



# Town of East Greenwich Swift Community Center Expansion Project Public Engagement Workshop #1 / December 12, 2024



Town of East Greenwich • State of Rhode Island • Studio Jaed • Swift Community Center Expansion



# Introductions – Town and Studio Jaed Team



**Andy Wade, CPRP**  
Community Services & Parks Director  
TOWN OF EAST GREENWICH



**Tracey Donnelly, AIA, NCARB, EDAC**  
SR. Project Manager  
StudioJAED



**Erin McAndrew**  
Senior Services Manager  
TOWN OF EAST GREENWICH

## **Additional Team Members**

- **Andrew E. Nota, Town Manager**
- **Patricia Sunderland, Finance Director**
- **Jeanna Krukowski, Finance Manager**
- **Rose Emilio, Administrative Services Manager**
- **Joshua Wolff, Youth Program Supervisor**

# Meeting Agenda

- **Project History & Background**
- **Project Goals**
- **Funding Sources**
- **Design**
- **Project Timeline**
- **Programmatic Objectives**
- **Open Q & A**
- **Next Steps**

# Swift Gymnasium becomes Swift Community Center

## Swift Gym

- The building was constructed in 1907 for the East Greenwich Academy.
- The Town of East Greenwich purchased the property in 1943
- Used as a High School, until the Town built a High School on Cedar Avenue in 1956.



## Swift Community Center

- Funding approved in 2008 to expand Swift Gym to house the Town's Senior Services Department
- Initial 2500 sq/ft Expansion, 9,500 sq/ft renovation
  - Gymnasium renovation
  - Kitchen Renovation
  - Dining Room
  - Creation of Office Space for full time staff
  - Computer Room
  - Restrooms

# Current Swift Expansion Project History

## Project Timeline

- **July 2021** – Town partners with BL Companies to develop Community Service Master Plan Study (Initial needs for expanded space emerges)
- **June 2022** – Governor McKee announces funding opportunity for Multi-Use Community Centers
- **July 2022** – Town Council supports the submission of a “Letter of Intent” to the State to apply for funding to expand Swift through the Capital Project Fund
- **August 2022** – Stage 1 application submitted to Pandemic Recovery Office (PRO)
- **September 2022** – State applies to US Treasury for approval of PRO’s Multi-Use Community Center Funding program.

# Current Swift Expansion Project History

## Project Timeline (cont'd)

- **April 2023** - Governor McKee announces Learn365RI learning Initiative, program tied to Community Center Funding
- **May 2023** – Town signs Learn365 Compact
- **October 2023** – Town formally applies to PRO for Stage 2 Community Learning Center Grant.
- **April 2024** – Town receives approval \$1,525,000 of funding for proposed project. Town Council awards contract to StudioJAED to begin design work related to the project.
- **November 2024** – StudioJAED presents floor plans and renderings to Town Staff
- **December 2024** – Public RFP for construction closes December 20<sup>th</sup>. Public Workshop Scheduled

# Grant Requirements

## Capital Project Funds Grant

**For a Capital Project to be an eligible use of Capital Projects Fund grant funds, it must meet all of the following criteria:**

- The Capital Project invests in capital assets designed to directly enable work, education, and health monitoring.
- The Capital Project is designed to address a critical need that resulted from or was made apparent or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency.
- The Capital Project is designed to address a critical need of the community to be served by it.

# Swift Community Center – Current Use

## Current Usage

Today, the Swift Community Center is open to the public regularly M-F from 8:30am – 4:30pm. Additional programming is offered many nights and weekends through the Recreation Department. The building routinely hosts public meeting of the Town Council, serves as a voting location during elections, and is used as a shelter during storm events. During the pandemic, Swift served the state as a regional vaccination site playing a key role in RI's pandemic response.

- East Greenwich Senior Center has serviced \*17,720 individuals across all programs offered since January 1, 2024.
- 816 Unduplicated members served in the same time frame
- Since Reopening to the public in 2021, use of Senior Services has increased steadily.



\* 17,720 includes duplicates

# Swift Community Center – Current Use

- Senior Services offers a variety of programs for individuals ages 55 and older and adults with disabilities.
- Recreational programs, educational programs and trips
- Special programs include CPR, AED & First Aid Certification, Writing & Journaling, a Flu & Covid Clinic, AARP Smart Driver Tek & Smart Driver Class, Matter of Balance.
- We serve lunch Monday through Friday at noon.
- Transportation is provided for East Greenwich residents to the Swift Community Center, medical appointments in East Greenwich, grocery shopping, pharmacies and retail shopping.
- We also offer day trips to destinations throughout Rhode Island.





