



**PRESENTATION(S)**

**Meeting on December 18, 2024**

<b><u>Agenda Item(s)</u></b>	<b><u>Page</u></b>
<b>1. Draft 2025 Transportation and Mobility Plan – Transit Element</b> (PowerPoint slides for Joint Discussion Item F1)	<b>3 – 24</b>
<b>2. Pierce Transit Long Range Plan</b> (PowerPoint slides for Joint Discussion Item F2)	<b>25 – 39</b>



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¿Necesitas información en español? Cần thông tin bằng tiếng Việt? 한국어로 정보가 필요하십니까? ត្រូវការព័ត៌មានជាភាសាខ្មែរ?  
Нужна информация на русском? Потрібна інформація українською мовою? Contact TacomaFIRST 311 at (253) 591-5000.





# Tacoma TMP: Draft Transit Element

Transportation Committee and Planning Commission

Joint Meeting

December 2024



# What We'll Cover

- Transit Element Overview
- Network Vision
  - Frequent Transit Network
  - Capital Improvement Corridors
- Key Strategies & Actions
- Performance Monitoring





# Transit Element Overview



# Draft Transit Element

- Coordinated with:
  - Comprehensive Plan Team
  - Pierce Transit
- Supported by the Tacoma Transit Oriented Development Task Force
  - Served as Working Group for Transit Element
  - Provided input on key components of the Transit Element



# Tacoma's Planning Context



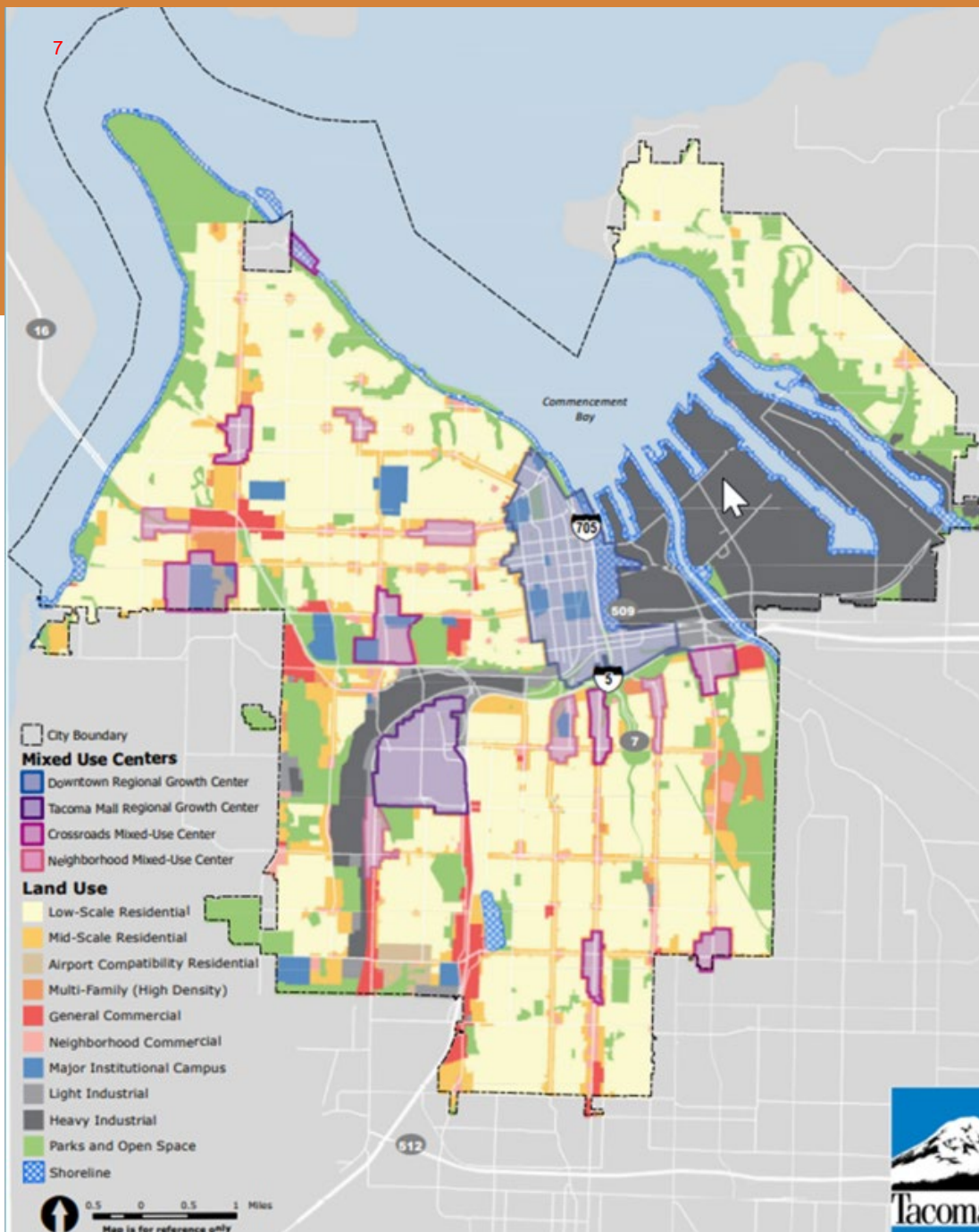
137,000 new residents



59,000 new homes



94,000 new jobs



# A Complete Transit System





**H**igh-quality stops and stations make transit accessible, comfortable, and convenient



**E**xpanded frequent transit service that is fast and reliable allows people to ride transit without a schedule and transfer with ease



**O**n-demand and shared-ride services help to meet first and last mile needs and extend transit's service hours



**S**afe and convenient

pedestrian and bicycle access connects people to transit stops and key destinations



**A COMPLETE TRANSIT SYSTEM**

**E**ducation and outreach improve awareness and understanding of how to use the transit system



**F**lexible fare and pass programs make transit easy to use and affordable



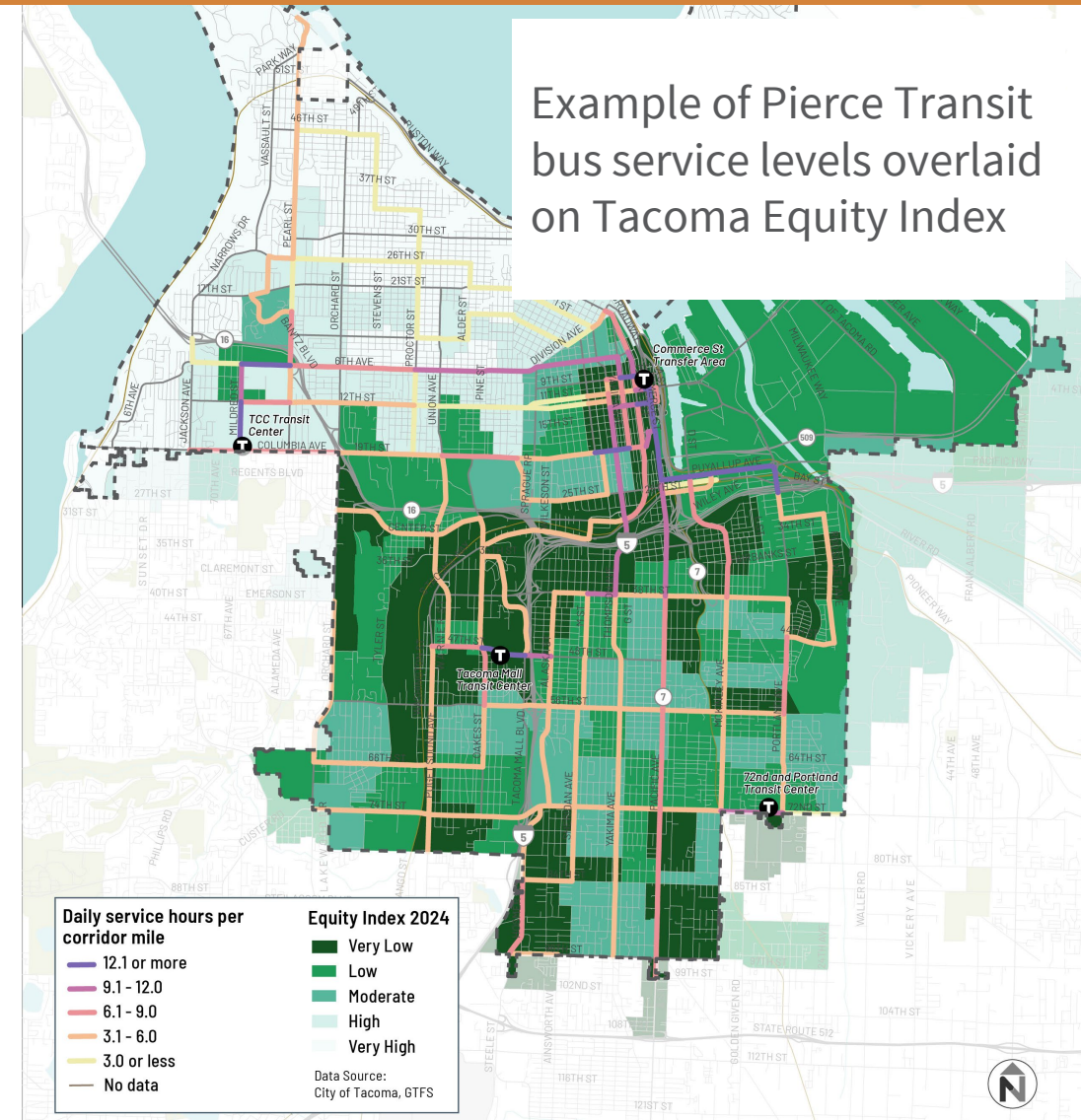
**C**oordinated land use, parking, and placemaking policies help transit connect people to destinations



