

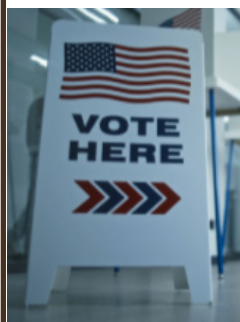
# Andy Sommerman Dallas County Commissioner District 2 Newsletter



## Election Sites 2024 - New Additions

My staff and I along with the elections department worked diligently to identify and secure alternative voting sites to replace two major sites that withdrew. I also noticed that a few areas in District 2 did not have access to a convenient voting location so I found voting locations for those areas.

Paige Lynne (Legal Analyst), Elva Rodriguez (Deputy Chief of Staff), Quinn Kelly (Research Intern), and Meghna Sharda (Public Outreach Director) have reached out to over 100 places to find voting locations for District 2.



### **The new voting locations are:**

- Northway Christian Church (Replacement for Our Redeemer, page 1)
- Ministerios Charisma (Replacement for First Baptist Richardson, page 2)
- Hamilton Park United Methodist Church (page 2)
- Madinah Masjid of Carrollton (page 3)
- Royal Lane Baptist Church (page 3)
- St. Paul's Evangelical and Reformed Church (page 4)

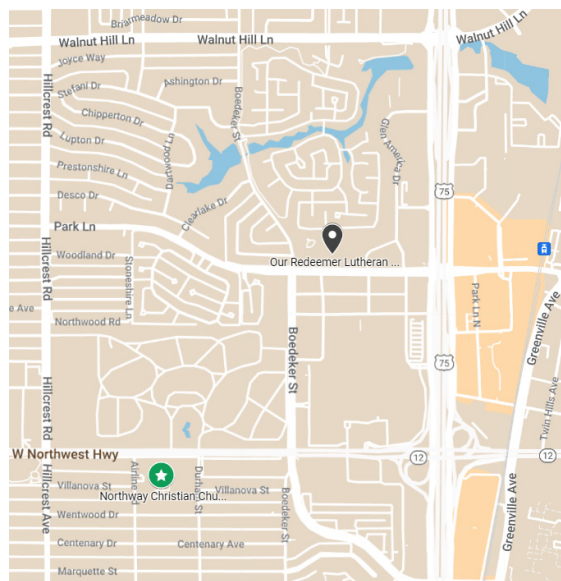


### **Northway Christian Church**

Location: 7202 W. Northwest Hwy

Earlier this year when Our Redeemer decided to withdraw as a voting site, my staff took immediate action to find a new location. Myself and Paige Lynne, worked with Elva Rodriguez, Quinn Kelly and Meghna Sharda to reach out to 46 places within the area of Marsh Lane and N. Central Expy and successfully secured Northway as a voting site.

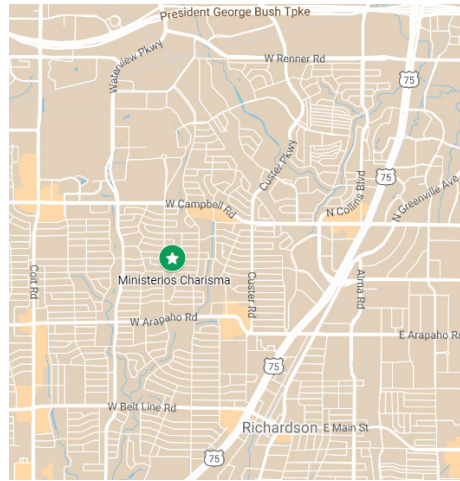
Northway Christian Church will provide residents within the area of Hillcrest Rd. and N. Central Expy an accessible voting location in lieu of Our Redeemer.



## **Ministerios Charisma**

Location: 9740 Melrose Dr.

