

ESSEX COMMUNITY POLICE FACILITY



*An investment by
Vermont's 2nd Largest Town
in its Public Safety,
in its Employees,
and in its Future ...*

Police Facility Committee (PFC)

- ❖ **Volunteers from the Essex Community who shared an interest in public safety**
- ❖ **Members from Police Department who served as content experts**
- ❖ **Co-chaired by the Town Select Board and Village Trustees**



Committee Members

Dave Rogerson – Selectman
Co-Chair

John Alden

Pat Brennan

Peter Gustafson

Alan Nye

Mike Plageman

John Workman

Staff Contacts

Trevor Lashua
Assist Town Manager

Dan Kerin – Trustee
Co-Chair

Doug Babcock – Sgt,
Essex Police Dept.

Jeff Friedman

Dan Maxon

Beth Paul

Justin Rabidoux

Brad Larose – Capt,
Essex Police Dept.

PFC Objectives

Over a two-year period ...

- **Study the Architecture, Construction and Environmental impact**
 - Adequacy of existing facility
 - Requirements for policing
 - Potential building design options
 - Potential building locations
 - Energy efficiency '**LEED Gold**' rating in building design and construction
 - 40-year life expectancy





**Why do we need
more space?**

In the beginning . . .

1. In 1983, 27 FT Staff, -- renovated GS / intended as temporary
In 2012, 32 FT Staff, -- they are still there
2. Since 1988, we have had 5 studies involving a police facility
3. Currently leasing space for Storage, Detectives and Parking – which adds to cost and inefficiency



Dispatch, Lobby, and Hallway

The challenges of space

1. Inadequate in recent “safety incidents”
(Domestic assaults, Juvenile crime, In-person complaints, ADA compliance, etc.)
2. Operational efficiencies
3. Building for the future ...



Stairway -- Downstairs to dispatch, holding, work area. Upstairs to records, admin, traffic safety and youth services

“The existing facility... is not sufficient to carry out the mission of the department”

(David E. Demag, Chief, 2001 Essex -- Town Annual Report)

The current facility

- ¾ acre
- Limited Capacity Command Center
- Inadequate parking
- No room for expansion
- Located in flood plain
- Lease space for parking at existing site
- Lease space for added capacity



Processing, Officer workstation, Interview area, Drug testing, and Lunchroom

Why is it important to Essex?

We are the 2nd largest community in VT

(Approximately 20,000 population --- 8,249 full-time jobs)

Essex sits on high-density travel corridors



- ✓ 5 Corners,
- ✓ Route 15,
- ✓ Route 2A,
- ✓ Route 117 and
- ✓ Route 289

- ✓ Daytime populations are 25% to 50% higher

Records, Traffic safety, and Youth services

Why is it important to Essex?

Key investments to protect

- ✓ High and low-density housing
- ✓ Shopping Centers
- ✓ Manufacturing
(IBM, GMCR, Flex-a-Seal, Revision etc.)
- ✓ Region's Event Venue
(Champlain Valley Expo)
 - Population doubles on Fair Show nights

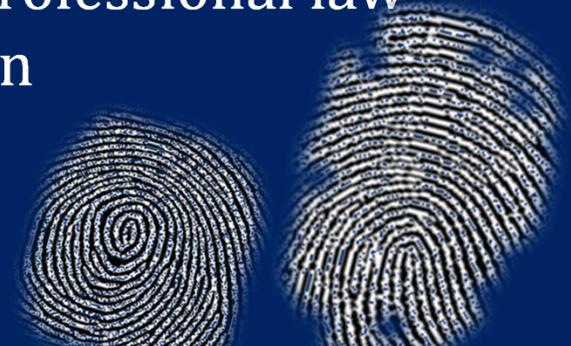


Ladies locker room, Storage, and Handicap accessible restroom

Why is it important to Essex?

