

April 21, 2016

Mr. Francis Gay, Administrator GATRA 10 Oak St. 2nd Floor Taunton, MA 02780

<u>The Plymouth County Development Council / Convention & Visitors Bureau</u> supports the Greater Attleboro-Taunton Regional Transit Authority (GATRA)'s application to the U.S. Department of Transportation's FY 2016 TIGER Discretionary Grants for the Plymouth Multimodal Center in Plymouth, MA.

- The project is a true intermodal center located within a 10-minute walk of the Plymouth main street business district and historic and working waterfront sites. Residents, visitors, tourists, and boaters may utilize a range of transportation modes housed at the proposed Multimodal Center including GATRA bus service, a seasonal circulator shuttle, parking, pedestrian connections, bicycle accommodations, taxi and pedi-cab services.
- A key priority for the project is the provision of enhanced pedestrian connections between the waterfront and the business and cultural venues along Court/Main Streets. Two new public spaces are created as part of this project as well as an enclosed area for a local bicycle sharing program or bicycle rental facility.
- Centralizing parking in the downtown with strong transit connections reduces vehicle
 miles travelled, and therefore, reduced emissions as well as supporting tourism and
 economic opportunity in Plymouth.
- Additional parking spaces are provided to meet well-documented seasonal shortages, transit use and ferry services.
- The project provides for mixed-use development including an expanded visitor center
 and unique leasable spaces along Water Street. Not only does this buffer the scale and
 industrial quality of structured parking from the historic Plymouth waterfront, but helps
 to stitch together the urban and economic ambitions of the project into a single identity
 that will enhance the growth, development and character of the Plymouth waterfront.
- It provides increased year round viability for Memorial Hall due to additional adjacent parking and transportation connections provided by the Plymouth Multimodal Center.

Paul Cripps

Executive Director