

BETTER TRANSIT     **BETTER RHODE ISLAND**

**A TRANSIT MASTER PLAN FOR
RHODE ISLAND**

Public Workshops – Round 1

December, 2018

TODAY'S PRESENTATION

Purpose of the Transit Master Plan

Our Current Transit Network

Market for Transit in RI

Next Steps

Stay Involved:

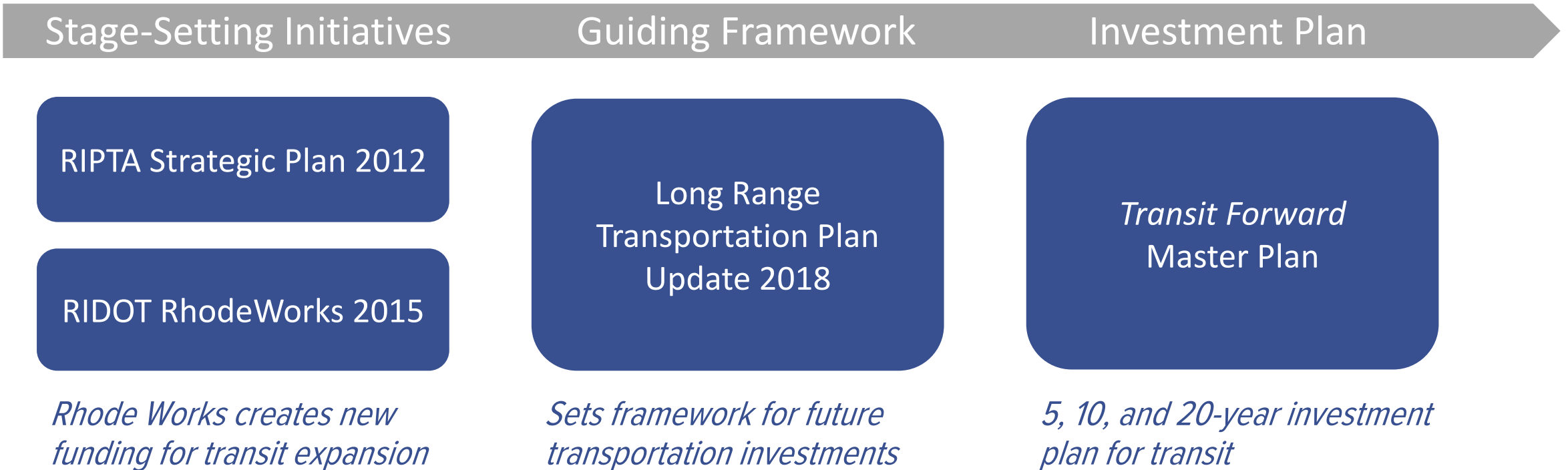
www.TransitForwardRI.com



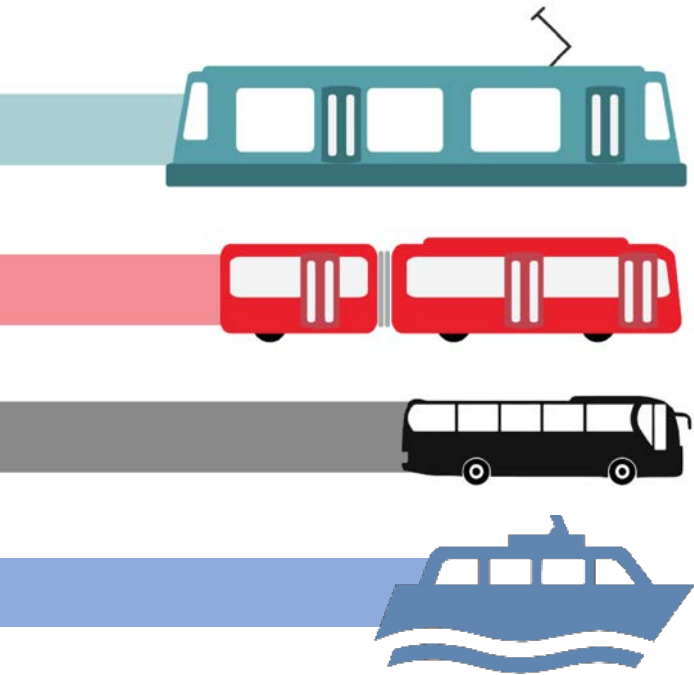
PURPOSE OF THE TRANSIT MASTER PLAN



HOW DOES THE PLAN FITS IN?



QUESTIONS THE PLAN WILL ANSWER



What is Rhode Island's transit vision?

What investments will enable the vision to be achieved?

How can existing funding be maximized?

What are new funding opportunities?

What policies are needed to ensure success?

VISION-BUILDING CONSIDERATIONS

- What are our goals?
- Where are the needs for transit the greatest?
- How might transit evolve over the next 5, 10, 20 years?
- Which transit investments are of most interest to the public?
- Which transit investments would be most efficient? Effective?
- How to invest RhodeWorks funding?
- How much can Rhode Island afford?



Ridership growth?
Regional connectivity?
VMT reduction?
Mode shift?
TOD investment?
Job access?

SCOPE & TIMELINE



Progress to date

WORK DONE TO DATE

- Data Collection
- Created Project Website: www.TransitForwardRI.com
- Initiated Public Engagement
 - Interviews with industry leaders around the state
 - Presentations to local organizations and agencies
- Analysis of Existing Network, Services and Ridership
- Analysis of Market Demand

PURPOSE: ANTICIPATED BENEFITS

- + More competitive cities
- + Better places to live and work
- + Healthy, vibrant, walkable neighborhoods
- + Cleaner air
- + Job growth
- + Enhanced travel options
- + More connected region
- + Social equity
- + Environmental resiliency
- + Safer communities
- + Job access



