



**URBAN TRAILS COMMITTEE AGENDA  
CITY HALL AUDITORIUM, 250 N 5<sup>th</sup> STREET**

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11, 2025 - 5:30 PM**

**Call to Order/Announcements**

1. New member welcome & recognition

**Approval of Minutes**

1. May Minutes

**Action Items**

1. Workshop scheduling
2. SS4A Recommendation

**Discussion Items**

1. Annual Roadmap discussion
2. Ex-officio roles

**Updates**

1. GVT - new route approval
2. Engineering Update

**Other Business/Public Comment**

**Adjournment**

# Urban Trails Committee – Minutes – May 14, 2025 – Regular Meeting

**Attendees:** Athena F., Steve M., Kristen B., Brooke C., Brent S., Mike H., Diana R., Jason N., Lori B.

**Staff/Ex-Officio:** Henry Brown, Carissa Finnerty, Trent Prall, Eric Mocko, Andy Gingerich

**Guests:** Benaiah, Maureen, Ren

## Minutes

### Call to Order/Announcements:

Athena called the meeting to order at 5:34 PM. The meeting started with introductions for the benefit of incoming members.

### Meeting Minutes

#### 1. April Minutes

Diana moves to approve slightly updated April minutes, as shown. Kristen seconds, unanimous approval.

### Action Items

#### 1. Infrastructure Priority Ranking

Henry shared the ratings from UTC and mentioned the history of 7<sup>th</sup> Street. Diana shared that the curves at Monument Trail don't meet CDOT design guidelines and that signage may help as a low-cost safety improvement.

Kristen moves to accept the list as rated. Steve seconds, unanimous approval.

Diana moves to add North 7<sup>th</sup> to the bottom of the list. Kirsten seconds, unanimous approval.

### Discussion Items

#### 1. Leach Creek Trail Study

Ren from CU Denver MURP called in to share a presentation about the Leach Creek Trail Concept Study. Kristen mentioned that the Redlands Parkway crossing has some elegance/simplicity over existing concepts of building new structures. Steve asked about the south of G Road section and whether there are portions up for development. Trent shared that it is mostly dedicated as Open Space. Mike asked about the I-70 crossing and Trent shared some details about the existing Leach Creek culverts and existing trail developments.

#### 2. Annual Roadmap

Henry shared recommendations on the Annual Roadmap. The Committee asked for time to review the recommendations with a plan to discuss in the June meeting.

### Updates

#### 1. 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Streets Complete Streets Pilot

Staff shared an update based on the direction from Council to end the Complete Streets pilot. UTC asked about the opportunity for nuance between reverting the business district only versus the residential district. Staff shared that this could be technically feasible but is not the direction received. UTC asked if there is an opportunity for Council to change their minds. Staff shared that there is an opportunity for public comment at next Wednesday's public hearing. Staff shared that there is still Council interest in slower speeds and safer conditions, but not necessarily for accommodating cyclists on 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>. The committee asked if stop signs or roundabouts may be options. Staff shared that stop signs are not allowed to be used for traffic calming per MUTCD.

Timing will be mid-/late-June reversion.

Diana moves for the UTC to write a letter to Council requesting they reconsider and allow pilot 2.0 to continue until the study comes to its conclusion before determining whether it should be reverted, since it is more fiscal responsible to complete the existing project and determine solutions that work for all. Brooke seconds, 7 approve, 1 opposed. Committee members will share any letter discussion items to Diana and Brooke ASAP for them to craft a letter for Staff to route to City Council.

2. [Bike Month & Pedestrian/Bicycle Counts](#)

Diana shared about bike counts. A very successful year; we did not need to ask Dave and Lenore to volunteer last minute. 10 new volunteers through new channels.

Carissa shared 5/16 is BTWD with free breakfast and 5/20 chainbreaking ride with a group ride from City Hall at 3:50 PM.

3. [Get to Know your City](#)

UTC is invited to table with Carissa at GTKYC on 6/5 at Dos Rios. Athena indicated availability.

[Public Comment](#)

[Adjournment](#)

Diana moves to add 10 minutes to the meeting. Steve seconds; unanimous approval. Diana moves to end the meeting at 7:14 PM.

June 11, 2025

U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590



**Subject: Support for the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Implementation Program for the City of Grand Junction**

To Whom it may Concern,

On behalf of Grand Junction's Urban Trails Committee (UTC), we are pleased to express our support for the City of Grand Junction in its application to the U.S. Department of Transportation for funding to implement components of the Mesa County Safety Action Plan within city limits. Informed by the recently adopted regional Safety Action Plan and aligned with the goals of the federal Safe Streets & Roads for All (SS4A) program, the proposed implementation actions will strengthen our transportation network and help ensure that safe transportation options are available for all users of our street and road network.

As an advisory committee to City Council, the Urban Trails Committee is proud to provide guidance to elected officials and City Staff on programming, policy, and physical infrastructure to ensure our entire community has access to safe and accommodating transportation options to meet their daily needs. We are excited to support the comprehensive infrastructure and education efforts proposed to be implemented with support from the U.S. Department of Transportation and local matching fundings.

Importantly, ongoing advancement of the North Avenue Enhanced Transportation Corridor (ETC) is a major priority for Grand Junction and has been identified as such by the UTC since at least 2017. ETC implementation, including completing gaps in the sidewalk network and installing transit infrastructure, has consistently ranked as a top-5 priority. Given North Avenue's status as US-6, adjacency to major regional employers, commercial districts, schools, and services, filling missing sidewalk gaps supports the safety of all travelers in the community by allowing vulnerable road users space to travel out of the way of motor vehicles.

Beyond infrastructure, the UTC wholeheartedly supports the development of new educational programming and professional collaborating opportunities to advance strategies adopted in the regional Safety Action Plan. Providing youth training opportunities is well-understood to increase safety on our transportation network. Providing a venue for professionals to collaborate and present on advancements in their understanding of safety will benefit not just the city of Grand Junction, but all travelers in and through the region.

Thank you for your consideration of this grant proposal. Sincerely,

The City of Grand Junction Urban Trails Committee

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Athena Fouts  
Chair, Urban Trails Committee

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Dr. Stephen Meyer  
Vice Chair, Urban Trails Committee

Recommend adding Walk Audit cadence.

