

Why do we need a new Municipal Building and Police Department?

Over the last five years, the Council and Building Subcommittee have worked diligently to analyze our current buildings, review program requirements, and consider alternative, cost-efficient solutions. Together, it was determined we need to construct a new Municipal Building and separate Police Department at the existing location.

Why a new Municipal Building?

- *The administrative and police sections are comprised of temporary construction trailers that were purchased used from AT&T around 1975. They have long reached the end of their useful life.*
- *The meeting and finance building is over fifty years old and is inadequate, outdated, and in need of replacement.*
- *The entire building lacks compliance with ADA regulations, including entrances, hallways and bathrooms.*
- *All of the mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems are outdated and ineffective, resulting in wasteful spending for heat and AC. The roofs are leaking, and mold and mildew are an issue throughout the entire structure, including the Police Department.*



Transportation of the construction trailers to the municipal complex. They were used by AT&T during construction at one of their sites in central New Jersey. Circa 1975.



Municipal Building shortly after assembly. The existing structure is comprised of used construction trailers. Later, a shed roof and façade were installed. Circa 1975.

Why a new Police Station?

- *The Police Department, also located in the trailers, is not a secure structure. It fails State inspections every year due to code violations, lack of sound-proof interrogation rooms, and overall security concerns, among other issues. There are no separate holding areas for juveniles.*
- *There is insufficient space for evidence, records, and armory needs.*
- *There is no training room or emergency operations center.*
- *There is no secure entrance (sally port) when transporting prisoners, which poses a serious safety risk to our officers.*

What happens if the bond ordinance is voted down?

- *The Township Council has authorized and spent about \$500,000 over the last few years getting us to the best solution, with help from residents, employees, architects and engineers. If not approved, the spending of that money will have been wasted. It is time to get this done and complete the project.*
- *If the bond ordinance is voted down, we are left with a very aged building and collection of fifty-year old temporary construction trailers that are long beyond their service life and will require significant upkeep, maintenance, and retrofitting for ADA compliance. This means more money spent in the long run which may prevent other projects from getting completed. Completing this project now is in the best long-term interest of Byram taxpayers.*

What does this mean to me?

- *The Council worked with a financial advisor to minimize the impact of the bond to the taxpayer. Using conservative assumptions, the worst-case household tax impact is approximately \$169/year to the average property starting in 2026.*
- *The process has been planned so that there will be no interruption to municipal services or the ability for the public to come to the building during construction.*

How can I find out more?

- *Contact your Township Council, council@byramtwp.org with any questions or comments you have.*
- *Schedule a visit to see the condition of the trailers, building and Police Department.*
- *View the plans, specifications, reports, and findings for the last few years here: <http://tiny.cc/byram-building>*



SCAN ME FOR MORE INFO:



The proposed Byram Township Municipal Building and Police Department incorporate a simplistic, efficient, and attractive design. Focus has been given to an effective yet simple layout providing adequate working, meeting, and storage space. The buildings will be constructed at the current complex on Mansfield Drive, replacing the aged construction trailers and finance/meeting building.



Proposed Town Hall, providing new offices for administration, construction, zoning, code enforcement, tax, and finance employees. Also includes new civic meeting space for township and community organizations.



Proposed Police Department, providing new offices, training and emergency operations center, male and female locker rooms, armory, interview rooms, evidence lockers, crime lab, and sally port.

Byram Township Mayor and Council
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