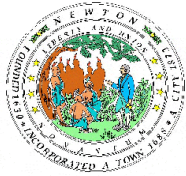


Newton Center for Active Living (NewCAL) project

NewCAL Working Group Meeting					
Date: Tuesday, May 25, 2021					
Date: Zoom Meeting (online)					
Time: 9:30 AM					
Attendees:					
Working Group		Present	City Staff		Present
Sandra Butzel	<i>Community Member</i>	---	Jonathan Yeo	<i>Chief Operating Officer</i>	√
Bea Goldsmith	<i>Community Member</i>	√	Seth Bai	<i>Veteran's Services</i>	---
Brooke Lipsitt	<i>Community Member</i>	√	Devra Bailin	<i>Planning</i>	√
Norm Meltz	<i>COA Member</i>	√	Amanda Berman	<i>Planning</i>	---
Jack Neville	<i>P&R Commission</i>	---	Ellen Ishkanian	<i>Mayor's Office</i>	---
Richard Rasala	<i>Community Member</i>	√	Zachery LeMel	<i>Planning</i>	---
Sue Rasala	<i>COA Member</i>	√	Thomas Rooney	<i>Public Buildings</i>	---
John Rice	<i>Community Member</i>	√	Rachel Sherman	<i>City IT</i>	√
Susan Albright	<i>City Councilor</i>	---	Linda Walsh	<i>Public Health</i>	---
Nicole Banks	<i>P&R Commissioner</i>	---	Deb Youngblood	<i>Health/Human Services</i>	---
Jayne Colino	<i>Senior Services Dir.</i>	√	Consultants		
Jini Fairley	<i>ADA Coordinator</i>	√	Tom Murphy	<i>NV5</i>	---
Barney Heath	<i>Planning Director</i>	---	Melissa Gagnon	<i>NV5</i>	√
Maureen Lemieux	<i>Chief Financial Officer</i>	---	Joel Bargmann	<i>BH+A</i>	√
Josh Morse	<i>Public Buildings Comm.</i>	√	Jennifer Bentley	<i>BH+A</i>	√
Nancy Scammon	<i>P&R Department</i>	---	Dan Chen	<i>BH+A</i>	√
Alex Valcarce	<i>Public Buildings</i>	√	James Bruneau	<i>BH+A</i>	---

Josh Morse (Newton Public Buildings) opened up the online Zoom meeting at 9:33AM.

The intent of this meeting was to discuss next steps in moving forward with the NewCAL Project.

It was noted that the City has been working to develop the budget for the next fiscal year in tandem with the executive office reviewing how to best utilize federal stimulus funds. At this juncture, the City is

financially able for the NewCAL project to move forward with design and no official vote is required by the City Council. Outlined in an email from Josh Morse to the Working Group, immediate next steps include:

- Review and finalize the Feasibility Study Report. (by 6/4 or sooner)
- Submit the Feasibility Study Report and Letter from the Working Group to the City Council. (within 1-2 weeks)
- Present findings and recommendations to the Programs and Services and Public Facilities Committees and request a straw vote of those Councilors. (date TBD, within 4-6 weeks)
 - This meeting will be an update only. No official vote is required by the City Council.
- Move forward with the next phase of design, with a focus on developing concepts and renderings that are more traditional in nature and fitting with historical context of Newtonville. (this Summer)
 - WG members are encouraged to think about what a new facility should look like and send thoughts to Josh, Alex, Melissa and Joel.
- Develop a refined project schedule.
- Determine Senior Center swing space during construction.

As the project develops it will be helpful for an advocacy group to be mobilized. Jayne will be looking to the City for information as to how City resources can be used towards project advocacy.

As the milestone schedule is developed early this summer, outreach efforts will need to be defined. It is key for project success to increase visibility and be out in the Community.

With regard to transitioning to the new normal in terms of Senior Center operations, the intent this summer is to focus on larger outdoor programming with the plan to reintroduce indoor programming in the fall, depending on instructors and public health capacity guidelines.

High level factors in support of new construction include:

- Given potential mobility issues of the primary user group, an addition/renovation design option presents compromises and challenges.
- Site circulation – Vehicular and pedestrian access is more direct and perceived barriers are reduced.
- Cost and Schedule

A new building supports the Mission Statement and Guiding Principles.

It was noted that an add/reno design would create mobility challenges relative to overall circulation and wayfinding. This option is not a good solution for the user group, which is primarily the senior population. The goal is to create a barrier free facility open to anyone who desires to participate in programming in the new building. The new facility should be exude feeling of being welcoming, open, cozy and friendly.

With regard to embodied carbons, the full interior of the existing building will need to be gutted so the question is what components are able to be saved. Essentially, steel, concrete and brick would remain.

It is important to communicate and present the embodied carbon study/analysis to interest group including but not limited to the City Council and Green Newton Board.

Ultimately, the embodied carbon analysis, including calculations, should be made available to the public.

Two hardcopies of the Feasibility Study shall be provided for the Mayor's office and the City Council.

NV5 will update the project website to be more design focused with FS documents archived under one tab.

Additional Upcoming Meetings (all online with remote participation via Zoom):

The Working Group will resume meeting every other week.

- TBD Working Group Meeting

NV5 shall coordinate with the City of Newton in distributing Zoom info for all meetings noted.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35AM.