



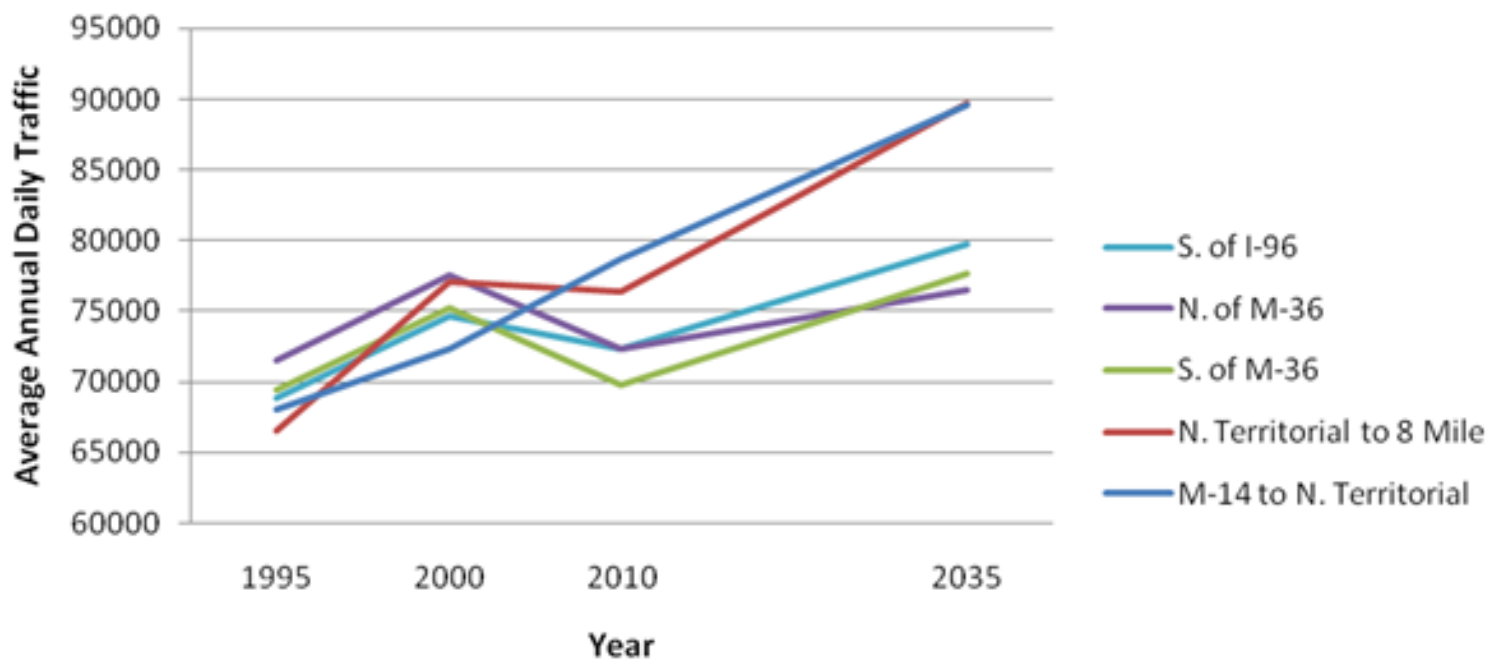
# Choices: The Case for WALLY Commuter Rail





# Why WALLY? US 23 Trends...

### Average Annual Daily Traffic Trends and Projections





# WALLY Commuter Rail Service



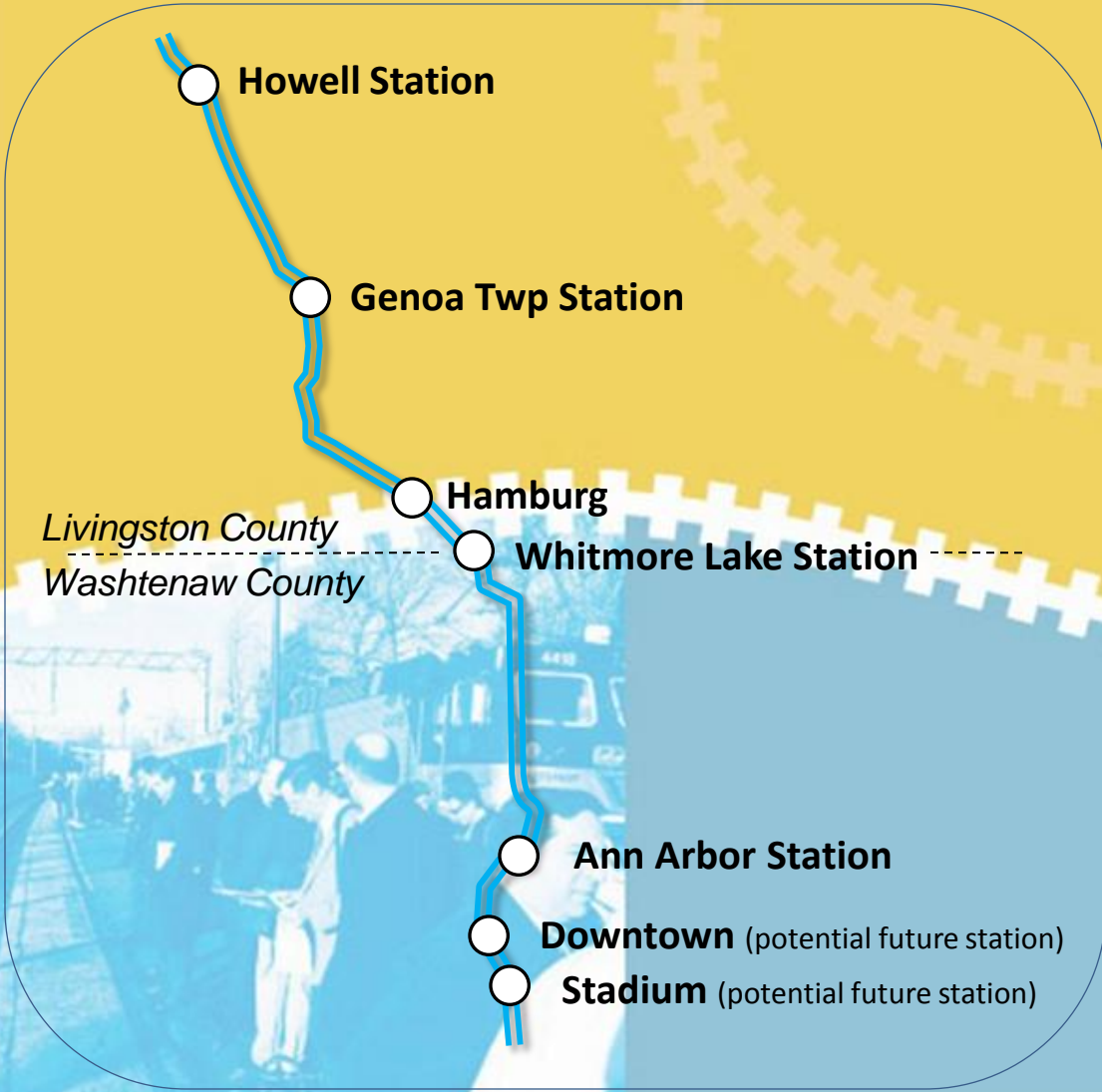
- Commuter coaches pushed-pulled by locomotives
- Comfortable car interiors
- Stations will typically include parking and / or connecting bus service







# WALLY Commuter Rail Service



- Passenger service on an existing freight line
- Stations planned for Howell, Genoa Twp, Hamburg Twp, Whitmore Lake and Ann Arbor
- Initially 4 trains each direction per day
- Connecting buses in Ann Arbor will serve North Campus, Medical Center, and downtown

