



State of Connecticut
Department of Developmental Services



Dannel P. Malloy
Governor

Morna A. Murray, J.D.
Commissioner

Jordan A. Scheff
Deputy Commissioner

Date: October 2, 2015
To: All DDS Stakeholders
From: Morna A. Murray, J.D.
Commissioner, Department of Developmental Services
Re: Call for Public Recommendations

The Department of Developmental Services is soliciting public written input from any individual or organization interested in providing recommendations regarding the future of Southbury Training School. In order to develop recommendations for the future of this facility, DDS will consider information submitted by all interested parties. This inclusive process will allow us to explore all options, and to provide public access to all stakeholder recommendations. Please note that this process will be unique and separate from the charge of the existing Governor's Task Force related to the use of the campus.

In the interest of gathering information that can be synthesized for preparation of recommendations, please utilize the attached formatting guidelines. Please direct questions and submit your recommendations to Katie Rock-Burns, Chief of Staff, at Kathryn.Rock-Burns@ct.gov **no later than December 31, 2015**. No submissions will be accepted after this date.

Note: All submissions will be posted on the DDS website.

Following the deadline, DDS staff will review and synthesize all submissions, with the goal of providing recommendations to Governor Malloy by April 30, 2016. It is critically important that we receive feedback from all interested stakeholders and as such, DDS is circulating this request through all communication channels at our disposal. As a recipient of this communication, please forward to any and all parties who may be interested.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Morna A. Murray".

Morna A. Murray, J.D.
Commissioner

Department of Developmental Services

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Southbury Training School Recommendations Formatting Guidelines

Date: October 5, 2015

To: Commissioner Murray, DDS

From: Name Lara S. Green-Kazlauskas - 27 years of service with State of CT DDS.
Position (if applicable) -Resource Manager, Private Division -Torrington CT.
Organization (if applicable) Department of Developmental Services

Re: STS Recommendations -Bill- May 2015 for closure.

[Please state your relationship to DDS and interest in this matter. To the greatest extent possible, please make your viewpoint and reasoning clear in an introduction to your recommendations.]

**** I think that each recommendation offers the basics. Ideas can grow from the "justifications". Use creativity.**

[For each recommendation provided below, please detail a justification or explanation.]

1600 acres and 47 buildings, approx:

Recommendation 1: ? Morrill Act/Land-Grant :A College for Agricultural and Technical Studies- For a portion of the land.

Justification: Going Green is a huge movement in the world today. Providing food, teaching agriculture as well as offering Technical programs to combine for modernized efforts. Possibly consider an Aquaponics Lab.

Recommendation 2: Summer Camp for ages K through 9. Pool, grounds, rec area. Wooded areas. Gym.

Justification: A way to benefit from the grounds which have been groomed for many years. Re -establish areas which have become overgrown. Summer camps are so very important now in our society. Kids that stay home, or

Recommendation 3: "the streets"...have idle minds. Parents work nowadays. Kids become complacent in their homes with

Justification: electronics. Not enough summer camping opportunities which are affordable to families.

Recommendation number 3: Wind Turbine Farm. Again, utilizing the vast area. Keep area people "satisfied and on board" by offering lower energy costs. Also, add: Cell Tower (s). Poor service in the areas of Roxbury etc. Also, Wind Turbine Farm could be incorporated into the proposed "college" idea. technical as well as leaning toward nature for energy.

In addition to any and all above, recognize STS was added to The National Register of Historic Places in 1992. The Administration building would be a fine museum and tribute to the early days and pioneers of research in the area of providing services to people with developmental disabilities. Simple tours of the building could be offered, demonstrating the architecture of the Colonial Revival style. In addition, acts and rulings could be displayed and explained, described etc. Add photos, bring in pieces of other parts of STS. Artwork (If any left) The STS Administration Building Museum could benefit from the yearly Car show, which has been going on and hosted for 45 Years, by the Roaring 20s Antique Car Club. Which blends well with the historical aspect of the times.

For ALL of the above ideas/thoughts: Hiring of the Developmentally Disabled as well as Physically disabled is imperative and incorporates who we are as DDS State of Ct.

** In addition: Farming the area would/could be a part of the college. The college can host many programs, inclusive of 4H, GS and BS of America etc.

USE the land. Do not allow for deterioration and rot. If any buildings are to be disassembled. Do so carefully and recycle, sell items. Sell everything from bricks to fixtures, wood trim, pipes. Do not destroy. STS was built from the finest materials. Dedicate any and all property to all who crossed the threshold either as a person who lived there or a person who was employed there or volunteered. It is, after all, fairly iconic.

ALSO: IT WOULD BE highly recommended if The Administration Building was to be used at any time as a museum, it would be advantageous and an honor to retrieve the WPA artworks of which were sought by the government. The pieces which were part of the collections at STS were "recovered" by agents. They were lovely, priceless pieces and would create even more interest at Southbury Training School.