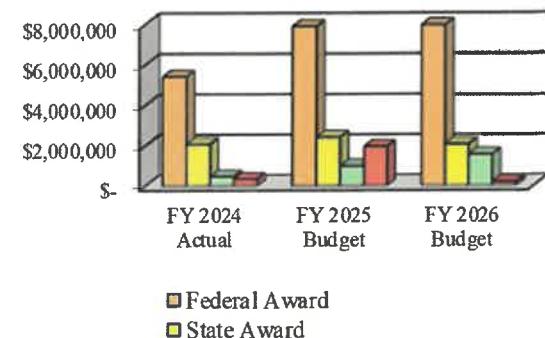
Funding and Performance Measures: Funding is provided by the Texas Department of Transportation and the Area Agency on Aging. Title 49 Section 5311 of the US Transportation Code provides that eligible recipients may receive federal funds through the Rural Public Transportation Grant Program, a federal assistance program administered by the Federal Transit Administration to enhance the access of persons living in rural area to health care, shopping, education, recreation, public services, and employment by encouraging the maintenance, development, improvement, and use of passenger transportation systems.

Transportation Code, Chapter 455, authorizes the State to assist the sub recipient in procuring aid for the purpose of establishing and maintaining public and mass transportation projects and to administer funds appropriated for public transportation under Transportation Code, Chapter 456. The Texas Department of Transportation has been designated to receive federal funds under the Rural Public Transportation Grant Program, to administer a statewide Rural Public Transportation Grant Program, and to provide state funds to match federal funds.

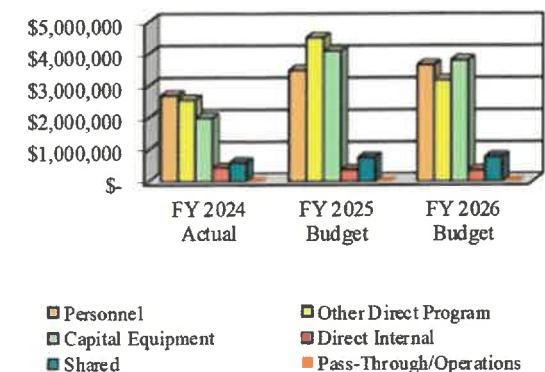
On the following page are the significant performance measures for the Transportation Division:

Transportation Division Summary

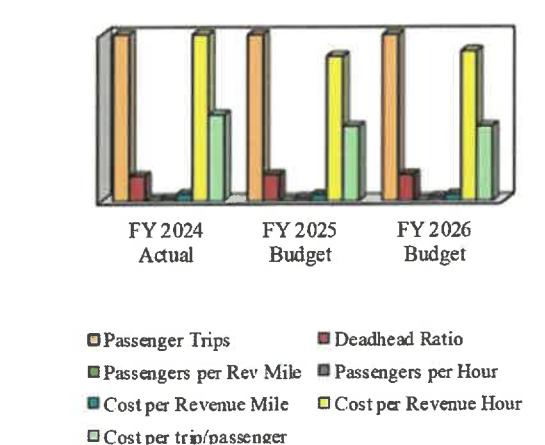
	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Budget
Funding Sources			
Federal Award	\$ 5,401,165	\$ 7,882,526	\$ 7,942,428
State Award	2,062,125	2,406,309	2,051,075
Other Income & In-Kind	469,155	978,700	1,551,550
Local Funds	344,442	1,946,583	200,000
Total Resources	\$ 8,276,887	\$ 13,214,118	\$ 11,745,053



	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Budget
Expenditures			
Personnel	\$ 2,700,316	\$ 3,483,440	\$ 3,645,305
Other Direct Program	2,557,103	4,505,697	3,175,480
Capital Equipment	1,988,683	4,081,450	3,796,380
Direct Internal	435,644	380,670	355,071
Shared	595,141	762,861	772,818
Total Department	\$ 8,276,887	\$ 13,214,118	\$ 11,745,053
FTE	51.70	51.80	51.80



	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Budget
Performance Measures			
Passenger Trips	128,276	130,000	155,000
Deadhead Ratio	15.30	16.00	16.00
Passengers per Rev Mile	0.08	0.10	0.10
Passengers per Hour	1.97	2.20	2.40
Cost per Revenue Mile	4.31	4.00	4.00
Cost per Revenue Hour	102.31	87.00	90.00
Cost per trip/passenger	51.92	45.00	45.00





Workforce and Economic Development Division

Targeting East Texas' quality of life, employers need tomorrow's workers. Workers deliver value; solid results in exchange for increased incomes. Workforce Solutions East Texas delivers workers and the resources to train them.

East Texas, like the rest of the nation, must adjust daily operations to reflect priorities of a new Federal Administration while, at the same time, remain focused on our region's strengths and weaknesses, resources and leaderships' vision. COVID is behind us. Economic prosperity is rounding the corner. How we respond to East Texas' requirements and opportunities will define the next several years' economic development.

Employers continue to need educated, skilled, and credentialed workers to produce the highest quality goods and services, both for local consumption and for export across the state, nation, and internationally. Economist Ray Perryman projects a 1.5% population growth rate, outpacing the nation, suggesting core industries such as energy, life sciences, data centers, AI applications, and other high-tech engines will likely be looking to our area. The one common requirement for all these industries is a ready workforce.

