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WELLESLEY

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American Legion building demolished

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By **Matt Rocheleau, Globe Correspondent** and **Lisa Kocian, Globe Staff**

An excavator machine has reduced the American Legion building in Wellesley to a pile of debris, clearing room for a proposed senior center.

The aged building, which was owned by the town and on town property at 496 Washington St., had to be torn down anyways due to safety concerns, said the town's executive director Hans Larsen.

However, the location is also the proposed site for a new senior center, which remains in the planning stages, he said.

There is no timeline on when the project could begin or its projected cost, though the town is hopeful to bring a proposal before Town Meeting in the spring, Larsen said.

The town hopes to build a freestanding senior center, which would include space for yoga, book groups, and some health services.

Since spring, the town has formed a committee and hired an architect.

In March, Wellesley Town Meeting voters approved spending \$600,000 for design work on a proposed 12,500-square-foot senior center

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