



# TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON

159 Pantigo Road  
East Hampton, New York 11937

**KATHEE BURKE-GONZALEZ**  
Councilwoman

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## MEMORANDUM

To: Supervisor Peter Van Scoyoc  
Councilwoman Sylvia Overby  
Councilman Jeffrey Bragman  
Councilman David Lys

cc: D. Patrizio  
N. O'Donnell  
J. Pilgrim

From: Councilwoman Kathee Burke-Gonzalez *KBG*

**RE: NEW SENIOR COMMUNITY CENTER  
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)**

Date: July 2, 2018

On Tuesday, February 13, 2018, the proposed schematic design for the new Senior Community Center was presented at a Town Board Work Session by architect Drazen Cackovic of Savik & Murray for community and Town Board input.

### **Purpose**

This memorandum serves to: 1.) address the questions that have arisen since the work session presentation; 2.) correct the misinformation that has been communicated about the process and the proposed building; and 3.) provide *"A little more analysis to make sure a new center is the right answer is essential"* as called for in the East Hampton Star editorial entitled "Sprightly Seniors: What do They Want?" dated February 21, 2018. (See Editorial attached.) Please note that where relevant, data provided to the Suffolk County Office of the Aging has been included.

### **Background**

Senior Centers have been and will continue to be valuable community assets providing significant benefits to older adults and their families. The large number of older adults and the strong emphasis on living healthier, longer lives provide significant opportunities for our proposed Senior Center to serve older adults and their families in ways that were not possible in the past.

The Town of East Hampton’s Human Services Department currently serves the vast and varied needs of three generations of Seniors. (See Human Services Key Performance Indicators.) Our Seniors – from 60 to 100 years of age – encompass diverse interests, attitudes, lifestyles, and physical abilities. (Suffolk County defines Senior as 60 years and older.)

As our community continues to age and folks find themselves living longer, it is expected that there will be an even greater demand for Senior programs and services here in East Hampton.

This is clearly demonstrated by the 2010 census data:

<u>Geography</u>	<u>Median Age</u>
East Hampton Village	55.5
Napeague	55.4
Amagansett	52.5
Montauk	47.9
Northwest Harbor	47.0
Wainscott	44.1
East Hampton North Springs	40.0
	38.5
Town Total	43.8
US	37.2
Suffolk County	39.8

To further the point, below is an excerpt from the “Hamlet Business District Plan, Town of East Hampton,” May 2017 page 2-3:

Population Age Distribution

“The Study Area has a slightly older population than Suffolk County, with a higher concentration of people above the age of 55 (35.1%) and lower concentration of people below the age of 34 (34.7%). During the 2000-2015 period, the Study Area experienced a significant increase in senior population and a decline in workforce population. The population of the 55-64 age group increased the most from 2,174 to 3,366, followed by the population of the 65 and older age group, which increased from 3,265 to 4,435.”

Given the population trends, there is strong rationale for a new, larger, well thought out facility that can serve the varied needs of our Seniors, such as providing, and continuing to provide...

- Hot nutritious meals (may be the only hot meal of the day for some Seniors)
- Social interaction/meaningful connections to dispel loneliness
- Free wellness classes to improve longevity as well as help with balance and agility
- Stimulating lectures
- Comfortable spaces to hold book clubs, card games, art classes, etc.

To that end, the current Senior Center located on Springs Fireplace Road is woefully inadequate to serve the community's immediate needs – not to mention future needs – in five significant areas: the Lunch Room, Activity Room, Kitchen, Adult Day Care and Parking.

The current Senior Center is comprised of the following general areas:

<u>Rooms</u>	<u>Current Square Footage</u>
Lunch Room	1,353
Activity Room	1,210 (Divides into two spaces w/ a thin screen)
Adult Day Care	866
Kitchen	735
Offices	1,579
Storage	3,000
Support Spaces	380
Grossing Factor (halls, etc.)	<u>1,377</u>
	10,500

Following extensive analysis and public input, the current Senior Center is grossly inadequate in these five significant areas:

1.) Activity Room: severely limits activities to one or two activities at a time. For two activities to take place a thin screen/curtain is pulled to divide the space. The Activity Room is then separated from the Lunch Room by a screen. It can be loud and distracting in the Activity Room when Seniors arrive early for lunch or staff is prepping the Lunch Room for service. With only one room, staff is constantly moving furniture and setting up and taking down different configurations of tables and chairs.

2.) Kitchen: A total of 18,695 meals were served last year – 16,555 in the Lunch Room and 2,140 to our Adult Day Care clients. That represents a +41% increase in total meals served from 2011 to 2017. The Kitchen is much too small and poorly configured to prepare the number of meals needed to support the current program, let alone the future needs.

3.) Lunch Room: In the last seven years, the Senior Nutrition Program has experienced a +30% increase in the average number of meals served per day – having gone from an average of 60 meals in 2011 to 78 meals in 2017. The Lunch Room is currently too small to accommodate the increased number of lunch goers. Once the Seniors are seated, the chairs in the Lunch Room are backed into one another so it is impossible for walkers and serving carts to get through. On days when there is a larger turnout, tables are set up in the Activity Room, which isolates those diners.

4.) Adult Day Care Program: The Adult Day Care room is too small. Seniors spend a great deal of their time seated at the large table that dominates the room. In addition, the room has no dedicated restrooms and no shower facilities which are greatly needed based on the needs of those served by the program.

5.) Parking: 61 spaces are insufficient to accommodate Seniors attending the programs, community members accessing assistance for county, state and federal programs, 13 Town vehicles and 28 staff members' vehicles.

