Portland – Lewiston-Auburn Economic Evaluation Study

Project Advisory
Committee Meeting #1



## Agenda

- Project Background, Purpose, and Anticipated Outcomes
- Market Analysis Overview
- Station Area Visioning Session
- Next Steps

## Project Background

- Continue planning and evaluation efforts for Lewiston-Auburn Passenger Rail Study
- Conduct economic evaluation study per direction from Maine Legislature

#### 2018

Lewiston-Auburn Passenger Rail Service Plan: Transit Propensity Study Complete

Maine Legislature approves initial

Study

2015

Lewiston-Auburn Passenger Rail Service Plan: Operating Plans and Corridor Assessments Report Complete

2019

#### 2021

Maine Legislature approves economic evaluation study for Alternatives 1A and 1B

#### 2022

Portland-Lewiston-Auburn Economic Evaluation Study underway

**Current study underway** 

#### Project Purpose

- Evaluate potential development demand around station areas for Alternatives 1A/1B
- Visualize potential station developments based on analysis and public/stakeholder input
- Compare findings for Alternatives 1A/1B

#### **Role of the Project Advisory Committee:**

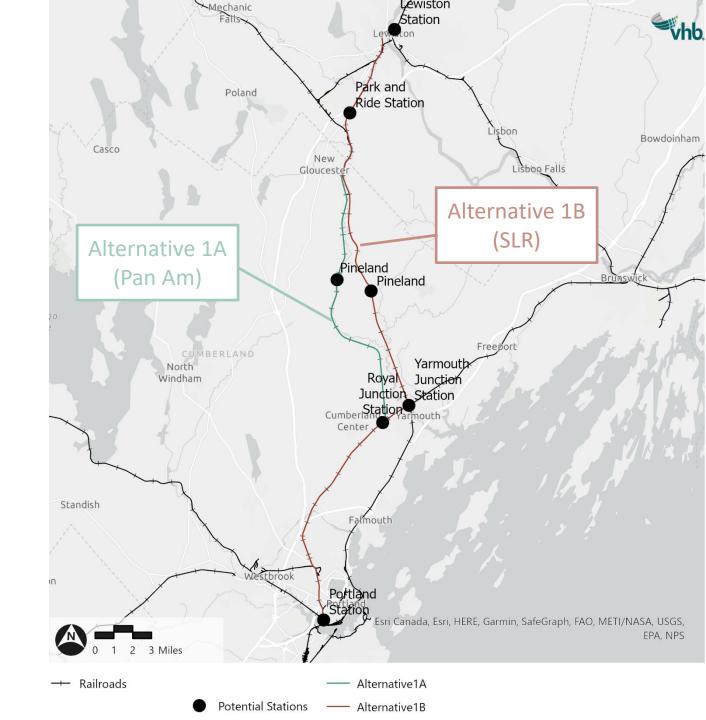
- Review project material
- Provide input and local context and considerations of potential development

### Project Outcomes

- Market demand comparison for Alternatives 1A/1B
- Visuals for potential station developments around Alternatives 1A/1B

## Study Area

- Alternatives
  - 1A (Pan Am)
  - 1B (SLR)
- Potential Stations
  - Lewiston (1A/1B)
  - Auburn Park and Ride (1A/1B)
  - Pineland (1A/1B)
  - Yarmouth Junction (1A)
  - Royal Junction (1B)



## Market Analysis Approach

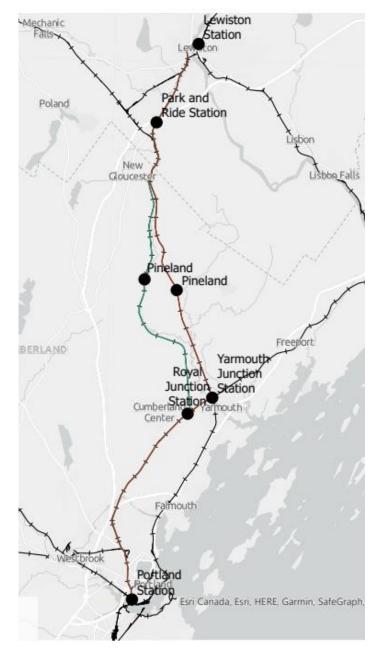
- Define a catchment area around each proposed station location.
  - 15-minute walk (Lewiston)
  - 3-miles (all other stations)



Develop baseline projections of growth and demand



- Based on project assumptions, evaluate potential development opportunities at each station location for the following demand:
  - Residential estimated rental and owner units
  - Commercial estimated square footage demand
  - Retail estimated square footage demand
  - Service estimated square footage demand
  - Office estimated square footage demand



