

# Shifting Gears

# Driver's License Means...

- “ Independence
- “ Social Connection
- “ Quality of Life
  - . Health and
  - . Happiness
- “ Income



**Drivers License  
is a Privilege...**

**Not a “Right”**

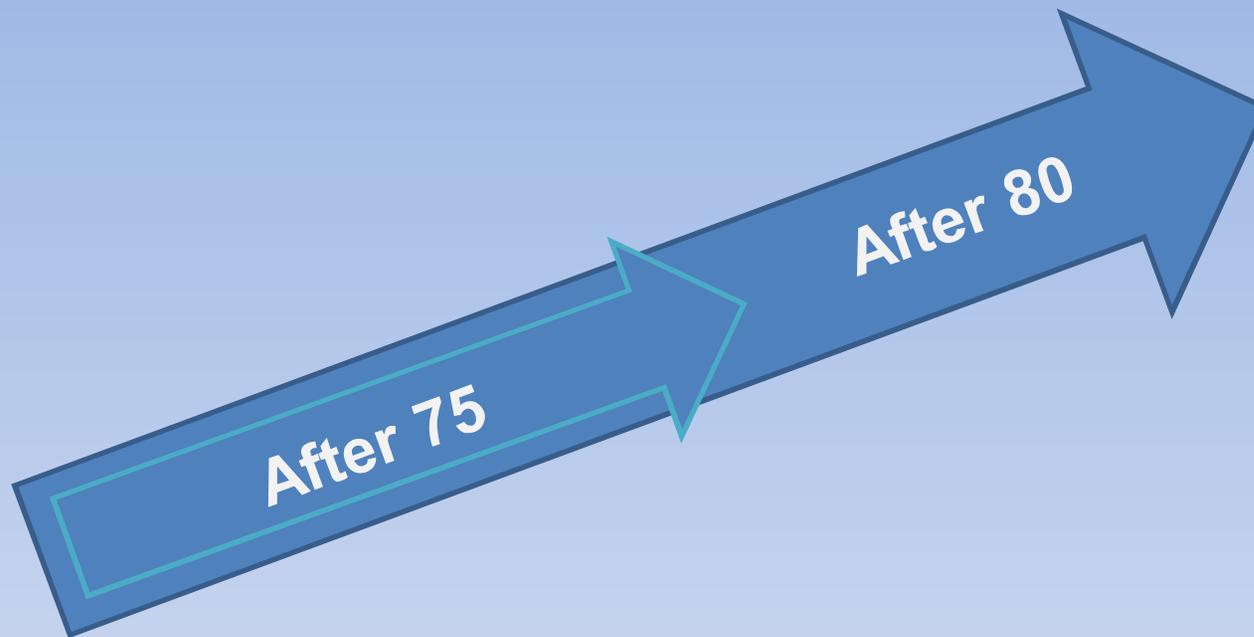
# Today's Older Drivers



- ” Driving More Miles
- ” Driving Later in Life
- ” Utilizing Technology
- ” Limiting or Regulating their Driving

But...

- ” Are Involved in More Crashes-Per-Mile-Driven Than Any Other Age Group.



**Motor Vehicle crashes and fatalities  
increase slightly after 75  
& markedly after age 80**

# Driver Fitness and Assessment

- Physical Ability
- Cognitive Ability
- Functional Impairments
- Medical Conditions
- Medications
  
- ❖ Driving Evaluations @ Hospitals
- ❖ Competency Road Test @ RMV



# Having that “Difficult” Conversation

- Determine Who Will Initiate Discussion
  - Observe
  - Utilize Safe Driver Checklist
  - Respect
  - Decide When to Talk About Driving
  - Ask the Driver About Their Needs
  - Arm Yourself with Transportation Options
- 
- ❖ Plan Ahead to Avoid Difficult Situations
  - ❖ Use Alternative Forms of Transportation Before Driving Becomes an Issue



**Want to Get Involved?**

**Older Driver Emphasis Group  
Strategic Highway Safety Plan**



**June 16, 2015 at UMass Boston**

**<http://scholarworks.umb.edu/olderdriversafetysummit/>**

## More Ways to Get Involved

### Become a Volunteer Driver

➤ **Councils on Aging**

➤ **ITN Greater Boston**

**(Independent Transportation Network)**

**[Itngreaterboston.org](http://Itngreaterboston.org)**



## **More Ways to Get Involved**

### **Regional Coordinating Councils**

### **Identify & Address Transportation Needs in a Community**

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