



BEN FRANKLIN TRANSIT

Washington State Transportation Commission

September 2016

CUSTOMER SATISFACTION – COLLABORATION – DIVERSITY
FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY - INNOVATION – SUSTAINABILITY – SAFETY

Agency Key Facts

Service Area: 616 square miles, serving:

- Benton County
- Franklin County
- Pasco
- Richland
- West Richland
- Kennewick
- Prosser
- Benton City



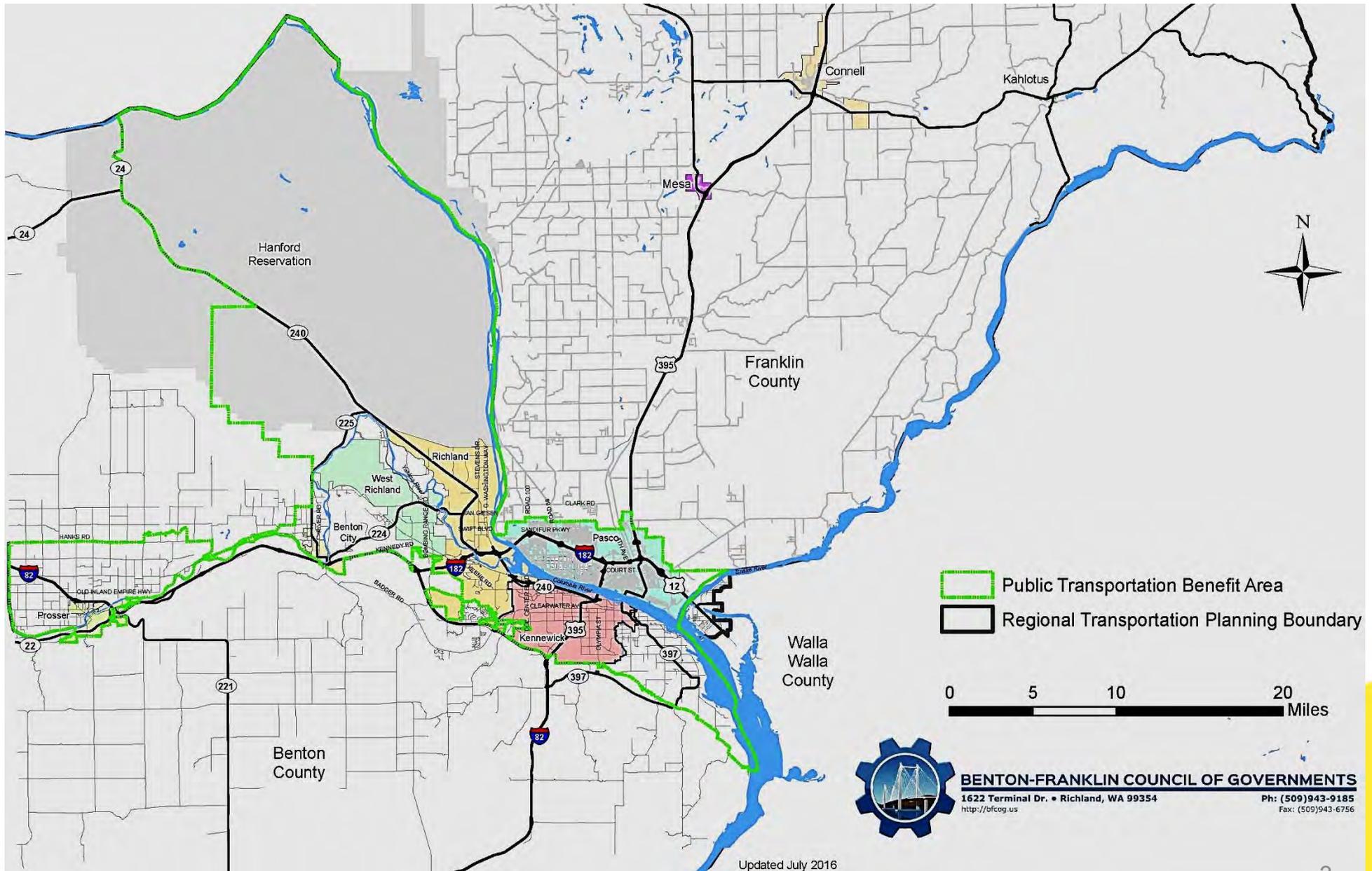
Safety Awards

- Washington State Transit Insurance Pool – Safety Star
- National Safety Council – Safe Driver Award

