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## [CE SBAC] Cape Elizabeth School Building Advisory Committee ""Taxpayer Impact" and "Most Likely to Pass""

1 message

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**Cape Elizabeth School Building Advisory Committee** <cesbac@capeelizabethsbac.com> Fri, May 3, 2024 at 11:59 AM  
Reply-To: katiereeves321@gmail.com  
To: cesbac@capeelizabethschools.org

From: Katie Reeves [katiereeves321@gmail.com](mailto:katiereeves321@gmail.com)  
Subject: "Taxpayer Impact" and "Most Likely to Pass"

Message Body:

Dear Committee Members,

First I want to thank you for the truly amazing amount of time and energy you have devoted to this committee's work. I've been following along and am grateful. I'm writing to let you know what I am hearing from the vast majority of people I speak with in Cape, and what it means for the interpretation of the priorities "Taxpayer Impact" and "Most Likely to Pass". People want a forward-looking approach to capital expenditures. For my family and people I've heard from, the worst impact on taxpayers for this project would come from underinvesting now as a means to keep the very near-term tax increase lower, while setting Cape up for needing more substantial investments in several years, and then again, several years after that. Turning to the "Most Likely to Pass" priority identified during your meeting last night, this should have nothing to do with the referendum that occurred two years ago. Of anyone in Cape, you committee members know just how much new information and communications have gone out to Cape Elizabeth residents about the needs and potential projects since that last referendum. I don't know anyone who would vote for Options B or C, knowing what we've learned through your efforts and Harriman's work. I am very sympathetic to Cape residents on a fixed income who might be put in a difficult position by a substantial increase to fund any of these Options. For those residents (who would \*not\* include residents who may be cash-flow constrained but who could access hundreds of thousands of dollars of home equity), I urge the Town to leave no stone unturned in terms of considering tax relief programs or other avenues of relief.

But the most positive medium-to-long term impact you can have for Cape taxpayers is to recommend Option E. This most recent survey shows the overwhelming majority of Cape residents agree.

Thank you for reading, and thank you for your time and energy.

Katie Reeves

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