



The Eagle monument outside the War Memorial building at Riverview Park in Shelton will be moved to the Veterans Memorial Park as part of a plan to consolidate and expand the war memorial off Canal Street. The War Memorial building, which is not used by veterans groups locally, will be decommissioned and returned to the Parks and Recreation Department.

Crews moved the monument from its long-standing spot at the park to its new home at Veterans Memorial Park on Canal Street. The move was planned to be made prior to the Veterans Day ceremony Friday at 10:30 a.m.

American Legion Sutter-Terlizzi Post 16 will conduct the program at the park. The ceremony will be followed by a service at 11:30 a.m. at Post 16, 295 Old Bridgeport Ave.

The eagle will join the monuments already in place — plus a new one commemorating the war on terror to be added in the near future — at Veterans Memorial Park.



Workers secure the Eagle Monument in a new location in Veterans Memorial Park, in Shelton, Conn. May 9, 2023.

The Eagle Monument — long a staple in front of the war memorial building at Riverview Park — was put in place at the park this week. Crews also laid in the stone, which will have a plaque honoring Navy Lt. and Shelton resident John Smarz and USS Thresher.

The monument's move is among a host of plans the city's Veterans Memorial Committee is working on as it continues its push to consolidate the numerous war memorials throughout Shelton at Veterans Memorial Park located downtown.

Committee member Milt Harrigan said the Smarz and USS Thresher plaque — currently at Shelton City Hall — will be mounted on the stone later this month. A dedication ceremony will be held once the surrounding area is landscaped.

The USS Thresher was a submarine that sunk off the coast of Cape Cod in April 1963 while undergoing deep sea testing. All onboard perished during this tragedy.

The overall goal, according to the committee, is to create a historical destination spot, on which already sits granite monuments honoring World War I, World II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War. A black granite monument dedicated to the Global War on Terrorism should be completed and delivered around the end of July.

Harrigan said the committee has been working with Mayor Mark Lauretti on a sign for Veterans Memorial Park. The design of the sign is still under discussion.