

Newton Center for Active Living (NewCAL) project

NewCAL Working Group Meeting					
Date: Tuesday, May 26, 2020					
Date: Zoom Meeting (online)					
Time: 9:30 AM					
Attendees:					
Alex Valcarce	<i>Public Buildings Dept.</i>	Y	Maureen Lemieux	<i>Chief Financial Officer</i>	---
Amanda Berman	<i>Planning Department</i>	---	Nancy Scammon	<i>Parks & Rec Dept.</i>	Y
Barney Heath	<i>Planning Department</i>	---	Norm Meltz	<i>Community Member</i>	Y
Bea Goldsmith	<i>Community Member</i>	Y	Rachel Sherman	<i>City IT</i>	---
Nicole Banks	<i>Parks & Rec Dept.</i>	---	Richard Rasala	<i>Community Member</i>	Y
Brooke Lipsitt	<i>Community Member</i>	Y	Sandra Butzel	<i>Community Member</i>	---
Deb Youngblood	<i>Health/Human Services</i>	---	Seth Bai	<i>Veteran's Services</i>	---
Devra Bailin	<i>Planning Department</i>	---	Sue Rasala	<i>Community Member</i>	Y
Ellen Ishkanian	<i>Mayor's Office</i>	---	Susan Albright	<i>City Councilor</i>	Y
Gabriel Holbrow	<i>Planning Department</i>	---	Thomas Rooney	<i>Public Buildings Dept.</i>	---
Jack Neville	<i>Parks & Rec Dept.</i>	---	Zachery LeMel	<i>Planning Department</i>	---
Jayne Colino	<i>Senior Services Director</i>	Y			
Jini Fairley	<i>Working Group</i>	Y	Tom Murphy	<i>NV5</i>	---
John Rice	<i>Community Member</i>	---	Melissa Gagnon	<i>NV5</i>	Y
Jonathan Yeo	<i>Chief Operating Officer</i>	---	Joel Bargmann	<i>BH+A</i>	Y
Josh Morse	<i>Public Buildings Dept.</i>	Y	James Bruneau	<i>BH+A</i>	---
Linda Walsh	<i>Public Health Dept.</i>	---			

Josh Morse opened up the online Zoom meeting at 9:35AM. The purpose of today's meeting is an opportunity to debrief from the Community meeting last Thursday, May 21, and discuss next steps. The Community meeting was solid with lots of good feedback, predominantly in support of Newtonville. Next steps will include a presentation to the Council on Aging (tonight), meet with Ward 2 and Ward 6 councilors (within the next few weeks), schedule a meeting with City Council Programs and Services and Public Facilities committees (by the end of June). Ultimately,

the Working Group will make a recommendation to the Mayor re: the preferred site. Following a recommendation and approval, the project can move forward to the Feasibility Study phase, which will include meeting with the DRC in the summer. A parking and traffic study will also need to be done over the summer.

It was noted that there was no very strong voice in favor of the Newton Centre Triangle site.

The City Council has authority of the authentication of funds.

A joint committee meeting (Programs and Services and Public Facilities) will be requested when the City Council meets in June. Provided the City Council is on board with the project approach, the Working Group will make a recommendation to the Mayor.

The pros and cons of the two sites, including cost differences, will need to be evaluated. Massing of the various options will also need to be evaluated as well as the benefit comparison of retaining the existing compared to building a new facility from scratch.

If it is proven that the existing building can be retained, the team will need to be careful as to not complicate the project with a potential delay around the issue of whether to keep or remove the existing building.

It was noted that Option #4 in Newtonville could incorporate a significant additional amount of outdoor space, with roof decks, which is a significant SF difference of what can be gained by retaining the existing building.

In reality, the earliest construction could begin in Newtonville is two years from now, in spring/summer 2022. Construction logistics, including staging and laydown areas, will need to be considered. Also, a plan for how to maintain senior programs and services during the 18-24 month construction timeframe will need to be worked out. Options for temporary relocation will depend on timing and space availability.

Additional Upcoming Meetings

All upcoming meetings will be online with remote participation via Zoom:

- 06/09/20 Working Group meeting 9:30AM