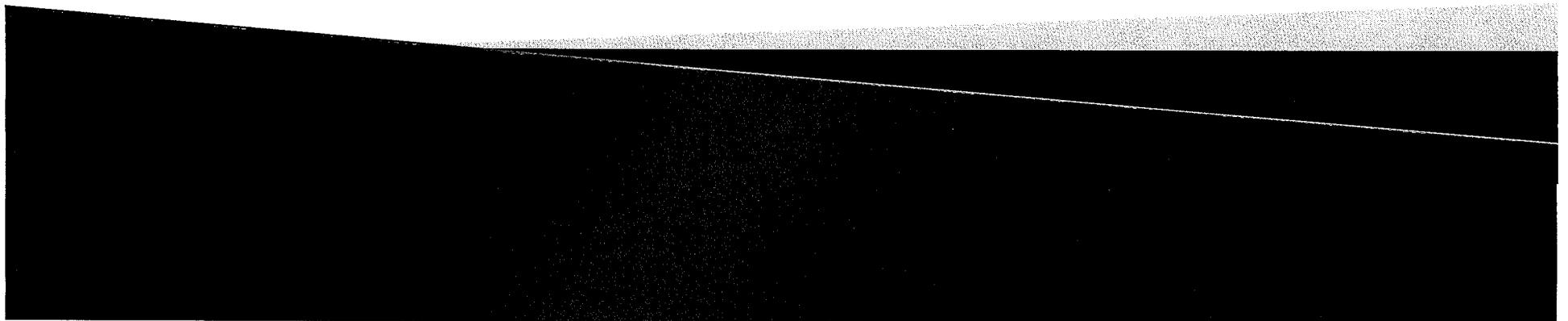


7/9 (8)



# Centralizing Polling Locations

Cost/Efficiency Comparisons for Elections



Superintendent Mills, in conjunction with Mr. Ledoux, Town Manager, has come to an agreement with the Clerk's Office with regard to facility use for the "Field House" for future elections.

We believe that this change would allow for a better experience for our citizens, while maximizing staff resources during the voting process. Combining all precincts into one location would allow a lower overhead in terms of cost overall and still produce an efficiently run election. For example, election worker and police coverage would be condensed, reducing payroll and mitigating coverage issues.

We formally request your official approval of this course of action. Once approval is granted, we would coordinate with the staff at the High School pre-election details in order to guarantee the efficient setup of the location. Our goal is to combine election dates with upcoming teacher work days or scheduled days off in order to relieve any traffic/parking issues. The next step would be to notify our voters with information on how the adjustment would affect them. We would hope to do so in time for the September 6th State Election.

As always, your consideration is greatly appreciated and we welcome your comments and/or suggestions.

# Precinct One

2,147 Voters

- ▶ Precinct 1 – Nagog Clubhouse

## Disadvantages:

Privately owned, no site control

ADA compliance is questionable (per Building Dept.)

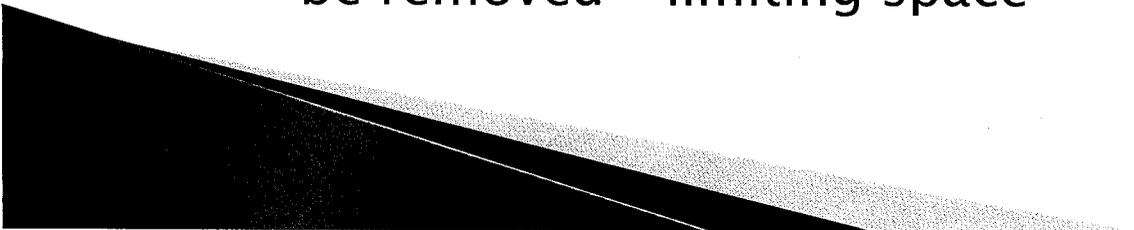
Limited space for number of voters (2,146 this precinct)