**T**ransit information lets riders know when transit will arrive and makes using the system intuitive

# A Data Informed Process

<b>Ridership</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Avg weekday boardings</li> </ul>
<b>Existing Service Levels and Performance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Weekday Peak Service Levels</li> <li>▪ Weekday Midday Service Levels</li> <li>▪ Saturday Midday Service Levels</li> <li>▪ Best Weekday Headway</li> <li>▪ Midday Weekday Headway</li> <li>▪ Daily Service Hours/Mile</li> <li>▪ Span of Service (weekday)</li> </ul>
<b>Land Use and Demographics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Population Density (Existing)</li> <li>▪ Population Density (Future)</li> <li>▪ Employment Density (Existing)</li> <li>▪ Employment Density (Future)</li> <li>▪ Zero Vehicle Households</li> <li>▪ Transit Propensity Index</li> <li>▪ Tacoma Equity Index</li> <li>▪ (Access to Opportunity)</li> </ul>



# What's in the Draft Transit Element

Section	Content
<b>Introduction</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Background</li><li>▪ City Role in a Complete Transit System</li></ul>
<b>Context</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Transit Today</li><li>▪ Key Opportunities</li><li>▪ Emerging Trends</li><li>▪ Key Challenges</li></ul>
<b>Network Vision</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Frequent Transit Network Vision</li><li>▪ Transit Capital Investment Corridors</li></ul>
<b>Strategies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Strategies</li></ul>
<b>Actions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Actions, leads, &amp; partners</li></ul>
<b>Performance Monitoring</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Key measures</li></ul>



# Frequent Transit Network



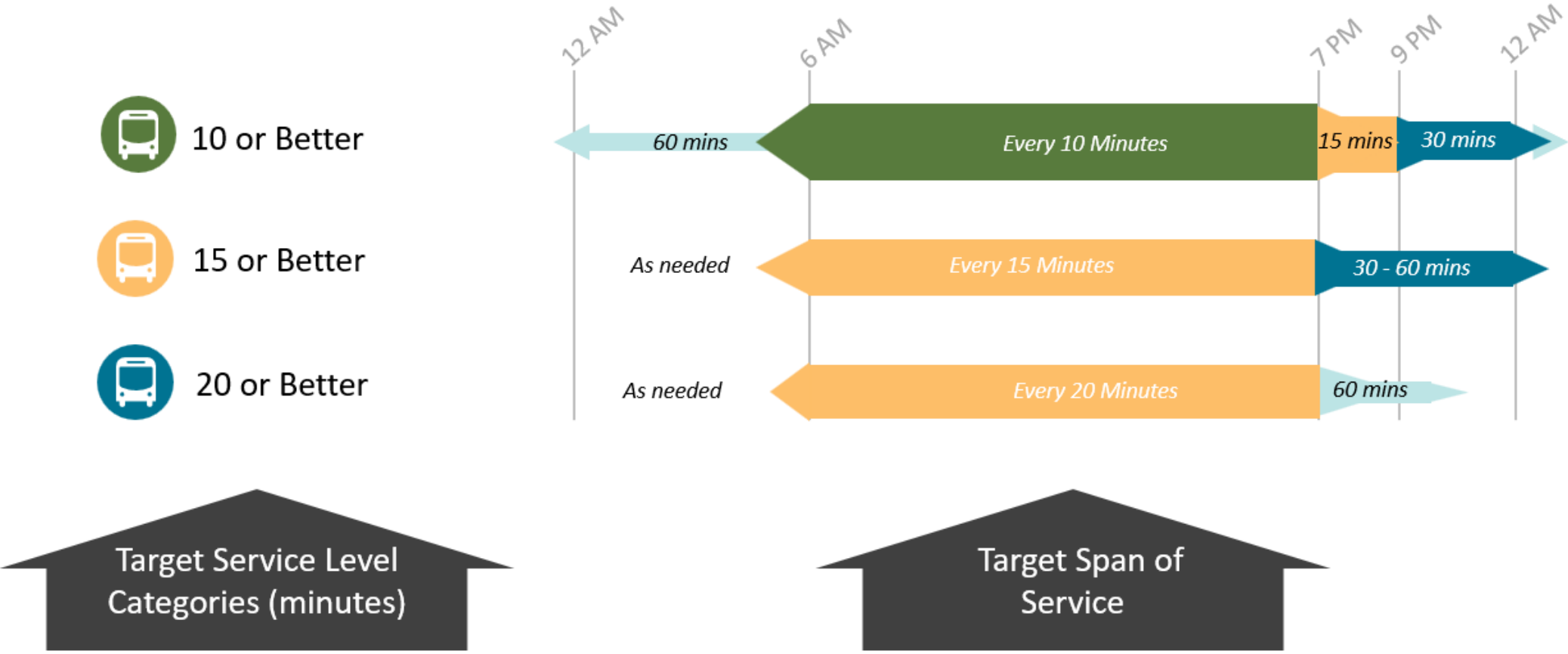
# Frequent Transit Network

- The Frequent Transit Network (FTN) is an **aspirational vision for service levels on Tacoma's transit network.**
- The FTN provides a policy basis and specific targets for **frequent, reliable transit service connecting neighborhoods, centers and designations throughout the day, every day.**
- *The FTN is not a service plan.*



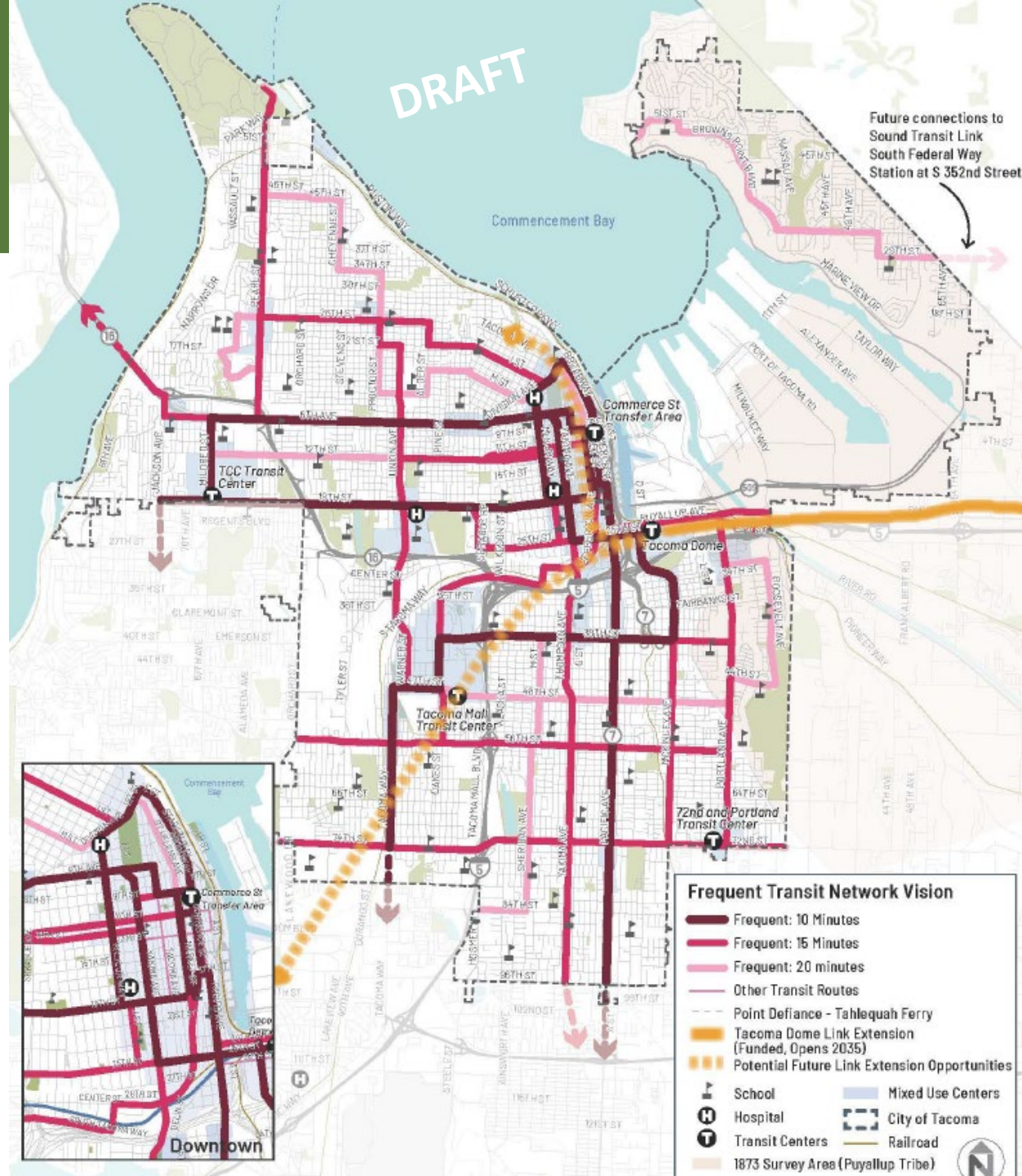
# Frequent Transit Network

- FTN identifies target service levels for key corridors by time of day and day of week.



