

# How to Run a Successful Low-Tech Bus Familiarization Program



# Housekeeping

- This webinar is being recorded and will be archived in the members only section of the ATI website
- Participant lines will be muted for the entire session
- You may post questions and/or comments in either the chat section or the Q&A section of the webinar room
- Please remember the chat section is public and other participants can see your comments/questions

# How to Become a Member of ATI

- Go to <https://www.travelinstruction.org/become-a-member>
  - 3 levels of membership
    - Individual (\$50)
    - Organizational (\$110)
    - Associate (\$30)
- Member Benefits
  - Free professional development opportunities
  - Discounted conference rates
  - Members only section of the ATI website
  - More

# Julie Dupree, Consultant & Past ATI Board Member



# What is Travel Training?

- The professional activity of teaching individuals with disabilities and seniors how to access their environment and community and use public transportation independently
  - Requires the knowledge of human development and behavior
  - Travel related concepts and skills
  - Public transportation services
  - The natural and build environment
  - Paths of travel
  - The interaction of these dynamics
- The professional application of a code of ethics, guiding principles, methods, strategies, and emerging best practices

# Competencies for the Practice of Travel Instruction and Travel Training

- Provides guidance to the competencies that are essential for travel training practitioners
- Compiles key guidelines and outlines the fundamental abilities needed for effective travel training instruction
- Includes sample job descriptions for easy reference
- Can be downloaded for free from the National Aging and Disability Transportation Center ([www.NADTC.org](http://www.NADTC.org))



# Travel Instruction is...

- The array, continuum, or family of services offered to individuals with disabilities, seniors, and others who need assistance to increase their mobility and travel on public transportation independently
  - Includes a variety of plans, methods and strategies used by professional travel trainers to increase the independent travel skills of the people they serve
- Specific services included are:
  - Transit Orientation
  - Familiarization
  - Travel Training

# Transit Orientation

Group or individual activity conducted for the purpose of explaining the transportation systems; options and services available to address individual transportation needs; use of maps and schedules as resources for trip planning; fare system, use of mobility devices while boarding, riding, and exiting; vehicular features; and benefits available.



# Familiarization

- Individual or small group trip activity to facilitate use of transportation systems with a travel trainer accompanying experienced traveler(s) on a new mode of transportation or route to point out/explain features of access and usability.

# Travel Training

- One-to-one short-term instruction provided to an individual who has previously traveled independently and needs additional training or support to use a different mode of travel, a different route, mode of transit, or travel to a new destination ; or
- One-to-one comprehensive, specially designed instruction in the skills and behaviors necessary for independent travel on public transportation provided to an individual who does not have independent travel concepts or skills to go from point of origin of trip to destination and back.

