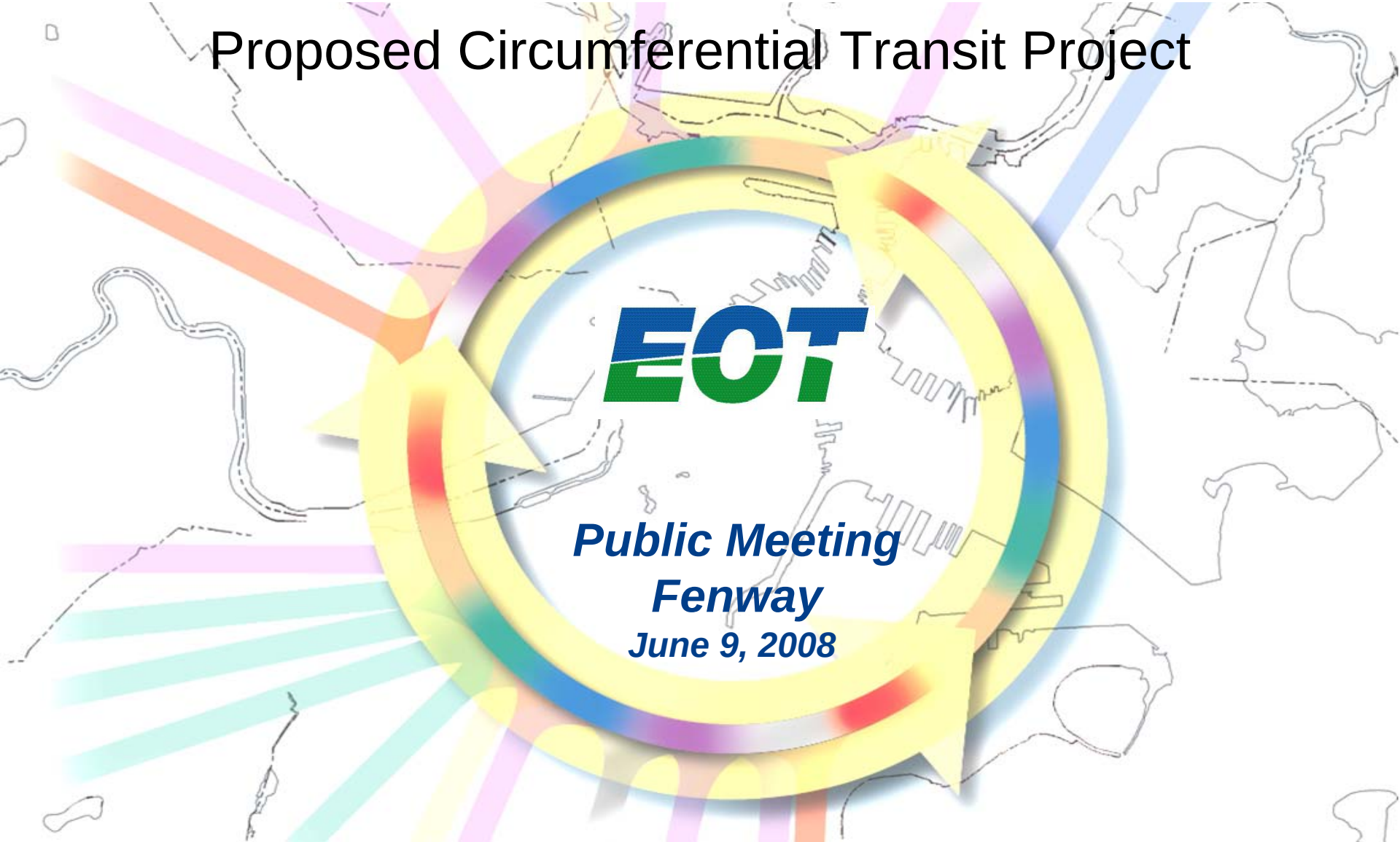
Urban Ring Phase 2

Proposed Circumferential Transit Project



Public Meeting

Fenway

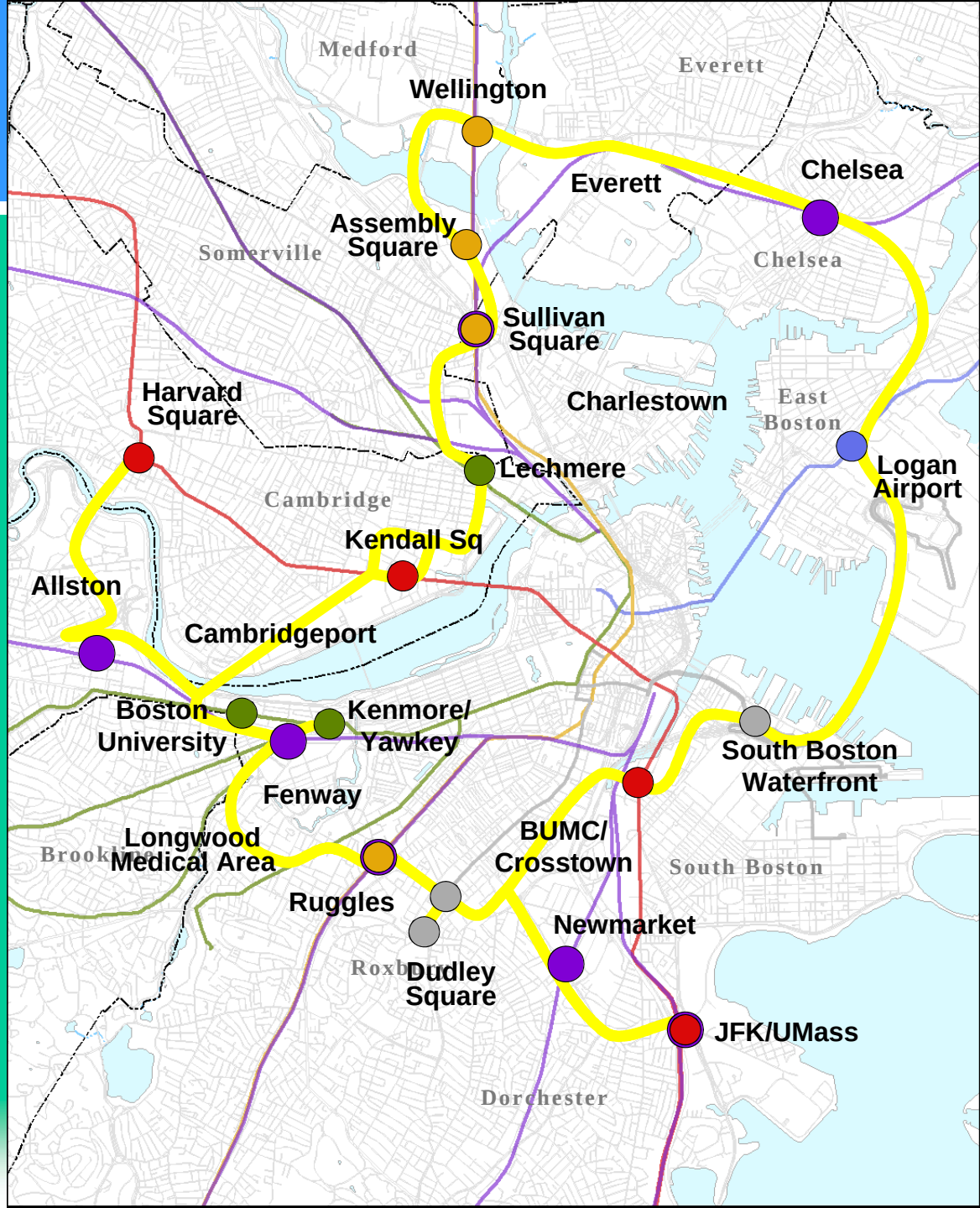
June 9, 2008

Why an Urban Ring?

- **What is the Urban Ring?**
- **Why is the Urban Ring needed?**
- **What are the recommended solutions?**
- **What happens next?**

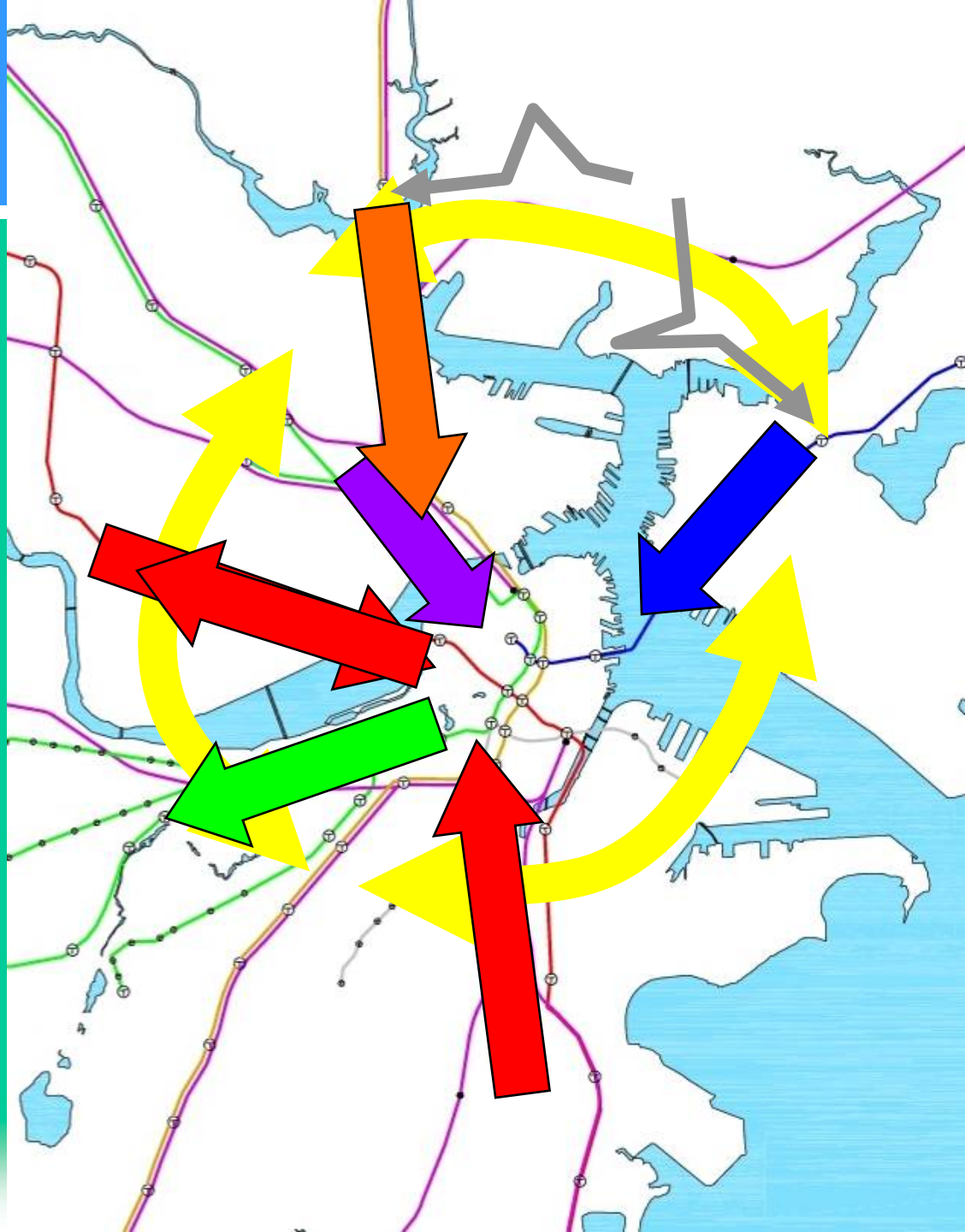
What is the Urban Ring?

