



TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON

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Town of East Hampton Accepts Bids for Construction of Montauk Playhouse Community Center Aquatic Center and Multi-Use Cultural Center

East Hampton, NY – February 16, 2024 - The Town of East Hampton voted to accept bids and donated funds raised by the Montauk Playhouse Community Center Foundation for the construction of the Montauk Playhouse Community Center (MPCC) Aquatic Center and Community Multi-Use Cultural Center.

Originally envisioned as separate projects to take place in two phases, the Town's ability to undertake both simultaneously is a testament to the successful nature of this public-private partnership with the Montauk Playhouse Community Center Foundation (MPCCF).

The Town Board accepted bids from four separate contractors for general construction, plumbing, electric work, and heating and ventilation in accordance with Wicks Law. Contractors for this project will be paid at a prevailing wage as per New York State requirements.

Scott DiBerardino of Island Structures Engineering was hired for construction management and oversight of the 25,000-square-foot project.

Accepted construction costs are \$13.9 million. Overall costs, which include construction administration and management, are just over \$16.1 million. The project will be a true public-private partnership with funding from the Town of East Hampton, the MPCCF, and New York State. The Town will provide \$5.5 million and an additional \$114,000 water quality grant for a new low-nitrogen septic system. New York State will provide a grant for \$1.75 million. The MPCCF has donated an impressive \$8.25 million raised from Montauk residents and the project's supporters.

Construction on the approximately 25,000 square-foot project is scheduled to begin in early April 2024 and is expected to last approximately 16 to 18 months.

Once completed, the Aquatic Center will have a 25-yard, 4-lane lap fitness pool for instructional swimming and a smaller 32' x 33' shallow pool for rehabilitation and therapeutic services. The second floor will feature the Multi-Use Cultural Center and will serve as a versatile space for performances, lectures, classes, conferences, and meetings.

“We are elated that the continued revitalization of the Montauk Playhouse into a full-service community center will happen faster than we had initially planned, allowing this beloved historic landmark to actively and vigorously serve Montauk and the entire East End community with social, cultural, and aquatic fitness programs for generations to come,” said East Hampton Town Supervisor Kathee Burke-Gonzalez. “We are profoundly grateful to the MPCCF, its funders and Montauk residents for their vision, and generous ongoing support.”

“The Montauk Playhouse Community Center Foundation (MPCCF) is thrilled to reach this milestone with the Town of East Hampton to build an Aquatic Center and multi-use Cultural Center in the historic Montauk Playhouse Community Center. The Foundation’s \$8.25 million donation to the Town, along with MPCCF’s donation of the construction plans, was achieved by generous leadership gifts from our donors. This is probably one of the largest community projects in Montauk for which funds have been privately raised, an accomplishment that is a testament to our community’s philanthropic and civic-minded members. We will continue to fundraise as construction moves forward, to plan for programming, and to provide services that fulfill community needs,” said Sarah Iudicone, President of Montauk Playhouse Community Center Foundation

The existing Playhouse facilities will remain open throughout the construction phase, with stringent safety measures in place to ensure the well-being of patrons and staff while minimizing disruptions to the existing Playhouse facilities, allowing for a smooth, safe, and timely completion of the project.

As construction progresses, updates and milestones will be shared with the community, inviting residents to celebrate the project’s advancements. Completing the MPCC Aquatic Center and Community Multi-Use Cultural Center will signify a new chapter in East Hampton’s cultural and recreational landscape, offering a diverse range of programming and opportunities for residents of all ages.

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