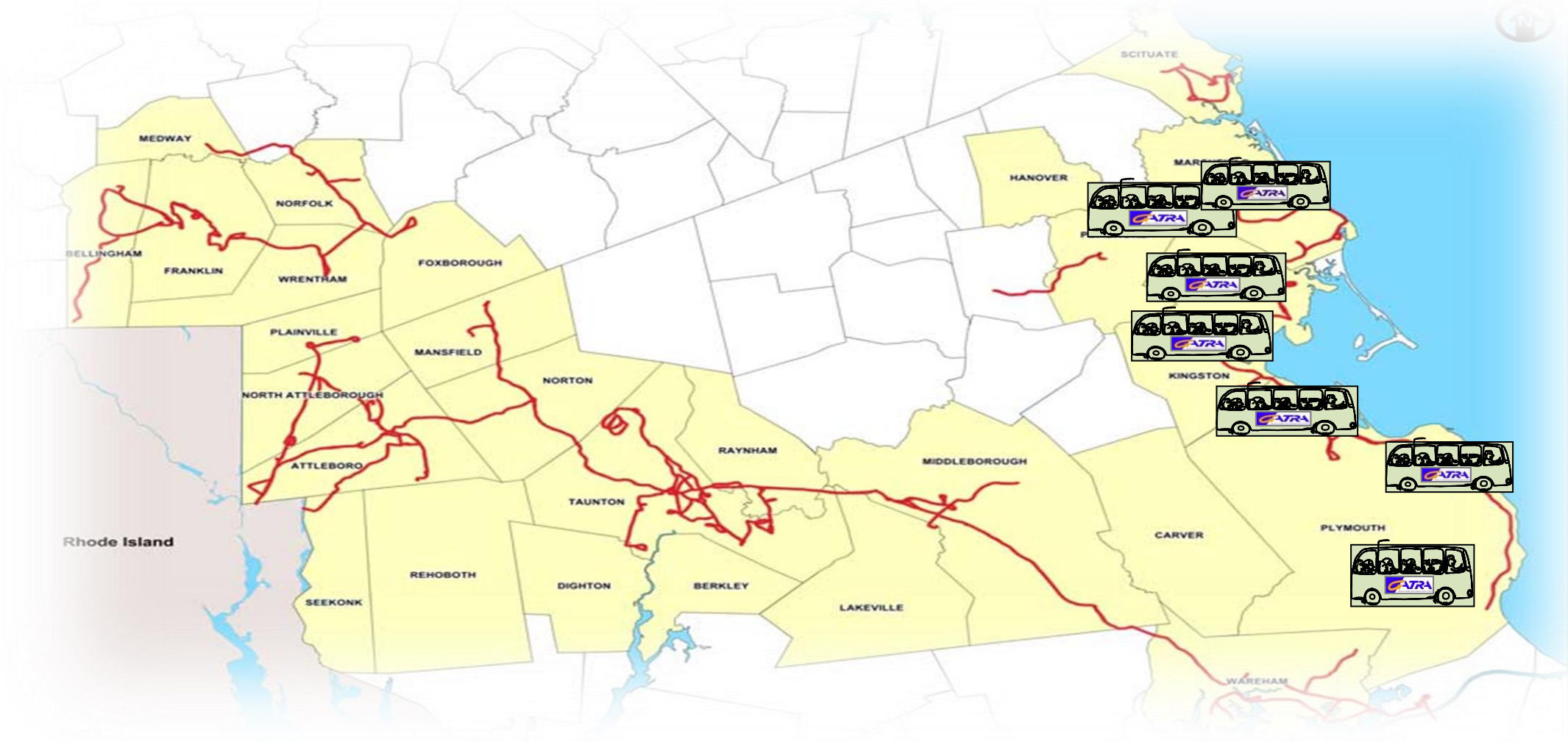


# Training Tools

## Group Familiarization Course

*Presentation by  
Patti Waitkevich  
Travel Trainer*

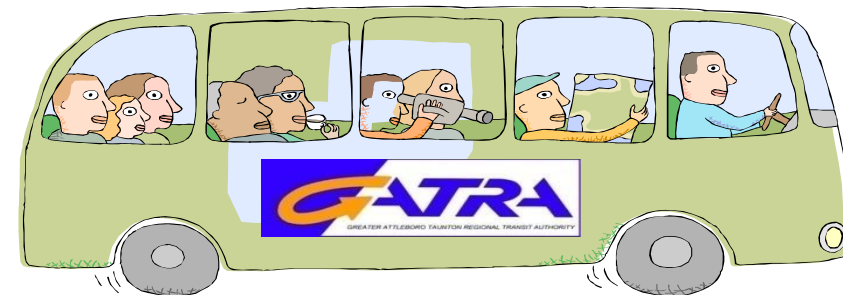
# Coastal Communities Serviced



**Many of the areas serviced are rural or less than urbanized population of 50,000**

# Focus of Group Familiarization

- **Private Schools & Day Programs (18+ years)**
- **Special Education programs (ages 14 -17 years)**
- **Transition programs - (ages 17-22 years)**
- **Council on Aging - (majority 60+ years)**