# Frequent Transit Network

- A grid of high-frequency lines
- Reduces need to travel Downtown to make crosstown trips
- Connects key regional and mixed-use centers
- Complements Pierce Transit capital investment priorities
- Aligns service investments with future transit capital projects





# Capital Investment Corridors





# Capital Investment Corridors<sup>17</sup>

- Connects mixed use centers and corridors targeted for increased residential density
- Delivers reliable service & safe, accessible stops and stations on Tacoma's most important transit corridors
- Enhance cross town connections, reduce the need for customers to travel through regional transit centers
- Build reliable connections to commuter rail and light rail
- Implement transit priority to project service investment in FTN corridors
- Sets a vision for Tacoma to use when working with regional partners

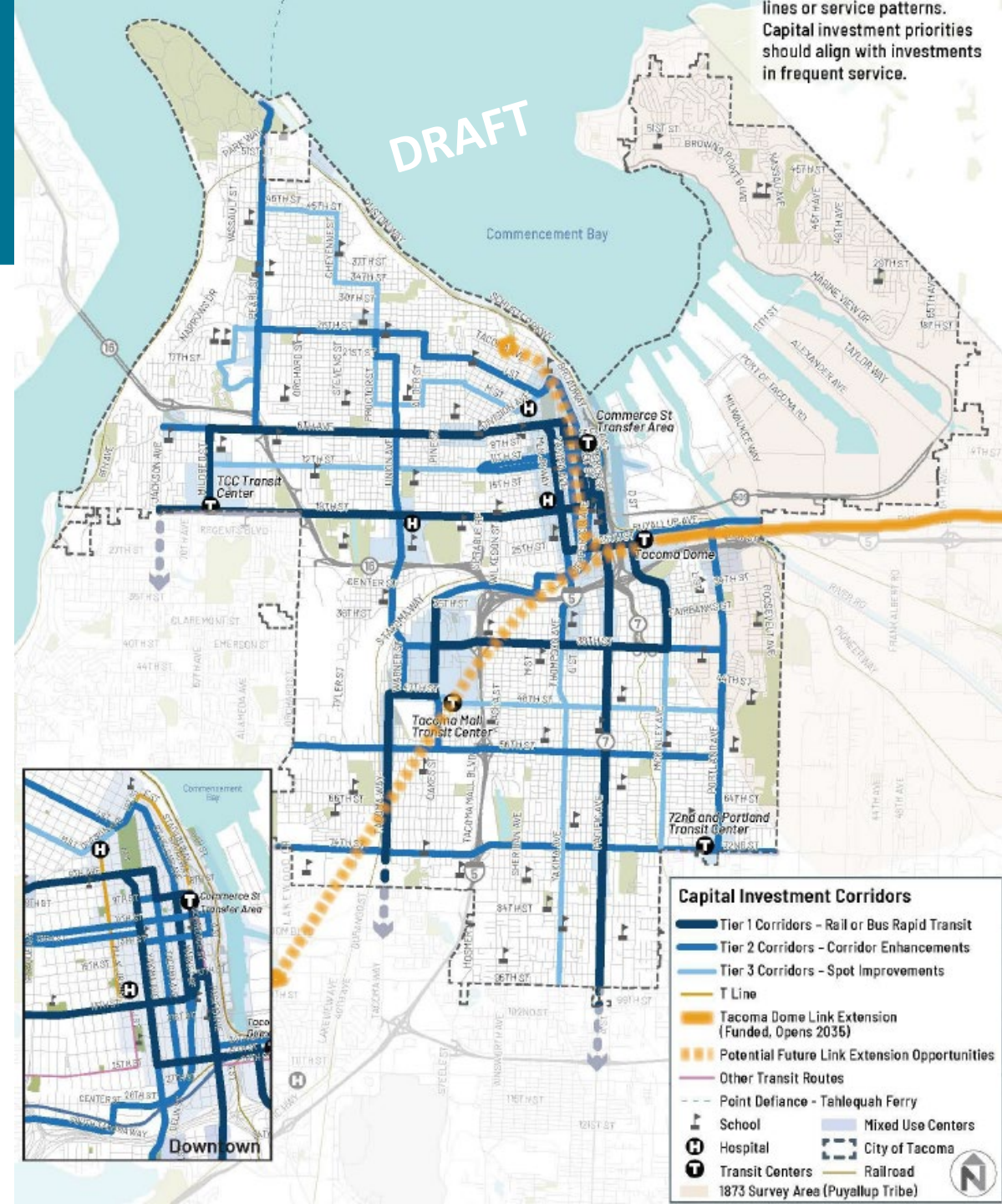
# Capital Investment Corridors

**Tier 1:** Surface Rail or Bus Rapid Transit

**Tier 2:** Corridor Enhancements

**Tier 3:** Spot Improvements for Safety and Reliability

*Exclusion from this map does not mean “no service”*





# Strategies and Actions



# Strategies

***Transit Element strategies*** guide how Tacoma will partner and invest in a complete public transportation system that can provide comprehensive, affordable, and dignified travel for all, including those traveling in Tacoma and connecting to the region.



# Key Actions

**Develop local source funding** for transit & use the FTN vision to direct operating resources to increase frequency and span in key corridors.

**Prioritize transit priority** by developing a City program to analyze, plan, and develop bus speed and reliability projects, signal improvements, and tactical bus treatments.

**Bring all pedestrian facilities in proximity to the FTN up to ADA compliance.**

Conduct corridor planning to **shape transit capital priorities for 19th Street & 6th Avenue**, informing ST rail expansion and PT BRT planning.

**Develop City transit planning and design expertise**, allowing for Tacoma to be a more active partner with local and regional transit agency partners.

**Partner with Sound Transit to support delivery of future Link light rail expansions and improvements.**

# Performance Measures

## MEASURE

Household Access to  
Frequent Transit

## APPROACH

% of households within 10-minute walk of 15-minute or better transit service (peak and all day)

Transit Travel Time Reliability

Measure variability in passenger travel time between key destinations in Tacoma (AM Peak, Midday, and PM Peak period)



# Next Steps



# Next Steps

- Staff review of Draft TMP Underway
- TMP and Draft Transit Element revisions in January 2025
- TMP and Comprehensive Plan open for public comment in February 2025



Presentation Photo Credits: *Pierce Transit, Sound Transit Photo Gallery*





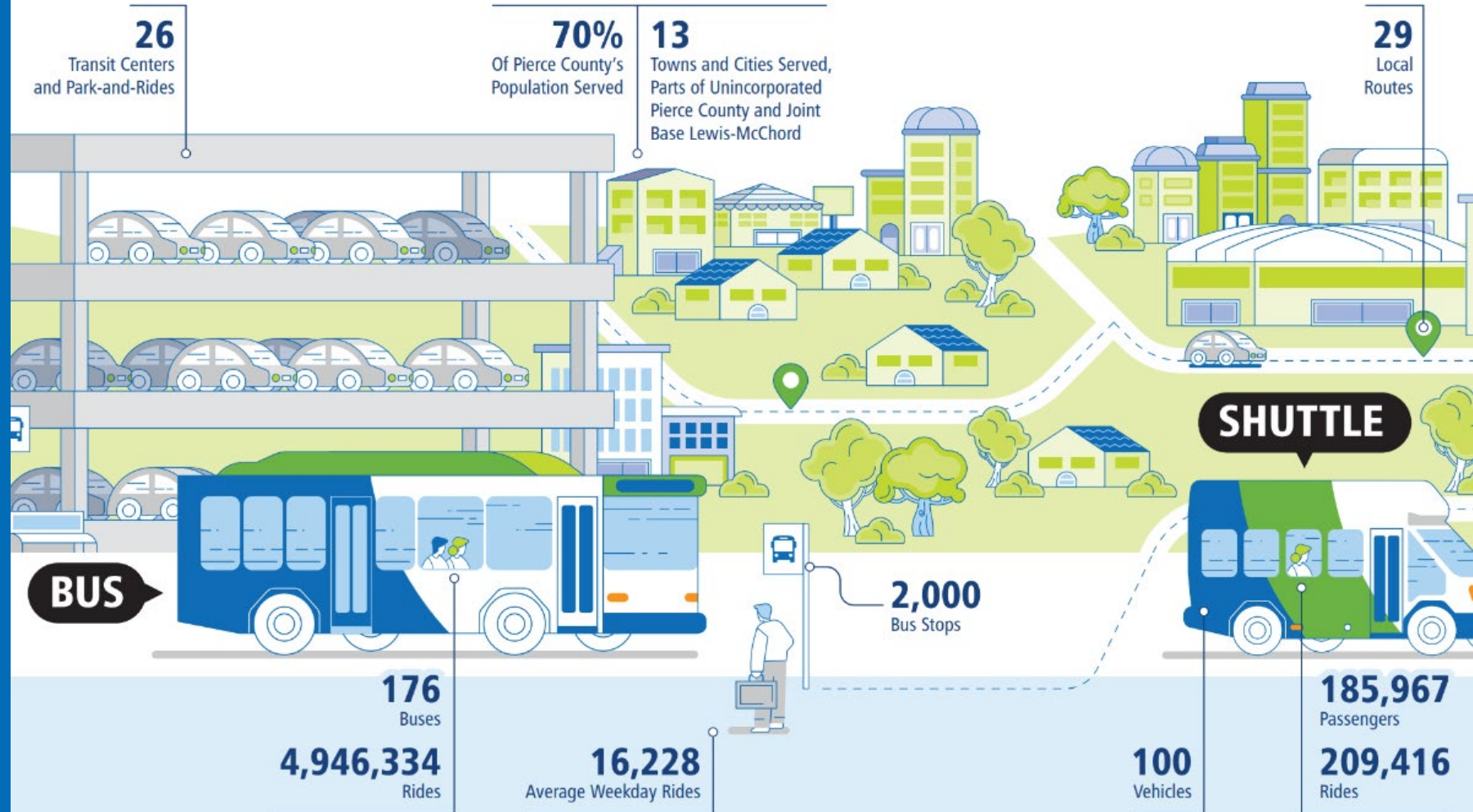
# City of Tacoma Joint Planning Commission-Transportation Commission Meeting 18 December 2024

