At November, 2014 Town Meeting, Town Meeting members voted full funding for acquisition of equipment in furtherance of consolidated communications/dispatch initiative. The target for consolidation was announced as January, 2016. This target date is strategic as the FIRE/RESCUE and POLICE CAD Dispatch Systems are beyond their useful life and are losing vendor support - thereby greatly increasing the risk of catastrophic failure.

Mandatory impact bargaining outreach had already occurred in August, 2014 to the four impacted labor unions, consistent with and with respect for State collective bargaining law. Three of four unions responded in a willingness to cooperate.
At the same meeting, TM members voted partial funding for necessary facility improvements, with the request that we provide further details/information and analysis on the facility improvement and return to Town Meeting in April, 2015.

I recognize that I had mistakenly “skipped a step” in bringing forth a preferred site to Town Meeting prior to a full public review/discussion of reasonable, available alternatives. To correct this oversight, an expanded process was initiated with the goal of returning to Town Meeting in April.
In December 2014, The MATRIX Consulting Report on consolidated dispatch was presented at a public meeting to BOS and has been posted on Town website since December. This Comprehensive consultants report was financed through the extraordinary assistance of State Representative and our Town Moderator, David Vieira, who was able to secure a legislative earmark to facilitate this professional analysis and report to benefit the Falmouth Taxpayers.
MATRIX Consulting Study – Project Management Team

- Project Team
  - Town Manager
  - Police Chief
  - Fire Chief
  - Director of Public Works
  - Director of MES
  - Assistant Town Manager
  - Personnel Director
  - Matrix Consulting
  - Labor Counsel, D. Moschos
  - Others
“...sharing of CAD/RMS systems can bring service level improvements through improved interoperability, only the full consolidation alternative may result cost savings from a reduction in duplication of technology and facility resources.

“Salary and benefit costs will decrease approximately $165,000 per year from a consolidated approach due to eliminating the use of using sworn police officers to staff dispatch.”

“A Consolidated Dispatch Agency Requires Fewer Total Dispatch Positions Than Independent Police And Fire Department Dispatch Agencies.”

Town has conservatively estimated salary/wage/benefits savings of $100,000 a year.
An Expanded analysis of alternative potential sites for consolidated communications department was then conducted – including 12+ potential alternatives with varying cost ranges and complexities. This analysis was summarized on a spreadsheet which was presented at a public meeting to BOS on March 2nd and is posted on the Town Website. Selectmen held a public review/comment meeting exclusively on this topic of potential alternative sites on March 10.
1. Police Department (A) – Reuse of current dispatch area
2. Police Department (B) Repurpose Lower Level
3. Fire Headquarters – Expand existing
4. Public Works Facility
5. Edward Marks Bldg. – 1st Floor
6. Edward Marks Bldg. – 2nd Floor
7. Gus Canty Community Center – Repurpose Stage
8. School Administration
9. Lease Space (downtown/Main Street)
10. New Building Construction Downtown
11. Water Department Garage
12. Water Pump Station
13. Gus Canty Community Center Short-Term Interim Repurposing
Following considerable public input, on March 16, Selectmen voted unanimously to utilize the stage area of the Gus Canty Community Center for the consolidated communications department, as the most reasonable and cost-effective of the multiple alternatives.

I would not bring this back to you if I did not believe this site is the most responsible option and in the best interest of the taxpayers and public safety communications.
The Town Manager and Board of Selectmen place a high priority on a **Neutral** site (not within Police Department or Fire Department). Chief Dunne and Chief Sullivan agree.

The Board of Selectmen voted to place the Consolidated Communications Department in the underutilized stage area in the lower level of the Gus Canty Community Center.

