

Advisory Committee Meeting

NOVEMBER 14, 2018





Presentation Agenda

- 1. Welcome
- 2. Tier 1 Evaluation Results

North Side Lines

South Side Lines

3. Next Steps







Tier 1 Evaluation Results





Considerations Held

- Freight and non-revenue train moves
- Specific signal upgrades and maintenance and layover needs
- Terminal capacity needs
- On-time performance
- How concepts work as a system





Tier 1 Key Performance Metrics



Average in-vehicle travel time savings



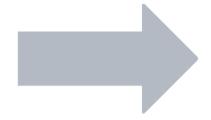
Total number of trains serving the line per day



Percentage change of jobs accessible within one hour of travel as a result of service concept



How benefits to Environmental Justice communities under the service concept compare to benefits to non-EJ communities



Ridership on Line

Percentage change in ridership along the line under the service concept



Capital Costs

Order of magnitude comparison of major capital cost elements for service concept



Operating Costs

Order of magnitude comparison of incremental annual operating costs for service concept



The Key Metrics are readily available outputs from our Tier 1 models that match our project objectives

 They are not a onefor-one match – some metrics meet more than one objective

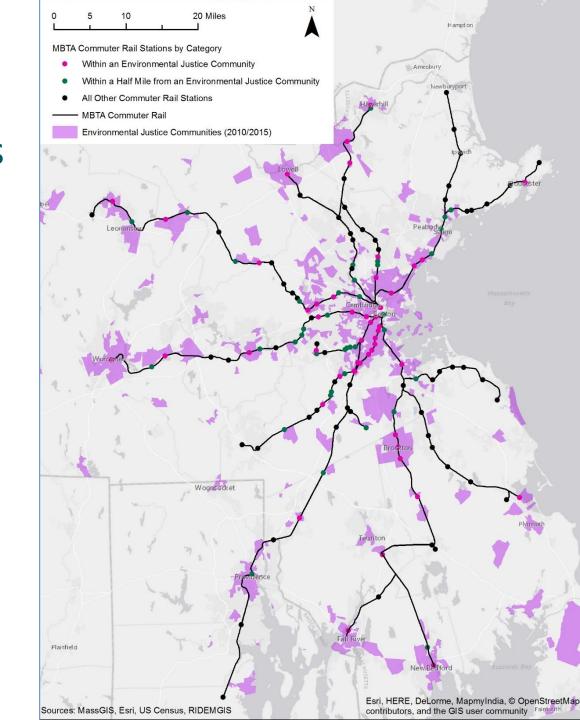
Why These Key Metrics?

Proje	ect Objective	Tier 1 Metric
1.	Match service with the growing and changing needs of the region	Ridership and Connectivity
2.	Enhance economic vitality	Connectivity
3.	Improve the passenger experience	Travel Time Savings and Frequency
4.	Provide an equitable and balanced suite of investments	Equity
5.	Help the Commonwealth achieve its climate change sustainability targets	Ridership
6.	Maximize return on investment (financial stewardship)	Capital Costs and Operating Costs



Environmental Justice Communities

- Defined in Massachusetts as:
 - Annual median household income is equal to or less than 65 percent of the statewide median;
 - 25 percent or more of the residents identify as a race other than white; or
 - 25 percent or more of households have no one over the age of 14 who speaks English only or very well (English Isolation).
- Defined separately for Rhode Island





Service Terms Used





Some Takeaways from the Tier 1 Effort

Theme	What We Learned
Phasing	 A pulse system alone adds tremendous value! Some concepts (some lines) could be implemented in the short-term
Technology	 For some longer distance lines, Zonal Express (outer) + Urban Rail (inner) works well Electrification – real benefits, real cost
Different Lines, Different Needs?	 A 'one size fits all' approach may not be the most effective Some lines need more investment than others to realize benefits
Needs at the Terminals	 Interlining brings real efficiency – but some lines are easier to interline than others Frequency investments on all lines put a cumulative pressure on North and South Station
Cost	 Investment brings new riders! Capital funding needs could be high, and operating costs remain larger than revenues





North Side



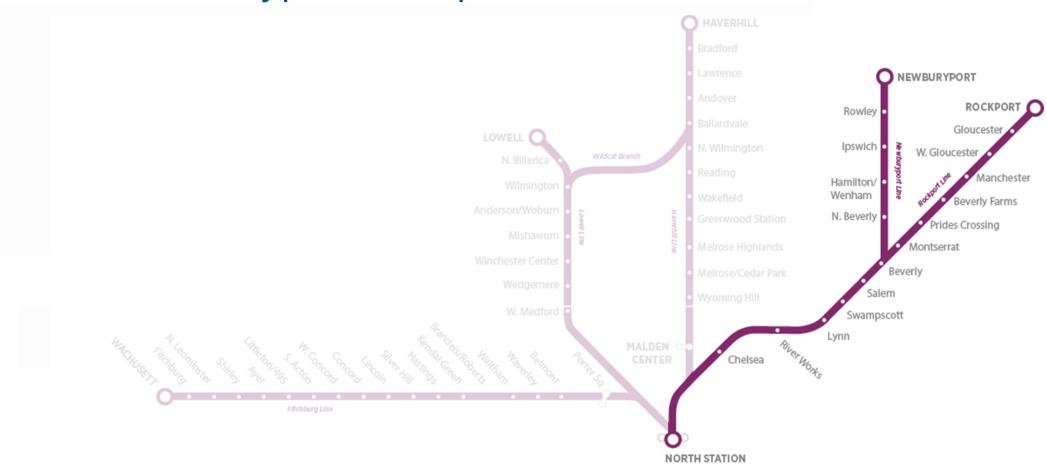


North Side Lines





Newburyport/Rockport Line

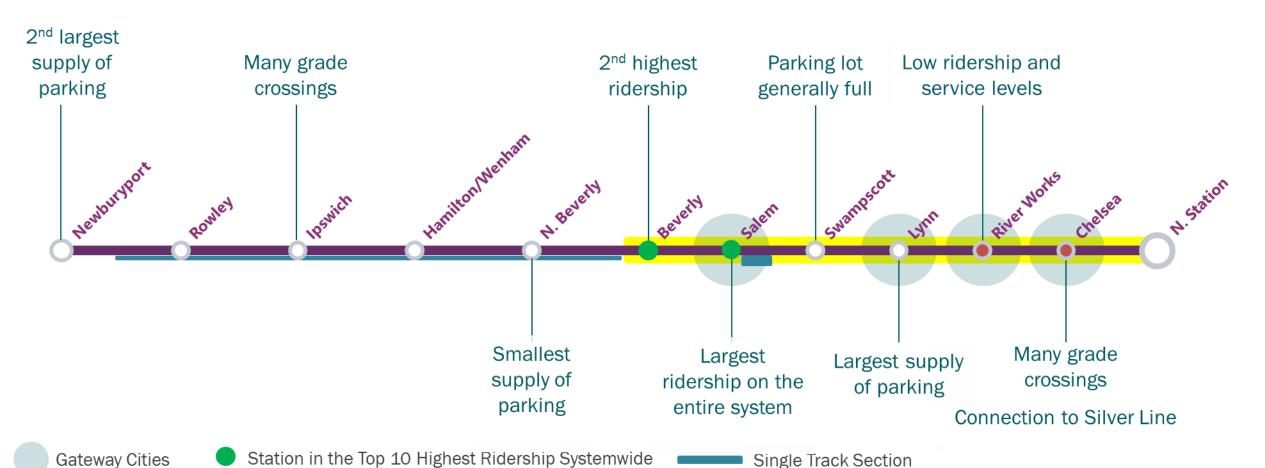


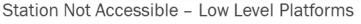




Newburyport Line Existing Conditions

 Capacity constraints on this line include single track sections, Salem tunnel, and many grade crossings in Ipswich and Chelsea



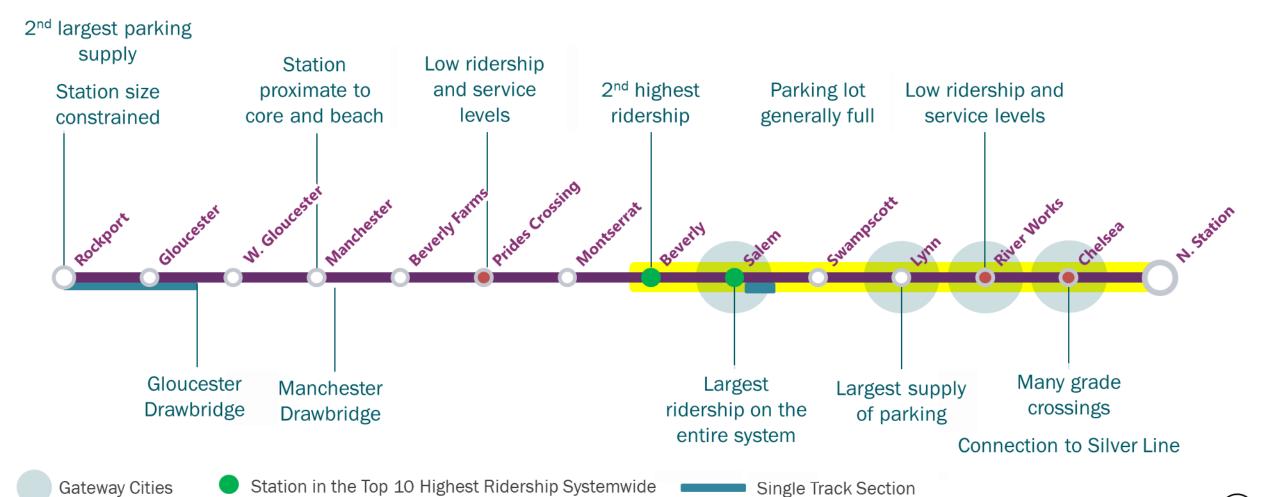






Rockport Line Existing Conditions

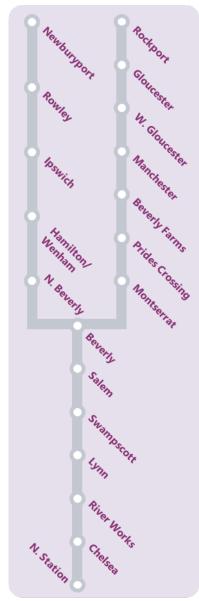
 Capacity constraints on this line include single track sections, Lynn tunnel, drawbridges, grade crossings in Chelsea, and station constraints