OUR CURRENT TRANSIT NETWORK



TODAY'S TRANSIT NETWORK

53 RIPTA Routes

7 RIPTA Flex Zones

3 MBTA Commuter Rail Stations

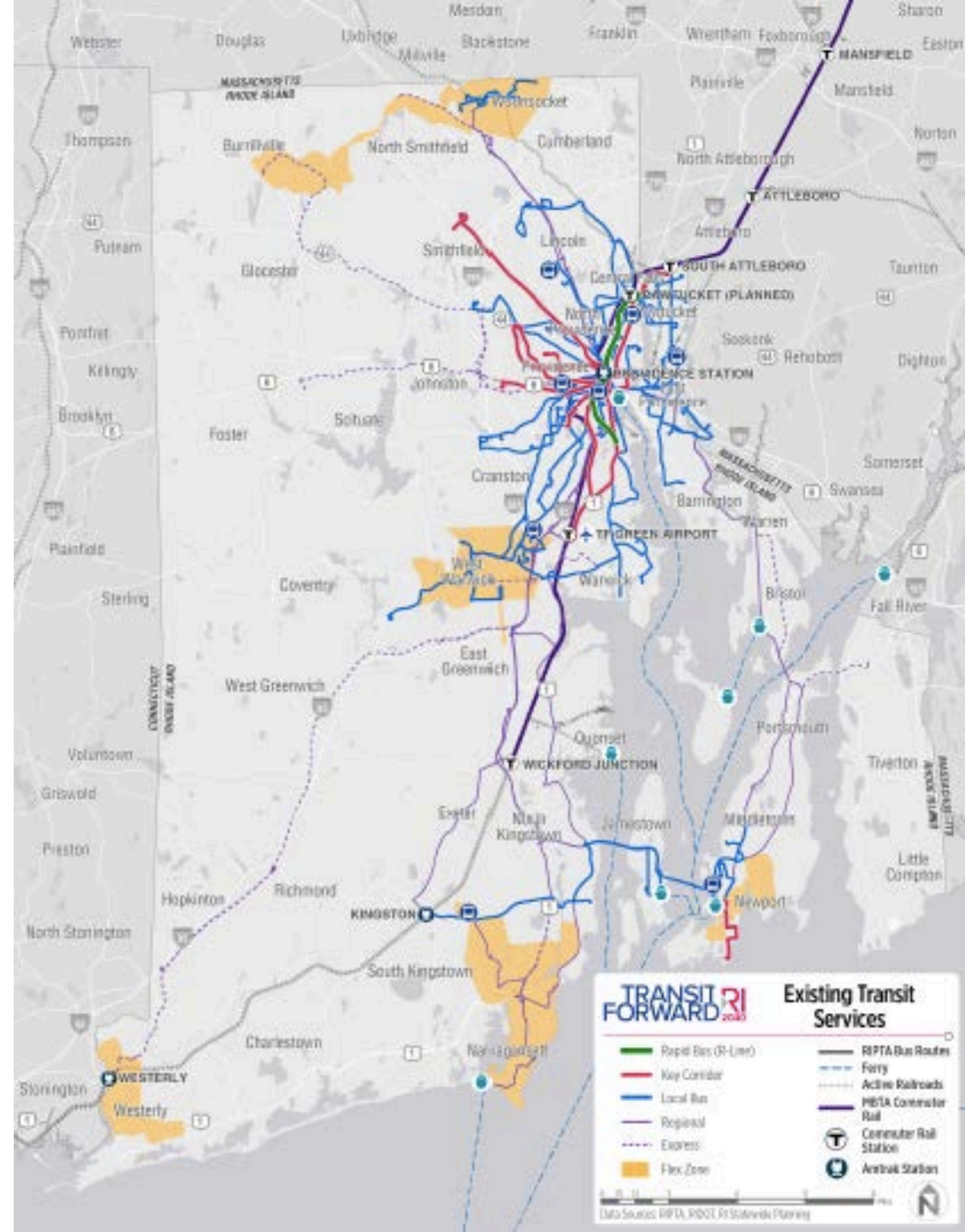
+ 1 in construction

1 Seasonal Public Ferry Route

ADA Paratransit

Amtrak Intercity Rail

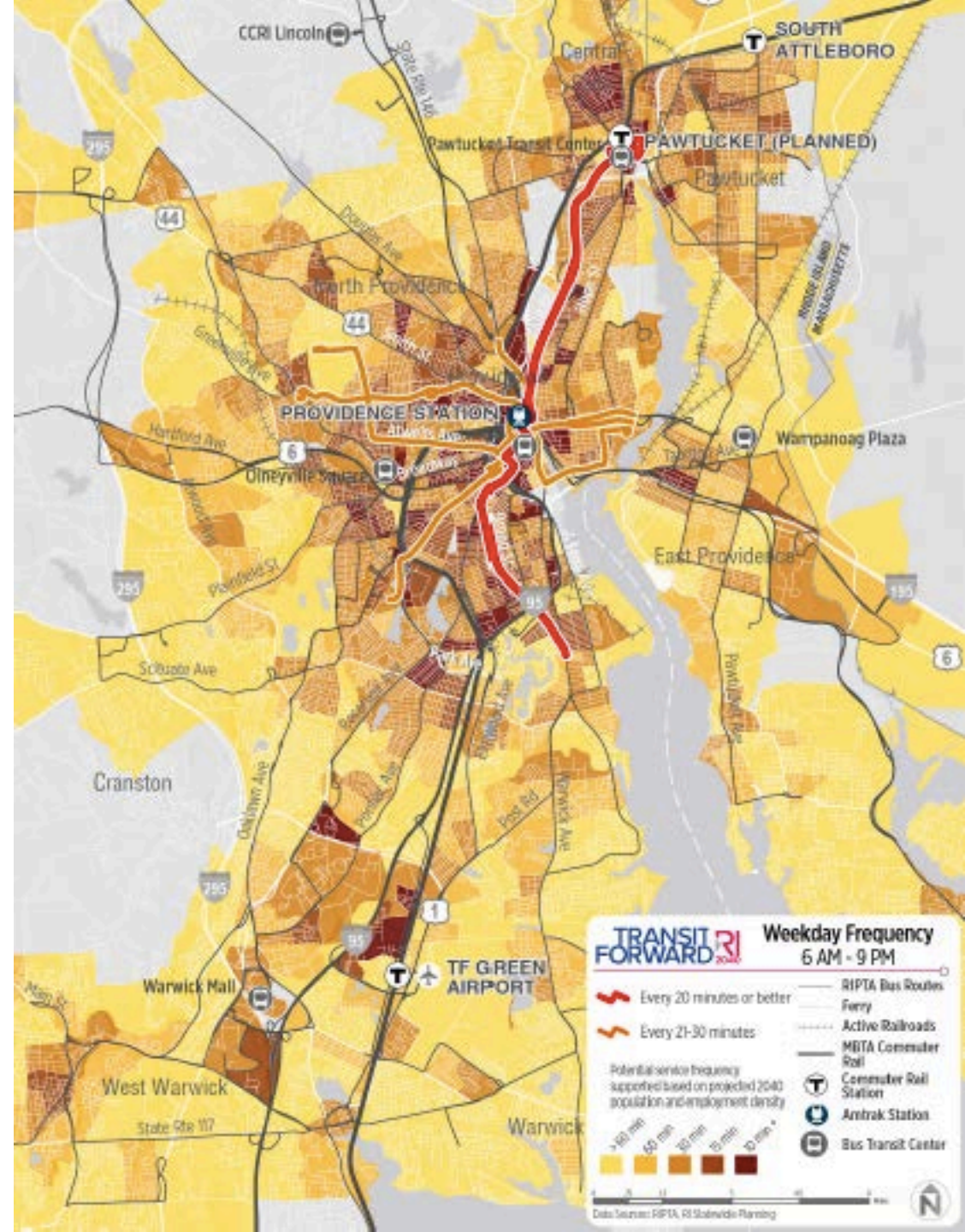
Intercity Bus Connections



FREQUENCY OF SERVICE

The R-Line is the only route with all day frequent service (20 minutes or better), 7 days a week.

- Three other RIPTA routes run 20 minutes or better, but only 6 AM to 6 PM:
 - Route 31 Cranston Street
 - Route 56 Chalkstone Avenue
 - Route 92 RI College - Federal Hill - East Side
- Commuter rail offers
 - 20 roundtrips a day (Providence to Boston)
 - 10 roundtrips a day (Wickford Junction to PVD/Boston)

