



Groton School Facilities Initiative

Single
Middle
School
Co-Location
Concepts





Introduction

- Recap to Date (Stakeholder Meeting, Ed. Spec Adoption & SFITF)
- Feasibility Assessment of Sites
- “Test Fits” Feasibility
- Discussion



Recap

- SFITF Paused while the BOE held Stakeholder Meetings and Developed Education Specifications
- Stakeholder Meetings in May – Developed Vision to Guide Ed. Specs & Proposed Concept of Co-Location of Middle School & High School
- BOE Adopted Ed. Specs for Single Middle School and charged the SFITF to conduct feasibility assessment for Co-location Concept.

Recommendation Four

The Board of Education should consider and approve a school organization and facilities plan that enables progress toward achieving the school district vision and mission, and addresses the critical issues presented.

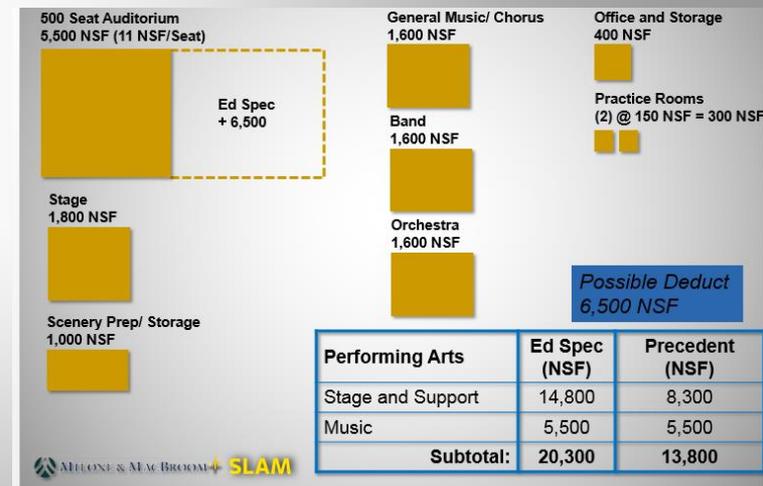
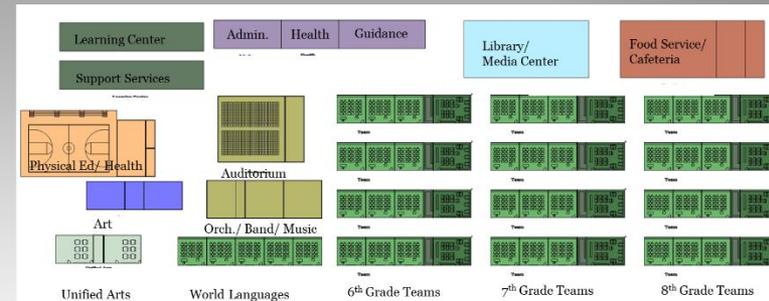
The Planning Committee agreed to present what is perceived to be the best organizational option to the Board of Education for its consideration. This option has several interrelated components, as follows:

1. Maintain the high school program in its current facility. Design and implement challenging programs at the high school that will enhance the variety and rigor of opportunities available to ALL students. Fitch High School will provide an equal or better education than area schools of choice, including early graduation, college level courses, and multiple pathways to success.
2. Build a new middle school for all Groton students. This middle school will provide enhanced program opportunities for ALL students that are challenging and varied. The new middle school programs will be well-articulated with high school opportunities [multiple pathways to success]. The school should be located in close proximity to Fitch High School to encourage and take advantage of multiple interface activities, such as providing advanced course work opportunities for students. Middle school students should be able to gain high school credit for these courses.
3. Convert Cutler and Westside Middle Schools to Pre-kindergarten through grade 5 schools. Students would be transferred to these schools after the new middle school was completed and occupied. Some work will need to be done to enable these schools to accommodate primary grade children in appropriate learning settings. These modifications may be made prior to or during the school consolidation.
4. Close the three elementary schools that are in the poorest physical condition and require the most capital investment for bringing them up to code and contemporary educational space standards.

