



TOWN OF PLYMOUTH  
OFFICE OF  
**COUNCIL ON AGING**

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April 15, 2016

Mr. Francis Gay, Administrator  
Greater Attleboro- Taunton Regional Transit Authority  
10 Oak St. 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Taunton MA 02780

Re: Greater Attleboro- Taunton Regional Transit Authority (GATRA)'s Application to the U.S. Departments of Transportation's FY 2015 TIGER Discretionary Grants

Dear Mr. Gay,

The Plymouth Center for Active Living/Council on Aging (CAL/PCOA) supports the Greater Attleboro-Taunton Regional Transit Authority (GATRA)'s Application to the U.S. Departments of Transportation's FY 2015 TIGER Discretionary Grants for the Plymouth Multimodal Center in Plymouth, Massachusetts.

The proposed Multimodal Transportation Center offers multiple transportation and economic benefits to the Town of Plymouth and surrounding region.

**Improved Local and Regional Mobility**

- The project is a true intermodal center located within a 10 minute walk of the Plymouth Main Street business district along with historic sites and the Plymouth harbor and waterfront. Residents, visitors and tourists may utilize a range of transportation modes housed at the proposed Multimodal Transportation Center including GATRA bus service, a seasonal shuttle, parking, pedestrian connections, bicycle accommodations, taxi and pedi-cab services.
- The project is expected to enhance pedestrian connections between the historic waterfront and the business and cultural venues along Court/Main Street. Two new public spaces are created as part of this project as well as an enclosed area for a local bicycle sharing program r bicycle rental facility.

**Improved Parking**

- Additional parking spaces are provided to meet well-documented seasonal shortages, transit use and ferry services.

## Economic

- The project will support Ladders of Opportunity by investing in infrastructure that improves access to jobs, services, medical care and education while saving time, money and environmental impacts through transportation choice. Residents of the project area have median incomes substantially lower than both the Town of Plymouth as a whole and Massachusetts. Residents of the project area are also more dependent on transit to commute to work than the Town of Plymouth as a whole.
- The project provides for mixed- use development including an expanded visitors 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 and downtown area, 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.
- The project provides access to jobs along the Plymouth waterfront and downtown area, as well as to employment and service centers served by GATRA routes.

## Tourism

- The project provides increased year round viability for Memorial Hall due to additional adjacent parking and transportation connections provided by the Plymouth Multimodal Center.
- The proposed Multimodal Center will provide enhanced regional access to historic sites located within a short walking distance, along with major annual events the downtown and waterfront areas hosts including the Independence Day (July), The Waterfront Festival (August), and Thanksgiving Celebration (November). The proposed Multimodal Center will include innovative technology for parking and transit, and can pursue LEED certification due to community connectivity, provisions for alternative transportation, storm water design, low emitting materials and construction waste management and recycling.

The realization of this project would support the Plymouth Council on Aging's Mission, "To provide our community a safe, trusted, physical and virtual environment, where information and **access to services** foster a healthy and vital lifestyle throughout the aging process". The Plymouth Council on Aging fully extends support for this project. I may be reached for any additional questions at (508) 830- 4230, extension 102.

Sincerely,



*Constance Dilega*

*Director of Elder Affairs*

*Plymouth Council on Aging*

*508-830-4230 x 102*

*Celebrating 43 years of service to Plymouth Seniors*



