

## The Bring It Home Plan

The Bring It Home Plan is a whole-community strategy to pull more outside money into our district, protect taxpayers, modernize water and sewer infrastructure, and create a real work-study pipeline for Voc Tech students—putting money back in our pockets today and tomorrow. It turns the South Shore’s existing strengths—students, seniors, employers, and technology—into a permanent engine for economic security, tax relief, smart growth, and community collaboration.

### CORE VISION AND VALUES

- ✓ Economic security and tax relief
  - Replace a “wait and hope” approach to state aid with an aggressive strategy to win federal, state, and private funding for local priorities.
  - Use outside dollars to ease pressure on property taxpayers, reduce the frequency and size of overrides, and stabilize school and town budgets.
- ✓ Smart, modern government
  - Treat grant access as basic infrastructure—just like roads, water, and sewer—by building local capacity to find, win, and manage grants year after year.
  - Use technology, work-study, and regional partnerships so smaller towns in our district can compete with big cities for complex funding.
- ✓ Community collaboration and pride
  - Make grant work a shared civic project involving town leaders, students, retirees, local businesses and regional employers.
  - Lean into the South Shore tradition: we do not wait for perfect systems; we build our own solutions and bring opportunity home.

## The Bring It Home Structure

In the Bring it Home Plan, each base is a key partner, and crossing home plate means new funding and opportunity brought back to the community.



### FIRST BASE: TOWN LEADERS

Town planners, administrators, managers, and existing grant writers set the strategy and keep the plan accountable.

- What they do
  - Define top needs: water and sewer upgrades, roads, broadband, school facilities, public safety, housing, climate resilience, and vet and senior services.
  - Align grant work with adopted town and school plans so every application serves a bigger strategy.
  - Ensure eligibility, compliance, and submission; manage awarded funds responsibly and transparently.

**Residents and Town Hall collaboratively set the game plan—what we need and what we can support. The Bring It Home team goes out and gets the money.**

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### SECOND BASE: VOC TECH STUDENTS (WORK-STUDY ENGINE)

Voc Tech students are the research and drafting engine of the plan, participating through an expanded work-study program.



- Structure and benefits
  - A dedicated Bring It Home work-study or co-op track where students earn credit and are paid for researching grants, gathering data, and drafting proposal sections.
  - Students rotate among school, town projects, and a shared workspace, building a portfolio of real applications submitted on behalf of their own communities, while beefing up their resumes.
- Student roles
  - Scan federal, state, and foundation portals using smart tools and clear priorities from towns, flagging realistic opportunities.
  - Compile demographic, economic, and infrastructure data; help develop needs statements, project summaries, and basic budgets under supervision.

**Working with real life teams to solve real world problems.**

**Our kids won't just learn about government in a textbook—they'll help bring dollars home for their own towns and for the projects they care about.**

## The Bring It Home Structure

### THIRD BASE: SENIORS

Retirees are the seasoned pros—bringing decades of experience, while earning direct relief on their tax bills.



- Who they are
  - Former grant writers, municipal staff, educators, accountants, engineers, nonprofit leaders, and business professionals who know how to navigate fine print and deadlines.
- Roles
  - Mentor students, co-teach short modules on grant writing and budgeting, and hold “office hours” to review and strengthen proposals.
  - Advise students on which opportunities are realistic and how to sequence projects for long-term impact.
- Tax credits and senior work-off
  - Seniors can participate through structured senior work-off programs that allow them to earn property tax credits in exchange for documented hours spent on this public work.
  - This lowers seniors’ tax burden while directly tying their contributions to visible community improvements. We can also explore direct payments through local tech companies and business partnerships.

**If you spent your career wrestling with bureaucracy, your town needs you—and we’ll recognize that work with tax credits and respect.**

## The Bring It Home Structure

### THE FIELD: TECHNOLOGY

Technology, local district businesses, and the Route 128 corridor cover the field so no opportunity drops.



- The “Roomba” grant tool
  - An AI-style tool, designed by a local business owner, that crawls through confusing federal and foundation websites and “vacuums up” grants that match each town’s needs and eligibility.
  - Organizes opportunities by deadlines and themes—water and sewer, roads, schools, housing, workforce, climate—creating simple, actionable lists for the team.
  - This provides a testing ground for this business owner’s app.
- Repurposed Office Space
  - We can use local unused office space in the district to become “Bring It Home Labs”—shared workspace where students, seniors, town staff, and employer partners collaborate.
  - Beyond that, we can also look at underused or vacant offices from the tech corridor’s heyday, symbolizing a new chapter for the corridor: from empty buildings to hubs of civic innovation and workforce development.

## The Bring It Home Structure

### EMPLOYERS: 5TH PLYMOUTH BUSINESSES & LOCAL TECH PARTNERS

Employers are the infield anchors—backing up every play and building a talent pipeline.



- Partner roles
  - Help finance and equip the Bring It Home Labs by contributing to rent, technology, and stipends in exchange for access to promising student talent.
  - Co-sponsor paid internships where Voc Tech students work on grant research, data analysis, and project support tied to employer-relevant issues (clean energy, health care, advanced manufacturing, logistics, IT).
  - Provide match dollars, letters of support, and in-kind contributions—making grant applications more competitive.
- Workforce payoff
  - By the time students graduate, employers may gain entry-level workers who already understand deadlines, collaboration, and basic data tools, drastically reducing training time.

**Local companies help pay for workspace and internships now and get a pipeline of fully prepared workers when those students enter the workforce.**

## Home Plate: Bringing It Home

Crossing home plate means real projects funded, visible improvements, and financial relief.



- What “runs” look like
  - Funded water and sewer upgrades, stormwater systems, and wastewater treatment improvements that towns have delayed because they were too expensive to fund from the tax base alone.
  - Grants for school facilities, equipment, and student supports; resources for public safety, housing planning, and climate resilience.
  - New workforce and youth programs that keep opportunity close to home.
- Financial impact
  - Every outside dollar used for big-ticket infrastructure—especially water and sewer—reduces the need to load those costs onto property taxpayers.
  - Over time, this approach helps put money back in your pockets by avoiding or shrinking future overrides and debt exclusions.

## What Voters Get from the Bring It Home Plan



### For Taxpayers and Town Budgets

- A systematic way to go after federal and private dollars instead of waiting at the back of the line for state funding.
- Reduced pressure on property taxes as more infrastructure and program costs are covered by outside sources.

### For Schools and Students

- A fully built-out work-study program at the Voc Tech that gives students paid, meaningful experience and a professional portfolio.
- Expanded resources for schools to fund programs, equipment, and supports without constant budget warfare.

### For Seniors and Community Life

- Seniors gain meaningful roles, lower their tax bills through senior work-off, and see their expertise directly translated into real projects.
- Communities see a new kind of civic teamwork: students, seniors, technology, employers, and town leaders all pulling in the same direction.

### For the Region's Future

- The district's underused buildings are repurposed into hubs of civic innovation and workforce training, honoring the corridor's history while preparing for the next economy.
- The 5th Plymouth stops seeing itself as left behind and starts acting like a region that can design and fund its own solutions.