



# Statewide Strategic Transit Assessment Study

Phase 3 Results

August 13, 2019





# Phase 3 Overview

#### Intercity Service

- Existing and Forecast Demand
  - Demographic and commuting patterns analysis
  - Identifying areas with unmet need
- Viability and Sustainability
  - Develop new bus services to address needs
    - Local routes
    - Commuter routes
  - Survey Results and Prioritization
- New Technology
- Peer analysis of NH providers





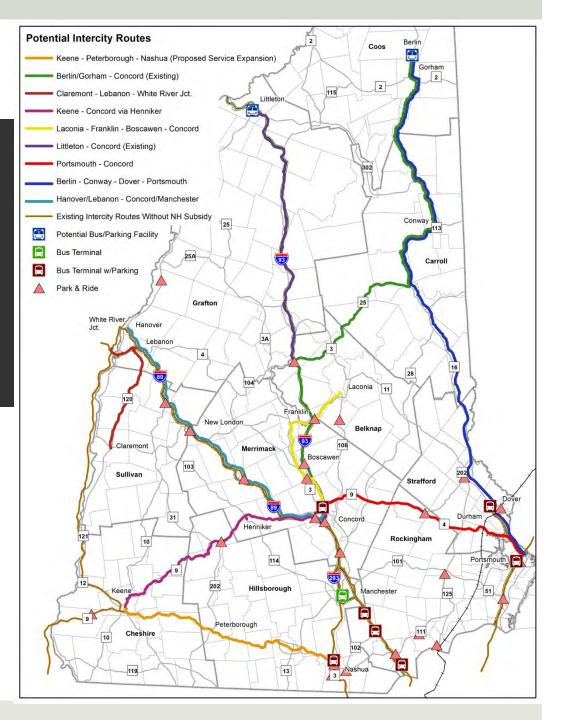
# Potential Intercity Route Network

#### Took expansive view of possible routes

- Intra-state line-haul routes connecting larger cities
- Access from rural areas to intercity network
- Shorter feeder routes to primary hubs
- Connecting to colleges/universities without current service
  - Lakes Region Community College (Laconia 200 residential students)
  - Franklin Pierce University (Rindge 1,000 res. Students without cars)
  - New England College (Henniker 500 res. students without cars)
- Proposed two bus facilities at northern end of rural routes where no facilities exist now
  - Littleton
  - Berlin



### Existing and Potential Intercity Routes and Facilities







### Route Statistics

Route	One-way miles	Est. Travel Time	Est. Time to Boston
Littleton – Concord	90	2 hr. 5 min.	3 hr. 40 min.
Berlin – Concord	125	3 hr. 20 min.	5 hr.
N. Conway – Concord	90	2 hr. 15 min.	4 hr.
Laconia – Concord	34	1 hr. 10 min	2 hr. 20 min.
Claremont – Lebanon/WRJ	30	45 min.	3 hr.
Hanover – Concord	70	1 hr. 30 min.	n/a
Keene – Nashua	48	1 hr. 10 min.	3 hr.
Keene – Concord	55	1 hr. 20 min.	3 hr. 30 min.
Portsmouth – Concord	50	1 hr. 15 min.	n/a
Berlin – Dover	120	3 hr. 15 min.	4 hr. 45 min.





## Cost and Ridership Estimates

Route (One-way fare)	Annual Cost	Annual Ridership	Subsidy (30% FRR)
Laconia – Concord (\$6)	\$145,000	7,200	\$102,000
Claremont – Lebanon/WRJ (\$6)	\$128,000	6,500	\$89,000
Hanover – Concord (\$10)	\$450,000	14,000	\$310,000
Keene – Nashua (\$7)	\$106,000	5,000	\$71,000
Keene – Concord (\$8)	\$356,000	13,000	\$252,000
Portsmouth – Concord (\$8)	\$308,000	11,500	\$216,000
Berlin – Dover (\$30)	\$778,000	8,000	\$538,000





# Initial Priorities

#### Tier 1

- Littleton Concord (existing)
- Berlin N. Conway Concord (existing)
- Laconia Franklin Concord (high need/college)
- Keene Nashua (high need/college)

#### **Tier 2**

- Keene Concord (high need/college)
- Claremont Lebanon/WRJ (high need/inexpensive)
- Hanover Concord (large potential market)

#### Tier 3

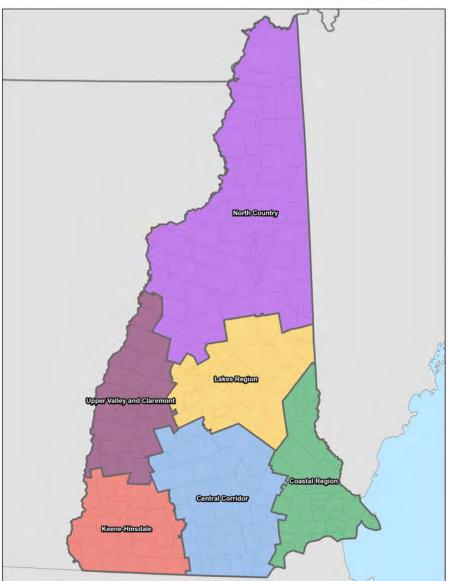
- Portsmouth Concord (more commuter oriented)
- Berlin N. Conway Dover (high need, but expensive)





## Analysis Regions

- Used RPC boundaries
- Combined CNHRPC, SNHPC and NRPC into Central Corridor
- Combined RPC and SRPC into Coastal Region







## Key Measures

- Population density population per square mile
- Employment density jobs per square mile
- Transit propensity index based on 4 characteristics
  - Population over age 80
  - People with a disability
  - People below the poverty line
  - Households with zero cars available





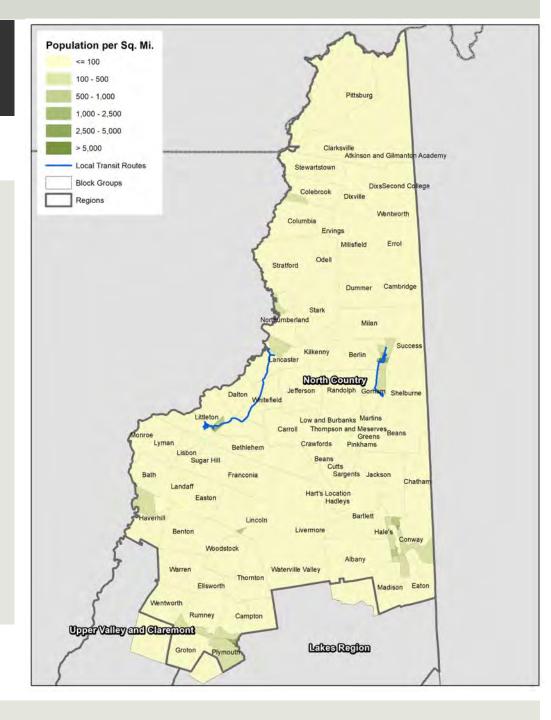
# Transit Propensity

- For each indicator, classified census block groups into four categories
  - Low at or below state average (0 points)
  - Medium from state average to double (1 point)
  - High from double to triple the state average (2 points)
  - Very High more than triple the state average (3 points)
- Added points together to form composite measure
- Any block group in a very high category for at least one measure was considered at least "high" overall

# North Country

Overwhelmingly rural

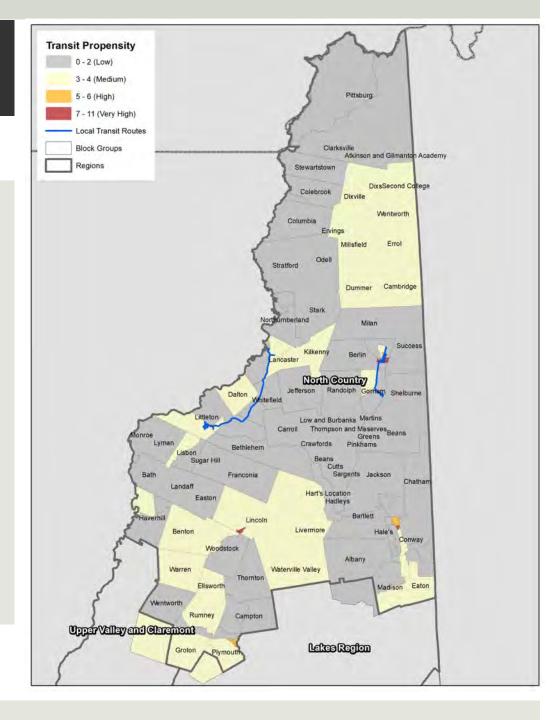
- Moderate density
  - Berlin/Gorham
  - Lancaster
  - Littleton
  - Plymouth
  - Conway



# North Country

#### High need block groups

- Berlin
- Lincoln
- North Conway
- Plymouth
- Medium need in large swaths of region



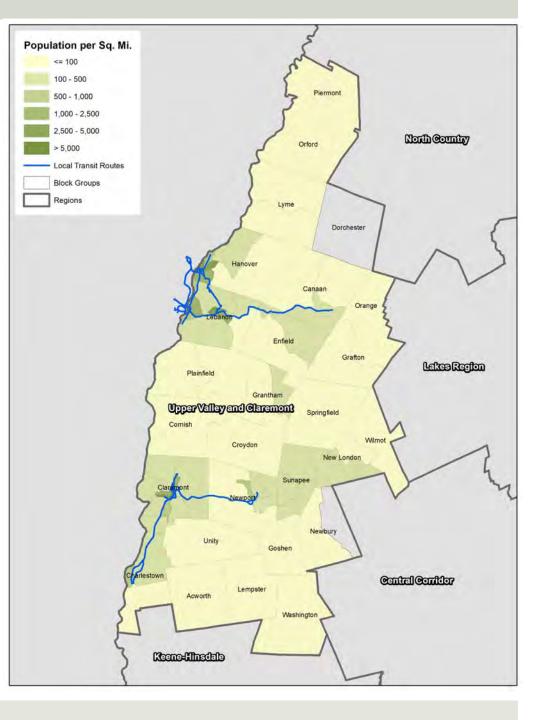
# North Country

- Highest employment density
  - Conway
  - Plymouth
  - Berlin
  - Littleton
  - Lincoln (Loon Mtn)



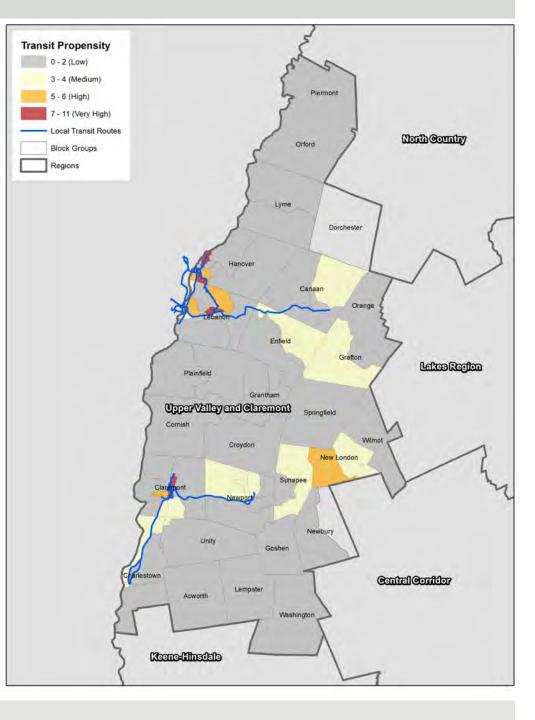
### Upper Valley/ Claremont

- Highest density in Lebanon and southern Hanover as well as central Claremont
- Newport, Charlestown, New London, Canaan, Enfield have moderate density



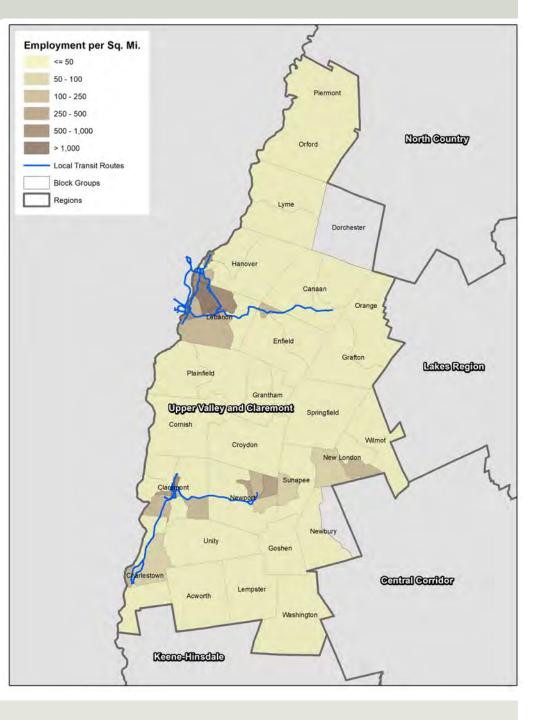
### Upper Valley/ Claremont

- Very high needs in Hanover, Lebanon and Claremont
- High need in New London and other parts of Lebanon and Hanover



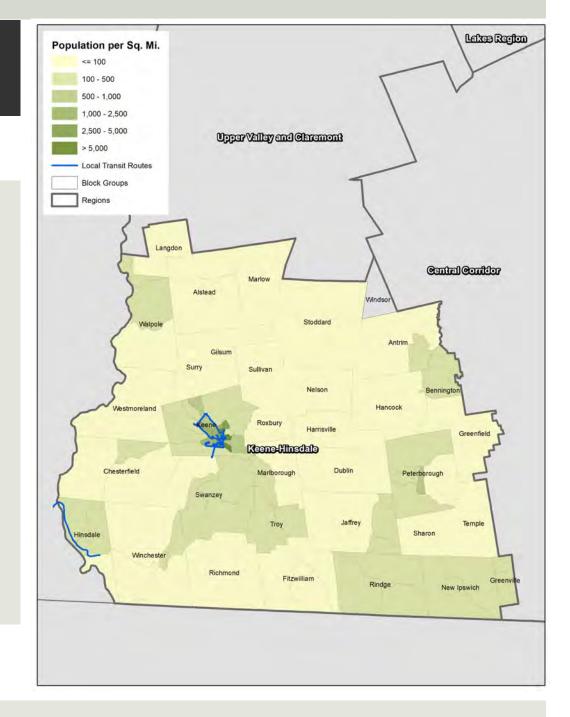
### Upper Valley/ Claremont

- Lebanon and downtown Hanover clearly has the highest employment density
- Claremont-Newport and New London have moderate density



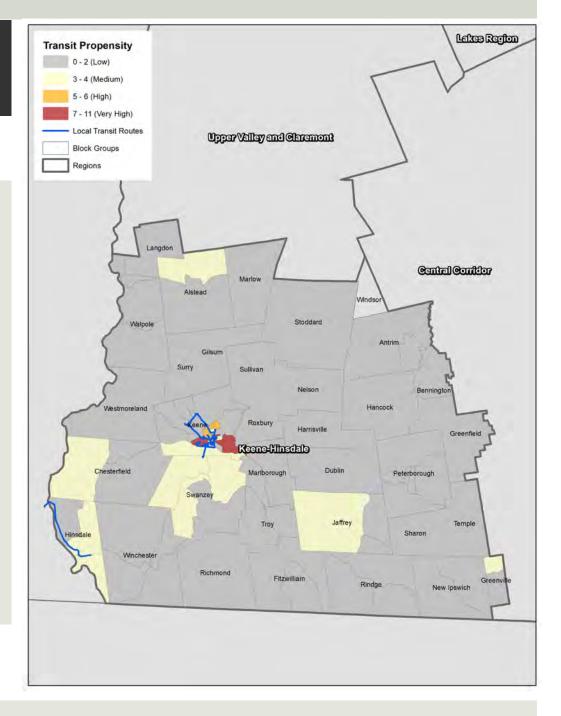
#### Keene-Hinsdale

- Very rural area overall
- Highest density in downtown Keene
- Low to moderate density at east edge of region



