



Town of  
**Yarmouth**

Library  
Planning  
Committee



Update to Yarmouth  
Board of Selectmen

May 23, 2023

# Town of Yarmouth

For more than 50 years, professional studies on the existing town-funded libraries have reported the existing facilities to be grossly lacking in usable space, modern building systems, ADA-accessibility, sufficient staff workspace, and public meeting rooms or program space. Staff must commute from facility to facility, located at opposite ends of town.

Standards for the size of a library building to efficiently serve the needs of a community the size of Yarmouth suggest ~26,000 SF of space. South Yarmouth and West Yarmouth Libraries together equal only ~13,000 SF of space.

May 23, 2023

# Yarmouth Library Planning Committee

- Linda Callahan, Chair
- Mary Johnson, Vice Chair
- Regina Hopkins, Secretary
- Liz Argo
- George Bovino, Library Board, Chair
- Jane Cain, Yarmouth Library Director, *ex officio*
- *The Library Planning Committee welcomes new members.... Add your name here!*



May 23, 2023

# Yarmouth Library Planning Committee's Charge from Yarmouth BOS in 2019

**General Purpose:** Building on the research and recommendations of the Library Study Ad Hoc Committee, as presented to the Yarmouth Finance Committee and Board of Selectmen in 2019, provide advisory support and make recommendations on the planning required to improve Library services and facilities for the Town of Yarmouth.

**Specific Charges:** The Library Planning Committee (LPC) will meet regularly to seek community consensus by providing information, statistics, and options for the future of the Yarmouth Library facilities and service improvements. The group will utilize a variety of communication tools to listen and to respond to community input, as Yarmouth plans for the future of Library services.

The Committee will compile data in preparation for submission of a Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners Planning and Design (Construction and Renovation) grant application, including, but not limited to, alternative site locations, engineering studies, schematic designs, building program documents, project cost estimates and other planning work.

May 23, 2023



# Yarmouth Library Planning Committee



## Yarmouth Community Visioning

Setting Our Course • Charting Our Future

### Preserve:

- Public Library facilities offering programs, materials and activities.

### Promote:

- Libraries as education, recreation and cultural gathering spaces.

### Provide:

- New Library facilities that serve as multi-generational meeting places with a variety of programs, events, improved technology and automation.



May 23, 2023

# Yarmouth Library Planning Committee

## ACTIVITIES & IMPORTANT DATES

- ✓ **Feb 2, 2023:** Notice of the 2023-2024 Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC) grant. Grant is now a single grant with two phases: Planning/Design and Construction/Renovation.
- ✓ **Feb 22, 2023:** As per our LPC charge, “To seek community consensus for the future of the Yarmouth Library facilities”, an RFP for a Library Community Needs Assessment consultant was released - proposals were due April 3, 2023. An Evaluation Team is now reviewing the applications received.
- ✓ **April 28, 2023:** As required, LPC prepared a Letter of Intent (LOI) for the MBLC grant. The LOI was submitted together with a letter of support for the intention to apply, signed by municipal and library officials.

May 23, 2023

# Yarmouth Library Planning Committee

## ACTIVITIES & IMPORTANT DATES

- **May 23, 2023:** Presentation to update Board of Selectmen.
- **May 2023:** Mandatory application workshops for town and library officials on one of these dates:  
May 23 at 1 pm,  
May 24 at 6 pm,  
May 25 at 10am
- **Summer/Fall 2023 and Spring 2024:** Conduct a **consultant-led community needs assessment** and a robust **public info campaign** to garner support for a new or renovated library, using the critically important grant monies.
- **Early spring 2024:** Present slate of site options to SelectBoard for final 2 or more **site selections** to go with grant application.

May 23, 2023

# Yarmouth Library Planning Committee

## ACTIVITIES & IMPORTANT DATES

- **Spring Town Meeting 2024:** Collect certified **Town Meeting votes for local approvals & appropriations** for MBLC grant Phase 1 (**planning/design**), in anticipation of Yarmouth's selection for MBLC grant announced in October 2024.

Spring 2024  
Town Meeting

Ability to apply for, accept, and  
expend MBLC grant funds  
(anytime by Spring 2024)  
Planning and Design Funding  
(\$150,000)



- **May 31, 2024:** **Submit grant application** with a minimum of 2 site options.
- **Summer 2024:** Grant applications **reviewed by MBLC**.
- **October 2024:** Yarmouth selected for **grant**. Town contracts with MBLC.
- **Fall 2024 through winter 2026:** **Planning/Design phase** with town-selected architect under MBLC guidance.