The Administration's focus is on bringing America's workers back into the office, the industries, and the community. Working remotely in isolation served as a temporary stopgap but is not sufficient to grow the economy. Workers need to be onsite, engaged, and qualified for new work. Our region's Economic Development Corporations need to be able to highlight a ready workforce.

Workforce capability begins in Education. Primary, secondary, and post-secondary provide the foundation. But beyond a foundation basis, employers need specialized skills and abilities to open their doors. They need certified and credentialed workers and, in response to the constantly changing economic environment, they need them fast. Workforce fills the gap.

Once a worker is on the job, keeping and growing them becomes Job #1. We use childcare services and incumbent worker training as key resources to assist our employers as they build and retain staff. We collaborate with member governments and partners to win various grants. We build East Texas' technological foundations and improve environmental bases. We support educators and trainers to provide "just in time" training and businesses and entrepreneurs to secure Small Business Administration and other generous loans options.

Workforce Solutions East Texas is proud to partner with our communities, educators, and business leaders to set the stage for our neighbors and our children to grow and prosper for themselves and their families.



Workforce and Economic Development Division

Staffing: The Regional Workforce and Economic Development Division is overseen by the Director and three team leaders. During the 2025 fiscal year the program employed 31 full time equivalent positions with plans to adjust to 3.29 FTEs in FY 2026.

Funding and Performance Measures: Funding is mostly provided by the Federal Government and Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) in the form of grants. For Workforce and Economic Development, the major sources of funding are Workforce Investment Opportunity Act (WIOA) grants; Child Care Services (CCS); Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP); Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF); and Targeted training and employment aide. The information that follows provides a brief description of the major sources of funding for the Workforce Programs administered by WSETB and ETCOG along with Performance Measure information.

Workforce Investment Opportunity Act- The purpose of WIA is to provide workforce investment activities, through statewide and local workforce investment systems that increase the employment, retention, and earnings of participants and increase occupational skill attainment by participants, and, as a result, improve the quality of the workforce, reduce welfare dependency, and enhance the productivity and competitiveness of the nation. In addition to job training and other job seeker services, it also provides resources for job matching and employer services. WIA Act funds support three distinct programs that include “Youth”, “Adult” and “Dislocated Worker”.

Child Care Services- This program provides subsidized childcare for public assistance recipients and low-income parents who are employed or attending school. This is a supportive service to enable low-income families with young children to work, participate in the labor market, or receive training.

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Block Grant – This is the first of two incentivized programs that require participants to sign up for and participate in employment programs in order to receive the respective benefits. Certain TANF Recipients are required to work or participate in work related activities as a condition of receiving their cash assistance. The Workforce system provides employment and supportive services to enable these activities and initiates sanctions against those recipients who do not participate in work.

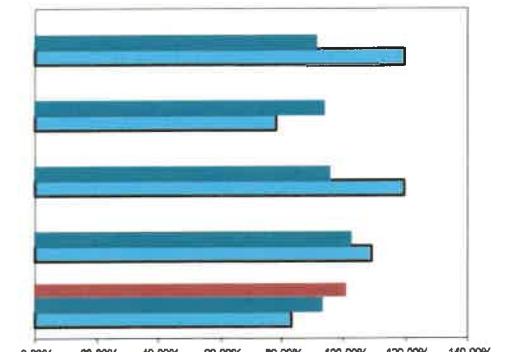
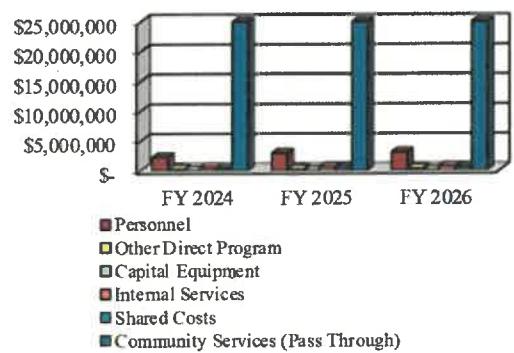
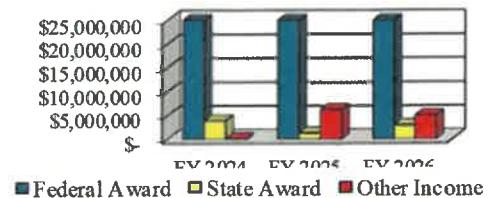
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) - Provides employment and training services for recipients of food stamps. The goal is to assist SNAP recipients in obtaining employment - including provision of work opportunities for 18- to 50-year-old Able-Bodied Adults without Dependents (ABAWDs) - through participation in work programs and education and training activities. Support services for transportation, dependent care expenses, and other expenses that are reasonable, necessary, and directly related to participation in SNAP activities are evaluated based on individual need.

Employment Services- The program was established in 1933 to provide universal access to job matching services for employers and job seekers. The Texas Workforce Commission directly employs staff for this program who are then assigned to the various Workforce Centers. It reimburses ETCOG for operating expense attributed to the presence of the state employees in the Workforce Centers.

