

Comprehensive Capital Project Update

July 2024 Edition

Josh Morse – Public Buildings Commissioner

You can also follow us on social media at

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100070249892653>,

<https://www.instagram.com/newtonmapbd/>, or <https://twitter.com/NewtonMAPBD>.

Countryside School Project

Design Development | Street Entrance Plaza



The building design is pretty firmly established at this point. The feedback from the community and various stakeholders has been instrumental in getting us to this point.

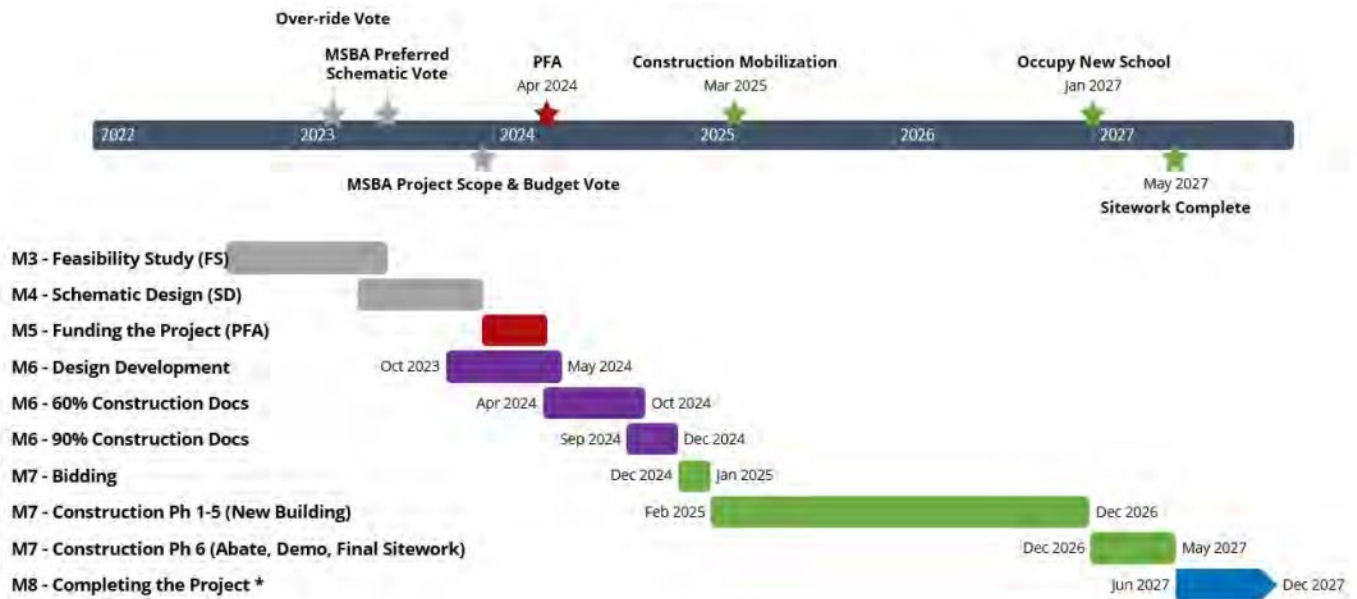


The Countryside School project is currently in the construction document phase in partnership with the Massachusetts School Building Authority, MSBA. On June 26th, the project team gave a presentation to the Design Review Committee, School Building Committee, and Community. You can watch the recording of that meeting [here](#).

We've still got a tremendous amount of design work left to do, but you can review all project information, presentations, and materials at countrysideelementaryschoolproject.com.

We are on track to bid the project out to general contractors in December of 2024, start construction in February of 2025, move students into the new building over one of the school breaks during the winter of 2026, and complete the building demolition and new field construction by the spring of 2027.

Construction Documents | Project Timeline



The next Countryside Project presentation to the Design Review Committee will be on Wednesday, July 24th at 6:00pm and you can join the meeting when it starts by clicking [here](#). These meetings occur monthly on Wednesday evenings at 6:00pm and the agenda and meeting information are always posted [here](#). Construction won't get started for quite some time, but like all our major projects we will have monthly community construction update meetings once we break ground.