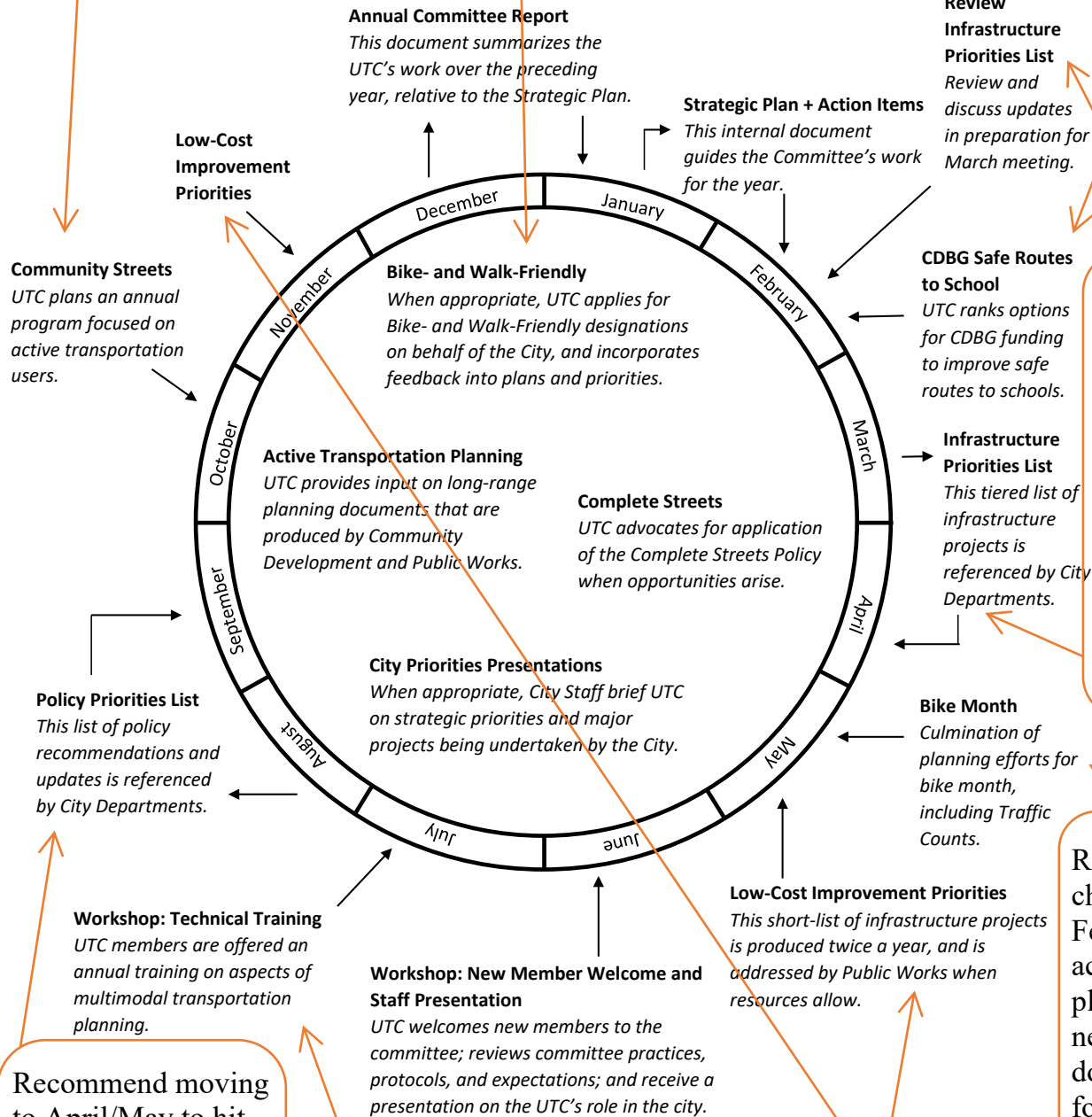
Recommend discussion of whether and how this is resurfaced.

Recommend clarifying 5-year cadence, combining maps review, and more thorough Infrastructure Priorities review.

Recommend removing based on updated City convention of prioritizing housing solutions (better matched to the grant intent and reporting).

Some UTC Projects are produced annually, while other responsibilities are handled on an as-needed basis.

## Urban Trails Committee Annual Roadmap



Recommend consolidating to February/March to allow new project ideas to be considered and slotted in, if applicable and for any other shifts to be considered.

Recommend changing to February to acknowledge planning time needed and doubling to July for fall BTWD planning.

Recommend moving to April/May to hit next year budget cycle. This would be informed by PBP policy recommendations.

Recommend changing to any time July – September.

Recommend changing to ongoing and to be consolidated with Infrastructure Priorities.



**MESA COUNTY  
PUBLIC HEALTH**  
*Working Together for a Healthy Community*

# Mesa County Public Health

Ex-Officio Community Partner with City of Grand  
Junction Urban Trail Committee

**Anita Sheetz, CNM, MS**

**June 9, 2026**

# Ex-Officio

- Advisory role
- Non-voting seat
- 3 year  
appointment

# Guiding Documents

- Community Health Needs Assessment
- Community Health Improvement Plan
- Strategic Priorities



# Community Health Needs Assessment

- First step of a three step process
- Collaborative
- 3 year cycle

# Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP)

- The second step of a three step cycle
- Identifies priority issues
- Plan of projects to improve outcomes

# CHIP PRIORITIES 2025-2027

- Economic Stability
- Housing Insecurity
- Emergency Room visits
- Suicidal Ideation, attempt and death
- Childcare desert
- Behavioral Health providers
- Alcohol consumption
- Youth relationships

# Strategic Priorities

- The third and final step in a three step cycle
- Identifies strategic priorities to implement and track progress

# Strategic Priority 1

## ECONOMIC STABILITY

1. Increase benefit program enrollment among eligible population
  - a. Identify enrollment barriers
  - b. Feasibility study for a universal application and tracking program
2. Increase engagement in job training and career ladder opportunities to improve household economic stability
  - a. Strengthen bilingual employees' employment skill through interpreter training as a pathway to career advancement
  - b. Map the workforce ecosystem to understand resources and career pathways available

# Strategic Priority 2

## BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

1. Mobilize community partners to address mental health in children and youth
  - a. Communication campaign about mental health and youth
  - b. Support a pilot program to provide navigation services and track outcomes of families enrolled in Riverside Education Center.
2. Shift workplace culture to support employee access to mental health care
  - a. Tailor Family-Friendly Workplace toolkit
  - b. Establish mental health crisis response policy



**MESA COUNTY  
PUBLIC HEALTH**

*Working Together for a Healthy Community*

# THANK YOU



Discover more community health data  
on our website.

<https://bit.ly/454afLZ>

# Mesa County Regional Transportation Planning Office Overview

Urban Trails Committee  
June 11, 2025



**MOVING SWIFTLY TO 2050**

Grand Valley Regional Transportation Plan

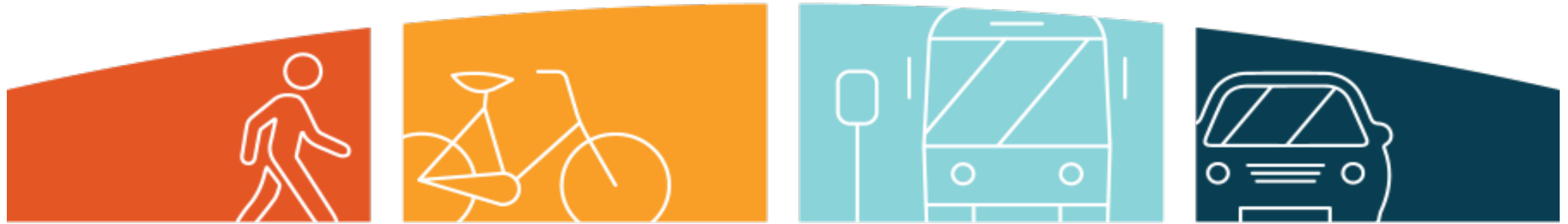


**REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING OFFICE**

Grand Valley MPO • Grand Valley TPR • Grand Valley Transit



# RTPO Overview



**REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING OFFICE**  
Grand Valley MPO • Grand Valley TPR • Grand Valley Transit