# Yarmouth Library Planning Committee

## ACTIVITIES & IMPORTANT DATES

- **March 2026:** Completion of Design/Planning. MBLC approves **grant award for Phase 2**, construction/renovation.
- **Spring Town Meeting 2026:** Collect certified **Town Meeting votes** for authorization and local funding in an amount sufficient to cover the **estimated eligible costs** for construction.
- **June 2026 – June 2027:** **Complete design work** with MBLC and advertise for contractors.
- **August 2027:** Construction contracting followed by start of work.

Spring 2026  
Town Meeting  
Ability to accept and expend  
MBLC grant funds  
Construction Funding (based on  
estimate from late Fall 2025/early  
Winter 2026)

May 23, 2023

# Yarmouth Library Planning Committee

## The MBLC Grant in \$\$

### Phase 1

#### Standard Grant Type

- 50% up to \$100,000 maximum award
- Covers eligible costs for planning and design through MPLCP Level of Design

May 23, 2023

# Yarmouth Library Planning Committee

## The MBLC Grant in \$\$

### Phase 2

Eligible Cost	Incremental State Share
First \$5,000,000	60% of estimated eligible cost up to \$5,000,000
\$5,000,000 - \$10,000,000	45% of estimated eligible cost between \$5,000,000 and \$10,000,000
\$10,000,000 - \$20,000,000	35% of estimated eligible cost between \$10,000,000 and \$20,000,000
\$20,000,000 - \$50,000,000	30% of estimated eligible cost between \$20,000,000 and \$50,000,000

Eligible Cost	Grant Award
\$5,000,000	\$3,000,000
\$10,000,000	\$5,250,000
\$15,000,000	\$7,000,000
\$20,000,000	\$8,750,000
\$25,000,000	\$10,250,000
\$30,000,000	\$11,750,000
\$40,000,000	\$14,750,000
\$50,000,000	\$17,750,000

# Yarmouth Library Planning Committee

## The MBLC Grant Criteria: Sustainability

“The MBLC grant is competitive and applications will be reviewed, ranked, and recommended for funding based on evaluative criteria.” One of the 11 evaluation criterion is critical to Yarmouth due to the siting of the two existing public libraries in a NOAA-designated SLOSH zone.

**Criterion 8: “The extent to which the proposed Library Building Program addresses the impediment of service experienced in the current facility and the ability to flexibly serve the community for at least 30 years.”**

With the two **existing public library sites** in designated inundation zones, their ability to serve the community for at least 30 years is **called into question**. In the town’s 2023 vulnerability review of town assets by Woods Hole Group, the two existing libraries ranked the highest level for risk of negative impact due to inundation from flood waters.



**The Yarmouth Library Planning Committee  
looks forward to supporting the  
development of the modern, sustainable  
community center that the Town of  
Yarmouth greatly needs and deserves.**

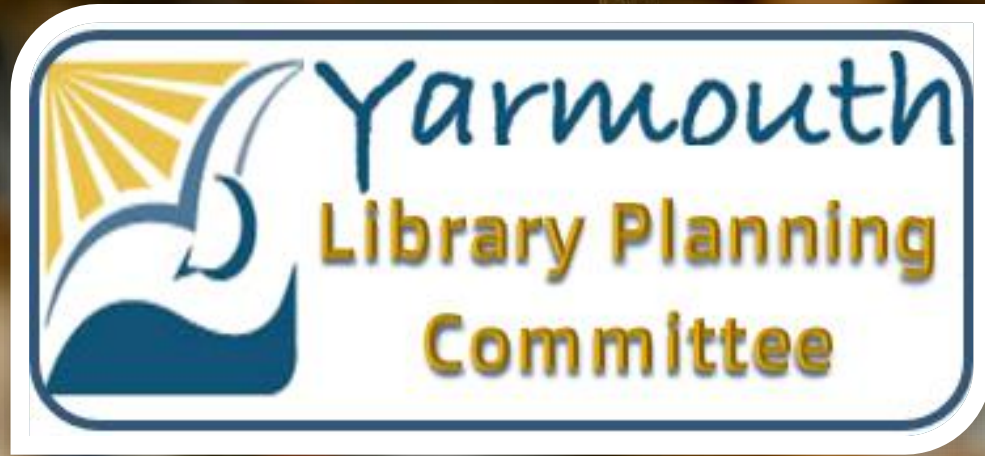
May 23, 2023



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WEB LINK:

[Library Planning CTE - Yarmouth Town Libraries \(yarmouthlibraries.org\)](http://yarmouthlibraries.org)