The Use of the Police Department or the Fire Department is contrary to an already bargained agreement specifying a neutral location. Use of a location in either Department will require additional time and money to bargain to reach agreement or impasse.
Consolidated Communications – Gus Canty Community Center
CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS
Dispatch Operations Center
Conceptual Floor Plan
Community Center
Partial Lower Level Floor Plan
RECREATION DEPARTMENT
Stage Area ‘Use Log’

- **Locker Facilities**
  - Open to the Public – 8AM– 2:30PM for Adult Walking, Pick Up Basketball, Aerobics
  - Closed to the Public 2:30PM -5 (Kids Time in Gym) Lockers Closed for Safety
    - They cannot be monitored

- **LIP of the Stage Area (6’-8’) Use for Dances and After Prom Party**
  - Will be Retained – No Impact.

- **No other Formal Use of the Stage Area Recorded**
  - Occasional Tuesday Evenings – 2-3 Jugglers Practice
    - Informal Practice – users will not be displaced. The users have not been charged a fee and can schedule time to use the Gymnasium or alternative room
  - Occasional Thursday Evenings – 2-4 Martial Artists Practice Aikido
    - Informal Practice. The users have not been charged a fee, and can schedule time to use the Gymnasium or alternative room. Will not be displaced
Example- 4 Station Dispatch
Example – 4 Station Dispatch
ESTIMATED Cost of Stage Area Conversion

- Electrical/HVAC/Generator: $115,000 - $160,000
- Acoustics/Window Treatment: $45,000 - $65,000
- Framing/Walls: $10,000 - $20,000
- Security, Misc., Contingency: $35,000 - $50,000

Estimated Total: $205,000 - $295,000
Parking – Currently 2 personnel (1 Dispatcher and 1 Police Officer Assigned to the Desk) Park at the Police Station/Gus Canty Community Center Parking Area.

- Consolidated Department will Require 3 spaces for 2 Full Time Communications Officers and single Administrator (during day)
- 4 - 5 Spaces needed temporarily at shift change only
Comparable Facility
This is the Commonwealth’s prototype, State-of-the-Art Emergency Dispatch Center, having come on-line in 2012. All Police and Fire/Rescue dispatching and communications is conducted by this facility.

Is located in the Town of Hingham serves the Massachusetts’ communities of Cohasset, Hingham, Hull and Norwell.

Maureen Shirkus is the facility’s executive director/administrator.

It is physically located within an existing building in Hingham which also houses the School Department, a Senior/Community Center, and a Recreation Center which includes a child day-care center. It has been confirmed that no concerns whatsoever have arisen regarding any threats to the physical security of this facility or those multiple community center activities also contained within the same building.

“To maximize success, a combined police and fire dispatch facility should be located at a neutral site” – Maureen Shirkus, SSREC Administrator.
SOUTH SHORE REGIONAL EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

Town of Hingham
SOUTH SHORE REGIONAL EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS CENTER
SOUTH SHORE REGIONAL EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS CENTER
SOUTH SHORE REGIONAL EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS CENTER
Town Meeting Options
TOWN Meeting VOTE FOR PASSAGE as written will result in:

- Consultant estimated savings in wage/salary/benefits of $100,000+ every year

- Additional Police Officer available on every shift, 365 days per year (equivalent of adding 3+ police officers to the Police Department WITHIN THE EXISTING BUDGET). This will allow Chief Dunne to expand community policing/public safety assignments in Town neighborhoods at no additional cost.

- Increased level of routine communications services available to the public as the communications department will be expanded to routinely serve emergency needs in marine/environmental services, water, wastewater, solid waste and highway in public works.
TOWN Meeting VOTE FOR PASSAGE as written will result in:

- Reduced annual operating/maintenance $ cost for consolidated dispatch organization as opposed to present inefficient and costly stand-alone approach.

- Taking full advantage of already-voted equipment replacement funds for consolidated communications CAD and related equipment replacement at considerable $ cost savings compared to present inefficient stand-alone approach.

- Ability to move toward anticipated cutover in January, 2016. Moving Forward is Time Critical.

- Responding responsibly in the face of obsolescence of existing Fire and Police CAD systems; loss of vendor support for Fire CAD
If STM Article 9 FAILS to receive majority support:

- Recurring Annual wage/salary/benefit savings of $100,000+ every year will be lost.