# RTPO Overview

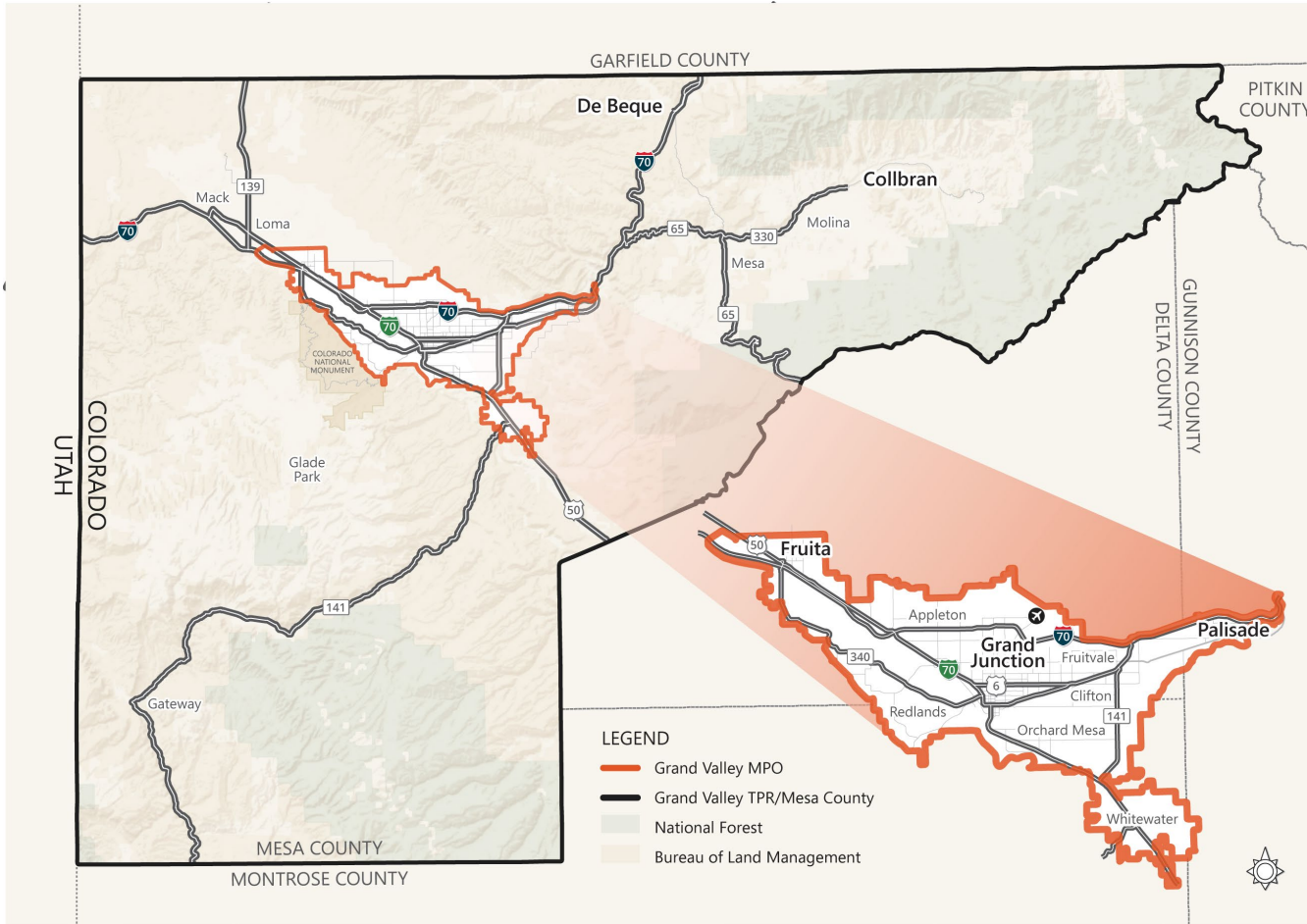


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# Grand Valley MPO and TPR

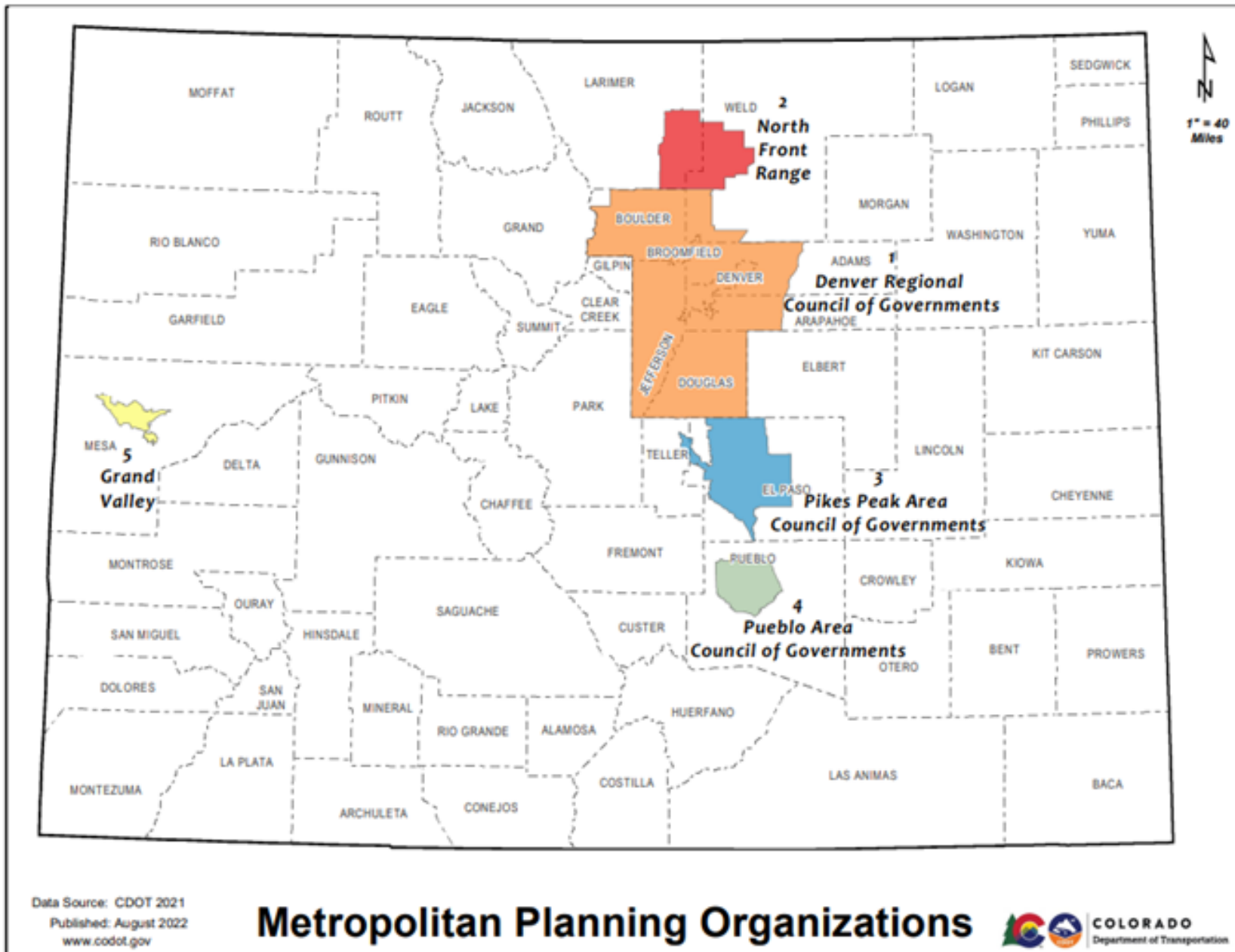


## Grand Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization (GVMPO)

- 141,500 residents (2020)
- 128 square miles

## Areas Covered

- Unincorporated Mesa County
- City of Grand Junction
- City of Fruita
- Town of Palisade



## Role of the MPO

- Federally mandated and federally-funded transportation policy-making organization.
- Mandated by Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1962
- Required if seeking federal funds in urbanized areas (UZAs) with populations >50,000
- >400 MPOs in the US
- Ensures comprehensive, continuous and cooperative planning

# 2050 Regional Transportation Plan

(Approved April 2025)

## What is a Regional Transportation Plan?

It is a long-range vision for Grand Valley's transportation system to ensure that we are planning and investing in projects and strategies that meet the needs of the people and the community over the next 25 years.