Following this page are the performance measures and budget for the Workforce and Economic Division

Workforce Summary

	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026
	Actual	Budget	Budget
Funding Sources			
Federal Award	\$ 49,744,168	\$ 53,289,119	\$ 54,785,031
State Award	3,945,344	1,380,000	2,941,354
Other Income	136,534	6,219,887	4,988,167
Total Resources	\$53,826,046	\$60,889,006	\$62,714,552
Expenditures			
Personnel	\$ 2,307,979	\$ 3,004,458	\$ 3,109,406
Other Direct Program	253,094	254,596	297,642
Capital Equipment	-	-	-
Internal Services	543,346	653,530	704,463
Participant Assistance	2,472,767	4,541,023	4,523,484
Workforce Center Facilities	2,588,910	2,785,203	3,475,704
Special Projects & Board Ops	-	1,069,165	1,014,507
Shared Costs	526,213	657,966	659,206
Community Services (Pass Through)	45,133,737	47,923,064	48,930,141
Total Expenditures	\$53,826,046	\$60,889,006	\$62,714,552
FTE	30.02	30.99	31.29
Performance Measures	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026
	Actual % of current target	Actual % of current target	Budget % of current target
Claimant Reemployment with 10 weeks	111.57%	106.57%	107.20%
# of Employers Receiving Workforce Choices Full Work Rate - All Family	105.84%	104.50%	87.15%
Total	103.14%	100.68%	N/A
Avg # Children Served Per Day - Discretionary	n/a	100.01%	99.83%
Employed/Enrolled Q2 Post Exit - C&T Participants	103.33%	98.00%	94.35%
Employed/Enrolled Q2-Q4 Post Exit - C&T Participants	103.90%	102.12%	99.22%
Median Earnings Q2 Post Exit - C&T Participants	n/a	91.23%	N/A
Credential Rate - C&T Participants	97.05%	97.05%	65.18%
Employed Q2 Post Exit - Adult	97.46%	99.34%	94.35%
Employed Q4 Post Exit - Adult	98.56%	96.18%	99.22%
Median Earnings Q2 Post Exit - Adult	116.30%	83.29%	91.31%
Measurable Skills Gains - Adult	113.31%	94.25%	90.09%
Credential Rate - Adult	103.15%	95.64%	84.48%
Employed Q2 Post Exit - DW	101.99%	97.26%	98.94%
Employed Q4 Post Exit - DW	93.33%	103.15%	101.01%
Median Earnings Q2 Post Exit - DW	97.20%	94.63%	88.70%
Measurable Skills Gains - DW	84.96%	110.51%	97.44%
Credential Rate - DW	83.29%	93.37%	100.97%
Employed/Enrolled Q2 Post Exit - Youth	108.84%	102.55%	N/A
Employed/Enrolled Q4 Post Exit - Youth	119.83%	95.82%	N/A
Measurable Skills Gains - Youth	78.37%	93.67%	N/A
Credential Rate - Youth	119.50%	91.24%	N/A



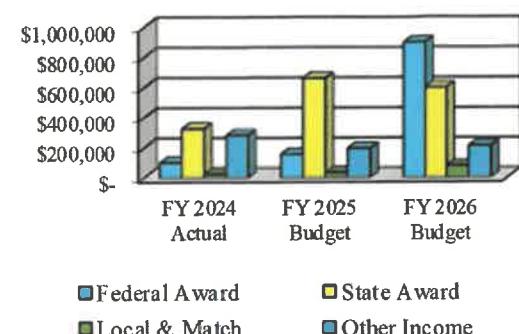
█ FY 2026 Budget % of current target 107.20% 87.15% N/A 99.83%
 94.35% 99.22% N/A 65.18% 94.35% 99.22% 91.31% 90.09%
 84.48% 98.94% 101.01% 88.70%

█ FY 2025 Actual % of current target 106.57% 104.50% 100.68%
 100.01% 98.00% 102.12% 91.23% 97.05% 99.34% 96.18%
 83.29% 94.25% 95.64% 97.26% 103.15% 94.63%

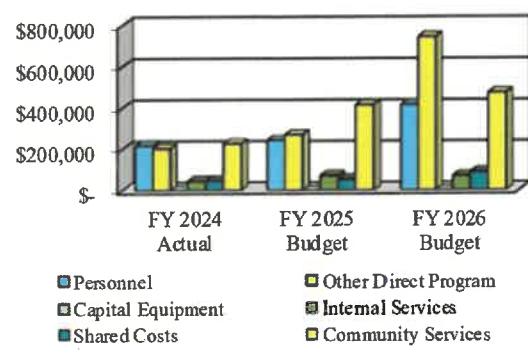
█ FY 2024 Actual % of current target 111.57% 105.84% 103.14% n/
 103.33% 103.90% n/a 97.05% 97.46% 98.56% 116.30% 113.31%
 103.15% 101.99% 93.33% 97.20%

Economic Development

	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Budget
Funding Sources			
Federal Award	\$ 102,514	\$ 157,490	\$ 899,413
State Award	326,253	662,609	598,813
Local & Match	26,498	35,499	79,556
Other Income	282,417	194,213	211,292
Total Resources	\$ 737,682	\$ 1,049,811	\$ 1,789,074

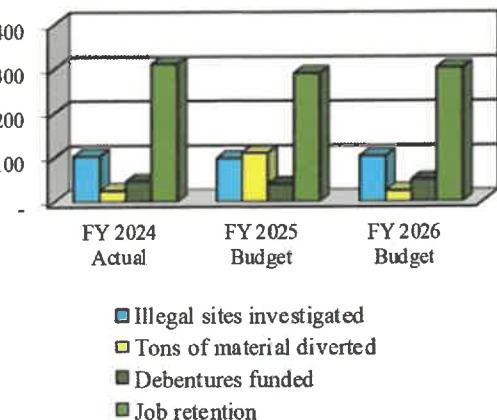


	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Budget
Expenditures			
Personnel	\$ 216,843	\$ 242,210	\$ 415,044
Other Direct Program	202,533	268,911	743,500
Capital Equipment	-	-	-
Internal Services	45,815	71,356	69,286
Shared Costs	47,087	53,043	87,991
Community Services	225,404	414,290	473,253
Total Expenditures	\$ 737,682	\$ 1,049,811	\$ 1,789,074



