



CONCEPTUAL DESIGN STUDY
PROPOSED SOMERSWORTH FIRE STATION
CITY OF SOMERSWORTH

The options available to the fire department are as follows:

Option A - New Facility on Existing Site

The existing fire station site is too narrow to accommodate any possible expansion on the existing building without purchasing adjacent property. The site could, however, accommodate the construction of a new building with the removal of the existing. There would be a need to clarify the right of way established by the City between the National Guard property and the current site. If that land could be included in the buildable area of a new fire station the existing site could be utilized.

Option B - New Facility on New Site

In this option, a new facility would be constructed on a new site. Once the new facility is constructed, the station's operations can be shifted from the existing to the new with little disturbances. The existing station can then be sold or re-utilized by the Town.

2018 - MRI Fire Service Deployment Analysis – Management Letter

Summary of Recommendations

The following five recommendations were developed based on the analysis of data presented during the course of this study.

Recommendation III-1 The City of Somersworth should develop a three-year strategy to replace the existing fire station. The goal of this project should be to occupy the new station in the Fall of 2022.

Recommendation III-2 The City of Somersworth should form a Building Committee and authorize the appropriate steps necessary to fast track the development of a new fire station.

Recommendation VI-1 The new station should be designed to accommodate the projected apparatus set including two ambulances and a squad. This will require five double depth bays.

Recommendation VII-1 The City of Somersworth should consider both response ergonomics and the function or relative hazard of adjacent spaces in the design of the new fire station.

*Recommendation IX-1 Considering both cost and response time, the City of Somersworth should construct the new fire station at the 195 Maple Street site.*Conclusion

The existing fire station has exceeded its useful life and is no longer a viable operational platform for the Somersworth Fire Department. Our Project team found that a potential renovation of the existing facility was both impractical and imprudent. This station should be replaced, and a new facility should be authorized as soon as possible.

Considering cost and risk, it is apparent that constructing a fire station on Lilac Lane would cost the City more and produce a long-term operational deficit by decreasing average response times by 1:12 to the majority of incidents in the City. Therefore, the new Somersworth Fire Station should be constructed on the existing Maple Street site. Given the operational obstacles that will be created by the selection of this site, it is essential that a phased demolition and construction methodology be employed. We believe that the obstacles that will develop can be easily overcome through stakeholder communication and cooperation.