## 2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Vision

*Communities in the Grand Valley will be connected through a safe and accessible transportation system that is designed, built, and maintained for users of all ages, and abilities who drive, walk, bike, roll, take transit, deliver freight, or travel by other modes.*

# 2050 RTP Table of Contents

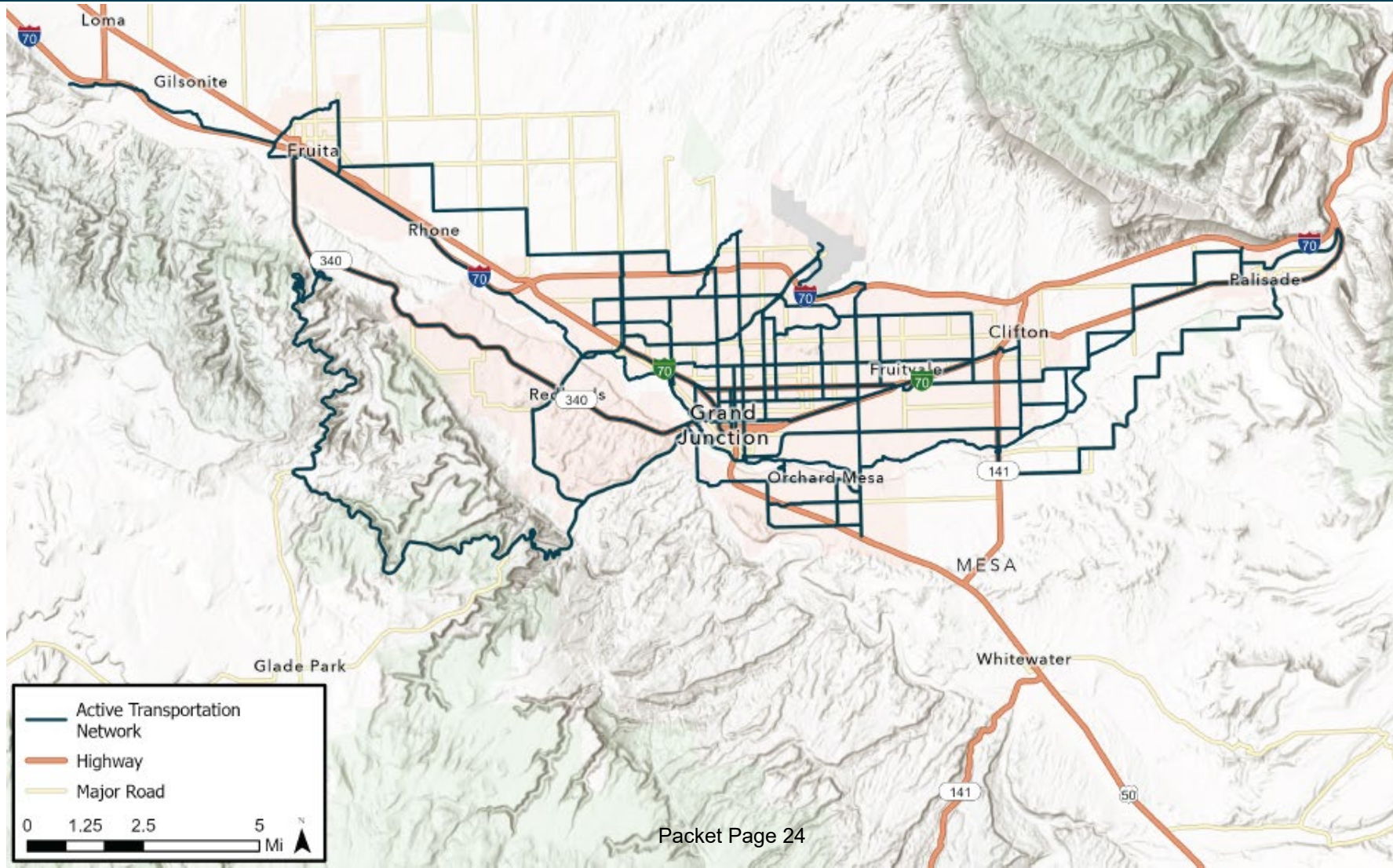
- Chapter 1: Introduction and Plan Overview
- Chapter 2: Public and Stakeholder Engagement
- Chapter 3: Grand Valley Trends and Forecasts
- Chapter 4: Community Considerations in the Grand Valley
- Chapter 5: Grand Valley Roadway Network
- Chapter 6: Grand Valley Active Transportation Network
- Chapter 7: Grand Valley Freight and Rail Network
- Chapter 8: Grand Valley Transit
- Chapter 9: Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan
- Chapter 10: Finance and Funding
- Chapter 11: Greenhouse Gas Summary
- Chapter 12: Implementing Transportation Goals, Objectives, Actions  
and Project Lists

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# Prioritized Regional Active Transportation Corridors





# Greenhouse Gas Emission Reductions

- Greenhouse Gas Emission reductions were achieved by:
  - Improvements in multimodal system:
    - Completed: 21.75 miles
    - In design: 13 miles
    - Under construction: 4.15 miles
  - Changes in land-use due to local planning documents, local government investment in infrastructure, incentives, and affordable housing projects have resulted in-fill development and higher density multi-family homes.
  - Increase in work from home rates
  - Increase in e-bike and e-scooter usage