If you have any questions or comments about this project, you can email us at countryside@newtonma.gov.

Lincoln-Eliot School Project



The masons are starting to construct the walls for the new gymnasium.

LINCOLN-ELIOT Lincoln-Eliot
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL Leopards

**SCHOOL PROJECT
COMMUNITY UPDATE**

Updates for June 14, 2024

Refer to <https://www.newtonma.gov/government/public-buildings/capital-projects-investing-now-for-newton-s-future/school-projects/lincoln-eliot> for upcoming meeting dates, registration links, and more information!

Construction Activities

- Steel erection nearing completion
- Buildings B & C concrete trench slabs placed
- Excavation/construction of new parking lot ongoing

Upcoming

- Underground plumbing at new addition
- Drywall at building B (2nd & 3rd floor)
- Overhead mechanical work in auditorium
- Exterior ramps and stairs at cafeteria

Consultant Team

Hill International – Owner's Project Manager
Arrowstreet – Architect
CTA Construction Managers – General Contractor

For project updates, please visit:

<https://www.newtonma.gov/government/public-buildings/capital-projects-investing-now-for-newton-s-future/school-projects/lincoln-eliot>

Contacts

For general project inquiries:

Alex Valcarce – City of Newton Project Manager
(617) 796 - 1600

Overall Construction Schedule

Dec. 2023	Ground Breaking
Summer 2025	Substantial Completion
Fall 2025	Occupy School

We're continuing our community outreach efforts to ensure everyone in the neighborhood stays up to date on the work happening at the job site.



Inside the building, the crews from every trade are flying. Rockwool insulation and drywall are going up fast, so the spaces are really coming together.



We had a great Topping Off Ceremony. The beam was signed by tons of Lincoln-Eliot students, parents, and staff, and it will be visible for generations to come inside the new gym.



The steelworkers did a great job buttoning up the frame for the new addition.



The site will continue to advance in the coming months. The excess soil will be removed soon, and the site will become much more organized and cleaned up.



We just recently took delivery of the new playground equipment. After the site is cleaned up, we'll be working with the installation team to construct the new fully accessible Lincoln-Eliot playground.

The schedule for the project remains the same with students moving into the new home for the start of the 2025/2026 school year. To stay up to date on the project, you can check out the project website at <http://lincolneliot-necp-projects.com/>.

If you have any questions or comments about this project, you can email us at lincolneliot@newtonma.gov, or you can check out our project website at lincolneliot-necp-projects.com.

Franklin School Project



In the above rendering you can see that the exterior building design is coming along. We'll continue to study the exterior building materials and colors in the coming months.

Exterior Tour of Building

HM
FH

View from Bus Drop Off



In the above image you can start to see the building massing and appearance take shape. This is the view from the bus loop. Not shown in this image is the new universally accessible playground which will be located on the right behind the landscaping.

Exterior Tour of Building

View of Gymnasium Entrance



We're also reviewing the rear of the building to ensure that we are studying the design elements with the same careful thought to produce something architecturally sensitive to our neighbors on Clark and Russell Road.

Exterior Tour of Building

View of Cafeteria Entrance



On the west side of the new building will be the parking lot. Just like the rear of the new school, we want the entrance and building design to be appealing to the neighbors, staff, and visitors. This is the view from the staff parking lot.

Exterior Tour of Building

View from Cherry Street Path



The east side of the school will be facing the new fields. In this image we'll have a soccer field on the right, and a baseball field on the left. Straight ahead will be the basketball court and new playground.

We've got lots of design work left to complete, but the concepts continue to be refined in response to community and stakeholder input.

On June 20th, I presented the site plan, schematic design package, and project funding request to the Public Facilities Committee. You can watch the meeting recording [here](#). On July 8th, I presented the funding request to the Finance Committee. You can watch the meeting recording [here](#).