Tax Authorization: Voter-approved 0.6 percent sales tax

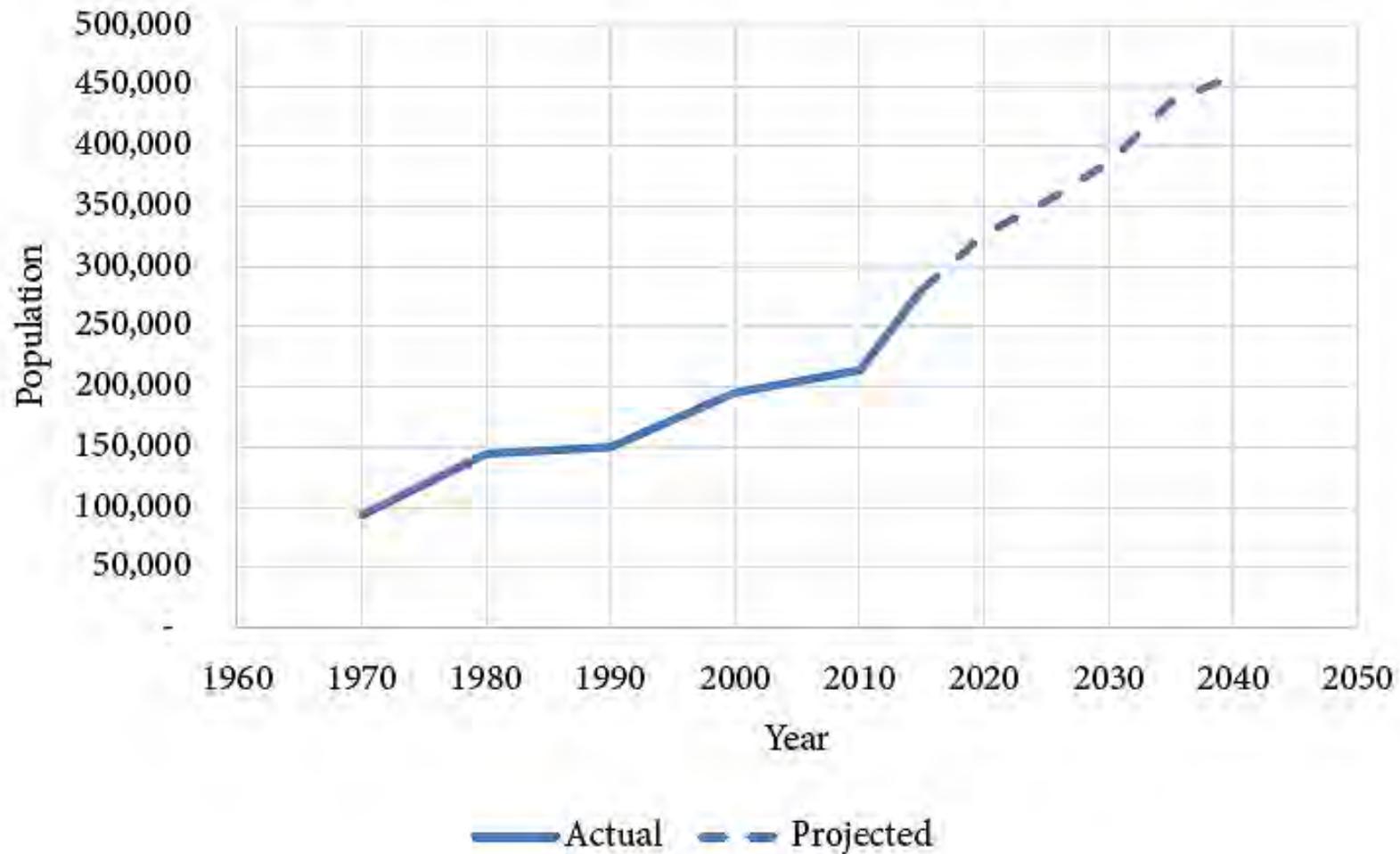
Growing Population: 2015 – 280,679 by 2040 – 458,258