#### Market Analysis – Key Takeaways

- Residential development opportunity is present for each potential station area
  - Lewiston highest for renter units
  - Potential for owner occupied at other stations
    - Smaller, higher density may be more cost effective to build
    - May be opportunity to target the 65+ population
- Retail and non-retail opportunity is present for each potential station area
  - Service sector highest in Lewiston, similar in Auburn, Royal Junction, Yarmouth Junction
  - Potential space could integrate as a ground floor use of a mixed-use project.
- Retail development opportunities are strongest for restaurants and other specialty retailers
  - Commuter rail ridership demand may translate into additional spending or larger space for existing/planned retailers

#### Station Visuals Approach

Market Analysis:
Establish number
of units and
amount of space in
potential
development



Develop Range of
Alternatives:
Develop different
approaches to
integrating demand
into potential
station areas.



Review Alternatives with Stakeholders and Public:
Collaborate to identify the type of development that integrates with local visions for station areas.

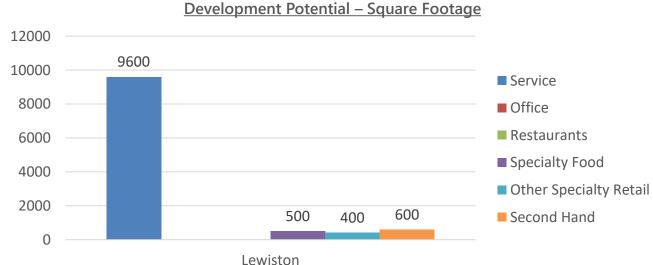


Develop Final
Concepts:
Refine visuals for
potential station
development to be
used as the project
progresses.

#### Lewiston Station Area Visual Alternatives

#### Key market analysis takeaways:

- Highest potential increase in county share of residential units
  - 85-125 rental
  - 25-35 owner
- Highest increase of employment demand
- Highest density potential of all station areas





#### Lewiston Station Area Visual: Low Density

- Multiple residential buildings within walking distance to station
- Some mixed-use development integrated with existing land use
- Mostly apartment units



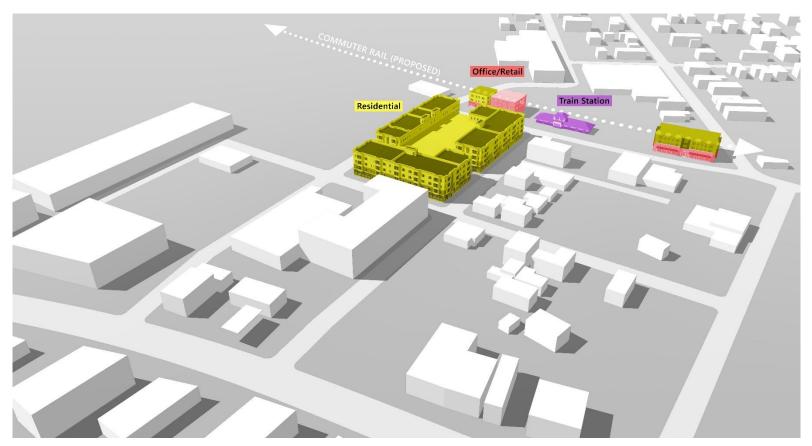
## Lewiston Station Area Visual: Medium Density

- Multiple residential buildings within walking distance to station
- Some mixed-use development integrated with existing land use
- Mostly apartment units



## Lewiston Station Area Visual: High Density

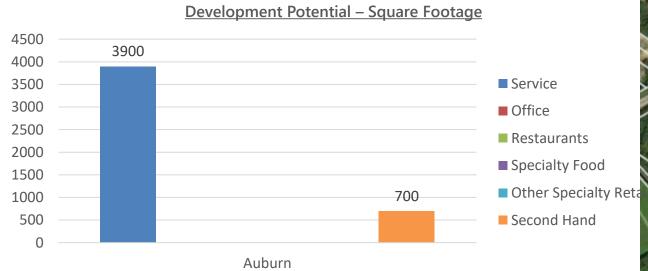
- Residential buildings focused on station area
- Mixed-use development integrated with station
- Mostly apartment units