While the current facility located on Springs Fireplace Road is 100 years old (some remember it as The Cottage Inn), it has been home to the East Hampton Senior Center for the last 30 years or more. The physical space is woefully inadequate for the services currently offered, and it certainly does not allow for program growth or expansion. In addition, the physical appearance of the building, both inside and out, is unsightly, lessening the attraction of the facility to some Seniors. There is a universally held belief that the current center needs to be leveled.

**Proposed Design**

To accommodate the current and future needs of our Seniors and provide a permanent home for the East Hampton Food Pantry (EHFP), the following square footage is proposed:

	<u>Proposed Square Footage</u>
Proposed Senior Center	16,955
Proposed Food Pantry	<u>1,775</u>
Total	18,730
Current Senior Center	10,500
% Increase of Senior Center	61%
% Increase with EHFP	78%

It should be noted that this is a reduction from the building size of 22,323 square feet proposed and unanimously approved as to concept by the Town Board in June 2017.

It has always been our desire to create spaces that are universally accessible and user-friendly, flexible to accommodate a variety of activities, and adaptable to facilitate future needs. It is believed that the new center would serve the needs of those currently attending our programs as well as provide opportunities for Seniors who have not joined due to the limitations of the current facility.

The new facility would give the Town the ability over the next 20 years or so to:

- Accommodate the current and future needs of the Senior Nutrition Program
- Properly serve the needs of the Seniors attending the Adult Day Care Program
- Offer more than two Senior activities at one time
- Increase wellness offerings including yoga, aerobics, dancing, balance, meditation, etc.
- Increase enrichment programs including healthy living lectures
- Increase health screening opportunities
- Provide a safe, comfortable environment in a building that is fully ADA compliant
- Serve more Seniors who are looking to age in-place, keeping our elders in our community

It is also anticipated that new Senior Activities would be offered free to Seniors once the facility is built. These programs would not solely be initiated by the Town, but by the Seniors themselves. It is also expected that current activities such as Opera Club, Knitting Group, Poetry, Bridge Group, etc. would grow organically once the new building is opened and there are comfortable, dedicated meeting spaces available.

If you've ever tried to find a space to hold a lecture in town, you can appreciate how challenging it is to locate an event space. Spaces such as the East Hampton Library's Baldwin Room or Ashawagh Hall or the Town Hall Meeting Room book up quickly. It is anticipated that the new Adult Community Center would be an event/gathering space thriving with activities and offerings for Seniors with extremely varied interests.

It is also our belief that once the new Adult Community Center is open, Seniors currently using the Center will come more frequently and Seniors that had never considered joining the Center will start attending, as some may be turned off by the physical appearance and/or limited activities of the current facility.

### **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**

#### **Question #1: Why replace the current Senior Center now?**

In December 2014 the Senior Services Committee stated that the current center was inadequate and needed to be replaced by a new facility designed to accommodate current and future needs of a growing demographic.

The recommendation read as follows:

*"The current Senior Services Center on Springs Fireplace Road provides vital services in the Town of East Hampton. It offers many programs including the popular lunch/nutrition program, adult day care, and limited daily exercise and social programs. However, the current Senior Center is inadequate for the types of programs and services that are needed to meet the current and future needs of the growing older adult community. The committee strongly recommends that the Town replace the current Senior Services Center with one that can serve the entire community. It is estimated that the over 65 population in East Hampton will be double the size of the school age population within 15 years. This population will need emergency medical facilities, assisted living facilities, senior housing, and a wide range of social programs and services. Adequate and appropriate space is needed. The Town Board needs to identify a centrally located site where a new center can be built and expanded with other future facilities as needed. A committee of interested and informed citizens needs to be appointed to work on the design, programs and services that such a facility would require."*

#### **Question #2: Who served on the 'working committee' for the proposed Senior Center? What was their expertise?**

Initially the Senior Services Committee, who conducted a survey among Seniors in our community, set the framework for the proposed building. Then over the last three years, Human Services' staff members, with their decades of experience serving the needs of East Hampton

Seniors, have been lending their expertise and helping to build consensus for every element of this proposed project.

The internal “working committee” is comprised of the following staff members:

Staff Member	Title	# of Years in EH Human Services
Lisa Charde	Supervisor, Adult Day Care	30 years
Nicole O'Donnell	Senior Administrative Assistant	9 years
Diane Patrizio	Director, Human Services	10 years
Michelle Posillico	Supervisor, Senior Nutrition	26 years
Susan Trotman	Supervisor, Senior Transportation	19 years
Eric Schantz	Senior Planner	NA
Tom Talmage	Town Engineer	NA
Kathee Burke-Gonzalez	Liaison to Human Services	NA

**Question #3: How was the architectural and engineering firm chosen?**

Under applicable NYS and Town law, there is a competitive process for awarding professional services such as architectural and engineering services. Following this procurement process, in Spring 2016 the Town noticed a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Architectural and Engineering Services for design and construction management. In Fall 2016 the committee received and reviewed six submissions and went on to interview three firms. On December 15, 2016 the Town Board voted unanimously to hire Savik & Murray. With an office in Holbrook, Savik & Murray has a long, proven history with the Town and relevant experience designing community centers servicing Seniors.

**Question #4: Has consideration been given to the Town’s historic design aesthetic?**

Yes. The proposed exterior of the new Adult Community Center would resemble a row of shingled saltbox structures, modeled after some of the earliest houses in East Hampton. Not only is it in keeping with the Town’s design aesthetic but it should also help to break up visually the mass of the two-story building.

**Question #5: Was a public process followed? Which meetings were open to the public?**

The Town Board adhered to a very public, transparent and collaborative process including identifying the space needs as well as the finished materials and aesthetics for a new Senior Center.