Public Transportation Benefit Area



Population

Regional Historic Population & Forecasted Growth



BFT Service

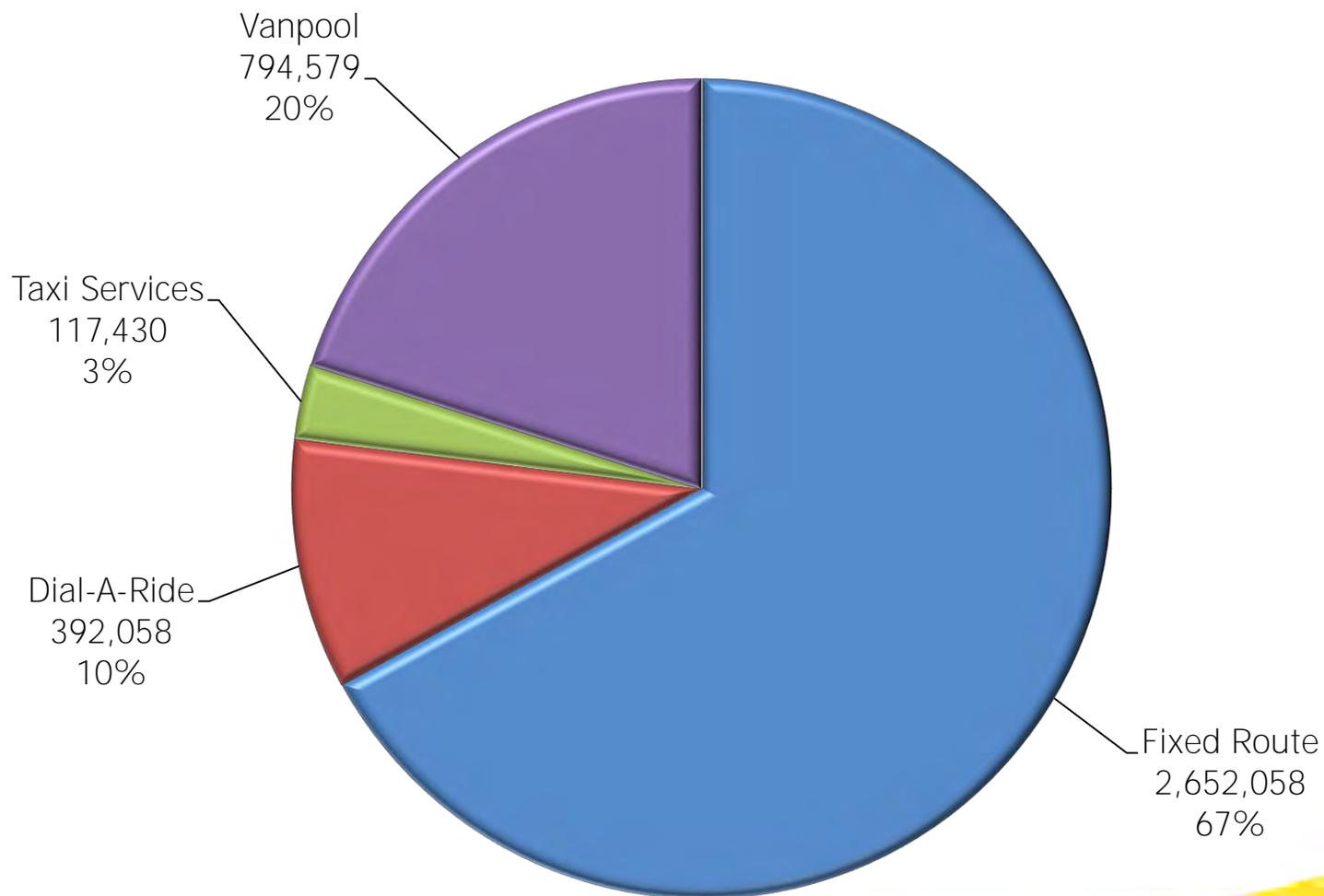
Directly Operated Services

- Fixed-Route Bus System
- Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Dial-A-Ride Service
Prosser/Benton City General Demand Response Service
- Vanpool Program

