

Down to the wire

If the Y does not get approval it is gone, it is over and a valued and beneficial institution will no longer exist.

Those in opposition still want you to think there are alternative locations. Given all the locations the Y has investigated, an alternative does not exist. The town dump (Imperial Avenue) has environmental issues and is too small. Baron South — forgetaboutit — the opportunity existed before the Senior Center was built. Winslow Park, where is the offer from the town? On top of this, the town has made it very clear that no private institution will be allowed on town land. And does anyone believe these or any other location would not create traffic problems? Does anyone believe the neighbors would not take issue? The Y cannot afford to go through the approval process more than once.

As to the proposed facility, the Y will not damage the environment. There will be no sewage dumped into the river. There

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will be no two-headed fishes or outbreaks of disease or denuded landscapes or a crash in housing values or traffic gridlock. Chicken Little will not come, the sky will not fall.

There have been so many plans, so many proposals, so many so-called options, so much wishful thinking. After all the investigation and discussion, to believe that any of these options are viable or believe that the Y is not going to shut down is delusional at best, and for so many well educated citizens borders on willful ignorance.

At the end of the day, the question is does Westport want a Y located at Mohackeno. It is really that simple. If the answer is yes then call, write, talk to your friends and make the P/Z Commissioners aware of your feelings.

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The writer is currently a member of the Family Y board of directors and has been a member for seven years, five of which as volunteer treasurer.