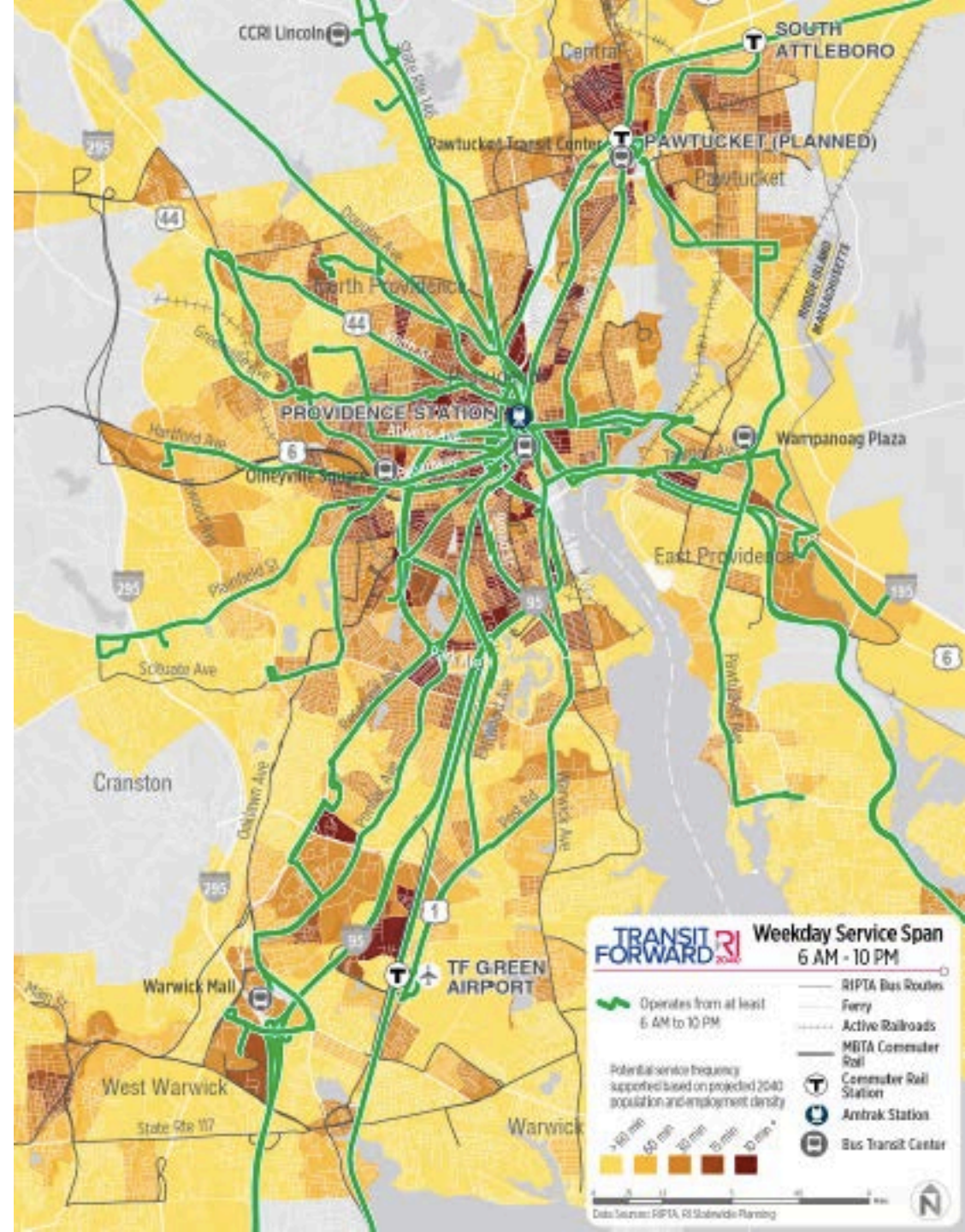


SPAN OF SERVICE

22 RIPTA routes and the MBTA commuter rail line operate from at least 6 AM to 10 PM on weekdays.

But:

- Only 4 RIPTA routes and the MBTA begin service prior to 5 AM
- Only 5 RIPTA routes and the MBTA end after midnight

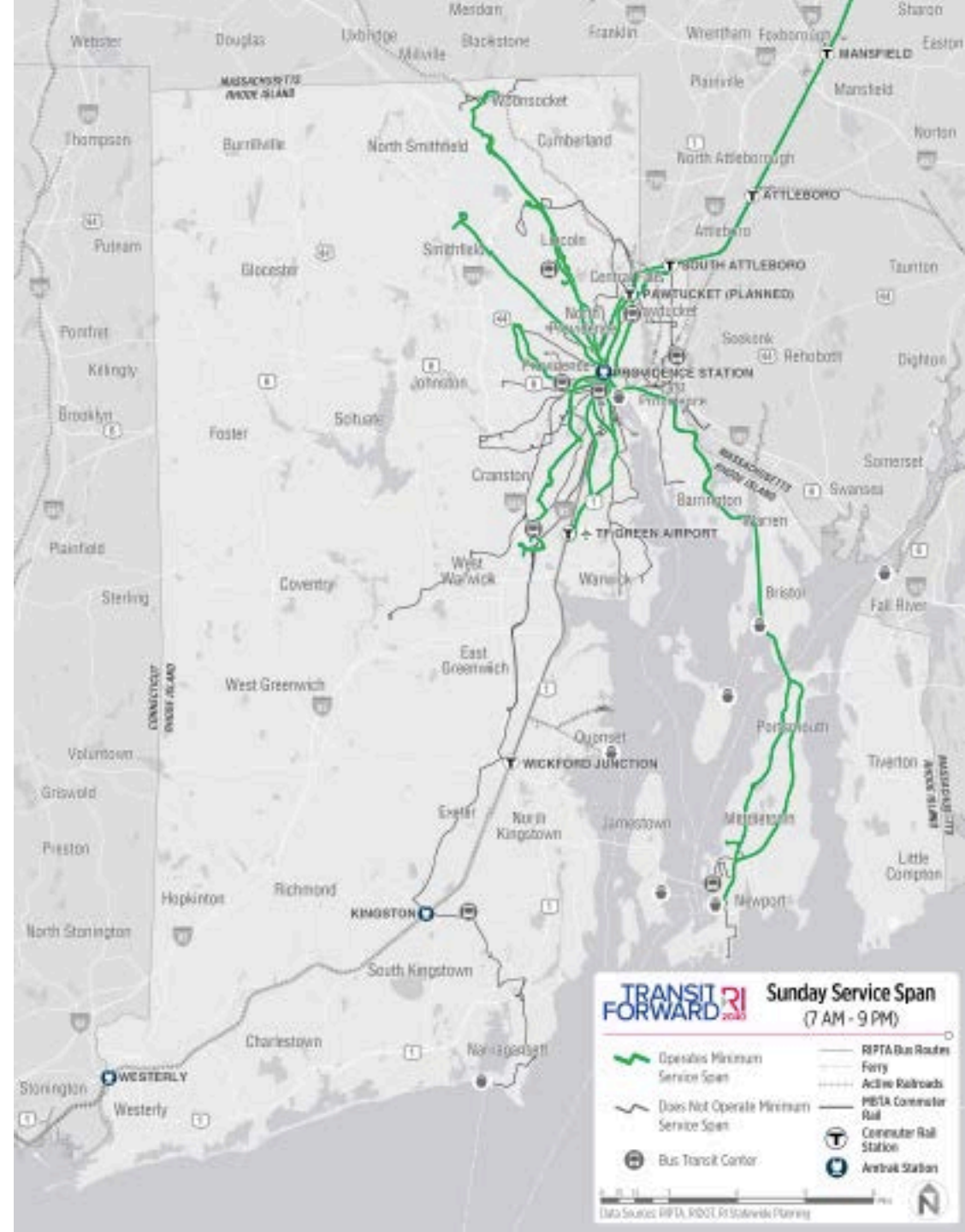


WEEKEND SERVICE

On Saturday, 22 RIPTA routes are in operation at least between 7 AM to 9 PM.

On Sunday, 9 RIPTA routes operate during this period.