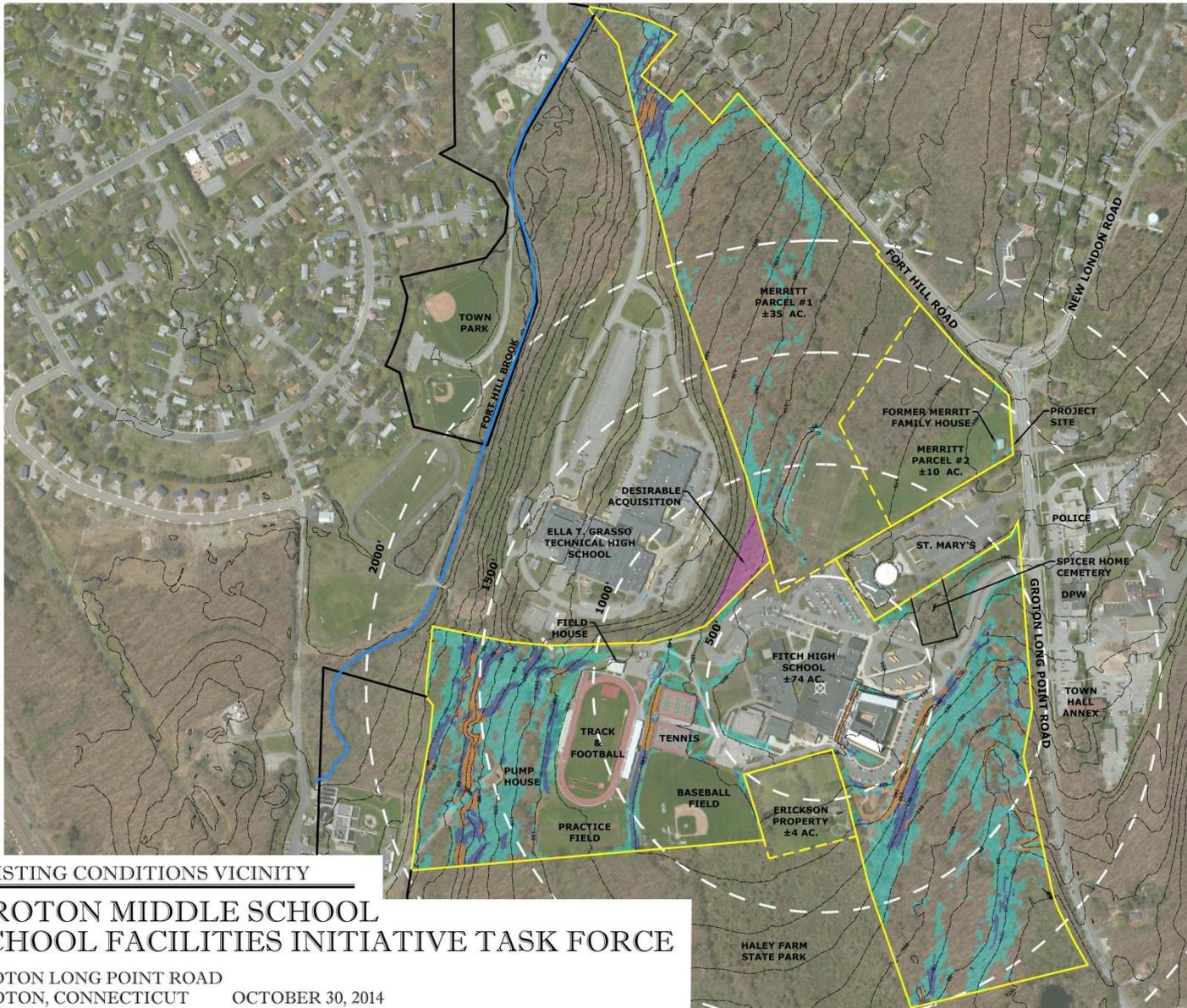


Recap

- August 14th Dr. Graner Presented Single Middle School Education Specification to SFITF.
- October 27th Elementary Education Specifications Adopted by BOE.
- October 30th Presented & Discussed Site Analysis & Concepts for High School & Merritt Property with SFITF
- November 13th Presented Merritt Concept D, Middle School Space Program Audit and Benchmarking
- November 13th SFITF held Initial Discussion on Elem. Ed Specs and Middle School Conversions