	2.77	2.80	4.10
FTE			

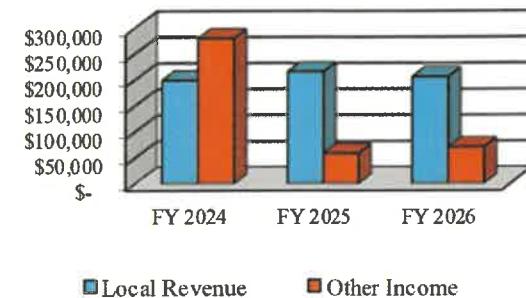
	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Budget
Performance Measures			
Illegal sites investigated	103	98	103
Illegal dump sites cleaned up	93	94	94
Pounds of waste collected	879,100	875,000	879,000
Tires collected	3,936	3,800	3,900
Tons of material diverted	25	110	25
Debentures funded	46	40	50
Job retention from funded debentures	311	290	302



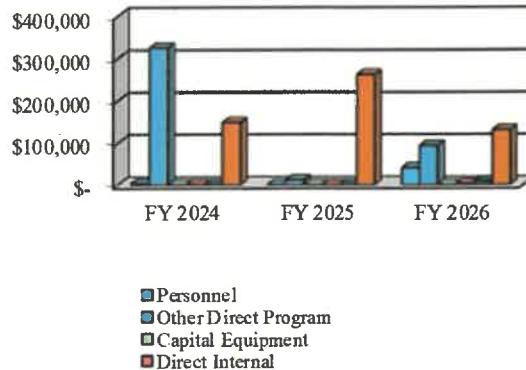
Local Funds

Local revenue comes mainly from membership dues and interest income on idle ETCOG (Local) cash/investments. These funds are essentially unrestricted but are used from time to time to help support programs and provide local matching to grant funds. Local funds are also referred to as the General Fund.

General Fund	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026
	Actual	Budget	Budget
Funding Sources			
Local Revenue	\$ 198,647	\$ 215,422	\$ 205,333
Other Income	279,196	58,383	70,251
Total Resources	\$ 477,843	\$ 273,805	\$ 275,584



General Fund	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026
	Actual	Budget	Budget
Expenditures			
Personnel	\$ 3,577	\$ -	\$ 40,462
Other Direct Program	324,816	12,328	93,075
Capital Equipment	-	-	-
Direct Internal	644	-	3,154
Shared	758	-	8,578
Assistance to Programs & Match	148,048	261,477	130,315
Total Department	\$ 477,843	\$ 273,805	\$ 275,584



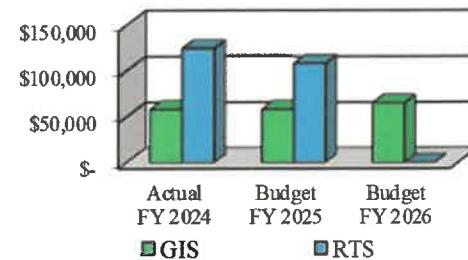
FTE	0.50	-	0.45
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Regional Technology Services

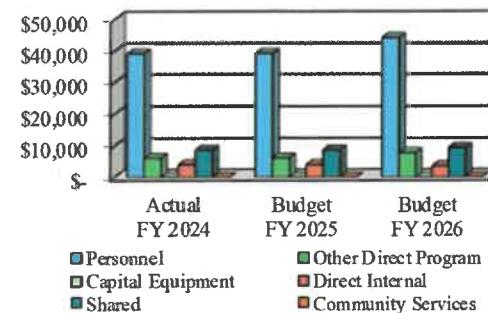
Geographic Information System (GIS)

ETCOG offers Information Technology (computer and telephone systems acquisition and support) and GIS Services to our members who need short-term or long-term assistance from highly qualified and experienced staff. As a member of ETCOG, you can receive a top-to-bottom IT systems health review from our staff FREE of charge. GIS is a spatial database system that provides powerful decision-making tools for public governance from producing simple hard copy maps to analyzing complex crime patterns. Emergency responders use GIS tools to respond to accidents, housing specialists to analyze the quality and condition of housing, environmentalists to identify the location of hazardous waste sites, social service workers to identify the location of elderly and disabled, waste management officials to route vehicles, police to analyze crime patterns, public works crew to maintain road inventory, and much more.

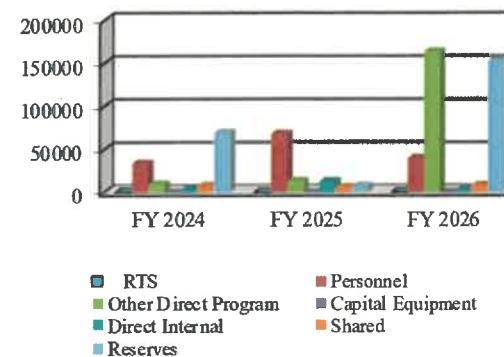
Funding Sources	FY 2024		FY 2025		FY 2026	
	Actual		Budget		Budget	
GIS	\$ 57,958		\$ 57,958		\$ 64,824	
RTS	124,326		108,194		-	
Total Resources	\$ 182,284		\$ 166,152		\$ 64,824	



