

**The Baird Community Center**

PROJECT FACT SHEET

**August 2021**



◆ The Biber Partnership AIA

5 Mead Street, South Orange, New Jersey 07079

*Building Renovation and Additions Project*

**PROJECT SCOPE:**

The Baird Community Center was originally constructed in three phases: the first in 1895, the second in 1930 and the third in 1973. The project scope includes the renovation of all existing rooms and porches, replacing the existing roof and adding on a new multi-purpose field house gymnasium.

In addition to a new multi-purpose field house being added to the building, the project includes renovations to the existing building so it may better serve the community. New arts classrooms will integrate with a new art gallery on the first floor. New dance classrooms are more accessible to children and parents. Numerous multi-purpose spaces will provide valuable community meeting spaces, as well as space for recreation classes and programs for all ages. A performance space and large meeting space on the third floor will support all types of recitals, ensembles and performances and provide a valuable meeting space for town committees and community groups.

As demolition has progressed, we have uncovered a variety of historic elements that will be incorporated into the new building design, including 4 fireplaces, original timber beams and columns, roof trusses and the original brick chimney. Building improvements will include making the building 100% ADA accessible, new heating and air conditioning for all the rooms, additional restrooms, new elevators, restoring the second-floor porch and adding additional outdoor space for gathering and events. Life safety upgrades include a new fire alarm system and fire sprinkler system throughout along with new fire stairs to replace the aging fire escapes. The exterior of the building will be rehabilitated with a new roof, siding, windows, and doors that will make the building more energy efficient and will rejuvenate the Baird's appearance.

**PROJECT TEAM:**

- Trustees of South Orange Village:** Bill Haskins, Donna Coallier, Karen Hartshorn Hilton, Summer Jones, Bobby Brown, and Bob Zuckerman
- Village Administrator:** Adam Loehner
- Town Engineer:** Van Cleef Engineering
- Purchasing Agent:** Ellen Foye-Malgieri
- Director of Recreation:** Peter Travers
- Director of Code Enforcement:** Anthony Greci
- A/E:** The Biber Partnership
- CMa:** Jay Shapiro & Associates, Inc.

**MAJOR MILESTONES:**

- Construction Awarded to Frankoski Construction
- Project Completion Dates:
- Notice to Proceed Issued 12/04/2020
- Exterior improvements 11/17/2022
- New addition completed 11/25/2022
- Existing Building Renovations 12/01/2022
- Final Inspections 12/01/2022
- Certificate of Occupancy Issue 12/02/2022

**PROGRESS THIS MONTH:**

- Interior Work: Framing of interior partitions continued; elevator#1 shaft walls to 2<sup>nd</sup> floor completed; stair towers framing, stairs, and dormers completed.
- Exterior Work: New addition foundation and block walls installation continued; completed elevator#2 shaft walls.
- Anticipated work for September:
- Interior Work: Install new foundation and walls at existing building southside; install stair towers wall sheathing: rough framing and cut opening for elevator #1 shaft at 3<sup>rd</sup> floor; and complete structural repairs around elevator #1.
- Exterior Work: Complete foundation, footings, and block walls for new addition.