Newburyport/Rockport Line Concept Matrix



ID	CONCEPT	PEAK TRAINS/HOUR	NOTES
0	No Build	Trunk Stations: 2-4 Branch Stations: 1-2	Irregular stopping patterns at some stations
1	Pulse (Base)	Chelsea-Lynn: 4 Swampscott-Beverly: 6 Branch Stations: 1-2	Logical schedulesAll branch stations have at least 1 train per hour
2	Pulse with Higher Speeds	Same as Concept 1	 Same as Concept 1 but also reduces travel times by removing some speed restrictions
3	Zonal Express with Forced Local Transfer	Chelsea-River Works: 2 Lynn, Salem, Beverly: 6 Swampscott: 2 Branch Stations: 2	 Pulse system with express trains for branches, frequent trunk service, and speed restrictions removed Requires a transfer at Salem to reach local stations within the trunk
4	Electrify Line	Chelsea-Swampscott: 2 Salem, Beverly: 6 Branch Stations: 2	Similar to Concept 3 aboveElectrifies the entire line
5	Connection to Sullivan Square	Sullivan-River Works: 4 Lynn, Salem, Beverly: 6 Swampscott: 4 Branch Stations: 2	 Similar to Concept 3 but with a local service option that terminates at Sullivan Square instead of North Station



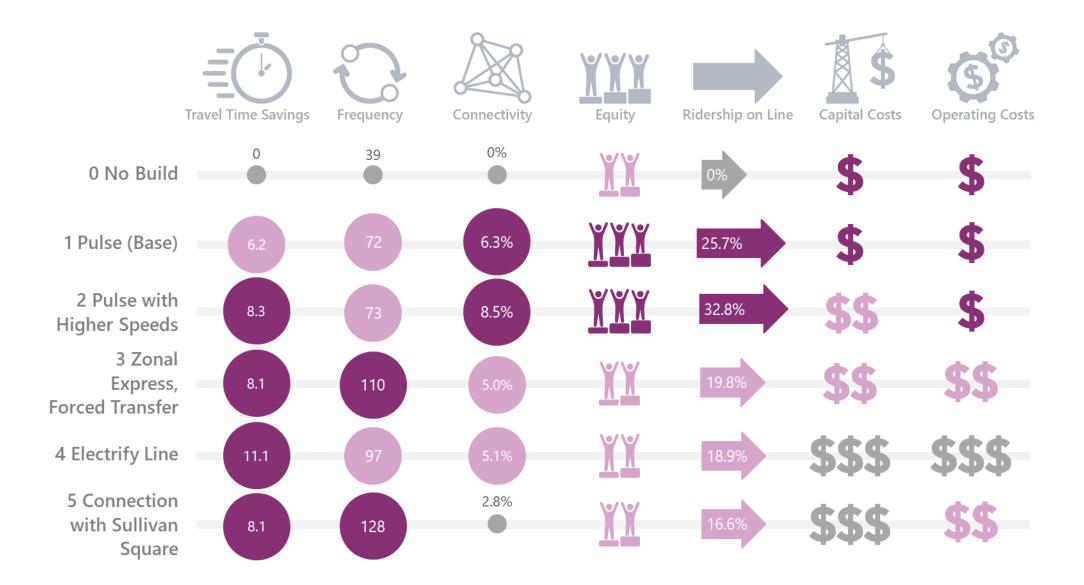
Newburyport/Rockport Line Key Performance Metrics



Station and track upgrades

Above plus electrification, new vehicle fleet

Station and track upgrades, new Sullivan Sq. station





Haverhill/Lowell Lines

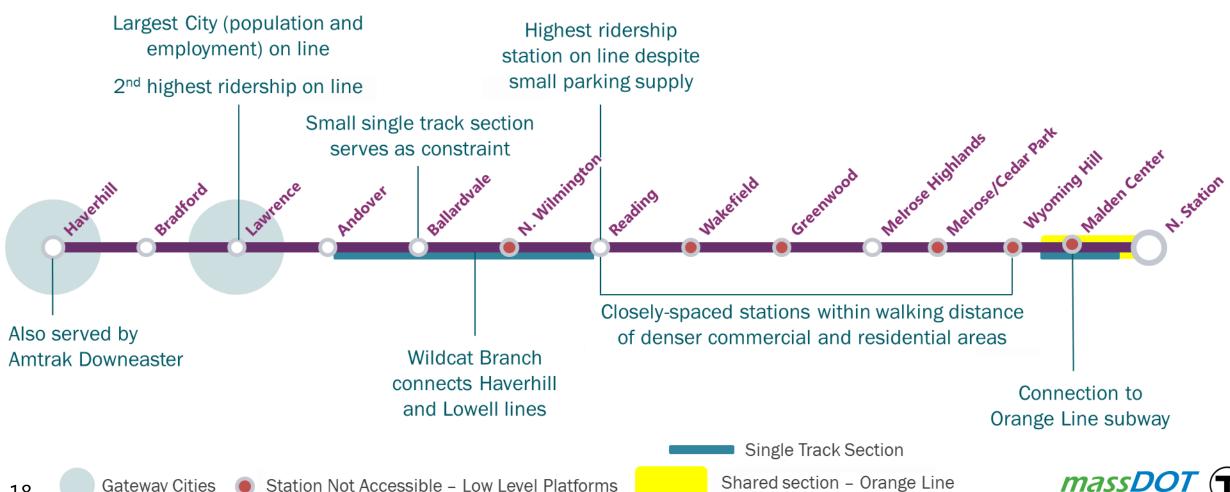






Haverhill Line Existing Conditions

- Parallels the Orange Line North to Malden near border with Melrose.
- Large sections of single track; shared service with Amtrak (north of N. Wilmington) and Pan AM.
- Connects to the Lowell Line via the Wildcat Branch











Station Not Accessible - Low Level Platforms

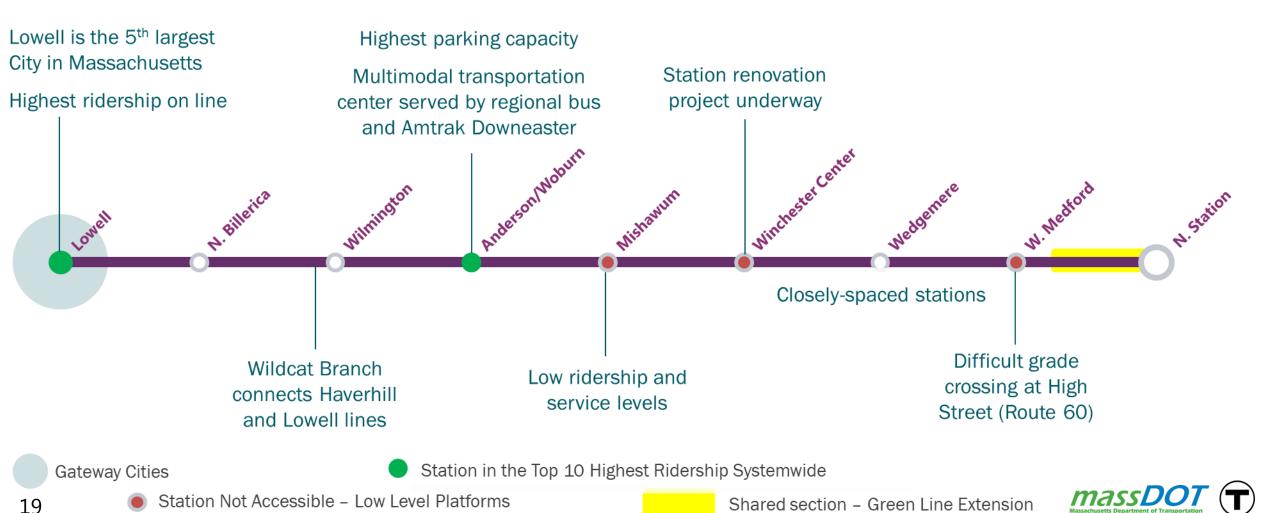






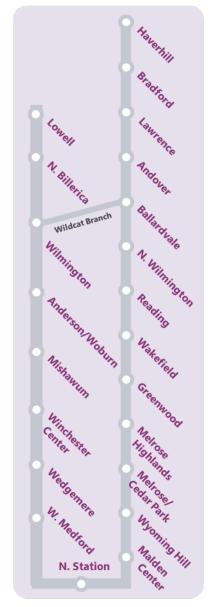
Lowell Line Existing Conditions

- Entirely double-tracked line.
- Shares line with Amtrak Downeaster between North Station and Wildcat Branch north of Wilmington Station.