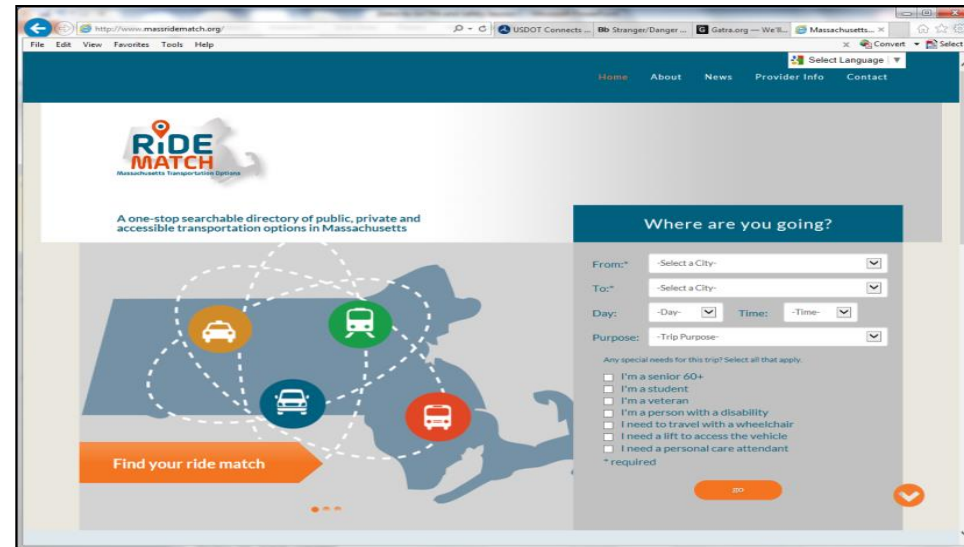
# Helpful Resources

## GATRA WEBSITE [www.gatra.org](http://www.gatra.org)



For GATRA bus schedules and additional information about our services including Google trip planning tools.

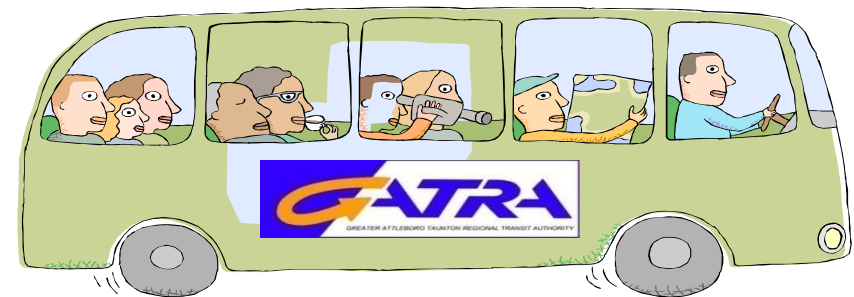
## RIDE MATCH WEBSITE [www.massridematch.org](http://www.massridematch.org)



To find a ride and transportation options within your community and beyond.