Weekend MBTA trains only serve Providence

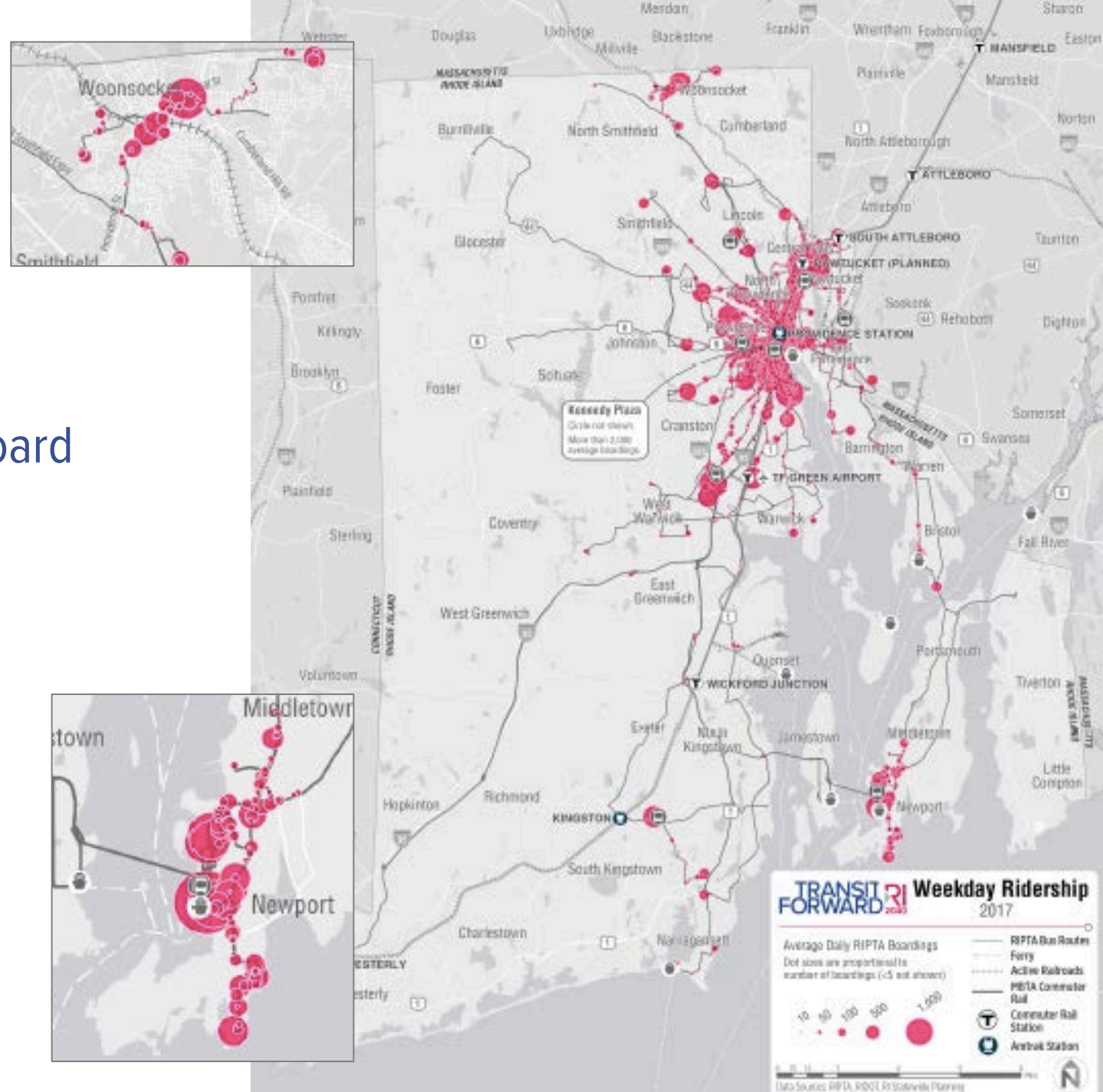


RIPTA RIDERSHIP

RIPTA carried about 52,500 daily passengers in 2017

Four locations had over 1,000 riders board each day:

- Kennedy Plaza
- Pawtucket Transit Center
- Thayer Street/”Top of the Tunnel”
- Warwick Mall

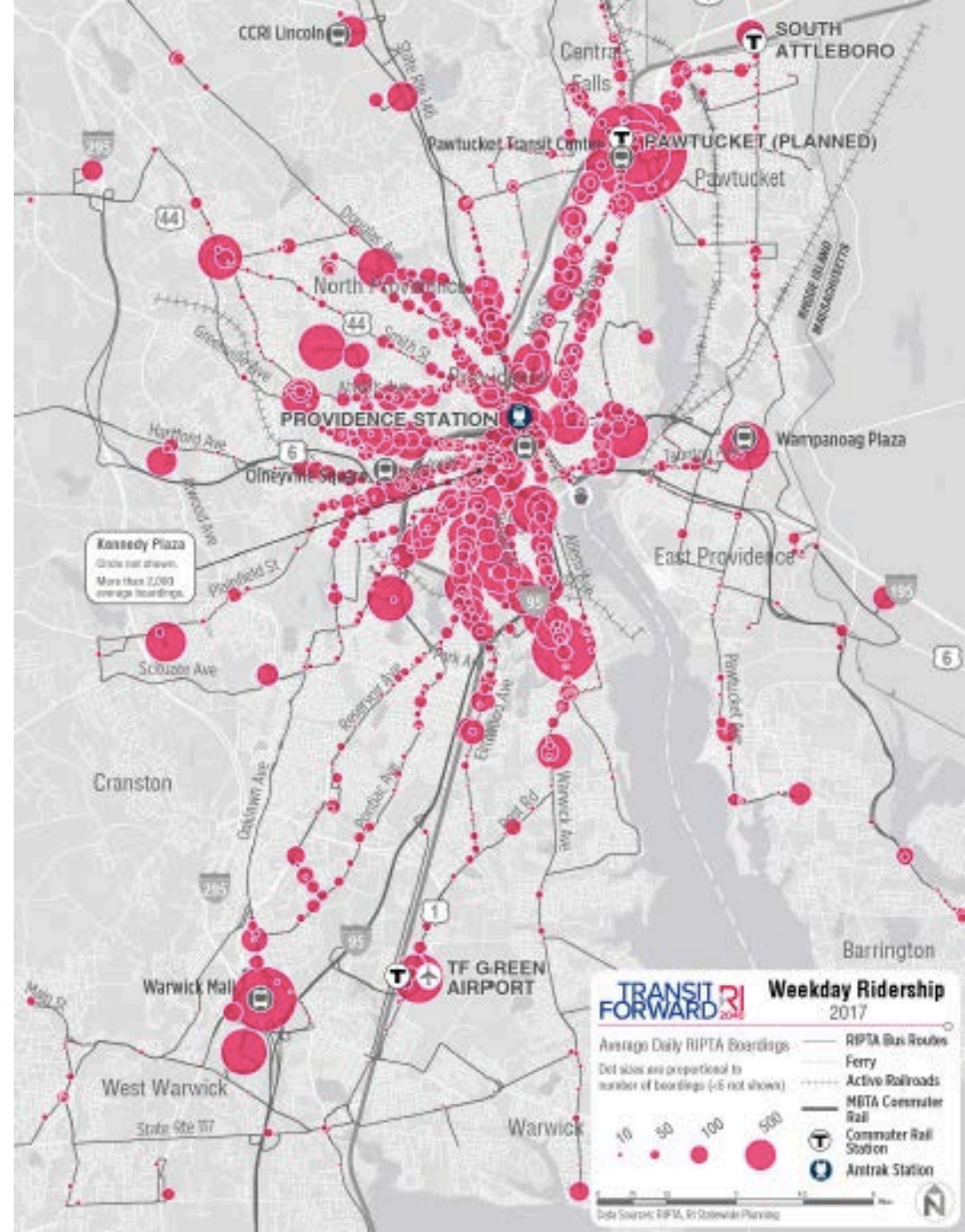


RIDERSHIP

Service in the core is focused on high ridership corridors

Inbound commuter rail boardings at the 3 RI stations averaged 2,100 daily in 2017:

- Providence: 1,650
- T.F.Green/Warwick: 225
- Wickford Junction: 225



PLANNED ENHANCEMENTS

2019

Downtown Transit Connector

Pilot RIPTA Service to Quonset

Autonomous Vehicle Pilot

Smart Card/Reloadable Fare Payment

Three Electric Buses Enter Service

2020+

Pawtucket/Central Falls Transit Center

More Transit Signal Priority

More Electric Buses

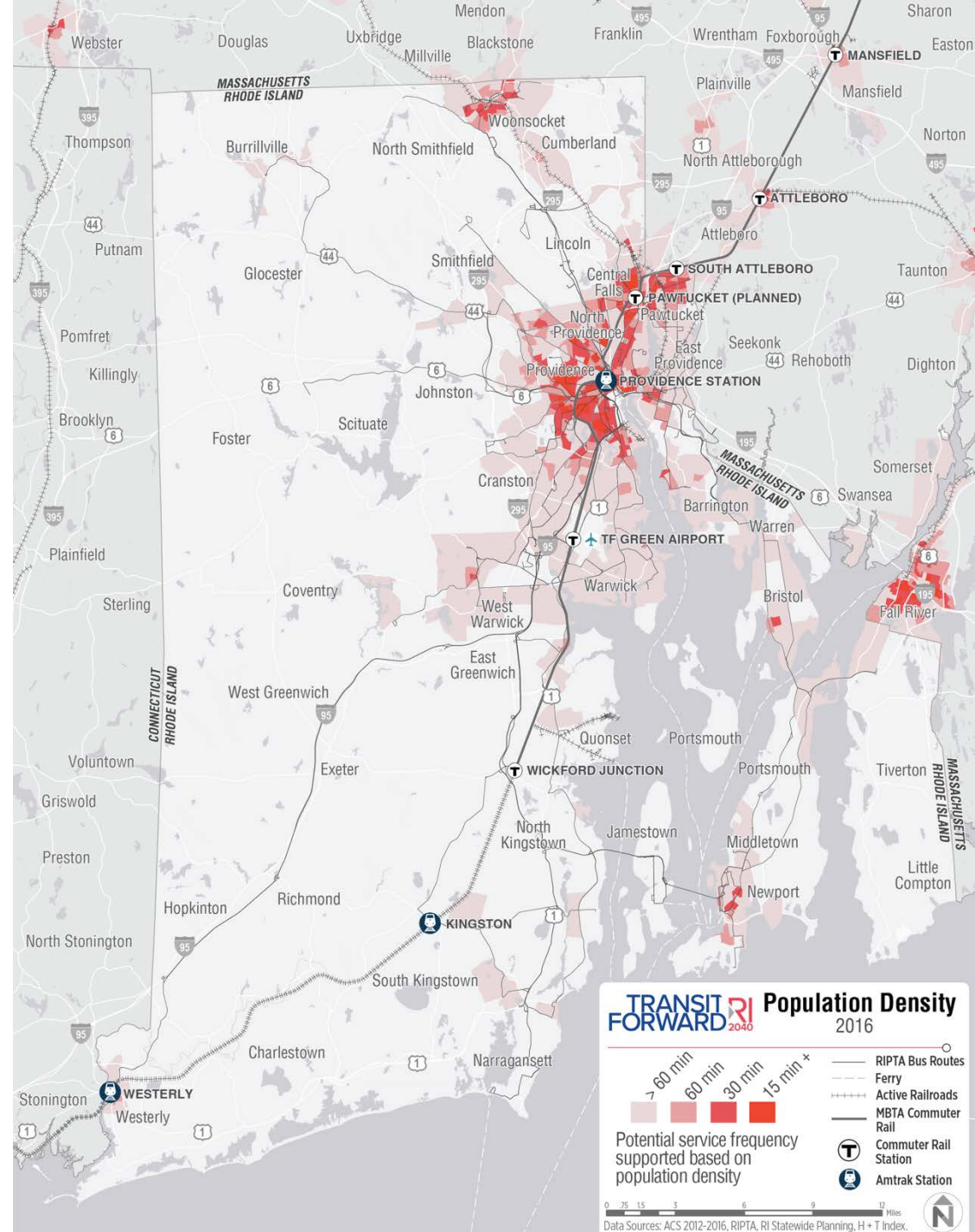


THE MARKET FOR TRANSIT IN RHODE ISLAND



THE MARKET FOR TRANSIT

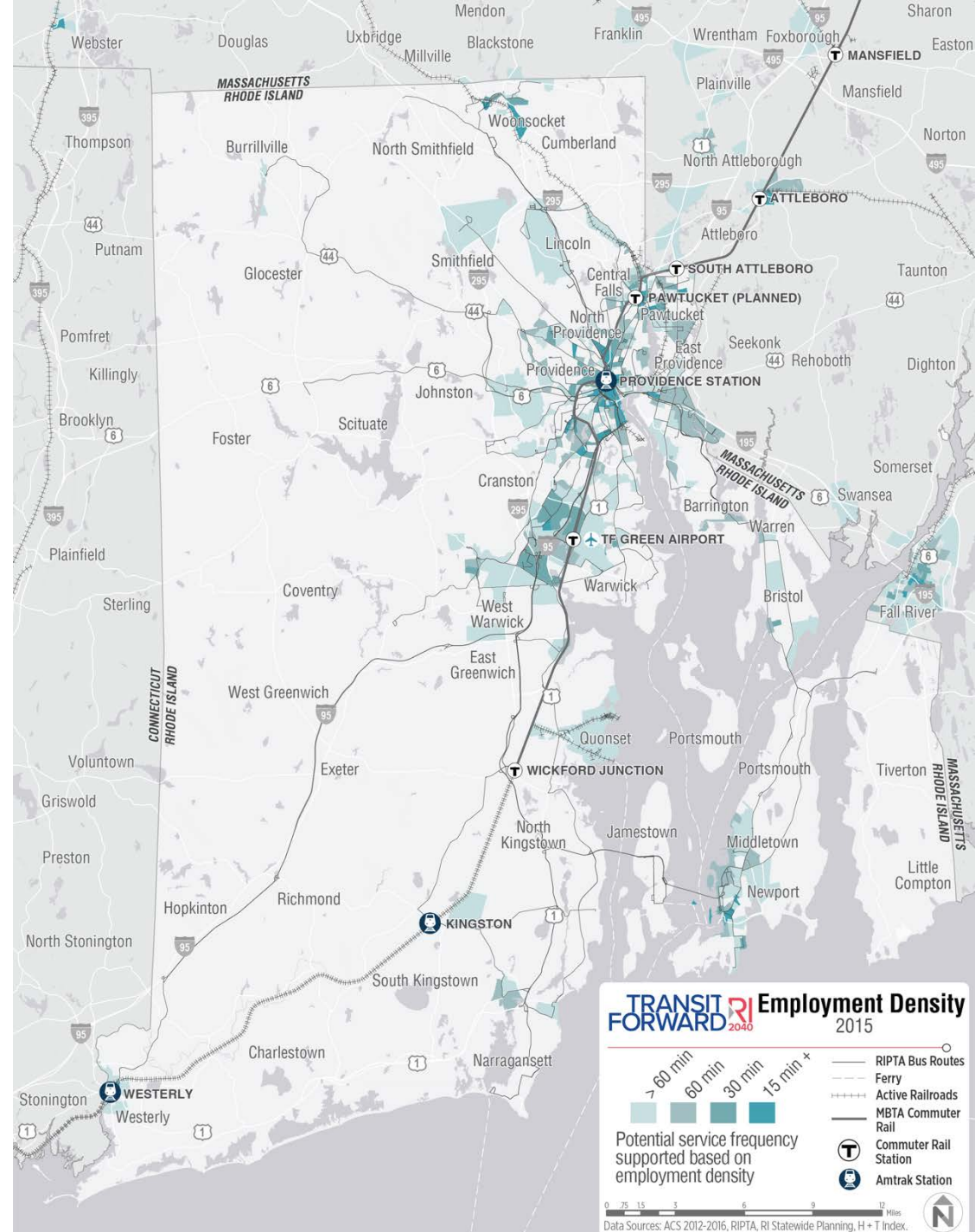
Where do people live?



