MTF Presentation on the Report of the Commission on the Future of Transportation in the Commonwealth

January 30, 2019

Choices for Stewardship: Recommendations to Meet the Transportation Future

VOLUME I

Submitted Pursuant to
Executive Orders 579 and 580

COMMISSION ON THE FUTURE OF TRANSPORTATION IN
THE COMMONWEALTH

COMMISSION ON THE FUTURE OF TRANSPORTATION IN THE COMMONWEALTH

- Governor Baker signed Executive Order No. 579 to establish the Commission on the Future of Transportation in the Commonwealth

- Commission focused on five key areas:
  - Climate and resiliency
  - Transportation electrification
  - Autonomous and connected vehicles
  - Transit and mobility services
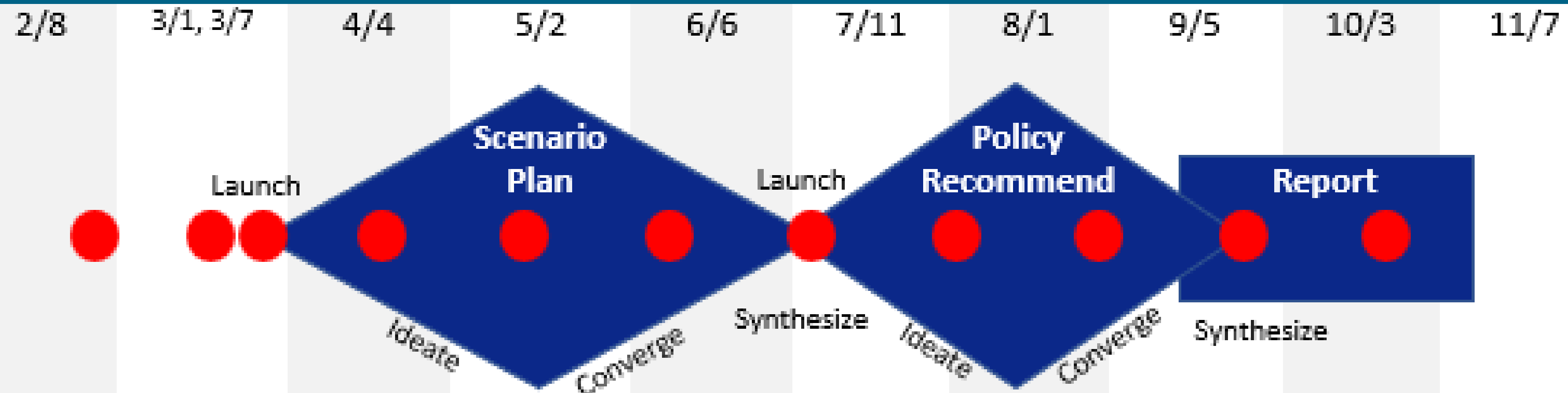 - Land use and demographic trends