Haverhill/Lowell Line Concept Matrix



ID	CONCEPT	PEAK TRAINS/HOUR		NOTES
0	No Build	All Haverhill Line Stations: 1-2	All Lowell Line Stations: 2-3	
1	Pulse (Base)	Malden Center-N. Wilmington: 4 Ballardvale: 6 Andover-Bradford: 4 Haverhill: 5	W. Medford-Winchester Ctr: 2 Anderson/Woburn: 6 Wilmington-Lowell: 3	Logical schedulesGreater frequencyModerately increased use of Wildcat Branch
2	Skip Stop	Malden Center-N. Wilmington: 2 Ballardvale-Bradford: 3 Haverhill: 7	W. Medford-Winchester Ctr: 2 Anderson/Woburn: 5 Wilmington, N. Billerica: 2 Lowell: 4	 Each train serves every other stop; higher frequency at Anderson and Haverhill Moderately increased use of Wildcat Branch
3	Electrify Line	Same as Concept 1	Same as Concept 1	Electrifies both linesModerately increased use of Wildcat Branch
4	Partial Haverhill Line Conversion to High-Capacity Transit (HCT) (I- 93 station)	Oak Grove-I-93: HCT I-93-Bradford: 4 Haverhill: 5	W. Medford-Mishawum: 2 Anderson/Woburn: 9 Wilmington-Lowell: 4	 More frequent Haverhill and Lawrence service via Wildcat Branch, with transfers available to inner stations at new I-93 station Replaces inner Haverhill Line stations with HCT
5	Urban Rail on Haverhill and Lowell Lines	Oak Grove-Reading: 4 I-93: 8 Ballardvale-Bradford: 4 Haverhill: 5	W. Medford-Mishawum: 4 Anderson/Woburn: 13 Wilmington-Lowell: 4	 Similar to Concept 4, but with Urban Rail serving inner Haverhill Line stations and Lowell Line stations between North Station and Anderson
6	Lawrence Terminus	Malden Center-N. Wilmington: 2 Ballardvale-Lawrence: 6 Bradford: 4 Haverhill: 5	W. Medford-Mishawum: 2 Anderson/Woburn: 9 Wilmington-Lowell: 4	 All service to/from Haverhill and Bradford Stations uses Wildcat Service to all inner Haverhill Line stations originate at Lawrence Station



Haverhill Line Key Performance Metrics



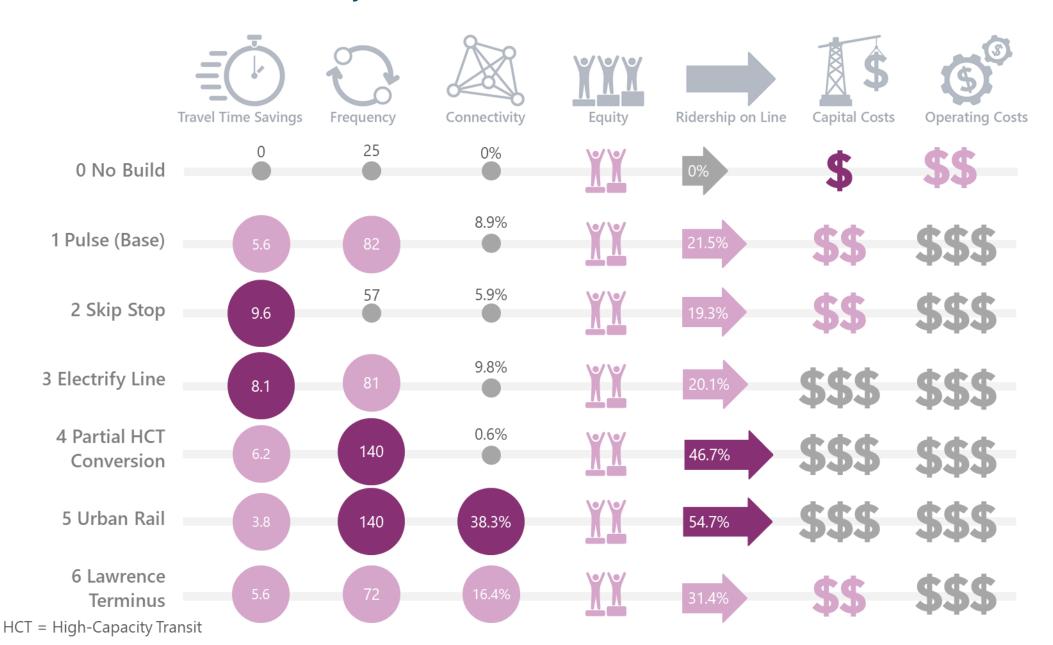
Station and track upgrades

Above plus electrification, new vehicle fleet

Costs to convert line to HCT use, double track and grade separate Wildcat

Similar to Concept 3, double track and grade separate Wildcat, new I-93 station

Station and track upgrades





Lowell Line Key Performance Metrics



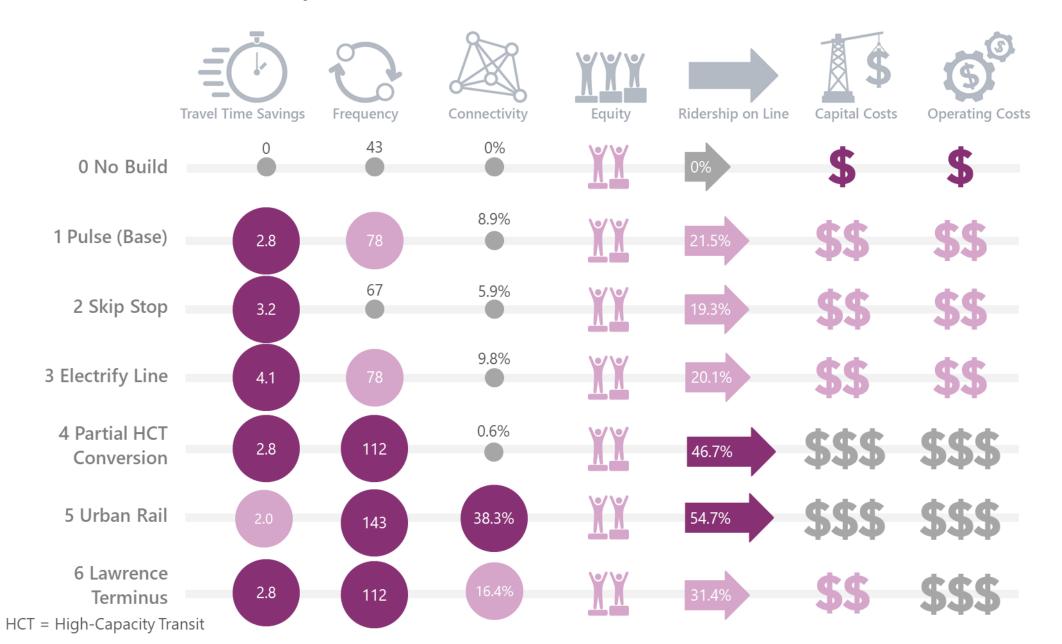
Station and track upgrades

Above plus electrification, new vehicle fleet

Costs to convert line to HCT use, double track and grade separate Wildcat

Similar to Concept 3, double track and grade separate Wildcat, new I-93 station

Station and track upgrades





Fitchburg Line

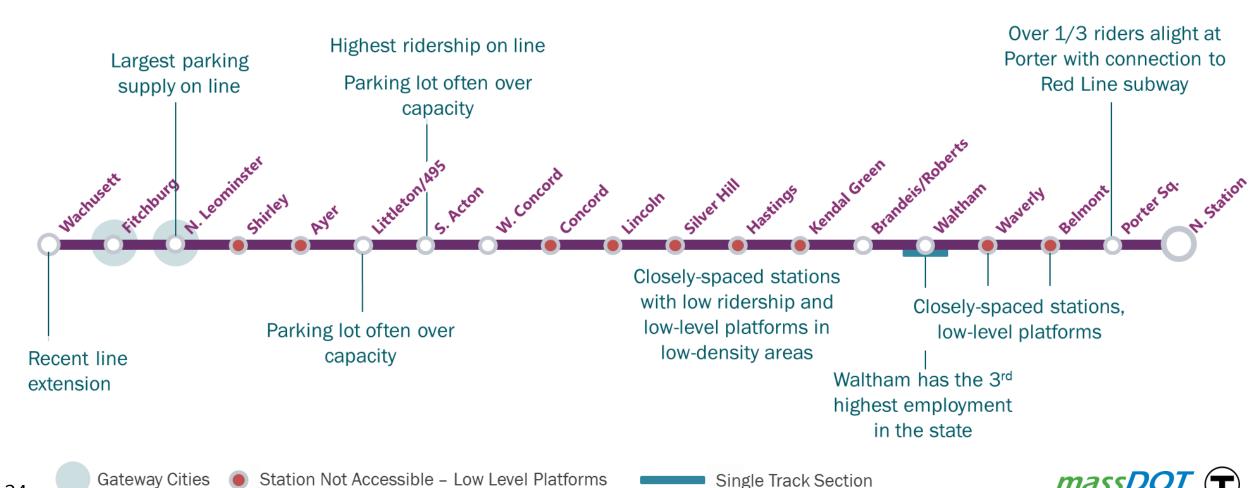






Fitchburg Line Existing Conditions

Second longest line in the system. Many single-side platforms.



