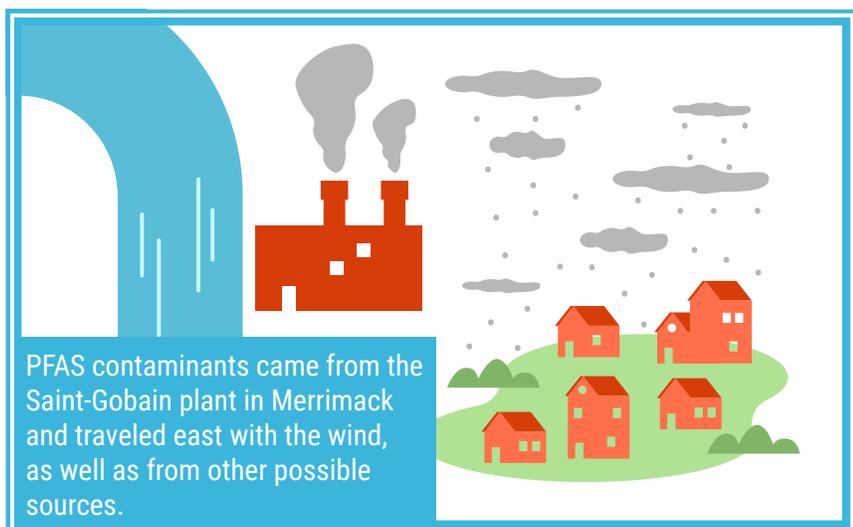


THE HIGH RANGE ROAD WATER MAIN PROJECT

WHAT DOES WARRANT ARTICLE #3 DO?

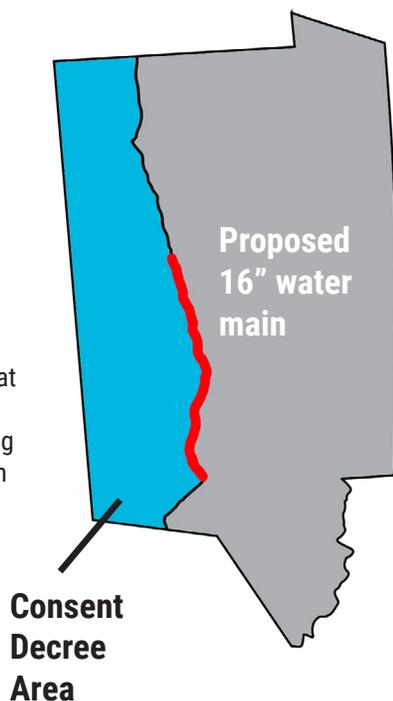
In 2016, PFAS contaminants from the Saint-Gobain plant in Merrimack were discovered in its tap water, leading to an investigation in surrounding communities. High PFAS levels were then found in many of Londonderry's wells, exposing residents to these potentially harmful toxins. Warrant Article #3 is designed to address this problem. Below, you will find information on PFAS in Londonderry, the financial breakdown of Warrant Article #3 and the water main project, and answers to some questions residents have already asked. This information is meant to help you decide how you want to vote on March 12.

HOW DID THE PFAS GET HERE?



Multiple communities were affected by the contamination, including Bedford, Litchfield, Hudson, Manchester and Merrimack. Saint-Gobain is responsible for remediating the effects of PFAS within the **consent decree area**. The consent decree area is the area that the Superior Court ordered Saint-Gobain to address. In Londonderry, this area lies west of High Range and Harvey Roads, and north of Route 102.

Warrant Article #3 would fund a 16-inch water main running down High Range Road approximately from Alexander Road in the north to Route 102 in the south, then east to connect to another main. This size of pipe would allow more neighborhoods along that corridor to connect to municipal water, enabling more residents to switch off wells if they choose to do so. It also leverages the work that Saint-Gobain is willing to do in the area, which can reduce overall costs.



PFAS STANDARD

For the maximum contaminant levels of PFAS in parts per trillion

70

This was the initial State of New Hampshire standard for PFAS levels in water in 2016.

12

This is the current State of New Hampshire standard for PFAS levels as of 2020. Any household testing above this level is now eligible for remediation either through the consent decree or rebate program.