# Expansion Goals

- **Create 2 Classrooms**
  - Provide more suitable space for public programming.
  - Create a barrier between Active/Passive Space
  - Dedicated
- **Dining Hall becomes dedicated space for congregate meal service.**
  - Eliminates timing constrictions on users
  - After lunch programs can begin earlier
  - Meal service can function uninterrupted
- **Additional Restroom**
- **Private Screening Room**
- **Reservable Individual Tele-Conference Rooms**
- **Existing Playground remains intact**
- **Building remains open during construction, operation disruptions to be limited.**



# Meeting the goals while preserving the past

- Design the 1,500 sq/ft addition to complement the original building's historic architecture through thoughtful material selection, window proportions, and roofline integration, while allowing the original structure to remain visually prominent in keeping with preservation best practices.
- Intentionally preserve and showcase the existing north exterior wall within the new classroom spaces, allowing the historic masonry and architectural details to serve as a design feature that connects occupants to the building's heritage while creating distinct learning environments.
- Incorporate modern accessibility, technology infrastructure, and flexible space configurations required for workforce development programs while ensuring all new elements are sensitively integrated without compromising the building's historic character.
- Utilize traditional exterior materials and architectural detailing that reference the original building's features without directly replicating them, creating a harmonious addition that is both contemporary and contextually appropriate for East Greenwich's historic district.

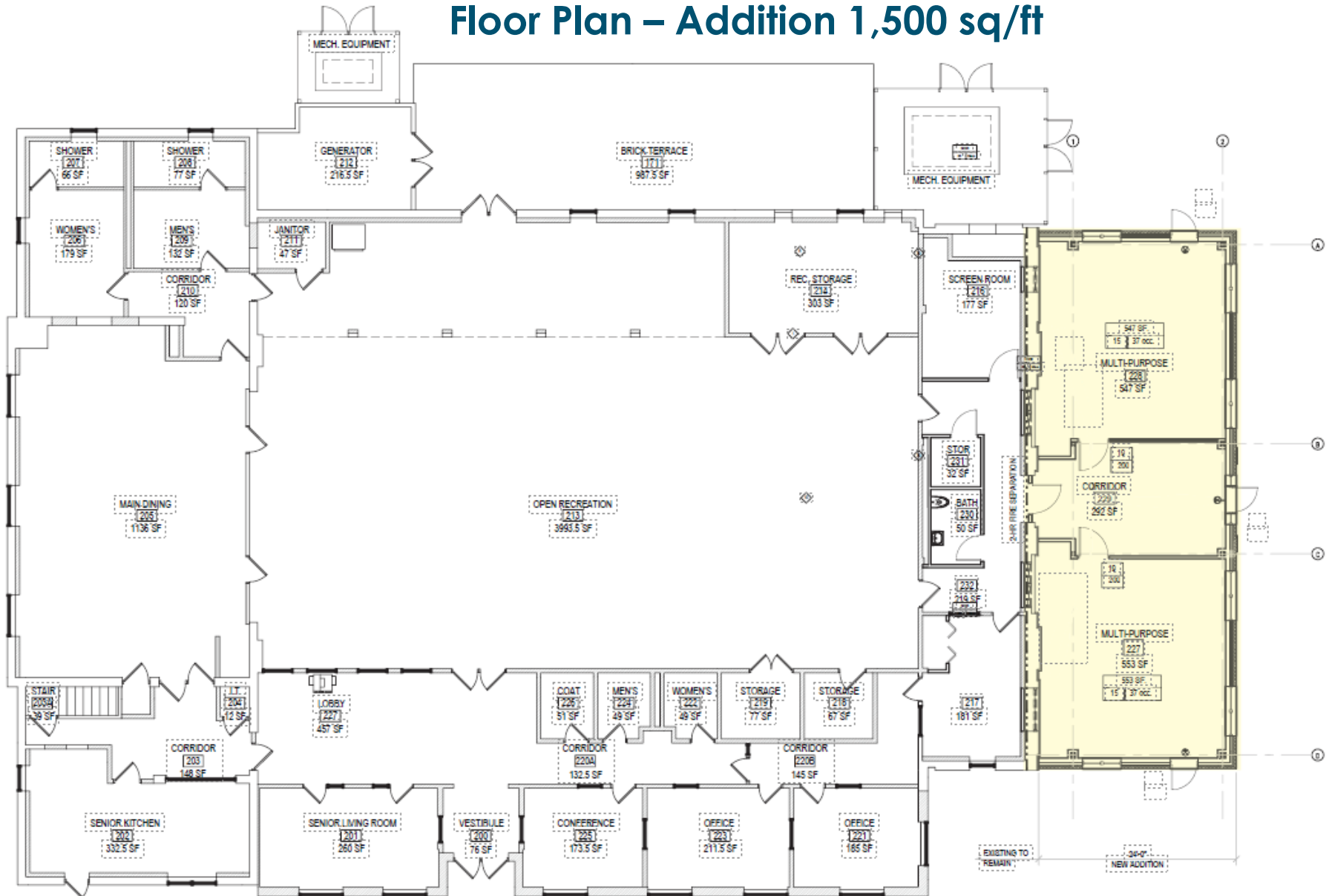
# Meeting the goals while preserving the past