Single Track Section





Fitchburg Line Concept Matrix

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ID	CONCEPT	PEAK TRAINS/HOUR	NOTES
0	No Build	1-3	 Irregular stopping patterns Greatest frequency at Porter, S. Acton, Littleton/495
1	Pulse (Base)	Porter Square, Waltham: 5 Belmont-W. Concord (All Other): 3 S. Acton, Littleton/495: 5 Ayer-Wachusett: 4	Logical schedulesGreater frequency
2	High Frequency	Waltham, S. Acton, Littleton/495: 6 All Other: 4	 Logical schedules with greater frequency 2 trains/hour travel between Littleton/495 and turn at Alewife, making all stops.
3	Skip Stop	Porter Square: 7 Waltham, Littleton/495: 9 Wachusett, S. Acton: 6 All Other: 4	 Each train serves every other stop 2 trains/hour travel between Littleton/495 and turn at Alewife, making all stops.
4	Zonal Express	Porter Square-Waverley: 6 Waltham: 10 S. Acton: 8 All Other: 4	 Wachusett service zonal express between South Acton, Waltham, Alewife, and Boston Half of South Acton local trains turn at Alewife Local service between Waltham and Alewife
5	Zonal Express with Electrification and Urban Rail	Porter Square-Brandeis/Roberts: 6 I-95 Station: 10 S. Acton, Littleton/495: 8 All Other: 4	 Similar to Concept 4 Electrifies line to Littleton Urban Rail to new station near I-95 (Waltham/Weston) connecting to Alewife
6	Connection with Sullivan Square	Porter Square, I-95 Station: 10 Belmont-Brandeis/Roberts: 6 S. Acton: 8 All Other: 4	 Similar to Concept 5 but adds station and connection to Orange Line at Sullivan Square
7	Zonal Express with Electrification	Porter Square, I-95 Station, S. Acton, Littleton/495: 8 All Other: 4	 Similar to Concept 5 with no connection at Alewife, all trains serve Porter and North Station instead EMUs between Littleton and North Station



Fitchburg Line Key Performance Metrics

Major **Travel Time Savings** Frequency Connectivity Equity Ridership on Line **Capital Costs Operating Costs** Infrastructure 0% 31 0 No Build Station and track 28.1% 1 Pulse (Base) 8.6 upgrades 24.6% 2 High Frequency 8.6 Station and track 3 Skip Stop 10.4% 41.7% 11.2 upgrades, new Alewife connection **4 Zonal Express** 8.6 147 11.5% 51.9% Above, plus **5 Zonal Express** electrification, new vehicle fleet, new Iwith Electrification, 12.3% 53.7% 179 10.1 95/Rte 20 Station **Urban Rail** Station and track upgrades, new I-95/ 6 Connection with 14.5% 9.2 139 55.0% Rte 20 station, new Sullivan Square Sullivan Sq. station Same as Concept 5, 7 Zonal Express 14.6% 54.3% 10.1 except no Alewife with Electrification connection



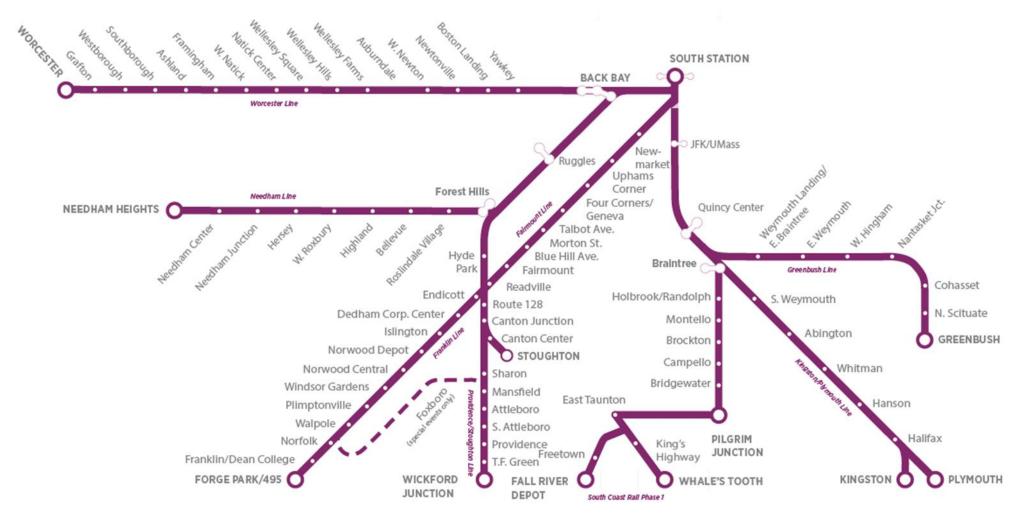


South Side





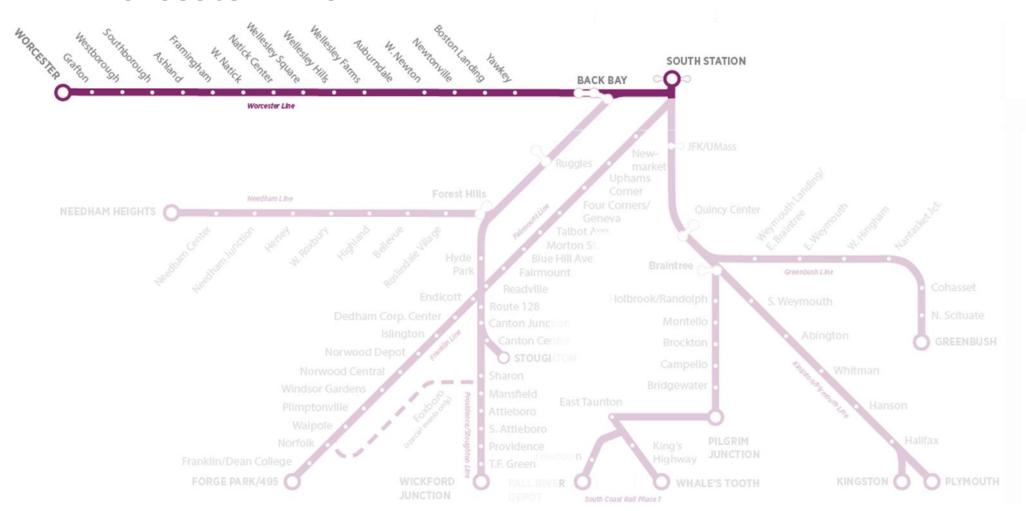
South Side Lines







Worcester Line

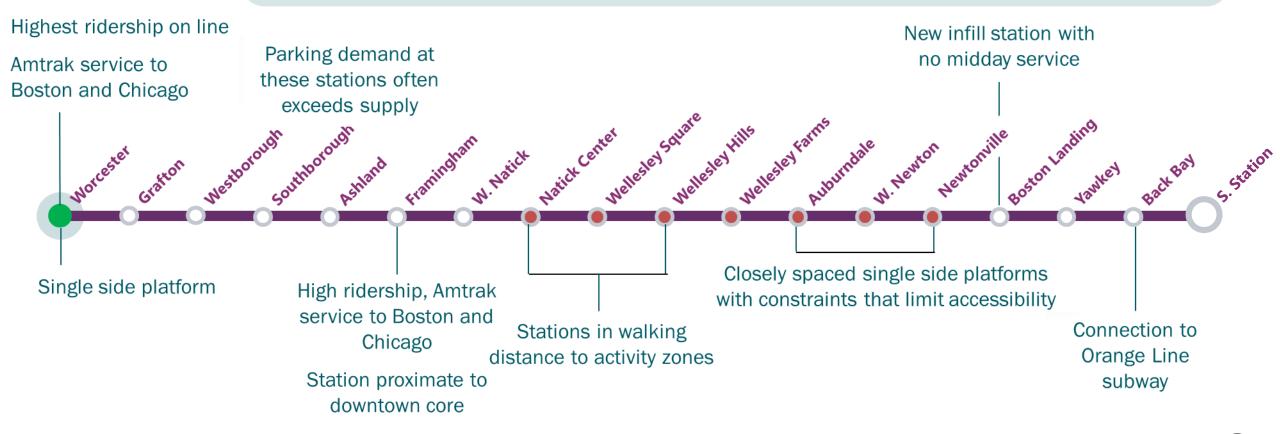






Worcester Line Existing Conditions

- Second highest ridership line and one of the longest lines in the system.
- Serves communities to the west of Boston, parallel to the Massachusetts Turnpike (I-90).
- Long corridor serves different needs within it, from closely spaced, capacity constrained inner stations to suburban commuter stations to Worcester and Framingham, two of the Commonwealth's largest residential and employment centers outside Boston.











Worcester Line Concept Matrix

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0	No Build	Framingham, W. Natick, Yawkey, Back Bay: 3-4 All Other: 1-2	Maintains current express/zonal express
1	Pulse (Base)	Worcester, Framingham, Yawkey, Back Bay: 5 W. Natick: 4 All Other: 2	 Logical schedules Greater frequency Maintains express/zonal express structure, with more service beginning in Worcester
2	Electrify Line	Same as Concept 1	Similar to Concept 1Electrifies entire line
3	Skip Stop	Worcester, Framingham, Yawkey, Back Bay: 5 W. Natick: 4 All Other: 1	 Each train serves every other stop Transfers to all services available at Framingham and West Natick stations
4	Urban Rail, Interline Riverside to Grand Junction (7.5 min freq.)	Worcester-Ashland: 2 Framingham, W. Natick, Yawkey, Back Bay: 6 Natick Ctr-Riverside: 4 Auburndale-Boston Landing: 8 West Station: 10 Grand Junction: 4	 Retains express/zonal express between Worcester and South Station New Riverside connection Urban rail service between Riverside and Grand Junction to Cambridge
5	Urban Rail, Interline Riverside to Grand Junction (15 min freq.)	Worcester-Ashland: 2 Framingham, W. Natick, Yawkey, Back Bay: 4 Natick Ctr-Riverside: 2 Auburndale-Boston Landing: 4 West Station: 6 Grand Junction: 2	Similar to Concept 4 but with lower frequencies between Riverside and Boston