Anna Petersen, Senior Planner  
Darin Stavish, Principal Planner



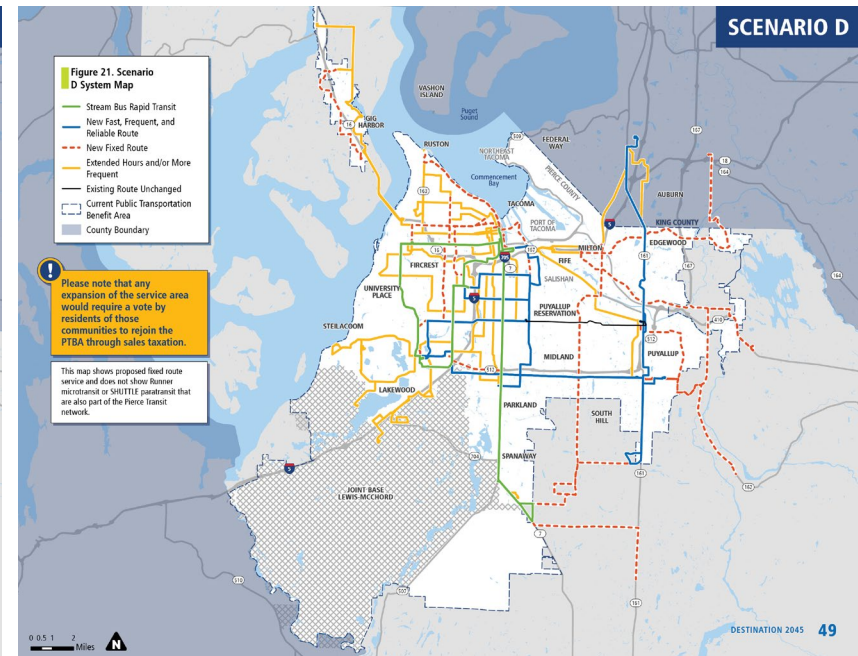
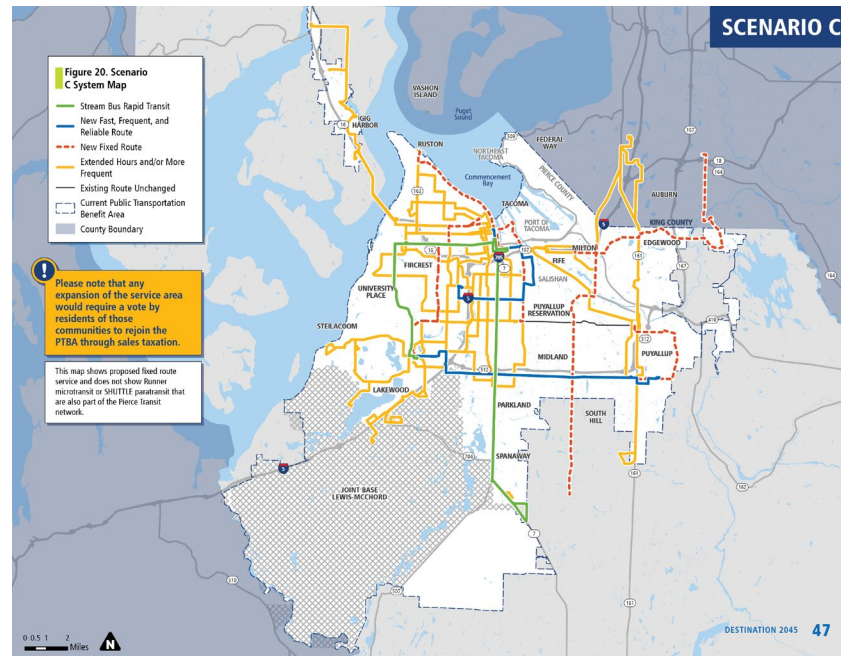
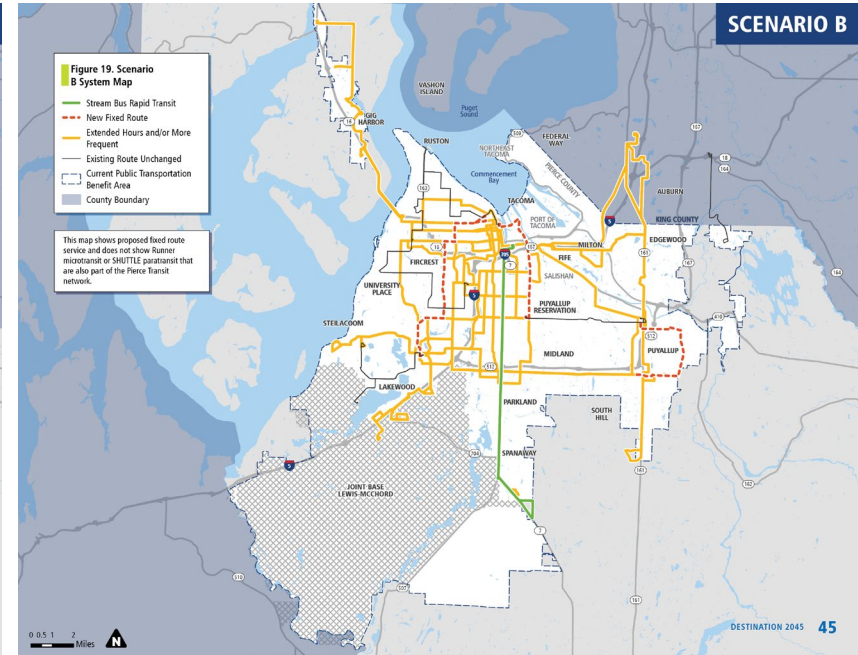
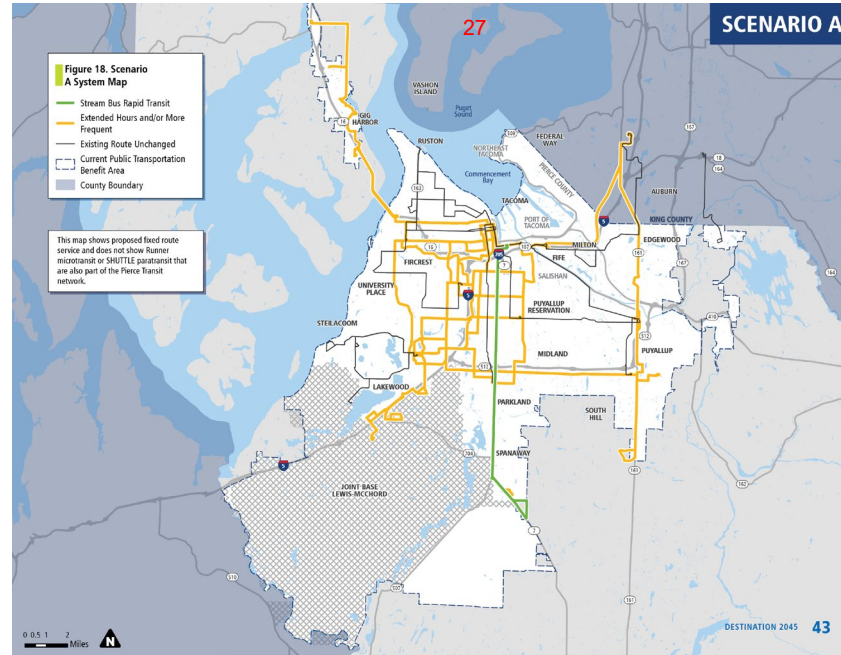
# Overview

Matches various elements of the agency's operations, bus fleet, and proposed fixed route future growth scenarios to projected funding assumptions.



# Growth Scenarios

Four incremental growth scenarios showcase how the system can grow under different funding assumptions.



