

# THE FACTS about Sussex Village Hall and the Civic Campus Project



## Fast Facts about the Civic Campus and Village Hall

- The proposed design of Weyer Park has an additional **one-half acre of open, usable greenspace** than today.
- There are **two playgrounds**: **one at the existing location** and **one in front of the Library**. Keeping the existing playground and reducing the amount of parking on the site was a design change made by the Civic Campus Advisory Committee after listening to citizens' requests.
- The **majority of the memorial trees will not be impacted** by the project. A small number will be relocated within the park space.
- The new Village Hall **helps community groups** such as the SOS/Food Pantry, the VFW, the Historical Society, the Pauline Haass Public Library and the Chamber of Commerce by offering them space in the new building. All these non-profit groups will be responsible for the costs of their own space, but will be able to share the common areas, meeting rooms and parking, which will reduce costs for everyone.
- The new Village Hall will bring **Village services under one roof**, making it easier for you to get what you need in one stop and making it more efficient to deliver these services.
- **Allows properties to go back on the tax rolls**, for the benefit of Sussex taxpayers and the vitality of downtown.
- Moves the **World War II Veteran's Memorial** to a more prominent location.



*Proposed Civic Campus – View From Main Street*

## Problems with the Current Village Hall

- No legal handicap entrance or restrooms.
- Foundation damage in southwest corner of building.
- Roof needs to be completely replaced.
- Poor building security – multiple unsupervised entrances/exits.
- Small, poorly configured, public waiting areas and board room.
- Small work areas lack flexibility.
- Exterior walls are not insulated.
- Inadequate space to store public records the Village is required to keep by state law.
- Costly aging building systems in need of replacement.
- Not enough space to conduct business, with about one-third of the building being hallways and stairwells.

The **Civic Campus Advisory Committee** is reviewing the project design and costs. As these are developed, information will be available on the Village website. In addition, a special Village Board meeting will be held in late January to discuss the project.

**Have questions?**

**Learn more at**

**[www.villagesussex.org](http://www.villagesussex.org)**

**by selecting “Civic Campus” on the left side of the page or by calling Village Hall at 246-5200.**

***More information on back ...***

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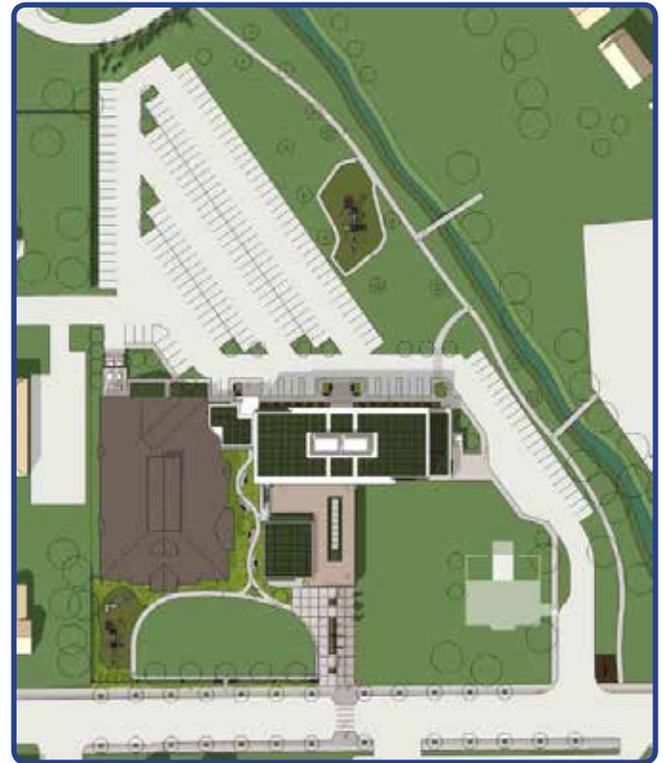


## *Where did the Plan to Build a New Village Hall Come From?*

In 2011, the **Village Hall Facility Study Group** was formed to determine whether or not the current Village Hall should be remodeled for the future needs of the community. This group, comprised of citizens, business owners, a representative from the Pauline Haass Public Library and one trustee, discussed the possibility of locating the Village Hall in 14 different locations in the Village, including extensive conversation about continuing to use the current building. A full copy of their report is available on the Village's website.

These Sussex residents made the following recommendations to the Village Board in 2011:

1. The group gave the current Village Hall building exhaustive consideration and unanimously made the decision not to expand or remodel the current Village Hall as this would not solve problems such as: security, meeting room facilities and easier access for the elderly and disabled. The Committee also determined that an addition would not be the best use of Village funds because it would not allow for the full flexibility of design to accomplish the larger goals of the community.
2. The Civic Campus should be redesigned in conjunction with the Main Street process to promote a gathering location for the community.
3. Community organizations that fit the Civic Campus mission should relocate into the building to make strong use of the available land, allow for vitality of the Civic Campus area, utilize the synergies of shared parking and infrastructure and free up other commercial spaces for economic growth.



*Site Layout for Proposed Civic Campus*



*Proposed Civic Campus – View From Old Mill Lane*

The existing Village Hall was remodeled in the 1980s and this bought the community three additional decades of service. That investment saved the shell of the building, but could not change the access issues, safety or functionality of the building, nor did it account for the significant growth the community experienced since that time and the anticipated 50% population growth. During the past three decades, the community has continued to shape itself as a special place to live in southeastern Wisconsin. Once again, it is time for the community to make an investment in its civic capacity. This is an opportunity that should not be missed to utilize the campus space and building design to better reflect and highlight the spirit of our community, creating a space that serves the needs of our growing region. The Village Board formed the Civic Campus Advisory Committee in 2014 comprising 11 citizens to issue a recommendation on the design and layout of the building and entire campus. Their recommendation will be made in early 2015. Construction could start as early as 2015 with the building opening in 2016.