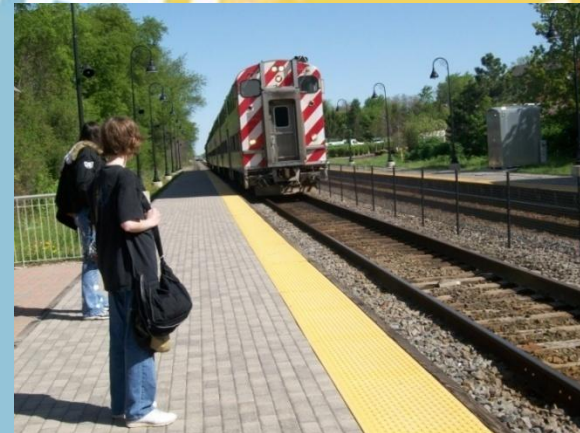
# Benefits for Commuters

Safe and  
reliable in  
any  
weather



A  
comfortable,  
relaxing  
commute

Avoid  
parking  
hassles and  
costs, and  
the cost of  
gasoline



Mobility  
option for  
non-  
drivers

# Benefits for the Region

5% - 20% or more

Property  
Values

Investment

*"Public transportation infrastructure is a common variable in corporate site selection decisions...a prerequisite for European and Asian business leaders."*

Michael Finney, President and CEO,  
Ann Arbor SPARK

775 Construction  
290 Permanent

Jobs

Workforce  
Retention

Livable residential communities tied to strong urban centers

580,000 gallons of  
gasoline annually

Energy Use

Air  
Pollution

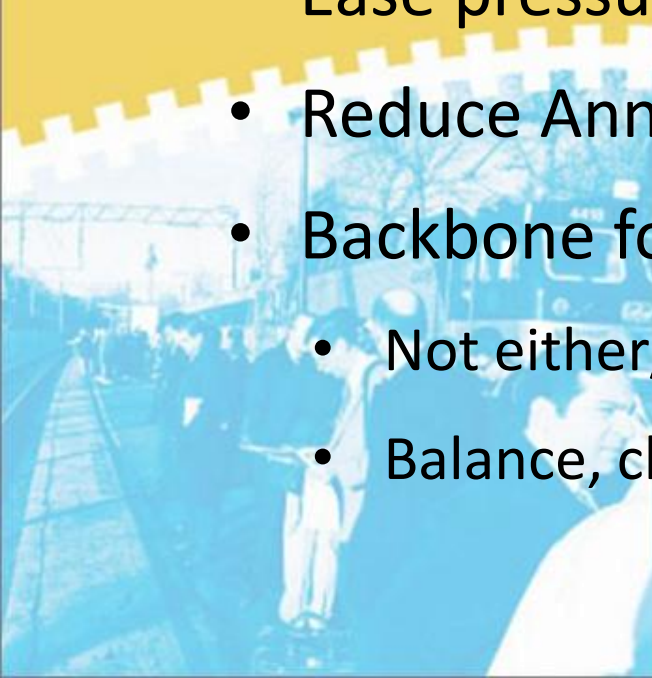
3000 tons / year of CO<sup>2</sup>





# Efficient Use of Transportation Resources

- Compares favorably with other proposed projects
  - Capital investment = \$2.09 / trip (over the twenty-year life of the assets)
  - Net operating expense = 63¢ / passenger-mile
  - Projected fare box recovery ratio = 30%
- Ease pressure for \$500M widening of US-23
- Reduce Ann Arbor parking construction costs
- Backbone for an area-wide transportation system
  - Not either/or
  - Balance, choice, flexibility





# Status: Capital Improvements

- Rolling stock: railcars & locomotives
- Upgraded tracks
- Improved grade crossing safety
- Signal improvements
- Layover facilities
- Stations





# Status: Railcar Rehabilitation

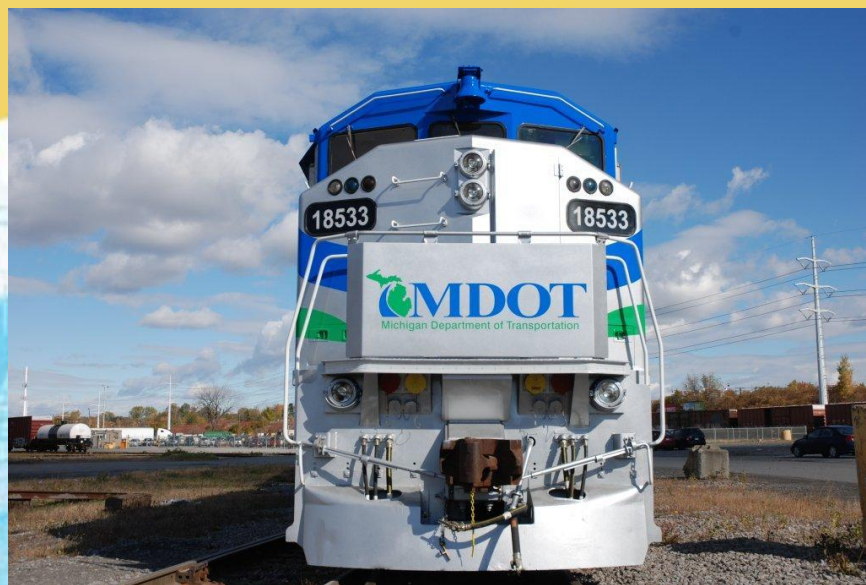


- Work is underway in Michigan– Great Lakes Central RR
- 23 Cars Undergoing Rehabilitation
  - 19 Cars Completed as of October, 2012
  - 6 Cars Have passed low speed dynamic testing, and are scheduled for track speed testing between Pontiac and Jackson soon
  - Completion Expected February 2013
  - WALLY Service to Use Up to 15 cars
- New fabric seats
- Windows – buffed out or replaced
- Wheelchair access
- Logos / Painting / Flooring
- Costs – Funding by MDOT
- Coordination with Detroit-to-Ann Arbor project



# Status: Locomotive Lease

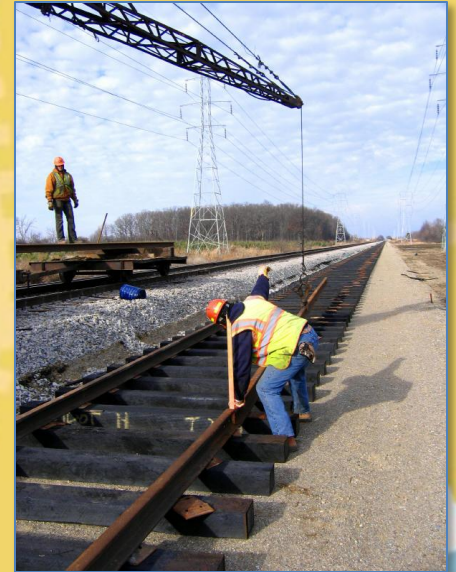
- Delivery Schedule Being Re-evaluated
- MDOT Funded
- Coordination with Detroit-to-Ann Arbor project





# Status: Track, Grade Crossings

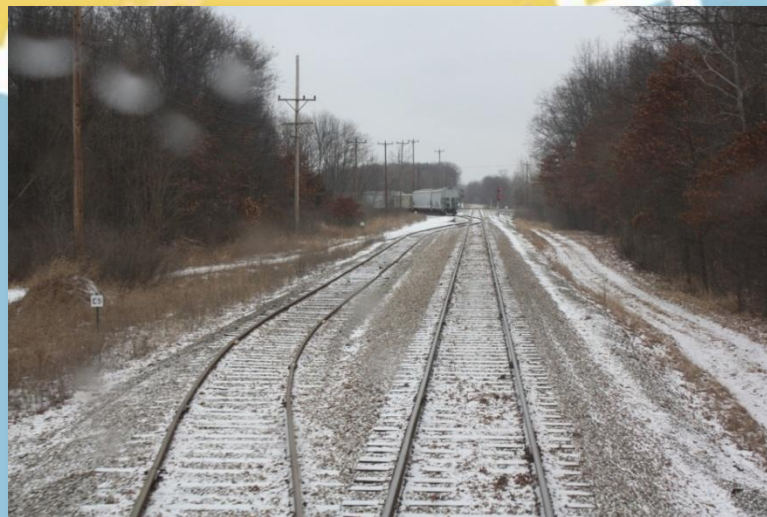
- Track and crossing improvements
  - Major Work, Summer 2010
  - Rail, ballast and tie replacement and rehabilitation
  - MDOT funded
- Grading crossing protection
  - Design / scoping is underway
  - 34 public crossings
  - Funding being sought
  - Construction 2013?





