

Wales Public Library

Five Year Development Plan

2015-2020

Prepared by the Director of the Wales Public Library

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November 2015

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INTRODUCTION

The planning process for the Wales Public Library has been stalled for several years. The difficulty arises from a lack of time as the business of running this small public library falls solely into the lap of its director. Turnover on the Board of Trustees and serious building issues also contribute to that difficulty. However, the written plan done years ago has not changed significantly; the goal of the Wales Public Library is still to provide library materials in multiple formats to our patrons.

We have achieved mini-net status with CW Mars, increased our participation in the inter-library loan system significantly and maintained circulation.

This Long Range Plan will take us into a new decade with continued small increases in circulation, patronage and hopefully a plan for a new building to house our collection.

MISSION STATEMENT

It is the goal of this library, its staff, and trustees to provide the best possible services to its patrons and community. We want to maintain comprehensive access to materials while having as little financial impact to our townspeople as is feasible without detracting from our purpose.

It is our belief that each person should have freedom of information and the right to a further education. We believe that through reading, every person can attain enlightenment and enjoyment; with access to current technology, each person can become an architect of our communal future and through various media can participate in the artistic spirit of humanity.

We will:

- ✓ PROVIDE the citizens of Wales with a variety of books, large print books, audio books, DVDs, and electronic materials of current and historical value which are of interest to all our patrons of all ages. We want to acquire and maintain new technologies. We plan to schedule a variety of programs at the library to meet the needs and varied interests of all our patrons, and be responsive to changing needs.

- ✓ PROMOTE the use of the collections and facility by having the library open as many hours as funding will allow. We will publicize acquisition of new materials by regularly advising our patrons of their availability. We want to advance the use of the library by holding a variety of programs which will encourage those who do not regularly use the library to come and see what we have to offer.

- ✓ PROTECT the collection by providing a secure environment and having policies in effect which will encourage prompt return of materials thus making them available to all who

wish to borrow them. We try to preserve the building by providing routine maintenance and regular inspections to insure its integrity. We work to obtain funds required to undertake such preservations as are found necessary through a variety of sources including appropriations, donations, grants, and fundraising.

METHODOLOGY

We used the book The New Planning For Results by Sandra Nelson for the Public Library Association as a rough guide for this plan. Previous long range plans for the Wales Public Library provided the historical information. Community profile information was updated using census data. Statistical information was gathered from the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners website. The Sunderland Public Library Long Range Plan was used as a template for the structure of this plan. Our mission statement remains valid, but has been updated to allow for electronic materials. A survey was constructed using information from the Massachusetts Library System planning "LibGuide". The survey was made available electronically through our Town website and the Library Facebook page and paper copies were distributed through the library.

COMMUNITY PROFILE

The town of Wales is a small, rural community located on the Massachusetts/ Connecticut border approximately equidistant from the population centers of Worcester, Springfield and Hartford, CT. Settlement began in 1726 as the Baptist community left the town of Brimfield. Farming and businesses to support family farms slowly emerged and then expanded to include mills powered by water. At the height of textile manufacturing in 1880 there were several different mills and the population rose to 1033. The final mill closed in 1939 and the population declined. Lake George became a popular vacation destination and cottages clustered in groups around the lake. In 1971 there were 935 year round residents of Wales. Many of these cottages are now year round homes and the population has now increased to 1837.

Currently, this small rural, fiscally conservative community is governed by a three member Board of Selectmen and Open Town Meeting. The business of the Town is conducted from buildings that range in age from 50 to 190 years old. There is no industry in Wales; with the exception of a few small home based businesses that employ a limited number people.

The median household income is \$56,302; 6.6% of the residents are living below poverty levels: the largest segment of this group are those with small children.

People over the age of 45 make up nearly 50% of our population.

There is no public transportation; the mean travel time to work is 41 minutes.

The 2013 unemployment rate was 5.4%.

Blue-collar workers make up 72% of the work force.

There are 882 housing units in Wales; 736 which are occupied. There are 607 owner occupied units and 129 renter occupied units.

There are 110 housing units used for seasonal or recreational purposes. (U.S. Census Community facts, 2013)

A twenty unit senior housing complex, subsidized by HUD, has had a waiting list for the fifteen years it has existed. (Earle Plumley, Silver Meadow Board of Directors 2015).