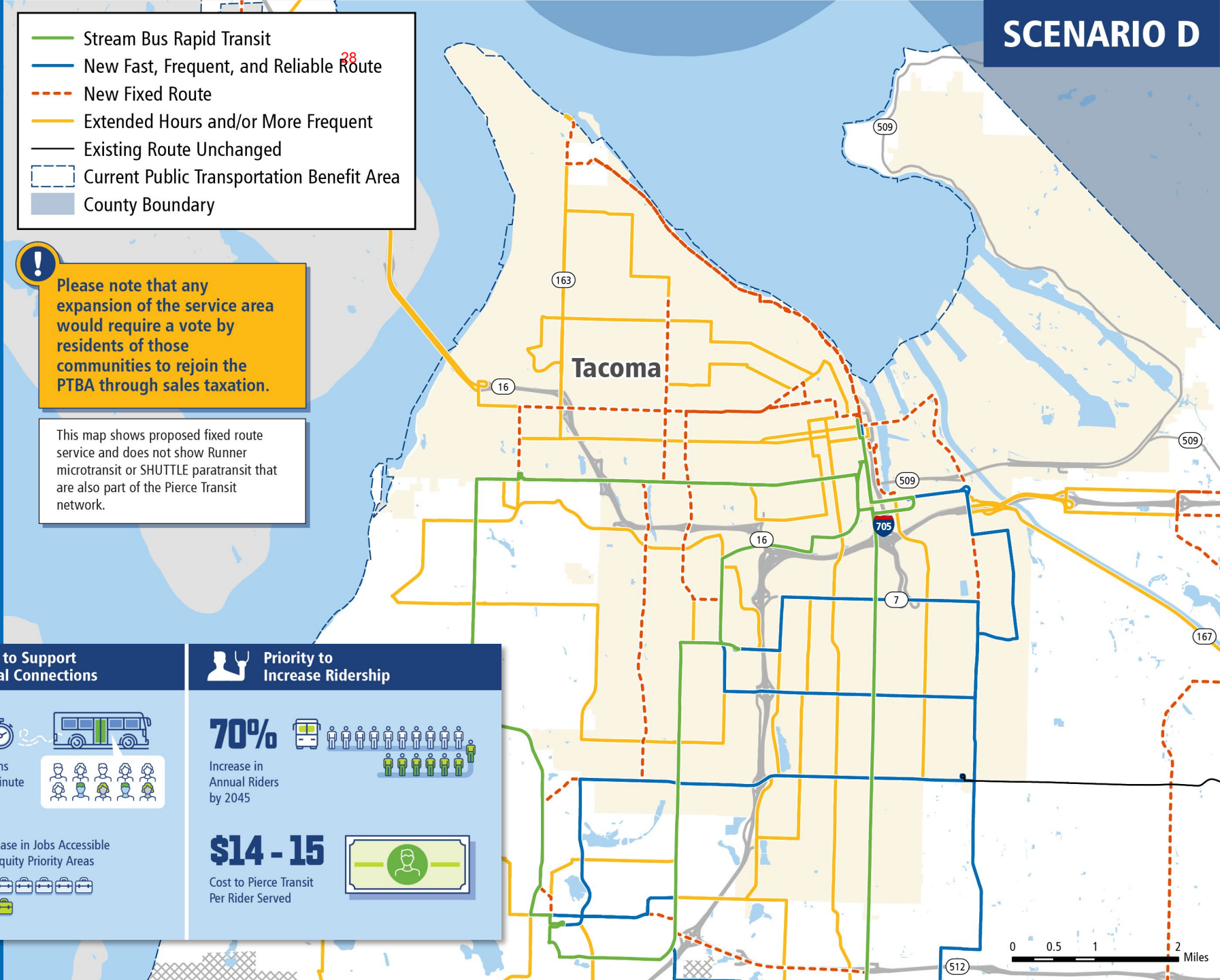
# Growth Scenarios

Associated maps show type of service and where service improvements occur for existing and new routes.

- Stream Bus Rapid Transit
- New Fast, Frequent, and Reliable Route
- New Fixed Route
- Extended Hours and/or More Frequent
- Existing Route Unchanged
- Current Public Transportation Benefit Area
- County Boundary

**!** Please note that any expansion of the service area would require a vote by residents of those communities to rejoin the PTBA through sales taxation.

This map shows proposed fixed route service and does not show Runner microtransit or SHUTTLE paratransit that are also part of the Pierce Transit network.



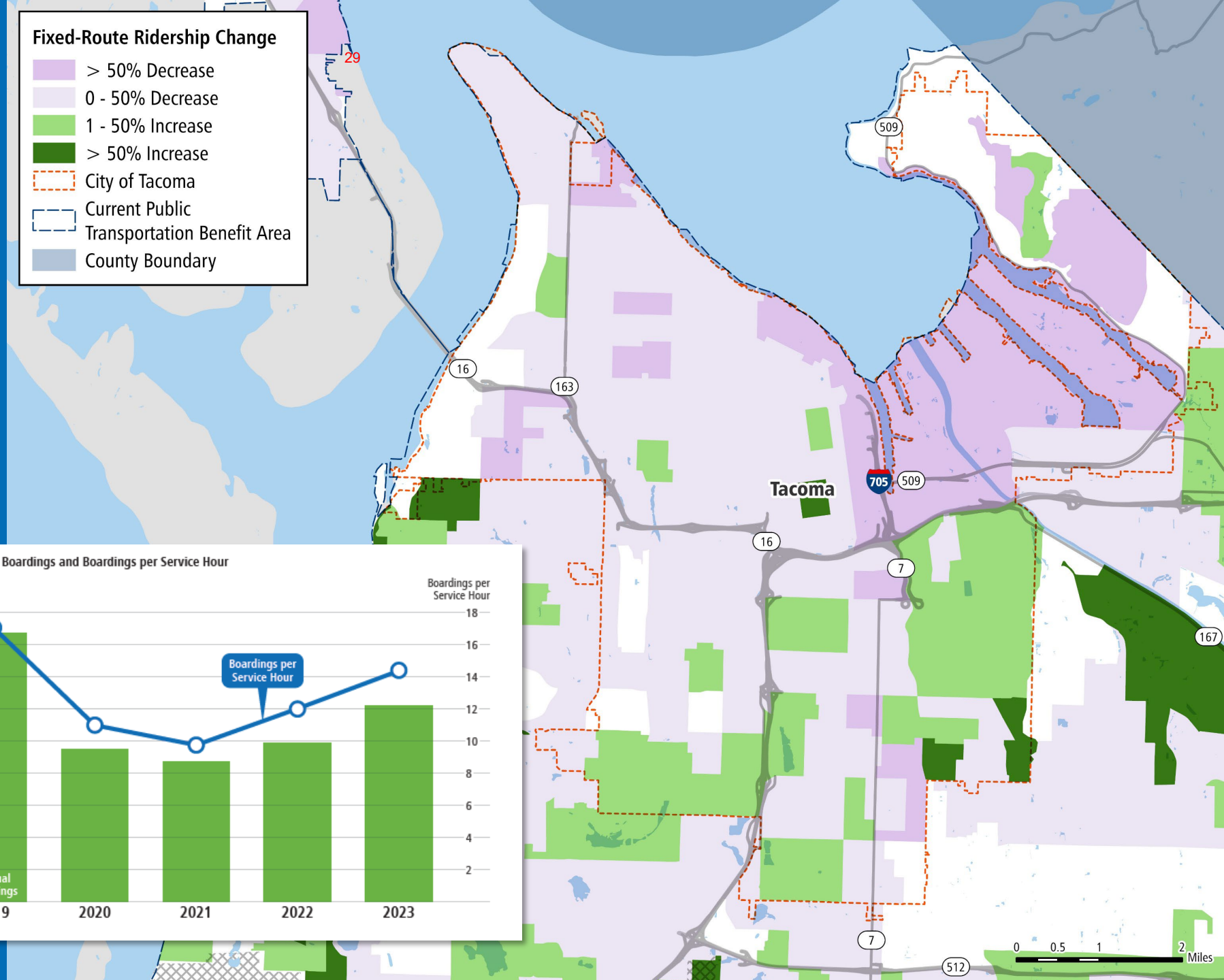
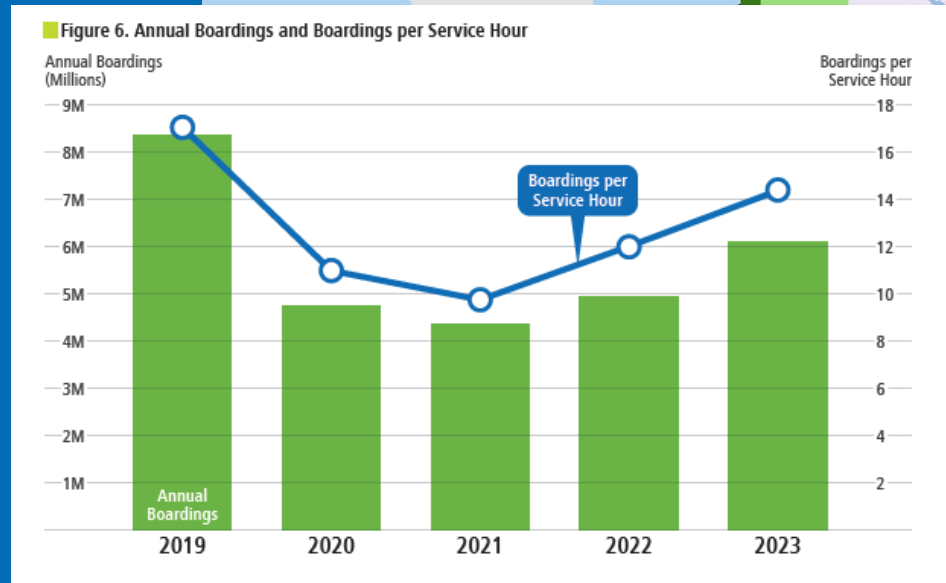
<p> <b>Priority to Support Essential Connections</b></p>	<p> <b>Priority to Increase Ridership</b></p>
<p><b>40%</b> </p> <p>Of Priority Populations with Access to 20-minute or Better Service</p> <p></p>	<p><b>70%</b> </p> <p>Increase in Annual Riders by 2045</p>
<p><b>60%</b> Increase in Jobs Accessible for Equity Priority Areas</p> <p></p>	<p><b>\$14 - 15</b> </p> <p>Cost to Pierce Transit Per Rider Served</p>

# Rider Performance

Will showcase how different routes have been performing historically.