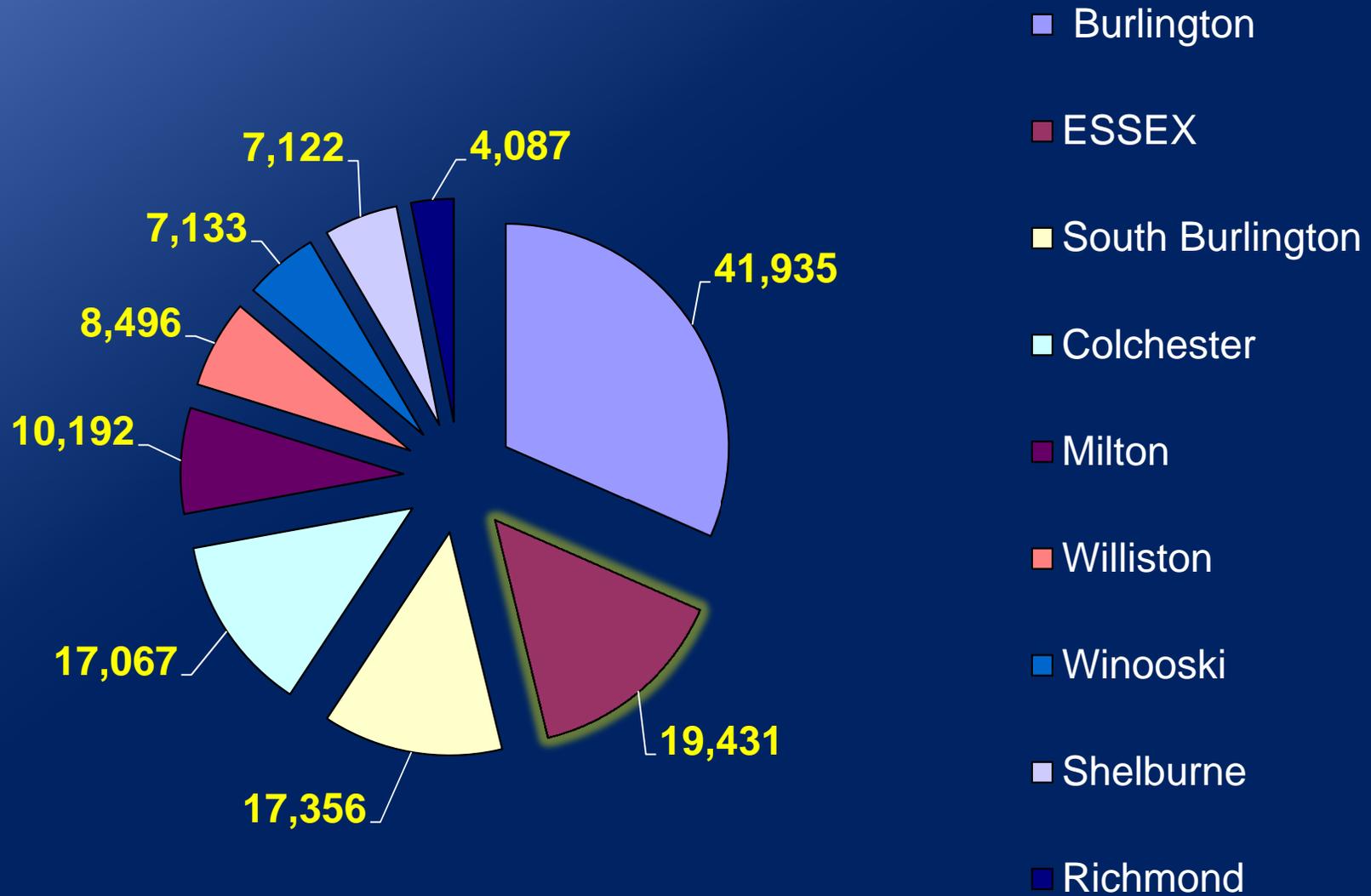
Essex PD has the least amount of space per employee in the County

- ✓ Approximately 30% the amount of space-per-employee when compared to all others
- ✓ Unable to conduct proper interviews, evidence review, proper business activities expected of a professional law enforcement organization