Worcester Line Key Performance Metrics

Major Infrastructure

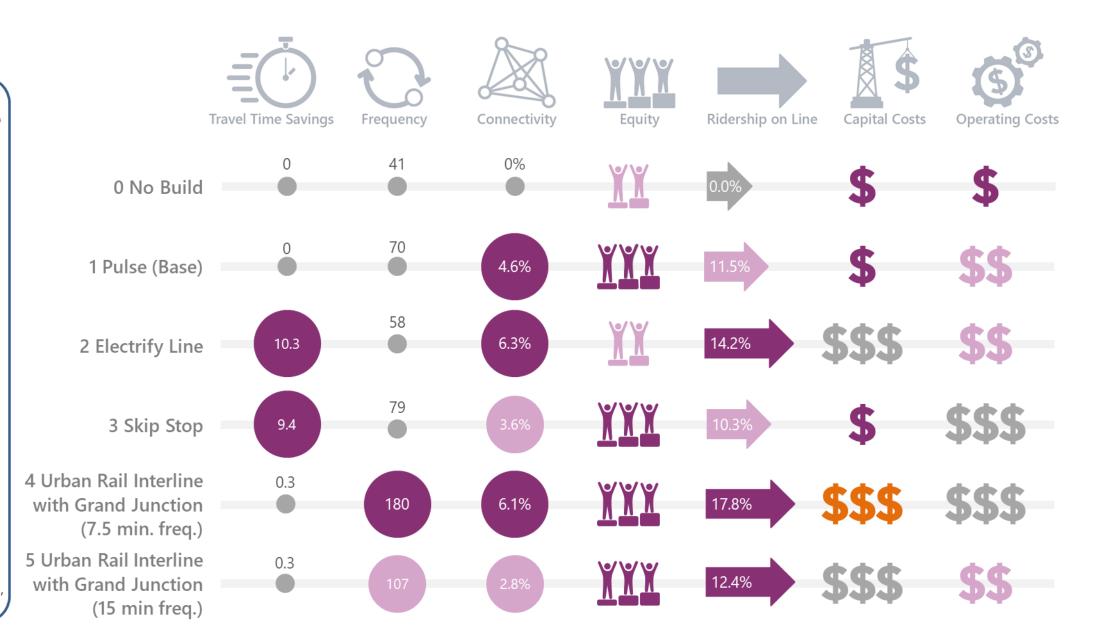
2nd platform at Newton stations

Above plus Electrification, new vehicle fleet

2nd platform at Newtons, siding at Auburndale

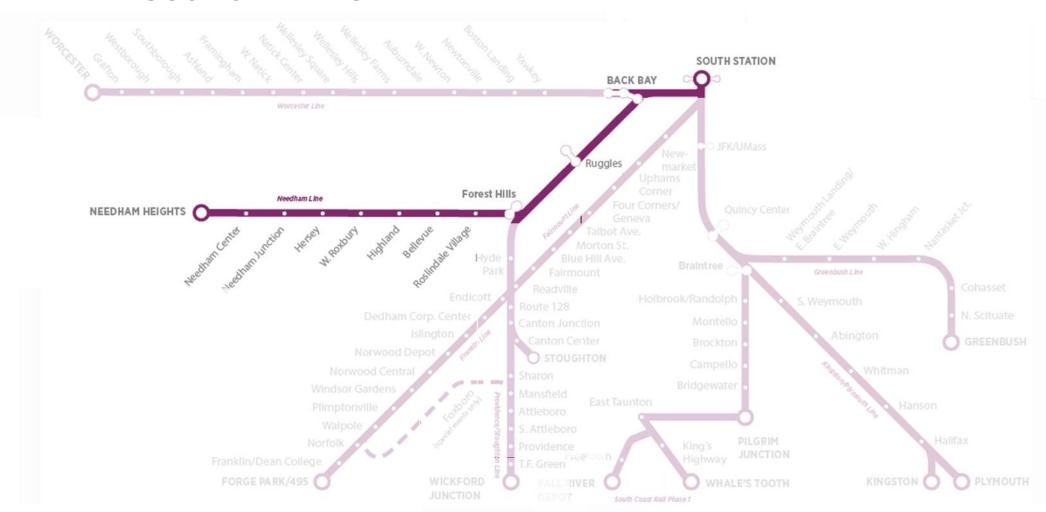
Above plus 4 tracks through Newtons, electrification, new Riverside connection, upgrade to Grand Junction

2nd platform at Newtons, electrification, new Riverside connection, upgrade to GJ





Needham Line

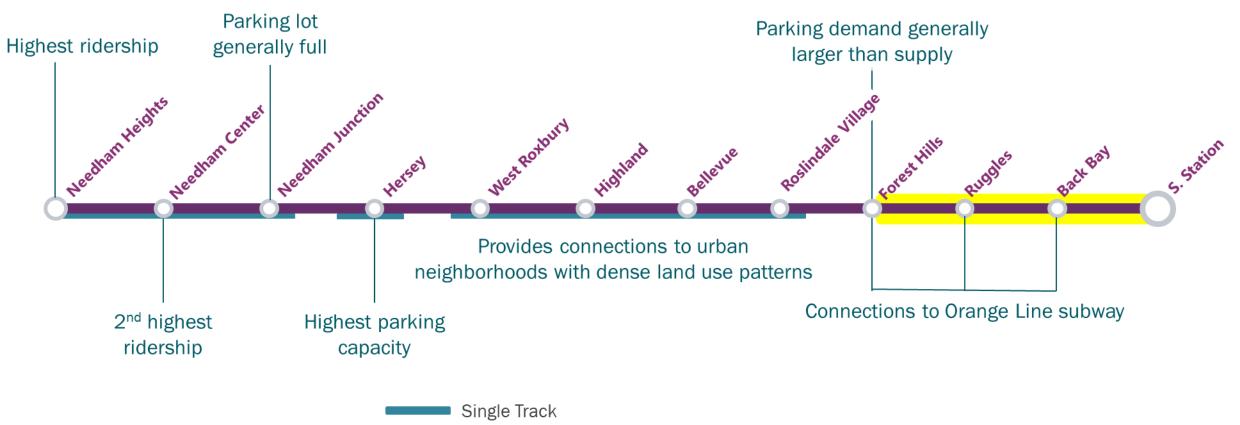






Needham Line Existing Conditions

- Parallels Orange Line between Boston and Forest Hills. No Sunday service.
- One of the shortest commuter rail lines, only 14 miles in length.
- Shares a busy section of track between Forest Hills and South Station, sharing various sections with the Orange Line, Franklin Line, Providence/Stoughton Line, and Amtrak.







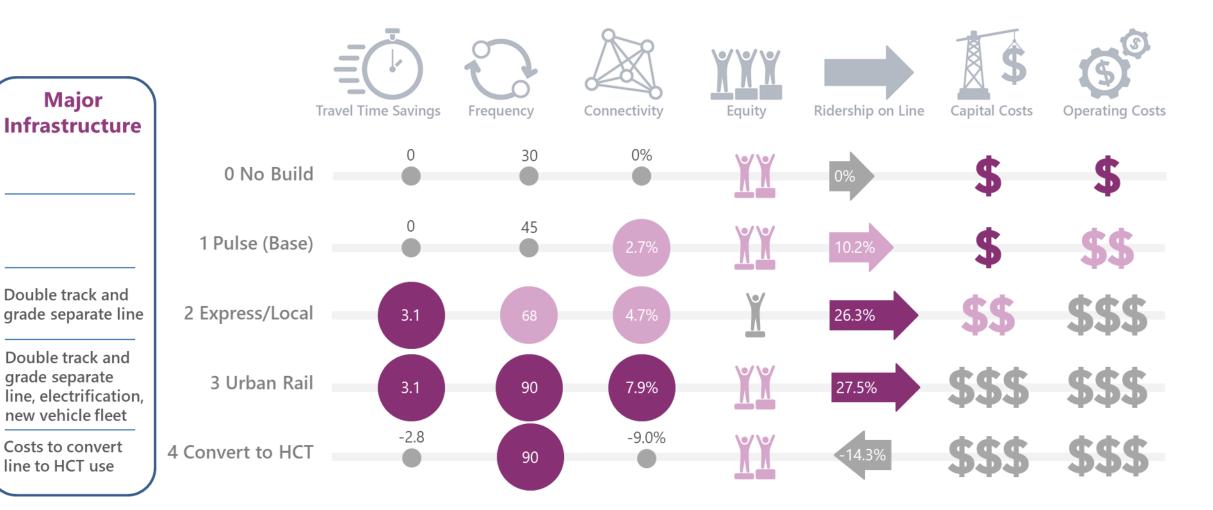
Needham Line Concept Matrix

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Highland	
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Needham Junction	
Needhah Center	
Needhan Center	

ID	CONCEPT	PEAK TRAINS/HOUR	NOTES
0	No Build	1-2	
1	Pulse (Base)	2	Logical schedulesGreater frequency
2	Express/Local	Needham Heights, Needham Ctr: 4 Needham Jct-Roslindale Village: 2 Forest Hills-Back Bay: 4	 Not quite a zonal express, this concept runs some express trains from Needham Center to Forest Hills Other trains run local service at same frequencies as Concept 1
3	Urban Rail	4	Electrifies entire line
4	Convert to High- Capacity Transit	НСТ	Serves corridor with an alternative high- capacity transit mode to Forest Hills