Of the approximately 300 school aged children of Wales, 268 attended the Union 61/ Tantasqua Regional School District in 2014. The remaining students were either home-schooled or attended an out of district school. This school district includes the towns of Brimfield, Brookfield, Holland, Sturbridge and Wales.

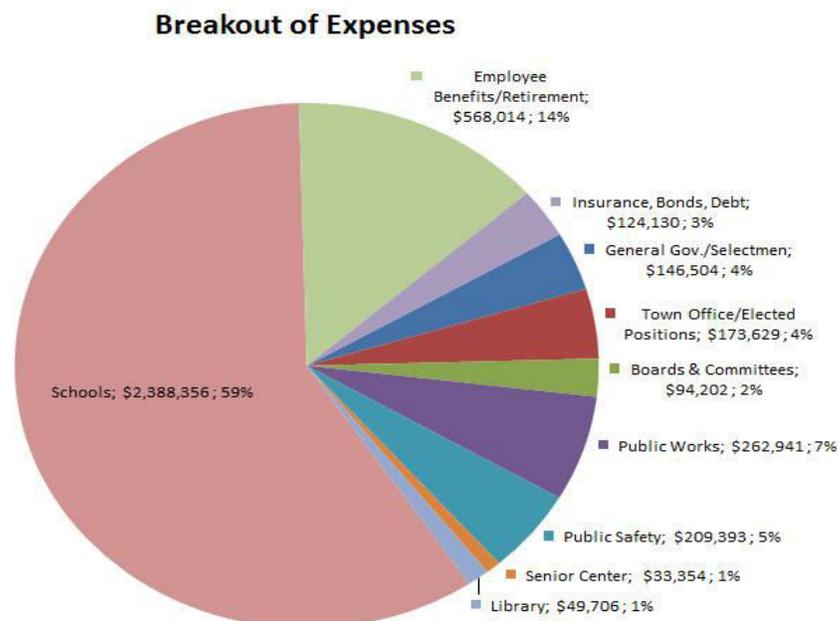
Wales students K-6 attend the local elementary school. Pre-school children aged 3 and 4 may attend the program in Wales, for a fee. Those in low income and with special needs benefit from the Community Partnership for Children grant program. Students in grades 7 and 8 attend Tantasqua Regional Junior High School in Sturbridge. Students 9-12 attend Tantasqua Regional Senior High School in Sturbridge, MA which includes a vocational/technical division.

Wales Elementary school ranks 257 of 888 and Tantasqua 202 of 332 of schools in Massachusetts. The per pupil cost of education is \$12,805 at the Junior High and High school levels and \$12, 787 at the Elementary level. The Massachusetts average is \$14,525 (Schooldigger.com 2013-2014).

The elementary school library is staffed on a volunteer basis. The junior and senior high school libraries are professionally staffed.

In 2015, the free and reduced lunch program at the Wales Elementary School qualified to serve all enrolled students free lunch as the qualifying students has reached 40% of the total elementary school population.

Property tax is the sole income for the town. The Fiscal Year 2015 tax rate is 17.61%.



The town consists of approximately 10,000 acres with tax exempt Norcross Wildlife Sanctuary and Brimfield State Forest accounting for nearly half of the town's land mass. With the exception of a natural gas pipeline which runs through the town, there is currently no taxable industry.

The town struggles to remain a quiet, rural community while being in a central location to three population centers.

The library, while using 1% of the annual appropriated town budget, is able provide its citizens with reasonable library services 21 hours per week.



BUILDING HISTORY

The Wales Public Library began in 1897 with a grant from the State of Massachusetts. One hundred dollars was accepted by the Board of Selectmen and a corner of the general store was provided to house the materials purchased. It was agreed that the Town would add to and make this collection available to the people. The collection soon outgrew this space.

The building that is the Wales Public Library started out as a residential house, built in 1825 by a gentleman named Fiske. Popular stories tell that at some point it housed two families. Eventually (date unknown) the building was purchased by the Wales Baptist Church and given to the Town of Wales to be used as the library. Renovation prepared the 4 rooms on the first floor and the library opened in 1922.