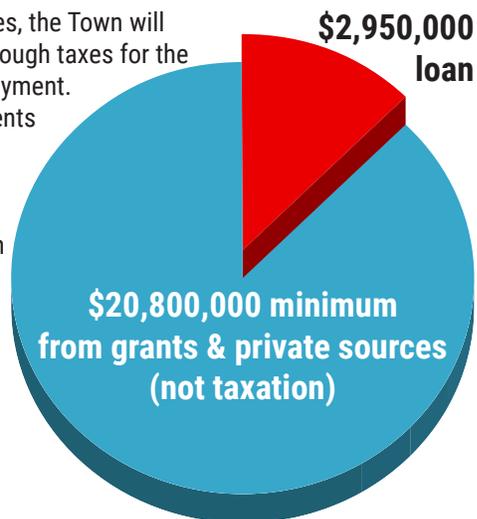
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The standard is expected to drop to this in the near future, making more households eligible for remediation.

WARRANT ARTICLE #3 RAISES \$23,750,000

If the article passes, the Town will raise \$215,000 through taxes for the first year's loan payment. Future loan payments will be part of the default budget.

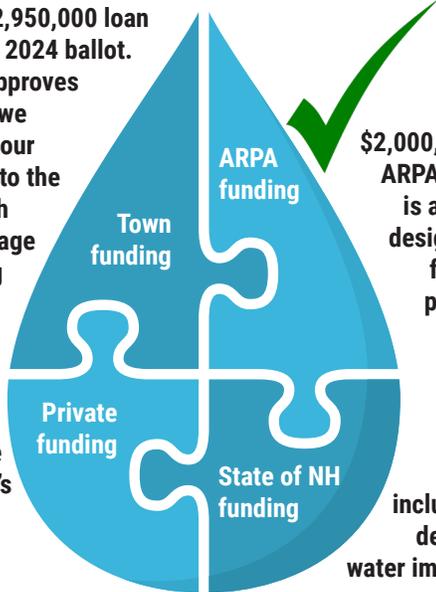
This is a loan from the state with an interest rate of 1% during construction, and 3.5% after that.



PIECES OF THE PUZZLE

This is the \$2,950,000 loan on the March 2024 ballot. If the Town approves these funds, we demonstrate our commitment to the project, which could encourage other funding sources to commit.

Private funding could include Saint-Gobain's share of the project.



\$2,000,000 in ARPA funds is already designated for this project.

These are State funds, including grants, designated for water improvements.

HOW MUCH WILL I PAY?

The tax impact of this warrant article is projected to be \$.034 in fiscal year 2025. Multiply this by the value of your home's assessed value in thousands.



\$300K



\$500K



\$700K

WHAT ABOUT SAINT-GOBAIN?

Within the consent decree area, Saint-Gobain can choose to provide EITHER a P.O.E.T. (point of entry treatment filtration) system to affected households until PFAS levels in the ground water drop below the threshold OR provide a hookup to Town water. This plan is intended to be attractive to Saint-Gobain, because it is a one-time expense for them. They won't have to maintain filtration systems for extended periods of time.

A \$2-3 million loan could secure Londonderry an estimated \$23 million in funding from other sources

FAQs

I live in this area - will I be required to hook up?

No. Nobody will be required to switch from a well to Town water. In fact, people can choose to hook up for their drinking water and keep their well for other things.

Who will pay for me to hook up to the water main?

If you are in the consent decree area and have PFAS levels over the current standard, it is the responsibility of Saint-Gobain to cover the costs of a hookup or of a P.O.E.T. system. If you are on the east side of High Range Road, you may be eligible for grants of up to \$10,000 from the State to offset the costs.

What is the benefit to me if I don't hook up?

Even if you are in the area and choose not to connect, you will benefit from increased fire protection (hydrants) which can lower homeowners insurance. Additionally, reducing concerns over drinking water quality by extending Town water helps to improve home values across Londonderry.

What happens if this passes, but we don't get the grants or private funds?

If the Town votes to take out the loan, but does not get sufficient other funding, the Town is NOT obligated to take out the loan.

Does the Town HAVE to borrow the full \$2.95 million?

No. This warrant article authorizes a loan UP TO \$2.95 million dollars. If the Town doesn't have to borrow the full amount, it won't. But the Town CAN'T go over the amount on the ballot, so we are being conservative in our estimate of outside funding.

Why this project in this place now?

Long story short: water issues aren't going away. PFAS is not the only contaminant in Londonderry's groundwater. This would be a first step in creating a Town-wide water system. It deals with the area of Town with the most contaminated conditions first while keeping an eye toward future needs of the community.



For more information about water issues in Londonderry, please visit londonderrynh.gov/water. Please email questions about water in Londonderry to Kirsten Hildonen at khildonen@londonderrynh.org.