Small parking area with one means of egress

Facility lighting is poor

Space in clubhouse is limited for the number of voters

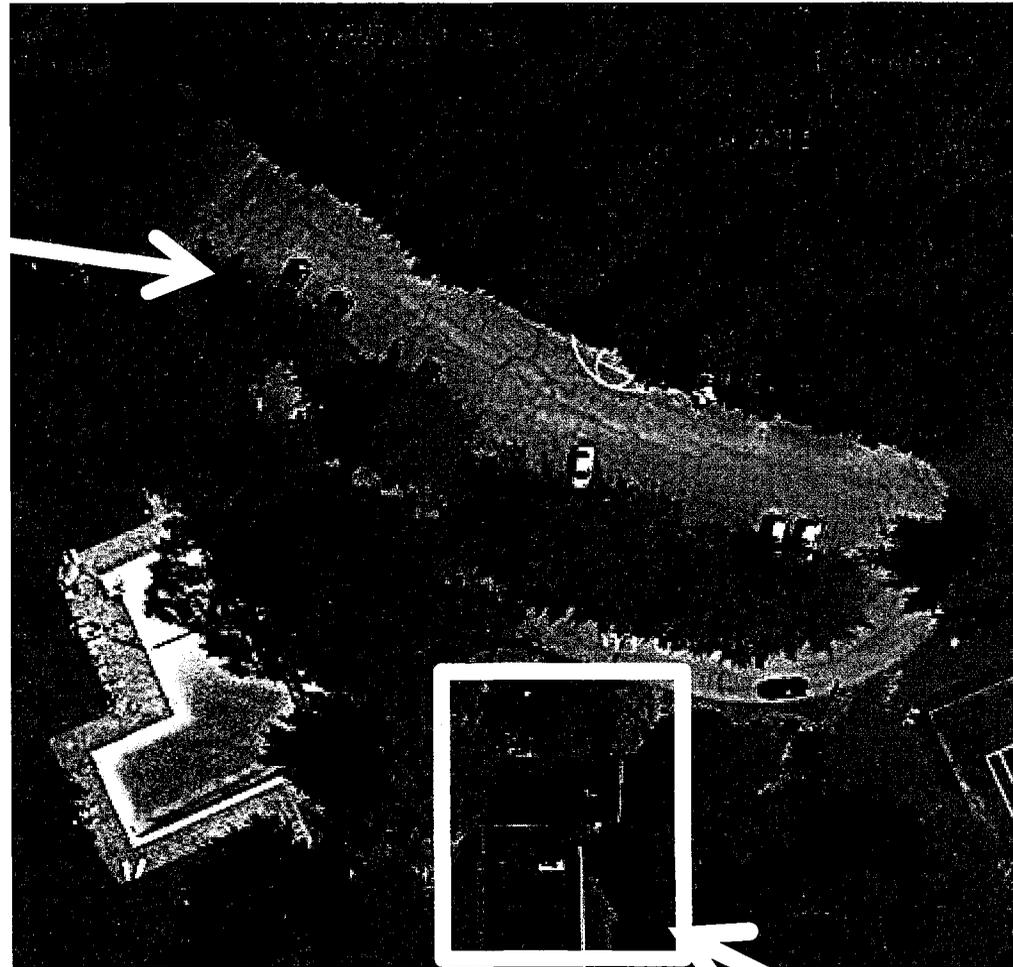
Furniture must be pushed to sides of room but it may not be removed – limiting space



# Nagog Club House

Limited Parking

One means of egress



Clubhouse

# Precincts Two and Six

4,277 Voters

▶ Precincts 2 and 6 – Conant School

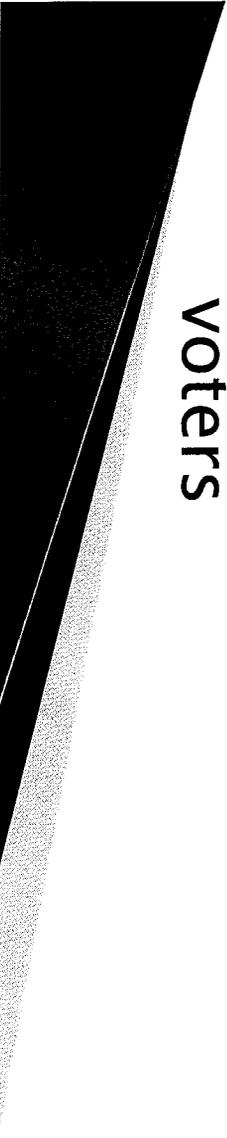
## Disadvantages:

Cannot access site until after 3:30 p.m.

