

March 30, 2009

Press Release: Public Meeting New Lincoln Senior Center

Town Administrator T. Joseph Almond and members of the Lincoln Senior Center building committee invite all Lincoln residents to attend an informational meeting on the proposed new Senior Center to be held on Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Council Chambers. Architect John Robinson will present illustrations of the proposal. Administrator Almond, Councilmen Ron McKenna, and John Flynn, along with members of the building sub-committee will be on hand to receive the public's input and answer questions and concerns.

Almond states: "I am firmly committed to making this long overdue and badly needed project, a reality for our seniors. The current Senior Center is in considerable disrepair and presents numerous traffic and design safety issues. Investing in the many required renovations at the present site on Chapel Street would be cost prohibitive and wasteful".

Senior Center funding was contained in a 5 million dollar Capital Improvement Bond approved by the voters over four years ago. Almond points out other advantages; "The bond was marketed during the past year providing the town with the most advantageous interest rates in decades. The town fully expects to achieve some of the best prices available on constructions cost due to the current recession and avoid significantly increased costs in the future".

In ensuring the town's long-term financial stability, members of the town's Capital Development Committee have been careful to address much needed improvements while recognizing the need to protect local property taxpayers. Almond emphasizes, "I foresee no additional impact on property taxes as a result of the anticipated repayment schedule. To further reduce the costs significantly, we have proposed to construct the new center on town owned land, and we do not forecast a notable increase in operational or maintenance over those of the current Senior Center".

Confident that he is speaking for the entire Senior Center Sub-Committee, The Administrator states; "We look forward to the day our aging parents, relatives, and neighbors, some living alone, many still physically active, can gather in a safe and picturesque surrounding to socialize, access programs, engage in numerous activities, and develop new friendships. Our seniors represent the fastest growing population throughout the entire town; failure to seize this opportunity will only result in result in a disservice to the very residents that for a lifetime worked hard and paid taxes in support of town and school services".

