

Please register today!



## COMMUNITY FACILITIES PLANNING PROJECT

# JOIN US FOR A COMMUNITY EVENT AT PLUMMER-MOTZ SCHOOL ON THURSDAY, MARCH 12TH, 6:30 PM



What should be done with Plummer-Motz and Lunt schools when they become vacant? What about the Falmouth Memorial Library, Town Hall, and the Pleasant Hill Fire Station?

For more information, see www.town.falmouth.me.us or call 781-5253 ext. 5340

# Falmouth's Community Facility Needs

Over the past few years various community facility needs have come to the attention of the Falmouth Town Council. The Council has charged a Committee to study these needs, gather public input, and come back with recommendations. The Committee believes that this issue will have a generational impact and is *so* important that the community should be informed and involved in whatever ways possible. That is why we are inviting you!

### The Falmouth community is growing and changing.

- In 1975 Falmouth had about 6,500 people.
- By 2000 the town had over 10,000 people.
- By 2025 it is expected to grow to around 13,000 people.
- More young families are moving to Falmouth.
- The number of senior citizens is also growing.
- Falmouth is a bedroom community where many workers commute from.

### The growth of our community has an impact on community facilities.

- Some existing community meeting places have maintenance or expansion needs, such as Falmouth Memorial Library, Town Hall, and the Pleasant Hill Fire Station.
- Some existing facilities have served their original purpose, such as Plummer-Motz Elementary School and Lunt Elementary School.
- Some new community meeting places do not exist yet, such as a Multi-generational Community Center.

### We have an opportunity and challenge before us.

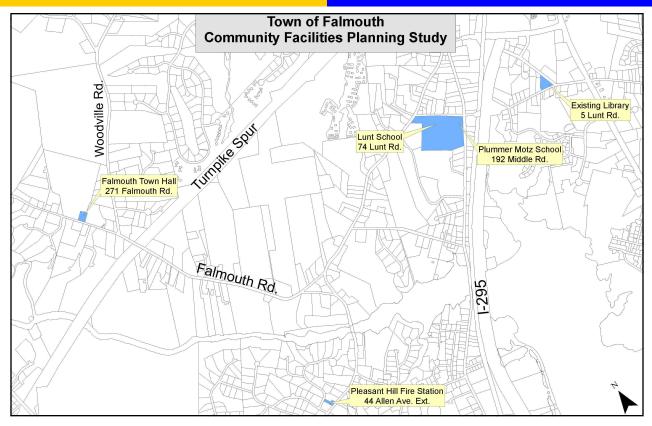
- There is an unprecedented new availability of land and building space at the elementary school complex.
- It is complicated as there are multiple pieces of the puzzle.
- It is expensive as building renovation and construction cost a lot of money.
- It is emotional as some facilities have been part of the community for a long time.

### Here are some of the questions we need to ask ourselves.

- How can the community's needs best be met?
- In which facilities should the community invest?
- Which facilities should be divested?
- Which facilities should remain public property and put to new uses?
- Is there a benefit to locating certain community functions together?
- Should public-private partnerships be pursued to help defray costs?

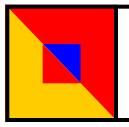
Community Outreach Event Invitation
Please join us on Thursday, March 12, 2009 from 6:30 to 9:00 PM
At the Plummer-Motz School, Mason Gymnasium

- \* Work in small groups
- \* Respond to possible options
- \* State what is important to you
- \* Contribute to your community
- \* Enjoy some free food and drink
- \* Meet your neighbors
- \* Express your own ideas



## **Key Facility Facts**

- Plummer-Motz Elementary School: The Sampson D. Plummer School was built around 1930 as the original Falmouth High School with an addition built in 1935. It contains 22,700 sq. ft. on three stories. The one story Rolf B. Motz School was built around 1948 and added onto in 1949 and 1951. It contains 9,700 sq. ft.. A 1973, 10,300 sq. ft. addition now houses the Harold L. Mason Gymnasium and connects the two schools. The Plummer-Motz building will be vacated when a new elementary school opens at Woodville Road school campus. The target date for that is September 2011. The total site area, including Lunt School, is about 20 acres.
- Lunt Elementary School: The D.W. Lunt School was built in 1942 and contains 8,000 sq. ft. on two stories. In 1992 a one story addition of 12,900 sq. ft. was built. Lunt School will be vacated when a new elementary school opens at Woodville Road school campus.
- Falmouth Memorial Library: The Falmouth Memorial Library opened in 1952 with approximately 1,500 sq. ft. Since its inception, the Library has continually struggled to find the space it needs for the collections and programs its constituents demand. Expansions in 1966 and 1995 resulted in the current building area being just over 10,700 sq. ft. Since the last expansion, circulation has increased 135%, while the population of the town has increased about 33%. As a member of a state-wide consortium, sharing of materials is now easier than ever and the Library now offers access to nearly 6 million items. As a result, interlibrary loan usage has increased from virtually zero in 1996 to more than 17,000 items coming and going in 2008, requiring additional space for handling and processing. Many consider the Library to be the heart of the community. More than 100,000 people visit it each year for books, movies, information, programs, story times, meetings, Internet access, art shows, and more. Current analysis indicates that an additional 8,000 square feet is needed to provide adequate space for collections, services, and programs. Expansion at the current 1.7-acre site would be extremely challenging.
- Town Hall: Town Hall was built around 1900 with additions in 1968, 1974, 1981 and 1996, resulting in the current building area of 12,200 sq. ft. About 30 Town employees work out of this building. The building also contains meeting spaces, Council Chambers, and the Food Pantry. It is a building that is very energy inefficient and has challenging space configurations. Its site area is 1.03 acres.
- □ Pleasant Hill Fire Station: This mid-1800's building was originally a Union Hall (community center). The Pleasant Hill Fire Company was formed in the 1920's. The building, which currently houses Engine 3, has significant capital improvement needs to maintain its life. Its site area is about 0.5 acres.



# **Registration Form**

# Please register today!

See you March 12, 6:30 PM At Plummer-Motz School!

## **Community Facilities Planning Committee**

Councilor Cathy Breen *Committee Chair* 

Councilor Teresa Pierce

Marsha Clark

Judith Currier

Phil Kaplan

Analiese Larson

Tim O'Donovan

Mark Soule

Steve Tenney

#### **Staff**

Lucky D'Ascanio

Albert Farris

Theo Holtwijk

Nathan Poore

Lyn Sudlow

#### Consultants

Institute for Civic Leadership

Oak Point Associates

#### ADVANCE REGISTRATION IS APPRECIATED BY THURSDAY MARCH 5th

NEW! You may <u>register on-line at no charge</u> for this event.
Go to www.town.falmouth.me.us, Community Programs Department.
Then click on "How to Register for Programs/Request Facilities."
Key in "Community Facilities Planning Study" or Activity Number 11299.3C

Register Online go!

Name
Address
E-mail
Phone
Yes, I am planning to come to the March 12th Community Event at Plummer-Motz School.
☐ No, unfortunately I am unable to come, but please keep me posted of your activities.
☐ Here are some of my thoughts:
Please use additional paper, if needed.
Please return by March 5th to:
Theo Holtwijk, Director of Long-Range Planning
Town of Falmouth
271 Falmouth Road
Falmouth, ME 04105
781-5253 ext. 5340
tholtwiik@town.falmouth.me.us

For additional project information, please go to <a href="http://www.town.falmouth.me.us/">http://www.town.falmouth.me.us/</a>

Thank you!