WORKING ON A TIGHT SCHEDULE

COMMISSION FRAMEWORK WAS IN THREE PARTS
1ST: FOCUS ON FACTS AND TRENDS
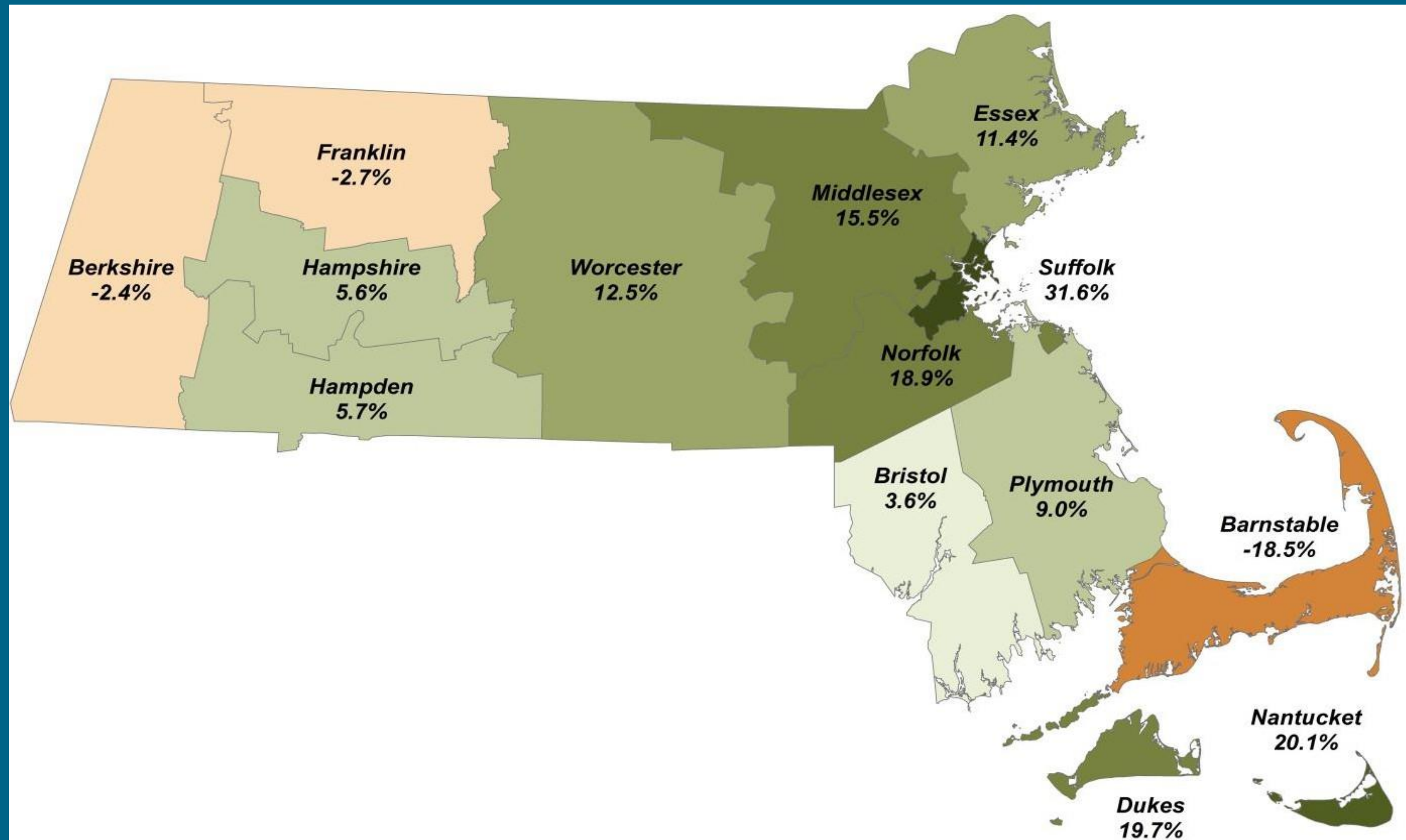2ND: DEVELOP PLAUSIBLE SCENARIOS FOR 20+ YEARS FROM NOW
3RD: GUIDELINES AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GOVERNOR, LT. GOVERNOR AND OTHER DECISION-MAKERS

