



SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT  
88 BROADWAY ♦ TAUNTON, MA 02780-2557

Acushnet  
Attleboro  
Berkley  
Carver  
Dartmouth  
Dighton  
Fairhaven  
Fall River  
Freetown  
Lakeville  
Mansfield  
Marion  
Mattapoisett  
Middleborough  
New Bedford  
N. Attleborough  
Norton  
Plainville  
Raynham  
Rehoboth  
Rochester  
Seekonk  
Somerset  
Swansea  
Taunton  
Wareham  
Westport

April 26, 2016

Francis Gay, Administrator  
GATRA  
10 Oak Street, 2nd Floor  
Taunton, MA 02780

Dear Mr. Gay:

The Southeastern Regional Planning & Economic Development District (SRPEDD) is pleased to support the Greater Attleboro-Taunton Regional Transit Authority (GATRA)'s application for a U.S. Department of Transportation's FY 2015 TIGER Discretionary Grant for the Plymouth Multimodal Center in Plymouth, MA. The project supports many regional planning and transportation goals.

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 a transportation mode choice. In addition, this project provides access to jobs along the Plymouth waterfront and downtown area, as well as to employment and service centers served by GATRA routes.

The proposed intermodal center located within a 10-minute walk of the Plymouth main street business district and historic and working waterfront sites would provide residents and visitors a broad range of transportation modes including GATRA bus service, a seasonal circulator shuttle, parking, pedestrian connections, bicycle accommodations, taxi and pedi-cab services.

The project will assist in alleviating well-documented seasonal parking shortages by providing transit service as a viable mode choice. Centralizing parking in the downtown complimented with strong transit connections will potentially reduce traffic congestion and therefore, reduce vehicle emissions impacting the downtown all while supporting tourism and economic opportunities in Plymouth.

The enhanced pedestrian connections between the waterfront and the business and cultural venues along Court Street and Main Street are a key feature of the project. 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.

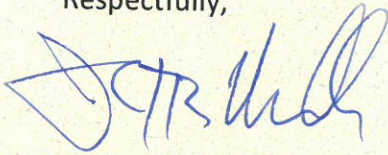
The project also provides for mixed-use development including an expanded visitor center and unique leasable spaces along Water Street. Not only does this buffer the scale and industrial quality of structured parking from the historic Plymouth waterfront, but helps to bring together the urban and economic ambitions of the project into a

single identity that will enhance the growth, development and character of the Plymouth waterfront.

Ultimately, the multimodal center project will play a vital role by accommodating residents and tourists who travel frequently within and to Plymouth; America's Hometown.

For these and many other reasons we are pleased to support this application for a TIGER grant. Please let me know if there is anything SRPEDD can do to assist this project and move it forward.

Respectfully,



Jeffrey Walker, AICP  
Executive Director

(JW:plm)