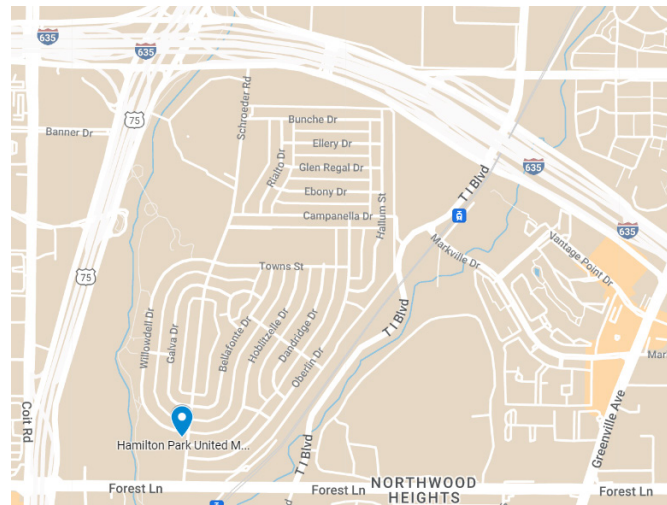
When First Baptist withdrew as a voting location from Dallas County, my staff called 31 places and secured Ministerios Charisma as a new voting location. I am confident that this location will benefit the residents of Richardson who voted at First Baptist, it will save them travel time & costs, and give them the opportunity to connect with Pastor Jean-Louis Mercier, who is keen to have the church be a voting site.



## **Hamilton Park United Methodist Church**

Location: 11881 Schroeder Rd.

Hamilton Park United Methodist Church was selected to provide a convenient voting site to residents between Interstate 635 and Forest Lane because there were no accessible voting locations in that area. Residents from this area would have to travel over Interstate 635 or N. Central Expy, which is not a viable option for some residents. By providing Hamilton Park as voting location, I aim to offer more voting locations for my constituents.

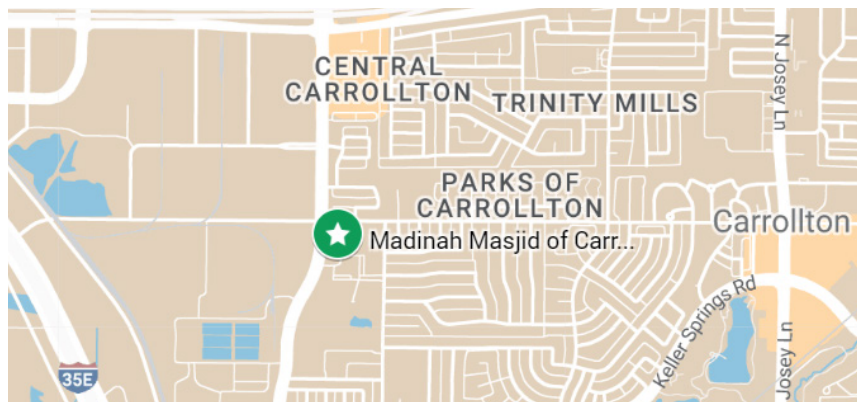


## **Madinah Masjid of Carrollton**

Location: 2180 Old Denton Rd.

The Madinah Masjid of Carrollton was selected to better serve the needs of the Muslim community and to create a more inclusive environment that encourages more members of our community to vote.

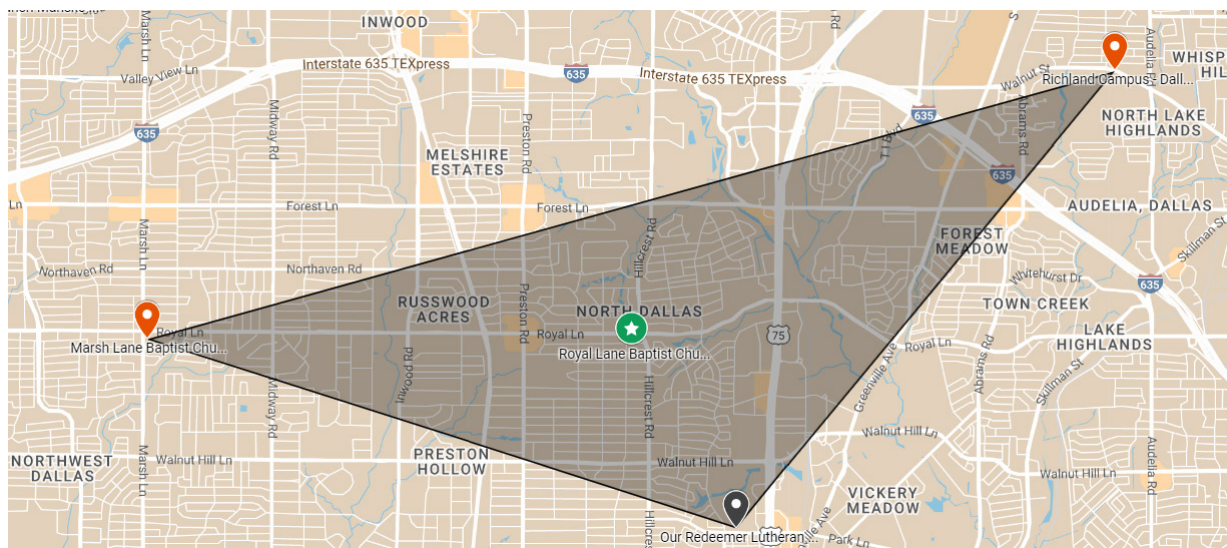
I understand that some members of the Muslim community may feel less comfortable voting in a church, and providing this location will address that concern. I want to ensure that Dallas County provides all communities an equal opportunity to vote.