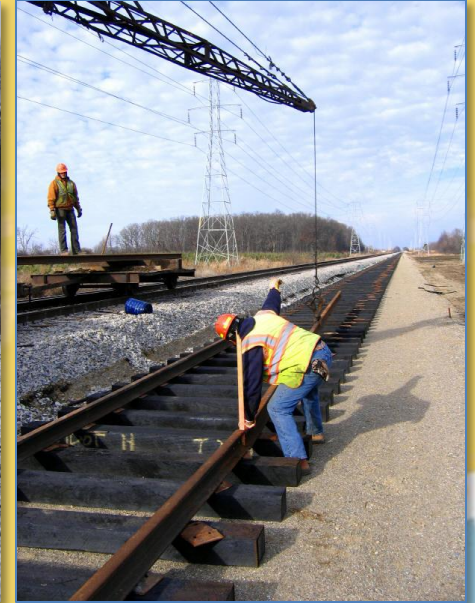
# Status: Signals

- Main line to run “dark” initially
- No conflicting movements
- Annpere crossing
  - Scope TBD
  - Meet with CSX
- Positive Train Control?



# Status: Layover Facilities

- Overnight – Oak Grove
- Midday - Osmer
- Alternatives to Osmer
  - Barton Road
  - Michigan Stadium
- Osmer Construction Completed
- Layover Equipment Needed
- MDOT Funded







# Status: Stations

- Preliminary cost estimates (2007) need update
- Station Design and Location Study starts soon
- Determine locations, detailed site and structure designs, environmental impacts, AARR issues
- Funding sources:
  - Howell, Ann Arbor DDA, Washtenaw Co.
  - FTA Section 5304 grant
  - Transportation, Community and System Preservation (TCSP) Program
- Community Participation







# Capital Improvements Summary

- Current capital cost estimate = \$41.0 M
- Includes options
  - Continuously welded rail
  - Additional grade crossing protection
- Value of work completed = \$6.1 M
- Remaining work, required = \$18.9 M
- Remaining work, optional = \$16.0 M
- All costs under review, update planned

# Operating Plan

SAMPLE WALLY COMMUTER TRAIN SCHEDULE - NOT FINAL								
Southbound								
101		105		107		109		Station
Arrival	Departure	Arrival	Departure	Arrival	Departure	Arrival	Departure	
	6:00 AM		6:30 AM		7:00 AM		7:30	↓
6:14 AM	6:18 AM	6:44 AM	6:48 AM	7:14 AM	7:18 AM	7:44 AM	7:48	HOWELL
6:30 AM	6:34 AM	7:00 AM	7:04 AM	7:30 AM	7:34 AM	8:00 AM	8:04	CHILSEN
6:49 AM		7:19 AM		7:49 AM		8:19 AM		WHITMORE LAKE
								ANN ARBOR
Northbound								
102		104		106		108		
Arrival	Departure	Arrival	Departure	Arrival	Departure	Arrival	Departure	↑
4:49 PM		5:19 PM		5:49 PM		6:19 PM		HOWELL
4:31 PM	4:35 PM	5:01 PM	5:05 PM	5:31 PM	5:35 PM	6:01 PM	6:05 PM	CHILSEN
4:15 PM	4:19 PM	4:45 PM	4:49 PM	5:15 PM	5:19 PM	5:45 PM	5:49 PM	WHITMORE LAKE
	4:00 PM		4:30 PM		5:00 PM		5:30 PM	ANN ARBOR

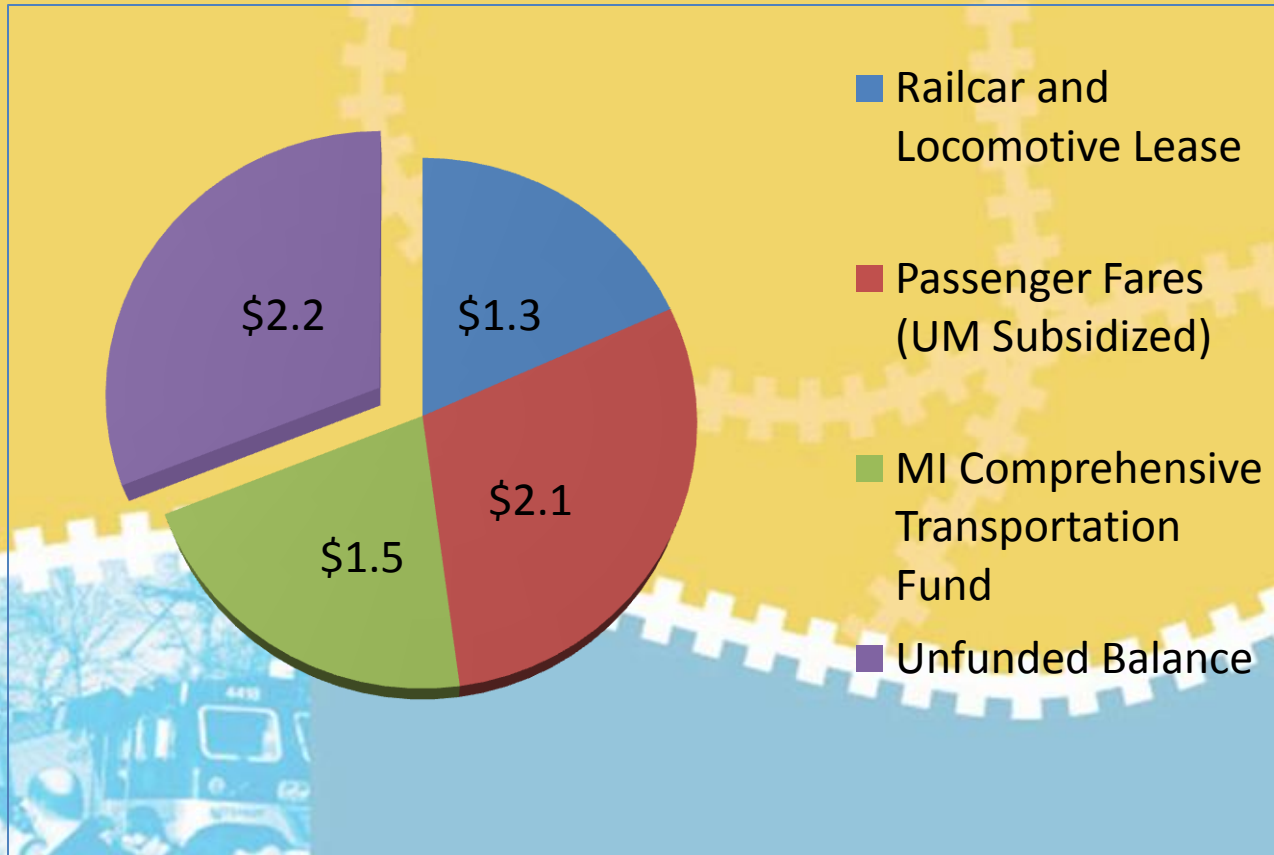
- 4 inbound movements during am peak
- Store 4 trains near downtown Ann Arbor
- Crews go off-duty until afternoon peak
- 4 outbound movements during pm peak



**WALLY**  
Commuter Rail

# Project Operating Costs and Revenues

(Millions)



- Overall cost = \$7.1 M annually per R.L. Banks
- Fare revenue assumes 1300 riders per day
- CTF share assumes overall viability of the fund
- Wildcards: insurance, trackage rights
- Sources to close the gap: Federal grants; local sources; foundations





# Marketing & Public Outreach

- Hamburg Rail Days
- MI Association of Rail Passengers
- UM SMART/ULI Conference
- AA Chamber Leadership Team
- Chilson Hills Green Expo
- CTN Interview
- Brighton Rotary
- LivCo Democrats
- Howell Rotary
- Livingston County Planning Commission
- Ann Arbor Township Board
- EMU Elderwise Council
- Superior Township Board
- Hamburg Township Board
- Michigan Municipal League
- St Joseph Mercy Health Systems
- Milan landowner/developer
- Ann Arbor Spark
- Menlo Associates
- Livingston County Economic Summit
- ...and many more

Invitations now being accepted!



