### **OPEN HOUSE #1 SUMMARY**

Date: February 7, 2019 Project #: 22857

To: Project Management Team

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Subject: Round 1 Open House Summary – Local and Virtual Open Houses

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### INTRODUCTION

This memorandum summarizes the process and results for the first round of virtual and local open houses conducted for the Cascades East Transit (CET) 2040 Transit Master Plan (the Plan). The virtual open house was available online from January 7, 2019 through February 3, 2019, giving the public an opportunity to participate in the open house process if unable to attend in person at the local open houses; the virtual open house served 227 participants. The local open houses were held between January 15 and January 29, 2019 at the locations listed below in order to represent six jurisdictions within CET's service area; the number of attendees at each open house are also included. These local open houses generated 50 completed paper surveys.

- Deschutes County | La Pine Public Library | 1.15.19 | 25 attendees
- » Jefferson County | Rodriguez Jefferson Library Annex | 1.17.19 | 11 attendees
- » Redmond | Redmond City Hall | 1.22.19 | 20 attendees
- Warm Springs | Warm Springs Community Center | 1.23.19 | 11 attendees
- Crook County | Crook County Library | 1.24.19 | 18 attendees
- » Bend | Trinity Episcopal Church | 1.29.19 | 46 attendees

From the results of both the virtual and local open houses, this memorandum compiles the public's feedback on their priorities and needs for CET's current services and discusses key



findings; the section in this memorandum covering results of a map activity is specific to the virtual open house.

### **PRIORITIES**

The public's priorities for CET's current services includes feedback from both the virtual and local open houses. Participants were asked to rate with stars – from 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest) – the vision and goal statements for the Plan, CET's existing Bend and Community Connector services, and transit characteristics affecting rider experience. The following sections summarize these options and results.

#### **Vision Statement**

Two vision statements listed below were proposed for the Plan that are similar in message but differ in emphasis. The final vision statement could be one of the two proposed statements or could be a blend of both.

- Vision Statement 1: "Provide transportation choices for all users that are safe, accessible, and efficient to support communities with a balanced transportation network needed for mobility, equity and economic growth."
- Vision Statement 2: "Provide a balanced and efficient transportation network by increasing community mobility, equity, and economic growth through transportation choices that are safe, accessible, and efficient."

**Figure 1** illustrates the responses made by participants. The 1-to-5 ratings are color coded for each statement, where the number of responses is shown above each rating for each statement.

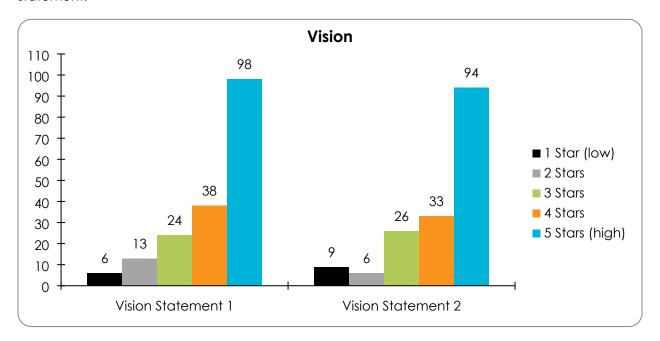


Figure 1: Vision Statement Preference Results



As shown, Vision Statement 1 resulted in slightly higher number of 5-star and 4-star ratings. This differed from the in person open houses which had a preference for Vision Statement 2.

#### Goals

Five goals listed below will support the final vision statement where each goal includes a statement that expresses CET's objectives of the Plan.

- System Integration: Develop a transit system that is integrated with local planning documents and partner agencies.
- Transportation Choices: Provide robust choices for users throughout Central Oregon, within and between communities.
- Transit Visibility: Make CET highly visible throughout the region to residents, employees, and visitors.
- » Reduce Vehicular Demand: Provide robust transportation options for all users including transportation disadvantage populations.
- Emerging Technologies: Evaluate emerging technologies and how they might be used to support transportation options.

**Figure 2** illustrates the responses made by participants. The 1-to-5 ratings are color coded for each statement, where the number of responses is shown above each rating for each statement. As shown, Transportation Choices and Reduce Vehicular Demand resulted in the highest number of 5-star ratings. This is similar to the results from the in person open houses except that the in person open houses also saw similar high support for Transportation Choices.

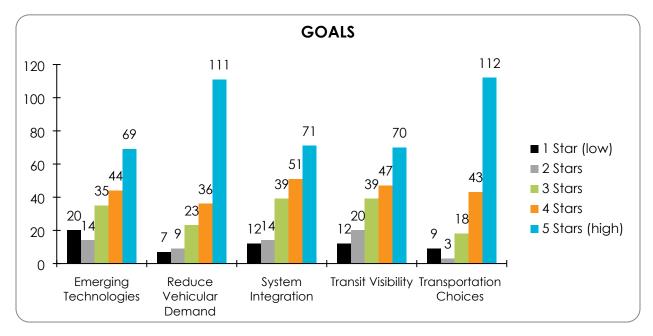


Figure 2: Goal Priorities Results



### **Bend Service**

Five improvements are listed below that could improve CET's existing transit service within Bend.

- More Frequent Routes: Enhance existing service by providing more frequent service to decrease wait times at stops and transfer centers.
- » Additional Service Routes: Add transit routes to neighborhoods within Bend that currently are not being served.
- » Additional Service Days: Provide service on Sundays.
- » Extended Weekday Hours: Extend existing weekday service to earlier mornings and later evenings.
- Extended Saturday Hours: Extend service on Saturdays to earlier mornings and later evenings.

**Figure 3** illustrates the responses made by participants. The 1-to-5 ratings are color coded for each statement, where the number of responses is shown above each rating for each improvement. As shown, More Frequent Routes resulted in the highest number of 5-star ratings, while Additional Service Days resulted in the lowest. This is similar to the results from the Bend open house except that Additional Service Routes was ranked the highest with More Frequent Routes and Extended Weekday Hours ranking nearly as high.

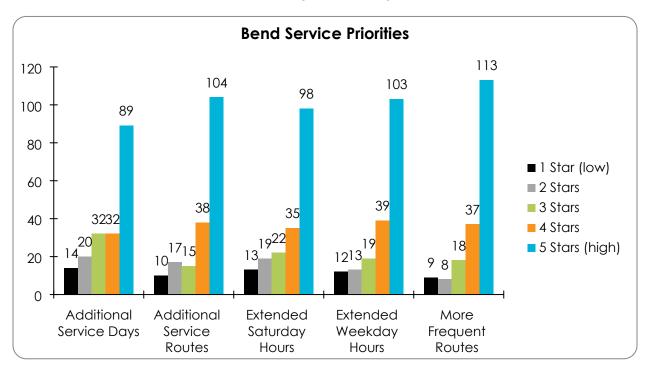


Figure 3: Bend Service Priorities Results

### **Community Connector**

Four improvements are listed below that could improve CET's existing Community Connector service within Central Oregon.



- » More Frequent Routes: Enhance existing service by providing more frequent service to decrease wait times at stops and transfer centers.
- Additional Service Routes: Provide service on Sundays.
- » **Extended Hours**: Extend existing weekday service to earlier mornings and later evenings.
- » Local City Circulators: Provide new city circulators or Dial A Ride (such as in Redmond, Sisters, La Pine, Prineville, and Madras) to and from downtown areas, major shopping centers, and visitor destinations.

**Figure 4** illustrates the responses made by participants. The 1-to-5 ratings are color coded for each statement, where the number of responses is shown above each rating for each improvement. As shown, Local City Circulators resulted in the highest number of 5-star ratings, followed by More Frequent Routes.

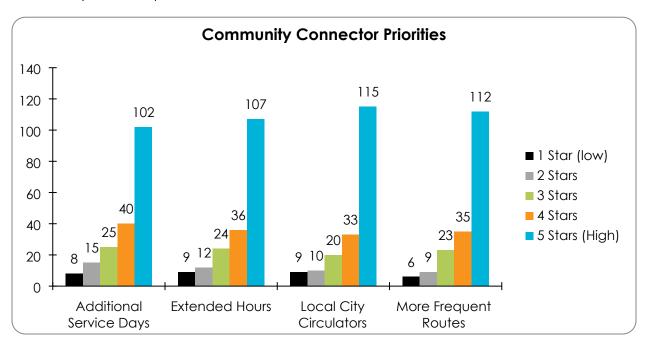


Figure 4: Community Connector Service Priorities Results

### **Rider Experience**

Four categories are listed below that, if improved, could enhance the general rider experience of CET's overall existing transit services.

- » Access to Transit: Improve access to transit by partnering with ride hailing companies (i.e. Uber and Lyft) or add a same-day reservation demand responsive service provided by CET.
- Shelters & Bus Stops: Provide enhanced transit stops to increase comfort when waiting for the bus.
- "> Technology: Enhance CET's current real-time mobile apps, online transit information, automated fare, and adopt technologies to improve connections to other modes.
- » Rider Experience: Increase overall confidence in transit system via improved customer service and reliability.

**Figure 5** illustrates the responses made by participants. The 1-to-5 ratings are color coded for each statement, where the number of responses is shown above each rating for each improvement. As shown, Bus Stop Shelters resulted in the highest number of 5-star ratings followed closely by Rider Experience, while Access to Transit resulted in the lowest.

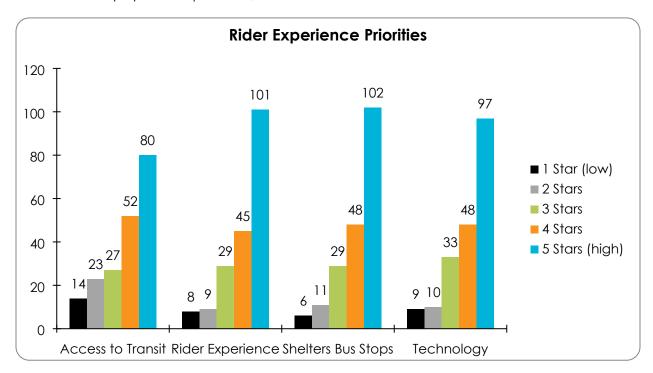


Figure 5: Rider Experience Priority Results

### **NEEDS SURVEY**

The public's needs for CET's current services includes feedback from both the virtual and local open houses. Participants were asked to indicate what was most important to them regarding general transit service coverage, Bend service, Community Connector service, service local to communities, and information and technology.

### Coverage

Below are the four options presented to participants for choosing what is most important to them; in some cases, participants selected more than one item.

- » Better service in Bend
- More Community Connector service
- » Expanded local services in other cities
- More connections to places outside of Central Oregon

**Figure 6** illustrates the responses made by participants. The four options are color coded where the number of responses is shown within each category. As shown, "More Community Connector service" resulted in the highest selection, while "More connections to places outside of Central Oregon" resulted in the lowest.

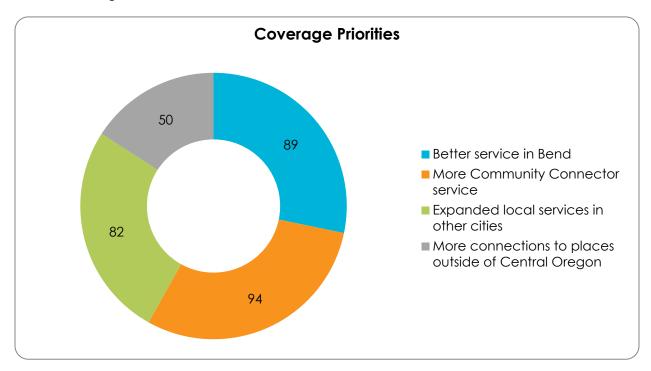


Figure 6: Coverage Priorities Results

#### **Bend Service**

Bend service needs focused participants on two categories: which fixed-routes need more frequent service and which neighborhoods need new service.

### **SERVICE ROUTES**

Below are CET's nine fixed routes within Bend for choosing which route needs more frequent service; in some cases, participants selected more than one route.

- )) 1 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street
- )) 2 Brookswood
- )) 3 Newport Ave
- 3 4 North 3rd Street
- 5 Wells Acres
- )) 6 Reed Market
- 7 Greenwood Ave
- )) 10 Colorado
- » 11 Galveston/14<sup>th</sup>

**Figure 7** illustrates the responses made by participants. The four options are color coded where the number of responses is shown within each category. As shown, Greenwood Ave resulted in the highest selection, while Colorado resulted in the lowest.

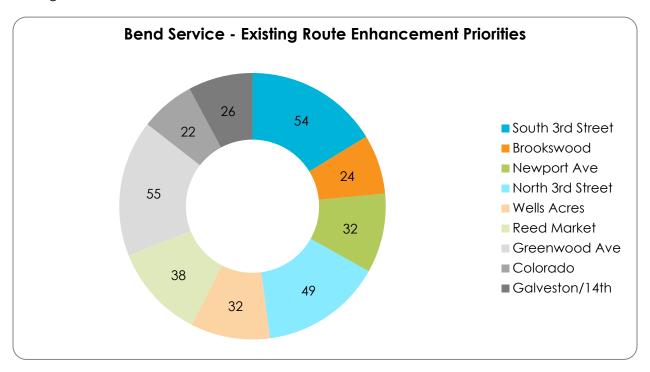


Figure 7: Bend Service - Existing Route Enhancement Priorities Results

### **NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICE**

Below are the neighborhoods in Bend provided for choosing which areas need new service; in some cases, participants selected more than one neighborhood.

- » Northwest Bend
- » Northeast Bend
- » Southwest Bend
- » Southeast Bend
- » Downtown Core
- Century Drive/14th Street Corridor
- 3rd Street Corridor
- )) OSU-Cascades Area
- » St. Charles Area

**Figure 8** illustrates the responses made by participants. The four options are color coded where the number of responses is shown within each category. As shown, Northeast Bend resulted in the highest selection, while Century Drive/14<sup>th</sup> Street resulted in the lowest.

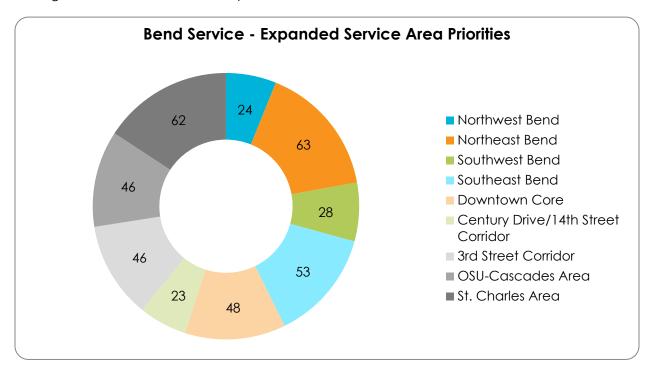


Figure 8: Bend Service – Expanded Service Area Priorities Results

### **Community Connector**

Community Connector service needs focused participants on two categories: which routes need more frequent service and which routes need Saturday service.

#### **SERVICE FREQUENCY**

Below are CET's seven Community Connector routes within Central Oregon for choosing which route needs more frequent service; in some cases, participants selected more than one route.

- » 20 Warm Springs-Madras
- )) 22 Madras-Redmond
- )> 24 Redmond-Bend
- )) 26 Prineville-Redmond
- )) 28 Sisters-Redmond
- )) 29 Sisters-Bend
- » 30 Bend-La Pine

**Figure 9** illustrates the responses made by participants. The four options are color coded where the number of responses is shown within each category. As shown, 24 – Redmond-Bend resulted in the highest selection, while 28 – Sisters-Redmond resulted in the lowest.

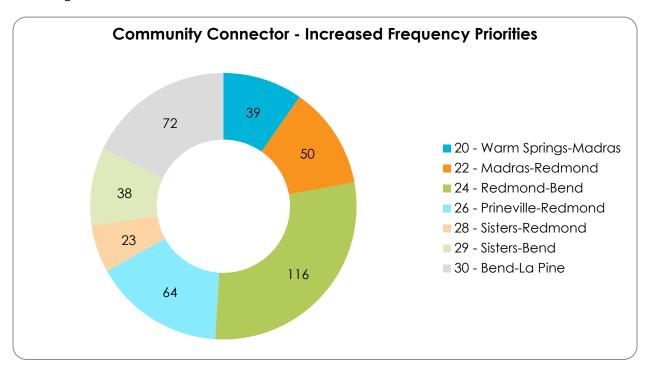


Figure 9: Community Connecter - Increased Frequency Priorities

### **SATURDAY SERVICES**

Below are CET's seven Community Connector routes within Central Oregon for choosing which route needs Saturday service; in some cases, participants selected more than one route.

- 20 Warm Springs-Madras
- )) 22 Madras-Redmond
- )) 24 Redmond-Bend
- » 26 Prineville-Redmond
- )) 28 Sisters-Redmond
- » 29 Sisters-Bend
- » 30 Bend-La Pine

**Figure 10** illustrates the responses made by participants. The four options are color coded where the number of responses is shown within each category. As shown, 24 – Redmond-Bend resulted in the highest selection, while 28 – Sisters-Redmond resulted in the lowest.

