



Sea Isle City's Former Public School at 4501 Park Road

Built in 1971

The School Building's Current Uses:

- Men's Basketball: Wednesday evenings, autumn thru spring.
- Adult Volleyball: Thursday evenings, autumn thru spring.
- Boy Scout Troop 76 Meetings: Friday evenings, autumn thru spring
- "Over 40" Men's Basketball: Saturday mornings, autumn thru spring
- Open Gym: Monday thru Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., autumn thru spring; and 7-days a week during the summer (basketball, walking, volleyball, Pickleball and self-led exercises).
- Beach Wheel Chair Program: Mid-May thru Mid-September, 7-days a week
- Sit-Fit Senior Classes: Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons, year-round.
- Chair Yoga for Adults: Tuesdays and Thursdays afternoons, year- round.
- Yoga for Kids Grades K-8: Thursday afternoons, autumn thru spring
- After School Programs
- Special Events: City Employee Events; Community Day; Flower Sale; MAC Drug-Awareness Events; and Recreation Events.
- "Rain Location" for Memorial Day, Veterans Day, 911 and Vietnam Veterans Ceremonies, Playground Camp, Easter Program, and other events.

The Building's Flood Elevation:

The existing School Building's flood elevation does NOT meet current FEMA Flood Standards.

The Building's Current Needs:

- New HVAC System throughout the building: The heater is old; only the main office has central AC; some classrooms have window AC units that are aging; there's no AC in the gym.
- New Bathrooms: Current bathrooms lack "adult-size" fixtures and ADA compliancy.
- Exterior Windows and Doors need replacing.
- New ADA Exterior Ramps are needed.
- Gymnasium needs complete remodeling, floor to ceiling.
- Kitchen needs upgrades.

A Closer Look at the Existing Gymnasium at 4501 Park Road:

- The gymnasium needs new flooring (the existing vinyl floor is deteriorating).
- There is no seating on the basketball court's perimeter, and due to the lack of space around the edge of the court there is not enough room to add seating or bleachers for spectators.
- The current basketball court measures 75-feet in length. The standard size of a High School basketball court is 84-feet long; and the size of a University basketball court is 94-feet long.
- The existing gymnasium needs new lighting, a new ceiling and air conditioning.

Advisory Committee:

In 2017, City Council asked Mayor Desiderio to form an advisory committee of residents who would explore options for the future of the public school property at 4501 Park Road. The 10-member ad-hoc committee included representatives from the City's Recreation Committee, parents, senior citizens, business owners, and members of civic groups. The committee first met in April, 2017, with representatives from Garrison Architects, Business Administrator George Savastano and Director of Community Services Katherine Custer in attendance.

During the course of the following year, the committee met several times to discuss all options. In the end, the committee members were unanimous in the belief that the school building should be demolished and a new recreation facility be constructed on that site. Architectural renderings were created using the committee's input – as was a rendering of renovations for existing school building. However, the committee was divided regarding an indoor swimming pool...

- Two (2) committee members were not in favor of a swimming pool.
- Six (6) committee members were in favor of a swimming pool.
- Two (2) committee members were in favor of a swimming pool on the condition that funds to build the pool would not adversely affect any other recreation projects or programs.

Options and Costs for 4501 Park Road:

- **Renovate Existing School Facility** = approximately \$2 million (the maximum allowable amount, based on 50% of the school building's value because the building is below FEMA flood standards).
- **Build a Modern Recreation Facility without an Indoor Pool** = approximately \$13-16 million (include a gymnasium and amenities to fit current and future needs).
- **Build a Modern Recreation Facility with an Indoor Pool** = approximately \$17-20 million. (**NOTE:** Estimated ongoing costs for indoor pool maintenance and staffing range from \$500,000 to \$1 million annually)