Draft Ballot Questions for Debt Exclusions for Board Review and Approval

<u>Ballot Question Scenarios for Minuteman Rebuild *or* Rehab</u>

- **Scenario 1 – Authorizing Rebuild Only:**

  Shall the Town of Arlington be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the Town's allocable share of the bond issued by the Minuteman Regional Vocational Technical School District for the purpose of paying costs of designing, constructing and originally equipping a new district school, and for the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto?

Comment: This presents the ballot question as recommended by Minuteman, and closely conforms to the MSBA's model language for debt exclusions for reimbursable projects.

- **Scenario 2- Authorizing Rebuild or Rehab:**

  Shall the Town of Arlington be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the Town's allocable share of the bond issued by the Minuteman Regional Vocational Technical School District ("District") for either:

1) *the purposes of paying costs of designing, constructing and originally equipping a new District school, and for the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto; <u>or</u>*
2) *the purposes of paying capital costs of projects to design, renovate, remodel, and originally equip the current District school building located at 758 Marrett Road, Lexington, MA 02421, and for the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto?*

Comment: Under this scenario, the Town would attempt to place before voters an authorization to incur excludable debt for either the rebuilding project as proposed by Minuteman and supported by MSBA funds, or the capital renovations to the existing building, which Minuteman will almost certainly make in coming years if the rebuilding project is not approved by member communities.

- **Scenario 3 – Two Separate Ballot Questions:**

  Shall the Town of Arlington be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the Town's allocable share of the bond issued by the Minuteman Regional Vocational Technical School District for the purpose of paying costs of designing, constructing and originally equipping a new district school, and for the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto?

  AND A SEPARATE QUESTION (Resulting in four total debt exclusion questions)

  Shall the Town of Arlington be allowed to exempt from the provisions of Proposition two-and-one-half, so called, the amounts required to pay for the bond or bonds issued for the purpose of paying Arlington's allocable share of capital costs of projects to design, renovate, remodel, and originally equip the current District school building located at 758 Marrett Road, Lexington, MA 02421, and for the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto?

Comment: Under this scenario, the Town would request of voters two separate authorizations to incur excludable debt relative to Minuteman, only one of which would be utilized. The first articulates the rebuilding project as proposed by Minuteman and supported by MSBA funds. The second, again provides capital renovations to the existing building should member communities ultimately reject the new school proposal.

<u>High School Feasibility Study</u>

> *Shall the Town of Arlington be allowed to exempt from the provisions of Proposition two-and-one-half, so called, the amounts required to pay for the bonds issued in order to pay the costs of the Arlington High School Feasibility Study/Schematic Design for Arlington High School located at 869 Massachusetts Avenue, Arlington MA?*

Comment: This vote presents the feasibility ballot question in the form required by the MSBA for reimbursable projects. The only latitude afforded is in our description of the project, which in this case can and should be broad.

<u>Thompson, Gibbs, and Ottoson Additions and Renovations</u>

> *Shall the Town of Arlington be allowed to exempt from the provisions of Proposition two-and-one-half, so called, the amounts required to pay for the bond or bonds issued for the purposes of paying costs of projects to design, construct, reconstruct, remodel, add to, and originally equip the Thompson School and the Gibbs School and for the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto?*

Comment: This vote bundles the Thompson and Gibbs additions and renovations together for a single debt exclusion, much in the way prior renovation debt exclusions have been articulated to voters. It does not follow the MSBA's model because they are not MSBA-backed projects. For reference purposes, please see below successful April 1, 2000 ballot question submitted to voters authorizing excluded debt on multiple school capital projects:

“Shall the Town of Arlington be allowed to exempt from the provisions of Proposition two and one-half, so called, the amounts required to pay for the bond or bonds issued in order to finance projects by the issuance of such bonds or notes to construct or add to, remodel, reconstruct and originally equip the Dallin, Pierce, Stratton and Thompson elementary schools?