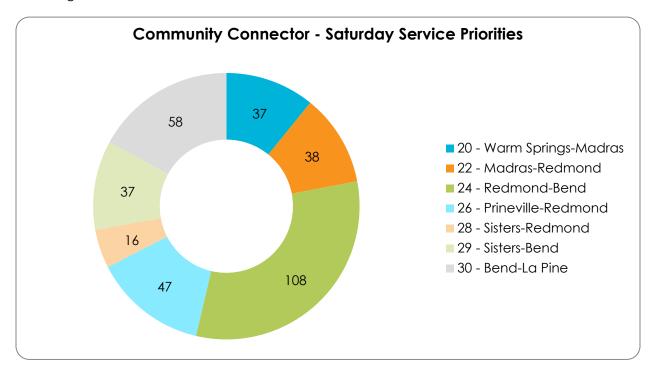


Figure 10: Community Connector - Saturday Service Priorities Results

### **Local Service**

Local service needs focused participants on two categories: which cities/area need local fixed-route or deviated route service and which cities/areas need more dial-a-ride service.

#### **LOCAL FIXED-ROUTE**

Below are the eight cities CET serves for choosing which area needs local fixed-route or deviated route service; in some cases, participants selected more than one city.

- )) Culver
- » La Pine
- )) Madras
- )) Metolius
- )) Prineville
- )) Redmond
- Sisters
- )) Warm Springs
- Other

**Figure 11** illustrates the responses made by participants. The four options are color coded where the number of responses is shown within each category. As shown, Redmond resulted in the highest selection, while Metolius resulted in the lowest.

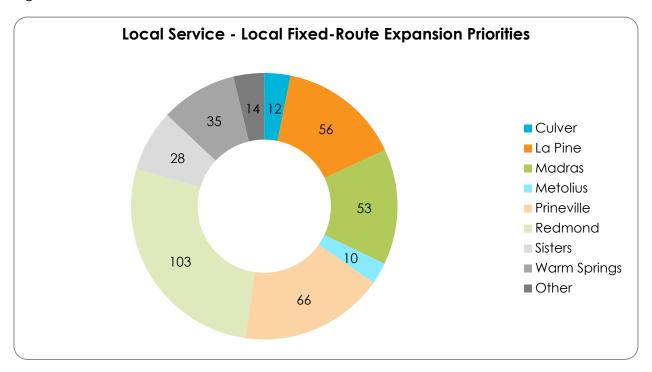


Figure 11: Local Service - Local Fixed-Route Expansion Priorities Results

### **DIAL-A-RIDE SERVICE**

Below are the eight cities CET serves for choosing which area needs new or increased dial-a-ride services; in some cases, participants selected more than one city. Cities listed with an asterisk (\*) do not currently have dial-a-ride service.

- » Bend
- )) Culver\*
- » La Pine
- )) Madras
- )) Metolius\*
- )) Prineville
- )) Redmond
- Sisters
- )) Warm Springs

**Figure 12** illustrates the responses made by participants. The four options are color coded where the number of responses is shown within each category. As shown, Redmond resulted in the highest selection, while Metolius resulted in the lowest.

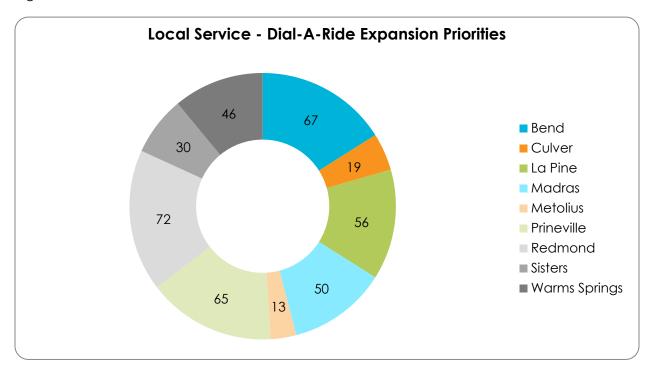


Figure 12: Local Service - Dial-A-Ride Expansion Priorities Results

### **Information & Technology**

Information and technology needs focused participants on two categories: technological amenities to be adopted by CET and physical amenities needing improvement.

#### **TECHNOLOGY**

Five technological amenities below were presented to participants for choosing which is most important to them; in some cases, participants selected more than one amenity.

- Wifi on Buses
- » Real Time Arrival Displays on Shelters
- Combine Fare Payment and Trip Planning Apps into One App
- » Real Time Arrival Displays on Buses
- Configure Fare Payment to allow Credit Cards on Buses

**Figure 13** illustrates the responses made by participants. The four options are color coded where the number of responses is shown within each category As shown, "Real Time Arrival on Shelter Displays" resulted in the highest selection, while "Wifi on Buses" resulted in the lowest.

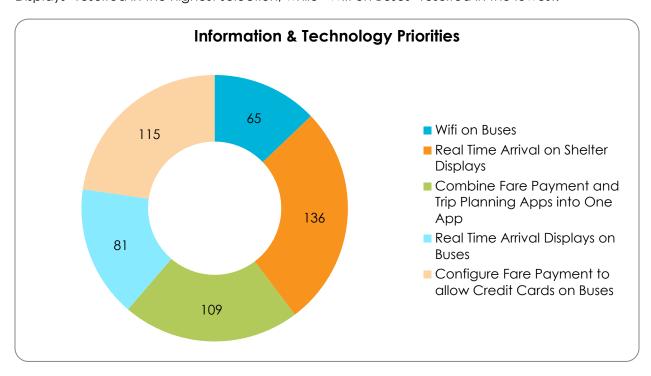


Figure 13: Information & Technology Priorities Results

### PHYSICAL IMPROVEMENTS

Three physical amenities below were presented to participants for choosing which is most important to them; in some cases, participants selected more than one amenity.

- » Better Signage
- )) Visitor Kiosks
- )) Better Maps

**Figure 14** illustrates the responses made by participants. The four options are color coded where the number of responses is shown within each category. As shown, "Better Maps" and "Better Signage" resulted in the highest selection, while "Visitor Kiosks" resulted in the lowest.

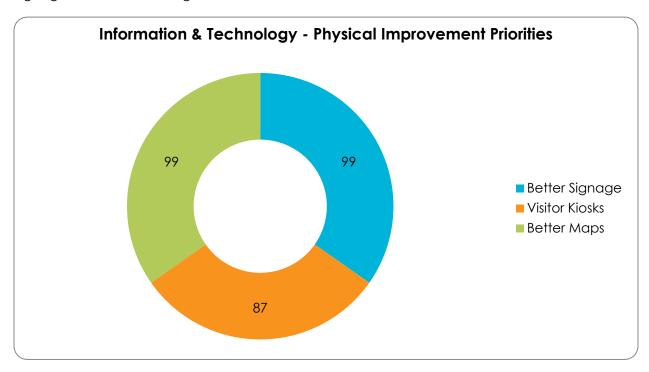


Figure 14: Information & Technology - Physical Improvement Priorities Results

### MAP COMMENTS

During the virtual open house exclusively, participants provided feedback through an interactive map that showed CET's current coverage within Central Oregon. Participants had the option to add icons to the map anywhere within the service area that represented weekend service, new bus shelters, enhanced service, new routes, concerns, and new bus stops. **Table 1** shows the collection of icons and notes how many icons included public comments.

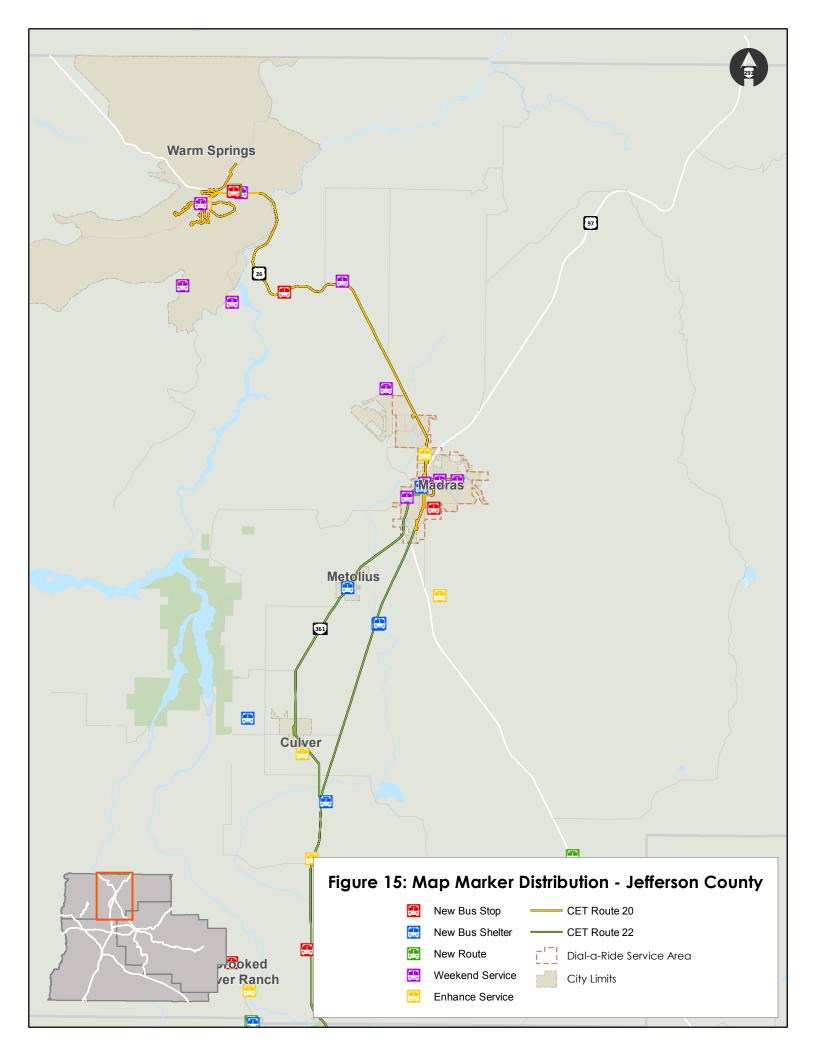
Table 1: Map Marker Responses

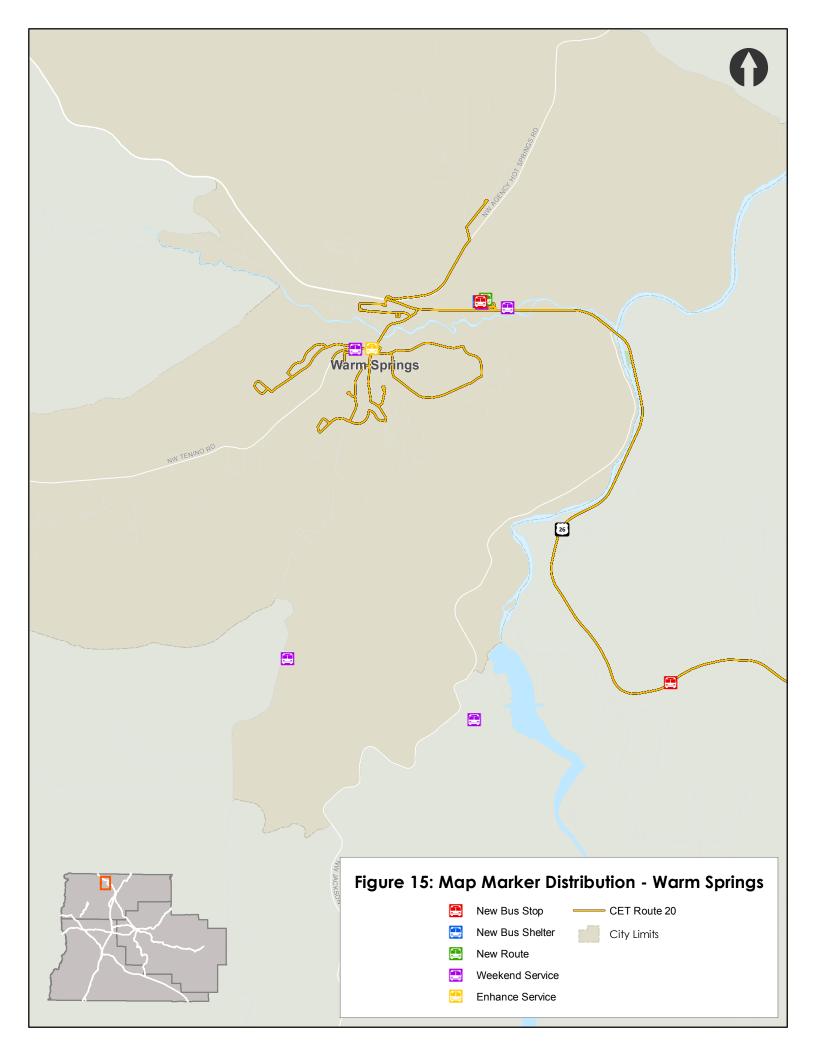
TABLE HEADER	TOTAL MARKERS	MARKERS WITH COMMENTS
Weekend Service	75	35
New Bus Shelter	43	21
Enhance Service	91	59
New Route	101	70
Concern	21	19
New Bus Stop	64	37
Total	395	241

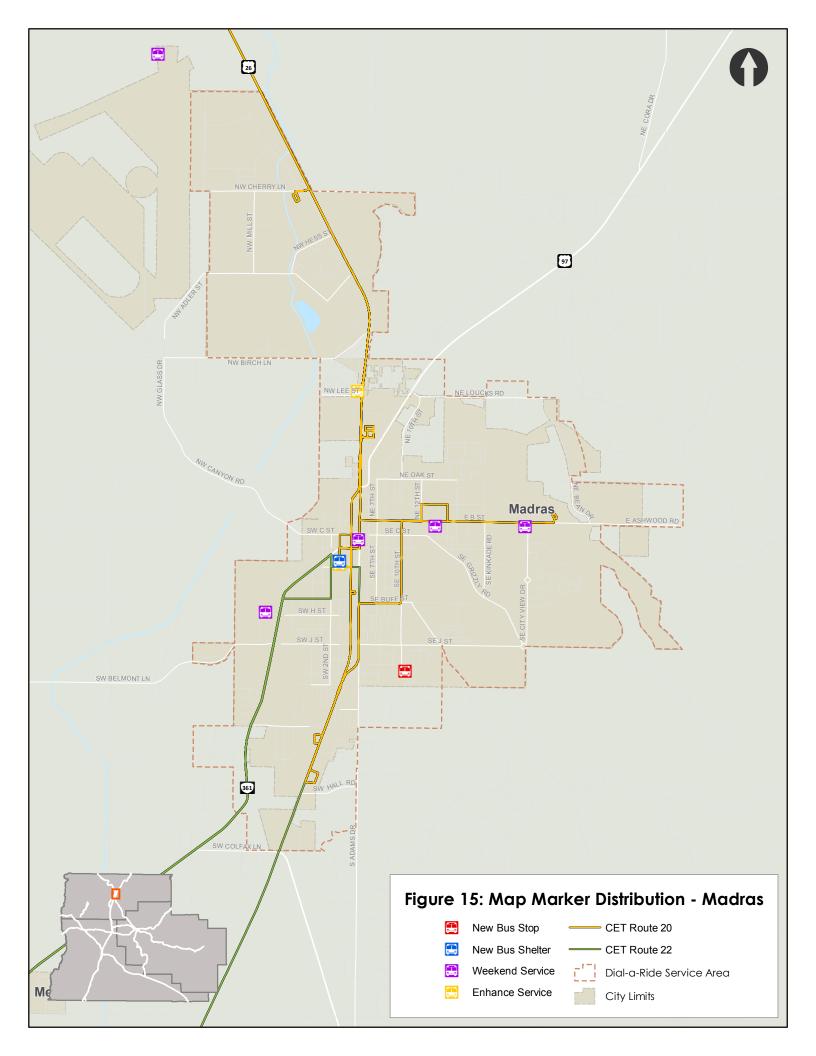


**Figure 15** illustrates the distribution of markers throughout CET's service area. Key findings from the mapping responses are below:

