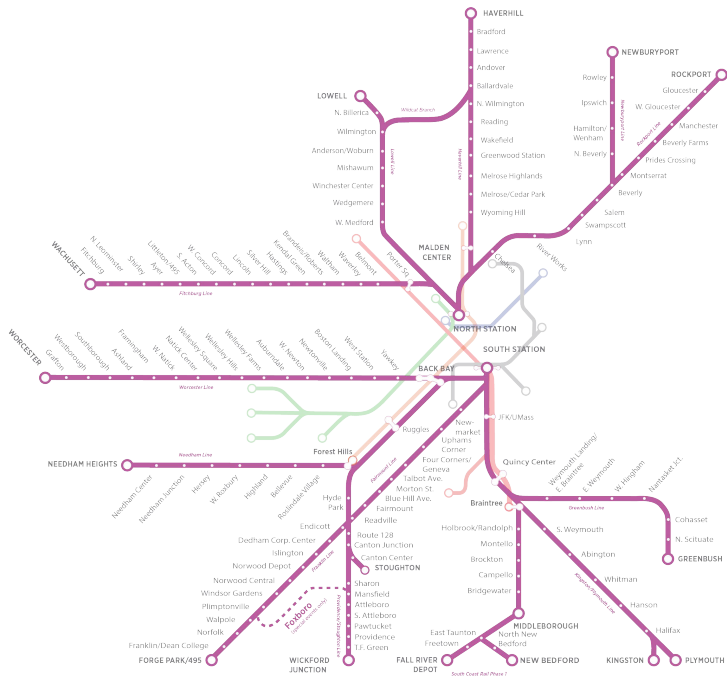


# ALTERNATIVE 1

## About Rail Vision

Rail Vision identifies cost-effective strategies to transform the Commuter Rail into a system that better supports improved mobility and economic competitiveness in Greater Boston. The Rail Vision team is evaluating the costs and benefits of 7 possible service alternatives.

## Alternative 1: Optimize Current System



This alternative focuses on improving the current system by providing predictable, frequent, **bi-directional service\*** where major infrastructure investments would not be needed to do so.

**\*With bi-directional service**, the same number of trains run inbound as they do outbound.

### Benefits

- **More predictable service:** More consistent schedules that make it easier to plan trips
- **Easier reverse commutes:** Bi-directional service makes it easier to make trips during peak travel times in off-peak directions
- **Lower cost:** Modest investments to infrastructure that measurably improve customer experience

### Trade-offs

- Less frequent service as compared to some of the other alternatives
- Limited service and infrastructure improvements

# Service Features

## Frequency

- Every 30 minutes to all stations during peak service
- Every hour to all stations during off-peak service

## Connections

- On the Haverhill Line, some trains would connect to the Lowell Line
- More frequent connections between Fairmount and Franklin lines

## Accessibility

Stations where there are plans for accessibility updates will get **high-level boarding platforms**.\*

## Electrification

This alternative does not include electrification.

## Expansion

**South Coast Rail Phase 1:** Extend Middleborough Line to Taunton, Fall River, and New Bedford

\***High-level platforms** enable level boarding at every door, which improves accessibility and reduces overall boarding time for all customers.

# Other Rail Vision Alternatives

Alternative 1 is just 1 of the 7 proposed futures for the Commuter Rail. Download the other alternatives below, or learn more at [mbta.com/railvision](https://www.mbta.com/railvision).

Alternative 1

Alternative 4

Alternative 7

Alternative 2

Alternative 5

Alternative 3

Alternative 6