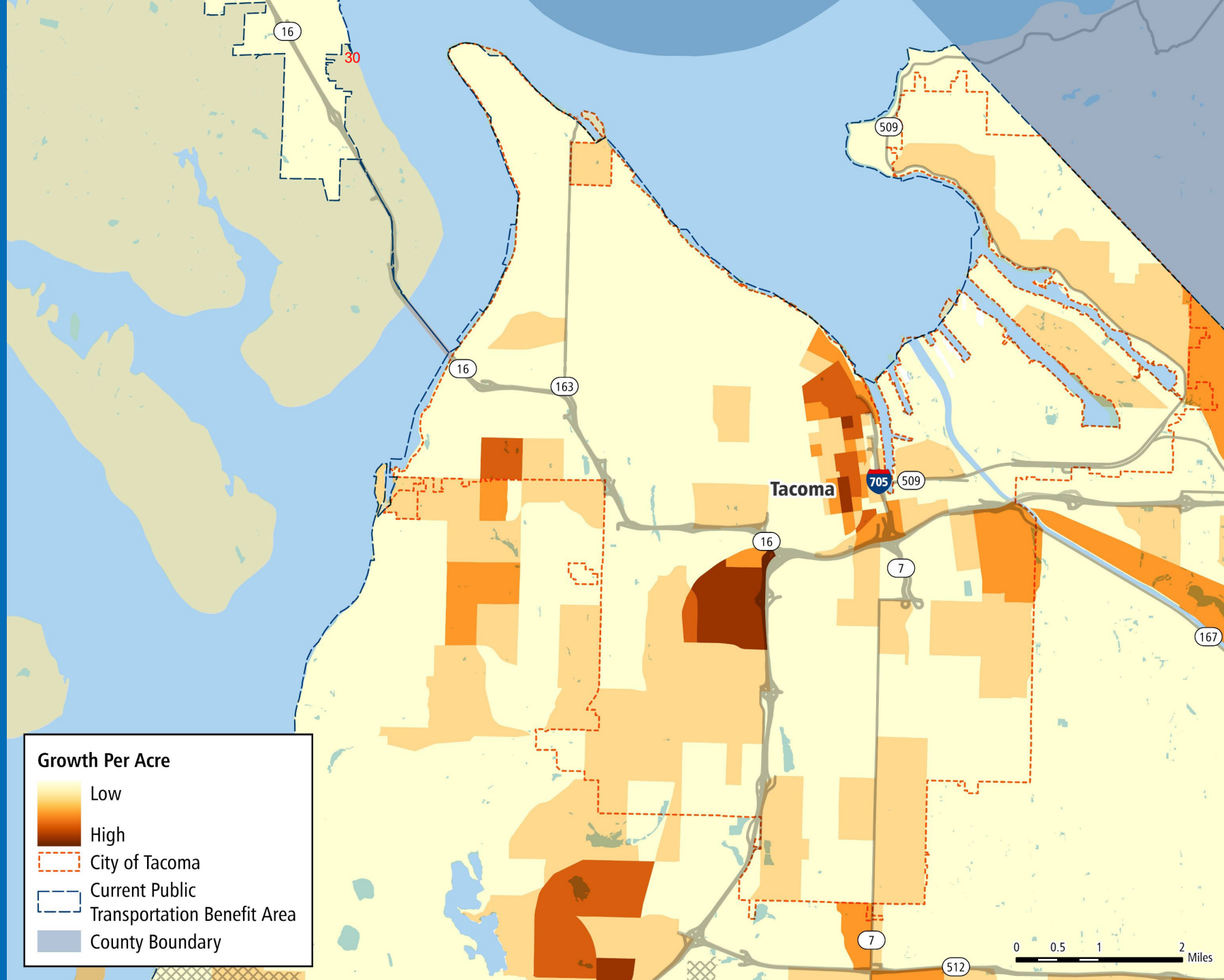
## Fixed-Route Ridership Change

- > 50% Decrease
- 0 - 50% Decrease
- 1 - 50% Increase
- > 50% Increase
- City of Tacoma
- Current Public Transportation Benefit Area
- County Boundary



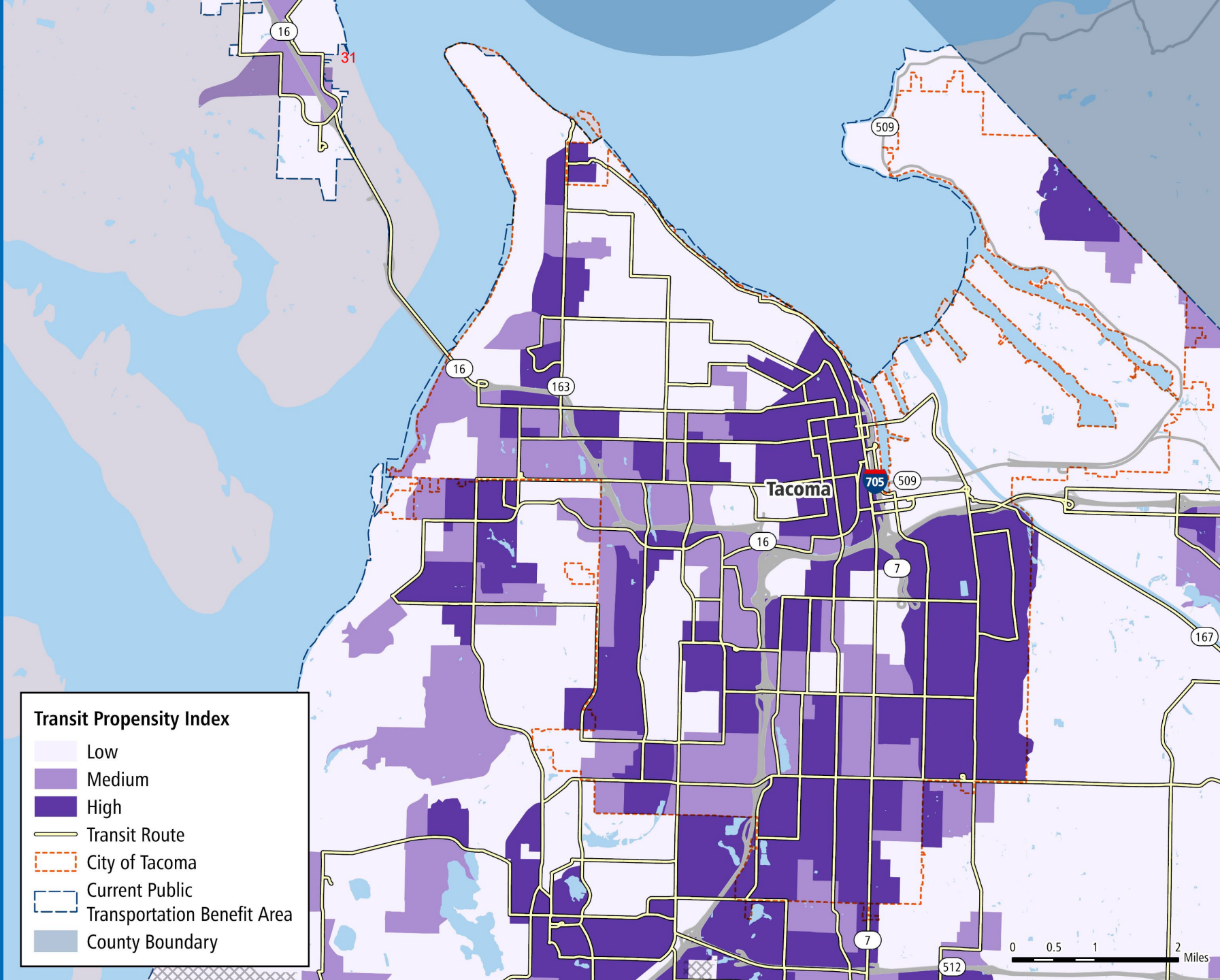
# Growth

Will depict projected growth in population, housing, and employment, as per PSRC's VISION 2050 and Pierce County.



