



**REPRESENTATIVE TOWN MEETING
TOWN OF GREENWICH**

**EXPLANATORY COMMENTS FOR
MARCH 2021 MEETING**

ITEM NO: *1* (Pursuant to second read from January 2021 meeting)
DEPARTMENT: 20 Registered Voters
CONTACT: Bill Lewis, RTM District 1; 203-564-0853; lewis68b@gmail.com
REFERRED TO: *Budget Overview, Finance, Town Services, and Transportation Committees*
VOTES: n/a

RESOLVED, that it is the sense of this Meeting that the Greenwich Police should be returned to their traditional role directing traffic on Greenwich Avenue, as their presence has been an essential part of the town's character for many decades.

EXPLANATORY COMMENTS

We offer this SOMR to engage the community in the decision of whether to continue having police officers direct traffic on Greenwich Avenue.

It is widely accepted that the police on The Avenue provide pedestrian safety especially at the chaotic intersection of Arch Street and Havemeyer Place. Traffic lights are not an option because they are too inefficient to recognize the stop and go nature of Greenwich Avenue traffic. Stop signs are helpful but the police presence is the only way to protect the pedestrians and even the motorists. That is why we believe the police should be re-installed on Greenwich Avenue.

In terms of background, In January 2019, well before the pandemic came to light, First Selectman Camillo removed from his 2021-2022 budget funding for police to continue directing traffic on the avenue. The BET then took the rare step of adding the money back, a move ratified by the RTM at our May 2020 meeting.

Nevertheless, the police were kept off duty, and a plan was implemented to promote a redesign of the intersections, beginning with the intersection of the Avenue and Elm Street. The plan, costing hundreds of thousands of dollars, is to "bumpout" the sidewalks and to elevate the crosswalks.

We do not believe this plan solves the critical problem of pedestrian safety or vehicular safety and flow.

Elevating a crosswalk at a stop sign does nothing for safety. A couple of inches of elevation doesn't enhance visibility, especially when it is right in front of a car, stopped at a stop sign.

The crossing distance is not “shortened.” Pedestrians will still be crossing two lanes of traffic. In the current configuration they begin from beside a concrete based stop sign. In the new plan, they start from a “bumpout” sidewalk, all at the exact same spot.

The plan is not disability friendly. Currently there are gradual ramps going up from the crosswalks to the sidewalks, as there are all over town. Additionally, if you were disabled would you prefer a police officer standing there holding up traffic as he ensures you make it across safely?

It should be noted that the expenses for the “improvements” exceed the amounts initially appropriated, requiring the town to reduce the project scope and take funds from the disability budget and from the DPW’s “drainage” budget.

The “bumpout” plan entails the elimination of four parking spaces at East Elm St. If these “bumpouts” are installed at other intersections on the avenue -- which is the plan--the loss of spaces on the avenue will be significant to merchants and shoppers. This would be in addition to spaces lost due to the expansion of outside dining. Nevertheless, a DPW official at the Oct. 14 meeting stated that the merchants in business at that intersection didn’t “have problems” with the loss of parking. A subsequent investigation by some petitioners revealed that that statement was, in a word, false.

There is no financial benefit to removing the officers from the Avenue as the town has already indicated they will keep the same number of officers on the street, just walking a beat or riding on a bicycle. We believe it would be much more useful to have them assuring pedestrian safety.

In summary, the police directing traffic on the Avenue has been a long tradition going back many decades and it is a key element of what makes Greenwich not only special but distinguishes it from every other community. There is no financial or safety argument for the radical change that is being proposed.

Police have been a tradition on Greenwich Avenue for at least a century. Regardless of whether you are for them or against them, we can all agree that there should be a widespread community discussion before removing them. Therefore, we are asking the RTM, the representatives of the people, to express their opinion by voting on this SOMR.

ATTACHMENTS

SEE ATTACHED petition signatures (Separate Attachment in January 2021 agenda documents)

ITEM NO: **2** (*Pursuant to second read from January 2021 meeting*)
DEPARTMENT: Blight Ordinance Subcommittee
CONTACT: Adam Brodsky 917-494-6663 brodskyrmt11@gmail.com
REFERRED TO: *Legislative & Rules, Land Use, Health & Human Services, Public Works and Town Services Committees*
VOTES: Board or commission name vote (y/n/a)

WHEREAS, the Blight Ordinance Subcommittee of the RTM has found that dilapidated or blighted structures, buildings or premises located within the Town of Greenwich contribute to the decline of neighborhoods, that the existence of such structures, buildings or premises adversely affects the economic well-being of the Town and is harmful to the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of the Town.

RESOLVED, that the Representative Town Meeting adopt the Blighted Buildings or Properties Ordinance as follows:

BLIGHTED BUILDINGS AND PROPERTIES

Section xx-1. - Findings; purpose; legislative authority.

- (a) It is hereby found and declared that dilapidated or blighted structures, buildings or premises located within the Town of Greenwich contribute to the decline of neighborhoods, that the existence of such structures, buildings or premises adversely affects the economic well-being of the Town and is inimical to the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of the Town.
- (b) It is hereby further found that, while certain other remedies presently exist to remediate or abate serious property deficiencies, including blighted conditions, the adoption of this chapter has been enabled by state law to permit such remediation and/or abatement of specific and unacceptable property maintenance and/or blighted conditions.
- (c) This chapter is therefore enacted pursuant to the authority granted to the Town under C.G.S. §§ 7-148(c)(7), 7-148(c)(7)(H)(xv), 7-148-aa and 7-152c, and Connecticut Public Health Code § 19-13-B25, and pursuant to Connecticut State Building Code Sections 115 to 117, 2005 Connecticut Supplement, as amended 2009, all as amended hereinafter.

Section xx-2. - Definitions.