BUILDING FACILITIES

To provide a better understanding of where the Library is and where the Library is going, here is a brief background of the Library building:

- A children's room was created in the 1950s.
- The roof has been repaired and re-shingled as needed.
- Columns were added in the basement to help support the sagging, rotting beams
- The sills were replaced in the 1970s or 1980s.
- In 1976 an upstairs room was renovated to be used as a community room. Historical artifacts are stored there, cabinetry and shelving is filled with old books and various historical documents, most having to do with Wales history.
- In 1992 a Pioneer Valley Planning Commission Grant provided us with an ADA compliant restroom and entrance with one adjacent handicap parking space. Within this construction some of the old beams were replaced and columns were added to support those remaining.
- In 1993, a permanent puddle in the dirt and fieldstone basement was discovered. A curtain drain around the wettest half of the building was built, using funds from a grant provided by Norcross Wildlife Sanctuary.
- A gift from Country Bank in the mid-1990s allowed us to begin significant repairs to our old structure. A second gift from Country Bank was the foundation of the Library Building Fund.
- Shortly thereafter a sump pump and dehumidifier were installed to help eliminate some of the moisture using these funds provided by Country Bank.
- With these same monies the roof over the children's room was replaced. Insulation was added to the ceiling and the wallpaper and paint were refreshed.
- The electrical panel was replaced in the mid-1990s and twice more since then, the last time with an outdoor model in hope that it would be more resistant to the dampness in the basement. Circuits were added to accommodate the growing need for technology, lighting, and additional outlets.
- In 2001 the remaining space on the second floor was remodeled. Insulation was added to any opened ceiling or wall. Electrical wiring and lighting was updated. Computers, a work table, and shelving to house the juvenile and young-adult nonfiction books were added to one room that we now use as a homework center.
- An office for the Library Director was constructed in a small room on the second floor.
- In 2002 a structural engineer was hired to evaluate the building and provide a plan to bring the building to up to code: According to the engineer's report, the Library would need to insert steel beams under the first floor, in the second floor, in the third floor attic space and inserted into the sides of this old building where the available space is not large enough to accommodate them. The cost of this renovation would be astronomically high, and still would not give us a building that can contain our growth, be fully accessible, or have the necessary parking to make this location a reasonable choice.
- Rain gutters were installed to direct rain away from the foundation.
- In 2006 the roof was replaced.
- In 2008 the exterior of the building was re-painted.
- In 2012 the attic was cleared out in hopes of lessening the weight in the library.
- The basement was also cleared out, functional windows were added and new sump pump and renewed drainage have resulted in a mostly dry basement.
- Insulation was blown into the library attic space and walls in 2013.

- The furnace was replaced in 2014.
- Currently the building's post and beam construction is in need of major structural repair.
- Our shelves are currently beyond capacity. We need to weed our materials on an ongoing basis. For each new item an old one must go. Fundraising is ongoing; our building fund grows by small donations and interest and is saved in a trust fund for the day when a new library becomes a reality.

NEW BUILDING PROSPECTS

- In 2003 the townspeople, by Town Meeting vote, granted the Library a piece of undeveloped town property for the Library's use and development. The 4.4 acre property is centrally located near the Town Offices and very close to the elementary school. It is a long, narrow lot with 236 feet of road frontage. This parcel is a fairly steep hillside with a considerable ledge making any use or improvements an expensive undertaking. A MBLC construction grant application was unsuccessful in 2004-2005. Since then this piece of property has reverted to Town control.
- In 2010 an empty strip mall type of property became available for sale. A Town Building Committee was formed to look into the possibility of making this two building 10,000 square foot property a complex containing a Town Hall, Library and Police Station. The Committee's recommendation failed to pass a Town Meeting vote, when the cost of purchase was deemed to be too high. At this time the Library Director was told to continue to do what we do until someone told us to stop. That has not occurred yet. The columns continue to hold us up. The building inspector recommended that we avoid large groups all in one space.
- A 7 acre property next to our historic Old Town Hall became available recently and was purchased by the Town, its use to be determined by a committee formed in January 2015. This committee has been meeting, has surveyed the residents of Wales and will present the accumulated ideas and suggestions to the attendees of the Annual Town Meeting this spring. The 5 Main St. Committee is tasked with looking into the possibilities for this property which contains a 150 year old house. It will be a long and slow process and this group has no decision making power or funding. At this point the surveys returned would appear to indicate that the people are coming to the realization that something will have to be done to replace the old, no longer very functional buildings that house our Town Offices, Police Department and Library. A structural engineer was hired to evaluate the house for possible public space, this evaluation indicated that the cost of improvements would outweigh the benefit in using the first floor for public use, any use of the upper floors would result in huge expenses due to accessibility issues. The Committee then strongly recommended that the Selectmen to investigate the options for eliminating the house, order a boundary survey and a geotechnical evaluation to determine the suitability of this property for public use.

