



# LIGHT RAIL COMES TO DETROIT

**M-1 RAIL**



## M-1 RAIL

**A light rail system connecting Downtown Detroit to the New Center district along our region's main artery, Woodward Avenue**



## Why Light Rail?

- National groundswell
- Access, mobility
- Job creation
- Every \$1 invested in transit = \$4 to \$8 in new development



## Success Stories

- **Portland:**  
3.6 miles, \$103M cost, \$2.5B development (25 x cost)
- **Dallas:**  
\$3.3B private investment and 32,000 jobs in 5 years

**CONTEXT**

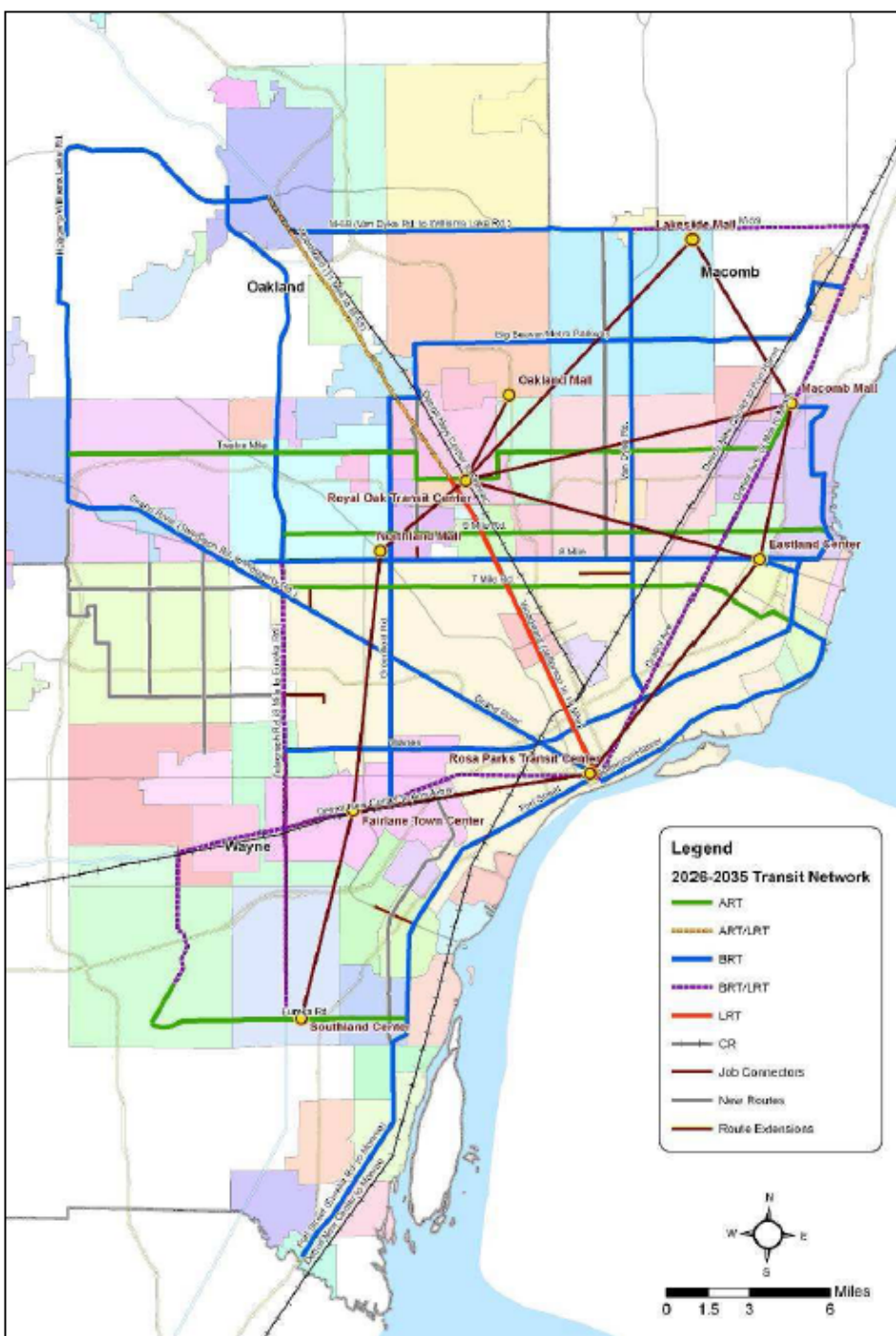


Figure 1 Proposed Regional Transit Network 2035

## 2007 – 2008:

- Regional plan approved by Mayor of Detroit, leadership of Wayne, Oakland and Macomb Counties
- DDOT selects Woodward as light rail focus
- Business leaders explore catalytic project on Woodward



## **2009: M-1 RAIL becomes independent entity**

- **Roger Penske, chairman**
  - **Dan Gilbert, vice chairman**
  - **Matt Cullen, CEO**
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- **M-1 RAIL becomes first phase of regional plan**

# M-1 RAIL ORGANIZATION

- **Nonprofit public/private partnership**
- **501(c) 3 to build and operate system**
- **Project cost of \$125M funded by private philanthropy and public investment. No current or future financial benefit to supporters.**
- **Enabled by state legislation**

# M-1 RAIL SUMMARY



- **3.4 miles with 12 stops**
- **Runs on both sides of street in second lane from curb**
- **Proposed reconstruction of Woodward by MDOT**
- **Co-mingled with traffic, parking lanes preserved**
- **Stations “bump out” from sidewalk to meet transit vehicles**
- **No business or residential dislocation expected**





# MODERN TRANSIT VEHICLES

**A cool, contemporary addition to the city**

# DESTINATIONS



New Center/Henry Ford Hospital

Amtrak Station

Tech Town

College for Creative Studies

Midtown/Cultural Center/WSU

Detroit Institute of Arts

Detroit Medical Center

Performance Venues

Sports Stadiums

Campus Martius

Downtown

Detroit Riverfront



# CONNECTIONS

- **Detroit People Mover**
- **DDOT and SMART bus routes**
- **Megabus intercity bus**
- **Transit Windsor tunnel bus**
- **Intercity rail between Ann Arbor and Detroit**
- **Future rapid transit corridors**

**Connects with future Woodward transit north of Grand Boulevard**

**Aligns with Detroit (DDOT), regional (RTCC/SEMCOG), and state (MDOT) plans**

# M-1 RAIL IMPACT



# ECONOMIC IMPACT

- **Connects Detroit's largest employment and entertainment centers**
- **Mixed-use development – investment, business, jobs**
- **Foot traffic for shops and restaurants**
- **Increased property values and tax revenues**
- **Foundation for future regional transit**



# QUALITY OF LIFE

- **Increased density and walkability**
- **Connections with greenways and bike paths**
- **Attraction/retention of young professionals**
- **Decreased traffic and energy consumption**
- **Opportunities for residents of all income levels**

# M-1 RAIL – BUILDING DETROIT'S FUTURE



