

THE LIBRARY AND JESUP GREEN

(Adopted 1973, Revised 1992)

To enable the Library to best serve the needs of the community, to enhance and preserve the town center, and to encourage the protection and beautification of the riverfront area, the League of Women Voters of Westport supported the location of a library in the Jesup Green area. It should be the only facility built on this property. LWV Westport considers two points essential in the development of the Jesup Green area:

- (1) As much as possible of the existing Green and of the large specimen trees surrounding it must be preserved.**
- (2) The creation of a riverfront park must be considered an integral part of the plan.**

Explanation:

Because of our concern for the inherent fragility of that land and its surroundings, we maintain our former position that the Library should be the only facility built on this property. We recommend that as much as possible of the existing Green and large specimen trees surrounding it be preserved. Parking areas should be unobtrusive and well screened.

We consider the development of a riverfront park an integral part of the plan to locate the Library in the Jesup Green area. LWV Westport, in its position on land acquisition, gives high priority to the preservation of land which is “waterfront, watercourses, wetlands, flood plains, or otherwise environmentally fragile.” The Saugatuck River is part of Westport’s natural heritage, one of its outstanding resources, and as such should be cared for and cherished.

The redevelopment of the Jesup Green area to include the Library and a riverfront park is appropriate use of municipally-owned land and good town planning.