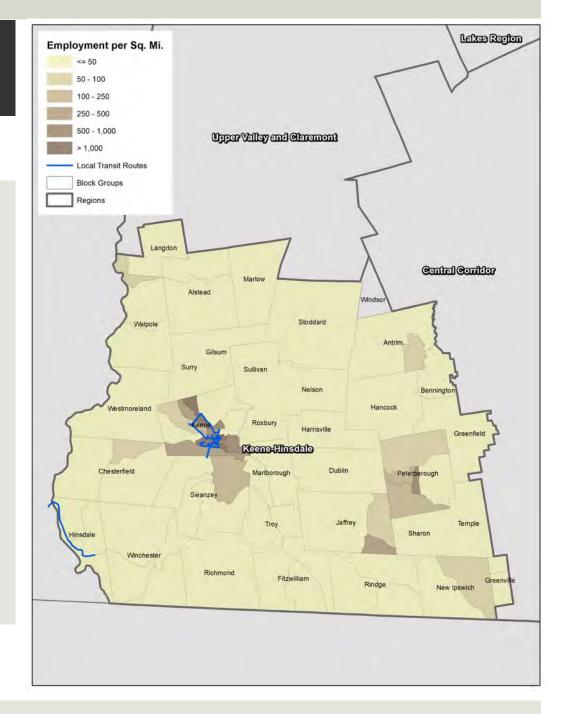
### Keene-Hinsdale

- Only area of high need is in Keene
- Moderate need in Jaffrey, Swanzey and Hinsdale/Chesterfield



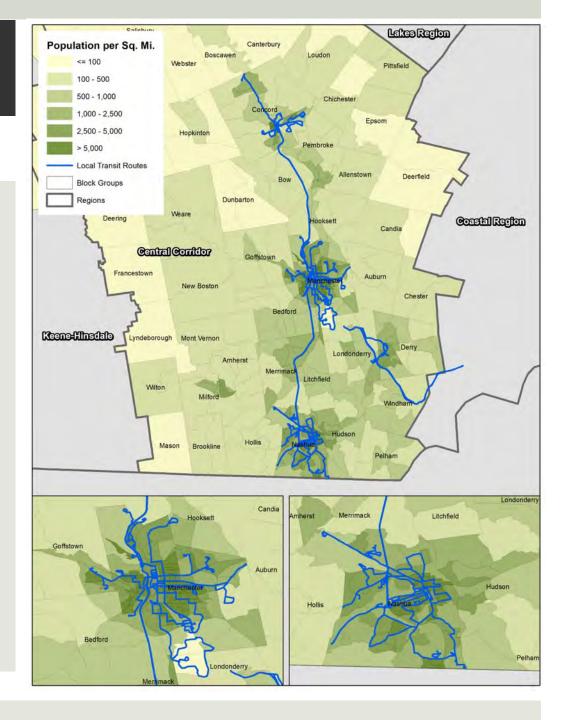
#### Keene-Hinsdale

- Employment density highest in Keene
- Peterborough and Jaffrey have moderate concentrations of jobs



### Central Corridor

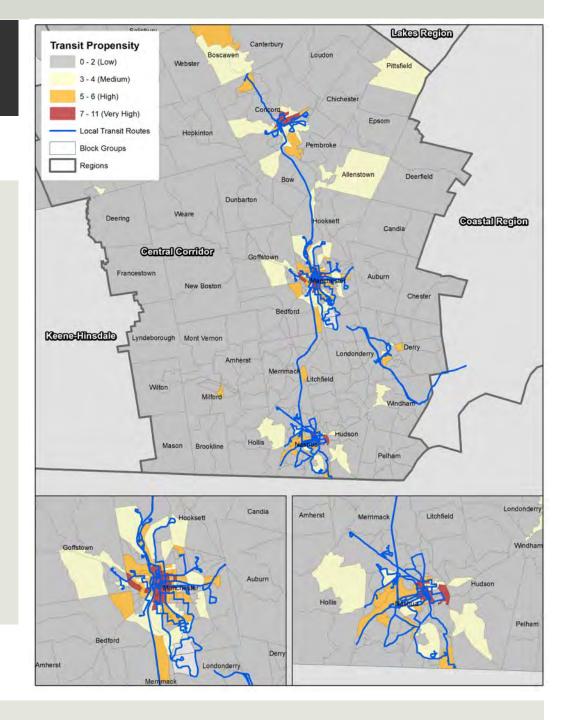
- Areas of high residential density have thorough transit coverage in Nashua, Manchester and Concord
- Moderate density areas without bus service
  - Pembroke
  - Allenstown
  - Milford
  - Hudson



### Central Corridor

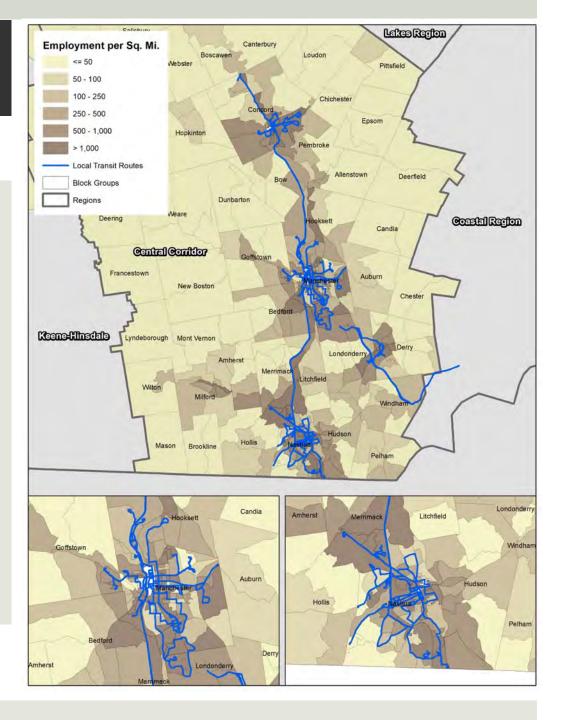
#### Very high propensity

- Concord
- Manchester
- Nashua
- High propensity unserved by bus routes
  - Milford
  - Derry
  - Pembroke
  - Boscawen
  - Merrimack



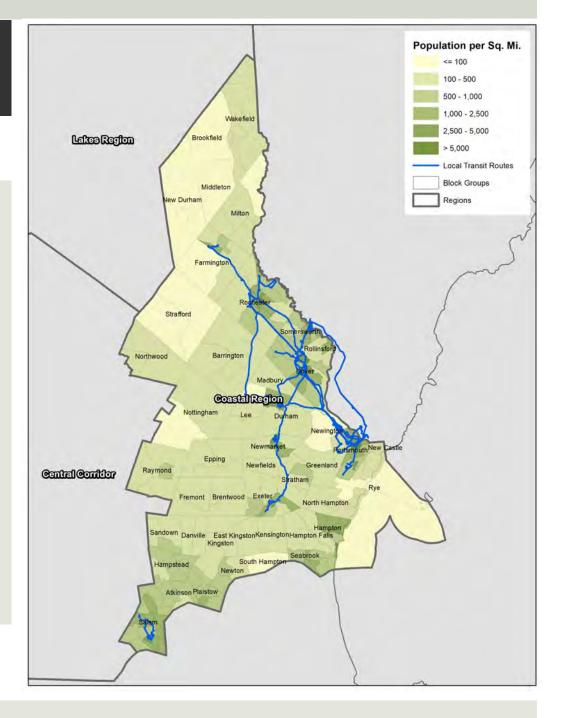
## Central Corridor

- Employment density relatively high throughout central corridor
- Large cities dominate, but Milford, Amherst, Derry, Londonderry, Hudson and Bedford also have many jobs



### Coastal Region

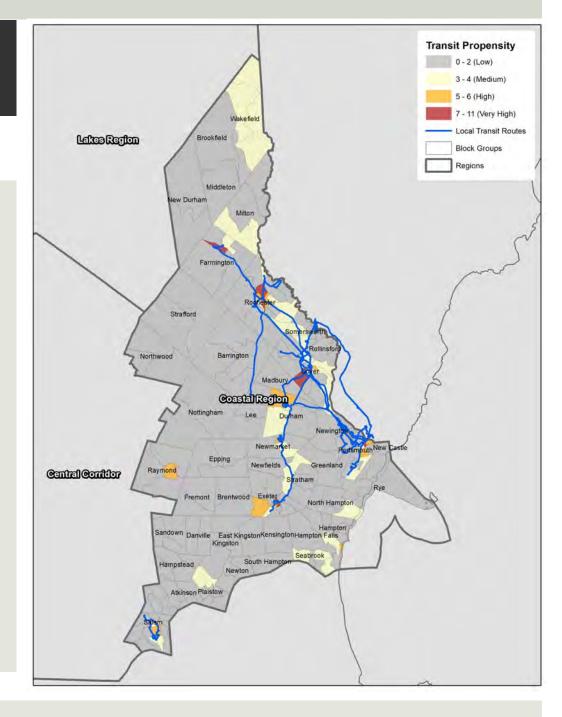
- Part of urbanized area but not as dense as Central Corridor
- High density in some pockets, but moderate density across much of southern and eastern edges



### Coastal Region

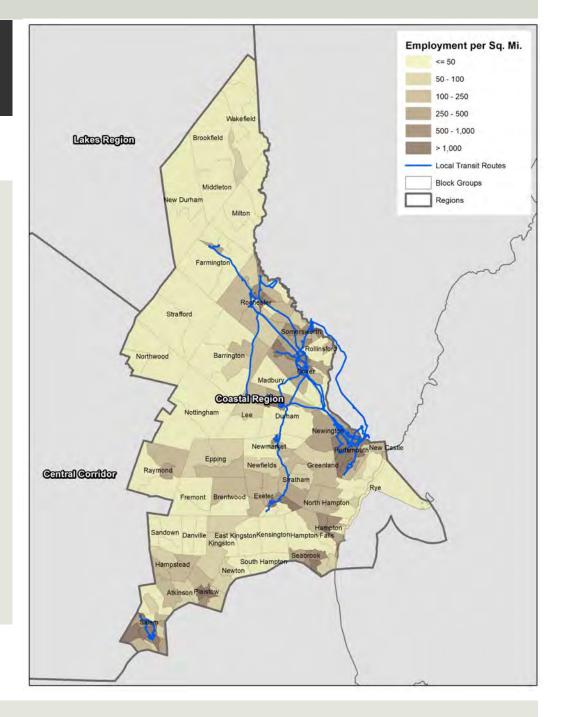
#### Very high propensity

- Farmington
- Rochester
- Dover
- Portsmouth
- Exeter
- High propensity unserved by bus routes
  - Raymond
  - Hampton
  - Exeter



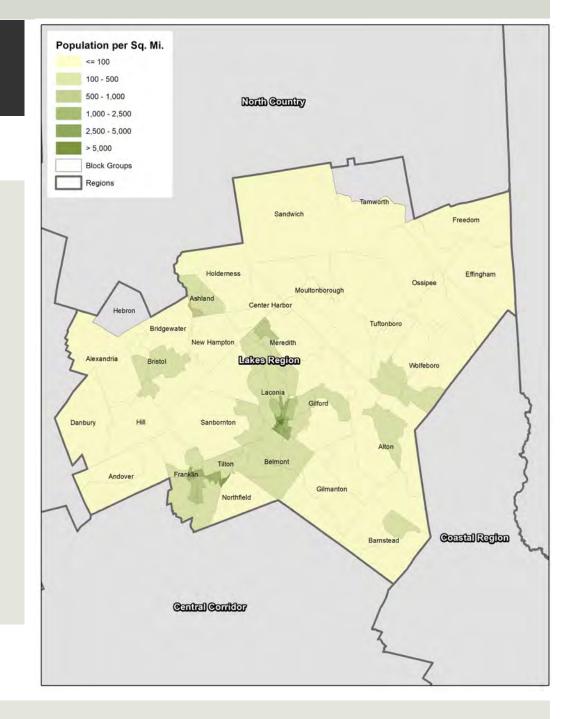
### Coastal Region

- Employment density similar to residential – focused on southern and eastern edges
- Unserved areas
  - Plaistow
  - Seabrook
  - Hampton



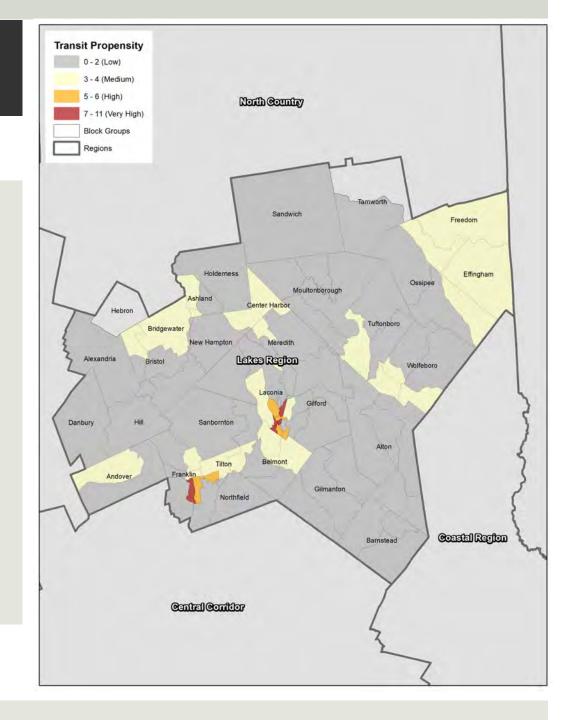
# Lakes Region

- Currently no local bus services in Lakes Region
- Highest density in Laconia, Franklin and Tilton
- Moderate density in Meredith and Ashland
- Very rural in northeastern section of region



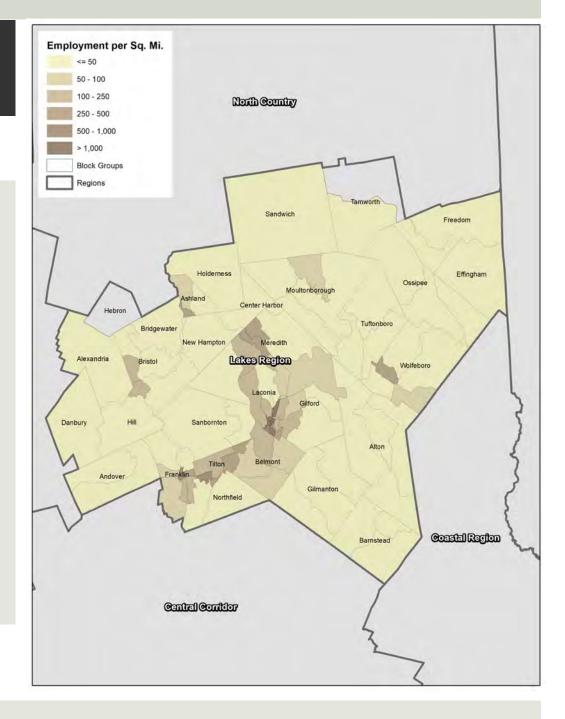
# Lakes Region

- High/Very High propensity in Laconia and Franklin
- Moderate propensity near Lake
   Winnipesaukee and east of NH 16



