



**Our Rapid Transit Initiative**

**STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND POLICY COMMITTEE**

**NOVEMBER 9, 2015**

# Context

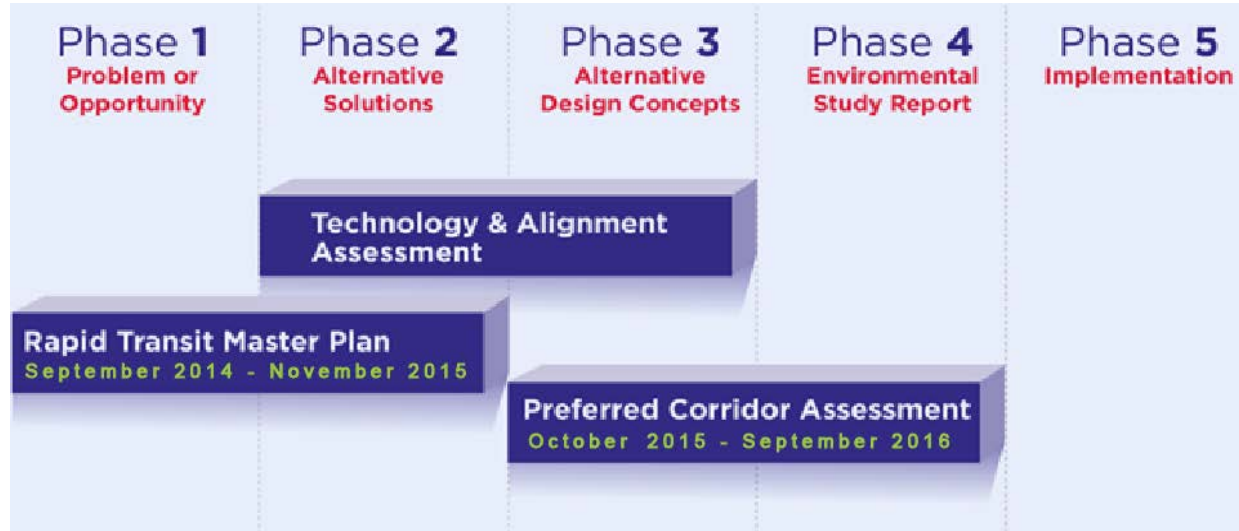
- Rapid Transit is the primary recommendation of the Smart Moves Transportation Master Plan (TMP), a cornerstone of the (draft) London Plan, and a key feature in Council's 2015-2019 Strategic Plan.



- Rapid Transit along with a complimentary land use strategy will facilitate greater mode shifts towards alternative transportation modes, helping to reduce traffic congestion and make transit a convenient, comfortable, and reliable travel option for residents.

# Process

- The Rapid Transit Environmental Assessment (EA) is being undertaken to create a Rapid Transit Master Plan that adheres to the legislative requirements of the Environmental Assessment Act.
- The RT EA is progressing towards the stage of determining a preferred RT system and a network alternative based on a technology.



# Rapid Transit Environmental Assessment

## Problems and Opportunities

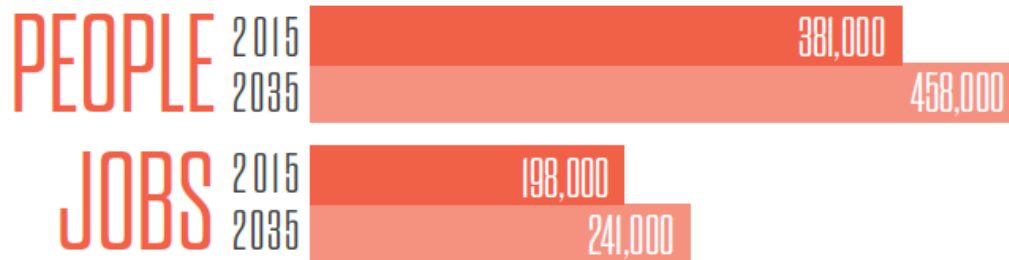
- Growing Congestion
- Transit Travel Times / Service Frequencies
- Growth Management
- Land Use and Density
- Existing Transit Ridership and Growth
- Commuter Travel Habits
- Catalyst for Change



Transit  
Ridership  
in London has  
grown by 94%

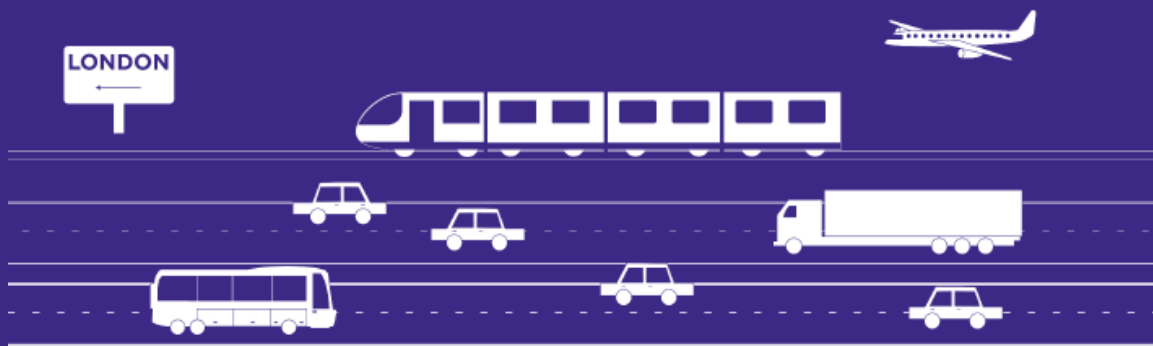
1996  
12.4 million rides

2014  
24.1 million rides





# London's Integrated Mobility



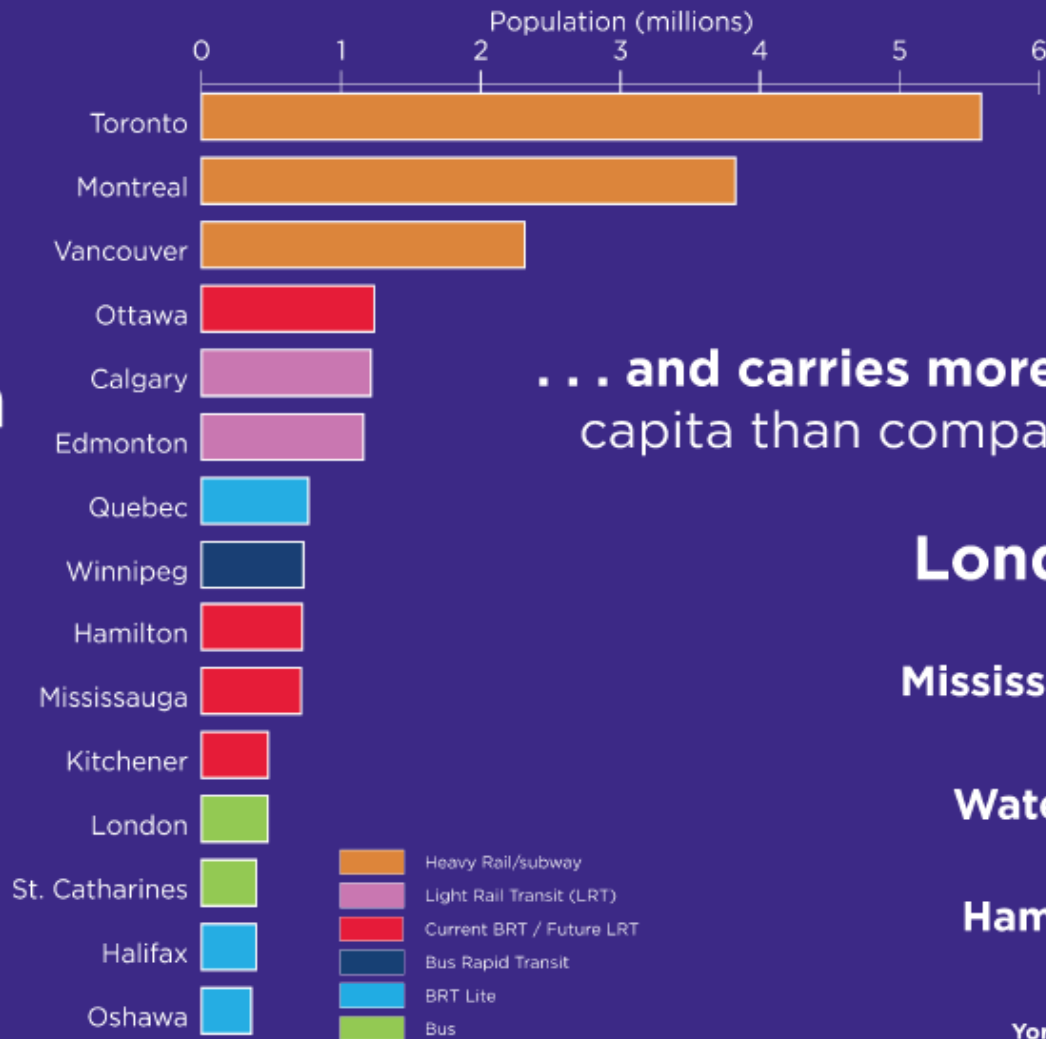
London is well connected within Ontario by rail, road and air.