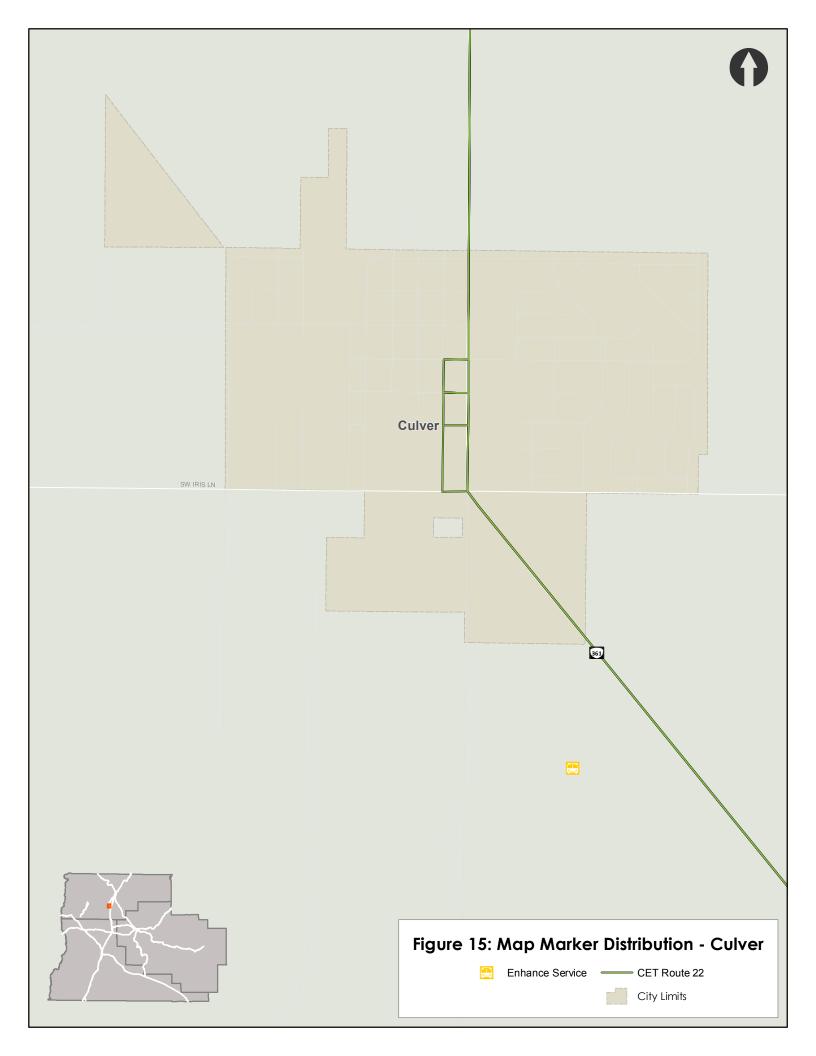
- » All around enhanced services outside of city limits
- )) Warm Springs
  - Weekend service in the area
- )) Madras
  - Weekend service in town
- )) Metolius
  - New shelter in town
- )) Culver
  - Enhanced service
- )) Terrebonne
  - Weekend service
- Sisters
  - Enhanced services
- » Redmond
  - New bus stops, routes, and shelters in southeast quadrant (airport and fairgrounds)
  - New routes and enhanced services near downtown
- Bend
  - Several new routes and stops on east side
  - Areas of concern near Hawthorne Station and in southeastern quadrant
  - Weekend service around Old Mill and downtown
  - Some new routes and stops and enhanced services on west side
- Sunriver/Three Rivers
  - New routes and new bus stops
- )) La Pine
  - New routes and bus stops and weekend service on west side
  - Enhanced service in southern quadrant
  - Area of concern on US 97
- )) Prineville
  - Weekend service and enhanced service in the area