THE MARKET FOR TRANSIT

Where do people live?

Where are most jobs located?

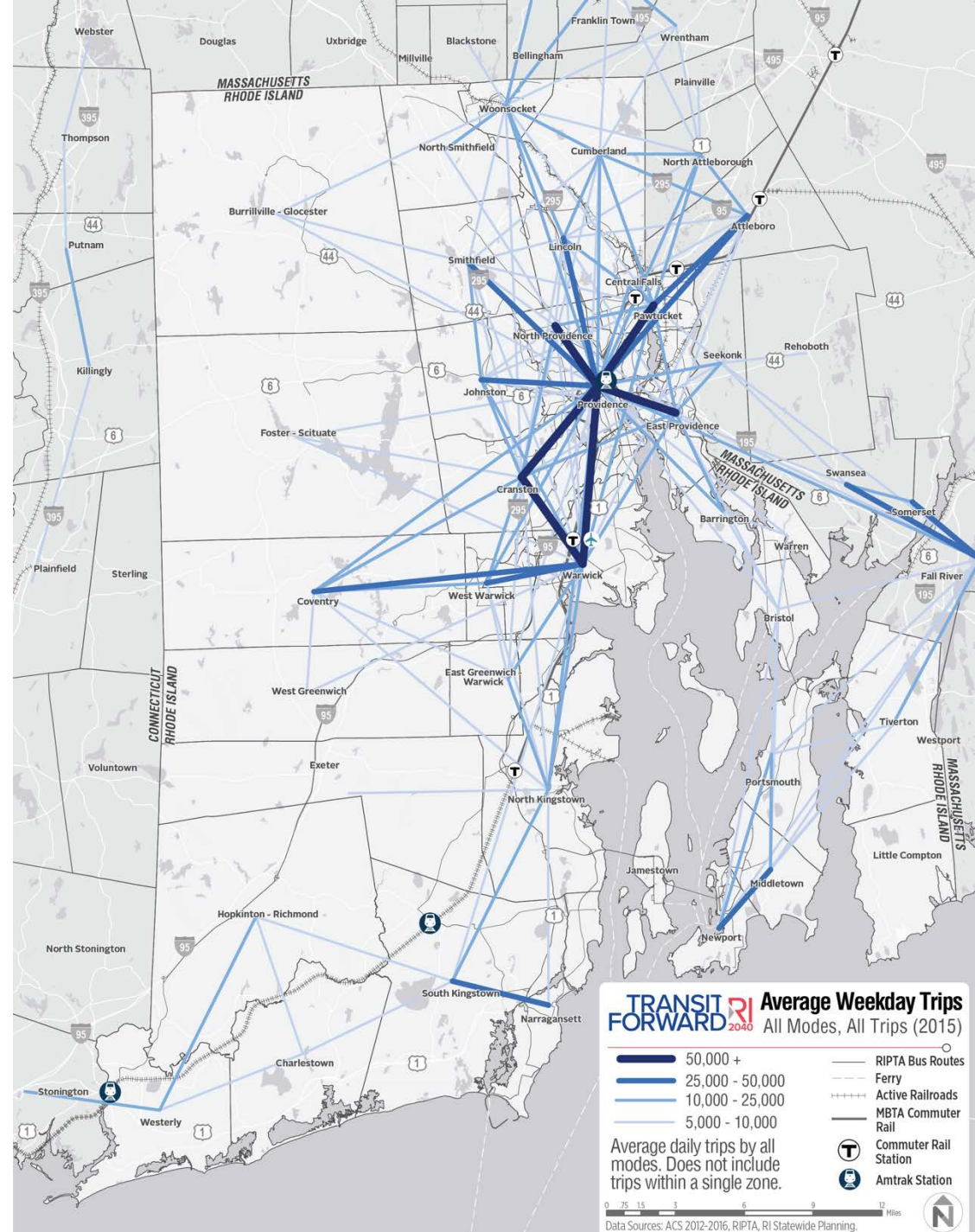


THE MARKET FOR TRANSIT

Where do people live?

Where are most jobs located?

Where do people travel to and from?



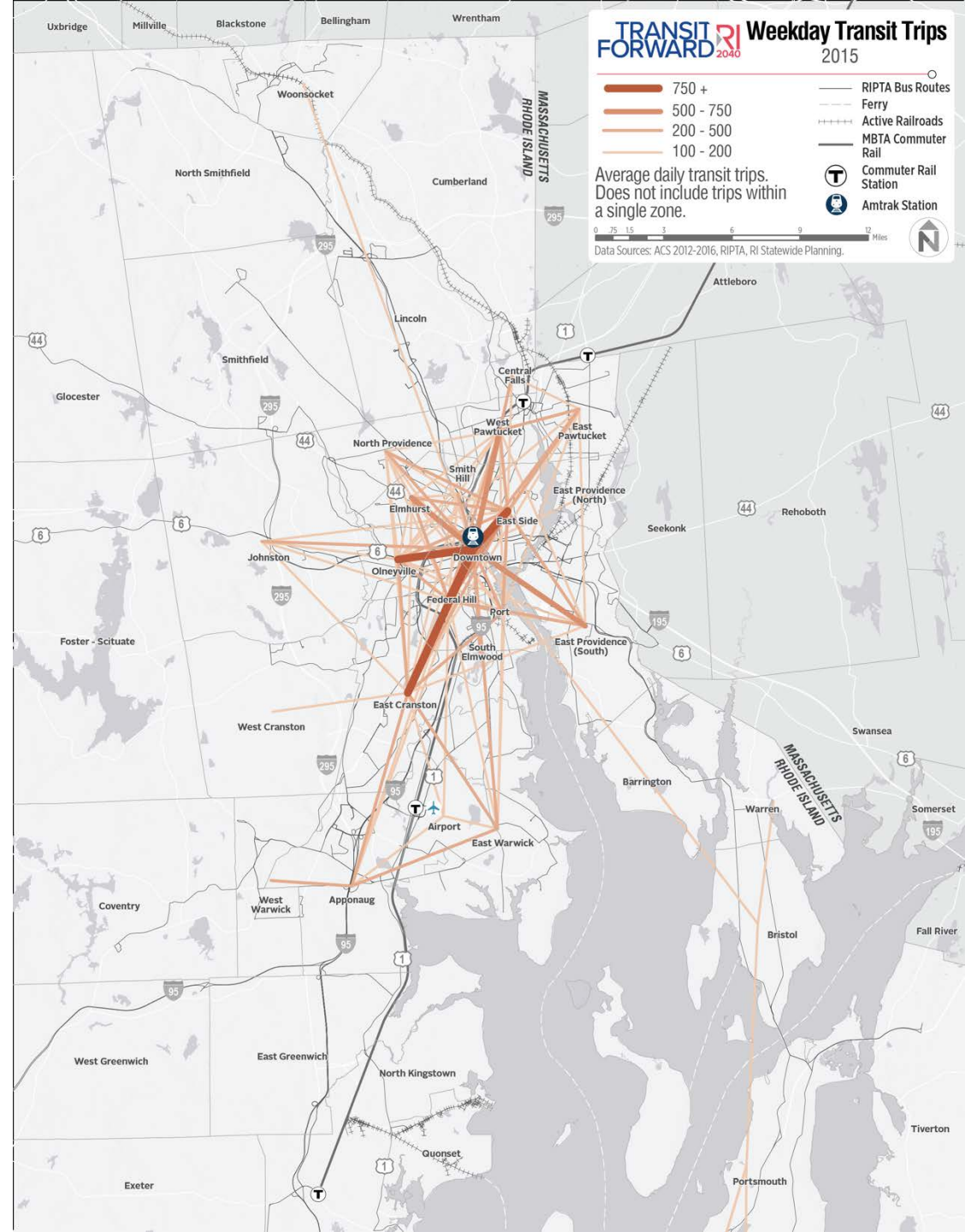
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Where do people live?