Following is a list of meetings where the proposed Senior Center was discussed:

- Yellow connotes public meetings
- Turquoise connotes committee meetings that were open to the public

It should also be noted that attendees of our Senior Center programs put forth their suggestions and recommendations on an almost daily basis.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Meeting</u>
March 2014	Formation of Senior Services Committee
April 4, 2014	Meeting of Senior Services Committee
May 2, 2014	Meeting of Senior Services Committee
June 6, 2014	Meeting of Senior Services Committee
June 20, 2014	Meeting of Senior Services Committee
July 18, 2014	Meeting of Senior Services Committee
August 15, 2014	Meeting of Senior Services Committee
September 19, 2014	Meeting of Senior Services Committee
October 3, 2014	Meeting of Senior Services Committee
October 17, 2014	Meeting of Senior Services Committee
December 4, 2014	Senior Services Committee Recommendations Presentation at Town Board Work Session
January 2015	Formation of Internal Working Committee
April 19, 2016	Preliminary Recommendation at Town Board Work Session
Spring 2016	Noticed RFP for Architectural Services
Fall 2016	Interviewed Architects
October 4, 2016	Councilwoman Burke-Gonzalez report to Wainscott CAC
December 3, 2016	Councilwoman Burke-Gonzalez report to Wainscott CAC
December 15, 2016	Selected Architect – Savik & Murray
January 7, 2017	Councilwoman Burke-Gonzalez report to Wainscott CAC
March 14, 2017	Kick-off Meeting with Savik & Murray
March 27, 2017	Working Committee Meeting
March 31, 2017	LTV- Group for Good Government with Arthur Malman (still airing)
April 19, 2017	Working Committee Meeting
May 4, 2017	Savik & Murray Meeting with all Human Services Staff
May 23, 2017	Savik & Murray Working Committee Meeting at the Senior Center
June 20, 2017	Savik & Murray Presentation at Town Board Work Session
July 8, 2017	Councilwoman Burke-Gonzalez report to Wainscott CAC
October 20, 2017	Working Committee Meeting
November 6, 2017	Working Committee Meeting
January 31, 2018	Savik & Murray Meeting with Human Services Supervisors
January 31, 2018	Savik & Murray Meeting with Supervisor Van Scoyoc
February 13, 2018	Savik & Murray Presentation of Schematic Design at Town Board Work Session
February 13, 2018	Savik & Murray Presentation of Schematic Design to the Community at Senior Center
February 16, 2018	Councilwoman Burke-Gonzalez Presentation of Schematic Design to Disabilities Advisory Board
February 26, 2018	Councilwoman Burke-Gonzalez Presentation of Schematic Design to Springs CAC
March 5, 2018	Supervisor Van Scoyoc Report to East Hampton/Sag Harbor CAC

<u>Date</u>	<u>Meeting</u>
March 12, 2018	Councilman Lys Presentation of Schematic Design to Amagansett CAC
March 20, 2018	Councilwoman Burke-Gonzalez follow-up at Springs CAC
Has yet to be presented	Councilwoman Overby Presentation of Schematic Design to Montauk CAC
Has yet to be presented	Councilman Bragman Presentation of Schematic Design to Wainscott CAC

**Question #6: What were the responses to the schematic design by the individual CAC's?**  
Springs CAC

The adopted February 26, 2018 Minutes from the Springs CAC state:

“Liaison Kathee Burke-Gonzalez addressed the needs of present and future senior citizens in her introduction to the presentation of plans for the proposed new Senior Center on the site of the current facility on Springs Fireplace Rd. The new center, proposed to be double the size of the present facility, at 23,000 sq. ft. (corrected to reflect 18,000 sq. ft.), would also be home to the East Hampton Food Pantry. The Center is, and will be, open to all residents over 60 years from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. It presently serves lunch to an average 78 people per day. There is also an Adult Day Care section, open from 8:00 to 3:00, that cares for 10 Seniors. The new Center is in the early stages of planning and will be discussed again at a later SCAC meeting.”

East Hampton/Sag Harbor CAC

The March 5, 2018 Minutes from the East Hampton/Sag Harbor CAC state:

“Senior Center: One CAC member attended the 2/13/18 Town Board work session in Montauk where The architect was in attendance at. He assured that some aspect of the development would be named after Edith Parsons to replace the youth park that will be eliminated in the new plan. Thursday 2/15/18 meeting public comment was critical that there was no room for expansion at the current site, another site might be more appropriate. In fact plans do allow for expansion of current services by 30% beyond current capacity. Office space remains the same, adding second story, will be general purpose room, conference room, etc. Doubling parking, screening front, entrance and exit off roadway. A traffic light at that location would not be supported by the community. Town is maximizing that lot. The town board did look at other locations – CDCH and Playhouse – to house additional programming. Programs may be at different sites around town. Cautious estimate that the renovations to the Springs Fireplace site may be completed in 2 years. The population is aging – town estimates 57% of the residents are over 50 years of age and younger demographic is not moving to East Hampton. The town surveyed seniors and found most prefer to age in place. In response, legislation allowing apartments in single-family residences now allows owner to occupy the apartment and rent the house.”

Amagansett CAC

The adopted March 12, 2018 Minutes from the Amagansett CAC state:

“Comments offered by Committee- Overall liked the look and size of the proposal. Some asked why is there no basement for storage (budget), that it should have multi-generational groups using it, it’s in an ideal spot for seniors, size should be reviewed as per future use.”

**Question #7: Will this be the largest Town-owned building and/or the largest building on Town-owned property?**

No. There are a number of buildings larger than the proposed Senior Center. They are:

	<u>Total Square Footage</u>
Montauk Playhouse	28,500
CDCH	22,204
East Hampton RECenter	21,000
Proposed Town Hall	19,080
Proposed Senior Center	18,730

**Question #8: What Senior activities are currently offered at the Center? Do many Seniors participate in the activities?**

Senior activities currently offered at the East Hampton Senior Center include Bridge Group, Yoga for All, Chair Yoga, Mahjonn, Bingo, Tai Chi, Meditation, Healing Circle, QiGong, Poetry Club, Opera Club, Walking Club, Knitting Group, Art Group-Coloring Pages.

