

**EXPLANATORY TEXT**  
**REFERENDUM QUESTION**  
**May 23, 2023**  
**ELLINGTON SENIOR CENTER**  
**6 AM to 8 PM**

**QUESTION:**

“SHALL THE TOWN OF ELLINGTON APPROPRIATE AN ADDITIONAL \$12,960,000 (INCREASING THE APPROPRIATION AND BORROWING AUTHORIZATION TO AN AGGREGATE \$74,600,000) FOR COSTS RELATED TO RENOVATIONS, IMPROVEMENTS, AND ADDITIONS TO WINDERMERE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, AND AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS AND NOTES TO FINANCE THE PORTION OF THE PROJECT COST NOT PAID FROM GRANTS?”

**EXPLANATION:**

A YES vote will appropriate an additional \$12,960,000 for the Windermere Elementary School project. There have been no changes to the scope of the project. This request is due primarily to increased costs associated with inflation in the construction market. **Also, there is a need for abatement of more hazardous materials than initially anticipated.** Construction codes require a broader demolition and reconstruction of the existing building.

Although there is an increase to the above costs there is also a revised State reimbursement rate. Originally in 2022 the rate was 55.36% and the new rate is now 70.00%. The larger reimbursement rate puts the Town’s overall cost of the project approximately \$4.5 million less than the \$28.8 million that was approved at the original referendum.

A NO vote declines to provide the additional funding to the Windermere Elementary School project.