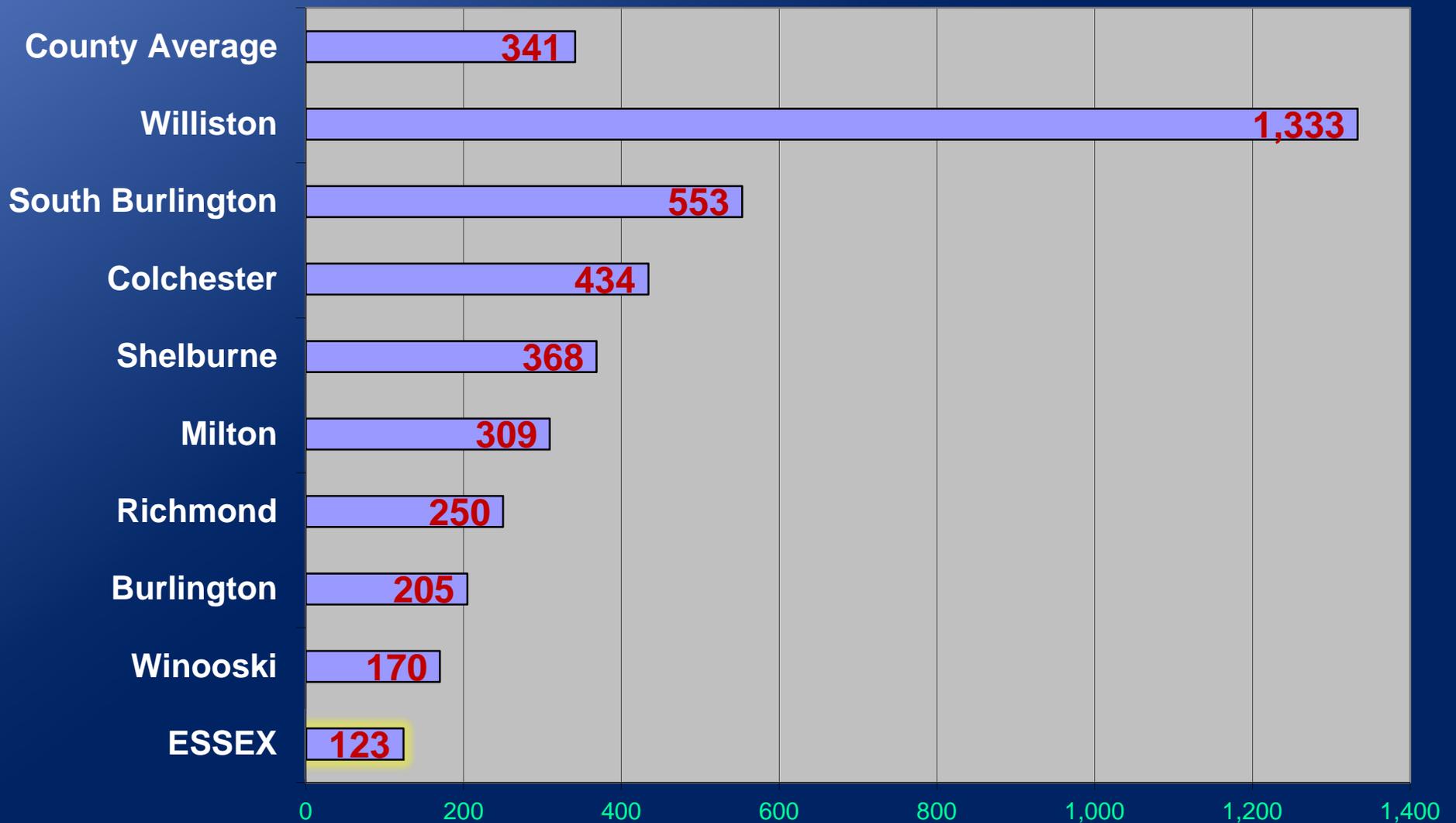
Community Populations

2010 Census



Current -- Police Facility Space-per-employee

Comparison by Community



Source: VLCT 2010-12 report

What is being proposed?



PFC Recommendations

New modern facility

- ✓ Meet current and future needs
- ✓ Consolidate activities
- ✓ Provide suitable working conditions
- ✓ Consistent with 2011 Town Plan

