

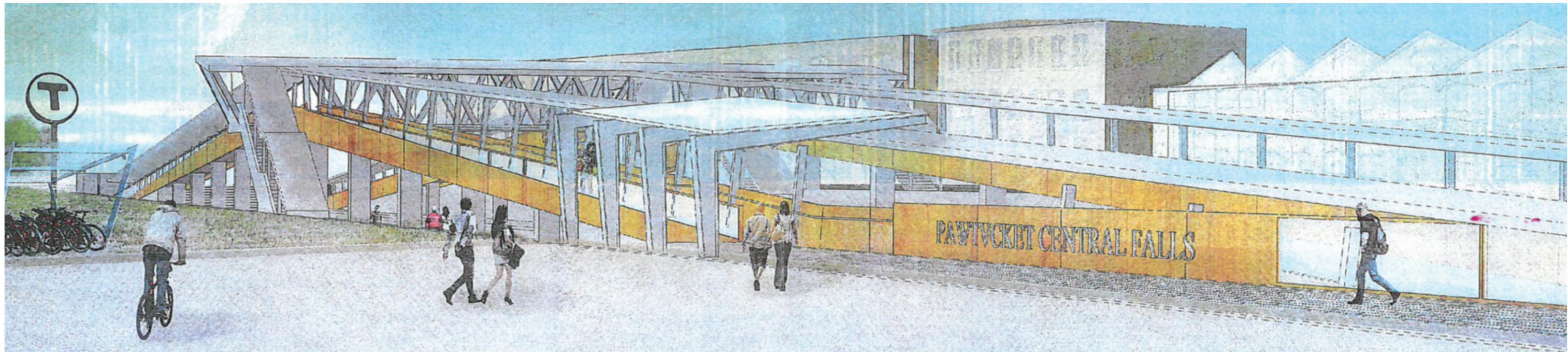
THE PAWTUCKET & CENTRAL FALLS

COMMUTER RAIL STATION



A Game-Changing, Once-in-a-Generation Opportunity to Catalyze and Grow The Blackstone Valley Economy.





WHAT IS IT?



Located on the Pawtucket and Central Falls line a short distance from downtown Pawtucket, the Pawtucket / Central Falls commuter rail station will be located on Amtrak's Northeast Corridor (NEC) and the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority's (MBTA's) Providence commuter rail line.



A great team has been working to bring this vision into a reality including the Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT), the Federal Transit Authority (FTA), the cities of Pawtucket and Central Falls and VHB.



The new station will create fast, convenient, and frequent service to employment centers, education opportunities, and leisure activities, including the Blackstone National Park. The presence of a station places this neighborhood within one hour of Boston, even during rush hour. It will alleviate congestion at Providence and South Attleboro stations. It is a critical component of intra-state rail service.



For the better part of a decade, we have worked tirelessly through preliminary planning and engineering, and we are committed to seeing the project through to completion. Now is the time to move the project to the next step. The sooner we start, the sooner this neighborhood, a focal point of Pawtucket and Central Falls, can rise from the ashes of neglect to a future of prosperity.



WHY DO WE NEED IT?



JOBS: Hundreds of construction jobs and service jobs will be created in the construction of the commuter rail station and thousands more once the station is complete.



REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: the 2016 Brookings Institute Report "Rhode Island Innovates: A Competitive Strategy for the Ocean State," identifies the Commuter Rail Station in its recommendations to boost Rhode Island's economy.

"Improving Rhode Island's rail connectivity... would increase demand among and improve reliability and convenience for occasional business travelers coming into the state. Over time, these investments could lead to efficiency gains for daily commuters and their employers who benefit from—and increasingly demand—close proximity to one another throughout the region. Likewise, longer-term service upgrades and station improvements could attract greater numbers of riders and deliver higher property values in transit-rich neighborhoods."

"Since its creation in 2001, Maine's state-supported [rail] service has leveraged approximately \$5 million in annual state operating support to... bring nearly 100,000 visitors to Maine each year who contribute \$29 million in economic impact,

including direct spending in local businesses and service [and] spur more than \$350 million in public-private development."



LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: The commuter rail station will connect residents to much-needed job and educational opportunities here in Rhode Island, as well as the nearby Boston and Providence job and education market. Also, it creates the possibility to transform a deteriorated neighborhood into a beacon of redevelopment. In addition to low-cost, multi-family homes, the area immediately surrounding the site of the proposed station contains over two million square feet of vacant and underutilized mill space. Building a new station will position a neighborhood that time forgot to the forefront of economic development in the State. Its strategic location between Boston and Providence will allow easy access to both economic capitals, providing connectivity to residents and opportunity to developers. The trifecta of inexpensive real estate, generous regulations, and proximity to transit will create a surge in real estate investment, invigorating the area with people and businesses. New development can preserve the integrity of the area's history, while creating a new experience for the community.



HOW DO WE GET IT DONE?



The project is reaching the final stages of preliminary design, engineering, and environmental review and is in need of funding for final design and construction.



Immediate Need: \$4.3 million for station site acquisition and construction documents to create a shovel-ready project.



Medium-Term Need: This multiyear process will prepare the train station for construction, accomplishing all of the necessary design, coordination, regulatory review, and cost-estimating. Subsequently, additional funding will be needed for construction of the station (approximately



\$50 million). These funds will be sought from federal grants (particularly TIGER), state support and public/private partnerships.



The cities of Central Falls and Pawtucket are committed to improving the infrastructure around the station to attract millions of dollars in private development that will transform this industrial neighborhood into an innovation hub.

Our goal is for construction to begin in 2020. If we continue to work together with federal, state, and local partners, we can turn this area into a leading economic engine for the State.

For more information, contact Peter Friedrichs at pfriedrichs@centralfallsri.us or 401.727.7480 or Barney Heath at bheath@pawtucketri.com or 401.728.0500 x430.