With the need to work through the various approvals, we've been on hold with our Design Review Committee meetings for the past few months. Now that the project has been approved to move forward, the next Franklin School Project meeting will be with the Design Review Committee in August or September. These meetings occur monthly on Wednesday evenings at 6:00pm and the agenda and meeting information are always posted [here](#).

We anticipate starting construction in the summer of 2025, completion of the new building by December of 2026, at which time we would move students into the new school, and completing demolition of the existing building and creation of the new fields by the summer of 2027.

To review the presentation, project information, and materials you can go to our project website [here](#). If you have any questions or comments about this project, you can email us at franklin@newtonma.gov.

Horace Mann School Project

The Horace Mann Project is in the schematic design phase. The exterior designs and interior floor plans are becoming more refined, and the subconsultants are working on things like civil, geotechnical, interior building system engineering designs. Our landscape architect is continuing to develop and refine the plans, but the concept is well established at this point.

We are simultaneously working with our design team and owner's project manager to develop our construction phasing schedule and logistics plan.

On July 10th, I presented the Horace Mann School Project to the Public Facilities Committee. That night they approved the site plan, schematic design package, and the project funding.

This was a huge step forward for the Horace Mann School Project. The Finance Committee of the City Council is slated to vote on this item on August 12th, which will be followed that same night by a vote of the full City Council. Those steps will allow the project design to continue, which will mean that we'll reconvene the Design Review Committee meetings with the Horace Mann School Building Committee and Community in September.



The above rendering shows the new 2-story addition to the right of the existing school on Nevada Street.



The above image shows the aerial view of the new addition with solar panels on the roof. In the upper righthand corner you can see the new playground and basketball court.



The above image shows the new addition straight ahead, and the existing building to the right. This is the view from the new playground. (Not all playground equipment is shown in this image.)

Proposed



This is an aerial image that shows the relationship of the new addition to the existing building as well as the various site improvements.

Last month, Superintendent Nolin presented an update to the School Committee where she concurred with my recommendation to move the Horace Mann staff and students to 191 Pearl Street for the 2025/2026 school year to allow for the completion of the construction associated with the Horace Mann School Project.

To learn more about this project you check out our website [here](#). If you have any questions or comments about this project, you can email us at horacemann@newtonma.gov.

Cooper Center for Active Living Project



Cooper Center for Active Living City of Newton Mayor Ruthanne Fuller



Information: <https://www.newcal.projects.nv5.com>
Questions: Tom Rooney – City of Newton Project Manager
(617) 796-1600 / trooney@newtonma.gov



