

Rosemary Recreation Complex

April 18, 2017

WHAT'S THE LATEST?

The Needham Park and Recreation Commission will be providing weekly information posts on the Rosemary Recreation Complex, as we prepare to go to the Annual Town Meeting in early May to request construction funds. The posts will include *Frequently Asked Questions*. The new facility on Rosemary Lake would include a fitness/competition pool, a recreation pool with water walking lanes and slide, a spray park, seating, shade, boating on the lake, a new bathhouse closer to the pools, two new expanded parking lots and an indoor multi-purpose room for year-round use on the second floor. Offices for the Park and Recreation Department and Health Department would also be on the 2nd floor. The Rosemary Recreation Complex will be environmentally friendly and energy efficient.

Why isn't there an indoor pool option at Rosemary?

The Park and Recreation Commission, with a number of specialists, have reviewed this option over the past four years. They looked at (a) a bubble over competitive pool; (b) a glass enclosure over competitive pool; (c) a "brick and mortar" building. Putting aside the financial considerations related to construction and operating costs, these were some of the challenges:

- Regulations differ between indoor/outdoor pool; building would need to connect to indoor pool and increase in size to meet requirements; and the larger building would reduce outdoor space for summer use.
- The zoning regulations limit the size of the building and its placement on the site. A pool within the building would only be 6 lanes, without a diving well and other amenities.
- Parking only accommodates 97 cars, too few for a competitive swim meet; costly to add structured parking;
- Bubble would need snow removal to reduce weight load; indoor air quality controls; and large storage for off-season that protects material from damage.
- Federal grants provided for original construction placed perpetual outdoor recreation requirements on site, and process to convert and replace use is extensive and expensive.

The Park and Recreation Commission supports further review for indoor options at another location, including public, private, or partnership.

Information: www.needhamma.gov/rosemaryrecreationcomplexdocuments

Questions/comments to: pcarey@needhamma.gov

Town Meeting Member List: <http://www.needhamma.gov/DocumentCenter/Home/View/1718>



**Needham Park and
Recreation Commission**

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