#### Auburn Park and Ride Station Area Visual Alternatives

#### Key market analysis takeaway:

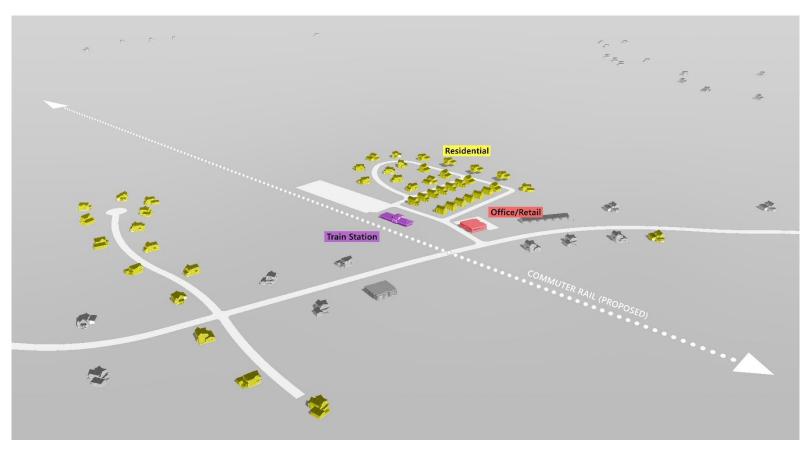
- employment growth in service sector
- potential for retail,
- Potential for senior housing
- lower density housing than Lewiston
  - Projected loss rental
  - 75-100 owner





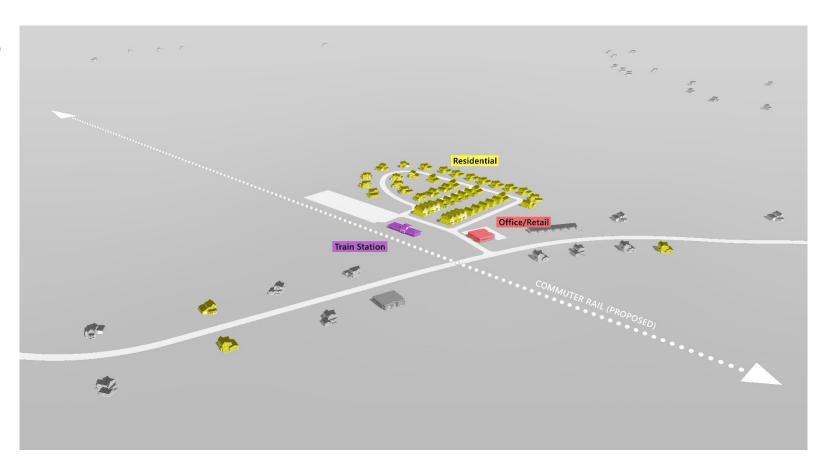
#### Auburn Station Area Visual: Low Density

- Residential buildings include apartments and single family
- Residential buildings spread near station area
- Office/retail use separated from residential



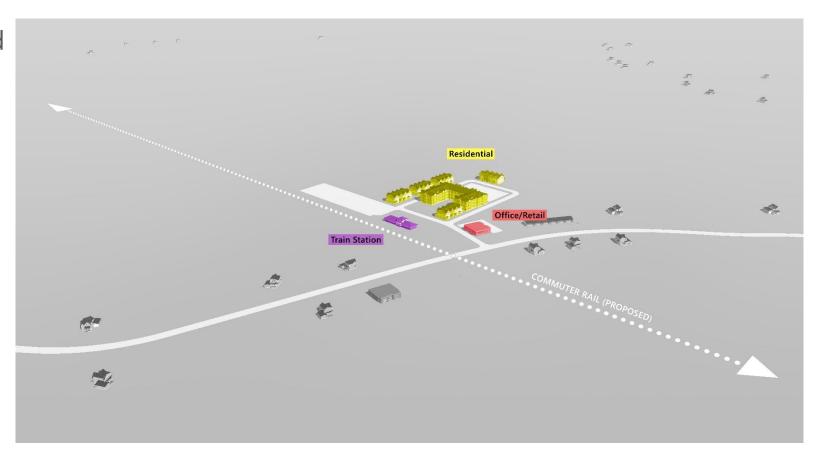
#### Auburn Station Area Visual: Medium Density

- Residential buildings include townhomes and single family
- Residential buildings spread near station area
- Office/retail use separated from residential within walking distance to station



### Lewiston Station Area Visual: High Density

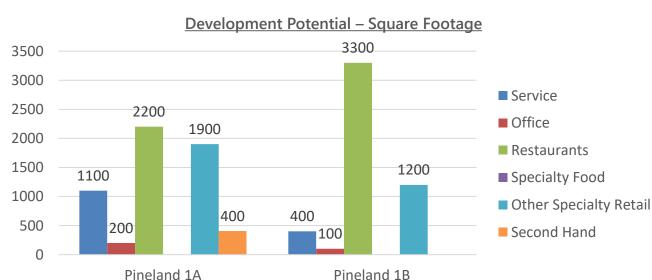
- Residential buildings focused on station area with apartments and townhomes
- Mixed-use development integrated with station