- **Proposed circumferential – "RING" – transit line**
- **Connects the "spokes" of the MBTA's radial system**
- **Passes through fast-growing neighborhoods outside downtown**
- **Reaches areas lacking transit service**



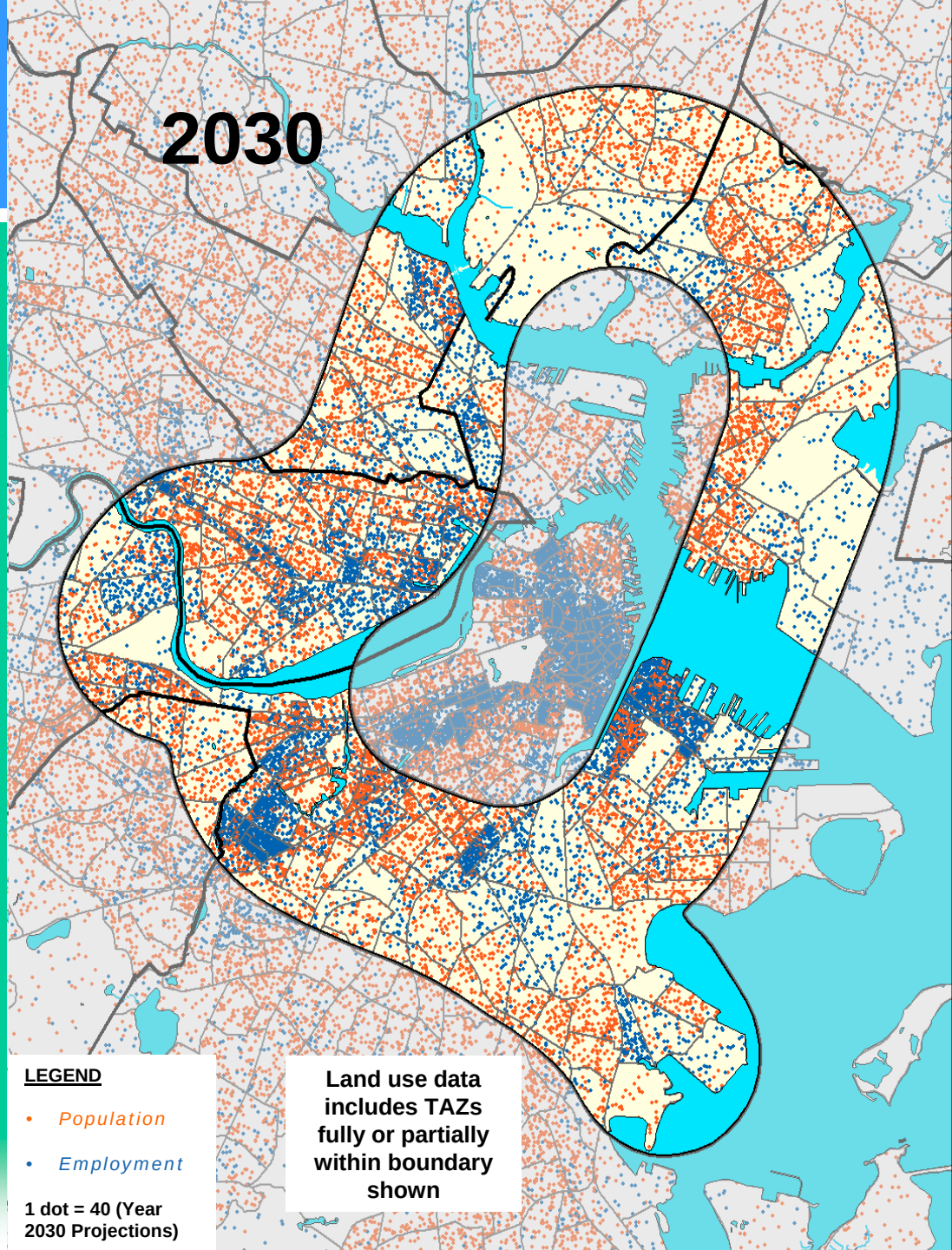
Why is the Urban Ring needed?

- **Transit access in corridor**
  - **Buses on congested roads – direct but slow**
  - **Rapid transit through downtown – faster but indirect**
- **Worsening roadway congestion**
- **Constraints on access, employment and development**



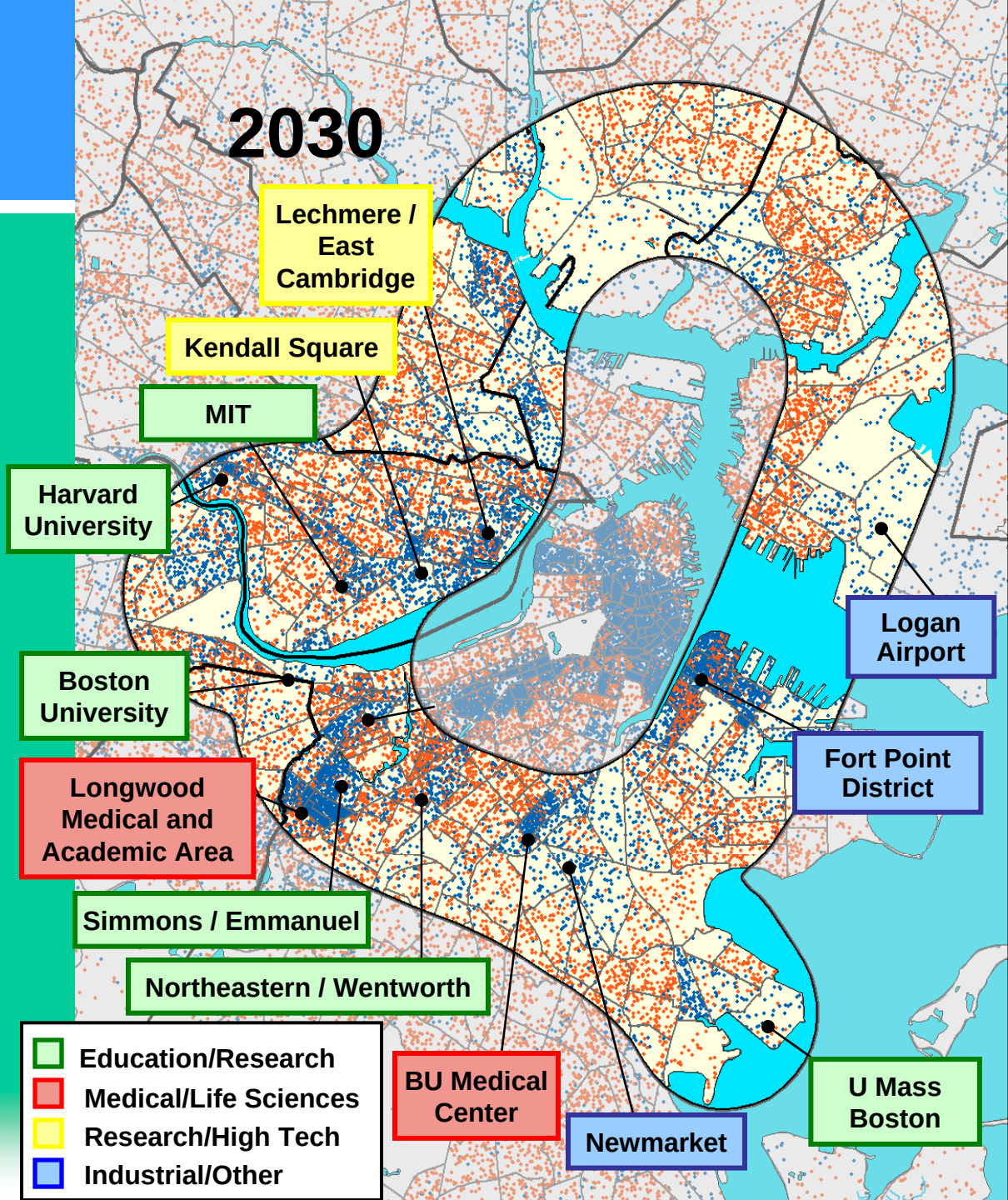
Corridor Land Use

- **2030 forecasts**
  - Population 495,100 (2000-2030: +26%)
  - Employment 406,800 (2000-2030: +24%)
- **Balance of residents and jobs**
  - Need for link between residents and jobs
  - Need for improved transit for jobs in corridor to reduce traffic congestion



