

An open letter to all residents of the Town of Dover:

There will be Special Town Meeting on Saturday, June 12, 2021 at 10am on the Dover Sherborn High School stadium athletic field. The purpose of this meeting is for you to decide on the future of the Caryl Community Center. You will be given two options to select, both of which will have a not to exceed \$18m budget: a **Renovated** 1910 building + new addition OR a totally **New building**. This Town Meeting is following up on the decisions made at the October 7, 2019 Special Town Meeting.

At the June 12 meeting you will be asked to agree to fund, through borrowing over 20 years, the \$18m. That will require a 2/3rds vote of those attending to move the project forward. The final step will be to secure a 51% vote at a special town wide election on June 21 to borrow the money. At the meeting you will be provided all the information for you to make an educated decision, including the impact on your taxes. In addition, prior to that the Building Committee has had, and will have, informational meetings supported by information already on the Dover Town website: <https://ma-dover.civicplus.com/452/Community-Center-Building-Committee> . There will also be a detailed FAQ for additional background information.

It is important to note that there is NO no cost solution to this issue. We recommend on June 12 a YES vote for your choice of a **Renovation + new addition** or a **totally New building** option. Each of the options are for a total of \$18m.

Without that YES vote the town will be required to fallback to one of the following:

1) Continue the last 20 years of repair and replace. So far, we have paid over \$2m for that plan. The Selectmen have an On-Site Insight consultant report dated August 21, 2019 that was estimating an additional \$6,269,579 of current and future work that needs to be done. Based on the current and inflationary projections this could now have increased to a total of \$8m. That report is also on the Town website: <https://ma-dover.civicplus.com/DocumentCenter/View/999/2019-Caryl-OnSite-Insight-Report-Property-Condition-Assessment-August-21-2019>

2) Another option is to demolish the building for an estimated cost between \$800,000 - \$1m. This would leave no Community Center and no place for Park & Recreation and Council on Aging indoor citizen activities. And the need to find office space for both town offices.

We do not recommend either of those two options.

We do endorse the work that has been done by the Community Center Building Committee and we do endorse your attendance at the June 12 Special Town Meeting. **We do ask that you vote YES for what you feel is the best option for our Community Center.**

Respectfully,

Dover Council on Aging

Dover Foundation

Dover Mother's Association

Dover Parks and Recreation Commission

Dover PTO

DS Youth Field Hockey

DS Youth Lacrosse

DS Youth Basketball

Friends of the Dover Council on Aging

Grace Church

Open Fields/ Brave Arts

St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church