

The City of Fitchburg Massachusetts

Massachusetts OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Stephen L. DiNatale

November 2, 2017 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City Hall Feasibility Study – Completed for Public Review

FITCHBURG – **November 2, 2017**– Mayor Stephen L. DiNatale is proud to announce the release of the completed feasibility study for City Hall, located at 718 and 700 Main Street.

On December 14, 2016 Mayor DiNatale announced the advertisement for a Request of Qualifications to conduct a feasibility study. In March of 2017, a contract was awarded to Lamoureux Pagano & Associates (LPA), a Worcester based architectural firm. Most recently, LPA has conducted several studies of multiple buildings in the towns of Sturbridge, Hubbardston, and West Boylston, and renovations of four historic town buildings in Holden. LPA was also the architect for the award winning restoration of the Hanover Theater and on-going renovations at historic Mechanics Hall of Worcester.

During the implementation of the study, Mayor DiNatale established an advisory committee to make recommendations and assist LPA. The study utilized information and documentation generated from past studies and surveys and evaluated the development of the 718 and 700 Main Street location as a municipal campus. After careful analyses of the existing conditions and the space needs of City Hall, five design concepts were explored to meet the functional and restoration requirements of the project.

Concept option number one, which incorporates selective demolition and full renovation of the completed 1853 structure and 1879 addition was chosen by the Building Committee as the concept choice to the Mayor. "This option honors the historic significance of the building, while meeting the interior renovations necessary to improve service and experience for Fitchburg constituents and visitors," said Mary Delaney, Chair of the City Hall Building Committee.

"The study provides the needed information that will help guide the city into making an informed decision on how to properly appropriate the necessary funds to bring City Hall services back to Main Street. I am very excited to start a dialogue with the public and City Council about the next steps in making 718 Main Street a reality. Concept option one provides for the proper mix of historic preservation, interior space programming, fiscal responsibility, and technological advances that will make City Hall a functional 21st century building while maintaining its 19th century significance. Also, I would like to thank the Building Committee and LPA for their support, knowledge, and dedication to the study," said Mayor DiNatale.

The feasibility study is available electronically for public access by visiting the front-page of the city's website at www.fitchburgma.gov. This will also be the location where updates of the project will be posted. Once printed, a copy will be on file at the Library and City Clerk's Office for the public to view. A special meeting of the City Council has been scheduled for Wednesday, November 15, 2017 at 6:00PM, for a presentation of the study. The meeting will take place in the Kent Recital Hall in Conlon Fine Arts Building, 367 North Street, Fitchburg MA, 01420. A parking map is available on the city webpage.