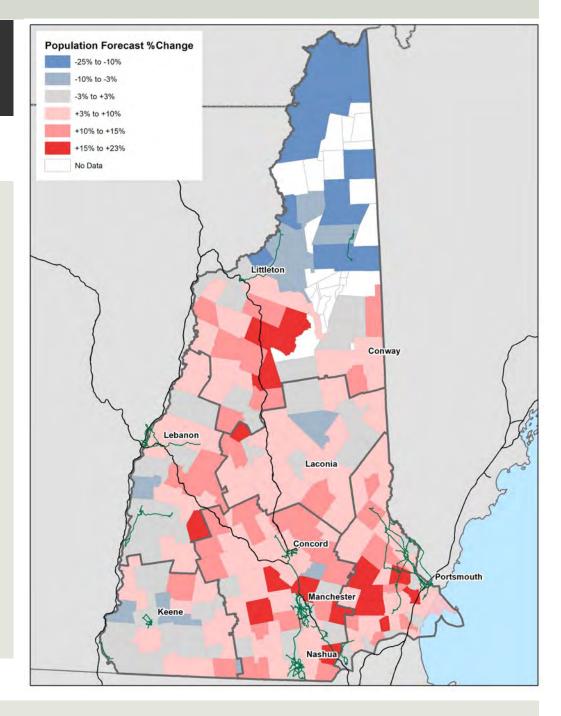
# Lakes Region

- Most of the employment is in Meredith-Laconia-Tilton-Franklin corridor
- Some employment density in Wolfeboro



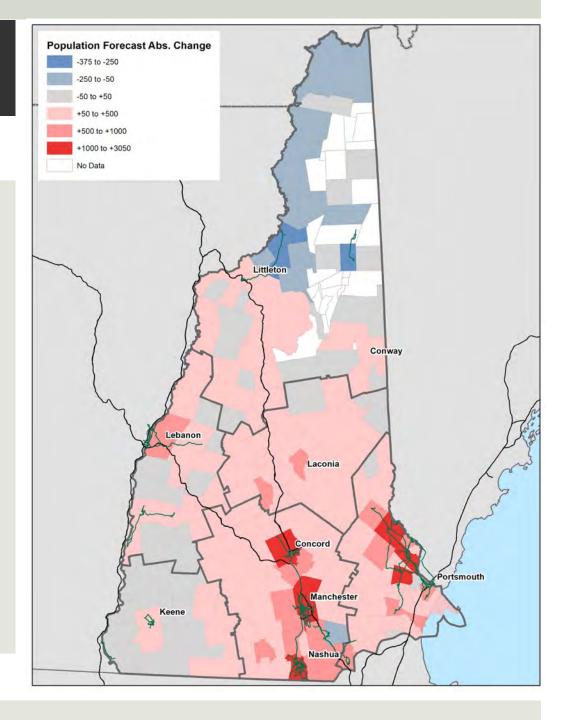
#### Population Forecast

- Percent change 2015 to 2030 forecast
- Based on NH Office of Strategic Initiatives projections
- Takes county-level estimates and allocates by municipality based on trends between 2000 and 2015
- Fastest growing communities not served by existing bus routes



### Population Forecast

- Absolute change from 2015 to 2030
- Largest absolute growth in the larger cities and more populated areas
- Almost all in upper categories already served by transit; exceptions
  - Laconia
  - Franklin
  - Milford







## What Does It All Mean?

- Many towns showed up as having moderate to high density in population and employment and/or high transit propensity, but no bus service
  - Conway
  - Plymouth
  - New London
  - Pembroke
  - Allenstown
  - Milford
  - Hudson

- Merrimack
- Raymond
- Hampton
- Exeter
- Laconia
- Franklin
- Tilton





# Possible Services

- Some of these locations have had fixed or flexible route service in the recent past that was discontinued due to poor ridership and lack of local support
  - Carroll County (Conway, Ossipee, Wolfeboro, etc.)
  - Winnipesaukee Transit System (Laconia-Tilton-Franklin)
  - Exeter (COAST route has been converted to on demand)
- Some are slated to see new intercity service in FY2020
  - Laconia
  - Franklin
  - Boscawen





#### Assumptions for New Local Services

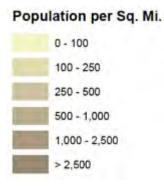
- For costing purposes, assumed a constant \$75 per vehicle revenue hour for all local services
  - No specific operator assumed
- Made no assumptions about fare levels or revenue
- Most services could be operated as route deviation service with a 1/4-mile buffer; otherwise would require ADA complementary paratransit

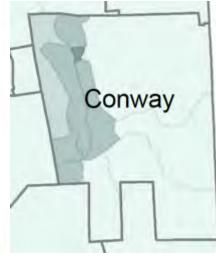


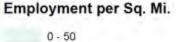


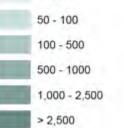
# Conway: Pop 9,018; Emp 7,282





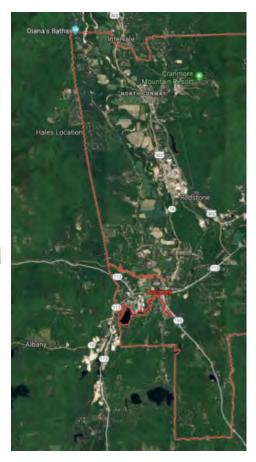








Conway





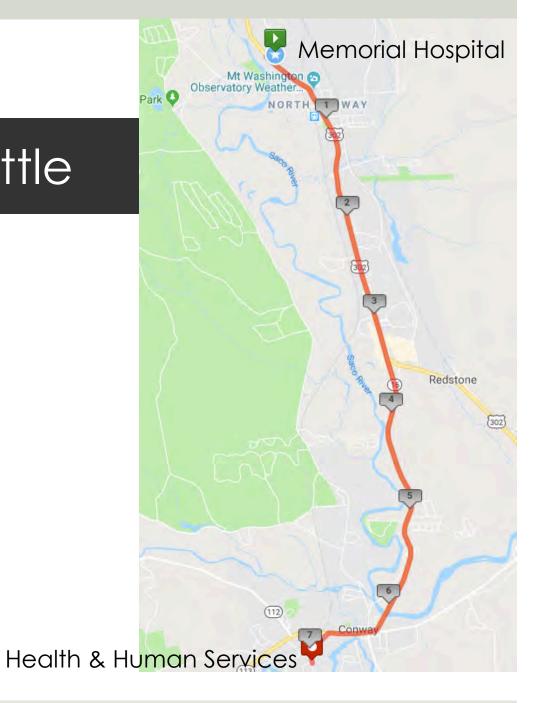


# Conway Service

- Seasonal shuttle operating on White Mountain Highway (US 302)and NH 16 between Memorial Hospital and Health & Human Services
  - Two peak buses running at 30-minute headway
  - One bus midday and evening at 60-minute headway
  - Operate from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. daily
  - Memorial Day through Labor Day (100 days)
  - Estimate of annual gross cost: \$150,000



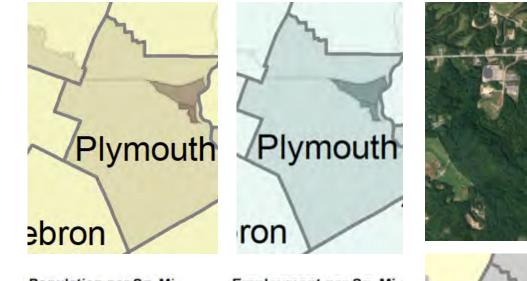
# Conway Shuttle



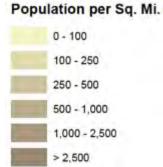


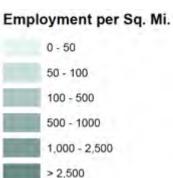


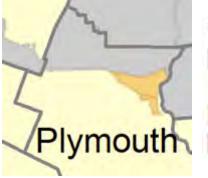
# Plymouth: Pop 6,659; Emp 4,099











Overall Index Score				
	0 - 2 (Low)			
	3 - 4 (Medium)			
	5 - 6 (High)			
	7 - 11 (Very High)			





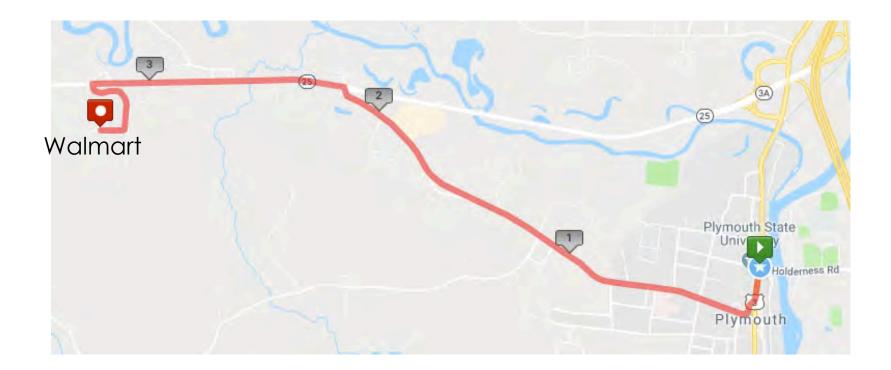
# Plymouth Service

- Shuttle connecting retail and employment on NH 25 with PSU and residental development in town center via Highland Street (in partnership with PSU)
  - Western terminus: Walmart
  - Eastern terminus: Town Common/PSU
  - One bus operating at 40-minute headway
  - Operate 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Mon-Fri
  - Estimate of annual gross cost: \$250,000





### Plymouth Shuttle

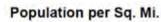


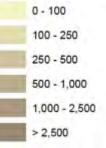


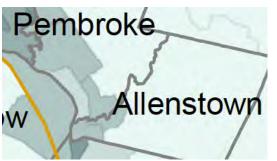


## Pembroke/Allenstown: Pop 7,361

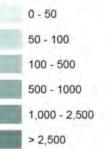








#### Employment per Sq. Mi.





#### **Overall Index Score**









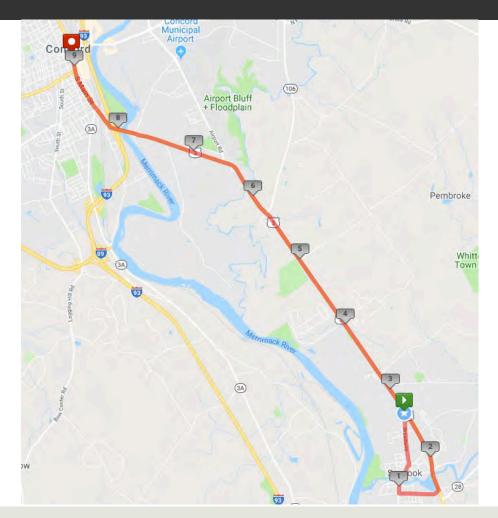
### Suncook Service

- Local route connection to Concord (Eagle Square) via US 3
  - One bus at 60-minute headway
  - Operate 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Mon-Fri
  - Estimate of annual gross cost: \$250,000
- Could also consider local service from Concord to Manchester via US 3 (proposed in 2013 study)





# Suncook – Concord Shuttle

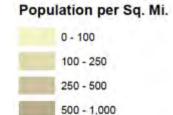






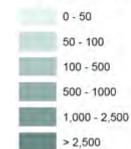
## Milford: Pop 15,206; Emp 6,239





1,000 - 2,500

> 2,500



Employment per Sq. Mi.



#### Overall Index Score 0 - 2 (Low) 3 - 4 (Medium) 5 - 6 (High) 7 - 11 (Very High)





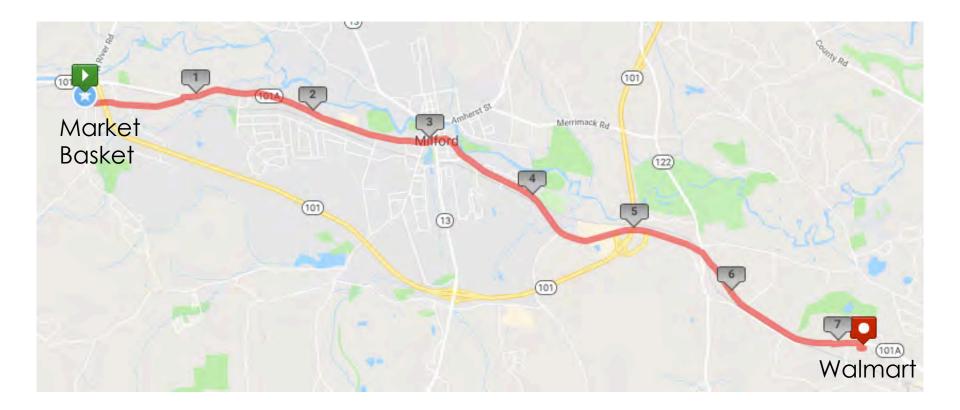
#### Milford Service

- Local shuttle operating between Market Basket and Walmart in Amherst (to connect to NTS)
  - One bus operating at 60-minute headway
  - Runs Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. to meet up with NTS Route 10/10A
  - Estimate of annual gross cost: \$105,000
  - Would likely need to run as a fixed route with complementary paratransit service (possibly available with existing SVTC resources)





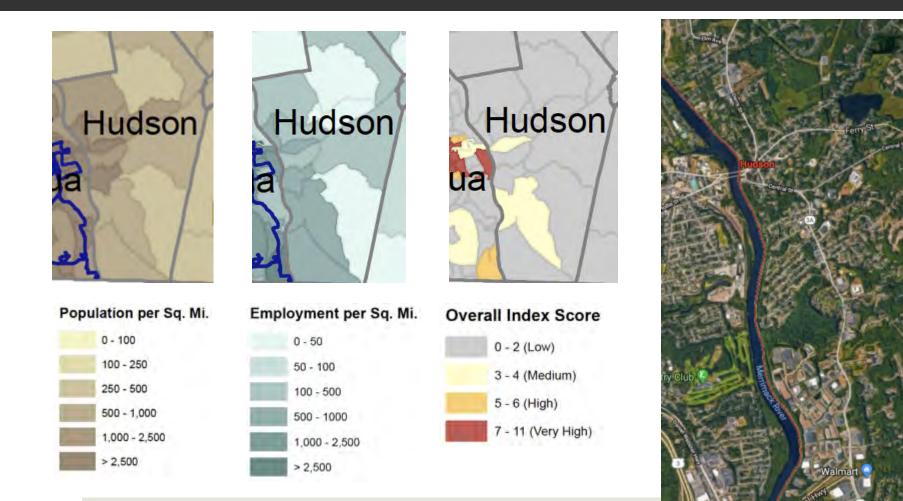
#### Milford Shuttle







### Hudson: Pop 24,808; Emp 8,318







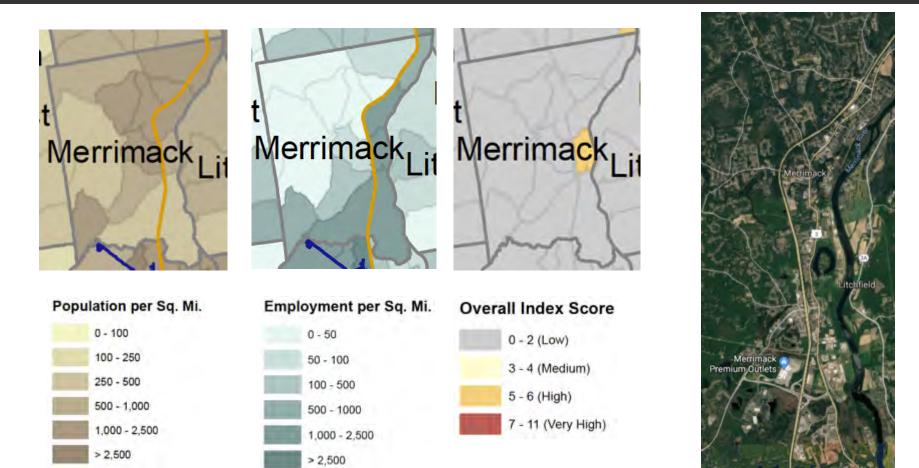
# Hudson Concepts

- Low transit propensity overall; mostly suburban-style development (only 117 households with no vehicles)
- Many Boston-bound commuters
- Local route to Nashua may be helpful to some
- Microtransit solution could help mobility in town
   Technology-enabled shared ride service





