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***WHAT NEWPORT VOTERS
SHOULD KNOW ABOUT
THE LOCAL QUESTIONS
BEFORE VOTING ON
NOVEMBER 7***

LOCAL QUESTION 11

AMENDMENT TO NEWPORT CITY ORDINANCE MORATORIUM ON NEW SEWER CONNECTIONS

- FACT:** Newport operates a treatment system that provides waste water disposal for residents and businesses in Newport, Middletown, and the Navy.
- FACT:** A sewer moratorium would impose a restriction on the installation of new sewer line connections to homes, businesses, and other facilities located in Newport.
- FACT:** Flow data clearly demonstrates that rainy weather conditions and **not sewer capacity issues** are the cause of combined sewer overflows (CSO's), beach closings, and related system flow problems.
- FACT:** More storm water isolation and separation is needed, not a restriction on sewer line connections.
- FACT:** Work continues to be done to identify the areas of the City that contribute significant storm water inflow and infiltration to the sewer system. The results of these studies will guide us in developing solutions to reducing the storm water that illicitly enters the sewer system.
- FACT:** The City is working with the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management to bring the system into full compliance with CSO regulations and standards. Below is a list of projects that have been completed toward this effort:

- Historic Hill Sewer Separation Project
- Washington Street Connecting Sewers
- Long Wharf Pump Station Upgrade
- Washington Square/Long Wharf Connecting Sewer and Thames Street Relief Sewer
- Bliss Mine Road Pump Station and Force Main
- Broadway Sewer Separation Project
- Long Wharf Force Main
- Lawrence Avenue Sewer Separation Project
- Thames Street Sewer Separation Project
- Almy Pond Sewer Separation Project
- Washington Street Sewer Separation Project
- Coggeshall Avenue Sewer Separation Project
- Narragansett Avenue Relief and Detention Sewer
- Carroll Avenue Sewer Separation Project
- Wellington Avenue Sewer Separation Project
- North Broadway/Ellery Road Sewer Separation Project
- Evarts Street/Miscellaneous Sewer Separation Project
- Washington Street CSO Facility
- Wellington Avenue Service Area

A Sewer Moratorium **WILL NOT...**

- have any effect on Middletown's Wave Avenue pump station, located near Easton's Beach.
 - have any impact on beach closings.
 - clean up Easton's Beach, King Park, or Narragansett Bay.
 - stop combined sewer overflows.
 - have any effect on building development in Middletown, nor storm water or sewer line connections in Middletown.
 - help improve the overall operation, efficiency, or effectiveness of Newport's waste water system.
 - affect the progress on the work currently underway for the City's long-term CSO Control Plan.
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A Sewer Moratorium **WILL...**

- inhibit economic development in Newport and limit growth of the tax base.
- adversely impact local builders, contractors, plumbers, electricians, lumber yards, and others who earn a living in the construction trades.
- cause precious local tax dollars to be used to pay for costly legal battles over the implications of the moratorium.
- severely limit new development opportunities in the North End by prohibiting any new sewer line connections.

LOCAL QUESTION 10

AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF NEWPORT TO ISSUE BONDS FOR STREET AND SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS NOT TO EXCEED \$12,000,000

FACT: The road bond would authorize the City to borrow up to \$12 million to restore, repair, and repave public streets, sidewalks, curbstones, and meet ADA compliance standards.

FACT: Newport has 94 miles of roadway, approximately 50 miles of which have substandard road surface conditions.

FACT: The conventional method of appropriating about \$1 million per year through the annual budget process to upgrade roads is insufficient to make substantial progress towards the overall upgrading of the roadway system.

FACT: The City cannot afford to increase the annual budget appropriation to make the needed roadway upgrades on a pay-as-you-go basis.

FACT: A road bond of \$12 million will enable the City to repair and resurface one main artery (Thames Street), along with the abutting sidewalks and curbstones and resurface 5 to 10 miles of neighborhood streets (the exact road miles to be determined by width of street, existence of sidewalks, curbstones, and coincidental subsurface utility work).

FACT: Over a 20-year period, the \$12 million bond will cost approximately \$925,000 per year, totaling \$17.8 million.

FACT: It is more cost effective to use bond funds to accomplish roadway improvements. Approval of this bond will save taxpayers \$1.7 million in overall costs, compared with a pay-as-you-go plan, because today's dollar has more buying power than the same dollar will have over the next 20 years.

FACT: It is more efficient to use bond funds to accomplish the roadway improvements. Using bond funds will complete the work 16 years sooner than will the current \$1 million per year roadway repavement plan.