



Recommend Appropriating Free Cash for Maynard Senior Center

Article #4

MOTION:

Move to approve Article 4, as printed in the warrant ,
except the words: "to do or act thereon."

PURPOSE:

To allocate from Free Cash up to \$120,000 per fiscal year
for a minimum of five (5) years
to lease a larger space, allowing the relocation of
the senior center to meet growing program demand.

Oct 10, 2023

SECRET, MAJORITY VOTE

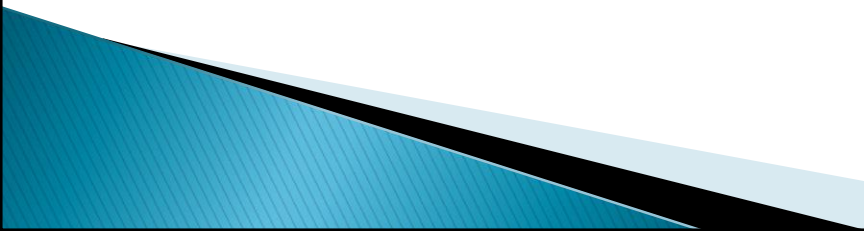
MAYNARD SENIOR CENTER FOCUS GROUP

Citizen's Petition Fall Town Meeting
October 2023

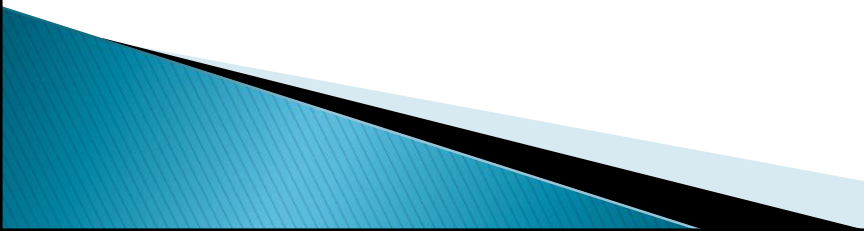
History

- ▶ 2013 Community Center Study resulted in:
 - Town hiring full time COA Director
 - Creation of an interim Senior Center located within golf course clubhouse

Seniors in Maynard – 2023

- ▶ Provided by: Office of the Town Clerk
 - ▶ Definition: Per COA guidelines, Age 60 and over
 - ▶ As of August 25:
 - 3083 Senior Residents
 - 30% of population (3083/10327)
 - 37% of registered voters (3083/8423)
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Current Situation– 2023

- ▶ Senior population still fastest growing segment
 - ▶ Programming and communication success led by full time COA Director has created demand exceeding current space
 - ▶ Senior needs (at 30% of town population) have been under-represented
 - ▶ Maynard Senior Center Focus Group (MSCFG) formed in 2022 to strengthen advocacy
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Current Senior Center

- ▶ Net present space available for activities – 1572 sq ft (1932 total–360 storage/office), single room with center support post, movable room divider.
- ▶ To accommodate programming needs, COA stages activities at Elks, Library, Boys and Girls Club plus limited use of Golf course clubhouse

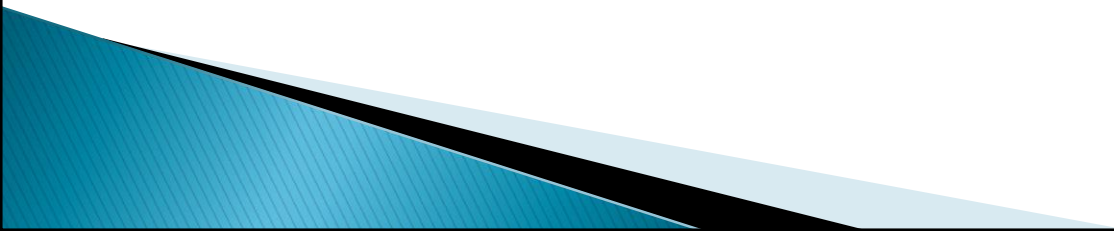


Potential Senior Center Spaces Evaluated

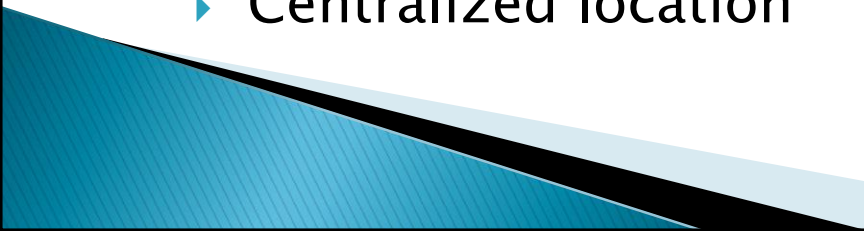
1. ArtSpace/Fowler School (61–63 Summer St.)
2. Mill & Main Bldg. 6
3. Mill & Main, Bldg. 12
4. Paper Store, Nason St.
5. Maynard Crossing
6. Emerson Health/Former Walgreen's
7. Imago School
8. 63 Great Road/Business condos
9. Royal Beijing School (Former DEC Bldg PowderMill Road)
10. Assabet Valley Boys & Girls Club
11. Regionalization w/Acton or Stow

Message – Space opportunities rapidly disappearing

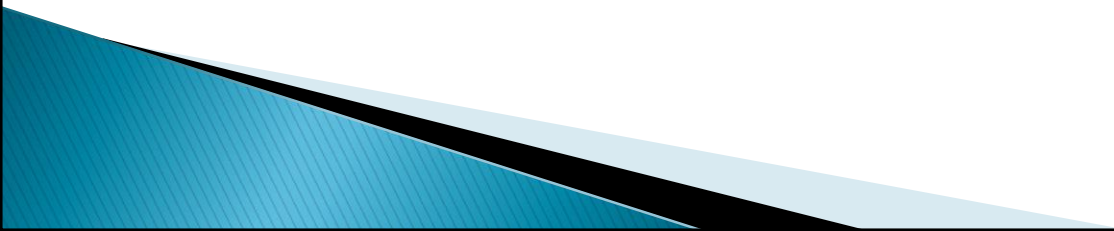
Citizens Petition – Why?

- ▶ To make senior needs visible and part of the discussion as the town faces difficult financial pressures on multiple issues
 - ▶ Extremely limited availability of spaces meeting criteria of size, location, parking and access
 - ▶ Securing space while still available needs financial commitment now
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Citizens Petition – Basis

- ▶ Up to \$120,000 per year for 5 years
 - ▶ Amount based on 5 year lease offer from Mill & Main for 5160 sq foot space which provides:
 - ▶ Space for expanded services and programs.
 - ▶ Room for concurrent classes, activities, and professional services.
 - ▶ Solution to equipment and supply storage issues.
 - ▶ On-site access to durable medical equipment closet.
 - ▶ Safer accessibility and better van access.
 - ▶ Access to shared fitness room, cafeteria, courtyard.
 - ▶ Centralized location
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Petition Objectives

- ▶ Commit to leased space to meet growing current needs
 - ▶ Funding for short term lease allows planning for permanent solution expected from contracted study “*Aging in Maynard: A Community Needs Assessment*” scheduled for late 2024 (UMASS Boston Gerontology Institute)
 - ▶ **Securing space while still available needs financial commitment now**
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Summary

- ▶ Petition approval funds short term lease for a larger space to meet demand for increased programming and services for growing senior population
- ▶ Support Our Seniors – Vote Yes