LIBRARY DESCRIPTION

The Wales Public Library began in 1897 in a corner of the General Store; adults were invited to check out books, and the storekeeper's wife acted as librarian. Sometime after 1911, Herbert McFarland left funds to the Wales Baptist Church which in turn purchased and gifted the

building now known as the Wales Public Library to the Town of Wales. Renovations were completed and the Library opened in 1922. Volunteers then moved the Library Collection from the General Store to our current building. The Wales Public Library has been a fixture in Wales since then. Appropriations were made each year to add to the collection of books. The staff of the Library, until the 1970s, were volunteers, the Director until the mid-1990s continued that service. The Library has been certified and qualified for State Aid to Libraries from its inception. Twice in the 1990s, due to falling Aid to Cities and Towns the Library successfully applied for a waiver of the appropriation portion of the requirements. Our services have increased to include technology, and open hours have increased to the current 21 hours a week.

At various times the students of the Wales Elementary School were brought to the library as a part of their school day, but that practice has ceased due the liability of a group of children walking the ¼ mile between the school and the library.

A Young Adult collection was introduced in the mid-1990s and then a homework center was added shortly thereafter.

The addition of the Homework Center involved the renovation of the second floor of the building. Much of our focus during the past 20 years has been on the state of the building. At the same time we have become a mini-net member of CW Mars, increased the number of patrons and circulation.

GOVERNANCE

The Wales Public Library is governed by an elected, three member Board of Trustees.

The Library Director reports directly to the Board of Trustees and is responsible for all aspects of Library management, both the collection and the part time librarians. The Library Director also develops and oversees all library programming.

STAFFING

The Library Director and Staff work a combined total of 47 hours a week.

- The Library Director, at 25 hours per week, is responsible for all library activities including but not limited to acquisitions, cataloging, budgeting, statistics, reporting, equipment upkeep, program planning and implementation, staff management, and building management and upkeep. She also fills in at the circulation desk as needed and deals with any issues that may come up in the course of the day.
- The job of Librarian, at 19 hours a week, is split between two people. Librarians interact directly with patrons and are responsible for circulation, interlibrary loan requests and the processing of these, and reference information. They are the public faces of the Library and as such they answer the phone, cover and repair library materials, assist people with computers, promote and assist with programs, recommend titles and accomplish any other duties assigned to them by the director.
- The Custodian, at 3 hours a week, does a remarkable job of keeping the Library clean.

The challenge going forward will be to maintain this level of staffing, keeping up with increases in minimum wage and compensating a job well done.

HOURS

Monday	3 - 7 PM
Tuesday	3 - 7 PM
Wednesday	10AM - 12PM, 3 - 7PM
Thursday	3 - 7 PM
Saturday	10AM - 1 PM

SERVICES

Story Time

Homework Help

Computer Assistance

Copier & Fax availability

Homebound Delivery

Wi-Fi Hotspot

Activities & Programs

COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

FY 2015

The collection at the Wales Public Library is comprised primarily of popular titles. Statistically, the largest portion of our collection are the electronic titles available through CW Mars. There are 10,445 physical items housed in this library, of these 4478 are in the adult collection, 4389 of these are the children's collection which is the combination of little children's and juvenile titles and is currently undergoing a comprehensive weeding which will result in substantially reduced numbers. The Young Adult collection holds 1,075 items. We are increasing our purchases of large print and audio (cd) books. Electronic readers are being added and will be available to our patrons soon. Junior Library Guild subscriptions for multiple levels of children's materials decrease the amount of research necessary for purchases. We have 12 subscriptions to popular adult magazines and 2 local newspapers. Regional and national newspapers are

easily available online. The Director looks for and acquires titles about this locality or written by local authors. We also provide our entire collection through delivery for those residents that are homebound. Although we have been able to reach the 20% of appropriated funds expenditure requirement, this is becoming difficult to accomplish due to a lack of space and the inability to add significantly more weight to our building.