Unless another construction is clearly apparent from the language or the context specifically indicates otherwise, the following terms, as used in this chapter, are defined as follows:

- (a) *Abandoned* shall mean a building, structure, dwelling or unit which, by any reasonably objective observation, has been relinquished and is vacant.
- (b) *Blight Officer* shall mean the person or persons or an authorized representative, appointed by and reporting to the First Selectman and charged with the identification and abatement of Blighted Premises as authorized by this chapter.
- (c) *Building Officer* shall mean the Building Official of the Town as defined in C.G.S. § 29-260.
- (d) *Blighted Premises* shall mean any building or structure or any portion of said property that is defined by one or more of the following definitions:

- (1) Conditions constituting Blighted Premises include the following:
 - (i) Any structure or building, whether occupied, abandoned, or vacant, which is in such a condition that it poses a serious long-term or immediate danger to the community through risk of collapse, fire, or infestation, or which has been declared by the Director of Health as unfit for human habitation, or which otherwise puts at risk the health or safety of the citizens, first responders and municipal officials.
- (2) The property is not being maintained. The following factors may be considered in determining whether a structure, building or property is not being properly maintained:
 - (i) Missing or boarded-up windows or doors;
 - (ii) A collapsing or missing wall;
 - (iii) Sagging or collapsed roof or floor;
 - (iv) Siding that is materially damaged or missing;
 - (v) Unrepaired smoke, fire or water damage;
 - (vi) A foundation that is materially damaged, missing, or structurally unsound;
 - (vii) Pest infestation.
- (3) It is dilapidated, unsafe, or unsecured as determined by the Building Officer.
- (4) It is dilapidated and has attracted illegal activity as determined by the Chief of Police.
- (5) It is a fire hazard, as determined by the Fire Marshal.
- (6) It constitutes a threat to the general health, safety or welfare as determined by the Director of Health.
- (7) The blighted premises is a factor in materially depreciating property values in the immediate neighborhood, as determined by experts identified by the BRB, because of its poorly maintained condition.

Notwithstanding the above, the following shall not be considered to constitute a blight condition: a condition which is subject to a pending insurance or FEMA claim, provided the Owner/occupant is actively and diligently pursuing the claim and provides documented proof of such activity.

- (e) *Blight Review Board* (“*BRB*”) shall consist of the Town Administrator, Chief of Police, Fire Chief, Building Officer, Commissioner of Human Services, Health Director, Director of Planning and Zoning, Fire Marshal, or their designees.
- (f) *Chief of Police* shall mean the Chief of Police as defined in Article 15, Section 230 of The Charter of the Town of Greenwich.
- (g) *Commissioner of Human Services* shall mean the Commissioner of Human Services as defined in Article 5, Section 63 of the Charter of the Town of Greenwich.
- (h) *Dilapidated building or structure* shall mean any building or structure, or part thereof, that would not qualify for a certificate of occupancy and/or is deemed an unsafe structure; and/or any dwelling or structure, or part thereof which is designated as unfit for human habitation as defined in the State Building Code, the Fire Code, or the Public Health Code.
- (i) *Director of Health* shall mean the Director of Health of the Town as defined in the C.G.S. § 19a-200.
- (j) *Director of Planning and Zoning* shall mean the Director of the Planning and Zoning Department in the Town.
- (k) *Exempt property* shall mean any property held by an Owner(s) that would be otherwise exempt under any federal or state law.
- (l) *Fire Chief* shall mean the Fire Chief of the Town as defined in Article 15, Section 233 of The Charter of the Town of Greenwich.
- (m) *Fire Marshal* shall mean the Fire Marshal of the Town as defined in C.G.S. § 29-297.
- (n) *Hearing Officer* shall mean any person appointed by the First Selectman, other than persons charged with the identification and abatement of Blighted Premises pursuant to the provisions of this chapter, to conduct hearings and enter orders authorized by this chapter.
- (o) *Owner/Occupant* shall mean all individuals, firms, partnerships, corporations, limited liability corporations or other entities or authorities and their agents which own, lease, rent, occupy, possess, or are responsible for property within the Town.
- (p) *Town Administrator* shall mean the Town Administrator of the Town as appointed by the First Selectman pursuant to Article 15, Section 217 of The Charter of the Town of Greenwich.

Section xx-3. - Prohibition against creation or perpetuation of blighted premises.

- (a) No Owner/Occupant shall cause blighted or dilapidated premises, whether occupied or not, or unsafe structures to be created or perpetuated within the Town of Greenwich.

Section xx-4. – Enforcement.

- (a) Enforcement of this ordinance shall be the responsibility of the Blight Officer of the Town of Greenwich. The procedure set forth in this chapter shall not be exclusive and shall not in any manner limit or restrict the Town from enforcing other Town ordinances or abating blighted premises in any other manner provided by law.
- (b) The Blight Officer shall be appointed by the First Selectman with the advice of the Blight Review Board (as defined herein).
- (c) The Blight Officer shall work in conjunction with the Blight Review Board.

Section XX-5. - Determination of Violation.

- (a) The Town shall provide the method and process for a citizen to file a complaint on the Town of Greenwich website.
- (b) Upon receiving a written complaint of a possible violation of this ordinance, the matter shall be referred to the Blight Officer for appropriate action as set forth in this chapter. If a matter is proper for review by the Blight Officer, then the Blight Officer shall make an investigation.
- (c) The Blight Officer may also initiate the procedures set forth in this chapter in the absence of a complaint.
- (d) Once a blight investigation has been completed, the Blight Officer shall present his or her findings and recommendations to the BRB at the BRB’s next regularly scheduled meeting. The BRB will determine whether a probable violation exists. Within two (2) weeks of the BRB’s decision, the Blight Officer shall notify the complainant in writing of the BRB’s decision.
- (e) If a probable violation is found to exist, the Blight Officer shall serve written notice upon the Owner/Occupant of the premises where the probable violation exists within two (2) weeks of the BRB’s decision. The notice shall be sent in the manner prescribed to the last known address of each owner and occupant. A copy of the notice shall also be kept on file with the BRB and sent to the following departments: Emergency Preparedness; Fire Department; Legal; and Police Department.
- (f) Such notice of probable violation shall state the probable violation and the conditions giving rise to such violation. The notice shall include information that the Owner/Occupant may submit written material to the BRB regarding said violation. The Blight Officer may make special accommodations for Owner/Occupants unable to submit written materials. The materials shall be submitted to the BRB in time for the next regularly scheduled meeting of the BRB following the delivery of the

notice to the Owner/Occupant, provided that the Owner/Occupant has at least two (2) weeks to submit said materials. The notice shall include the date, time, and deadline for submitting the written materials.