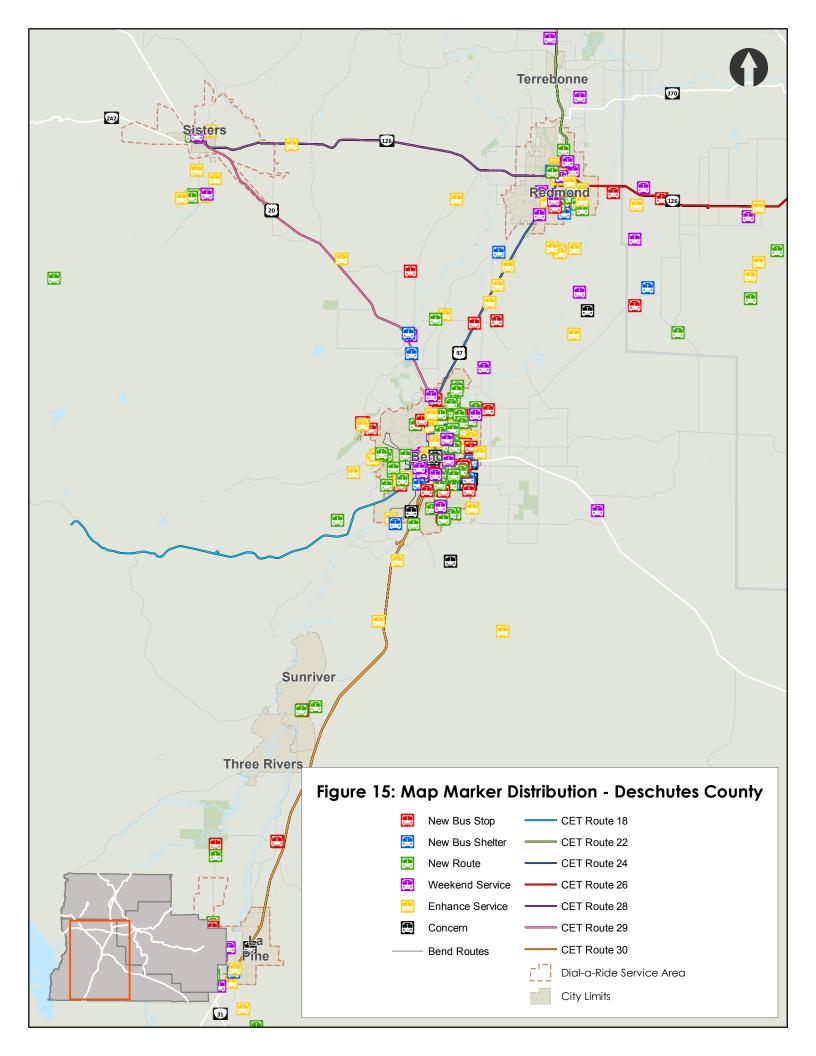


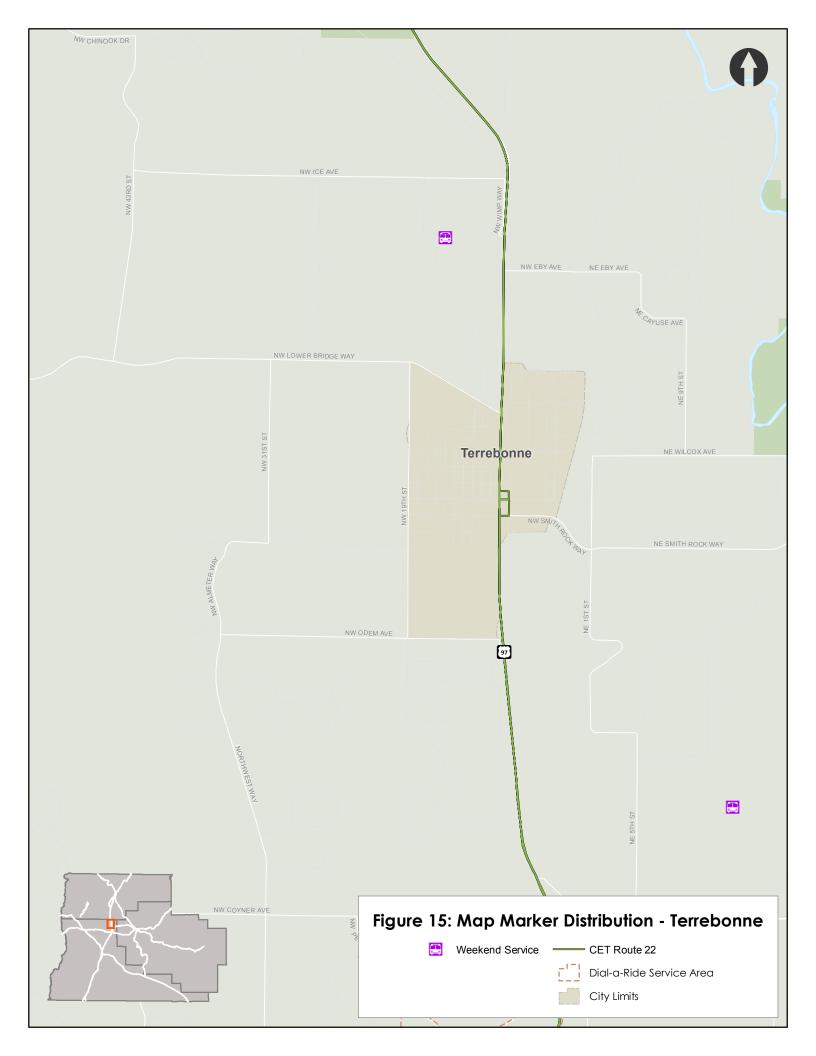


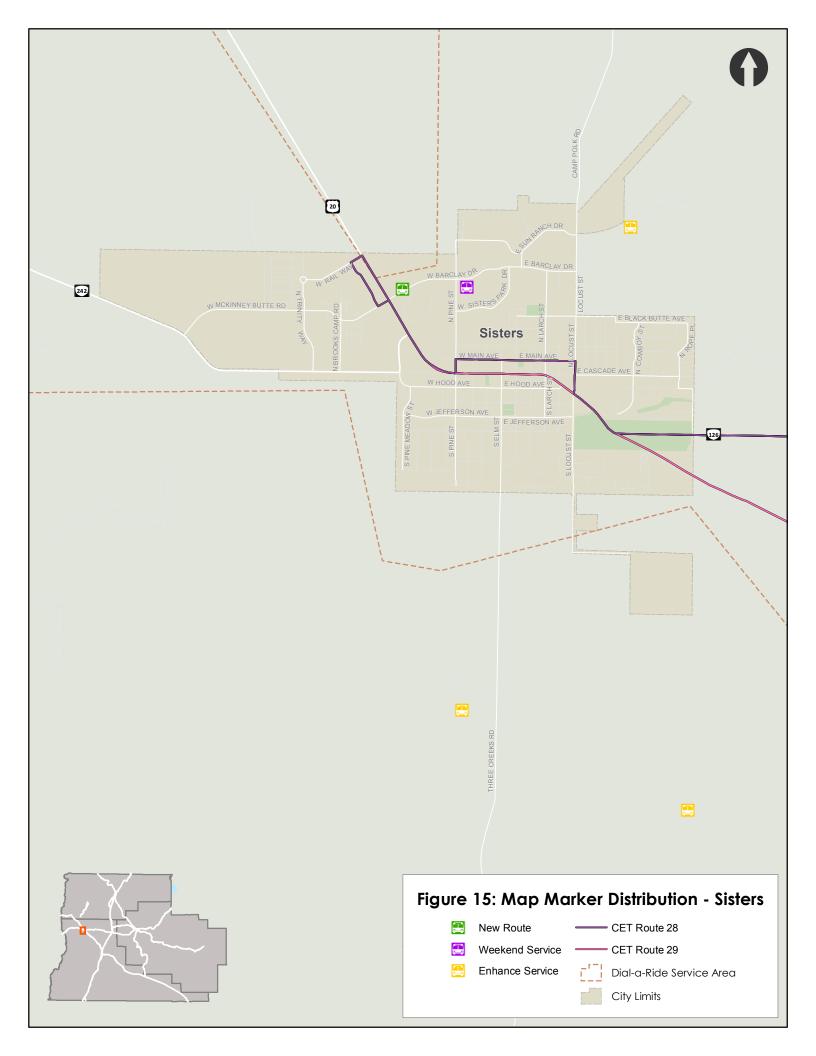


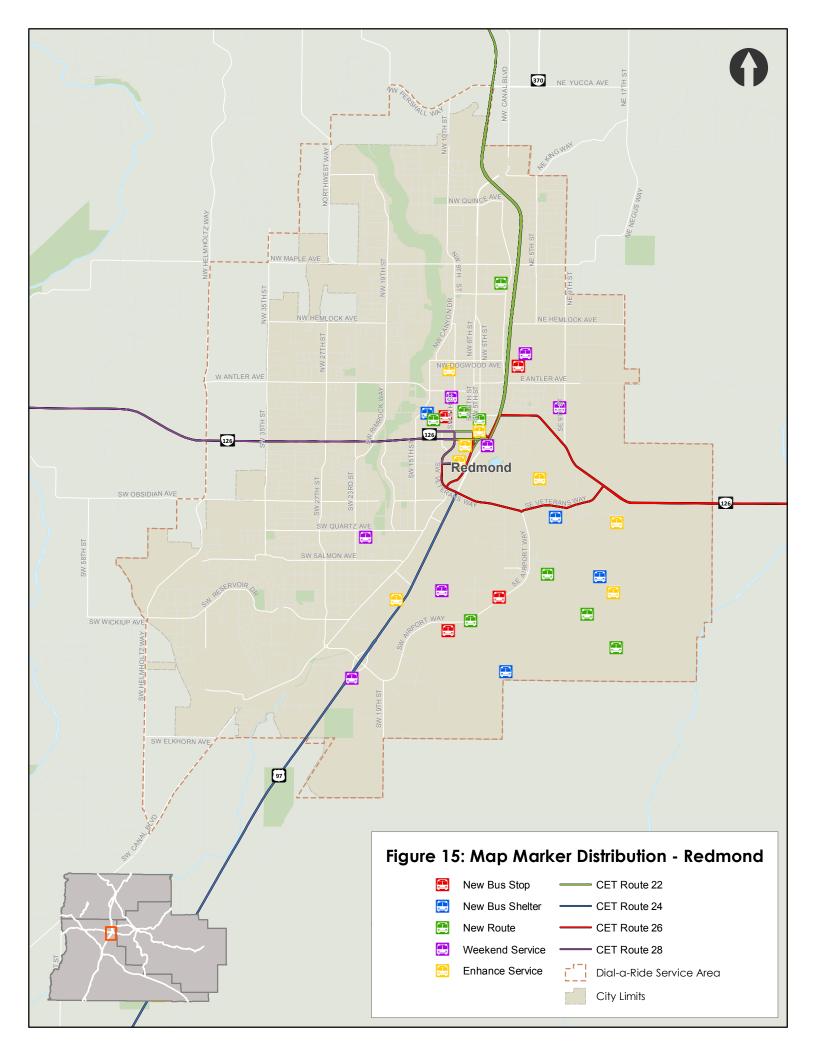


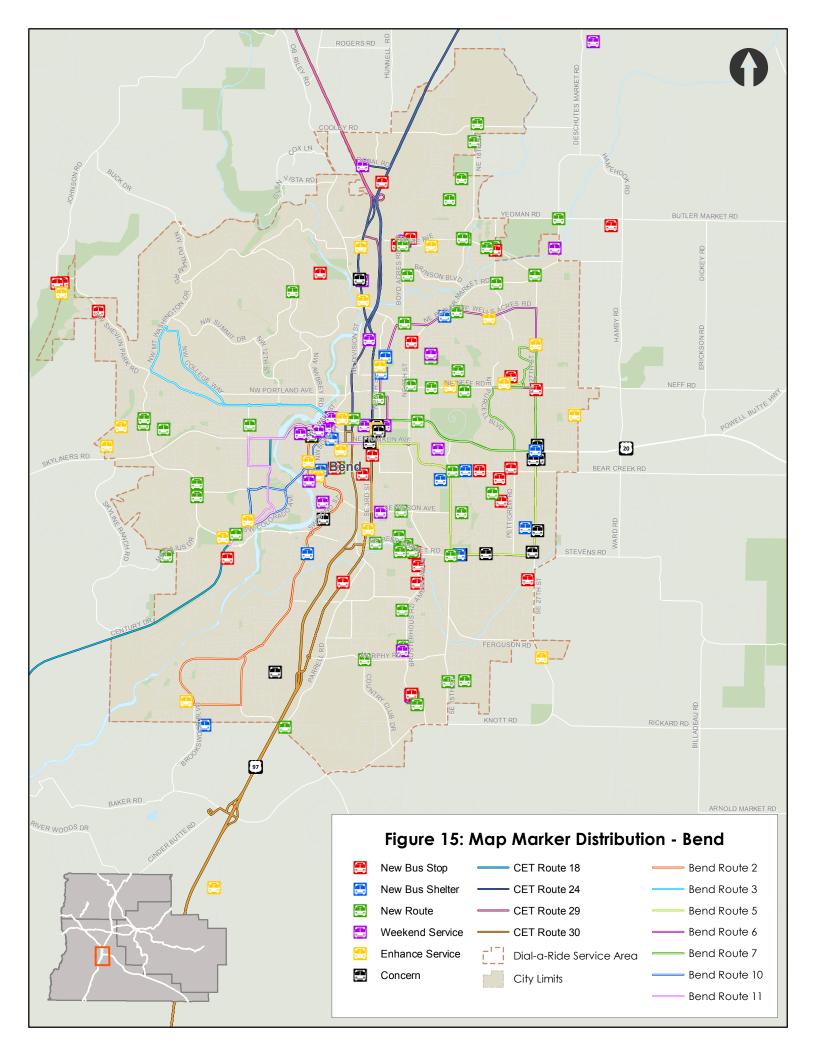




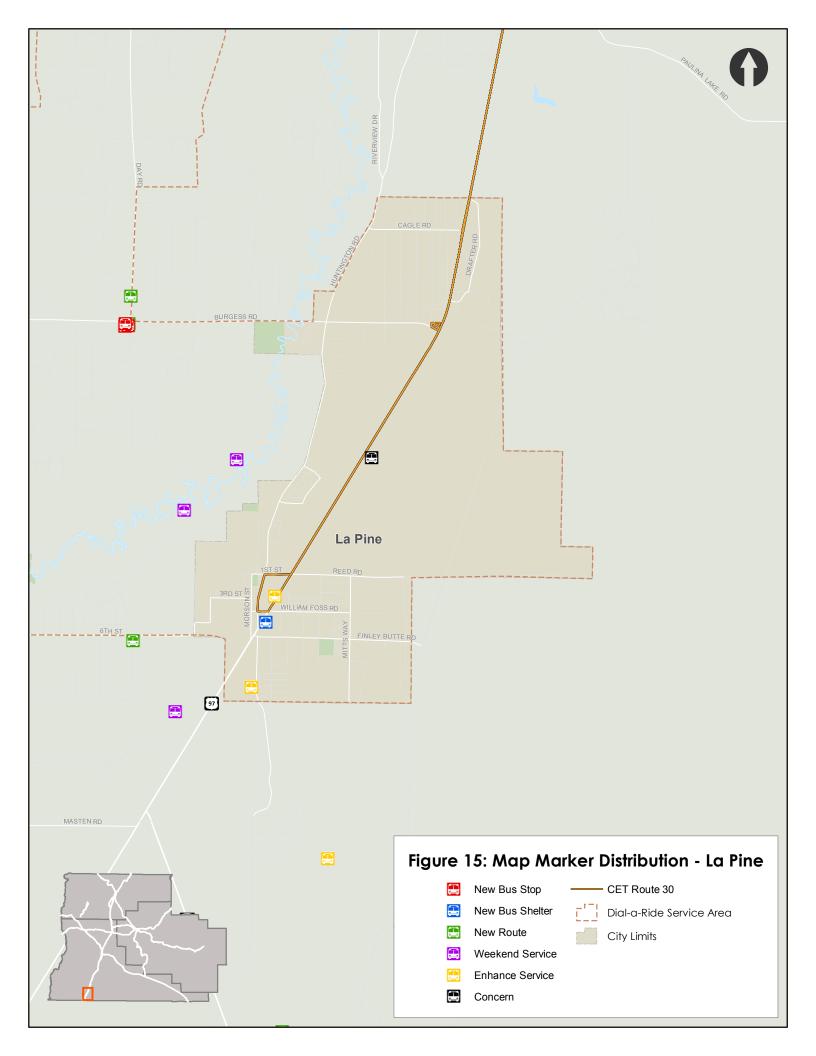


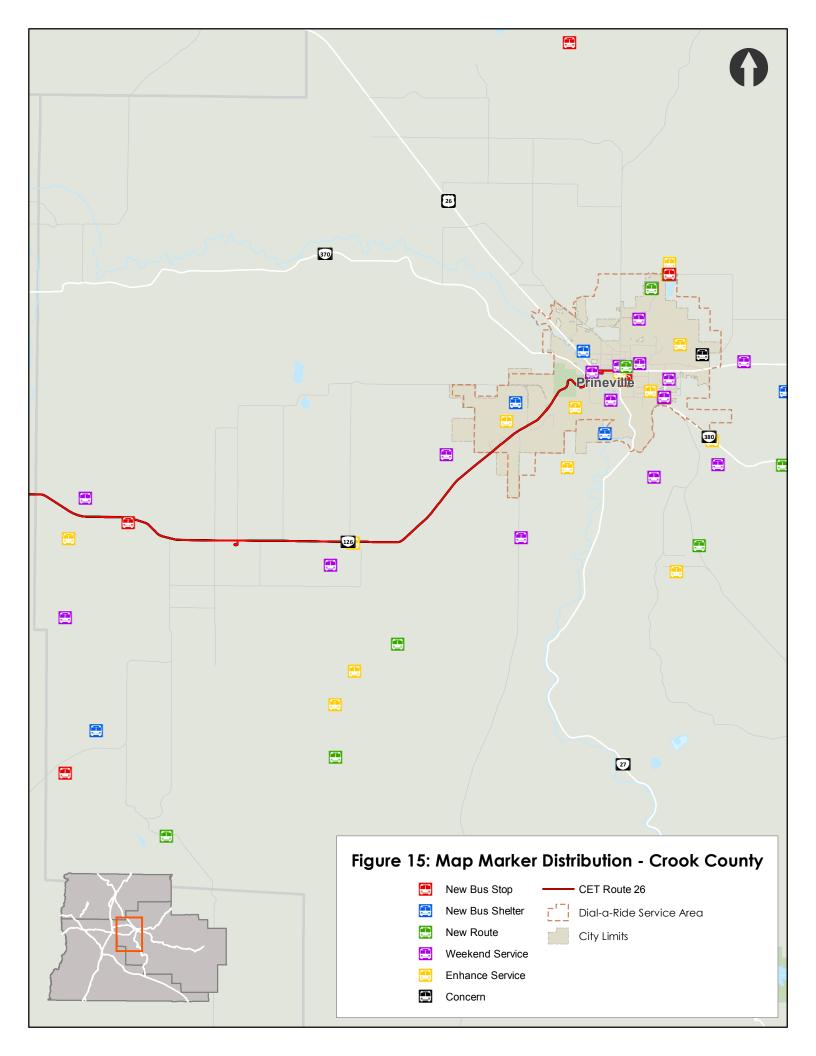


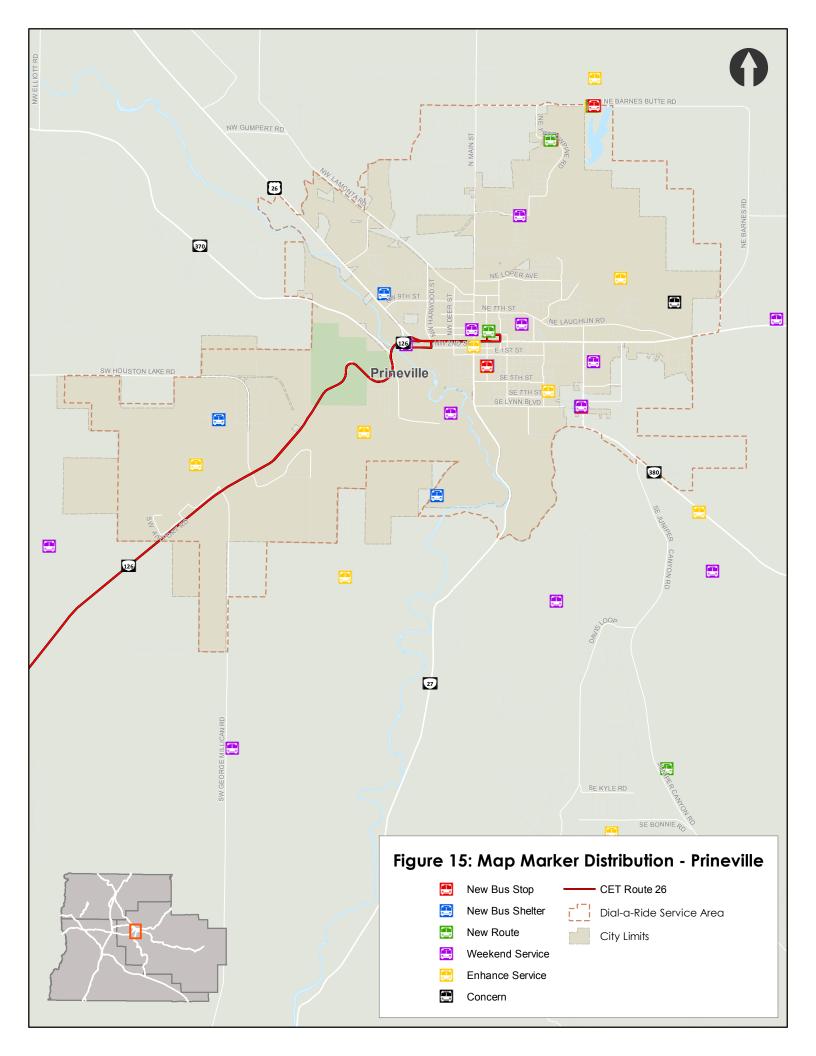












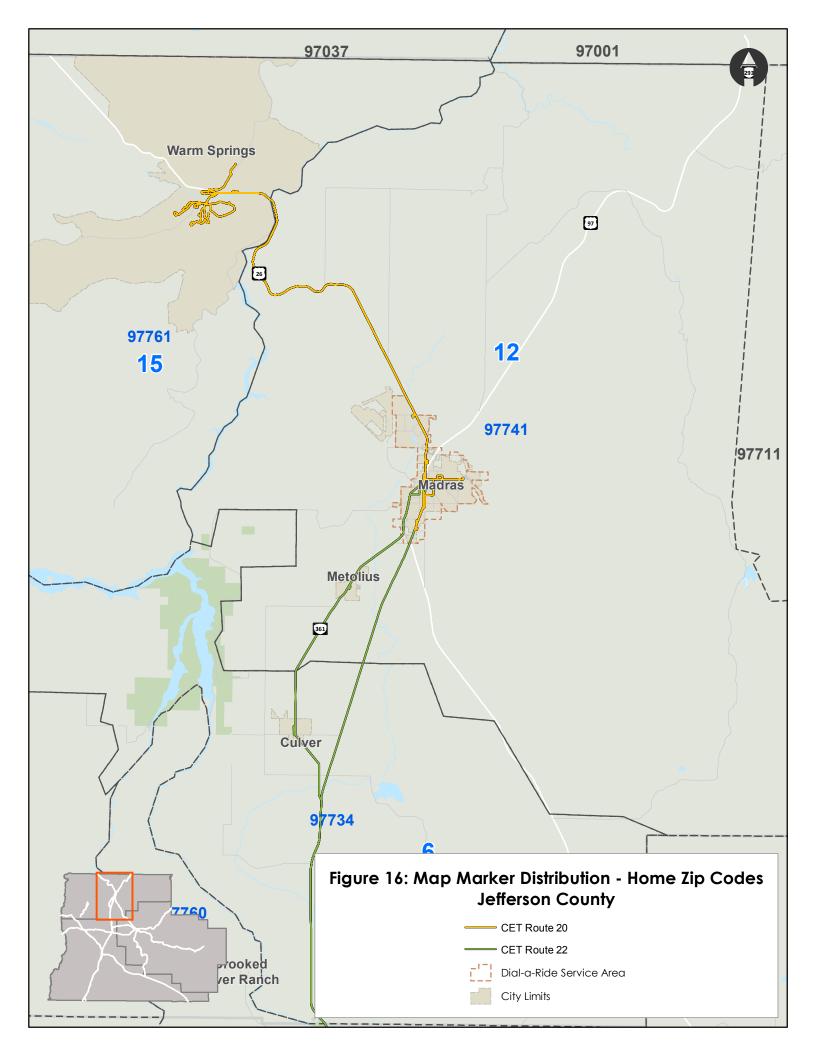


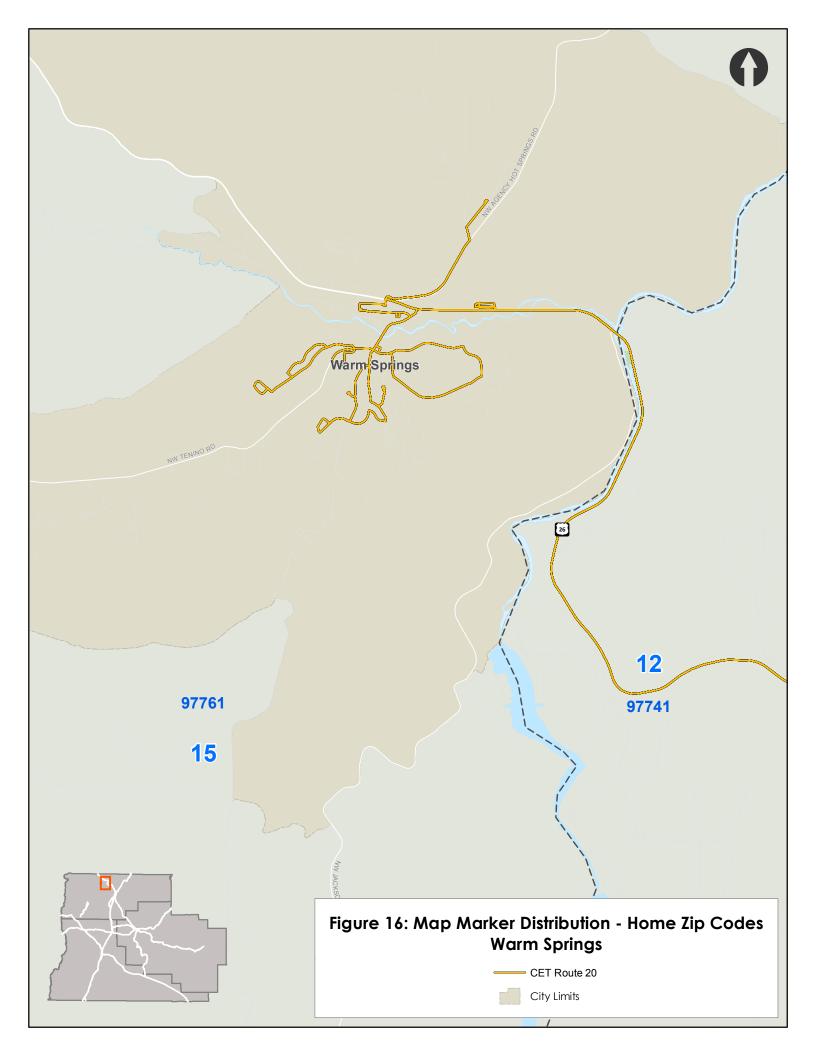
### **WRAP-UP**

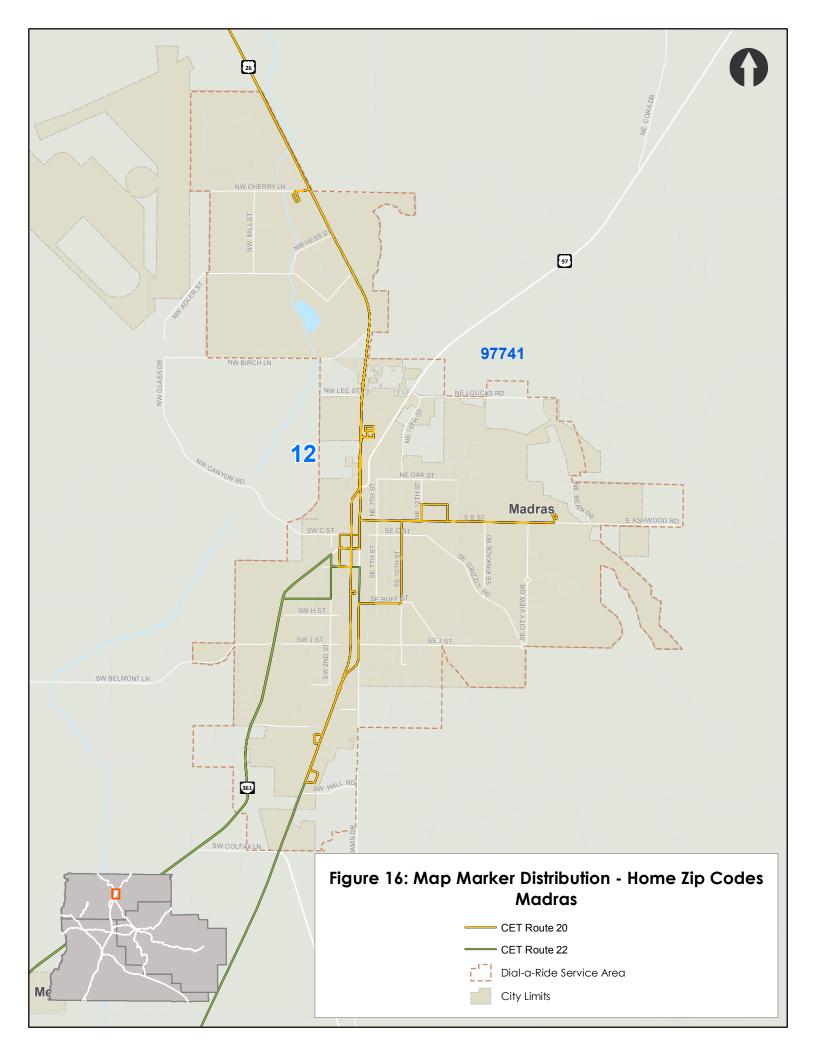
To finalize the virtual open house and paper survey provided at the local open houses, participants were asked to provide information regarding the general regional of their residences and place of employment or education, race/ethnicity, age, and if/how often they utilize CET transit services. **Table 2** summarizes where participants are located by ZIP code and region, while **Figure 16** illustrates the number of participants by their zip code; **Figure 17** illustrates the number of work or school locations by zip code for those participants.