Existing Site Conditions

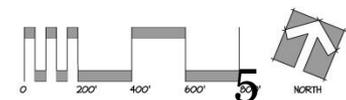


EXISTING CONDITIONS VICINITY

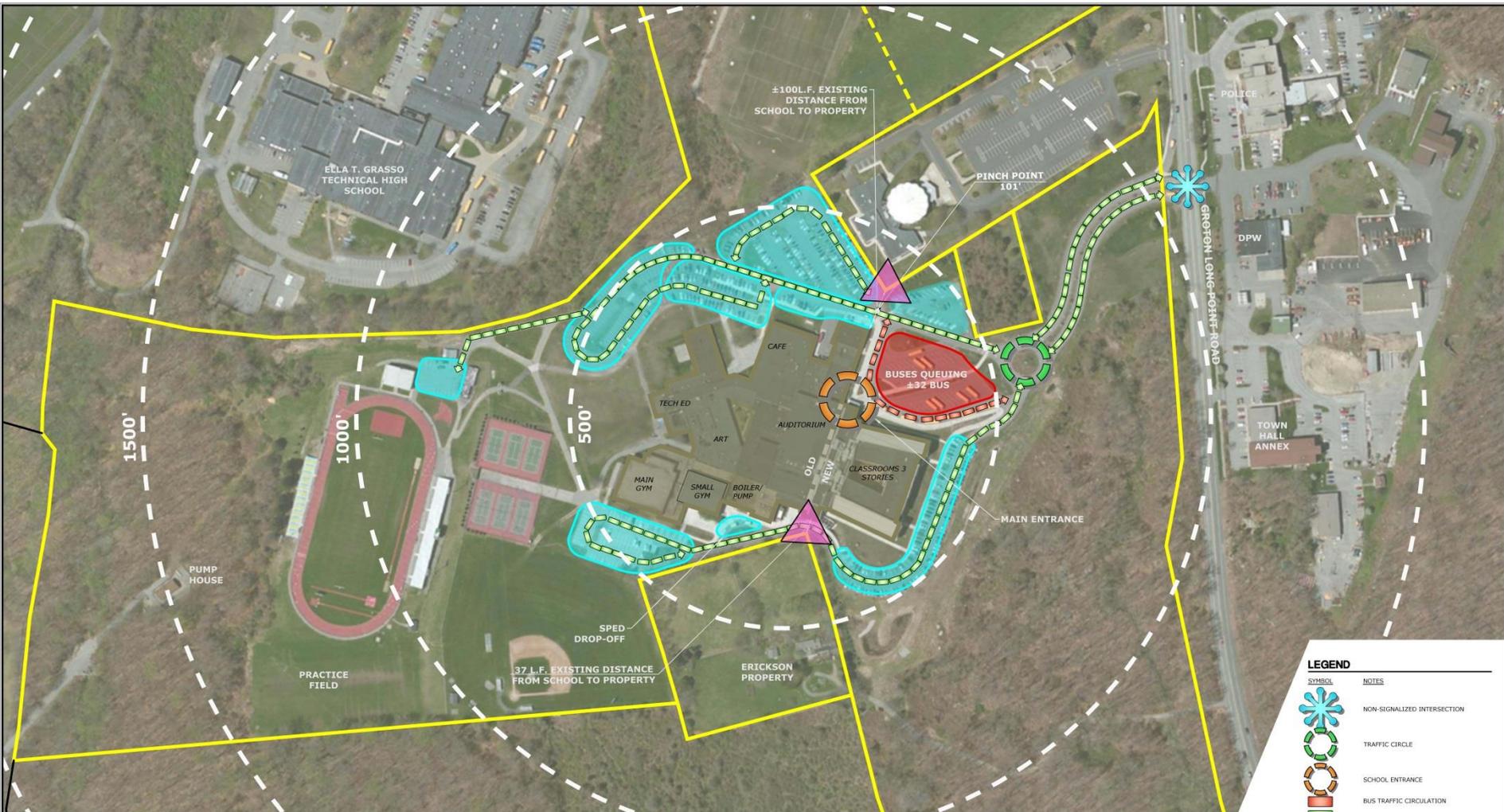
GROTON MIDDLE SCHOOL SCHOOL FACILITIES INITIATIVE TASK FORCE

GROTON LONG POINT ROAD
GROTON, CONNECTICUT OCTOBER 30, 2014

MILONE & MACBROOM + SLAM



Existing Conditions- Circulation



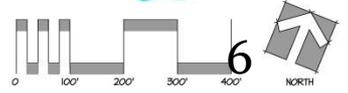
LEGEND

SYMBOL	NOTES
	NON-SIGNALIZED INTERSECTION
	TRAFFIC CIRCLE
	SCHOOL ENTRANCE
	BUS TRAFFIC CIRCULATION
	PASSENGER CAR CIRCULATION
	TRAFFIC PINCH POINT & POTENTIAL CONFLICT
	PARKING AREA

