



# Framingham Public Schools

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## MEMORANDUM

Date: May 29, 2020  
To: Framingham City Council Finance Subcommittee  
From: Lincoln Lynch IV, Executive Director of Finance and Operations  
Re: Supplement to Framingham Public Schools FY21 Capital Budget Request

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In response to your request for a document summarizing the impact of FPS capital project deferrals, we submit the following analysis. We fully understand the fiscal impacts of COVID-19 and that you are considering how to proceed with all capital requests. Thank you for the continued partnership between FPS and the City Council to find balance with our long-term capital needs to keep our school infrastructure operating as safely as possible.

1. **Exterior Envelope Districtwide \$2,000,000**

If exterior envelope and repair projects are deferred, water infiltration will continue to occur through the exterior walls and around windows and doors. This causes mold build up in wall cavities and escalates the deterioration of the building envelope. This situation can also cause indoor air quality issues which can become a health risk to occupants of those buildings. If left unchecked these repair items become major capital projects for upgrades to exterior finishes that become deteriorated to the point where they will require full replacement instead of maintenance. If approved, the projects to occur at multiple sites throughout the district are ready for construction during the August 2020 to August 2021 timeframe.

2. **Paving and Stormwater at Brophy Elementary School \$955,000**

Stormwater and paving projects continue to be deferred. The condition of the paved surface continues to deteriorate causing safety hazards and increased temporary repairs. The stormwater upgrades are required in order that we comply with NPDES stormwater regulations. There is a cost escalation aspect to be aware of as well. When this was requested in FY20 before it was deferred then, the project cost was \$775,000. Due to the construction market the price has since risen by \$180,000. This project also would facilitate the construction of a solar canopy project on top of this new parking lot through a separate agreement. On June 3rd, the School Committee is scheduled to consider a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) for solar canopies to be timed with this construction project. The PPA is expected to save approximately \$11,000 annually which could support a portion of the bonding cost for this project. If this paving project is delayed, the corresponding Solar canopy project would be further delayed while the percentage of federal assistance continues to decrease each year which causes these types of projects to lose value with respect to energy savings. If approved in June, this project is ready for initial subsurface drain systems and paving binder construction this summer, and then a pause until the next school year ends. During the break in construction the project planning and final design

integration with the solar project will occur, resulting in final construction during the months of June 2021 to August 2021.

3. **HVAC Rooftop Unit Replacement at Barbieri Elementary School \$200,000**

The existing roof top unit has failed to service the current resource library and warehouse areas. We need to provide the proper air flow and heat to those occupied areas in order to comply with code requirements and to keep proper ventilation of those interior spaces. The impact of deferral would be on health and wellness/air quality in a school during covid when these areas are prioritized by public health officials. If approved, this project is ready for construction during the months of August 2020 to October 2020. This project must be funded so the Barbieri warehouse can be equipped with heat and ventilation. Buildings and Grounds must move out of the current Fuller school and based on that move, the maintenance shop will be set up in the warehouse at Barbieri. We must have ventilation and heat in the area in order for our staff to occupy the space.

4. **Security Enhancements Districtwide \$450,000 (partial funding at \$235,200 per School Committee vote is compromise to consider)**

The District continues to make the safety and security of our students, staff, visitors and others a top priority. Without the requested safety enhancement funding, the effort to create a safe and secure environment will not be able to be implemented at the level the District strives for. Not having proper security at our schools creates risk and the funding requested will reduce the overall risk of the District. If approved, this project is ready for implementation once approved.

Again, we understand the complexity of the current fiscal situation, as well as the balance needed to have the option to keep the backlog of projects from getting too high in future years. As you know, schools are also dealing with compressed construction schedules, so deferral most likely means that these projects would be pushed off until the summer of 2021, and compete with the roof and other projects on our FY22 and long-term capital plan lists. We are committed to work with you and answer any questions you may have about these projects during your June 1st Subcommittee meeting.

For additional information, click [here](#) for the FY21 memo outlining the FPS Capital request and previously made deferrals.