

## Regional/Urban Rail Transformation

**Boston MPO Transit Working Group** 

Alistair Sawers, Director for Rail Transformation March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021

### Agenda

- Service driven transformation
  - Goals
  - Service Concepts
  - Objectives
  - Resulting Program
  - Illustrative Timeline
- First Steps
  - Service changes and planning
  - Providence Line EMU Pilot
- Building partnerships
- Spring Regional Rail Schedule Keolis





### Goals from Rail Vision study



Match service with growth & changing needs of the region



Enhance economic vitality



Improve passenger experience



Provide an equitable and balanced suite of investments



Achieve climate change and sustainability targets



Maximize return on investments



### **Service Concepts**



- Regional rail
  - "Clock face" scheduling
  - Local service
    - All day bi-directional service
    - 20-30 minute headways
  - Express service
    - Non-stop or skip-stop peak service
    - · Focused on peak demand
- Urban rail
  - Inside Route 128/I-95
  - High frequency bi-directional service
  - 15-20 minute headways
  - · Rapid transit fare structure



### **Objectives**

#### **FMCB** Transformation resolution

- Phase One transformation of:
  - Providence Line Regional rail
  - · Fairmount Line Urban rail
  - Boston to Lynn (EJ Line) Urban rail
- Dense corridors:
  - 15-20 min headways
- Others:
  - "Appropriately scheduled" all day service
- Largely electrified
- Integrated with bus/subway
- Improved parking & first/last mile connections
- Include high level accessible platforms
- · Start with business case & schedule

#### Phase One



### Resulting Program Scope

#### **Operations**

- Service Planning
  - · Journey time improvements
  - · Easier connections
  - · Schedule integration with bus
- Fares
  - Targeted Products
- Frictionless transfers
  - · Fare integration with first/last mile
  - Single media AFC 2.0
- Improved Customer information
- · Key Performance data gathering
  - · Monitor delivery of goals
- Rolling Stock
  - · Continued enhanced cleaning
  - Improved on board experience & facilities with new equipment