New site location

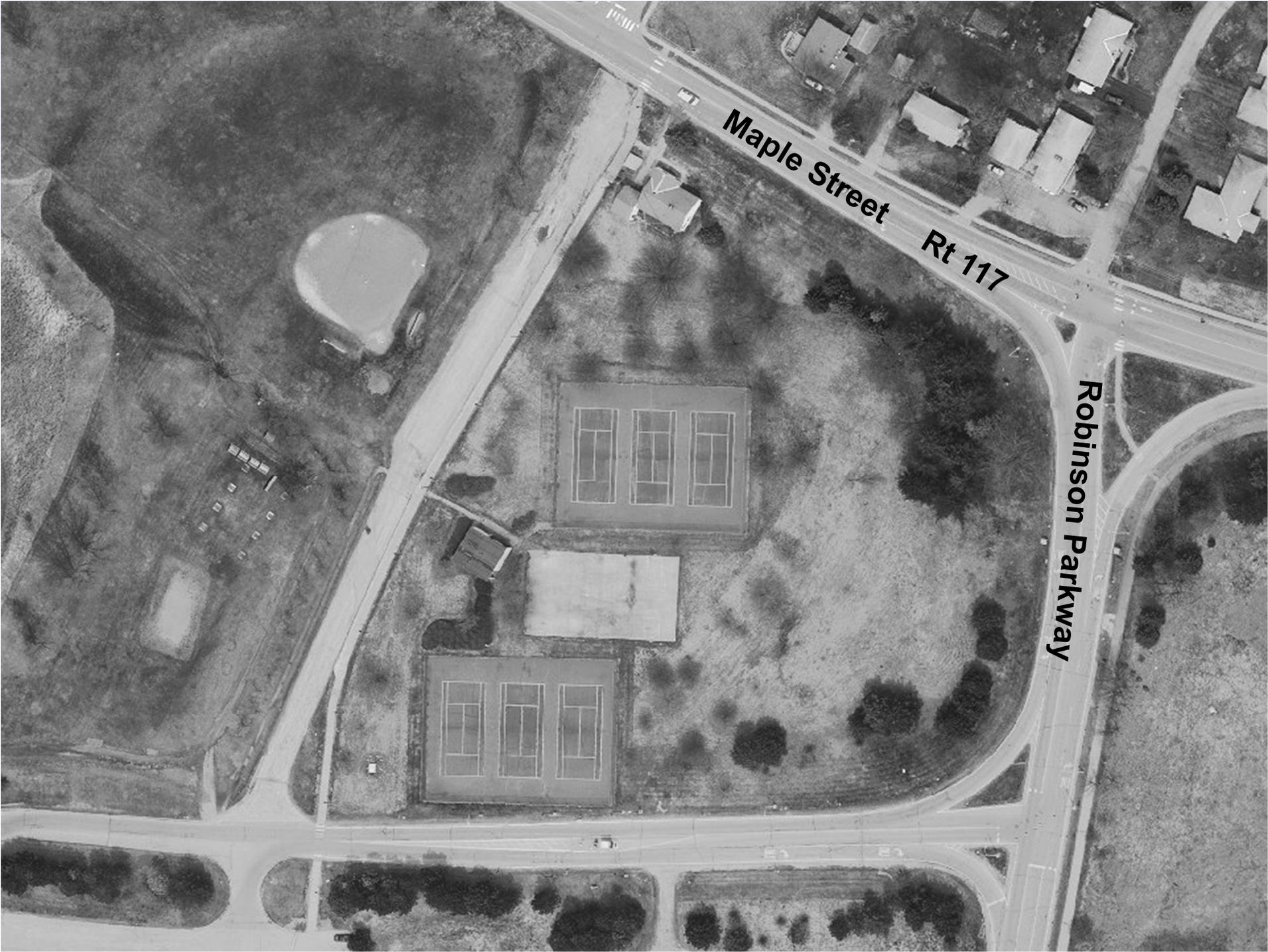
- ✓ access to major routes
- ✓ near population centers and schools
- ✓ compatible with neighborhood and public access
- ✓ potential for future expansion



The New Location

IBM Site location off Maple Street

- Site approximately 5.32 acres
- On-site utilities
- Adequate parking
- On site power generation
- Visible and accessible to the public
- Room for future space needs