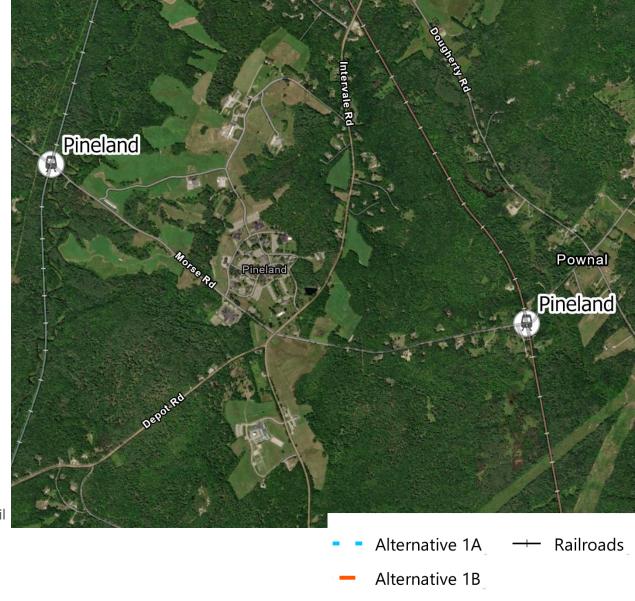


#### Pineland Visual Alternatives

#### Key market analysis takeaway:

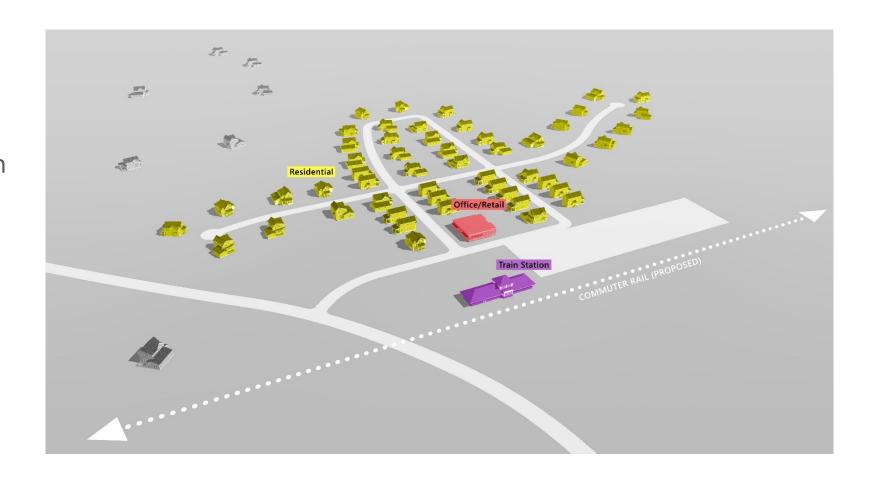
- access to passenger rail a bonus, may not be main driver of development
- potential for owner-occupied housing, senior housing,
  - <10 rental</li>
  - 60-120 owner
- some supporting service industry





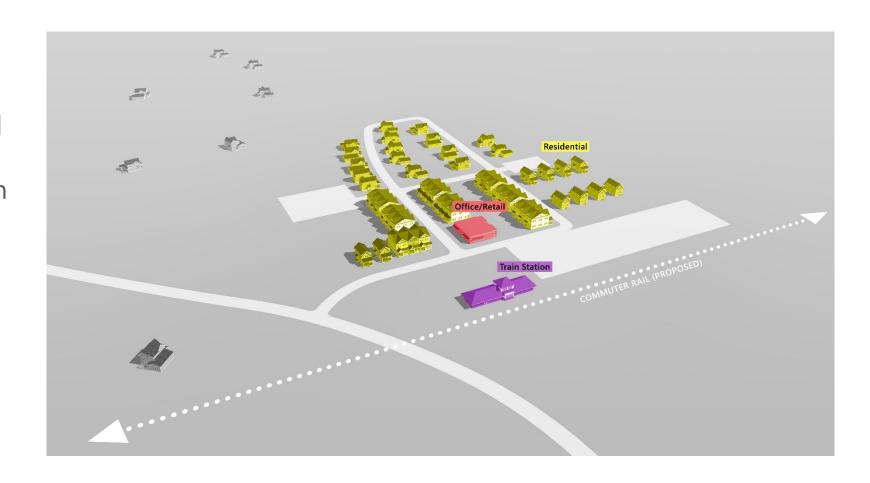
## Pineland Station Area Visual: Low Density