#### Merrimack: Pop 25,580; Emp 14,177







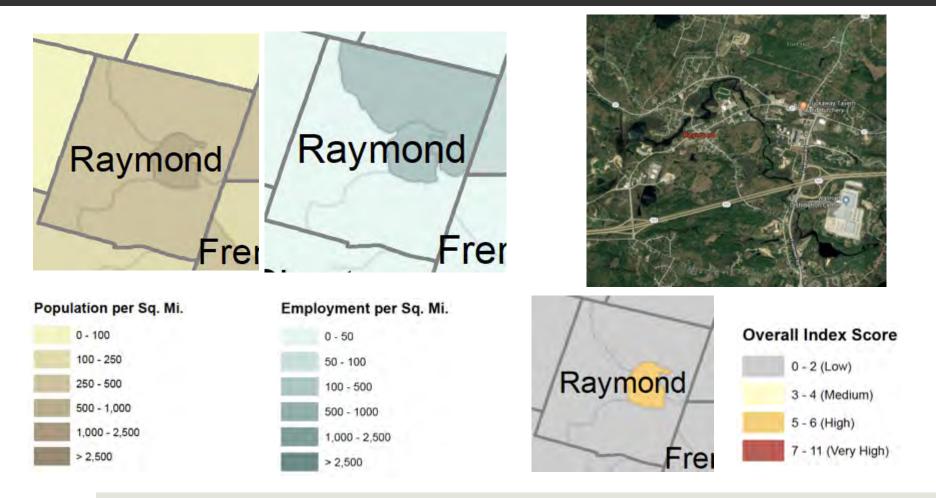
## Merrimack Concepts

- Low transit propensity overall; mostly suburban-style development (only 270 households with no vehicles)
- Block group including Horseshoe Pond has high transit propensity but only 834 people
- Local route to Nashua or Manchester may be helpful to some; many commuters to both cities
- Microtransit solution could help mobility in town





## Raymond: Pop 10,257; Emp 2,847







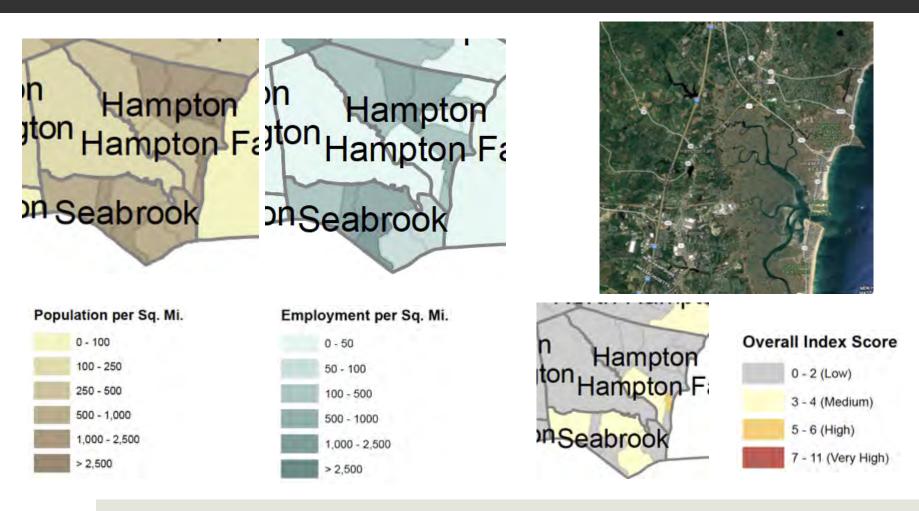
# Raymond Concepts

- Central section of town has higher-than-average incidence of poverty (246 individuals), but still low number of zero-vehicle households (only 17)
- Fixed-route service not an option here
- Shuttle to Walmart Distribution Center may help some, but it has huge parking lot and there are few people without cars





#### Hampton/Seabrook







### Hampton/Seabrook Concepts

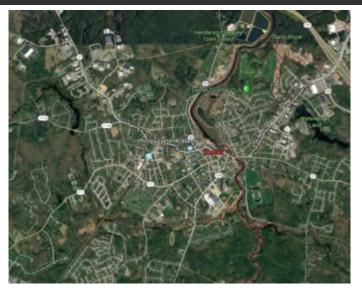
- Combined population of nearly 24,000
- Mostly oriented to Boston commuting and beach vacations
- Suburban-style development
- Not close to existing COAST service
- Likely microtransit the only feasible option; could provide access to commercial areas on US 1

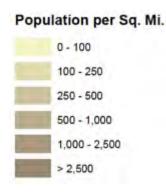




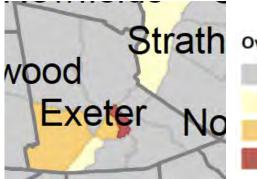
#### Exeter: Pop 14,562; Emp 8,981







En	nployment per Sq. Mi.
	0 - 50
	50 - 100
	100 - 500
123	500 - 1000
	1,000 - 2,500
	> 2,500









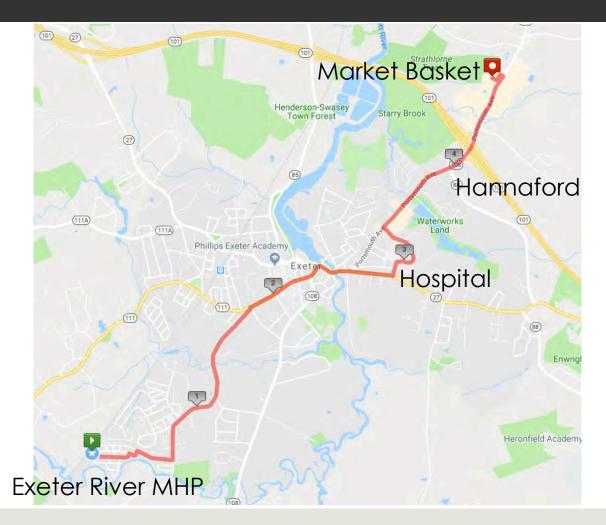
#### Exeter Concepts

- Possible substitute for current COAST deviated route Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday (connects to Stratham and Newmarket)
  - Shuttle route from Robinhood Drive through town and hospital to Hannaford and Market Basket in Stratham
  - One bus at 60-minute headway
  - Operate 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Mon-Fri
  - Estimate of annual gross cost: \$250,000





#### Exeter Shuttle

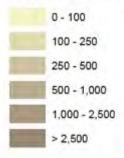




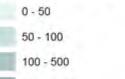


## Laconia: Pop 16,171; Emp 8,826









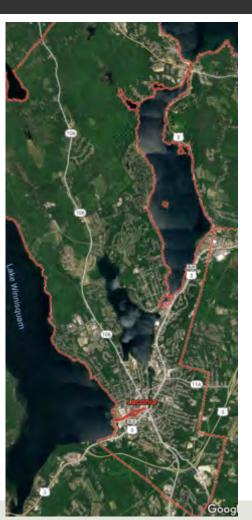


> 2,500













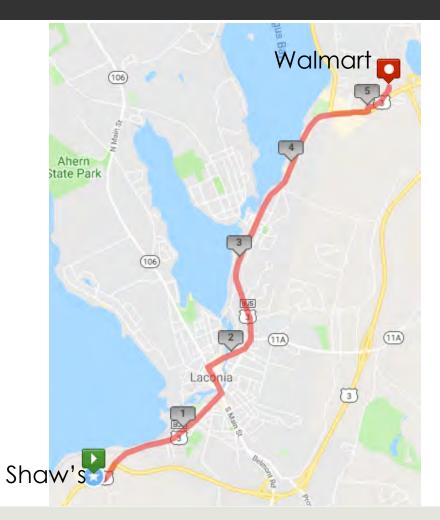
## Laconia Service

- WTS route discontinued in June 2017
  - □ Limited service (five trips per day)
  - Confusing and circuitous service pattern
  - Connected to Tilton and Franklin
- Local shuttle between Shaw's in Belmont and Walmart in Gilford via US 3 Business
  - Diverts through downtown Laconia via Main St and Church St.
  - One bus at 60-minute headway
  - Operate 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Mon-Fri
  - Estimate of annual gross cost: \$250,000





#### Laconia Shuttle

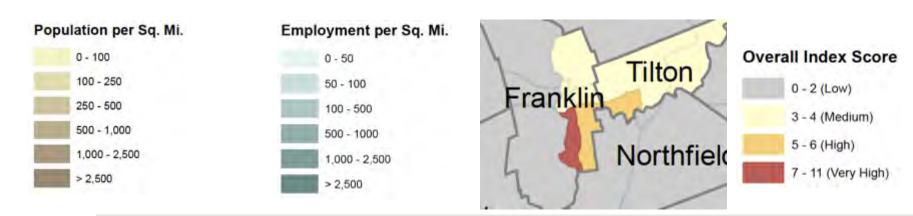






#### Franklin/Tilton: Pop 12,007; Emp 6,689









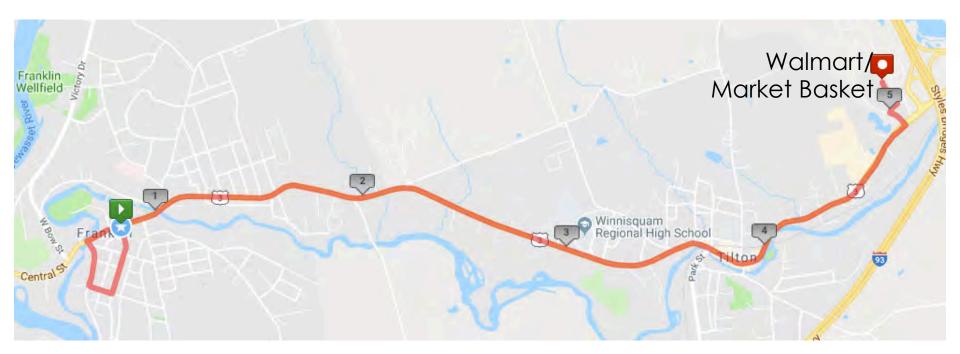
## Franklin/Tilton Service

- Shuttle from center of Franklin to Tilton/Exit 20 retail area
  - One bus at 60-minute headway
  - Operate 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Mon-Fri
  - Estimate of annual gross cost: \$250,000





## Franklin-Tilton Shuttle







#### Local Service Summary

Route	Headway	Days of Service	Annual Revenue Hrs	Annual Gross Cost*	Urban/ Rural
Conway	30/60	100	2,000	\$150,000	Rural
Plymouth	40	255	3,315	\$250,000	Rural
Suncook	60	255	3,315	\$250,000	Urb/Rur
Milford	60	156	1,400	\$105,000	Urban
Exeter	60	255	3,315	\$250,000	Urban
Laconia	60	255	3,315	\$250,000	Rural
Franklin/Tilton	60	255	3,315	\$250,000	Rural
TOTAL				\$1,505,000	

\* Cost per revenue hour assumed at \$75 for all services



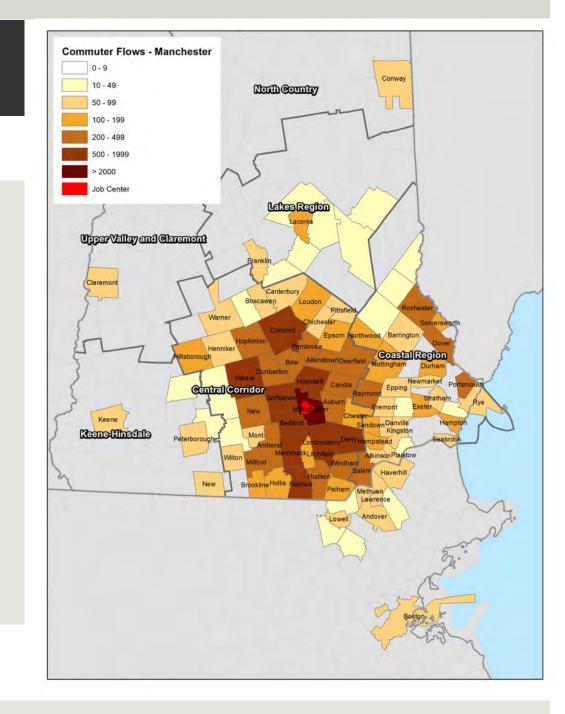


# Commuting Patterns

- Looked at 16 largest employment centers in New Hampshire
  - Six of them with more than 15,000 jobs
- In most cases, focused on an employment zone within a city or town, rather than a town as a whole
  - Any potential transit service works better for a focused area with high density and limited parking
- Data source is 2015 LEHD from US Census

#### Downtown Manchester

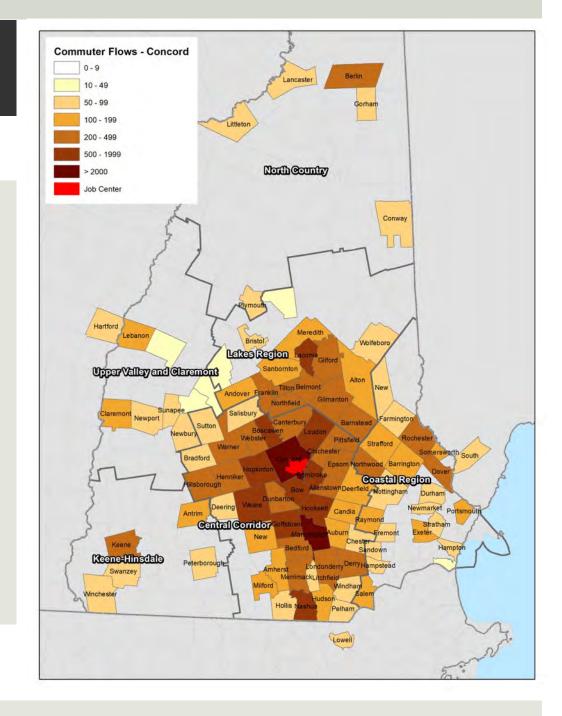
- ✤ 37,860 jobs
- Adjacent suburbs provide many of the commuters
- US 3 and I-93 corridors evident; how to capture more of this market
- Contingent from NH 16 corridor crossing via NH 101