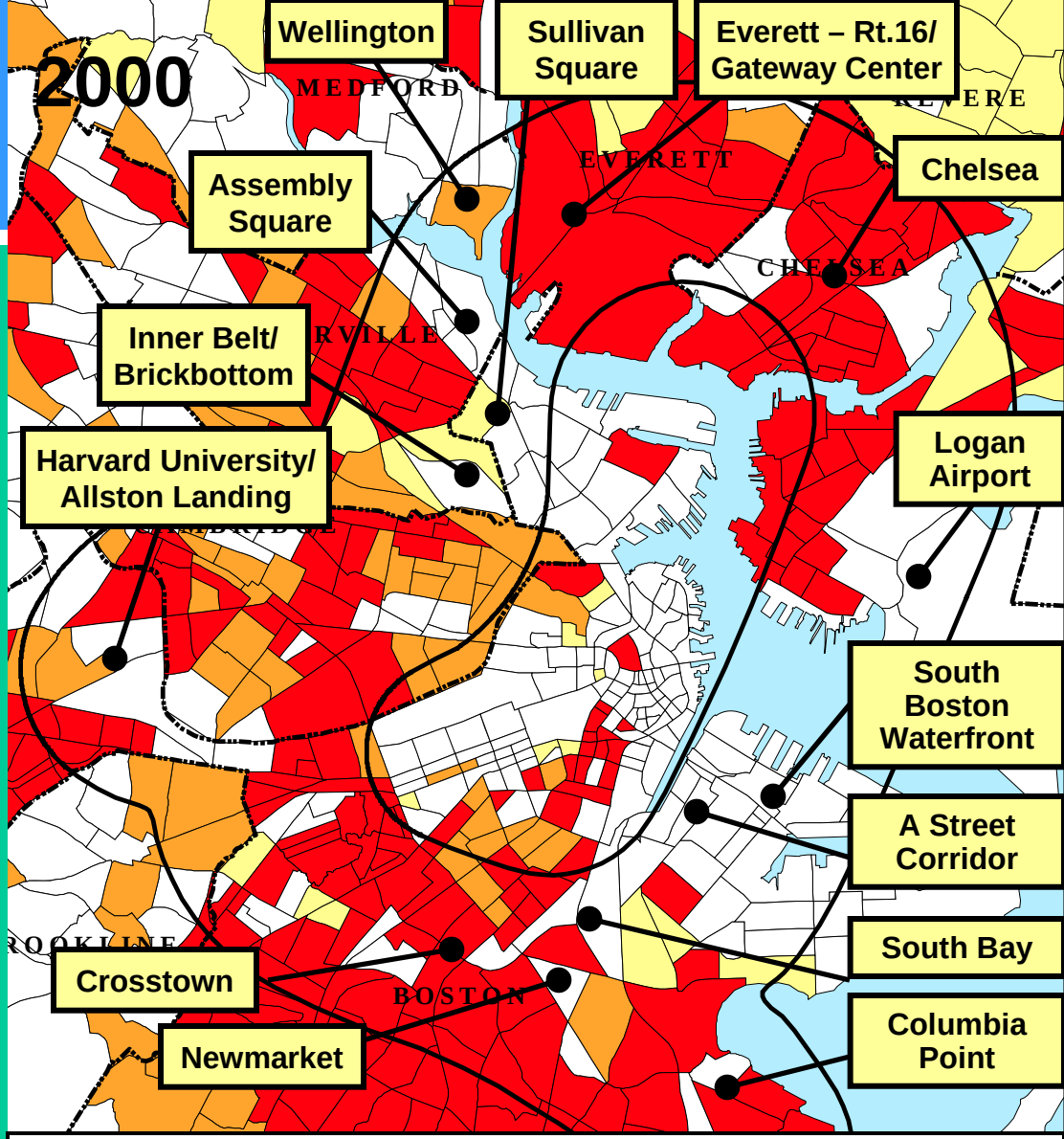
Economic Development

- **2030 demographics**
  - Population 495,100 (2000-2030: +26%)
  - Employment 406,800 (2000-2030: +24%)
  - Balance of residents & jobs
- **Established job centers**
  - "Life Sciences Corridor"
  - "Eds & Meds" = 9 of top 10 private employers in Boston



Economic Development

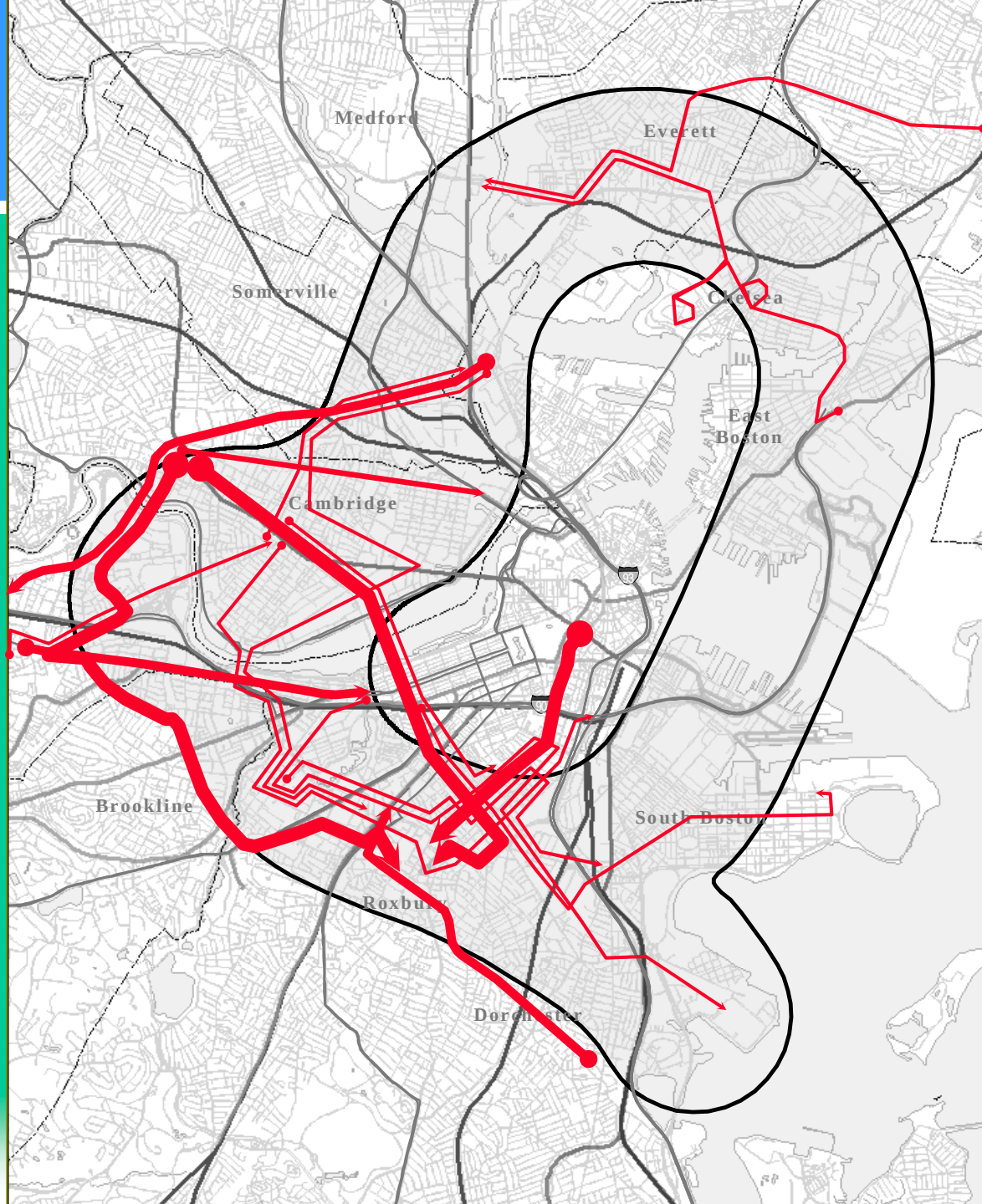
- **New rapid transit for environmental justice communities**
- **Smart Growth and transit-oriented development**
  - Former industrial areas
  - Existing infrastructure
  - Proximity to downtown



Existing Transit Use in Corridor

MBTA Bus Routes	
Crosstown MBTA routes in Urban Ring corridor	29
MBTA routes shown	15
Daily ridership on 29 crosstown routes	89,030
Daily MBTA bus ridership	376,624
% MBTA bus ridership on 29 crosstown routes	24%

Private Shuttles	
Crosstown shuttle routes in Urban Ring	42
Private shuttle routes with available ridership data	18
Total ridership on private shuttles w/ available data	31,473



Corridor Traffic Congestion

2030 No-Build condition

- **AM Peak - LOS E/F**

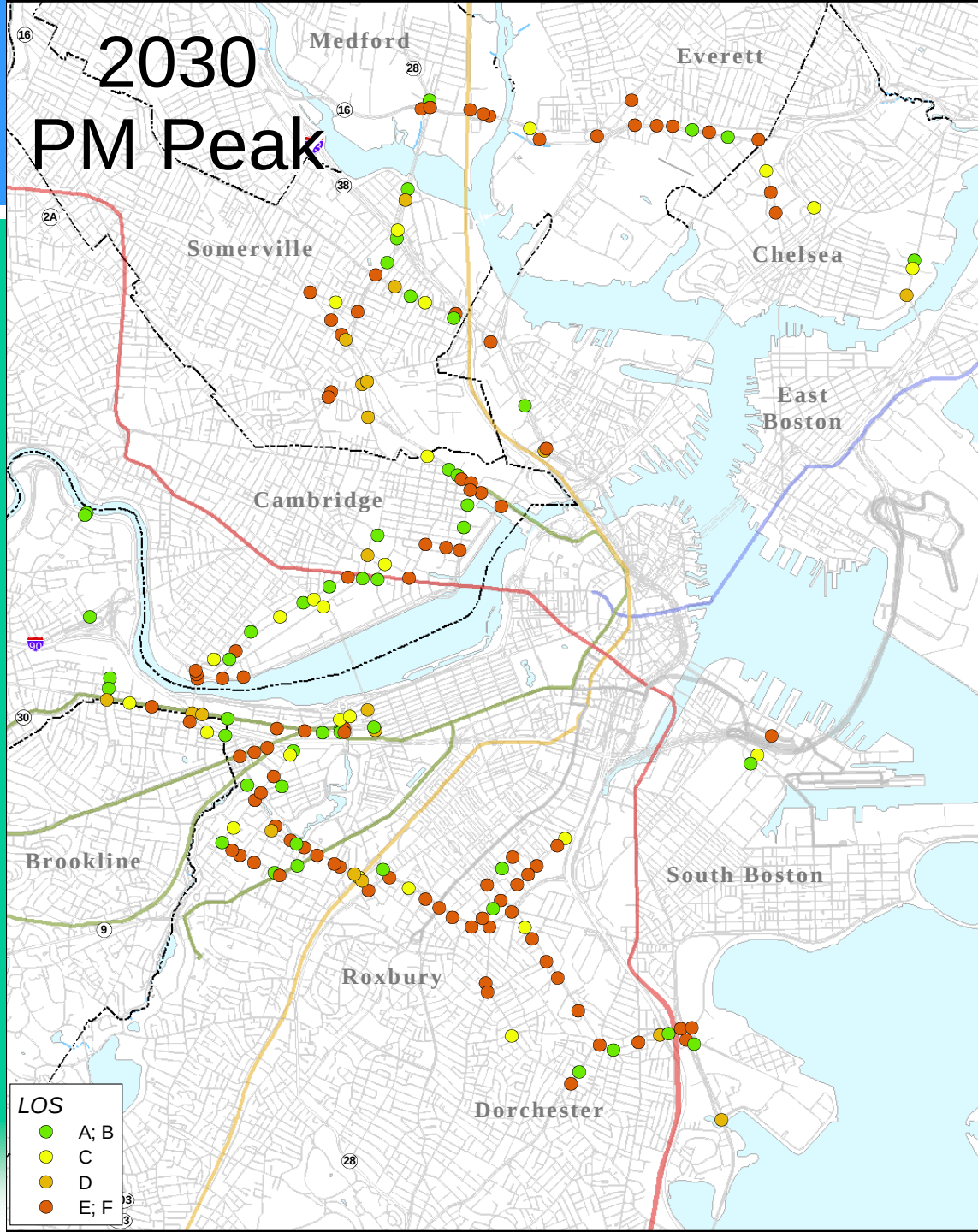
  34% in 2006

  48% in 2030

- **PM Peak - LOS E/F**

  34% in 2006

  53% in 2030



Urban Ring Phases and Technology

Phase 1

Bus

Phase 2

Intermodal Connections

Bus Rapid Transit

Bus

Phase 3

LRT or Orange Line

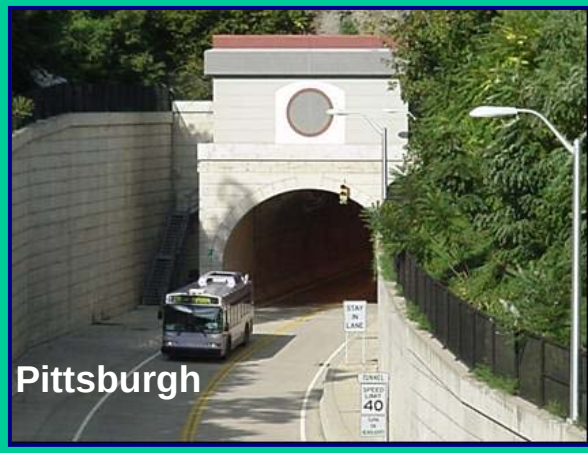
Intermodal Connections

BRT

Bus

What Is Bus Rapid Transit?