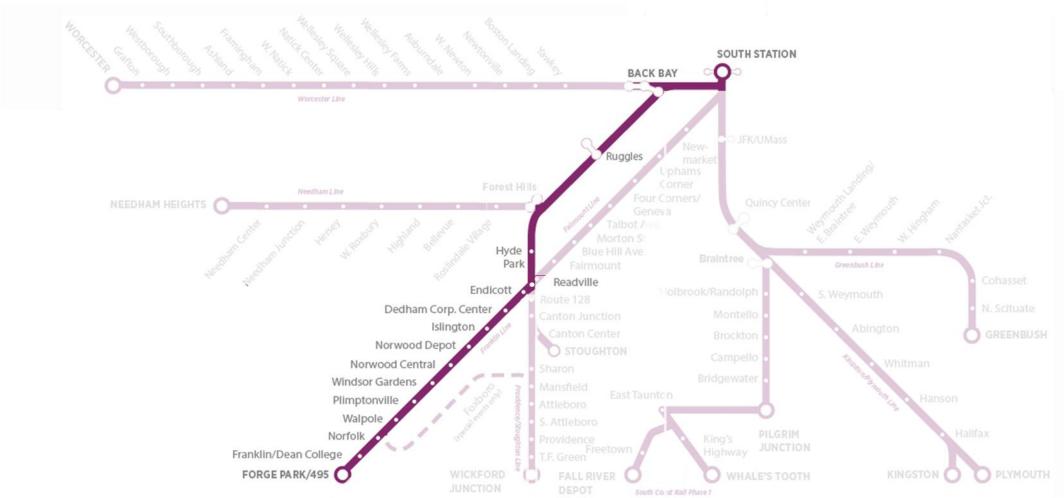
Needham Line Key Performance Metrics



HCT = High-Capacity Transit



Franklin Line

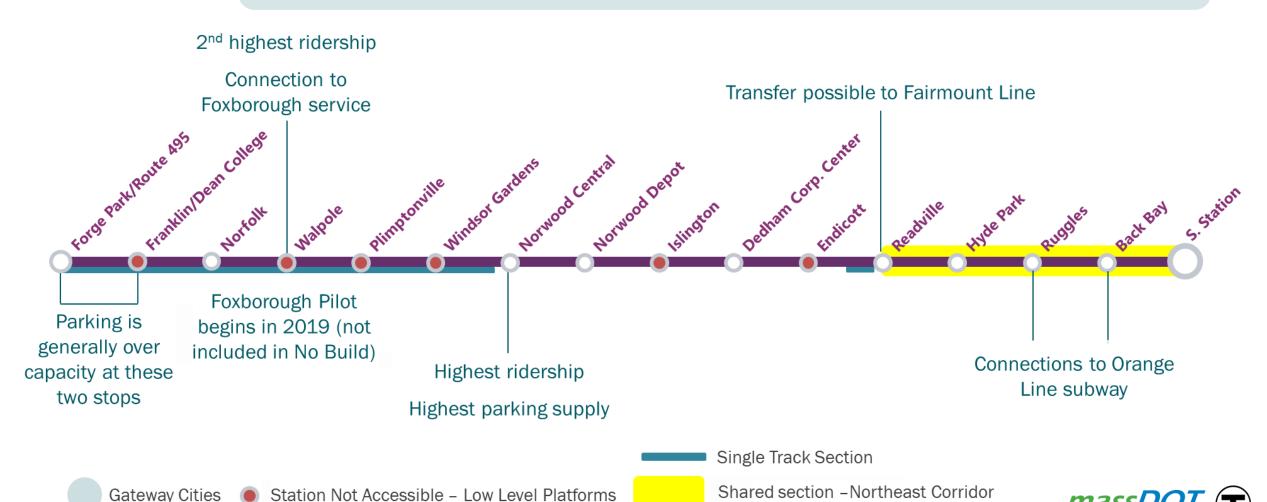






Franklin Line Existing Conditions

- Limited special event service to Foxborough
- Long sections of single track, with many at-grade crossings and low-level platforms







VISION Franklin Line Concept Matrix

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ID	CONCEPT	PEAK TRAINS/HOUR	NOTES
0	No Build	1-3	Irregular stopping patterns
1	Pulse (Base)	Forge Park/495-Norfolk: 2 Walpole-Back Bay: 4	Logical schedulesGreater frequency
2	Zonal Express	Walpole, Norwood Central: 4 Dedham Corp. Ctr: 4 Back Bay, Ruggles: 4 All Other: 2	 Provides more express service between high ridership stations, including Boston Greater frequency at higher ridership stations
3	Electrify Line	Same as Concept 1	Electrifies entire line
4	Zonal Express, Interline with Fairmount	Forge Park/495-Norfolk: 2 Windsor Gardens, Norwood Central: 2 Norwood Depot, Dedham Corp. Ctr: 6 All Other: 4	 Additional frequency at higher ridership stations Some service interlines with the Fairmount Line at Readville



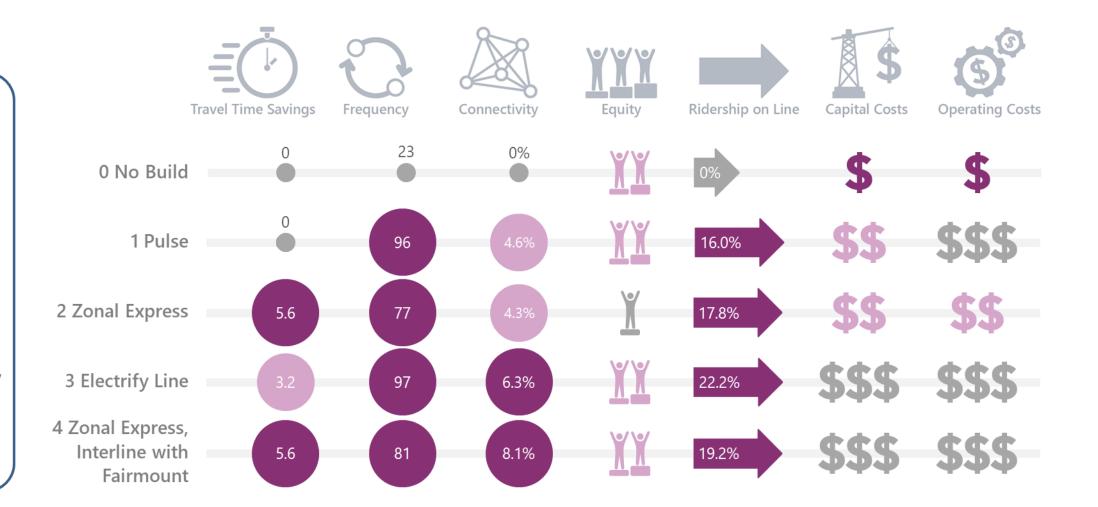
Franklin Line Key Performance Metrics

Major Infrastructure

Station upgrades, double track Norwood Central to Walpole

Above, plus electrification, new vehicle fleet

Station upgrades, double track, plus major upgrades to Readville





Providence/Stoughton Lines

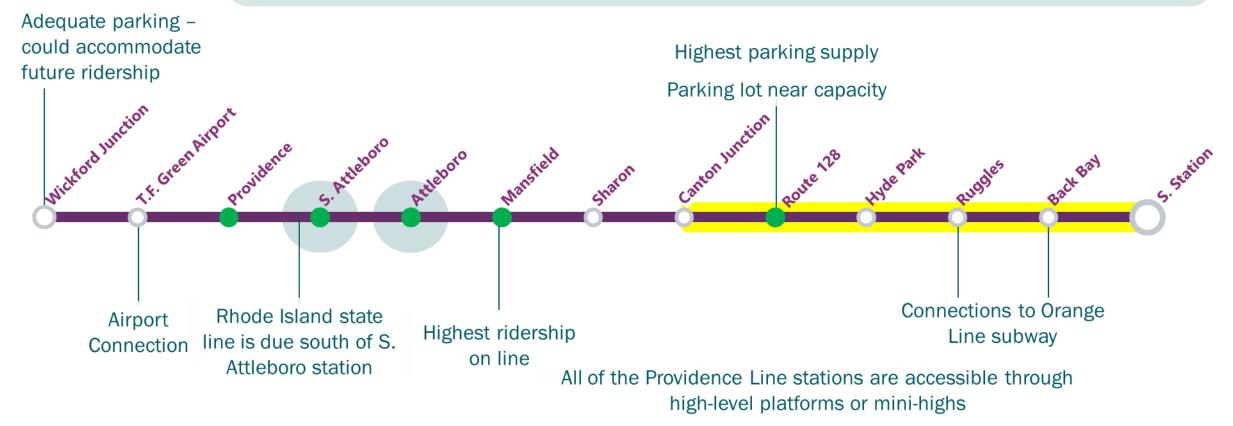






Providence Line Existing Conditions

- The Providence Line sees the highest ridership on the commuter rail system 5 of the 10 highest ridership stations on the system are on this line. At 63 miles, it is also the longest line.
- This line lies within the Northeast Corridor, which has been electrified by Amtrak for Acela service
- Shared corridor with Stoughton Line from Canton Junction to South Station and with Needham and Franklin from Readville to South Station

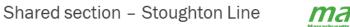












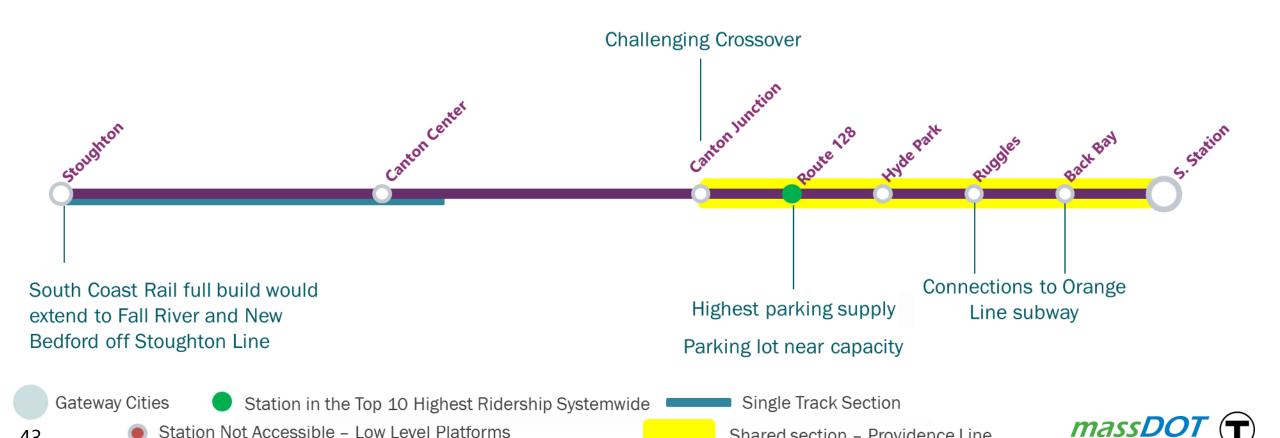




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Stoughton Line Existing Conditions