#### Downtown Concord

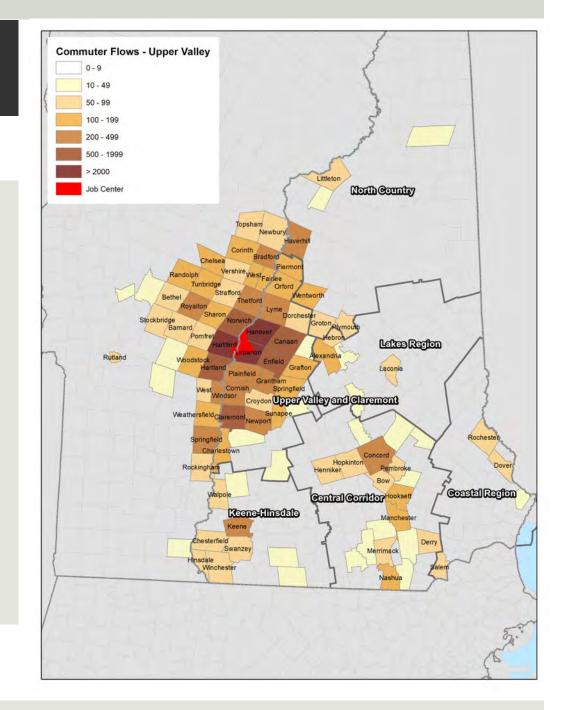
#### ✤ 35,677 jobs

- Includes Loudon Rd and State complex on Hazen Drive, as well as Concord Hospital
- More spread out than Manchester pattern
  - 540 commuters each from Laconia and Nashua
  - 245 from Berlin (!) and 234 from Keene



# Upper Valley

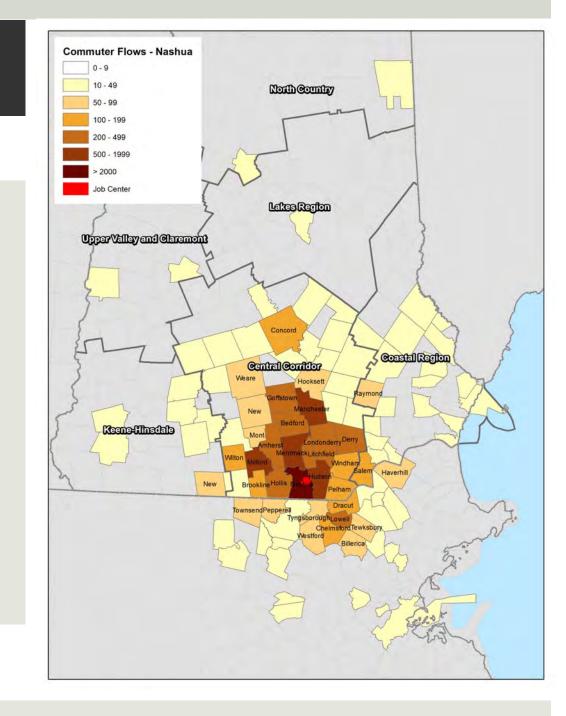
- 29,984 jobs
- Large influx from Vermont
- I-91 corridor evident from north and south
- 903 commuters from Claremont
- 379 commuters from Concord
- 319 commuters from Keene



#### Downtown Nashua

#### ✤ 17,201 jobs

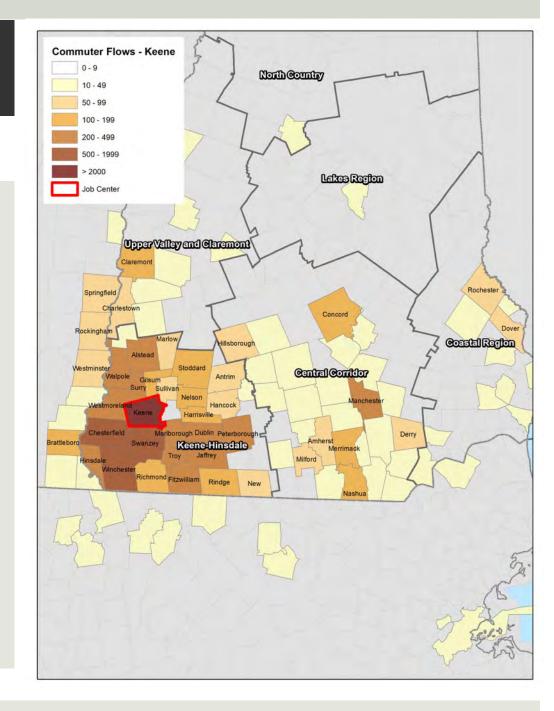
- Downtown largest of at least four distinct job centers in the city (53,459 total)
- Overall pattern for downtown much more compact
- Manchester (874) and Milford (537) most important non-adjacent sources



#### Keene

#### ✤ 18,158 jobs (city-wide)

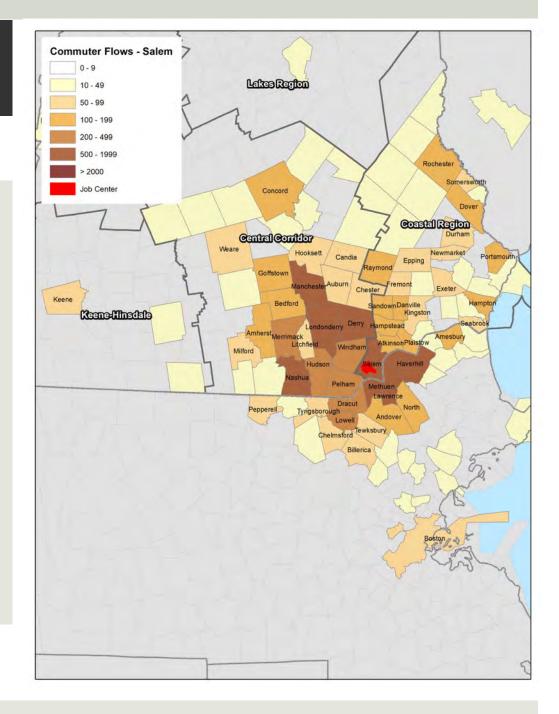
- About 7,000 jobs in downtown area
- Largest flows coming from the south via NH 9, 10 and 32
- NH 12 and 101 also important corridors
- 234 coming from Manchester (92 headed to downtown Keene)



#### Downtown Salem

#### ✤ 16,920 jobs

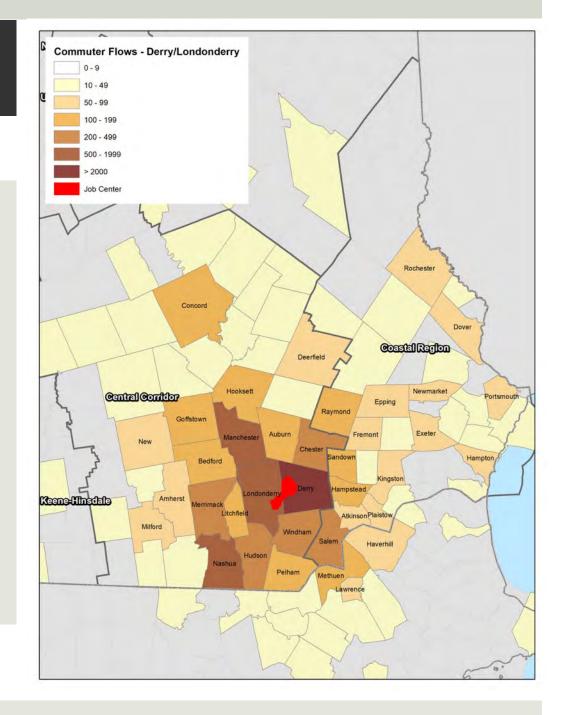
- Significant draw from Massachusetts border towns
- Manchester and Nashua each send around 1,000 workers
- Hundreds from Concord and NH 16 corridor



#### Derry-Londonderry

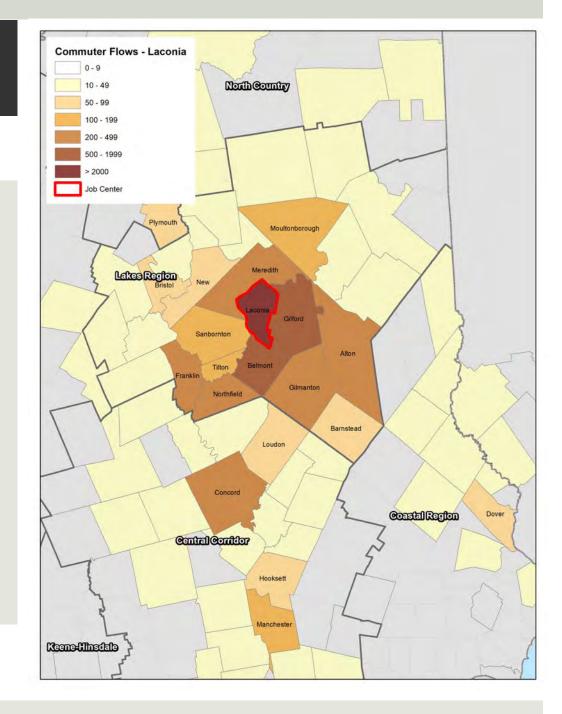
#### ✤ 11,810 jobs

- More compact pattern due to smaller number of total jobs
- Manchester sends 1,385 workers
- Nashua sends 633



### Laconia

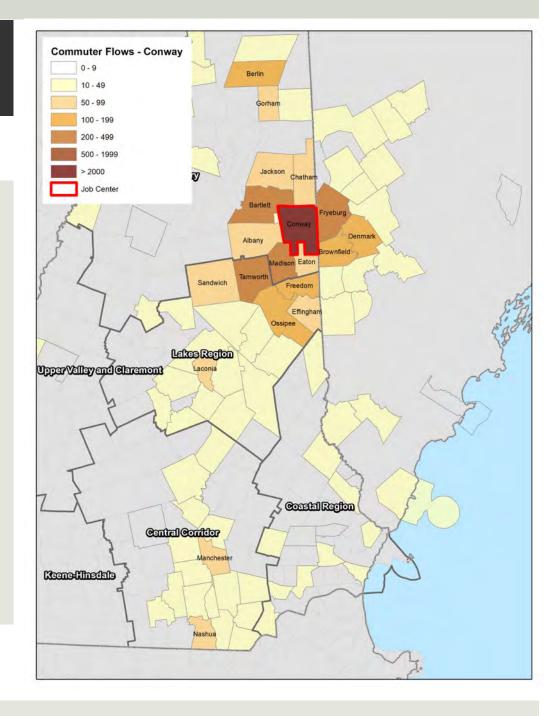
- 9,238 jobs for town as a whole, most focused in downtown area
- 252 commuters from Concord and 286 from Franklin
- 108 travel from Manchester



## Conway

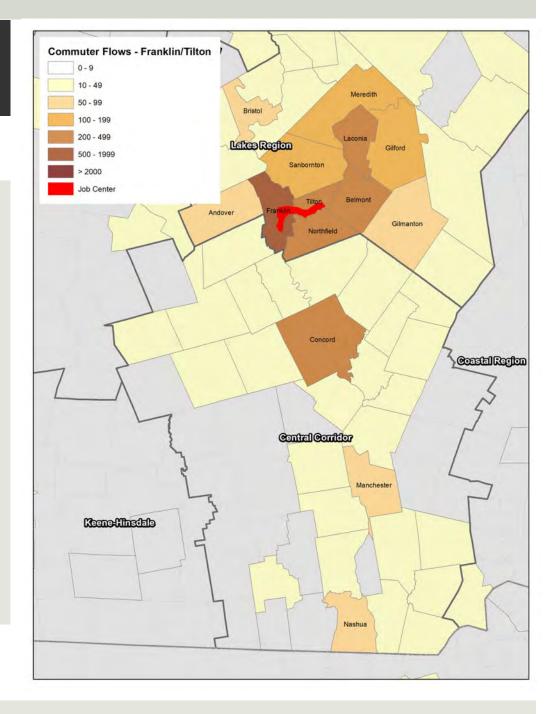
### ✤ 7,282 total jobs

- Largest job center in North Country
- Relatively compact pattern from neighboring towns in Maine and NH
- Over 100 from Berlin



# Franklin-Tilton

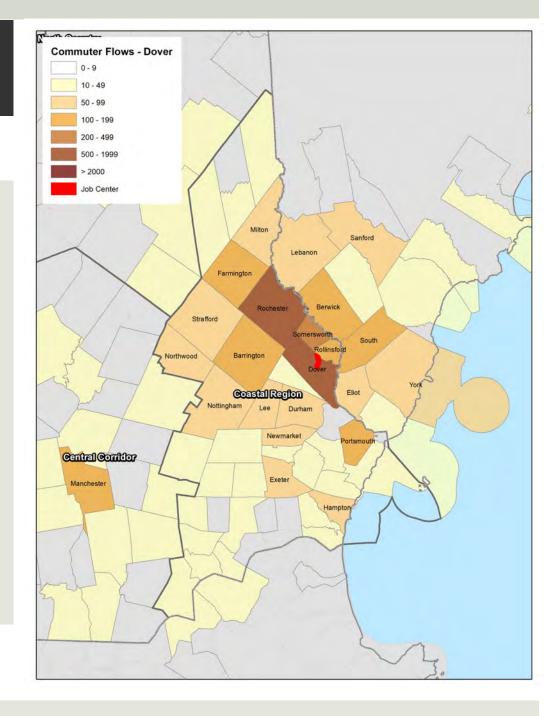
- 6,224 jobs in US 3 corridor including downtown Franklin and Exit 20 area of Tilton
- 449 commuters from Laconia
- 350 commuters from Concord



### Downtown Dover

### ✤ 6,222 jobs

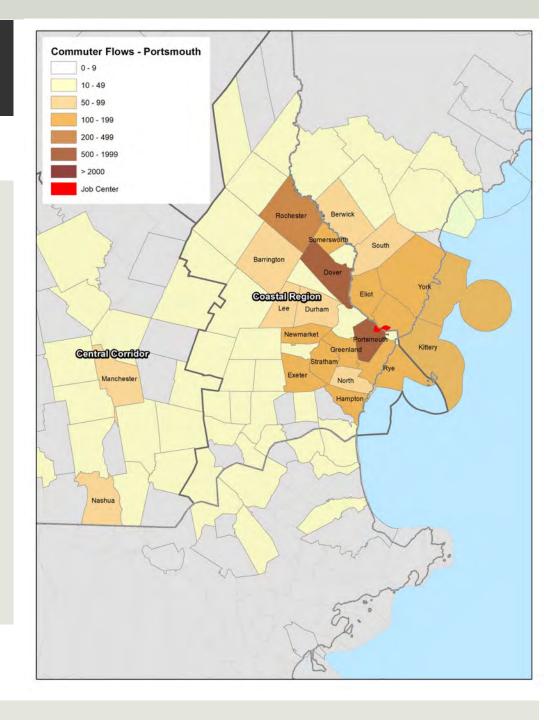
- Over 650 commuters from towns in Maine
- NH 16/108 an important corridor (already served by COAST Route 2)
- Manchester sends 124 workers