Limited parking

Bus service competes with traffic flow –  
main entrance is used by students AND

voters



One  
entrance  
for voters  
AND  
students



One parking area shared by voters,  
staff and busses

# Precincts Three, Four, Five

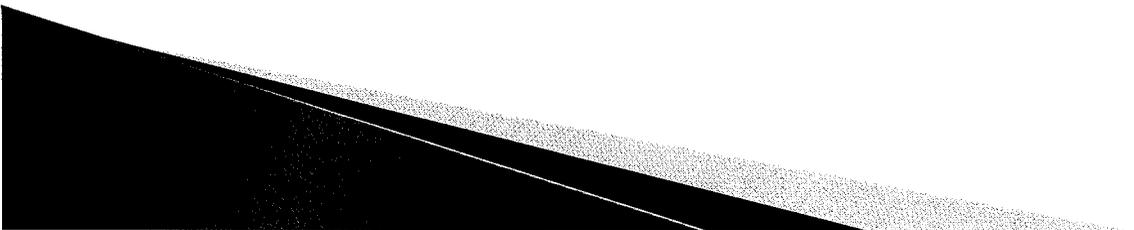
7,179 Voters

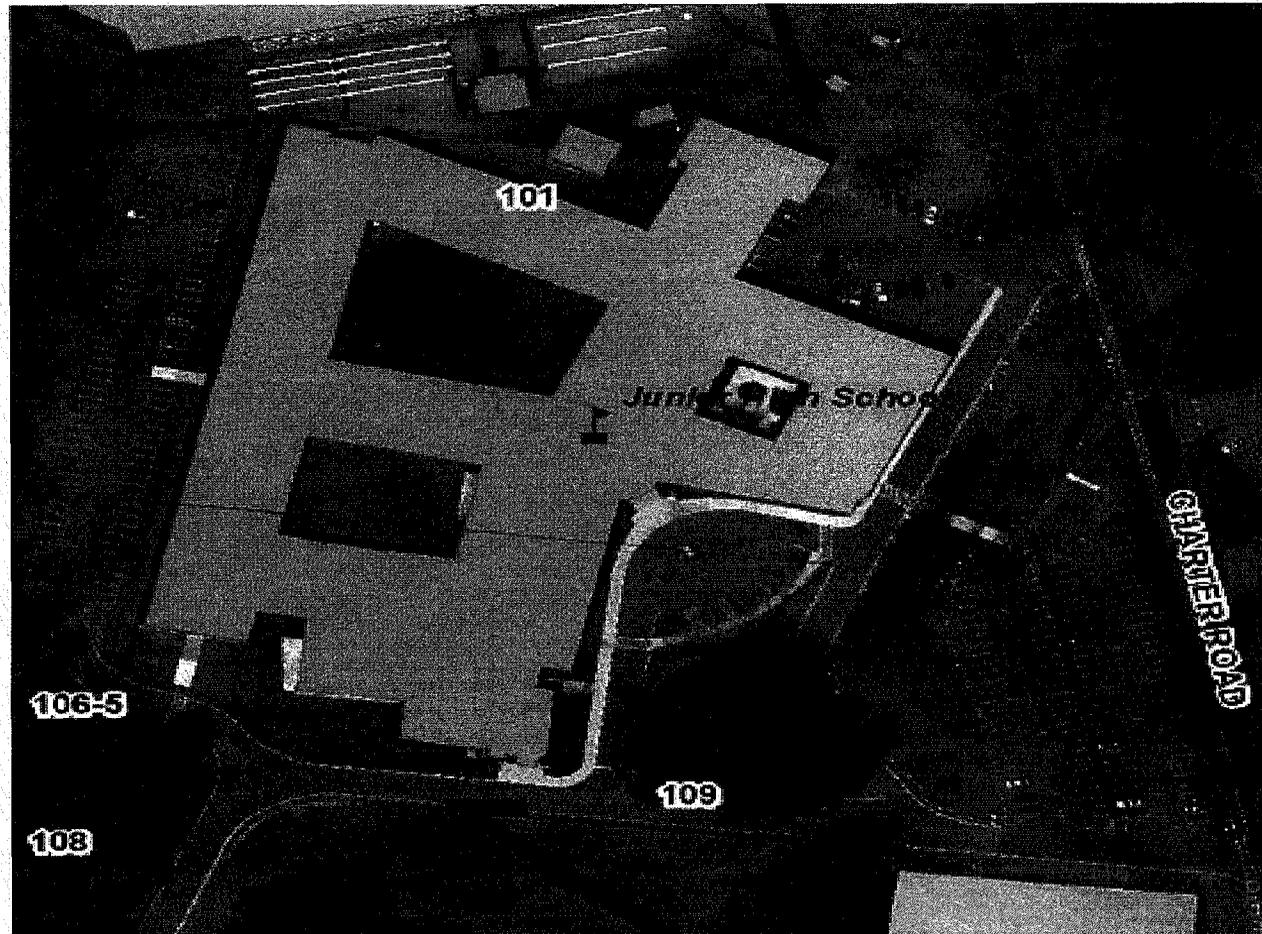
- ▶ Precincts 3, 4, 5 – Junior High School

