



2024 TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE

DS-23-093

September 19, 2023

BACKGROUND

- ❑ Total Solar Eclipse will occur on April 8, 2024
- ❑ Known as the Great North American Eclipse
- ❑ “Path of Totality” will start in Mexico, cross 13 U.S. states, and part of Canada
- ❑ Killeen is in the Path of Totality and about an hour from the eclipse centerline which is just east of Lampasas
- ❑ We will experience the total eclipse for a total of 4:16
- ❑ This is greater than five other major cities in the state

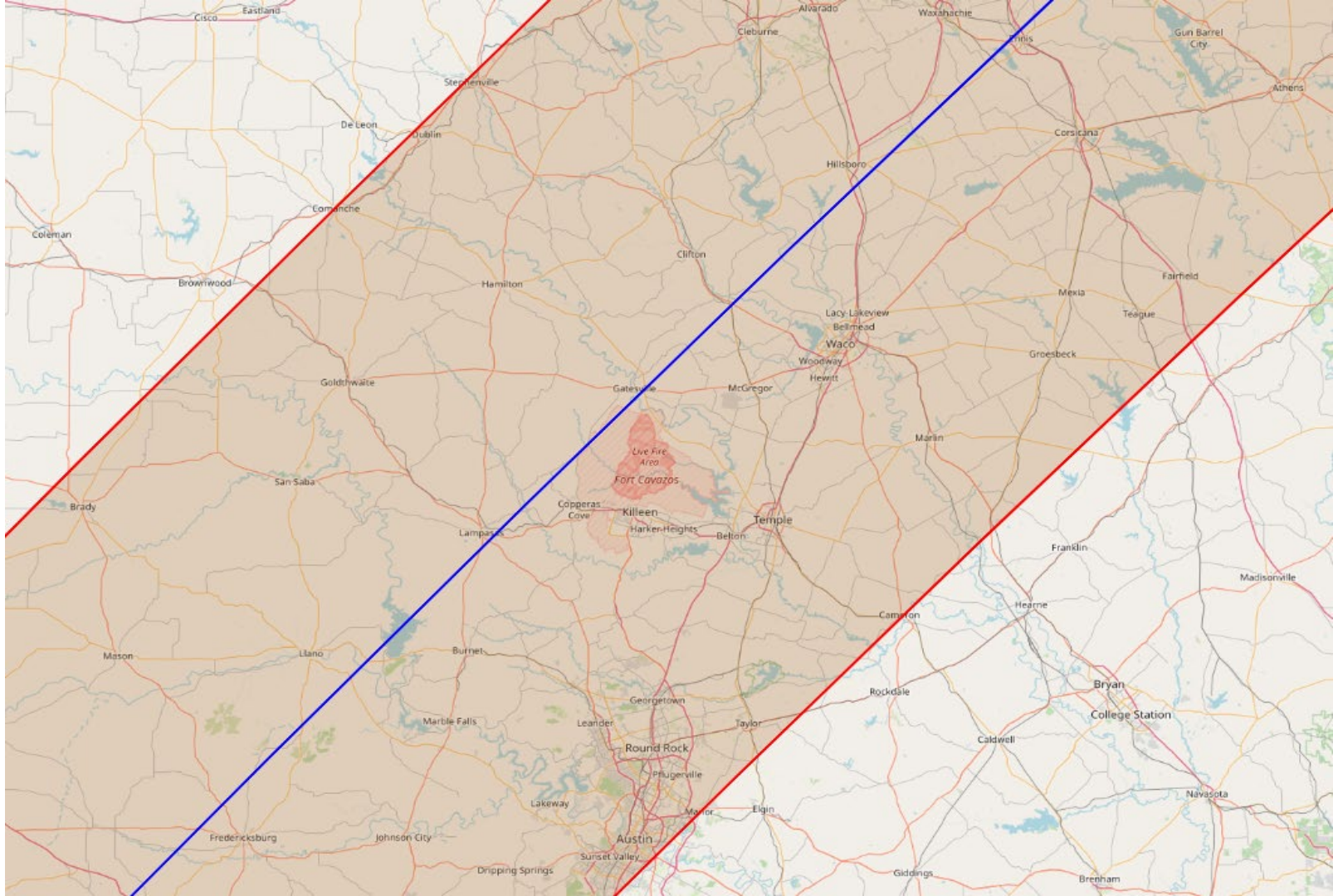
BACKGROUND

- ❑ Partial Solar Eclipse – This happens when the Sun, Moon and Earth are not exactly aligned
- ❑ Annular Solar Eclipse – This happens when the Moon is farthest from the Earth
- ❑ Total Solar Eclipse – This happens when the Sun, Moon and Earth are in a direct line
- ❑ A solar eclipse happens every 18 months somewhere on Earth and lasts only a few minutes
- ❑ Central Texas will not see one again for more than 40 years

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HOW PUBLIC CAN PREPARE

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- Community members should
 - ▣ Ensure they have fuel & groceries
 - ▣ Plan your daily errands ahead of time
 - ▣ Prepare for traffic – stay off main roads
- Businesses should
 - ▣ Ensure they are stocked 2 weeks ahead of time
 - ▣ Have an online reservation system for food or seating
 - ▣ Schedule staffing with heavy traffic in mind

SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS

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- ❑ Looking directly at the Sun is unsafe **except** during the brief time that the Moon entirely blocks the Sun
- ❑ All other times, you **must** use special-purpose solar filters
 - ▣ Not Sunglasses at all, or weld mask less than shade #12
- ❑ Plan extra travel time for your errands and appointments
- ❑ Regional, county, & local public safety planning meetings have been taking place all year
- ❑ Sign-up for emergency notifications by going to bit.ly/KilleenEAlerts

CITY PREPARATION

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- Timeline of Information
 - ▣ Initial Press Conference in November 2022
 - ▣ Business Preparedness started in Feb/March 2023 – 2 town halls
 - ▣ Year Out news release in April 2023
 - ▣ Community Preparedness Info starting in February 2024
 - ▣ Visitor Information starting in early April 2024
- Places to look for information
 - ▣ www.killeentexas.gov/eclipse
 - ▣ www.visitkilleen.com/eclipse
 - ▣ Follow City of Killeen social media (Facebook, Instagram, X)

Questions

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