

About Question 6:

What it will look like on the ballot:

6. CULTURAL ARTS AND THE ECONOMY GRANT PROGRAM AND STATE PRESERVATION GRANTS PROGRAM - \$7,000,000

To fund the Cultural Arts and the Economy Grant Program and the State Preservation Grants Program, to be allocated as follows:

(a) Cultural Arts and the Economy Grant Program - \$6,000,000

For 1:1 matching grants to continue the Cultural Arts and the Economy Grant Program administered by the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts for capital improvement, preservation and renovation projects for public and nonprofit artistic, performance centers, museums and cultural art centers located throughout the State of Rhode Island as follows:

- Trinity Repertory Company - \$2,500,000
- Rhode Island Philharmonic - \$1,500,000
- Other funds to be allocated by the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts - \$2,000,000

(b) State Preservation Grants Program - \$1,000,000

☐ Approve

☐ Reject

Approve

Your vote to “Approve” means that you support the State issuing \$7,000,000 in general obligation bonds to fund cultural arts programs.

Reject

Your vote to “Reject” means that you are against the State issuing \$7,000,000 in general obligation bonds to fund cultural arts programs.

Explanation and purpose of Question 6:

These bonds will be used to improve arts, cultural [and historic] facilities, and increase their ability to contribute to the cultural, educational and economic life of our State. Every community has cultural [and historic] facilities which contribute to the local economy. Funding will be made available to support public and nonprofit artistic, performance centers, historic sites, museums and cultural art centers located in communities throughout the State, to be allocated as follows:

- (a) Cultural Arts and the Economy Grant Program - \$6,000,000
- Trinity Repertory Company - \$2,500,000
- For the Lederer Theater and the Pell Chafee Performance Center, both in Providence, used for performance facilities, educational instruction, production and administration.
- Rhode Island Philharmonic - \$1,500,000
- For the Carter Center for Music Education and Performance in East Providence, used for music teaching, learning, performance and administration.
- Other funds to be allocated by the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts (RISCA) - \$2,000,000
- For 1:1 matching grants to be allocated by RISCA to 501(c)(3) nonprofit cultural organizations which lease or own their performance space, and for RISCA expenses in administering the program. In awarding such grants RISCA shall consider financial need, the availability or actual expenditure of matching funds for the projects, available gifts or grants for projects, the amount of square footage to be improved, the geographical location and characteristics of audiences benefitted.

(b) State Preservation Grants Program - \$1,000,000

Provides \$1,000,000 in funding to cities, towns and nonprofit organizations to preserve, renovate and improve public and nonprofit historic sites, museums, and cultural art centers located in historic structures in the State of Rhode Island to be administered by the Rhode Island Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission.

How much money will be borrowed?

\$7,000,000

Project timetable:

Bond proceeds will be made available to nonprofit arts organizations [and historic properties] beginning in 2021 and will expect to be awarded for a period of three to five years.

Useful life:

While each project and facility will differ, the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts' expectation is that buildings will remain in service for up to 20 years.

Total cost:

PROJECT COSTS		COST OF ISSUANCE*		TOTAL PROJECT AND ISSUANCE COSTS		
Principal	Interest**	Principal	Interest**	Principal	Interest**	Total Costs
\$6,972,000	\$4,216,962	\$28,000	\$17,000	\$7,000,000	\$4,233,962	\$11,233,962

* Cost of issuance estimated at 0.4 % of principal issued.
** Assumes an interest rate of 5%, with bonds amortized with level payments over 20 years.