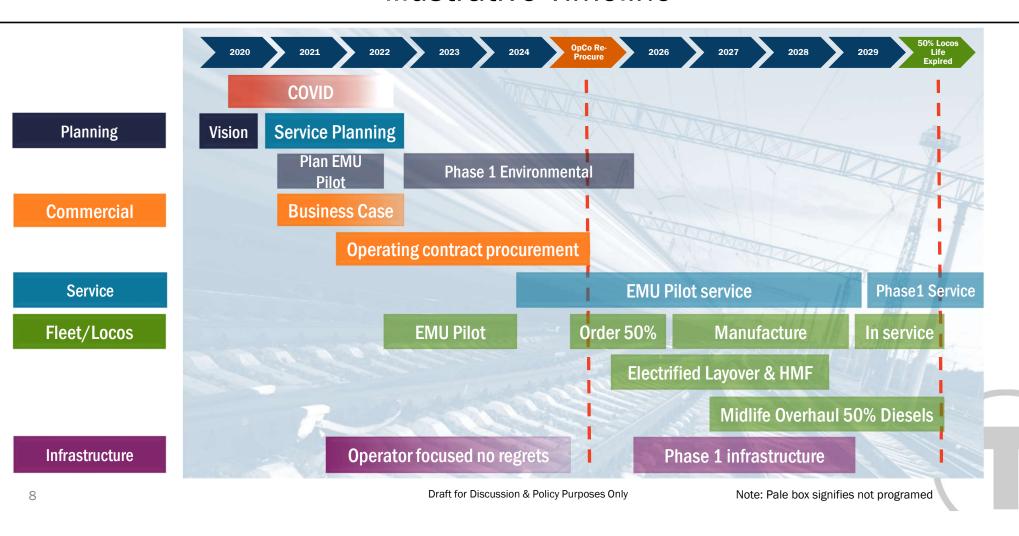
#### Infrastructure

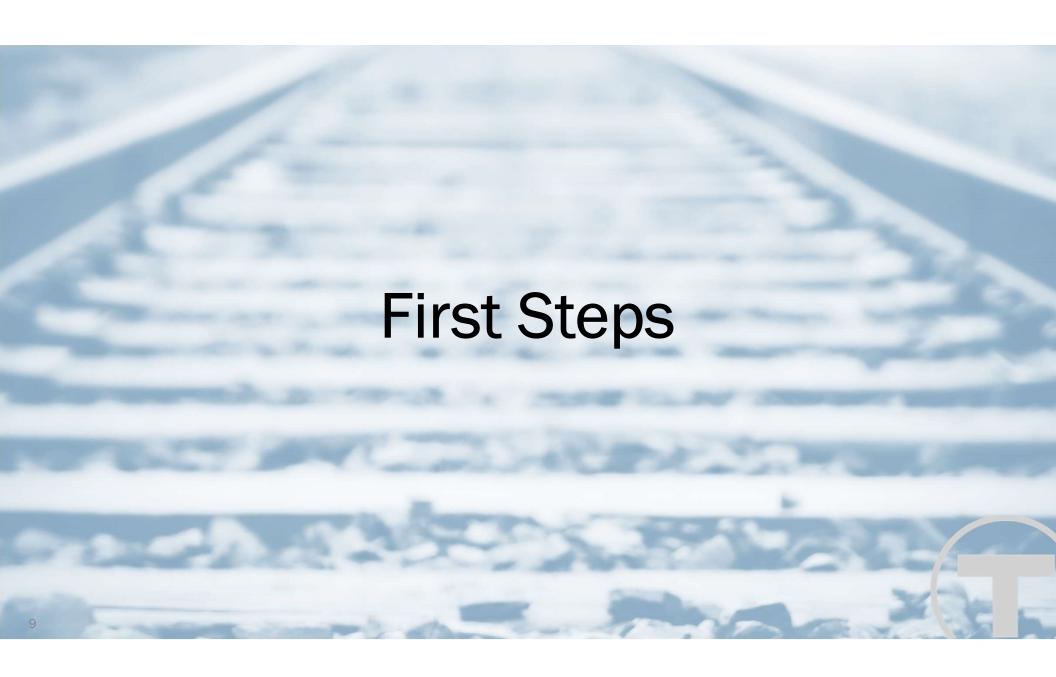
- Stations
  - Bus stops & drop off facilities
  - · Pedestrian & bike access, wayfinding
  - · High level platforms & accessibility improvements
  - · State of good repair & brightening
  - Parking Auto & bicycle
- Transit Oriented Development
  - Land
  - Mitigations
- Network improvements
  - Turn tracks
  - · Drawbridge replacement
  - Double & Triple Track
  - Signal improvements
  - Grade Crossing improvements/new grade separation
- Electrification
  - Elimination of bridge clearance issues
  - · Power feeds & facilities
  - Mix of battery and catenary



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#### Illustrative Timeline





### Steps in 2021

#### **Come Back Better**

- Continuous service planning for existing diesel push-pull equipment
  - · Close to clock face all-day spring schedule
  - · Investigate where and when to add more service
  - · Monitor demand
- Develop bus integration plans over summer
- Marketing planning (jointly with Keolis)
  - · Branding & defining new product
  - · Customer polling and outreach
  - · Updated fare products
- Develop no regrets investments in network and stations
  - · To eliminate constraints on headways or journey time
  - To improve connections
- EMU Pilot feasibility and procurement planning
  - · Develop proposed approach and explore funding options
  - · Test out potential of new service to deliver improvements

#### **Planning**

- Transformation Business case
- Updated Service Planning
  - · Update strategy from Rail Vision
  - · EMU Pilot service plan
  - Electric/Battery/Bimode service plan
- Detailed technology & electrification study
  - Technology survey
  - · Segment specific whole life cost comparison
  - Rail decarbonization roadmap
  - · EMU pilot electrification needs
- Fleet & Facilities study
  - Overall fleet strategy, leasing options
  - · Layover and maintenance needs



#### Providence Line EMU Pilot

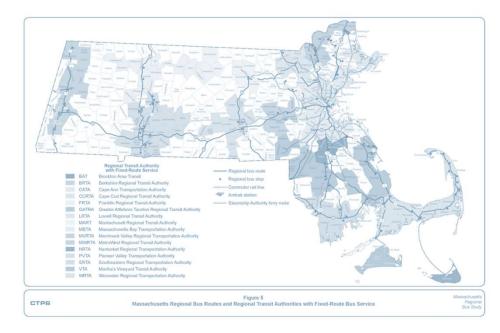
- Providence Line already electrified to Providence
  - Missing 1.7-mile gap at Attleboro station is being filled
  - · Potential need for additional feeder supply is being modelled
- Acquire or lease existing Buy America compliant rolling stock
  - · Study potential modifications required to infrastructure
  - Investigate major procurements that have unneeded options which may be transferable
- Layover & maintenance facility
  - · Explore interim light maintenance options
  - Develop plans to electrify existing layover at Pawtucket
- Coordinate with Amtrak





## How can you help?

- Customer outreach
- Schedule coordination
- Potential fare collaboration
- Share Ideas
  - Service modifications/ innovations
  - Fare pilots (like Brockton pilot)
  - Station facility/drop off improvements
  - Proactive approach to TOD and mitigations
- Perhaps via Quarterly Advisory panel or consultation group?