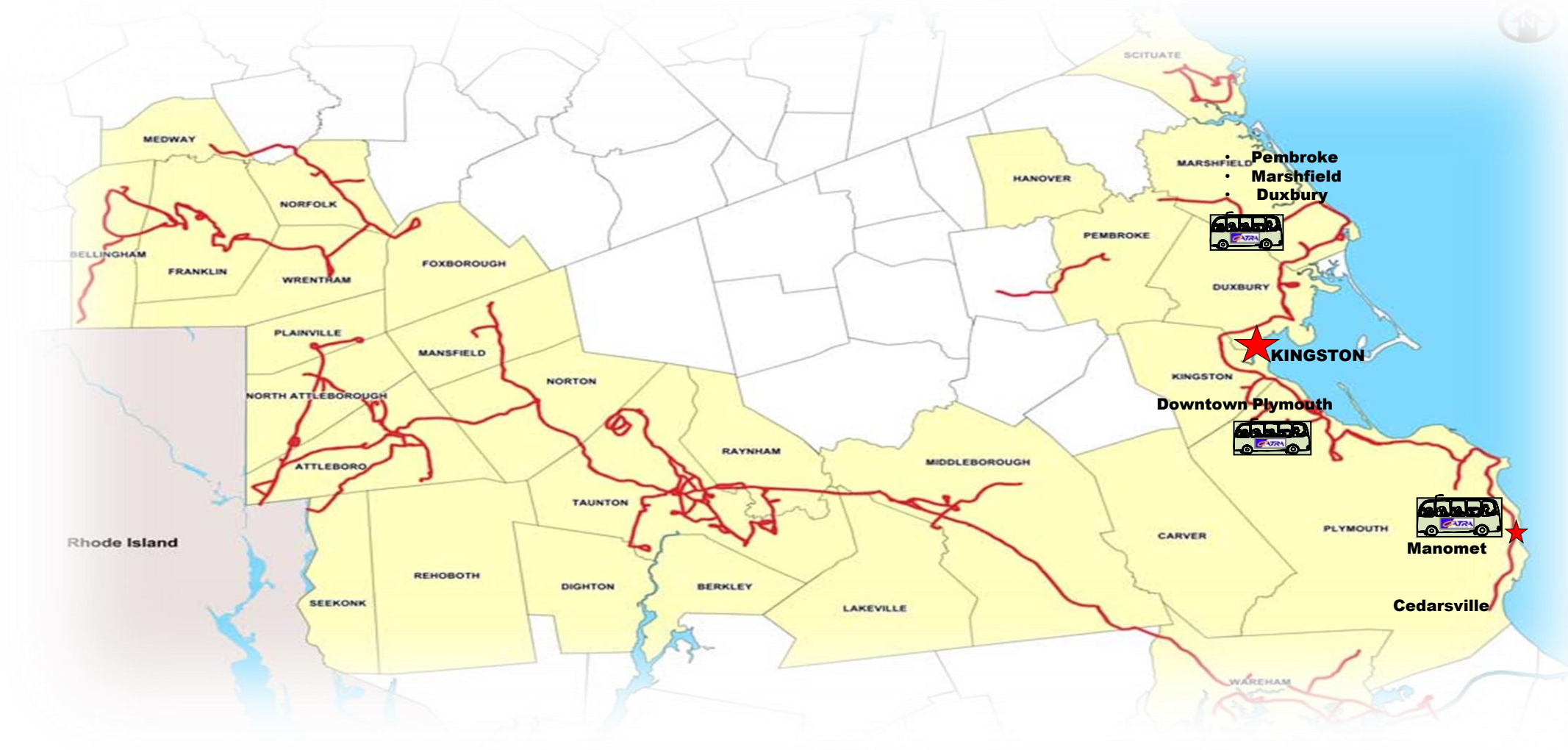
# How In-depth is the training?

- **Number of students partaking in class**
- **Cognitive and physical deficits of students**
- **Time constraints for training sessions**
- **Teacher to student ratio to assist in class**
- **Geographical location to closest bus route**





