

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT  
Groton 2020 School Construction Program Status (5) 12/5/17

On November 27<sup>th</sup>, Town received Grant Commitment Notification Letters from the State Department of Administrative Services (DAS) for the three school projects. This enables the Town to begin requesting reimbursement for funds expended for the projects. The first request for reimbursement was submitted to the State Department of Education on November 30<sup>th</sup>, with payment expected sometime in January. Reimbursement was requested for the Consolidated Middle School only, as no funds were yet expended for conversion of the two existing middle schools. The Town requested reimbursement for funds expended to date and was allowed to request projected costs for the next two months. The reimbursement a rate is 47.5% of eligible costs, with an additional 11% retainage withheld by the State until the project is completed and audited. The next request will be submitted in January for all three projects. The process will follow a two month cycle requesting reimbursement for all three projects. The following highlights activities related to the projects during the past month:

- The SLAM Collaborative (SLAM) has begun the Programming Process for the middle school. A kick-off meeting was held with SLAM, members of Groton Public Schools (GPS) staff, Permanent School Building Committee (PSBC), and Town staff on November 29<sup>th</sup>. A second programming meeting is scheduled for December 7<sup>th</sup>. These meetings will confirm for the Architect and GPS how the educational program in the Educational Specifications will be delivered.
- The PSBC continues with their efforts to define design criteria for the new middle school. The criteria coupled with the Architect's programming efforts will provide the Architect necessary input for the initial building design.
- The Construction Manager at Risk contract documents are being prepared and the contract is expected to be signed by the Director of Public Works soon.
- The Town has received a letter of Conditional Site Approval from DAS allowing use of the Merritt Property for the new middle school. The Planning Department is still working to receive final determination regarding the Conservation Easement for the property that will replace the Merritt Property.
- Survey of the Merritt Property is proceeding.
- The RFQ/RFP for a Licensed Environmental Professional for the three projects was advertised on November 13<sup>th</sup> with responses due on November 29<sup>th</sup>. The Town has received eight responses to the RFQ/RFP and the proposals are being evaluated with selection to follow.
- RFQs for the Commissioning Agent for all three projects and for an Architect(s) for the conversion of the existing middles schools are being prepared and are expected to be released soon.

As a consequence of the State funding all three projects, the Department will proceed with the preparation of RFQs for Architects and Construction Managers for the conversion of the existing middle schools to elementary schools. Advertising, late this year or very early next year, for the Architect(s) and Construction Manager(s) for the existing middle school conversions will put the Department in a position to execute those projects. The goal for completion of the new middle school is June 30, 2020.