



Massachusetts School Building Authority

Deborah B. Goldberg
Chairman, State Treasurer

James A. MacDonald
Chief Executive Officer

John K. McCarthy
Executive Director / Deputy CEO

October 21, 2020

Ms. Marilyn Tencza
Leicester Select Board
3 Washburn Square
Leicester, MA 01524

Re: Town of Leicester, Leicester Middle School

Dear Ms. Tencza

The Massachusetts School Building Authority (the “MSBA”) is issuing this letter in response to the Town of Leicester’s (the “District”) letter dated October 13, 2020, in which the District notified the MSBA that the vote to support the proposed K-8 school building project did not achieve the 2/3 majority vote required to support the project at Town Meeting held on September 26, 2020.

In its letter, the District offered a number of reasons that may have contributed to the failed vote, including water district concerns, site issues, lack of support from the Finance Committee, Capital Committee and Select Board, and community concern about the estimated cost.

On April 15, 2020, the MSBA’s Board of Directors (the “Board”) voted to approve the proposed new construction of a K-8 school with a Maximum Total Facilities Grant of \$41,937,394. Pursuant to the MSBA’s regulations, the Town had 120 days after the date of the Board’s vote to acquire and certify local approval for an appropriation and all other necessary local votes within the 120-day period, which concluded on August 13, 2020. Prior to this date, the District requested and received an extension to the 120-days, until November 3, 2020, to allow for the scheduling of a Town Meeting and Special Election in the current environment.

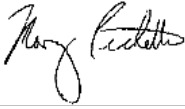
The MSBA understands that the District intends to proceed with its Special Election on November 3, 2020, and in the meantime conduct stakeholder meetings to supplement understanding of the failed vote and seek community feedback on a plan to move forward.

The MSBA acknowledges the District’s request for more time to allow for the November 3, 2020 Special Election and as a result, is requiring that the District communicate its final decision related to the proposed project to the MSBA on or before November 10, 2020.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 617-720-4466.

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Leicester Failed Vote Response Letter

Sincerely,



Mary Pichetti
Director of Capital Planning

Cc: Legislative Delegation
Diana Provencher, Chair, Leicester Select Board
David A. Genereux, Leicester Town Administrator
Stella Richard, Chair, Leicester School Committee
Jeffrey Berthiaume, Director of Technology and Digital Learning, Leicester Public Schools
Tom Murphy, Owner's Project Manager, NV5 Consultants, Inc.
Melissa Gagnon, Owner's Project Manager, NV5 Consultants, Inc.
Regan Shields Ives, Designer, Finegold Alexander Architects, Inc.
File: 10.2 Letters (Region 2)