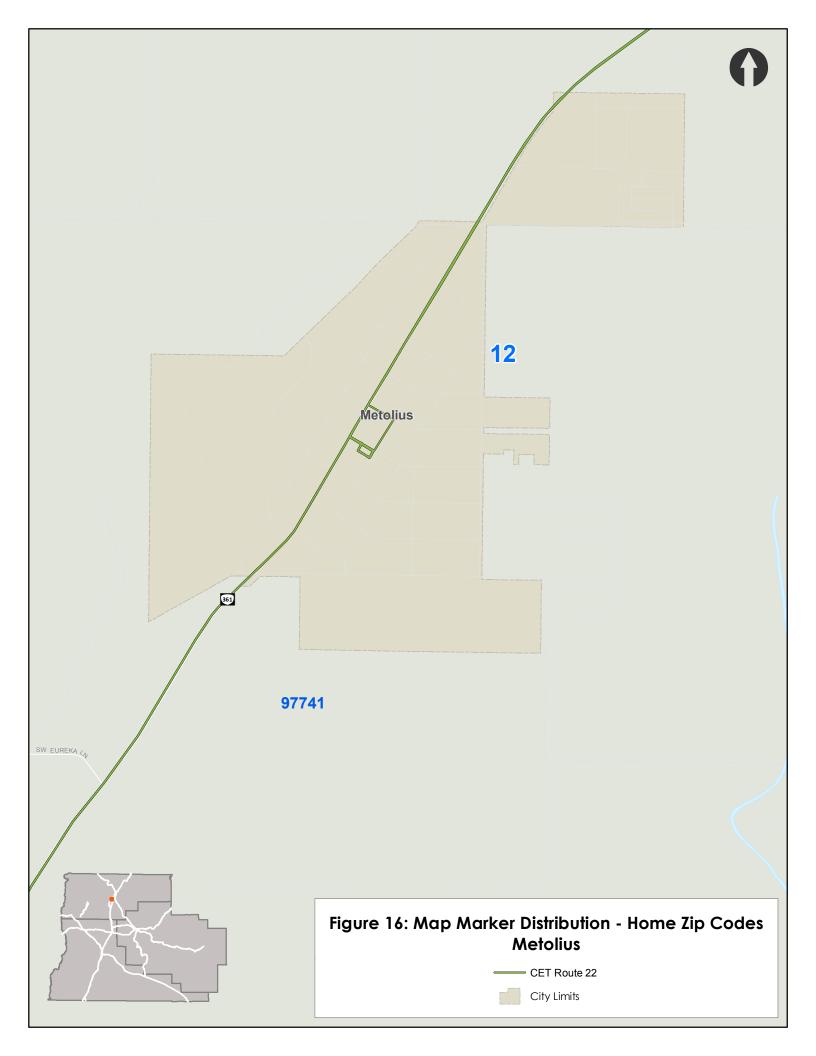
**Table 2: ZIP Code Descriptions** 

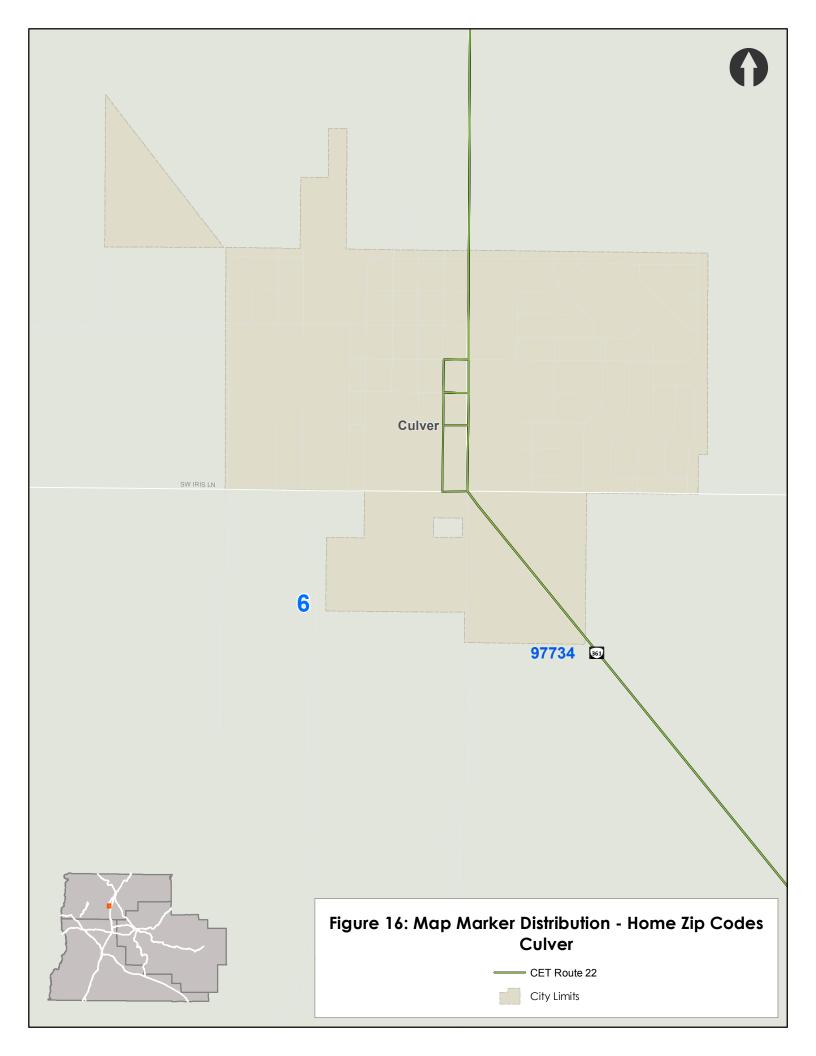
REGION	
North Bend	
South Bend	
Tumalo	
Culver	
La Pine	
Madras	
-	
Powell Butte	
Prineville	
Redmond	
Sisters	
Crooked River Ranch	
Warm Springs	