Rapid Transit provides a local link to these larger networks.



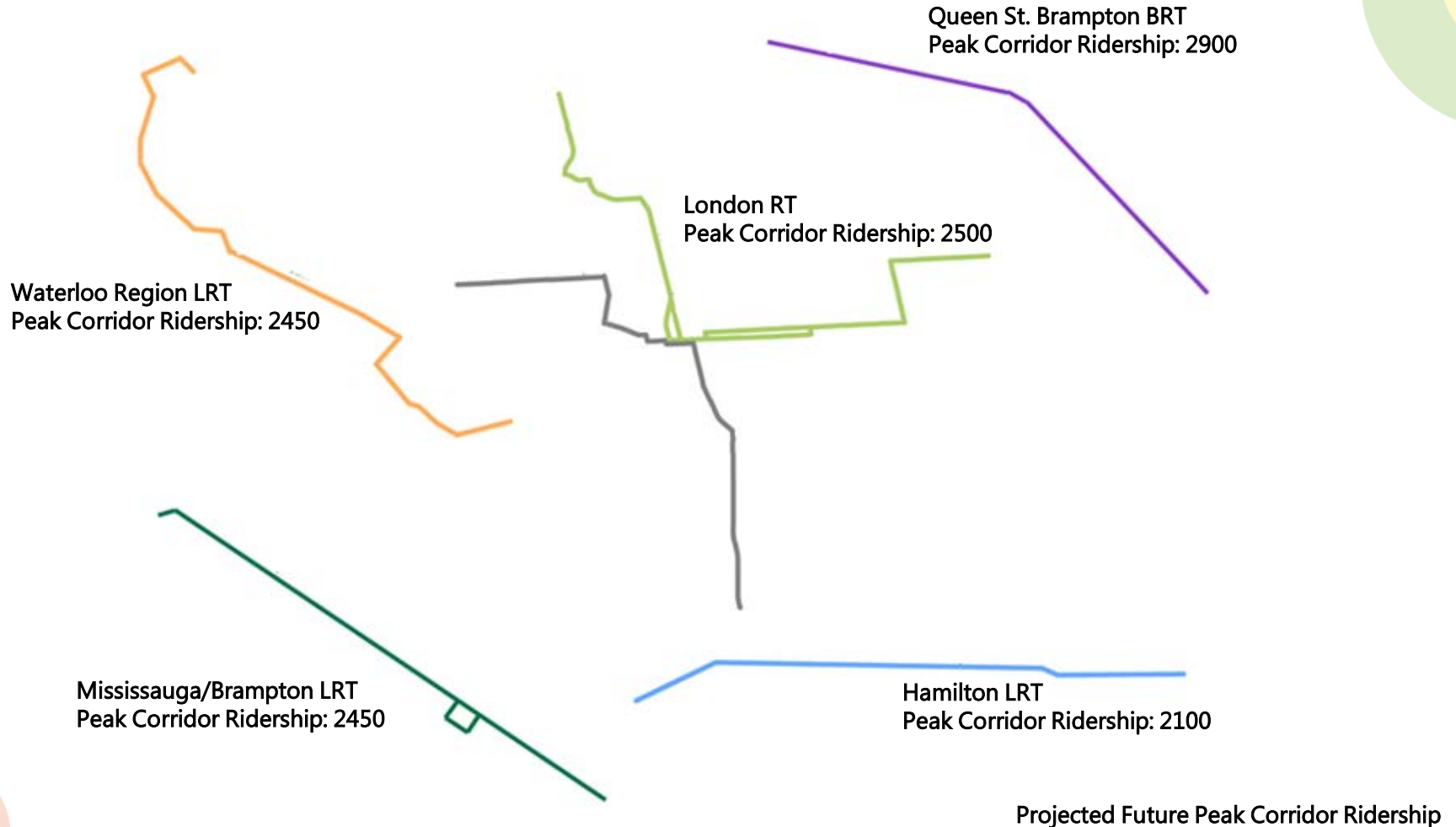
# London is Canada's largest region without Rapid Transit



... and carries more riders per capita than comparable cities



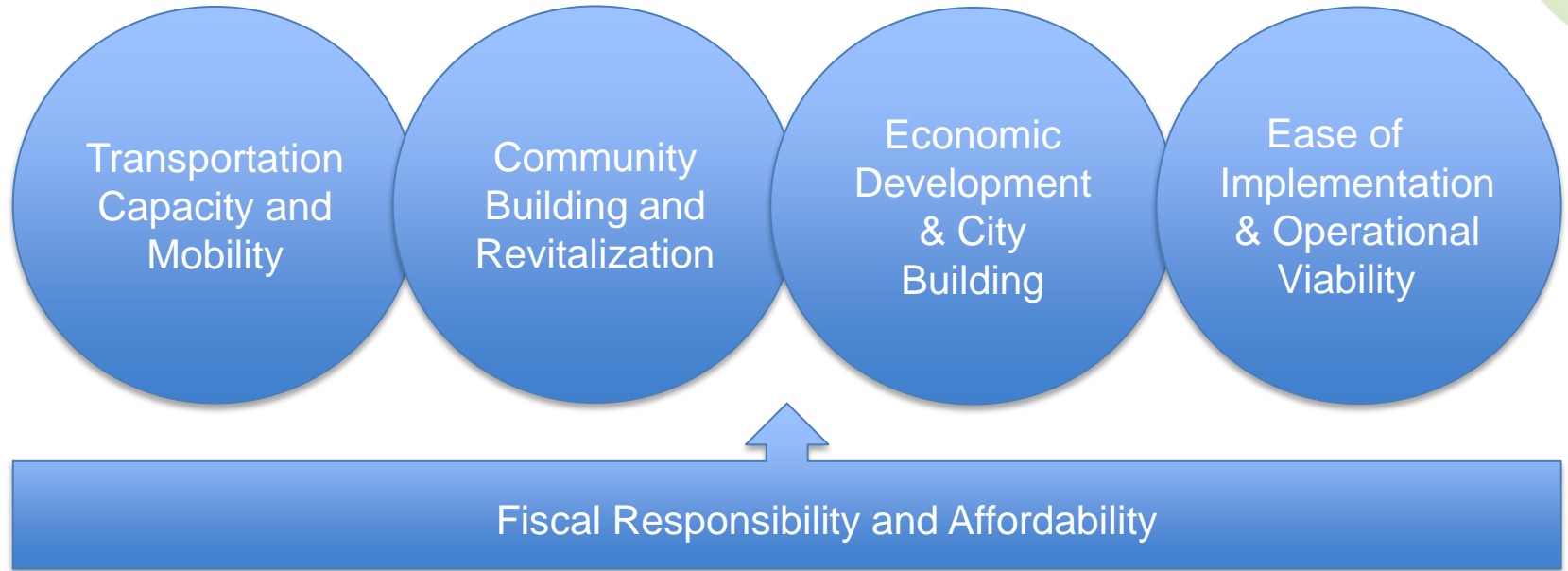
# Rapid Transit System Comparisons



Projected Future Peak Corridor Ridership

# Rapid Transit Guiding Principles

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# THE **LONDON** PLAN

EXCITING. EXCEPTIONAL. CONNECTED.