- **Flexibility of bus mode with enhancements to achieve rapid-transit service quality**
  - **Reserved roads & lanes**
  - **High frequency service**
  - **Widely-spaced stations**
  - **Signal priority**
  - **Automated enforcement**
- **Lessons learned from earlier projects**



Intermodal Connections

- **Strong connections with MBTA radial transit system**
- **Rapid Transit**
  - **Red, Blue, Orange, Green, Silver Lines**
- **Commuter Rail**
  - **9 of 11 lines, including all south side**
- **Bus Routes**
  - **Major bus hubs (Wellington, Sullivan, Ruggles, Dudley)**
- **Pedestrian and bicycle connections**

Example – Ruggles Station

Alternatives Process

Winter 2006-07

VARIANTS

A-1

A-2

A-3

Etc.

B-1

B-2

Etc.

C-1

C-2

Etc.

Total of 60 variants tested

Spring/Summer 2007

ALTERNATIVES & OPTIONS

Baseline

1

2

2A

3

3A

3B

3C

4

4A

Fall/Winter2007-08

HYBRIDS

H1

H2

H2T

Sub-Options

Spring 2008

RECOMMEND

LPA

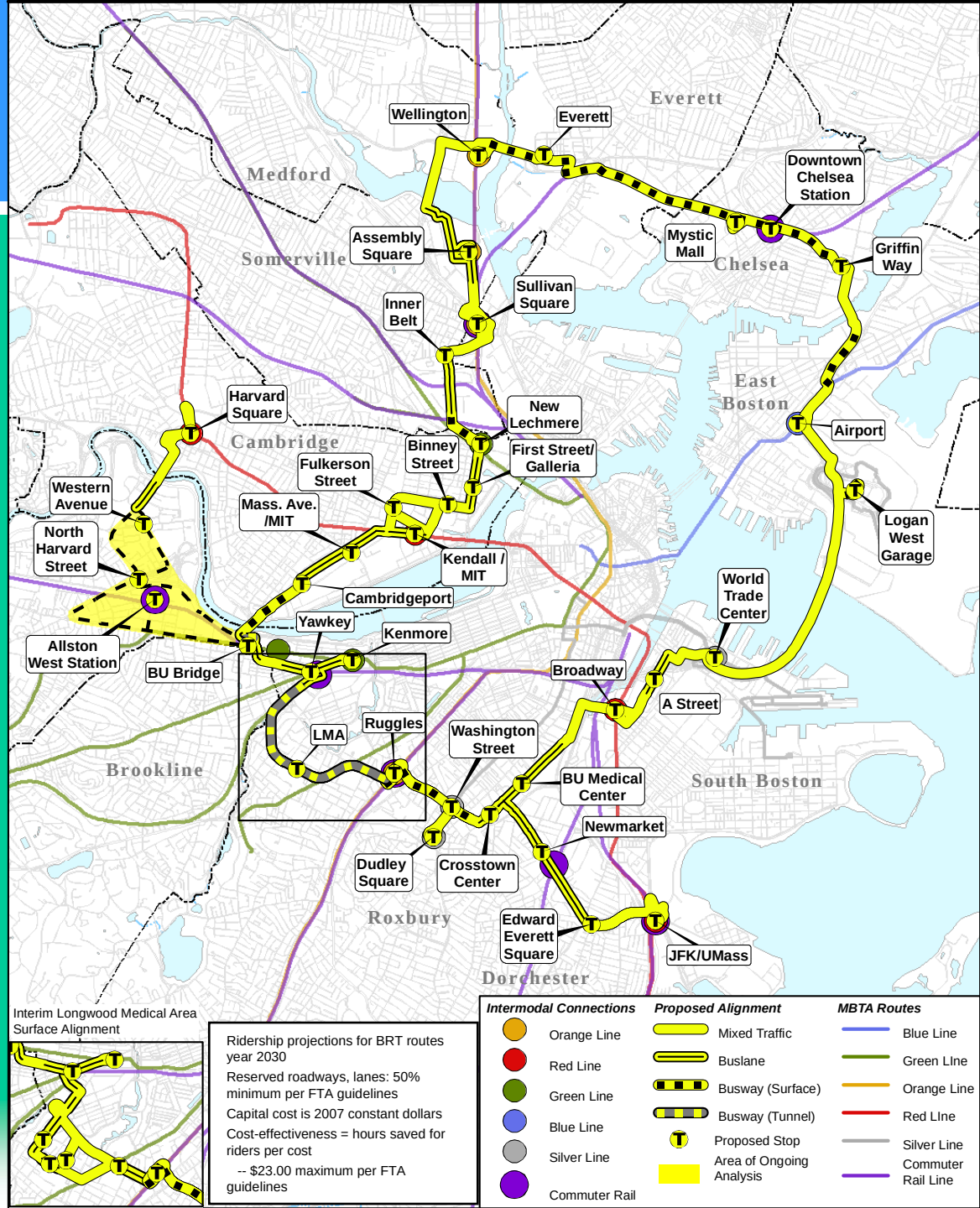
Broad-Based Public Involvement

- **Citizens Advisory Committee – 40+ meetings**
- **Public meetings & neighborhood group briefings – 40+ in 7 cities**
- **Public agency coordination – 40+**
- **Institutional and abutter coordination – 45+**

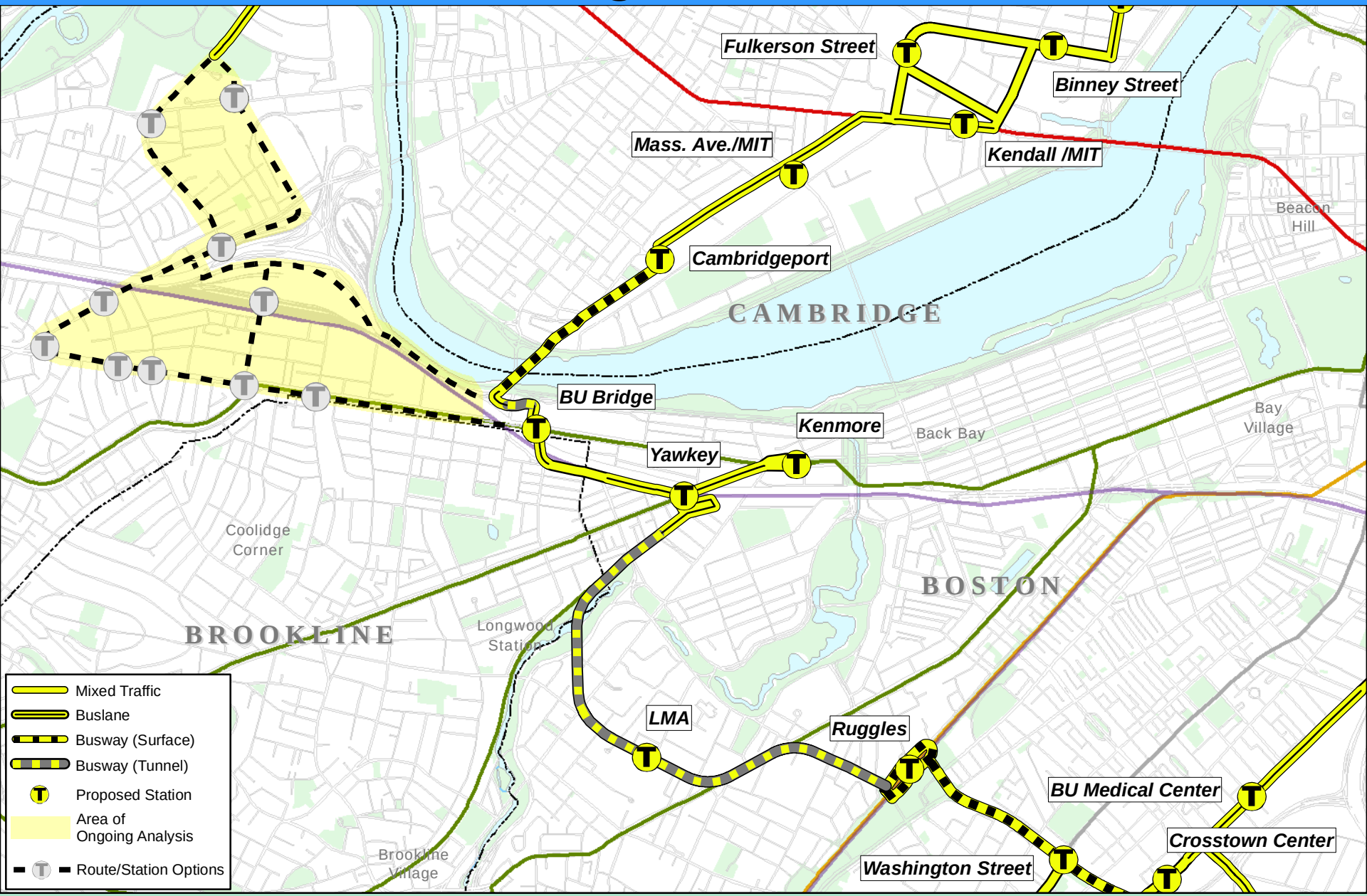
Recommended Alternative

- **Alignment designed to optimize**
  - Travel time
  - Ridership
  - Service to new areas (residential, development)
  - Cost-effectiveness
- **Long-term vision**
- **Future uncertainty**

