

Sharon High School Building Project is Article 1 at Town Meeting - 11/6/17!



The Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) chose Sharon High School (SHS), and 16 other schools, to participate in a state subsidized building process. Selected from a pool of 89 applicants, the MSBA prioritizes schools based on health & safety, overcrowding, and Americans with Disability Act (ADA) non-compliance, among others. Sharon has a limited time to commit to renovate or build a new high school with a 40 - 45% state subsidy.

Why does Sharon High School need updates? SHS has significant health, safety and overcrowding issues, including:

- The majority of SHS does not meet MSBA requirements
- **Not ADA compliant** - students or faculty with mobility needs cannot access portions of the facility
- Significant overcrowding - According to the MSBA, SHS is sized for 895 students. It currently has 1085 students and the New England School Development Council projects enrollment of 1376 in 10 years.
Due to overcrowding, many students must eat lunch in the hallway!
- Core educational spaces are 300sq feet less than recommended
- Significant structural and mechanical facilities issues, including:
 - Bricks, windows and doors are cracking and allowing water into the building
 - North courtyard covered walkway cannot be used because it is dangerously rusted
 - **Electrical has exceeded useful life and is at capacity - breakers are no longer manufactured for 1956 panel**
 - Generator is beyond capacity and SHS is the only emergency shelter for the town
 - Service tunnels periodically have 1 - 2" of standing water
 - **Most building systems are at the end of their serviceable lives**



SHS - areas in maroon do NOT meet MSBA requirements

Where are we in the process? We have been invited into the MSBA building process. The town must approve the funds for a feasibility study in fall 2017 or we lose our spot and the state reimbursement of funds, which have traditionally paid between 40 - 45% of Sharon's approved costs.

Why now? SHS is not ADA compliant, and has significant facility deterioration and mechanical systems issues. **A 2014 Existing Conditions Study found that well over \$23 million in basic repairs are needed in short order.** Without the MSBA involvement, the town will not be reimbursed for any of these expenses.

When is the vote? The vote to fund the feasibility study will be held at the fall Town Meeting on **November 6, 2017, starting promptly at 7pm** at Sharon High School. Childcare will be available.

What is a feasibility study? The feasibility study is a very specific state-guided process that requires an outside project manager to study the educational needs, overcrowding issues, explore whether to renovate/repair or rebuild, estimate costs, etc. Once the feasibility study is done, the town will receive estimated project costs. If the feasibility study is approved, the vote to approve the total project construction costs should be in the fall of 2018.

What will the feasibility study cost? \$1.8 - 2.4 million. **There will be NO tax increase from funding the feasibility study.**



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View the [full presentation](#), Read the [2014 Existing Conditions Study](#)

Published by the Sharon High School Building Project Communications Committee