VEHICULAR CIRCULATION PLAN

**FITCH HIGH SCHOOL
SCHOOL FACILITIES INITIATIVE TASK FORCE**

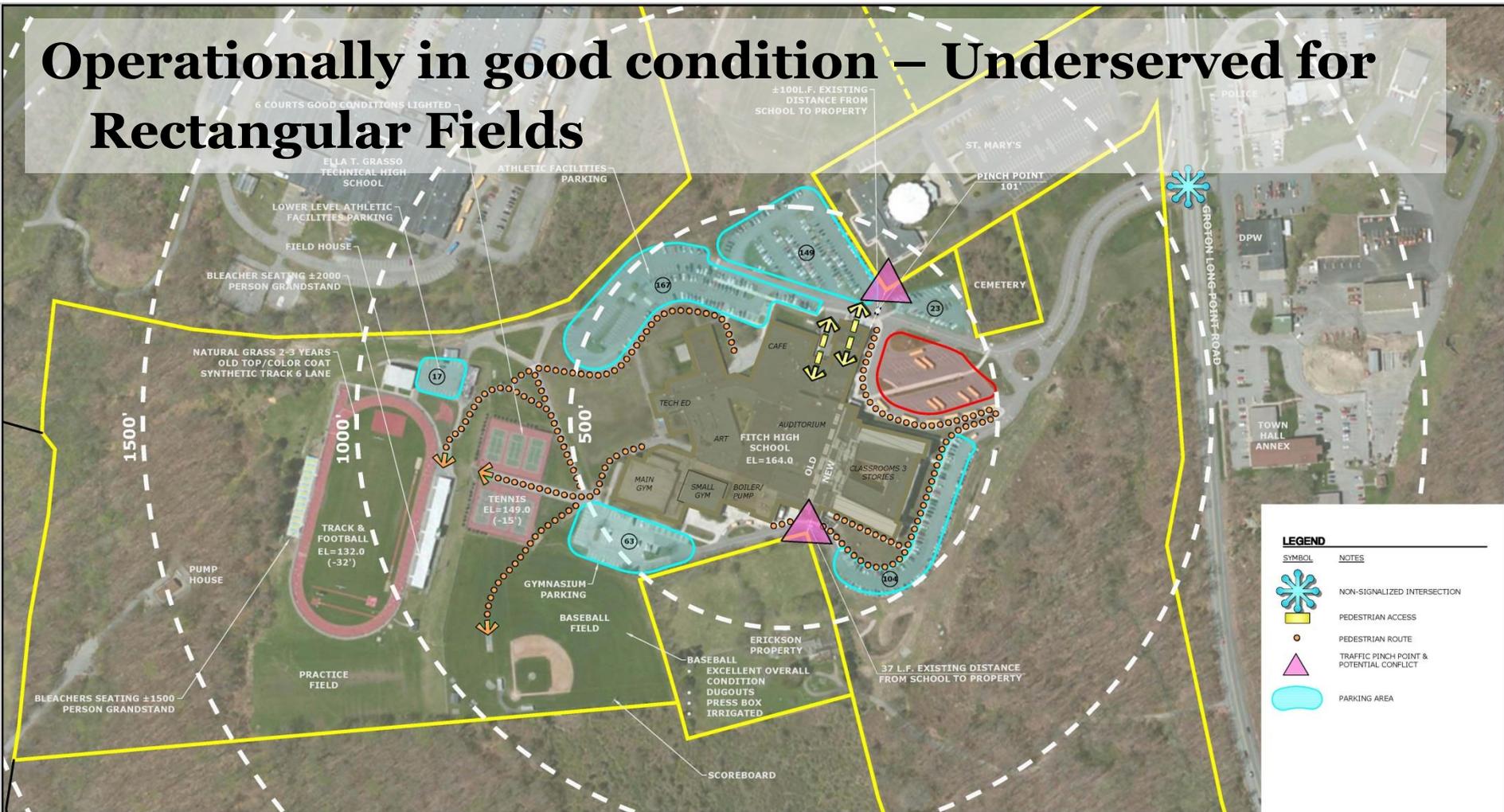
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Existing Conditions

