



# *Town of Stafford*

## *Connecticut*

*Office of Selectmen*

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*Board of Selectmen*

To the Residents of Stafford;

The BOS, BOF, and WPCA have proposed a 6.50-million-dollar bond package for town infrastructure. In this package there is a variety of projects including road repairs, bridge replacement, sidewalks, sewer line replacement and pump station rebuild. This proposal has raised some concerns and prompted comments on social media.

The bond package was planned out over a period of time through discussions held during many different board meetings. These meetings are open to the public and the minutes are available online. The approval for this package was discussed during these meetings. It was, also, approved that a town meeting would be more cost effective than holding a referendum and town residents could be better educated by the presentation and discussions at the town meeting. An outline of the projects with the estimated costs was posted by the BOS. Also, the First Selectman's office is available to answer any other questions or concerns.

In an effort to clarify some recent comments, we have prepared the following:

1. Leonard Road Bridge - This is a high priority for the Board of Selectman and the Board of Finance. The town has applied for a 100% grant for the repair of this bridge. This grant has been through many State committee reviews, including DOT, and has now moved on to the next step of approval. Again, the BOS and BOF have been following this high priority application every step of the way.
2. Williamson Road Bridge – The Town of Stafford applied for a grant for this bridge which needs replacing. The town was awarded a 50/50 grant for this bridge. All possibilities of repair were considered, and the BOS have moved to repair this bridge by using the grant process.
3. Road Repairs – DPW director Rick Zulick recommended to the BOS that the town invest in an Engineered Road Plan which will be paid for out of this year's budget and not the bond. This plan would allow the town to move forward repairing or rebuilding roads in the most cost-effective way. It will also allow for future budgeting needs. This plan may have helped the town in the past but was never implemented. The BOS are united in moving the town forward in a fiscally responsible way.
4. West St/Rt190 sewer line – This section of sewer line was installed in the 1940's and has been deteriorating for the past several years. This sewer line could fail at any time. Sewer infrastructure is owned by the Town of Stafford and needs to be replaced.
5. RT190 Pump Station – This pump station was installed in 1989 and has been having equipment failures for the past 5 years. This is the final pump station to be upgraded out of the 5 pump stations in town.

The WPCA has approved to pay 18.07% of the costs associated with the West St/Rt190 sewer line and the Rt190 pump station and will be paid by sewer user fees.

We urge everyone to come to the town meeting on January 24, 2019 @ the Community Center for further discussion.

Respectfully

Mary Mitta – First Selectman

Rick Hartenstein – Selectman

John Locke - Selectman