

The mission of the Community Center Committee is to understand the **desires** and needs of the Topsham Community to identify accessible, **affordable**, sustainable recreational solutions that will serve the **multi-generational** community and foster social connections among Topsham citizens.

Topsham Community Center Committee – Timeline

The Town of Topsham Community Center Committee is working to evaluate the feasibility of building a community center. There are many steps in the process and listed below are steps completed to date.

Part One-(2019)- The Select Board designated a volunteer committee to assess community interest in developing a town community center, based on the Topsham Comprehensive Plan.

- **June 2021 Town Survey Conducted** – using various methods including email, town invitations, live committee outreach, social media and newsprint.
- **August 2021 Survey Results** were presented to the Select Board noting 994 responses to the survey, 79% in support of “Topsham building and operating a community center”

Part Two-(2022) – The Select Board has authorized the acceptance of proposals from external entities for assistance in conducting a Needs Assessment.

- **February 2023** - Harriman and Associates were selected to move forward with phase one of their proposal. They began work with Town of Topsham Community Center Committee to complete Needs Assessment.
- **January 2024** - Six focus groups were held to gather opinions and desires regarding potential development of a community center. These results were consolidated to form the committee’s second town survey.
- **April 2024**- Second town survey completed. Residents were invited to participate in surveys using various methods including email, town invitations, live committee outreach, social media, newsprint and survey presentation table on State Primary voting day (3/5/2024).
- **September 2024**- Presented Phase 2 Town Survey results were presented to the Town of Topsham Select Board. Support was maintained from the first survey (70%) with the added consideration of increased taxes.

Part Three- (2024)- The Select Board approved Harriman and Associates to continue with phase two of their initial proposal to explore potential sites, fundraising opportunities, and gather insights from other community centers for optimal cost management and operation.

- **January 2025**- Harriman and Associates hosted a Community Center Public Workshop for additional information gathering on needs assessment.

Part Four (2025)

- **October 2025** – The TCCC presented to the Select Board assessment of land options, potential fundraising options and building conceptual design from Harriman. Board voted to approve new charge for committee, which would include further fundraising options, development of building design and engaging with community members for additional feedback. Approximately 18 months allocated for the completion of these next steps.

For further information on the Town of Topsham Community Center Committee visit us at:
<https://www.topshammaine.com/community-center>