

We Can Do Better

To the Editor:

The 2015 Plan of Conservation and Development states: the only area allowing for commercial use is the Route 6 corridor. The plan recommends a Village Center Mixed-Use zone around Route 6 and Long Hill Road. Andover needs a town center connecting residential, governmental, social, recreational, and commercial uses into one compact, walkable, and bikeable area. And every plan UConn created calls for the development of this location.

So why place a building that does not fit esthetically in a location that does not look to the future? I acknowledge that I could be wrong, and I apologize if I am, but I have concerns with the floor plans.

1. I do not see closets needed for winter boots, hats, etc.
2. Cannot see who is at the door from the office location.
3. No direct access from conference rooms to storage room. Need to walk down the hall. Makes it difficult to move items. Maybe storage should be in the middle with direct access from both rooms?
4. Are three rooms needed? We still have the community room. Why not use the space to increase the kitchen?
5. Why not build a bigger, better Community Center on Long Hill connecting to Library and soccer field?

Why not put money toward updating the library? Many towns across the U.S. are seeing libraries become gathering places. Do more to promote our farms. Have larger Farmer's Markets with more food options and entertainment.

And... Andover has the one thing no other town has...Mrs. Claus! And as a bonus, we have the Fitch Xmas Tree farm! Why not create a Christmas Farm and bring people to Andover?

Please understand that I am not against a senior center. I am against the location. I believe we can do so much better.

Catherine Magaldi-Lewis - Andover

Note: Magaldi-Lewis is chair of the Andover Democratic Town Committee, but is speaking as an individual.