# Awareness of the WALLY Project

Have you heard of the transportation project called WALLY, the commuter rail service proposed between Howell and Ann Arbor?

*Livingston County*

**63%**  
**AWARE**

*Washtenaw County*

**50%**  
**AWARE**



# Support for the WALLY Project

WALLY is a proposed passenger train service that would operate on existing railroad tracks between Howell and Ann Arbor. There would be stations located in Howell, Genoa Township, Hamburg, Whitmore Lake and Ann Arbor. Trains would operate during commute hours.

Please tell me if you Strongly Approve, Approve, Disapprove or Strongly Disapprove of the development of this new service?

## *Livingston County*

**80%**  
**APPROVE**

**(43% STRONGLY APPROVE)**

## *Washtenaw County*

**75%**  
**APPROVE**

**(32% STRONGLY APPROVE)**





# Likely to Ride WALLY

Imagine you worked or traveled regularly to Washtenaw County, how likely would you be to consider riding the WALLY service?

*Livingston County*

**71%**

**LIKELY**

**(43% VERY LIKELY)**

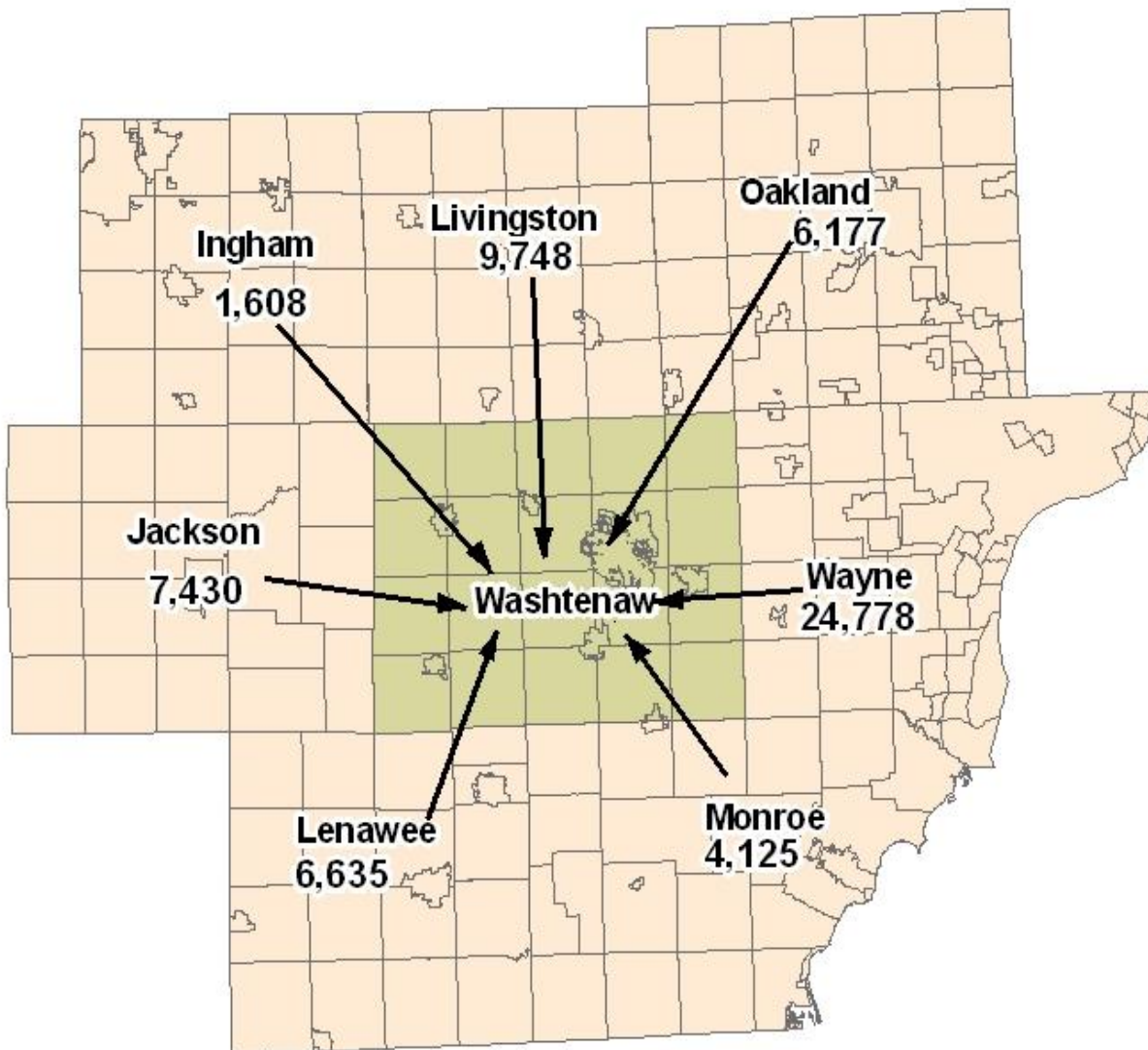




# Opening Day

- Mainly dependent on funding
  - Stations
  - Ongoing operations
- Repeat: Dependent on funding





Total Daily Number of People Commuting Into Washtenaw County = 60,501

Note: numbers are based on SEMCOG 2005 employment data



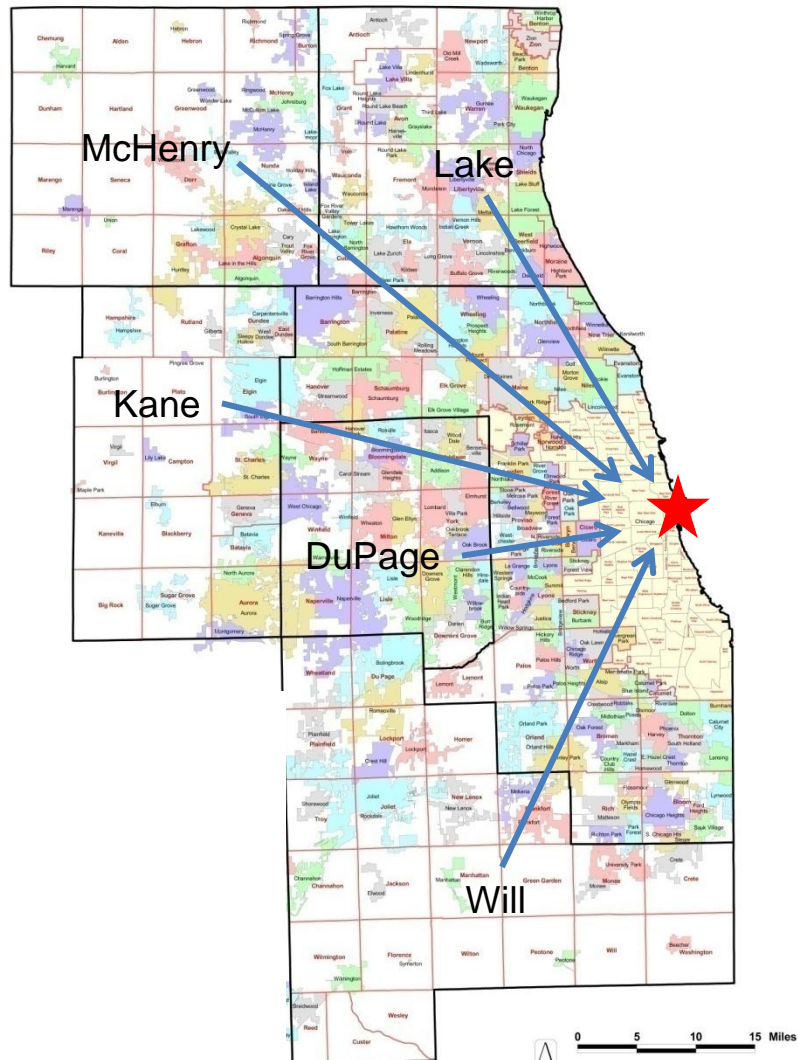
Predicted WALLY ridership is 1300 / day, mainly from Livingston County.