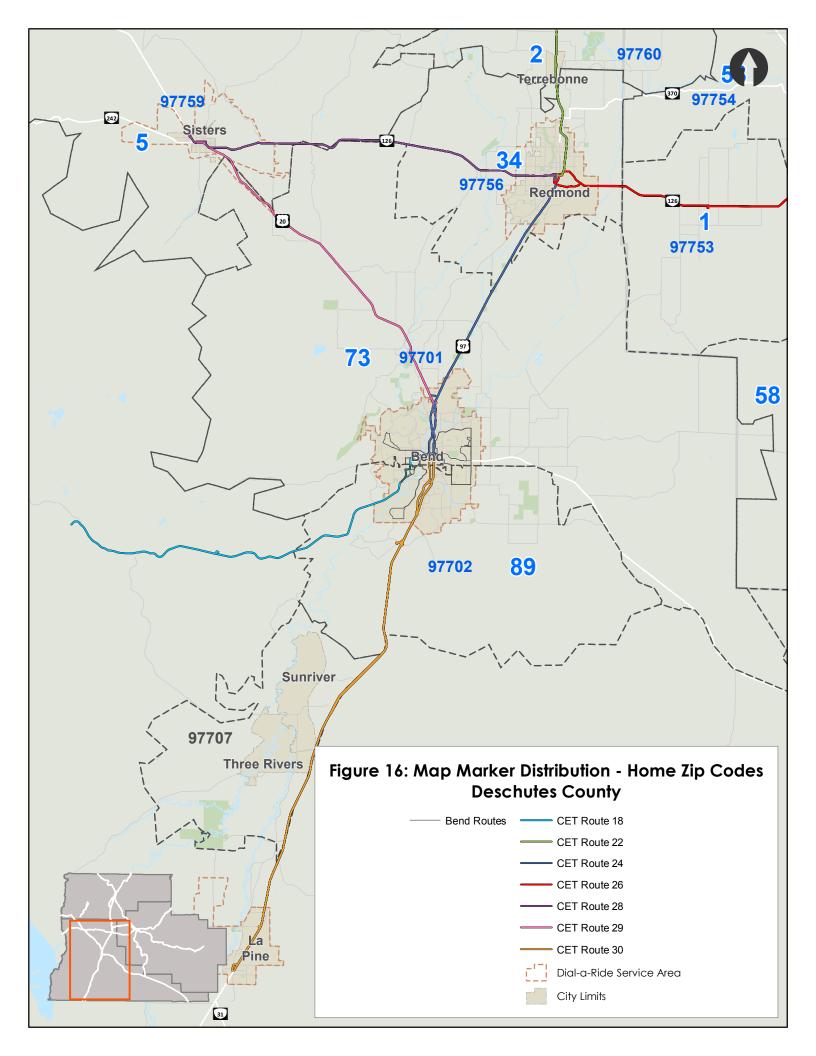


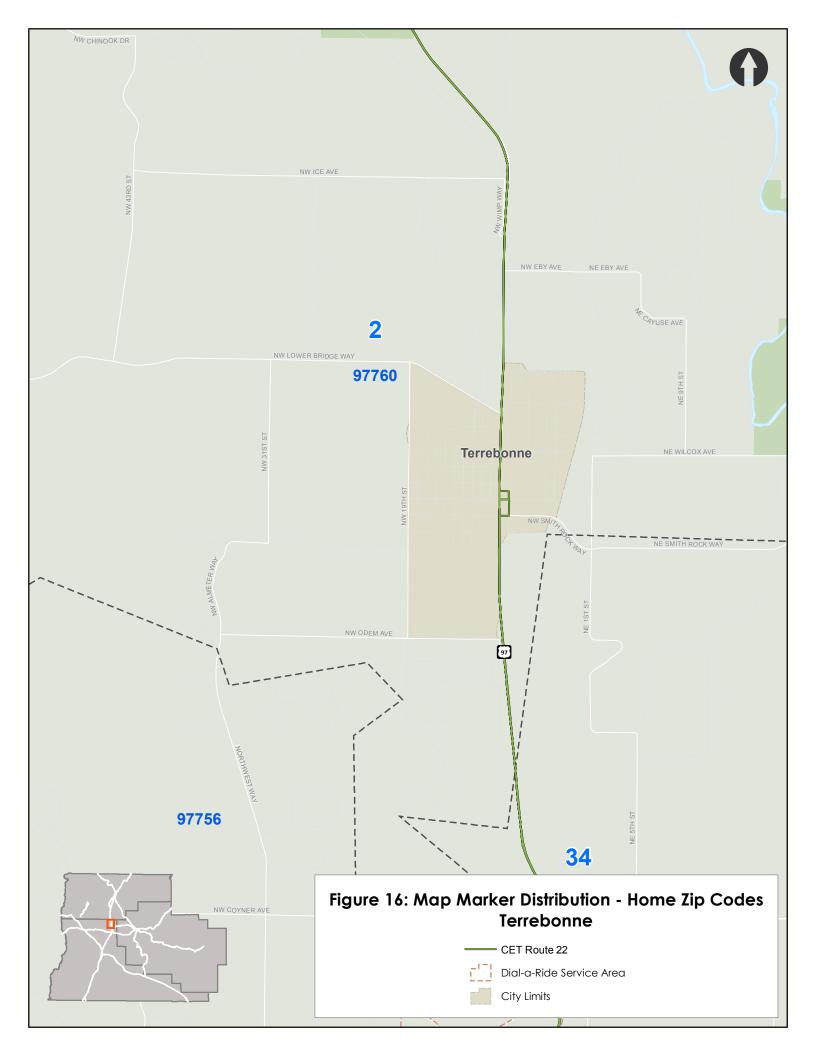


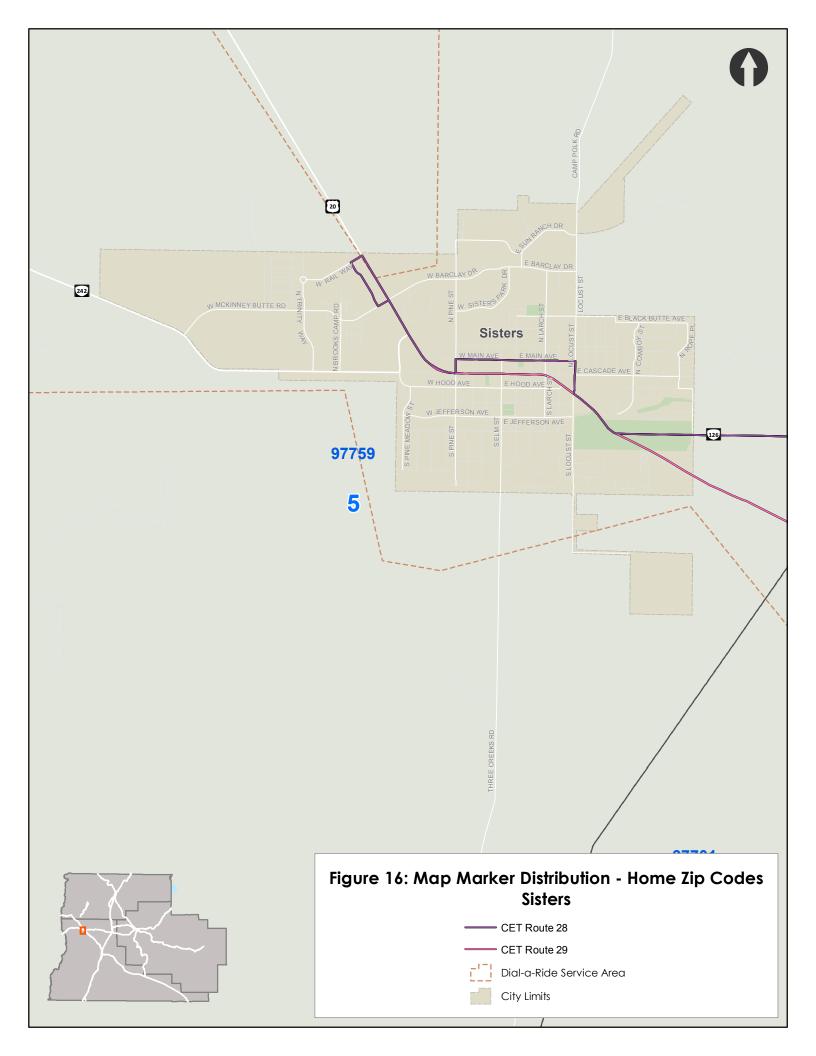


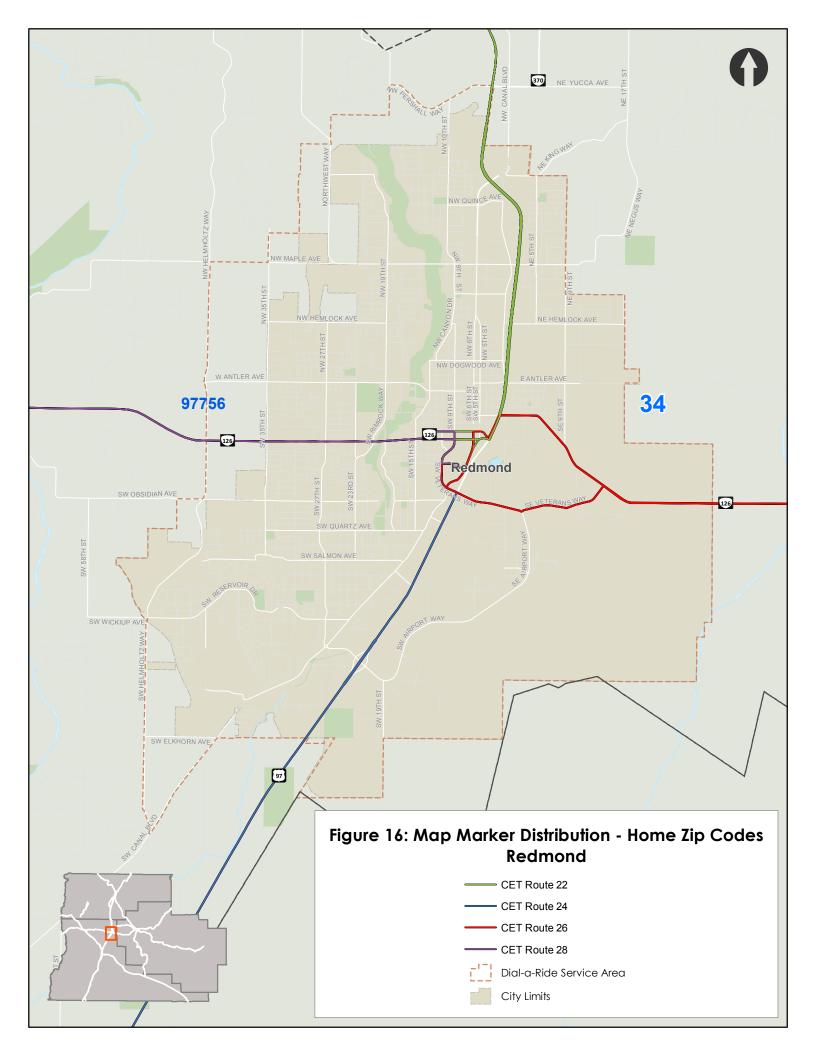


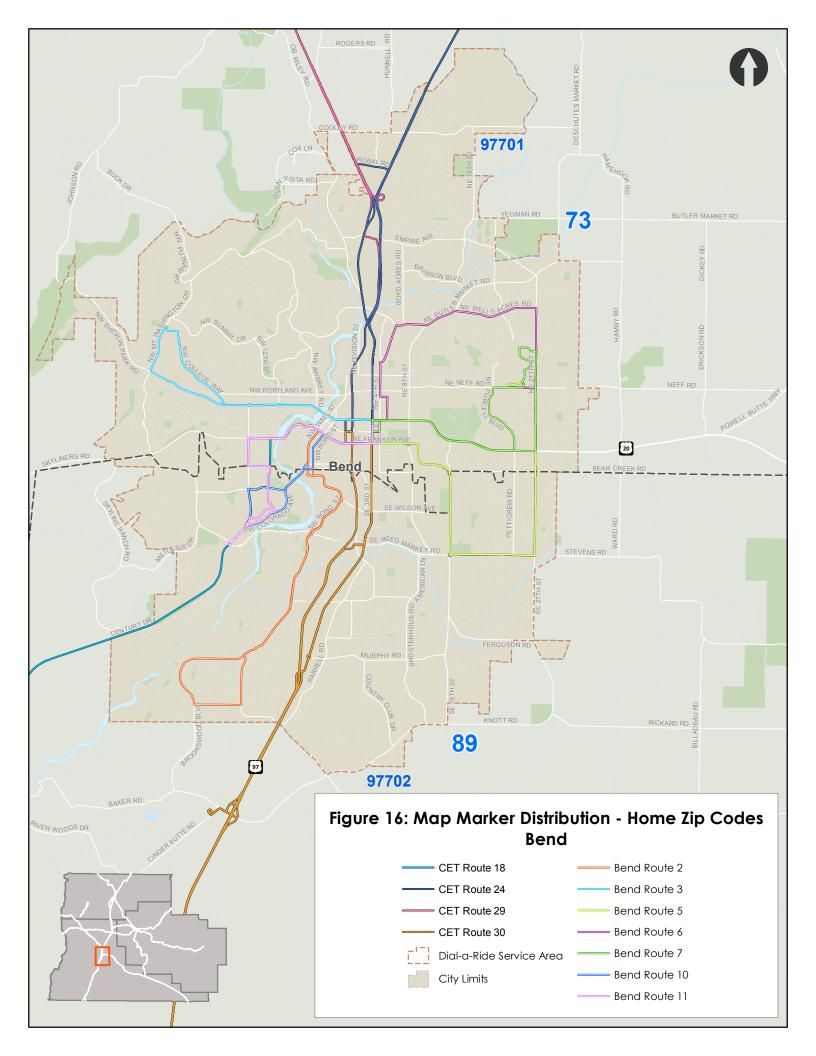


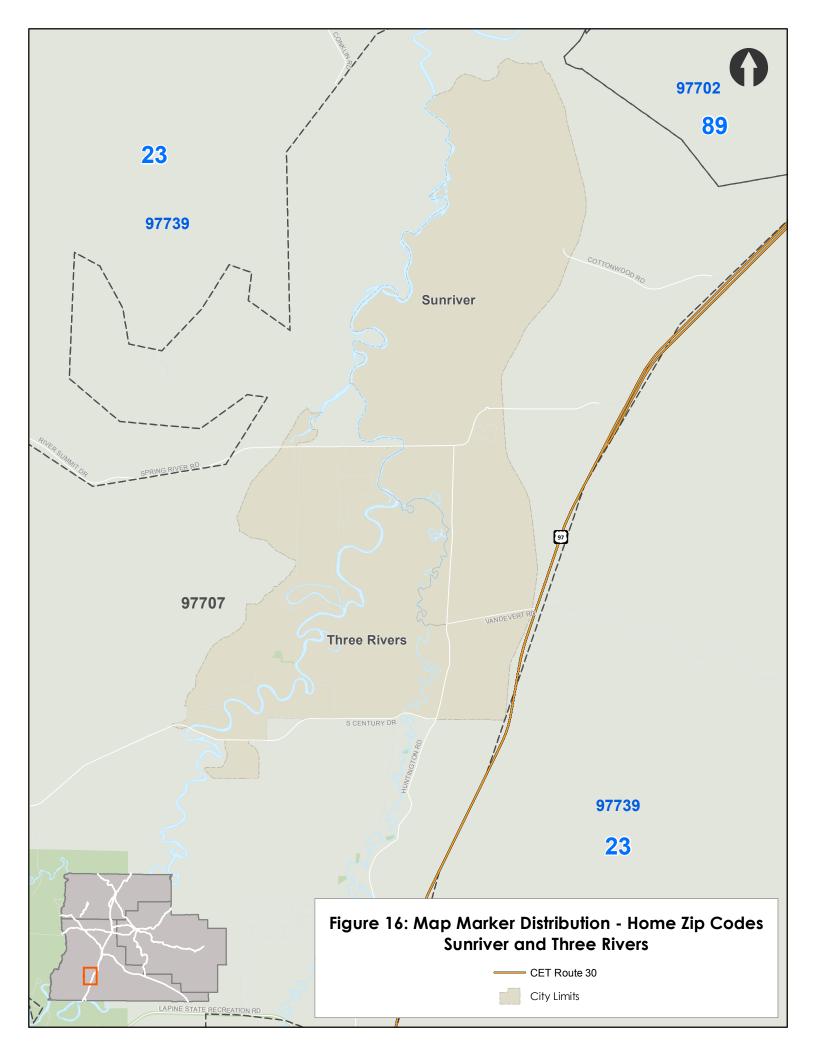


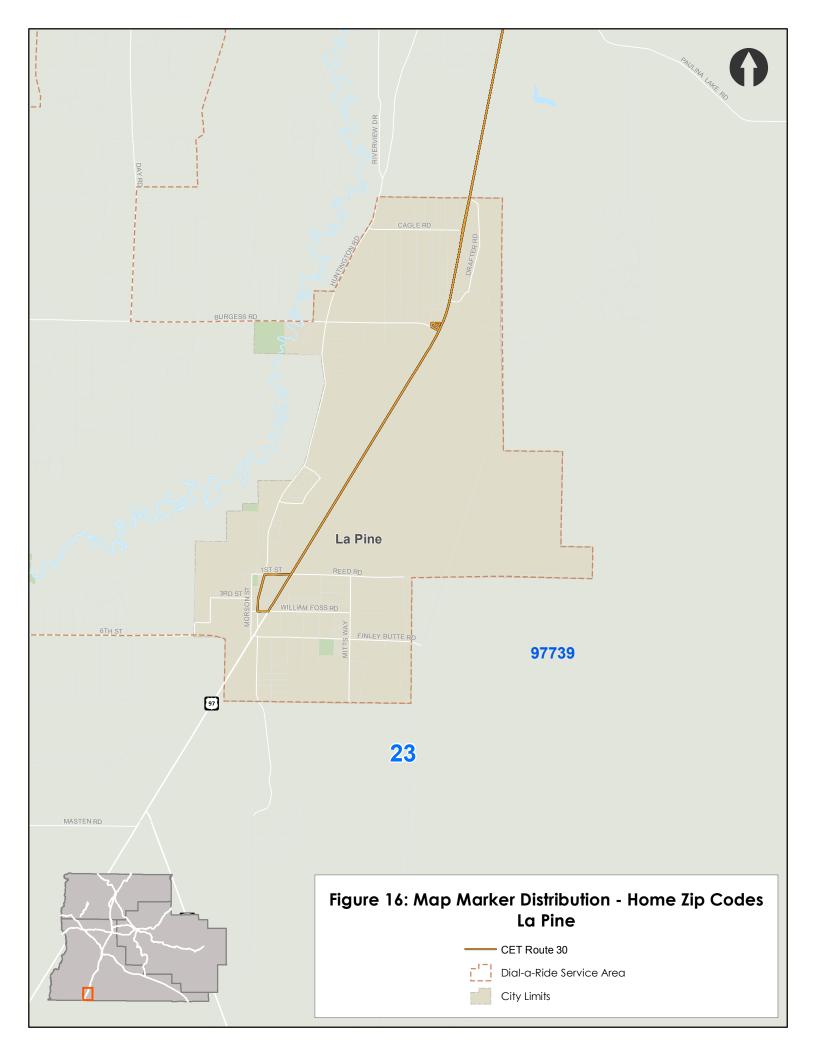




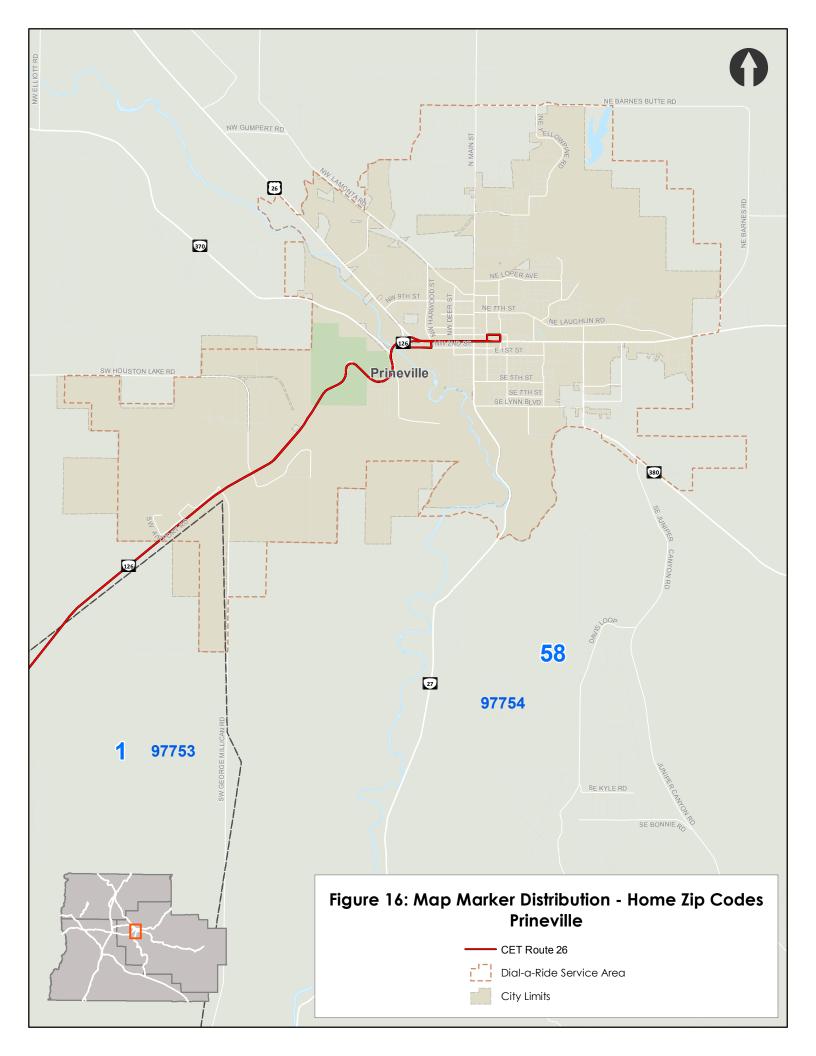


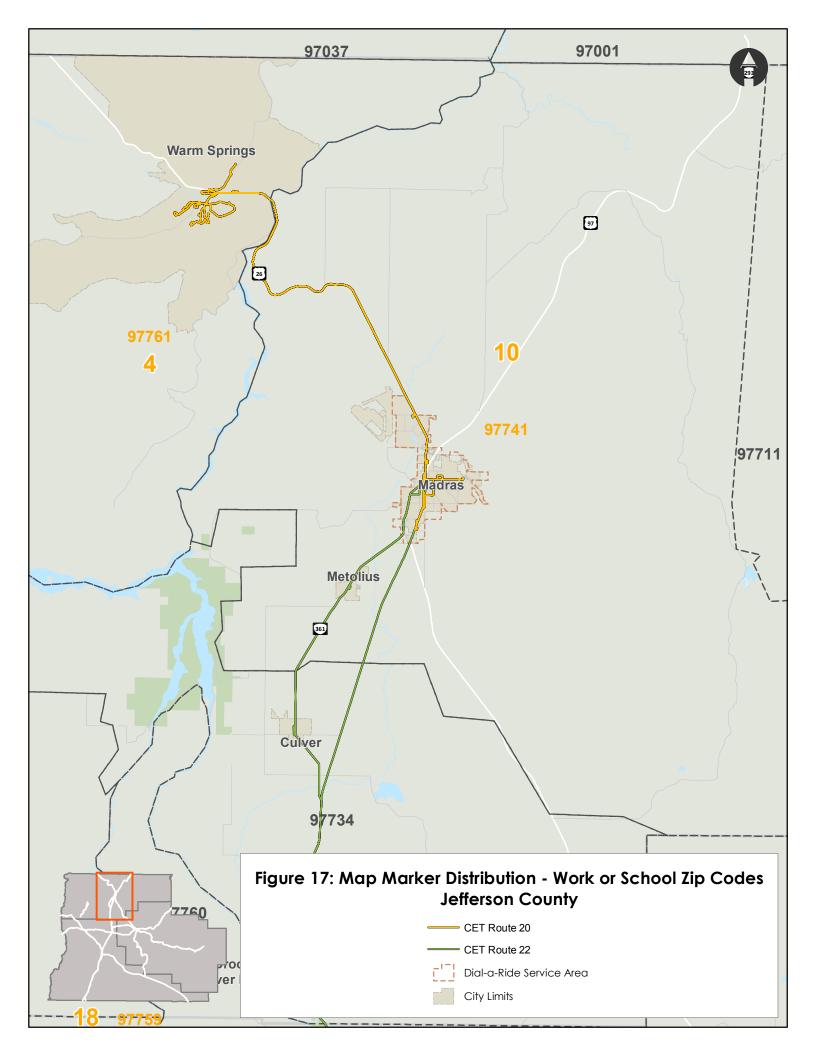