Public Buildings Department

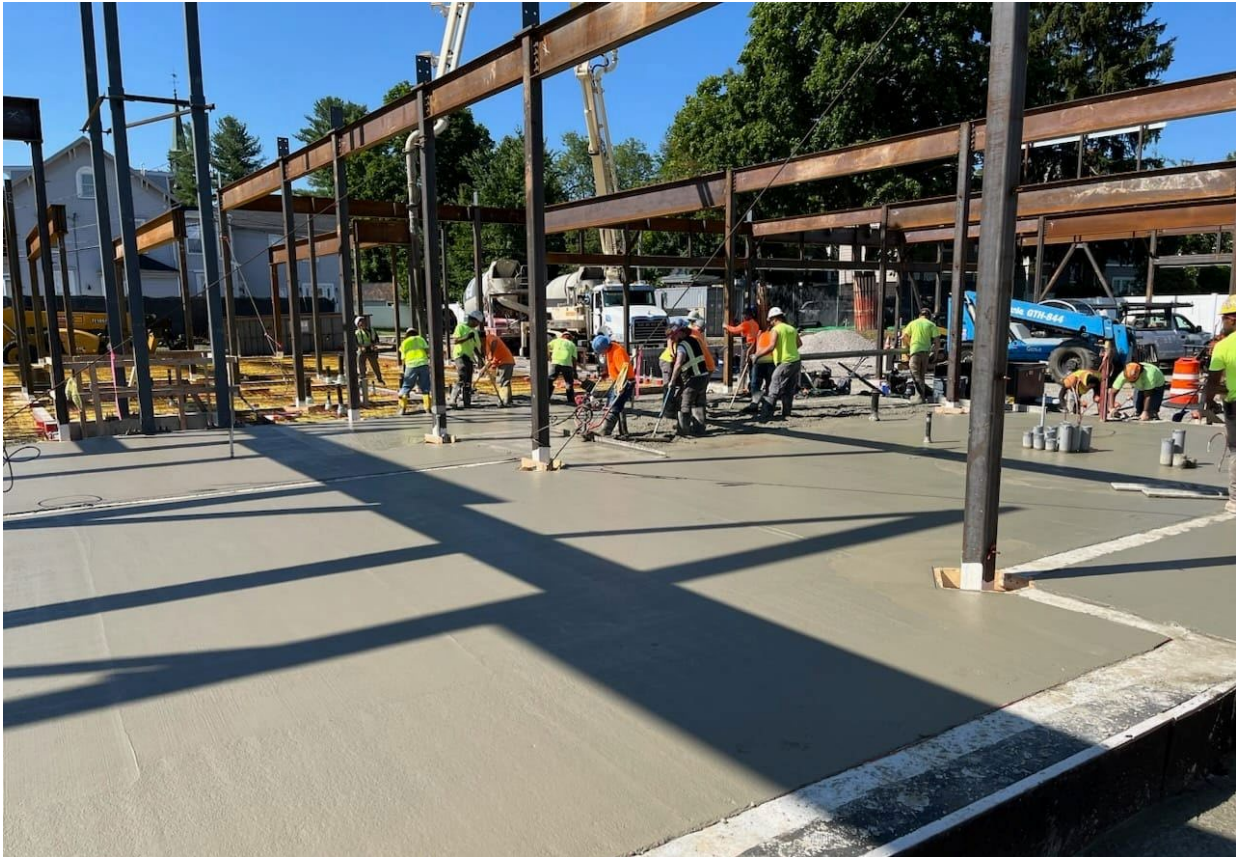


J&J CONTRACTORS, INC.

The Cooper Center project is looking great. The crews have completed the foundations, steel framing, concrete slabs, and the wood framing has arrived and will start going up this week.



With all this hot weather lately, just imagine being able to get your steps in inside the air-conditioned gym on the walking track.



The team was out pouring concrete slabs last week.

Cooper Center for Active Living

July 2024 Update

Mayor Ruthanne Fuller

CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

- Steel work is complete.
- Underslab plumbing and electrical is complete
- Slab on grade is scheduled to be poured this week
- Wood framing members anticipated to begin installation in mid-July
- Wood laminated beams are anticipated in late July

Consultant Team

NV5- Owner's Project Manager
Bargmann Hendrie + Archetype, Inc. - Architect
J&J Contractors, Inc. - General Contractor

Contact

For general project inquiries:
Tom Rooney - City of Newton
Project Manager
(617) 796 - 1600

For project updates, please visit: <https://www.newtonma.gov/government/public-buildings/capital-projects-investing-now-for-newton-s-future/municipal-facilities-projects/newton-center-for-active-living>

Join Us For Our Monthly
Community Construction
Meeting on July 2, 2024
at 6pm.

Zoom Registration:

[https://newtonma-gov.zoom.us/j/87604182709?](https://newtonma-gov.zoom.us/j/87604182709?pwd=eTd5YndqNGlBZk10OFRGUjNrc1ZpUT09)
[pwd=eTd5YndqNGlBZk10OFRGUjNrc1ZpUT09](https://newtonma-gov.zoom.us/j/87604182709?pwd=eTd5YndqNGlBZk10OFRGUjNrc1ZpUT09)



J&J CONTRACTORS, INC.



Our last Cooper Center Project community construction update meeting was on July 2nd and you can watch the meeting recording [here](#).

Join us for our monthly community construction meeting on the 1st Tuesday of the month. Our next meeting is on August 6th, 2024 at 6pm. You can register for the meeting by clicking [here](#).

Over the next month the team will be swinging and installing the wood framing which will shape the entire building. We'll be scheduling a Topping Off Ceremony soon, and I'll be sure to send the invites out ahead of time.