GIS	FY 2024		FY 2025		FY 2026	
	Actual		Budget		Budget	
Expenditures						
Personnel	\$ 39,154		\$ 39,154		\$ 44,163	
Other Direct Program	6,139		6,139		7,721	
Capital Equipment	-		-		-	
Direct Internal	4,000		4,000		3,577	
Shared	8,665		8,665		9,363	
Community Services	-		-		-	
Total Department	\$ 57,958		\$ 57,958		\$ 64,824	
FTE	0.30		0.35		0.35	



RTS	FY 2024		FY 2025		FY 2026	
	Actual		Budget		Budget	
Expenditures						
Personnel	\$ 34,124		\$ 67,959		\$ 40,055	
Other Direct Program	9,553		13,300		163,426	
Capital Equipment	-		-		-	
Direct Internal	3,739		13,283		3,027	
Shared	7,608		6,128		8,492	
Reserves	69,302		7,525		152,826	
Total Department	\$ 124,326		\$ 108,194		\$ 367,826	
FTE	0.20		1.05		0.55	



Operations Division

ETCOG's Operations Division manages and accounts for all public funds through a staff of dedicated accounting professionals with over 250 years of combined public funds management expertise. The Operations Division has earned the prestigious "Excellence in Financial Reporting Award from the Government Finance Officers Association for twenty-four consecutive years. The Operations Division supports all programs, staff, Boards, and contractors of the East Texas Council of Governments through the centralized delivery of essential services provided by three departments within the Division that include. Listed below are the departments and services provided. The Operations Division is part of the framework for each program serving all areas with a total ETCOG budget of \$86,053,366 for fiscal year 2026.

- **Financial Services**
 - Accounts Payable
 - Payroll
 - Cash Management
 - Travel Coordination
 - Asset Management
 - Financial Reporting
- **Fiscal Grant Management**
 - Program Specific Financial Reporting
 - Budget review & oversight
 - Workforce Contractor Support
 - Fiscal Monitoring of Contractors
 - Forecasting
- **Procurement**
 - Purchasing & Formal Procurement
 - Vendor Performance
- **Fiscal Accountability & Support**
 - Oversight & planning of annual audit and outside financial monitoring's
 - Development of annual budget
 - Oversight and review all ETCOG Programs

Summary of Special Revenue Funds by Grant

	FY 2024 Budget	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Budget	Increase/ Decrease over prior year	
Workforce Programs					
Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (WIOA)	\$ 7,200,831	\$ 8,325,749	\$ 8,045,133	(280,616)	-3%
Child Care	46,990,481	47,278,181	48,875,576	1,597,395	3%
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	2,347,492	2,302,263	2,159,733	(142,530)	-6%
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)	443,289	485,382	370,310	(115,072)	-24%
Employment Services/ RESEA	742,942	1,010,357	1,349,985	339,628	34%
VR & HDJT	793,000	718,000	1,123,000	405,000	56%
Trade Act	144,000	27,000	9,000	(18,000)	-67%
Non Custodial Parent	474,433	474,433	474,433	-	0%
Veterans & Leadership	25,445	36,500	42,515	6,015	16%
Infrastructure(ISS) & Wkfc Commission Init (WCI)	215,876	231,141	264,867	33,726	15%
Total Workforce Programs	\$ 59,377,789	\$ 60,889,006	\$ 62,714,552	1,825,546	3%
Economic Development & Loan Programs					
Economic Development Assistance Planning	113,143	121,329	122,000	671	1%
EDA - Broadband	-	-	110,000	110,000	0%
SWIFR - TCEQ	-	125,000	-	(125,000)	-100%
Solid Waste - TCEQ	165,158	181,073	174,437	(6,636)	-4%
Air Quality - TCEQ	217,233	253,269	270,553	17,284	7%
Air Quality PM 2.5 - TCEQ	-	103,267	153,823	50,556	49%
Brownfields - EPA	54,000	61,300	681,293	619,993	1011%
TDA Community Development Block Grant	10,360	10,360	16,120	5,760	56%
Loan Program -CLP, CLC, USDA	124,379	-	-	-	0%
East Texas Regional Development Co.	144,201	194,213	260,848	66,635	34%
Total Economic Dev. & Loan Programs	\$ 828,474	\$ 1,049,811	\$ 1,789,074	739,263	70%
Area Agency on Aging Programs					
C1, C2 & NSIP Meals	\$ 2,979,498	\$ 2,728,943	\$ 2,337,364	(391,579)	-14%
Title III-B	1,161,799	1,474,983	1,143,797	(331,186)	-22%
Title III-D	61,936	62,786	109,263	46,477	74%
Title VII-OAG & VII-EAP & SGR ALF	188,149	149,506	164,420	14,914	10%
Title III-E Caregiver	442,774	506,649	358,422	(148,227)	-29%
SGR HDM Rate Increase	79,394	100,933	119,658	18,725	19%
HICAP	148,697	148,697	171,810	23,113	16%
MIPPA	30,447	30,447	43,101	12,654	42%
ARP III-B	294,006	-	-	-	0%
ARP III-C1 & III-C2 Meals	510,463	-	-	-	0%
ARP III-D	34,933	-	-	-	0%
ARP-III-E	93,668	-	-	-	0%
ARP-OM	10,003	-	-	-	0%
ARP SGR	57,479	-	-	-	0%
Administration	522,722	510,975	438,051	(72,924)	-14%
Total Area Agency on Aging	\$ 6,615,968	\$ 5,713,918	\$ 4,885,886	(828,032)	-14%