Operationally in good condition – Underserved for Rectangular Fields



SUPPORT & ATHLETIC FACILITIES

FITCH HIGH SCHOOL SCHOOL FACILITIES INITIATIVE TASK FORCE

GROTON LONG POINT ROAD
GROTON, CONNECTICUT

OCTOBER 30, 2014



Opportunities & Constraints

Soils are conducive to development

- Well draining
- Can handle storm water

Well defined wetland

Limited steep slopes on upper portion of site

Parcel 2: ±12 acres

Parcel 1: ±34 acres

Groton Public Schools
School Facilities Initiative
Merritt Site

- Wetlands
- Slopes 10-20%
- Slopes 20-30%
- Slopes >30%

1 inch = 60 feet



Sources:
* Parcels, School District Boundaries, Street Centerlines:
Town of Groton Geographic Information Systems Dept.
* Elevation Data: Connecticut Department of Environmental
Protection Map & Geographic Information Center (2011/2)
This map was developed for use as a planning
document. Delineations may not be exact.



Merritt Property Disposition

Parcel 1

Purchased from Mary S. Merritt.

January of 1989

34.19 acres

Purchased with a grant from the State Outdoor Recreation Fund Project Assistance, and has been conveyed with the restriction that the property only be used for “conservation, recreation and open space purposes.”

Parcel 2

Purchased from Mary S. Merritt.