- (g) After considering the written material submitted by the Owner/Occupant and the evidence of investigation by the Blight Officer, if the BRB determines that a violation has occurred, the BRB, together with the Blight Officer, shall establish a written action plan for abatement of such violation, including reasonable dates by which abatement of such violation shall commence and be fully abated. If the Owner/Occupant fails to submit written material to the BRB, the BRB may nevertheless proceed, provided that the BRB determines that notice was properly served. The Blight Officer and/or the BRB may determine that any building or structure undergoing remodeling, restoration, repair or renovation will not constitute blight, provided that any blighted condition will be corrected thereby and that the period thereof will not extend beyond the reasonable date fixed for abatement. The Blight Officer shall consider any open building permits as part of its determination.
- (h) If after their review the BRB determines that no violation exists, no further action shall be taken. The BRB shall serve a written notice of no further action upon the Owner/Occupant and the complainant, if applicable. In such case, the probable violation will be closed.

Section xx-6. - Notice of Continuing Violations.

- (a) If upon determination by the Blight Officer that a continuing violation exists after the time period established in the written action plan adopted pursuant to Subsection (5)(g) above, then the Blight Officer shall serve a written notice of violation (“NOV”) upon the Owner/Occupant and shall simultaneously send to each recorded lien holder of the subject property a copy of the NOV.
- (b) The NOV shall:
 - (1) Include a copy of the initial written notice sent to the owner/occupant pursuant to Subsection (5)(g) above;
 - (2) Include a copy of the written action plan adopted by the BRB pursuant to Subsection (5)(g) above;
 - (3) State the observed continuing violations and conditions giving rise to such violations;
 - (4) The date that abatement of the violations was supposed to commence or be completed, according to the written action plan adopted by the BRB pursuant to Subsection (5)(g) above;
 - (5) The actions that need to be taken to remedy the violation pursuant to the written action plan adopted by the BRB pursuant to Subsection (5)(g) above;
 - (6) Require the Owner/Occupant to remedy such violations within thirty (30) days of delivery of the NOV;
 - (7) State that the failure of the Owner/Occupant to remedy the violations within the prescribed time period shall result in the issuance of a citation in accordance with this chapter;

- (8) State the amount of the daily civil penalties and any other fines or penalties imposed pursuant to this chapter or as authorized by statute or law; and
 - (9) State that if the Owner/Occupant fails to abate or remedy the violation, the Town may cause the remediation of the violation at the expense of the Owner/Occupant.
- (c) The NOV shall be delivered personally to the Owner/Occupant or to the blighted premises, and sent by certified mail, return receipt requested.

Section xx-7. - Issuance of Citation

- (a) The Blight Officer shall issue a citation when a violation of this chapter continues beyond the date set forth in the NOV.
- (b) The citation shall include a copy of the NOV and state:
 - (1) The violation;
 - (2) The amount of daily civil penalties levied and that such civil penalties shall be levied from the date such citation is delivered to the premises or to the Owner/Occupant plus such other fines, penalties, costs and/or fees due;
 - (3) That the uncontested payment of such civil penalties, fees, costs and/or fees shall be made within thirty (30) days of the date the citation is delivered to the premises or to the Owner/Occupant;
 - (4) That the Owner/Occupant may contest his or her liability before a Hearing Officer by delivering to the Town Clerk within thirty (30) days of the date that the citation is delivered to the premises or the Owner/Occupant with a written demand for a hearing.
 - (5) If after thirty (30) days no request for a hearing has been made and the violation has not been remedied, then an assessment and judgment shall be entered against the owner/occupant and that such judgment may be issued without further notice. The Town may also file a lien against the real estate in accordance with C.G.S. 7-148aa for the amount of any unpaid civil penalties or other fines, costs and/or fees imposed by the Town in accordance with this chapter.
- (c) A copy of the citation shall be simultaneously mailed to each recorded lienholder of the subject property.

Section xx-8. - Contested Cases

- (a) An Owner/Occupant may choose to appeal a citation and request a hearing before the Hearing Officer by presenting a written request to the town clerk within thirty (30) days of receipt of the citation. The Hearing Officer shall give written notice to the Owner/Occupant of the date, time, and place for the hearing. Such hearing shall be held not less than fifteen (15) calendar days nor more than thirty (30) calendar days from the date the demand for a hearing is received by the Town Clerk,

provided the Hearing Officer shall grant, upon good cause shown, any reasonable request by a party for a postponement or continuance.

- (b) An original or certified copy of the citation issued by the Blight Officer shall be filed with and retained by the Town Clerk and shall be deemed to be a business record within the scope of C.G.S. § 52-180 and evidence of the facts contained therein. Upon request of the person appealing the citation, the presence of the Blight Officer who issued the citation shall be required at the hearing.
- (c) The Blight Officer may present evidence on behalf of the Town. An owner and/or occupant wishing to contest liability shall appear at the hearing and may present evidence on his/her behalf. If the Owner/Occupant who received the citation fails to appear, the Hearing Officer may enter an assessment by default against him upon a finding of proper notice and liability under the applicable statutes and this chapter. The Hearing Officer may accept from such Owner/Occupant copies of any relevant investigatory and citation reports, and/or any other official documents, by mail and may determine thereby that the appearance of such person is unnecessary.
- (d) The Hearing Officer shall conduct the hearing in the order and form, and with such methods of proof, as the Hearing Officer deems fair and appropriate. The rules regarding the admissibility of evidence shall not be strictly applied, but all testimony shall be given under oath or affirmation. The Hearing Officer shall announce his decision at the end of the hearing. If the Hearing Officer determines that the Owner/Occupant is not liable, the Hearing Officer shall dismiss the matter and enter that determination, in writing, accordingly. If the Hearing Officer determines that the Owner/Occupant is liable for the violation, the Hearing Officer shall forthwith enter and assess the civil penalties, fines, costs and/or fees as provided by this chapter.
- (e) If the Hearing Officer's assessment is not paid on the date of its entry, the Hearing Officer shall send, by certified mail, return receipt requested, a citation decision and notice of assessment to the Owner/Occupant found liable and shall file, not less than thirty (30) calendar days nor more than twelve (12) months after such mailing, a certified copy of the notice of assessment with the Clerk of the Superior Court designated by the Chief Court Administrator, together with the applicable entry or filing fee. The certified copy of the notice of assessment shall constitute a record of assessment. Within such twelve (12) month period, assessments against the same Owner/Occupant may be accrued and filed as one record of assessment. The Clerk shall enter judgment in the amount of the Citation Hearing Officer's record of assessment, as well as court costs, against such Owner/Occupant in favor of the Town. The Hearing Officer's assessment, when so entered as a judgment, shall have the effect of a civil money judgment, and a levy of execution of such judgment may issue without further notice to the Owner/Occupant.
- (f) An Owner/Occupant against whom an assessment has been entered pursuant to this chapter is entitled to judicial review by way of appeal in accordance with C.G.S. § 7-152c(g).
- (g) If a request for a hearing has been made during the required time period no penalties, fees, assessments, or costs shall be imposed or accrue until such time as Notice of Decision is issued by the Hearing Officer.