All programs are offered free of charge. The Yoga instruction is offered through the Town Recreation Program. Many of the other wellness programs are funded by the Town in conjunction with Stony Brook Southampton Hospital's The Ed & Phyllis Davis Wellness Institute.

The free 9 am Yoga class held on Monday and Thursday mornings is one of our most popular Senior activities. The current Activity Room can only accommodate 25 participants. Frequently we turn Seniors away. Over the course of last year, attendance in the 9 am Yoga class totaled 2,119. It should be noted that most yoga attendees do not participate in the Senior Nutrition Program.

The Bridge Group meets on Wednesdays from 1-4 pm with as many as 50 participants. As with Yoga, most do not participate in the Senior Nutrition Program.

It is our belief that once the new Adult Community Center is open, Seniors currently using the Center will come more frequently and Seniors that had never considered joining the Center will start attending, as some may be turned off by the physical appearance of the current facility.

**Question #9: How does the current Senior Center function on any given day?**

The current facility operates non-stop from 7 am until 8 pm most days. (See Building Use Schedule.)

The building schedule for a typical Monday is as follows:

<u>Time</u>	<u>Activity</u>
7:00 am	Town staff arrives
8:00-9:00 am	Yoga for All (Full Activity Room)
9:00-10:00 am	Yoga Chair (Full Activity Room)

<u>Time</u>	<u>Activity</u>
10:15-11:30 am	Current Events (Lunch Room)
11:00 am	Walking Club (Outside Path)
11:30 am	Pre-Lunch Activities (Lunch Room)
12:00 pm	Nutrition Program (Lunch Room)
1:00 pm	Opera (1/2 Activity Room)
1:00-3:00 pm	Cards (1/2 Activity Room)
5:30-6:30 pm	Sober Woman's Alcoholic Anonymous (Lunch Room)
7:00-8:00pm	Al-Anon (Adult Day Care)

In a given week, there are thirteen separate 12-step meetings held at the current Senior Center at night and on weekends. We expect that trend to continue.

**Question #10: What are the plans for the Lunch Room and Senior Activities space in the new design?**

It is proposed that the usable space for the Senior Nutrition Program and Senior Activities will double in the new building.

Current

Square Footage of Lunch Room:	1,350
Square Footage of Activities Room:	<u>1,200</u>
	2,550

Proposed

Square Footage of Lunch Room:	1,500
Square Footage of Multi-Purpose Room #1:	750
Square Footage of Multi-Purpose Room #2:	<u>750</u>
Total Room:	3,000

Square Footage of Wellness Room:	1,410
Square Footage of Media Room:	<u>684</u>
	5,094

**% Increase: +100%**

Based on the proposed schematic design, these currently offered Senior activities could take place in the following spaces, ideally with increased frequency:

Lunch Room

Senior Nutrition Program, 12-Step Programs

Multi-Purpose Room #1 and #2

Bridge Group, Mahjongg, Bingo, Poetry Club, Knitting Group, Art Group-Coloring Pages, Caregivers Support Group

### Wellness Room

Yoga for All, Chair Yoga, Tai Chi, Meditation, Healing Circle, QiGong

### Media Room

Opera Club, Movies, Lecture Series sponsored by The Ed & Phyllis Davis Wellness Institute  
It is also anticipated that new Senior activities will be offered free to Seniors once the facility is built. These programs will not solely be initiated by the Town, but by the Seniors themselves. It is also expected that current activities such as Opera Club, Knitting Group, Poetry and Bridge Group will expand organically once the new building is opened and there is a comfortable, dedicated meeting space.

It is anticipated that the new center will be an event/gathering space thriving with activities and offerings for Seniors with extremely varied interests.

### **Question #11: How busy is the current Senior Nutrition Program on any given day?**

The East Hampton Senior Center provides a main meal at 12:00 noon, Monday through Friday, throughout the year. The suggested lunch contribution is \$2.50.

Lunch for Monday, July 2 included Battered Cod, Roasted Sweet Potatoes, Snap Peas, Cole Slaw, and Melon. (See Senior Nutrition Center Menu July 2018.)

In 2017 the Senior Nutrition Program...

- Served 18,695 meals to Seniors
- Averaged 78 meals per day
- Provided at least one meal to 330 (unduplicated) Seniors over the course of the year

It should be noted that the Nutrition Program has experienced **a +30% increase** since 2011 in the average number of meals served per day and **a +41% increase** in the number of meals served in a calendar year.

Year	Avg # of Meals per Day	% Change
2017	78.36	+30%
2016	72.23	
2015	70.39	
2014	70.43	
2013	70.95	
2012	62.42	
2011	60.08	

Year	Total # of Meals Served	% Change
2017	18,695	+41%
2016	17,553	
2015	17,055	
2014	16,763	

Year	Total # of Meals Served	% Change
2013	17,172	
2012	13,485	
2011	13,220	

We expect this trend in our Senior Nutrition Program to continue, especially once the new building is completed.

**Question #12: What is the proposed plan for the Senior Nutrition Program?**

The proposed schematic design significantly increases the size of the kitchen and calls for one large Lunch Room/Multi-Purpose Room, which can provide tremendous flexibility. The proposed 3,000 square foot Lunch Room/Multi-Purpose Room can be divided by screens into three distinct spaces.

Specifically:

Lunch Room = 1500 square feet

Multi-Purpose Room #1 = 750 square feet

Multi-Purpose Room #2 = 750 square feet

When average attendance is expected for the Senior Nutrition Program, only the Lunch Room will be set up for lunch. When larger crowds are expected, the Lunch Room plus Multi-Purpose Room #1 and/or Multi-Purpose Room #2 can be set up for lunch. Utilizing all three spaces/the entire room will accommodate 200 Seniors for a sit-down meal.