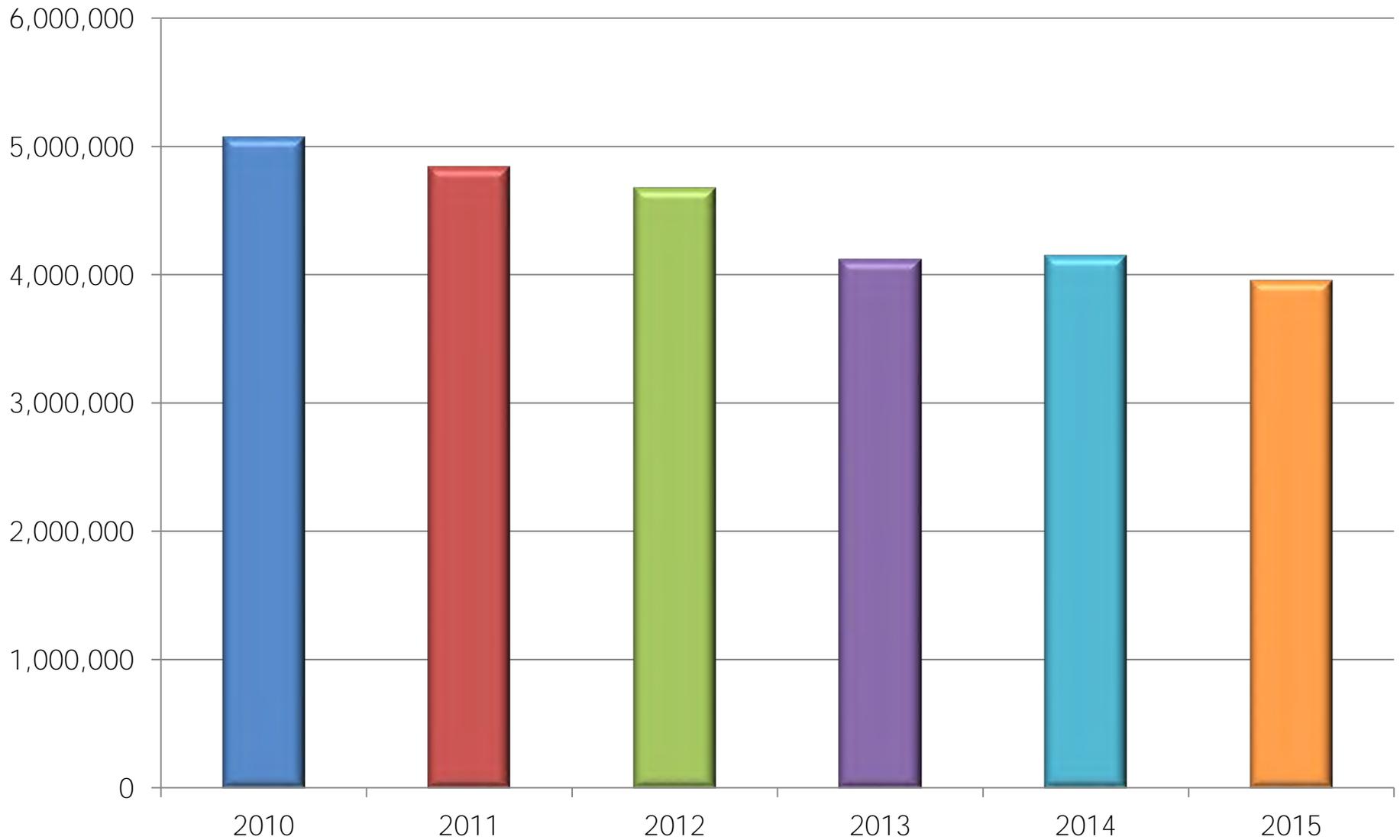
Contracted Operations

- Taxi Services
- Arc of Tri-Cities

2015 Ridership By Mode



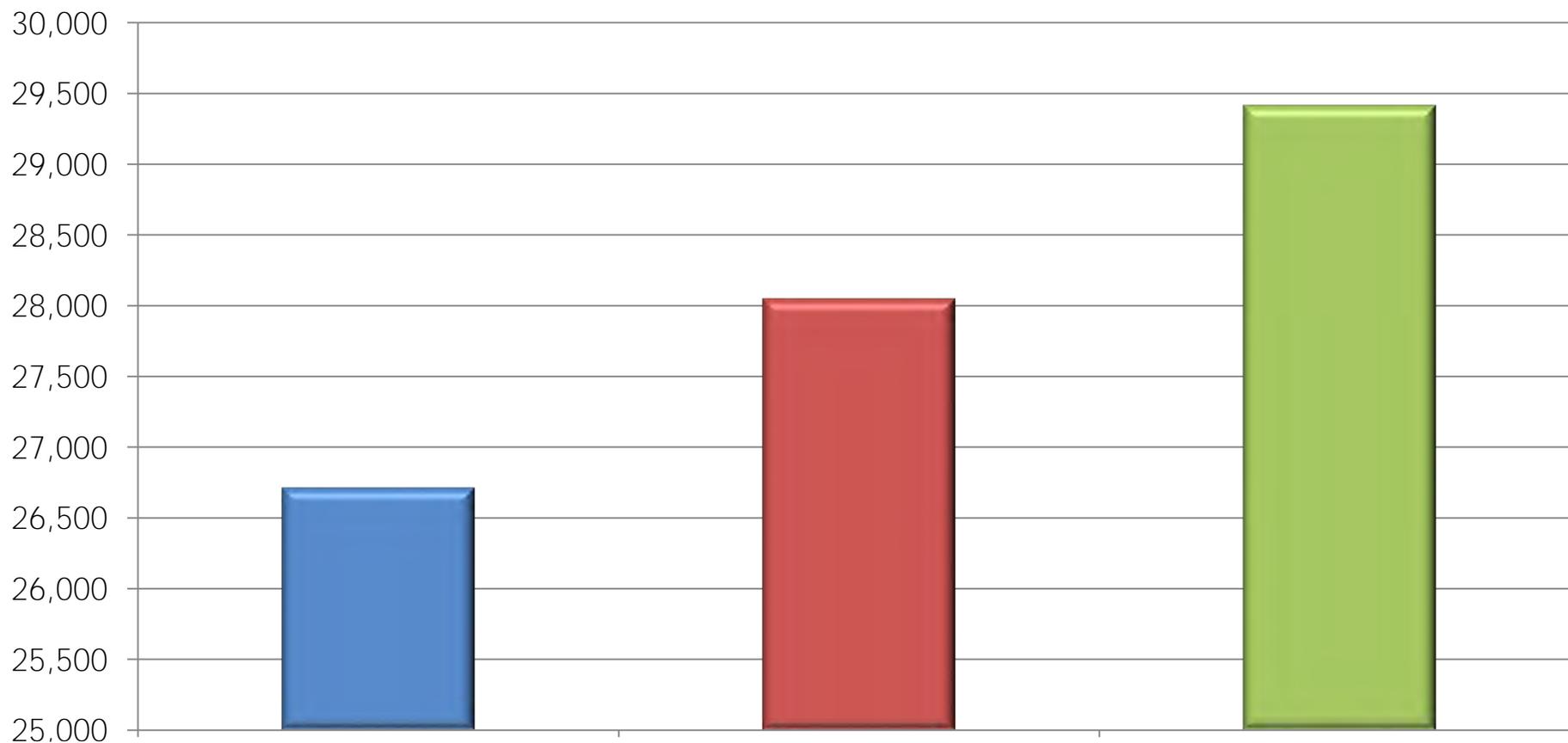
Ridership by Year



ADA Services

- ADA requires paratransit service be provided up to $\frac{3}{4}$ miles from a fixed route
- BFT provides service up to the PTBA boundary
- BFT Dial-A-Ride provided just over 350,000 boardings in 2015, at a cost of over \$12,500,000
- Cost per boarding
 - Fixed Route \$5.43
 - Dial-A-Ride \$35.86