### Portsmouth/ Shipyard

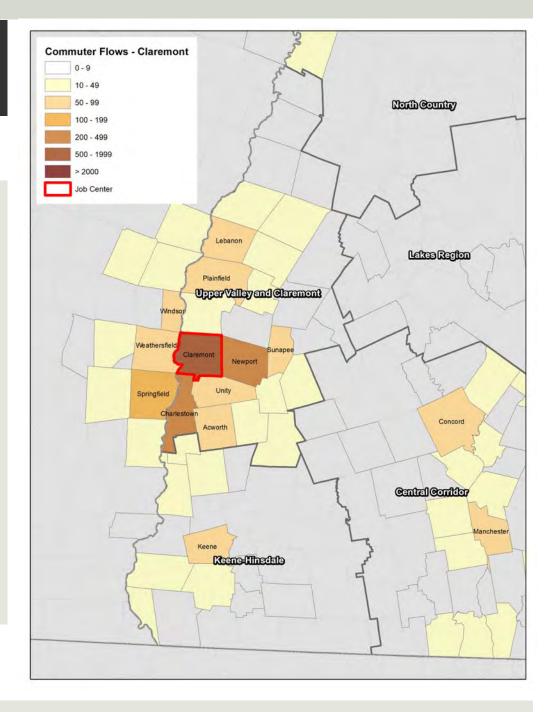
### ✤ 6,076 jobs

- NH 16 corridor important for commuting
- Only 785 commuters from Maine
- 365 communities send 9 or fewer "commuters" from all over New England and NY/NJ/PA, accounting for 13% of jobs



# Claremont

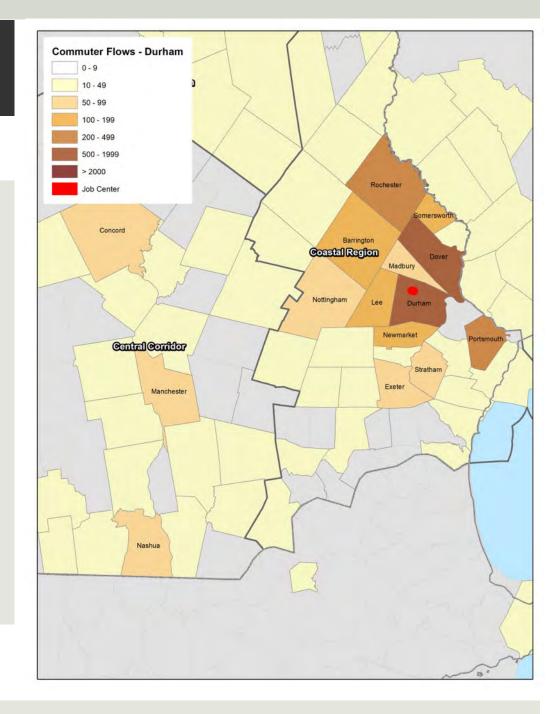
- 5,277 jobs for town as a whole, but most employment is downtown
- Relatively tight cluster, but Keene, Manchester and Concord send more than 50 commuters each



### Durham – UNH and Downtown

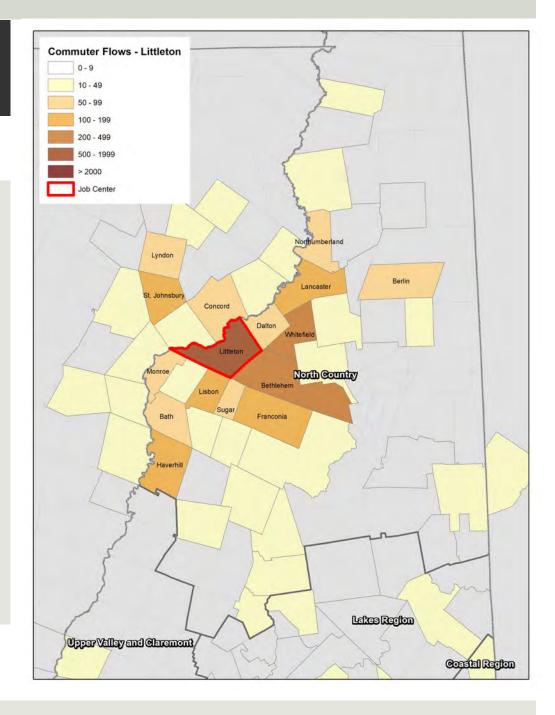
### ✤ 5,191 jobs

- Great majority of commuters within a 15mile radius
- UNH Wildcat Transit serves these corridors
- The three large cities each send over 50 commuters



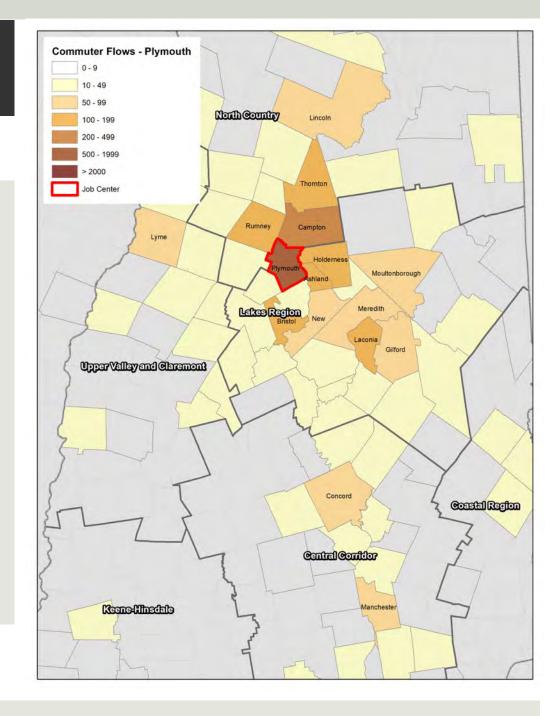
# Littleton

- 4,419 jobs (town as a whole)
- Most jobs in downtown and along US 302 (plus hospital)
- Significant draw from Vermont



# Plymouth

- 4,099 jobs (town as a whole)
- Plymouth State
   University a draw from
   Concord and
   Manchester







### Numerous Commuter Links

- Manchester east-west
  - Weare, Goffstown
  - Portsmouth-Dover-Roch
  - Derry-Londonderry
- Concord
  - Keene
  - Laconia
  - Rochester-Dover
- Claremont to Upper Valley

- Nashua from Milford, Manchester and Lowell
- Keene from Manchester, Peterborough, Claremont
- Salem from Nashua and Manchester
- Laconia from Concord, Franklin and reverse
- Littleton from south and east





# Commuter/Regional Needs

- Longer trips within New Hampshire very difficult to accomplish in most corridors
  - Intercity service makes few stops; not structured for intra-state travel
  - Example: cannot use Dartmouth Coach to travel from Upper Valley to Concord or Manchester, even though passes through
- Only a few existing commuter/regional routes
  - Manchester Concord
  - Manchester Nashua
  - Canaan Lebanon
  - Rochester Kittery (and similar COAST services)





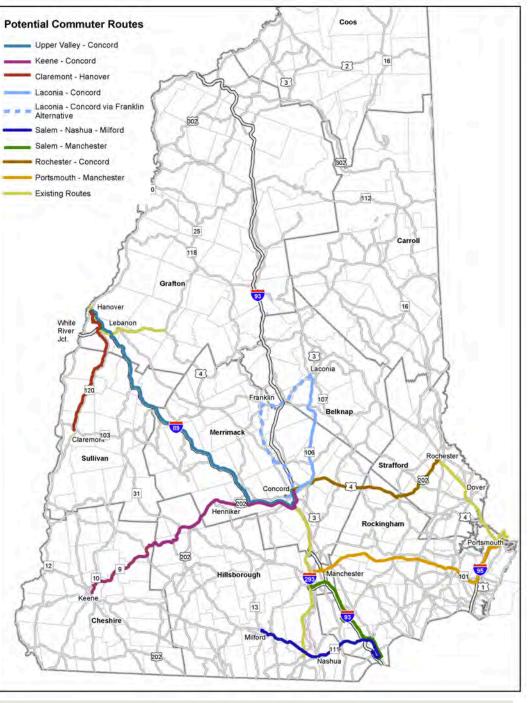
# Potential Commuter Routes

- Keene Concord
- Claremont Hanover
- Hanover Concord
- Laconia Concord
- Rochester Concord
- Portsmouth Manchester
- Salem-Windham-Londonderry Manchester
- Salem Nashua Milford



# Potential Commuter Network

- Links together most important employment centers in southern half of the state
- North Country linked via intercity routes







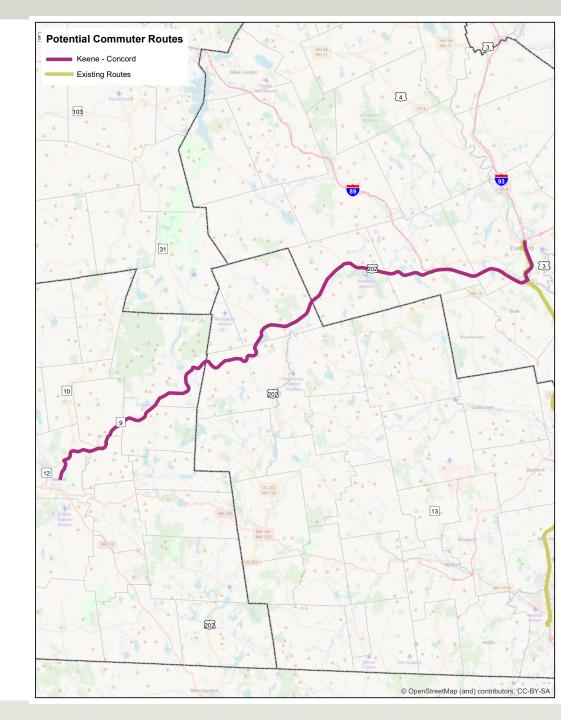
### Assumptions

- Four round-trips per weekday (2 AM, 2 PM)
  - Two buses needed for each route
  - Each bus runs one round-trip per peak period
- Cost is average of \$125 per vehicle revenue hour (VRH) and \$4 per vehicle revenue mile (VRM)
  - Evens out effects of traffic congestion and road types
  - No assumptions for fare levels yet
- Ridership is 4% of peak direction market and 1% of reverse peak
  - Also included 1% of some neighboring communities if Park & Ride lot is present
  - Based on experience with Vermont commuter routes



# Keene – Concord

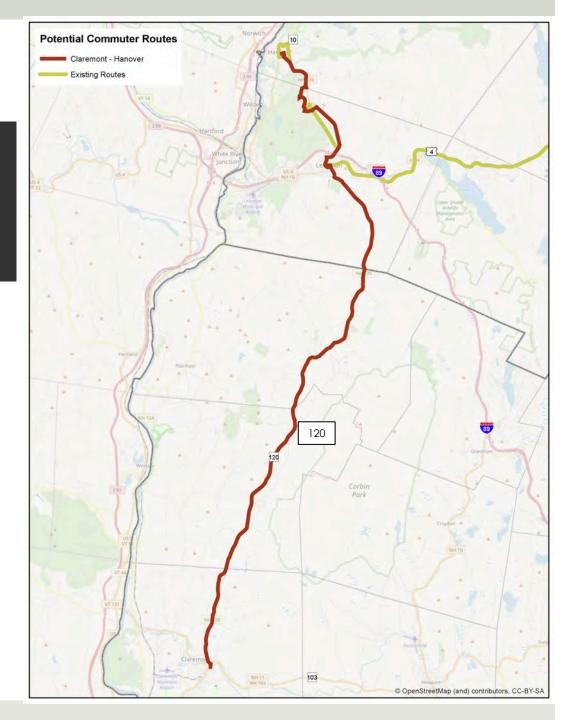
- Starts at Transportation Center in Keene
- Could stop in one or more towns along the way
- Terminates in downtown Concord (could extend to Concord Hospital)
- 55 miles
- Commuting
  - Keene: 234
  - Hillsborough: 324
  - Henniker: 328
  - Conc.→Keene: 120





## Claremont – Upper Valley

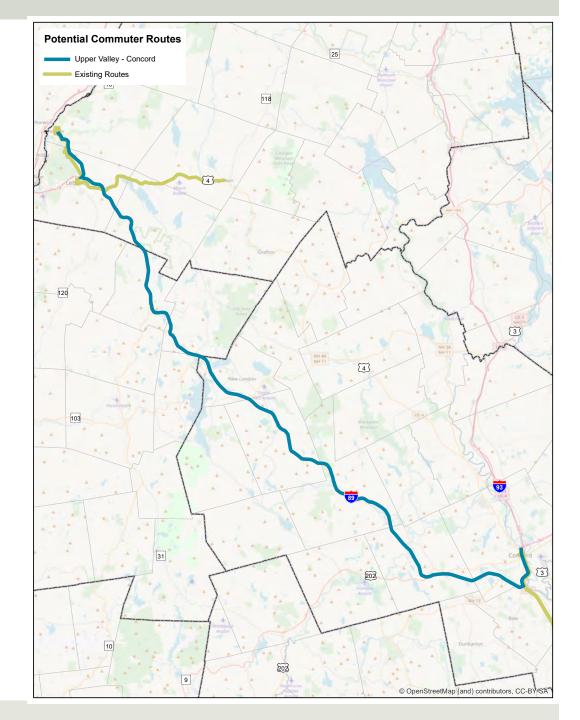
- Operates on NH 120 into Lebanon
- Could terminate at Lebanon City Hall or continue to DHMC and Hanover (as shown)
- 29.6 miles
- Commuting to UV
  - Claremont: 903
  - Plainfield: 366





### Upper Valley – Concord

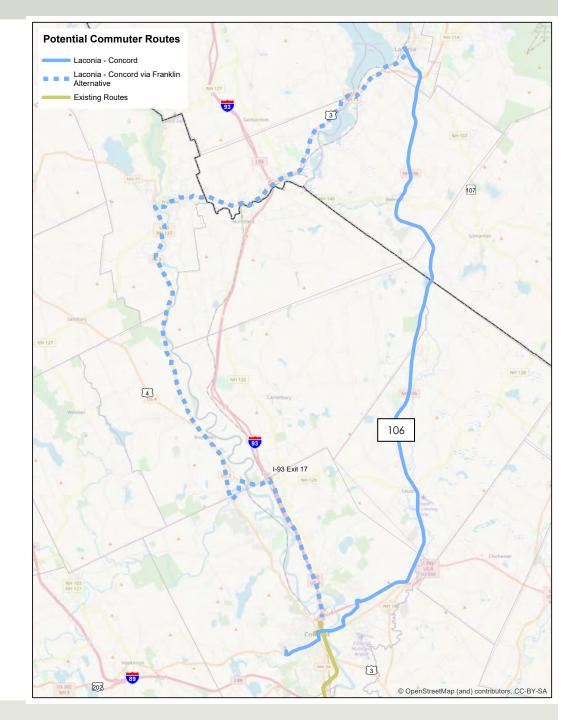
- Starts in downtown Hanover
- Serves DHMC campus
- Could stop at one or more P&R along I-89
- Terminates in downtown Concord
- 69.5 miles
- Could serve both Upper Valley and Concord commuting markets, plus longer distance trips between the two areas





