

The Baird Community Center

PROJECT FACT SHEET

November 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 the field house, the project will include major 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 progressed, we uncovered a few historic elements that will be incorporated into the completed project. These features include; 4 fireplaces, original timber beams and columns, roof trusses and the original brick chimney. Improvements will include making the building 100% ADA accessible, new heating and air conditioning throughout, 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 along with new fire stairs to replace the aging fire escapes. The exterior will be renovated 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

Architects:

The Biber Partnership

Construction Managers:

Jay Shapiro & Associates, Inc.

Construction Contractor:

Frankoski Construction

MAJOR MILESTONES:

- Awarded to Frankoski Construction 12/04/2020
- Exterior improvements completed 11/17/2022
- New addition completed 11/25/2022
- Interior Building Renovations 12/01/2022
- Final Inspections 12/01/2022
- Certificate of Occupancy Issue 12/02/2022

PROGRESS THIS MONTH:

- General Work Progress: Framing of interior partitions continued; elevator#1 shaft walls completed; stair towers sheathed, and dormers completed. Clock tower above front framed and sheathed. Structural remediation work completed.
- Exterior Work: New addition steel erected and concrete slabs poured.
- Interior Work: Framing of interior walls on all three floors. Electrical and HVAC rough-in on-going.
- Anticipated work for December: Complete the framing and roofing of the new addition, start the exterior walls of the addition. Fix all roof leaks for closure during winter as the new roof will go on in the spring. Electrical and HVAC installation continuing.