

Plan

Option B – William Street + Lot 7 Public Safety Building + West End Hose Expansion



Option B, like the Veteran’s Memorial Drive Plan, calls for the creation of a new Emergency Services Complex, but located on the William Street site (above), coupled with an expansion of the West End Hose Company No. 3. And a separate Public Safety Building located on Lot 7 (High Street) This plan improves the Borough’s current Emergency Services facilities’ capabilities and capacity, on a high-visibility site with excellent access to both primary and secondary Somerville streets. Specifics of this Plan are:

- A new Public Safety Building, housing the Police Department, Violations Department, and Municipal Court.
- A new Fire Department Building, housing Lincoln Hose Company No. 4, Engine Company No. 1, and the Rescue Squad and maintenance operations.
- Expansion of the West End Hose Co. to house the Central Hook and Ladder Co.

The new Complex, as in Option A, would provide fire department, maintenance, and rescue squad facilities appropriately sized spaces to accommodate both current and future equipment and apparatus, as well as space for personnel parking. Again, as in option A, the public safety component would provide the police department with appropriately sized, code abiding, professional spaces as well as an integrated Municipal Court and Violations Bureau Features of the Complex would include a drive-through bay for all fire trucks, offering ease-of-use and improving public safety over the current facilities and sites. The site itself is highly visible, with accessibility to both Gaston Avenue and William Street, and would be appropriate as a place to showcase Somerville’s civic pride through an engaging building and/or a corner park/Fire Fighters memorial. The site is also above the Peter’s Brook flood plain.

However, the site also presents certain constraints. The site offers only limited depth, with less room for expansion, if required. There is also only room for a maximum of 21 parking spaces on the site, if a park/memorial space is built.

Option B also calls for the expansion of the West End Hose Company. As in the new Emergency Services Complex, the expansion would allow for increased bay space, and space appropriate for fire fighting apparatus and equipment and vehicle maintenance.