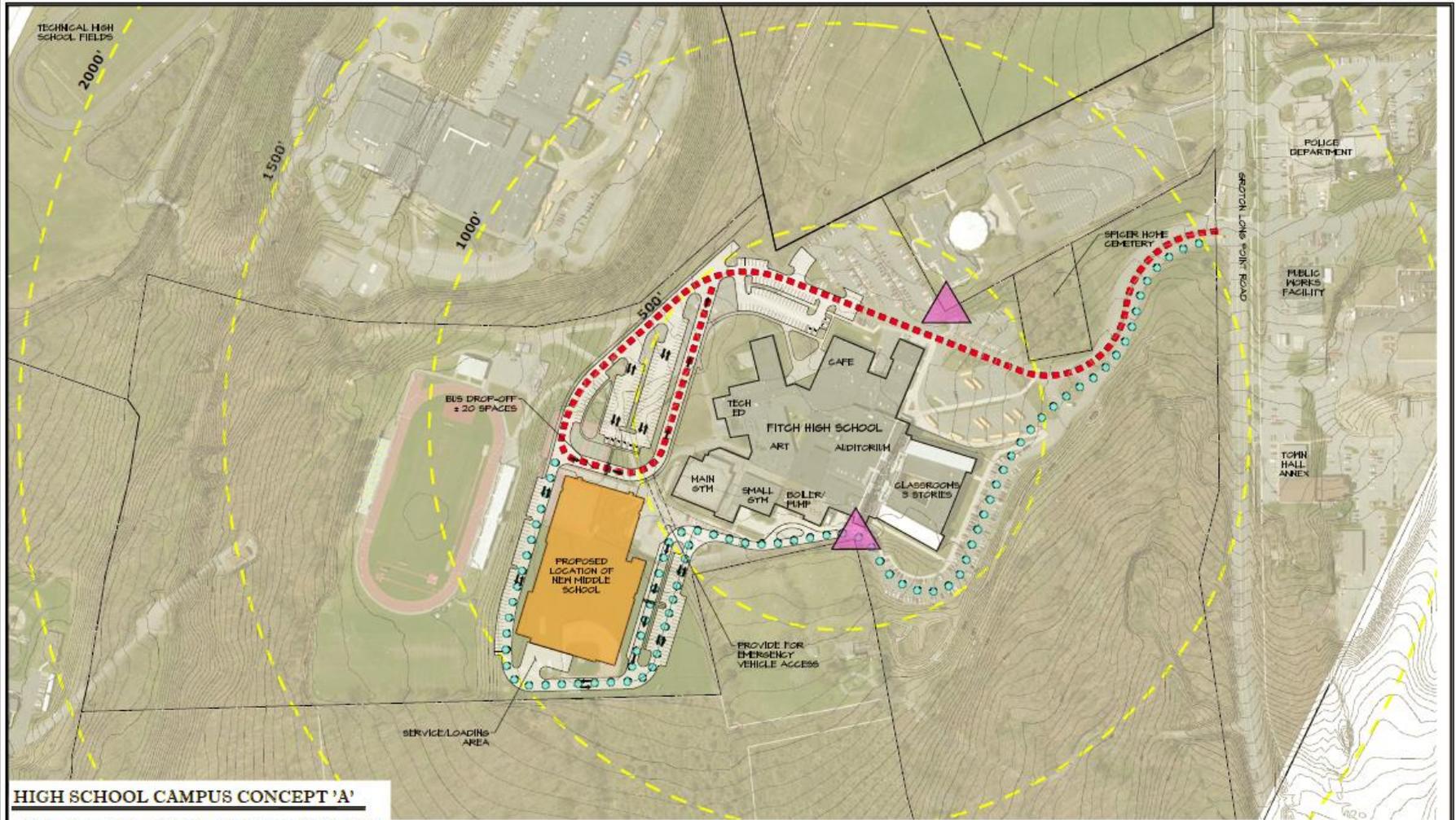
December of 1999

12.69 acres.

Purchased with a Life Use Agreement for the Seller. No longer valid.



Option A



HIGH SCHOOL CAMPUS CONCEPT 'A'

