

Town of Andover's Long Term Planning Committee

2019 Final Report: Summary and Recommendations

Preserving our Heritage and Re-establishing our Community Center:

Question 1: Do you support the development of a Community/Senior Center?

- On the question of whether we should replace the existing senior center with a senior/community Center 73% of those polled were in favor of a new community center.

- When asked where the community center should go 36 identified the area near the School/ town hall as the best location, 14 identified the Area near the recreational fields/ library area as the best candidate.

- Of those that voted No, reasons cited include that we already have one, that it would cost too much money, and that we can use existing space in the school, town hall or Fire house

- This mirrors the conclusions of the POCD, that a vibrant community Center would be in the town's best interest. This has been a recommendation of the POCD as far back as 1978. There is clearly strong support for the community center, but residents want fiscal prudence in planning for it.

- Is it possible for the town to use space in AES in the near term? 1-10 years until the expected enrollment rebounds. This is a question that will be pursued with the AES superintendent and chair of the school board. This would have to be done in addition to a long term plan of building an appropriate building for the Community Center.