



## Town of Rye, New Hampshire Proposed Town Hall Expansion Preliminary Plan

The goals of the proposed project are:

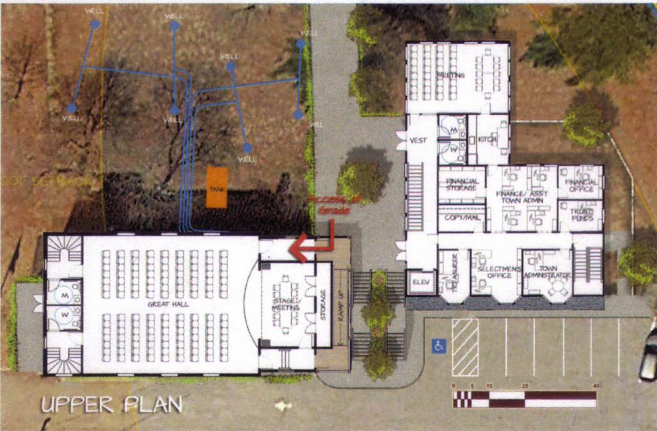
- to correct safety and code issues
- to enhance public use and access
- to provide functional staff space
- to enhance security and privacy
- to restore the use of the meeting hall
- to preserve the historic character

The annex is located behind the existing Town Hall, a separate building, but linked by a corridor under the outdoor stairs. The annex is to be built within Town requirements for setback, lot coverage, height & historic district requirements.



The annex will take advantage of excess capacity in the new geothermal system installed for the Town Hall. The complex will be accessible at grade on both levels from parking. An elevator will also be provided in the new building - avoiding the need to disrupt the old. The south-facing orientation will allow for passive and active solar systems to be installed.

By remaining a separate building, the annex preserves the look of the original Town Hall. It is lower and smaller than the Town Hall. The annex will be built with traditional materials as is required in the historic district. The form of the building is intended to compliment the older hall without mimicing it. With the annex in place, the original function of the Town Hall as a large meeting space can be restored.



The public will gain use of new meeting rooms in a range of sizes. The Great Hall can accommodate large groups of 125 or more, while the stage level (with its own closing partition) can be used for 15 or so. In addition, a replacement for the "courtroom" will hold about 45. Two smaller conference rooms will allow for confidential discussions not possible in the current open partition arrangement.



The new complex is laid out for the convenience of the visitor and the utility of the staff. Offices that interact with each other are placed in proximity. A simple and clear system of hallways improve public wayfinding, emergency exiting and security for the staff.

An option for a partial basement under the lower lobby (not shown) has also been evaluated. This would house utilities and additional storage.

Read more: [Facebook.com/RyeTownHall](https://www.facebook.com/RyeTownHall)

Prepared by SMP Architecture