# A closer look at the coastline



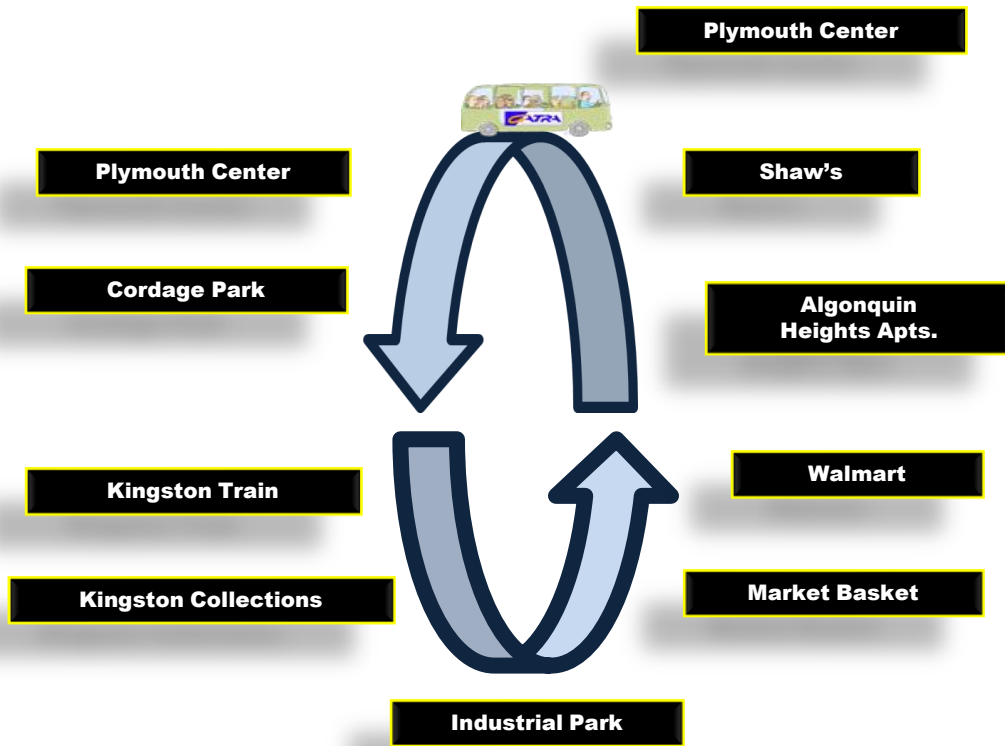
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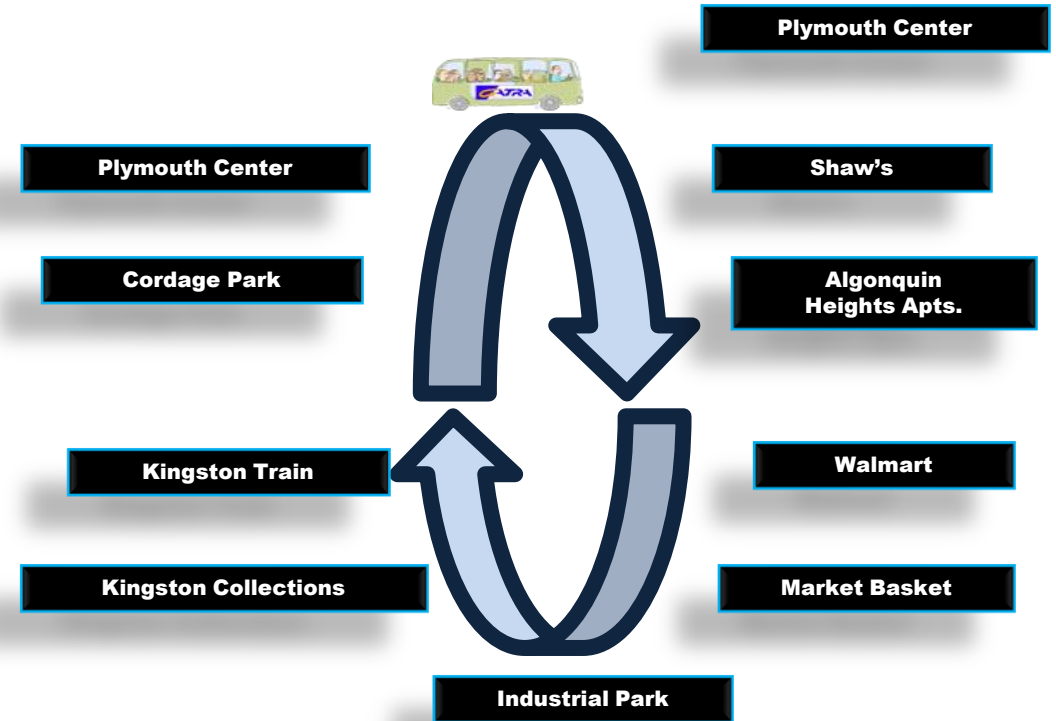
# The Fixed buses used often vary



# Freedom Link



# Liberty Link



## Plymouth Center

**8 designated stops going in the opposite directions**

# SAIL

## 14 DESIGNATED BUS STOPS



### KINGSTON

Kingston Center • Kingston Collection  
Kingsbury Plaza • MBTA Rail Station

### DUXBURY

Hall's Corner • Foodie's • Town Hall  
Duxbury High School • Island Creek

### MARSHFIELD

Marshfield Center • Brant Rock  
Walgreen's • Green Harbor General Store  
Marshfield High School  
Stop & Shop/Kohl's Plaza