Is it realistic to expect 13% of these trips to use WALLY?



# Outlying NE Illinois Counties

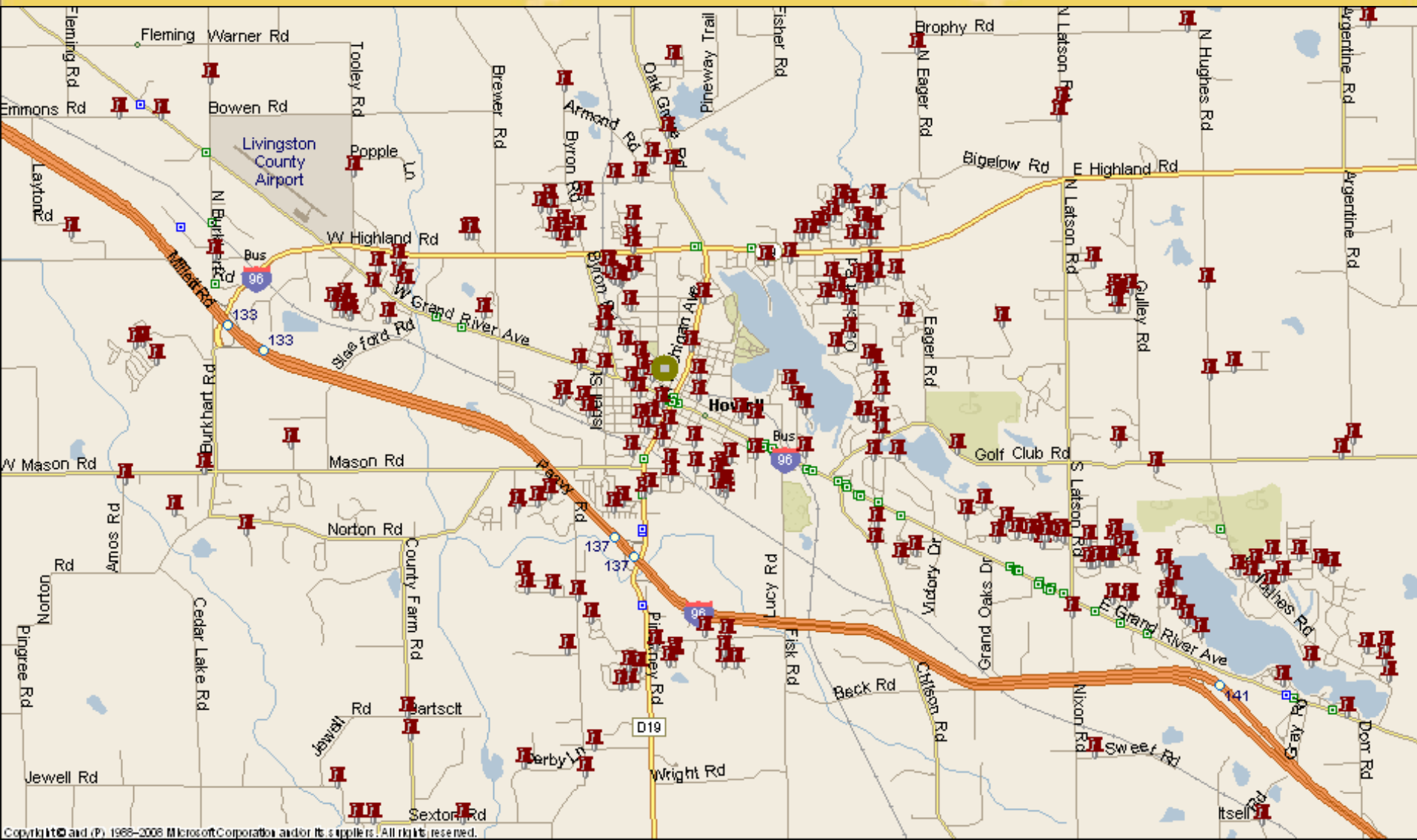
## Rail Work Trips to Downtown Chicago



County	% of Work Trips by Commuter Rail
McHenry	66%
Lake	60%
Kane	61%
DuPage	69%
Will	55%