# Laconia – Concord

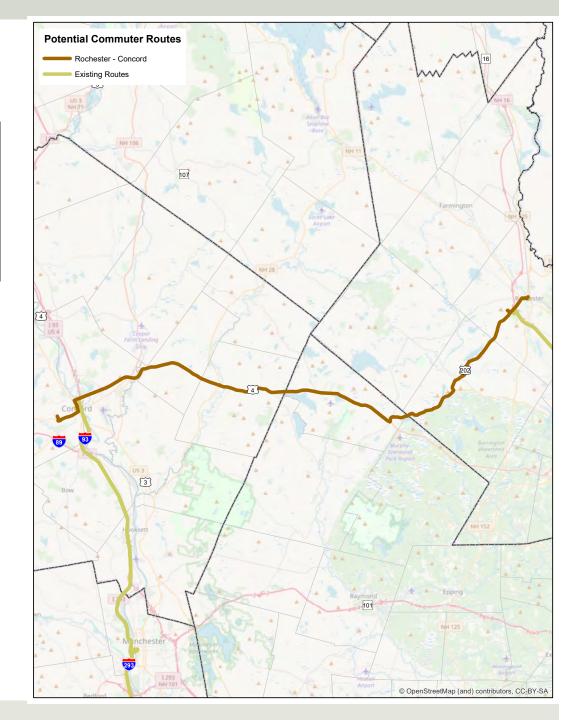
- Direct route via NH 106
- Alternative via US 3 similar to proposed intercity route
  - Tilton, Franklin and County Complex in Boscawen
- Terminates in downtown Concord
- 28.2 mi. (dir.)/33.7 mi. (alt)
- Commuters
  - Laconia→Conc.: 540
  - Franklin→Conc.: 483
  - Conc.→Laconia: 252





### Rochester – Concord

- Starts in downtown Rochester
- Stops at Rochester P & R
- Serves downtown Concord
- Terminates at Concord Hospital
- 37.4 miles
- Commuters to Concord
  - Rochester: 402
  - Epsom: 496
  - Northwood: 253





### Portsmouth – Manchester

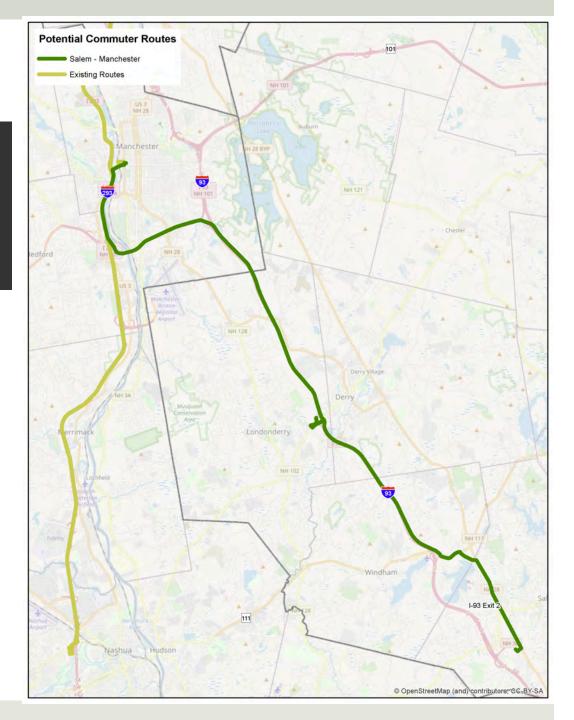
- Starts downtown Portsmouth
- Serves Portsmouth
   Transportation Center
- Possible stops in Hampton, Epping, Raymond
- Terminates at UNH in Manchester
- 45.8 miles
- Commuters to DT Manch.
  - Portsmouth: 203
  - Hampton: 146
  - Raymond: 323





### Salem – Londonderry – Manchester

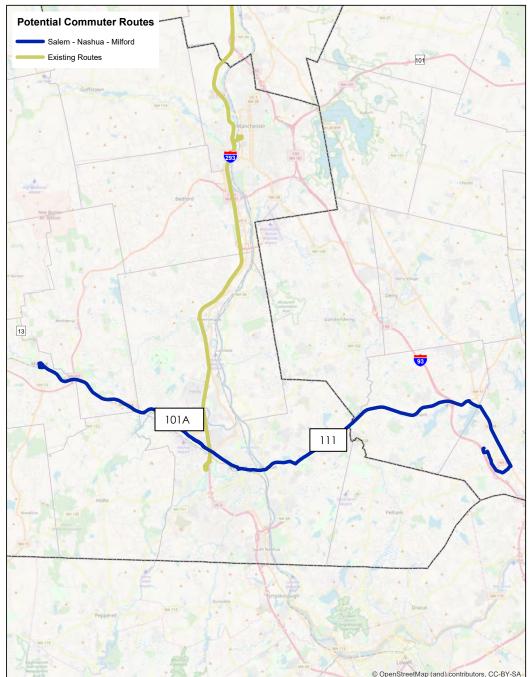
- Starts at Tuscan Village
- Serves Exit 3 Bus Terminal
- Serves Londonderry P&R
- Express to Veterans Park
  in Manchester
- 26.5 miles
- Commuters
  - Salem $\rightarrow$ Manch: 367
  - Lond.→Manch: 1,093
  - Lond. $\rightarrow$ Salem: 503
  - Manch.→Salem: 973





### Salem – Nashua – Milford

- Starts at Exit 2 Bus Terminal
- Serves apartments along Cluff Crossing Rd and retail/jobs along S.
   Broadway (NH 28) in Salem
- Through-routed to Milford via primary employment corridor in Nashua
- 29.5 miles
- Commuters
  - Milford→Nashua: 537
  - Salem→Nashua: 164
  - Nashua→Salem: 1,011







### Commuter Routes Summary

Route	Miles	Run Time	Annual Cost	Annual Riders	Cost/ Rider
Keene-Concord	53	80	\$386,000	19,000	\$21
Claremont-Hanover	28	68	\$260,000	26,000	\$10
Hanover-Concord	70	95	\$485,000	34,000	\$14
Laconia-Concord	29	55	\$234,000	12,000	\$19
Rochester-Concord	37	75	\$312,000	23,000	\$13
Portsmouth-Manchester	47	75	\$349,000	26,000	\$13
Salem-Londonderry-Manchester	26	50	\$211,000	42,000	\$5
Salem-Nashua-Milford	30	85	\$301,000	19,000	\$15
TOTALS			\$2,538,000	201,000	\$13





## Operations

- No particular operator assumed for any of the routes
  - Could be contracted to private entity or run by transit providers
- Several routes connect two provider regions
  - Joint operations by the providers could result in the most efficient operation (little/no deadheading)
  - Mix of urban and rural funding could be tricky but not impossible
  - Four commuter routes in VT operated jointly
- Vehicle types unspecified as yet could vary by route





# Viability and Sustainability

- Conditions for local routes to be successful
  - High degree of local support, including matching funds
  - High gasoline prices
  - Safe bus stops and walkable environment
- Conditions for commuter routes to be successful
  - Limited parking/expensive parking at destination
  - High gasoline prices
  - Longer distances (more than 10 miles)
  - High density of jobs in a walkable environment
  - Very convenient transit connections to extend reach





## Results of Survey

- 988 responses overall (3 from out of state)
- Over 200 cities and towns represented
- Top five response towns
  - Nashua 74
  - Concord 68
  - Manchester 65
  - Dover 40
  - Keene 19

Planning Commission	Responses	2016 Population	Response Rate
NCC	134	89,082	0.15%
CNHRPC	169	129,386	0.13%
LRPC	122	113,208	0.11%
UVLSRPC	70	89,476	0.08%
SRPC	100	149,848	0.07%
NRPC	128	207,903	0.06%
SWRPC	60	100,518	0.06%
SNHPC	141	256,538	0.06%
RPC	56	191,544	0.03%





## Profile of Respondents

- Mostly working age (26 to 64): 76%
  - Rest mostly 65-79 (18%)
- Mostly employed full time: 65%
  - Retired next at 15%
- Almost all have a motor vehicle available: 92%
- Most never use public transit in NH: 58%
  - 5% are frequent users, 11% use it once a month, 24% use it once a year or so





## Policy Preferences

- Five operational policy choices were ranked as follows: (lower number is better on a scale from 1 to 5)
  - Basic mobility 1.98
  - Access to employment 2.24
  - Support economic development 3.35
  - Maximize efficiency 3.48
  - Attract millennials and choice riders 3.94
- Four capital investment choices were ranked as follows:
  - More passenger facilities 2.33
  - New buses and vans 2.40
  - Better pedestrian access 2.56
  - More technology 2.70





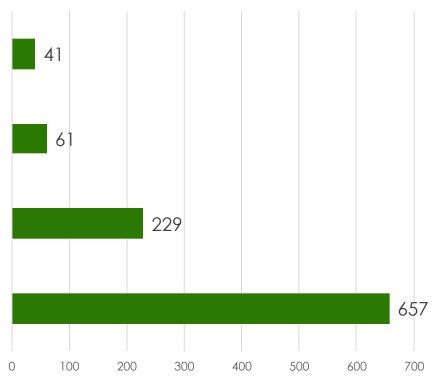
### Overall Level of Local Service

Reduce service – local routes seem to be a waste of money; they should be cut back.

No changes – the system seems to be working fine and the level of investment seems appropriate.

Increase service on existing routes – run them more frequently and/or for more hours

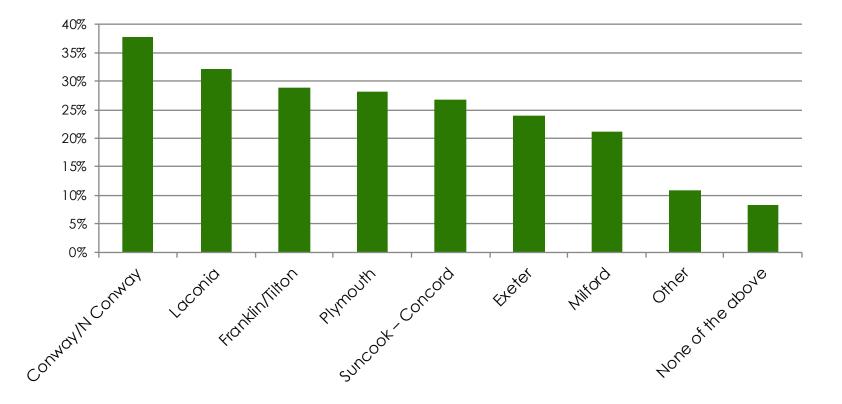
> New bus routes – serve parts of the state where there are no bus services at all







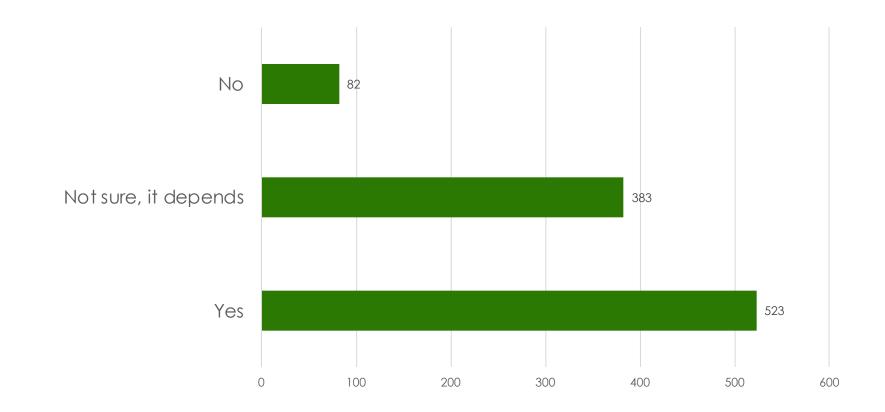
### Local Route Preferences







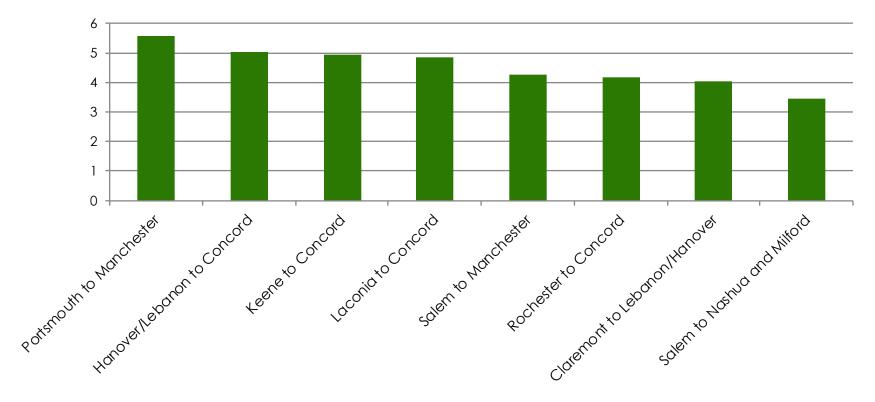
## Support for Commuter Routes







### Commuter Route Ranking\*



\*Higher score is better



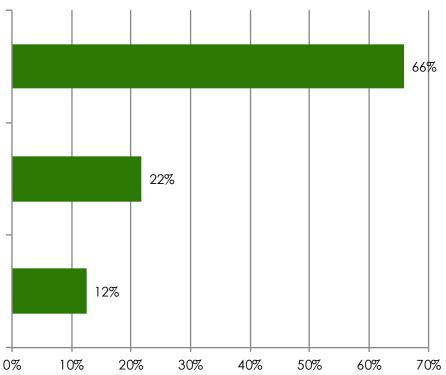


# Role for Public Transit in NH

It should be a viable transportation option for people all over NH, even people living in rural communities.

It should be a viable transportation option for parts of the state so people in urbanized areas can choose to live without owning a car.

It should mainly be a social service so that people who cannot drive can take care of basic necessities.







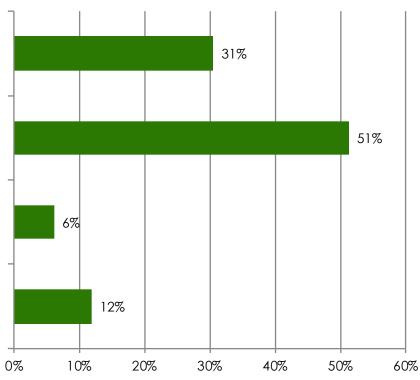
# Public Spending on Transit

Overall spending should rise by a lot (more than 25%).

Overall spending should rise by a moderate amount (up to 25%).

Overall spending should go down.

Overall spending should stay the same.







