



TOWN OF PRINCETON
Facilities Steering Committee, Phase II
www.town.princeton.ma.us
December 6, 2018

To: Residents of Princeton
From: Facilities Steering Committee, Phase II

The Selectboard established the Facilities Steering Committee, Phase II, to make recommendations, share information with voters and assist in the securing of funding for the development of plans and construction documents for a new public safety building to be built at the Princeton Center School site. We will regularly use a Question and Answer format to answer your questions and share the information we have learned.

Was phasing of the fire and police areas within the public safety facility considered? What are the pros and cons of phasing vs doing together?

No – it was not considered. The project is relatively small in scale and JWA (architects) saw no benefit to phasing this project – particularly since the proposed construction is on an un-utilized site. It is likely that phasing will increase the construction costs considerably.

What drives the costs of construction, particularly for a truck bay?

The building enclosure is typically in the 20-25% range of the total building cost. The site work, mechanical, electrical, plumbing, and finish costs account for the remainder. While the truck bay is not as complicated as other portions of the building, it still contains all of those systems and utilities, including heating, plumbing, electrical, and specialty items such as vehicle exhaust systems.

Can the space be reduced with fewer offices, less locker space, less bunk space, etc.? Can the offices be smaller? Does the new facility need a fitness room? Why do we need a laundry room? Do we need a conference room?

There may be opportunities to reduce space by reduction of offices; however, JWA (architects) did not see many more areas to cut without impacting the long-term usefulness of the facility. The Facilities Steering Committee along with the Police and Fire Departments are reviewing the design for cost savings and that the building meets the minimum requirements of both departments and the requirements of the National Fire Protection Association and related Police standards.

The in-house fitness facility is heavily used by both departments and has the added benefit of attracting on-call personnel to the station. When an emergency call is requested, personnel are already at the station enabling a quicker response. The fitness room was built under a FEMA Emergency Responders Grant. The \$40,000 in commercial gym equipment was secured via a state grant and personal donations by fire and police department personnel.

For more information, please go to:
http://town.princeton.ma.us/Pages/PrincetonMA_BComm/facilitiessteer

If you have questions that you would like answered, please email:
princetonfscomm@gmail.com

Facilities Steering Committee, Phase II, members:
Richard Chase, Chair
Larry Todd, Clerk
Noelani Chase
Rick McCowan
Dennis Moore
Chief John Bennett, representing the fire department