Section xx-9. - Special Considerations

- (a) Special consideration may be given to those who require it in order to correct a violation of this chapter. Specifically, the Blight Review Board, upon referral by the Blight Officer, or Hearing Officer may grant an owner and/or occupant additional time to correct a violation where the owner and/or occupant, or a person acting on his or her behalf, establishes good cause. As used in this section, "good cause" includes, but is not limited to, an elderly individual who is unable to personally correct a violation due to his or her age; a disabled individual who is unable to personally correct a violation due to his or her disability; or low income cannot maintain a reasonable level of upkeep of the real property at which they reside, or an exempt property as defined in this chapter.
- (b) A property owner or occupant shall be considered disabled if he/she has a mental or physical disability as defined under the American with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("ADA") including the changes made by the ADA Amendments Act of 2008.
- (c) A property owner or occupant who has an interest in the real property shall be considered low income if his/her gross annual income for the previous calendar year was equal to or less than one hundred fifty percent (150%) of the poverty line, according to the poverty guidelines updated periodically in the Federal Register by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under the authority of 42 U.S.C. 9902(2), or at the discretion of the Blight Officer, the Blight Review Board or the Hearing Officer.

In determining whether good cause exists, the Blight Officer, Blight Review Board, or Hearing Officer shall consider whether other occupants of the premises are able to assist in correcting the violation in a timely fashion and whether the severity of the violation is such that additional time is warranted.

Section xx-10. - Notice of Decision.

- (a) The Hearing Officer shall make a determination and cause the Blight Officer to serve a written Notice of Decision ("NOD") upon the Owner/Occupant with a record of his/her decision. The Blight Officer shall simultaneously send to each lien holder of the subject property a copy of the notice of decision.
 - (1) If the Hearing Officer has determined that a violation has occurred, the NOD shall state:
 - (i) The violation(s);
 - (ii) That the Hearing Officer has determined the Owner/Occupant failed to remedy the violation(s) within the prescribed time of the action plan and failed to take action following receipt of the Notice of Violation, which resulted in the issuance of the citation;
 - (iii) The reasons for this determination;

- (iv) Any new actions for the Owner/Occupant as determined by the Hearing Officer;
 - (v) The amount of the daily civil penalties and any other fines or penalties imposed pursuant to this chapter or as authorized by statute; and
 - (vi) That the Town may cause the remediation of the violation at the expense of the Owner/Occupant.
- (2) If the Hearing Officer has determined that no violation has occurred, the NOD shall state:
- (i) The alleged violation;
 - (ii) That the hearing officer has determined that there is no blight or that the blight has been remedied;
 - (iii) The reasons for this determination;
 - (iv) That no penalties are to be assessed and no further action will be taken.
- (b) Delivery of the NOD to the Owner/Occupant shall be by the following methods:
- (1) By personal delivery to the Owner/Occupant or to the premises.
 - (2) By certified mail, return receipt requested.

Section xx-11. - Extensions.

- (a) The Hearing Officer may grant, for good cause shown, extensions of time for the holding of the hearing or an extension of time to remediate the violation. No penalties, fees, assessments, or costs shall be imposed or accrue during any extension of time granted under this provision.

Section xx-12. - Penalties.

- (a) Violations of the provisions of this chapter shall be punishable by a civil penalty equal to the greater of \$100 or the maximum amount allowed by C.G.S. § 7-148(c)(7)(H)(xv), as the same may be amended from time to time, for each day a violation exists and continues beyond the date required for remediation set forth in the notice of violation, or as extended by the Hearing Officer. Violators will also be responsible for all costs and expenses associated with enforcement and the collection of any civil penalties, which shall include, but shall not be limited to, attorney fees, court costs, mailing costs and filing fees.

Section xx-13. - Uncontested payment; time period.

- (a) Any Owner/Occupant receiving a citation shall be allowed a period of 30 days from the date of the citation to make an uncontested payment of the civil penalties, fines, costs and/or fees specified in the citation. All amounts shall be made payable to the Town of Greenwich.

Section xx-14. - Recording of lien.

- (a) Any unpaid civil penalty or other fine imposed pursuant to the provisions of this chapter, and any and all costs and expenses incurred by the Town for the enforcement of this chapter, shall constitute a lien upon the real estate against which the civil penalty or other fine was imposed from the date of such civil penalty or fine. Each such lien may be continued, recorded, and released in the manner provided for in C.G.S. § 7-148aa. Each such lien shall take precedence over all other liens filed after July 1, 1997, and encumbrances, except taxes, and may be enforced in the same manner as property taxes.

Section xx-15. - Municipal Performance

- (a) If after thirty (30) days of delivery of the citation, no request for a hearing has been made by the Owner/Occupant and the violation has not been remedied, as described in Section 7 of this ordinance, the Town, acting through the Blight Officer, may cause or take such action as is necessary to correct such violation.
- (b) The Town may designate agents to enter the Blighted Premises during reasonable hours for the purpose of remediating blighted conditions, although neither the municipality nor its designated agents may enter any dwelling, house, or structure on such property, without the express consent of such Owner/Occupant of such property or by an order issued by a court of competent jurisdiction authorizing the Town's agents to enter the property. The Owner/Occupant shall be responsible for the payment of all costs and expenses incurred by the Town for remediating the blighted conditions with the Blight Officer causing a certificate of lien to be recorded in the Town Clerk's Office within sixty (60) calendar days after the completion of such corrective action if all costs and expenses thereof are not reimbursed in full by said Owner/Occupant.

Section xx-16. - Governmental Immunity and Disclaimer

- (a) The provisions of this ordinance do not create a contract, duty, or obligation, either expressed, special or implied, upon the Town of Greenwich, its departments, officers, agents, servants, and/or employees and the doctrine of governmental immunity is fully retained by the Town of Greenwich, its departments, officers, agents, servants, and/or employees. Further, the Town of Greenwich, its departments, officers, agents, servants and/or employees have not and do not intend to create any type of special relationship by the enactment of this ordinance and/or application of the terms or conditions set forth herein.

Section xx-17. – Severability

- (a) The provisions of this ordinance are severable. If a court determines that a word, phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph, subsection, section, or other provision is invalid or the application of any part of the provision to any person or circumstance is invalid, the remaining provisions and the application of those provisions to other persons or circumstances are not affected by that decision.