Where are most jobs located?

Where do people travel to and from?

How many use transit?



THE MARKET FOR TRANSIT

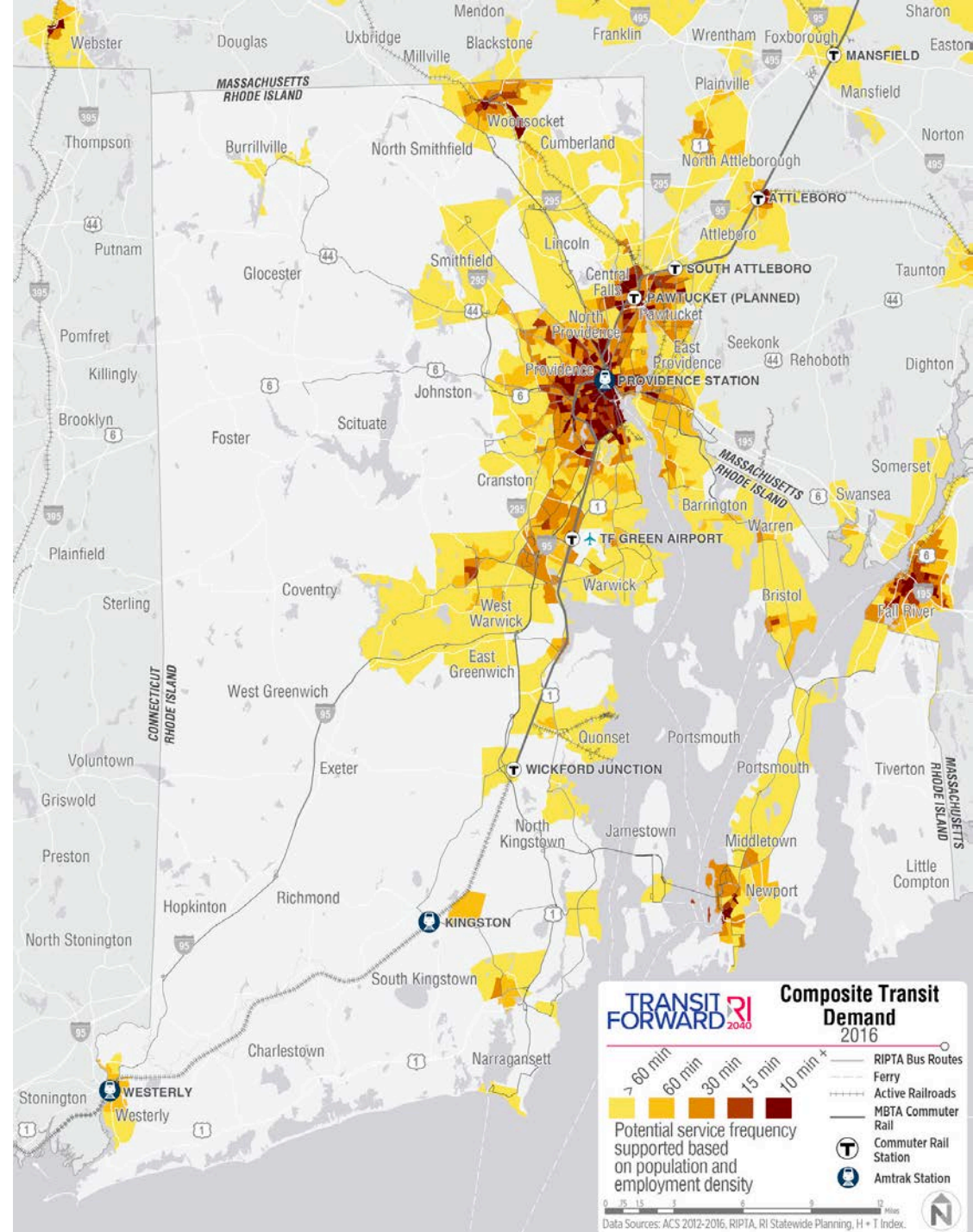
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Where do people travel to and from?

How many use transit?

Where do those most likely to use transit live today?