When average attendance is expected for the Senior Nutrition Program, Multi-Purpose Room #1 and #2 can then be set up for the other Senior activities including Bridge, Mahjongg, and Bingo as well as the East Hampton Food Pantry pick up on Tuesdays from 1-6 pm.

**Question #13: Why are you proposing to more than double the size of the Kitchen?**

The current kitchen is very tight and poorly configured. While on an average day the kitchen staff is currently preparing lunch for 78 Seniors, there are days throughout the year when the staff is preparing lunch for 100+ Seniors. Based on current and future needs, it is believed a smartly thought out kitchen occupying 1,810 square feet will serve the needs of the Senior Nutrition Program now and into the future.

Current Square Footage:	735
Proposed Square Footage:	1,810
% Increase:	+146%

The Kitchen also has two refrigerators and some dry pantry storage in the Basement. The new configuration would have workspace, dishwashing, dry storage as well as the refrigerator and freezer located together.

**Question #14: Why double the number of parking spaces?**

The current parking lot has 61 parking spaces to accommodate Seniors participating in the daily programs (i.e. 78 Seniors on average attend the Nutrition Program, as many as 50 Seniors attend Bridge, etc.), community members availing themselves of social services as well as 28 Human Services staff members. It should also be recognized that the Human Services/Senior Transportation fleet includes 6 cars, 3 passenger vans and 4 buses. As our population ages, and more Seniors wish to age in place, we expect to see the Senior Transportation Program expand.

Due to the current constraints of the parking lot, three Human Services Homemakers park at Town Hall and for the last couple of years, 22 staff members park at the Calgary Baptist Church and walk to the Center. (It should be noted that we are truly grateful to the generosity of the Congregation permitting our staff to park at their church.)

With all that said, there is a pressing need to significantly increase available parking. My personal concern is that even with 116 parking spaces, we may still need to park staff vehicles offsite at some point in the future.

**Question # 15: Has consideration been given to the vision of a new Senior Center on the same campus as medical facilities and housing for Seniors who wish to downsize at market rates/with no income criteria?**

While such a vision is to be commended, this is not the model the Town Board chose to pursue.

**Question #16: Will the Center continue to serve as a heating and cooling center during emergencies?**

Yes. The plan is to continue to serve as a heating and cooling center.

**Question #17: What does it cost to run the current Human Services program? What do you anticipate the additional costs to be once the new building is fully operational?**

The 2018 Budget calls for:

	<u>2018 Budget</u>
Human Services	\$681,531
Senior Transportation	611,214
In-Home Services	430,327
Adult Day Care	417,549
Nutrition Program (w/Montauk)	665,408
Youth Services	105,799
Substance Abuse Counseling	<u>50,000</u>
	\$2,961,828
	<u>2018 Budget</u>
Revenue	
Grants	\$257,620
Donations/Contributions	<u>45,200</u>
	\$302,820

Additional costs might include:

- A part-time Maintenance Mechanic may need to go to full-time. We currently have a full-time Maintenance Mechanic who begins his day at 5:30AM and works until 1:30PM. In addition, we have a part time Maintenance Mechanic who provides the handyman services for the Residential Repair Program, (his salary is covered by a Suffolk County Office for the Aging Grant). As the plan is to increase building usage and extend our program hours, changing his status from part-time to full-time would allow us to have coverage throughout the day.
- An additional hire such as Civil Service Title “Volunteer Programs Coordinator” or “Senior Citizen Club Leader” may be needed to oversee the scheduling of current clubs and activities and to encourage new programs and lecture series designed for a holistic mind, body, and soul approach to wellness.
- A new line in the budget for arts and craft supplies should we add art programs

As more Seniors avail themselves of the Town’s services, we would expect the budget to increase regardless of the new building. These costs might include:

- An increase in the food line. (Our 2018 Suffolk County Office for the Aging Grant was increased by \$7,333 to a total of \$102,663 in a response to the increased participation in our program has experienced.)
- An expansion of the Transportation program including new drivers and additional vehicles should the demand be there.

**Question #18: Why was re-purposing the CDCH building on Stephen Hands Path as the new Senior Center rejected?**

After giving tours of the Child Development Center of the Hamptons (CDCH) building to thirty Seniors, it became apparent that the building was not suited for a number of reasons including distance from Seniors homes (it’s a 20 minute drive from Springs), the hazards that could be incurred driving to CDCH including the flooding that occurs on Stephen Hands Path and Route 114 and the inability to make a safe left turn on Montauk Highway heading east to Montauk. In addition, the CDCH building is quite spread out and some Seniors needed to sit and rest during the building tour. Some of the Seniors were so adamant about keeping the new Senior Center on the current site that they created a petition and placed it at One Stop to garner support/signatures.

While the East Hampton Star editorial entitled “Sprightly Seniors: What do They Want?” claimed CDCH was rejected “mostly for reasons of cost”, that is not true. In fact, it would have been less costly to reconfigure CDCH than to build a new facility on Springs Fireplace Road.

**Question #19: Was the proposed Senior Center addressed in the Hamlet Study as it is located along the East Hampton Springs Fireplace Road Corridor?**

The Hamlet Study did not specifically address the proposed Senior Center as it was not seen as an issue, nor did it come up in the charrettes. The proposed Senior Center, does however, fit in with the principles of the Hamlet Center Master Plan (See Hamlet Study – East Hampton Planning & Design Recommendations page 27).