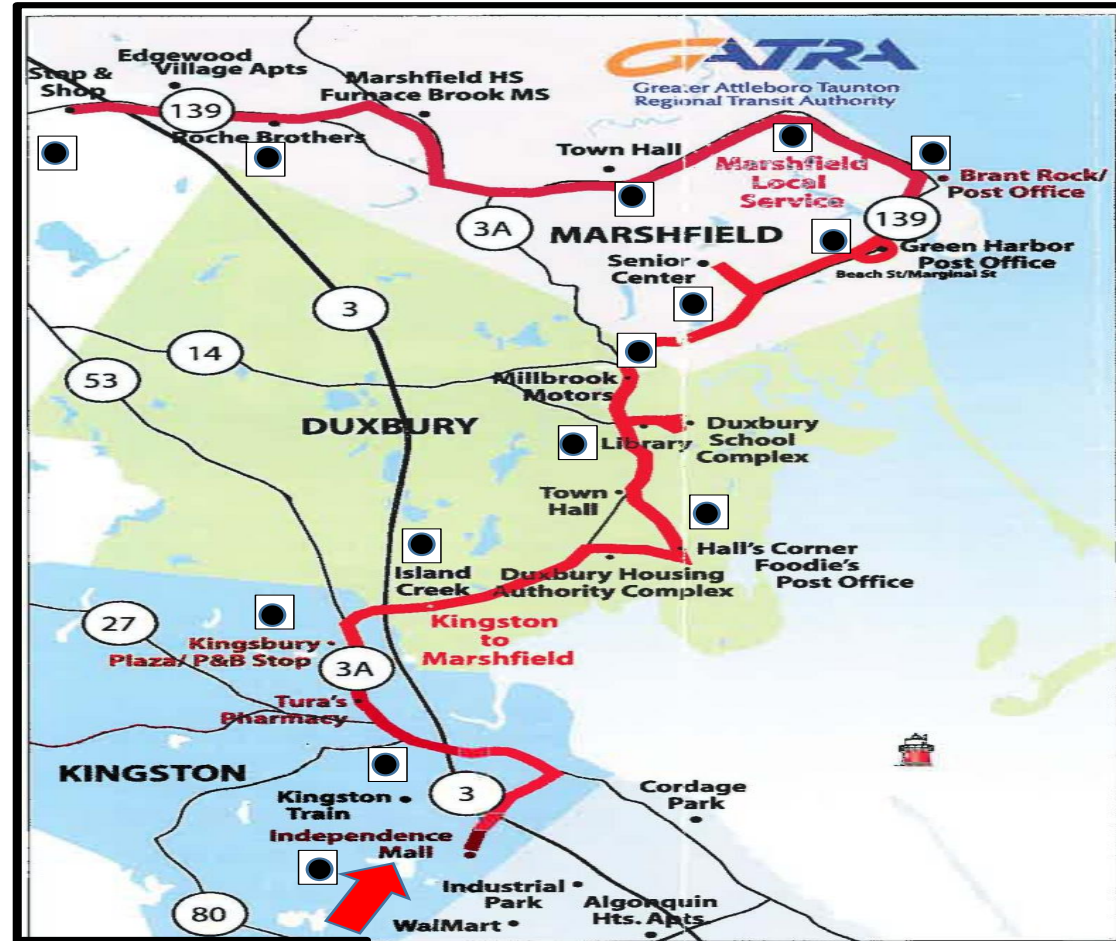
Effective June 9, 2018

Plymouth 978-393-4404

Toll Free 844-358-4422

[www.gatra.org](http://www.gatra.org)