BOOKS

Adult Volumes	3446
Young Adult Volumes	1075
Children's Volumes	4389
Total Books	8910

AUDIO VISUAL

Video	1171
Audio Books	216
Total Audio Visual	1387

OTHER MATERIALS (available through membership in CWMars)

E-Books	38,772
Downloadable Audio	7,902
Downloadable Video	1167
Periodicals	148
Miscellaneous	7
Total Library Holdings	58292

CIRCULATION STATISTICS**FY 2015**

Adult Books	1928
Young Adult Books	255
Children's	1847
Periodicals	43
DVDs	2292
Audio Books	595
E-Books	547
Downloadable Audio	72
Downloadable Video	8
Miscellaneous	<u>7</u>
Total	7594

Of the 9,421 items that circulated in FY2015, 2,122 items (22%) circulated to non-residents.

FY2015 SERVICES

Number of Wales residents who are registered borrowers: 824 (44%)*

Attendance in library: 3,678

Program attendance: 175

*While the number of residents who are registered borrowers seems low, it is a common practice in our town for one person in each family to track the entire family's borrowing. Therefore, the number of borrowers at the Wales Library is significantly higher than we have registered.

COMPARATIVE LIBRARY DATA (2014 Ranking Report, MBLC)

The following comparison of usage data per capita for the Wales Public Library with per capita averages for libraries in its population group and overall provides an illustration of how the Wales Library compares with libraries throughout the state.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Wales per capita</u>	<u>Statewide median (same pop.)</u>	<u>Rank out of 65 MA towns (same pop.)</u>	<u>Rank out of 368 MA towns (all pops.)</u>
Total holdings	21.2 items	7.36 items	28	42
Total direct circulation	4.1 items	9.29 items	34	332
Total circulation activity	5.0 items	9.28 items	42	304
Attendance	2.0	6.8	28	286

SUMMARY OF DATA

The Wales Library has much to offer the residents of Wales. However, due to our limited parking, our lack of any community space, and our building's physical limitations on large groups, we are not able to attract residents as other libraries our size might.

ASSESSMENT OF USER NEEDS

1. A building that is structurally sound with dedicated parking, more useable space, better handicap accessibility, and better outside lighting.

2. A way to effectively communicate the multiple and varied opportunities for enlightenment, connection and growth to the community.

3. Dedicated time and space for more library programs such as computer training and book discussion groups.

A survey was conducted electronically through our Town website, the library's Facebook page and made available to library patrons in a paper format. The responses were overwhelmingly in supportive of our library, it's services and in favor of a new library building. Our Assessment of User Needs was developed with this survey in mind. The survey showed that a majority of our patrons used the library at least once a week. Most respondents had school aged children and used the library for recreational purposes. They reported using the library for research purposes and childrens' programs. People also viewed the library as a place to meet others, socialize and to get information about town activities. Respondents also suggested additional programs with a monthly book club gaining the most support. Other suggestions included programs on Wales history, Arts & Crafts, Speakers, Movies and computer help. All of these suggestions would require additional and accessible space. Respondents also commented on increasing patronage with better parking and a better building. The survey that was recently completed for the Town's 5 Main St. purchase also supports the idea of a new town complex, which would include a library.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

I. GOAL: Get a new building

OBJECTIVE #1: Actively participate in work toward a new location

Action Plan:

1. Write the Long Range Plan and keep it current – 2015 and ongoing
2. Maintain an active presence on the 5 Main St. Committee – ongoing
3. Update and improve the Library Building Program – 2016
4. Apply for funding through the MBLC Library Construction Program – 2017
5. Increase fundraising via the Wales Library Auxiliary – ongoing