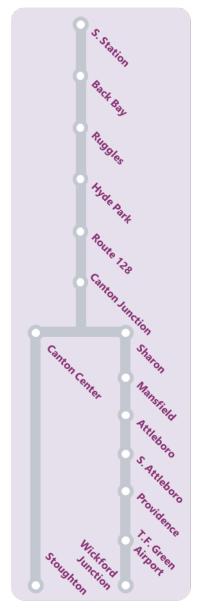
 Capacity constraints include single track sections, parking lots that are nearing capacity, and a challenging crossover at Canton Junction



Shared section - Providence Line



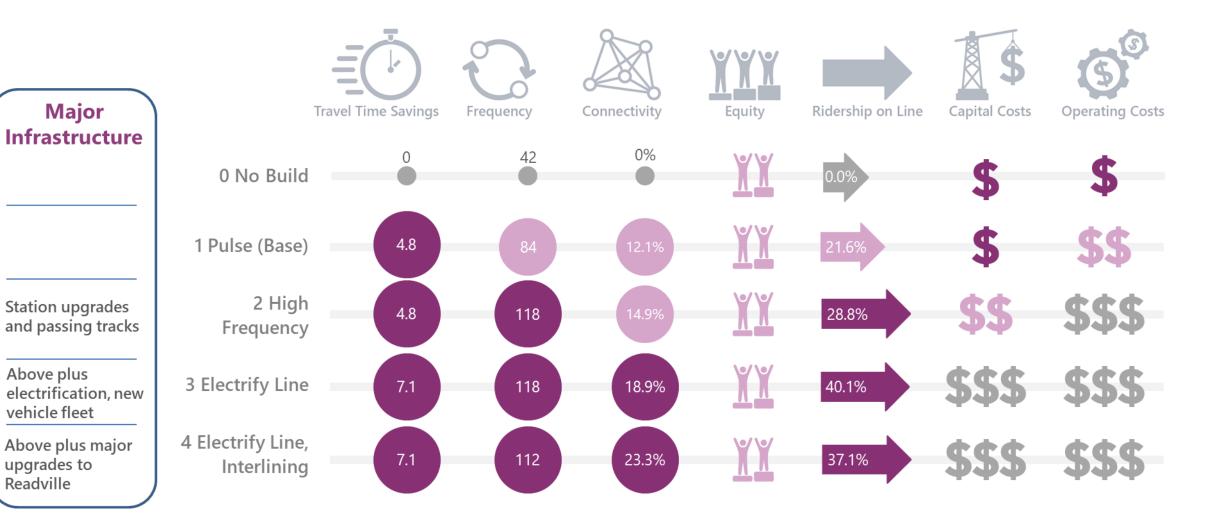
Providence/Stoughton Lines Concept Matrix



ID	CONCEPT	PEAK TRAINS/HOUR	NOTES
0	No Build	Wickford Jct., TF Green: 1 Providence-Sharon: 1-3 Stoughton, Canton Ctr: 1 Canton Jct-Back Bay: 2-4	
1	Pulse (Base)	Wickford Jct., TF Green: 2 Providence-Sharon: 4 Stoughton-Ruggles: 2 Readville: 4 Back Bay: 6	Logical schedulesGreater frequency
2	High Frequency	Wickford Jct., TF Green: 2 Providence-Sharon: 4 Stoughton-Ruggles: 4 Readville: 6 Back Bay: 8	 Logical schedules Greater frequency on Stoughton Line during peak and on both lines off-peak
3	Electrify Line	Same as Concept 2	Electrifies entire line
4	Electrify Line, Interline Stoughton with Fairmount	Wickford Jct., TF Green: 2 Providence-Sharon: 4 Stoughton-Route 128: 4 Readville, Back Bay: 6 Hyde Park, Ruggles: 2	 Similar to Concept 3 Half of Stoughton service interlines with Fairmount Line



Providence/Stoughton Lines Key Performance Metrics



Above plus

vehicle fleet

upgrades to

Readville



Fairmount Line







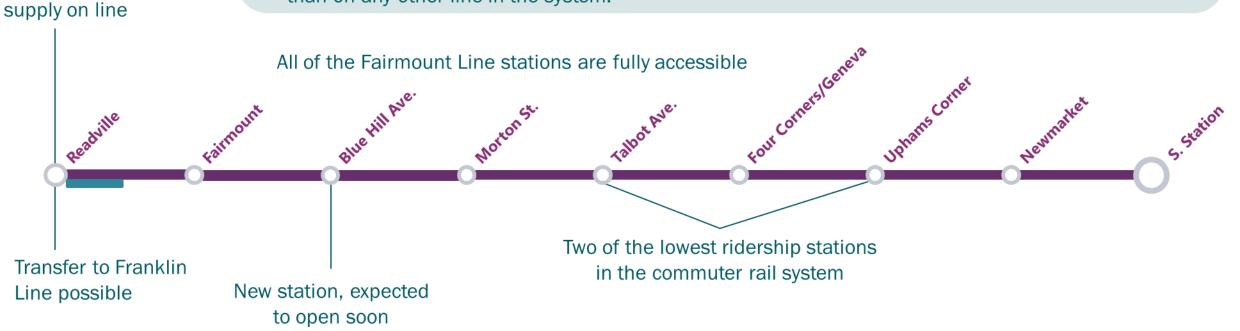
Highest ridership

and largest parking

Fairmount Line Existing Conditions

- All stations except Readville are within Zone 1A and the entire line is under 10 miles long, all double track.
- Fewest number of stations for any line on the South Side (same number as Lowell on North Side).
- Lowest line ridership of all commuter rail lines.
- This line serves low-income communities.
- Higher percentage of intra-line trips are taken on this line (local travel between intermediary stations) than on any other line in the system.

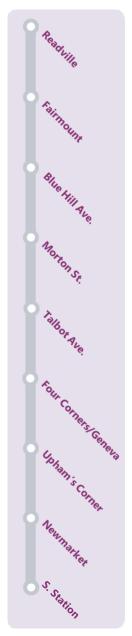
Single Track Section







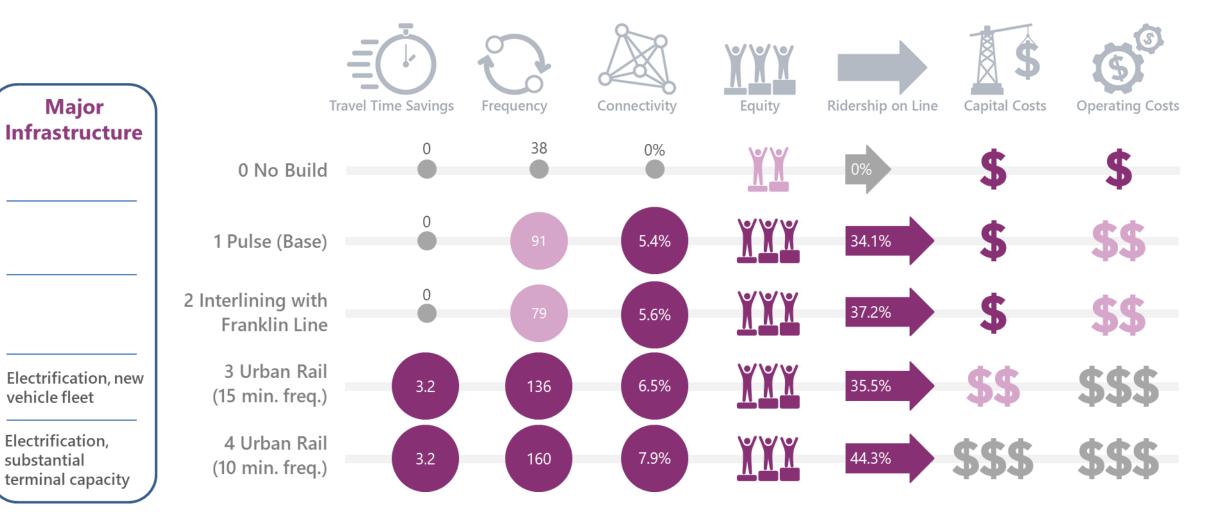
RAIL VISION Fairmount Line Concept Matrix



ID	CONCEPT	PEAK TRAINS/HOUR	NOTES
0	No Build	1-2	 Includes construction and operations at Blue Hill Ave Station (to be opened in 2019)
1	Pulse (Base)	4	Logical schedulesGreater frequency
2	Interlining with Franklin Line	4	 Pulse service, interlining half of service with the Franklin Line
3	Urban Rail	4	Electrifies entire line
4	Urban Rail with Higher Frequencies	6	 Similar to Concept 3 but provides 10 minute all-day service frequency