# TRANSPORTATION CAPACITY AND MOBILITY

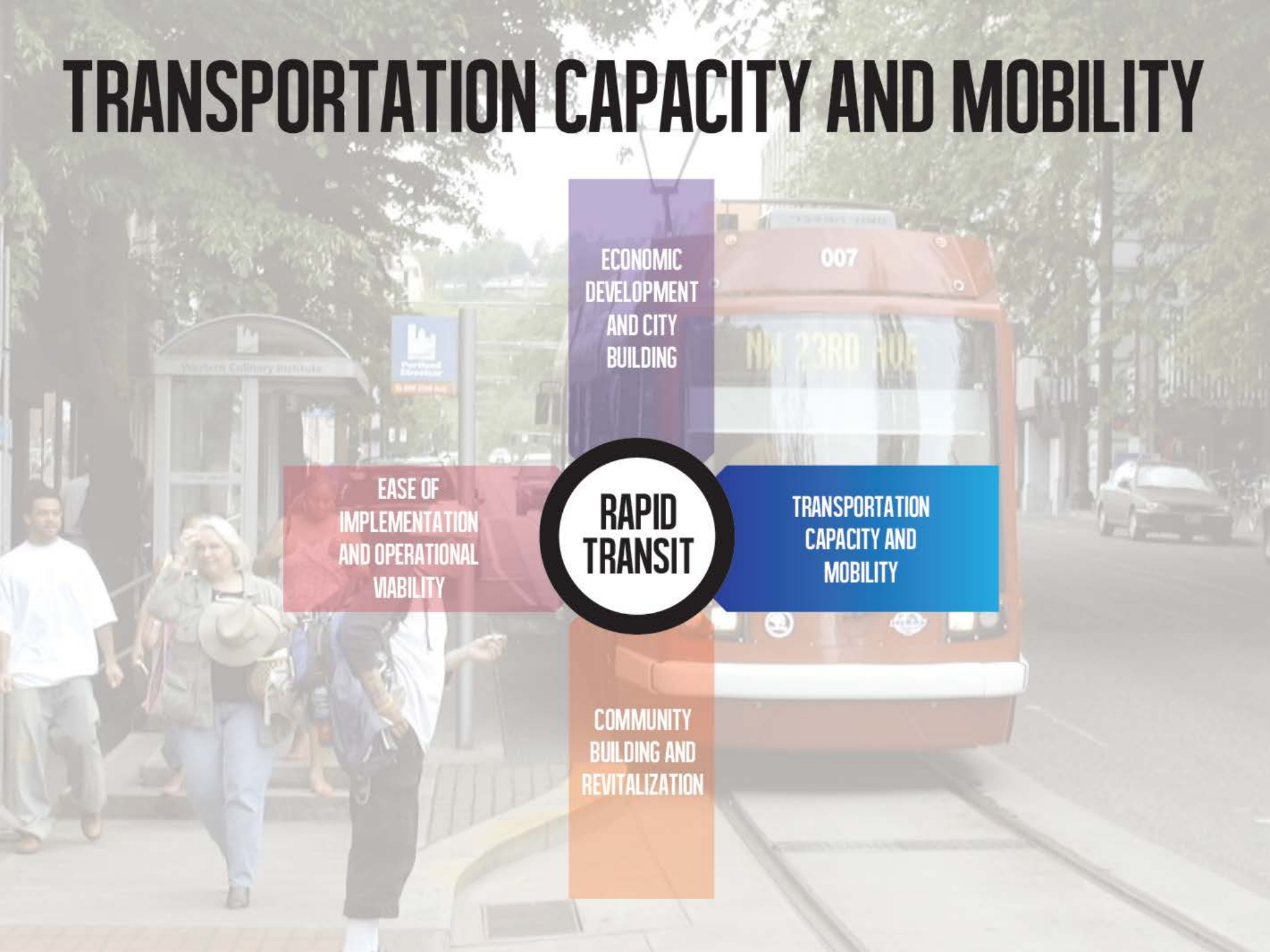
ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT  
AND CITY  
BUILDING