Additional project info, meeting recordings, and presentations can be found at newcal.projects.nv5.com. If you have any questions or comments about this project, you can email us at newcal@newtonma.gov.

Gath Pool Project



The Gath Pool Project was substantially completed and opened to the public on schedule on June 24th.



The fully accessible pools and facility is such a huge improvement for people of all ages and abilities.



Mayor Fuller welcomed everyone to the new pools. It was an incredible day, and I was so proud on our team and seeing the kids having a blast made all the work so worth it.



Mayor Fuller kicked things off on opening day by jumping in. Come join us on July 20th for the larger celebration and formal Ribbon Cutting for the project. An invitation from the Parks Recreation and Culture Department is below.

Mayor Ruthanne Fuller
invites you to the

**GATH POOL & SPLASH PAD
COMMUNITY CELEBRATION**

Saturday July 20, 2024

9:45am - 2pm
rain date July 27

**FLIP FLOPS & FLATS
ONLY PLEASE**

Free Entry & Free Swim*
*wristband issued and valid for all entries before 2pm.
Entry after 2pm, normal admission rates apply.

Synchronized Swim Exhibition

\$2 Hot Dogs and \$2 Empanadas

Frozen Treats

Festive Selfie Station

DJ Music & Games on Albemarle Field




The funding for this project is a share between ARPA funds applied by Mayor Fuller, state funds secured by Representative Khan, and a large amount of funding from the Community Preservation Act with the support and approval of the Community Preservation Committee.

If you have any questions or comments about this project, you can email us at gathpool@newtonma.gov.

Police Facility Project

Using ARPA funds previously authorized by Mayor Fuller, we have been working on a comprehensive project to improve the physical conditions of Police Headquarters, and the Police Annex and Garage. While we are still early on in the process, we know that this project will result in a significant improvement in the Police facility infrastructure.

Complementing the investment of more than \$2M for the replacement of the HVAC system and headquarters roof, and information technology and communications upgrades, the Police Facility Project includes but is not limited to upgrades to the following building systems and areas:

- Security
- Accessibility
- Electrical
- Lighting
- Plumbing
- Roof
- Masonry
- Finishes

In addition to the improvements to the building systems, this project will evaluate how best to utilize the spaces throughout the existing buildings. We are evaluating how best to adjust the buildings and the use of the facilities to optimize the adjacencies and functions of the Newton Police Department.

One major priority of this project will be to create a new appropriately sized dispatch center, with the adjacent support spaces needed to train new dispatchers and to ensure that the Dispatch Division has everything they need to support Newton Police, Newton Fire, and the entire community. Although this is a major project priority, the improvements to the facilities will benefit every member of the Newton Police Department.

Our work to date has been focused on evaluating the existing conditions of the building systems in each of the three Police facilities, as well as the development of a program. The program is a document that identifies the space needs for every function in the department both now and in the future. I often refer to this document as the recipe for the cake we're baking.

The design team is working with representatives from the entire Police Department to refine floor plan options to find the best possible solution that will meet the demands of a 21st century Police Facility.