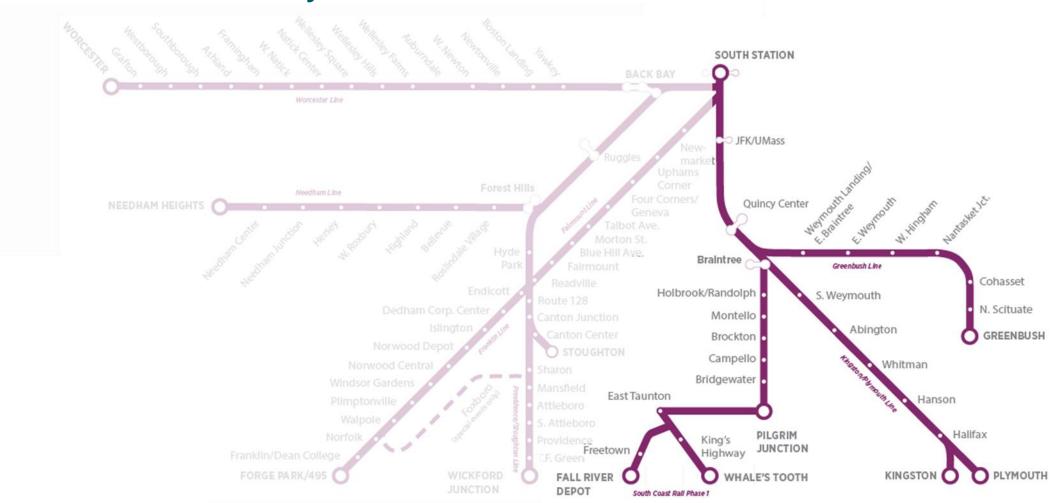


Fairmount Line Key Performance Metrics





Old Colony Lines

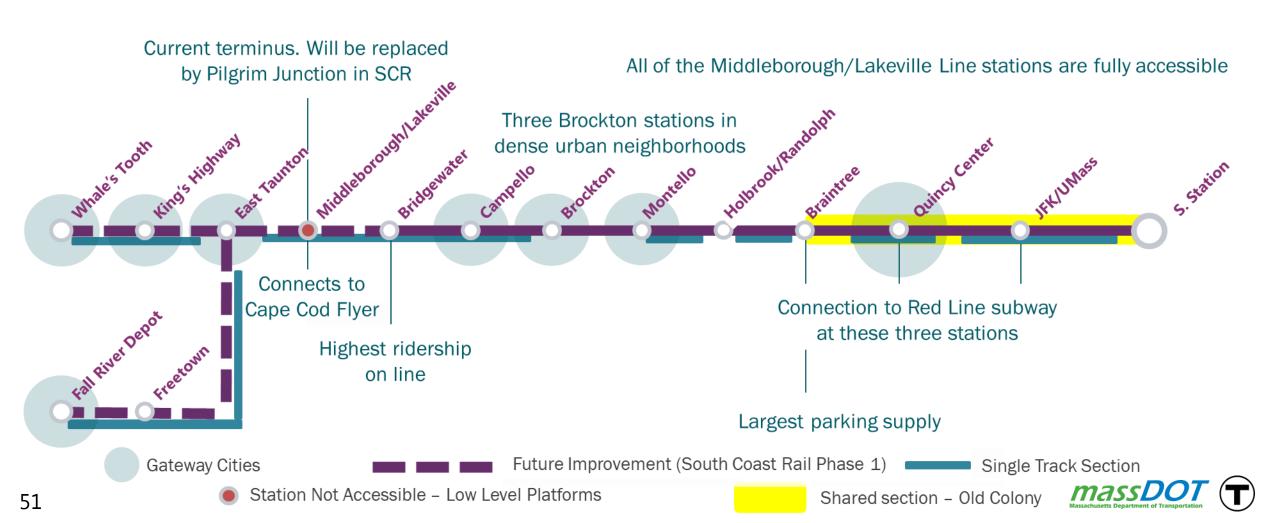






Middleborough/Lakeville Line Existing Conditions

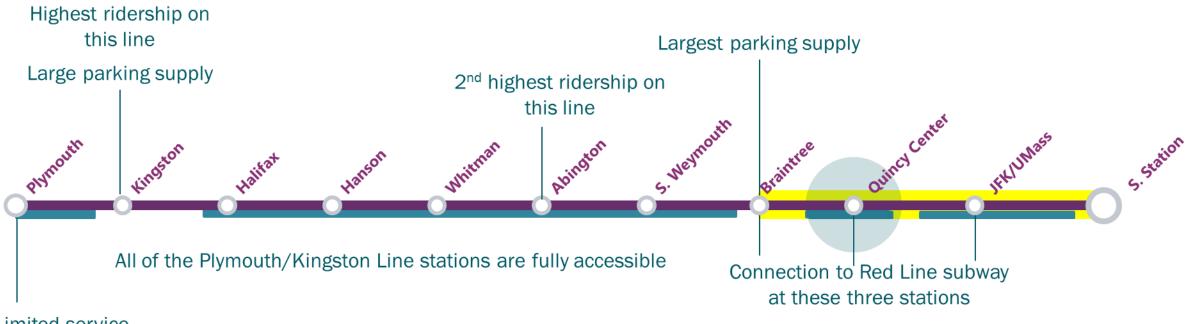
- This line will serve as the foundation for South Coast Rail Phase 1.
- Single track sections between Braintree and South Station cause reliability concerns.
- Line is used by Cape Cod Flyer, which continues south of Middleborough/Lakeville to Buzzards Bay.





Plymouth/Kingston Line Existing Conditions

- · There is no freight activity on this corridor.
- Of the two termini, Kingston has much higher ridership. Plymouth's station location is difficult for many, ridership is low, and service is provided mainly in the off-peak.
- Single track sections between Braintree and South Station cause reliability concerns.



Limited service and low ridership at this station

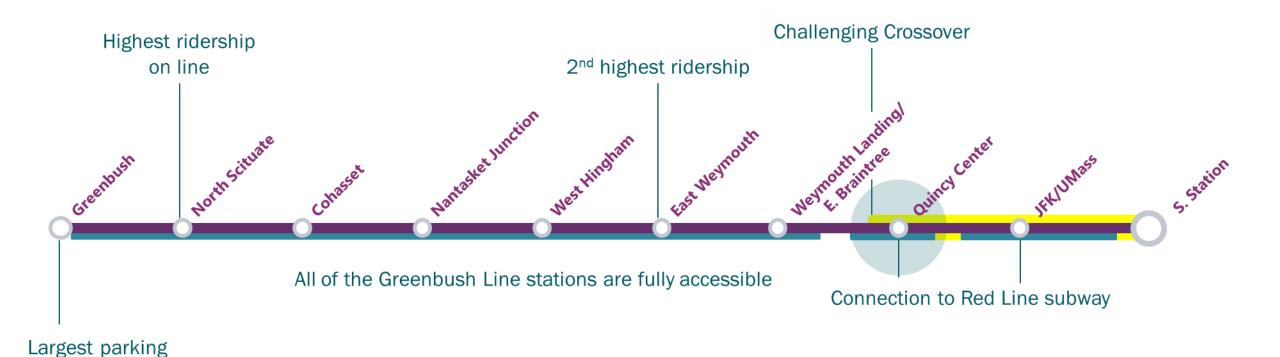






Greenbush Line Existing Conditions

- Parking areas south of Braintree have ample capacity
- Much of this corridor is single track, and single track sections between Braintree and South Station cause reliability concerns





supply









Shared section - Old Colony

Single Track Section





RAIL VISION Old Colony Lines Concept Matrix

ID	CONCEPT	PEAK TRAINS/HOUR	NOTES
0	No Build	1-2	 Irregular stopping patterns at some stations
1	Pulse (Base)	SCR Phase 1 Branches: 1 Kingston, Plymouth: 1 Braintree: 5 All Other : 2	 Logical schedules Greater frequency One train per hour on Greenbush Line turns at Braintree
2	Skip Stop	SCR Phase 1 Branches: 1 E. Taunton, Pilgrim Jct: 2 Middleborough/Lakeville: 2 Bridgewater, Kingston, Greenbush: 4 Braintree: 8 All Other: 3	 Each train serves every other stop One train per hour on each line turns at Braintree – all other trains continue to South Station
3	Skip Stop/ Interlining Focus	Same as Concept 2, except: Braintree: 6	 SCR trains continue to South Station Half of all other trains turn at Braintree
4	Electrify Line	Same as Concept 3	 Electrifies the entire line(s) Similar to Concept 3, with added direct service between Middleborough and South Station
5	Forced Transfer	Same as Concept 2	 Similar to Concept 3, except that all Greenbush and Kingston/Plymouth trains turn at Braintree

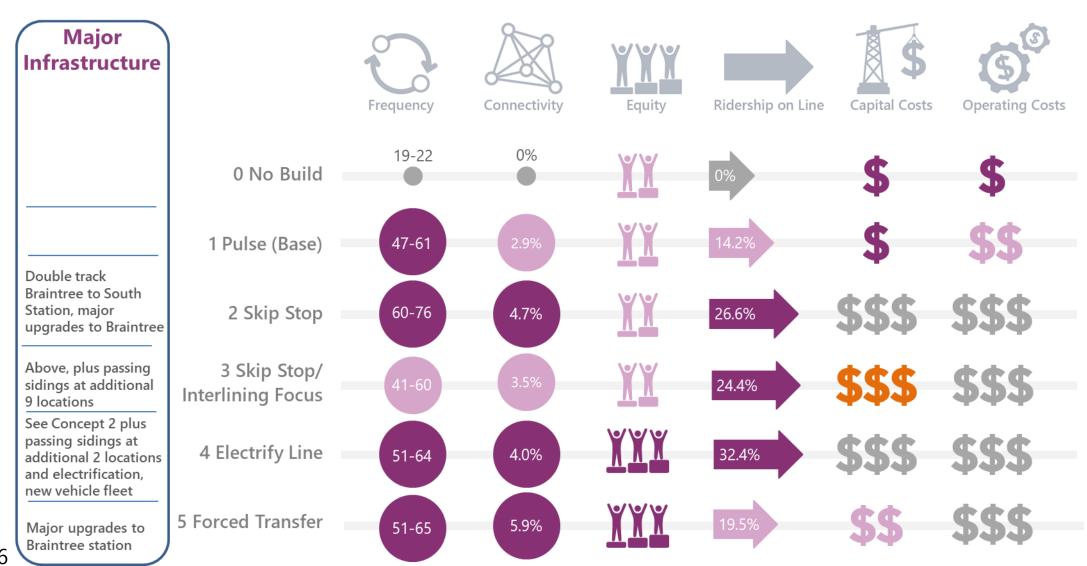


Old Colony Line Travel Time Savings Metrics





Old Colony Line Other Key Performance Metrics





Next Steps

- Review feedback from Advisory Committee and FMCB on Tier 1 evaluation
- Create systemwide alternatives by linking individual service concepts
- Recommend up to 8 service alternatives to carry into Tier 2
- Seek public comment on the draft service alternatives before entering Tier 2