EASE OF  
IMPLEMENTATION  
AND OPERATIONAL  
VIABILITY

**RAPID  
TRANSIT**

TRANSPORTATION  
CAPACITY AND  
MOBILITY

COMMUNITY  
BUILDING AND  
REVITALIZATION



Place new emphasis on creating attractive transportation choices



Connect London to the surrounding region



Become one of the greenest cities in Canada



# COMMUNITY BUILDING AND REVITALIZATION

ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT  
AND CITY  
BUILDING

EASE OF  
IMPLEMENTATION  
AND OPERATIONAL  
VIABILITY

**RAPID  
TRANSIT**

TRANSPORTATION  
CAPACITY AND  
MOBILITY

COMMUNITY  
BUILDING AND  
REVITALIZATION

Building strong and attractive neighbourhoods  
for everyone

DELICATESSEN

Subs  
San Juan  
Sandwich meat



# Planning for exceptional spaces and places





# Regenerating our urban neighbourhoods and main streets



# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND CITY BUILDING



# Shaping our City around rapid transit



# Catalyst for development



Growing inward and upward



# Downtown investment



# Build a mixed-use compact city



# Planning a smart city



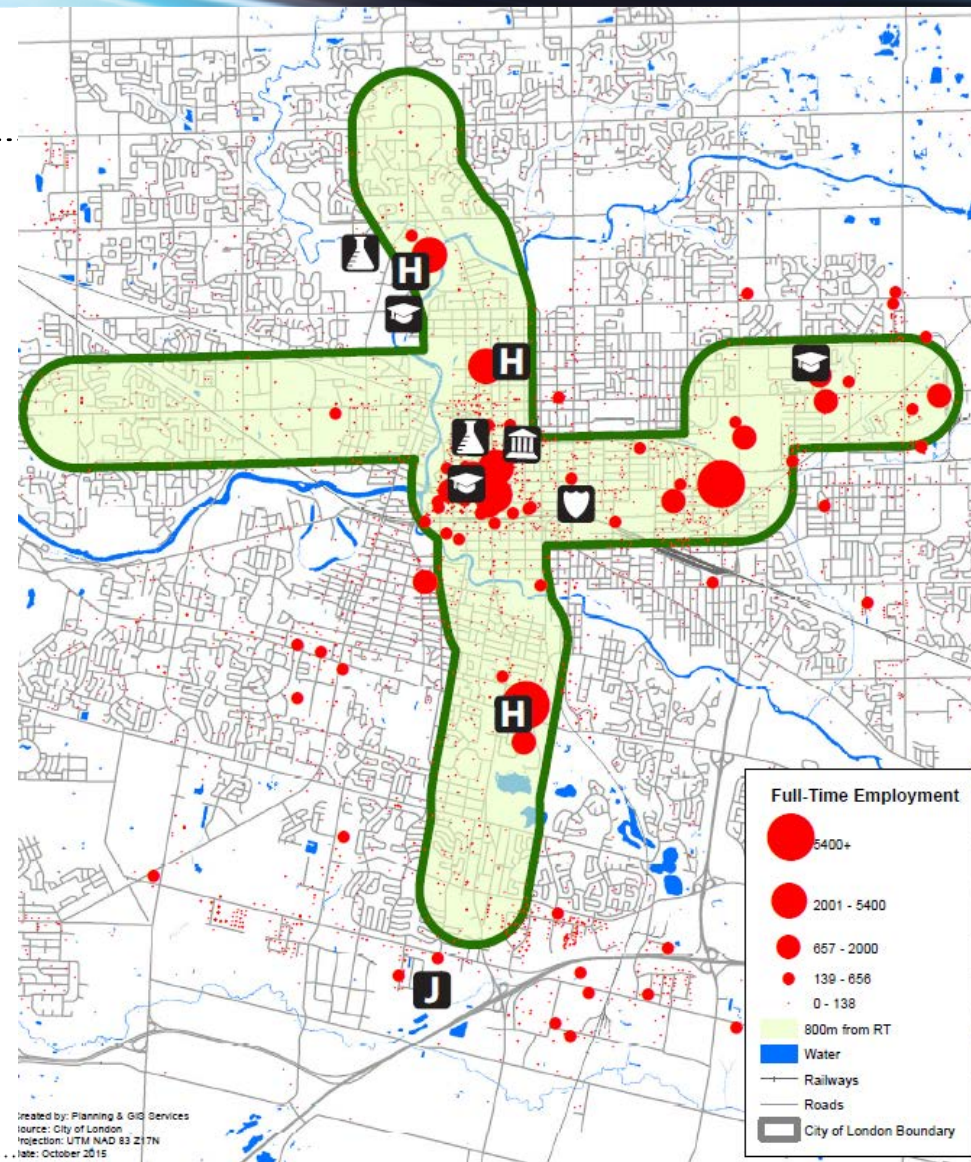


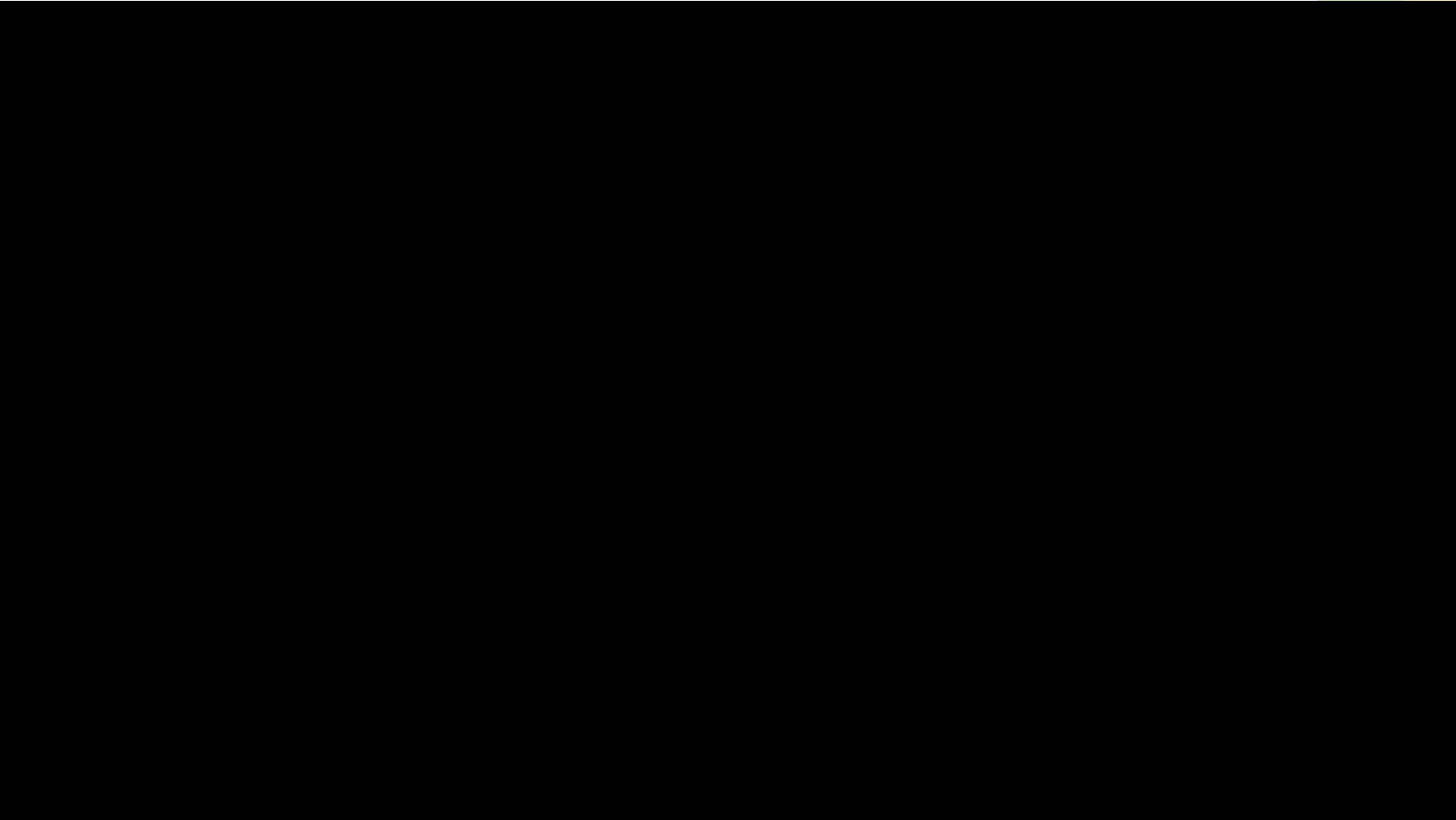
Building a city to attract talent and investment



## Full-Time Employment

An 800-metre buffer from proposed RT corridors encompasses approximately 65% of all full-time employment in London.







# EASE OF IMPLEMENTATION AND OPERATIONAL VIABILITY

ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT  
AND CITY  
BUILDING

EASE OF  
IMPLEMENTATION  
AND OPERATIONAL  
VIABILITY

**RAPID  
TRANSIT**

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# Public Engagement

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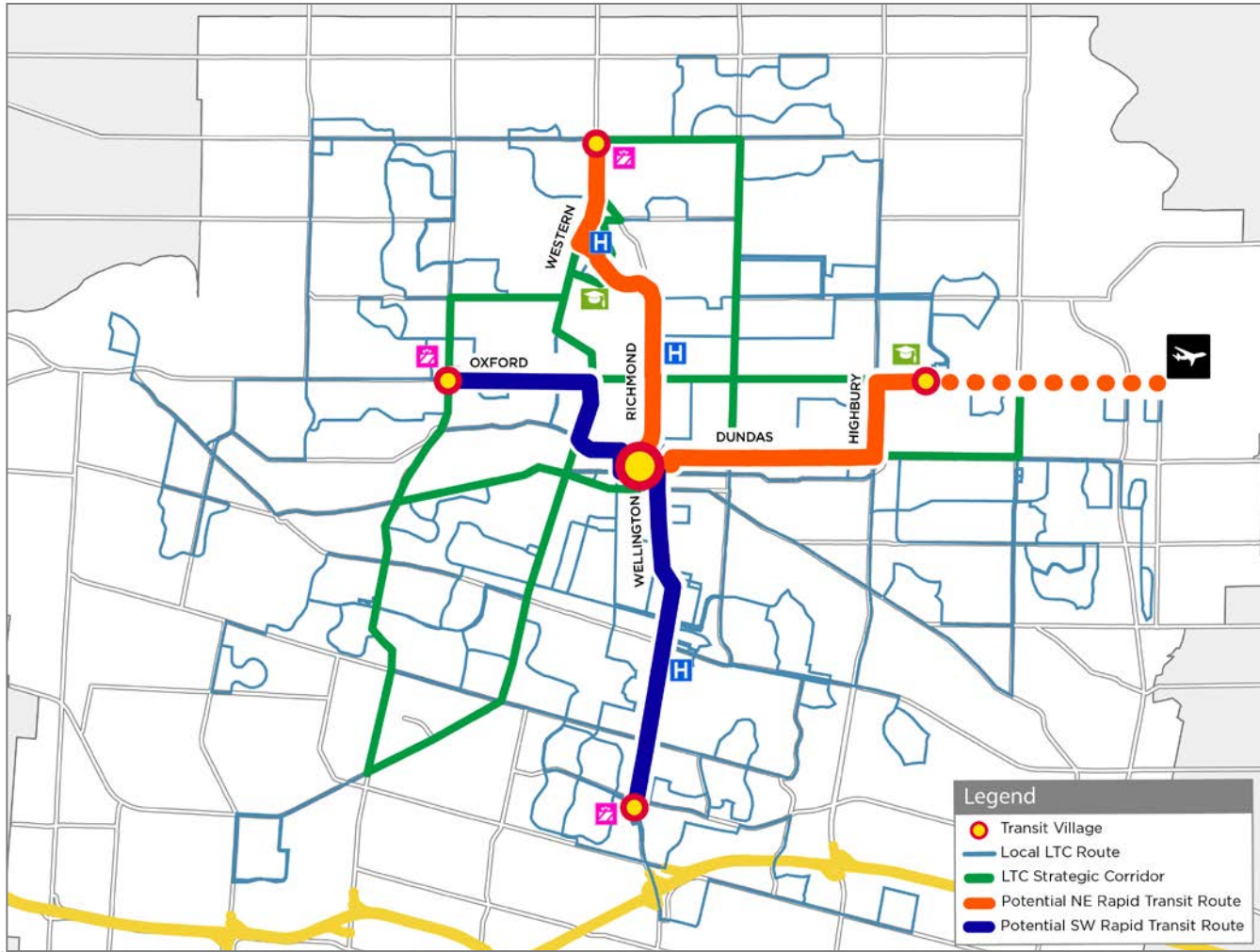
## Public Engagement Initiative