Specifically:

Objective 7: Improve access management along the Springs Fireplace Road Corridor

Objective 8: Improve the visual quality of the Springs Fireplace Road Corridor

**Question #20: Will there be a full environmental review of the proposed Senior Center?**

Absolutely. New York's State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) requires all state and local government agencies to consider environmental impacts equally with social and economic factors during discretionary decision-making. This means these agencies must assess the environmental significance of all actions they have discretion to approve, fund or directly undertake. SEQRA requires the agencies to balance the environmental impacts with social and economic factors when deciding to approve or undertake an "Action".

Environmental assessments are standardized through use of the Environmental Assessment Form (EAF). In the case of the proposed Senior Community Center, the Planning Department will be preparing the full EAF, naming the Town of East Hampton as "lead agency". Upon completion of the EAF, a SEQRA determination will be made.

The SEQRA determination can take the form of:

- Negative Declaration: If an action is determined not to have significant adverse environmental impacts
- Conditioned Negative Declaration: If the action can be made to equate to a non-significant action through enforceable terms conditions placed on a permit or license
- Positive Declaration: If an action is determined to have potentially significant adverse environmental impacts, an "Environmental Impact Statement" is required and the applicant must submit a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS).

It should be noted that the Town's Planning staff, who are responsible for environmental assessments, have been involved from the very beginning of this process.

**Question #21: What are the plans for the Edith R. Parsons Park located behind the current Senior Center?**

On October 21, 1994, the Town Board dedicated the senior and youth recreation area behind the Senior Center to Edith R. Parsons – a vibrant force in the activities of the Senior Citizens Center, a member of Site Council, an educator until her retirement and someone who took an active role in community affairs. Once the new center is built, a new outdoor area such as the proposed walking track or proposed gardens, will once again be dedicated to Edith R. Parsons, as discussed in several meetings with Mrs. Parson's family.

**Question #22: Will the proposed Senior Center function as a community center or strictly Senior Center?**

The current plan is for the building to function as a Senior Center, as that is what the spaces and ultimately the building footprint has been designed for. Although, it should be noted, that some Senior programs by their very nature are multi-generational. However, if there are times of the

day and/or days of the week when the center is being underutilized, other community groups may be able to schedule events at the Senior Center, as there is a strong desire by the Town to encourage community connectivity.

**Question #23: What are the next steps?**

For the last several months the Town Board and Human Services personnel have been on a listening tour. Based on all of the input, we have asked the architect to reduce the mass of the building by moving building storage, Food Pantry storage and laundry facilities from the second floor to a partial basement. Once those revisions are made and the Town Board approves the design, Savik & Murray will prepare the appropriate documents and take the proposed plans to the Planning Board for comment. It should be noted that the proposed footprint will remain unchanged.

It was the intent of this memorandum to address both my colleagues and the community's questions about the proposed schematic design. Should additional questions arise, please don't hesitate to reach out.

## **Sprightly Seniors: What Do They Want?**

By East Hampton Star Editorial | February 21, 2018

The East Hampton Town senior citizens center on Springs-Fireplace Road is in need of an upgrade. However, a plan revealed last week may not be the solution.

Discussion for an improved senior citizens center has been perennial in Town Hall. Programs now are run in what was once a roadside bar and grill, with only modest improvements and a supposedly temporary trailer office outside for extra workspace. It is far from ideal.

An idea to repurpose the former Child Development Center of the Hamptons school on Stephen Hand's Path in East Hampton as a new senior citizens hub was rejected about a year ago, mostly for reasons of cost. Instead, a little over a year ago, the town board settled on a Long Island engineering firm to oversee a totally new center on the existing site.

The replacement is big: maybe too big. At two stories, the building would have more than 18,000 square feet of floor space, including a huge lunchroom. The East Hampton Food Pantry would be upstairs, with a conveyor belt to bring in supplies. The parking lot would have room for 116 cars, almost double the current capacity. Cost estimates vary, but are somewhere in the \$5.2 million range.

According to figures provided by the town's Human Services Department, about 330 people had meals at the Springs-Fireplace Road center in 2015. In addition, residents came to the center for social activities and counseling. The town runs a free transportation program for older people from the site as well. These are worthy services, but only a fraction of the estimated over-65 population here seems to participate. Furthermore, whether the proposed building has been scaled correctly for future needs and is the best it can be aesthetically, is not quite clear.

A third of the East Hampton Town population is in the aging baby-boom generation or older, and officials are aware that the need for services will increase. But how the aging population's needs may differ from those of earlier generations is the subject of debate. The National Council on Aging, in a recent report, cautioned that older adults have more choices and expectations than ever before and that offerings for them will have to adapt.

Smaller, decentralized programs might be a better alternative than putting almost all the town's resources for older residents in a single location, one that creates its own transportation demands. Meanwhile, almost around the corner, plans are afoot for a massive medical center, further cramming essential services into a small geographical area.

A better approach is already in evidence farther east, where the town is involved in an exciting addition to the Montauk Playhouse that will include two swimming pools and performance and meeting spaces. This appears to be more the kind of facility the new aged may want, as opposed to the generic, hulking senior citizens center being envisioned for Springs-Fireplace Road.

If the town is going to spend \$5 million or more on something, it had better be sure that it is getting the best value for taxpayers' money and the best possible facility. What has been proposed is big and impressive. A little more analysis to make sure a new center is the right answer is essential.

# Department Summary

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*Department: HUMAN SERVICES*

**Function:** ECONOMIC  
OPPORTUNITY &  
DEVELOP

**Budget Year:** 2018

**Division:** HUMAN SERVICES

**Accounting Reference:** 6773

**Stage:** Requested Budget

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## **Mission Statement:**

To ensure the right of all East Hampton residents to the best quality of life possible. Its purpose is to provide a range of services and programs that enable senior residents and those with special needs to have those needs met in a caring environment.