Summary of Special Revenue Funds by Grant (continued)

	FY 2024 Budget	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Budget	Increase/ Decrease over prior year	
Public Safety					
9-1-1 Emergency Communications	3,252,165	2,705,772	2,818,603	112,831	4%
Homeland Security	192,514	186,678	178,675	(8,003)	-4%
Criminal Justice Division	60,320	60,320	60,319	(1)	0%
Police Training	187,369	187,369	187,369	-	0%
Regional Evaluation Services	47,800	47,136	43,058	(4,078)	-9%
County & City Addressing	63,525	41,810	75,369	33,559	80%
SERI	-	875,000	1,000,000	125,000	0%
Total Public Safety	\$ 3,803,693	\$ 4,104,085	\$ 4,363,393	259,308	6%
Transportation Services					
Transportation Operations	4,704,777	4,734,843	4,855,380	120,537	3%
Preventative Maintenance	244,000	300,000	443,011	143,011	48%
Regional Coordination Planning	40,000	40,000	204,000	164,000	410%
Administration	997,974	997,974	1,145,133	147,159	15%
Capital/Vehicles	3,123,891	4,081,450	3,796,380	(285,070)	-7%
Mobility Management	150,000	187,731	120,000	(67,731)	-36%
Contract Services	553,960	557,068	350,000	(207,068)	-37%
Transportation Restricted	127,078	20,000	25,250	5,250	26%
Transportation Local Funds	2,400,666	2,295,052	805,900	(1,489,152)	-65%
Total Transportation	\$ 12,342,346	\$ 13,214,118	\$ 11,745,053	(1,469,064)	-11%
GIS Mapping	58,375	50,000	64,824	14,824	30%
Regional Technology Solutions (RTS)	29,849	116,152	215,000	98,848	85%
 Grand Total Special Revenue Funds	 \$ 83,056,494	 \$ 85,137,089	 \$ 85,777,782	 640,693	 1%



Glossary of Terms and Grant Descriptions

AAA (Area Agency on Aging) - The Area Agency on Aging of East Texas (AAA) is funded by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) in accordance with the Older American Act of 1965, as amended. The AAA is a provider of services to the senior population and recipients of Medicare throughout the fourteen counties in the East Texas region.

Accrual Basis of Accounting - The basis of accounting whereby revenue projections are developed recognizing revenues expected to be earned in the period, and expenditure estimates are developed for all expenses anticipated to be incurred during the last fiscal year.

Appropriation - A legal authorization to make expenditures and to incur obligations for specific purposes. An appropriation is usually limited to the amount and as to the time when it may be expended.

Basis of Accounting - The timing method used in the recognition of revenues and expenditures for financial reporting purposes.

Broadband - the transmission of wide bandwidth data over a high-speed internet connection that provides high speed internet access via multiple types of technologies including fiber optics, wireless, cable, DSL, and satellite.

Budgetary Control - The control or management of government in accordance with an approved budget to keep expenditures within the limitations of available appropriations and available resources.

Budget Document - The official written statement prepared by ETCOG staff and approved by the ETCOG Board of Directors to serve as a financial and operation guide.

Capital Equipment (Assets) - Resources having a value of \$10,000 or more and a useful life of more than one year. Capital assets are also called fixed assets.

Capital Outlay - Expenditures which result in the acquisition of or addition of fixed assets.

Cash Basis of Accounting - The method of accounting under which revenues are recorded when received and expenditures are recorded when paid.

CCS (Child Care Services) - Provides subsidized childcare to public assistance recipients and low-income parents who are employed or attending school.

CPI – (Consumer Price Index) published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics for the State of Texas, is a measure of the average change in prices over time in a fixed market basket of goods and services.

Direct Internal Expenses – An allocation plan under the guidelines of 2 CFR 200 -Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, whereby costs of the following services can be charged to the various programs on a reasonable and consistent basis. Direct Internal Service expenses are charged to a cost pool and then allocated directly to the grants on a monthly basis.

Executive Summary - A general discussion of the proposed budget presented in writing as a part of or supplement to the budget document. The Executive Summary explains principal budget issues against the background of financial experience in recent years and presents recommendations made by the Executive Director.

EDA (U.S. Department of Commerce -Economic Development Administration) - provides planning assistance to provide support to Planning Organizations for the development, implementation, revision, or replacement of a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), planning efforts, and State plans designed to create and retain higher-skill, higher-wage jobs, particularly for the unemployed and underemployed in the nation's most economically distressed regions.

ES (Wagner-Peyser Employment Services) - Legislation passed in 1933 that ensures universal access to a system in which job seekers are matched with jobs and employers.

ETRDC (East Texas Regional Development Company) – is a private, non-profit, organization formed for the purpose of assisting small businesses and licensed by the U.S. Small Business Administration. ETRDC has helped many Texas business owners achieve long term financing for all of their business needs.

Federal Awards - Federal awards received from the federal government through the State of Texas are the largest source of funding received by the ETCOG. Revenues are received from the U.S. Departments of Labor, Agriculture, Health and Human Services, Commerce, Housing and Urban Development, Justice, Energy, Transportation, and the Department of Homeland Security.

Fund - An independent fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts recording cash and/or other resources together with all liabilities, obligations, reserves, and equities which are segregated for the purpose of carrying on specific activities or attaining certain objectives.