- Over 50 events so far; 12,500 contacts
- Over 1,500 followers on Twitter, Facebook and YouTube
- Presentations to stakeholder groups
- Pop-up booths at public events
- MetroQuest Survey – 1,200 people submitted responses.
- Project eNewsletter
- Project Website

## The top priorities for Rapid Transit are:

- 1 Fast travel time
- 2 Frequency
- 3 Walkable communities
- 4 Capital and Operating Costs
- 5 Coverage Area
- 6 Minimize Transfers
- 7 City Image
- 8 Comfortable Ride

# Preliminary Recommended Corridors



# Western University

## Route alternatives through the Campus area



Potential Alignment: RT along University Drive and Middlesex Drive

# Rapid Transit Technologies

## Common Characteristics of Rapid Transit Technologies

- Frequent service along the RT corridors, allowing riders to use the service without needing to consult a schedule
- Express Service – Fewer stations – Stations located at major trip generators
- Dedicated lanes for rapid transit, physically separated from other traffic where feasible.
- Programed traffic signals to prioritize the movement of rapid transit vehicles
- Enhanced stations: Stations with larger, more prominent waiting areas, shelters, seating, bike racks, ticket vendors.





# Network Alternatives

## Base BRT

- Similar to Transportation Master Plan BRT alternatives
- No major capital works (Richmond Street tunnel and University Avenue bridge)
- BRT vehicles run in mixed traffic on Wellington Street between Baseline Road and Downtown

## Full BRT

- Adds major structural projects, including a Richmond Street Tunnel under the CP Rail line and the bridge over the North Thames on University Drive to maximize transit operating speeds

## Hybrid

- Same major structural projects as the Full BRT alternative
- Incorporates LRT along the preferred north and east corridors via downtown with BRT along the south and west corridors.

## Full LRT

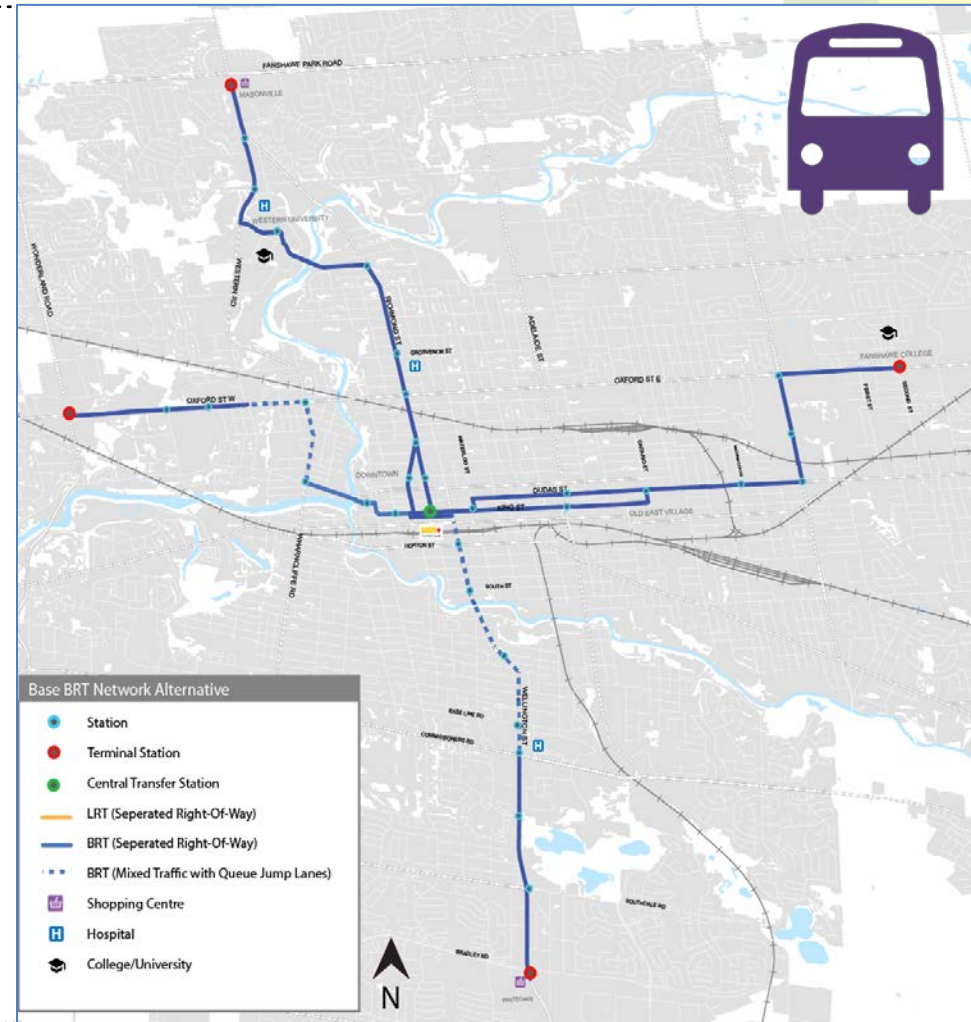
- This alternative incorporates a semi-exclusive LRT system along the entirety of the preferred RT route.



# Network Alternatives – Base BRT

## Characteristics

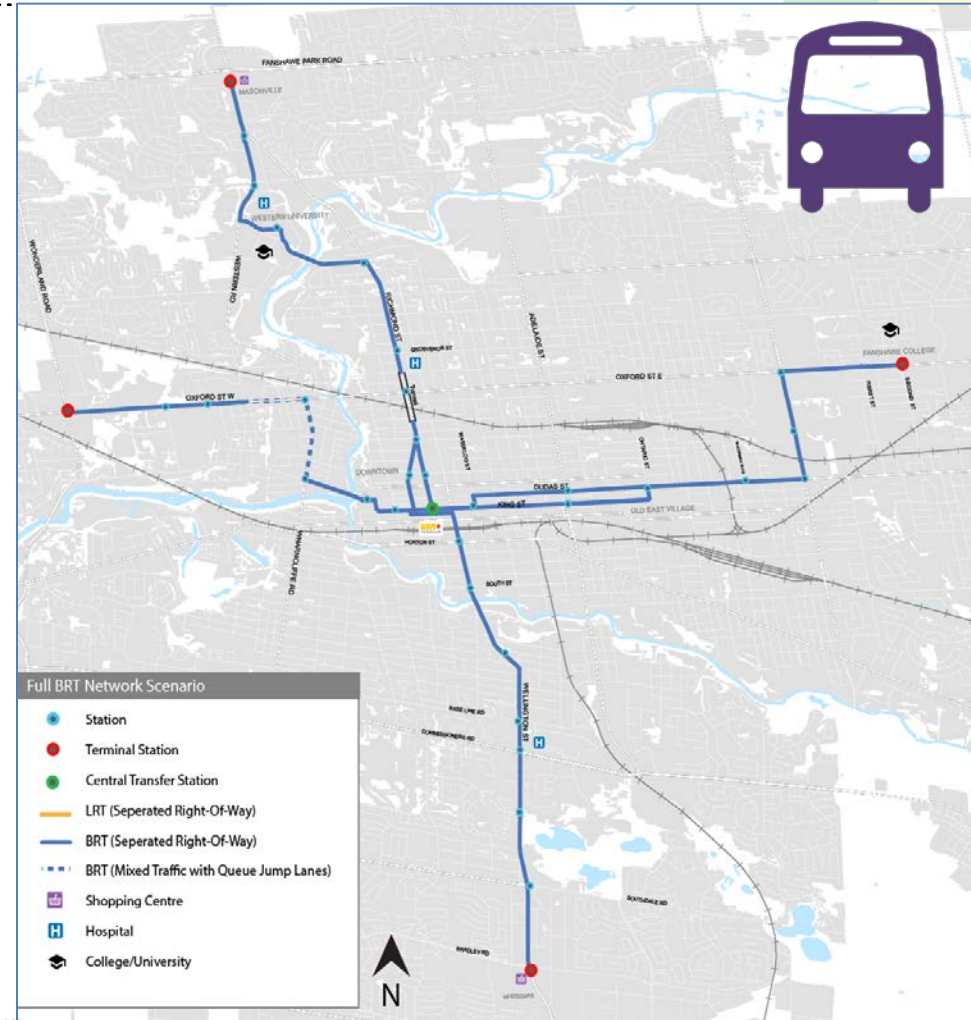
- 19 km of BRT along a semi-exclusive right-of-way
- 4.6 km of BRT in mixed traffic
- 31.4 million riders/year by 2035
- \$270 million capital cost
- \$13.8 million/year O+M costs
- 840,000 transit travel hours saved
- 12 million auto vehicle km saved
- Moderate potential impact on City Building and Social Community



