



Bedford Village Fire District
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Bedford, NY 10506-0230

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BEDFORD VILLAGE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS



A MESSAGE TO
BEDFORD VILLAGE
FIRE DISTRICT RESIDENTS



BEDFORD VILLAGE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

PO Box 230 34 Village Green Bedford, NY 10506-0230

phone: 914.234.3133 | Fax: 914.234.0625

Dear Residents:

As you know, on April 30th the bond proposal to finance construction of a new firehouse on Old Post Road was turned down by a margin of 32 votes. Not surprisingly, for the Bedford Village Fire District commissioners and the volunteers of the Bedford Fire Department who had worked long and hard to bring the project forward, this was a tremendous disappointment.

In the weeks since the vote, we have taken a hard look at what happened and why. We have analyzed the concerns that were raised, and are carefully reevaluating the design and cost. Our goal is to present a revised design, one that takes into account the community's concerns, the health and safety of our 65 active volunteer members, and the protection of every resident of the Fire District.

As a first step, we have retained a new architect to conduct a thorough review of the site and design plans. Sullivan Architecture, which is locally-based, has extensive experience in firehouse design as well as that of numerous other public and private projects.

The District owns the work and design elements prepared by the previous architect, H2M. Over the coming weeks, Sullivan's design team will be studying the interior and exterior design with the goal of reducing the size and cost of the building.

Our entire department is committed to serving the community and to conducting an open and transparent discussion of this vitally important community issue. To that end we have welcomed the formation of a Community Liaison Committee comprised of registered voters who are residents of the district but not members of the department who have expressed a wide range of thoughts and opinions about the new firehouse. Each member of this committee brings expertise in pertinent areas. Together they will independently evaluate and provide input on the plans as we move forward.

We will continue to update you as we develop a revised plan for a firehouse that reflects the community feedback we have received.

In closing, we would like to express our sincere thanks for the many expressions of support and offers of assistance that we have received from across the community. Building a new firehouse is a major step for the Fire District to undertake and it provokes emotional reactions not just from the members of the Fire Department but from community residents who raise legitimate concerns about taxes and other various aspects of the plan. However, at the end of the day, we are all part of a unique and wonderful community, one that each of us wants to preserve and protect for the residents of today and tomorrow. We are confident that we can work together.

We welcome your input and support.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Heather Feldman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Heather Feldman
Board Chair

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