## **Royal Lane Baptist Church**

Location: 6706 Royal Ln.

Royal Lane Baptist Church was selected to provide the residents living between Interstate 635 and Royal Lane an accessible voting site. The purpose of offering Royal Lane is to offer an additional voting location option for District 2 residents as well as encourage participation from individuals who may have not voted in the past due to accessibility issues.

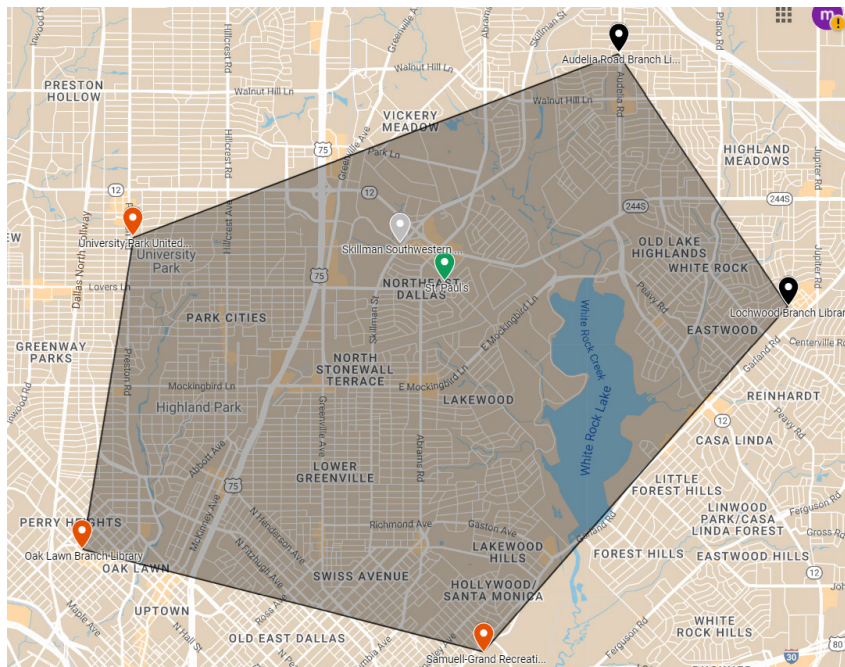




## St. Paul's Evangelical and Reformed Church

Location: 6464 E. Lovers Ln.

With Skillman Southwestern Library withdrawing as a voting site, Commissioner Daniel and I noticed that there will be no convenient voting locations for residents living near White Rock Lake. We started to search for a new voting location and Commissioner Daniel, along with her amazing staff found and secured St. Paul's as a new voting location.



