MaineDOT Bangor Transit Propensity Study

Advisory Group Meeting

December 2022



# Agenda

- Project Overview
- Review of Previous Meeting
- Propensity Estimation Methodology & Results
- Planning Order of Magnitude Cost Estimate
- Discussion & Questions

# Project Overview

- To understand the travel and potential cost of enhanced transit service
  - Who would potentially use service
  - How much it would conceptually cost
- Study area
  - Bangor to Portland corridor



# Existing Travel Modes

	Personal Vehicle (Cars)	Average Speed (mph)	Concord Coach Lines Bus Service	Average Speed (mph)	Greyhound Bus Service	Average Speed (mph)
Bangor to Portland Peak Hour	1h 50m – 2h	70	2h 10m (Scheduled)	60	2h 55m (Scheduled)	50
Bangor to Portland Off- Peak Hour	1h 50 m – 2h	70	2h 10m (Scheduled)	60	2h 55m (Scheduled)	50
Bangor to Boston Peak Hour	3h 30m – 3h 40m	70	4h 25m (Scheduled)	50	5h 35m (Scheduled)	40
Bangor to Boston Off-Peak Hour	3h 20m – 3h 30m	70	4h 25m (Scheduled)	50	5h 35m (Scheduled)	40

# Activity and Demographic Analysis

- Peer Literature review of corridors similar to Portland Bangor
  - Small urban areas, parallel highway access, Amtrak connection
- Review of Existing Transit Services
  - Amtrak Downeaster intercity rail service Boston-Brunswick
  - Concord Coach Line intercity bus service Boston-Orono
- Study Area Travel Data Collection
  - Population & Employment Density
  - Median Household Income
  - Zero-Car Households
  - Vehicle Traffic on I-95, I-295 (AADT, 2019)





# Transit Demand Propensity: Methodology



### Catchment Area Development

- Focused on activity centers along exiting rail corridor
- Developed origin and designation catchment areas
- Origins
  - Directional demand area, with larger catchment area at potential end of line
  - Larger area to account for flexibility in future station placement
- Destinations
  - Smaller, 1-mile radius around dense area considering accessibility



### AADT Vehicle Counts



### 2019 AADT Southbound Traffic Volumes

- 10,340 vehicles
- 15,650 vehicles
- 22,890 vehicles
- 23,130 vehicles

## Growth Factors, 2021-2040

- Estimated project opening year 2040 for use of Maine Statewide Travel Demand Model
- Applied specifically between cities

		Destination				
		Portland	Brunswick	Augusta	Waterville	Bangor
Origin	Portland	x	1.12	1.06	1.06	1.13
	Brunswick	1.12	x	1.07	1.07	1.08
	Augusta	1.06	1.07	x	1.13	1.10
	Waterville	1.06	1.07	1.13	x	1.10
	Bangor	1.13	1.08	1.10	1.10	x

# Study Area Transit Propensity

- Based on trips to/from activity centers in Streetlight Data
- Considered ratios of Downeaster service

Propensity Range	Estimated Monthly Riders	Ratio Regional to Local Trips
Low	5,150	4.5
High	7,250	6.5
Peer Comparison	7,200	n/a
Downeaster Monthly (2019)	47,500	

# Transit Propensity Results Considerations

- Trip purpose and frequency available data provided total daily trips, not considering day of the week, time of day, or trip purpose.
- Travel time for potential riders length of the trip, potential speed, and parallel options, of car/bus services
- No assumed service plan, but focused on need of travel trips
- Potential impacts to demand:
  - Alignments
  - Stations site selection and nearby economic development
  - Service plan

# Order of Magnitude Conceptual Cost: Results

- Applied comparable per mile/station unit costs from recent projects
  - \$3.5M \$5.25/mile for FML
  - \$8.5M/mile \$12.0M/mile for Lower Road, East Augusta lines
  - \$1.235M/station assumed 3 for each alignment
- Assumptions
  - Condition was not assessed
  - Potential unknowns not included such as layover yard, vehicles, property acquisition, parking

Alignment	Approximate Length	Low Estimate	High Estimate
Downeaster Extension from Brunswick	100 miles	\$628M	\$902M
L-A Extension from Lewiston	100 miles	\$375M	\$538M



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