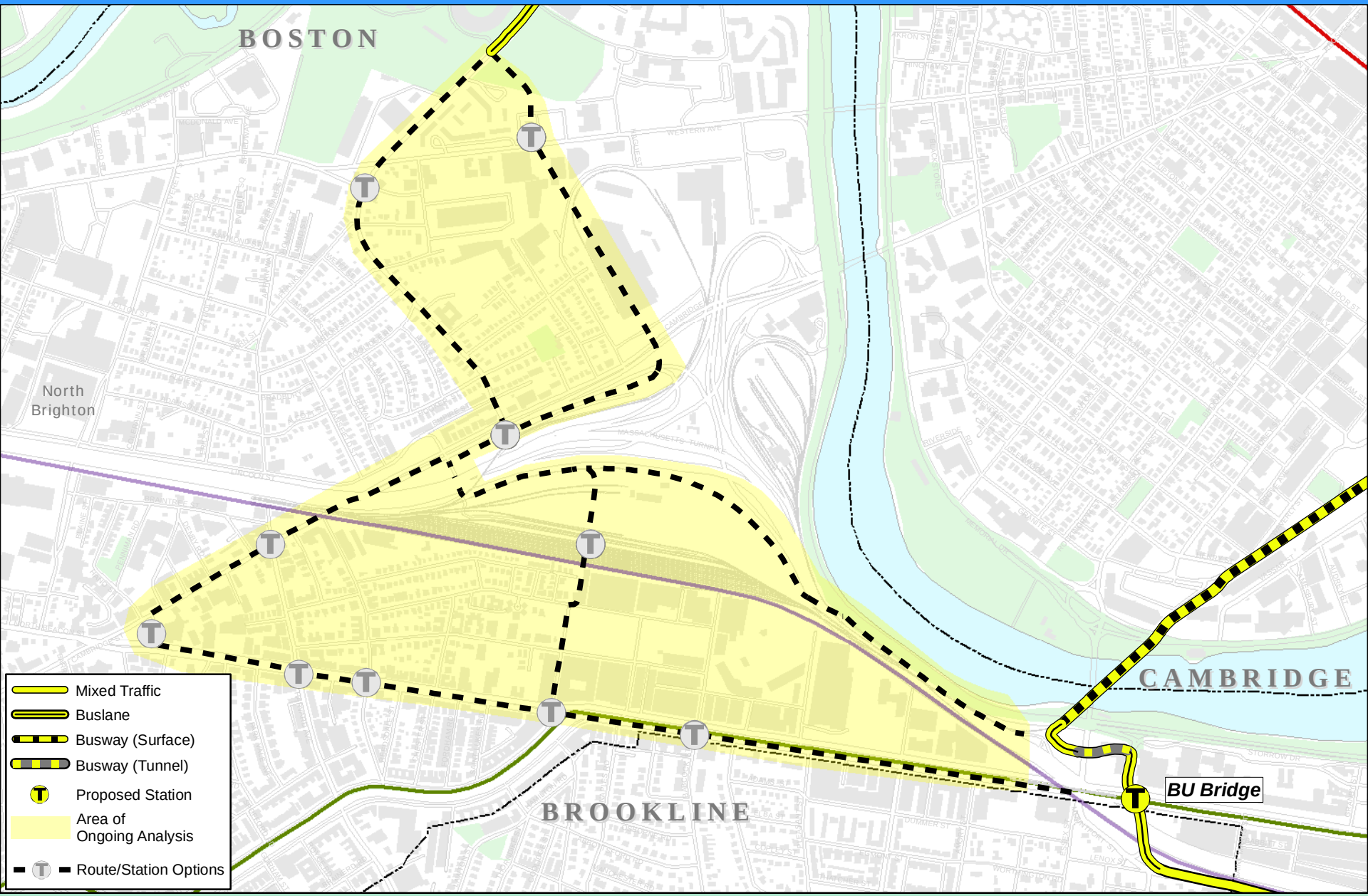
Daily riders	**175,000**
% Reserved roadways, lanes	**53%**
Capital cost	**~ $2.2 bn**
Cost-effectiveness	**~ $14-18**



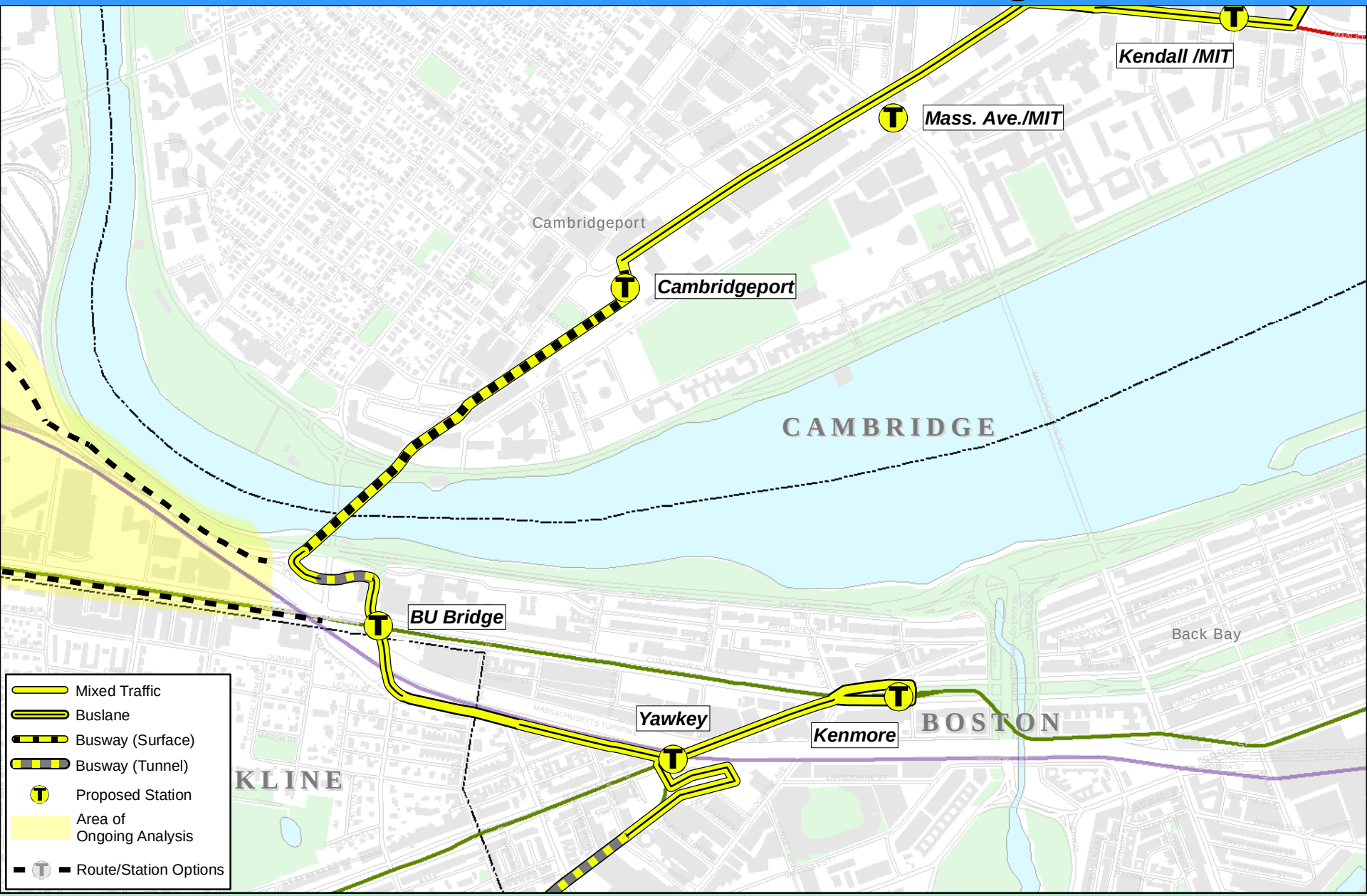
Segment B


Fulkerson Street
Binney Street
Mass. Ave./MIT
Kendall /MIT
Cambridgeport
CAMBRIDGE
Beacon Hill
BU Bridge
Kenmore
Back Bay
Bay Village
Yawkey
Coolidge Corner
BOSTON
BROOKLINE
Longwood Station
LMA
Ruggles
BU Medical Center
Crosstown Center
Washington Street
Brookline Village
Mixed Traffic
Buslane
Busway (Surface)
Busway (Tunnel)
Proposed Station
Area of Ongoing Analysis
Route/Station Options

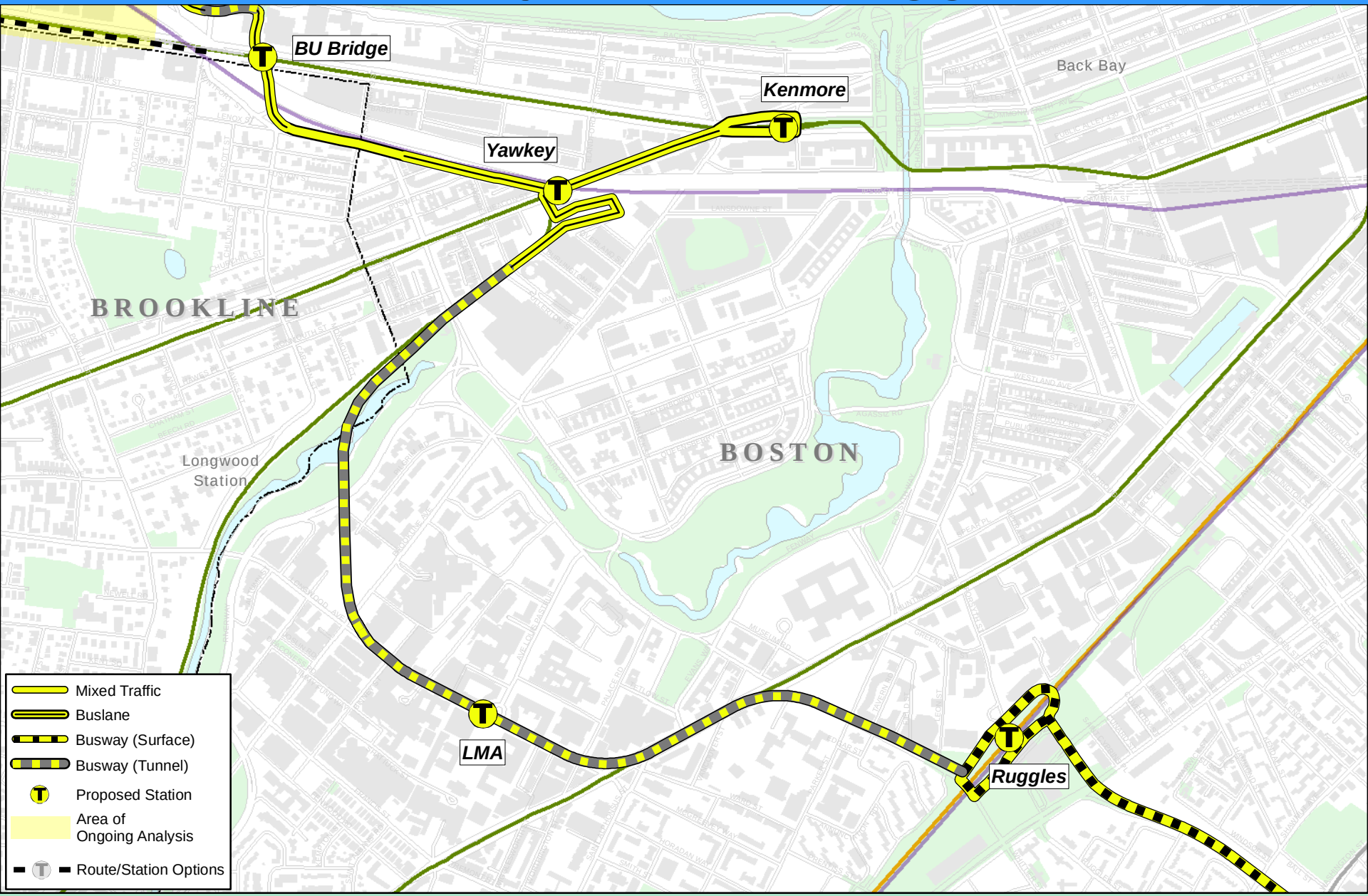
Allston


BOSTON
North Brighton
CAMBRIDGE
BROOKLINE
BU Bridge
Mixed Traffic
Buslane
Busway (Surface)
Busway (Tunnel)
Proposed Station
Area of Ongoing Analysis
Route/Station Options