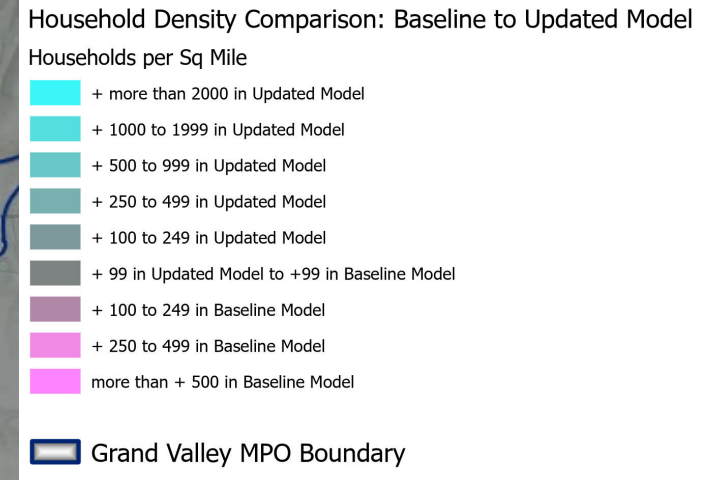
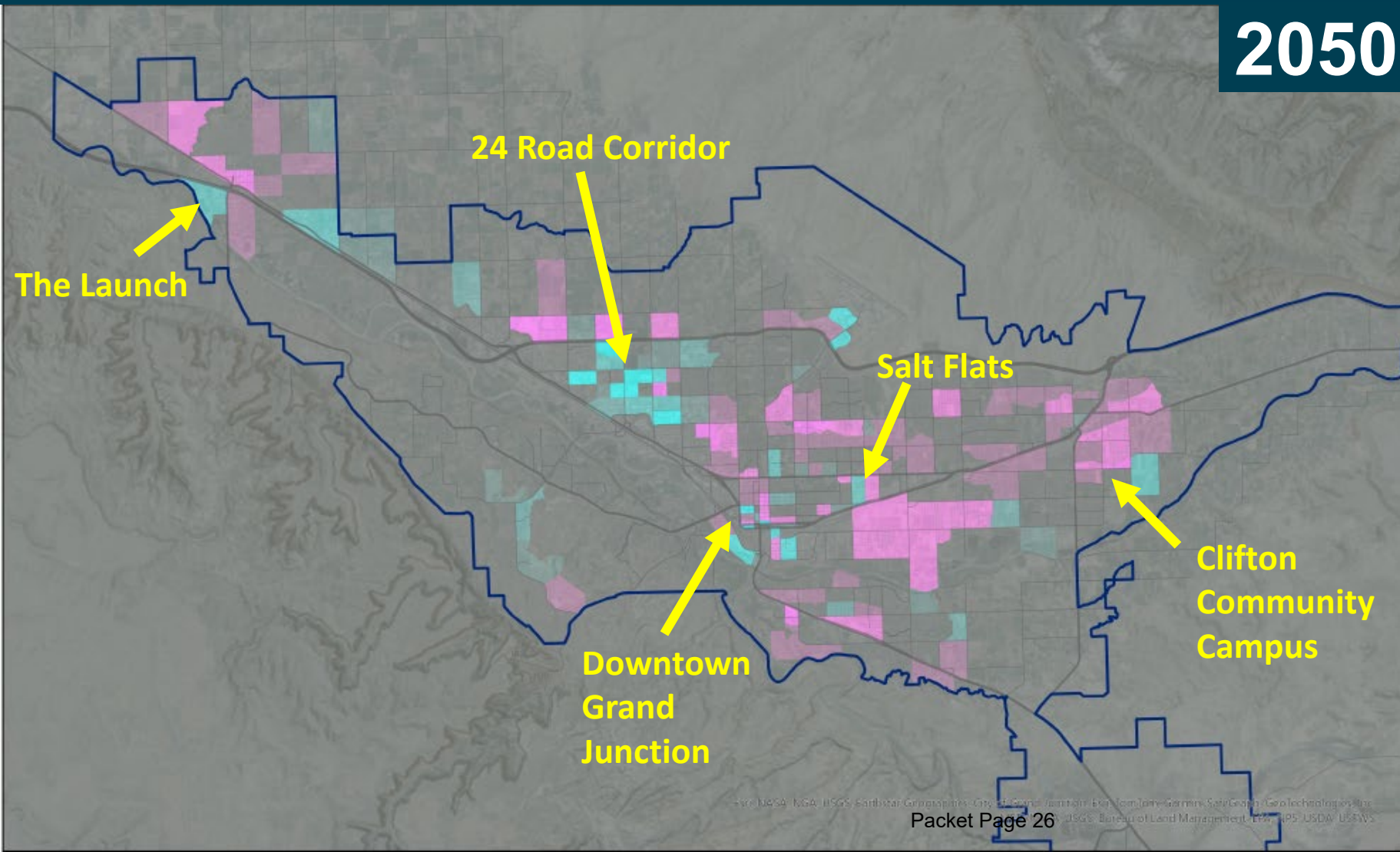


# What's Changed Since the 2045 RTP?

## Land Use Assumptions

### Chapter 12

2050



# Goals, Objectives and Actions

## Goal Areas

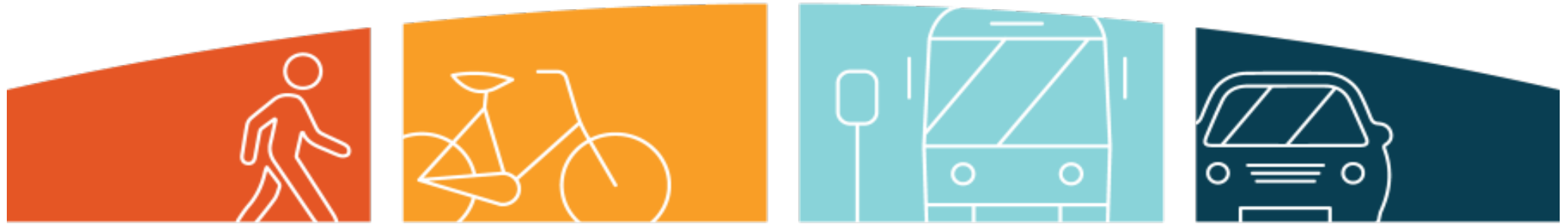
- **Safety:** Improve safety for all users of the region's transportation system.
  - Build safe streets
  - Protect vulnerable road users
  - Address dangerous behaviors
  - Create a culture of safety
- **Efficiency:** Enhance system performance for all modes.
  - Maintain or improve the condition of transportation infrastructure.
  - Enhance network connectivity, resilience, and system performance.
  - Coordinate land use planning with transportation planning.
- **Health and Environment:** Incorporate health and environmental considerations into transportation planning and decisions.
  - Reduce transportation contributions to greenhouse gas emissions and poor air and water quality.
  - Improve community health by increasing access to recreational opportunities and encouraging active modes of transportation.

# Goals, Objectives and Actions

## Goal Areas

- **Economy and Fiscal Responsibility:** Invest in transportation systems that support the economic health of the region.
  - Support a transportation system that builds a strong and diverse economy, increasing livability, and prosperity
  - Use transportation funding in a fiscally responsible manner.
  - Support the safe, efficient, and reliable movement of goods within, to, and from the Grand Valley.
- **Community Considerations:** Improve quality of life for all through transportation planning and improvements.
  - Promote transportation investments in under-resourced and disadvantaged communities.
  - Improve quality of transportation systems for people with mobility challenges.
  - Increase meaningful public and stakeholder involvement in transportation decisions.

