

LINCOLN PUBLIC LIBRARY
BEDFORD ROAD
LINCOLN, MASSACHUSETTS
01773



March 20, 2024

The Lincoln Library Board of Trustees strongly supports a new community center for the town of Lincoln.

Collaboration with community organizations, schools, clubs, and outside agency staff members is a central tenet of the Library's mission statement. A new community center will expand and enrich the Library's ability to develop more comprehensive programming in partnership with other Lincoln organizations and groups.

Space constraints at the Library and Bemis limit the scale and scope of collaborative efforts between the Library and the Council on Aging & Human Services, Parks & Recreation, and the Historical Commission, among many other community groups. Community demand for meeting space within the Library seriously curtails the use of the Tarbell Room, our only sizeable meeting space, for programming and services that directly support the Library's mission.

A community center with ample, flexible, well-designed, and accessible spaces would accommodate a greater variety of needs, activities, interests, and abilities and foster interaction and connection among a much broader range of community members.

Despite limited resources and constrained spaces, the Library staff has been masterful in creatively exploiting every opportunity for collaboration with other groups to provide robust programming for various interests. With a community center designed to promote social networking in a common meeting venue accessible to broad interests and abilities, the Library is ready to increase its collaborative efforts and expand programming to cultivate and enhance further the sense of community and belonging that Lincolniters value.

Please vote to approve construction of the community center.

Lincoln Library Board of Trustees:

Jacquelin Apsler, Chair

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