

The Connecticut General Assembly



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Windham State Legislators Announce Senior and Community Center to Move Forward at New Location *Plan approved by State Bond Commission*



Town Councilor Dawn Niles, Town Councilor Dennis O'Brien, Rep. Susan Johnson, Town Councilor Tom DeVivo, and Sen. Mae Flexer at the Legislative Office Building

Rep. Susan Johnson (D-Windham), **Rep. Linda Orange** (D-Colchester/Lebanon/Windham/Mansfield) and **Sen. Mae Flexer** (D-Danielson) applauded the State Bond Commission's approval today of a change in venue for the planned Senior and Community Center in Windham from 1315 Main Street to 1 Jilson Square.

The Commission had previously awarded funding in 2013 for the purchase and reconstruction of the Main Street building owned by the Access Community Action Agency for use as a Senior and Community Center. Today's approval clarifies that the funding can be used toward the same purpose, but at the Jilson Square location.

“We’ve worked hard to secure the funds for the center, and today’s approval means that we have cleared the last major hurdle before construction can begin,” **Rep. Johnson** said. “A new Senior and Community Center will be a great resource for Windham residents and build on previous investments to revitalize the downtown area. I’d like to thank Governor Malloy and the Bond Commission for the previously awarded funding and for now allowing that grant to be used toward the new location.”

“The Senior and Community Center will be a great asset to Windham residents as it provides a central location for groups to gather, activities to be held, and for residents to enjoy themselves,” **Rep. Orange** said. “I’m appreciative that the Bond Commission has approved the change in venue for this center and am thrilled that residents will soon be able to use all the services the center is planned to offer once constructed.”

“I am thrilled that the State Bond Commission approved the change in location for the Senior and Community center in Windham,” said **Sen. Flexer**. “This project is another example of a good investment for our community, particularly in this area of our downtown. There are critical investments that are being made by the state, the town, local businesses and philanthropists up and down Main Street. These combined efforts will continue to revitalize our downtown and create a very bright future. The Senior and Community center will be a much needed and welcome addition to Windham.”

The Town of Windham learned in December of 2016 that the Agency had elected to sell the Main Street property to a different buyer. The former Jilson Square Cinema building was chosen as the new location for the center soon after.

The Town Council has purchased the former cinema and authorized the remodeling of approximately 10,000 square feet of the space.

The project is estimated to cost \$3,250,000 in total, with \$1,343,635 covered by the previously awarded state funds.

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