

Executive Summary

Lowville Regional Transportation Facility



Goals

The primary goal of the study is to examine the feasibility of a new joint transportation facility. Further, we set out to find what that facility would look like, what type of site was appropriate, what the financial implications of such a project would be, and what are the prospects for cost savings for the municipalities.

Funding

Large questions for the group are what would the project cost and what would be the financial impact to individuals and municipalities. The only construction cost for the project will be to the local taxpayers of the Lowville Central School District and not to the other municipalities. The School District will receive NYS Building Aid on the project, approximately 97%, and the remaining 3% would be the responsibility of the District taxpayers. This percentage would then be amortized over 15 to 30 years.

Facility Analysis

Each of the municipalities' existing facilities have been reviewed for location, space, equipment, services, storage and fleet. In addition, data was gathered on their additional current and future needs, staffing and fleet.

Programming

A schematic design and rendering were generated based on the shared needs expressed by the group. The various types of service, vehicles, staffing and individual needs were incorporated into the design.

Site Analysis

Several local sites, both private and municipally owned, were selected to better understand the constraints of the project. Site costs both general for the project and specific to each site were developed.

Cost Savings

The areas of largest savings can be realized through the extended life of the fleets of all the municipalities. Services that are currently being outsourced and/or not done regularly provide opportunities to have a longer useful life and to keep the service local. Each of the four existing buildings requires or will require construction projects to provide these services and to maintain compliance with environmental and building codes. Building one facility for everyone to share avoids many of the future construction projects and upgrades.

Next Steps

Three options exist for the community to consider. The first is to do nothing and keep running the facilities and agreements the way they currently exist. The second is to build a new facility owned by the School District that provides the ability to service all the needs of the participating entities. The third option is a hybrid approach, in which the new facility is built and both the new and existing buildings of the groups are examined together and become a shared resource for storage, equipment, etc. This would cost the same as the second option, and would have to be better defined as the group pursues this option.

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