Section xx-18. - No Prohibition Against Other Enforcement Actions

- (a) Nothing in this ordinance shall be deemed to prohibit or limit in any manner any enforcement action with respect to zoning, building, public health, fire, inland wetlands or other statutes, code, regulation of laws, regulations relating to the use of real property.

Section xx-19. - Annual Report

- (a) The Blight Officer will report annually to the Representative Town Meeting at its January meeting on the number of complaints received, the disposition of all complaints processed, fines assessed and collected, and the number of complaints in process at the time of the report for the preceding calendar year.

Section xx-20. - Exemption Awaiting Site Plan Approval.

- (a) Any Blighted Premises for which a special permit or site plan application for improvements to the Blighted Premises is pending, shall be exempt from the provisions of this Ordinance for a period from the date of submittal of a complete application to the Planning and Zoning Commission until final decision on such application. If a valid special permit or site plan exception is approved, the property shall be exempt from being considered a Blighted Premises for a reasonable period of time required to complete the work.

Section xx-21. – Emergencies

- (a) Whenever, in the judgment of any member of the Blight Review Board, an emergency exists, which requires immediate action to protect the public health, safety or welfare, an order may be issued, without hearing or appeal, directing the owner, agent, tenant, or person in control of any blighted, unsafe, or dilapidated premises to take such action as is appropriate to correct or abate the emergency

situation. If circumstances warrant, the appropriate member of the BRB may immediately act to correct or abate such emergency in accordance with statutory authority.

Section xx-22 - Effective date

Th effective date of this ordinance shall be _____, 2021.

EXPLANATORY COMMENTS

In October 2020 amendments to the Town’s existing Nuisance Ordinance intended to address blighted structures were submitted to the RTM by the Office of the First Selectman. In response to feedback from the RTM regarding the proposed amendments, an RTM subcommittee was appointed to work with the Town Attorney to either revise the proposed amendments or to determine whether a stand-alone ordinance would be more effective and develop that ordinance.

The Blight Ordinance Subcommittee of the RTM is proposing a new and stand-alone ordinance to be adopted by the RTM to “make and enforce regulations for the prevention and remediation of housing blight” pursuant to the authority granted to the Town by C.G.S. § 7-148(c)(7)(H)(xv) rather than amend the existing Nuisance Ordinance, which is governed by C.G.S. § 7-148(c)(7)(E). The Town’s legal counsel provided guidance that because the power to govern nuisance and blighted properties are separate municipal powers proscribed under Connecticut General Statutes, they are best regulated through separate ordinances.

The process undertaken by the Blight Ordinance Subcommittee involved editing an initial draft of an ordinance provided by the Town’s legal counsel, reviewing blight ordinances in approximately 16 other municipalities in the region, reviewing Connecticut General Statutes, interviewing various town officials that would be involved in addressing blight through this ordinance, adapting the draft ordinance to reflect community values and in response to feedback from RTM members and town officials, and working with the Town’s legal counsel to ensure that the language and process are in legal order.

The proposed Blight Ordinance provides the Town with the ability to declare properties blighted and a clearly defined process under which Greenwich shall oversee correction of blight issues. It is the understanding of the Blight Ordinance Subcommittee that the Town currently has approximately 20 cases where the Town has exhausted its enforcement ability to fully address complaints regarding the condition of such properties. For example, a dilapidated house with a long history of nuisance violations had become blighted with a collapsing roof, broken windows, and more. The Town’s ability to address this blighted structure was limited. Under the nuisance code, the Town could issue citations or take action to remediate overgrowth and debris on the property itself, and under the building code, the Town could direct the property owner to secure the property from entry. Under Chapter 5 of the Town Code, the Director of Health could condemn the property as unfit for further habitation. However, the Town could not cause action to be taken to remediate the structure itself, despite years of community concerns about the negative impact of the blighted structure on neighboring properties and the neighborhood in general.

Absent the addition of a Blight Ordinance to the Town Code, the Town lacks the tools to take action to remediate blighted properties. The Subcommittee believes the proposed ordinance provides a well-balanced approach between providing the Town the tools to address blighted properties and protecting individual property rights and property owners with extenuating circumstances.

The Blight Ordinance also seeks to establish an appropriate process to address blight. The Town will have a new administrative board to oversee blight issues named the Blight Review Board (the “BRB”) to take a more coordinated approach to review and address potential blighted properties. The BRB shall consist of the Town Administrator, Chief of Police, Fire Chief, Building Official, Commissioner of Human Services, Health Director, Director of Planning and Zoning, Fire Marshal, or their designees.

The BRB will facilitate a team approach for the review of existing regulations (e.g. Building, Health, Fire Codes) coupled with codes specified in the Blight Ordinance to help resolve complex blight issues after exhausting other available remedies. The Subcommittee believes the Ordinance will provide the Town with a reasonable, thoughtful, and timely process, in line with state statutes, to address resident concerns regarding the condition of blighted properties.

ITEM NO: 3
DEPARTMENT: Department of Public Works/Law Department
CONTACT: Alan Monelli, (203) 622-7743 Alan.Monelli@greenwichct.org
Aamina Ahmad, (203) 622-7876 Aamina.Ahmad@greenwichct.org
REFERRED TO: *Land Use, Legislative & Rules, Public Works and Town Services Committees*
VOTES:

RESOLVED, that the RTM approves the grant of an easement from the Town of Greenwich to Connecticut Light and Power Company d/b/a Eversource Energy for property located at 451 Steamboat Road for the purpose of providing upgraded electric service for the Police Pistol Range located at 451 Steamboat Road. Be it further resolved that the First Selectman is hereby authorized to execute such easement on behalf of the Town of Greenwich.

EXPLANATORY COMMENTS

The upgrade of the Police Pistol Range on Steamboat Road required an increase of electrical service to operate the new range ventilation system. The existing electric service is a 400-amp aerial connection to the building and needs to be increased to a 600-amp service. Eversource limits aerial service connections to 400-amp with all higher connections being underground hence the new service connection to the Pistol Range can only be run underground. Our request to increase service required Eversource to install a new high voltage underground electric feeder on Steamboat Road. Because it’s a high voltage line, a transformer is needed to drop the voltage to meet the building’s requirement. This transformer is for the exclusive use of the Pistol Range and it sits on the Town property.