### Comments

- Many comments about need for more service in the North Country, both local and commuter
- Many comments about expanding service in places that already have transit: Nashua, Keene, Portsmouth, Littleton, etc.
- Many requests for east-west connections across state
- Many mentions of rail service





# Priorities for Local Service

- Focus on areas with no current bus routes
- Tiers based on quantified need and public preferences
- Future funding should not exclude expansions of existing systems





# Proposed Local Route Tiers

#### Tier 1

Conway

Laconia

Tier 2

Milford

Franklin/Tilton

Suncook (to Concord and/or Manchester)

#### Tier 3

- Plymouth
- Exeter





# Priorities for Commuter Service

- Complement intercity routes
- Promote east-west connections
- Link local transit systems together





# Proposed Commuter Route Tiers

#### Tier 1

- Salem-Londonderry-Manchester (coordinated with Tuscan Village and Woodmont Commons developments)
- Claremont-Lebanon-Hanover
- Tier 2
  - Portsmouth-Manchester
  - Hanover-Concord
  - Rochester-Concord
- Tier 3
  - Laconia-Concord\*
  - Keene-Concord\*
  - Salem-Nashua-Milford

\*Move to higher tier if intercity route not implemented





## Transit Technology "Menu"

### Fleet Operations and Management

Traveler Information

Safety and Security

Automated Fare Payment

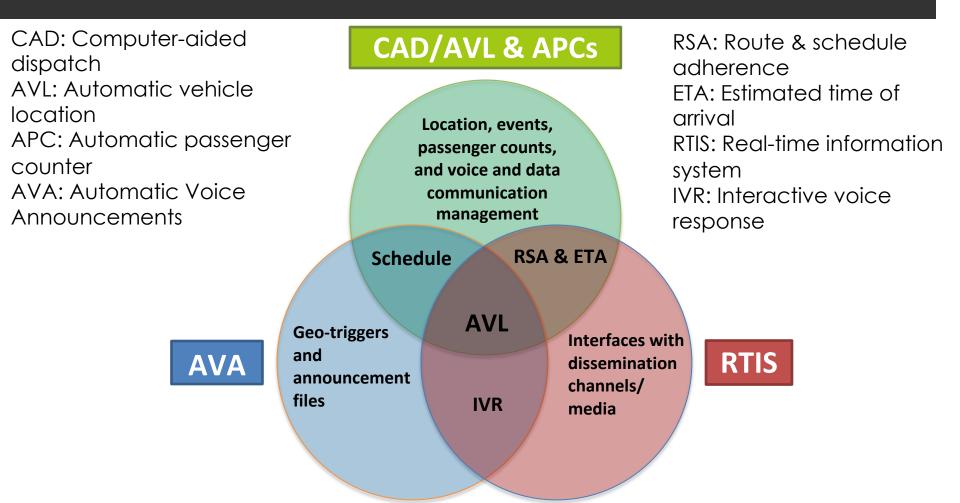
Maintenance







# Core Technology Dependencies







# Tier 1 Technologies

- Communications technologies\*
- Automatic vehicle location (AVL)
- Computer-aided dispatch (CAD)
- On-board automated voice announcements (AVA)
- En-route/wayside traveler information, including real-time arrival/departure information in a variety of dissemination media
- Technology integration\*
- Third-party smartphone applications (included in traveler info. cost)
- Open data for third-party application development\*





# Tier 2 Technologies

- Automatic passenger counters (APCs)
- Scheduling (fixed-route and paratransit) systems
- Mobile (on-board and exterior) and fixed video surveillance
- Covert emergency alarm and covert live audio monitoring
- On-board digital video recorders
- Geographic information system (GIS) application\*
- Service coordination facilitated by technology (includes paratransit CAD/AVL)





# Tier 3 Technologies

- Vehicle component monitoring (VCM)
- □ G-force monitoring (EDRS)
- Maintenance software to schedule and track scheduled and unscheduled maintenance activities, and manage parts inventory
- On-board Internet access for passengers\*
- □ 511, 311 and 211 systems, and Google Transit\*





# Later Tiers

#### Tier 4

- Automated fare media (e.g., magnetic stripe cards, contact smartcards, contactless smartcards and smartphone-based payment methods)
- Automated fareboxes and faregates
- Ticket vending machines

#### Tier 5

- Transfer connection protection (TCP)
- Transit signal priority (TSP)
- Data management and reporting\*

#### Tier 6

- Intelligent vehicle technologies (e.g., collision warning)\*
- Lane control technologies\*





### **Recommendations** Overview

- Only Tiers 1 to 3 expected by 2029
- Draft implementation agenda and timeline for each provider to reach minimum recommended level of technology (Tier 3)
- Cost estimates for capital and operations & maintenance prepared by year





### Tier 1 Recommendations by Provider

- Covers implementation timeframe through 2023
- Capital costs estimated in 2019 dollars
- Operating and maintenance costs assumed to begin in year after deployment, also in 2019 dollars
- Costs not estimated for items with no available unit costs





# Advance Transit

- Tier 1 elements already deployed
  - Communications system
  - AVL
  - Real-time information
  - Third-party smartphone applications
- □ Tier 1 elements recommended (2022)
  - Automated vehicle announcements
  - Open data (cost not estimated)
  - Technology integration (cost not estimated)

Total Capital Cost	Total Capital Cost	Annual O&M	Annual O&M
(min)	(max)	Cost (min)	Cost (max)
\$118,000	\$211,000	\$20,000	\$31,200

Note: TSP (Tier 5) is also recommended for AT by 2021 for one intersection. Capital: \$72K to \$162K O&M: \$7K to \$16K







#### Tier 1 elements already deployed

- Communications system
- Computer-aided Dispatch (CAD)/AVL
- Real-time information
- Third-party smartphone applications
- AVA
- Tier 1 elements recommended (2022)
  - Open data (cost not estimated)
  - Technology integration (cost not estimated)





## Manchester Transit Authority

#### Tier 1 elements already deployed

- Communications system
- AVL
- AVA
- Tier 1 elements recommended (2022)
  - CAD
  - Traveler information
  - Open data (cost not estimated)
  - Technology integration (cost not estimated)

Total Capital Cost	Total Capital	Annual O&M	Annual O&M
(min)	Cost (max)	Cost (min)	Cost (max)
\$395,750	\$1,012,250	\$101,148	\$201,445





# Sullivan County Transit

- Tier 1 elements already deployed None
- □ Tier 1 elements recommended (2023)
  - Communications technology
  - AVL
  - CAD
  - AVA
  - Traveler information
  - Third-party smartphone applications
  - Open data (cost not estimated)
  - Technology integration (cost not estimated)

Total Capital Cost	Total Capital	Annual O&M	Annual O&M
(min)	Cost (max)	Cost (min)	Cost (max)
\$564,000	\$1,282,000	\$122,355	\$232,468





# Tri-County CAP Transit

- Tier 1 elements already deployed None
- □ Tier 1 elements recommended (2023)
  - Communications technology
  - AVL
  - CAD
  - AVA
  - Traveler information
  - Third-party smartphone applications
  - Open data (cost not estimated)
  - Technology integration (cost not estimated)

Total Capital Cost	Total Capital	Annual O&M	Annual O&M
(min)	Cost (max)	Cost (min)	Cost (max)
\$666,000	\$1,506,000	\$126,938	\$242,183







- Tier 1 elements already deployed None
- □ Tier 1 elements recommended (2023)
  - Communications technology
  - AVL
  - CAD
  - AVA
  - Traveler information
  - Third-party smartphone applications
  - Open data (cost not estimated)
  - Technology integration (cost not estimated)

Total Capital Cost	Total Capital	Annual O&M	Annual O&M
(min)	Cost (max)	Cost (min)	Cost (max)
\$585,000	\$1,326,000	\$123,265	\$234,425





# Nashua Transit System

- Tier 1 elements already deployed
  - Limited AVL
  - AVA
- □ Tier 1 elements recommended (2023)
  - AVL
  - CAD
  - Traveler information
  - Open data (cost not estimated)
  - Technology integration (cost not estimated)

Total Capital Cost	Total Capital	Annual O&M	Annual O&M
(min)	Cost (max)	Cost (min)	Cost (max)
\$528,000	\$1,226,000	\$105,675	\$207,595







- Tier 1 elements already deployed None
- □ Tier 1 elements recommended (2023)
  - Communications technology
  - AVL
  - CAD
  - AVA
  - Traveler information
  - Third-party smartphone applications
  - Open data (cost not estimated)
  - Technology integration (cost not estimated)

Total Capital Cost	Total Capital	Annual O&M	Annual O&M
(min)	Cost (max)	Cost (min)	Cost (max)
\$585,000	\$1,326,000	\$123,265	\$234,425







- Tier 1 elements already deployed
  - Communications system
- □ Tier 1 elements recommended (2023)
  - AVL
  - CAD
  - AVA
  - Traveler information
  - Third-party smartphone applications
  - Open data (cost not estimated)
  - Technology integration (cost not estimated)

Total Capital Cost	Total Capital	Annual O&M	Annual O&M
(min)	Cost (max)	Cost (min)	Cost (max)
\$518,000	\$1,184,000	\$120,080	\$227,880





# UNH Wildcat Transit

#### Tier 1 elements already deployed

- Communications system
- CAD/AVL
- Real time information
- Third-party smartphone applications
- □ Tier 1 elements recommended (2022)

  - Open data (cost not estimated)
  - Technology integration (cost not estimated)

Total Capital Cost	Total Capital	Annual O&M	Annual O&M
(min)	Cost (max)	Cost (min)	Cost (max)
\$152,000	\$269,000	\$21,200	\$33,200





### Statewide Cost Estimates

Goal Year	Total Capital Cost (min)	Total Capital Cost (max)	Total O&M Cost (min)	Total O&M Cost (max)
2021	\$224,000	\$431,000	\$0	\$0
2022	2,144,750	4,959,250	28,163	48,900
2023	2,366,250	5,119,750	498,331	951,445
2024	0	0	967,002	1,809,044
2025	1,517,750	3,139,250	967,002	1,809,044
2026	264,000	506,000	1,386,524	2,386,433
2027	302,500	570,500	1,483,850	2,533,334
2028	546,000	1,236,000	1,582,551	2,682,610
2029	1,671,000	3,938,000	1,704,889	2,894,060
2030	N/A	N/A	2,072,054	3,530,410





# Next Steps - Technology

- Flesh out technology strategy and integration plan for each agency
- Consider economies of statewide or multi-regional procurement for some technologies
- Begin research on funding possibilities, including private/foundation sources





### Peer Analysis

- Compared amount of service provided to that in other areas similar in terms of population and geographic area
- Used National Transit Database data from FY2017
   Developed separate sets of peers for each urban operator
   Grouped rural operators into two sets
- Focused on bus mode; set aside stats on demand response service and other modes
- VOMS=vehicles operated in maximum service
- VRH=vehicle revenue hours (WD=average weekday)





## Nashua – 17 peer systems

ltem	Nashua	Peer Avg.	Yakima Transit Greater Roanoke Transit Company	WA VA
Service Area	32 sq. mi.	35 sq. mi	Mid Mon Valley Transit Authority ART (Asheville Redefines Transit) Kenosha Transit	PA NC WI
Population	86,933	89,207	St. Cloud Metropolitan Transit Commission Gary Public Transportation Corporation Decatur Public Transit System	MN IN IL
Bus VOMS	9	21	Eau Claire Transit Bloomington Public Transportation Corp. City of Plymouth	WI IN MN
Bus WD VRH	113	215	Beaumont Municipal Transit System Iowa City Transit	TX IA
Annual VRH	32,981	62,284	City of Lawrence Cache Valley Transit District City of Scottsdale - Scottsdale Trolley	ks Ut Az
Ann. Op. Exp.	\$1.86 m	\$4.99m	City of Turlock	СА





### COAST – 20 peer systems

ltem	COAST	Peer Avg.	Berkshire Regional Transit Authority Southeast Area Transit Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority	MA CT MA
Service Area	368 sq. mi.	351 sq. mi	Tompkins Consolidated Area Transit Beaver County Transit Authority County Commissioners of Charles County, MD	NY PA MD
Population	166,975	171,654	County of Lebanon Transit Authority Chattanooga Area Regional Transportation Auth. Cape Fear Public Transportation Authority	PA TN NC
Bus VOMS	14	29	Chatham Area Transit Authority Indian River County Portage Area Regional Transportation Authority	GA FL OH
Bus WD VRH	154	276	Bay Metropolitan Transit Authority Laketran Madison County Transit District	MI OH IL
Annual VRH	41,941	81,237	Medina County Public Transit Delaware County Transit Board Transit Joint Powers Authority for Merced County	OH OH CA
Ann. Op. Exp.	\$3.82 m	\$7.05 m	Butte County Association of Governments Imperial County Transportation Commission	CA CA





### Manchester – 19 peer systems

	MTA	Peer Avg.	Greater Portland Transit District UNH - University Transportation Services City of Huntsville	
rvice Area	63 sq. mi.	63 sq. mi	Macon-Bibb County Transit Authority Town of Cary	
opulation	135,366	124,996	Bay County Transportation Planning Org. City of Murfreesboro Duluth Transit Authority	
us VOMS	13	22	South Bend Public Transportation Corporation Springfield Mass Transit District Wichita Falls Transit System	
Annual VRH*	48,529	60,719	Las Cruces Area Transit City of Tyler Sioux City Transit System	
Ann. Op. Exp.	\$3.29 m	\$5.55 m	Topeka Metropolitan Transit Authority City of Columbia Transfort	

Mesa County

Solano County Transit

\*MTA is a reduced reporter and does not report weekday VRH CO CA





### CART – 9 peer systems

ltem	CART	Peer Avg.
Service Area	172 sq. mi.	187 sq. mi
Population	112,897	110,873
Bus VOMS	8	22
Annual VRH*	6,912	33,467
Ann. Op. Exp.	\$539,811	\$2,494,992

\*CART is a reduced reporter and does not report weekday VRH





# Larger Rural Systems – 10 peers

ltem	Peer Avg.		AT	TCC	SCST	
Service Area	28 sq. mi	4	45 sq. mi.	45 sq. mi.	36 sq. mi.	
Population	30,670		30,000	15,000	20,000	
Bus VOMS	12		18	4	6	
Annual VRH	15,011		43,068	5,782	4,127	
Ann. Op. Exp.	\$927,124	\$3	3,698,664	\$276,066	\$254,981	
Asotin County PTBA	V	WA Liberty Transit				GA
Weirton Transit Corporation				trus County Transit		
Bristol Tennessee Transit System		V	Wausau Area Transit System			WI
Goldsboro-Wayne Transportation Auth.		С	Michigan City Transit			IN
Municipality of Barceloneta		R	Intracity Transit			AR





# Smaller Rural Systems – 10 peers

	ltem	Peer Avg.	VNA-HCS	CAT	
	Service Area	13 sq. mi	8 sq. mi.	18 sq. mi.	
	Population	25,120	20,000	30,000	
	Bus VOMS	7	3	6	
	Annual VRH	11,280	7,184	8,294	
	Ann. Op. Exp.	\$822,186	\$455,659	\$833,769	
Citv of	Kingston Citibus	NY	Anderson Trans	it Authority	SC
	ndsor Township	NJ	City of Beloit Tro		WI
Watert	own CitiBus	NY	Twin Cities Arec	Transportation Aut	hority MI
Bristol V	/irginia Transit	VA	Steel Valley Reg	gional Transit Author	ity OH
City of Winchester		VA	Southeast Misso	ouri State University	MC





# Peer Analysis Takeaways

- Most NH urban systems operate about half the amount of service that their peers do
  - MTA somewhat more than half, CART only about a fifth
- Among rural systems:
  - AT operates well more than the peers: three times the hours, four times the expense, even without any weekend service
  - TCC and SCT operate about a third of the service that peers do
  - Keene service is about 2/3 of the peer service (but has smaller service area and lower population)
  - CAT operates 3/4 of the hours, but has higher total operating cost than the peers





### Survey Respondent Support

- Though not a statistically-valid sample, survey respondents represent reasonable cross-section of NH
- Even though 58% of respondents never use public transit and another 24% use it once a year or so, more than 80% of respondents support increased funding for public transit, with 31% supporting a major increase
- There is broad support for expanding access to public transit across all of New Hampshire and improving existing services as well





# Timeline

- Additional public outreach in September
- Documentation in August/September
- Completion of project in the Fall