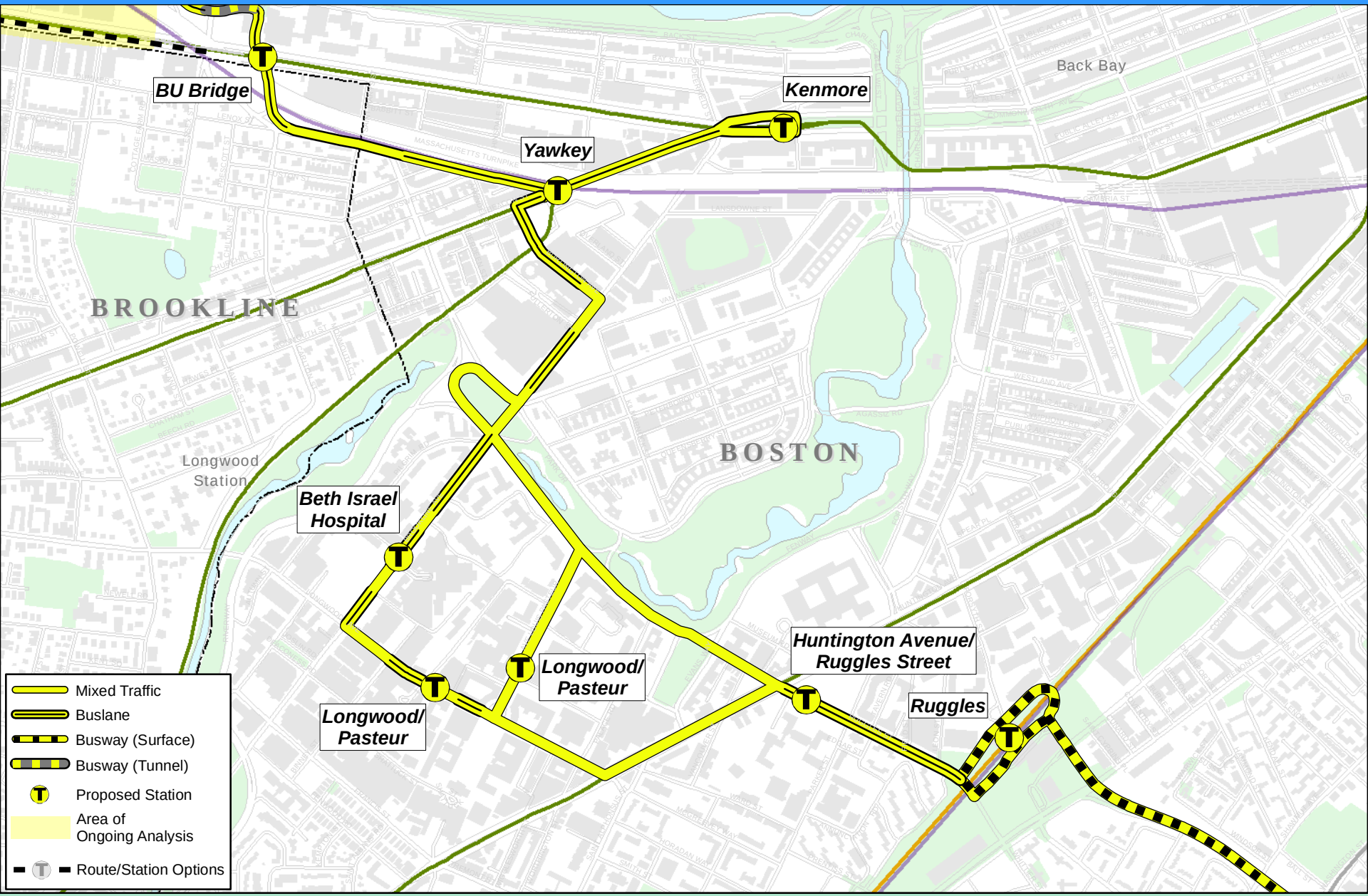
Charles River Crossing



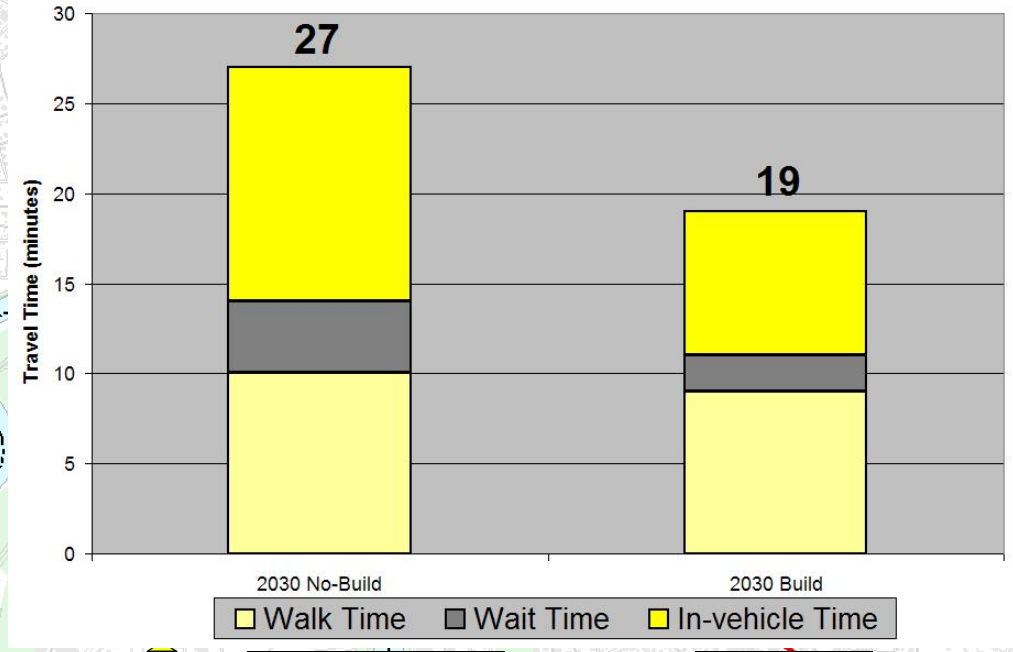
Fenway/LMA to Ruggles



Fenway/LMA to Ruggles (Interim Surface Routing)



