

# SELECT BOARD NEWS

The newsletter of the Lincoln, Massachusetts Select Board

**STATE OF THE TOWN MEETING: "LINCOLN in 2050"**  
**NOVEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup> and NOVEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup> @ 7:00 pm; via ZOOM**  
**REGISTER FOR BOTH MEETINGS AT**  
[HTTPS://WWW.LINCOLNTOWN.ORG/1372/2022-STATE-OF-THE-TOWN](https://www.lincolntown.org/1372/2022-STATE-OF-THE-TOWN)

**SAVE THE DATES!** This year's Annual State of the Town (SOTT) Meeting will be held virtually on Monday, November 14<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, November 15<sup>th</sup>.

**WHO SHOULD ATTEND?** Everyone who lives, works, and attends school in Lincoln is welcome!

**WHAT IS STATE OF THE TOWN?** SOTT has two main purposes:

1. Give Lincoln's boards and committees the opportunity to share priorities and projects for the coming year.
2. Give community members the chance to provide feedback, ask questions, and raise new issues for town government to consider.

**THIS YEAR'S TOPIC:** "What should Lincoln be like in 2050?"

Lincoln's boards and committees are focused on work that will have long-term implications for and impacts on our town. There are conversations about housing, education, human services, multi-modal transportation, diversity and equity, land use, and climate change (to name but a few).

**WHY SHOULD I PARTICIPATE?**

1. Many topics are interrelated and require us to think about our values, envision the future, and weigh (sometimes difficult) tradeoffs. We need your ideas, insights, questions, and dreams to guide our work as we draft the plans, policy proposals, and budgets that you will vote on at subsequent Town Meetings.
2. You get to see your neighbors, meet new people, and have a direct impact on shaping your community!

**IS THERE ANY HOMEWORK?** *Suggested, but not required 😊!* To plan for the future, we try to understand and draw on our past. In 1971, the Lincoln Planning Board wrote its Annual Report to the Town in the form of "a letter to our grandchildren."

**BEFORE STATE OF THE TOWN, WE INVITE YOU TO READ AN EXCERPT FROM THE 1971 LETTER, AND TO SHARE YOUR IDEAS ABOUT:**

- ➔ How would you **describe Lincoln in 2022?** (Housing, transportation, human services, education, diversity & equity, town governance, land use practices, energy consumption, etc.)
- ➔ What is **your vision for 2050?** What would you include in a new "letter to our grandchildren?"
- ➔ What **actions** do we need to take to fulfill your vision? What are your top **priorities?**

*Please send us a few words, a few paragraphs, photos, poetry - whatever conveys your ideas!*

*Go to <https://forms.gle/JMVHhK2QocUF8Zom8>. Deadline is Tuesday, November 1<sup>st</sup>.*





### Excerpt from: A Letter to our Grandchildren from the Planning Board

"The thing we have always in our minds is that there'll be...more of you than there are of us. Some of us were born here; most of us came here because it's beautiful and the air is fresh, and we have green fields to walk in. We feel a terrible responsibility to see to it that as far as is humanly possible you will have a town like this to live in. So, we've given most of our time and thought during the year to two matters, both specifically directed toward this end.

First, having polished up the specifications of the Open Space Residential Zone, we held neighborhood meetings to explain its provisions to the voters, who wisely adopted the new by-law at the Town Meeting. This is one reason why, although there are many more of you today, you can still walk out your front door and hear a meadow lark or see a Monarch butterfly. Another reason is that we changed the standards for Cluster developments, increasing the amount of land which must be left open and decreasing the allowable lot size...which is the reason why you find several sizable fields where you are welcome to play.

**And now we come to the second matter of deepest concern. The very steps that we have taken to make sure you would inherit a town still lovely and still healthy have made it so desirable that land prices, even in our day, have risen beyond what most people can pay. We are thinking about you, and your teachers, and the police force and the firemen and the men who take care of our roads, and we are thinking about ourselves as we grow older and want a smaller, less costly home. We are determined to create some housing that anyone who really wants to live in Lincoln can afford.**

This involves difficult decisions. Such houses cannot be built without subsidies. Which programs should we use? Where should the houses be built? Concentrated or scattered throughout the Town?...Toward the end of the year the remaining sixty-seven acres of the Codman Place were purchased by the Lincoln Rural Land Foundation. A large part of this was to be turned over to the Lincoln Foundation for Moderate Income Housing. At last, we had a start. How well we succeeded in solving our problem you will judge for yourselves, dear Grandchildren.