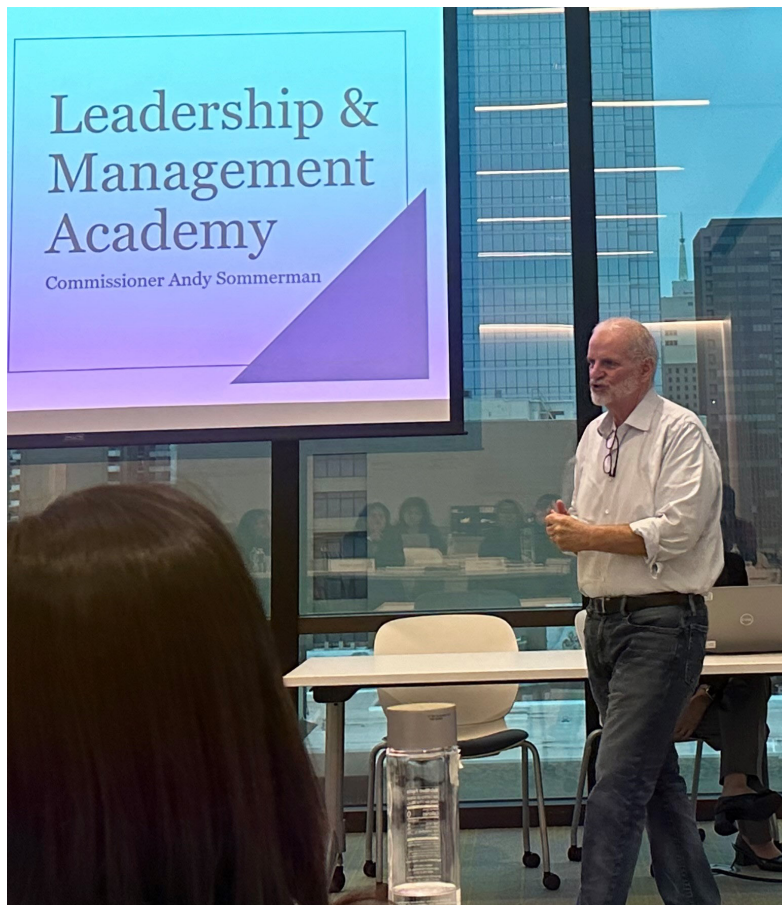
St. Paul's was selected to offer an accessible voting location for constituents in proximity to White Rock Lake. I would like to thank Commissioner Daniel and her staff for their hard work and efforts toward obtaining St. Paul's, we could have not acquired a better voting location!





# Highlights of the Month

## Leadership Management Academy



On May 16th, Commissioner Sommerman spoke to the Leadership Management Academy about his education, work experience and priorities such as CLEAR and Central Magistration. CLEAR (Compassionate Law Enforcement Active Response) aims to create a taskforce of officers specialized in managing challenges such as homelessness, mental illness, human trafficking and other 21st century challenges. Central Magistration aims to provide indigent arrestees representation prior to their hearing before a magistrate.

## Home Loan & Community Social Services

My staff met with Mr. Mark Edwards and Mr. Porfirio Coronado to discuss Home Loan and Community Social Service programs that will help Dallas County constituents with buying a home or receiving utility/welfare assistance. For more information about the program, see pages 10 & 11.



# Leadership Management Academy Graduation



We are so proud of Todd Hensley, District 2's Project Director, for his graduation from the Leadership Management Academy (LMA) in June. The LMA is a nine month program that aims



to create leaders in Dallas County. The program teaches employees how to be effective leaders and highlights County operations from different departments. Congratulations, Todd and all the other graduates!



Look from a distance and you will gain a new viewpoint

*"Leadership is about showing people a different perspective. "*

*- Todd Hensley, District 2 Project Director*



# Events Around District 2



Gateway Oak Cliff Ribbon Cutting:  
Erin Moore, Tom Ervin, Judge Clay  
Jenkins, Commissioner Elba Garcia,  
Joe Dingman & Printice Gary



Commissioner Sommerman with  
Dan Barrios (Richardson City  
Council Member Place 3)



CECS Awareness Advocacy Activism:  
Commissioner Sommerman, Terri  
Hodge, Zulika Hussain, Tom Ervin



Texas A&M Agrilife - Teens as Teachers  
Program - I along with Agrilife taught kids  
how to use natural ingredients to make  
food, in this case we made parfaits ;)

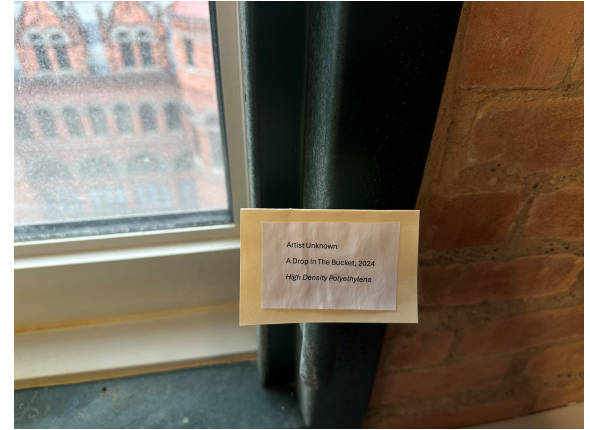


In May there was a leak in my office that damaged some of my belongings and disrupted the overall aesthetic of my office. After a few weeks of patience and follow-ups with Facilities, the leak was fixed. To thank Facilities, I wrote this poem for them.