Sullivan Square to Kendall/MIT 2030 PM Peak Hour Travel Time Comparison



NB – Orange Line to Red Line

Build - LPA

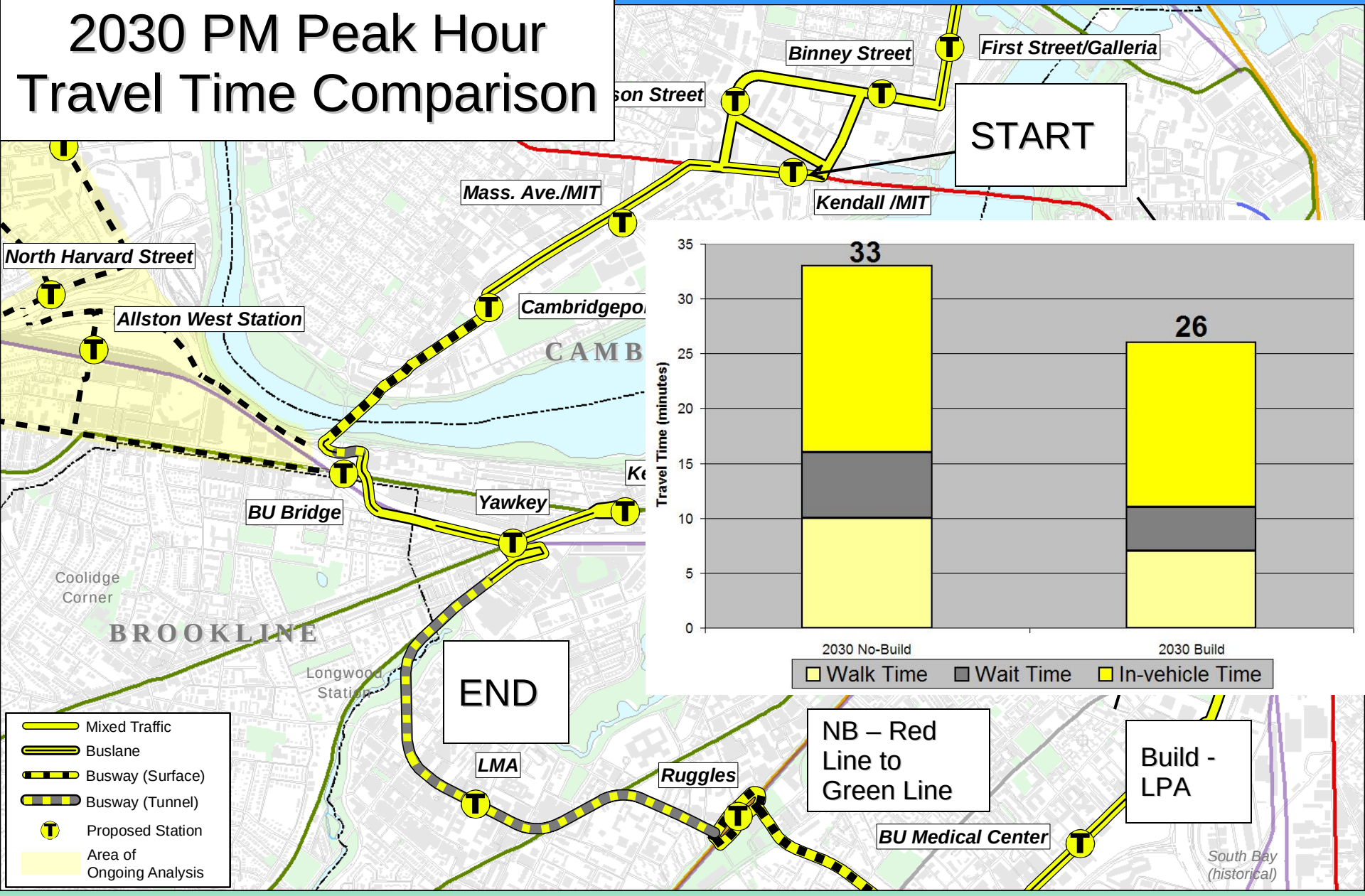
START

END

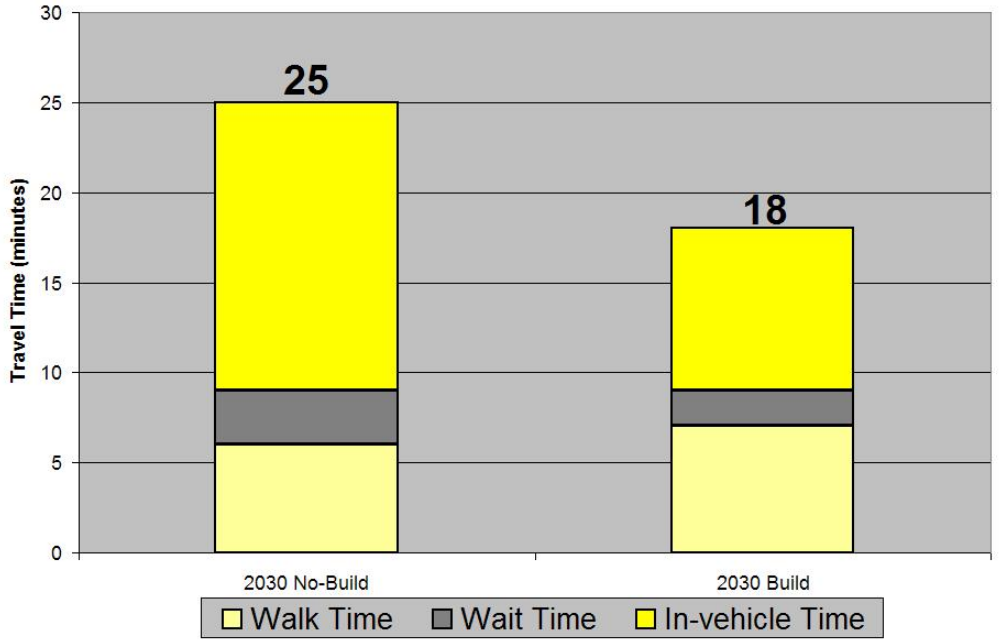
Sullivan Square
Inner Belt
New Lechmere
Binney Street
First Street/Galleria
Kendall /MIT
Mass. Ave./MIT
Cambridgeport
Allston West Station

Mixed Traffic
Buslane
Busway (Surface)
Busway (Tunnel)
Proposed Station

Kendall/MIT to LMA 2030 PM Peak Hour Travel Time Comparison



Boston University Medical Center to LMA 2030 PM Peak Hour Travel Time Comparison



END

LMA

Ruggles

BOSTON

NB - Bus # 47

START

BU Medical Center

Build - LPA

Washington Street

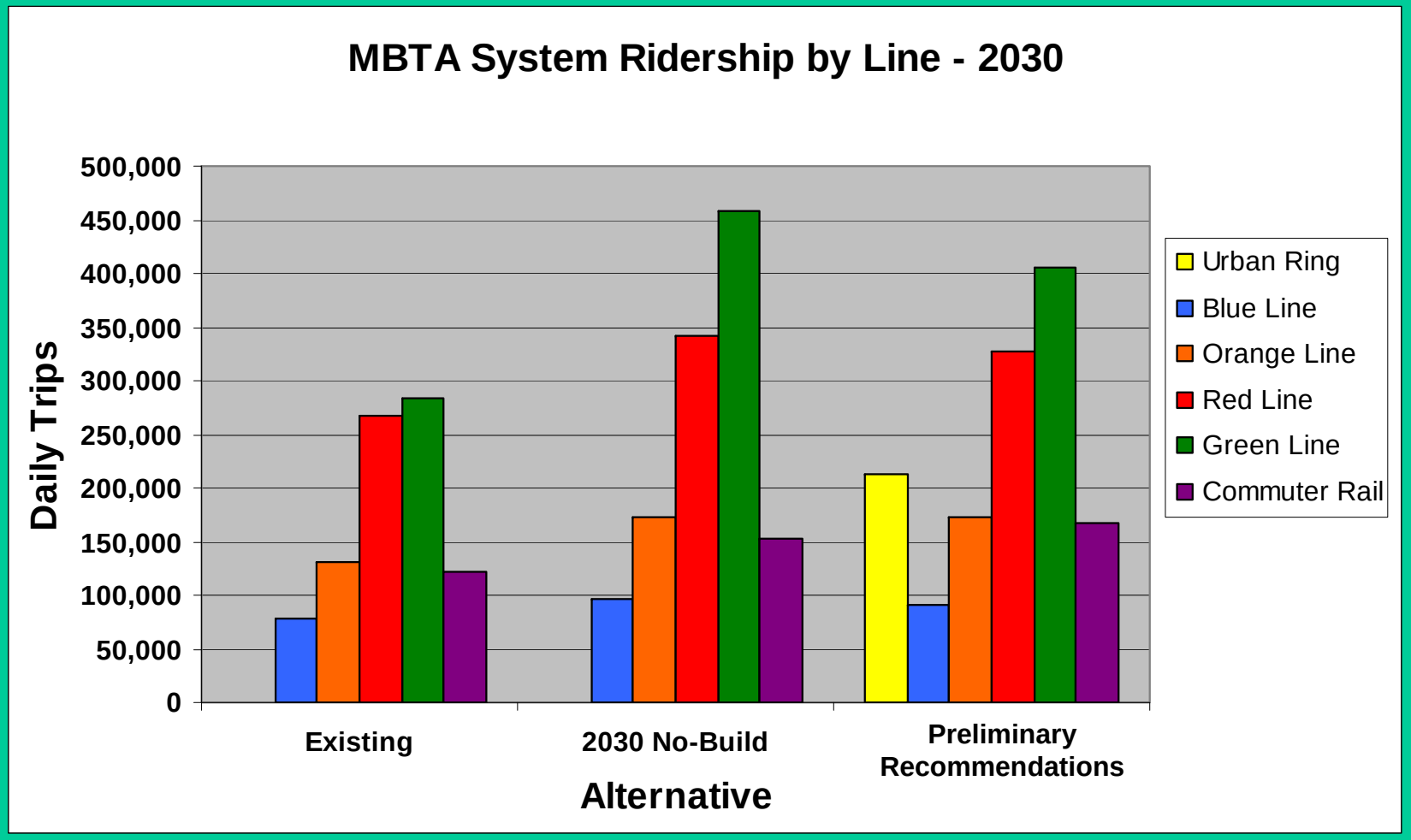
Crosstown Center

Roxbury Crossing

Dudley Square

Mixed Traffic
Buslane
Busway (Surface)
Busway (Tunnel)
Proposed Station
Area of Ongoing Analysis

Ridership Forecasts



Ridership Projections

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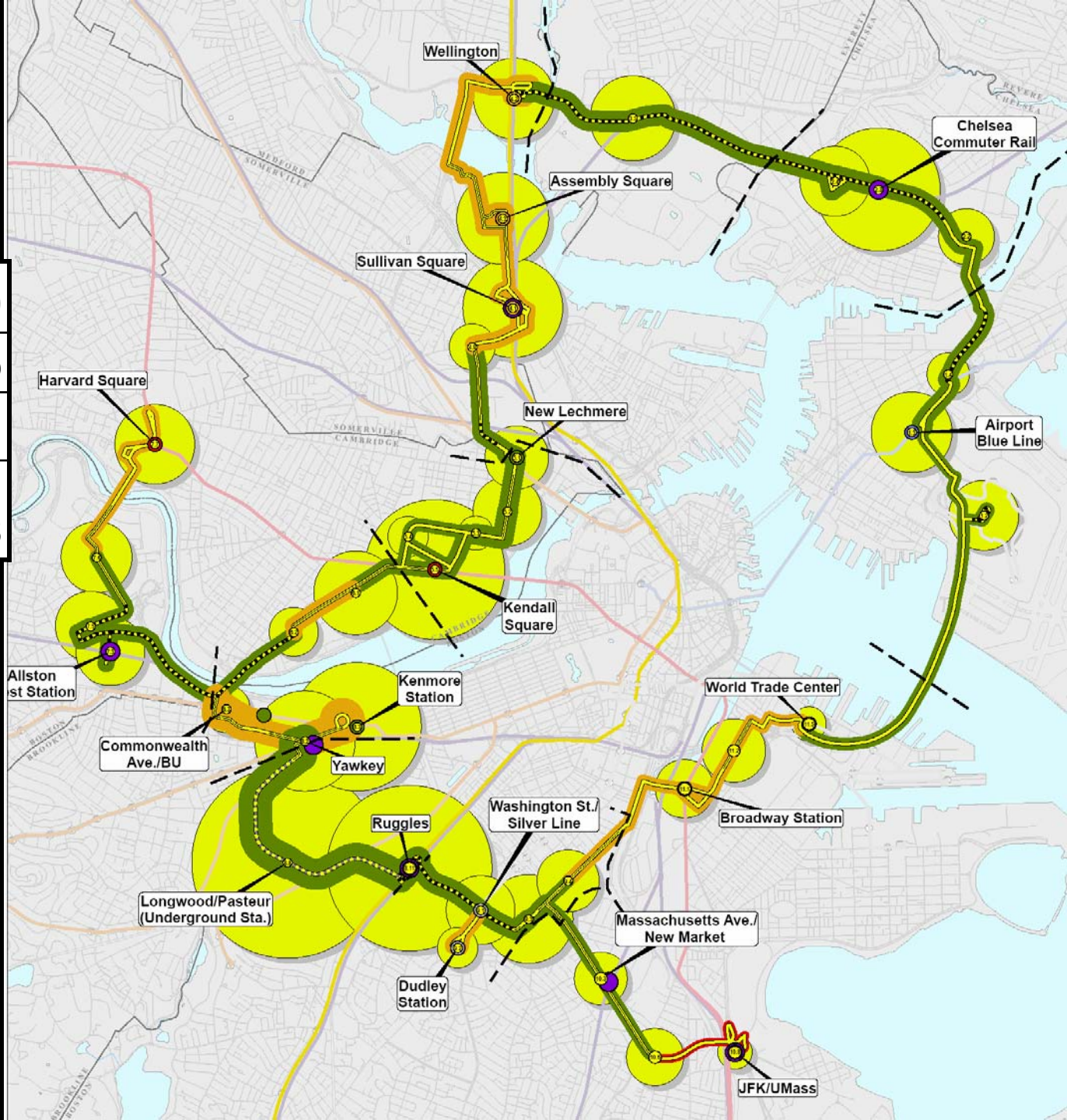
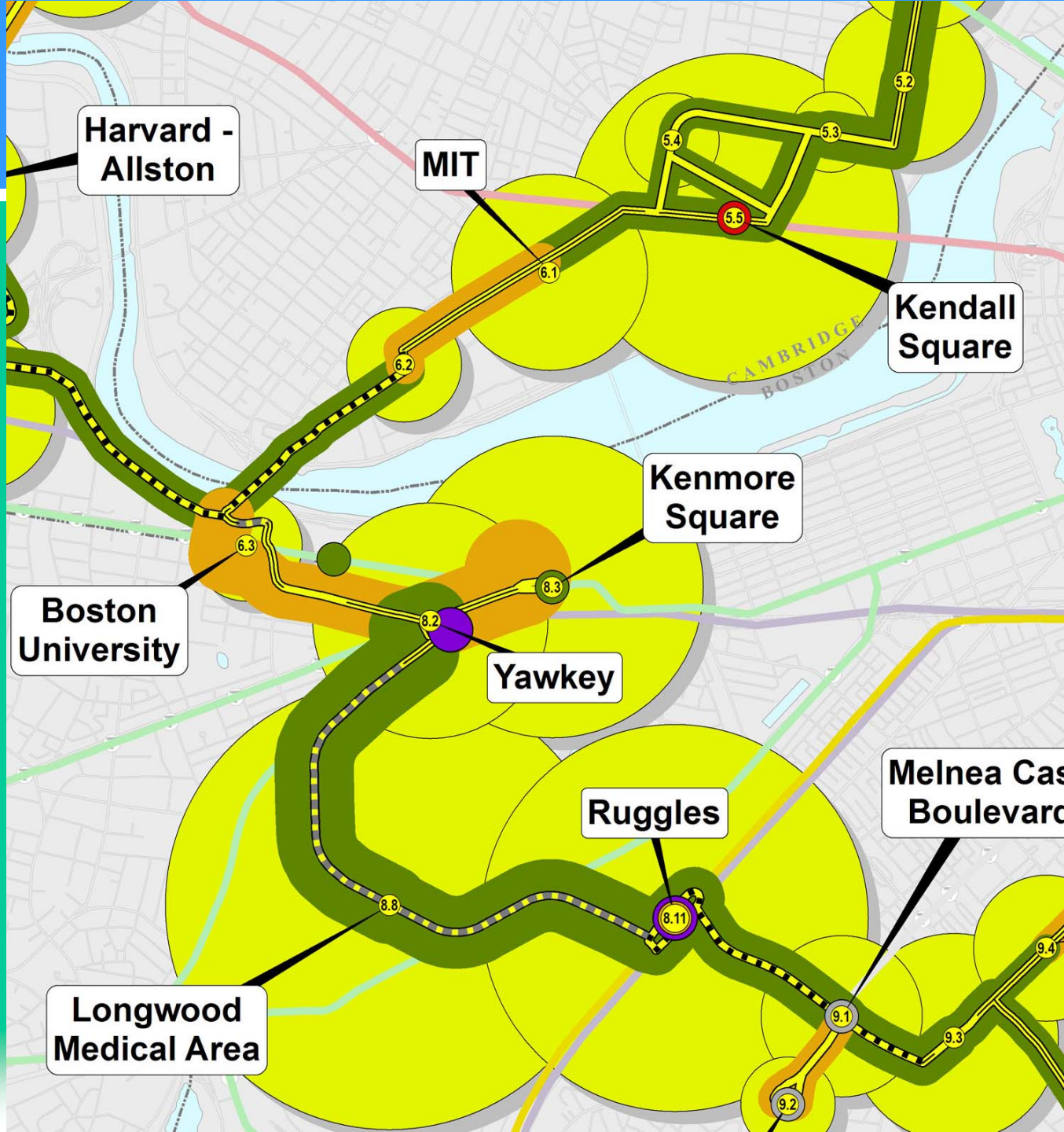