II. GOAL: Maintain current services

OBJECTIVE #1: Monitor and maintain current building

Action Plan:

1. Inspect and investigate all changes regarding building condition and stability, and report to appropriate entities - ongoing
2. Maintain basement ventilation by opening and closing windows as appropriate, continue to operate fan - ongoing
3. Replace some of children's room shelving with browsing bins - ongoing
4. Repair window glass as needed - ongoing

OBJECTIVE #2: Develop and maintain our collection

Action Plan:

1. Observe and monitor interlibrary loan requests, request patron suggestions - ongoing
2. Investigate similar genres, authors, and formats for inclusion in collection - ongoing
3. Continue to weed the collection to free space for new materials - ongoing
4. Replace worn and broken materials - ongoing
5. Purchase and load electronic reading device to loan - 2015
6. Investigate and plan to replace "classic" works – 2016

III. GOAL: Attract more Wales residents

OBJECTIVE #1: Promote Library services and activities

Action Plan:

1. Maintain and promote Facebook page – ongoing

2. Assure that postings on bulletin boards, cable access and other local communication devices are current - ongoing
3. Improve signage - 2015
4. Provide materials in the formats desired by our patrons - ongoing

OBJECTIVE #2: Maintain certification in State Aid to Public Libraries Program

Action Plan:

1. Continue to request and lobby for budget increases necessary to qualify for this program - ongoing
2. Keep and report statistics needed for this program - ongoing
3. Complete application annually - ongoing

IV. Encourage more community partnerships

OBJECTIVE #1: Cultivate and maintain a relationship with Wales Elementary School

Action Plan:

1. Advertise and promote Library programs and activities through the principal's e-mail list - ongoing
2. Work with the school librarian to provide appropriate materials to the school library - ongoing
3. Co-operate with the school reading programs - ongoing

OBJECTIVE #2: Build and maintain relationships with other community organizations

Action Plan:

1. Partner with the Senior Center, the Fire Department Auxiliary, and the Girl Scouts to improve library visibility and use. - ongoing
2. Identify other community groups that could encourage increased Library use. - ongoing

Wales Library Planning

Community Survey

1. How often do you visit the Wales Public Library?

- Once a week
- Once a month
- Occasionally
- I don't use the library

2. What are the ages of the members of your household? (check all that apply)

- Preschool
- Elementary school
- Middle school
- High School
- College
- Adult
- Senior

3. For what purposes do you use the library? (check all that apply)

- Recreational materials (books, audiobooks, movies)
- Information (print, electronic, other)
- Childrens programs
- Computer use
- Magazines or Newspapers
- Study
- Other (please specify)

4. What type of program would you attend?

5. If you don't use the Wales Public Library, why not

- Hours are inconvenient
- Collection doesn't interest me
- Use another library
- Don't use any library
- Lack of parking

Other (please specify)

6. Which other library do you use? Why**7. What types of material would you like to see in the library?**

- Fiction
- Non-fiction

Please specify the subject or genre of material

8. Did you know that you can easily borrow a wide variety of electronic materials through the library (books, audiobooks, video)?

- yes
- no

WALES PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMUNITY SURVEY

31 Responses

1. How often do you use the WPL

Weekly = 17

Monthly = 12

Occasionally = 9

Don't use = 1

2. Ages in your household

Preschool = 3

Elementary = 12

Middle = 6

High = 7

College = 7

Adult = 32

Senior = 10

3. What purpose

Recreational = 37

Information = 14

Childrens programs = 8

Computer = 12

Magazines & Newspapers = 4

Study = 2

Other = 8

meet people & socialize, cloth art viewing, Town information

4. What program would you attend

Book Club = 6

Wales History = 3

Art & Craft =2

Speakers = 3

Films/Movies = 2

Computer instruction =2

Knitting, Jewelry, Kindle, Children's, educational information each =1

5. If you don't use Wales Library, why

Use another library = 3

Lack of parking =2

Inconvenient hours, doesn't interest, =1 each

6. Which other Library

Palmer = 2, Monson =1, Sturbridge, Brimfield, Stafford Springs, CT =1 each

For convenience =3, better selection =1

7. Fiction or N.F.

22 Fiction, 17 Non Fiction

Genre, Subject

Mysteries = 2, History =2, Biography, large print, Gardening, Nature, Art, Food, How to, Humor,