## **An Ode To Facilities**

There once was a leak  
It came from the roof  
The leak was a nag  
Like an ache from a tooth  
But a day came along  
Like a beautiful song  
The leak was no more  
Never again they swore  
So thank you facilities  
For your outstanding abilities.  
When things looked so bleak  
You stopped that damn leak.

- Commissioner Andy Sommerman

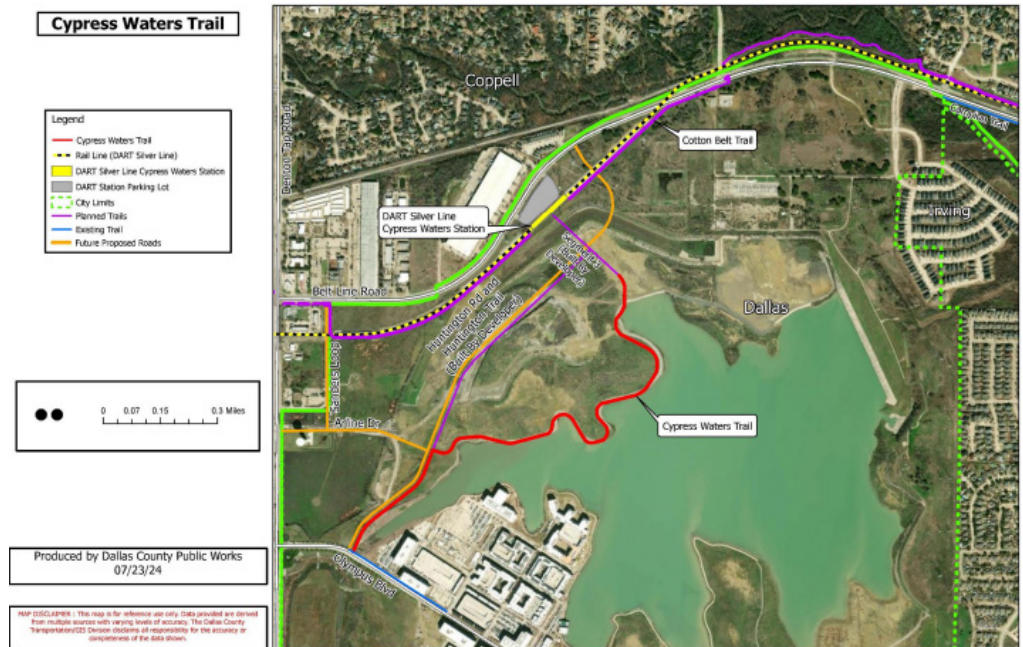


# Cypress Waters Trail

The Cypress Waters Trail Project aims to connect the South of Cypress Waters Cotton Belt Station to the existing trail North of Olympus Blvd.

The trail will connect to the silverline DART extension which runs throughout Dallas County and will have a wide shared-use hike and bike trail of 1.24 miles of 14'.

This project will benefit many Dallas County residents because it will provide accessible transportation, and a trail that will enhance quality of life by offering an alternative mode of transportation and make Dallas County more beautiful and attractive. I would like to thank Public Works and their partners, your hard work and dedication to this project will not go unnoticed! In honor of Cypress Waters Trail, I wrote a poem.



## The Beautiful Trail

There once was a place called Cypress.  
Its landscape and waters, desirous  
Along came the county  
Who put up the bounty  
So grab your shovels, inspire us!

- Commissioner Andy Sommerman

# Connecting with the Community (DCHHS Division of Social



## Some Programs offered:

Utility Bill Assistance (Electric, Water, Gas)  
Call 214-819-1848

Housing Assistance  
Call 214-819-1968

Welfare  
Call 214-819-1800







Our mission is to increase home ownership in Dallas County. There are no costs or fees for our services.

# Dallas County Home Loan Counseling Center



## UPFRONT COST ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Assists qualified first-time homebuyers with up to \$15K of down payment and/or closing cost assistance to purchase a home in Dallas County.

### ONE-ON-ONE COUNSELING

HUD-certified personalized counseling: Individuals meet with a housing counselor to determine mortgage readiness and establish action plan & budget that will be used to guide them through the home-buying process.

