

# Vote Yes for the Old Lyme Town Hall Project

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## To the Editor:

The referendum for the Old Lyme Town Hall Renovation and Expansion will be held on Tuesday, January 30, 2007. I very much support this project and I urge the citizens of Old Lyme to support the project.

I have many reasons to be in favor of this project, but I will mention just two.

First, the town hall is not handicapped accessible. What more do I need to write about that issue!

Second, if you are a member of a commission or you have had reason to attend a commission meeting, you would be aware that you may have had to sit on the floor in a crowded conference room, stand in the hallway, or sit or stand on the stairs. Town hall needs the additional space to accommodate the people who work there, plus all the people who serve on or attend various commission meetings and especially all the citizens of Old Lyme who utilize the town hall.

The process of alerting and informing residents of Old Lyme regarding this project has been very fair and very open. The Town Hall Expansion Committee has held open forums where the people of Old Lyme were encouraged to voice their opinions. Many of the suggestions have been incorporated into the renovation and expansion plans.

I believe the time is now to move ahead with this project.

Geraldine U. Foster  
Old Lyme

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## All Deserve Access To Old Lyme Town Hall

To The Editor Of The Day:

On Jan. 30, Old Lyme town residents will have the opportunity to vote in favor of a resolution to expand our Town Hall by casting ballots at Cross Lane Fire Department from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Our Town Hall was built in the early 1920s and has not substantially been altered, enhanced or added onto since that time. Our Yankee thriftiness gave us the benefit of almost 100 years of use. Now the growth of our population and, therefore, town government merits a physical expansion of the building that is at the heart of the services we need to provide our residents.

One of the most important things we will accomplish in this expansion is to make our town government accessible to all. Anyone limited by age, health or disability will be able to attend a public hearing, knock on the first selectman's office door, or meet with building or land-use office employees. Anyone limited by age, health or disability will be able to park nearby, roll or walk into Town Hall, use the restrooms, roll or walk down the halls, go to a meeting on any floor, and actually get inside an office. None of that is possible now. It will

be possible when the expanded Town Hall opens at the end of 2008.

There are many good reasons I support the Town Hall expansion project. However, in my heart I believe that we have a basic obligation to the men and women who face physical challenges every day to provide them the same access to the workings of town government that everyone else has. ■



Diana Atwood Johnson

*Old Lyme*