

Old Lyme Sewer Project Referendum Information Sheet

Background

In 2014, the Board of Selectmen created a Task Force to examine what role the Town of Old Lyme should consider in light of the fact that two beach associations were looking to undertake a sewer project. The Task Force determined that a study should be conducted by the engineering firm, Woodard & Curran, and that Clean Water Funds, if granted, be utilized to help pay for such study.

The study evaluated the environmental impacts of the current wastewater disposal systems on the entire Old Lyme shoreline and developed three alternatives.

The following three alternatives were presented and evaluated extensively in the study:

- **Local Alternative 1:** an onsite treatment and disposal facility within Old Lyme
- **Local Alternative 2:** an onsite treatment facility with discharge to the Connecticut River
- **Regional Alternative:** A collection and conveyance system with discharge to East Lyme (and ultimately to the New London Wastewater Treatment Facility)

Ultimately, the Task Force members were appointed to the WPCA, and they continued their work as appointed officials. In 2015, the State of Connecticut issued an Administrative Order to the Town of Old Lyme, requiring the Town to complete the study and implement the plan recommended by such study.

Description of Project and Recommended Alternative

A thorough analysis of the foregoing alternatives in the study concluded that the regional alternative option was the lowest-cost and the preferred option for the Town. This option entails partnering with nearby communities and utilizing existing infrastructure, rather than undertaking the construction of a new treatment facility in Old Lyme. The project will be in collaboration with three other beach communities, Old Lyme Shores Beach Association, Old Colony Beach Association, and Miami Beach Association, providing a benefit to all partners.

In addition, the study recommended that the Town address the need for sewers only in Sound View Beach and Miscellaneous Town Area B (which are the extension roads north of Rte. 156, and south of the railroad tracks, from Cottage Lane to Canty Lane).

Cost of the Project

The full cost of the project is estimated to be \$9,500,000, which the Town expects will be financed with loan and grant funds obtained from the State of Connecticut Clean Water Fund (CWF) Program. The CWF loan is to be repaid with revenue generated from residents in the beach communities that are served by the new wastewater system. These users will have the option of paying a one-time lump sum upon hooking up to the new system or making payments over the term of the loan, which is anticipated to be twenty years. The cost per resident will be determined by an Equivalent Dwelling Unit (EDU) formula that is approved by the WPCA. The users would also pay a one-time connection charge and a betterment charge as well as an annual charge for usage and system maintenance. Old Lyme residents outside of the project area would not be expected to pay any charges associated with the project.

Clean Water Fund Assistance

- It is anticipated that the project will be financed with funding from the CWF Program upon the approval of an application to be submitted by the Town after the project referendum.
- The funding of 25% of eligible project costs is anticipated will be in the form of a grant.
- The remainder of the CWF assistance is anticipated will be in the form of a twenty year loan having a 2% interest rate.

Referendum Date:
August 13, 2019

Time:
6:00 AM to 8:00 PM

Location:
Cross Lane
Fire Station
Cross Lane



TOWN OF OLD LYME

52 Lyme Street
Old Lyme, CT 06371

PRST STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM RETAIL

*****ECRWSS*****

Local
Postal Customer

Old Lyme Sewer Project Referendum Information Sheet

Referendum Date: August 13, 2019

Time: 6:00 AM to 8:00 PM

Location: Cross Lane Fire Station, Cross Lane

The Referendum

Pursuant to the Connecticut General Statutes, the Old Lyme Board of Selectmen has set a referendum for all eligible voters of the Town to vote on the following question:

“Shall the resolution entitled, ‘RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$9,500,000 FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE SOUND VIEW BEACH AND MISCELLANEOUS TOWN AREA B SEWER PROJECT, AUTHORIZING THE TOWN TO ENTER INTO A PROJECT FUNDING AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS, NOTES AND OTHER OBLIGATIONS TO FINANCE SAID APPROPRIATION,’ be approved?

Yes _____ No _____”

A copy of the full text of the resolution is on file with the Town Clerk’s office and on the Town website at www.oldlyme-ct.gov.

The ballot label for said question shall read as follows:

“Shall the Town of Old Lyme appropriate \$9,500,000 for construction of the Sound View Beach and Miscellaneous Town Area B Sewer Project and authorize the issuance of bonds, notes and other obligations to finance said appropriation?

Yes _____ No _____”