



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

## Port Washington Police Department's New Headquarters

### WHY DOES THE DEPARTMENT NEED A NEW HEADQUARTERS?

The current police headquarters, built in 1958, no longer suits the needs of a modern police force and hasn't for some time. The original facility was designed to accommodate 35 officers and staff. As of January 1981, there were 39 sworn officers, and, by January 1984, we increased to 59 officers, added 3 dispatchers and completed a building addition. Our current police force comprises 63 sworn officers and 20 civilians. This reality requires the District to convert garage spaces into filing rooms and closets into offices while cramming additional staff and officers into existing spaces designed for half as many individuals.

The original building also did not anticipate the technology needs of a 21st-century police District, causing many electrical issues in our current space. The current property is undersized for the District's vehicles and other equipment, forcing us to store these items at off-site locations, which wastes precious time.

While serving the community effectively for more than 70 years, the facility has reached the end of its useful life. A new headquarters will provide needed space, improve operations and other efficiencies, address code violations, and bring the District's facility on par with current police facility standards.

### WHAT BENEFITS WILL THE COMMUNITY SEE WITH THE NEW HEADQUARTERS?

As a police District dedicated to the Port Washington community, we believe the new facility will help us improve our operations in order to better serve residents while providing them with community spaces and greater access to the District itself.

The physical location of the property, along the heart of Main Street in Port Washington, will provide a permanent presence downtown as well as near the train station. This facility has been designed to create dedicated multipurpose space for community groups to use and for the District to host smaller community events, training seminars and other related safety courses.

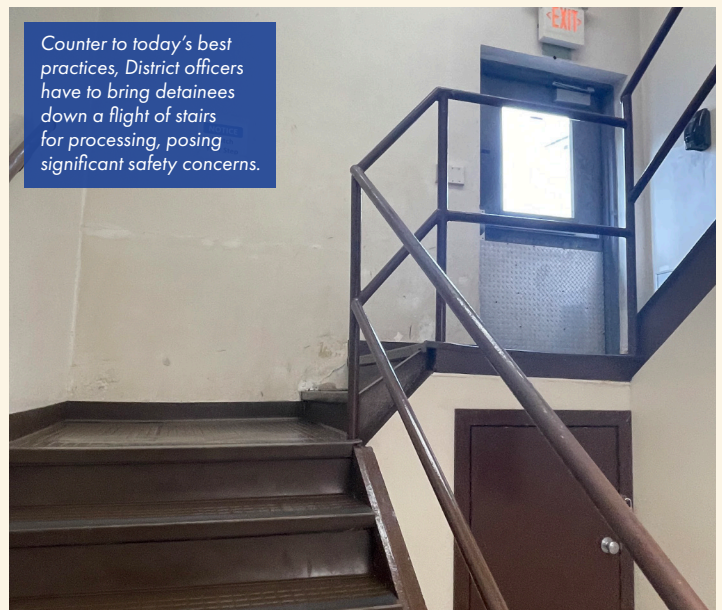
The new facility will also be ADA compliant, which the current building is not, and provide more residential parking to make engaging with the police District more seamless.

### WHAT IS GOING TO HAPPEN WITH THE EXISTING HEADQUARTERS?

Once the new headquarters is fully operational, the existing property will be put on the market for sale. The proceeds from the sale of the current property will be used to offset some of the costs associated with purchasing the property for the new headquarters.



Limited parking at current HQ requires the District to store vehicles and equipment at off-site locations.



Counter to today's best practices, District officers have to bring detainees down a flight of stairs for processing, posing significant safety concerns.

### HOW WILL THIS PROJECT BE FUNDED?

The District will use its Capital Reserve Fund (a portion of the funds will be immediately replaced once the sale of the current property is finalized) to pay for the new property, which costs \$8.8 million. The construction of the new facility itself is expected to cost approximately \$30 million, which the District will seek a bond from the Town of North Hempstead.

### WHO IS DESIGNING AND CONSTRUCTING THE BUILDING?

The District has retained the design and architecture services of H2M architects + engineers, a highly regarded multidisciplinary firm located in Melville, NY that worked with municipalities across the region for more than 90 years. The contractors for construction have not yet been selected as the building design is still in progress. Once ready, the project specifics will be put out for public bid and the District will select the entity that provides the qualifications required at the best price.