FACTS AND TRENDS: EXAMPLE

By 2040: MA Population is Projected to Grow by ~600,000

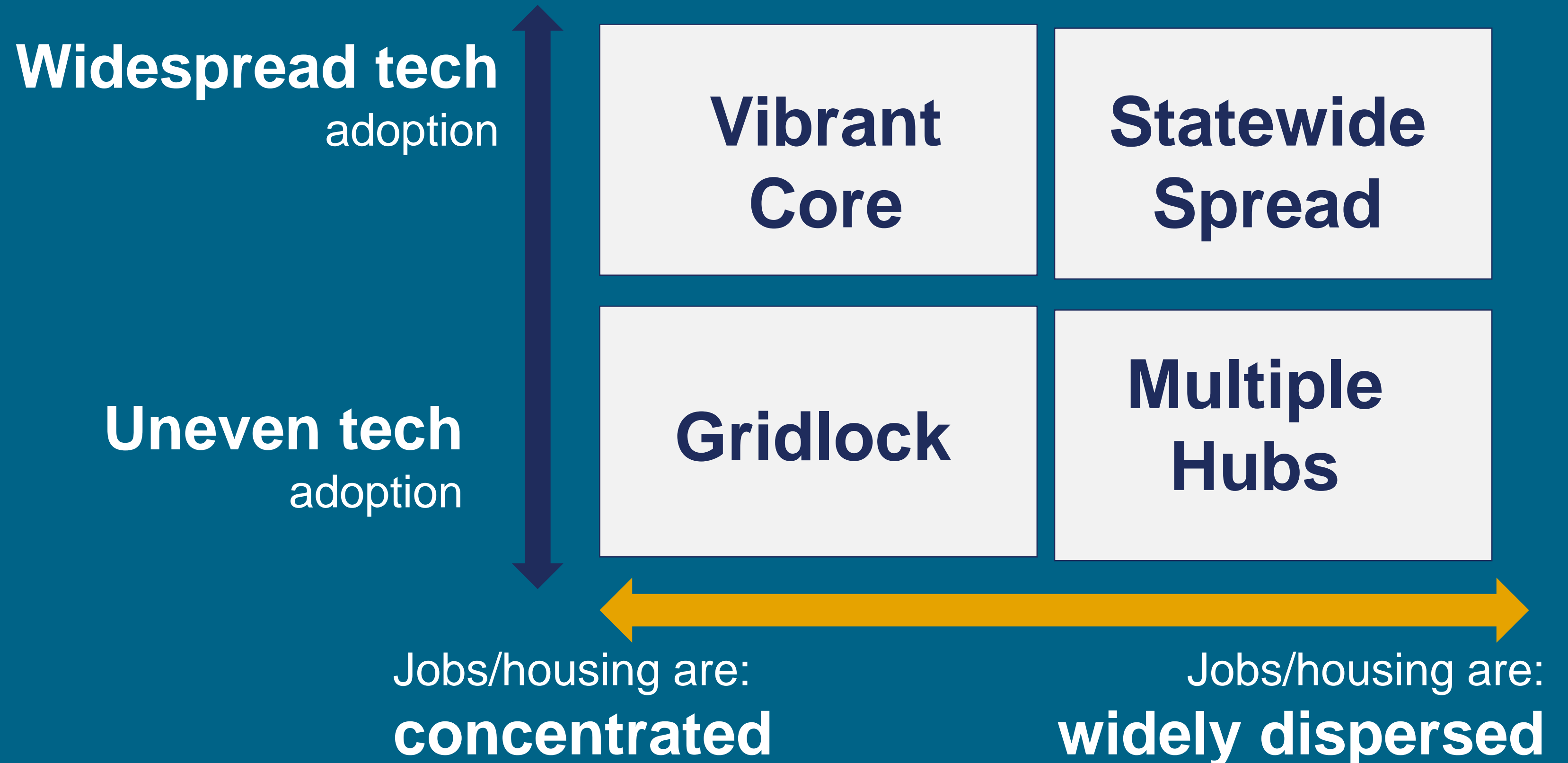**Map Shows Anticipated Percent Change in Population by County 2010-2040**

SCENARIO PLANNING FRAMEWORK

Strategy works in all futures	**Immediate** *current or near-term need*	
	Robust *no brainers*	
Strategy works in some futures	**Deferred** *no regret*	**Leap forward** *influence the future*
		Hedging *potential regret*
Strategy works in no futures	**Dropped**	

THE COMMISSION'S SCENARIOS

Technology adoption, and whether it is available and adopted uniformly by people across generations or geographical areas, will strongly influence travel options and needs.

The distribution of jobs and housing will impact travel options and needs - in 2040, in other words, it will matter whether the increase in jobs and housing is concentrated or more widely dispersed.