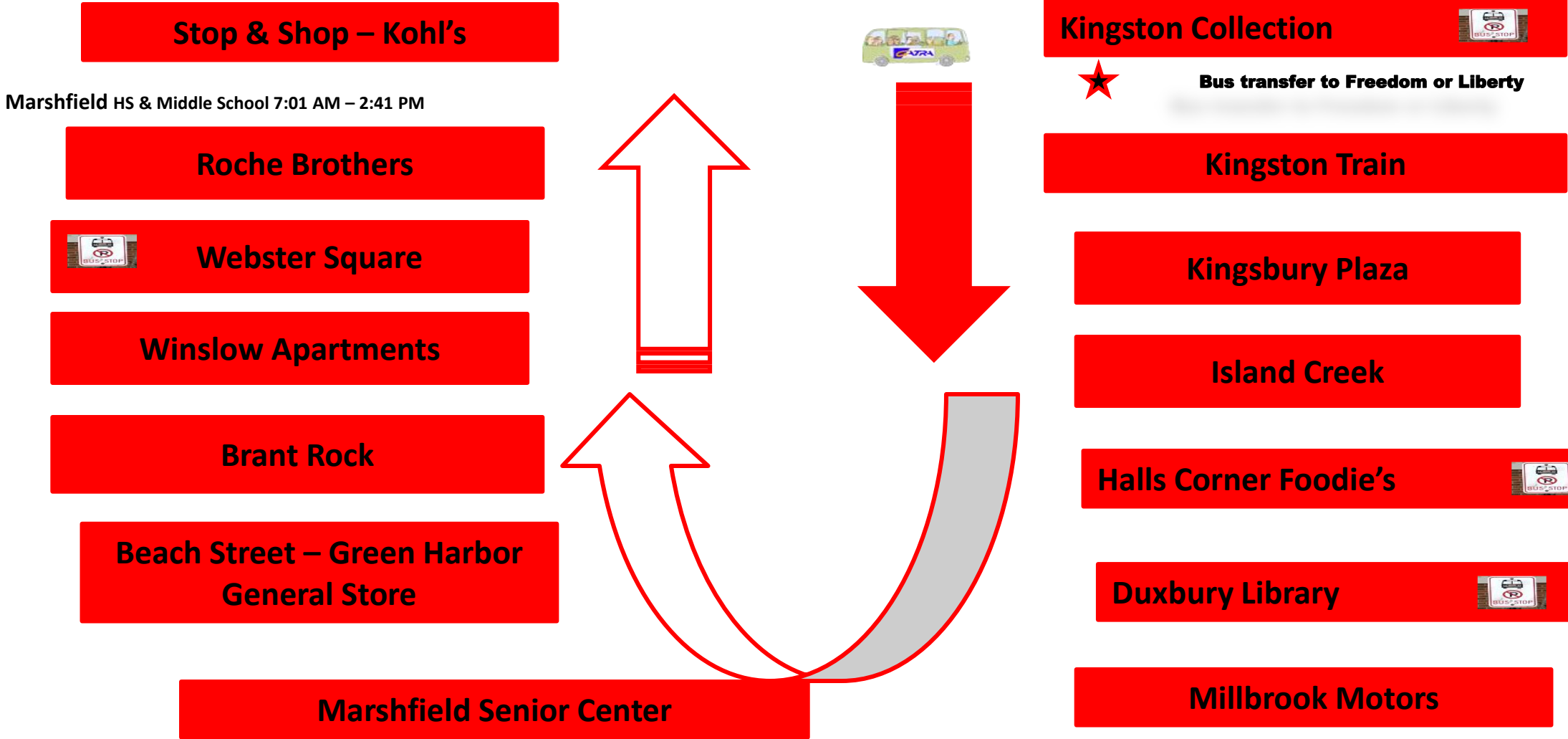
### SOUTHBOUND



### NORTHBOUND

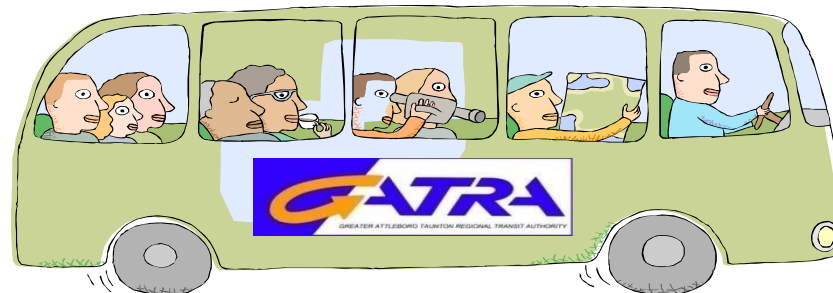


# SAIL - NORTHBOUND

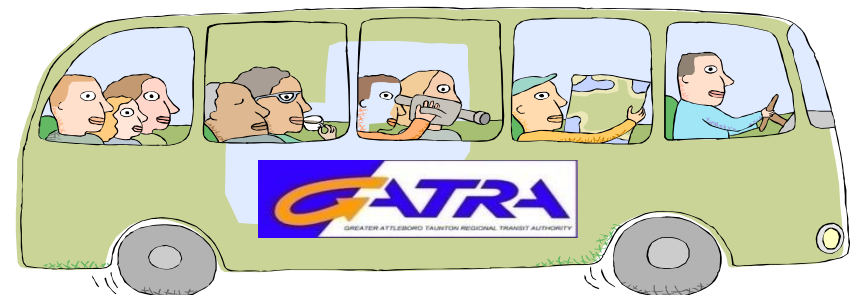


# How these training tools evolved:

- **Bus signage or shelters at designated stops are not always at each stop, or vary from stop to stop.**
- **Landmark identification in gaging the bus arrival time between stops – flag stop policy.**
- **Lack of developed infrastructure at intersections, crosswalks, and curb cuts to practice safety skills.**
- **The bus that operates a fixed route may not always be the same or have the most advanced technology.**



- **Picture Books of fixed bus routes**
- **Powerpoint presentations & GAMES**
- **Safety exercises to practice in the community**
- **Shared link to training tools for LEA's & VRA's**





# Dropbox – ATI Webinar Sample Tools



Introduction ...re  
Book.pptx ★



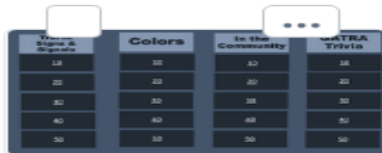
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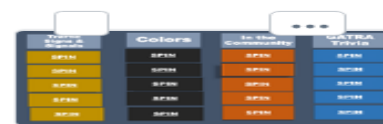
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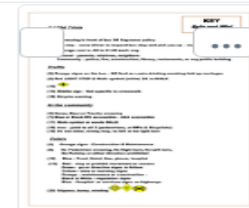
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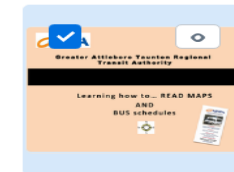
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**FOR A LINK TO THESE SAMPLE TOOLS SEND REQUESTS TO:**




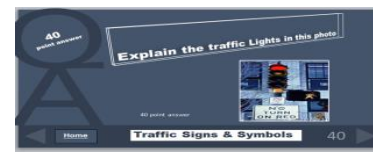

**[pwaitkevich@gatra.org](mailto:pwaitkevich@gatra.org)**

# Spin & Win – You can't win unless you play!



Traffic Signs & Signals	Colors	In the Community	GATRA Trivia
<u>SPIN</u>	<u>SPIN</u>	<u>SPIN</u>	<u>SPIN</u>
<u>SPIN</u>	<u>SPIN</u>	<u>SPIN</u>	<u>SPIN</u>
<u>SPIN</u>	<u>SPIN</u>	<u>SPIN</u>	<u>SPIN</u>
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<u>SPIN</u>	<u>SPIN</u>	<u>SPIN</u>	<u>SPIN</u>



	Traffic Signs & Signals	Colors	In the Community	GATRA Trivia
	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>
	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>
	<u>30</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>30</u>
	<u>40</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>40</u>
	<u>50</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>50</u>

**Laminate ... if powerpoint not available!**

# Webinar Evaluation



<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/27SH75H>

# Thank you!

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