# RTPO Overview



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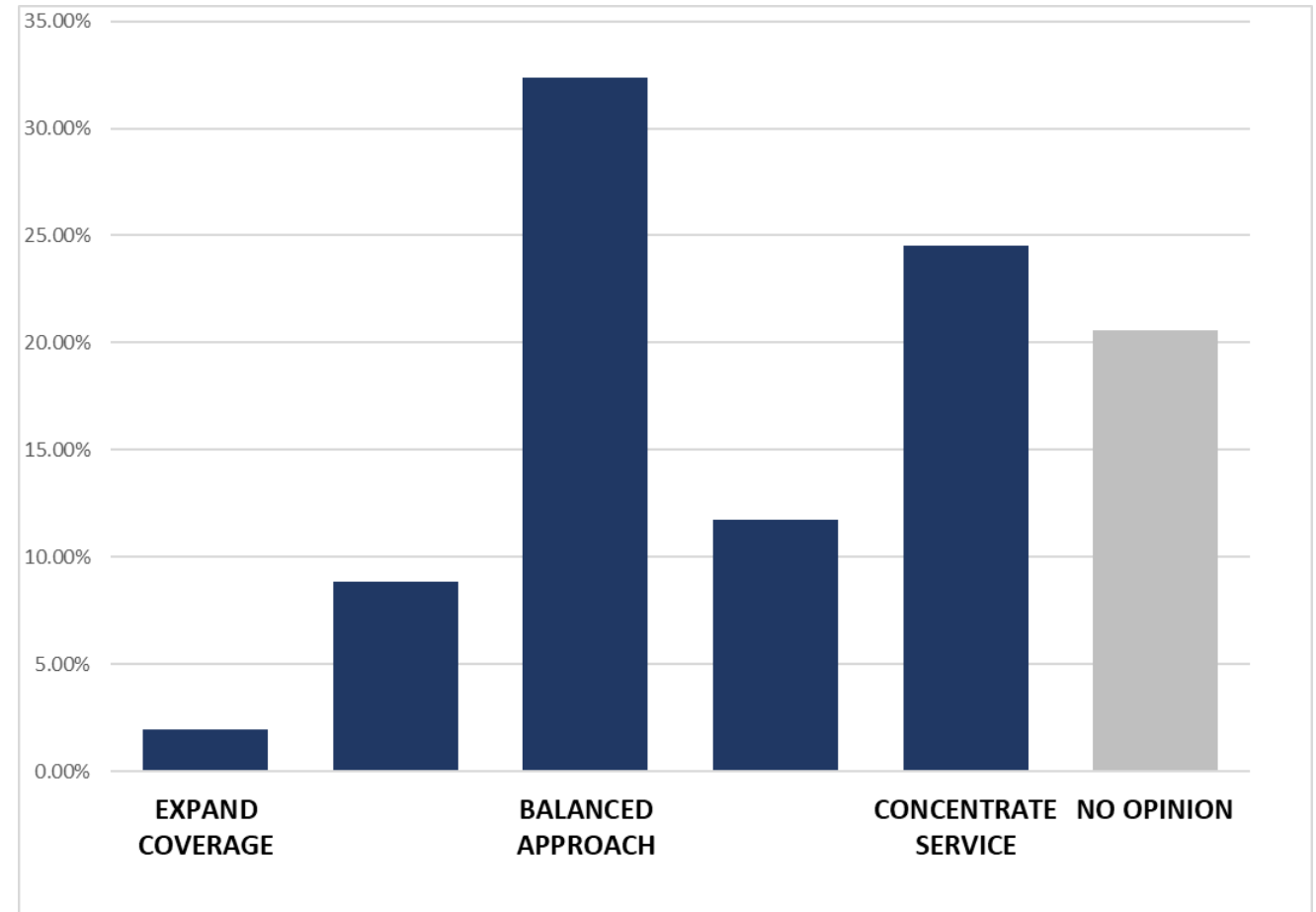
# Grand Valley Transit Vision Statement

**Grand Valley Transit provides safe, reliable, and convenient public transportation services, accessible by all ages and abilities, to enhance quality of life and support economic vitality by connecting communities, neighborhoods, and key destinations in the region, beginning with a focus on likely transit users and extending to the community at-large.**

# Feedback from the Public

## Chapter 8

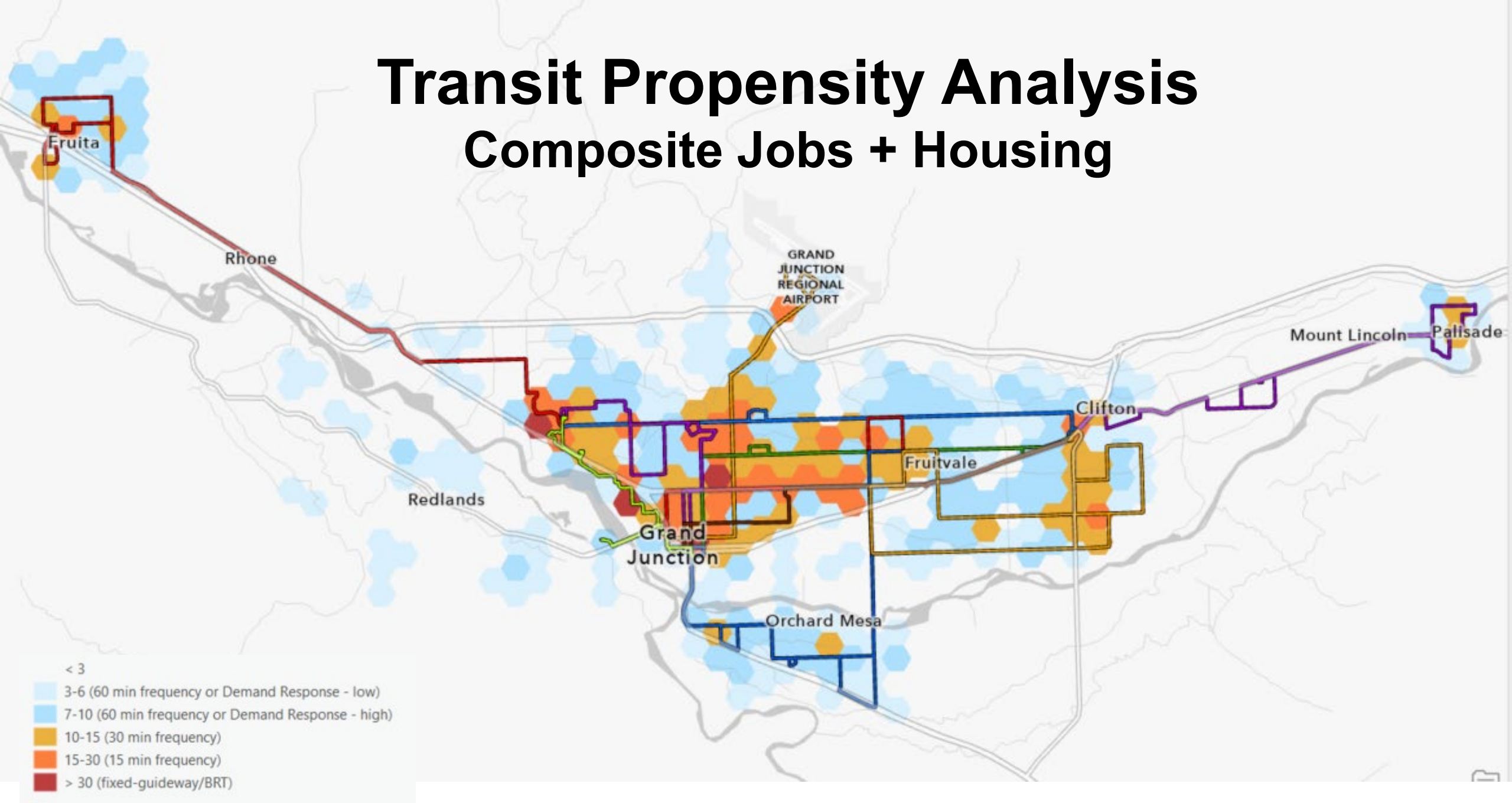
- **Brought up frequently** even when transit was not explicitly asked about.
- Important service for **those who need it**.
- **Usability** (frequency, locations served, stop accessibility) is the biggest barrier to riding transit.
- Service Expansion: Most respondents want to take a **balanced approach**, focusing equally on expanding coverage and concentrating service.