- Additional Police Officer available on every shift, 365 days per year (equivalent of adding 3+ police officers to the Police Department WITHIN THE EXISTING BUDGET) will be lost.

- Increased level of routine communications services available to the public as an important product of consolidation will be lost.

- Reduced annual operating/maintenance $ cost savings for consolidated dispatch will be lost.
If STM Article 9 FAILS to receive majority support:

- Cost savings available (and already-voted by TM) for cost efficiencies inherent in consolidated communications dispatch equipment will be lost.

- Ability to cutover to consolidated, cost-saving communications center in the necessary timely fashion will be lost.

- Increased risk of catastrophic failure. This may require system replacement “as-is” at considerably higher cost, according to MATRIX consultant report.

- Time is of the essence.
Commitment to Process

- Following the November Town Meeting
- Meeting with Recreation Committee December 10, 2014.
- Affirmed analysis of multiple alternative locations & that no final site decision had yet been made by the Board of Selectmen.
- 2nd Meeting with Recreation Committee on March 25, 2015.
- Review “alternative locations spreadsheet” with members
- Confirmed that this modest conversion would proceed in a manner which would not compromise the functionality or integrity of the Gus Canty Community Center.
- Following our discussion, Recreation Committee members voted 5-1 to oppose the placement of the consolidated communications facility in the stage area.
Commitment to Public Safety

- The Town’s dispatch circumstances are extremely time critical. Fire and Police Dispatch CAD systems are beyond their useful life and are losing vendor support.

- The potential for catastrophic failure in this fundamental public safety area is unacceptable. It is important to act responsibly and expeditiously and the time is now.

- Given the modular nature of the dispatch consoles and related functional layout, the communications center could conceivably be relocated to another site at a later date in the event that a more appropriate option would become available over the coming 3-5 years.
Town Manager’s Commitment

- I am now respectfully seeking Town Meeting members support for this critically-important, cost-saving and service-expanding initiative. This represents a one-time opportunity for taxpayers which is not likely to be available in the future.

- Should Town Meeting members extend your support to this initiative with your positive vote on STM Article 9, I also extend my commitment and pledge to you that this modest conversion of the Community Center stage area would proceed in a manner which would not compromise the functionality or integrity of the Community Center in its service to the youth and adults of Falmouth.
END of PRESENTATION
If STM Article 9 IS AMENDED with intention of directing the facility to another location:

- Significant delay; loss of potential for January, 2016 cutover.

- Increased likelihood of catastrophic failure of CAD.

- Potential loss of services of additional Police Officer on every shift, 365 days per year by Chief Dunne to enhance community/neighborhood policing (This was successfully impact-bargained when the Police Federation Union agreed to cooperate in impact bargaining when contacted in August, 2014 – with the understanding that the consolidated communications center be at a neutral site).

- Alternatives have significantly higher facility construction costs compared to existing Gus Canty Community Center stage.

- Potential, significant loss in annual operating cost $ savings with consolidated communications center due to requirement for expanded impact bargaining in conformance with collective bargaining agreements and state statute.
Third Floor Fire Headquarters
Fitness Room

Awkward Shape; Windows on 3 Sides
High Quality Fitness Equipment
Stairwell in ‘center’ of Facility
One of Two Single Toilet Rooms with Shower
Single ‘Locker Room’
ARTICLE 21

Conditions and Privileges

“Any lawful and authorized conditions, rights or privileges that are now being enjoyed by firefighters and are not specifically spelled out in this agreement shall remain in full force and effect for the duration of this agreement. Specifically provided, however, that the number of working hours, days or weeks of leave without loss of pay, including without limiting the generality of the foregoing, holiday leave, vacation leave and sick leave shall not be less than, the number prescribed by any general or special law, or any by-law applicable to the Town of Falmouth on the sixth day of January, nineteen hundred and seventy, salary and administration plan, ‘69 as amended.”