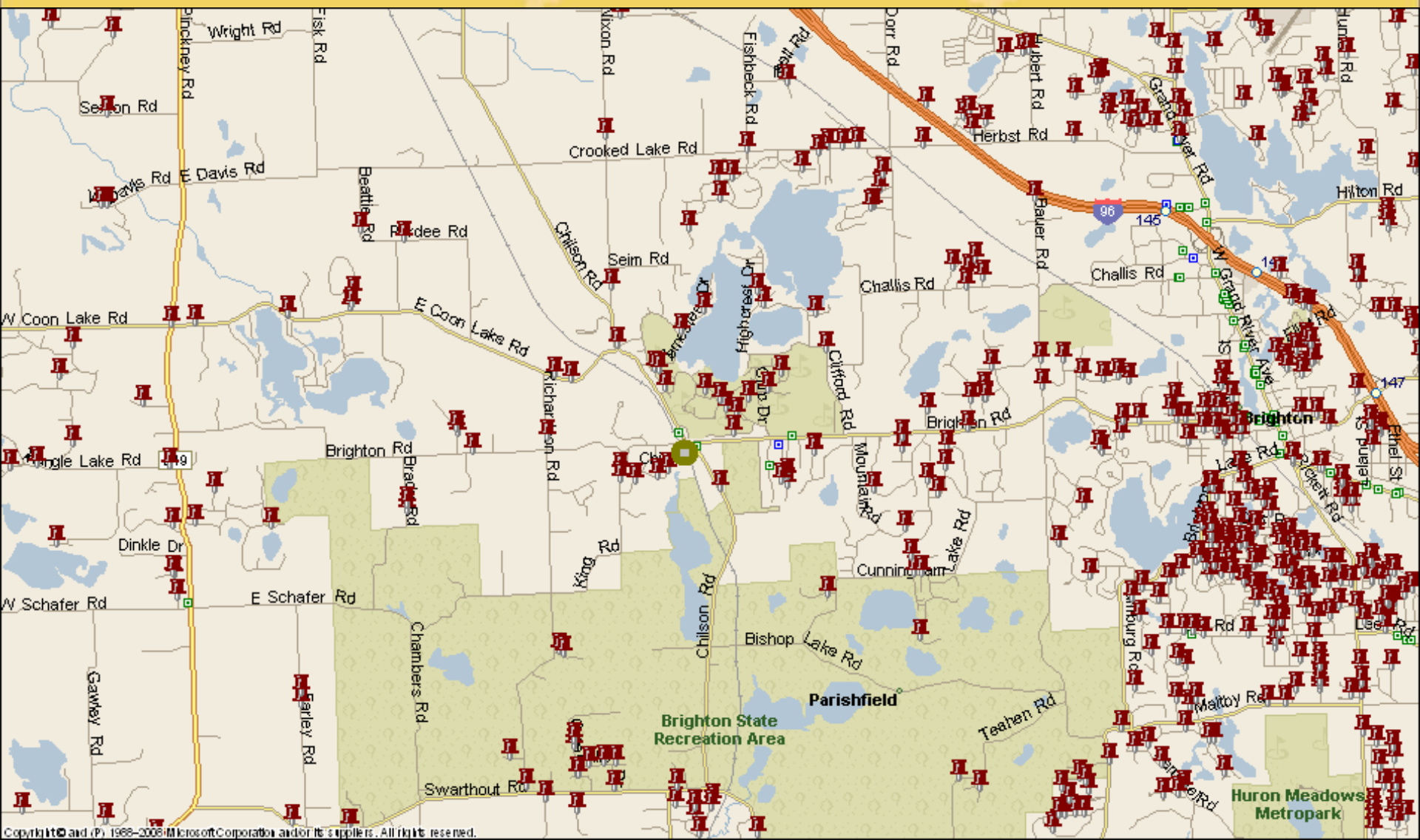


# UM Employees Living Near a WALLY Station: Howell





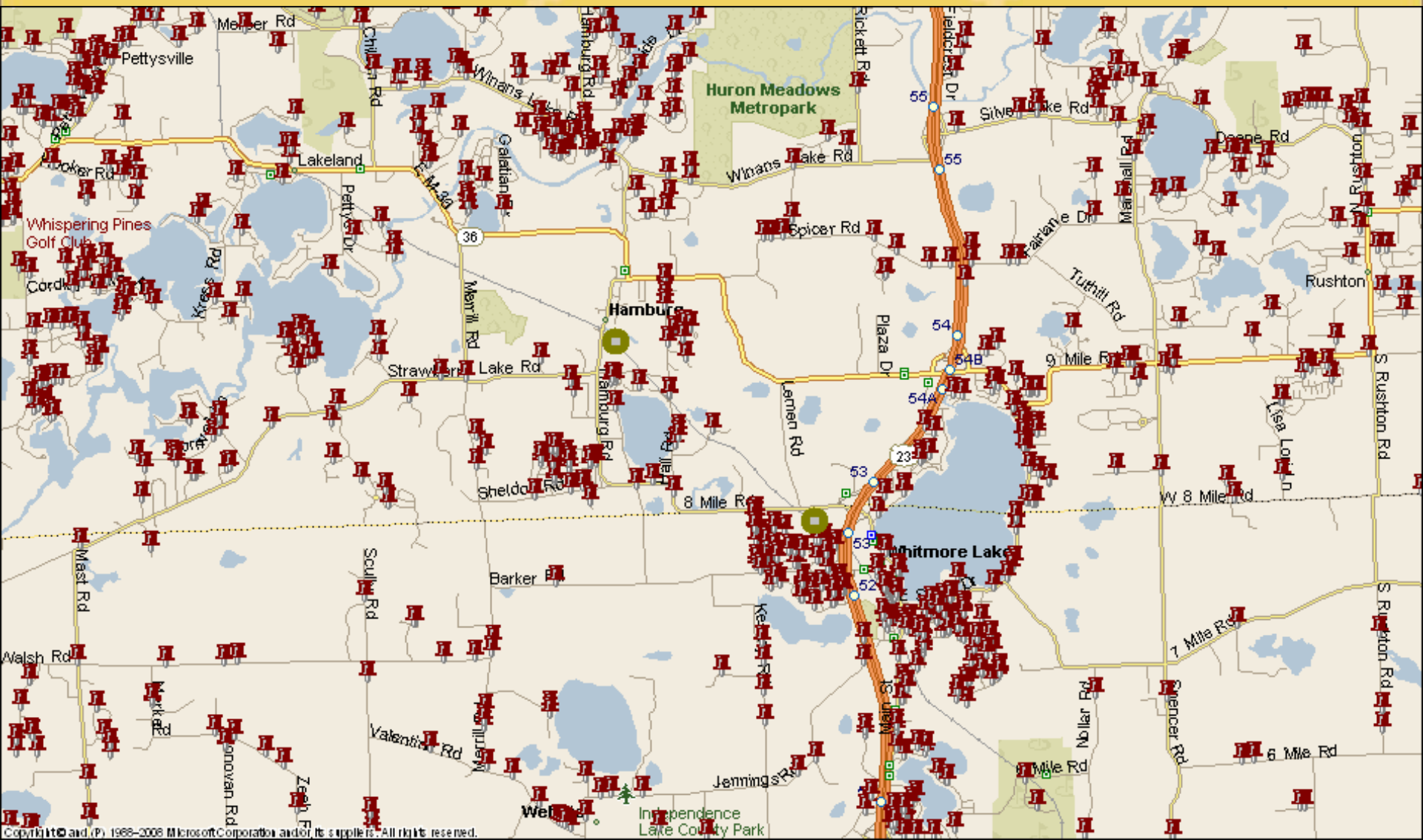
# UM Employees Living Near a WALLY Station: Genoa / Brighton







# UM Employees Living Near a WALLY Station: Hamburg / Whitmore Lake





# New Commuter Rail in the US

- 16 new starts since 1983
- Average Length of Planning Period = 10.6 Years
- Forecast ridership versus actual
  - Short of forecast = 3
  - Too soon to tell = 4 (less than 3 years in service)
  - Equal or exceeds forecast = 3
  - No comparison available = 6
  - 2010 data – to be updated soon



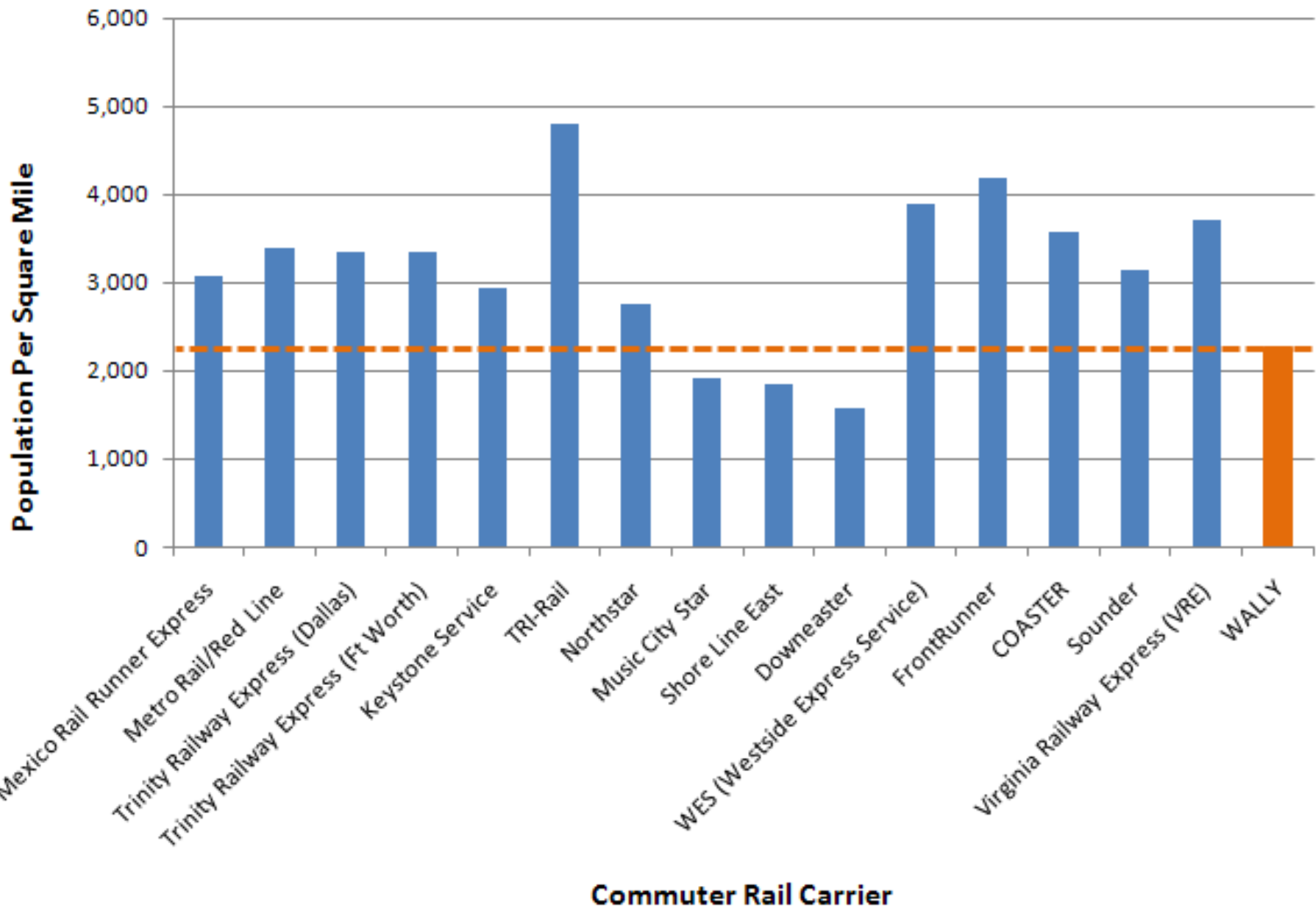
# How does Wally forecast ridership compare to existing commuter rail operations?

