

## Sharon public safety building construction on time

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Construction of the new public safety building in Sharon is on schedule to be fully completed by early fall.

Police have been fully moved into the new facility since October, and have been slowly welcoming fire administrative positions into their offices across the hall.

The completed structure has four holding cells, one more than the previous police station had. It also has a training room and fitness room for use by both police and fire.

Highly ballistic-resistant doors and windows surround the lobby of the police building.

The construction of the whole project is estimated to cost \$25.75 million through a contract with Consigli Construction.

The new building will support 35 police officers and 27 firefighters.

Once the construction of the fire building is completed, a catwalk will be constructed to connect the two facilities.

### **Fire facility**

The fire-station portion of the public safety building is still under heavy construction, and is on schedule for completion by early this September.

This portion of the structure will house the living quarters for firefighters and the fire engines will be stored below.

The structural steel is in place and the roof trusses are almost completed. The plan is to enclose the area soon so internal construction can continue through the colder months.

The apparatus bay, where the engines are stored, will be significantly bigger than the current bay, said Fire Chief James Wright. At the moment, the bay is hardly big enough for the fire engine to fit. The new design will have an opening two-feet larger, allowing ample space for routine inspections and cleaning without having to move the vehicle outside first.

“It’s just going to be such a breath of fresh air,” said Wright.

One of Wright’s favorite features about the new fire facility is the “training tower,” an enclosed glass tower at the top of the structure. Wright said that from the inside, the tower will be a straight four-story drop. They will use this space for ladder training and other repelling activities.

“The building has it as a build-in training prop,” he said. “It’s a great detail, and we are excited to have the opportunity to use it.”

The cement will be poured for the apparatus bay in March when the weather is warmer.

Wright said the demand for a new public safety building was dire.

“The biggest thing is that we are thankful to the community for supporting it,” said Wright. “So many people came through and recognized the need for a new building.”