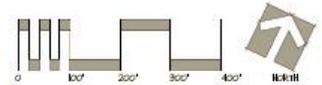
GROTON MIDDLE SCHOOL SCHOOL FACILITIES INITIATIVE TASK FORCE

GROTON LONG POINT ROAD
GROTON, CONNECTICUT OCTOBER 16, 2014

LEGEND

-  TRAFFIC PINCH POINT & POTENTIAL CONFLICT
-  PARENT ROUTE
-  BUS ROUTE

 + **SLAM**



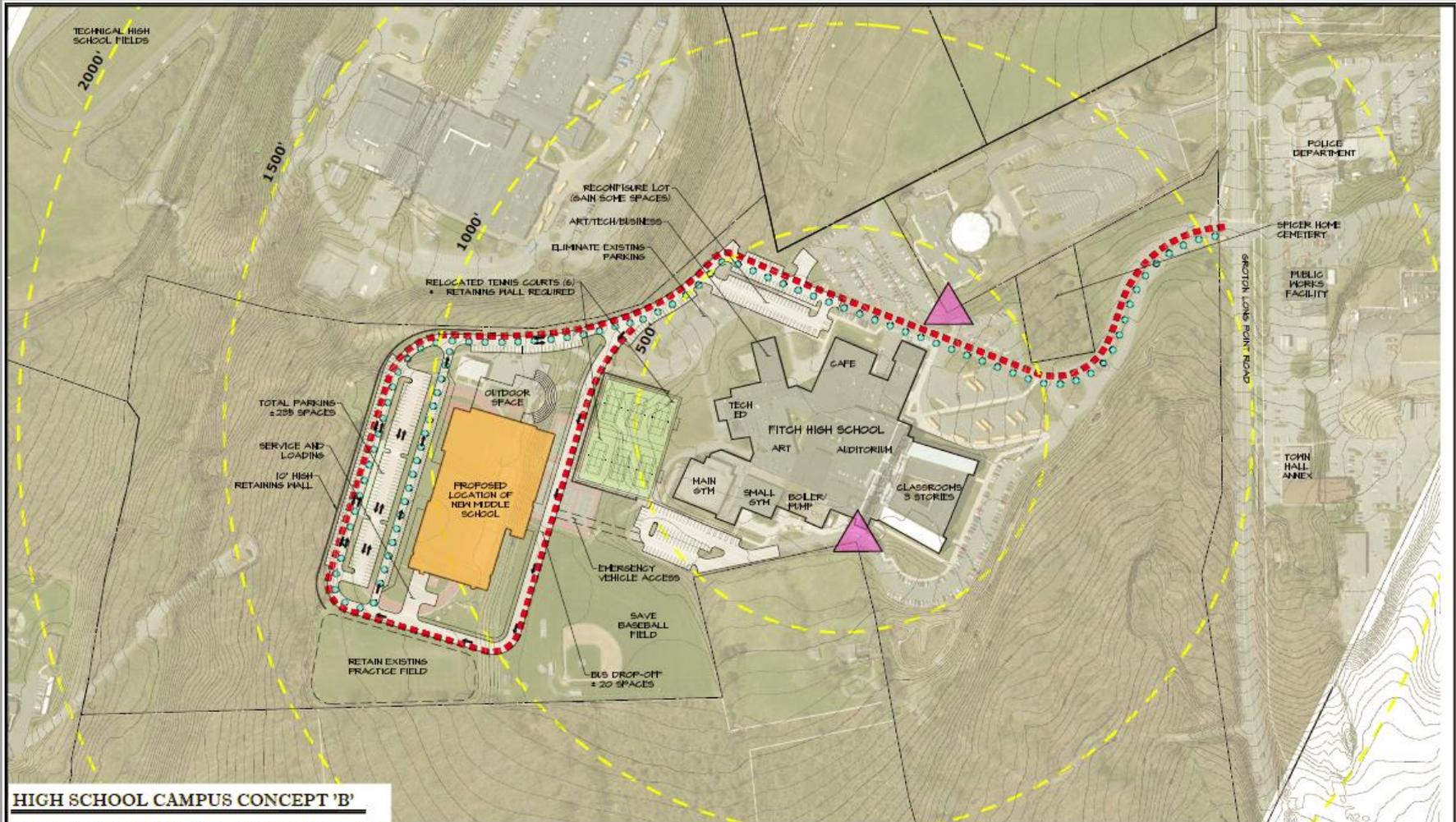


Considerations Option A

- Compact bldg. design can be accommodated – proximate to High School
- Middle school building displaces baseball field/ tennis courts
 - Replacement cost of Tennis Courts ~\$900k (with lights, contingency)
 - Replacement cost of Baseball Field of ~\$900k (Bleachers, lights, irrigation, contingency)
- Single site access point increases vehicular volume at choke points with increased campus population
- Middle School site PE/ athletic program not accommodated
- High School site PE/ athletic program diminished
- Significant Fill & Retainage Required- Loss of accessibility to track & field



Option B



HIGH SCHOOL CAMPUS CONCEPT 'B'