The easement requested is to allow Eversource to maintain its power cables and transformer that service the Town building at 451 Steamboat Road only. The need for this type of easement is a new Eversource requirement. The Town has similar underground service connections and transformers at Police Headquarters and Central Fire Station that previously did not require an easement. Future Town projects like the replacement of the Eastern Greenwich Civic Center and the Hamill Rink will require similar easements as will upgrades to the Holly Hill facility.

ATTACHMENTS

Easement Map and related documents.

ITEM NO: 4
DEPARTMENT: RTM Legislative and Rules Committee
CONTACT: Francis (Kip) Burgweger fburgweger@gmail.com
REFERRED TO: *Legislative & Rules, Land Use and Public Works Committees*
VOTES: RTM Legislative and Rules Committee 12-0-0

RESOLVED, that the ordinance entitled Chapter 9, Waste and Litter, Article 4, Reusable Checkout Bag of the Code of Ordinances of the Town of Greenwich, is hereby amended by deleting Section 9-38, Expiration

~~• **Sec. 9-38. Expiration.**~~

~~This Ordinance [Article] shall cease to be effective on September 12, 2021, unless sooner extended by action of the Representative Town Meeting.~~

EXPLANATORY COMMENTS

The Legislative & Rules Committee considered amending the Reusable Checkout Bag Ordinance at a special meeting held February 11, 2021.

Section 9–38 of the Reusable Checkout Bag Ordinance, better known as the plastic bag ordinance, is a sunset clause. Pursuant to this clause, the Reusable Checkout Bag Ordinance will expire on September 12, 2021, unless sooner extended by action of the RTM. The Legislative & Rules Committee has been asked to bring this matter to the attention of the RTM. Any amendment to the ordinance will be subject to the Second Reading Rule.

Prior to the special meeting, the Legislative and Rules Committee had received letters from the Greenwich Sustainability Committee and the Office of the First Selectman supporting the indefinite extension of the Reusable Checkout Bag Ordinance.

At the special meeting, members of BYOGreenwich, the organization that had sponsored the Reusable Checkout Bag Ordinance, and the Director of the Town’s Conservation Commission spoke in favor of deleting the sunset clause.

Among the reasons given for supporting an indefinite extension were the following: Within the first nine months of the ordinance’s adoption, the Town’s merchants and other businesses had adjusted to the requirements of the ordinance, and since then there had been no difficulties or objections. The cost of waste disposal has been increasing and will continue to increase, and the limitations on the use of plastic bags will reduce the cost of waste disposal. If the Town does not extend the ordinance, it will

become subject to the State law, and it is better to retain Town control over reusable bags. The Town was the second municipality in Connecticut to adopt such an ordinance, and it has been a leader for other communities in the State. The absence of plastic bags at the beach or blowing across empty parking lots has become quite noticeable.

The Legislative and Rules Committee voted 12-0-0 in favor of deleting the sunset clause.

ITEM NO: 5
DEPARTMENT: Office of the First Selectman
CONTACT: Barbara Heins 203-622-7702 – Barbara.Heins@greenwichct.org
REFERRED TO: *Appointments and Town Services Committees*
VOTES: Board of Selectmen 3-0-0

RESOLVED, that the following named person, nominated by the Board of Selectmen, be appointed a Regular Member of the Alarm Appeals Board (R2) for a term expiring June 30, 2025.

DONNA GIOFFRE

EXPLANATORY COMMENTS

Donna Gioffre, of 6 Surrey Drive, Riverside, 06878, has been nominated to be a Regular Member (R2) of the Alarm Appeals Board for a term expiring June 30, 2025.

Ms. Gioffre is a member of CAPP (Citizens and Police Partnership), and CERT, the Community Emergency Response Team. Her past volunteer assignments include working with the Greenwich Town Party, as a Board Member of The Riverside Association, a liaison between the Greenwich Police Department and The Riverside Association, and as a member of the Citizens Police Academy reunion committee.

She was appointed as an alternate member of the Alarm Appeals Board in September 2020.

A Riverside resident since 1998, she retired from the health and wellness industry having worked in customer service.

ITEM NO: 6
DEPARTMENT: Office of the First Selectman
CONTACT: Barbara Heins 203-622-7702 – Barbara.Heins@greenwichct.org
REFERRED TO: *Appointments and Land Use Committee*
VOTES: Board of Selectmen 3-0-0

RESOLVED, that the following named person, nominated by the Board of Selectmen, be

appointed an Alternate Member of the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency (A1) for a term expiring October 31, 2024.

PETER H. LINDEROTH

EXPLANATORY COMMENTS

Peter H. Linderoth, of 55 Sound Beach Avenue, Old Greenwich, 06870, has been nominated to be an Alternate Member (A1) of the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency for a term expiring October 31, 2024.

Mr. Linderoth is an environmental scientist who serves as Director of Water Quality for Save the Sound in Mamaroneck, NY, a position he has held since 2015. Also since 2015, he has served as chairman of the Village of Mamaroneck Marine Education Center Advisory Committee. He previously worked as a naturalist, educator and manager for the Bruce Museum and The Maritime Aquarium.

He is completing his first term as an alternate member of the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency.

An Old Greenwich resident since 2012, Mr. Linderoth’s community service includes serving seven years on the Friends of Greenwich Point Board of Directors, and Treasurer of the Greenwich World Hunger Association. He earned a bachelor’s degree in environmental studies from the University of California Santa Barbara and a master’s degree in environmental science and management from Sacred Heart University.

ITEM NO: 7
DEPARTMENT: Office of the First Selectman
CONTACT: Barbara Heins 203-622-7702 – Barbara.Heins@greenwichet.org
REFERRED TO: *Appointments and Parks & Recreation Committees*
VOTES: Board of Selectmen 3-0-0

RESOLVED, that the following named person, nominated by the Board of Selectmen, be appointed a Regular Member of the Board of Parks & Recreation (R2) for a term expiring June 30, 2024.

SUE BODSON

EXPLANATORY COMMENTS

Sue Bodson, of 2 Indian Knoll Place, Greenwich, 06831, has been nominated to be a Regular Member (R2) of the Board of Parks & Recreation for a term expiring June 30, 2024.

Ms. Bodson is a long-time volunteer who has served in various membership and leadership capacities with Greenwich Public School PTAs, the Greenwich PTA Council, the Glenville School Building

Committee, the Greenwich Alliance for Education, the Junior League of Greenwich including chair of the Byram Park Pool Committee. She also has served on the Friends of Greenwich Library Board, the Greenwich Magazine Editorial Advisory Board, and the Bruce Museum Board of Trustees.