It will astonish you to learn that our winding country roads didn't always have paths adjacent to them for safe walking and bicycling. However, progress was made during the year. Excavation for the utility lines speeded up construction on Bedford Road, so that by the year's end the most difficult and expensive section of the path was completed and the remainder roughed out as far as Route 2...And now, dear Grandchildren, what else? (I am mindful of the injunction not to bore you.) There are, of course, many routine matters which you, too, will have to deal with. We wonder whether you will have solved the problem of solid waste? Maybe our best hope is that you will be wise enough to produce less of it...

It is a fortunate little town that has...people available and willing to serve. May it still be so in your day."

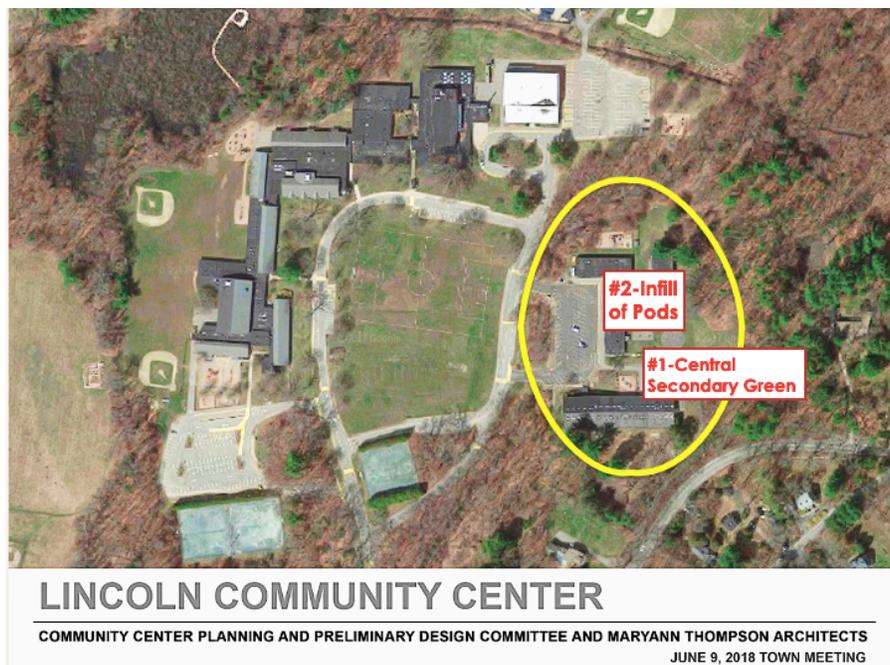
To read the entire letter, visit <https://www.lincolntown.org/1372/2022-State-of-the-Town>

## Community Center Building Committee (CCBC)

**SAVE THE DATE: WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2022 IN THE LINCOLN SCHOOL AUDITORIUM SPECIAL TOWN MEETING TO VOTE ON FUNDING FOR THE DESIGN**

At the Annual Town Meeting last March, residents voted to move forward with planning for a Community Center. The Select Board appointed nine members to the Community Center Building Committee (CCBC) in late-May.

- CCBC's held its first meeting on June 1<sup>st</sup> and has been meeting regularly since.
- The first task was to become familiar with the previous community center studies, with a focus on the most recent of them -- the 2018 Community Center Preliminary Planning & Design Committee's (CCPPDC) report. The 2018 effort produced two alternative design concepts (image below is from a June 2018 presentation) both of which were determined to be worthy of further consideration.
- Picking up where the previous committee left off, CCBC is in the process of assessing and refining the original concepts, mindful of lessons learned during the pandemic about programs and spaces.
- Major public projects require both an Owner's Project Manager (OPM) and a Project Architect.
- The Select Board has called a **Special Town Meeting on Wednesday evening, November 30<sup>th</sup> in the School Auditorium** for the purpose of asking the voters to approve a professional services budget of \$325,000 for the next phase of work. This next phase is critical in that it will provide the voters the ability to select a preferred design option and budget.
- In preparation for the vote on a preferred option (expected to take place late 2023), CCBC will refine and update the concept plans, prepare more detailed site plans, prepare schematic design plans, and refine cost estimates and budgets.
- **CCBC will be providing an update on its process during Night 1 (November 14<sup>th</sup>) of State of the Town Meeting (SOTT) via Zoom. Visit the SOTT webpage to register: <https://www.lincolntown.org/1372/2022-State-of-the-Town>**



Visit <http://lincolntown.org/1346/Community-Center-Building-Committee> for the latest information!



Lincoln Select Board  
Jonathan Dwyer  
Jennifer Glass, Chair  
Jim Hutchinson  
16 Lincoln Road  
Lincoln, Massachusetts 01773

Pre-Sorted  
Standard  
US POSTAGE PAID

ECR-WSS  
Postal Patron  
Lincoln, Massachusetts 01773