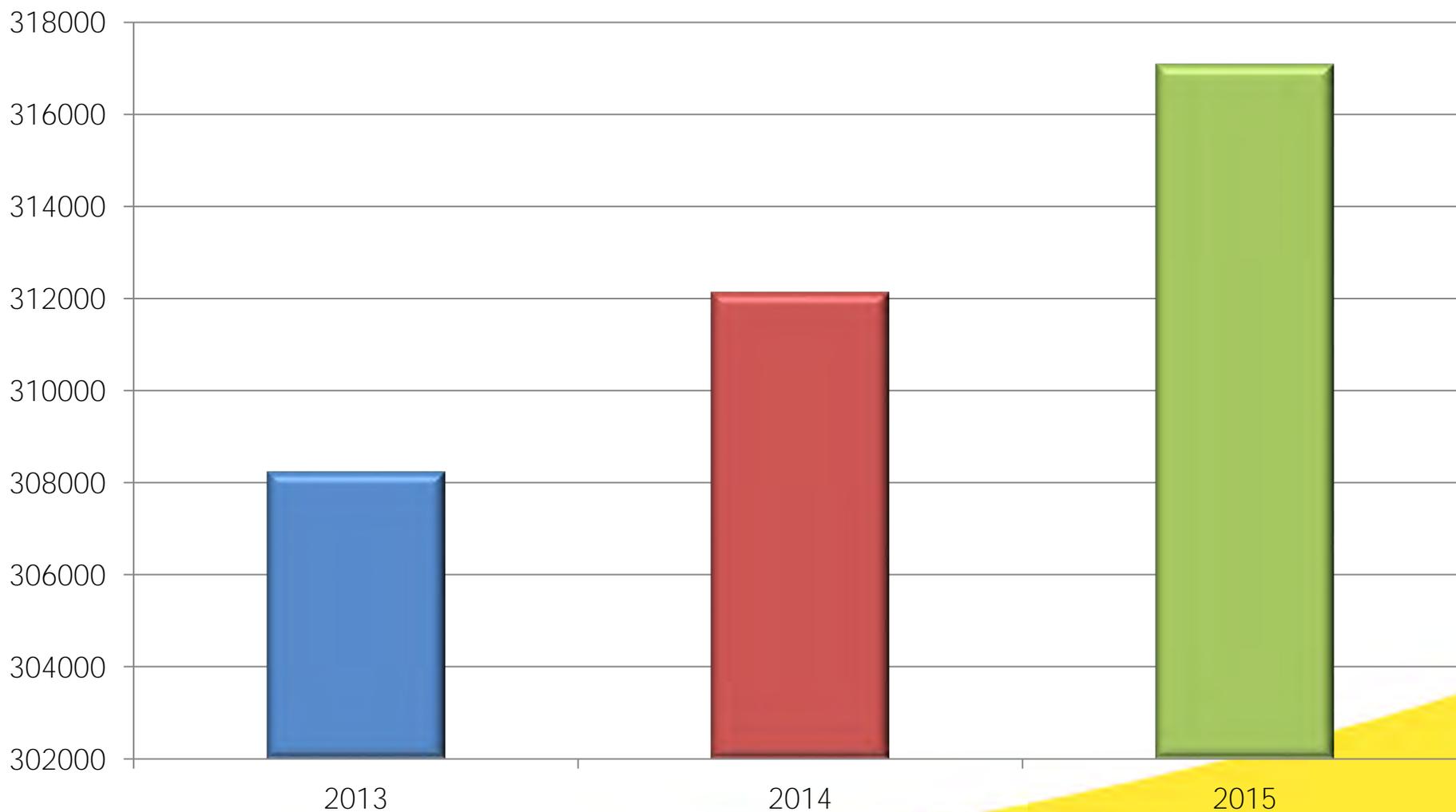
Regional Elderly Community



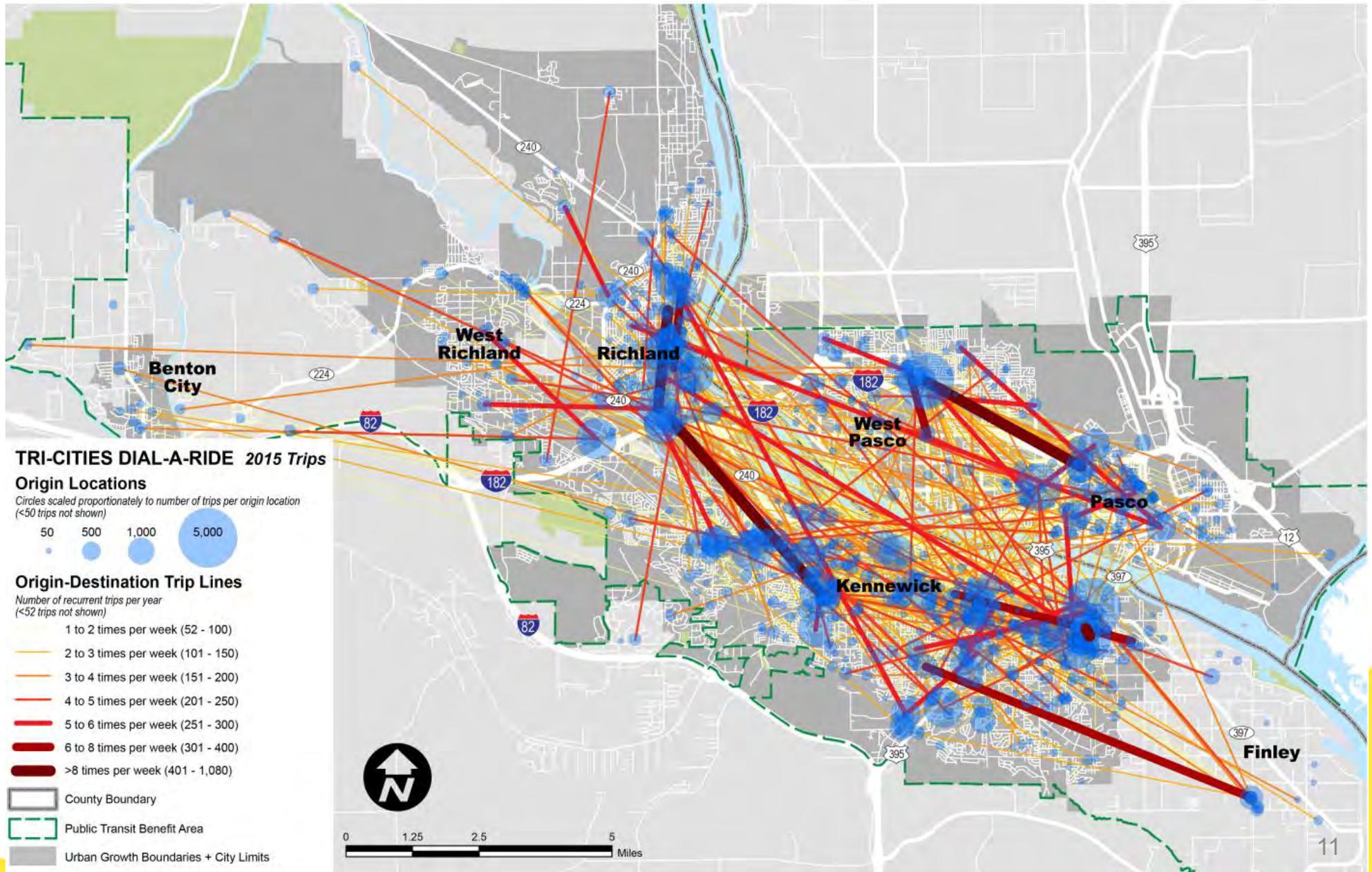
	2013	% Variance	2014	% Variance	2015	% Variance
65 years and over	26,712	5%	28,047	5%	29,417	5%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division
Release Date: June 2016

