

**Town of New London
Project Identification Form**

Department: Police Department

Project Name: New Commination Center

Date Submitted: 07/28/2017

Updated: _____

Description of Project/Item: The New London Communication center was last renovated in 2006. The current station and design in no longer conducive to our needs of today. When the Communication Center was built in 2000 it was not designed with a 50 year outlook. As explained to we have out grown the space we need to conduct business safely. This project would also go hand and hand with the construction of a new Police Department.

Project Purpose:

- 1. Approximately how many residents will directly benefit from this project? Explain how number was derived. 25000+.** The Communication Center is a public building that is used to house our Dispatcher's and equipment that is paid for by the tax payers of New London and the residents of the towns we contract with. . It will not only benefit the residents that live in town but all the business owners and non-resident tax payers as well. We have a population of 4600+ and I put a low modest number on non-tax paying residents as well as business owners. The communication center dispatches for 6 towns which handles 17 agencies that cover police, fire, ems, and ambulance services.
- 2. How does this project impact the level of service currently being provided, e.g., brings up an adopted minimum standard; maintains, improves, or provides a new level of service?** Currently our dispatch employees are working off counter tops. There is not enough room for them to adequately do their jobs comfortably. A proper work environment makes for less stressed employees who can better function at the job at hand.
- 3. Does this project address safety or health issues? If so, how?** The employees are asked to sit at work stations for 8 to 16 hours at a time that is not ergonomically healthy for them. The current building design has bullet proof walls for the protection of the dispatchers however someone can walk up to a ground level window and could shoot through the window or just break it and climb into dispatch. The town or designers did not want to change the look of the building at the time so they left this safety issue unnoticed. The heating systems continue to break and we have heat in the summer and air-conditioning or flooding in the winter. The air-conditioning systems fill up with mold often. The current entrance to dispatch does not allow for a holding room adequate for more than 2 people and many times people are struck by the exit door as people are waiting at the dispatch window and someone is leaving the building. The roof has flooded many times and everything under this roof is

electronic. If a flood was to reach our equipment it would put dispatch out of service affecting thousands and thousands of people.

4. **What is the proposed life expectancy of this project? Is this the first phase of many phases? Explain**
I would like to see a Communication Center built with a 50 year out look with plans for expansion if required. I would only see this as a one phase project.
5. **Are there any fiscal benefits of constructing this project in conjunction with another community or outside agency project, or is this a multi-departmental project? If so, please explain.** I believe that this project should be teamed up with the Police Department. I believe one building could house the communications center and police department which would save money on all your outside expenses of maintain buildings. It also allows for our officers not to travel for paperwork and documentation that dispatch provides to us as well as when citations arise in other towns that we dispatch for the officers assist the dispatchers with handling calls.
6. **Will the completion of this project improve the efficiency of current Town programs or operations? If so, state which specific operations will be affected and how they will be improved.**
7. **What are the implications of delaying or deferring this project beyond the year(s) for which funding is requested?** We continue to put money into a building that is not suitable for the Communication Center. The selectman, Town Administrator, Fire Chief and myself have worked very hard over the past 3 years to bring our level of service and commitment to the towns that we dispatch for up and to a stable commitment from the other towns. The funding from other towns off sets the cost to the New London tax payers. The completion and upgrading of the facility itself is vital to this roll of providing excellent services to these other comminutes by having a safe and healthy environment to our employees.
8. **Will this project increase the capacity in anticipation of future growth? If so, please explain.** If we build a new station it should be planned on the ability to grow.
9. **Describe the impact of the project on staffing or other operating costs.** I do not see an impact on staffing for either the Police Department or Communications center.
10. **Total Estimated Project Costs (attach available documentation):**

Legal/Survey/Engineering:	_____
Land Acquisition:	_____
Equipment Acquisition:	_____
Construction:	_____
Other (Describe):	_____

11. Estimated Future Operating Costs (attach available documentation):

Additional Personnel: _____
Electricity: _____
Heating/Cooling: _____
Repairs/Maintenance: _____
Other (describe): _____

12. Project Dates:

Projected Approval Date: _____
Projected Project Start Date: _____
Projected Project Completion Date: _____
Projected Term of Borrowing: _____

Notes: (Additional information)

The town has put forth money in the 2017/18 fiscal year budget to do a study on the communications center and Police Department. This should give us a direction to go. This will also help us on determining if we want to stay in our current facility or look for a new location. During this time we would be able start to get costs on this project.

Department Head Signature: _____

Date: _____