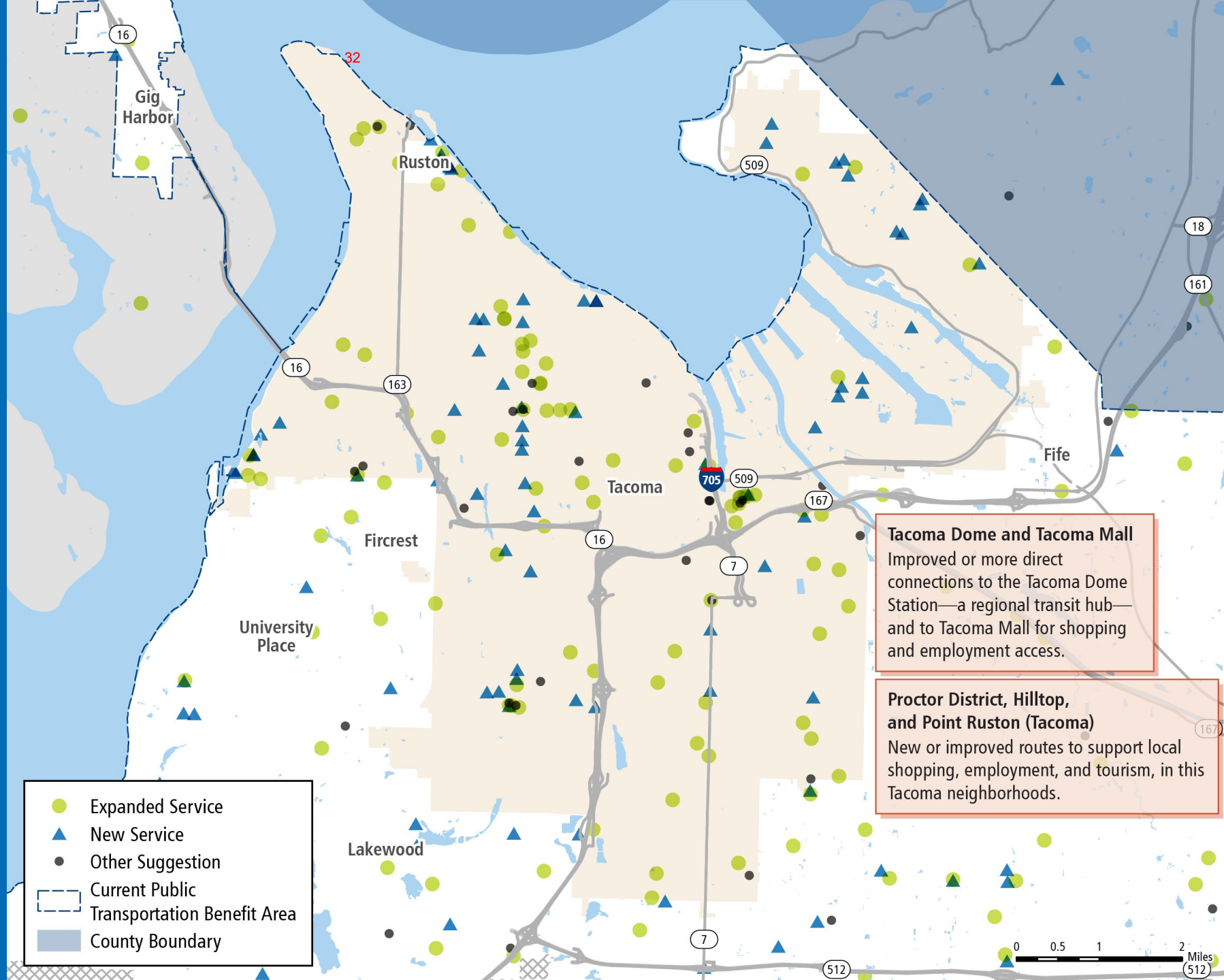
# Equity Areas

The Transit Propensity Index identifies various measures of inequity in terms of transportation access and was also used.



# Outreach

We conducted several stages of public outreach to identify where system improvements may be needed or are recommended.





# Phase 1 Outreach (July 2024)



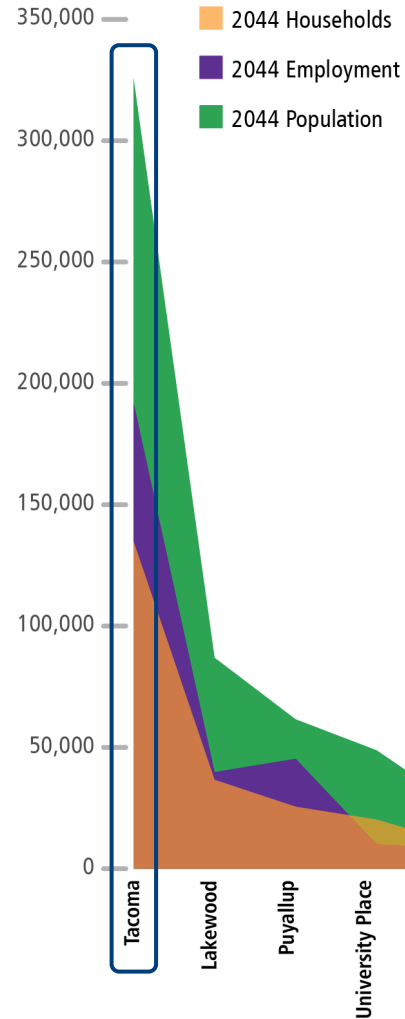
## Common Themes from Tacoma Respondents

- Extended and expanded service in Northeast and North End neighborhoods.
- North-South Connections.
- Improved Evening Service later than 10:00 pm.
- Better timetable integration for connections.
- Better service to the Tideflats region and other employment centers.
- Signalization improvements.
- Safety improvements.
- Improvements in infrastructure at bus stops, such as benches, weather protection, and lighting.

# Home In Tacoma

Routes identified have high overlaps with areas targeted for growth.

Growth in Numbers



## TACOMA IS IN A HOUSING AFFORDABILITY CRISIS.

The Affordable Housing Action Strategy (AHAS) is an organization wide initiative to address our housing affordability crisis through 27 strategic actions defined by the City and our stakeholders.

City of Tacoma, Affordable Housing Action Strategy

## Home in Tacoma

The Home in Tacoma initiative is a planning effort by the City of Tacoma to promote diverse and affordable housing options within the jurisdiction.

It aims to diversify housing types, revise zoning regulations to promote higher density urban residential areas and enhance supply of housing. The plan seeks to increase supply in areas well served by public transportation and reduce parking requirements. These measures provide greater impetus for increased ridership on associated transit corridors enhancing opportunities for newer routes, better span and frequency improvements within Pierce Transit's service planning.

To learn more, visit the City of Tacoma's [Affordable Housing Action Strategy website](#).





# Home In Tacoma

Specific Existing and New Routes which support areas identified for growth under Home In Tacoma



☐ Tacoma City Limits

----- FLUM Corridors

### Residential Target Areas

▨ Adopted MFTE Eligible

▭ Mixed Use Centers

■ FLUM - Neighborhood Commercial Nodes

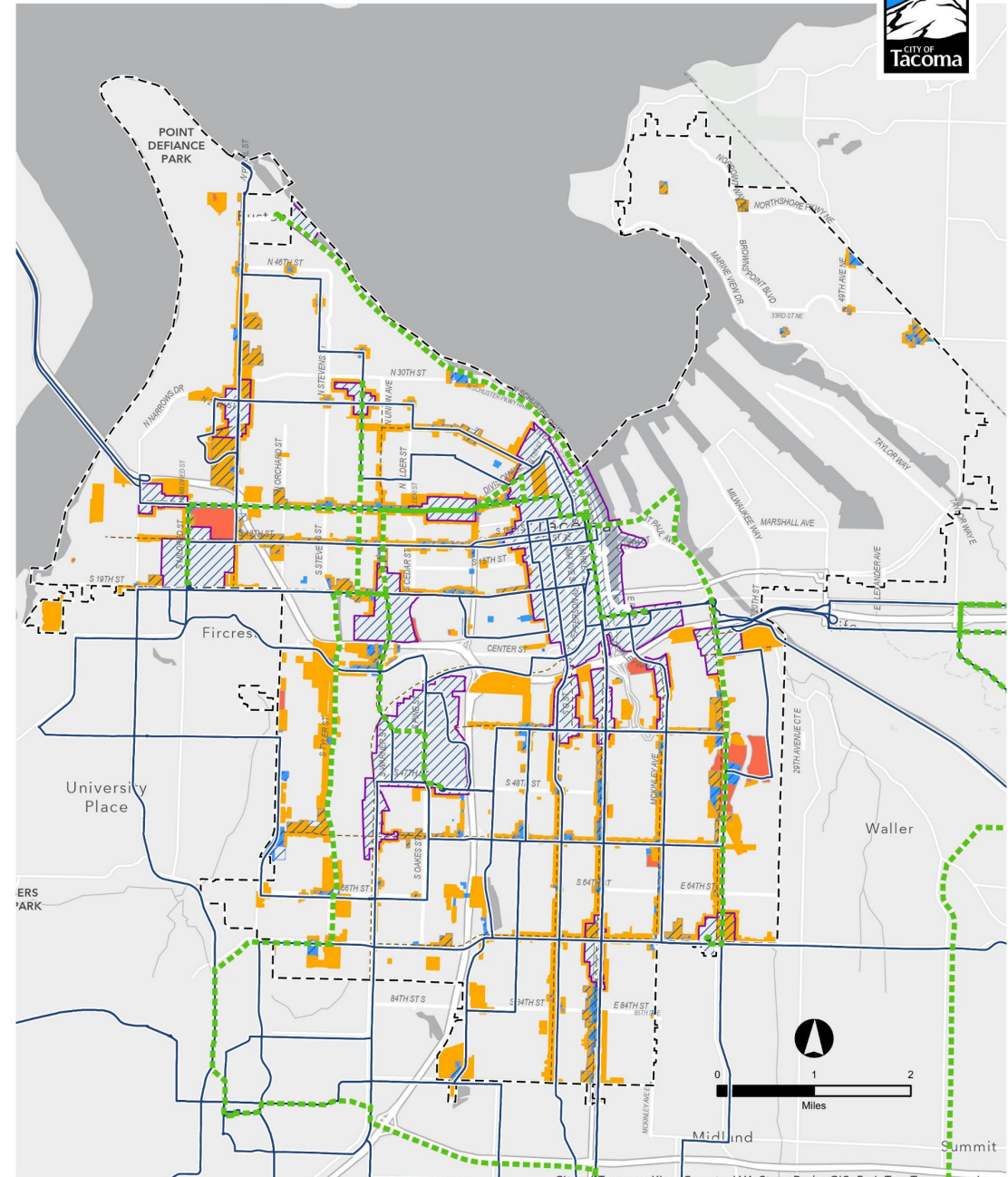
■ FLUM - Multi-Family (High Density)