Maple Street

Rt 117

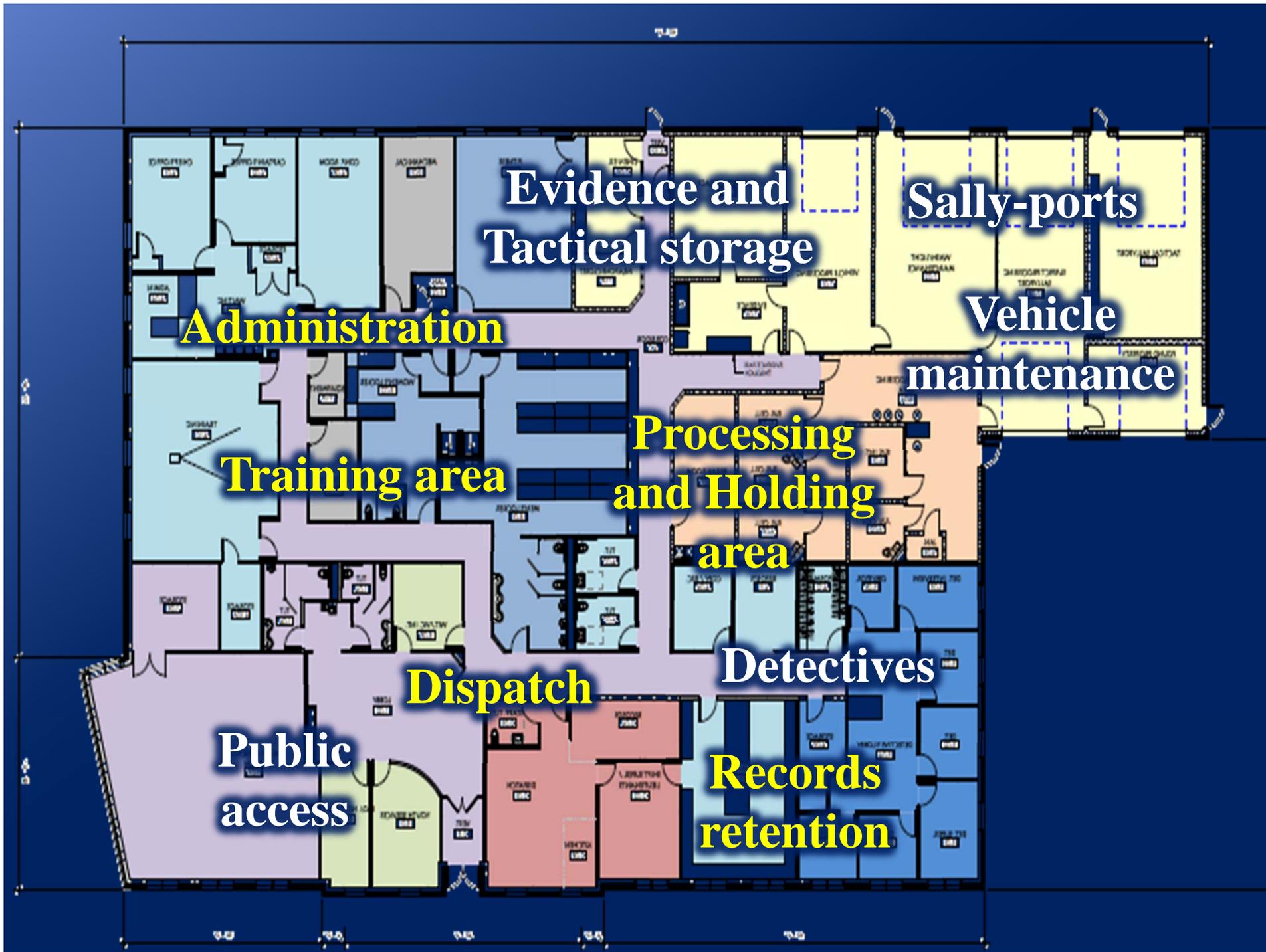
Robinson Parkway

The New Building

18 K Sq Ft, 1 story building

- **All Essex PD operations under one roof**
 - Eliminates today's off site rentals (\$46K/yr)
- **More efficient operations**
 - Evidence collection, interviewing, etc.
- **Energy Efficient (LEED "Gold" capable)**
 - Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design
- **Occupant Friendly**
 - Better air circulation, lighting, handicap accessible, etc.