THE MARKET FOR TRANSIT

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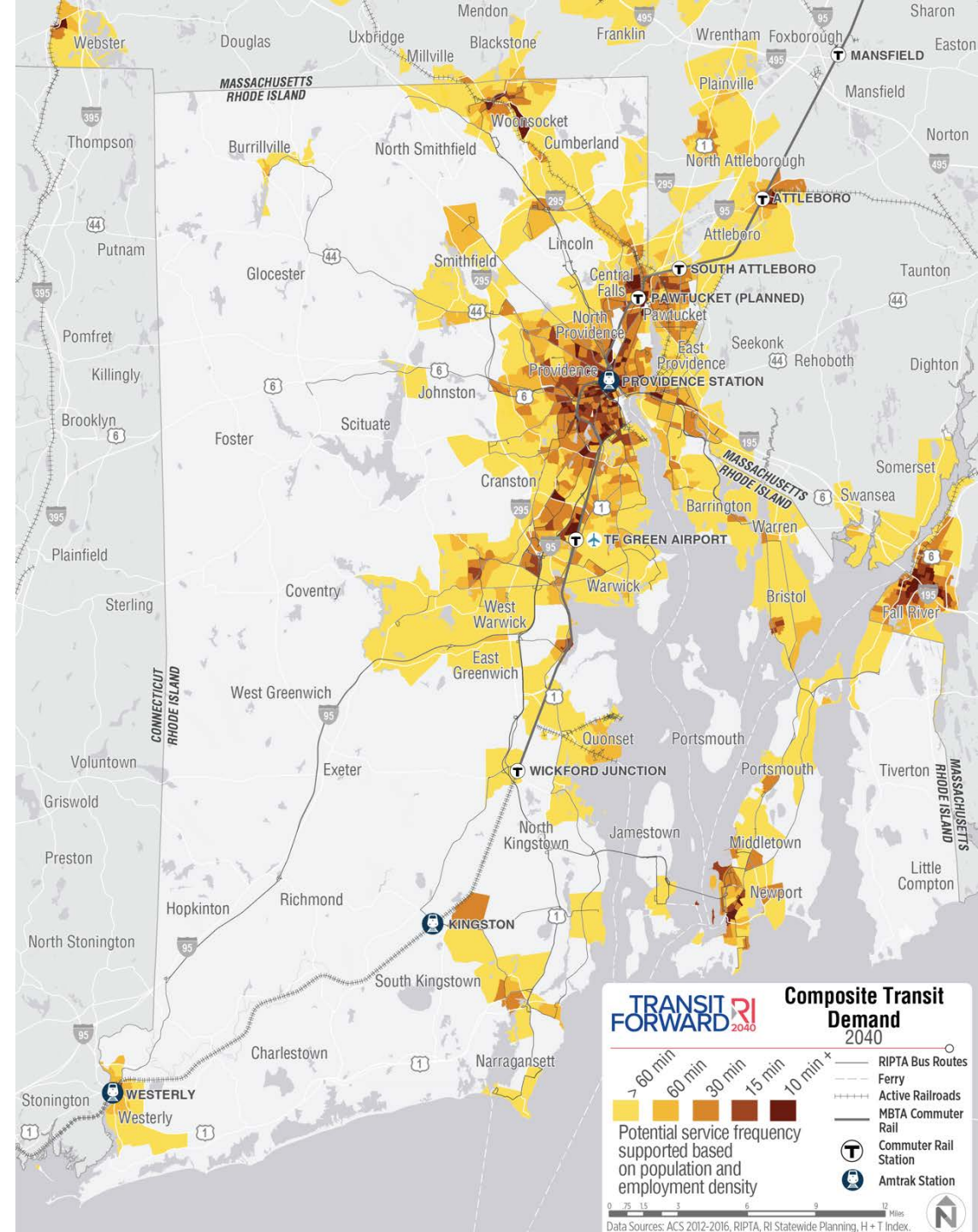
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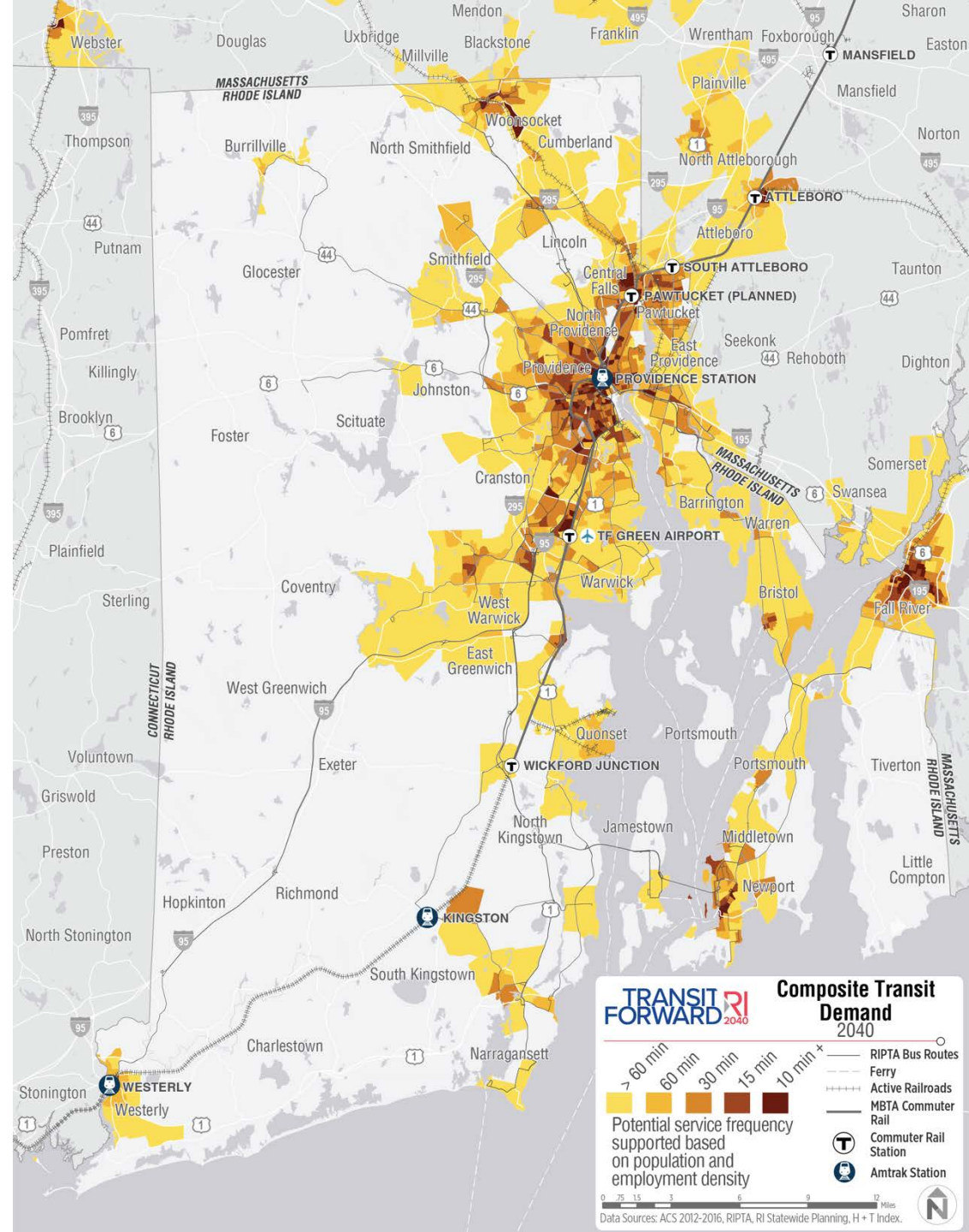
Where do those most likely to use transit live today?

Where will those most likely to use transit live in 2040?



INITIAL FINDINGS

- The highest demand for local transit is in the Greater Providence area
 - Providence, Pawtucket, East Providence, Cranston, and Warwick
- High demand areas outside of the Providence core include:
 - Woonsocket, Newport, and around URI
- The highest demand for long distance services include:
 - Commuter rail to Boston
 - Regional service to and from Providence, Woonsocket, and Newport



INITIAL FINDINGS

- All high demand areas would support more robust service
 - Faster / More Frequent
- Demand is increasing
 - In the urban cores
 - In areas such as Lincoln, Smithfield, and Quonset
- It is also notable that demand is *very low* in many parts of the State.



KEY QUESTION

Where should future transit investments be focused?

- In areas where transit can make the most difference?
- Spread across the board, covering as much of the state as possible?
- Something in between?

Your input today and throughout the project will help answer this question.

NEXT STEPS



NEXT STEPS

State of the System report

Incorporate your input

- Gaps between existing services and demand for transit
- Other issues and opportunities

Develop Potential Strategies

Public Workshops – Round 2



POTENTIAL STRATEGIES (EXAMPLES)

- Enhanced Bus Service (ex. more frequent, longer hours)
- Regional Rail Improvements
- Investments in Existing Passenger Facilities and other assets
- Bus Rapid Transit (fast, frequent service in dedicated bus lanes)
- Transit Oriented Development (policies and incentives)
- Technology Enhancements (ex. fare integration, “Mobility as a Service”)
- Improved First Mile-Last Mile Connections (ex. bicycle/pedestrian access, on-demand service, Transportation Management Associations)
- New Funding Sources



Faster Bus Service?



More Rail Service?



More Transit Oriented Development?



New Technologies?

WE HOPE YOU STAY INVOLVED!

www.TransitForwardRI.com

- ✓ Sign up to get future meeting notices
- ✓ Use our interactive map (*..... coming soon!*)
- ✓ Read project materials
- ✓ Provide your comments

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