■ UR-3 - Urban Residential 3 Zoning District

--- New Fixed Route

— Existing Routes with Improvements

## Residential Target Areas





# Capital Needs Outline

In addition to bus fleet expansion, significant Maintenance & Operations improvements at Lakewood headquarters base will need to be undertaken.

The investment needs and capital growth necessary varies under each scenario. Based on current funding, the maximum growth we can aspire to is **690,000 annual Service Hours**.

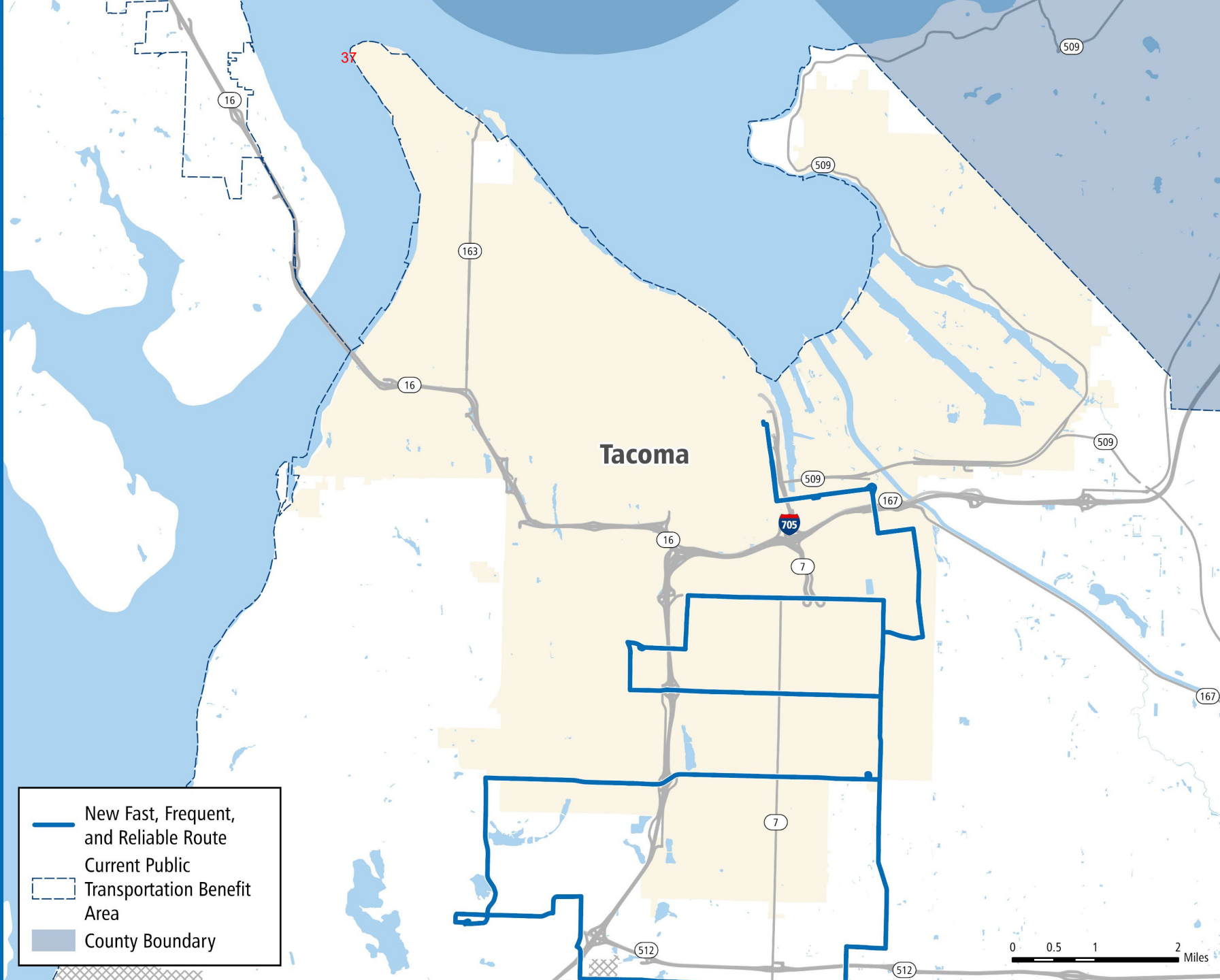
For each growth scenario, we will need a fixed route fleet expansion built on top of the current 174 buses in service.

Scenario		Additional Buses
Scenario A		40
Scenario B		70
Scenario C		90
Scenario D		160

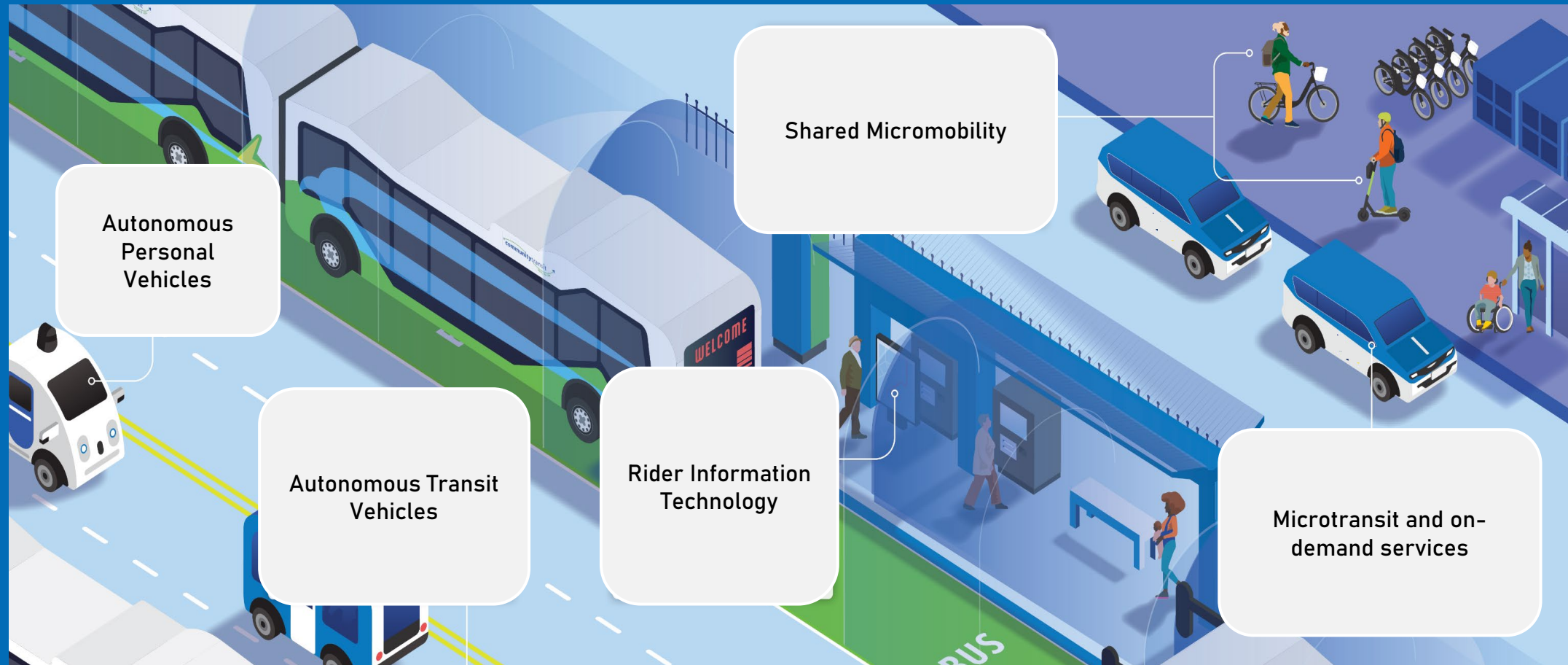
# Fast, Frequent & Reliable Network

Assumes Stream or BRT 1, 2, & 3.

Routes identified for more frequent service by identifying Speed and Reliability Improvements within the corridors.



# Advances in Technology



For more information or  
to access the Draft  
Destination 2045:

<https://piercetransit.org/longrangeplans/>