She has served on the Board of Parks & Recreation since her appointment in September 2020.

She is the president and founder of Emboss LLC, a marketing and fund-raising consulting firm, and the director of special marketing projects for the Greenwich Education Group. Ms. Bodson is a graduate of Gettysburg College.

ITEM NO: 8
DEPARTMENT: Office of the First Selectman
CONTACT: Barbara Heins 203-622-7702 – Barbara.Heins@greenwichct.org
REFERRED TO: *Appointments and Health & Human Services Committees*
VOTES: Board of Selectmen 3-0-0

RESOLVED, that the following named person, nominated by the Board of Selectmen, be appointed a Regular Member of the Board of Health (R6) for a term expiring June 30, 2025.
JOEL MUHLBAUM

EXPLANATORY COMMENTS

Joel Muhlbaum, of 16 Windy Knolls, Greenwich, 06831, has been nominated to be a Regular Member (R6) of the Board of Health for a term expiring June 30, 2025.

Mr. Muhlbaum is a certified elder law attorney whose practice has offices in Stamford and Westport. In addition to elder law, his practice also includes estate planning and administration, and probate matters. He is a member of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys and has lectured frequently at the Academy’s symposia and institutes.

A recent Greenwich resident, Mr. Muhlbaum is involved with the Senior Provider Network of Greenwich, the Fairfield County, New York State and Connecticut Bar associations. He earned a Bachelor’s degree in political science from State University of New York – Albany and a Juris Doctor from the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law.

ITEM NO: 9
DEPARTMENT: Office of the First Selectman
CONTACT: Barbara Heins 203-622-7702 – Barbara.Heins@greenwichct.org
REFERRED TO: *Appointments and Land Use Committees*
VOTES: Board of Selectmen 3-0-0

RESOLVED, that the following named person, nominated by the Board of Selectmen, be appointed a Regular Member of the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency (R5) for a term expiring June 30, 2022.

WILLIAM GALVIN

EXPLANATORY COMMENTS

William Galvin, of 136 Maple Avenue, Greenwich, 06830, has been nominated to be a Regular Member (R5) of the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency for a term expiring June 30, 2022.

Mr. Galvin has served on the Agency for 15 years. He is a member of the Representative Town Meeting, representing District 7. He is Vice Chair of the Health and Human Services Committee and a member of the Budget Overview Committee. Mr. Galvin also Senior Warden on the Vestry of St. Barnabas Episcopal Church; a director of the World Affairs Forum and served for a decade as Board Chair of Family ReEntry.

Prior to his retirement, Mr. Galvin was a consultant on corporate and financial communications for international clients; director of external communications at First Boston, and led his firm Galvin Partnership which provided communications counsel to global firms.

A Greenwich resident since the 1970s, Mr. Galvin earned a Bachelor's degree from Yale University and an MBA from Columbia University.

ITEM NO: ***10***
DEPARTMENT: Office of the First Selectman
CONTACT: Barbara Heins 203-622-7702 – Barbara.Heins@greenwichet.org
REFERRED TO: *Appointments and Health & Human Services Committees*
VOTES: Board of Selectmen 3-0-0

RESOLVED, that the following named person, nominated by the Board of Selectmen, be appointed a Regular Member of The Nathaniel Witherell Board (R8) for a term expiring June 30, 2023.

PAUL HOPPER

EXPLANATORY COMMENTS

Paul Hopper, of 30 Lincoln Avenue, Greenwich, 06830, has been nominated to be a Regular Member (R8) of the The Nathaniel Witherell Board for a term expiring June 30, 2023.

Mr. Hopper is the founder and principal of Paul F. Hopper Associates, a Greenwich architectural firm he established in 1988. He previously was associated with Shope Reno Wharton, Maitland Strauss Behr and Van Summer Architects, among others.

His community service began in 2000 when he started the first corporate sponsorship of the Greenwich Arts Council sand castle contest, now known as SandBlast. Mr. Hopper previously served on the Historic District Commission including as vice chair; the Greenwich Library Building and Grounds Committee and the Greenwich YMCA Facilities Committee.

A Greenwich resident since 1971, Mr. Hopper earned a Bachelor's degree in political science from Middlebury College and a Master of architecture from the University of Colorado – Denver.

ITEM NO: *11*
DEPARTMENT: Office of the First Selectman
CONTACT: Barbara Heins 203-622-7702 – Barbara.Heins@greenwichct.org
REFERRED TO: *Appointments, Land Use and Parks & Recreation Committees*
VOTES: Board of Selectmen 3-0-0

RESOLVED, that the following named person, nominated by the Board of Selectmen, be appointed a Regular Member of the Harbor Management Commission (R1) for a term expiring March 31, 2024.

MICHAEL VAN OSS

EXPLANATORY COMMENTS

Michael van Oss of 42 Sunshine Avenue, Riverside, 06878, has been nominated to be a Regular Member (R1) of the Harbor Management Commission for a term expiring March 31, 2024.

Mr. van Oss is president of Forward Energy LLC, a commercial HVAC company serving the New York City area. He has been a member of the Harbor Management Commission for seven years, the last two of which he has served as Commission chair.

A Greenwich resident since 2005, Mr. van Oss earned a Bachelor's degree in finance from the University of Maryland – College Park.

ITEM NO: *12*
DEPARTMENT: Office of the First Selectman
CONTACT: Barbara Heins 203-622-7702 – Barbara.Heins@greenwichct.org
REFERRED TO: *Appointments and Land Use Committees*
VOTES: Board of Selectmen 3-0-0

RESOLVED, that the following named person, nominated by the Board of Selectmen, be appointed an Alternate Member of the Historic District Commission (A3) for a term expiring October 31, 2025.

PHILLIP JAMES DODD

EXPLANATORY COMMENTS

Phillip James Dodd, of 97 Pemberwick Road, Greenwich, 06831, has been nominated to be an Alternate Member (A3) of the Historic District Commission for a term expiring October 31, 2025.

Mr. Dodd is the owner and principal of Phillip James Dodd Bespoke Residential Design LLC in Greenwich. A residential architect, he specializes in traditional and classical homes. He has taught the subject and has written several books on traditional and classical architecture. His new book, “An American Renaissance: Beaux-Arts Architecture in New York City” is scheduled for release in 2021. He is a fellow emeritus at the Institute of Classical Architecture and a member of the INTBAU College of Traditional Practitioners, which was founded by the Prince of Wales.