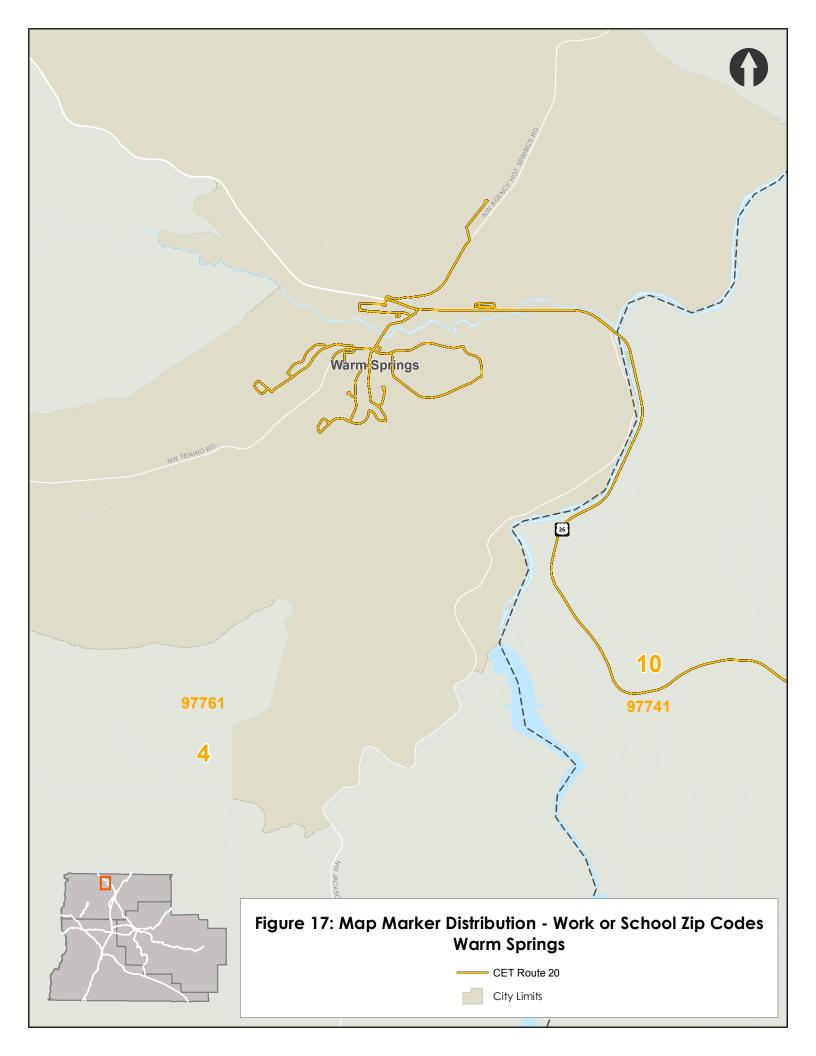


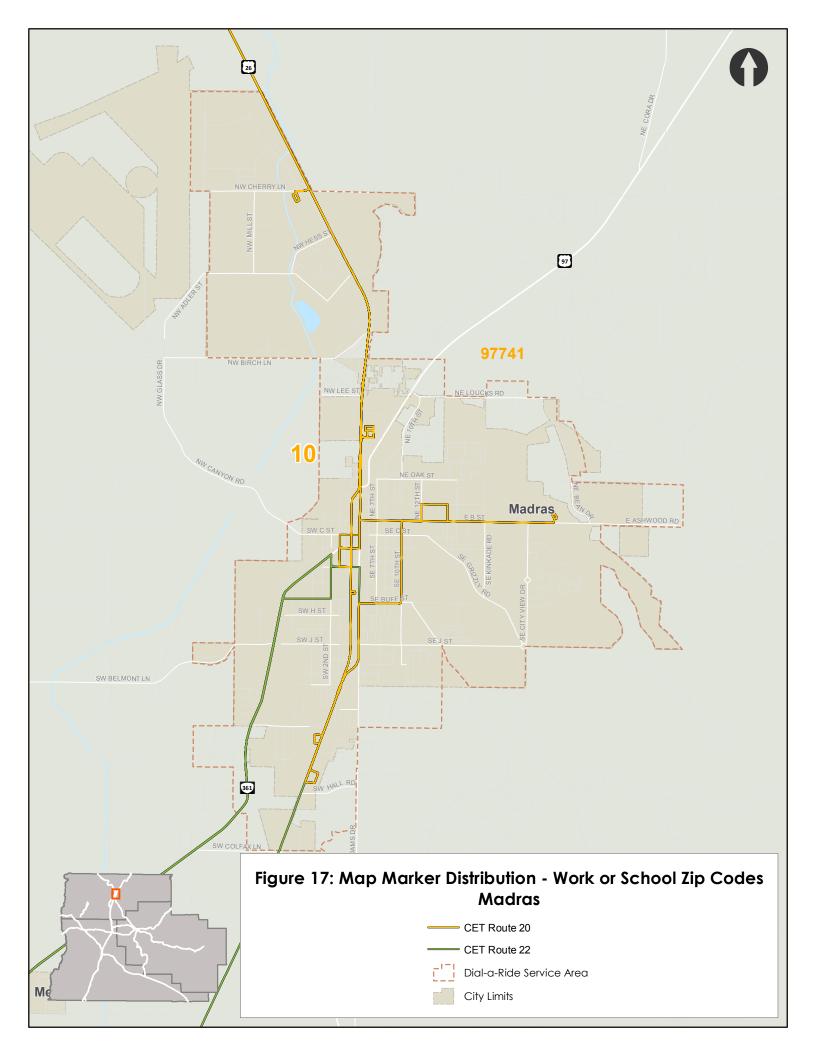


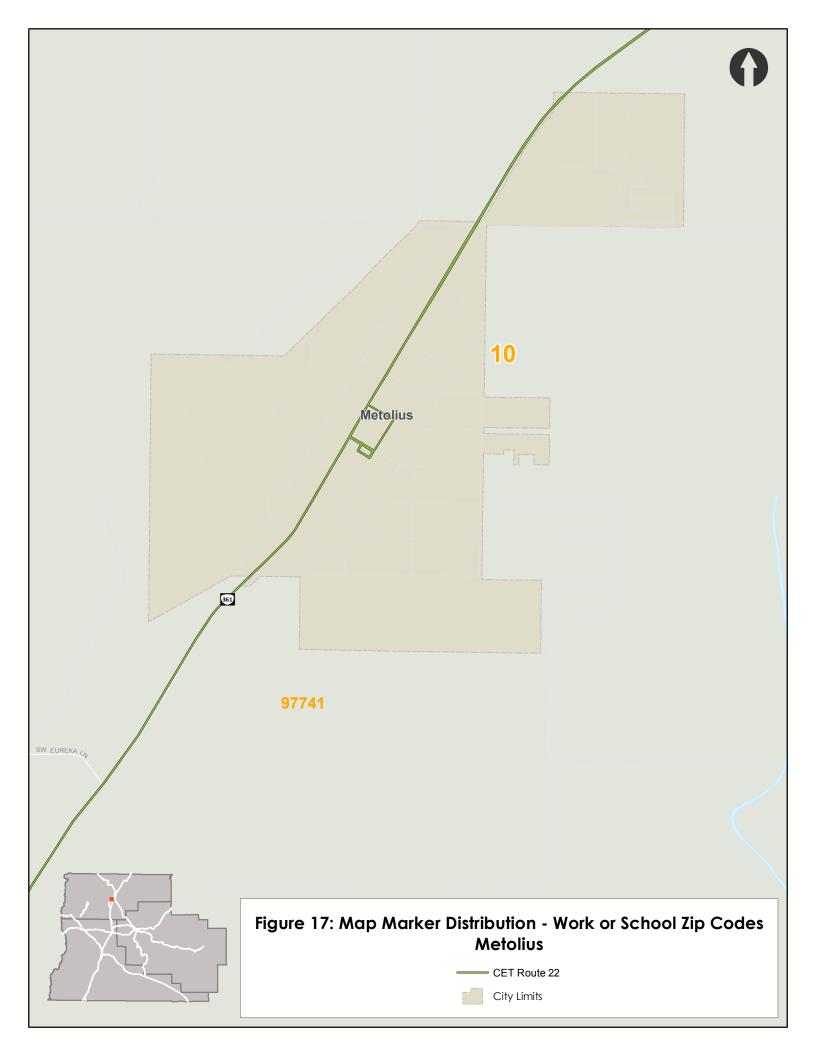


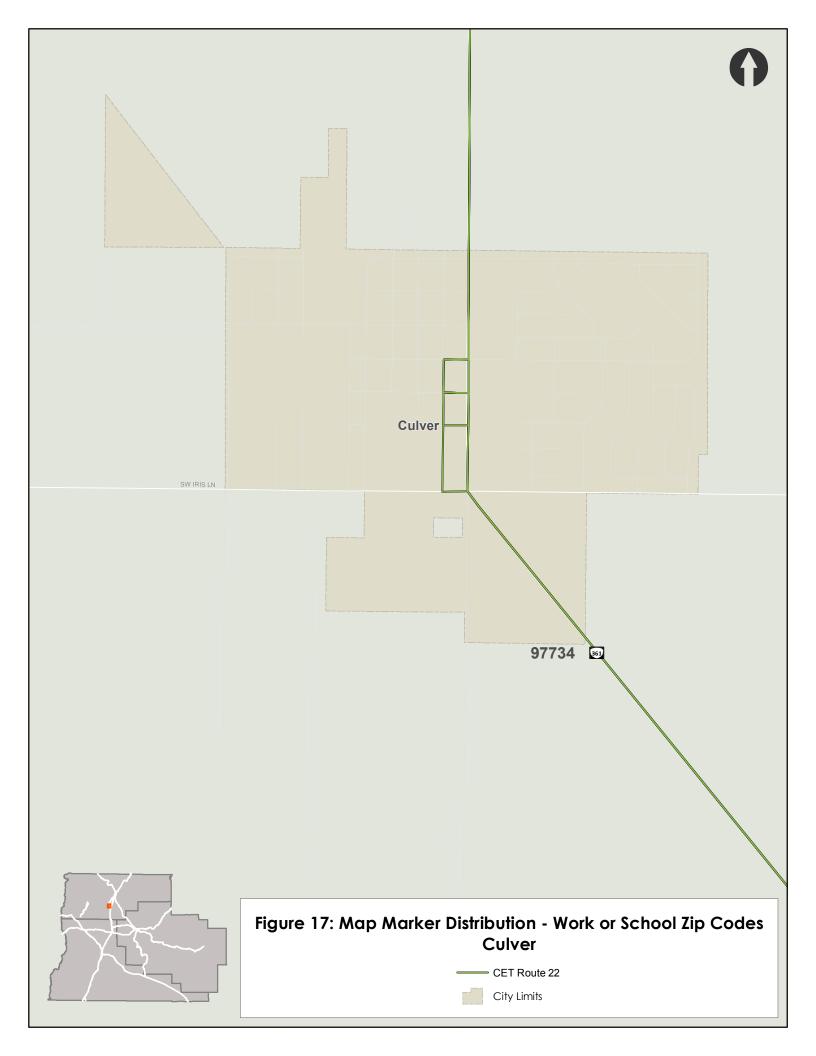


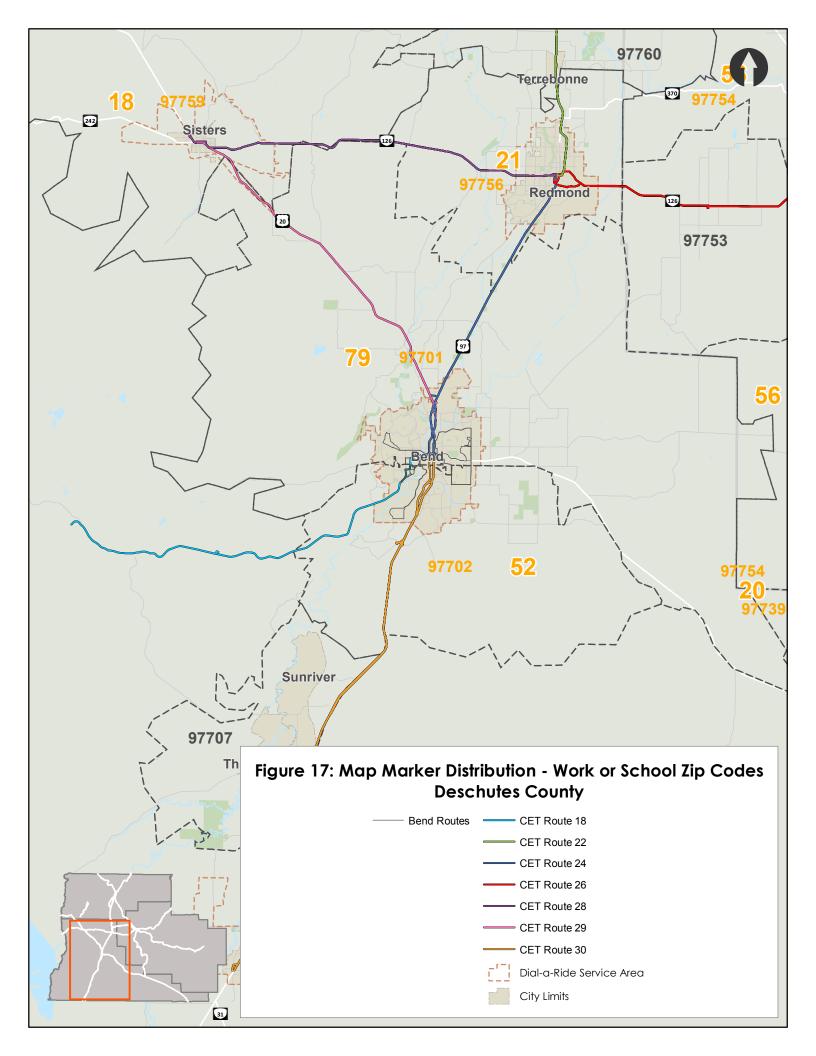


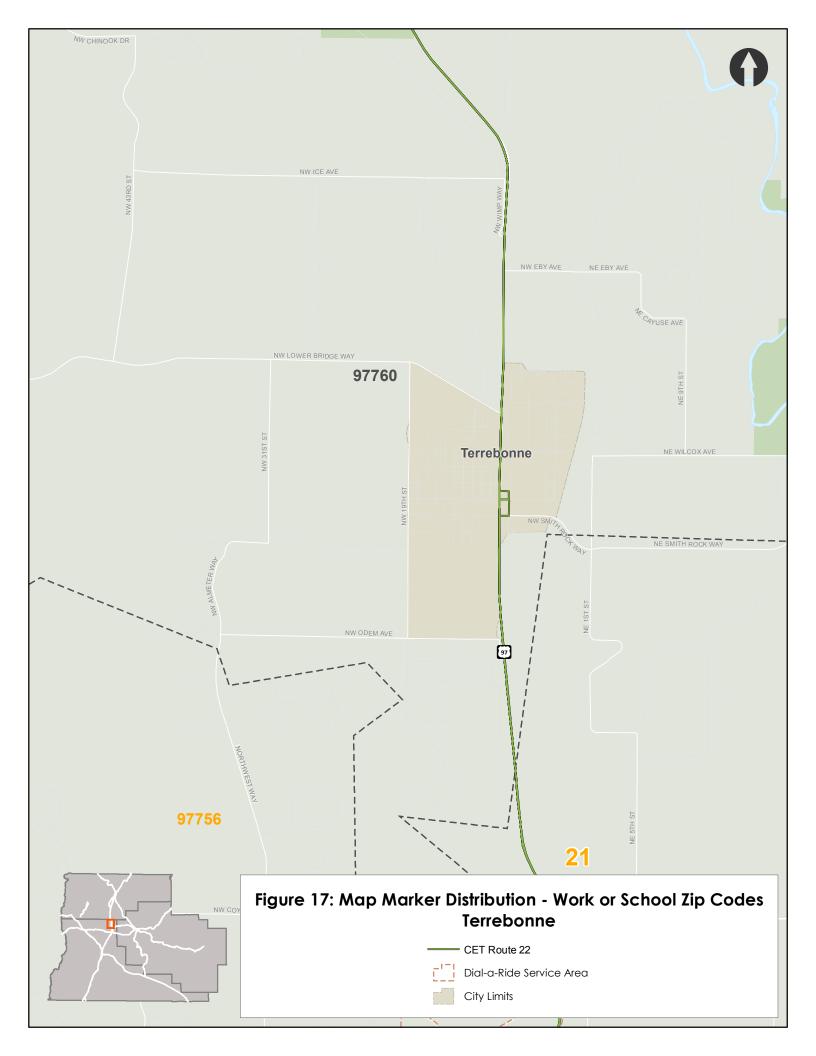


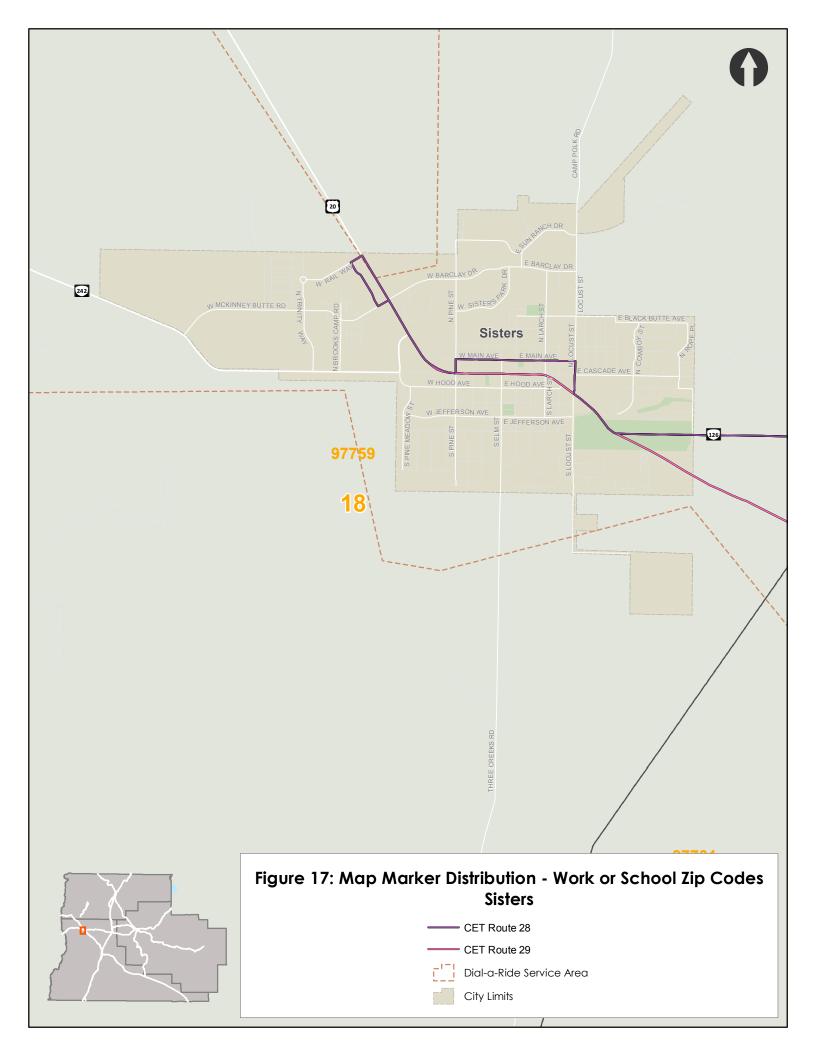


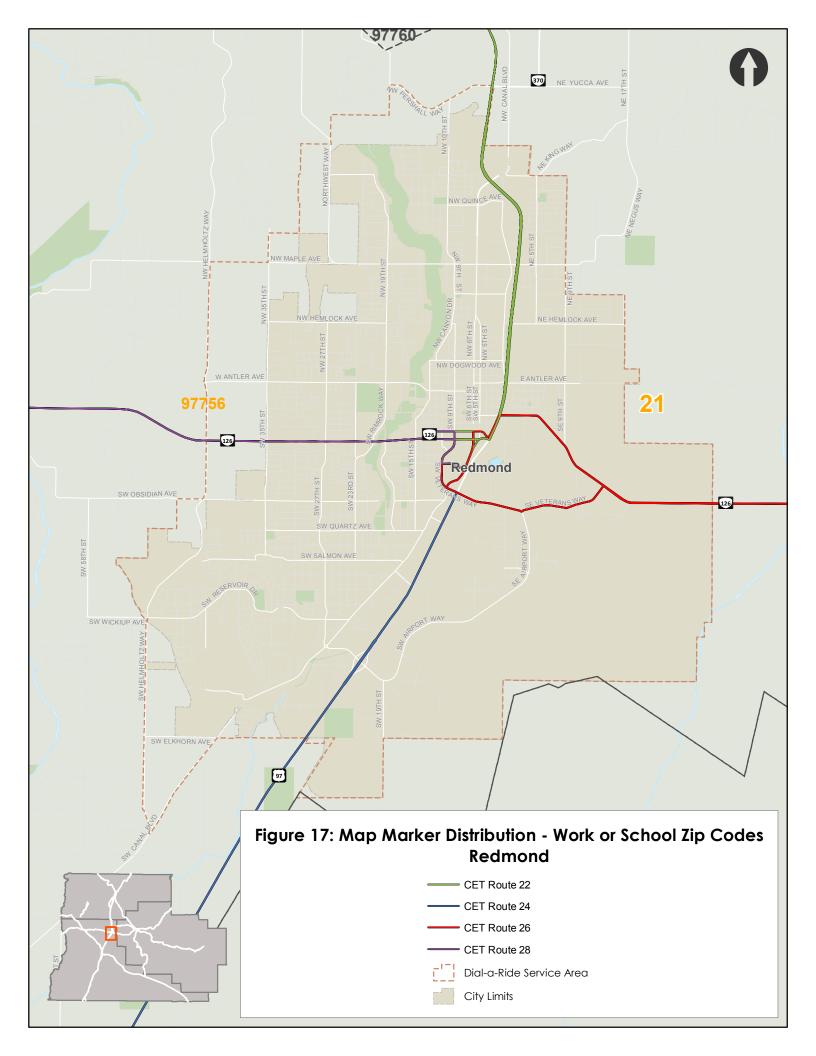


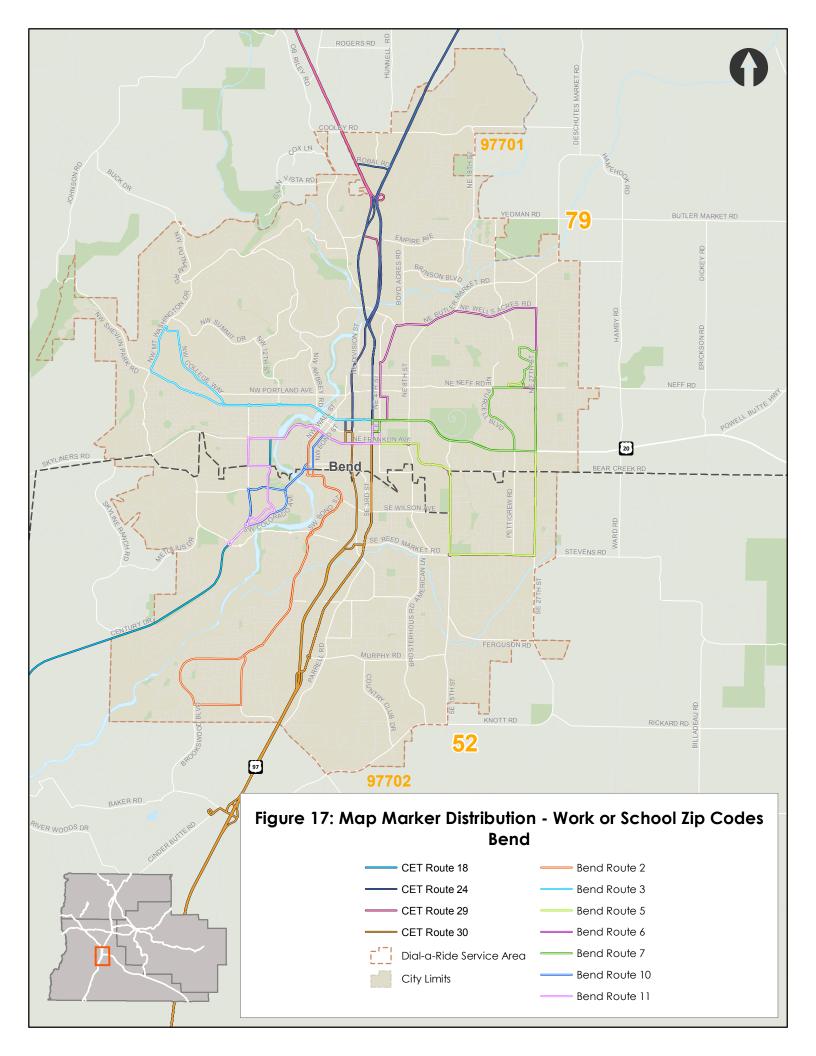