Widespread tech adoption

Uneven tech adoption

Vibrant Core	Statewide Spread
Gridlock	Multiple Hubs

Jobs/housing are: **concentrated**

Jobs/housing are: **widely dispersed**

THE FOUR COMMISSION SCENARIOS

Scenario 1: Gridlock
The fast growth of Boston and its surrounding municipalities has continued, but without expansion of existing transportation capacity.
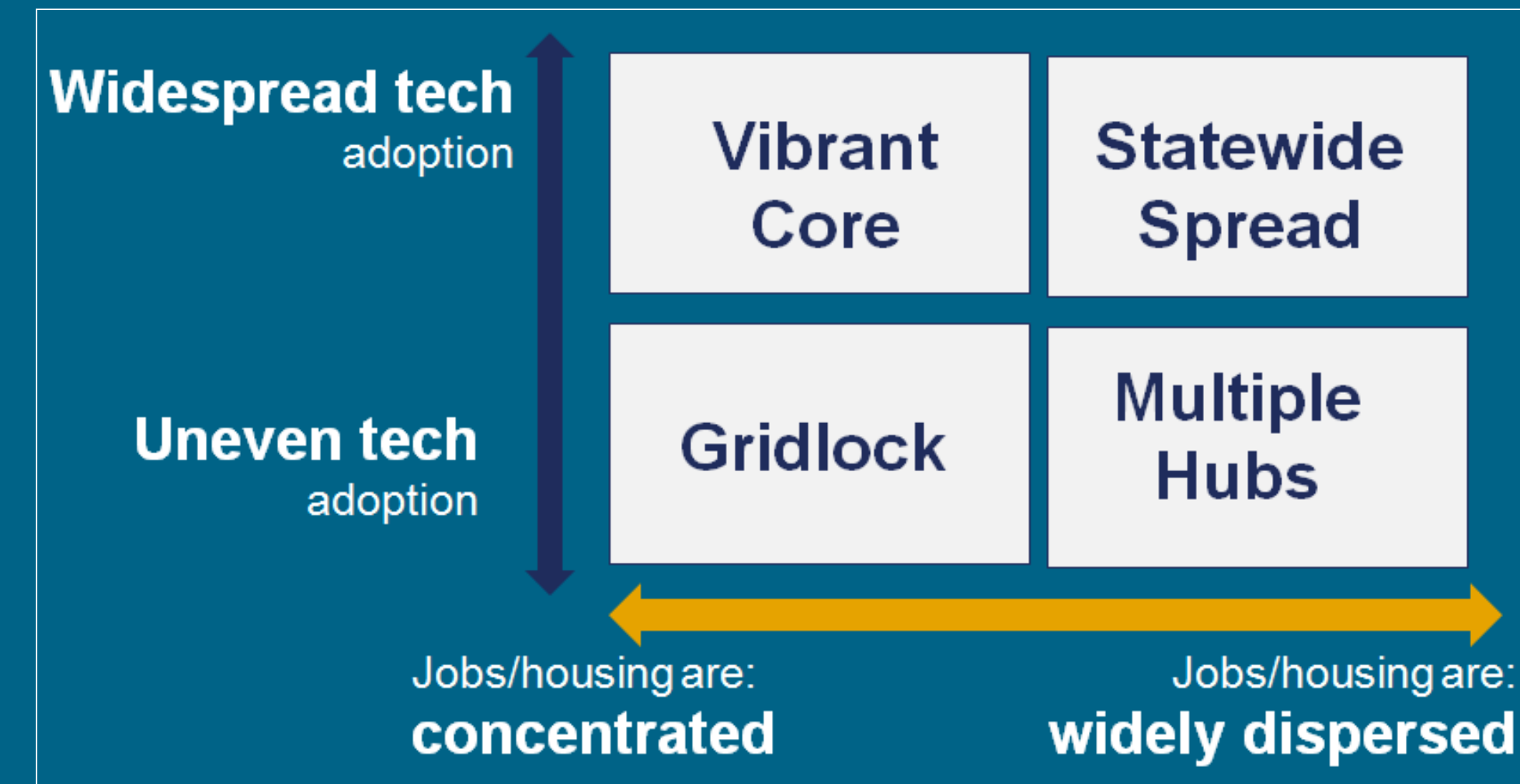
Scenario 2: Vibrant Core
Greater Boston continues to grow, supported by new transportation technologies and systems that facilitate the success of a vibrant and livable metro region.

Scenario 3: Multiple Hubs
High-density growth takes place in several cities and their regions of the Commonwealth. Increased density and expanded mobility options create the opportunity to take advantage of lower cost housing and promotes job creation outside of the Boston core.

Scenario 4: Statewide Spread
Technology has transformed not just transportation but every aspect of people's lives, including work, communication, commerce, and service delivery. This widespread use of technology allows for more choice for those with access to technology, while potentially disadvantaging others.

