

**Appropriation of Additional Funds for Latimer Lane School Building Project
Appropriation of Grant Funds for Infrastructure Grants for the Firetown Road Sidewalk, North
End Sidewalk, and Tariffville-Bloomfield Multi-Use Path**

Q1: Why is a second referendum necessary for the Latimer Lane School project?

A: On May 4, 2021 the town approved at referendum \$36,792,406, with a 79% vote in favor, for the renovation of Latimer Lane School. In April of 2022, the revised cost estimates predicted that supply chain disruptions and rising costs due to inflation would drive the cost of the project roughly \$3,000,000 over the approved renovation cost.

Q2: Was a second look taken at the items included in the Latimer Lane Building project to see where cost efficiencies could be found?

A: The design was reviewed and revised to move some items onto an alternate bid list, while replacing other items with less costly alternatives. This exercise reduced the projected overage. Nonetheless, the total cost required to complete the project exceeds the referendum approval by \$2,261,837.

Q3: Are any of the items from the alternate bid list going to be included at referendum?

A: Yes, the Boards of Education, Selectmen, and Finance approved an additional \$494,683 to address site work considerations which provide intentionally-designed outdoor learning spaces and accessibility for all students. The \$2,261,837 includes the \$494,683 funding for the outdoor learning spaces.

Q4: What is the total of the additional appropriation for the Latimer Lane Building project that residents will be asked to vote on at referendum?

A: The proposed supplemental appropriation is \$2,261,837.

Q5: How will this additional appropriation for the Latimer Lane Building project affect taxpayers?

A: The additional appropriation will be covered through the town's capital reserve. There is also an estimated state reimbursement to offset this cost.

Q6: Where can I obtain more information about the Latimer Lane Building Project?

A: The school district has created a website to access information about the project. Additionally, the Latimer Lane School principal will be providing construction updates via Instagram that will be posted on the website. The address is <https://www.simsbury.k12.ct.us/district/latimer-lane-school-building-project>.

Q7: What are the funding sources and grant amount for each of the three infrastructure projects?

A: *Bloomfield to Tariffville Multi-Use Trail:* \$1,254,200 - Local Transportation Capital Improvement Grant Program

North End Sidewalk Construction: \$913,072.12 - Local Transportation Capital Improvement Grant Program

Firetown Road Sidewalk Construction: \$1,200,000 - Local Transportation Capital Improvement Grant Program; \$594,000 Community Connectivity Grant Program

Q8: Why do residents need to vote to approve the supplemental appropriation of state grant funds for infrastructure projects when there is no cost to the town?

A: The Town Charter stipulates that supplemental appropriations – those appropriations made outside of the normal budget process – may not exceed 3% of the annual budget for the current fiscal year. Due to the large dollar value of the grants, and since the Charter does not explicitly exclude grant awards from the 3% threshold, a referendum is required to appropriate the grants funds.



**Proposed Board of Education &
Board of Selectmen
Special Referendum
January 7, 2023**

Inside...

- **Proposed Board of Education
Latimer Lane Project
Supplemental Appropriation**
- **Proposed Board of Selectmen
Infrastructure Grants
Supplemental Appropriation**

VOTE

**Saturday, January 7th
6:00am - 8:00pm
Simsbury Town Hall
Main Meeting Room
933 Hopmeadow Street**

**SPECIAL REFERENDUM
January 7, 2023
Simsbury Town Hall
6:00am - 8:00pm**

**Renovation and Expansion of Latimer Lane School
(Capital Reserve Fund) \$2,261,837**

**Various Multi-Use Trail and Sidewalk Projects
(Appropriation of Grant Funds) \$3,961,272.12**

Absentee ballots will be available in the Town Clerk’s Office, 933 Hopmeadow Street, Simsbury, Connecticut during regular business hours beginning Monday, December 19, 2022 through January 6, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. Completed absentee ballots must be returned to the Town Clerk’s Office no later than 1:00 p.m. on January 6, 2023. Please contact the Town Clerk’s Office at townclerk@simsbury-ct.gov or 860-658-3243 if you have any questions regarding absentee ballots.