- Single family residential
- Office/retail use separated from residential within walking distance to station



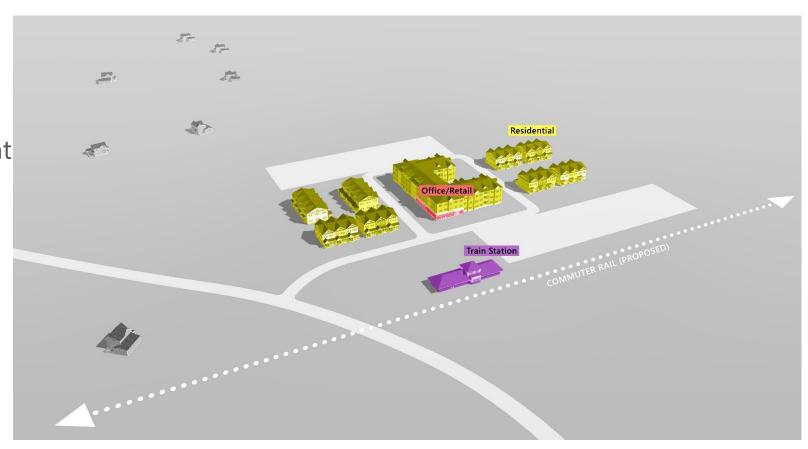
### Pineland Station Area Visual: Medium Density

- Single family/townhome residential
- Office/retail use separated from residential within walking distance to station



## Pineland Station Area Visual: High Density

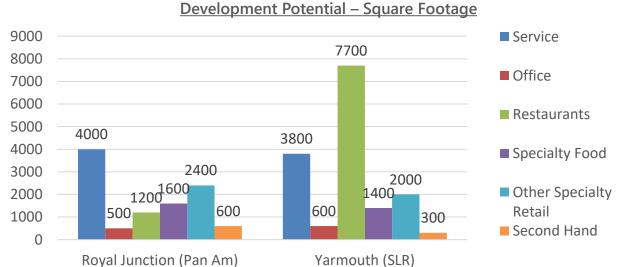
- Apartments/townhomes residential
- Office/retail use integrated into mixed use development



### Royal Junction/Yarmouth Area Site Alternatives

#### Key market analysis takeaway:

- highest SF potential for service, restaurant development,
- Highest potential demand for owner units, potentially seniors
  - 20-35 rental
  - 300-350 owner





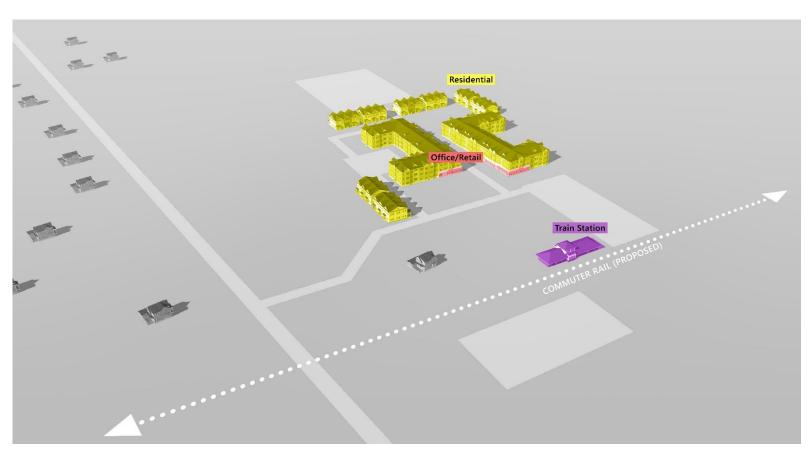
# Royal/Yarmouth Junction Station Area Visual: Low Density

- Multiple residential buildings spread around existing land use
- Some mixed-use development integrated with existing land use



# Royal/Yarmouth Junction Station Area Visual: High Density

- Residential buildings focused on station area
- Mixed-use development integrated with station



#### Next Steps

- Consider input from stakeholders and public to refine development goals around station and visuals
  - Virtual public presentation
  - Stakeholder meeting (Auburn, Pineland, Cumberland, Yarmouth)
- Develop market analysis and economic evaluation report and visuals to support project planning process
- Other project tasks
  - Purpose and Need draft development
  - Potential bus alternative plan