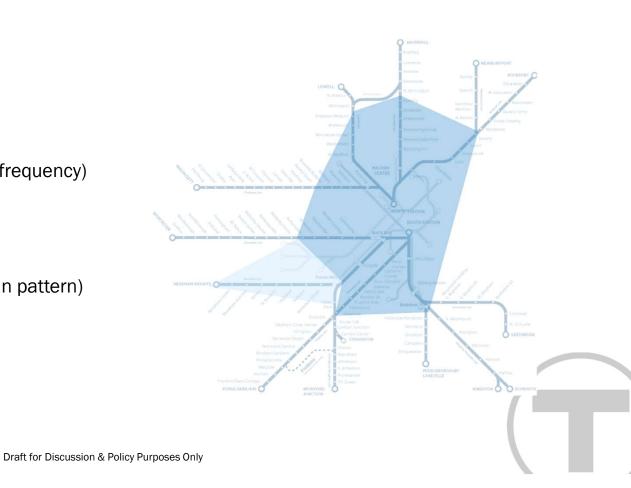






## Rail Vision - Urban Rail concept

- Urban rail to route 128 with turns at:
  - Beverly
  - Reading (or new I-93)
  - Anderson/Woburn
  - Brandeis (or new I-95)
  - New Riverside or Framingham (lower frequency)
  - Readville (all of Fairmount line)
- Single service pattern on
  - Providence/Stoughton
  - Needham (possible extension of Urban pattern)
  - Franklin
  - Old Colony and SCR Phase 1



# Target Headways (min)

Line/ Segment	2021 Clockface?	Spring 2021 Peak	Spring 2021 Off-Peak	Transformation Peak	Transformation Off- Peak		
Beverly (Urban rail)	00	30	30	15	15		
Newburyport	<b>(</b> )	60	90	30	60		
Rockport	•	60	90	30	60		
Providence	<b>(</b> )	60	60	30	30		
Stoughton	•	60	120	30	60		
Fairmount	0	45	45	15	15		
Worcester - key stations - local service (urban or zonal)	Ø (9 (b)	30 60	60 60	15 30	15 60		
Franklin	<b>(</b> )	60	60 (to Walpole) 120 (beyond)	30	60		
Needham	•	60	60	15-30	15-60		
Haverhill		45	45 (to Reading) 90 (beyond)	15-30	15-60		
Lowell (plus Nashua/Manchester)	Off peak	45	60	15-30	15-30		
Fitchburg	<b>O</b>	60	60	15 (to Brandeis)	15 (to Brandeis) 30 (beyond)		
Middleborough (plus Fall River/SCR)		60	70-80	30-45	60-90		
Kingston		60	70-80	30	60		
Greenbush		60  Draft for Discussion & P.	70-80	30	60		

#### Notes

- **Bold** indicates Transformation Phase 1
- Transformation headways purely indicative
- Middleborough impacted by South Coast Rail Phase 1
- Worcester line includes express, zonal local/express and urban local services to reduce journey time



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### **Clock face Schedules**

- Beverly inbound example
  - 30 minute headway
  - 20 minutes and 50 minutes past the hour 6:20am-4:20pm