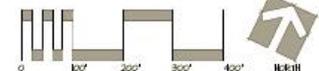
GROTON MIDDLE SCHOOL SCHOOL FACILITIES INITIATIVE TASK FORCE

GROTON LONG POINT ROAD
GROTON, CONNECTICUT OCTOBER 30, 2014

LEGEND

- TRAFFIC PINCH POINT & POTENTIAL CONFLICT
- PARENT ROUTE
- BUS ROUTE

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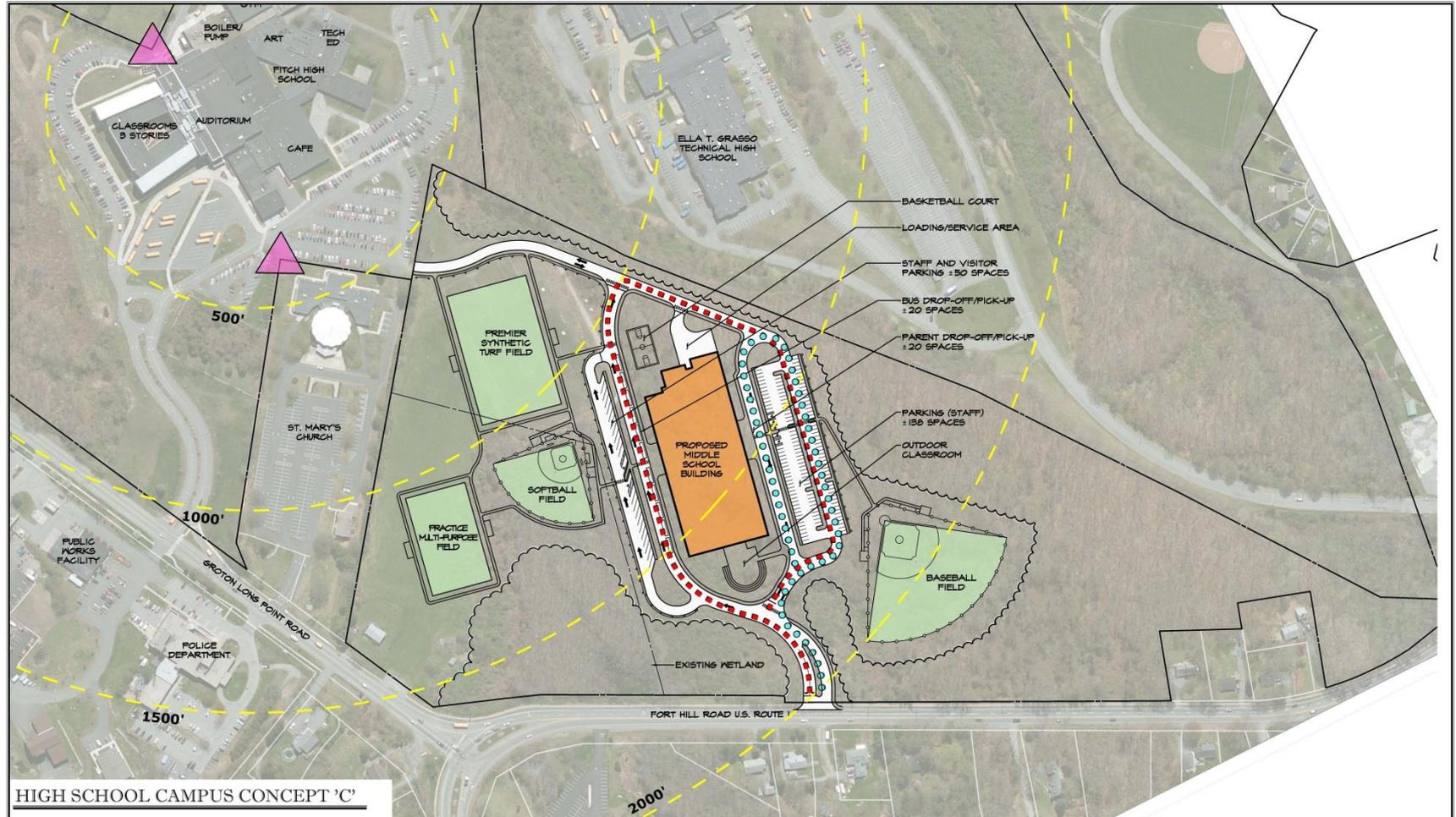


Considerations Option B

- Compact bldg. design can be accommodated – proximate to High School
- Middle school building displaces track & field/ tennis courts
 - Replacement cost of Tennis Courts ~\$900k (with lights, contingency)
 - Replacement cost of Track & Field of ~\$3.5 million (bleachers, lights, field house, contingency)
- Single site access point increases vehicular volume at choke points with increased campus population
- Middle School site PE/ athletic program not accommodated
- High School site PE/ athletic program diminished



Option C



HIGH SCHOOL CAMPUS CONCEPT 'C'

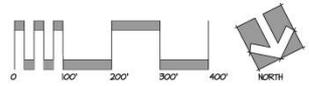
GROTON MIDDLE SCHOOL SCHOOL FACILITIES INITIATIVE TASK FORCE

GROTON LONG POINT ROAD
GROTON, CONNECTICUT OCTOBER 30, 2014

LEGEND

- TRAFFIC FOCUS POINT & POTENTIAL CONFLICT
- PARENT ROUTE
- BUS ROUTE

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Option D



HIGH SCHOOL CAMPUS CONCEPT 'D2'

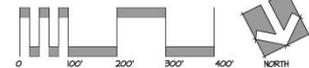
GROTON MIDDLE SCHOOL SCHOOL FACILITIES INITIATIVE TASK FORCE

GROTON LONG POINT ROAD
GROTON, CONNECTICUT DECEMBER 11, 2014

LEGEND

- TRAFFIC PINCH POINT & POTENTIAL CONFLICT
- PARENT ROUTE
- BUS ROUTE

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Considerations Option C & D

- Compact bldg. design can be accommodated – proximate to High School, works with existing topography
- Wetlands preserved
- Independent access for Middle School with controlled access to High School site
- Middle School site PE/ athletic program has been met
- Existing HS PE/ athletic program preserved and complimented
- Met with DEEP Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition to Discuss Middle School Concepts and Deed Restrictions.
 - Identified Mechanism and process for conversion of Merritt Property (+/- 35 ac) to a municipal educational use.
 - Continue dialogue with DEEP to develop a conversion agreement if SFITF desires to move forward with Merritt Concept