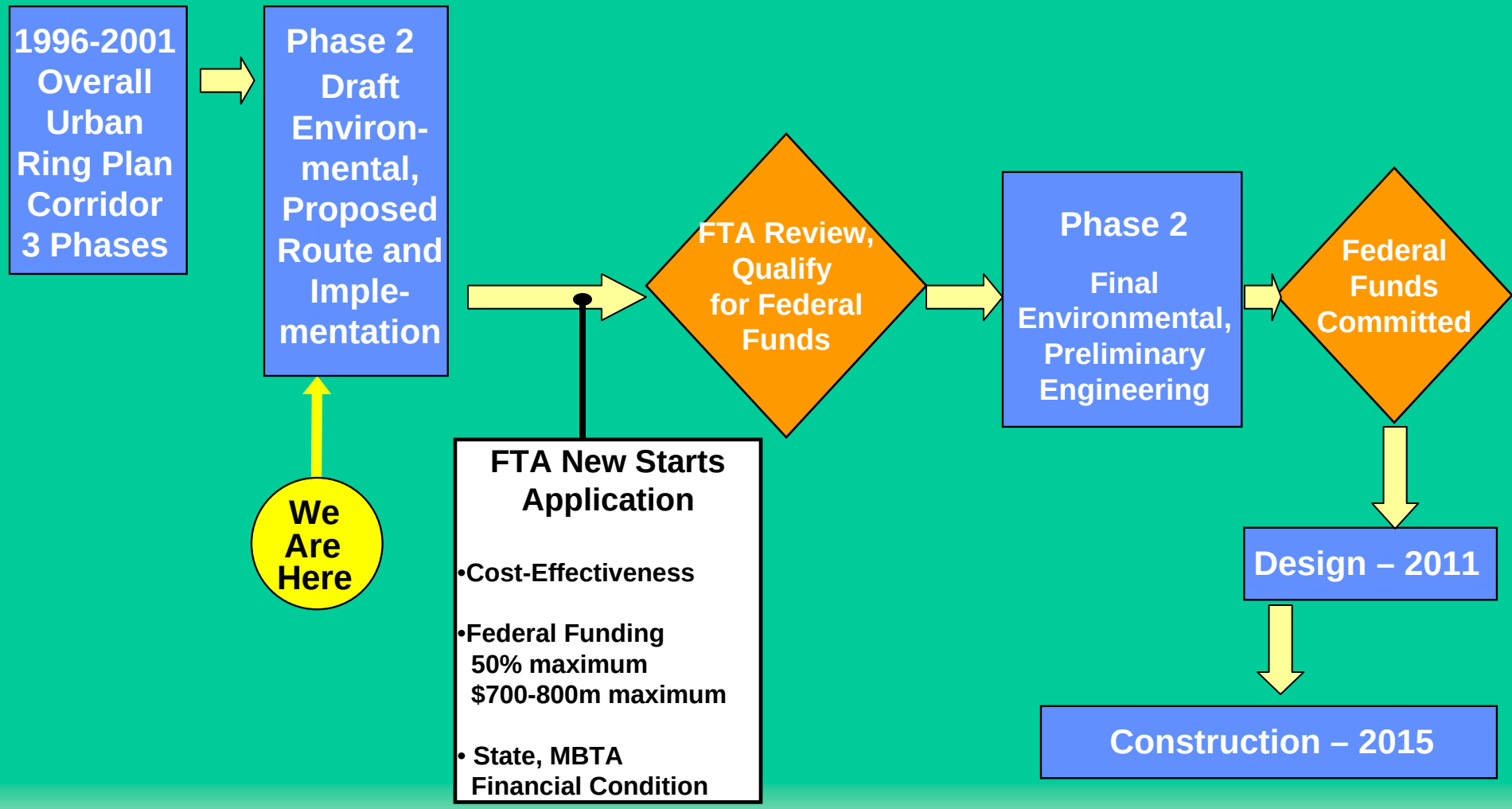
Ridership Projections



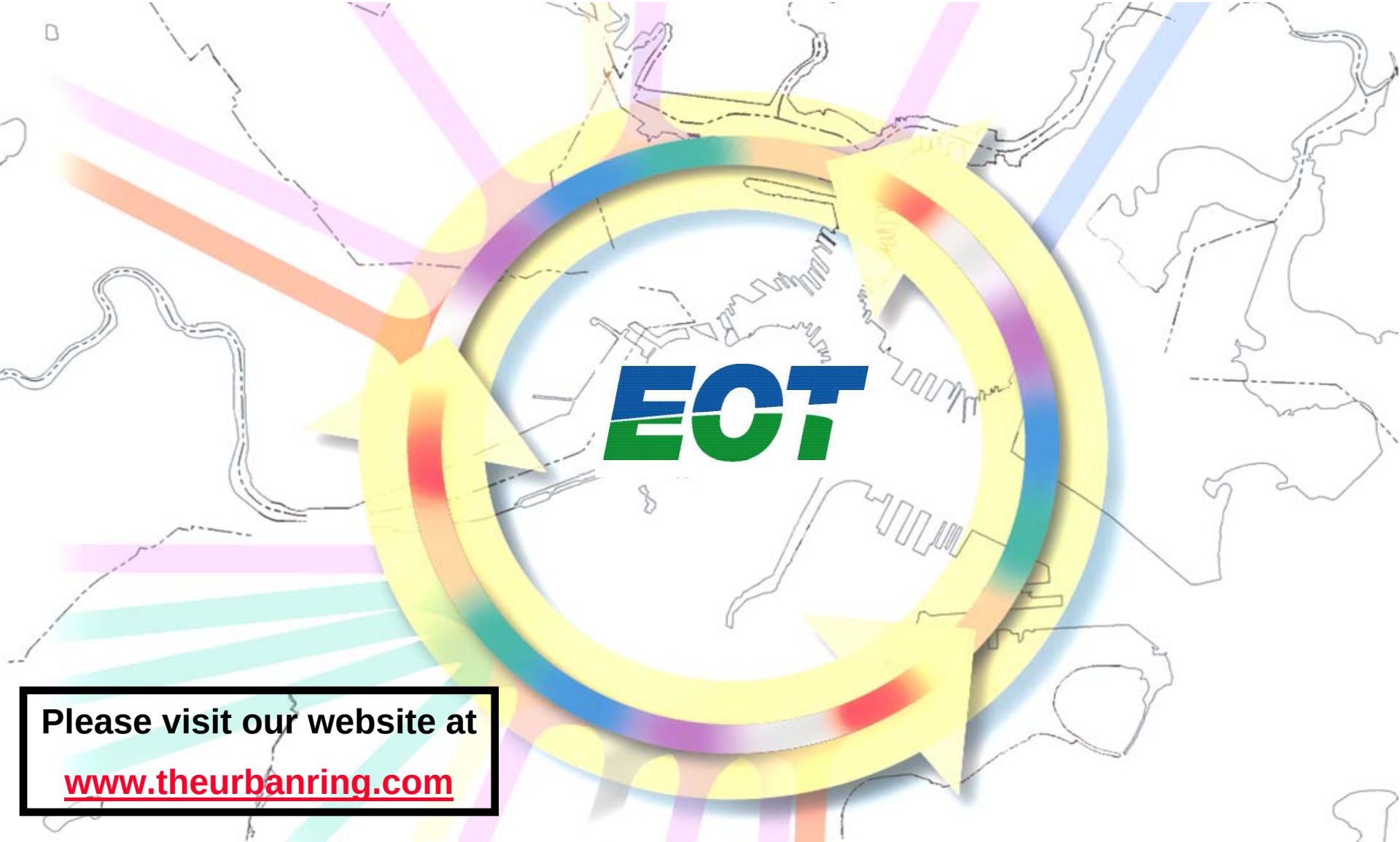
Draft Environmental Process – Next Steps

- **June 2008**
  - **Public meetings – Chelsea, East Cambridge, Fenway, Roxbury**
  - **Citizens Advisory Committee**
- **July – October 2008**
  - **Citizens Advisory Committee**
  - **Neighborhood, institutional and business briefings**
- **November 2008**
  - **File RDEIR/DEIS document for public comment**
- **December 2008**
  - **Public Hearing**
- **Early 2009**
  - **Public comment period ends, environmental Certificate issued**
  - **Start final environmental review and preliminary engineering**

Project Implementation



Discussion



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