

September 27, 2018



**Good News** – The Hinesburg Highway Garage is complete and the old garage and supporting structures have been demolished. Our highway employees have been working out of this new, safe and spacious working environment over the past month. The next piece that we are all waiting for is CSWD’s return of the Hinesburg Drop-Off Center (DOC).

The purpose of this letter is to address some of the questions that our residents are continuing to ask – *Why did CSWD leave? When are they coming back?*

Because CSWD is a separate entity from the Town and we don’t have control over their organization, we can’t answer those questions with certainty. We can however provide a general summary of the events and our intent as the planning process for the highway garage evolved over the past five years.

**2013** – The Town shared with CSWD their intent to plan for a new highway garage as well as their desire to continue to co-locate the DOC on the Town’s Beecher Hill Rd. property. In December 2013, the Town posted an RFQ for site planning, engineering and architectural services for the 36-acre Town Highway Garage, CSWD Drop-off Center and municipal facility.

Smith, Alvarez & Sienkiewicz (SAS) were hired for this pre-design work. During late 2014, the project team which included SAS architect, Town staff, a Selectboard member, and CSWD staff began working together to start planning for this project.

**2014-2016** – Planning & design work continued to prepare for a March 2017 bond vote. CSWD staff provided a template for the space needed for the DOC. This was overlaid onto the overall site plan and remained on the plans, moving forward.

**2017** – March: The bond vote successfully passed for construction of the Highway Garage which included space for the CSWD Drop-Off Center. Regular meetings began taking place with the project team.

July: CSWD staff stated that their board felt like the costs to set up a temporary facility would be too much so they were considering closing during construction. After considerable discussion, it was agreed that the Town’s architect and engineers would revise all of the plans in order to phase construction to allow CSWD to remain in place during the majority of the construction of the new highway garage.

August: Act 250 and other state and local permit applications were submitted with the phasing concept.

October: DRB approval was received for the first two phases of the project to allow the DOC to remain in place during construction. Shortly after the decision was issued, CSWD formally decided to leave until after construction of the highway garage. The Selectboard Chair met with CSWD to attempt to get them to reconsider, to no avail. December 2, 2017 would be last day the DOC would be open (until after construction).

November 2017-August 2018: Construction of new highway garage.

**2018** - September 2018: Demolition of old highway garage and accessory structures as well as site work on the future DOC site was completed.

The Town of Hinesburg has continued to communicate our desire to have CSWD return their DOC to our Beecher Hill Rd. facility. We are looking for assistance from our residents to provide feedback to CSWD regarding what our community is looking for as they design their new space. Are you simply looking for what was offered at the previous DOC or are there additional offerings that are desired? Please join us at 7:00 p.m. at either the October 1<sup>st</sup> or October 15<sup>th</sup> Selectboard meetings when we will reserve space at the beginning of each meeting to discuss this issue. The Selectboard meetings take place in the 1<sup>st</sup> floor conference room at Town Hall. If you are not able to attend the meetings or would prefer to submit information in writing, please send correspondence to the Town Administrator at [rmarshall@hinesburg.org](mailto:rmarshall@hinesburg.org) or via mail to 10632 VT Route 116, Hinesburg, VT 05461.

Thanks in advance for your assistance!  
The Hinesburg Selectboard