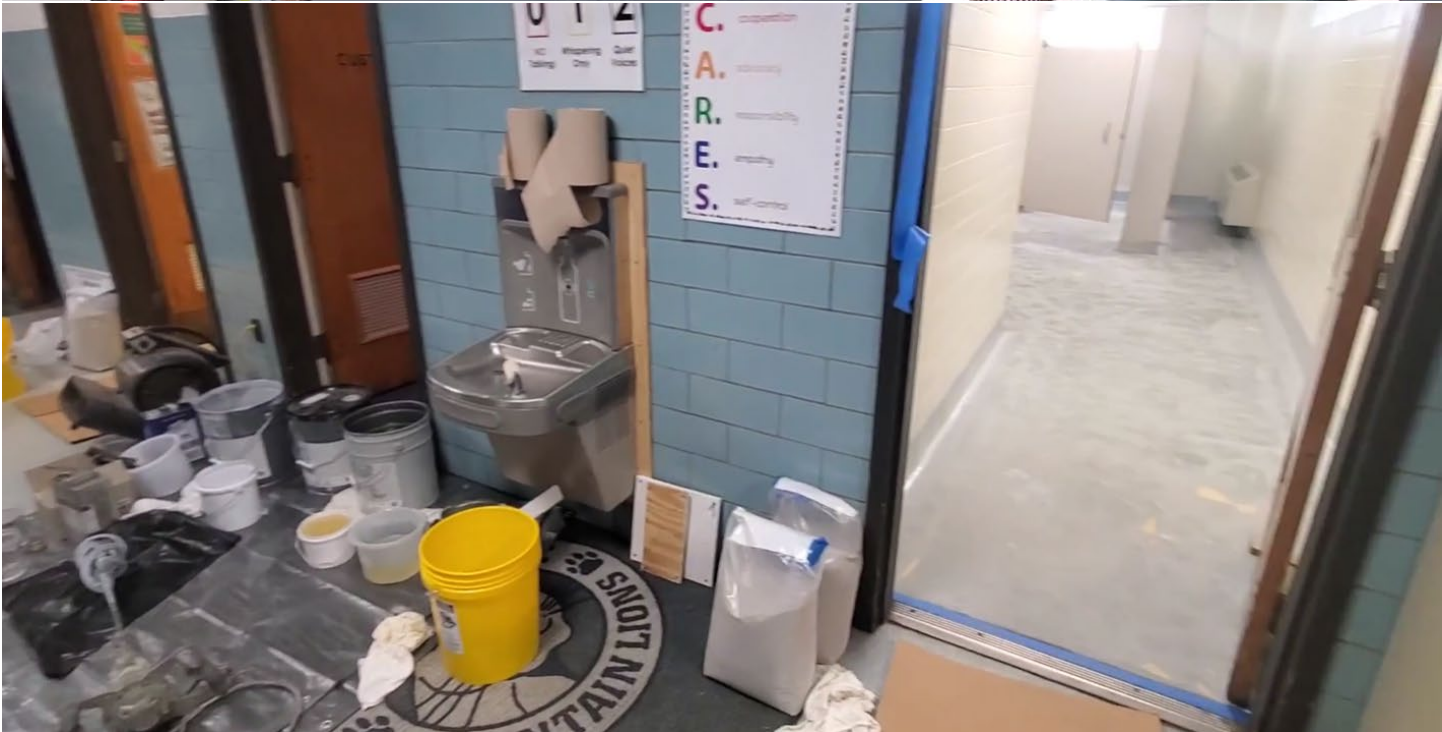
Projects come in all shapes and sizes

Recently approved by the City Council, Mayor Fuller has provided funds for a large package of projects that may be small compared to the ones above, but they are extremely important to the principals, PTO's, parents, and students in the schools, and to the Police and Fire Departments as well. These projects represent a \$6.25M investment of one-time money on one-time needs.

- North High pool air handling unit replacement
- Peirce School roof replacement
- Mason Rice School roof replacement
- Newton South High School chiller replacement
- Williams School auditorium ceiling, restroom, and playground improvements
- Bigelow and Brown Middle School PA system upgrades
- Restroom upgrades at Day, Mason Rice, Bowen, Memorial Spaulding, and Peirce Schools
- Parking lot repaving at Brown Middle School
- Parking lot repaving and fence installation at Police Headquarters
- Fire Station #2 heat pump and building electrification project

While these projects may seem small, they are high priorities for everyone who works or learns in, or uses, these facilities. Sometimes the smallest projects are the most transformative.

We have already begun working on these projects with many of them already well into design. Construction will happen for most of these projects this summer.



In the above images you can see the new roof being installed and restroom upgrades occurring at the Mason Rice School.



We just opened the new fully accessible pedestrian and bicycle bridge over Cheesecake Brook in time for the 4th of July celebrations. We've got a few punch list items to take care of, but this project not only improves accessibility, but it makes it easier to access the parking on the west side of the brook as well.