

Town of Brookline Facilities Study Committee Police Facility Sub-Committee Memorandum

In order to determine the current needs of the Police Department, sub-committee members surveyed the current police department, spoke with department personnel including the Chief of Police and reviewed documents filed by previous Facility Space Needs Committees. As a result, the sub-committee determined that the deficiencies identified in previous reports have yet to be addressed with the exception of the installation of a video/audio surveillance system. As noted by other committees, the present police facility has an abundance of problems many of which simply cannot be adequately addressed without cost prohibitive changes to the building/police department area.

Among the issues identified by this committee, as well as previous ones, were the lack of storage space for files, department property, found property and evidence. The current site also lacks adequate offices, lobby space, conference rooms, employee areas (locker room, break room etc.), and a department training area. The lobby area also fails to provide adequate protection to the employee assigned to work the window. Perhaps the most urgent situation however, is the department's holding facilities which have been deemed unsafe. The booking/processing areas are insufficient and do not allow for the safe processing/interviewing of detained persons. The holding facilities are also in violation of "sight and sound separation" requirements regarding detained juvenile offenders. The current site also lacks a door control system (office areas, town offices, storage, etc.), a general alarm system, and a sally port. There were other issues brought to the sub-committee that were not addressed in previous committee reports to include mold, poor ventilation throughout the building, and poor water pressure/quality. Chief Quigley's narrative regarding these issues is attached to this document.

In summary, it was the opinion of those on the Police Facility Sub-committee, that a new building was the optimal approach to rectify the space needs of the department. Throughout the process, the sub-committee noted that whether or not a new facility is built, the safety/liability issues present at the current site need to be mitigated. To further that process, a Risk Assessment spread sheet has been prepared by Chris Adams and provided to the entire Facilities Study Committee to better clarify and prioritize the safety/liability issues present.

Respectfully submitted,

James Sartell