### FIRST TIME HOMEBUYERS COURSE

A monthly HUD certified homebuyer education course covering the complete homebuying process.

### PRE & POST-PURCHASE CLASSES

These classes provide the tools and resources to support homebuyers be successful. Topics include Saving for Retirement, Insurance 101, Taxes and Homeownership, Property Taxes etc.

### CREDIT REPAIR WORKSHOP

A monthly 1-hour workshop to educate potential homebuyers on how to improve their credit score to qualify for a mortgage loan.

### FINANCIAL LITERACY/BUDGET CLASS

A 1-hour class covering the importance of a household budget, how to maintain a checking & savings account and a mortgage payment.

### SECTION 8 HOMEOWNERSHIP PROGRAM

Assists clients who are on Dallas County section 8 Rental Assistance Program to purchase a home. Clients must be able to qualify for a mortgage loan.

### REVERSE EQUITY MORTGAGE COUNSELING

Assists clients who are 62 years of age or older with receiving a loan against the equity of their home.

### LOSS MITIGATION FORECLOSURE COUNSELING

Individual counseling for reducing the prospect of a potential foreclosure.

CONTACT US

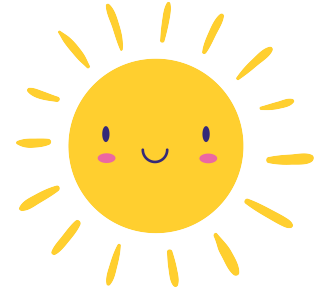


214-819-6060



2377 N. Stemmons Fwy.  
Suite 724 Dallas, TX 75207

# Unscramble the following words



1. RSEUMM
2. AYM
3. HRESAIPLED TEANEAGMNM  
AMAECDY
4. LYJU
5. MHEO OALN LEOUCINNGS
6. CEEMENGYR NGHUIOS ENSTSASAIC
7. ENJU
8. SLAADL
9. OUHFRT FO UJYL

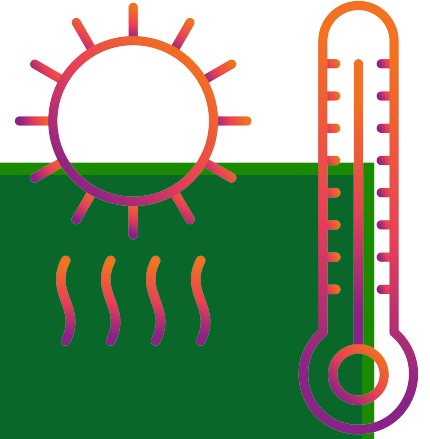


1. Hottest of the four temperate seasons, occurs after spring and before autumn.
2. 5th month of the year.
3. A 9-month program that aims to create leaders in Dallas County.
4. 7th month of the year.
5. Assists qualified first-time home buyers purchase a home in Dallas County.
6. Eviction diversion and emergency mortgage assistance.
7. 6th month of the year.
8. City where Records Building is located at.
9. The day America gained independence from Great Britain.

[ANSWERS ON PAGE 13]

# Answers to word scramble

1. Summer
2. May
3. Leadership Management Academy
4. July
5. Home Loan Counseling
6. Emergency Housing Assistance
7. June
8. Dallas
9. Fourth of July



HOW MANY DID YOU  
GET RIGHT?







Have Great News in District 2 to add to the newsletter? Would you like Commissioner Sommerman to attend your next neighborhood meeting? Contact us at [District2Office@dallascounty.org](mailto:District2Office@dallascounty.org)

## GET THE NEWSLETTER IN YOUR INBOX:

[DISTRICT2OFFICE@DALLASCOUNTY.ORG](mailto:District2Office@dallascounty.org)

# Upcoming Events

Commissioners Court Sept. 17, 2024 @ 9am

Location: Commissioners Courtroom (Dallas County  
Records Building, 2nd floor)

Watch online -

<https://dallascounty.civicweb.net/portal/>



Homeownership Panel, October 26th 9 am - 12 pm

**Location:** North Dallas Government Center, 6820

Lyndon B Johnshon Fwy Dallas, TX, 75230

RSVP -

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/are-you-ready-for-homeownership-a-panel-discussion-with-industry-experts-tickets-984136287127>