<b>Commuter Rail Agencies Ranked by Passenger Trips and Passenger Miles - 2007</b>					
<b>Transit Agency</b>	<b>Urbanized Area</b>	<b>Unlinked Passenger Trips (000's)</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>Passenger Miles (000's)</b>	<b>Rank</b>
MTA Long Island Rail Road (MTA LIRR)	New York, NY	102,144	1	2,257,940	2
New Jersey Transit Corporation (NJ TRANSIT)	New York, NY	80,297	2	2,280,895	1
Metro-North Commuter Railroad Company, (MTA-MNCR)	New York, NY	79,720	3	2,127,148	3
Northeast Illinois Reg. Commuter Railroad Corp. (Metra)	Chicago, IL	74,551	4	1,719,332	4
Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA)	Boston, MA	38,816	5	790,801	5
Southeastern Pennsylvania Transp. Authority (SEPTA)	Philadelphia, PA	33,496	6	478,772	6
Southern California Regional Rail Authority (Metrolink)	Los Angeles, CA	12,019	7	414,113	7
Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board (PCJPB)	San Francisco, CA	10,264	8	280,046	8
Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)	Baltimore, MD	7,505	9	228,384	9
Northern Indiana Commuter Transp. District (NICTD)	Chicago, IL	4,246	10	119,310	10
South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (TRI-Rail)	Miami, FL	3,409	11	107,981	11
Virginia Railway Express (VRE)	Washington, DC	3,387	12	103,230	12
Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority (ST)	Seattle, WA	2,157	13	52,987	12
North County Transit District (NCTD)	San Diego, CA	1,561	14	43,148	14
Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART)	Dallas, TX	1,476	15	16,531	19
Fort Worth Transportation Authority (The T)	Dallas, TX	999	16	16,750	18
Altamont Commuter Express (ACE)	Stockton, CA	707	17	33,613	15
<b>Proposed WALLY Service</b>	<b>Ann Arbor, MI</b>	<b>650</b>		<b>11,100</b>	
Connecticut Department of Transportation (CDOT)	Hartford, CT	466	18	9,087	20
Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PENNDOT)	Philadelphia, PA	376	19	27,599	16
Northern New England Passenger Rail Auth. (NNEPRA)	Portland, ME	341	20	27,225	17
Alaska Railroad Corporation (ARRC)	Anchorage, AK	130	21	2,404	21
Regional Transportation Authority (RTA)	Nashville, TN	108	22	1,933	22

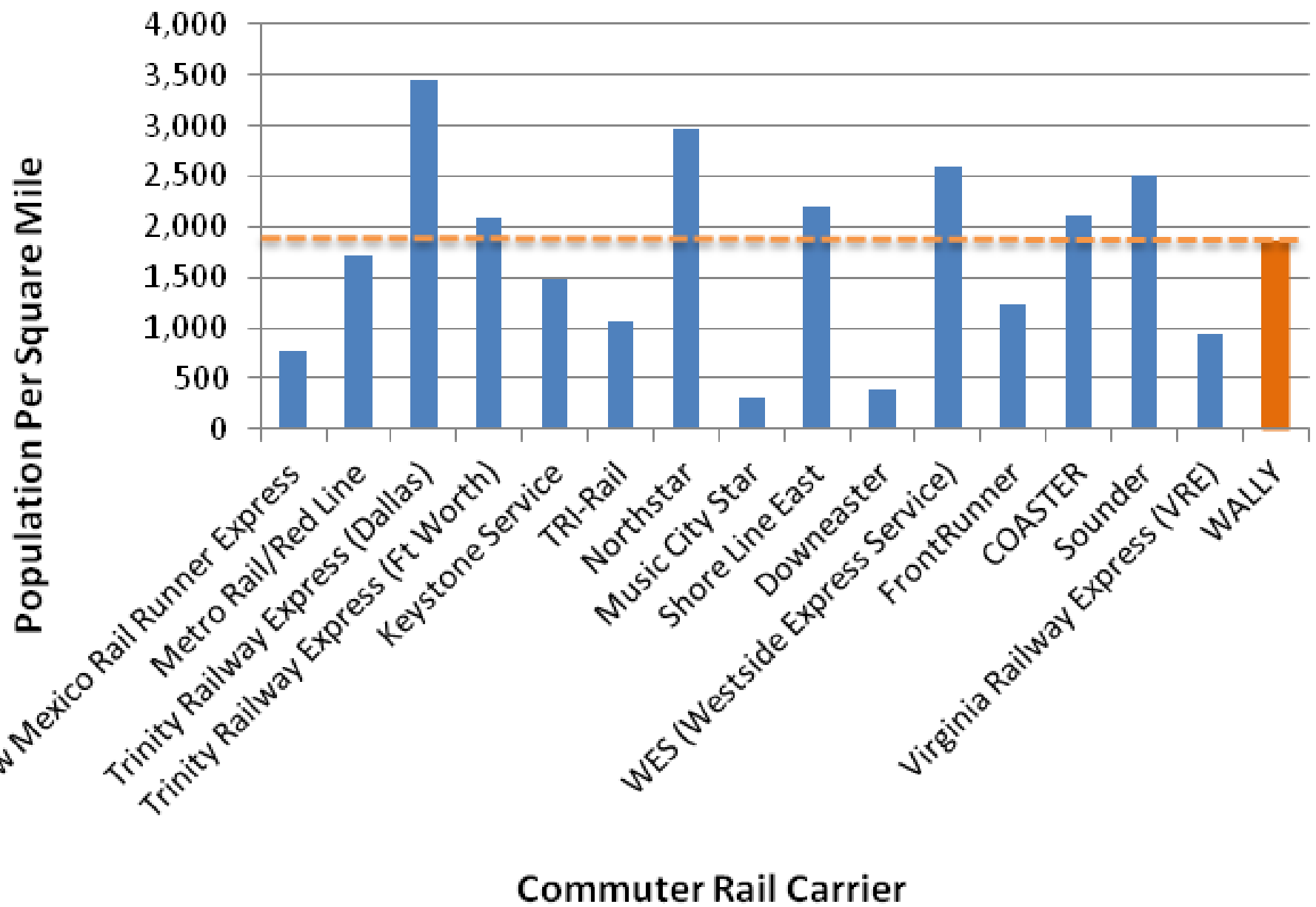
SOURCE: APTA 2009 PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION FACT BOOK; 60th Edition; April, 2009