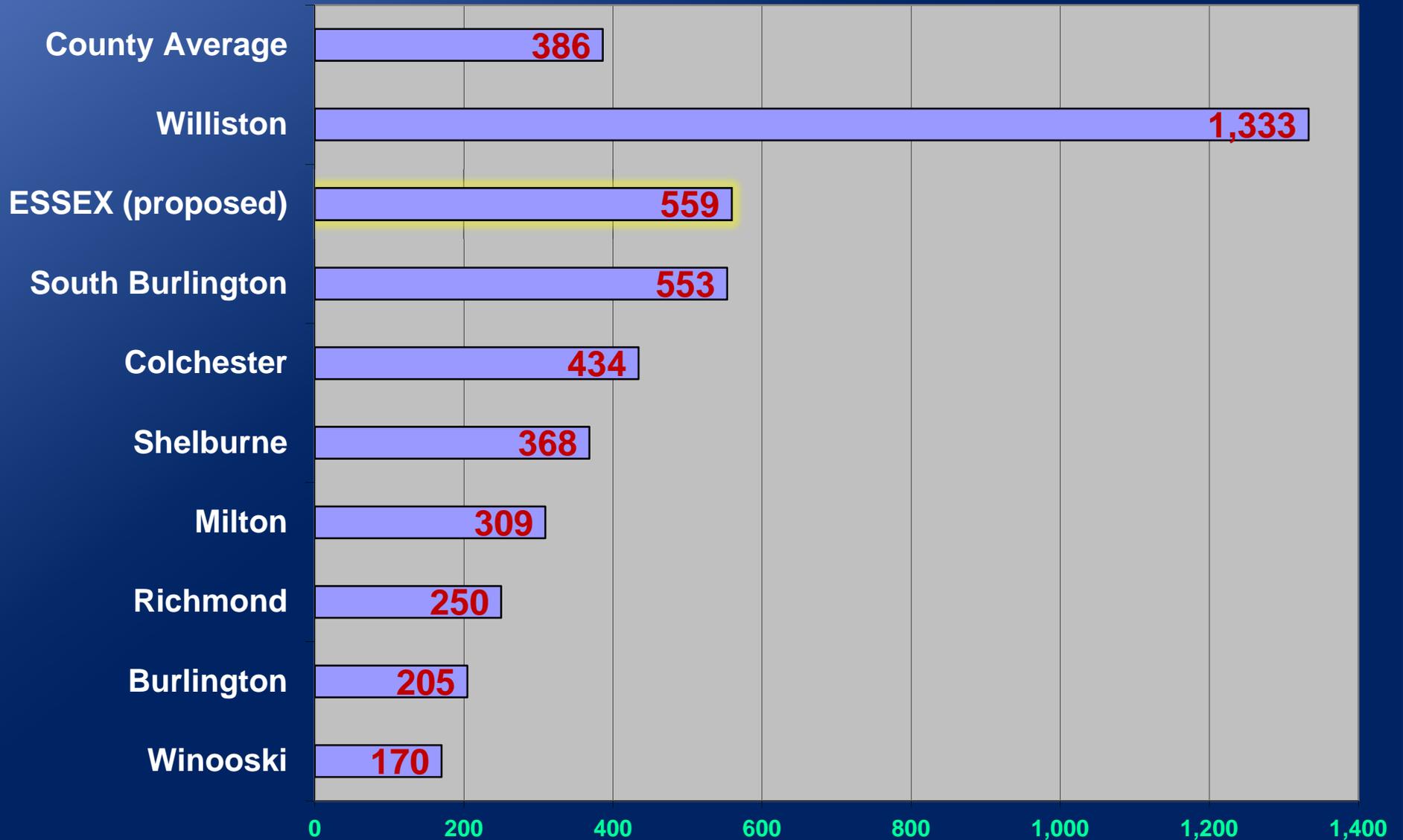






Projected -- Police Facility Space-per-employee

Comparisons by Community



Source: VLCT 2010-2012 Report + est

A conceptual image for a financial presentation. It features a white calculator with dark blue buttons, a black pen, and a document with various numerical values. The entire scene is set against a dark blue gradient background. The text 'What is this going to cost?' is overlaid in a white, serif font with a blue glow effect.

**What is
this going to cost?**

Cost to Community

Total Cost

- ✓ \$6.9 M Bond for the entire project, including land (permits, architecture & engineering, furniture & fixtures, contingencies)

Building Cost

- ✓ \$5.0 M preliminary site development, building, and inflation

Land Cost

- ✓ 5.32 acre parcel @ \$ 116,000/acre
- ✓ \$ 603,000 total

Cost to Community

Bond item

- ✓ 20-year general obligation bond, that will be before voters on November 6th
- ✓ \$ 6.9 M obligation bond
- ✓ Borrowing from the Municipal Bond Bank
- ✓ Initial interest rate at 3.2%

