



Ward Park Senior Center

BACKGROUND

- ❑ Marlborough Council on Aging has operated out of the Main Street location since the 1980's.
 - The discussion over the ideal location a new facility spans more than a decade.

- ❑ The following private and city owned parcels were given the most consideration over the past several years:
 - PRIVATE – Olde West Meeting House (86 Pleasant Street)
 - PRIVATE – Old Registry of Motor Vehicles (525 Maple Street)
 - PRIVATE – Old Post Office (24 Mechanic Street)
 - PUBLIC – Bigelow School (57 Orchard Street)

BACKGROUND

- ❑ Among the private sites considered, several impediments encountered with some of these sites were:
 - Existing structure made for a complicated renovation
 - Site would involve costly environmental cleanups
 - Cost of purchasing private land proved too expensive

- ❑ Bigelow School site received substantial consideration and was a viable site until the Assabet Valley Collaborative expressed interest in a long term lease of the facility.
 - The lease will result in nearly \$5 million of revenue coming back to the City of Marlborough over the next 25 years.

WHY WARD PARK?

- ❑ Ward Park provides our senior community with a centrally located facility that will compliment and enhance the amenities already in existence.

 - ❑ The Ward Park location will enhance our ability to design new programs and activities for our seniors conveniently located next to a Senior Center.
 - Outdoor horseshoe pits
 - Outdoor bocce courts
 - Easy access to the track, field space, and tennis courts.

 - ❑ The City already owns the land and will not have to expend any funds to purchase land from private developers.

 - ❑ A Senior Center will bring more activity and vitality to a park that has suffered from neglect and increased vandalism over the past several years.
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CONCLUSION

- ❑ Mayor Arthur Vigeant has met with both American Youth Football (AYF) and Marlborough Youth Lacrosse to discuss this proposal. Accommodations are already in place for both sports to temporarily operate from other fields during the duration of construction.
 - Both sports will likely be returning to Ward Park in the future and are excited about what the potential field upgrades will mean for their organizations in the long term.

- ❑ The City owns over 500,000 square feet of space at Ward Park, which includes all land outlined in the Ward Park Master Plan. The footprint/foundation of the Senior Center will occupy less than 3% of this amount!

- ❑ Although the building is intended to be approximately 13,000 square feet, a second level increases the actual useable space of the building without expanding the footprint.