



TOWN OF PRINCETON  
Facilities Steering Committee, Phase II  
[www.town.princeton.ma.us](http://www.town.princeton.ma.us)  
December 18, 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.

*Have you considered renting or buying the old “photo panels” facility on Worcester Road? Do like was done for the senior center.*

None of the buildings meet the requirements of the police or fire department. Garage bays are not large enough to fit the fire trucks, sprinkler and ventilation systems would need to be installed and much more. It would be more cost effective to tear down the buildings and build a new facility.

*What is a gear/decontamination room?*

It is a segregated space for cleaning and decontaminating gear when returning from a fire. Fire fighters are frequently exposed to a host of hazardous chemical agents when fighting fires. Standard guidelines cite a number of recommendations for limiting exposure – one of which is a segregated space for cleaning and decontamination.

*Why do municipal buildings like public safety buildings and community centers cost so much?*

There are state laws governing procurement for construction contracts and projects, such as prevailing wage and Owner’s Project Manager (OPM) requirement, that add cost to municipal capital projects.

*How long will this new station meet the Town’s needs?*

The new Public Safety building should meet Town needs for the foreseeable future. Princeton’s population grew a modest 1.8% from 2000 to 2010. It is anticipated that this growth rate will continue. Should the need arise to expand the Public Safety facility there is sufficient area to do so at the Princeton Center School site.

For more information, please go to:  
[http://town.princeton.ma.us/Pages/PrincetonMA\\_BComm/facilitiessteer](http://town.princeton.ma.us/Pages/PrincetonMA_BComm/facilitiessteer)

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