

Trumbull Community Facilities Building Committee  
Senior/Community Center  
Frequently Asked Questions

*The purpose of this document is to give consolidated answers to questions that have been frequently brought up regarding the Senior/Community Center project.*

*We anticipate adding to this list as the project evolves.*

*For more detailed information please refer to the meeting minutes.*

*All meetings can also be viewed on TCTV and are open to the public.*

**Why is this facility now being called a Senior/Community Center as opposed to just a Senior Center?**

There is a great need in town for recreation and meeting spaces. Using the Senior Center after hours will be a benefit to many residents by providing space for many types of recreation programs as well as meeting spaces for town boards and commissions and various community groups. The term Community Center simply refers to the idea that this building will not be closed to public use when Senior Center programming ends in the afternoon.

**What sites were researched for a Senior/Community Center location?**

The following town-owned properties were vetted and scored on their suitability for this project: Wagner Tree Farm (Trumbull Nature & Arts Center property), Long Hill Administration Building, Upper Church Hill Road, Indian Ledge Park, Priscilla Place/Sr Center, 1445 Huntington Tpke, Hardy Lane, Island Brook Park, Unity Park, Twin Brooks Park, Old Mine Park and Tashua Knolls Recreation Area. Based on the criteria, Hardy Lane received the highest score. A feasibility study of the property was concluded in December 2023.

**Why did the town purchase the Hardy Lane property?**

The town became aware that the site was being considered by a major developer who wanted to put hundreds of apartment units on that property. The town purchased the property in 2020 to control the future use of the property. It was not acquired for open space.

**What are the issues with the current Senior Center at Priscilla Place?  
What will happen to that property if a new facility is built elsewhere?**

The existing facility at Priscilla Place has been recognized as exceeding functional life expectancy, being more than 100 years old. Extensive capital investment and expansion would be required to extend its useful life. The limited parking at the current center restricts programming options. The Town will have the ability to sell the current site for such developments as senior housing. The outcome will be determined in the future.

**If the senior/community center is not built on Hardy Lane what will be done with the property? Will the dumped materials, identified in the environmental study, be cleaned up or left as is?**

If the Senior/Community Center is not built on Hardy Lane, the site will be considered for other uses at that time. Final consideration of site remediation will be determined by a licensed professional after a benefits analysis.

**What is the environmental impact of the proposed facility on the river and the watershed as well as on the Valley and Trail. Are there wetlands concerns? What plans are there for water containment?**

The proposed facility will actually have a positive environmental impact as it will present an opportunity to clean up the property as well as capture and treat any storm and surface water that would run into the watershed and beyond. There are laws in place to protect areas such as the Valley that are being stringently adhered to. Much attention is being given to any environmental concerns by the architects and site engineers. The next phase of the project will identify the best method for water catchment. The project has been reviewed by the Inland Wetland Agent in the Town's Engineering Department and confirmed to not fall within 100 feet of wetlands.

**What improvements did the Traffic Study recommend?  
When in the process is state approval and recommendations sought out?**

The professionally conducted Traffic Study found Hardy Lane to be a viable site for this project. The study recommended the following improvements: Widening of Hardy Lane to provide for left and right turn exit lanes and a single entry lane, creating a pass by lane on southbound Church Hill Road across from Hardy Lane, installation of a RRFB (Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon) crosswalk and installation of a bus shelter. Approvals from the Office of the State Traffic Administration (OSTA) will be sought during the construction document phase, however informal conversations with OSTA will take place during this next phase of the project.

**What efficiencies are being considered to help with conserving energy costs?**

The building is being designed as a very high performance structure. The envelope of the building and the roof will be highly insulated, the windows will be high performing, the skin will be highly durable and the mechanical systems will be highly efficient. Just meeting code meets U.S. Green Building LEED Silver standards with many of the proposed efficiencies edging towards Gold standards. Alternative sources of energy, such as solar, will more than likely be used where possible.

**Who will manage the community center day to day operations, maintenance and activity coordination?**

The Pricilla Place facility will be replaced by the proposed Hardy Lane facility. Once operational, Director of Human Services Michele Jakab and her staff will oversee the complete operational requirements just as she does today. Michele works closely with Dmitri Paris, Superintendent of Parks & Recreation and Director of Building Maintenance, coordinating day to day maintenance service needs. Dmitri and the Parks and Recreation staff will have an office at the center and will oversee recreational programming.

**What is the plan for parking? Will there be sufficient spaces for Senior Center use and Community Center use?**

The current plan shows 135 hard fixed parking spaces with potential overflow options for approximately 65 more cars. These numbers will be fine-tuned as design plans progress. The fixed spaces will more than accommodate daily use, as current usage and projected usage falls below that number. The overflow spaces will only be used for rare high-capacity events.