

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
Groton 2020 School Construction Program Status (4) 11/1/17

Now that the State Budget has passed approving funding for the three school projects, the Town only has to wait for the Office of School Construction Grants and Review (OSCGR) to issue a Funding Commitment Letter before the Town can start drawing down the approved state funds for the projects. This process could take several weeks, but Arcadis is in constant communication with OSCGR in an effort to expedite this process. The only funds expended to this point are for the Program Manager (Arcadis) for its work on the consolidated middle school contracts. These funds are expected to be reimbursed at a rate of 47.5%. The conversion work on Cutler and Westside will be reimbursed for eligible items at 80% and 57.5%, respectively. The following describes the items and issues being addressed for the consolidated middle school:

- After a thorough scope review of both architect candidates and review of their updated proposals, SLAM Consortium was selected to design new the middle school. SLAM was selected for their ability to complete the design to meet the required June 2020 delivery date. The Professional Services Agreement has been prepared and a contract is expected to be signed by the Director of Public Works very soon.
- Interviews were conducted on October 12 and 13 for the selection of a Construction Manager – Risk to construct the new middle school. After review of the proposals and a scope review of the two finalists, the Selection Committee selected O&G Industries. The contract documents are being prepared and the contract is expected to be signed shortly after the Architect contract.
- The Arcadis Program Manager Office is now fully functional and is expected to be more fully utilized by the Project Manager once SLAM and O&G contracts are signed.
- The Planning Department is still working to receive final determination regarding the Conservation Easement for the property to replace the Merritt property. The Conservation Easement would still need to be filed in land records, and the state releases any restriction for the use of the Merritt property for school construction.
- Preparation of the RFQ/RFP for a Licensed Environmental Professional, for all three projects, is still in process.

The Department, with the assistance of Arcadis, has worked to be in a position to execute the middle school project now that the project funding approval was received from the State. As a consequence of the State funding all three projects, the Department must begin the preparation of RFQs for Architects and Construction Managers for the conversion of the existing middle schools to elementary schools. These will be advertised late this year or very early next year, being aware that the Town must put a shovel in the ground for these two projects within two years from the date of receiving funding commitment from OSCGR.