Disadvantages:

Limited parking

Limited access to gym for setup/take down due to sports/club activities in school





Voters park on curb in front of entrance doors,  
blocking street access

# Cost Benefits

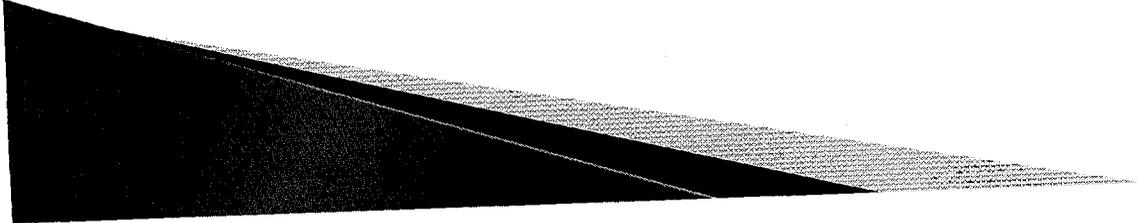
## Multiple Polling Locations

- ▶ Police details required for each location (1 mandatory, school locations additional 2)
- ▶ Clerk staff must make multiple trips to various locations during the day (\$ mileage, time away from office)
- ▶ More poll workers must be hired to cover the various shifts, increasing payroll.
- ▶ Less control over parking and site specific organization

## Single Polling Location

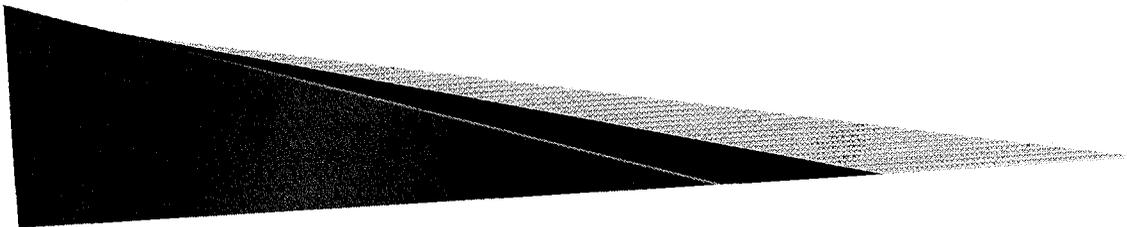
- ▶ Smaller police detail required
- ▶ Trips from the Clerk's Office will be reduced allowing for less mileage expense. Allows staff to be on site
- ▶ Poll workers can cover each other in a more efficient manner, allowing for less costs.
- ▶ Parking and site control can be monitored more closely

# Efficiency Benefits

- ▶ Combining polling locations allows for less staff/coverage overall thereby reducing costs.
  - ▶ Staff is able to respond to problems/concerns in a more efficacious manner.
  - ▶ High School provides greater parking area and separate entrance to polls
  - ▶ Voting will not enter general student area
  - ▶ Multiple egress points
  - ▶ Setup/Take down easier for municipal employees
  - ▶ Election results can be tallied more effectively
- 

# Conclusion

- ▶ Supporting a combined location allows for greater efficiency from the Clerk's Office.
- ▶ Cost saving benefits will be realized from reduced staff coverage and police detail
- ▶ Management of the location is easier for municipal employees for setup/take down
- ▶ After some initial changes, voters will be able to recognize "one town, one voting location".



# New Proposed Location

- ▶ Upper Gym  
(Field House)

Separate entrance to gym keeps general public away from student population

Larger parking area for voters and closer proximity to building