## North East Elevation



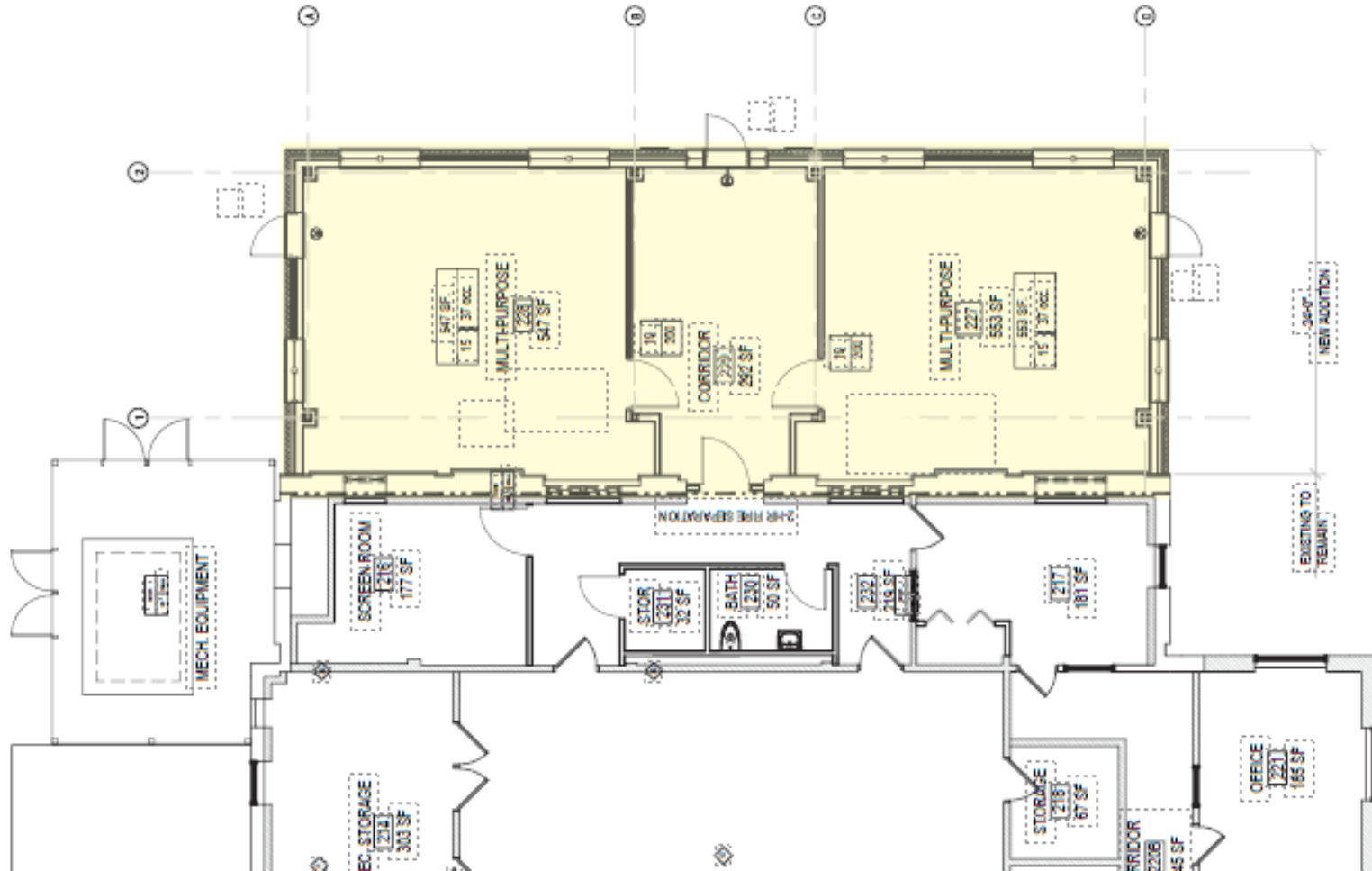
# Meeting the goals while preserving the past

## Floor Plan – Addition 1,500 sq/ft



# Meeting the goals while preserving the past

## Floor Plan – Addition 1,500 sq/ft



# Public Q & A

Got Questions???



## Next Steps...



**Take our survey.**



# Next Steps...

- **RFP Closes December 20th**

- Internal review of bids
- Presentation of results to the Town Council scheduled for 1<sup>st</sup> meeting in January
- Potential Award of bid

- **Public Workshop #2**

- Wednesday January 15
- Frenchtown Recreation Center, 1127 Frenchtown Rd. 6:00pm

- **Stay Connected**

- Sign up for project updates on our Engage EG Project Page





# Town of East Greenwich Swift Community Center Expansion Public Workshop #1 Thank You - Questions



Town of East Greenwich • State of Rhode Island • Studio Jaed • Swift Community Center Expansion