Young Adult, Interesting Non Fiction

8. Easily borrow E-materials

Yes = 28

No = 1

9. What could we do to increase patrons

Better parking =2, Better building= 2, Increase hours, better lighting, space for programs, speakers, more choice in books & DVDs

5 Main Street Survey

The Town of Wales is requesting feedback from residents on the usage of the property located on 5 Main

St. (the property north of the Old Town Hall on Rt. 19). Submitted ideas will be reviewed and studied by

the 5 Main St. Committee. You may wish to read 5 Main St. Committee meeting minutes and/or study

any related documentation stored [here](#) on the Town website prior to submitting ideas.

You don't have to answer all questions. On the other hand, you can be as detailed as you'd like!

1. Before any decisions are made to upgrade, raze or take any other final course of action, what should the Town do now with the building located on the 5 Main St property?
2. If it is decided to keep and upgrade the building to be in compliance with ADA regulations, how should the existing building be used (or not used)?
3. If it is decided that the building should be razed, what should replace the existing building (e.g. Town Hall office building, multidepartment complex, WPD, nothing, etc...)?
4. Not thinking about buildings, what do you think the Town should do with the approximately 5 acres of usable land on the property?

Here are some of the suggestions that have been made so far, please indicate your feelings for the below suggestions. Some options can have the same answer.

1 Bad Idea – 2 Acceptable – 3 Idea Great Idea

Use the garage of the existing building to house the Police cruisers.

1 2 3

Upgrade the current 5 Main St. building to be ADA compliant for Town use, and do NOT build a new complex on the property.

1 2 3

Raze the existing building and use the property to expand parking at the Old Town Hall and eventually build a new complex on the property.

1 2 3

Place the house at 5 Main St. back on the market (including one acre of land), but keep the remaining land behind the property.

1 2 3

Raze the existing building and use the property to expand parking at the Old Town Hall, but do NOT build a new complex on the property.

1 2 3

Create a Memorial area on the property where all veteran and war memorials can be observed in one location.

1 2 3

"I can help the Town of Wales" If you feel that you have some special contact information, additional references, or special abilities (e.g. engineering expertise, grant writing, etc...) that you would like to donate to this cause, please let us know!

The scope of this project is not yet decided. However, consider the following two funding scenarios:

- 1) Grants and/or other outside funding is received to help bolster funds spent by the Town.
- 2) No grants and/or other outside funding is received. In this situation, the Town would either fund the operation on our own or limit the scope of the project.

Would your expectation of what should be built be the same or different for the above two scenarios?

Additional Comments:

Your Name *

First Last

Your Email Address (optional)

5 Main Street Survey Results

Introduction: The survey was distributed via the Town website for several months, at the annual Town Meeting, and outside the Town election in May. A total of **43 completed surveys** were received.

There were **lots of opinions expressed** in those 43 responses! We encourage the Selectmen to read through the individual comments to get the best sense of the opinions and ideas.

There were **6 specific ideas** presented for people to respond to:

1) Use the garage to **house the Police cruisers**.

Over 75% think this is a great or acceptable idea; just under a quarter think it's a bad idea.

2) **Upgrade the building** for Town use; **do not build** a new complex on the property.

While roughly one-third think this is an acceptable idea, only 12% think it's a great idea while 53% think it's a bad idea.

3) **Raze the building**. Use the property to **expand parking** for the Old Town Hall and **eventually build a new Town complex**.

70% think this is an great or acceptable idea; 30% think it's a bad idea. Over a third marked this as a great idea.

4) **Raze the building**. Use the property to **expand parking** at the Old Town Hall but **do NOT build a new complex**.

43% say this is an acceptable idea; 48.6% say it's bad while only 8.6% say it's a great idea. Overall, it's a split, but the tiny number of people saying it's a great idea shows there's not a lot of enthusiasm for it, especially compared the "great idea" support for question #3.

5) **Place the house and one acre of land back on the market**; keep the remaining land behind the building.

This idea has by far the least support: 77% say it's a bad idea. 15.6% say it's a great idea and 8.6 found it acceptable.