# Network Alternatives – Full BRT

## Characteristics

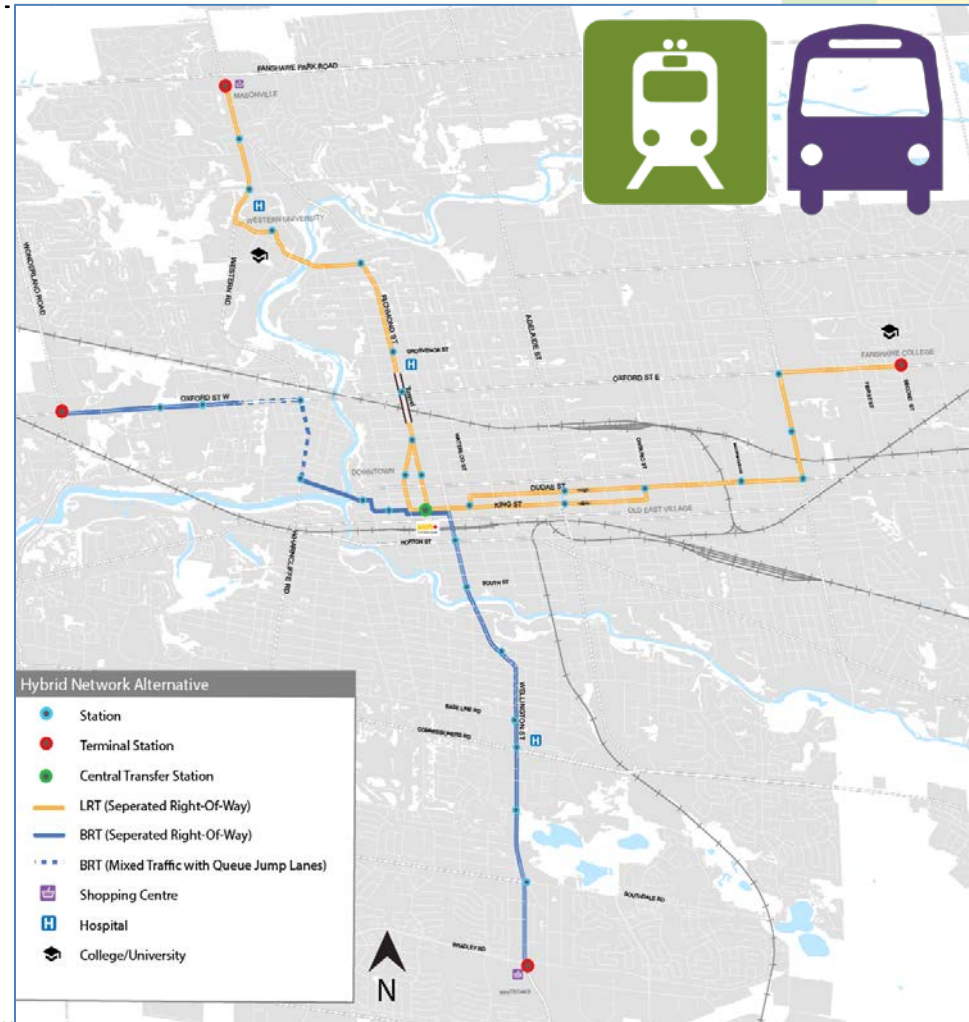
- 22 km of BRT along a semi-exclusive right-of-way
- 1.6 km of BRT mixed traffic
- 31.6 million riders/year by 2035
- \$500 million capital costs
- \$12.2 million/year O+M costs
- 985,000 transit travel hours saved
- 12.9 million auto vehicle km saved
- Moderate potential impact on City Building and Social Community



# Network Alternatives - Hybrid

## Characteristics

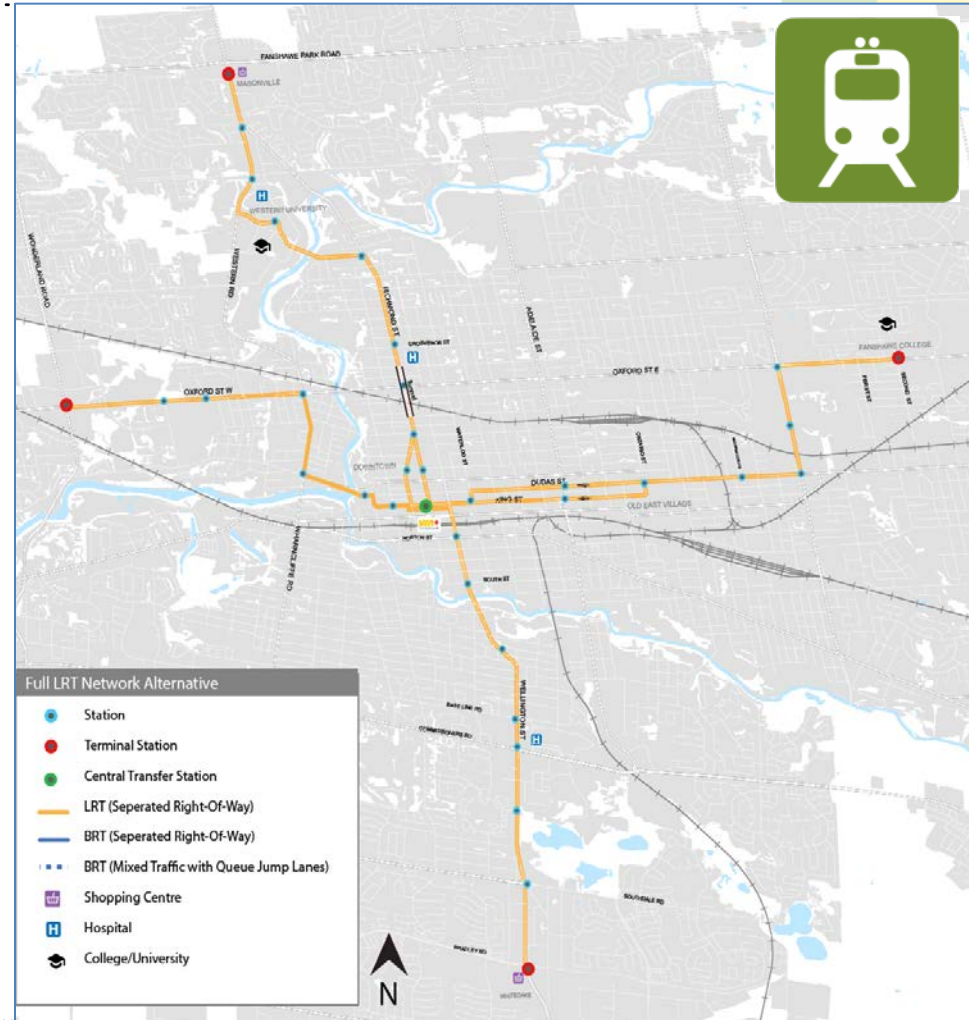
- 13.2 km of LRT along a semi-exclusive right-of-way
- 9 km of BRT semi-exclusive lanes
- 1.6 km of BRT in mixed traffic
- 32 million riders/year by 2035
- \$880 million in capital costs
- \$11.1 million/year in O+M costs
- 1,170,000 transit travel hours saved
- 14.7 million auto vehicle km saved
- High potential impact on City Building and Social Community