NEWBURYPORT/ROCKPORT LINE 2021 Spring Schedule Effective April 5, 2021  Monday to Friday											In	oving response apt our s	to COV	ID-19, we	contin	ue to	B: Due to construction activities for the Gloucester Drawbridge Replacement project, bus shutfles will replace train service between Rockport, Gloucester, West Gloucester (and Manchester on designated outbound trips) on the Rockport Line. On weekends, bus shuttles replace train service between Beverly and all stations on the Rockport Line. Buses may depart intermediate stations in advance of schedule. Bicycles cannot be taken on substitute bus service.													
Inboun	d to Boston		AM											PM																
ZONE STA	ITION 1	TRAIN#	140	100	142	102	144	104	146	106	148	108	150	192	110	152	112	154	114	156	198	116	158	118	160	120	162	122	124	164
8 Roc	kport	6		B 4:58	-	B 6:03	-	B7:03		B 8:03		B 9:03			B 10:33		B 12:03		B 1:33	-		B 3:03	-		-	B 5:33		B7:33	B 8:40	
7 Glo	ucester	6	-	B 5:05	-	B 6:10	-	B 7:10	-	B 8:10	-	B 9:10	-	-	B 10:40		B 12:10	-	B 1:40	-		B 3:10	2		ų.	B 5:40		B 7:40	B 8:47	-
7 Wes	t Glouceste	er 6		5:21		6:26		7:26	-	8:26		9:26	-	-	10:56		12:26		1:56			3:26		-		5:56	-	7:56	9:03	
6 Mar	nchester	6	-	5:28	-	6:33	-	7:33	-	8:33	-	9:33	-	-	11:03	-	12:33	-	2:03	-	-	3:33	-	-	-	6:03	-	8:03	9:10	-
5 Bev	erly Farms	6		5:34	-	6:39		7:39	-	8:39		f 9:39			f 11:09		f 12:39		f 2:09			f 3:39	-			f 6:09		f 8:09	f 9:16	-
4 Mor	ntserrat	6	-	5:40	-	6:45	-	7:45	-	8:45	-	f 9:45	-	-	f 11:15	-	f 12:45	-	f 2:15	-	-	f 3:45	*		-	f 6:15	-	f 8:15	f 9:22	-
8 Nev	buryport	6	4:49	-	5:54		6:54	-	7:54		8:54		9:54	-	-	11:24	-	12:54		2:24		-	3:54	-	5:05	-	6:54	-		9:39
7 Row	rley	6	4:54	-	5:59	-	6:59	-	7:59	2	8:59		f 9:59	-	2	f 11:29	-	f 12:59	-	f 2:29	-	-	f 3:59	2.0	f 5:10	-	f 6:59	2	-	f 9:44
6 lpsv	vich	6	5:00	-	6:05	-	7:05		8:05	-	9:05	-	10:05	-	-	11:35	-	1:05		2:35		-	4:05	-	5:16		7:05			9:50
5 Han	niiton/Wenh	nam 6	5:06	-	6:11	-	7:11		8:11	-	9:11	-	f 10:11	-	-	f 11:41	-	f 1:11		f 2:41		-	f 4:11		f 5:29	-	f7:11	-	-	f 9:56
5 Nor	th Beverly	6	5:10		6:15		7:15		8:15	-	9:15	-	f 10:15		-	f 11:45	-	f1:15		f 2:45			f 4:15		f 5:33		f 7:15	-		f 10:00
4 Bev	erly	6	5:15	5:45	6:20	6:50	7:20	7:50	8:20	8:50	9:20	9:50	10:20	10:50	11:20	11:50	12:50	1:20	2:20	2:50	3:20	3:50	4:20	5:05	5:38	6:20	7:20	8:20	9:27	10:05
3 Sale		6	5:19	5:49	6:24	6:54	7:24	7:54	8:24	8:54	9:24	9:54	10:24	10:54	11:24	11:54	12:54	1:24	2:24	2:54	3:24	3:54	4:24	5:09	5:42	6:24	7:24	8:24	9:31	10:09
	mpscott	6	5:26	5:56	6:31	7:01	7:31	8:01	8:31	9:01	9:31	10:01	10:31	11:01	11:31	12:01	1:01	1:31	2:31	3:01	3:31	4:01	4:31	5:16	5:49	6:31	7:31	8:31	9:38	10:16
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1A Che			5:39	6:09	6:44	7:14	7:43	8:14	8:44	9:13	f 9:43	f 10:13	f 10:43	f 11:13	f 11:43	f 12:13	f 1:13	f 1:43	f 2:44	f 3:14	f 3:44	f 4:14	f 4:44	f5:29	f 6:02	f 6:44	f 7:43	f 8:43		f 10:29
1A Nor	th Station	6	5:53	6:24	6:58	7:29	7:57	8:29	8:58	9:27	9:56	10:28	10:57	11:26	11:58	12:27	1:28	1:57	2:59	3:28	3:57	4:29	4:58	5:44	6:16	6:59	7:57	8:58	10:05	10:43



### Planning Sequence