# Transit Propensity Analysis

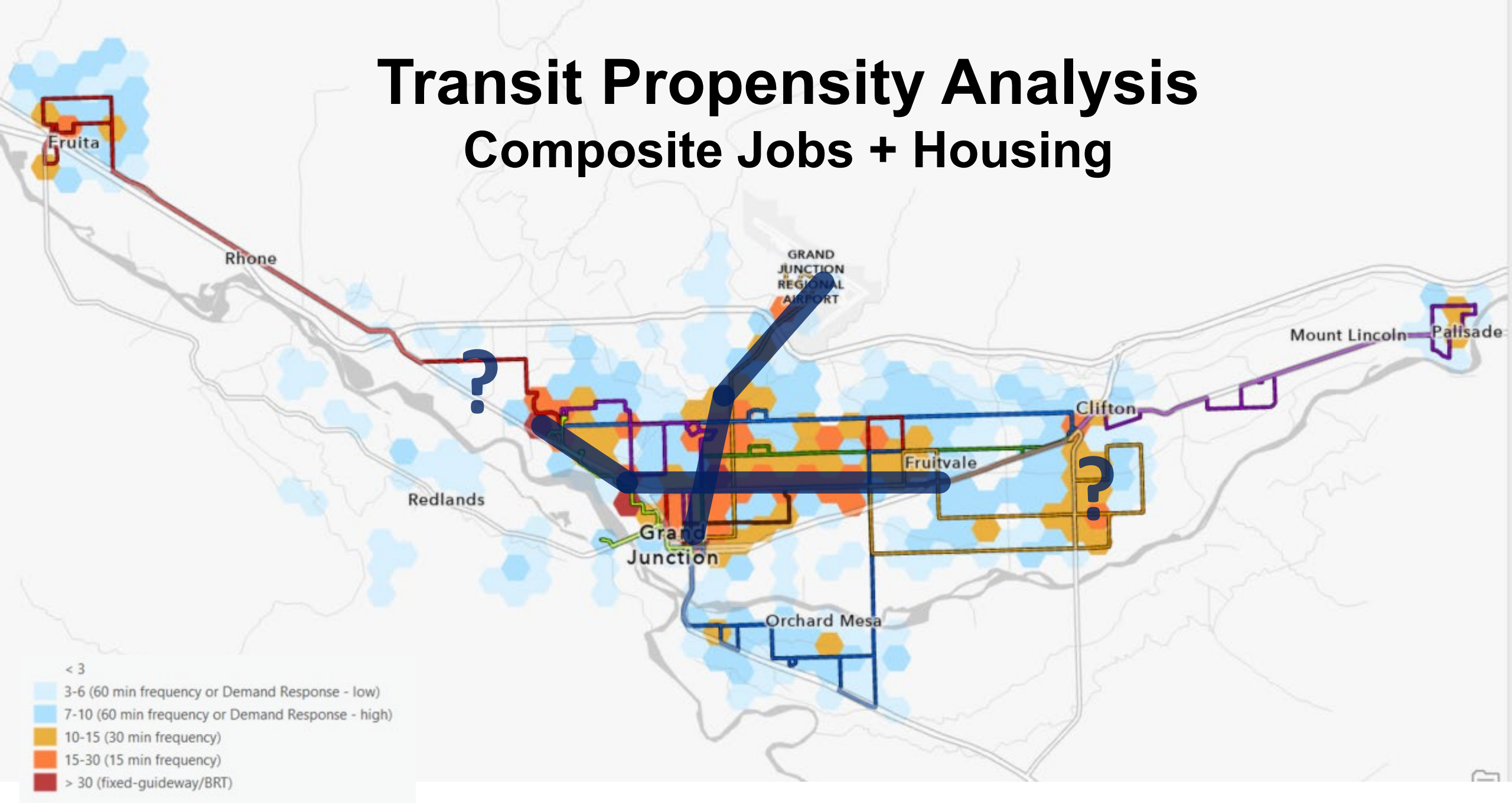
## Composite Jobs + Housing



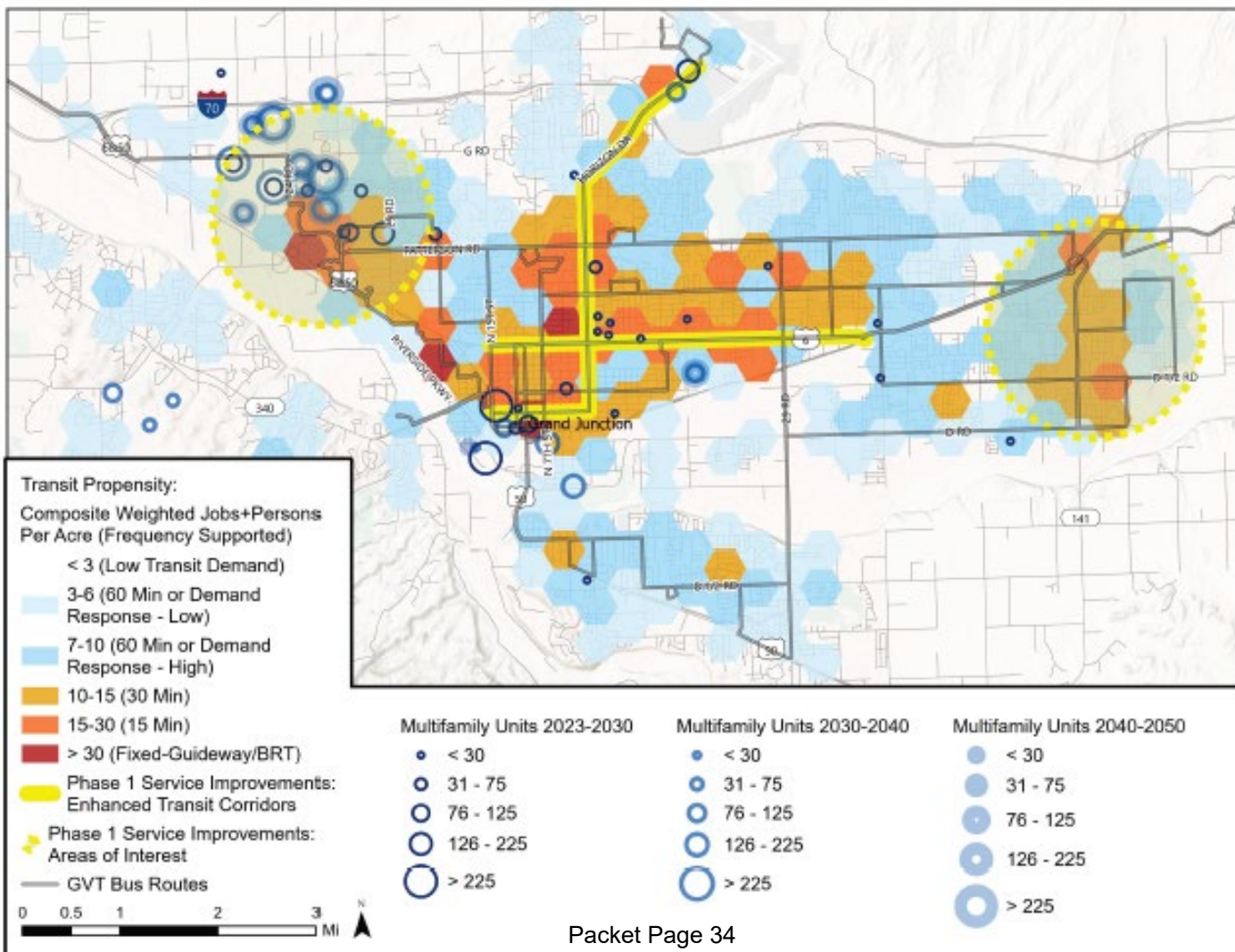


# Transit Propensity Analysis

## Composite Jobs + Housing

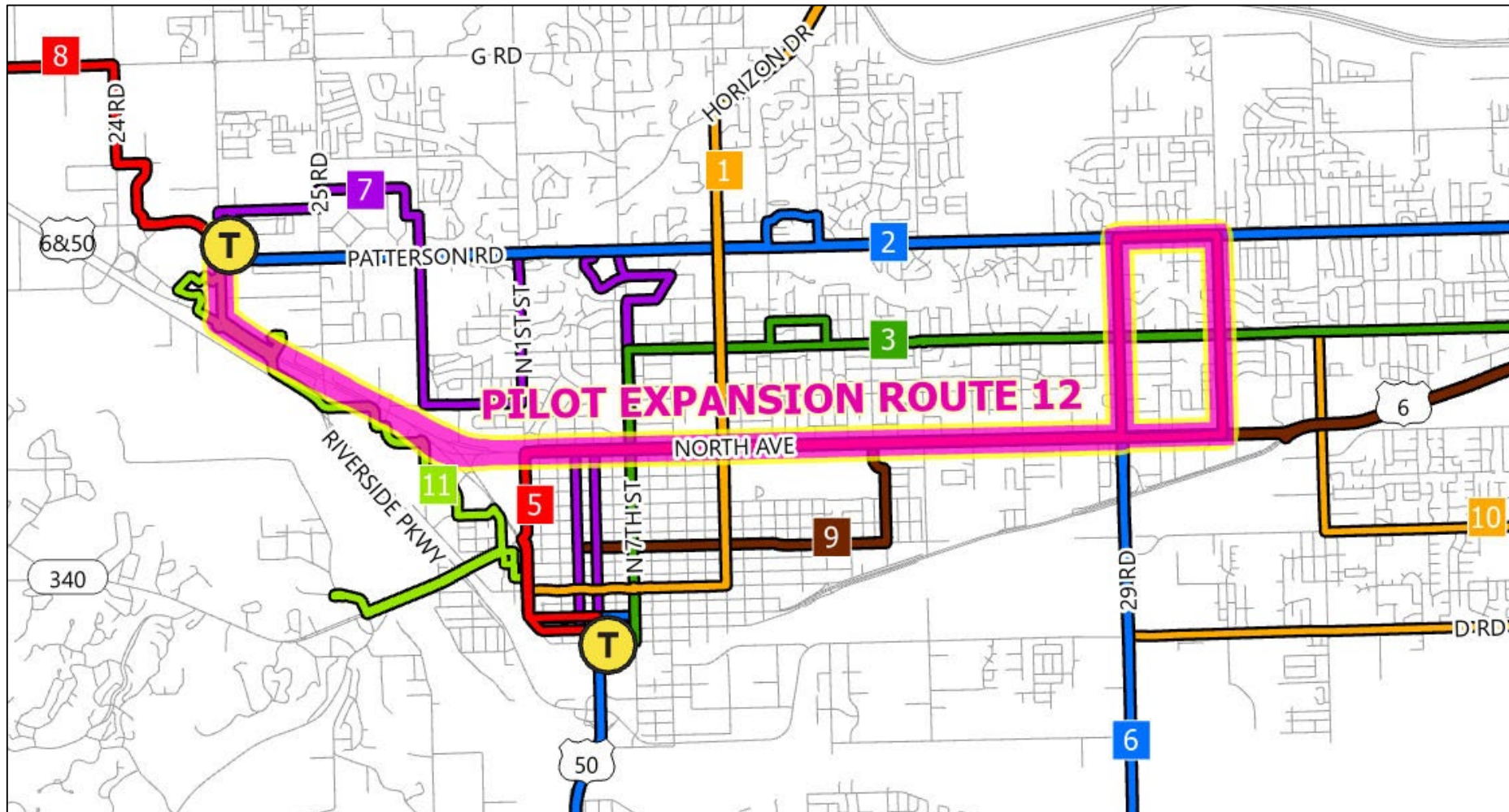


# Expansion Route Concept Presented to Public

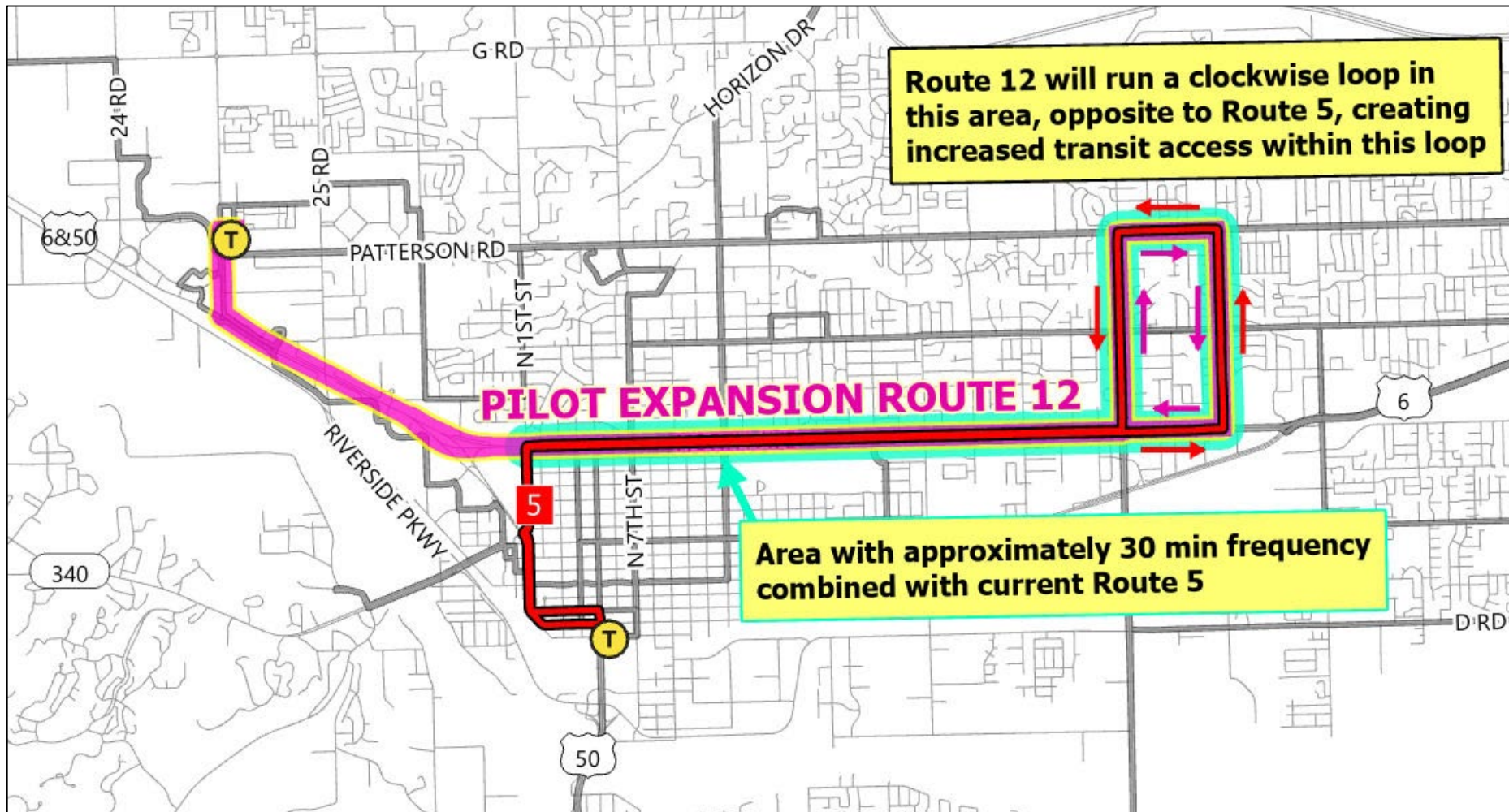




# GVT Pilot Expansion Route 12 - COMING SOON!!!



# GVT Pilot Expansion Route 12 - COMING SOON!!!



# GVT is Fare-Free All Summer!!!

Grand Valley Transit is going fare-free all summer long — June through August — as part of the statewide “Zero Fare for Better Air” initiative.







**Thank You!**