Dial-A-Ride Boardings



Dial-A-Ride Weekly Ridership



Total Vanpool Program

- 248 vans in service
- Serves Approximately 2,300 Vanpool users
- Starting cities
 - Benton City
 - Burbank
 - Grandview
 - Hermiston
 - Kennewick
 - Prosser
 - Richland
 - Walla Walla
 - West Richland
 - Sunnyside
- **Vans must start or end in BFT's service area**

Average Hanford Annual Usage

	Vanpool	Vs	Single Occupied Vehicle	Additional Impact
Vehicles on Road per Day	185		1,600	1,415
Vehicle Trips	78,744		520,920	442,176
Miles Traveled	2,300,000		19,500,00	17,200,000
Parking Spaces Needed	185		1,600	1,415

Planning for Tomorrow Today

- Comprehensive Service Plan Study
 - Design and recommendations are finished
 - Implementation scheduled to begin in November 2016
 - Completion tentatively planned for late Spring 2017
- Technology Improvements
- Passenger Amenity Improvements
- Upgrade and refurbish facilities and transit centers
- Explore alternative fuel technology

Proposed CSPS Recommendations

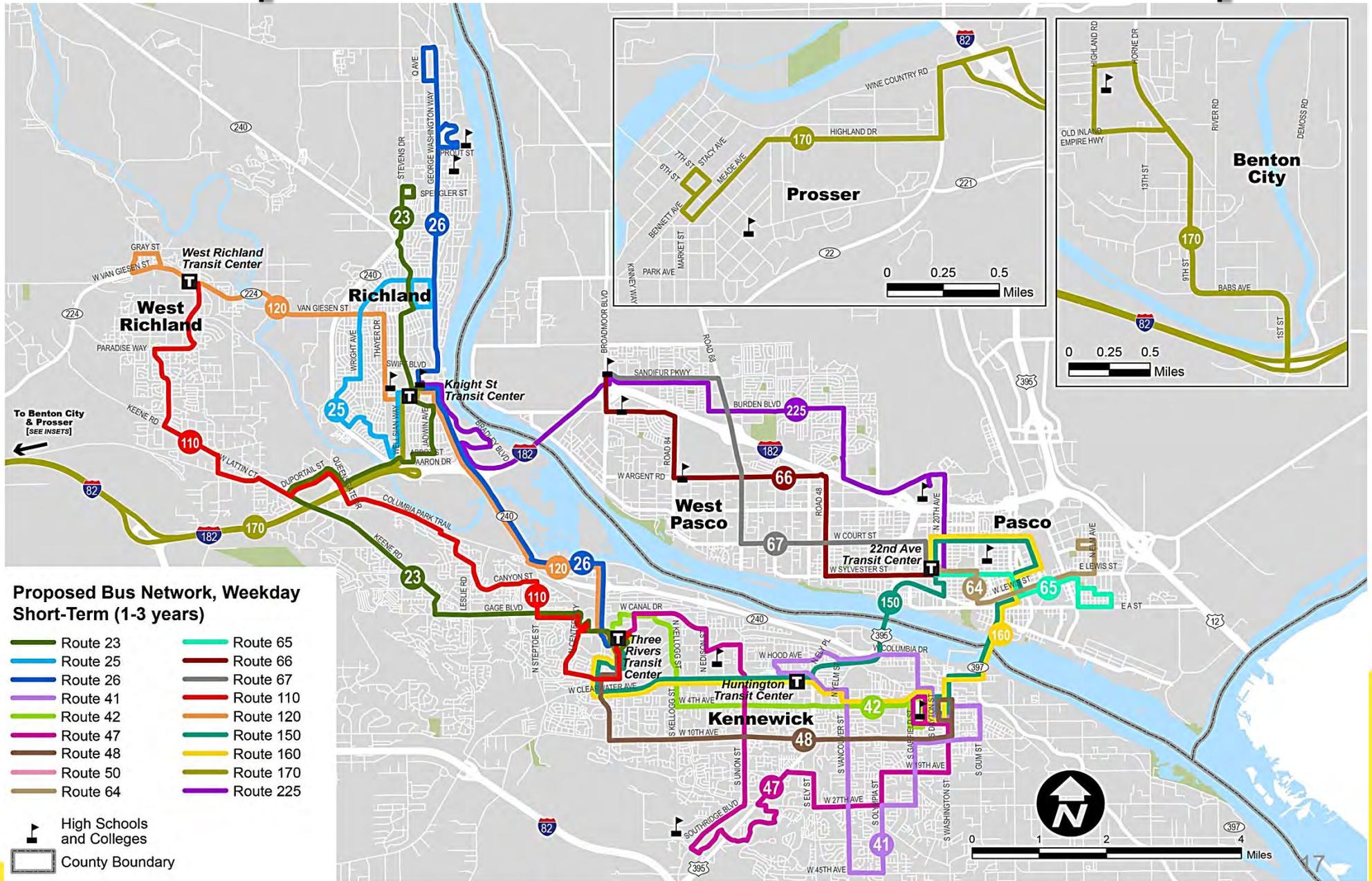
- Fixed Route
- Increased service hours
 - Weekday service currently 6:00 am to 6:00 pm to 6:00 am to 8:00 pm
 - Saturday service currently 8:00 am to 6:00 pm to 7:00 am to 7:00 pm
- Midday frequency
 - Maintain frequency throughout the day (weekday and Saturday)
 - Address demand for trips other than work
- Primary transit corridor frequency
 - Increase frequency along major travel corridor and bridge crossings
 - Higher frequency on individual routes or by staggering routes
- Increase connectivity and directness of service
 - Extension of service routes to match demand for longer trips
 - Reach all parts of the network with 1 transfer only
 - **Reduction of transfer points and “pulse” locations**

Proposed CSPS Recommendations

- Vanpool
 - No changes to service; however staff continues community outreach and is developing a targeted marketing outreach to increase visibility of the program with major employers
- Dial-A-Ride Service
 - Extend weekday service hours to 6:00 am to 8:00 pm and to 7:00 am to 7:00 pm Saturday
- Demand Response (Prosser & Benton City)
 - Extend weekday service hours to 6:00 am to 8:00 pm and to 7:00 am to 7:00 pm Saturday
- Taxi Feeder & Finley Service
 - Reorganize to provide service from designated pick-up points to selected (nearest) fixed-route bus stop
 - Eliminate premium fare barriers
- Taxi Night Service
 - Reduction in service hours from 6:30 pm to 2:00 am to 8:00 pm to 12:00 am
- Sunday Service
 - No changes



Proposed CSPS Service Map



Regional Connectivity

- Grape Line
 - Walla Walla
 - Burbank
- People for People
 - Yakima
 - Moses Lake
- Connections to Amtrak and Tri-Cities Airport
- Technology Partnership Benefiting Eastern Washington

Eastern Washington Regional Transportation Systems



Community Collaboration

- Community Outreach and/or Committees
- Benton Franklin Council of Governments
- Six Jurisdiction Planning Commission Meetings
- Three Port Board Commission Meetings
- 23 Local Memberships Including;
 - Mid Columbia Energy Initiative (MCEI)
 - Five Chamber of Commerce's
 - Good Roads
 - Alliance for a Livable Sustainable Community (ALSC)
 - Tri-Cities Visitor and Convention Bureau
 - Tri-City Development Council
 - Prosser Economic Development Association
- WSDOT Public Transportation Division
- State and Federal Associations



Questions?