TEN KEY CHALLENGES

1) We can't know the future
2) Disruptive technological change is inevitable
3) Massachusetts is growing and aging
4) The existing transportation system is made up of transportation haves and have-nots
5) Transportation needs vary across the Commonwealth and its communities

TEN KEY CHALLENGES (CONT'D)

6) The transportation system needs to move more people in fewer vehicles

7) Land use and development decisions drive transportation patterns

8) The transportation system needs to be de-carbonized

9) Transportation infrastructure needs to be made resilient to a changing climate

10) Needed investments need to be prioritized and paid for

FIVE CATEGORIES OF RECOMMENDATIONS

➢ Modernize existing state and municipal transit and transportation assets to more effectively and sustainably move more people throughout a growing Commonwealth

➢ Create a 21st century "mobility infrastructure" that will prepare the Commonwealth and its municipalities to capitalize on emerging changes in transportation technology and behavior

➢ Substantially reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector in order to meet the Commonwealth's Global Warming Solutions Act (GWSA) commitments, while also accelerating efforts to make transportation infrastructure resilient to a changing climate

➢ Coordinate and modernize land use, economic development, housing, and transportation policies and investment in order to support resilient and dynamic regions and communities throughout the Commonwealth

➢ Make changes to current transportation governance and financial structures in order to better position Massachusetts for the transportation system that it needs in the next years and decades

1) MODERNIZING EXISTING ASSETS

Recommendation #1: Prioritize investment in public transit as the foundation for a robust, reliable, clean, and efficient transportation system.

Recommendation #2. State and municipal roadway design and operation should prioritize person throughput, rather than vehicle throughput, so that corridor capacity is allocated to moving as many people as possible.

Recommendation #3: Work with multiple stakeholders to better manage today's traffic congestion – and the congestion challenges of the future.

2) 21st CENTURY "MOBILITY INFRASTRUCTURE"

Recommendation #4: Establish a Commonwealth Transportation Technology Initiative.

Recommendation #5: Support and Accelerate efforts to consume transportation differently.

Recommendation #6: Promote a statewide telecommunications infrastructure.

Recommendation #7: Develop a strategy to support connected and autonomous vehicles.

Recommendation #8: Enable and promote a ubiquitous electric charging (and/or alternative fuel) infrastructure.

3) GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS & RESILIENCY

Recommendation #9: Establish a goal that beginning in 2040, all new cars, light duty trucks, and buses sold in Massachusetts will be electric or use another technology that meets the same emissions standards.

Recommendation #10: Collaborate with other Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states to establish a regional, market-based program to reduce transportation sector greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

Recommendation #11: Make all current and future critical state and municipal transportation infrastructure resilient to a changing climate.

Recommendation #12: Ensure that sufficient electric capacity is available to provide reliable, clean, and competitively priced power supplies for all electricity users as electrification of the transportation sector accelerates.

4) LAND USE/DEVELOPMENT/HOUSING COORDINATION

Recommendation #13: Adopt dense, mixed-use and transit-oriented policies.

Recommendation #14: Enable Gateway Cities and the regions they anchor to compete for residents and jobs.

Recommendation #15: Coordinate the planned reinvention of the MBTA commuter rails system with local, regional and state land use and economic development strategies.

Recommendation #16: Provide better mobility options in rural communities.

5) FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE STRUCTURES

Recommendation #17: Prepare MassDOT and other transportation-related entities to effectively oversee a changing transportation system.

Recommendation #18: Develop a fiscally sound and responsible transportation resource plan.

GOVERNANCE: MassDOT NEEDS TO EVOLVE

HIGHWAY
Build and maintain the roadway network

TRANSPORTATION
Build, operate and maintain the multimodal transportation network

MOBILITY
Collaborate to help people get where they need to go

ACCESSIBILITY
Collaborate to help people get what they need to thrive

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE COMMISSION

https://www.mass.gov/orgs/commission-on-the-future-of-transportation

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COMMISSION ON THE FUTURE OF TRANSPORTATION IN THE COMMONWEALTH

Choices for Stewardship: Background Books – Facts, Trends, & Issues

VOLUME II

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★ COMMISSION ON THE FUTURE OF TRANSPORTATION IN THE COMMONWEALTH

Join MTF's Transportation Advisory Group
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Thank you!