## **Department Responsibilities:**

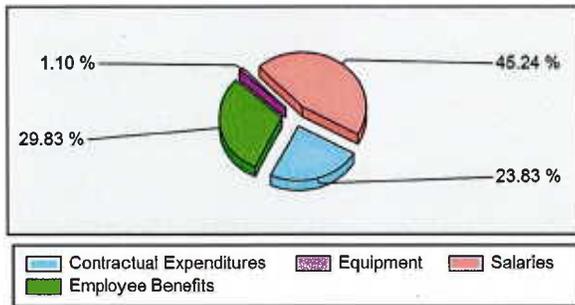
The Department of Human Services is directly responsible for the coordination of many public programs within the Town of East Hampton. The Human Services Department works diligently to meet the needs of the community. The Senior Nutrition Center serves as a focal point for social, recreational and educational programs for East Hampton residents 60 and over.

Administers the Congregate Nutrition, Transportation, In-Home Services, Adult Day Care, Case Management and Residential Repair Programs.

# Department Summary

Department: HUMAN SERVICES

Expenses



Key Performance Indicators	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Projected	2018 Target
Number of East Hampton Congregate Meals Served	17,055	17,553	17,500	17,750
Number of Montauk Congregate Meals Served	6,670	6,250	6,300	6,500
Number of East Hampton Senior Participants in Nutrition Program	331	330	330	346
Number of Montauk Senior Participants in Nutrition Program	125	76	81	91
Number of Seniors Transported	250	223	240	250
Transportation - Number of Rides	17,452	18,056	19,000	20,000
Number of Adult Day Care Participants (E. Hampton & Montauk)	21	24	24	24
Number of Case Management Assessments (Year-round EISEP)	51	44	45	45
Number of Home Visits (Year-round)	102	88	90	90
Number of Seniors Receiving Housekeeping	51	44	45	45
Number of Unannounced Home Visits	102	88	90	90
Number of Clients Assisted in Residential Repair	73	75	80	85
Annual Hours of Housekeeping Services Provided	2,942	3,225	3,225	3,500



# Town of East Hampton Department of Human Services Senior Citizens Calendar July 2018

Michelle Posillico, Senior Citizen  
Program Supervisor 324-6711

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p style="text-align: right;">2</p> <p>8:00 am Yoga For All 9:00 am Chair Yoga 10:00-11:00 am Reiki* 11:00 am Walking 12:00 pm Lunch 1:00 pm Cards 1:00 pm Opera</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">3</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>FRESH POND PARK BARBECUE</b></p> <p>10:00 am SCOFA Advocate</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">4</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CENTER CLOSED</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">5</p> <p>8:00 am Yoga For All 9:00 am Chair Yoga 10:15 am Site Council Meeting 10:30 am Dance 11:00 am Walking 12:00 Noon Lunch 1:00 pm Bingo</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">6</p> <p>10:30-12:30 PM FSL Counseling with Jane 10:00 am Movie 11:00 am Walking 12:00 Noon Lunch 1:00 Mahjongg</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">9</p> <p>8:00 am Yoga For All 9:00 am Chair Yoga 10:00-11:00 am Reiki* 10:30 am Current Events 11:00 am Walking 12:00 pm Lunch 1:00 pm Cards 1:00 pm Opera</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">10</p> <p>10:00 Blood Pressure Screening 10:30 am Healing Circle 11:00 am Walking 12:00 Noon Lunch 1:00 pm Bingo</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">11</p> <p>10:00 am 10:00-11:00 am Reiki* 10:30 am Knitting 10:30 am Poetry 11:00 am Walking 12:00 Noon Lunch 1:00-4:00 pm Bridge 1:00 Mahjongg</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">12</p> <p>8:00 am Yoga For All 9:00 am Chair Yoga 10:00 am Dance 11:00 am Walking 12:00 Noon Lunch 1:00 pm Bingo</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">13</p> <p>9:00 am Meditation 10:30-12:30 PM FSL Counseling with Jane 10:00 am Movie 11:00 am Walking 12:00 Noon Lunch 1:00 Mahjongg</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">16</p> <p>8:00 am Yoga For All 9:00 am Chair Yoga 10:00-11:00 am Reiki* 10:30 am Current Events 11:00 am Walking 12:00 pm Lunch 1:00 pm Cards 1:00 pm Opera</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">17</p> <p>10:30 am Healing Circle 11:00 am Walking 12:00 Noon Lunch 1:00 pm Bingo</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">18</p> <p>10:00-11:00 am Reiki* 10:30 am Knitting 10:30 am Poetry 11:00 am Walking 12:00 Noon Lunch 1:00-4:00 pm Bridge 1:00 Mahjongg</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">19</p> <p>8:00 am Yoga For All 9:00 am Chair Yoga 10:30 am Dance 11:00 am Walking 12:00 Noon Lunch 1:00 pm Bingo</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">20</p> <p>9:00 am Meditation 10:30-12:30 PM FSL Counseling with Jane 10:00 am Movie 11:00 am Walking 12:00 Noon Lunch 1:00 Mahjongg</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">23</p> <p>8:00 am Yoga For All 9:00 am Chair Yoga 10:00-11:00 am Reiki* 10:30 am Current Events 11:00 am Walking 12:00 pm Lunch 1:00 pm Cards 1:00 pm Opera</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">24</p> <p>10:30 am Healing Circle 11:00 am Walking 12:00 Noon Lunch 1:00 pm Bingo</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">25</p> <p>10:00-11:00 am Reiki* 10:30 am Knitting 10:30 am Poetry 11:00 am Walking 12:00 Noon Lunch 1:00-4:00 pm Bridge 1:00 Mahjongg</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">26</p> <p>8:00 am Yoga For All 9:00 am Chair Yoga 10:30 am Dance 11:00 am Walking 12:00 Noon Lunch 1:00 pm Bingo</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">27</p> <p>9:00 am Meditation 10:30-12:30 PM FSL Counseling with Jane 10:00 am Movie 11:00 am Walking 12:00 Noon Lunch 1:00 Mahjongg</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">30</p> <p>8:00 am Yoga For All 9:00 am Chair Yoga 10:30 am Current Events 11:00 am Walking 12:00 pm Lunch 1:00 pm Cards 1:00 pm Opera</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">31</p> <p>10:30 am Healing Circle 11:00 am Walking 12:00 Noon Lunch 1:00 pm Bingo</p>		<p><b>FRESH POND PARK BEACH BBQ</b> <b>TUESDAY, JULY 3<sup>RD</sup></b> <b>11:00-2:00</b></p> 	

