

Article 6

Small Repair Grant Program

- The 2019 Annual Town Meeting approved \$50,000 in funding to introduce the Small Repair Grant Program that offers limited financial assistance to income-eligible senior and disabled households for health and safety repairs to existing owner-occupied homes in Needham.
- Examples of work performed in the first round included window and door repairs, missing stair rail replacement, and improvements to damaged kitchens.
- The second funding round occurred in the summer of 2020. Work items primarily focused on exterior repairs given COVID-19. Exterior stair and railing repairs or replacements were common. Other work items involved window and door repairs as well as heating and electrical system repairs.
- The 2021 Special Town Meeting appropriated an approved an additional \$50,000 to continue this program. Two funding rounds occurred in the Summer and Fall of 2021. Funds were awarded to 13 households for work such as installing a stairlift, replacing deteriorated decks, and repairing a cracked foundation.

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- The 2022 Annual Town Meeting appropriated 50,000 to support two funding rounds, one in July of 2022 and another in February of 2023. A total of four participants were approved as part of the first round, and another thirteen participants were approved in the second. The entire \$50,000 appropriation has now been committed for repair work under the program with \$6,419 invoiced to date.
- Article 6 seeks \$50,000 to continue this successful program.

The Select Board unanimously recommends adoption of this article.