# Network Alternatives – Full LRT

## Characteristics

- 23.7 km of LRT along a semi-exclusive right-of-way
- 32.1 million riders/year by 2035
- \$1,150 million in capital costs
- \$11.5 million/year in O+M costs
- 1,226,000 transit travel hours saved
- 15.1 million auto vehicle km saved
- Highest potential impact on City Building and Social Community



# Network Comparison

Criteria	Base BRT	Full BRT	Hybrid	Full LRT
Capital Cost	●	◐	◑	◐
Operating Cost	◑	◑	◑	◑
Economic Development and City Building	◑	◐	●	●
Transportation Capacity and Mobility	◑	◐	◐	◐
Community Building and Revitalization	◑	◐	●	●
Ease of Implementation and Operational Viability	●	◐	◑	◑

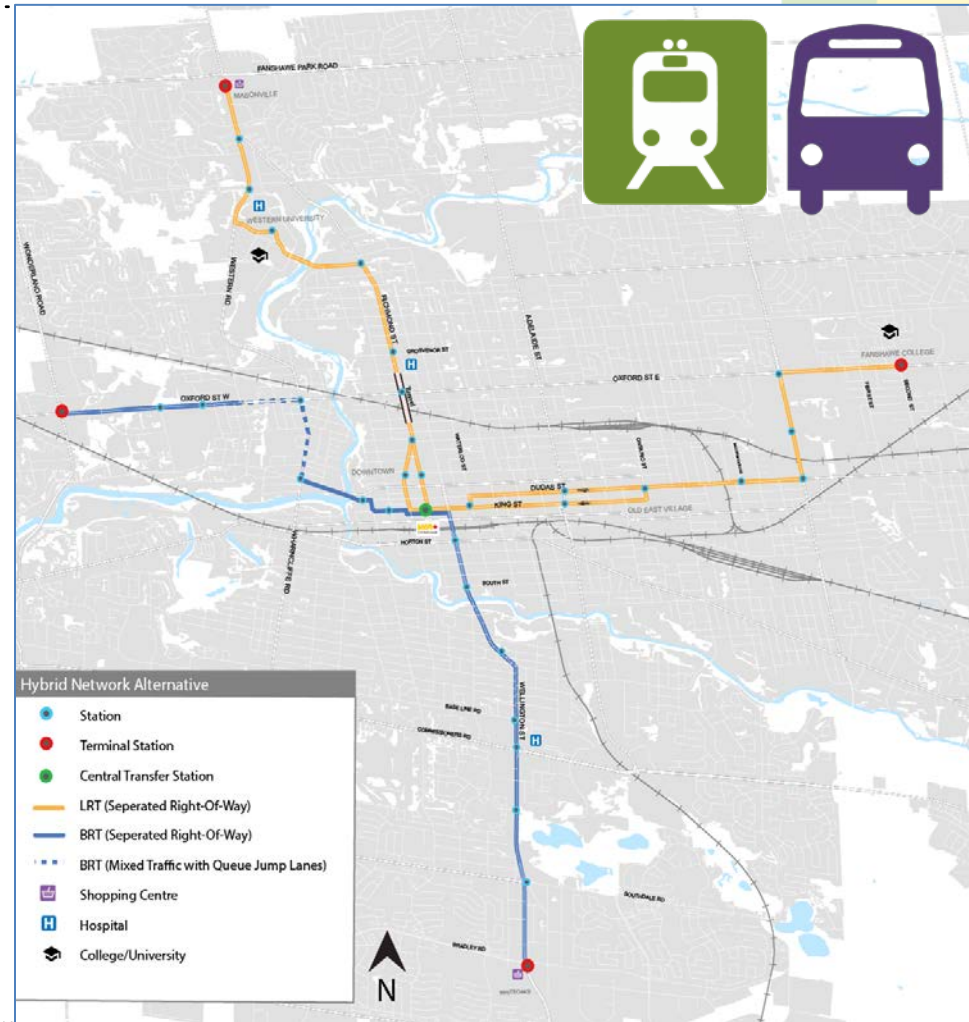
Base BRT, Full BRT, and Hybrid are viable rapid transit solutions and an enhancement to the current transit system.

# Benefits Case

Description	Base BRT	Full BRT	Hybrid	Full LRT
<b>COSTS - FINANCIAL ACCOUNT</b>				
Capital Costs (CAPEX)	\$ 280	\$ 497	\$ 880	\$ 1,142
Operating Costs to 2049	\$ 370	\$ 319	\$ 287	\$ 252
Total Costs	\$ 650	\$ 816	\$ 1,167	\$ 1,394
<b>BENEFITS - AGENCY</b>				
Additional Fares	\$ 84.65	\$ 90.88	\$ 103.33	\$ 106.45
<b>BENEFITS - TRANSPORTATION USERS</b>				
Auto User Time Savings	\$ 112	\$ 114	\$ 114	\$ 119
Transit User Time Savings	\$ 292	\$ 344	\$ 409	\$ 429
Auto Operating Cost Savings	\$ 38	\$ 41	\$ 47	\$ 48
Safety Savings	\$ 22	\$ 23	\$ 27	\$ 28
Sub-total	\$ 465	\$ 523	\$ 597	\$ 623
<b>SUMMARY</b>				
Total Costs (2015 \$)	\$ 650	\$ 816	\$ 1,167	\$ 1,394
Total Benefits Transportation User and Agency Benefits(2015 \$)	\$ 550	\$ 614	\$ 700	\$ 730
Benefit - Cost Ratio	0.85	0.75	0.60	0.52
<b>SOCIAL BENEFITS - ENVIRONMENTAL</b>				
GHG Emissions Savings	\$ 2.03	\$ 2.18	\$ 2.47	\$ 2.55
<b>SOCIAL BENEFITS - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</b>				
Short Term GDP Gains	\$ 123	\$ 227	\$ 399	\$ 520
Long Term GDP Gains	\$ 16	\$ 14	\$ 12	\$ 13
Land Value Uplift	\$ 80	\$ 90	\$ 110	\$ 115
Total Social Benefits	\$ 221.1	\$ 333.3	\$ 523.1	\$ 650.5
Benefit-Cost Ratio including Social	1.19	1.16	1.05	0.99
City Building and Social Community (City Image, Urban Regeneration Benefits, Catalyst for Development)	✓	✓✓	✓✓½	✓✓✓

# Preliminary Preferred Network Characteristics

- A city-wide rapid transit long term solution that is scalable in implementation
- High quality stations and corridors
- Grade separation of rapid transit from freight rail lines (Richmond Street tunnel under the CP Rail line) to limit delays
- A semi-exclusive LRT line in the highest demand corridors (North and East)
- A semi-exclusive BRT line in the lower demand corridors (South and West)
- A supporting network of feeder buses providing direct access to the rapid transit corridors