A Greenwich resident since 2004, Mr. Dodd received his undergraduate degree in architecture from the Manchester School of Architecture, a Master’s in Architecture from the University of Notre Dame and he also attended the Prince of Wales Institute of Architecture in London. He previously served on the Board of the Pemberwick Glenville Association.

ITEM NO: *13*
DEPARTMENT: Office of the First Selectman
CONTACT: Barbara Heins 203-622-7702 – Barbara.Heins@greenwichct.org
REFERRED TO: *Appointments and Health & Human Services Committees*
VOTES: Board of Selectmen 3-0-0

RESOLVED, that the following named person, nominated by the Board of Selectmen, be appointed a Regular Member of the Board of Human Services (R4) for a term expiring June 30, 2022.

DEBBIE APPELBAUM

EXPLANATORY COMMENTS

Debbie Appelbaum of 10 Dearfield Lane, Greenwich 06831, has been nominated to be a Regular Member (R4) of the Board of Human Services for a term expiring June 30, 2022.

During the past 28 years, Ms. Appelbaum has served numerous elected and volunteer positions involved with various Town Boards, Committees and Departments. Currently, she is a member of the

Representative Town Meeting from District 7 and serves on the Community Development Advisory Council/Community Development Blok Grant Committee and the Town Services Committee.

Ms. Appelbaum was involved in education for more than 20 years serving as co-president of three school PTAs; secretary of the PTA Council, and served four years as a member of the Board of Education. She also is a member of the Junior League of Greenwich and committee member of the Greenwich Alliance for Education.

A Greenwich resident for 30 years, Ms. Appelbaum earned a Bachelor's degree in urban economics from the University of Pennsylvania and previously worked in marketing and sales, and in executive search and outplacement counseling.

ITEM NO: ***14***
DEPARTMENT: Office of the First Selectman
CONTACT: Barbara Heins 203-622-7702 – Barbara.Heins@greenwichct.org
REFERRED TO: *Appointments and Health & Human Services Committees*
VOTES: Board of Selectmen 3-0-0

RESOLVED, that the following named person, nominated by the Board of Selectmen, be appointed a Regular Member of the Board of Human Services (R9) for a term expiring June 30, 2023.

GILLIAN INGRAHAM

EXPLANATORY COMMENTS

Gillian Ingraham of 133 N. Water Street, Greenwich 06830, has been nominated to be a Regular Member (R9) of the Board of Human Services for a term expiring June 30, 2023.

Ms. Ingraham is an attorney who specializes in commercial and residential real estate transactions as well as family law including the drafting wills, trusts, health care proxies and living wills. Her volunteer work includes serving as an appeal hearing officer for the Town of Greenwich Department of Parking Services.

A lifelong Greenwich resident, Ms. Ingraham earned a Bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Connecticut and a Juris Doctor from the Pace University School of Law. She also earned a Certificate of Mediation.

ITEM NO: **15**
DEPARTMENT: Office of the First Selectman
CONTACT: Barbara Heins 203-622-7702 – Barbara.Heins@greenwichct.org
REFERRED TO: *Appointments and Health & Human Services Committees*
VOTES: Board of Selectmen 3-0-0

RESOLVED, that the following named person, nominated by the Board of Selectmen, be appointed a Regular Member of the Board of Human Services (R8) for a term expiring June 30, 2022.

TARA SPIESS-RESTIERI

EXPLANATORY COMMENTS

Tara Spiess-Restieri, of 115 Old Church Road, Greenwich 06830, has been nominated to be a Regular Member (R8) of the Board of Human Services for a term expiring June 30, 2022.

Ms. Spiess-Restieri has a diverse professional background in health care, oncology research, hospital administration, business operations and development, as well as education. She has worked as an administrator at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center; advised biotechnology firms; served as a science teacher at local public and private schools. Currently, she is head of strategy, fellows and membership for The Nantucket Project.

A Greenwich resident since 2009, Ms. Spiess-Restieri earned a Bachelor’s degree in biology from the State University of New York – Albany; a Master of Public Administration in Healthcare from New York University and completed some coursework for a Master of Arts Teaching degree from Manhattanville College.

ITEM NO: **16**
DEPARTMENT: District 9
CONTACT: Betsey Frumin 203-531-7203 Betsey@nacca.com
REFERRED TO: *Education, Land Use, Legislative & Rules, Parks & Recreation and Public Works Committees*
VOTES: District 9 vote – 16-0-0

RESOLVED, that Chapter 2, Article 9, Section 2-39 of the Code of Ordinances of the Town of Greenwich, Connecticut is amended as follows:

Notwithstanding any provision of any special act to the contrary, the construction of each new school building and appurtenant facilities, and each addition to and alteration of any existing school building and appurtenant facilities shall, when such project involves an application for

State or Federal aid, or requires one or more Municipal Improvements, be under the supervision of a School *Building Committee* appointed for each separate and specific project.

EXPLANATORY COMMENTS

The underlined words are additions to the existing code.

The appointment and operation of school building committees are governed by Article 9, Chapter 2, Sections 2-39 through 2-46.1 of the Town Code. Section 2-39, titled "Separate committee for each project," sets forth the specific rules for the formation of school building committees, including when the formation of a school building committee is required. District 9 proposes that the language of Section 2-39 be expanded to require the formation and appointment of a school building committee upon the following circumstances: (i) when the school project involves an application for State or Federal aid, or (ii) when the school project requires one or more Municipal Improvements (as defined in the Town Code).

The remaining provisions of the Town Code with respect to school building committees are not impacted by the proposed amendment (i.e., Section 2-40 defining membership, composition, appointment and voting; Section 2-41 concerning vacancies; Section 2-42 defining the committee appointment procedure; Section 2-43 defining committee organization; Section 2-44 addressing meetings, notification, record and quorum; Section 2-45 addressing powers and duties; and Section 2-46 addressing committee reports and content.)

District 9 believes that the current limitation of Section 2-39 imposed upon the formation of a school building committee -- i.e., that a school building committee is only required for a school project involving an application for State aid -- is unnecessarily restrictive and should be expanded to additional categories of school projects. The proposed change to Section 2-39, to add school projects involving Federal funding (as well as State funding) and significant school projects involving a Municipal Improvement, is intended to reasonably expand the school projects that are required to be overseen by a building committee regardless of their funding source.