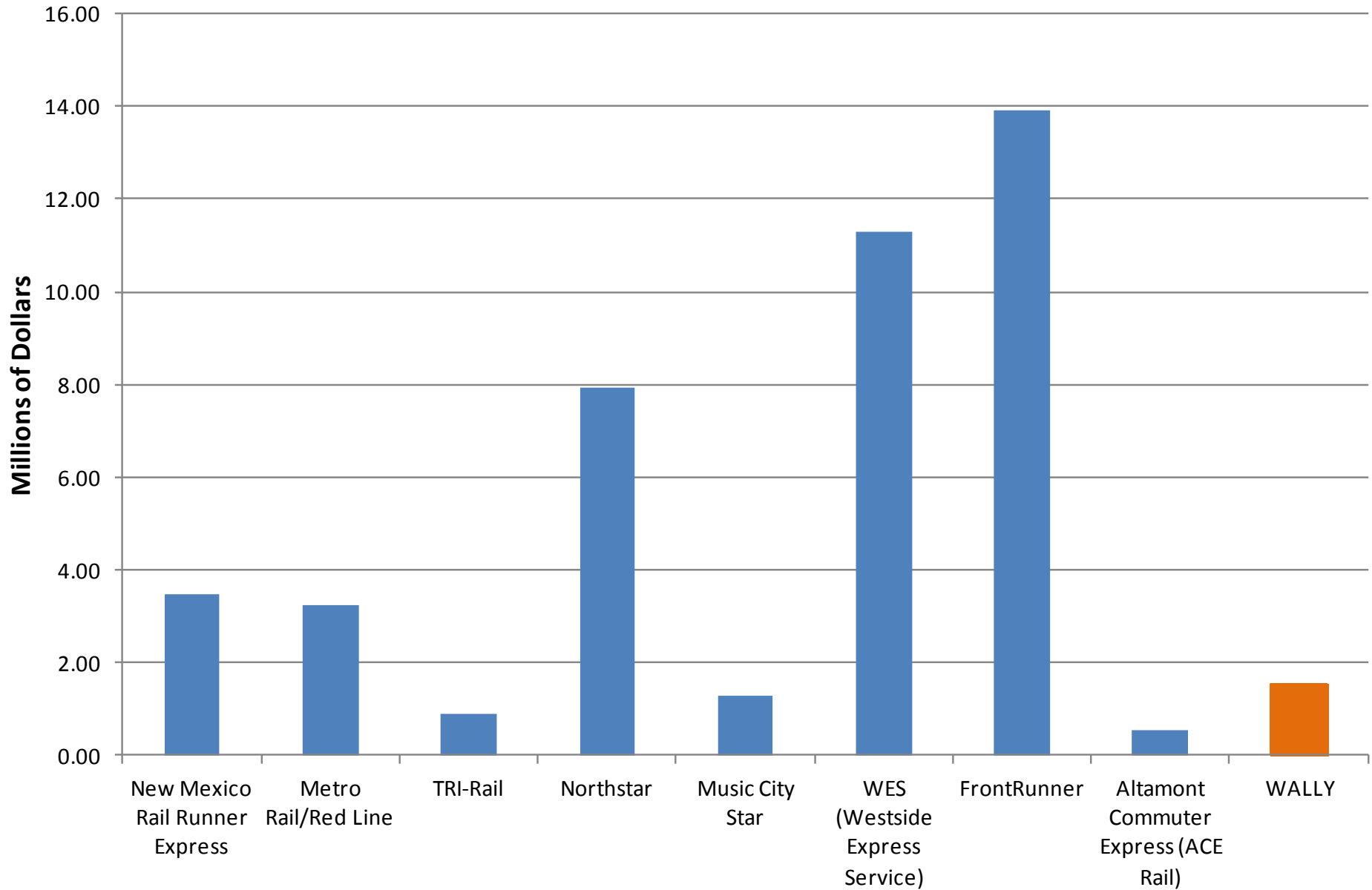
# Urbanized Area Pop. Density - New Commuter Rail



# Service Area Population Density - New Commuter Rail



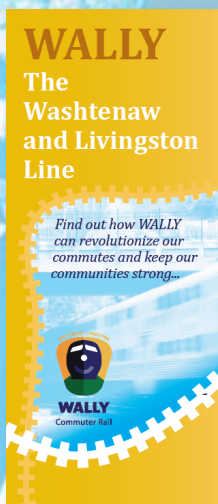
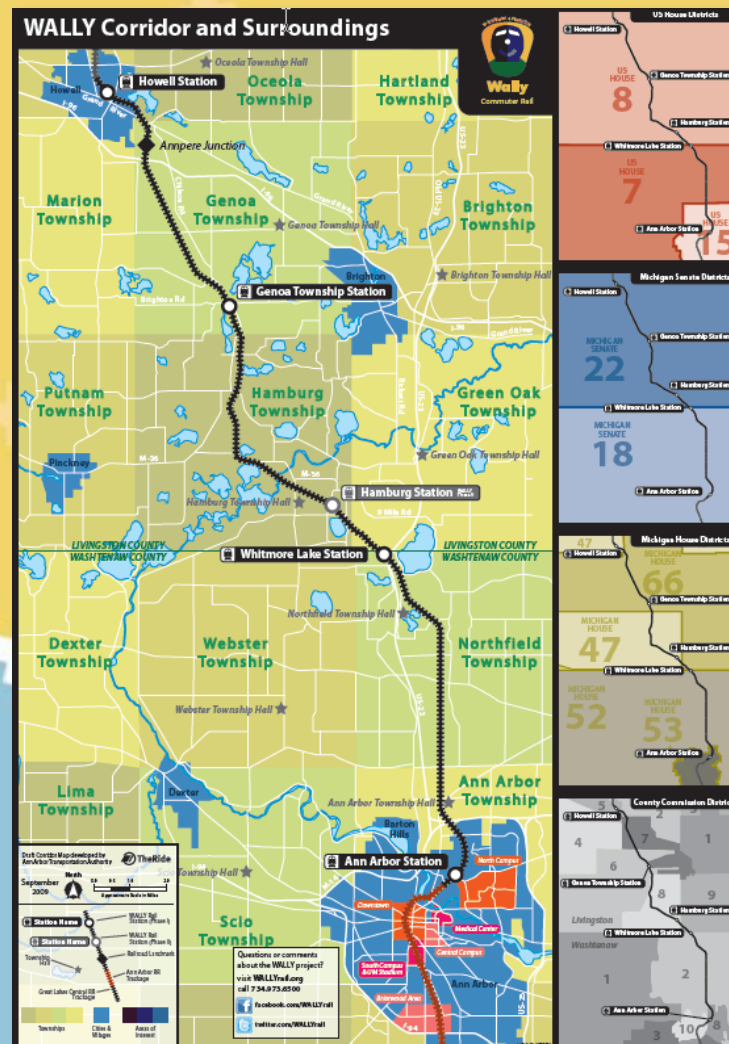
# Commuter Rail Start-up Costs per Mile of Initial Service





# Learn More About WALLY

- Brochures / Project Maps
- Frequently Asked Questions
- <http://www.wallyrail.org>





# Get involved with WALLY

- Twitter: <http://twitter.com/WALLYRail>
- Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/WALLYRail>
- Email: [WALLY@TheRide.org](mailto:WALLY@TheRide.org)
- Present the “WALLY Road Show”
- Traveling display
- Or contact Michael Benham: 734-973-1851,  
[mhenham@TheRide.org](mailto:mhenham@TheRide.org)



**WALLY**  
Commuter Rail



*Thanks!*