Impact on property taxes

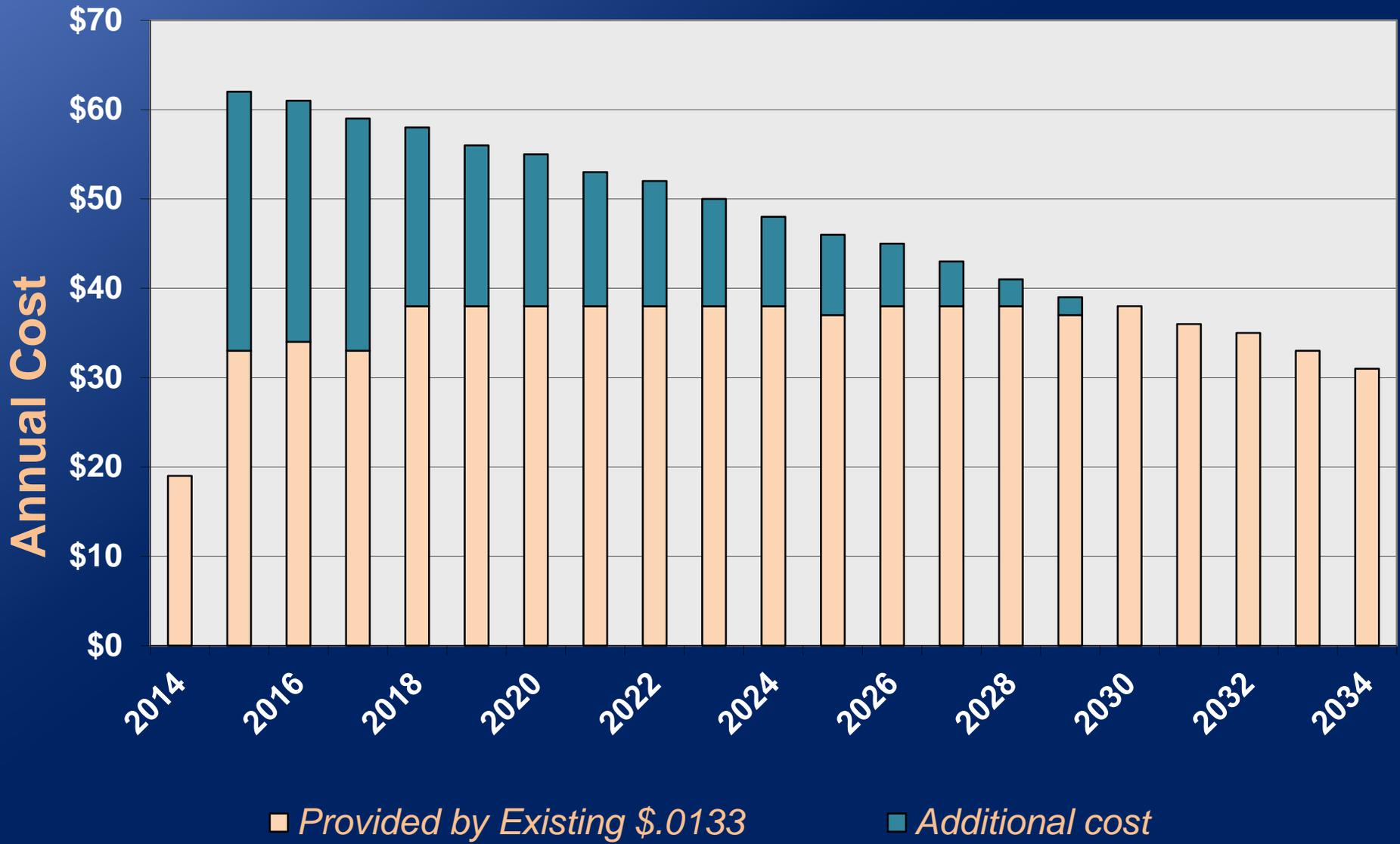
Average cost to the taxpayer ...

On an average home in Essex valued at \$ 280K, the average cost is

\$ 48.00 per year over 20-year life of the bond

- ✓ Year - 1 \$62
- ✓ Year - 10 \$50
- ✓ Year - 20 \$31

Annual Cost to Average Taxpayer



Effect on property taxes

factoring in current payments to debt service

Average in new taxes is \$11.00 per year over 20-year life of the bond beyond what is currently paid for debt service.

- ✓ **Year - 1 \$ 29.00**
- ✓ **Year - 10 \$ 12.00**
- ✓ **Year - 20 \$ - 0 -**

Assumes average home value of \$ 280 K

Community Action

We are asking you to ...

- Support your Police Department
- Provide for the future of Essex

Vote

November 6th