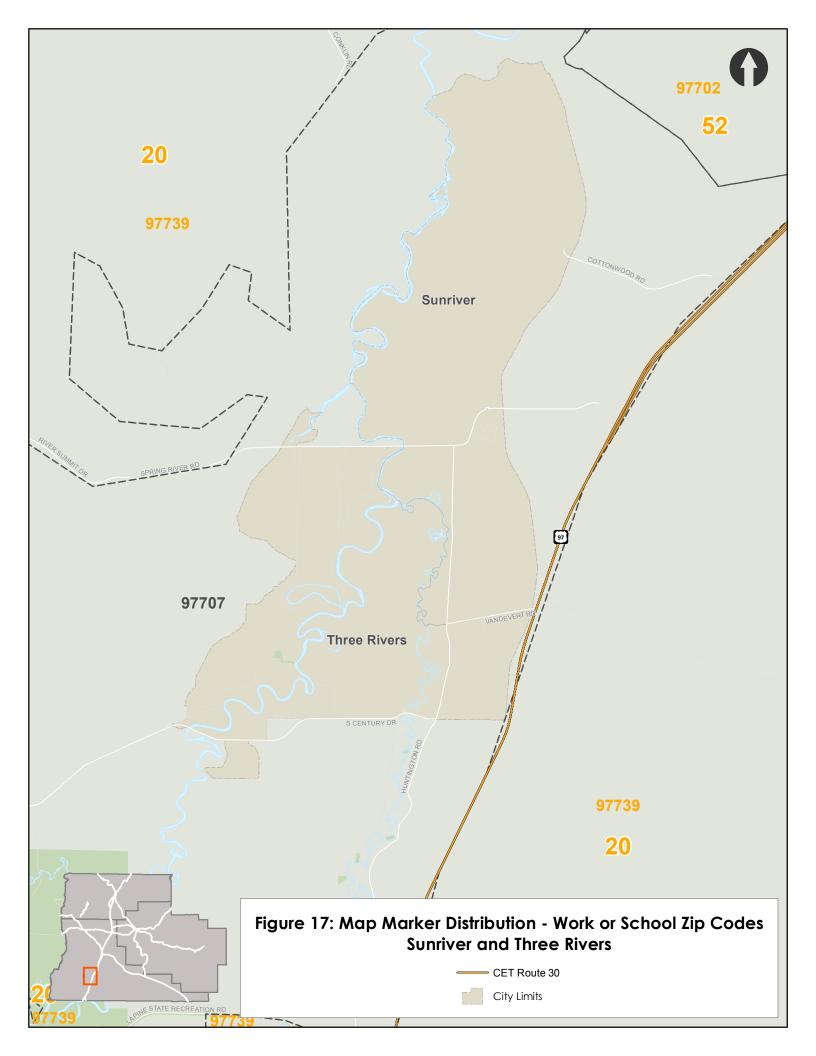


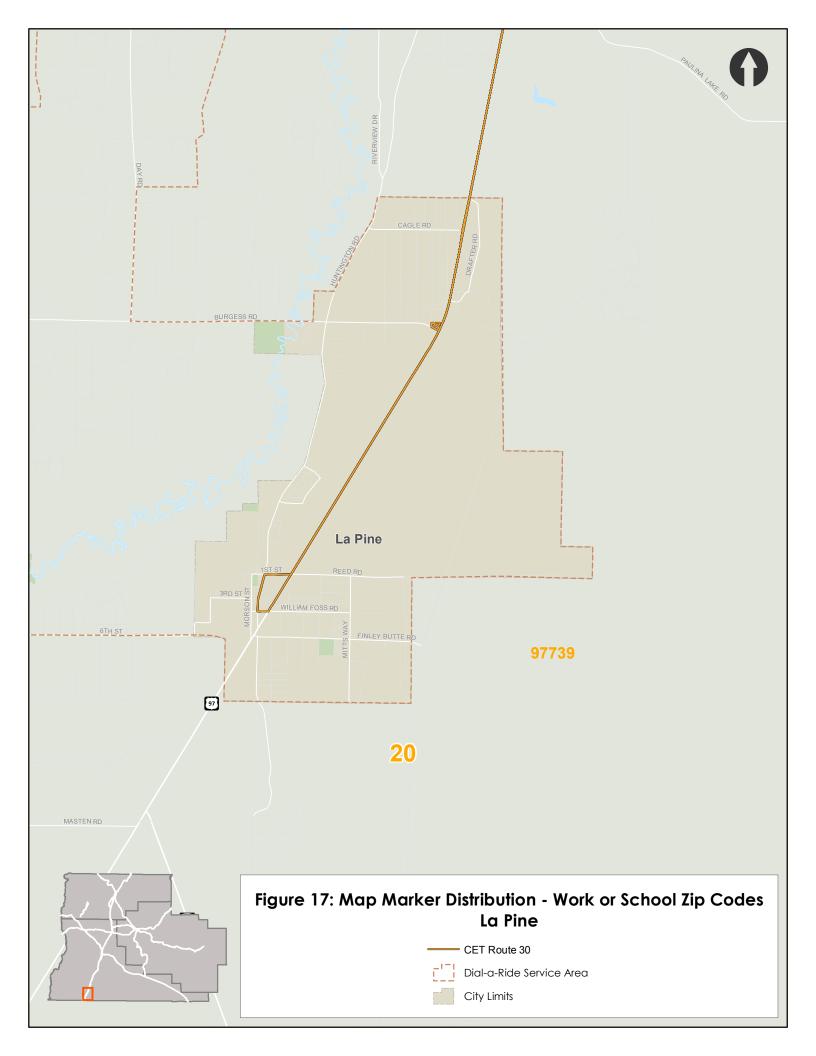


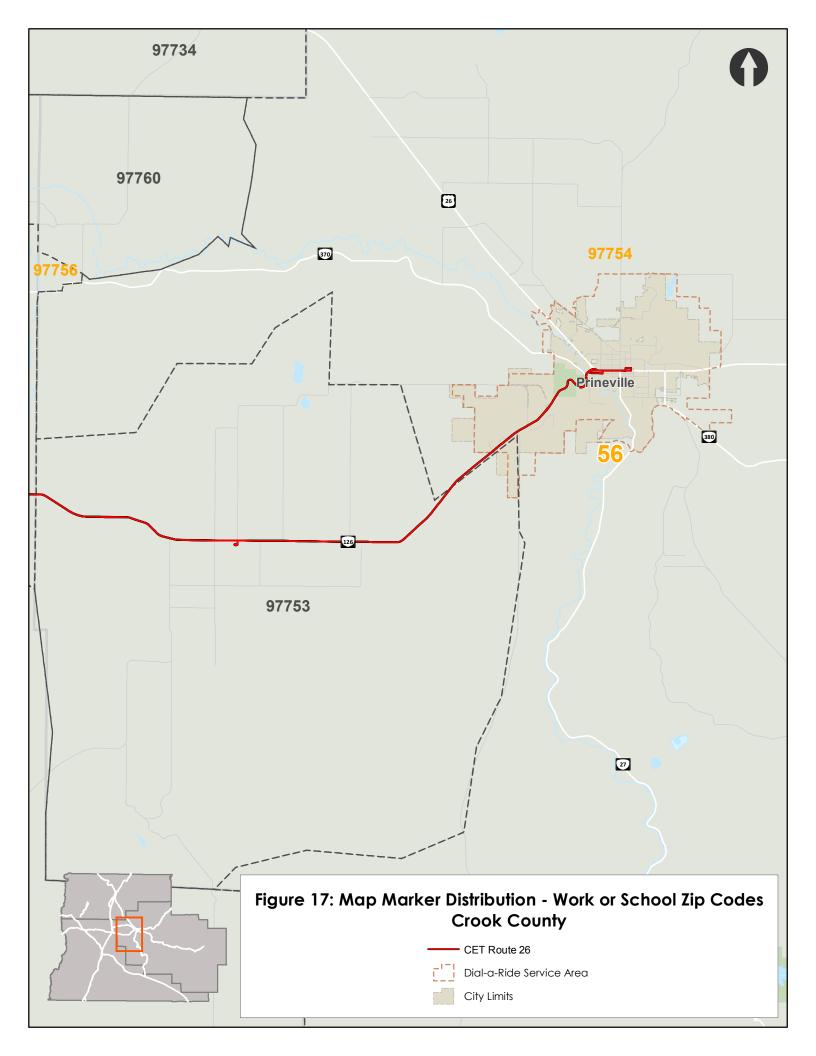


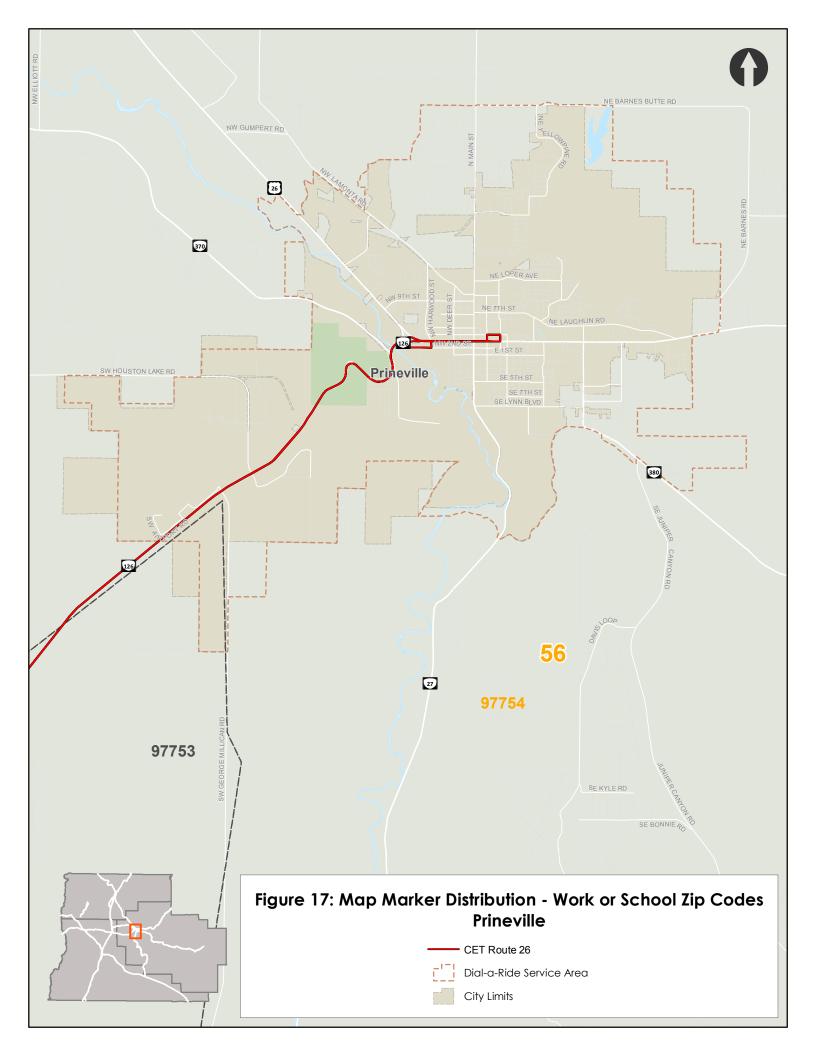














## CASCADES EAST TRANSIT DEVELOPMENT PLAN

## **NEXT STEPS**

The information contained in this summary will help inform the alternatives analysis process, including developing service concepts.