# Potential Cross Sections Visuals



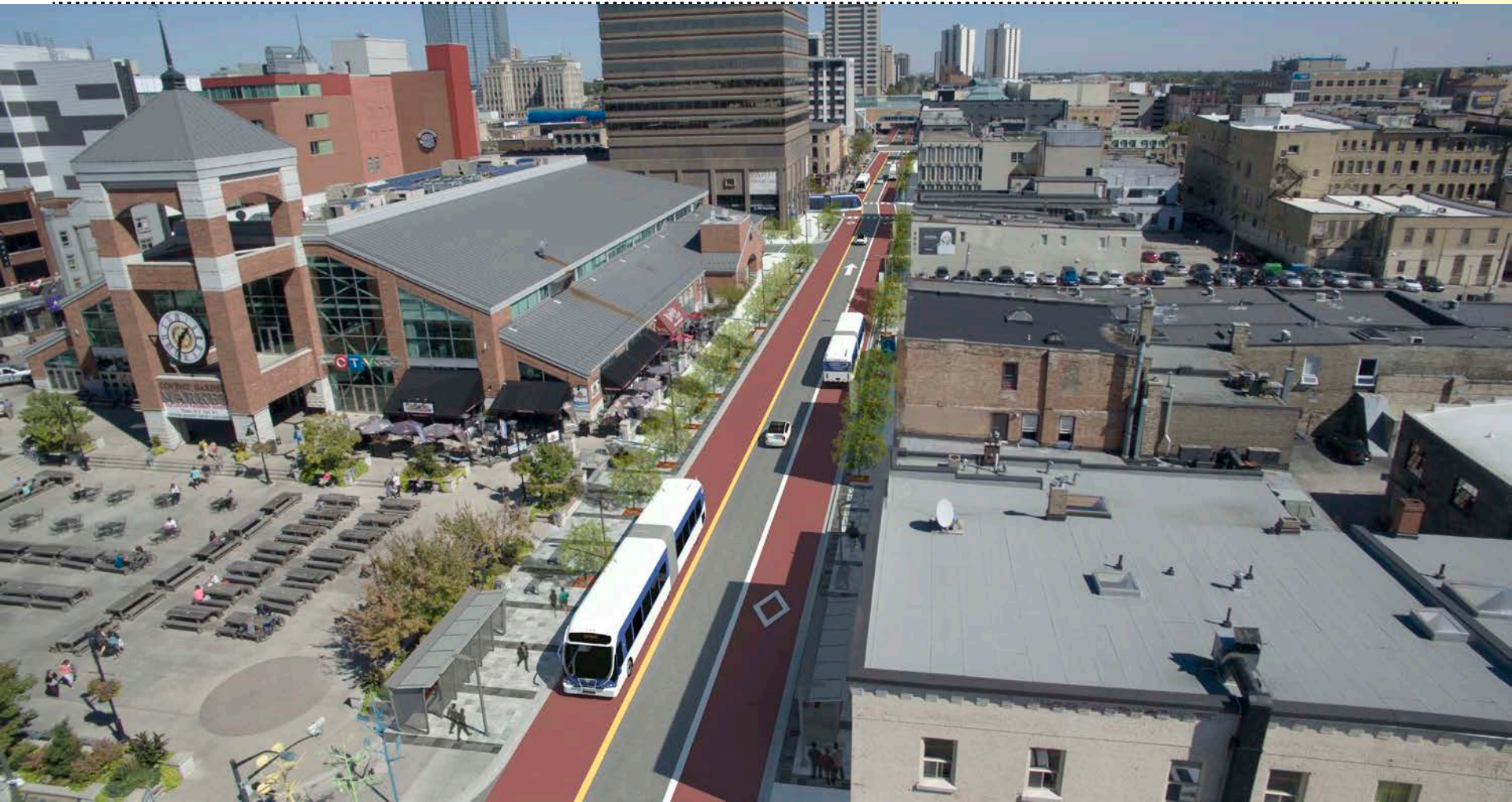
# Potential Cross Sections Visuals



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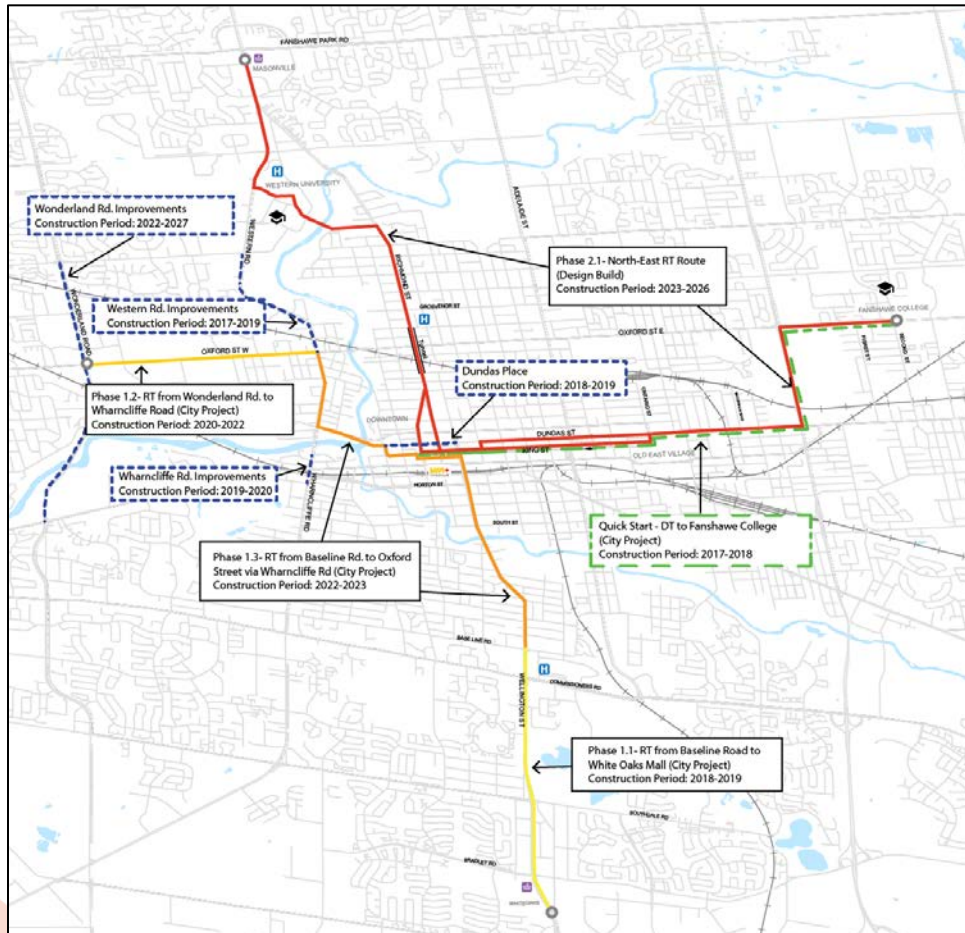
# Potential Cross Sections Visuals



# Potential Cross Sections Visuals



# Potential Project Phasing (subject to funding)



Project	Year
<b>Rapid Transit Projects</b>	
Quick Start	2017-2018
Wellington Street, South of Baseline Road	2018-2019
Oxford Street West	2020-2022
Wharncliffe Road	2022-2023
Wellington Street, North of Baseline Road	2022-2023
North-East RT Route	2023-2026
<b>Related Improvements to the Road Network</b>	
Western Road	2017-2019
Dundas Place	2018-2019
Wonderland Road	2022-2027

# Rapid Transit Funding

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- The new federal government has promised to investment in significant improvements to public transit across Canada
- The Province plans to allocate \$15 billion dollars in public transit projects outside of the GTHA as part of the *Moving Ontario Forward* initiative
- Projects outside of the GTHA have been funded through 1/3 partnerships with the Province and Federal governments as the projects are municipally driven, owned and operated.
- City of London *Moving Ontario Forward* submission – Funding up to \$1.1 billion for Rapid Transit, work together to select the right option

# Rapid Transit Summary

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- The City of London's financial commitment of approximately \$125 million for Rapid Transit implementations, combined with an investment from provincial and/or federal government, will facilitate significant social, economic, and environmental benefits for London and Southwestern Ontario
- Final recommended rapid transit solution and implementation will be scalable based on available funding envelopes and financial affordability
- The Hybrid (BRT/LRT) network alternative will be utilized as the preliminary preferred alternative for funding dialogue and the basis for the next round of community engagement and public input for the Rapid Transit Environmental Assessment.