\*Reiki by appointment



# Town of East Hampton Department of Human Services

## Senior Nutrition Center Menu

**July 2018**  
**324-6711**

**Michelle Posillico, Senior Citizen  
Program Supervisor 324-6711**

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>
2 Battered Cod Roasted Sweet Potatoes Snap Peas Cole Slaw Melon	3 <b>FRESH POND PARK BBQ</b>	4 CENTER CLOSED 	5 Vegetable Lasagna Monaco Blend Vegetables Mixed Green Salad Fruit Jell-O	6 Tomato Pie Rice Pilaf Broccoli Cucumber Salad Pears
9 Stuffed Cabbage Herb Orzo Scandinavian Veg. Carrot Salad Fruit Cocktail	10 Baked Fried Chicken Corn Parsley Carrots Tomato & Onion Salad Tropical Fruit Salad	11 Crab Cake Roasted Potatoes Spinach Cottage Cheese with Peaches Apricots	12 Spaghetti & Meatballs California Blend Veg. Tossed Salad Cupcakes	13 Chef Salad Quinoa Western Salad Soup Melon
16 Stuffed Peppers Roasted Potatoes Mixed Vegetables Tossed Salad Pineapple Chunks	17 Eggplant Rolette Angel Hair Pasta Italian Vegetables Tossed Salad Peaches	18 Pork Chops Twice Baked Potatoes Roasted Brussels Sprouts Carrot Salad Ambrosia	19 Sea Leg Salad Macaroni Salad Beet Salad Melon	20 BBQ Chicken Baked Beans Parsley Carrots Cucumber Salad Ice Cream
23 Greek Salad With Chicken Vegetable Pasta Salad Yogurt with Fresh Fruit	24 Salisbury Steak Mashed Potatoes Snap Peas Cucumber Salad Cupcakes	25 BLT Cole Slaw Grapes	26 Spinach Quiche Italian Vegetables Tomato & Onion Salad Pie	27 Stuffed Shells Spinach Mixed Green Salad Peaches
30 Taco Salad Mexican Rice Grapes	31 Chicken Pot Pie Collard Greens 3- Beans Salad Cake		<b>FRESH POND PARK BBQ</b> Tuesday, July 3 <sup>rd</sup> 11:00-2:00 	

# Senior Center Building Use Schedule

<b>Sunday</b>	10:00-11:00 11:30-12:30pm 4:30-5:30pm	Overeaters Anonymous (ADC) Sunday Step / Self Recovery Group (Dining Room) Alcoholic Anonymous – Beginners (Dining Room)
<b>Monday</b>	8:00-9:00am 9:00-10:00am 10:15-11:30am 11:00am 12:00pm 1:00 pm 1:00-3:00pm 5:30-6:30pm 7:00-8:00pm	Yoga for All (Full Activity Room) Yoga Chair (Full Activity Room) Current Events Walking Club Lunch Opera Cards (1/2 Activity Room) Sober Woman's Alcoholic Anonymous (Dining Room) Al-Anon (ADC)
<b>Tuesday</b>	10:00-12:00pm 10:30-12:00pm 11:00am 12:00pm 1:00pm 7:30-8:30pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday – Blood Pressure Screening Southampton Hospital Wellness Program (Full Activity Room) Walking Club Lunch Bingo East End Young People (AA) (ADC)
<b>Wednesday</b>	10:00-12:00pm 10:00-12:00pm 10:30am-11:30am 10:30-11:30 am 11:00am 12:00pm 1:00-3:00pm 1:00-4:00 pm 6:30-7:45pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday - Suffolk County Office for Aging Representative Knitting Workshop Coloring Pages Poetry Walking Club Lunch Mahjonn (1/2 Activity Room) Bridge (1/2 Activity Room) Alcoholics Anonymous- Keep It Green (Big Book Meeting)(Dining Room)
<b>Thursday</b>	8:00-9:00am 9:00-10:00am 11:00am 12:00pm 1:00-2:30pm 5:30-6:30pm 7:00-8:30pm	Yoga for All (Full Activity Room) Chair Yoga – Sitting (Full Activity Room) Walking Club Lunch Bingo (1/2 Activity Room) Alcoholic Anonymous – Back to Basics (Dining Room) Alcoholics Anonymous – Keep It Green (Round Robin/ Closed Meeting) (Dining Room)
<b>Friday</b>	9:00am – 10:00am 10:00-12:00pm 10:30-12:30pm 11:00am 12:00pm 1:00pm 6:00-7:15pm 8:00-9:30pm	Meditation (1/2 activity room) Movie Day (1/2 Activity Room) Senior Counseling (Family Service League/Counseling Room) Walking Room Lunch Mahjonn Alcoholics Anonymous (12 Step Meeting - Keep It Green (Dining Room) Debtors Anonymous (Dining Room)
<b>Saturday</b>	10:00-11:00am 4:30-5:30pm	SLA Anonymous (ADC) Alcoholics Anonymous – Keep It Green (Closed Discussion Meeting)