

Wayland Library Wants Your Input on the Future of [5 Concord Road](#)

No one in Wayland, it seems, is indifferent to the beauty of the library at [5 Concord Road](#). Perfectly sited in the historic center of town, the building is instantly recognizable for its graceful rotunda, terra-cotta tile roof, and blankets of ivy. Unfortunately, the architecture cannot override the site's inability to accommodate the library's needed expansion.

On July 13, the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners awarded Wayland a Provisional Construction Grant of \$10,137,980, about 40 percent of the projected construction cost for a new library. Wayland's Library Trustees propose to locate the new library at 195 Main Street, next to Wayland Middle School -- a site that allows a building commensurate with the town's needs. Residents will vote on the appropriation of the remaining construction funds at an upcoming Town Meeting.

The Trustees, along with many others, would like [5 Concord Road](#) to remain a public gathering place. Moving the library would give us all an exciting opportunity to reflect on other unmet needs within the town, and consider how [5 Concord Road](#) might meet them. The Library Planning Committee (LPC) has heard some proposals, including a cultural center (perhaps akin to Concord's Umbrella Community Arts Center) and a museum of local history under the auspices of the Wayland Historical Society. Now we'd like to hear yours. What would you like to see in this beloved building? What needs do you feel are not being met? How might this function take shape at [5 Concord Road](#)? Could this new facility help to make Wayland a more desirable community for both current and prospective residents?

All are invited to a community forum with the Trustees and members of the LPC at 7 p.m. on Thursday, October 19, in the Large Hearing Room, Town Building, to share ideas on how [5 Concord Road](#), built at the turn of the twentieth century (1900), can help Wayland continue to thrive in the twenty-first.