General Fund - General Operating Fund of ETCOG, accounting for the resources and expenditures related to the recognized governmental services provided.

Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) - Uniform standards and guidelines for financial accounting and reporting. GAAP provides a standard by which to measure financial presentations.

GIS (Geographic Information System) - A database system that creates, manages, analyzes, and maps all types of data. This provides a foundation for mapping and analysis that is used in science and almost every industry. GIS helps users understand patterns, relationships, and geographic context. The benefits include improved communication and efficiency as well as better management and decision making.

Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) - Established in 1984, GASB is the independent, private-sector organization that establishes accounting and financial reporting standards for U.S. state and local governments that follow Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). The GASB standards are recognized as authoritative by state and local governments, state Boards of Accountancy, and the American Institute of CPAs (AICPA). The GASB develops and issues accounting standards through a transparent and inclusive process intended to promote financial reporting that provides useful information to taxpayers, public officials, investors, and others who use financial reports.

Governmental Funds - Funds generally used to account for governmental (non-proprietary) activities. There are two (2) types of governmental funds used by ETCOG, the general fund and special revenue funds.

HICAP (Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program) provides free, confidential one-on-one counseling, education, and assistance to individuals and their families on Medicare, Long-Term Care insurance, other health insurance related issues, and planning for Long-Term Care needs.

HHSC (Texas Health and Human Services Commission) The Texas agency whose mission is to provide a comprehensive array of aging and disability services, supports, and opportunities that are easily accessed in local communities.

Information Technology - the use of any computers, storage, networking and other physical devices, infrastructure, and processes to create, process, store, secure and exchange all forms of electronic data.

Interlocal Elimination – The allocation of Direct Internal Services and Shared Costs to Service Programs in accordance with established federal, state, or internal guidelines.

Internal Service Fund – Funds used to account for activities conducted on a benefit received for service basis. Direct Internal Service expenses related to Human Resources, Information Technology, and the Facility are charged to cost pools and then allocated directly to the grants on a monthly basis.

Investments – Cash held by ETCOG in interest bearing accounts and cash pools.

Local Cash Match – Local membership dues are received from cities, counties, and special districts. Membership dues are utilized for general council expenditures and to match various federal and state programs. Local cash match is also provided by the Counties for the Economic Development grant.

Major Fund - The General and the Grant Fund (Programs).

MIPPA (Medicare Improvement for Patients and Providers Act) – This program provides outreach and assistance to eligible Medicare beneficiaries to apply for benefit programs that help to lower the costs of their Medicare premiums and deductibles and to coordinate efforts to inform older Americans about benefits available under Federal and state programs.

Modified Accrual Basis of Accounting - Under the basis of accounting, revenues are estimated for the fiscal year. If they are susceptible to accrual, amounts can be determined and will be collected within the current period.

NCP (Non-Custodial Parent Choices) - Provides Employment Services to non-custodial parents ordered into the system by the court for non-payment of child support.

NSIP (Nutrition Service Incentive Program) - Funds are made available to State agencies on aging and Indian Tribal Organizations to purchase foods of United States origin or to access commodities from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). These foods are to be used in the preparation of congregate and home-delivered meals by nutrition services programs.

Operating Budget - A plan of financial operation embodying an estimate of proposed expenditures for the calendar year and the proposed means of financing them (revenue estimates).

Other Direct Program Expenses – Other Direct expenses include professional and contract services, travel, training, insurance and bonding, public education, meetings, office supplies, and service delivery costs.

Other Income – Other income includes revenues for Transportation Bus Fares, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Services, Program Income for the Area Agency on Aging, Investment income, ETRDC Service Fees, Chapman Revolving Loan fees, and match for Transportation operations provided by the Health & Human Services Commission through the Area Agency on Aging Division.

Pass Through (Expenses) – Funds which the East Texas Council of Governments has oversight and monitoring responsibilities through contractual agreements with various sub-recipients for the delivery of service in the fourteen-county region.

Performance Measure - Divisional units of measurement in performance, measurable functions, i.e., passenger miles, job postings filled, meals delivered, etc.

Personnel (Expenses) – Personnel costs include salaries and benefits for employees. Full time employees receive benefits which include paid leave (vacation, sick, holidays), longevity, workers compensation, pension, and medical/dental insurance.

Regional Technology Solutions - new Information Technology (IT) Support services for our region's jurisdictions needing special project and/or daily operational support.

Revenue Earned The determination as to when revenue is earned is dependent on the language in each specific grant. For example, if you have a cost-reimbursement grant (which is the most common) you would recognize grant revenue equal to the amount of allowable expenses you incurred.

RPO (Rural Planning Organization) – An organization of the 14-county ETCOG counties, established to coordinate all multimodal transportation planning for the region.

Service Program – The collective, associated services funded through a variety of Federal and State Awards managed by the four major operating Divisions of ETCOG (Area Agency on Aging, Public Safety, Transportation, and Workforce and Economic Development).

Shared Costs – Shared costs are costs that have been incurred for common or joint purposes. These costs benefit more than one cost objective and cannot be readily identified with a particular final cost objective without effort disproportional to the results achieved.

SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) - Seeks to provide employment services to those individuals receiving food stamps with the goal of self-sufficiency.

Special Revenue Fund - A fund used to account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources (other than expendable trusts or major capital projects) that are legally restricted to expenditure for specific purposes. GAAP only requires the use of special revenue funds when legally mandated. Each ETCOG Grant Fund is a Special Revenue Fund and is used to account for all grant related financial activity (Divisional budgets).

