

## Prioritization of large capital projects

Iuliano, Susan

**Sent:** Wednesday, January 18, 2017 3:43 PM

**To:** Sudbury K-8 School Committee; Fairbank Community Center Study Task Force; Town Hall Blue Ribbon Committee; Capital Improvement Advisory Committee; Strategic Financial Planning for Capital Funding; Finance Committee

**Cc:** Rodrigues, Melissa; Kelly, James; Wilson, Anne; Selectmen

To: SPS School Committee, Fairbank Community Center Task Force, Town Hall Blue Ribbon Committee, Capital Improvement Advisory Committee, Strategic Financial Planning Committee for Capital Funding, and Finance Committee

Cc: Melissa Murphy-Rodrigues, Anne Wilson, Jim Kelly, Board of Selectmen

From: Susan Iuliano, Chair, Board of Selectmen

Re: Prioritization of large capital projects

At its meeting of January 10, 2017, the Board of Selectmen discussed the prioritization of several major capital projects under consideration and outlined the plan described below. The Selectmen reviewed the projects in light of many short-term and long-term Town goals, with a focus on meeting critical capital needs while minimizing the tax impacts on our residents.

The Selectmen appreciate the many committed volunteers working to address these challenges in the best interests of the Town and seek to implement a coordinated effort to advance these projects.

**SPS Administration Relocation:** The need to plan for the relocation of the administrative offices of the Sudbury Public Schools is the highest and most immediate priority among the Town building projects. Based on input from the Fairbank Task Force, the Selectmen believe relocation of the SPS offices provides maximum flexibility for meeting the needs of the Senior Center and the Park and Recreation Department through rehabilitation of the current Fairbank building (or portions thereof) or construction of a new building. The SPS administration occupies the most distressed portion of the Fairbank building, causing ongoing challenges with maintenance, protection of equipment, etc.

Facilities Director Jim Kelly is working closely with the Selectmen and the SPS School Committee to identify the best plan. Several options are under review, including a proposed addition to the Nixon School.

*Target:* To request funding at the May 2017 Annual Town Meeting to initiate the preferred option.

**Route 20 Fire Station:** Planning for a new Route 20 fire station is a high priority for meeting the Town's current and future public safety needs. Additional space is needed to accommodate appropriate staffing and modern equipment.

The Selectmen have approved the use of \$80,000 of National Development mitigation funds for the preliminary development design phase for the fire station.

*Target:* To request additional design and construction funding at the October 2017 Town Meeting.

**Town Hall Renovation:** The renovation of the Town Hall is a medium priority given the current condition and uses of the building. However, this remains an important project given the goal to revitalize our Town center, the significant additional capacity that would be provided by renovation, and the desire to preserve an historic building. Refinement of the current proposal will advance planning for this project within the context of other capital needs.

*Target:* To request the use of CPA funds for design at the May 2017 Annual Town Meeting to prepare for a future request for construction funding, to be determined at a later date.

**Fairbank Community Center:** Planning for a future community center that meets the needs of our growing senior population and the recreation needs across our community is a high priority. The Fairbank Community Center Task Force is working diligently to consider a building plan that meets these needs in a cost-effective manner.

*Target:* To request funding to initiate this project at the May 2018 Annual Town Meeting.

**Capital Funding Plan:** The need to review the Town's capital planning process and finalize recommendations for capital funding remains a high priority. One option under consideration is an operating override to increase the annual capital budget.

*Target:* To request funding toward an enhanced capital plan at the May 2018 Annual Town Meeting.