State Awards – State revenues for ETCOG come from the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC), the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS), the Office of the Governor Criminal Justice Division (CJD), the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), the Commission on State Emergency Communications (CSEC), the Texas Department of Transportation, and the Veterans Benefits Administration

TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) - Employment services which are offered through the Choices Program to recipients of TANF. This program helps individuals receiving time limited cash assistance to find long-term employment and self-sufficient wages.

Texas County and District Retirement System (TCDRS) - a statewide agent multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan that ETCOG entered in December 2021. TCDRS is financially strong with a \$45-billion trust that partners with more than 830 employers to provide retirement, disability and survivor benefits to more than 345,000 Texans. A unique savings-based plan design and disciplined funding ensure that benefits are reliable and costs more predictable for employers.

Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) - The purpose of this program is to provide technical assistance in the area of community development and in part “create jobs through expansion and retention of businesses.”

Title III Part B –To encourage State Agencies on Aging and Area Agencies on Aging to concentrate resources to develop and implement comprehensive and coordinated community-based systems of service for older individuals via Statewide planning, and area planning and provision of supportive services, including multipurpose senior centers. The objective of these services and centers is to maximize the informal support provided to older Americans to enable them to remain in their homes and communities. Providing transportation services, in-home services, and caregiver support services, this program ensures that elders receive the services they need to remain independent.

Title III Part C1 & C2 -To provide grants to States to support nutrition services including nutritious meals, nutrition education and other appropriate nutrition services for older Americans in order to maintain health, independence, and quality of life. Meals may be served in a congregate setting or delivered to the home, if the older individual is homebound.

Title III Part D - To develop or strengthen preventive health service and health promotion systems through designated State Agencies on Aging and Area Agencies on Aging. Funds are provided for disease prevention and health promotion services including health risk assessments; routine health screening; nutrition screening; counseling and educational services for individuals and primary care givers; health promotion; physical fitness; home injury control and home safety screening; screening for the prevention of depression, and referral to psychiatric and psychological services; education on availability of benefits and appropriate use of preventive services; education on medication management; information concerning diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of neurological brain dysfunction; and counseling regarding social services and follow-up health services.

Title III Part E - To assist State Territories in providing multifaceted systems of support services for: (1) Family caregivers; and (2) grandparents or older individuals who are relative caregivers. Services to be provided include: information to caregivers about available services; assistance to caregivers in gaining access to the services; individual counseling, and caregiver training to caregivers to assist the caregivers in making decisions and solving problems relating to their caregiving roles; respite care to enable caregivers to be temporarily relieved from their caregiving responsibilities; and supplemental services, on a limited basis, to complement the care provided by caregivers.

Title VII EAP - To support activities to develop, strengthen, and conduct programs for the prevention, detection, assessment, and treatment of, intervention in, investigation of, and response to elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation (including financial exploitation).

Title VII OAG - The principal role of this Ombudsman Program is to investigate and resolve complaints made by or on behalf of residents of nursing homes or other long-term care facilities. Ombudsmen also promote policies and practices needed to improve the quality of care and life in long-term care facilities and educate both consumers and providers about residents' rights and safe care practices.

Trade Adjustment Assistance Services - The Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) provides training and job search/relocation assistance to individuals who lose their manufacturing jobs due to foreign imports.

TWC (Texas Workforce Commission) – The state agency charged with overseeing and providing workforce development services to employers and job seekers of Texas. TWC strengthens the Texas economy by providing the workforce development component of the Governor's economic development strategy, by focusing on the needs of employers which gives Texas the competitive edge necessary to draw business to the state.

TxDOT (Texas Department of Transportation)- Transportation Code, Chapter 455, authorizes the State to assist the sub recipient in procuring aid for the purpose of establishing and maintaining public and mass transportation projects and to administer funds appropriated for public transportation under Transportation Code, Chapter 456. The Texas Department of Transportation has been designated to receive federal funds under the Rural Public Transportation Grant Program, to administer a statewide Rural Public Transportation Grant Program, and to provide state funds to match federal funds.

US Department of Transportation – Title 49 Section 5311 of the US Transportation Code provides that eligible recipients may receive federal funds through the Rural Public Transportation Grant Program, a federal assistance program administered by the Federal Transit Administration to enhance the access of persons living in rural area to health care, shopping, education, recreation, public services, and employment by encouraging the maintenance, development, improvement, and use of passenger transportation systems.

VETS (Veterans' Employment Services) - Program where Vietnam era veterans, disabled veterans, and recently separated veterans can receive job search assistance, education, and training. The services of this program are provided by employees of the Texas Veterans Commission with the Board responsible for housing those employees in the Workforce Centers and coordinating their activities with the rest of the system.

WCI (Workforce Commission Initiatives) - The WCI funding is provided for the purpose of supporting the delivery of services to workers and employers. The purpose of this Grant Award is to fund projects that strengthen and add value to the delivery system in its workforce area.

WIOA (Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act) - WIOA is legislation enacted to improve the nation's workforce development system and help put Americans back to work. It provides a system for the preparation of workers for the 21st century workforce, while helping businesses find the skilled employees they need to compete and create jobs in America.

WSET (Workforce Solutions East Texas) - Workforce Solutions East Texas is a community partnership providing no-cost recruitment and employment services to businesses and job seekers in the East Texas area. The mission is to improve the quality of life in East Texas through economic development by providing a first-class workforce for present and future businesses.